

June 2012 Edition

A Message from the Historic Preservation Officer



Preservation Month kept us busy in May with a number of great activities and events. Thank you to all the participants, partners, sponsors, City officials, and staff that helped to make this year's Preservation Month a major success! I especially wish to thank Mayor Julian Castro, State Historic Preservation Officer Mark Wolfe, and Assistant City Manager David Ellison for helping me kick off Preservation Month at the **State of Preservation** press event and reception at the Spanish Governor's Palace on May 3. They each spoke eloquently about the important role that preservation plays in revitalizing our City's central core and safeguarding the culture of San Antonio.

Preservation Month activities included another of our informative **Go! Historic SA Guided Tours** held on May 5. This tour focused on the history of Texas Independence in downtown San Antonio. If you are interested in joining us on a future tour, please keep reading for a complete schedule of upcoming tours. This was the second year the Office of Historic Preservation participated in presenting the **Paseo por el Westside**. The event showcased the rich history and culture of San Antonio's Westside. The Paseo was attended by more than 400 people and featured local cuisine, live music, and presentations on history and preservation. For more information on getting involved in historic preservation efforts on San Antonio's Westside, please contact Nicholas Fuqua at nicholas.fuqua@sanantonio.gov or 210.207.0066.

One of our most popular events, the **Amazing Preservation Race**, originally scheduled for May 11, was unfortunately postponed due to inclement weather and has been rescheduled for Friday, June 8. You can still sign up, so keep reading for details and registration information. Our **Amazing Preservation Race "Kid's Edition"** was once again held in the King William Historic District on May 19. The race drew families from all over San Antonio to participate in exciting challenges on the scavenger hunt, with more fun and games at the Steves Homestead and a door prize giveaway!

These events just keep getting better every year. The many activities and events held during Preservation Month were made possible by the generous assistance of our presenting sponsor, Silver Eagle Distributors, and sponsors Guy Chipman Construction, the Emily Morgan Hotel, the Milam Building, the Deco District, Century Wood Windows, Lynn Knapik Real Estate, District 3 Councilwoman Leticia Ozuna, the Friendly Spot, and Alamo Architects.

Preservation Month may be over, but our office will continue to offer fun and educational events, activities, and programs throughout the summer. Planning is now underway for our 4th annual **Historic Homeowner Fair** to be held on August 25 at historic Jefferson High School in the Monticello Park Historic District. This is a great opportunity for historic homeowners with educational sessions,

June 2012

exhibitors, “ask the expert” opportunities, and demonstrations. The fair is free and open to the public and wouldn’t be possible without community participation and support. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, exhibitor, or presenter at this year’s fair, or if you are the owner of a historic home, let us know what you would like to see at the fair this year. What information would be most valuable to you? What are the issues you would like to see discussed? Inquiries about the Homeowner Fair can be directed to Sara Luduena at sara.luduena@sanantonio.gov or 210.207.4680. We look forward to hearing from you!

Finally, we are increasingly excited about planning for the Power of Preservation PROMenade on October 25. Make plans now to attend and find your date for PROM!

Thanks!

Sharon

City News and Events

Thanks to Our Preservation Month Sponsors and Partners!



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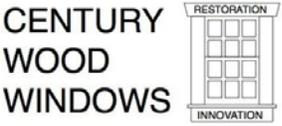
GUY CHIPMAN CONSTRUCTION, L.P.



DECO DISTRICT ON FREDERICKSBURG ROAD
LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL



Alamo architects



CENTURY WOOD WINDOWS



The Friendly Spot



Lynn Knapik Real Estate LLC

Councilwoman Leticia Ozuna, District 3

**NATIONAL PRESERVATION MONTH
PARTNERS**

Westside Historic Preservation Alliance

Amazing Preservation Race Rescheduled for Friday, June 8th!

