

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 19, 2016  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2016-0881  
901 E. 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1926 house and a ca. 1928 commercial building.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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House:

One-story, rectangular-plan side-gabled masonry house with a full-width, shed-roofed independent porch on turned wood posts; single 1:1 fenestration; central entry.

Commercial building:

One-story, rectangular-plan, concrete commercial building with a stepped parapet; single garage-door opening in the center of the façade.

**RESEARCH**

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509 Brushy Street

The house that has historically borne the address of 509 (sometimes 505) Brushy Street is an “alley house” that was built around 1926 by Abraham and Melia Nassour, who had a general merchandise business at 210 Congress Avenue. Two of their sons, John, and Joseph, also lived in this house in the late 1920s. John Nassour had a fruit business at 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street; Joseph Nassour had a grocery business at 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street – that building had been owned by the Nassour family since around 1917, when they had a saloon there.

John Nassour, who continued to have a fruit business at 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and then a grocery business at the same address, continued to live in this house on Brushy Street until around 1936. The house then became a rental property. Tenants included a carpenter, a bus driver, and a truck driver. Beginning around 1955, tenants of the house were exclusively Hispanic, whereas previous tenants appear to have been Anglo families.

901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street

The building was built around 1928 as a service station, first operated by Thomas Moreno, then by J.T. Smith as the Gammel Service Station. Joseph Nassour had the Nassour Service Station in this building in the mid-1930s; the business then went into the Joseph family, who had a service station here in the late 1930s. The Joseph family apparently has held ownership of the building until the present, but has rented out the space over the years. The Rowe Tire Company was located here in the 1940s and 1950s; Landis Rowe then converted this building to an auto body shop in the late 1950s. There were auto body and auto paint shops here in the early and mid-1960s, then a transmission shop in the late 1960s. Since around 1970, the building has housed auto repair businesses, with Horace Joseph, a descendant of an early owning family, operating an auto repair business from the 1990s until recently.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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Neither the house nor the commercial building is listed in any City survey to date.




**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use for the house, 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. Release the permit for the commercial building.

## LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 167'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2016-0881  
LOCATION: 901 E 6TH St

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.

This product has been produced by CTM for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street – rear house  
(509 Brushy Street)  
ca. 1926



# OCCUPANCY HISTORY

## 901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street – rear (509 Brushy Street)

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

1992	No return
1985-86	Carmen Murillo, renter Retired
1981	Guadalupe and Carmen Murillo, renters Retired
1977	Guadalupe and Carmen Murillo, renters No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Guadalupe and Carmen Murillo were new residents at this address.
1973	Tomas and Norma Guerra, renters Proprietor, Guerra's Place, beer, 903 E. 6 <sup>th</sup> Street. NOTE: The directory indicates that Tomas and Norma Guerra were new residents at this address.
1968	Vacant
1965	Manuel and Ruth Esealante, renters No occupation listed
1961	Mary Hernandez, renter Widow, Sam Hernandez No occupation listed
1957	Monica and Francisco Rodriguez, renters No occupation listed
1953	Arthur B. and Myrtle Combs, renters Driver, Central Freight Lines, 1002 Springdale Road.
1949	Jack and Martha Teaff, renters Driver, C.A. Maufrais, concrete and cement, 106 Barton Springs Road.
1947	Jack and Martha Teaff, renters Bus operator, Austin Transit Company
1944-45	The address is not listed in the directory.
1941	John and Velma Nassour, owners

