

SELMA THE BRIDGE TO THE BALLOT



1 16th Street Baptist Church. A church in Birmingham, Alabama, that served as a hub of activity during mass anti-segregation demonstrations in 1963, including the Birmingham Children's Crusade. In September of that year members of the Ku Klux Klan planted a bomb in the basement, killing four girls, Addie Mae Collins, Cynthia Wesley, Carole Robertson and Denise McNair.

2 Black Belt. The rich soil of the Black Belt drew cotton planters—and their enslaved workforce—to the region before the Civil War. After the war and into the 20th century, the sharecropping system that replaced the plantation system kept the largely black population mired in poverty.

3 Selma, Alabama. Located in the middle of Alabama's Black Belt, this was the largest city in Dallas County and also the county seat.

Brown Chapel. One of the Selma churches that allowed activists to hold mass meetings during the voting rights campaign, including rallies led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Dallas County Courthouse. The site of the registrar's office and the only place where residents of Dallas County could register to vote on one of the two days each month it was open.

Edmund Pettus Bridge. A bridge that crosses the Alabama River,

over which U.S. Highway 80 runs, connecting Selma to Montgomery.

George Washington Carver Homes. A public housing project in Selma for many black residents, the Carver Homes became a staging area for demonstrations.

Good Samaritan Hospital. This Catholic facility was Selma's black hospital. Jimmie Lee Jackson died here after being shot. Doctors at the hospital also treated people injured on Bloody Sunday.

R.B. Hudson High School. In Selma's segregated school system, R.B. Hudson was the black high school attended by many of the student activists.

River Road. On February 10, 1965, Sheriff Jim Clark's officers violently forced child demonstrators down this road on foot for two miles to stop them from protesting.

4 Marion, Alabama. Located in the Black Belt, the county seat for Perry County had its own groups working for voting rights.

5 Montgomery, Alabama. Located 54 miles east of Selma, the capital city was where Governor George Wallace lived and worked.

6 U.S. Highway 80. The road connecting Selma to Montgomery and the route for the 54-mile Selma-to-Montgomery march.

THE CAMPSITES

- ✦ **David Hall Farm.** The March 21 campsite, located seven miles from Selma.
- ✦ **Rosie Steele Farm.** The March 22 campsite, located 23 miles from Selma.
- ✦ **Robert Gardner Farm.** The March 23 campsite, located 34 miles from Selma.
- ✦ **City of St. Jude.** The March 24 campsite, located 50 miles from Selma. St. Jude was also the location for the "Stars for Freedom" rally.

