

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
JUNE 24, 2019
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2019-0273 - A
1204 WEST AVENUE

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1904 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, pyramidal-roofed frame house with a full-width inset porch on plain, square wood posts; single 1:1 fenestration; transom over the front door.

RESEARCH

The house was built ca. 1904; the first occupants were Edward A. and Frances C. Bolmes, who lived here until around 1906. The Bolmes moved to Austin from Houston; he was the chief pension clerk for the State Comptroller. General contractor John T. Brydson lived here for about a year after the Bolmes moved away the it appears that the house was converted to a duplex. Tenants included a widow, an etymologist for the State Department of Agriculture, a teacher at Austin High School, and a book-keeper. Around 1921, the house was purchased by Edwin W. Anderson, the proprietor of an automobile tire shop on E. 6th Street, and his wife, Mary. Edwin W. Anderson died in 1930; Mary Anderson continued to live here until her death in 1936.

Florence Crofoot, recently widowed, purchased the house around 1944 and lived here until her death in 1961. She was a school teacher. Ms. Crofoot continued renting out an apartment in this house; after her death, in the late 1960s, the house was converted to a tri-plex.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house was listed as a Priority 2 for research in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984).

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 represents a once-common architectural style for middle class housing in Austin, but does not have any architectural distinction within its type.
 - b. **Historical association.** The house was a rental property for almost 20 years before being purchased by the owner of a tire company. The longest-term resident of the house was a widowed school teacher. 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.
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STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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 sketch 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" = 200'



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2019-0273

1204 - 1206 WEST AVENUE

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.



1204 West Avenue
ca. 1904



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
1204 West Avenue

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
March, 2008

1981	No return
1975	<p>A: Dorothy Combs, renter No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Dorothy Combs was a new resident at this address.</p> <p>B: Susan McSwain, renter No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Susan McSwain was a new resident at this address.</p> <p>C: Vacant</p>
1969	<p>A: Vacant</p> <p>B: Dorothy Combs, renter No occupation listed</p> <p>C: Jimmy Redd, renter No occupation listed</p>
1963	<p>Barbara Hollas, renter Typist, State Department of Health</p>

	Rear: Earl and Bonnie Dodson, renters No occupation listed
1959	Florence Crofoot, owner Widow, Wirt Crofoot No occupation listed
	Grace Throop, renter No occupation listed
	Rear: Patricia Donnelle, renter Office worker, Railroad Commission
1955	Florence Crofoot, owner No occupation listed
	Milbrandt and Sandra Warren, renters U.S. Air Force
1952	Florence Crofoot, owner No occupation listed
	Rear: Richard L. and Virginia Bruce, renters Metal worker
1949	Florence Crofoot, owner No occupation listed
1947	Chester A. and Dortha I. Scott, renters Manager, Austin Shoe Store, 822 Congress Avenue
1944-45	Florence Crofoot, owner Teacher, public schools
1942	C. Dewey and Louise Crowder, renters Proprietor (with Lural C. Dement), Lural Dement Garage, 316-18 E. 5 th Street. Also listed is C. Dewey Crowder, Jr., a student at the University of Texas.
1940	Vacant
1937	Hazel L. Anderson, owner Saleswoman, E.M. Scarbrough & Sons, 522 Congress Avenue
1935	Mary Anderson, owner Widow, Edwin W. Anderson No occupation listed Also listed is Mary L. Anderson; no occupation given.
1932-33	Mrs. Mary Anderson, owner Widow, Edwin W. Anderson No occupation listed
1930-31	Mary Anderson, owner

	Widow, Edwin Anderson No occupation listed
1929	Edwin W. and Mary Anderson, owners Proprietor, E.W. Anderson Tire Company, 324 E. 6 th Street
1927	Edwin W. and Mary Anderson, owners Proprietor, E.W. Anderson Tire Company, 324 E. 6 th Street
1924	Edwin W. and Mary Anderson, owners Proprietor, E.W. Anderson Tire Company, 324 E 6 th Street
1922	Thomas J. and Mary A. Rich, renters President, Sun Accident Insurance Company, 803 Littlefield Building
	Edwin W. and Mary Anderson Proprietor, E.W. Anderson Tire Company, 501 Colorado Street
	Rear: Vacant
1920	Jasper J. and Blanche Coulter, renters Book-keeper, McKean-Eilers Company, wholesale dry goods, 321-27 Congress Avenue
	Rear: Vacant
1918	Jasper J. and Blanche Coulter, owners Book-keeper, McKean-Eilers Company, wholesale dry goods, 321027 Congress Avenue
	Rear: Thomas and Carrie Atkinson (colored), renters No occupation listed
1916	Gaston A. Porter Teacher, Austin High School
1914	Ernest E. Scholl Entomologist, State Department of Agriculture
1912-13	Ernest E. Scholl Etymologist, State Department of Agriculture
	½: Barbara Thrasher Widow, William B. Thrasher No occupation listed NOTE: Barbara Thrasher moved to 1206 West Avenue by 1914.
1910-11	Fred Giles Solicitor, Draughon's Practical Business College
1909-10	John F. Jourdan Railway postal clerk
	Kate Boyce

