

January 24, 2018

Ms. Mary Jo Galindo and Historic Landmark Commissioners
City of Austin
PO Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-8865

RE: Red-Purcell House, 210 Academy

Dear Chair Galindo and Commissioners:

I am writing in support of the plans for rehabilitation of, and rear addition to, 210 Academy Avenue known as the Red-Purcell House. Nearly two years ago I was approached by the current owner, Colin Corgan, to represent him as his real estate agent in the purchase of 210 Academy, which had been on and off the market since 2013. After more than a year of negotiations he was successful in closing on the property and became the new steward of the property.

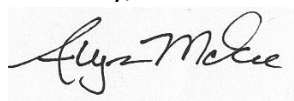
While working in the City's Historic Preservation Program from 2011-2014, I spoke to the previous owner a number of times about possible uses for the property, as well as a number of developers interested in purchasing it for development of condos or multiple single-family homes on the large parcel. None of those plans for redevelopment were ultimately feasible, and all would have significantly impacted the overall property, even if the house itself was rehabilitated in the process.

The difference between Mr. Corgan's vision and those of those others is he wanted to purchase the home for his primary residence. From the beginning of his efforts he understood the significance of the property, and the benefits and responsibilities of it being a City of Austin Landmark. He sought the advice of Ken Johnson, an experienced preservation architect, regarding the restoration needs, and to design a sensitive addition. He has also consulted with arborists to ensure the long-term health of the many large live oaks, delved deeply into the history of the property and surrounding neighborhood, and met with the Historic Preservation Committee of the South River City Citizens (SRCC) Neighborhood Association to garner support from the neighborhood for his plans.

After standing vacant and untended for several years, the property will now see a new life under Mr. Corgan's stewardship, which will result in the rehabilitation of the house with a sensitively designed addition, as well as proper care of the grounds.

I respectfully request the Historical Landmark Commission approve the Certificate of Appropriateness as presented.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alyson McGee", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Alyson McGee
JBG Goodwin REALTORS®