

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

**CASE NUMBER:** C14H-2021-0116

**HLC DATE:** July 26, 2021

**PC DATE:** August 24, 2021

**CC DATE:** September 30, 2021 (tentative)

**APPLICANT:** Lee and David Basore (property owners)

**HISTORIC NAME:** Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

**WATERSHED:** Urban; Tannehill Branch

**ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE:** 1037 Reinli Street

**ZONING CHANGE:** CS-MU-NP to CS-MU-H-NP

**COUNCIL DISTRICT:** 4

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the proposed zoning change from CS-MU-NP (General Commercial Services-Mixed Use Combining District-Neighborhood Plan Combining District) to CS-MU-H-NP (General Commercial Services-Mixed Use Combining District-Historic Landmark Combining District-Neighborhood Plan Combining District).

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION:** Historical Associations, Community Value

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION:** Recommend proposed owner-initiated zoning change from CS-MU-NP (General Commercial Services-Mixed Use Combining District-Neighborhood Plan Combining District) to CS-MU-H-NP (General Commercial Services-Mixed Use Combining District-Historic Landmark Combining District-Neighborhood Plan Combining District).

**PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION:** TBD

**DEPARTMENT COMMENTS:** The house is beyond the bounds of any historic resources survey to date.

**CITY COUNCIL DATE:** 9-30-21 (tentative)

**ACTION:** TBD

**ORDINANCE READINGS:** N/A

**ORDINANCE NUMBER:** N/A

**CASE MANAGER:** Kalan Contreras

**PHONE:** 512-974-2727

**NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS:** Austin Independent School District, Austin Lost and Found Pets, Austin Neighborhoods Council, Del Valle Community Coalition, Friends of Austin Neighborhoods, Homeless Neighborhood Association, Neighborhood Empowerment Foundation, Neighbors United for Progress, Preservation Austin, Responsible Growth for Windsor Park, SELTexas, Sierra Club, Austin Regional Group, Windsor Park Neighborhood Association, Windsor Park Neighborhood Plan Contact Team

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

**BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:** The property at 1037 Reinli Street is significant primarily for its historical associations and community value, though its status as an architectural curiosity—a typical Minimal Traditional house used as an emergency services hub—should also be considered.

**§ 25-2-352 (A)(1) *Period of Significance.*** *The property is at least 50 years old and represents a period of significance of at least 50 years ago, unless the property is of exceptional importance as defined by National Register Bulletin 22, National Park Service (1996).*

The property is 82 years old, with a period of significance as the Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center beginning at the date of Explorer Post 13's establishment of the Travis County fire brigade in 1961 and ending at the 50-year cutoff in 1971. 1037 Reinli Street remained the organization's dispatch center until 1982.

**§ 25-2-352 (A)(2) *Integrity.*** *The property retains a high degree of integrity, as defined by the National Register of Historic Places, that clearly conveys its historical significance and does not include an addition or alteration which has significantly compromised its integrity.*

The property retains a high degree of integrity, clearly conveying its historic significance and displaying the changes over time that characterize the growth of the organization it housed.

**§ 25-2-352 (A)(3)(b)(ii) *Historical Associations.*** *The property has long-standing significant associations with persons, groups, institutions, businesses, or events of historic importance which contributed significantly to the history of the city, state, or nation; or represents a significant portrayal of the cultural practices or the way of life of a definable group of people in a historic time.*

The property is associated with the Travis County Fire Control Team, serving as its Operations Center from 1961 to 1982. The TCFC Team was the first fully functional fire department, wildfire response unit, and search and rescue operation in Travis County, saving hundreds of lives and protecting thousands of acres of property during the property's period of significance from 1961 to 1971 (the fifty-year cutoff). The property's significance also continues into the recent past (1972-1982) as the home of Travis County's first professional paramedic crew, its first female firefighters, and its first EMS responders. The Basores' home transformed from a single-family house into a bustling hub for Explorer Scout Troop 13 and, later, a larger group of volunteer firefighters, paramedics, and rescue squad members. As their mission expanded, so did their impact on the property: the backyard was used for staging Explorer drills and training maneuvers, carports and shelter structures were erected to house valuable firefighting equipment, vehicles, and personal protective equipment, and the radio communications control devices spilled from the main house into a fully-functional workshop. These items, though modest and utilitarian, represented more than just tools and storage: as Explorer Post 13 worked to raise money and refurbish trucks with junkyard finds, they began a journey; as TCFC's professional firefighting crews chipped in their own funds for new gear and scored the county for hand-me-down vehicles, their determination to combat Central Texas' devastating wildfires only grew. 1037 Reinli Street serves as a physical reminder of how far Travis County's emergency services have come, but—most importantly—how much a determined group of civic activists, no matter how young or inexperienced, can impact their community over time.

**§ 25-2-352 (A)(3)(b)(iv) *Community Value.*** *The property has a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, a neighborhood, or a particular group.*

The property at 1037 Reinli Street is important to both Austin and Travis County as a nexus of education, action, and progress in firefighting and search and rescue. The building's unique location, positioned near major arterials during an era when Austin's highway construction activity was rapidly increasing, made it

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

ideal as a rural outpost. Though the nearby roadways were sources of brushfires, they also allowed Post 13 and the TCFC to achieve unprecedented response times in rural Travis County. Its expansive lot provided training space, equipment storage, and a communications hub. For twenty years, it served as the home of Travis County's first and only fire control team, a volunteer-run-and-funded organization without the means to build high-tech facilities and equipment storage. The determination of Explorer Post 13, who chose 1037 Reinli Street as their fire brigade headquarters, had a direct and lasting impact on Travis County's residents, and saved hundreds of lives. Had the Basore brothers, TCFC Team founders and lifelong members, not donated the property for the growing volunteer team's use, the institution could not have afforded the trucks, training, radio communications systems, and protective equipment essential for their daily functions. Thus, over the years, this modest building and wooded backyard have directly contributed to the Travis County community, allowing its firefighters, EMT, and Search and Rescue personnel to preserve and protect Travis County's natural landscape and its residents. The Reinli Street house is a place to honor the ambition of Explorer Post 13, the change they inspired, and their legacy in Austin's emergency service history.

**§25-2-352(A)(3)(b)(i) Architecture.** *The property embodies the distinguishing characteristics of a recognized architectural style, type, or method of construction; exemplifies technological innovation in design or construction; displays high artistic value in representing ethnic or folk art, architecture, or construction; represents a rare example of an architectural style in the city; serves as an outstanding example of the work of an architect, builder, or artisan who significantly contributed to the development of the city, state, or nation; possesses cultural, historical, or architectural value as a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian or vernacular structure; or represents an architectural curiosity or one-of-a-kind building.*

The modest building at 1037 Reinli Street is an intact example of a Minimal Traditional house, and—despite its unconventional use through the years—retains the distinguishing characteristics of the Minimal Traditional style favored by FHA-loan-seeking developers toward the end of the 1930s. Though the main house's form appears simple, its related outbuildings, vehicle bays (including one that still shelters an antique fire response vehicle), and towering antennae, constructed mostly during the period of significance for Travis County Fire Control operations, set it apart from the other single-family properties of its time and belie a more-than-residential use.

**PARCEL NO.:** 0224140206

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** 100X422.29 FT OF LOT 45 DUVAL HEIGHTS

**ESTIMATED ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT:** \$8,500 (owner-occupied); city portion: \$2,500 (capped); county portion: \$2,500 (capped); AISD portion: \$3,500 (capped).

**APPRAISED VALUE:** \$312,700

**LAND AREA:** 0.9688 acres

**PRESENT USE:** Single family residence, TCFC auxiliary space

**CONDITION:** Good

**PRESENT OWNERS:**

Lee Ray and David Lee Basore

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

1037 Reinli Street  
Austin, TX 78723

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

**DATE BUILT:** ca. 1939

**ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS:** The primary building at 1037 Reinli Street was constructed in 1939 according to family records. Property owner Clara Basore replaced the original wooden awnings with the existing metal awnings in the 1950s. The Basore family added a carport and addition in 1961 according to permit records. During the 1960s, a metal outbuilding was brought onto the lot and used as the communications and radio repair station for the Travis County Fire Control Team, and the radio antennae atop the main building date roughly to this time. In 1977, a smaller addition was constructed, and a second carport installed for the Operations Center vehicles. Each of these additions and modifications relate to the property's significance as the TCFC operations center.

**ORIGINAL OWNER(S):** Sam McCurry and Roy and Mary Welliver; Clara K. and Warren L. Basore

**OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS:** None



*Source: Basore family*



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## A. PLAT MAPS



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



## B.1. DEED CHRONOLOGY

---

### B.1.1. Transaction table

Transaction	Vol./Page/Instrument
<i>Deed</i> Grantors: J. R. Campbell and Flora Belle Campbell Grantee: James E. Campbell Lots 45 and 46, Duval Heights 02/09/1924	Book: 359 Page: 109A Instrument #: CNY0114044CNY
<i>Deed</i> Grantors: J. R. Campbell, Flora Belle Campbell, Lois Geraldine Campbell, James E. Campbell Grantees: T. B. Champion and Bettie Champion Lots 45 and 46, Duval Heights 09/30/1924	Book: 365 Page: 95 Instrument #: CNY0109908CNY
<i>Deed of Conveyance</i> Grantors: T. B. Champion et ux Grantees: Roy and Mary Welliver 21X64 SQUARE FEET OF LOT 44 8/14/1933	Book: 491 Page: 380-382
<i>Deed</i> Grantors: George V. McClain et ux Grantees: Sam C. McCurry ½ ACRE NW CORNER OF LOT 45 DUVAL HEIGHTS SUBD 11/22/1934	Book: 519 Page: 434
<i>Deed</i> Grantors: Louis Snowden Grantees: Roy and Mary Welliver ½ ACRE NW CORNER OF LOT 45 DUVAL HEIGHTS SUBD 2/5/1945	Book: 757 Page: 69-70
<i>Deed</i> Grantors: Roy and Mary Welliver Grantees: Clara and Warren L. Basore ½ acre NW corner of lot 45, Duval Heights subdivision and 1344 square ft out of lot 44, Duval Heights subdivision 5/14/1948	Book: 4005-06 Page: 1038
<i>Warranty Deed</i> Grantors: Charles E Durham And Joyce Durham Grantees: Clara K Basore 21114 SQUARE FT PT OF LOT 45 DUVAL HEIGHTS SUBD 01/20/1976	Book: 5367 Page: 732 Inst#: 0536700732

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

*Warranty Deed*

Inst #: 2003131820

Grantor: Clara Kaiser Basore

Grantees: Clara Kaiser Basore, Clara Kaiser Basore Family Revocable Living Trust, Basore Clara Kaiser Family Revocable Living Trust

Returnee: Clara Kaiser Basore

1037 Reinli St, Austin, TX 78723

PT LT 44 45 DUVAL HGHTS SUB

06/11/2003

*Warranty Deed (DUPLICATE OF #2003131820)*

Instrument #:

2004056243

Grantor: Clara Kaiser Basore

Grantees: Clara Kaiser Basore, Clara Kaiser Basore Family Revocable Living Trust, Basore Clara Kaiser Family Revocable Living Trust

Returnee: Clara Kaiser Basore

1037 Reinli St, Austin, TX 78723

1/2 ACS OF NW CORNER OF LT 45 DUVAL HEIGHTS SUBD

03/26/2004

*Warranty Deed*

Instrument #:

2005047218

Grantors: Lee Basore, Clara Kaiser Basore Family Revocable Living Trust, Basore Clara Kaiser Family Revocable Living Trust

Grantees: Lee Basore, Martin Basore, David Basore

Returnee: Lee Basore

1037 Reinli St, Austin, TX 78712

03/18/2005

*Certified Copy of Probate*

Instrument #:

2005047217

Grantor: Clara Kaiser Basore (Deceased)

Grantee: Public

Returnee: Lee Basore

1037 Reinli St, Austin, TX 78712

03/18/2005

*Deed*

Instrument #:

2013228378

Grantor: Darlene T. Basore, Martin Basore (Deceased)

Grantee: Lee Ray Basore, David Lee Basore

Returnee: Lee Basore

1037 Reinli Street, Austin, TX 78723

12/31/2013

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

***B.1.2. Travis County real estate documents***

|



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF TRAVIS

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, Roy Welliver and wife, Mary Welliver, for and in consideration of the sum of Four Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty and No/100 Dollars (\$4,950.00) cash to us in hand paid by Warren L. Basore and wife, Clara Basore, the receipt of all of such consideration being hereby acknowledged and confessed, have GRANTED, SOLD and CONVEYED, and by these presents do GRANT, SELL and CONVEY unto the said Warren L. Basore and wife, Clara Basore, of Travis County, Texas, all of those certain tracts or parcels of land situated in Travis County, Texas, and described as follows, to wit:

FIRST TRACT: One-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) acre of land out of the N. W. corner of Lot 45 of Duval Heights Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 189 of the Plat Records of Travis County, Texas, and being a portion of the same land conveyed to Sam C. McCurry by Geo. V. McClain, et ux, by deed dated November 22, A. D. 1934, recorded in Vol. 510, page 434, Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at the N. W. corner of said Lot 45, THENCE S. 30 W. along the W. line of said Lot 45 and E. line of Lot 44, Duval Heights, a distance of 435.6 feet for the S. W. corner of this Tract; THENCE S. 60 10' E. 50 feet for the S. E. corner of this tract; THENCE N. 30 E. a distance of 435.6 feet to the S. line of Reinli Street, being the N. E. corner of this tract; THENCE N. 60 10' W. along the S. line of said Reinli Street 50 feet to the place of beginning, containing one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) acre of land, and being the same property conveyed to us from Louis Snowden by warranty deed dated February 5, 1945, and recorded in Vol. 757, pages 69 and 70 of the Travis County Deed Records.

**FIRST TRACT:** One-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) acre of land out of the N. W. corner of Lot 45 of Duval Heights Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 189 of the Plat Records of Travis County, Texas, and being a portion of the same land conveyed to Sam C. McCurry by Geo. V. McClain, et ux, by deed dated November 22, A. D. 1934, recorded in Vol. 510, page 434, Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at the N. W. corner of said Lot 45, THENCE S. 30 W. along the W. line of said Lot 45 and E. line of Lot 44, Duval Heights, a distance of 435.6 feet for the S. W. corner of this Tract; THENCE S. 60 10' E. 50 feet for the S. E. corner of this tract; THENCE N. 30 E. a distance of 435.6 feet to the S. line of Reinli Street, being the N. E. corner of this tract; THENCE N. 60 10' W. along the S. line of said Reinli Street 50 feet to the place of beginning, containing one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) acre of land, and being the same property conveyed to us from Louis Snowden by warranty deed dated February 5, 1945, and recorded in Vol. 757, pages 69 and 70 of the Travis County Deed Records.

**SECOND TRACT:** Twenty One (21) feet by Sixty-Four (64) feet out of Lot No. Forty-Four (44) of Duval Heights Subdivision, according to the map or plat of said Subdivision of record in Book 2, page 189, of the Travis County Plat Records; the tract hereby conveyed being more particularly described by metes and bounds as



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

follows: BEGINNING at the northeast corner of said Lot No. 44, on the south line of Reinli Street fence; thence westerly along the north line of said Lot No. 44, 21 feet to point for corner; thence southerly parallel to the east line of said Lot No. 44 and the west line of Lot No. 45, 64 feet to a point for corner; thence easterly parallel to the north line of said Lot No. 44, 21 feet to the East line of said Lot No. 44; Thence northerly along the East line of Lot No. 44, and the west line of Lot No. 45, 64 feet to the place of beginning, together with all improvements hereon situated, and said tract of land being a part of the same premises and property described in that certain deed of conveyance dated August 14, 1933 executed by T. B. Champion, et ux and recorded in Book 491, page 380 and 382, of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, which said deed and the said record thereof are hereby expressly referred to and made a part hereof for all pertinent purposes.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described premises, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in any wise belonging unto the said Warren L. Basore and wife, Clara Basore, their heirs or assigns forever.

And we do hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators to WARRANT and FOREVER DEFEND, all and singular the said premises unto the said Warren L. Basore and wife, Clara Basore, their heirs and assigns, against every person whomsoever, lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof.

Witness our hands, this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1948.

*Continuation*

*Roy Mollie*

*Mary Mollie*

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF TRAVIS

## CONTRACT OF SALE AND PURCHASE

Charles Durham, hereinafter called Seller, acting through the undersigned and duly authorized Agent, hereby sells and agrees to convey unto

CLARA K. BASORE, hereinafter called Purchaser, the following described property: Lying and situated in the County of Travis, State of Texas:

LOCALLY KNOWN AS 1039 REINLI ST AND BEING A PARCEL OUT OF LOT 45 IN DUVAL HEIGHTS A SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN AND FURTHER DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT A ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF

The purchase price is 18,000.00, payable as follows:

1. Earnest money deposit of 500.00 in cash deposited by Purchaser with TEXAS LAND & TITLE CO. (Escrow Agent), receipt of which is hereby acknowledged. The earnest money shall be applied upon the purchase price at Closing.
2. At Closing, an additional cash payment of 17,500.00 (subject to prorations and adjustments as hereinafter provided) shall be paid to Seller by Purchaser.

Seller agrees to furnish at Closing an Owner's Title Policy from TEXAS LAND & TITLE CO., covering the full amount of the purchase price insuring Purchaser's marketable title in the above described property, free and clear of any and all liens, encumbrances, rights-of-way, easements, assessments and restrictions not of public record. If any title objections are made, Seller shall have 10 days to cure same and show good and marketable title. In the event of failure to furnish good and marketable title, the earnest money hereby receipted for is to be returned to Purchaser upon the cancellation and return of this contract; or, Purchaser may enforce specific performance of same. Seller agrees, when title objections have been cured, to deliver a good and sufficient General Warranty Deed properly conveying said property to said Purchaser, and Purchaser agrees, when said Deed is presented, to pay the balance of the cash payment. Should the Purchaser fail to consummate this contract as specified for any reason, except title defects, Seller shall have the right to retain said earnest money as liquidated damages for the breach of this contract; or Seller may enforce specific performance of this contract.

PURCHASER TO PAY FOR TITLE POLICY AND LIQUIDATED DAMAGES.  
Seller agrees to furnish at Closing a survey and plat of the property prepared by a registered surveyor which certifies as to the number of square feet or acres contained within the property, exclusive of public roadways, and if the net area totals more or less than N/A square feet or acres, then the sale price shall be adjusted, up or down as the case may be, at the rate of N/A per square foot or acre. The survey shall show the area contained in and the location of any easements or rights-of-way which the property is subject to.

Taxes for the current year shall be prorated at the time of Closing. Possession shall be delivered to Purchaser at Closing. The Closing shall take place at TEXAS LAND & TITLE CO. on or before 21 days from the last date of execution of this contract.

INVESTORS COMMERCIAL PROPERTY, Agent, shall be paid by Seller a real estate commission of 6 percent of the sales price upon the consummation of this transaction, AND 270

BY DON BUCKER REAL ESTATE.

This agreement and contract contains the entire agreement of the parties named herein; there are no other agreements, conditions or understandings, oral or written, and this contract shall not be modified or amended except in writing and executed by all parties hereto and by reference made a part hereof. This agreement shall extend to and be binding upon the heirs



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

TEXAS LAND & TITLE CO. (Escrow Agent), receipt of which is hereby acknowledged. The earnest money shall be applied upon the purchase price at Closing.

2. At Closing, an additional cash payment of 17,500.00 (subject to prorations and adjustments as hereinafter provided) shall be paid to Seller by Purchaser.

Seller agrees to furnish at Closing an Owner's Title Policy from TEXAS LAND & TITLE CO., covering the full amount of the purchase price insuring Purchaser's marketable title in the above described property, free and clear of any and all liens, encumbrances, rights-of-way, easements, assessments and restrictions not of public record. If any title objections are made, Seller shall have 10 days to cure same and show good and marketable title. In the event of failure to furnish good and marketable title, the earnest money hereby receipted for is to be returned to Purchaser upon the cancellation and return of this contract; or, Purchaser may enforce specific performance of same. Seller agrees, when title objections have been cured, to deliver a good and sufficient General Warranty Deed properly conveying said property to said Purchaser, and Purchaser agrees, when said Deed is presented, to pay the balance of the cash payment. Should the Purchaser fail to consummate this contract as specified for any reason, except title defects, Seller shall have the right to retain said earnest money as liquidated damages for the breach of this contract; or Seller may enforce specific performance of this contract.

PURCHASER TO PAY FOR TITLE POLICY AND WARRANTY DEED.  
Seller agrees to furnish at Closing a survey and plat of the property prepared by a registered surveyor which certifies as to the number of square feet or acres contained within the property, exclusive of public roadways, and if the net area totals more or less than N/A square feet or acres, then the sale price shall be adjusted, up or down as the case may be, at the rate of N/A per square foot or acre. The survey shall show the area contained in and the location of any easements or rights-of-way which the property is subject.

Taxes for the current year shall be prorated at the time of Closing. Possession shall be delivered to Purchaser at Closing. The Closing shall take place at TEXAS LAND & TITLE CO. on or before 21 days from the last date of execution of this contract.

INVESTORS COMMERCIAL PROPERTY, Agent, shall be paid by Seller a real estate commission of 6 percent of the sales price upon the consummation of this transaction, AND 2%

FOR DONOR'S REAL ESTATE.

This agreement and contract contains the entire agreement of the parties named herein; there are no other agreements, conditions or understandings, oral or written, and this contract shall not be modified or amended except in writing and executed by all parties hereto and by reference made a part hereof. This agreement shall extend to and be binding upon the heirs, assigns and/or other legal representatives of the parties hereto.

SIGNED BY SELLER, JANUARY 11, 1976. SIGNED BY PURCHASER, JANUARY 10, 1976

[Signature]

Clara K Basore

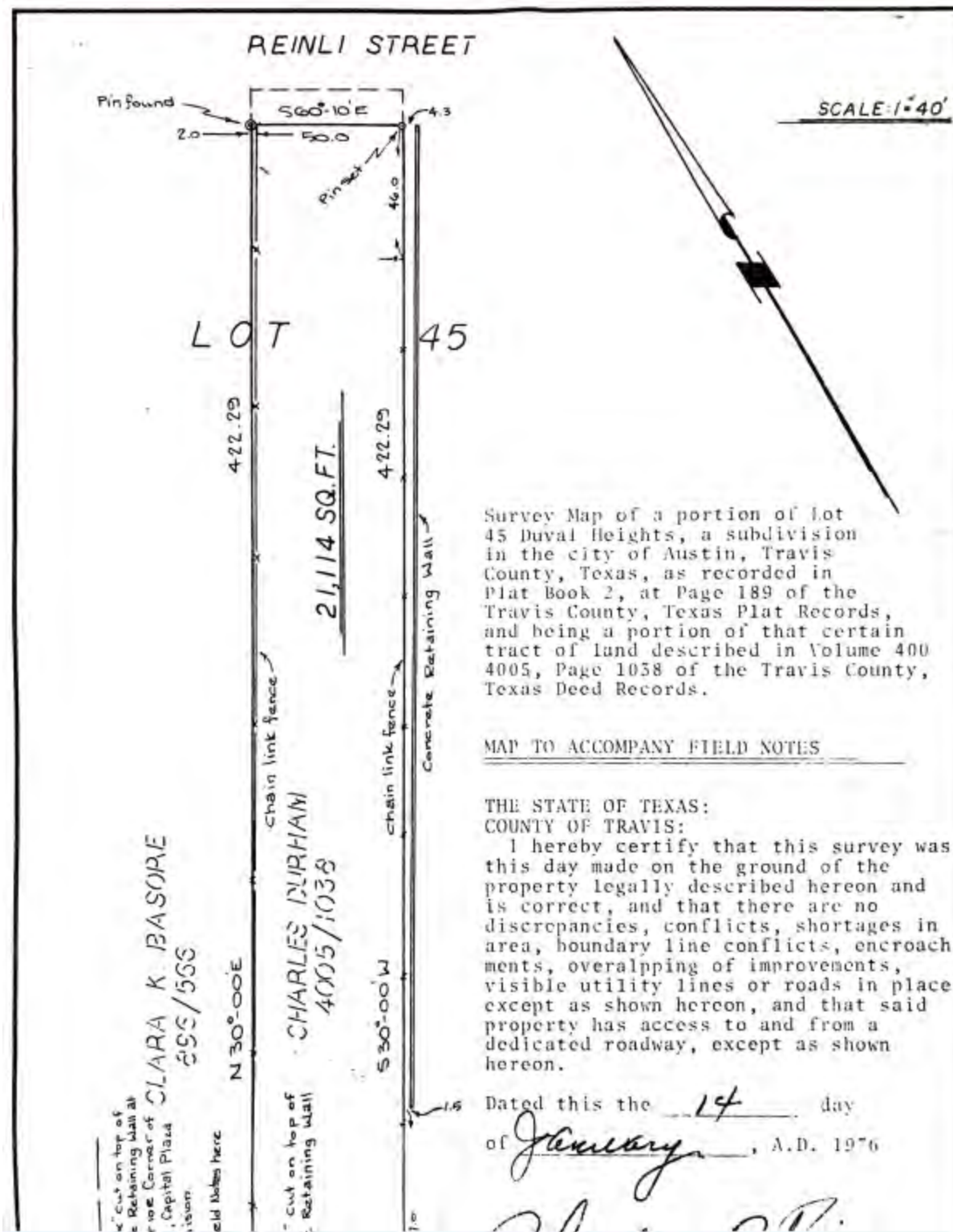
INVESTORS COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

BY: Charles E. Lambert Jr.



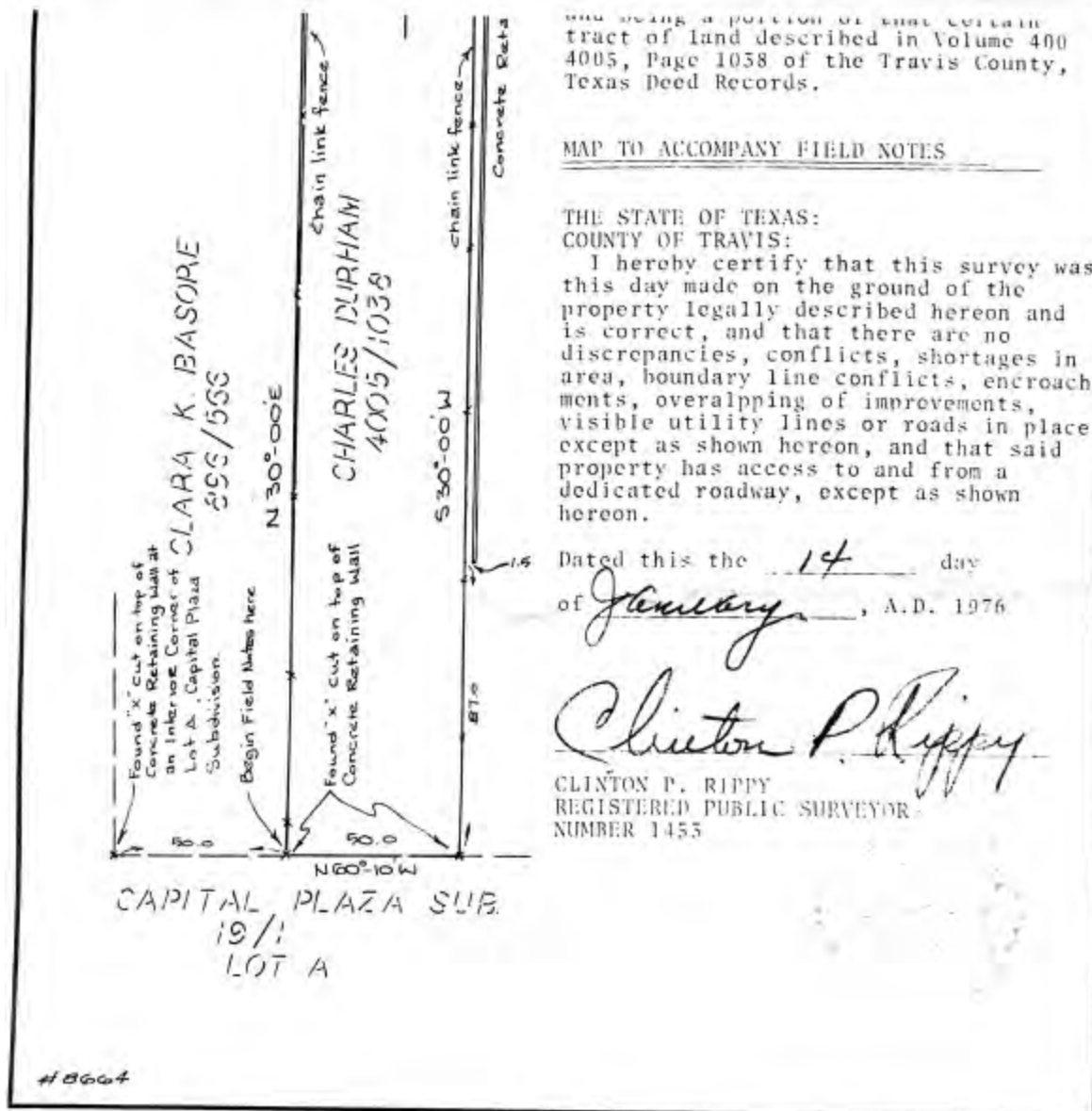
1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



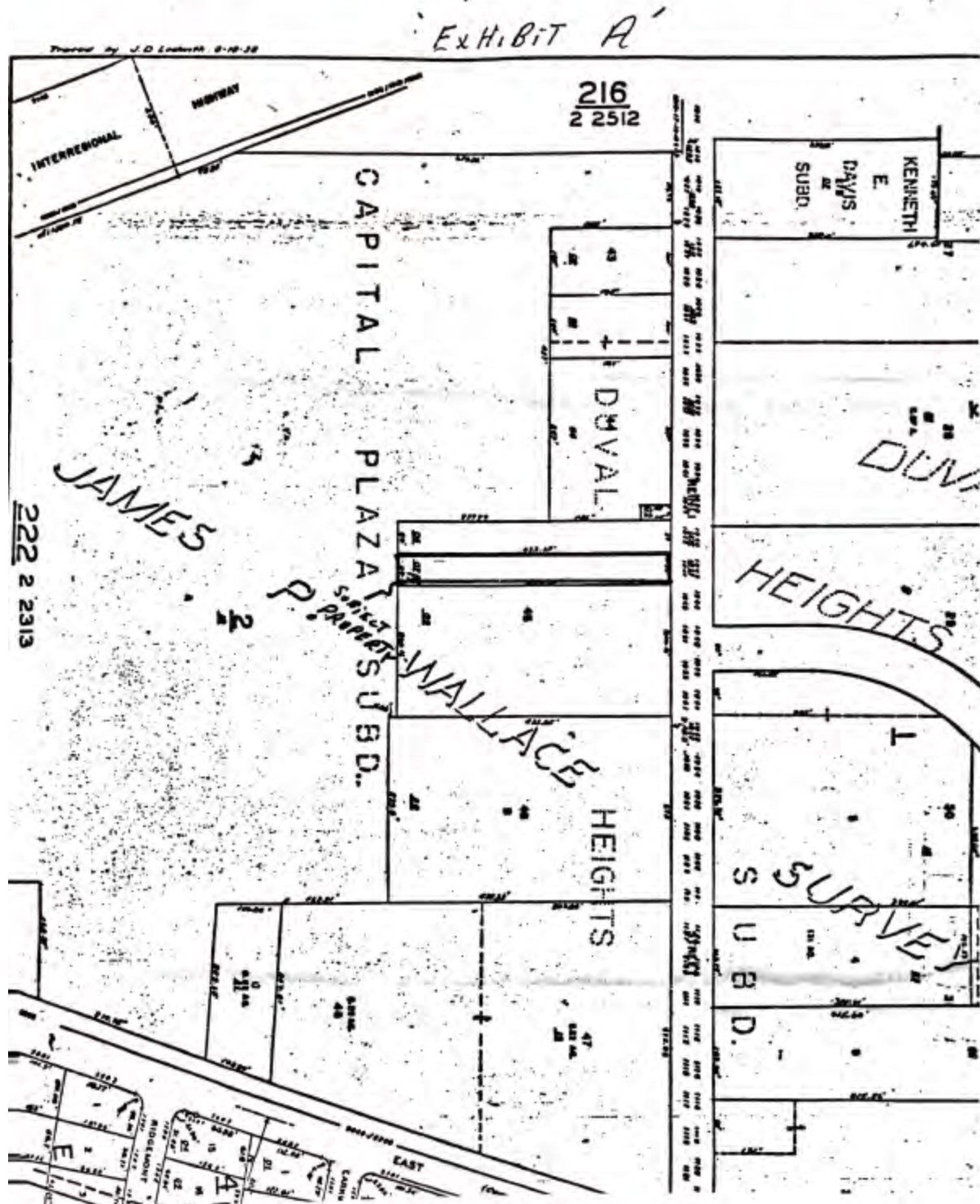
1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



