

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
NOVEMBER 19, 2018  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2018-0576  
2104 TOWNES LANE

## PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1940 house.

## ARCHITECTURE

One-story, L-plan, stone-veneered frame house in an adaptation of the Colonial Revival style; partial-width inset porch on ornamental metal supports and rails; single 6:6 fenestration; three round-roofed dormer vents pierce the façade; side-gabled addition to the rear also has stone veneer.

## RESEARCH

The house was built in 1940 for Morris and Edna Lively, who lived here only a year or so. Morris Lively was an auditor. They sold the property around 1941 to Gordon A. Bailey and his wife, Josephine, who lived here for the rest of their lives. Gordon A. Bailey was a native of Travis County, but went to high school in Waco. Physical education and sports were always very important to him – he played in the Texas Baseball League, then got his degree in physical education from the University of Texas. He began working for the Austin public schools in 1938, in addition to working as a coach at the Austin Athletic Club. He served as a teacher, coach, and counselor at Zavala Elementary School, University Junior High School, and Allan Junior High School. He was appointed the principal of Zavala Elementary School in the late 1940s, then went on to become the principal of Allan Junior High School, and in 1960, he became the first principal of Johnston High School, a position he retained until his retirement in 1972. Bailey was beloved by his students and a major figure in public school education in Austin. Bailey Middle School in southwest Austin is named for him. After his retirement from the school system, Bailey went to work as a probation officer in Travis County, then as a court bailiff. His wife, Josephine Carlson Bailey, was active in physical education as well, and worked as the executive secretary for City Parks and Recreation Director Beverly Sheffield for almost 40 years.

## STAFF COMMENTS

The house is beyond the bounds of any City survey to date.

Staff has evaluated this house for designation as a historic landmark and has determined that the house may meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code:

- a. **Architecture.** The house is a stone-veneered adaptation of the Colonial Revival style, notable for its L-plan configuration, which is rare.
- b. **Historical association.** The house is significantly associated with Gordon A. Bailey, a leader in public school education in Austin, and the first principal of Johnston High School. Bailey was celebrated during his lifetime for his educational and civic work; Bailey Middle School is named for him.
- c. **Archaeology.** The house was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
- d. **Community value.** The house does not 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**




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Initiate a historic zoning case or postpone to December 17, 2018 to fully evaluate alternatives to demolition. This house appears to meet the criteria for historic zoning, especially for its associations with Gordon A. and Josephine Bailey.

## LOCATION MAP



1" = 166'

-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2018-0576  
LOCATION: 2104 Townes Lane

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 CTM for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



2104 Townes Lane  
ca. 1940



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
2104 Townes Lane

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
November, 2018

1992	Josephine C. Bailey, owner No occupation listed
1985-86	Gordon A. and Josephine C. Bailey, owners Bailiff, County Court at Law No. 1.
1981	Gordon A. and Josephine Bailey, owners Officer, County Adult Probation Office
1977	Gordon A. and Josephine C. Bailey, owners Probation officer, County Adult Probation Office
1973	Gordon A. and Josephine C. Bailey, owners Retired
1968	Gordon A. and Josephine C. Bailey, owners Gordon: Principal, Johnston High School Josephine: Administrative secretary, City Parks and Recreation Department
1965	Gordon A. and Josephine Bailey, owners Gordon: Principal, Johnston High School Josephine: Administrative secretary, City Parks and Recreation Department.

- 1962        Gordon A. and Josephine Bailey, owners  
Principal, Johnston High School
- 1959        Gordon A. and Josephine Bailey, owners  
Gordon:        Principal, public schools  
Josephine:     Administrative secretary, City Recreation Department
- 1955        Gordon A. and Josephine Bailey, owners  
Gordon:        Principal, Allan Junior High School  
Josephine:     Administrative secretary, City Recreation Department
- 1952        Gordon A. and Josephine Bailey, owners  
Gordon:        Principal, Zavala School  
Josephine:     Office secretary, City Recreation Department
- 1949        Gordon A. and Josephine C. Bailey, owners  
Gordon:        Principal, Zavala School  
Josephine:     Office secretary, City Recreation Department  
Also listed is Gordon A. Bailey, Jr., a student.
- 1947        Gordon A. and Josephine Bailey, owners  
Teacher, University Junior High School
- 1944-45     Gordon A. and Josephine C. Bailey, owners  
Teacher
- 1942        Gordon A. and Josephine Bailey, owners  
Gordon:        Teacher, public schools  
Josephine:     Secretary, City Recreation Department
- 1941        Morris A. and Edna Lively, owners  
Auditor  
NOTE: Gordon and Josephine Bailey are listed at 902 West Lynn Street. He was a public school teacher; she was the secretary to the director of the City Recreation Department.
- 1940        The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Morris and Edna Lively are listed at 4605 Harmon Avenue; he was an auditor.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

