The Northcutt House was built in 1902 by Dr. and Mrs. William Davis Northcutt, Sr. The home was purchased in 2001 by Mr. and Mrs. Billy Decker



The Board of Directors

of the

Gregg County Historical Foundation

and

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Decker

cordially invite you to

a party celebrating the

100th Birthday of the Northcutt House

on

Sunday, March 2, 2003

2:00-4:00 p. m.

313 South Fredonia Longview, Texas

Adults - \$15 Children under 12- \$5 Reply Card Enclosed

NA

Texas Historical Commission Staff (DKU), 9/10/82

Official Texas Historical Building Marker with post Gregg County (Order #6663)
Location: 313 S.Fredonia, Longview

NORTHCUTT HOUSE*

THIS RESIDENCE WAS CONSTRUCTED

IN 1902 BY THE REV.W.B.ALLEN FOR

DR.WILLIAM DAVIS NORTHCUTT (1861-1931)

A PROMINENT LONGVIEW PHYSICIAN

AND MAYOR OF THE CITY FOR FOUR

TERMS, DR. NORTHCUTT PLAYED A VITAL

ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE

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HIS HOME FEATURES AN ELABORATE

TWO-LEVEL WRAPAROUND VERANDA

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NORTHCUTT'S DEATH, THE RESIDENCE

REMAINED IN THE FAMILY **

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1982***

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NORTHCUTT HOUSE

The Northcutt House was built in 1902 by the Rev.

W. B. Allen for Dr. William Davis Northcutt and his family.

The house, constructed of heart pine lumber milled in Tyler,

Texas, illustrates many features characteristic of Queen

Anne style. The exterior of the house features a turret

crownrd with a conical dome and numerous gable roofs.

The roof ridges are crowned with tin cresting and are

terminated with small finials at the gable peaks.

The interior space is divided into six rooms downstairs and six rooms upstairs with a large bathroom—the first indoor bathroom in Longview. The stairway is constructed of East Texas Curly Pine which is now extinct. The numerous mantles were hand carved and shipped from Virginia to Longview.

William Davis Northcutt was born on November 12, 1861 in Ackworth, Georgia. He moved to Longview with his parents, William George Northcutt and Julia Northcutt at the age of nine. He attended McClellands Boarding School and entered Texas A&M in 1878. Dr. Northcutt received his medical degree from the University of Louisville School of Medicine in Louisville, Kentucky. He returned to Longview which continued until his death on November 20, 1931.

Dr. Northcutt Married Eda Mauthe in 1886 and their first home was located at 309 South Fredonia. They soon

outgrew this house with the birth of seven children, 5 daughters and 2 sons. They moved into their new home in 1902 at 313 South Fredonia.

Dr. Northcutt served as Mayor of Longview for 4 terms, he was elected to the school board, county and city health officer, and served as chief of the volunteer fire department. Dr. Northcutt was also appointed local surgeon for the Santa Fe, Texas and Pacific and the I. and G. N. railroads. He was a member of the Texas Medical Association and the American Medical Society, Masonic lodge, Woodsmen of the World, Rotary Club, Knights of Pythias, and I.O.O.F. Dr. Northcutt was also a member of the First Baptist Church.

Dr. Northcutt's death in 1931 was mourned by the entire community of Longview. His youngest daughter, Jessie, lived in the Northcutt House with her family until her death in 1976. The house is still owned by Dr. Northcutt's grandchildren.

Complied by:
Janet H. Brown

National Register Nomination Application---1977 Longview Morning Journal---November 21, 1931

UNITED STATES DEPARTML, A OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located in a neighborhood that once displayed many fine Victorian homes, the Northcutt house at 313 South Fredonia stands as one of the few remaining examples of Victorian architecture in Longview. Designed by Rev. W.B. Allen in 1902 for Dr. W.D. Northcutt, the double gallery, wood frame structure was constructed of heart pine lumber which was milled at nearby Tyler. The house illustrates many feature characteristic of the Queen Anne style. For example, the The house illustrates many features Northcutt house's irregular plan, variety of color and texture, turret and numerous gable roofs typify this style of architecture.

Reinforcing the assymmetry of the structure, the many gable roofs intersect at right angles at various points. The roof ridges are crowned with tin cresting (some of which is now missing) and are terminated with small finials at the gable peaks. These details, along with the randomly placed brick chimneys, create a complicated roof line. Originally the roof was constructed of wood shingles, but these have been replaced with composition shingles.

Facing east, the front elevation is dominated by a large gable in the center of the composition and a round turret at the northeast corner. The gable contains three smaller triangles with decorative rosettas near the top corner of each triangle. The middle portion of the large gable contains 2 double hung windows. Flanked on each side by small Doric columns, the windows are recessed with curved imbricated shingles of different styles. Originally the various types of shingles were painted different colors which is typical of Queen Anne architecture. The two story turret is crowned with a conical dome (the original wood shingles have been replaced with composition shingles) and divided between the first and second floor by a roof course.

