

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION**  
**PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS**  
**MAY 19, 2014**  
**NRD-2014-0029**  
**1622 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Clarksville**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1900 contributing house that was moved to the current site around 1961.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame house with an almost-full width front-gabled independent porch on ornamental metal supports; single 1:1 fenestration.

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**RESEARCH**

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Staff believes the house was built around 1900 by John Freeman, an African-American laborer. The city directory of 1898-99 shows John Freeman living at 506 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street; by the time of the publication of the 1900-01 city directory, he was living on the north side of W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, between in the International and Great Northern Railroad and the Austin Dam, an area that could have covered as far north as Clarksville; he was living in the home of Albert Freeman, an African-American laborer. The 1903-04 city directory shows John Freeman as a laborer with 4 children living at the same location detailed in the 1900-01 directory. By 1905, John Freeman was living at what was listed as 1001 West Lynn Street, which on its face, would be the opposite side of the street, but later directories reveal that the house numbering system in this neighborhood changed sides around 1920, so that 1001 West Lynn Street was thereafter known as 1002 West Lynn, the original address for this house. John H. and Mary Freeman are listed as the occupants of 1002 West Lynn Street from 1918 through 1924. John Freeman was listed variously as a teamster and laborer. By the time of the 1927 city directory, Mary Freeman is listed as the occupant of 1002 West Lynn Street; she was a cook. Family history informs that John and Mary Freeman divorced in the mid-1920s. The 1927 city directory shows John Freeman, with a new wife, Rebecca, living up the block at 1008 West Lynn Street from then on. Mary Freeman is listed as the owner and occupant of 1002 West Lynn Street through the 1950s, when the address of 1002 West Lynn Street is no longer listed in the city directories. From 1959 through 1962, Mary Freeman is listed at 1602 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, which would have been the same location as 1002 West Lynn, with just a change in the street address. Note that the information for the 1962 city directory was gathered in 1961. After 1963 (reflecting information from 1962), neither the address of 1002 West Lynn Street nor the address of 1602 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street appears in the city directories, indicating the move of the house around 1961. The 1961 Sanborn map also shows the house at 1622 West Lynn Street, its current location. Family history again informs that the house was moved approximately 50 years ago, and was cut into two pieces for the move. It is likely that the house was also remodeled to its current appearance at that time.

Mary Freeman lived at 1606 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street with her daughter, Gladys, around 1962-1963, then lived in this house throughout the rest of the 1960s. She rented it out in the 1970s, and by the early 1980s, her grandson, Ronnie Baylor, who is the current owner of the house, was living here.

Mary Freeman was a mid-wife for the African-American women of Clarksville, providing an invaluable service for community residents who did not have access to hospital health care. As such, she was a very important member of the Clarksville community. Her family also represents Clarksville community involvement: her daughter, Mary Freeman Baylor, founded the Clarksville Community Development Corporation in the 1970s and was instrumental in bringing modern public amenities to the long-neglected neighborhood.

Staff believes the house is contributing to the Clarksville National Register Historic District. It was rated as a Priority 3 for preservation in the Clarksville survey, but with an incorrect date of construction of 1950.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Initiate the historic zoning case. The house has significance as a possibly very old house in Clarksville as well as for its associations with Mary Freeman, a community midwife and mother of Mary Freeman Baylor, a Clarksville civic activist.



SUBJECT TRACT



ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: NRD-2014-0029  
LOCATION: 1622 W 10TH 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.

1622 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
ca. 1900 – moved to its current site ca. 1961



## OCCUPANCY HISTORY

1622 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street

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

1992	Ronnie W. and Kay M. Baylor, renters Case worker, Oak Springs
1985-86	Ronnie W. and Kay M. Baylor, renters Ronnie: Employed by the City Kay: Clerk/typist, Travis County
1981	Ronnie W. and Kay M. Baylor, renters Ronnie: Employed by the City Kay: Clerk/typist, Travis County Adult Probation

1977      Lewis Williams, owner  
No occupation listed

NOTE: Ronnie and Kay Baylor are listed at 1103 Toyath Street; neither had an occupation listed in the directory.

1973      Annie Williams, owner  
Teacher A Bar Z Ponderosa School, “A new concept in education for children ages 1-11”,  
8203 Sam Rayburn Drive and 8121 Shoal Creek Boulevard.  
NOTE: Lewis Williams is not listed in the directory.

1968 Mary Freeman, owner  
No occupation listed

1962 Vacant

NOTE: The following occupancy history is for the house at its earlier site, 1002 West Lynn Street, which was also known as 1602 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

1959 Mary L. Freeman, owner  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The address is listed as 1602 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

1955 No return for 1602 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street; no listing for 1002 West Lynn Street.  
NOTE: Mary L. Freeman is not listed in the directory.

