# ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

<u>CASE NUMBER</u>: C14H-2012-0004 <u>HLC DATE</u>: February 27, 2012

March 26, 2012

PC DATE:

**APPLICANT**: Historic Landmark Commission

HISTORIC NAME: Bugg-Magness-Speed-Hernandez House

WATERSHED: Lady Bird Lake

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 1613 Willow Street

**ZONING FROM:** SF-3-NP to SF-3-H-NP

<u>SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION</u>: Staff does not recommend the proposed zoning change from single family residence, neighborhood plan (SF-3-NP) combining district to single family residence – Historic Landmark, neighborhood plan (SF-3-H-NP) combining district zoning.

Staff is currently working with the owner and architect to preserve the character of the existing house by removing the non-historic stone façade, restore the front porch, and replace the existing aluminum-frame windows with windows more historically appropriate to the period of the house. Unfortunately, the 1980 survey photograph of the house does not reveal the window configuration nor the design of the front porch posts, but another house in the same block is virtually identical to this one with windows and porch posts intact, and may serve as a guide for the rehabilitation of the front of the house.

The owners wish to build a two-story addition to the rear of the house; staff and the owners and architects are working out a compatible design for the addition. The attached sheets are preliminary, and staff recommends moving the addition much further back on the house to better preserve the historic character and context of the original part of the house. Staff recommends the removal of the non-historic rear apartment and non-historic additions to the back of the house to provide space for the construction of the new addition and make the addition subordinate to the historic section of the house rather than appearing to overwhelm it.

If the owners agree to modify the design of the addition to better showcase the historic parts of the house, staff recommends releasing a partial demolition permit to allow for the demolition of the non-historic outbuilding, rear additions, and the stone veneer from the front of the house. Staff is very appreciative of the owner's willingness to restore the front of the house, and would not seek landmark designation with the modification of the design and placement of the addition. If the owner wishes to pursue landmark designation for the house, staff recommends a review by the Commission's Certificate of Appropriateness Review Committee at its next meeting.

### QUALIFICATIONS FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION:

The ca. 1901 is a very good example of a board-and-batten Victorian vernacular workingclass house, but has lost integrity through the application of a stone veneer to the front of the house, enclosing the front porch, and replacement of original windows with metal-frame windows. The house represents a typical slice of early East Austin in its architecture and history, being the home of watchmen, a grocery clerk, a widow who worked as a maid at the University of Texas, a city street worker, and Worth Speed, a prominent figure in Austin boxing circles.

#### **HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION:**

February 27, 2012: Initiated a historic zoning case. Vote: 5-0 (Limbacher and Arriaga ill).

# PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION:

**<u>DEPARTMENT COMMENTS</u>**: The house is listed in the Cultural Resources of East Austin Survey (1980). This survey does not contain priorities for research or preservation.

<u>CITY COUNCIL DATE</u>: <u>ACTION</u>:

ORDINANCE READINGS: 1<sup>ST</sup> 2<sup>ND</sup> 3<sup>RD</sup> ORDINANCE NUMBER:

**CASE MANAGER:** Steve Sadowsky **PHONE:** 974-6454

**NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION**: East Cesar Chavez Neighborhood Association

#### BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

#### Architecture:

One-story wing-and-gable plan frame house with non-historic stone veneer on the front wall of the house, enclosing a once-open partial-width front porch. Most windows in the house have been replaced with non-historic aluminum-frame windows. The house retains its board and batten siding on the east and west sides of the house, and has fishscale imbrication in the tympanae of the front and side gables. There is no city record indicating the exact date of the application of the stone veneer to the front of the house, but it was after 1980, when the house was documented in the East Austin Survey has having a composition shingle exterior. Unfortunately, the photograph in the survey is very dark and not reproducible, but clearly shows synthetic siding and an open front porch rather than the stone veneer that appears today.

