

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
APRIL 13, 2015
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2015-0202
901 SHOAL CLIFF COURT

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1923 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled, stuccoed frame house with a central, partial-width, front-gabled entry hood; paired 1:1 fenestration with 9:1 wooden screens. The house was modified in the mid-1970s to create a duplex, and then a tri-plex with the addition of space in the attic, and it appears that the front entry has been modified.

RESEARCH

City directories indicate that the first owners and occupants were Russell J. and Laura Hank. Russell Hank was born in North Dakota and worked as a civil engineer for the State Highway Department; he had been on the U.S. Geological Survey at the time of his marriage in 1918, and he served as the secretary/manager of the National Crushed Stone Association in the late 1920s. While at the State Highway Department, he oversaw the Federal Aid Projects in the 1930s. Hank was a materials and tests engineer; he died in 1958. After his death, Laura continued to live in the house for a year or two; it was a rental unit by the early 1970s, housing students.

STAFF COMMENTS

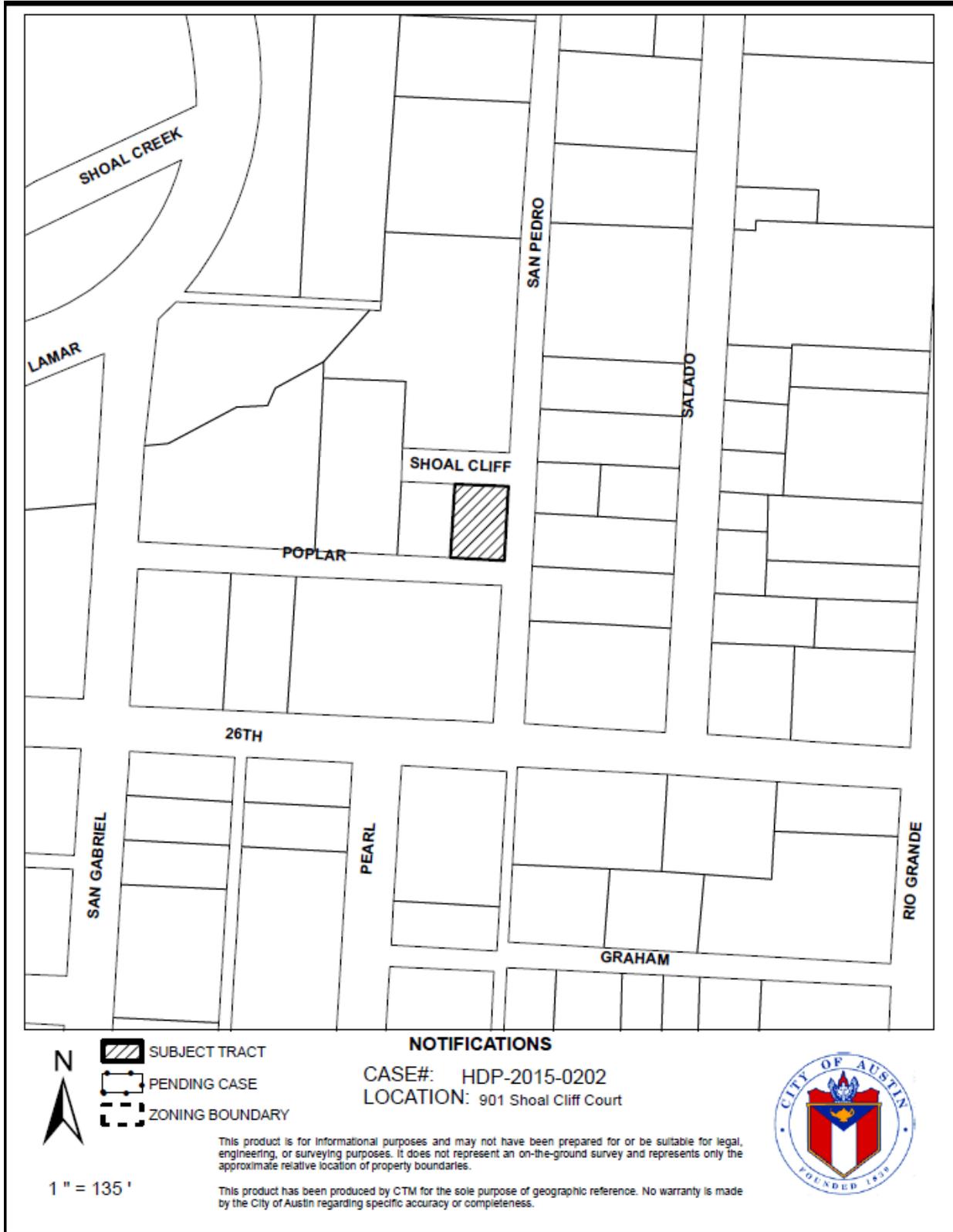
The house is listed in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984), but without a priority for research.

