

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
MAY 23, 2016
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2016-0306
700 BOULDIN AVENUE**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1938 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-and-a-half story, roughly rectangular-plan, side-gabled brick-veneered frame house with a front-gabled bay containing the front door, which is recessed within a round-arched opening with a decorative front gable; single and paired 1:1 fenestration; the probable original front porch has been enclosed with a series of 1:1 windows; the tympanum of the north-facing gable has been replaced with plate glass.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1938 by Rudie and Annette Williams, who lived here until around 1943. Rudie Williams was an engineer for the Seton Infirmary in the 1920s, and for the Scarbrough Building in the late 1930s, when he and Annette purchased this house. From here, they moved to a house at 603 Bouldin Avenue.

James H. and Frances Aldridge purchased the house around 1943, and lived here until around 1948. James H. Aldridge was an insurance agent, who had previously lived in Fort Worth, where he was a partner in an insurance firm that opened an Austin office in the early 1940s. He then went out on his own, and established the James H. Aldridge Company with offices on W, 8th Street in the late 1940s.

The house was a rental property in the late 1940s and early 1950s. B.C. Davis, the supervisor of veterans' education for the State Department of Education, rented the house with his wife, Catherine, in the late 1940s. A carpenter, Clifford E. Johnson, Jr., and his wife, Jimmie, rented the house in the early 1950s.

Bill T. and Lennie Wayne Covington purchased the house around 1952, and lived here until around 1960. The Covingtons owned and operated the Benoit Café on S. Congress Avenue, and later, the Trek Café and Motel on S. Congress Avenue. At some point during this time, the house was converted to a duplex, which is remained until the mid-1960s.

Robert P. and Judith Fowler owned and occupied the house in the mid- and late 1960s. Robert P. Fowler was the son of Marion W. Fowler, an attorney who also operated a title and abstract company, and developed Greenshores on Lake Austin. He and Judith married in 1965 and divorced in 1971. Judith Fowler is listed as the owner and occupant of the house in the early 1970s through the 1990s. She was the proprietor of a building and real estate company.