#### Historical Associations:

The house appears to have been built around 1901. The first known occupants were George and Fannie Bugg, who are shown in city directories from 1903-04 to 1906-07. Early census reports show that George Bugg grew up in Washington County, Texas, the son of a farmer, and was listed as a farmer in Austin County, Texas in the 1900 census report, along with his wife Fannie. He first appears in the 1903-04 city directory as a watchman for the Austin Gas Works, and then went on to work for the Houston and Texas Central Railroad. He and Fannie apparently moved to Taylor, Texas after moving this house; later census reports show him as a boiler operator for the railroad there. After the Buggs moved out, the house was rented by Alfred and Lula Ginzel; Alfred was a grocery store clerk with Herzog's Grocery on E. 1st Street in Austin. The Ginzels are listed at this address in the 1910 U.S. Census; they lived here until around 1911. The house was then occupied by watchmaker Charles Willis and his wife, Jennie. Charles Willis died around 1915; Jennie, who worked as a janitress at the University of Texas, continued to live here until around 1925. A series of renters occupied the house from around 1925 until the early 1950s; one, Turner Magness, worked for the City Street Department; he had previously served on county road crews while his wife Maggie worked as a road crew cook. The Magness family lived here in the mid- to late 1940s. By 1953, the house was owned and occupied by Worth and Lorene Speed. Worth "Lefty" Speed was a mechanic by trade, but was best known as a boxer, boxing trainer, and manager. He died in 1959; his widow Lorene lived here until the

mid-1960s. Alex Hernandez, a carpenter, and his wife Lucy, purchased the house; the Hernandez family owned the property until very recently.

PARCEL NO.: 02020703070000

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**: Lot 7, Block 3, Outlot 35, Division O, Riverside Addition

**ESTIMATED ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT**: \$2,056 (owner-occupied); city portion: \$611.

**APPRAISED VALUE**: \$178,820

PRESENT USE: Vacant

**CONDITION**: Fair

# PRESENT OWNERS:

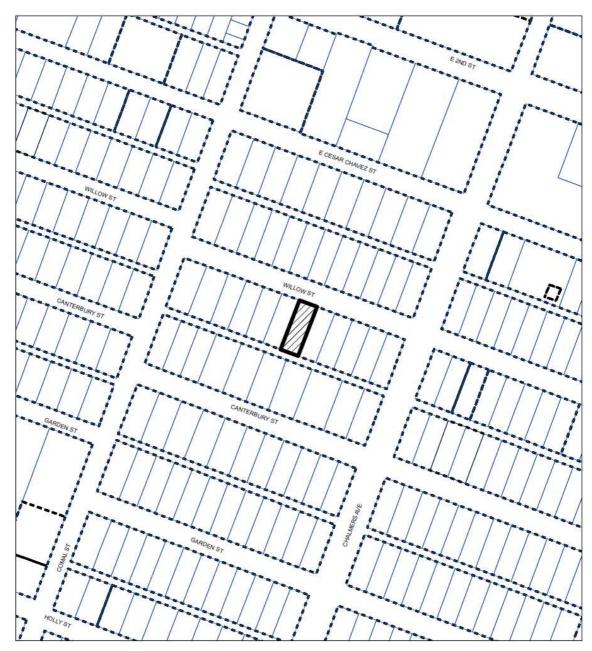
Performance Builders, LLC 1010 Riviera Drive Cedar Park, Texas 78613

DATE BUILT: ca. 1901

<u>ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS</u>: The front porch was enclosed and stone veneer applied to the front of the house at some time since 1980; most windows have been replaced with aluminum-frame windows.

**ORIGINAL OWNER(S)**: George and Fannie Bugg (1901)

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: None.





