

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
AUGUST 2, 2023
PR-2023-084993; GF-2023-088410
1409 CRESTWOOD ROAD

PROPOSAL

Partially demolish a ca. 1947 house.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

Construct a rear addition. Replace windows and doors, changing openings at main façade. Replace masonry, matching existing, at main façade.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story Ranch house with stucco and brick veneer, a compound gabled roof with deep eaves, and sliding and casement windows.

RESEARCH

The house at 1409 Crestwood Road was built in 1947 for Howard and Josie Gilstrap. Howard Gilstrap, known to University of Texas fans and players as “Bully,” was a decorated UT athlete in basketball, football, and track in the first part of the twentieth century; he then moved on to coaching football and basketball and served as the organizer of Texas Relays for over twenty-five years. A colorful figure, the famed Texas Longhorn was noted for his stories, quips, and words of encouragement to his teams and UT fans alike. In the late 1970s, Gilstrap retired, moving from Austin to a farm near Rosebud. Gilstrap died at the age of 87 in 1989.¹ Josie and H. C. Gilstrap had lived at 1409 Crestwood for at least 12 years.

PROPERTY EVALUATION

The 2021 North Loop-Hancock-Boggy Creek survey lists the property as a medium priority and contributing to a potential historic district.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

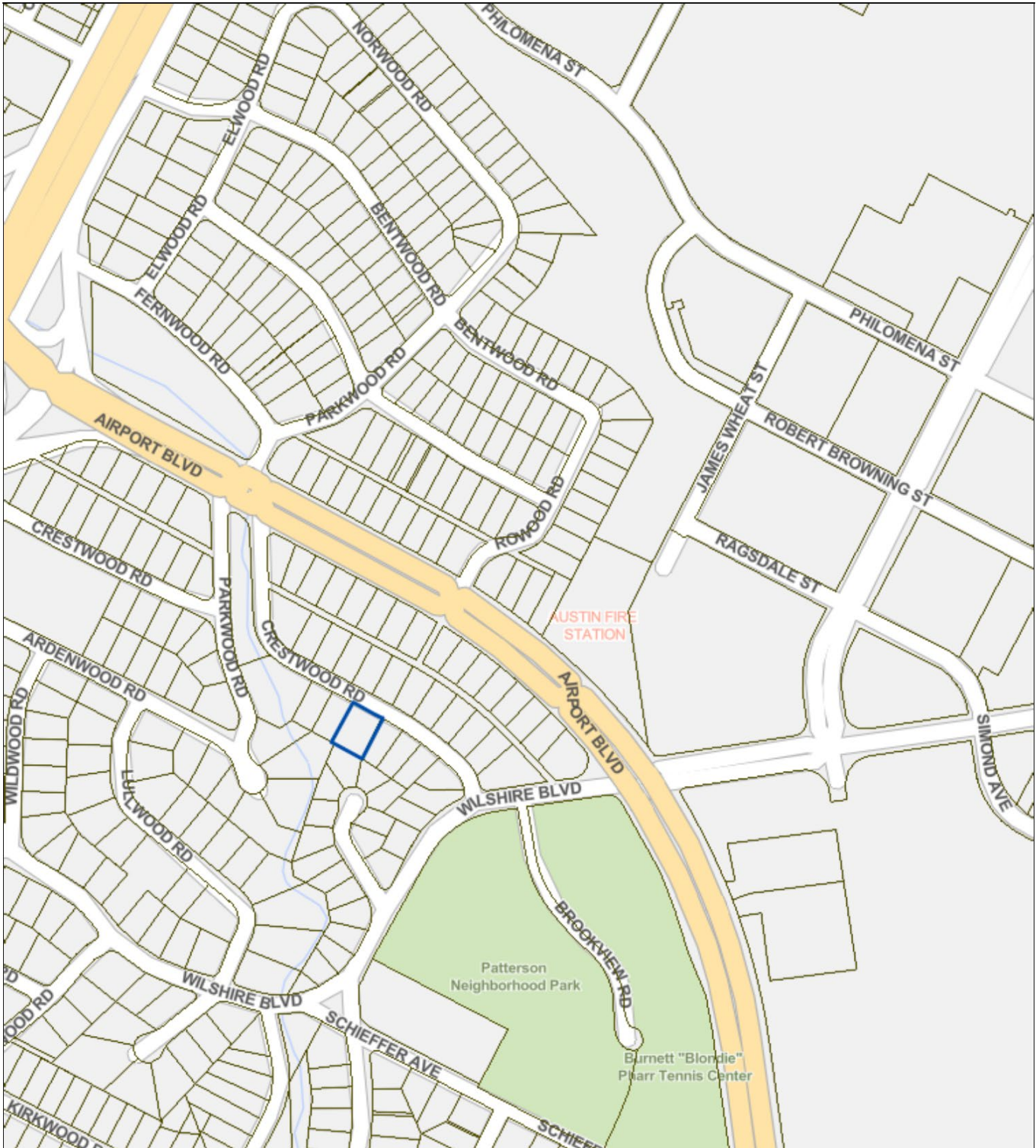
- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain moderate integrity. Windows have been previously replaced.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). Staff has evaluated the property and determined that it does not meet two criteria:
 - a. Architecture. The building does not appear to convey architectural significance.
 - b. Historical association. The property appears to have significant historical associations with University of Texas athlete, coach, and relay referee Howard “Bully” Gilstrap.
 - c. Archaeology. The property was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
 - d. Community value. The property does not appear to possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, the neighborhood, or a particular demographic group.
 - e. Landscape feature. The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve the application upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package.

