

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 19, 2018
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2018-0573
811 W. MARY STREET

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1925 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, pyramidal-roofed frame house with a partial-width inset porch; single fenestration, much of which has been replaced with modern windows.

RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built around 1925, perhaps by T.O. Odiorne, a local druggist and developer. The first occupants were Joe L. and Lula Stegall, who lived here until around 1932. Joe Stegall was a truck driver for oil companies. The house was then rented by a series of blue-collar workers, including a couple of auto mechanics, a tool dresser, and a painter. Around 1940, the house was rented by Henry and Marie Lemens, who lived here until around 1943. Henry Lemens was the tax supervisor at the State Comptroller's Office. In the mid- to late 1940s, there were another series of renters, including a widow, then a truck driver and his wife, who worked as a waitress at a downtown café. The owner of a liquor store purchased the house in the late 1950s, and lived here until around 1960. The house was again a rental property until it was purchased by a widow, Victoria Aguilar, around 1970. Mrs. Aguilar lived here until her death in 1977.

STAFF COMMENTS

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

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 early 1930s house with no architectural distinction and replacement windows. It would not qualify for designation under the criterion for architecture.
- b. **Historical association.** The house has been a rental property for most of its existence with a series of relatively short-term blue-collar renters. If the house was more intact, the argument for its depiction of a way of life for a certain segment of the city's population would be justified, but this house does not retain the high level of integrity necessary for such a determination.
- 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.

LOCATION MAP



-   SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2018-0573
LOCATION: 811 W. Mary Street



1" = 167'

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.

811 W. Mary Street
ca. 1925



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 811 W. Mary Street

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

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 1992 | Henry M. Reyes, renter
Retired |
| 1985-86 | Jose E. and Jessie Martinez, renters
Jose: Employed by Frankel Shipping and Receiving (not listed in the directory).
Jessie: Employed by Capital Area Easter Seals (not listed in the directory). |
| 1981 | Robert and Janie Mongolia, renters
No occupation listed
NOTE: The directory indicates that Robert and Janie Mongolia were new residents at this address. |
| 1977 | Victoria Aguilar, renter
Retired
NOTE: The directory indicates that Victoria Aguilar was a new resident at this address. |
| 1973 | Victoria Aguilar, owner
Widow, Sebastian Aguilar |

- No occupation listed
- 1968 No return
NOTE: Victoria Aguilar, the widow of Sebastian Aguilar, is listed at 47 N. Interregional Highway; she had no occupation shown.
- 1965 William and Dolly Covey, renters
Tree surgeon
- 1962 Vacant
- 1959 Wilbur D. and Virginia Tabor, renters
Clerk, Charles P. Davis Hardware, 317-19 Congress Avenue.
- 1957 Wilbur D. Tabor, owner
Proprietor, Shamrock Package Store, 100 Trinity Street.
NOTE: Virginia Tabor is not listed in the directory.
- 1955 Charles D. and Dorothy Lusk, owners
Carpenter
- 1952 Charles D. and Dorothy Lusk, owners
Student, University of Texas
- 1949 James S. and Ramona Ferris, renters
James: Driver
Ramona: Waitress, PJ Café, 207 E. 1st Street.
- 1947 Viola Webb, owner
No occupation listed
- 1944-45 Mrs. Viola Webb, renter
No occupation listed
- 1942 Harry V. and Marie Lemens, renters
Tax supervisor, State Comptroller's Office
NOTE: Viola Webb is listed at 700 Wayside Drive; she had no occupation shown.
- 1941 Harry V. and Marie Lemens, renters
Tax supervisor, State Comptroller's Office
- 1940 George W. and Roxie Duff, renters
Tool dresser
NOTE: Henry V. and Nellie M. Lemens rented the house at 815 W. Mary Street; he was the tax supervisor for the State Comptroller's Office.
- 1939 C.D. and Louise Crowder, renters
Service manager, Chester D. Alexander, auto accessories, 301 W. 5th Street.
- 1937 C. Dewey and Louise Crowder, renters
Mechanic
- 1935 J. Arthur and Maude Shropshire, renters

