

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 28, 2013  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2013-0761  
1515 HETHER STREET**

**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1938 – ca. 1940 house.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled, frame house with a central, partial-width, front-gabled entry cover; single 4:4 fenestration.

**RESEARCH**

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There is some confusion as to the actual date of construction of this house; city building permits record a 1938 building permit for an addition to a house and a 1940 construction date for a new house. The first owners and occupants of the house were Elbert S. and Beulah Brown. Elbert S. Brown was born in McGregor, Texas in 1894; he and Beulah were living on a farm near Roswell, New Mexico in 1918, and moved to Austin in 1930. He was a truck driver for the City Street and Bridge Division until his death in 1945. Beulah Brown had traveled to New Mexico in a covered wagon, and homesteaded a farm there before moving to Austin. She served as the dietician for the Texas School for the Blind until her retirement. After Elbert's death in 1945, she remained a single widow for many years, then married W.A. Stewart in the mid-1960s. After his death, she remained in the house until the early 1980s, and passed away in 1983, after having moved to a retirement home. The house then became a rental unit.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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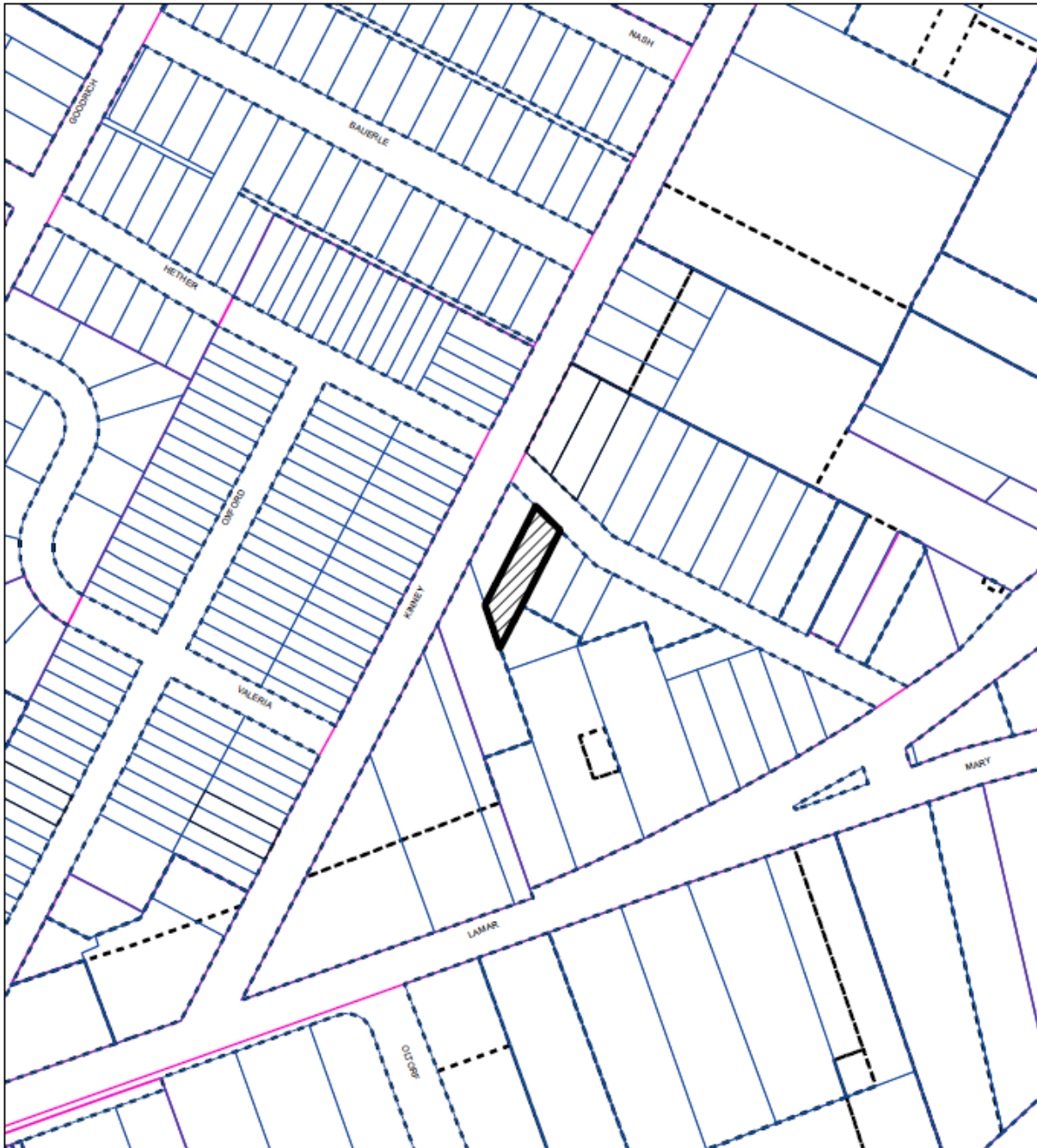
The house does not appear in any City survey.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage relocation over demolition, but release the permit after 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 designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2013-0761  
LOCATION: 1515 Hether 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.