Widow, William Boyce
 No occupation listed
 Also listed is Gladys Boyce, no occupation given.

1906-07 John T. Brydson
 General contractor and builder

1905 Edward A. Bolmes
 Chief pension clerk, State Comptroller

1903-04 Unknown
 NOTE: Edward A. Bolmes is listed as living at 300 E. 13th Street; he was the chief pension clerk at the State Comptroller's Office.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:L

Edward A. Bolmes (ca. 1904 – ca. 1906)

The 1900 U.S. Census shows Edward A. and Frances C. Bolmes living in Houston, Texas. Edward A. Bolmes was 64, had been born in Missouri, and was a lawyer. Frances C. Bolmes was 55, had been born in Kentucky, and had no occupation listed. They had 4 children: Mary M., 28, who had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed; Edith E., 26, a Missouri-born stenographer; son Baylor Bolmes, 20, a Missouri-born stenographer; and Lucille, 16, who had been born in New York and was a housekeeper.

Edward A. Bolmes appears in the 1910 U.S. Census as the renter of the house at 1304 Rio Grande Street. He was a 72-year old widower who had been born in Missouri, and was a pension commissioner for the State of Texas. With him lived 3 of his daughters: Mary, 32, who had been born in Texas; Lillie, 30, who had been born in Missouri; and Lucile, 20, who had been born in New York. None of the women had an occupation listed. The census report reveals that Edward Bolmes' deceased wife had been born in Kentucky.

Edward Allen Bolmes' 1922 death certificate shows that he was born in St. Louis, Missouri in 1837, and was a retired. He was a widower living in Houston with his daughter Mary at the time of his death.

Fred and Maggie Giles (ca. 1910 – ca. 1912)

The 1910 U.S. Census shows Fred and Maggie Giles as the renters of this house. Fred Giles was 37, had been born in Texas to a Tennessee-born father and a German-born mother, and was the solicitor for a business college. Maggie Giles was 34, had been born in Texas to Tennessee-born parents, and had no occupation listed. They had 3 children: John J., 9; Phillis, 7; and Novella, 3. All of the children had been born in Texas.

Jasper J. and Blanche Coulter (ca. 1917 – ca. 1921)

James J. and Blanche Coulter appear in the 1920 U.S. Census as the renters of this house. James J. Coulter was 45, had been born in Texas to Tennessee-born parents, and was a book-keeper. Blanche Coulter was 40, had been born in Texas to Kentucky-born parents, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 daughters: Dorothy, 13, and Marjorie, 7. Both girls had been born in Texas.

Jasper James Coulter died in 1951 in Austin. His death certificate shows that he was living at 104 E. Annie Street at the time of his death, and that he was a retired accountant. He was born in Leesville, Texas in 1874, and was a widower.

COULTER—Mrs. Blanche Heth Coulter, the wife of J. J. Coulter, died at the family home, 104 East Annie street, at 10:30 a. m. Sunday. Besides her husband, she is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Polk C. Webb, Jr., and one sister, Mrs. O. D. Farquhar, all of Austin. Mrs. Coulter had been a resident of Austin practically all of her life and had been a member of the Central Christian church for more than 50 years. She is also a member of the Daughters of the Confederacy.

Funeral services will be conducted at the Weed-Corley Funeral home at 5 p. m. Monday by the Rev. John Barclay, who will be assisted by the Rev. O. C. Crow. Burial will be in Oakwood cemetery.

Obituary of Blanche Coulter
Austin Statesman, January 17, 1944

J. J. COULTER

Funeral services for J. J. Coulter, 77, were held Saturday at 3 p.m. with Dr. John Barclay officiating, assisted by Rev. Sidney Hawkins. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery.

Palbearers were Thurlow B. Weed, Jack Corley, Judge Ben Powell, Olin D. Farquhar, C. A. Dye and C. M. Burfield.