Other visually dominating features include the two story portico and the double gallery. Displaying some classical motifs, the portico is supported on each floor by Doric columns and crowned by a small pediment with a shingled Bounded by the turret at the northeast corner, the second story gallery loops around to the south facade and is divided by a mansardic roof course.. Both floors are enclosed by a turned balustrade and are highlighted with Doric columns which rest upon brick plinths on the first floor and wood plinths on the second. There are numerous openings onto the gallery including a first floor entrance with transom and side lights, a corresponding second story

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PAGE 2

door, and several large double hung windows.

Dominated by a large gable, the south facade again demonstrates the assymmetry of the structure. The projecting gable terminates the second story gallery and contains a two story bay section which is enclosed by ornamental porches on each floor. Crowning the bay, a tympanum is decorated with different styles of shingles and is pierced by two double hung windows. Also obvious from the south elevation, brickwork completely encircles the base of the house and contains extensions which form the plinths for the lower gallery columns.

Highlighted by the turret at the northeast corner, the north facade exhibits a gable similar to that of the south facade. Another less ornamented bay is located just west of the bay, while the remaining section displays the familiar double hung windows.

Because of its lack of visibility from the street, the west facade is much less detailed than the other elevations. This west facade displays still another gable with an adjoining two story section. Divided by a roof course similar to that of the east elevation, this section is pierced by four fenestrations on each floor. The first floor has three narrow double hung windows with an entrance near the gable section. The second floor double hung windows correspond to the ground floor openings.

The large interior space is divided into six rooms downstairs and six rooms upstairs with a large bathroom - the first indoor bathroom in Longview. Constructed of east Texas curly pine, which is now extinct, the stairway is ornately carved and highlights the reception hall. The numerous mantles were hand carved and shipped from Virginia to Longview.

SIGNIFICANCE

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BUILDER/ARCHITECT W.B. Allen - architect

TEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed in 1902 for the Longview physician, W.D. Northcutt, the house at 313 South Fredonia Street was The spacious, two-story, wood designed by Rev. W.B. Allen. frame structure housed Dr. Northcutt and his family for almost 30 years until he died in 1931. Representing more than just a family dwelling, Northcutt's house symbolized his prominence in Longview. His numerous contributions through political office, his dedication to helping through medicine and his amiable character made Dr. Northcutt a wellknown and well-liked person throughout the community.

William Davis Northcutt was born on November 12, 1861 in Ackworth, Georgia. When he was eight years old he moved with his parents to Longview, Texas. He attended McClellands Boarding School and entered Texas AGM in 1878. . Upon receiving an M.D. degree from the University of Louisville School of Medicine in Kentucky several years later, Northcutt returned to Longview to begin his medical career which spanned 45 years of active practice.

In 1886 Dr. Northcutt married Eda Mantha and presented his bride with a new house. This house, located at 309 South Fredonia was soon too small as the family grew; Dr. and Mrs. Northcutt had five daughters and two sons. In 1902 their new house was completed, giving the family extra room which the old house could not supply.

Perhaps Northcutt's most significant contributions involved public office. Serving as mayor for four terms, he was elected as a member of the school hoard, city alderman, county and city health officer and also served as chief of the volunteer fire department. In addition, Northcutt was a member of numerous medical associations and various social clubs and lodges.

When Dr. Northcutt died in 1931 the entire community of Longview mourned his death. Because of the family's strong ties with the town, most of his children remained in Longview and his youngest daughter, Jessie, continued living in the house for eleven more years. In 1938 she

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE V

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married a local lawyer, Edward A. Brown. Deciding on a military career in 1942, Brown and his wife left Longview for the next sixteen years. During this period, the house stood empty, but was maintained by other family members who regularly visited the house to ensure its upkeep.

After retiring from the military in 1958, Brown and his family returned to Longview. When Jessie died in 1976 the house was given to her son, Arthur Brown, who still owns the structure.

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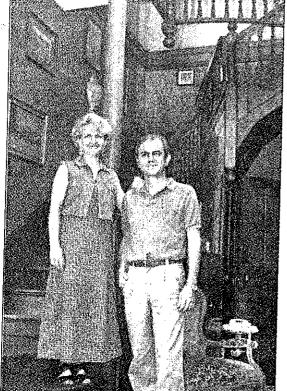
One of the few remaining examples of Victorian architecture in Long-view, the Northcutt house stands as one of the city's most significant and impressive residences. The house was constructed almost entirely of East Texas Curly Pine, which is now extinct. No additions or major alterations have occurred since the building was completed in 1902.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC AREFERENCES

Northcutt, W.D. III. Unpublished mimeograph, 1977.
Texas Journal of Medicine, February, 1932.
Whiffen, Marcus, American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles; MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1969.

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One of Longview's most recognizable fandmarks, known as the old Northcutt home, is under renovation by Lane and Cecelia Brown.

