

## EASTEX JENSEN HAPPENING Virtual Art Festival

### **DESCRIPTION:**

This book offers a brief history of six community landmarks, and the outlines of these buildings, as blank templates to envision your very own version of the future.

Share any finished drawings, as well as, the story behind them through www.cratehouston.com. We will be displaying all submitted work on our virtual gallery available in our website.

On April 29, a second virtual archive will display memories from long-term residents and reactions to them from our pool of submissions.

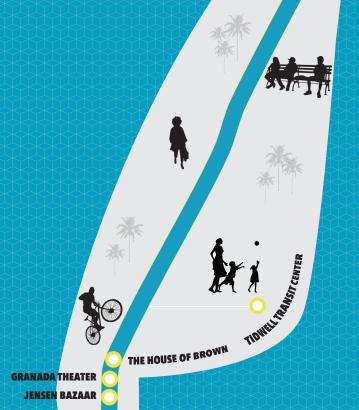
**JOIN OUR JOURNEY!!!** 

### **KEY DATES:**

ART BUS POP-UPs @ 1PM - 3PM February 23, 2021 @ Foodland Parking Lot
March 7, 2021 @ New Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church Parking Lot
March 27, 2021 @ Foodland Parking Lot
April 10, 2021 @ Granada Theater Parking Lot

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

April 17, 2021



**FOODLAND** 

Eastex Jensen once laid outside of the boundaries of Houston proper, built along a main road now called Jensen Drive, which still connects Humble to Houston.

In response to the Great Depression of 1933, the first women governor of Texas, Miriam "Ma" Ferguson, supported the legalization of pari-mutuel betting in Texas to incentivize the state's economy. It is in the same year that the **Epsom Downs Race Track** was developed, opening on Thanksgiving Day of 1933 and drawing nearly 25,000 spectators. As attitudes towards betting changed over the years, leading to the banning of betting in 1937, Epsom Downs was forced to immediately close its doors.

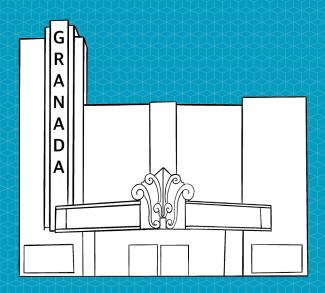
The neighborhood quickly urbanized after the second World War, as it became annexed by the City of Houston in 1949. The development of iconic buildings from this era are visible to this day along Jensen Drive. An example of the grandness of this era is the iconic **Granada Theater** (now vacant) and the modernist **Standard Brands TV & Appliances** (now Jensen Bazaar) located on Jensen

Square, Foodland (closed in 2018), the Weingarten's Grocery Store (now a Family Dollar), and the transformation of the Epsom Downs Race Track into the Epsom Downs Drive-In movie theater. Inevitably, Jensen Drive consolidated as the heart and center for Eastex Jensen's entertainment and commerce.

With the completion of Interstate-69 (US-59) in the mid-1950s, foot traffic was greatly reduced along Jensen Drive, driving a decades-long period of public disinvestment. By 1990s, Eastex Jensen transformed into a multicultural center for communities of color in north Houston. The House of Brown, an iconic beauty shop that served legendary icons of Houston's black community relocated to Jensen Drive from its original location on Lyons Ave. The Epsom Downs Drive-In started streaming movies in Spanish. And, Houston Metro developed the Tidwell Transit Center, on a remaining portion of what once was the Epsom Downs Race Track.

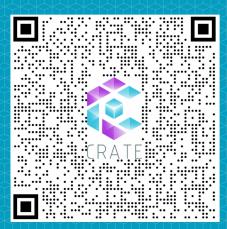
**FAMILLY DOLLAR** 

A BRIEF HISTORY



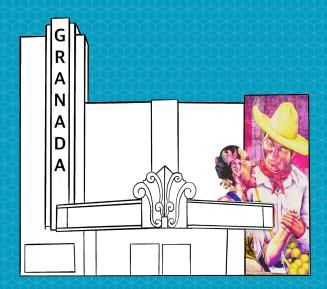
## PRINT & DOWNLOAD THE BOOK

Copies of this coloring book will also be available during one of our Pop-Up events. Visit CRATEhouston.com for additional information.



