

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places Registration Form****1. Name of Property**

Historic Name: Bellinger, Charles V., House; and Greater Corinth Baptist Church and Community Center

Other name/site number: NA

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

**2. Location**

Street &amp; number: 500-522 S. New Braunfels Ave.

City or town: San Antonio

State: Texas

County: Bexar

Not for publication: ☐Vicinity: ☐**1. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  
(☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility) meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the  
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my  
opinion, the property (☒ meets ☐ does not meet) the National Register criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following levels of significance:

☐ national ☐ statewide ☒ localApplicable National Register Criteria: ☒ A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D  
Signature of certifying official / Title

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

8/21/2025  
Date

Texas Historical Commission

State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that the property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register  
☐ determined eligible for the National Register  
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.  
☐ removed from the National Register  
☐ other, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

Charles V. Bellinger House and Greater Corinth Baptist Church, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - Federal

### Category of Property

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
6	1	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
7	1	total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

## 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions:** Religion: church, religious facility  
Domestic: single dwelling  
Education/ school: trade

**Current Functions:** Religion/ religious facility: church, administrative  
Social/ meeting hall: fraternal

## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals: Late Gothic Revival, Spanish Colonial Revival; Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements: Bungalow/ Craftsman; NO STYLE

**Principal Exterior Materials:** Concrete, Metal: Steel, Stone: Permastone, Brick stone, Wood, Glass

**Narrative Description** (see continuation sheets 7-6 through 7-10)

Charles V. Bellinger House and Greater Corinth Baptist Church, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

## 8. Statement of Significance

**Applicable National Register Criteria:** Criterion A, Criterion B

**Criteria Considerations:** A (Religious Properties)

**Areas of Significance:** Criterion A: Social History and Ethnic Heritage: Black; Criterion B: Politics and Ethnic Heritage: Black (*all local level of significance*)

**Period of Significance:** 1925-1937; 1943-1975

**Significant Dates:** 1925, 1946, 1948, 1949

**Significant Person** (only if criterion b is marked): Bellinger, Charles V., Sr.

**Cultural Affiliation** (only if criterion d is marked): NA

**Architect/Builder:** NA

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (see continuation sheets 8-11 through 8-23)

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

**Bibliography** (see continuation sheets 9-24 through 9-27)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. Part 1 approved on (date)
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**Primary location of additional data:**

- ☒ State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission, Austin*)
- ☐ Other state agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other -- Specify Repository:

**Historic Resources Survey Number** (if assigned): NA

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property:** Approximately 2.6 acres

### Coordinates

#### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: NA

1. Latitude: 29.414024° Longitude: -98.460650°

**Verbal Boundary Description:** NCB 1510 BLK 10 LOT 1 THRU 5 & 7 THRU 12 & E IRR 133.85 FT OF 6  
(Bexar CAD accessed July 29, 2025) and sketched on Map 3.

**Boundary Justification:** The nominated boundary is the current and historic property boundary for Greater Corinth Baptist Church and Charles V. Bellinger House.

## 11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Gloria M. Colom Braña, PhD, Cultural Historian with assistance from Bonnie Tipton, NR  
Coordinator at THC  
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Street & number: 100 W. Houston Street, 17th Floor.  
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Telephone: 210-207-0241  
Date: October 31, 2024

## Additional Documentation

**Maps** (see continuation sheets MAP-28 through MAP-30)

**Additional items** (see continuation sheets FIGURE-31 through FIGURE-39)

**Photographs** (see continuation sheets PHOTO-40 through PHOTO-58)

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering, and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Charles V. Bellinger House and Greater Corinth Baptist Church, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

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## Photograph Log

Name of Property: Greater Corinth Baptist Church Campus

Location: San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photographer: Charles Gentry, PhD

Date Photographed: October 17, 2024

Photo 1: (Resource 1) West Exterior view (Front façade). Facing East.

Photo 2: (Resource 1) North exterior of the Sanctuary. View south.

Photo 3: (Resource 1) South exterior of the Sanctuary. View northeast.

Photo 4: (Resource 1) East exterior of the Sanctuary. View west.

Photo 5: (Resource 1) First floor. Interior of the Sanctuary. View north.

Photo 6: (Resource 1) West (front) cornerstone detail on the Sanctuary. View east.

Photo 7: (Resource 2) West exterior (Front façade). View east.

Photo 8: (Resource 2) Northwest exterior. View southeast.

Photo 9: (Resource 3) Southwest exterior. View Northeast.

Photo 10: (Resource 2) Interior view of the Fellowship Hall towards the stage on the back. View east.

Photo 11: (Resource 3) Interior view of the kitchen attached to the Fellowship Hall. View east.

Photo 12: (Resource 4) West exterior of the Bellinger House. View east.

Photo 13: (Resource 4) North exterior of the Bellinger House. View south.

Photo 14: (Resource 4) East exterior. View west.

Photo 15: (Resource 4) South exterior. View north.

Photo 16: (Resource 4) West exterior front entrance detail. View east.

Photo 17: (Resource 4) Second floor interior of the enclosed porch. View northwest.

Photo 18: (Resource 4) First Floor Interior. Office. View south.

Photo 19: (Resource 4) Interior view facing east. Second floor. Fireplace in main suit.

Photo 20: (Resource 5) West exterior elevation (front façade). View east.

Photo 21: (Resource 5) South exterior elevation. View northeast.

Photo 22: (Resource 5) East elevation of the parsonage. View west.

Photo 23: (Resource 5) North exterior view of the parsonage. View south.

Photo 24: (Resource 5) Interior view of the parsonage. View west.

Photo 25: (Resource 6 and 7) West exterior elevation. View east.

Photo 26: (Resource 6) South exterior elevation of the detached garage. View north.

Photo 27: Northeast oblique of nominated property.

Photo 28: Southeast oblique of nominated property.

Photo 29: Northwest oblique of nominated property.

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## Narrative Description

The Charles V. Bellinger House/Greater Corinth Baptist Church and Community Center are at 500-522 S. New Braunfels Avenue on a large city block southeast of downtown San Antonio, Bexar County in a historically African American neighborhood. Built in 1925, the Bellinger House is a two-story Spanish Revival stucco residence with a hipped red clay tile roof. Corinth Baptist Church purchased the 2.6-acre nominated block in 1943, repurposing the Bellinger House for administrative offices and constructed the seven additional resources represented in this application. The church complex, which includes the Bellinger House, features a two-story brick Late Gothic Revival sanctuary with a 3-story corner tower (1949-1950), fellowship hall (1946), and parsonage (1946) with ancillary structures and parking lots on the east half of the block. Development of the larger church property adversely impacted the Bellinger House's integrity of setting, but the home's overall integrity conveys its historical association with Charles V. Bellinger, a highly influential political broker for San Antonio's African American community. Late 20<sup>th</sup> century alterations to the sanctuary and fellowship hall diminished integrity of individual buildings, but the overall church complex strongly conveys its historical significance.

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## Setting

Greater Corinth Baptist Church (Greater Corinth) and the Charles V. Bellinger House is at 500-522 South New Braunfels Ave., one mile southeast of downtown San Antonio, Bexar County in the historically Black East End neighborhood. The area is generally flat and characterized by a rectilinear street grid of large blocks subdivided into 12 lots with modest single-family homes. South New Braunfels Ave., once serviced by the city's streetcar system<sup>1</sup>, is a primary artery for the neighborhood with scattered commercial buildings, several private and city cemeteries, and Pittman-Sullivan Park across from Greater Corinth. One block northeast is the former Good Samaritan Hospital at Dakota and Connolly Streets, which the congregation established in the 1940s.<sup>2</sup>

The nominated property is a 2.6-acre city block bound on the west by South New Braunfels Avenue, on the north by Nevada Street, on the east by Connelly Street, and on the south by Martin Luther King Drive (formerly Nebraska Street). There are seven resources: six contributing buildings, one contributing structure, and one noncontributing building on the west side of the block facing S. New Braunfels Ave. with setbacks ranging from 40-70 feet from the roadway. The setbacks are large, flat grassy lawns with a variety of mature trees and hedges. A low stone retaining wall, built c. 1925, topped with a non-historic-age iron security fence demarcates the property from the right-of-way on the block's west side. The iron fence borders the entire block, but the historic stone retaining wall ends mid-block on the north and south sides. Aerials from 1955-1973 show parking (likely gravel) lots on portions of the eastern block half with areas of grass and scattered trees. Today, surface parking characterizes the entirety of the rear (east) block.

## Overview of the Property's Historical Development

Charles V. Bellinger purchased the city block in the 1920s and constructed a two-story Spanish Colonial Revival home (**Resource 4**) in the southwest quadrant with a matching 2-story detached garage and apartment and shed (both demolished) near the block center. He lined the property with a low stone retaining wall along S. New Braunfels Ave., which extended midway on the north and south sides of the block. Large Italian cypress trees planted in front of the Bellinger residence complimented the home's Mediterranean theme.

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<sup>1</sup> Nic Teng, *Map of the City of San Antonio, Bexar County: Including Suburbs Both North and South* (San Antonio, Tex.: Nic Teng, 1924). Library of Congress: <https://www.loc.gov/item/2010593158/>.

<sup>2</sup> The applicant will individually nominate Good Samaritan Hospital to National Register of Historic Places.

Charles V. Bellinger House and Greater Corinth Baptist Church, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Corinth Baptist Church purchased the property and its improvements from the Bellinger Estate in 1943. In 1946, the congregation moved a one-story wood frame house and garage to the southwest corner for a parsonage (**Resource 5-6**). They added the current PermaStone cladding and jalousie windows at that time. What is now the fellowship building, was originally two buildings—the 1948 Hardeman Gymnasium and Snack Bar (**Resources 2 and 3**)—that were connected c. 2000. In 1949-1950, the 2-story Late Gothic Revival sanctuary was completed (**Resource 1**). Two buildings have been demolished since c. 2000: a 2-story garage apartment (c. 1925) and a small, c.1945 one-story, one-room house.

**Inventory (Map 5)**

#	Historic Name	Year Built	Status
1	Corinth Baptist Church Sanctuary	1949-1950	Contributing
2-3	Hardeman Gymnasium and Snack Bar	1948, c. 2000	Contributing
4	Bellinger House	1925	Contributing
5	parsonage	1946 (established at site)	Contributing
6	detached garage	1946 (established at site)	Contributing
7	shed	after 2016	Noncontributing
8	site	1925, alterations 1946-c. 2000	Contributing

**Corinth Baptist Church Sanctuary** (Resource 1, Photos 1-6)

The sanctuary is a two-story concrete and steel frame Late Gothic Revival building with a cruciform plan, brick curtain walls, and a three-story corner bell tower built in 1949-1950. Brick cladding is light yellow laid in common bond pattern, while cast stone ornaments the cornice and rose window frame. The offset corner tower, buttressed corners, cross plan, and rose window express Gothic style. Non-historic standing seam metal covers the roof. In 1983, some of the original windows were replaced or covered but the overall historic fenestration pattern is intact.

The **front (west) façade** is proportionally vertical with a low gabled roof and a rose window just beneath. A shallow set of stairs led to the three entrance doors. These are non-historic front glass and metal doors centered symmetrically and topped by concrete vertical panels that replaced the original windows in 1983. “Greater Corinth Baptist Church,” is sandblasted into stone panels above the entrance. Paired two-story narrow glass block windows, separated by pilasters, articulate the northwest bell tower’s height. Brick corbeling along the tower’s cornice line references castellation associated with the defensive parapets of castles.

Five bays of paired windows demarcate the interior auditorium on the **side elevations (north and south)**. Stained glass from 1983 infilled with original metal frames in openings which are separated by cast stone panels between the first and second floors. The two-story rear wing on the north elevation has original metal casement windows and a non-historic glass door in the original opening. Similarly, there are original casement windows on the south elevation’s one-story rear wing. The **rear (east) elevation** faces the parking lot. Fenestration is limited to original metal frame windows, a one-story shed-roofed wing, and the rear facades of the south and north elevation wings.

