HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION DECEMBER 16, 2013 NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT NRD-2013-0066 & NRD-2014-0004 Clarksville 1607 W. 10th Street

PROPOSAL

Relocate a contributing house and construct a 2,100 sq. ft. two-story house.

RESEARCH

The existing house was constructed c. 1950 by Cary Baylor. According to City Directories the first occupants were Charlie Williams, a laborer and his wife Essie, who only lived in the house for one year. Cary Baylor's son Charles Edward Baylor and his wife Mary Frances Freeman Baylor are listed as the residents from 1953 to 1964, after which they are listed in the Directory as residing at 1609 W. 10th Street from 1964 into the late 1990s.

Mary Baylor was a community organizer, the first director of the Clarksville Neighborhood Center, and was founder of the Clarksville Community Development Corporation in 1978. She was instrumental in advocating for the City of Austin to make improvements to the Clarksville neighborhood and for the political and economic interests of the Clarksville community, One of her early advocacy efforts was leading protests against the construction of Texas Loop 1 (aka MoPac Expressway) because of the impact it would have on the neighborhood and the displacement of its residents. Although those efforts ultimately proved to be unsuccessful, subsequent ones were successful in halting the construction of a cross-town expressway that would have destroyed what was left of the Clarksville community. Mary Baylor continued to be closely involved with the community advocacy efforts until her death from a heart attack on March 16, 1997. (For a detailed biography of Mary Baylor see the excerpt obtained from the Texas State Historical Association web site is provided below.)

Charles Baylor worked as a porter for the Missouri Pacific (MoPac) Railroad and for TCC Continuum Computer Company, from which he retired. He survived his wife, and died March 12, 2010 at the age of 80.

Mary and Charles Baylor purchased 1609 W. 10th Street from Mary's father, J.H. Freeman, while they were living at 1607 W. 10th Street. According to Mary Baylor's children the Baylors maintained 1609 W. 10th Street as rental property while they saved enough money to make repairs to that house, and they continued to live at 1607 W. 10th Street until 1971. After this time an elderly widow, Nancy Chambers, resided at the 1607 house.

Mary's children remember their mother's community advocacy activities beginning while she resided at 1607 W. 10th Street and continuing there after she moved next door to 1609, They recall neighborhood meetings being held in the house as well as the front & back yards starting in the 1960s. These meetings were about the need for the City to provide street lights and paved streets, and address serious drainage issues in the neighborhood. Most of these problems were not addressed until the late 1970s.

From Texas State Historical Association: The Handbook of Texas, by R. Matt Abigail

"Mary Frances Freeman Baylor, African-American community organizer, director of the Clarksville Neighborhood Center in Austin, and founder of the Clarksville Community Development Corporation, only child of Gladys Y. Freeman and Will Freeman, was born in Austin, Texas, on August 9, 1929. She was raised by her mother in a section of West Austin known as Clarksville. She attended grade school there but later finished at Olive Street Elementary School, then attended Kealing Junior High School and L. C. Anderson High School. She also attended Tillotson College for a short time before marrying Charles Baylor in 1948. Together they had five children—Cynthia, Linda, Vicky, Ronnie, and Skip.

Baylor was a lifelong resident of the Clarksville neighborhood, and her ancestors were among the original settlers of Clarksville, which was one of the earliest freedmen's communities established west of the Mississippi River. Over time, the all-black community was incorporated into the city of Austin. However, in an era of rigid segregation, Clarksville was something of a geographical oddity. Essentially a closed, quasi-independent hamlet, it was surrounded on all sides by affluent, predominantly white neighborhoods and was isolated from the much larger, thriving African-American district in East Austin. Unfortunately, Clarksville's unique location meant that it was persistently neglected by city officials, who concentrated social services for blacks in East Austin. As a result, the area lacked many basic services. However, Baylor devoted her entire career to improving the impoverished community, which did not have developed schools, recreational facilities, sewers, or even paved roads until the 1970s.

After 1964 Baylor became an active supporter and volunteer in President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty program, and she began to petition the city of Austin to fund much needed improvements in Clarksville. Then, in 1968 she secured employment with the city of Austin's Health and Human Services Department, which appointed her director of the Clarksville Neighborhood Center (then known as the Human Opportunities Corporation)—a position she held for twenty-four years. Under her leadership, the center became a valuable resource for many of Clarksville's disadvantaged residents. It organized community volunteer and youth programs, hosted community meetings, provided food and clothing for the needy, and gave referrals to legal and medical resources. It also offered twenty-four-hour counseling services to assist residents with food stamp and welfare applications and to help them find employment and affordable housing.

