

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
MARCH 24, 2014  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2014-0140  
46 WALLER STREET**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1925 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, front-gabled frame bungalow with a partial-width, front-gabled partially-inset porch on single, plain wood posts; single 1:1 fenestration.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house appears to have been built around 1925; the first owners and occupants were Arthur and Lydia Peiser, who moved here from rural Travis County. They first appear in the 1927 city directory at the old address for this house, 62 Waller Street. Arthur Peiser had been born in Rockdale, Texas in 1898, and grew up on a farm owned by his stepfather, L. Wilhelm, near Taylor, Texas. Both the 1910 U.S. Census and his 1918 World War I draft registration card show him on his stepfather's farm. By 1920, he was living on his own in Taylor, and working as a mattress maker, a career which would last the rest of his life. According to the 1924 city directory, when he and Lydia were still living in rural Travis County, Arthur and his brother Alfred were the owners of the Guarantee Mattress Factory at 1508 Sabine Street. Later directories show that he was a mattress maker for the Hurley Mattress and Awning Company at 500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. He and Lydia lived here until around 1939, when they moved to a house at 3201 Lafayette Avenue. It is possible that his daughter, Ardyce (noted as Ardy in the 1930 U.S. Census), and her husband, Victor W. Brown, a welder, rented this house from her parents in the early 1940s. The house had a number of renters in the late 1940s and through the 1950s, including a garage manager, a bakery salesman, a carpenter, and a dairy truck driver. By 1960, the house was owned and occupied by Antonio and Emma Imperial; it remained in their family for over 40 years. Antonio Imperial worked as a car painter and mechanic for various dealerships in town, including the forerunner to Leif Johnson Ford; at the time of his death in 1964, he was working for Jack Stableford, the local Pontiac dealer. Emma Imperial remained in the house after Antonio's death; she worked for Aus-Tex Chili factory.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house does not appear in any City survey.

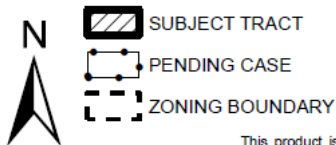
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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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. While the house has neither the architectural nor the historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark, it is a good, and intact example of a mid-1920s frame bungalow.

## LOCATION MAP



1" = 159'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2014-0140  
LOCATION: 46 Waller 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 CTM for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



46 Waller Street  
ca. 1925



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
46 Waller Street

From City Directories, Austin History Center  
Prepared by the City Historic Preservation Office  
February, 2014

1992	Emma Z. Imperial, owner Retired
1985-85	Emma Z. Imperial, owner Retired
1981	Emma Z. Imperial, owner Retired
1977	Emma Z. Imperial, owner Widow, Antonio G. Imperial Retired
1973	Emma Z. Imperial, owner Widow, Antonio G. Imperial No occupation listed

- 1968 Emma Z. Imperial, owner  
Widow, Antonio G. Imperial  
Employed by Frito-Lay (not listed in the directory).
- 1962 Antonio and Emma Imperial, owners  
Mechanic, Armstrong-Johnson, Ford cars and trucks, 202 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street.
- 1959 Dillard E. and Etta Pittman, renters  
Driver, Oak Farms Dairies, 901 Red River Street.  
NOTE: Antonio and Emma Imperial are listed at 506 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street; he was a painter for Swearingen Motors, used cars, 812 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street; she was employed by Austex Foods, 406 San Antonio Street.
- 1955 L. Roy and Mary Townsley, renters  
L. Roy: No occupation listed  
Mary: Building attendant, University of Texas
- 1952 Stacy H. Rylander, renter  
Carpenter
- 1949 Jimmy and Hilda Nowell, renters  
Salesman, Fehr Baking Company, 316 Colorado Street.
- 1947 Ralph and Sena B. Thompson, renters  
No occupation listed
- 1944-45 Ralph and Pauline Thompson, renters  
Manager, Med's Quick Service Garage (not listed in the directory).
- 1941 Victor W. and Ardyce Brown, renters  
Welder  
NOTE: Arthur and Lydia Peiser are listed at 3201 Lafayette Avenue; he was a helper at the Hurley Mattress and Awning Company, 500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1939 Arthur and Lydia Peiser, owners  
Mattress maker, Hurley Mattress and Awning Company, 500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1937 Arthur and Lydia Peiser, owners  
Mattress maker, Hurley Mattress and Awning Company, 500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1935 Arthur and Lydia Peiser, owners  
Mattress maker, Hurley Mattress and Awning Company, 500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1932-33 Arthur and Lydia Peiser, owners  
Mattress maker, Hurley Mattress and Awning Company, 500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
NOTE: The house is listed as 62 Waller Street.
- 1930-31 Arthur and Lydia Peiser, owners  
Mattress maker, Hurley Mattress and Awning Company, 500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
NOTE: The house is listed as 62 Waller Street.
- 1929 Arthur and Lydia Peiser, owners  
Mattress maker, Hurley Mattress and Awning Company, 500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
NOTE: The house is listed as 62 Waller Street.