¹ https://www.newspapers.com/article/1933358/1989_bully_gilstrap_suicide/

LOCATION MAP



Lot Lines

Lot Line



1: 4800

GF 23-088410

1409 CRESTWOOD ROAD



7/19/2023

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey. This product has been produced by the City of Austin for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



Partial Demolition Permit Application – 2023

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, July 2023

- 1959 Howard C. & Josie Gilstrap, owner – Coordinator at UT
- 1957 Howard C. & Josie Gilstrap, owner – Coordinator at UT
- 1955 Howard C. & Josie Gilstrap, owner – Coordinator at UT
- 1954 Howard C. & Josie Gilstrap, owner – Coordinator at UT

- 1953 Howard C. & Josie Gilstrap, owner – Coordinator at UT
- 1952 Howard C. & Josie Gilstrap, owner – Coordinator at UT
- 1949 Howard C. & Josie Gilstrap, owner – Coordinator at UT
- 1947 Address not listed.

Historical Information



*Schreiner Institute. Portrait of Howard C. Gilstrap, photograph, 193X;
(<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph497890/m1/2/>), University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History,
<https://texashistory.unt.edu/>; crediting Schreiner University.*

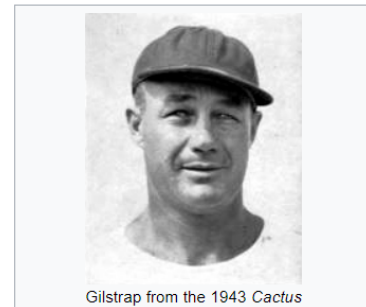
Howard Clifford "Bully" Gilstrap was a [college men's basketball](#) and [college football](#) coach. He was the head coach of the [Texas basketball program](#) from 1942 to 1945. He coached the Longhorns to a 43–28 record, playing in one NCAA tournament and reaching the NCAA Final Four in 1943. Gilstrap also served as an assistant coach on the Longhorns football team for 20 seasons, from 1937 through 1956. He was an athlete at Texas, playing football, basketball and [track and field](#). He was inducted into the University of Texas Athletics Hall of Honor in 1968.^[1]

Gilstrap was the brother of coach and athletic administrator [Chena Gilstrap](#).

Head coaching record [\[edit \]](#)

Basketball [\[edit \]](#)

Bully Gilstrap



Gilstrap from the 1943 *Cactus*

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bully_Gilstrap

Voices of teams past

H.C. (Bully) Gilstrap, all-around Texas athlete of the 1920s and basketball coach during World War II, was doing some reminiscing Saturday at the Special Events Center, and a 1944 trip to College Station came to mind.

"We took a bus up there and I was driving," Bully recalled. "About halfway, the bottom of the bus fell out. I said, 'Listen, let's get out here in the road and we'll hitchhike.' I told them the first five that got there could start. Course, I let the best five start out first."

