

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION**  
**DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS**  
**MAY 1, 2024**  
**PR-2024-038253; GF-2024-044081**  
**803 RIVER ROAD**

## **PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1970 house.

## **ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story Mid-century Modern house with a unique hexagonal plan and projecting symmetrical wings. It is clad with rustic stone and vertical wood siding with applied geometric ornamentation at the gable ends. Associated outbuildings appear to have been constructed after 1997.

## **RESEARCH**

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The house at 803 River Road was built in 1970. Its earliest occupants were Ann L. Sanford and her family. Ann L. Sanford was a social worker, Assistant to the Editor of *Contemporary Psychology*, a journal of book reviews, and Managing Editor of six more psychology journals at the time of her death in 1976.<sup>1</sup> Sanford's late husband, Fillmore H. Sanford, was the Executive officer of the American Psychological Association and Chairman of the University of Texas Psychology Department until he died in 1967.<sup>2</sup> At least two of the Sanfords' seven children, Dr. Sarah Ann Conn and Robert Sanford, also worked in the field of psychology.<sup>3</sup>

## **PROPERTY EVALUATION**

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### *Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark*

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain high integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). Staff has evaluated the property and determined that it may meet two criteria for landmark designation:
  - a. Architecture. The building is a unique example of late Mid-century Modern design with an uncommon plan designed to make the most of the site's topography and river view.
  - b. Historical association. The property is associated with social worker and journal editor Ann L. Sanford. The home was completed only six years before Sanford's death, but it appears to have remained in the family until 1984 per deed records.
  - 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 was not evaluated for its ability to convey a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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If the Commission feels that Sanford's residence at the property was of sufficient length to establish significance, consider initiation of historic zoning. If not, strongly encourage adaptive reuse, but release the demolition permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package.

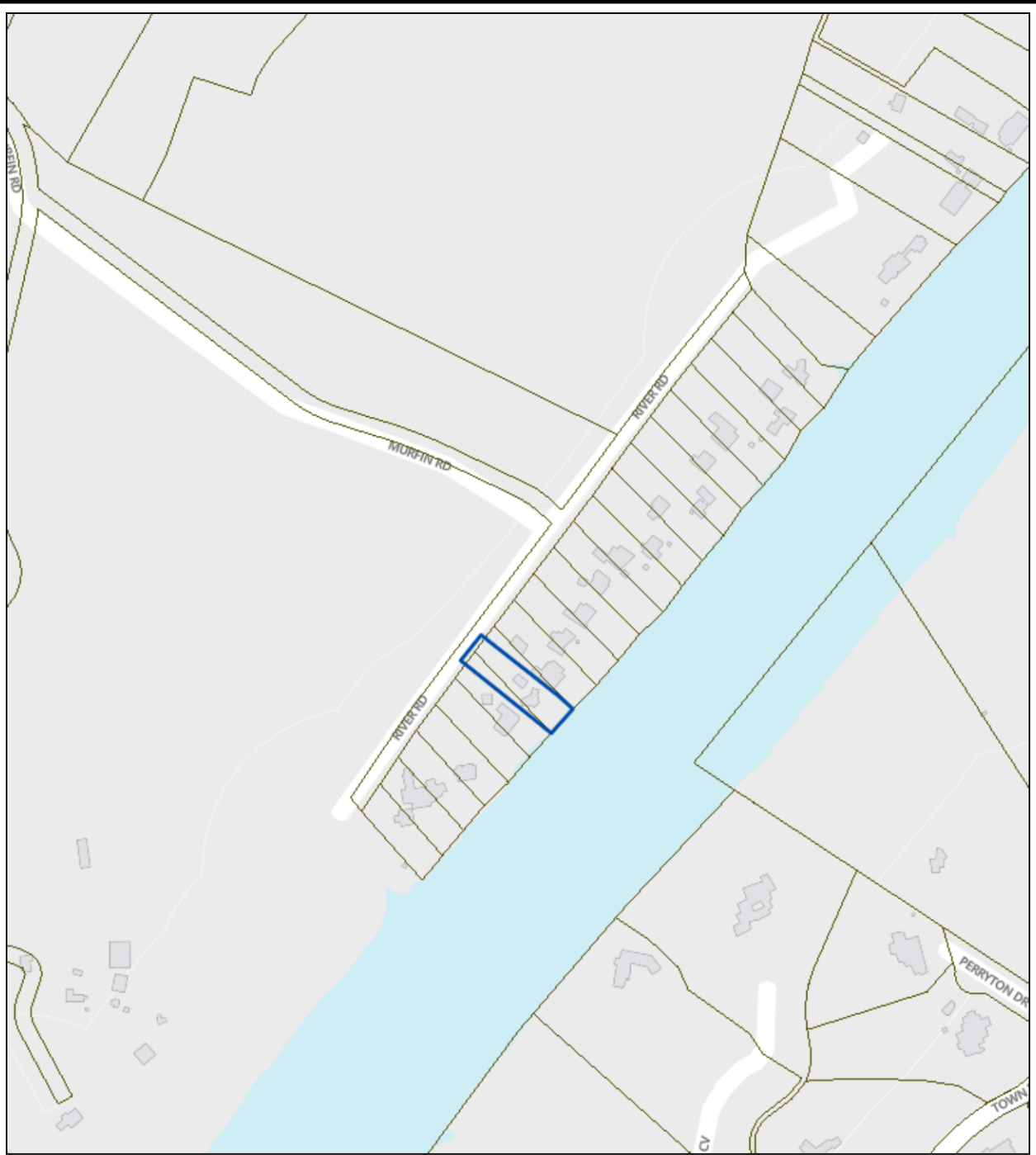
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<sup>1</sup> Dewsbury, Donald A. 1996. "History Of the Psychonomic Society II: The Journal Publishing Program." *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review* 3 (3): 322–38. <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.3758/BF03210756.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 06 Aug 1967: A1.

