

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
MAY 24, 2021
GF-21-067020
502 E. 42ND STREET

PROPOSAL

Partially demolish and construct an addition to a ca. 1925 house.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

- 1) Partially demolish side and rear of residence, one porch column, and garage wall.
- 2) Construct an addition to the east side of the existing building. The proposed addition is one story with a flat roof, cantilevered awning, undivided fixed windows, and stucco cladding.
- 3) Replace windows at the rear of the existing residence with single-hung 1:1 windows.
- 4) Add a skylight and roof extension at rear of existing building
- 5) Construct a plunge pool at rear.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story Craftsman bungalow with cross-gabled roof, exposed rafter tails, triangular knee braces, partial-width porch supported by tapered columns atop brick bases, horizontal wood siding, and 1:1 mulled and single wood windows.

RESEARCH

502 East 42nd Street was built around 1925 for Joseph J. and Ethel B. Brown. J. J. Brown, a World War I veteran, moved to Austin in the early 1920s after working in Georgia as the president of the Cotton States Official Advisory Marketing Board and the state Commissioner of Agriculture. Brown was appointed assistant director of the Agricultural Education department of the Texas State Board of Education, then supervisor of the rehabilitation division. By the end of the 1930s, Brown had risen to director of the Vocational Rehabilitation Division of the T. E. A., a position he held until at least 1957. During his time as director, Brown advocated for increased state funding for disabled children's education and expansion of the vocational rehabilitation program. His wife, Ethel Brown, was a musician who taught lessons at the family home and served as president of the Band Mothers' Club at Austin High School.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

The City of Austin's Historic Design Standards (March 2021) are based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and are used to evaluate projects at potential historic landmarks. The following standards apply to the proposed project:

1.1 Locate additions to the rear and sides of historic buildings to minimize visual impact.

1.2 Step back side additions from the front wall a distance that preserves the shape of the historic building from the primary street.

1.5 Minimize the loss of historic fabric by connecting additions to the existing building through the least possible invasive location and means.

The proposed addition is located at the side and rear of the historic building. It is stepped back approximately half the length of the historic building. The proposed addition's location requires removal of part of the side porch.

2.1 Design an addition to complement the scale and massing of the historic building, including height. The addition must appear subordinate to the historic building.

2.2 Minimize the appearance of the addition from the street faced by the historic building's front wall. a. If the addition connects to the historic building's rear wall, step in the addition's side walls at least one foot (1') from the side walls of the historic building. b. The historic building's overall shape as viewed from the street must appear relatively unaltered.

The addition is complementary to the scale and massing of the building, though it is visible from the street and alters the historic building's overall shape.

3.1 Design additions to be compatible with and differentiated from the historic building, if they are visible from the street.

a. Design proportions and patterns such as window-to-wall area ratios, floor-to-floor heights, fenestration patterns, and

bay divisions to increase compatibility. b. Do not replicate the design or details of the existing building to a degree that the addition might be mistaken as historic.

The proposed addition is appropriately differentiated by cladding and roof form, though its window-to-wall area ratios and fenestration patterns are not compatible with those of the historic house.

4.1 If an addition will be visible from a street on the front or side, design its roof form and slope to complement the roof on the historic building.

4.2 Use roof materials that match or have similar color, texture, and other visual qualities as the roof on the historic building.

The proposed flat roof contrasts with the cross-gabled Craftsman roof form of the historic building.

5.1 If an addition will be visible from a street on the front or side, use exterior wall materials that are compatible with those on the historic building, as well as with the character of the district, in scale, type, material, size, finish, and texture.

5.2 Differentiate the exterior wall materials of the addition from those of the historic building. This could be accomplished by using different materials, using the same materials with different dimensions, or changing trim type or dimensions.

While the proposed addition's stucco cladding differentiates it from the historic building, it is less compatible than wood siding.

6.1 If an addition will be visible from a street on the front or side, use windows that are compatible with those on the existing building in terms of material, fenestration pattern, size, proportion, configuration, and profile.

The proposed horizontal single windows and vertical mulled fixed windows are not compatible with the historic building's existing windows.

The project meets some applicable standards.