CASE#: HDP-2012-0005 LOCATION: 1613 Willow Street

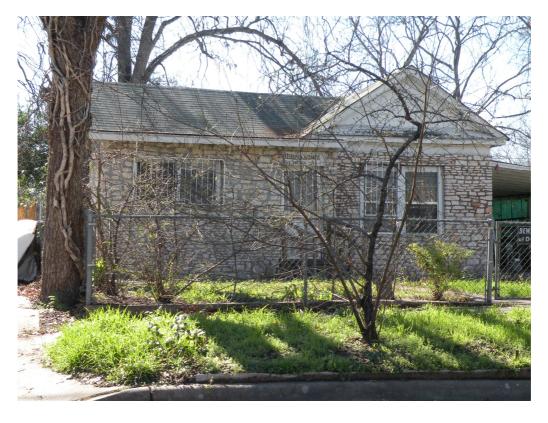


This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by 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.

1613 Willow Street ca. 1901





# OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1613 Willow Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center By City Historic Preservation Office January, 2012

| January, 2012 |  |
|---------------|--|
| 1992          | Lucy Hernandez, owner<br>Retired   |
| 1985-86       | Lucy Hernandez, owner No occupation listed   |
| 1981          | Alex and Lucy Hernandez,. owners<br>Carpenter  |
| 1977          | Alex and Lucy Hernandez, owners<br>Carpenter   |
| 1973          | Alex and Lucy Hernandez, owners<br>Carpenter   |
| 1969          | Alex and Lucy Hernandez, owners<br>Carpenter   |
| 1964          | Lorene M. Speed, owner Widow, Russ [sic] B. Speed Elevator operator, State Board of Control NOTE: Alex and Lucy Hernandez are not listed in the directory.   |
| 1960          | Lorene M. Speed, owner<br>Widow, Worth B. Speed<br>Matron, State Board of Control  |
| 1957          | Worth B. and Lorene Speed, owners Worth: No occupation listed Lorene: Matron, State Board of Control   |
| 1953          | Worth B. and Lorraine Speed (not listed as owners) Mechanic NOTE: Maggie Magness is listed as the widow of Benjamin T. Magness. She lived at 1910 Romeria Drive and had no occupation listed.                        |
| 1949          | Turner B. and Maggie Magness, renters Driver NOTE: Worth B. and Lorene Speed are not listed in the directory.  |
| 1947          | Turner B. and Maggie Magness, renters<br>Sprinkler operator  |
| 1944-45       | Turner B. and Maggie Magness, renters<br>Teamster  |
| 1941          | Isaiah and Fannie Combest, renters<br>No occupation listed<br>NOTE: Turner B. and Maggie Magness are listed as living at 306 W. 35 <sup>th</sup> Street; he was<br>a driver for the City Street and Bridge Division. |

1939 D.C. and Vernell Hicks, renters No occupation listed 1937 Mrs. Glida E. Koch, renter Clerk, Texas Planning Board Staff Project (not listed in the directory). 1935 Clyde and Ruth McPhaul, renters No occupation listed 1932-33 Vacant NOTE: Robert L. and Willie Hobbs are listed as living at 78 Waller Street; he had no occupation listed. NOTE: Willie M. Hobbs is not buried in a city cemetery. 1930-31 Robert L. and Willie M. Hobbs, renters No occupation listed 1929 Robert L. and Willie Hobbs, renters No occupation listed 1927 Ewald E. and Bertha Brodbeck, renters NOTE: Jennie Willis is not listed in the directory. NOTE: Neither Charles M. nor Jennie Willis is buried in a city cemetery. NOTE: Robert L. and Willie Hobbs are listed as living at 1007 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street; he had no occupation listed in the directory. 1924 Jennie Willis, owner Widow. Charles M. Willis No occupation listed 1922 Jennie Willis, owner Widow, Charles M. Willis No occupation listed 1920 Jennie Willis, owner Widow, Charles M. Willis Janitress, University of Texas 1918 Jennie Willis, owner Widow, Charles M. Willis No occupation listed 1916 Jennie Willis Janitress, University of Texas 1914 Charles M. Willis Watchmaker 1912-13 Charles M. Willis Watchmaker 1910-11 Alfred R. Ginzel Clerk, H. Alfred Herzog, groceries, feed, and hay, 1311 E. 1st Street. NOTE: Charles M. Willis is listed as living at 1612 Willow Street; he was a watchmaker for John A. Jackson, 617 Congress Avenue.

