

**Zoning Public Hearing
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**



**AGENDA ITEM NO.: Z-1
AGENDA DATE: Thu 10/20/2005
PAGE: 1 of 1**

SUBJECT: C14H-05-0010 – Hart House - Conduct a public hearing and approve an ordinance amending Chapter 25-2 of the Austin City Code by rezoning property locally known as 1800 Forest Trail from family residence (SF-3) district to family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Historic Landmark Commission Recommendation: To grant family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Zoning and Platting Commission Recommendation: To grant family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Applicants: Robin and Frances Thompson. City Staff: Steve Sadowsky, 974-6454.

REQUESTING Neighborhood Planning
DEPARTMENT: and Zoning

DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION: Alice Glasco

ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

CASE NUMBER: C14H-05-0010

HLC DATE:

June 27, 2005

ZAP DATE:

October 4, 2005

AREA: 22,432 square feet

APPLICANT: Davison (Robin) and Frances Thompson, owners

HISTORIC NAME: Hart House

WATERSHED: Johnson Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 1800 Forest Trail

ZONING FROM: SF-3

ZONING TO: SF-3-H

SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the proposed zoning change from family residence (SF-3) district to family residence - Historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning for the property's significance in the areas of architecture and historical associations.

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 for the property's significance in the areas of architecture and historical associations. Vote: 6-0 (Bunton absent).

ZONING AND PLATTING COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended the proposed zoning change from family residence (SF-3) district to family residence - Historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning for the property's significance in the areas of architecture and historical associations. Vote: 6-0 (Gohil and Jackson absent; Hawthorne ill).

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The house is located outside of the scope of the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984).

CITY COUNCIL DATE: October 20, 2005

ACTION:

ORDINANCE READINGS: 1ST 2ND 3RD

ORDINANCE NUMBER:

CASE MANAGER: Steve Sadowsky

PHONE: 974-6454

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION: West Austin Neighborhood Group

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The ca. 1930 house is over 50 years old, retains a high degree of architectural integrity, and is significant for its architecture and historical associations:

ARCHITECTURE

The ca. 1930 Hart House is an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style, very popular as a period style in the 1920s and 1930s. The Colonial Revival took eighteenth century American architecture as its archetype, and features a plain, symmetrical façade, central entry with sidelights, Classical portico, side-gabled composition, and multiple-light windows, all of which are found on the Hart House.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

James P. and Katherine Drake Hart purchased this property from the Westenfield Development Company in June, 1930 and constructed this house. Born in Austin, **James P. Hart** (1904-1987) graduated from the University of Texas and Harvard Law School. Returning to Austin after practicing law one year in New York, Hart entered his father's firm, served as Travis County District Attorney from 1933 to 1937, headed the Oil and Gas Division of the Attorney General's Office from 1939 to 1941, and argued several landmark cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, including the Tidelands case, which established Texas' right to oil and gas reserves in the Gulf of Mexico. Governor Jester appointed him to the Texas Supreme Court in 1947; in 1950, he became the first Chancellor of the University of Texas. He returned to private practice in 1953. Judge Hart was a charter member of the Headliners Club, president of the Austin Red Cross and served on the board of the Austin Symphony.

Katherine Drake Hart (1905-2000) was born in Austin. Her father and uncles founded the Drake Brothers Lumber Company, which later became Calcasieu Lumber. Katherine graduated from Wellesley College in 1926, and a Master's degree in English from Columbia. She married James P. Hart in 1929. Mrs. Hart was instrumental in developing and cataloging the Austin-Travis County Collection, the basis for the Austin History Center collection of local historical materials. She acquired the Governor Pease papers for the collection in 1959, and became curator in 1971. She wrote "Waterloo Scrapbook" articles for the Austin American Statesman for over 10 years, relating stories which sparked greater public interest in Austin's past. She wrote several local history books, was a founder of the Heritage Society of Austin, spearheaded the effort to preserve many historical buildings, including the Lundberg Bakery, and served on the school board. She and her husband prided themselves on their home, gardens, five children, long walks, and daily swims at Barton Springs.

PARCEL NO.: 01140501060000

DEED RECORD: Docket No. 2003259165

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lot 4, Woodmont Forest, a resbdivision of a portion of Lots 1 and 9, Block 17, Westfield "A", and a portion of Lot 9, Block 17, Westfield "A".

ANNUAL CITY TAX ABATEMENT: \$2,000 (50% of estimated city taxes is \$1,952).
Total tax abatements from all taxing authorities: \$10,441.

APPRAISED VALUE: \$792,262

PRESENT USE: Residence

CONSTRUCTION/DESCRIPTION: Two-story rectangular-plan side-gabled Colonial Revival-styled frame house with central pedimented portico; 6:6 fenestration.

CONDITION: Excellent.

PRESENT OWNER

Davison (Robin) and Frances Thompson
1800 Forest Trail
Austin, Texas 78703

DATE BUILT: ca. 1930





ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: Restoration of the house undertaken by current owners (2004); two-car garage and addition (2005).

ORIGINAL OWNER(S): James P. and Katherine D. Hart (1930)

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS:

None.



 1" = 200'	SUBJECT TRACT		HISTORIC ZONING		CITY GRID REFERENCE NUMBER H24
	PENDING CASE		CASE #: C14H-05-0010		
	ZONING BOUNDARY		ADDRESS: 1800 FOREST TRL		
	CASE MGR: S. SADOWSKY		DATE: 05-06		
			SUBJECT AREA (acres): N/A		INTLS: SM



A. APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC ZONING

OK
SSadawh
6-13-05

PROJECT INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY	
APPLICATION DATE: <u>06/14/05</u>	FILE NUMBER(S): <u>C144-05-0010</u>
TENTATIVE HLC DATE: _____	
TENTATIVE PC or ZAP DATE: _____	
TENTATIVE CC DATE: _____	CITY INITIATED: YES/NO
CASE MANAGER: <u>Shaw</u>	ROLLBACK: YES/NO
APPLICATION ACCEPTED BY: <u>Shaw</u>	

BASIC PROJECT DATA:

1. OWNER'S NAME: Davison R. Thompson and Frances D. Thompson
 2. PROJECT NAME: Hart House
 3. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (or Range): 1800 Forest Trail, Austin TX 78703
 ZIP 78703 COUNTY: Travis
 IF PROJECT ADDRESS CANNOT BE DEFINED ABOVE:
 LOCATED _____ FRONTAGE FEET ALONG THE N. S. E. W. (CIRCLE ONE) SIDE OF
 _____ (ROAD NAME PROPERTY FRONTS ONTO), WHICH IS
 APPROXIMATELY _____ DISTANCE FROM ITS
 INTERSECTION WITH _____ CROSS STREET.

