

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
JANUARY 27, 2014
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2013-0936
1402 E. 11TH STREET**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1938 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, cross-gabled frame bungalow with a partial-width, independent, front-gabled porch on ornamental metal posts; single and paired 1:1 fenestration; one-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled addition to the right side of the house, including a shed-roofed extension of the front porch.

RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built in 1938, although there are utility permits existing for the address as early as 1933, but the address does not appear in city directories before that of 1939, and the Sanborn map of 1935 does not show a house on this site. The first owners and occupants of the house were Grover C. and Roberta L. Lee, although only Roberta Lee is listed until the mid-1940s. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Grover and Roberta Lee living in Bastrop, where Grover was a grocery merchant; the 1940 U.S. Census shows them at this house (with its old address of 1300 E. 11th Street), and Grover was the proprietor of a retail grocery store. Roberta Lee was a public school teacher, who had lived next door, at what was then 1302 E. 11th Street, the home of Andrew W. and Drucie Humphreys, in the late 1930s when this house was built. The Lees lived here until the mid-1960s; after Grover Lee passed away in 1956, and his obituary appeared in Austin American – a rare occasion for an African-American citizen until much later – Roberta lived here until around 1965. She eventually moved to Oakland, California, where she died in 1974. The house then became a rental unit, and was owned by the Austin Urban Renewal Agency in the mid-1970s, who rented it out, generally to retired people.