- 1927      Arthur and Lydia Peiser, owners  
Mattress maker, Hurley Mattress and Awning Company, 500 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
NOTE: The house is listed as 62 Waller Street.
- 1924      The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Arthur and Lydia Peiser are listed at RFD 4, Box 78; he was the proprietor (with Alfred Peiser) of Guarantee Mattress Factory, 1508 Sabine Street.

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

#### Arthur and Lydia Peiser (ca. 1925 – ca. 1940)

Arthur and Lydia Peiser appear in the 1930 U.S. Census as the owners of this house, which was worth \$2,200. Arthur Peiser was then 32, had been born in Texas, and was a mattress maker at the Hurley Mattress Factory. Lydia Peiser was then 28, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 daughters: Anna, 7; and Ardy, 3. With them lived Lydia's sister, Bertha Danchak, 19, who had been born in Texas and had no occupation listed. The father of Lydia Peiser and Bertha Danchak had been born in Czechoslovakia.

Arthur Peiser appears in the 1920 U.S. Census for Taylor, Texas, where he was a 21-year old single man; he was a mattress maker. The 1910 U.S. Census shows Arthur Peiser as the 12-year old step-son of L. and Emma Wilhelm, both German-born farmers in Williamson County. Arthur had no occupation listed. Arthur Peiser's 1918 World War I draft registration card shows that he was born March 30, 1898, and was living on L. Wilhelm's farm outside of Taylor, Texas.

His death certificate shows that he was born in Rockdale, Texas, and at the time of his death was the owner of the Austin Awning and Bedding Company.

**PEISER, Arthur, 78, 1807 Cloverleaf, died Wednesday. Services 3 p.m. Friday at St. Martin's Lutheran Church. Survivors: wife, Lydia Peiser of Austin; daughters, Mrs. Ardy Leigh Davitt of Austin, Mrs. Anna Mae Park of Dallas, Mrs. Paula Jean Warr of Ft. Rucker, Ala.; brothers, George Peiser, Alfred Peiser, A.C. Wilhelm, Frank Wilhelm, all of Austin; sister, Mrs. Lena Cain of Thrall; 6 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren. (Hyltin-Manor)**

Obituary of Arthur Peiser  
Austin American-Statesman, January 14, 1977

### Lydia H. Peiser

Lydia H. Peiser, 89, of Dallas, and a former 60 year resident of Austin, died Monday, September 3, 1990.

She was a member of St. Martin Ev. Lutheran Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur Peiser in 1977.

Survivors include three daughters, Anna M. Park and Ardy L. Davitt, both of Dallas, and Paula S. Warr of Clayton, Alabama.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 AM, Friday at the Hyltin-Manor Funeral Chapel, with Pastor Carl Schoss officiating. Interment will be held in Capital Memorial Park.

Arrangements by Hyltin-Manor Funeral Chapel, 3000 No. IH-35 at 30th St. 476-5387.

Obituary of Lydia Peiser  
Austin American-Statesman, September 6, 1990

### Antonio and Emma Imperial (ca. 1960 – ca. 2000)

Antonio and Emma Imperial appear in the 1940 U.S. Census as the renters of a house at 305 Nueces Street. Antonio Imperial was then 31, had been born in Mexico, and was a painter in a garage. Emma Imperial was then 27, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. The census report shows that Antonio Imperial had lived in the same house in 1935; Emma Imperial had lived in Georgetown, Texas. Antonio Imperial's death certificate shows that he was born in Texas, was an American citizen, and was working for Jack Stableford, a Pontiac dealer, at the time of his death.

