HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION SEPTEMBER 24, 2018 DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS HDP-2018-0480 3508 BONNIE ROAD

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1938 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, front-gabled frame house with a partial-width inset porch; single 1:1 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1938 for Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson, who lived here until 1976. Joe Robertson was from Santa Anna, Coleman County, Texas, and came to Austin around 1932 from Waco. He studied law at the University of Texas, and administered an estate, according to city directories of the early 1940s. Around 1943, he opened the Austex Hotel at 203 W. 7th Street, the old Mitchell Apartment Building (also the offices of Dr. J. Stanley Wright, a chiropractor, as well as the salon of Alice Miller, "spiritualist and proof reader"); the hotel appears to have been a residential hotel rather than for transients, was in operation until around 1950. He ran for Justice of the Peace in Travis County in 1940.

After Joe Robertson passed away in 1960, his widow, Juanita Robertson, who had been a dressmaker with her salon in this house, became a secretary for her son Joe T. Robertson's insurance agency, and later his law office. Juanita Robertson died in 1976. The house then became a rental property at least through the early 1990s.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house is beyond the bounds of any City survey to date.

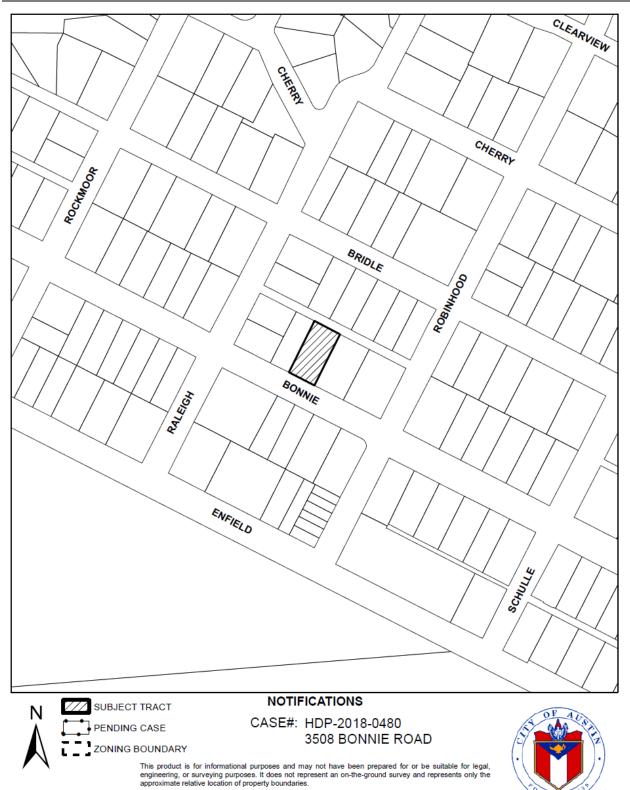
Staff has evaluated this house for designation as a historic landmark and has determined that the house does not meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code:

- a. Architecture. The house is a frame late 1930s cottage with a large inset porch, but represents a common type of residential architecture in Austin from that period. The house does not display sufficient architectural significance to justify a recommendation for landmark designation based upon its architecture.
- b. **Historical association**. The house is notably modest for this neighborhood, even compared with other houses built during the same period on Bonnie Road and in other areas of Tarrytown. Joe and Juanita Robertson built the house and lived here until they passed away; Juanita in 1976. Joe Robertson was an estate administrator and the proprietor of a small hotel on W. 7th Street, but there do not appear to be significant historical associations.
- 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 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.
- 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, 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 does not meet the criteria for individual designation as a historic landmark.

1 " = 167 '



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3508 Bonnie Road ca. 1938



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 3508 Bonnie Road

City Directory Research, Austin History Center By City Historic Preservation Office September, 2018

1992	Anne K. Ducote, renter No occupation listed
1985-86	Robin Moats, renter No occupation listed
1981	Paul W. and Peggy M. Outon, renters Proprietor (w9th David Kettler), Kettler-Outon Construction Company, home remodeling, custom homes, 6521 Burnet Road.
1977	Paul W. and Peggy M. Outon, renters Contractor NOTE: The directory indicates that Paul W. and Peggy M. Outon were new residents at this address.
1973	Juanita H. Robertson, owner Widow, Joseph W. Robertson Typist, Joe T. Robertson, lawyer, 1107 Nueces Street. NOTE: Joe T. and Joyce Robertson lived next door at 3506 Bonnie Road.

