

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 24, 2016  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2016-0607  
2201 E. 22<sup>ND</sup> STREET**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a house that was moved onto this site in 1946 from Waco.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, front-gabled frame bungalow with a cross-gabled inset porch, now enclosed with metal-framed casement and a large, square, fixed-sash window; 1:1 fenestration.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house was moved to this site from Waco, Texas in 1946 by Dr. James Murphy Holloway and his wife, Mildred Coleman Holloway. James Murphy Holloway was an African-American physician who had his first office in Austin on E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street; he then moved his office to Waller Street, and finally, to New York Avenue (that building no longer stands), and worked at Holy Cross Hospital, the only integrated hospital in Austin at that time. His wife, Mildred Coleman Holloway, was very active in local politics, and was one of the founders of Black Austin Democrats. She served as an election judge for many years at her polling place at David Chapel Church at Martin Luther King and Chestnut, and was a tireless fighter for equal rights.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is not listed in any City survey to date. The house has been on the market for several years, and the listing agent has informed staff that at least half of the house is unfinished with no heating or cooling, and the only way to a bathroom in the house is via a hallway that is not convenient to any of the other rooms in the house.

Direct descendants of James Murphy Holloway and Mildred Holloway are adamantly opposed to historic landmark designation for this property.

The listing agent has informed staff that several buyers interested in purchasing the property have turned away from it when their architects have seen the conditions at the house. However, the current applicant is still looking at alternatives to demolition that would allow the family members to sell the property and preserve the house.

The house was the scene of a double shooting a few years ago.

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff must recommend release of 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, and upon the erection of an interpretive marker on the site detailing the history of the Holloway family at this property and their contributions to the culture of Austin.

Despite the vehement opposition to preservation by the family, staff believes that this house is significant in the context of African-American history in Austin as it was the home of a prominent African-American doctor in the period of segregation, and his politically-active wife. Staff has no desire to penalize the family members who are counting on the sale of this property for their futures, and has come to see that there can be

commemoration of the Holloway family's contributions to the history and culture of the city with an interpretive marker on the site if preservation of the house cannot be achieved.

**Mildred Coleman Holloway**, a prominent figure in local Democratic politics, died Friday at age 91.

Active since the early days of the civil rights era, **Holloway** helped launch the Texas Coalition of Black Democrats, Black Austin Democrats and the United Political Organization, three groups created to foster black political power in Austin and statewide. "Her influence in the Coalition of Black Democrats just simply cannot be measured," said Janice Kinchion, chairwoman of the group.

The coalition honored **Holloway** in 2002 as one of five George "Mickey" Leland Profiles of Courage award winners, people without whom "we would have had no promise," Kinchion said.

**Holloway** started in politics when blacks still were required to pay a poll tax to vote. James Murphy Spigner, **Holloway's** daughter, said her mother started "that crusade so that everyone would have equal access. "She also loved the camaraderie of working with her neighbors to better the community, Spigner said.

For more than 40 years, **Holloway** was a Democratic Party stalwart and made an indelible mark as the determined party chairwoman of her East Austin precinct.

"She was that wonderful combination of warm and tough," said Travis County Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir, who worked closely with **Holloway** on elections. "As a politician, when **Mildred** talked, you listened." **Holloway**, originally from Waco, attended Samuel Huston College, which later merged to become Huston-Tillotson College. She married Dr. J.M. **Holloway**, a physician, and taught art at a Dallas elementary school before returning to Austin. J.M. **Holloway** died in 1971. **Holloway** was a respected voice whom people sought for guidance on the issues and the candidates, Travis County Judge Sam Biscoe said. And in return for her support, **Holloway** had an "undying expectation of the best from the candidates in office," Biscoe said.

A wake will be at 6 p.m. today at King-Tears Mortuary, with funeral services at 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. James Episcopal Church.

