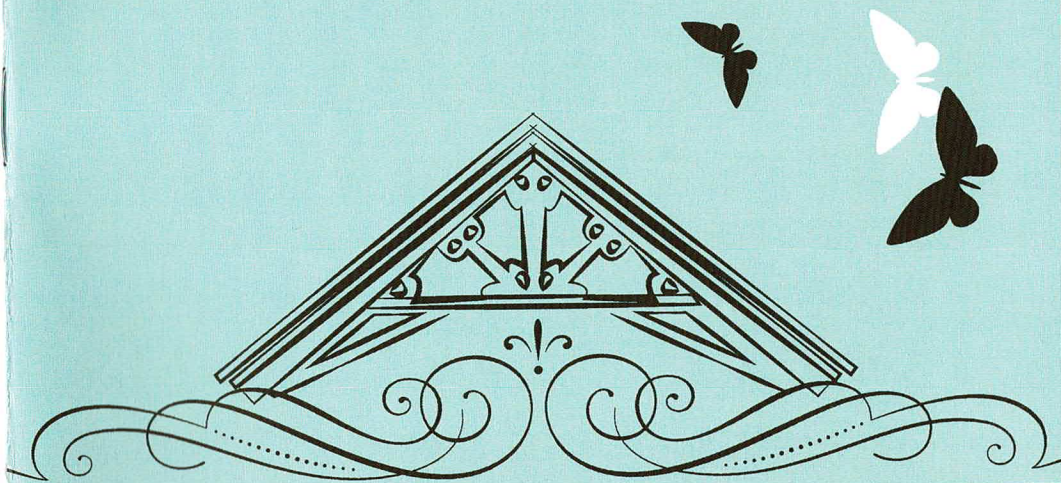
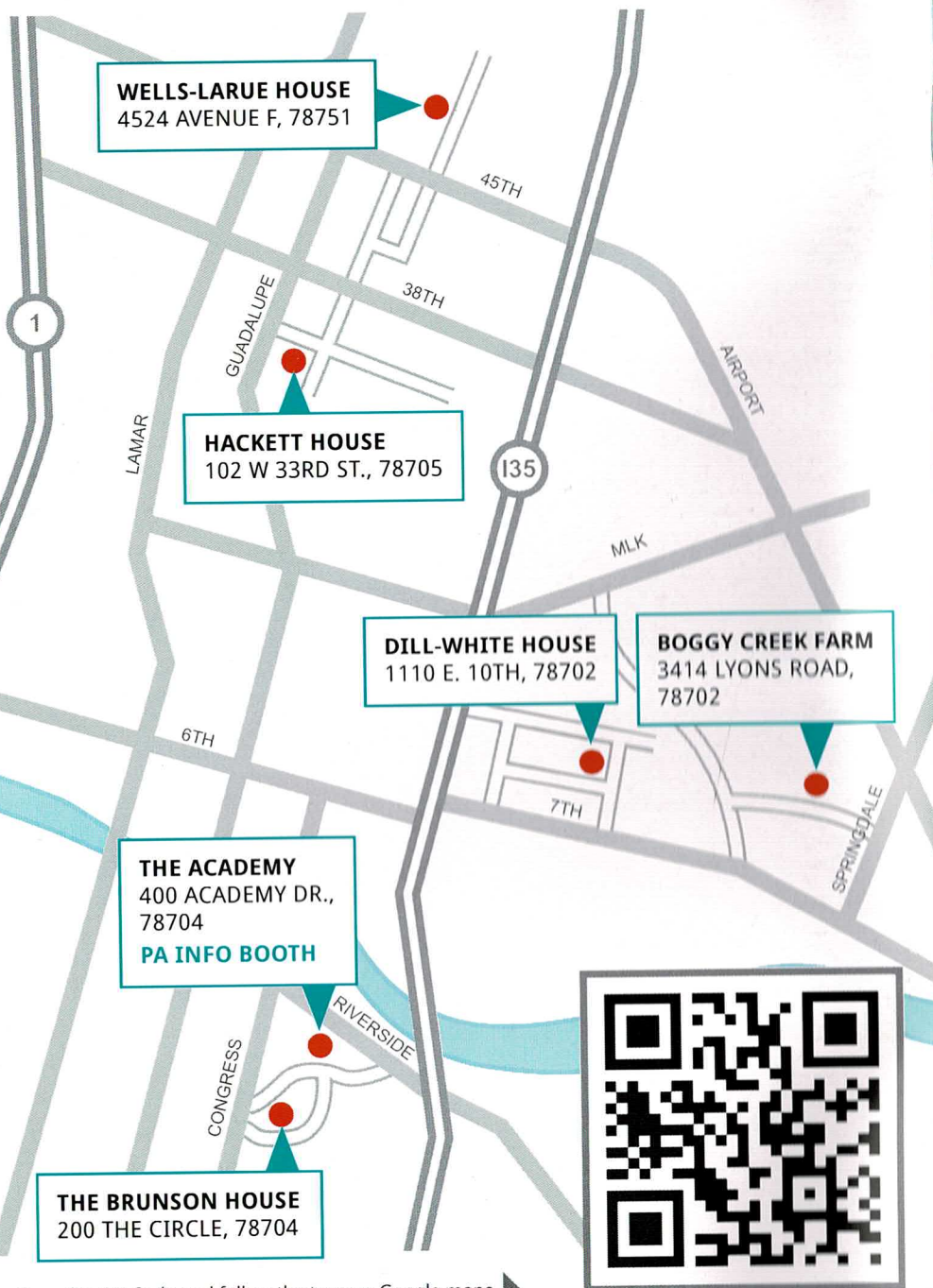