1968	Juanita H. Robertson, owner Widow, Joseph W. Robertson Typist, Joe T. Robertson, lawyer, 1107 Nueces Street. NOTE: Joe T. and Joyce Robertson lived next door at 3506 Bonnie Road.
1965	Juanita H. Robertson, owner Widow, Joseph W. Robertson Typist, Joe T. Robertson, lawyer, 1107 Nueces Street. NOTE: Joe T. and Joyce Robertson lived next door at 3506 Bonnie Road.
1960	Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson, owners Secretary, Joe T. Robertson Insurance Agency, 1408 Congress Avenue. NOTE: Joe T. and Joyce Robertson lived next door at 3506 Bonnie Road.
1957	Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson, owners No occupation listed
1953	Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson, owners No occupation listed
1949	Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson, owners Hotel operator
1947	Joseph T. and Juanita Robertson, owners No occupation listed Also listed is Joe T. Robertson, a student at the University of Texas.
1944-45	Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson, owners Proprietor, Austex Hotel, 203 W. 7 th Street.
1941	Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson, owners Administrator NOTE: There is no listing for the Austex Hotel; the Mitchel Apartments were located at 203 W. 7 th Street.
1940	Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson, owners Estate administrator
1939	Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson, owners No occupation listed NOTE: The house is listed as 3508 Ash Street.
1937	No houses are listed on Bonnie Road. NOTE: Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson are listed at 1910 David Street; neither had an occupation shown.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

Joseph W. and Juanita Robertson (ca. 1938 - ca. 1976)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Joe W. and Juanita Robertson as the owners of this house, which was worth \$3,000. Joe W. Robertson was 44, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. Juanita Robertson was 42, had been born in Texas, and was a seamstress at home. With them lived their son, Joe T. Robertson, 19, who had been born in Texas and had no occupation listed.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Joe W. and Juanita Robertson living in a house they owned in Waco, Texas. Joe W. Robertson was 35, had been born in Texas, and was a leader of oil lands. Juanita Robertson was 33, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a son, Joe Thaddeus Robertson, 9, who had been born in Texas.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Joe and Juanita Robertson living in a rented apartment in Santa Anna, Coleman County, Texas, where Joe was a 24-year old tailor with his own shop. Juanita Robertson had no occupation listed.

Joseph W. Robertson was living at this address at the time of his death in 1960. He was born in 1895 in Texas and was a retired property owner.

Juanita Robertson died in 1976; her last address was this house. She was a widowed legal secretary who had been born in 1898 in Santa Anna, Texas.

Joe W. Robertson Gets in Race For Justice Post

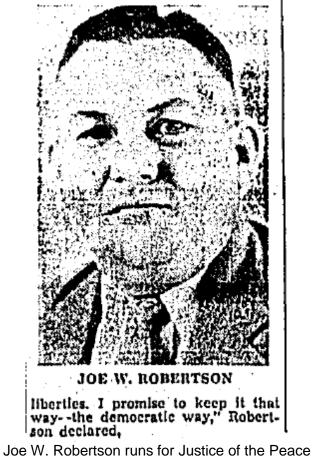
Because he believes 6,000 people are a lot of friends, Joe W. Robertson Saturday asked voters to elect him justice of the peace for place 2, precinct 3.

He thus entered the write-in campaign for the office now held by Sam Rogers, who in announcing his candidacy for sheriff declared he was guilting the justice race.

Robertson reminded voters that they must strike out Rogers' name and write in "Joe W. Robertson" on their ballots in order to cast their votes for him.

The justice candidate, who lives at 3508 Bonnie road, polled 6,000 votes two years ago in the same precinct race. "Since I received such a large vote of confidence then, I feel sure that the effort and expense I put forth was highly appreciated," Robertson declared. "I am again offering myself for justice of peace with the confidence you will again honor me with your vote and support in the democratic primary July 27."

