

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
AUGUST 25, 2014
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2014-0638
3110 ROBINSON AVENUE**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1933 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame house with an ornamental front gable containing paired 1:1 fenestration; central, round-arched entry with a round-arched door and a front-gabled entry hood; paired French windows in the side-gabled section of the façade.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1933 by John Leonard and Viola Berkman, who moved here from a rented house on East Avenue. John Leonard Berkman had been a service man in an automobile garage at the time that he and Viola bought this house; he then became a paperhanger and painter. Viola Berkman was a telephone operator in the Scottish Rite Dormitory at the University of Texas. They lived here until around 1950. The house was then purchased by Vera Surles, the widow of a Wichita Falls attorney, who moved here from Dallas. She lived here until her death in 1977. The house was a rental property after that; Bruce Muhlberg, the owner of the Party Barn on Guadalupe Street, rented the house in the 1980s.

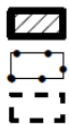
STAFF COMMENTS

The house

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and re-use if feasible; 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. The house has neither the architectural nor the historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT

PENDING CASE

ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 103'

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2014-0638

LOCATION: 3110 Robinson Avenue

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.



3110 Robinson Avenue
ca. 1933



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
3110 Robinson Avenue

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

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 1992 | Victor L. and Sharla S. Hinterlang, renters
Freelance photographer |
| 1985-86 | Bruce R. Muhlberg, renter
Proprietor, Party Barn, beer, 3300 Guadalupe Street.
NOTE: Under the Party Barn listing in the directory, W.L. Walls is listed as the proprietor. |
| 1981 | Bruce R. Muhlberg, renter
Proprietor, Party Barn, beer, 3300 Guadalupe Street.
NOTE: The directory indicates that Bruce R. Muhlberg was a new resident at this address.
NOTE: W.L. Walls is not listed as the proprietor of the Party Barn. |
| 1977 | Vacant |
| 1973 | Vera Surles, owner
Widow, Russell Surles
Retired |

1968	Vera Surles, owner Widow, Russell Surles No occupation listed
1962	Vera Surles, owner Widow, Russell Surles No occupation listed
1959	Vera Surles, owner Widow, Russell Surles No occupation listed
1955	Vera Surles, owner Widow, Russell Surles No occupation listed
1952	Vera Surles, owner Widow, Edward R. Surles Clerk NOTE: John L. and Viola Berkman are listed at 1913 W. 34 th Street; he was a supervisor at the State Highway Department.
1949	John L. and Viola Berkman, owners Supervisor, State Highway Department NOTE: Vera Surles is not listed in the directory.
1947	John L. and Viola Berkman, owners Supervisor, State Highway Department
1944-45	Henry J. and Doris R. Sasse, renters Henry: Salesman Doris: Deputy collector, U.S. Internal Revenue Service NOTE: John L. and Viola Berkman are not listed in the directory.
1941	John L. and Viola Berkman, owners Painter
1939	John L. and Viola Berkman, owners Painter
1937	John L. and Viola Berkman, owners Painter
1935	J. Leonard and Viola Berkman, owners J. Leonard: Attendant, Miller's Garage, 112-14 E. 7 th Street. Viola: Telephone operator, Scottish Rite Dormitory, University of Texas.
1932-33	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: John L. and Viola Berkman are listed at 1713 East Avenue; he was the assistant manager of Miller's Garage, 112-14 E. 7 th Street.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

John L. and Viola Berkman (ca. 1933 – ca. 1950)

John L. Berkman is listed in the 1930 U.S. Census with Viola as the renters of the house at 1713 East Avenue. He was 25, had been born in Texas to Swedish-born parents, and was a service man in a garage. Viola Berkman was 22, had been born in Texas to a Swedish-born father and a Texas-born mother; she was a telephone operator. With them lived Viola's brother, Decker Carlson, 21, who was a laborer in a nursery. He is listed as Leonard J. Berkman.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows John L. and Viola Berkman as the owners of this house, which was worth \$3,000. John L. Berkman was a 35-year old paper-hanging contractor in building construction. Viola Berkman had no occupation listed. They had a 3-year old daughter, Claire, who had been born in Texas.

