

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
DECEMBER 11, 2017
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2017-0683
3515 WEBBERVILLE ROAD

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1929 frame building moved to the site in 1971.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story L-plan wood-frame civic building clad in wood siding and capped by front- and side-gabled roofs. The building features a front-gabled enclosed entry porch, single-hung aluminum-sash windows, exposed rafter tails, and brackets in some gable ends.

RESEARCH

The building was constructed at 3706 King Street ca. 1929 as rooming house or apartment complex. After World War II, the property was purchased by Post 8787 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to serve as a gathering space and reception hall. The VFW sold the building to the Greater Union Missionary Baptist Church in July 1971 for \$60,000.

Greater Union Missionary Baptist was formed in 1970 and originally met at members' and pastors' homes, as well as the Salina Activity Center. The church moved the former VFW hall to a newly purchased 1-acre lot at 3515 Webberville Road. According to a 1990 church history by Reverend Dr. Rickey Williams, the new building contained a 150-seat auditorium, a hall, and a ladies' lounge. The building served as Greater Union's primary worship space from 1972 until 1976, when the congregation moved to a new building at 2939 Pecan Springs Road.

By 1980, the building had been purchased by the Unity Friendship Baptist Church, which worshiped there until 2016.

STAFF COMMENTS

3515 Webberville Rd. does not appear in any city surveys.

The structure does not appear to meet the criteria for designation as a historic landmark, as it does not retain its original location or use. Therefore, it does not meet the integrity requirements outlined in Section 25-2-352 of the Land Development Code.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building itself is over 50 years old, having been constructed ca. 1929. However, its period of significance as a religious building at its current address begins in 1971, which does not meet the 50-year threshold for age and significance.
- 2) The building does not retain integrity of location, setting, association, or feeling. It retains a moderate degree of integrity of design, craftsmanship, and materials.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (City of Austin Land Development Code (Section 25-2-352). The property does not appear to demonstrate significance according to any of the criteria.
 - a. **Architecture.** The building is built in a vernacular style. It does not appear to be architecturally significant.




- b. **Historical association.** At its current site, the building does not maintain its historic association with either the VFW or the original apartment residents.
- c. **Archaeology.** The property was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
- d. **Community value.** The property does not appear to possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the community, Austin, or Texas as a whole. Its religious affiliation falls outside of the 50-year threshold for period of significance.
- 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. If rehabilitation and adaptive re-use are not feasible, then encourage relocation over demolition and 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.

LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 208'

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HPD-2017-0683
3515 WEBBERVILLE RD



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.

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



Primary (west) façades and north elevation, looking south.



Primary façade of main entrance.



Primary façade of rear addition.

Occupancy History

City directory research, Austin History Center
By Historic Preservation Office staff
November 2017

1972 Greater Union Baptist Church

1977 Greater Union Baptist Church

1985-86 Friendship Baptist Church
Rev. Willie L. Bartee, pastor

Background Research

SIX NEW BUILDING PERMITS ARE ISSUED
The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Nov 29, 1929;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American States
pg. 20

SIX NEW BUILDING PERMITS ARE ISSUED

Permits issued this week have been few and light, it was announced at the city building division offices Friday. Only six building permits have been granted Austin builders since Monday and the total value does not reach \$2000.

The two latest permits issued were to Ophelia Cavin to construct a house addition at 100 East 12th at an approximate expenditure of \$200, and to J. F. Reeves to lay three cement floors at 3706 King street. The work will cost approximately \$400.

