

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
AUGUST 25, 2014
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2014-0681
1102 W. MONROE STREET**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1937 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame house with a front-gabled, central, independent entry hood; single and paired 1:1 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1937 by N.A. Dawson, a prominent developer in South Austin who subdivided her family's land and built houses in the first decades of the 20th century. The house was rented by Mattie Ayres and Melvin Foster from the time it was built until around 1965, almost 30 years. Mattie Ayres and Melvin Foster were brother and sister. They had grown up on a farm in rural Travis County, but after their mother passed away, their father moved to a farm in Grayson County, near the Oklahoma border north of Dallas. Their parents had been born in Tennessee, and Mattie was born in Tennessee, but Melvin had been born in Texas. He was 7 years younger than Mattie. Mattie married a man named William Ayres, about whom little is known, but that he must have died early, as Mattie was a 44-year old widow when she moved into this house. She worked in a laundry, while Melvin worked for the City Sanitation Department and later, for the City Water and Sewer Department. The 1949 city directory has him listed as a "trouble shooter". After the tenancy of Mattie Ayres and Melvin Foster, the house was rented in the late 1960s. In the early 1970s, the house was purchased by Harold and Ruth M. Urias. Harold Urias was a construction worker.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house does not appear in any City survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Recommend rehabilitation and re-use if feasible, as this house appears to be very intact, and an excellent example of a late 1930s frame cottage that was once very prevalent throughout the city, but particularly in South Austin. If re-use is not feasible, then recommend 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, for archiving at the Austin History Center.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2014-0681

LOCATION: W Monroe Street

1" = 98'

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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1102 West Monroe Street
ca. 1937



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
1102 West Monroe Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
August, 2014

1992	Harold and Mary R. Urias, owners Employed by Capital City Utilities (not listed in the directory)
1985-86	Harold and Mary R. Urias, owners Employed by Capital City Utilities (not listed in the directory)
1981	Harold and Ruth M. Urias (not listed as owners) Machine operator, Hydro-Match (not listed in the directory)
1977	Harold and Ruth M. Urias, owners Construction worker
1973	Harold and Ruth M. Urias, owners Construction worker
1968	Sammy M Cox, renter No occupation listed Harold Urias (no wife listed), renter

Painter

- 1962 Melvin O. Foster, owner
Pipefitter, City Water and Sewer Department
- 1959 Melvin O. Foster, owner
Pipefitter, City Water and Sewer Department
- 1955 Melvin O. Foster (not listed as owner)
Repairman, City Water and Light Department
Also listed is Mattie Ayres, the widow of William Ayres, no occupation stated.
- 1952 Melvin O. Foster, owner
Repairman, City Water Department
- 1949 Melvin O. Foster, owner
Trouble shooter
- 1947 Melvin O. Foster (not listed as owner)
Repairman, City Water Department
- Mattie Ayres, renter
Employed by Capitol Laundry and Cleaning Company, 801 Barton Springs Road.
- 1944-45 Mattie Ayres, renter
Widow, William Ayres
Presser
- Melvin O. Foster, renter
No occupation listed
- 1941 Mattie Ayres, renter
Widow, William Ayres
Laundry worker, South Austin Laundry, 1518 S. Congress Avenue.
- 1939 Mattie Ayres, renter
Laundress, South Austin Laundry, 1518 S. Congress Avenue.
- 1937 The address is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: Mattie Ayres is listed as an ironer at the South Austin Laundry; she lived at 46 East Avenue.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**Mattie Ayres and Melvin Foster (ca. 1937 – ca. 1965)**

Mattie Ayres and Melvin Foster appear at this address in the 1940 U.S. Census. They were brother and sister. Mattie Ayres was a 44-year old Tennessee-born widow who was a finisher in a laundry. Melvin Foster was 36, had been born in Texas, and was a laborer in the City Sanitation Department. They rented this house. Mattie Foster (later Ayres) and Melvin Foster appear in the 1900 U.S. Census for rural Travis County; they were the children of James and Martha Foster, Tennessee-born farmers. Mattie was 13; Melvin was 7. The 1920 U.S. Census shows Mattie and Melvin Foster living with their father in Grayson County, Texas. J.R. Foster was a widower and general farmer. Mattie, 23, had no occupation listed; Melvin, 16, was a farm laborer.

FOSTER, Melvin O., 81, of Austin died Tuesday. Services 3:30 p.m. today at Wilke-Amey-Clay Funeral Home. Burial Masonic Cemetery.

Obituary of Melvin O. Foster
Austin American-Statesman, March 14, 1985

N. A. Dawson

1102
~~1014~~ W. Monroe St.

114

E

17

Capital Hgts.

res. & box gar.

194N - 6-32-37

4

Building permit to N.A. Dawson for the construction of the house (1937)

Unless the Plumbing is done in strict accordance with City Ordinances, do not turn on the water.

PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE AUSTIN, TEXAS No 5646

M. N. A. Dawson Address 1102 ~~1014~~ W. Monroe

Plumber Gisner Size of Tap 1 1/2 Date 7-13-37

Foreman's Report

Date of Connection 7-20-37

Size of Tap Made 3/4"

Size Service Made 1"

Size Main Tapped 2"

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 8.5'

From W - Prop. Line to Curb Cock 2.5'

Location of Meter back of curb line

Type of Box Lock

Depth of Main in St. 2'

Depth of Service Line 1.5'

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 34'

Checked by Engr. Dept. 1925 - 7-30-37

No.	Fittings	Size
2	Curb Cock	3/8"
1	Elbow	3/4"
1	St. Elbow	3/4"
1	Bushing	3/4" x 1/2"
1	Reducer	3/4" galv. pipe
1	Lead Comp.	3/4" x 5"
1	Nipples	3/4" x 5"
1	Union	1/2" sleeve
1	Plug	
1	Tie	
1	Stop	
1	Box	
1	Lid	
1	Valves	
1	Tile & I.T. cover	
1	Req. No.	18076

Foreman's Signature Brewster

INDEXED

Water service permit to N.A. Dawson for this address (1937)