

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
NOVEMBER 16, 2020  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2020-0424  
514 ACADEMY DRIVE**

**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1929 house.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story house clad in asbestos siding, with gabled roof, partial-width side-gabled covered porch, triangular knee braces, exposed rafter tails, and replacement bay and picture windows.

**RESEARCH**

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514 Academy Drive was built in 1929 by T. C. Steiner. Its first owner-occupants, William and Rosa Porst, owned and operated the Post Office Café at 119 ½ W 6<sup>th</sup> Street. From at least 1935 until the end of the decade, the Crofoot family rented the house; W. W. Crofoot worked as an insurance salesman, while Florence Crofoot was the registrar and librarian for Austin High and Allen Junior High. From the mid-1940s to early '50s, nurse Bonnie Mullins rented the house. Construction worker Martin C. Warren and his wife Gussie occupied 514 Academy for the rest of the 1950s. In 1969, owner Carl Smith renovated the house and constructed a garage.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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*Note: According to the Texas Historical Commission, 514 Academy Drive has been deemed contributing to the pending [Travis Heights-Fairview Park National Register Historic District](#).*

*Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark*

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain moderate integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352).
  - a) *Architecture*. The house displays Craftsman-style influences.
  - b) *Historical association*. The house does not appear to have significant historical associations.
  - 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 appear to have significant community value.
  - 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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Release the permit upon 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



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2020-0424  
LOCATION: 514 ACADEMY DRIVE



1" = 164'

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.



**PROPERTY INFORMATION***Photos*

*Source: City Historic Preservation Office, 2020*



*Source: [Zillow.com](https://www.zillow.com), 2019*

*Occupancy History*

City Directory Research, 2020

Note: Post-1959 research unavailable due to facility closure.

1959	Martin C. and Gussie M. Warren, renters Construction worker, Carl Wagner Construction
1957	Martin C. and Gussie M. Warren, renters Tractor operator, Karl Wagner Construction

1955	Martin C. and Gussie M. Warren, renters Construction worker
1952	Bonnie L. Mullins (wid. Gregory B.), renter Nurse
1949	Bonnie L. Mullins (wid. Gregory B.), renter Nurse
1947	Bonnie L. Mullins, renter Nurse
1944-45	Bonnie L. Mullins, renter Nurse
1941	James W. and Lucille Sanderson, renters Cashier, Sinclair Refrigeration Company
1939	M. F. and Letha A. James, renters
1937	Writ W. and Florence A. Crofoot, renters Salesman Registrar, Austin High School
1935	Writ W. and Florence A. Crofoot, renters Insurance agent Registrar, Austin High School
1932	William R. and Rosa Porst, owners Post Office Café (119 ½ W 6 <sup>th</sup> Street)
1930	William R. and Rosa Porst, owners
1927	Address not listed

### *Biographical Information*

**PORST**—Mrs. W. R. Porst died at her home, 822 West Sixth street, Thursday morning. She is survived by her husband, William Porst; her mother, Mrs. S. B. Hill, and two brothers, Sam T. Hill and Robert H. Hill, both of Austin. Funeral services will be held from the Cook funeral home at 3 p. m. Friday. Interment will be in Oakwood cemetery. Pallbearers will be: Samuel B. Hill, Wilson F. Moore, Charles L. Farrow, Carl J. Kaufman, C. A. Weise and Robert H. Hill, Jr.

**WILLIAM R. PORST**  
Funeral services for William R. Porst will be held Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. with Dr. W. S. Arms officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

*The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); Dec 28, 1939 and Dec 27, 1960



## NEW BUNGALOW

5 rooms, tile bath, breakfast nook, hand decorated, service porch, front porch, kitchen cabinet, pantry, closet in each bedroom, solid bronze hardware, glass knob locks, oak floors throughout, 5 coats enamel finish inside. Special wall paper and light fixtures, switch in each room, 3 coats outside paint, gas opening in each room, double garage. The best labor and material throughout.

See the rest, then come buy the best.

### 514 ACADEMY DRIVE

1214 Bickler Road

T. C. STEINER, Owner and Builder

*The Austin American* (1914-1973); Oct 20, 1929

### Faculty Plans Tea

Members of the Allan faculty will hold a tea Wednesday at 3:35 p. m. in the faculty lounge, honoring original faculty members, ex-principals of the school, and members of the faculty who do not plan to return in the fall.

