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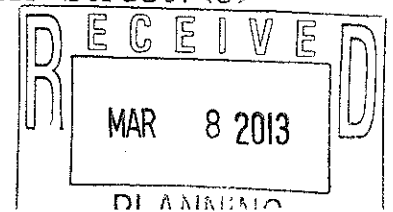
The Board - Everett Home  
507 North Bradley Street  
McKinney, Texas 75069

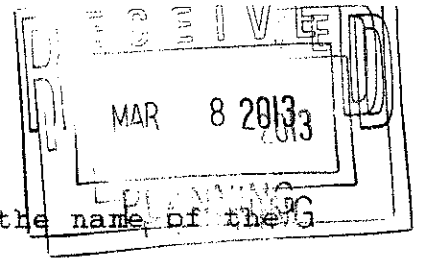
Compiled by: Helen G Hall, February 3, 1993, Chairperson, Collin County Historical Commission.

This beautifully restored older home located at 507 North Bradley Street represents the best example of the movement in McKinney, Texas to locate and restore these fine old houses built before the turn of the century. Many young couples moving to McKinney seek out an old home and enjoy turning it into a spacious place to live; a place with far more of the amenities that make living enjoyable, large rooms, airy living spaces, beautiful woodwork, all make it a good place to enjoy living and entertain friends.

The land on which this house was built is historic also, as it is part of the T T Bradley survey obtained when he came to live in the frontier that was our area. (1) His headright, obtained thru the Peter's Colony, consisted of 291 acres which he operated as a farm until the later part of the century. T T Bradley came as a twenty six year old single man and lived out his long life involved in the community and civic affairs of a growing town. (1) He gave the land for the first 'free' school in town in 1883 where a large two-story building was built for all McKinney children to attend. He served as Alderman for many years and helped shape the city in it's growth. (2)

The lot on which the house was built is described as Out Lot 638 and is described in Vol 295, page 589 of the Collin County Deed Records as being located at the corner of Bradley and Tucker Street. (3)



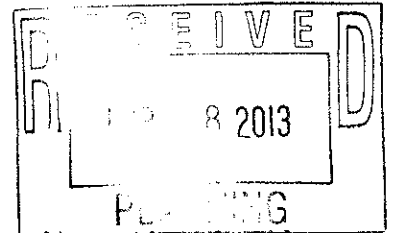


There is no record of when the house was built nor the name of the architect who designed it, but the firm of Hardy-Heck-Moore, who did a historical survey for the City of McKinney in 1985, places the date of the house as 1887 and lists it as being a high priority for restoration. (4)

This large home seems to have been a family affair, sheltering members of the Board family through the years and the family of Hallie Board who married T F Everett in 1894. (5)

The first of the Board family who came to live in McKinney was R M Board who came from Virginia at the age of 18. He operated a freighting business between McKinney and Jefferson until the Civil War broke out. He then enlisted with the confederacy in the 9th Texas Cavalry, serving under Joe Dickson until Dickson was killed at the Battle of Shiloh, when he became a Captain under the command of Hood and Bragg. After the war he operated a general mercantile store in partnership with his brother-in-law, I D Newsome. He served as a postmaster also. He died at the home of his daughter, Hallie Everett, at 507 North Bradley in 1931. His wife Adelia, died nine days later. He was 94 years old. (6)

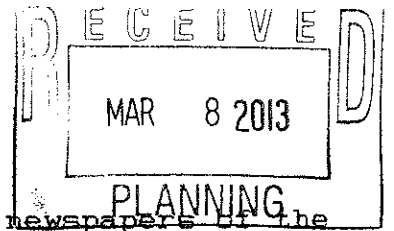
In checking the McKinney City Directory of the past it shows that in 1902 T F Everett, R M and Adelia Board, and Robert Board occupied the home. In the 1924 Directory we find Forest Oak Board, Chilton, Sue and Robert living there. In 1930 R M Board was living with T F and Hallie his daughter. (7)



The house remained in the Board-Everett family until after the death of RM and Adelia in 1931. In 1934 T F Everett sold it to A C Bullock, a local carpenter and painter who bought and sold old homes, who restored it and sold it to J M Foster. (3)

