

UNDERSTANDING THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA



CRITICAL POINTS

CITY DEVELOPMENT

1800

1819 Montgomery was found by Andrew Dexter

1830 The cotton industry gave Montgomery the highest per capita wealth

1846 Montgomery became the capital of Alabama

1850

1861 During the Civil War, Montgomery was the center of confederacy

1865 **1868** Black-friendly Republicans controlled the government

1875

1886 Montgomery implemented its electric streetcar system

1900

1910 Wilbur Wright's aviation school opened in Montgomery

1914 During WWI, the Montgomery's Camp Sheridan was used as a training camp

1919

1929 The Dairy industry became more profitable than the cotton industry

1930 The Air Corps Tactical school was moved to Montgomery, helping the city recover from the depression

1940 For the first time, Montgomery's population shifted toward a white majority

1950

1955 Rosa Park was arrested, setting off a 381-day bus boycott

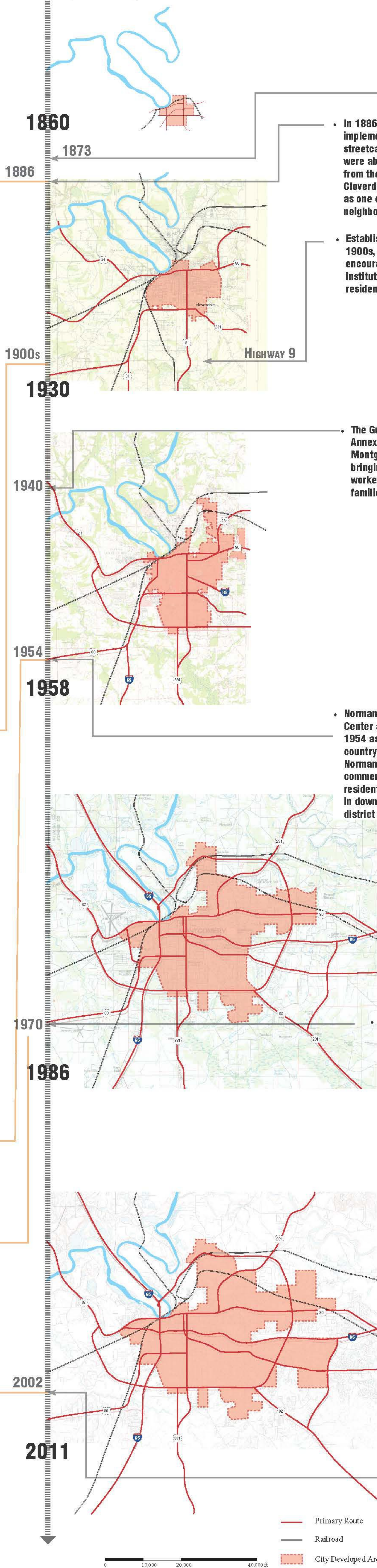
1965 8,000 activists marched from Selma to Montgomery for the right to vote

1972 Alabama Shakespeare museum, gardens, and theater established as a cultural destination

2002 Hyundai assembly plant settled in Montgomery

2012

• Due to the vast supply of agricultural land, development in Montgomery has been sprawling. Because the land is cheaper farther from the city core, commercial and residential development in the past 100 years has expanded the city's limits.



