Shoal Creek Conservancy - Austin, TX (501c 3)

Our Mission: To restore, protect and enhance the ecological, social and cultural vibrancy of Shoal Creek by engaging the public and partnering with the community
About Shoal Creek

13-square mile urbanized watershed
11-mile creek, 3.25-mile trail

Downtown Austin to the Domain

Original western boundary of Austin
Historic bridges and untold stories

Trail & Creek

Shoal Creek Watershed
History Program

**Goal:** To preserve and share Shoal Creek’s historic and cultural assets

**Current Projects:**
- 1887 West 6th Street Bridge at Shoal Creek
- Cypress & Shoal (3rd Street Trestle)
- National Register Listing of 5th Street Bridge
- Wood Street Undertold Historic Marker
- Trail Plan with Interpretive Planning

**Placemaking on the Shoal Creek Trail**

Railroad Trestle over Shoal Creek at 3rd Street
CASE STUDY: 1887 Historic Sixth Street Bridge At Shoal Creek

**Location:** By Huts; Site of 1st bridge in Austin

**Significance:**
One of Austin’s oldest displays of late 19th Century innovation

- Triple-arched stone bridge
- Built by hand, using local limestone
- Unusually wide for streetcars

**Listed on the National Register**

Photo by Ted Lee Eubanks
1887 Historic Sixth Street Bridge At Shoal Creek

2016 Restoration Study:

Developed appropriate restoration approach for bridge

Placemaking at street and creek level, including lighting

Major Finding – 20% of original capacity remained due to mortar loss and other factors

Estimated project cost: $2.2 m

Funded by THC & the Burdine Johnson Foundation
1887 Historic Sixth Street Bridge

2016 Emergency Repair by City

Re-grouting
Partnering with Bat Conservations Int’l

2017 Lighting & Parapet Design & Construction Docs

Above: Lighting diagram, Right: Mortar repair
Implementation - Challenges & Opportunities

City partnership & ownership
Funding
Expertise – Historic Bridges Committee
O&M – Tagging & Flooding
Volunteer service days
Education & Outreach

Volunteer service day at the 6th Street Bridge
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