

June 2013

A Message from the Historic Preservation Officer

Shanon Shea Miller, AICP



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 make this year's Preservation Month a major success! I especially wish to thank City Manager Sheryl Sculley, District 3 Councilwoman Leticia Ozuna, Congressman Lloyd Doggett, and George Pappagiannis, External Affairs liaison for UNESCO, for helping us kick off Preservation Month at the **State of Preservation** press event and reception at beautiful Mission Concepcion on April 30. They each support 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 14. This tour focused on the history of La Villita and Hemisfair. If you are interested in joining us on a future tour, please keep reading for a complete schedule of upcoming tours. This was the third year the Office of Historic Preservation participated in the **Paseo por el Westside**, held at the Esperanza Center's Casa de Cuentos. The event showcased the rich history and culture of San Antonio's Westside. The Paseo 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 at 210.207.0066.

One of our most popular events, the **Amazing Preservation Race**, was held on May 10, with 22 teams competing in challenges all over downtown San Antonio. This year our **Amazing Preservation Race for Kids** was once again held in the King William Historic District on May 18. The race drew families from all over San Antonio to participate in exciting challenges on the scavenger hunt, with 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, Glazer's Distributors, and sponsors Guy Chipman Construction, the Milam Building, Lynn Knapik Real Estate, and Alamo Architects. Be sure to take a look at the Preservation Month photo album at the end of this newsletter!

Preservation Month may be over, but our office will continue to offer fun and educational events, activities, and programs throughout the summer. Preservation Day SA: Join Us Out Here was postponed due to weather until June 29. There is still time to sign up to volunteer.

June 2013

Get your tickets now for the best party of the summer on July 12! The Power of Preservation Foundation is celebrating the reopening of the historic **Cool Crest Miniature Golf** course on Fredericksburg Road with a mini golf tournament in vintage golf attire. What could be more fun?

Planning is now underway for our 5th annual **Historic Homeowner Fair** to be held in August at historic Jefferson High School in the Monticello Park Historic District. This is a great opportunity for historic homeowners with educational sessions, 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 excited about planning for the second annual **Power of Preservation PROMenade** on October 24. This year's PROM will be held at the Inter-Continental Motors Building on Broadway. This beautiful building, designed by O'Neil Ford, will provide the perfect back-drop for our Mid-Century Modern theme! Make plans now to attend and find your date for PROM!

Thanks!

Sharon

JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE EVENING
CELEBRATING COOL CREST AND BE
AMONG THE FIRST TO PLAY THE
NEWLY-RESTORED COURSE

Cool Crest

FRIDAY, JULY 12, 7 pm
1402 FREDERICKSBURG RD

Food, drinks, music, prizes & mini golf tournament
featuring local celebrities!
\$75 per person - please RSVP to 210-207-1496
Vintage golf attire honoring the history of
Cool Crest is encouraged!
www.powerofpreservation.org



Go! Historic SA Guided Running and Walking Tours

Our 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. Different tours are offered throughout the year, so check out our calendar of [upcoming 2013 tours!](#) Registration is \$15 and includes one of our new "Know This Place?" t-shirts. [Register online](#) keyword "Go! Historic SA" or in person the day of the event. For questions regarding the Go! Historic Guided Tours, please contact Nicholas Fuqua at 210.207.0066.