The **interior** retains its overall original floorplan. Congregants enter the west elevation from three doors that open to the narthex, which is flanked by staircases leading to the second-floor balcony. This space is closed from the auditorium by three wooden doors that swing outward leading to the main auditorium and altar. Auditorium pews face east to the pulpit and choir. The baptistry is behind the rear auditorium wall. The U-shaped wood balcony is supported by square columns with a low solid wood rail topped with safety glass and the original pews. Most flooring, wall and ceiling materials, light fixtures, first floor pews, and furniture were installed in 2024.

Charles V. Bellinger House and Greater Corinth Baptist Church, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

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**1948 Hardeman Gymnasium and Snack Bar** (Resources 2 and 3, Photos 7-11)

*now Hamilton-Lott Fellowship Hall*

Hardeman Gymnasium and the snack bar (now Hamilton-Lott Fellowship Hall) are south of the sanctuary. Constructed as two buildings in 1946, the gymnasium and snack bar were later connected (c. 2000) and appear today as one building. For National Register purposes, however, the application counts these as two resources.

The single-story former **gymnasium** is of stucco-clad concrete block construction with a rectangular plan and front-facing gable roof. A circular vent is below the gable and above the original metal canopy. The building's entrances are set in an inverted wall under the awning. Window openings that flank the entrance have concrete muntins and are an original feature. Small, 1/1 metal frame windows (not historic age) pierce five of seven bays on the north elevation with door openings in the central and rear (easternmost) bay. Four window openings on the rear (east) elevation are not original. The gym's south elevation is symmetrical to its northern counterpart except at the westernmost bay where it now connects to the former snack bar. The interior is an open plan with 2-story ceiling and a stage (original) at the end end of the large room.

The one-story former **snack bar**, also of concrete block construction, features a curved exterior wall and awning with four sets of small 1/1 paired windows (original) that extend around to the south elevation and through which customers ordered food. It has a polished concrete interior floor and continues to function as a kitchen for the church.

**1925 Bellinger House** (Resource 4, Photos 12-19)

Built in 1925, the Bellinger House is a two-story concrete, hollow-tile, and stucco Spanish Revival residence with a rectangular plan and low-pitched hipped tile roof with wood bracketed overhang. The house is organized into a central block with flanking wings and faces west. Spanish Colonial ornament—like low relief scrolled lintels and twisted spiral pilasters—is concentrated on first floor openings. Historic-age windows are found throughout the exterior, and most are 1/1 wood frame (single, paired, and tripartite) obscured by dark exterior screens. The second floor sleeping porch has metal frame multi-light casement windows that are original.

Narrow windows with metal cross grills flank the home's entrance, which protrudes from the center of the **west elevation**. An engaged spiral frame, iron sconces, and flat pediment topped with a wrought iron balconet accentuate opening, but the wood door is not original. Tri-partite windows flank the entrance. Twisted spiral (Solomonic) pilasters that extend to the ground, frame these windows. At the second floor there are six windows with flat sills and lintels.

The north and south wings are two-bays-wide and set back from the central block. The north wing's second floor features a sleeping porch fenestrated by continuous pairs of metal frame 12-light casement windows with 6-light transoms. These windows extend around the north and east elevations. Round medallions with low reliefs decorate the wall plane between the first and second floors. The south wing has relief panels with cartouches between the floors.

Exterior alterations include a non-historic door in the original first floor window opening each on the north and south elevations. A non-historic double door and staircase is at the second floor on the south elevation.

The **interior** first floor plan has been altered over the years to enclose previously open areas for administrative offices, but the second-floor plan is intact. Original flooring (wood, red clay tile, and hex tile), fireplaces, wood doors, bathroom fixtures, and wall materials are extant throughout the interior.

A 2-story garage apartment, designed in the Spanish Revival style, was built for Bellinger in 1925 but demolished by c. 2000.

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**Parsonage** (Resource 5, Photo 20-24)

The parsonage is a 1 ½-story residence at southwest corner of the property with Permastone and asbestos siding, T-plan, and cross gable roof. According to community members, the wood-frame house was moved to the site in 1946. Its original construction date and location not not known. The Permastone cladding was added by 1949. The entrance is inset under the front gable roof and has two perpendicular front doors (one facing west and the other facing north). There are two pairs of windows on either side of the front entrance all of which are original double-hung wood windows covered by dark screens. The one-story one-room addition, built between 1951 and 1965, is visible from the south elevation. The interior plan and most historic materials are intact.

**Parsonage Garage** (Resource 6, Photo 25)

A small, detached one-car garage is behind parsonage and faces south. It is of wood frame construction, clad in Permastone, and has a shallow hipped roof..

**Noncontributing Shed** (Resource 7, Photo 25)

There is a small shed made of vertical wood boards placed near the detached garage. The structure is more recent than the others as it does not appear in any aerial photograph before 2016.<sup>3</sup>

**Contributing Site** (Resource 8)

The nominated block was originally (in 1925) a large, landscaped estate with the Bellinger House at its center. Historic aeriels and photos show property was grassy with Italian cypress trees, box hedges, and flower gardens. Bellinger constructed the low stone retaining wall (**Photo 27**) along the block facing New Braunfels Street, which continues to the halfway points of Nevada Street and Martin Luther King Dr. The extant wall is an important feature of the contributing site. Greater Corinth laid concrete sidewalks (present) between 1943 and 1966 to facilitate circulation between campus buildings and built the extant parking lot by 1959 for congregants' cars on the southeastern corner of the block. By 1986, the parking lot extended to the northeastern block corner, which historically had been undeveloped. A metal security fence was added at some point between 2016 and 2017 according to Google Street View. The overall design and many historic features—sidewalks, parking, and stone retaining walls—from the period of significance are intact.

**Integrity**

The property retains integrity to demonstrate its significance as the home of Charles V. Bellinger, prominent African American civic leader and businessperson (1925-1937) and as the Greater Corinth Baptist Church and Community Center (1943-1975). Property development under the church's ownership diminished the 1925 Bellinger estate's historic setting to such a degree that the house is not likely eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Overall, however, the house retains its original location, design, materials, and workmanship and is recognizable as the stately early 20<sup>th</sup> century Spanish Colonial Revival home of Charles V. Bellinger. As an active church complex in continuous use since 1943, the nominated property retains its overall design. The main components—1950 sanctuary, 1946 parsonage, 1948 gymnasium and snack bar, and repurposed Bellinger House—remain on the property with no modern infill. Historic sidewalks and parking lots reinforce the historic circulation patterns and relationships between the buildings and site. The contemporary parking lot on the northeast quadrant did alter the historic open landscape but provided needed additional parking for the church. Although alterations to individual buildings are present—most critically the non-historic connection between the gym and snack bar—these do not detract from the overall design of

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<sup>3</sup> Google Earth October 20, 2016.

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the buildings as a complex. Historic exterior materials and workmanship are intact in each building. Greater Corinth retains its association and feeling as a church community complex.

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## Statement of Significance

The Charles V. Bellinger House in San Antonio, Bexar County, is a 1925 2-story Spanish Revival house named for the influential political and business leader who resided there from 1925-1937. In 1943, it became the administrative headquarters for the Greater Corinth Baptist Church's Sanctuary and Community Center, which developed the nominated property for religious and secular outreach programs. Charles V. Bellinger (1875-1937) became one of the city's wealthiest men and the political figurehead of San Antonio's African American community. He successfully leveraged his influence with white politicians to secure funding for segregated schools, parks, a library, and improved city services in Black neighborhoods. Bellinger hosted distinguished guests at his architect-designed two-story Spanish Colonial Revival home that sat on a palatial 2.6-acre block in East San Antonio. Bellinger, his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife, and children lived there from 1925 until his sudden death in 1937. Out of the two extant properties associated with Bellinger's productive life, the nominated house best reflects his productive life. The property is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion B, in the area of Politics and Ethnic Heritage Black for the period 1925-1937.

It is also nominated under Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Ethnic Heritage: Black at the local level of significance for the period 1943-1975, the current 50-year threshold for listing. Greater Corinth Baptist Church, first organized in 1905, purchased the Bellinger Estate in 1943. Under the leadership of Rev. Dr. J. Henry Hardeman, the church improved the property to support its diverse and wide-reaching community programs. Between 1943-1950, the congregation built a parsonage, gymnasium, snack bar, and large Late Gothic Revival sanctuary alongside the former Bellinger house. The Greater Corinth Baptist Church and Community Center, as it was called, provided temporary housing; social, and educational events; and sports and recreation for the city's Black citizens. It was also a center of political and civic life as a venue for local candidates, NAACP meetings, and the Citizen Voters Union. The nominated property satisfies Criteria Consideration A (Religious Properties) because its significance derives from the secular programs and uses of Greater Corinth Baptist Church, which will celebrate its congregation's 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.

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## Brief History of African Americans in San Antonio, 1900-1970

In 1900, African Americans comprised 14.1 percent of San Antonio's population, reflecting broader patterns of migration from rural Texas to urban centers in the decades following the Civil War. Over the next three decades, however, the proportion of African Americans in the city fell to roughly 8 percent, as many Black Texans left for northern states during the Great Migration.<sup>4</sup>

Initially, Black San Antonians were dispersed throughout the city. But as real estate developers increasingly imposed racial restrictions on new subdivisions, African Americans were pushed into segregated neighborhoods. By 1920, more than 30 percent of the city's Black residents lived on the East Side, where white-owned companies marketed modest homes to African American buyers (**Figure 1**). By 1930, San Antonio boasted the highest rate of Black homeownership among major Texas cities.<sup>5</sup> The East Side (the city's Sixth and Seventh Wards) became a focal point of Black community life. Known as "Baptist Settlement" for its concentration of churches, it included institutions such as Greater Corinth Baptist Church, which later played a significant role in providing health and social services. Despite community consolidation, living conditions in the East Side reflected stark inequalities from white neighborhoods:

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<sup>4</sup> Kenneth Mason, 46-49.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., 60.

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The streets in Black communities were generally unpaved, and services were sporadic. Homes were small wooden structures, often without sewer, water, or electric connections, but the lots were inexpensive, even for the modest salaries of prospective Black home buyers.<sup>6</sup>

Employment opportunities were also limited. Most African Americans in San Antonio worked as laborers, domestics, or in service-sector jobs in hotels and restaurants. Access to skilled trades was scarce, and competition with Mexican Americans for low-wage work was common. Wages lagged behind those of African Americans in other Texas cities, conditions made worse by the economic depression of the 1930s. Although African Americans organized segregated unions—such as the Jim Crow Alamo Assembly and Knights of Labor—they were generally excluded from meaningful union activity. These barriers encouraged entrepreneurship within the Black community. Between 1900 and 1920, the number of Black-owned businesses grew to more than twenty-five, most of them barbershops.<sup>7</sup> William H. Leonard became one of the most prominent business leaders, operating a barbershop, pharmacy, and theater, and managing a Black-run postal substation. More influential still was Charles Bellinger, who developed a wide array of enterprises, including clubs, restaurants, a taxi service, a real estate company, and *The San Antonio Register*, a newspaper run by his son Valmo.

Black political participation during the early twentieth century was nonpartisan, with politicians courting African American voters in exchange for city services. Among the most significant early leaders was John A. Grumbles, a respected figure among both Black and white civic leaders. Grumbles helped organize the San Antonio branch of the NAACP in 1918 and recruited members primarily through churches. His strategy emphasized public demonstrations and reform, while Bellinger preferred behind-the-scenes influence. Although voting rights remained the central issue in this period, Bellinger gained broader popular support by defending Black San Antonians' access to the ballot and achieving municipal services rather than pressing directly for civil rights. Bellinger was closely allied with Mayor C. M. Chambers, who was more responsive to Black leadership than earlier city officials. After the deaths of Chambers (1933) and Bellinger (1937), a new generation of reform-oriented Black leaders emerged, demanding greater accountability and civil rights.