Our popular downtown event has been rescheduled! For those seeking an urban adventure, this is one



event you will not want to miss. The race will begin at La Villita at 5:30 pm on June 8. This event has it all: an architectural scavenger hunt, trivia questions, urban challenges, and an after-party. Teams of four adventurous adults who want to put their street smarts and trivia skills to the test will hit the streets of San Antonio for an adventure like no other. Each team will receive an information packet with a list of downtown locations and descriptions, visual clues, and riddles that will be used to find the destinations. Teams will

have two hours to complete the race. At each destination teams will perform an activity for the next clue. Pre-registration is required and the race is \$25/person as part of a 4-person team. Participants receive a race t-shirt and a drink ticket for the post-race fiesta. Register online at: <http://register.iaapweb.com>.



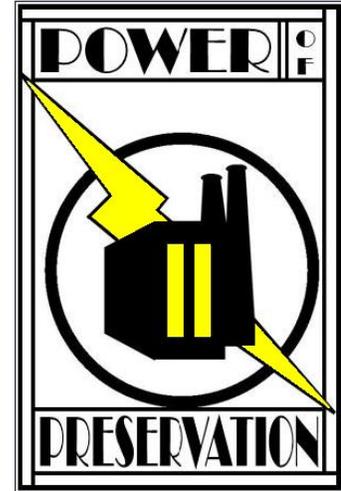
Get Your "Power of Preservation" Tickets and Tattoos Now!



Tickets for the inaugural "Power of Preservation PROMenade and Pachanga" are on sale now! The event will be held on October 25 at the historic Mission Road Power Plant. Be a part of history and the future of San Antonio. For information on individual tickets and tables, please contact our office at 210.215.9274.

We also have tattoos. That's right, tattoos! In support of our Power of Preservation campaign we are unveiling our custom (temporary) tattoos. They measure 2"x3" and last for about a week. They are only \$1 and all proceeds go to support the important education and outreach programs of the Office of Historic Preservation. Tattoos are available

for purchase at 1901 S. Alamo Street. For more information, please call 210.215.9274. The tattoos are temporary...but their message is permanent. Get involved today!



Upcoming Go! Historic SA Guided Running and Walking Tours

Join us on the upcoming **2012 Go! Historic SA Guided Running and Walking Tours** offered this year. The guided tours are a great way to experience San Antonio's historic sites and get fit. At various stops along the routes, tour guides share stories behind the buildings, homes, neighborhoods, and parks of our historic city. Runners and walkers of all abilities are welcome, and participants are divided into small groups according to experience. Tours are \$15 and include a San Antonio "Know Your Place" t-shirt. Upcoming tour dates and locations are listed below.

Our next tour will be in the Monte Vista Historic District on Saturday, June 16, at 8:30 am. This tour will be an approximately 2.5 mile walk or 3 mile run starting at the Landa Library at 233 Bushnell. The tour will highlight the homes and sites of this beautiful neighborhood. Participants will be broken into small groups based on running or walking preference. This is not a home tour, so participants will not be allowed inside homes. The tour will include Kings Hwy, "The Avenue of the Cattle Barons," and several Atlee B. Ayers homes. Come start your weekend on the beautiful tree-lined streets of Monte Vista! Registration is \$15. Parking, water, and restrooms will be available at the Landa Library, and a "Know Your Place" t-shirt is included in the registration price! [Register online](#) or in person the day of the event (online registration closing date is Friday, June 15, at 10 am).

Upcoming Running/Walking Tours

June 16, 2012 Monte Vista
September 13, 2012 Fort Sam Houston
October 27, 2012 Eastside Cemeteries
December 6, 2012 Downtown Holiday Lights
February 9, 2013 King William



Preservation Partners: Meet Our Preservation Community

Tom Shelton, Photographic Curator



Tom Shelton has been the curator of the photographic collection of the University of Texas at San Antonio Institute of Texan Cultures library since 1989. Working with Institute staff and volunteers, Shelton has coordinated photo heritage days in San Antonio and throughout South Texas, copying images to further enrich the collection and teaching individuals to care for their family photographs. He has curated photo exhibits for the Institute and assisted with photo research for Institute publications. Most recently, Shelton has helped guide the collection through the transition from negatives and prints to the digital era, thus assuring that this unsurpassed resource will be both physically preserved and available electronically to a worldwide audience. Last year, ownership of the collection was transferred to the UTSA Libraries Special Collections. Tom's expertise assists many preservation projects in the area. Recently, during the restoration of the Casa Navarro State Historic Site, restoration architects could find no photo of the original windows in the two-story former commercial building on the site. Tom was able to find a photograph in the S. A. Light Collection, which they used it to replicate the windows. That was their only source of information! If you are interested in using the photographic collection for research, contact Tom at Tom.Shelton@utsa.edu or at 210.458.2228.

