

MONTICELLO PARK  
Neighborhood Association

*Presents*

*The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual  
"At Home in Monticello"  
Tour of Homes*

*Sunday November 9, 2008  
11AM-5PM*

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Tour of Homes Committee*

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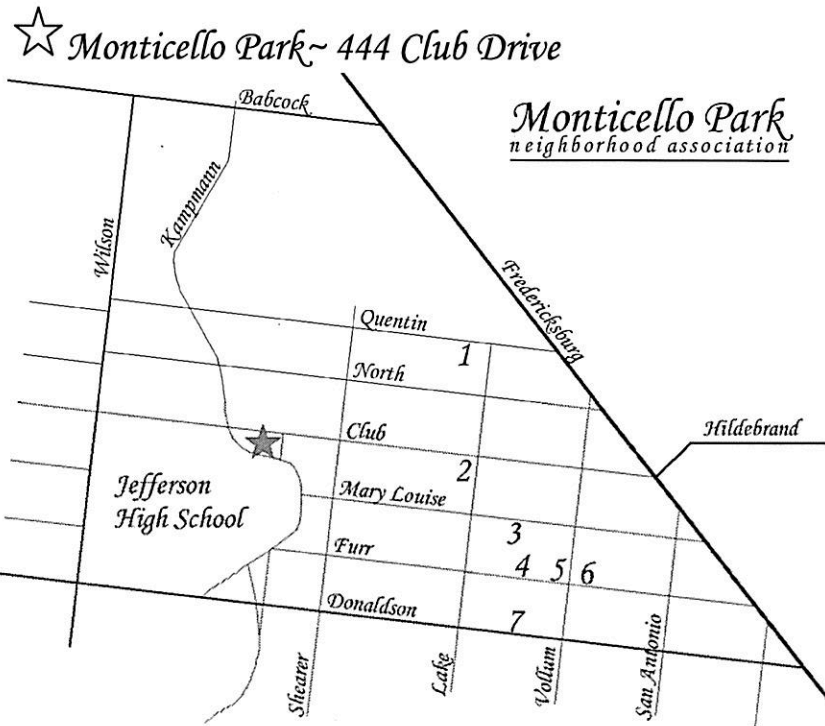
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# Map



- 1) 210 Quentin Drive
- 2) 302 Club Drive
- 3) 340 Mary Louise Drive
- 4) 323 Furr Drive
- 5) 301 Furr Drive
- 6) 251 Furr Drive
- 7) 441 Donaldson Avenue

Monticello Park Neighborhood Association was founded in 1983.

Save the date: The next "At Home in Monticello" Tour of homes will be November 2010. Yes, that is accurate there will be no tour in 2009 and MPNA will have one on even years

## Monticello Park Neighborhood Association

Welcome to our neighborhood and we thank you for sharing your day visiting our homes. We are proud of our homes and the revitalization occurring in the neighborhood and surrounding commercial businesses. As you make yourself "At Home in Monticello", you support Monticello Park Neighborhood Association's efforts to maintain our planter boxes on Fredericksburg Rd, Master Plan of Monticello City Park, and yearly projects for restoration and beatification.

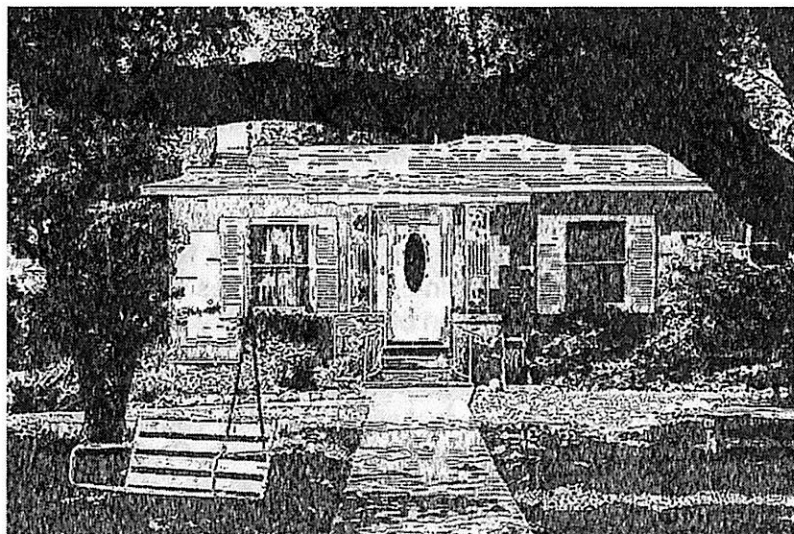
The homes of Monticello Park are an extraordinary collection of architecture; Revival styles, English Tudor, Spanish Colonial, Greek, Italianate, Neoclassical, Mission, Craftsman, English Stone Bungalow and Art Moderne. Virtually every house proudly shows the handiwork of individual artisans. Notice the masonry, the plaster work, Mexican Mission tile, arches, built-ins, cartouches and turrets-all touches that make these homes truly unique.