The Great Depression compounded the hardships of African American communities. Municipal budget cuts further reduced already limited city services, while schools and recreation facilities fell into disrepair and federal relief funds were distributed unequally. Economic strain, combined with Bellinger's arrest and death, generated frustration in the Black community with political corruption and fostered the rise of community-based organizations that emphasized reform and cross-racial alliances. In the absence of politically connected Black leadership and white political allies at City Hall, churches became crucial centers for social services and secular programs in the Black community.

Throughout this era, Black churches remained essential to community stability. They provided social services such as financial aid, assistance to the elderly, and support for widows and orphans, while also serving as centers for secular gatherings and the foundation for benevolent societies and fraternal organizations. Discrimination in health care even spurred Greater Corinth Baptist Church to establish its own hospital, reflecting the vital role of religious institutions in addressing unmet health needs.

World War II marked a turning point for San Antonio's African American community. The city's military bases—Kelly Field, Lackland, and Fort Sam Houston—expanded dramatically during the war, drawing thousands of Black servicemembers and civilian workers. Many remained in San Antonio afterward, reinforcing the city's historically rooted Black community centered on the East Side. Wartime demand also opened limited new employment opportunities in defense industries, although discrimination continued to restrict African Americans to lower-paying positions. Despite the influx of servicemembers, the city's Black population remained around 7%.

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<sup>6</sup> Mason, 60.

<sup>7</sup> Mason, 388.



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Segregation remained pervasive through the 1940s and 1950s. African Americans attended underfunded schools such as Wheatley High, faced barriers to higher-paying jobs, and were confined to segregated housing. On the East Side, however, churches, civic groups, and businesses provided a foundation for cultural life and community leadership. St. Philip's College, established as a training school in 1898 and expanded into a junior college in 1942, became a central institution for higher education and vocational advancement.

The civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s brought both continuity and change. Local chapters of the NAACP, student activists, and clergy pressed for desegregation and equal rights. In 1960, San Antonio gained national attention when it became the first major Southern city to desegregate its downtown lunch counters peacefully—an outcome achieved through behind-the-scenes negotiations between Black leaders and white business owners.<sup>8</sup> While this distinguished San Antonio from the more violent confrontations elsewhere in the South, structural inequalities persisted in employment, housing, and political representation.

The 1960s also witnessed the emergence of new political voices. The passage of the Civil Rights Act (1964) and Voting Rights Act (1965) expanded the franchise and encouraged greater political participation. By the early 1970s, African Americans began winning elected office and increasing their influence in civic affairs. Yet economic disparities remained striking. Poverty rates on the East Side were high, and discriminatory lending practices limited access to housing improvements and new business opportunities.

Cultural institutions helped sustain identity and resilience during these decades. The Carver Community Cultural Center became a hub for arts and civic engagement, while long-standing traditions such as Juneteenth celebrations reinforced community cohesion. Churches, like Greater Corinth Baptist Church and Community Center, continued to provide essential services—from social aid to leadership in civil rights campaigns—just as they had earlier in the century.

By 1975, African Americans in San Antonio had secured meaningful gains in education, voting rights, and public accommodations. Still, the persistence of poverty, residential segregation, and uneven access to political power underscored the limits of mid-century reforms. The East Side remained both the symbolic heart of Black San Antonio and the focal point of continuing struggles for equality.

### **Charles Valmo Bellinger, Sr. (1875-1937)**

Charles Bellinger (**Figure 11**) rose from modest beginnings in Lockhart, Texas, to become one of the most influential—and controversial—African American political figures in early twentieth-century San Antonio. The son of formerly enslaved parents, he migrated to the city in 1905, where he built a business empire of saloons, gambling houses, and real estate, while positioning himself as the essential broker between the city's white political machine and Black voters. Through his ability to mobilize thousands of votes, Bellinger secured tangible improvements for San Antonio's East Side, including paved streets, schools, libraries, and basic infrastructure, even as critics condemned his reliance on vice enterprises and machine politics. Frequently targeted by reformers and opponents, he faced repeated indictments for gambling and tax evasion, serving a brief prison term late in life. Despite his notoriety, Bellinger left a lasting imprint on San Antonio's Black community by creating economic opportunities, fostering civic institutions, and demonstrating how African Americans could wield political power in the segregated South.

#### *Early Life*

Charles Bellinger, born in Caldwell County, was the second youngest son of Theodore and Louisa Ammey Bellinger. His paternal grandparents were Edmund Bellinger, a white plantation owner and lawyer from South Carolina, and an

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<sup>8</sup> Glasrud, 258.

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enslaved woman under his ownership. Her name is unknown, but some family researchers have noted that she was of possible Gullah origin.<sup>9</sup> Following emancipation, Theodore became a registered voter on July 10, 1867<sup>10</sup> and earned the position of Lockhart alderman.<sup>11</sup> This was a volatile time to be appointed to public office. Several incidents of racial violence in Prairie Lea and Lockhart led to the stationing of federal troops in the area.<sup>12</sup> A blacksmith by trade, Theodore and Louisa owned property and raised nine of their 13 children in Lockhart.

Charles was undoubtedly influenced by his father's political involvement during the turbulent post-Reconstruction era. Between 1874 and 1900, the democratic reforms instituted during Reconstruction were reversed after white Democrats regained control of Texas politics in 1873. Laws restricting the labor, property, and political power of African Americans, commonly known as the Black Codes, were passed and at times violently enforced.<sup>13</sup> The political power of African Americans was further diminished in the state through the implementation of a poll tax in 1902 and the beginning of whites-only primaries in 1903. The whites-only primaries which began at local and county levels were codified by the state in 1923.<sup>14</sup> The first all-white Democratic party primary in Caldwell County was held for the 1904 election for candidates for local, state, and national office. In addition to the legal prescription of African Americans in the area, there was a rise in racially motivated vigilante activity in the area including mentions of the Ku Klux Klan or White Caps.<sup>15</sup>

In 1896, Charles married Celestine Pallemmon and they had their first child, Charles Valmond "Valmo" Bellinger Jr. (1899-1994) three years later. Charles supported his family by working in a local saloon before deciding to move to San Antonio in 1905, then the state's fast-growing city.<sup>16</sup> Their decision reflected a larger migration pattern within the state of people moving from smaller communities to larger cities. San Antonio boasted public and private schools, churches, and job opportunities in proximity to African American neighborhoods, making it an attractive location.

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<sup>9</sup> Edmund Bellinger was part of a large extended family of influential landholders and politicians in South Carolina whose lineage traces to Captain Edmund Bellinger (1656-1708), who was awarded the Tomotely Baroney in what became Beaufort County along with the hereditary title of Landgrave. When the Lords Proprietors received their charter from King Charles II to settle South Carolina, they established a system of local nobility with the Lords Proprietors at the top followed by landgraves, and caciques. The Bellinger's were among the local nobility that retained their title and properties through the Civil War. Charles' father Theodore was one of several children born of enslaved women and their enslavers across the Bellinger properties in South Carolina. It is believed that Theodore was among the enslaved people brought to Texas by Edmund Bellinger (1802-1878) in 1836. Family accounts say that Theodore married Louisa Ammey around 1855. Little is known about Louisa's early life other than she was born in Maury County, Tennessee around 1836. Theodore and Louisa Bellinger had 13 children, seven born before the end of the Civil War, Charles Bellinger was the second to youngest child. His siblings were as follows, Ben Bellinger (1854-1914), Charlotte Bellinger (1854-1933), Theodoro [Theodore] Bellinger (1860-1931), Jack [Jock] Bellinger (1861-1916), Samuel Bellinger (1863-1927), Betty [Betsey] A. Bellinger (1864-1950), Harriett Alice Bellinger (1866-1896), Henry Bellinger (1867-1940), Woody Bellinger (1869-1924), William Bellinger (1871-1946), Wheat Bellinger (1872-1931), Charles Bellinger (1875-1937), and Ferdinand Bellinger (1880-1896).

Ackerman, Robert K. "Landgraves and caciques," *The South Carolina Encyclopedia*. University of South Carolina, Institute for Southern Studies. Accessed October 16, 2024. <https://www.scencyclopedia.org/sce/entries/landgraves-and-caciques/>

<sup>10</sup> 1867 Voter Registration List, Caldwell County, Texas. Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

<sup>11</sup> "Appointments to Civil Office," *Galveston Flakes Semi-Weekly Bulletin*. May 5, 1869.

<sup>12</sup> Vivian Elizabeth Smyrl, "Caldwell County," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed September 20, 2024, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/caldwell-county>.

<sup>13</sup> *Struggles & Success: Selections from the Handbook of African American Texas* (eds. Jesús F. de la Teja and Walter L. Buenger), Texas State Historical Association, 2015.

<sup>14</sup> Greenberg, Sanford N., "White Primary," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed October 17, 2024, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/white-primary>.

<sup>15</sup> *Lockhart Register*, January 4, 1889, p. 3

<sup>16</sup> Alwyn Barr, "Bellinger, Charles," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed October 25, 2024, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/bellinger-charles>; "City Population History from 1850-2000," *Texas Almanac*. Accessed October 17, 2024. <https://www.texasalmanac.com/drupal-backup/images/CityPoHist%20web.pdf>.

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Once settled, Charles and Celestine's family grew to 10 children: Lillian Marie (1906-1963), Ruth Ann (1908-1984), Cecilia E. (1910-1942), Theo Darsia Louise (1912-1916), Filomena (1914-1916), Julian (1916-1917), Infant (1918-1918), Anthony Harry "Harry" Middleton (1919-1991), and Joseph (1919-1919). Of these children only Valmo, Lillian Marie, Ruth Ann, Cecilia, and Harry made it adulthood. In addition to his growing family, many of Charles and Celestine's extended family found their way to San Antonio. After his father died on November 7, 1906, Charles moved his mother from Lockhart to San Antonio.<sup>17</sup> He also hired his siblings, nieces, nephews, and in-laws to help staff his various businesses.

*Bellinger in San Antonio*

Using his savings and loans from his former employer Jeff Howard in Lockhart and from the Pearl Brewing Company, Bellinger purchased an established saloon at 822 Austin Street from Ike Porter.<sup>18</sup> Known as an exceptional gambler, he began to accumulate wealth that he invested in more saloons and billiards.<sup>19</sup> In 1907, Bellinger began his political participation when his White Front Saloon hosted a political rally for the reelection of San Antonio Mayor Bryan Callaghan.<sup>20</sup> The Callaghan political machine dominated San Antonio politics from 1879 until his death in 1912. Part of Callaghan's success stemmed from his ability to appeal to the city's ethnically diverse voters by communicating in English, Spanish, French, and German, and sharing the Catholic faith that many within the community practiced. Bellinger strategically positioned himself as a bridge to Black voters for Callaghan and, later, other white politicians.