In addition to her duties at the Clarksville Neighborhood Center, Baylor worked closely with the Clarksville Neighborhood Council, the Clarksville Advisory Board, and a host of other passionate volunteers to represent the political and economic interests of the disadvantaged community. From 1968 to 1970, she was a lead organizer in the protest against the construction of Texas Loop 1, colloquially known as the MoPac Expressway. The proposed route of the expressway threatened to demolish nearly one-third of Clarksville and displace dozens of needy minority families who had lived in the area for generations. Accordingly, Baylor and others recruited legal assistance and brought suit against the Texas Highway Department and the city of Austin. However, the lawsuit was unsuccessful and construction went ahead as planned. Despite this setback, the group managed to halt the construction of a cross-town expressway to connect MoPac and Interstate 35 in 1975—a project that would have further decimated what remained of Clarksville.

Following that success, Baylor and others convinced city officials to redirect federal funds toward basic infrastructure improvements for Clarksville. From 1975 to 1979, more than a million dollars were invested in order to repair dilapidated homes, pave roads and

sidewalks, install street lights, traffic signals, storm drains, and sewers, and to construct a playground. Additionally, funds were provided to open a new community center, which was designed by architecture students at the University of Texas at Austin and built with volunteer labor recruited by Baylor.

These improvements could not have come any sooner. In fact, prior to the construction of an adequate drainage system, the community's sewage flowed into narrow, open ditches that periodically overflowed and flooded nearby homes. However, the enhanced infrastructure soon attracted real estate investors and commercial enterprises looking to redevelop the area. Afraid that gentrification would mar the neighborhood's historic character, raise taxes, and drive out low-income residents, Baylor responded. In 1978 she founded the Clarksville Community Development Corporation (CCDC) with the expressed goals of preserving and repairing historic structures and ensuring the availability of affordable housing for the indigent. The CCDC, which was among the first non-profit community development corporations in the country, recruited legal assistance to halt unwanted developers, raised funds to repair rather than demolish older homes, and even convinced the city of Austin to construct the Clarksville Health Clinic in 1982. The CCDC's crowning achievement, though, was the construction of eighteen new homes for Clarksville's neediest families.

Baylor retired as director of the Clarksville Neighborhood Center in 1992 but continued to be closely involved with the community. She was a lifelong member of the Sweethome Missionary Baptist Church, which formed the nucleus of Clarksville society for more than 100 years, and she acted as church clerk from 1989 to 1997. Additionally, from 1991 to 1997, she served on the board of the McAuley Institute. Founded in 1983 by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, this organization provided financial support and organizational assistance to community development organizations nationwide, with a specific focus on helping underprivileged women and children.

Baylor died from a heart attack in Austin, on March 16, 1997, and was buried in Austin's historic Oakwood Cemetery. She was survived by her husband, five children, and five grandchildren. In her memory, the Seventy-fifth Texas Legislature passed a resolution to commemorate her achievements on behalf of the city of Austin and the community of Clarksville. Likewise, the city of Austin named a Clarksville-area park in her honor. Forever remembered as Clarksville's "problem solver," she was eulogized by Rev. W. B. Southerland of Sweethome Missionary Baptist Church, who credited Baylor as "the primary instrument in bringing Clarksville from rocks and mud to paved streets and sod around the houses."

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

The existing c. 1950 house is a 528 sq. ft., one-story cottage with a side gable roof and centered, projecting, covered porch with a front facing gabled roof supported by squared columns with simple capitals. The house is clad with narrow horizontal siding, with wide siding in the gable ends. The windows are 4:4, double hung, wood sash.

The applicants propose to relocate the house outside City limits and construct an approximately 2,000 sq. ft. two-story house. The house will have a multi-pitch roof and horizontal siding. There will be a centered front entry with a small porch with gabled roof supported by columns salvaged from the existing house that will sit on masonry piers. The new porch gable, although narrower, will have similar proportions to the porch on the original house. To one side of the entry will be a pair of double-hung windows with four-lite

windows above. Other windows will be predominately double-hung with 1:1 sash. To the other side of the entry will be an inset carport under a second story projecting gable. The corner of the carport will be supported with a column that matches the salvaged porch columns.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

The existing property is contributing to the Clarksville National Register Historic District. Applicable general design review guidelines state:

- The distinguishing original qualities or character of a property and its environment shall not be destroyed. Removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural features should be avoided.
- All properties shall be recognized as products of their own time. Alterations which
 have no historical basis and which seek to create an earlier appearance shall be
 discouraged.
- Changes which have taken place in the course of time may have acquired significance in their own right, and shall be recognized and respected.
- Distinctive stylistic features or examples of skilled craftsmanship which characterize a property shall be treated with sensitivity.
- Deteriorated architectural features shall be repaired rather than replaced whenever possible. In the event replacement is necessary, the new material should match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. Repair or replacement of missing architectural features should be based on accurate duplications of features, substantiated by historical, physical, or pictorial evidence.
- Contemporary design for alterations and additions to existing properties are appropriate when such alterations and additions do not destroy significant historic, architectural, or cultural material and are compatible with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood, or environment.
- Whenever, possible, new additions or alterations to structures shall be done in such
 a manner that if such additions or alterations were to be removed in the future, the
 essential form and integrity of the structure would not be impaired.

The applicant had previously proposed demolishing the existing house, but a new applicant has submitted a permit application to relocate the house outside of City limits with the intent to rehabilitate it. Relocation within the National Register Historic District would have been preferred as the removal of the house from the District continues to have a detrimental impact on the integrity of the District. so does not meet the general design guidelines.

Although Mary Frances Freeman Baylor made significant contributions to the Clarksville community and the City of Austin, the period during which she made those contributions appears to have been from 1964 to 1997, at which time, according to City Directories, she was living at 1609 W. 10th Street. Mary Baylor's children contend that Mrs. Baylor

continued to live at 1607 W. 10th Street until the early 1970s, but as of yet staff has been unable to identify evidence of this.

The applicant, in response to neighborhood representatives, staff and Historic Landmark Commission comments, has made changes to the proposed design for new construction in an effort to be more compatible with the character of the neighborhood. The design as most recently proposed uses columns salvaged from the original house, has a front porch with a similar gable form to the historic house, and has a more simple roof form than was originally proposed, making it more compatible with the character of the neighborhood. However, if use of the salvaged materials won't be possible if the house is relocated.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Postpone release of the building permit for new construction until February 24, 2014 due to zoning review not being complete. Release the relocation permit with the recommendation that the applicants consider a design that allows for the adaptive reuse of the existing house in place or seek a new location within the District. Require final review of new construction plans, as well as submittal of a City of Austin documentation package, prior to release of the relocation permit.

PHOTOS



1607 W. 10th Street



1609 W. 10th Street

Properties adjacent to and across from 1607 W. $10^{\rm th}$ Street:





Properties adjacent to and across from 1607 W. 10th Street:





OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1607 W. 10th Street

From City Directories, Austin History Center

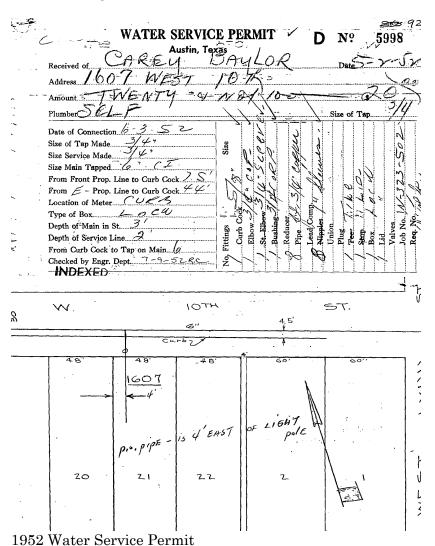
City of Austin Historic Preservation Office August 2013

| 1973 | Nancy Chambers, widow of Mart Chambers, retired |
|------|--|
| 1969 | Nancy Chambers, widow of Mart Chambers, retired |
| 1966 | Nancy Chambers listed in address directory but not in name directory. |
| 1964 | Note: Charles E. Baylor and Mary F. Baylor listed at 1609 W. 10 th Street |
| 1963 | Charles E. Baylor, Porter, Missouri & Pacific & Mary F. Baylor, no occupation listed |
| 1961 | Charles E. Baylor, Porter, Missouri & Pacific & Mary F. Baylor, no occupation listed |
| 1959 | Charles E. Baylor, Porter, Missouri & Pacific & Mary F. Baylor, no occupation listed |
| 1957 | Charles E. Baylor, Trucker, Missouri & Pacific Lines & Mary F. Baylor, no occupation listed |
| 1955 | Charles E. Baylor, Trucker, Missouri & Pacific Lines & Mary F. Baylor, no occupation listed |
| 1953 | Charles E. Baylor, porter & Mary F. Baylor, no occupation listed |
| 1952 | Charlie Williams, laborer & Essie, no occupation listed |
| | Note: Charles and Mary Baylor are listed at 1606 W. $10^{\rm th}$ Street |
| 1949 | No listing for 1607 W. 10^{th} Street |

