

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION**  
**PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS**  
**AUGUST 22, 2016**  
**NRD-2016-0064**  
**1714 Cromwell Hill**  
**Old West Austin**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Partial demolition to accommodate a new addition to the north and west elevations of the house.

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**PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS**

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The applicant proposes to add approximately 1,500 square feet to the house in two additions. The existing two-story sunporch to the left of the principal block of the house will be converted to enclosed space with vertical metal siding on the first floor, horizontal metal siding on the second floor, steel-framed windows, and a metal roof. There will be a new front door installed, and a cut stone ledge and bench in front of the house. A two-story connector between the right side of the house and the garage will have horizontal metal siding. A new hipped roof with metal sheathing will extend from the proposed connector across the garage door opening. The back of the house will have vertical metal siding on the proposed rear addition and steel-framed windows.

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**RESEARCH**

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This ca. 1938 Colonial Revival house was built by Earl and Marinda Middleton. Earl Middleton was in the wholesale grocery business in LaGrange, Eagle Lake, and Beaumont. He retired in 1938 and moved to Austin. After his death in 1945, his widow continued to live in this house until around 1957. Marinda Middleton was president of the Colonial Dames of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century and state organizer for the Huguenot Society. She also was a member of several colonial genealogical societies. The house was then owned by Cecil B., Jr. and Eleanor Smith. Cecil B. Smith, Jr. worked at his father's auto dealership. Around 1966, the house was purchased by Henry E. and Virginia Mecredy, who lived here through the 1990s. Henry E. ("Mac") Mecredy was from Virginia and was in the military until 1965, when he went to work for the City of Austin Planning Department. He retired from the city in 1980.

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**STANDARDS FOR REVIEW**

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The Old West Austin National Register Historic District has no design standards for additions to contributing houses. General design principles for additions to contributing houses in historic districts emphasize compatibility in terms of size, scale, materials, fenestration patterns, and massing with the house and other contributing houses within the district.

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage the applicant to reconsider the choice of metal siding for the additions, as this is an incompatible materials with the architectural character of the historic district. Staff further recommends the completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center, to document the existing conditions at the house.

## LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 135'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: NRD-2016-0064  
 LOCATION: 1714 Cromwell Hill

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by CTM for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.





1714 Cromwell Hill  
ca. 1938



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
1714 Cromwell Hill

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
 By City Historic Preservation Office  
 June, 2016

1992	Henry E. and Virginia Mecredy, Jr., owners No occupation listed
1985-86	Henry E. and Virginia Mecredy, Jr., owners Henry: Proprietor, Walburg Company (not listed in the alphabetical section of the directory). Virginia: Senior clerk, University of Texas
1981	Henry E. and Virginia Mecredy, Jr., owners Henry: Supervisor, City Engineering Department Virginia: Senior clerk, University of Texas
1977	Henry E. and Virginia Mecredy, Jr., owners Research analyst, City Planning Department
1973	Henry E. and Virginia Mecredy, Jr., owners Senior planner, City Planning Department Also listed are Martha J. Mecredy, a nurse's aide at the Central Texas Nursing Home, 8007 Burnet Road; Virginia A. Mecredy, a student; and William T. Mecredy, a tech at the State Highway Department.
1968	Henry E. and Virginia Mecredy, Jr., owners Employed by the City of Austin Also listed is William Mecredy, a student.
1965	Vacant NOTE: Henry E. and Virginia Mecredy, Jr. are not listed in the directory.
1962	Cecil B. and Eleanor D. Smith, Jr., owners Salesman and treasurer, C.B. Smith Motors, Volkswagens, 405 N. Lamar Boulevard.
1959	Cecil B. and Eleanor D. Smith, Jr., owners Sales manager, C.B. Smith Motors, Dodge and Plymouth automobiles, 803 W. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1955	Marinda Middleton, owner Widow, Earl Middleton No occupation listed NOTE: C.B. and Eleanor Smith, Jr. are not listed in the directory.
1952	Marinda Middleton, owner Widow, Earl Middleton No occupation listed
1949	Marinda Middleton, owner Widow, Earl Middleton No occupation listed
1947	Marinda Middleton, owner

	Widow, Earl Middleton No occupation listed
1944-45	Earl and Marinda I. Middleton, owners No occupation listed
1941	Earl and Marinda I. Middleton, owners No occupation listed
1940	Earl and Marinda Middleton, owners No occupation listed
1939	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: Earl and M.I. Middleton are listed at 1408-A Riverside Drive; neither had an occupation shown.

### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

#### **Earl and Marinda Middleton (ca. 1939 – ca. 1957)**

His 1918 World War I draft registration card shows Earl Middleton living in Victoria, Texas, where he was the manager of the Schuhmacher Company, a wholesale grocery company. He was born in 1874, was of tall stature and had a stout build. He had red hair and blue eyes.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows E. and Mrs. M. Middleton as the renters of a house in Victoria, Texas. Earl Middleton was 45, had been born in Illinois, and was the manager of a wholesale grocery business. Marinda Middleton was 43, had been born in Illinois, and had no occupation listed. They had 3 sons: E.B., 22; B.W., 19; and J.D., 14. All of the boys had been born in Illinois, and all were students – the two older boys at the university. With them lived Earl's mother, an 82-year old Ohio-born widow with no occupation listed.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Earl and Marinda Middleton as the renters of a house in Beaumont, Texas, where Earl Middleton was the manager of a wholesale grocery business. Marinda Middleton had no occupation listed. None of their children were listed with them.

His 1945 death certificate shows that Earl Middleton was living in this house at the time of his death. He was born in 1874 in Jacksonville, Illinois to the Rev. Samuel Middleton and his wife, Margaret. He was a wholesale grocer.

Her 1957 death certificate shows that Marinda Middleton was living in this house at the time of her death. She was born in 1876 in Gifford, Illinois. She was a housewife.

**EARL MIDDLETON**

Earl Middleton, 70, Austin resident for about seven years, died in a local hospital Sunday morning. He was a prominent wholesale groceryman, having been associated with the Schuhmacher company since 1908. He was branch manager in La Grange, Eagle Lake and Beaumont where he retired in 1938 and moved to Austin. Middleton was a member of the Central Christian church, Macon Lodge No. 8 AF & AM, Decatur, Ill., Eastern Star, a member of the Knights Templar commandery in Beaumont and the Shrine in Galveston.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. E. Middleton, Austin; two sons, Dr. E. B. Middleton, College Station and J. Bent Middleton, Dallas. Three grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services will be conducted at the Weed-Corley Funeral services will be conducted at the home Monday at 5 p. m. The Rev. Jack Suggs will officiate and burial will be in Oakwood cemetery.

Obituary of Earl Middleton  
Austin American, September 3, 1945

**MRS. EARL MIDDLETON**

Mrs. Earl Middleton, 80, died Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. at her home, 1714 Cromwell Hill.

Funeral services will be held at Weed-Corley Funeral Home Wednesday at 2 p.m. with Rev. Lawrence Bash officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Mrs. Middleton had been a resident of Texas since 1907. She moved to Austin from Beaumont in 1937.

She was a past president-general of the Colonial Dames of the 17th Century and state organizer



for the Huguenot Society. She was also a member of the Daughters of 1812, Daughters of the American Revolution, Dames of the Court of Honor, American Colonists, and of Capitol Chapter 803, Order of the Eastern Star.

She is survived by two sons, J. D. Middleton of Austin and Errol Middleton of Bryan; three sisters, Mrs. L. F. Brannon of New Rochelle, N.Y., Mrs. D. C. Walker of Butte, Mont., and Mrs. Deb Ward of Harlingen; and three grandchildren.

Obituary of Marinda Middleton  
Austin American, January 30, 1957



**MRS. EARL MIDDLETON**

Funeral services for Mrs. Earl Middleton, 1714 Cromwell Hill, were held at Weed-Corley Funeral Home at 2 p.m. Wednesday. Dr. Lawrence Bash officiated and burial was in Oakwood Cemetery.

Pallbearers were N. K. Woerner, E. J. Safarik, W. A. Darter, D. R. Ward, Albert Davis and Dr. Joe Bailey.

Funeral story for Marinda Middleton  
Austin American, January 31, 1957

Henry E. and Virginia Mecredy (ca. 1966 - )



### Mac Mecredy

Henry Edwards Mecredy, Jr., 90, of Austin, died September 8, 2006 at the William R. Courtney Texas State Veterans Home in Temple after a brief illness. Services are under the direction of Sheffield Funeral Home of Temple.

