

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
MARCH 23, 2015  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2015-0088  
904 E. 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET**

---

**PROPOSAL**

---

Demolish a ca. 1904 house.

---

**ARCHITECTURE**

---

One-story, wing-and-gable plan frame house with a partial-width shed-roofed independent porch on ornamental metal posts; single 1:1 non-historic vinyl windows; synthetic siding, including permastone at the principal entry.

---

**RESEARCH**

---

The house appears to have been built around 1904; it does not appear on the 1900 Sanborn map. The first occupants of the house were John T. and Molly Rogers, who lived here until around 1909. John T. Rogers was a Missouri-born evangelist; the city directories list him as an elder in the Church of Christ. Earlier census reports show that John Rogers had previously been a farmer in Milam County, Texas.

Milton and Mathilde Vardell lived here from around 1909 to 1911. He was an Alabama-born woodworker in a blacksmith shop; his son, Patrick, was a carpet layer for Scarbrough & Hicks, the predecessor to E.M. Scarbrough & Sons, the city's most prominent department store of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The house then had a series of renters through the 1910s and 1920s, including Alex W. and Margaret Hamby, who lived here in the late 1920s. He was an ice dealer. Around 1930, the house purchased by John A. and Marie Innes, who lived here until around 1946. John A. Innes was a butcher; in the mid-1930s, they rented out a portion of the house; their tenants included a cement finisher, and attendants at Austin State Hospital.

Littlepage and Desta May Copeland owned and occupied the house in the late 1940s and early 1950s; he was a mail carrier for the Post Office. Around 1953, the house was purchased by Ricardo Guerrero, whose family lived here until the early 1980s. Ricardo Guerrero was a Mexican-born machinist at Austin Auto Supply; his son Ricardo also worked at Austin Auto Supply, and another son, Julian, who lived here in the 1970s, worked at Glastron Boat Company, Austin Auto Supply, and then at Texas Instruments. The house has been a rental property since the 1980s.

---

**STAFF COMMENTS**

---

The house does not appear in any City survey.

