

At Home In Monticello  
Tour of Homes



Monticello Park Neighborhood Association

Monticello Park Historical Association

## Schedule of Events

- 9:00 am Exhibit set up  
Opening ceremonies at  
Jefferson High school
- 10:00 am Art, Antique and Craft Fair  
Tour of Homes
- 11:00 am Lunch and refreshments  
available  
Entertainment begins
- 4:00 pm Fair and Home Tour end
- 4:30 pm Showing of Jane Withers  
movie at Jefferson High school

Special Thanks to the artists:

Margarita Vazquez Duszk-drawing of Thomas  
Jefferson High School

Tim Patty, Graphic Artist- drawings of the homes

## History of Monticello Park

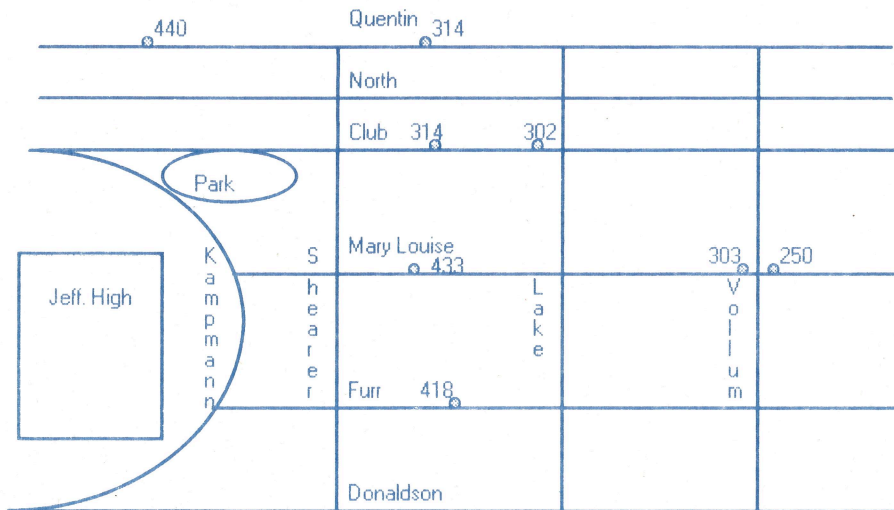
Monticello Park began as a dairy farm owned by Mr. George Calvert. During the early part of this century, Mr. Calvert sold his farm to real estate developers. The area was divided into two subdivisions one named Monticello Park which was bordered by Donaldson Ave., Babcock Rd., Shearer Blvd and Wilson Dr. and the other named North Woodlawn Terrace. Eventually, the whole area would adopt the name Monticello Park. One of the primary developers of the original Monticello Park subdivision was Mr. Leo S. Karren. He and his partners sold a portion of the land to the San Antonio Independent School District. This sale of land was the beginning of the neighborhood's masterpiece the famous Thomas Jefferson High School.

Jefferson H.S. was designed in 1929, the year of the stock market crash. Max Frederick of the architecture firm Adams and Adams designed the school. Mrs. Charlotte Nayfach Garson, widow of the architect N. Straus Nayfach, and former resident said that Jefferson H.S. was inspired by Spain's Alambra. The cost of building Jefferson was 1.25 million dollars. Architectural details were lavished throughout the school. Texas Governor Ross S. Sterling dedicated Jefferson H.S. in 1932. Today, Jefferson H.S. is designated a Texas Landmark and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The gifted architect N. Straus Nayfach custom designed over forty structures in the area. Mr. Nayfach's widow Ms. Charlotte Nayfach Garson said that her husband designed homes for all income levels. Mr. Nayfach tailored his work so that a majority of people could afford architecturally designed structures.

Monticello Park is composed of an eclectic mixture of styles. The neighborhood's architectural styles include New Orleans Colonial, California Spanish Rock, Tudor, New England Colonial, Spanish Mediterranean, Neoclassic, Mission, French Eclectic, and Art Moderne.