Painter

- 1932-33 William A. and Mae Nichols, renters
Mechanic, Foster's Garage, 504 Brazos Street.
- 1930-31 Joseph L. and Lula Stegall, renters
Truck driver, Sinclair Refining Company, 209 Nueces Street.
Also listed is David S. Stegall, no occupation shown.
NOTE: The house is listed as 811 (809) W. Mary Street.
- 1929 J.L. and Lula Stegall, renters
Truck driver, Pierce Petroleum Company, 209 Nueces Street.
Also listed is David S. Stegall, no occupation shown.
NOTE: The house is listed as 809 W. Mary Street.
- 1927 J.L. and Lula Stegall, renters
Driver, Pierce Petroleum Company, 209 Nueces Street.
Also listed is H. Lee Stegall, no occupation shown.
NOTE: The house is listed as 809 W. Mary Street.
- 1924 The address is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: Joseph L. and Lula Stegall are listed at 1215 Canterbury Street, with their son, H. Lee. Joseph L. Stegall was a driver.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**J.L. and Lula Stegall (ca. 1925 – ca. 1932)**

Joseph and Lula Stegall appear in the 1900 U.S. Census for Freestone County, Texas, where they rented a farm. Joseph Stegall was 29, had been born in Texas, and was listed as a farmer. Lula Stegall was 23, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 children listed with them: Alta, 4; and Joseph, 1. The family also had 2 African-American servants, Walter Carwill, 34; and Chinto Pool, 18. Both had been born in Texas, and both are listed as farm laborers.

By 1910, Joe L. and Lula F. Stegall were living in Teague, Freestone County, Texas, where Joe L. Stegall was a 38-year old Texas-born dry goods salesman. Lula Stegall was 33, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 5 children: Alta, 14; Joseph L., 11; Hiram Lee, 6; Lucy, 4; and John S., 1. All the children had been born in Texas. Also in the household was Lula Stegall's mother, Sarah Sibley, a 74-year old Mississippi-born widow with no occupation shown.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Joe L. and Lola Stegall as the renters of the house at 1014 Taylor Street in Austin. Joe L. Stegall was 48, had been born in Texas, and was a laborer for an oil company. Lola Stegall was 43, had been born in Texas to Mississippi-born parents, and had no occupation listed. They had 5 children: Alta D., 24, a cashier in a drug store; Joe L., 21, a laborer for an oil company; Hiram, 16; John C., 10; and David S., 10. All of the children had been born in Texas.

J.L. and Lula Stegall are listed at this address (811 West Mary Street) in the 1930 U.S. Census. They rented the house. J. L. Stegall was 59, had been born in Texas, and was a truck driver. Lula Stegall was 53, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. With them lived their son, David, 18, who had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Lula Stegall living in Houston at the home of her son, H. Lee Stegall, who owned his home there. Lula Stegall is listed as married, and a 63-year old Texas-born widow

with no occupation listed. She lived in Austin in 1935. Her son, H. Lee Stegall, was a 36-year old salesman with a wife and 2 children. J.L. Stegall is not listed with them.

Lula Frances Stegall was living in Houston at the time of her death in 1956. She was born in Texas in 1875 and was a widowed housewife.

JOSEPH LEE STEGALL

Funeral services for Joseph Lee Stegall will be held at Wilke-Thurman-Clay Funeral Home Saturday at 2 p.m. with Rev. Milton Bohmfalk officiating. He had lived in Austin 43 years before going to Houston where he died Wednesday.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lula Francis Stegall of Houston; four sons, Joseph L. Stegall of Austin, Hiram Lee Stegall, John Neil Stegall and David Sibley Stegall, all of Houston; three sisters, Mrs. Laura Anderson of Tomball, Mrs. Annie Tomball of Houston and Mrs. Ruth Franklin of Teague; and 10 grandchildren.

Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

Obituary of Joe Stegall
Austin American, December 10, 1955

MRS. LULA STEGALL

Mrs. Lula Francis Stegall, 78, of 2336 Judson Road died in a Houston hospital Friday. She had been a resident of Austin for many years prior to moving to Houston. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph L. Stegall a month ago. She was a member of Methodist Church.

