



## ABOUT PAT HURLEY NEIGHBORHOOD

This neighborhood lies north of Central and just below the steep bluffs which line the west bank of the Rio Grande for several miles to the north. Though just across the river from Old Town and a short bus ride from downtown, the Pat Hurley neighborhood sometimes seems a world away, with its fields, gardens, irrigation ditches, and narrow winding roads. The upper park offers spectacular views of the city, with the Rio Grande in the foreground, against the backdrop of the Sandia Mountains.

The character of this neighborhood opens up to the patient and observant walker through glimpses of gardens, farm animals, lived-in porches behind fences or walls, and diverse housing styles and sizes, no two alike; through the sounds of rancho music, of roosters crowing, and maybe the hammering and sawing of construction on a few new houses drifting through the air on a warm Saturday afternoon in winter; through the coolness felt in the summer under the spreading shade of old cottonwoods and near the flowing ditches; through the magic of lots of lights at Christmas time. The following walks will give you a taste of the wide variety of experiences in this neighborhood. Discover on your own.

# PAT HURLEY

NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR

1.5-2 MILES



**No 3** ALBUQUERQUE NEIGHBORHOOD  
WALKING TOUR SERIES

WALK



# HISTORY

Resources: [Historic Albuquerque Today](#), Susan Dewitt

The Pat Hurley neighborhood was once part of the village of Atrisco (from the Nahuatl word “Atlixco”, meaning “upon the water”.) The village was founded in 1700, before Albuquerque. It was part of a Spanish land grant which was 82,000 acres at its largest, stretching between the Rio Grande and the Rio Puerco and between Interstate 40 and Gun Club Road. Atrisco continued to be a farming community throughout the 19th century. The Pat Hurley neighborhood and park were named after Patrick Jay Hurley, a lawyer who served as President Hoover’s Secretary of War. Pat Hurley was the father of Wilson Hurley, one of the Southwest’s most prominent landscape painters.



Albuquerque Motorcycle Club, 2002. Photographer, Cheryl Myers

## WALKABILITY

Walking routes are moderately difficult to difficult because of narrow or missing sidewalks, lack of curb ramps, and steeply sloping driveways. Roads are good and mostly low traffic, but keep an eye out for cars and loose dogs. Paths along the ditches and drains are dirt “goat trails” and rough in places. The walk to the upper park is challenging because of elevation gain.

To find **new things,**  
take the path you took  
**yesterday.**

– Gary Snyder, *The Practice of the Wild*

# No 3

## PAT HURLEY NEIGHBORHOOD WALKS



**RR** Rapid Ride Stop  
Route 766

**APPROXIMATELY 2 MILES**

**START AT LOWER PAT HURLEY PARK, 3828 RINCON NW.**

**1. LOWER PAT HURLEY PARK, NEAR RINCON AND REGINA.**

Parking is available at this neighborhood park, along with children's playgrounds, tennis courts, and community center buildings.

**WALK SOUTH ON REGINA TO RINCON, TURN LEFT (EAST) ON RINCON.**

This area is characterized by mature elms and cottonwoods. A morning walk might be punctuated with rooster calls. Rincon crosses the Arenal Main Canal, part of the system of canals, drains and irrigation ditches (acequias) in the valley managed by the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District. These form a network of informal pathways throughout the valley. The Arenal Canal comes from the Rio Grande in this neighborhood and goes through the south valley all the way to Isleta Pueblo.

**TURN RIGHT (SOUTH) ON 49TH, TURN LEFT ON GLENDALE, LEFT ON 47TH.**

**2. ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH, ON THE CORNER OF 47TH AND GLENDALE.**

Built in the 1970's, but the congregation formed almost 50 years ago.

**3. 409 47TH, ON THE CORNER OF 47TH AND RINCON.**

The Manuel Sanchez y Aranda Home, c. 1895, is a designated historic landmark. This old farmhouse once stood on 28 acres. The Spanish Vernacular house, hidden behind a new coyote fence, has linear construction with 20" thick walls made of terrones (sod blocks), and a stone rubble foundation. An old cottonwood, planted in 1910, still stands on the SE corner. Next door is a thick grove of pine trees. Look for horses along this section of the walk.

**WALK EAST ON HERRERA TO ATRISCO, TURN LEFT (NORTH).**

Watch for dogs on Herrera! The west side of Atrisco has narrow sidewalks, no sidewalks on the east side. This area is characterized by large open fields and gardens, hints of a more rural, agricultural past, but also heavy, fast traffic on Atrisco.

**4. 600 ATRISCO NW.**

The former Albuquerque Motorcycle Club was built in 1938-1940. Look for the motorcycle club inscription on

the beam over the door. The SW Vernacular style house has a unique volcanic stone façade with vigas in front. The stone is purported to be from the volcanoes and the rifle range on the west mesa. The clubhouse was equipped with a nickelodeon and an oak dance floor.

**5. 627 ATRISCO.**

Ranchitos de Martinez is a treat – sheep grazing in a pasture, roosters, old farm equipment, and many other interesting details.

