

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
APRIL 28, 2014  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2014-0227  
809 W. LIVE OAK STREET**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1936 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame house with a central, partial-width, front-gabled independent porch on plain, square wood posts; single and paired 1:1 fenestration; front door has triple glazing in the upper section.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house was built in 1936 by J. Thomas and Irene Beard. James T. Beard was a meat cutter by the time he had moved into this house; he had previously been a meat cutter, and by 1940, he and Irene were living in the 1600 block of S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, where they operated a grocery store – that section of S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street had a number of “mom-and-pop” groceries in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Beards lived here until around 1938. The house was then owned and occupied by Elizabeth Hardy, who had lived in rural Gonzales County prior to moving into this house, and had lived in San Antonio in 1930 where she was a seamstress. She had been a seamstress in Austin as well, according to the 1937 city directory, just prior to buying this house. She and her daughter Beatrice lived here until around 1943. From 1943 until her death in 1956, the house was owned and occupied by Alice Rachel Williamson, the widow of a farmer who had lived on the Old Lockhart-Austin Road. She lived here with her son, William, who was a court clerk for the City Police Court for many years. After her death in 1956, William lived here until his death in 1963. The house then became a rental unit.

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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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Rehabilitate and adaptively re-use the house if possible; the house is a good and intact example of a 1930s cottage, which is a common house type in Austin, but one which is increasingly threatened with removal. If re-use of the house is not possible, then staff recommends relocation over demolition, but to 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.

# LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2014-0227  
LOCATION: 809 W Live Oak 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.

809 West Live Oak Street  
ca. 1936



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
809 West Live Oak Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
April, 2014

1992	Plutarce P. and Ophelia P. Virgil, renters Retired
1985-86	Plutarce P. Virgil, renter NOTE: Plutarce Vigil is not listed in the main section of the directory.
1981	No return
1977	Virgil Plutarco, renter No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Virgil Plutarco was a new resident at this address.
1973	Julian and Louisa Calderon, renters No occupation listed
1968	David and Carolyn Stark, renters No occupation listed

- 1962 William A. Williamson, owner  
No occupation listed
- 1959 William A. Williamson, owner  
Court Clerk, Corporation Court
- 1955 Alice Williamson, owner  
Widow, A.B. Williamson  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is William A. Williamson, a court clerk for the City Police Department
- 1952 Alice Williamson, owner  
Widow, Arthur B. Williamson  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is William A. Williamson, a clerk in the City Corporation Court.
- 1949 Alice Williamson, owner  
Widow, Arthur B. Williamson  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is William A. Williamson, a clerk in the City Corporation Court.
- 1947 Alice Williamson, owner  
Widow, Arthur B. Williamson  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is William A. Williamson, an assistant clerk in the City Police Department.
- 1944-45 Alice Williamson, owner  
Widow, Arthur B. Williamson  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is William A. Williamson, an assistant clerk in the Corporation Court.
- 1941 Elizabeth Hardy, owner  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is Beatrice Hardy, a clerk in the State Department of Public Safety.  
NOTE: Alice Williamson is listed at 1300 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street; she was the widow of A.B. Williamson and had no occupation listed
- 1939 Elizabeth Hardy, owner  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: J.T. and Irene Beard are listed at 2002 Poquito Street; he was a meat cutter with no place of employment listed.
- 1937 J. Thomas and Irene Beard, owners  
Meat cutter, University Market, 2500 Guadalupe Street.  
NOTE: Elizabeth Hardy is listed as a dressmaker living at 1004 San Jacinto Boulevard.
- 1935 The address is not listed in the directory.

**BIOGRAPICAL NOTES:****J.T. and Irene Beard (ca. 1936 – ca. 1938)**

J.T. and Irene Beard are listed as the renters of the house at 1611 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street in the 1940 U.S. Census. J.T. Beard was then 33, had been born in Texas, and was the operator of a grocery

store. Irene Beard was also 33, had been born in Texas, and was a clerk in a grocery store. They had 4 children: Thomas, 13; Betty Jo, 11; Doris, 9; and Stelloise, 6. All the children had been born in Texas. The 1930 U.S. Census shows James and Irene Beard renting a house at 1205 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Austin. James Beard was a meat cutter in a market. Irene had no occupation listed.

