

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
OCTOBER 28, 2013
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2013-0661
908 RETAMA STREET**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1946 – ca. 1948 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, L-plan, front-gabled frame house with a central, partial-width, shed-roof, entry cover; single and paired 6:6 fenestration; the house also has a one-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame section at the rear of the front-gabled portion, with a central, partial-width, front-gabled entry cover and single 6:6 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built in two sections: a 1946 building permit to J. Liston Smith, the first owner and occupant, indicates a “temporary” frame house, which may be the current front-gabled section of the house, and a 1948 building permit for a frame addition, which is probably the side-gabled section of the house, given the costs of construction listed on the building permits. J. Liston Smith and his wife, Annie, lived here until around 1951. He was a wholesale plumbing supply salesman. In the early 1950s, the house was rented by Daniel and Ruby Poole; he was a laundry plant worker. Wilson and Rosalind McCormick are listed as the owners and occupants of the house from around 1953 to around 1965. Wilson McCormick operated the King Bee Hamburgers restaurant on Airport Boulevard. King Bee grew to several locations by the early 1960s. The house has been a rental unit since around 1965; tenants have included a hospital maintenance man and a clerk for the American-Statesman.

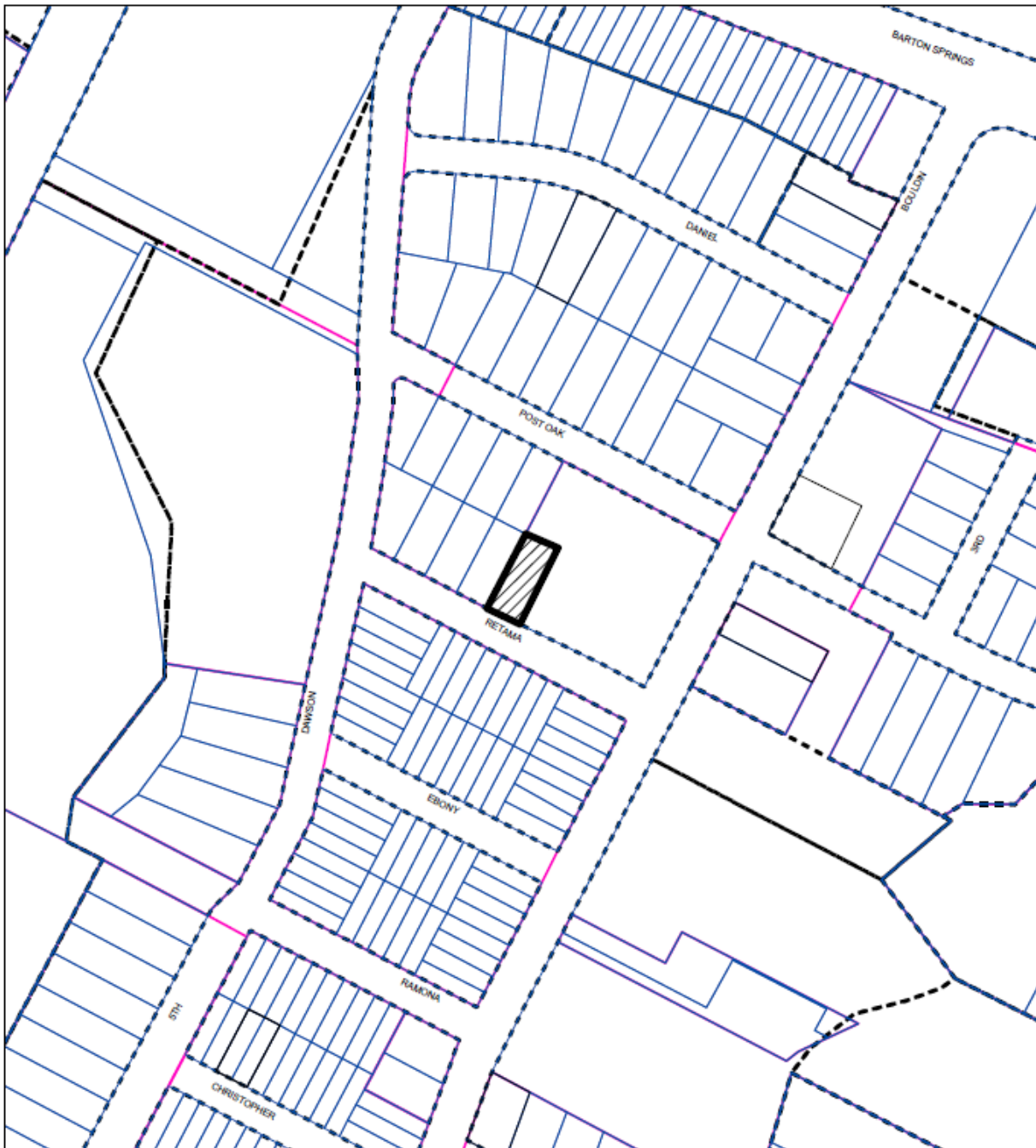
STAFF COMMENTS

The house does not appear in any City survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage relocation over demolition, but release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center. The house has neither the architectural nor the historical significance to warrant individual landmark designation.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2013-0661
LOCATION: 908 Retama Street



This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by the Planning and Development Review Department for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

908 Retama Street
ca. 1946 – ca. 1948





OCCUPANCY HISTORY

908 Retama Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
 By City Historic Preservation Office
 September, 2013

1992	Paul M. Sims, renter No occupation listed
1985-86	Kathleen M. Tuohy, renter No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Kathleen M. Tuohy was a new resident at this address. Also listed is Maureen Tuohy, an employee of Jack-in-the-Box restaurant.
1981	The address is not listed in the directory.
1977	No return
1973	Tommy and Christine E. Anderson, renters Clerk, Austin American-Statesman newspaper
1968	Kenneth L. and Alice Gore, renters Maintenance man, Holy Cross Hospital, 2600 E. 19 th Street.

