

August 2011 Edition



A Message from the Historic Preservation Officer

August in San Antonio is shaping up to be a real scorcher, so I'd like to invite you indoors for a very special event. I am thrilled to announce our third annual Historic Homeowner Fair! This year's fair will take place at the beautiful Thomas Jefferson High School in the Monticello Park Historic District on Saturday, August 27, from 9:30am-3pm. The past two events were very successful, and each year the fair keeps growing as more and more San Antonians want to learn more about taking care of the city's historic resources (which happen to be their homes!). This is a great opportunity for those who live in historic homes or might want to someday and those that have an interest in historic preservation to learn from preservation professionals in a variety of fields. This year's theme is *Preservation and Sustainability*, and there will be a number of educational sessions offered (see schedule on page 3). In addition to the scheduled sessions, there will be a wide variety of vendors and building trades representatives on hand featuring home improvement products and preservation services, including historic window restoration. The exhibit hall will also feature "ask the expert" opportunities for assistance with project design challenges and historic house research so be sure to bring your questions. If you haven't had the pleasure of being inside Thomas Jefferson High School, you should make plans to attend in order to see how amazing it is. The Thomas Jefferson High School Historical Preservation Society, along with the school's current architecture students, will offer tours throughout the day. This year's fair, as always, is free and open to the public and will have fun activities for the kids!

On a related note, we will also be hosting another one of our popular Window Restoration Workshops, on September 16 and 17, in partnership with UTSA's College of Architecture, Downtown Operations and the HemisFair Park Area Redevelopment Corporation. This exciting and informative hands-on event will be held at the historic Acosta-Halff House at HemisFair Park. The Window Restoration Workshop has become a popular event for historic homeowners and those wishing to broaden their preservation knowledge with practical skills. The full two-day workshop and certification is geared toward building trade professionals, do-it-yourselfers, or students interested in developing a marketable and needed skill. We also offer a one-day version for those interested in learning the basics. Participants will use the Acosta-Halff House as a laboratory, repairing and restoring the original windows of the structure on-site.



Finally, I am extremely excited to announce that our City Archaeologist, Kay Hinde, was recently honored in Austin with an Award of Merit by the Archaeology Division of the Texas Historical Commission. Kay received the award for her dedication, expertise and ethics, and for her work in ensuring excellent quality field investigations, data analysis and public outreach associated with the City of San Antonio's preservation ordinance. We are extremely proud of Kay's dedication and professionalism. With her expertise and experience, Kay brings a great deal of value to City projects. San Antonio is a city with a vast array of cultural

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resources that have been protected and enhanced as a direct result of Kay's work. Kay has overseen cultural resource compliance for a number of important City projects such as the Brackenridge Park and Golf Course and the San Antonio River Extensions. She is also a specialist in Spanish Colonial mission archeology and archival research, and is the author of *The Rediscovery of Santa Cruz of San Sabá, A Mission for the Apache in Spanish Texas*. Congratulations Kay, I'm very proud of you and grateful for your work!

Sharon

Preservation Networking Event!

Please join us for our next Preservation Networking Event to kick off the Historic Homeowner Fair! We will be gathering at Tomatillos Tex-Mex Restaurant at 3210 Broadway on Thursday, August 25 from 5-7pm. So come out for drinks and delicious food and get to know Office of Historic Preservation staff and members of the San Antonio preservation community. Our special guests will be the Historic Homeowner Fair sponsors and exhibitors. This will be a great opportunity to thank them for all their hard work and support! For more information, please contact Anna Glover at 207-7925 or at anna.glover@sanantonio.gov.



The 411 On This Year's Historic Homeowner Fair—Saturday, August 27



Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend the third annual Historic Homeowner Fair on Saturday, August 27, from 9:30am to 3:00 pm at Jefferson High School in the Monticello Park Historic District. This free event brings homeowners together with preservation experts, City departments, and knowledgeable tradesmen to discuss how to care for and maintain historic homes. More information on this fun-filled and educational event is available at www.sanantonio.gov/historic . If you have any

questions, please call Amy Unger at (210) 207-1496 or e-mail amy.unger@sanantonio.gov for more details.

Download the Historic Homeowner Fair flyer [here](#).