Gambling was a major source of Bellinger's revenue, and he operated lotteries out of his businesses throughout his lifetime. The gambling establishment held six lottery drawings each day, with winning numbers posted on the wall. Customers paid 30 cents to punch numbers on a ticket and were later paid based on how many of their numbers matched the drawn numbers. Lotteries like this were common in the 1920s-1930s, especially in urban areas, offering a small but enticing opportunity for everyday people to win money at a time when legal gambling options were limited and economic pressures were high. In 1928, a series of articles by the reporter known as the "Stroller" appeared in the *San Antonio Light*. The investigative series aimed to reveal the prevalence of gambling establishments in the city. The reporter visited numerous gambling halls in the downtown business district, including what he described as a "Black and Tan Resort" on East Commerce Street. Access to the resort was through the Brownskin Café, leading to the back of the former Bellinger Theater—both properties owned by Charles Bellinger:

The [theater] seats and boxes still remain intact, but a short distance in front of the stage, a screen partition has been erected. Behind the partition, a well-groomed negro was selling "tickets." At his back, three other negroes were busy at clerical work. With the quietness and efficiency of a group of bank clerks they were calling numbers, working an adding machine, and copying in a large ledger. There was a crowd of about fifteen negroes and five white men in the place. They milled about, some playing the slot machines that line one wall. Here as in most gambling places, a sort of Fraternity of Chance existed. Men were applauded; losers consoled.<sup>21</sup>

Bellinger's success in gambling and entertainment provided the foundation that later allowed him to diversify into real estate, finance, and a range of other businesses. Among these were the Bellinger Roof Garden,<sup>22</sup> Professional Men's

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<sup>17</sup> Report of Death, Theo Bellinger, Lockhart, Texas, Nov 7, 1906.

<sup>18</sup> Alwyn Barr, "Bellinger, Charles," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed October 25, 2024, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/bellinger-charles>; San Antonio City Directory, 1905.

<sup>19</sup> San Antonio City Directory, 1907.

<sup>20</sup> "Two Negroes Cut At Political Rally," *San Antonio Gazette*, May 10, 1907.

<sup>21</sup> "Men, Women Patronize Game of Chance at S. A. 'Black and Tan' Resort," *San Antonio Light*, July 8, 1928.

<sup>22</sup> San Antonio City Directory, 1927.

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Idle Hour Pool Room,<sup>23</sup> Bellinger's Place Barber Shop, Bellinger's Soft Drink Stand,<sup>24</sup> Bellinger Café,<sup>25</sup> Bellinger Auto Livery, the Bellinger Theater,<sup>26</sup> Bellinger Realty & Construction Co.,<sup>27</sup> and the West Side Athletic Club.<sup>28</sup> Part of Bellinger's diversification was prompted by the ratification of the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 1919, which prohibited the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages. Overnight, his saloons became pool halls, soda fountains, or barber shops. Although African Americans were his target customers, Bellinger's businesses were open to all. The Bellinger Café on E. Commerce St was advertised as the "only high-class café in the city catering to the colored trade, regular meals, short orders day or night, special attention to parties."<sup>29</sup> Likewise, the Bellinger Theater advertised "Owing to the large number of requests, twenty-five very desirable seats have been reserved for white people."<sup>30</sup>

During Prohibition, Bellinger shifted his focus to real estate with the Bellinger Construction & Real Estate Company. He started investing in property development as early as 1911. In 1919, he purchased an entire block bounded by E. Houston St., N. Pine, Boston St., and Lowe St., investing \$20,000 to build five cottages similar to residential developments elsewhere in the city. A long-time proponent of homeownership as a path to financial stability, Bellinger believed that "to become a homeowner places a man forever out from under the influence of bolshevism and I. W. W. propaganda." By 1921, real estate had become his primary focus, leaving family members and associates in charge of his other enterprises. Although he never fully realized his plans for the block, he sold the property to George W. Bouldin in 1923, who went on to build single-family and multi-family homes there.<sup>31</sup>

Bellinger worked frequently with the San Antonio Building & Loan Association, founded by George Brackenridge, as well as the San Antonio Loan and Trust Company and the Central Trust Company. He also operated his own loan company, which he used to help finance homes for Black homebuyers. In addition, he participated in real estate transactions with prominent churches and families in the Black community, including the Suttons, Bouldin's, and Settles. Over his lifetime, Charles Bellinger facilitated more than 450 property transactions in San Antonio, and at his death in 1937, was recognized as owning the largest real estate portfolio of any Black individual south of the Mason-Dixon Line.<sup>32</sup>

In addition to his other business ventures, Bellinger was a sports fan and promoter. He was known to travel each year to attend the World Series and major boxing events.<sup>33</sup> The San Antonio Black Bronchos, a professional baseball team in the Negro Leagues, was established by Charles Bellinger in 1907 and lasted three seasons. The short-lived team launched the professional baseball career of future Hall of Fame player Smokey Joe Williams of Seguin, Texas.<sup>34</sup> Charles Bellinger even arranged for an exhibition game between the White Bronchos and the Black Bronchos.<sup>35</sup> The Bellinger Theater was also used for boxing exhibitions.<sup>36</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> San Antonio City Directory, 1915.

<sup>24</sup> San Antonio City Directories, 1919-1921.

<sup>25</sup> San Antonio City Directory, 1919.

<sup>26</sup> San Antonio City Directory, 1926.

<sup>27</sup> San Antonio City Directory, 1921.

<sup>28</sup> San Antonio City Directory, 1929.

<sup>29</sup> San Antonio City Directory, 1919.

<sup>30</sup> Advertisement, The Bellinger Theater, *San Antonio Evening News*, November 4, 1922.

<sup>31</sup> Release, Charles Bellinger to G W Bouldin, October 31, 1923, Bexar County Property Records.

<sup>32</sup> "18,000 Persons in 'Empire' of Bellinger," *The San Antonio Light*, June 14, 1937.

<sup>33</sup> "Death Takes Charles Bellinger," *The San Antonio Light*, June 14, 1937.

<sup>34</sup> Shepherd, Nick. "History of baseball in San Antonio," *San Antonio Express-News*, June 10, 2021. Accessed October 21, 2024, <https://www.expressnews.com/projects/2021/pro-baseball-in-san-antonio/>.

<sup>35</sup> "Whites Plan to Play Blacks," *San Antonio Express-News*, August 9, 1908.

<sup>36</sup> "Mortimer and Goodrich Await Tap of Bell," *San Antonio Express*, November 6, 1924.

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*Political Influence*

Following the death of John A. Grumbles in 1921, Charles Bellinger emerged as the most influential African American political leader in San Antonio, shaping city politics until his own death in 1937. Black voters in the city traditionally cast their ballots on a nonpartisan basis, supporting whichever candidate promised tangible benefits and refrained from advancing Jim Crow ordinances. This pragmatic approach created space for Black leaders to wield influence by aligning with the dominant machine politics that governed San Antonio.

Grumbles, a retired railroad clerk, had set the stage for Bellinger's rise. As the first president of the city's NAACP branch, he grew its membership from 500 to 1,228 in 1918 by using the Black church to galvanize support through membership drives and hosting political gatherings.<sup>37</sup> His organizational abilities made Black bloc voting a decisive factor in local politics. Grumbles supported figures like Mayor Bryan Callaghan (1905–1912) and later John W. Tobin (1923–1927), who, "once in office...promised [sic] blacks that he would lend whatever assistance possible to improve their livelihood."<sup>38</sup> By leveraging these relationships, Grumbles secured meaningful, if limited, gains for San Antonio's Black community.

When Grumbles died in 1921, Bellinger filled the political void for the Black community. Although never an elected official, he was regarded across Texas as a politician because of his influence at City Hall. As one historian put it, "Bellinger was able to secure from the non-partisan machine what could not be obtained through a democratic system crippled by racism."<sup>39</sup> He worked closely with Mayor C.M. "Mac" Chambers (1927-1933), under whose administration municipal support for the city's Black population "surpassed anything achieved under previous administrations."<sup>40</sup> Journalist Owen P. White of *Collier's* credited Bellinger with delivering between 5,000 and 8,000 Black votes to San Antonio's political machine, an achievement that made him indispensable to its continued power.<sup>41</sup>

Bellinger, like Grumbles before him, did not openly challenge segregation. Instead, like his predecessor, he sought to secure better services and institutions for his community with the help of Black churches. Historian Stanley Mason observed that Bellinger's financial support for Black churches ensured that ministers encouraged their congregations to vote for machine candidates. In return, "paved streets, public parks, playgrounds, civil service jobs, new school facilities, restoration of the Colored Library and other gifts" flowed into the East Side.<sup>42</sup> Material benefits, rather than formal equality, defined the fruits of his political strategy. Bellinger had been involved with the Colored Library Association, which, under Grumbles's leadership, obtained initial funding in 1919. Later, Bellinger helped lead the Negro Citizens Executive Committee (1926), a coalition of Black ministers and businesspeople who successfully lobbied Mayor Chambers to support \$75,000 city bonds for a brick replacement of the Colored Branch Library, completed in 1930, and later listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

By the late 1920s, Bellinger's power was widely acknowledged and his home on South New Braunfels stood as a monument to his wealth and influence. Built in 1925, the two-story architect-designed Spanish Colonial Revival residence was centered on a large city block in the heart of the African American East Side community. Bellinger preferred "to operate silently behind the scenes," and his house was a private venue for him to host San Antonio's white and Black elite.<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>37</sup> Mason, 351.

<sup>38</sup> Mason, 180.

<sup>39</sup> Mason, 181.

<sup>40</sup> Mason, 181.

<sup>41</sup> Owen P. White, "Machine Made," *Collier's* (Sept. 18, 1937): 32, 35.

<sup>42</sup> Mason, 189.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*

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In the 1920s and 1930s, Bellinger became a target for those who opposed the dominant political machine in which he was a key player. In 1921, opponents of Mayor Sam Bell ran a series of paid advertisements titled “Questionnaires” that questioned the activities of various incumbents, and which also implicated Bellinger. “Mr. Bell,” it states, “Do you know that Charles Bellinger, a negro, against whom are pending indictments for gambling carried precinct 30 for you, five to one – and do you know how he did it?”<sup>44</sup> The accusation was that Charles Bellinger paid poll taxes for impoverished Black voters.<sup>45</sup> The fact that Bellinger found himself subject to such attacks attests to the power of the voting block he delivered to white politicians.

### *Bellinger’s Final Years and Death*

Although Bellinger was accused and acquitted numerous times for legal violations at his various businesses, he faced his biggest challenge in 1936. On January 28, 1936, he was indicted on five counts of tax evasion for the years 1929-1933. The Internal Revenue Service estimated Bellinger paid just \$187 in taxes over five years when he owed more than \$10,000.<sup>46</sup> Bellinger ultimately pleaded guilty for failing to report income and unpaid taxes and sentenced to 18 months in the federal penitentiary.<sup>47</sup> Twenty-five U.S. marshals escorted Bellinger to Leavenworth penitentiary following the trial.<sup>48</sup>

Shortly after his conviction, white leaders in San Antonio campaigned to get his sentence commuted or to obtain a pardon. Letters signed by Mayor C. K. Quin, Police Commissioner Phil Wright, former Sheriff Albert West, Jr., former School Board President R. S. Menefee, Bankers J. H. Frost and Jesse Oppenheimer, Col. W. B. Tuttle, and other prominent white men requested clemency due to Bellinger’s declining health. The mayor and attorney Phil Shook, Sr. even travelled to Washington, D. C. to meet with President Franklin D. Roosevelt, which was arranged by Congressman Maury Maverick. In June 1936, Bellinger was transferred to a federal hospital in Springfield, Missouri suffering from high blood pressure. Two weeks later word arrived that President Roosevelt had commuted the remainder of Bellinger’s prison sentence, and he was released on five years parole.<sup>49</sup>

A year into his probation, Charles Bellinger died suddenly on June 14, 1937 at his home in San Antonio.<sup>50</sup> His death was the headline of the *San Antonio Light*, the white-run newspaper, and Black-run newspapers like the *San Antonio Register*, *Dallas Express*, and *Houston Informer*. More than 3,000 people—including white politicians—attended his public memorial service at the Carver Library and Auditorium on June 17, 1937. Rev. Dr. G. A. Deslandes of St. Paul’s A.M.E. praised Bellinger for his civic contributions and support of local churches.<sup>51</sup> In Bellinger’s will he provided for his widow Addie Ray Bellinger and his surviving children, Valmo, Lillian, Ruth, Cecilia, and Harry. A trust would provide monthly installments over a period, and each received a home with the exception of his daughter Cecilia who lived with a disability. Bellinger’s home on S. New Braunfels was to be sold. The San Antonio Loan and Trust Company was named to the trustee executor of the estate.<sup>52</sup>

In 1940, Bellinger was among other notable Black Texans honored in the book, *A Sure Foundation: A Sketch of Negro Life in Texas*:

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<sup>44</sup> “Questionnaire,” *San Antonio Light*, May 6, 1921.

