

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2016  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2016-0602  
2707 E. 3<sup>RD</sup> STREET**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish two ca. 1950 houses.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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The front house is a one-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame house with double front doors in a Cumberland-style configuration under a central, partial-width, front-gabled independent porch on plain, square wood posts; single modern replacement 6:6 fenestration. The back house is a one-story, rectangular-plan, hipped-roof board-and-batten frame house with a shed-roofed entry hood and single 2:2 metal-framed horizontally-configured fenestration.

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**RESEARCH**

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Building and utility permits for this address date from the late 1940s, but it is unclear as to whether the houses were actually constructed at that time. The obituaries of the owners and occupants of these houses indicate that they moved into Austin from Manor and built these houses in 1950. Paul and Jovita Medrano built these houses, and lived in the front house, while his parents, Apolonar and Marisca Medrano, occupied the rear house. Paul Medrano was born in Mexico and lived in Manor prior to moving into Austin. In Austin, he worked as a laborer and later cook for Aus-Tex Foods, which specialized in canned and packaged Mexican foods, including Walker's Aus-Tex Chili. Aus-Tex Foods was bought out by Frito-Lay around 1960, and Paul Medrano worked there as a machine operator until his death in 1963. Jovita Medrano continued to live in the front house until around 1970.

The back house, also built by Paul Medrano, housed his parents, and then his sister, Felisa Medrano. Paul's parents did not have occupations listed in the city directories, but Felisa Medrano worked as a presser for Austin Laundry and Dry Cleaning. Felisa Medrano continued to live in the back house during her retirement, while the front house was either rented out or owned by Anna Olvera, who worked for the University of Texas in the 1980s.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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Neither house is listed in any City survey to date.

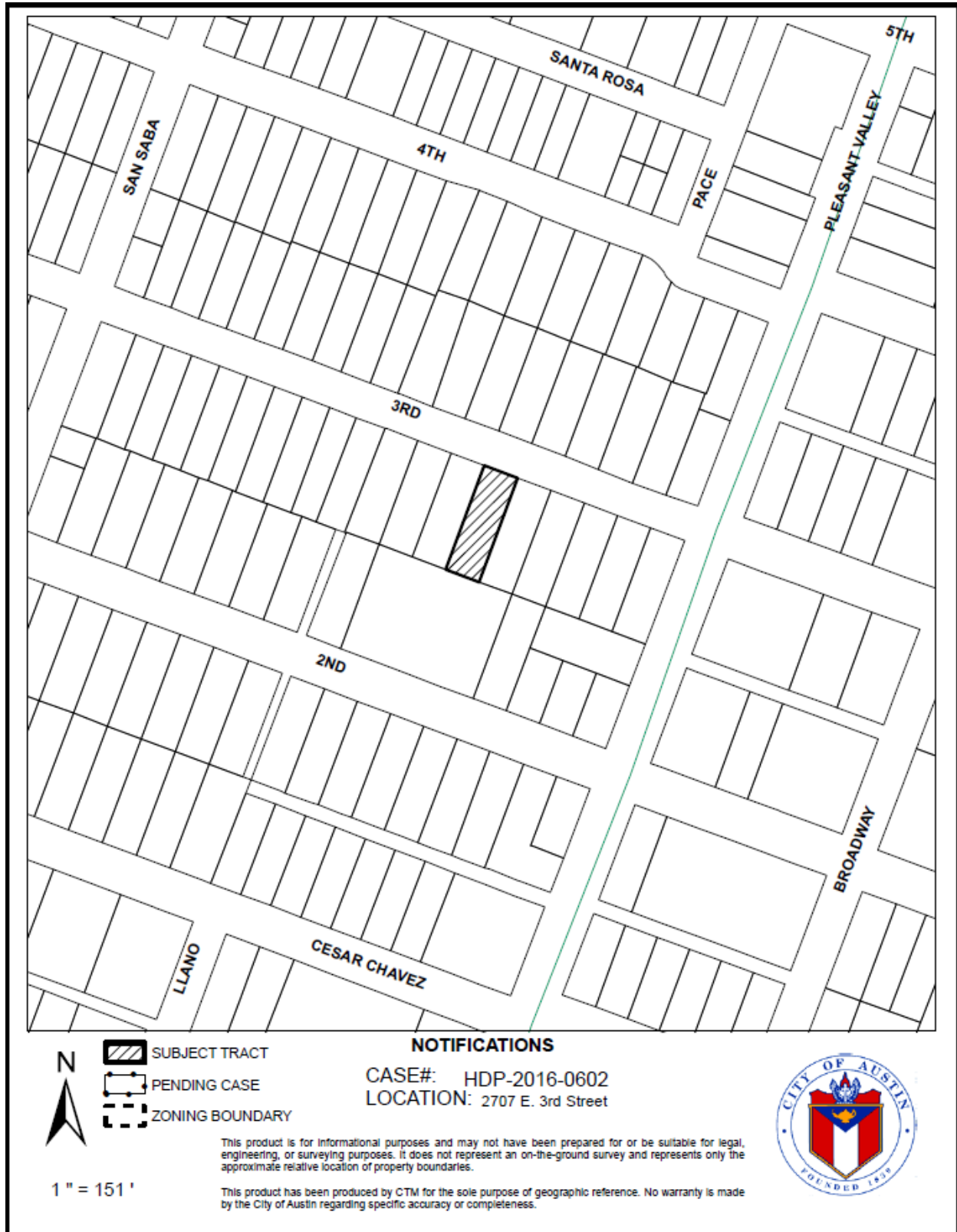
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, especially of the front house, which appears to be in good condition, then relocation over demolition, but release the permits 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. Neither house possesses the requisite architectural and historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark.

