

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
JANUARY 23, 2012  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2012-0572  
2401 INDIAN TRAIL**

**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1940 house.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story rectangular-plan front-gabled patterned brick veneered house with a wraparound side-gabled arcaded independent porch containing round arches and a segmental arch for the entryway; single and paired 1:1 windows with a fixed-sash plate glass window in the right side of the front elevation.

**RESEARCH**

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The house appears to have been built in 1940 for Henry and Mayme Alff, who moved here from 1603 Lavaca Street, adjacent to their garage at 1605 Lavaca Street. Henry Alff worked as an engineer and auto mechanic, and according to his wife's obituary, the couple later went into the florist business, as Henry's father, a German immigrant, had. The Alffs lived here until the early 1940s; the house was then rented to Leo and Jettie Koch; Leo Koch ran a used clothing store in the 300 block of E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The Kochs lived here until around 1950; the house was then purchased by Hugh and Edna Williamson. Hugh Williamson was an editor for the Texas Good Roads Association at the time that he and Edna moved into this house. He then went into public relations and advertising. By the early 1970s, he was a clerk for the Internal Revenue Service, and from the mid-1970s through the early 1980s, he listed his occupation as "freelance writer" in the city directories. His 2004 obituary indicates a long association with the Iron Workers' Union in Texas, beginning in the early 1940s in Galveston and Houston. From 1956 until his retirement in 1986, he served as the president of the Iron Workers District Council of the State of Texas. He established the first job steward training program for iron workers in Texas as well as a well-respected apprenticeship program. He negotiated the first fringe benefits package for iron workers with the Associated General Contractors of Texas, and was responsible for establishing the health benefits and pension plan that still serves the union today.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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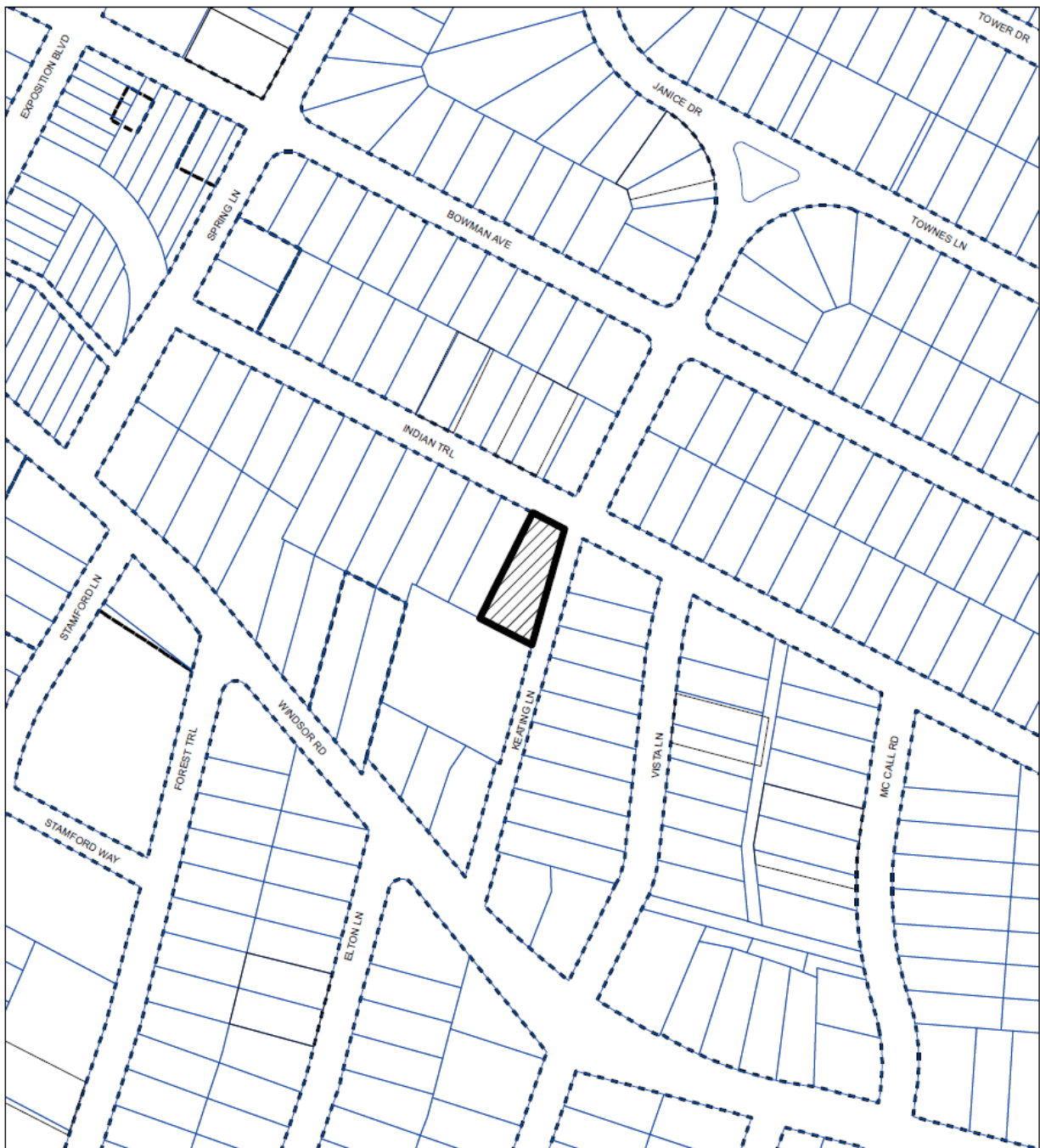
The house is beyond the bounds of the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984).