# MAP OF FEATURED PROPERTIES

# 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL HERITAGE HOMES TOUR



## HISTORIC HOMES AND GARDENS

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2013**





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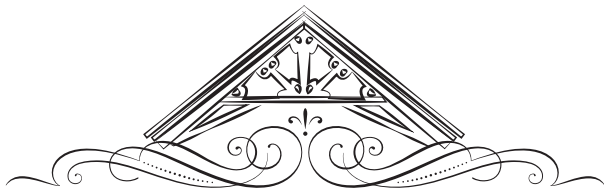
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Preservation Austin welcomes you to the 21st annual Heritage Homes Tour. Preservation Austin believes that one of Austin's great assets is the wealth of intact historic neighborhoods that stabilize and enhance our central city. The Heritage Homes Tour provides a valuable resource to our community by raising awareness and appreciation of these noteworthy neighborhoods. Attendees learn about our community's history and architecture and witness how residents value older neighborhoods, preserving the qualities that made them special.

We are pleased that you have joined us during this exciting time for our organization. After 60 years, the Heritage Society of Austin in January 2013 assumed the new name "Preservation Austin". We are confident that this new name will convey more clearly our mission to preserve and protect the historic places of Austin, and will better convey our values of inclusivity and a progressive approach to embracing change while protecting the unique character of our city.

Along with a new name, Preservation Austin has also launched exciting new programs, including our new Historic Tour App, created in partnership with the Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau and was also made possible with support by the Downtown Austin Alliance. Tours of Congress Ave., E. 6th St. and Old West Austin are now available, and we are already working on a tour of Historic Austin Music Venues. We are excited to use this app to raise awareness of our city's historic resources, especially among younger Austinites and visitors. Download these tours currently through iTunes, keyword search "Historic Austin Tours".

Preservation Austin's work is made possible through the generous donations of our members and sponsors. In recent years, we have led successful efforts to improve and sustain Austin's Historic Landmarks program, protect the historic character of the Governor's Mansion, help to institute Local Historic Districts, and advocate for the preservation of the Capitol View Corridors. These actions are added to our ongoing vigilance of protecting treasured historic assets like the Driskill Hotel and the Paramount Theatre. Join us and participate in the myriad of ways to learn more about historic Austin -- from Pioneer Farms to Homes Tour volunteering to Inherit Austin, our membership arm for younger Austinites. Join us in "Saving the Good Stuff"!