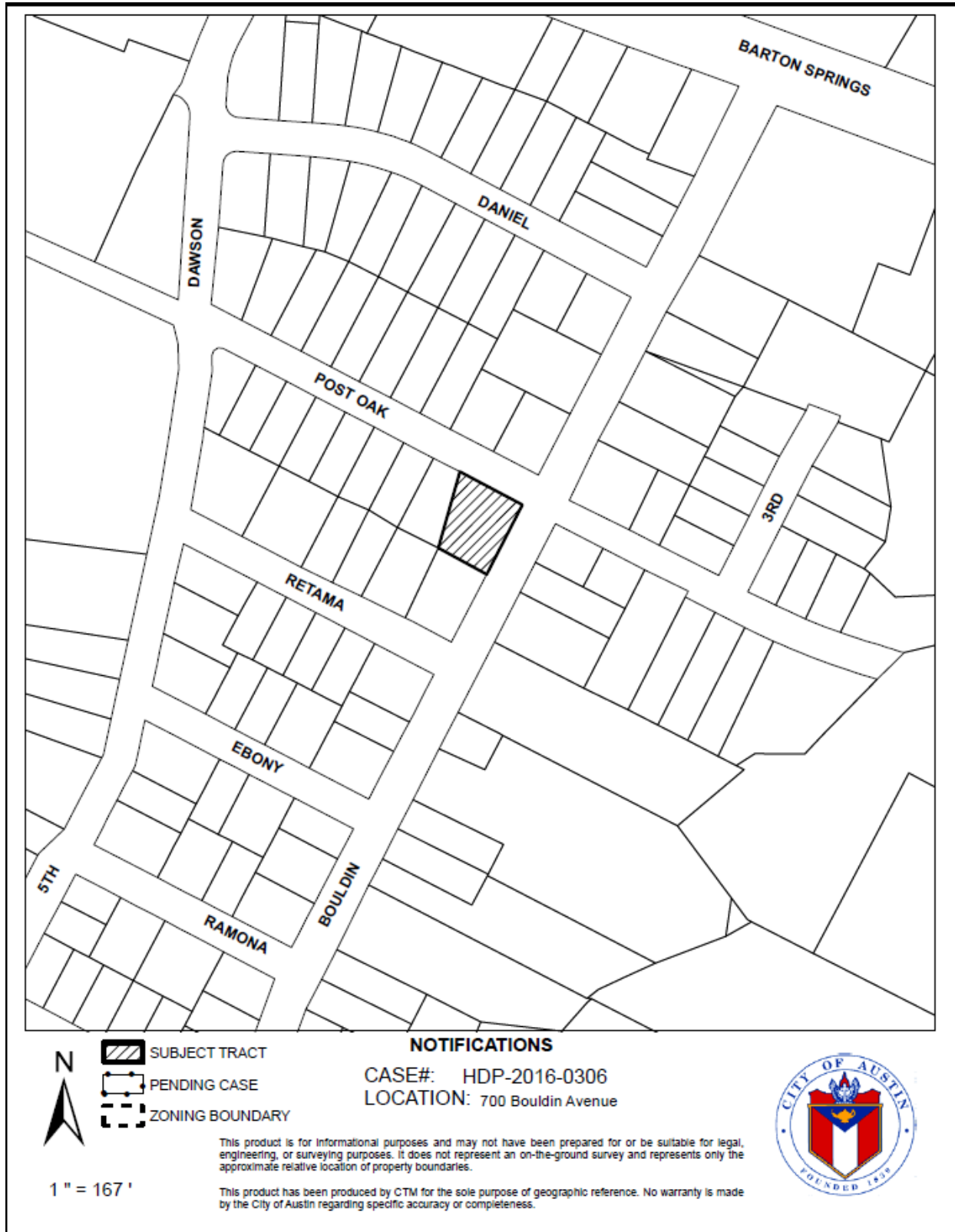
STAFF COMMENTS

The house does not appear in any City survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, 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 necessary for designation as an individual landmark.

LOCATION MAP



700 Bouldin Avenue
ca. 1938



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 700 Bouldin Avenue

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
May, 2016

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 1992 | Judith E. Fowler, owner
Employed by Hallmark Business Associates (not listed in the alphabetical section of the directory). |
| 1985-86 | Judith E. Fowler, owner
Proprietor, Fowler & Associates, commercial and investment real estate, 1606 San Antonio Street. |
| 1981 | Judith E. Fowler, owner
Proprietor, Hoffman Enterprises (not listed in the alphabetical section of the directory). |
| 1977 | Judith E. Fowler, owner
Proprietor, Hoffman Enterprises (not listed in the alphabetical section of the directory). |
| 1973 | Judith E. Fowler, owner
Proprietor, Hollis Hoffman, building contractor and real estate, 519 S. 1 st Street. |

- 1968 Robert P. and Judith Fowler, owners
 Robert: Proprietor (with Marion W. Fowler), Fowler & Fowler, lawyers, 303 W. 11th Street.
 Judith: Vice-president, Photo Record Abstract & Title Company (Marion W. Fowler, president), 303 W. 11th Street.
- 1962 Thomas A. and Ginnette Cryer, owners
 U.S. Army
 B: Vacant
 NOTE: Robert Fowler was a partner (with Marion W. Fowler) in Fowler & Fowler, attorneys; he was not married and is listed as living at Greenshores.
- 1959 William T. and Wayne L. Covington, owners
 Proprietor, Trek Café and Motel, 3100 S. Congress Avenue.
- 1955 Bill T. and Wayne Covington, owners
 Manager, Benoit Café, 2900 S. Congress Avenue.
 B: Frank and Ruby Kurtz, renters
 Frank: Painter
 Ruby: Waitress, Benoit Café, 2900 S. Congress Avenue.
- 1952 M.E. and Bess Bell, owners
 Salesman

 Clifford E. and Jimmie Johnson, Jr., renters
 Carpenter
 NOTE: William and Wayne Covington are listed at 2900 S. Congress Avenue; they were the proprietors of the Benoit Café, 2900 S. Congress Avenue.
- 1949 B.C. and Catherine Davis, renters
 Supervisor of veterans' education, State Department of Education.
- 1947 James H. and Frances Aldridge, owners
 Proprietor, James H. Aldridge Company, general insurance, 400 W. 8th Street.
- 1944-45 James H. and Frances Aldridge, owners
 Partner (with F.H. Aldridge), Coffman, Daily & Aldridge, general agents, fire, auto, marine, and kindred lines of insurance, 308 Littlefield Building.
 NOTE: Rudie B. Williams is listed at 601 Bouldin Avenue; he was an engineer at Brackenridge Hospital. Annette Williams is listed at the same address, but separately from Rudie; she was a nurse at Brackenridge Hospital.
- 1941 Rudolph B. and Annette Williams, owners
 Stationary engineer
 NOTE: James H. and Frances Aldridge are listed as living in Fort Worth, Texas; he was a partner with Ray Coffman and William A. Daily in Coffman, Daily & Aldridge, general agents, fire, auto, marine, and kindred lines of insurance, 308 Littlefield Building.
- 1939 Rudolph (Rudie) B. and Annette Williams, owners
 Engineer, Scarbrough Building.