- 1962 Wilson R. and Alice R. McCormick, owners
Branch manager, King Bee Drive-Inn (locations at 1200 E. 1st Street, 401 E. 19th Street, 1421 Airport Boulevard, and 1820 Manor Road).
- 1959 Wilson R. and Alice McCormick, owners
Manager, King Bee Drive-Inn (location not specified).
- 1955 Wilson R. and Rosalind McCormick, owners
Proprietor, King Bee Hamburgers, 4721 Airport Boulevard.
- 1952 Daniel R. and Ruby Poole, renters
Plant worker, Capitol Laundry, 801 Barton Springs Road.
NOTE: Wilson R. and Alice R. McCormick are not listed in the directory.
- 1949 J. Liston and Annie Smith, owners
Secretary, Austin Plumbing Supply Company, 203 Congress Avenue.
- 1947 J. Liston and Annie Smith, owners
Salesman, Austin Plumbing Supply Company, 201-05 Congress Avenue.
- 1944-45 No houses are listed on Retama Street.
NOTE: J. Liston and Annie Smith are listed at 1700 W. 6th Street; he was a salesman for San Antonio Machine and Supply Company, wholesale plumbing supplies, 201-07 Congress Avenue.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

J. Liston and Annie Smith (ca. 1946 – ca. 1951)

J. Liston and Annie Smith appear in the 1940 U.S. Census as the renters of a house at 614 Deep Eddy Avenue in Austin. J. Liston Smith was then 32, had been born in Texas, and was a salesman for a mechanical supply company. Annie G. Smith was then 28, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had three children: Cecil, 9; Joyce, 7; and J. Liston, Jr., 6. All the children had been born in Texas. The family had lived in Brownsville in 1935. The 1930 U.S. Census shows J. Liston and Annie G. Smith as renters in Cameron County, Texas, where J. Liston Smith was listed as a clerk in an iron works.

Wilson and Rosalind McCormick (ca. 1953 – ca. 1965)

Wilson and Rosalind McCormick appear in the 1940 U.S. Census as the renters of a farm in rural Travis County. Wilson McCormick was then 28, had been born in Texas, and was a farmer. Rosalind McCormick was then 23 and had been born in Texas. They had a daughter, Gayle Rae McCormick, 9 months.

Wilson R. (Mac-Lefty) McCormick

Wilson R. (Mac-Lefty) McCormick, of Austin, died Friday, August 7, 1987.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 PM, Monday in the Colonial Chapel of the Cook-Walden Funeral Home, with Reverend Howard Lang officiating. Interment will be in Hutto City Cemetery, Hutto, Texas.

Mr. McCormick was the father and father-in-law of Gayle and John Hancock of Elroy, Barbara and David Busitzki of Chesapeake, Virginia, and Linda and Greg Wilkerson of Burleson, David and Karen McCormick of Round Rock; brother of Mildred Wright of Georgetown; and grandfather of nine.

Pallbearers for the services will be all of his grandchildren, Jimmy Spradling, C.T. Hancock, Chance Bell, Glen Glasgow, Alexandria Wilkerson, Dana Spradling, Lisa McCormick, Amber Wentworth and Bob Wentworth.

Arrangements made by Cook-Walden Funeral Home, Lamar location.

Obituary of Wilson R. McCormick
Austin American-Statesman, August 9, 1987

J. Liston Smith
So. $\frac{1}{2}$ of 542
113 Ag.

908-B Retama Street

Ruth Dawson Tinnin

Temporary frame residence

30817 7-9-46

\$1800.00

Owner

WATER SERVICE PERMIT
Austin, Texas

Sec. 113
N^o B 1316

Received of J. LESTON SMITH Date 7-11-46
Address 908 B RETAMA
Amount TWO AND 50/100 \$ 2.50
Plumber A. L. SMITH Size of Tap 1/2"

Date of Connection 8-6-46
Size of Tap Made 3/4"
Size Service Made 3/4"
Size Main Tapped 2"
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 4'
From YM Prop. Line to Curb Cock 33'
Location of Meter CURB
Type of Box 101R
Depth of Main in St. CURB 4'
Depth of Service Line 8'
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 34'

CHANGED TO 6 C.I. " MAIN AND RENEWED
SERVICE WITH 3/4" COPPER ON 700-5644

INDEXED
Checked by Engr. Dept. 7/11/46

No. Fittings	Size	No. Fittings	Size
1 Curb Cock	3/4"	1 Plug	1/2"
1 Elbow	3/4"	1 Tap	1/2"
1 St. Elbow	3/4"	1 Stop	1/2"
1 Bushing	3/4"	1 Box	1/2"
1 Reducer	3/4" to 1/2"	1 Lid	1/2"
37 Pipe	3/4" COP	Valves	
1 Lead Comp.	3/4" COP	Job No.	10323-502
1 Nipples	3/4" to 1/2"	Req. No.	5EN10N
1 Union	3/4" to 1/2"		

Water service permit to J. Liston Smith for the temporary frame residence (1946)

J. Siston Smith 908 Retama Street
100'x118' south
113 part - -

Ruth Dawson Tract

Frame addition to residence.

37654

5-11-48

\$400.00

Owner

None

Building permit to J. Liston Smith for the construction of a frame addition (1948)