1037 Reinli Street

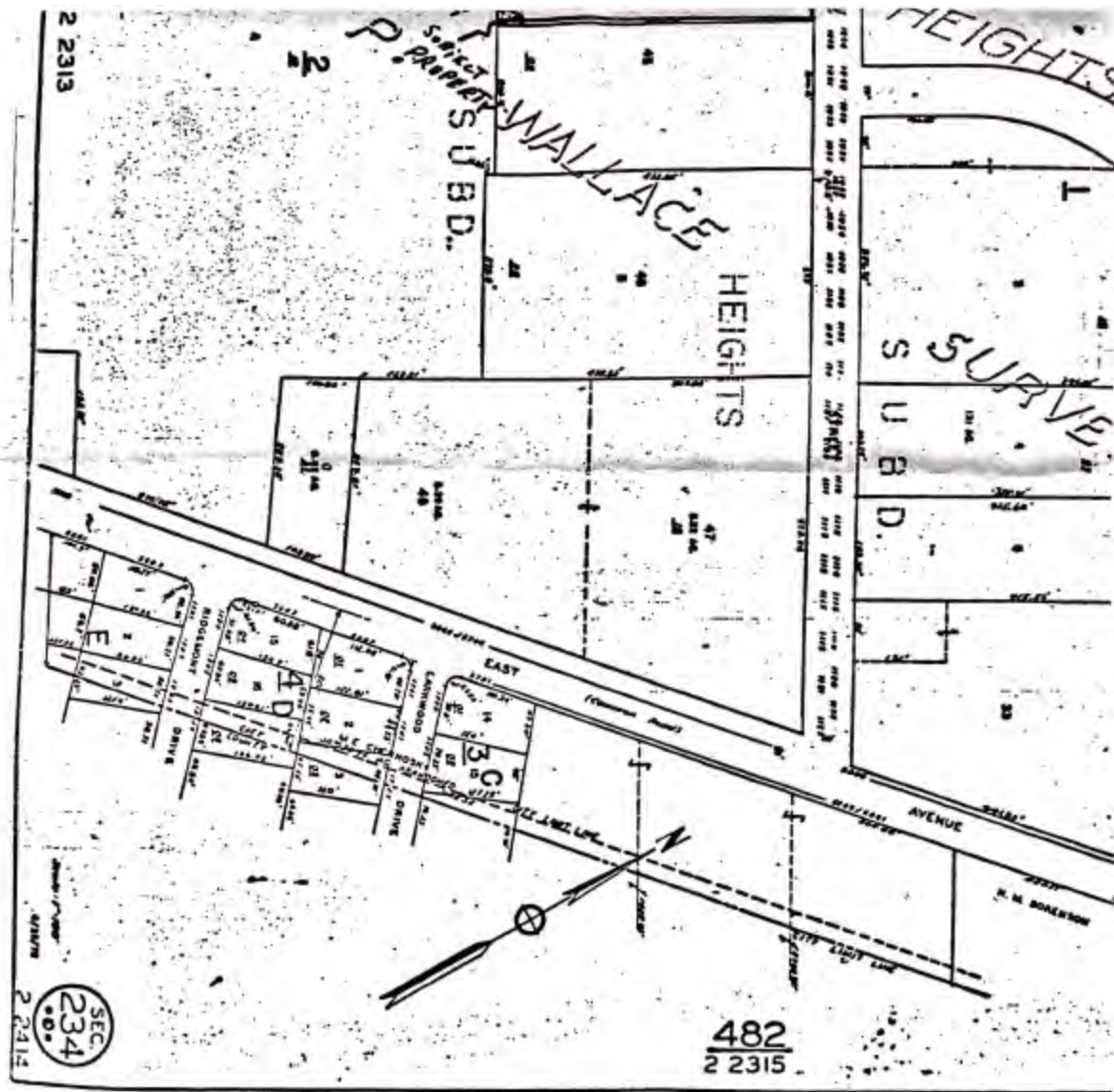
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center





1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## NOTICE

Printed in the State of Texas for use by Lawyers only. 5-74-1054  
To have the proper form fill in blank space, strike out this provision or insert  
special provisions to conform the form to the "standard form" can be used as  
requirements.

## WARRANTY DEED

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

DEED NO. 5967 732

That we, Charles E. Durham, et al, Joyce

of the County of Travis and State of Texas for and in  
consideration of the sum of \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand) DOLLARS  
and other valuable consideration to the undersigned paid by the grantee  
which is hereby acknowledged.

have GRANTED, SOLD AND CONVEYED, and by these presents do GRANT, SELL AND CONVEY unto

of the County of Travis and State of Texas, all of  
the following described real property in Travis County, Texas, to-wit:

21,114 square feet of land being out of and a part of Lot 45,  
MAYAL ESTATE, an addition to the City of Austin, Travis County,  
Texas, according to the map of said property recorded in Vol. 2,  
page 169, Plat 66666, Travis County, Texas, and being more  
particularly described by notes and bounds in Exhibit "A",  
attached hereto and made a part hereof.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described premises, together with all and singular the rights and  
appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging, unto the said grantee and heirs and assigns  
forever; and we do hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators to  
WARRANT AND FOREVER DEFEND all and singular the said premises unto the said grantee, heirs  
and assigns, against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof.

EXECUTED

this 16 day of January

A. D. 1976

Charles E. Durham

Joyce Durham

DEED RECORDS

Travis County, Texas

5967 732



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

(Acknowledgment)

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF Travis

1-25-0864

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared

Charles E. Durham

known to me to be the person, whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office on this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, A. D. 19 76.

Notary Public in and for Travis County, Texas.

NOTARY SEAL

(Acknowledgment)

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF Travis

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared

Joyce Durham

known to me to be the person, whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office on this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, A. D. 19 76.

Notary Public in and for Travis County, Texas.

NOTARY SEAL

WARRANTY DEED

TO

PREPARED IN THE LAW OFFICE OF:

PLEASE RETURN TO:

(Corporate acknowledgment)

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared  
of

a corporation, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, in the capacity therein stated and as the act and deed of said corporation.

Given under my hand and seal of office on this the day of , A. D. 19

Notary Public in and for County, Texas

5367 733

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

THE RIPPY SURVEYING COMPANY

8400 RESEARCH BLVD.  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78758  
836-0115

1-25-0865

REGISTERED PUBLIC SURVEYOR

January 14, 1976

Field Notes describing a parcel of land containing 21,114 square feet out of and a part of Lot 45 Duval Heights, a subdivision in the city of Austin, Travis County, Texas, found of record in Plat Book 2, at Page 189 of the Travis County, Texas Plat Records, said parcel being more particularly described as being a portion of that certain tract of land that was conveyed to Charles Durham by deed of record in Volume 4905, Page 1038 of the Travis County, Texas Deed Records, said parcel being more fully described by metes and bounds as follows:

BEGINNING at an "X" found cut on the top of a concrete retaining wall at the southwest corner of said Durham tract for the southwest corner of the parcel herein described; said beginning point also being in a north line of Lot A Capital Plaza Subdivision, as recorded in Plat Book 19, at Page 1 of the Travis County, Texas Plat Records, and from which point an "X" found cut of the top of a concrete retaining wall at an interior corner of said Lot A bears N 60°-10'W 50.0 feet, said interior corner being on the west line of the above said Lot 45;

THENCE with the west line of said Durham tract, same being the west line of this survey, N 30°-00'E 422.29 feet to an iron pin found in the present south line of Reinli Street for the northwest corner of the parcel herein described;

THENCE with the present south line of said Street S 60°-10'E 50.0 feet to a steel pin set in the east line of said Durham tract for the northeast corner of the parcel herein described;

THENCE with the east line of said Durham tract, same being the east line of this survey, S 30°-00'W 422.29 feet to an "X" found cut on the top of a concrete retaining wall at the southeast corner of said Durham tract for the southeast corner of the parcel herein described;

THENCE with the south line of said Durham tract, same being the south line of this survey, N 60°-10'W 50.0 feet to the place of BEGINNING containing 21,114 square feet of land

I hereby certify that the foregoing notes represent the results of a survey made on the ground under my supervision according to law, they are true and correct to the best of my ability, this the 14th day of January, 1976.

CLINTON P. RIPPY  
REGISTERED PUBLIC SURVEYOR  
NUMBER 1453

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF TRAVIS  
I hereby certify that this instrument was FILED on the date and at the time stamped hereon by me, and was duly RECORDED in the Volume and Page of the named RECORDS of Travis County, Texas, as Stamped hereon by me, on:

EXHIBIT "A"

JAN 20 1976



Travis County Clerk  
COUNTY CLERK  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

FILED

JAN 20 8 58 AM '76

Travis County Clerk  
COUNTY CLERK  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

5367

734

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



# WARRANTY DEED

## NOTICE

This instrument was prepared solely from information and on instructions given to us by our client. No title opinion or other information has been furnished to us in connection with its preparation

GARY J DERER  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Date: 5/29/03

Grantor: CLARA KAISER BASORE

Grantor's Mailing Address (including county):

1037 REINLI STREET  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78723  
TRAVIS COUNTY

Grantee: CLARA KAISER BASORE, Trustee (such Trustee hereinafter referred to as "Grantee") of the CLARA KAISER BASORE FAMILY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST (the "Trust"), such Trust having been established under that certain revocable Trust Agreement dated May 29, 2003, by CLARA KAISER BASORE of Travis County, Texas, as Grantor, and CLARA KAISER BASORE, as Trustee

Grantee's Mailing Address (including county):

1037 REINLI STREET  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78723  
TRAVIS COUNTY

Consideration: TEN AND NO/100 DOLLARS and other good and valuable consideration

Property (including any improvements):

All those certain lots, tracts or parcels of land, lying and being situated in the State of Texas, County of Travis and being more fully described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto

Reservations From and Exceptions to Conveyance and Warranty:

Subject to all reservations, restrictions, covenants, conditions, rights of way and easements of record, if any, insofar as the same presently affect the above described property

Grantor, for the consideration, receipt of which is acknowledged, and subject to the reservations from and exceptions to conveyance and warranty, grants, sells and conveys to Grantee the property, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in any wise belonging, to have and hold it to Grantee, Grantee's heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns forever Grantor binds Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and successors to warrant and forever defend all and singular the property to Grantee and Grantee's heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof, except as to the reservations from and exceptions to conveyance and warranty

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

The Grantor hereby reserves the rights afforded to him under the homestead exemption laws pursuant to the applicable Chapter(s) and Section(s) of the Texas Property Code and Texas Tax Code

When the context requires, singular nouns and pronouns include the plural

Clara K Basore  
CLARA KAISER BASORE, Grantor

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

STATE OF TEXAS

§

COUNTY OF Texas

§

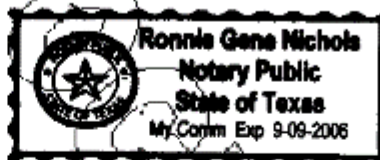
§

This instrument was acknowledged before me on 5/29, 2003, by CLARA KAISER BASORE

Ronnie Gene Nichols  
Notary Public, State of Texas

PREPARED IN THE OFFICE OF

Gary J Derer  
15851 Dallas Parkway  
Suite 720  
Addison, Texas 75001



AFTER RECORDING RETURN TO

Ms Clara Kaiser Basore  
1037 Reinli Street  
Austin, Texas 78723



## EXHIBIT "A"

**FIRST TRACT**

One-Half (1/2) acre of land out of the N W corner of Lot 45 of Duval Heights Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 189 of the Plat Records of Travis County, Texas, and being a portion of the same land conveyed to Sam C. McCurry by Geo. V. McClain, et ux by deed dated November 22, A.D. 1934, recorded in Vol. 510, page 434, Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at the N W corner of said Lot 45, THENCE S 30° W Along the W Line of said Lot 45 and E Line of Lot 44, Duval Heights, a distance of 435.6 feet for the S W corner of this Tract, THENCE S 60° 10' E 50 feet for the S E corner of this tract, THENCE N 30° E A distance of 435.6 feet to the S Line of Reinli Street being the N E corner of this tract, THENCE N 60° 10' W Along the S Line of said Reinli Street 50 feet to the place of beginning, containing one-half (1/2) acre of land, and being the same property conveyed to us from Louis Snowden by warranty deed dated February 5, 1945, and recorded in Vol. 757, pages 69 and 70 of the Travis County Deed Records.

**SECOND TRACT**

Twenty One (21) feet by Sixty-Four (64) feet out of Lot No. Forty-Four (44) of Duval Heights Subdivision, according to the map or plat of said Subdivision of record in book 2, page 189, of the Travis County Plat Records, the tract hereby conveyed being more particularly described by metes and bound as follows:

BEGINNING at the northeast corner of said Lot No. 44 on the south line of Reinli Street fence, THENCE westerly along the north line of said Lot No. 44 21 feet to point for corner, thence southerly parallel to the east line of said Lot No. 44 and the west line of Lot No. 45, 64 feet to a point for corner, thence easterly parallel to the north line of said Lot No. 44, 21 feet to the East line of said Lot No. 44, Thence northerly along the East line of Lot No. 44 and the west line of Lot No. 45, 64 feet to the place of beginning, together with all improvements hereon situated, and said tract of land being a part of the same premises and property described in that certain deed of conveyance dated August 14, 1933 executed by T. B. Champion, et ux and recorded in Book 491, page 380 and 382, of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, which said deed and the said record thereof are hereby expressly referred to and made a part hereof for all pertinent purposes.

**FILED AND RECORDED**  
OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS

*Dana Debeauvoir*

06-11-2003 11:54 AM 2003131820  
KNOWLES \$13.00  
DANA DEBEAUVOIR, COUNTY CLERK  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



LD 2004056243  
3 PGS

### WARRANTY DEED

Date:

March 18, 2004

Grantor:

CLARA KAISER BASORE

Grantor's Mailing Address (including county):

1037 REINLI STREET  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78723  
TRAVIS COUNTY

Grantee: CLARA KAISER BASORE, Trustee (such Trustee hereinafter referred to as "Grantee") of the CLARA KAISER BASORE FAMILY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST (the "Trust"), such Trust having been established under that certain revocable Trust Agreement dated March 18, 2004, by CLARA KAISER BASORE of Travis County, Texas, as Grantor, and CLARA KAISER BASORE, as Trustee.

Grantee's Mailing Address (including county):

1037 REINLI STREET  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78723  
TRAVIS COUNTY

Consideration: TEN AND NO/100 DOLLARS and other good and valuable consideration.

Property (including any improvements):

All those certain lots, tracts or parcels of land, lying and being situated in the State of Texas, County of Travis and being more fully described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto:

Reservations From and Exceptions to Conveyance and Warranty:

Subject to all reservations, restrictions, covenants, conditions, rights of way and easements of record, if any, insofar as the same presently affect the above-described property.

Grantor, for the consideration, receipt of which is acknowledged, and subject to the reservations from and exceptions to conveyance and warranty, grants, sells and conveys to Grantee the property, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in any wise belonging, to have and hold it to Grantee, Grantee's heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns forever. Grantor binds Grantor and Grantor's heirs, executors, administrators and successors to warrant and forever defend all and singular the property to Grantee and Grantee's heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof, except as to the reservations from and exceptions to conveyance and warranty.

## EXHIBIT "A"

**FIRST TRACT**

One-Half (½) acre of land out of the N.W. corner of Lot 45 of Duval Heights Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 189 of the Plat Records of Travis County, Texas, and being a portion of the same land conveyed to Sam C. McGurry by Geo. V. McClain, et ux, by deed dated November 22, A.D. 1934, recorded in Vol. 510, page 434, Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at the northwest corner of said Lot 45;

THENCE S 30° W, along the west line of said Lot 45 and east line of Lot 44, Duval Heights, a distance of 435.6 feet for the southwest corner of this Tract;

THENCE S 60° 10' E, 50 feet for the southeast corner of this tract;

THENCE N 30° E, a distance of 435.6 feet to the south line of Reinli Street, being the northeast corner of this tract;

THENCE N 60° 10' W, along the south line of said Reinli Street 50 feet to the place of beginning, containing one-half (½) acre of land, and being the same property conveyed to us from Louis Snowden by warranty deed dated February 5, 1945, and recorded in Vol. 757, pages 69 and 70 of the Travis County Deed Records.

**SECOND TRACT**

Twenty One (21) feet by Sixty-Four (64) feet out of Lot No. Forty-Four (44) of Duval Heights Subdivision, according to the map or plat of said Subdivision of record in Book 2, page 189, of the Travis County Plat Records; the tract hereby conveyed being more particularly described by metes and bound as follows:

BEGINNING at the northeast corner of said Lot No. 44 on the south line of Reinli Street fence;

THENCE westerly along the north line of said Lot No. 44, 21 feet to point for corner;

THENCE southerly parallel to the east line of said Lot No. 44 and the west line of Lot No. 45, 64 feet to a point for corner;

THENCE easterly parallel to the north line of said Lot No. 44, 21 feet to the east line of said Lot No. 44;

THENCE northerly along the east line of Lot No. 44 and the west line of Lot No. 45, 64 feet to the place of beginning, together with all improvements hereon situated, and said tract of land being a part of the same premises and property described in that certain deed of conveyance dated August 14, 1933 executed by T. B. Champion, et ux, and recorded in Book 491, page 380 and 382, of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, which said deed and the said record thereof are hereby expressly referred to and made a part hereof for all pertinent purposes.

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

The Grantor hereby reserves the rights afforded to him under the homestead exemption laws pursuant to the applicable Chapter(s) and Section(s) of the Texas Property Code and Texas Tax Code.

When the context requires, singular nouns and pronouns include the plural.

Lee Basore P.O.A.  
CLARA KAISER BASORE, Grantor

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF Travis

This instrument was acknowledged before me on March 18, <sup>2004</sup>~~2005~~, by CLARA KAISER BASORE.

Sarah Marie Peters  
Notary Public, State of Texas

PREPARED IN THE OFFICE OF:

Gary J. Derer  
15851 Dallas Parkway  
Suite 720  
Addison, Texas 75001



AFTER RECORDING RETURN TO:

Ms. Clara Kaiser Basore  
1037 Reinli Street  
Austin, Texas 78723

FILED AND RECORDED

OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS

2004 Mar 25 03:12 PM

2004056243

TORREZ \$18.00

DANA DEBEAUVOIR COUNTY CLERK  
TRAVIS COUNTY TEXAS

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



ORDER 2005047217  
7 PGS

No. 82319

IN THE ESTATE OF  
CLARA KAISER BASORE,  
DECEASED

IN THE PROBATE COURT  
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

**ORDER ADMITTING WILL TO PROBATE  
AS MUNIMENT OF TITLE**

On this day came on to be heard the Application for Probate of Will as Muniment of Title filed by Lee Basore ("Applicant") on January 4, 2005, in the Estate of Clara Kaiser Basore, Deceased ("Decedent").

The Court, having heard the evidence and having reviewed the Will and the other documents filed herein, finds that the allegations set forth in the Application are true; that notice and citation have been given in the manner and for the length of time required by law; that Decedent is dead and four (4) years have not elapsed since the date of Decedent's death; that this Court has jurisdiction and venue over the Estate; that Decedent left a Will dated May 29, 2003, executed with the formalities and solemnities and under the circumstances required by law to make it a valid Will; that the proof required by probate of said Will has been made; that on the date said Will was made, Decedent had attained the age of eighteen (18) years and was of sound mind; that said Will was not revoked by Decedent; that no objection to or contest of the probate of said Will has been filed; that all of the necessary proof required for the probate of said Will has been made; that said Will is entitled to probate; that neither the state, a governmental agency of the state, nor a charitable organization is named by said Will as a devisee; that there are no unpaid debts owing by this Estate, exclusive of any debt secured by liens on real estate; that there is no necessity for administration of this Estate; that said Will should be admitted to probate as a muniment of title; and that the affidavit that would otherwise be required by Texas Probate Code Section 89C(d) is not necessary in this Estate and the requirement for said affidavit should be waived.

I, Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk, Travis County Texas, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy as same appears of record in my office. Witness my h. m. and seal of office on



Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk  
By County

FEB 23 2005  
M. Myatt  
W. Bryant

ORDER ADMITTING WILL TO PROBATE AS MUNIMENT OF TITLE

Page 1 of 2 Pages



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED AND DECREED by the Court that the Will of Clara Kaiser Basore is hereby proved and established and admitted to probate as a Muniment of Title only, and that the Clerk of this Court record said Will, together with the Application of Lee Basore in the minutes of this Court; and, that this Order shall constitute sufficient legal authority to all persons owing money to Decedent, having custody of any property, or acting as registrar or transfer agent of any evidence of interest, indebtedness, property, or right belonging to the Estate of Clara Kaiser Basore, Deceased, and to persons purchasing from or otherwise dealing with Estate of Clara Kaiser Basore, Deceased, for payment or transfer without liability, to the persons described in said Will to receive the particular asset without administration; and further, that the person or persons entitled to property under provisions of said Will shall be entitled to deal with and treat the properties to which they are so entitled in the same manner as if the record title thereof were vested in their names.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND DECREED that the requirement for the filing of an Affidavit of Fulfillment of Terms of Will is hereby waived.

SIGNED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of Feb 2005

RECOMMENDED

this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of Feb 2005

Susan R. Whitman, Associate Judge

JUDGE PRESIDING

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Gary J. Derer  
Attorney for Lee Basore  
State Bar No.: 05770100  
15851 Dallas Parkway, Suite 720  
Addison, Texas 75001  
Telephone: (972) 371-2460  
Facsimile: (972) 371-2461

I, Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk, Travis County, Texas, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy as same appears of record in my office. Witness my hand and seal of office on



Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk  
By Debra

M. Bryant



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



DANA DeBEAUVOIR  
Travis County Clerk

P. O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767-1748  
1000 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas 78701  
www.co.travis.tx.us



Cause#: 82319 APNU CRT00755333  
PROBATE 01/04/2005 WILL

Cause No. 82319

The following pages comprise a will filed for probate  
in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas.

This cover page is used to avoid affixing the bar code to any page of the will to be probated.  
The bar code below on this page is a necessary part of the Travis County Clerk's document imaging system.

I, Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk, Travis County,  
Texas, do hereby certify that this is a true and  
correct copy as same appears of record in my office.  
Witness my hand and seal of office on:



Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk  
By Deputy

M. Bryant

FEB 23 2005

Administration:  
Elections:

854-9138  
854-4006  
854-4712

Civil/Probate Division:  
Misdemeanor Records Division:

854-9555  
854-9440

Recording Division:  
Records Management:

854-9168

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

I, Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk, Travis County, Texas, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy as same appears of record in my office. Witness my hand and seal of office on FEB 23 2001.



Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk  
Travis County, Texas

82319

## LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

M. Bryant

I, CLARA KAISER BASORE of Austin, Texas, being of sound mind and memory, do make, publish and declare this my Last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all former wills and codicils by me made.

**FIRST:** I will and direct that all legally enforceable debts and funeral expenses be paid, whether or not such expenses are attributable to property included in my probate estate.

**SECOND:** I give, devise and bequeath all of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate and property, of whatever kind and wherever situated, owned by me at the time of my death to the trustee(s) of the CLARA KAISER BASORE FAMILY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST, to be added to the assets held in trust and administered by its terms, including any amendments made during my lifetime. If for any reason such distribution of the residue of my estate is ineffective, then I give such residue of my estate to the trustee(s) named in the CLARA KAISER BASORE FAMILY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST, to serve as trustee(s), to be held in a testamentary trust in accordance with the provisions of the CLARA KAISER BASORE FAMILY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST, including any amendments thereto made during my lifetime.

**THIRD:** I have intentionally and with full knowledge omitted to provide for all of my heirs who are not specifically mentioned in the terms of this will.

**FOURTH:** The distributions designated in this will are intended to be in lieu of any other claims, of whatever nature and whether arising by statute or otherwise, by any taker hereunder; any taker who asserts any other claim or contests this will or any trust made by me shall forfeit all interest in any property, income or other benefit to him/her. Any property income or other benefit forfeited by the operation of this paragraph shall be distributed as part of the residue of my estate as if the taker asserting the claim predeceased me without surviving issue.

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

I, Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk, Travis County, Texas, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy as same appears of record in my office. Witness my hand and seal of office.

FEB 23 2005



Dana DeBeauvoir  
County Clerk

M. Bryant

**FIFTH:** I authorize and empower my Independent Executor(s) to sell, transfer and convey any and all of the property of my estate, real and personal, and to execute, acknowledge and deliver good and sufficient transfers and conveyances thereof. My Independent Executor(s) shall act without bond. I constitute and appoint LEE BASORE Independent Executor of this Last Will and Testament. If LEE BASORE is unable or unwilling to serve as Independent Executor, I constitute and appoint MARTIN BASORE as Independent Executor, to serve with all rights and responsibilities given to the original Independent Executor(s). If MARTIN BASORE is unable or unwilling to serve as Independent Executor, I constitute and appoint DAVID BASORE as Independent Executor, to serve with all rights and responsibilities given to the original Independent Executor(s).

I, CLARA KAISER BASORE, in the presence of David Cook  
and Howard Leslie hereby sign my name to this will on this the  
29 day of May, 2003.

Clara K Basore  
CLARA KAISER BASORE

We, the undersigned persons, of lawful age, declare that the foregoing instrument was signed, published, and declared by CLARA KAISER BASORE, the above-named testatrix, as her last will, in our presence, and we, at her request, and in her presence and in the presence of each other, have subscribed our names to this instrument as attesting witnesses on the day and year last above written; and we certify that, in our opinion, the said testatrix is of sound and disposing mind.

WITNESS

Howard Leslie  
Dr. W. Cook

ADDRESS

1071 Clayton Ln  
Austin TX 78723  
Brother Spiff  
1201 West 6th St Apt D  
Austin, TX 78703

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## SELF-PROVING AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS )

COUNTY OF Travis )

) SS:

Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk, Travis County, Texas, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy as same appears of record in my office. Witness my hand and seal of office on FEB 23 2005



Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk  
By M. Bryant

M. Bryant

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared CLARA KAISER BASORE, David Link and Howard Leslie, known to me to be the testatrix and the witnesses, respectively, whose names are subscribed to the annexed or foregoing instrument in their respective capacities, and, all of said persons being by me duly sworn, the said CLARA KAISER BASORE, testatrix, declared to me and to the said witnesses in my presence that said instrument is her will, and that she had willingly made and executed it as her free act and deed for the purposes therein expressed; and the said witnesses, each on his oath stated to me, in the presence and hearing of the said testatrix, that the said testatrix had declared to them that said instrument is her will, and that she executed same as such and wanted each of them to sign it as a witness; and upon their oaths each witness stated further that they did sign the same as witnesses in the presence of the said testatrix and at her request; that she was at that time eighteen (18) years of age or over (or being under such age was or had been lawfully married, or was then a member of the armed forces of the United States or of an auxiliary thereof or of the Maritime Service) and was of sound mind; and that each of said witnesses was then at least fourteen (14) years of age.

Clara K Basore  
CLARA KAISER BASORE

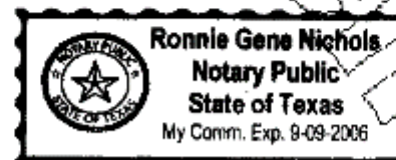
David Link  
Witness

Howard Leslie  
Witness

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME by the said CLARA KAISER BASORE, testatrix, and by the said Howard Leslie and David Link, witnesses, this 29 day of May, 2003.

(seal)

Notary Public

My Commission 9-9-2006



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

Lee Basore  
1037 Reinli St  
Austin TX 78712

**FILED AND RECORDED**

OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS

*Dana DeBeauvoir*

2005 Mar 18 03:48 PM 2005047217

BENAVIDESV \$26.00

DANA DEBEAUVOIR COUNTY CLERK  
TRAVIS COUNTY TEXAS

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



WD 2005047218

4 PGS

**NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY RIGHTS: IF YOU ARE A NATURAL PERSON, YOU MAY REMOVE OR STRIKE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM THIS INSTRUMENT BEFORE IT IS FILED FOR RECORD IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS: YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER.**

**General Warranty Deed With Life Estate**

**Date:** December 8, 2004

**Grantor:** LEE BASORE, Successor Trustee to CLARA KAISER BASORE (now deceased), Trustee (such Successor Trustee hereinafter referred to as "Grantor") of the CLARA KAISER BASORE FAMILY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST (the "Trust"), such Trust having been established under that certain Revocable Trust Agreement dated May 29, 2003, by CLARA KAISER BASORE of Travis County, Texas, as Grantor, and CLARA KAISER BASORE, as Primary Trustee.

**Grantor's Mailing Address:**

1037 Reinli Street  
Austin, Texas 78723  
Travis County, Texas

**Grantee:** LEE BASORE, MARTIN BASORE, and DAVID BASORE, individually as their separate property with Lee Basore having been granted herein in his individual capacity a life estate on the property under the Trust, as described below.

**Grantee's Mailing Address:**

Lee Basore  
1037 Reinli Street  
Austin, Texas 78723

Martin Basore  
407 W. St. Johns Ave.  
Austin, Texas 78752

David Basore  
12311 Emery Oaks  
Austin, Texas 78758

**Consideration:**

TEN AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$10.00) and other good and valuable consideration.

**Property (including any improvements):**

All those certain lots, tracts or parcels of land, lying and being situated in the State of Texas, County of Travis and being more fully described in Exhibit "A" and Exhibit "B" attached hereto:

**Reservations from Conveyance:**

This conveyance is made and accepted subject to any and all validly existing encumbrances, conditions, and restrictions, relating to the hereinabove described property as now reflected by the records of the County Clerk of Travis County, Texas.

For Grantor, a reservation of the full possession, benefit, and use of the property for the remainder of the life of the Grantor, Lee Basore in his individual capacity, as a life estate.

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

### Exceptions to Conveyance and Warranty:

Grantors, for the Consideration and subject to the Reservations from Conveyance and the Exceptions to Conveyance and Warranty, grants, sells, and conveys to Grantee the Property, together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in any way belonging, to have and to hold it to Grantee and Grantee's heirs, successors, and assigns forever. Grantor binds Grantor and Grantor's heirs and successors to warrant and forever defend all and singular the Property to Grantee and Grantee's heirs, successors, and assigns against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof, except as to the Reservations from Conveyance and the Exceptions to Conveyance and Warranty.

When the context requires, singular nouns and pronouns include the plural.

*Lee Basore*

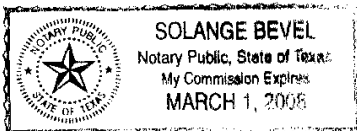
LEE BASORE, Trustee of the CLARA KAISER  
BASORE FAMILY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF TRAVIS

Before me, a notary public on this day personally appeared LEE BASORE, Trustee of the CLARA KAISER BASORE FAMILY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST, proved to me through his Texas Driver's License to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 30 day of December, 2004.



