Second Annual At Home In Monticello Tour of Homes



Presented By Monticello Park Neighborhood Association

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TOUR MAP



Monticello Park

Welcome to San Antonio's newest historic district! We are proud of our homes and the revitalization of our neighborhood.

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. It's growth reflected the Roaring 20's, 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 Strauss Nayfach, who made quality architecture available to the middle class.

One of the developers, Leo S. Karen, sold a portion of land to the San Antonio Independent School District for approximately 1.25 million dollars. 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. Be sure to enjoy that same view today as you ride the trolley down Furr Drive.

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

To add to our history, in March of 1995, Monticello Park was designated as a historic district by the city of San Antonio!

We thank you for your interest in our neighborhood and hope your day is enjoyable "At Home in Monticello".



Alex Porras

The Macias Home at 402 Donaldson Avenue

The Macias home, 'Casa Macias', built in 1927, is a 2300+sf stucco Spanish Eclectic two-story, with a red tile roof, spiral columns on the covered front porch, and an arched Oak front door. The backyard is enclosed with a stucco wall, and has ornate, wrought-iron gates. There is a lovely side entrance, over which is built what can only be described as a 'Papal Balcony'. The home consists of a Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Den, 3 Bedrooms, and 2 full Baths; plus Guest Quarters.

This home is filled with interesting features; some old-style, some new. There are to be found such things as: hardwood floors; Saltillo tile floors; wrought iron; leaded glass; and chandeliers of every size. In the four short years that they have lived in it, the current owners have expended an enormous amount of time and energy re-doing it to their liking.

The front door opens into a Living Room with fireplace. STOP! and look UP! and take note of this most unusual ceiling; it is plastered in a 'tented' effect that is very beautiful. To the left of the Living Room is the Sun Room; and straight ahead is the Dining Room which was enlarged by enclosing an original open side porch; here, take note of the leaded glass windows and the original plaster moldings. Continue on to enter the all new Kitchen, with the Breakfast Room created from a former Bedroom by removing the wall. There is also a new full Bath on this level.

The Hall staircase leads to the second Bath; two Children's Bedrooms; and the new, huge, Master Bedroom, also created by enclosing an open porch, and its own French-doored balcony overlooking the backyard. Note the unusual plate-glass door leading into the Master Bedroom.

The backyard of this home is beautifully done, with a large deck and all the amenities one could ask for; for enjoying the warm San Antonio evenings.



The Simpson Home at 459 Furr Drive

The Simpson home, built in 1936, is a 2800sf Texas limestone English Tudor two-story, with a covered front porch, leading to a center entrance, Oak and wrought-iron front door. The backyard is enclosed, and has ornate, wrought-iron gates. The home consists of a Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, 4 Bedrooms, and 3 full Baths.

This home has 9' coved, plaster ceilings, and has had lots of attention lavished on it over the years, including such things as: restored hardwood floors; all new wooden screens, hand-made by the current owner; doors stripped back to their original design of the center panel being finished natural; a central vacuum system installed; and thirteen ceiling fans to help keep it cool.

The front door opens into an Entry Hall, with an Oak and wrought-iron staircase leading to the second floor. To the left is the Living Room with fireplace; through the Living Room is the Dining Room; continue on to enter the Breakfast Room, and the all new Kitchen, with island counter. A right turn from the Entry Hall takes you into a Bedroom/Den, with its own full Bath. Straight ahead from the Entry Hall, past the staircase, there is a direct entrance to the Breakfast Room.

The Hall staircase leads to a second Bath; two Children's Bedrooms; and a 400sf Master Bedroom suite, with its Sitting Room with built-in window seat, walk-in closet, and lavish Bath, created by adding to the second floor. Note the attention to detail: although new, the Sitting Room was made to look, both inside and out, like an old, existing porch was enclosed; complete with beaded ceiling, and old-fashioned siding.



The Peranteau Home at 470 Furr Drive

The Peranteau home, built in 1934, is a 3500sf frame Greek Revival two-story, with a tall, covered front porch supported by square pillars, and a center entrance front door. The front yard is enclosed by a low, ornate, wrought-iron fence. The side and backyard are enclosed by a beautiful picket fence. The home consists of a Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Breakfast Room, Family Room, Guest Room, 3 Bedrooms, 3 1/2 Baths, Study, Sunroom, and Screened Porch.

This home has high ceilings, large rooms, and interesting details, such as: six-inch, pegged, hardwood floors, and plank-panelled walls in the Living Room and Dining Room; Knotty Pine built-ins, and cobblestone floors in a herringbone pattern, in the Family Room; a partial basement (in San Antonio?). Antique furnishings abound throughout.

