

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
FEBRUARY 23, 2015  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2015-0024  
2004 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1908 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, pyramidal hipped roof frame house with a partial-width inset porch on non-historic supports; windows and doors have been boarded over; synthetic siding.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house appears to have been built around 1908 by Sampson E. and Elizabeth Murray, an African-American couple, at its original location at 2404 Longview Street in Wheatville. Sampson E. Murray had been born in Austin, and was a piano refinisher for the J.R. Reed Music Company on Congress Avenue. He was also a Baptist minister, and pastored at the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church and the Friendly Will Baptist Church in South Austin. His wife Elizabeth died around 1936; he then married a woman named Mary. The Murrays owned and lived in this house until around 1946. At the time of his death in 1948, S.E. Murray was living on Poquito Street.

The house was then a rental property until 1963, when it was moved from its West Campus location to its current location in East Austin. Prior to the move, the house was rented by UT students.

After the move to East Austin, the house was owned and occupied by John and Mable Scott. John Scott was an African-American porter for the State House of Representatives; after his death, Mable Scott worked as a maid. She died in 2008.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is listed as a medium priority for preservation in the Historic Resources Survey of East Austin (2000).

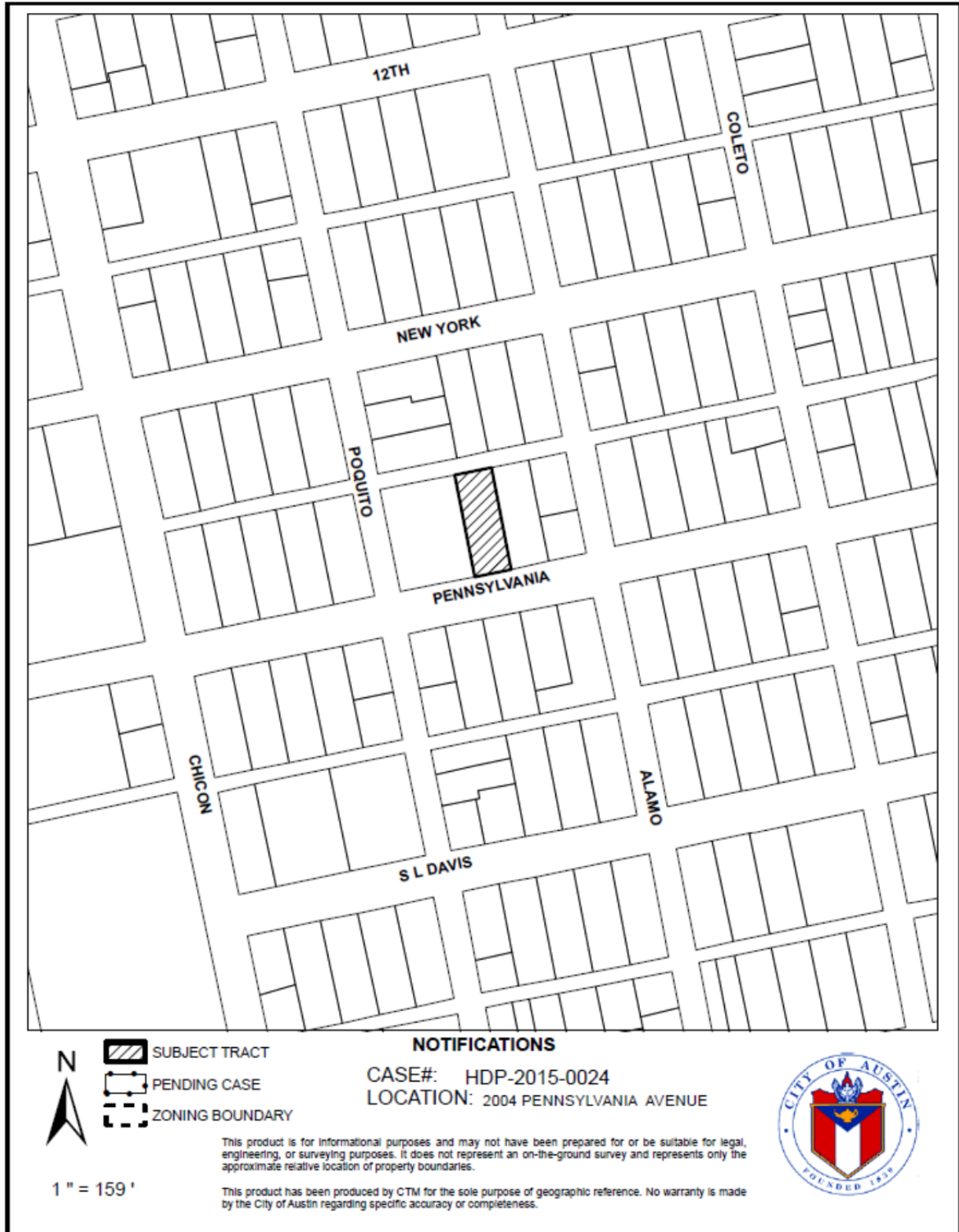
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Request that the applicant consider rehabilitation and re-use rather than demolition if the house is structurally sound – its condition is difficult to determine and the doors and windows have been boarded over. If rehabilitation is not feasible, then staff recommends completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations (after the removal of the securing boards), a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center, prior to release of the permit.