*Solange Bevel*  
Notary Public, State of Texas

### PREPARED IN THE OFFICE OF:

Larry L. Foerster  
DARDEN, FOWLER & CREIGHTON, L.L.P.  
414 W. Phillips, Suite 100  
Conroe, Texas 77301

### AFTER RECORDING RETURN TO:

Lee Basore  
1037 Reinli Street  
Austin, Texas 78712

## EXHIBIT "A"

**FIRST TRACT**

One-Half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) acre of land out of the N.W. corner of Lot 45 of Duval Heights Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 189 of the Plat Records of Travis County, Texas, and being a portion of the same land conveyed to Sam C. McCurry by Geo. V. McClain, et ux by deed dated November 22, A.D. 1934, recorded in Vol. 510, page 434, Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at the N.W. corner of said Lot 45, THENCE S. 30 W. Along the W. Line of said Lot 45 and E. Line of Lot 44, Duval Heights, a distance of 435.6 feet for the S.W. corner of this Tract; THENCE S. 60 10' E. 50 feet for the S.E. corner of this tract; THENCE N. 30 E. A distance of 435.6 feet to the S. Line of Reinli Street, being the N.E. corner of this tract; THENCE N. 60 10' W. Along the S. Line of said Reinli Street 50 feet to the place of beginning, containing one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) acre of land, and being the same property conveyed to us from Louis Snowden by warranty deed dated February 5, 1945, and recorded in Vol. 757, pages 69 and 70 of the Travis County Deed Records.

**SECOND TRACT**

Twenty One (21) feet by Sixty-Four (64) feet out of Lot No. Forty-Four (44) of Duval Heights Subdivision, according to the map or plat of said Subdivision of record in book 2, page 189, of the Travis County Plat Records; the tract hereby conveyed being more particularly described by metes and bound as follows:

BEGINNING at the northeast corner of said Lot No. 44 on the south line of Reinli Street fence; THENCE westerly along the north line of said Lot No. 44 21 feet to point for corner; thence southerly parallel to the east line of said Lot No. 44 and the west line of Lot No. 45, 64 feet to a point for corner; thence easterly parallel to the north line of said Lot No. 44, 21 feet to the East line of said Lot No. 44; Thence northerly along the East line of Lot No. 44 and the west line of Lot No. 45, 64 feet to the place of beginning, together with all improvements hereon situated, and said tract of land being a part of the same premises and property described in that certain deed of conveyance dated August 14, 1933 executed by T.B. Champion, et ux and recorded in Book 491, page 380 and 382, of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, which said deed and the said record thereof are hereby expressly referred to and made a part hereof for all pertinent purposes.



## EXHIBIT "B"

THIRD TRACT

21,114 square feet of land being out of and a part of Lot 45, DUVAL HEIGHTS, an addition to the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Vol. 2, page 189, Plat Records, Travis County, Texas, said parcel being more particularly described as being a portion of that certain tract of land that was conveyed to Charles Durham by deed of record in Volume 4005, Page 1038 of the Travis County, Texas Deed Records, said parcel being more fully described by metes and bounds as follows:

BEGINNING at an "X" found cut on the top of a concrete retaining wall at the southwest corner of said Durham tract for the southwest corner of the parcel herein described, said beginning point also being in a north line of Lot A Capital Plaza Subdivision, as recorded in Plat Book 19, at Page 1 of the Travis County, Texas Plat Records, and from which point an "X" found cut on the top of a concrete retaining wall at an interior corner of said Lot A bears N 60° - 10' W 50.0 feet, said interior corner being on the west line of the above said Lot 45;

THENCE with the west line of said Durham tract, same being the west line of this survey, N 30° - 00' E 422.29 feet to an iron pin found in the present south line of Reinli Street for the northwest corner of the parcel herein described;

THENCE with the present south line of said Street S 60° - 10' E 50.0 feet to a steel pin set in the east line of said Durham tract for the northeast corner of the parcel herein described;

THENCE with the east line of said Durham tract, same being the east line of this survey, S 30° - 00' W 422.29 feet to an "X" found cut on the top of a concrete retaining wall at the southeast corner of said Durham tract for the southeast corner of the parcel herein described;

THENCE with the south line of said Durham tract, same being the south line of this survey, N 60° - 10' W 50.0 feet to the place of BEGINNING containing 21,114 square feet of land.

FILED AND RECORDED

OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS

*Dana DeBeauvoir*

2005 Mar 18 03:45 PM

BENAVIDES \$20.00

DANA DEBEAUVOIR COUNTY CLERK

TRAVIS COUNTY TEXAS

2005047218



TRV

2013228378

4 PGS

NOTICE OF CONFIDENTIALITY RIGHTS: IF YOU ARE A NATURAL PERSON, YOU MAY REMOVE OR STRIKE ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM ANY INSTRUMENT THAT TRANSFERS AN INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY BEFORE IT IS FILED FOR RECORD IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS: YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER.

### QUITCLAIM DEED

STATE OF TEXAS

§

§

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

COUNTY OF TRAVIS

§

THAT, **DARLENE T. BASORE**, a single woman and widow of Martin Basore, deceased, whose mailing address is 15 Newman Street, Gloversville, New York 12078-1727, hereinafter referred to as "GRANTOR", for and in consideration of the sum of Ten and No/100 Dollars (\$10.00) in hand paid by Grantee herein named, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, has QUITCLAIMED, and by these presents does QUITCLAIM unto my deceased husband's brothers, **LEE RAY BASORE** at 1037 Reinli Street, Austin, Texas 78723, and **DAVID LEE BASORE** at 1613 Lady Gray Avenue, Pflugerville, Texas, hereinafter referred to as "GRANTEE", whether one or more, share and share alike equally, all of the following described real property located in Travis County, Texas, as follows, to wit:

My undivided one-third (1/3) interest in all those certain lots, tracts or parcels of land, lying and being situated in the State of Texas, County of Travis and being more fully described in Exhibit "A" and Exhibit "B" attached hereto.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD all of Grantor's right, title and interest to the above described property and premises unto the Grantee, and Grantee's heirs, administrators, executors, successors, and/or assigns forever; so that neither Grantor nor Grantor's heirs, administrators, executors, successors and/or assigns shall have, claim or demand any right or title to the aforesaid property, premises or appurtenances or any part thereof.

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

EXECUTED this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2013.

Darlene T. Basore  
DARLENE T. BASORE

STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF FULTON

§  
§  
§

BEFORE ME, the undersigned notary public, on this day personally DARLENE T. BASORE, who proved to me through her Driver's license to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that she executed the foregoing Quit Claim Deed for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2013.

Kimberli Adamchick  
Notary Public in and for the State  
of New York

KIMBERLI ADAMCHICK  
Reg # 4935804  
Notary Public, State of New York  
Qualified in Montgomery County  
My commission expires JUNE 27th 2015

*Return*  
RETURN TO:  
Lee Basore  
1037 Reinli Street  
Austin, Texas 78723

EXHIBIT "A"

FIRST TRACT

One Half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) acre of land out of the N.W. corner of Lot 45 of Duval Heights Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 189 of the Plat Records of Travis County, Texas, and being a portion of the same land conveyed to Sam C. McCurry by Geo. V. McClain, et ux by deed dated November 22, A.D. 1934, recorded in Vol. 510, page 434, Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at the N.W. corner of said Lot 45, THENCE S. 30 W. Along the W. Line of said Lot 45 and E. Line of Lot 44, Duval Heights, a distance of 435.6 feet for the S.W. corner of this Tract; THENCE S. 60 10' E. 50 feet for the S.E. corner of this tract; THENCE N. 30 E. A distance of 435.6 feet to the S. Line of Reinli Street, being the N.E. corner of this tract; THENCE N. 60 10' W. Along the S. Line of said Reinli Street 50 feet to the place of beginning, containing one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) acre of land, and being the same property conveyed to us from Louis Snowden by warranty deed dated February 5, 1945, and recorded in Vol. 757, pages 69 and 70 of the Travis County Deed Records.

SECOND TRACT

Twenty One (21) feet by Sixty-Four (64) feet out of Lot No. Forty-Four (44) of Duval Heights Subdivision, according to the map or plat of said Subdivision of record in book 2, page 189, of the Travis County Plat Records; the tract hereby conveyed being more particularly described by metes and bound as follows:

BEGINNING at the northeast corner of said Lot No. 44 on the south line of Reinli Street fence; THENCE westerly along the north line of said Lot No. 44 21 feet to point for corner; thence southerly parallel to the east line of said Lot No. 44 and the west line of Lot No. 45, 64 feet to a point for corner; thence easterly parallel to the north line of said Lot No. 44, 21 feet to the East line of said Lot No. 44; Thence northerly along the East line of Lot No. 44 and the west line of Lot No. 45, 64 feet to the place of beginning, together with all improvements hereon situated, and said tract of land being a part of the same premises and property described in that certain deed of conveyance dated August 14, 1933 executed by T.B. Champion, et ux and recorded in Book 491, page 380 and 382, of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, which said deed and the said record thereof are hereby expressly referred to and made a part hereof for all pertinent purposes.



## EXHIBIT "B"

THIRD TRACT

21,114 square feet of land being out of and a part of Lot 45, DUVAL HEIGHTS, an addition to the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Vol. 2, page 189, Plat Records, Travis County, Texas, said parcel being more particularly described as being a portion of that certain tract of land that was conveyed to Charles Durham by deed of record in Volume 4005, Page 1038 of the Travis County, Texas Deed Records, said parcel being more fully described by metes and bounds as follows:

BEGINNING at an "X" found cut on the top of a concrete retaining wall at the southwest corner of said Durham tract for the southwest corner of the parcel herein described, said beginning point also being in a north line of Lot A Capital Plaza Subdivision, as recorded in Plat Book 19, at Page 1 of the Travis County, Texas Plat Records, and from which point an "X" found cut on the top of a concrete retaining wall at an interior corner of said Lot A bears N 60° - 10' W 50.0 feet, said interior corner being on the west line of the above said Lot 45;

THENCE with the west line of said Durham tract, same being the west line of this survey, N 30° - 00' E 422.29 feet to an iron pin found in the present south line of Reinli Street for the northwest corner of the parcel herein described;

THENCE with the present south line of said Street S 60° - 10' E 50.0 feet to a steel pin set in the east line of said Durham tract for the northeast corner of the parcel herein described;

THENCE with the east line of said Durham tract, same being the east line of this survey, S 30° - 00' W 422.29 feet to an "X" found cut on the top of a concrete retaining wall at the southeast corner of said Durham tract for the southeast corner of the parcel herein described;

THENCE with the south line of said Durham tract, same being the south line of this survey, N 60° - 10' W 50.0 feet to the place of BEGINNING containing 21,114 square feet of land.

**FILED AND RECORDED**

OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS

*Dana DeBeauvoir*

Dec 31, 2013 01:58 PM

2013228378

GONZALES: \$38.00

Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk

Travis County TEXAS

## B.2. OCCUPANCY HISTORY

---

### ***B.2.1. City directory research***

Historic Preservation Office, May 2021

Note: post-1959 directory research unavailable due to facility closure

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 1947 | Reinli Street not listed (out of range). Warren Lee Basore, University of Texas carpenter, and Clara T. Basore are listed as residents of 1003 East 32 <sup>nd</sup> Street. |
| 1949 | Warren L. and Clara Basore, owners<br><br>Carpenter  |
| 1951 | Postal address listed as Route 3   |
| 1952 | Warren L. and Clara T. Basore, owners<br><br>Carpenter   |
| 1955 | Warren L. and Clara T. Basore, owners<br><br>Inspector, City of Austin Public Works Department   |
| 1959 | Warren L. Basore, owner<br><br>No occupation listed  |

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## B.3. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

### B.3.1. Newspaper articles

# City Buiding Aide Dies In Hospital

Warren Basore, 62, city building inspector who lived at 1037 Reinli, died Monday in the Veterans Hospital in Temple.

Basore, a former resident of Oklahoma City, had lived in Austin for 30 years. He was building inspector for the City of Austin for the past five years.

Basore was a member of the Methodist church; Sons of Hermann, joining in 1947; and a member of Carpenters Local 1266, joining as an apprentice in 1913.

He was in the US Navy from 1916 to 1920 and was a chief carpenter's mate. He served with the Coast Guard Reserve from 1941 to the end of World War II. Basore was a member of American Legion Post 180 in Smithville and a member of the DAV. He attended the University of Texas between the years 1932 to 1940.

In 1934 Basore enlisted as a special Texas Ranger for one year, and from 1941 to 1942 he worked in the Panama Canal building division.

His father, Elmer W. Basore, was a founding father of the carpenters local in Oklahoma City.

Survivors include his widow; three sons, Lee Ray Basore, Martin Basore and David Basore, all of Austin; and a brother, Ray Basore of Oklahoma City.

Funeral arrangements are pending at Weed-Corley Funeral Home.

Figure 1. The Austin *Statesman*; March 7, 1960


**WARREN BASORE**  
Funeral services for Warren Basore, 62, 1037 Reinli, were held

at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home Thursday afternoon with Dr. Robert Ledbetter officiating. Graveside services and burial was in Austin Memorial Park under the auspices of American Legion, Travis Post No. 76.

American Legion members serving as pallbearers were Will Carlton, Homer Nichols, William Ortle, Uhl Ives, H. Sandberg and Paul Hornberger.

Figure 2. The Austin *Statesman*; March 10, 1960

# APA Elects New Officers for 1964-65



Austin Professional Artists this week elected a new slate of officers for 1964-65, with Al Boyd, assistant art director for Winn • McLane Associates, as president.

The new officers — all of whom are ex-students of the University of Texas — are Boyd, president; Leo Basore, (Art Director of Graphic Arts Studios), vice president; and Joe Schroeder (production consultant for the State Health Department), secretary-treasurer.

The APA elections also produced two new directors, Cotton Rivers of the Whitley Company, and Richard Harlow of the University Co-op.

## Lecture Given By SA Therapist

Richard A. Hodges, physical therapist from San Antonio, has presented a lecture on therapy of patients at Seton Hospital in Austin.

The talk was delivered before the hospital's nursing service staff.

AL BOYD

Figure 3. The Austin *Statesman*; Oct. 9, 1964

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



**RIFLE TRAINING**—Staff Sergeant William M. Magee Jr. of the VIII US Army Corps, right, points out the safety features of the small bore rifle to Boy Scout instructors at Camp Wooten. At left is Lee Basore of 1037 Reinli, scoutcraft director, and Dale Schwartz of Yoakum,

US Army

center, program director at Camp Wooten. Sergeant Magee, who resides at 1407 Glencrest, is one of three Corps sergeants who are responsible for the safety of some 1,000 Boy Scouts during their rifle firing at the camp.

Figure 4. *The Austin Statesman*: Jul. 3, 1961



**NOTICE**  
**TRAVIS COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION**  
**DISTRICT NO. 1**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS }**  
**COUNTY OF TRAVIS }**

WHEREAS, on the 21st day of August, A.D., 1961, a petition signed by more than one hundred (100) qualified voters who own taxable property within the boundaries set out below was presented to Tom E. Johnson, County Judge of Travis County, Texas, and duly filed with the County Clerk of said County, which petition in all things complies with the requirements of Article 2331a-6 of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, which petition requested the said Judge to take the necessary steps for the formation of TRAVIS COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION DISTRICT NO. ONE;

AND WHEREAS, the County Commissioners' Court of Travis County, Texas, at a special session held on August 21, 1961, has set the date for a public hearing on said petition on September 18, 1961, at 10:00 o'clock A.M.;

THESE PRESENTS ARE, THEREFORE to notify and to invite all persons who may have an interest in said petition to attend the hearing on the same before the Commissioners' Court of Travis County, Texas, in the Commissioners' Court Room in the Travis County Courthouse in Austin, Texas on Monday, September 18, 1961, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., and present their grounds, if any, for or against the formation of said district.

The BOUNDARIES of said Travis County Fire Prevention District No. One, as stated in the petition therefor, are as follows:

Beginning at the North West corner of the Isaac Perkins Survey No. 37, which corners with the City Limit Line of the City of Austin on the Colorado River at this point; thence Southwesterly with the North West line of the Isaac Perkins Survey No. 37, to its intersection with Barton Creek; thence Southeasterly along Barton Creek to its intersection with the North West line of the Henry P. Hill League No. 21; thence northeasterly along the North West line of the Henry P. Hill League No. 21, to the point where said line intersects the city limits of the City of Westlake Hills; thence southeasterly and northeasterly with the City Limits of Westlake Hills to its intersection with the City Limits of the City of Austin; thence northeasterly and westerly with the City Limits of the City of Austin to the point of beginning.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Commissioners' Court of Travis County, Texas on this August 23, 1961.

Emilie Limberg  
County Clerk, Travis County, Texas

Figure 5. The Austin Statesman; Aug. 25, 1961

## ID Bureau Funds Anted Up

Travis County Commissioners Monday anted up \$2,650 to build an identification bureau in the old county jail, some three weeks after Sheriff T. O. Lang made his initial request.

Lang brought commissioners three bids for the work that will refurbish the old jail for the sheriff's new ID bureau.

Commissioners awarded the contract to low bidder Carl A. McDaniel, who submitted the \$2,650 cost estimate, identical to the estimate presented three weeks ago by Lang.

Commissioners also approved \$400 per year assistance to the Travis County Fire Control Team, a private fire fighting organization.

Lee Basore, representing the volunteer fire fighters, asked commissioners for the same financial assistance given by the county to the Manor and Pflugerville volunteer fire companies.

Basore said his group—10 students and five adults—answered calls in all parts of the county. Since January, Basore said 50 calls had been answered.

The volunteer fire company is supported entirely by the dues of fire fighters, Basore said.

Commissioners also agreed to provide funds to pay for a second secretary for the five district judges of Travis County. The judges said a second secretary was needed to assist the present secretary Mrs. Tom Thurmond.

Figure 6. The Austin Statesman; May 9, 1967

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## Working for Self-Satisfaction Scouts Battle the Fires

By BOB FELDMAN  
Staff Writer

This is a story about teenage boys.

It's not an item about boys in trouble with drugs, liquor or the law.

Rather, this is a story about eight young men who are serving their community.

The boys, members of Explorer Post 13, comprise the Travis County Fire Control Team, a hardy crew which fights fires in District One.

So far this year, the boys, ranging in age 15-17, have battled more than 80 blazes in the county. The crew fights brush and grass fires, but are sometimes called on to aid in other blazes.

Mike Van Wupperfeld, 16, explains that the scouts "are just doing it because the need has arisen. We are aiding our

community."

The young scout added that "as far as we know, we are the only fire fighting post in the US."

It began with the Bee Cave Rd. fires in 1962. The boys helped out on the fire lines and, after observing the lack of trained personnel, they decided to become specialists in fire fighting.

Lee Basore, 1937 Reinli, advises the unit. He is a veteran of 18 years in scouting.

Beside fighting fires, Basore said, the team "has learned self confidence. No matter what field of endeavor they go into, they have learned to handle themselves in an emergency."

The experience of belonging to the unit also "teaches them civic pride and responsibility."

More important, Basore said, the scouts "learn quickly to abandon the attitude of 'let someone else do it.'"

The Austin Fire Dept. instructed the scouts at the city's drill tower. They constantly train behind Basore's white frame house, which doubles as a "fire station."

"You can't afford to make mistakes or waste time," Basore said. "Fighting a fire is like combat. The fire is the enemy, and you've got to defeat it without getting hurt."

Basore is assisted by Clarence Mirtsching, 8510 Linda Ln.; Mike Holman, 2502 Manor Cir.; and Dan Hart, 1406 Briarcliff Blvd.

At first, in 1962, the team used fire hoses and improvised equipment to battle the fires. After selling first aid kits and highway flares to raise money, collecting savings stamps, receiving donations and "scrouraging," the boys purchased an old green farm truck in 1964. They refurbished the vehicle "from scratch" and painted it the traditional red.

The boys are not paid for their efforts. The County Commissioners annually "donate" \$420. Each scout pays 50 cents per month in dues, with 20 cents earmarked for the special "emergency service fund." They always need money.

The young firemen, students at McCallum and Reagan high schools, operate their own citizens radio band in conjunction with the citizens REACT radio group. When they need additional units or equipment, their requests are made through the civilian volunteer radio group.

When a fire erupts, "nine times out of 10" the unit is alerted by the county Sheriff's Office. Those at the "station" jump aboard their "engine and head for the blaze. Additional manpower is usually picked up as the truck races to the action. Since the vehicle only holds three, the others, including adults, drive in their own cars.

Their "station" is located behind the Capital Plaza shopping center, one block from the Interregional Expressway.

When they arrive at the scene, the youthful fire fighters get to work battling the blaze. Then they analyze the situation to determine whether to call for additional men or equipment. They also begin traffic control if necessary.

With the exception of three tanks at the warehouse, the explorer unit represents the entire District One fire department, Basore said.

Their equipment — a maze of hoses, breathing apparatus, back packs and nozzles — is comprised of discards from the city fire department, "scrouraged" material from local junk heaps and donated items.

The crew is constantly looking for additional funds to purchase new equipment, gas and oil and to maintain "their precious paraphernalia. They need a new engine for the truck.

Involved in a "dangerous business," the post's policy is never to risk any boy's life for "some burning trees." Basore said "there is no point in endangering a boy's life." He noted that the lone injury in five years has been one sprained ankle.

The team is often mistaken for a unit of the county fire department, but there is no Travis County Fire Dept.

The post leader said: "We move in on a fire, knock it down and take off."

He said the crew doesn't wait around for "a pat on the back." "We don't train them to expect compliments. We have a job to do. You don't get compliments for a job well done. Self-satisfaction is the key."

However, County Commissioner Robert Ceder of Precinct One praised the unit for doing a "terrific job." He said the boys "get into inaccessible spots where we can't get in."

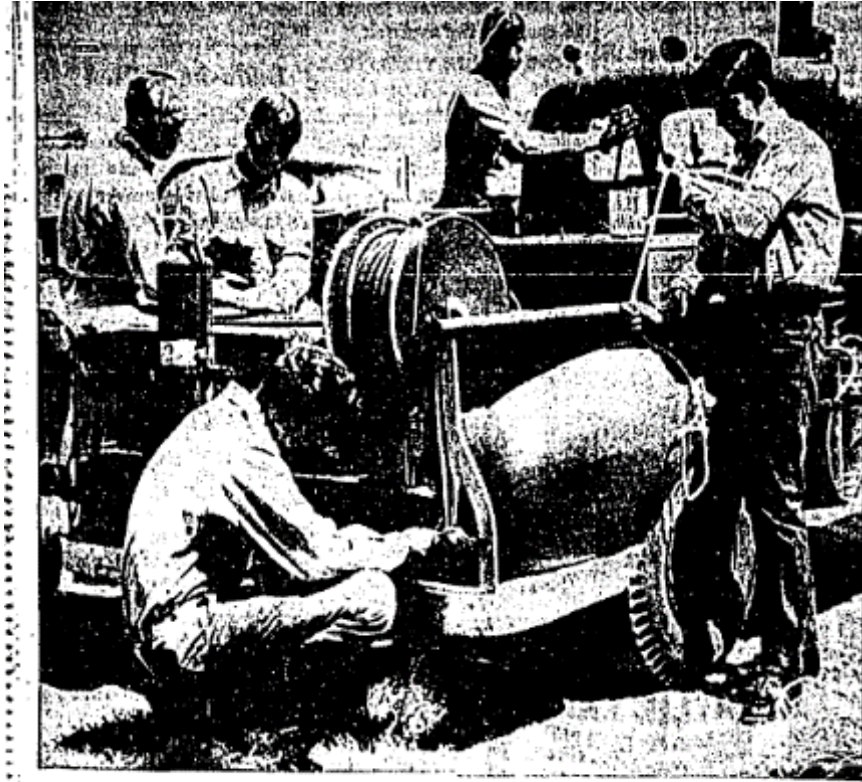
The boys — Clyde Bennett, David Basore, Robert Albright, Don Vandertulip, Denver Kokel, Terry Russell, Joey McWhorter and Van Wupperfeld — must certainly be the envy of many who just chase fire trucks. They drive one.

Anyone got a dalmatian?

Figure 7. The Austin Statesman, Aug. 9, 1967

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center




**MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT** — Firefighters from Austin Explorer Post 13 constantly clean precious fire truck and equipment. Leo Basor, advisor, supervises Joey McWhorter, Don Vandertulip, Mike Von Wupperfeld and David Basor (kneeling).

*Figure 8. The Austin Statesman, Aug. 9, 1967*



Vol. 97—No. 14      Austin, Texas, Monday, August 14, 1967



than 50 per cent . . . Property owners on Ranch Road 2222, can't say enough in praise of Explorer Post 13's fire fighters. They saw them in action with ragtag equipment Sunday. Says one whose home was saved: "They're wonderful, just amazing." . . . Looks like some of the Aqua


★

"Dear Sir: Our neighbors and my husband and I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to a wonderful group of young men — members of Scout Explorer Post 13 who fought a fire on Ranch Rd. 2222 August the 7th. Our homes were in danger and they came, they worked, sweated, and accomplished their purpose."

Mrs. H. R. Schotz  
Route 7

—The kids in that volunteer "fire dept." could also use some decent equipment . . .

Page 28—Austin, Texas



American Statesman/UPI

**MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT** — Fire-fighters from Austin Explorer Post 13 constantly clean precious fire truck and equipment. Lee Basor, advisor, supervises Joey McWhorter, Don Vandertulip, Mike Von Wupperfeld and David Basor (kneeling).

*Working for Self-Satisfaction*

## Scouts Battle the Fires

Figure 9. *The Austin Statesman*: Aug. 9, 1967



## Something Different In The Line Of Service

# fire fighting explorers



**O**NE HOT SUMMER DAY in 1962, firemen received the dreaded call. Brush fires were licking their way along Bee Caves Road near the Johnson Trading Post.

There had been no rain and the grass was crackling dry. The SOS went out for volunteers. Grass fires are almost impossible to control without lots of help, preferably trained men who know how fast a fire can travel.

Members of the Explorer Post 13 of the Boy Scouts answered the call, along with about everybody in that section of town. They eventually beat the fire out but the experience left a definite impression with the Explorer unit. They could see the dire need for trained personnel and they decided to adopt fire fighting as their project. Lee Basore, advisor to the Explorers, and a veteran of 18 years of scouting, agreed that a fire brigade would be of wonderful service to the community.

Explorers range in age from 15 to 18 years and, because the work could be hazardous, it was necessary to get the parents written consent and about six boys signed up that first year. The number now fluctuates between 12 and 15 teenagers and their resourcefulness has no bounds.

### Instruction Begins

The Austin Fire Department, delighted at the interest shown by the Brigade, gave them instructions. Also the National Forest Service Fire Con-

trol and Suppression procedures were taught. The boys saw numerous educational films and took courses in general public safety training. They trained with the several types of fire fighting equipment.

### First Fires

The first fires after the Brigade organized caught the group with two fire extinguishers and all the garden tools they could haul away from their respective homes.

It was July, 1962, and there were two major brush fires, a 2000 acre one on the Shields Ranch and, the following day one of 3,000 acres at Trails End. This was a good work out.

Through donations, trading stamps and extensive research in numerous junk yards, the Explorers' fire fighting equipment began to expand. Their first "heavy piece" resulted from the donation of an old butane tank. They made a tank trailer out of it.

So that was the beginning of the only fire fighting Explorer Unit in the country, according to Basore. He explained that Explorer Posts in all sections of the national organization select different projects that will be of service to the community.

"This helps counteract the prevalent feeling of I-don't-want-to-get-involved", Basore says.

Basore works with a local advertising agency. He keeps in touch with emergency situations through a two

way radio in his car and in his home. The Brigade is primarily responsible for county precinct one, answering alarms north of the city limits. However they are subject to call anywhere in the county.

In 1963, the Explorer's activities won them second place and \$700 in a Sears Foundation contest, entered by Explorer Posts throughout the Southwest. The boys purchased a very sad, beat up Chevrolet pick-up truck and went to work on it. They rebuilt the engine—literally tore the car apart and put it back together again. Junk yards yielded many "hardly used" parts. The hose reel was originally for television cable and a pest control company donated 165 feet of exterminator's hose.

Painted red of course, the truck is a shiny, gleaming beauty and is kept parked and ready for action at a service station on the Interregional Expressway.

The efficiency of the crew has certainly proved itself. In 1966, Explorers answered 42 alarms. They passed that mark the first four months of 1967 by answering 50 alarms.

Unnecessary chances are never taken by the boys—they are never sent into a burning building.

"Our goal is to accomplish the most in the least amount of time with the safety of all our primary concern," Basore says.

AUSTIN

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

# Volunteer Firemen Host Show at Capital Plaza

County volunteer fire fighters are taking a little time out from their chores this week to shine up their engines for the Anniversary Open House at the Capital Plaza Shopping Center parking lot Sunday.

The second annual event sponsored by the Travis County Fire Control Team, is being held concurrently with the seventh anniversary of Explorer Post 13, Fire Fighters.

The public may view the equipment displays and visit with the 23 members of the volunteer fire fighting team from 1 to 5 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Civilian Fire Chief Lee Basore said the county volunteers

primarily cover about three-fourths of the 1,200 square miles of Travis County; that part outside of the Austin city limits and beyond other municipal limits. But, he said the county team quite often works with precinct fire fighting units and with firemen from municipalities in the area.

The group maintains two fire stations with the main office at Interregional and Reinli Street and a second station at 5337 Burnet Road. Two fire trucks are now in operation, and Basore said arrangements are now being made for a third truck to be delivered, hopefully, in the near future. He said another major equipment

purchasing project right now is the acquisition of an ample supply of fire hose. All of the volunteer firemen are outfitted with complete uniforms.

The fire fighters answer an average of 100 alarms a year, Basore said, and in the peak season, which generally runs from June to September, two calls a day are commonly made. Basore said peak periods are created by brush and grass fires, which are, of course, seasonal. He said one or two calls a week are made during periods other than this peak season.

The County Fire Fighting Team is made up of former Explorer Post 13, Fire Fighters

and other interested adults in the area. Three of the adults in the county unit were with the Explorer Post when it became a fire fighting group in 1962. The Post got its fire truck in 1965 and that vehicle is now a part of the combined equipment of the county unit and the Explorer group. The Post still exists, as a separate unit, but works with the county team.

Basore, a free lance commercial artist, has two assistant fire chiefs, Allen

Spillar, a fire inspector for the city, and Mike Holman, an architecture major at the University of Texas.

Basore said the operation is financed solely through contributions from individuals, companies, organizations, and the county government, which is allowed to make a \$400 donation to the group each year. He said expenditures, so far, have run \$700 a year, but "that's only because no more is available." Basore said sometimes large

private contributions are made but there "haven't been any great windfalls lately."

Basore reports no serious injuries or fatalities to any of the firemen in the unit since its inception.

Figure 11. The Austin Statesman: May 2, 1969

## Display Slated By Firefighters

The second annual firefighter's anniversary-open house is scheduled Sunday at the Capital Plaza Shopping Center parking lot from 1 to 5 p.m.

The public is invited to view equipment displays sponsored by the Travis County Fire Control Team. The event is being held concurrently with the seventh anniversary of Explorer Post 13, Fire Fighters.

Figure 12. The Austin Statesman: May 4, 1969

## Ten Acres Burned By Fire

Fire in rural Travis County south of Austin destroyed about 10 acres of grasslands of Frederick Lane Friday afternoon.

Units from Bergstrom AFB the Travis County Fire Control Unit of Explorer Post 13 and Manchaca answered the call about 2:30 p.m.

Chief Lee Basore of the Travis County Fire Control said the fire was extinguished in about an hour.