<sup>45</sup> Doyle, Judith K. . “Maury Maverick and Racial Politics in San Antonio, Texas, 1938-1941,” *The Journal of Southern History* (1987) vol 53, No. 2, pp. 194-224. Accessed on September 28, 2024. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2209096>.

<sup>46</sup> “U. S. Indicts Bellinger on Taxes,” *San Antonio Light*, January 28, 1936.

<sup>47</sup> “Bellinger to Start Term Next Week,” *San Antonio Light*, February 4, 1936.

<sup>48</sup> “25 Seek Job as Bellinger Escort,” *San Antonio Light*, February 5, 1936.

<sup>49</sup> “Mayor’s Trip to Washington Explained,” *San Antonio Light*, May 28, 1937.

<sup>50</sup> “Death Takes Charles Bellinger,” *San Antonio Light*, June 14, 1937.

<sup>51</sup> “Quin Admits Picture Bar,” *San Antonio Light*, June 18, 1937.

<sup>52</sup> “Six Share in Negro Estate,” *San Antonio Light*, June 23, 1937.



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The late Charles Bellinger...was without a doubt the most powerful political figure of our race that [sic] the [sic] Southwes Texas has produced. For nearly a quarter of a century he played a large part in directing the political maneuvering of San Antonio Texas...Perhaps the most outstanding achievement of his entire career was the help he gave in saving churches and homes for members of his race. He was held in high esteem by all races in San Antonio and his power as a political figure was recognized by all classes. His advice and counsel was sought by men and women in all walks of life. He was a friend to the needy and gave an abundant amount of his money to charity and helping the men and women who were the furthest down.

**Bellinger House, 518 S. New Braunfels Ave.**

Bellinger amassed a considerable fortune by the mid-1920s, and the nominated property, which he purchased in 1924, symbolized his singular success and influence as a Black man living in the Jim Crow South. Following his divorce from Celestine in 1922, Charles desired a new home for himself, new wife Addie, and children. He approached Bernadine Menger, the wealthy white widow of prominent San Antonian Louis Menger, to purchase a block-size property she owned in the East End that was across from the whites-only Pittman-Sullivan Park. Although Menger agreed to the sale, she insisted the deed include a restrictive covenant. In 1943, Menger removed the restriction in order for Corinth Baptist Church to purchase the property:

No part of the premises hereby conveyed shall be sold, rented, or leased, directly or indirectly, to a colored person or persons, or to an association, company or corporation composed of colored persons. Any violation, or any failure to keep and observe this condition, shall work a forfeiture...the title to such...lots shall immediately re-vest in the grantor and her heirs.<sup>53</sup>

Restricted at the time from subdividing his property, Bellinger simply hired one of the city's leading white architects to design him a \$23,500 home and three-car garage in the middle of block. Beverley W. Spillman (1885-1977), a white architect, designed many homes in the city's prominent King William District in San Antonio, as well as theaters and churches throughout South Texas. In 1925, he designed for Bellinger a two-story stucco Spanish Colonial Revival home with more than 5,000 square feet (**Figure 3 & 8**). Like comparable residences in Spillman's catalogue, the Bellinger House featured a clay tile roof, elaborate door and window surrounds, decorated tile and wood fireplaces, and modern amenities. The two-story garage, with similar Mediterranean architectural influence, included an upstairs apartment. He landscaped the grounds with tall Italian cypress trees and a stone retaining wall that wrapped the block face.

Its scale, beauty, and expense "was the envy of all who saw it, whether they were white or colored," befitting a man with the level of influence Bellinger wielded in San Antonio.<sup>54</sup> Indeed, Bellinger hosted many distinguished guests during the period he lived there, 1925-1937. To some, the Bellinger Estate represented a threat to the dominant racial order—"veritably a monument of unusual and unique Negro success in the South."<sup>55</sup> On the night of November 12, 1935, Addie Bellinger woke up to a blazing wooden cross 150 feet from the house. Although the newspapers attributed it to the Ku Klux Klan, Bellinger would not substantiate that rumor.<sup>56</sup>

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<sup>53</sup> Bexar County Clerk, Deed Book 792, p 364, executed 11/20/1924, instrument no. 105424.

<sup>54</sup> "Charles Bellinger Dies," *The Informer* [Houston, TX], June 16, 1937.

<sup>55</sup> "Bellinger Home Sold to Corinth Baptist Church," *San Antonio Register*, April 2, 1943.

<sup>56</sup> "Blazing Cross Lighted at Bellinger Estate," *The San Antonio Light*, November 12, 1935.

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Following his sudden death in 1937, Bellinger's Estate attempted to sell the large and expensive property. Between the restrictive condition in the deed and the nationwide economic depression, no buyer came forward for six years. From 1939-1940, however, the City of San Antonio rented the house for a Works Progress Administration domestic training program for young Black women.<sup>57</sup> When Greater Corinth Baptist Church approached the Bellinger Estate in 1943 about its interest in the property, Menger's Estate agreed to release the racial condition from the deed.<sup>58</sup>

### ***Other Properties Associated with Charles Bellinger***

During his productive career, there were numerous properties associated with Charles Bellinger. Business properties included Bellinger Realty Co., his primary office at 519 E. Commerce; Bellinger Auto Livery (524 E. Commerce); Bellinger Barber Shop (212 Bonham), Brown Skin Café (511 E. Commerce), Bellinger Theatre and Billiards (505 E. Commerce and later 617 Refugio). None of these buildings exist as construction of Interstate 37 destroyed the 500 block of E. Commerce. A former residence at 1120 Crockett is the only other extant resource associated with Bellinger. He lived in the modest Folk Victorian home with his first wife, Celestine, and their children until they divorced in 1922. The nomination argues, however, that the home on S. New Braunfels Avenue better represents Bellinger's productive career. Constructed at the height of his success, Bellinger's contemporaries recognized the two-story "pretentious" home and grand 2.6-acre grounds as a symbol of his wealth and prestige. Unlike his previous home, the New Braunfels property was an important venue for Bellinger's political influence where he could entertain and lobby other influential San Antonians on behalf of himself and the interests of the larger Black community.

### **Greater Corinth Baptist Church and Community Center**

The East End Baptist Church, which became Greater Corinth Baptist Church in the 1920s, was organized in 1905 and worshiped in a small house donated by Austin Horton at the corner of Wyoming and Polaris Streets. Under Rev. Brooks, the congregation built its first sanctuary in 1909 at the southeast corner of Dakota and Connelly Streets near the current site.<sup>59</sup> In 1931, financed through Charles Bellinger's real estate firm, Greater Corinth enlarged its church to accommodate its growing congregation.

Under Reverend Dr. J. Henry Hardeman (1899-1950), Greater Corinth Baptist Church greatly expanded its religious and secular services. Hardeman, a native of Pittsburg, Texas, and his wife Lucille moved to San Antonio from Port Arthur in 1942 after he accepted the leadership position at Greater Corinth. In preceding years, the 43-year-old conducted more than 30 well-attended revivals in San Antonio and locals considered him "an outstanding preacher, melliloquent Gospel singer and pastor, and financier."<sup>60</sup> Within the first year of his pastorate, Corinth's large congregation (at least 300) grew by another 100 members, and they raised \$3,800 to pay off the church's debt<sup>61</sup> "Hardeman," congregants said, "has accomplished a ten-year program in one year."<sup>62</sup> Financial growth provided the means for Corinth Baptist to expand its missionary reach, but the 1909/1931 sanctuary was too small. On April 9, 1943, the *San Antonio Register* announced the sale of Charles Bellinger's former home and block to Greater Corinth at a cost of \$30,000, far below the \$100,000 valuation.<sup>63</sup> Valmo Bellinger (who donated \$5,000 to the purchase) presented the deed to Hardeman at a grand ceremony two days later (**Figure 4**).

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<sup>57</sup> U.J. Andrews, U.J., "Bellinger Estate Grants Use of Mansion as Training Center for Household Employees, *San Antonio Register*, Vol. 8, No. 51, March 24, 1939.

<sup>58</sup> Bexar County Clerks Office, Deed Book 372, instrument no. 298416, April 9, 1943.

<sup>59</sup> "Sanborn Fire Insurance Map: San Antonio, Texas" (New York, NY: Sanborn Map Corporation, 1912).

<sup>60</sup> "Corinth Elects Rev. J. Henry Hardeman," *San Antonio Register*, January 23, 1942.

<sup>61</sup> "Corinthians Honor Pastor," *San Antonio Register*, May 22, 1942.

<sup>62</sup> "Corinth Baptist," *San Antonio Register*, March 19, 1943.

<sup>63</sup> "Bellinger Home Sold to Corinth Baptist Church," *San Antonio Register*, April 9, 1943, 1.



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Between 1943 and 1950, Hardeman led the church to complete a large building campaign at the nominated property, which became the Greater Corinth Church and Community Center. The 1925 Bellinger House was put into use immediately as the “Educational Building,” and administration offices. A wood-frame cottage, moved to the site in 1946, was covered in Permastone and used as a parsonage. In 1947-1949, construction commenced on three buildings: a \$26,000 gymnasium and snack bar and the large, 2-story brick Late Gothic Revival sanctuary (**Figure 2**), designed by African American architect Wright Cuney White (1892-1976). Upon its completion, the former Bellinger property was valued at \$450,000 and provided immeasurable secular community services, centered on housing, education, and youth recreation.

Greater Corinth Baptist Church and Community Center’s campus also extended beyond the nominated property. Other services—a house for girls, store, hair salon, and Good Samaritan Hospital—were spread out across the East Side. Good Samaritan Hospital opened in 1943 and operated out of Greater Corinth’s original sanctuary at 1602 Dakota (extant). For 20 years, the institution provided critical healthcare in facilities dedicated solely to the treatment of Black San Antonians. Established in 1945, Corinth’s Delinquent Girls Home was a one-story cottage at 600 South Polaris built to house and provide non-denominational vocational and academic training for eight student residents.<sup>64</sup> The church also owned a small market, beauty salon and barber shop, and residential properties that provided free or low-income housing to needy citizens (**Figure 6**).

According to the *San Antonio Register*:

Other structures on the campus, all attesting to Dr. Hardeman's accomplishments in his eight-year pastorate, from March, 1942 to the present, include an educational building, nursery school, parsonage, youth health center, Hardeman gymnasium, departmental building, snack bar, seven-room apartment house, tennis and basketball courts, boxing ring, playground and children's play pens, and the Good Samaritan Hospital (at 1602 Dakota).<sup>65</sup>

Greater Corinth served San Antonio’s Black community in ways that extended beyond spiritual care, offering vital community space during segregation. The church hosted activities such as poll tax payments, educational and musical programs, NAACP events, and other forms of political outreach. This role reflected a longstanding tradition of Black churches in the South providing essential social services otherwise denied to African Americans. Obie Clayton, Jr. stated as much “Many scholars and students of American society have argued that, with the exception of the family, the Black churches are incontestably the most important social institutions within the Black community.”<sup>66</sup> Gunnar Myrdal, writing in the 1940s, stated that the “Black churches and the Black press were unique in that they were exclusively controlled by blacks.”<sup>67</sup> The services were as wide-ranging as the needs of the communities, but all ensured the health and benefit as more equitable access was being attained on a legal and political level during segregation.