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Release the demolition permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package consisting of photographs of all elevations, a measured sketch plan, and a narrative history of the property for archiving at the Austin History Center.

## LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT

ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2011-0572  
LOCATION: 2401 Indian Trail

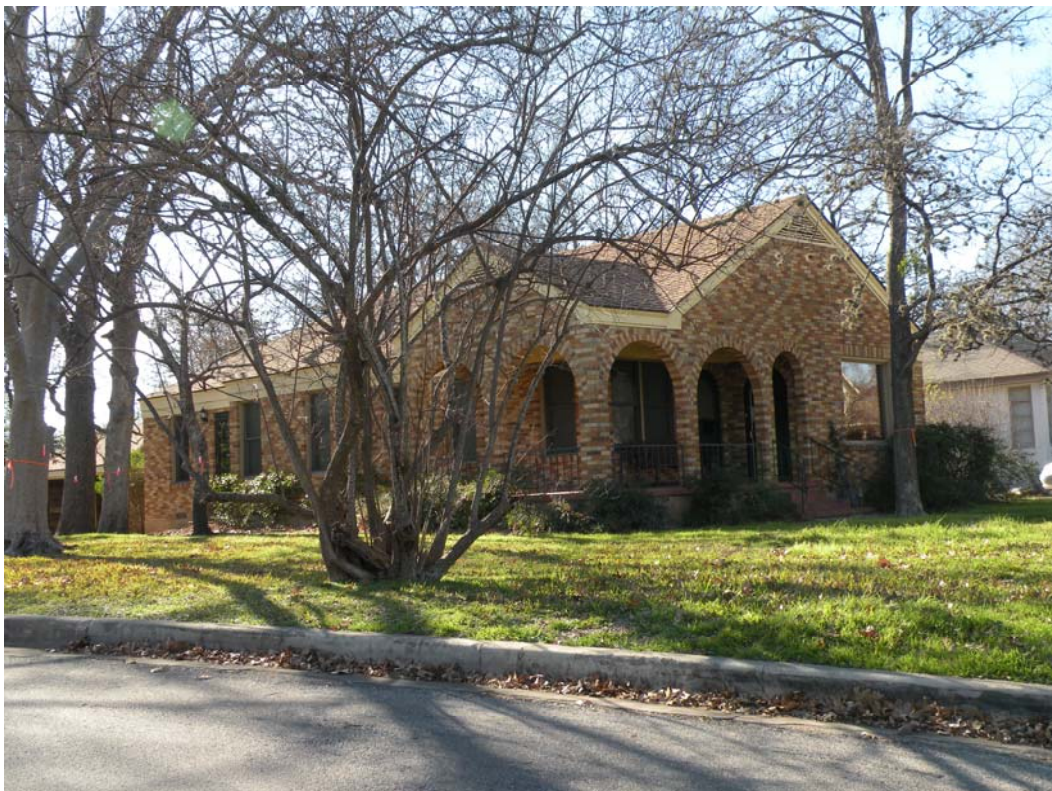


This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by the Planning and Development Review Department for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