Groceries, 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

- 1939 Annie Davis, renter  
No occupation listed
- 1937 George and Mildred S. Oyler, renters  
Carpenter
- 1935 John and Bilbol Nassour, owners  
Groceries, 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
NOTE: The house is listed as 505 Brushy Street.
- 1932-33 John and Bilbol Nassour, renters  
Fruits, 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
Also listed is Joseph Nassour, groceries, 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1930-31 John and Bilbol Nassour, renters  
Fruits, 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
Also listed is Joseph Nassour, groceries, 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
NOTE: The house is listed as being on the east side of Brushy Street, between E. 4<sup>th</sup> and E. 6<sup>th</sup> Streets.
- 1929 Abraham and Amelia Nassour, owners  
General merchandise, 210 Congress Avenue.  
Also listed is Agnes Nassour, a clerk for Abraham Nassour.  
NOTE: The house is listed as the rear house for 901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, which was vacant.
- 1927 Abraham and Amelia Nassour, owners  
General merchandise, 210 Congress Avenue.  
Also listed are John Nassour, fruits, 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street; and Josephe Nassour, groceries, 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Jose and Mary Gonzales, renter  
No occupation listed
- NOTE: The commercial building at 901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street was occupied by Robert L. Cloud's grocery business.
- 1924 There is no listing for a house that is at the rear of 901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. There is a listing for a 901 ½ E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street going back to 1922, as a property rented by two Hispanic families, and Abraham and Melia Nassour continue to be listed at 901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

NOTE: Abraham and Melia Nassour are listed at 901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street as far back as 1920, when the directory shows a combined address of 901 and 903 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, which most likely refers to the building depicted in the 1900 Sanborn map rather than the current commercial building and rear house. The Nassours had their general merchandise business here. In the 1910s, Charles Perrone had a general merchandise business at 901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and a saloon at 903 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, while the Nassours had their grocery at 712 Congress Avenue and a saloon at 721 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. They lived at 1105 East Avenue.

Unless the Plumbing is done in strict accordance with City Ordinances, do not turn on the water.

No. A 2948

509 31

## PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE

Austin, Texas

M. Nassour Bros Address 509 Brushy

Plumber Self Size of Tap 1/2 Date 1-6-30

CHANGED TO \_\_\_\_\_ WHEN AND RENEWED \_\_\_\_\_

SERVICE WITH \_\_\_\_\_ COPPER OR \_\_\_\_\_

NE II

Date of Connection 1/8/30

Size of Tap Made 3/4

Size Service Made 3/4

Size Main Tapped 2"

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 2'6"

" " " " " " 2'1"

Location of Meter in alley

Type of Box brass

Depth of Main in in alley 20"

" " Service Line 20"

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 15"