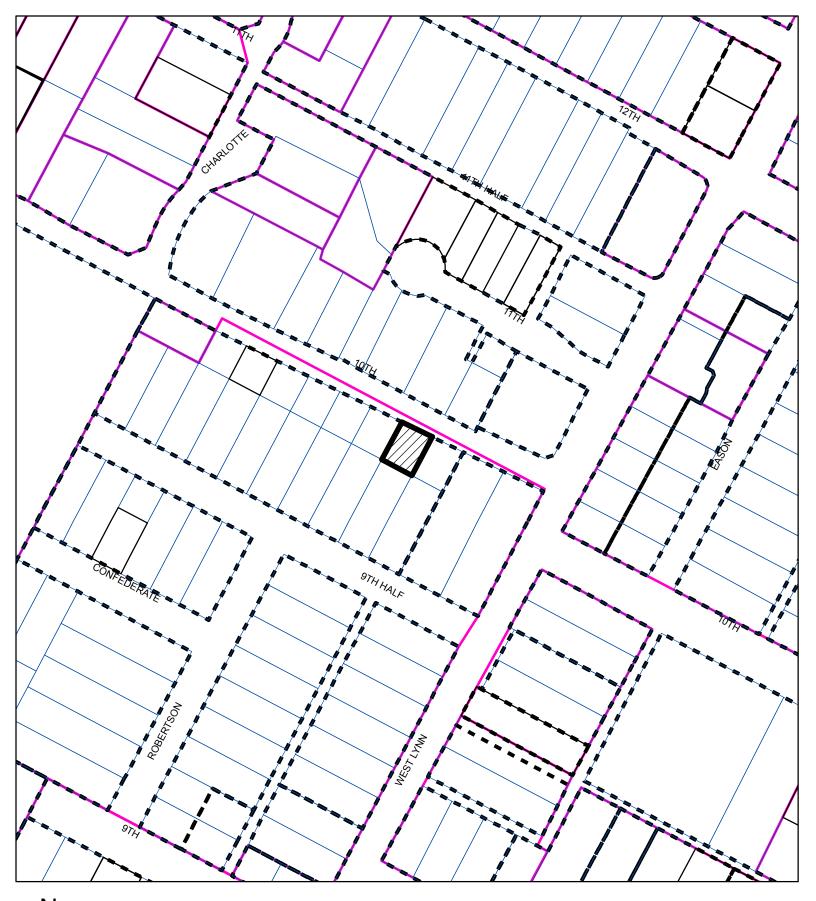
1607 West 10th St. Cary Baylor 1 21 West Ridge Box residence. 41987 9-19-49 \$500.00 Owner

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1949 Building Permit



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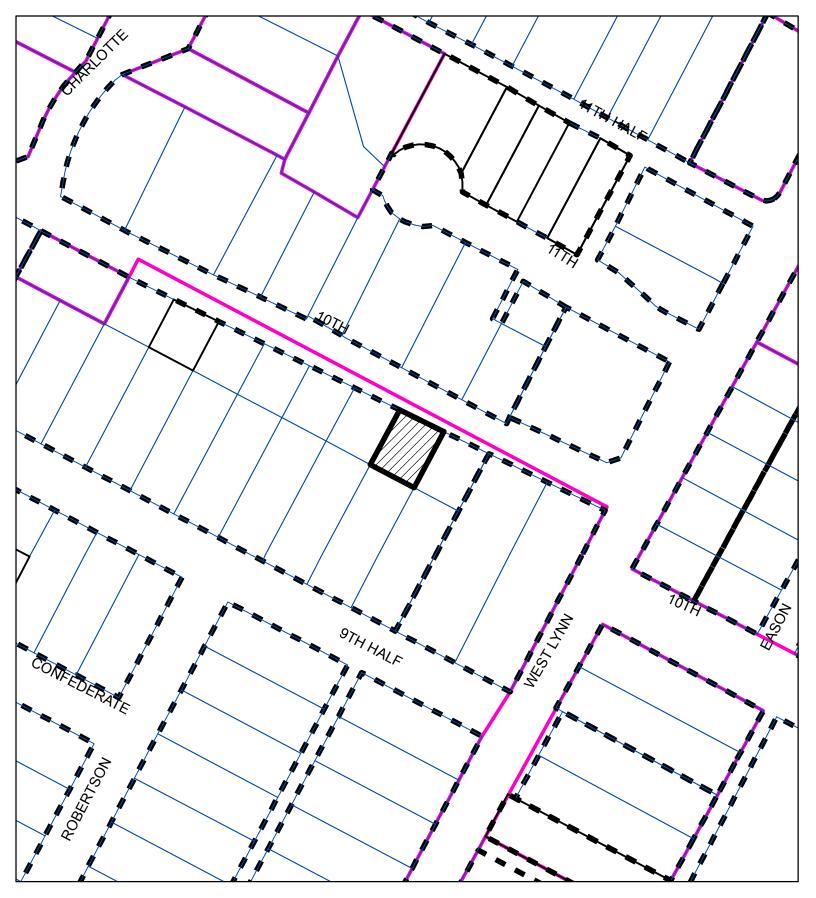