<sup>3</sup> Dewsbury, 1996; The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 25 Apr 1971: E3.

# LOCATION MAP



Lot Lines  
Lot Line

**GF 24-044081**  
803 RIVER ROAD



4/12/2024

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**PROPERTY INFORMATION***Photos*





*Demolition permit application, 2024*



*Historical Information**1984 aerial photograph***Deed History**

Deed Date	Type	Description	Grantor/Seller	Grantee/Buyer	Book ID	Volume	Page	Instrument
2021-03-01	SW	SPECIAL WARRANTY DEED	BOERNE BASEBALL GROUP LLC	BALDWIN KENNETH W &				2021054991
2021-02-01	WD	WARRANTY DEED	DAVIS CHARLES S &	BOERNE BASEBALL GROUP LLC				2021022578
2006-06-30	WD	WARRANTY DEED	DAVIS CHARLES S & SANDRA A MAC	DAVIS CHARLES S &				2006131049TR
1997-12-29	QD	QUIT CLAIM DEED	DAVIS JOE & LOIS	DAVIS CHARLES S & SANDRA A MAC		13143	01107	
1992-02-28	WD	WARRANTY DEED	SANFORD MARGARET T ETAL	DAVIS JOE & LOIS		11636	01096	
1984-06-11	WD	WARRANTY DEED		SANFORD MARGARET T ETAL		08662	00891	
1984-06-11	WD	WARRANTY DEED	SANFORD ANN L EST			08662	00891	

*TCAD ownership summary*

# UT Professor Dies In Local Hospital

Dr. Fillmore H. Sanford, 53, professor of psychology at the University of Texas, died early Saturday at a local hospital.

Dr. Sanford had been professor at UT since 1957. A social psychologist and former president of the Southwestern Psychological Association, he was editor of "Contemporary Psychology," one of the major scientific journals in his field.

Dr. Sanford received an AB degree from the University of Richmond and an AM and PhD from Harvard. While at the University of Richmond, Dr. Sanford participated in football, baseball, basketball and track and was given an honorable mention in the All American football ratings.

He was honored in 1962 by the New York Society of Clinical Psychologists for outstanding contributions to the advancement of clinical psychology as a science and a profession. He received a similar honor from the Los Angeles Society of Clinical Psychologists during the same year.

Dr. Sanford also taught at the University of Maryland, Haverford College, New College, and Macalester College. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Funeral is pending at Weed-

Corley Funeral Home.

Surviving Sanford are his wife, Ann Sanford of 1706 Summit View; sons, Thomas Sanford, John Sanford, David Sanford and Robert Sanford of Austin; daughters, Sarah Ann Sanford, Margaret Taylor Sanford and Mary Lawrence Sanford, Austin; brothers, Jack Sanford, Wilson, N.C.; Nevitt Sanford, Berkeley, Calif.; and Kerfoot Sanford of Luray, Va.; and a sister, Mrs. H. C. Turner, Axton, Va.



**FILLMORE SANFORD**  
UT Prof. dies Saturday

## DR. FILLMORE H. SANFORD

Memorial services for Dr. Fillmore H. Sanford, 53, University of Texas psychology professor and former head of the University's psychology department, will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home. Dr. Stephen Bindman will officiate.