1515 Hether Street  
ca. 1938



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
1515 Hether Street

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

1992	Waldo H. Gibson, Jr., renter No occupation listed
1985-86	Donald Nielson, renter Construction worker
1981	Beulah M. Stewart, owner Retired
1977	Beulah M. Stewart, owner Widow, W.A. Stewart Retired
1973	Beulah M. Stewart, owner Widow, W.A. Stewart Retired
1968	W.A. and B. Mae Stewart, owners Retired

1962	Beulah M. Brown, owner Widow, Elbert S. Brown No occupation listed
1959	Beulah M. Brown, owner Widow, Elbert S. Brown Dietician, Texas School for the Blind
1955	Beulah M. Brown, owner Widow, Elbert S. Brown Dietician, Texas School for the Blind
1952	Beulah M. Brown, owner Widow, Elbert S. Brown Cafeteria manager
1949	Beulah M. Brown, owner Supervisor
1947	Beulah M. Brown, owner Widow, Elbert S. Brown No occupation listed
1944-45	Elbert S. and Beulah Brown, owners Clerk
1941	Elbert S. and B. Mae Brown, owners Driver, City Street and Bridge Division
1939	Elbert S. and Beulah M. Brown, owners Driver
1937	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: Elbert S. and Beulah Brown are listed at 70 East Avenue; he was a truck driver for the City Street and Bridge Division.

### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

#### **Elbert S. and Beulah Mae Brown – Beulah May Brown Stewart (ca. 1938 – ca. 1983)**

Elbert S. and Mae Brown appear as the owners of this house in the 1940 U.S. Census; it was worth \$1,900. Elbert S. Brown was then 45, had been born in Texas, and was a truck driver for the City Street and Bridge Division. Mae Brown was then 44, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had two sons: Eugene, 20, was a photo-engraver; Ray, 18, had no occupation listed.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Elbert S. and Beulah M. Brown renting the house at 73 Rainey Street. Elbert S. Brown is listed as laborer for the City. Their children were: Nona, 18, Elbert E., 10, and Willard R., 8. All the children had been born in Texas; none had an occupation listed. Elbert Brown's 1918 World War I draft registration card shows that he had been born in McGregor, Texas, and that he and Beulah and one child were living on a farm in Jenkins, Chaves County, New Mexico. He had been born July 20, 1894, was short, and had red hair and blue eyes.

Beulah Brown married W.A. Stewart after Elbert S. Stewart passed away. W.A. Stewart appears in the 1940 U.S. Census as the renter of a house at 3000 San Gabriel Street in Austin.

He was married to a woman named Lucile, and had 5 children. W.A. Stewart was then 49, had been born in Texas, and was a truck driver for the City Street and Bridge Division, as was Beulah's first husband, Elbert S. Brown.

**E. S. BROWN**

E. S. Brown, 51, resident of Austin 16 years and an employe of the City of Austin, died at a local hospital Sunday afternoon. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Beulah M. Brown, and three children, Mrs. Harry Mohrmann, Jr., of Corpus Christi, Ray and Eugene Brown of Austin; two brothers, Roscoe Brown of Levelland, G. F. Brown of Austin; three daughters, Mrs. W. T. Maxwell of O'Donnel, Mrs. Horace Wallace, and Mrs. Nordis Trapnell of Austin. The body is at the Hyltin Funeral home awaiting arrival of out-of-town relatives.

Obituary of Elbert S. Brown  
Austin American, December 24, 1945

**E. S. BROWN**

The body of E. S. Brown will be at the Hyltin Funeral home until 9 a. m. Tuesday when it will be taken to the Capitol Heights Baptist church where funeral services will be held at 10 a. m. with the Rev. L. Fa Cole officiating, assisted by the Rev. Finis Williams. Burial will be in Memorial park. Pallbearers will be members of the board of deacons of his church.