The Longhorns finally arrived in College Station that day and set a new conference scoring record. "Their coach said, 'Bully, how could you do that to my poor little ol' boys?' But that's the only way you can get them Aggies quiet, put some points on the board."

GILSTRAP WAS ONE of many who had stories to tell Saturday, as the university invited all former basketball lettermen, coaches and managers back for a nice buffet lunch, a look at the new building and the afternoon Texas-TCU game.

They were unanimous in one opinion: They like what is happening to Texas basketball — the building, the coaching, the team.

"I think it's great," said Gilstrap. "I never dreamed that they would do this well. Abe is a fine coach — if he don't get the officials too mad at him."

The party, put together by Texas assistant coach Barry Dowd with Arnette serving as chairman, was obviously a success.

"I've got so old I can't drink," said Gilstrap, now 76, "But I still have a good time."

Bully finally agreed to get in the buffet line. "I wish I had more time," he said apologetically. "I got a lot more lies to tell."

Voices of teams past. Jim Trotter Sports Editor. The Austin American Statesman (1973-1980), 05 Feb 1978: D1

Former Players, Coach To Gather

Bobby Robertson and the teammates who helped Texas to a 23-0 basketball record in the 1923-24 campaign were a closely knit group -- and will be again Thursday night at the Longhorn Hall of Honor Award Banquet.

H. C. (Bully) Gilstrap, who captained the team, said Wednesday all but one living member of the unbeaten club will be on hand to help honor Robertson, the fourth 1923-24 player to be enshrined in the Hall.

Joining Gilstrap will be Lester Settegast, Bertie Foster, Joe Ward and Bob Homan.

Ward was inducted into the Hall in 1965, while Gilstrap and the late Dr. Sandy Esquivel were honored in 1967.

Like Robertson, who also lettered three years in football, Ward, Esquivel and Gilstrap were all multi-sport standouts at Texas.

Former Players, Coach To Gather. The Austin American Statesman (1973-1980), 28 Nov 1974: A48.



H. C. "BULLY" GILSTRAP
Roasted, then toasted

Ex-Longhorn Retiring to Farm Bully Honored By Friends

By DICK COLLINS
Assistant Sports Editor

Words flowed freely and graciously when friends honored Bully Gilstrap Tuesday night, but none were more meaningful than those intoned by the Rev. Ray Mayfield in his invocation.

"All of us feel that we are in some way better for having known him," the 1944 University of Texas football player spoke of his coach and friend.

Close to 250 intimate acquaintances — from his playing days through his coaching days, and finally, his soon-to-be retirement days — gathered at the Chariot Inn for an enthusiastic night of roasting and toasting the beloved Bully.

Formally known as Howard Clifford, Gilstrap sat through the enjoyable hours of speeches, toasts and rousing salutes before getting his say.

Never at a loss for words, Bully almost let his friends down when his voice broke near the end. "There have been three great days in my life," he said.

"First of all, the best one was when I got that wife over there (he pointed to his wife, Josie)," he mentioned. "This has to be one of them . . . and you all know I've had some great Thanksgiving Days," he added, alluding to the many times the

Texas Longhorns have defeated an A&M football team on Turkey Day.

In another week, Gilstrap will be leaving the University after a successful half century which saw him as a player for the Longhorns, a coach, and later a teacher.

Having just reached his 70th birthday, the former Granger schoolboy and his wife plan to retire to their farm near Rosebud. "We wish them a bale of happiness to the acre on their farm over at Rosebud," master of ceremonies Morris Frank commented in his most masterful style.

"Tonight is the night of truth about Bully Gilstrap," the Houston emcee told the gathering. "The reason the truth hasn't been told on Bully before," Frank joked, "is because he would have been retired a helluva long time ago if it had."

A host of Gilstrap's relatives, ex-teammates, ex-coaching fraternity and other friends was introduced. Many joined in on the speech making.

"He's an ambassador of happiness and goodwill," Jack Gray said. "He's touched my life and many others," he mentioned. "I always wanted to go to a love-in," intoned Wally Scott, "but I never thought I'd go to one emceed by Morris Frank and with Bully Gilstrap as the honoree."

Scott, who played for Gilstrap at UT, went on: "He's the sweetest, toughest guy of 'em all. I always felt, deep down in his heart, he really loved the Aggies."

