

September 2011 Edition



A Message from the Historic Preservation Officer

Thank you to everyone that participated in our third annual Historic Homeowner Fair at Thomas Jefferson High School on August 27. What a fantastic event! In particular, I would like to thank Office of Historic Preservation Planner Amy Unger for her tireless efforts and dedication to the planning and preparation of this event. Every year it gets bigger and better. This year we had 12 informative educational sessions, over 50 exhibitors and over 500 attendees! The Historic Homeowner Fair has become a wonderful community event, bringing together like minded people in the name of preservation and community pride. It is a great place to network and promote preservation and sustainability. I would like to especially thank our generous sponsors, without whose support none of this would have been possible. We

certainly couldn't do it alone, and I encourage you to contact our office to get involved by visiting www.sanantonio.gov/historic, or by calling 210.215.9274. And did you get one of the new "Know Your Place" t-shirts? If not, the shirts are for sale through our office; what a great way to wear your support for preservation! Keep reading for more details.

Attention residents of Tobin Hill Historic District! S.T.A.R. (Students Together Achieving Revitalization) is coming to your neighborhood! The S.T.A.R. project, which has successfully assisted historic homeowners in the Dignowity Hill Historic District with repair and maintenance of their historic homes, will now focus on the Tobin Hill Historic District. The Office of Historic Preservation will once again partner with the UTSA College of Architecture to hold a weekend long revitalization effort. A group of 100 graduate and undergraduate architecture students will assist homeowners in the Tobin Hill Historic District with minor exterior repairs and maintenance projects during the weekend of November 19 and 20. The work mostly includes minor repairs to windows, siding, and porches as well as general exterior yard maintenance and painting. Homeowners in the Tobin Hill Historic District are invited to apply to the S.T.A.R. Project by downloading an application available on our website and returning it to our office by the October 7 deadline. We are also seeking sponsors, professional contractors, and volunteers to aid in the development of this project. For more information please visit our website, www.sanantonio.gov/historic, or contact Trisha Logan at 210.207.7244 or trisha.logan@sanantonio.gov.



This fall we will also begin the process of creating design guidelines for all of our local historic districts and landmarks. As recommended in the Strategic Preservation Plan, the establishment of detailed design guidelines will allow for more predictability in the design review process. The design guidelines are intended to provide historic district residents, property owners, professionals working with historic properties, potential construction applicants and the HDRC a background history of the districts, an understanding of architectural design principles, and clear, well-illustrated design guidelines which will

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ensure compatibility between the desired change and the existing historic environment. Your input will be needed, so please stay tuned for more information on public meetings.

Sharon

Thank You to Our 2011 Historic Homeowner Fair Sponsors!

Premier Sponsor:

CENTURY
WOOD
WINDOWS



Restoration Level:



Rehabilitation Level:



Alamo
Hardwoods



Guy Chipman
Construction



Renovation Level:

Marvin Windows and Doors
Portico Real Estate Investments
Beaty Palmer Architects
Villa Finale

Firstmark Credit Union
Clean Environments, Inc.
RVK Architects
Climatizer Windows



UTSA College of Architecture

CRIS MEDINA
COUNCIL DISTRICT 7

City News and Events

Historic Window Workshop

Our recent Window Workshop, which took place September 16-17, was a great success! This year's workshop was held at the historic Acosta-Halff House at HemisFair Park. The workshop is designed to teach the basics of wood window care and repair. Working with Victor Salas from ARTchitectural Interiors, participants gained valuable knowledge about wood window restoration and rehabilitating existing windows on-site. The workshop is a hands-on opportunity to learn how to save thousands of dollars through simple do-it-yourself techniques and proper window maintenance. The one-day course is geared for homeowners looking for the basics, while the more extensive two-day course is for contractors and those interested in receiving certification in wood window restoration. Individuals receiving certification are included on the Office of Historic Preservation's list of Certified Window Repair Professionals. We encourage you to get involved in future workshops, and if you have ideas for other hands-on training that you would like us to offer, please let us know! Contact Trisha Logan at 210.207.7244 or email trisha.logan@sanantonio.gov.



Siclovía: Free Family Outdoor Adventure

The first ever *Siclovía* will be held October 2 from 10 am-2 pm. *Siclovía* is a free event designed to turn San Antonio's streets into a safe and fun place for walking, jogging, bicycling and enjoying outdoor activities. Broadway will be the designated street for this first event. Please contact Pete Garcia at 210.207.5378 or go to www.siclovía.org for more information.



Eastside Cemeteries

“Spooky Halloween” Guided Tour

Join us on Saturday, October 29 at 8:30 am for the next **Go! Historic SA Guided Running & Walking Tour** of the historic Eastside Cemeteries. Established in the early 1850s, the district encompasses 31 different historic cemeteries on the city's near Eastside. Runners and walkers of all skill levels are encouraged to participate. Participants will be divided into small groups based on experience. The route will take approximately 1-1/2 hours to complete, and participants will visit the graves of some famous San Antonians along the way! Registration is only \$15 and all participants receive a mesh running cap. Please bring your own water bottles. Tours will begin at the Carver Community Cultural Community Center at 226 N. Hackberry. Print out the **registration form** and submit it to the Office of Historic Preservation or register online at www.active.com. Costumes are encouraged! Call 210.215.9274 for more details.

