

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
APRIL 27, 2015
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2015-0153
1908 AIROLE WAY**

PROPOSAL

Deconstruct and re-build a ca. 1950 house.

ARCHITECTURE

Raised one-story, irregular-plan, flat- and shed-roofed mid-century Modern design house with a combination of exterior materials, including wood siding and stone; banks of casement windows.

RESEARCH

The house was built by local mid-century Modern designer and builder A.D. Stenger. As was his typical business model, Stenger built houses for his friends and associates with them in mind. The first owners and occupants of this house were Frederick and Alma Ward. Frederick Ward was an attorney who specialized in criminal justice, and was a strong advocate for the rehabilitation of criminal offenders. He served as the Southern Director of the National Probation and Parole Association, later the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. He had a background in social work, and worked for the humane treatment of criminals with a focus on their rehabilitation into society. In 1968, he and his wife moved to New York City to serve as the Executive Vice-President of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. He worked to get the United Nations to adopt the policy of allowing foreign prisoners to serve their time in their home country, and worked with LBJ on the president's Crime Commission Report.

The Wards lived in this house until around 1962; it was then owned and occupied by Kenneth Kaiser, an architect, who lived here until around 1966. Jesse and Edith Thompson rented the house in the late 1960s; he was the proprietor of Central Feed and Seed, located in the South Congress Avenue building that now houses Guero's Restaurant. Another architect, David Voelter, and his wife, Karen, owned the house in the 1970s; from the mid-1980s until around 2000, the house was owned and occupied by Tom and Scottie Bass. Tom Bass worked for the Texas Education Agency; Scottie Bass was a long-time teacher in Austin, and the principal of Oak Hill Elementary School.