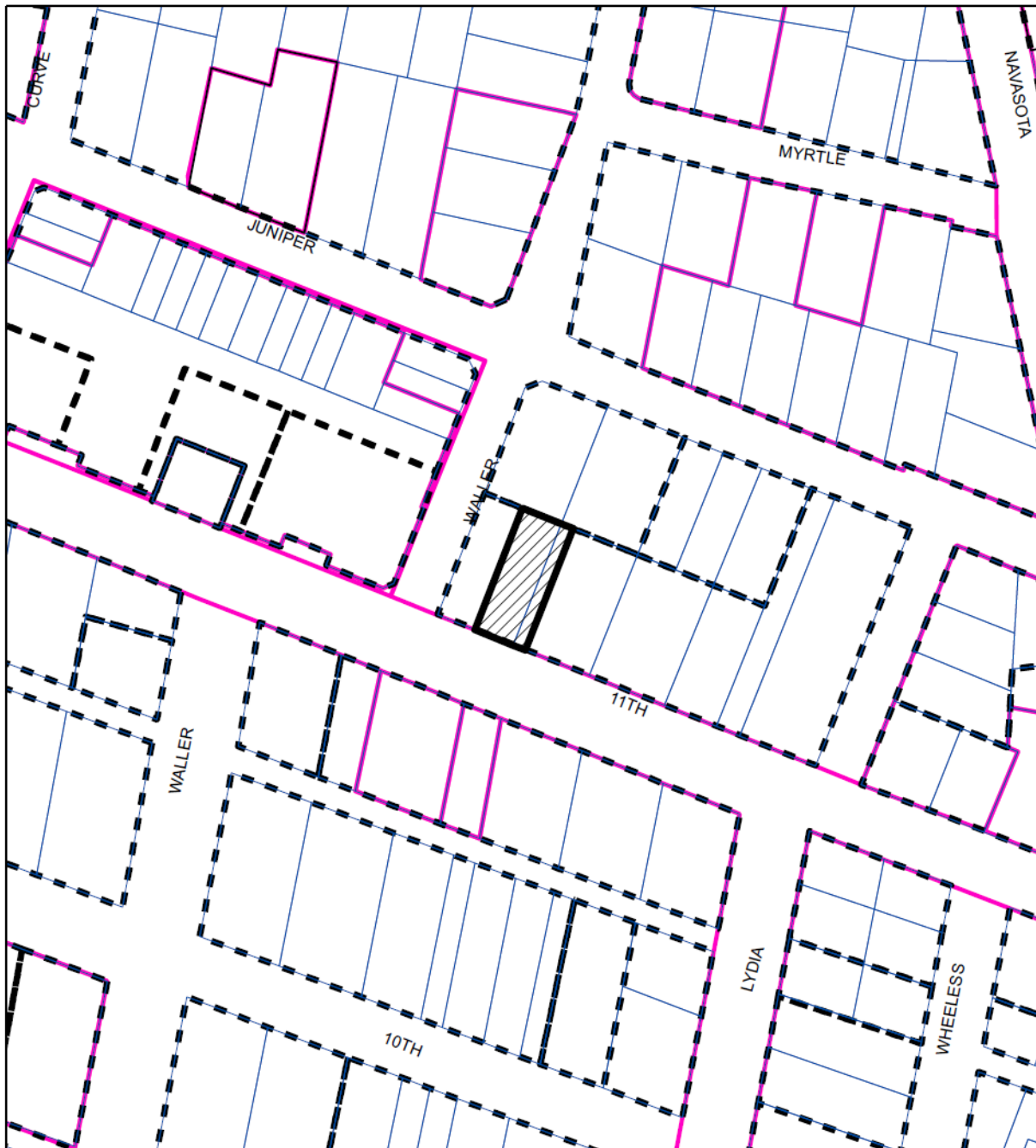
STAFF COMMENTS

The house does not appear in any City survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Postpone to fully evaluate the potential to retain and restore the house. Staff recognizes that the house has been boarded up and has likely deteriorated, but it is an important part of the African-American history of the E. 11th Street corridor and should be retained and restored to the greatest extent possible. While not as old as it looks, the house is a good example of late bungalow styling, and represents a relatively substantial house in what became the heart of the African-American community on E. 11th, Rosewood, and E. 12th Streets in the early 20th century. The people associated with the property may also have greater significance to the history of the city – Grover Lee was the proprietor of a retail grocery business, reflecting the segregated society which gave rise to an African-American business community; and Roberta Lee was a public school teacher, reflecting a typical profession for educated African-American women in the first half of the 20th century, when schools were segregated and career opportunities for African-American women were extremely limited, outside of domestic service. Restoring this house will add another important historic landmark to the re-developing area around the new African-American Cultural Center, and should be fully considered by the applicant before the house and its history is forever lost.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



ZONING BOUNDARY

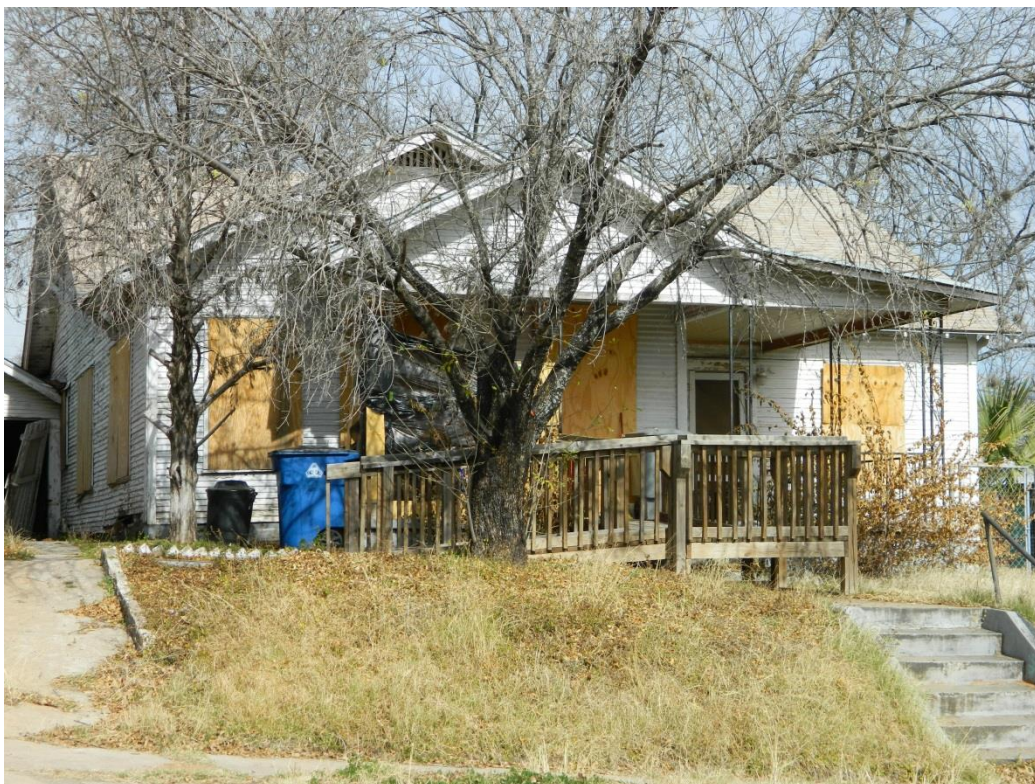
CASE#: HDP-2013-0936
LOCATION: 1402 E 11th Street



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.