CASE#: NRD-2013-0066 LOCATION: 1607 W 10th Street



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.





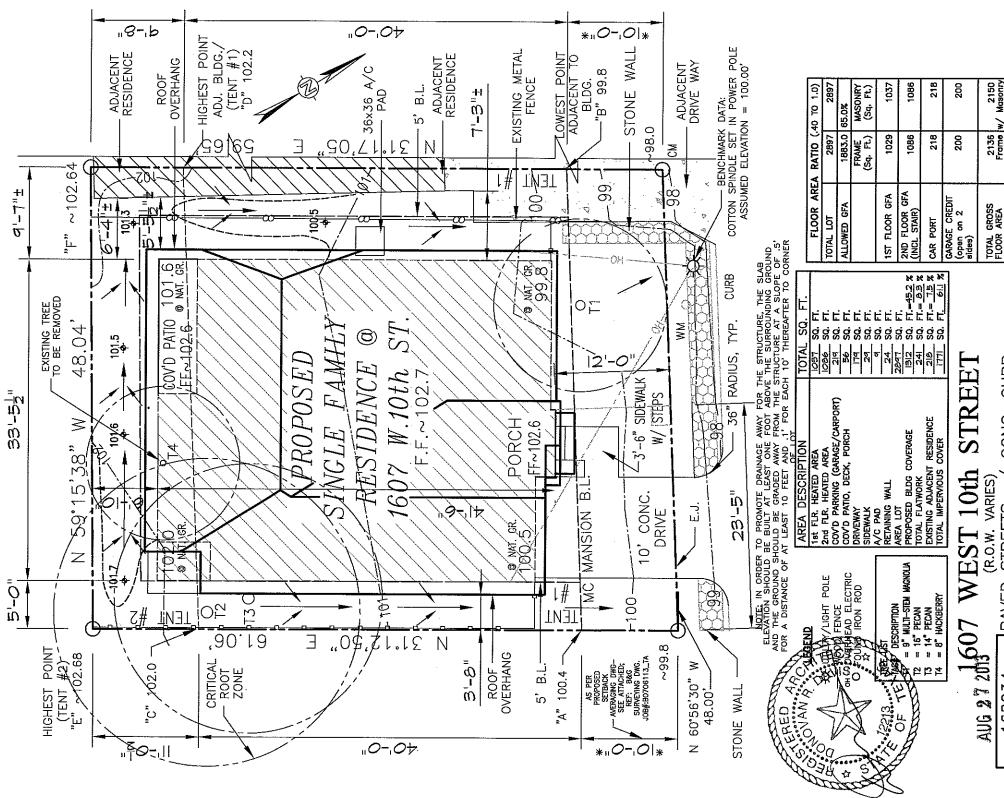
CASE#: NRD-2014-0004 LOCATION: 1607 W 10th Street



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.

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A SUBDIVISION OF RECORD IN VOLUME 2, PAGE 214B OF THE PLAT TO CHARLES DOUGLAS WALKER IN DOCUMENT NUMBER 200608921 UNIY, TEXAS; SAVE AND EXCEPT A PORTION OF A 559 SQUARE FOOTHE DEED RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS; SAD 0.067 OF AN AS SHOWN IN EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART BEING A 0.067 OF AN ACRE PORTION OF LOT 21, BLOCK 1, WESTRIDGE SUBDIVISION, A RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS AND BEING THAT SAME TRACT OF LAND CONVEYED ZOOGOB9217, AND 2006OB9218, ALL OF THE OFFICAL PUBLIC RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTACT OF LAND CONVEYED TO THE CITY OF AUSTIN IN VOLUME 6351, PAGE 1410 OF THACE TRACT OF LAND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS A HEREOF.



