

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
AUGUST 27, 2012
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2012-0263
1500 OXFORD AVENUE**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1945 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story wing-and-gable plan rock veneered frame house with a hipped and gabled roof; the projecting front-gabled bay on the façade contains a large plate-glass picture window with 1:1 side windows; all other fenestration on the house is composed of single and paired 1:1 wood-frame windows. The house had a wraparound porch on the left side of the principal façade on rock-veneered columns and a rock-veneered railing with a concrete cap.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1945 for W.C. (Wilson C. – “Bill”) Atkins and his wife, Myrtle. Atkins had worked at Austin Goodyear prior to building this house; he was involved in real estate at the time of construction – both as a real estate agent and then as a contractor. He and Myrtle lived in this house until the mid-1960s, when it was purchased by Raymond and Annie Torres, who moved from another house on Oxford Avenue. Torres had a junk business in the 1960s, and was retired for most of the time that he and Annie lived in this house.

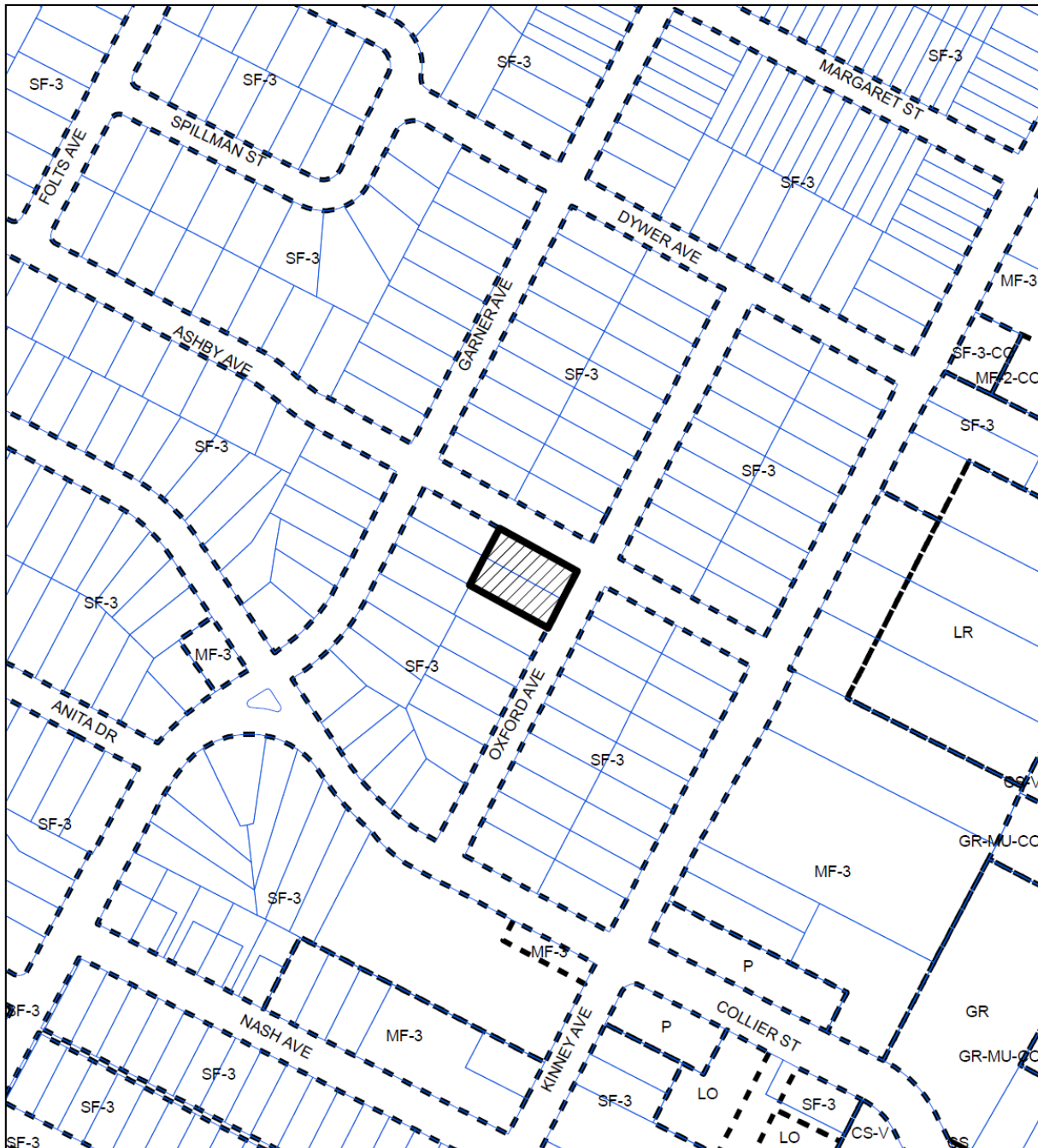
STAFF COMMENTS

The house is not listed in any city survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Release the demolition permit after completion of a City of Austin documentation package consisting of photographs of all four elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan of the house, and a narrative history for archiving at the Austin History Center.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



ZONING BOUNDARY

HISTORIC DEMOLITION PERMIT

CASE#: HDP-2012-0263
 LOCATION: 1500 OXFORD AVENUE
 GRID: H 21
 MANAGER: STEVE SADOWSKY



This map has been produced by the Communications Technology Management Dept. on behalf of the Planning Development Review Dept. for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

1500 Oxford Avenue ca. 1945



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1500 Oxford Avenue

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

1992	A. Torres, owner Retired
1985-86	Annie Torres, owner Retired
