

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
JANUARY 23, 2017  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2016-0941  
113 W. JOHANNA STREET**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Relocate a ca. 1925 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-and-a-half story, front-gabled frame bungalow with an almost full-width, front-gabled independent porch; two side-gabled dormers on the left (east) side of the house; single 1:1 fenestration.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house was built around 1925 by Charles T. and Maggie Grimes, who moved in from their farm in Travis County. Charles T. Grimes is listed as a farmer for the time that he and his wife Margaret (Maggie) lived here; they lived here until their deaths in the mid-1930s. Their daughter, Eula Mae, then took over residency in this house. Eula Mae Grimes lived here with her parents in the 1920s and early 1930s; she then married Gordon R. Fowler, a driver for the Austin Street Railway Company, and later a bus driver for the Austin Transit Company. Gordon and Eula Mae Fowler lived here until around 1942, when they apparently divorced. Prior to moving into her parents' house, Eula Mae Fowler had a florist shop where she and Gordon lived at 807 Baylor Street; she then moved the flower shop to 111 W. Johanna Street when she and Gordon moved into this house.

After their 1942 divorce, Eula Mae resumed her maiden name of Grimes and continued to live in this house. She worked as a secretary for a plumber in the mid-1940s, then had furnished rooms in this house in the 1940s and early 1950s. She lived here until her death in 1976. Her ex-husband, Gordon Fowler, eventually moved south of town, where he established an insurance agency, served as a Travis County Constable, was an original member of the Travis County Sheriff's Posse, and was active in promoting youth sports and rodeo events. He was one of the founders of the City of Sunset Valley.

As a side note, Judge Homer Thornberry grew up in the house next door, at 109 W. Johanna Street.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use on site, but release the relocation 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

1" = 208'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2016-0941  
113 W. JOHANNA STREET

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.



113 W. Johanna Street  
ca. 1925



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
113 W. Johanna Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
January, 2017

1992	Diemer L. Fife, Jr., renter President, Capitol Video & TV (Connie Fife, vice-president), 2000 S. Congress Avenue. NOTE: Connie Fife is also listed as living in this house.
1985-86	Robert Burns, renter Commercial artist
1981	Robert Burns, renter Commercial artist
1977	Ruby L. Leath, owner Widow, Luther M. Leath No occupation listed
1973	Luther M. and Ruby M. Leath, owners Retired
1968	Eula M. Grimes, owner Retired
1965	Eula M. Grimes, owner

	No occupation listed
1961	Eula M. Grimes, owner No occupation listed
1957	Eula M. Grimes, owner No occupation listed
1955	Eula M. Grimes, owner No occupation listed
1952	Eula M. Grimes, owner Furnished rooms (at the house)
1949	Eula M. Grimes, owner Furnished rooms (at the house)
1947	Eula M. Grimes, owner Furnished rooms (at the house)
1944-45	Eula M. Grimes, owner Office secretary, Levi C. McIntyre, plumbing and hot water heater repairs and service, 106 W. Mary Street.
1941	Gordon R. and Eula M. Fowler, owners Bus operator, Austin Transit Company NOTE: There is no listing for a Eula M. Grimes.
1939	Gordon R. and Eulamae Fowler, owners Gordon: Bus operator Eulamae: Proprietor, Fowler's Flower Shop, 111 W. Johanna Street.
1937	Gordon R. and Eula M. Fowler, owners Gordon: Operator, Austin Street Railway Company Eula: Proprietor, Colonial Flower and Gift Shop, 111 W. Johanna Street.
1935	Charles T. and Margaret Grimes, owners Farmer NOTE: Gordon and Eula M. Fowler are listed at 807 Baylor Street. Gordon Fowler was an operator for the Austin Street Railway Company; Eula M. Fowler was the proprietor of Colonial Flower and Gift Shop, 807 Baylor Street.
1932-33	Charles T. and Margaret Grimes, owners Farmer
1930-31	Charles T. and Margaret Grimes, owners No occupation listed
1929	Charles T. and Maggie Grimes, owners No occupation listed Also listed is Eula M. Grimes, no occupation shown.
1927	Charles T. and Margaret Grimes, owners Farmer

Also listed is Eula M. Grimes, no occupation shown.

