

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
JANUARY 28, 2019  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2018-0652  
2802 SAN PEDRO STREET

## PROPOSAL

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Relocate a ca. 1921 house to outside the city limits.

## ARCHITECTURE

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One-story, rectangular-plan, front-gabled frame bungalow with a partial-width, partially-projecting inset porch on brick piers and wood posts; single and paired 1:1 fenestration.

## RESEARCH

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The house appears to have been built around 1921; the first owners and occupants were William C. and Ruth Blackwell, who lived here until around 1923. William C. Blackwell was the son of a Lockhart grocery merchant; while living in this house, he had no occupation shown in the city directories, but upon their move to a house in Travis Heights around 1923, he is listed as being with the circulation department of the Austin American newspaper.

From around 1923 until around 1927, the house was owned and occupied by R. Early and Dolcie Willson. R. Early Willson was the proprietor of the W. Thurman Mayne Company, a merchandise broker. The Willsons moved from this house to San Antonio, where Early Willson is listed as working for a brokerage firm.

Maude Whitten, a widow, owned and occupied this house from the late 1920s through the late 1930s, when she moved to a house in Tarrytown. The house was then purchased by Floyd B. Inks and his wife Marie Sterzing Inks. Floyd B. Inks was the chief watchman at the State Board of Control. Marie Sterzing Inks was from an early pioneer family in Central Texas. Her mother, Clara Sterzing, also lived with them. Floyd Inks went on to be the chief accountant for Austin State Hospital. After Floyd's death in 1967 and her mother, Clara Sterzing's death in 1973, Marie Inks stayed in this house until around 1975. Since that time, the house has been used as a rental property.

## STAFF COMMENTS

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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 1920s bungalow. The house reflects a common style with no architectural distinction.
- b. **Historical association.** The house was owned by a series of families, including that of a newspaper employee, a merchandise broker, and a widow, before being purchased by Floyd and Marie Inks, who lived here for the longest period of time during the historic period. Both Floyd and Marie Inks came from prominent families in Central Texas, but there do not appear to be significant historical associations with the two of them.
- 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**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use on-site, 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

1" = 333'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2018-0652

LOCATION: 2802 SAN PEDRO ST

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.



2802 San Pedro Street  
ca. 1921



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
2802 San Pedro Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
September, 2010

1992	Trace Crutchfield, renter Student NOTE: The directory indicates that Trace Crutchfield was a new resident at this address.
1985-86	Ian Fowler, renter No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Ian Fowler was a new resident at this address.
1981	Cindy Powell, renter No occupation listed Also listed is Kathleen Powell, an account executive at KNOW Radio.
1977	Vacant
1972	Marie Inks, owner

	Widow, Floyd B. Inks Retiree
1969	Marie Inks, owner Widow, Floyd B. Inks No occupation listed
1963	Floyd B. and Marie Inks, owners No occupation listed
1957	Floyd B. and Marie Inks, owners Chief accountant, State Hospital Also listed is Clara Sterzing, no occupation shown.
1953	Clara Sterzing, owner No occupation listed Also listed are Floyd B. and Marie Inks; neither had an occupation shown.
1949	Clara Sterzing, owner No occupation listed Also listed are Floyd B. and Marie Inks; he was an accountant.
1947	Clara Sterzing, owner No occupation listed Also listed are Floyd B. and Marie Inks; he was an accountant for the State Board of Control. With them is listed Floyd B. Inks, Jr., a student at the University of Texas.
1944-45	Floyd B. and Marie Inks, owners Clerk NOTE: Clara Sterzing is not listed in the directory.
1941	Floyd B. and Marie S. Inks, owners Chief watchman, State Board of Control
1939	W. Clyde and Della H. McDowell, renters Proprietor, McDowell Lumber Company, 906 E. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street. NOTE: Maude R. Whitten, the widow of Aaron W. Whitten, is listed at 2216 Stamford Lane; she had no occupation shown. NOTE: Floyd B. and Marie Inks are listed at 92 San Jacinto Street; he was the chief watchman at the State Board of Control.
1937	Mrs. Maude R. Whitten, owner Widow, Aaron Whitten No occupation listed
1935	Maude R. Whitten, owner Widow, Aaron S. Whitten No occupation listed
1932-33	Maude R. Whitten, owner No occupation listed
1930-31	Vacant

NOTE: Maude R. Whitten is not listed in the directory.