### **Gordon and Josephine Bailey (ca. 1941 – ca. 1995)**

Gordon and Josephine Bailey appear in the 1940 U.S. Census as the renters of the house at 902 West Lynn Street in Austin. Gordon Bailey was 31, had been born in Texas, and was the intramural director for the public schools. Josephine Bailey was 30, had been born in Texas, and was a secretary (stenographer) for the City Recreation Department.

Gordon Arthur Bailey married Josephine Carlson on December 31, 1928 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church.

The 1910 U.S. Census shows Gordon Bailey as the 1-year old son of Jesse and Ida Bailey of Justice Precinct 1 in Travis County. Gordon was their only child listed. Jesse Bailey was a 32-year old South Carolina-born farmer who rented his farm. Ida Bailey was 32, had been born in

Alabama, and had no occupation listed. The family had a boarder, Willie C. Brown, 18, who had been born in Texas to Virginia-born parents, and is listed as a farmer.

### **Gordon Bailey Leaves For Special Services School in Virginia**

Lt. Gordon "Lefty" Bailey, coach of the San Marcos AAF baseball team and physical training officer there, will leave Sunday for Lexington, Va., to attend the morale and special services school of the army service command at Washington and Lee university.

Lt. Bailey formerly was with the Austin recreation department and the city school system. He lives at 2104 Townes lane.

Gordon "Lefty" Bailey leaves for special services school  
Austin American-Statesman, September 3, 1944

**Most people have a hobby.**

**When we think of MRS. GORDON BAILEY, we are reminded of her salt and pepper collection, which over the years has prompted more than one friend to send her a gift from some vacation point.**

Note in the "Mainly About People" column about Josephine C. Bailey's salt and pepper shaker collection

Austin American-Statesman, May 16, 1954

# Principal's Portrait Unveiled

Traditionally each graduating class of Johnston High presents a gift to the school. This year's seniors have given as their gift an oil portrait of school Principal Gordon A. Bailey.

The portrait, which was presented to the school in a special unveiling ceremony, was painted by M. Antlone of Paris, France. The artist painted the portrait from a picture of Bailey in the high school year book.

In presenting the surprise gift senior class president Thomas Suniga said, "The Senior Class of 1967 wishes to leave something precious and permanent to the school. We feel this portrait of Mr. Bailey is a symbol of the esteem and pride that the students have for Mr. Bailey. He is the kind of man who gives of himself unselfishly to each of his students."

Bailey, a native of Austin and graduate of the University of Texas, has been principal at Johnston since its opening in 1960.

Prior to that he was principal at Allan Junior High for eight years. He has served as assistant principal of University Junior High, principal of Zavala Elementary School, counselor at UJH and Austin High and teacher at UJH and Zavala.

Bailey is married to the former Josephine Carlson, also a native of Austin. Mrs. Bailey is employed by the City in the Recreation Department.



American-Statesman/UPI  
**GORDON BAILEY, JOHNSTON PRINCIPAL**  
Oil portrait, gift of 1967 Senior Class

Story on the presentation of a portrait of Gordon Bailey by the Johnston High School senior class

Austin Statesman, May 29, 1967



# Builders To Hear Educator

Gordon Bailey, principal of Johnston High School, will be the principal speaker before the general membership of the Austin Association of Home Builders at its meeting Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., at the Country Club of Austin.

Bailey will discuss vocational training in public schools and ways in which the association can further its own Manpower and Training program.

AAHB, during the past spring, made its initial start toward interesting young people in the home and apartment construction industry as a vocation.

The project met with a moderate degree of success and a high degree of interest by AAHB members, school officials and the students.

L. A. Felder, newly installed president of AAHB has stated that his prime goal between now and next November 1 will be to firmly establish a funded and developed program for manpower development among high school graduates.

"The skilled trades in construction, today, offer far more opportunities for financial success and personal gratification than most people realize," Felder said. "There's a certain amount of enlightened self-interest in our project, but more than that many of our members are simply interested in trying to help young people find rewarding vocations.

Bailey, a native Austinite, has been with Austin's public school system for more than 33 years as an athletic coach, teacher and principal. He has an M.E. degree from the University of Texas at Austin and is a WWII Air Force veteran.