## LOCATION MAP



2707 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
ca. 1950



Front house, ca. 1950



Rear house, ca. 1950

OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
2707 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street

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

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1992    | Frank G. Estrada, renter<br>Retired<br>Rear: Felicita Mendrano, owner<br>Retired   |
| 1985-86 | Alberta Amezquita, renter<br>Construction worker<br>Rear: Felicita Mendrano, owner<br>Retired  |
| 1981    | Anna Olvera, owner<br>Employed by the University of Texas<br>Rear: Felicita Mendrano, renter<br>Retired  |
| 1977    | Anna Olvera, renter<br>No occupation listed<br>Rear: Felicita Mendrano, renter<br>No occupation listed   |
| 1973    | Robert and Alice Alvarado, renters<br>Laborer, City Sanitation Department<br>Rear: Vacant<br>NOTE: Neither Anna Olvera nor Felicita Mendrano are listed in the alphabetical section of the directory.  |
| 1968    | Jovita D. Medrano, owner<br>Widow, Paul Medrano<br>No occupation listed<br>Rear: Mauricia Medrano, renter<br>No occupation listed  |
| 1965    | Jovita Medrano, owner<br>Widow, Paul Medrano<br>No occupation listed<br>Rear: Mauricia Medrano, renter<br>No occupation listed<br>Also listed is Felicita Medrano, a presser for Austin Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 1514 Lavaca Street.  |
| 1962    | Paul S. and Jobita Medrano, owners<br>Machine operator, Frito-Lay, foods, 406 San Antonio Street.<br>Rear: Apolonar and Marisca Medrano, renters<br>No occupation listed<br>Also listed is Felicitas Medrano, a presser for Austin Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 1514 Lavaca Street. |
| 1959    | Paul S. and Jonita Medrano, owners<br>Cook, Aus-Tex Foods, 406 Wan Antonio Street.<br>Rear: Apolonar and Marisca Medrano, owners   |



No occupation listed

- 1955 Paul S. and Govita Medrano, owners  
Assistant cook, Walker's Aus-Tex Chili, 406 San Antonio Street.  
Rear: Apolonar and Marisca Medrano, renters  
No occupation listed
- 1952 Paul and Jovita Medrano, owners  
Laborer, Walker's Aus-Tex Chili, 406 San Antonio Street.  
No listing for a rear residential unit.  
NOTE: Apolonar and Marisca Medrano are not listed in the directory.
- 1949 The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Paul and Jovita Medrano are not listed in the directory.

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

##### **Paul and Jovita Medrano (ca. 1950 – ca. 1970)**

Paul Medrano appears in the 1930 U.S. Census as the 16-year old son of Paul (Apolinar) and Margrete (Mauricia) Medrano, who rented their house in Precinct 2 of Travis County. Paul Medrano was born in Mexico, as were both of his parents. He had no occupation listed in the census report, but his father was a farmer. His younger sister, Casameria, 14, had been born in Texas.

Paul Medrano's 1963 death certificate shows that he was living at this house at the time of his death. He was born in 1917 in Texas, the son of Apolinar and Mauricia Medrano. He died from an electric shock. He was a laborer for a food company.

Apolinar Medrano died September 14, 1963; he was living at this house at the time of his death. He was born in 1875 in Mexico and was a farm laborer. His daughter was Felicitas Medrano.

Mauricia Medrano was living in this house at the time of her death on January 17, 1981. She was born in 1892 in Mexico and was a widowed homemaker.

**PABLO MEDRANO**

Funeral services for Pablo Medrano, 46, will be held Thursday at Cristo Rey Catholic Church with Rev. Victor Goertz officiating. Burial will follow in Assumption Cemetery under direction of Mission Funeral Home.