1981	Raymond and Annie Torres, owners Retired
1977	Raymond and Annie Torres, owners Retired
1973	Raymond and Annie Torres, owners Retired

- 1969 Raymond and Annie Torres (not listed as owners)
Junk dealer
NOTE: Wilson C. and Myrtle Atkins are listed as living at 2600 Foxglen Drive; he was retired.
- 1965 Wilson C. and Myrtle Atkins, owners
Building contractor
NOTE: Raymond and Annie Torres are listed as living at 1405 Oxford Avenue; he was the proprietor of the Torres Junk Company (not separately listed)
- 1962 Wilson C. and Myrtle Atkins, owners
Contractor
- 1958 Wilson C. and Myrtle Atkins, owners
Contractor
- 1953 Wilson C. and Myrtle Atkins, owners
Contractor
- 1949 Wilson C. and Myrtle Atkins, owners
Real estate (office at the house)
- 1947 Wilson C. and Myrtle Atkins, owners
Real estate (office at the house)
- 1944-45 The address is not listed in the directory. Oxford Avenue was not open between Ashby and Hether Streets.
NOTE: Wilson C. and Myrtle Atkins are listed as living at 1505 Newning Avenue; he was the service manager at Austin Goodyear.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

WILSON and MYRTLE ATKINS (ca. 1945 – ca. 1967)

Wilson and Myrtle Atkins (spelled Adkins) appear in the 1940 U.S. Census living at 1702 Briar Street, a house they owned, and which was worth \$1,800. Wilson Adkins was then 27, had been born in Texas, and was the service manager for a tire company, which comports with city directory listings of the 1940s, showing him working at Austin Goodyear. Myrtle Adkins was then 25, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. The couple had a 3-year old daughter, Jane.

Wilson C. Atkins appears in the 1930 U.S. Census as the 17-year old son of Pearl Atkins, a widow residing on a farm in rural Williamson County, Texas. Wilson C. Atkins was listed as a farmer on a general farm. His older brother, Dennis, 21, was a laborer performing odd jobs. No one else in the household had an occupation listed. The 1910 U.S. Census shows that Wilson Atkins' mother, Pearl, was living on her parents' Williamson County farm with her husband, C.W. Atkins, who was a laborer who hired out his time.

W.C. "Bill" Atkins

W.C. "Bill" Atkins, a longtime Austin resident, died Monday, May 20, 1996.