Mac is survived by his wife of 63 years, Ginger and their children, Henry Mecredy, III, Bill Mecredy and his wife Wendy, Martha Butler and Virginia Ann Mecredy, all of Austin. He is also survived by his grandchildren Patrick Mecredy of Houston, Evan Mecredy, Sean Mecredy, Sarah Butler and Ryan Mecredy, all of Austin, and by his siblings, Jim Mecredy of Martinez, Georgia and Jane Mecredy of Dolores, Colorado.

Mac was born in City Point, Virginia on June 2, 1916 and grew up in Roanoke, Virginia. He graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in 1941. While posted at Camp Hood, Texas he met Virginia Ann Taylor of Temple and they were married on December 24, 1942. During World War II, Mac served in the South Pacific. After the war he served in Korea, Japan, Germany, Oklahoma and Virginia before retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1965. Mac also worked in the City of Austin Planning Department until his retirement in 1980.

Mac's remains will be cremated and his ashes spread at VMI and at the family plot in the Little River - Wilson Valley Cemetery in Little River, Texas. Private family services will be held in the near future.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the charity of your choice.

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Obituary of Henry E. Mecredy, Jr.  
Austin American-Statesman, September 12, 2006

E. Middleton

1714  
~~1715~~ Cromwell Hill  
 94 & W. 10' of  
 95

Enfield C

Stone veneer residence-garage attached

248n - 11/8/38

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1-26-78# 170132- Henry E. Mecredy- Res. Repair & remodel res.  
 4,200.00

Building permit to Earl Middleton for the construction of this house (1938) and to Henry E.  
 Mecredy for repairs and remodeling (1978)

**WATER SERVICE PERMIT**  
 Austin, Texas

No. 11360 A

**INDEXED**

Received of ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ E. Middleton Date Nov 12 1938

Address 1714 Cromwell Hill

Amount Two and 50/100 - - - - \$ 2.50

Plumber Gissell Size of Tap  $\frac{1}{2}$

Date of Connection 11-15-38

Size of Tap Made  $\frac{3}{4}$

Size Service Made  $\frac{3}{4}$

Size Main Tapped 6"

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock INSIDE OF PROPLINE

From WES/Prop. Line to Curb Cock 56'6"

Location of Meter CURPLINE

Type of Box LOCK

Depth of Main in St. ✓

Depth of Service Line ✓

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main ✓

Checked by Engr. Dept. 6-13-39

No. Fittings	Size.	Job No.	Req. No.
Curb Cock			
Elbow			
St. Elbow			
Bushing	3/4 x 1/2		
Reducer	3/4 x 1/2		
Pipe			
Lead Comp.			
Nipples			
Union			
Plug			
Tee			
Stop			
Box			
Lid			
Valves			
		381016	30200

INDEXED DOUGLAS

Water service permit to Earl Middleton for this house (1938)



Connection Charge \$ 6.28 N~~O~~ 15014 ✓

**Application for Sewer Connection.**

SM T Austin, Texas, Nov 14 1938

To the Superintendent of Sewer and Public Improvements,  
City of Austin, Texas

Sir:—

I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions  
on premises owned by E. Middleton  
at 1713 Cromwell Hill Street,  
94 x 20 10' x 95  
further described as lot \_\_\_\_\_, block \_\_\_\_\_, outlot \_\_\_\_\_,  
subdivision Maple C, division \_\_\_\_\_, plat 90,  
which is to be used as a res.

In this place there are to be installed 11 fixtures.

I agree to pay the City Sewer Department the regular ordinance  
charge.

Respectfully,  
location R. J. Smith, P. M. Smith

Stub Out 12-14-38

Connected \_\_\_\_\_ 1938 Permit No.  
11-14-38

Size of Main \_\_\_\_\_ inches.

Size of Service \_\_\_\_\_ inches. 12-12-38

1 1/2 Feet Deep Top of Paving 4/3

\_\_\_\_\_ Feet from Property Line

\_\_\_\_\_ Feet from Curb Line Stub 8.5-13

Inspected by Bonting of W L L

Connection made by \_\_\_\_\_ 10.510 11-868

Sewer connection application by Earl Middleton for this house (1938)