Window Restoration Student Workshop

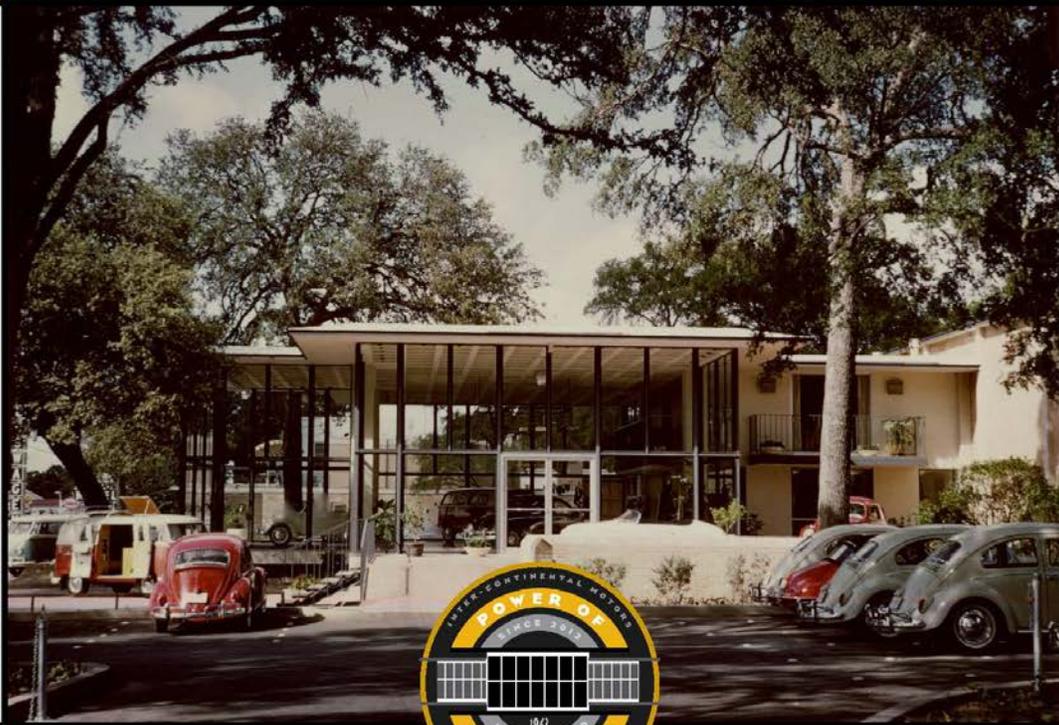
In support of Historic Preservation Month, Leinenkugel's and Power of Preservation Foundation presented *Preservation Day SA: Join Us Out Here*, which offered volunteers the opportunity to participate in projects that truly embodied the spirit of Preservation Month: "See! Save! Celebrate!" In collaboration with the UTSA Historic Preservation Association, ARTchitectural Interior's, and Glazer's Distributors, the Office of Historic Preservation hosted a Window Restoration Student Workshop on May 11 at the Acosta/Halff House in Hemisfair Park. The workshop offered presentations by J.R. Huebinger from Alamo Hardwoods and Elizabeth Porterfield from OHP teaching 10 participating UTSA students the importance of maintaining historic windows, basic window parts, and working with wood. Victor Salas from ARTchitectural Interiors taught the hands-on portion of the course.



Name Our Newsletter!

We are looking for a creative new name to title our newsletter. Do you have a catchy title which embodies the spirit of preservation in San Antonio? If you do, e-mail Nicholas Fuqua at nicholas.fuqua@sanantonio.gov. We want to hear from you! You may just see your title appearing on our newsletter every month!

RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!
for PROM 2013



Individual tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available now! Reserve online at www.powerofpreservation.org/tickets.html or call 207-1496 for more information. Find your date to **PROM** and make plans to join us on October 24, 2013!

Twilight

ON THE

PLAZA

June 21, 2013

TRAVIS PARK
7 - 11 p.m.

TWILIGHT MARKET

SLOAN/HALL MARIANA'S CAKE SHOP JEWELRY ADDICT FREE ROSE AND MORE
CRUZ ORTIZ ART COOL BEANS PICA PICA LEMONADE COMPANY ITALIAN ICE

LIVE MUSIC BY: SPIDERS JAZZ QUINTET

LANTERN TOURS: OF THE PARK AND ADJACENT AREAS

WINE BY: CHILEAN WINE IMPORTS

COCKTAILS BY: CINCO VODKA

DINNER BY: CHEF MICHELLE GREEN & MOUSSHINE OF SWEET THYME

Purchase Dinner Tickets at www.sweetthymechefs.com

A portion of the dinner proceeds will go to support
Mayor's Fitness Council - Food Policy Council

Dinner for 1: \$75.00
Dinner for 2: \$140.00



THE ST. ANTHONY
San Antonio



A CITY OF SAN ANTONIO EVENT

Local News and Events

Acequia Uncovered in Brackenridge Park

Remnants of a Spanish Colonial acequia were recently discovered in Brackenridge Park. The remains were uncovered as workers continued construction on the Museum Reach project along the San Antonio River. City Archaeologist Kay Hindes provided guidance for the project for the OHP. This was one of the most significant finds from the Spanish Colonial period in the past decade. For more information on this important discovery, click on the links below for articles from the *San Antonio Express News*.

[Long-buried parts of acequia unearthed](#)

[Mission-era features to be seen by public](#)



UTSA Center for Archaeological Research Summer Camps

The theme for this year's kid camp is "Bioarchaeology: Tales from Beyond the Grave." These educational camps will cover topics relating to bioarchaeology, which is the analysis of human skeletal remains from archaeological sites. For more information on these camps, including times and costs, see the flyer at the end of this newsletter.

