

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
AUGUST 26, 2013  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2013-0556  
1601 W. 39½ STREET

**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1940 house.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled, frame Southern Colonial Revival-styled frame house with a central, almost-full-width, independent porch, the porch roof at a higher pitch than the house roof, and extending from the ridgeline of the house roof; the porch has turned wood posts. Fenestration consists of paired floor-to-ceiling multi-light wood windows on either side of the central entry door; one-story, side-gabled frame addition to the right of the principal block of the house, and with a lower roof elevation than that of the principal block.

**RESEARCH**

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The house was built around 1940 by Charles H. and Avonia Jones, who lived here until around 1946. Charles Jones was a carpenter who had previously lived in the Rio Grande Valley doing odd jobs in building construction. Around 1948, the house was purchased and occupied by Arthur B. Rowland, and his wife, Laura. Arthur Rowland was a guard and watchman at the State Capitol and at the Governor's Mansion; Laura Rowland was a saleslady at Buttrey's, a women's and children's clothing shop, and then at Goodfriend's, another ladies' clothing store.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is beyond the bounds of any City survey.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage relocation over demolition, but release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history of the property, for archiving at the Austin History Center.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT

ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2013-0556  
LOCATION: 1601 West 39th 1/2 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.

1601 W. 39½ Street  
ca. 1940



## OCCUPANCY HISTORY

### 1601 W. 39½ Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
 By City Historic Preservation Office  
 August, 2013

1992	No return
1985-86	Charles K. Goldman, owner Retired
1981	Charles K. Goldman, owner No occupation listed
1977	William and Maureen Goldman, renters Student NOTE: The directory indicates that William and Maureen Goldman were new residents at this address. NOTE: Charles K. Goldman lived at 1611 W. 39½ Street; he was the owner of the Shoal Terrace Apartments, 1611 W. 39½ Street.
1973	Lee E. McAdams, renter Teacher, public schools
1968	Lee E. McAdams, renter Teacher, public schools
1962	A.B. Rowland, owner No occupation listed
1959	A.B. Rowland, owner No occupation listed
1954	Arthur B. and Laura G. Rowland, owners Guard
1952	Arthur B. and Laura G. Rowland, owners Arthur: Guard Laura: Employed by Goodfriend's, fine ladies' clothing, 901 Congress Avenue.
1949	Arthur B. and Laura G. Rowland, owners Arthur: Guard, Governor's Mansion Laura: Saleswoman, Buttrey's women's and children's ready-to-wear clothing, 107 W. 6 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1947	Edward O. and Hattie Bethke, renters Service man, Austin Goodyear, 101 Congress Avenue. NOTE: Arthur B. and Laura Rowland are listed at 4004 Alice Avenue; he was employed by the State Department of Public Safety.
1944-45	Charles H. and Avonia Jones, renters Carpenter

- 1941 Charles H. and Avonia Jones, renters  
Carpenter
- 1939 The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Charles H. and Avonia Jones are listed at 2403 Dam Boulevard; he was a carpenter.

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

#### Charles H. and Avonia Jones (ca. 1938 – ca. 1946)

Charles H. and Avonia Jones appear in the 1940 U.S. Census as the owners of what may be this house; it is listed as 1601 Emma Avenue in the census report, but that may have been an early name for W. 39 ½ Street. Charles H. Jones was then 55, had been born in Virginia, and was a carpenter in building construction. Avonia Jones was then 50, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. With them lived their grandson, Robert Walton Jones, 3, who had been born in Texas. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Charles H. and Avonia Jones living in a rented house in Cameron County, Texas, where Charles was a carpenter doing odd jobs. Their children were: Vernon, 19, who was also listed as a carpenter doing odd jobs, and who had been born in New Mexico; Walton, 17; and Mildred, 14. Both Walton and Mildred had been born in Texas. The 1910 U.S. Census shows Charles H. and Avonia Jones living in Roswell, New Mexico, where Charles was a book-keeper. Avonia Jones died in January 1984 in Round Rock, but there was no obituary in the Austin newspapers. It is not known when Charles Henry Jones died.