AREA TO BE REZONED: 1.) and 2.) both listed (also see attached survey and field notes)
 1.) Lot 4, Block A, Woodmont Forest, a resubdivision of a portion of Lots 149, Block 17, Westfield "A"

EXISTING ZONING	EXISTING USE	TRACT# (IF MORE THAN 1)	ACRES / SQ. FT.	PROPOSED USE	PROPOSED ZONING
<u>SF-3</u>	<u>Residence</u>		<u>.4170</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>SF-3-H</u>
<u>SF-3</u>	<u>Residence</u>		<u>.115</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>SF-3-H</u>

4. ACRES 1.) .4170 acre (OR) 2.) .115 acre SQ.FT. _____
 5. ZONING AND LAND USE INFORMATION:

RELATED CURRENT CASES:

6. ACTIVE ZONING CASE? (YES/NO)	FILE NUMBER: _____
7. RESTRICTIVE COVENANT? (YES/NO)	FILE NUMBER: _____
8. SUBDIVISION? (YES/NO)	FILE NUMBER: _____
9. SITE PLAN? (YES/NO)	FILE NUMBER: _____

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION (SUBDIVISION REFERENCE OR METES AND BOUNDS):

	Block	Lot
10a. SUBDIVISION REFERENCE: Name: <u>Woodmont Forest</u>	1) <u>A</u>	4
Block(s) _____ Lot(s) _____ Outlot(s) _____	2) <u>157</u>	9
Plat Book: _____ Page _____		
Number: <u>1) 2003259165</u> <u>2) 2004216430</u>		
10b. METES AND BOUNDS (Attach two copies of certified field notes if subdivision reference is not available or zoning includes partial lots)		

DEED REFERENCE CONVEYING PROPERTY TO PRESENT OWNER AND TAX PARCEL I.D.:

11. VOLUME: _____ PAGE: _____ TAX PARCEL I.D. NO. 1) 563742
GEO 011405010600000C

OTHER PROVISIONS:

12. IS PROPERTY IN A ZONING COMBINING DISTRICT / OVERLAY ZONE? YES / (NO)
 TYPE OF COMBINING DIST/OVERLAY ZONE (NCCD, NP, etc) _____

13. LOCATED IN A LOCAL OR NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES / (NO)

14. IS A TIA REQUIRED? YES / (NO) (NOT REQUIRED IF BASE ZONING IS NOT CHANGING)
 TRIPS PER DAY: _____
 TRAFFIC SERIAL ZONE(S): _____

OWNERSHIP TYPE:

15. ✓ SOLE _____ COMMUNITY PROPERTY _____ PARTNERSHIP _____ CORPORATION _____ TRUST _____

If ownership is other than sole or community property, list individuals/partners/principals below or attach separate sheet.

OWNER INFORMATION:

16. OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION

SIGNATURE: [Signature] NAME: Frances D. Thompson

FIRM NAME: _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER: 512-542-9262

STREET ADDRESS: 1800 Forest Trail

CITY: Austin STATE: TX ZIP CODE: 78703

EMAIL ADDRESS: f.thompson@sbcglobal.net

AGENT INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE):

17. AGENT CONTACT INFORMATION

SIGNATURE: _____ NAME: _____

FIRM NAME: _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY: _____

E. ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

concerning
Subdivision Plat Notes, Deed Restrictions,
Restrictive Covenants
and / or
Zoning Conditional Overlays

I, Frances D. Thompson have checked for subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions,
(Print name of applicant)

restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays prohibiting certain uses and/or requiring certain development restrictions i.e. height, access, screening etc. on this property, located at

1800 Forest Trail, Austin Tx 78703
(Address or Legal Description)

If a conflict should result with the request I am submitting to the City of Austin due to subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays it will be my responsibility to resolve it. I also acknowledge that I understand the implications of use and/or development restrictions that are a result of a subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays.

I understand that if requested, I must provide copies of any and all subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlay information which may apply to this property.



(Applicant's signature)

6-10-05

(Date)

\$9.00

CASE No. C8-02-0236.04

FIELD NOTES TO ACCOMPANY MAP OF SURVEY
PARCEL "A"
0.115 ACRE OF LAND
PORTION OF LOT 9, BLOCK 17, WESTFIELD "A"
CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

FIELD NOTES DESCRIPTION OF 0.115 ACRE OF LAND, OUT OF LOT 9, BLOCK 17, WESTFIELD "A", A SUBDIVISION OF RECORD IN VOLUME 3, PAGE 107 OF THE PLAT RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE SAID 0.115 ACRE BEING A PORTION OF THAT CERTAIN 1.806 ACRE TRACT OUT OF LOTS 1 AND 9, BLOCK 17 OF THE SAID WESTFIELD "A" SUBDIVISION CONVEYED TO SAM STEWART CUSTOM HOMES, INC. BY DEED RECORDED IN DOCUMENT NUMBER 2001096817 OF THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS AND BEING ALL OF THAT CERTAIN 0.115 ACRE TRACT CONVEYED TO OWEN A. NORTON OF RECORD IN DOCUMENT NUMBER 2001184108 OF THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS. THE SAID 0.115 ACRE OF LAND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING, at a ½ inch diameter steel pin set with cap stamped Lenz & Assoc. on the north right-of-way line of Woodmont Avenue, the same being the south line of the said Lot 9 and being at the southwest corner of the said 1.806 acre tract and 0.115 acre tract, the same being the southeast corner of that certain tract conveyed to Owen A. Norton recorded in Volume 12799, Page 1319 of the Real Property Records of Travis County, Texas, from which a ½ inch diameter iron pipe found at the intersection of the north right-of-way line of Woodmont Avenue with the west right-of-way line of Stamford Lane bears N 64°04'00" W, 160.41 feet;

THENCE, N 25°50'28" E, a distance of 100.09 feet along the west line of the said 1.806 acre tract to a 5/8 inch diameter iron pipe found at the northeast corner of the said Owen A. Norton tract described in Volume 12799, Page 1319 and the northwest corner of the said 0.115 acre Norton tract, the same being the southeast corner of that certain tract conveyed to Kate S. Kovac by deed recorded in Document Number 2000158342 of the Official Public Records of Travis County, Texas and being at the southwest corner of Lot 4, Block A, Woodmont Forest, A Resubdivision of a Portion of Lots 1 and 9, Block 17 Westfield A, a subdivision of record in Document Number 200300053 of the Official Public Records of Travis County, Texas;

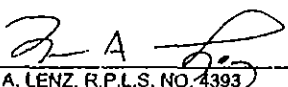
THENCE, S 63°51'01" E, a distance of 50.00 feet to a ½ inch diameter steel pin set with cap stamped Lenz & Assoc. in the interior of the said 1.806 acre tract at an exterior corner of the said Lot 4, Block A and being on the west line of Lot 3, Block A of the said Woodmont Forest, A Resubdivision of a Portion of Lots 1 and 9, Block 17 Westfield A subdivision, and being at the northeast corner of the said 0.115 acre Norton tract;

THENCE, S 25°50'28" W, a distance of 99.90 feet to a 1 inch diameter iron pipe found on the north right-of-way line of Woodmont Avenue at the southeast corner of the said 0.115 acre Norton tract and the southwest corner of the said Lot 3, Block A;

THENCE, N 64°04'00" W, a distance of 50.00 feet along the north line of Woodmont Avenue to the **PLACE OF BEGINNING**, containing 0.115 acre of land, more or less.

BASIS OF BEARINGS - 1 inch diameter iron pipe found at S.W. corner Lot 1 to 5/8 inch diameter iron pipe found on south line Lot 1 (S 64°04' E, 425.54') per Volume 649, Page 207, Deed Records of Travis County, Texas & Doc. No. 2001096817 Official Public Records of Travis County, Texas.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS DESCRIPTION WAS PREPARED FROM AN ACTUAL SURVEY PERFORMED ON THE GROUND UNDER MY SUPERVISION.


