

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
OCTOBER 24, 2016
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2016-0714
1909 E. 9TH STREET

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1941 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame house with a front-gabled entry hood; single 1:1 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1941 by a Mary Branch, who apparently did not live here. The house is listed as vacant in the city directories of the early- to mid-1940s, until owned and occupied by Willis and Mary Gibbs, who lived here for the rest of their lives. Willis Gibbs was born in Round Rock, Texas, and operated the Soldiers' Inn café near 6th and Sabine Streets for many years. His wife, Mary, was the cook at the café. After Willis Gibbs' death in 1966, Mary Gibbs continued to live in this house until her death in 1982. The house was owned by an employee of the University of Texas in the 1990s.

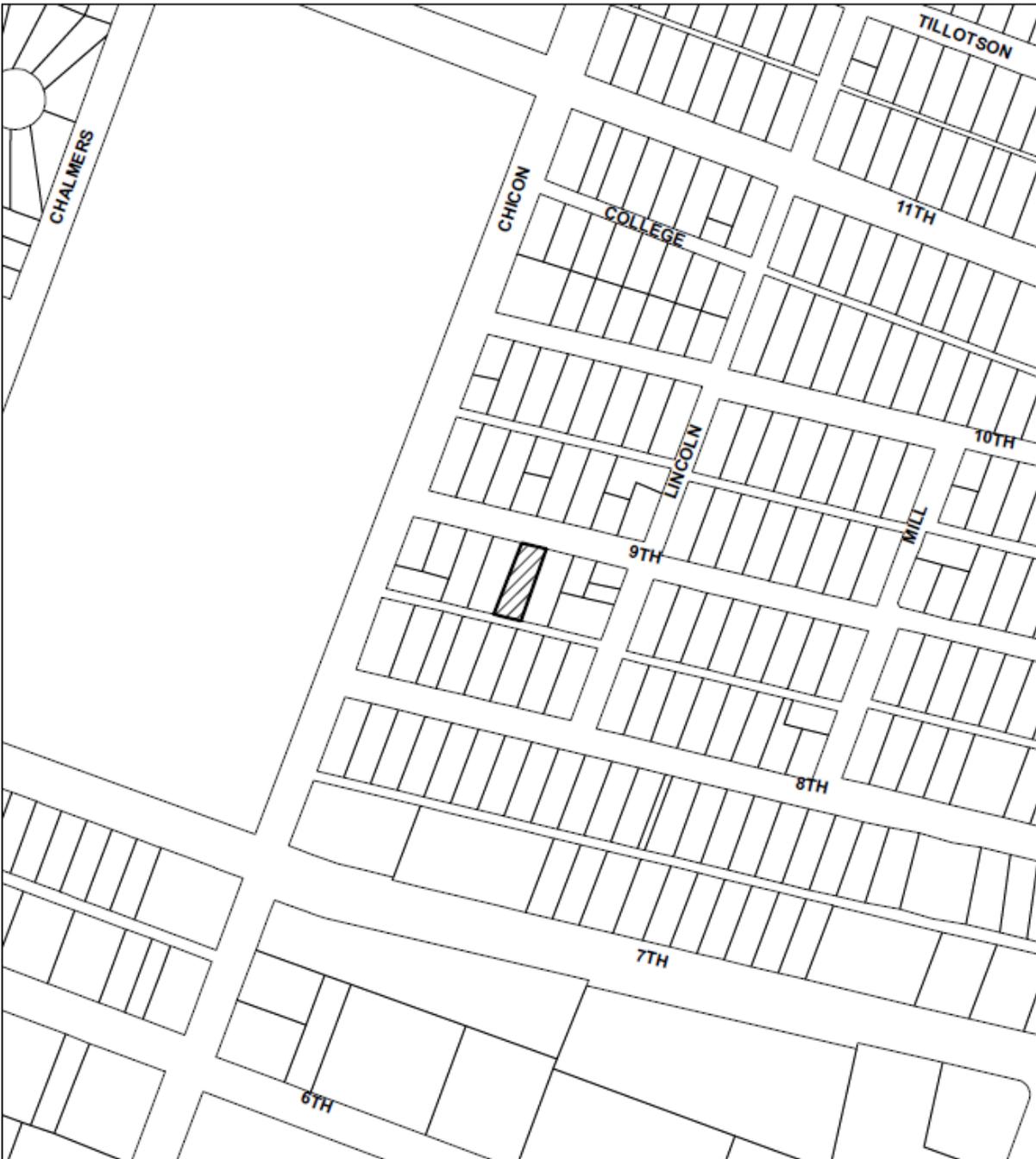
STAFF COMMENTS

The house is not listed in any City survey to date.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then relocation over demolition, 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 lacks the architectural and historical significance necessary for designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



-  N
-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS
CASE#: HDP-2016-0714
1909 E. 9TH STREET



1" = 208'

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by CTM for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

1909 E. 9th Street
ca. 1941



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
1909 E. 9th Street

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

1992	Etta B. Allen, owner Employed by the University of Texas
1985-86	Mary Gibbs, owner Retired
1981	Mary Gibbs, owner Retired
1977	Mary Gibbs, owner Widow, Willis Gibbs Retired
1973	Mary Gibbs, renter Widow, Willis Gibbs No occupation listed
1968	Mary Gibbs, renter Widow, Willis Gibbs No occupation listed