NOTE: Alfred R. Ginzel is not listed in the directory; he is not buried in a city cemetery.

1909-10 Alfred R. Ginzel

Clerk, H. Alfred Herzog, groceries, feed, and hay, 1311 E. 1st Street.

NOTE: Charles M. Willis is listed as living at 1612 Willow Street; he was employed as a

watchmaker for John A. Jackson, 617 Congress Avenue.

1906-07 Alfred R. Ginzel

Clerk, Herzog's Grocery, groceries, beer, etc., 1311 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

NOTE: George Bugg is not listed in the directory; he is not buried in a city cemetery.

1905 George Bugg

Employed by the Houston and Texas Central Railroad.

1903-04 George Bugg is listed as living at 1417 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street; he was a watchman for the Austin

Gas Works.

NOTE: Charles M. Willis Is listed as living at 1611 Willow Street; he was a watchmaker

for John A. Jackson on Congress Avenue.

1900-01 Neither George Bugg nor Charles M. Willis are listed in the directory.

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

#### **George Bugg**

George and Fannie Bugg moved to Taylor, Texas after living in this house, where George worked for the railroad. The 1910 U.S. Census shows the family living in Taylor – George's occupation was as a boiler maker in the railroad shops. They had 6 children living with them. The 1920 U.S. Census shows George and Fannie Bugg living in Taylor, Texas, in a rented house. George Bugg was then 52; Fannie Bugg was 45. Both had been born in Alabama. George Bugg worked as a boiler helper for the railroad. They had 4 children and a grand-child living with them. Their oldest daughter, Alma, was a seamstress. Earlier census reports show that the Bugg family had moved to Texas by 1880 - the 1880 U.S. census shows George Bugg as the 15-year old son of Anselm Bugg, a farmer in Washington County, Texas. George Bugg is listed as a laborer. The 1900 U.S. Census shows George and Fanny Bugg living at Buckhorn, Austin County, Texas, where George is listed as farmer. He apparently moved to Austin shortly thereafter and went to work as a watchman at the gas works. Fannie Bugg died in 1939; no evidence of George Bugg's death appears in public records.

#### **Alfred Ginzel**

Alfred and Lula Ginzel appear in the 1910 U.S. Census report at this address. He was 28; she was 24. Both had been born in Texas. He is listed as a salesman for a grocery store. The census report indicates that the Ginzels rented this house.

#### **Jennie Willis**

The 1920 U.S. Census report shows Jennie Willis at this address. She was a 39-year old widow with a 15-year old son, Robert. She had been born in Texas and was an assistant at an illegible place of business. Her son Robert was a newspaper carrier. They owned the house.

#### Robert L. and Willie Hobbs

The 1930 U.S. Census report shows Robert L. and Willie Hobbs as renters at this address. Robert L. Hobbs was then 47, had been born in Texas, and worked as a laborer for a private firm. Willie Hobbs was then 41, had been born in Texas, and was a janitress at the public schools. They had 7 children living with them in this house, including two married daughters and two grand-children. Their son, Edgar, 20 was a radio technician for a private firm; their married daughter Vera worked as an elevator operator in a hotel, and son-in-law John Grebe was a laborer for a building contractor. He was married to the Hobbs' daughter lla.

Earlier census reports show the Hobbs family as farmers. The 1910 U.S. Census shows Robert L. and Willie M. Hobbs living on a farm in Burnet County, where Robert was a farmer on a general farm and Willie was a farm laborer on the home farm. The family was living on a farm in Nueces County in the 1920 U.S. Census; Robert was a general farmer.

ROBERT L. ROBBS

Robert is Hobbs, 77, of 85.

West James, died in a local hospital Friday. He was a retired employe of the University of Texas, a resident of Austin 38 years, and a member of the Central Assembly of God Church.

