**The Ritz Theatre**

A downtown icon, the Ritz Theatre was built in 1935 as the brainchild of a prominent local attorney. At the time, the Ritz was a state-of-the-art movie house featuring the art deco style popular in the 1920s and 30s. The theatre is a one story stucco building with a stepped roofline. It has a metal marquee and sign. During the 50’s and 60’s the building was modernized by Martin’s Theatres with the addition of a new, larger movie screen. By the mid 70’s the Ritz was closed for business. After ten years of abandonment, a painstaking restoration process began. Using city funds and volunteer workers, the original decor was restored. The Ritz is now used for theatre productions, pageants and concerts. The Ritz Theater is located at 103 West Commerce Street.

**Pioneer Cemetery**

Pioneer Cemetery is surrounded by an ornate cast iron fence as are some of the family burial sites. Many of the early settlers of the area are buried within its grounds, including Captain William Butler for whom Butler County is named. He was killed near Butler Springs fighting Indians led by Savannah Jack in March 1818. He was buried here at a later time. The oldest marked graves is that of early settler James Dunklin dated 1827 whose descendants still reside in Greenville. Several of the graves have cast iron covers, and inventions patented in 1874 by Greenville native Joseph R. Abrams. Several graves covered with giant cockle shells, an old Southern custom, may also be found here. Located on South Park Street.

**The Martin House**

Dating back to 1853, the Martin House began as a small cottage built by Francis W. Moodie. In 1895, W.R. Martin purchased the property, which was located directly across the street from his Greenville Ice Factory. He used the power from his plant to provide his home with the first electric lights in the city. He also added the two story Martin House features a truncated, pyramidal roof and a large center cross gable dormer with a Palladian window. A low hip roof porch wrapping around two sides of the house is supported by fluted, tapered wooden columns on brick piers. Located at 301 East Commerce Street.

**Steiner Kendrick Brackin House**

Originally constructed in 1846 in the Greek Revival style, the Brackin House was remodeled at the turn of the century in the Queen Anne style. The interior retains a few Greek Revival details. The home has been in the Kendrick family since 1904, when James D. Flowers of Dothan purchased the house as a wedding gift for his daughter and son-in-law, James E. Kendrick. The one and a half story frame home features a truncated, pyramidal roof and a large center cross gable dormer with a Palladian window. A low hip roof porch wrapping around two sides of the house is supported by fluted, tapered wooden columns on brick piers. Located at 301 East Commerce Street.

**Perry Wilkerson Brannum House**

This fine example of turn-of-the-century Italianate architecture was built in 1896 by Dr. H.G. Perry. It was constructed by Sam Morris, one of south Alabama’s outstanding contractors. The 1901 purchase of the house by Henry Z. Wilkerson brought it into that family, in whose hands it remains today. A two story belvedere was built into the angle formed by the main block and the projecting end bay. The gable ends have matching spindle work starburst patterns. Located on 206 East Commerce Street.

**First United Methodist Church**

Home to the Methodist Church since it was constructed in 1872, the large brick church was built on the site of two earlier wooden structures. Modified and remodeled several times, the front was enlarged and an interior balcony and choir loft were constructed in 1905. During this remodeling, six fireplaces and twenty oil lamp chandeliers were exchanged for more modern electric conveniences. Old clear glass windows were replaced with beautiful stained glass memorials. In 1907, the first pipe organ was installed. One of the most dramatic architectural changes came in the 1970’s when the steeple was replaced with one of a simpler design. Located at 212 East Commerce Street.

**Lane Kendrick Sherling House**

The LaneKendrickSherling house circa 1850 is Greenville’s finest example of a one story, frame raised Greek Revival cottage. It is distinguished by a truncated, pyramidal roof and a frieze of brackets extending under the eaves of the house. Located at 212 East Commerce Street.