Among the honorees will be Misses E. May Johnston, Clementine Faseler, Mesdames Florence Crofoot, T. A. Gullette, A. N. McCallum, Dr. and Mrs. Russell A. Lewis, Dr. and Mrs. I. I. Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Watkins.

*The Austin American* (1914-1973); Apr 14, 1946

## Garden Party Compliments Retiring School Librarian

A garden party Saturday honored Mrs. Florence Crofoot, veteran librarian and registrar in Austin Public Schools for the past 25 years, who will retire soon for an extended tour of the West Coast.

Mrs. Crofoot was complimented in the home of Mrs. Carl Rosenquist, 3300 West 35th, co-hostess with Mrs. George Crofoot, Mrs. Glyn Slay, Fort Worth, and Mrs. Jack Williams of San Marcos.

In the house party were Misses Willa Frances Anderson, Mary Bell Granger; Mesdames Emil Anderson, W. E. Richey, Vida Dunbar, Jessie Kneip, Myrtle Lee Blankenship, Harry Nolan, Ira Shuford, Frances Daniel, Alfred Sedden, Betty Kuzick and Mildred Ferguson.

Misses Elizabeth Crofoot, Charlotte Williams, Christina Rosenquist and Jo Leta Zivley served the guests who called between 4:30-6:30 p. m.

Presiding at the punch bowl were Mrs. R. E. Nitschke and Mrs.

Arnye D. Johnson.

Approximately 150 guests called during the afternoon.

## Mrs. Whitley Combines Play With Supper

Mrs. Paul Whitley entertained with a garden party at her home, 2408 Windsor Road, Thursday night, honoring Miss Claire Scott, spring graduate of Austin High School. After supper guests played ping pong and badminton.

Guests included Misses Mary Margaret Gregg, Joan Whitley, Joan Corwin, Emily Ann Finch, Ann Zivley, Ann Sanderford, Margaret McDowell, Lyla Duke, Sherman Hart, Norma Dolley, Ann Hill, Madeline Elmore, Jean Haynie, Ann Harkrider, Ruth McNamara, Ellen Lee Robinson, Gayle Shelton, Marilyn Schmidt, Katherine Ann Riley, Beverly Bolton.

*The Austin American* (1914-1973); May 12, 1946

## Permits

Unless the Plumbing is done in strict accordance with City Ordinances, do not turn on the water.

**PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE** Austin, Texas **INDEXED** N-A 2612

M. W. Heimer Address 514 Academy Drive

Plumber Cowell, Don Size of Tap 1/2 Date 8/6/29

SW-11

Foreman's Report.

Date of Connection 8/8/29

Size of Tap Made 3/4

Size Service Made 3/4

Size Main Tapped 6"

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 2'6"

Location of Meter on P. line

Type of Box lock

Depth of Main in P. line

" " Service Line 12"

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main on P. line

Checked by Engr. Dept. 9-14-29

INDEXED

No. Fittings	1	Curb Cock	5/8"	1	St. Elbow	3/4"	1	Bushing	3/4"	1	Reducer	3/4"	1	Pipe	2' x 3/4"	1	Union	1"	Plug	1"	Tee	1"	Stop	1"	Box	1"	Lid	1"	Valves	1"
Req. No.	653																													

Foreman's Signature Burns

## Water tap permit, 1929

OWNER Carl M. Smith ADDRESS 514 Academy

PLAT 129 LOT 8 BLK --

SUBDIVISION Woodlawn

OCCUPANCY Residence bring to minimum standards

BLD PERMIT # 111176 DATE 1-21-69 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$5.00

CONTRACTOR Owner NO. OF FIXTURES -----

WATER TAP REC # Existing SEWER TAP REC # Existing

Repair & remodel and bring to minimum standards a

residence

## Remodel permit, 1-21-69

OWNER Carl M. Smith ADDRESS 514 Academy Drive

PLAT 129 LOT 8 BLK ---

SUBDIVISION Woodlawn Addn

OCCUPANCY Garage

BLD PERMIT #112697 DATE 5-6-69 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$150.00

CONTRACTOR owner NO. OF FIXTURES none

WATER TAP REC # Exist SEWER TAP REC # Exist

Frm acc bldg.

324 sq. ft.

## Building permit, 5-6-69