Robertson is a 45-year-old exservice man, married and the father of a son. While working nights, he studied law at the University of Texas and believes his knowledge of the law and legal procedure is an important qualification for the office of justice of peace. "I pledge myself to the humanitarian and understanding attitude toward the problems people bring to this office. It's the people's office and the safeguard of their civil



Austin <u>American-Statesman</u>, July 21, 1940

Joyce Long, Austin Man Are Married

Joe T. Robertson, Bride To Continue University Studies

Miss Joyce Louise Long, daughter of Mrs. Rubye C. Long of Austin, became the bride of Joe T. Robertson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Robertson, also of Austin, in a single-ring ceremony read by the Rev. Richard S. Martin in the Church of the Good Shepherd Aug. 29.

Before the ceremony Mrs. Herbert D. Ammon sang "Thine Alone."

Miss Carolyn Campbell of Wichita Falls, maid-of-honor, wore a gown of aqua net over satin and carried a bouquet of purple asters. The bridesmaids, Mrs. Charles Aicklen and Miss Jackie Rayzor, wore yellow gowns and also carried purple asters.

Ivory Satin

Thomas B. Long, brother of the bride, gave her in marriage. She wore a gown of ivory satin fashioned on princess lines with a bertha of rosepoint lace. Her fulllength veil was of imported Brussels lace, and she carried a bouquet of carnations, gardenias and stephanotis on a white prayer book.

Tom Flinn of Austin attended the groom as best man, and ushers were James Story of Wichita Falls and Robert Hunter of Austin. A reception was held at the home of the bride's mother, 2806 Woolridge Drive. Mesdames Bill Hellum and Hugh McKowen poured punch, and Mesdames J. H. Campbell and J. B. Williams served cake. Mrs. C. D. Long presided at the bride's book. Also in the houseparty were Mrs. Theron G. Cahill and Mrs. Jess H. Cambell.

For their wedding trip to Corpus Christi the bride wore an Adele Simpson suit of beige wool with brown accessories and a gardenia and carnation corsage.

The bride is a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio. She attended TSCW and it now a student in the University of Texas.

Mr. Robertson, an Austin High School graduate, is also attending the University.

Out-of-town guests attending the wedding were Mr. and Mrs. Theron Cahill, Miss Evelyn Mann, T. C. Cabill and Jerry Cahill of Haskell; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Broaddus and Miss Betty Broaddus of Tyler; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Irby, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rogers and Mrs. Birdle Oliver of San Antonio; Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Spencer of Yazoo, Miss., Mrs. Olive Ford of Corpus Christi; Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Rayzor of Houston; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Campbell of Wichita Falls.

Preceding the ceremony a rehersal dinner was given by the parents of the groom at the Austin Hotel.



Joe T. Robertson, who grew up in this house, marries Joyce Long Austin <u>American-Statesman</u>, September 7, 1947

JOSEPH W. ROBERTSON

Joseph W. Robertson, 65, 3508 Bonnie Road, died suddenly Tuesday. He had been a resident of Austin for 28 years, formerly residing in Santa Anna. Robertson was a member of the Central Christian Church where he was deacon emeritus of the church and was past president of the men's Sunday School class. He was a veteran of World War I.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Juanita Robertson, Austin; one son, Joe T. Robertson, Austin; three brothers, John Robertson, Austin; George Robertson, Corsicana; Early Robertson, Waco; one sister, Mrs. A. L. Goss, Dalhart; three grandsons, all of Austin.

The body will be at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home until Thursday when it will be taken to the Central Christian Church where funeral services will be held at 9:30 a. m. Dr. John Barclay will officiate. Graveside service will be held in Santa Anna at 3 p. m. with Rev. George Cuthrell officiating.

The body will lie in state one hour at the church preceding the service.

Those who desire to do so muy make a memorial contribution to the Gene Plummer Fund of the Central Christian Church.

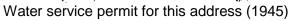
Pallbearers will be Joe Steadham, H. M. Albert, Harold Page. Dr. Ross A. Maxwell, W. T. Lofland and T. T. Smith.

> Obituary of Joe W. Robertson Austin <u>Statesman</u>, May 11, 1960

22ROBERTSON, Mrs. Joseph W. (Juanita), 78, 3508 Bonnie Road, died Monday. Services 10 a.m. Thursday at Weed-Corley Funeral Home. Graveside services 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Santa Ahna Cemetery in Santa Anna.

Obituary of Juanita Robertson Austin <u>American-Statesman</u>, April 14, 1976

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Building permit to Joseph W. Robertson to reroof the house and garage (1945)