Warm Regards,  
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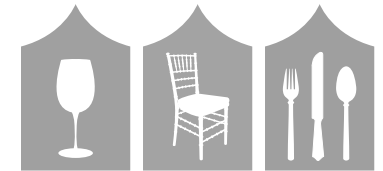
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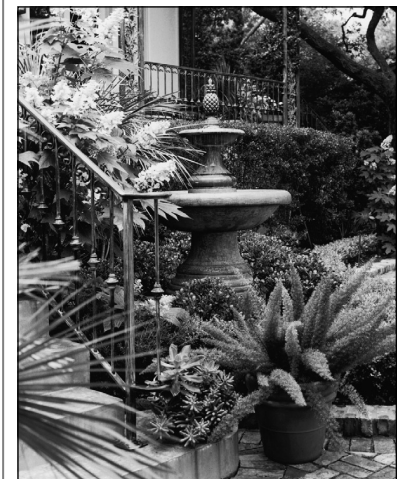
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## THE ACADEMY (MATHER-KIRKLAND HOUSE)

400 ACADEMY

AUSTIN 78704 DATE BUILT: 1889



Photo Credit: J.C. Schmeil, AIA

This grand Queen Anne residence was built at the height of the Victorian era using granite left over from the construction of the State Capitol building for Myron D. Mather, a furniture dealer and later president of Austin Water, Light & Power Company. The Mathers only lived here for four years, after which the house had a succession of owners, including Texas Supreme Court Justice Leroy G. Denman. In 1920, the one-acre property was acquired by Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Darsey, who established the Austin Military Academy – from which both house and street derive their names. The Academy offered courses in military tactics, commerce, radiophone works, music, nature and academic fundamentals until closing in 1929. The house was purchased in the mid-1940s

by Dr. R. D. Kirkland, an osteopath, and his wife Elithe, a writer of Texas historical romances, serving them as residence, studio and medical office for thirty years.

The Academy was purchased in 1979 by Sinclair Black and Wayne Gronquist, who immediately repaired the roof and windows to protect it from deterioration. The current owners, Claudette & Hugh Lowe, have occupied the house since 1982 and have undertaken major restoration work, including a down-to-the-studs mechanical and structural makeover, removal of layers of paint from most of the woodwork, and the application of finishing details, such as the stenciling in the dome, the stained glass, the majolica tile fireplace surrounds and replication of the original bronze door hinges. By 1985, they finished the top two floors and moved into the house, and then in the late 1990s they undertook the ground floor restoration. The bottom floor contains the most elegant room in the house, believed to be the original dining room. The original belvedere, from which there is a magnificent view, was restored as part of the most recent project. Note the oval-shaped granite buttresses which spread fanlike leading to the porches. The stained glass staircase windows depict flowers grown on the property, as seen through trellises. These are a new design, as most of the original stained glass was missing when the Lowes bought the house.

The garden was originally called “The Garden of Dreams” and is said to have extended down to the river. It included fountains, streams, gas lights and elaborate architectural arches, and was a favorite courting spot in the days of the horse and carriage.

— Marty Moulthrop

**BRUNSON HOUSE**  
200 THE CIRCLE  
AUSTIN 78704



This beautifully situated bungalow was built in 1917 for Newton Allen Brunson, Jr., and his wife, Alma Meyer Brunson, on the lot they purchased the previous year. Mr. Brunson selected a house plan and the long-leaf pine lumber used throughout the structure from Calcasieu Lumber Company. It was estimated in later years that half the houses in Austin were built with lumber from Calcasieu, which was established in 1883 by the Drake brothers. Brunson hired German craftsmen who were personal friends to build his house. Alma Brunson raised deer, rabbits, peacocks, guineas, chickens, ducks and geese on the grounds, much to the delight of neighborhood children. Brunson had a business as an exclusive dealer of Majestic radios and electric refrigerators. He died in 1954 and Mrs.