Get Involved! Become a Historic Homeowner Fair Volunteer

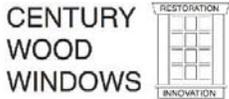
Your participation in the Historic Homeowner Fair will further preservation education and awareness in San Antonio and help protect the unique character of the city we are all proud to call home. Volunteers are needed to assist in the Exhibitor's Hall and presentation rooms. For volunteer opportunities, please contact Elizabeth Porterfield at (210) 207-3327 or e-mail at elizabeth.porterfield@sanantonio.gov.



Historic Homeowner Fair Educational Sessions

We are pleased to announce that several exciting educational sessions have been confirmed for this year's Homeowner Fair. Sessions will be held on financing and incentives for home rehabilitation, lead paint abatement, preservation advocacy, expert advice on planning a historic home rehab project, appropriate additions and infill in historic areas, historic interiors, historic preservation and green rehabilitation, historic home styles, and what to expect when undertaking restoration of a dilapidated structure. We are especially excited to have David Bush and Jim Parsons, authors of *Hill Country Deco*, join us this year to give a talk on Art Deco residential architecture in San Antonio! Below is a listing of scheduled educational sessions and exhibitors. Please note that this schedule is subject to change up to the day of the event.

Premier Sponsor:



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
UTSA College of Architecture
Clean Environments, Inc.
RVK Architects
Climatizer Windows

CRIS MEDINA
COUNCIL DISTRICT 7



2011 Historic Homeowner Fair

9:30 am - 3:00 pm Door Prize Drawings at 12:45 pm

Schedule May Be Subject to Change

Time	Student Union	Theater Classroom	Auditorium
Exhibitor's Hall Opens at 9:30 am - Main Cafeteria			
10:00 AM	Environmental Safety and Older Homes AEHS, Inc. <i>San Antonio Green and Healthy Homes</i>	Historic Interiors Nicholas Fuqua, OHP	The Office of Historic Preservation: Strategic Plan and Program Overview Anna Glover & Shanon Peterson, AICP, OHP
10:45 AM	<i>break</i>	<i>break</i>	<i>break</i>
11:00 AM	Case Study: Green Rehab in Lavaca Aaron Stein, <i>Build San Antonio Green</i>	Act Like a Preservationist What You Can Do to Help Protect Historic San Antonio Krista Gebbia, <i>Preservation Texas</i> Shanon Peterson, AICP, OHP	Making the Numbers Work: Financing and Incentives for Home Rehabilitation Jean-Marie Warren, <i>Nationstar Mortgage</i> Anna Glover, OHP
11:45 AM	<i>break</i>	<i>break</i>	<i>break</i>
12:00 PM	Midday Plenary Address: Auditorium Historic Preservation Officer Shanon Peterson, Councilmen Cris Medina and Diego Bernal		
1:15 PM	Case Study: You Bought It! Now What? A Step by Step Guide to the Basics of Rehabilitation Kay Hindes, OHP	Appropriate Additions and Infill in Historic Areas John Speegle, <i>speegle KIM-Davis Architects</i>	San Antonio's Residential Art Deco Architecture David Bush & Jim Parsons authors of <i>Hill Country Deco</i>
2:00 PM	<i>break</i>	<i>break</i>	<i>break</i>
2:15 PM	Case Study: Restoring the Historic Landscape at Villa Finale Chris Roddy, <i>Villa Finale</i>	San Antonio's Historic House Styles Elizabeth Porterfield, OHP	Expert Advice on Planning a Historic Home Rehabilitation Sue Ann Pemberton, <i>UTSA College of Architecture</i>

Exhibitors

Century Wood Windows
Jefferson Bank
Joubert Design Build
Alamo Hardwoods
Guy Chipman Construction
SAWS
Marvin Windows Planning Center
Climatizer Windows
Firstmark Credit Union
UTSA College of Architecture
Villa Finale - National Trust for Historic Preservation
Clean Environments
Allergen Reduction Systems
Bexar County Dispute Resolution Center
Build San Antonio Green
Campos Architecture, PLLC
Cavallini Stained Glass Studio
City of San Antonio Municipal Archives & Records
City of San Antonio Code Enforcement Services
City of San Antonio Development Services - Tree Preservation
City of San Antonio Fire Department
City of San Antonio Graffiti Abatement Program
City of San Antonio Parks and Recreation
City of San Antonio S.A.F.F.E. Program
City of San Antonio Solid Waste Management
DeWitt Architects
Dignowity Hill Neighborhood Association