NOTE: Gladys Freeman, Mary Freeman's daughter, is listed as the owner of the house at 1604 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, which is likely this same house. Gladys had no occupation listed.

1953 Neither address of 1602 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street nor 1002 West Lynn Street is listed in the directory. Mary Freeman is not listed in the directory, but Gladys Freeman is listed as the owner of the house at 1606 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, which could be the same house, but there is also a listing for a vacant house at 1604 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

1949 Mary Freeman is not listed in the directory. Neither the address of 1602 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street nor the address of 1002 West Lynn Street is listed in the directory. Gladys Freeman is listed at 1606 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street; she had no occupation listed.  
Porter

1947 Neither Mary nor Gladys Freeman is listed in the directory. The address of 1602 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street is not listed in the directory; the house at 1002 West Lynn Street is shown as vacant. Robert W. Shaw is shown as the owner of 1606 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street. He had a grocery store at 1000 West Lynn Street.

1944-45 Mary Freeman, owner  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1002 West Lynn Street.

1940 Mary Freeman, owner  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is Gladys Freeman, no occupation stated.  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1002 West Lynn Street.

1935 Mary Freeman, owner  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The address is listed as 1002 West Lynn Street.

1930-31 Mary Freeman (colored), owner  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The address is listed as 1002 West Lynn Street.

1927 Mary Freeman (colored), owner  
Cook

NOTE: The address is listed as 1002 West Lynn Street.

NOTE: John H. and Rebecca Freeman are listed at 1008 West Lynn Street.

1924        John H. and Mary Freeman (colored), owners  
              Laborer  
              NOTE: The address is listed as 1002 West Lynn Street.

1918        John H. and Mary Freeman (colored), owners  
              Teamster  
              NOTE: The address is listed as 1001 West Lynn Street.

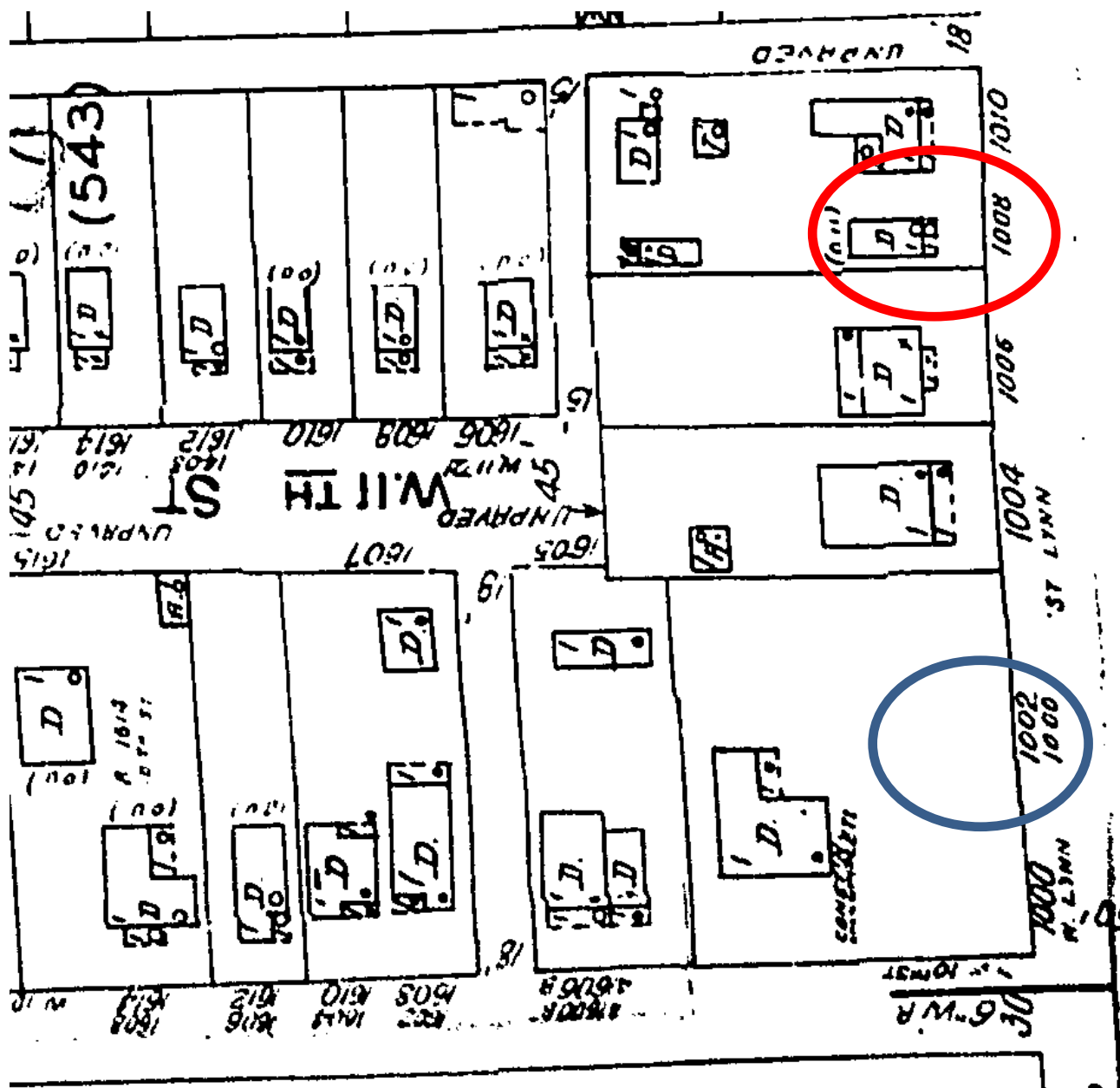
1912-13     John H. Freeman (colored)  
              No occupation listed  
              NOTE: The address is listed as 1001 West Lynn Street.