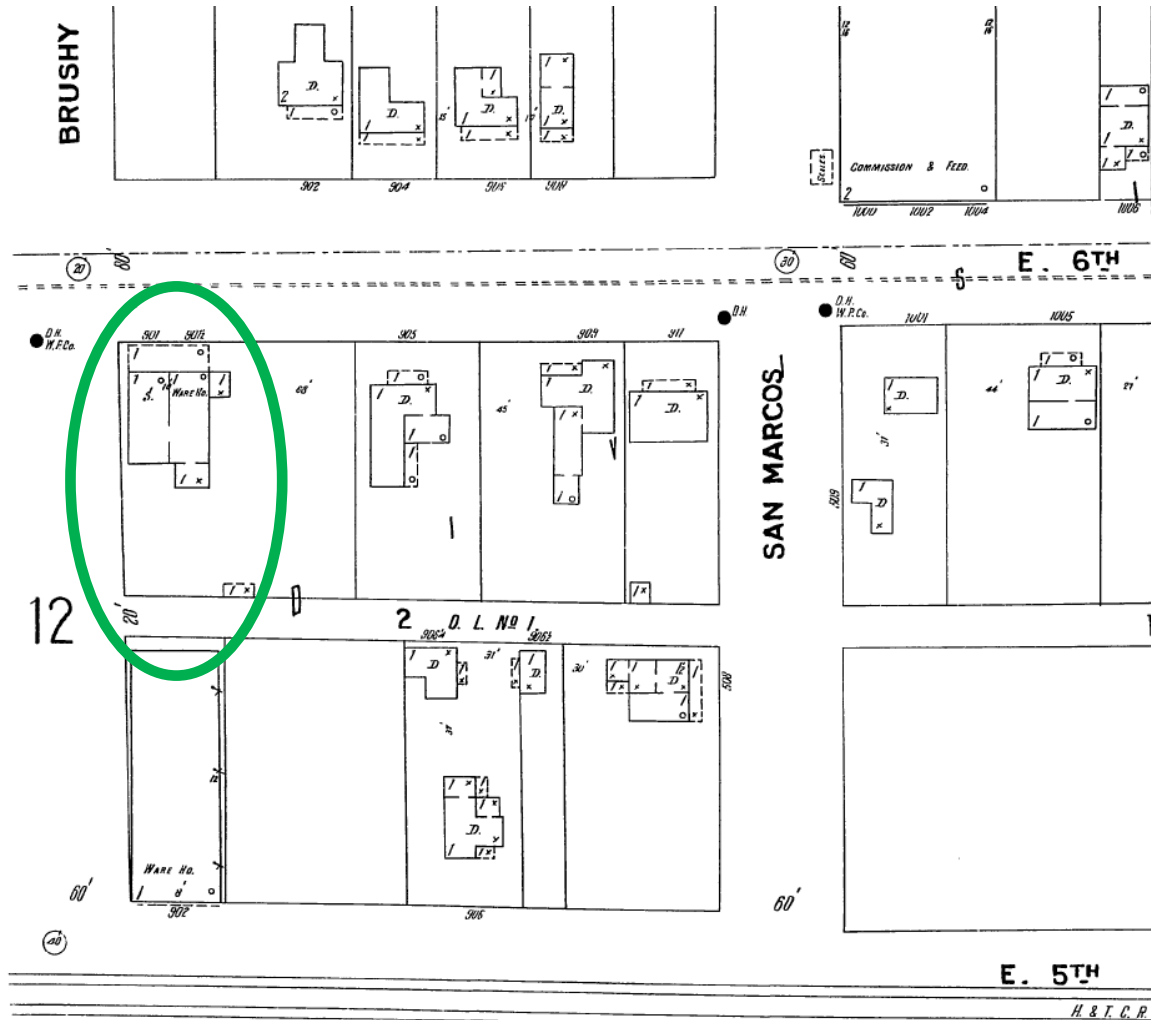
Checked by Engr. Dept. 2-1-30

**INDEXED**

Foreman's Signature Bernard

No. Fittings	Size	Foreman's Report
1 Curb Cock	5/4"	
1 Elbow	3/4"	
1 St. Elbow	3/4"	
1 Bushing	3/4"	
1 Reducer	3/4"	
1 Tee	3/4"	
1 Lead Comp.	3/4"	
1 Nipple	3/4"	
1 Union	3/4"	
1 Plug	3/4"	
1 Tee	3/4"	
1 Stop	3/4"	
1 Box	3/4"	
1 Lid	3/4"	
1 Valve	3/4"	
1-2 X 1/2" 1/2" 1/2" 1/2"		
Req. No.		3085

Water service permit for the house, shown with the address of 509 Brushy Street (1930)



The 1900 Sanborn map shows a duplexed commercial building at the corner of E. 6<sup>th</sup> and Brushy Streets – this was most likely the building that housed grocery and saloon businesses from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century until around 1922. The map shows that the rear house was not in existence in 1900.

The 1935 Sanborn map shows the current commercial building at 901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street as well as the house with the address of 509 Brushy Street.

901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
ca. 1928



## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 901 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street

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

1992	Armadillo Automobile Repair Horace A. Joseph, proprietor
1985-86	Vacant
1981	Frank's Garage Frank Quiroz, proprietor
1977	Frank's Garage Frank Quiroz, proprietor
1973	Frank's Garage Frank Quiroz, proprietor
1968	Clint's Transmission Clinton C. Call, proprietor
1965	Banks Auto Polish C.B. Banks, proprietor

	East Side Garage, auto repair Louis M. Whalon, proprietor
1961	Austex Baked Enamel and Body Shop There is no listing in the alphabetical section of the directory.
1957	Auto Body Shop Landis Rowe, proprietor
1953	Rowe Tire Company G. Landis Rowe, proprietor
1949	Rowe Tire Company Guy L. Rowe, proprietor
1947	Rowe Tire Company, tire dealers and filling station Guy L. Rowe, proprietor NOTE: The company also had a location at 300 W. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1944-45	Rowe Tire Company Guy L. and Bedford F. Rowe, proprietors
1941	Rowe Tire Company G. Landis Rowe, proprietor
1939	Joseph's Service Station George Joseph, proprietor
1937	Nassour Service Station Joseph Nassour, proprietor
1935	Nassour Service Station Joseph Nassour, proprietor
1932-33	Gammel Service Station J.T. Smith, proprietor
1930-31	Thomas Moreno, service station
1929	Vacant
1927	Listings for this address appear to refer to an earlier commercial building on this site, which was the home of a grocery business. In the 1927 city directory, that grocery business was operated by Robert L. Cloud. From around 1919 until around 1926, the business was operated by Abraham Nassour.

