

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
JULY 27, 2015  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2015-0396  
2938 E. 12<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1939 house.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, clipped front-gabled frame house with a central, partial-width, clipped front-gabled independent porch on plain, square wood posts with a shed-roofed porch extension; single and paired 1:1 fenestration.

**RESEARCH**

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The house was built around 1939 for Walter and Ella B. Johnson. Walter J. Johnson was a chauffeur, who later went to work as a porter in the State Adjutant General's Office. He was a painter later in life, and died in 1982, while still living in this house. The house was then used as an office for a landscaping business.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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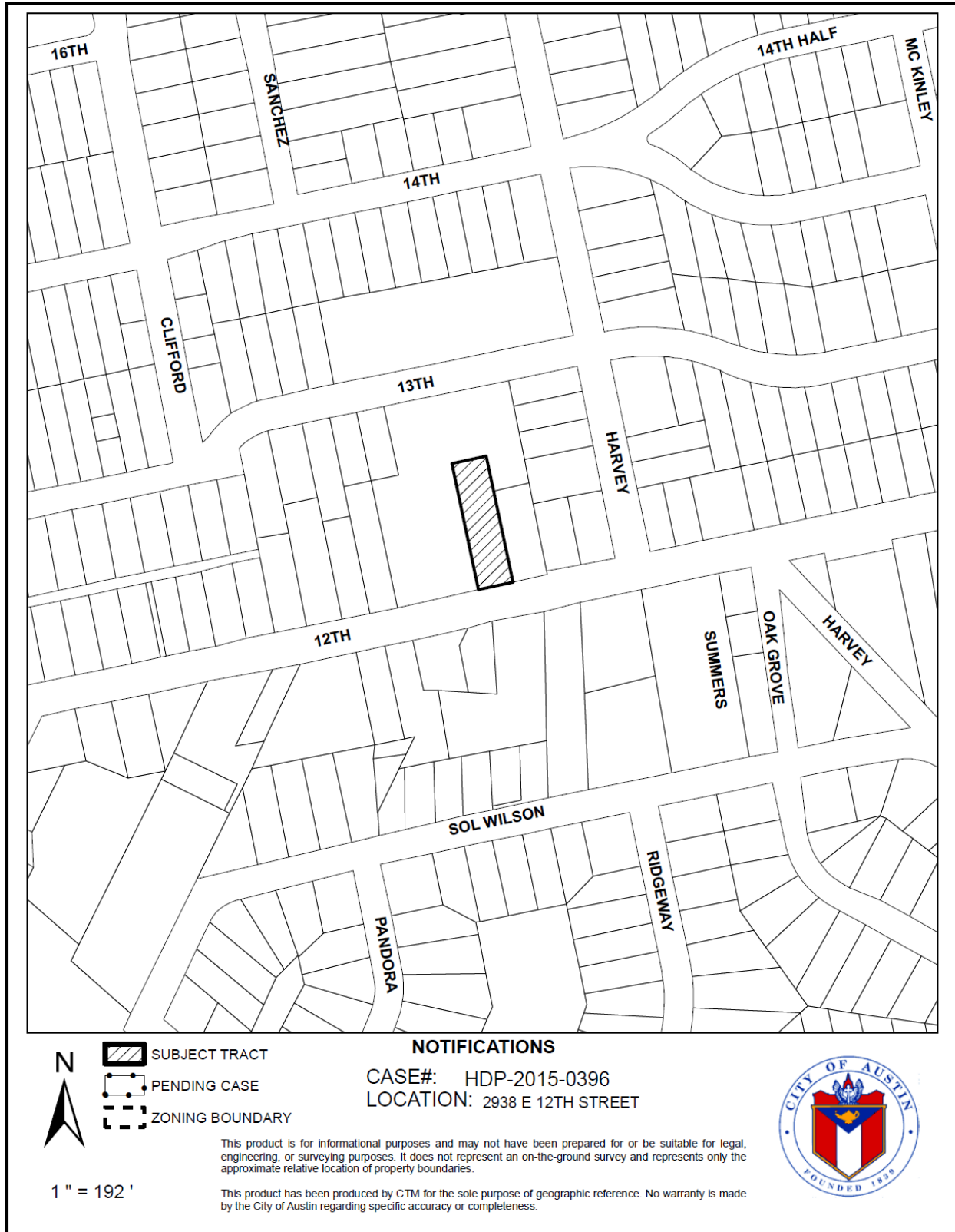
The house does not appear in any City survey. The Commission asked staff to look into the history of this house further to determine if there was a greater connection with the neighboring church; there does not appear to be.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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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.

