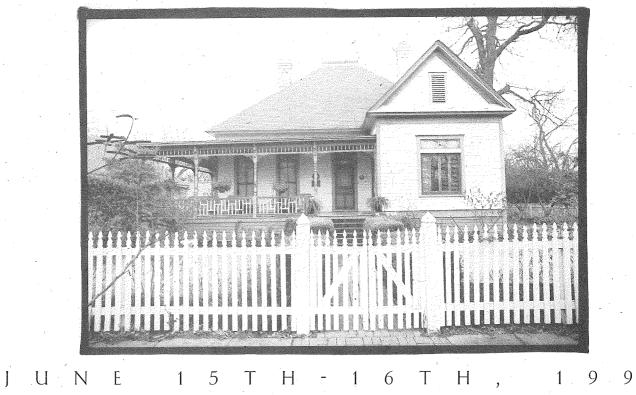
# HYDE PARK HOMES TOUR



96

#### Welcome, Neighbors!

yde Park has a way of slowing peoples' paces just a bit as they stroll the avenues. Savor the shady lawns & sidewalks, the tended gardens, the porches, the stores and the restaurants. Even firsttime visitors feel right at home. Consider yourself our neighbor and enjoy this, our 20th Anniversary Homes Tour.

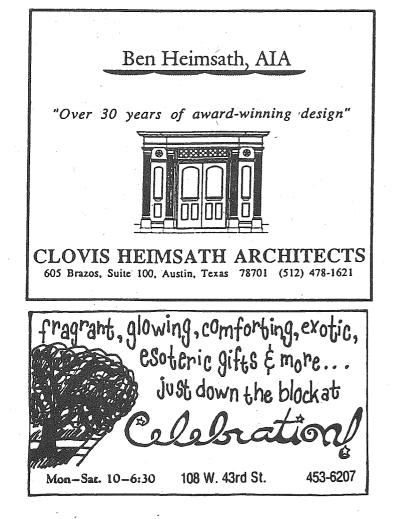
Forgive me for bragging, but all of us in Hyde Park are mighty proud of the many positive developments that have improved and preserved our neighborhood since the initial tour exactly two decades ago. As you walk up Speedway, there's a recently completed 100 year-old restoration of one of the very first structures built by Colonel Shipe. I'm referring to the Moonlight Tower at 40th and Speedway. With the help of the Electric Utility Department, the tower was lovingly restored last year and we know it will now stand another 100 years.

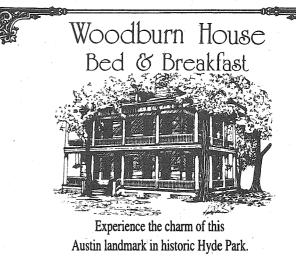
A traditional stop on the homes tour, the Elizabeth Ney Museum is another Hyde Park initiative. When the Ney had fallen into disrepair after decades of neglect, a band of neighbors took on the first restoration program. Now the Museum attracts visitors from around the globe and holds a world-class display on the life and work of Elizabeth Ney.

On every block of Hyde Park, there's a related success story. Neighbors have worked year after year to preserve our history while building our unique community.

So extend a special thank you to each of the owners as they open up their homes this year. A pat on the back to each of your neighbors is also encouraged.

Ben Heimsath HPNA President





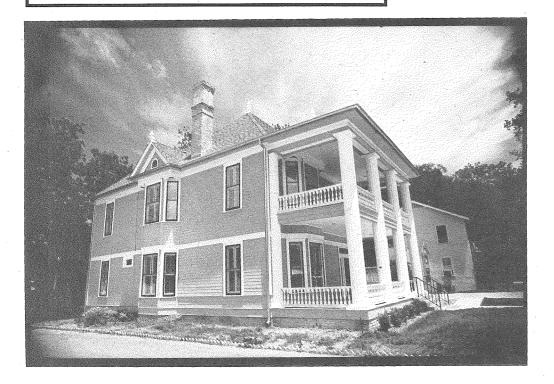
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Robert & Birdie Badger House 4006 SPEEDWAY 1900



Situated on the "Main Street' of the Hyde Park Historic District, the newly restored Robert T. and Birdie Badger House belongs to a unique assemblage of fine homes built by the Badger family around the turn of the century.

