

Rice, Andrew

From: Joseph Goodson <drgoodson@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 22, 2018 12:48 PM
To: Rice, Andrew
Subject: 3705 Windsor Review Case # 2018-088626 PR

TO: Historic Landmark Commission
ATTENTION: Mr. Andrew Rice
REGARDING: Permit to demolish 3705 Windsor Road
Historic Case # HDP-2018-0256 Review Case # 2018 088626 PR

I do not support the proposed demolition of the 1950's stone house located at 3705 Windsor Road. I believe this stone house is a good representation of the kind of homes that were built in Tarrytown after the war. Taking advantage of the slope of the lot, the architect designed the home as "split level" which was very typical at mid-century. In addition, the overall footprint of the home on the lot is minimalist, conservative, allowing for more trees and lawn, better drainage, and further representing and contributing to the overall forested character of Tarrytown in this historic area adjacent to Lake Austin.

As far as I can tell, the original owners of the lot were John and Mary Hurst. Published material on Mary Palm Hurst describe a UT graduate greatly involved in house restoration, receiving two awards from The Heritage Society of Austin for her success in preserving Austin homes. Mr. Hurst's obituary indicates that he fought in WW2 as a navigator, was shot down over occupied Holland, but was able to make it home to become a respected Austin businessman and UT supporter.

In more recent decades, to the best of my knowledge, the home was owned by a UT professor. He later typically leased the property to UT graduate students. The home's location and size are ideal for supporting the intellectual community surrounding the University of Texas which in turn supports the eclectic and friendly character of the Tarrytown neighborhood.

The home was maintained and occupied until sale approximately two years ago. Unfortunately, the home and landscape have been basically abandoned since that time, I assume as prelude to applying for the demolition permit, to the detriment of the neighbors, but this condition could be corrected.

It should be noted that there is a tall, layered stone, retaining wall on the adjacent property. This landscape feature is very representative of historic Tarrytown and could be in jeopardy if it is weakened by demolition or construction occurring at 3705 Windsor. Some of the stones around the wall have fossilized shell - likely a statement to the home's historic proximity to what was formerly a flooding Colorado River.

The home is around the corner from the beautiful and historic home Sweetbrush Mansion.

Thank you for your consideration. I was notified about this demolition request approximately one week ago and this is the most information I could collect in that time frame. I have not seen any proposed future building plans for this lot.

Sincerely,
A. K. Goodson