## LOCATION MAP



2004 Pennsylvania Avenue

ca. 1908 (moved to its current site in 1963)



**OCCUPANCY HISTORY**  
2004 Pennsylvania Avenue

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

February, 2015

1992	Mable Scott, owner No occupation listed
1985-86	Mable Scott, owner Maid
1981	Mable Scott, owner Maid
1977	Mable Scott, owner Widow, John A. Scott Maid
1973	Mable Scott, owner Widow, John A. Scott Maid
1968	John and Lenora Scott, Jr., owners Porter, State House of Representatives
1963	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: The house was moved from 2404 Longview Street in 1963. NOTE: John and Mabel Scott are listed at 1157 Oak Grove Avenue; he was a porter in the State House of Representatives.

The following are listings for the house when it was located at 2404 Longview Street:

1962	Thomas Smith, renter Student
1959	John L. Conlon, renter Student
1955	Lynn C. Halamicek, renter Student
1952	Lester Wolf, renter Student
1949	R. Jack and Marie Gallaway, renters Assistant professor
1947	Joseph C.A. and Ada Eckhardt, Jr., owners U.S. Army
1944-45	S. Edward and Mary Murray, owners No occupation listed
1942	S. Edward Murray, owner NOTE: Mary Murray is not listed in the directory. Minister, Baptist Church, Smithville, Texas.



- 1941 W. Edward and Mary Murray, owners  
Refinisher, J.R. Reed Music Company, 805 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1939 Sampson E. and Mary Murray, owners  
Refinisher, J.R. Reed Music Company, 805 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1937 Rev. Samuel E. and Elizabeth Murray, owners  
Repairman, J.R. Reed Music Company, 805 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2404 Longview Street.
- 1935 Rev. Samuel E. and Elizabeth Murray, owners  
Pastor, Friendly Will Baptist Church, 412 W. Johanna Street.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1932-33 Rev. Sampson E. and Elizabeth Murray, owners  
Pastor, Friendly Will Baptist Church, 412 W. Johanna Street.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1930-31 Rev. S. Edward and Elizabeth Murray (colored), owners  
Pastor, Friendly Will Baptist Church, 412 W. Johanna Street; and piano finisher,  
J.R. Reed Music Company, 805 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1929 Rev. S. Edward and Elizabeth Murray (colored), owners  
Pastor, 12<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church, 2205 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1927 Samuel E. and Elizabeth Murray (not listed as colored), owners  
Refinisher, J.R. Reed Music Company, 805 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1924 Samuel E. and Elizabeth Murray (colored), owners  
Refinisher, J.R. Reed Music Company, 805 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1922 Sampson E. and Lizzie Murray (colored), owners  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1920 Sampson E. and Elizabeth Murray (colored), owners  
Refinisher, J.R. Reed Music Company, 805 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1918 Sampson E. and Elizabeth Murray (colored), owners  
Porter, J.R. Reed Music Company, 805 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1916 S. Edward Murray (colored)  
Porter, J.R. Reed Music Company, 800 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1914 Edward Murray (colored)

Porter

Also listed is Sampson E. Murray (colored), a porter at the J.R. Reed Music Company, 800 Congress Avenue.

NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.

- 1912-13      Sampson E. Murray (colored)  
Porter, Swann Furniture and Carpet Company, wholesale and retail furniture, carpets, and draperies, 401-03 Congress Avenue and 218 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street..  
NOTE: Edward Murray (colored) is listed as a laborer boarding in the home of Cora Giles (colored), 3 blocks south of W. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, ½ mile west of the International and Great Northern Railroad.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1910-11      Edward Murray (colored)  
Laborer  
NOTE: Sampson E. Murray is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1909-10      Sampson E. Murray (colored)  
Minister  
NOTE: Edward Murray is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: The address is listed as 2412 Longview Street.
- 1907-08      The street is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Neither Sampson E. Murray nor Edward Murray are listed in the directory.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

### **Sampson A. and Elizabeth Murray (ca. 1908 – ca. 1936)**

### **Sampson A. and Mary Murray (ca. 1936 – ca. 1946)**

According to his World War I draft registration card, Sampson Edward Murray was living at 2406 Longview Street; he was born February 11, 1874, and was a piano refinisher for the J.R. Reed Music Company. His wife's name was Elizabeth. He was African-American, of medium height, and stocky build.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Ed and Lizzie Murry [sic] in the vicinity of W. 25<sup>th</sup> and Leon Streets in an un-numbered house on an un-named street. They owned their house. Ed Murry was 27, had been born in Texas, and was a piano mechanic. Lizzie Murry was 31, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows S.E. and Elizabeth Murray as the owners of the house on Longview Street, which was worth \$750. S.E. Murray was 50, had been born in Texas, and was a mechanic in a music store; Elizabeth Murray was 45, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had no children listed with them.

Sampson E. and Mary Murray appear in the 1940 U.S. Census at 2412 Longview Street. They owned their home, which was worth \$3,000. Sampson E. Murray was 65, had been born in Texas, and was a piano refinisher. Mary Murray was 44, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed.

At the time of his death, Rev. S.E. Murray was living at 1704 Poquito Street in Austin. He was a minister who had been born in Austin. His wife's name is listed as Mary. There was no obituary in the Austin newspapers at his August 15, 1948 death.

### John and Mable Scott (ca. 1963 - )

#### Mable Prince Scott



**Mable Prince Scott** Mable Prince Scott, 97 of Austin, Texas died December 18, 2008. Funeral service will be Tuesday, December 23, 2008, at the Mount Zion Baptist Church, 2938 East 13th Street, Austin, Texas. The Burial will follow in the Evergreen Cemetery. Viewing will be held Monday, December 22, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at King- Tears Mortuary. Service entrusted to the caring professionals at King-Tears Mortuary, Inc., 1300 East 12th Street, Austin, Texas.

