

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
JANUARY 29, 2018
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2017-0766
1215 BICKLER ROAD

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1928 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame cottage with a partial-width, front-gabled independent porch on brick piers; single and double 1:1 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built around 1928, making it one of the first houses on Bickler Road. Fred Malone, the Travis County Clerk, and developer in South Austin, is listed on the 1928 sewer service permit for this address. Malone built a number of houses in South Austin, primarily east of Congress Avenue, in the 1920s and 1930s. His son, Ross Malone, who became the deputy county clerk upon his father's death, is listed as the owner and occupant of this house for a brief period in the mid-1930s.

The first owners and occupants were J. Herman and Carolyn Meyers, who lived here from around 1928 until around 1930. J. Herman Meyers was a transit manager at American National Bank. Carolyn Meyers died tragically in 1949; J. Herman Meyers later moved to Midland, Texas, where he was engaged in the real estate development business.

The house had a variety of occupants, either owners or renters, including a Post Office clerk, a traveling wholesale fruit and produce salesman, and the service manager for a downtown tire store, until around 1940, when it was rented by Nell Ferrell, a widow who had previously lived in the Quanah area west of Wichita Falls. Her son, who worked at the Post Office, lived here in this house with her; they moved to a house on Oxford Avenue in the early 1950s.

Following another series of renters in the 1950s and early 1960s, the house was purchased by Cecil and Lee Etta Rhoades, who lived here until around 1983. The Rhoades were from Llano, Texas; Cecil Rhoades was a rate clerk for the Southern Pacific Railroad.

STAFF COMMENTS

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

Staff has evaluated this house under the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code, and has determined that while the house does not meet the criteria for individual designation, it would be contributing to a potential historic district along Bickler Road, Pecan Grove Road, and the east end of Academy Drive, a neighborhood characterized by 1920s and 1930s bungalows and cottages such as this.

- a. **Architecture.** The house is a frame late 1920s house with reference to the bungalow style in its prominent front porch. While it does appear that the current windows are replacements, they are in keeping with the historic character, if not materials, of the house.
- b. **Historical association.** The house had been a rental property for most of its existence, with no one tenant with 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, the neighborhood, 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, and consider a postponement to evaluate the potential for a historic district in this neighborhood, but staff cannot recommend individual designation for this house at this time. If the Commission votes to release the permit, then staff recommends the completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package prior to release of the permit.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 167'

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2017-0766
1215 BICKLER ROAD

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.

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1215 Bickler Road
ca. 1928



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1215 Bickler Road

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
June, 2010

1992	Herbert B. Freitag, renter Assistant Travis County Auditor
1985-86	Herbert B. Freitag, renter Auditor, Travis County
1981	Cecil J. and LeEtta Rhoades, owners Retired
1977	Cecil J. and LeEtta Rhoades, owners Rate clerk, Southern Pacific Company
1972	Cecil J. and Luetta Rhoades, owners Rate clerk, Southern Pacific Company
1969	Cecil J. and Luetta Rhoades, owners Rate clerk, Southern Pacific Company
1965	Vacant
1961	William D. and M. Joyce Wainwright, renters Dispatcher, Charles Maund Oldsmobile-Cadillac, 1214 W. 6 th Street.
1957	Raymond and Zelda L. Donley, renters Proprietor, Club 81 (not listed in the main directory)
1953	No return NOTE: Nelle Ferrell is listed at 1401 Oxford Avenue; she had no occupation listed. With her lived Patrick Ferrell, a clerk at the Post Office.
1949	Nell Ferrell, renter Not listed in the directory
1947	Mrs. Nell Ferrell, renter Widow, Harold Ferrell No occupation listed Also listed is Patrick Ferrell, a clerk at the Post Office.
1944-45	Nell Ferrell, renter Widow, Hal Ferrell No occupation listed
1941	Nell Ferrell, renter Widow, Hal Ferrell No occupation listed Also listed is Patrick H. Ferrell, a laborer at the Post Office.

