### HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION APRIL 28, 2014 DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS HDP-2014-0100 502 E. MONROE STREET

### PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1926 house.

### ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, clipped side-gabled frame house with a central, partial-width, clipped front-gabled independent porch on ornamental metal posts; double front doors; single 1:1 fenestration with double 6:6 modern vinyl windows on the sides; the replacement windows do not fit the original window openings and there is wood infill around them; synthetic siding.

### RESEARCH

The house was built ca. 1926 by Travis County Clerk Fred Malone as an investment property. Malone built several houses in the neighborhood, including the house just to the west at 500 E. Monroe Street, which has been rehabilitated and preserved; it is a city historic landmark. The first occupants of the house were Charles W. and Bertha Schubbert, who rented the house from the time of its construction until around 1936. Charles Schubbert was an electrician and a movie projectionist at the Queen Theater, which was at the northwest corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Congress Avenue. They moved around 1936, when they bought a house on Kerr Street in the Zilker neighborhood. The house was then rented through the early 1950s to a variety of tenants, including a highway patrolman, a recorder for the State Highway Planning Survey, the manager of a processed cheese plant, a stenographer, and a printing press operator. By the mid-1950s, the house had been purchased by Louie J. and Irene Castillo Roberts, who lived here until around the time of Irene's death in late 1988. Louie J. Roberts had a series of jobs while he and Irene lived in this house – he was a building custodian at the University of Texas and a laborer for the State Highway Department. He spent his retirement in this house.

### STAFF COMMENTS

The house is listed in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984) but without a priority for research.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage the applicant to rehabilitate and preserve the house. The house next door, at 500 E. Monroe, was in as bad or perhaps worse shape than this one, and it was rehabilitated and restored, and has been featured in various Austin publications for how an older house can be revitalized with energy efficiency and restoration, and maintain the character of the neighborhood. The house next door was also proposed for demolition, but that applicant was encouraged to restore the house and make it more energy efficient, while keeping the historic features and character of the house. It is now a historic landmark. While this house does not appear to have the same historical significance as the house at 500 E. Monroe, it should also be given great consideration as a rehabilitation project rather than a tear-down. Monroe is a very visible street cutting across the heart of South Austin, and its historic character should be retained to the greatest extent possible.



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## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 502 E. Monroe Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center By City Historic Preservation Office January, 2008

1992	Penny MacCalla, owner No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Penny MacCalla was a new resident at this address.
1985-86	Louie J. and Irene C. Roberts, owners Retired
1981	Louie J. and Irene C. Roberts, owners Retired
1976	Louie J. and Irene S. Roberts, owners Retired
1971	Louie J. and Irene S. Roberts, owners Retired
1967	Louie J. and Irene S. Roberts, owners Laborer, State Highway Department

1963	Louis J. and Irene Roberts, owners Custodian, University of Texas
1959	Louie J. and Irene Roberts, owners Building maintenance, University of Texas
1957	Louie J. and Irene Roberts, owners Salesman, State Blind School
1954	Winifred A. Watterson, renter Stenographer, State Industrial Accident Board
1952	Winifred A. Watterson, renter Clerk, State Commission for the Blind
1949	Daniel H. McDowell, renter Pressman, Capitol Printing Company, 616 Lavaca Street
1947	Virginia Doherty, renter No occupation listed
1944-45	Fred A. and Virginia Doherty, renters Fred: No occupation listed Virginia: Clerk, State Board of Insurance Commissioners, Casualty Division
1942	Marshall C. and Pauline L. Smith, renters Recorder, State Highway Planning Survey
1941	Vacant
1940	Charles B. and Doris Thompson, renters Manager, Kraft-Phenix Cheese Corporation, 509 E. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street
1939	Charles B. and Doris Thompson, renters Manager, Kraft-Phenix Cheese Corporation, 509 E. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street
1937	Eugene M. and Anona L. Wells, renters Patrolman, State Highway Patrol
1935	Charles W. and Bertha Schubbert, renters Operator, Queen Theater, 700-02 Congress Avenue
1932-33	Charles W. and Bertha Schubbert, renters Projectionist
1930-31	Charles W. and Bertha Schubbert, renters Projectionist
1929	Charles W. and Bertha Schubert, renters Electrician
1927	Vacant

NOTE: Charles Schubbert (Bertha is not listed) is listed as living at 605 Highland Avenue; he listed his occupation as an operator at the Queen Theater, 700-02 Congress Avenue.