Foxglove Manor more a labor of love than anything for Lane and Cecelia Brown

cratch some bed and breakfast owners and you'll find the monied sort, replete with time on their hands and a desire to dabble in the quaint avocation of old-world hostelry.

Scratch Lane or Cecelia Brown of Longview and you'll probably find sweat and tears overlaying a genuine love of things old and elegant.

The Browns are the owners of Foxglove Manor, better known to most in the area as the old Northcutt home at 313 South Fredonia Street. Standing in Victorian splendor for more than 95 years, the Queen Anne-style house is a work-in-progress for the

FOXE OVE From 1E

nia native who met her husband while they were students Stephen F. Austin State University. "We both love old things, and this is something we've wanted to do for a long time.

The Browns hope to convert the 3,800-square-foot, two-story home into a bed and breakfast offering the creature comforts overnighters desire, while maintaining the turnof-the-century grace and beauty of the building and its multitude of install a pair of central air condicharming, long-ago niceties.

Construction of the house, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, began in 1900 when Dr. William Davis Northcutt and his family outgrew their home just a few paces away. Northcutt bought three 50-foot lots next door and commissioned the Rev. W.B. Allen of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to build the house. It was completed in 1902 at a cost of \$12,000.

Inside and out, the old edifice is a visual feast, featuring doublegalleried bays and a dome-like turret. An asymmetrical central portico is flanked on one side by a turreted double-circular porch and on the other by a double gallery that wraps around the corner of the house. Though the coats aren't original, the exterior colors of the house are, according to Brown. The yellow, red and teal shades accent galleries surmounted by a triple triangle gable centered by a double window. Each of the triangles is centered by a carved circular medallion.

Parts of the roof are covered by fish scale shingles, with each shingle hand-cut and individually made. "My plan," Brown said, "is to try to replace those as they are. I had a guy look at them the other day, and he thinks he can do it."

One thing that cannot be duplicated is the main staircase in the house. The ornately carved bannister is overlaid with wood from the East Texas curly pine, a tree that is now extinct. Of note, too, is the upstairs bathroom in the house generally conceded to have had the first indoor plumbing in Longview. The 16X16 bathroom features a 6foot-long, claw-footed bathtub. The Browns plan to divided the bathroom into two facilities for use by

While the Browns' long-range plans call for converting the house to a bed and breakfast, and perhaps

warmth to the second floor through a series of ducts inside the walls. There's a back staircase that descends to the kitchen, and the house is girded, in part, by what is called a sleeping porch. The windows are original and operate by counter-weighted pulleys. Much of the flooring is tongue-and-groove, and the third floor is an attic the Browns describe as huge.

Though the Browns plan to tioning units, the 12-foot ceilings in the home make bearable even hot summer days. The house has four bedrooms, including the master suite which is downstairs.

An aura of mystery and hints of the unknown often surround old houses, and this one is no different. Is it haunted? "Well, you'd be surprised how many people, who didn't know each other, have come up to us and said the house is supposed to be haunted," Mrs. Brown

"Not long after we bought it," Brown recalled, "I was working here by myself, and a big storm came through. Like most old houses, it creaked and made funny noises, so I just shut all the windows and doors and got out of here."

The Browns are able to devote more time to repair and restoration now that school is out for the summer. She teaches language arts to

fifth graders in Pine Tree, and Brown is a first-grade teacher in Hallsville. To help pay for the old home and the work it needs, Brown has taken a part-time job as a waiter at Papacita's Restaurant in Longview. "We both waited tables while we were in college, so it's not something we haven't before," Brown said.

The couple also like to garden, and the house got its new name from the English flower that features a tall stalk and hundreds of tiny, bell-shaped flowers. "We just like the name, too," Mrs. Brown said. Catering to that penchant for gardening, Brown said he hopes eventually to create a garden shop within the confines of the upstairs sleeping porch.

He stays busy in the yard behind the house re-creating an original garden area. "I've already taken off about eight truckloads of limbs and trees," Brown said. "I probably have about 25 to go."

Overall, the house is in good shape, Brown said, not counting the ceiling parlor. "What looks like water damage up there is really the work of some raccoons that have managed to get in here," Brown said. "We'll have to sheetrock the ceiling."

The Browns said they hope to have the house ready for guests

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Bill Rice **Financial Consult**

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For more information or to receive an application, please call Mary Whitton at the Longview Partnership, 237-4000. Enrollment deadline is Friday, July 11th.

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Lump Sum Distributions Pre 591/2 Retirement . (substantially equal payments), Retirement Planning.

Bill Rice

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LEADERSHIP LONGVIEW

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Gregg County Historical Commission

Norman W. Black, D.D.S. Chairman 417 Mobberly Avenue Longview, Texas 75602

Phone 903-757-2261 Fax # 903-753-5337

To Guardians of Official Texas Historical Markers in Gregg County

RE: Official Texas Historical Marker NORTHCUTT HOUSE

There have been very few instances in Gregg County in which markers have been stolen, vandalized or accidentally damaged. When such incidences are first discovered, after reporting this to the appropriate law enforcement agencies, please contact me. The chances of recovery are improved if the incident is reported promptly. In the case of vandalism or damage I will see that repairs are made as soon as possible. Also, if other signs such as informational and directional signs are missing please report these to me.

