



## TAKE THE DOWNTOWN TURTLE TRAIL CHALLENGE AND WIN A PRIZE!



**It's Simple!** Post pictures with all ten turtles on any social media platform using the hashtags **#TurtleTrail** and **#DecaturDowntown**. Then, visit one of the following locations and show your turtle pictures to receive a **SPECIAL PRIZE!**



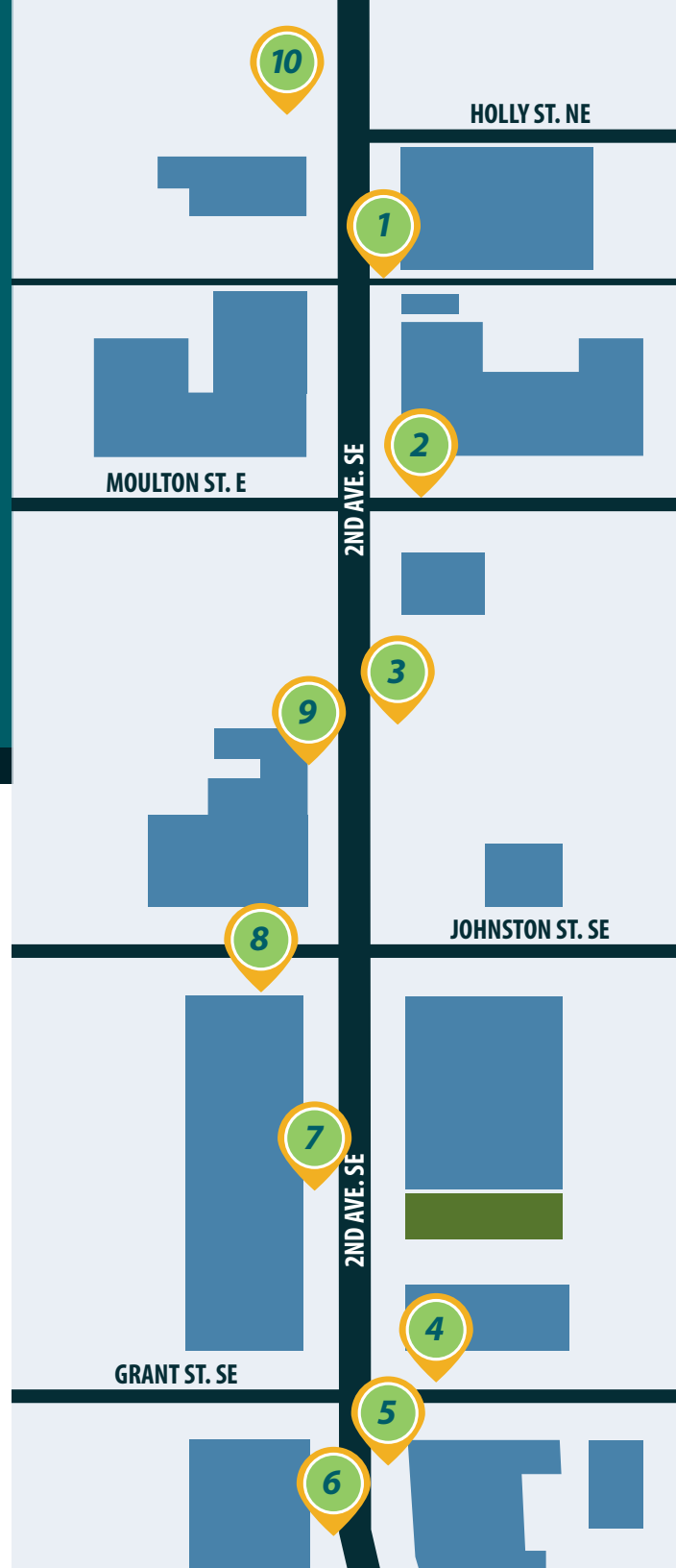
**COOK MUSEUM OF  
NATURAL SCIENCE**

133 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NE,  
Decatur, AL 35601



**DECATUR MORGAN  
COUNTY TOURISM  
OFFICE**

719 6<sup>th</sup> Ave SE,  
Decatur, AL 35601



## EXPERIENCE THE ADVENTURE!



## READY FOR A SCAVENGER HUNT?

Take the **Downtown Turtle Trail** and find 10 bronze turtles located along Decatur's historic 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Learn about the significant places and events that helped make Downtown Decatur what it is today along the way!