The greatest tributes came, perhaps, from D. X. Bible who once tried to recruit Gilstrap to A&M and later coached with him at UT. In introducing coach Bible, Frank said of him? "He's a brother-in-law and friend, and that's an unusual combination."

"One of the finest rewards

one gets in athletics is the opportunity to associate in athletics," Bible said. "I cherish that association I've had with Bully. I don't believe there's been a person who hasn't felt better after associating with Bully. I'm grateful for so many things — his smile, his sparkle and his inspiration."

Several men who played football with Gilstrap at Texas were present. These included

Abb Curtis, Ed Bluestein, Lester Settegast, Jim Marley and Bobby Robertson. Longhorns who played under him were numerous in attendance.

"This was the easiest job I ever had," said appreciation dinner chairman Rooster Andrews, a waterboy and player for Bully. "I don't know of anybody more loved than Bully Gilstrap," he told the approving audience.

Texas Relays Picks Wright And Gilstrap

Associated Press

Veteran track coach Hoover Wright of Prairie View A&M, near Houston, will be the referee of the Texas Relays, which have been scheduled for April 7-8.

Wright, a member of the U.S. Olympic staff for 1972, has twice been named coach of the year in the NAIA.

Texas Longhorn coach Cleburne Price also said Saturday that H. C. "Bully" Gilstrap, former Longhorn athlete and coach, will be the honorary referee at the 45th annual relays.

For more than 25 years Gilstrap was in charge of the relay events and was associated with the University of Texas for more than 50 years.

Texas Relays Picks Wright And Gilstrap. The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); 27 Feb 1972: C1.

pg. 15



H. C. "BULLY" GILSTRAP
All-around athlete

University of Texas' Hall of Honor

Athletic Greats Honored Tonight

Seven former University of Texas athletic greats whose feats date back to before the turn of the century will be inducted into the Longhorn Hall of Honor Wednesday night.

The banquet will be held at 6:30 at the Terrace Motor Hotel convention center and the seven will also be honored at halftime of the UT-Texas A&M game Thursday.

Tickets to the enshrinement dinner are \$5 and may be purchased from Texas Sporting Goods and the UT athletic ticket office.

The seven new honorees will bring to 52 the number now in

the UT Hall of Honor. In the past, only four members have been inducted annually since the Hall was begun in 1957. This year the Hall of Honor Court also named three early-day greats — two of who earned their fame before the turn of the 20th century.

Oldtimers to be honored are Walter W. Fisher, a three-sport performer of the 1890s; James H. Hart, who earned four football letters at three positions in the '90s; and Charles I. Francis, a three-year baseball star for Billy Disch's 1912-15 Longhorns.

The four modern-day

inductees are the late Blair Cherry, who coached the Longhorn footballers in the late 1940s; H. C. "Bully" Gilstrap, a great all-around athlete of the early 1920s and still a prominent face at the University; Dexter Shelley, one of Texas' all-time great football backs who played on SWC championship teams in 1928 and 1930; and Dr. Sandy Esquivel, basketball and track star of the mid-1920s.

Shelley, a triple-threat player, becomes the fourth member of the 1930 Texas Longhorn backfield to be so honored. Previously Bull Elkins, Ernie Roy and Harrison Stafford were

honored.

All of the 1968 inductees are living with the exception of Cherry, who died in 1966 after a later career as an oil executive. It was Cherry who installed the T-formation to the Bobby Layne-led Longhorns. He guided the Longhorns to national grid prominence and three bowl games, his teams posting a 18-5-1 record.

Gilstrap, who served as a coach in the UT athletic department for 20 years, is now a physical training instructor at the University. Esquivel is now an outstanding orthopedic surgeon in Austin.

University of Texas' Hall of Honor: Athletic Greats Honored Tonight. The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); 27 Nov 1968: 15.

Sickness Stymies Bully

H. C. (Bully) Gilstrap, one of the more colorful figures in University of Texas athletic circles for nearly four decades, has whipped the hospital league—but a few days too late.

Gilstrap, now a member of the UT physical education staff, was one of six men singled out for special honors at the 39th annual Texas Relays last weekend, in recognition of his services as Clerk of the Course for more than a quarter century. But a bout with ulcers the week of the meet put the ebullient Gilstrap in the hospital and he had to miss the ceremonies.

