HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION NOVEMBER 26, 2012 DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS 1208 HILLSIDE AVENUE HDP-2012-0342

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1946 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story rectangular-plan side-gabled frame house with a partial-width, shed-roofed independent porch on ornamental metal posts; 1:1 fenestration.

RESEARCH

According to city records, the house was built in 1946 by E.L. Brooks, who apparently never lived in the house. There was a previous house on this site, built around 1931. Since 1946, the house has had a series of owners and renters, with the longest occupancy by Virgil and Janice McElroy, from the mid-1950s until around 1970. Virgil and Janice McElroy apparently divorced around that time; Janice McElroy is listed as the sole owner and occupant of the house in the 1968 city directory; then she may have married Thomas Hunt; she is listed again as his wife in the 1974 city directory. Thomas Hunt was a gas station attendant.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house does not appear in any city survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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



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.

1208 Hillside Avenue ca. 1946



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1208 Hillside Avenue

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

1992	Jana C. McElroy, owner Operator, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
1985-86	Jana C. McElroy (not listed as owner) No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Jana C. McElroy was a new resident at this address.
1980	Jana C. McElroy, renter Operator, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
1974	Thomas and Janice M. Hunt, owners Employed by the Terrace Gulf Service Station (not listed in the directory).
1968	Janice McElroy, owner File clerk, State Teacher Retirement System

1963	Virgil C. and Janice S. McElroy, owners No occupation listed
1957	Virgil C. and Janice S. McElroy, owners Welder, Shell Pipeline
1952	George W. and Nola Taylor, renters Superintendent, Collins Construction Company, 2821 E. 19 th Street (at the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks). NOTE: Virgil C. and Janice S. McElroy are listed as living at 907 Columbus Street; he was a welder.
1949	John T. and Elizabeth Davis, owners Electrician
1947	Vacant

NOTE: The house was built in 1946. There was a ca. 1931 house on the site prior to this time.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

VIRGIL and JANICE McELROY (ca 1955 – ca. 1965)

Virgil McElroy appears in the 1940 U.S. Census as the 17-year old grandson of Leona McElroy, a farmer in Cherokee County, Texas. Virgil McElroy had been born in Texas and is listed as a farm laborer. The 1930 U.S. Census shows that William and Leona McElroy had 3 grandsons living with them on their Cherokee County farm; Virgil was the youngest of the three and the only one listed in the 1940 census report still on the farm. Virgil McElroy is believed to have died in Houston, Texas in October, 1988.

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Building permit to E.L. Brooks for the construction of the house (1946)

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Application for a sewer connection by E.L. Brooks (1946)