

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
 JANUARY 29, 2018  
 DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
 HDP-2017-0595  
 1906 NUECES STREET

## PROPOSAL

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Demolish a ca. 1925 house.

## ARCHITECTURE

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One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame cottage with a central, partial-width, front-gabled entry hood with boxed cornices on ornamental metal posts; paired 1:1 fenestration; full-width second-story along the back of the house.

## RESEARCH

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The house appears to have been built around 1925; the first owner and occupant was Mrs. Anna L. Ellison, who lived here until her death in 1932. Mrs. Ellison was a widow when she purchased this house. Her husband had worked as a clerk for the State, and her son, Alfred, was the proprietor of a photography studio. Alfred Ellison was also notable for his photographs of downtown Austin in the late 1930s; many of his photographs are at the Austin History Center.

After Mrs. Ellison's death, the house became a rental property, a status it retained until the late 1970s, when it was purchased by the North American Islamic Trust for use as a mosque and Moslem Students' Center for the University of Texas. The tenants in the house between the mid-1930s and the late 1970s included a teacher, an assistant professor at the University of Texas, an assistant probation officer for Travis County, and several widows. By the late 1950s, there was a shift towards student housing and the house was converted to a duplex in 1959. From that point until the sale of the property in 1977, the vast majority of the tenants were students or teaching assistants at the University of Texas.

## STAFF COMMENTS

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The house was listed with no priority for research in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984).

The house does not meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code:

- a. **Architecture.** The house is a frame 1920s cottage, a common style. The house has no distinction within its architectural style.
- b. **Historical association.** The house has been a rental property for most of its existence; the only known owner/occupant was Mrs. Anna Ellison, a widow, who purchased the house after her husband's death and lived here for about 7 years until her own death. Her son, Alfred Ellison, was a noted photographer in Austin, but he is not listed as resident here in city directories nor in the 1930 U.S. Census with his mother. The house had a series of short-term tenants through much of its rental history, and became student housing in the mid- to late 1950s.
- c. **Archaeology.** The house was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
- d. **Community value.** The house has served as the Austin Mosque from 1977 until recently, but this identification does not fall within the historic period. The house does not possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural

identity of the city, the neighborhood, or a particular demographic group in the historic period.

- 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**

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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.

## LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 208'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2017-0595  
1906 NUECES 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.



1906 Nueces Street  
ca. 1925





## OCCUPANCY HISTORY

### 1906 Nueces Street

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

1992	Austin Mosque
1985-86	Austin Mosque
1981	Austin Mosque and Moslem Students' Association
1977	Vacant
1973	<p>Arthur D. Holder, renter Teaching assistant, University of Texas NOTE: The directory indicates that Arthur D. Holder was a new resident at this address.</p> <p>a. Edward R. Stovall, renter Student NOTE: The directory indicates that Edward R. Stovall was a new resident at this address.</p> <p>b. Chang Hyun Jho, renter Teaching assistant, University of Texas</p>

NOTE: The directory indicates that Chang Hyun Jho was a new resident at this address.

- c. Vacant
- 1968 James D Walsh, renter  
Student
  - a. Brian Adkins, renter  
Student
  - b. Bruce Moser, renter  
Student
  - c. Thomas R. Hauber, renter  
Student
- 1965
  - a. Warren S. and Alice Williams, renters  
Student
  - b. Richard C. Tannahill, renter  
Clerk, State Parks and Wildlife Department
  - c. John A. McMilliam, renter  
Student
- 1962 L. Erich Kanter, renter  
Student
  - a. Robert Foster, renter  
Student
  - b. Ralph F. Jackson, Jr., renter  
Student
  - c. Donald H. McElhone, renter  
Student
- 1959 Vacant
- 1957 David R. and Dorothy Pinson, renters  
Student
- 1954 Jennie R. Burton, renter  
Widow, Standish B. Burton  
No occupation listed
- 1952 Bill J. ,and Kathryn Ballard, renters  
Assistant County Probation Officer
- 1949 Eugene T. and Mary L. McGregor, renters  
Salesman Covert Auto, Buick cars, 416-20 San Antonio Street.  
NOTE: The alphabetical section of the directory shows Eugene T. and Mary L. McGregor living at 2 Mangranita Crescent.
- 1947 Eugene T. and Mary L. McGregor, renters  
Proprietor (with Hickman T. Baker), Baker & McGregor, groceries, 1811 San Jacinto Street.
- 1944-45 Susie H. Critz, renter  
Widow, I.C. Critz  
No occupation listed



Also listed are Carl Critz, U.S. Army; James Critz, U.S. Army; and Mary E. Critz, a student at the University of Texas.