Upcoming Tours

October 29, 2011
Eastside Cemeteries

December 10, 2011
Downtown Holiday Lighting

February 25, 2012
Fort Sam Houston



OHP T-Shirts Now Available!

Show your support for preservation in style with the official Office of Historic Preservation “Know Your Place” t-shirt! This cool and comfy shirt makes a statement and shows the world your commitment to the past and the present! The shirts are a dark gray, lightweight cotton blend and are available in both men’s and women’s sizes and styles. The front features a map of downtown San Antonio in black with the river highlighted in light blue and our slogan “Know Your Place.” The back features our office logo. T-shirts are \$18, and all proceeds go to support the important education and outreach programs of the Office of Historic Preservation. The shirts are available for purchase at 1901 S. Alamo Street. For more information, please call 210.215.9274.



Front of T-shirt



Back of T-shirt

Revised OHP Forms and Applications Now Available

The Office of Historic Preservation has revised all of its forms and applications. The new forms have been streamlined for easier application and faster processing. Copies of all forms needed for your historic property are now available at our offices at 1901 S. Alamo Street and online at www.sanantonio.gov/historic/applications.aspx. Please call 210.215.9274, Monday-Friday, from 7:45 am-4:30 pm for assistance.

Historic Structure Plaques Available



Historic Structure Plaques are available for purchase on a first come, first serve basis for individual local landmarks and contributing properties within local historic districts. The plaques will visually identify properties and districts that have been officially recognized by the City of San Antonio for their architectural or historical significance. San Antonio currently has 27 local historic districts and more than 2,000 individual local landmarks. The plaques, available for purchase for \$95, are of cast aluminum with raised silver letters on a dark grey background. The plaque is approximately 7½ inches in diameter and ¼ inch thick. To purchase your Historic Plaque

please fill out an application available on our website or stop by our office to purchase yours today. If you have questions regarding the Historic Plaque Program, please contact Trisha Logan at 210.207.7244 or email trishalogan@sanantonio.gov.



HPTV: Historic Preservation Television

Our next episode will begin airing in October. It will cover our latest Historic Homeowner Fair and take a look at San Antonio's fascinating historic Eastside cemetery district!

See the show on TVSA Channel 21:

Tuesdays @ 9:00am

Wednesdays @ 1:00pm

Fridays @ 7:00pm

[View current and past episodes of HPTV online at the OHP website \(sorry, PC only\).](#)

We're on the web!

facebook

The Office of Historic Preservation is on Facebook! Facebook is a great resource for promoting preservation events and networking with other people in the community interested in preservation topics. Click the Facebook icon above or go to [Hwww.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)H and search for "City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation."



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Check out the historic preservation blog on the San Antonio Express-News website at <http://voices.mysanantonio.com/swasielewski/>

How To Report Potential Violations to the Historic Building Enforcement Officer

To help protect the City's historic resources, residents are encouraged to notify the Office of Historic Preservation of potential violations. To report a concern:

- 1) Gather information. Be prepared to provide the address of the property in question and a brief description of the potential violation or concern. Photographs are helpful but not necessary.
- 2) Call 210.219.2093 or email ron.meyers@sanantonio.gov or OHP@sanantonio.gov during regular business hours (7:45 am-4:30 pm) to report your concerns. After-hours complaints should be registered through 311 or by email at OHP@sanantonio.gov.
- 3) You can report potential problems anonymously or provide contact information for follow-up.

Ron Meyers, Historic Building Enforcement Officer, will investigate and take the necessary action if a violation has occurred. If contact information has been provided, a report on the outcome of the investigation will be provided.

Local Preservation Events and Announcements

San Antonio Conservation Society Now Accepting Community Grants Program Applications

Using the proceeds from its 2011 presentation of “A Night In Old San Antonio[®]” (NIOA[®]), the San Antonio Conservation Society will offer grants to historic preservation and educational projects and programs that fulfill its purpose to “preserve and to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, objects, places and customs relating to the history of Texas, its natural beauty and all that is admirably distinctive to our State.” The Society’s Community Grants are given to individuals and organizations for restoration and rehabilitation of historic residential and commercial structures in the San Antonio area that are at least 50 years old. Grants awarded in past years include those for restoration or rehabilitation of roofs, foundations, windows, plaster, facades, chimneys, front doors, porches and stonework.

