

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
APRIL 27, 2015  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2015-0221  
1310 E. 13<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1902 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, wing-and-gable plan frame house with a partial-width shed-roofed independent porch on non-historic wood posts; synthetic siding.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house appears to have been built around 1902; the first known occupants of the house were John A. and Emma Walker, who lived here for the rest of their lives. John Walker was a hotel waiter, first at the Avenue Hotel, then at the Driskill Hotel. In the city directories from 1920 to 1924, he is listed as an expressman. He does not appear in city directories after 1924, but there is no record of his death. Emma Walker then continued to live in the house until her death in 1960. She worked for various families as a maid. Her married son, Claude W. Walker, lived here with his mother in the late 1930s and early 1940s. Claude Walker was a porter at the Littlefield Building. After Emma Walker's death in 1960, the house became a rental unit for several years, until purchased by Wilbert and Lucille Knox. Wilbert Knox was a laborer for Fox-Schmidt, plumbers, until his retirement.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is listed as a high priority for preservation in the Historic Resources Survey of East Austin (2000), but the house had its original 4:4 windows and board-and-batten siding at that time.

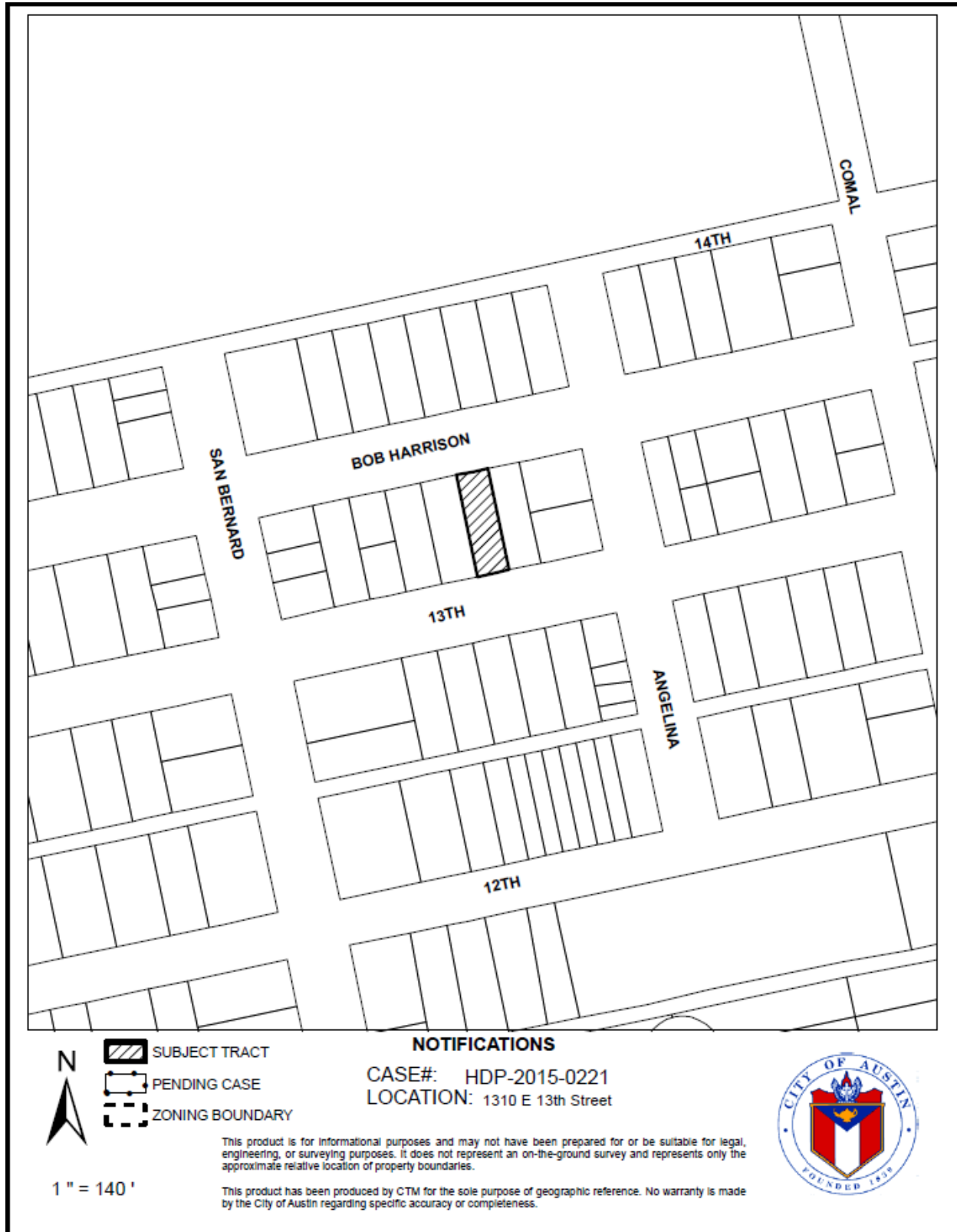
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends postponement to May 18, 2015 to fully evaluate alternatives to demolition. As late as 2000, this house maintained a very high degree of integrity, and it has a long history with the same family who built it. The applicant should fully consider restoration of this house to its historic appearance and adaptive re-use of the house rather than demolition. If the Commission votes to release the demolition permit, then staff recommends the 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, prior to release of the permit.

