A BRIEF HISTORY OF OVERTON SQUARE

In 1969, Overton Square founders and developers James D. Robinson, Ben Woodson, Charles H. Hull, and Frank Doggrell led the efforts to pass a referendum to allow establishments to sell liquor by the drink. The approved license was driven from Nashville right to the doors of T.G.I. Friday's in Overton Square, the first franchised location outside of New York City. It quickly became a success and anchored additional shops, restaurants, pubs, and attractions.

In the 70’s, Overton Square was home to 11 restaurants and 27 shops. The area employed 800 Memphians. Over time, the Square was home to an ice skating rink, Solomon Alfred's, the Mississippi River Co., the Public Eye, Bombay Bicycle Club, Gonzales & Gertrude's, the Hot Air Balloon, Lafayette's Music Room, Yosemite Sam's (originally a disco), Godfather's Supper Club, Trader Dick's, and the original Huey's. Pub crawls attracted over 40,000 people and Christmas at Overton Square was known for its carolers and roasted chestnuts. The Square even brought snow to the Mid-South each year.

Today the renovated and revitalized Overton Square—anchored by four live-performance theaters and a multi-screen movie theater—is home to thriving businesses and draws over a million visitors per year. Loeb Properties has cultivated this local landmark into a thriving arts and entertainment district that is a destination for locals and visitors alike.