Grants have been awarded by the Conservation Society since 1990. Since 2000 alone, the Society’s grants program has awarded **\$1,803,265** to individuals and organizations for the restoration and rehabilitation of residential or commercial historic structures or educational programs. Detailed grant applications are available on the Conservation Society website at www.saconservation.org/programs/scholarships.htm or at the Conservation Society headquarters at 107 King William. Completed application forms *cannot* be submitted online. Applications must be mailed or physically submitted to the Society headquarters at 107 King William Street, Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 4:30pm. All applications must be submitted by **4:30 pm, Friday, September 30**. Grant recipients will be notified by December 1, 2011. All specifications and requirements are detailed in the grant application. Major considerations include:

- A structure must be at least 50 years old to be considered for a grant. However, priority is given to structures that are architecturally significant and endangered.
- Grants are restricted to project phases that are not underway or already completed at the time of awarding.
- An applicant may have one active Conservation Society grant at a time in a 12-month period.
- Grant funding is handled on a reimbursement basis; funds will be disbursed within 30 days after proof of payment is received. The Society reserves the right to inspect the project prior to payment.
- The Conservation Society is not responsible for supervision of the contractor during construction on building projects.
- Approval by the Conservation Society of grants for structures located in historic districts, or individually designated structures, does not take the place of approval of the project by the Historic and Design Review Commission.
- Interior work does not qualify for a grant, with the exception of those interiors that are of landmark quality, such as the interior of the Majestic Theater.
- Funding will not be awarded for new construction, landscaping, sidewalks, driveways, fences, garages, patios, a/c systems, electrical work or ADA/handicapped projects.
- Maintenance, such as painting, is generally not eligible for grant funding.
- All work must be done according to the “Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.” The guidelines can be found on the Society’s Website at www.saconservation.org/programs, or at www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/tax/rhb.
- The most commonly granted amount is in the \$5,000 range; requests over \$15,000 are seldom granted under this program.
- No more than six (6) digital images in JPEG format are required, but quality digital images are extremely important elements of your application.

The Community Grant program helps the San Antonio Conservation Society partner with private homeowners and small businesses to achieve their restoration goals. For more information and application forms, visit www.saconservation.org/programs/scholarships.htm, or contact the Conservation Society at 210.224.6163; fax 210.224.6168; or conserve@saconservation.org.

***AIA San Antonio Presents:
2011 Sustainable Urban
Development Lecture***

AIA San Antonio will host a lecture featuring noted architect, urban planner, and author Peter Calthorpe on September 23, 11:30 am-1:30 pm at the Pearl Stable at the Pearl Brewery. The lecture will be followed by a community panel discussion. More information is available by calling 210.226.4979 or at www.aiasa.org.

 <p>AIA SAN ANTONIO presents 2011 SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT LECTURE</p>	<p>SEPT 23 PEARL STABLE 11:30-1:30 pm</p> <p>11:00 AM Registration & Networking 11:30 AM Luncheon</p>	<p>sponsorships available! \$2,500 Presenting Sponsor \$1,000 Partner Sponsor</p> <p>tickets \$65 Individual \$675 Patron Table of Eight</p>
	<p>lecture followed by COMMUNITY PANEL DISCUSSION</p> <p>Moderated by: RICK CASEY Houston Chronicle columnist and host of KLRN's Texas Week.</p>	<p>Panelists to include: DARRYL BYRD CEO, Pearl Brewery JULIAN CASTRO <i>(not confirmed)</i> Mayor, City of San Antonio KEITH PARKER CEO, VIA Metropolitan Transit NELSON W. WOLFF Bexar County Judge</p>
 <p>featuring PETER CALTHORPE Noted architect, urban planner, author and founder of the Congress for New Urbanism</p>	<p>210-226-4979 www.aiasa.org</p>	



The Japanese Tea Garden

SUSHI & SAKE

Please join the Parks Foundation and Friends of the Parks for an exclusive preview party celebrating the completion of the historic Jingu House. Enjoy an evening of Japanese barbecue, sushi, sake, wine, and cultural entertainment!

Tickets available at www.japaneseteagarden.org or call the Parks Foundation 210-212-8423

Friday, October 14, 2011
open house 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
The Japanese Tea Garden
Brackenridge Park
3853 N. St. Mary's

\$75 per person in advance
At the door \$85 (cash or check)

checks made payable to: San Antonio Parks Foundation * 600 HemisFair Plaza Way, #247
San Antonio, Texas 78205

rain plan: count your blessings & bring your umbrella!

 Proceeds benefit San Antonio Friends of the Parks 

***The San Antonio Parks Foundation
Presents: Sushi & Sake***

Join the Parks Foundation and Friends of the Parks on Friday, October 14 from 6:30-9:30 pm for an evening of Japanese cuisine, spirits and cultural entertainment! Help celebrate the completion of the historic Jingu House in Brackenridge Park at this exclusive preview party. For more information call the Parks Foundation at 210.212.8423 or go to www.japaneseteagarden.org.

Events and Exhibits at Villa Finale

Villa Finale is the first National Trust for Historic Preservation site in Texas and is located at 401 King William Street in the beautiful King William Historic District. The Visitor Center is located at 122 Madison. Please call 210.223.9800 or visit www.villafinale.org for more information on tours, programs and exhibits.



Fotoseptiembre U.S.A.