#### Arthur B. and Laura Rowland (ca. 1948 – ca. 1965)

Arthur Bisbee and Laura Rowland appear in the 1940 U.S. Census at 4107 Marathon Boulevard; both were then 49; Arthur had been born in Arizona; Laura had been born in Texas. He is listed as a watchman at the State Capitol. With them lived his mother, Mary Eliza Rowland, an 81-year old widow, who had been born in England, and had no occupation listed. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Arthur B. and Laura Rowland living in a rented house in the 400 block of W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street in Austin. Arthur B. Rowland was a watchman at the State Capitol. With them lived his nephew, John Rowland, 10; John had been born in Texas.

**MRS. A. B. ROWLAND**  
Mrs. A. B. (Laura Garner) Rowland died in a local hospital Thursday afternoon. She is survived by her husband, A. B. Rowland; one sister, Mrs. Carl Kilborn of Austin and one brother, E. S. Garner of Austin.  
Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday in Cook Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Samuel N. Baxter officiating. Interment will be in Austin Memorial Park.  
Pallbearers will be George Mayton, Marion Dews, Ed Leisman, A. D. Chapman, Pierce Lowery Jr. and Ed Garland.

Obituary of Laura Rowland  
Austin American, August 29, 1958

**MRS. A. B. ROWLAND**

Funeral services for Mrs. A. B. (Laura Garner) Rowland will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday in Cook Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Samuel N. Baxter officiating. Pallbearers will be George Mayton, Marion Dews, Ed Leisman, A. D. Chapman, Pierce Lowery Jr. and Ed Garland. Interment will be in Austin Memorial Park.

Funeral notice for Laura Rowland  
Austin American, August 30, 1958

**MRS. A. B. ROWLAND**

Funeral services for Mrs. A. B. Rowland were held Saturday morning in Cook Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Samuel N. Baxter officiating. Pallbearers were George Mayton, Marion Dews, Ed Leisman, A. D. Chapman, Pierce Lowery Jr. and Ed Garland.

Interment was in Austin Memorial Park.

Story on the funeral of Laura Rowland  
Austin American-Statesman, August 31, 1958

**ARTHUR B. ROWLAND**

Arthur B. Rowland, 82, of 4103 Marathon Blvd., died in a local nursing home Tuesday. He had been a resident of Austin for 45 years and was with the Department of Public Safety many years before his retirement.

Survivors include a brother, A. T. Rowland of Austin, and a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral is pending with the Cook-Walden Funeral Home.

Obituary of Arthur B. Rowland  
Austin American, November 8, 1972

**ARTHUR B. ROWLAND**

Funeral for Arthur B. Rowland, 82, of 4103 Marathon Blvd., will be Thursday at 10 a.m. at the Cook-Walden Chapel. Rev. B. C. Schmidt will officiate and masonic graveside services will be at Austin Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be B. T. Nowlin, Buster Cocke, E. V. Mackland, Melvin Ross, William S. Bussey and Archie P. Kennedy.

He died Tuesday.

Funeral notice for Arthur B. Rowland  
Austin American, November 9, 1972

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE PERMIT  
Austin, Texas

No. 16385B

Received of Martin Date 12/6/1939  
 Address 1601 W. 39½  
 Amount \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Builder or Owner C. H. Jones Plumber \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lot E. ½ of 1 & 2 Block 5 Subdivision Pleasant Grove Add. Plat No. 76

Date of Connection	<u>12/20/1939'</u>																			
By City	<u>48' S/NLL</u>																			
By Plumber	_____																			
Checked By	<u>Boatright</u>																			
Size Main	<u>6"</u>	Depth	<u>6'</u>																	
Main Assign.	<u>32' from PL, in Ramsy,</u>																			
Stub Depth	<u>in Seiders Ave.</u>	Prop. Line	<u>2'</u>																	
Stub Location	_____																			
Book No.	<u>B-1121</u>																			
Paving Cut	_____	No.	_____																	

Sewer service permit noting C.H. Jones as the owner of the property (1939)