Also, a very important reminder: as owners of historical properties it is necessary that if you are contemplating any changes to the structure, changes in ownership or the location of the marker that you contact me or Larry Oaks, Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission, well in advance. Mr. Oaks may be contacted at P.O Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711, telephone 512-463-6100.

Thank you for your attention to these matters in the interest of the protection of our historical heritage.

Sincerely,

Norman Black, D.D.S.

Moren Black

FATE OF LONGVIEW LANDMARK UNCERTAIN

Text prepared by Jackie Bordelon

For almost one hundred years, the Northcutt-Brown home on South Fredonia Street has graciously overlooked the city of Longview. The unique Queen Anne style home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has a Texas Historic Commission Marker.

The property is currently owned by Wilshire Credit Corporation, a Portland, Oregon based company. The house has an interesting history and had occasionally been used by local charitable organizations, including Hospice Longview and the Gregg County Historic Museum, for fundraising events. However, it has sustained minor damage to the roof and porches in recent years.

Wilshire, which is not registered to conduct business in the State of Texas, put the house up for auction on February 14. Sherry Statman, a Longview native, was the successful bidder and entered into an agreement to purchase the house.

"I have loved that place since I was a child. I had hoped to be able to restore it and make it a source of pride for Longview," Statman stated. "But Wilshire backed out of the deal without any explanation."

Statman had the house inspected prior to the auction and found that it is structurally sound. However, she fears that it won't stay that way if it is allowed to sit in its current condition. No repairs or other measures have been taken to prevent further deterioration.

"I can only guess as to if Wilshire is unaware of the situation," Statman said. "Or if they just don't care."

Sherry Statman 3816 South Lamar #2324 Austin, Texas 78704

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ON THE CONTROL GARDEN AND THE

Dr. Norman Black 417 South Mobberly Longview, Texas 75602

June 29, 2001

Dear Dr. Black,

I just wanted to drop you a line and give you an update on the Northcutt House. Ann Henderson, the woman who had contracted to buy the home, was unable to do so. Her finance company and the owner were unable to work together. The house is back on the market. I have considered trying again, but I am wary because of the current economy.

I immediately thought about the ladies who were interested in the Campbell House. My thinking is that it would be a great deal easier for them to restore the Northcutt Home. Would you please contact the Ladies Group and let them know about the house? Both Ms. Henderson and I have inspections of the property and are willing to share. Additionally, I was able to find out how much money was owed to the Mortgage Company.

According to Ann Henderson, the roof on the house in not in good shape but has three to five years left before it has to be replaced. My inspection showed that the foundation is good and the house is structurally sound. Ann says that there appear to be active termites under the front porch,

but the interior of the house is not yet effected. The porches need work, but not total replacement. Most of the problems with the house are cosmetic in nature: such as leaky faucets, stuck windows, and electrical outlets that no longer work

If the Ladies Group is interested, they should contact Lee Goddell at Caldwell Banker/Lenhart Realty. Also, I can be reached at (512) 799-7790 and would love to give them the information I have.

Best regards,

Sherry Statman

Northcutt House



Northcutt House

Resource Northcutt House

Address: 313 S. Fredonia St.

Architect: Allen, W.B.

County: Grega

City: Longview

Architectural Style: QUEEN ANNE; OTHER

Narrative: Located in a neighborhood that once displayed many fine Victorian homes, the Northcutt house at 313 South Fredonia stands as one of the few remaining examples of Victorian architecture in Longview. Designed by Rev. W.B. Allen in 1902 for Dr. W.D. Northcutt, the double gallery, wood frame structure was constructed of heart pine lumber which was milled at nearby Tyler. The house illustrates many features characteristic of the Queen Anne style. For example, the Northcutt house's irregular plan, variety of color and texture, turret and numerous gable roofs typify this style of architecture.

> Reinforcing the asymmetry of the structure, the many gable roofs intersect at right angles at various points. The roof ridges are crowned with tin cresting (some of which is now missing) and are terminated with small finials at the gable peaks. These details, along with the randomly placed brick chimneys, create a complicated roof line. Originally the roof was constructed of wood shingles, but these have been replaced with composition shingles.

Facing east, the front elevation is dominated by a large gable in the center of the composition and a round turret at the northeast corner. The gable contains three smaller triangles with decorative rosettes near the top corner of each triangle. The middle portion of the large gable contains 2 double hung

windows. Flanked on each side by small Doric columns, the windows are recessed with curved imbricated shingles of different styles. Originally the various types of shingles were painted different colors which is typical of Queen Anne architecture. The two story turret is crowned with a conical dome (the original wood shingles have been replaced with composition shingles) and divided between the first and second floor by a roof course.