Fotoseptiembre USA is coming to the Villa Finale Visitor Center with two special exhibits during the month of September. Villa Finale Fotoseptiembre Youth Photography Contest winners exhibit *Exploring Historic Architecture in the King William District*, and Robin Raquet's *Old Negatives Are Best: On the Turquoise Trail* will be on view at the Visitor Center September 1-30. For more information please call Sylvia Gonzalez-Hohenshelt at 210.223.9800 x 34323 or e-mail sylvia_gonzalezhohenshelt@nthp.org.

Collections Care Workshop: Silver

Meg Nowack, Manager of Curatorial Resources at Villa Finale, conducts this monthly series to acquaint participants with the handling, care, and storage of personal heirlooms and materials in their homes. This workshop will feature information pertaining to the handling, care and storing of silver items. Some materials and light refreshments are included in the price of admission. The workshop is on Wednesday, September 21 from 4:30 - 5:30pm. Cost is \$10 for members of Villa Finale or the National Trust for Historic Preservation; \$20 for non-members. For reservations and further details, please call 210.223.9800 x 34328. Reservation deadline is September 20 at 1:00 pm. Pre-paid registrants will meet at the front gate of Villa Finale, 401 King William Street.



Napoleon Bonaparte: A Connoisseur Tour

Villa Finale has over 750 objects relating to Napoleon Bonaparte, a selection of which will be included in the exhibition, *Je Me Souviens: The Return of Napoleon Bonaparte*, which is on display at the Visitor Center through December 21. Meg Nowack, Manager of Curatorial Resources, will lead a tour of the exhibition followed by a French-focused tour of Villa Finale. The tour is on Saturday, September 24 from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm. Cost is \$5 for members of Villa Finale or the National Trust for Historic Preservation; \$15 for non-members. For reservations and further details please call 210.223.9800 x 34328. Walk-ins accommodated depending on availability. The tour will begin at the Villa Finale Visitor Center and ends at Villa Finale, 401 King William Street.

September is Tejano Heritage Month

The following information is taken from a media release issued by Texas Tejano.com president Rudi R. Rodriguez.

In 2006, Gov. Rick Perry officially declared the month of September as Tejano Heritage Month. Spearheaded by the efforts of Texas Tejano.com, a San Antonio-based historical publishing and research company, a full calendar of events has been announced that will help bring about awareness of Tejano heritage as well as honor those who helped found this rich land known as Texas. Events kickoff with the annual **Tejano Breakfast**, this year held on September 3 at Alamo Plaza on the grounds in front of the cradle of Texas liberty, the Alamo. The **7th Annual Tejano Vigil** will be held on September 10. This moving commemorative ceremony inside the Alamo Shrine has featured such illustrious speakers as State Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, Gen. Alfred Valenzuela and State Rep. Carlos Uresti. Also on the agenda is the **6th Annual Tejano Memorial Ceremony** at San Fernando Cemetery #1. This solemn occasion memorializes many of the Tejano patriots that took part in the Texas Revolution that are buried there, including Texas Declaration of Independence signer Jose Antonio Navarro. This event will be held on September 26.

“Our goal in starting and championing Tejano Heritage Month has always, from the beginning, been about creating more public awareness of what the Tejanos who came before us did for this land and this country,” says Texas Tejano.com president and founder Rudi R. Rodriguez. “Tejanos, when generally thought of, have never been associated with ‘Texas’ icons such as the Alamo, but that’s who was there, Tejanos. We want to connect the history with the myths and increase our overall sense of pride in our history.” Running throughout the month will be the annual Tejano Heritage Month Children’s Student Awards Contest. It will run from September 1-October 15 and is open to all school-age children in the state of Texas. Rules, entry forms and general information are available online at www.texastejano.com.

“We have a very exciting and robust calendar of events this year and have fostered relationships with some substantial corporate partners and sponsors,” Rodriguez explains. “We will also be unveiling a brand new online hub for Tejano history, www.texastejano.com, that we will be unveiled at a special event in mid-September, where you can visit our *Tejano History* pages online.” Also being held during Tejano Heritage Month is the 32nd Annual Texas Hispanic Genealogical and Historical Conference, presented by Los Bexareños Genealogy Society on September 29 at the Marriott Plaza Hotel. “This is looking to be our most successful Tejano Heritage Month to date,” says Rodriguez, “It was once said that Texas history would never be complete without the story of the Tejanos being told. We are helping to complete that story. Viva Tejano Texas!” For more information, go to www.texastejano.com, or call 210.673.3584. A calendar of events follows.