Story on the funeral of Jasper J. Coulter
Austin American-Statesman, August 26, 1951

Edwin W. and Mary Anderson (ca. 1921 – ca. 1936)

His 1918 World War I draft registration card shows Edwin William Anderson living at Elgin, Texas, where he was a self-employed real estate agent. He was born in 1882 and was married to Mary Anderson. He was tall with a slender build, and had gray eyes and brown hair.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Edwin W. and Mary Anderson as the renters of the house at 1608 East Avenue in Austin. Edwin W. Anderson was 36, had been born in Texas to Swedish-born parents, and was the proprietor of a retail tire store. Mary Anderson was 34, had been born in Texas to Swedish-born parents, and had no occupation listed. They had 4 children: Hazel, 10; Weldon, 7; Mary L., 5; and Jack, 2 months. All the children had been born in Texas.

E.W. Anderson died in 1930 while living in this house. He was a merchant who had been born in Texas in 1882.

E. W. Anderson Succumbs While In Store Sunday

**Children Find Tire Firm
Head Slumped On
Floor of Office**

Heart Failure Blamed

**Justice Tannehill Returns
'Death From Natural
Causes' Verdict**

E. W. Anderson, 47, head of the E. W. Anderson Tire company, Sixth and Trinity, was found dead in his office Sunday at 1 p. m. when his son and daughter, Weldon and Hazel, called to urge him to go to lunch.

Dr. Frank Gregg, who examined the body, said Mr. Anderson had been dead more than an hour. He was found laying face-down on his office floor, indicating that he had raised from his chair and fell forward, Judge Frank R. Tannehill, justice of the peace, who conducted the inquest, said. Death was from natural causes, Judge Tannehill's verdict said. Heart failure was blamed by Dr. Gregg.

Found by Children

Mr. Anderson's children became uneasy when he failed to return home for lunch, and went to his office for him, it was explained. They found the front door of the office locked and started to leave, when Weldon saw his father's body on the floor. Officer A. G. Renk, of the Austin police department, was called and helped to break through a plate glass door. Mr. Anderson was rushed in an ambulance to the emergency hospital, where the body was examined by Dr. Gregg.

In Business 11 Years

Mr. Anderson has been in business here during the past 11 years.

He is survived by his widow and four children, Misses Merle and Hazel Anderson, Weldon and Joe Melton, 1204 West avenue; one brother, Arthur Anderson, cashier of the First State bank of Elgin, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Anderson, East 16th street, Austin.

Members of Mr. Anderson's family said he was apparently in good health when he left home about 1 a. m. Sunday and that he had enjoyed good health during the past several years.

Funeral arrangements are pending the arrival of relatives of Mrs. Anderson. The body is being held at the Cook Funeral home, and will be removed to the family home early Monday.

News story on the death of Edwin W. Anderson
Austin American, January 13, 1930

E. W. ANDERSON

Funeral services for E. W. Anderson, 47, head of the E. W. Anderson Tire company, who died suddenly at 1 p. m. Sunday, will be held from the family home at 1204 West avenue at 1:30 p. m. Tuesday. Church services will be held at 2 p. m. at the Swedish Lutheran church.

The Rev. F. O. Linder, pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church, will officiate at the services. Interment will be in Oakwood cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Eric Anderson, Arthur Hyltin, John Bergstrom, Oscar Carson, S. B. Zowada and G. H. Mason.

Mr. Anderson is survived by his widow, two daughters, Misses Hazel and Mary Lee Anderson, and two sons, Weldon and Joe Milton Anderson; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Anderson, Sr., 104 East 16th street; four sisters, Miss Ida Anderson, Mrs. Annie Seaholm, Mrs. T. Engblom, and Mrs. E. L. Sandahl, Sr., and one brother, A. F. Anderson, Jr., of Elgin.

Mr. Anderson has been in business here for the past 11 years. He was found dead by his son and daughter, Weldon and Hazel, at his office, Sixth and Trinity, when they called for him to take him to lunch.

Funeral notice for Edwin W. Anderson
Austin American, January 14, 1930

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Mary Anderson as the owner of this house, which was worth \$4,500. Mary Anderson was a 44-year old widow who had been born in Texas to Swedish-born parents and had no occupation listed. With her lived 4 children: Hazel, 20; a clerk in a department store Weldon, 17; Mary L., 15; and Joe M., 10. All the children had been born in Texas.

Her 1936 death certificate shows that Mary Anderson was living in this house at the time of her death. She was born in 1885 in Texas, and was a widowed housewife.