Government Hill Alliance
Guardian Protection Services
Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio
Hallmark Cabinetry & Millwork
Hill Country Ecopower
Jefferson High School Architecture Program
Jim Smith - Paint Color Consultation
Keep San Antonio Beautiful
LeafGuard by Beldon
Martin Smith Construction
Masonry Arts
The Montalvo House
Monte Vista Historical Association
Monticello Park Neighborhood Association
Nationstar Mortgage
Old Spanish Trail Centennial Celebration Association
Preservation Texas
San Antonio Conservation Society
San Antonio Green and Healthy Homes
San Antonio Public Library - Texana & Genealogy Department
Solar San Antonio
Specia Builders, Inc.
Texas Historical Commission
Thomas Jefferson High School Historical Preservation Society
The Twig Book Shop
UTSA - Sustainable Business Program
VOS Flips
Westside Preservation Alliance



Exhibitor's Hall Demonstration Space

11:00 am
Repairing and Restoring Historic Windows
Victor Salas
ARTchitectural Interiors

1:15 pm
Installing Spring Bronze Weatherstripping
Jim Carter
Century Wood Windows

2:15 pm
Epoxy Repairs to Wood Windows
Jim Carter
Century Wood Windows

Kids Space

9:30 am - 3 pm
Join us for fun projects and games hosted by the Jefferson High School Architecture Program:

Painting a Bird House
Coloring Historic House Styles
Building a Tower Using Index Cards
Architecture Scavenger Hunt



Kid's Activities and Door Prizes

This year, we will offer a number of fun activities for children, including coloring, model building, bird house painting, and an architectural scavenger hunt! All attendees will have a chance to win exciting door prizes, including ready-to-plant trees, restaurant gift certificates and the grand prize of a two-night Riverwalk "stay-cation," including passes to exciting downtown attractions! Details on the grand prize will be revealed at the drawing. Each Homeowner Fair attendee will also receive a free totebag and Historic House Handbook!



Our Next Window Workshop is Right Around the Corner! – Sept 16 & 17

Our next Window Workshop will take place September 16-17. The workshop is designed to teach the basics of wood window care and repair. Participants will gain valuable knowledge about wood window restoration and rehabilitate 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 students interested in receiving certification in wood window restoration. Individuals receiving certification will be included on the Office of Historic Preservation's list of Certified Window Repair Professionals.



This year's workshop will be held at the historic Acosta-Halff House at HemisFair Park. Participants will work on repairing and restoring the home's beautiful historic windows on-site. More information and registration forms are now available on our website at www.sanantonio.gov/historic. If you have any questions, contact Trisha Logan at (210) 207-7244 or email trisha.logan@sanantonio.gov.



Eastside Cemeteries Guided Tour on October 29th

Join us on Saturday, October 29 for the next **Go! Historic SA Guided Running & Walking Tour** of the historic Eastside Cemeteries. Established in the early 1850s, there are 31 different historic cemeteries on the Eastside. Runners and walkers of all skill levels are encouraged to participate. Participants will be divided into small groups based on experience. Route will take approximately 1-1/2 hours to complete. Registration is only \$15 and all participants receive a mesh running cap. Please bring your own water bottles. Print out the **registration form** and submit it to the Office of Historic Preservation or register online at www.active.com.

Upcoming Tours

October 29, 2011
Eastside Cemeteries

December 10, 2011
Downtown Holiday Lighting

February 25, 2012
Fort Sam Houston



Meet Ron Meyers, Historic Building Enforcement Officer



Ron Meyers joined our office in July and has gotten right to work! Ron recently expressed his pride for his new position. “As soon as I heard the words from the human resources representative: ‘we would like to offer you the position as the Building Code Enforcement Officer for the Office of Historic Preservation,’ I knew I had landed my dream job.” Ron was born at the old BAMC hospital at Fort Sam Houston during the ground-breaking of HemisFair, and discovered at an early age that he loved our great collection of cultures within San Antonio. Ron grew up on the east side of San Antonio and is proud to be a native. He is excited about using his skills in code enforcement while at the same time serving our citizens by helping to preserve our unique historic districts and landmarks. Ron worked previously in Code Enforcement Services in 2007. He returned to the City recently and is now happy to have landed in the Office of Historic Preservation. His additional employers have been with the San Antonio International Airport, Kelly Air Force Base, Valero Energy Corporation, USAA, and the City of Balcones Heights where he gained invaluable expertise in code compliance, emergency response, building code enforcement, and public administration. “I’m back, here to stay, in a place I love, with a job I love,” Ron says. We are happy to have him!