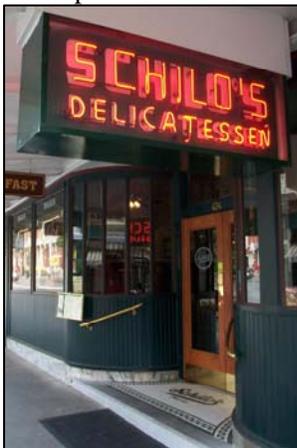
Featured Articles

Be a Tourist in Your Own Town: Dining Historic in San Antonio

by Elizabeth Porterfield, Office of Historic Preservation

Do you spend time downtown or have visitors in town who want to see the sights in San Antonio? A unique way for locals and visitors alike to experience the history and flavor of our city is to visit some of the restaurants housed in historic venues. Below are just a few of the many downtown eating establishments that offer a unique sense of San Antonio's history.

Casa Rio, located at 430 E. Commerce Street along the San Antonio River, has been serving Mexican food at this location since 1946. In fact, it was the first restaurant to offer dining along the newly completed Riverwalk. Today, colorful umbrellas and tables along the Riverwalk provide a festive outdoor atmosphere. To access the restaurant from street level, take the stairs down from Commerce Street at the Casa Rio sign by the historic Commerce Street Bridge. Be sure to see the Native American statue on the south side of the bridge at street level. Known as the *First Inhabitant*, this sculpture was originally designed as a drinking fountain in 1914.



For a step back in time, try **Schilo's Delicatessen**, next door at 424 E. Commerce Street. The German deli is famous for its hot mustard, homemade root beer, and split pea soup. Schilo's originally opened in San Antonio at a different location in 1914 where it operated as a saloon until Prohibition. It reopened at a second location that same year as a delicatessen and then moved to Commerce Street in 1927. The present location was opened in 1942 by a

third generation of the Schilo family and has been in continuous operation since that time. The 19th century building with its pressed tin ceiling, large wooden bar, and tiled floor provides a feeling of yesteryear along the modern bustle of Commerce Street.

Slightly south of downtown, **the Guenther House** at the Pioneer Flour Mills offers a glimpse back into the 19th century. Located at 205 E. Guenther in the King William Historic District, the Guenther House Restaurant was the home of C.H. Guenther. Guenther constructed a flour mill and residence at this location along the San Antonio River in 1859. The milling operation, then known as C.H. Guenther & Son, continues to operate facilities today at this location as the Pioneer Flour Mills. The Guenther House now serves as a restaurant, museum, and store. The downstairs Art Nouveau style dining rooms feature stained glass windows and tiled floors. Decorative plaster plant motifs of corn and wheat bundles reference the family’s milling history. The parlor, dating to 1860, is decorated with Victorian furnishings. The River Mill Store, located within the house, includes the former music room and bedroom with original fireplaces and tile work. The museum, formerly the library, contains a collection of milling items and Guenther family pieces. In addition to the interior dining rooms, an arbor offers outdoor seating within the landscaped grounds. The restaurant offers breakfast and lunch seven days a week. Don’t miss taking a stroll through the King William neighborhood too!



The restaurants of **Market Square** are another stop you won’t want to miss. Market Square has been a city market place since the mid 1800’s. Today the historic farmers market, now known as El Mercado, provides a unique collection of shops offering clothing, jewelry, and ceramics from Mexico and the Southwest. Outdoor festivals and music are frequently offered, and the cluster of historic buildings and pedestrian walkways provide a vibrant outdoor space. **Mi Tierra Café and Bakery**, which began as a small market café in 1941, provides Mexican food and drinks 24 hours a day. The interior, decorated with thousands of Christmas lights and piñatas, is alive with the sounds of Mariachi music. Mi Tierra is a colorful, lively place at all hours of the day and night! The bakery, which opened in 1957, offers a wide variety of Mexican baked goods and candies.