He is survived by his widow. Mrs. Willie Hobbs of Austin; four daughters, Mrs. J. G. Greve of Bishop, Mrs. Gladys Stroud of Agnew, Calif., Mrs. P. W. Combs of Austin, and Mrs. R. V. Mackey, of Sunnyvale, Calif.; four sons, Edgar Hobbs, James Hobbs, and Robert L. Hobbs, all of Austin, and Rev. Hershel Hobbs, of Dallas; a sister. Mrs. Jack Hays, of Liberty Hill; two brothers, Harvey Hobbs and Walter Hobbs, both of Austin: 14 grandchildren, and 10 great-

Funeral services will be held from the Chapel of the Wilke-Clay Funeral Home Sunday at 2 p.m., with the Rev. J. Paul Joiner, pastor of the Central Assembly of God Church, officiating.

grandchildren.

Burial will be in Capital Memorial Gardens.

> Obituary of Robert L. Hobbs Austin American, February 13, 1960

# **Turner and Maggie Magness**

The 1930 U.S. Census report shows Turner and Maggie Magness living in a rented house at 1807 Drake Avenue in South Austin with their two daughters and a grand-daughter. Turner Magness was then 47 years old, had been born in Georgia, and was a laborer for the city street department. Maggie Magness was then 41 years old, and had been born in Texas. Their oldest daughter, Rowena, was 17 and worked as a waitress at a confectionary. The 1920 U.S. Census shows Turner and Maggie Magness living on the Post Road in South Austin in a rented house. Turner was employed as a foreman for the county road camp; Maggie was a cook for the county road camp. They had 3 children, 2 of Turner's brothers, and 3 boarders in the house. Turner's two brothers and the boarders all worked in the county road camp. The 1910 U.S. Census shows Turner Magness as the 17-year-old son of Benjamin F. and Lizzie Magness, who farmed in Travis County, Texas. Turner is listed as a farm hand.

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World War I draft registration card for Turner Magness, showing him living in rural Buda, Texas, and working as a road overseer for Travis County; his wife Maggie is listed as his next of kin.

B. T. Magness died suddenly Monday afternoon. He is survived by his widow, twee danginers. Alexa. R. F. Raven and Mrs. Ralph Petri, both of Austin, and Mrs. E. J. Wiseman of Santa Monica, Calif; one sister. Mrs. Sam Gallamore of Austin, and ene brother. Jim Magness of Austin. The body is at the Cook Funeral Home pending completion of funeral arrangements.

Obituary of Turner Magness Austin American, May 2, 1950

# Magnes Funeral Scheduled Foday

Funeral services will be held wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Cook Funeral Home for Ho Mannes for 30 years. Magnes died Monday night.

He is survived by his widow: three daughters, Mrs. R. F. Raven and Mrs. Ralph Petri, both of Aus-Un, and Mrs. E. J. Wiseman and the first of the state of t Sam Gallamore of Austin, a broth-Jun Magnes of Austin, and fruir grandehildren. - Magnes suffered a heart attack while walking on the sidewalk near his residence at 1613 Willow, He was pronounced dead on tus arcarei al lipora em algo diseputat dere tice Frank W. McBee ruled Tuesday the body of the second second second attack.

> Funeral notice for Turner Magness Austin <u>American</u>, May 3, 1950

MAGNESS, Maggie E., 94, 1907 Romeria Drive, died Tuesday. Private services. Survivors: daughters, Hazel Petri, Rowena Shumate, both of Austin, Johnnie Lee Raven of Macon, Ga.; sisters, Ella Brown of Austin, Gertrude Shirley of California; three grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. (Hyltin-Manor)

Obituary of Maggie Magness Austin American-Statesman, January 13, 1982

#### WORTH B. SPEED

Worth B. Speed of 1613 Willow, Street died in a local hospital early Thursday. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lorene Speed: three sons, W. J. Speed and W. B. Speed both of Austin, and J. W. Speed of Monahans; and one brother, Jack Speed of Ft. Worth.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at the Cook Funeral Home with the Rev. Gene Ruthledge officiating. Pallbearers will be Howell Kirk, Glenn Wotipka. Tom Attra, Charlie Eskew. Carl Pittsford and Reuben Copelland. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park (See story Page A-20).