Other visually dominating features include the two story portico and the double gallery. Displaying some classical motifs, the portico is supported on each floor by Doric columns and crowned by a small pediment with a shingled tympanum. Bounded by the turret at the northeast corner, the second story gallery loops around to the south facade and is divided by a mansard roof course.. Both floors are enclosed by a turned balustrade and are highlighted with Doric columns which rest upon brick plinths on the first floor and wood plinths on the second. There are numerous openings onto the gallery including a first floor entrance with transom and side lights, a corresponding second story door, and several large double hung windows.

Dominated by a large gable, the south facade again demonstrates the asymmetry of the structure. The projecting gable terminates the second story gallery and contains a two story bay section which is enclosed by ornamental porches on each floor. Crowning the bay, a tympanum is decorated with different styles of shingles and is pierced by two double hung windows. Also obvious from the south elevation, brickwork completely encircles the base of the house and contains extensions which form the plinths for the lower gallery columns.

Highlighted by the turret at the northeast corner, the north facade exhibits a gable similar to that of the south facade. Another less ornamented bay is located just west of the bay, while the remaining section displays the familiar double hung windows.

Because of its lack of visibility from the street, the west facade is much less detailed than the other elevations. This west facade displays still another gable with an adjoining two story section. Divided by a roof course similar to that of the east elevation, this section is pierced by four fenestrations on each floor. The first floor has three narrow double hung windows with an entrance near the gable section. The second floor double hung windows correspond to the ground floor openings.

The large interior space is divided into six rooms downstairs and six rooms upstairs with a large bathroom the first indoor bathroom in Longview. Constructed of east Texas curly pine, which is not extinct, the stairway is ornately carved and highlights the reception hall. The numerous mantles were hand carved and shipped from Virginia to Longview.

Constructed in 1902 for the Longview physician, W.D. Northcutt, the house at 313 South Fredonia Street was designed by Rev. W.B. Allen. The spacious, two-story, wood frame structure housed Dr. Northcutt and his family for almost

30 years until he died in 1931. Representing more than just a family dwelling, Northcutt's house symbolized his prominence in Longview. His numerous contributions through political office, his dedication to helping through medicine and his amiable character made Dr. Northcutt a well- known and well-liked person throughout the community.

William Davis Northcutt was born on November 12, 1861 in Ackworth, Georgia. When he was eight years old he moved with his parents to Longview, Texas. He attended McClellands Boarding School and entered Texas A&M In 1878. Upon receiving an M.D. degree from the University of Louisville School of Medicine in Kentucky several years later, Northcutt returned to Longview to begin his medical career which spanned 45 years of active practice.

In 1886 Dr. Northcutt married Eda Mantha and presented his bride with a new house. This house, located at 309 South Fredonia was soon too small as the family grew; Dr. and Mrs. Northcutt had five daughters and two sons. In 1902 their new house was completed, giving the family extra room which the old house could not supply.

Perhaps Northcutt's most significant contributions involved public office. Serving as mayor for four terms, he was elected as a member of the school board, city alderman, county and city health officer and also served as chief of the volunteer fire department. In addition, Northcutt was a member of numerous medical associations and various social clubs and lodges.

When Dr. Northcutt died in 1931 the entire community of Longview mourned his death. Because of the family's strong ties with the town, most of his children remained in Longview and his youngest daughter, Jessie, continue living in the house for eleven more years. In 1938 she married a local lawyer, Edward A. Brown. Deciding on a military career in 1942, Brown and his wife left Longview for the next sixteen years. During this period, the house stood empty, but was maintained by other family members who regularly visited the house to ensure its upkeep.

After retiring from the military in 1958, Brown and his family returned to Longview. When Jessie died in 1976 the house was given to her son, Arthur Brown, who will owns the structure.

One of the few remaining examples of Victorian architecture in Longview, the Northcutt house stands as one of the city's most significant and impressive residences. The house was constructed almost entirely of East Texas Curly Pine, which is not extinct. No additions or major alterations have occurred since the building was completed in 1902.

BIBLIOGRAPHY ON FILE IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

Norman W. Black

From:

"Dan Utley" <dan.utley@thc.state.tx.us>

To:

<norman.black@co.gregg.tx.us>

Sent:

Wednesday, November 14, 2001 8:10 AM

Subject: Northcutt House

Dr. Black:

I received a call yesterday from Billy Decker (903/238-5098), current owner of the Northcutt House in Longview. He said he wanted to update some information regarding the marker, and I explained that if he wanted to replace it, we would have to treat it as a new application, with current photos, map, documentation, etc. I gave him your name, and I will send him a copy of our marker file, along with a marker application and price list. He may be calling you with questions, so I wanted to let you know.

I hope the trees are pretty this year. I sure miss the Piney Woods in the fall.