On the near eastside of downtown, **Aldaco’s Restaurant** at historic Sunset Station offers Mexican food in one of San Antonio’s older commercial nodes. Aldaco’s is located in part of the former Southern Pacific Depot, a 1902 railroad station on the city’s near eastside. The Mission Revival style depot was one of the main stops along the Sunset Limited railroad route to California. The area around the depot was known as St. Paul Square for the former St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church constructed nearby in 1884. The turn-of-the-century buildings around the depot were closely tied to the railroad hub. Today, the depot and surrounding area have been revitalized with restaurants and businesses. The former depot, now called Sunset Station, is a venue for music and outdoor performances. Enjoy a stroll through St. Paul Square and historic Sunset Station and go back to a time when railroads were a thriving part of the city.



Whatever your palate fancies, take some time to experience the history and culture of our city with a stop at one of our historic restaurant venues. These are just a few of the many places to sample local cuisine and enjoy a bit of San Antonio’s unique past. Bon appétit!

Local Preservation News

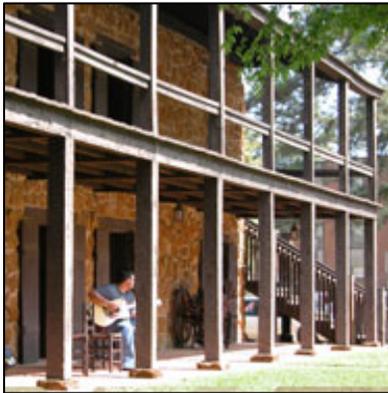
Texas Folklife Festival

The Institute of Texan Cultures continues its legacy of cultural preservation at its 41st annual Texas Folklife Festival, held on the grounds of the Institute of Texas Cultures at Hemisfair. Come experience delicious cuisine, traditional dances, fine-crafted keepsakes, storytelling, and music of more than 40 ethnic groups at the biggest three-day cultural celebration in Texas. For more information, go to

http://www.texancultures.com/festivals_events/texas_folklife_2012/.



El Camino Real de los Tejas Educational Workshops



The Stephen F. Austin State University's Stone Fort Museum is taking history on the road with two workshops that explore the natural and cultural history of El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail. These one and one-half day intensive learning workshops will give you the knowledge and know-how to interpret and teach the trail. Teachers, museum educators, interpretive planners, natural resource managers, volunteers, and members of the public interested in better understanding trail history are welcome. Faculty, staff, and researchers from across the region will provide instruction on the history of the trail's development, the historic landscape, and research methods currently in use to document trail resources. Participants will take a field trip and tour a remnant of the trail and historic sites associated

with the trail. A resource manual and take-home materials including speakers' notes, two DVD presentations on the history of the trail, prepared lesson plans, images, and an oversize presentation map of the trail are included. The workshops will be offered in Natchitoches, Louisiana, on Thursday, June 7, and Friday, June 8, and in Victoria, Texas, on Thursday, June 14, and Friday, June 15. Participants are eligible to earn 12 hours of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits.

The Stone Fort Museum is a Department in the College of Liberal & Applied Arts at Stephen F. Austin State University, an approved provider of CPE credits. Registration is \$60 per person and includes all sessions, a field trip, a resource manual, and four meals. To reserve a place at one or both workshops, visit the Museum's website at <http://www.sfasu.edu/stonefort>, call 936.468.2408, or email stonefort@sfasu.edu for additional information. El Camino Real de los Tejas Education Workshops are made possible by Challenge Cost Share funds through the National Trails Intermountain Region Office of the National Park Service. Additional support comes from Cane River National Heritage Area in Louisiana and Victoria Preservation, Inc. in Texas. Follow these links for the Camino Real Education Workshop poster <http://skiles.net/poster.pdf> and the registration form <http://skiles.net/registration.pdf>.