Stand back and admire the imposing Classical portico — with its massive fluted columns — of this fine Colonial Revival house. The columns and two-tiered porch are also prominent features of the Walter (Robert's brother) Badger House, a block north at 4112 Speedway.

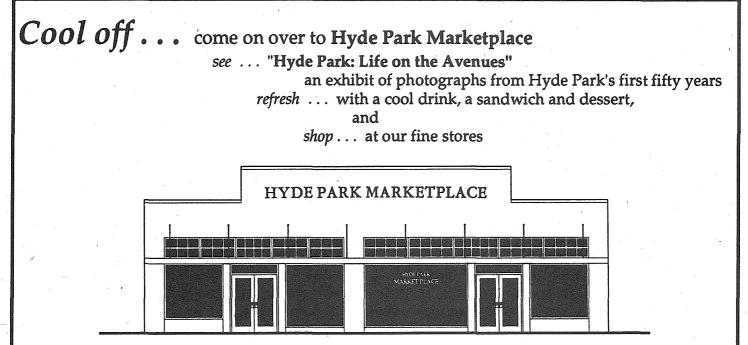
The Badger House was built during a period of transition in American domestic architecture, from the irregularity and intricate detailing of the romantic revival 19th century styles to a simpler Beaux-Arts, Classical-influenced mode. While the Badger House retains some vestigial late–Victorian Queen Anne features — the three sets of two-tiered bay windows and lateral gables, for instance — the overall character indicates the stronger Colonial Revival influence.

The house has been through four major remodelings. The present owners, Susan Pryor and Richard Boner, oversaw the 1995 renovation, which removed asbestos siding and restored the wooden exterior to approximate its appearance in the Austin City of the Violet Crown (1917) photograph, the most important work on early 20th Century Austin Architecture.

Inside, the bullseye moldings around the doorways and four fireplaces with their massive oak mantels are all original. The two upstairs fireplaces are the best preserved, and are surrounded by the original tile. The large oval pane of beveled glass in the front room is from the original front door.

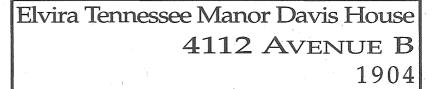
The earliest history of this first Badger home is sketchy. In 1895, Col. Monroe M. Shipe's Missouri, Kansas and Texas Land Company sold the property to Shipe's wife Adele, and about 1900 either Mrs. Shipe or the Land Company constructed the present building. In 1909, Robert Tate Badger and his wife (born Birdie Haywood) moved to Austin from Marble Falls and bought the property. Other members of the Badger family lived at 4108 and later 4110 Speedway. This extraordinary group of early 20th Century houses are all City of Austin Landmarks.





# SILK ROAD \*DUVAL DISCS \* JOEL T'S CAFE & DELI LEGENDS GOLF \* SABIA BOTANICALS

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lvira Tennessee Manor Davis, widow of Blackstone Hardeman Davis and mother of Lisix, bought this lot on the corner of Avenue B in 1896, thus holding the distinction of being one of the few "single" women of the time to own property in this family neighborhood. Elvira T. Manor was born in 1841 and raised in East Texas near present-day Manor, which was named for her father. Her husband was a member of a prominent local family whose quarry supplied stone for the 1853 Texas Capitol and whose original homestead is now the site of Austin's Northwest Park. A well-respected Travis and Bastrop County attorney, Mr Davis was murdered in 1881 while traveling between Bastrop and Austin, and the case was never solved. Elvira Davis had this house built in 1904 and continued to live here, often taking in boarders to help pay expenses, until she died in 1918.



The Davis House is a particularly graceful example of a late Victorian dwelling, and, like so many Hyde Park homes, exhibits a strong Queen Anne influence. Note, for example, the projecting bay window, high pitched roof, and deep inset wraparound porch. The sharply peaked gables, some decorated with jigsawn bracket work, others with fish scale shingles, are also emblematic of the playful variety of the Queen Anne style. The porch's simple Doric columns and balustrade, however, signal the beginning of the aesthetic transition from Victorian to Classical Revival design. The Davis House was designated an Austin City Landmark in 1989 and a Texas Historic Landmark in 1994.