Featured Article

La Villita: San Antonio's "Little Village"

by Elizabeth Porterfield

City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation

For a step back in time, enjoy a stroll through one of San Antonio's oldest neighborhoods, La Villita. This quiet "little village" is located south of Market Street and the San Antonio River between South Alamo and South Presa Streets. The narrow pedestrian streets and quaint buildings of La Villita reflect the many cultures that have influenced the development of San Antonio.

The area of La Villita, first settled in the 18th century, was part of the land belonging to Mission San Antonio de Valero, now known as the Alamo. Spanish soldiers stationed at the presidio in today's Military Plaza as well as early colonists established primitive homes within the area. After the Alamo Mission was secularized in 1793, the lands surrounding the mission were divided among residents and the native Indians. For a short time, La Villita was known as the Pueblo de Valero and was a separate municipality with its own *alcalde* or mayor. Development within La Villita continued into the early 19th century as the area proved desirable for its higher elevation during frequent flooding of the San Antonio River.

La Villita played a significant role in the Texas Revolution of 1836. The **Cos House**, one of the oldest structures remaining in La Villita, was reportedly the site of the surrender of Mexican General Martin Perfecto de Cos in the Battle of Bexar in 1835. Cos arrived in San Antonio in October 1835 to suppress rebel Texian and Tejano forces seeking independence from Mexico. After taking a defensive stand in Main and Military Plazas, Cos and his troops retreated to the Alamo and eventually surrendered in December 1835. Cos's surrender was reportedly signed at the small building in La Villita that bears his name.



Just a few months later in March of 1836, Mexican General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna arrived in San Antonio and defeated the Texian and Tejano forces at the Battle of the Alamo. A Mexican artillery battery during the battle was located at the eastern edge of La Villita near present day South Alamo and Nueva Streets where the Fairmount Hotel now stands.

Following independence from Mexico and later Texas statehood, La Villita became home to large numbers of German immigrants arriving in Texas in the 1840s and 50s. The eastern edge of La Villita along South Alamo Street was affectionately called "Little Rhein" in the mid-19th century for its predominantly German population. The **German English School**, whose buildings are still located along S. Alamo Street, was established in 1859 for the education of local German children. French, Swiss, and other European immigrants began settling in the area in the later 19th century. Most of the remaining buildings within La Villita date to this period of growth.

By the early 20th century, however, the area of La Villita had severely deteriorated. San Antonio Mayor Maury Maverick, along with the San Antonio Conservation Society, spearheaded the restoration of La Villita in 1939 to save this significant part of San Antonio's early history. Many of the historic buildings were restored by the National Youth Administration under the leadership of San Antonio architect O'Neil Ford. New structures and plazas within La Villita were also established during this time.



Today, La Villita is an arts and crafts “village” with small artisan shops, galleries, and restaurants. The area also hosts numerous public and private events throughout the year. The most notable of these is the annual *A Night in Old San Antonio* (NIOA) hosted by the San Antonio Conservation Society. This four-night fundraising event in April attracts 85,000 visitors to La Villita with food, music, performances, and *cascarones*.

A stroll through the peaceful “old world” charm of La Villita is well worth a visit. One stop

you'll want to see is the **Little Church of La Villita**. Constructed in 1879 and originally a German Methodist church, it is now a non-denominational church that is a popular location for weddings. Next door to the Little Church of La Villita is the original site of what became **St. Philip's College**. The “St. Philip's Saturday evening sewing class for black girls” originated in a small adobe house at this location in 1898. It soon became St. Philip's Industrial School, and a series of two-story brick buildings that still stand in La Villita were constructed. The school relocated east of downtown in 1917 and is today part of Alamo Colleges.

Historic commercial structures along the eastern edge of La Villita include the ca. 1854 **McAllister House and Store** and the **Otto Bombach House and Store** built in 1856. Both buildings now house restaurants including the Little Rhein Steakhouse, so named for the early German influence in La Villita. Just behind the Bombach House and Store is the **Gray-Guilbeau House**, now the elegant Fig Tree restaurant.

The numerous historic houses throughout La Villita reflect the early European influences that shaped San Antonio. Many of the houses are simple cottages of caliche block (soft limestone) construction with wide front porches and double front entrances. Particularly noteworthy is the **Dashiell House**, an unusual 1856 “raised basement” house not commonly found in San Antonio. Later 19th century houses with more elaborate Victorian detailing include the **Dosch-Rische House** and the **W. Shafer House** along S. Presa and E. Nueva Streets.