Can You Dig It?

*Uncovering South Texas with
City Archaeologist
Kay Hindes*



Archaeological Exploration! Brackenridge Park Conservancy

The Brackenridge Park Conservancy (BPC) was founded in 2009 with a mission to preserve and enhance Brackenridge Park's resources for the use and enjoyment of current and future generations. The BPC hopes that educational institutions at all levels will use the park as an outdoor classroom in a variety of disciplines including the natural and social sciences. The goals of the Archaeological Exploration! program are to provide enrichment to area students, promote the science and practice of archaeology, and to create new stewards for both Brackenridge Park and our community's heritage.

Activities began on February 15 with a group of about 40 fifth grade students from Hawthorne and KIPP Academies who met in the Hawthorne library to receive an introduction to archaeology from staff at UTSA's Center for Archaeological Research (UTSA, CAR). The following week students made a field trip to the UTSA CAR lab to view artifacts and learn about the science behind archaeological research. Students also created a mock dig at the KIPP campus by gridding several square meters of ground and burying selected items to represent a culture that they created. These were later uncovered in order to observe both the process of excavation and the changes in condition of the buried items. Students learned how archaeologists reconstruct past cultures by switching dig sites. KIPP students uncovered the Hawthorne objects and vice versa.



Students also visited the Witte Museum for the "Ancient Texans" program. On April 13, the students met City Archaeologist, Kay Hindes, and Leilah Powell, BPC Executive Director, in Brackenridge Park/Allison Park to hear about archaeological discoveries in the park, see the route of the Upper Labor acequia and its desague to the river, and learn about the past and the role of the San Antonio River in local history. On June 1, students visited the San Antonio Botanical Garden to see a demonstration of stone tool making from Sam Viera of the Medina River Natural Area. Finally, each group analyzed their finds and made a report to the other students as well as parents about the culture they discovered through their excavations. The Archaeological Exploration! program is generously underwritten by a grant from the Circle Bar Foundation and supported by the City of San Antonio's Office of Historic Preservation.

For more information on upcoming archaeological events and activities, contact City Archaeologist, Kay Hindes, at 210.207.7306 or kay.hindes@sanantonio.gov.

UTSA to Host Summer Camp with Underwater Archaeology Theme

The University of Texas at San Antonio Center for Archaeological Research is accepting applications for enrollment in three week-long Summer Archaeology Camps for children ages 7-12. With this year's theme, "Exploring Underwater Archaeology," the camps will run August 6-10 at the UTSA Main Campus. Campers will learn how archaeologists solve the mysteries of the past through exploration of underwater sites including sunken Egyptian cities, the Titanic, Mayan underwater cenotes, and the San Marcos River, while preserving the natural environment and the artifacts. Scheduled crafts and activities include making hieroglyph alphabets, creating an ocean in a bottle, making costumes, boat building, and underwater excavations in only a foot of water (no swimming required). And yes, there will be pirates! UTSA archaeologists will direct the camps with the assistance of summer interns. Parents are invited to join in the family fun by attending the last hour of each camp. The UTSA Center for Archaeological Research Legacy: Hands on the Past outreach program is in its 17th year of serving the community in educational support. For more information, please go to <http://www.utsa.edu/today/2012/05/archaeologycamps.html>.

Texas Archeological Society Is Named a "Preserve America Steward" by First Lady Michelle Obama

In May 2012, the Texas Archeological Society (TAS) was named as a Preserve America Steward. The award letter, from First Lady Michelle Obama stated, "Thank you for all you do to care for our Nation's important historical resources. The places you care for hold a treasured place in the American story, and it is through your vision and dedication that our history will be upheld and our future will be renewed....Thank you again for all that you do, for your continuing commitment to our Nation's heritage, and for your enthusiastic participation in the Preserve America Program."