Dr. Sanford died early Saturday at a local hospital. He served as executive secretary of the American Psychological Society from 1950-1960 and was assistant director in charge of scientific research for the US Joint Commission on Mental Illness and Health from 1956-1957.

Survivors are his widow, Mrs. Ann Sanford, 1706 Summit View; four sons, Thomas Sanford, John Sanford, David Sanford, and Robert Sanford of Austin; three daughters, Sarah Ann Sanford, Margaret Taylor Sanford, and Mary Lawrence Sanford of Austin; three brothers, Jack Sanford, Wilson, N.C., Nevitt Sanford of Berkeley, Calif., and Kerfoot Sanford of Luray, Va., and a sister, Mrs. H. C. Turner of Axton, Va.

MRS. AMANDA T. NELSON

*The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 07 Aug 1967: 22.*

*The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 06 Aug 1967: A1.*

**ANN L. SANFORD**

Ann L. Sanford, 58, of Hudson Bend on Lake Austin and a longtime resident of 6 Summit View, Austin, died early Sunday morning of a heart ailment. She was the widow of the late Fillmore H. Sanford, formerly Executive Officer of the American Psychological Association and Chairman of the Department of Psychology, University of Texas, Austin. A graduate of Radcliffe College (Harvard University) she first served as a Social Worker, then as housewife and mother, and later as Assistant to the Editor of a journal of book reviews in psychology, *Contemporary Psychology*. At the time of her death she was Managing Editor of six journals in the field of psychology. She is survived by an aunt, Edith L. Libby of Austin, a sister, Jean S. Morgan of Honolulu, seven children and one grandchild. The seven children are Sarah Conn of Boston, Margaret Sanford of Mass., Mary Kinney of Houston, Thomas Stanford of San Antonio, David Sanford, John Sanford, and Robert Sanford all of Austin. A Memorial Service will be held at the Weed-Corley Chapel at 3:30 P.M. Wednesday, February 4th.

**SANFORD-CONN**

Mrs. Ann L. Sanford of Rt. 8, Lake Austin, announces the engagement of her daughter, Sarah Ann, to Lane K. Conn. A July 3 wedding is planned. The bride-elect, also the daughter of the late Professor Fillmore H. Sanford, graduated from Austin High School and Smith College. She received a master's from Syracuse University and a Ph.D. from Harvard. She is employed as a psychological counselor at the Human Resources Bureau in Cambridge. Her fiancé received his B.A. from Pennsylvania State University and his master's and Ph.D. from Ohio State University. He has taught at Harvard and is now associate professor of clinical psychology at Northeastern University in Boston.

**Ann Sanford  
services set**

Memorial services for Ann L. Sanford, longtime Austin resident and managing editor of six psychology journals, will be at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at Weed-Corley Funeral Home.

Mrs. Sanford, 58, of Hudson Bend on Lake Austin, died Sunday of a heart ailment. She was the widow of the late Fillmore H. Sanford, formerly executive officer of the American Psychological Association and chairman of the Department of Psychology at the University of Texas.

Mrs. Sanford worked as a social worker and later as assistant to the editor of a journal of book reviews in psychology.

*The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 25 Apr 1971: E3.

*The Austin American - Statesman* (1973-1980), Evening ed.; Austin, Tex.. 04 Feb 1976: 51.

*The Austin American - Statesman* (1973-1980), Evening ed.; Austin, Tex.. 03 Feb 1976: 8.

The Governing Board of the Psychonomic Society regrets to announce the deaths of Ann L. Sanford on February 1, 1976, and Clifford T. Morgan on February 12, 1976. Ann Sanford was Managing Editor of all the journals of the Psychonomic Society. Clifford T. Morgan was Director of Publications for the Psychonomic Society. The loss to the Society is tragic. The Governing Board of the Psychonomic Society has made arrangements to guarantee continued publication for the immediate future and is developing plans for the longer term.



### Clifford T. Morgan, Publisher

Clifford T. Morgan (1915–1976) had had an interesting career (Garner, 1976; Melton, 1976). A 1937 University of Rochester PhD, he had served on the faculties at Harvard University and the Johns Hopkins University, where he became chair. Morgan resigned as chair in 1956. According to Garner, Morgan was a very well-organized man, with a low tolerance for inefficient systems and people who were not well organized. This could cause problems in a university administrative situation. While he had been at Johns Hopkins, the writing of textbooks had become Morgan's primary endeavor. He had already written the successful *Physiological Psychology* in 1943, and his new *Introduction to Psychology* was a huge success. The book "made Cliff independently wealthy. Never again was Cliff to be dependent on a university for his salary" (Garner, 1976, p. 412). He resigned his professorship, accepting the courtesy title of Fellow of the University in 1957, and "so Cliff became a free-roaming scientist, able to live and work where he wanted, with no problems of conflict about administrative work" (Garner, 1976, p. 412). He was no longer a researcher and professor, but a writer.