- 1929      Maude Whitten, owner  
Widow, Aaron Whitten  
No occupation listed
- Harold P. and Maud Brelsford, renters  
Agent, Cities Service Oil Company, 1208 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street.  
NOTE: R. Early and Docie Willson are not listed in the directory. They are listed in the 1927 San Antonio city directory; he was a salesman for a brokerage firm.
- 1927      R. Early and Docie Willson, owners  
Proprietor, W. Thurman Mayne Company, merchandise broker, 236-37 Austin National Bank Building, 507-09 Congress Avenue.
- 1924      Robert E. and Dolcie Willson, owners  
Proprietor, W. Thurman Mayne Company, merchandise brokers, 359 Austin National Bank Building, 507-09 Congress Avenue.  
NOTE: William C. and Ruth Blackwell are listed at 1109 Alameda Drive; he was with the circulation department of the Austin American, newspaper.
- 1922      William C. and Ruth Blackwell, owners  
No occupation listed
- 1920      The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: William C. and Ruth Blackwell are not listed in the directory.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

### William C. and Ruth Blackwell (ca. 1921 – ca. 1923)

William C. and Ruth C. Blackwell appear in the 1920 U.S. Census as living in the home of his parents, William J. and Etta Blackwell, of Lockhart, Texas. William C. Blackwell was 28, had been born in Texas, and was a grocery salesman, most likely for his father, a retail grocery merchant. Ruth C. Blackwell was 27, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 3 children: Ruth M., 5; Carroll D, 4; and John W, 2. All of the children had been born in Texas.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows William C. and Ruth C. Blackwell as the renters of a house in Huntsville, Texas, where William C. Blackwell was an inspector for a pipeline. Ruth C. Blackwell was a saleslady. None of their three children had an occupation listed.

William C. Blackwell died in 1979; Ruth Blackwell died in 1960. Both are buried in Lockhart, Texas.

### Robert Early Willson and Docie Willson (ca. 1923 – ca. 1927)

His 1917 World War I draft registration card shows that Robert Early Willson was living at 2200 Guadalupe Street in Austin. He had been born in Mount Pleasant, Texas, and was a deputy U.S. Marshal. He was single, and was tall and slender with brown eyes and dark brown hair.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Early and Dolcie Willson living in a rented house in Stephenville, Texas. Early Willson was 24, had been born in Texas, and was an accountant at a college. Dolcie Willson was 22, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a son, Robert, 7 months, who had been born in Texas.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Early and Docie Willson living in a rented house in San Antonio. Early Willson was 35, had been born in Texas, and was a shipping broker for a produce company.

Dolcie Willson was 32 had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 children: Early, Jr., 10; and Rebecca, 8. Both children had been born in Texas. The family had two servants: Lena Rodriguez, 17; and Martha Rodriguez, 16. Both women had been born in Texas and both are listed as servants in a private home.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows R.E. and Dolcie Willson as the owners of a house worth \$10,000 in San Antonio. R.E. Willson was a produce broker; Dolcie Willson had no occupation listed. Their two children lived with them; neither had an occupation listed.

**R. Early Willson of the W. T. Mayne Produce company has returned from a trip to the lower Rio Grande valley section and reports prospects are good for a bumper watermelon crop in that section this season. The recent rains, Willson said, have greatly benefited this crop. The season is expected to start about June 10 and some 1500 cars will be marketed within 30 days. Willson visited at Sandia, Kingsville and Pleasanton on his trip.**

News story on the report by Early Willson on the upcoming produce crop in South Texas  
Austin Statesman, April 18, 1925

Robert Early Willson's 1965 death certificate shows that he was living in Terrell Hills, a suburb of San Antonio at the time of his death; he had lived in Terrell Hills for 37 years. He was a produce broker who had been born in Texas in 1895. Dolcie P. Willson died in San Antonio, Texas in 1989.

**Maude R. Whitten (ca. 1928 – ca. 1938)**

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Maud Whitten living in the home her daughter and son-in-law, Harold P. and Maud Brelsford, who are listed as the owners of this house. The house was worth \$5,500. Maud Whitten was a 52-year old Texas-born widow who had no occupation listed. Her son-in-law, Harold P. Brelsford was 35, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. Her daughter, Maud Brelsford was 28, had been born in Texas, and was a housewife. The Brelsforths had 3 children: Regina, 9, who had been born in Colorado; Harold, 7, who had been born in Texas; and Robert, 3 months, who had been born in Texas.