1905        John H. Freeman  
              Teamster  
              NOTE: The address is listed as 1001 West Lynn Street.

1903-04     John Freeman (colored)  
              Laborer with 4 children  
              NOTE: The directory shows John Freeman living on the north side of W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street,  
              between the International-Great Northern Railroad and the Austin Dam.

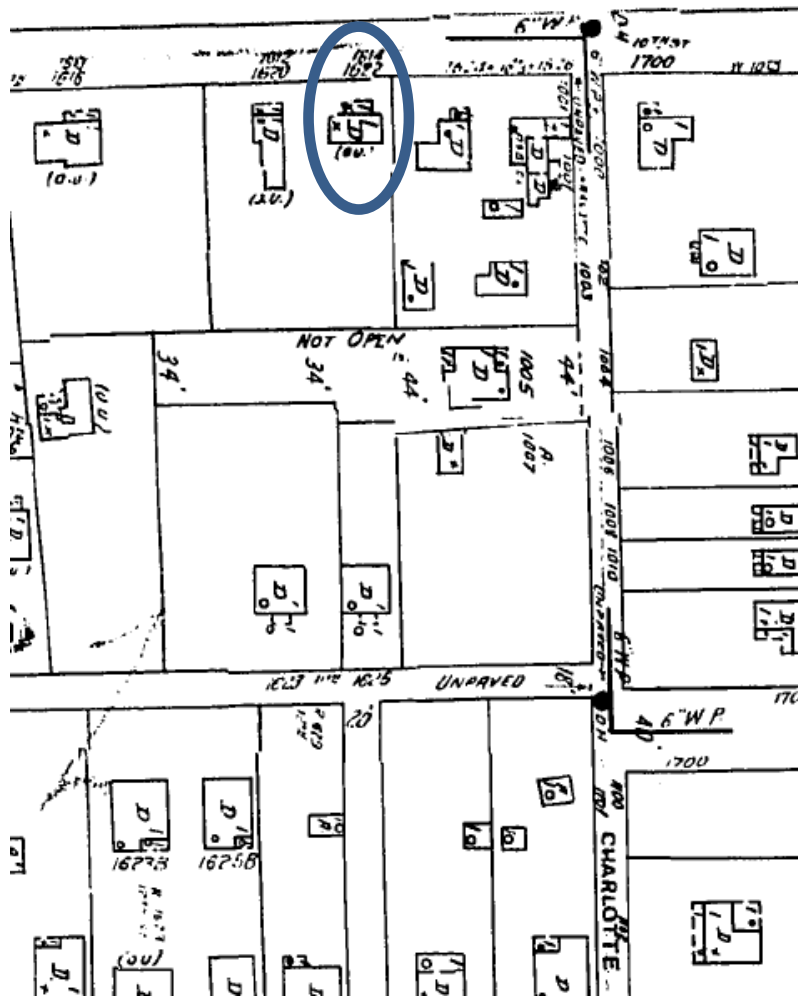
1900-01     John Freeman (colored)  
              Laborer  
              NOTE: The directory shows John Freeman living in the house of Albert Freeman (colored),  
              a laborer living on the north side of W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street between the International-Great Northern  
              Railroad and the Austin Dam.

In 1898-99, John Freeman is listed as a colored laborer living at 506 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street.



The 1961 Sanborn map shows the site of 1002 West Lynn Street vacant. The house at 1010 West Lynn Street, owned by John Freeman, and his later wife, Rebecca, is shown at the top right of the map – it is a smaller house in comparison to the one he left to Mary Freeman and his children.





The house appears on the 1961 Sanborn map. The house was moved in 1961 from 1002 West Lynn Street (later known as 1602 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street).