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.

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 7:45am-4:30pm for assistance.

Historic Structure Plaques Available

The Office of Historic Preservation is pleased to announce that additional plaques have arrived. 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.

Local Preservation Events and Announcements

Vote for San Antonio Missions National Historical Park



Coca-Cola has officially launched *America is Your Park!* This is the second time that Coca-Cola has sponsored this contest for national, state, and local parks throughout the country. A park wins through internet and Facebook votes. The top park will win \$100,000. Second prize is \$50,000, and third prize is \$25,000. See fact sheet below for more information.

Help the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park win this contest by casting your vote [here!](#)

You will see on the left side of the site a tab to view the top ten parks based on votes in real time, as well as a tab with FAQs & rules. There is also a tab to vote where you can search for the park by name or city. You can vote as many times as you like between now and September 6.

[America is Your Park Fact Sheet](#)

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, from 11:30am-1:30pm at the Pearl Stable. 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</p> <p>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!</p> <p>\$2,500 Presenting Sponsor \$1,000 Partner Sponsor</p> <p>tickets</p> <p>\$65 Individual \$675 Patron Table of Eight</p>
	<p>lecture followed by</p> <p>COMMUNITY PANEL DISCUSSION</p> <p>Moderated by: RICK CASEY Houston Chronicle columnist and host of KLRN's <i>Texas Week</i>.</p>	<p>Panelists to include:</p> <p>DARRYL BYRD CEO, Pearl Brewery</p> <p>JULIAN CASTRO <i>(not confirmed)</i> Mayor, City of San Antonio</p> <p>KEITH PARKER CEO, VIA Metropolitan Transit</p> <p>NELSON W. WOLFF Bexar County Judge</p>
<p>featuring</p>  <p>PETER CALTHORPE Noted architect, urban planner, author and founder of the Congress for New Urbanism</p>	<p>210-226-4979 www.aiasa.org</p>	

Save The Date 

THE GREENEST BUILDING

FILM SCREENING & PANEL DISCUSSION

WED, SEPT 7

6:00 Doors Open
6:30-8:30 Film and Panel Discussion
Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress Ave.
\$15 tickets available at www.austentheatre.org or 512.474.1221

***“The Greenest Building”
Film Premier in Austin***

The Heritage Society of Austin is presenting the only planned screening of the nationally recognized film *The Greenest Building*, September 7, at the Paramount Theatre in Austin. This documentary shows how renovation and adaptive reuse can be just as “green” as new construction. The premier will be followed by a panel discussion on historic preservation and sustainability. For more information on this event, please call (512) 474-1221 or go to www.heritagesocietyaustin.org.

Project for Public Spaces Workshop

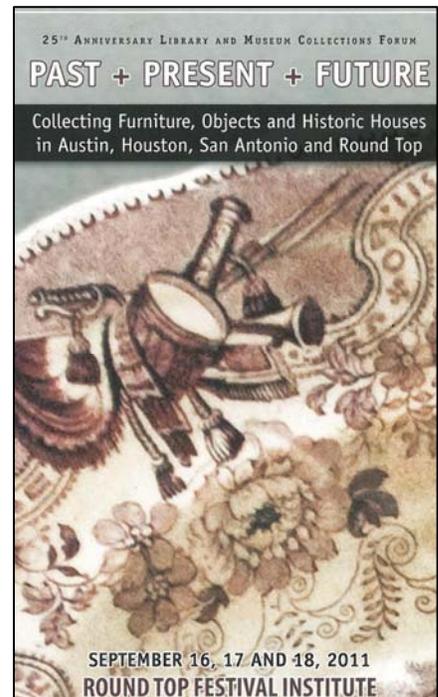
The PPS (Project for Public Spaces) will be holding a public workshop on placemaking on August 17 from 5:30-7pm at the Central Library. This workshop will introduce participants to placemaking practices and techniques. Come ready to share ideas to transform downtown and help to build an action plan for the next steps of reinventing San Antonio! To rsvp for the workshop email malik.jabeir@sanantonio.gov or go to www.sanantonio.gov/ccdo/. Got an idea to make San Antonio an even greater place? Visit www.pps.org/placemap/sanantonio/ to share your ideas.

