Zoning Public Hearing CITY OF AUSTIN RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA ITEM NO.: Z-7 AGENDA DATE: Thu 12/01/2005

PAGE: 1 of 1

<u>SUBJECT</u>: C14H-05-0028 – Cox-Craddock House - Conduct a public hearing and approve an ordinance amending Chapter 25-2 of the Austin City Code by rezoning property locally known as 720 East 32nd Street from family residence-conditional overlay-neighborhood plan (SF-3-CO-NP) combining district zoning to family residence-historic-conditional overlay-neighborhood plan (SF-3-H-CO-NP) combining district zoning. Historic Landmark Commission recommendation: To grant family residence-historic-conditional overlay-neighborhood plan (SF-3-H-CO-NP) combining district zoning. Planning Commission recommendation: To grant family residence-historic-conditional overlay-neighborhood plan (SF-3-H-CO-NP) combining district zoning. Applicant: Daniel Leary. City Staff: Steve Sadowsky, 974-6454.

REQUESTING Neighborhood Planning **DIRECTOR'S**

DEPARTMENT: and Zoning AUTHORIZATION: Greg Guernsey

RCA Serial#: 10575 Date: 12/01/05 Original: Yes Published:

Disposition: Adjusted version published:

ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

CASE NUMBER: C14H-05-0028

HLC DATE:

October 24, 2005

PC DATE:

November 8, 2005

APPLICANT: Daniel Leary

HISTORIC NAME: Cox-Craddock House

WATERSHED: Waller Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 720 E. 32nd Street

ZONING FROM: SF-3-CO-NP

TO: SF-3-H-CO-NP

<u>SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION</u>: Staff recommends the proposed zoning change from single family residence, conditional overlay, neighborhood plan (SF-3-CO-NP) district to single family residence, conditional overlay, neighborhood plan – Historic (SF-3-H-CO-NP) combining district zoning.

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended the proposed zoning change from single family residence, conditional overlay, neighborhood plan (SF-3-CO-NP) district to single family residence, conditional overlay, neighborhood plan – Historic (SF-3-H-CO-NP) combining district zoning. Vote: 4-0-1 (Bunton and Mather absent; Leary abstaining).

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended the proposed zoning change from single family residence, conditional overlay, neighborhood plan (SF-3-CO-NP) district to single family residence, conditional overlay, neighborhood plan - Historic (SF-3-H-CO-NP) combining district zoning. Vote: 7-0 (Moore off dais; Dealey absent).

<u>DEPARTMENT COMMENTS</u>: The house is listed as a Priority 2 in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984), and is individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion "C" (Architecture), 2000.

CITY COUNCIL DATE:

ACTION:

ORDINANCE READINGS: 1ST 2ND 3RD

ORDINANCE NUMBER:

CASE MANAGER: Steve Sadowsky

PHONE: 974-6454

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION: Hancock Neighborhood Association

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The ca. 1928 Cox-Craddock House is listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places.

~ NATIONAL REGISTER LISTING

The ca. 1928 Cox-Craddock House was designed by noted local architect Hugo Kuehne and is an excellent example of a Colonial Revival residence. The brick house has a symmetrical composition, 12:12 windows framed by a stone keystone and flat brick arch above and a stone sill. Three pedimented dormers with round-arched Gothic-mullioned windows pierce the front of the side-gabled roof. A pedimented portico forms the prominent central entry; the door is framed with sidelights and a transom.

Hugo Kuehne (1884-1963) was one of Austin's most noteworthy and prolific residential architects, specializing in traditional styles. His execution of the Colonial Revival at the Cox-Craddock House exhibits many elegant features of the style; the Cox-Craddock House is one of a line of imposing houses, including Kuehne's own, along 32nd Street between Duval Street and Waller Creek.

Robert A. and Linda Cox, the first owners of the house, were both economics professors at the University of Texas. Linda Cox sold the house in 1948 to Larry Inge Craddock, who had a variety of business interests in the city, including a miniature golf course and gas stations. Craddock enclosed the piazza and sleeping porch on the east end of the house. The current owner has restored the piazza to Kuehne's original open design and railing.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lots 17 and 18, and the East 12 feet of Lot 16, Outlot 7, Division C, Stark Subdivision.

ANNUAL CITY TAX ABATEMENT: \$2,000 City tax cap (owner-occupied rate)

