

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
DECEMBER 16, 2019
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2019-0651
1135 WALTON LANE**

PROPOSAL

Demolish two houses built ca. 1920.

ARCHITECTURE

Front house: one-story, rectangular-plan building; front-gabled roof; wood siding; double-hung wood-sash windows; half-width porch with two doors.

Back house: one-story, rectangular-plan building; side-gabled roof; wood siding; 4:4 double-hung wood-sash windows; small entry hood.

RESEARCH

TCAD lists the built date for 1135 Walton Lane as 1946, but the style and materials of the both houses indicate that they were constructed around 1920. A 1940 aerial photograph shows them on the site. It is likely that the houses were built at their current location and not moved, as a few other buildings on the street are of similar or older vintage. A shed on the property is constructed in a similar style with similar materials, and is a building type unlikely to have been moved.

Orus M. and Helen Mooney are the first owners listed in city directories in 1955. The year before, Orus Mooney, an auditor with the State Employment Commission, wrote a letter to the editor complaining that annexation into Austin had increased property taxes. The Mooneys appear to have moved out around 1957, when a newspaper ad lists the sale of a wide array of household effects.

By 1959, Paul and Berniece (or Bernice) L. Norman had purchased the house and moved in. Paul Norman was born in 1908 in Rising Star, Texas, where his father worked as a dentist. He worked as a clerk in 1930 and as an ironworker at the Lower Colorado River Authority in 1940. When he moved to 1135 Walton Lane, Paul was still an ironworker. He was very involved with his union, Iron Works Local No. 482, variously serving as a manager, the secretary, and an instructor of apprentice training. In 1936, he was part of the crew that installed the clock and bells on the new UT tower. Paul Norman died in 1972 in Austin.

Bernice Lee Norman (nee Winke) was born in 1909 in Texas. She married Paul Norman in 1928, and the couple had two children. Bernice Norman lived at 1135 Walton Lane until at least 1992; she died in 1996 in Austin.

STAFF COMMENTS

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The buildings are more than 50 years old.
- 2) The buildings appear to retain a high degree of integrity.

- 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 criteria.
- a. **Architecture.** The houses are designed with Craftsman influences, but do not appear to be architecturally significant.
 - b. **Historical association.** Paul and Bernice Norman lived in the front house for more than forty years. However, there do not appear to be significant historical associations.
 - 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 houses do 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.

The property does not appear to be eligible for designation as a historic landmark.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of the existing buildings, then relocation over demolition; but release the demolition permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of—for both houses—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

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2019-0651

LOCATION: 1135 WALTON LN

1" = 333'

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) façade of front house at 1135 Walton Lane.



West elevation and south façade of back house.



Shed on the property.



Configuration of front and back houses, looking northeast from Walton Lane.

Occupancy History

Completed by Historic Preservation Office staff, November 2019

1952 Walton Lane not listed; Orus Mooney not listed

1955 Orus M. and Helen Mooney, owners
Assistant state auditor, State Employment Commission

1959 Paul and Berniece L. Norman, owners
Business agent, Iron Workers Local No. 482

Bernice B. Norman
Secretary, Iron Workers Local No. 482

1962 Paul and Berniece L. Norman, owners
Laborer, Iron Workers Local Union

1965 Paul and Bernice L. Norman, owners
Laborer, no employer listed

1968 Paul and Bernice L. Norman, owners
Iron worker, no employer listed

1973 Mrs. Bernice Norman, owner (widow of Paul)
No occupation listed

1977 Mrs. Bernice Norman, owner (widow of Paul)
No occupation listed

Rear: Vacant

1981 Mrs. Bernice Norman, owner
Retired

Rear: Vacant

1985 Mrs. Bernice Norman, owner
Retired

Rear: Vacant

1981 Bernice Norman, owner
Retired

Rear: Vacant

Background Research

annexation, my residence, 1135 Walton Lane, received city water service, the householder of that address having piped the water from the city main at his own expense and deeded the water line to the city.

City taxes have increased approximately 140 per cent from the first year . . . Such taxes are about two and one-half times what they were in 1932.

For such taxes the only tangible value received is garbage pick-up twice a week—some weeks. The mail is still delivered on the rural route a quarter of a mile away. A septic tank is still the only available method of sewage disposal. The nearest bus service—one every hour—is over a mile away. Butane must still serve as fuel, although I am told that I may have natural gas service if I will make a meter deposit of nearly \$3.00.

Of course we are without curbs and gutters; the street is paved, having been paved prior to annexation. But, whereas the county once kept the bar-ditch of the street free of weeds by periodic mowings, the property owners now must see to that themselves.

So, my advice to those property owners petitioning for annexation is that they stay in the country and continue to enjoy their freedom from the services of the city—for-free.

ORUS M. MOONEY
Route 1, Box 394

Letter to the editor on annexation from Orus M. Mooney, Austin American, 11/21/1954.

Picket Lines Withdrawn On Stadium Job Here

Picket lines thrown up jointly by the **Iron** Workers Local and the International Union of Operating Engineers as a protest to wages paid non-union frameworkeers on the new McCallum High School stadium were withdrawn Friday.

Work on the project was slowed Thursday when electricians refused to cross the pickets lines around the new football field, where non-union workers were erecting the framework for seats.

Roy Mears of Waco, who is in charge of erecting the framework, said, "I don't have anything against unions, but why should I hire green men when I have my own workers who know exactly how to erect framework. We don't even have to read the blueprints."

Mears said the men to whom the unions object are so proficient in their work that they know every nut and bolt that goes into erecting the framework. He says he takes the crew with him on similar projects all over the state.

Marcus L. Loftis of the Building and Construction Trades Council said the union's protest was not because of employing non-union workers but because of the allegedly substandard wages paid

them.