- 1939 Hobson H. and Viola Burch, renters
Service manager, Austin Goodyear Company, 1st and Congress Avenue.
- 1937 Hobson H. and Viola Burch, renters
Service manager, Austin Goodyear, 1st and Congress Avenue.
- 1935 Ross and Betty Malone, owners
Deputy Travis County Clerk
- 1932-33 John P. and Alma Cavileer, renters
Traveling salesman, B.W. Randolph, wholesale fruit and produce, 401 Colorado Street.
- 1930-31 Marvin T. and Mona Evans, renters
Clerk, Post Office
NOTE: Jacob H., Jr. and Carolyn Meyers are listed at 1109 W. 10th Street; he was the manager of the transit department at American National Bank.
NOTE: John Cavileer is listed as a traveling salesman; he lived in an un-numbered house on Woodlawn Boulevard in Enfield. There is no listing for Alma Cavileer.
- 1929 J. Herman and Carolyn Meyers, owners
Transit manager, American National Bank, 601-05 Congress Avenue.
- 1927 No houses are listed on Bickler Road.
NOTE: J. Herman Meyers is listed as J. Herman Meyer, a clerk at American National Bank; he lived at 204 E. 10th Street. Carolyn Meyers is not listed with him.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

J. Herman and Carolyn Meyers (ca. 1928 – ca. 1930)

The 1930 U.S. Census shows J. Herman and Carolyn Meyers living with her mother, Ida M. Dear, at 1109 W. 10th Street in Austin. J. Herman Meyers was 22, had been born in Texas, and was a transit manager for a bank. Carolyn Meyers was 21, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a son, Carol H., 6 months.

Carolyn Meyers died in 1949 from shock after a hysterectomy. She was 39 years old and was living at her mother's house at 1209 W. 10th Street. She was a married housewife. Jacob Herman Meyers, Jr. died in Midland, Texas in 1970, where he had been living for 18 years. He was born in 1907 in Waller, Texas, and was a real estate financier and developer. He was buried in Austin.

MRS. J. H. MEYERS JR.

Funeral services for Mrs. J. H. Meyers Jr., 39, will be held at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home Sunday at 3 p.m. The Rev. John Barclay will officiate and burial will be in the Memorial Park. Honorary pallbearers will be the officers and staff of the American National Bank. Active pallbearers will be Louis Hancock, Oscar O'Bar, Don E. Rogers, Ben M. Brigham, N. S. Johns, Ted Smith Jr., Willard Houser and Wallace Shropshire.

Obituary of Carolyn Meyers
Austin American-Statesman, March 27, 1949

Marvin T. and Mona Evans (ca. 1930 – ca. 1932)

The 1930 U.S. Census report shows Marvin and Mona Evans as the renters of this house. They were both 26 years old, and had been born in Texas. Marvin Evans' parents were both born in Alabama. Mona Evans' father had been born in Alabama; her mother was born in Texas. Marvin Evans worked as a clerk for the post office. Mona Evans had no occupation listed. They had no children listed with them.

By 1940, according to the census report of that year, Marvin T. and Mona Evans were living in a house they owned at 1202 Shelley Avenue; their house was worth \$5,000. Marvin T. Evans was a Texas-born clerk at the Post Office; Mona Evans was born in Texas and had no occupation listed. They had a son, Scott D., 3, who had been born in Texas.

His 1979 death certificate shows that Marvin Tillett Evans was born in 1903 in Mena, Arkansas. He was a supervisor for the U.S Postal Service, and was living at 1202 Shelley Avenue at the time of his death. Mona Evans died in 1984. She was born in Bandera, Texas in 1904.

John P. and Alma Cavileer (ca. 1932 – ca. 1934)

John P. and Alma Cavileer appear in the 1940 U.S. Census as the owners of the house at 1816 W. 36th Street in Austin; their house was worth \$4,500. John P. Cavileer was 35, had been born in Texas, and was a salesman for a wholesale fruit and produce company. Alma Cavileer was 31, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed.. They had 3 children: John P., Jr., 7; Jacquelynn, 6; and Sharon Taylor, 1. All of the children had been born in Texas.