TIMOTHY A. LENZ, R.P.L.S. NO. 4393
Lenz & Associates, Inc.
1714 Fort View Road, Suite 101
Austin, Texas 78704
(512) 443-1174

2001-0301A(norton).doc



POT 11-15-04

DLT 11-15-04

TAX CERTIFICATE
Nelda Wells Spears
Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
(512) 854-9473

NO 120127

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 01-1405-0106-0000

PROPERTY OWNER:

THOMPSON DAVISON R & FRANCES D
1800 FOREST TRL
AUSTIN, TX 78703

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

LOT 4 WOODMONT FOREST

ACRES 0.000 MIN% .00000 TYPE

SITUS INFORMATION: 1800 FOREST TR

This is to certify that after a careful check of tax records of this office, the following taxes, delinquent taxes, penalties and interests are due on the described property of the following tax unit(s):

YEAR	ENTITY	TOTAL
2004	AUSTIN ISD	*ALL PAID*
	CITY OF AUSTIN (TRAV)	*ALL PAID*
	TRAVIS COUNTY	*ALL PAID*
	HOSPITAL DISTRICT	*ALL PAID*
	ACC (TRAVIS)	*ALL PAID*
TOTAL SEQUENCE 0		*ALL PAID*
TOTAL TAX:		*ALL PAID*
UNPAID FEES:		* NONE *
INTEREST ON FEES:		* NONE *
COMMISSION:		* NONE *
TOTAL DUE ==>		*ALL PAID*

TAXES PAID FOR YEAR 2004 \$10,683.56

ALL TAXES PAID IN FULL PRIOR TO AND INCLUDING THE YEAR 2004 EXCEPT FOR UNPAID YEARS LISTED ABOVE.
The above described property may be subject to special valuation based on its use, and additional rollback taxes may become due. (Section 23.55, State Property Tax Code).
Pursuant to Section 31.08 of the State Property Tax Code, there is a fee of \$10.00 for all Tax Certificates.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE ON THIS DATE OF 04/19/2005

Fee Paid: \$10.00

Nelda Wells Spears
Tax Assessor-Collector

By: Joyce Henderson

F. 1: HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION - DEED CHRONOLOGY

Deed Research for 1800 Forest Trail (listed from 1930 to 1935 as 1508 Forest Trail)

Transaction

Westenfield Development Company to James P. Hart Vol. 451, pp. 474
Lot 1, Block 17, Westfield "A"
(a subdivision of record in Vol. 3, pp. 107)
June 1930

Grantor TBD to James P. Hart and Katherine D. Hart Vol. 587, pp. 631
Portion of Lot 9, Block 17, Westfield "A"
Date TBD

Sherman Hart Little, Joseph H. Hart, James P. Hart, Jr.,
Richard D. Hart, Elwyn C. Williams, James Hill Williams
to Sam Stewart Custom Homes, Inc., a Texas Corporation
Portions of Lots 1 & 9, Block 17, Westfield "A"
June 1, 2001

Recorded under Doc. No. #200300053/ TRV 2001096817

Sam Stewart Custom Homes to Davison R. Thompson
and Frances D. Thompson
Lot 4, Block A, Woodmont Forest,
a resubdivision of a portion of Lots 1 and 9, Block 17,
Westfield "A"
October 30, 2003

Recorded under TRV 2003259165

Owen A. Norton to Davison R. Thompson
and Frances D. Thompson
Portion of Lot 9, Block 17, Westfield "A"
November 9, 2004

Recorded under WD 2004216430

F. 2: HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION - OCCUPANCY HISTORY

Occupancy History for 1800 Forest Trail (listed from 1930 to 1935 as 1508 Forest Trail)

Overview

Prior to the current owner, from 1930 through the 1980s, the sole occupants of the house were James P. Hart, his wife and their five children. From 1930 to 1935, the address was 1508 Forest Trail, with a renumbering of the street occurring by 1937. The address does not appear before 1930, and there is no listing in Austin for James P. Hart in 1927 or 1929.

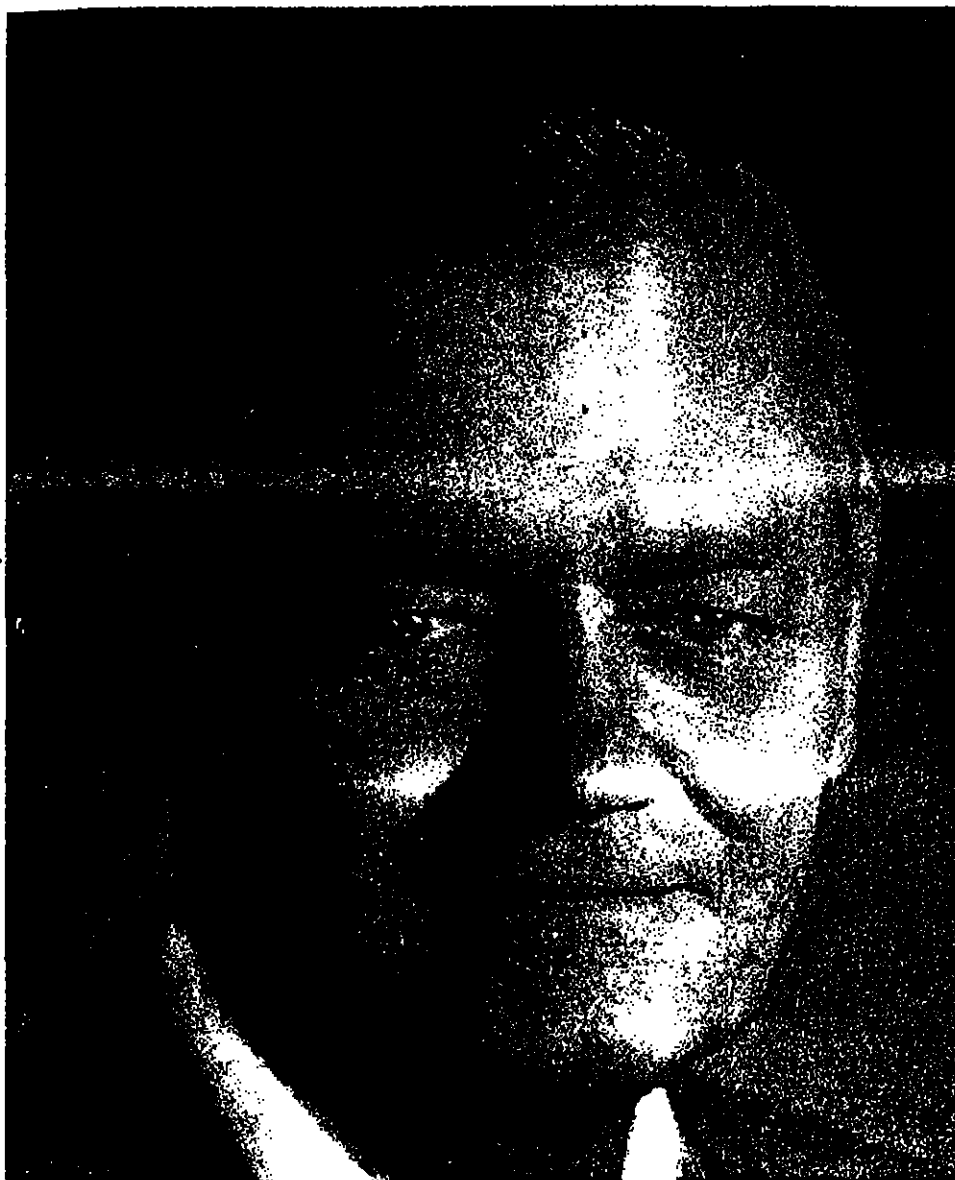
In 1924, James P. Hart was listed as a University of Texas student residing at 2712 Rio Grande Street. In an April 3, 1929, newspaper announcement, James P. Hart wed Katherine Drake in Austin, and the couple left for their home in New York, where Mr. Hart practiced law.

The current owner completed renovation of and moved into the Hart House in March 2005.

