



The Point

The small triangular lot which was assigned the address 800 Lazy Lane is at the western end of the street, where it comes together with Panorama Drive to form a point. Because of the shape of the lot, and the cairn pointing to the sky which adorns the front wall, the property has been christened "***The Point***." The point of the lot is clearly rendered on Viola Redmond's sketched map.

This tiny point of land near the summit of Mount Wesley was not sold when the first lots of Methodist Encampment were put up for sale in 1924. It would be another 12 years before it was first transferred from The West Texas Encampment Association to a private party, and that was to Reverend E.A. Hunter and his wife Enola on March 3, 1936, who acquired it for the whopping sum of \$337.50. Their purchase coincided with the original platting of Methodist Encampment as a subdivision, which identifies the point as Lot 1 of Block 7A. Rev. and Mrs. Hunter



The Point in the land meets the Point to the sky

already owned a lot in Methodist Encampment farther down the hill, which they HAD bought in 1924, the first year that property was offered for sale in the Encampment.

After the Hunters bought the property, it went through a dizzying series of transfers and liens. The Hunters started by keeping the property only 2 weeks before conveying it to one A.R. Vetter through a Builder and Mechanic's Lien (B&ML) one the very day that their deed was filed. For his part, Mr. Vetter kept it only THREE DAYS before releasing it to Mrs. Amy Wallace, who apparently paid off the lien and held onto it for 5 years before Rev. and Mrs. Hunter extended it by filing another B&ML on their property on February 12, 1941. Finally they were able to pay off the lien and retake possession of it unencumbered on May 4, 1946. This time they kept it for 4 years before selling it to Charles T Hardt and his wife Ruby of Hidalgo County in May of 1950. They kept it only 3 years before selling it to the Reverend Walter W. Lipps and wife Mary Lynn on June 15, 1953. The Lipps were living there in the mid-50s when Viola Redmond drew her famous map of Methodist Encampment, and the property is identified as "Lipps." In 1968 Mr. Lipps, by then a single man, sold it to a minister and his wife, Cecil W. and Hazel Barnes. For them it was a full-time residence, and soon Mrs. Barnes' sisters joined them in the neighborhood: first, Alice Ohlen, who lived on Cedar, followed by Minniebelle Perkins, who lived on Tanglewood Drive. After the death of Rev. Barnes, his widow sold the home in 1980 to family members J.O. Hidy, Jr. and his wife Beverly, who kept it as a second home until they sold it in 1993 to Lisa Marshall. Thus the chain of ownership:

March 3, 1936	Sold by West Texas Encampment Association, represented by its President, Rev. Spellman, to Rev. E.A. Hunter and his wife, Enola
March 18, 1936	Builder's Lien against the property filed by A. R. Vetter
March 21, 1936	Builder's Lien released by Vetter in favor of Mrs. Amy Wallace
February 12, 1941	Builder's Lien extended to March 18, 1942
May 4, 1946	The Hunters pay off the lien and take possession of the property
May 16, 1950	Sold by the Hunters to Charles T. and Ruby Hardt
June 15, 1953	Sold by the Hardts to Walter W. and Mary Lynn Lipps
Nov. 12, 1968	Sold by the Lipps to Rev. Cecil W. and Hazel Barnes
April 18, 1980	Sold by the Barnes to J.O. and Beverly Hidy, Jr.
May 6, 1993	Sold by the Hidy's to Lisa A. Marshall
Nov. 1, 2018	Sold by Lisa A. Marshall to current owner

The original structure appears to have been 1625 square feet, but by 1951 when Property Taxes were instituted in Kerr County, there had been at least five additions to the original structure in all directions and in a somewhat haphazard manner, bringing the total livable square footage up to 2,185 square feet and taking up essentially the entire lot. By the early Nineties after changing hands so many times, the house fell into disrepair and presented a sad and dilapidated appearance. But in 1993 its fortunes changed, when it was acquired by a couple who set about to restore and embellish it. While carefully respecting its original character, they lovingly renovated the home and landscaped the grounds, turning it into the jewel which now graces this prominent corner in the neighborhood. One of the owners was a stained glass artist, and her outstanding work can now be seen in windows and doors on all sides of the house.



There are also many works of art and whimsical touches throughout the interior of the house, such as magnificent pass-through windows from the kitchen to dining area, which took Best of Show at the Hill Country Arts Foundation one year.

You have to look carefully to find the small figures which adorn the steps to the roof deck. The wooden stairs to the basement were magically transformed into a marble staircase...by means of marbles!

The property was enclosed all around with a hefty fence in order protect its gardens (of Texas native plants where possible) from the plentiful whitetail deer which roam freely in the neighborhood. Lovely sculptures such as

Quanyin grace the yard. And from the wraparound roof terrace there are breathtaking panoramic views of the Hill Country.

Residents of the neighborhood will recall walking or driving by the peace memorial the former owners created in a section of the yard on the Lazy Lane side of the house: The name of each American soldier killed in Iraq was inscribed as it became known on dogtags which were hung on a wrought iron gazebo. For 27 years the owners continued to improve and beautify their unusual home, until for family reasons they were called to move to Virginia, selling the house at the end of 2018.

The current resident has hosted a book signing, piano concert, and street party with a one-man banjo band at different spaces of the labyrinthine Point.

