

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 17, 2018  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2018-0648  
1200 MONTOPOLIS DRIVE**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1964 recreation center.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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Two-story, rectangular-plan, front-gabled, painted brick and stuccoed institutional building with vertical metal panels covering the second story of the building; bands of aluminum-frame windows with a horizontal configuration. The entrance to the building is perpendicular to the front façade.

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**RESEARCH**

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The Montopolis Recreation Center was built in 1964 by the Dolores Catholic Church as a community and recreation center. It was operated by a private non-profit until the City of Austin purchased the property in 1974. The building has had several modifications over the years, primarily for ADA accessibility and to replace deteriorated metal cladding and roofing panels. The adjacent Montopolis Health Center was constructed in 1978.

The Montopolis Recreation Center was one of the very few, if not the only, city recreation centers which offered training in boxing for neighborhood youth. Boxing competitions were held regularly at the Montopolis Recreation Center, as well as other activities, such as senior dances, classes, day-care services, and a playground for children.

According to the Austin Parks and Recreation website, “The Montopolis Recreation + Community Center will jointly replace two aging facilities and be co-operated by the Austin Parks and Recreation Department and Austin Public Health Department. This building will be rebuilt to provide over 33,000 square feet of new space, including a commercial kitchen, gymnasium, fitness room, computer lab, conference rooms and educational programming areas. The building’s design seeks to support the initiatives of each partnering department by fostering mental and physical well-being through community recreation and the pursuit of healthy lifestyles.” The project was approved in 2012 with a \$15 million bond issue.



Charles A. York  
Texas Registration #17821  
These documents are incomplete and may not be used  
for regulatory approval, permit, or construction.

View of Primary Entrance  
Date: 05/25/2016  
Scale: As indicated

## Proposed Montopolis Recreation and Community Center

### STAFF COMMENTS

The building is not listed in any City survey to date.

Staff has evaluated this building for designation as a historic landmark and has determined that the building does not meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code:

- a. **Architecture.** The building represents 1960s institutional architecture with a low, horizontal appearance, and bands of aluminum-framed multi-light windows. However, this building does not exhibit sufficient architectural distinction to warrant individual designation under the criterion for architectural significance.
- b. **Historical association.** The building was built as a parish community center and taken over by the city of Austin in the early 1970s; the city has operated a recreation center in the building since that time. There do not appear to be significant historical associations.
- c. **Archaeology.** The building was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
- d. **Community value.** The building may, by virtue of its location in Montopolis Park, have some community value in its identity as the neighborhood recreation center, and provision of facilities to train neighborhood youth in boxing and other activities in this traditionally Hispanic area. However, staff

does not believe that the building warrants landmark designation based upon this criterion, as the criteria for architecture and historical associations do not appear to be met.

- e. **Landscape feature.** The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center. The building does not meet the criteria for individual designation as a historic landmark, and is being replaced with a new, larger community and recreation center.



1200 Montopolis Drive  
ca. 1964







## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1200 Montopolis Drive

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
December, 2018

- 1992            Montopolis Recreation Center  
                 City Department of Health and Human Services
- 1985-86       Montopolis Health Department
- 1981           Montopolis Health Department  
                 NOTE: The Health Department building was built in 1978.
- 1977           The address is not listed in the directory.
- 1973           Montopolis Community School
- 1968           Montopolis Community Center and Branch Library
- 1965           Montopolis Community Center
- 1964           The address is not listed in the directory.

### Newman's victor in Silver Gloves

Junior Novice champions were crowned in the sixth annual Silver Gloves boxing competition Tuesday night at Montopolis Recreation Center, as Donnie Newman took the heavyweight crown with a unanimous decision over Albert Lindgren before 370 boxing fans.

Competition continues tonight with semifinals action that will include 31 bouts beginning at 7:30.

Carlos Valdez took the eight- and nine-year-old 45-50 pound champl-

onship, and Frank Flores took the 56-60 crown.

In the 10-12 bracket, George Go-  
ea took the 61-65-pound class  
crown, Richard Mares of Martin  
Recreation Center 66-70, Issac Val-  
lejo 71-75, Fermin Tijerina 76-80,  
Isidro Mendez 81-85, Ricky Chavez  
91-95, and Willie Viella 65-70.

Randy Mace took the 13-14 year  
old 91-95-pound class crown,  
Johnny Flores 101-105, Richard  
Cantu of Montopolis Center 106-110,

Joe Ortiz 116-120, Raymond Bernal  
125 and David Serrano 132.

In the Novice class, Joe Garcia  
took a split decision over Nathan  
Blaylock in the 125-pound division,  
while Willard Bell took a unani-  
mous decision over Javier Alvarez  
in the 132-pound division, and Gal-  
en Hawkins took a unanimous deci-  
sion over Steve Owsley of the South  
Austin Recreation Center.