Survivors include his widow; two daughters, Mrs. Mary Raigosa and Miss Julia Medrano; six sons, Robert Medrano, Lenard Medrano, Joe Medrano, Ruben Medrano, Tony Medrano and Paul Medrano Jr., his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Apolinar Medrano; one brother, Nicolas Medrano; two sisters, Felicitas Medrano, and Mrs. Casimira Reyes, all of Austin.

Obituary of Paul Medrano  
Austin American, June 6, 1963



### **Jovita Delgado Medrano**

Mrs. Jovita Medrano, passed away on March 17, 2004, in Austin, Texas.

Jovita was born on a farm on February 15, 1924, in Manor, Texas. She spent her formative years on the farm. She met Pablo Medrano Sr. from Pflugerville and they were married in 1940. She and her husband Pablo moved the family to Austin in 1950, where she would devote her life to raising eight children.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Pablo Medrano Sr. and her beloved son, Leonardo.

Jovita is survived by daughters, Mary Raigosa and Julia Machuca; sons, Robert, Joe, Paul, Ruben and Tony; grandchildren, Michael Raigosa, David Raigosa, Monique Austin, Cathy Martinez, Javier Medrano, Katy Medrano and Sonia Medrano; great-grandchildren, Ezra Rosales, Avery Austin and Miguel Martinez; sister, Carmen Salas and sisters-in-law, Felisa Medrano and Casemira Reyes

Jovita will be missed by all. Her dedication to her family, work ethic, creativity and love will always be remembered

Rosary will be held on Friday, March 19, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. at Mission Funeral Home. Private interment at Assumption Cemetery

Arrangements under the direction of Mission Funeral Home, 1615 E. Cesar Chavez, (512)466-4355

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Obituary of Jovita Medrano  
Austin American-Statesman, March 19, 2004

MEDRANO, Felisa  
November 20, 1917 - January 21, 2014

Felisa Medrano, age 96, of Austin passed away on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 after a brief illness. Our Tia Felisa was our touchstone, our conduit to our family's past. She was our direct connection to the beginning of our family in Texas. With her passing, a chapter in our family history is closed. But her spirit and memory lives on in each of us.

Felisa was born in Manor, Texas. She was raised and worked on a farm in Pflugerville, Texas. In 1950, when Felisa was 33 years of age, she moved with her family to Austin, Texas. Her brother Pablo had built two houses on his property in East Austin. Felisa would spend the rest of her life living in the house her family had built. She became part of the neighborhood and a part of everyone's lives.

Felisa worked cleaning houses and baby sitting when she first moved to Austin. This would set the tone for her life-working and helping her family and friends. Later she was hired by Austin Laundry and Cleaners. She worked there with several relatives from Manor. Felisa worked there until the laundry closed in the late sixties. She spent the rest of her life caring for her mother and for those lucky enough to know her.

Felisa is survived by adopted daughter Renee Gorn, numerous nieces and nephews, grand nieces and grand nephews all of whom will cherish her memory and will forever know her as Tia Felisa.

Family viewing 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 23rd with public viewing starting at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday at Mission Funeral Home, 1615 East Cesar Chavez Street. Rosary on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. also at Mission Funeral Home. Mass at Cristo Rey Catholic Church on Friday, January 24th at 10:00 a.m., followed immediately with burial at Assumption Cemetery in Austin.

Obituary of Felisa (Felicitas) Medrano  
Austin American-Statesman, January 24, 2014

Paul Medrano		2707 East 3rd Street
25-8	24	3
Anthony		
Box residence		
32046 10-31-46		\$900.00
Lorenzo Ramirez		

1

Building permit to Paul Medrano for the construction of this house (1946). However, it does not appear that the house was built in 1946 – it was more likely built around 1950.



## WATER SERVICE PERMIT

Austin, Texas

No. B 2445387

INDEXED

Received of PAUL MEDRANO Date 11-22-46Address 2707 E. 3Amount TWENTY + NO/100 \$ 20.00Plumber SELF Size of Tap 3/4"Date of Connection 2-25-47Size of Tap Made 3/4Size Service Made 3/4Size Main Tapped 2" C.I.From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 8'From W Prop. Line to Curb Cock 4'Location of Meter CURBType of Box LOCKDepth of Main in St. 2.5'Depth of Service Line 2.5'From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 5'Checked by Engr. Dept. MBD 1-14-47

No. Fittings	Size
1 Curb Cock	5/8"
1 Elbow	COPPER 3/4"
1 St. Elbow	C.I. CORP.
2 Bushing	3/4" x 1/2"
1 Reducer	COUPLING
7 Pipe	
Lead Comp.	
Nipples	
Union	
Plug	
Tee	
Stop	
Box	LOCK
Lid	"
Valves	
Job No.	W 323-502
Req. No.	