News story on the death of Mildred Coleman Holloway

Austin [American-Statesman](#), October 14, 2003

## LOCATION MAP



2201 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Moved onto this lot from Waco, Texas ca. 1946





## OCCUPANCY HISTORY

### 2201 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street

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

1992	Jane M. Holloway, owner Retired
1985-86	Jane M. Holloway, owner Retired
1981	Jane M. Holloway, owner Retired
1977	Jane M. Holloway, owner Widow, James Holloway Retired
1973	Reedy M. and James Spigner, renters No occupation listed Also listed is Jane M. Holloway, no occupation shown. NOTE: James Murphy Holloway Spigner was the daughter of James and Jane Mildred Holloway.
1968	James M. and Mildred Holloway, owners Physician, 1901 New York Avenue
1965	James M. and Mildred Holloway, owners Physician, 1901 New York Avenue
1962	James M. and Mildred Holloway, owners Physician, 1901 New York Avenue
1959	James M. and Mildred Holloway, owners Physician, 1901 New York Avenue
1955	James M. and Mildred Holloway, owners Physician, 701 Waller Street
1952	James M. and Mildred Holloway, owners Physician, 701 Waller Street
1949	James M. and Mildred Holloway, owners Physician, 516½ E. 6 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1947	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: James M. and Mildred Holloway are not listed in the directory.

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

#### **James W. and Mildred Holloway (ca. 1946 - 2003)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Mildred Coleman (later Mildred Holloway), as the 27-year old daughter of Walter and Tommie Coleman of Dallas, Texas. Mildred Coleman was a Texas-born

public school teacher. Her father, Walter Coleman, was a Texas-born waiter at a country club. Her mother had no occupation listed. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Mildred as the 17-year old daughter of Walter and Tommie Coleman, who rented their home in Dallas. Mildred had no occupation listed. She had a younger brother, Walter Coleman, Jr., 15, who had no occupation listed. Her father was a waiter in a hotel. Her mother was a chambermaid in a department store.

Mildred Holloway was appointed to the Neighborhood Revitalization Commission and the Urban Renewal Board of Directors in 1987.

The 1900 U.S. Census shows Murphy Holloway as the 7-year old son of Willie and Antoinette Holloway of rural McLennan County, Texas. Murphy had been born in Texas; all of his older siblings had been born in South Carolina. His father, Willie, was 48, had been born in South Carolina, and was a farmer. His mother, Antoinette, 47, had been born in Georgia, and had no occupation listed. Murphy was the youngest of the couple's 6 children.

His 1917 World War I draft registration card shows Murphy Holloway was living in San Antonio, Texas. He was born in 1892 in Hillsboro, Texas, and was working as a Pullman porter. He was married, was of medium height and build, and had black hair and brown eyes.

His 1942 World War II draft registration card shows that James Murphy and Mildred Holloway were living at the State Sanitorium in Kerrville, Texas.

His 1971 death certificate shows Dr. James Murphy Holloway was living at this house at the time of his death. He was a physician who had been born in 1893 in Hillsboro, Texas.

From "On November 7, the law of the ballot box belongs to the Election Judge," by Kay Powers, Austin American-Statesman, November 2, 1989.

Like many of the 178 election judges in Travis County who are preparing for next week's referendum on constitutional amendments and county issues, **Mildred Holloway**, 75, is also a Democratic precinct chairman.

She's been judging elections since 1965, and come Tuesday, you'll find her at Precinct 128 at David Chapel Church.

"Before an election, as Democratic precinct chairman, I am very busy sending out literature for our candidates and calling different people to ask them and their friends to vote," Holloway said.

"But when we go in there (on election day), we forget what we are, as far as political parties are concerned, and just do the job we're supposed to do."

The election-day shifts are long and can be boring when turnout is light, and the pay is only \$5 an hour. So why does anyone want to be an election judge?

"I just love it," Holloway said. "I get to know all the people in my precinct that way, you see."

From "Rare birds: Politics' true believers," by Susan Smith, Austin American-Statesman, March 15, 2000.

The true believers work the polls on election day. And few people truly believe in the two-party political system. But in an age of voter cynicism, **Mildred Holloway** and Louise Foster may have enough faith for the faithless. As Travis County precinct chair women, or judges, they work on the ground floor of electoral politics, ensuring that polling places are open on time and ballots are properly handled. Holloway has been the Democratic chairwoman of Precinct 128 in East Austin for 34 years. Foster has been the Republican chairwoman of Precinct 303 in southwest Travis County for 12 years. Precinct judges are elected by voters in their precincts and receive minimum wage for their work on election day.

Holloway is among the longest-serving in that role in the county. The reason for her longevity is simpler than most people's excuses for not voting on Tuesday: "I just enjoy politics," she said.

Precinct 128 -- inner city, Democratic and with a declining voter turnout -- and Precinct 303 -- suburban, Republican and with a rising voter turnout -- are a contrast in political culture. Holloway and Foster are more alike than they are different, however. They're both true believers.