Year/ Occupant Name (all James P. Hart and family) and Reference/ Source (all from city directories)

1930 Lawyer; Woodward, Hart, Gay & Hart
1932 Lawyer; Hart, Patterson & Hart
1935 District Attorney, Travis County
1937 Lawyer; Hart, Patterson, Hart & Brown
1939 Lawyer; Hart & Brown
1940 Lawyer; Hart & Brown
1941 Lawyer; Hart & Brown
1942 Lawyer; Hart & Brown
1944 Lawyer, no firm listed
1947 Lawyer, no firm listed
1949 Associate Justice, State Supreme Court
1952 Chancellor, University of Texas
1953 Chancellor, University of Texas
1954 Lawyer; Hart, Brown, Sparks & Erwin (Frank C. Erwin, Jr.)
1957 Lawyer; Hart, Brown, Sparks & Erwin
1962 Lawyer; Hart & Hart
1967 Lawyer, Hart & Hart
1972 Lawyer; Hart & Keahey
1977 Lawyer; Hart & Hart
1985 Lawyer, no firm listed
1987 James P. Hart deceased (May 10, 1987)

2001 Unoccupied house sold by Hart Estate to Sam Stewart Custom Homes



HONORABLE JAMES P. HART

Biographical information on Jim Hart

James P. Hart

Born: November 11, 1904, in Austin, Texas

Attended Austin public schools; the University of Texas, B.A. 1925; Harvard University Law School LL.B. 1928. He holds an honorary LL.D. from Baylor University, awarded in 1953.

Practiced law in New York City in 1928-29. Since that time, has practiced in Austin except when holding the following public offices:

District Attorney, Travis County, 1932-36.

Special District Judge, Travis County, by election of the Travis County Bar, 1938.

Assistant Attorney General, in charge of the oil and gas division, under Gerald Mann, 1939-41. (During this time, Hart tried and won cases in the Supreme Court of the United States upholding proration orders of the Texas Railroad Commission in the East Texas Field.)

Appointed Associate Justice, the Supreme Court of Texas, Oct. 1, 1947, by Gov. Beauford Jester. Elected to full term in the Supreme Court in 1948.

Resigned from the Supreme Court to accept appointment by the Board of Regents as Chancellor of the University of Texas, November 15, 1950. Resigned as Chancellor, January 1, 1954, to resume practice of law.

Family:

Hart is the son of James Hill Hart, a native of Austin and practicing lawyer since 1902. The elder Hart was captain of the Texas Longhorn football team in 1899 and is a former member of the Texas Board of Law Examiners. The younger Hart was a member of the Longhorn football team in 1923 and 1924. Hart's mother is Nan Strother Furman Hart, born in Belton, Texas. Her father was John M. Furman, who served as County judge, district attorney and then eight years as district judge of the Bell county district. Furman, from South Carolina, fought in the Confederate Army. Hart's great-grandfather, Doc H. Hart, was a Tennessean and also fought in the Confederate Army.

Mr. and Mrs. Hart have five children, ranging in age from 15 to 26. The eldest is Sherman, who married Harry M. Little, Jr., now a senior medical student at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. Katherine (Kitty) Hart is now with the American Red Cross in Korea. James P. Hart, Jr., is in the U. S. Army Signal Corp in Korea. Richard D. Hart is a sophomore in the University of Texas. Joseph H. Hart is a student in Austin High School. Mrs. Hart is the former Katherine Drake of Austin. The Harts were married April 3, 1929. Mrs. Hart received her Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Texas in 1954. She is a member of the Austin School Board.

Affiliations, Civic Activities:

**Member, First Presbyterian Church, Austin
Past Chairman, American Red Cross, Travis County.
Director, Austin Community Chest, 1944.
Past President, Texas Fine Arts Association, 1954.
Now a member of Board of Directors.
President, Texas Philosophical Society.
Director, Austin Rotary Club
Director, Austin Symphony Orchestra.
Director, Austin Chamber of Commerce.**

Member, President Eisenhower's Committee on Education Beyond the High School, which is now studying problems confronting the nation in the field of higher education.

Recreational Interests:

**Swimming, fishing and hunting.
Vegetable gardening (He raises a home garden every year.)
Reading.**

J A M E S P. H A R T

for Associate Justice
Supreme Court of Texas

INFORMATION SHEET: This biographical material goes to friends and supporters of Jim Hart for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas. It may be useful in preparing speeches, local newspaper articles, radio addresses, etc.

I. PERSONAL.

James P. Hart is a native of Texas and Austin, having been born on November 11, 1904. The son of James H. Hart and Nan Furman Hart, he is descended from prominent families of lawyers.

In 1929 he married Miss Katherine Drake of Austin.

They have five children: Sherman, 18; Katherine, 15; James P. Jr., 13; Richard, 10; and Joe, 6.

II. EDUCATION.

Jim Hart's educational background is sound and thorough. He was an outstanding student, and he holds degrees from the University of Texas and the Harvard School of Law. Among the highlights of his scholastic career were these:

1919 -- Teamed with James R. Hamilton, Jr., to win for Austin High School the University Interscholastic League debating championship.

1920-25 -- In University of Texas. Graduated 1925, B. A. degree, with highest scholastic standing in his class.

Member Kappa Sigma, Delta Sigma Rho, Phi Delta Phi.

Elected to Phi Beta Kappa, national honorary scholastic society.

Member Executive Council of Y. M. C. A., University Debating Team, Friars, Longhorn football squad; Deacon in First Presbyterian Church of Austin.

1925-28 -- In Harvard School of Law. Received LL. B. degree in 1928 with high honors.

Member Beale Law Club and Lincoln's Inn.

Harvard Legal Aid Society (elected second year).

Board of Editors, Harvard Law Review (elected third year).

III. PROFESSIONAL.

Jim Hart has been an outstanding, widely respected attorney in Austin and Texas for many years.

Admitted to Texas Bar, June, 1928.

1928-29 -- With New York firm of Root, Clark, Buckner, Howland and Ballantine.

1929-30 -- Member Austin firm of Woodward, Hart, Gay & Hart.

1930-32 - Member Austin firm of Hart, Patterson & Hart.

1937-38 - Member of Austin firm of Hart, Patterson, Hart & Brown.

1941-47 - Member Austin firm of Hart & Brown (later Hart, Brown & Sparks).

Referee in Bankruptcy, 1943-45.

IV. PUBLIC SERVICE.

Jim Hart is not a "professional politician," but he has had experience in most phases of legal and judicial work.

1932 -- Assistant District Attorney, Travis County.

1933-36 -- District Attorney, Travis County (re-elected without opposition).

1938 (six months) -- Special District Judge, Travis County, elected by members of Travis County Bar.

1939-41 -- Assistant Attorney General. Brilliantly and successfully handled litigation for State of Texas in State and Federal courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States.

1947-48 -- Associate Justice, Supreme Court of Texas. Appointed October 1, 1947, succeeding the Honorable C. S. Slatton, resigned.. Now seeks his first elective term.

V. CIVIC.

Member Board of Directors, Austin Community Chest.

Chairman 1945-46, Travis County Chapter of American Red Cross.

Austin Chamber of Commerce.

VI. PLATFORM.

Jim Hart does not believe a judge can properly have

a political platform. His only platform, then, is a promise always to approach as nearly as he can the ideals of judicial service. His conceptions of these ideals include:

1. Complete impartiality between parties in any case.
2. Sincere devotion to our State and Federal Constitutions and the protections they guarantee.
3. Determination to have the law conform to common sense and plain justice.
4. Ability and willingness to write opinions clearly, directly and simply, so that no one can be in doubt as to their content and intent.
5. A dignified but courteous attitude toward attorneys and litigants.
6. A proper respect for all branches of our government
7. A willingness to spend the necessary time in arriving at the correct solution of complex legal problems.
8. An unwillingness to brook unnecessary delays in the disposition of cases.

"Toward the achievement of these ends, I pledge myself to continue to devote my utmost endeavors," -- JAMES P. HART.

VII. SUMMARY.

James P. Hart is a well-rounded man, devoted to his family, his friends, his state and nation, his profession and the ideals of judicial service.