STAFF COMMENTS

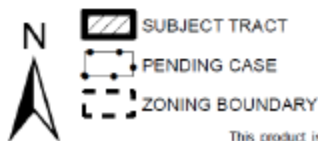
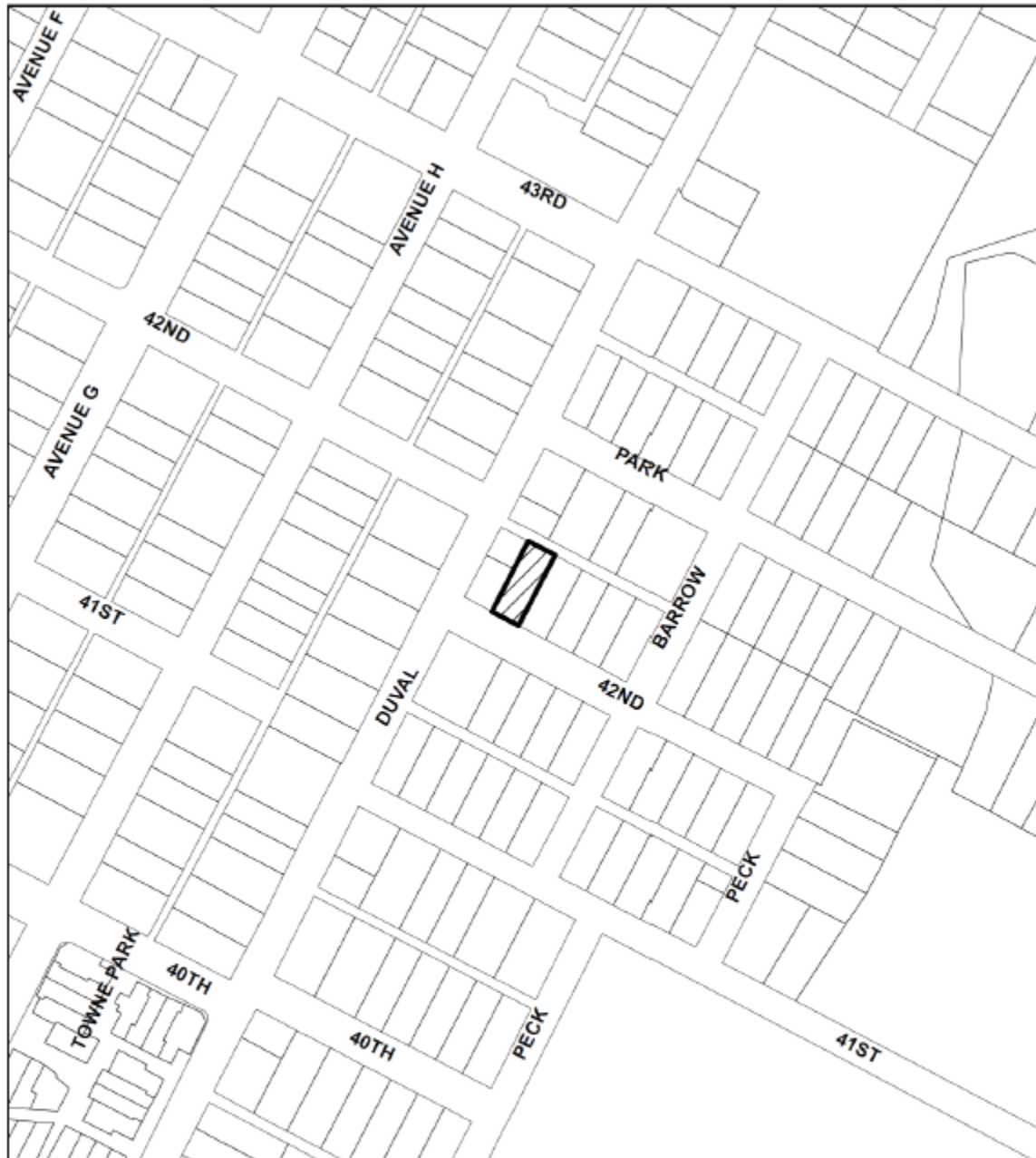
Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain high integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). Staff has evaluated the property and determined that it may meet two criteria:
 - a. *Architecture*. The building is an example of the Craftsman style.
 - b. *Historical association*. The property appears to have historical associations with Joseph J. Brown.
 - 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 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

Approve the application upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package.