- 1965 Willis and Mary A. Gibbs, owners
Willis: Proprietor, Soldiers' Inn, restaurant, 605 Sabine Street.
Mary A.: Cook, Soldiers' Inn, restaurant, 605 Sabine Street.
- 1962 Willis and Mary A. Gibbs, owners
Willis: Proprietor, Soldiers' Inn, restaurant, 605 Sabine Street.
Mary A.: Cook, Soldiers' Inn, restaurant, 605 Sabine Street.
- 1959 Willis and Mary A. Gibbs, owners
Proprietor, Soldiers' Inn, restaurant, 605 Sabine Street.
- 1955 Willis and Mary A. Gibbs, owners
Laborer
NOTE: The Soldiers' Inn is not listed in the directory.
- 1952 Willis and Mary A. Gibbs, owners
Proprietor, Soldiers' Inn Cafe, 605 Sabine Street.
- 1949 Willis and Mary A. Gibbs, owners
Proprietor, Soldiers' Inn Cafe, 605 Sabine Street.
- 1947 Willis and Mary A. Gibbs, owners
Proprietor, Soldiers' Inn Cafe, 612 E. 7th Street.
- 1944-45 Vacant
NOTE: Willis and Mary A. Gibbs are not listed in the directory.
- 1942 Vacant
NOTE: Willis and Mary Cook are listed at 1703 New York Avenue; he was a cook.
- 1941 The address is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: Willis Gibbs is listed as a waiter at the Harlem Grill (Georgia Adams, proprietor), 1908½ E. 12th Street; he lived at 1703 New York Avenue and did not have a wife listed with him in the directory.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**Willis and Mary A. Gibbs (ca. 1946 – ca. 1982)**

Willis Gibbs appears in the 1940 U.S. Census as a lodger in the home of Nathan and Josephine Hansborough, who owned their home at 1703 New York Avenue. The Hansboroughs were relatives of Willis' wife, Mary. Willis Gibbs was 42, had been born in Texas, and was a waiter in a café. He is listed as married, but Mary Gibbs does not appear with him in the census report. There is a Mary Gibbs listed in the 1940 U.S. Census – she was a 38-year old divorced housekeeper in a home on Edgecliff Terrace in Austin. She had been born in Texas.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Willis and Mary Gibbs as the renters of the house at 2102 Leona Street in Austin. Willis Gibbs was 32, had been born in Texas, and was a laborer at a grocery store. Mary Gibbs was 31, had been born in Texas, and was a servant in a private home.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Willis and Marie Gibbs living in a rented house in Pflugerville, Texas. Willis Gibbs was 21, had been born in Texas, and was a farm laborer. Marie Gibbs was 21, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had no children listed with them.

His 1917 World War I draft registration card shows that Willis Gibbs was born in Round Rock, Texas, and was a self-employed farmer in Round Rock. He was married, had black hair and eyes, was tall, and had a medium build. He registered at Pflugerville, Texas.

Willis Gibbs' 1966 death certificate shows that he was living in this house at the time of his death. He was born in 1898 in Williamson County, Texas, and was a retired café operator.

Mary Gibbs died in 1982 in Austin. Her death certificate shows that she was living at this house at the time of her death. She was born in Texas in 1899 and was a cook in a café. She was a widow. Her mother was Anna Hansborough; her niece was Etta Williams.

WILLIS GIBBS

Funeral for Willis Gibbs will be held Thursday at 3 p.m. at the Rising Star Baptist Church with Rev. I. W. Robinson officiating. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery by King-Tears Mortuary, Inc.

He is survived by his widow; two sons, Willis D. Gibbs, and Cornelius Gibbs; two brothers, Douglas Gibbs of Austin, William Gibbs of Houston; two sisters, Mrs. Masola Moseley, Mrs. Mollie Gault of Austin; and one granddaughter, Miss Gloria Gay Gibbs.

Funeral notice for Willis Gibbs
Austin American, May 5, 1966

Mary E Branch 1909 East 9th St
~~28~~ 8 20 5 B
 29 Grandview Addn.
 Frame Res.
 21560 - 4-7-41
 4

Building permit to Mary Branch for the construction of this house (1941)

WATER SERVICE PERMIT No 18755
See 28

Austin, Texas
 Received of Mary E. Branch Date 4-19-41
 Address 1909 East 9th
 Amount Two and 50/100 \$ 2.50
 Plumber ? Size of Tap 1/2"

Date of Connection <u>5-19-41</u>		
Size of Tap Made <u>2 1/2"</u>	Size <u>✓</u>	
Size Service Made <u>2 1/2"</u>		
Size Main Tapped <u>3"</u>		
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock <u>5'</u>		
From <u>✓</u> Prop. Line to Curb Cock <u>17 1/2"</u>		
Location of Meter <u>2nd St</u>		
Type of Box <u>2 1/2"</u>		
Depth of Main in St. <u>3'</u>		
Depth of Service Line <u>5'</u>		
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main <u>10'</u>		
Checked by Engr. Dept. <u>9-7-AILE</u>		

No. Fittings	Curb Cock	Elbow	St. Elbow	Bushing	Reducer	Pipe	Lead-Comp	Nipples	Union	Plug	Tie	Stop	Box	Lid	Valves	Job No.	Req. No.
1	1			1	1	12'	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		101160	101160

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Water service permit to Mary Branch for this house (1941)

Willis Gibbs

1909 East 9th Street

~~28~~

5

20

-

-

29

Grandview

Frame addition to rear of residence

34373 7-7-47

\$1600.00

Oliver Street

None

Building permit to Willis Gibbs for a rear addition (1947)