Placemaking on Texas Public Radio: “Views and Brews”

Join Texas Public Radio and Phil Myrick, of Project for Public Spaces, on Thursday, August 18, at Warehouse Music, 1305 E. Houston St. in San Antonio, for “Views and Brews,” a community conversation with appetizers and cold beer! This community forum will look at how placemaking can revitalize the downtown San Antonio community by transforming our public spaces. Please visit www.tpr.org/articles/2011/08/placemaking.html for more information.

***Library and Museum Collections
Forum: “Past + Present + Future”***

The Round Top Festival Institute is announcing its 25th anniversary forum on collecting furniture, objects and historic houses in Austin, San Antonio and Round Top. This three-day forum will feature tours of beautiful historic homes, delicious meals and lectures by noted designers, historians and curators, including Rachel Ashwell, author and host of the popular *Shabby Chic*, and Meg Nowack, curator at Villa Finale in San Antonio. Space is limited! For more information on this exciting event, please call (979) 249-3129 or visit www.festivalhill.org.



Events 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.



Collections Care Workshop: Photographs

On August 17, from 4:30-5:30pm, curator Meg Nowack will conduct an informative workshop on the proper care, handling, and storage of heirloom photographs. For more information and registration, please call (210) 223-9800 x 34328.

Fotoseptiembre Youth Photography Contest

Villa Finale is participating in the citywide photography festival, Fotoseptiembre. Young people are encouraged to submit a photograph of a historic structure in San Antonio's King William National Historic District. Ten winning photographs will be displayed at the Villa Finale Visitor Center during the month of September. For details, call Sylvia Gonzalez-Hohenshelt at (210) 223-9800 x 34323 or e-mail sylvia_gonzalezhohenshelt@nthp.org.



Je Me Souviens: The Return of Napoleon June 9th-December 21st

This intriguing exhibit, featuring select Napoleonic memorabilia from Villa Finale's extensive collection, focuses on the return of Napoleon's remains to France in 1840. The exhibit is on display at the Villa Finale Visitor Center.

Be a Tourist in Your Own Town: San Antonio's Historic Monticello Park and Woodlawn Lake

By Elizabeth Porterfield and Amy Unger

Explore one of our city's historic neighborhoods on the near northwest side - the Monticello Park Historic District. The area features attractive homes reflecting a wide range of architectural styles popular during the 1920s, 30s, and 40s. Take a stroll around beautiful Woodlawn Lake and tour the streets of Monticello Park to experience pre-WWII residential architecture that is distinctly San Antonio. From IH-10 West, take the Woodlawn Avenue/Fredericksburg Road exit and head west on Woodlawn Avenue for approximately 1.15 miles.



Woodlawn Lake, originally known as West End Lake, was created in the late 1880s, with water supplied by artesian wells and the nearby Alazan Creek. The West End Town Company purchased about 1000 acres of land south and west of the lake and developed the West End into one of San Antonio's earliest suburbs. Large Victorian homes on ample lots dotted the area, which at that time was quite remote from the city. Today, only a few of these fine homes remain standing. An 1892 electric street car, called the West End Line, provided

access to the lake and neighborhood from downtown. West End Lake became a popular entertainment and recreation spot, with a dance pavilion, row boat rentals, and later a bath house and diving platform.

By 1920, the lake's popularity had begun to wane and the property was deeded to the City. In an effort to improve the image of the area, the name was changed to Woodlawn Lake. Throughout the 1920s the city made many improvements to the lake area including planting of trees, construction of a swimming pool, recreation hall, tennis courts, and restrooms. Today, Woodlawn Lake is a picturesque locale with walking trails, recreational facilities, and a sweeping view of the downtown skyline.