Twenty-one Preserve America Stewards from across the nation have been officially designated and recognized for their exemplary volunteer efforts to care for historic resources since the program was introduced in 2008. Other groups from Texas include the German Texan Heritage Society, the Texas Historical Commission (THC) RIP Program, and the THC Texas Archeological Stewards Network.



The Texas Archeological Society (originally organized as the Texas Archaeological and Paleontological Society in 1928) is dedicated to the study and preservation of historic and prehistoric aspects of Texas' past. It promotes the study, preservation, and awareness of Texas archeology, encouraging scientific archeological exploration and research, the preservation and conservation of archeological sites and materials, and the interpretation and publication of data. The Society creates training opportunities for students of all ages, enhances and expands programs, increases and diversifies membership, informs the community of their archeological heritage and values, and cultivates and preserves resources. TAS is devoted to research, public education, and the preservation of our state's history.

The TAS offices are located at the Center for Archaeological Research, UTSA. Kay Hinds, City Archaeologist for San Antonio, is a Region 12 Director for the TAS. Region 12 is made up of 16 counties, including Bexar. If you are interested in joining the TAS, please visit their website at www.txarch.org. Regional societies include the Southern Texas Archaeological Association (STAA) in San Antonio, Hill Country Archaeological Association (HCAA) headquartered in Kerrville, Texas, and the Archeological Institute of America, Southwest Texas Archeological Society in San Antonio.

(information taken from the Texas Archeological Society and Preserve America Steward websites)

Events and Exhibits at Villa Finale

Located at 401 King William Street in the beautiful King William Historic District, Villa Finale is the first National Trust for Historic Preservation site in Texas. Villa Finale was the home of Walter Mathis for nearly 40 years. Mr. Mathis was a leading preservationist in San Antonio and within the King William neighborhood. The home and its spectacular collection of over 12,000 objects were given to the National Trust in 2004. For more information on the following tours, programs, and exhibits, stop by the Visitor Center at 122 Madison, call (210) 223-9800, or visit www.villafinale.org.



Music for Your Eyes Tour

June 6, 6:30-7:30pm

Enjoy an evening tour of Villa Finale featuring historic information and demonstrations of Mr. Mathis's music machines. \$20 general admission, \$10 for Villa Finale and National Trust for Historic Preservation Members.

Collections Care Workshop: Photographs

June 21, 3:30-4:30pm

Meg Nowack, Manager of Curatorial Resources at Villa Finale, will conduct a workshop concentrating upon the handling, care, and storing of personal photographs. The workshop will take place at Villa Finale's Carriage House at 401 King William Street. Some materials are included. Prepaid admission required. \$20 general admission, \$10 for Villa Finale and National Trust for Historic Preservation Members.

Teeth & Claws of Villa Finale: Exhibition and House Tour

June 30, 10:30am-12:00pm

Join Curator Meg Nowack on this special close-up tour of the animal imagery artwork inside Villa Finale. The program ends with a curator's in-depth look at the new *Tooth & Claw* exhibition opening June 15 at the Villa Finale Visitor Center. \$15 general admission, \$5 for Villa Finale and National Trust for Historic Preservation Members.



Statewide Preservation News and Events

2012 List of Texas' Most Endangered Historic Places from Preservation Texas

Lewis Railroad Hotel, San Augustine



Preservation Texas recently issued the *Texas' Most Endangered Places* for 2012. In light of last month's Preservation Month theme, "Discovering America's Hidden Gems," and the "This Place Matters" campaign sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, it is an important time for Texans to remember what it is that makes this great state so special. These places represent a unique diversity that reflects the cultural heritage, geography, history, and architecture of Texas. Each place has a compelling reason for endangerment ranging from the threat of destruction and adverse development to neglect. Nine places were

selected because they represent the most eminent needs and highest probability for positive action. The 2012 list highlights remaining examples of some historic resources once commonly found around Texas and sites representing rare construction types. Areas on the list with individual sites include Lakehills (Bandera County), Panhandle (Carson County), Seguin (Guadalupe County), San Marcos (Hays County), Kaufman (Kaufman County), Jefferson (Marion County), Corpus Christi (Nueces County), San Augustine (San Augustine County), and Pflugerville (Travis County). Click [here](#) to view the complete list and descriptions of each location.