A second highlight of the evening will be the awarding of three trips to members as a conclusion to AAHB's year-long "Passport to Mexico" membership contest.

Story on Gordon Bailey's speech on the importance of vocational education to the Austin Association of Home Builders  
Austin American-Statesman, November 14, 1971



Staff Photo by Richard Creed

**DESPITE DESK FULL OF WORK, BAILEY FINDS TIME FOR STUDENTS**  
He'll still keep eye, ear on activities at Johnston

*Principal Bailey To Retire*

## **Johnston Students, Faculty Agree: 'We'll Miss Him'**

By JANE FRIES  
Staff Writer

"Tickets for the Red and Blue game are on sale in the office.

"ACT scores have come in.

"Remind your parents of the PTA meeting tonight, we've got a really good program planned.

"This concludes the afternoon announcements," says the warm, friendly voice over the Johnston High School loud speakers.

The voice, which has been heard for 12 years by hundreds of students each day, belongs to Gordon A. Bailey, principal.

Bailey, fondly called Austin's "Grand Old Man of Education", has made the announcements, signed thousands of papers, talked with faculty and students, and carried on the other numerous duties of a high school principal since Johnston High School was opened in 1960.

But this year, as the students clean out their lockers and prepare for summer vacation, there will be a slight change in the routine. Bailey will be cleaning out his office, saying his goodbyes, and looking forward to a change of pace. He is retiring after 34 years with the Austin Independent School District.

Bailey will officially retire on Aug. 31. He says he has mixed emotions about leaving, but the students, faculty, and Johnston High School exes seem to have only one feeling: "We'll miss him."

The students prepared a surprise tribute for Bailey last Wednesday. During a special assembly, they read original poems and letters written by students, presented Bailey with a plaque and heard selections from the choir and band.

"The students love him," a teacher said. "They planned the

presentations by themselves."

A tribute dinner for Bailey was held Saturday at the Villa Capri Restaurant. A "Gordon A. Bailey Scholarship Fund" was established and will be awarded to a "worthy senior who plans to continue his education."

In a release announcing the tribute dinner, the members of the high school's planning committee said, "Probably no one in the history of the Austin schools has done more than Gordon A. Bailey to help the young people of Austin achieve a quality education and get a 'fair shake' while doing so."

Bailey has watched Johnstor High School grow from 325 students in 1960 to 2,000 this year.

His first teaching job was in 1937 at Austin High School. He set up an intramural athletic program there.

In 1939, he taught the third grade at Zavala Elementary School. In 1940, he moved to University Junior High School as a physical education instructor and coach.

After serving in the Air Force, Bailey transferred to counselor. The following year, Austin High School as a he returned to University Junior High as coach. He served in 1948-49 as the school's first assistant principal.

From 1949 to 1953, Bailey served as principal of Zavala Elementary. Later he served as principal of Allan Junior High School before transferring to Johnston.

"Kids are a lot more sophisticated today," Bailey said. "They have more opportunity to be thinkers and doers.

"They haven't yet learned to take advice and determine whether it is good or bad," he said. "I don't know whether they ever will."

"People have such a great influence on their minds. They won't seek advice from several people. They don't weight both sides of a question."

Bailey's theory on discipline is that children should learn to consider that others are human too. "We have forgotten the Golden Rule. It would eliminate a lot of problems. Now it is 'Do unto me as I want you to'. Different politics doesn't mean that someone is your enemy," he said.

"At age 15 or 16, it is too late for discipline," he added.

He feels that Junior High is a "critical time" for students. "If they don't have a good background from the early grades, we have trouble," he said. "Grades nine and ten are the drop-out period. They become teens and think they are old enough to do what they want."

"Parents should visit schools more. They should come and see what's going on. They should sit with teachers and counselors to see just what happens in their offices each day. Very few people have any idea what is involved in school administration. We need parent suggestions."

When asked what he most enjoyed in his many years of working with students, Bailey said, "looking at successful young persons in this town who 25 years ago didn't have a chance."

"Almost every day, a former student comes in to give me an account of himself. They have come a long way. They realize that all that fussing wasn't too bad after all."

Gordon Bailey retires as principal of Johnston High School  
Austin American-Statesman, May 28, 1972



### **Gordon Arthur Bailey**

Gordon Arthur Bailey, former principal of the Albert Sidney Johnston High School, passed away on January 27, 1990, at the age of 80, in a local nursing home following several years of illness.