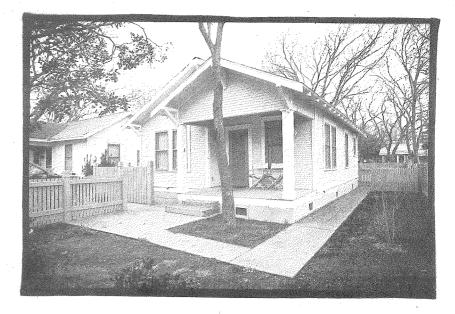
After Elvira Davis' death, the house passed through many hands, and was eventually converted into a triplex, with two bathrooms in the original hallway and an entrance where the kitchen now stands. Purchased by UT architecture students Andrew Herdeg and Liam Winters III in the late 1980s, the house was restored to its original configuration as part of a senior thesis. Herdeg and Winters' extensive research and attention to period detail is evident throughout the house in the bull's eye door and win-

dow moldings, period light fixtures, and particularly in the color scheme. Each room of the house is painted one of the colors of the stained glass found in the Eastlake-style front door. Other period details include the corner cupboard in the dining room and the fireplaces in each of the bedrooms, all of which also reflect the bull's eye molding motif. The renovation balanced fidelity to history with contemporary necessity: while the house once again follows its original Victorian floor plan based on a wide central hall with living areas to the right and bedrooms to the left, the large L-shaped kitchen with a dining and seating area introduces a more modern and casual design aspect. The renovated kitchen features board and batten paneling, open shelving and cobalt blue tiles. The front rooms of the house are especially light and airy, the front parlor illuminated by three windows of a projecting bay, and the front bedroom by floor to ceiling windows opening onto the front porch, a concession to the Texas heat. The renovation also incorporated a giant, spa-sized bathtub and walk-in shower into the master bathroom, additional closets and a larger kitchen. Bought by Julia and Evan Smith in 1995, the Davis House is now home to a growing collection of Outsider art.

Sweet-George Cottage Adjacent Construction Site 4314 AVENUE G c. 1930

The newly rehabilitated Sweet-George Cottage was a termite-ridden eyesore just two years ago. After purchasing the cottage (built about 1930) in 1994, Architect Gene George and his wife author Mary Carolyn, paid \$2,200 just to haul accumulated debris from the yard.

The cottage's exterior has been rehabilitated in keeping with Hyde Park's historic character. The inside was gutted out of necessity, resulting in an open floor plan with emphasis on natural light making the small cottage, which serves as both a home and work space to its owners, seem larger than its 768-sq. feet. The column of yellow brick toward the back of the house is all that remains of the original interior.

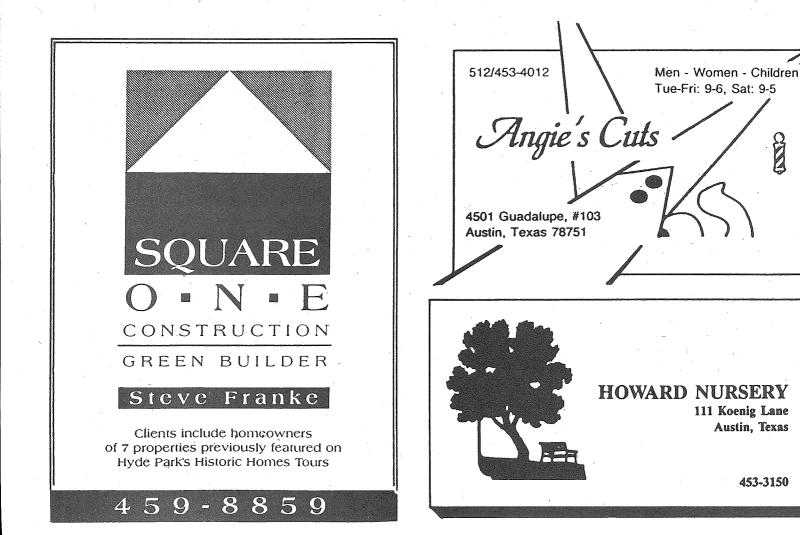


Be sure to notice the etching of the nearby Elizabet Ney Museum by the front door as you enter before turning your attention to the oak cabinetwork and trim in the living and kitchen areas--designed by Gene George and built by Rob Hunt of Bastrop. On your way out note the gleaming brass yacht hardware on the exterior louvered doors.