# Map of Home Tour Area



## *The Odendahl Home at 418 Furr Drive*

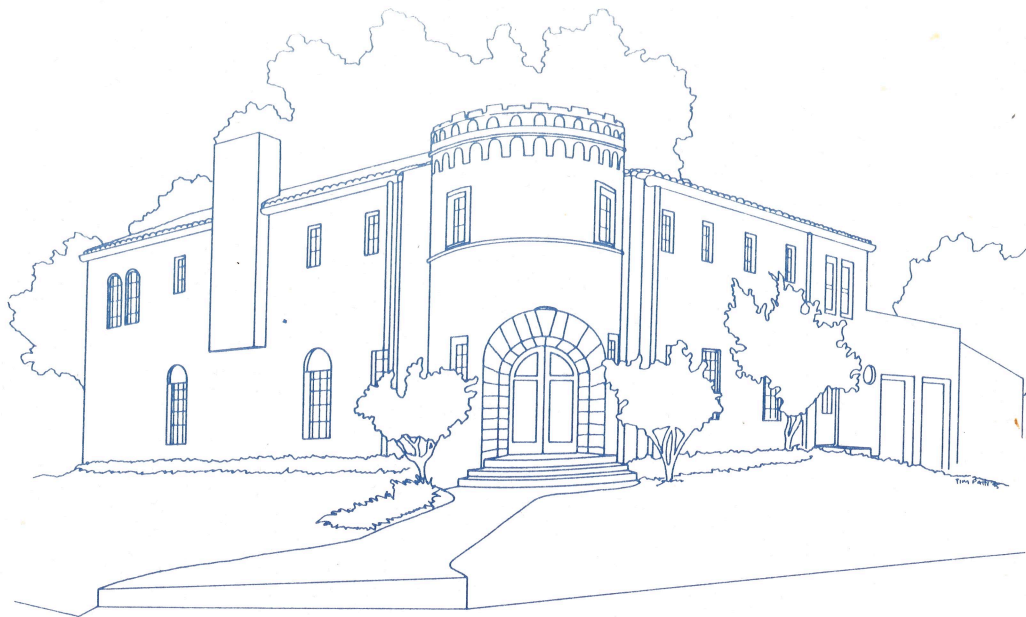
The Odendahl home, built in 1930, is a fine example of a Spanish Bungalow with its stucco walls, brushed tile and flat roof, wrought iron covered windows and chimney with decorative alcove.

This 1300sf home is decorated in a cozy, rustic, eclectic style with primitive American and English antiques and collectibles throughout. It contains oak hardwood floors, plaster walls, high ceilings, french doors and cast iron ceiling fans.

Off of the Living Room is a charming Florida room with arched windows and an ornate San Antonio Mission Tile floor. Another beautifully patterned Mission floor can be found in the recently remodeled Bathroom.

The Kitchen contains original cabinets with complimentary cabinets and counter tops added for space. Don't miss the Texas star over the sink and wood grill above the passage into the Breakfast Nook which are also original to this house.





### *The Wilson Home at 250 Mary Louise Drive*

The Wilson home is an L-shaped, 4600sf Gothic Revival two-story. It has a castellated roof over the corner entrance. Built in 1929, the white stucco home has 9 rooms including 4 Bedrooms and 3 1/2 Baths; Entry Hall, with winding wrought iron railing staircase to the second floor; Living Room and Study. There's a large Kitchen with Breakfast Area, decorated in '50s nostalgia, complete with a red, sparkle vinyl booth; and an old neon diner clock. A 2-story addition which includes the first floor Family Room was added in the 1950's. This house even has an elevator...

There's a lovely terrace with swimming pool in the back yard, always under the watchful eyes of a Toltec Temple God statue. There's also a practice basketball court.

This home is like no other... A passion for Juke Boxes is apparent from the moment the visitor enters through the large, oak, double doors. Old Wurlitzers, AMIs and Seeburgs are to be found in almost every room in the house. Most of them are ornately lighted. Some have spinning or bubbling pilasters; some are loaded with '50s chrome. There are 78rpm, 45rpm, full-size and table-top models; elaborate wall speakers, and some that even hang from the ceiling. And all of it fascinating to the nostalgia-minded person of a 'certain age' who 'remembers when'. Properly called an Automatic Phonograph, credit is given to Thomas Alva Edison for its invention. The term Juke Box was first used by the industry in the '40s, and is said to have come from a Southern term 'Juke' or 'Jook', meaning to dance; hence, the Juke Box provided the music for dancing. The phrase stuck, and is used today; even though modern machines play CDs.