Her 1952 death certificate shows that Mrs. Maude Regina Whitten was born in Austin in 1877, and had been living in Houston for 4 years prior to her death. She was a widowed housewife.

**MRS. MAUDE R. WHITTEN**

Mrs. Maude Regina Whitten, former Austin resident, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Regina Brelsford, in Houston Monday. She was a native of Austin and had lived most of her life in Austin but had been living in Houston for the past four years. She was a member of the Methodist Church.

Survivors besides Mrs. Brelsford are two sons, J. W. Whitten, Waco and A. W. Whitten, Buda; eight grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren also survive.

The body will arrive in Austin Wednesday. Funeral services will be held at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home at 4 p. m. Wednesday with Dr. Edmund Helmsohn officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Obituary of Maude Whitten  
Austin Statesman, January 22, 1952

**Clyde and Della H. McDowell (ca. 1938 – ca. 1939)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Clyde and Della McDowell as the renters of a house in Commerce, Texas. Clyde McDowell was 58. Della McDowell was 57. Both had been born in Texas and neither had an occupation listed. They had 2 sons: Henderson, 27, who had been born in Texas and was an assistant business manager at the state teachers' college; and Clyde, 29, who had been born in Texas and was a baseball player for the Texas League. Clyde and Della McDowell had lived in Austin in 1935. Henderson and Clyde McDowell had lived in Paris, Texas in 1935.

Both Walter Clyde McDowell and Della Henderson McDowell are buried in Commerce, Texas. W. Clyde McDowell died in 1948; Della McDowell died in 1971.

**Clara Sterzing (ca. 1946 – ca. 1973)**

Clara Sterzing appears in the 1940 U.S. Census as a guest in the Burlington Hotel in Washington, D.C. She was 62, single, and had been born in Texas. She did clerical work for the government. She had lived in the hotel in 1935 as well.

Clara Sterzing died in 1973 in Austin. She was living in this house at the time of her death. She had been born in Austin in 1877 and had never married. She was a housekeeper.

**MISS CLARA STERZING**

Miss Clara Sterzing, 96, of 2802 San Pedro, died in a local hospital Friday. She was born in Austin and lived here most of her life, except for 22 years in Washington, D.C., where she was affiliated with the State Tax Dept. and was active in the Texas Club there. She was a member of the First Southern Presbyterian Church, attended the University of Texas and was active in club work. Miss Sterzing was elected as the first State registrar for the United Daughters of Confederacy and was a member of a pioneer Austin family. Her father was the late Fred Sterzing, who was the City of Austin Tax Assessor and Collector for 54 years. Her mother was the late Agnes Pressler Sterzing, and her paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Sterzing, were with the first party to colonize New Braunfels in 1845. Her maternal grandfather was the surveyor for the State Land Office in Austin in the 1850s.

Survivors include three sisters, Mrs. Marie S. Inks, Mrs. Winifred S. Whitener of Austin; Mrs. Nelle S. Barnhart of Dallas; a niece and several nephews.

Funeral will be 2 p.m. Saturday at Weed-Corley Funeral Home, Rev. Frank S. Walker officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Obituary of Clara Sterzing  
Austin American-Statesman, December 8, 1973

**Floyd and Marie Inks (ca. 1940 – ca. 1975)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Floyd B. and Marie Inks as the owners of this house, which was worth \$3,400. Floyd B. Inks was 53, had been born in Texas, and was the night supervisor at the State Board of Control. Marie Inks was 44, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a son, Floyd, Jr., 15, who had been born in Texas and had no occupation listed. Floyd Inks died in 1967; Marie Inks died in 1985. Clara Sterzing was Marie Inks' sister.

\n In 1930, according to the census report of that year, Floyd B. and Marie Inks 2were living in a rented house at 92 San Jacinto Street in Austin. Floyd B. Inks was 43, had been born in Texas to an Arkansas-born father and a California-born mother, and was an auto supplies salesman. Marie Inks was 33, had been born in Texas to a German-born father and a Texas-born mother, and had no occupation listed. They had a son, Floyd, Jr. 5, who had been born in Texas.

# **City Collision Victim's Condition Still Critical**

An 86-year-old Austin woman remained in critical condition at Seton Hospital Wednesday from injuries suffered in a grinding two-car collision in front of the Hancock Center.