#### **Elizabeth Hardy (ca. 1938 – ca. 1943)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Elizabeth Hardy as the owner of this house, which was worth \$2,500. Elizabeth Hardy was then 58, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. With her lived her daughter, Beatrice, 24, who had been born in Texas and worked as a stenographer for the State of Texas. Elizabeth and Beatrice Hardy had lived in rural Gonzales County in 1935. In 1930, according to the U.S. Census, Elizabeth Hardy was renting a house in San Antonio with her daughters, Juanita and Beatrice. Elizabeth Hardy was a seamstress in a shop; Juanita, then 24, was a stenographer in a doctor's office; Beatrice, then 15, had no occupation listed.

**MRS. ELIZABETH L. HARDY**  
 Funeral services for Mrs. Elizabeth Lucinda Hardy, 76, of 715 Deep Eddy, will be held Monday at 11:30 a.m. from Wilke-Thurman Clay Funeral Home with Dr. Marvin Vance officiating.  
 Mrs. Hardy, a resident of Austin 20 years, was a member of the First Methodist Church.  
 She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Charles Schmidt of Austin and Mrs. J. J. Wroblewski of Bryan; and one grandson.  
 After services here the body will be taken to Nixon for graveside services at 4 p.m.

Obituary of Elizabeth Hardy  
 Austin American, February 10, 1956

#### **Alice Williamson (ca. 1943 – ca. 1956)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Alice Williamson as the owner of the house at 1300 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Austin, where she lived with her son, William. Alice Williamson was then a 65-year old Texas-born widow with no occupation listed. William A. Williamson was then a 44-year old Texas-born superintendent for a WPA Road Crew. Alice owned her house, which was worth \$3,000. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Anton B. and Alice Williamson on a farm on the Old Lockhart-Austin Road in rural Travis County. Anton B. Williamson was a 59-year old Texas-born farmer. Alice had no occupation listed. They had a lodger, 22-year old Boyce Cluck, a Texas-born farm laborer. William A. Williamson was not listed as living with them.

**MRS. ALICE WILLIAMSON**

Mrs. Alice Williamson, 81, died in an Austin hospital Sunday night.

She is survived by one son, W. A. (Bill) Williamson of Austin; four sisters, Mrs. L. D. Sassman of Robstown, Mrs. M. C. Chisholm of Littlefield, Mrs. Tom Puryear of Dripping Springs and Mrs. Ida Greer of Austin; and two brothers, E. E. Scott and H. W. Scott of Austin.

Funeral services will be held Monday at 4 p.m. at Cook Funeral Home, with Rev. L. R. Cole officiating. Burial will be at Cedar Valley.

Obituary of Alice Williamson  
Austin American, April 23, 1956

**MRS. ALICE WILLIAMSON**

Funeral service for Mrs. Alice Rachel Williamson were held Monday at Cook Funeral Home with Rev. L. R. Cole officiating.

Mrs. Williamson, 809 West Live Oak, died in a local hospital Sunday. She had been a resident of Austin since 1896.

She is survived by one son, W. A. (Bill) Williamson of Austin; four sisters, Mrs. L. D. Sassman of Robstown, Mrs. N. C. Chisholm of Littlefield, Mrs. Tom Puryear of Dripping Springs and Mrs. Ida Greer of Austin; and two brothers, E. E. Scott and H. W. Scott of Austin.

Pallbearers were Lloyd Morgan, Dan Sassman, Sam Allred, Melvin Scott, Jimmie Sandberg, and J. D. Ragland. Burial was in Cedar Valley Cemetery.

Funeral story on Alice Williamson  
Austin American, April 24, 1956

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

# **PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE**

AUSTIN, TEXAS

No. 4295 292

Sec H54

M. J. L. Beard

Address 809 W Live Oak St.

Plumber Loden

Size of Tap 1/2"

Date 7-15-36

Lat 5806 B

## **Foreman's Report**

Date of Connection 7/16/36

Size of Tap Made 1/2"

Size Service Made 1/2"

Size Main Tapped 6"

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 11'

From W Prop. Line to Curb Cock 40'

Location of Meter 200' and

Type of Box 100'

Depth of Main in St. 3'

Depth of Service Line 2'

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 9'

Checked by Engr. Dept. W. R. H. 1-27-36

**INDEXED**

No. Fittings	Size	Foreman's Signature
1 Curb Cock	5/8"	
1 Elbow		
1 St. Elbow		
1 Bushing		
1 Reducer		
1 1/2" Pipe		
1 1/2" Lead-Cont'd		
1 Nipples		
1 Union		
1 Plug		
1 Tee		
1 Stop		
1 Box		
1 Lid		
1 Valves		
Req. No.	10567	

BENSON

Water service permit to J.L.[sic] Beard for this address (1936)