

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
JANUARY 29, 2018
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2017-0762
801 W. LIVE OAK STREET

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1936 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, front-gabled wood-frame house with Craftsman influences. The house is clad in wood lap siding and features a paneled, partially-glazed door and double-hung wood-sash windows. Ornamentation includes exposed rafter tails, bargeboards at the gable ends, and iron columns supporting a large entry hood.

RESEARCH

801 W. Live Oak Street was built in 1936 by James J. Farrell, an electrical contractor, and his wife Bertie. The Farrells moved out around 1944, when a succession of occupants began. In 1957, Abundio and Felicita Ruiz moved into the house, where they remained until at least 1992. Abundio worked variously as a cotton picker and construction worker before working as a truck driver at Capitol Aggagito from ca. 1965 until he retired ca. 1992.

STAFF COMMENTS

801 W. Live Oak Street does not appear in any City survey. The house does not meet the criteria for designation as a historic landmark.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The house is more than 50 years old, having been constructed ca. 1936.
- 2) The house retains a high degree of integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation. The property does not appear to demonstrate significance according to any of the criteria (City of Austin Land Development Code, Section 25-2-352).
 - a. **Architecture.** The house does not appear to possess architectural distinction.
 - b. **Historical association.** The building was occupied for at least 35 years by Abundio and Felicita Ruiz. There do not appear to be historically significant associations.
 - c. **Archaeology.** The property was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
 - d. **Community value.** The property does not appear to possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the community, Austin, or Texas.
 - e. **Landscape feature.** The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of the existing building. If the Commission votes to release the permit, then staff recommends relocation over demolition, and 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

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2017-0762
LOCATION: 801 W Live Oak Street



1" = 139'

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.

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



Primary (north) façade of 801 W. Live Oak Street.



West elevation and primary façade.

Occupancy History

City directory research, Austin History Center
 By Historic Preservation Office staff
 January 2018

- 1939-42 James J. and Bertie Farrell, owners
 Electrical contractor
- 1944-45 A. H. Laws, owner
 Civil engineer
- 1947 Charles E. Banks, owner
 Southern Pacific Lines brakeman
- 1949 Vacant
- 1952-53 John L. and Janie Guerrero, owners
 Pipe fitter, City Water Department
- 1955 Manuel and Dorcas Salas, renters
 Baker, Austin Baking
- 1957-92 Abundio and Felicita Ruiz, owners
 Employment included cotton picker (1957-58), construction worker at McKown & Son (1959-1961), driver at Capitol Aggagito (1965-1990), and retired (1992).

Biographical Notes

Abundio Ruiz was born in 1915 in Caldwell County, Texas. He worked as a cotton picker, construction worker, and truck driver. He died in 1996 in Austin.

Felicita Navarro Ruiz was born in 1920, likely in Texas. She married Abundio Ruiz in 1937 in Travis County and they had 14 children. Felicita died in Austin in 2007.

Building Permits

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

2079 B163
PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE AUSTIN, TEXAS No 4418-492
 M. J. J. Farrell Address 801 W Live Oak
 Plumber m. alpina Size of Tap 1/2 Date 8-25-36

Foreman's Report	
No. Fittings	Size
1	Curb Cock 3/4"
	Elbow
1	St. Elbow 3/4"
1	Bushing 3/4"
1	Reducer 3/4"
1	Pipe 3/4" COPPER
1	Lead Comp 3/4" COPPER
	Nipples
1	Union 2" IRON
	Plug
	Tee
1	Stop 1/2" COPPER
1	Box
1	Lid
	Valves
	Req. No. 11171

Date of Connection 8/26/36
 Size of Tap Made 3/4"
 Size Service Made 3/4"
 Size Main Tapped 6"
 From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 10'
 From Prop. Line to Curb Cock 21'
 Location of Meter at curb
 Type of Box Curb
 Depth of Main in St. 2'
 Depth of Service Line 2'
 From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 10'6"
 Checked by Engr. Dept. 9-2-36

Foreman's Signature BENSON

INDEXED

Water tap permit issued to J. J. Farrell, 8/25/1936.

J. L. Guerrero 801 West Live Oak
 115B 9 8 - -
 Davis & Dawson
 Repairs to front porch.
 45811 8-3-50 \$150.00
 Owner

Building permit issued to J. L. Guerrero for front porch repairs, 8/3/1950.