

**Mission:**  
To educate, preserve and mark the historic contributions of African-Americans in Mobile.

**Significant Contributions:**  
Former City Councilman William Carroll  
County Commissioner Merckea Ludgood  
Former Mayor Sam Jones  
Mobile County Commission  
Mobile City Council  
State of Alabama  
Judge Karlos Finley, President  
Michael Hervey, Immediate Past-President  
Joycelyn Finley, Ph.D., Vice President  
Medina Trenier, Secretary  
Coleridge T. Franklin, Jr., M.D., Treasurer

**Honor:**  
USA Faculty Senate  
Outstanding Community Partner

**Special Recognitions:**  
University of South Alabama  
School of Continuing Education  
& Special Programs,  
Department of Interdisciplinary Studies  
University of South Alabama  
College of Education, Department of  
Instructional Design and Development  
The College of William & Mary,  
Department of Anthropology  
Mobile County School Board  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center  
History Museum of Mobile  
Archival Photographs Courtesy of:  
The University of South Alabama Archives

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**Dora Franklin Finley African-American Heritage Trail Board of Directors**

**Eric Finley**  
Marcia Hall-Craig  
Kelly Jones  
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Candace Smith

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Mobile Historic Development Commission and the City of Mobile.  
This project is supported by funds awarded by the Mobile County Commission and the City of Mobile.  
December 2016/10,000

# THE DORA FRANKLIN FINLEY AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE TRAIL HISTORIC SITES

- Hank Aaron's Playground and Park
- Africatown
- Basilica of the Immaculate Conception
- Bettie Hunter House
- Big Zion A.M.E Church
- Broad Street Academy/Caldwell School
- C. First Johnson House
- Campground Neighborhood
- Central/Dunbar High School
- Christian Benevolent Funeral Home
- Church of the Good Shepherd
- C. H. Council School
- Cook's House Site, Oakleigh
- Vernon Z. Crawford Law Firm
- Creole Firehouse #1
- Michael Donald Avenue
- Emanuel A.M.E. Church
- Emerson Institute
- James Reese Europe Home Site
- Chain of Finley's Drug Stores
- Fort Conde
- Dr. James A. Franklin House

- Dr. Thomas Nathaniel Harris
- A.N. Johnson Publishing
- Johnson and Allen Mortuary
- John LeFlore's Office
- Mobile County Training School
- Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church
- National African-American Heritage Archives and Museum
- Leroy "Satchel" Paige Home Site
- Dave Patton House
- Africatown/Plateau Graveyard
- Saint Martin de Porres Hospital
- Slave Market
- St. Louis Street Missionary Baptist Church
- State Street AME Zion Church
- Stone Street Baptist Church
- Wallace Turnage
- Union Baptist Church
- Unity Point
- Dr. H. Roger Williams Drug Store

## "YOU CAN'T KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING UNTIL YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'VE BEEN."

History comes alive on the Dora Franklin Finley African-American Heritage Trail (DFFAAHT)! Our tours enlighten Mobile's culturally diverse heritage by linking historic contributions and events with significant locations. Forgotten chapters of history are remembered through the stories of courage and contributions from Mobile's ethnically diverse past.

- The Dora Franklin Finley African-American Heritage Trail's primary objective is to share Mobile's multicultural legacy through the following stories;
- The early Creoles de Color;
  - African survivors from the Clotilda, the last slave ship to enter the US in 1860;
  - Newly freed Blacks who worshiped and built some of the oldest churches in Alabama;
  - African-Americans who settled in an area with a street named ironically for Jefferson Davis (Davis Avenue) later renamed Dr. Martin Luther King Avenue;
  - The Civil Rights advocates integral to the desegregation of the city's schools, private-sector workforce and public offices;

Through the Dora Franklin Finley African-American Heritage Trail experience, participants will develop a taste for the rich gumbo of history as revealed by Mobile's past.

