

Brack Pack

NEWSLETTER

Brackenridge Park Conservancy

August 2021

DONATE

Your gift supports the BPC mission to protect, restore, and preserve Brackenridge Park.



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Choose Brackenridge Park Conservancy as your charitable organization on smile.amazon.com, and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases.



Parktoberfest



*Celebrating Oktoberfest
in the Park
Sunday, Sept. 26, 2021
2-5 p.m.
A free event*

Preparations are under way for the 2021 Parktoberfest!

We already have several beer vendors confirmed, who will be offering free beer tastings. Vendors on tap so far are:

- K-9 Lager
- Viva Beer
- Altstadt Beer
- Tuff Dog

- Alamo
- Freetail
- Bexar Brewers



The always popular Beethoven Maennerchor will be on hand for some toe-tapping polka.

Sponsored By

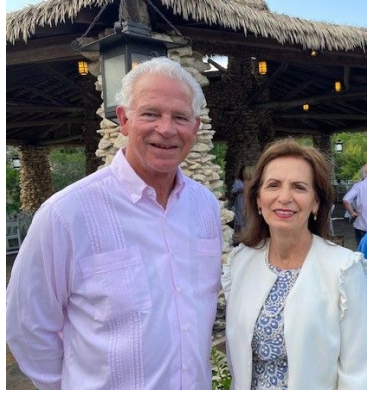


If you would like to volunteer for this fun fall event, please email us at info@brackenridgepark.org.

Founders Circle Reception



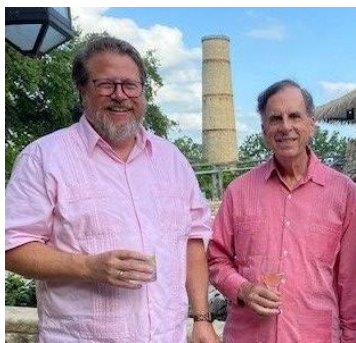
Chico and John
Newman and Pat
Semmes



Board members Rick
Shaw and Mary Alice
Cisneros



Tom Semmes, Joe
Turner and Lynn Bobbitt



Mac White and Lewis
Fisher



Dora Verde, Shannon
Nisbet and Joe Linson

*The BPC Board
of Directors
honored the
members of the
Brackenridge
Founders Circle
with a reception
and dinner at
the Sunken
Garden Theater.*

Photos by Mary Fisher

Miraflores Update



Photo by Bill Pennell, Parks
& Recreation Department

Work on the walkway in Miraflores continues.

Do you have artifacts from Miraflores? Please email Lynn Osborne Bobbitt, BPC executive director, at lynn@brackenridgepark.org to arrange to re-introduce your pieces into the Miraflores garden.

Big Give



JOIN OUR GIVING DAY!

Support us and give back on September 23, 2021 12am - 11:59pm

Your Big Give gift will go towards defraying the cost of the "Brackenridge Park" signs on the Tuleta Drive garage.

Frida Kahlo Painting



A painting, "My Dream of a Sunday Afternoon in Brackenridge Park", by Julene Franki is on display in the BPC office for viewing. The office address is 531 Brackenridge Way.

You can learn more about Julene and her art on her website, julene.io.

History Tales: Confederate Tannery



The Civil War was in its second year when Confederate representatives wanted to build a tannery in San Antonio and approached the City to purchase a 75-acre tract on the San Antonio River.

The tannery was under construction by April 1863, when the City Council granted permission for the Confederate government to "quarry hard rock from No. 24 and 25 quarries at no charge for constructing their works at the head of the San Antonio River."

Though the full extent of the tannery's operation and production has not been researched, it is known that the completed facility also included a saw mill.

