

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
JUNE 26, 2017  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2017-0252  
4004 BURNET ROAD

## PROPOSAL

---

Demolish a ca. 1940 house.

## ARCHITECTURE

---

One-story, wing-and-gable-plan, stone-veneered frame house with single and paired 1:1 fenestration and a shed-roofed entry hood over the single-leaf front door.

## RESEARCH

---

The house was built in 1940 by O.P. Schoolfield, a local land surveyor who lived on San Gabriel Street. O.P. Schoolfield never lived in this house. The house was listed as vacant in the 1941 city directory, but it was purchased by Roland and Martha Carlson, who lived here until the mid-1940s. Roland Carlson was listed as an “operator” in the city directories; Martha Carlson was a teacher in the county public schools.

From the mid-1940s through his death in 1977, the house was owned and occupied by Robert E. Smith and his wife, Loula. Robert E. Smith was a barber, who had his own barber shop on Guadalupe Street across from the University of Texas. After Loula Smith passed away in 1964, Robert continued to live in this house, and went to work for another barber in South Austin. Since Robert Smith’s death in 1977, the house has been a rental property.

## STAFF COMMENTS

---

The house is beyond the bounds of any City survey to date. This house does not appear to meet the criteria for designation as a historic landmark but could be contributing to a potential historic district in the Rosedale neighborhood.

The house does not meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth by City Code:

- a. **Architecture.** The house is built in a vernacular style. It does not appear to be architecturally significant.
- b. **Historical association.** The house has long-standing associations with the family of Robert E. and Loula Smith, who lived here for almost 30 years. Robert E. Smith was a barber with a shop on Guadalupe Street across from the UT campus. There do not appear to be significant historical associations.
- c. **Archaeology.** The house was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
- d. **Community value.** The house does not possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, Rosedale, or a particular demographic group.
- e. **Landscape feature.** The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

---

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then relocation over demolition, as the house appears to be structurally sound, 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. While the house

has retained a high level of integrity, it does not appear to have the architectural or historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark. Staff requests that the applicant seriously consider rehabilitation of this house as it represents the context and scale of the Rosedale neighborhood, a potential historic district.

4004 Burnet Road  
ca. 1940



## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 4004 Burnet Road

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
May, 2017

1992	No return
1985-86	John M. Powers, renter Mover, Mike's Moving Company (not listed in the directory). NOTE: The directory indicates that John M. Powers was a new resident at this address.
1981	Mike Hunt, renter No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Mike Hunt was a new resident at this address.
1977	Robert E. Smith, owner Retired
1973	Robert E. Smith, owner Barber, Jim's Barber Shop, 2000 S. Congress Avenue.
1968	Robert E. Smith, owner NOTE: Robert E. Smith is not listed in the alphabetical section of the directory.

- 1965 Robert E. and Loula B. Smith, owners  
Proprietor, Longhorn Barber Shop (not listed in the directory).
- 1961 Robert E. and Lula B. Smith, owners  
Proprietor (with Sam W. Nichols), Longhorn Barber Shop, 2312 Guadalupe Street.
- 1957 Robert E. and Loula B. smith, owners  
Proprietor (with Sam W. Nichols), Longhorn Barber Shop, 2312 Guadalupe Street.
- 1954 Robert E. and Loula B. Smith, owners  
Barber, University Barber Shop, 2226 Guadalupe Street.
- 1949 Robert E. and Loula B. Smith, owners  
Proprietor, University Barber Shop, 2226 Guadalupe Street.
- 1947 Robert E. and Loula B. Smith, owners  
Manager, University Beauty and Barber Shop, 2226 Guadalupe Street.
- 1944-45 Roland J. and Martha Carlson, owners  
Roland: Operator  
Martha: Teacher, County public schools  
NOTE: Robert E. and Loula B. Smith are listed at 4310 Avenue H. He was the proprietor of the University Barber Shop, 2226 Guadalupe Street.
- 1941 Vacant  
NOTE Roland and Martha Carlson are listed at 706 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street. He had no occupation shown; she was a student at the University of Texas.
- 1940 The address is not listed in the directory.

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

##### **Robert E. and Loula B. Smith (ca. 1946 – ca. 1977)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Robert E. and Lula B. Smith as the renters of the house at 4311 Avenue D in Austin. Robert E. Smith was 44, had been born in Texas, and was a barber. Lula B. Smith was 47, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a son, Murray J., 22, who had been born in Texas, and worked as a playground director for the City Recreation Department.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Robert E. and Lula Smith as the renters of the house at 202 W. 39<sup>th</sup> Street in Austin. Robert E. Smith was a 34-year old Texas-born barber. Lula Smith was 37, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 sons: Murray, 12; and Robert E., 8. Both boys had been born in Texas.