The area that you now tour was once a dairy farm owned by George Calvert. Mr. Calvert sold his farm to developers and Monticello Park, originally called Woodlawn Terrace, grew from the 1920's to the 1940's. Its growth reflected the Roaring 20s, the Great Depression and finally World War II. The neighborhood attracted the growing class of merchants and professionals of the time. Many of the homes were designed by San Antonio Architect, Nathan Straus Nayfach.

One of the developers, Leo S. Karen, sold a portion of land to the San Antonio Independent School District for approximately \$94,588. On it was built the crown jewel of our neighborhood, Thomas Jefferson High School. The Spanish baroque building was designed by Max Frederick and built in 1932, much to the dismay of some who believed it to be in the middle of nowhere. Furr Drive was designed to afford a view of the spectacular dome which was originally done in colorful tile.

Monticello Park Neighborhood is bordered by Wilson, Babcock, Fredericksburg and Donaldson. In 1995 a portion of the Monticello Park Neighborhood Association was designated a Historical District, Monticello Park Historical District, and laid the foundation for its beginnings which now stretches into the Jefferson Neighborhood Association.

We Thank You for your interest in our neighborhood and hope your day is enjoyable "At Home In Monticello".



### **The Schechter Home at 210 Quentin Drive**

Paula Schechter and son, Max Schechter purchased the house on Quentin in November 2003. Over five years the infrastructure of the house has been updated with new plumbing, electrical rewiring, foundation work, floors redone and bathrooms remodeled. Landscape plants have been added to create a cozy cottage.

The real story though lies in the past. Anna M. Longwith and daughter Jean M. Longwith purchased the home on September 13, 1941 for \$5,600. The 20-year loan with 4 1/2 % interest carried a monthly payment of \$35.45. The loan was paid in full on August 29, 1961. In 1969 Anna bequeathed her half of the house to her daughter, Jean. Jean updated one bathroom in 1975 with a blue sink, wall tile board and a cabinet from Sears. Longwith planted a large oak tree to replace the original tree planted in the same location. The original tree had been struck down by lightning.

In 1981 Jean traveled to Spain and purchased entry and living room Chandeliers for \$400. A matching chandelier hangs in the master bedroom. It is not known if that chandelier was purchased on the same trip. In 1986 Jean made an incredibly detailed household inventory. She described the home itself along with a room-by-room description of the arrangement of furniture. She also detailed her extensive artwork and decorative objects throughout the house.

In 1988 Longwith was inducted into the San Antonio Women's Hall of Fame in the category of Communications and electronic media for her nationally recognized work at San Antonio College where she chaired the department of Radio-TV and Film from 1977-1983. She is also noted for her work in introducing educational television course on KLRN.

Jean Marguerite Longwith died January 21, 2003 at the age of 85. Her entire estate was left to fund the Department of Theater and Communications building at San Antonio College, which is named in her honor.



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

The home was begun in 1929 and finished in 1930. It was bought by G.N. and Elsie Dietzel on March 1930 and sold to O.F. and Lalla Davenport October 1944. Ms. Hester Davenport, their daughter, sold it to Dámaso & Carla Rodríguez, current residents, on November 2, 1988.

The Rodríguez House has been through only two families since it was built in 1930's. When reviewing the original blueprints, which will be available at the home, note that it is a pier and beam - with the piers going down 36 feet!