Figure 13. The Austin Statesman: Jul. 5, 1969



# Brush Fire Flares Anew in the Hills

A flareup of Thursday's brush fire brought tired firefighters back to the scene, about 10 miles west of Austin between Bee Caves Road and Lake Austin west of Commons Ford Road.

The flareup — believed started from smoldering embers of Thursday's fire, which burned off approximately 1,500 acres of grassland — was first reported at 1:50 p.m. by Travis County Sheriff's Deputy Joe Ishey.

Firefighting units from

Oakhill, Riverhill, Explorer Troop 13, Travis County Pct. 3 and Pct. 4 reported the worst flames out by approximately 4:30 p.m. All units had left the area by 5:30 p.m., with the exception of one truck, manned by local residents.

Martin Basore of the Travis County Fire Patrol, estimated that not more than 50 acres were burned Friday afternoon.

Basore said that their firefighters had not returned from Thursday's fire until 3:30 a.m. Friday, and had been tired, but "they certainly didn't want to see a repeat of the last day's fire," he added.

The grassland is rough and steep in that area, and firefighting units experienced difficulty in maneuvering.

The fires burned on the Bob Long Ranch and the Wolf Ranch, destroying an estimated 1,530 acres.

Basore reported that units had been called to the general vicinity three times during the past 18 months. All of the grass in the area is extremely dry at this time of year.

A smoldering log or embers, fanned by winds, was the probable cause of Friday's flareup, Basore said.

Figure 14. The Austin Statesman: Jul. 26, 1969

## Storms Bring Rains, Widespread Damage

(Continued from Page 1)

city had been blown out, but were back in working order Friday by 10 a.m.

The storm raged in Austin for two hours. Winds began blowing about 9 p.m. and the rain started half an hour later. The weather started tapering off about 11 p.m. when the storm moved southward.

A substation on Cardinal Lane serving the South Lamar area; the Fifth St. and Pedernales area; an area north of Hwy. 290 and east of IH 35; an area south of Hancock Drive along Bull Creek Road and numerous individual houses were included in the power blackout.

Police reported several minor collisions and stalled cars in Austin as the result of heavy rains and sudden flooding. Low traffic intersections were affected by the flooding and lights on the expressway flicked on and off during the storm.

Motorists who were driving during the storm termed the display of lightning "spectacular." Trees struck by lightning on Manor Road were reported by witnesses to have been "blasted apart."

At 4200 North Lamar, a church revival meeting tent was blown down by the winds just after the meeting of the Trinity Baptist Church was dismissed. No injuries were reported.

Lightning was blamed for a grass fire in West Austin on Hudson Bend Road, one mile north of Hwy. 620.

Lee Basore, chief of Travis County fire control, said the call was received at 8:34 p.m. and approximately an acre of grass burned before the fire was reported extinguished at 9 p.m.

Flood waters apparently washed out the bridge at 12th Street and Graham in East Austin. Police reported the structure on Boggy Creek collapsed about midnight.

Austin police reported their main problems stemmed from traffic lights being out due to the power failure.

At the height of the windstorm, 60 mile-an-hour gusts were recorded and more than 2.5 inches of rain were measured.

Gauges at fire stations in Austin showed 3.4 inches at 1005 Lodia St.; 3 inches at 4305 Airport Blvd. and at 829 Airport Blvd.; 2.3 inches at 2013 East Avenue; 2.2 at 201 Chicon St.;

extensive damage occurred all over the county to road signs.

Killeen reported 1.22 inches of rain with extensive damage to telephone and power lines. Power and phone service was restored by dawn after linemen worked all night. Signs and windows were broken in scattered parts of town.

Both Killeen and Harker Heights received hail, but it inflicted only minor damage. A trailer occupied by three persons was overturned in Harker Heights, and a young girl sustained a cut leg.

The storm blew into Williamson County, where winds were clocked at 70 miles per hour on the KTAE television tower at Taylor. However, higher wind gusts were believed to have occurred in some parts of the county.

Taylor received .50 to .70 of an inch in rain in various parts of town. Nearby measurements included 1.60 at Beauliss; 1.30 at Thrall; 1.10 at Hutto; 1.52 at Pflugerville; 1 at Lawrence Chapel; and .22 at Thorndale.

High winds unroofed many sheds in the Florence vicinity, and telephone and power lines were down between Florence and Killeen. Power was off for an hour and 10 minutes at Florence. The rain measured .91 of an inch.

Other Williamson County rain reports included: Walburg 2.89; Round Rock 3.20; Jonah 2; Andice .96; and Georgetown .46.

Mrs. E. E. Duvall of Leander reported that high winds believed to be a twister destroyed her boat dock on Lake Travis at Volente.

She said she checked the dock at midnight but returned at dawn to find it demolished with the boat upsidetown. Nearby docks were undamaged.

Rain measurements on the Highland Lakes included Lake Buchanan .38; Lake LBJ .19; Lake Travis 1.02; Lake Austin .49 and Town Lake 1.83. The temperature reached 105 degrees Thursday afternoon at Buchanan and 104 at Lake Travis.

Rain measurements west of Austin included Bertram 1.85; Briggs 1.12; Cedar Park .94; Llano 1.88; Marble Falls .74; Tow .52; and Spicewood 1.25.

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company experienced scattered wire and cable trouble from the storm.

## Some Areas Get Up to 4.6 Inches

By NAT HENDERSON  
Staff Writer

Widespread damage was reported Friday after overnight thunderstorms ripped through Central Texas on 100 miles-per-hour winds and deluged some areas with rains up to 4.60 inches.

Bell County and Williamson County bore the brunt of the severe weather, but scattered damage occurred in a huge area in every direction from Austin.

The Capital City reported an official measurement of 2.78 inches of rain at the Municipal Airport with the wind gauge recording gusts up to 63 miles per hour.

However, the fire station rain gauge at 6311 Berkman Drive collected 3.80 inches.

More than a thousand homes scattered throughout the city were left without electric power after Thursday night's storm swept through town.

Electrical dispatcher Chester Falk said Friday morning city repair crews had worked all

night to repair transmission lines downed by high winds and lightning. He said he expected the repair crews to be working all day to repair lines and bring electrical power back into homes.

"No particular part of town was hit any harder than another," Falk said. He said the electric department had received between 1,000 and 1,200 telephone calls from places without electricity.

He said five circuits in four substations scattered around the

(See STORMS, Page 6)



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

Austin American-Statesman    Saturday, Sept. 6, 1969    -Page 3

## Volunteer Firefighters Quell 96 County Summer Blazes

Using one 18-year-old booster truck, a few adults and 15 teenage volunteer firefighters pumped 21,000 gallons of water and traveled more than 2,300 miles while fighting 96 Travis County fires that involved more than 1,600 acres.

Lee Basore, chief of the Travis County Fire Control squad, said that this work was done during 92 days of summer and involved 802 man hours on the fire scenes.

"Most of the credit for the work should go to the boys," Basore said. "They are from 16 to 18 years old and are all members of Explorer Fire Post 13."

Basore said that the Explorer Scout Post became involved in fighting Travis County fires about two and a half years ago when several Austin businessmen formed the Travis County Fire Control team.

Since then, Basore said the Explorer Scouts and about 10 adults have volunteered their time to fight Travis County fires that occur outside city limits.

Basore, a free lance commercial artist, operates both his business and the fire control unit out of his home at 1037 Reinli St. in North Austin.

"The entire operating expense for the Travis County Fire Control comes from contributions," Basore said. "We have been receiving annual

contributions from the County Commissioners, but the rest of the money must come from concerned individuals."

Basore said the summer months are the busiest with about 99 per cent of the firefighters time spent on grass fires.

"July was the busiest summer month," Basore said, "when we answered 48 alarms. Fires burned 1,544 acres in July compared to 108 acres lost to fires in August."

Basore said the fire alarm calls are relayed to him through the Travis County Sheriff's office and that he then contacts the volunteer firefighters, who are on a standby basis.

"During the summer months, the boys generally stay around the station because we averaged one fire a day and they knew they would be going out," Basore said.

"This experience teaches the boys to handle emergencies, develops their characters and gives them the satisfaction of helping others," Basore said.

"Of course the County Fire Control department does more than that," he said. "It also saves a lot of property that might otherwise be lost."



Figure 16. The Austin Statesman: Sep. 6, 1969

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## Brush Fire Extinguished

A two-and-a-half hour brush fire northeast of the Austin city limits Wednesday burned 10 acres of heavy undergrowth before firefighters could extinguish it.

The lot is located near the intersection of Ed Bluestein Blvd. and East 19th St. and is part of a residential development project.

Travis County Fire Control Chief Lee Basore said the blaze began when sparks from a burning construction site trash heap were blown into the dry mesquite and grass.

Basore said the first call came from the Travis County Sheriff's Department about 1:25 p.m.

"We had the fire out by 4 p.m.," said Basore. "Wandering through that mesquite and undergrowth laying hose lines just takes a long time."

Figure 17. The Austin Statesman; Oct. 23, 1969

## Woman, Boy Hurt In 2 Austin Fires

Two fires in North Austin Saturday afternoon left two persons with burn injuries in city hospitals.

Mrs. Ella Barnett, 68, of 1917 W. St. Johns Ave., was reported in satisfactory condition at St. David's Hospital Saturday night after she received first and second degree burns over her feet and right arm.

In fair condition at Brackenridge Hospital after he fell through a burning roof was Ronnie Allen Thompson, 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robin Thompson of Rt. 4, Box 205D. The Thompson youth received

first, second and third degree burns on his face, arms and legs.

Four units of the Austin Fire Department were called to Mrs. Barnett's residence at 4:15 p.m. when a fire broke out in her carport.

Capt. Jack Kennedy said Mrs. Barnett had dropped a bottle of gasoline on the carport's concrete floor, breaking it and spilling the contents. When the vapors reached a hot water heater pilot light, they ignited, Kennedy said.

Mrs. Barnett was taken to Brackenridge Hospital by neighbors and later transferred to St. David's.

Thompson was injured when he fell through the burning roof of a house near the intersection of FM1325 and the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks.

According to Lee Basore of the Travis County Fire Control, Thompson was helping L. G. Hancock extinguish a fire which had broken out in his residence.

Hancock's home is about three miles northwest of the city. Basore said the fire, reported at 2:55 p.m., was put out by two units of the Travis County Fire Control with Austin units standing by.

Basore said the fire was caused by a leaky flue connected to a woodburning stove in Hancock's home. One room of the house sustained fire damage and three others were damaged by smoke and water.

Thompson is a student at Lanier High School. His mother had first spotted the fire and told her son to notify Hancock. The youth then attempted to climb on the roof and help the man put the fire out. Some of the smoldering roof caved in beneath him and sent him falling into the blaze.

Figure 18. The Austin Statesman; Nov. 23, 1969

## Two Burn Victims In Hospital

Two persons remained in local hospitals Monday with burn injuries received in two of four separate fires city firemen fought this weekend.

Mrs. Ella Barnett, 69, of 1917 West St. Johns was in satisfactory condition at St. David's Hospital after she was burned on her feet and right arm in a carport fire about 4:15 p.m. Saturday.

Ronnie Allen Thompson, 13, of 1818 Anderson Lane was listed in fair condition at Brackenridge Hospital after receiving face, arm and leg burns while helping a neighbor extinguish a fire on his roof.

Travis County Fire Chief Lee Basore said Thompson fell through the burning roof of the residence of L. G. Hancock near Farm Road 1325 and the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks.

A grass fire at 5209 Prock Lane was extinguished by firemen in minutes about 4:45 p.m. Sunday.

Damage was reported to be slight to the Sage Department Store at 6500 Airport Blvd. Saturday night after a 9:35 p.m. blaze broke out in a back storeroom.

Figure 19. The Austin Statesman; Nov. 24, 1969

## Fire Causes Damage To Firm

A fire in a laboratory at Pace International, 10022 S. Interregional Highway, caused "extensive damage" to the ceiling of the building Monday afternoon.

Lee Basore of the Travis County Fire Control Team, said the blaze apparently began when a substance on a hot plate in the building ignited.

Besides the heavy damage to the ceiling, Basore said, there was some damage to equipment from heat and fire.

One Austin Fire Department unit, and a unit from the Fire Control Team, quickly brought the blaze under control after the 2:20 p.m. alarm. There were no injuries.

Pace International, formerly Paccoco, manufactures a nylon-formulated paint-like coating, Basore said.

Figure 20. The Austin Statesman; Nov. 25, 1969



# Evacuated Families Await an 'All-Clear'

Twelve families evacuated from the Elroy area when a highly explosive liquid petroleum gas line ruptured early Friday morning were told it was safe to return about 9 p.m. Friday, a spokesman for the Travis County Sheriff's Department said.

Workers from the Phillips Pipeline Company were still standing by late Friday, and a strong odor of gas still lingered in the area, but company officials said the leak had been closed.

The inflammable gas, similar to a butane-propane mixture used in plastics manufacturing, spewed from the break about 8 a.m. and continued to leak until late afternoon.

One resident said he heard a "booming" sound when the pressurized gas broke through the 10-inch main.

Travis County Sheriff T. O. Lang told the American-Statesman about 11:30 a.m. that, to his knowledge, no families were to be evacuated.

But units of the sheriff's department had earlier gone to about 12 area homes instructing occupants to turn off their furnaces and ovens and to evacuate until further notice.

A Phillips Pipeline Co. spokesman said Friday afternoon that his company did not know exactly when the all-

clear signal would be given. He said the leak had slowed considerably when workers shut off a west side valve and that they would plug the east section sometime "when the gas dissipates enough so that we can get down there and work."

Deputy B. B. Berry, one of the first to arrive after gas workmen reported the break, said white vapor from the escaping fumes had drifted from the leak and over Elroy Road. Berry remained at the intersection of Elroy Road and McAngus Road blocking traffic while Deputy David Hale guarded the south end at Elroy's intersection with Fagerquist Road.

Berry said no traffic was permitted within a half a mile of the break since a spark from a vehicle's engine could ignite the gas.

Gas officials said the 10-inch line originates at Odessa and

continues to the Gulf.

Lee Basore of Travis County Fire Control said rain and moisture had reduced the danger of fire. He said the falling mist acted as kind of a "blanket" to keep the gas from shooting straight up into the area.

He added that a southerly breeze seemed to be dispersing the gas before pockets of concentration could be formed.

A pungent smell present in the area was said to be a specially added odor so that leaks of the otherwise odorless gas could be detected.

Gas officials said the LPG is normally carried through lines in a liquid state but that it turns to gas when not pressurized.

Figure 21. The Austin Statesman: Dec. 16, 1969



## Fire Razes Art Gallery Near Lake

The Hill Country Art Gallery near Lake Travis and an undetermined number of paintings were completely destroyed by fire Tuesday night.

The manager of the gallery, 27-year-old Donald Pimpler, was injured in the blaze. Pimpler and his wife live in the building. He received burns on his hands and was treated and released at Brackenridge Hospital.

The owner of the gallery, E. W. Spier, who was contacted in Taos, N.M., said Wednesday that he could not set a value on the ruined paintings or the building.

Spier said that he did not know the number of paintings which were destroyed.

Pimpler and fire officials could not set a value on the damage.

Spier said that he did not know what the future plans of the gallery would be until he could view the damage and talk to Pimpler.

Pimpler told Travis County Sheriff's Deputy Vernon Carson that he believed a hot plate with melting wax on it may have been the cause of the blaze.

Pimpler told officers he was in front of the frame structure when he heard something pop inside the gallery. He ran in and tried to get the hot plate outside, burning his hand in the process, he said.

Deputy Frank Sanchez, who  
(See FIRE, Page 4)

## ● FIRE

(Continued from Page 1)

went to the fire, said when he arrived the building already was consumed by flames. "By the time Travis County Fire Control unit from Precinct 3 arrived it was too late. The building was already on the ground," Sanchez said.

A witness to the fire, Howard Steigler, who lives approximately three-fourths of a mile from the scene, said the building "literally exploded, it burned so fast." He said he called the Travis County Sheriff's Department.

"By the time the fire truck got here, the place was so far gone that they didn't even put water on it," he said.

Steigler, a member of the Travis County Fire Control District, said the blaze even charred the building's foundation.

Figure 22. The Austin Statesman: Dec. 17, 1969

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## Area Volunteer Firemen Join Hands for Mutual Aid

By CYNTHIA JOYCE  
Staff Writer

In the past the fire service provided in districts outside the City of Austin has often been haphazard, though volunteers did the best they could. Now many of the volunteer fire departments have voted to establish an association to right matters.

The Travis County Service Association, made up of departments from Travis, South Williamson and North Hays

counties, was organized primarily to define fire service boundaries; set up a grid system; draw up a list of equipment to be shared by all; and exchange information leading to mutual aid between all departments, particularly in standby arrangements.

"Travis County has an area which is just 200 square miles

less than Rhode Island," said Travis County Fire Control Chief Leo Basore, the Association's newly appointed acting secretary, "and we needed to be better organized to handle everything we have to."

But for Basore and the Association's acting president, Oak Hill Fire Chief O. B. McKown, Jr., the two people most instrumental in getting the association started, the work has only just begun.

McKown said, "Many fire

district boundaries were never formalized — a voluntary fire department just chooses what it thinks it can cover — and often there are pockets left unprotected. Now we hope to clarify all that."

"I'm making a list of the fire-fighting equipment belonging to each department," said Basore, "so that each department knows what the others have got and can ask for appropriate pieces (of equipment) to deal with particular emergencies."

"I'm staying up nights working on a grid system," said McKown, "which will pinpoint everything in the county. This will help us locate a fire when people, as they often do, give us incorrect directions."

Another important facet of the

association's plans is the setting up of a format so that whenever a fire-fighting unit goes out on a job, a standby unit from another department will move in to the unprotected area.

"This usually happens anyhow," said McKown, "but it was informal, and it was not always certain what district should be called upon first. This could leave a district unprotected for a while. Automatically, each department now knows exactly who they have to replace."

Basore said the Travis County Fire Association's activities are going so well that other counties are beginning to start their own organizing talks. It could eventually lead to a very wide mutually helpful network.

Figure 23. The Austin *Statesman*: Feb. 16, 1970

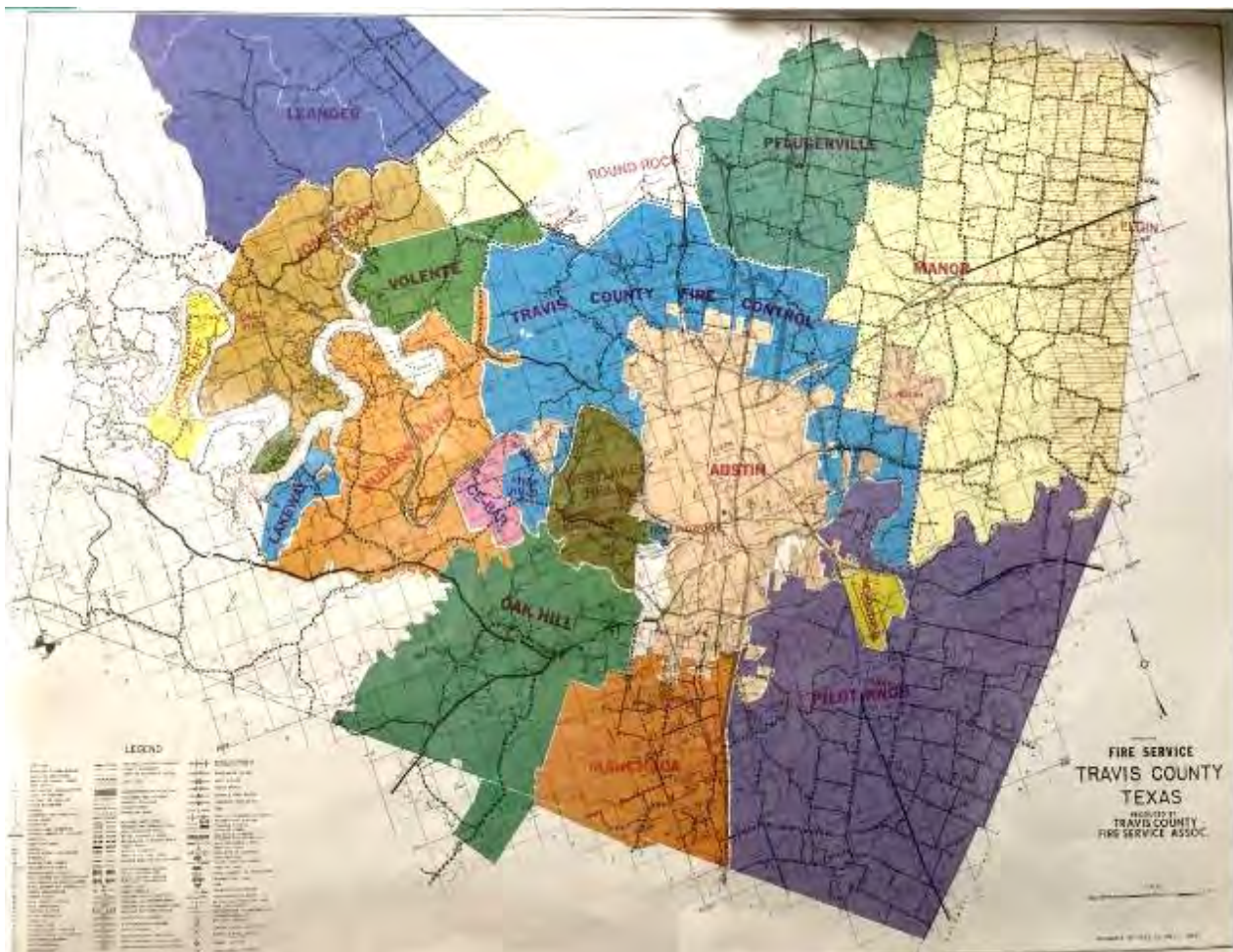


Figure 24. 1969 Travis County Fire Service Association map showing service jurisdictions.



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## Fire Burns Woman In Kitchen

A fire in the kitchen of a north side home early Monday resulted in injury to the lady of the house and damage to the area around the stove, said volunteer firemen who responded to the call for help.

Leo Basore, chief of the Travis County Fire Control team, said Mrs. Buzzell R. Cowan, of 810 Hollybluff St., received 2nd degree burns of the hands and 1st degree burns of the arms when a pot caught fire on the stove about 8:45 a.m.

Damage was not extensive Basore said, but did include the area around the stove, some adjacent cabinets and the ceiling and rafters directly above the stove.

Basore said by the time the volunteer fire unit arrived at the scene — just off IH35 about one mile north of the city limit — Mrs. Cowan's husband had been summoned and was fighting the blaze with a garden hose.

"He had torn away a section of shingles from the roof and had soaked the ceiling area," Basore said. "He had the thing pretty well contained."

Mrs. Cowan was taken to a physician by her husband and a member of the volunteer fire control team and returned home after receiving treatment. Basore said the stove was vented into the attic without any outlet through the roof.

"The vent ended a few inches from (the underside of) the roof," said the fire control team chief.

He said this is a practice which "we find quite frequently in the newer houses."

It was fortunate, he said, that the man got to it in time to keep the fire from spreading in the rafters.

## Subdivision Home Hit By Blaze

A one-story residence in the North Oaks subdivision north of Austin was heavily damaged by fire, but the contents of the home were salvaged.

Travis County Fire Control Chief Leo Basore said the fire broke out Wednesday about 8:30 p.m. at 11909 Oak Trail, the home of Roy Henderson.

Besides county firefighting units, the Pflugerville, Round Rock and City of Austin fire departments responded with one unit each. No injuries were reported.

Figure 25. The Austin Statesman: Apr. 2, 1970

Figure 26. The Austin Statesman: Jul. 20 1970



Explorer Post 13 preparing truck for call. Source: Basore family.



Explorer Post 13 extinguishing brushfire alongside volunteer firefighter. Source: Basore family.

## Troubled Firemen Fight Fire

Two flat tires and unpredictable breezes failed to daunt Travis County volunteer firemen Monday as they battled a trash and grass fire which appeared to be spreading toward a number of houses and barns on Rogers Lane.

Lee Basore, chief of the Travis County Fire Control team, said two trucks and five men were dispatched about 1:20 p.m. to the fire on Webberville Road which spread out of control from some trash that was being burned.

Caught by a breeze, the fire spread up one hill and down another, said officials, before being stopped short of several buildings on Rogers Lane.

"No real property damage resulted from the fire," Basore said. "About half an acre of grass burned, and it scorched the side of a barn a little."

## It's Hot-It's Dry -Watch for Fires!

By PAUL FRYE  
Staff Writer

With hot and dry weather well established in Austin now, Fire Marshal Leland Priest and Lee Basore, Chief of Travis County Fire Control both are urging citizens to take greater care to prevent fires.

Priest said most fires in Austin during August are grass or weed fires, with a second major category coming from heavy usage of gasoline powered equipment in the summer months.

Basore said most of the fires in the county are grass fires. "Certain conditions must be present for a grass fire to start," he says. "There must be extreme heat during the days (which dries the ground), and a lack of humidity.

He says that these factors are conducive to fires that ignite easily and spread fast, and that the above conditions are usually present in the county during the last of July and in August.

"The major causes of fires can be listed in three categories," he said.

"The most common cause is a trash fire. A person will start one without adequate protection.

"Another common cause is careless use of matches or cigarettes. Children playing with matches or fireworks sometimes start fires in this manner.

Less common are natural hazards. Sometimes a clear glass bottle will act as a magnifying glass and start a fire. We also have a problem with firebugs occasionally."

Fire Marshall Priest says that, in addition to occasional property damage, grass fires can "be a nuisance" in other ways. He says it is costly for the fire department when a unit

is called to a grass fire and is not available if a more dangerous fire should develop in the neighborhood.

Priest gives the following suggestions for protecting against grass fires in the city:

"We recommend that people whose homes are adjacent to a grassy field cut a firebreak between the field and their house. This should provide adequate protection for the property in case of fire.

"If a citizen notifies the Austin Health Department, arrangements can be made to have a field cleared if it is determined to be a fire hazard.

"When a fire does start in a field, the fire department should be notified immediately by telephone or through the emergency telephone system located on many street corners.

"An attempt to put the fire out, even if it is a small one should not be made by an individual, until the fire department has been notified because grass fires spread rapidly."

Chief Basore added that persons planning to burn trash in the county should contact their local fire department before doing so.

He said the call would alert the department in case the fire did get out of control and would also divert them from making an unnecessary call in case a passerby mistook it for an uncontrolled fire and called the department.

Fire Marshal Priest concluded that most gasoline accidents that occur could be avoided if the gasoline is kept in "tight metal containers" and is never stored close to a water heater. "Fumes from the gas are heavier than air and often roll along the floor to the burner on the heater where they can ignite or explode causing fire and often injury," he said.

Figure 27. The Austin Statesman: Jul. 22, 1970

Figure 28. The Austin Statesman: Aug. 12, 1970



## Grassfire Arsonists Are Sought

A search was under way Thursday morning by law enforcement agencies for six men in a dark green 1968 or 1969 Plymouth Roadrunner who were reportedly seen setting fire Wednesday evening to rangeland in western Travis County.

Fires on the Baldwin Ranch and the Bob Long Ranch, west of the city on Bee Caves Road, burned about 300 acres of brush land before being brought under control about 8 p.m. by members of the Oak Hill Fire Department and Travis County Fire Control Team.

Firefighters remained at the scene throughout the night to combat periodic flareups caused by gusty winds, according to Oak Hill Fire Chief O. B. McKowen Jr.

Travis County Sheriff's Deputies said a witness was unable to get the license number of the car, but that the Department of Public Safety and local law agencies would continue their investigation on the basis of descriptions of the subjects and their automobile.

Figure 29. The Austin Statesman; Aug. 20, 1970

## Brush Fire Arson Gang Said Active

See Photo, Page 2

A gang of arsonists has been responsible for at least four major brush fires set southwest of Austin, a fire official said Friday.

Lee Basore, chief of the Travis County Fire Control Team, said "we are just holding our breath. We expect them to strike again at any time."

He said that Friday morning a motorist spotted a group of young men touching fire to roadside grass with a propane torch. The young men quickly sped off.

That incident was in the Oak Hill fire district, where roadside blazes have blossomed along Highway 290 and Highway 71 in the parched brush recently.

He said fire and sheriff's officers suspect the culprits are "college age and living in Austin." He said there are four to six young men involved.

The reported Friday morning attempted burning involved a car that authorities had already begun to suspect.

"In a fire the other day off Circle Drive in Oak Hill, the boys fighting it said a similar car drove up," Basore said.

"These people are smart," he said. "They set the fires on the roadside where the wind will carry them deeper into the brush."

Basore said authorities are afraid of another outbreak of blazes Friday afternoon, and urged citizens to watch for suspicious activity and cars parked by the road.

"What we're really worried about is some kind of mass stunt like we had in 1967 when one gang went down Bee Caves Road and set 21 separate fires in succession. You can still see the burned-over areas," he said.

Figure 30. The Austin Statesman; Aug. 22, 1970

# County Range Fire Destroys 1,000 Acres

By DAN WEST  
Staff Writer

A devastating range fire, which roared out of control for nearly five hours Saturday afternoon, consumed an estimated 1,000 acres of ranch land off the Hamilton Pool Rd., about 22 miles southwest of Austin.

A combined effort of five Travis County fire fighting units with numerous fire trucks and water tankers had the blaze "contained, but by no means out" Saturday night.

The fire, which was said to have started in the Deer Creek region of the Jim Rice Ranch, was reported to the Travis County Fire Control Unit shortly after 1:45 p.m.

A spokesman for the Oak Hill Fire Department said that Chief O. B. McKowan was coordinating the operation in a Department of Public Safety helicopter.

Late reports from the field indicated that no fire fighters had been seriously hurt. "Some of the men may have taken a little too much smoke," said

Vernon Litton of the Oak Hill F.D., "but it didn't look as if anyone had been burned."

The area charred by the blaze, according to Litton, was of dry, rolling hills, thickly covered by scrub oak and cedar.

The fire at one time crossed Hamilton Springs Rd., but was quickly driven back, stated a spokesman of the Dripping Springs Fire Department.

At least three bulldozers were used to cut fire trails through the heavy brush, thus halting the rapid advance of the blaze.

Time and again the wall of flames was fanned by an erratic early afternoon breeze.

Along with the DPS helicopter, several Travis County Sheriff's deputies were on hand to set up a communications relay system which was used to place strategically the firemen and their equipment.

Figure 31. The Austin Statesman: Sep. 6, 1970

## Fire Control Equipment Cash Sought

The Travis County Fire Control District is seeking to raise \$10,000 for new equipment, according to W. L. Heaton, fire marshal of the district.

The district, which controls an area north of the Austin city limits from Decker Lake west to FM 620 and north to Yeager Lane, lost its newest piece of equipment, a pump truck, in a September accident, Heaton said.

Heaton said the funds will be solicited by letter to residents of the district. The funds will be turned over to a board of directors headed by Fire Chief Lee Basore. Other members of the board are Monroe Bethke and Wilson Foreman.

Heaton said the district protects from 2,000 homes and 50 businesses and industries. He said the cost per truck for answering a call is about \$25. The district has answered 127 calls this year, including fires of 23 structures; 48 grass fires; 24 brush fires; 16 auto fires; 13 miscellaneous and three false alarms.

Heaton said checks should be made payable to the Travis County Fire Control District and may be sent to Chief Basore at 1037 Reinli St. or any volunteer of the district.

Figure 32. *The Austin Statesman*; Oct. 10, 1970

# Physician Post Open In Travis

By **DON FISHER**  
Staff Writer

Travis County will be without the services of a County medical doctor as of Tuesday.

Travis County Commissioners Monday postponed discussion of appointment of a county physician to replace Dr. Harold M. Williams, whose resignation goes into effect Tuesday.

County auditor Bill Rust told commissioners he had  
(See Page 6)

written to one doctor but had received no reply.