He is young enough to have the enthusiastic drive of youth -- old enough to have had 19 years of practical experience in virtually all phases of the law, public and private.

By background, education, training, and temperament, he is qualified to be a member of Texas' highest civil tribunal.

He is seeking his first elective term.

The Homespun Harts

An Afternoon Spent at the Chancellor's

By MARY ANN BEAUMIER

A down-to-earth man with a down-to-earth family will take over as Chancellor of the University on November 18.

James P. Hart, who will give up his seat on the Texas Supreme Court to become the first University Chancellor, is the kind of a man who likes to come home from his office in the Capitol building put on a pair of khakis, an old shirt, a pair of bent-up shoes, and go to work in his vegetable garden or in the yard until dark.

Mrs. Hart and the three boys, James Jr., 16, Dick, 13, and Joe, 9, like yardwork as much as their father. Dick is earning spending money working by the hour, and he keeps accurate records of his "time." By themselves the Harts take care of their spacious lawn, flower garden, and vegetable garden.

In the Hart home there is a spirit of family co-operation. They practice the idea that it's fun to work together. Besides the three boys, who are at home, there are two daughters, Sherman, 20, and Kitty, 18, who are at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, where Mrs. Hart did her undergraduate work.

Sherman is a senior history major. She plans to attend the University next year to do graduate work. Kitty is a sophomore, majoring in English. The three boys are "scattered all over town" at Austin High School where James is a junior, at Austin Junior High School where Dick is an eighth grader, and at Woodridge, where Joe is a fourth grader.

Texas County district attorney from 1938 to 1939. He was elected special judge of the Fifty-third District Court in Austin in 1938. He served as Texas assistant attorney general in charge of oil and gas cases from 1939 to 1941 and then returned to private practice. He was appointed to the Supreme Court bench in 1947 by the late Governor Jester and the following year was elected to the Court.

Mr. Hart, also a Phi Beta Kappa, is at present working on a doctorate in French at the University. She has completed all examinations and courses, but lacks her dissertation. Mrs. Hart, who is from Austin, was the former Miss Katherine Drake. She got her bachelor of arts degree from Wellesley and her master of arts degree from Columbia.

Parents Ex-Students

Mr. Hart's parents, who live at 2712 Rio Grande, are also former students of the University. His mother attended the University from 1897 to 1900 and was vice-president of the junior class of 1900. The elder Mr. Hart was captain of the football team and editor of the Cactus in his senior year, 1899. He served as secretary of the University of Texas Athletic Association and was a member of Kappa Sigma.

The new Chancellor's office will be in Main Building 210. The suite of rooms was originally designed as special reading rooms. The Regents will meet in the Academic Room. Mr. Hart's office will be adjacent to theirs on the east, and C. Reed Granberry, assistant to the Chancellor, will have his office adjacent on the west.

ally policy, then recommend a course of action to the Regents, who have the final authority. Mr. Hart plans to keep legislators informed of matters pertaining to the University, he says, and to let them know his opinions concerning them. However, he has made no definite plans to visit them as yet.

The 45-year-old jurist was unanimously recommended by the advisory committee, the members of which were selected by all the faculties, ex-students, and the University Development Board. Mr. Hart was elected Chancellor by the Board of Regents the latter part of July, 1950.

Mr. Hart is the second man the University has called within recent years from a state office to a position of educational leadership. Gibb Gilchrist who is the chancellor of A&M was named president of the College while he was serving as state highway engineer.

Mr. Hart is a Chancellor while still actually being the Chancellor-elect, however. Sounds confusing, but following his selection as Chancellor to the University, Mr. Hart was named first honorary member of the Chancellors, a society of the University Law School.

The Chancellors comprise the Law School's top-ranking seniors and members of the staff of the Texas Law Review. Although Mr. Hart attended the University Law School for one year, he transferred to Harvard where he was graduated with honors. This is the first honorary membership the Chancellors have given since the society was founded in 1925.



DRESSED IN KHAKIS and with hoe in hand, UT's chancellor prepares to enjoy his off hours gardening. The yard's appearance well justifies that it's had attention.

ustin High School where James a junior, at Austin Junior High School where Dr. Hart is an eighth-grader, and at Waco, where he is a fourth-grader.

White Colonial House

The Harts live in a white colonial-style house with green shutters at 1800 Forest Trail. The two-story house and large yard are surrounded by a white picket fence. On the front porch there is usually a croquet set; in a side yard, a volley ball net; and in another section of the yard, a baseball court.

The two younger boys are sitting in a "home of their own" behind the Hart house. A dormitory where each will have his own room is being built. At the same time the Harts are extending their living room and adding a bay window.

Every once in a while Mr. Hart goes to take that gun down and hunting. He hunts dove around Austin, but goes to the coast for ducks. During deer season, he has most of his hunting in the hills of South Texas.

Aside from his regular work as justice of the Supreme Court, Mr. Hart has been interested in the history of the Court. He has written several articles on early history of the Supreme Court in Texas and has had one published in the Texas Law Review and one in the Southwestern Law Journal. Mr. Hart has been in the University of its immediate shadow all his life. He entered the University as a student in 1920 and four years made a name for himself on the campus.

He was an active member of a college debate team, and a member of the State Championship Debate Team in Austin High School. He also played varsity football for two years.

In 1924 Mr. Hart was one of the juniors elected to Phi Beta Kappa. In his Senior year he was one of the three co-chairmen of a variety circus, social event of the year and forerunner of Roundup, and one of the twelve outstanding students in the Alcalde. He ran for student body president against Otis Rogers, now a court worth lawyer, in 1924, and it was a close race. He was a member of Friars and Kappa Sigma fraternities.

He enrolled in law school for one year, and transferred to Harvard Law School in 1925. In 1928 he was admitted to the Texas bar and joined the Austin law firm of his father, James H. Hart. The new Chancellor-elect was

appointed as special reading rooms. The Regents will meet in the Academic Room. Mr. Hart's office will be adjacent to theirs on the east, and C. Read Granberry, assistant to the Chancellor, will have his office adjacent on the west.

Mr. Hart was one of nine men from a list of 122 unanimously approved by a faculty advisory committee for the chancellorship.

Dr. Painter has been serving as acting chancellor since September 1. After November 15, he will be responsible only for the administration of two University units—the Main University at Austin and the Institute of Marine Science at Port Aransas.

Other University units include the Galveston Medical Branch (including a nursing college and several hospitals), the Dental College and the M. D. Anderson Hospital for Cancer Research at Houston, Southwestern Medical School at Dallas, Texas Western College at El Paso, and McDonald Observatory at Fort Davis (owned by the University and operated with the University of Chicago).

Takes Over in 3 Weeks

After Mr. Hart becomes Chancellor in November, Dr. Painter and the executive heads of all other individual units will report directly to him.

The Chancellor, the chief business office, and the executive heads of all University components will compose an advisory council which will meet on call of the Chancellor or any three members. This council will co-ordinate the education and research programs of the several institutions.

The Chancellor will make recommendations to the Regents as to the general policy. He will investigate the facts, make up his own mind about the best University

Here Are Answers To Page 4 Contest

How many could you guess? Did you know that number 1 is Joan Lipscomb, president of "TSO" Theta Sigma Phi; Number 2 is Mac Bincliff; head cheer leader; number 3 is Jackie Farris, sweetheart of the University; number 4 is the Aggies favorite, alias the landy on the fountain; number 5 is Ben Procter, left end; number 6 is Beth Ann Wilson, campus beauty; and number 7 is Lloyd Hand, student president.

School for one year, he transferred to Harvard where he was graduated with honors.

This is the first honorary membership the Chancellors have given since the society was founded in 1912.

