



MONTE VISTA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

210.737-8212 • P.O. Box 12386 San Antonio, TX 78212 • info@montevista-sa.org • www.montevista-sa.org

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April 2, 2015

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**Organized 1973
Historic Designation 1975
Listed in the
National Register
of Historic Places**

*To encourage the
preservation of the distinctive
heritage of the Monte Vista area;
to keep the physical identity of
this late nineteenth-century
district intact; to educate the
public, especially the youth, with
the knowledge of our inherited
neighborhood values which
contribute to a wholesome
urban environment*

RE: Agreement to use Landa Library Annex

Ramiro,

Thank you for meeting with me last week, and for bringing to our attention the agreement between the Library and the Monte Vista Historical Assn. for the use of the office space in the Landa Library annex.

I am relatively new to the association, so it has been an educational experience for me to study the history of this agreement. I spoke with Frank Davila, who was president in 1994, and he made the intent of the agreement much clearer to me.

In that year, the director of the library, June Garcia, envisioned a mutually beneficial relationship between the Landa Library and MVHA. At the time, the annex was empty and in run-down condition, the grounds were neglected, and the city was struggling with the task of converting an old house to public library use. Ms. Garcia believed that the MVHA could be of assistance to the library, and that the library could be of assistance to MVHA, and that both parties would benefit from the alliance.

In the past twenty years, her vision has been realized to a degree that perhaps even she could not have imagined. It has been a truly beneficial relationship for both parties. MVHA's commitment to the Landa Library and grounds eventually led to the establishment of the Landa Gardens Conservancy, and the results have been beyond anyone's hopes. And MVHA has enjoyed twenty years of stability, making it much easier to fulfill our mission of historic preservation and neighborhood improvement.

In keeping with the spirit of the agreement, MVHA has made direct donations to the Library or Landa Gardens Conservancy in the total amount of \$80,968.99 since the year 2000. Attached is a breakdown of those contributions by year. (This information was gathered from the MVHA annual financial reports.)

An additional point, worthy of note, is the fact that members of the association have donated generously over the years. Attached is a list of major donors to Landa Gardens since 2003, with MVHA members highlighted. We are not privy to the specific dollar amounts of these donations, but if you take only the minimum amount in each category, you will see that the sum is significant.

Without question, there was a lapse in institutional memory on both sides, and it is clear that MVHA has not always complied with the letter of the agreement. We do believe, however, that the donations made by MVHA over the years have fully supported the spirit and intent of the agreement.

Of course, we understand that times change. This is a new day, and it is time to renew our old agreement or develop a new one. We hope that we can continue to use the office under terms that are favorable to both parties. We have met with Heidi Novotny to discuss ways in which we can continue our traditional efforts to support Landa Library, and we have discussed the possibility of sharing the office space with Landa Gardens Conservancy. We understand that it may be time for the Library board to consider collecting some rent, and if that is the case, we would appreciate the opportunity to discuss it with you.

It makes me very happy to have learned more about the historic relationship between the Landa Library and Monte Vista Historical Association, and I now have a much better appreciation for the contribution that both organizations have made to improve the quality of life in Monte Vista. I know that our members join me in the hope that this special relationship will continue in the future.

Sincerely,

E.C. Parker
President, MVHA

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Donations made by Monte Vista Historical Association to Landa Library and Landa Gardens Conservancy since 2000.

President-Elect			
Tony Garcia	2000	\$ 4,000	Landa Library Improvements
Treasurer	2001	2,137	Landa Library Improvements
Gloria Kemper	2002	-0-	
Recording Secretary	2003	-0-	
Diane Fuqua	2004	45,871	SA Area Foundation – Landa Gardens
	2005	5,000	Landa Gardens
Corresponding Secretary	2006	5,000	Landa Library Roof
Jane Lewis		5,000	Landa Gardens Conservancy
	2007	-0-	
Board Members	2008	5,000	Landa Gardens Conservancy
Paula Bondurant	2009	-0-	
Jessica Erin Elliott	2010	-0-	
Andrew Eubanks	2011	-0-	
Summer Greathouse		-0-	
Sandra Grove	2012	8,460	Landa Garage Doors
Dolly Holmes	2013	500	Landa Gardens Conservancy
Trudy Kinnison	2014	-0-	
Laura Labatt			
Clint Lawson			
Michele Nievaard	Total	\$80,968	
Nellie Shannon			
David Smith			
Diane Warren			
Bill White			
Rosanne White			

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NEIGHBORS IN HISTORY

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