NOTE: Eugene T. and Mary L. McGregor are not listed in the directory.

- 1941      Argin A. and Oma Smith, renters  
Traveling salesman  
NOTE: John and Katherine L. Griswold are listed at 102 Laurel Lane. He was an assistant professor at the University of Texas.
- 1939      John and Katherine L. Griswold, renters  
John:            Assistant professor, University of Texas  
Katherine:      Student, University of Texas
- 1937      John and Katherine L. Griswold, renters  
Assistant professor, University of Texas
- 1935      Mrs. Johannah C. Carlson, renter  
Widow, John G. Carlson  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: John and Katherine L. Griswold are not listed in the directory.
- 1932-33    J.F.M. and Alma E. Stephens, renters  
Teacher
- 1930-31    Mrs. Annie L. Ellison, owner  
Widow, William F.A. Ellison  
No occupation listed
- 1929      Anne L. Ellison, owner  
Widow, William F. Ellison  
No occupation listed
- 1927      Anna L Ellison, owner  
Widow, William F. Ellison  
No occupation listed
- 1924      The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Anna Ellison, the widow of William F.A. Ellison, is listed at 708 W. 19<sup>th</sup> Street; she had no occupation shown.

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

##### **Anna L. Ellison (ca. 1925 – ca. 1932)**

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Anna L. Ellison as the owner of this house which was worth \$7,000. She was a 74-year old Texas-born widow with no occupation listed. Her father had been born in Tennessee, and her mother had been born in Virginia. No other person is listed in the census report for this address.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows W.F.A. and Annie L. Ellison as the renters of the house at 501 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street in Austin. W.G. A. Ellison was a 66-year old Alabama-born clerk; Annie L. Ellison was 64, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. No children are listed with them. William F.A. Ellison died in 1922; his death certificate shows that he was a retired clerk at the State Capitol, and was living at 501 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street at the time of his death.

The 1910 U.S. Census shows William and Anna Ellison living at 501 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street. William Ellison was 56, had been born in Alabama to Georgia-born parents, and was an auditor for the State Comptroller. Anna Ellison was 54, had been born in Texas to a Tennessee-born father and a Virginia-born mother, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 sons: Alfred, 22, who had been born in Texas; and Peyton, 16, who had been born in Texas. Neither of the boys had an occupation listed.

Her 1932 death certificate shows that Annie Lewis Ellison was living in this house at the time of her death. She was born in 1856 in Texas, and was the widow of W.F.A. Ellison.

**ALFRED ELLISON'S  
MOTHER DIES**

Funeral services for Mrs. Annie Lewis Ellison, 76, who died at her home, 1906 Nueces street, at 2 a. m. Saturday will be held at 10 a. m. Sunday at Thurlow B. Weed Funeral home with Dr. Thomas W. Currie, president of Austin Presbyterian Theological seminary, officiating. The funeral cortege will leave at 12 o'clock and go overland to Belton where interment will be held.

Mrs. Ellison was the widow of the late W. F. A. Ellison, and the mother of Alfred Ellison of the Ellison Photo company. She is also survived by two other sons, Wilson Ellison of Harlingen and Peyton Ellison of Dallas and a sister, Mrs. C. W. Peyton of Temple.

Mrs. Ellison had been a resident of Austin for 40 years, having moved here from Belton.