Music has been one of Greater Corinth’s longest-running community programs. As Henry Louis Gates, Jr. observes, “Black gospel music and preaching is one of constant movement, threading Black culture together and encapsulating the essence of faith, resilience, and community.”<sup>68</sup> The choir at Greater Corinth was not only central to worship but also a means of community engagement that helped bridge racial divides. In 1935, soloists and choral groups from

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<sup>64</sup> “Delinquent Girls Home Opens,” *San Antonio Light*, February 9, 1945.

<sup>65</sup> *San Antonio Register* (February 17, 1950)

<sup>66</sup> Obie Clayton, Jr. “The Churches and Social Change: Accommodations, Moderation, or Protest.” *Daedalus*, Winter, 1995, Vol. 124, No. 1, An American Dilemma Revisited (Winter, 1995), pp. 101-117

<sup>67</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>68</sup> Gates, Henry Louis. *Harmony in Transition: The Symbiotic Evolution of Gospel Music*, BlackPast.org.

<https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/perspectives-african-american-history/harmony-in-transition-the-symbolic-evolution-of-gospel-music>.

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Black schools and churches were invited to the city's Music Week celebrations, giving choirs like Greater Corinth the opportunity to perform for predominantly white audiences.<sup>69</sup> In 1948, Greater Corinth presented a week of performances in the gymnasium, including an operetta and three-act comedy, to raise funds for a sprinkler system for the Good Samaritan Hospital.<sup>70</sup> In 1952, Greater Corinth hosted an Inter-Racial Artists' recital featuring pianists, soloists, and choruses from local colleges and universities under. The program was organized by J. Washington Riggins, minister of music, and Dr. B. Tyree Alexander, then Corinth's pastor. Admission was free and articles promoting the event noted that "Seats are reserved for whites."<sup>71</sup> An "Evening of Music," featuring classical, sacred, and gospel music, was hosted at Greater Corinth as the inaugural event of the Independent Baptist Association of Texas in 1962.<sup>72</sup> In 1970, the Walker Ford Gospel Singers began holding an annual Christmas concert at the church. Admission was a donation of canned goods that the church could redistribute to those in need.<sup>73</sup>

At a time when national meetings and conventions were segregated, Greater Corinth offered its facilities to the general public. In 1953, more than 2,000 masons met in San Antonio, and the church served as the host site for Black members of the M. W. St. Joseph Grand Lodge and the Mt. Olive Chapter.<sup>74</sup> The following year, Corinth hosted American Legion Posts 800, 828, and 871, located on San Antonio's East Side. Texas American Legion Commander L. E. Page was the keynote speaker.<sup>75</sup> In 1965, the church held one of its largest meetings during the period of significance when more than 5,000 delegates for the Missionary General Baptist Convention, a Black organization established in the 1880s, staged its annual gathering.<sup>76</sup>

Greater Corinth served as a vital center for civil rights and political engagement, providing a space where African Americans could organize, advocate, and exercise their voting rights during a period of widespread segregation and disenfranchisement. Through 1964, the church served as a location for locals to pay their poll tax.<sup>77</sup> They also hosted meet-the-candidate events for the community and provided meeting space for the NAACP and Citizen Voters Union.<sup>78</sup> Thurgood Marshall spoke at the Greater Corinth Baptist Church in October 1952. Marshall, attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), was already a renowned lawyer who had successfully litigated six landmark Civil Rights cases before the Supreme Court by 1952. Marshall's speech at Corinth Baptist was just one indication of the church's deep involvement in the Civil Rights Movement in San Antonio. Greater Corinth Baptist Church continued to be a rallying point within the community. In 1963, a local delegation gathered at the church to travel by caravan to Austin in support of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s march in Washington, D.C. The Rev. Claude Black and Dr. Ruth Bellinger were among the speakers at the march.<sup>79</sup>

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<sup>69</sup> "Negro Groups to Sing at Auditorium Tonight," *San Antonio Express*, May 11, 1935.

<sup>70</sup> "Corinth Baptist Gym Cornerstone Laying Set for Sunday Afternoon," *San Antonio Register*, July 30, 1948.

<sup>71</sup> "Inter-Racial Recital Slated for Thursday," *San Antonio Express*, April 29, 1952.

<sup>72</sup> "Evening of Music' at Greater Corinth Baptist, July 16," *San Antonio Register*, July 13, 1962.

<sup>73</sup> "A Christmas concert with the price of admission a donation of food to the needy was staged Sunday by the Walker-Ford Singers at Corinth Baptist Church," *San Antonio Express*, December 16, 1974.

<sup>74</sup> "2,000 Masons to Meet in S.A.," *San Antonio Light*, July 26, 1953.

<sup>75</sup> "Page, Legion Head, to Speak in S. A. Friday," *San Antonio Express-News*, February 26, 1953.

<sup>76</sup> "5,100 Baptist Delegates Hear Speech," *San Antonio Light*, October 21, 1965; "73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session of Texas State Gen'l Missionary Convention Set for SA," *San Antonio Register*, October 8, 1965.

<sup>77</sup> "6 Poll Tax Offices Ready," *San Antonio Light*, January 18, 1955; "NAACP Will Sponsor City Poll Tax Rally," *San Antonio Express*, January 12, 1961.

<sup>78</sup> "Union to Cite 5," *San Antonio Light*, March 23, 1965; "Final Week: Hopefuls Embark On Blistering Political Pace," *San Antonio Express*, March 27, 1973.

<sup>79</sup> "NAACP Raps City Council Inaction On Rights Appeal," *Newspapers.com*, August 25, 1963, <https://www.newspapers.com/article/express-and-news-naacp-raps-city-council/154656679/>.

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Secular activities continued through the 1970s. Greater Corinth sponsored a Boy Scout Troop,<sup>80</sup> style shows,<sup>81</sup> graduation ceremonies,<sup>82</sup> and community health programs,<sup>83</sup> establishing the church and its facilities as a place for the community to gather and celebrate. Boxing matches and other sports were held in the gymnasium and serviced by the snack bar, the proceeds of which raised funds for the church and its many programs. The gymnasium was a crucial community space, especially since it was constructed before the segregated Wheatley High School had its own sports facility. In 1970, the Youth Leadership Conference for Community Progress met in gymnasium to organize campaign to rename a San Antonio road in memory of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. following his assassination.<sup>84</sup> The church also sponsored annual pageants celebrating young girls of San Antonio's East Side. In 1974, Anna Delores Brown was crowned "Miss Corinth Deb," and won a wristwatch.<sup>85</sup> Reunions, like Huston-Tillotson College in 1976, for HBCU alumni were held in the Education Building.<sup>86</sup>

The Greater Corinth Baptist Church congregation has continued to use the campus up to the present day. The gym, Bellinger House, and parsonage each have different uses now: the former gym is currently a fellowship hall, the Bellinger House is now used as an administrative building, and the parsonage is currently used as a youth center to care for community children. Over the years the Bellinger House has been used to feed community members with warm meals and provide baths and clean clothes for those in need. In 2025, Greater Corinth Baptist Church will celebrate its 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.<sup>87</sup>

## Conclusion

The Charles V. Bellinger House in San Antonio, Bexar County, is a 1925 two-story Spanish Revival residence associated with Charles V. Bellinger (1875–1937), a wealthy entrepreneur and the leading political figure of San Antonio's African American community from the 1910s to the 1930s. Bellinger lived in the house with his family from 1925 until his sudden death in 1937, and of the two surviving properties linked to his career, this one best reflects his political influence and contributions to Black civic life. In 1943, Greater Corinth Baptist Church purchased the property and repurposed it as its sanctuary and community center, developing wide-ranging secular programs including housing assistance, education, recreation, and Civil Rights activism that served generations of Black San Antonians. The property is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion B (Politics, Ethnic Heritage: Black) for its association with Bellinger for the period of significance 1925-1937, and under Criterion A (Social History, Ethnic Heritage: Black) for its role as a center of community life for the period of significance 1943 to 1975, meeting Criteria Consideration A for religious properties because of its secular significance.

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<sup>80</sup> "Polaris District Announces New Officers," *San Antonio Register*, July 28, 1972.

<sup>81</sup> "Style Show at Corinth Baptist," *San Antonio Register*, July 19, 1935.

<sup>82</sup> "Rev. B. Tyree Alexander Baccalaureate Speaker," *San Antonio Register*, August 12, 1955.

<sup>83</sup> "County will offer anemia screening," *San Antonio Express*, August 15, 1977.

<sup>84</sup> *San Antonio Register*, February 6, 1970.

<sup>85</sup> *San Antonio Register*, April 12, 1974.

<sup>86</sup> No title, *San Antonio Register*, April 30, 1976, page 10.

<sup>87</sup> For more about Greater Corinth Baptist Church, visit <https://www.gcbc-sa.org/>.

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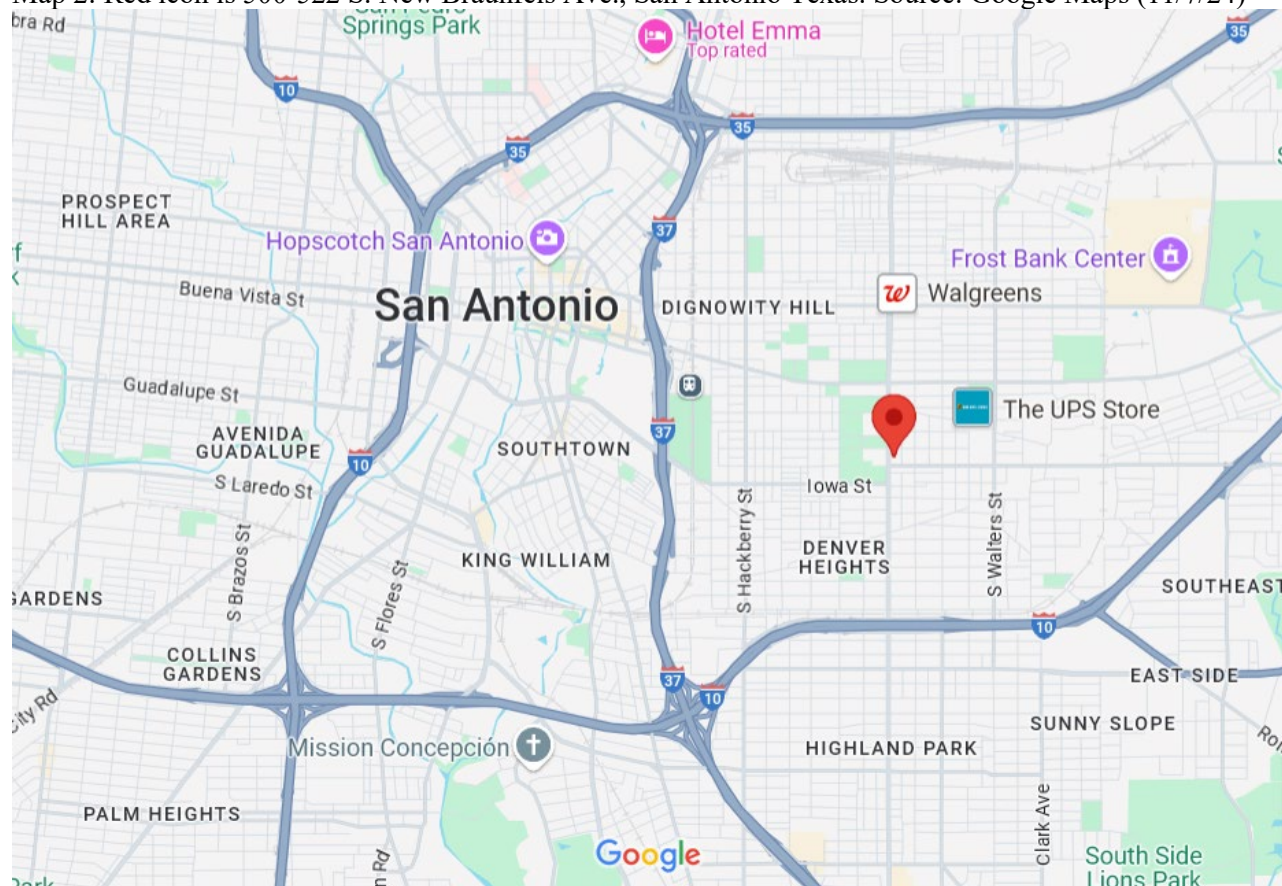
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## Maps

Map 1: Map of Bexar County.