County Judge J. H. Watson said in the event of illness in the jail, a private doctor would have to be called in. Treatment of jail prisoners is ordinarily the duty of the county medical doctor.

Also at the regular commissioners meeting Monday Travis County Fire Control Team Chief Lee Brasore appeared before the commissioners to present certificates of appreciation to Judge Watson and Pct. 2 Commissioner N.L. Gault for their support of the fire control team.

In other action, commissioners accepted bids for used equipment in the County Tax Collector's office. Eight filing cabinets were sold to Sheppard Lumber Co. for \$680 and two accounting machines were purchased by National Cash Register Co. for \$200.

Commissioners appointed Don Cantrell as Justice of the Peace for Pct. 1, Place 3 to replace Bob Kuhn whose resignation goes into effect Tuesday. Cantrell was elected to the post in the Nov. 3 general election and will take the post one month early.

Kuhn resigned his position to begin private law practice.

Figure 33. *The Austin Statesman*; Nov. 30, 1970



## Travis Railroad Bridge Burns

A railroad trestle of the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad was destroyed by fire Friday afternoon in a blaze that left both railroad and fire fighting officials puzzled.

Lee Basore, chief of the Travis County Fire Control Unit, said the 50-foot trestle, which is located east of Austin one-half mile north of Webberville Road, was consumed by a fire which burned only the trestle — not spreading any further.

Railroad officials said the fire would result in the tracks being closed for at least a week.

Estimated time of the fire was 2 p.m. It was reported at 2:19, and two fire fighting units were still at the scene by 5 p.m. Friday.

Heat of the fire caused a portion of the rails to bend, Basore said.

The fire chief said no cause of the fire had been determined.

Figure 34. *The Austin Statesman*: Jan. 9, 1971

## Fire, Blast Destroy House

Ammunition stored in the home of Warren Harigrove, 11407 Tedford, was exploded by a fire which destroyed his home Thursday morning, a Travis County Sheriff's Department spokesman said.

The spokesman said no one was injured by the explosions, or by the fire itself, but said the house was "a total loss."

Units of Travis County Fire Control, Sheriff's office, and Department of Public Safety were dispatched after the fire was reported at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, a Sheriff's office spokesman said.

Figure 35. *The Austin Statesman*: Jan. 28, 1971

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Staff Photo

**VOLUNTEER FIREMEN PINPOINT A BLAZE**  
Chief Basore checks map, Vince Funk, looks on

## Fire Departments Need Men, Money

By HOYT SPURLOCK  
Staff Writer  
In the past decade, the 14 volunteer fire departments in Travis County have slowly progressed from garden hoses and burlap bags into a countywide association of trained fire fighters, but two problems — men and money — still plague them like a brush blaze in the hill country.

"We're hurting," said Lee Basore, Travis County fire control chief, "especially for the daytime volunteers." Basore, who also serves as vice president of the Travis County Fire Service Association, said prospects and financial support get brighter, however, as county residents realize they have no formal fire protection.

"It's a shame that it takes something like a fire to arouse interest in these communities outside the city limits," Basore said.

Since the first department was formed in 1903, training for the volunteers has increased right along with the acquisition of new equipment. Last year, the county wide association was formed as a coordinating body to help stuff out problems of the individual departments.

The Travis County Fire Control, which Basore heads, has grown from 18 volunteers, most of whom were Explorer Scouts, in 1967 to its current force of 35 men with a dozen on the waiting list.

A sophisticated grid map, showing individual department boundaries, was recently developed by the association. Through radio communication, any county blaze can be pinpointed to within a quarter of a mile.

Although there's no guarantee that all county fires can now be extinguished, split second attempts can now be made. Only the extreme western section and the southeast edge of Travis County have no volunteer department protection.

Each of the 14 departments has its own organization. Basore said the Travis County Fire Control is patterned after the City Fire Department and divided into three separate companies with a captain for each.

Shifts for all volunteers are split into night and day, with one group working on even days of the month, and the other taking the odd days.

Although the volunteer ranks are drawn from a potpourri of professions, the only major casualty occurred last year, and ironically, Basore was the victim.

He wrapped a fire truck around a tree last August after a blow-out on route to a grass fire. His fractured right leg kept him out of the driver's seat until last week.

Besides more volunteers and contributions, both Basore and Travis County Fire Control Board of Directors President Bill Heaton agree that the county also needs a county fire marshal.

Heaton, who served as Austin Fire Marshall for 25 years before leaving the post last April, said a county fire marshal "could more or less coordinate and educate" the individual departments. He said the practice is now working well in Dallas and Tarrant Counties.

Basore said a county fire marshal would not be a "boss" over the departments, but would merely "get paid to see what department problems are," plus aid in arson investigations on county fires.

Heaton praised the public for their contributions so far, then added another good word for the volunteers themselves.

"These guys don't get paid a thing," he said, "and they risk their necks everytime they go out."

Figure 36. The Austin Statesman; Feb 8, 1971

## Volunteers Form First Line Of Defense Against Fires

By LARRY SPRINGER  
Staff Writer

Fire — dry weather's companion — has visited the Austin area with increasing frequency in the last six months.

To meet this fiery challenge, communities in and about Travis County have organized volunteer fire departments.

Before many of the fire companies acquired fire trucks, the firemen would arm themselves with gunny sacks and shovels to battle a grass fire.

Now, either through the purchase of professional equipment or the building of "homemade" trucks, all area volunteer fire departments have at least one vehicle equipped with pumps and hoses.

Fire department manpower varies.

"During the day, there are just a couple of us around; but in the evening, the men come home from work and we have a force of about 16 to 18 men," said Lewis Peter, chief of the West Lake Hills Fire Department.

Mrs. Dill Teasdale, of C-Bar, said the C-Bar fire department has an arrangement with West Lake High School which allows volunteer members attending school to be excused to fight a fire.

Several fire companies have purchased professional firefighting equipment. Firemen at the Lakeway fire department boast a new custom built fire engine, while the Pilot Knob volunteer group has just finished putting a tank and — pump on a homemade truck.

Only about half of the area fire companies have firehouses for their equipment.

"We keep our fire trucks at service stations," said Lee Basore, chief of the Travis County Fire Control. He added that by not spending money for a fire house, the group is able to save money for more equipment.

When a volunteer fire department receives a fire call, the dispatcher usually has a "buddy call system" to notify all fire company members. The person receiving the call will call two others in the department, who, in turn, call two more persons before going to the blaze.

Many fire departments have a community siren which sounds whenever a fire call is received. Others employ two-way radio equipment to spread the alarm.

Once a fire company reaches a fire, two basic problems are encountered. In the case of brush fires, several volunteer units report it has been difficult for firefighters to get the fire trucks back into the hills to halt the advancing flames. A second problem cited is the lack of water.

The Jonestown volunteer company has equipped itself to overcome both these problems.

"Our men often will strap on back packs equipped with 10-gallon tanks to fight fires back in the hills," said James Ham, assistant chief of the Jonestown Volunteer Fire Department. He added that the main problem with the back packs is the weight.

About one-third of the fire departments said they were equipped with emergency resuscitators.

Only one unit — Travis County Fire Control — reported having members who are professional firemen.

To report a fire, persons may either call one of the numbers listed in today's American-Statesman or notify the Travis County Sheriff's Department.



JONESTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS RELAX AFTER FIRE  
Left to right, Baxey Gibson, James Ham and Frank Donahue—all volunteers

Figure 37. The Austin Statesman: Apr. 10, 1971



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

# Fire Protection To Require Dues

By LARRY SPRINGER  
Staff Writer

Fire protection and the possibility of levying a tax for the support of the Travis County Fire Control were discussed Tuesday evening at a meeting of the Company Four Boosters Club.

"We will not render fire protection to area residents who have not paid the \$10 fire protection fee," said Travis County Fire Control assistant chief A. R. Spillar.

However, the fire company would respond to save a human life regardless of whether the annual fire protection dues had been paid or not, Spillar said.

"The Supreme Court has upheld three times the right of volunteer fire departments to answer only those alarms at houses of paid-up persons," said Spillar, "and we have to draw the line somewhere."

Spillar said the volunteer company checks a master list of paid residents while enroute to a reported fire, and emphasized the department would not fight a nonpaying residents house fire unless it were in "a low income or charity area."

Mrs. James Moore, chairman of the booster club, said less than one third of the 1,700 houses under the protection of Travis County Fire Control had contributed.

Rip Collins, of the county attorneys office, told the more than 300 club members that a tax may be levied for the support of the volunteer fire department in two ways.

The county tax assessor and collector could collect a tax from residents incorporated in a particular fire district based on "three cents per \$100 of the county assessed evaluation of a person's property, Collins said.

An alternative method of collecting the tax, said Collins, would be for a particular district to elect its own fire

board which would call for an election on a tax issue, then assess all property within its district for a fire protection tax.

Collins outlined the legal aspects and procedures of tax assessment to the club.

County Commissioner N. L. Gault suggested that if they accepted the county tax rate, it was doubtful the fire department would take in enough money to meet its needs. He added the county has one fire truck, which is used by county employees only to fight grass fires.

Travis County Fire Control is not a part of the county government structure, Gault explained.

The club voted to spend the next few months "ironing out all the legal and technical aspects" of petitioning for a fire protection tax.

Donations will continue as the sole support of the volunteer fire company, said Mrs. Moore, until another method is found to finance the department.

As for present fire protection in the Travis County Fire Control area, the fire company will respond only to those houses which have paid the \$10 area fee. "No tickes, no laundry," Spillar stressed.

## Brush Fire Extinguished

A brush fire that erupted Thursday afternoon in a remote canyon just west of Westlake Hills was out Friday morning, a Travis County Sheriff's office spokesman said.

The fire, which had been near the transmitter towers of KHFJ television and KVET radio, burned about 50 acres of brush land on the Davenport Ranch about 5 miles west of Austin.

Travis County Fire Control Chief Lee Basore said the fire appeared to have started from a hot electrical line or transformer.

A spokesman for KHFI said the station was off the air for about 15 minutes after a power loss shortly after 1 p.m. Thursday.

Firemen for a while had difficulty in reaching the blaze. Once they were able to get to it however, the fire was brought under control.

Figure 38. The Austin Statesman; May 12, 1971

Figure 39. The Austin Statesman; Jul. 10, 1971



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

# Fire Chiefs Critical Of County's Situation

By JEFF DAVIS  
Staff Writer

PFLUGERVILLE — The major problem left in the wake of the fire here Tuesday night on Pflugerville's Old Main Street was the continuing hassle between Travis County Fire Control and the Pflugerville Volunteer Fire Forces.

Travis County Chief Lee Basore told newsmen: "We lost two buildings more than we would have had to if there had been proper communication among all the units from Travis County communities."

Pflugerville Fire Chief Jesse Bowles countered; "We worked just as fast without radios."

Pflugerville and Manor fire-fighting units are the only two among Travis County communities without radios.

Bowles also said, "We lost maybe a minute or two without the radios."

"We've had a problem with the Travis County Fire Service. We have all tried to get the Travis County rural communities to work out a mutual plan for fire-fighting. Pflugerville and Manor have opposed our plans for setting up a single radio band for communication and for a county-wide fire marshal," Basore said.

"The number one problem tonight was communication. We had to set up one command post in front of the fire and one in the back. At one point, one man from the front was inside a building, fighting the fire, and others in the back were shooting water into the building. They

were just fighting on both sides of the heat wave."

Basore also said that a water shortage presented a major problem.

"There just wasn't enough water in Pflugerville. A Round Rock truck had hooked up their hose to the nearest fire plug, so we had to send our trucks off to other plugs to fill up the first two times they emptied."

According to Basore, the shortage ended only when other fire units began to bring in more water.

Basore said a county-wide fire marshal is "essential" to effective fire protection in Travis County.

"We're going to ask the county commissioners again for a fire marshal," he promised. "Tonight, a marshal could have called in the equipment quickly and directed it at the fire. We're going to try again to get the county to listen to us."

Bowles blamed the rapid spread of the flames on a "high north wind."

"If it had been a south wind, it wouldn't have spread. It was out of hand before the alarm was sounded," he said.

Bowles pinpointed the water shortage as the major problem.

"We needed water the most," he explained. "The city water tank was half empty because of the drought."

Bowles said the effectiveness of the lack of coordination among the county units was "debatable."

"Any overlap there was did not hurt too much," he insisted.

Concerning Basore's pleas for more coordination, Bowles said; "We're afraid that Lee Basore is going to take over. We've seen what he's been doing and don't agree with it. His trucks are not adequate for our kinds of fires. We're going to reassess our program. As for changing it, I don't know how far we'll go."

Figure 40. The Austin Statesman; Jul. 12, 1971

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Staff Photo by Don Hyatt

**FIRE SAFETY RECORD IS RAPIDLY IMPROVING IN AUSTIN**  
Fire Marshal Leland Priest shows Sue Crider fire prevention literature

## Austin's Fire Safety Record Said One of Best in Country

Crime statistics continue to same period last year, the fire the 62nd Texas Legislature to  
snar, but one thing is getting marshal said, bring about legislation in behalf  
better, not worse: Fire safety. "And the previous year was a of fire safety.

Austin Fire Marshal Leland Priest said Friday the city has not recorded a fire death in a residence or building in a year, and only four fire deaths of all types. Lee Hargre, chief of the  
Travis County Fire Control  
Team, accepted the award for  
McKown, who was unable to  
attend.

"This is one of the best records in the country," Priest said at the Sixth Annual Luncheon held by the Austin Fire Safety Board honoring  
Austin news media. Also, at the Friday luncheon,  
plans for the upcoming Fire  
Prevention Week Oct. 3-9 were  
announced.

"Of the four fire deaths this year, three persons died in a car fire, and one person died of burns received outside his residence," Priest said. Priest said 1,000 posters will  
be circulated in the city,  
between 30,000 and 40,000 fire  
safety brochures will be  
distributed to Austin home  
dwellers, 5,000 brochures of fire  
safety hints will be given to city  
businesses, with 6,000 fire safety  
place mats going to local  
restaurants.

Fire losses in the city this year are down \$200,000 over the departments and his work with

Figure 41. The Austin Statesman: Sep. 25, 1971



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



**FIRE-EMBLEM** — Bill Heaton, left, and Travis County Fire Control Chief Lee Basore examine a special rescue emblem available for the homes of aged, blind, bedridden and handicapped persons. Basore said the emblems are to alert firemen

to check for an invalid if they received a report of a fire at a residence. The special markers, in fluorescent red and black, are available from the TCFC by calling either 465-7983 or 465-0289, Basore said. (Staff Photo)

Figure 42. The Austin Statesman: Oct. 18, 1971

## Residence Damaged By Blaze

A blaze in a bedroom of a county residence resulted in smoke damage to the rest of the house Monday afternoon, fire officials reported.

The fire broke out at the home of William S. Dyer of 9000 Balcones Club Drive about 4 p.m. Monday.

Officials said the fire apparently started when a lighted candle fell on the carpet in the bedroom of the residence.

Units from Travis County Fire Control and Round Rock Fire Department were called to the fire, but the flames were extinguished by the time they arrived.

Figure 43. The Austin Statesman: Oct. 19, 1971

## Fire Rescue

Special stickers to alert firemen are available for homes where elderly, blind, bedridden or handicapped persons live. Lee Basore, chief of Travis County Fire Control, said the red and black emblems will indicate to firemen to make a check for an invalid when making runs to homes so marked.

Persons living in the city should call the administrative number of the city fire department if they wish a sticker. Those in the county are advised to call Travis County Fire Control at 465-7983 or 465-0289. This is a call which everyone who needs the sticker should make.

Figure 44. The Austin Statesman: Oct. 20, 1971

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## Commissioners Pass '72 Budget

By ANNE-MARIE EVANS  
Staff Writer

Travis County Commissioners Friday afternoon took under 20 minutes to approve the 1972 county budget of \$8,984,344.46.

The only comments concerning the budget came from County Auditor Bill

Rust, who listed a number of minor changes which he said had to be made at the last minute, and from Lee Basore of Travis County Fire Control Unit who questioned commissioners about the increase of funds for his volunteer fire departments.

Commissioners told him

each of his departments will receive a total of \$600 for the year, which represents an increase of \$200 over 1971, except for the Pilot Knob department which will receive \$800.

Acting on the request of a representative from the C-Bar volunteer fire department,

commissioners voted to amend the budget to include funds for that department which in the past had not received any.

After the meeting, Basore told reporters the amount his departments are given cannot come close to covering all expenses. He said he had

requested \$1,000 per truck per department and that he would prefer it if funds were distributed according to the size of the various departments.

"Departments which have more trucks and more calls

(See BUDGET, Page 6)

are penalized under this system," he explained.

The final budget as approved by commissioners represents an increase of \$1,658,081 over last year's. It contains a 5.5 per cent salary increase for county employees and officers and provides for the salaries of 42 additional county employees.

The county tax rate at 95 cents and the Farm to Market Tax rate at 18 cents on each \$100 assessed valuation remain the same as in 1971. Commissioners expect to collect a total revenue of \$8,600,027 during 1972.

Commissioners raised expenses in virtually all departments in their 1972 budget except the sheriff's department, which suffered serious cuts in almost all areas to make up for \$15,761.72 in salary increases.

Sheriff T. O. Lung's budget for 1972 will be \$674,702.58 which is an increase of \$1,631.81 over 1971.

Some \$210,000 is set aside for permanent improvements in the courthouse, which leads to speculation commissioners are planning some additional building for the coming year.

In other action, the commissioners voted to authorize the architect firm of Barnes, Landes, Goodman and Youngblood to prepare plans for bid proposals on jail improvements.

## Brush Fire Hits Travis School Land

About 15 acres of land covered by grass and brush were burned Thursday afternoon at the Travis State School, according to Lee Basore, chief of the Travis County Fire Control.

Basore said the school's own fire unit plus one unit from both the Austin Fire Department and the county Fire Control arrived to combat the blaze shortly after 2 p.m. The fire was brought under control by 2:30 p.m., he said.

The school deliberately set

the fire, Basore said, to burn out some brush in an open area on the grounds. "A strong north wind came suddenly and blew the fire out of control," he said, but added that no buildings or persons were ever in danger.

## Italy's Peach Production Up

ROME — Italy's 1971 canned-peach production was about 979,800 cases — equivalent to 24 No. 2½-size cans per case — 18 per cent above last year's. Canned-pear output of 2,988,500 cases was unchanged.

Figure 45. The Austin Statesman: Jan. 15, 1972

Figure 46. The Austin Statesman: Feb. 18, 1972



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

By MIKE COX  
Staff Writer

Police had little more than two bullet-riddled bodies and a burned-out car to go on Monday morning in the investigation of a double slaying one veteran officer called the worst he had ever seen.

"All killings are vicious," one detective said, "but this was the worst one I've seen in almost a quarter century in service."

The victims of the double killing — found shot to death near their fire-gutted car Sunday morning at City Park — were tentatively identified Monday as a married couple who both come from prominent Massachusetts families.

shot once in the side of the head and two other times in his chest. The woman also was shot once in the head, with three other bullet wounds in her body.

Shortly before noon Monday, city homicide Lt. Colon Jordan, Texas Ranger Wallace Spillar and Department of Public Safety lab personnel were still at the scene of the slaying, a cleared area surrounded by junipers just off the City Park Road about .5 of a mile inside the cattle guard at the entrance of the park.

Found near the dead man's body was a burned .38 caliber revolver that apparently had

exploded from the heat of the car fire.

Three marks were found on the front left car door which resembled bullet pockmarks, police said. Officers theorized at least three rounds in the gun had exploded from the heat, striking the car door.

Police said, however, that the guns used in the killing were not .38 caliber weapons.

Also found near the man's body was a pair of pharmaceutical scales of the type used for weighing small quantities of substances.

The car, police said, contained numerous magazines and several soft  
(See CLUES MISSING, Page 6)

## Few Clues Show In Dual Killing

(Continued From Page One)

drink bottles. Police also found two tennis balls and a charred metal aspirin box.

A substance found in the box is being analyzed by DPS labmen, police said.

Investigators said they feel the car had been burning approximately 30 minutes before it was discovered. It also appeared, police said, the man may have still been alive when his body was set afire.

The marriage of the couple was announced in January,

Ashburnham, Mass., records showed.

At the scene of the slaying, police found an empty two-gallon gasoline can. The spout of the can was discovered beneath the body of the woman, police said.

Chief Lee Basore of the Travis County Fire Control team said he found a spot about 15 feet from the car where a trail of gasoline leading to the car's gas tank had been ignited.



SCORCHED CAR WAS SCENE OF DOUBLE SLAYING SOMETIME EARLY SUNDAY  
Officers sift for clues in the mystery killings of a man and woman

Figure 47. The Austin Statesman: Jul. 17, 1972

# Letter States Fire Volunteers Won't Accept Revenue Offer

By TOM BARRY  
Staff Writer

The president of the Travis County Fire Service Association in a letter sent to the American-Statesman said the 14-volunteer rural county fire departments won't accept a proposed \$35,000 in revenue-sharing money, if county commissioners offer it.

Last Monday, the volunteer firemen's association asked the county fathers for more than \$500,000 in revenue-sharing money over a four-year period and almost \$130,000 this year.

The next day, the American-Statesman revealed a proposed budget for spending the \$883,000 revenue-sharing money as proposed by county auditor Bill Rust.

That proposed budget would have given a total of \$35,000 to the volunteer departments — an increase from \$6,000 last year to \$41,000 this year.

Most of the money would be spent on a four-level parking garage (\$410,000), adding a third floor to the two-floor courthouse annex now under construction (\$323,700), and a connecting overhead covered walkway between the courthouse and the annex (\$90,000).

In a letter dated Feb. 7, Fred M. Mueller Jr., president of the fire service association, blasted the commissioners for spending

revenue-sharing money on permanent improvements.

Mueller said the number-one priority for revenue-sharing money is public safety, law-enforcement, building code enforcement and fire protection.

"Richard Moya (Pct. 4 commissioner) is the only member of the commissioners (court) who has guts enough to admit to the press for a quote 'That's one area the county has been lax in,' as he referred to fire protection in rural areas," Mueller's letter stated.

"We think it is wrong for the commissioners to use one cent of Revenue-Sharing money for the court house annex construction as proposed by auditor Rust."

The letter said that when a \$3.25 million bond issue was authorized by the voters last

(See FUNDS, Page 6)

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

### (From Page One)

year commissioners said they would spend \$1,459,000 in the first two years, leaving \$1,091,000 "in the kitty" to be used for the second phase of the annex when needed.

"Boy, but the demands of the last 10 months have sure grown fast and all of a sudden the phase two money is forgotten and a phase three money grab is recommended. The volunteer firemen are too dumb to understand how a million dollars of bond money is unused and now there is a drastic need for \$882,000 of revenue-sharing money needed for more construction.

"Let it be known now, the 14 member fire departments will not accept \$35,000. The commissioners will have to dig much deeper to satisfy a unanimous agreement made between our selves."

"These demands may seem unrealistic to a group needing funds so badly but long experience in fund raising learned the hard way by bar-b-q-ing lots of chickens, dictate our position."

"By God, I won't force 'em to take it," crusty County Judge J. H. Watson commented on hearing about the letter. "I appreciate what they do, but we don't owe them a hell of a lot."

"I got a call from a man in the city the other day saying not to spend a cent of taxpayers' money on the fire

departments because he said 'They moved out in the county to avoid paying taxes. I pay taxes to support our city fire department and revenue-sharing money is tax money.'"

Commissioner Moya, the only commissioner to receive plaudits in Mueller's letter, said he is going to contact the only volunteer fire department in his precinct, Pilot Knob, to see if it agrees with the statement in Mueller's letter that all departments will refuse the \$35,000 proposed offer for 1973.

He said he will point out to the department that the departments will get \$35,000 this year in addition to the same \$8,000 received last year, for an increase from \$8,000 to \$43,000.

Moya said the letter "seems a little unfair."

He said that, as he told the association during last Monday's commission meeting, commissioners cannot guarantee revenue-sharing money for more than a year.

Moya said he hopes the court can continue to give "the volunteers a little increase each year until 'they get what they want,' but said they're asking for too much at one whack.

Moya and Watson both said the money should mostly be spent on needed permanent improvements.

Of the \$3.25 million issue authorized, only \$2.1 million was sold. Moya said that it will be five years before that and some other obligations are retired enough so the county can sell some of the rest of the \$1.6 remnant — without raising taxes.

Of the \$3.25 million issue authorized, only \$2.1 million was sold. Moya said that it will be five years before that and some other obligations are retired enough so the county can sell some of the rest of the \$1.6 remnant — without raising taxes.

"If we sold the rest now, we wouldn't have enough revenue coming in to cover and we would have to raise taxes perhaps 3 cents on the \$100 valuation, and we promised the voters we wouldn't raise taxes," Moya said.

"We are using revenue-sharing money so we can attend to pressing needs now instead of five years from now."

Moya said that the parking garage is really "number one" on the priority list because of the parking crisis around the county courthouse.

He said that the priorities mentioned by Mueller are simply "suggested uses" and the commissioners don't have to follow them.

One hope for the volunteer departments, Moya said, is the Rural Development Act, which has matching funds available with rural fire departments, health and housing as specific priorities. However, the commissioner said, the guidelines have not reached the commissioners and they don't even know how much money the program will get—if any.

Moya said — again — that there is going to be a cutback in federal program funding and he is afraid that revenue-sharing money might in future have to be funnelled off into cut-back programs.

Meantime, he predicted, the issue of the county's contribution to the volunteer firemen will come up at Monday's commissioners meeting and surely will at a yet-to-be-scheduled public hearing on doling out the revenue-sharing money.

Figure 48. The Austin Statesman: Feb. 10, 1973



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## More Later?

# Travis Firemen Given \$35,000

By TOM BARRY  
Staff Writer

Travis County's 14 volunteer fire departments had to settle for \$35,000 in revenue-sharing money Monday night along with a promise that if they come back for more later they might get some.

The departments, miffed because commissioners had been considering the \$35,000 figure long before the firemen asked for more than \$100,000 in R-S funds this year, had previously said they would not accept \$35,000.

However, Monday night, Fred Mueller, president of the Travis County Fire Service Association, seemed to be modifying that stand somewhat, though he was unclear on the issue.

Later, Pct. 3 Commissioner Johnny Voudouris said the departments will accept the \$35,000.

After a 20-minute presentation by Mueller at the 7 p.m. meeting in County Court-at-Law No. 1, Voudouris moved that the 1972 revenue-sharing budget be modified to include \$70,000 for the departments.

money (the first check for this year is due in April).

It had been planned to pass on all of the \$300,000-plus 1972 R-S money at Monday night's meeting; however, auditor Bill Rust said the previous cost estimates for the planned seven-story parking garage cater-cornered from the existing courthouse were wrong and that part will be considered later.

What was passed:

—\$127,000 for a third-floor shell for the courthouse annex now under construction.

—\$90,000 for a covered walkway between the courthouse and the annex.

—\$30,000 to changeover the third floor shell to air-conditioning.

—\$22,190 for architects' fees.

—\$14,000 contingency.

—\$35,000 for rural fire protection.

—\$43,992 for 15 cars for the sheriff's department.

—\$582 in administration costs.

Commissioners also heard requests from two other groups seeking R-S money, but will act on them, if at all, when 1973 R-S money hearings are held.

Pct. 4 Commissioner Richard Moya seconded the motion.

Then confusion developed.

Pct. 1 Commissioner David Samuelson said he wasn't ready to vote without more information on possible loss of federal monies. Pct. 2 Commissioner N. L. Gault said he felt the same way. County Judge J. H. Watson said he wanted to hear all proposals first.

At any rate, whether a vote actually was taken or not, the motion failed.

Then Moya offered a substitute motion calling for \$60,000 for the departments. It went down the same trail.

Finally, Gault offered a motion that the proposed budget — about \$400,000, half of the 1972 R-S money the county has in hand — be adopted as written, but adding that commissioners would consider giving the departments more funding if they'll come back later on and ask for it. That motion carried, 4-0. It was unclear whether the departments would come back and ask for more of the 1972 R-S money or some of the 1973 R-S

—Big Brothers of Austin reiterated its request for about \$9,900 to hire a case worker for its program to help boys.

—Planned Parenthood asked for \$10,000 to expand its program. Scottie Stevenson of the group said that of 20,000 Travis County women who are medically indigent, only 6,000 are getting medical treatment and her group services 4,400 of them. She said the \$10,000 would allow her group to "move out into rural areas."

Figure 49. The Austin Statesman: Mar. 6, 1973

## Retired Persons Meet Thursday

The Travis County Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons will meet Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Austin Electric Building, 301 West Ave.

A. R. Spillar, fire inspector, and assistant chief of the Travis County Fire Control, will present a program on fire prevention.

Regular meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of each month. Individuals are eligible for membership if 55 or older, whether retired or still working. For further information, contact Fred M. Scantlen at 412-5196.

Figure 50. The Austin Statesman: Apr. 11, 1973

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

**LESLIE WORTHLEY JR.**  
Leslie Worthley Jr., 16, 8011 East Dr., died Saturday. He was a lifelong resident of Austin and a student at Lanier High School. He was a member of St. Louis Catholic Church, Explorer Scout Post No. 13, and the Travis County Volunteer Fire Control.  
He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Worthley Sr.; five sisters, Sue Ellen Worthley, Wanda Worthley, Martha Worthley, Mrs. Donna Levlon, Mrs. Judy Ann Kelly; two brothers, Pat Worthley, Joe Worthley, all of Austin; his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe J. Lehman, Austin, and Mr. S. J. Worthley, Lytton Springs.  
Rosary will be 7:30 p.m. Monday at the Cook-Walden Funeral Home. Mass will be 9 a.m. Tuesday at St. Louis Catholic Church. Rev. Jerry Smith will officiate with burial in Assumption Cemetery.  
Pallbearers will be David Hall, Raymond Hall, James Kokel, Dutch Liesman, Steve Norman, John Ralston, Elton Sakewitz and Bruce Ray. Honorary pallbearers will be the members of the Travis County Volunteer Fire Control.

Figure 51. The Austin Statesman: June 4, 1973

# Numerous Brushfires Plague County Firemen

More than a dozen roadside brushfires Monday plagued Southwest Travis County fire fighters who say the fires were intentionally set.  
The fires burned trees and shrubs along highly traveled county roads between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. and units from Travis County Fire Control and several South Travis County volunteer fire departments drove through the area putting out each fire just in time to go to another one.  
"That's the way it was for a couple hours," one volunteer said. "You just got one fire put out and there's another one going not too far away."  
According to the Travis County Sheriff's Department, the last fires, along Fitzhugh Road, were extinguished about 4:30 p.m. No suspects had been apprehended late Monday.

Figure 52. The Austin American Statesman: Feb. 5, 1974

## Arson On Farm Suspected

The possibility of arson is being investigated by the Travis County Sheriff's Department in a fire that razed a two-story frame farmhouse near the northeast edge of Austin Wednesday night.

"It had to be set afire," said David Starnes, owner of the house at 8012 Springdale Road, as he watched firemen drench smoldering embers around the chimney — the only portion of the structure still standing.

Starnes said he had a good idea of who did it, but would not comment further. He said the house had contained furniture and utilities, but could not estimate the total value of items destroyed. He said he had no insurance to cover the loss.

Chief Lee Basore of the Travis County Fire Department said no one was injured in the blaze. He would not comment on the possibility of arson, but the house "sure went up fast," he said.

The fire alarm was radioed in by Nolan Wade, a Travis County Constable, who was driving east on Highway 183 in a mobile unit when he saw the blaze start up on what he said looked like the porch or a shed beside the house.

The structure was "pretty well engulfed" after five or 10 minutes, Wade said. Chief Basore said that three minutes after the alarm, as his unit approached the fire, he could see the entire skeleton of the house silhouetted by flames.