### *The Arnow Home at 303 Mary Louise Drive*

The Arnow home, built in 1926, is one of the oldest homes in Monticello Park. It was built and lived in by H. J. Shearer who, it is said, had a daughter named Mary Louise; and for whom Shearer Drive is named. It has 3800sf and is a rare example of the French Norman style, in that the oak double-door entrance is NOT located in the tower. To get to these doors, which are inset with stained-glass panels, the visitor first passes through a hedge onto a flagstone terrace, and then crosses a charming foot-bridge over a pond containing goldfish.

The house contains 9 rooms. Its walls are plastered in orange-peel stucco, with fresco cove ceiling moldings. The Entry Hall is floored in San Antonio Mission tile, as is the adjacent step-down Sun Room. The Living Room is also step-down and its oak-beamed vaulted ceiling soars some 20 feet, providing the height needed for a large wrought iron chandelier. At the far end is an ornate, crested, walk-in fireplace. A very large Dining Room, the Breakfast Room, Kitchen, and the Master Bedroom and Bath, complete the first floor.

A sweeping circular staircase, with dark wood and wrought iron railings, passes tall stained-glass windows as it ascends to the second floor Bedrooms, Bath, and Roof Deck.

Also of historical interest is the fact that the home was once owned by Lila Cockrell, who later became Mayor of San Antonio.



### *The Hinkson Home at 433 Mary Louise Drive*

The Hinkson home is a stately New Orleans Colonial designed by architect N. Straus Nayfach in 1939. The home features many of Nayfach's trademark architectural details. A wide colonial revival wooden band encircles the home near the roof line. In addition, a pair of octagon windows, a revival pediment and four pilasters grace the front facade. Cornices of pressed metal adorn double hung sash windows of the parlor and dining room. The fire place is complemented by a simple elegant wooden colonial mantle. The iron damper was made by the Donley Bros. Co. of Cleveland, Ohio in 1936. Cooling of the home is accomplished by twin belt driven attic fans. Rain water is carried away from the home through a drainage pipe below the east lawn to the street. The iron grate that covers the drain was made by Alamo Iron Works in 1938. The home's entrance hall displays original lighting fixtures of alabaster colored glass and beads. Two crown moldings are featured throughout the home. The smaller of the two serves as a hanger for paintings. The home also features its original Roper stove.

In addition, Mr. Nayfach designed the magnificent art moderne Alameda Theater in downtown San Antonio.



### *The Rodriguez Home at 302 Club Drive*

The Rodriguez home is a truly unique Spanish Colonial Revival with clay tile roof, barley twist concrete pillars at the entry and side porches and a modified Palladian window in front.

This 2300sf home contains an Entry Hall, Living Room, Formal dining Room, 4 Bedrooms, 1 and 1/2 Baths, Service Porch and Basement. Solidly built in 1930, the Rodriguez home contains beams that dive 25 feet into the ground to support its basement. The owners possess the original blue prints drawn by engineers Matthews and Kenan depicting two elevations of the home.

The interior is furnished in 1920's English antiques with an eclectic mix of woods including mahogany, oak, pine, cedar and walnut. Each of the 3 Bedrooms off the Hall contains a different theme of decor and some very special pieces including a great grandmother's wedding dress, and a family photo album for the 1820s. Two of these rooms have exits to the saltillo tiled side porch.

The heart of this home lies in its Kitchen area complete with pine floors, woodburning stove, and original cabinets. The 1935 Norge stove is also original and still in use. Out the rear of the Kitchen are the Service Porch with hand painted pine floors, 4th Bedroom and 1/2 Bath.

This home has been preserved, with original moldings, tile, bathroom fixtures and light fixtures throughout.