1402 E. 11th Street
ca. 1938



OCCUPANCY HISTORY

1402 E. 11th Street

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

1992	Willie B. Taylor, owner Retired
1985-86	Willie B. Taylor, owner Retired
1981	Willie J. Crew, owner Retired
1977	Willie J. and Minnie B. Crew, owners Retired
1973	George Arnold, renter Parking attendant, Capital National Bank Building, 114 W. 7 th Street.
1968	Leonzia and Ceretta Haywood, owners Retired
1962	Roberta L. Lee, owner Widow, Grover E Lee No occupation listed
1959	Roberta L. Lee, owner Widow, Grover E. Lee No occupation listed
1954	Vacant
1952	Grover C. and Roberta Lee, owners No occupation listed
1949	Grover C. and Roberta Lee, owners No occupation listed
1947	Grover C. and Roberta Lee, owners Clerk
1944-45	Grover C. and Roberta Lee, owners No occupation listed
1941	Roberta L. Lee, renter Teacher NOTE: Grover C. Lee is not listed in the directory. NOTE: The address is listed as 1300 E. 11 th Street.

- 1940 Roberta L. Lee, renter
Teacher
NOTE: Grover C. Lee is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: The address is listed as 1300 E. 11th Street.
- 1939 Vacant
NOTE: The address is listed as 1300 E. 11th Street.
NOTE: Roberta L. Lee is listed as a teacher living next door at 1302 E. 11th Street, the home of Andrew W. and Drucie Humphreys. He was an assistant cook at the Texas School for the Deaf.
- 1937 The address is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: Roberta L. Lee is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: Andrew W and Drucie Humphreys are listed as the owners of the house at 1302 E. 11th Street; he was a cook at the Texas School for the Deaf.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**Grover C. and Roberta L. Lee (ca. 1938 – ca. 1965)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Grover C. and Roberta Lee as the owners of this house, which was worth \$2,500. Grover C. Lee was then 40, had been born in Texas, and operated a retail grocery. Roberta Lee was then 45, had been born in Texas, and was a public school teacher. They had a daughter, Laverne, 15. The family had lived in rural Bastrop County in 1935. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Grover and Roberta Lee owning a house on an un-named street in Bastrop, Texas. Grover Lee was the proprietor of a grocery store; Roberta Lee had no occupation listed.

GROVER C. LEE
BASTROP, Oct. 15 (CTS) — Funeral services for Grover C. Lee, merchant, who died Sunday in an Austin hospital, will be held in Paul Quinn AME Church here Tuesday at 2 p.m. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery in Austin.

Funeral notice for Grover C. Lee
Austin American, October 16, 1956

MRS. ROBERTA L. LEE

Funeral for Mrs. Roberta L. Lee, of Oakland, Calif., formerly of Austin and Bastrop, who died Wednesday, will be 2 p.m. Monday at the Walnut Creek A.M.E. Church with the Rev. Grant W. Kelley officiating. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery.

Survivors include her daughter, Mrs. Laverne Lee Spence; a sister, Mrs. Hannah Gradington; two nieces, Mrs. Helen Dearis and Mrs. Rorie Jackson and other nieces and nephews.

Obituary of Roberta L. Lee
Austin American-Statesman, January 20, 1974

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

PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE

AUSTIN, TEXAS

N^o 8016 A

M.....

Address

1402 E

INDEXED

Plumber.....

Size of Tap

3/4

Date

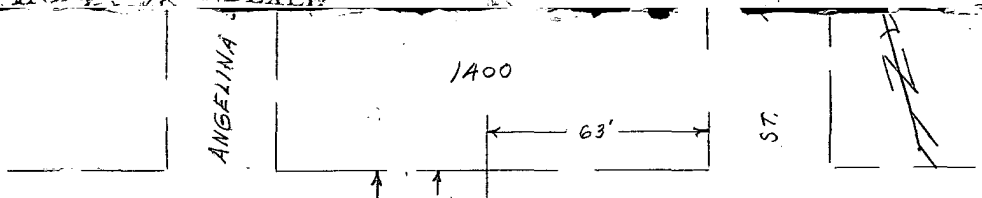
12-20-33

Foreman's Report

Date of Connection 12-20-33
Size of Tap Made 3/4
Size Service Made 3/4
Size Main Tapped 6
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 9'
From E Prop. Line to Curb Cock 63'
Location of Meter Curb
Type of Box Lock
Depth of Main in St. 2'
Depth of Service Line 2'
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 3'
Checked by Engr. Dept. W.H.D. 1-19-34

No. Fittings	Curb Cock	Elbow	St. Elbow	Bushing	Reducer	Pipe	Lead Comp.	Nipples	Union	Plug	Tee	Stop	Box	Lid	Valves	Req. No.