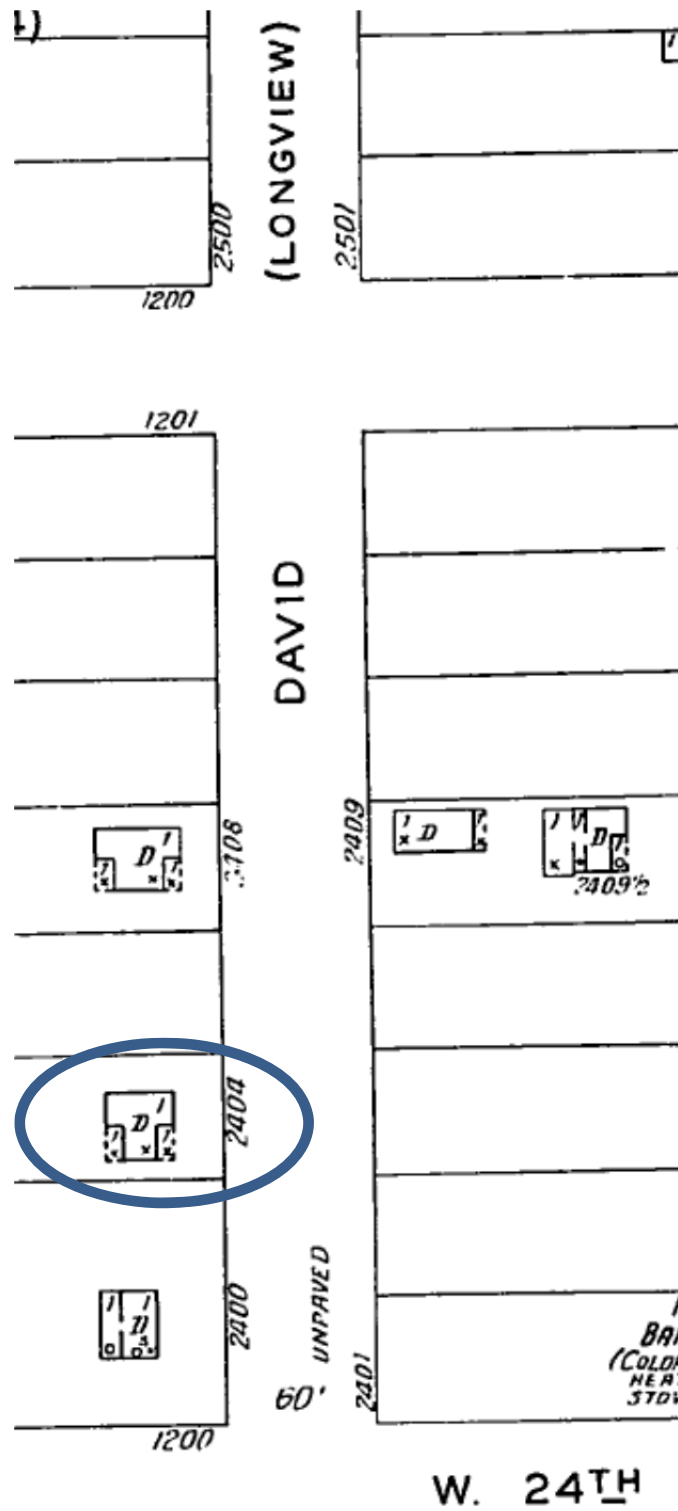
Obituary of Mable Scott  
Austin American-Statesman, December 21, 2008

OWNER Thomas Ates ADDRESS 2004 Pennsylvania Ave.  
PLAT 36 LOT 3 BLK 10 DIV \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBDIVISION Of O.L. 58  
OCCUPANCY Move frame Res. onto lot & Repair; Add CP  
BLD PERMIT # 87426 DATE 4-2-63 OWNERS ESTIMATE 1200.00  
CONTRACTOR Booker T. Moore NO. OF FIXTURES 5  
WATER TAP REC # W E 33077 SEWER TAP REC #s 39631  
RESIDENCE  
FROM: 2404 Longview

Building permit to Thomas Ates to move the house from 2404 Longview Street to its current location (1963)