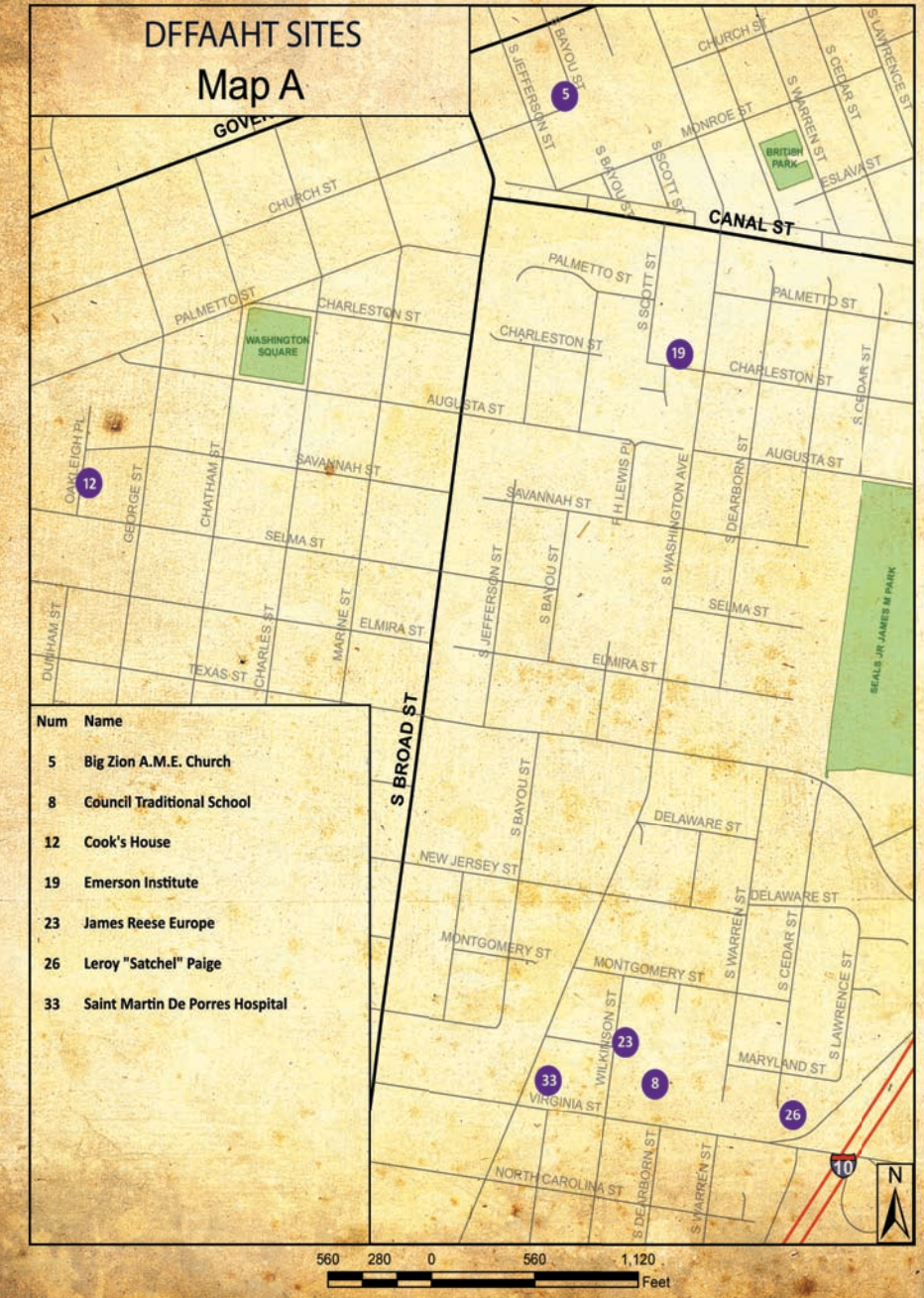
Book your tour today at (251) 725-2236 or email [effinley@dffaaht.org](mailto:effinley@dffaaht.org).  
Cost: \$10 per person, \$5 for Seniors and Students

