# Zoning Public Hearing CITY OF AUSTIN RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA ITEM NO.: Z-3 AGENDA DATE: Thu 03/11/2004

PAGE: 1 of 1

SUBJECT: C14H-03-0024 – Harris-Carter House. Conduct a public hearing and approve an ordinance amending Chapter 25-2 of the Austin City Code by rezoning property locally known as 603 Carolyn Avenue from family residence (SF-3) district to family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district. Historic Landmark Commission Recommendation: To grant family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district. Planning Commission Recommendation: To grant family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district. Applicant: Edward Lindlof, Jr. and Cynthia Lindlof (owners). City Staff: Steve Sadowsky, Historic Preservation Office, Transportation, Planning and Sustainability Department, 974-6454.

**REQUESTING** Transportation, Planning **DIRECTOR'S** 

**DEPARTMENT:** and Sustainability **AUTHORIZATION:** Austan Librach

RCA Serial#: 4631 Date: 03/11/04 Original: Yes Published:

Disposition: Adjusted version published:

#### **ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET**

**CASE NUMBER:** C14H-03-0024

H.L.C. DATE:

November 17, 2003

P.C. DATE:

February 24, 2004

AREA: 19,000 square feet

**APPLICANT:** Edward A. Lindlof, Jr.

**AGENT:** NA

**HISTORIC NAME:** Harris-Carter House

**WATERSHED:** Waller Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 603 Carolyn Avenue

**ZONING FROM: SF-3** 

**ZONING TO: SF-3-H** 

<u>SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION</u>: Staff recommends the proposed zoning change from family residence (SF-3) district, to family residence – historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning.

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended the proposed zoning change from family residence (SF-3) district to family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning, by consent. Vote: 8-0 (Bunton and Mather absent).

**PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION**: Recommended the proposed zoning change from family residence (SF-3) district to family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning, by consent. Vote: 7-0.

#### **DEPARTMENT COMMENTS:**

The Harris-Carter House has been identified as historically-significant in the Hancock Neighborhood, part of the Central Austin Combined Neighborhood Planning Area. The house is listed in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984), but was not assigned a preservation priority ranking.

CITY COUNCIL DATE: March 11, 2004 ACTION:

**ORDINANCE READINGS:** 1<sup>ST</sup> 2<sup>ND</sup> 3<sup>RD</sup> **ORDINANCE NUMBER:** 

CASE MANAGER: Steve Sadowsky PHONE: 974-6454

### **NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION:**

Hancock Neighborhood Association

#### **BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:**

The ca. 1921 Harris-Carter House was built by Sidon Harris, a very prominent local attorney and real estate developer. Harris built several houses in the neighborhood, and resided in this house on Carolyn Avenue from 1921 to 1922, when he sold his holdings in the area to W.A. Harper and Samuel Hirshfeld, who subdivided and developed the neighborhood. The house is an

excellent and intact example of the American Four-Square style with Classical Revival-styled details.

The Harris-Carter House meets Historic Landmark Designation Criteria 1, 3, 6, 7, and 11.

## (1) Character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City of Austin, State of Texas, or the United States.

The ca. 1921 Harris-Carter House was built by Sidon Harris, a prominent local attorney and real estate developer, who platted adjacent Austin neighborhoods such as College Courts. Harris had numerous real estate dealings in the 1910s and 1920s, and appears to have built himself several residences while developing the adjacent property. He sold all of his holdings in this area to W.A. Harper and Samuel Hirshfeld in 1924. Harper and Hirshfeld subdivided and developed the neighborhood, which was designed to attract middle-class families and those with ties to the nearby University of Texas. Located on the high ground west of Waller Creek, the lots in the subdivision were developed slowly. As late as 1935, the Harris-Carter House was the only house on the south side of Carolyn Avenue.