His 1963 death certificate shows that John P. Cavileer was living at 1910 W. 40th Street at the time of his death, which was attributed to a heart attack while working at his place of business, the Austin Washateria, 1023 W. 34th Street. He was born in Austin in 1904.

Alma Cavileer died in 1997 in Austin.

Autopsy Due In Death Here

A 58-year-old washateria operator, John P. Cavileer Sr., died suddenly Tuesday after becoming ill at his place of business.

Cavileer succumbed in the Austin Washateria, which he operated at 1023 West 34th Street. His home was at 1910 West 40th Street.

An autopsy was ordered by Justice of the Peace Curtis Lacy to determine the exact cause of death.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Alma Ann Cavileer; two daughters, Mrs. Sharon Carter of Texarkana, Ark., and Mrs. Jacquelyn Ann Lawrence of Alexandria, Va.; one son, John P. Cavileer Jr. of Austin and five grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are pending at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home.

News story on the death of John P. Cavileer
Austin American, March 27, 1963

JOHN P. CAVILEER SR.

Funeral services for John P. Cavileer, Sr., 58, of 1910 West 40th Street, will be held at Weed-Corley Funeral Home Friday at 10 a.m. Dr. Madison V. Scott will officiate with burial in Austin Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be H. W. Zuch, W. B. Lum, W. C. Treadwell Jr., Thomas Livingston, Bert C. Montgomery, A. M. Mason, Noel Burton and Jack Klitgaard.

Funeral notice for John P. Cavileer
Austin American, March 29, 1963

Ross and Betty Malone (ca. 1934 – ca. 1936)

Ross Malone appears in the 1930 U.S., Census as the 19-year old son of Fred C. and Katherine Malone, who owned their house worth \$8,000 at 1600 Nickerson Street. Fred C. Malone was the builder of this house, as shown on the 1928 sewer service card below. Ross Malone was born in Texas and had no occupation listed in the census report. His father, Fred C. Malone,

45, had been born in Texas to Georgia-born parents, and was the county clerk for Travis County. His mother, Katherine Malone, 45, had been born in Texas to Scottish-born parents, and had no occupation listed. Ross was the only child listed in the census report.

Ross Malone became the deputy Travis County Clerk after the death of his father, Travis County Clerk Fred C. Malone, in 1933. Ross' mother, Katherine Malone died in 1932 after a lingering illness.

Newspaper articles of the 1930s reveal that Ross Malone was a polo player, and captain of the Freebooters, an Austin polo team.

Ross Malone died in Bossier Parish, Louisiana in 1974.

Hobson and Viola Burch (ca. 1936 – ca. 1940)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Hobson and Viola Burch as the owners of the house at 1611 Alta Vista Avenue; that house was worth \$4,500. Hobson Burch was 41, had been born in Texas, and was the assistant manager of a retail auto tire dealer. Viola Burch was 40, had been born in Texas, and was a stenographer for a furniture manufacturing company. They had a daughter, Phoebe Carle, 8, who had been born in Texas. The Burches also had a servant, Annie Vrana, 27, who had been born in Texas and is listed as a cook in a private home. Annie Vrana lived in Granger, Texas in 1935.

H.H. and Viola Burch appear in the 1930 U.S. Census as the renters of an apartment at 1407 S. Congress Avenue in Austin. H.H. Burch was 30, had been born in Texas, and was a salesman in a tire store. Viola Burch was 28, had been born in Texas, and was a stenographer in a furniture factory. They had no children listed with them.

His 1918 World War I draft registration card shows that Hobson Hughie Burch was born in 1898; he was a farmer, who had a medium height and build, brown eyes, and blond hair.

Hobson Hughie Burch was living at 1611 Alta Vista Avenue at the time of his death in 1968. He was born in 1898 in Texas, and was the owner of a service station.

HOBSON H. BURCH

Hobson H. Burch, 68, of 1611 Alta Vista died in a local hospital Monday. He had been a lifelong resident of Austin and Travis County and at the time of his death was operator of the Conoco Service Station at 1228 South Congress. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Viola Burch of Austin; a daughter, Mrs. Ben Proctor of Fort Worth; three sisters, Mrs. John W. Miller and Mrs. Clara Nietsche, both of Buda, and

Miss Lola Burch of Austin; a brother, Clyde Burch of Austin, and a grandchild.