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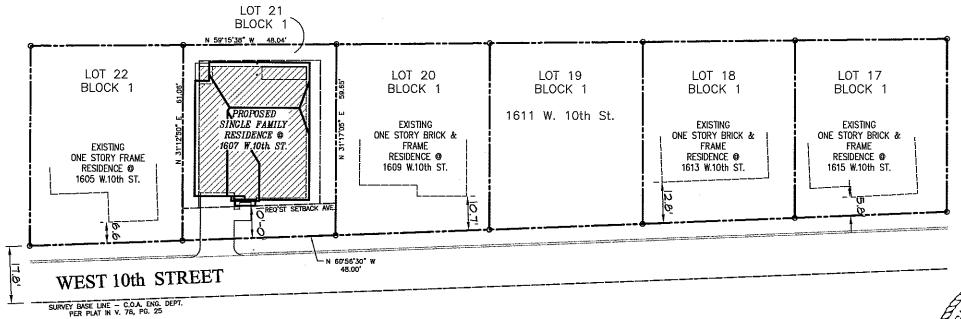
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DANZE & DAVIS ARCHITECTS, INC. 4701 Spicewood Springs Rd., Sulte 200 Austin, Texas 78759 512/343-0714 512/345-0718 (FD.) www.donze-donla.co

DAVIS ARCHITECTS, Inc.

PROPOSED SETBACK AVERAGE @ 1607 WEST 10th Street AUSTIN, TEXAS 78703



* SETBACK AVERAGING OF 4 NEAREST STRUCTURES ON SAME BLOCK FACE PER SUBCHAPTER F, SECTION 2.3 *

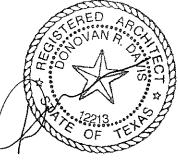
1605 W. 10th. St.-LOT 22 BLK 1= 6.6' 1609 W. 10th. St.-LOT 20 BLK 1=10.7' 1613 W. 10th. St.-LOT 18 BLK 1=12.8' 1615 W. 10th. St.-LOT 17 BLK 1= 5.8' =35.9' / 4 AVERAGE SETBACK = 8.9'

PROPOSED AVERAGE SETBACK = 10.0'

GRAPHIC SCALE: 1° INCH = 30' FT.