1924           The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Neither Charles T., Margaret, nor Eula M. Grimes are listed in the directory.

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

**Charles T. and Margaret Grimes (ca. 1925 – ca. 1935)**

**Eula Mae Grimes Fowler (ca. 1925 – ca. 1976)**

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Charles T. and Maggie Grimes as the owners of a farm in Precinct 6 of Travis County. Charles T. Grimes was 50, had been born in Texas, and was a farmer. Maggie Grimes was 53, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. Their daughter, Eula Grimes, was 18, had been born in Texas, and was at school.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows C.T. and Maggie Grimes as the owners of this house. C.T. Grimes was a 59-year old Texas-born farmer. Maggie Grimes was 60, had been born in Missouri, and had no occupation listed. Eula is not listed with them.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Gordon R. and Eula Mae Fowler living in a rented apartment at 103 Rose Street in Austin. Gordon R. Fowler was 25, had been born in Texas, and was a trainman for the streetcar company. Eula Mae Fowler was 27, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows G.R. and Eula Mae Fowler as the owners of this house, which was worth \$5,000. G.R. Fowler was 35, had been born in Texas, and was a bus driver for the street railway company. Eula Mae Fowler was 38, had been born in Texas, and was a florist. They had no children listed with them.

His 1935 death certificate shows that Charlie T. Grimes was living at this house at the time of his death from pneumonia. He had been born in 1971 in Arkansas, and was a farmer. The person giving the information for the death certificate was Mrs. Eula Mae Grimes Fowler, who lived at 807 Baylor Street.

Maggie Grimes died in August, 1936 in Austin. She was born on Christmas Day, 1868 in Travis County, and was living at this house at the time of her death. She had no trade or profession listed on her death certificate. The informant was Mrs. Eula Mae Fowler.

Her 1976 death certificate shows that Eula Mae Grimes was living at the Austin Nursing Center at the time of her death, but that her permanent address was 113 W. Johanna Street. She was born December 30, 1901 in Travis County, and was a homemaker. The informant was a cousin, L.C. Leath, and the death certificate says that Eula Mae Grimes was never married.

## CHARLIE T. GRIMES

Charlie T. Grimes, 44, well known Travis county farmer, died in a local hospital Saturday. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Maggie Grimes; one daughter, Mrs. Bula Mae Fowler of Austin; one sister, Mrs. Mable Edwards of San Antonio, and one brother, Gus Grimes of Alvin. Mr. Grimes was a member of the Creedmoor lodge A.F. & A.M., the Scottish Rite bodies and Ben Hur Shrine.

Funeral services will be held from the Cook Funeral home Sunday at 3 p. m. with the Rev. W. G. Birkner of Buda officiating. Burial will be in the Carl cemetery under the auspices of the Masonic lodge. Pallbearers will be R. B. Tyler, Arthur Raatz, Frank Steusey, J. L. Miller, T. H. Davis and John C. Ross.

Obituary of Charlie T. Grimes  
Austin American-Statesman, April 7, 1935

**GRIMES**—Funeral services for Mrs. Maggie W. Grimes will be held from the Cook funeral home Tuesday at 4 p. m. with the Rev. E. E. Wheelless officiating, assisted by the Rev. O. F. Dingler. Interment will be in Carl cemetery. Pallbearers will be: Homer Thornberry, Calvin Hughes, Jimmie Thompson, Lewis Faires, S. P. Kinser and C. E. Johnson.