Brunson remained in the house until her death in 1981 at the age of 94. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Terry and Jan Todd acquired the house in 1983, and four years later moved in after completing an extensive remodel. The Todds used craftsmen skilled in Arts and Crafts handiwork to do the work on this project. The current owner has also done major remodeling and she, too, has been sensitive to the period style of the house using craftsmen experienced in Arts and Crafts restoration.

The house retains all its original woodwork, doors, long-leaf pine floors, windows and shutters as well as the four light fixtures in the living room and the chimney. Push-button light switches are still used throughout the house. The house became a City of Austin historic landmark in 2003.

The house was designed to accommodate the grand old oak trees among which it is nestled. The grounds feature gardens with native plantings, a path constructed with bricks from a dismantled fireplace, a stone driveway and wall original to the house, a koi pond, a wheel from one of the trolley cars that operated on S. Congress Avenue until 1940, a 5 light antique dragon post lamp that provides a wonderful ambiance at night and a teacup dog agility course. Elements from the owner's family ranch have been incorporated into the landscape including a bell from a mission in Mexico that was cast in 1810.

— *Marty Moulthrop*

*Woodwork restoration master craftsmen Bill Breaux and Janine Bergin will be at the Brunson House during the tour demonstrating the tools of their trade and the artistry involved.*



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Photo Credit: J.C. Schmeil, AIA

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## HACKETT HOUSE 102 WEST 33RD STREET AUSTIN 78705



Photo Credit: J.C. Schmeil, AIA

Four generations of the Hackett family lived in this 1920 two-story Prairie style brick house. Its identifying features include a low-pitched hipped roof with wide, overhanging eaves and other typical Prairie details. The home sports a partial, one-story front porch with a very low-pitch hipped roof supported by square brick columns. As typical with the Prairie style, architectural elements of the home emphasize

strong horizontal lines. Interior Arts and Crafts features include exposed wood beams and wood trim. Architect Hugo F. Kuehne, who remodeled the library in 1931, may have been the original architect of the house.

The home was built for Jean Nette Hunter (1891-1966) and Charles Wilson Hackett (1888-1951). Both Texas natives, Charles Hackett began a 33-year career at UT in 1918 as a professor of history. A prolific writer, he was a founder of UT's Institute of Latin-American Studies, established in 1940, and was appointed Distinguished Professor of Latin-American history in 1944. The Hackett's son Charles Jr. and his wife, Ruby Bloomquist, and their two daughters, lived in the home after his mother's death in 1966, when Hackett Jr. became a professor of finance, investment theory, and security analysis at UT. Both families also managed the 1866 Hunter family farm at Hunters Bend, on the Colorado River.

Charles Jr. added air conditioning but avoided any other changes to his childhood home. Jean lived in the house until she began college in 1979; her parents remained in the house until 2002. Tina and her husband, John Gregory, and their son Matt (the fourth generation) resided in the house until about 2006. It remained vacant until the current owners purchased it in 2010.

The present owners, Kimberly and Dan Renner, added the porte-cochère, kitchen and master bedroom addition, and renovated the home with strong sensitivity to its original fabric. Many original features remain, including among others the front porch terrazzo, the living room chandelier and fireplace, dining room sliding doors, original oak floor and long-leaf pine in rooms throughout the house, and all the original trim. Kimberly, a contractor and interior designer with The Renner Project, also designed the gardens.

— Phoebe Allen



**BOGGY CREEK FARM (JAMES SMITH HOMESTEAD)**  
 3414 LYONS ROAD  
 AUSTIN 78702

Photo Credit: J.C. Schmeil, AIA



In 1838, James and Elizabeth Smith moved from North Carolina to central Texas, along with their children and eleven slaves Austin at that time was a village called Waterloo, with dirt streets, log cabins and simple plank houses. To the east, prairie grass and a few large oak trees covered the Colorado River valley where the Smiths acquired, in 1839, four agricultural out lots totaling fifty acres of