In 1985, the Georges began builiding their dream home in their spare time with the help of paid UT student labor. The lot was vacant when purchased in 1980, but at least two previous dwellings had occupied the site: a log cabin that faced Waller Creek, and later a frame house, which first appeared on maps of the area in the 1920s and was demolished during the 1970s.

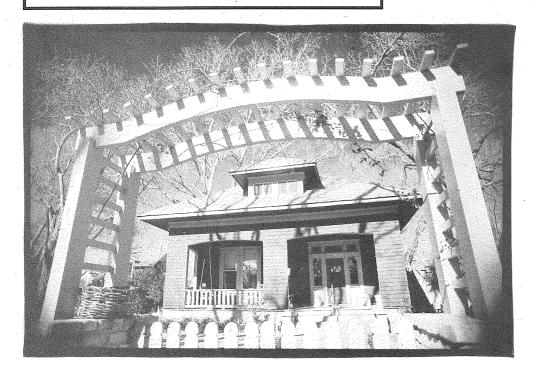
Approaching the construction site from the rear of the cottage you'll enter a pecan-shaded courtyard, which will be shielded from the street by the rest of the house. Built of reinforced masonry with concrete arches and vaults, the home was designed by Gene to be livable during Texas summers without air conditioning! Walls 12-inches thick will provide excellent insulation while the indoor living spaces will open onto the courtyard and a porch along Ave. G to maximize air circulation. The entrance and two carports, all capped by shingled pyramidal roofs, will face 44th St. The small domed kitchen and vaulted bathroon will have skylights. When completed, the walls will be stuccoed and floors covered with brick.

One of Hyde Park's most notable works in progress, the construction site won the Austin Chronicle's award for "Best On-going Project" two years in a row. Estimated date of completion? Two years hence (which the owners admit to saying since 1985).



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### Ramsdell-Wolff House 4002 Avenue H 1907

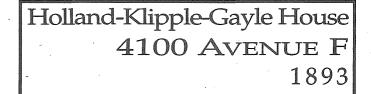


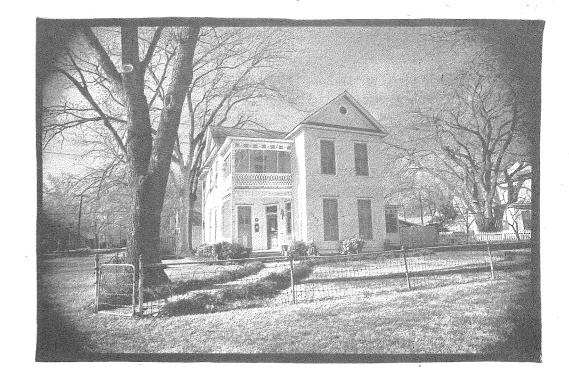
The Ramsdell-Wolff House is an elegant example of Craftsman-style architecture that bridges the gap between the Victorian exuberance of the late 19th Century (on display at the Holland-Klipple House) and a new era of simplicity that culminated in the bungalow-style homes built in Hyde Park in the 1920s.

This shingled, hip roofed house was built in 1905 on five lots for Susite and Charles W. Ramsdell, a history professor at the University of Texas and author who came to be known as the "Dean of Southern Historians." Ramsdell served for more than 30 years as secretary-treasurer of the Texas State Historical Association. At the time, there was no front dormer (the two side dormers are original) or porch rail and the front door was located where the windows now stand. Historic photographs show the front dormer, which was typical of this type of house, was added by the early 1920s. The original house had only four or five small rooms and probably ended where the staircase now stands.

In 1980, the home's third owners, Robert and Betty Phillips, purchased the house, which after 17 years as a rental property had a gaping hole in the roof over the front bedroom and had been condemned. They returned the exterior to its original dark-green color and added the decorative punched-tin trim. Inside they made many changes including, adding a staircase where a tiny bedroom had been and converting the attic into children's bedrooms. They also attached a large workshop to the back of the house, which has been transformed into a light and spacious living area by the current owners.

Susan Crites-Krumm and Karl Krumm purchased the house in 1993 and have worked hard to preserve its original character. Outside, the patio and walkways were built with yellow brick salvaged from San Marcos Academy, which was built around the same time as the Ramsdell-Wolff House. The pine flooring in the front rooms was also salvaged from a contemporaneous house in Hillsboro, Texas. The hardware in the front rooms is original, with reproductions in the rear part of the house. The stained glass window panels in the bathroom are old but not original. The garage with upstairs workshop is all new construction, built in 1995.