INDEXED

Water service permit to Paul Medrano for this address (1946). However, it does not appear that the house was more likely built around 1950.

## SANITARY SEWER SERVICE PERMIT

No. 23382

Austin, Texas

Received of owner Date 12/12/1947Address 2707 E. 3rd.Amount \$                     Builder or Owner Paul Medrano Plumber                     Lot 24 Block 3 Subdivision Anthony Plat No. 25b

res.

Date of Connection 12/11/1947By City 13' E/WLLBy Plumber                     Checked By ThompsonSize Main 6" Depth 4'Main Assign. in easem., 2.5' S/S. PLStub Depth                      Prop. Line 3'Stub Location                     Book No. A-1932Paving Cut                      No.                     

No. Fittings	Size	Price
3' Pipe	4"	.39
Pipe		
Wyes		
1 Bends	4" 1/8	.60
Reducers		
Plugs		
Sand		
Gravel		
Remix		
Stoppers		
Castings		
1 Other	4" tap	.25
Labor:	4 hrs.	2.60
	total	3.84

Sewer service permit to Paul Medrano for this address (1947). However, it is more likely that the house was built around 1950.

Paul Medrano

2707-B East 3rd St.

25-B

24

3

W. B. Anthony

Box residence.

39744 12-11-48

\$1600.00

Day labor

1

Building permit to Paul Medrano to construct the rear house (1948), although it is more likely that the house was built closer to 1950.

12/3

**WATER SERVICE PERMIT** No. 2691387  
Austin, Texas **INDEXED**

Received of PAUL MEDRANO Date 12-21-48  
Address 2707 EAST 3- RD A R  
Amount TWENTY & NO/100 20  
Plumber SELF Size of Tap 3/4

CHANGED TO 6" MAIN AND RENEWED SERVICE WITH 3/4" COPPER ON 12-21-48

Date of Connection 12-29-48  
Size of Tap Made 3/8"  
Size Service Made 3/8"  
Size Main Tapped 2"  
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 2.5'  
From W- Prop. Line to Curb Cocks 3'  
Location of Meter PUCB  
Type of Box LOCK  
Depth of Main in St. 2.5'  
Depth of Service Line 2.5'  
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main  
Checked by Engr. Dept. 1-5-49 H.S.

No. Fittings	Size	
1	Curb Cock	5/8"
1	Elbow	3/4" CAPED
1	SA Elbow	3/4" SUCR
1	Bushing	3/4" CO. 2"
1	Reducer	2" X 3/4" TAP
	Pipe	
	Lead Comp.	
	Nipples	
	Union	
	Plug	7/16"
1	Tap	" KID
1	Stop	1.00"
1	Box	4"
1	Lid	
	Valves	
	Job No.	6533-502
	Req. No.	017062

**INDEXED**

Water service permit to Paul Medrano for the rear house (1948), but it is more likely that the house was built closer to 1950.

OWNER Paul Merano ADDRESS 2707 E. 3rd St.  
 PLAT 387 LOT 24 BLK. 3 DIV  
 SUBDIVISION W. B. Anthony  
 OCCUPANCY Frame addn to rear of res  
 BLD PERMIT # 89709 DATE 10-14-63 OWNERS ESTIMATE 60.00  
 CONTRACTOR Owner NO. OF FIXTURES  
 WATER TAP REC # SEWER TAP REC #  
 CARPORT

4-26-71-Elisa Medrano-121538-frm addn to res 80 sq. ft.

Building permit to Paul Medrano for a frame addition to the rear of the house (1963)

OWNER Mrs. J. Medrano ADDRESS 2707 E. 3rd  
 PLAT 387 LOT 24 BLK 3  
 SUBDIVISION W. R. Antohony  
 OCCUPANCY Residence  
 BLD PERMIT # 144751 DATE 8-26-74 OWNERS ESTIMATE 7,000.00  
 CONTRACTOR Owner NO. OF FIXTURES Yes  
 WATER TAP REC # Exist SEWER TAP REC # Exist  
 Remodel & Repair Exist. Res. & Bring to Min.  
 Stdrs.

Building permit to Jovita Medrano for remodeling and repairs (1974)

OWNER	Maurice Medrans	ADDRESS	2707 E. 3rd. St.		
PLAT	387	LOT	24	BLK.	3
SUBDIVISION	W.B. Anthony				
OCCUPANCY	Res.				
BLDG. PERMIT #	181226	DATE	4-23-79	OWNERS ESTIMATE	5,800.00
CONTRACTOR	Ira Mitchell Const	NO. OF FIXTURES			
WATER TAP REC#		SEWER TAP REC#			
Repair & remodel res.					

Building permit to Mauricia Medrano for remodeling and repairs (1978)