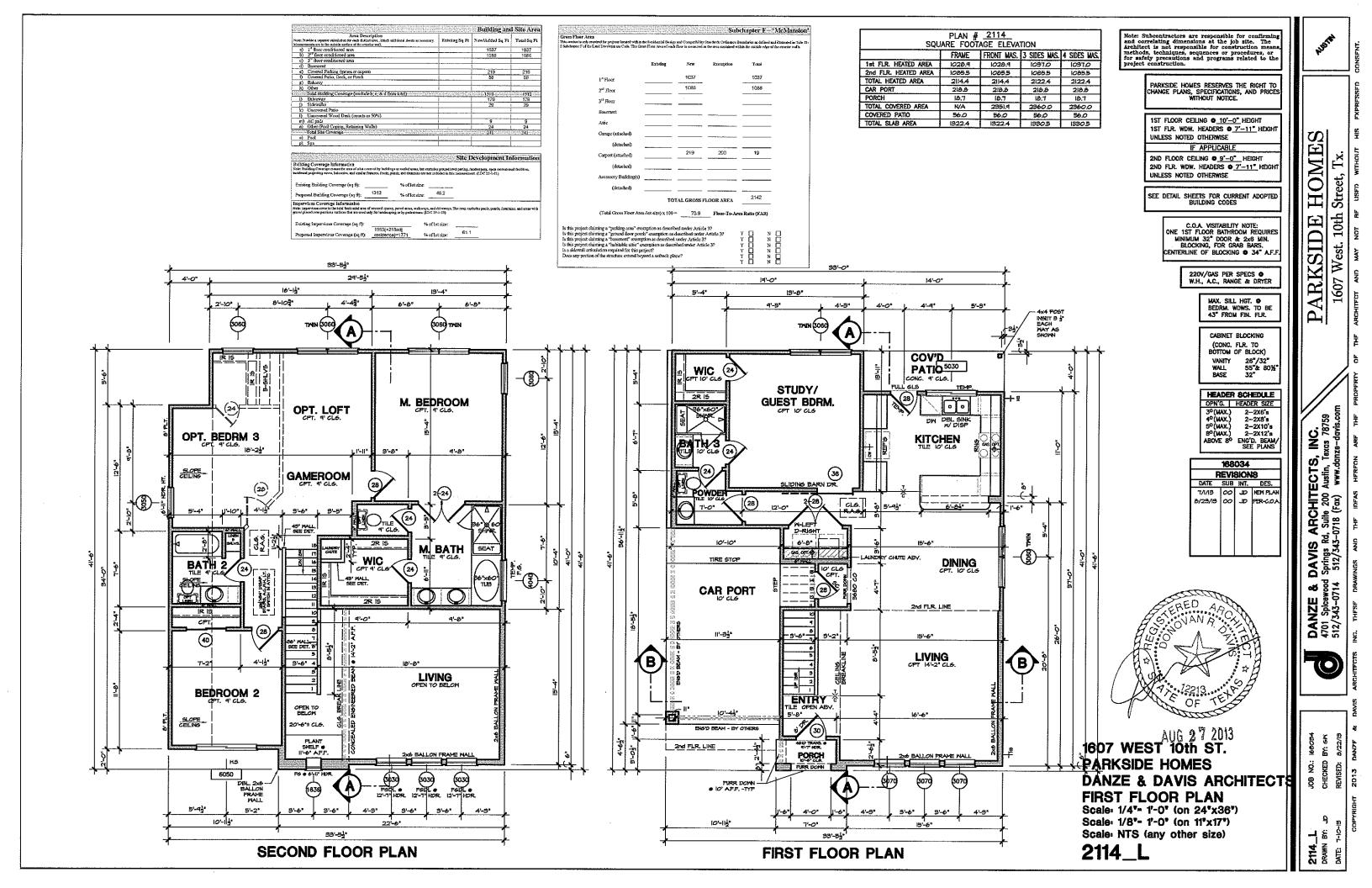


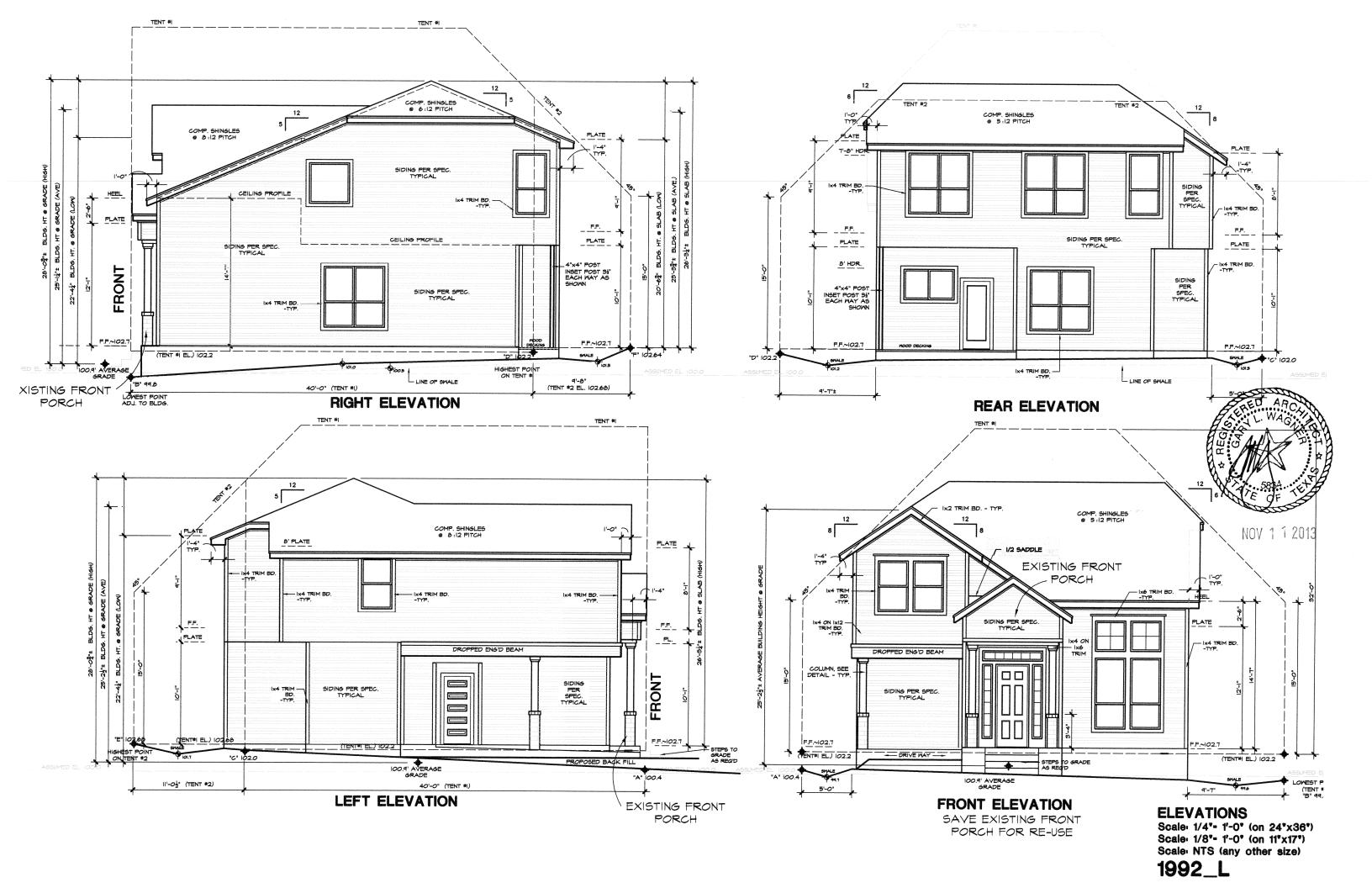
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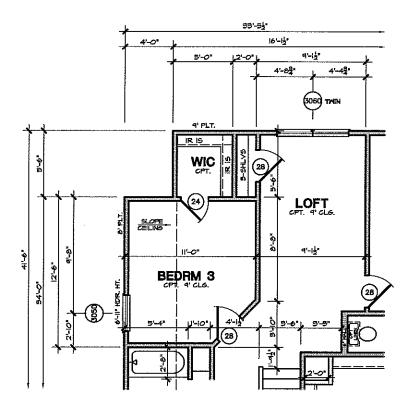