The late-Victorian Holland-Klipple House is one of the most lovely and noteworthy historic homes in Hyde Park. Built just two years after the neighborhood was established, the house embodies the fanciful creativity characteristic of the Victorian period (approximately 1837 to 1901) and its influence on the early architectural history of Austin's first suburb.

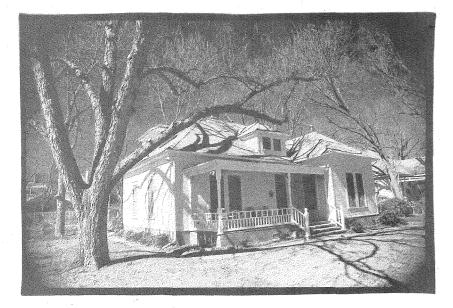
Local architect W.G. Eyres, who also built neighboring 4102 Ave. F. (1892) and 4012 Ave. F (1897), took full advantage of this choice corner location by orienting the twin cypress-wood doors on a diagonal, thus opening the house simultaneously to 41st Street and Avenue F. The doors, which lead to the front hall and parlour, are original to the house, while the etched glass of the transom was made some 15 years ago by a local artist for the current owner, Carol Adams. A great-granddaughter of Sarah Elizabeth Gayle, who bought the house in 1923, Mrs. Adams is the fifth generation of her family to reside here.

Intricate wooden friezes and balustrades adorn the front porch and balcony. The screened downstairs porch connects what was originally a stand alone oneroom building that housed a live-in maid to the main house. It was connected to the house when Dr. Francis J. Smith, an Austin dentist who owned the home from about 1908 to 1920, suffered a heart attack and had need of a downstairs bedroom. The iron fence was also added during the 1910s and replaced the original picket fence.

The home was built for Col. James Kemp Holland and his wife Annie. Holland was born in 1822 and moved to Texas at age 20. His father, Spearman Holland, was a member of the Republic of Texas Congress. James followed in his political footsteps serving as a state representative in 1849 and a state senator in 1853. In 1898 Col. Holland was killed in a buggy accident but his widow continued to live in the house until about 1902.

The badly deteriorated home had been carved up into three rental apartments before Carol Adams and her husband Ernest completely restored it in the early 1980s.

## Bell-Smith House 4200 Avenue F 1895



the turned wood posts and brackets, details which are repeated in a smaller porch at the rear of the house overlooking the garden. The Bell House also reflects the Queen Anne aesthetic in its cottage–like appearance and the varied surfaces of the façade, as seen in the fish–scale shingles applied to the dormers. The Bells lived at 4200 Avenue F until 1904. The house was declared an Austin Landmark in 1982.

Purchased by Jill and Jack Nokes in 1985, the interior of the Bell House today reflects a pleasing combination of Victorian charm and contemporary practicality. The original core of the house is shaped around the center hall, with front and back parlors to the right and two bedrooms to the left. The parlors, now a living room and dining room, retain their original carved window and door casings which echo the incised motif of the wooden mantle in the corner fireplace. In the course of several renovations over the last century, a kitchen and bedroom were added to the back of the house, and the bedroom adjoining the master suite was converted into a smaller study with a walk-in closet and an expanded

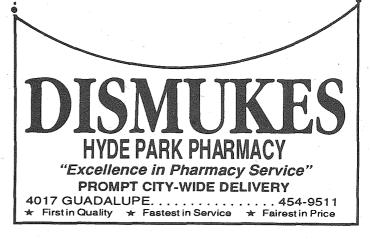
First established in 1891, Hyde Park rapidly became the home of many of Austin's newcomers, as well as some of its oldest and most esteemed citizens. Thaddeus C. Bell, the first child born in Austin's Colony (4 October 1823) and grandson of Josiah Bell, one of the original settlers who came to Texas with Stephen F. Austin in 1821, decided to move to the newly developing suburb in 1894. For \$900 Thaddeus and his wife Florence purchased four 25-foot lots at the northwest corner of Avenue F and 41st Street from Colonel Shipe's Missouri, Kansas and Texas Land and Town Company.