**ANTONIO IMPERIAL**  
Prayer service for Antonio Imperial, 56, of 46 Waller, who died in a local hospital Wednesday, will be Thursday at 8 p.m. at Mission Funeral Home with Rev. Ciro Garcia officiating. Funeral will be Friday at 10 a.m. at First Mexican Baptist Church with Rev. Carlos Paredes officiating. Besides his widow, he is survived by two brothers, Juan Imperial, Chicago, Ill., and Jose J. Moreno, Flint, Mich. Burial will be in Georgetown Cemetery.

Obituary of Antonio Imperial  
Austin American, September 17, 1964



**Emma Zamora Imperial**  
**Jan. 29, 1912 - Sept. 20, 2008**

Emma Zamora Imperial, age 96, a lifetime resident of Austin, Texas left us to join her Lord, Jesus Christ on Saturday, September 20, 2008. She was born in Georgetown, Texas on January 29, 1912. Emma was a member of Primera Iglesia Bautista in Austin.

Emma was preceded in death by her husband Antonio Imperial, her parents Clarito and Paula Zamora, sisters Jova Sanchez, Anita Diaz, Belen Gutierrez, and brother Pedro Zamora. She is survived by several nieces and nephews who loved her very much. She had no children of her own, but would always open her home to family and friends.

Emma worked for the Austex Factory for years until her retirement. She loved to go fishing with her husband and tend to her yard. She was a devoted Baptist and would walk several blocks to her church with her bible in hand ready to go praise the Lord.

The family will receive guests for visitation Tuesday, September 24th from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Cook-Walden Davis Funeral Home in Georgetown. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, September 24th at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel at the Cook-Walden Davis Funeral Home. Interment will follow at the Guadalupe Cemetery in Georgetown.

Pallbearers will be Randy Diaz, Richard Diaz, Robert Diaz, Eric Gonzales, Gabriel Jones, and Zermundo Zertuche.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at [www.mem.com](http://www.mem.com)

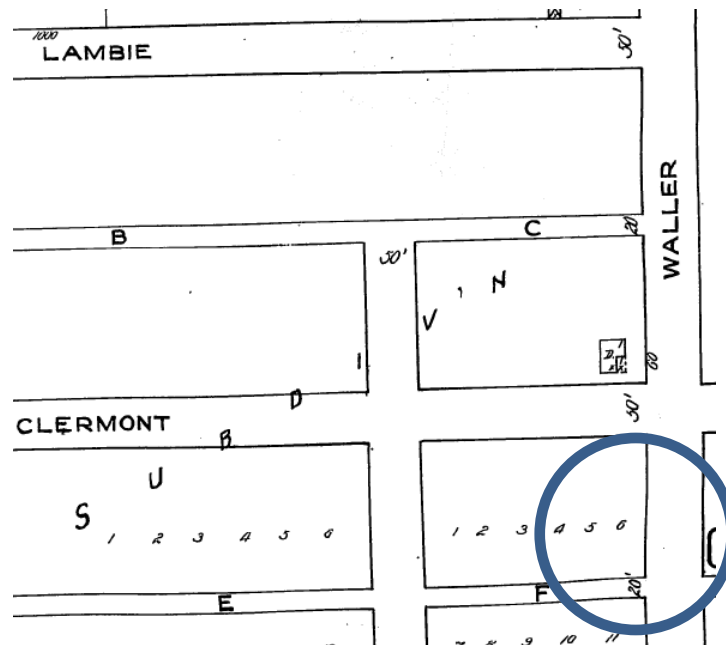
**Cook-Walden Davis**  
 Funerals & Cremations