This house was the subject of an application for relocation in 2008. After initiating a historic zoning case, the Commission decided to release the relocation permit.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and reuse of the house if feasible; otherwise, 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. The house has neither the architectural nor the historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



901 Shoal Cliff Court
ca. 1923



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
901 Shoal Cliff Court

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
December, 2007

- | | | |
|---------|----|---|
| 1992 | A: | Johan Ling, renter
No occupation listed
NOTE: The directory indicates that Johan Ling was a new resident at this address. |
| | B: | Brian P. Burns, renter
Senior office assistant, University of Texas |
| | C: | John Gilliam, renter
No occupation listed
NOTE: The directory indicates that John Gilliam was a new resident at this address. |
| 1985-86 | A: | Vacant |
| | B: | Vacant |
| 1981 | A: | J. Jacobsen, renter
Student
NOTE: The directory indicates that J. Jacobsen was a new resident at this address. |
| | B: | No return |

1977 A: Mariah Payne, renter
 Student
 B: John Ryder, renter
 Student
 NOTE: The directory indicates that John Ryder was a new resident at
 this address.
 C: Vacant

1975 Kathy Jenkins, renter
 Student
 NOTE: The directory indicates that Kathy Jenkins was a new resident at this
 address.

1973 Diane Handin, renter
 Employed by Amway Distributing Company

1969 Mrs. Laura J. Hank, owner
 Widow, Russell J. Hank
 No occupation listed

1968 Russell and Laura J. Hank, owners
 Retired

1963 Russell J. and Laura L. Hank, owners
 No occupation listed

1959 Russell J. and Laura Hank, owners
 Engineer, State Highway Department

1957 Russell J. and Laura L. Hank, owners
 Administrative engineer, State Highway Department
 Also listed is Dorothy A. Hank, a saleswoman at J. R. Reed Music Company.

1954 Russell J. and Laura L. Hank, owners
 Engineer, State Highway Department
 Also listed is Dorothy A. Hank, a saleswoman at J.R. Reed Music Company.

1952 Russell J. and Laura L. Hank, owners
 Chief engineer, State Highway Department
 Also listed is Dorothy Hank, a clerk at the James F. Grove Music Shop, 309 W.
 21st Street.

1949 Russell J. and Laura L. Hank, owners
 Materials and tests engineer, State Highway Department
 Also listed is Laura Jean Hank, a student at the University of Texas.

1947 Russell J. and Laura Hank, owners
 Engineer, Materials and Tests Division, State Highway Department
 Also listed are C.E. Hank and Dorothy A. Hank; neither listed an occupation.

1944-45 Vacant

NOTE: Russell J. and Laura Hank are listed in the directory, but without an address; he listed his occupation as an engineer for the State Highway Department.

- 1942 Russell J. and Laura Hank, owners
Engineer, materials and Tests Division, State Highway Department
Also listed is Dorothy Hank; no occupation given.
- 1940 Russell J. and Laura Hank, owners
Superintendent, State Highway Department Aid Division.
- 1937 Russell J. and Laura Hank, owners
Engineer, State Highway Department
NOTE: The house is listed as 901 W. 26 ½ Street.
- 1935 Russell J. and Laura Hank, owners
Superintendent, Aid Project, State Highway Department
NOTE: The house is listed as 901 W. 26 ½ Street.
- 1932-33 Russell J. and Laura Hank, (not listed as owners)
Superintendent, Aid Project, State Highway Department
NOTE: The house is listed as 901 W. 26 ½ Street.
- 1930-31 Russell J. And Laura Hank, renters
Superintendent, Aid Project, State Highway Department
NOTE: The house is listed as 901 W. 26 ½ Street.
- 1929 Russell J. and Laura Hank, owners
Secretary-manager, National Crushed Stone Association
NOTE: The house is listed as 901 W. 26 ½ Street.
- 1927 Russell J. and Laura Hank, owners
Secretary-manager, National Crushed Stone Association
NOTE: The house is listed as 901 W. 26 ½ Street.
- 1924 Russell J. and Laura Hank, owners
Assistant highway engineer, State Highway Department
NOTE: The house is listed as 901 W. 26 ½ Street.
- 1922 The address is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: Russell J. and Laura Hank are listed as living at 205 E. 15th Street; he listed is occupation as a superintendent at the State Highway Department.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Russell and Laura Hank (ca. 1923 – ca 1970)

