

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
JUNE 22, 2015
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2015-0493
2505 BLUEBONNET LANE

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1954 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, L-plan, broken gabled-roof, stone-veneered house with stucco details; standing seam metal roof; recessed entry with stuccoed porch posts; modern replacement windows.

RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built in the early 1950s, and may have been a converted barn. There is no evidence in city directories of any house on this east side of Lamar Boulevard prior to the early 1950s. The first owners and occupants were Alexie and Joyce Benney, who lived here until around 1957. Alexie Benney was a clerk at the Post Office, but his obituary indicates that he was also a popular square dance caller and instructor. From around 1957 through the early 1980s, the house was owned and occupied by Olan and Frances Kelley. Olan Kelley was a police officer. After Olan and Frances Kelley divorced in 1980, she remained in the house. She worked as a clerk for the State Commission for the Blind.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house does not appear in any City survey, and Sanborn maps through 1962 do not show this area of the city.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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

CASE#: HDP-2015-0493
Address: 2505 BLUEBONNET LANE



1" = 200'

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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2505 Bluebonnet Lane
ca. 1954



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
2505 Bluebonnet Lane

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

1992	Malcolm H. and Michelle Welbourne, renters Malcolm: Musician Michelle: Nurse, Seton Medical Center
1985-86	Frances L. Kelley, owner Clerk, State Commission for the Blind
1981	No return
1977	No return
1973	Olan A. and Frances L. Kelley, Jr., owners City police
1968	Olan A. and Frances L. Kelley, Jr., owners City police
1962	Vacant NOTE: Olan A. and Frances L. Kelley are not listed in the directory.

- 1959 Olan and Frances L. Kelley, Jr., owners
City police
NOTE: Alexie Benney is listed as a clerk at the Post Office who was living at the rear of 310 Bowie Street; A Joyce Benney was a clerk with the U.S. Department of Agriculture who lived on Rural Route 5; and Martha N. Benney was a checker in the State Department of Public Safety and lived at 1119-A W. 10th Street.
- 1955 A.H. and Joyce Benney, owners
Clerk, Post Office
Also listed are A. Joyce Benney, a clerk at the Agricultural Marketing Service; and Joe Benney, no occupation shown.
NOTE: Martha Benney is listed at 1119 W. 10th Street; she was a checker with the State Department of Public Safety.
NOTE: Olan A. and Frances Kelley, Jr. are listed at 4500 Hank Avenue; he was a city policeman.
- 1952 The address is not listed in the directory. There are no addresses on this side of S. Lamar Boulevard, and no indication of an alternate street name for what is now Bluebonnet Lane on the east side of S. Lamar.

NOTE: Alexie H. and Martha Benney are listed at 1119 W. 10th Street; he was a supervisor at the Post Office; she was a clerk with the Department of Public Safety. Listed with them was Alberta Benney, a clerk with the Department of Public Safety.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**Alexie and Martha Benney (ca. 1954 – ca. 1957)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Alexie and Martha Benney as the renters of an apartment in the house at 94 East Avenue in Austin, which was owned by Dave Schmidt, a well-known restaurateur and tavern owner. Alexie Benney was 34, had been born in Texas, and was a male clerk at the Post Office. Martha Benney was 35, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 children: Alberta, 6; and Alexie, Jr., 4. Both children had been born in Texas. Both the 1930 and 1920 U.S. Census reports show Alexie Benney living in the home of his aunt, Virginia Maufrais, at 1403 W. 10th Street. In 1930, Alexie Benney has a clerk at the Post Office; in 1920, he had no occupation listed.

A.H. (Buck) Benney

A.H. (Buck) Benney, 80, of Dripping Springs died Tuesday.

He was a member of the Friendship Baptist Church, and a committee member for Child Evangelism. In the 1940's and 1950's he was a popular Square dance caller and instructor in Central Texas.

He leaves behind his wife, Alice Benney, Drippings Springs; daughter, Alberta Benney Shelton, Austin; son, A.H. Benney, Jr., Houston; stepsons, Rex Bible, Austin, and Steve Bible, Cedar Park; grandsons, Matthew, Michael and John Shelton, Austin; granddaughters, Terri, Julie, and Melanie Benney, Houston, Janine and Christine Bible, both of Austin, Stéphanie and Jennifer Bibie, both of Cedar Park; first cousin, Nellie Butler, Austin.

Funeral services 1:00 PM, Thursday at the Friendship Baptist Church, with Reverend Joel Thielepape officiating. Burial will follow in the Oak Hill Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be in the form of memorials to the Friendship Baptist Church, Rt. 6 Box 57T, Austin, Texas 78737; Memorial United Methodist Church, 6100 Berkman Drive, the American Cancer Society, or Child Evangelism, 2710 Cascade.

Arrangements entrusted to Forest Oaks Funeral Home, 6701 Convict Hill Road, Oak Hill. 892-1172.

Obituary of Alexie "Buck" Benney
Austin American-Statesman, March 12, 1986

Olan A. and Frances L. Kelley were married in 1950 and divorced in 1980.

OWNER Olan A. Kelly Jr. ADDRESS 2505 Bluebonnet Lane
 PLAT 289 LOT E portion of lot 2 BLK --
 SUBDIVISION Theodore Low
 OCCUPANCY Enlarge storage area
 BLD PERMIT # 115057 DATE 11-5-69 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$25.00
 CONTRACTOR owner NO. OF FIXTURES
 WATER TAP REC # Exist SEWER TAP REC # Exist
 Frm addn to acc bldg.
 400 sq. ft.

Building permit to Olan A. Kelly, Jr. for the construction of a frame addition to the garage (1969)