APPRAISED VALUE: \$709,219

PRESENT USE: Residence

CONDITION: Excellent

PRESENT OWNER

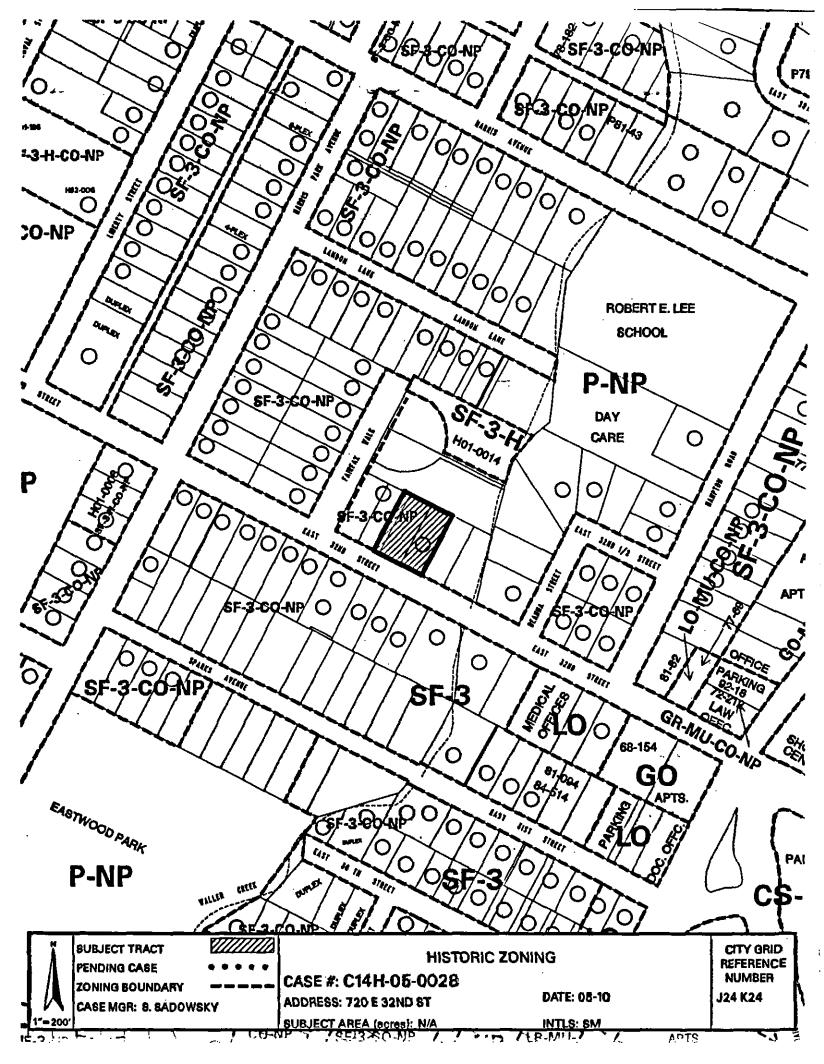
Daniel Leary 720 E. 32nd Street Austin, Texas 78705

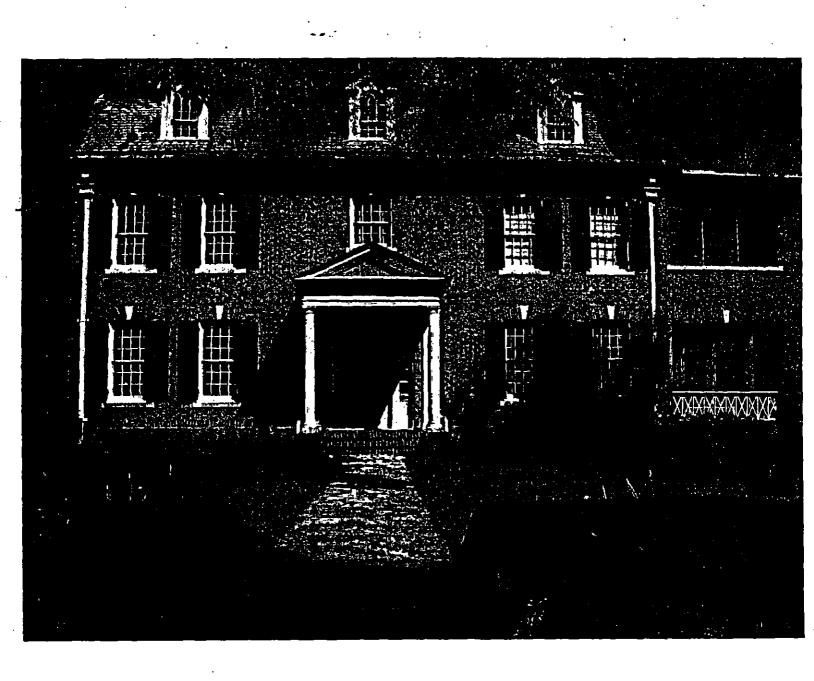
DATE BUILT: ca. 1928

<u>ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS</u>: Piazza and sleeping porch enclosed, 19; piazza restored to historic appearance, 2005.

ORIGINAL OWNER(S): Robert A. Cox (1928)

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: Individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion "C" (Architecture), 2000.





A. APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC ZONING PROPERTY MATION:

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7. RESTRICTIVE		ES (NÓ)	FILE NUMBER: FILE NUMBER:		

FILE NUMBER:

(YES (NO)

9. SITE PLAN?

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION (SUBDIVISION REFERENCE OR METES AND BOUNDS):

10a. SUBDIVISION REFERENCE: Name: 51464 5485
Block(s) Lot(s) TE184E12FOutlot(s) 10 OLT FOVO
Plat Book:Page
Number: 02/50603/90000
10b. METES AND BOUNDS (Attach two copies of certified field notes if subdivision reference is not available or
manifest to the dead to the dead
DEED REFERENCE CONVEYING PROPERTY TO PRESENT OWNER AND TAX PARCEL I.D.:
11. VOLUME: 11676 PAGE: 01004 TAX PARCEL I.D. NO. 02150603190000
OTHER PROVISIONS:
12. IS PROPERTY IN A ZONING COMBINING DISTRICT / OVERLAY ZONE?
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. X SOLECOMMUNITY PROPERTYPARTNERSHIPCORPORATIONTRUST
If ownership is other than sole or community property, list individuals/partners/principals below or attach separate shee
OWNER INFORMATION:
16. OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION
SIGNATURE: NAME: DAVIELE LE
FIRM NAME: TELEPHONE NUMBER: 52.476.5424
STREET ADDRESS: 120 E 32 ND ST
CITY: AUGUSTATE: TX ZIP CODE: 73-05-3108
EMAIL ADDRESS:
<u> </u>
AGENT INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE):
AGENT NICOTOM TOTAL (IF AN EMPAREM).
17. AGENT CONTACT INFORMATION
SIGNATURE:NAME:
THE POLICAL AND REPORTS
FIRM NAME:TELEPHONE NUMBER:
STREET
ADORESS:
CITY: ZIP CODE:
CONTACT PERSON: TELEPHONE NUMBER:
CONTACT PERSON:

Revised June 30, 2002

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY:

Revised June 30, 2002

D. SUBMITTAL VERIFICATION AND INSPECTION AUTHORIZATION

SUBMITTAL VERICATION

My signature attests to the fact that the attached application package is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that proper City staff review of this application is dependent upon the accuracy of the information provided and that any inaccurate or inadequate information provided by me/my firm/etc., may delay the proper review of this application.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NAI INDICATE FIRM REPRESENTED	
Signature	09/05/05 Date
DALLEL E. LEE Name (Typed or Printed)	
Hame (1yped of Printed)	
Firm (If applicable)	

INSPECTION AUTHORIZATION

As owner or authorized agent, my signature authorizes staff to visit and inspect the property for which this application is being submitted.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NATIONAL INDICATE FIRM REPRESENTED), IF APPLICABLE.
Signature	un 09/05/05
DANIEL E. LE	
Name (Typed or Printed)	
Firm (If applicable)	

Revised June 30, 2002 10

E. ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

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

restrictions, (Print name of applicant)	have checked for subdivision plat notes, deed
restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional over development restrictions i.e. height, access, screening	erlays prohibiting certain uses and/or requiring certain etc. on this property, located at
720 E. 32LID ST. AUSTI (Address or Legal Description)	H, TX 78705.3108
deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning it. i also acknowledge that I understand the implica	nitting to the City of Austin due to subdivision plat notes conditional overlays it will be my responsibility to resolve ations of use and/or development restrictions that are a strictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays.
I understand that if requested, I must provide copies restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlay	s of any and all subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions y information which may apply to this property.
0 19	

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

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 02-1506-0319-0000

PROPERTY OWNER:

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

LEARY DANIEL E 720 E 32ND STREET AUSTIN, TX 78705-3108

LOT 17&18 * & E 12FT LOT 16 OLT 7 DIV C STARK SUBD

ACRES 0.000 MIN% .00000 TYPE

SITUS INFORMATION: 720 E 32

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):

ENTITY

2004 AUSTIN ISD CITY OF AUSTIN (TRAV) TRAVIS COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT ACC (TRAVIS)

TOTAL SEQUENCE

ALL PAID *ALL PAID* *ALL PAID* *ALL PAID*

TOTAL TAX: UNPAID FEES: INTEREST ON FEES: COMMISSION: TOTAL DUE ==>

ALL PAID
* NONE * . NONE NONE *ALL PAID*

ALL PAID

TOTAL

TAXES PAID FOR YEAR 2004

\$18,247.11

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 10/07/2005

Fee Paid: \$10.00

Nelda Wells Spears Tax Assessor Collector

FYFFES printed on 10/07/2005 @ 15:15:47:36



THE

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

CERTIFIES THAT

the Cox-Craddock House

IS LISTED IN THE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

BY THE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

EGECUTIVE DIRECTOR TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Conthia J. Bencon
DIRECTOR, HISTORY PROCESSION
TECKS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

(Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	· ·		• •
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form			
1. NAME OF PROPERTY			
HISTORIC NAME: Cox-Craddock House OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER: N/A			
2. LOCATION			
STREET & NUMBER: 720 E. 32 nd Street CITY OR TOWN: Austin STATE: Texas CODE: TX COUNTY	: Travis	CODE: 453	NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A VICINITY: N/A ZIP CODE: 78705
3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION			
request for determination of eligibility meets the documents to procedural and professional to meets the procedural and professional to meets the National Register criteria statewide to procedural to state wide to procedural to sheet for a statewide to procedural state of certifying official to the state of the stat	requirements set forth i. I recommend that th dditional comments.) torical Commission	in 36 CFR Part 60. is property be consider	In my opinion, the property
Signature of commenting or other official	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<u></u>	Date ·
State or Federal agency and bureau		-	•
4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION			
I hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of th	ве Кеерег	Date of Action
entered in the National Register See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register			
removed from the National Register			
other (explain):			