2900 Williams Dr  
 Georgetown  
 (512) 863-2564

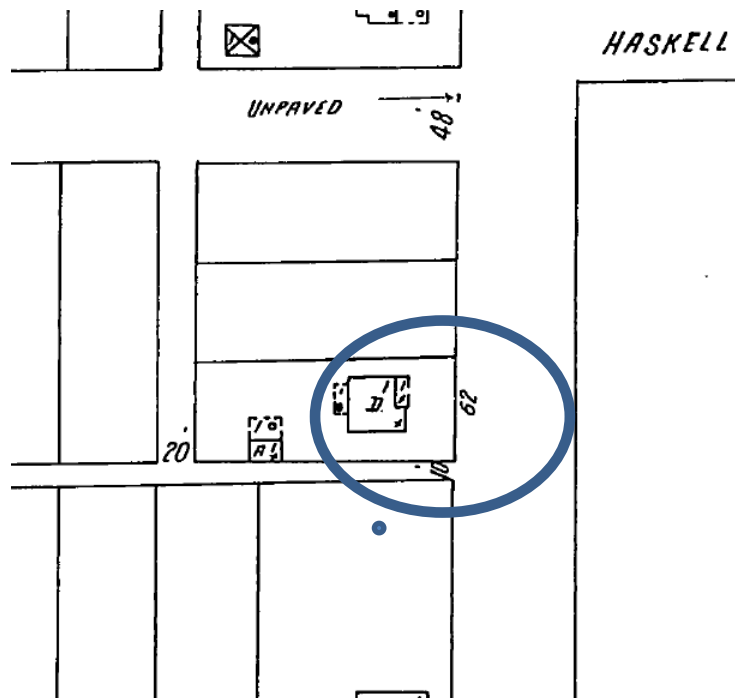
Obituary of Emma Imperial  
 Austin American-Statesman, September 23, 2008

OWNER Mrs. Emma Imperial ADDRESS 46 Waller St.  
 PLAT 14 LOT 13 BLK 3  
 SUBDIVISION Elm Grove  
 OCCUPANCY Residence  
 BLD PERMIT # 129594 DATE 5-22-72 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$3,000.00  
 CONTRACTOR Melvin Olson & Son NO. OF FIXTURES several  
 WATER TAP REC # Exist SEWER TAP REC # Exist  
 Repair and remodel exist residence  
 Building permit to Emma Imperial to repair and remodel the house (1972)

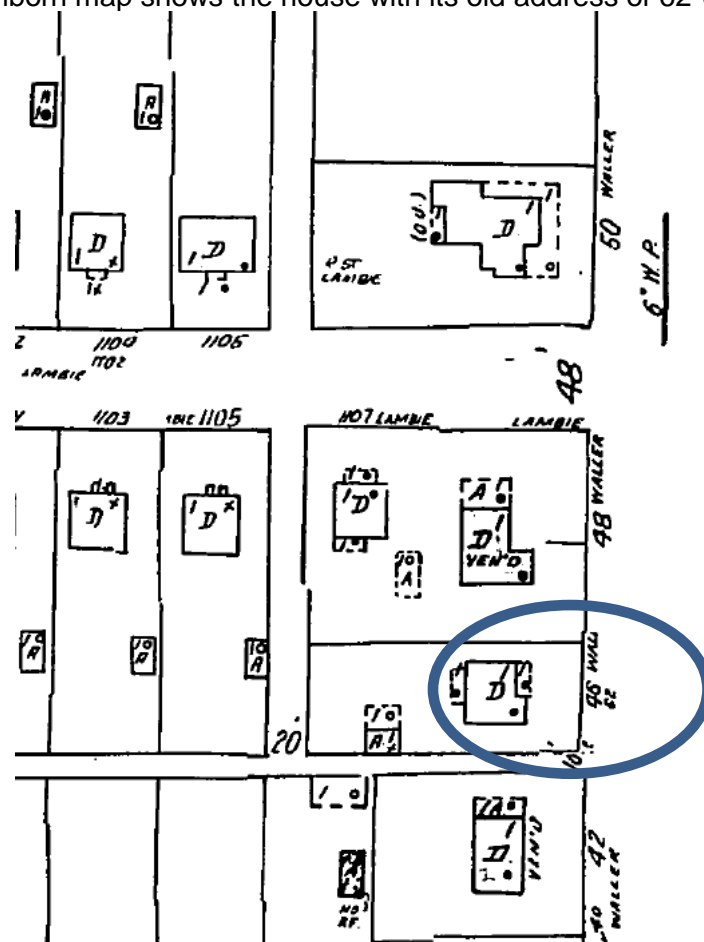


The 1922 Sanborn map shows the site of the house as vacant.





The 1935 Sanborn map shows the house with its old address of 62 Waller Street



The 1962 Sanborn map shows the house with its current address of 46 Waller Street and its old address of 62 Waller Street.