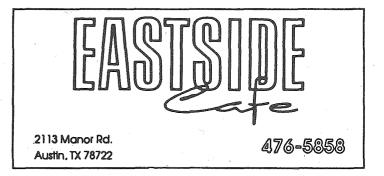
In March 1895, Mr and Mrs Bell hired Lorenzo W. Culver, a local contractor and builder, to construct their new home, along with a stable and fence, for \$1512. A few months later in 1895 Culver had completed the small, single story frame house with high pitched roof. The Bell House is an excellent example of the folk Victorian style, that is, a simple carpenter-built structure embellished with Victorian detailing, much of which had become available through mail order, via the ever-expanding American railroad system. Notice, for example, the ornamental jigsawn brackets applied to the deep inset front porch, and bathroom. In 1985, the Nokes added a staircase and built out the attic as a living space with a bedroom, sitting room and bath. Each of the added bedrooms is distinctive for its playful color scheme, painted by Hyde Park resident Carol Burden for the Nokes' daughters on their 13th birthdays. The kitchen, renovated several years ago, opens on to a screened porch with antique bricks.

One of the distinctive features of Hyde Park is the abundance of corner and side lot gardens that embellish the neighborhood. The Bell House garden is a showcase of native perennials where something is blooming almost year-round. The current owners have incorporated symbolic features in the design of their back garden: its circle-within-a- square shape is based on a Navaho sun sign. The garden also reflects their interest in altars and shrines, and the small shrine tucked into the southwest corner was designed and built by a local craftsman.

Jill Nokes' book, *How to Grow Native Plants of Texas and the Southwest*, is published by Texas Monthly Press.







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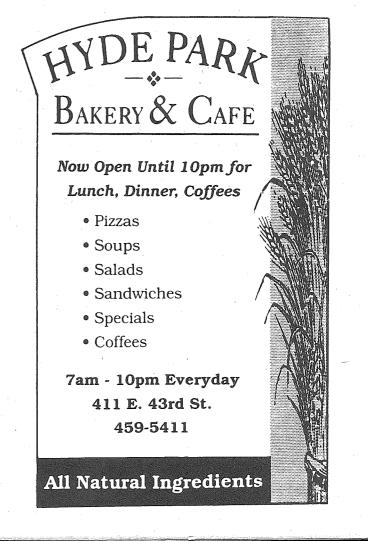
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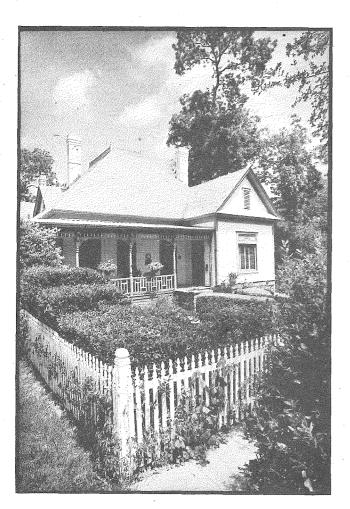


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# Loula Dale Kopperl House 4212 AVENUE F 1896

front hall of her home was lined with stuffed animal trophies, the result of her many hunting expeditions, and she kept racehorses in the stables where the house at 4208 Avenue F now stands. She is fondly remembered by surviving relatives and neighbors, in part for her risqué sense of humor. A great niece recalls riding through Hyde Park in a buggy with Aunt Loula as she sipped beer and told lively stories. Loula Kopperl died in the middle bedroom of her home in 1919.

In the years following her death, the house eventually became dilapidated though intact. It was sold in 1978 to Eugene and Patricia Tankersley, who began the task of renovating the historic structure. In 1984, Peter Flagg Maxson, the Chief Architectural Historian for the Texas Historical Commission, and John Charles Randolph Taylor V, purchased it. The interior of the house, with six fireplaces and 12-foot ceilings