good bottom land. One of Smith's sons wrote "Buffalo grazed; the roar of panthers and the war whoops of the Indians was heard around." Their home was built, over the winter of 1840/41, using slave labor, and surrounded by a fence with portholes for defense from the Indians. James Smith was a man of means and also owned several properties in nearby Bastrop and an entire City of Austin block, near the Capitol, and was one of the founders of the town of Montopolis. He raised many crops on the hundreds of acres of farm land he owned and operated a grist mill on the river. When he died an untimely death in 1845, his coffin was built by carpenter Abner Cook. It is speculated that Cook, also recently arrived from North Carolina, participated in the design of the Smith's Greek Revival house, because Cook (a fan of Greek Revival architecture) later became the architect and builder of the Governor's Mansion, The Neill-Cochran and Pease mansions, and other Greek Revival homes of the 1850s.

The James Smith Homestead is essentially an enclosed dogtrot style with identical rooms flanking a central hallway. All four rooms have fireplaces made with Austin Common brick, and three of the mantles are original. The original Bastrop loblolly pine floor boards remain, but they are covered by a narrow pine floor installed by the Siegmunds, the homeowners in the 1930s. Two exterior doors on the back of house are the only original doors. The first kitchen would have been in a separate building; the current kitchen is in the back of the central hall, which may have been the dining room where President Sam Houston once dined.

Carol Ann Sayle and Larry Butler acquired the five-acre farm in 1992 and continue restoration and stewardship. Named after nearby Boggy Creek and surrounded by urban neighborhoods, schools and businesses, it is one of the few truly urban farms in the country. They grow produce which is sold on market days, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at their farm stand under the ancient live oak tree. They also have a farm in Milam County where they can grow space-hogging varieties, such as hard squashes, tomatoes and potatoes. Everything is organic and freshly harvested.

— Marty Moulthrop



Members enjoy tours of Landmark homes.



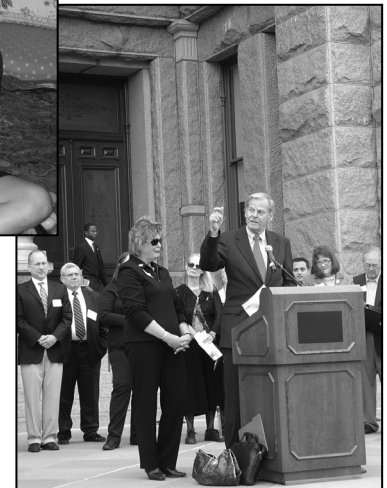
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Members only parties at landmark properties.



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# HOUSE Cocktails

*Presented by Dripping Springs Vodka*

Preservation Austin is pleased to launch a new series of cocktail parties with a unique twist. Join us as we gather in beautiful historic homes and enjoy hand crafted cocktails that match the house's era, served up by Alamo Drafthouse's award winning mixologist, Bill Norris.

## SAVE THE DATE:

Thur., June 13, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m.

The Granger House (1952)

Home of Jeff Harper & Mark Seeger

805 W. 16th St.

*Mad Men Cocktails!*

Thur. Oct. 10, 2013

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Millbrook (ca. 1890s)

Home of Nancy Whitworth

1803 Evergreen, 78704

*Featuring classic punches and sherry cobblers*

## DILL-WHITE HOUSE

1110 E. 10TH STREET

AUSTIN 78702

Photo Credit: J.C. Schmeil, ALA



This single-story, frame Victorian cottage with decorative gingerbread trim, asymmetrical façade and prominent bay window, is one of the best examples of late 19th-century architecture in East Austin. It was built in 1893 for William J. Dill and his wife on land purchased from the Robertson family. Born in 1864 in Rochester, NY, Dill was brought by his parents to Texas in 1875. He married Annie Sallie Wray, a native Austinite, whose father arrived here on the first train ever to reach the city. By age 11, Dill was working in a cigar store and attending school at night. He later joined his father in the buggy top, dash, and trimming and leather parts business and eventually opened his own shop. As the automobile gradually supplanted the horse and buggy business, he turned his company into a canvas auto top business, later known as the Dill Auto Top Company. He was a longtime member of the East Austin Fire Department.