Obituary of Anna Lewis Ellison  
Austin American-Statesman, March 13, 1932

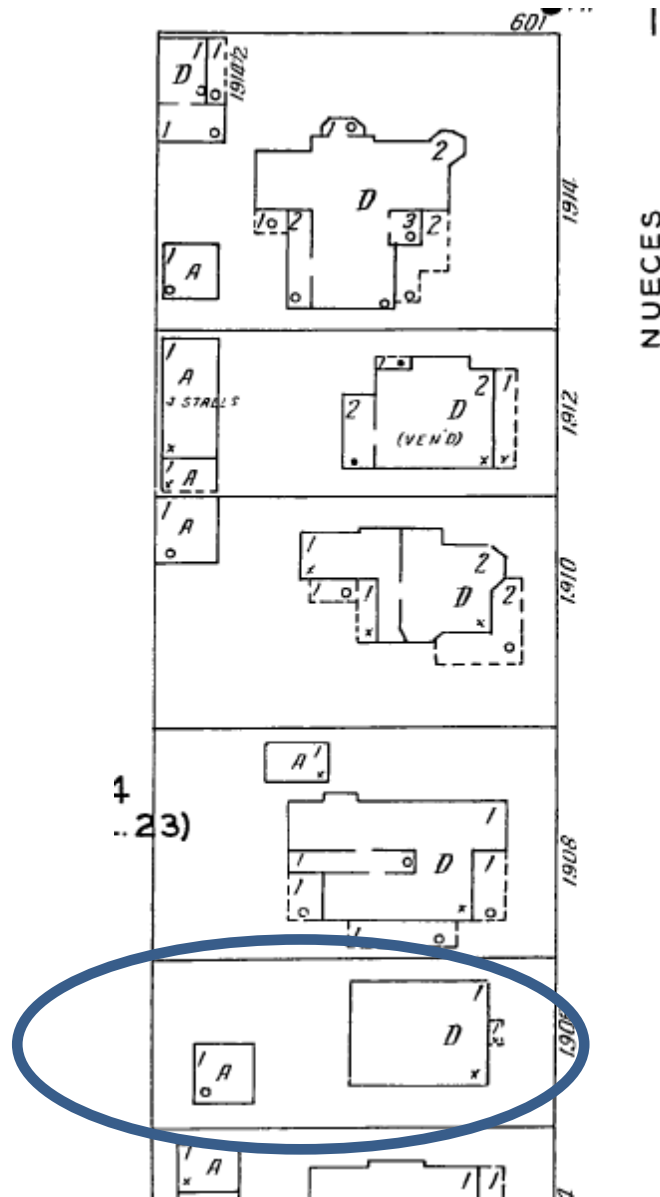
### **John and Katherine Griswold (ca. 1936 – ca. 1939)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows John and Katherine Griswold as the owners of the house at 102 Laurel Lane in Austin; that house was worth \$6,900. John Griswold was 32, had been born in Illinois, and was a teacher at the University of Texas. Katherine Griswold was 32, had been born in Illinois, and had no occupation listed. They lived in Muskogee, Oklahoma in 1935. John Griswold died in Morristown, New Jersey in 1971.

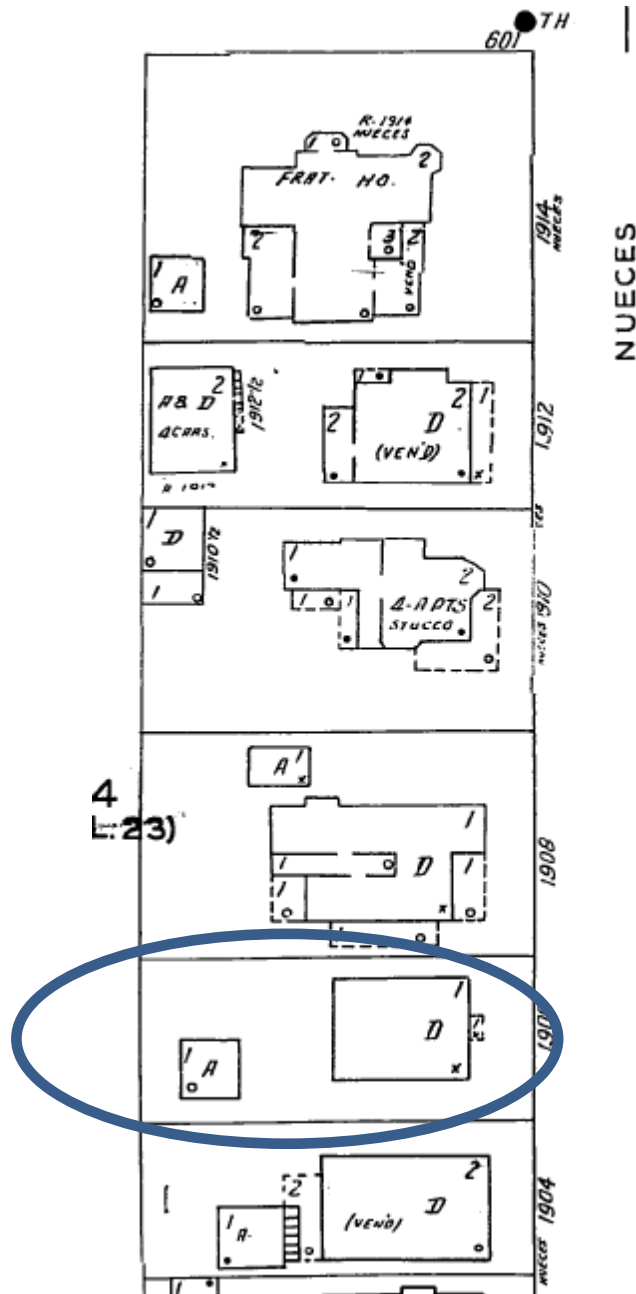
### **1940 U.S. Census**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows A.A. and Oma Smith as the renters of this house. A.A. Smith was 49, had been born in Texas, and was a salesman for drug sundries. Oma Smith was 47, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. With them lived their daughter, Argie Fa, 18, who had been born in Texas, and was a library assistant at the state university; and their son, Oscar D., 27, a salesman for drug sundries, and his wife, Marie, 20, who had no occupation listed. Both had been born in Texas. Marie Smith lived in Del Rio, Texas in 1935.