LOCATION MAP



1" = 208'

NOTIFICATIONS
CASE#: GF 21-067020
LOCATION: 502 E 42ND 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.



PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



Google Street View, 2021

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, April 2021

1959	Joe J. Brown, owner
1957	Joseph J. and Ethel Brown, owners Director, State Education Agency
1955	Joseph J. and Ethel B. Brown, owners State Division, Vocational Rehabilitation Department
1952	Joseph J. and Ethel Brown, owners Director, State Department of Education
1949	Joseph J. and Ethel Brown, owners Director of vocational rehabilitation, State Department of Education
1947	Joseph J. and Ethel Brown, owners Director, rehabilitation division, State Board of Vocational Education
1944	Joseph J. Brown, owner Director, vocational rehabilitation, State Board of Vocational Education
1941	Joseph J. and Ethel Brown, owners Division director, State Department of Education
1939	Joseph J. and Ethel Brown, owners Division director, State Education Department
1937	Joseph J. and Ethel Brown, owners Director of Vocational Rehabilitation, State Department of Education
1935	Address not listed
1932	Joseph J. and Ethel Brown, owners Supervisor, rehabilitation division State Board of Education
1929	Joseph J. and Ethel Brown, owners Assistant director of Agriculture, State Department of Education
1927	Joseph J. and Ethel Brown, owners Assistant director, Agricultural Education
1924	Address not listed

COTTON STATES GOVERNORS SAY "HOLD COTTON"

By Associated Press.

ATLANTA, Ga., Nov. 23.—A joint proclamation signed by the Governors of eight cotton States urging farmers, merchants, bankers and business men to organize and hold cotton for not less than 35 cents a pound, middling basis, was issued here tonight through J. J. Brown, president of the cotton States official advisory marketing board. The proclamation, an indorsement of the recommendations made by the board here on Nov. 7, termed such a price "equal to the cost of production plus a fair profit."

"The recent heavy break in cotton prices," the proclamation said, "is wholly unjustified by existing conditions and the great disturbance incident to the break in the market has temporarily paralyzed the agricultural and business interests of the South and entailed heavy loss to the cotton producer by reason of the price being below the cost of production."

Selling of cotton for 35 cents was advocated only "to meet pressing obligations," and borrowing on cotton rather than selling it was indorsed. Federal reserve banks were called upon to "be just as liberal as consistent with good business in rediscounting notes secured by cotton."

The necessity for the South producing more food for men and animals was stressed in another part of the proclamation which urged smaller cotton acreage next year and more planting of feed and foodstuffs.

The proclamation, signed by the Governors of Texas, Georgia, South Carolina, Arkansas, North Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida, urged that county and school districts in each State be organized.

The advisory board added a statement saying the bears in the market "are trying to frighten" the Southern cotton holders, declaring that "Federal fixing of cotton prices is dead," and concluding: "Hold your nerve—act as your sons did at the front in France—tell the pirates they shall not pass."

Cotton States Board Meets in New Orleans

Hon. J. J. Brown, Commissioner of Agriculture of Georgia and president of the Cotton States Official Advisory Marketing Board, has announced the annual meeting of the board will be held in New Orleans on Jan. 13, for the purpose of electing officers for 1919 and with its experience with the 1917 and 1918 cotton crops make such rules and changes as are necessary to make the work more effective and closer co-ordinate the forces of the South for permanency and effectiveness.

Some of the members think that while the world will likely need all of the cotton the South can possibly produce in 1919, that inasmuch as certain spinners and bear speculators will insist there is a surplus of cotton when there is really a famine, the crop had better be reduced to the starving point and effectively wipe out their habit of talking surplus and manipulating figures to show a surplus. Some very effective suggestions have been made for reducing the acreage, which will more than likely be adopted.

Mr. Brown says the following in regard to how cotton is being held in Georgia: "Never in the history of Georgia have we had such a water-tight holding movement. The banks, business men, railroads, cotton factors and farmers are a unit on holding cotton until it gets above 35 cents, and I am glad to tell you Georgia is able to do this without the aid of Wall Street. In fact, our mail from every State in the South would indicate that the whole belt is as persistent in this fight as are Georgia and Texas."

FRED W. DAVIS,
Commissioner of Agriculture of Texas.

