

Gaudette, Angela

From: Contreras, Kalan
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 12:09 PM
To: Gaudette, Angela
Subject: FW: 3303 Southhill Circle and demolition permit

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Angela,

Please include the email below in our citizen communication posting for November 18th's HLC. Thank you!

kc

From: Mary Arnold <wdmarnold@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 11:49 AM
To: Sadowsky, Steve <Steve.Sadowsky@austintexas.gov>
Subject: 3303 Southhill Circle and demolition permit

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Dear Steve,

I received notice of the demolition permit for 3303 Southhill Circle. (This is the third demolition on our street - which only has 15 homes/lots). (The original owners at 3405 Southhill Circle were the August Wittenborn family. Dr. Wittenborn was a UT graduate, a physicist, and President of Tracor, a local tech firm - one of Austin's first "high tech" companies).

I am not complaining about the permit, but I would very much like to be assured that the Historic Landmark Commission and the City of Austin records acknowledge the persons who have lived in the house, and their contributions to the City of Austin, the State of Texas and beyond.

The Property information on TCAD only goes back three deed records... but I believe that it establishes that **John C. White**, Texas Commissioner of Agriculture 1950 - 1977, lived at 3303 Southhill Circle -- at least from the time it was built until 1970. John C. White was called to Washington in 1977 by President Jimmy Carter to serve as Deputy Secretary of Agriculture...

The information about John C. White in the Handbook of Texas Online is quite extensive....

It appears that after his divorce from his first wife in 1970, the title to 3303 Southhill Circle was transferred from Mary Jean White, John White's first wife, to Jack Balagia. The Balagia family lived there until very recently. Jack Balagia was a veteran of WW II, and had an extensive resume per his obituary. His wife, Sophie Balagia, died just a few months ago, and was also a contributor to this community.

I don't know that much about what will be presented to the Historic Landmark Commission about 3303 Southhill Circle, but I do hope that some information about the owners of the house can be presented and preserved in the records, as

both John C. White, and Jack Balagia and his family, have served this community and beyond, in ways that we should remember and honor.

Very sincerely, Mary Arnold

CAUTION: This email was received at the City of Austin, from an EXTERNAL source. Please use caution when clicking links or opening attachments. If you believe this to be a malicious and/or phishing email, please forward this email to CSIRT@austintexas.gov.