Born April 4, 1909, in Hunter's Bend, Texas, Bailey graduated from Waco High School in 1927. After playing baseball for one year at the University of Texas at Austin, he played professional baseball for four years with the Texas League, Cotton State League, and the Dixie League. He was inducted into the Central Texas Semi-Pro Baseball Hall of Fame.

Bailey re-entered the University of Texas in 1936 and in 1940, received a B.S. degree in physical education. He enlisted in the United States Air Force and after serving for four years, was honorably discharged as a First Lieutenant. In 1946, he was awarded a Masters Degree in Educational Administration from the University of Texas.

Gordon Bailey began his career in education in 1938 as a part-time employee of the Austin Independent School District. During his years with AISD, he served as a teacher, coach, counselor, assistant principal and principal on the junior high and high school levels. In 1960, he became the first principal of Johnston High School, where he was known to his students as "Papa" Bailey. He retired from the Austin Independent School District in 1972 and was a lifetime member of the National Education Association, Texas State Teachers Association, and the Austin Teachers Association.



In 1973, Bailey was employed by the Travis County Adult Probation Department as a probation officer. He retired in 1979 to accept a Bailiff's appointment in Travis County Court I, a position he held until April of 1989.

Bailey distinguished himself with his service to the youth of Austin. While in college he began working as a playground leader for Austin Parks and Recreation. Over the next 50 years, Bailey influenced tens of thousands of Austin's youth through his volunteer service to the Boys Club of America, the Jr. League Boys Baseball Program, Boy Scouts of America, the Montopolis and Pan American Community Centers, Boys and Girls UIL State Track meets, and the University of Texas football department, where he and the late Harvey Williams established the Knot Hole Section in Memorial Stadium. Bailey was a Southwest Conference football and basketball official for 26 years and served 50 years at the the Texas Relays.

As a result of his involvement in youth sports, he was inducted into the Austin Sports Hall of Honor.

Honored with numerous awards and proclamations for his outstanding service to his community, he received the Sertoma "Service to Mankind" award in 1968. Then, in 1969, Gordon Bailey and his wife became the first couple to receive the Rotary Club's prestigious "Community Service Award."

In 1972, Bailey received a Special Recognition Citation from the AISD, citing his faithful devotion to teaching and his influence for good will. He served as a temporary appointee to the AISD Board of Trustees from February 24 to April 26, 1982. On March 7, 1988, the Austin Independent School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously to name a new elementary school in East Austin "Gordon A. Bailey Elementary School."

Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Josephine Carlson Bailey; sister and brother-in-law, Mary Tom and Billy Priest; nieces, Emily Beall of Jacksonville, Texas, and Sue Priest of Dallas; nephews, Dr. Jimmie Reese and wife, Shirley of Jacksonville, Texas, Joseph Priest and wife, Jeannie of Dripping Springs, Texas, Patrick F. Reese and wife, Sandra of Burkburnett, Texas; great-nieces, Beth Reese of Austin and Allyson Beall of Jacksonville, Texas; and great nephews, Matt Reese of Jacksonville, Texas, Joel Reese of Burkburnett, Texas, Rob Beall, of Jacksonville.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jesse and Ida McCutcheon-Bailey-Kendall, and a sister, Emily Bailey Reese.

Services for Mr. Bailey will be held at 2:00 PM, Tuesday at Cook-Walden Funeral Home, 6100 North Lamar Blvd., with the Reverend Jimmie Reese and Pastor Karl A. Gronberg officiating. Interment will be in the Oakwood Cemetery Annex.

Pallbearers will be Augustine Garza, III, Leroy Fenstermaker, Bob L. McEachern, Randy McEachern, Jim Rust, Billy F. Priest, Gary Swening and Wayne Swening. Honorary pallbearers are Patrick Dunn, Preston Smith, employees of the Austin Independent School District, employees of the Travis County Courthouse, and friends at the University of Texas Athletic Department.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Albert Sidney Johnston High School, Gordon A. Bailey Scholarship Fund, Attention: Bookkeeper, 1112 Arthur Stiles Road, Austin, Texas 78721 or the Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Stained Glass Window Fund, 200 W. Anderson, Austin Texas 78752.

Arrangements by Cook-Walden Funeral Home, Lamar location.

Obituary of Gordon A. Bailey  
Austin American-Statesman, January 29, 1990



### **Josephine Carlson Bailey**

Josephine Carlson Bailey, lifetime resident of Austin, died peacefully on Saturday, February 25, 1995, at her home in West Austin. She was born August 25, 1909, to Robert Carlson and Mayme Carlson Berkman.

