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AUSTIN, TEXAS

By CAMILLE SWEENEY

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"My family goes back six generations in Texas," says Andy Coolquitt, a sculptor, cleaning out the fountain in the courtyard of his home. "I came to Austin for art school and bought this property in 1994. This part of the courtyard is facing the apartment I built. When I first moved in I'd have parties -- artists would come and cover these walls in sgraffito. In the backyard is a stand-alone kitchen and porch, a big pole barn that I use as a studio with a residence above it. There are also three trailers on the property, so there are about five full-time residents here. I've always imagined having a compound filled with people -- not a family with kids but a group of like-minded individuals. This was a typical day for us -- some friends over, hanging out, drinking beer, doing whatever."