2011 Tejano Heritage Month Calendar

September

- 1 - Tejano Heritage Month Student Award Contests Begin**
- 3 - Tejano Breakfast Kickoff @ Alamo from 10:00 am – Noon**
Announce Tejano Booklet Series
- 10 - 7th Annual Tejano Vigil @ Alamo Shrine at 7:00 pm**
- 26 - 6th Annual San Fernando Cemetery Tejano Memorial**
- 29 - 32nd Annual Texas Hispanic Genealogical and Historical Conference**
At the Marriott Plaza Hotel - 555 South Alamo Street

October

- 17 - Tejano Heritage Awards**
- 31 - Student Contests ends**

Urban Renaissance Luncheon:

Placemaking In The Center City-Making It Happen

On Wednesday September 28, please join ULI San Antonio, the City of San Antonio Center City Development Office, and the Downtown Alliance for an informative presentation on placemaking and the next steps that our downtown should take to make recent initiatives a reality. Phil Myrick with Project for Public Spaces will reflect on the results of San Antonio's PlaceMap exercise, and some real projects that should be undertaken right away. If you come, we will build it! The event will be held at the Embassy Suites River Walk. Check-in is at 11:30 am, with a luncheon beginning at noon. Advanced online registration is required, and pricing will increase for available seating on September 26.

REGISTER HERE NOW!

Archaeology Month in San Antonio

On Saturday October 8, 2011 from 10 am-3 pm, the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park will host hands-on activities, exhibits, and make-and-take crafts for the whole family at Mission San José. Kids can participate in activities, have their archeology day map stamped and get a special patch! Learn about Texas history and archeology as well as the European cultural influences that shaped its colonial development. Find out how you can get involved in archeological research around the state and the world. The event is co-sponsored by the

University of Texas at San Antonio's Center for Archaeological Research and the Institute of Texan Cultures, the Southwest Texas Archaeology Society (AIA), San Antonio Museum of Art, Southern Texas Archaeological Association, Casa Navarro (Texas Historical Commission), Goliad State Park (Texas Parks and Wildlife), San Antonio River Authority, Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas, Texas Coritani, and the City of San Antonio's Office of Historic Preservation. Funding is provided by the National Park Service and other sponsoring institutions. For more information or questions please contact City of San Antonio Archaeologist Kay Hindes at 210.207.7306 or kay.hindes@sanantonio.gov.



Exciting activities will include:

Casa Navarro State Historic Site, Texas Historical Commission:

"Searching for Clues" - Using Historical Documents

Institute of Texan Cultures and the Center for Archaeological Research at UTSA:

"Hidden in the Midden", Touch Table, Flintknapping, Spearthrowing, Rock Art Wall, Early Cowboys and Ranching, Ask an Archeologist

National Park Service: Corn Grinding, Tool Time, Native American Masks, Visual Caching with GPS

Office of Historic Preservation: City of San Antonio and Southern Texas Archeological Association
Painted Pebbles

San Antonio Museum of Art: Learn about Chinese Jades

San Antonio River Authority: The San Antonio River and Ethnobotany

Archaeological Institute of America Southwest Texas Archaeological Society:

Build an Arch, Fold your Own Mission, Ancient Civilization and Society Information

Texas Coritani: Wheat Grinding, Iron Age Tool Demonstration



Help Rescue This Historic Home!

Neighborhood Housing Services of San Antonio is seeking a buyer for the historic one-and-a-half-story, Queen Anne style cottage at 348 McKinley on the city's Southside. The home was constructed in 1906-1907 by Charles T. Heninger. Shortly after construction, Heninger advertised the home as "the prettiest and most attractive home in this addition." When first built, many of the rooms apparently featured octagonal fronts. If you are interested in learning more about this property, **contact**

Neighborhood Housing Services of San Antonio at nreyna@NHS-SATX.ORG or 210.533.8740.

Partners In Preservation Profile: Sylvia Reyna

"It takes a village..." it has often been said, and the field of historic preservation is no different. We here at the Office of Historic Preservation could not do what we do without the continued support of professionals in the field whose work is so valuable in helping to spread the message of preservation to the community. Librarian and historian Sylvia Reyna is one of those people. Sylvia is a native San Antonian and has been with the San Antonio Public Library since 2005 and the Texana/Genealogy Department since 2007. She was a recipient of a Better Futures Scholarship and received her Master's in Library Science from the University of North Texas in 2007. Currently, she is working on the Gloria Cadena Hispanic genealogical archive collection. As a custodian of the past, she deals with records and maintains them so that they are accessible for future use. As part of outreach programming, she conducts classes related to genealogy, does Career Day school presentations, and oversees the department's Oral History Project. Recently, she participated in the Historic Homeowner Fair showcasing the resources available at the library for conducting home history research. Additionally, Ms. Reyna received an M.A. in Anthropology from Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas and a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio, Texas. For almost 20 years Ms Reyna's career background was predominately archaeological, a field where she had the opportunity to work with and understand the importance of collecting and preserving historical records. Becoming a librarian in the Texana/Genealogy department was a perfect segue from a world of maintaining physical history, to a world of maintaining written history, allowing Ms. Reyna the opportunity to continue with her life-long passion for preservation. Thank you, Sylvia, for all that you contribute to our "village" of preservation!





Monte Vista 21st Annual Fall Home Tour

The Monte Vista Historical Association announces its 21st annual Fall Home Tour, to be held on Saturday, October 22, from 10am-5pm. Six exquisite historic homes will be showcased in the neighborhood including an 1893 Queen Anne, a 1911 Craftsman bungalow, a 1918 Colonial Revival, a 1928 and 1929 Tudor, and a 1935 Spanish Eclectic. Tickets are \$20 in advance, and may be purchased on the MVHA website at www.montevista-sa.org/ or at On Main/ Off Main (120 W. Mistletoe). On the day of the tour, tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at On Main/ Off Main or at individual houses on the tour.

