

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 24, 2016  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2016-0720  
615 E. 49<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

**PROPOSAL**

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Relocate a ca. 1938 house to Lockhart, Texas.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame house with a central, partial-width, front-gabled independent porch on ornamental metal supports; single and paired 1:1 fenestration.

**RESEARCH**

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The house was built in 1938; the first owners and occupants were Lester and Fay Bailey, who lived here until around 1946. Lester Bailey was a bus driver for the city bus company. Lester Bailey eventually moved to Jasper, Texas, where he was a mailman. He passed away in 1974.

The house was then owned and occupied by Bertha Thorp, who lived here from around 1946 to around 1960. Bertha Thorp was born in Round Rock but moved to Austin as a teenager and lived in Austin for the rest of her life. She never married, and worked as a clerk typist for the State Health Department.

From around 1960 to around 1975, the house was rented by Mary B. Maloney, a widow who was a saleslady at the Uniform Center downtown.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is beyond the bounds of any City survey to date.




**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use on-site, 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. Every effort should be made to retain this house on-site, as it represents the pre-World War II residential housing stock of this neighborhood.

LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

**NOTIFICATIONS**

CASE#: HDP-2016-0720  
615 E 49TH 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.

615 E. 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
ca. 1938



### OCCUPANCY HISTORY 615 E. 49<sup>th</sup> Street

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

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1992    | Paul A. Martin, renter<br>Student  |
| 1985-86 | Jean M. Marchioda, renter<br>Employed by Mother's Café, 4215 Duval Street.   |
| 1981    | Jean M. Marchionda, renter<br>Employed by Mother's Café, 4215 Duval Street.<br>NOTE: The directory indicates that Jean M. Marchionda was a new resident at this address. |
| 1977    | Vacant   |
| 1973    | Mary B. Maloney, renter<br>Widow, Jerry A. Maloney<br>Saleslady, Uniform Center, 121 W. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street and 1708 W. 35 <sup>th</sup> Street.                      |
| 1968    | Mary B. Maloney, renter<br>Widow, Jerry A. Maloney<br>Saleslady, Uniform Center, 121 W. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street.  |

- 1965 Mary B. Maloney, renter  
Widow, Jerry A. Maloney  
Saleslady, Uniform Center, 121 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1962 Mary B. Maloney, renter  
Widow, Jerry A. Maloney  
Saleslady, Uniform Center, 121 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1959 Bertha E. Thorp, owner  
Clerk, State Health Department  
NOTE: Mary B. Maonley is listed at 1508 Enfield Road; she was a saleslady at E.M. Scarbrough & Sons, department store, 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Congress Avenue.
- 1955 Bertha E. Thorp, owner  
Typist, State Health Department
- 1952 Bertha E. Thorp, owner  
NOTE: There is no listing for a Bertha E. Thorp in the alphabetical section of the directory.
- 1949 Bertha E. Thorp, owner  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is Bess Thorp, no occupation shown.
- 1947 Bertha E. Thorp, owner  
Clerk, State Department of Health  
Also listed is Virginia Thorp, a stenographer at the State Department of Health.  
NOTE: Lester J. and Fay S. Bailey are listed at 807 E. 49<sup>th</sup> Street; he was a boilermaker for the City Electrical Inspector.
- 1944-45 Lester J. and Fay Bailey, owners  
U.S. Army  
NOTE: Bertha E. Thorp is listed at 4405 Speedway; she was a stenographer.
- 1941 Lester J. and Fay Bailey, owners  
Bus operator, Austin Transit Company  
NOTE: The house is listed as 613 E. 49<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1939 Lester J. and Fay Bailey, owners  
Motorman  
NOTE: The house is listed as 613 E. 49<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1937 The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Lester J. and Fay Bailey are listed at 1400 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street. He was an operator for the Austin Street Railway Company.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

### Lester J. and Fay Bailey (ca. 1938 – ca. 1946)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Lester J. and Fay Bailey as the owners of this house, which was worth \$1,800. The house is addressed as 613 E. 49<sup>th</sup> Street. Lester J. Bailey was 31, had been born in Texas, and was a bus operator for the city bus company. Fay Bailey was 34, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had no children listed with them. They had lived in rural Zavala County, Texas in 1935.

His 1974 death certificate shows that Lester James Bailey was born in Texas in 1908, and was a mailman. He was living in Jasper, Texas at the time of his death, but died at the UTMB Hospital in Galveston. He is buried in the Jasper City Cemetery.

**Bertha E. Thorp (ca. 1946 – ca. 1960)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Bertha E. Thorp living in the home of her mother, Elizabeth Thorp, at 4401 Speedway in Austin, a house that was worth \$2,000. Bertha E. Thorp was 55, had been born in Texas, and was a typist for the Health Department. Her mother, Elizabeth Thorp, was an 88-year old Texas-born widow with no occupation listed. With them lived Bertha's younger sister, Virginia Thorp, 52, who had been born in Texas, and was an assistant registration clerk for the Highway Department.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Berta E. and Virginia Thorp living with their mother, Elizabeth Thorp, at 4401 Avenue E (Speedway) in Austin. Both Bertha and Virginia were stenographers at state offices. Elizabeth Thorp had no occupation listed.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows J.W. and Elizabeth Thorp living at 4401 Avenue E (Speedway). J.W. Thorp was a 67-year old Texas-born watchman at the Land Office. Elizabeth Thorp had no occupation listed. Bertha Thorp, 35, had no occupation listed; Virginia Thorp, 31, was a stenographer. A younger brother, Raymond Thorp, 28, was a laborer. The family had a mulatto servant, Jennie Edgar.