### Available Tours:

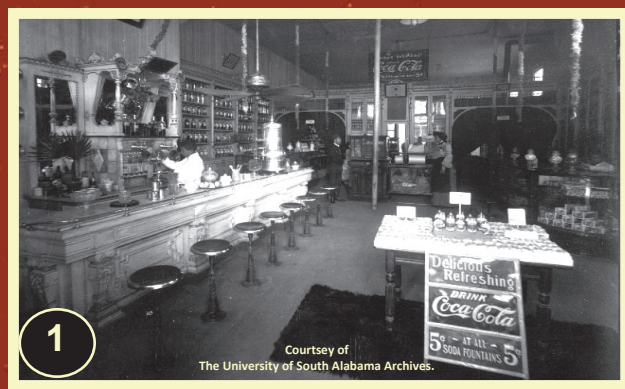
- Step on Motor Coach Tours** - Groups may charter a private tour. A Guide will board the motor coach and will narrate the tour.
- Self-Driving Tours** - Detailed maps and narration - accessible from DFFAAHT website, [www.dffaaht.org](http://www.dffaaht.org) for self-guided tours.
- School Bus Tours** - Bus Tours are designed for students. Review website at [www.dffaaht.org](http://www.dffaaht.org).
- Historic Downtown Walking Tours** - Meet in Cathedral Square at the columns - on the corner of Claiborne and Dauphin Streets. Tours are on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at noon by appointment. Walking Tour is automatically canceled by rain. Reservations required.



## DORA FRANKLIN FINLEY AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE TRAIL OF MOBILE







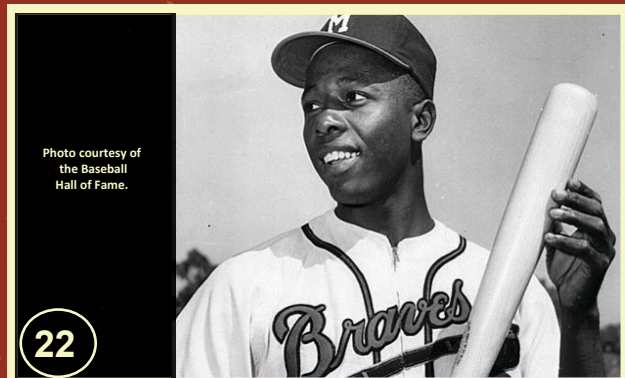
**1**  
A.N. Johnson - Successful entrepreneur and community advocate at the turn of the century. He owned People's Drug Store, Johnson Mortuary, and published the "Mobile Weekly Press".



**4**  
Bettie Hunter House - Built in 1878 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1876 Hunter operated a profitable carriage business in downtown Mobile.



**14**  
Dave Patton - Early black entrepreneur- constructed the foundation of the Saenger Theater, Murphy High School and many roads in Mobile's early twentieth century.



**22**  
Henry "Hammerin' Hank" Aaron - Baseball Hall of Famer best known for setting the record of most home runs in a career (755). Hank Aaron was born in 1934, in Mobile, Alabama.



**29**  
Most Pure Heart of Mary Church - First African-American Catholic Church in the City of Mobile. Supported the Civil Rights Movement during the 60's.



**35**  
St. Louis Missionary Baptist Church - Organized in 1853. In 1874, the resolution to establish Selma University was adopted at the Alabama Baptist Convention held at this church.

# DORA FRANKLIN FINLEY AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE TRAIL

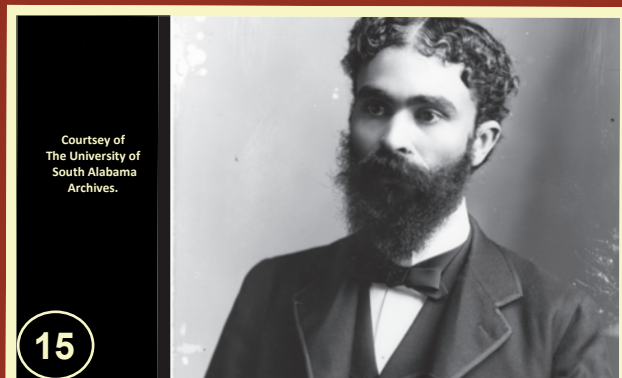
## LISTEN TO THEIR STRUGGLES, FEEL THEIR DETERMINATION

## RECOGNIZE THEIR COURAGE

## CELEBRATE THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS!



**6**  
Caldwell/Broad Street Academy - Broad Street Academy was the first public high school in Mobile for African-Americans. Founded in 1887. William A. Caldwell was its first principal.