Foreman's Signature

INDEXED INDEXED

Water service permit for this address (1933)

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE PERMIT

No. 118164

Austin, Texas

Received of Loden Date Mar. 18, 1935
 Address 1402 E. 11th.
 Amount \$
 Builder or Owner Plumber
 Lot 60x88' D Block O.L. 61 Subdivision Rector Plat No. 34

Date of Connection	<u>3/21/1935</u>
By City	
By Plumber	
Checked By	
Size Main	<u>6"</u> Depth <u>3'</u>
Main Assign.	<u>in St. 16.5' from PL</u>
Stub Depth	<u></u> Prop. Line <u></u>
Stub Location	
Book No.	
Paving Cut	<u></u> No. <u></u>

No. Fittings	Size	Price
18' pipe	4" tile	1.80
1 pipe		
1 Wyes	6x4	.63
3 Bends	1.20	
Reducers		
Plugs		
Sand		
Gravel		
Remix		
Stoppers		
Castings		
Other laying pipe		.36
Labor:	2 5/8 days	7.10

Sewer service permit for this address (1935)

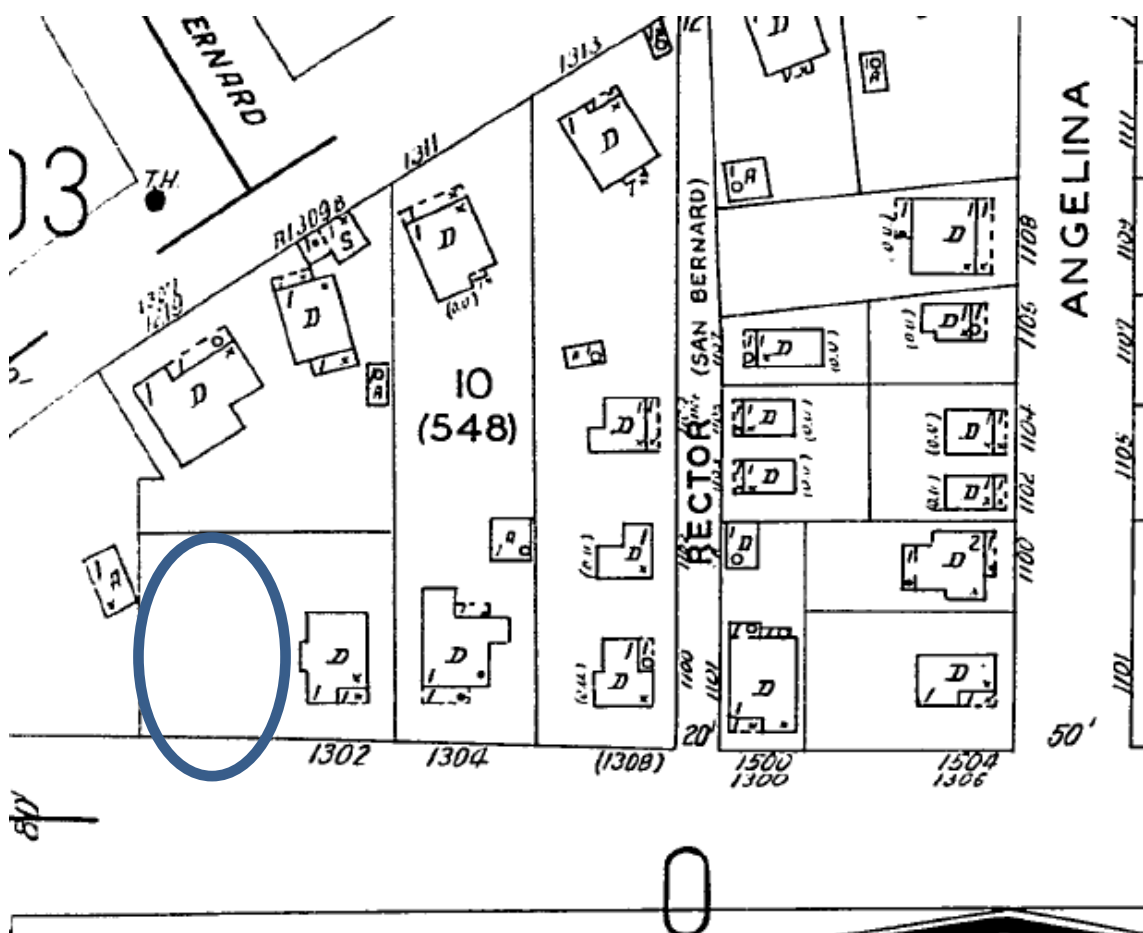
Mrs. G. C. Lee 1402 East 11th St.
 34 60 X 90 Lot
 unplatted
 Frame addition to residence.
 68202 1/8/58 4000.00
 Oliver Street 3 adder