#### (3) Embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen.

The Harris-Carter House is an excellent example of the American Foursquare style of residential construction. Prized for its simplicity, the American Foursquare style was popular from the late 1890s until the Great Depression. American Foursquare houses are simple, box-shaped two story houses with a four-room plan, which provided a roomy interior. The houses were designed for middle class families, and generally have a symmetrical façade, a hipped roof with an attic and dormers, and minimal Classical Revival ornamentation. The Harris-Carter House embodies the distinguishing characteristics of American Foursquare design in its floorplan, symmetrical façade, and Classical Revival features such as the entry door framed by sidelights and a fanlight with leaded glass, and the Classical Revival-styled attic dormers on the front and back of the house. The concrete tile roof is an unusual material for this style of architecture. The house has a two-story porch on the east side, the first story is open and features arched openings; upstairs is enclosed. On the back of the house is a two-story sleeping porch, constructed of wood and screened in. A wood-frame two-story garage apartment at the rear of the property has a tile roof matching that on the house.

# (6) Relationship to other distinctive buildings, sites or areas which are eligible for preservation according to a plan based on architectural, historical or cultural motif.

The house is located in the W.A. Harper Subdivision, which developed on land owned by Sidon Harris, the real estate developer of much of this area, including College Courts, just to the south of this house. The house has a history similar to that of the Ettlinger House, a designated city historic landmark located just south of this house, as both were built and occupied by Sidon Harris during his real estate enterprise days of the 1910s and 1920s.

### (7) Portrayal of the environment of a group of people in an area of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.

The house is an excellent example of middle class housing in Austin in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The American Foursquare style of architecture was designed for the middle class, and featured roomy interior plans in houses proposed for city lots. American Foursquare houses featured Classical Revival themes in architectural ornamentation, while maintaining a simple overall composition and plan.

(11) Identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the city, state or United States.

Sidon Harris (1861-1926) was the principal developer of the neighborhoods north of the University of Texas campus in the 1910s and 1920s. A prominent local attorney, Harris specialized in land law. When failing health forced him to retire from his law practice, he became active in real estate development in Austin, Houston, and San Antonio. Among his notable developments in Austin is College Courts, located just to the south of the Harris-Carter House.

A.C. Knippa (1888-1972) owned the house from 1924 to 1926. Knippa had been in the grocery business in Austin since 1910, and opened the city's first Kash-Karry Grocery Store at 7<sup>th</sup> and Congress in 1920. Kash-Karry was one of the first chain grocery stores in Austin, and differed from older local establishments in that it did not offer credit to its customers, but required payment at the time of purchase. Kash-Karry, Piggly Wiggly, and the A&P all represented the new wave of chain stores in the 1910s and 1920s which soon replaced the older neighborhood grocers.

**Dr. Carl E. Carter** and his family owned the house from 1927 to 1976. A prominent local physician, Dr. Carter maintained his offices in the Scarbrough Building.

PARCEL NO.: 02170614020000 DEED RECORD: Vol. 5414, p. 2010.

**ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT:** \$6,421 (owner-occupied rate)

**APPRAISED VALUE:** \$496,592

PRESENT USE: Residential

CONSTRUCTION/DESCRIPTION: Two-story rectangular-plan hipped-roof American Foursquare-style brick house with an almost-full-width independent porch on brick posts with a tile roof and terrace above with metal railing; central entry with leaded glass fanlight and sidelights; two-story porches on east elevation – the first story porch has arched openings, the second story is enclosed; two wood-frame screened sleeping porches on the rear; original tile roof pierced by central Classical Revival-styled gabled dormers at the front and rear. The property also contains a two-story wood-frame hipped roof garage apartment at the rear with a tile roof matching that on the house.

**CONDITION:** Excellent

PRESENT OWNERS

**ADDRESS** 

**TELEPHONE** 

Edward A. Lindlof, Jr.

603 Carolyn Ave., 78705

472-0195

**DATE BUILT:** ca. 1921

**ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS:** None.

ORIGINAL OWNER(S): Sidon Harris (1921)

**OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS:** 

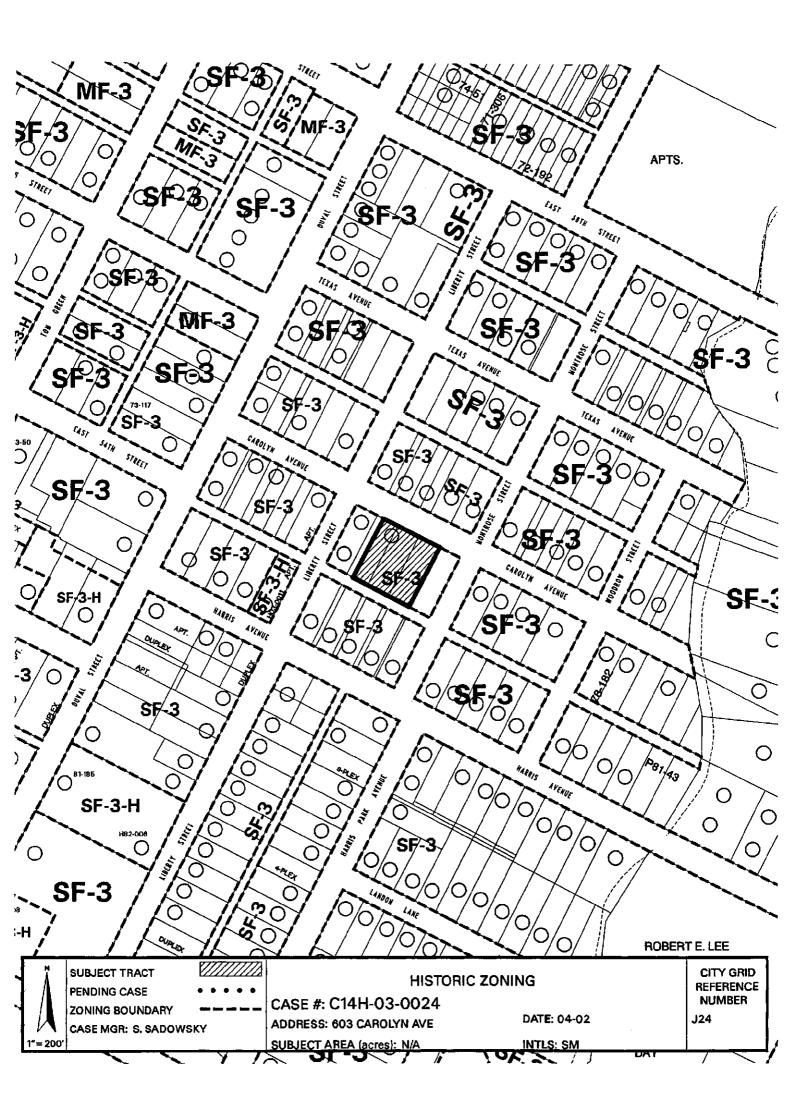
NATIONAL REGISTER: No

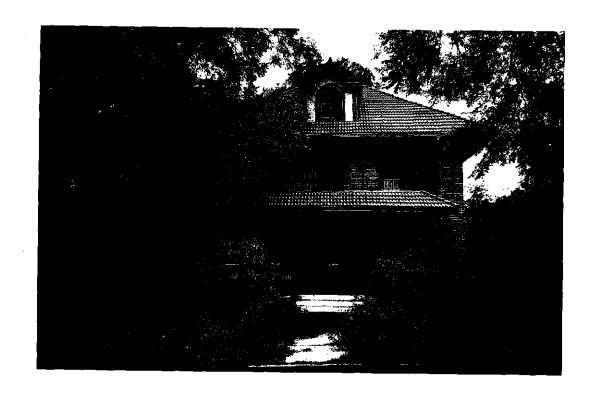
RECORDED TEXAS LANDMARK: No

NATIONAL LANDMARK: No

LOCAL SURVEYS: Yes, the house is listed in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey

(1984) but was not given a preservation priority ranking.











## F. 1: Historical Documentation - Deed Chronology

### 603 Carolyn Avenue

TRANSACTION:	VOL/PAGE
Sidon Harris & Mary Lee Horton Harris to W. A. Harper Outlot no. 8, Division C (with exceptions) 24 August, 1922	339/347-349
W. A. Harper & Samuel Hirshfeld to A. C. Knippa Lots 6,7,8 & E. 35' of 9, Block 6 15 October, 1924	366/42-44
A. C. Knippa & Margeretha Knippa to H. B. Smith Lots 7,8 & E. 35' of 9, Block 6 26 December, 1926	396/510-511
H. B. Smith & Hattie Smith to Dr. C. E. Carter Lots 7,8 & E. 35' of 9, Block 6 22 October, 1927	409/136-137
Wendell C. Carter, Arminta Carter Arnold & Margaret Clark to Edward A. Lindlof Jr. Lots 7,8 & E. 35' of 9, Block 6 16 April, 1976	5414/2010