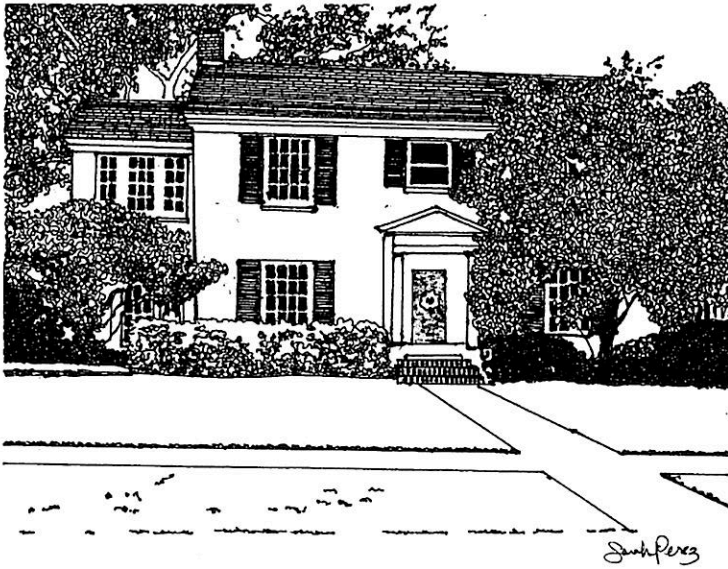
The house is eclectic in style with the "S" clay tile roof, red Saltillo tile floor on the side porch and brick exterior walls. It has a separate 3 car garage with matching roof. The front and side porches have appealing and inviting entrances paired with swirling cement half and full round pillars.

Other unique feature include: a basement, the original ceiling and wall fixtures, an original 1935 Norge gas range and oven with owner's manual.

It also has the original gas fireplace in the living room and a wood burning stove (not original) in the kitchen. All of the floors are hardwood with the exception of the kitchen and service porch which are pine.

The Guest Bedroom is decorated with antique furniture including an art-deco floor lamp (it is a modified ceiling fixture) that was given to the Rodríguez's by Mrs. Janice Collins, who lived next door at 256 Club.

The master bath has beautiful tiled walls and stucco with the original deep bathtub and rounded ceiling and arched entry. This home was designed for lots a natural air flowing through it with a total of 32 windows. The house has been maintained in its original floor design to represent that era.



### **The Burney Home at 340 Mary Louise Drive**

The classic New England style home was built in 1936 for Miss Bess Moynahan and her sister Ruth. The architects were DeWeese and Phelps of San Antonio. Bess Moynahan was the principal of Maverick Elementary School, near the neighborhood. Bess, Ruth, their sister Mary and brother Patrick lived in the house until the 70s. The current owner is the fourth owner of the home, purchasing it in 1984. During the late 30s and 40s, the home was the site for many receptions and parties. The room layout is conducive to accommodating many guests with a good entertainment flow. Of special interest in the home are the walk-in closets, a new feature for the period. The walk-in pantry, deck, and apartment at the rear of the property were added in 1995. The home has the original hardwood floors throughout. The bathroom tile is original, and the sinks, though refinished, are original as well. Matching sun porches, top and bottom on the east side of the house, serve as ideal workrooms because of the many windows. The kitchen area was originally three rooms. At some point, the wall between the breakfast room and the kitchen was removed, the wall between the guest bedroom and kitchen was opened up with an arch, and the door to the breakfast room was converted to a bookshelf to house the owner's cookbook collection. The cupboard to the right of the stove was at one time a window overlooking the driveway. It has been converted to a large spice rack. One of the favorite features of the home is the staircase which makes two turns, showcasing a large chandelier and adding an open feeling to the upstairs quarters. The back yard has been recently landscaped, preserving the very large oak tree which shades the back of the house and the entire yard.



### **The Young Home 323 Furr Drive**

The Young Home at 323 Furr Drive is a wonderful example of an early 20<sup>th</sup> Century cottage. Design elements of this one-story home—such as steep gables, arched doorways, built-in seating and bookcases, hardwood floors, wood casement windows—are indicative of the cottage home style.

It was built in 1926 by Frank LeFevre who purchased lot number 6, block 7 from the Woodlawn Terrace Company. Mr. LeFevre purchased additional lots and built the homes at 322, 326, 327, and 331 Furr Dr. (As you proceed on your tour notice the exterior design similarities between the 5 homes) Mr. LeFevre built the home at 323 for James W. and Beryl May Francis who paid \$525 cash in gold and assumed two vendor's liens payable to the West End Lumber Company totaling \$5,200 dollars at 8% interest. In September of 1931, Mr. and Mrs. Francis sold the home to Ethel Matthews Casey, wife of L.A. Casey. The Casey's lived in the home until August 1933 when it was sold to Mary E. Tyrrell, wife of Edward Tyrrell. The sale included an additional 16-2/3 ft of lot 5, making the lot the size it remains today.

