

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
NOVEMBER 19, 2018  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2018-0564  
2612 MARIA ANNA ROAD

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1971 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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Two-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled, Southern Colonial Revival-styled brick-veneered house with a full-height and full-width portico; symmetrical composition with single 6:6 fenestration and sidelights at the front door.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house was built in 1971; the first owners and occupants were William C. Gardiner, Jr. and his wife, Gertraut. William C. Gardiner, Jr. was a renowned professor of chemistry at the University of Texas, who studied in Europe and at Harvard University before being recruited by the Chemistry Department at the University of Texas in 1960. Gardiner was instrumental in developing new theories regarding combustion chemistry, which earned him world-wide recognition.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is beyond the bounds of any City survey to date.

Staff has evaluated this house for designation as a historic landmark and has determined that the house does not meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code. While the house is a very good example of its style, and may have significant historical associations with Professor Gardiner, the house is not yet 50 years old, and would not qualify for landmark designation absent extraordinary significance:

- a. **Architecture.** The house is a good example of the Southern Colonial Revival style, an adaptation of the more traditional and national Colonial Revival style, but featuring a full-height and full-width portico across the front. The house is an early 1970s adaptation of the style; other, older examples of this style exist in Austin.
- b. **Historical association.** The house is associated with Dr. William C. Gardiner, Jr., a renowned chemistry professor at the University of Texas, whose work in the chemistry of combustion has influenced much more research in the field. However, the association of Dr. Gardiner with this house is not within the historical period, so absent a finding of extraordinary significance, the house does not qualify under our Code for landmark designation.
- c. **Archaeology.** The house was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
- d. **Community value.** The house does not possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, the neighborhood, or a particular demographic group.
- e. **Landscape feature.** The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

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

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then relocation over demolition, but release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center. Absent a finding of extraordinary significance, this house cannot qualify for landmark designation due to its age.

## LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 167'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2018-0564  
2612 MARIA ANNA ROAD

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by CTM for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



2612 Maria Anna Road  
ca. 1971



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
2612 Maria Anna Road

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
November, 2018

1992	Vacant
1985-86	William C. Gardiner, Jr., owner Teacher, University of Texas
1981	William C., Jr. and Gertraut Gardiner, owners Professor, University of Texas
1977	William C., Jr. and Gertraut E. Gardiner, owners Professor, University of Texas
1973	William C., Jr. and Gertraut E. Gardiner, owners Professor, University of Texas
1972	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: William C., Jr. and Gertraut Gardiner are listed at 4604 Madrona Drive; he was an associate professor at the University of Texas.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

**William C., Jr. and Gertraut Gardiner (ca. 1971 – ca. 1990)**

NOTE: William C. Gardiner, Jr. and Gertraut Gardiner married in 1959 and divorced in Travis County in 1989.

## **Prof To Build A New Type Spectrometer**

A University of Texas chemist will construct a new type of mass spectrometer and study techniques for its use under a \$23,000 two-year National Science Foundation grant.

Dr. William C. Gardiner Jr., chemist instructor, said the field ionization mass spectrometer is an analytical device used to determine the chemical composition of complex mixtures.

He will investigate the possibility of using the device to discover minute amounts of highly reactive molecules in very fast gas reactions.

Dr. Gardiner said he hopes that "with the aid of the techniques developed, the process in high temperature oxidation reactions, such as those taking place in rocket engines, can be elucidated."

Dr. Gardiner had Fulbright and NSF fellowships before receiving his doctorate from Harvard University in 1960.

News story on Dr. Gardiner's work on a new type of mass spectrometer  
Austin Statesman, February 1, 1962



**Professor William C. Gardiner, Jr.**

Professor Dr. William C. Gardiner, Jr., 67, of Austin passed away on Friday, November 17, 2000, as the result of a bicycle accident.

He was born on January 14, 1933, in Niagara Falls, New York, the son of William C. and Charlotte Gardiner.