2401 Indian Trail  
ca. 1940







## OCCUPANCY HISTORY

### 2401 Indian Trail

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
December, 2011

1992	Hugh Williamson, owner No occupation listed
1985-86	Hugh Williamson, Jr., owner President, iron Workers' District Council of the State of Texas, 1106 Lavaca Street.
1981	Hugh and Edna M. Williamson, owners Freelance writer
1977	Hugh and Edna M. Williamson, owners Freelance writer
1972	Hugh and Edna M. Williamson, owners Freelance writer
1969	Hugh and Edna M. Williamson, owners Clerk, U.S. Internal Revenue Service
1963	Hugh and Edna Williamson, owners No occupation listed
1958	Hugh and Edna M. Williamson, owners Proprietor, Williamson Associates, advertising agency, 802 Capital National Bank Building.
1954	Hugh and Edna Williamson, owners Proprietor (with Harry Benge Crozier and Joe C. Hitchcock), Crozier, Williamson & Hitchcock, public relations counselors, 915½ Congress Avenue; and proprietor, Williamson Associates, advertising agency, 915½ Congress Avenue.
1952	Hugh and Edna M. Williamson, owners Public relations man
1949	Leo and Jettie Koch, renters Used clothing, 317½ E. 6 <sup>th</sup> Street. NOTE: Hugh and Edna Williamson are listed as living at 2531 Exposition Boulevard; he was the editor for the Texas Good Roads Association, 508-11 Ewell Nalle Building, 610-12 Brazos Street.
1947	Leo and Jettie Koch, renters Used clothing, 317½ E. 6 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1944-45	Leo and Jettie Koch, renters Used clothing, 317½ E. 6 <sup>th</sup> Street.

- 1941 Henry P. and Mayme Alff, owners  
Auto mechanic  
NOTE: Leo and Jettie Koch are listed as living at 502 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street; he had a used furniture store at 706 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1939 The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Henry and Mayme Alff are listed as living at 1605 Lavaca Street; he was the proprietor of Travelers Garage, 1603 Lavaca Street.

Henry Alff 2401 Indain Trail  
155 - - -  
Tarrytown, 75  
Brick Venr. Res.  
19341 -4-15-40  
8

Building permit to Henry Alff for the construction of the house (1940)

Henry and Mayme Alff appear in the 1930 U.S. Census living at 1603 Lavaca Street, which comports with the 1939 city directory listing above. They owned their house on Lavaca Street, which was worth \$5,000. Henry Alff was then 36 and had been born in Texas to German and Swiss parents. Mayme Alff was then 33 and had been born in Texas to Swedish-born parents. They had no children. Henry is listed as an engineer. The 1920 U.S. Census shows Henry and Mayme living at 2501 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, a house they owned. He is listed as an auto mechanic. The 1910 U.S. Census shows Henry Alff as the 16-year old son of Apollo and Lena Alff, who lived at 2418 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Henry's father Apollo was a florist for a private family. Henry had no occupation listed.

ALFF, Henry, 80, of 2411 E.  
2nd St., died Friday. Services  
will be 2 p.m. Monday at St.  
Mary's Cathedral.  
(Wilke-Clay)  
Survivors include his wife,  
Maymie Alff.

Death notice for Henry Alff  
Austin American-Statesman, April 21, 1974

## Mayme F. Alff

Mayme F. Alff, age 94, of Austin, passed away Friday.

Mrs. Alff and her husband operated in the floral industry for many years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Henry Alff.

Survivors include sister, Thelma Smally, Austin; sister-in-law, Ima Lee Lind, Austin; numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside service 10:00 AM, Monday in Oakwood Cemetery with Reverend Harold Zink, C.S.C. officiating.

Services under the direction of Wilke-Amey-Clay Funeral Home

Helen Huelar Raxter

Obituary of Mayme Alff  
Austin American-Statesman, March 31, 1991

## MRS. JETTI KOCH

Mrs. Jetti Koch died in a local hospital Tuesday. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Leah Schneider of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Mrs. Ann Kaplan of Port Henry, N. Y., and one son, Manny Koch of Austin.

The body will be sent to Saratoga Springs, N. Y., by the Cook Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 12:30 Friday in Saratoga Springs.