Obituary of Worth B. Speed Austin American, February 27, 1959

# Won't Be Another Like Lefty Speed

# By CHARLEY ESKEW

"There'll never be another guy like him," the athletes and sports followers say of Worth B. (Lefty) Speed, one of Austin's most memorable figures, after his death shocked the boxing world Thursday.

The 55-year-old manager and trainer of fighters, whose first name was derived from his native. Fort Worth, would have been loved by Damon Runyon and no doubt would have been just as at home on Broadway as another "Guys and Dolls" as in Austin.

Hundreds of professionals and amateurs whom he worked with always saw some of Lefty in whatever Runyon wrote on Nicely-Nicely Johnson, Rusty Charlie, Nathan Detroit and Benny Southstreet. Given a break in geography, Speed could have been at the center of the real live group

of boxing's "insiders" along Broadway, like Hymie Tellone, Eddie Borden, Sol Gold, Lou Stillman, Judge Flatto, Whitey Bimstein and Jersey Jones.

In Austin Speed made up a oneman campaign on juvenile delinquency although his only boast along those lines was that, "You don't find the boys who keep coming to my gym staying out on the streets."

Back in the 1920's and early "30s. Speed himself fought as a semi-pro middleweight but left boxing to work as a lineman and a mechanic all over the state. Once he returned to handling his favorite Golden Glovers in 1947, though, he put all other work iside. Speed claimed later that he "got 90 percent of the boxers here started in the game."

Louic Murillo, Joel Martine, and Oswaldo Cantu were the first members of Speed's gym and Murillo explains, "He took us of the streets. I don't know what would have happened to us otherwise. He was like a dad andhe didn't have it to give—he helped us out with two or three dollars whenever we needed something."

Speed's contacts in pro boxing were ranged all over the country and he was a ready friend to

Texas promoters.

"A fellow in San Angelo called me at 5 o'clock in the afternoon one time and said half of his boxing card had fallen through." Speed remembered. "It was a charity show and all the tickets had been sold. So I told him to hold the fans around some how and he'd have his fights."

"I drove up and down the streets," said Lefty, "and filled my car with boys. We made it to San Angelo at 11 o'clock and

they had their show."

Speed was fiercely competitive and what little criticism affected him came from those who didn't understand that. He once strove continuously to find a prospect to upset Pete Gil of a rival Austin gym as Texas' best middleweight. And he guided Mel Barker quickly

hopes of putting him among the world's Top Ten welterweights.

"I know my boys' abilities." he answered the critics. "I ought to, I work with them every day. If it seemed like I was rushing anybody. I stick to my guns. A lot of boys don't find out what they can do until they're made to try." —

He explained that a lot of his gusty protests over lost decisions were made even when he realized his boxer had been beaten. "I always wanted my boy to think he might have won—so he'd have more confidence—and I wanted him to know I was behind him."

In recent years, Speed's gym; was his own car's garage and the sparring ring an offed, dirt surface, a makeshift workout area. Lefty constructed for lack of funds, i. Along with the boxers, a duck and a trained dog took part in workouts and added to the Speed humor.

"Jim Brewer hated that duck with a passion because he'd get in between the fighters and nip at their heels," recalled Speed.
"But, that duck is the reason Brewer had such good footwork."

"Don't ever ask me to a duck supper," Murillo told him manager. "He's tougher than any of us fighters."

Speed kept time—and did the match-making — for out-of-town pros as well as his amateurs and the pros like Gil Stroniquist, Leo Duncan, Barker, Joe Louis Hargrove, Johnny Hollins, Pat-

O'Grady, Red Worley, Baby Valdes, Abel Soriano and Paul Herrera.

