

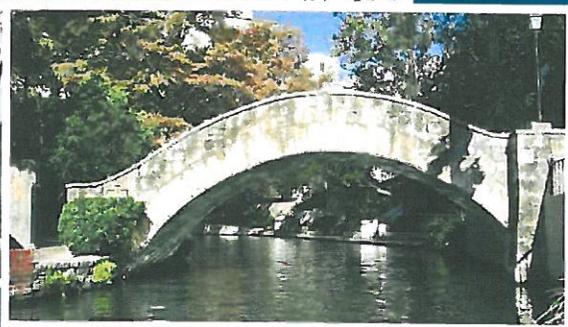
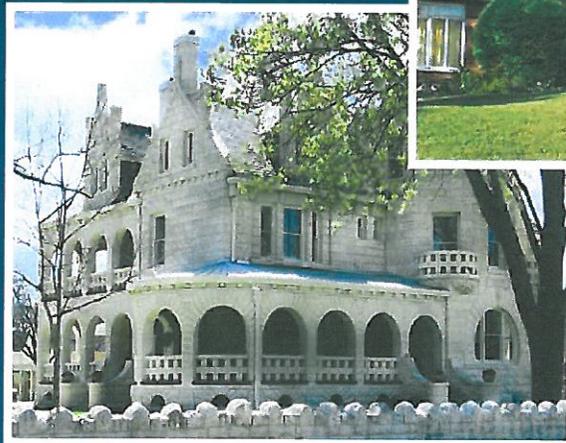
Celebrate San Antonio's Treasures

During National Preservation Month in May

by Elizabeth Porterfield • photos provided by the City of San Antonio's Office of Historic Preservation



On Previous Page: San Antonio Museum of Art (Old Lone Star Brewery); On This Page Clockwise from Top: Historic home in the Monticello Park Historic District, San Antonio River Walk, Lambermont in the Government Hill Historic District



Join the City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation as we once again participate in National Preservation Month throughout the month of May. Across the United States communities will celebrate historic preservation through outreach and educational programs. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has chosen the theme, "Celebrating America's Treasures" for 2011. America's treasures are more than historic properties. They are individual houses and historic neighborhoods that create an inviting place to call home. They are commercial corridors that remind us of life before the shopping mall. San Antonio is full of wonderful, unique places. National Preservation Month gives us the opportunity to celebrate San Antonio's Treasures and recognize the historic places that make our city special.

We will kick off Preservation Month with a State of Historic Preservation announcement by Mayor Julian Castro and Historic Preservation Officer Shannon Peterson Wasielewski in the courtyard of the restored Spanish Governor's Palace, a National Historic Landmark in the heart of downtown, on Thursday, May 5, at 4:45 pm. A reception will follow. The event is free and open to the public.

We are launching our 2011 Go! Historic SA Guided Running and Walking Tours. At various stops along the routes, tour guides will share the stories behind some of San Antonio's historic buildings, neighborhoods, and parks. Runners and walkers of all abilities are welcome. Participants will be divided into small groups according to experience. The Downtown Tour will be held Sunday, May 8, at 8:00 am. A Brackenridge Park Tour will take place on Thursday, May 26, at 6:00 pm. Tours are \$15.00 each and participants receive a mesh running cap. Register online at: www.active.com (keyword "running tour") or on-site.

For those seeking an urban adventure, don't miss the Amazing Preservation Race on Friday, May 13, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. 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 \$20/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: www.active.com (keyword "amazing preservation race").

Bring the younger ones to the Amazing Preservation Race for Kids on Saturday, May 21, from 9:00 to noon. Learn about history, architecture,

and preservation as kids (with their adult chaperones) use clues to solve riddles as they search for destinations in the King William Historic District. At each destination, participants will complete a physical challenge to receive their next clue. Be the first to cross the finish line and win the grand prize! Food and games for all will be provided at the end of the race. Registration begins at 9:00 am at the Villa Fine Visitor Center at 122 Madison in the King William Historic District. The event is free and open to elementary-aged children.

Explore the rich culture and history of San Antonio's historic Westside on the Paseo por el Westside on Saturday, May 7, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Walking tours in the morning will highlight the architecture, history, and murals of the city's Westside. Festivities, food, and presentations will take place throughout the day at the Rinconcito at 816 S. Colorado Street. The event is free and open to the public.

Don't miss the "San Antonio's Historic Architectural Styles" presentation at the San Antonio Central Library on Saturday, May 7, at 2:00 pm. Take a pictorial tour of San Antonio's historic architectural styles and learn about the city's historic resource survey that has been ongoing since 2002. The event is free and open to the public.

Along the River Walk, join us on Tuesday, May 10, at 10:00 am as the City's Downtown Operations Department, Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Office of Historic Preservation unveil the Historic Hugman River Walk Tour. This interpretive digital tour of the River Walk highlights the distinctive historic work of architect Robert H. H. Hugman's 1930s design for the River Walk, which is enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of visitors and residents today. The event will take place on river level at the Commerce Street Bridge by Hugman's former River Walk offices. If you miss the kickoff, "get lost" in the history of the Hugman River Walk on your own by visiting www.hugmanfour.com.

We invite you to participate with us in the This Place Matters Photo Contest. This nationwide contest, sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, encourages everyone to identify the historic places that matter to them. Take a photo in front of your favorite historic site with the This Place Matters sign (available on our website) and send them to the Office of Historic Preservation to enter our local contest. Let us know the historic places in San Antonio that matter to you!

For additional information and a complete list of National Preservation Month activities in San Antonio, please contact the Office of Historic Preservation at 210-215-9274 or visit our website at www.sanantonio.gov/history.