Loula Bernice Smith died in 1964 while living in this house. She was born in 1892 in Burnet County, Texas, and was a housewife. Robert Emmitt Smith, Sr. died in 1977 while living in this house. He was born in 1895 in Williamson County Texas, and was a barber. He was a widower.

**MRS. L. B. SMITH**

Mrs. Loula Bernice Smith, 71, of 4004 Burnet Road, died in a local hospital Monday. She had been a resident of Austin for the past 46 years and was a member of the Northside Church of Christ.

Survivors include her husband, Robert E. Smith Sr.; two sons, James M. Smith, Altus, Okla.; Robert E. Smith Jr. of Amarillo; one brother, Nelson Rodgers of California; two sisters, Mrs. Theresa Brill, Brentwood, Calif.; and Mrs. Daisy Yancy of El Monte, Calif.; seven grandchildren.

The body is at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home pending arrangements.

The family request in lieu of flowers contributions be made to the Heart Fund.

Obituary of Loula Smith  
Austin Statesman, February 4, 1964

**SMITH, Robert E. Sr., 80, 4004 Burnet Rd., died Sunday. Services 10 a.m. Tuesday at Weed-Corley Funeral Home. Survivors: sons, James M. Smith of Shreveport, La., Robert E. Smith Jr. of Ft. Worth; 7 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren.**

Obituary of Robert E. Smith  
Austin American-Statesman, March 29, 1977

O. P. Schoolfield

4004 Burnet Rd.

76

1

14

Rossdale A

rock veneer res. &amp; box gar.

19770 - 6-10-40

5

Building permit to O.P. Schoolfield for the construction of this house (1940)

*NEW*

**WATER SERVICE PERMIT**

Austin, Texas

No. 17968

**INDEXED**

Received of O. P. Schoolfield Date June 10, 1940

Address 4004 Burnet Rd.

Amount Two and 50/100 - - - - \$ 2.50

Plumber Burleson Size of Tap  $\frac{1}{2}$

Date of Connection 6-12-40

Size of Tap Made  $\frac{3}{4}$

Size Service Made  $\frac{3}{4}$

Size Main Tapped 2"

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 9'

From S Prop. Line to Curb Cock 16'

Location of Meter CURB

Type of Box LOCK

Depth of Main in St. 2'

Depth of Service Line 2'

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 2'

Checked by Engr. Dept. 7-13-40 LE

No. Fittings	Size	
2	Curb Cock $\frac{5}{8}$	
1	Elbow $\frac{3}{4}$	
1	St. Elbow $\frac{3}{4}$	
1	Bushing $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$	
1	Reducer $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$	
20	Pipe $\frac{3}{4}$ GALV	
4	Lead Comp. 2" GALV. PIPE	
	Nipples	
	Union	
1	Plug TILE	
1	Tee $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$	
1	Stop TILE LID	
1	Box LOCK	
1	Lid	
	Valves	
	Job No. 240-131E	
	Req. No. 457892	

*SHIRLEY*

*CHANGED TO 6" MAIN & RENEW BY 7-25-82*

**INDEXED**

Water service permit to O.P. Schoolfield for this address (1940)

# 2393 No. 16953  
 APPLICATION FOR SEWER CONNECTION  
 Austin, Texas 6-10-40  
 To the Superintendent of Sewer and Public Improvements,  
 City of Austin, Texas  
 Sir:—  
 I hereby make application for sewer connection and instruction  
 on premises owned by O.P. Schoolfield  
 at 4004 Burnett Rd. Street  
 further described as lot 14, block 16, outlot  
 subdivision Acadale 12, division 76, plat 76  
 which is to be used as a Res.  
 In this place there are to be installed 5 fixtures  
 I agree to pay the City Sewer Department the regular ordinary  
 charge.  
 DEEP Respectfully Paul A. Schoolfield  
 ST - PL  
 Stub Out  
 Connected 7-25 1940 Permit Pol.  
6-18-40  
 Size of Main 6 inches. 7-23-40  
 Size of Service 4 inches. 01  
4 1/2 Feet Deep in ST  
15 Feet from Property Line Per 11-71  
7 Feet from Curb Line S 21  
 Inspected by Boatright  
 Connection made by Cobington B-1126  
13745 Sewer in Burnett Rd.  
L.H.B.

Sewer application connection by O.P. Schoolfield for this address (1940)