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form Cox-Craddock House, Austin, Travis County, Texas 5. CLASSIFICATION Ownership of Property: private Category of Property: building Number of Resources within Property: Contributing Noncontributing 1 0 buildings 0 0 sites 0 0 structures 0 0 objects 1 0 Total Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0 Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

6. FUNCTION OR USE

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS: Domestic: single dwelling

CURRENT FUNCTIONS: Domestic: single dwelling

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival

MATERIALS: FOUNDATION CONCRETE

WALLS WOOD
ROOF ASPHALT
OTHER LIMESTONE

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheets 7-5 through 7-15).

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form Cox-Craddock House, Austin, Travis County, Texas	. 1
8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIPICANCE	
APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA A PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH EVENTS THAT HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUT PATTERNS OF OUR HISTORY. B PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIVES OF PERSONS SIGNIFICANT IN OUR PAST X C PROPERTY EMBODIES THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TYPE, PERIOD, OR MET CONSTRUCTION OR REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER, OR POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE ENTITY WHOSE COMPONENTS LACIDISTINCTION. D PROPERTY HAS YIELDED, OR IS LIKELY TO YIELD, INFORMATION IMPORTANT IN PREHIS	THOD OF IC VALUE, OR K INDIVIDUAL
Criteria Considerations: N/A	
Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE	·.
Period of Significance: 1928	•
Significant Dates: 1928	
Significant Person: N/A	
Cultural Affiliation: N/A	
ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Kuehne, Hugo Franz (architect)	·
NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (see continuation sheets 8-22 through 8-24).	
9. major bibliographic references	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (see continuation sheet 9-25). PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS): N/A _ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. _ previously listed in the National Register _ previously determined eligible by the National Register _ designated a National Historic Landmark _ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # PRIMARY LOCATION OF ADDITIONAL DATA: x State historic preservation office (Texas Historical Commission) _ Other state agency _ Federal agency _ Local government _ University _ Other Specify Repository:	

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form Cox-Craddock House, Austin, Travis County, Texas

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: less than one acre

UTM References

Zone Easting

Northing

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622200

3351680

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 17, 18, 19, 20 and the East 12st of lot 16 in out lot 7 division C part of the Stark Subdivision in Austin, Travis Co., Texas.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes all resources associated with the 1928 Cox-Craddock House

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE: Lesley C. Sommer, Graduate Student

ORGANIZATION: School of Architecture, University of Texas

DATE: May 2000

STREET & NUMBER: 2706 Cole #204

TELEPHONE: (512) 474-9952

CITY OR TOWN: Austin

STATE: TX

ZIP CODE: 78705

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

CONTINUATION SHEETS

MAPS (see continuation sheet Maps-#)

PHOTOGRAPHS (see continuation sheet Photo-20)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

PROPERTY OWNER

NAME: Daniel E. Leary

STREET & NUMBER: 720 E.32nd Street

Telephone: (512)478-5426

City or town: Austin

State: TX

Zip code: 78705

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 5

Cox-Craddock House Austin, Travis County, Texas

The Cox-Craddock House is a 2 story Colonial Revival house designed by Austin architect Hugo Franz Kuehne and built in 1928 for Robert Alameth Cox. The house stands in central Austin along the tree-lined streets of the Stark Addition. The site slopes significantly from west to east, tumbling down to the bank of Waller Creek, which forms its irregular eastern boundary. Terraces create a formal lawn on the south elevation of the house, which is its primary façade. The buff brick veneered house is rectangular in plan, with a double-story sleeping porch on the east elevation. The main block of the house has a side-gabled roof with three southfacing dormers; the sleeping porch has a flat roof. Though in need of some repair, the house has had few alterations and retains a high level of integrity in its location, setting, feeling, association, design, materials, and workmanship.

The Cox-Craddock House is at 720 East 32nd Street, in the Stark Addition, a central subdivision in Austin, Texas. The house occupies lots 17, 18, 19, 20, and the east 12 feet of lot 16. The exposed limestone bed and banks of Waller Creek create a dynamic contrast to the rest of the site.

The Cox-Craddock House is in a residential neighborhood, bordering on south side is the University of Texas at Dean Keaton Street. Rolling terrain and tree-lined streets define the neighborhood. The neighborhood is composed of houses of varying size. The Cox-Craddock house however is the easternmost member of a series of stately houses that line the north side of 32^{sd} Street. The properties immediately surrounding the house retain their historic character.

The Cox-Craddock House embodies elements that classify it as Colonial Revival. The façade of the house rises imposingly behind the front formal lawn. The main block of the house is composed of three bays, with the sleeping porch creating a fourth bay to the east. The house sits on a concrete plinth approximately two feet in height. The focal point of the façade is the central pedimented entry porch. The porch is set apart by its red brick podium and steps. The porch has classical details including wooden fluted columns and pilasters, and an ornate cornice that includes dentils and modillions. Flanking the entry porch are pairs of 12/12 double sash windows with limestone sills and brick flat-arch lintels. The lintels are accentuated with stone keystones. All of the windows on the façade have green louvered wooden shutters.

