

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
FEBRUARY 27, 2017  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2017-0026  
1401 WALNUT AVENUE**

**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1925 house.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, clipped front-gabled frame bungalow with a partial-width clipped front-gabled partially inset porch on ornamental metal posts; single and paired 1:1 and 6:6 fenestration.

**RESEARCH**

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The house appears to have been built around 1925. The first owners and occupants were Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, who lived here for the rest of their lives; Odessa Moore died in 1984. Thomas Moore was a long-time maintenance employee of the University of Texas, who had previously worked as a truck driver for a transfer company (according to the 1930 U.S. Census report). Odessa Moore did not have any occupation listed in city directories, but the 1930 U.S. Census report shows that she was a laundress for a private family.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The East Austin Historic Resources Survey (2016) states that the house has had the exterior wall materials, windows, and doors have been replaced and the porch has been altered; the house is therefore not eligible for individual or district designation.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then relocation over demolition, 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. The house has neither the architectural nor the historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark, but staff disagrees with the survey recommendation regarding its inclusion within a potential historic district, as the house represents the scale, history, and context of this neighborhood.

# LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 208'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2017-0026  
1401 WALNUT AVENUE

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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1401 Walnut Avenue  
ca. 1925



## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1401 Walnut Avenue

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

1992	Cora L. Wright, renter Retired
1985-86	Ernest and Cora Wright, renters Retired NOTE: The directory indicates that Ernest and Cora L. Wright were new residents at this address.
1981	Odessa Moore, owner Retired
1977	Odessa Moore, owner Widow, Thomas J. Moore Retired
1973	Odessa Moore, owner

	Widow, Thomas J. Moore Retired
1968	Odessa Moore, owner Widow, Thomas J. Moore Retired
1965	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners Retired
1961	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners Utility worker, University of Texas
1957	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners Plumber, University of Texas
1954	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners Plumber, University of Texas
1952	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners Plumber
1949	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners Laborer
1947	Thomas J and Odessa Moore, owners Laborer, University of Texas
1944-45	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners Laborer, University of Texas
1941	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners Laborer
1940	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners Porter
1939	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners Laborer, University of Texas
1937	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners No occupation listed
1935	Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners No occupation listed

- 1932-33      Thomas J. and Odessa Moore, owners  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The house is listed with an alternate address of 1402 Walnut Avenue.
- 1930-31      Thomas J. and Odessa Moore (colored), owners  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The house is listed with an alternate address of 1402 Walnut Avenue.
- 1929          Thomas J. and Odessa Moore (colored), owners  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The house is listed with an alternate address of 1402 Walnut Avenue.
- 1927          Thomas J. and Odessa Moore (colored), owners  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: The house is listed with an alternate address of 1402 Walnut Avenue.
- 1924          The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: It is not clear if Thomas J. Moore is listed in the directory. There is no listing for a Thomas J. Moore with the same profession as he later had, nor is there a Thomas J. Moore with a wife named Odessa.

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

##### **Thomas J. and Odessa Moore (ca. 1925 – ca. 1984)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Tom J. and Odessa Moore as the owners of this house, which was worth \$900. Tom J. Moore was 40, had been born in Texas, and was a shop man for the university. Odessa Moore was 40, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 3 children: Tom J., Jr., 16; Dorothy, 15; and Bobby Ella, 5. All of the children had been born in Texas and none had an occupation shown.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Tom J. and Odessa Moore as the owners of this house, which has its former address of 1402 Walnut Avenue. The house was worth \$1,000. Tom J. Moore was 31, had been born in Texas, and was a truck driver for a transfer company. Odessa Moore was 30, had been born in Texas, and was a laundress for a private family. They had 3 children: Myrtle, 8; Tom, Jr., 6; and Dorothy, 6 months. All of the children had been born in Texas.

His 1968 death certificate shows that Thomas J. Moore was living at this address at the time of his death. He was born in 1899 in Travis County, and was a married maintenance man. Odessa Moore was his wife.

**THOMAS J. MOORE**

Funeral for Thomas J. Moore will be 4 p.m. Thursday at Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church with Rev. N. W. Bacon Jr. officiating. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery under direction of Fuller Sheffield Funeral Service, Inc.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Odessa Moore, Austin; three daughters, Mrs. Myrtle Bradshaw, Mrs. Bobbie E. Williams, and Mrs. Dorothy Mae Gonzales, Austin; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Cornell Merriweather, Clarence Caldwell; Lee Odell Jones, J. C. Galloway, Fred Foster and Lloyd Kerley.

Obituary of Thomas Moore  
Austin American, February 22, 1968

**MOORE, Odessa Harris, 86, of Austin died Friday. Services 4 p.m. Friday at David Chapel Baptist Church. Burial Evergreen Cemetery. (Fuller-Sheffield)**

Death notice for Odessa Moore  
Austin American-Statesman, April 26, 1984

OWNER	Walter Ellison	ADDRESS	1401 Walnut Ave.
PLAT	38	LOT	7 6
		BLK.	3 T6
SUBDIVISION	<del>Glenwood Addn</del>	Henry Wit Addn	
OCCUPANCY	Res.		
BLDG. PERMIT #	176400	DATE	9-27-78
		OWNERS ESTIMATE	2,000.00
CONTRACTOR	Same	NO. OF FIXTURES	
WATER TAP REC#		SEWER TAP REC#	
Remodel & repair exist res.			

City records show that there were permits for replacement windows in 2002 and for vinyl siding in 2003.