The area immediately north of Woodlawn Lake, now largely part of the **Monticello Park Historic District** and identified by brown historic district street signs, began to develop in the 1920s through the Woodlawn Park Development Company. Organized in 1927, the neighborhood was platted as Woodlawn Park, with the original main entrance directly across from Woodlawn Lake on Josephine Tobin Drive. The surviving concrete monument and planter, which originally included a gas lighting fixture, marked the entry to the neighborhood. Although streets were laid out and some properties were constructed, the venture didn't survive the depression, and much of the land was sold off to smaller developers. Development of the area began again in earnest after 1935.

A drive through the neighborhood streets reveals a wide array of architectural styles. Reflecting San Antonio's Spanish colonial heritage, the **Spanish Eclectic** style is characterized by stucco cladding, red tile roofs, arched door and window openings, elaborately carved door surrounds, and decorative tile work. An excellent example of a Spanish Eclectic style home is 2165 W. Gramercy. Inspired by

Medieval English cottages, the **Tudor Revival** style is quite prevalent within the neighborhood and features steeply pitched roofs with prominent gables on the façade, large chimneys, decorative half-timbering in the gable ends, and arched doors. Many fine examples of Tudor style homes are located in the 2000 block of W. Summit. The **Colonial Revival** style, reflecting a renewed interest in early American Colonial architecture, is also very common with features including symmetrical facades, central



doors with small entry stoops, and paired multi-pane windows. The **Monterey**, another prevalent Spanish-influenced style, is identified by a second story balcony (partial or full length) that projects out from the façade below the main roofline. One noteworthy example of a Monterey style home is 2130 W. Summit, built as an early demonstration home and touted in ads as “the new home of the new era.” The use of native limestone gives much of the neighborhood a distinctly San Antonio feel. Palm trees, although not indigenous, lend a sense of tropical lushness to the more arid natural landscape.

Don’t miss a tour down **Mary Louise**, dubbed the “Million Dollar Street” in 1926. In 1928 a plan was undertaken to build 30 homes by local members of the West Texas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The project began with two homes in the 200 block designed by prolific San Antonio architects Atlee B. and Robert M. Ayres. Homes by other architects were to follow in alphabetical order, with each architect designing two homes in distinctive styles. It is unclear whether the plan was ever fully realized, but the homes along Mary Louise reflect a unique character and charm.



Spanish Revival style home with a unique arched window, and 503 Mary Louise. Other Nayfach designs include the multi-family residences at 502 and 507 Club Drive and his own home at 505 Club Drive.

N. Straus Nayfach, a noted local architect, designed several homes along Mary Louise and throughout the neighborhood. Best known as the architect of the Alameda Theater on W. Houston Street in San Antonio, Nayfach largely designed homes for middle class buyers. His work is recognized by the use of local limestone and his signature architectural detail—two overlapping boards at the top of the wall just below the roofline. Although his career was cut short by his untimely death, Nayfach reportedly designed over 40 homes within the neighborhood. See Nayfach’s work firsthand at 466 Mary Louise, a beautiful 1940

The final stop you don’t want to miss is San Antonio’s spectacular **Thomas Jefferson High School** at 723 Donaldson. Constructed from 1930-32 by San Antonio architects Adams and Adams, the school is a masterpiece of Spanish Moorish design. It is designed around two courtyards, with a commanding central tower, arched façade, and elaborate cast stone detailing that creates a truly remarkable public school campus. Local artisan Hannibal Pianta, whose studio was located nearby on Fredericksburg Road, produced the intricate cast stone work. In 1937, Thomas Jefferson High School was chosen by the United Press as “the most outstanding high school in America” and was featured in Life Magazine in 1938. Built during the height of the Great Depression, the school received criticism for its excess but nevertheless provided many local jobs during construction as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project. It remains a public school within the San Antonio Independent School District. For a peek at Jefferson’s magnificent interior, don’t miss our 3rd annual Historic Homeowner Fair on Saturday, August 27 from 9:30 to 3:00 at Jefferson High School, where Jefferson architectural students will be providing tours of the school throughout the day.



The construction of Thomas Jefferson High School spurred new development in the area immediately to the east of the school. Called Monticello Park for its proximity to the school and in reference to Thomas Jefferson’s Virginia home, the area is now part of the larger Monticello Park Historic District. Encompassing much of the area north of Woodlawn Lake, the district was formed in 1995 and has been expanded several times.



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 octagon fronts. If you are interested in learning more about this property, **contact**

Neighborhood Housing Services of San Antonio at nreyva@NHS-SATX.ORG or (210) 533-8740.