The second story has a tripartite composition as well. Directly above the entry porch is a small single window that is flanked on both sides by paired windows that match the windows of the ground floor. The façade is faced with buff brick from the plinth to the cornice. The heavy wood cornice just below the eave of the roof has classical moldings and dentils.

Three wooden dormers centered over each of the lower bays continue the tripartite division of the façade at the attic level. The front gabled dormers each contain a round arched window. The window is flanked by pilasters and continues the Colonial Revival detailing. The dormers give the house the appearance of having three stories and increase the grandeur of its appearance. The steeply pitched side gable roof has composition shingles. The brick chimney that pierces the ridge of the roof just to the east of center is the architect's only departure from the rigid symmetry of the main block of the house. However, the sleeping porch that extends to

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 6

Cox-Craddock House Austin, Travis County, Texas

the east provides the most striking asymmetry to the façade. The porch sits atop the garage that is exposed because of the downward slope of the site to the east.

The porch has large glazed openings on the first and second floor. The first floor elevation contains a door that is inaccessible from the ground and two multi-paned casement windows above an X-and-Stick railing. It is unclear whether or not the door has ever been functional. There is no trace of steps leading to the door. The lintel over the opening is detailed like the lintels of the windows of the main block. The second story is glazed with jalousie windows divided horizontally into three parts. The heavy cornice of the main block of the house continues around the sleeping porch, tying it to the rest of the house and concealing the porch's flat roof. The porch uses the same buff brick as the rest of the house, though it is in a load bearing capacity rather than a veneer as elsewhere.

The east elevation of the house is in some ways the most imposing. Here the grade has dropped enough to fully expose the basement level of the house. Two windows punch through the cement stuccoed brick wall of the basement providing light into the garage behind. The similar sized windows are eight-over-eight double sash. Above the basement level rise the two stories of the sleeping porch. The first story contains three identical openings. They each contain a pair of transomed casement windows over an X-and-Stick railing with plywood backing. The second story contains three openings of the same width glazed with jalousie windows. Rising above the sleeping porch is the gable end of the main block of the house. The brick veneer of the wall is only punctured by a single window that is identical to the windows in the dormers of the south façade.

The north elevation departs from the stoic formality of the south and east. Unlike the terraces of south elevation, which extend the higher grade, here the terrace holds back the hillside. Consequently, three quarters of the north elevation is three stories in height. The basement level lacks the elegance and decoration of the upper two floors. The unadorned rear entry porch and kitchen project out beyond the plane of the south elevation. The projection has a low-hipped roof above a simplified entablature. Only four windows have shutters; one window has only half a pair.

The west elevation is by far the simplest. Two 15/15 double sash windows are on the first floor and two 12/12 double sash windows are on the second floor. A centered window at the gable end is identical to the gable end window of the east elevation.

The most notable feature of the interior is the cabinetry and woodwork in the living room and library. The carefully detailed woodwork includes classical moldings and pilasters. The mantle over the single hearth of the first story is beautifully carved and it is assumed that local artisan Peter Mansbendel installed it. Though there is no concrete evidence of Mansbendel's involvement in this case, the mantle is characteristic of his work, and there is substantial documentation of Mansbendel working with Kuehne on other projects. Also of note is the delicate stair rail in the hall. The original oak floors in the primary rooms are extant.

The landscaping of the site is a juxtaposition of manicured lawns and naturalistic wooded areas. The wooded portions contain century-old live oaks and a variety of imported shrubs. The terraces and curving drive have the most dramatic impact on the landscape, radically altering the natural slope of the hillside. One of the terraces of the south lawn contains a koi pond that is hidden from street view.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Z Page Z

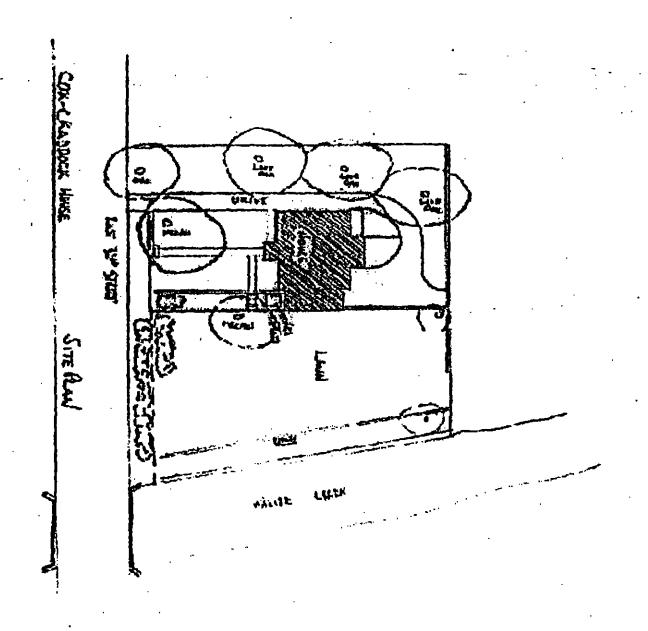
Cox-Craddock House Austin, Travis County, Texas