Mrs. E. W. Anderson Dies at Residence Here

Mrs. E. W. Anderson, 51, died at her home 1204 West Avenue Saturday at 5 p. m.

She is survived by two daughters, Misses Hazel and Mary Lee Anderson, both of Austin, two sons, Weldon and Joe Milton Anderson, both of Austin, her mother, Mrs. Claus Anderson, Austin, three sisters, Mrs. C. B. Johnson, Decker; Mrs. Eric Lundblad, Georgetown, and Mrs. Leon Stromquist, Austin; seven brothers, Oscar Anderson, A. N. Anderson, Theodore Anderson, all of Manor, Robert Anderson, Edgar Anderson, Norman Anderson, and Charlie Anderson, all of Austin.

The body will be removed from the Meeks-Hylin Funeral home Sunday at 4 p. m. and taken to the Gethsemane Lutheran church where it will lie in state from 4 p. m. until 5 p. m.

The funeral services will be held from the church at 5 p. m. with the Rev. J. E. Chester officiating, and the interment will be made in Oakwood cemetery.

The brothers will act as pallbearers.

Obituary of Mary Anderson
Austin American-Statesman, July 26, 1936

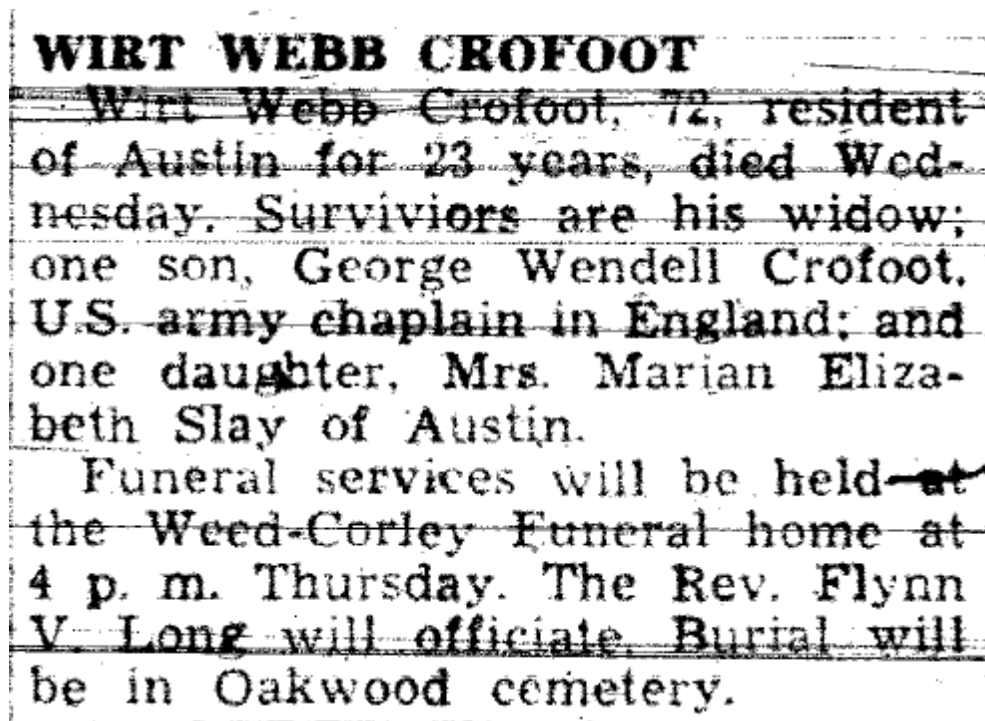
Florence Crofoot (ca. 1944 – ca. 1961)

Florence Crofoot appears in the 1940 U.S. Census as the wife of Wirt W. Crofoot; they owned their home at 1504 Drake Avenue in South Austin. That house was worth \$3,000. Florence A.

Crofoot was 63, had been born in Michigan, and was a public school registrar. Her husband, Wirt Crofoot, 64, had also been born in Michigan, and had no occupation listed.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Wirt W. and Florence A. Crofoot as the renters of a house on Lavaca Street in Austin. Wirt W. Crofoot was 59, had been born in Michigan, and was an agent at the bus station. Florence Crofoot was 53, had been born in Michigan, and was the registrar of the public schools. They had a daughter, Marion E., 23, who had been born in Michigan, and was a public school teacher.

Wirt Crofoot died in 1943; he and Florence were living at 1307 West Avenue at the time of his death. He was born in 1870 in Michigan and was retired.