**We Have Only  
Grade A Truck  
Rubber**

**Get This Extra  
Mileage by  
Recapping Now.**

**Don't Take  
Chances**

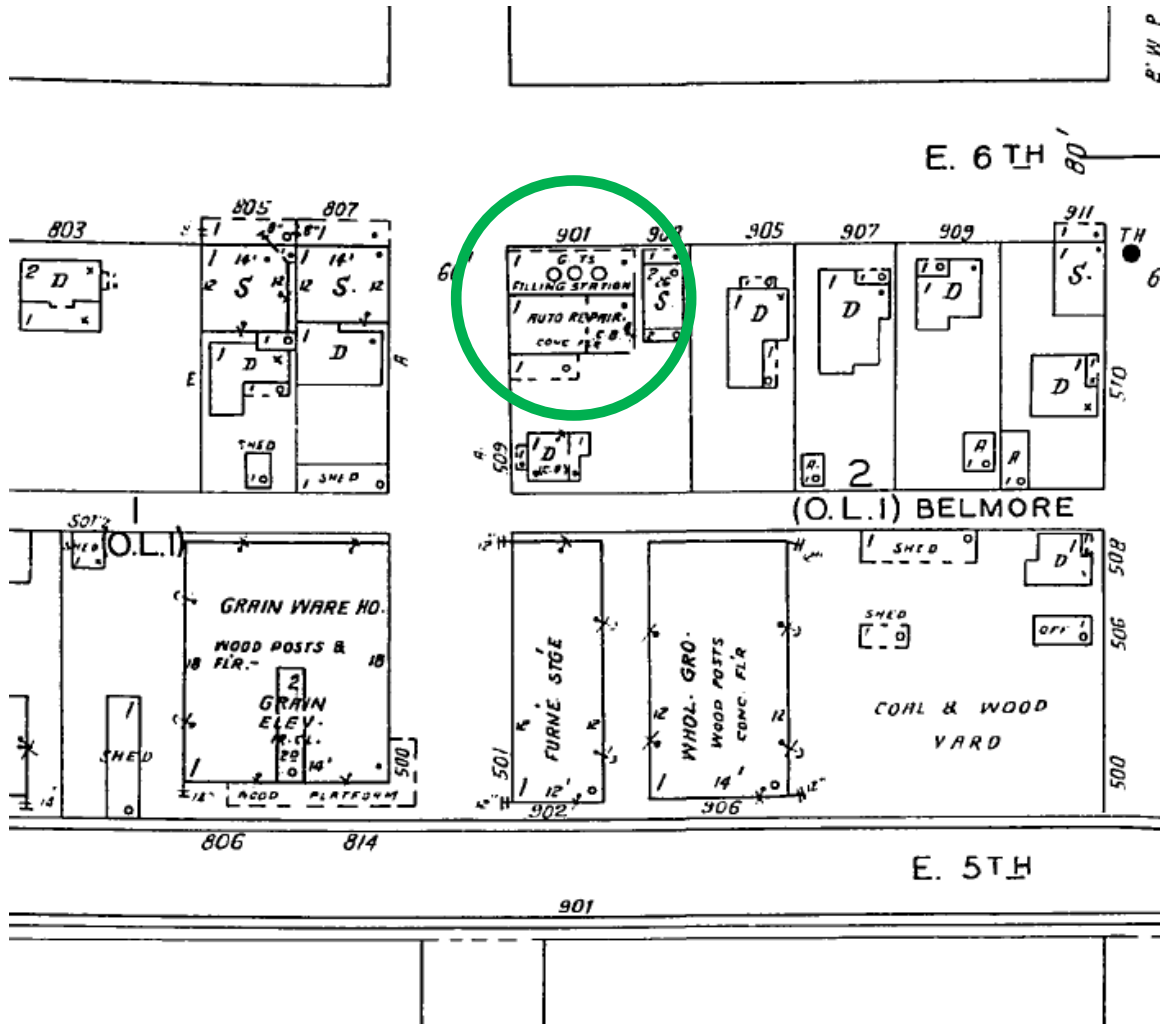
**24 Hour Service on Clean  
Tires**



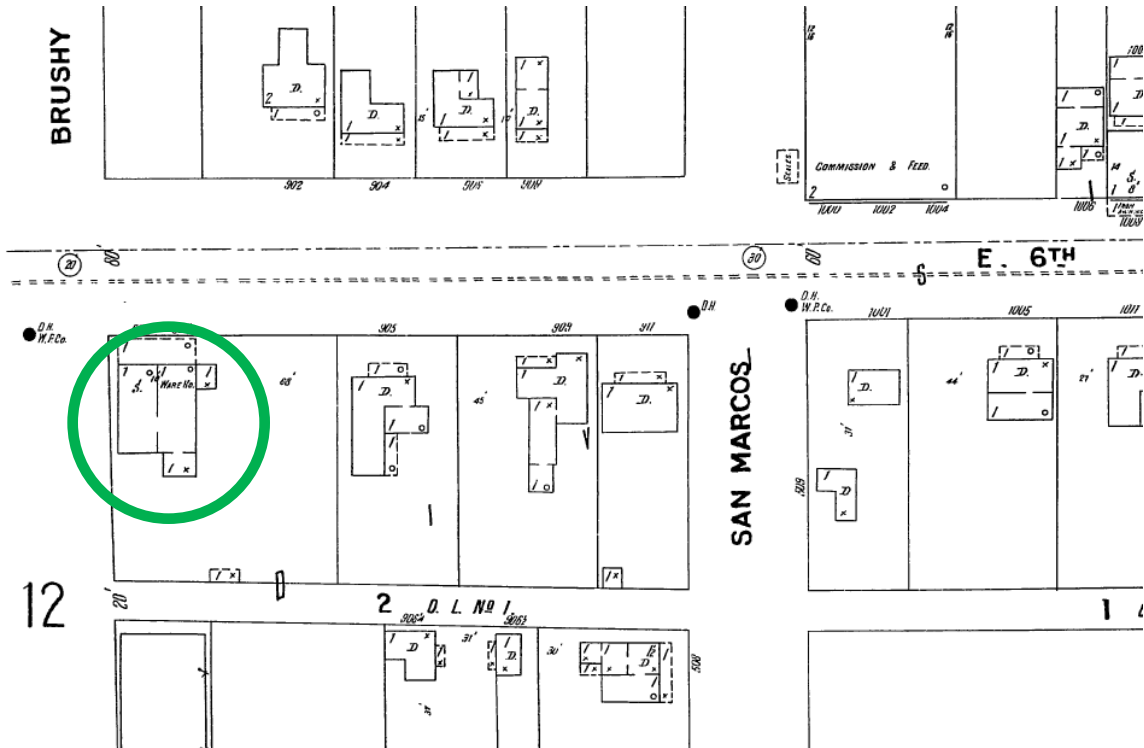
**ROWE  
TIRE CO.**

**901 E. 6th. Phone 2-3522**

Advertisement for Rowe Tire Company  
Austin American, February 21, 1945



The 1935 Sanborn map shows the configuration of the current building.



The 1900 Sanborn map shows the earlier building on this site.

OWNER Joe and Helen Nassour ADDRESS 901 (A & B) East 6th St.

PLAT 22 LOT 18 BLK 2

SUBDIVISION Conner's Addn

OCCUPANCY Auto repair OWNERS

BLD PERMIT # 106302 DATE 12-27-67 ESTIMATE 200.00

CONTRACTOR Geo. C. Joseph NO. OF FIXTURES

WATER TAP REC # SEWER TAP REC #

Repair and remodel comm. bldg. to bring to min. stdrs.

Building permit to Joe and Helen Nassour to repair and remodel the building (1967)