Interpretive markers throughout La Villita highlight the history and importance of this early San Antonio community. A walking tour with historic photographs is available at the Shops at La Villita Historic Arts Village website (<http://lavillita.com/history>). Visit La Villita and enjoy the serenity and beauty of historic San Antonio.

Preservation Partners



Little did Lynn Knapik know in 1972 when her then-husband was offered a job at the Pearl Brewery that the same Pearl Brewery would eventually be her home. And that living there would lead her to such a love of downtown and the historic buildings, homes and people of the area.

Actually a walk through the King William Fair started that love affair years ago but it came to fruition in October 2010 when she moved into the Culinary Institute of America Building into a 4th floor apartment with a view of all the happenings at Pearl. She says it's like living in the middle of a parade almost every day.

For about four years Lynn was a partner in a small remodeling business and worked for two years on a house moved from Alamo Heights to Bandera, Texas in 2002. She and her business partner saved almost every part of that house except the asphalt siding that had been put over the wooden exterior and the old roof. Lynn took 60 years of paint off every window and door and restored them to their original condition. She came to appreciate the materials used back in the 40s and the workmanship. The most exciting part of the remodel came at the time of the appraisal when the house was appraised as NEW due to their total restoration and additions to the house.

Lynn has become involved in many of the events of the Office of Historic Preservation. She loves attending the walking tours, PROM, the Historic Homeowners Fair, and other events involving historic properties plus just about anything having to do with the redevelopment of downtown. She's worked on Siclovia, Better Block, Twilight at the Alamo, HemisFair planning, Midtown/Brackenridge planning, and SA2020 among other San Antonio and downtown events. She's a member of both the Downtown Residents Association and Downtown Alliance and enjoys attending events sponsored by both groups as well as ULI events.

As a realtor she's had the opportunity to work with buyers and sellers of historic properties and looks forward to helping many more people discover the joys of living, working, and playing in one of the many historic areas of San Antonio.

State and National News Links

[Preservation Texas: Most Endangered Places 2013](#)

[National Trust for Historic Preservation: America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places](#)

[2300 Year-old Mayan Pyramid Bulldozed](#)

[18th-Century French Chateau Demolished by Accident](#)

P R E S E R V A T I O N

Action

Federal Historic Preservation Issues

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, 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 America's 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 Miller at shanon.miller@sanantonio.gov. [Click here](#) for the latest legislative update from Preservation Action.



“Know this Place?” Contest!

If you can correctly identify which building this is in San Antonio, e-mail Nicholas Fuqua at nicholas.fuqua@sanantonio.gov. The randomly chosen winner will be notified by Friday, June 14, and will win a complementary pass for two to one of our popular **Go! Historic Guided Tours**. Please put “Know This Place?” in the subject line of the e-mail. Good luck!

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's Historic Building Enforcement Officer 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 (7:45 am to 4:30 pm) 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. These plaques visually identify properties and districts that have been officially recognized by the City of San Antonio for their architectural or historical significance. They are available for purchase for \$95 and 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:

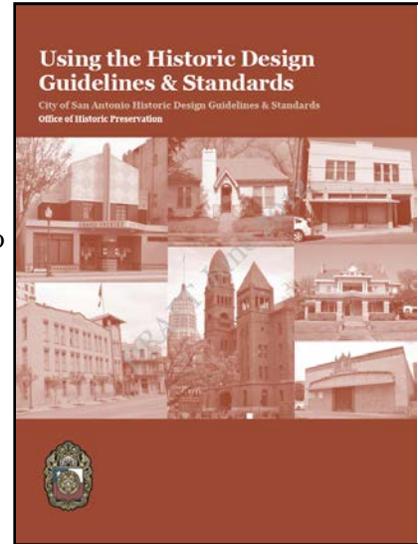
Tuesdays @ 9:00am
Wednesdays @ 1:00pm
Fridays @ 7:00pm

View current and past episodes of HPTV online at the OHP Website [here](#) (sorry, PC only). Recent episodes include a look at the relocation of historic structures, including an 18th century Virginia log cabin relocated to San Antonio in the 1950s! 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.



Historic Design Guidelines Available

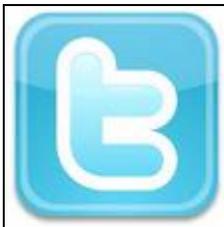
We currently have hardcopies of our Historic Design Guidelines available for purchase for \$20 each. This is a useful tool for historic property owners, contractors, and design professionals. Pick up your copy from OHP staff at 1901 S. Alamo today! The guidelines are also available to view and download for free on our [website](#).