**Historic Downtown Greenville**

Greenville, Alabama

A Self Guided

Tour of Historic Downtown Greenville

**Map/Street Scale**

- All Streets Not Showa

**Historic Downtown Greenville**

- Circuit of 13 blocks

- Container Park

- First Presbyterian Church

- Steiner Kendrick Brackin House

- Saint Elizabeth Catholic Church

- Butler County Courthouse

- Pioneer Cemetery

- First United Methodist Church

- Magnolia Cemetery

- Lane Kendrick Sherling House

- Guest House

- Saint Thomas Episcopal Church

- DeKalb United Methodist Church

- Historic Downtown

- Railroad Depot
Welcome to Greenville Alabama

Visitors to historic downtown Greenville will experience over 170 years of historical structures, from the original Pioneer Cemetery of the Sherling house and Confederate Park, to the Victorian splendor of the Hamilton house. Greenville, “The Gem of the South”, has been known for its beautiful homes and historic districts. Found along historic downtown Greenville are several historic districts which are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Greenville's structures include an unusual combination of historic churches, city and county government buildings and commercial establishments. The scale and styles of these buildings reflect the various periods of economic affluence and architectural trends throughout the city's history. Downtown Greenville is a popular place for locals and visitors looking for a true taste of Southern hospitality. Come, take a stroll through historic downtown Greenville and see for yourself. We're just a short drive from the interstate’s Greenville exit.

**Butler County Courthouse**

The present Butler County Courthouse was designed by Montgomery architect B.B. Smith and was constructed in 1903. This was the fourth courthouse built on the site following Greenville's selection as the county seat in December 1821. It is a two story brick building with a later addition, one story marble front. The steeple is constructed in a decorative brick pattern with a center front clock tower topped with a new copper dome installed in 1995. This is a replica of the original dome damaged by Hurricane Opal in 1995. The central section is 107 feet high making it the tallest building in Greenville. The Butler County Courthouse is located on East Commerce Street.

**Magnolia Cemetery**

By the time of the War Between the States and the many burials of our Confederate soldiers, Greenville’s original Pioneer Cemetery was being quickly filled. So in 1862, the Town Council purchased four acres of land for a new burial ground for the Town of Greenville and it was called Magnolia Cemetery. Through the years much adjoining land has been acquired, including the privately-owned Pine Crest Cemetery and its historic fence that surrounded the State Capitol in 1861.

**Herbert House**

A classic example of the Greek Revival cottage style, this house was built in the early 1840s. In 1902 it was purchased by Curtis B. Herbert, a local farmer, who added a dormer which is surmounted by a pyramidal roof with a cupola. The house contains two wings, each with a large central hall with double doors. The house was constructed with pegs, features a side central hall with matching double doors at the front and rear. The four heart pine fireplaces have original mantel pieces. The floors are also made of heart pine. With the exception of new rooms which were added at the rear with keeping with the original 19th century building, few changes have been made to the original structure. Located at 202 Herbert Street.

**Gaston Hamilton House**

This unusually fine example of a Queen Anne style frame cottage features a wrap around porch encircling three sides of the house. It was built in 1859 by Judge Zell Gassett, who served as Butler County Proctor from 1866-1867. A small frame church erected on this site in the 1860's was razed and the Gothic style brick church seen today was built in 1896. The architectural features of this church have remained virtually unchanged until a rose window was installed in 1986. Located at 208 Church Street.

**Greenville City Hall**

Located at 19 East Commerce Street in the heart of the downtown historic district, Greenville’s circa 1936 City Hall was constructed as a WPA project at a cost of approximately $30,000. The two story building was designed in the Spanish Revival civic architecture. It features four round columns and is topped by a gruesome cupola. The building was refurbished in 1990 and is home to the Fire Department and the offices of the mayor and city clerk.

**Saint Thomas Episcopal Church**

Established in 1897, Greenville's first parsonage was originally called "Fountain Park". It has always featured a fountain as its centerpiece. In 1903, the Father Ryan Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy erected a monument dedicated to the men of Butler County who lost their lives in the War Between the States. The park is leased to and maintained by the City of Greenville with seasonal plantings and decorations and is the site for many outdoor events. Located on East Commerce Street.

**Saint Elizabeth Catholic Church**

Completed in 1904, Saint Elizabeth Catholic Church consists of a one story Spanish Revival building with fourteen thick brick walls and a three story bell tower with a pyramidal roof. It is a beautiful, handmade, stained glass windows were shipped from Munich, Germany. The total cost of the church was about $10,000, a fortune at the turn of the century. The church now serves Butler, Conesville and the southern part of Lowndes County. Located at 406 East Commerce Street.

**Dunklin Beeland Frakes House**

Built in 1849 for Judge J. K. Henry, this grand antebellum home is graced with four elaborate Corinthian columns with capitals made of carved acanthus leaves. The balcony railing in Chinese Chippendale and the porch is负荷 with imported Italian marble. Interior architectural features include gold leaf molding, a stained glass double transom, heart pine floors on the upper level and a Waterford chandelier in the library. In 1899, William Jefferson Bedland purchased the home, which has been occupied by his descendents ever since. Located at 218 East Commerce Street.

**Saint Thomas Episcopal Church**

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