Starnes said he and his family were at another house in Manor and were called to the blaze by neighbors. The family spent several nights a week in the house, Starnes said, but no one was there when the fire started.

Figure 53. The Austin Statesman: Feb. 28, 1974



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



**FIREPERSONS** — It may be a man's world, but Travis County Fire Control women volunteers are as competent at keeping it safe as the traditional fireman. The volunteers are from left, front row, Donna

Miles, Sherry Logan and Fran Allen; back row, from left, Elois Sakewitz, Barbara Moore and Martha Murray. (Staff Photo by Kurt Wallace)

## Six Women Battle Blazes for Volunteer Travis County Control Unit Fires Fought With Wits Instead of Brawn

By **CRISPIN JAMES**  
Staff Writer

How does a 98-pound woman handle a fire hose with a forward water velocity of 100-pounds and a kickback velocity of 125-pounds?

"It's a simply of matter of physics," says Travis County

Fire Control Chief, Lee Basore. "I teach her to use her wits instead of her brawn."

Six women, including the 98-pound Fran Allen, are using wits instead of brawn for TCFC.

They are women firefighters who share fire-fighting duties with about 65 men. The full volunteer force serves 1,000 residences outside Austin city limits.

"I've always thought women firefighters were a good idea," says Basore, who founded

TCFC 12 years ago. "There is nothing in firefighting that makes a woman less feminine than housework."

The six female volunteers say they agree with his statement.

They are Donna Miles, a clerk for the Austin Police Department; Barbara Moore, proofreader for the Texas Railroad Commission; Martha Murray, a housewife and mother of two children; Fran Allen, assistant to the director of Bob Honts' campaign for county commissioner; Sherry Logan, a graduating nursing student at Brackenridge Hospital; and Elois Sakewitz, a radiological technician at the University of Texas Student Health Center.

"We've found no problems at all in handling the equipment," says Mrs. Miles. "We feel like women should join whether their husbands are firefighters or not. Being a firefighter gives married women an idea of what a fire is like. They won't panic if they have a fire of their own."

The volunteer force is supported by \$25 to \$50

contributions from businesses and \$10 from each residence. Since Jan. 1, TCFC has answered 76 fire calls.

Basore says he showed the women they could fight fires and drive their station's 12,000-pound fire engine company as well as any man.

"That truck has no power steering and a non-synchronized transmission," he says. "They have to double-clutch it."

Mrs. Moore says the women firefighters have to put family dinners and "a lot of other things on ice" when they are notified by radio of a fire.

Smoke inhalation, sprained ankles, cuts and bruises are all part of the work, she says.

"We have to be alert and ready to perform," said Miss Allen. "If you aren't mature and able to think, the men will notice you more quickly than they would notice another man."

But, she said, "we are not women's libbers."

"I like being treated like a woman," said one female firefighter, "but I can fight fires too."

Figure 54. The Austin Statesman: Apr. 29, 1974

## local briefs



### Fire station open house

Travis County Fire Control will hold open house at its North Lamar Boulevard station 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, featuring demonstrations of its new 750-gallon pumper unit.

Fire Chief Lee Basore said the unit, purchased for \$36,000, will replace his volunteer department's 1940 Dodge pumper.

"Some of us do hate to see the old truck go into reserve," Basore said. "It would hit a lick and keep on going."

He said the new truck, which has yet to make a fire call, features the latest in fire-fighting equipment.

It is equipped with twist-lock couplings, Basore said, which have been in use in Europe nearly 35 years and which dramatically cut hookup time.

Basore said refreshments will be furnished the public at the station, 11606 N. Lamar.

*Figure 55. The Austin Statesman: Nov. 8, 1975*

## Neighborly effort runs many fire crews

### Firefighters convene here in June

By KAY POWERS  
Staff Writer

In 1876, just five years after Mrs. O'Leary's cow was said to have kicked over the lantern which started the Chicago fire, Texas firemen gathered for their first convention in Austin, organizing themselves into the State Fireman's Association.

Next June the organization, now known as the Texas Fireman's and Fire Marshals' Association, will again convene in Austin. To celebrate their centennial, a medley of gala events is planned, including a parade on Congress Avenue which will show both antique and modern firefighting equipment.

It is estimated that at the present time there are more than 22,000 firefighters in Texas, some paid, but many more volunteer. And "more keep popping up all the time," says Joe Mikolaj, secretary-treasurer of the Central Texas District Fireman's Association, who estimates 50 volunteer fire departments start up within the state of Texas each year, mostly in rural and semi-rural areas.

Who are these volunteer firemen? They are mechanics, merchants, farmers, ranchers, stonemasons, carpenters, schoolteachers, and, where the men aren't too chauvinistic to acknowledge their worth, salesladies, beauticians, waitresses and housewives as well.

"When that fire siren blows, people come tumbling out from every door along the street," says Liberty Hill businessman John Chesley. He could be describing the action in almost any small town where there is an enthusiastic volunteer fire force.

Why do these friends and neighbors sign up? What's in it for them, except lost sleep, risk of life and limb, the threat of pneumonia when wintry winds blow?

"I come from a small country town and I knew the problems," says Mike Gautier, a member of the Cedar Park VFD, "so I went looking for them as soon as I moved here."

Some have gone through a fire scare in their areas and have made haste to join the fire

department or have helped organize one in places where none had existed. Barbara and Ray Barron did this after a trash fire nearly got away at their new home near Bastrop.

"I learned two things that day," Barbara Barron says. "I learned fire departments don't come out from town, and I learned to know my neighbors real quick when I needed their help."

Not long afterwards the Barrons and their neighbors organized a volunteer fire department, then went on to help establish the Bastrop County Firefighters Association, which now has seven member districts.

Many of the volunteer fire departments in towns within commuting distance of Austin are happy to welcome females into their ranks. "We depend on 'em," says Oak Hill Fire Chief L. D. Krabe, "to cover for us when we're at work. They can do it, too — Mrs. Mackey (wife of the president of the Oak Hill VFD) has been known to get in a truck and go to a fire all by herself."

Lee Basore, Travis County Fire Control's chief, has several female crew members and finds them very dependable. Some are in it because their husbands are firemen; others simply because they are sincerely interested, on their own.

The biggest problem which women have as firefighters, Basore says, is what to do with the youngsters when the siren sounds. To alleviate this problem, he would like to see fire departments offer membership to some "grandmotherly types" who would hotfoot it to the fire station to babysit whenever there is a fire.

In other "cooperator towns," such as Liberty Hill, Leander and Cedar Park, fire departments continue to confine their womenfolk to such things as telephoning the crew, bounding the siren and making sandwiches and coffee for the men.

In non-fire times, of course, the womanpower of volunteer fire departments everywhere is strongly in evidence when it comes to fund-raising events. Additionally, the attitude of a firefighter's wife will usually influence his own feelings about the department and its activities, including training sessions.

Cedar Park's James Hester can list about 40

members on the roster of the fire department. Yet "only 15 to 18 are real active," Hester says, meaning only that many will get involved enough to take part in training sessions as well as actual fire runs and assist with maintenance of equipment.

E. E. McFarland at Leander says that one of the worst things about untrained firefighters is that they tend to panic — they get all excited and get in the way of others.

"Firefighting and flying are something alike — hours of boredom broken by moments of sheer terror," says B. H. Hanes, who gets a salary for driving a fire truck at Bellon, but also turns out as volunteer fireman and ambulance driver when the need is present. It is when those terror-filled moments arrive, he claims, that proper training is so essential.

Fire insurance raters know how important training is. The lack of accredited training among a substantial number of firefighters in a town can add points to the key rate residents and businesses must pay for their fire insurance.

Conscientious fire chiefs therefore schedule training sessions on a regular basis, once or twice monthly as a rule. Many complain, however, that men who willingly turn out to fight a fire in a "walkin', talkin' norther" in the wee, small hours of the mornin' can come up with "the darndest excuses you ever heard of" for skipping their training meetings.

"They just don't see the importance," says Liberty Hill Fire Chief Grady Rollins, "not even when some of the boys get excited on a real run and find themselves not knowing what to do."

Lee Basore maintains that officers of an organization have much to do with the enforcement of training rules. If the firemen get by without having to learn, he says, it's because head honchos let them get away with it.

While it is now mandatory in Texas that firefighters hired full-time by a municipality must have a minimum of 325 hours of training on 23 separate subjects, there are no such requirements for volunteer firefighters. There are, however, several excellent training programs open to volunteers.

Texas A&M University has a fireman's training school which is so good it draws people from all over this country and from Central and South America as well. Pumper training and chemical firefighting are among the subjects it deals with, and volunteers in the Central Texas area who attend frequently pay their own expenses and utilize vacation time in order to enroll in the week-long course.

A certification program for volunteer firemen went into effect Jan. 1, 1975, setting minimum standards of training and educational programs. It is voluntary, and many struggling smaller volunteer fire departments have not become involved.

For those who participate, however, the 169 hours of study required for certification have significantly upgraded the operation of the department and the firefighting knowhow of its men.

The certification program covers such subjects as forcible entry through doors, windows, roofs and floors; ladder practices; fire hose practices; fire apparatus practices; rescue operations; first aid, and many other topics of particular concern to firemen. An arm patch is issued to these firemen who have been certified.

*Figure 56. The Austin Statesman: Dec. 26, 1975*



## Women fire volunteers certified

When members of the fourth company of Travis County Fire Control don their boots and helmets and head to a fire, they'll have two state-certified women volunteers at their side.

Although they are not the first nor the only women on the five-company TCFC force, Donna Miles of 11410B Pollyanna and Martha Murray of 11400 January Drive are the first to have completed a rigorous 160-hour certification course in firefighting and rescue techniques.

The two are not new to volunteer fire work, either. Each has served several years alongside her husband.

And while acceptance came slowly from the men of the company, they say their problems now come from the "reverse stereotyping" made by outsiders.

"We had the usual hesitation from the men — they just wouldn't believe that a woman could really raise ladders or pull hoses," said Murray, a Capital Ambulance Co. driver. "And it took them about a year before they finally trusted us."

"But it seems as though once you put on the helmet and boots, you're automatically stereotyped as a woman's libber," added Miles, a State Bar of Texas secretary.

"I've had other women and even men come up to me at fires and say, 'No matter how hard you try, you'll never be a man,'" Murray said. "I don't think I'm trying to compete with the men. I just feel that I'm another member of the whole team."

While women may not exactly be lining up to join the force, firefighting is not necessarily only "man's work," said Miles.

Figure 57. The Austin Statesman: Aug. 28, 1976



## County-based ambulance personnel supported

By ABBY KAIGHIN  
Staff Writer

Travis County emergency medical volunteers today said they fear Austin EMS director Bill Lever will hire all city-based personnel to staff the new ambulance to serve Travis County.

"We think it's crucial to have people hired who know the county roads to run the county service," said Lee Basore, head of the Travis County Fire Control volunteers.

Another county volunteer who heads the training subcommittee of county volunteers said, "Lever implied in the various meetings with the county EMS committee that county-based people would be

sought to fill the seven positions required to staff the new county ambulance."

The City of Austin recently signed a \$144,000 annual contract with Travis County to provide emergency medical care to the county.

"Political realities being what they are, Lever will tell people what they want to hear at the moment," charged Mike von Wupperfeld. "But it appears the city is more intent on hiring from within the ranks of city employees, rather than keeping the patients' interests primary and trying to hire qualified people who know the county," he said. "It just means we're going to have to train our volunteers all that much more so

they can respond while city people are trying to find their way around the county."

Lever could not be reached today for comment on whether he has selected all the personnel to staff the new county ambulance.

In a related issue, Lever said Wednesday, the city has "no paramedics." Last week the director claimed the city was utilizing 40 highly trained paramedics.

The public is getting exactly the same quality of care today as it got three days ago, but what happened to change Lever's mind is this:

The 40 EMS employees who went through more than 200 hours of

training and who have been performing lifesaving functions on the streets have not been paid as paramedics, according to members of the EMS employees council.

On Tuesday, the employees, according to some who attended the meeting, conferred with Lever and asked, "If we're not paid as paramedics, why are we running around town wearing labels that say we're paramedics?"

At that point, the name tags with "paramedic" designations were recalled.

Asked Wednesday how many paramedics the city has, Lever said, "None."

Asked why, he said, "You know why. Because we don't have a medical director. We were told on March 3 by Dr. Tate (Dr. Robert Tate) ... County Medical Society EMS committee ... that we couldn't go into an advance life support system until we had a medical director."

But long after March 3, Lever still continued to say Austin had 40 paramedics in its system, along with 14 lesser trained emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and six trainees.

The employee council members said they were reluctant to bring up the issue with Lever at a time when the medical society committee and the city appear close to getting a

medical director.

However, the city department responsible for emergency medical care is also close to submitting its budget.

In addition to undergoing 80 hours of classroom training and 130 hours of clinical training, the paramedics must make "five certifying runs to qualify as paramedics," Lever said. Three of those must be cardiac-related and two must be severe trauma cases. "The way the paramedic performs on those cases must be evaluated by a doctor."

"It seems we get closer toward a goal post," said one employee, "and the goal post is moved."

Figure 58. The Austin Statesman: Apr. 21, 1977

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

# Travis County Fire Control active

*Unit has been a leader in volunteer firefighting since 1961*

By CHRIS PETRISON

American-Statesman Staff

From delivering babies and fighting fires to rescuing a dog which fell from the attic of a house, the Travis County Fire Control has done it all.

Serving portions of Travis County that are not incorporated, the fire control covers a ragged horseshoe-shaped area extending from Lake Walter Long and around North Austin to Anderson Mill Road. People from Balcones Village, North View Hills, Walnut Creek and city park area all benefit from the department's aid.

According to Lee Basore, fire chief, the fire control began strictly as a volunteer fire department, but since its creation in the early 1960's has become much more. Today it has a first responder emergency medical team which is able to reach the scene of an emergency within four minutes of the call for help. The responder's function is to provide emergency care until an ambulance arrives.

"We were one of three departments in the area which started the first responder system as a pilot program in 1976," Basore noted.

Since that time seven other fire departments in the area have adopted the system.

Basore was the instigator of the fire control back in 1961 when he was a Boy

Scout leader for Explorer Post 13. The troop became involved in fire control operations after realizing that areas in rural Travis County were threatened by wild grass fires. That year he and his teenage post went to Bee Caves to fight a large grass fire.

Interest in fire control expanded and soon Basore was in charge of a full-fledged volunteer fire department.

Originally, Basore recalls, the department covered most of Travis County that was not in the City of Austin. But as fire departments were established in Hudson Bend, Rollingwood and other places, the coverage area was reduced to a much more realistic figure. Today the Travis County Fire Control is in charge of 65 square miles around Austin. Its first responder emergency medical operations even extends up the U.S. 183 corridor into Williamson County.

The Travis County Fire Control consists of some 76 people, including the EMS group. There are five companies which are Company 1, headquartered at the Central Station on Reinli Lane; Company 2, Balcones Village; Company 3, Central (temporary); Company 4 and Rescue Squad 1, Walnut Creek area on North Lamar; and Company 5, off Runberg Lane. The control has six trucks.

According to Basore, the Travis County Fire Control has been "lucky" so

far. It has experienced no near-deaths as the result of fires, unlike other fire departments in the area. It works closely with other departments, especially the Jollyville unit of the Round Rock Volunteer Fire Department to answer fire calls in the Balcones area.

The emergency medical teams have had some pretty exciting calls over the past three years. In one of their most famous rescue attempts they stabilized Bob Bullock's son, Bobby, after he was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident on an improvised motocross race track in Balcones Village.

Also EMS members Pat Crutsinger and Bonnie Liles helped deliver a baby. The team has answered suicide calls, heart attack calls and more.

Crutsinger says she was particularly interested in joining the EMS crew because, before an Austin ambulance station was located nearby, it used to take as long as 25 minutes to get an ambulance to the U.S. 183 area. That's not true anymore, she noted.

In order to participate in the EMS program, volunteers must have some medical training. Either they must be a paramedic, which a few are, or have their Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or Emergency Care Attendant (ECA) certificates. All fire department mem-

See VFD, Page 6

Figure 59. The Austin American-Statesman: Jan. 11, 1979

**YOUR  
FIRE DEPT.  
HAS ADDED  
SOMETHING  
NEW**



**E.M.S.**



Figure 60. EMS advertisement, 1979. Source: Lee Basore



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

# Neighbor

Austin American-Statesman

January 11, 1979

News of West and Northwest Austin published every Thursday

## Travis County Fire Control volunteer firefighting leader

By CHRIS PETRISON  
American-Statesman Staff

From delivering babies and fighting fires to rescuing a dog which fell from the attic of a house, the Travis County Fire Control has done it all.

Serving portions of Travis County that are not incorporated, the fire control covers a ragged horseshoe-shaped area extending from Lake Walter Long and around North Austin to Anderson Mill Road, People from Balcones Village, North View Hills, Walnut Creek and city park area all benefit from the department's aid.

According to Lee Basore, fire chief, the fire control began strictly as a volunteer fire department, but since its creation in the early 1960's has become much more. Today it has a first responder emergency medical team which is able to reach the scene of an emergency within four minutes of the call for help. The responder's function is to provide emergency care until an ambulance arrives.

"We were one of three departments in the area which started the first responder system as a pilot program in 1974," Basore noted.

Since that time seven other fire departments in the area have adopted the system.

Basore was the instigator of the fire control back in 1961 when he was a Boy Scout leader for Explorer Post 13. The troop became involved in fire control operations after realizing that areas in rural Travis County were threatened by wild grass fires. That year he and his teenage post went to Bee Caves to fight a large grass fire.

Interest in fire control expanded and soon Basore was in charge of a full-fledged volunteer fire department.

Originally, Basore recalls, the department covered most of Travis County that was not in the City of Austin. But as fire departments were established in Hudson Bend, Rollingwood and other places, the coverage area was reduced to a much more realistic figure. Today the Travis County Fire Control is in charge of 65 square miles around Austin. Its first responder emergency medical operations even extends up the U.S. 183 corridor into Williamson County.

The Travis County Fire Control consists of some 76 people, including the EMS group. There are five companies which are Company 1, headquartered at the Central Station on Reinli Lane; Company 2,



Travis County Fire Control Chief Basore

Balcones Village; Company 3, Central (temporary); Company 4 and Rescue Squad 1, Walnut Creek area on North Lamar; and Company 5, off Humberg Lane. The control has six trucks.

According to Basore, the Travis County Fire Control has been "lucky" so far. It has experienced no near deaths as the result of fires, unlike other fire departments in the area. It works closely with other departments, especially the Jollyville unit of the Round Rock Volunteer Fire Department to answer fire calls in the Balcones area.

The emergency medical teams have had some

See VFD, Page 9

## VFD — From Page 1

pretty exciting calls over the past three years. In one of their most famous rescue attempts they stabilized Rob Bullock's son, Bobby, after he was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident on an improvised motocross race track in Balcones Village.

Also EMS members Pat Crutsinger and Bonnie Liles helped deliver a baby. The team has answered suicide calls, heart attack calls and more.

Crutsinger says she was particularly interested in joining the EMS crew because, before an Austin ambulance station was located nearby, it used to take as long as 25 minutes to get an ambulance in the U.S. 183 area. That's not true anymore, she noted.

In order to participate in the EMS program, volunteers must have some medical training. Either they must be a paramedic, which a few are, or have their Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or Emergency Care Attendant (ECA) certificates. All fire department members are urged to have some emergency medical training.

In 1978 the fire department responded to 175 fire alarms, 25 nonfire emergency calls and 230 emergency medical calls.

Basore notes that none of the department members are paid and that the basis for budget operations comes from donations and revenue sharing funds.

"We urge every family to donate \$10 to the department and have an annual fund raising drive in November," the fire chief said.

Last year the department raised about \$18,500 from the community.

The bulk of the department's budget comes from revenue sharing funds which in 1978 were used to purchase a new rescue squad truck, miscellaneous fire fighting and radio equipment and turnout coats.

If the department decides it wants something that costs more than the revenue sharing funds and donations, then it has fund raising activities. In 1977 the group held fundraisers which included a barbecue, dance and others in which some \$6,000 was raised. The money was used to purchase a "jaws of life," which is a piece of equipment that helps remove a victim from a crashed car.

All Travis County Volunteer Fire Department members must go through a vigorous 160-hour training course taught by fellow department members. They learn different aspects to fire fighting and emergency medical assistance.

If anyone has a fire in Travis County and does not live in an incorporated area they should call 473-4241 for assistance from the Travis County Fire Control. If they have an emergency medical

Photo by Chris Peterson for the Austin American-Statesman

Figure 61. The Austin American-Statesman: Jan. 11, 1979





New rescue squad truck sits parked at North Lamar Travis County Volunteer Fire Department

## Travis County VFD gets rescue truck

An \$18,000 rescue squad truck that is described by fire department officials as one of the most complete, mobile and self-contained rescue systems available today is now helping northeastern Travis County residents during emergencies.

The truck was recently purchased by the Travis County Volunteer Fire Department and is housed at Fire Control Station Number Four, which is located at 11606 North Lamar Blvd.

According to Lee Basore, fire chief, the truck is the first of its kind in the state. It is to be used exclusively for rescue and forceful entry missions — be it at the scene of a fire or traffic accident.

Among the many life saving features of the truck is a Hurst "jaws of life" rescue tool. It is

used primarily to free accident victims trapped inside crushed vehicles. The jaws can pry metal apart, giving rescuers immediate access to injured passengers.

Also part of the truck is a powerful air chisel which has the capability of ripping through thick sheet metal.

The rest of the truck is filled with other more conventional life-saving and forceful entry tools.

In other recent expenditures the department purchased a sophisticated cascade system air compressor which stays at the fire station.

The compressor allows equipment on the truck to be filled with air and thus gives the firefighters the opportunity to recharge porta-

See Fire truck, Page 7

## Fire truck — From Page 1

ble backpacks at the scene of the emergency.

Formerly, what a firefighter couldn't do in 10 minutes in a smoke or fume filled area, didn't get done because that is how long the backpacks worked under the old system, Basore said.

The new equipment is available to other local fire departments for their use during emergencies also.

Helping to defray the cost of the new equipment were federal revenue sharing funds and money raised through Travis County Volunteer Fire Department fundraisers. Their biggest fund raising event is the annual barbecue which is held each summer at the Walnut Creek Optimist Club. Also bringing in money was a spring dance and donations.

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

# Damaged pumper fire truck won't reduce protection

By CHRIS PETRISON  
American-Statesman Staff

When Travis County Fire Control Company Four's main pumper overturned Dec. 7 on its way to a fire, moral of the volunteers was hurt more than protection of residents in the Walnut Creek area, says Fire Chief Lee Basore.

"I feel competent about providing service. We still can do the kind of job we're used to," Basore said.

The 750 gallons per minute (GPM) 1975 pumper, which was based at the Company Four station on North Lamar until the accident, has been temporarily replaced by an old reserve 1940 Dodge fire truck with a pumping capacity of 500 gallons per minute.

And although the replacement truck moves slower, is harder to handle and pumps less water per minute, Basore still sees no trouble in protecting area residents.

"If a fire call doesn't seem serious we will use the reserve pumper. But if it is serious — like a grass or structure fire — we'll send a 1,000 gallon tanker (based at a Travis County Fire Control station south of Rundberg Lane) and a truck from another unit along with the reserve pumper," Basore said.

A small rescue truck which just carries equipment would probably also go to the blaze.

The accident, which put Company Four's major

piece of equipment out of operation, occurred Dec. 7 about 2:25 p.m. as the truck was enroute to a duplex fire at 11102 Brushy Glenn.

Driver Sandra Simpson, a four-year member of the volunteer force, apparently hit a slick spot in the road at the intersection of Dessau Road and Braker Lane causing her to lose control of the vehicle. The truck overturned and wound up with the wheels in the air.

"From all indications it was not a high speed impact rollover. Instead, it was a slower rollover. That's why the damage was less severe and mainly to the external shell," Basore said.

Simpson suffered only bruises in the accident which crushed the cab.

According to Basore, however, the fire company was lucky that the truck had no other passengers — particularly riding on the backboard. They most certainly "would have been killed," he said.

This was the first serious accident with a Travis County Fire Control company truck in nine years.

At first glance, says Basore, the truck appeared to have been totaled. But closer examination shows that, because the engine was not damaged, the vehicle will be able to be repaired and put back in service. The repair costs will be paid for through insurance money.

*Figure 63. The Austin American Statesman: Dec. 20, 1979*

## Fire department reminder

If 840 more residents would send in their \$10 annual dues, the Travis County Fire Control would meet their budget for 1980, according to fire chief Lee Basore.

Chief Basore wishes to thank all those who have responded so far. "We're over half way there" he states, "but the last half is the hardest half." Why not write out your check now, before you forget? If enough contributions arrive soon, the cost of an additional mailing, which would amount to over \$300, could be saved.

Make out your check to Travis County Fire Control and send it to 1037 Reinli St., Austin, 78723.

*Figure 64. The Austin American Statesman: Jan. 31, 1980*



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

**Come one, come all: You're gonna have  
one hot time at this firemen's fair**

**The Travis County Fire Control annual  
barbecue and arts and crafts fair will be  
Saturday from 11 a.m. through evening  
at the Walnut Creek Optimist Field at  
North Lamar and Braker Lane.**

**Barbecue plates will cost \$3 for adults  
and \$1.50 for children under 12.**

**There will be games for children, arts  
and crafts booths and prizes (including  
100 gallons of gasoline!) will be awarded  
throughout the day.**

**Be there at 3 p.m. to cheer for your fa-  
vorite team in the softball game sched-  
uled between the volunteer firefighters  
and the staffs of Channel 24 KVUE and  
station KOKE.**

Figure 65. *The Austin American Statesman*: Sep. 11, 1980

**Take me out to a ballgame,  
and I'll have barbecue, too**

For an afternoon of barbecue and softball, head to the Travis County Fire Control's benefit Saturday at Walnut Creek Optimist Little League Park at the corner of Braker Lane and North Lamar. Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the Travis County Fire Control stations at North Lamar and at Balcones Village, as well as the fire control headquarters.

Tickets for the barbecue plates of chicken, sausage or brisket will be \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for youngsters under 12. Serving will begin at noon, with the exhibition ballgame between the volunteer firemen and a combination team from Channel 24 and KVET scheduled around 3 p.m.

There will be an auction sale during the game, arts and crafts to buy and a raffle for 175 gallons of gasoline to be given away. Money raised from this ninth annual barbecue will go toward the completion of air pack unit survival systems and backpacks, a project begun last year.

Other financial support for the Travis County Fire Control comes from revenue-sharing which goes for capital equipment, plus donations from the public, said John Cotes, chairman of this year's finance committee and treasurer of the board of directors. In the past three years, donations and funding have made possible a new tanker, a new rescue squad truck and a Jaws of Life.

Figure 66. *The Austin American Statesman*: Sep. 11, 1980

## **New blue markers are important — they could even help save lives**

Those blue reflective markers being installed on neighborhood streets mark locations of fire hydrants, making it possible to spot the hydrants more quickly at night, notes the Travis County Fire Control, which is requesting residents' help in preventing vandalism or removal of the markers. Suspicious activity or missing markers should be reported to authorities.

The Travis County Fire Control also solicits residents' support in their current annual fund drive. While the volunteer firemen recommend annual contributions of \$12 a residence and \$25 for businesses and apartments, they appreciate any amount. Checks may be made payable to Travis County Fire Control and mailed to 1037 Reinli St., Austin 78723. Funds go toward better equipment.

Figure 67. *The Austin American Statesman*: Nov. 27, 1980



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

### B.3.2. Institution records



1037 REINLI □ AUSTIN, TEXAS 78722  
□ ADMIN.: 469-0283

June 18, 2020

Mr. Sadowsky,

After learning of your commission's considerations of properties for their use and function as opposed to appearance, I have been urged to submit my property at 1037 Reinli St. in Austin, for your consideration as an historic site.

Relating to its use and purpose: historically, in the years prior to 1962, in Travis County, there was no wildfire fighting organization in existence. When a wildfire occurred, the local broadcast stations put out calls for volunteers to assist in containing the fire until heavy equipment could be deployed by the county commissioners, in the form of dozers and tanker trucks, sometimes with assistance by the A&M forest service.

At the time (1962), I led a crew of enthusiastic and concerned Explorer Scouts (all teenagers), and they wanted to get involved. So, I took on the role of chief of training and operations. The boys were trained at the rear of the property on Reinli St. Tools and equipment for fighting wildfires were collected for that purpose. Our team's first major wildfire operations occurred over a weekend, in July, 1962. From that time forward we responded to wildfires throughout Travis County. And when such fires occurred the Sheriff's department called the team out (there was no 911 system until many years later). And so, the Travis County Fire Control team became the first organized firefighting organization in Travis County.

We responded from this Reinli St. headquarters with manpower at first, and began to add vehicles in ensuing years. Radio communications was handled from this site, first via Citizens Band, then later on with VHF radios and tone & voice alerts. Over the ensuing years, as more vehicles and personnel were added, we became a fully functional fire department that also included a fully equipped rescue squad (the first in the area, including Austin).

As communities throughout the county began to create fire departments to serve their locales, our response territory was reduced in size. We stationed fire companies in suburban locations from highway 620 in the west to Hornsby Bend in the east, dispatching all fire companies and EMS responders from the Reinli St. headquarters.

After I retired as active fire chief in 1982, the headquarters was moved to different locations over the years. However, after the Austin Fire Department assumed operations in the service

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

p.2

area, several of us old timers reestablished the Fire Control organization with the State of Texas and the IRS as a, once again, volunteer firefighting unit as a Wildfire Team for Travis County, in support of the ESD's wildfire efforts when requested. So, once again, 1037 Reinli is headquarters for the Fire Control Team. This officially occurred at the time of the major conflagrations in Travis and Bastrop counties, in 2011.

The information as previously stated is documented by various newspaper articles that appeared in the American-Statesman and the Austin Citizen, one such example is enclosed with this letter, from the Statesman, as well as on the Fire Control facebook site.

Should you or anyone on your commission wish to speak with me, I can be reached at (512) 459-7983, at the Reinli St. address, which also serves as my residence.

Sincerely,

*Lee Basore*

Lee Basore, Chief Emeritus  
T.C.F.C. Team

*encl. LB.*

*Photo below: Reinli St. Headquarters of  
Travis County Fire Control, 4th of July, 1999*



Figure 68. Letter from Chief Emeritus Lee Basore requesting landmark evaluation for 1037 Reinli Street

1968 ANNUAL REPORT	
Apparatus: 1951 Chevrolet Booster Truck	
<u>ALARMS</u>	
Still - - - -	58
Regular - - -	29
Multiple - -	6
Detail - - -	1
<hr/>	
TOTAL	94
"A.M." Alarms	18
"P.M." Alarms	76
MOST ALARMS IN ONE DAY - - 4 (December 27 & 30)	
MOST ALARMS IN ONE WEEK - 9 (December 22-28)	
MOST ALARMS IN ONE MONTH - 27 (December)	
<u>CLASSIFICATION OF ALARMS 1968</u>	
Building .....	23
Grass .....	37
*Brush .....	7
Trash .....	6
Dump .....	1
Auto .....	8
Investigation ..	2
Detail .....	1
Mistaken, False	7
Out on Arrival .	7
Cancelled .....	2
*Acreage Lost ..	1,000
Time spent by Company on Alarms (Hrs. & Min.) ...	158:37
Miles traveled to and from Alarms .....	1,749.4
Total Miles traveled during Year .....	2,045.5
Feet of Booster Hose used .....	2,184
Feet of 1 1/2" Hose used .....	3,675
Gallons of Water used .....	25,413
Time Pump in operation (Hrs. & Min.) .....	43:07
Time Air Masks used (Hrs. & Min.) .....	:40
Light Plant in use (Hrs. & Min.) .....	4:55
Assists at Fires inside City Limits .....	3
Dry Chemical Expended at Fires .....	17#

Figure 69. 1968 alarm statistics specifying the apparatus used (a 1951 Chevrolet booster truck) along with time, mileage, and equipment expenditure



## B.4. HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

---

The Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center, 1037 Reinli Street, began as a single-family house on a lonely dirt road on the outskirts of Austin. Throughout the twentieth century, it saw the Travis County Fire Control Team grow from an Explorer Scout troop project to a modest volunteer operation to a full-fledged fire brigade whose expert response crew saved hundreds of lives.