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. Go to Facebook and search for “City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation” and “Power of Preservation San Antonio.”



Follow us on Twitter
[@SA_Preservation](#)



Subscribe to our
YouTube channel
[Sapreservation](#)





Infill Development Workshop

Join us for this informational & comprehensive workshop that will focus on infill development in the center city and the role that various key City of San Antonio departments and partners play in the process. Hosted by the City's Center City Development Office and sponsored by the Urban Land Institute– San Antonio and Centro San Antonio, this will be a “must-attend” half-day workshop for developers, design professionals and real estate attorneys interested in developing and facilitating development in the center city.

June 7, 2013 ~ 8:00am-11:30am

**The Witte Museum - Prassel Auditorium
3801 Broadway**

.....
\$25 - Cost includes breakfast and workshop materials
.....

Register by June 4th at sanantonio.uli.org/events

For more information please contact Colleen Swain in the Center City Development Office at (210) 207-4089.



2013 Summer Camps at UTSA's Center for Archaeological Research

Theme: Bioarchaeology- Tales from Beyond
the Grave

Ages: 9 - 13 years

Cost: \$220

\$200 for UTSA employees

Dates: Camp 1 (June 17-21) Camp 2 (July 15-19)
Camp 3 (August 5-9) Camp 4 (August 12-16)

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Campers can be dropped off as early as 7:30am and picked up no later than 5:30pm
at no extra charge**

Description: Bioarchaeology is the analysis of human skeletal remains from archaeological sites. Each day of camp will cover a new topic relating to our overall theme of bioarchaeology and include several hands-on activities and crafts. Campers will enjoy learning about new and exciting research in bioarchaeology while being introduced to cultural traditions from all over the world!

For more information or registration forms visit our website at <http://car.utsa.edu/> or email program coordinator, Whitney Lytle at Whitney.Lytle@utsa.edu.

Preservation Month 2013

Sponsors

Glazer's *Distributors*
Marketers of Fine Wines, Spirits and Malts



GUY CHIPMAN CONSTRUCTION

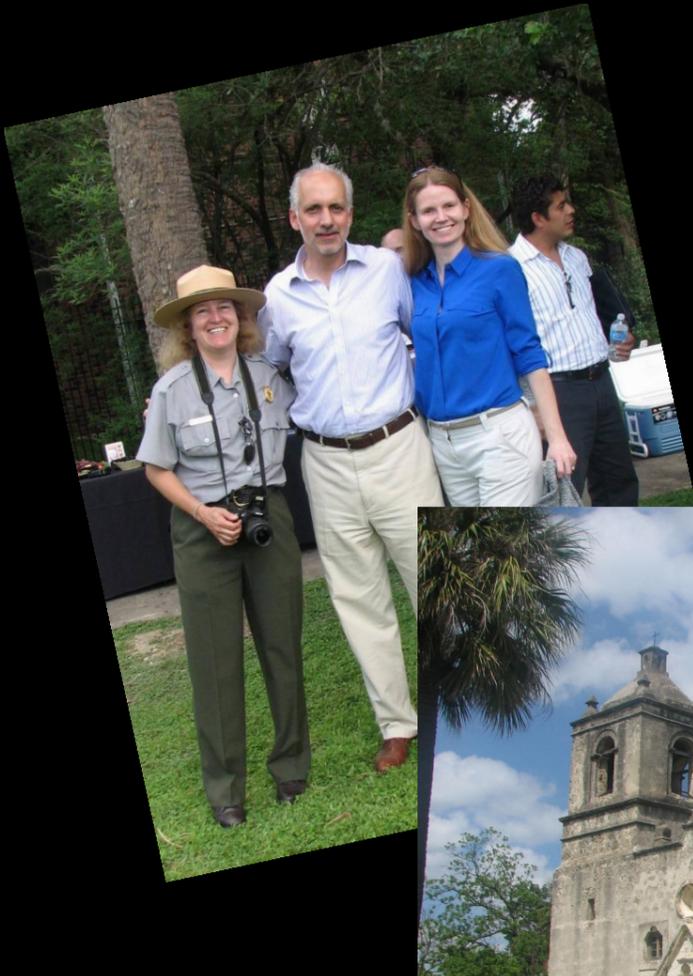
Alamo
architects

Partners



Preservation Month 2013

State of Preservation Announcement April 30



Paseo por el Westside May 4



The Amazing Preservation Race

May 10



Guided Tour of Hemisfair and La Villita May 14



Amazing Preservation Race For Kids May 18