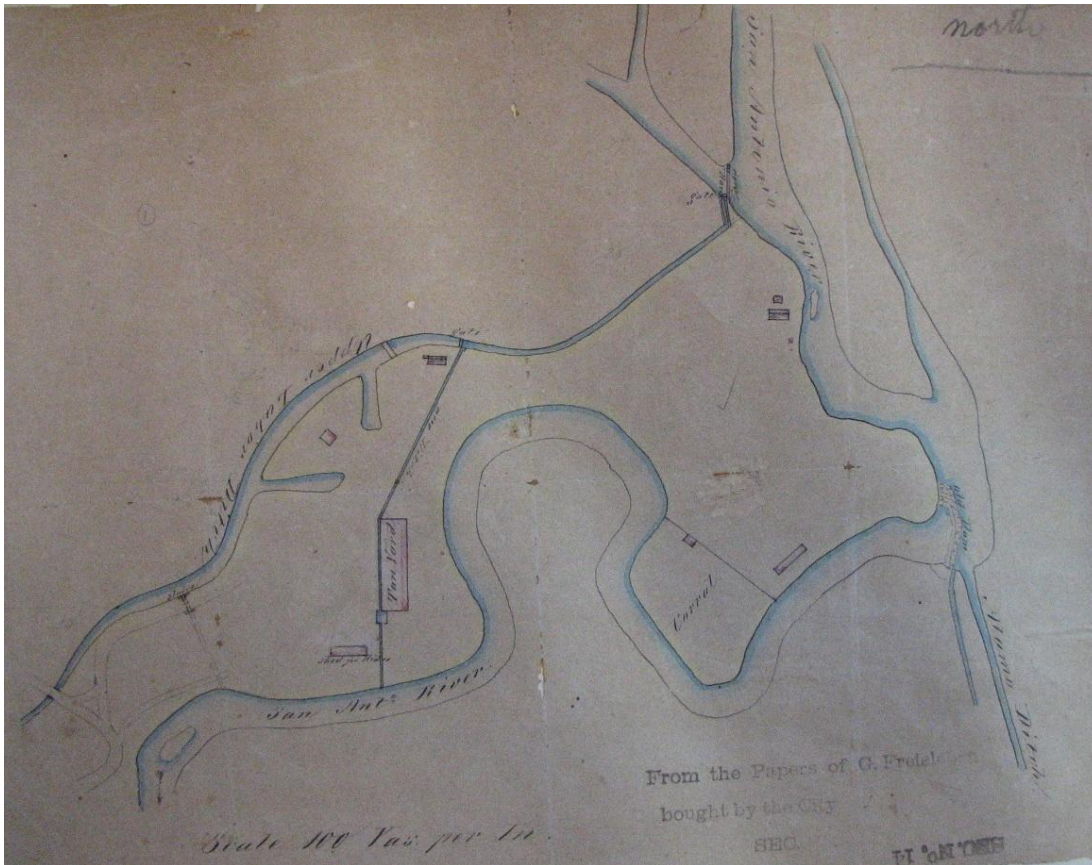
The tannery and mill were reportedly capable of processing 15,000 hides annually and 3,000 feet of lumber daily. Water was provided by a hewn stone raceway that ran between the Upper Labor ditch and the San Antonio River.

When advertised for sale after the war in 1867, the facility consisted of "twelve stone lime vats, fifty-two wooden vats, seven stone pools...one steam saw-mill capable of sawing 3,000 feet of lumber daily...one small stone building."

In 2021, City workers excavating a perimeter waterway at the San Antonio Zoo uncovered the tannery sluice gate. Representatives from the City and Brackenridge Park Conservancy met with construction engineers, planners and contractors and agreed that the sluice gate should be carefully removed and stored.

Repurposing the Confederate-era sluice gate and restoring it between the acequia and raceway are part of the Conservancy's 2021 Capital Campaign.

Proposed relocation of the sluice gate reconstruction between the Upper Labor acequia and the Pump House raceway.



A period plan for the Confederate Tannery and wastewater system. Map courtesy City of San Antonio.

OUR MISSION

The Brackenridge Park Conservancy is a steward of and an advocate for the park and an instrument for preserving and enhancing the park's natural, historic, educational, and recreational resources for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

Brackenridge Park Conservancy
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