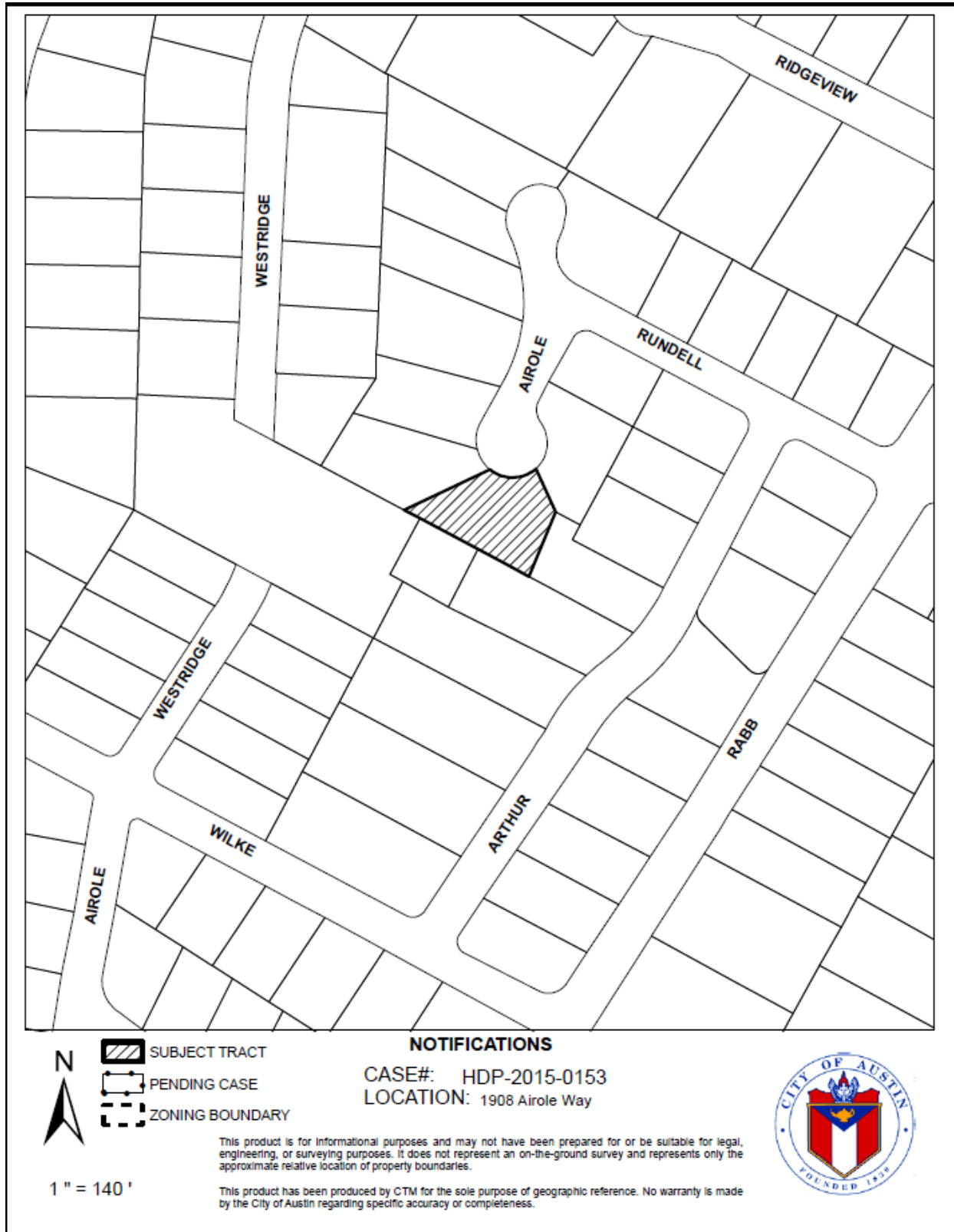
STAFF COMMENTS

The house is not listed in any City survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Either postpone to May 18, 2015 or initiate a historic zoning case. This is an excellent example of Stenger's mid-century Modern style in Austin, and has the requisite historical associations to warrant consideration as a historic landmark. Staff also recommends investigation of the Stenger subdivisions on Airole Way and Arthur Street as a potential historic district, or (with a Code amendment), creation of a thematic historic district for Stenger houses in Austin.

LOCATION MAP



1908 Airole Way
ca. 1950



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
1908 Airole Way

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
April, 2015

1992	Tom and Scottie Bass, owners Tom: No occupation listed Scottie: Principal, AISD
1985-86	Tom and Scottie Bass (not listed as owners) Employed by the Texas Education Agency NOTE: The directory indicates that Tom and Scottie Bass were new residents at this address.
1981	No return
1977	David L. and Karen Voelter, owners Architect, Jessen Associates, architects, 700 American National Bank Tower, 221 W. 6 th Street.
1973	David L. and Karen Voelter, owners Architect
1968	Jesse B. and Edith Thompson, renters Proprietor, Central Feed and Seed Company, 1412 S. Congress Avenue. NOTE: David Voelter is listed as a student living at 2008-C Scenic Drive.

1965	H. Kenneth Kaiser, owner Architect and designer
1964	H. Kenneth Kaiser, owner Architect and designer
1963	Frederick and Alma J. Ward, Jr., owners Southern director, National Council on Crime and Delinquency, 530 Littlefield Building.
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1955	Frederick and Alma J. Ward, Jr., owners Director, National Probation and Parole Association
1954	Frederick and Alma J. Ward, Jr., owners Lawyer, 727-29 Littlefield Building; and Director, national Probation and Parole Association.
1953	Frederick Ward, Jr., owner (no wife listed) Director, National Probation and Parole Association
1952	Frederick and Alma Ward, Jr., renters Manager, National Probation and Parole Association
1949	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: Frederick and Alma Ward are not listed in the directory.

Fred Ward

Fred Ward, a longtime resident of Austin, an expert in criminal justice, and a distinguished veteran, died Monday, in a local hospital. He was 85 years old.

Memorial services will be held Thursday, at 9:00 a.m. at the Umlauf Sculpture Garden, 605 Robert E. Lee Road. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to: Friends of the LBJ Library, 2313 Red River St., Austin, Texas 78705.

Ward's career as a social worker during the Depression and later as a criminologist spans from 1936, and even beyond his retirement in 1978. A strong proponent of rehabilitation and humane treatment of criminal adult and youthful offenders, Ward served as the Southern Director of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency here in Austin from 1948 until 1968.

That year he moved to New York City with his wife, the late Alma Jeane Ward and their daughters, Cristen and Shannon, to serve as Executive Vice President of NCCD. While in New York, Ward represented NCCD at a number of conferences in Europe and the United Nations. He was instrumental in getting the U.N. to adopt the principle of transferring foreign prisoners to serve their sentences in their home country. He was one of the primary authors of President Lyndon B. Johnson's 1966 Crime Commission Report.