Map 2: Red icon is 500-522 S. New Braunfels Ave., San Antonio Texas. Source: Google Maps (11/7/24)



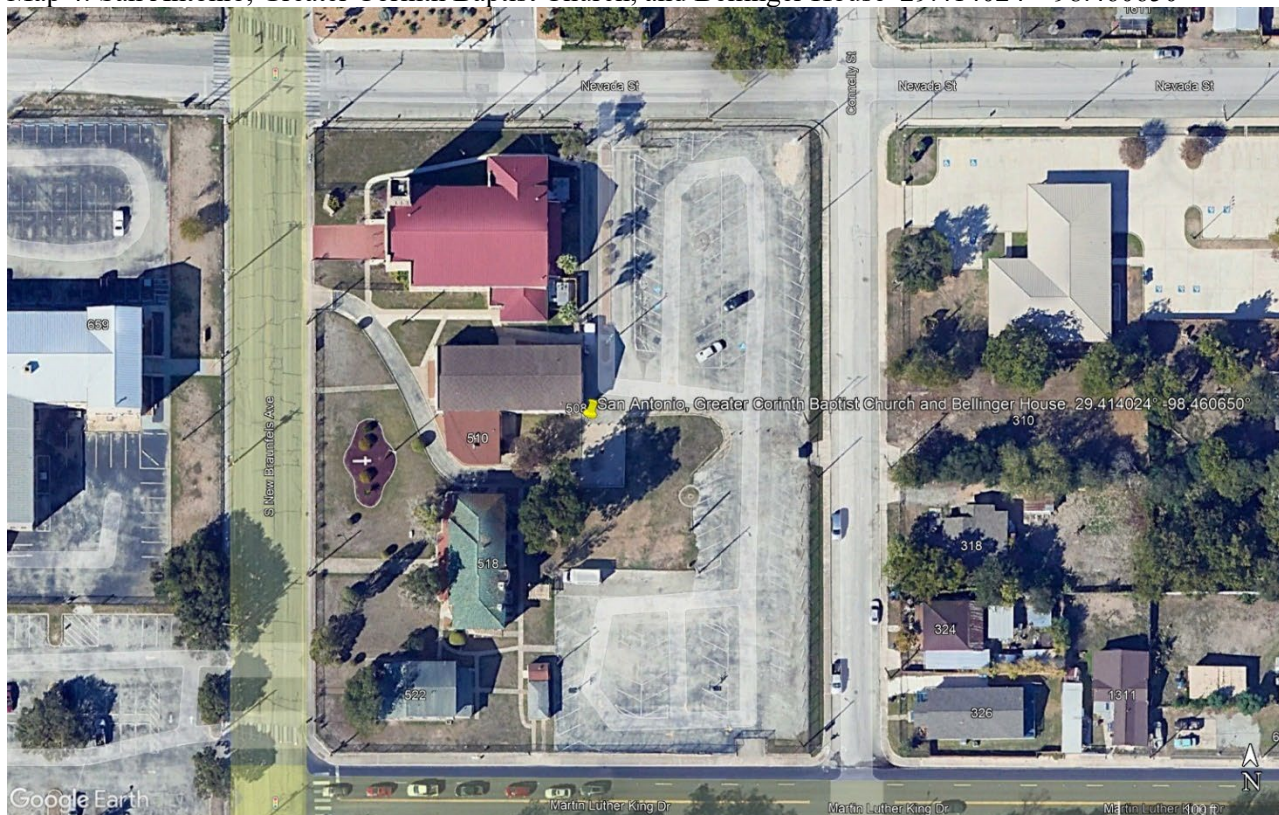


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Map 3: The nominated boundary is the legal parcel recorded by the Bexar CAD.

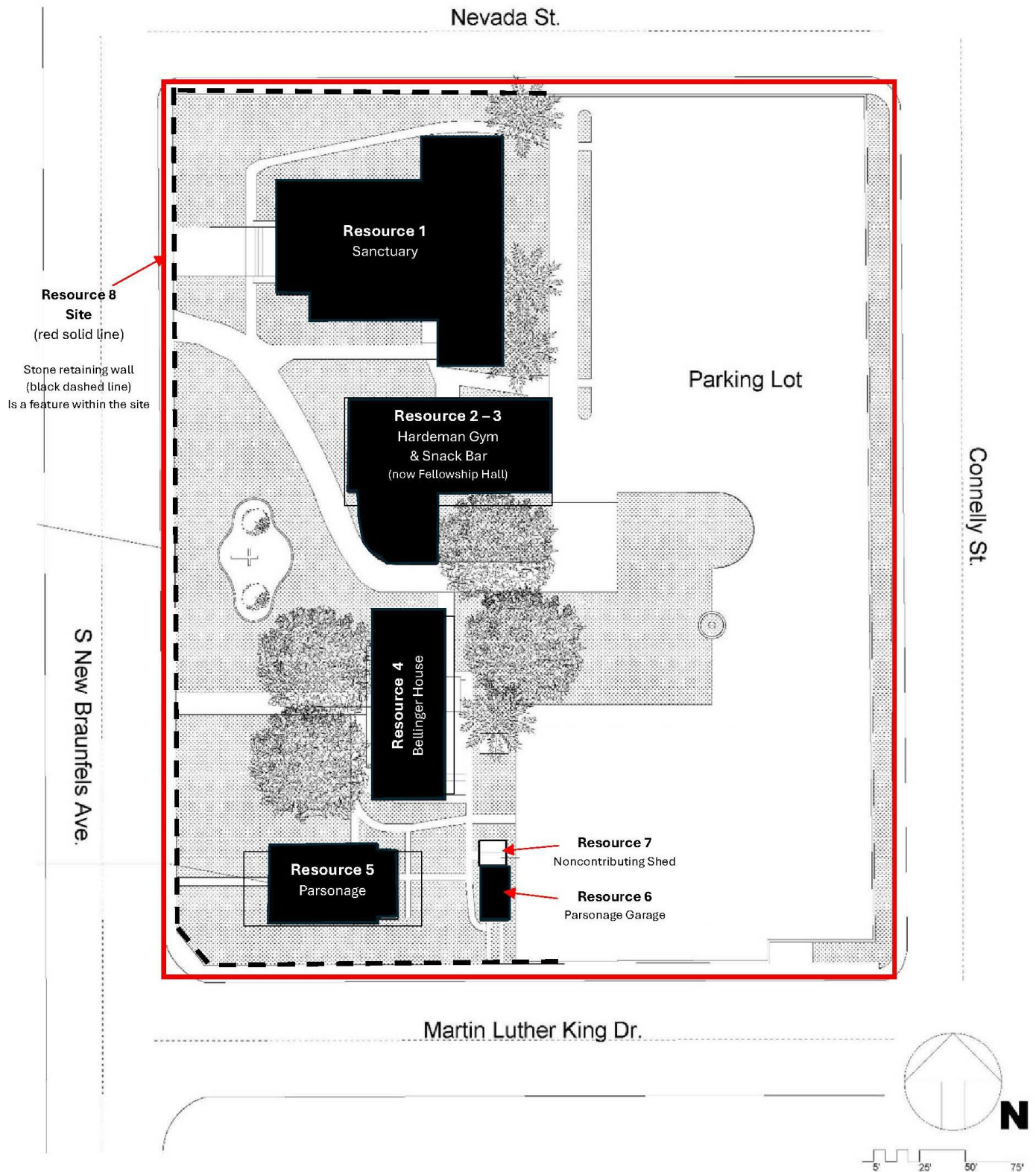


Map 4: San Antonio, Greater Corinth Baptist Church, and Bellinger House 29.414024° -98.460650°



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Map 5: Site Plan identifying resources.

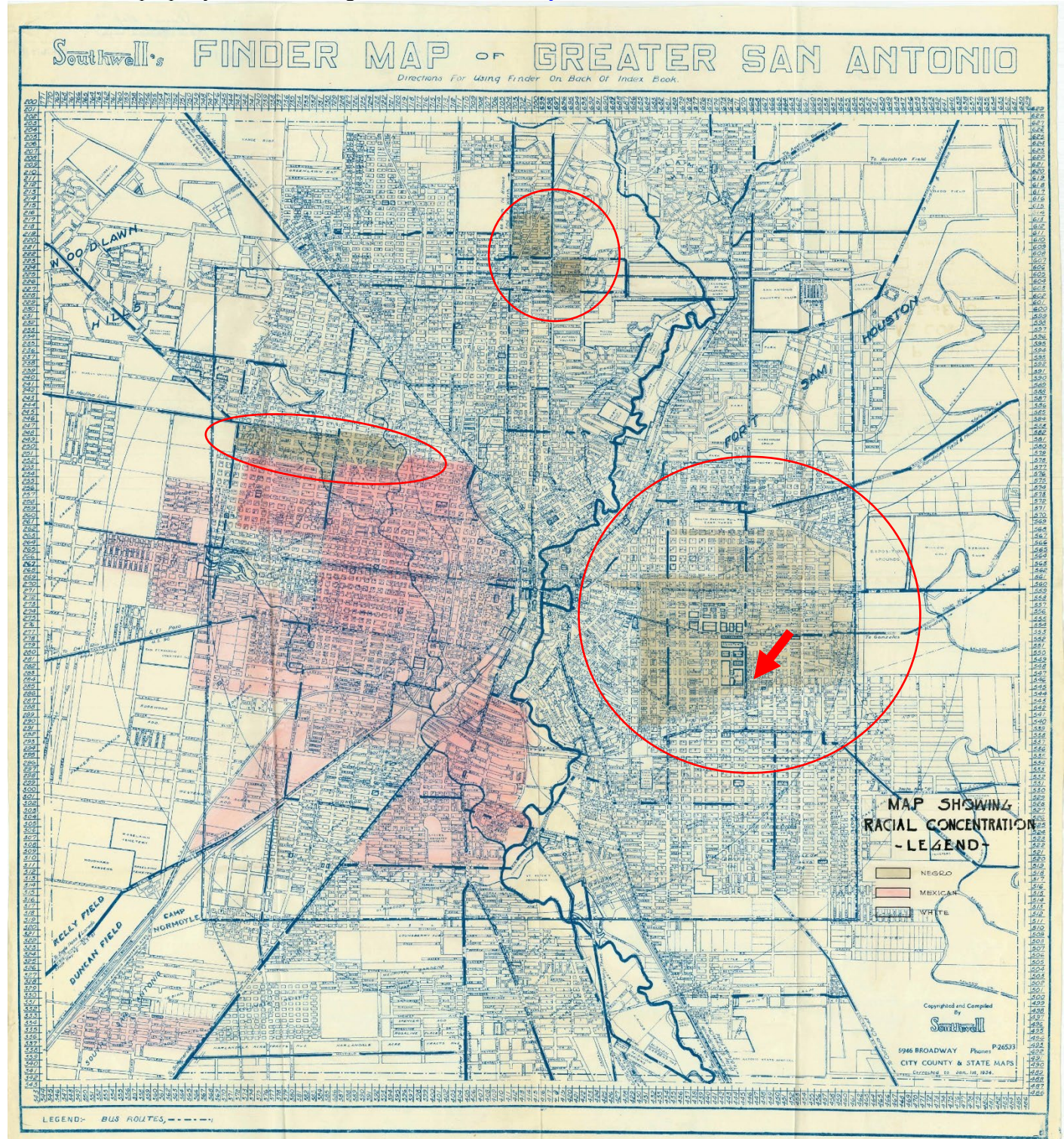




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Figures

Figure 1: 1935 redlining map of San Antonio with African American neighborhoods circled. The red arrow points to the nominated property in Denver Heights. Source: [University of Texas at San Antonio](https://www.utexas.edu/research/center-for-the-study-of-the-american-south)





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Figure 2: The sanctuary during construction (Resource 1) (undated photo).



