

# HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

February 20, 2008

Agenda Item No: 18

**HDRC CASE NO:** 2008-044

**IDENTIFIER:**

**ADDRESS:** 3031 W Woodlawn Ave.

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** NCB 8349 BLK LOT NE 522.0FT OF 6

**ZONING:** C2

**PUBLIC PROPERTY:**

**COUNCIL DISTRICT:** 7

**DISTRICT:**

**LANDMARK:**

**APPLICANT:** City of San Antonio

**OWNER:** Fur-Jac & Assoc.

**TYPE OF WORK:** Demolition and Finding of Historic Significance

## REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to:

1) Demolish a complex of buildings to make way for new construction.

The accompanying exhibits provide additional information.

## RECOMMENDATION:

The staff recommends denial of the demolition permit and a finding of historic significance based on the following criteria:

UDC Section 35-607

## CASE COMMENTS:

This building was the original site for the Protestant Home for Destitute Children. Construction began in 1924 and was completed in 1925. At its dedication, and to commemorate the \$250,000 the people of San Antonio raised for its construction, a copper box time capsule was placed in a wall, hidden behind a plaque. The time capsule, which had been welded shut, was opened in July, 2004. The contents included sections of the Sept. 11th & 13th, 1925 editions of the San Antonio Express, a Bible, coins, a history of the capital campaign, donor lists, and the names of children, physicians, and board members.

The PHDC traces its roots back to 1886 when 13 women met at the Maverick Hotel to establish a home for needy and orphaned children. A state charter was obtained in 1887 under the name 'Home for Destitute Children'. In 1888 the name was changed to the PHDC. The original location was moved from Sixth St. to 815 San Pedro.

In 1890, the group moved to a larger home at 802 Kentucky in order to accommodate the growing number of children.

In 1924, the capital campaign was started for a new building to be constructed on 50 acres off of Woodlawn Ave. By October of that year, the group had served 3,414 children at its previous facilities.

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The PHDC opened at 3031 W Woodlawn Ave in 1926, where the children worked on the grounds at the farm raising 13 cows, several pigs and 200 chickens.

In 1927, the charter was amended to change the name to Protestant Orphans Home of San Antonio.

In 1950 the name was changed again to Protestant Children's Home for San Antonio.

Gilbert Denman Jr., noted San Antonio philanthropist, was a trustee of the PCHSA and completed many transactions, acquiring real estate and assets for the home. The structure continued to serve children in need until it's conversion to a convalescent home in 1962.