

Apryl Chapman Thomas explores Dallas, from one of the darkest chapters in U.S. history to the restaurant where the first Tex-Mex dishes were created to the largest bronze monument in the world

**1 THE 6TH FLOOR MUSEUM AT DEALEY PLAZA**

The former old Texas School Book Depository is now a museum and educational exhibit chronicling the life, death and legacy of President John F. Kennedy. Other Kennedy Memorials: A historical marker on Houston Street where Kennedy's motorcade was passing when he was shot. A monument dedicated to Kennedy stands at Centopah and Memorial Park at Main and Market Streets (411 Elm St., tel. 214-747-6660; Open daily 9 a.m.-6 p.m.).

**2 WEST END HISTORIC DISTRICT**

You won't find anything small in Dallas, and that is true of the 55-acre restored, redbrick warehouse, filled with over 80 stores and 40 restaurants. (1801 N. Lamar St., tel. 214-741-7180). Take a carriage ride through the area, or walk to nearby historical sites, such as the infamous Grassy Knoll, or "Big Red," the restored former courthouse that is now the Dallas Visitor Center (tel. 214-571-1300; Open daily 9 a.m.-6 p.m.).

**3 WEST END MARKETPLACE**

At the north end of the District is West End Marketplace (603 Munger Ave, tel. 214-748-4801; Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-midnight; Sun. 12 p.m.-6 p.m.) filled with unique stores. The shops offer a variety of Dallas memorabilia, Texas food items, and western wear.

**6 REUNION TOWER**

View Dallas from its skyline's most recognizable landmark. The 68-second elevator ride takes you 55 stories to the public observation deck for a 360-degree view of Dallas. Along with the restaurant and lounge, all rotate one revolution every 55 minutes. (300 Reunion Blvd. E.; 214-712-7210; Sun.-Thurs. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri.-Sat. 9 a.m.-11 p.m.).

**4 PIONEER PLAZA**

In the 1840s through the Reconstruction Period, longhorn drives, following a trail to the northern markets, were the norm. This site commemorates the trail with native plants, trees and a waterfall. Bronze statues re-create the longhorn cattle drive. Not only is this the largest bronze monument in the world, but at 4.2 acres, Pioneer Plaza is the largest contiguous open space in downtown Dallas.

**7 MCKINNEY AVENUE TROLLEY**

Why walk when you can ride in an early 20th-century restored trolley car? The trolley route takes you from downtown to uptown McKinney Avenue, lined with antique shops, restaurants and clubs (tel. 214-855-0006). Be sure to grab a bite at the El Fenix Restaurant, where Tex-Mex-style dishes were created back in 1918 by owner Mike Martinez. (McKinney Avenue, tel. 214-747-1121).

**5 TRAMMELL AND MARGARET CROW COLLECTION OF ASIAN ART**

This private collection of Asian Art is a gem nestled in the growing downtown art district. Around 500 works from 3500 B.C. to the early 20th century are displayed. (2010 Flora St. in the Trammell Crow Center, tel. 214-979-6430; Tues.-Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thurs. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.).