Electricians were the only un-

ion members who refused to cross the picket lines Thursday, but they were the only ones with work that needed to be done at the field at the present time.

Paul Norman, manager of **Iron** Workers Local 472, said the pickets were not in place Friday morning. He said the picketing may resume Friday afternoon.

"Picket Lines Withdrawn on Stadium Job Here," Austin Statesman, 8/1/1958.

PAUL NORMAN

Paul Norman, 64, of 1135 Walton Lane, died Tuesday. He was an ironworker, a member of Ironworkers Local No. 482 and an instructor of apprentice training for Local 482; he was a member of North Loop Church of Christ and had been a lifelong resident of Austin.

Survivors include his wife, Mr. Bernice Norman of Austin; two daughters, Mrs. Shirley Ralmer of Midland and Mrs. Florene Ann Terry of Glen Allen, Va.; two brothers, Fred Norman of Austin and Luther Norman of Glen Rose; seven grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Funeral is pending at Hyttin-Manor Funeral Home.

Paul Norman obituary, Austin Statesman, 8/16/1972.

BERNICE NORMAN

Bernice Norman, age 86, of Austin died Wednesday, March 13, 1996.

In February 1928, she married Paul Norman who preceded her in death in 1970.

Survivors include her sister, Margaret Johnson of Austin; daughters, Ann Terry of Staunton, Virginia, and Shirley Raimor of Midland, Texas; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews including Mrs. Earl Curry of Kyle, Texas, and Mrs. Rolland McLean of Austin.

Graveside services will be held at 3:30 p.m. Friday in the Memorial Hill Park Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Fairview Church of Christ or Meals on Wheels.

Arrangements by Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home, 3125 N. Lamar, 452-8811.

Bernice Norman obituary, Austin American-Statesman, 3/15/1996.

Building Permits and Maps

at Creek.
- at end 3+56

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE PERMIT
Austin, Texas

Nº 34136 A

Received of Hoyle NORMAN Date 6-2-60

Address 1135 A WALTON LA.

Amount F.F.T. 707.10 \$50.00

Builder or Owner _____ Plumber _____

Lot San Bonaventura Block _____ Subdivision Long Island Plat No. 348

1.11 A - Met 7-22-60

Date of Connection _____

By City 3 - N of SL

By Plumber _____

Checked By F. E. T. M.

Size Main 8" Depth ±10'

Main Assign. 1 1/2' W of EPL

Stub Depth _____ Prop. Line 3

Stub Location to be @ river 1439.50

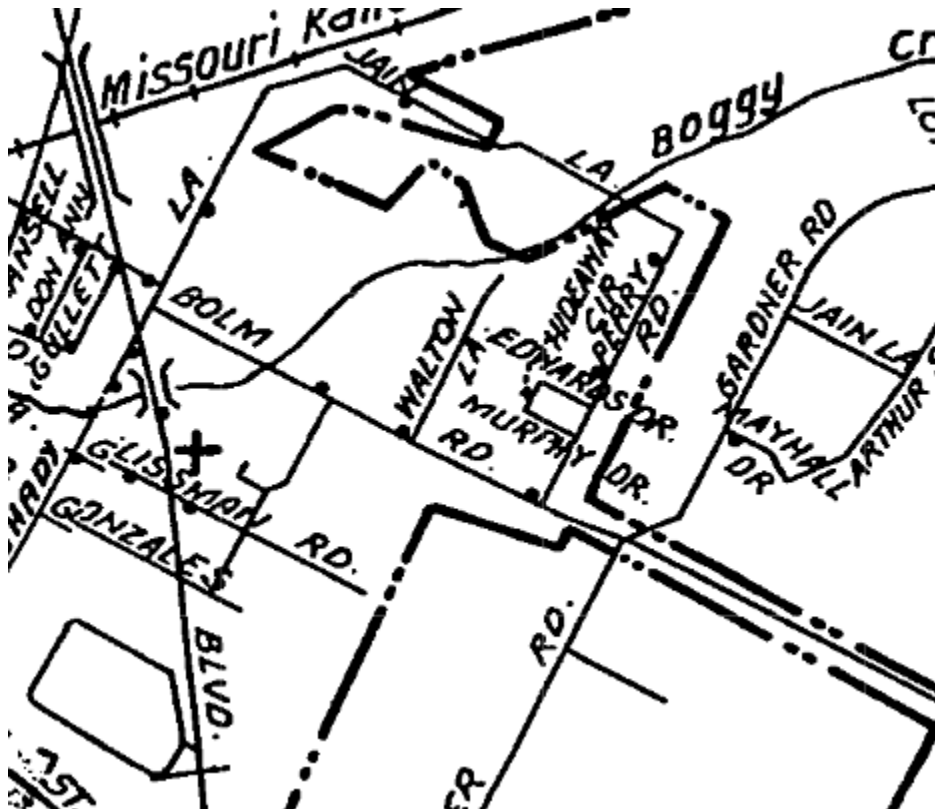
Book No. A-4821

Paving Cut _____ No. _____

Q2 6-30-60 LMD

No. Fittings	Size	Price
18"	Pipe 6"	15.02
	Pipe	98
	Wyes	98
1	Bands 6"	36
2	Reducers 6" to 4"	36
	Plugs	
	Sand	
	Gravel	
	Remix	
	Stoppers	
	Castings	
	Other / cast 6"	98
	1 - 6" dia. 6"	300
	Labor: 16 hr	200
	1 - 6"	240
	1 - 6" band	150
	Total	\$452.4

Sewer tap permit issued to Hoyle Norman, 6/2/1960.



The 1961 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map shows Walton Lane, but no detailed map is provided. The area does not appear on the 1935 map, as it was outside the city limits.