He is survived by his daughters, Joyce Cooper of Austin, Judy Atkins of Georgetown, and Jane Marshall of Austin; grandchildren, Brett Cooper, Wyly Owen, Clif Owen, Rich Marshall, and Misty Marshall; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday in the Weed-Corley-Fish Chapel. Burial will be in the McDade Cemetery, McDade, Texas.

~~Pallbearers will be his grandchildren~~ and Derrell Cooper. Honorary pallbearer will be Judge Mace B. Thurman.

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

Obituary of Wilson C. Atkins
Austin American-Statesman, May 21, 1996

RAYMOND and ANNIE TORRES (ca. 1967 – ca. 1995)

The 1940 U.S. Census report shows Raymond and Anna Torres living at 610 E. 8th Street in Austin, a house they owned, and which was worth \$1,000. Raymond Torres was then 33, had been born in Texas, and is listed as a junk dealer. Anna Torres was then 30, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had three daughters, Gloria, 9, Lucille, 8, and Anna Ruth, 5, as well as Anna Torres' parents, Manuel and Sarah Ramirez. Manuel Ramirez was a junk dealer, and apparently in business with Raymond Torres.

Raymond Mercado Torres

Raymond Mercado Torres, 79, of 1500 Oxford Avenue passed away Sunday.

Survivors include his wife, Annie N. Torres of Austin; daughters, Gloria Aleman of Fairfax, Virginia, Lucille Glass and Annie Guedea, both of Austin; sister, Eulogia Orta of Eaton Rapids, Michigan; brothers, Paul Torres and Castelo Torres, both of Austin; 15 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services 1:00 PM, Tuesday from Emmanuel Methodist Church with Reverend Juan R. Canales officiating. Burial, Capital Memorial Park.

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

Pallbearers include Raymond P. Aleman, Tom R. Guedea, Jr., James O. Glass, III, Clark D. Nanyes, Richard R. Reyes and Elias R. Ruiz.

Obituary of Raymond Torres

Austin American-Statesman, November 13, 1984

W. C. Atkins 1500 Oxford Avenue

106

4

5 & 6

Barton Heights "A"

Rock veneer res. & rock veneer garage

27136 - 5/29/45

\$3600.00

Lester A. Beach

5

Building permit to Wilson C. Atkins for the construction of the house and garage (1945)

WATER SERVICE PERMIT		No. 20972	Sec. 10																																																																								
Austin, Texas																																																																											
Received of	W. T. ATKINS		Date 5-26-45																																																																								
Address	1500 OXFORD Ave.																																																																										
Amount	TWO AND 50/100 \$2.50																																																																										
Plumber	LOUIS BRADSHAW		Size of Tap 1/2"																																																																								
Date of Connection	6-20-45																																																																										
Size of Tap Made	3/4"																																																																										
Size Service Made	1"																																																																										
Size Main Tapped	2" C.I.																																																																										
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock	7'																																																																										
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Location of Meter	Under front curb line																																																																										
Type of Box	Lock																																																																										
Depth of Main in St.	2'																																																																										
Depth of Service Line	11'																																																																										
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main	6"																																																																										
Checked by Engr. Dept.	211 B. 7 2-17-45																																																																										
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Water service permit to Wilson Atkins for the house (1945)

Receipt No. 4770 Application for Sewer Connection N^o 19369

Austin, Texas, May 26 1945

To the Superintendent of Sanitary Sewer Division, City of Austin, Texas.

Sir:—

I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises owned by

W.C. Atkins at 1500 Oxford Street,

further described as Lot 6 Block 4 Outlot Division

subdivision Barton Tract A Plat 106, which is to be used as a res

In this place there are to be installed 5 fixtures. Plumbing Permit No. 19992

I agree to pay the City of Austin, the regular ordinance charge. 7-17-45

Depth at Prop. Line 3

Respectfully,

Stub Out Connected } 5'-5" of N.L.L.

(Location)

Date 9-21-45

By Strong

NOTE: Connection Instructions extension to north east corner of lot
B1431 O.D.S.

Sewer service application W.C. Atkins (1945)