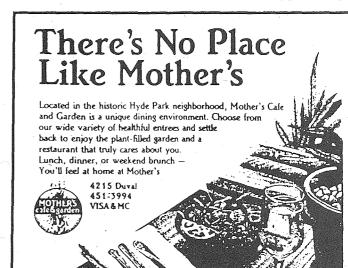
The late–Victorian Kopperl House is an excellent and unusually intact example of the Eastlake Style, popular in many parts of the United States in the late 19th century. The house is named for its first resident owner, Loula Dale Kopperl (1861–1919), a Missouri native who moved to Texas in her youth and was known, according to an 1880 newspaper account, as the "Belle of Burnet." In 1883 she married Morris Allen Kopperl (1861–1922) of Austin, a nephew of Moritz Kopperl, the Moravian-born president of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad, for whom the town of Kopperl (Bosque County), Texas was named. Loula Kopperl purchased this house herself from Henry Clay Fisher, Chief Justice of the 3rd Court of Civil Appeals in 1896. Built by contractor William H. Poole the same year, the house occupied a quarter block and was probably considered a typical middle-class home. Today it retains its original carriage block, cistern and two outbuildings.

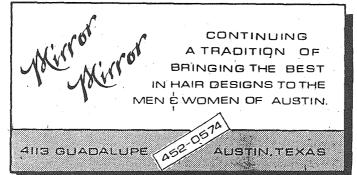
Morris and Loula Kopperl lived at 4212 Avenue F until 1912, when Kopperl moved to Colorado and divorced his wife, charging her with desertion. Loula Kopperl apparently remained unfazed. A neighbor and friend of sculptor Elisabet Ney, Mrs. Kopperl was known as an avid sportswoman and something of a free spirit. The throughout, has been cosmetically adapted to provide a sympathetic setting for 18th– and 19th–century furnishings. The Kopperl House is furnished largely with family pieces, some from the DeGolyer Estate (now the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden). There are also paintings by and of various members of the Flagg family, 19th–century Connecticut artists.

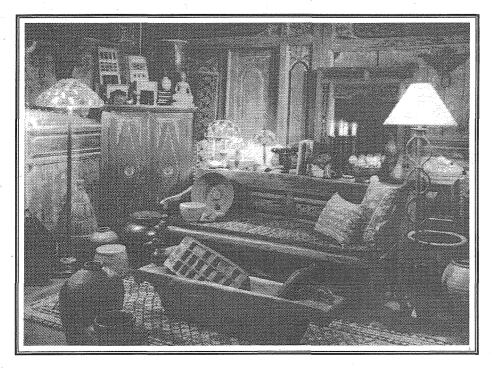
When the property was acquired by its current owners in 1984 it had few plantings. The only tree was the large pecan north of the house that apparently predates the neighborhood. The basic landscape plan by landscape architect James David of Austin featured many period, turn-of-the-century plant materials (althea, hollyhock, crape myrtle, columbine, etc.) as well as natives (Texas mountain laurel, Mexican plum, flame acanthus, pavonia). It has been added to by Mr. Taylor with diverse plant materials tolerant of alkaline soil and Texas heat. Old-fashioned roses abound, including Penelope, Sombriel, La Marne, Caldwell, Archduke Charles, and Fairy varieties.

The Kopperl House was designated an Austin Historic Landmark in 1979 and a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1989. Its owners received an Historic Preservation Award from the Heritage Society of Austin in 1989.









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#### Points of Interest in Historic Hyde Park

A. Moonlight Tower (1895), 41st Street and Speedway: The Hyde Park tower was the first of 31 cast and wrought iron towers installed by the Fort Wayne Electric Co. in Austin. Then, some Hyde Park residents feared that the illumination, sometimes called "Austin moonlight," would confuse their garden vegetables.

B. 4108, 4110 and 4112 Speedway: Dr. Edward and Fannie Bailey built 4108 Speedway in 1910 and 4110 Speedway five years later. Their second house is considered one of the finest remaining Craftsman bungalows in Austin today. The parents of Fannie Bailey built 4112 Speedway in 1908. Its Colonial Revival features give the house a southern, antebellum look.

C. Avenue B Grocery, 4403 Ave. B: The store is open for business during the homes tour. Come experience convenience shopping before 7-Eleven.

D. The Bungalows of Avenue C, 4200 block of Ave. C: Built to appeal to the "working man or woman" these homes could be had for the equivalent cost of "two beers a day." These models of simplicity were built beginning in the 1920s. Eventually, 80 percent of Hyde Park residences were bungalows.