AUG 27 2013

PROPOSED SETBACK Scale: 1"- 30' (8 1/2"x14") Scale: NTS (any other size) 2114_L







BEDROOM 3 OPTION Scale: 1/4"= 1'-0" (on 24"x36") Scale: 1/8"= 1'-0" (on 11"x17") Scale: NTS (any other size)

GENERAL MECHANICAL SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

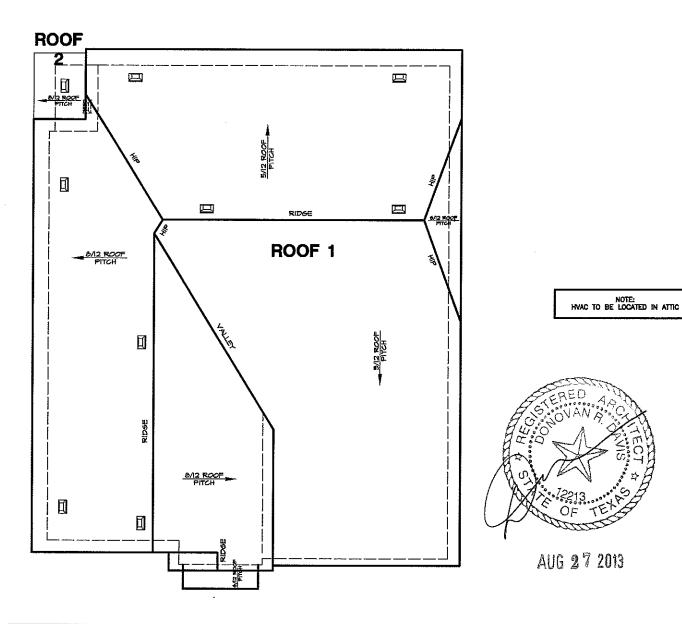
M1305.1.3 Appliances in attics. Attics containing appliances shall be provided with an opening and a clear and unobstructed passageway large enough to allow removal of the largest appliance, but not less than 30 inches (762 mm) high and 22 inches (559 mm) wide and not more than 20 feet (6098 mm) long measured along the centerline of the pessageway from the opening to the appliance. The passage way shall have continuous solid flooring in accordance with Chapter 5 not less than 24 inches (610 mm) wide. A level service space at least 30 inches (762 mm) deep and 30 inches (762 mm) wide shall be present along all sides of the appliance where access is required. The leas access so pening dimensions shall be a minimum of 20 inches by 30 inches (508 mm by 762 mm), and large enough to allow removal of the largest appliance. Exceptions:

1. The passageway and level service space are not required where the appliance can be serviced and removed through the required opening.

2. where the passageway is unobstructed and ont less than 6 feet (1829 mm) high and 22 inches (559 mm) wide for its entire length, the

less than 6 feet (1829 mm) high and 22 inches (559 mm) wide for its entire length, the passageway shall be not more than 50 feet (15 250 mm) long.

M1895.15.1 Electrical requirements. A luminaire controlled by a switch located at the required passageway opening and a receptacle outlet shall be installed at one are the appliance location in accordance with Chapter 39.



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ROOF PLAN Scale: 1/4"= 1'-0" (on 24"x36") Scale: 1/8"- 1'-0" (on 11"x17") Scale: NTS (any other size) 2114_L