

PRESERVATION TEXAS

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RESTORATION OF MIDCENTURY MODERN HOUSE IN HOUSTON TO RECEIVE 2016 HONOR AWARD

Austin, Texas — Preservation Texas, Inc. has announced that the restoration of the midcentury modern Bendit House, built in 1953 in Houston, Texas, will receive a 2016 Honor Award on February 18, 2016. The Honor Award will be presented at a special ceremony at the historic State Theatre on Congress Avenue in Austin as part of the Preservation Texas 2016 Summit.

Designed by architect Lars Bang in the Ayrshire subdivision (4111 Drummond Street) and heralded at the time by national media, the Bendit House was gradually forgotten as the single-story houses that surrounded it were replaced by large-scale buildings. The Bendit House was also insensitively modified, obscuring much of its original conceptual clarity.

For the restoration project, a complete roof replacement allowed for improved efficiency while respecting the original skylights and detailing. Masonry was cleaned and repaired in place and exterior siding was restored or replicated. Non-original materials were removed, original paneling was stripped of later paint and restored with appropriate tinted stain. Period-correct fixtures and hardware were installed to replace lost originals.

“Houston retains a rich modernist heritage,” said Preservation Texas executive director Evan Thompson. “While many of its modern masterpieces have been lost to the wrecking ball, the restoration of the Bendit House will inspire others to invest in the restoration of midcentury modern houses in Texas. The results are breathtaking.”

The project team included owners Martha and Steve Curry and Curry Boudreaux Architects.

Founded in 1985, Preservation Texas is a member-supported non-profit historic preservation advocacy and education organization based in Austin, Texas. The organization does not receive any government funding.

For more information, visit www.PreservationTexas.org or call 512-472-0102.