E. Woodburn House (1909), 4401 Ave. D: Originally located at 200 East 40th Street, it was moved to this spot to protect it from demolition. Now an Austin landmark, it also functions as a residence and bed and breakfast. It was once occupied by Bettie Woodburn, daughter and speech writer of the so-called "Carpet-bagger" governor of Texas, Andrew Jackson Hamilton.

F. Elisabet Ney Museum (1892 and 1902), 304 East 44th Street: Home and studio to the illustrious Germanborn sculptor Elisabet Ney, for whom Bismarck, Garibaldi and King Ludwig II of Bavaria once sat. Here, Ney executed the life-size sculptures of Sam Houston and Stephen F. Austin that stand today at the entrance of the Capitol rotunda.

G. Page-Gilbert House (1893), 3913 Ave. G: Christopher Page, a British immigrant who came to Austin in the 1880s to work as a stone-mason, put his skills to work on his own home in Hyde Park. Notice the brick hoodmolds and stone sills and the string course separating the floors.

H. Frank and Annie Covert House (1898), 3912 Ave. G: Frank Covert's name became synonymous with "horseless carriages" when he opened one of Austin's first automobile dealerships. The scale and pretense of this residence, which resembles some of Texas' most splendid courthouses, reflect Covert's social and economic status in Austin at the turn of the century.

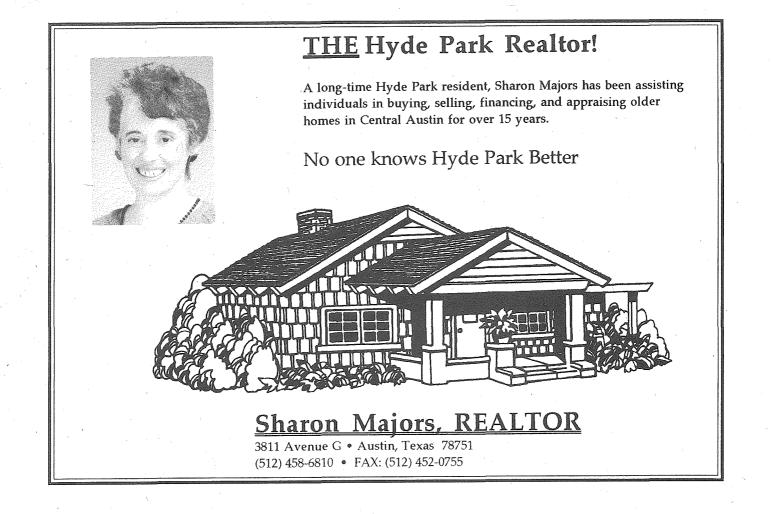
I. Hyde Park Fire Station: One of Austin's oldest fire stations, the neighborhood association has rallied several times in the past 20 years to save it from being closed.

J. Hyde Park Theater (late 1940s), 511 West 43rd St.: Built to house the first North Austin postal substation, the building was also a furniture store and carpentry shop before being converted to a theater in the 1970s. Drop in and enjoy cold lemonade, air conditioning and rest rooms.

Text courtesy of Lisa Germany, author of Historic Walking Tours, Hyde Park, 1993







#### The Committee

Merle Franke, Chair Margot Thomas, Co Chair Alexandra Biesada Bangs Sandra Brougher Jance and Marc Burckhardt Nicole Caspers Susan Crites-Krumm Mary Carolyn George Angero Holt Suzanne Labry Judith Massengale Beth Plater Marge Sanford-Jordan Julia Null Smith Katie Vignery AlexandraWettlaufer

#### Thank You

The Committee would like to thank all the people who volunteered their time and energy to make this year's tour a success: the owners who so graciously opened their homes; the house camptains and docents; the trolley conductors; the musicians who provided their talents; the businesses who advertised in the brochure and on the trolleys and all those who helped out in a variety of ways. Special thanks go to Alan Marburger for his efforts to coordinate the trolley, to Chris Caselli for photographing the homes, to Earl Hunt for the sound systems, to Susan Crites-Krumm and Sandra Brougher for hosting the party for homeowners and captains, to Marge Sanford-Jordan for hosting the volunteer party, and finally, to Merle Franke and Margot Thomas for their leadership and unflagging energy, enthusiasm and goodwill. The booklet was printed by Jack Taylor and Phil Postins of Priority Copy and made possible by the following page sponsors:

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