What resources or places do you know that may be endangered in San Antonio? If you are aware of a historic building or a significant structure that is threatened, please contact Elizabeth Porterfield (elizabeth.porterfield@sanantonio.gov) or Nicholas Fuqua (nicholas.fuqua@sanantonio.gov) or call 210.215.9274 for information on how these important places can be saved. You can also visit our website at www.sanantonio.gov/historic for information on historic property research and ways that you can get involved in preservation in your community.

Preservation Day Trips: Local Color and Culture

If you're looking to get out of San Antonio for an evening, an afternoon, or a weekend, the surrounding area offers many cultural and preservation related activities and events. Get a taste of Texas without going too far across this big state. Follow the links provided to find out more about these exciting destinations!



After Hours Mixer at the Landmark Inn State Historic Site

Wednesday, June 6, 5pm

Castroville, TX

Enjoy an evening visiting with friends and co-workers at this free event. Refreshments to be served. Go to www.castroville.com for more information.

Gospel Brunch at Gruene Hall

Sunday, June 10, 10:30am-12:00pm

New Braunfels, TX

In the tradition of a New Orleans style gospel brunch, the historic Gruene Hall is serving up awe-inspiring gospel music coupled with a mouth watering buffet catered by the Gristmill River Restaurant & Bar. Brunch hours are 10:30am-12:00pm. For information or to purchase tickets, visit their web site at www.gruenehall.com, call 830.629.5077 or toll free from San Antonio 830.606.1601, or stop by Gruene Hall in person. Advanced tickets are recommended.

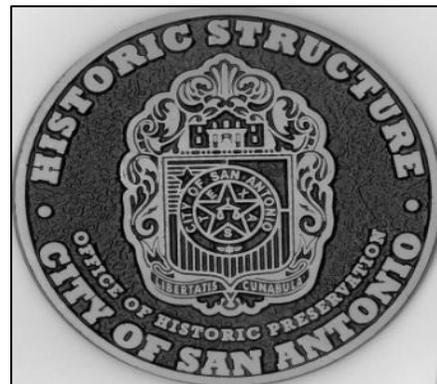
Reporting Potential Violations to the Historic Building Enforcement Officer

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, Historic Building Enforcement Officer, at ron.meyers@sanantonio.gov or OHP@sanantonio.gov during regular business hours (7:45am - 4:30pm) to report your concerns. After-hours complaints should be registered by phone through 311 or by email at OHP@sanantonio.gov.
- 3) You can report potential problems anonymously or provide contact information for follow-up.

Historic Structure Plaques

Historic Structure Plaques are available for purchase for individual local landmarks and contributing properties within local historic districts. The plaques visually identify properties and districts that have been officially recognized by the City of San Antonio for their architectural or historical significance. The plaques, available for purchase for \$95, are of cast aluminum with raised silver letters on a dark grey background. The plaques are approximately 7½ inches in diameter and ¼ inch thick. Fill out an application available on our [website](#) or stop by our office to purchase yours today.



HPTV: Historic Preservation Television

HPTV is back with all new episodes!
See the show on TVSA Channel 21:

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

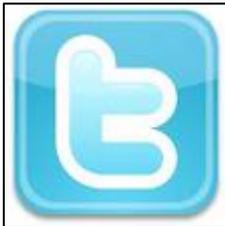


View current and past episodes of HPTV online at the OHP Website **here** (sorry, PC only). Recent episodes include a look at African-American history in San Antonio, information on our local historic districts, and much more! If you have a suggestion for a topic you would like to see covered on HPTV, contact Nicholas Fuqua at 210.207.0066 or nicholas.fuqua@sanantonio.gov.

Office of Historic Preservation Online!



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."



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

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 directly from the Preservation Action website www.preservationaction.org.

Transportation Sign-On Letter Reaches Over 100 Signatures; Conferees Hit Snags

Thanks to a quick response from preservation organizations from around the county, more than 100 organizations signed the [letter](#) launched by Preservation Action, the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO) to members of the Conference Committee tasked with working out a compromise on a new national surface transportation law.