Their day starts long before the polls open at 7 a.m. and ends long after they close at 7 p.m. Voting supplies are available the Sunday before the election, said Foster, who is active in Republican women's clubs. Monday night, she set up tables at her polling place at Oak Hill United Methodist Church on U.S. 290 West. Tuesday, she had returned to the polling place by 6 a.m.

Surgery prevented Holloway from running Tuesday's election at her polling place, David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. It was only the second election that Holloway has missed in 34 years, she said. This year also will be her last as precinct chairwoman. Even longtime soldiers like Holloway get weary.

"(The declining turnout) makes you feel bad, but what can you do about it? You work for these politicians, and they don't say anything to you until they run again," said Holloway, who remembers when civic groups and politicians used to go door-to-door in Precinct 128 to turn out the vote.

Foster became involved in politics when her husband retired from the military, which prohibited campaigning by members and their families.

"It was a chance to do something that I thought was a service to my country, my county and state," Foster said.

Neither woman's dedication can mask the flaws in the political system, however.

Political culture, not legal barriers, is now a hurdle to voter participation, says Rob Richie of the Center for Voting and Democracy in Washington, D.C.

"We have to promote reforms to reshape our choices. Since the '60s, there's been a steady decline in faith in our institutions and decrease in voter participation," Richie said.

We need to reform the electoral process, including limiting the influence of money in campaigns and changing how we elect candidates. Still, cynicism isn't an excuse for not voting. Holloway and Foster may have faith. But the rest of us have to believe, too



Dr. James Murphy Holloway  
1893 – 1971  
From Find-a-grave website





Mildred Elaine Coleman Holloway  
1912 – 2003

From Find-a-grave website

Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a Texas leader in civil rights, who after 91 years, passed on Friday. Mildred Coleman Holloway. Throughout her career, Mildred was a trailblazer among African-American women who fought tirelessly for equal rights in an era when blacks were still required to pay a poll tax to vote. Originally from Waco, Texas, Mildred attended Samuel Huston College, which later merged to become Huston-Tillotson College. For more than 40 years, Mildred was a Democratic Party icon in Texas. Mr. Speaker, this great leader spent much of her time in Austin fighting for equal opportunity for all people. She was instrumental in the founding of three politically powerful groups in Austin and the state of Texas, the Texas

Dr. J. M. Holloway	2201 East 22nd Street
247	7&8 12 - -

Move residence onto lot & repair, addn. to  
res. & garage  
31984 10-28-46 \$4000.00

4

247

# WATER SERVICE PERMIT

Austin Texas

No. B 2405

Received of DR JAMES M. HOLLOWAY

Date 11-12-46

Address 2201 EAST 22

Amount TWENTY AND NO/100 \$ 20 - 3/4

Plumber \_\_\_\_\_ Size of Tap \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Connection <u>1-6-47</u>	
Size of Tap Made <u>3/4</u>	
Size Service Made <u>3/4</u>	
Size Main Tapped <u>2" C.I.</u>	
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock <u>7'</u>	
From W. Prop. Line to Curb Cock <u>37'</u>	
Location of Meter <u>CURB</u>	
Type of Box <u>LOCK</u>	
Depth of Main in St. <u>2.5'</u>	
Depth of Service Line <u>2.5'</u>	
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main <u>15'</u>	
Inspected by Engr. Dept. <u>1002-2-6-47</u>	

No. Fittings	Description	Size
1	Curb Cock	<u>5/8</u>
1	Elbow	<u>COPPER 3/4</u>
1	St. Elbow	<u>C. CO. R.P.</u>
2	Bushing	<u>1/4 X 1/2</u>
	Reducer	
17	Pipe	<u>COPPER</u>
	Lead Comp	
	Nipples	
	Union	
	Plug	
	Tee	
	Stop	
1	Box	<u>LOCK</u>
1	Lid	"
	Valves	
	Job No.	
	Req. No.	

**INDEXED**

Water service permit to Dr. James M. Holloway for this house (1946)



J. W. Holloway                      2201 East 22nd St.  
247                      8    12

C. D. Johns

Carport attached to side of residence.

74975                      1/4/60                      650.00

H.J. Price    =

**CARPORT**

Building permit to Dr. James M. Holloway for a carport (1960)