Obituary of Jetti Koch  
Austin Statesman, November 14, 1956

NOTE: There does not appear to be a record of the date of Leo Koch's death – it is clear from the obituary of his wife, above, that he had pre-deceased her, but checks of city cemetery records and newspaper files did not reveal his death date or local obituary.



Hugh Dorry Williamson, 90, beloved patriarch of the Williamson family, passed into the loving arms of God on August 4, 2004, at his home near Creedmoor, Texas, surrounded and cared for by the family that he cherished. Born May 15, 1914, on a farm near Rockmart, Georgia, Mr. Williamson was the third youngest in a prominent Georgia family of eight children. He dedicated 44 years of his life to the American labor union movement, beginning as a young craftsman when he was initiated into Iron Workers Local Union No. 135, Galveston, Texas, on May 11, 1942. In May 1944, he transferred his membership to Local Union No. 84, Houston, Texas, where he served as Business Agent for six years, and headed the Houston Building Construction and Trades Council for an unprecedented five terms. On February 1, 1955, Mr. Williamson was appointed General Organizer for the International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers, a position that he held until December 6, 1961, when he was named Ninth General Vice President of the International. When he retired in 1986 as First Vice President, he was the second highest-ranking officer in the International organization. Mr. Williamson also served as President of the Iron Workers District Council of the State of Texas from 1956 until the time of his retirement. Hugh Williamson was a pioneer of the early union movement and a visionary who drew on his immense personal strength, unwavering integrity and forceful will to build an Iron Workers union in the South that has been the foundation for a force of skilled craftsmen who literally built Texas. He established the first job steward training program in the Texas Council; developed the most outstanding apprenticeship training program in the Iron Workers Union in Canada and the United States; and conducted the first fringe benefit contributions negotiations with the Associated General Contractors in the State of Texas. The crowning achievement of his career was the hard-fought establishment of a health benefit and pension plan that has and will continue to provide tens of thousands of Texas Ironworkers and their families with financial security in both their working and retirement years. On the occasion of his retirement, the Texas AFL-CIO honored him with these words: "In every city in Texas, the skyline is marked by the work of the people who have benefited from your insistence upon high levels of skill. It is in those skylines that the name Hugh Williamson is written." Hugh Williamson was a man of strong character who cared deeply about the welfare of others. He and Penny often hosted the children of the nearby Central Texas Children's Home for hayrides, swimming parties, fishing and barbecues at their residence. He was a lifelong member of the Masonic lodge, a faithful member of the Buda United Methodist Church and served for many years as Fire Commissioner of the SETCO Volunteer Fire Department, playing Santa Claus for the children at its annual Christmas parties. "Pap" loved hunting with his sons and grandsons, a practice that he continued until the final year of his life. He always had time for his grandkids and great-grandkids, and loved taking them with him wherever he went, whether going to the barn on his old blue tractor or into town to run errands. Those who knew him well know that the most important thing in his life was his family-each and every member-and bringing them all together for reunions and other family celebrations was his greatest joy. When his time drew near, his pastor remarked that it looked like Hugh had engineered yet another family reunion. Throughout the years, Mr. Williamson has been strengthened by the steadfast love of his wife of 34 years, Penny, who



survives him, along with daughters, Suzanne Gasparotto, of Brady; Sherri Leatherwood, of Fort Myers, Florida; and Sondra Runnells, of Austin; and sons, Bobby McCommas, of Chandler, Oklahoma; Ronnie McCommas, of Marble Falls; and Rick McCommas, of Lockhart; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. The family will receive friends from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday, August 7, 2004, at the funeral home. Funeral services will at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, August 8, 2004, in the Chapel of Cook-Walden/Forest Oaks Funeral Home with Reverend Mark Porterfield officiating. Honorary pallbearers will be Gary (Carp) Bartch, Howard (Dink) Bryant, Ira Crofford, June Crofford, Bobby Graham, Mike Grevette, and Mackie Jester. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions to the Buda United Methodist Church Building Fund, P. O. Box 1196, Buda, Texas 78610. You have led our family with wisdom, strength, integrity and unconditional love. We will carry you and the lessons you taught us in our hearts for the rest of our lives.

Obituary of Hugh Williamson  
Austin American-Statesman, August 7, 2004

NOTE: Edna Williamson died in April, 1983, but there is no obituary for her in the Austin newspapers