The front door opens into a large Living Room with fireplace. To the left of the Living Room is the Guest Room and Bath, which were added, circa 1960, by enclosing the side porch. Also off the Living Room is the Family Room with fireplace. To the right of the Living Room is the Dining Room; continue on to enter the Kitchen and Breakfast Room, taking special note of the new Crayola color scheme that is so much fun! The Kitchen also contains a 1/2-Bath, and another entrance to the Family Room.

Straight ahead from the front door are the French doors to the Hall and staircase to the second floor; past the staircase, there is another entrance to the Kitchen. The Hall staircase leads to a Screened Porch; a second Bath; two Children's Bedrooms; and a Master Bedroom, with Bath and French-doored Sun Room.

The grounds of this home are always meticulously-groomed, by the owner; and the backyard boasts an in-ground swimming pool.



Arnold Asebedo/Andrea Bell/Eric Juarez

The Scaljon/Wilkerson Home at 510 Mary Louise Drive

The Scaljon/Wilkerson home, built in 1938, is a 2100sf brick English Tudor two-story, with a covered front porch. This home is on an elevated lot, and is approached by climbing a beautifully landscaped staircase, leading to the front door. This design also allows for the garage/basement to be located under the house, on the Kampmann Boulevard side. The home consists of a Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Study, 3 Bedrooms, and 2 1/2 Baths.

This home has 9' coved, plaster ceilings, and a number of beautiful and/or intriguing features. It most likely was designed by N. Straus Nayfach, an architect of some renown in Monticello Park. This would help account for the five octagon windows, since they were one of Nayfach's trademarks. It also has a rather unusual flat tile roof; restored hardwood floors; lovely, arched double doors leading to the Living Room; and several balconies/porches/patios.

The front door is set in the far right of the front of the house, and opens into an Entry Hall, with an Oak winding staircase leading to the second floor. To the left is the large Living Room with bay window and fireplace; through the Living Room is a small arch leading to a Study. Also through the Living Room is a large arch leading to the Dining Room; continue on to enter the Breakfast Room, and Kitchen; off the Breakfast Room, there are French doors leading to a covered patio. Straight ahead from the Entry Hall, past the staircase, there is a direct entrance to the Kitchen. There is also a 1/2 Bath on this level.

A right turn from the Entry Hall takes you up the staircase, which leads to a second Bath; two Children's Bedrooms; and the Master Bedroom with Bath. Off the upstairs Hall there is an open balcony; off one of the Children's Bedrooms there is a large open porch overlooking the back. There is a generous backyard, with a tree-house built in an old Ash tree.



Aaron Harbour

The Ahrens/Nash Home at 329 Mary Louise Drive

The Ahrens/Nash home is a 5000sf Colonial Revival two-story. Note the broken triangular pediment over the center entrance, and the leaded-glass sidelights. Built in 1938, on a double lot, the red brick home has a front facade of six pillars and six window groupings, each with a centered keystone; and three doghouse dormers built into the slate roof.

This is a large home with ten-foot ceilings, and hardwood floors. It has 6 Bedrooms and 5 Baths. The front door opens into the Entry Hall, with a main staircase to the second floor. To the left is a large Living Room with fireplace, and beyond it is the formal Dining Room. To the right is a Bedroom, with Bath and Sitting Room.

Across the back, and accessible from either the Living Room or Bedroom, is a huge Family Room with another dining area. Adjacent to the Family Room, one finds a large Kitchen with pantry, and lots of cabinets and tile countertops. Off the Kitchen, a complete Apartment, and other Guest Quarters are located. Through the Butler's Pantry, the circle is completed back to the Dining Room.

Back at the Entry Hall, the visitor ascends the stairs to the second floor, and finds a large open hallway, 2 large Bedrooms with built-in window seats, and a ceramic tiled Bath.

The home is furnished with numerous, remarkable antiques, collected by the owners in all parts of the World. They have traveled, and lived, in foreign cities; and have brought back many treasures. Take special note of the Victorola with the polished brass megaphone in the Living Room; and the beautifully crafted hand-carved piece in the Family Room.



Paul Ugarte

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 (yes, there's even a Model 1015, the epitome of Juke Boxes) 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.

We couldn't resist adding this home to our tour again this year with the added bonus of a newly decorated Living Room and a look at the Second Floor.



David Hinojosa

The Brogley Home at 329 Club Drive

As a bonus on this year's At Home In Monticello Tour Of Homes, you're invited to view the lovely gardens of the Brogley Home. This 4 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath home is a 2800sf brick English Cottage, built in 1929. The 3 Bedrooms and Bath on the second floor were added in the '70s. It's charming design makes one think that, at any moment, Hansel and Gretel might appear in the doorway offering Gingerbread to the visitor (just watch out for that Mean 'ole Witch and her oven.)