**15**  
Dr. T.N. Harris -The first licensed African-American Physician in 1900 and he founded Mobile's first medical facility for Blacks in 1905.



**23**  
James Reese Europe - He was born in Mobile in 1881. He organized The Clef Club Orchestra, the first band to play proto-jazz at Carnegie Hall in 1912.



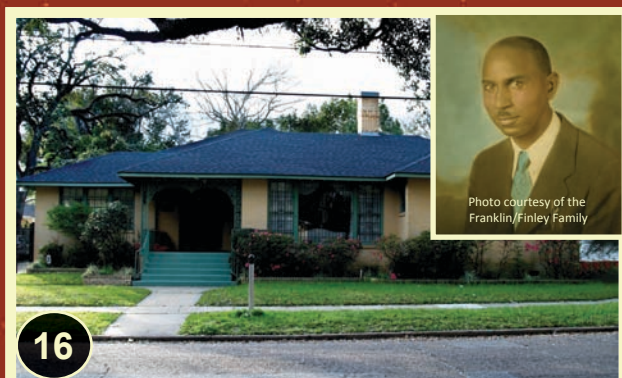
**30**  
National African American Archives - designed as a miniature replica of the Mobile Public Library and only option for black Mobilians during Jim Crow era.



**36**  
State Street AME Zion Church - founded in 1820 and listed on the National Register. An historic court battle in 1872 declared the African-American Congregation the legal owners.



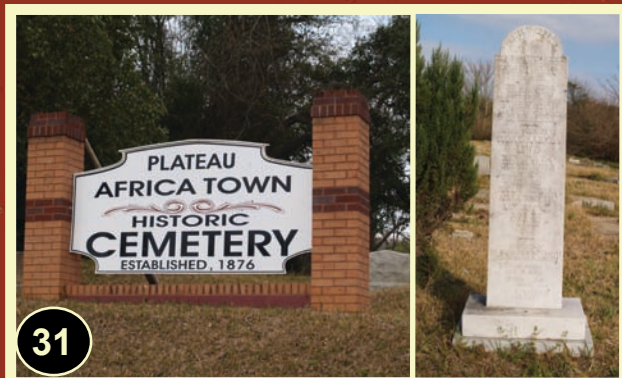
**7**  
Home of Christopher First Johnson - Founded The Union Mutual Aid Association - Mobile's first black life insurance company. By 1920 Johnson had written over \$9 million of insurance. He was the ninth pastor of St. Louis Street Baptist Church.



**16**  
Home of Dr. J. A. Franklin - (1886-1972) Served the community's medical needs for fifty-three years and opened his home to famous black celebrities during Jim Crow Era.



**24**  
John LeFlore Non Partisan Voter's League Office - instrumental in desegregating schools, rail cars, postal service, and the police force in Mobile.



**31**  
Plateau Graveyard- Final resting place of the Clotilda survivors in Africa Town. Obelisk marking Cudjo Lewis' grave was donated by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.



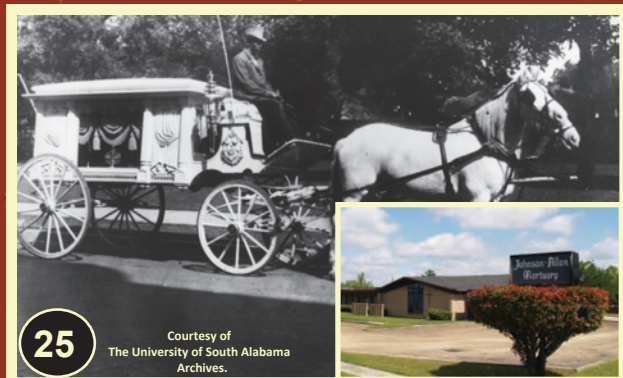
**37**  
Stone Street Baptist Church - Alabama's oldest African-American Baptist Congregation founded in 1806 by slaves freed by their master.



