

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 22, 2012  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2012-0306  
1512 FOREST TRAIL**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1938 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, irregular-plan, side-gabled stone-veneered frame house with minimal Colonial Revival styling; the house has a central, projecting front gabled 2-bay section with a partial-width inset porch to the right; 6:6 fenestration.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house was built in 1938-39 by Thomas H. Henderson, who never lived in the house. The first owners and occupants of the house were George W. and Maude F. Cox, who had moved here from Del Rio, Texas for Dr. Cox' position as State Public Health Officer. Both George and Maude French Cox spent their early lives in Corpus Christi, Texas, where George had his own medical office. By 1920, according to the U.S. census report, they were living in Crockett County, Texas, where George was a physician. He was practicing medicine in Del Rio in the 1930s, and moved to Austin in the late 1930s. He and Maude lived in this house from the time of its construction until around 1956; city directories for the 1950s show that he was not listed as the State Public Health Officer after 1952 – the 1954 city directory showed that he had a medical office in this house, and the 1955 directory shows him as a physician with the State Health Office, rather than as the State Health Officer, which had been his title in the city directories through the 1940s. It is believed that George Cox died in Galveston County in 1955; there was no obituary for him in the Austin newspapers, and his son, George F. Cox, is a physician in Texas City, Galveston County. There is no known record of Maude Cox's passing.

By 1956, the house had been purchased by John G. ("Johnny") Jones, the founder of the Whitley Printing Company. Jones had been born in Hubbard, Hill County, Texas, the son of a grocery store owner. He attended Baylor University, and later moved to Austin, where he worked for Curry Office Products. In 1950, he and Rex Bodoin founded the Whitley Printing Company, then at 704 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. That facility was destroyed by fire in 1968, and Jones moved the company to its present location at 301 Brazos Street. Johnny and Wilma Jones lived in this house from around 1956 until very recently. Johnny Jones died in Austin in 2001.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is not listed in any city survey.

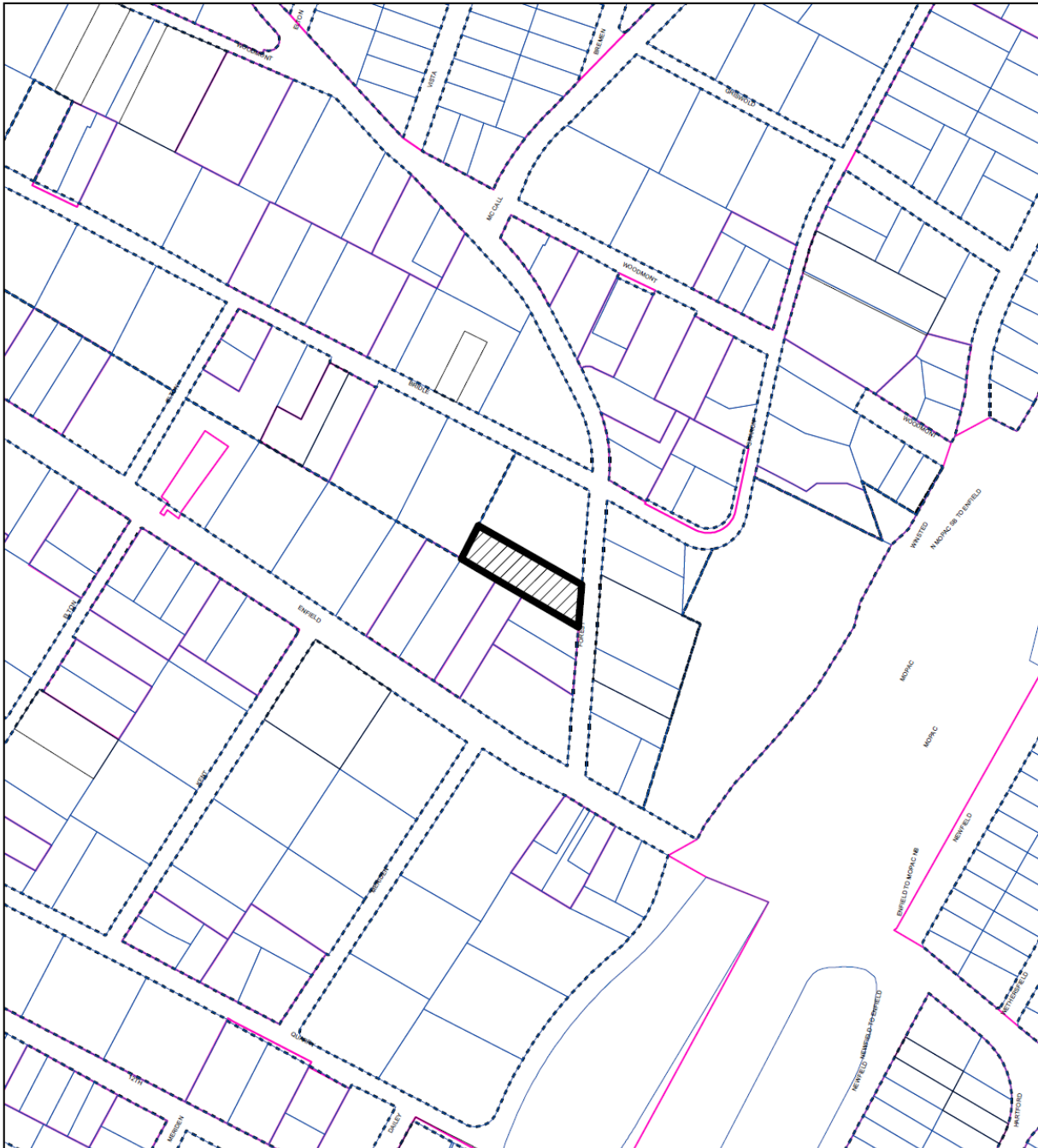
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Release the demolition permit upon the completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center.

## LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2012-0306  
LOCATION: 1512 Forest Trail



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 and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by the Planning and Development Review Department for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

1512 Forest Trail  
ca. 1938



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
1512 Forest Trail

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
October, 2012

1992	John G. and Wilma R. Jones, owners Chairman of the Board, The Whitley Company, printers, 301 Brazos Street.
1985-86	John G. and Wilma R. Jones, owners Chairman of the Board, The Whitley Company, printers, 301 Brazos Street.
1981	John G. and Wilma R. Jones, owners President, The Whitley Company, printers, 301 Brazos Street.
1977	John G. and Wilma R. Jones, owners President, The Whitley Company, printers, 301 Brazos Street.
1973	John G. and Wilma R. Jones, owners President, The Whitley Company, printers, 301 Brazos Street.
1968	John G. and Wilma R. Jones, owners

President, The Whitley Company, printers, 301 Brazos Street.

- 1962 Johnny and Wilma R. Jones, owners  
Manager, Whitley Printing Company, 704 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1957 John G. and Wilma R. Jones, owners  
Proprietor (with Rex Bodoïn), Whitley Printing Company, 704 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
NOTE: The main section of the directory shows John G. and Wilma Jones living at 1606 Wethersfield Road.  
NOTE: George W. and Maude Cox are not listed in the directory.
- 1955 George W. and Maude Cox, owners  
Physician, State Health Office
- 1954 George W. and Maude Cox, owners  
Physician (office at the house)
- 1952 George W. and Maude Cox, owners  
Health officer, State Department of Health
- 1949 George W. and Maude F. Cox, owners  
State Health Officer
- 1947 George W. and Maude F. Cox, owners  
State Health Officer
- 1944-45 George W. and Maude F. Cox, owners  
State Health Officer
- 1941 George W. and Maude F. Cox, owners  
State Health Officers
- 1939 The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: George W. and Maude F. Cox are listed as living at 2200 Parkway. He was the State Health Officer.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

GEORGE W. and MAUDE F. COX (ca. 1940 – ca. 1956)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows George W. and Maude Cox at this address. They owned the house, which was worth \$6,000. Both were 60 years old, both had been born in Texas, but had been living in Del Rio in 1935. Dr. Cox was listed as the chief of the State Health Department. They had no children living with them. The 1930 U.S. Census shows the family living in Del Rio, with their son, George F. Cox. Dr. Cox was a physician in general practice. According to the 1920 census, the family was living in Crockett County, Texas, where Dr. Cox was a physician. In 1910, George and Maud Cox were living in Corpus Christi, where George was a doctor with his own office. In 1900, Maud and her mother, Maggie French, were boarders in the home of James Rankin, a carpenter in Corpus Christi.

**Texas 1943-1957.** The State Health Department had been located on the east end of the third floor in the Austin Capitol Building since 1903. In 1933, it was moved to the Land Office Building at Eleventh and Brazos. In 1943, while Dr. George W. Cox was State Health Officer, a new health department building was erected, adjoining the Laboratory building at Fifth and Trinity. In 1945, an additional story was constructed, giving the health department four stories of space and the Laboratory three. The crowded conditions of the Laboratory were greatly relieved. Safer quarters were



provided where risk of laboratory-acquired infections could be minimized and where contamination of vaccines and other manufactured biologicals was less likely. The neighboring small buildings, which had grown up over the years, continued to be devoted mainly to Laboratory services. One large two-story building was rented for a warehouse and shipping department at 303 East 5th Street. Later, while Dr. Henry Holle was State Health Officer, additional space was rented nearby with the expansion of activities

From The Laboratarians, Texas Department of State Health Services, July, 2011.

JOHN G. and WILMA JONES (ca. 1956 - )

The 1930 U.S. Census shows John G. Jones as the 12-year old son of Prince Rupert and Alice Jones, of Hubbard, Texas. Prince Rupert Jones was a grocery store merchant in Hubbard.



**John Graham "Johnny" Jones**

John Graham "Johnny" Jones, founder and Chairman of the board of The Whitley Company, was the only son of Prince Rupert Jones and Nora Alice Graham. He was born in Hubbard, Texas on February 3, 1918, and returned to the Lord on Thursday, November 29, 2001, after a short but valiant fight with cancer.

