

## Abbeville Press Publishes Historic Book of Park Cities Homes

**Dallas, TX (October 1, 2008) Abbeville Press** of New York announces the publication of *The Homes of the Park Cities, Dallas: Great American Suburbs*. Three acclaimed local authors and one photographer spent months compiling research and photographs for this beautiful art book, which boasts the history and photographs of the Park Cities' most grand and historic homes and estates. The two luxurious neighborhoods of Highland Park and University Park exemplify innovative early-twentieth-century planning and remain today, two of the most highly desirable places to live in the United States.

*The Homes of the Park Cities* is 480 pages with 325 color photographs, plus black-and-white images of old maps, advertising, etc. It includes the history of the development of the Park Cities and great figures like Henry Exall, John S. Armstrong, Edgar Flippen, Hugh Prather, W.W. Caruth, Sr., and Hal Thompson, who had the vision and determination to create a suburb out in the country knowing that Dallas would some day grow to and beyond the Park Cities. Both Highland Park and University Park are covered, as well as SMU, the shopping areas, parks, and landscaping. For more information and to view the cover, please refer to:

[http://www.amazon.com/Homes-Park-Cities-Dallasexas/dp/0789209764/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1216857299&sr=8-2](http://www.amazon.com/Homes-Park-Cities-Dallasexas/dp/0789209764/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1216857299&sr=8-2)

**Virginia Savage McAlester**, who co-wrote the classic architectural work, *A Field Guide to American Houses* and *Great American Houses and Their Architectural Styles* (Abbeville Press), spent months pouring over historical records in the Highland Park Town Hall, the University Park City Hall, SMU, libraries and archives, as well as searching *The Dallas Morning News* back to the 1880's, and then many more months writing about the fascinating and farsighted men who realized the potential of the area and how suburbs would come to be important to cities.

**Willis Cecil Winters**, FAIA, is a Dallas architect who co-authored two books, *The American Institute of Architects Guide to Dallas Architecture* and *Crafting Traditions: The Architecture of Mark Lemmon*. He is a contributing editor to

*Texas Architect* magazine. He contributed information about the architects who designed both cottages and grand homes, sometimes both, and how they came to Dallas and became involved in the new suburb on the prairie. His appendix of architects by name with addresses of homes they designed, then by street and house number showing the architect's name, will be a valuable reference tool.

**Prudence Mackintosh**, a columnist for *Texas Monthly* and author of *Thundering Sneakers*, *Just As We Were*, *Sneaking Out*, and *Retreads*, is renowned for her witty and charming essays on life in the Park Cities. Her insight adds warmth and depth to the facts of the book.

**Steve Clicque's** photographs have been published by the Society of Architectural Historians, *Preservation Dallas*, *Historic New England*, and *The Dallas Morning News*. He is a contributing editor of the *Friends of Kebyar Architectural Journal*. He spent hours photographing a single home, waiting for the light to show the home and its landscaping at its best. Not one homeowner who was asked permission for the photographer to go on the property to take a photo declined, and many asked for a day or two to have their landscapers plant flowers, or for advance notice so the fountain could be turned on.

Several book signings are planned in November and December, with the authors and photographer in attendance, at homes featured in the book, including one hosted by **Patti and Ken Crews** on November 25. Separate invitations will follow.

**Abbeville Press** is the publisher of handsome art and architectural books including *Great American Houses and Their Architectural Styles*, *The Great Country Houses of Central Europe*, and *New Country Houses*. Visit their website at [abbeville.com](http://abbeville.com).

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