HPTV: Historic Preservation Television

HPTV is back! We will begin filming again this month, with a new episode scheduled to air in September. Next month’s episode will focus on the role of Code Compliance in historic properties. See below for more details, and don’t forget to tune in!

See the show on TVSA Channel 21:

- Tuesdays @ 9:00am**
- Wednesdays @ 1:00pm**
- Fridays @ 7:00pm**

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

We’re on the web:



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 www.facebook.com and search for “City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation.”



Follow us on Twitter
@SA_Preservation
http://twitter.com/#!/SA_Preservation

Subscribe to our YouTube channel
SApreservation



<http://www.youtube.com/user/SAprreservation?feature=mhum#n/a>



Check out the historic preservation blog on the San Antonio Express-News website at

<http://voices.mysanantonio.com/swasielewski/>

State and National Preservation News



The State of State Preservation: A Message From Mark Wolfe, Director of the Texas Historical Commission

Many of you have asked for a recap of the legislative session and a summary of where we ended up here at the Texas Historical Commission. Numbers speak louder than words. Our operating budget was cut by about 50%, and we lost 47 staff positions representing over 20% of our staff. Every division was affected, some more than others depending on how the legislature chose to distribute funding. The Archeology, History Programs and Community Heritage Development Divisions each lost about 1/3 of their staffs. The staff reduction in the Division of Architecture (which oversees the courthouse grants program among other duties) was closer to 20% because additional bond funds were appropriated for grants from that program. Our Marketing and Communication Division, originally targeted for elimination, survived with about half of its staff. Historic Sites staff was reduced by a little less than 20% statewide. Although the agency will continue to operate most of its programs, there will be some structural changes which hopefully our customers won't notice. We're still working out the details, but here's a summary of what you can expect:

- Visionaries in Preservation (VIP) will be dormant for at least the next two years, possibly longer.
- Main Street will not be entertaining new applications until at least 2012 (for designation in 2013).
- The Texas Preservation Trust Fund, small museum grant support and Texas Trails partnership grants programs have been eliminated.
- The THC's annual conference has been cancelled for the foreseeable future.
- THC hopes to partner with Preservation Texas in providing preservationists with other educational opportunities.
- THC award programs will be suspended until further notice.
- Archeology Division reorganization will result in combining the field archeology program (originally proposed for elimination) and review and compliance positions into a new terrestrial archeology program.
- The Medallion magazine will be reduced from a bimonthly to a quarterly publication.

There will obviously be other service reductions. We will try to make them as invisible as possible, but losing 47 positions in an agency our size won't be easy. Current positions remain in place until August 31, 2011. Cuts and reorganizations will be effective September 1, 2011. We gave notice as quickly as we could to enable folks to begin the search for alternate employment, and I'm happy to report that some people have already moved on to other jobs. The budget as approved does include \$20 million in bonds for the courthouse grant program, \$500,000 for an archive project at the Museum of the Pacific War (NMPW) in Fredericksburg, an additional \$200,000 per year to support work and operations at the NMPW, one new full time position and additional funding for the Holocaust and Genocide Commission (administratively attached to the THC), and \$500,000 for a new Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the capitol grounds (with THC acting as the agency holding and disbursing those funds much as we have for other such memorials in the past). This is all good news and is the result of much hard work by people all over Texas. I want to thank all of you for your support over the past several months. Preparation for the next legislative session begins now, as we ready ourselves for what is likely to be a very similar challenge. For more information, please visit www.thc.state.tx.us.

–Mark Wolfe, Director, Texas Historical Commission



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](#).

Partner Profile: Preservation Action

By the **National Trust for Historic Preservation** on August 2nd, 2011

Written by Priya Chhaya

This profile originally appeared on the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s PreservationNation blog at <http://blog.preservationnation.org/2011/08/02/partner-profile-preservation-action/>.



Click image for link to Preservation Action website.

One of the ways in which the National Trust for Historic Preservation works for places that matter is by playing an active role in advocating for preservation and community revitalization at all levels of

government. For the last few years we have partnered with a number of organizations on an annual advocacy day, where preservationists from all over the country ask their members of Congress to stand up for issues we believe in. A critical partner in this work is Preservation Action, and I recently interviewed Erik Hein, the current president, to find out more about his organization and the work it does.