**6. ACROSS ATRISCO IS A STRAW BALE HOUSE AND ANOTHER WITH A STRAW BALE WALL.**

**FROM HERE YOU HAVE A CHOICE OF GOING:**

A. Northeast along Arenal Canal to the Bosque and the river

B. The other direction along the NW side of the Arenal Canal to return to the park.

Both of these routes are on uneven dirt surfaces. Otherwise,

**WALK SOUTH ON 49TH (WITH PARALLEL ACEQUIA), TURN LEFT ON BLUEWATER.**

**7. 3521 BLUEWATER.**

Beautiful adobe house and wall, with chickens roaming the grounds. Large wooded property with cottonwood trees.

**WALK SOUTH ON 47TH.**

8. An attempt to develop new houses at Brightway & 47th has been slow; one house is completed, perhaps more will follow. Look west at 47th & Herrera to see the homes built up on the bluff above the park.

**WALK WEST ON GLENDALE.**

**9. 5025 GLENDALE.**

The large garden is full of chile plants in the summer.

**WALK NORTH ON 51ST TO RINCON, LEFT ON RINCON, THEN RIGHT ON REGINA TO RETURN TO LOWER PAT HURLEY PARK.**



## U P P E R P A R K L O O P

**1.5 MILES AND APPROXIMATELY 120 FT. ELEVATION GAIN**

**BEGIN AT THE NORTH END OF LOWER PAT HURLEY PARK, SEE #1 ABOVE, AND TAKE THE WINDING PAVED TRAIL UP THE HILL, EITHER ON BIKE OR ON FOOT, FOR A GREAT WORK OUT AND ONE OF THE BEST VIEWS IN THE CITY.**

**10. UPPER PAT HURLEY PARK, 400 YUCCA NW.**

Return via the trail (1 mile), or head south from the park on Yucca to Avalon Road, down to the Arenal Canal, north to Rincon Road and back (west) to the lower park (1.5 miles).

## B I O P A R K W A L K

**1.5 MILES ONE-WAY**

The Pat Hurley Neighborhood is also within walking distance of the BioPark.

**WALK EAST ON CENTRAL FROM ATRISCO.**

**11. CENTRAL AVENUE BRIDGE OVER THE RIO GRANDE.**

Be sure to stop and enjoy views of the river and mountains from the bridge.

**WHEN YOU REACH THE EAST SIDE OF THE RIVER, YOU CAN VISIT:**

**12. THE BIOPARK, NORTH OF CENTRAL.**

See the Botanic Gardens, the Aquarium, designed by local architect Van Gilbert, and the Rio Grande Heritage Farm.

**13. THE PASEO DEL BOSQUE TRAIL.**

Take a stroll on the paved trail which goes for 16 miles along the river, north and south of Central or any of the informal trails on the levee or in the Bosque

**14. TINGLEY BEACH, SOUTH OF CENTRAL.**

Tingley Beach was first called Conservancy Beach when it was constructed by the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District in 1930-31. The old swimming/ fishing lakes fell into disrepair, but are now being rebuilt to their former grandeur by the City of Albuquerque. Check out the progress. Caution: The lakes are currently not accessible by walking from Central.

**WALK OR TAKE THE BUS BACK TO YOUR STARTING POINT. BOTH THE RAPIDRIDE AND THE ROUTE 66 BUS STOP AT THE BIOPARK AND AT ATRISCO PLAZA, AT CENTRAL AND ATRISCO.**

Photo: Randy Siner





AREA HIGHLIGHTS

- >> spectacular views from the bluff
- >> spreading cottonwoods
- >> narrow winding roads
- >> irrigated fields, animals

Pedestrian advocates, neighborhood residents, and planning and design professionals collaborated on this series of neighborhood walking guides. These walks highlight the architecture, art, history, and gardens, the hidden gems and quirky details of Albuquerque neighborhoods. The walking guide project is one of several initiated by WALK Albuquerque and the Albuquerque Alliance for Active Living to improve community health through increased daily activity. WALK Albuquerque is dedicated to creating and preserving safe, attractive, and accessible walking environments throughout the Albuquerque area. For information about our activities and projects and to download other walking guides, please visit our website or call us.

[WALKALBUQUERQUE.ORG](http://WALKALBUQUERQUE.ORG) 505.344.9742



Special thanks to Adrienne Candelaria and Bob and Marilyn Niehoff for contributing ideas for this tour. Adrienne, a planner for Bernalillo County Parks and Recreation, frequently takes her baby for walks in her neighborhood. Bob and Marilyn are retired, and walk or bicycle almost daily, for their health and pleasure. Bob has worked hard to get some of the forgotten places in the neighborhood cleaned up and improved. Marilyn has built an interesting low-water use garden in the front yard of their home, 312 Rincon Court.

Supporters include the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Active Living by Design initiative, the Urban Enhancement Trust Fund of the City of Albuquerque and the NM Department of Transportation.



WALK



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Please respect the privacy and wishes of home owners, occupants and neighbors.