Dan

Rei Normeet

There for the current into on the fine oil home. I was uname that of the her owners name. However, the real extre symmes name. However, the real extre symmes name. However, the big strandline blick in Longrew told me the big strandline blick was in lack of financing. It seems the local lenders (bankers?) insul an entire new roll earlier \$20,000 would have to be pleased before they would consider weaking a local I have a list of the people who have unde "senous" in quire to me about the house - if you went it.

You need to come on up to East Towns & see the fell coher Il' bet the Deinger field St. Perm 1000001. great this fell.

Minno



Norman Black, D.D.S.

November 26, 2001

Dear Billy:

Mark Cowan of the Architecture
Division of the Texas Historical
Commission just faxed me this copy
for your information. As I think I
already mentioned to you the "fish-scale"
shingles that were on the Northcutt House,
although as you pointed out, were not
true fish scale shingles, they will be
O.K. to use. Perhaps this will not be
as expensive and a near match in color
might be easier to obtain.

Let me know if there is a problem.

Thanks very much,

417 Mobberly Ave., Longview, TX 75602, (903) 757-2261



RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARKS REVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGES

The Texas Historical Commission's Official Texas Historical Marker Program was inaugurated in 1962, although the idea of marking the state's historic sites was not a new one at the time. The Texas Centennial Commission had placed more than 1,500 granite markers as part of its statewide celebration in 1936. With the beginning of the building medallion and subject marker programs in 1962, the THC opened a new era in documenting Texas' significant historic events, persons, sites, and buildings. More than 12,000 markers now have been placed.

Any property that has received a medallion or both a medallion and plate (building marker) is designated a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL). Some properties with subject markers also have been designated RTHLs (noted at the end of the inscription). This special designation indicates that the State Marker Review Board, which is composed of THC members, considers the building particularly significant in the architectural history of the state. The landmark status is a permanent designation that cannot be transferred to another structure.

The exterior appearance of RTHL buildings should retain their historical integrity after designation. If architectural or structural changes, including the relocation of the building, are desired, the applicant will conform to the provisions of the Texas Government Code, Chapter 442, Section 442.006 (f), which state that:

A person may not damage the historical or architectural integrity of a structure the commission has designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark without notifying the commission at least 60 days before the date on which the action causing the damage is to begin. After receiving the notice, the commission may waive the waiting period or, if the commission determines that a longer period will enhance the chance for preservation, it may require an additional waiting period of not longer than 30 days. On the expiration of the time limits imposed by this section, the person may proceed, but must proceed not later than the 180th day after the date on which notice was given or the notice is considered to have expired.

Violation of this law is subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$50 nor more that \$1,000 for each day of violation. If appreciable or unwarranted changes are observed to have been made on a landmark structure, the designation and the marker may be withdrawn by the State Marker Review Board.

To ensure the continued landmark designation, the THC strongly encourages owners considering changes to their buildings to contact the Division of Architecture as early in the planning process as possible. The THC staff person can provide valuable services, such as producing sources for hard-to-locate materials. In addition, by consulting with staff early, and providing project information and photographs of the project area, property owners can avoid work that may be damaging or inappropriate for the particular historic landmark.

Often, owners of significant properties are pressured by tradespersons or others to perform unnecessary work. Since the Division of Architecture is involved in the review of hundreds of projects annually, many of the potential problems that an owner will face often have been resolved at other properties. Do not hesitate to contact THC staff should you have concerns or questions.

Commission reviews of project work are based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Copies are available from our office.

Division of Architecture Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78/11 512/463-6094

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The State Agency for Historic Preservation



RICK PERRY, GOVERNOR

JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIRMAN

F. LAWERENCE OAKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

January 29, 2002

Billy Decker **Decker Properties** PO Box 3881 Longview, TX 75606

Re:

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark project review

Northcutt House, Longview, Gregg County (RTHL)

Dear Mr. Decker:

Thank you for sending information regarding proposed project work on your Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. This letter presents the comments of the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission.

The review staff, led by Jeffrey Harris, has reviewed the project documentation submitted on November 27, 2001, and has the following comments. We have determined that your proposal is generally in keeping with the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for Rehabilitation and the project, as described in the plans provided, may proceed. Please notify us if any major changes to the proposed design that take place, before the work is completed.

Thank you for your interest in the cultural heritage of Texas, and for the opportunity to comment on this proposed project in accordance with Recorded Texas Historic Landmark legislation. We look forward to further consultation with your office and hope to maintain a partnership that will foster effective historic preservation. If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Jeffrey Harris at 512/463-7687.

Yours truly,

Jeffrey Harris, Preservation Specialist

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for: F. Lawerence Oaks, State Historic Preservation Officer

Dr. Norman Black, Gregg County Historical Commission

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RICK PERRY, GOVERNOR

JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIRMAN

F. LAWERENCE OAKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

February 7, 2002

Dr. Norman Black Gregg County Historical Commission 417 Mobberly Avenue Longview, TX 75602

Re:

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark project review Northcutt House, Longview, Gregg County (RTHL)

Dear Dr. Black:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark review for the above property. As you requested, I am enclosing a copy of the documentation that was submitted to us by Billy Decker for the project. As you can see, several different project reviewers had some involvement in this process, which may have led to the oversight regarding the loss of the fish-scale shingles that you described.

