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January 26, 2018

Ms. Mary Jo Galindo and Historic Landmark Commissioners  
City of Austin  
Post Office Box 1088  
Austin, TX 78767-8865  
Sent via E-mail

Re: 1700 West Avenue

Dear Chair Galindo and Historic Landmark Commissioners:

Preservation Austin respectfully requests that the Historic Landmark Commission initiate local historic designation of the Shelley House located at 1700 West Avenue in Judges Hill.

The Tudor Revival style house was built for Dr. Ralph Steiner and designed by local architect Edwin Kreisle. The house was purchased by George Shelley, a prominent local attorney who practiced law in Austin for 60 years. He served on the board of legal examiners for the 3rd Supreme Judicial District. Shelley was a director of the Capital National Bank, Mutual Savings Institution, and Walkers Austex Chili Company. He was president of the State Bar in 1936.

Preservation Austin hopes that the Historic Landmark Commission will direct City Staff to work with the neighborhood and interested parties to investigate all available options including incentives for the preservation of the property. There may be the opportunity to utilize both the federal and state historic tax credits for the rehabilitation of this historic house.

For 65 years, Preservation Austin has been the leading protector of Austin's diverse cultural heritage through the preservation of historic treasures and places. As such, we believe that preservation of this resource is integral to the historic fabric of the Judges Hill neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Ken Johnson  
President, Preservation Austin