

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 16, 2015
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2015-1016
608 W. ST. JOHNS AVENUE**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1946 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled stone-veneered frame house with a central, partial-width, shed-roofed, independent porch on plain, square wood posts; single 6:6 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1946 for Warren S. and Hilda Hood, who lived here until Hood's death in 1953. Warren Hood was born in Kansas; they had lived in Houston for at least 10 years before moving to Austin. He had been a painter in Houston and was a painter for the University of Texas upon moving to Austin. From the mid-1950s through the mid-1970s, the house was a rental unit, with tenants including students, cafeteria workers, and widows. Ruby Wimberly, a widow who worked for the Internal Revenue Service, moved into the house in the early 1970s; she is listed as the owner of the property thereafter. She was retired.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house is beyond the bounds of any City survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of this house; it is a classic example of vernacular post-World War II design, and reflects the architecture and social makeup of the neighborhood in its history and design. However, the house does not have sufficient architectural and historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark, so 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 if rehabilitation and adaptive re-use is not a feasible option.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2015-1016
Address: 608 W ST. JOHNS



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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608 W. St. Johns Avenue
ca. 1946



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 608 W. St. Johns Avenue

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

1992	Ruby B. Wimberly, owner Retired
1985-86	Ruby B. Wimberly, owner Retired
1981	Ruby B. Wimberly, owner Retired
1977	Ruby B. Wimberly, owner Retired
1973	Ruby B. Wimberly (not listed as owner) Widow, Tom Wimberly Clerk, IRS
1968	Estelle Lee, renter Widow, Charles Lee Retired NOTE: Ruby Wimberly is not listed in the directory.

1962	Hattie J. Jones, renter Widow, C.I. Jones Food server, Board of Education
1959	Joe L. and Eloise Price, renters Student
1955	Vince and Alga Avery, owners No occupation listed Horace C. and Mildred Heath, owners Painter
1952	Warren S. and Hilda Hood, owners Painter
1949	W. Stanley and Hilda Hood, owners Painter
1947	Warren S. and Hilda Hood, owners Painter, University of Texas
1944-45	No houses are listed on St. Johns Avenue. NOTE: Warren S. and Hilda Hood are listed at 709 W. 22 nd Street, Apt. 2. He had no occupation shown.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Warren S. and Hilda Hood (ca. 1946 – ca. 1953)

Warren S. and Hilda Hood appear in the 1940 U.S. Census of Houston, Texas, where they rented an apartment in what appears to have been a tri-plex. Warren S. Hood was 52, had been born in Kansas, and was a painter. Hilda Hood was 53, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a son, James, 14, who had been born in Texas. They had lived in University Place, Harris County, Texas, in 1935.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Warren S. and Hilda Hood as the renters of a house in Houston, Texas. Warren S. Hood was 48, had been born in Kansas, and was the owner of a retail grocery store. Hilda Hood was 43, had been born in Texas, and was the owner of a rooming house. Their son, James W. Hood, was 4. They had 5 lodgers: Leon Meyer, 28, a Texas-born retail stationery salesman; Ethel Cherry, 22, a Texas-born waitress in a hotel; Merritt Smith, 37, a Georgia-born auto paint and polish salesman; Imogene Haltom, 19, a Texas-born drapery maker for a furniture store; and Robert E. Campbell, a 57-year old Tennessee-born widower who was a roofing salesman.

His 1917 World War I draft registration card shows that Warren Stanely Hood was living at Gray, Beaver County, Oklahoma. He had been born in Pratt County, Kansas in 1887, and was a U.S. Mail carrier. He was married, of medium height and build, had brown eyes and hair, and was partly bald.

His 1953 death certificate shows that Stanley Warren Hood was living at this house at the time of his death at the age of 66. He was a painter, who had been born in Kansas.

WARREN S. HOOD

Warren S. Hood, 66, of 608 St. Johns Street, died in a local hospital Saturday afternoon. He was an employe of the University of Texas. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Hilda Marie Hood, Austin; two sons, Major Pat W. Hood, St. Louis, Mo., James W. Hood, El Paso; two brothers, Martin Hood, Aline, Oklahoma; Howard Hood, Wichita, Kans.; three sisters; Mrs. Pearl McCready, Gig Harbor, Wash.; Mrs. Lula Mansfield, Bakersfield, Calif.; Mrs. Frank Crockett, Clinton, Okla.; three grand-children. The body is at the Wilke Funeral Home. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Obituary of Warren S. Hood
Austin American-Statesman, September 20, 1953

WARREN S. HOOD

Warren S. Hood, 66, of 608 St. Johns Ave., died in a local hospital Saturday afternoon. He had been a resident of Austin for several years, having moved here from Houston. He was employed by the University of Texas.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Hilda Marie Hood, Austin; two sons, Major Pat W. Hood, St. Louis, Mo., and James W. Hood, El Paso; and three sisters, Mrs. Pearl McCready, Gig Harbor, Wash.; Mrs. Luis Mansfield, Bakersfield, Calif.; and Mrs. Frank Crockett, Clinton, Okla.; two brothers, Martin Hood, Aline, Okla., and Howard Hood, Wichita, Kans.; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services have been tentatively set for 2:30 p. m. Wednesday from the Chapel of the Bells with the Rev. Edward V. Long officiating.

Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park under the direction of the Wilke Funeral Home.

Obituary and funeral notice for Warren S. Hood
Austin American, September 21, 1953

Ruby Wimberly (ca. 1970 -)

Ruby M. Wimberly appears in the 1942 Austin city directory as a photographer living at 5203 Woodrow Avenue. Her husband, Tom Wimberly, died in 1969.

Ruby Wimberly

Ruby Wimberly, age 91, of Austin, died January 3, 2006.

She was preceded in death by her husband Tom Wimberly, a World War I veteran.

She was a devoted mother and grandmother and will be greatly missed. She had a very successful career having retired from the Internal Revenue Service.

She is survived by three children Tom Wimberly of Austin, Janice Wilson of Taylor and Barbara Scott of Shiner, seven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday at the Taylor cemetery, Taylor, Texas.

Funeral Services have been entrusted to the care of Elgin Funeral Home, 712 N. Ave. C. Elgin, Texas 78621.

Obituary of Ruby Wimberly
Austin American-Statesman, January 5, 2006

Water District

WATER SERVICE PERMIT

D No. 2124313

Austin, Texas

Received of Warren S. Hood **Date** _____

Address 608 W. St. Johns

Amount _____ **\$ Water District**

Plumber _____ **Size of Tap** 5/8 x 3/4

Date of Connection.....	Size	
Size of Tap Made.....		No. Fittings
Size Service Made.....		Corp. Cock
Size Main Tapped.....		Elbow
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock.....		St. Elbow
From Prop. Line to Curb Cock.....		Bushing
Location of Meter.....		Reducer
Type of Box.....		Pipe
Depth of Main in St.....		Lead Comp
Depth of Service-Line.....		Nipples
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main.....		Union
Checked by Engr. Dept. <u>12-11-51 R.C.</u>		Plug
		Tee
		Stop
		Box
		Lid
		Valves
		Job No.
		Req. No.

INDEXED

Water service permit to Warren S. Hood for this address (1951)

Application for Sewer Connection
 No. 31234
 Sub No. 19717
 City of Austin, Texas
 Date 3-9-1953
 Please plant as soon as possible
 To the Superintendent of Sanitary Sewer Division, City of Austin, Texas.
 Sir:—
 I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises owned by
W. S. Hood at 608 St. John Ave Street
 further described as Lot 8 Block 13 Outlot Division
 subdivision Silverton #2 Plat 313 which is to be used as a res.
 In this place there are to be installed Coc fixtures. Plumbing Permit No. 3780-a
 I agree to pay the City of Austin, the regular ordinance charge. Coc, aa, Detson
 Depth at Prop. Line 3'- Respectfully, 3-11-53
 Sub-
 Connected } 47 1/2' E. W. C. "AAA" Obg. co
 (Location)
 Date 3-13-53
 By Villarsell
 VOTE: Connection Instruction 6" Sewer in St + 4' Aug
man 2.5' 5' 3' E 1783

Sewer connection application by Warren S. Hood for this house (1953)

A screened porch addition to the rear of the house was approved in 2011.