

Martin Luther King, Jr.

National Historic Site
Georgia

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Just past noon on January 15, 1929, a son was born to the Reverend and Mrs. Martin Luther King in an upstairs bedroom of 501 Auburn Avenue, in Atlanta, Georgia. The couple named their first son after Rev. King, but he was simply called "M.L." by the family. During the next 12 years, this fine two story Victorian home is where "M.L." would live with his parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, and their boarders. The home is located in the residential section of "Sweet Auburn", the center of black Atlanta. Two blocks west of the home is Ebenezer Baptist Church, the pastorate of Martin's grandfather and father. It was in these surroundings of home, church and neighborhood that "M.L." experienced his childhood. Here, "M.L." learned about family and Christian love, segregation in the days of "Jim Crow" laws, diligence and tolerance. It was to Ebenezer Baptist Church that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. would return in 1960. As co-pastor with his father, "Daddy King", Dr. King would preach about love, equality, and nonviolence.

Today, through the efforts of the National Park Service, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Ebenezer Baptist Church and private business, restoration of the childhood neighborhood of "M.L." is underway.

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ABOUT YOUR VISIT

The National Park Visitor Information Center is the place to begin your visit! Ask the Park Ranger or Volunteer for the Official Park Brochure (which includes an area map), information about upcoming programs, or any other questions about the site. Park Ranger led programs about Dr. King, "Sweet Auburn", the Civil Rights Movement and the National Park Service are scheduled throughout the day. For additional information about Dr. King, the Civil Rights Movement, and the National Park Service stop by the bookstore operated by Eastern National.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, Inc., located at 449 Auburn Avenue, was founded by Mrs. Coretta Scott King shortly after Dr. King was assassinated. In the Exhibition Hall you will find exhibits on Dr. King's life and the efforts of the King Center in promoting nonviolence. Behind the Exhibition Hall is the Reflecting Pool with Dr. King's grave site.

Ebenezer Baptist Church, located at 407 Auburn, was the spiritual home of Dr. King. Visit the sanctuary where Dr. King preached and listen to a tape describing the history of the church. Ebenezer is still an active church and is open to visitors on a limited basis.

The Park is open every day except New Year's Day and Christmas. The hours of operation are from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. In January and periods of heavy visitation, hours may be extended.

HOW TO REACH THE PARK

From I-75/85 southbound take Exit 95 (Piedmont/Butler/John Wesley Dobbs). At the end of the exit ramp continue straight ahead to the second traffic light. Turn left at the light onto Auburn Avenue and continue 6/10 of a mile to the site. From I-75/85 northbound take Exit 94 (Edgewood/Auburn). At the end of the exit ramp continue straight ahead to the second traffic light. Turn right at the light onto Auburn Avenue and continue 1/2 mile to the site. By MARTA take Bus #3 east from the Five Points station in downtown Atlanta to the King Center.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Address inquiries to:
Superintendent
Martin Luther King, Jr. NHS
526 Auburn Avenue NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30312
Phone: 404-331-3920 / 5190