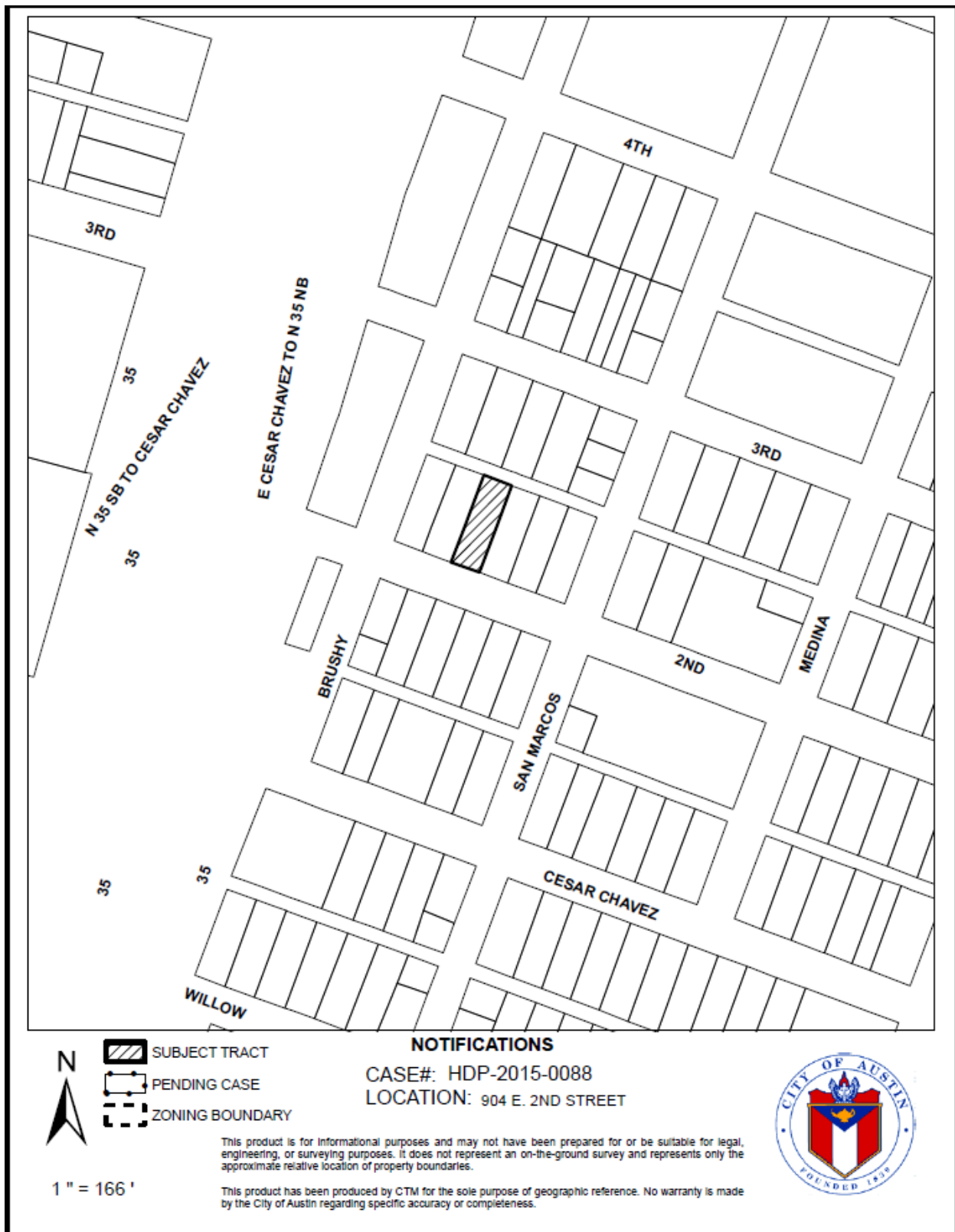
---

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

---

Encourage the applicant to reconsider rehabilitation and re-use of this house, which is located on a relatively intact block on E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The house has had some major modifications, which would generally disqualify it for landmark designation, but has a long history reflecting the history and architecture of this part of East Austin, and every effort to rehabilitate the house and return it to its historic appearance should be entertained prior to demolishing the structure. If the house cannot be rehabilitated, then staff recommends release of 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



904 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
ca. 1904



### OCCUPANCY HISTORY 904 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
February, 2015

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1992    | Robert River, renter<br>No occupation listed<br>NOTE: The directory indicates that Robert River was a new resident at this address.  |
| 1985-86 | Dennis L. and Sara Frew, renters<br>Driver<br>NOTE: The directory indicates that Dennis L. and Sara Frew were new residents at this address.   |
| 1981    | Julian and Tommie Guerrero, renters<br>Employed by Texas Instruments   |
| 1977    | Julian and Tommie Guerrero, renters<br>Machinist, Austin Auto Supply, 607 Red River Street.  |
| 1973    | Julian and Tommie Guerrero, renters<br>Laborer, Glastron Boat Company, 9108 Reid Drive.<br>NOTE: The directory indicates that Julian and Tommie Guerrero were new residents at this address. |