AUSTIN REAL ESTATE 27

FOR SALE by Owner—502 East 42nd, phone 9061, attractive 5-room bungalow, very modern; lovely yard, good garden and poultry yard, fruit trees. Will take \$1,500, \$500 cash. Place cost me \$5,250. Best bargain in Austin. Will rent to reliable party for \$40 per month, rent to be paid one year in advance.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Aug 23, 1925

BEST JUDGES TO WIN PRIZES

Awards In Contest Made Tuesday

On Tuesday morning, beginning at 9 o'clock, the vocational department will hold the livestock judging contest, which will consist in the placing of brood sows, Jersey cattle; beef cattle and hens for egg production, according to J. J. Brown of the department.

The medals to be awarded in this contest are on exhibit in the department—gold for first place, silver for second, and bronze for third, and the ribbons that will be given to the high point boy in each class are also on exhibition.

Over 10 teams from the various schools near Austin have entered the contest and some close judging is expected; many of the coaches of the different teams are already in Austin.

The community exhibits under the vocational agriculture department have been placed in the agriculture department, and many represent work done by boys enrolled in the vocational schools. H. H. Allen of Cedar Valley is superintendent of this division, and has been working in conjunction with the agriculture department for several weeks past in order to obtain these county and community exhibits. The prizes that are offered in this department are available to the vocational competitors as well as to the established farmers.

Greater interest than ever is being taken in this work done by the vocational department of the State Board of Education, and over 5,000 boys are enrolled in the various schools over the state. These exhibits at the fair represent some of the work they are being taught to do.

Vocational Education Attainments Given Stress in Exposition

The vocational agricultural division of the Texas State Exposition, under the direction of J. J. Brown of the state vocational department, is again rousing keen interest among a score or more Texas schools, and will bring to Austin many teachers and students from near-by towns and communities. The department is divided into three sections, the livestock judging contest, the vocational exhibits and the community exhibits, arranged by the instructors.

Attention around the livestock pens on the afternoon of October 5, the second day of the fair, will center in the contest in which each boy judges four classes of stock. The boys are instructed in proficient judging during the year and utilize this information in the contest, making their decisions in writing which is handed to expert judges for comparison.

Ribbons will be given for the high point boy in each class, Mr. Brown stated. Reasons for placing will be given only on classes of brood sows and Jersey cows, while placing on the other two classes, beef cattle and hens for egg production, will be made by simple graduation.

The high point boy of the entire contest will receive a gold medal, the second highest a silver medal, and the third highest a bronze medal. Passes are to be given to members of the judging teams and their instructors.

Exhibits from the different schools will be arranged in separate booths and be judged from the following standpoint: (a) work done by the school such as charts, shop work, etc; (b) projects, such as cotton, corn, tomatoes, etc., and (c) arrangement of votes. Banners will be given to first and second place winners as prizes.

Prizes are being offered on county and community exhibits collected by vocational instructors and it is expected that several displays will be in place by 8 o'clock Tuesday morning, closing date for all entries.

The Austin American, Oct 3, 1926 and Oct 2, 1927

AID IS GIVEN 1100 LAME CHILDREN

By International News Service

More than 1100 crippled children have been aided by the state-federal vocational education work during the period from last September to June 1, according to a report made to Gov. James V. Allred by J. J. Brown, director of vocational education.

The aid included hospitalization, supplying of braces and other medical and surgical attention, and vocational training for the unfortunate.

State Funds Hiked

Brown said that increased appropriations by the legislature had made it possible for the Texas department to gear its activities to the national program.

The last legislature, he reported, increased the amount of state funds from \$31,500 to \$47,500, devoted to this purpose, thus taking up the entire quota to Texas from the federal matching plan. Up until last year Brown said, approximately \$16,000 to which Texas was entitled, was not being received because of the failure to make state appropriations.

Texas Ranks High

As a result of the increased appropriations, "we have helped hundreds of disabled citizens become self-supporting citizens," in ad-

dition to the work with children, Brown said.

Hospitalization of crippled children was started only this year with the aid of federal funds made possible through \$150,000 appropriated by the last legislature. As a result of that appropriation, \$116,000 was allotted to Texas by the federal government, and made available to match state appropriations.