Priya: Tell me a little about Preservation Action. What's the one paragraph history of the organization?



Erik: Preservation Action was founded in 1974 – only eight years after the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. At that time, there was no dedicated source of funding for the mandates of the Act. In other words, there was no Historic Preservation Fund. There was also no historic tax credit program, and Section 106 and the concept of historic review, was in its infancy. Recognizing the need for grassroots advocacy directly to the federal government, a group of individuals met in San Antonio at the historic Casa Villita and gave birth to Preservation Action. Not long after, they hired their first President – Nellie Longworth.

Priya: How did you end up at Preservation Action? What drew you there?

Erik: That's a great question. Those that know me know I am usually not without an opinion. After years of working in both preservation (as an assistant director of a local non-profit organization, a city historic preservation officer, a board member, and a program director) and non-profit management (membership, marketing, and operations), I knew I wanted to be in preservation, but I couldn't figure out how to take this varied experience to put it to the best use. Then, I worked for an organization that shared office space with Preservation Action. As with any active preservationist who finds themselves face-to-face with an organization that is always looking for help, I found myself starting to volunteer. I began to realize, after spending years trying to block out federal policy as much as possible, how important it was and literally how the seemingly smallest of decisions can have a tremendous impact. Before long, I was hooked. I discovered that what happens on the Hill, which is pretty perplexing or lofty to most people, is really very accessible. It may not always make sense, and it might be frustrating – but it is accessible. And I love it!

Priya: I know that Preservation Action and the National Trust often work together—can you explain how is Preservation Action different from the advocacy team at the National Trust?

Erik: The biggest difference is that Preservation Action is a 501(c) (4) non-profit organization, and the National Trust is a 501(c) (3) organization. For those unfamiliar with these unglamorous tax-code designations, it basically means that there are no restrictions on how much lobbying or advocacy we do – in fact, that is all we do. The Trust, on the other hand – although they can spend a portion of their budget on direct lobbying – has a broader mission. We work very closely with the Trust's policy team. Frequently we work on the same issues, but bring different skills and audiences to the table. I like to think of the organizations as complementing each other – Preservation Action has a very specific mission that complements the Trust's broader one.

Priya: Can you give us an example of how this partnership has been successful?

Erik: I think we are successful when we rely on our strengths. The National Trust brings to the table an enormous and diverse membership – which gives them tremendous visibility and an ability to broadly communicate. PA brings a targeted group of members who are interested in grassroots advocacy and will actively communicate with their elected officials. These roles are not mutually exclusive to each organization – so there is some overlap. But this really helps assure informed constituents – which is our primary goal.

Priya: What challenges do you see for preservation in the next few years? How can PA meet those challenges?

Erik: The number one challenge, in my opinion, is going to be competition for resources. We have all been seeing historic cuts to programs in response to our country's economic position. While this should not last forever, what we are learning is that if we can't adequately defend and justify our programs, support can't be assumed. And if we can't defend, we are going to have to figure out where there are synergies with other programs and initiatives that are also struggling for resources and find ways to create mutually beneficial partnerships. We are going to have to think outside of the box, proactively embrace change, yet remain focused on our primary objective – the preservation of our historic resources. PA can help meet those challenges by working with our membership to inform their legislators about the value of historic preservation, how it can fit into broader goals and objectives, and why it is good for our country. Currently we frame our position in terms of jobs created and economic development. But we have to be flexible as with every Congress, the buzzwords will change.

Priya: Why is membership in PA important?

Erik: Membership in PA is important for so many reasons. The most obvious is that there is strength in numbers. As a grassroots membership organization, we need as many members from across the United States and its territories to have the strongest impact. Also, the more members, the more resources we have – which means we can be more effective. We are a pretty lean organization, which means we have to carefully evaluate each new initiative we can spend time on. If you care about issues like funding for federal historic preservation programs (including state and tribal historic preservation offices, certified local governments, etc.), the historic tax credit program, or protections to historic resources afforded by the National Historic Preservation Act, then supporting Preservation Action is a great way to do something to help. Read More in the Forum Bulletin article, [Preservation Action: An Intro and Update](#).

Priya Chhaya is a program associate in the Partnerships Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation

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.

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](#).