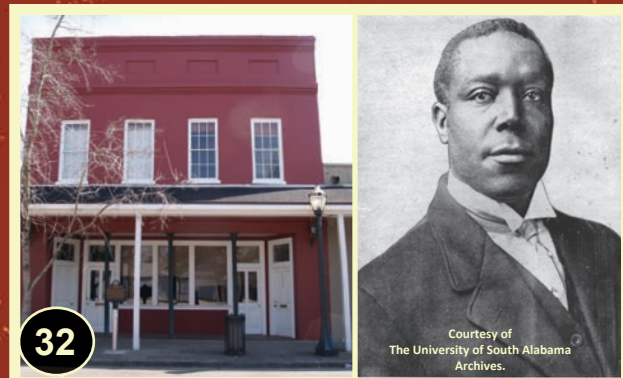
**8**  
Wallace Turnage - A self-emancipated slave who escaped during the Battle of Mobile Bay. His personal narrative was published in the book "A Slave No More" written by Dr. David Blight.



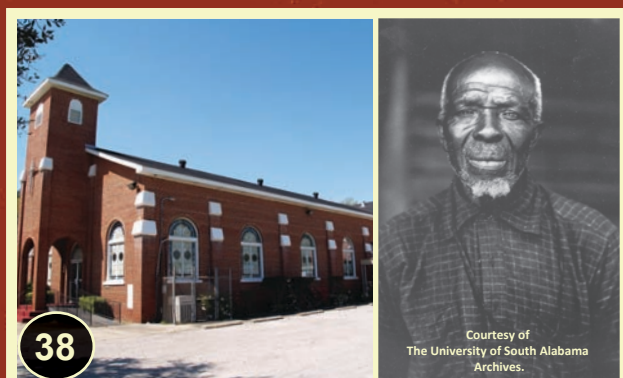
**17**  
Dunbar/Central High School - Produced a culturally diverse curriculum that exposed students and the African-American community to the arts during Jim Crow era.



**25**  
Johnson and Allen Mortuary - Alabama's oldest black Mortuary. Clarence Allen and Edgar Harney purchased the funeral home in 1904 from A.N. Johnson. The Allen family has continuously operated the facility since that time.



**32**  
Dr. H. Roger Williams Drug Stores - First black owned Drug Store in Mobile- Live and Let Live. Opened in 1901. Williams was a published writer, poet, and orator.



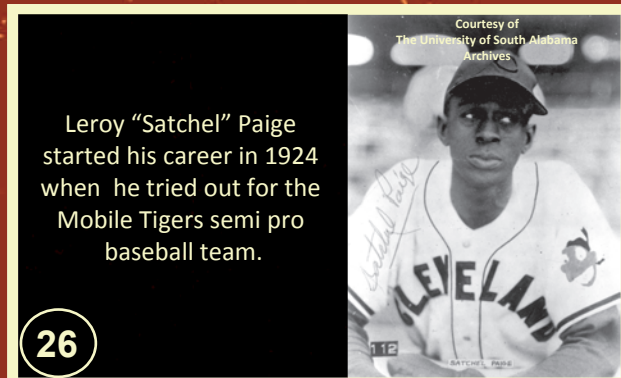
**38**  
Union Baptist Church - African survivors of the Clotilda organized Union Baptist Church in 1869 in Africatown. Cudjo Lewis, was the last survivor of the Clotilda. He died in 1935.



**10**  
Christian Benevolent Funeral Home - First Alabama mortuary owned by an African- American woman, Mrs. Pearl Johnson Madison.