- 1968 Joe and Elizabeth Saucedo, renters  
Warehouseman, Big Three Industrial Gas and Equipment, 4927 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1962 Ricardo and Seferina Guerrero, owners  
Shopman, Austin Auto Supply, 600 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street and 5134 Burnet Road.
- 1959 Ricardo and Seferina Guerrero, owners  
Shopman, Austin Auto Supply, 600 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
Also listed are Ricardo G. and Josephine Guerrero; he was a carpenter.
- 1955 Ricardo and Seferina Guerrero, owners  
Mechanic, Austin Auto Supply, 600-04 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
Also listed are Ricardo G. and Josefina Guerrero; he was a machinist at Austin Auto Supply, 600-04 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
NOTE: Littlepage and Vesta Copeland are listed at 902 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street; he had no occupation listed.
- 1952 Littlepage M. and Desta M. Copeland, owners  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: Ricardo and Seferina Guerrero are listed at 912 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street; he was a machinist at Austin Auto Supply, 600-04 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1949 Littlepage M. and Desta M. Copeland, owners  
No occupation listed
- 1947 Littlepage M. and Desta M. Copeland, owners  
Mail carrier, U.S. Post Office
- 1944-45 Marie Innes, owner  
Widow, John A. Innes  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: Littlepage M. and Desta M. Copeland are not listed in the directory.
- 1941 John A. and Marie Innes, owners  
No occupation listed
- 1939 John A. and Mary Innes, owners  
No occupation listed
- Royce J. and Agnes Hagler, renters  
Attendant
- 1937 John A. and Marie A. Innes, owners  
No occupation listed
- Walter and Evelyn Wendland, renters  
Walter: Attendant, Austin State Hospital  
Evelyn: Attendant, Austin State Hospital
- 1935 John A. and Marie A. Innes, owners  
No occupation listed
- Charles W. and Lillie Z. Henson, renters  
Cement finisher

1932-33	John A. and Marie A. Innes, owners No occupation listed
1930-31	John A. and Marie A. Innes, owners Butcher
1929	Alex W. and Margaret Hamby, renter Ice dealer NOTE: John and Marie Innes are listed at 102 W. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street; he was a meat cutter for Clifton H. Harper, meats, 921-23 Congress Avenue.
1927	Alex W. and Margaret Hamby, renters No occupation listed
1924	Alex W. and Margaret Hamby, renters There is no listing for Alex or Margaret Hamby in the directory.
1922	Augusta Burt, renter Widow, R.O. Burt Saleswoman, E.M. Scarbrough & Sons, department store, 6 <sup>th</sup> Street and Congress Avenue.
1920	William A. and Maggie Smith, renters Gas fitter
1918	William A. and Maggie Smith, renters Soapmaker, Austin Soap Factory, manufacturers and dealers in washing powders, laundry and toilet soaps, and Star trademark, 911 E. 4 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1916	John B. Smith Clerk
1914	William F. Goettel, Jr. Driver
1912-13	Geronimo Pineda Fraternal organizer
1910-11	Milton G. Vardell No occupation listed Also listed is Patrick M. Vardell, a carpet layer for Scarbrough & Hicks, department store, 512-24 Congress Avenue.
1909-10	Milton G. Vardell Driver, Driskill Steam Laundry Also listed is Patrick M. Vardell, a carpet layer for Scarbrough & Hicks, department store, 512-24 Congress Avenue. NOTE: Rev. John T. Rogers is listed at 1118 W. 6 <sup>th</sup> Street; he had no occupation listed.
1906-07	Rev. John T. Rogers Elder, Church of Christ (not listed in the directory)

Bertha Gildon

Stenographer, Gaines land Company, dealers in Texas and Mexican lands, large tracts for stock raising or colonization, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, masonic Temple, 117 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

- 1905 John T. Rogers  
Elder, Church of Christ (not listed in the directory)
- 1903-04 Unknown  
NOTE: John T. Rogers is not listed in the directory.

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

#### John T. and Molly Rogers (ca 1904 – ca. 1909)

The 1910 U.S. Census shows John T. and Molly M. Rogers at 1211 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street in Austin. John T. Rogers was 66, had been born in Missouri, and was an evangelist minister. Molly M. Rogers was 43, had been born in Alabama, and had no occupation listed. This was the second marriage for both. They had a daughter, Lee Bertha Gildon, 24, who had been born in Texas, and was a stenographer for a mercantile agency. The 1880 U.S. Census shows John T. and Artimissa Rogers living in Milam County, Texas. John T. Rogers is listed as a 36-year old farmer. Artimissa Rogers was 32, had been born in Arkansas, and is listed as keeping house. They had 2 nephews living with them, March S. Foster, 8; and James Foster, 6.