### *The Rivera Home at 314 Club Drive*

The Rivera home is a lovely, 2300sf stone English Country Cottage. This home, featured in the San Antonio Express News Image Magazine on May 7, 1995, has Living Room, formal Dining Room, Kitchen with separate Breakfast Room, 2 Bedrooms, Family Room and 2 full Baths.

The home has been totally renovated within the last two years, and contains such delights as beautifully refinished hardwood floors; coved ceilings; ornate arches; swirl plaster walls; an original Art Deco Dining Room chandelier; and a wet bar, complete with an old pay telephone. There is an array of lovely Objects D'art throughout.

The front door opens into a Living Room furnished with an Antique Victorian settee and matching chairs, all with carved wood arms and bases. There's a fireplace with an interesting niche built in, and crystal wall sconces.

From the Living Room the visitor can enter the formal Dining Room, furnished in mahogany Chippendale, and proceed through a pair of French doors to the cozy Breakfast Room, and on into the Kitchen. The original Kitchen cabinets are handsomely painted, and are complemented by the forest green walls and white woodwork.

Also off the Living Room is the Family Room. It's furnished in antiques, with Eastern accents.

A long hall, entered from either the Family Room or Dining Room, provides access to the large 1930's Art Deco ceramic tile Guest Bath, with crystal chandelier and matching wall sconces; and to the Guest Bedroom. At the end of the hall is the Master Bedroom, whose furnishings include cane-backed, Queen Anne antique chairs; it has its own bath in the same 1930's Art Deco style.



### *The Grant Home at 314 Quentin Drive*

The Grant home is a 2495sf Tudor Cottage, constructed in 1939 of Texas limestone. Entrance to the house is through a porch with ornate iron pillars. Crown moldings, built-ins, high ceilings and wood floors are found throughout. The large Living Room has a 12 foot coved ceiling, a beautiful arched front window, and a fireplace. The Dining Room has French doors which lead into the knotty pine Family Room, added in 1953, and floored in beautiful San Antonio Mission Tile. These rooms are furnished in antiques.

The Kitchen is pure 1950s with its red countertops, white cabinets, and black and white tile floor.

A 23 foot hall leads to the 3 Bedrooms and 2 Baths. The Baths are tiled in the original, lovely Art Deco ceramic tile, and have the original fixtures. These rooms are also furnished in antiques.

The house contains a myriad of antiques and collectibles, including Art Deco wall sconces, overhead light fixtures, and mirrors.

Both the front and back yards are beautifully landscaped.



### *The Hoth Home at 440 Quentin Drive*

The Hoth home is an early example of the Ranch style that was first introduced in California in the mid-1930's. Built in 1939, it was designed by N. Straus Nayfach and is a radical departure from his earlier Traditional and Spanish designs, many of which are two-story homes. The home contains 2250sf, and has Austin cut stone on all four sides. It was built in a Spanish Villa U-shape, with an open Courtyard in the rear that is now a Den. The three wings of the house each had an exit to the Courtyard through French doors. Other rooms consist of Living Room, formal Dining Room, Kitchen with separate Breakfast Room, 2 Bedrooms and 2 full Baths. The main rooms all have 9' ceilings.

The home was totally renovated seven years ago. This included returning the third Bedroom to its original use as the Dining Room; and refinishing the hardwood floors.

Upon entering the front door, the visitor is struck by the proportions of the Living Room, 17' by 24', and its central point for access to the remaining rooms. An arch to the right leads to the Dining Room, Kitchen and Breakfast Room; a doorway to the left leads into a connecting Hall for the Bedrooms and Baths; ahead through French doors is the Den.

The interior decor is mostly Traditional, with several pieces of exceptional note. The Dining Room chandelier is Strass Crystal, and the room is furnished in English Regency oak. The Living Room contains a 1940's burled walnut lighted bar, with pull-down front; and a pair of 1920's split-rattan, channel-backed tub chairs.

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The Board wishes to thank all the neighborhood volunteers who worked so diligently and tirelessly on the many aspects of our Fair and Home Tour.



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