He is survived by his mother; his wife, Dr. Regina Monaco; his daughters, Grace Baker of Houston, Charlotte Gardiner of Austin, and Amy Chanmugam of Austin; two grandsons, Rhett and Merritt Baker; and his brothers, Peter Gardiner of Sunrise, Florida, and John Gardiner of Oak Park, Illinois. He will also be deeply missed by a large extended family, countless former and current students and colleagues and by the mother of his three daughters, Gertraut Schimanski Gardiner.

Bill Gardiner graduated from Princeton University in 1954, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi. Receiving his first Fulbright Scholarship, he studied at The University of Heidelberg and at Goettingen University in Germany. In 1956, he returned to the United States to study at Harvard University, where he received a Ph.D. in Chemistry under former presidential science advisor George Kistiakowski. He was recruited to the faculty of the U T Department of Chemistry in 1960 by Norman Hackerman, then chairman of the department.

Over his forty years as a professor at U T, Bill achieved international recognition for his contributions to the science of combustion chemistry, and influenced the careers and lives of undergraduates, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and colleagues. He carried on his research with colleagues in many countries, and he was especially connected with the Max Planck Institute in Germany and at Hebrew University in Israel. He is widely published in scientific journals and texts. He was awarded a second Fulbright as well as numerous other awards during his career including, a Humboldt Fellowship.

Bill pioneered new concepts for understanding the mechanism of fire and combustion processes by analyzing the complex interaction of elementary chemical reactions with many physical transport processes such as turbulent flow, heat conduction, and diffusion by combining the concepts of mathematics, physics, biology, and chemistry. Part of his interdisciplinary work and his careful studies of the rates and products of many important chemical reactions in combustion chemistry are described in his well-known books and are valued by colleagues worldwide. A reflection of the depth of his scientific knowledge was the publication in *Scientific American* of two articles in two entirely different fields, combustion chemistry and molecular evolution, within two years. He was famous for his teaching, which was a combination of tough standards and nurturing delivered in his completely unique style. He cared deeply for his students.

As throughout his life, the past year was filled with travels and adventures where he combined his three lifelong loves, people, science and outdoor adventures. He attended his 50th high school reunion, and the International Combustion Symposium in Scotland, where he biked from the east coast to the west coast with friends. He and his wife adventured in Arizona, where they explored the red Sedona deserts and listened to the howling coyotes at night. Three weeks ago he achieved his personal best cycling record of 108 miles in one day in California. He enjoyed rock and mountain climbing, camping, kayaking and skiing. Cycling with the Orange County Rebel Riders, he completed the People Power ride in Solvang, California, and the Wildflower ride in San Luis Obispo, California. In the last few years he twice completed the MS 150 mile ride from Houston to Austin. He was an active player with the Lasers soccer team and was disappointed that their game last Sunday was rained out. In the last days of his life we know that he was energized and nurtured by the world wide web of love within which he lived his life.

The family wishes to thank the physicians and staff of the intensive care unit and emergency room at Brackenridge Hospital for their expert and compassionate care during the past week. Special thanks to Cynthia Clarke and Linda Asof for their kindness in discovering Bill's accident and taking action to help him.

A memorial service led by the Reverend Malcolm Riker will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21, 2000, in the chapel of St. Stephen's Episcopal School, 2900 Bunny Run. A reception will follow the service. The family encourages you to bring photos or stories to celebrate his life. Bill would want us to say that in lieu of flowers, people may send contributions in the name of William Gardiner to U T Chemistry Dept., Welch Hall 2310, Austin, TX 78712 or to St. Stephen's Memorial Fund, 2900 Bunny Run, Austin, TX 78767.

Obituary of William C. Gardiner, Jr.  
Austin American-Statesman, November 19, 2000



From the BicycleAustin website:

# Dr. William Gardiner

*Dr. Gardiner, a chemistry professor at the University of Texas, broke his neck in a bicycle crash on 11-14-00 and died a few days later. The Statesman reported that he hit a metal cover in the road (the kind that covers construction). We don't know anything beyond what the Statesman reported, below.*

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## **Chemist, cyclist, lover of life: Admirers recall UT's Gardiner William Gardiner 1933-2000**

BYLINE: Ben Wear, American-Statesman Staff

DATE: 11-21-2000

PUBLICATION: The [Austin American-Statesman](#)

PAGE: B1

Bill Gardiner often taught a course at the University of Texas on thermodynamics, which is all about heat and energy and movement. So was he. Gardiner, who spent most waking hours in recent years working in UT's chemistry department or bicycling, died Friday after a bike ride home from work ended in a headlong pitch to a downtown Austin street. He was 67.