Thank you for your interest in the cultural heritage of Texas. If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Jeffrey Harris at 512/463-7687.

Yours truly,

Jeffrey Harris

Preservation Specialist

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Re: RTHL"Northaute
"House" in
Longview
- Chase

D914

1605 Judson Road
P.O. Box 388 |
Longview, TX 75606
(903) 236-6224 Business
(903) 236-6225 Fax
DeckerProperties@sol.com E-Mail

FAX

to Chase	FROM: BILLY DECKER
FAX# 517 463 6095	PAGES: /
PHONE	DATE: 1-79-02
TIME SENT 12:30	COMPANY:
FILE REFERENCE: 313 Fredonia	·

MESSAGE/COMMENTS: I have NO other exterior plans for

the howe except for those we discussed in our original phone conversation t what was included in vegoriqual letter to you dated November 2001. included:

() Recoop property, discussed with you in detail (pb finished)

() Repoint extenior, discussed with you in detail (still point)

(3) Replace force across front of property. (discussed with you)

then you for your cooperation.

Billy Decker 1800 HUNTINGTON LONGUIEW, TX. 75101 903-238-5098

Mr. OHley,

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That you for your cooperation.

Surcely

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DECK * * * * PROPER waiting for more info in mail

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Pres Breif &
Brad's point
info

1605 Jurison Road
P.O. Box 3881
Longview, TX 73606
(903) 236-6224 Business
(903) 236-6225 Fax
DeckerProperties@sol.com E-Mail

FAX

TO: Dan Utley

FROM: BILLY DECKER

FAX#: 512 475 3122

PAGES:

PHONE: 512 475 2692

DATE: 11-27-01

TIME SENT:

12:30

COMPANY: TX. Hist. Comon.

FILE REFERENCE: 313 Fredonia Longues, TV.

MESSAGE/COMMENTS: Following -

TELEPHONE & WORK LOG FOR CHASE ROBERTSON

NAME/TITLE Billy Decker RGANIZATION Decker Properties ADDRESS PO Box 3881 CITY/ST/ZIP Longview TX 75606 COurthouse State Cov. Potential Grant Potential Tax Military Site RTHL Fed. Cov. ADA SAL Heritage Tourism NHL TPTF Grant Tax 106 No Review Authority ACTION Caller ACTION TIME Part 1 2 3	SALUTATION	Mr. 11/30/2001 3:26 PM	PHONE	903-236-6224
ADDRESS PO Box 3881 CITY/ST/ZIP Longview TX. 75606 COurthouse State Cov. Potential Grant SAL Military Site LEFT MESSAGE COUNTY SAL Heritage Tourism No Review Authority ACTION Caller PROJECT Repair work on 313 Fredonia PROJECT COUNTY SAL PERMIT #: Longview Mr. Decker purchased the 1902 Queen Anne "Northcutt House" recently. It became listed as a RTHL in 1977. Mr. Decker wants to replace the existing deteriorated composite shingle roof with one similar (Timberline 25yr 6AF). He also is going to add structural supports under the already weakened porch decking members. Lastly, he is going to repaint the exterior (most likely with yellow with white trim). The previous owner merely patched the roof and applied bright, overzealous paint colors. He also says he plans to recreate the original (now missing) wood fencing. I told him that the roof is okay (replacing with the same type) but requested he mail me photos of the building and description of his planned alterations. I am awaiting this information before sending him a formal review letter. With that letter, I should include the Preservation Brief on paint colors/exterior painting and any relevant info from Brad's paint color files. Also, I called him again and left a message telling him that (1) "Valspar" is the company which has designed historic painting palettes with the National Trust and that (2) he might want to look	NAME/TITLE	Billy Decker	Fax	
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RICK PERRY, GOVERNOR

JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIRMAN

F. LAWERENCE OAKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

March 1, 2002

Billy Decker Decker Properties PO Box 3881 Longview, TX 75606

Re:

Northcutt House, Longview, Gregg County (RTHL)

Dear Mr. Decker:

Thank you for your inquiry about the application of local building codes and the Americans with Disabilities Act at historic buildings.

I am enclosing a copy of a publication compiled by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Safety, Building Codes, and Historic Buildings. This provides a helpful overview of the flexibility of local building codes regarding historic preservation. How much flexibility exists depends somewhat on which model code is used in the city of Longview—each has slightly different language when it comes to historic building exemptions. Many of these codes provide great latitude to local code enforcement officers, so it will come down to the willingness of your officer to grant waivers in order to protect historic features of a property.