In case he had to be inside the house washing dishes, he kept his watch nearby and, sticking his head out the window, yelled "Time" every three minutes.

One boxer maintained his death, too, was in keeping with Speed's perfect timing. Lefty was doggedly determined he'd help put over the 1959 regional Golden Gloves tournament and even broke down his old car rounding up about three-dozen fighters for daily workouts and roadwork.

He wanted to once more return as Austin coach at the state Golden Gloves, where his featherweight Paul Alba, might reach the finals or win.

"Lefty,", said the boxer. "told us he was sick but he didn't want to see any doctors—they'd keep him from going and coaching the team. He just made it."

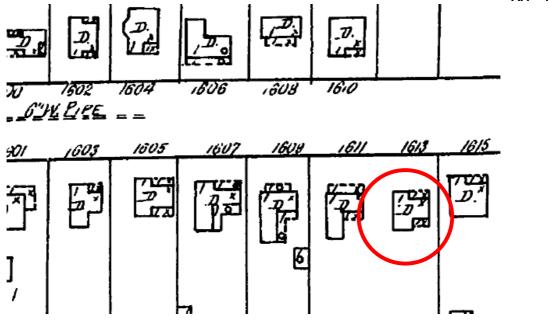
So it was an ambition achieved when Alba became a finalist and Speed himself caught Fort Worth's eye with a derby hat on his head and his trade mark cigar in hand.

Lefty was Runyon's—as well as Austin boxing's—kind of guy.

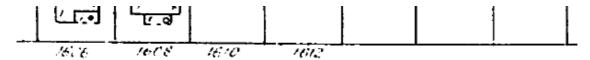


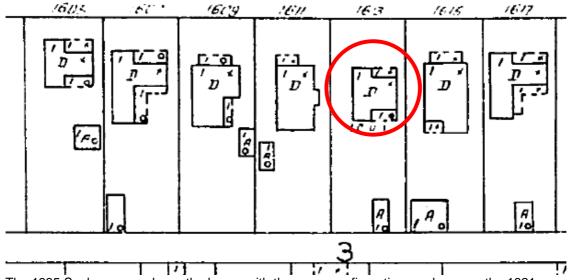
W. B. (LEFTY) SPEED A Runyon man . . .

Memorial story on the career of Worth B. ("Lefty") Speed Austin <u>American</u>, February 27, 1959



The 1921 Sanborn map shows the current house with an open front porch.





The 1935 Sanborn map shows the house with the same configuration as shown on the 1921 map. Note that the large lot shown on the 1921 map above has been subdivided and the house shown on the 1921 map at 1611 Willow has been replaced. The 1962 update shows the same configuration and materials as the 1935 map.

# HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY

ADDRESS: 1613 Willow Street

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1905 (estimated)

CONTRIBUTING: NO

JUSTIFICATION FOR DETERMINATION OF CONTRUBUTING/NON-CONTRIBUTING:

The front of the house has been covered with a rock veneer; the original front porch has been enclosed. NOTES: There is no building permit for the application of the stone veneer. The house is shown on the 1922, 1935, and 1962 Sanborn maps as a wing-and-gable plan house; the front porch has been enclosed. City utility permit records show a water connection here in 1932.

MAP KEY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_ PHOTO Roll \_\_\_\_ Frame(s)

ORIGINAL LOCATION? Yes.



Tax Parcel Number: 02020703070000

Legal Description: Lot 7, Block 3, Outlot 35, Division O, Riverside Addition

Owner: Lucy Hernandez

1613 Willow Street Austin, Texas 78702

PAGE FROM THE SURVEY OF WILLOW STREET STARTED BY THE EAST CESAR CHAVEZ NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE CITY HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (2009). City staff determined that the house would not be contributing to the potential historic district because of the non-historic stone veneer on the front of the house and the enclosure of the front porch.