The Tyrrells were a well-known San Antonio Family. Edward spent 48 yrs in the Secret Service, 30 of them in San Antonio. He was one of the first two secret service agents ever assigned to protect a U.S. President. After President William McKinley was shot by an assassin, Edward was assigned to special guard duty for President Roosevelt. Edward was known to San Antonio's as "the grand old man of the secret service". Mary was a prominent club woman and held several offices in San Antonio Women's Club. Both Edward and his wife Mary were residents of 323 Furr Dr. until the time of their passing—Mary in 1945 and Edward in 1947. One of their 2 daughters, Mary Tyrrell Kott, inherited the home, raised her family and the home remained in her family until 1996.

323 Furr was originally built as a two bedroom, one bath residence in what was then (1926) the North City Limit Line of San Antonio. A third bedroom was added in the early 1950's. The original back porch was expanded, enclosed, and re-designed in more recent years. Fortunately, today most if not all the original cottage design elements remain. The Youngs have undertaken an extensive remodeling effort since purchasing the house, adding modern conveniences without sacrificing style and design.

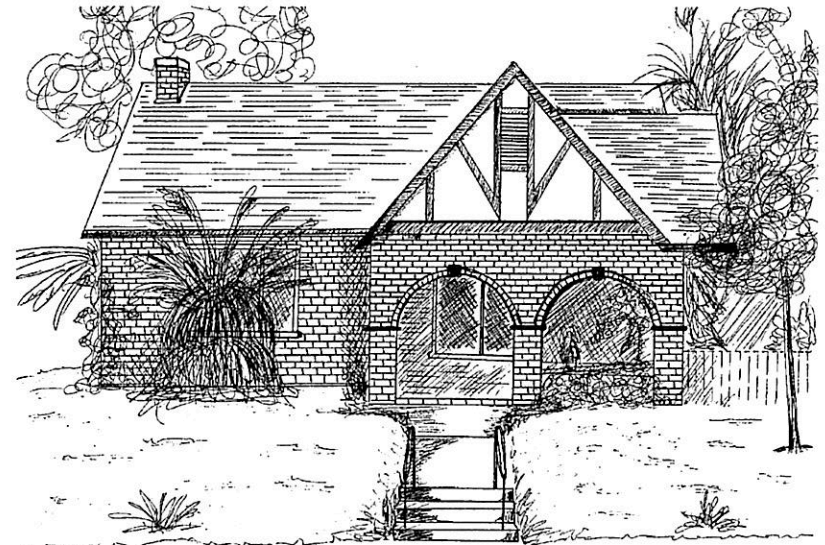


### **The Rush Home at 301 Furr Drive**

The wood-frame cottage-style home was built in 1930 on the corner of what was then Montrose Boulevard, and first sold by developer William Seipel to R.P. and Florence Nacke in May 1930. In March 1963 it was purchased by the Gilberto Ortega family, and was transferred between Ortega family members until August 1994, when Edward and Eliza Arguello bought it, selling in November 2007 to Bunny and Carl Rush. According to the Ortega's daughter Grace, who visited during the most recent home inspection, her father enclosed the screened porch in front, installed built-in shelves in the breakfast room, opened an archway between kitchen and breakfast area, and added a closet to the master bedroom.

The home has an unusual circulation pattern, with the main living areas to your left in a line from front to rear, and three interconnected bedrooms on the right. Entering the home, you will note the converted porch, now a family/TV room, to your right, and the distinctive cloverleaf archway between living and dining rooms. The current owners have added storage space on the wall between dining room and breakfast area. The built-in cabinets in the breakfast area are apparently a feature of the original structure. The first bedroom, with French Doors from both dining room and family room, was apparently a library or den under previous owners. The second bedroom, with unusual double entry pattern, is now in use as a home office.

Another distinctive feature of this home is the expanse of window area, including rooms with windows on three sides (family room and master bedroom). The granite tile shower enclosure, tile floors in bath and kitchen, the enclosed laundry area, the privacy fence, landscaping and rear deck were all added by the current owners.