"Bill Gardiner was a great teacher," UT President Larry Faulkner said Monday. Faulkner knows firsthand; he took a course in statistical mechanics from Gardiner as a chemistry student at UT in the late 1960s.

"It was maybe the single best-taught course I ever took," said Faulkner, who through the rest of his graduate studies audited every course Gardiner taught.

Faulkner and others Monday also recalled Gardiner's devilish sense of humor. Faulkner remembers talking to him as one of Gardiner's numerous books was nearing print, one that Faulkner as a student had helped vet. Gardiner said the book would include thanks to him for his help.

"You're acknowledged as one of those 'too numerous to mention,' " Faulkner said Gardiner told him.

Friends, family, colleagues and former students will remember Gardiner -- a world expert on combustion chemistry, a sexagenarian soccer player, a rain-or-shine bicycle commuter and a tough-love teacher -- at a service at 2 p.m. today at St. Stephen's Episcopal School, 2900 Bunny Run. Gardiner is survived by his wife, chemist Regina Monaco; his ex-wife, Gertraut Schimanski Gardiner; and daughters Charlotte Gardiner of Austin, Amy Chanmugam of Austin and Grace Baker of Houston.

Gardiner broke his neck about 10 p.m. Nov. 14 when he fell from his bike while riding south on Guadalupe Street at Sixth Street. David Adcock, a professor and colleague at UT, said Gardiner remained alert for most of the next two days in intensive care until his death Friday morning. Gardiner, Adcock said, lost control of his bike when his tires hit a metal plate used to cover one of the road excavations around downtown. He was thrown over the handlebars.

A city police report takes note of the bicycle accident at Sixth and Guadalupe but doesn't mention how the accident happened. Matthew Kite, assistant director of the city's public works department, said he hadn't heard of the accident but that his department would investigate as soon as it receives a report from police.

Gardiner, a Niagara Falls, N.Y., native, graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Princeton University in 1954 and later got his doctorate in chemistry from Harvard University. He joined the University of Texas chemistry department in 1960 and was still teaching and doing research there until his death.

"He wasn't looking at retirement at all, no way," said Ruth Shear, a UT chemistry lecturer.

He had a reputation among students as anything but an easy A and among his peers as a brilliant and versatile scientist.

"His classes were well-known for being hard," Shear said. "He didn't pull any punches. . . . Yet a lot of the students, they would say he really cares; he really tries to get you through it."

His informal office hours, Shear said, were "1 p.m. to 1 a.m."

As for his professional accomplishments, a partial list: two Fulbright scholarships, the three definitive texts on the chemistry of combustion, a Humboldt fellowship, numerous published articles in leading scientific journals.

Away from the lab, Gardiner was a unique specimen of a senior citizen. He played weekend soccer for the Lazars club and would cross the country to participate in long-distance bicycle races. He cycled Texas, too, including an annual 150-mile ride from Houston to Austin. Adcock remembers that a couple of years ago, Gardiner bicycled to College Station for a seminar. And he commuted by bicycle every day to his home in far South Austin. Gardiner and another professor, Adcock said, were using some of their spare time in recent months trying to design better bicycle lights.

At 67, his friends say, Gardiner died young.

"Even though he looked like an old man, he was one of the most youthful people I knew," Shear said. "He was full of life." You may contact Ben Wear at [bwear@statesman.com](mailto:bwear@statesman.com) or 445-3627. "Bill Gardiner was a great teacher. . . . It was maybe the single best- taught course I ever took." UT President Larry Faulkner, who took one of Gardiner's courses in the 1960s.