DRESSED IN KHAKIS and prepares to enjoy his off hours well testifies that it's had after



WITH HUNTING IN THE AIR, Mr. Hart looks forward to a week end in the country enjoying one of his favorite hobbies. He likes to hunt in the hills of South Texas best, but in

the duck season the chancellor dutifully takes office or goes out for the

Katherine Drake Hart (Mrs. James P.)

Following her graduation from Wellesley College in 1926, Mrs. Hart was awarded a fellowship by the Institute of International Education for study at the University of Lyons, France, from which she received the certificate in 1926. She obtained the MA degree at Columbia University in 1928 and the PhD degree in French at the University of Texas in 1955, when she combined her academic work with raising five children and taking an active part in community affairs.

She was named 1963 Volunteer of the Year in Austin. Currently the director of the Austin-Travis County Collection of the Austin Public Library and President of the Heritage Society of Austin, she is also a member of the Society of American Archivists and the American Society of Architectural Historians, and was formerly chairman of the Texas Library Association Archives, State and Local History Round Table.

Mrs. Hart was formerly a member of the Austin Board of Education, secretary-treasurer of the Texas Association of School Boards, and a member of the committee to study adult vocational education for the Texas Education Agency.

Other board memberships have included Open Forum, Alliance Francaise, English Speaking Union, Austin Lawyers Wives Club, and State Official Ladies Club. She helped to organize the Austin Wellesley Club and was district chairman of the Wellesley College Development Fund.

In 1964 Mrs. Hart was elected to a six-year term to membership on the Wellesley College Board of Trustees to represent the alumnae of the College.

Mrs. Hart's Austin heritage dates back four generations. Her husband, a practicing attorney, is former Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas and former Chancellor of the University of Texas.

In 1968 Mrs. Hart began writing a series of articles of historical interest for the American Statesman. These articles appear each Saturday under the title WATERLOO SCRAPBOOK. She also supervises the publication of the WATERLOO BOOKS drawn from the archival material in the Austin-Travis County Collection.

Mrs. Hart was born in 1905 in the City of Austin, Texas.
She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James P. Hart.



Am st 8/5/56

After raising five children, this grandmother turned into a civic leader. Mrs. James P. Hart, 1800 Forest Trail, is a member of the school board and many other worthwhile organizations. Last year she received a doctorate in French from the University of Texas. Despite her busy schedule, she finds time for a swim with her husband every noon at Barton Springs.



Mrs. James Hart, above, believes that preserving the atmosphere of Austin benefits everyone. Mother of five and a PhD, Mrs. Hart's own Austin heritage dates back four generations. When she realized that taken-for-granted old buildings that give Austin its charm were being torn down to make parking space, she went to work. Giving endless hours at the Public Library, she has also been largely responsible for saving many historic structures, including the Lundgren Bakery. She is conservation chairman of the Heritage Society of Austin.

Am. St. 1/6/63

AF 2109 Hart, James Pincney, 1848-1914
8 Hart, Katherine (Drake)

Austin American-Statesman
Wed, Oct. 8, 1975



KATHERINE HART

To retire from 18-year position.

Travis County Collection curator to retire Friday

For a woman who has "lived in the past" for more than 18 years, Katherine Hart has mixed emotions about retiring to "real life."

As curator for the Austin Public Library's Travis County Collection, Mrs. Hart has been overscor of the ever-growing accumulation of letters, photographs, books and documents outlining early and recent county history. She will retire Friday.

The curator joined the library staff in 1957 after her five children were grown and she had completed her Ph.D. in French at the University of Texas. The then-two-year-old collection, she recalls, was managed in "very cramped" conditions by two staff women.

The collection has since mushroomed to a distinguished assortment of Travis County memorabilia and a still-crowded 10-person staff.

A laughing, genial woman, Mrs. Hart speaks affectionately of the 18 years of changes within the collection.

"We've always worked on the theory that it (the collection) is not just for the scholars, but (for) the Boy Scouts who come in to work on their badges or the women who are doing papers for their clubs."

But while the collection may belong to the community, it must also be dependent on it, Mrs. Hart said.

As a staff member of the collection, Mrs. Hart has done her share of "brush-rattling" to uncover old letters and pictures of early Austin life.

"My husband and I both are fourth-generation Austinites, so I could always go dig up some woman who went to kindergarten with my mother," she said.

Much of the material, however, came from unsuspecting sources.

The curator was once sent out to investigate some old books a woman said she wanted to donate to the library. The books turned out to be of the vintage of "old copies of Ben Hur and the like," Mrs. Hart said, but the curator eyed a box stuffed with letters that was heaped in a corner.

"I asked what was in the box and she said, 'Oh, that's just trash.'"

The "trash" turned out to be a collection of letters written in 1875 by a young Austin woman, Abbie Bacchi.

In the past, Mrs. Hart has been involved in historic activities such as work with the Austin Heritage Society and writing the "Waterloo Scrapbook" column for The Austin American-Statesman. But after retirement, she said, she is "going to stay at home and be a housewife and grandmother. I'm not going to do any good works."

By: Doggett

S.R. No. 27

SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, For more than 18 years Mrs. Katherine Hart has faithfully served the community of Austin and Travis County as curator for the Austin Public Library's Travis County Collection; her retirement on October 10, 1975, will bring to a close her long tenure of dedicated and friendly service to the citizens of Travis County; and

WHEREAS, Joining the library staff in 1957, Mrs. Hart has been overseer of the collection of letters, photographs, books, and documents dealing with the early history of Travis County as well as recent county history; the accumulation of memorabilia never ceased to grow under her capable direction; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Hart gathered much of the material found in the collection herself and strived to make it accessible and serviceable to all citizens; she worked closely with the Austin Heritage Society in various historic activities and wrote the "Waterloo Scrapbook" column for the Austin American-Statesman which made early Austin live for all the city's residents, both old and new; and

WHEREAS, The hard work and devotion of Mrs. Hart will be long remembered and appreciated by the citizens of Travis County and by future generations for years to come; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 65th Legislature of the State of Texas congratulate Mrs. Katherine Hart, former curator of the Travis County Collection of the Austin Public Library, on the occasion of her retirement and extend appreciation to this gracious lady and eminent historian for her 18 years of service; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for Mrs. Hart as a token of the esteem and best wishes of the Texas Senate.



W. P. Hobby
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on January 11, 1977.

Butt King
Secretary of the Senate

F. 9: A BRIEF HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Thank you for your consideration of 1800 Forest Trail for Historic Zoning/ Historic Landmark Designation. We are proud to have accomplished the reality of buying, restoring and now occupying the Hart House, a home approximately 75 years young, in great part thanks to the careful attention of our architect and builder, as well as the community-at-large who supported our efforts with memories of the Hart family, neighborhood pride and well wishes.

One of us Thompsons -- namely Frances DeLaGarza Thompson -- can claim Austin as home by birth, and because of a move made just a year ago, the entire family now claims Austin home by relocation. However, we feel an even greater connection to the city of Frances' birth through the purchase and restoration of the Hart House. We searched the better part of six months before finding a gem definitely in need of much polish, if not an "historic" amount of sanding. There were many new and newer homes from which to choose in greater Austin, but we had narrowed our search for an older home in West Austin -- one with character and one that already "fit" well into the neighborhood. We also were willing to invest significant time and resources in renovating an older home.

When we first saw 1800 Forest Trail in June 2003, our realtor showed it last -- the final stop before returning to St. Louis, home at the time. We travelled back to Missouri with the home on our minds. However, apart from the abandoned condition of the house, there were other challenges to consider before making our interest known. At that time, the house was the only structure on the new Woodmont Forest subdivision, a resubdivision of a portion of Lots 1 and 9, Block 17, Westfield "A" (our initial lot would become Lot 4, Block A), with at least three new construction houses to occupy the rest of the subdivision. The possibility even existed that without an interested buyer, 1800 Forest Trail could make way for yet another new house. We wanted to restore this old home, but needed to weigh our commitment to the project, as well as the impact of the additional houses.