#### Milton G. and Mathilde Vardell (ca. 1909-1911)

Milton G. and Mathilde R. Vardell are listed at this address in the 1910 U.S. Census. Milton G. Vardell was 67, had been born in Alabama, and was a woodworker in a blacksmith shop. Mathilde R. Vardell was 54, had been born in Alabama, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 children: Patrick M., 21, a carpet layer for a retail store; and Ida G., 16, who had no occupation listed. Both children had been born in Texas.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Milton Vardell as a 78-year old widower living in the home of his daughter, Willie L. Shelton at 1400 Garden Street. Milton Vardell was employed at the State Capitol.

**M. G. VARDELL.**

M. G. Vardell, aged 78, died Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. Funeral services will be held Monday at 5 p. m. from the residence of his daughter, Mrs. J. G. Shelton, 1400 Garden street. Interment will be in Oakwood Cemetery. Friends invited.

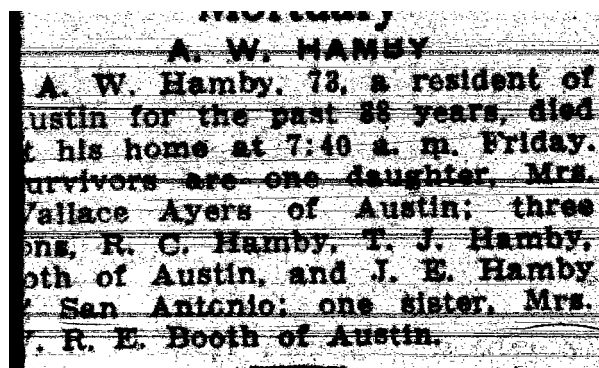
Obituary of Milton G. Vardell  
Austin American, September 6, 1920

#### William A. and Maggie Smith (ca. 1917 – ca. 1921)

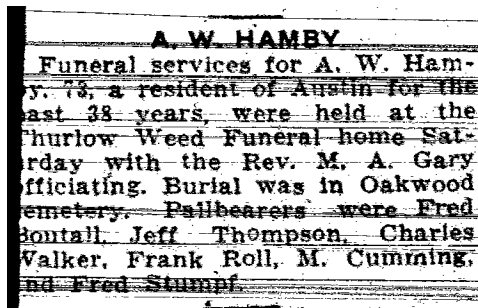
William A. and Margaret Smith appear in the 1940 U.S. Census as the owners of the house at 1105 W. Mary Street in Austin. Both were 49; both had been born in Texas. William A. Smith was a truck driver for a sand and gravel company. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Will and Maggie Smith renting the house at 508 San Marcos Street. Both were 39; he was the manager of a coal and wood company.

**Alex and Margaret Hamby (ca. 1923 – ca. 1929)**

Alex and Margaret Hamby appear in the 1930 U.S. Census as the renters of the house at 109 Waller Street in Austin. Alex Hamby was 68, had been born in Texas, and was an ice dealer. Margaret Hamby was 65, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed.



Obituary of Alex W. Hamby  
Austin American, January 11, 1936

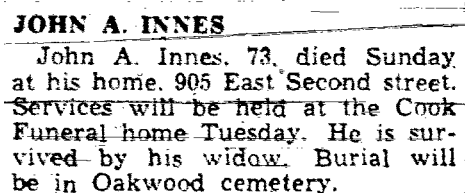


Funeral story for Alex W. Hamby  
Austin American, January 12, 1936

**John A. and Marie Innes (ca. 1930 – ca 1946)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows John A. and Marie A. Innes as the owners of this house, which was worth \$1,500. John A. Innes was 71, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. Marie A. Innes was 66, had been born in Germany, and had no occupation listed. Also at this address were Lester and Lorine Lamb, renters. Lester Lamb was 20, had been born in Texas, and was a construction laborer. Lorine Lamb was 19, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed.