## LOCATION MAP



2938 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
ca. 1939



## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 2938 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street

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

1992	Harper Landscaping James A. Harper, proprietor NOTE: The directory shows James A. Harper living at 7008 Greenock Drive.
1985-86	Harper Landscaping James A. Harper, proprietor NOTE: The directory shows James A. Harper living at 7008 Greenock Drive.
1981	Walter J. and Mary P. Johnson, owners Retired NOTE: Harper Landscaping is listed at 2936 E. 12 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1977	Walter J. and Mary P. Johnson, owners Painter
1973	Walter J. and Mary P. Johnson, owners Painter
1968	Walter J. and Mary P. Johnson, owners Painter

1962	Walter J. and Mary P. Johnson, owners Painter
1959	Walter J. and Ella B. Johnson, owners Painter
1955	Walter J. and Ella B. Johnson, owners Painter
1952	Walter J. and Ella B. Johnson, owners Laborer
1949	Walter J. and Ella B. Johnson, owners No occupation listed
1947	Walter J. and Ella B. Johnson, owners Laborer, U.S. Selective Service, State Headquarters
1944-45	Walter J. and Ella B. Johnson, owners No occupation listed
1941	Walter J. and Ella B. Johnson, owners Porter, State Adjutant General's Office NOTE: The house is listed as 3108 E. 12 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1940	Walter J. and Ella B. Johnson, owners Chauffeur NOTE: The house is listed as 3108 E. 12 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1939	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: Walter J. and Ella B. Johnson are not listed in the directory.

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

Walter and Ella B. Johnson appear in the 1940 U.S. Census as the owners of this house, which was worth \$900. The address is listed as 3108 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Walter Johnson was 38, had been born in Texas, and was a porter at Camp Mabry. Ella Johnson was 32, had been born in Texas, and was a cook in a private home. With them lived Ella's brother, J.D. Ray, 28, who had been born in Texas and did odd jobs.

According to his 1982 death certificate, Walter Johnson was born January 1, 1900 in Travis County. He was living at this address at the time of his death, and was self-employed.

Walter Johnson                      2938 East 12th. St.  
 254              29                      0.5 a

Walter Johnson

Reroof residence

23812 - 7/6/42                      \$75.00

Henry Scott

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Building permit to Walter Johnson to re-roof the house (1942)

Walter Johnson                      2938 East 12th St.  
 Walter Johnson  
 254              Tract                      -                      -                      -

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Frame addition to rear of residence

35322 9-30-47                      \$400.00

Owner

None

Building permit to Walter Johnson for a frame addition to the rear (1947)

OWNER Walter Johnson, Jr.    ADDRESS 2938 East 12th Street  
PLAT 254              LOT 60' x 242' of O.L. 29, Div B BLK  
SUBDIVISION Unplatted  
OCCUPANCY Meditation Room  
BLD PERMIT # 94669    DATE 1-22-65    OWNERS  
    ESTIMATE \$300.  
CONTRACTOR    NO. OF FIXTURES 2  
WATER TAP REC # X                      SEWER TAP REC # X  
 Frame addition to rear of residence

Building permit to Walter Johnson, Jr. for a frame addition (1965)

OWNER	Walter Johnson	ADDRESS	2938 E. 12th
PLAT	254	LOT	S 312' of Walter Johnson Tr. BLK --
SUBDIVISION	Unplatted		
OCCUPANCY	Utility room		
BLD PERMIT #	106515	DATE	1-22-68 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$250.00
CONTRACTOR	same	NO. OF FIXTURES	one
WATER TAP REC #	--	SEWER TAP REC #	--
Frame addn. to res.		144 sq. ft.	

Building permit to Walter Johnson for a frame addition (1968)