Be A Tourist In Your Own Town

Eastside Cemeteries Historic District

By Elizabeth Porterfield and Amy Unger

Photographs by Juan A. Garcia, Eastlight Photography, San Antonio, TX

In the ghostly spirit of Halloween, why not leave the land of the living for a while and step back into San Antonio's rich past with a tour through the Eastside Cemeteries Historic District. This National Register of Historic Places district on the city's near Eastside includes 31 unique and distinctive cemeteries. Spanning nearly two centuries, the district is the final resting place of many of San Antonio's most famous residents. It's well worth a drive through the district, and a number of the cemeteries are open for walking. East Commerce Street at Monumental is the best starting point to experience the cemeteries as they developed.

The earliest of the cemeteries were established in 1853 on land purchased by the city. The location was inspired in part by the Rural Cemetery Movement of the early 19th century which advocated remote, park-like settings for burial grounds. City officials chose an area known as Powder House Hill on the far eastern edge of town as the site of the new cemetery, establishing what some say is one of the earliest rural cemeteries in Texas. The Eastside Cemeteries reflect the rustic South Texas landscape as opposed to pastoral,



bucolic cemeteries found elsewhere in the United States.



The cemeteries expanded greatly during the late 1800s, and by 1904 the area totaled over 103 acres with 31 separate cemeteries. At that time local residents petitioned the city to stop further expansion of the cemeteries, and the district has since remained unchanged in size. Residential neighborhoods developed and expanded in the surrounding area during early part of the 20th century. A former trolley route, nicknamed the "Cemetery Line" for its

proximity to the burial grounds, ran along the busy commercial corridor of E. Commerce Street.

The district includes public cemeteries, private cemeteries of fraternal and religious organizations, and military cemeteries. The majority of headstones, monuments, and markers date from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s and range from formal sculpture to rustic folk art. The district is notable for the wide variety of those interred. All walks of life from mayors to paupers lie side by side. Differing in size, design, character, and feel, each of these distinctive burial grounds offers a unique glimpse into a part of San Antonio's history.

On the north side of E. Commerce Street at Monumental is City Cemetery No. 1 and the Alamo Masonic Cemetery, both established in 1853 and the oldest cemeteries within the district. **Alamo Masonic Cemetery** was the first fraternal order cemetery established on the Eastside, but many others would develop over the following decades. One of the most prominent graves is the mausoleum of Clara Driscoll, who helped save the Alamo from demolition in the early 1900s. The most unusual burial is that of Sandra West, the widow of Texas oilman Ike West, Jr. Upon her death in 1977, she was buried according to her wishes wearing a lace nightgown and seated at the wheel of her 1964 Ferrari. The simple headstone at her resting site belies the unique burial below.

City Cemetery No. 1 boasts the names of early German pioneer families such as Groos (of Groos National Bank), Menger (of the Menger Hotel), and Frost (of Frost National Bank). The main entrance gate to Cemetery No. 1 along E. Commerce Street is flanked by limestone columns with curving walls. The cemetery features several mausoleums, *faux bois* style fencing, obelisk markers, and ornate statuary and monuments.

North on Monumental at Paso Hondo is the **Independent Order of Odd Fellows Cemetery** established in 1855. Across the street and enclosed by a limestone wall is a must-see — the **San Antonio National Cemetery**. Established in 1867 and still an active military cemetery, the National Cemetery includes the re-interred bodies of 19th century soldiers originally buried at forts and Army posts across West Texas. The cemetery also contains the graves of more than 300 Buffalo Soldiers, African-American regiments who served in the Indian Wars in Texas and the Southwest in the mid to late 19th century. One burial of note is that of Lt. George E. Kelly, the namesake of San Antonio's Kelly Field (later Kelly Air Force Base).



Further east on Paso Hondo past Palmetto are **City Cemetery No. 6, the Confederate Cemetery, and City Cemetery No. 4** with entrances around the block on E. Commerce Street. Established in 1903, City Cemetery No. 6 features the gravesite of Robert H.H. Hugman, who designed San Antonio's world renowned Riverwalk in the late 1930s. The Confederate Cemetery contains the graves of many Civil War veterans. Cemetery No. 4 includes graves from many private organizations such as the Order of Railroad Conductors and the Fire Department.

Don't miss a glimpse at the far northern end of the district at Potomac and N. Palmetto of the beautifully landscaped and maintained **Agudas Achim Jewish Cemetery** and

Temple Beth-El Hebrew Cemetery. A prominent gravesite is the Joske family mausoleum, founders of the former Joske's Department Store in San Antonio.