### **MISS BERTHA E. THORP**

Funeral services will be held Friday at 10 a.m. at Cook Funeral Home for Miss Bertha E. Thorp, 74, sister of former Police Chief Raymond D. Thorp of Austin. She died Thursday morning in Seton Hospital. Burial will be in Capital Memorial Gardens.

Miss Thorp was born in Round Rock Nov. 12, 1885. She moved to Austin and had been a resident here for 63 years. She lived at 615 East 43rd Street.

Miss Thorp was a former employe of the Texas State Department of Health and was a charter member of the Shettles Memorial Methodist Church.

Miss Thorp is survived by her brother; a niece, Mrs. June Thorp Rade of Severn Park, Md., and two grandnephews, Bruce Rade and Brent Rade, also of Severn Park.

Obituary of Bertha Thorp  
Austin American, December 4, 1959

### **Mary B. Maloney (ca. 1960 – ca. 1975)**

Mary B. Maloney's husband, Jerry Allen Maloney, was born in Kentucky in 1908 and was a floor finisher. They were living at 1100 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street when he died in 1958. Mary Maloney died in Travis County October 14, 1996; there does not appear to have been a death notice or obituary in the Austin newspapers.

**WATER SERVICE PERMIT**  
Austin, Texas

No. **10902**  
214  
Date **Sep 6th, 1938**

Received of M C Sloan Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address 615 East 49

Amount Two and 50/100-- \$ 2.50

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

Date of Connection 9-12-38

Size of Tap Made 3/4

Size Service Made 3/4

Size Main Tapped 2" C.I.

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 9.5'

From E. Prop. Line to Curb Cock 16'

Location of Meter CURB

Type of Box LOCK

Depth of Main in St. 2.5'

Depth of Service Line 2'

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 32'

Checked by Engr. Dept. 11-18-38

**INDREARD** *[Signature]* **J.L. WHITAMER**

| No. Fittings | Size       | Material            |
|--------------|------------|---------------------|
| 1            | Curb Cock  | 5/8"                |
|              | Elbow      |                     |
|              | St. Elbow  |                     |
| 1            | Fushing    | 3/4" X 1/2"         |
| 1            | Reducer    | 3/4" X 1/2"         |
| 3/4"         | Pipe       | 3/4" COPPER         |
| 1            | Lead Comp. | 3/4" COPPER TO 1/2" |
| 1            | Stoppers   | 3/4" COPPER TO 1/2" |
|              | Union      |                     |
|              | Plug       |                     |
| 1            | Box        | DRAIN TILE          |
| 1            | Lid        | " LID               |
|              | Valves     |                     |
|              | Job No.    | C38-101E            |
|              | Req. No.   | 78480               |

Renewed service on B-8052

Water service permit for this address (1938)

**SANITARY SEWER SERVICE PERMIT**  
Austin, Texas

No. **1861811**

Received of Lester J. Bailey Date 8-16-43

Address 615 East 49th Street

Amount \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Builder or Owner Lester J. Bailey Plumber \_\_\_\_\_

Lot 50' x 187' Block \_\_\_\_\_ Subdivision unplotted Plat No. 214  
Lester James Bailey Tract

Date of Connection 2-8-50

By City approx. 35' E/WLL

By Plumber \_\_\_\_\_

Checked By Amara

Size Main \_\_\_\_\_ Depth 5'

Main Assign. \_\_\_\_\_

Stub Depth \_\_\_\_\_ Prop. Line 2 1/2'

Stub Location \_\_\_\_\_

Book No. A-1594

Paving Cut \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

| No. Fittings | Size           | Price   |
|--------------|----------------|---------|
| 15           | Pipe 4"        | 1.95    |
|              | Pipe           |         |
|              | Wyes           |         |
| 2            | Bends          | 1.20    |
|              | Reducers       |         |
|              | Plugs          |         |
|              | Sand           |         |
|              | Gravel         |         |
|              | Remix          |         |
|              | Stoppers       |         |
|              | Castings       |         |
| 1            | Other Lab      | .25     |
| 1            | hr. @ 100      | 1.00    |
| 1            | hr. TRUCK @ 40 | .40     |
|              | Labor:         |         |
|              | 16 hrs.        | 11.20   |
|              |                | \$16.00 |

Sewer service permit to Lester J. Bailey for this house (1943)

|                   |                  |                 |                     |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| OWNER             | Ray Rade         | ADDRESS         | 615 E. 49th         |
| PLAT              | 214              | LOT             | Lester James Bailey |
| SUBDIVISION       | Unplatted        |                 |                     |
| OCCUPANCY         | residence        |                 |                     |
| BLDG. PERMIT #    | 166118           | DATE            | 7-25-77             |
|                   |                  | OWNERS ESTIMATE | 3,500.00            |
| CONTRACTOR        | wayne feuebacher |                 | NO. OF FIXTURES     |
| WATER TAP REC#    | SEWER TAP REC#   |                 |                     |
| remodel exist res |                  |                 |                     |

Building permit to Ray Rade for remodeling the house (1977)