Overall, the house and its setting maintains a high degree of integrity. The majority of the buildings in the neighborhood are single-family dwellings. The terraces and drive have not been altered, and the original landscaping is largely intact. The well-crafted details of the house exhibit excellent workmanship. Important features such as the entry porch, cornice and interior cabinetry all remain. The materials used in the house are of high quality. The exterior brick with its flush mortar joints remains in excellent condition. The interior likewise has survived intact, with original finishes on most woodwork and the oak flooring. The design of the house remains true to the architect's intent. The conversion of the butler's pantry into part of the bath on the first floor is the only alteration of the interior configuration. The feeling of the house seems to have changed very little over its history and the original orientation of interior spaces; materials and landscaping contribute to the authenticity of the site.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 8

Figure 4: Site Plan drawn by Lesley Sommer



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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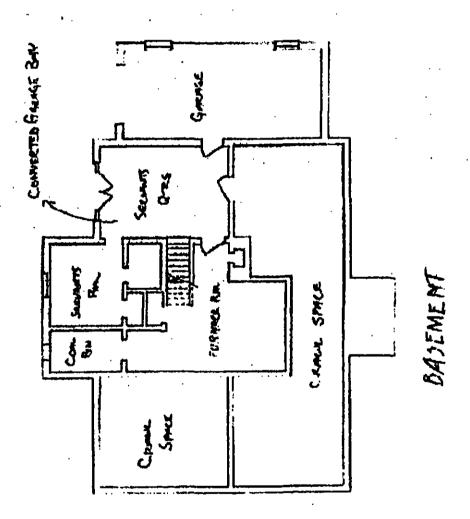
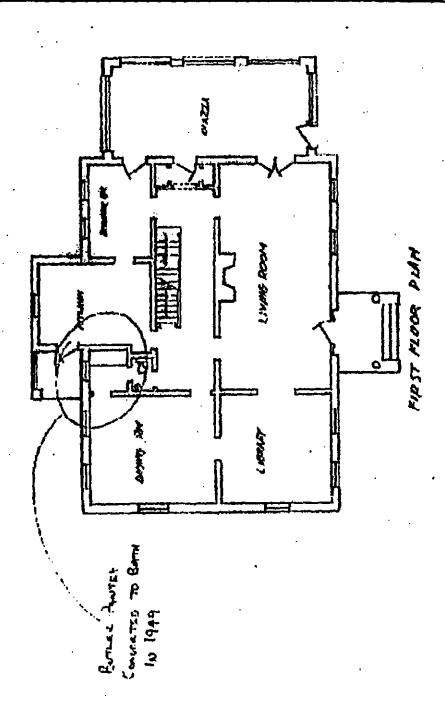


Figure 2: Basement plan drawn by Lesley Sommer

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Figure 3: First Floor Plan, drawn by Lesley Sommer

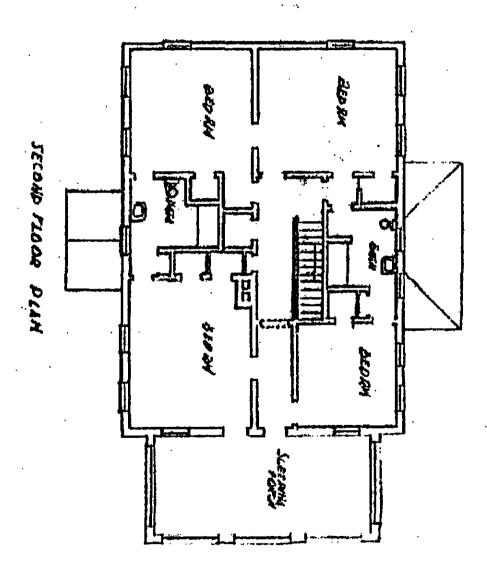
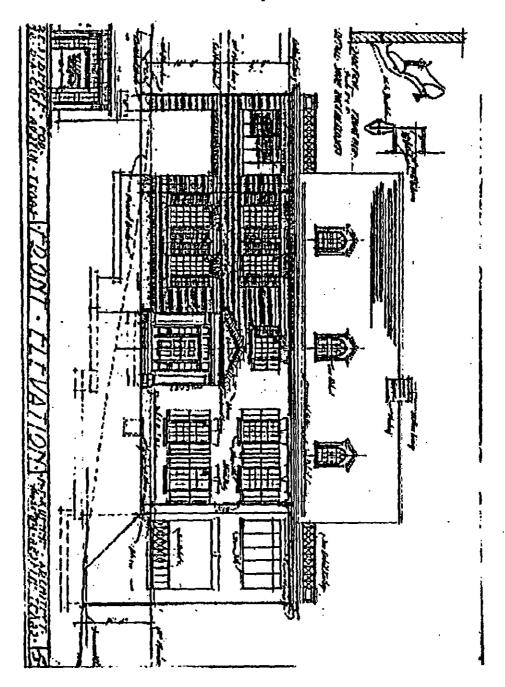