### **The Gibson Home at 251 Furr Drive**

The Gibson Home, built in early 1929, is an almost 1700 sq. ft. cozy brick cottage with four archways on the porch. Guests enter the home through an arched screen and front door. The property was originally purchased by Mrs. Eleanor Ellis Miller from the Woodlawn Terrace Company in October 1928. The original warranty deed stipulates, "that no building shall be erected thereon to cost less than \$5,000." The Gibsons bought the home in December of 2004 when they retired and moved to San Antonio.

The floor plan consists of a living room with wood burning fireplace and dining room with an arched doorway leading into the newly remodeled kitchen on the left side of the house; and a hallway which connects the three bedrooms and two bathrooms on the right side. The hallway provides excellent flow - you can actually "walk around the house." Upon entering the home, one can see all the way into the kitchen. Please note the 9' ceiling and 10" crown molding in the living room.

The décor of the home reflects the owners' travels with the United States Army for thirty years in Belgium, Germany, Texas and Virginia. Most of the antiques and collectibles were purchased at European flea markets, auctions and estate sales. Some items were handed down from our families.

In the almost four years the Gibsons have lived in the home, they have made many renovations and restorations (new privacy fencing; exterior painting; stripping the front porch to reveal the unique tile; kitchen remodel to include restoring the original oak floors buried under four layers of flooring and adding granite countertops; removing carpet and refinishing the living room and dining room oak floors; adding period sconces above the fireplace; interior painting of the living room, dining room, kitchen, hallway and two of the bedrooms; adding crown molding in the dining room and two bedrooms; installing a stained glass door from the kitchen to the hallway; and adding a rock patio and walkway in the backyard). All changes were planned to preserve the original features of the home, while integrating some modern conveniences.

In the backyard, bordering on the alleyway, there is a two-car garage with attached maid quarters (now being used as a laundry room/workshop).

We hope you enjoy your tour. When we first discovered this neighborhood, we knew immediately that we would be "at home in Monticello!"



### The Stead Home at 441 Donaldson Avenue

Built in 1937 the home is a two-bedroom, two-bathroom stucco cottage with a modern vintage interior motif. The home features the original oak wood floors, doors and their hardware.

As you walk into the cool blue living room, note the antique Zenith TV/Record Player/Radio console to your right. This piece was left behind by the previous owner and was gutted and re-purposed as a side table.

Renovated and repainted to reflect a 1940's charm, the kitchen features newly refinished/repainted cabinets, floor/countertop/backsplash tile, appliances and cabinet hardware. The kitchen originally housed a stackable washer and dryer, as well as a water heater closet which was removed and rebuilt for a pantry. The gray walls of the dining room are adorned with photos of the owners families dating back to the late 1800's, as well as two china hutches left by the previous owner. Sanded and repainted with antique blue and black milk paint, the hutches are said to be 150 years old and hand built by the previous owner's grandfather. The nursery (which eagerly awaits its new occupant due January 19), displays animals hand painted on canvas by the owner's mother, Iris De La Rosa. Adjacent to the nursery is the guest bathroom which features original floor tile, sink and bathtub.

The spacious master bedroom features a newly added utility closet with washer and dryer. Having undergone the most dramatic facelift, the master bathroom was expanded to include a sink/cabinet combination with granite countertop, as well as a double-headed shower with benches. In keeping with the vintage motif, the original blue floor tile was replaced with black and white honeycomb and subway tile.

The backyard features a detached garage which was recently renovated to its original board and batten style.

According to Bexar County records, the original owners, B.B. and Mildred Hunter purchased the lot from Terrell and Maury Maverick (U.S. Congressman and former San Antonio mayor) in 1937 and began construction on the home shortly thereafter. The Hunters sold the home in 1954 to the second owner of the home, Nathalie Grum. Mrs. Grum lived in the home from 1957 until her death at the age of 101 in 2005. Current owners purchased the home in 2006

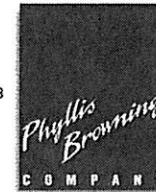
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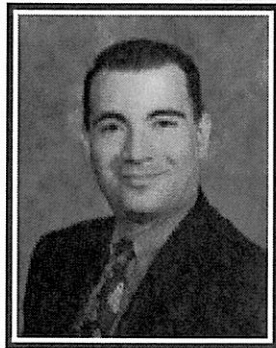
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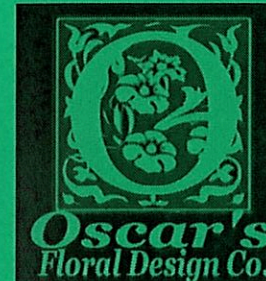
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