

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 26, 2020  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2020-0414  
2000 FOREST TRAIL

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1941 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled, painted brick Colonial Revival-styled house with paired 6:6 fenestration in the facade; central entry is flanked with fluted pilasters; one-story flat-roofed addition to the left of the main block, set back from the front of the house.

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**RESEARCH**

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The first owners and occupants of the house were T. Wilburn and Olin S. Harrell, who lived here from the time of the construction of the house in 1941 until around 1943. T. Wilburn Harrell was a cashier and clerk for the City Water, Light, and Power Department. From around 1943 until 1960, this house was the home of Albert and Essie Taylor. Albert Taylor was a banker who retired before his death in 1955. Essie Taylor lived here until her death in 1960. The next owner was Charlie D. Dye, a local attorney, who constructed additions to the rear of the house.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is outside the bounds of any City survey to date.

Staff has evaluated this house for designation as a historic landmark and has determined that the house may meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code:

- a. **Architecture.** The house is a very good example of a restrained version of the Colonial Revival, one of the most popular styles in the country. The house has the symmetrical configuration with a central entry, here flanked with pilasters, and paired 6:6 windows. Although the Colonial Revival style was very popular in Austin, this house is a more rare one-story, brick interpretation. The house may qualify as a historic landmark for its architectural significance.
  - b. **Historical association.** The house was owned and occupied by local banker Albert Taylor and his wife Essie, for the majority of the historic period. Albert Taylor was from Luling, and spent some time with his adult son in the oil fields of Eastland County, Texas before purchasing this house. There does not appear to be significant historical associations.
  - c. **Archaeology.** The house was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
  - d. **Community value.** The house does not possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, the neighborhood, or a particular demographic group.
  - e. **Landscape feature.** The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use and consider if the existing original block of the house can be incorporated into the design for the new structure, as Colonial Revival houses characterize this section of West Austin, then relocation over demolition, but release the permit upon 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. The house does not fully meet two of the criteria for individual designation as a historic landmark.

2000 Forest Trail  
ca. 1941



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
2000 Forest Trail

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
October, 2020

1959	Essie Taylor, owner Widow, Albert Taylor No occupation listed
1957	Essie Taylor, owner Widow, Albert Taylor No occupation listed
1955	Essie Taylor, owner Widow, Albert Taylor No occupation listed NOTE: Albert Taylor died in 1955.
1952	Albert and Essie Taylor, owners No occupation listed
1949	Albert and Essie Taylor, owners No occupation listed
1947	Albert and Alberta F. Taylor, owners Albert: No occupation listed Alberta: book-keeper, American National Bank

- 1944-45      Albert and Essie Taylor, owners  
No occupation listed
- 1942      F. Wilburn and Olin S. Harrell, owners  
Clerk, City Water, Light, and Power Department  
NOTE: Albert and Essie Taylor are not listed in the directory.
- 1941      The address is not listed.  
NOTE: F. Wilburn and Olin Harrell are listed at 2101 Wilson Street. He was a cashier for the City Water, Light, and Power Department.

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

##### **Albert and Essie Taylor (ca. 1943 – ca. 1960)**

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Albert and Sallie E. (Essie) Taylor as the owners of a house in Luling, Texas, where Albert Taylor was a cashier in a bank. He was 40 years old, and had been born in Texas to Mississippi-born parents. Essie Taylor was 39 years old, had been born in Mississippi, and had no occupation listed. They had 3 sons: Albert B., 15; Harold E., 9; and Jack G., 5. All the boys had been born in Texas. Next door in a rented house lived Sallie E. Taylor's parents, Bayless and Mary J. Greer. Bayless Greer was 74, had been born in Mississippi, and had no occupation listed. Mary J. Greer was 60, had been born in Mississippi, and had no occupation listed.

Albert and Essie Taylor appear in the 1930 U.S. Census as the owners of the house at 104 W. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street in Austin, a house that was worth \$20,000. Albert Taylor was 51, had been born in Texas, and was the vice-president of a bank; Essie Taylor was 49, had been born in Mississippi, and had no occupation listed. They had 3 sons, all born in Texas: Brice, 24, the manager of an investment company; Earl, 20, and Jack, 15, neither of whom had an occupation shown in the census report. Also in the household was Essie Taylor's mother, Mary Greer, a 70-year old Mississippi-born widow with no occupation listed.

According to the 1940 U.S. Census, Sallie E. Taylor was a lodger at the Maverick Hotel in Eastland, Texas. She was 60, had been born in Mississippi, and had no occupation listed. Also listed in the same hotel was her son, Albert B. Taylor, 35, a Texas-born oil producer, and Albert B's wife, Alberta F., 46, who had been born in Texas and had no occupation listed. All the family members lived in Austin in 1935. Albert Taylor the father is not listed in the census report for the hotel.