The current transportation law expires on June 30, 2012, leaving just a few weeks for the conference committee to reach an agreement. Already, we are hearing reports of major friction between committee members on both the streamlining provisions and how much to limit spending levels.

Rep. Paul Broun (R-GA), who is not a member of the conference committee, is planning on filing a motion to call for a vote in the House that would force the conferees to limit 2013 spending to \$37.5 billion, the amount currently available in the highway trust fund. In contrast, the Senate passed bill (MAP-21) would cost \$109 billion over two years. While the vote would not necessarily be binding for the committee, fiscally conservative freshmen conferees could harden their positions - making compromise less likely.

More Details Emerge on House Passed Sportsman's Heritage Act

A few weeks ago, [we reported](#) on an amendment that was passed with the Sportsman's Act requiring states to approve national monument designation - drastically limiting the powers of the President under the Antiquities Act of 1906. Since then, the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) commissioned further legal analysis of the bill and has raised areas of additional concern.

While the bill focuses mostly on public lands, the analysis has revealed that the legislation could potentially open up the majority of National Parks, including battlefields and historic sites, to hunting, fishing and recreational shooting. The legislation "would require case by case determination to limit these

activities in any unit." In other words, those places would be open to those activities unless each unit individually justifies an exception.

Proponents of the bill argue that the analysis is overblown. Rep. Jeff Miller (R-FL) claims that the bill "gives ample authority to outlaw incompatible activities." Legal council for the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance also defended the bill calling the idea that hunting will become legal in National Park Service units a "red herring," and that nothing in the bill specifically requires their being opened up for hunting and shooting. The NPCA analysis, however, notes that the bill's language is vague enough that it does not distinguish between different types of park units that do not permit hunting such as national historic parks, national military parks, national memorials, etc. Some would like to include Civil War Battlefields so that re-enactors could use and demonstrate historic weaponry - a practice currently limited only to private property.

Similar bills have been stalled in the Senate for months with little action. Many believe it is unlikely the House bill will advance, however advocates have been recently stepping up their efforts. To learn more, see the [NPCA Alert](#).

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, S. 2074: Creating American Prosperity Through Preservation Act](#)

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

Sponsored by: Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD), Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-ME)

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.

[S. 1685: Rehabilitation of Historic Schools Act of 2011](#)

Sponsored by: Sen. Jim Webb (D-VA), Sen. Mark Warner (R-VA)

Summary: Would amend the existing commercial rehabilitation tax credit to allow rehabilitation expenditures for a qualified public educational facility (defined as a school facility which is part of a public elementary or secondary school and is owned by a private, for-profit corporation pursuant to a public-private partnership agreement) to qualify for the rehabilitation tax credit.

Status: Referred to Senate Committee on Finance

[H.R. 1505: National Security and Federal Lands Protection Act](#)

Sponsored by: Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT)

Summary: Would waive activities related to border security enforcement from several review laws, including NEPA, NHPA, the Antiquities Act and the National Park Service Organic Act. The waiver would cover "certain sections of the international border between the United States and Mexico and between the United States and Canada [and] shall be considered to apply to all sections of the international land and maritime borders of the United States within 100 miles of the international land and maritime borders of the United States."

Status: Passed/Discharged by Committees, reported to House Floor April, 2012.

H.R. 1734 & S. 1503: Civilian Property Realignment Act**Sponsored by: Rep. Jeff Denham (R-CA)****Sponsored by: Sen. Scott Brown (R-MA)**

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: PASSED HOUSE Feb., 2012. Referred to Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works.

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, exempting them from highway and transportation laws.

Status: Referred to Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. Similar provisions have been worked into House and Senate Transportation Reauthorization proposals.

H.R. 4099, the National Heritage Area Act of 2012**Sponsored by: Rep. Charlie Dent (R-PA) and Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY)**

Summary: Establishes program legislation and metrics for National Heritage Areas.

Status: Referred to House Committee on 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](#).