

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 17, 2018  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2018-0621  
2002 ALAMO STREET**

**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1944 house.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled board-and-batten frame cottage with a central, partial-width, front-gabled, independent porch on ornamental metal supports; louvered front windows and stone wainscoting on the front the house. The house also has a one-story frame addition to the right side of the original structure. There do not seem to be any permits for the construction of the addition.

**RESEARCH**

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The house appears to have been built around 1944 as a rental property, although there are no building permits on record for its construction. The first tenants of the house were Benjamin H. and Larue Brown, who lived here until around 1948. Ben H. Brown was living in rural Wilbarger County, Texas in 1930, where he was a farm laborer. He is listed as an engineer in the city directories for Austin during the time he lived in this house.

After Ben and Larue Brown moved out, the house was rented to another African-American couple, Samuel W. and Lillie M. Pleasant, who lived here until around 1951. Samuel Pleasant was a car washer for P.K. Williams, the Nash dealer in town. James and LaVivian Riley moved into the house around 1951, and lived here until around 1958. James Riley was a janitor at the State Department of Public Welfare. Since the tenancy of the Rileys, the house has seen various short-term tenants, all with blue collar occupations, if any occupation was noted in the city directories.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house was recommended as contributing to a potential local or NRHP district in the Blackland Neighborhood by the East Austin Historic Resources Survey (2016), although the survey notes that the exterior wall materials, windows, and doors have all been replaced.



Staff has evaluated this house for designation as a historic landmark and has determined that the house does not meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code:

- a. **Architecture.** The house is a frame minimal-traditional board-and-batten cottage with a low level of integrity due to many replacement materials. Even without the replacement materials, the house is a very common type that does not warrant individual designation under the criterion for architecture.
- b. **Historical association.** The house was a rental property for most of its existence, with a relatively high turnover of African-American blue collar tenants. 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, 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**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then relocation over demolition, but release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned site plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center. The house does not meet the criteria for individual designation as a historic landmark.

## LOCATION MAP



1" = 162'



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

### NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2018-0621  
LOCATION: 2002 Alamo Street

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.





2002 Alamo Street  
ca. 1944



## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 2002 Alamo Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
December, 2018

1992	Raymond B. Hill, renter No occupation listed
1985-86	Raymond B. Hill, renter No occupation listed
1981	D.N. Johnson, renter No occupation listed NOTE: D.N. Johnson was a new resident at this address. NOTE: Raymond and V. Ella Hill are listed at 1810 Sanchez Street; he was a custodian at Hyde Park Baptist Church.
1977	Vacant
1973	Fred Powell, renter No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Fred Powell was a new resident at this address.
1968	Vacant
1965	Ruth Manning, renter Widow, Walter Manning Retired
1961	Thurston L. and Faye L. Hubert, renters Porter, State Highway Department
1959	Isaac and Moselle Parks, renters No occupation listed NOTE: James and L. Vivian Riley are listed at 2004 Coletto Street; he was a janitor for the State Department of Public Welfare.
1955	James and LaVivian Riley owners Porter, Cleveland Clinic (Glenis W. Cleveland, proprietor), 1209 Parkway.
1952	James and Vivian Riley, owners Janitor, State Department of Public Welfare
1949	Samuel W. and Lillie M. Pleasant, renters Washman, P.K. Williams Nash, expert auto repairing, accessories and parts, "Come in to see our new Nash," 200-10 Congress Avenue. NOTE: Benjamin H. and Larue Brown are not listed in the directory. NOTE: James and Vivian Riley are listed at 2004 Coletto Street; he was a student.

- 1947 Benjamin H. and Larue Brown, renters  
Engineer
- 1944-45 Benjamin H. and Larue Brown, renters  
Engineer
- 1942 The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Benjamin H. and LaRue Brown are not listed in the directory. They do appear in the 1941 directory at 1407 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street; he was a porter for Gugenheim-Goldsmith Company, wholesale produce, 410 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

##### **Benjamin H. and LaRue Brown (ca. 1944 – ca. 1948)**

The 1930 U.S. Census shows that Benjamin H. Brown was living in rural Wilbarger County, Texas a rented house with a room-mate, Oscar Gibson. Benjamin H. Brown was 21, had been born in Texas, and was a farm laborer. His room-mate, Oscar Gibson, was 26, had been born in Texas, and was also a farm laborer.