She is survived by four sons, Joseph L. Stegall of Austin, Hiram Lee Stegall, John Neal Stegall and David Sibley Stegall, all of Houston; and 10 grandchildren.

The body is at Wilke-Thurman-Clay Funeral Home where services will be held possibly late Sunday afternoon.

Obituary of Lula Stegall
Austin American, January 7, 1956

MRS. LULA STEGALL

Funeral services for Mrs. Lula Francis Stegall, 79, will be held Sunday at 4:30 p.m. at Wilke-Thurman-Clay Funeral Home with Rev. E. D. Messer officiating. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

Funeral notice for Lula Stegall
Austin American-Statesman, January 8, 1956

Henry V. and Marie Lemens (ca. 1940 – ca. 1942)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows H.V. and Marie Lemens as the renters of this house. H.V. Lemens was 36, had been born in Texas, and was an accountant for the State; Marie Lemens was 29, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 4 children: Henry, 11; Don, 10; Jimmie, 7; and Peggy, 3. All the children had been born in Texas. The family lived in rural Somervell County, Texas in 1935.

His World War II draft registration card shows that Henry Vivin Lemens was born in Granbury, Texas in 1904, and was living in Austin at the time of his registration in 1942. He was working for George H. Sheppard. He had a ruddy complexion, hazel eyes, and brown hair. He was 5'-9". His next of kin was Nellie Marie Lemens.

Henry V. Lemens died April 4, 2001 in Glen Rose, Somervell County, Texas. Nellie Marie Lemens was born in 1911 and died in 2005; she and Henry are buried in the Squaw Creek Cemetery in Rainbow, Somervell County, Texas.

Charles D. and Dorothy Lusk (ca. 1950 – ca. 1957)

Charles Denning Lusk, Sr was born in Bartlett, Texas in 1922 and died in Tacoma, Washington in 2012. Dorothy Webb Lusk was born in San Antonio, Texas in 1923 and died in Tacoma, Washington in 2013. They are buried in Seattle, Washington.

Victoria Aguilar (ca, 1970 – ca. 1977)

Victoria Aguilar was born in Austin in 1924, and died in 1977. She was a widowed housewife.

AGUILAR, Mrs. Victoria O., 53, 611 W. Mary, died Saturday. Rosary 8 p.m. Monday at Angel Funeral Home. Mass 10 a.m. Tuesday at San Jose Catholic Church. Survivors: daughters, Janie Flores, Mrs. Marcelina Pore, Mrs. Lillie Longoria, all of Austin; eight grandchildren.

Obituary of Victoria Aguilar
Austin American-Statesman, October 2, 1977

Connecting Charge \$ 1200 N^o 9666
Application for Sewer Connection. N^o 666
Austin, Texas, 9/15 1930

To the Superintendent of Sewer and Public Improvements,
City of Austin, Texas.

Sir:-

I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises
owned by J. E. Odrome
811 West Mary Street
Lot 6 - BKK residence
which place is to be used as a _____

In this place there are to be installed 3 fixtures.

I agree to pay the City Sewer Department the regular ordinance charge.

Respectfully, J. E. Odrome

Location of Public Sewer Sewer in Street. BKK
Stub Out 9-12-30 Located in front
Connected 1930 OK 8' W of E.C.
Size of Main 6 inches 3 1/2' D.C.H.
Size of Service 4 inches July 70
4 1/2 Feet Deep
35 Feet from Property Line in lot
_____ Feet from Curb Line _____

Inspected by Alex Boatwright
Connection made by W.C. Reeves A-200

Application for a sewer connection for this address (1930)

OWNER	Victoria Aguilar	ADDRESS	811 West Mary Street
PLAT	116	LOT	6
		BLK	K
SUBDIVISION	James E. Bouldin		
OCCUPANCY	Remodel residence		
BLD PERMIT #	14890	DATE	10-21-69
		OWNERS ESTIMATE	\$2,900.00
CONTRACTOR	H.P. Ross	NO. OF FIXTURES	several
WATER TAP REC	Exist	SEWER TAP REC #	Exist

Remodel frm residence
Building permit to Victoria Aguilar to remodel the house (1969)