Figure 3: The Bellinger House (Resource 3) (c.1935).





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Figure 4: Valmo Bellinger handing the property deeds to Rev. J. Henry Hardeman in 1943.



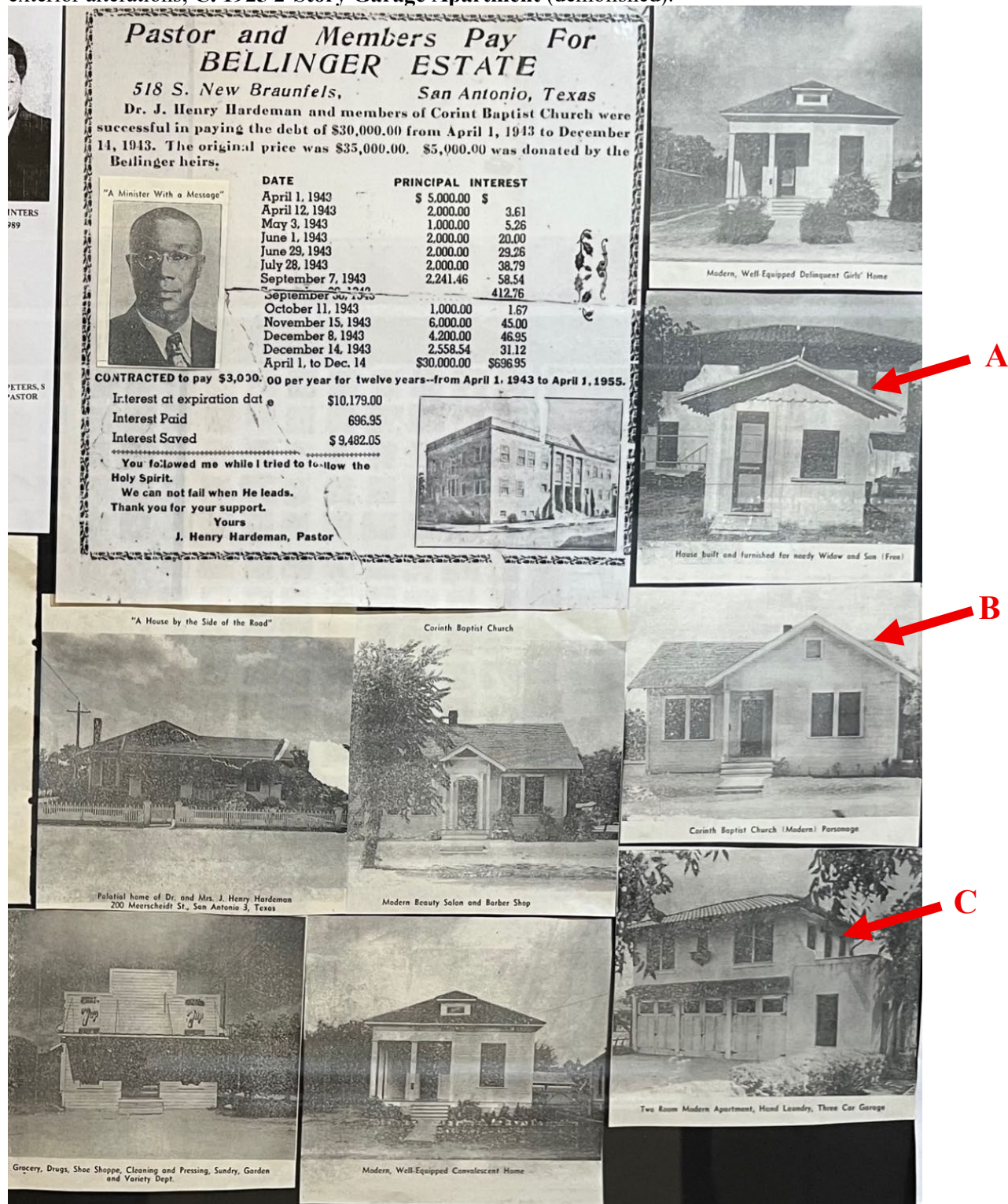
Figure 5: Bellinger House (Resource 3) used as an educational center by Corinth Baptist.





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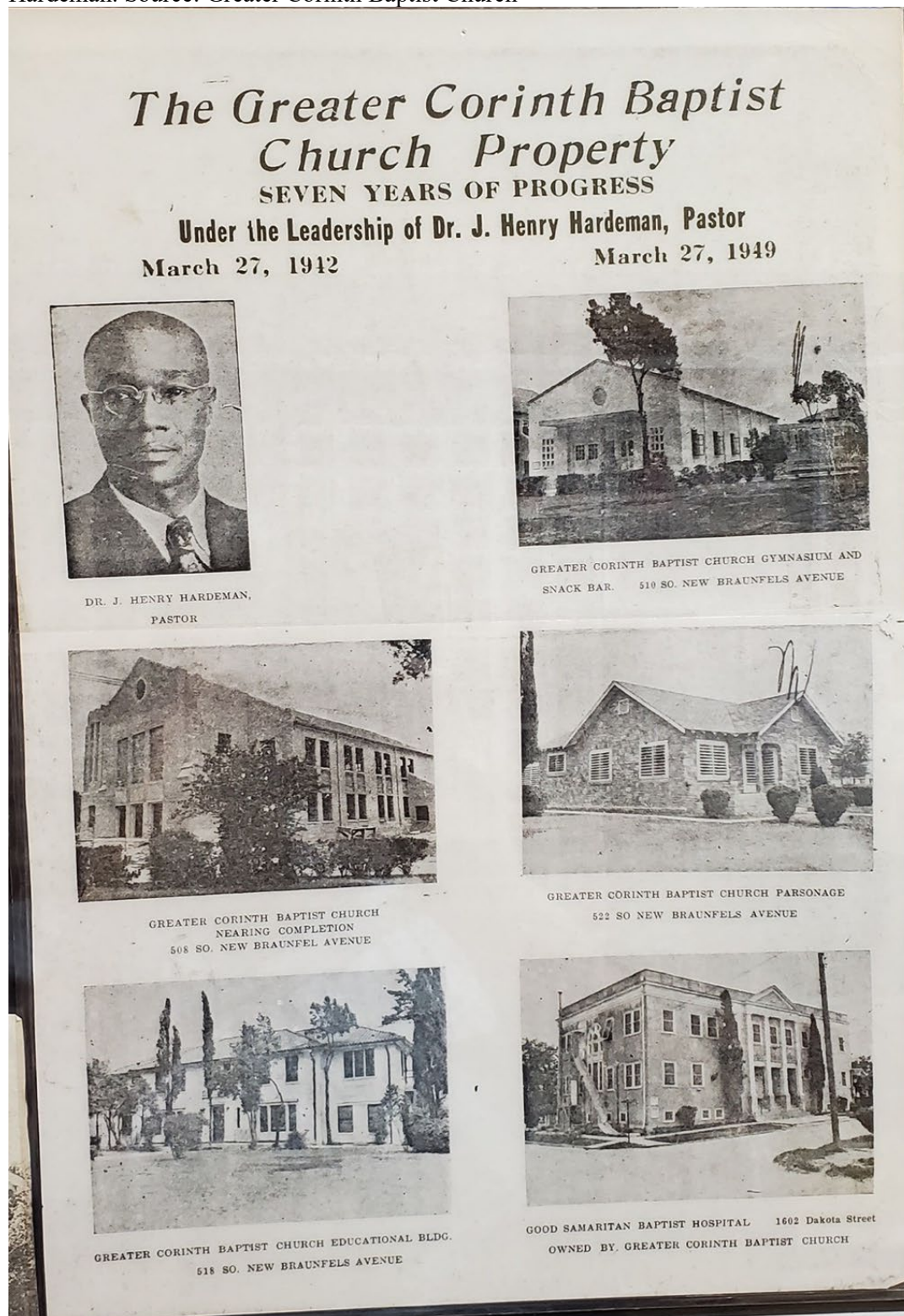
Figure 6: Clippings (c. 1945) of Greater Corinth properties and programs. The following resources were or are at the nominated property: **A. "House...for a Needy Widow,"** (demolished); **B. Parsonage** (extant) before historic-age exterior alterations; **C. 1925 2-Story Garage Apartment** (demolished).





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Figure 7: 1949 flyer commemorating the church's capital campaign project under the leadership of Rev. J. Henry Hardeman. Source: Greater Corinth Baptist Church



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Figure 8: 1938 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Vol. 3, p. 296 showing the Bellinger Estate (dashed box) and original Corinth Baptist Church (red arrow).







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Figure 10: 1973 Aerial of nominated property.



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Figure 11: Charles V. Bellinger. Source: San Antonio Public Library



Figure 12: Bellinger's death was headline-news in white-run and Black-run newspapers, like the *Houston Informer*. Source: *San Antonio Light* 6/14/37 and *Informer* 6/16/37.



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## Photographs

Name of Property: Greater Corinth Baptist Church Campus

Location: San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photographer: Charles Gentry, PhD

Date Photographed: October 17, 2024

Photo 1: (Resource 1) West Exterior view (Front façade). Facing East.





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Photo 2: (Resource 1) North exterior of the Sanctuary. View south.



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Photo 3: (Resource 1) South exterior of the Sanctuary. View northeast.





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Photo 4: (Resource 1) East exterior of the Sanctuary. View west.



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Photo 5: (Resource 1) First floor. Interior of the Sanctuary. View north.





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Photo 6 (Resource 1) West (front) cornerstone detail on the Sanctuary. View east.



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Photo 7: (Resource 2) West exterior (Front façade). View east.





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Photo 8: (Resource 2) Northwest exterior. View southeast.



Photo 9: (Resource 3) Southwest exterior. View Northeast.



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Photo 10: (Resource 2) Interior view of the Fellowship Hall towards the stage on the back. View east.



Photo 11: (Resource 3) Interior view of the kitchen attached to the Fellowship Hall. View east.





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Photo 12: (Resource 4) West exterior of the Bellinger House. View east.





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Photo 13: (Resource 4) North exterior of the Bellinger House. View south.



Photo 14: (Resource 4) East exterior. View west.





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Photo 15: (Resource 4) South exterior. View north.



Photo 16: (Resource 4) West exterior front entrance detail. View east.



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Photo 17: (Resource 4) Second floor interior of the enclosed porch. View northwest.



Photo 18: (Resource 4) First Floor Interior. Office. View south.





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Photo 19: (Resource 4) Interior view facing east. Second floor. Fireplace in main suit.





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Photo 20: (Resource 5) West exterior elevation of the parsonage (front façade). View east.



Photo 21: (Resource 5) South exterior elevation. View northeast.





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Photo 22: (Resource 5) East elevation of parsonage. View west.



Photo 23: (Resource 5) North exterior view of parsonage. View south.





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Photo 24: (Resource 4) Interior view of parsonage. View west.



Photo 25: (Resource 6 and 7) West exterior elevation of the Youth Center's detached garage and shed. View east.



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Photo 26: (Resource 6) South exterior elevation of the detached garage. View north.



Photo 27: Northeast oblique of nominated property.





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Photo 28: Southeast oblique of nominated property.



Photo 29: Northwest oblique of nominated property.