Funeral services are pending completion at Wilke-Cray Funeral Home.

H. C. HARRIS

Obituary of Hobson H. Burch
Austin Statesman, April 15, 1968

HOBSON, HUGHIE BURCH

~~Funeral services for Hobson Hughie Burch, 69, of 1611 Alta Vista, will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. from the Chapel of the Wilke Clay Funeral Home, Rev. Walter A. Pulliam, pastor of the Creedmoor Community Church, officiating. Burial in Austin Memorial Park.~~

~~Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Viola Burch of Austin; a daughter, Mrs. Ben Proctor of Ft. Worth; three sisters, Mrs. John W. Miller, and Mrs. Clara Nietzsche, both of Buda, and Miss Lola Burch of Austin; a brother, Clyde Burch of Austin and one grandchild.~~

~~Pallbearers will be Bill Atkins, Landis Smith, Percy Maynard, U. S. McCutcheon, M. M. Huey and L. O. Brawner.~~

Funeral notice for Hobson H. Burch
Austin American, April 16, 1968

BURCH, Viola Jernigan, 94, of Austin died Wednesday. Services 2 p.m. today, Austin Memorial Park. (Thompson's Har-Eveson & Cole, Fort Worth)

Death notice for Viola Burch
Austin American-Statesman, February 19, 1994

Nell Ferrell (ca. 1940 – ca. 1952)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Nellie Ferrell and her two sons renting this house. Nellie Ferrell was a 62-year old widow, who had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. P.H. Ferrell was 36, had been born in Texas, and was a retail oil salesman. Hal Ferrell was 34, had been born in Texas, and was a book-keeper at the State Comptroller's Office.

Nellie Ferrell appears in the 1930 U.S. Census for Quanah, Texas, where she owned a house. She was a 50-year old widow, who had been born in Texas to a Georgia-born father and a Mississippi-born mother. She had no occupation listed. With her lived 3 of her children: Patrick, 24, an assistant engineer at the light plant; Lady J., 20, a book-keeper at an insurance company; and Bruce, 18, who worked in the office at the water company. All of the children had been born in Texas, and the census report reveals that their father had been born in Mississippi.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Nell Ferrell as a widow, living in Quanah, Texas with her children. Nell had no occupation listed, but her two older sons, were employed: 17-year old Hubbard was a telegraph operator, and 14-year old Pat was a farm laborer. Hal and Nell Ferrell appear in the 1910 U.S. Census for King County, Texas. Hal Ferrell was a 39-year old native of Mississippi who worked as a book-keeper at a general store. Nell Ferrell was 31, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 4 children: Hubbard, 7; Pat, 5; Harry D., 3; and Mary J., 1. All of the children had been born in Texas.

Nell Ferrell died in 1960. Her death certificate shows that she was living at the Shady Acres Rest Home, but had a last permanent address of 1306 Oxford Avenue. She had lived in Austin for 30 years. She was a housewife who had been born in 1878 in Texas.

MRS. NELL FERRELL
 Mrs. Nell Ferrell, 81, of 1306 Oxford Street, died in a local hospital Tuesday morning. She was a member of Eastern Star, Capital City Chapter, No. 803, and a member of the First Methodist Church and had lived in Austin 30 years.
 Survivors include four sons, Patrick Ferrell of Austin, Hubbard O. Ferrell of McCamey, Hal D. Ferrell of Cleburne and Bruce Ferrell of Lubbock; one daughter, Mrs. George E. Bredt of Rockdale and one brother, Ira O'Dell of Denton.
 Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Hyatt Manor Funeral Home with Dr. Marvin Vance and Rev. Leonard Rea officiating. Burial will be in Capital Memorial Gardens. Pallbearers will be John Steadman, Harry Nolen, Cecil Bird, J. F. Beard, Carl Bredt and Curtis Adrian.