With \$266,000 available for this work, Texas ranks as one of the leading states in handling crippled children, Brown said.

1900 CRIPPLES ARE GIVEN AID

Since September of 1935, 1,000 crippled children have been given treatment in Texas hospitals through the crippled children's division of the state department of education, Dr. J. J. Brown, director of the division, announced here.

These children are from families unable to pay for their care and treatment and whose needs have been specifically described and diagnosed by reputable physicians. Expenses of these treatments have been paid from an appropriation of \$150,000 appropriated by the legislature in 1933.

Society Aids Work

The Texas Society for Crippled Children, a private organization supported by donations, is co-operating with the state in this work and has been instrumental in aiding many other children hampered by bone, joint or muscle trouble.

The federal social security act, part of which is being administered by the United States department of health, has also given the state \$16,000 for this work.

This three-way arrangement makes it possible for almost all cases to be handled, since the state money can be spent only for certain cases. The use of the Texas society's money is not exactly specified, so it can pay for transportation and medicine, things which state funds may not be used for.

Sponsors Fund Drive

Dr. Brown, also executive secretary of the society, is now sponsoring a drive for more funds.

The division of vocational training for crippled children carries on the work of the other three funds. When children have been cured or put in condition to work, this division, of which Dr. Brown is head, places them in school for training. Since the University of Texas gives free tuition to students who are physically disabled, 70 have been enrolled there for training.

Those who do not have high school education and do not want to attend college are given training in trades so they will be able to support themselves.

Just a Minute, Please

Is Sentiment Expressed by Austin People In Conversation Pro-Ally or Neutral?

Mrs. J. J. Brown, 502 East 42nd street: "I truthfully believe that the sentiment I have heard expressed is pro-ally. And there has been a great deal of expression. I believe it is due to the fact that the allies are fighting for democracy and that is what we are for. If they were defeated he would be the only one left."

Everett G. Smith, professor of marketing, University of Texas, 3206 West avenue: "Sentiment of Austin people in general conversation is pro-ally, but they all want this nation to stay out of war."

Morris Schwartz, telegraph company manager, 1505 Alta Vista:

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Oct 25, 1939

Band Show's Plans Develop

15 Vaudeville Acts Billed by Club

Plans for a benefit entertainment slated for the night of April 13 at Gregory gymnasium sponsored by the Band Mothers club of the Austin high school to raise fund for new uniforms for the high school band were progressing rapidly Saturday, Mr. J. J. Brown, president of the sponsoring club, announced.

Mrs. Brown said a program consisting of 15 acts of vaudeville with all local talent is being arranged and will range from magician's feats to dancing and accordion music. The vaudeville show will be followed by dancing with Jimmy Weller and his orchestra playing the music.

Mrs. Brown said a fine response has been shown thus far by the people of Austin to the coming benefit entertainment.

Simultaneously, Mayor Tom Miller endorsed the benefit entertainment and urged the people of Austin to support it by attending.

"The Austin high school band represents Austin on parade," Mayor Miller commented. "The appearance of this band will be a mirror portraying Austin. Mirrors to reflect images and persons to the best advantage must be kept well silvered. In helping to buy new uniforms for the Austin Maroon band, your dollars will silver their mirror."

The high school band was recently given \$500 by the city of Austin and a like sum was appropriated by the Austin school board out of the athletic fund toward buying the new uniforms. The Band Mothers club is striving to produce an entertainment that will attract thousands of Austin people to Gregory gymnasium on April 13, Mrs. Brown stated.

The Austin American, Mar 24, 1940

died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. J. Brown, 502 East 42nd street, Saturday. Survivors are her daughter, Mrs. Brown; and one son, J. B. Johnson of Corsicana; three sisters, Mrs. Sussie Sheffield of Uvalde, Mrs. Howard Winters of San Antonio, and Mrs. Kizzy Johnson of Moore.

The funeral cortege will leave the Hyttin Funeral home Sunday at 10:30 a. m. and go to Moore where services will be held at 3 p. m. with the Rev. Weinert officiating. Burial will be in Moore cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Carl Mueller, James L. Tenney, J. J. Brown, Joe M. Brown, Julius Meredith and Roe Oliver.