Illustrations/Photos: COLOR PHOTO, PHOTO; Photo: Rodolfo Gonzalez/AA-S; Metal plates covering road construction pose a nuisance for drivers -- and a hazard for cyclists such as William Gardiner, who was killed Nov. 14 when he hit one of the plates and was thrown from his bicycle as he commuted home from the University of Texas to far South Austin. // William Gardiner started teaching chemistry at UT in 1960 and became known as an exacting and dedicated instructor with a good measure of energy and wit.

Building permit for the construction of this house (1971)

207-13 Bldg  
 Floor and Brown Inc 2  
 Sec 5

# WATER SERVICE PERMIT

Austin, Texas <sup>FL</sup>

SP-111  
 7-10  
**No 65814**

Received of C. T. Johnson

Address 2612 Maria Anna Rd

Amount Fifty \$ 50.00

Plumber \_\_\_\_\_

Date 4-28-71

Size of Tap 3/4

<p>Date of Connection <u>07-10-71</u></p> <p>Size of Tap Made _____</p> <p>Size Service Made _____</p> <p>Size Main Tapped _____</p> <p>From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock <u>7'</u></p> <p>From <u>N.</u> Prop. Line to Curb Cock _____</p> <p>Location of Meter <u>curb</u></p> <p>Type of Box <u>Round</u></p> <p>Depth of Main in St. _____</p> <p>Depth of Service Line _____</p> <p>From Curb Cock to Tap on Main _____</p> <p>Checked by Engr. Dept. <u>4/1 7/30/71</u></p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">No. Fittings</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Pipe</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Corp. Cock</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Cop. to Iron ell</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Cop. to Cop. ell</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Cop. to Iron Coupling</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Cop. to Cop. Coupling</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Angle Stop</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Stop</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Bushing</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Nipples</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Service Clamp</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Valve</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Meter Box</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Lock Lid</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Drain Tile</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Drain Tile Lid</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Stop &amp; Drain</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Job No</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Foreman</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><u>8</u></td> <td><u>3/4</u></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><u>Round</u></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><u>821220040540</u></td> <td><u>450</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	No. Fittings	Pipe	Corp. Cock	Cop. to Iron ell	Cop. to Cop. ell	Cop. to Iron Coupling	Cop. to Cop. Coupling	Angle Stop	Stop	Bushing	Nipples	Service Clamp	Valve	Meter Box	Lock Lid	Drain Tile	Drain Tile Lid	Stop & Drain	Job No	Foreman											<u>8</u>	<u>3/4</u>				<u>Round</u>			<u>821220040540</u>	<u>450</u>
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										<u>8</u>	<u>3/4</u>				<u>Round</u>			<u>821220040540</u>	<u>450</u>																						

RESIDENTIAL WATER

USED 1/2 OF STUB 252932

Jim Hiestrich

Water service permit for this address (1971)

*Rank*  
*builder to file*  
*Permit in P.*

45

**SANITARY SEWER SERVICE PERMIT**  
Austin, Texas

Nº **59060**

Received of *C. T. Johnson* Date *4-28-71*

Address *2612 Morris Avenue Rd.*

Amount *750.00*

Builder or Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Plumber *Alme*

Lot *13* Block *G* Subdivision *Human Run #2* Plat No. *171*

Date of Connection *7-30-71*

By City *80' E. of M.H. 11+40*

By ~~Plumber~~

Checked By *Rodriguez*

Size Main *8" conc* Depth *± 7' (Rock)*

Main Assign. *SEE BACK*

Stub Depth *CAP IN MAIN* Prop. Line *2'*

Stub Location *ANYWHERE ALONG REARLY*

Book No. *A-7598* IN EASEMENT

Paving Cut \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

*OK 7-26-71 Lushy*

No.	Fittings	Size	Price
8	Pipe	6" conc	648.00
2	Bends	6" conc	32.00
	Reducers		
	Plugs		
	Sand		
	Gravel		
	Remix		
	Stoppers		
	Castings		
	Other		
	BACKHOLE	4-in.	13.00
	Labor	4-in.	89.00
	Backfill	1-in.	20.00
	Manholes	711-111	23.66
	Total		895.66

Sewer service permit for this address (1971)