The Foster family enjoyed the home until June 30, 1975 when they sold the property to George L Roesler. The Fosters were a prominent family, involved in many areas of community life. J M Foster spent his working years with the McKinney Courier Gazette and when his daughter, Frances, graduated from High School she went to work at the newspaper at age 18, where she remained until retirement. She was the popular Society Editor for many years. She married Virgil Stodgill and reared one daughter. The Foster son, Jimmy, operated a clothing store for men and the younger daughter Kathryn, married Kiester Snodgrass. All were active in church and civic affairs in McKinney. (8)

The house was sold to James J Stokes in 1978. (3) He was a band instructor at the McKinney High School. In August of 1980 the house was sold to the present owners Charles and Carolyn Hewitt. (3) who spent several years restoring it to its former luster. (9) The McKinney Courier Gazette wrote: "The house stands as one of the city's prime examples of an 'L' plan dwelling. The small inset balcony above the front entrance is a distinctive element of this structure. The 'L' plan is one of the most vernacular house forms in McKinney and this house is one of the best preserved." (10) The house

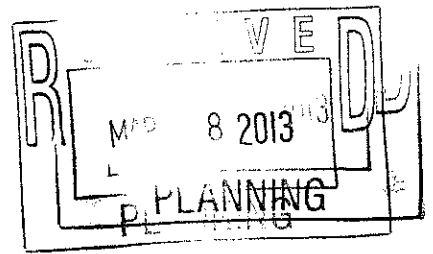


has been recognized for its excellent restoration in newspapers of the area and was featured in the Heritage Guild's 1987 Christmas Tour of Historic Homes. (10) The house was awarded a National Register Marker for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

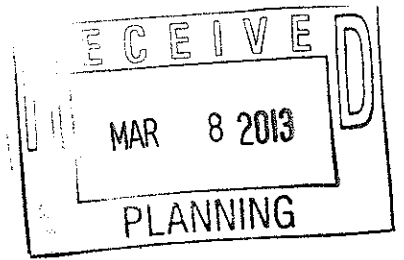
Ebby Halliday, a Dallas Realtor described the house in 1980 as a "Super re-do" with its three large bedrooms, a sun room, living room, dining room, kitchen, den and a hobby room where Carolyn Hewitt can do her painting. She is a talented artist and in the shop she and her husband operate at the Westgate Shopping Center in McKinney, visitors can see and purchase many of the beautiful things she has created.

One of the prettier features of this old home is the large ornately trimmed front porch, built for the family to enjoy in a time that air conditioning was not even dreamed about. A porch was often the most popular spot in a home, especially during the hot days of summer in our part of Texas. Here was a breezy place where the lady of the house did her needlework or sometimes received visitors, a place where the children of the household could play. A large front porch was not a luxury in those days, but a real necessity.

The people of McKinney are proud of the beautiful old homes that have survived a hundred years or more and even the Collin County governmental body has given a tax abatement to all the old homes marked with a Texas State Historical Marker. This is a very real saving to owners and is an incentive to those who restore the grand old homes.



Of all the hundred year old homes in McKinney that have not been awarded the Historical Marker, this one at 507 North Bradley Street stands out as being the most worthy. The style of architecture is authentic to the period in which it was built. The house is 106 years old, while the town is only 145 years old, and the people who have called it home through the years have always been builders of the community and active in civic affairs.



FOOTNOTES

1. MEN OF PETER'S COLONY by Connors
2. T T BRADLEY BIOGRAPHY, McKinney Democrat, July 25, 1935
3. COLLIN COUNTY DEED BOOK:   Volume   57, Page  29  
                                  Volume  246, Page  18  
                                  Volume  293, Page 419  
                                  Volume  295, Page 589  
                                  Volume  959, Page 730  
                                  Volume 1299, Page 568
4. HARDY - HECK - MOORE HISTORIC SURVEY for the City of McKinney,  
  1985
5. COLLIN COUNTY MARRIAGE RECORD: Volume 9, Page 324 (Hallie Board to  
  T F Everett)
6. BOARD BIOGRAPHIES:   McKinney Democrat, May       30, 1926  
                          McKinney Democrat, October 29, 1930  
                          McKinney Democrat, December 1, 1930  
                          McKinney Democrat, April   10, 1934
7. MCKINNEY CITY DIRECTORIES:  1902, 1909, 1924, 1933, 1938, 1940
8. NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, Letter, November 30, 1987
9. HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS, 1989, National Society of Tole and  
  Decorative Painters, Inc, Newton, Kansas
10. MCKINNEY COURIER GAZETTE, November 29, 1987
11. TEXAS HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM, Texas Historical Commission