## LOCATION MAP



1310 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
ca. 1902



## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1310 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street

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

1992	Wilbert and Lucille M. Knox, owners Retired
1985-86	Wilbert and Lucille Knox, owners Laborer, Fox-Schmidt, plumbing contractors, 1906 E. 4 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1981	Wilbert and Lucille Knox, owners Laborer, Fox-Schmidt, plumbing contractors, 1906 E. 4 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1977	Wilbert and Lucille Knox, owners Laborer, Fox-Schmidt, plumbers, 1906 E. 4 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1973	Wilbert and Lucille Knox, owners Laborer, Fox-Schmidt, plumbing contractors, 1906 E. 4 <sup>th</sup> Street.  Bobbie R. Hennington, renter Employed by Seton Hospital NOTE: The directory indicates that Bobbie R. Hennington was a new resident at this address.

1968	Ima M. Haskins, owner Maid
1962	Rebecca Haskins, owner No occupation listed NOTE: Ima M. Haskins is not listed in the directory.
1959	Walter and Gertrude Graham, renters No occupation listed NOTE: Walter Graham was Emma Walker's brother.
1955	Emma Walker, owner Maid
1952	Emma Walker, owner No occupation listed
1949	Emma Walker, owner No occupation listed
1947	Claude W. and Bertha Walker, owners Employed at Oakwood Cemetery Also listed is Emma Walker, the widow of John Walker; she had no occupation shown.
1944-45	Emma Walker, owner Widow, John Walker No occupation listed Also listed are Claude W. and Bertha Walker; he was a laborer.
1941	Claude W. and Bertha Walker, owners Porter, Littlefield Building Also listed is Emma Walker, a maid for Doris Connerly, the reference librarian at the State Library, who lived at 506 W. 29½ Street.
1939	Claude W. and Bertha Walker, owners Porter, Littlefield Building Also listed is Emma Walker, no occupation shown.
1937	Emma Walker, owner Domestic for Barbara H. Gault, a clerk at the State Highway Department, who lived at 4214 Alice Avenue. Also listed are Claude W. and Bertha Walker; he was a porter at the Littlefield Building.
1935	Emma Walker, owner No occupation listed NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13 <sup>th</sup> Street. NOTE: Claude W. and Daisy Walker lived at 2003 Manor Road; he had no occupation listed.
1932-33	Emma Walker (colored), owner No occupation listed

NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.

- 1930-31 Emma Walker (colored), owner  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1929 Emma Walker (colored), owner  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1927 Emma Walker (colored), owner  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1924 John A. and Emma Walker (colored), owners  
Expressman  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1922 John A. and Emma Walker (colored), owners  
Expressman  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1920 John A. and Emma Walker (colored), owners  
Expressman  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1918 John A. and Emma Walker (colored), owners  
Bellman, Driskill Hotel  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1916 John A. Walker (colored)  
Waiter, Driskill Hotel  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1914 John A. Walker (colored)  
Waiter  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1912-13 John A. Walker (colored)  
Waiter, Driskill Hotel  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1910-11 John A. Walker (colored)  
Porter  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1909-10 John A. Walker (colored)  
Porter  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1906-07 Gus [sic] Walker (colored)  
Waiter, Driskill Hotel  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.

- 1905 John A. Walker (colored)  
Waiter, Driskill Hotel  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1903-04 John A. Walker (colored)  
Waiter, Avenue Hotel, 717 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: The house is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1900-01 Unknown  
NOTE: John A. Walker is listed as a waiter at the Avenue Hotel on Congress Avenue; he lived at 1903 University Avenue.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

### John A. and Emma Walker (ca. 1902 – ca. 1957)

The 1910 U.S. Census shows John A. and Emma Walker at this address (noted as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street). John A. Walker was 45, had been born in Arkansas, and worked as a hotel waiter. Emma Walker was 37, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 sons: Claude, 20; and Leslie, 19. Both boys had been born in Texas, and neither had an occupation listed. With them lived Emma's brother, Walter Graham, 29, who had been born in Texas and had no occupation listed.

John A. and Emma Walker appear in the 1920 U.S. Census as the owners of this house, which is listed as 1210 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street. John A. Walker's birthplace is listed as Kentucky; he was a hotel waiter. Their son Leslie, 31, lived with them. He was divorced, and worked as a hotel waiter.

John A. Walker died February 24, 1925 in Austin. There was no obituary in the Austin newspapers.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Emma Walker as a 44-year old widow at this address; she owned the house, which was worth \$1,500. She was a laundress for a private family. With her lived a lodger, Kitty Pollard, a 5-year old widow who worked as nurse.

**MRS. EMMA WALKER**

Funeral services for Mrs. Emma Walker, 93, who died Tuesday, will be held Sunday at 1 p.m. in Grant Chapel AME Church, with Rev. B. L. McCormick officiating.

Pall bearers are Lee Pickens, Frank Smith, Emzie Franklin, Jack Dallas, L. W. White and William Parr.

Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery under direction of Phillips and Upshaw Funeral Home.

Survivors include a daughter in law, Mrs. Bertha Walker.

Funeral notice for Emma Walker  
Austin American-Statesman, April 17, 1960