Obituary of Nell Ferrell
 Austin American, December 7, 1960

Mrs. Ferrell Rites Are Held

Funeral services for Mrs. Nell Ferrell of 1306 Oxford Street were held Wednesday at Hytlin-Manor Funeral Home with Dr. Marvin Vance and Rev. J. Leonard Rea officiating. Burial was in Capital Memorial Gardens. Pallbearers were John Steadman, Harry Nolen, Cecil Bird, J. F. Beard, Carl Bredt and Curtis Adarian.

Funeral story for Nell Ferrell
Austin American, December 8, 1960

Cecil and Lee Etta Rhoades (ca. 1967 – ca. 1983)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Cecil and Lee Etta Rhoades as the owners of a house in Llano, Texas. Cecil Rhoades was 24, had been born in Texas, and was a truck driver. Lee Etta Rhoades was 22, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 children: Delawain, 2; and Cecil J., 4 months. Both boys had been born in Texas.

RHOADES, Lee Etta, 79, of Round Rock died Wednesday. Services 10 a.m. today, Post Mountain Cemetery, Burnet. Arrangements by Cook-Walden, Lamar location.

Death notice for Lee Etta Rhoades
Austin American-Statesman, July 12, 1997

RHOADES, Cecil James, 90, re-tired railroad clerk, of Burnet died Tuesday. Services 10 a.m. today, Post Mountain Cemetery, Burnet. Arrangements by Putnam, Kingsland.

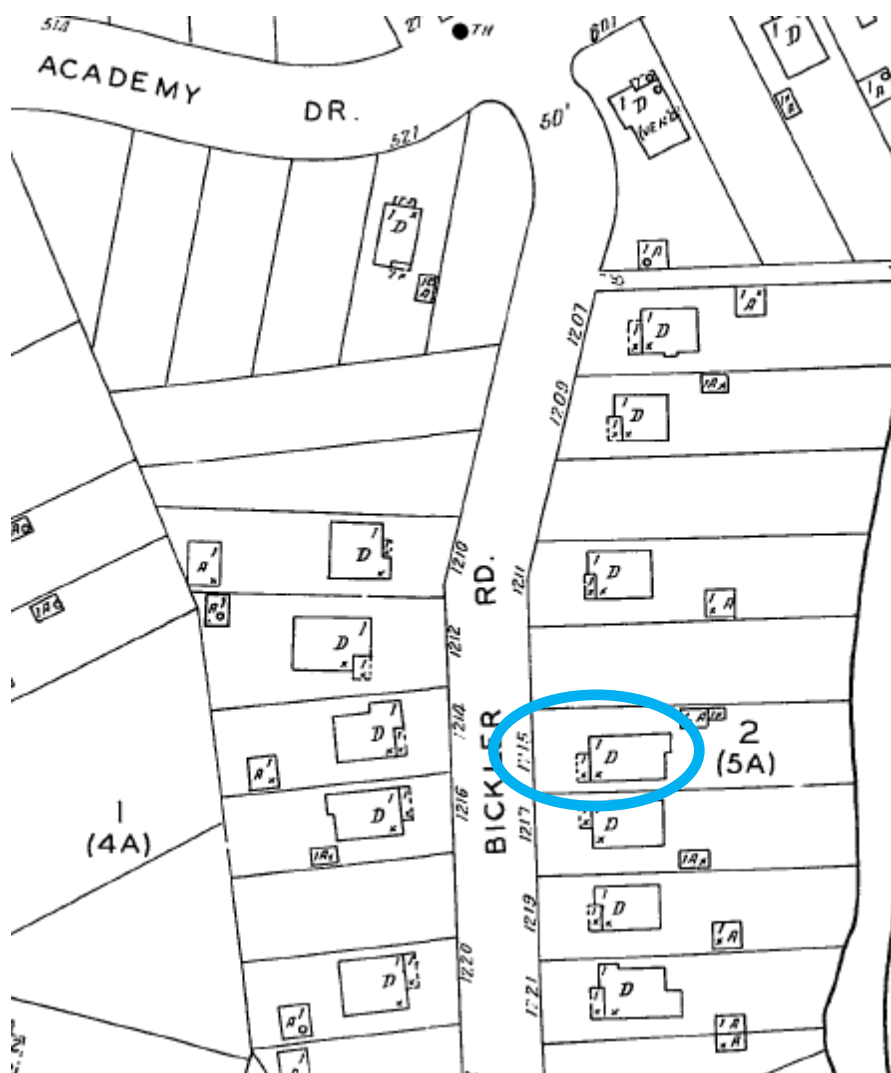
Death notice for Cecil Rhoades
Austin American-Statesman, April 13, 2006