Late that summer, we approached Austin architect James (Jimmy) Holland who was familiar with the project, as he had done a few preliminary drawings for the subdivision owner and seller, Sam Stewart of Stewart Custom Homes, who wanted to market 1800 Forest Trail as a complete restoration and addition. Holland was thrilled to find potential buyers who were excited to save an old home -- with obvious warts but beautifully solid bones.

As we discussed the necessary overhaul and the addition of a two-car garage with bedrooms and a bath above (and later, the addition of a covered back porch with balcony above) we realized that our goal for the property was doable -- to restore 1800 Forest Trail to the family home it had been for so long when James and Katherine Hart and their five children had occupied it for more than 50 years.

Holland discussed with us all of the work that 1800 Forest Trail would need (and at the time we were not even sure about the foundation). Thankfully, the foundation was solid and we were comfortable with the general floorplan; however, all of the wood, plumbing, electrical, and much more would need to be completely replaced.

The next step was to select a builder, and we interviewed a number, including Sam Stewart from whom we had bought the house and who was building his home on the lot next door. Another builder, Randy Chupik of Chupik Properties, also was building a new home on the old Hart estate (next door to Stewart's) and offered to build for as well. Instead of working with either of these two custom builders, however, we chose a third-generation Austin homebuilder -- Tommy Hudson of Hudson Homes of Austin -- much in part because of his commitment to maintain the integrity of the house. Craftmanship, he warned, would take a while, but at the end of the restoration, we would have a new home for our family within the warm framework of the historic Hart House.

To briefly elaborate on the existing house and a few of its conditions and renovations:

The original house was wood siding, balloon-framed with shiplap walls and cheese cloth wallpaper. Exterior studs measured approximately 30-plus feet. We realized that the pier and beam foundation was in sound shape, and we leveled and supported it. Tommy Hudson sent siding to a mill in Louisiana and had knives made to reproduce the same siding profile.

While the siding was off, we insulated and rewired the existing house, and also fire-blocked the balloon framing. As the house has a partial basement originally built for a coal furnace, we used the space to contain the new HVAC and utilized the brick coal stack to house the gas vent through the two-story structure. At the top, we fitted the stack with a galvanized cover and vent. Jimmy Holland and Tommy Hudson found use for the decorative wall registers used in the past only for the furnace and terminated ducts at the baseboard registers.

The baseboard and casing came off, and Hudson sheetrocked over the shiplap and replaced the baseboard and casing in the same profile. The casing and baseboard were milled on the job out of white pine using a table saw, planer and router. Old doors with mortised locks were reused. Many of the old windows used mostly in the front of the house were sometime job-built to make useable, and new windows were matched as same single-pane divided-light profile. In addition, craftsmen refitted sash cord, weights and glass. We reused the 40-inch front door with sidelights.

Oak floors downstairs and long leaf pine upstairs were refinished with dark walnut stain and tongue oil. The cabinets in the butler pantry were kept and refinished along with the glass knobs and pine countertop. As for the kitchen, its cabinets were matched in the same Shaker-style as the butler pantry's although with expanded metal panels in the upper doors. A single-compartment farm sink

enhanced the cabinets' simplicity. Other details throughout the house include a free-standing bathtub in a master bathroom and rectangle white tile and octagon floor in another bath.

Outside, the siding again was painted a soft white. Hudson added V-grooved porch ceilings complete with an historic sky blue paint on the front, side and rear porches. The garage doors and standing seam roofs were matched, and the majority of the roof was two-dimensional shingle to fit the time period when the house was built. Pine shutters with working porter and lull iron hinges on the exterior matched the original shutters and small details remained, such as an acorn cornice piece at the rear of the house.

Once the restoration of 1800 Forest Trail was complete -- just this March, 2005 -- we could reflect on the project's real accomplishment -- to return to the neighborhood a part of its past:

James and Katherine Hart found 1800 Forest Trail, it seems, right in the middle of where they were born and raised, met and married (or just a little west of it!). James Pinckney Hart was born on November 11, 1904, in Austin, and Katherine Drake was born June 11, 1905, at her parent's home also in Austin. They married on April 2, 1929, at Saint David's Episcopal Church 1929.

In 1930, after a brief residence in New York City, where James Hart practiced a year or so of law before joining his father's firm in Austin, James purchased a tract of land in West Austin -- Lot 1, Block 17, Westfield "A," a subdivision of record in Volume 3, page 107 of the plat records of Travis County. He, together with Katherine, sometime after also purchased a portion of Lot 9, Block 17 of Westfield, with both tracts equalling 1.806 acres.

In short order, the Hart House began to take the shape of a growing family, as from 1930 to 1941, all five Hart children were born, all to be reared in the family home at 1800 Forest Trail. However, the Harts not only raised a family in Austin, they also raised their own civic and political careers. James Hart's professional and public service coexisted throughout his life, with Katherine Hart's public service blossoming as her children grew older and more independent.

Throughout his career, James Hart practiced law in prominent Austin firms, including those of his father, the senior James H. Hart. Beginning as an assistant district attorney in 1932, James Hart then became Travis County District Attorney, continuing in public service as a special district judge of Travis County and assistant attorney general for the State of Texas. He concluded his public life by serving on the Supreme Court of Texas from 1947-1950 and then resigning to become the first Chancellor of the University of Texas.

One can imagine the myriad of activity at the Hart House during these later civic-minded years -- from late-night strategy sessions in the living room where Katherine and the children would plan their electioneering around the state in the family station wagon in support of James Hart's bid for Associate Justice of the

Supreme Court, to the days of UT's "intellectual serenity" when then Chancellor Hart would invite UT students to visit with his family and picnic on the lawn of 1800 Forest Trail (the Harts also graciously invited the media into their home, as documented in a *Daily Texan* article which mentions the home, its architecture and even its planned additions).

Although in 1953, James Hart would resign as Chancellor, two years later, the University awarded Katherine Hart in 1955 a doctorate in French; the same year two of their younger children received their own diplomas from Austin High School and UT. The year 1955 also saw the founding of the Austin-Travis County Collection, predecessor of the Austin History Center, within the Reference Department of the Austin Public Library. The collection, consisting of mainly old newspaper clippings, took a sharp turn for the best in 1957 when Dr. Hart stepped in to work with the fledgling organization. By 1959, after implementing a system for cataloging materials in the collection, Dr. Hart obtained for the collection one of its most important acquisitions – the papers of Governor Elisha Pease and his family.

Dr. Hart later became Curator of the Collection, retiring in 1975 as Director, having "set the tone for the whole state as far as local history is concerned," as remarked by a library director. Additionally in 1975, Dr. Katherine Hart received the Medal of Honor of the American Institute of Architects, Austin chapter, for contributions to community life through her writings, her assembling a collection depicting Austin's architectural and cultural heritage and her stewardship of that heritage.

" 'Texas citizens all over the state share the realization of the value of this architectural heritage to our present-day community life, and much is being done to try to control the needless destruction of irreplaceable old houses and buildings,' " said Dr. Hart, as reported in an undated newspaper clipping from later in Dr. Hart's life, the headline of which read, "Preserving Old Home Said Need." These words confirm our belief that 1800 Forest Trail – the Hart House -- satisfies the following City Historic Landmark criteria for historic zoning:

As stated in our opening statement, the Hart House is approximately 75 years old (or young!), and following its restoration, the house retains more than sufficient integrity of materials and design to convey its historic appearance. Additionally, as summarized in the many paragraphs above, the Hart House is 1) more than significant for its historical associations – James and Katherine Hart, their civic "root system" and importantly, Dr. Katherine Hart's grasp and preservation of Austin's history at a critical time when a system had not been established to preserve for posterity -- and 2) significant now and for years to come for its ongoing community value – 1800 Forest Trail always will serve as a West Austin neighborhood landmark, a familiar visual feature along the curve of Forest Trail where the past did not give way completely to the present, did not compromise despite new development, and a reminder to the neighborhood and city of our shared past and its impact on our lives.