Obituary of Maggie Grimes  
Austin Statesman, August 25, 1936



**GRIMES, Miss Eula Mae, 74, 113 W. Johanna, died Tuesday. Services 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at Wilke-Clay Funeral Home. Survivors: aunts, Ruby Leath, Mrs. Willie Stewart, both of Austin, Mrs. R.C. Smith of San Antonio; uncles, Frank Campbell of San Antonio, Walton Campbell of Little Rock, Ark.**

Obituary of Eula Mae Grimes  
Austin American-Statesman, December 8, 1976

### **Gordon R. Fowler**

**Gordon R. Fowler, age 82, of 37 Lone Oak Trail, passed away Tuesday.**

**Mr. Fowler was born in Spicewood on January 24, 1905, and moved to Austin in 1927. He attended the University of Texas and was employed by the Austin Transit Company for 17 years. Mr. Fowler owned and operated the Gordon Fowler Insurance Office in South Austin for 30 years. He was an active member in the Kinney Avenue Baptist Church for 40 years and a member of Onion Creek Lodge and Ben Hur Shriners. He served as a**

**Constable for Travis County Precinct #4 and was an original member of the Travis County Sheriff's Posse. Mr. Fowler devoted many hours to youth in boy scouts, baseball and rodeos. He was a founder of the city of Sunset Valley and served as a city official.**

**Survivors include: wife, Anita Fowler; son, "Buddy" Gordon Fowler and his wife, Karen, all of Austin; two daughters, Marie and her husband, Gus Lechow of Marble Falls and Jaynell and her husband, Carrell Glass of Leakey, Texas; sister, Sarah and her husband, Ted McMillin of Hilltop, Texas; six grandchildren, Jamie Fowler, Russell and Gaynell Waggoner, Coy, Larry, and Lance Lechow; and a number of nieces and nephews.**

**Funeral services are at 10:00 AM, Friday, at Wilke-Amey-Clay Funeral Home. Burial will be in Forest Oaks Memorial Park.**

**Those desiring may make memorial contributions to Kinney Avenue Baptist Church, North Hays County E.M.S., P.O. Box 115, Wimberley, Texas, 78676, 1-847-2526, or the charity of your choice.**

Obituary of Gordon R. Fowler  
Austin American-Statesman, June 4, 1987



Unless the following is done in strict accordance with City

No. A 532

# PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE

Austin, Texas

**INDEXED**

M. C. T. Grimes Address 113 West Johanna St.

Plumber \_\_\_\_\_ Size of Tap 1/2 Date 11/27

Foreman's Report.

Date of Connection 12/1/25

Size of Tap Made 1/2

Size Service Made 1/2

Size Main Tapped 2

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 7

" " " " " "

Location of Meter Back P.

Type of Box Box

Depth of Main in St. 16

" " Service Line 14

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 14.6

Checked by Engr. Dept. [Signature]

**INDEXED**

No. Fittings	Size
1 Curb Cock	5/8
1 Elbow	3/4
1 St. Elbow	3/4
1 Bushing	3/4
1 Reducer	3/4
1 Pipe	3/4
1 Lead Comp.	1/2
Nipples	
Union	
Plug	
Tee	
Stop	
Box	
Lid	
Valves	
Req. No.	3827

Foreman's Signature [Signature]

**DEC 2-1925**

Water service permit to C.T. Grimes for this address (1925)

Eula Mae Grimes

113 West Johanna St.

132

9

B7

Sweetman's Addition

Repair Residence

86171

12-3-62

100.00

Owner

RESIDENCE

Replace windows on Back porch

Building permit to Eula Mae Grimes to replace windows on the back porch (1962)

OWNER	Eula Mae Grimes	ADDRESS	113 W. Johanna St.
PLAT	123	LOT	9
		BLK	B 7
SUBDIVISION	Sweetman's Addn		
OCCUPANCY	Remodel 3 rooms and 1 bath		
BLD PERMIT #	113854	DATE	7-29-69
OWNERS	ESTIMATE \$3,394.00		
CONTRACTOR	Frank Haynie	NO. OF FIXTURES	several
WATER TAP REC #	Exist	SEWER TAP REC #	Exist
Remodel exist residence			

Building permit to Eula Mae Grimes for remodeling (1969)