Viola A. Berkman

Viola A. Berkman, age 75, of 1913 West 34th Street, died Tuesday.

She is survived by her husband, John Berkman, Austin; daughter and son-in-law, Claire and Dan W. Croft, Irving.

Services, 10:00 AM Thursday, Weed-Corley Funeral Home. Burial, Austin Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to the Austin-Travis County Humane Society.

Obituary of Viola Berkman
Austin American-Statesman, May 19, 1983

John Leonard Berkman

John Leonard Berkman, age 85, of Austin, died Sunday.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Viola Berkman and was a retired supervisor from the Texas Highway Department.

Survivors include his daughter and son-in-law, Claire and Dan Crofts of Irving; sister, Ingrid Warren of Austin and many wonderful friends.

Family visitation will be Monday from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Weed-Corley Funeral Home.

Services will be 3:00 PM, Tuesday in the Weed-Corley Funeral Home with Pastor Robert Karli officiating. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be Robert Allan Thorp, Joe Zygarienski, Joseph Zygarienski, Paul Goertz, John Scurlock, James Warren Jr., Don Berkman, Ray Brown, Al Lozano.

Memorials may be made to the Austin Travis County Humane Society.

Arrangements by Weed-Corley Funeral Home, 3125 N. Lamar. 452-8811.

Obituary of John Leonard Berkman
Austin American-Statesman, June 18, 1990

Vera Surles (ca. 1950 – ca. 1977)

Vera Surles appears in the 1940 U.S. Census for University Park, Dallas County, Texas, where she owned a house that was worth \$13,000. She was 40, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. With her lived her son, E. Russell Surles, Jr., 21, a draftsman for a private architect; and her daughter, Burnell, 17, who had no occupation listed. Both children had been born in Texas. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Vera and E. Russell Surles living in the Floral Heights Addition to Wichita Falls, Texas, in a house they owned, which was worth \$5,000. E. Russell Surles was 36, had been born in Texas, and was a lawyer in private practice. Vera Surles was 31, and had no occupation listed. Their 2 children were listed with them.

SURLES, Mrs. Vera, 77, 3110 Robinson, died Monday. Services 2 p.m. Wednesday at First Methodist Church in Matador. Survivors: son, Russell Surles Jr. of Dallas; daughter, Mrs. William C. Gruver of San Antonio; brother, J.R. Whitworth of Matador; 6 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren. (Seigler Funeral Home in Matador)

Obituary of Vera Surles
Austin American-Statesman, January 11, 1977

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

PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE AUSTIN, TEXAS No 1788

M. Leonard Berkman Address 3110 Robinson Ave *See 53*

Plumber Crosdale Size of Tap 1/2 Date 7-3-33

7/5/33
Date of Connection.....
Size of Tap Made.....
Size Service Made.....
Size Main Tapped.....
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock.....
From S. Prop. Line to Curb Cock.....
Location of Meter.....
Type of Box.....
Depth of Main in St.....
Depth of Service Line.....
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main.....
Checked by Engr. Dept. Z.C.F. 7-13-33

INDEXED

Foreman's Report

No. Fittings	Size	Material
1	5/4"	Curb Cock
1	1/2"	Elbow
1	1/2"	St. Elbow
1	1/2"	Bushing
1	1/2"	Reducer
1	1/2"	Pipe
1	1/2"	Lead Comp.
1	1/2"	Nipples
1	1/2"	Union
1	1/2"	Plug
1	1/2"	Tee
1	1/2"	Stop
1	1/2"	Box
1	1/2"	Lid
1-2	1/2"	Valves
1-2	1/2"	1-2 x 1/2" F.I. valves

Foreman's Signature Berkman

Req. No. 4173

Water service permit to Leonard Berkman for this address (1933)

OWNER	Ed Malcik	ADDRESS	3110 Robinson Ave
PLAT	53	LOT	2
SUBDIVISION	Avalon Addn		
OCCUPANCY	deck		
BLDG. PERMIT #	179887	DATE	3-5-79
CONTRACTOR	owner	OWNERS ESTIMATE	200.00
WATER TAP REC#		SEWER TAP REC#	
Addn to res. (rear)			

Building permit to Ed Malcik for the construction of a rear deck (1979)