The Elmer Anglin family was one of the first to occupy land north of City Lake. Around 1912 the family had already erected a large two-story cottage facing the lake. Since Anglin was Lon C. Hill's right-hand man as Hill developed the town, E. O. Anglin moved his family closer to the business district after completing the large two-story house at 201 E. Madison. It still stands today across the street from the Casa del Sol. The area north of the lake was largely neglected for housing and used primarily as irrigated farmland. It is only until 1944 or so that the area starts to built up. First to be subdivided is Lakeside Heights along Lee and Washington Streets and to its east the Lakeside Cove Addition between the Lake and Austin Street.

In the years 1946 through 1948 there is yet to be a Woodland Drive but by 1946 a short street, Lakeside Drive, arises with only the Junkin Apartments listed on it. Woodland Drive first appears in the year 1950 with two houses having been erected on it at 401 and 405 while a third at 409 is being constructed. By 1952 six more houses have been built along the drive. These have address numbers 413 through 433. During the next two years only the house at 445 comes into existence. There is then no activity through 1957. On Lake Drive by 1958 there are 13 homes designated 501-562 and the one of Parker Knapp is at 149. In addition there is a Lakeside Place served by a private road. It has four houses along it and they are designated 601-626. The occupant at 605 is somewhat mysterious for no name is noted, only "no information". This listing goes on for several years.

By 1959 Woodland has added one more home, this at 501. It belongs to Van C. Snell, the manager of the huge Harlingen Cannery.

By 1961 the mystery house at 605 Lakeside Place is occupied by the City Manager Ralph M. Bingham and the next year by Dr. Luis A. Garza. The short street eventually will become part of Woodland and that pretty much stabilizes any further development on the drive.

With little through traffic and, due to its mature trees and other landscape vegetation, the area has a unique appearance. This is heightened by the diversity of architecture exhibited in the neighborhood. There is even one house designed by the note Harlingen architect Allen Taniguchi. For several years in the late 1960s a noted individual lived at 435 Woodland. This was Rose Wilder Lane, daughter of famed author Laura Ingalls Wilder who conceived the "Little House on the Prairies" series. Rose, in fact, was famed for her own published works in magazines, travel books, and books dealing with libertarianism.