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE PERMIT		No. 8083
Austin, Texas		
Received of	<u>FRED MALONE + DURHAM</u>	Date <u>10-24-28</u>
Address	<u>1215 BICKLER RD.</u>	
Amount	\$ _____	
Builder or Owner	<u>FRED MALONE</u>	Plumber _____
Lot <u>31</u>	Block _____	Subdivision _____ Plat No. <u>129</u>
Date of Connection	<u>11-1-28</u>	
By City	_____	
By Plumber	_____	
Checked By	_____	
Size Main	<u>8"</u>	Depth <u>5'</u>
Main Assign.	<u>IN FRONT</u>	
Stub Depth	Prop. Line <u>3'</u>	
Stub Location	_____	
Book No.	<u>B-443</u>	
Paving Cut	No. _____	

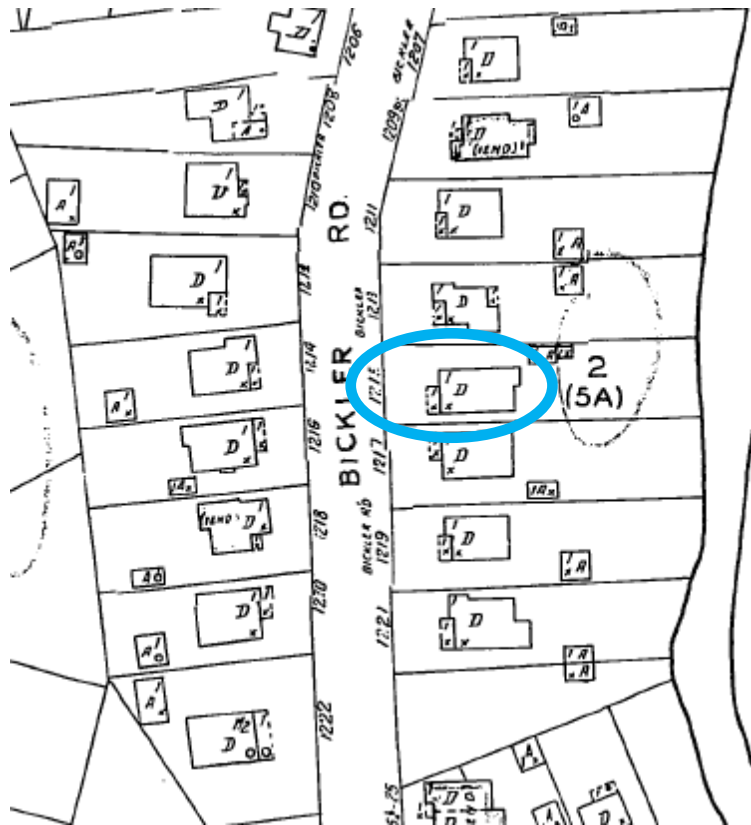
No. Fittings	Size	Price
18	4" TILE	
	Pipe	
	Wyes	
1	Bends 4" 1/8	
	Reducers	
	Plugs	
	Sand	
	Gravel	
	Remix	
	Stoppers	
	Castings	
	Other	
	1/8 SACK CEMENT	
	Labor: 8 HRS 1 MAN	

Sewer service permit to Fred Malone for this house (1928)

City records reflect a permit to replace 14 windows in the house in 2009.



The house appears on the 1935 Sanborn map.



The 1962 Sanborn map shows the same configuration as the 1935 map above.