Mrs. Bailey was a 1928 graduate of Austin High School. She loved athletics and was a member of Austin's first Women's Volleyball, Softball and Baseball Leagues. In 1932, Mrs. Bailey joined the City of Austin Recreation Department and served as Administrative Secretary to Director Beverly Sheffield for almost 40 years.

In 1938, she married Gordon A. Bailey, who later became the principal of Johnston High School. Together they dedicated their lives to the service of others, particularly young people. The Rotary Club of Austin honored Mr. and Mrs. Bailey by choosing them as the first married couple to receive the Community Service Award for service "far in excess of their vocational responsibility through personal aid and public action in the interest of needy citizens."

Upon her retirement from the Parks and Recreation Department in 1971, the City Council of Austin passed a resolution stating, "...Mrs. Bailey set an example of dedication to duty which was to influence hundreds of young people who commenced their work careers as lifeguards and recreation leaders for this city..her efforts and interest in caring for the public needs and requests have been far beyond the line of duty..Mrs. Bailey is the epitome of Christian servant; always cheerful in her work, humble, self sacrificing, generous and full of love for those around her.."

Mrs. Bailey was a lifelong member of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. She served for many years as Chairman of the Altar Guild. Her devotion to the church was one of the most important aspects of her life.

Mrs. Bailey was preceded in death by her husband, Gordon.

She is survived by a sister, Dorrace Swening; brothers, Lambert Berkman and Lawrence Berkman; nieces, Gwen Bearden, Cheryl Swening and Latrelle Petersen; nephews, Bob McEachern, Gary Swening, Wayne Swening; eight great-nieces and great-nephews; and innumerable friends and admirers.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 PM, Tuesday, February 28, 1995, in the Colonial Chapel of Cook-Walden Funeral Home, with Pastor Karl Grofberg officiating. Interment will follow in Oakwood Cemetery Annex.

Pallbearers will be Randall McEachern, Gary Swening, Jimmy Reese, Bob McEachern, Pat Dunn, Wayne Swening and Billy Priest. Honorary pallbearers are Beverly Sheffield, Bill Lind, Verne Lundquist and her co-workers at the Austin Parks and Recreation Department.

The family of Josephine Carlson Bailey wishes to express special gratitude to her extended family of caretakers, Carolyn, Edie, Brenda, Todd, Arnie, Kelly, and Hospice Austin.

Memorial gifts may be offered to  
Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 200  
West Anderson Lane, Austin, Texas  
78752, or to Hospice Austin, 3710

~~Cedar Street, Austin, Texas 78705.~~

Arrangements by Cook-Walden  
Funeral Home, 6100 N. Lamar.

Obituary of Josephine Carlson Bailey  
Austin American-Statesman, February 27, 1995

Morris A. Lively

2104 Townes Lane  
62 & W. 15'  
of 63

(156)

Tarrytown #6

stone veneer res. & box garage

19994 - 7-12-40

5

10-20-72-132497-Gordon Bailey-frm acc bldg. 80 sq.ft.

Building permit to Morris A. Lively for the construction of this house (1940) and to Gordon Bailey  
to construct a frame accessory building (1972)

Connection Charge \$ #2959 No. 170208

APPLICATION FOR SEWER CONNECTION.

Austin, Texas, 7-14 1940

To the Superintendent of Sewer and Public Improvements,  
City of Austin, Texas

Sir:—

I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions  
on premises owned by Morris A. Lively  
at 2109 ~~East~~ <sup>70th</sup> Lone Street,  
624 W. 15th St  
further described as lot \_\_\_\_\_, block \_\_\_\_\_, outlot \_\_\_\_\_,  
subdivision Tarrytown #6, division \_\_\_\_\_, plat \_\_\_\_\_,  
which is to be used as a Res

In this place there are to be installed 5 fixtures.

I agree to pay the City Sewer Department the regular ordinance  
charge.

Respectfully, W. C. Compton  
AT - PL

Stub Out \_\_\_\_\_

Connected 10-2 1940 Per PL

Size of Main 6 inches. 9-27-40

Size of Service 4 inches. 9-30-40  
OV

3 Feet Deep in ST

12 Feet from Property Line

7 Feet from Curb Line

Inspected by Boatright Con 16  
W of E.L.

Connection made by Lively R-1288

Sewer connection application by Morris A. Lively for this address (1940)

City records indicate a building permit for the construction of a master bedroom addition in 1996.