1800 Forest Tr
page 4

To conclude...

Although it is well-documented that James and Katherine Hart spread their civic roots throughout Austin, Travis County and the State of Texas, we believe their roots and those of their children are most evident here at 1800 Forest Trail. Like the large oak that thrives in our front yard, shading our newer "dirt" driveway at the house, we feel the Harts and their long limbs of history will watch over our own lives. We have seen their history – from the vintage wallpaper collection amassed during initial months inspecting the house's passages and corners and the laminated yellowed newspaper clipping discovered behind the living room mantle showing a smiling Hart siblings reunited during service in Korea, to our own daughter's veteran preschool teacher reminiscing over coffee in our new kitchen about her old friendship with one of the Hart daughters – and we know that we will become part of the 1800 Forest Trail historic legacy.

Davison R. Thompson and Frances D. Thompson 

1800 Forest Trail, Austin, Texas

June, 2005

1800 Forest Tr
page 5

ORDINANCE NO. _____

1 AN ORDINANCE REZONING AND CHANGING THE ZONING MAP FOR THE
2 PROPERTY GENERALLY KNOWN AS THE HART HOUSE LOCATED AT 1800
3 FOREST TRAIL FROM FAMILY RESIDENCE (SF-3) DISTRICT TO FAMILY
4 RESIDENCE-HISTORIC (SF-3-H) COMBINING DISTRICT.

5
6 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

7
8 **PART 1.** The zoning map established by Section 25-2491 of the City Code is amended to
9 change the base district from family residence (SF-3) district to family residence-historic
10 (SF-3-H) combining district on the property described in Zoning Case No. C14H-05-0010,
11 on file at the Neighborhood Planning and Zoning Department, as follows:

12
13 A 0.115 acre tract of land, more or less, out of Lot 9, Block 17, Westfield "A"
14 Subdivision in Travis County, the tract of land being more particularly described
15 by metes and bounds in Exhibit "A" incorporated into this ordinance,

16
17 generally known as the Hart House, locally known as 1800 Forest Trail, in the City of
18 Austin, Travis County, Texas, and generally identified in the map attached as Exhibit "B".

19
20 **PART 2.** This ordinance takes effect on _____, 2005.

21
22
23 PASSED AND APPROVED _____

24
25 §
26 §
27 §

28 Will Wynn
29 Mayor

30
31
32 APPROVED _____

33 ATTEST: _____

34 David Allan Smith
City Attorney

Shirley A. Brown
City Clerk

EXHIBIT A
FIELD NOTES TO ACCOMPANY MAP OF SURVEY
PARCEL "A"
0.115 ACRE OF LAND
PORTION OF LOT 9, BLOCK 17, WESTFIELD "A"
CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

FIELD NOTES DESCRIPTION OF 0.115 ACRE OF LAND, OUT OF LOT 9, BLOCK 17, WESTFIELD "A", A SUBDIVISION OF RECORD IN VOLUME 3, PAGE 107 OF THE PLAT RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE SAID 0.115 ACRE BEING A PORTION OF THAT CERTAIN 1.806 ACRE TRACT OUT OF LOTS 1 AND 9, BLOCK 17 OF THE SAID WESTFIELD "A" SUBDIVISION CONVEYED TO SAM STEWART CUSTOM HOMES, INC. BY DEED RECORDED IN DOCUMENT NUMBER 2001096817 OF THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS AND BEING ALL OF THAT CERTAIN 0.115 ACRE TRACT CONVEYED TO OWEN A. NORTON OF RECORD IN DOCUMENT NUMBER 2001184108 OF THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS. THE SAID 0.115 ACRE OF LAND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING, at a ½ inch diameter steel pin set with cap stamped Lenz & Assoc. on the north right-of-way line of Woodmont Avenue, the same being the south line of the said Lot 9 and being at the southwest corner of the said 1.806 acre tract and 0.115 acre tract, the same being the southeast corner of that certain tract conveyed to Owen A. Norton recorded in Volume 12799, Page 1319 of the Real Property Records of Travis County, Texas, from which a ½ inch diameter iron pipe found at the intersection of the north right-of-way line of Woodmont Avenue with the west right-of-way line of Stamford Lane bears N 64°04'00" W, 160.41 feet;

THENCE, N 25°50'28" E, a distance of 100.09 feet along the west line of the said 1.806 acre tract to a 5/8 inch diameter iron pipe found at the northeast corner of the said Owen A. Norton tract described in Volume 12799, Page 1319 and the northwest corner of the said 0.115 acre Norton tract, the same being the southeast corner of that certain tract conveyed to Kate S. Kovac by deed recorded in Document Number 2000158342 of the Official Public Records of Travis County, Texas and being at the southwest corner of Lot 4, Block A, Woodmont Forest, A Resubdivision of a Portion of Lots 1 and 9, Block 17 Westfield A, a subdivision of record in Document Number 200300053 of the Official Public Records of Travis County, Texas;

THENCE, S 63°51'01" E, a distance of 50.00 feet to a ¼ inch diameter steel pin set with cap stamped Lenz & Assoc. in the interior of the said 1.806 acre tract at an exterior corner of the said Lot 4, Block A and being on the west line of Lot 3, Block A of the said Woodmont Forest, A Resubdivision of a Portion of Lots 1 and 9, Block 17 Westfield A subdivision, and being at the northeast corner of the said 0.115 acre Norton tract;

THENCE, S 25°50'28" W, a distance of 99.90 feet to a 1 inch diameter iron pipe found on the north right-of-way line of Woodmont Avenue at the southeast corner of the said 0.115 acre Norton tract and the southwest corner of the said Lot 3, Block A;

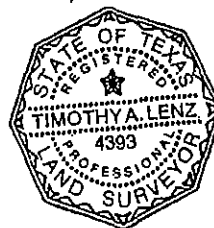
THENCE, N 64°04'00" W, a distance of 50.00 feet along the north line of Woodmont Avenue to the **PLACE OF BEGINNING**, containing 0.115 acre of land, more or less.

BASIS OF BEARINGS ~ 1 inch diameter iron pipe found at S.W. corner Lot 1 to 5/8 inch diameter iron pipe found on south line Lot 1 (S 64°04' E, 425.54') per Volume 649, Page 207, Deed Records of Travis County, Texas & Doc. No. 2001096817 Official Public Records of Travis County, Texas.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS DESCRIPTION WAS PREPARED FROM AN ACTUAL SURVEY PERFORMED ON THE GROUND UNDER MY SUPERVISION.

Timothy A. Lenz
TIMOTHY A. LENZ, R.P.L.S. NO. 4393
Lenz & Associates, Inc.
1714 Fort View Road, Suite 101
Austin, Texas 78704
(512) 443-1174

2001-0301A(norton).doc


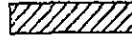




PDT 11-15-04
DRT 11-15-04

CASE No. CB-02-0236. CA



SP-04-0144C

 1" = 200'	SUBJECT TRACT 	HISTORIC ZONING <i>EXHIBIT B</i>		CITY GRID REFERENCE NUMBER H24
	PENDING CASE 	CASE #: C14H-05-0010		
	ZONING BOUNDARY 	ADDRESS: 1800 FOREST TRL		
	CASE MGR: S. SADOWSKY	DATE: 05-06		
SUBJECT AREA (acres): N/A		INTLS: SM		