"Furnished"	
512 West 6th, 8 rooms	75.50
503 West 32nd St., 6 rooms	70.00
2825 Rio Grande St., 6 rooms	65.00
3706 King St., 8 rooms	50.00
1404 1/2 West Ave., 4 rooms	50.00
2311 Pearl St., 5 rooms	50.00
500 West 13th St., 4 rooms	45.00
314 Lockhart Dr., 5 rooms	45.00
3706 King St., 5 rooms	40.00
1300 San Antonio St., 4 rooms	32.50
515 W. 6th St., 3 rooms	30.00
512 Avondale, 4 rooms	45.00
1316 San Antonio, 4 rooms	42.50
205 W. 10th St., 5 rooms	42.50
2513 E. 2 St., 5 rooms	35.00
006 Ruiz St., 5 rooms	35.00
402 Deep Eddy Ave., 4 rooms	32.50
109 West 10th St., 4 rooms	25.00
3410 Pratt Ave., 4 rooms	20.00
405 Hearn St., 2 rooms	15.00
R. 1303 Willow St., 2 rooms	15.00
Apartments—Unfurnished	
1719 Enfield Rd., 5 rooms, new ..	65.00
608 Texas Ave., 6 rooms	65.00
500 West 6th, 6 rooms	50.00
1307 West Ave., 6 rooms (Sept. 1st)	40.00
012 Trinity St., 5 rooms	40.00
1608 Palma Plaza, 5 rooms	40.00
2845 San Gabriel St., 4 rooms	35.00
308 Bowle St., 5 rooms	32.50
605 W. 10 St., 4 rooms	27.50
403 W. 7 St., 4 rooms	22.50
HARRISON-WILSON CO.	

These newspaper clippings from 1929 (left) and ca. 1930s (right) show a building permit for 3706 King Street and advertisements for furnished rooms at the same address.

MERCHANDISE

57—BUILDING MATERIALS

FOR SALE — V.F.W. Building 3706 King Street, to be moved and grounds cleared of all materials. Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m. August 12, 1970. For information or appointment to inspect call 477-9777. Mail bids to V.F.W. Post 4787, Box 4771, Austin, Texas 78751.

ALL KINDS of used building materials and fixtures. Reasonable prices. 243-1100.

Ad for auction of building at 3706 King St. Austin-American Statesman, August 1970.

Building Permits

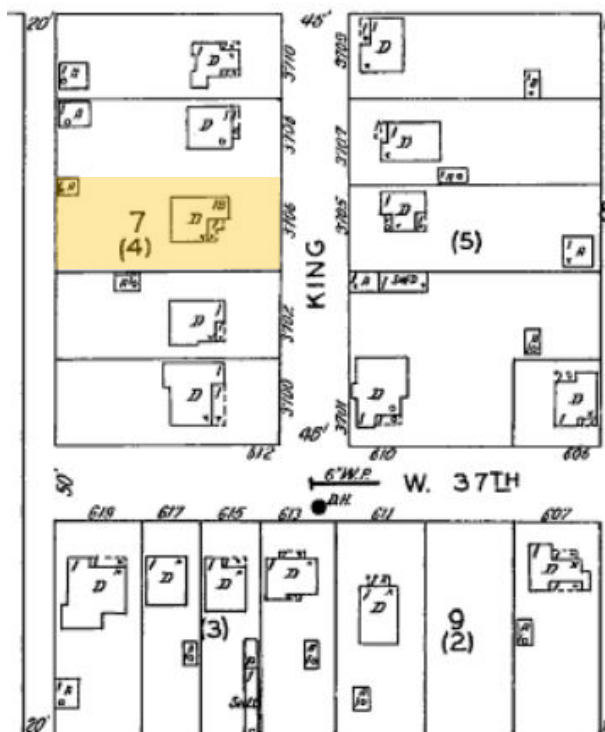
OWNER South Union Bapt. Church ADDRESS 3515 Webberville Road
 PLAT 263 LOT 2 BLK
 SUBDIVISION Womack Addn Sec 1
 OCCUPANCY Church
 BLD PERMIT # 123631 DATE 6-22-71 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$30,000.00
 CONTRACTOR owner NO. OF FIXTURES see plans
 WATER TAP REC # E66771 SEWER TAP REC # 59764
 One story wood frm comm bldg. to move on lot and
 repair 3376 sq. f.t

Building permit to move commercial building at a cost of \$30,000, issued to Southern Union Baptist Church, 6-22-1971.

Sign Church
 OWNER Southern Union Baptist ADDRESS 3515 Webberville Rd.
 PLAT 263 LOT 2 BLK
 SUBDIVISION Womack Addn Sec 1
 OCCUPANCY Sign- Friendship Baptist Church
 BLDG. PERMIT # 200751 DATE 8/12/80 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$150.00
 CONTRACTOR Pepsi Cola NO. OF FIXTURES
 WATER TAP REC# SEWER TAP REC#

Sign permit for Friendship Baptist Church, issued to Southern Union Baptist Church, 8/12/1980.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map



1935 Sanborn map showing the building at 3706 King Street. It is not clear how the existing building aligns with the footprint shown.