John A. and Marie Innes appear in the 1930 U.S. Census as the owners of this house, which was worth \$2,200. John A. Innes was 60, had been born in Texas to Scottish-born parents, and was a meat cutter in a market. Marie Innes was 56, had been born in Germany and had no occupation listed. With them lived a nephew, Herschel Fuhrmann, 16, who had been born in Texas and was an apprentice in an electrical shop. The 1920 U.S. Census shows John A. and Marie A. Innes renting the house at 102 (?) W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Austin. John Innes was a butcher in a meat market; Marie Innes had no occupation listed.



Obituary of John Innes  
Austin American, August 2, 1943

**JOHN A. INNES**

Funeral services for John A. Innes will be held from the Cook Funeral home Tuesday at 5 p. m. with Dr. Louis P. Speaker officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood cemetery. Pallbearers will be C. E. Miller, Adolph Schutze, Harry Smith, H. L. Kuhlman, Oscar Kunz and J. M. Moore.

Funeral notice for John Innes  
Austin American, August 3, 1943

**MRS. MARIE INNES**

Funeral services for Mrs. Marie Innes will be held Thursday at 2:30 p.m. at Cook Funeral Home with Dr. Lewis Speaker officiating.

Mrs. Innes, who lived at Altenheim, 4013 Avenue H., died in a local hospital Wednesday.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Emma Schumacker of Houston; six nieces and six nephews.

Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Obituary of Marie Innes  
Austin American, July 7, 1955

**Littlepage and Desta Copeland (ca. 1946 – ca. 1953)**

Littlepage Copeland appears in the 1920 U.S. Census as the 19-year old son of Y. Augustus Copeland, a famer on the Del Valle-Garfield Road in southeastern Travis County. Littlepage had been born in Texas to South Carolina-born parents and was listed as a laborer on the home farm. The 1930 U.S. Census shows L. Page and Desta M. Copeland as the renters of an apartment at 108 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Both were 20, both had been born in Texas. L. Page Copeland was a mail carier on a rural route; Desta Copeland was the caretaker of an apartment house. The 1940 U.S. Census shows only Desta May Copeland, and she was living at 805 Neches Street. She was listed as married, and a demonstrator for a wholesale bakery.

**LITTLEPAGE COPELAND**  
 Littlepage (Page) Copeland, of  
 902 East 2nd St., died in a  
 Round Rock hospital Sunday. He  
 was a retired rural mail car-  
 rier and a member of the Onion  
 Creek Masonic Lodge. Survivors  
 are two sisters, Mrs. Ernest Ev-  
 ans and Mrs. A. H. Burton, both  
 of Austin, and a brother, J. D.  
 Copeland of Austin.

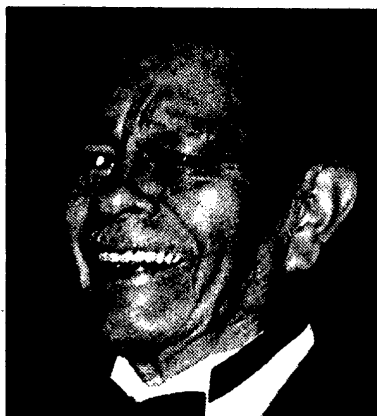
Funeral services will be held  
 Monday at 2 p.m. from Cook  
 Funeral Home with Rev. Bill  
 C. Clark officiating. Burial will  
 be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be J. Mai-  
 colm Jackson, J. W. Wood,  
 Pearce Johnson, Edward T.  
 Flow, Richard R. Flow and J.  
 Vernon Gregg.

Obituary of Littlepage Copeland  
 Austin American, April 13, 1964

**Ricardo and Seferina Guerrero; Ricardo and Josephine Guerrero (ca. 1953 – ca. 1965)**

Ricardo and Josephine Guerrero appear in the 1930 U.S. Census as the renters of an apartment at 801 Red River Street. Ricardo was 36, had been born in Mexico, and was a plasterer. Josephine Guerrero was 38, had been born in Mexico, and had no occupation listed. They had 4 children: Sophia, 17; Mary, 13; Pedro, 11; and Micaela, 9. All of the children had been born in Mexico and none had an occupation listed. He died in Austin on Septembr 28, 1965. His death certificate shows that he was in the masonry business and had been born in Mexico. He was living at this house at the time of his death.