1924 The address is not listed in the directory.

### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

### Charles W. and Bertha Schubbert (ca. 1928 – ca. 1936)

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Charles W. and Bertha Schubbert as the renters of this house. Charles W. Schubbert was then 36, had been born in Texas to a German-born father, and was a motion picture projectionist. Bertha Schubbert was then 30, had been born in Texas to German-born parents, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 daughters: Doris, 4; and Rosemarie, 2. The 1940 U.S. Census shows the family as the owners of the house at 1700 Kerr Street in South Austin. Charles Schubbert was listed as a theater projectionist. Bertha Schubbert had no occupation listed.

### **CHARLES N. SCHUBBERT**

Charles N. Schubbert, 77, of 606 W. 8th St., died in a local hospital Wednesday.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Elsie Schubbert of Austin, a step-daughter, Mrs. T. Shuffield of Austin; a step-son, C. L. Stobaugh of Tulsa, Okla.; two daughters, Mrs. Rose Lock of Houston and Mrs. Doris Butler of Austin.

Funeral is pending at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home.

Obituary of Charles W. Schubbert Austin <u>American</u>, August 27, 1970

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CHARLES W. SCHUBBERT
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Palliearers Will be John C.
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Honorary palibearers will be
members of JATSP and Local
No. 285, and E. J. Miller,
international vice president of

Obituary and funeral notice for Charles W. Schubbert Austin <u>American</u>, August 28, 1970

# SCHUBERT, Bertha, 1215 Arcadia, died Sunday. Graveside services 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Austin Memorial Park. Survivors: daughters, Doris Butler of Austin, Mrs. W.G. Lock of Houston; four grandchildren. (Weed-Corley)

Obituary of Bertha Schubbert Austin <u>American-Statesman</u>, December 27, 1977

#### Charles and Doris Thompson (1938 – ca. 1940)

Charles and Doris Thompson appear in the 1940 U.S. Census as the owners of the house at 4403 Duval Street in Austin. Charles Thompson was then 30, had been born in Oklahoma, and was the manager of a cheese products business. Doris Thompson was then 31, had been born in Oklahoma, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 daughters: Betty, 7; and Carol, 2. With them lived Doris Thompson's mother, Mertie Attaway, a 63-year old Georgia-born widow with no occupation listed.

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Water service permit to Fred Malone for this address (1926)

Mrs. Joe Lung \*\* \*\*\*\*\* 502 E. Monroe 130 131 - 12M 50x100 -Fairview Park Addition to garage & relocate present bldg 218n - 3/4/38

Building permit to Mrs. Joe Lung for a garage addition and to relocate the existing garage (1938)

OWNER	Louie	Roberts		ADDRES	S 502_East	Monroe St.	<b>_</b> _
PLAT	_130	LOT	_2			<u>BI.K</u>	<u>12M</u>
SUBDIVI	SION	Fairview	Park				
OCCUPAN	icy	Residence	e				
BLD PER		11029	DATE	10-8-68	owners Estimate	\$990.00	
CONTRACTOR Texas Lumber Co. NO. OF FIXTURES							
WATER 1	AP_REC	#		SEWER	TAP REC #		
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Building permit to Louie Roberts to remodel the house (1968)

NOTE: The windows on both side elevations of the house have been replaced with smaller, non-historic windows that have required infill in the original window openings.