James Barbosa, of Martin Rec-  
reation Center was awarded the

junior sportsmanship award, and  
Johnny Flores was named the out-  
standing junior boxer.

The Garza Boxing Team of San  
Antonio was awarded the junior  
team trophy.

Wednesday night will be high-  
lighted by numerous AA and  
Golden Glove champions compet-  
ing.

Tickets are on sale for \$2.50 ring-  
side, \$2.00 general admission.

Story on a boxing competition at the Montopolis Recreation Center  
Austin American-Statesman, December 8, 1976

*Espere Howard 60 acre tract*  
*Santiago Del Valle Grant*

## WATER SERVICE PERMIT

Austin, Texas

Sec 6 81 681  
 No. 34933 T.P.S.

**INDEXED**

Received of *Dolores Center* Date *12-10-63*  
 Address *1200 Montopolis drive*  
 Amount *Fifty Hundred and fifty 00* \$560.00  
 Plumber \_\_\_\_\_ Size of Tap *3"*

Date of Connection <i>12-17-63</i>	No. Fittings	Pipe	Corp. Cock	Cop. to Iron ell	Cop. to Cop. ell	Cop. to Iron Coupling	Cop. to Cop. Coupling	Angle Stop	Stop	Bushing	Nipples	Service Clamp	Valve	Meter Box	Lock Lid	Drain Tile	Drain Tile Lid	Stop & Drain	Job No.	Foreman
Size of Tap Made <i>4"</i>																				
Size Service Made <i>4"</i>																				
Size Main Tapped <i>6"</i>																				
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock <i>4'</i>																				
From <i>NORTH</i> Prop. Line to Curb Cock <i>202'</i>																				
Location of Meter <i>Front Prop. Line</i>																				
Type of Box <i>Concrete</i>																				
Depth of Main in St. <i>3'</i>																				
Depth of Service Line <i>3'</i>																				
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main <i>53'</i>																				
Checked by Engr. Dept. <i>MM-7-22-64</i>																				

Water service permit for the Dolores Catholic Church recreation center (1963)

**SANITARY SEWER SERVICE PERMIT**

Austin, Texas

No. 41260

*Out Over*

Received of *Dolores Center* Date *12-11-63*  
 Address *1200 Montopolis drive*  
 Amount *Fifty Dollars* \$50.00  
 Builder or Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Plumber *Vega*  
 Lot *Espere Howard 60 acre tract* Block \_\_\_\_\_ Subdivision *Santiago* Plat No. *681*  
 Date of Connection *3-13-64*  
 By City *10' S of NLL*  
 By Plumber \_\_\_\_\_  
 Checked By *POWELL*  
 Size Main *10"* Depth *± 9 1/2'*  
 Main Assign. *12 1/2' E of WFE*  
 Sub Depth *9'* Prop. Line *6'*  
 Stub Location *± 30' S of NLL RISER*  
 Book No. *A-4090* *023+50*  
 Paving Cut \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_  
*Ch. 2-26-64 M.R.*

No. Fittings	Price	Size
15	3.75	6" Pipe
1	1.00	6" Pipe
1	1.00	Wyes
1	1.00	Bends
1	1.00	Reducers
1	1.00	Plugs
1	1.00	Sand
1	1.00	Gravel
1	1.00	Remix
1	1.00	Stoppers
1	1.00	Castings
1	1.00	Other Tap 6" Pipe 100
1	1.00	Backhoe 1-10
1	1.00	Labor 10-10
1	1.00	Shovel 1-10
1	1.00	Excavator 1-10
		Total

Sewer service permit for the Dolores Catholic Church recreation center (1964)

OWNER	City of Austin	PARD	ADDRESS	1200 Montopolis Dr.
PLAT	681	LOT 1 & 2	BLK.	
SUBDIVISION	Montopolis Park			
OCCUPANCY	public swimming pool			
BLDG. PERMIT #	169730	DATE	1-11-78	OWNERS ESTIMATE \$286,000.00
CONTRACTOR	Hayden Sales Const. Co.		NO. OF FIXTURES	
WATER TAP REC#	E96942	SEWER TAP REC#	83134	
public swimming pool & masonry toilet bldg, 6224 sq. ft.				
10-17-78# 176894- City of Austin, Health Clinic-				
1 xtry mas Health Clinic. 179,967.00				

Building permit to the City of Austin to construct the swimming pool (1978) and to construct the health clinic (1978)

City records indicate a permit to remodel the building to create offices in 1985, a permit to remodel the interior and exterior for ADA accessibility in 1994, and a permit to replace metal roof panels in 2003