### *B.4.1. Timeline*

1939	1037 Reinli Street house constructed outside Austin's city limits. The surrounding farmland is largely undeveloped, and Route 3—as the postal address was then called—is unpaved.
1948	The Basore family moves into 1037 Reinli Street. Brothers Lee, Martin, and David Basore found and serve in the fire brigade, named the Travis County Fire Control Team, from 1962 onward.
1950s-1960s	Highways IH-35 and 290 are constructed in Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center vicinity. Highway fires and brushfires become the Travis County Fire Control Team's main callouts.
1962	The Basore brothers, led by eldest brother Lee, help Explorer Troop 13 learn the mechanics of brushfire control, and the Travis County Fire Control Team is officially established. Its teenage volunteers garner media attention for their successes in battling highway blazes with a twenty-year-old truck and hand-me-down equipment from Bergstrom AFB. They practice in the expansive backyard at 1037 Reinli Street.
Mid-1960s	No longer just an Explorers project, the Travis County Fire Control Team becomes a County-supported civil service operation staffed by volunteer firefighters.
1964	A communications shed is constructed on the site, allowing additional dispatch personnel and improved long-range communications.
1969	TCFC's total range is estimated at around 900 square miles.
1974	Travis County Fire Control Team hires its first women firefighters.

- 1976            Travis County Fire Control Team paramedics participate in the first responder pilot program. T. C. F. C. had previously operated the Austin area's first Search and Rescue squad with the only licensed EMTs in the area.
- 1979            Travis County Fire Control Team purchases the first Jaws of Life in the Austin area, allowing its first responders to save people trapped in cars during highway accidents.
- 1982            Travis County Fire Control Team moves its operations center from 1037 Reinli Street to Lamar Boulevard.
- 2011            Travis County Fire Control Team is reinstated by the State of Texas as a volunteer firefighting operation to assist newer teams in managing Bastrop and Travis County's devastating wildfires

*1037 Reinli Street*

*Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center*



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## B.5. CURRENT PHOTOGRAPHS

---



Photo 1. Exterior, camera facing southeast.

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Photo 2. Rear oblique, facing northwest and showing TCFC communications shed, carport, and 1960s-1970s addition.



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



*Photo 3. Google Street View image, 2021.*



*Photo 4. Google Street View panorama showing streetscape, 2021.*



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## B.6. CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

### B.6.1 Permit History

58-240 WATER SERVICE PERMIT D N° 4037 234  
Water District Austin, Texas

Received of W. L. Basore INDEXED  
Address Rt # 3  
Amount 1037 REINLI St. Water District  
Plumber J. P. Reinli Size of Tap 5/8 x 3/4

Date of Connection Jan 17 1951 # 3437749  
Size of Tap Made 1  
Size Service Made 1  
Size Main Tapped 1  
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 1  
From Prop. Line to Curb Cock 1  
Location of Meter 1  
Type of Box 1  
Depth of Main in St. 1  
Depth of Service Line 1  
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 1  
Checked by Engr. Dept. 7-25-51 PC

No. Fittings	Corp. Cock	Elbow	St. Elbow	Bushing	Reducer	Pipe	Lead Comp.	Nipples	Union	Plug	Tee	Stop	Box	Lid	Valves	Job No.	Req. No.

INDEXED

Figure 1. Water tap permit to W. L. Basore, 1951

Mrs. W. L. Basore 1037 Reinli St.  
234 W. L. Basore Tract -  
Duval Heights  
Carport on rear of lot  
82078 11-28-61 185.00  
Dills  
CARPORT

Figure 2. Building permit for carport to Mrs. W. L. Basore, 1961

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

OWNER	Mrs. W. T. Basne	ADDRESS	1037 Reinli St.
PLAT	234	LOT	W.L. Basne BLK.
DIV			
SUBDIVISION Unplatted			
OCCUPANCY	Frame addition to and repair residence		
BLD PERMIT #	88898	DATE	8-1-63
OWNERS	ESTIMATE 200.00		
CONTRACTOR	Owner	NO. OF FIXTURES	
WATER TAP REC #		SEWER TAP REC #	
BEDROOM!			
Roof on entire house, repair underpinning -			
General repairs			

Figure 3. Addition and repair permit to Mrs. W. L. Basore, 1963

ADDRESS: 1037 REINLI STREET 111		PERMIT 88898	PLAT 234
LOT: W.L. Basore Lot		BLOCK	SUB. Unplatted.
		OUTLOT	
FIRE ZONE 3	USE DIST: C 1	OCCUPANCY: Bedroom.	
8-2-63	LAYOUT 8-19-63	FRAMING 8-27-63	FINAL
PRINC. BLDG.	ACC. BLDG.	PRINC. BLDG.	ACC. BLDG.
FOUNDATION	FLOOR JOIST SIZE & O.C.	NECESSARY BLDG. CONN.	ACC. BLDG.
FR. SETBACK	CEILING JOIST SIZE & O.C.	ROOM VENTILATION	PAVED PARKING
TOTAL & MIN. SIDE YD.	STUD SIZE & O.C.	STAIRS REQ. & NO.	
SIDE STREET YARD	MASONRY WALL	ATTIC FIRE STOPS REQ.	
OWNER: Mrs. W. L. Basore		CONTRACTOR:	
6 x 18 = 108 ft. Frame addi to & repairs.			
7 x 22			
INSPECTOR		W.A.S.	

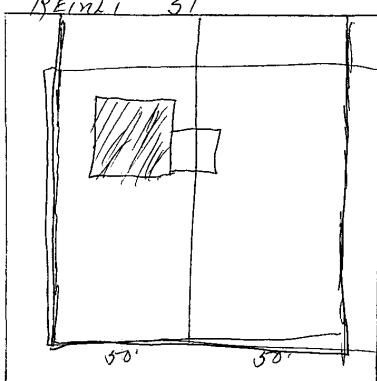
Figure 4. Inspection card for bedroom addition, 1963.

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

OWNER	Basore Res.	ADDRESS	1037 Reinli St.
PLAT	234	LOT	W.L. Basne B.L.K.
SUBDIVISION	Unplatted		
OCCUPANCY	Res.		
BLDG. PERMIT #	168017	DATE	10-12-77
OWNERS	ESTIMATE 4,000.00		
CONTRACTOR	Perfection Const.	NO. OF FIXTURES	
WATER TAP REC#	SEWER TAP REC#		
Addn to exist res.			
11-7-77# 168579- Travis County Fire Control- Res.			
acc bldg. 780.00			

Figure 5. Addition permit for Basore residence, 1977 and accessory building permit for Travis County Fire Control, 1977.

Address: 1037 REINLI ST.		Permit: 168017		Plat: 234	
Lot:		Block		Subdivision:	
		Outlot		UNPLATTED	
Fire Zone: 3		Use Dist: A-1		Occupancy: ADDN. TO EXIST. RES.	
10-13-77 Layout		10-26-77 Framing		11-28-77 Final	
Foundation	P	Floor joist size & o.c.	2x6 16"	Bldg. Conn.	Parking
Front setback		ceiling joist size & o.c.	2x4 16"	Room Vent.	Exits
Total & Min. side yard		stud size & o.c.	2x4 16"	Stairs	Exit lights
Side St. Yard				Rails	Fences
				Attic Vent.	Corridors
Type Const.		W. Insulation		Insulation	
Spec. Permit #		Sheetrock		Hood Vent.	
BOA		Commercial Sheetrock		Glass	
		Occup. Sep.		Deadbolts	
		Thru out		Fireplaces	
Owner: BASORE		Contractor: PERFECTION CONT.			
15X16 BEDROOM - BATH					
BID 2005 JUNE 77		City of Austin		Clearance: 210 Date: 10-12-77	
REINLI ST		Address:			
					
		Inspector: W.R. J.			



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

Address: 1037 Reinli St.		Permit: 168579		Plat: 234	
Lot:		Block		Subdivision:	
Fire Zone: 3		Use Dist. A-1 ST		Occupancy: METAL CARPORT	
11-8-77		Framing		11-28-77 Final	
Foundation	Layout	Floor joist size & o.c.	Bldg. Conn.	Parking	Commercial
Front setback		ceiling joist size & o.c.	Room Vent.	Exits	
Total & Min. side yard		stud size & o.c.	Stairs	Exit lights	
Side St. Yard			Rails	Fences	
			Attic Vent.	Corridors	
			Insulation		
Type Const.		W. Insulation	Hood Vent.		
Spec. Permit #		Sheetrock	Glass		
BOA		Commercial Sheetrock	Deadbolts		
		Occup. Sep.	Fireplaces		
		Thru out			
Owner: Travis County Fire Control			Contractor: DILLIS-VALLSTROM		
12'x30'					
BID 2005 JUNE 77					
City of Austin					
Clerk: D.S.F. Date: 11-9-77					
Address:					
Inspector: W.J.B.					

Figure 6. Inspection card for detached metal carport for TCFC, 1977. Figure 7. Inspection card for rear bedroom and bath addition, 1977.

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

### B.6.2. Maps

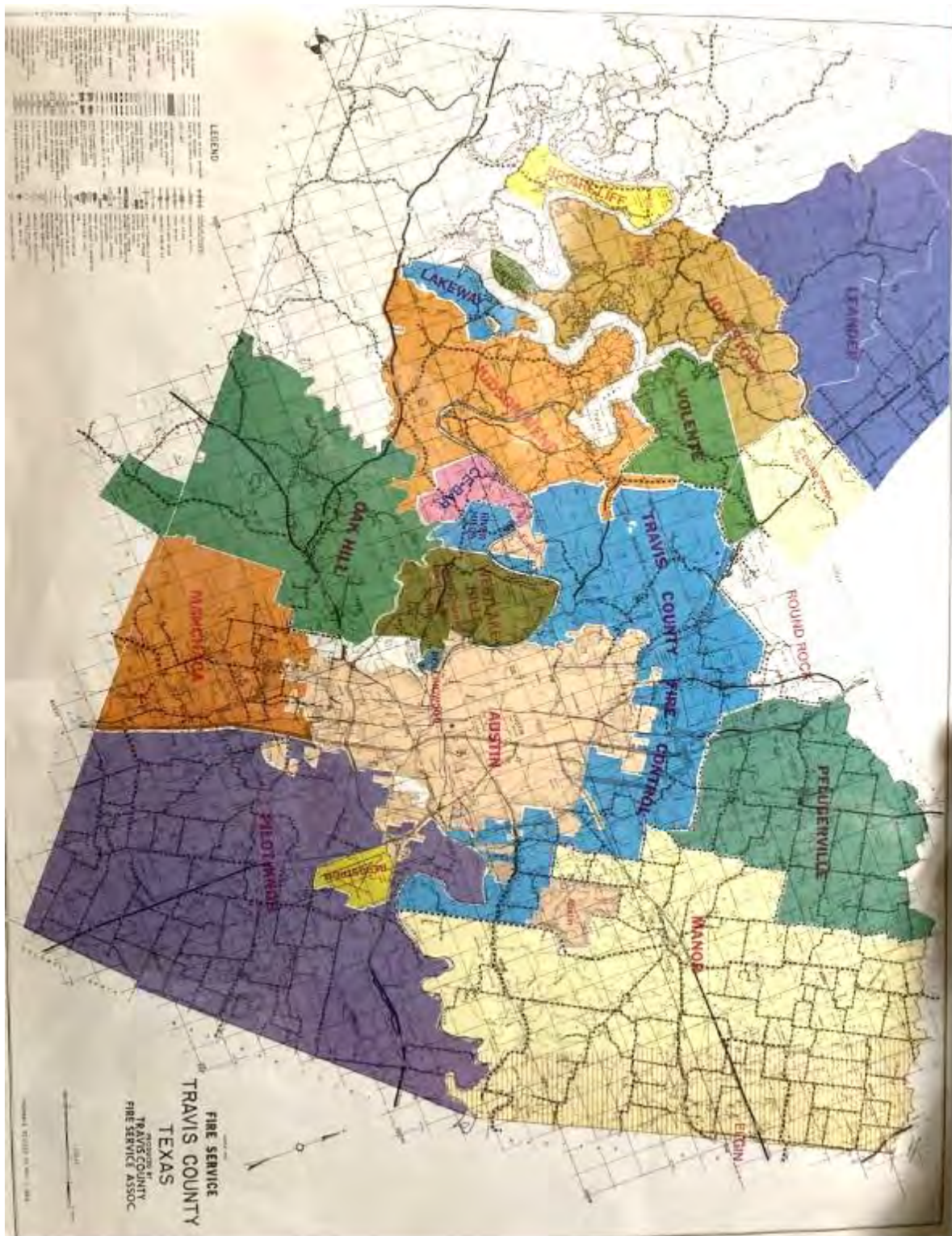


Figure 8. 1969 Travis County Fire Service Association map showing TCFC's jurisdiction in blue.



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

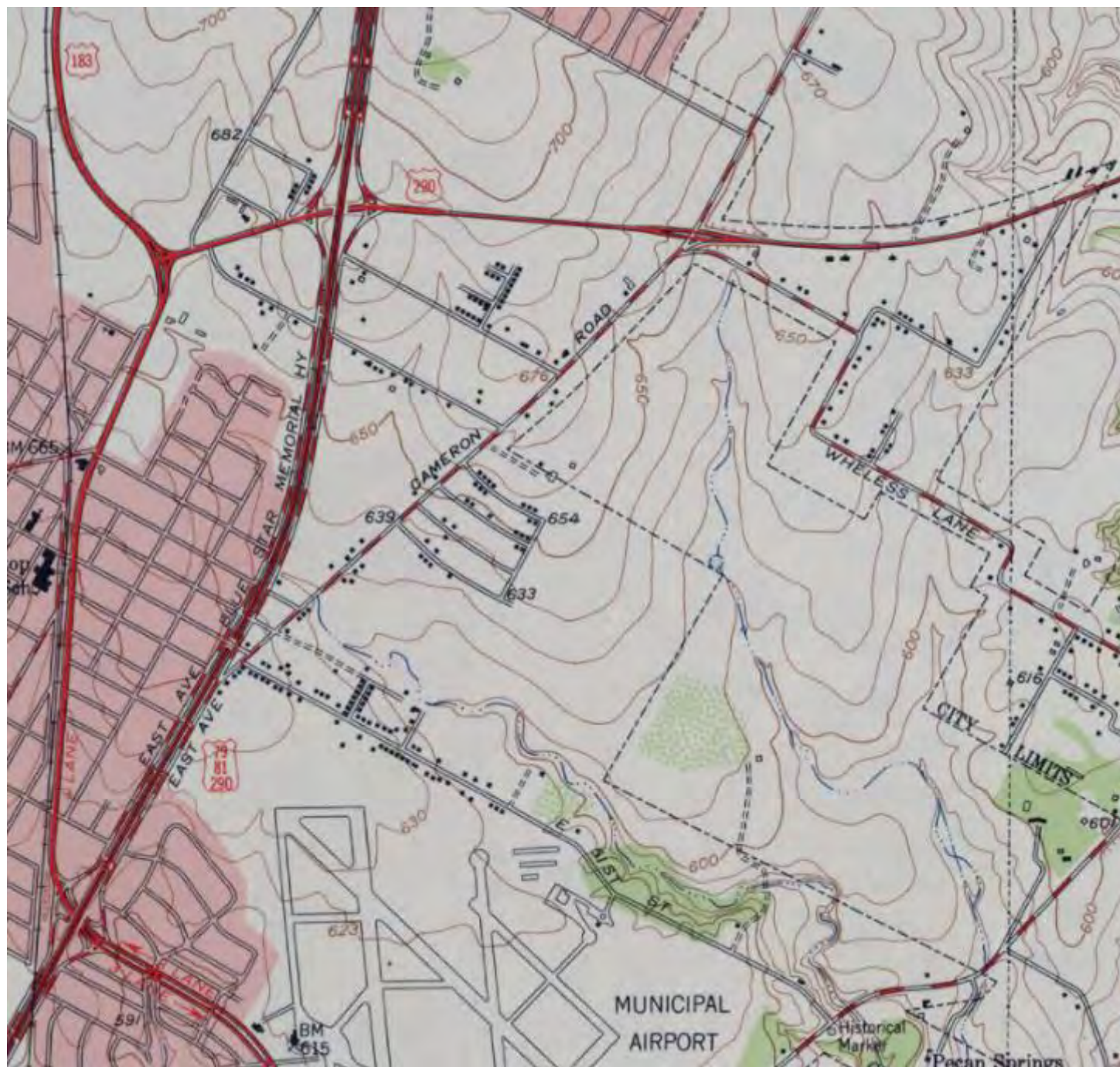


Figure 9. 1954 USGS topographic map. [http://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/topo/texas/txu-pclmaps-topo-tx-austin\\_east-1954.jpg](http://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/topo/texas/txu-pclmaps-topo-tx-austin_east-1954.jpg)



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

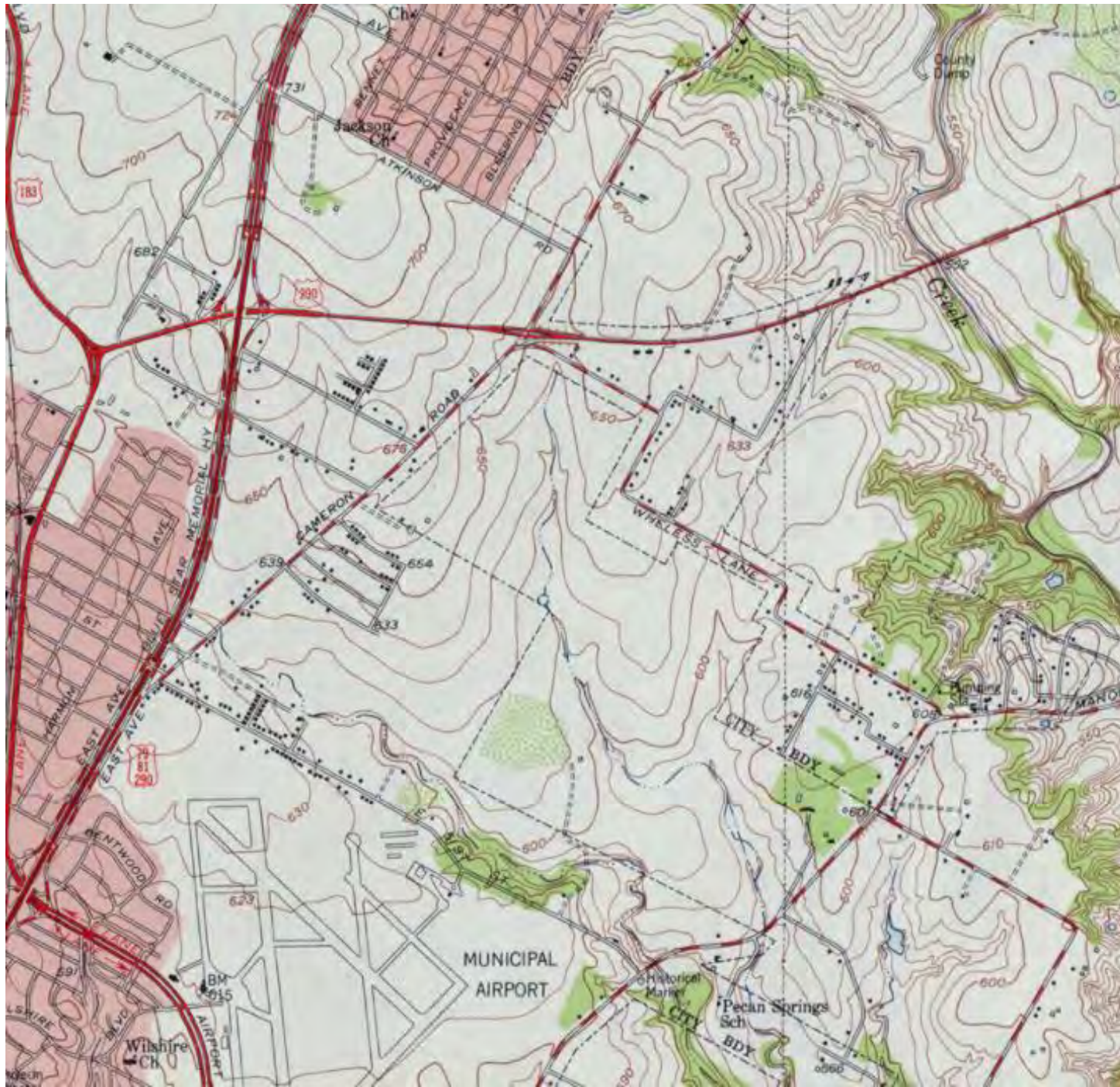


Figure 10. 1955 USGS topographic map. Source: <http://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/topo/texas/index.html>

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

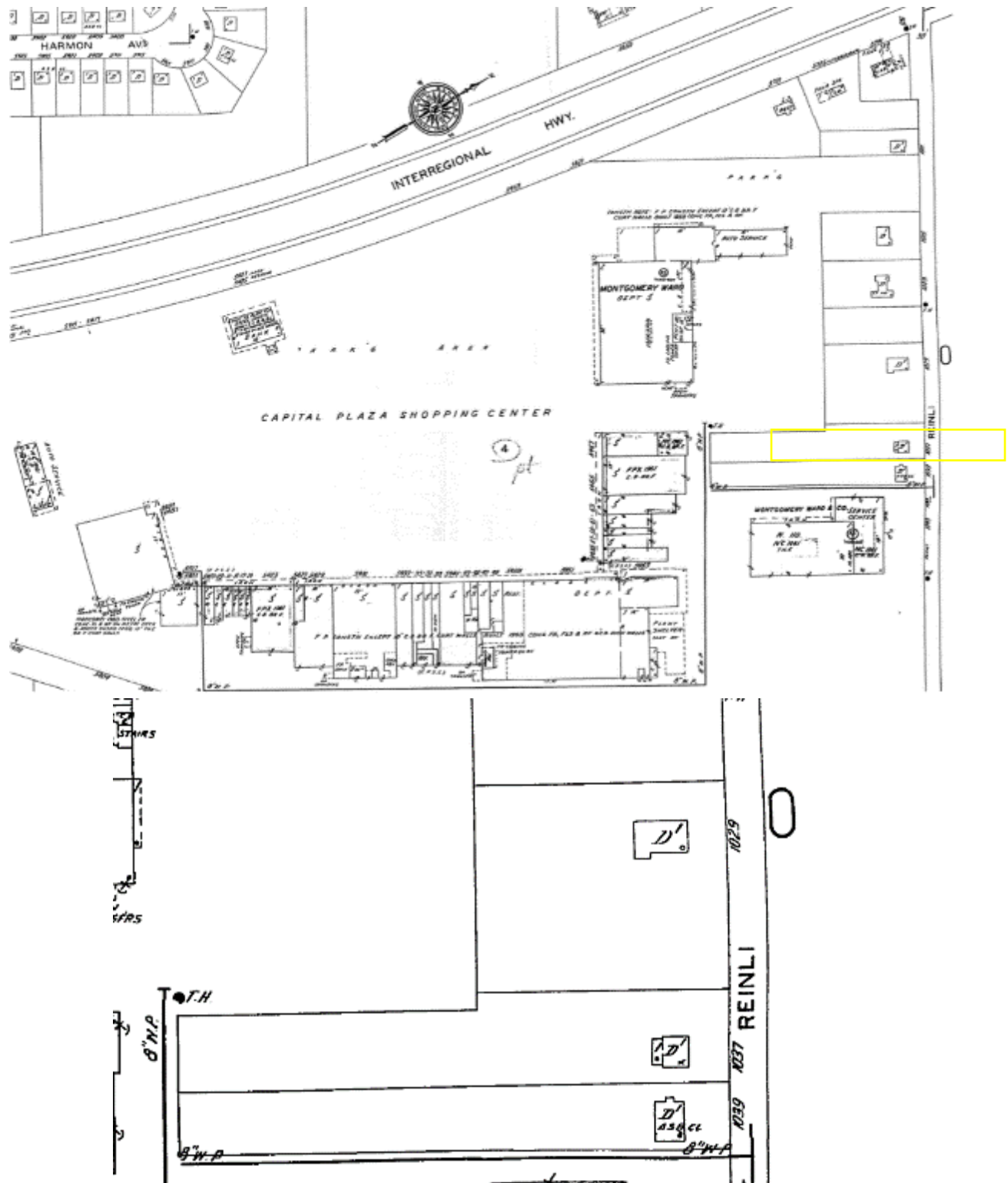


Figure 11. 1961 Sanborn Fire Insurance map. Source: digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com



## B.7. HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS

---

### B.7.1. Property photos

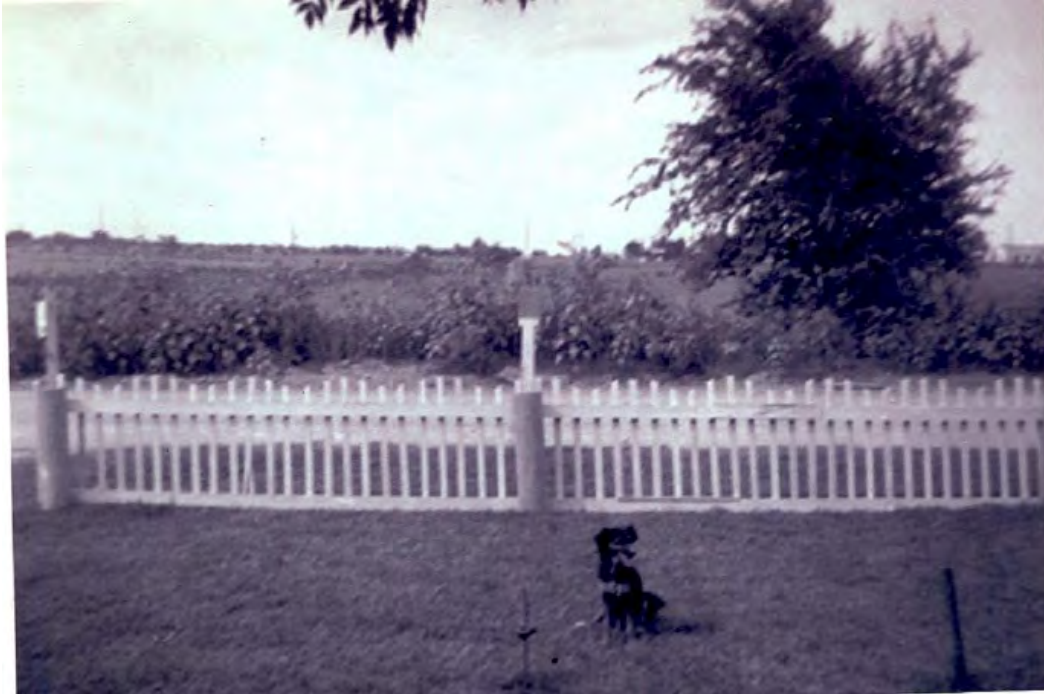


Photo 1. 1940s panorama from front yard, facing northeast toward future highway location. Source: Basore family



Photo 2. View from rear porch, looking toward Cameron Road across open fields. 1950s. Source: Basore family.



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



*Photo 3. Front yard of 1037 Reinli St., May 1959. Source: Basore family.*



*Photo 4. Secondary façade showing original wood awnings, replaced in the 1960s by Clara Basore. Source: Basore family.*

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

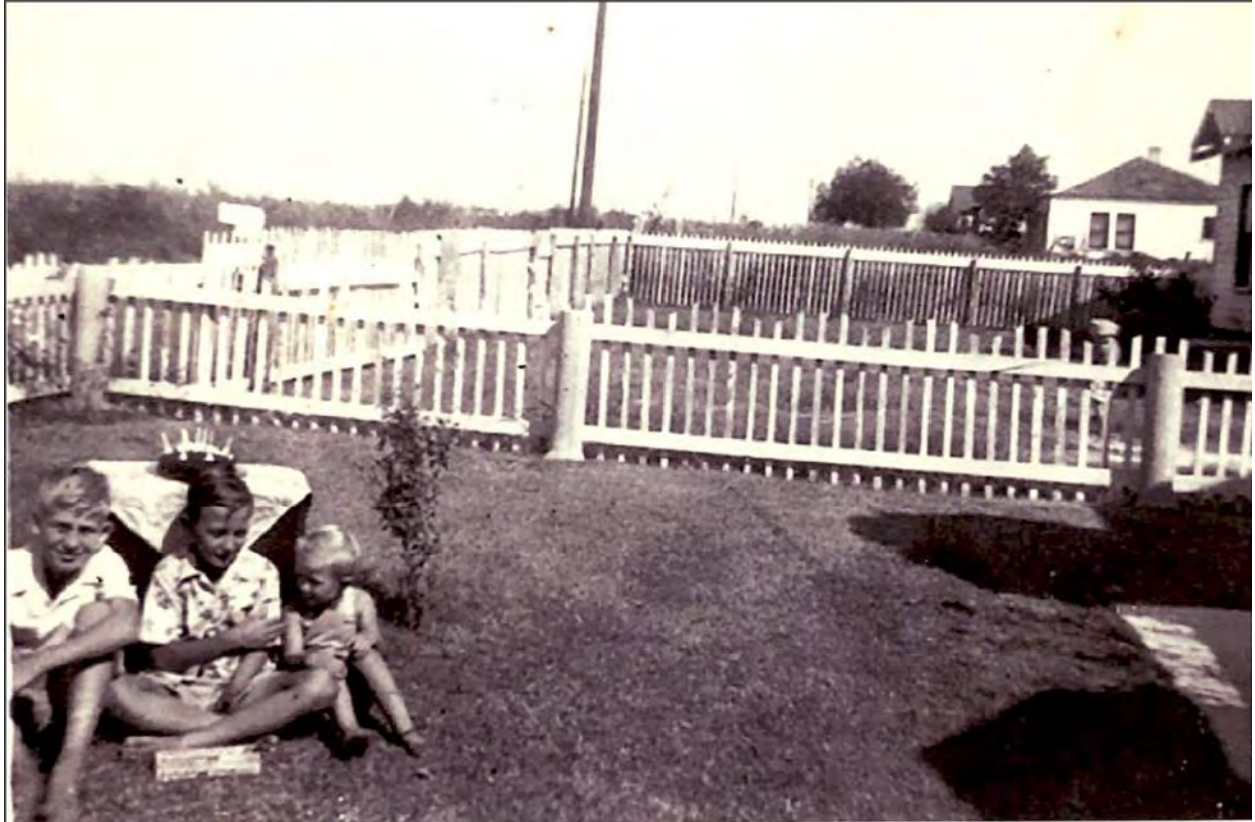


Photo 5. Basore boys in yard of 1037 Reinli at Lee's 8<sup>th</sup> birthday. Right to left: childhood friend Bobby Stengel, Lee Basore, and Martin Basore. The brothers, along with David Basore, would become TCFC founding members. 1940s. Source: Basore family.



Photo 6. Alternate view of front yard and rural surroundings, looking northeast. 1950s. Source: Basore family.

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Photo 7. October 1957 view of 1037 Reinli Street. Source: Basore family.



Photo 8. Looking east down Reinli Street toward Cameron Rd. October 1957. Source: Basore family.



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Photo 9. Sheridan St. construction, 1964. Source: Basore family.



Photo 10. 1975 snapshot of main façade with bicentennial flag. Source: Basore family.

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Photo 11. Reinli Street streetscape, July 4, 1976. Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center in foreground.