The Dills sold the house in 1918 and it changed hands several times until it was acquired in 1963 by Mrs. Cora White, who resided here twenty years before selling it to the present owner, David E. Ramert. Mr. Ramert restored the cottage, which had deteriorated and undergone some alterations over time. The concrete front porch was removed and replaced by a wooden porch deck and Eastlake style balustrade. Mechanical systems and interior features were updated, and the original exterior paint was replicated. A poorly built addition was removed and a kitchen, breakfast room and utility room were added. Emily Little was the architect for all phases of the project.

The front and east sides of the structure are original and in excellent condition, including the dentil moulding, brick chimney, flatwork and cogged porch brackets. Inside, the front three rooms retain their original longleaf pine floors and woodwork.

When Mr. Ramert acquired the house, he found plantings such as quince, spirea, narcissus and blue bonnets, as well as pecan, American elm and fig trees. He has enhanced the landscape with the addition of period-appropriate brick and limestone walks, paths and terraces. The gardens are beautiful by day and equally lovely at night under the glow of the nearby Moonlight Tower.

— Marty Moulthrop

## WELLS-LARUE HOUSE

4524 AVENUE F  
AUSTIN 78751



Photo Credit: J.C. Schmeil, ALA

Wayman F. Wells was born in Tennessee in 1815 and came to Texas with his family when he was eleven years old. They eventually settled in Bastrop County, where they farmed and raised livestock on a plantation known as Wells' Pyramid. After serving in the Texas Army and participating

in the battles at Goliad and San Jacinto, he married Mary E. Bacon and settled on land he was granted as a result of his military service, East of Austin on Walnut Creek. Wells placed great importance on education and was a generous contributor to the Baptist High School at Walnut Creek and to Southwestern University and also served on the board of the Texas Insane Asylum (now Austin State Hospital). When he died in 1878, his will stipulated that all his property be divided among his nine children after Mary's death. His daughter Amanda Wells LaRue bought her brothers' shares in 1890.

The design of the one-story frame structure has been attributed to prominent local architect Abner Cook in about 1850, the same period in which he was designing the new Governor's Mansion. It is thought to have been built by Glassbrenner Brothers and is a distinctive example of early Texas dog-run style. The Wells family used it mainly as a "Sunday House" – a town house for business and pleasure trips to town from their Walnut Creek farm about 10 miles north. Their grandchildren, the LaRues, moved in to attend school in Austin. The Wells-LaRue House has been a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark since 1964 and received City of Austin landmark designation in 1978. Interestingly, the Wells family has associations with other historic properties, including the Tauzin-Wells House which is said to be the oldest standing building in Natchitoches and the second oldest residence west of the Mississippi River, and is still in the Wells family.

The house was originally located at 1105 San Jacinto Street. As commercial development downtown spread, the house was relocated by Amanda's daughter, Inge LaRue Walling, to 912 W. 26th Street, then in the late 1970s it again was moved to 4524 Avenue F. It remained in the same family until 2005, when the current owners acquired it and began extensive interior renovation work. They also relocated two windows and added more windows in the rear, built an arbor and tool shed, and installed the fence and gate.

The owners have created a charming garden fitting the scale of the home, favoring mostly old-fashioned, native and adaptive plants.

— Marty Moulthrop



## BID ON OUR SILENT AUCTION!

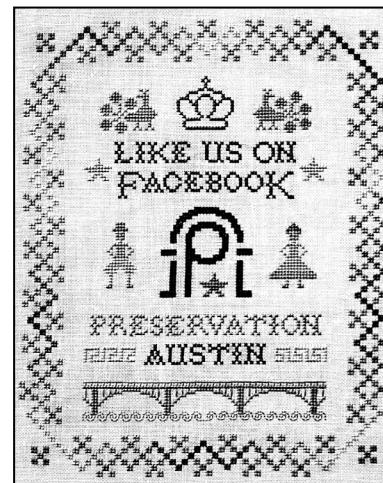
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