## #1 MIKEY

The **Princess** knows just what it's like;  
To be part of this **2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue** hike;  
A **lamppost** out front  
Will aid in your hunt,  
As Mikey sings into a mic.

Beginning in 1887 as a livery stable, the Princess Theatre was converted in 1919 to a silent film and vaudeville playhouse. It would later become a local movie theater before being renovated into a performing arts center by the City of Decatur in 1983.



## #2 LOYD

At **Moulton** there'll be no mistake;  
The old drug store's the site of  
your break;  
Solve this quick test  
**Of where bicycles rest,**  
To find Loyd enjoying a shake.

The building constructed on this corner in about 1900 became Loyd's Drug Store in 1935. Loyd's was a pharmacy and had a soda fountain, a popular gathering place for generations of residents seeking a refreshing milkshake on a hot summer day.



## #3 GOVERNOR ALBERT

From **Moulton** towards **Johnston**  
you meander;  
The **crosswalk** requires a good gander;  
As a rising attorney  
On a post office journey,  
Governor Albert would lead with  
great candor.

On this block was the law office of Albert P. Brewer, a Decatur native who served as Governor of Alabama from 1968-1971. This turtle suggests Gov. Brewer as a young Decatur attorney walking to mail an important letter at the Albany Station Post Office that stood around the corner on Johnston Street from 1949-1965.



## #4 BARBARA

Past **Johnston** to **Grant** you'll be there;  
'Round the corner at the **top of the stair**;  
Believe it or not  
With the clippers she's got,  
Barbara can also cut hair!

This space below street level served continuously as a traditional barber shop from 1935-2019. Basement Barber Shop was uniquely accessible to its customers via this exterior staircase, marked by the trademark spinning red, white, and blue barber pole.



## #5 PEGGY

From the barber, cross **Grant** and  
then **stop**;  
You can skip, you can saunter, or hop;  
Though pigs cannot fly  
Oh the groceries they'll buy,  
Just like Peggy who's ready to shop.

While in the late 1880's the neighborhood well and orchard were located on this site, this corner was the home of Decatur's first Piggly Wiggly from 1921 until 1940. The four-story building was, at the time, the tallest building in the city.



## #6 NICKY

Crossing **Second** is part of this game;  
To the **left** and **down the block** you  
should aim;  
While the changing of times  
Means fewer nickels and dimes,  
Nicky has coins just the same.

Second Avenue was the retail center of Decatur for much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Among the most popular retail outlets were five-and-dime stores, which sold various household items for just a nickel or a dime.



## #7 CASEY

Head **north** as your feet do propel;  
Towards the old **Casa Grande Hotel**;  
A **ledge** is your tip  
Casey's on her next trip,  
With a suitcase on top of her shell.

Look up! Though the current structure was built in 1904, you can still see the name of the Casa Grande Hotel written in the stone at the top of the building. The Casa Grande was a convenient resting point for travelers arriving at the nearby L&N Train Station near First Avenue.



## #8 MASON

On **Johnston** look this way and that;  
Where the Cotaco Opera House sat;  
Mason looks dapper  
In chelonian wrapper,  
While sporting his own top hat.

The Cotaco Opera House opened in 1890 at 115 Johnston St. and was the first opera house in the state of Alabama. It later became the Masonic Lodge, Masonic Theatre, and Payne Theatre.



## #9 HARRY

Down the block on a **stoop made  
of brick**;  
Where a Truman parade did the trick;  
Sit back and relax  
Harry belts out the sax;  
A musical campaign makes him tick.

On October 21, 1960, during the crucial final days of the 1960 Presidential campaign, former President Harry S. Truman came to Decatur to campaign for John F. Kennedy. Truman paraded down Second Avenue to Delano Park where he gave a campaign speech to an estimated crowd of 12,500.



## #10 SAM

On the **lawn** of Decatur's **ACA**;  
It's a **hoot** to find Sam here this day;  
He honors our vets  
So that no one forgets,  
And waves a flag for the U S of A!

On May 9, 1919, following the conclusion of World War I, Second Avenue was the site of a grand parade, welcoming approximately 500 soldiers from Company E and other units of the 167<sup>th</sup> Infantry from across Alabama who had served in The Great War.

FOR THE FULL  
HISTORY BEHIND  
EACH OF THESE  
SITES, VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE!



Visit [DecaturDowntown.org/turtle-trail/](https://DecaturDowntown.org/turtle-trail/) to learn more!