Funeral notice for Elbert S. Brown  
Austin American-Statesman, December 25, 1945

## **Beulah Mae (Brown) Stewart**

**Mrs. Beulah Mae (Brown) Stewart, age 88, died Sunday at a local nursing home.**

**Survivors include three children and their spouses, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mohrmann of Odem, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Brown of Houston, and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Brown of Austin; two stepchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Basel Wheelless of Austin and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Sikorski of Bryan; three granddaughters; three grandsons; four great-granddaughters; and ten step-grandchildren.**

**Mrs. Stewart was a pioneer Texas woman, having crossed the plains in a covered wagon en route to New Mexico to homestead land. She has been a resident of Austin since 1930. She served as dietician for the State School for the Blind until her retirement. She was an active member of Kinney Avenue Baptist Church. She leaves a beautiful legacy of faith and an**

**example of courage and joy to her children and grandchildren.**

**Services will be at Wilke-Amey-Clay Funeral Home at 3:30 PM on Tuesday, with Reverend Charles Stewart officiating. Interment will be in Austin Memorial Park.**

**Pallbearers will be Ronnie Brown, Rickey Brown, Jimmy Mohrmann, Art Wheelless, Casey DuBose and L. B. Council.**



Unless the Plumbing is done in strict accordance with City Ordinances, do not turn on the water.

**PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE** AUSTIN, TEXAS No. 6303  
 Sec 198  
 M. E. S. Brown Address 1515 7th St  
 Plumber 7 7 Size of Tap 1/2" Date 1/18/37

Fareman's Report

Date of Connection 1-7-38  
 Size of Tap Made 3/4  
 Size Service Made 7/8  
 Size Main Tapped 6"  
 From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock  
 From Prop. Line to Curb Cock  
 Location of Meter North side  
 Type of Box cast  
 Depth of Main in St. 3'  
 Depth of Service Line return curb  
 From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 1'  
 Checked by Engr. Dept. 1-14-38  
**INDEXED** ORS

No. Fittings	Size
1	Curb Cock 3/4
	Elbow 3/4
1	St. Elbow 3/4 x 1/2
1	Bushing 3/4 x 1/2
1	Reducer 3/4 x 1/2
1	18" Pipe 3/4
1	Lead Comp 3/4 x 5
1	Nipples 3/4 x 5
	Union
	Plug
	Tee
	Stop
1	Box <u>cast</u>
	Lid
	Valves

Foreman's Signature Reck

Req. No. C38-101E

Water service permit to Elbert S. Brown for this address (1938)

**WATER SERVICE PERMIT** Austin, Texas No. 17989  
 Sec. 1086  
 Received of Eugene Brown Date June 14, 1940  
 Address 1515 Hether St  
 Amount Two and 50/100-- \$ 2.50  
 Plumber Wallace Pig Co Size of Tap 1/2"

Date of Connection 6-12-40  
 Size of Tap Made 3/4  
 Size Service Made 3/4  
 Size Main Tapped 6"  
 From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 7 1/2'  
 From W Prop. Line to Curb Cock 24'  
 Location of Meter curb  
 Type of Box cast  
 Depth of Main in St. curb 3'  
 Depth of Service Line 12"  
 From Curb Cock to Tap on Main over M.  
 Checked by Engr. Dept. 7-15-40 LE

**INDEXED**

No. Fittings	Size
1	Curb Cock 3/4
	Elbow
1	St. Elbow <u>3/4 x 1/2</u>
1	Bushing <u>3/4 x 1/2</u>
1	Reducer <u>3/4 x 1/2</u>
1	Pipe <u>3/4 cast iron</u>
1	Lead Comp. <u>3/4 x 1/2</u>
1	Nipples <u>3/4 x 1/2</u>
1	Union <u>3/4 x 1/2</u>
	Plug
1	Tee <u>3/4</u>
1	Stop <u>3/4</u>
1	Box <u>cast</u>
1	Lid <u>cast</u>
	Valves
	Job No. <u>191E</u>
	Req. No. <u>4797D</u>

Req. No. BENEN

Water service permit for this address to Eugene Brown (1940)

E. S. Brown

1515 Hether St.

4

Staehley & Wendlandt resub.of Fred. Rd.

One room addition to res.(box) <sup>acres # 2</sup>

126r - 6/9/38

3

Building permit to Elbert S. Brown for an addition to the house (1938)

E. S. Brown

1515 Hether St.

108

3

Wendlandt & Staehely

frame res. & box gar.

19621 - 5-22-40

5

Building permit to Elbert S. Brown for the construction of the house (1940)