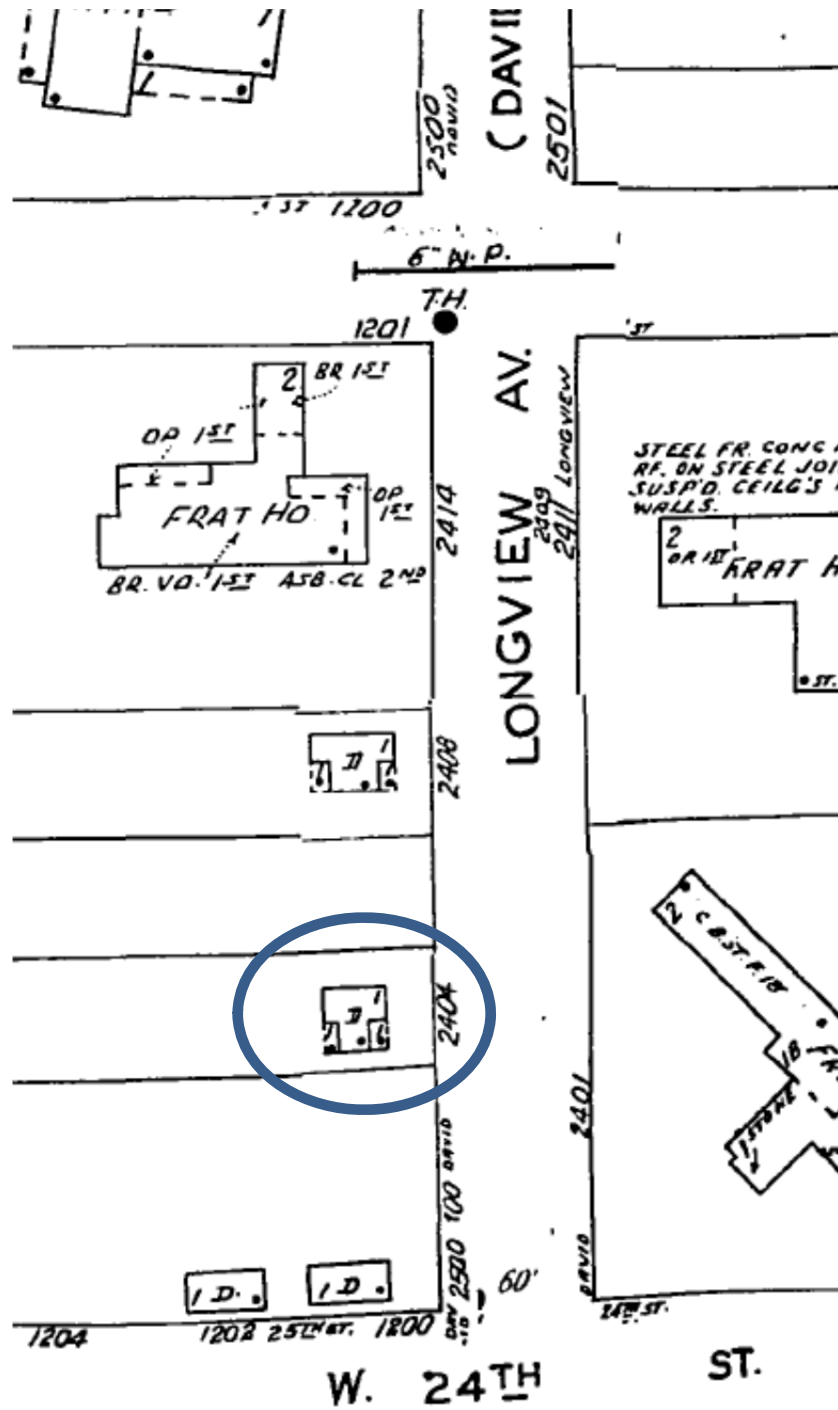
OWNER John Arthur Scott ADDRESS 2004 Pennsylvania Ave.  
PLAT 36 LOT 3 BLK 10 DIV \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBDIVISION of O.L. 58  
OCCUPANCY Frame Acc. Bldg.  
BLD PERMIT # 88276 DATE 6-11-63 OWNERS ESTIMATE 10.00  
CONTRACTOR Owner NO. OF FIXTURES -  
WATER TAP REC # \_\_\_\_\_ SEWER TAP REC # \_\_\_\_\_  
STG.

Building permit to John Arthur Scott for the construction of a frame storage building (1963)



The 1935 Sanborn map shows the house with its address of 2404 Longview Street.





The 1961 Sanborn map shows the house with the same configuration as the 1935 map above.