

**Anguiano, Dora**

---

**From:** Dave Sullivan [sully.jumpnet@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2010 6:24 AM  
**To:** Anguiano, Dora  
**Subject:** Fw: please forward to PC

C7

thanks

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Susan J. Pryor [REDACTED]  
**To:** steve.sadowsky@ci.austin.tx.us; sully.jumpnet@sbcglobal.net  
**Sent:** Tue, July 27, 2010 1:26:26 AM  
**Subject:**

To Steve Sadowsky and David Sullivan:

As the next door neighbor to the property at 408 East 33rd and the owner of 2 historic properties and possibly others that would qualify - I have been deeply saddened by the process involving the demolition request for 408. I doubt there are many people who care more than I in saving historic properties of value - but this structure hardly qualifies. More importantly, the people opposed to this property have chosen to ignore the information provided by the longest term resident of 408 or the information from the family who moved it there - the Kreugers. Both parties made it very clear that the house was moved from somewhere else. When my husband and I purchased the property in 1992, the Krueger family told us they were giving the structure and some of the land to Mr. Boswell because they had told him they would and because it had no real connection to the property. It had been moved from some other site.

Mr. Boswell told us the same thing a few years later. My understanding is that the Boes' family was also told the same thing and that the structure had been moved from Whitis. All this information has been completely ignored because it does not agree with what the people opposing the demolition want to hear.

The historic truth is extremely important - for people to make up information regarding the property to meet their needs seems beyond what is reasonable for any organization or individual to do. I understand the desire for historic zoning in our area - but at what cost? When the research was done by Peter Maxson to prepare for historic zoning on our property - the Sanborn maps were copied and we examined them at the time. There was indeed a structure on the property that is not the same size structure as the house at 408. The early structure was in the position of the current driveway and my guess would be that it was torn down at the time of the construction of the garage - a much more likely scenario than the structure being moved and modified extensively. The original owners of the property, the Finches - cared very much about the architecture and integrity of the property and I'm sure they would never have moved the structure at 408 to the property or kept it if it had been there as it is of such poor construction. The Finch family built wonderful homes - several of which are currently historic.

The idea that the Krueger family who did virtually nothing to their property during their occupancy such that they sold it assuming it would be bulldozed - would instead take the time and effort to move an outbuilding on the lot and do more work to it than their own home is not reasonable. Their home wasn't painted, plumbing leaks were not repaired, entire walls and ceilings had fallen in because of water leaks, they had only one electrical outlet in the upstairs, the outside porch was collapsing, the roof was not repaired and much more. Yet, they would sensitively move and modify a building in the manner described????!!!! The structure at 408 was the cheapest way to provide housing for additional people to help with the house. Since their son was an invalid, the maid's room was used for a nurse - thus to have a place for someone to stay who could maintain the property another structure was moved there - as we were told, the original structure was 2 rooms - so a bath and kitchen were added. The Kruegers allowed help to stay there or rented it out depending on their needs.

My husband and I have had 2 chances to purchase this property - had there been any real connection to our property or if the structure could be made into what we would consider liveable - we would have purchased it. It was clear to us that it would have to be torn down and a new structure built - that was beyond what we could afford to do - but we hoped that someone would - because the only use for this type of construction is student housing. Only students have been naive enough to rent it - none of the renters have stayed more than 1 year - cracks in the structure, rot and termite damage allow bugs and critters in as well as make it impossible to heat and cool.

7/27/2010

We now have a chance I only dreamed of in having someone buy this property and build a 5 star green home sympathetic to the type of architecture of my home. A home that will be here 100 years from now. In their zeal to make an historic district, those wanting an historic district have stopped thinking of what good could happen to the area - and stopped good people from doing good things. If the owners of this property tried to receive historic zoning instead of demolishing the structure - they never would have made it past the first Landmark Commission meeting.

Please think carefully about this situation. Had I known that every property around me that was old would be kept, I certainly would have reconsidered investing so much into my property - saving properties of merit is important - saving anything and everything that is old is wrong.

Sincerely,

Susan J. Pryor  
3300 Duval Street  
Austin, TX 78705

7/27/2010