According to his 1968 death certificate, Russell John Hank was born in North Dakota in 1893; he was a retired highway engineer.

The 1910 U.S. Census shows Russell Hank as the 16-year old son of Agnes hank, who lived in Quanah Township, Comanche County, Oklahoma. He was born in North Dakota, and had a twin, Elmer. His mother had been born in Canada to Scottish parents, and his older sister, Myra, 19, had been born in Wyoming. Their father had been born in Ohio. Agnes Hank and her twin sons had no occupation listed in the census report; Myra Hank was a school teacher in Cachetown School.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows R.J. and Laura Hank as the owners of this house, which is shown as 901 W. 26 ½ Street. The house was worth \$7,000. Both R.J. and Laura Hank were 36; he had been born in North Dakota and was a highway engineer. Laura Hank had been born in Texas to Tennessee-born parents and had no occupation listed. They had 2 children: Dorothy Ann, 6; and Laura Jean, 2 months. Both children had been born in Texas.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows R.J. and Laura Hank as the owners of this house, which was worth \$6,000. R.J. Hank was a 47-year old civil engineer for the State Highway Department. Laura Hank was 48 and had no occupation listed. Their two daughters are listed with them.

Hank-Jernigan.

In a scene of simplicity with only palms and ferns for a background, the marriage of Miss Laura Jernigan and Russell John Hank was performed Thursday morning at 11 o'clock at the First Baptist Church, Rev. C. E. Mad-dry officiating.

Attendant upon the bride as maid of honor was her twin sister, Miss Larna Jernigan. She wore a becoming gown of dark blue georgette crepe in beaded effect with a hat of black. Her flowers were pink.

The groom was attended by Tearne Congden as best man. The ushers were Messrs. Ralph Blekler and George Wicker.

The bride was beautifully gowned in a coat suit of blue with hat, shoes and gloves of gray. Her flowers were arranged in an artistic shower bouquet of white bride roses.

Mrs. Mamie Stoner played the wedding music. Mrs. Q. C. Taylor on the violin was accompanied by her sister, Miss Marlon Kern, at the organ. Kenneth Jernigan, brother of the bride, sang the pre-nuptial song, "Until."

Mr. and Mrs. Hank have gone to Galveston and Houston for their wedding trip and will return soon to make their home in Austin.

Miss Jernigan is a young woman of many attainments, notable among them the gift of a beautiful voice. She has always made her home in Austin and numbers her friends by her acquaintances.

Mr. Hank is connected with the geological survey in the Federal building and is a young man well liked by his companions.

RUSSELL J. HANK

Russell J. Hank, 75, 901 Shoal Cliff Court, died in a local hospital Saturday. He lived in Austin for over 50 years and was a member of the First Baptist Church. Before his retirement he was an engineer with the Texas State Highway Department.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Laura Hank, Austin; two daughters, Mrs. Dorothy Thompson, Helotes; Mrs. Laura Jean Lasswell, of Oranges; and three grandchildren.

Funeral will be at Weed-Corley Funeral Home at 4 p.m. Monday with Dr. William Denham officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Memorial contribution may be made to First Baptist Church Building Fund.

Obituary of Russell J. Hank
Austin American-Statesman, September 22, 1968

RUSSELL J. HANK

Russell J. Hank, 75, 901 Shoal Cliff Court, died in a local hospital Saturday. He had been a resident of Austin 50 years and was a member of First Baptist Church. Before his retirement he was an engineer with the Texas Highway Department.

Funeral services were held at Weed-Corley Funeral Home