Ward's youth was spent in New Orleans where he was born on May 28, 1912. With his parents he also lived in New York City, Chicago and later Cuero, Texas, where he graduated from high school as president of his class. He was a competitive gymnast, diver and swimmer winning many medals and awards. He graduated from the University of Houston with a B.S. in Social Science and from the Columbia University New York School of Social Work.

Ward traveled extensively in Europe and North Africa in the 1930's as a correspondent to the Houston Post. Caught in Spain as the Spanish Civil War began, Ward's articles provided early first-hand reports.

He had a distinguished military record in World War II as a Captain in General Patton's Third Armored Division and later as a Major. He served in five campaigns including Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge. After V-E Day he served as judge of the Military Government Court in the reorganization of Germany and operated prison camps for German war criminals awaiting trial. At that time Ward compiled a book detailing the campaigns of his anti-aircraft battalion.

Ward and his late wife, Alma Jeane, returned to Austin from New York to retire in 1978. Ward continued to serve as a consultant to the Texas Youth Commission and other local and state boards and committees.

In 1981, as a guest of the Chinese Ministry of Justice, Ward led a delegation to China to review their penal system.

The past several years Ward was instrumental in starting the Friendship Force of Central Texas and served as its President. With his talented musician wife, he was also an active member of the GBATS, a performing group they helped to form with noted author and speaker, Liz Carpenter.

He is survived by his two daughters, Cristen Beauchamp of El Paso, and Shannon Brown of Euless; his sons-in-law, Stephen Beauchamp and Berry Brown; and four grandchildren, Lyndsay and Gregory Beauchamp and Jordan and Kelsey Brown.

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

Obituary of Frederick Ward, Jr.
Austin American-Statesman, September 17, 1997

Reverend Dr. Scottie Bass

Reverend Dr. Scottie Bass, 68, an Austin educator and former principal of Oak Hill Elementary was killed on Wednesday, December 20, 2000, in a car accident.

She had been an educator for more than three decades. She retired six years ago but returned to the district periodically to take over as interim principal at various schools during times of crisis. Following her retirement, she transformed herself into a student of spirituality. She was ordained by Sancta Sofia Seminary and she began the pastoral care commission at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, which provides care and support to those in crisis. Friends have praised her work as a leader, educator, and spiritual student, but also said she had an extraordinary gift of encouraging and reflecting the best in others. As a friend said, "She had a way of feeding back to you enthusiasm about your accomplishments so that no matter how small your endeavor, you felt like you had climbed Mount Everest. It was like a mirror, that when you looked in it you knew your magnificence, the bigger truth about yourself. As a result of that, you stood a little taller and you aspired to do more, to be more."

She is survived by her husband, Dr. Thomas Bass of Austin; her father, Fred Scott and his wife, Chris; two sons, Randy Littleton of West Columbia and his fiancée, Dianne Del Rio of Austin, and Lee Littleton and his wife, Susie of New Llano, Louisiana; one sister, Mary Reynolds and her husband, Eldon of Austin; one step-son, David Bass and his wife, Donna of Edmonton, Oklahoma; one step-daughter, Valerie Dunnam and Chris Fontane of Beaumont; four grandchildren; two step grandchildren; two nieces and one nephew.

A Service of Celebration of Scottie's life will be held on Wednesday, December 27, 2000, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2128 Barton Hills Drive, with the Reverend Bill Bennett officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Sancta Sofia Seminary, 11 Summit Ridge Drive, Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74464-9215, or a charity of your choice.



**Cook-
Walden.**

6100 North Lamar
512/454-5611

Obituary of Scottie Bass

Austin American-Statesman, December 24, 2000

A. D. Stenger 1908 Airole Way
~~182~~ 18
 294
 A. D. Stenger
 Frame residence with carport integral.
 Record only 3-20-50 \$10,000.00
 Owner

Hi Steve,

In short, our goal for this project is primarily to remodel the interior spaces and build an addition to the south (away from the street). Upon closer inspection of the foundation and roof structure, and after conferring with colleagues who have remodeled Stengers in the past, we determined that it would be far more effective to dismantle and rebuild the existing house on a solid foundation. As such, we applied for a total demolition permit.



existing



1906 airbnb