His 1977 death certificate shows that Benjamin H. Brown was living at 6610 Hergotz Lane at the time of his death. He was born in 1909 in Travis County and was a custodian for the State Health Department. Mrs. Larue Brown was his next of kin. He was buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Austin.

**BROWN, Ben H., 67, 6610 Hergotz Lane, died Wednesday. Services 4 p.m. Saturday at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Survivors: wife, LaRue Brown of Austin; sister, Ella B. Davis of Austin; brothers, Vallie Brown, J.H. Brown, George Brown, all of Austin. (King-Tears)**

Obituary of Ben H. Brown  
Austin American-Statesman, August 27, 1977

**BROWN, LaRue, 85, of Austin died Saturday. Services 11 a.m. Thursday, King Tears Mortuary. Burial Comanche Cemetery, Garfield.**

Death notice for LaRue Brown  
Austin American-Statesman, December 22, 1993

## Austin, Texas

Nº 3856

# INDEXED

Received of MRS GUY HESTER

Date 8-1-45

Address. 2002 Alamo

Amount: TWENTY & NO/100

Plumber HARDIE

### Size of Tap

Date of Connection 8-6-47

Size of Tap Made.....*3/4"*

Size Service Made: 34"

Size Main Tapped 2" C.I.

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 7.5

From N 0 Prop. Line to Curb Cock 29'

Location of Meter CORB

Type of Box Lock

Depth of Main in St. 30'

Depth of Service Line 24'

### From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 13

Checked by Engr. Dept. 588 9-13-47

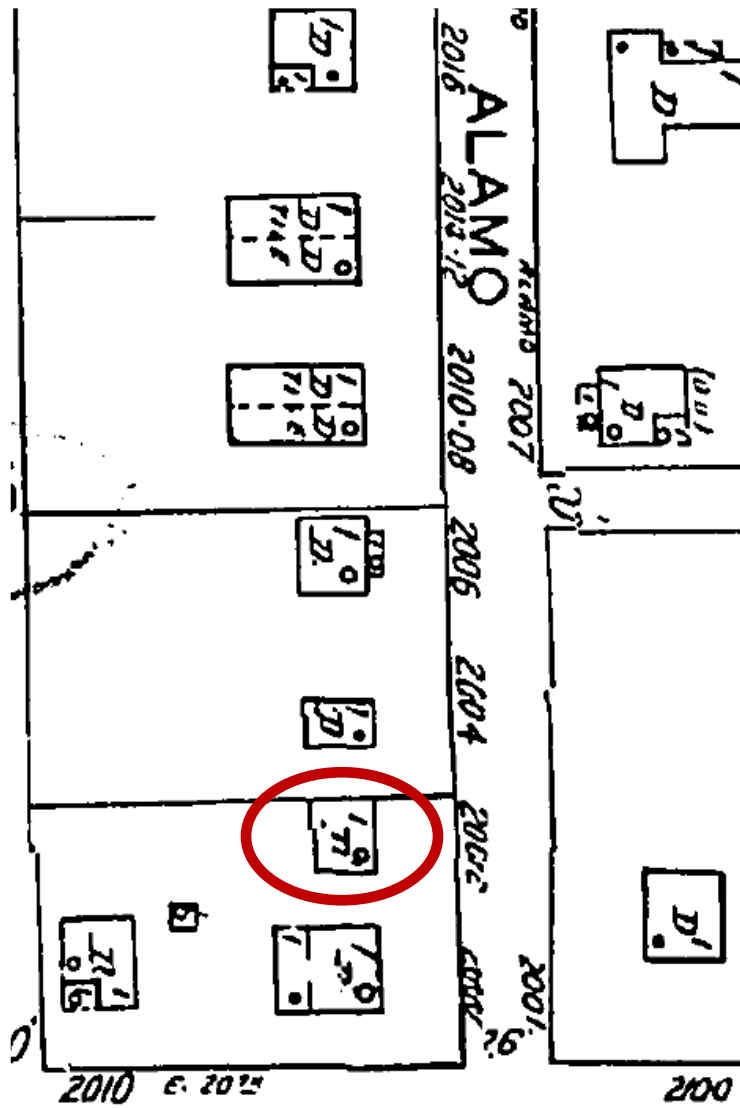
# INDEXED

Water service permit for this address (1947)



The site of the current house is shown as vacant on the 1935 Sanborn map.





The house appears on the 1962 Sanborn map.