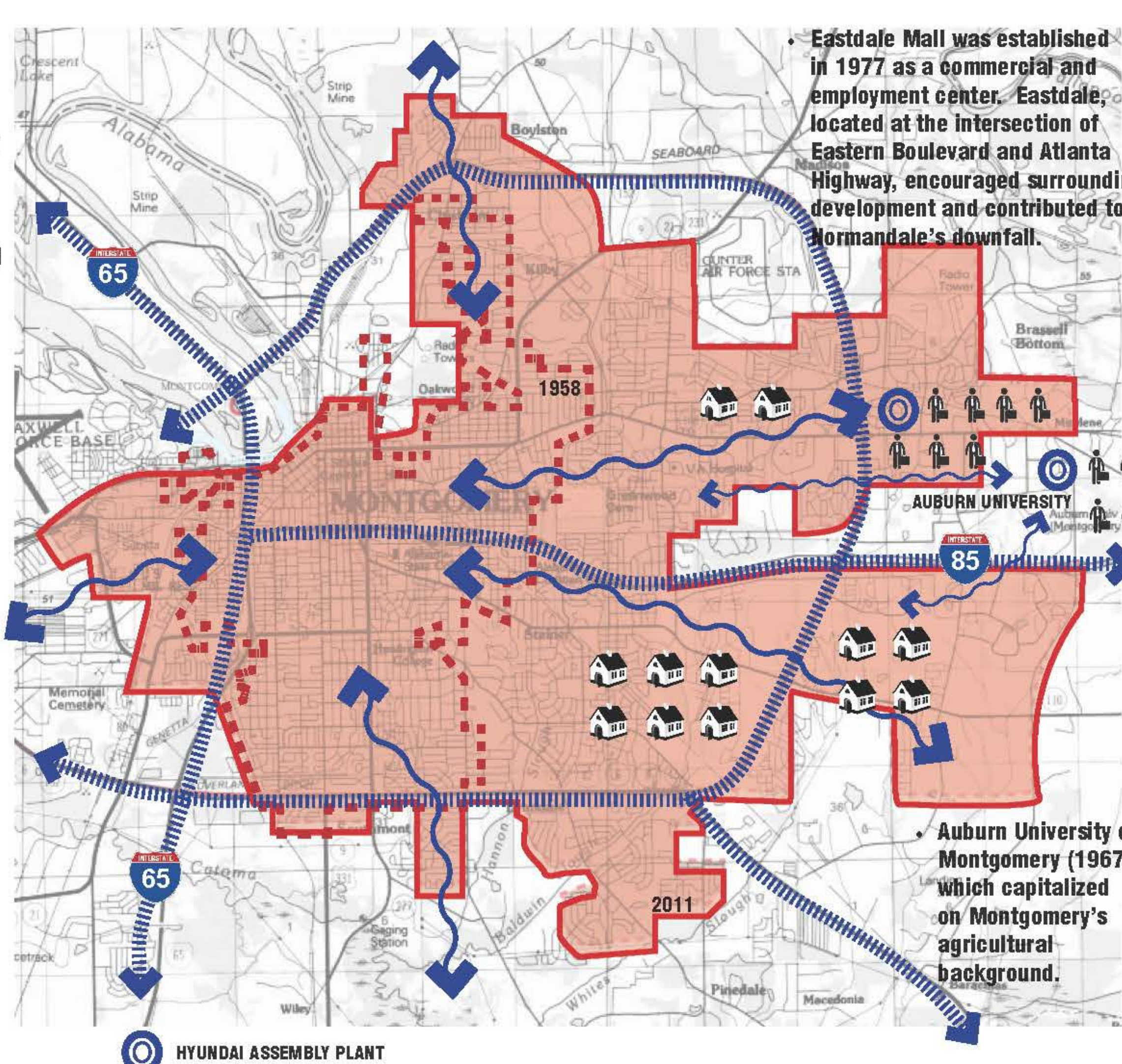
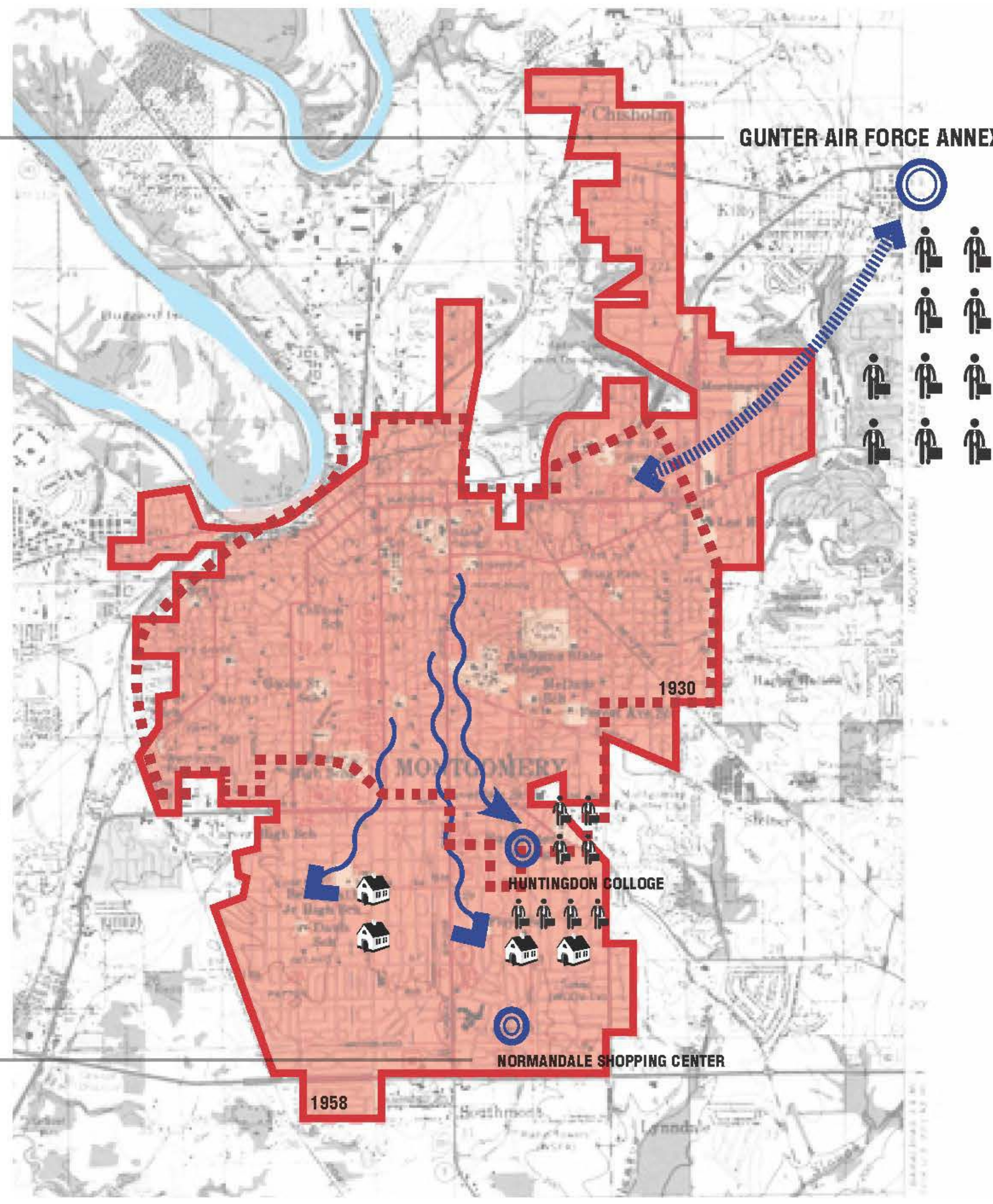
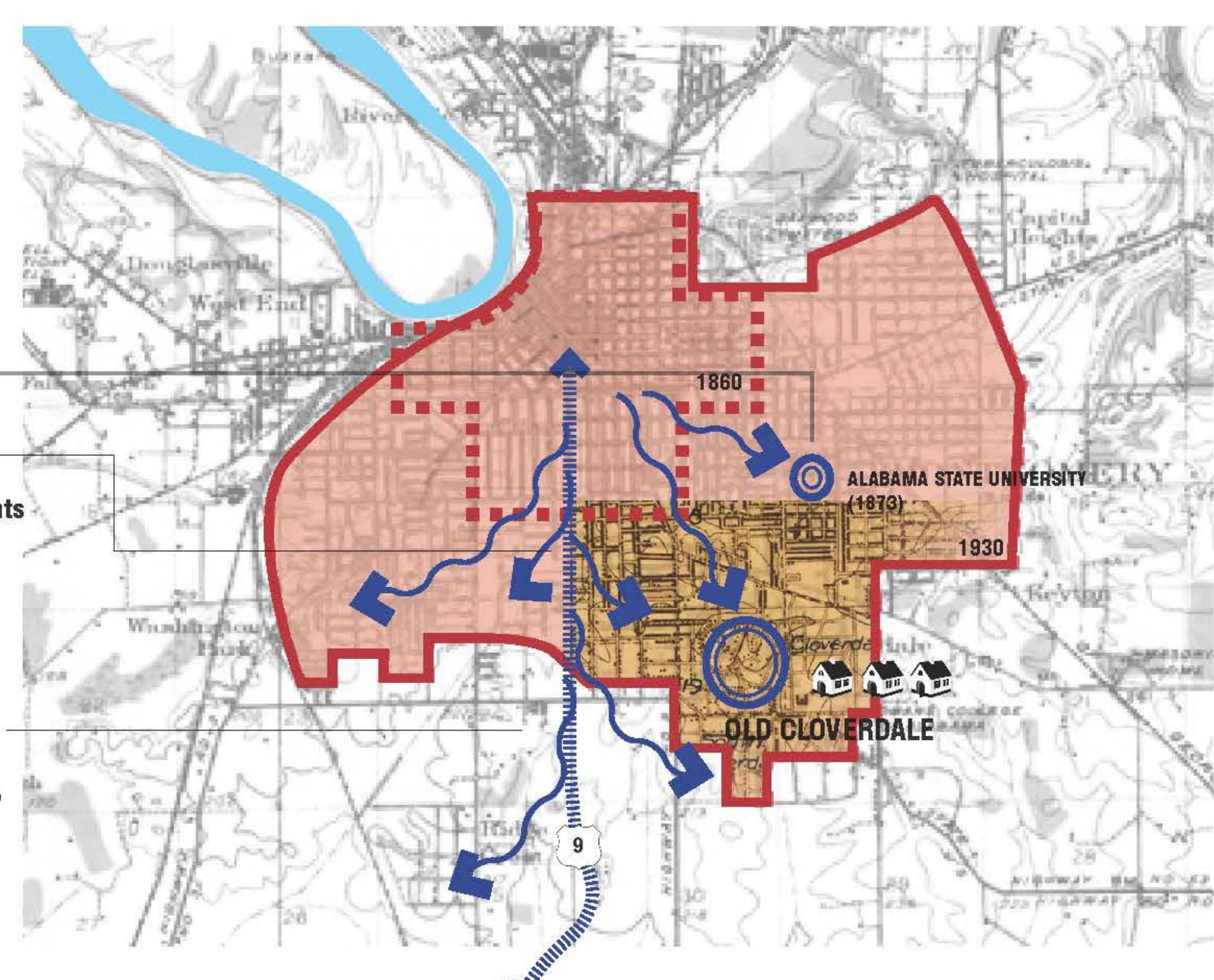
• In 1886, Montgomery implemented its electric streetcar system, residents were able to move away from the city core. Old Cloverdale established as one of the first neighborhoods.

• Established in the early 1900s, Highway 9 has encouraged commercial, institutional, and residential growth.

• The Gunter Air Force Annex entered Montgomery in 1940, bringing military jobs, workers, and their families.

• Normandale Shopping Center arrived in 1954 as one of the country's first malls. Normandale encouraged commercial and residential development in downtown-adjacent district 7.

• In the 1970s, Eastern Boulevard was established as a ring around the city, prompting development further eastward and creating a residential "border."



• Eastdale Mall was established in 1977 as a commercial and employment center. Eastdale, located at the intersection of Eastern Boulevard and Atlanta Highway, encouraged surrounding development and contributed to Normandale's downfall.

• Auburn University of Montgomery (1967), which capitalized on Montgomery's agricultural background.

• The Hyundai Assembly Plant came to Montgomery in 2002, bringing the largest cluster of jobs in the entire city. The plant signaled an increase in population and accompanied commercial and residential development.

• Areas of poverty in Montgomery are largely made up of African American residents; furthermore, the majority of households in the poorest block groups have a female head of household. Race, economic characteristics, and household dynamics have clear links in the city of Montgomery.

