

The Joe Barfield Group
Specializing in Homes of Character and History
(210) 733-1928

Website: www.SanAntonioVintageHomes.com

Email: homes@joebarfield.com

Architectural Analysis of 122, Montclair Avenue

By: *Architectural Historian*

Shelley Roff, PhD



The townhouses on the 100 block of Montclair are composed of light, rectangular volumes sheltered by dark, shed roofs and are surrounded on all sides by a heavy blanket of trees. Each home is complimented with manicured landscaping in front and a turquoise blue swimming pool in back. The townhouse was possibly *the* most desirable form of housing back for young professionals at the time of its construction in 1982, and for reasons that are poignantly relevant to us today.

The term *yuppie* was coined in the very year these townhouses were constructed. Young, upwardly-mobile professionals wanted elegant housing to reflect status, that didn't detract from the focus on not yet ready for a family. The increasing households today, with or without children, easy-to-maintain housing very appealing.



their new socio-economic their careers. And most were number of single head-of-make this form of secure,

Townhouses sprung up all over Texas cities as the sign of a luxury home, more so than the condominium or rowhouse. It was a favorite investment, due to complete ownership of the property. It is a home that shares walls with adjacent properties but sits on land that you own (with a condo you only own the interior), and it offers just a little green space to care for. Its large living spaces are stacked on multiple floors, in order to occupy a small, urban footprint.



The Joe Barfield Group
Specializing in Homes of Character and History
(210) 733-1928

Website: www.SanAntonioVintageHomes.com

Email: homes@joebarfield.com



122 Montclair is a modern, light-filled home, decorated with a minimalist, light beige tile, cabinetry, and carpet, subtly set in contrast to beige or white walls, glass-paneled French doors, and large single-pane windows with chunky white plantation blinds. The light palette of colors may very well reflect the original look of the townhouse when it was built. Back in the 70s, the fashionable colors for home décor were apple and olive green, oranges, and rust brown. Postmodernism trickled its way down to middle class homes in the 80s with refreshingly light colored pastels. Suddenly peach was *the* most fashionable color for a home renovation, and colors like powder pink, baby blue, turquoise, and lemon yellow began to show up on our t-shirts as well as on Mom's sofa. This more sun-filled and airy outlook perhaps can be seen as a reflection of the booming yuppie economy.



In contrast to the pale colors of the interior palette, a little San Antonio influence can be seen in the Mexican-theme bathrooms that display bright red, dark blue and black tile with exposed wood lattice cabinet doors, which are designed to match the exterior patio and balcony privacy screens. One feature that seems stylistically contrasting, is the Germanic doily-cut woodwork of the fireplace.