Obituary of Wirt Crofoot
Austin American, February 4, 1943

Her 1961 death certificate shows that Florence A Crofoot had been living in Harlingen, Texas for the 2 months prior to her death. She was a widow who was born in 1876 in Michigan, and was retired.

MRS. FLORENCE CROFOOT

Mrs. Florence Belle Alvord Crofoot, 85, of 1204 West Avenue, died in Harlingen Friday morning. She was a retired school teacher, a member of the First Southern Presbyterian Church, a member of the Pi Beta Phi Sorority, a member of the local, state and national Retired Teachers Association, and has lived in Austin 40 years. During her 23-year career in the education field she also served as secretary in the administrative office at Austin High School.

Survivors include one son, Rev. G. W. Crofoot of Corpus Christi; one daughter, Mrs. Marion C. Slay of Harlingen; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

The body will lie in state at Hyltin-Manor Funeral Home until noon Sunday at which time it will be taken to the First Southern Presbyterian Church where funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday with Dr. Robert F. Gribble officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery. Pallbearers will be George W. Crofoot Jr., Buford G. Crofoot Jr., Jack Williams of San Marcos; Jack Konecny of College Station; Edsam Ingram, Dr. Carl M. Rosenquist and Woodrow Patterson, of Austin; W. A. Jennings and W. P. Jennings, both of San Antonio.

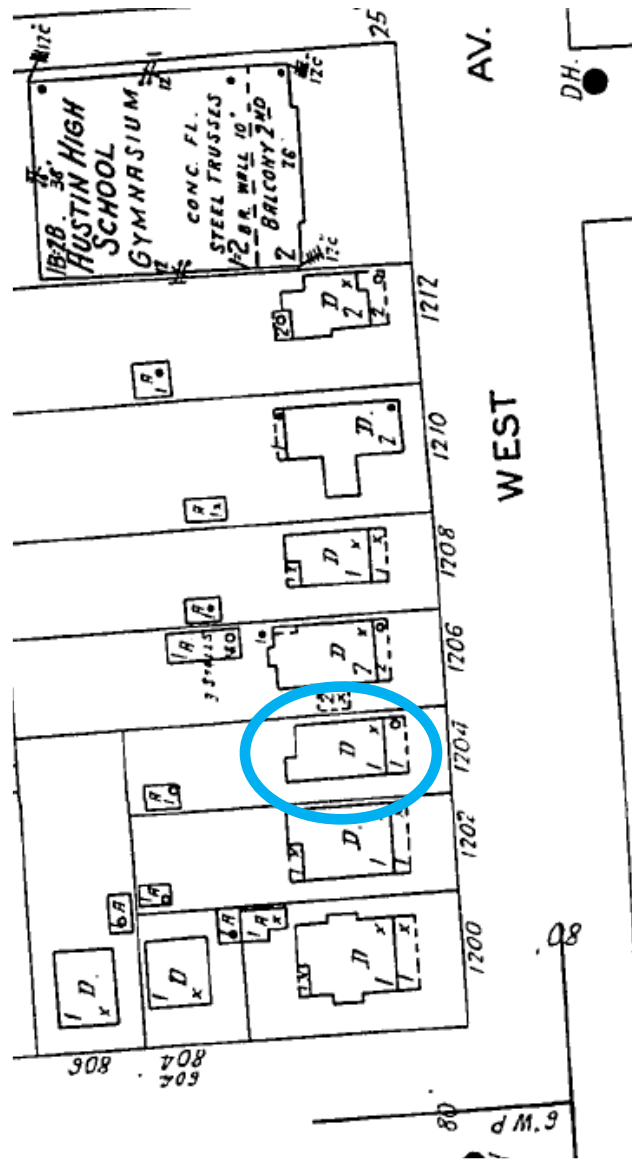
Obituary of Florence Crofoot
Austin American, December 9, 1961

MRS. FLORENCE CROFOOT

Funeral services for Mrs. Florence Belle Alvord Crofoot, 1204 West Avenue, will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. at First Southern Presbyterian Church with Dr. Robert F. Gribble officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery under the direction of Hyltin-Manor Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be George W. Crofoot Jr., Buford G. Slay Jr., Jack Williams, Jack Konecny, W. A. Seenings, W. P. Jennings and Edsam Ingram.

Funeral notice for Florence Crofoot
Austin American-Statesman, December 10, 1961



The house appears on the 1935 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map.

The 1961 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map shows the same configuration as the 1935 map above.