1937 The address is not listed in the directory.
 NOTE: Rudie B. and Annette Williams are listed at 2913 Beanna Street; he was an engineer.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

Rudie B. and Annette Williams (ca. 1938 – ca. 1943)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Rudie B. and Annette Williams as the owners of this house, which was worth \$5,500. Rudie B. Williams was 42, had been born in Texas, and was a stationary engineer for a building. Annette Williams was 36, had been born in Mississippi, and had no occupation listed. They had no children listed with them.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Rudie and Annette Williams renting the house at 308 W. 38th Street in Austin. Rudie Williams was 32, had been born in Texas, and was a stationary engineer for a hospital. Annette Williams was 27, had been born in Mississippi, and had no occupation listed. They had a roomer, William Newman, 30, who had been born in Texas and was a book-keeper for a rental car service.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Rudie Williams as living on the grounds of Seton Infirmary, where he was a 23-year old mechanical engineer.

His 1974 death certificate shows that Rudie Bradshaw Williams was born May 20, 1897 in Travis County. He was living at 603 Bouldin Avenue at the time of his death at the age of 77. He worked for the G.S.A.

WILLIAMS, Rudie, 76, of 603 Bouldin, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Cook-Walden Funeral Home. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Annette Williams of Austin; a sister, Thella Dillingham of Georgetown; three brothers, Benny Lee Williams of Bryan, R.S. Williams of Lubbock and W.L. Williams of Austin.

Obituary of Rudie Williams
 Austin American-Statesman, May 29, 1974

Annette Williams died in Los Angeles, California October 25, 1996.

James H. and Frances Aldridge (ca. 1943 – ca. 1948)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows James H. and Frances H. Aldridge as the owners of a house worth \$3,000 in Fort Worth, Texas. James H. Aldridge was 38, had been born in Texas, and was a general agent for a fire insurance company. Frances H. Aldridge was 39, had been born in Alabama, and had no occupation listed. They had 3 children: Frances, 9; Suzanne, 7; and James H., Jr., 1. All the children had been born in Texas.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Henry J. [sic] and Frances H. Aldridge living in a rented house in Plano, Texas. Henry J. Aldridge is listed as a special agent for insurance. Frances had no occupation listed.

JAMES H. ALDRIDGE SR.

James Henry Aldridge Sr., 59, of 108 West 32nd Street died at his home Thursday. He had been a resident of Austin 18 years and was an insurance broker and general agent. He was a member of First Southern Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Frances Aldridge of Austin; a son, James Henry Aldridge Jr. of Austin; two daughters, Mrs. Joe Gates of Austin and Mrs. James B. Clearwater Jr. of England; four sisters, Mrs. J. O. Smith of Dallas, Mrs. Frances Kelley, Mrs. Lloyd Beasley, and Miss Bess Aldridge, all of Plano; two brothers, Joel Aldridge of Austin and Tom S. Aldridge of Oklahoma City and two grandchildren.

The body is at Wilke-Clay Funeral Home where it will remain until 1 p.m. Sunday at which time it will be taken to First Southern Presbyterian Church for services at 2 p.m. with Rev. John W. Lancaster officiating.

Pallbearers will be Herschel T. Moore Jr., Robert Stephen Peel, Donald W. Morgan, Sergei Kabantschuk, Charles Smith and Robert F. Gribble Jr.

Capitol Memorial Gardens under direction of Wilke-Clay Funeral Home.

Obituary of James H. Aldridge
Austin American, January 21, 1961

ALDRIDGE, Mrs. J.H. (Frances), Sr., 78, 5900 Cherry Creek Drive, died Friday. Services 1 p.m. today at First Southern Presbyterian Church. Burial, Capital Memorial Park. Memorial contributions in lieu of flowers. (Wilke-Clay).

Death notice for Frances Aldridge
Austin American-Statesman, March 16, 1980

Bill and Lennie Wayne Covington (ca. 1953 – ca. 1960)

His 1918 World War I draft registration card shows that William Taylor Covington was living at Cooper, Texas. He was a salesman for a furniture store in Cooper. His nearest relative was his father, at Bonham, Texas. He was of medium height and medium build with grey eyes and brown hair.

According to his 1973 death certificate, William Taylor Covington was living at 1817 Parker Lane at the time of his death. He was born in 1898 in Bonham, Texas, and was the owner and operator of a motel and café. Her 1976 death certificate shows Lennie Wayne Covington was living at 1817 Parker Lane at the time of her death. She was born in 1913 in Texas. She was a retired owner of a motel and restaurant.

W.T. (BILL) COVINGTON

W.T. (Bill) Covington, 75, of 1817 Parker Lane, died Friday in a local hospital. Formerly of Waco, he was a resident of Austin for the past 38 years. He was owner and operator of the Trek Restaurant and Motel. He was a member of St. Johns Presbyterian Church, Waco Lodge 92 A.F. & A.M. and Ben Hur Shrine. He was a pioneer in the Restaurant Association of the Central Texas District and was a member of the Austin Restaurant Association and the National Restaurant Association.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Wayne Hancock Covington of Austin; and two sisters, Mrs. Irene Thomas and Mrs. Jimmie Lee McClure, both of Austin.