Johnny graduated from Hubbard High School in 1935, and attended Baylor University. While at Baylor, he majored in Advertising and Journalism and was Advertising and Circulation Manager for Baylor Publications. It was during his time at Baylor that he met Wilma Marie Richter and they were married April 13, 1941.

Johnny served in the Army during World War II as a Chief Warrant Officer. After the war, Johnny and Wilma moved from Waco to Austin where Johnny managed the Austin office of Curry Office Supply. In 1950, he founded The Whitley Printing Company. The Austin Jaycees proclaimed Johnny "Boss of the Year" in 1970, citing his strength and caring in making sure that not one of his employees lost an hour of work after a devastating fire destroyed the entire physical plant of The Whitley Company in the summer of 1968.

Johnny served his community through participation in many civic and business organizations, including Austin Litho Club, Chamber of Commerce, Austin Ad Club, Sales and Marketing Executives and Printing Industry of America.

A member of First Baptist Church for over fifty years, Johnny served the church in many positions over the years. He served several terms on the deacon board and was Chairman of the Board of Deacons, Chairman of the Planning Commission and many other committees. He was a greeter at the front door of the church continuously from the early 1950's until the onset of his final illness.

Second only to his devotion to his church was Johnny's dedication to Christian Education and he served for many years on the Baylor University Development Council. In 1981, the Senior Class of Baylor honored him with the Herbert H. Reynolds Award. In 1992, Johnny was designated by Baylor as an Alumnus Honoris Causa. He was elected a Charter Member of The President's Club of Baylor in 1996. In 1999, the George W. Truett Theological Seminary recognized him as a member of the Dean's List of the George W. Truett Society for his contributions to the life of the seminary. In January of this year, Johnny and Wilma were honored in being designated as "Founders" by Baylor University, only the fifth time this honor has been bestowed in the University's existence.

Johnny was preceded in death by his parents; and sisters, Eugenia Elizabeth Jones, Rubye Jones Earl and Alys Jones Bodoin.

He is survived by his wife, Wilma; son and daughter-in-law, Ron and Jenny Jones of Blue, Texas; and his daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Lewis Jones of Buda, Texas. Also surviving are grandchildren, Matt Jones and wife, Melodee of Austin, Texas, Stephanie Jones Dent and husband, Elliott of Memphis, Tennessee, John Small of Austin, Jenner, Jace and Carsen Jones of Blue and Drew Small and wife, Dora; and a step-great-grandson, Garrett Small.

Sincere gratitude is expressed to Dr. Scott Ream, Nurse Evelyn, home health care worker, Mary Alice Cortez and all the Hospice Austin nurses who helped during Johnny's illness. Thank you to friends, family and our extended Baylor family who brightened his last days with your cards, calls and visits. Thank you, Browning Ware, for your love and care, and for "home church" on Sundays.

The family will be receiving family and friends at Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 2nd.

Services will be held at First Baptist Church, 9th and Trinity, at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, December 3, 2001. Private burial will be in the cemetery on the family ranch in Blue, Texas.

Pallbearers are Jack Goodman, Jay Barnes, Norman Higgins, Tom Stanton, Kelly Puckett, Clyde Augustus, Bob Bordin and Bart Hotchkiss.

For those preferring charitable giving in lieu of flowers, please make contributions to The Whitley Charitable Foundation, P O Box 1564, Austin, TX 78767

Arrangements by Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home, 3125 N. Lamar, Austin, TX 78706 (512) 452-8811

Obituary of John G. Jones  
Austin American-Statesman,  
December 1, 2001

Thomas H. Henderson

1512 Forest Tr.  
So. 100' of  
23

Westfield

Stone veneer residence & box garage

245n - 10/19/38

7

Building permit to Thomas H. Henderson for the construction of the house (1938)

OWNER Johnny Jones ADDRESS 1512 Forest <sup>Trail</sup> ~~Terrace~~  
 PLAT 154 LOT S. 100' of 23 BLK   
 SUBDIVISION Westfield A  
 OCCUPANCY Dining-dressing  
 BLD PERMIT # 95092 DATE 3-9-65 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$2500.  
 CONTRACTOR A. W. Bryant NO. OF FIXTURES   
 WATER TAP REC # X SEWER TAP REC # X  
Remodel residence  
 # 142603 Johnny Jones Frm. Addn. to Exist. Res. & Remodel  
 230 Sq. Ft. 5,000.00

Building permit to Johnny Jones for remodeling the house (1965) and for a frame addition (undated)

OWNER Johnny Jones ADDRESS 1512 Forest Trail  
 PLAT 154 LOT S. 100' of 23 BLK   
 SUBDIVISION West field A  
 OCCUPANCY bath house and whirl pool  
 BLDG. PERMIT # 184629 DATE 8-9-79 OWNERS ESTIMATE 21,800.00  
 CONTRACTOR Gilmer Const Inc NO. OF FIXTURES   
 WATER TAP REC# wexisting SEWER TAP REC#   
Addn to exist res. 289 Sq ft

Building permit to Johnny Jones for the construction of a bath house and whirlpool (1979)