2 BEDROOMS - 1 BATH - 1 SERVICE PORCH
 1-BATH - 1 SERVICE PORCH

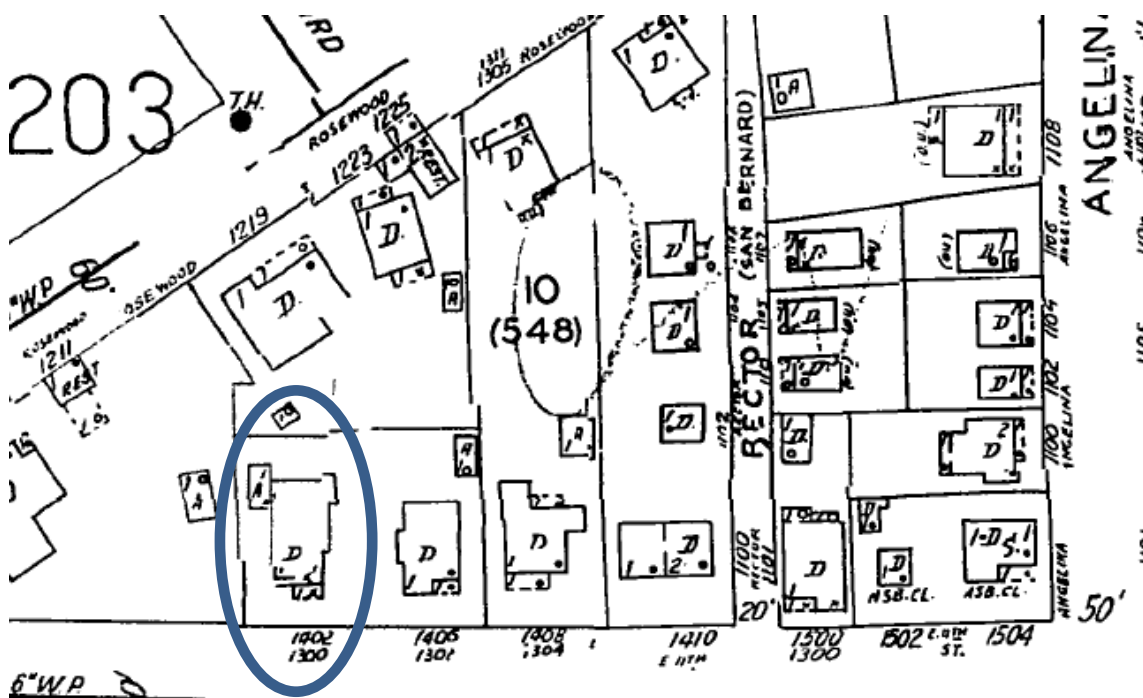
Building permit to Mrs. Grover C. (Roberta) Lee to construct a frame addition (1958)

OWNER Austin Urban Renewal Agency 1402 E. 11th ST.
 ADDRESS
 PLAT 34 LOT SW 60x88' BLK OL 61
 SUBDIVISION unplatted
 OCCUPANCY res
 BLD PERMIT # 150485 DATE 7-2-75 OWNERS ESTIMATE 2,900
 CONTRACTOR Bob Watson Const. NO. OF FIXTURES yes
 WATER TAP REC # existing SEWER TAP REC # existing
 repair and remodel res and bring to min std.

Building permit to the Austin Urban Renewal Agency to bring the house to minimum standards
 (1975)



The house is not shown on the 1935 Sanborn map.



The house appears on the 1962 Sanborn map with its old address of 1300 E. 11th Street.