Figure 10: Second Floor drawn by Lesley Sommer

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Figure 11: South Elevation drawn b Hugo Kuehne Source: Austin History Center



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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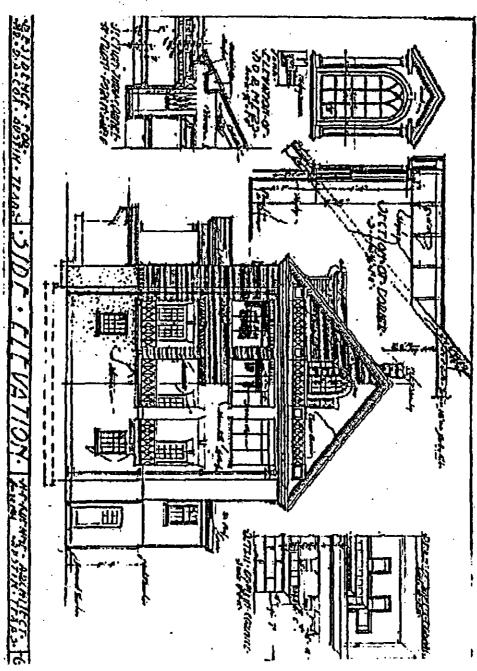


Figure 12 East Elevation drawn by Hugo Kuehne Source: Austin History Center

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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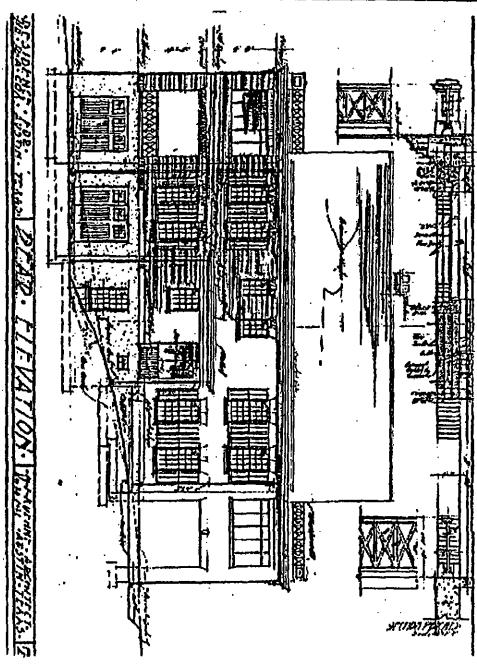


Figure 13: North Elevation drawn by Hugo Kuehne Source: Austin History Center

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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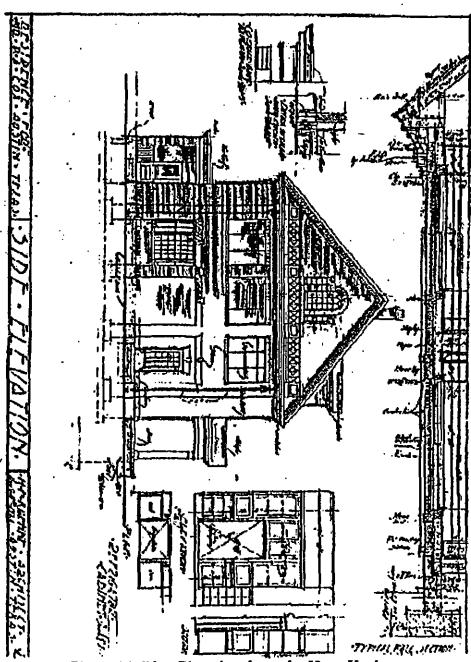


Figure 14: West Elevation drawn by Hugo Kuehne Source: Austin History Center

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Cox-Craddock House Austin, Travis County, Texas

The Cox-Craddock House is named for its two primary occupants, Robert Alameth Cox and Larry Inge Craddock. Cox lived in the house from its construction in 1928 until his death in 1947. Larry Craddock purchased the house from Cox's widow in 1948 and also lived there until his death in 1984. His son sold the house to the current owner, Daniel E. Leary in 1993. The house is an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style, a reflection of the skill of its architect, Hugo Franz Kuehne. The house is indicative of the use of architectural style to promote a specific image for the client. An excellent example of the Colonial Revival style in Austin, the House meets Criterion C in the area of Architecture.

When the Stark Addition was created, Austin was a still a small city. The population grew quickly, however, with 34,876 in 1920 and an estimated 50,000 in 1925 according to the 1926 Texas Almanac. While the Hyde Park neighborhood (to the west of Stark Addition) had pushed the edge of town north many years before, the Stark Addition remained undeveloped in the first two decades of the 20th Century. Hugo Kuehne constructed a string of stately houses, including his own, on 32th Street. Built in a range of style, these houses advocated Kuehne's use of historic styles; Kuehne reasoned that architecture must reflect its time, and therefore the architect should not refrain from adjusting the limitations of a specific style to suit the client's needs. The Cox-Craddock House was built on a choice site, with large live oaks on the crest of a hill sloping dramatically down to a tranquil creek.

