



City of San Marcos Landmarks Hike

March 6, 2021

Historical Structures and Points of Interest Along the Way

Provided by San Marcos Historical Society

Hollandia Park/Hollandia Dairy – Hollandia Park was once the home of Hollandia Dairy, which was owned and operated by the DeJong family, for 50+ years. The family started with 30 cows in 1956, when the population of San Marcos was only about 1000 residents. For many years the dairy was a favorite field trip for elementary students who would tour the dairy, and if they were lucky, see a calf being born then end the tour with an ice cream bar! The dairy land was divided and sold to several entities. Today Mission Hills High School, Mission Hills Church and Hollandia Park are located where the cows once grazed.

Old Richland School House – Built in 1889, the Richland School, located at the top of a hill on Woodland Parkway (formerly Richland Road) served all the children living in the Richland Valley until San Marcos Elementary School was built in 1947, although the school remained in service until 1957. In 1966, the school was purchased and renovated by John and Thelma Nichols, who also lived in the schoolhouse. The Nichols sold the schoolhouse to Aire DeJong in 1984. After another renovation, large event tents have been added to the property to host weddings and special events. The schoolhouse is used as the bridal dressing room.

Wood House – The Hartshorn/Wood House was built in 1890 by Charles Hartshorn, who also lived in the home off Rock Springs Road. It was purchased in 1942 by Dr. Tipton and Jenny Lind Wood, who added on to the original structure. The couple were active in San Marcos affairs and he served as an early Trustee for Palomar Community College. She was well known for her love of hats, shoes and matching purses. After Tipton's death in 1971, Mrs. Wood sold 15 acres of the property to the City and San Marcos School District in 1974. She had wanted the land to be used for the benefit of the children of San Marcos. By 1976, Woodland Park and Woodland Park School were established. Jenny Lind lived in the home till she passed away in 1979 at the age of 90.

Bougher Park/Veterans Memorial Park – The Helen Bougher Memorial Park was originally named for Helen Pettit Bougher, who grew up and married Alvin, the boy next door. His parents, William and Ida Bougher, came to San Marcos in 1917. They had a large farm and named the road after themselves. Helen died in 1980, and the small neighborhood park was dedicated a few years later. In 2005, a group of veterans had an idea to establish a Veterans Memorial in San Marcos, and by 2008 had raised the funds to install the wall of tiles. On November 11 the City and Veterans Committee hosts an Annual Veterans Day Ceremony.

Borden House – There are different accounts of when this house was built, some time between 1884 and 1888 by Reynold Bascum Borden, who homesteaded the land in 1883. The Borden family lived in the house for over 20 years, and eventually owned over 330 acres in the Richland



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Borden House, continued - area of San Marcos. The home was purchased by Margaret Jorgenson, who lived in the house from 1929 – 50. The Prunier family also owned the house then sold it to Carolyn Read, who has resided here since 1967. Carolyn founded The Horsetrader Magazine, that caters to the equestrian community. She now farms organic raspberries.

Bucher House – This house was built between in 1893 and 1895 by pioneer, “Uncle Joe” Bucher and was located on Nordahl Road, not far from where the freeway offramp and Costco are located today. Bucher grew wine grapes, peaches and apricots on his farm. The Bucher farm was sold in 1915 to the Granettos, who sold it to Lusardi Company in 1980. Lusardi was planning to build a shopping center on the acreage and was willing to give the old house away. After the local Chamber of Commerce decided it was too small for them, it was given to Randy Lobell and his new wife, who moved it to 960 Richland Road. The house has been beautifully restored and is now owned by Rebecca Woods and her family who moved in late last year.

Grace Episcopal Church – This structure was once two separate churches. The center of the church was moved from Encinitas to San Marcos in 1902, and in 1907 the abandoned Richland Methodist Church was cut in two and moved in place on either side, creating a cross. In 1909 the combined structure was dedicated as the San Marcos Methodist Episcopal Church, and was located at Pico and Encinitas Road (now San Marcos Blvd.) In 1967, a new Methodist Church was built on Mission Road, and the Spanish Apostolic Church moved in for a few years. Abandoned again in the 1970’s, the church’s fate was not looking good. In 1984, the church was donated and moved to Rose Ranch Road to become the Grace Episcopal Church.

San Marcos Cemetery – The Cemetery was created in 1984 when the Littlefield family needed a burial site for Nellie Littlefield. Several families pooled resources to purchase seven acres and formed the San Marcos Cemetery Association, each family agreed to maintain a portion of the land. The cemetery became a public district in the 1930’s which allowed for improvements through federal aid programs. These programs helped improved roads, landscaping, installed gutters and water from the Vista flume. Over time, the land holdings increased to 27 acres. In 1983, San Marcos Cemetery merged with Oak Hill Cemetery to become the North County Cemetery District.

For more information on San Marcos history, please contact the San Marcos Historical Society at 960-744-9025 or sanmarcoshistory@att.net, www.smhistory.org 1952 Sycamore Dr. San Marcos