South of Commerce Street you will encounter a number of other cemeteries, including **City Cemetery No. 3** at S. Palmetto and Montana. Cemetery No. 3 contains several African American cemeteries within its boundary. Although not differentiated, the African American cemeteries are located at the eastern side of the cemetery and include the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows Cemetery, San Antonio Lodge No. 1 Cemetery, United Brothers of Friendship Cemetery, St. Elmo Lodge No. 25 Cemetery, Beacon Light Masonic Lodge Cemetery, and St. Peter Claver Catholic Cemetery.

Further south are St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, St. John's and Emanuel German Lutheran Cemeteries, and Hermann Sons Cemetery. **St. Mary's Cemetery** features elaborate statuary and is the burial site of Adina De Zavala who, along with Clara Driscoll, was instrumental in helping to preserve the Alamo in the early 20th century.

State and National Preservation News

Preservation Texas is Seeking Nominations for Most Endangered Places List!

Texas is a state with enormous diversity and significant historic resources. Every year, more and more of our state's treasures are lost due to neglect or demolition. The Most Endangered Places program is at its heart a grassroots effort designed to elevate the cause of historic preservation and to increase the capacity of local groups and individuals to preserve the historic resources in their communities.

The 2012 list will be released in a special press announcement in the spring of 2012 in Austin. To apply, please visit the Preservation Texas website, www.preservationtexas.org for the nomination form and instructions. Nominations must be postmarked October 5, 2011.

With the Texas' Most Endangered Places (MEP) program, Preservation Texas provides services to at-risk historic properties by leveraging and fostering partnerships; coordinating assistance efforts ranging from advocacy to technical services; demonstrating the relevance of preservation to local communities; providing access to information; and empowering stewards of MEP sites. Since 2004, Preservation Texas has called attention to 96 historic places in 60 different communities around the state.

To learn more about the Texas' Most Endangered Place (MEP) program click [here](#).

To see the 2011 list of endangered sites click [here](#).



Save Texas History Symposium in Austin



The General Land Office Preservation and Education Program is presenting the 2011 “Save Texas History!” Symposium. This exciting event will take place on Saturday October 1 from 8 am-5 pm at the AT&T Executive Education & Conference Center in Austin. Featured guests will include Dr. Genen Smith, James P. Bevill, Dr. Stephen Hardin, Dr. Gregg Dimmick, and Dr. Alwyn Barr. This exciting event celebrates 175 years of Texas independence. Go to www.glo.state.tx.us for details and registration information.

The Texas Drought: What’s Old is New Again

Mark Twain once said that “history doesn’t repeat itself, but it does rhyme.” Texas seems to be fed up with rhyming these days. The historic drought that is gripping our state is something the likes of which most of us have never seen. But many do remember that Texas was in a very similar situation sixty years ago. In the mid-1950s, Texas experienced a severe drought which made headlines at home and around the country. Here is a sampling of stories from newspapers at the time, revealing how people dealt with the dry weather, sometimes with a bit of humor. An article on the Texas drought appeared in *The Gettysburg Times* from Gettysburg, PA on January 14, 1954, which reported news out of Charleston, SC from the South Carolina Baptist Convention that baptisms had been impacted by the epic Texas drought! Clearly it was on the nation’s mind, just as it is today. Closer to home, a *San Antonio Express and News* article from February 16, 1958 tells the story of a South Texas rancher who moved all the way to Indiana to escape the drought and revive his cattle business.

<p>(Sumac), re-cleaned, tested and tagged—99.87% purity and 80% germination—\$4.00 per hundred. Contact Allan Fink, Fink Farm, Cost. Texas. Phone Gonzales 9916K4.—(Adv.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">★ ★ ★</p> <p>One former South Texas rancher went a long way to get away from the drought, but now that the country is recovering he had to come back “to see what it used to look like.” He is J.W. Martin, formerly of Colulla, who is now in the cattle business at Valparaiso, Ind.</p>	<p>There he has a commercial herd and is also operating a feed lot with about 500 cattle on feed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">★ ★ ★</p> <p>Tune in “The Trading Post” with Perry Kallison 6:30 a.m., KENS RADIO, 680 on your dial! —(Adv.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">★ ★ ★</p> <p>Special Angus sale, Feb. 13, Larned, Kansas. Registered and commercial cows, registered bulls, and feeder cattle. Contact R.L. Cauble at Larned, Kansas.—(Adv.)</p>
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San Antonio Express and News
February 16, 1958

Bad Texas Drought Affects Baptism Rites

CHARLESTON, S. C. (AP)—Another Texas drought story popped up at the South Carolina Baptist Convention

“The recent drought was so bad,” a Texas minister reported. “that even baptisms were affected.”

“Before the drought ended,” he declared. “Baptists were sprinkling, Methodists were using a damp wash cloth, and Presbyterians were giving ran checks ”

The Gettysburg Times
January 14, 1954

Preservation Advocacy

Federal Historic Preservation Issues

Provided by Erik Hein, President, Preservation Action

Note from OHP: The mission of Preservation Action is to make historic preservation a national priority by advocating to all branches of the federal government for sound preservation policy and programs through a grassroots constituency empowered with information and training and through direct contact with elected representatives. What happens in Washington directly impacts the work we do at the local level: grant funding to Certified Local Governments, Preserve America and Save Americas Treasures programs, federal rehabilitation tax credit policy, etc. This feature is intended to provide information to those who are interested about the status of current national legislative priorities within the preservation movement.