Photo 12. 1037 Reinli St. decorated for bicentennial celebration. July 4, 1976



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



*Photo 13. 1990s photo with response vehicle.*



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

### ***B.7.2. Explorer Post 13***



*Photo 14. Explorer Post 13 loading equipment with tank, early 1960s. Source: Basore family.*

In the early 1960's, there being no organized wildfire fighting facility in Travis County, calls for volunteer assistance were broadcast over the air by the local radio stations. The Scouts heard those calls and determined to create an organized fire suppression team.



# When the call went out ....

*Photo 15. Photo collage of Post 13, page 1. Source: Basore family*



# ...they heard,



And they responded, with buckets, burlap sacks and two pump cans. They saw the need and an idea was conceived!

## July 28, 1962

Photo: Jim Gaddis, Wesley Nauert, Richard Otto, Jim Gummelt and Mike Holeman, photographed on a rest break by unit leader Lee Basore.



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



The Austin Fire Department has also found occasion to make use of Post services as evidenced by this picture, which shows Post members and City firemen working side by side to overcome a large grass fire.

*Photo 17. Photo collage of Post 13, page 3. Source: Basore family*



**The idea grew...**



Photo 18. Photo collage of Post 13, page 4. Source: Basore family



**1963****and it grew...**

Photo 19. Photo collage of Post 13, page 5. Source: Basore family



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



and grew.



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

Photo 20. Photo collage of Post 13, page 6. Source: Basore family

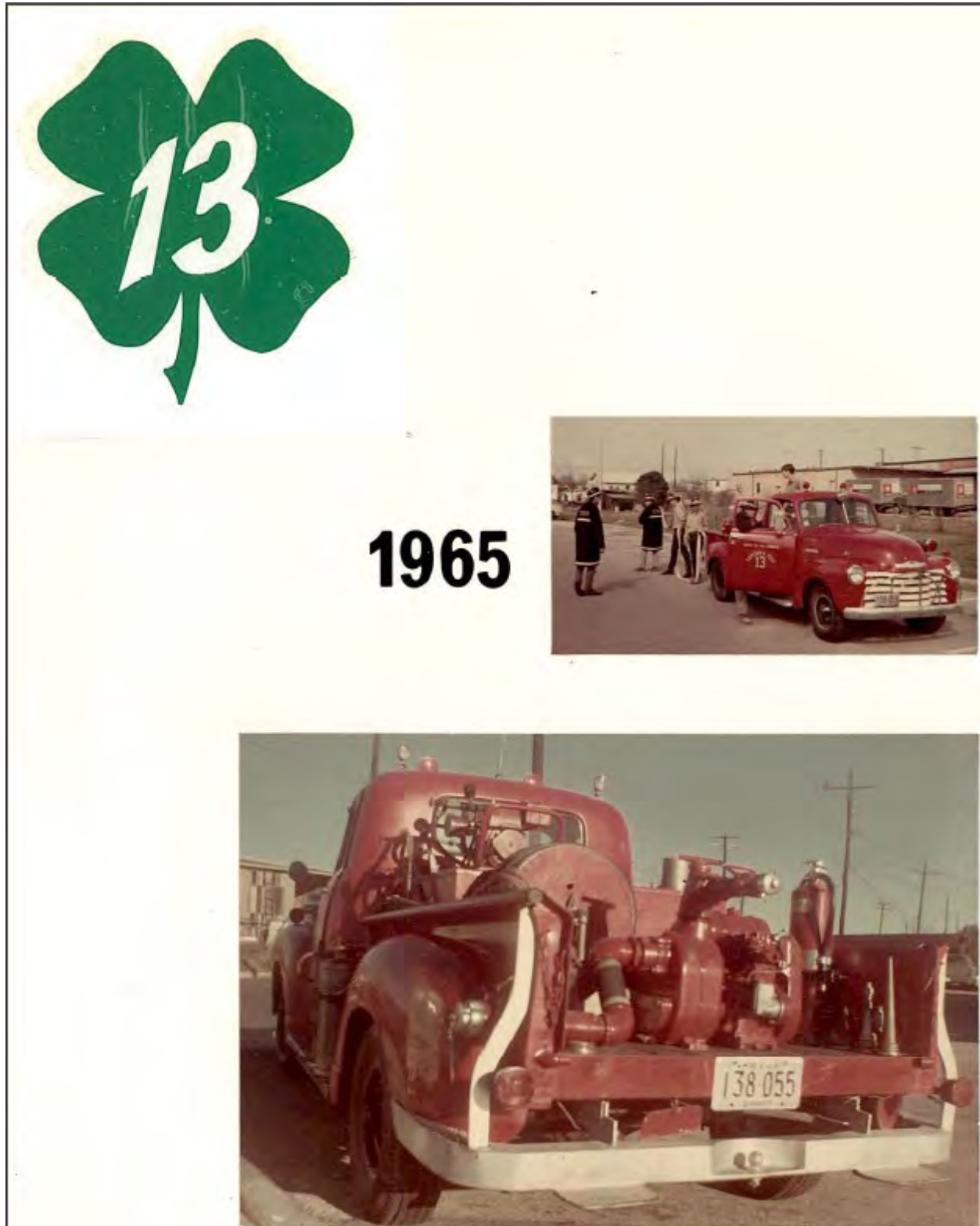


Photo 21. Photo collage of Post 13, page 7, showing original 1940 booster truck and post emblem. Source: Basore family.

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Photo 22. Explorer Post 13 performing truck maintenance. Source: Basore family.



Photo 23. Explorer Post 13 extinguishing brushfire alongside volunteer firefighter, late 1960s--early 1970s. Source: Basore family.



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

### ***B.7.3. A growing institution***



*Photo 24. Volunteer firefighter training, 1969. Source: Basore family.*



*Photo 25. Chiefs with booster truck outside Operations Center, June 1970. Source: Basore family*

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Photo 26. Chief Lee Basore and booster (brush) truck, 1960s. Source: Basore family



Photo 27. Truck inspection prior to Capital Plaza open house, late 1960—early 1970s.



Photo 28. TCFC trucks responding to brushfires near 1037 Reinli Street headquarters. Source: Basore family.

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



*Photo 29. Early response truck is called to car accident. Source: Basore family.*



1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Photo 30. Booster truck at 1037 Reinli and volunteer responders, 1960s-early 1970s. Source: Basore family.

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Photo 31. TCFC responding to highway fire, 1960s. Source: Basore family.

1037 Reinli Street

Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Photo 32. Travis County Fire Control anniversary gathering, 1970.

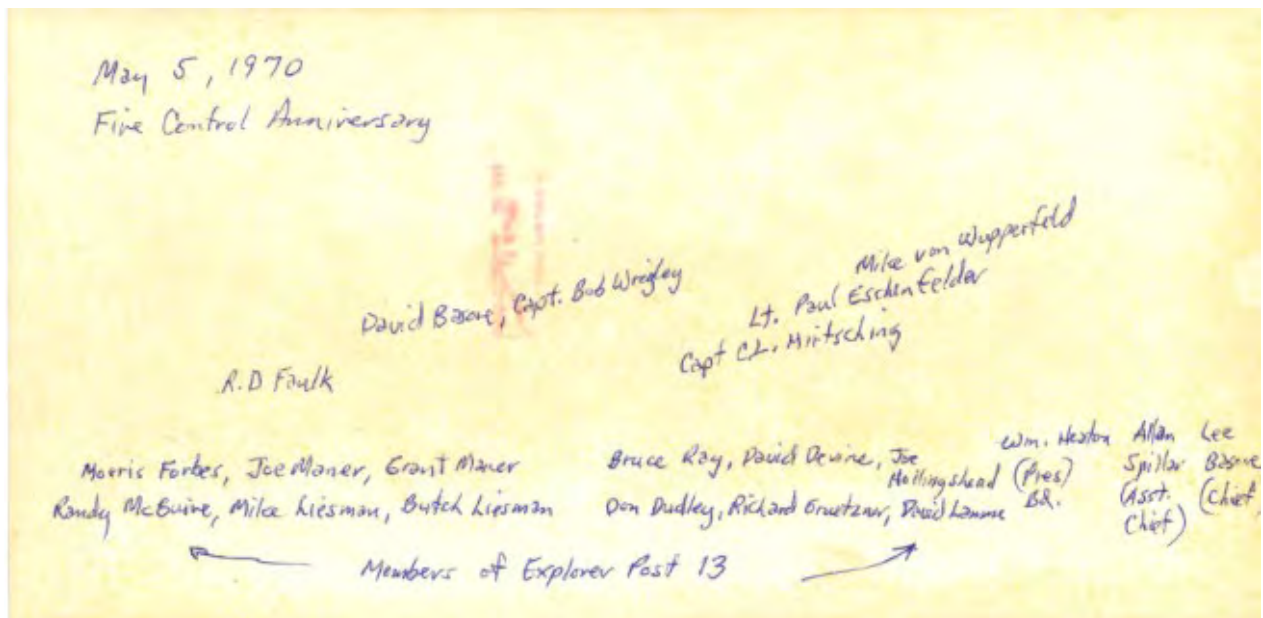


Photo 30, back.



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

## B.8. SITE FEATURES

### B.8.1. City of Austin open drainage ditch easement

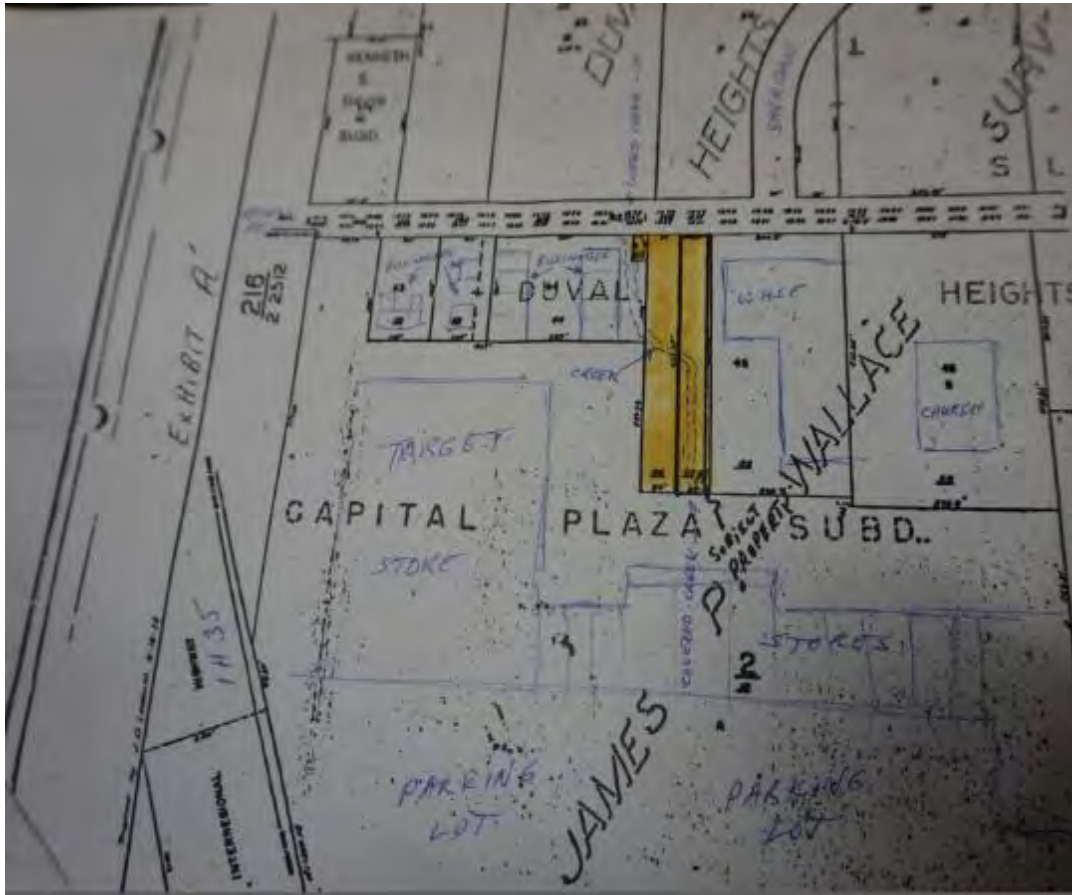


Figure 1. Plat map with creek annotation.

Figure 2. 1965 drainage easement to City of Austin from Clara Basore.

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

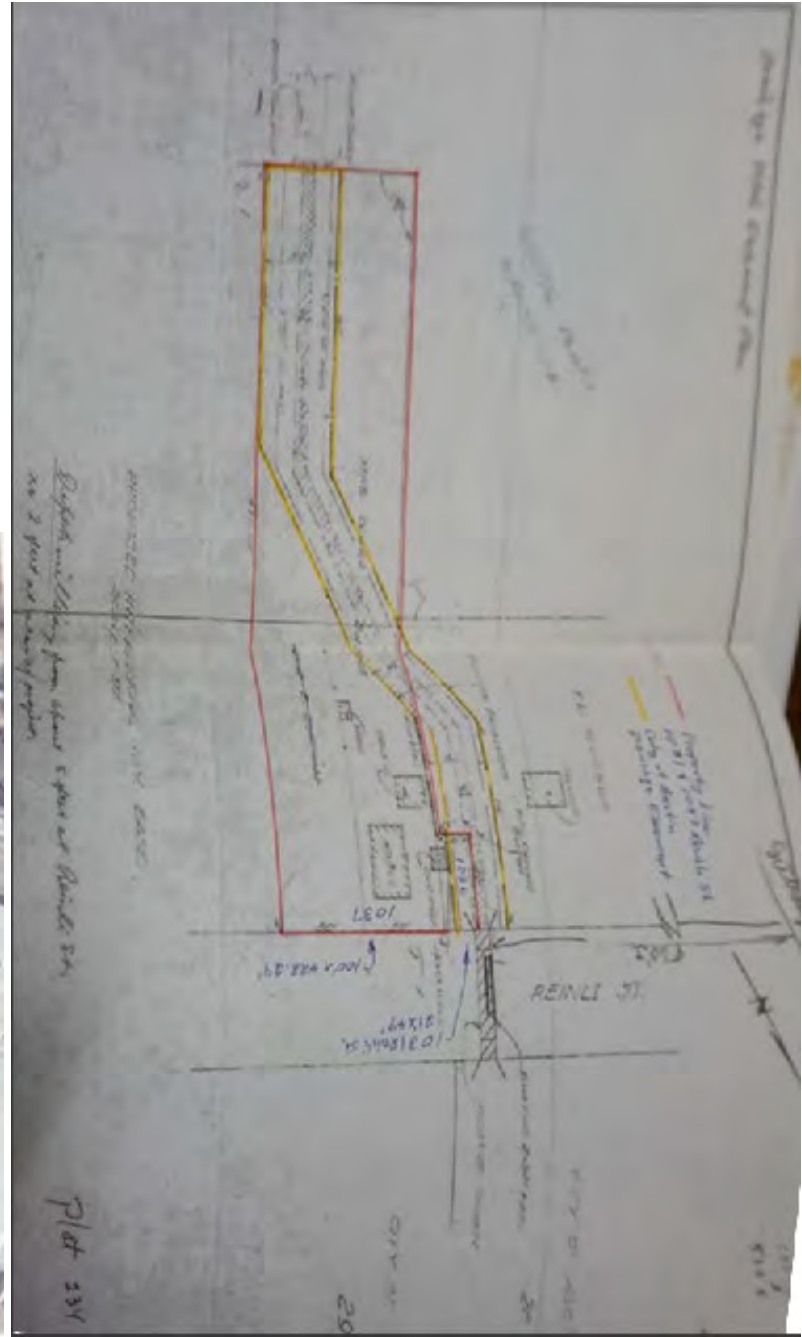
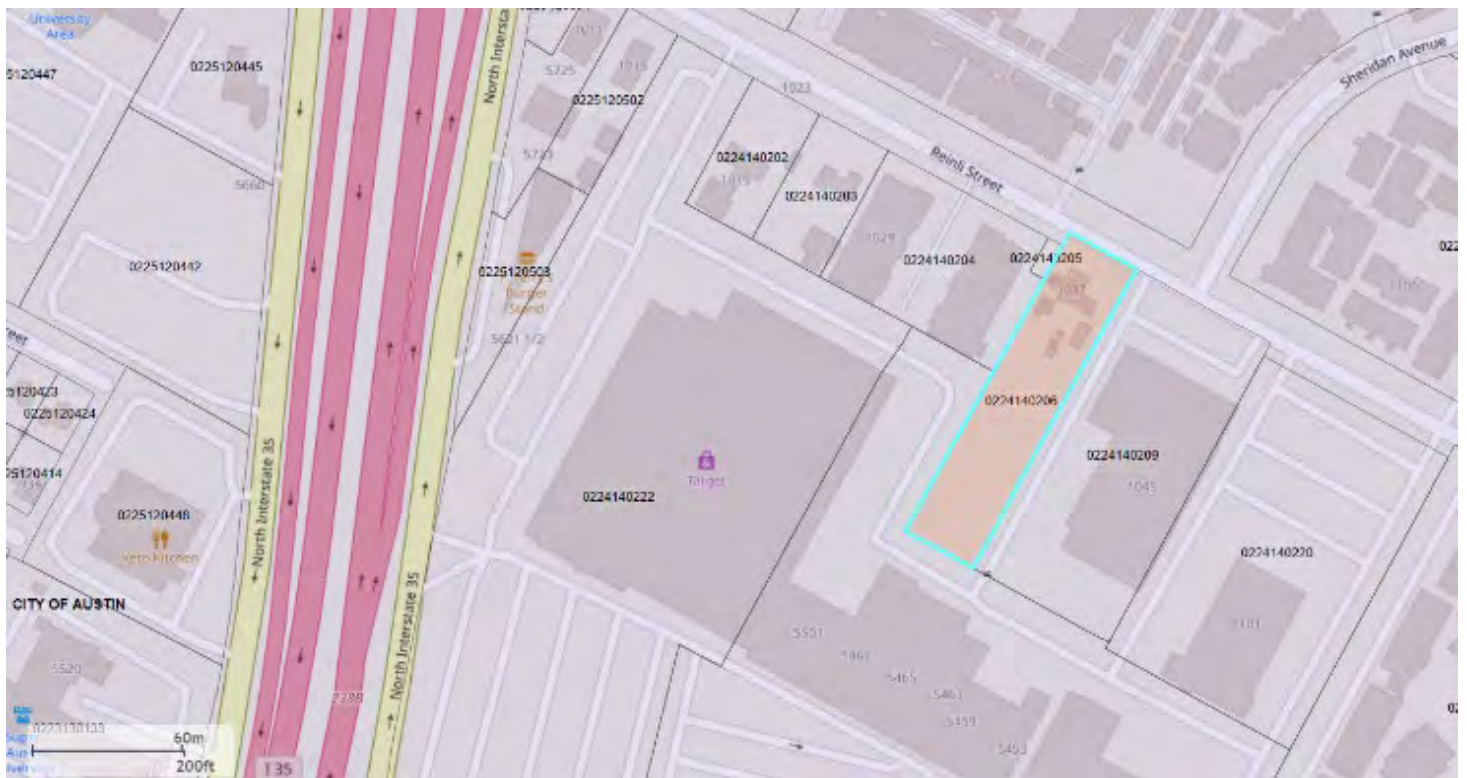


Figure 3. WPD flood zone and plat map showing City easement for creek and drainage maintenance.





### B.8.2. Site maps



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Figure 6. Travis Central Appraisal District area map with aerial imagery. 2021. <http://propaccess.traviscad.org/>



Figure 7. Travis Central Appraisal District area map, closeup. 2021. <http://propaccess.traviscad.org/>



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

### ***B.8.3. Aerial photographs***



*Figure 8. 1940 aerial photograph with parcel annotations.*



*Figure 9. 1958 aerial photograph with parcel annotations.*



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Figure 10. 1965 aerial photograph with parcel annotations.



Figure 11. 1976 aerial photograph with parcel annotations.



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Figure 12. 1984 aerial photograph.



Figure 13. 1997 aerial photograph with parcel annotations



1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center



Figure 14. 2006 aerial photograph with parcel annotations.



Figure 15. 2018 aerial photograph with parcel annotations.



## C. NARRATIVE

---

### ***C.1. Construction and alterations***

The primary building at 1037 Reinli Street was constructed in 1939 according to family records. Property owner Clara Basore replaced the original wooden awnings with the existing metal awnings in the 1950s. The Basore family added a carport and addition in 1961 according to permit records. During the 1960s, a metal outbuilding was brought onto the lot and used as the communications and radio repair station for the Travis County Fire Control Team, and the radio antennae atop the main building date roughly to this time. In 1977, a smaller addition was constructed, and a second carport installed for the Operations Center vehicles.

### ***C.2. Historical associations: Property uses and occupants***

Warren Lee and Clara Kaiser Basore purchased the house at 1037 Reinli Street in 1948. After Warren Basore's death in 1960, his widow Clara Basore retained ownership of the property until 2004, when it passed to her sons. Though it was originally constructed as a small detached residence, by the mid-1960s the Basore family had transformed their home into the headquarters for the newly established Travis County Fire Control Team.

According to correspondence from Fire Chief Emeritus Lee Basore, Travis County's outlying areas possessed no official fire response unit before 1962. "When a wildfire occurred," writes Basore, "the local broadcast stations put out calls for volunteers to assist in containing the fire until heavy equipment could be deployed by the county commissioners, in the form of dozers and tanker trucks, sometimes with assistance by the [Texas] A & M [University] forest service."

The Fire Control Team began in 1961 when the enthusiastic Explorer Scout Post 13 expressed an interest in fighting brushfires after a particularly bad blaze ripped through the countryside. The scouts showed up to help, along with neighbors, but the devastation it wrought left a lasting impression. The crew convinced scout leader Lee Basore—then a graphic designer for an advertising agency, and older brother to two scouts—to start up a fire brigade. The brigade, ages fifteen to seventeen, trained with borrowed equipment and instructions from the Austin Fire Department and National Forest Service in the large backyard of 1037 Reinli Street (*Statesman*, 1967 and 1979; Basore interview, 2021). They fought their first wildfires as a true emergency response team over a weekend in July of 1962. Their quick response and effective fire suppression, using only two fire extinguishers and a stockpile of

gardening tools, gained recognition from the Travis County Sheriff's office, who soon began to radio the team whenever a wildfire was reported. "Our goal is to accomplish the most in the least amount of time, with the safety of all our primary concern," Chief Basore told the *Statesman* in 1967—and so they did.

In these early years, the Reinli Street house was an ideal staging area for the young firefighters. Its rural setting offered plenty of space to park vehicles and its large backyard, kept hydrated by a winding creekbed, served as a safe place to test equipment and brushfire response procedures. Though the existing streets were unpaved, they allowed the crew to access nearby arterials in their modified booster truck. In 1963, Post 13 received \$700 from a Sears Foundation contest and used their winnings to purchase a run-down 1940 Chevrolet pickup. They parked it outside 1037 Reinli Street and took it apart, piece by piece. A *Statesman* article recounts, "They rebuilt the engine—literally tore the car apart and put it back together again. Junk yards yielded many 'hardly used' parts. The hose reel was originally for television cable and a pest control company donated 165 feet of exterminator's hose" (*Statesman*, 1967).

Through the years, the organization grew from a handful of teenage volunteers to a thriving institution staffed by professional firefighters, paramedics, and communications experts. The team responded with only manpower at first, then gradually added vehicles and equipment to their arsenal. A shed on the property served as the communications hub: first, the team used Citizens' Band, then VHF radios and tone/voice alerts (Basore, 2021). By 1969, the Team covered about 900 square miles of mostly rural territory outside the City limits. They operated two trucks and a substation off Burnet Road (*Statesman*, 1967 and 1979). As they grew into a fully functional fire department, the Travis County Fire Control Team became the first professionally equipped Search and Rescue squad in the Austin-Travis County area (Basore, 2021; *Statesman*, 1979). As more suburban TCFC divisions came into existence, the Reinli Street team's active territory was reduced; however, it remained the central operations hub. All fire companies and EMS responders were dispatched from the Reinli Street property until 1982 (Basore interview, 2021).

By offering 1037 Reinli Street as an operations center, Lee, David, and Martin Basore ensured that the Fire Control Team could spend its scant funding—often provided by supporter donations and Explorer Scout fundraising missions—on improvements to equipment, including trucks, tanks, hoses, personal protective equipment, and radio communications components, rather than building or leasing a separate structure. Trucks—both boosters and tankers—were stored on-site and parked in the street or driveway,

and a small outbuilding was erected on the property for the installation and repair of communications equipment.

In addition to reduced overhead costs, the 1037 Reinli Street property offered a strategic position. Construction of the Interregional Highway at the north end of East Avenue, as well as Highway 290, was in full swing by the start of the 1960s. Though Reinli Street was largely rural during the first half of the twentieth century (it remained unpaved until after 1965), the highway junction was close by. As interregional traffic increased, so did the risk of brushfires as careless drivers tossed cigarettes out open windows or dragged sparking metal chains; traffic accidents and breakdowns caused an uptick in dangerous car fires. In Photo 26, taken from the side yard of 1037 Reinli Street, smoke from a brushfire appears on the horizon, alerting the volunteers and Explorer Scouts maintaining their truck and calling them to action.

Within two decades, the TCFC had expanded to include one of the area's first emergency medical service crews. Started as a pilot program in 1976, TCFC first responders could reach the scene of a medical emergency within four minutes of the initial call, stabilizing any injuries and providing first-line care until an ambulance could arrive. By 1979, the TCFC had grown from twelve to fifteen teenagers to nearly 80 volunteers, including EMTs and paramedics.

The TCFC team was reinstated and its members roused from retirement by the State of Texas in 2011 to assist Travis and Bastrop County firefighters in controlling the 32,000-acre conflagration occurring that year (<https://tpwd.texas.gov/spdest/findadest/parks/bastrop/fire/>). It is still active today.

### *C.2.1. Occupant table*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Birth, marriage, and death dates</b>
Warren Lee Basore	born June 14, 1893; married 1937; died March 7, 1960
Clara Kaiser Basore	born Sept. 17, 1910; married 1937; died March 17, 2004
Lee Ray Basore	born August 30, 1940
Martin Lee Basore	born Sept. 26, 1945; married 1988; died December 9, 2012
David Basore	born April 13, 1950; married 1980
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center	Active 1962–1982; 2011–present day



### ***C.3. Criteria for designation***

The property at 1037 Reinli Street is significant primarily for its historical associations and community value, though its status as an architectural curiosity—a typical Minimal Traditional house used as an emergency services hub—should also be considered.

#### ***C.3.1. Period of Significance***

*§ 25-2-352 (A)(1) The property is at least 50 years old and represents a period of significance of at least 50 years ago, unless the property is of exceptional importance as defined by National Register Bulletin 22, National Park Service (1996).*

The property is 82 years old, with a period of significance as the Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center beginning at the date of Explorer Post 13's establishment of the Travis County fire brigade in 1961 and ending at the 50-year cutoff in 1971. The period of significance will necessarily increase over the next 11 years, as 1037 Reinli Street was the organization's dispatch center until 1982.

#### ***C.3.2. Integrity***

*§ 25-2-352 (A)(2) The property retains a high degree of integrity, as defined by the National Register of Historic Places, that clearly conveys its historical significance and does not include an addition or alteration which has significantly compromised its integrity.*

The property retains a high degree of integrity, clearly conveying its historic significance and displaying the changes over time that characterize the growth of the organization it housed.

#### ***C.3.3. Architecture***

*§25-2-352(A)(3)(b)(i) The property embodies the distinguishing characteristics of a recognized architectural style, type, or method of construction; exemplifies technological innovation in design or construction; displays high artistic value in representing ethnic or folk art, architecture, or construction; represents a rare example of an architectural style in the city; serves as an outstanding example of the work of an architect, builder, or artisan who significantly contributed to the development of the city, state, or nation; possesses cultural, historical, or architectural value as a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian or vernacular structure; or represents an architectural curiosity or one-of-a-kind building.*

The modest building at 1037 Reinli Street is an intact example of a typical Minimal Traditional house, and—despite its unconventional use through the years—retains the distinguishing characteristics of the Minimal Traditional style favored by FHA-loan-seeking developers toward the end of the 1930s. The

numerous outbuildings and vehicle storage bays, constructed mostly during the period of significance for Travis County Fire Control operations, set it apart from the other single-family homes of its time. Though its form appears simple, its towering radio antennae and plethora of carports (including one that still shelters an antique fire response vehicle) suggest that the modest house is not only what it seems.

#### *C.3.4. Historical associations*

*§ 25-2-352 (A)(3)(b)(ii) The property has long-standing significant associations with persons, groups, institutions, businesses, or events of historic importance which contributed significantly to the history of the city, state, or nation; or represents a significant portrayal of the cultural practices or the way of life of a definable group of people in a historic time.*

The property is associated with the Travis County Fire Control Team, serving as its Operations Center from 1961 to 1982. The TCFC Team was the first fully functional fire department, wildfire response unit, and search and rescue operation in Travis County, saving hundreds of lives and protecting thousands of acres of property during the property's period of significance from 1961 to 1971 (the fifty-year cutoff). The property's significance also continues into the recent past (1972-1982) as the home of Travis County's first professional paramedic crew, its first female firefighters, and its first EMS responders. The Basores' home transformed from a single-family house into a bustling hub for Explorer Scout Troop 13 and, later, a larger group of volunteer firefighters, paramedics, and rescue squad members. As their mission expanded, so did their impact on the property: the backyard was used for staging Explorer drills and training maneuvers, carports and shelter structures were erected to house valuable firefighting equipment, vehicles, and personal protective equipment, and the radio communications control devices spilled from the main house into a fully-functional workshop. These items, though modest and utilitarian, represented more than just tools and storage: as Explorer Post 13 worked to raise money and refurbish trucks with junkyard finds, they began a journey; as TCFC's professional firefighting crews chipped in their own funds for new gear and scored the county for hand-me-down vehicles, their determination to combat Central Texas' devastating wildfires only grew. 1037 Reinli Street serves as a physical reminder of how far Travis County's emergency services have come, but—most importantly—how much a determined group of civic activists, no matter how young or inexperienced, can impact their community over time.

1037 Reinli Street  
Travis County Fire Control Team Operations Center

### C.3.5. Community value

*§ 25-2-352 (A)(3)(b)(iv) The property has a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, a neighborhood, or a particular group.*

The property at 1037 Reinli Street is important to both Austin and Travis County as a nexus of education, action, and progress in firefighting and search and rescue. The building's unique location, positioned near major arterials during an era when Austin's highway construction activity was rapidly increasing, made it ideal as a rural outpost. Though the nearby roadways were sources of brushfires, they also allowed Post 13 and the TCFC to achieve unprecedented response times in rural Travis County. Its expansive lot provided training space, equipment storage, and a communications hub. For twenty years, it served as the home of Travis County's first and only fire control team, a volunteer-run-and-funded organization without the means to build high-tech facilities and equipment storage. The determination of Explorer Post 13, who chose 1037 Reinli Street as their fire brigade headquarters, had a direct and lasting impact on Travis County's residents, and saved hundreds of lives. Had the Basore brothers, TCFC Team founders and lifelong members, not donated the property for the growing volunteer team's use, the institution could not have afforded the trucks, training, radio communications systems, and protective equipment essential for their daily functions. Thus, over the years, this modest building and wooded backyard have directly contributed to the Travis County community, allowing its firefighters, EMT, and Search and Rescue personnel to preserve and protect Travis County's natural landscape and its residents. The Reinli Street house is a place to honor the ambition of Explorer Post 13, the change they inspired, and their legacy in Austin's emergency service history.



Note: Should additional backup be submitted after the online publishing of this staff report, it may be found at the following link:

[http://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards\\_commissions/meetings/40\\_1.htm](http://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/40_1.htm)