Some flexibility is built into the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Texas Architectural Barriers Act for historic buildings. However, because your property is going to be used primarily as a residence, you may not be required to follow their regulations. I suggest that you contact the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation at 512-463-3306 to determine whether or not your property is exempted.

If you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Jeffrey Harris at 512/463-7687.

Yours truly,

Jeffrey Harris, Preservation Specialist

CERCLO EAT WERE SET OFFICE FOR

for: F. Lawerence Oaks, State Historic Preservation Officer

. . . .

Dr. Norman Black, Gregg County Historical Commission

gala masagaguli gagang garang ang kalabuah an labugum sa yak kalabah libanal k

Enc.



Gregg County Historical Commission

Norman W. Black, D.D.S. Chairman 417 Mobberly Avenue Longview, Texas 75602

Phone 903-757-2261 Fax # 903-753-5337

March 17, 2002

Dear Billy:

On behalf of the Gregg County Historical Commission I want to tell you how much we appreciate all your efforts in purchasing the historic and beautiful Northcutt House. Until you did this we were very anxious about the future of this fine and last remaining true Victorian structure in the county. It is very obvious that you spent a lot of your time and money returning the house to its more accurate historic appearance.

Historic preservation has been an uphill battle here in Longview and this fine effort on your part, I hope, will set an example for others to do the same. In spite of the tragic loss of the Womack-Lacy House at 411 S. Center, your restoration of the Northcutt House and Peggy Bivins Reed's recent painting of the Lewis-Bivins around the corner on College Street, this historic neighborhood is being revitalized.

Again, I appreciate all your efforts in the proper methods and materials you utilized in this fine project.

Sincerely,

Norman W. Black, D.D.S.

Norman Black

From:

"Dan Utley" <dan.utley@thc.state.tx.us>

To:

<DeckerProperties@aol.com>
<norman.black@co.gregg.tx.us>

Cc: Sent:

Friday, July 05, 2002 3:56 PM

Subject:

Northcutt House marker

Billy:

As promised, I'm mailing the supplemental plaque order form. The supplemental plaque costs \$200 and allows for up to 25 words of additional text. It is the same width and of the same material as the current building marker, and it can be mounted just below the existing marker. The text can include the information about your ownership and possibly the business name, if spacing allows. I really believe that's the easiest and least costly way to proceed, and you'll be pleased with the way it looks. As I mentioned, that's what we have on the front of our own office building. If you believe that's a workable option, we can proceed as soon as we receive the shipping information on the form. We would certainly approve moving the marker to the front fenceline where it could be more easily read. I hope that's a workable solution.

Additionally, as we discussed, we will require current, post-restoration photos of the house for our review purposes.

Thanks.

Dan



The State Agency for Historic Preservation

RICK PERRY, GOVERNOR

JOHN L. NAU, III, CHAIRMAN

F. LAWERENCE OAKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 15, 2002

Billy Decker 1800 Huntington Longview, TX 75601

RE:

NORTHCUTT HOUSE

12" x 6" supplemental plaque Gregg County, Job # 2002-032

Dear Mr. Decker:

Enclosed is the proposed inscription for the above-referenced marker. (Please note that this is a working copy, including filing and foundry instructions. The right-hand margin, which is uneven in this copy, will be justified on the finished marker.)

Please review and verify the information contained in the inscription. In particular, be sure to check all names and dates, and make certain we have noted the correct marker location. Please contact other sponsors of this application to discuss the wording of this marker. If you approve the inscription, sign where indicated and return it to me. You also may want to make a copy of the inscription for your files.

If you have corrections to make or suggested changes, please do so on the enclosed copy of the inscription and return it to the History Programs Division with the marked corrections. To ensure that we catch all your suggested changes, we ask that you not type a new version of the inscription. The revised wording will need to meet style and spacing requirements; suggestions for new information not documented in your narrative history must be sent with appropriate reference notes.

The marker will not be ordered for casting until the county historical commission and other persons or groups listed below have approved the inscription. For that reason, we will expect to receive signed copies of the inscription from each person; in order to avoid possible delays, you may want to consult with each other and discuss approvals or possible revisions and coordinate the return of all of the copies.

Sincerely,

Linda C. Henderson, Historian Historical Marker Program

History Programs Division

linda.henderson@thc.state.tx.us

pc: Dr. Norman Black, Gregg CHC

Texas Historical Commission staff (LCH), 7/30/02
12" x 6" supplemental plate for attachment to post of 16" x 12" Medallion and plate
Gregg County (Job #2002-010)
Location: 313 S. Fredonia (to accompany the 1982 marker for the Northcutt House)

THE HOME WAS PURCHASED BY BILLY AND LEIGH DECKER IN 2001 AND RESTORED TO ITS PRESENT CONDITION. IT NOW HOUSES THE OFFICES OF DECKER PROPERTIES.

Please check one and sign:

I approve this text as written.
Please consider the revisions as noted on this copy.

Signed: Marra The black 1 1)