Colonial Revival, a rebirth of the early English and Dutch houses on along the Atlantic coastal area, became popular in late 19th century, remaining so through the mid-20th century. These early examples were rarely historically accurate, but tended to keep with proper proportions and details, as evident in the Cox-Craddock house. The Cox-Craddock house embodies elements that classify it as Colonial Revival including classical details on the porch, with wooden fluted columns and pilasters, and ornate cornice with dentils and modillions. The house's focal point is the pedimented entryway. Above the entry there is a single window with shutters that is on both sides by paired windows, similar to the windows on the ground floor. The lintels are 12/12 double sash windows. In addition there are three dormers centered over the lower bays gives the allusion of three stories. The steeply pitched side gable roof has composition shingles.

While the house's outward appearance is of rigorous symmetry, the internal configuration shows that Kuehne carefully adjusted the space to relate to its use. The majority of the first floor is given to large formal spaces that were clearly meant for entertaining. The progression of space that occurs from the "piazza", through the living room and library ending in the dining room is similar to enfilade in that one can imagine guests circulating through the space in a rather formal manner. Kuehne clearly delineates public and private space within the house, and the connection of the formal spaces is an obvious manner is one manifestation of this hierarchical system of space.

The west porte cochere and sleeping porch in Kuehne's design was not built. This western appendage would have balanced the eastern sleeping porch and would have given the house an even more imposing façade. The balanced façade seen in Kuehne's drawings reflects a much closer affinity to the house's rigidly symmetrical colonial ancestors. Kuehne's interpretation of the colonial symmetry however included a porte

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cochere, which is derived from function more than style. Kuchne even called for an entrance from the porte cochere to the library. This entry was not on any axis and conformed more to the lifestyle of the client than tenets of architectural style.

The excellent craftsmanship of the house is evident both on the interior and exterior of the house. The brick is carefully laid and has flush mortar joints. Even the stone terrace walls exhibit a high level of craftsmanship with beaded mortar joints. The porch is delicately detailed and enhanced with beautifully carved modillions and dentils. The use of limestone for the keys and sill of the windows adds an opulent touch to the exterior. On the interior of the house, the best craftsmanship is exhibited by the woodwork. The library is elegantly appointed with custom bookcases. The living room has similar cabinetry on the east wall. The crowning touch is the carved wood fireplace mantel that is assumed to be the work of the renowned master woodcarver, Peter Mansbendel.

Robert Alameth Cox and his second wife, Linda, were both economics professors at the University of Texas. Unfortunately, little record of Cox's involvement at the university remains. There are plans for a second residence for Cox designed by Kuehne in the Austin History Center. However, there is no record of Cox ever living at the other address, and it is unclear exactly what his relationship with the other property is. It can be said with certainty that few changes were made to the Cox-Craddock house during the Cox's tenure in the house.

Larry Inge Craddock bought the house from Robert's widow Linda Lancaster Cox in 1948. Craddock was an entrepreneur, owning various businesses in Austin including miniature golf courses, gas stations, a juice drink company, a pencil dispenser company, and several commercial properties in downtown Austin. Craddock and his wife raised their two children in the house. Upon purchasing the house, they enclosed the piazza and sleeping porch. They also converted the butler's pantry into the bath off of the dining room. To accommodate Craddock's father, who was an invalid and lived with them for a short period of time. The enclosed piazza was used as the families' formal dining room while the original room served as a bedroom. The door from the piazza was installed when the piazza was enclosed. The Craddock's daughter, Bette Pressler, recalls that her parents always intended to add steps, but never did. However, she also recalls that the lack of steps did not curtail the children's use of the awkward doorway.

Hugo Kuehne was born in Austin, Texas, on January 20, 1884. He graduated from the Austin public high school in 1902. He then attended the University of Texas and four years later received a degree in Civil Engineering. Following graduation Kuehne received a scholarship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1908 Kuehne completed his Master of Architecture at MIT. He worked for two years in Boston, before returning to Austin at the request of the University of Texas. He was hired in 1910 as an Adjunct Professor, and was responsible for the creation of the School of Architecture. Kuehne remained a faculty member for five years and then left the University to pursue private practice. He quickly gained prominence in the community and was commissioned to design a variety of buildings ranging from private residences to schools and commercial buildings. In 1944, Kuehne was awarded Fellowship status by the American Institute of Architects.

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Cox-Craddock House Austin, Travis County, Texas

In addition to his professional practice, Kuchne served on the city planning commission, worked with the beautification program, as well as serving on numerous other city boards and commissions. As vice-chair of the park commission he was influential in planning the development of the city public park system. Kuchne was recognized for his contributions to the city in 1953, when he was nominated for the award of Austin's Most Worthy Citizen.

Preservation of the Cox-Craddock house has been limited in the past. In general, only daily maintenance has occurred. The current, Professor Dan Leary, faculty member at the University of Texas School of Architecture and Planning, has taken steps to restore the house. The Cox-Craddock House deserves recognition and preservation and is an excellent example of Colonial Revival style by a noted Texas architect; it is therefore being nominated under Criterion C.

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Cox-Craddock House Austin, Travis County, Texas

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