Scan or visit: CRATE Houston.com

SCAN/PHOTOGRAPH YOUR ARTWORK & SUBMIT IT
Submissions can be made in our Art Bus, on any of our Pop-Up events.
Or, you can scan the QR code shown here to submit your artwork.



CREATE YOUR SITE SPECIFIC ARTWORK

You have complete freedom to draw whatever you would like to see displayed virtually. Please, feel free to draw beyond the lines and take up the entire page.



FIND YOUR ARTWORK DISPLAYED ON JENSEN DR.

All submitted artwork will be displayed in our virtual gallery. Selected artwork will be uploaded to our interactive platform (see image above).

artwork will be uploaded to our interactive platform (see image above). Download the Fectar App and stay tuned for release dates. Tentative release date is March 27, 2021.



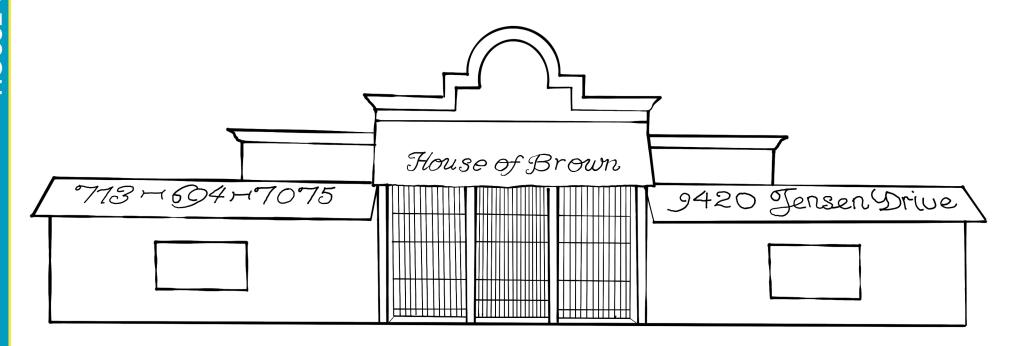


Oh! thanks! I got it at the Legendary House of Brown, a historically black-owned business styling hair for decades!!!

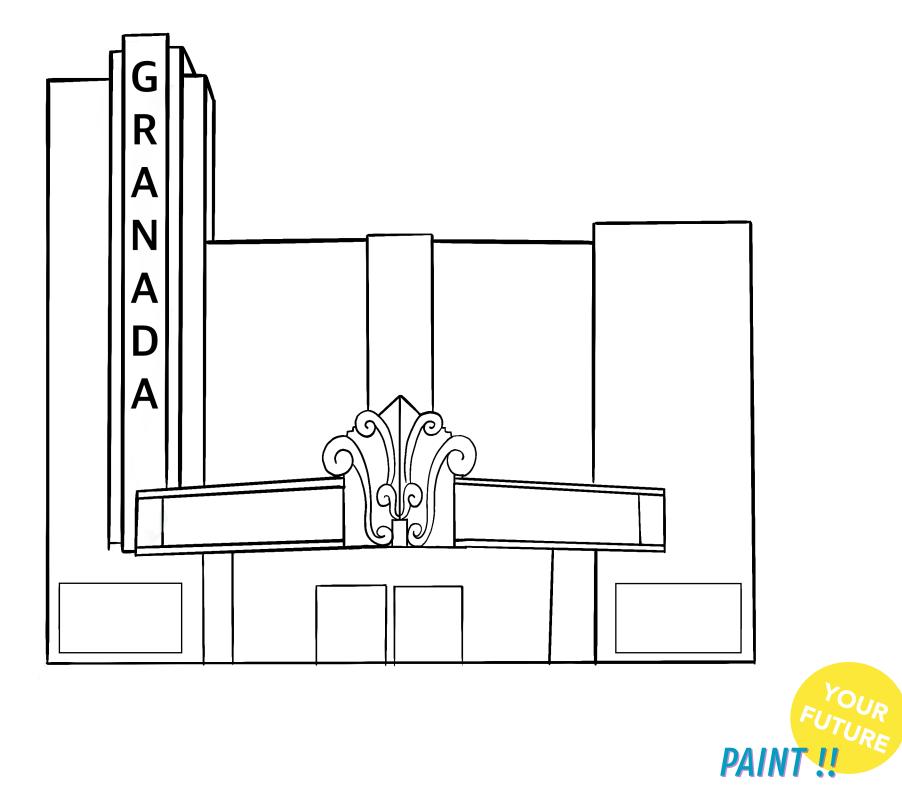
Yeah! black polititians like, Mickey Leland and Barbara Jordan, and musicians like, James Brown and Tina Turner have had their hair styled there.