His 1955 death certificate shows that Albert Taylor was born in Luling, Texas in 1879, and was living at this address at the time of his death. He was a banker. Esse (as it is spelled on her 1960 death certificate) was living at this house at the time of her death. She was a widowed housewife who had been born in Mississippi in 1880.

## **Mrs. Jack Taylor Visiting Here**

Mrs. Jack G. Taylor and 8-year-old son, Jack Greer Jr., have returned to Austin from New York city to visit her husband's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Taylor, 2000 Forrest trail. Ens. Taylor, who recently finished training at the school of communication at Harvard, is now stationed at Balboa, Panama, C. Z. . . .

Society page story of their daughter-in-law and grandson visiting Albert and Esse Taylor  
Austin Statesman, January 9, 1945

## **ALBERT TAYLOR**

Funeral services for Albert Taylor, 2000 Forrest Trail, will be held at 11:30 a. m. Wednesday at the Cook Funeral Home

Taylor, a retired banker, died in a local hospital Tuesday morning.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Essie Taylor of Austin; three sons, Jack G. Taylor of Austin and Houston, D. L. Earl Taylor of Dallas and A. Brice Taylor of Austin; one sister, Mrs. W. G. Bouldin of Harwood; one brother, Jim Taylor of Luling; and five grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held in Luling Wednesday afternoon.

Obituary and funeral notice for Albert Taylor  
Austin Statesman, June 21, 1955

**MRS. ESSE TAYLOR**

Funeral services for Mrs. Esse Taylor of 2000 Forest Trail were held Monday morning at the Cook Funeral Home, with Rev. Marshall Hampton and Rev. Samuel Baxter officiating. Graveside services were held Monday afternoon at Luling.

Pallbearers were Dr. Oliver Suchs, Robert Ammann Jr., and Robert (Bob) Bright all of Austin, Laddie Janecek of San Antonio, Dr. Sidney Galt and Robert Wright both of Dallas, Jack Greer Taylor Jr. of Houston, Creston Taylor and Clifton Mackey both of Luling, and Collis Bouldin of Gonzales.

Story on the funeral of Esse Taylor  
Austin Statesman, February 22, 1960

A. C. Bryant                      2000 Forest Trail  
163                      -                      17                      S. 60' of 4                      -

Westfield A

brick ven.res.& box gar.& storage room

20958 - 1-2-41

5

Building permit for the construction of this house (1941)

Connection Charge \$ #2926 No 174934

APPLICATION FOR SEWER CONNECTION.

Austin, Texas, 2-25 1941

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 AC Bryant  
at 2000 Forest Trail Street,  
N. 84 23 St. 17 block 17, outlot  
further described as lot 17, subdivision Westfield A, division, plat 163,  
which is to be used as a Res

In this place there are to be installed 5 fixtures

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

3 DEEP Respectfully Maurice Blum  
A.T. PL

Stub Out

Connected 3-1/2 19 41 Permit PD  
Size of Main 6 inches. 3-4-41  
Size of Service 4 inches. 10.6 ✓  
9 Feet Deep in ST B-1337  
3.8 Feet from Property Line Con 38"  
Feet from Curb Line S. of 7 1/2  
Inspected by Boatright  
Connection made by F. Vande  
14599 Sewer in Forest Trail  
L. H. B.

Sewer connection application for this address (1941)

C. D. Dye

2000 Forest Trail

163

4

17

Westfield A

Remodel Residence & Frame Addition to rear of  
Residence.

77335

8-30-60

2385.00

Wayland Fienta

New roof-move a partition on inside of res-new kitchen  
cabinets. Enclosing screen porch -new addition to rear.

Building permit to Charlie D. Dye to construct a screen porch and addition to the rear of the  
house (1960)

NOTE: Charlie D. Dye was a local attorney who was admitted to practice in Texas in 1960. He was born in 1936 in Travis County, married in 1956, and died in Austin in 1985.

<u>OWNER</u> Charlie D. Dye		<u>ADDRESS</u> 2000 Forest Trail	
<u>PLAT</u> 163	<u>LOT</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>BLK</u> 17
<u>SUBDIVISION</u> Westfield A			
<u>OCCUPANCY</u> Den & Bath			
<u>BLD PERMIT #</u> 101417	<u>DATE</u> 11-7-66	<u>OWNERS</u>	<u>ESTIMATE</u> 4,740.00
<u>CONTRACTOR</u> Wayland Feaster		<u>NO. OF FIXTURES</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>WATER TAP REC #</u>		<u>SEWER TAP REC #</u>	
Frame Addition to Residence & Remodel			
358 sq.ft.			
9-19-80 #202826 Scott Kidd, owner EdgeHome Improvements-			
add <del>to</del> & repairs/remodel <del>res.</del>			

Building permit to Charlie Dye to construct a frame den and bathroom addition (1966) and to Scott Kidd to construct an addition and remodel the house (1980)