Funeral will be Sunday at 4 p.m. at Wilke-Clay Funeral Home. Rev. Ernest D. Dimaline, officiating. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

COVINGTON, Mrs.
Wayne, 63, 1817 Parker
Lane, died Monday. Serv-
ices 2 p.m. Wednesday at
Wilke-Clay Funeral Home.
Survivors: sister, Mrs. Ru-
by Davis of Lake Buchanan;
nephew, Rex Giles of Dal-
las.

Obituary of Wayne Covington
 Austin American-Statesman, June 22, 1976

Robert P. and Judith Fowler (ca. 1965 -)

Robert Fowler is listed in the 1940 U.S. Census as the 6-year old son of Marion and Marian Fowler, who owned their home at 3204 Grandview Street in Austin. Marion Fowler was a 38-year old Texas-born lawyer. Robert Fowler had been born in Texas.

Judith E. FOWLER

1940 – 2015

Obituary



FOWLER, Judith E.

After a heated battle with "The Big C" Judith E. Fowler passed on June 10, 2015, in Austin, TX at the age of 75. She leaves behind her mother, Billie Williams; her step-daughter and her family, Sloan, Derek and Cooper Landre, her step-son and his family Bricklin, Stefanie, Elan and Elyse Dwyer, as well as her cousin and family Bette Citelli and her daughter Janna Rohrbacker and numerous other cousins and extended family.

Judy was born on March 31, 1940 in Greenville, TX, to parents O.D and Billie Williams (father who predeceased her). She was an only child yet grew up with a loving extended family. Judy completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Texas at Austin (where she fell in love with Austin) and later attended graduate school at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas.

Judy was predeceased by her husband, John Dwyer. They married on December 14th, 2003 in the garage that they built on their property in Austin. They enjoyed vacations around the world and their shared passion for cycling, reading and Formula 1 racing. Judy was a driven professional with a love of reading, fitness and secret obsession for crazy socks. Her bike (road and mountain) riding, swimming and running kept her strong and young for many years. One of her friends described her best as "an amazing, unique, and very special person. She was bright, charming, beautiful, hilarious, genuine, kind, caring, gracious, accepting, strong, tough, positive, and very fun. She took a genuine interest in everyone and was one of the most upbeat persons I have known." Beyond that she had a true southern hospitality as all southern gals should, but with a sense of humor that would knock your socks off.

We will be celebrating Judy's life in a memorial service at the Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home (3125 North Lamar Blvd, Austin, TX 78705), on June 15, 2015 at 2PM with a reception immediately following. In lieu of flowers, donations to The Austin Meals on Wheels are suggested.

Obituary of Judith Fowler
Austin American-Statesman, June 14, 2015

113 Rudie B. Williams 700 Bouldin Ave.
N. 118' of Mrs. J. D.
Bouldin tract

Brick veneer res. & frame garage

236n - 3/6/38

4

Building permit to Rudie Williams for the construction of this house (1938)

WATER SERVICE PERMIT
Austin, Texas

Nº 10740 *H*

INDEXED
Date August 13, 1938

used stop 16289

Received of	Rudie B. Williams
Address	700 Bouldin <i>Ave.</i>
Amount	Two and 50/100 - - \$ 2.50
Plumber	Wattinger
Date of Connection	8/8/38
Size of Tap Made	3/4
Size Service Made	3/4
Size Main Tapped	2"
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock	8'
From E. Prop. Line to Curb Cock	58'
Location of Meter	CYAB
Type of Box	LOCK
Depth of Main in St.	9'
Depth of Service Line	3'
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main	96"
Checked by Engr. Dept.	8-26-38

No. Fittings	Size
1	Curb Cock 5/8
1	Elbow 3/4
1	St. Elbow 3/4
1	Bushing 3/4 x 3/4
1	Reducer 3/4 SLFIVE
4	Pipe 3/4
1	Lead Comp. 3/4 COPPER AS IN
2	Nipples 3/4 COPPER PIPE
1	Union 3/4 x 3/4
1	Ring 2 3/4 TAP SLFIVE
1	Tap 3/4 SLFIVE
1	Stop Box 2 1/2 x 2 1/2
1	Box Lock
1	Lid
Valves	
Job No.	535-1216
Req. No.	77259

INDEXED *VR*

Water service permit to Rudie Williams for this house (1938)

113 **Ruby Meredith** 700 Bouldin Ave.
+13 118x150' Unplatted - - -
 Rudie B. Williams
 Carport addition to rear of residence.
 55423 11-12-53 \$125.00
 E. Wenzel

Building permit to Ruby Meredith for a carport (1953)