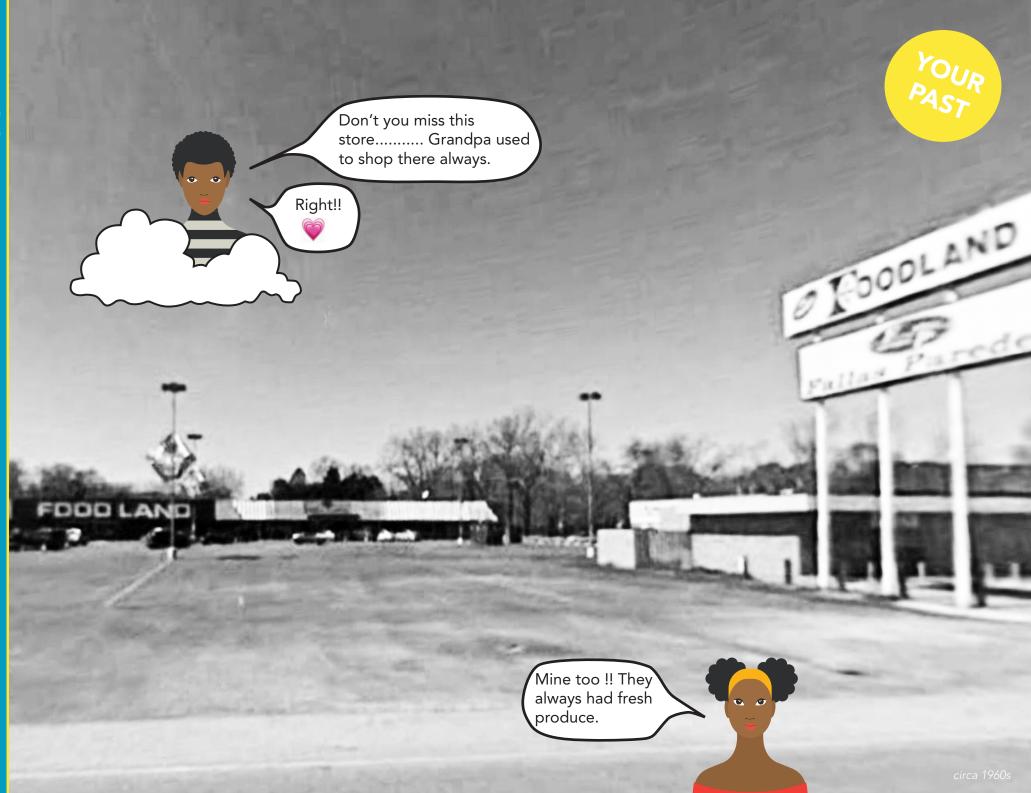


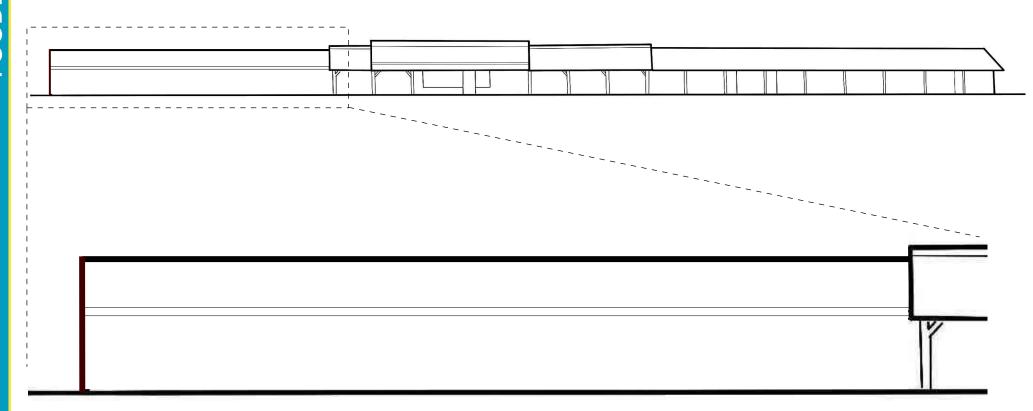




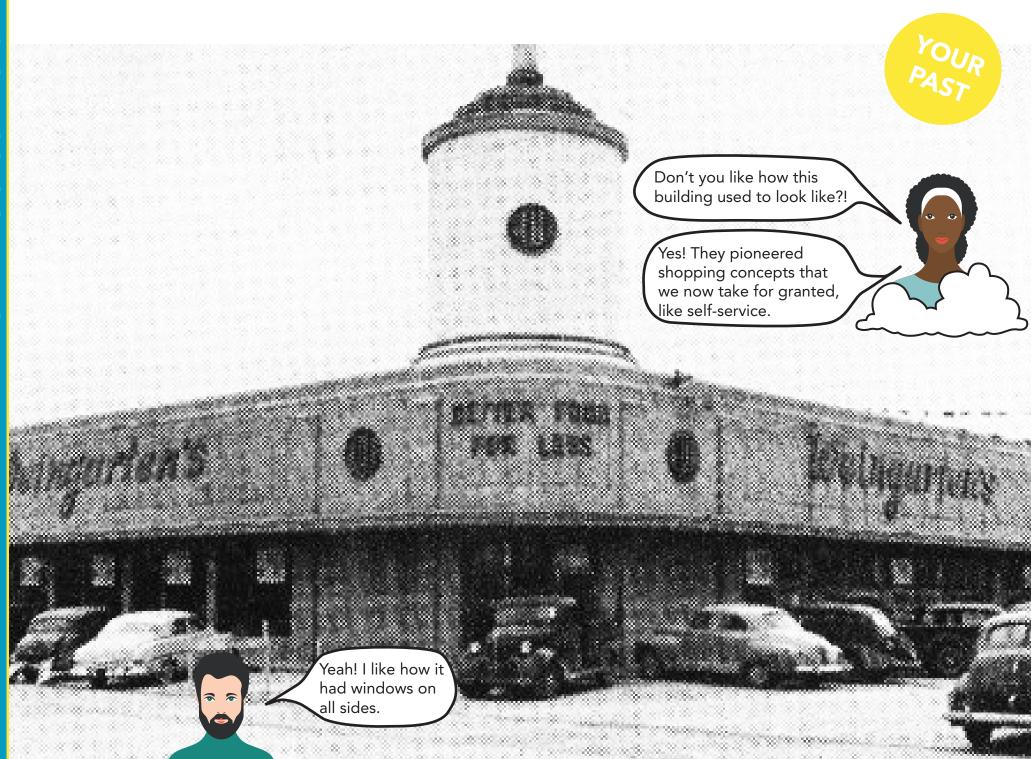


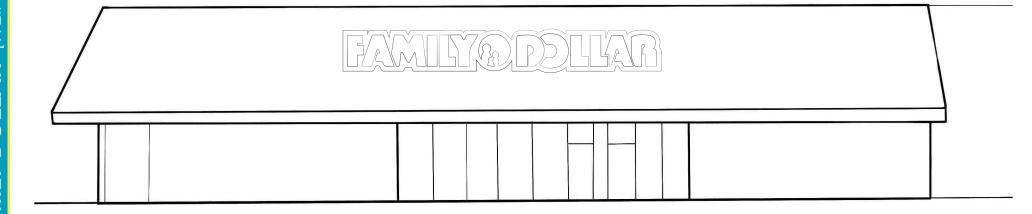














What makes you happy?

What would you want to see in your neighborhood that would make you happy?

# DRAW OR WRITE WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE SEE ON JENSEN DRIVE HERE.

fyou have any stories or old pictures associated with Jensen

Drive or any of the buildings listed in this book, please share them

with us through our

[1] FORUM (cratehouston.com/forum), or

[2] our email (info@cratehouston.com)

Brought to you by:











