

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
MAY 23, 2016  
PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS  
NRD-2016-0033  
910 BAYLOR STREET  
WEST LINE**

**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1937 house.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-and-a-half story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled Colonial Revival frame house with a central, front-gabled entry hood on ornamental metal supports, twin gabled dormers each containing a pair of 6:6 windows, and single and paired 6:6 fenestration in the rest of the house.

**RESEARCH**

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The house was built in 1937 by Lawrence E. and Bess Ledbetter, who lived here until the early 1960s. Lawrence E. Ledbetter was an electrician, and later superintendent for the State Board of Control, which had jurisdiction over the State Capitol grounds. He was in charge of the building and grounds of the State Capitol for 40 years. From the early 1960s on, the house was a rental property, with two apartments.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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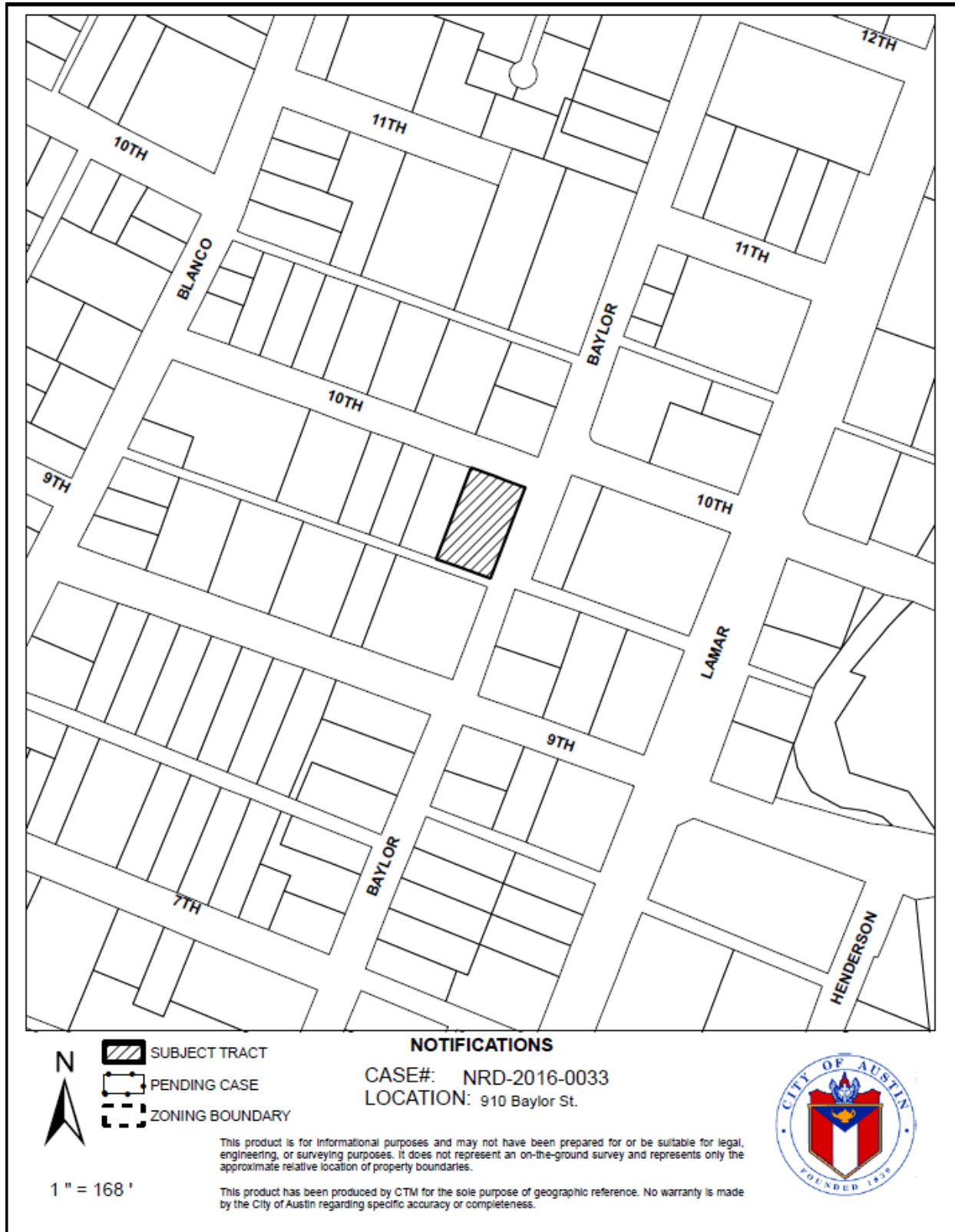
The house is listed as non-contributing to the West Line National Register Historic District. Staff disagrees with this determination.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, 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, and the Commission's review of any new construction on the site.

## LOCATION MAP



910 Baylor Street  
ca. 1937



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
910 Baylor Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
April, 2016

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 1992    | The address is not listed in the directory.   |
| 1985-86 | <p>A: Mark Adam, renter<br/>Mechanic<br/>NOTE: The directory indicates that Mark Adam was a new resident at this address.</p> <p>B: August J. Rothe, renter<br/>Manager, Baze Hair Design, 217 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street.<br/>NOTE: The directory indicates that August J. Rothe was a new resident at this address.</p> |
| 1981    | <p>A: No return</p> <p>B: Fred Urban, renter<br/>No occupation listed<br/>NOTE: The directory indicates that Fred Urban was a new resident at this address.</p>   |

1977	Vacant
1973	<p>A: Artie L. Keinarth, renter Student NOTE: The directory indicates that Artie L. Keinarth was a new resident at this address.</p> <p>B: James C. Webb, renter No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that James C. Webb was a new resident at this address.</p>
1968	<p>A: Vacant</p> <p>B: Thomas C. Chase, III, renter Student</p>
1962	Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter, owners No occupation listed
1959	Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter, owners No occupation listed
1955	Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter, owners Superintendent, State Board of Control
1952	Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter, owners Superintendent, State Board of Control
1949	Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter, owners Canine beautician, Tropical Pet Store, 915 W. 12 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1947	Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter, owners Electrician, State Board of Control
1944-45	Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter, owners Electrician, State Board of Control
1941	Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter, owners Electrician, State Board of Control
1939	Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter, owners Electrician, State Board of Control
1937	Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter, owners Electrician, State Board of Control
1935	<p>The address is not listed in the directory.</p> <p>NOTE: Lawrence E. and Bess Ledbetter are listed at 1005 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street; he was an electrician for the State Board of Control</p>

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

### **Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter (ca. 1937 – ca. 1962)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter as the owners of this house, which was worth \$4,000. Lawrence E. Ledbetter was 58, had been born in Texas, and was an

electrician in the State Capitol. Bess C. Ledbetter was 57, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 lodgers: Mary Johnson, 20, who had been born in Texas and was a stenographer in an architect's office; and Lona Ray Martin, 24, who had been born in Texas, and was a stenographer in a life insurance office. She had lived in Dallas in 1935.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter living a house they owned at 1005 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street. That house was worth \$6,000. Lawrence E. Ledbetter was 48, had been born in Texas, and was a mechanic at the State Capitol. Bess C. Ledbetter was 48, had been born in Texas, and was a secretary for the State Health Department. They had an adopted daughter, Jane McCowan, 19, who had been born in Texas and had no occupation listed. They also had a maid L, Lucy Castile, 20, who had been born in Texas, and is listed as a servant for a private family.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Lawrence E. and Bess C. Ledbetter as the owners of the house at 1005 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street. He was an electrical engineer at a hotel; she was a secretary for a chile factory.

**MRS. L. E. LEDBETTER**

Mr. Lawrence E. Ledbetter, 83, of 2806 Cherry Lane, died at the family residence Friday. She was a lifelong resident of Austin and a member of the University Presbyterian Church and Atrusa Club.

Survivors include her husband, Lawrence E. Ledbetter; daughter, Mrs. H. T. Hibler, Austin; son, Col. Carl E. Green, Fort Worth; two sisters, Miss Margueritte Cunningham, Austin and Mrs. Lola C. Harris, Corpus Christi; brother, Randolph D. Cunningham, Raleigh, three grandchildren.

Funeral will be Sunday at 2 p.m. from Cook Funeral Home with Dr. William M. Logan officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Frank Allen, Douglas B. Thrasher, Worth Simpson, Sam Saxon, Jake C. Pennington and Glendon Doss.

Memorials may be made the University Presbyterian Church or ones own church or favorite charity.

Obituary of Bess C. Ledbetter  
Austin American-Statesman, March 19, 1966

# Ledbetter Services Set Today

Funeral for Lawrence  
Ledbetter, 83, will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Cook Funeral Home. Rev. Glenn W. Murray will officiate. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Ledbetter, superintendent of the building and grounds of the State Capitol for over 40 years, died in a local hospital Saturday.

Ledbetter was a member of University Presbyterian Church, Austin Lodge 12, A.F. & A.M., Scottish Rite Bodies, the Ben Hur Shrine, and American Legion Post 76.

Pallbearers will be Howard Bull, Sam Saxon, Frank B. Allen, Herman McDougall, Mason Schultz and John Sunheimer.

Surviving Ledbetter are a daughter, Mrs. H. T. Hibler of Austin; a son, Col. Carl E. Green of Fort Worth; a sister, Mrs. George Edwin Endress of Austin and three grandchildren.

News story on the funeral of Lawrence Ledbetter  
Austin American, March 18, 1968

L. E. Ledbetter

910 Baylor Street

94

5

7

11,12

8

Silliman Addition

frame residence &amp; frame garage

189 - April 29, 1937

4

Building permit to Lawrence Ledbetter for the construction of this house (1937)

Unless the plumbing is done in strict accordance with City Ordinances, we will turn off the water.

## PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE

AUSTIN, TEXAS No. 5407

M. Lawrence Ledbetter Address 910 Baylor **INDEXED**

Plumber Gisselle Size of Tap 1 1/2" Date 5-4-37

NUO  
#

Date of Connection 5/11/37

Size of Tap Made 1 1/2"

Size Service Made 1 1/2"

Size Main Tapped 9"

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 12'

From N Prop. Line to Curb Cock 7'

Location of Meter AT CURB

Type of Box LOCK

Depth of Main in St. 3'

Depth of Service Line 3'

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 5'

Checked by Engr. Dept. 6-9-37

**INDEXED**

### Foreman's Report

No. Fittings	1 Curb Cock	1 St. Elbow	1 Bushing	1 Reducer	9' Pipe	1 Lead Comp.	Nipples	1 Union	Plug	Tee	1 Stop	1 Box	1 Lid	Valves	Req. No.
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16657

Foreman's Signature BENSON

Water service permit to Lawrence Ledbetter for this address (1937)



**Austin, Texas**

No. 13445 *A*

Received of R. W. Gissell Date 5-25-37  
Address 910 Baylor Street  
Amount \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Builder or Owner L. E. Ledbetter Plumber \_\_\_\_\_  
Lot 11 & 12 Block 7 Subdivision Silliman Addn. Plat No. 94

Date of Connection	6-10-37	No. Fittings		Price	
By City	184' S/SPL of W. 10th	20" Pipe	4"	2.00	
By Plumber	c.o. at PL repaired 5-2-67	Pipe			
Checked By	Hatcher	Wyes			
Size Main	6" Depth 3'	Bends			
Main Assign.		Reducers			
Stub Depth	Prop. Line 2'	Plugs			
Stub Location		Sand			
Book No.	A-716	Gravel			
Paving Cut	No.	Remix			
		Stoppers			
		Castings			
		Other			
		laying pipe		.40	
		Labor:	1 1/2 days	4.50	
					6.90

Sewer service permit for this address (1937)

Doug Tabor	910 Baylor Street
94 12 & E. 35' of lot 11	7
Sillman	

Remodel Res. to create Duplex

84731	7-23-62	1,000.00
Owner		

**DUPLEX**

General Remodeling to Res. to create a Duplex  
NOTE: OK b y Planning on phone, Memo to follow.

Building permit to convert the house to a duplex (1962)