MRS. LULA L. JOHNSON

Mrs. Lula L. Johnson, widow of the late H. E. Johnson of Moore and a resident of Austin for 18 years,

The Austin American, Jan 25, 1942

Rehabilitation Expansion Due

By The Austin Statesman Capitol Staff

A program of expansion for the division of vocational rehabilitation will be presented to the state board of vocational education at its July meeting Monday, according to J. J. Brown, director of the division.

The state board of education, also meeting Monday, will have before it the fixing of the rate for per capita apportionment as well as the school ad valorem tax rate for the next year.

Representatives of the federal bureau of vocational rehabilitation will meet Monday with the state board to recommend types of organization in the expanded program.

Mrs. Phyllis Francis, chief of management standards for the federal bureau, Doyle Best, regional agent, and Donald Dabelstein, in charge of guidance, placement and training, have been here for several weeks conferring with Brown on the expansion program. The state matches federal funds in carrying out the rehabilitation program.

Holding its first meeting since adjournment of the legislature, the board of education will be faced with a number of changes in its procedure, including a new formula for fixing the ad valorem tax rate. Another legislative act calls for the appointment of additional members to the textbook commission, the membership having been increased from five to nine.

The month for textbook adoptions having been moved forward from October to November, it is probable that the textbook proclamation will not be issued at the July meeting as has been the customary procedure. The board must advertise for bids 60 days in advance of textbook adoptions.

Per capita apportionment and tax rates must be set before Aug. 1.

Piano Recital Presented

Mrs. J. J. Brown presented a group of her piano students in recital at her home, 502 East 42nd Friday evening. The following took part: Charlene Anderson, Mary Jane Granath, Doris Rose Hadelér, Juanita Carlson, Beverly Ann Kreuz, Carolyn Sheats, Mary Ann Leisering and Lilly Agnes Kreuz.

The Austin American, Jun 4, 1944 and The Austin Statesman, Jun 29, 1945



EASTER SEAL WINNER—A certificate of appreciation for 25 years service to Texas crippled children was presented to J. J. Brown, state director of vocational rehabilitation, Austin, by Karen Albrecht of San Antonio, the nation's 1954 Easter Seal Child. The presentation was made at dedication services of the Texas Society for Crippled Children's new headquarters building in Dallas this week. Brown has long served as a member of the executive board for the Travis County Society for Crippled Children which operates the Austin Cerebral-Palsy Center.



Photos from family album, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/35170734/joseph-j.-brown>



Photos from family album, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/35170735/ethel-j.-brown>

Permits

Unless the Plumbing is done in strict accordance with City Ordinances, do not turn on the water.

N°A 4515

PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE Austin, Texas

M. Address 501 E 42nd

Plumber Size of Tap Date

Foreman's Report.

Date of Connection 7-16-29
 Size of Tap Made 3/4"
 Size Service Made 3/4"
 Size Main Tapped 1"
 From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 5'
 " " " " Alley 37.5'
 Location of Meter P.A.
 Type of Box 5171011
 Depth of Main in St. 3'
 " " Service Line 2'
 From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 24'
 Checked by Engr. Dept. 7-17-29

Size.	No. Fittings	Curb Cock	Elbow	St. Elbow	Bushing	Reducer	Pipe	Lead Comp.	Nipples	Union	Plug	Tee	Stop	Box	Lid	Valves	Req. No.

Foreman's Signature

WATER SERVICE PERMIT

D N° 654

Austin, Texas

Received of Date

Address 502 E 42nd ST. (21 11 12)

Amount Ph. 240

Plumber Size of Tap

Date of Connection
 Size of Tap Made 3/4"
 Size Service Made 3/4"
 Size Main Tapped 2"-C-1
 From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 7'5"
 From W Prop. Line to Curb Cock 21'
 Location of Meter CORB
 Type of Box LOCK
 Depth of Main in St. 3'
 Depth of Service Line 3'
 From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 24'
 Checked by Engr. Dept. DEC 15 1929

Size	No. Fittings	Curb Cock	Elbow	St. Elbow	Bushing	Reducer	Pipe	Lead Comp.	Nipples	Union	Plug	Tee	Stop	Box	Lid	Valves	Job No.	Req. No.
																	11-223-1745	

J.J. Brown

502 East 42nd St

83

11

3

Ideal Place

Frame Accessory Bldg

79576

4-24-61

650.00

Owner