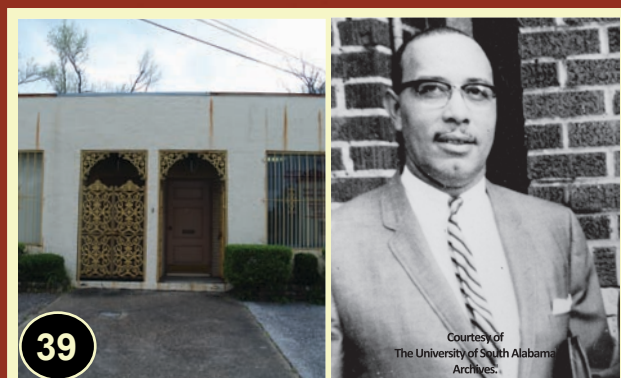
**20**  
Chain of Finley's Drug Stores - First chain of black drug stores in the state. James Finley was also Vice-President of the Neighborhood Organized Workers and Civil Right's Advocate during the Sixties.



**26**  
Leroy Robert "Satchel" Paige Home site - At fifty-nine, he became the oldest player in the major leagues and arguably the best baseball pitcher in history.



**33**  
Saint Martin De Porres Hospital - The first hospital established for African-Americans in Mobile. Provided black physicians with surgical facilities when its building was completed in 1950.



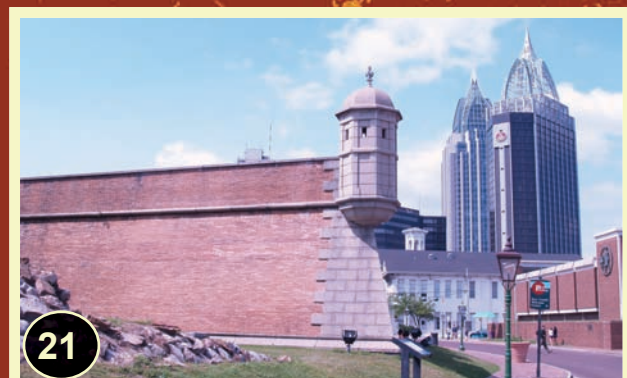
**39**  
Vernon Crawford, Esq. - Established the first African-American Law Firm in Mobile. Successfully argued "Birdie Mae Davis" case and landmark "Bolden vs. City of Mobile".



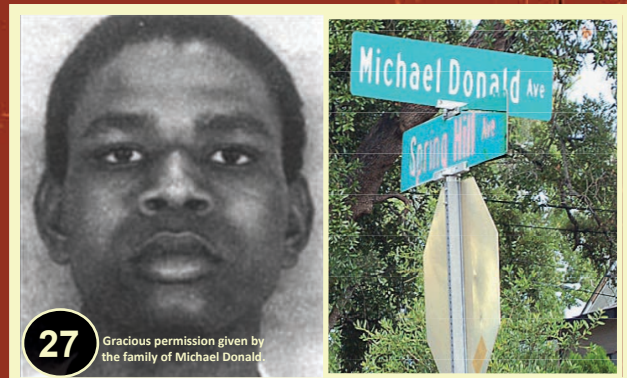
**3**  
Basilica of the Immaculate Conception - Records of the parish date back to 1704 and record the births, baptisms, marriages and deaths of Mobile's diverse people.



**13**  
Creole Fire Station #1 - The first volunteer fire company in Alabama. Founded in 1819 by members of Mobile's Creole community.



**21**  
Fort Conde - Built by African and Native American slaves. Five free black masons also contributed to the construction of the brick fort built in 1711.



**27**  
Michael Donald Avenue - Location of the place where the last Black Man was lynched in America.



**34**  
Slave Market - John Ragland's Slave Mart where Africans were sold as chattel to southern planters through public auction in Mobile during the nineteenth century.



**40**  
Unity Point - Two leaders Joseph Langan and John L. LeFlore knew the secret long ago: "It's our ability to put aside our differences and unite around common goals". Statue sculpted by Casey Downing.