Gilstrap was released from the hospital this week, however, and is currently resting at his farm. He may resume his duties with the UT physical education department some time next week.

A star athlete at Granger

High School just after World War I, Gilstrap starred in football, basketball and track at Texas, then coached at Electra High School and at Schreiner Institute in Kerrville before returning to Texas in 1937 as an assistant under coach D. X. Bible. He became a PE instructor in 1957.

Gilstrap is an accomplished raconteur and was one of the Longhorns' most effective recruiters during the eras of D. X. Bible (1937-46), Blair Cherry (1947-50) and Ed Price (1951-56).

Aggie Rivalry Old Stuff For Gilstrap

The game Texas exes like best to win is still the A&M game—and the ex who likes to win it best is H. C. "Bully" Gilstrap, Longhorn end coach.

Gilstrap participated in three historic Texas-A&M battles. One was the 1922 game in which A&M defeated Texas here for the last time to date.

The next year, 1923, Gilstrap and his mates earned sweet revenge by winning a muddy battle at College Station 6-0. That was Texas' first victory on Kyle Field.

Third Occasion

The third history-making occasion Gilstrap participated in as coach instead of player. That was the 1941 victory, 23-0, which was the second Texas win on Kyle Field.

Shouldered with unexpected responsibilities because of the sudden illness of Head Coach Blair Cherry, Second-in-Command Gilstrap has a chance to make more history next Thursday. He might participate in Texas' first Kyle Field victory when its head coach wasn't present.

Cherry in Hospital

Cherry is recovering from an appendectomy at St. David's Hospital but isn't expected to get closer to the A&M-Texas game than the bedside radio.

In his absence Gilstrap is taking over various administrative and coaching duties in addition to the detail work he is ordinarily responsible for, while Line Coach Ed Price becomes primarily responsible for defensive assignments and Backfield Coach Eck Curtis for offensive assignments. Athletic Director D. X. Bible also is lending a hand with off-field preparations for the annual Thanksgiving classic.

Misses Out on Honors: Sickness Stymies Bully. The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); 08 Apr 1966: 28.

Aggie Rivalry Old Stuff For Gilstrap. The Austin American (1914-1973); 23 Nov 1947: 17.

Gilstrap Succeeds Jack Gray As Texas Basketball Mentor

Shift Made Good For Duration

Gray to Leave
Shortly for Duty
At Corpus Christi
Navy Air Base

Howard C. (Bully) Gilstrap was the University of Texas' new cage mentor, replacing Jack Gray for the duration, following the action of the University of Texas Athletic council Thursday night.

Gray, a lieutenant junior grade in the navy, is in town for a short leave before he proceeds to the Corpus Christi Naval air base to take up his duties as a physical training instructor.

Broad Hints

Gray has been conferring with members of the coaching staff and athletic council on choice of a successor and it had been hinted broadly for the past several days that one of the present coaching staff would take over Gray's duties for the duration.

Speculation had centered on Gilstrap as he was the most logical choice for mentor of the members of the present athletic staff.

Speculation and rumors were borne out by the action of the athletic council.



Former Basketball Coach Jack Gray, now a lieutenant junior grade in the navy, hands his lucky basketball to Bully Gilstrap of the

Longhorn coaching staff who will replace Gray as varsity cage mentor for the duration.

Well-Experienced

Gilstrap, who has turned in top-notch work as the Longhorns' football line coach and assistant to Dana X. Bible, is well experienced as a basketball mentor and all-round coach due to his duties when he was at Schreiner institute.

Gilstrap, one of the University of Texas' outstanding athletes in earlier years, was a member of the famed Longhorn football team of 1923 which defeated A.&M. at College Station. This fact was used as a rallying point for the great Longhorn team of 1941 which also shattered tradition by licking the Aggies on their home grounds.

Gilstrap Succeeds Jack Gray As Texas Basketball Mentor. The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); 22 May 1942: 13.

Permits

H. C. Gilstrap 1409 Crestwood Road

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D

Delwood #1

Masonry residence with garage attached

33559 4-16-47

\$12,000.00

Arnn Bros. Conc. Co.

Building Permit - 1947