### **Ricardo G. Guerrero**

Our Beloved Ricardo G. Guerrero, age 92, resident of Austin passed away on Wednesday August 13, 2003. Mr. Guerrero was preceded in death by his wife, Seferina Guerrero. At his passing he was a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.

He is survived by beloved children and their spouses, Tomas and Mary F. Guerrero, Maria Emilia and Fred Benites, Stephie and Fred Garza all of Austin and Julian and Tomasa Guerrero of Kyle; 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren survive him.

Recitation of rosary was held on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Mission Funeral Home Chapel.

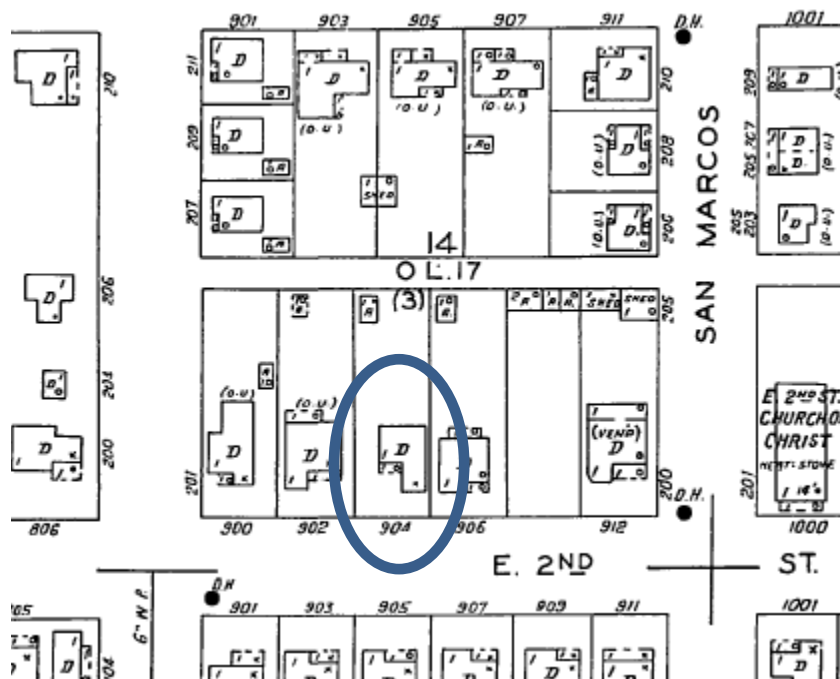
Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated Friday at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, Rev. Fr. Richard Hall, OMI to officiate. Committal services to follow at Assumption Cemetery.

The Guerrero family extends their gratitude to the Hospice Team, Rose, Elizabeth, Angelina and True for their care, love and support given to our beloved father during his illness.

Serving as pallbearers will be his grandsons.

Arrangements entrusted to Mission Funeral Home, 1615 E. Cesar Chavez, (512) 476-4355. To view memorials on-line, visit [www.missionmemorials.com](http://www.missionmemorials.com).

Obituary of Ricardo Guerrero  
Austin American-Statesman, August 15, 2003



OWNER	Julian Guerrero	ADDRESS	904 E. 2nd St.
PLAT	22	LOT	3
		BLK.	3
SUBDIVISION	Harrington		
OCCUPANCY	Siding to exist res		
BLDG. PERMIT #	197886	DATE	6-20-80
		OWNERS ESTIMATE	5,200.00
CONTRACTOR	Hurricane Const.	NO. OF FIXTURES	
WATER TAP REC#		SEWER TAP REC#	

Building permit to Julian Guerrero for siding (1980)