Years of effort have gone into transforming the yards into gardens. The front yard is designed as an English Garden, with the walkway bisecting the circular planting areas. It has been rock terraced to afford multiple planting levels. The plantings themselves emphasize species indigenous to Texas, with old fashioned favorites mixed in: Hollyhocks, Roses and Lilies; Ivy, wildflowers, Lacy Oaks, and Asters.

The side deck and backyard hold a multitude of pots and plantings, including a wide variety of herbs and vegetables.



Cardee Avila

The Foultz Home at 210 North Drive

The Foultz home, built in 1929, is a lovely, 1 1/2 story, 1900+sf Texas limestone English Country Cottage, with an arched, lead glass front door and imposing stone chimneys. The home consists of Living Room/Dining Room, Kitchen with Breakfast Area, Guest Room, Master Bedroom/Study, Nursery, Office/Playroom, Florida Room and 2 full Baths.

The home contains many interesting features, such as random, wide-planked, as well as conventional width, hardwood floors on the first floor; and finished pine floors on the second floor. Of exceptional note are the arched doors in the Living Room, and particularly the door leading to the Florida Room, which is latticed-glass. Notice the very unusual mosaic tile floor in the guest bath; it is composed of the 'left-overs' of many different tile jobs, combining a myriad of colors and textures into a beautiful floor; it was created by the Alamo Tile Co, and is original.

The front door opens into a Living Room furnished with a Mexican/South American influence. There's a rock fireplace. The adjoining Dining Room is the perfect place for an old Church pew. Hanging above the table is a beautiful Candlearia chandelier. Originally lit with candles, it has been converted to electricity. Proceeding into the Kitchen, the original cabinets have been upgraded and the entire room has a black and white color scheme.

Also off the Living Room are the Florida Room with fireplace, originally an open porch; and the Office/Playroom. Off the Dining Room is the hall leading to the Guest Bath; and the Guest Room, which also leads to the Nursery and Florida Room. It's furnished in family heirloom antiques dating back several generations.

The Dining Room staircase leads to the open Study and Master Bedroom, with its own outside entrance, porch and staircase down to the backyard; the backyard is beautifully landscaped and features a quaint rock Wishing Well.



Anthony Galvan

The Milton/Guerra Home at 222 Quentin Drive

The Milton/Guerra home, built in 1940, is a 3200sf Texas limestone Colonial Revival two-story, with shuttered casement windows, and vines climbing the wall. The front yard is enclosed with a new wrought-iron fence with electric driveway gate. The home consists of Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Den, 3 Bedrooms, Playroom and 2 full Baths.

This home is truly eclectic, and a delightful potpourri of textures, finishes and Objets D'art. There are features such as hardwood floors, Saltillo tile floors and finished pine floors; old Victorian woodwork, wrought iron, and glass block; and antique Kitchen cabinet hardware combined with beautiful granite countertops; and almost all of it installed by the current owners. Collections varying from Art Deco pieces, to pastel colored Homer Laughlin stoneware, from the '40s. If one room is not to your taste, the next one probably will be just perfect.

The front door opens into a Living Room with fireplace. The current owners added the adjoining Den with its wrought iron circular staircase leading to the Master Bedroom above. Off the Den are the Dining Room with its built-in cabinetry, and 1800's dining table; and the Kitchen. The original Kitchen cabinet doors have been replaced with glass front doors found at architectural salvage companies; and there's a commercial stainless steel and cast-iron range, set on granite that matches the countertops, that definitely commands your attention. There is also a full Bath on this level.

The Hall staircase leads to the second Bath; a large Guest Bedroom; a Child's Bedroom and Playroom; and the new Master Bedroom, with fireplace, and its own French-doored balcony overlooking the backyard.

The backyard of this home is something to behold; with its lush palms, ferns and other beautiful landscaping surrounding the newly installed in-ground swimming pool. This area is enclosed with a privacy fenced, topped with vine-covered lattice.

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The 1996 Board of Directors wishes to thank you for your interest in our neighborhood and hope you enjoy being "At Home In Monticello".

We would also like to thank and recognize the Jefferson High School student artists and Art teacher Doris LeJuene for the wonderful depictions of our tour homes, Frank Jimenez for his sign art and Ron Hoth for his colorful descriptions of the homes!

Tour Ticket Printing courtesy of Ken Bruski

Finally, we congratulate our neighbor volunteers for a job well done! Thank you for all of your hard work!

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