The house and a rear auxiliary building are shown on the 1935 Sanborn map.



The 1961 Sanborn map shows the same configuration as the 1935 map above.

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

# PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE

Austin, Texas

NºA 4607

Sec. 46

M.

Address

1906 Nueces

Plumber

CITY

Size of Tap

3/4

Date 1-28-30

Foreman's Report.

Date of Connection 1-29-30

Size of Tap Made 3/4

Size Service Made 3/4

Size Main Tapped 6"

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 8'

" " " " "

Location of Meter CURB

Type of Box LOCK

Depth of Main in St. 3'

" " Service Line 30"

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 13'

Checked by Engr. Dept. 3-5-30

INDEXED

S.C.F.

Foreman's Signature

Water service permit for what appears to be an auxiliary dwelling unit on the property (1930)

Mrs. Pearl C. Bloor

1906 Nueces St.

46

39

423

Louis Horsts

Frame add. to Res. for Duplex

74021

9-9-59

\$10,000.00

Owner

10

DUFLEX

Building permit to Pearl Bloor for the construction of a frame addition to convert the house to a duplex (1959)

Pearl G. Bloor

1906 Nueces St.

46

9

23

Louis Horst

Frame accessory building

74882

12/16/59

100.00

owner

non

**STORAGE**

Building permit to Pearl Bloor for a frame accessory building (1959)

OWNER Pearl Bloor ADDRESS 1906 Nueces St.  
 PLAT 46 LOT 9 BLK 23 DIV   
 SUBDIVISION Louis Horst  
 OCCUPANCY Frame Addition to SW Corner of Residence  
 BLD PERMIT # 88651 DATE 7-11-63 OWNERS ESTIMATE 500.00  
 CONTRACTOR Oscar A. Seward NO. OF FIXTURES 1 (Lavatory)  
 WATER TAP REC #  SEWER TAP REC #   
ENLARGE EXISTING BEDROOM

Building permit to Pearl Bloor (corrected) for a frame addition (1963)

OWNER	North American Islamic Trust		ADDRESS	1906 Nueces	
PLAT	46.	LOT	9	BLK.	25
SUBDIVISION	Louis Horst				
OCCUPANCY	1 family and church area				
BLDG. PERMIT #	165537	DATE	6-29-77	OWNERS ESTIMATE	7000.00
CONTRACTOR	Louis G. Nitsche		NO. OF FIXTURES		
WATER TAP REC#			SEWER TAP REC#		
remodel exist wood frame residential bldg to incorporate church					

Building permit to the North American Islamic Trust to remodel the house into the mosque (1977)

sign permit

OWNER	N.A.I.T.		ADDRESS	1906 Nueces	
PLAT	46	LOT	9	BLK.	23
SUBDIVISION	Louis Horst				
OCCUPANCY	sign				
BLDG. PERMIT #	165819	DATE	7-12-77	OWNERS ESTIMATE	\$20.00
CONTRACTOR	owner		NO. OF FIXTURES		
WATER TAP REC#			SEWER TAP REC#		

Sign permit to the North American Islamic Trust (1977)

OWNER	Austin Mosque		ADDRESS	1906 Nueces St.	
PLAT	46	LOT	11	BLK.	23
SUBDIVISION	Louis Horsts				
OCCUPANCY	Parking				
BLDG. PERMIT #	185534	DATE	9-12-79	OWNERS ESTIMATE	10,000
CONTRACTOR	Mazim A. Mohammed		NO. OF FIXTURES		
WATER TAP REC#			SEWER TAP REC#		
1 stry steel frm parking structure & stroage add					
to 2 stry church & res. bldg.					

Building permit to the Austin Mosque for a parking structure and storage building (1979)