# F. 2: HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION - Occupancy History

### 603 Carolyn Avenue

Source of information: City Directories and supported anecdotal

1921 - 1922	Sidon Harris and Mary Lee Horton Harris
1922 - 1924	Unknown. Owned by W. A. Harper and Samuel Hirshfeld, developers of the subdivision
1924 - 1926	A. C. Knippa and Margeretha Knippa and family
1926 - 1927	H. B. Smith and Hattie Smith
1927 - 1976	Dr. Carl E. Carter and Vida E. Carter and family
1976 -	Edward A. Lindlof Jr. and Cynthia H. Lindlof

### CITY OF AUSTIN HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY

TEXAS HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM — TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION (rev. 8-82)

1. County <u>Travis</u> <u>TRA</u> City/Rural <u>Austin</u> AU	5. USGS Q	uad No	3097 <b>-</b>	242		_ Site No.	J-24-498
2. Name	6. Date: Fa	ctual				Est	1930
Address 603 Carolyn Ave.	_ 7. Architec						
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3. Owner							
Address  4. Block/Lot	9. Original						
4. Block/Lot	. 1630111	U36					
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11. Present Condition		·					
12. Significance							
13. Relation to Site: Moved Date	or Original Site	(describ	e)			<del> </del>	
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14. Bibliography	15. Informa 16. Record	er HHM	1	-		Date Jar	n-Mar 84
DESIGNATIONS	_			РНОТО			<u> </u>
TNRIS NoOld THC Code	B&W 4x5s _				_ Slides .		
RTHL HABS (no.) TEX					_ 511065		*******
NR:   Individual   Historic District	YEAR	DRWR	ROLL	FRME		ROLL	FRME
☐ Thematic ☐ Multiple-Resource			52	34	to	52	35
NR File Name	-				to		
Other	-		-		to		
Tax Parcel #			ARCHITE	CTURAL S	IGNIFICA	ANCE:	
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PHYSICAL CONDITION:			olgniilca		_ 00	intributory	
Good Fair Poor							
Structure Grounds							
Neighborhood							
PRESERVATION INDEX:							
City Zoning							
— Only Lorning							
Priority Research							

(Photo)

### THE MUSKIN COMPANY CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS (512) 371-0037

### FAX COVER SHEET

From:

THE MUSKIN COMPANY

To:

Steve Sadowsky/Historic Preservation Office

Date:

February 17, 2004

Re:

802, 804 & 806 West Lynn Street

Fax:

974-9104

Sender's Fax:

(512) 371-1253

**Total Pages:** 

2 (Including this cover page)

Comments:

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FOR FAX ADVANTAGE ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CALL 1-800-HELP-FAX (435-7329).

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DISTRICT.				
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(SF-3-H) combion file at the Ne  Lots 7 and Harper's Staccording to of Travis C	district from family resping district on the propighborhood Planning and 8, and the east 35 feet abdivision, a subdivision of the map or plat of recounty, Texas, as the Harris-Carter Ho Travis County, Texas,	erty described Zoning Dep t of Lot 9, En in the City and in Plat Bo	din Zoning Case No artment, as follows:  Block 6, Outlots 7-8 of Austin, Travis Cok 3, Page 89, of the cown as 603 Caroly	o.C14H-03-0024,  f, Division C, ounty, Texas, e Plat Records  on Avenue, in the
Exhibit A.				
PART 2. This of	ordinance takes effect on	A TOTAL STATE OF THE STATE OF T		, 2004.
PASSED AND	<b>APPROVED</b>			
The state of the s	2004	& &		
	, 2004	8	Will Wynn	
			Mayor	
APPROVED:		ATTEST:	<b>:</b>	
	David Allan Smith City Attorney		Shirley A. City Cle	•
D-nft: 2/27/2004	Расе	1 of 1	COA Law Denartme	

