

Neighborhood History

The McCary-Theil House, a 146-year-old home at 4712 Bullcreek Road, is believed to be the oldest structure in Northwest Austin. Built in 1859, the Greek Revival-style ranch house has 18-inch rock walls and 18-foot ceilings. The house was built by rancher James D. McCary and later lived in by A. H. Longley, Union Army officer, publisher of the Austin Republican and city alderman during Reconstruction.



The home is currently owned by Highland Village Church of Christ and is used for a fellowship hall. The church undertook renovation of the home in 1979. The City Council allows renovation under a restrictive covenant, requiring the owner to give the city 120 days notice before using the structure for a different purpose or demolishing it. The home remains unchanged in character since it was built. Renovation work included an addition on the back of the home that is in keeping with the home's original style. Project architect was Winfred O. Gustafson who paid attention to details of the Civil War period during which the structure was built.

Information from Lette Howell

Please submit articles of historic interest to Jessica Winslow jwinslow@austin.rr.com