For more information about Preservation Action or current issues on the national legislative agenda or for information about becoming a member, visit www.preservationaction.org or contact Shanon Peterson at shanon.peterson@sanantonio.gov. The following information is taken from the Preservation Action website www.preservationaction.org.

Lawmakers Return to Washington: What's In Store For Preservation?

Appropriations: With the fiscal year set to end on September 30th, and in order to avoid yet another shutdown threatening a government shutdown, lawmakers are going to have to reach an agreement on how to continue spending. This week House leadership announced they would not be moving individual spending bills in September; rather they will work on a stopgap continuing resolution (CR) to give them more time. The House, before leaving for summer recess, based upon a \$1.019 spending limit they approved in April, had passed six of the twelve annual spending bills and was in the midst of debating [H.R. 2584 - the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act](#) which includes funding for several key historic preservation programs. The Senate, waiting for a resolution to the debt ceiling crisis, had yet to pass a spending limit for FY 2012 which would have enabled them to potentially move individual spending bills. As a part of the debt ceiling deal, a FY 2012 spending ceiling of \$1.043 trillion was agreed to, finally giving the Senate a number to work with. While they will take up a few individual spending bills in the coming week, they will certainly have to address the need for a CR as well. Appropriations Chairman Rep. Hal Rogers (R-KY) has already announced that the House would accept the higher spending limit. How the funds will be allocated is unclear. Some creative policy work is going to be necessary, particularly given that some bills have already been passed and they technically can't approve spending bills that exceed their limit. Preservation Action will [continue to advocate](#) for historic preservation programs that have been targeted for reductions.

Transportation: The nation's existing federal transportation program authorization expired in September of 2009. The program has since been operating under a series of extensions with the latest set to expire on September 30, 2011. With little chance of reaching an agreement on a bill in time, this week Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works Chairman Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) announced she is planning to mark-up on September 8th a "clean" four-month extension of the current law to permit time to finish a more substantial package. In July, Rep. John Mica (R-FL) introduced an [18-page document outlining the key components of a multi-year transportation bill](#) that includes a funding level that averages about \$36 billion per year (\$230 for six years), which is substantially less than the \$51 billion spent currently, and is based on spending only what is available in the Highway Trust Fund. A few weeks later, Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) released the framework for a draft two-year \$109 billion transportation reauthorization bill, called "[Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century](#)" (MAP-21).

Both proposals focus a great deal on program consolidation and state flexibility in spending decisions, and could spell the end of the [Transportation Enhancements](#) program which has provided millions of dollars for historic preservation projects. Also included in both are several references to "streamlining" the project approval processes which could potentially impact the reviews and protections afforded by the [Section 106](#) process.

Select Preservation Bill Monitor

H.R. 2555: Historic Homeownership Revitalization Act of 2011

Sponsored by: Rep. Michael Turner (R-OH), Rep. Russ Carnahan (D-MO)

Summary: Would establish a historic rehabilitation tax credit for homeowners and developers of historic homes.
Status: Referred to House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R. 2479: Creating American Prosperity Through Preservation Act

Sponsored by: Rep. Aaron Schock (R-OH), Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR)

Summary: Would amend the existing commercial rehabilitation tax credit to create a larger credit for smaller projects, improve usability by non-profits, clarify the age of eligibility, exempt state credits from federal income tax, and establish an energy efficiency supplement.
Status: Referred to House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R. 302: Preserve Land Freedom For Americans Act of 2011

Sponsored by: Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC)

Summary: Would amend the Antiquities Act of 1906 to require state approval for the designation of any new national monument, and would restrict the Secretary of Interior from implementing new restrictions on national monuments without state approval and input.
Status: Referred to House Committee on National Resources.

H.R. 709: Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act

Sponsored by: Rep. Albio Sires (D-NJ)

Summary: Would require the Secretary of HUD to establish an urban revitalization and livable communities program to provide federal grants to eligible local governments for a variety of park-related projects, including rehabilitation and construction.
Status: Referred to House Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity

H.R. 1734: Civilian Property Realignment Act

Sponsored by: Rep. Jeff Denham (R-CA)

Summary: Would establish a Civilian Property Realignment Board charged with, in consultation with local communities, identifying and analyzing surplus federal property for sale, transfer or disposal.
Status: Referred to House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and the House Rules Committee.

S. 1081: Project Delivery Improvement Act

Sponsored by: Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)

Summary: Eliminates several provisions dealing with and considering impacts to historic sites from highway and transportation laws.
Status: Referred to Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

S. 1265: Land and Water Conservation Authorization and Funding Act of 2011

Sponsored by: Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-NM)

Summary: Would provide full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
Status: Referred to Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Any Bill introduced in any Congress can be found on [Thomas/Library of Congress](#).

The full calendar for the House of Representatives can be found [here](#).

The full calendar for the Senate can be found [here](#).