**9 DEEP ELLUM HISTORIC DISTRICT**

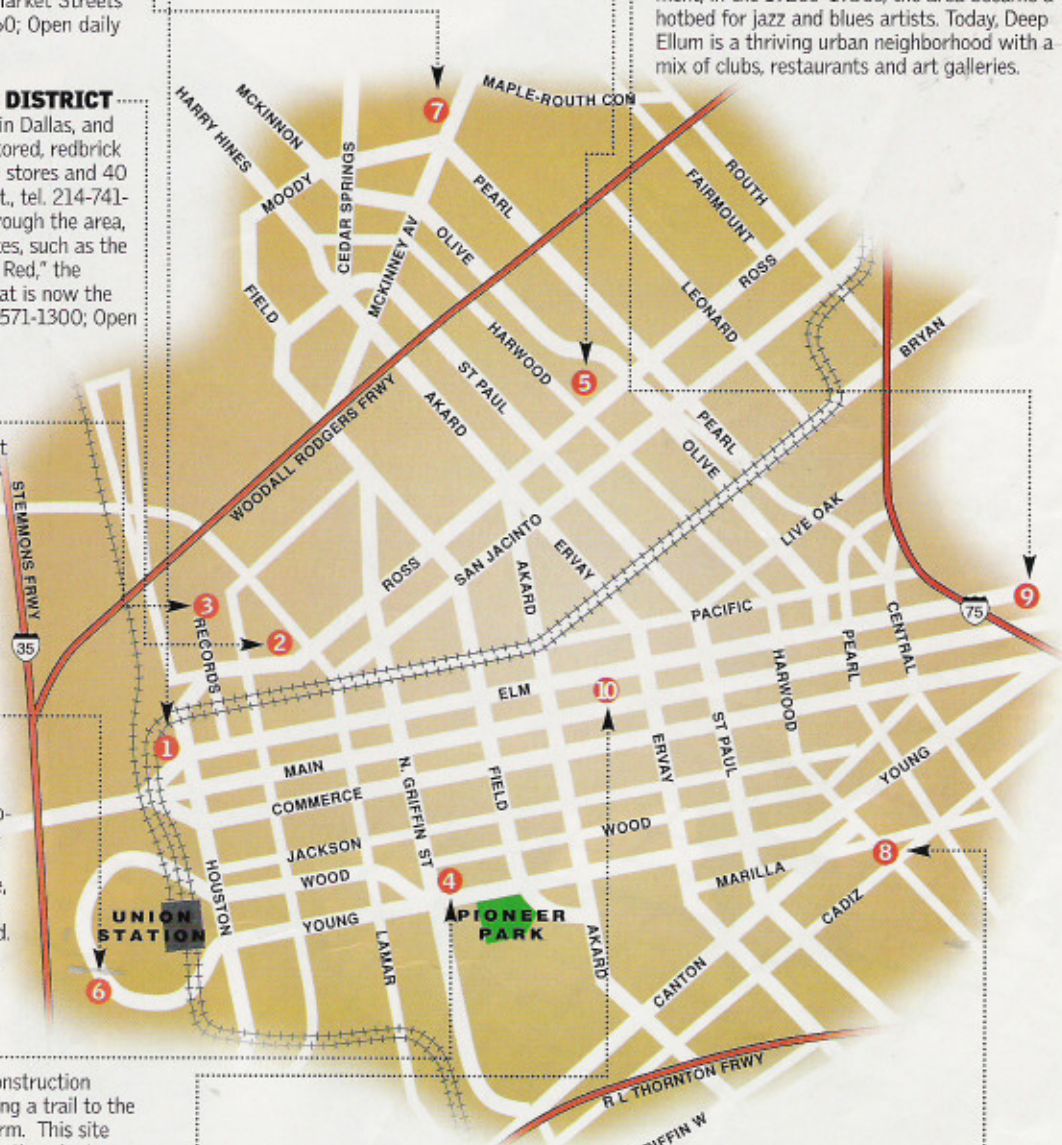
This area was settled as a "freedman's town" by former slaves after the Civil War. A center for African American business and entertainment, in the 1920s-1950s, the area became a hotbed for jazz and blues artists. Today, Deep Ellum is a thriving urban neighborhood with a mix of clubs, restaurants and art galleries.

**10 NEIMAN MARCUS**

There is a saying that "If it doesn't sell in Dallas, it won't sell," and perhaps it was coined for Neiman Marcus (1618 Main St., tel. 214-741-6911; Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thurs. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.). The flagship store, which opened in the early 1900s, features a fifth-floor museum that tells the story of the retailer.

**8 FARMERS MARKET**

Stroll through one of the few remaining and largest markets in the nation. This open-air market is the gathering place for around 1,000 farmers to sell fresh produce, herbs and flowers. (Cadiz and Harwood Street, tel. 214-939-2808; Open daily 7 a.m.-6 p.m.).



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