Morgan moved to Madison, Wisconsin, in 1959, Santa Barbara, California, in 1962, and Austin, Texas, in 1967. The last move was made, in part, to be with the family of his brother-in-law, Texas psychologist Fillmore H. San-

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ford, upon Sanford's death on August 6, 1967 ("Dr. Fillmore Sanford," 1967). At the University of Wisconsin, University of California, Santa Barbara, and University of Texas, Morgan participated in many faculty activities, giving courses and serving on students' committees, but avoiding administration.

With his experience as a consulting editor for publishers, a textbook author, a member of the APA's Publications Board, as editor of the *Psychological Abstracts*, Morgan had learned much about the publishing business.

### The Move to Austin

When Fillmore Sanford died on August 6, 1967, Clifford and Jean Morgan went immediately to Austin to be with Ann Sanford. When they returned to Goleta, they informed those in California that they had decided to move to Austin, in part to help Ann. Also, Morgan seemed concerned about the effects of the California lifestyle on his children (M. Morgan, 1995). When they moved from California, the journal production operation, including typesetting, proofreading, and pasteup, was left in California with Anne Dossett. The business end and some of the editorial work moved to Austin.

Although coordination of the operation between Austin and California worked fairly well, the process was more difficult than when all were together. On one visit to California, Morgan suggested to Dossett the possibility that she might move to Austin so that the whole operation could be unified once more, and in 1970 the publication operation was reunified, now in Austin.

In 1968 Morgan hired Sharon Tarver, who had been Fillmore Sanford's secretary and had experience working at *Contemporary Psychology*, to work for the Psychonomic Society. In 1969, he added Ann Sanford as Managing Editor. In 1974, Morgan would hire C. E. Wheelless, who had experience printing for the city of Austin, as his first professional printer. He succeeded various Morgans and Sanfords who had done much of the printing. Wheelless would remain on the staff until the end of 1993, providing stability and professional reliability for this important aspect of the journal operation (see End of an Era, 1993).

On February 12, 1976, Clifford T. Morgan, age 60, died suddenly of a heart attack. This precipitated a crisis for the journal program that was greatly exacerbated by the tragic fact that the Managing Editor, his good friend Ann Sanford, had died just 11 days earlier, on February 1. No one was prepared for the loss of the two people most knowledgeable about the publishing operation within so short a time. Even the ledger, which Morgan routinely took home, was missing.

In the day and a half following the memorial services for Morgan in Austin, there was an emergency meeting of members of the Publications Committee, joined by Melton, Thompson, and Janet Spence, chaired by Gregory Kimble (Spence, 1976). Consistent with Morgan's plan, two of his staff, Sharon Tarver and Anne Dossett, were appointed as Managing Editors. Melton, who had

Psychonomic Journals Inc. was incorporated in the State of Texas on August 6, 1968, the incorporators being Morgan, Ann L. Sanford, and Gardner Lindzey; it assumed operation of the journals on October 1. Thus, the Society actually published the journals from January 1 through the end of September 1968. The assets donated by Morgan remained with the Society while the tax-exempt status of Psychonomic Journals was established. A set of bylaws was constructed. The original Board of Directors comprised William J. McGill, Charles N. Cofer, Arthur W. Melton, Richard F. Thompson, Richard J. Herrnstein, Richard C. Atkinson, and Clifford T. Morgan.

Part of the key to the successful operation of the Publications Office has been a line of very fine employees, most of whom cannot be mentioned. Surely, Anne Dossett and C. E. Wheelless were pivotal (End of an Era, 1993). Ellen Woodard, who had shepherded the office through some difficult times, resigned in 1995. She was replaced by Robert (Rob) Sanford, son of Fillmore and Ann Sanford.

The production of journals is done entirely in the Austin offices. These offices have been moved on several occasions. At its November 1986 meeting, the Publications Committee recommended to the Governing Board the purchase of its own property. The 3-year-old building at 1710 Fortview Road had over 5,000 square feet of space in an area zoned for commercial use. On March 16, 1987, the Board of Directors authorized purchase of the building at a price of \$235,000. The staff now had an adequate facility in which to work more efficiently and more comfortably.