Mrs. Clara Sterzing of 2802 San Pedro — one of five persons

injured in the wreckage — suffered a severe laceration of the head with possible brain concussion.

Mrs. Sterzing was a passenger in a car with Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Inks, also of 2802 San Pedro, that collided with an expectant mother and her six-year-old daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Inks suffered serious injuries in the crash and were hospitalized at Seton. Mrs. Inks, 67, was retained for treatment for a possible broken vertebra. Her 78-year-old husband sustained four broken ribs.

The occupants of the other car, Mrs. Earline Oertli, of 1307 Ridgemont, and her daughter, Cindy, were treated at Bracken-

ridge Hospital for lacerations of the hand, scalp and face. They were released following emergency treatment.

City Patrolman Ernest Becker said the accident occurred at the intersection of Red River Street and Park Boulevard, in front of the Hancock Center, Tuesday afternoon.

Officer Becker said the impact of the crash put the Inks' car into a spin and broadside that dashed it against a third auto stopped in the driveway of the shopping center.

The officer said Mrs. Oertli was northbound on Red River and Inks was eastbound on Park Boulevard when the accident occurred.

News story on a noteworthy auto collision involving Floyd and Marie Inks and Clara Sterzing  
Austin Statesman, December 2, 1964

Floyd B. Inks' 1967 death certificate shows that he was living at this address at the time of his death. He was born in 1886 in Burnet County, Texas, and was a retired certified public accountant for Austin State Hospital.

**FLOYD BEVERLY INKS**

Floyd Beverly Inks, 80, 2802 San Pedro St., died in a local hospital Tuesday. An Austin resident most of his life, Inks was a member of First Southern Presbyterian Church.

Inks retired as a chief accountant for the Austin State Hospital.

Survivors are his widow, Mrs. Marie Sterzing Inks, Austin; one son, Floyd Beverly Inks Jr., Austin and Lagos, Nigeria, Africa; three grandchildren; three sisters, Mrs. W. C. Bull, Lake Jackson, Mrs. George Hayes, Dallas, Mrs. Arno Brill, Austin; two brothers, Lee O. Inks, Dallas and Brownlee Inks, Austin.

Funeral services are pending at Weed-Corley Funeral Home.

Obituary of Floyd B. Inks  
Austin Statesman, January 3, 1967

**FLOYD BEVERLY INKS**

Funeral services for Floyd B. Inks will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Weed-Corley Funeral Home. Rev. Frank B. Walker will officiate and burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Funeral notice for Floyd B. Inks  
Austin Statesman, January 4, 1967

## **FLOYD BEVERLY INKS**

**Funeral services for Floyd B. Inks were held Thursday at Weed-Corley Funeral Home. Rev. Frank B. Walker officiated and burial was in Oakwood Cemetery.**

**Pallbearers were Harry B. Barnhart Jr., Paul F. Barnhart, Victor E. Sterzing, Horace C. Barnhart Jr., Richard C. Ellis and Irvin Barnhart.**

Story on the funeral of Floyd B. Inks  
Austin Statesman, January 5, 1967

"Chuck was proud of his Austin and Texas heritage. His parents were Floyd Beverly Inks, Sr. and Marie Sterzing Inks.

Floyd, Sr., Chuck's father, was a Texas Ranger and chief of security at the Texas State Capitol. Floyd Sr. later worked as an accountant and retired as comptroller of the Austin State Hospital in 1950 after many years of state service. Floyd, Sr. was born in Burnet County where he grew up in a large family, including his little brother, Roy, who was mayor of Llano during the development of the Highland Lakes and first Chairman of the Board of the LCRA. Inks Lake was named for his Uncle Roy.

One of Floyd, Sr.'s many accomplishments was hiring his niece's farm boy boyfriend and his best friend, who were attending the University of Texas Law School as legislative aides at the Capitol. This niece, Chuck's cousin, Idanell Brill married John B. Connally in 1940. John and his friend, JJ "Jake" Pickle, were active in Texas politics and went on to buy KVVU together after returning from military service in WWII. Chuck's Aunt Clara Sterzing worked for Sam Rayburn (24 terms – Speaker of the House of Representatives) as executive assistant for 38 years in Washington D.C. and introduced John to Lyndon Johnson (then a legislative aide for Sam Rayburn). John Connally later introduced Lyndon to JJ "Jake" Pickle who adopted LBJ as his political mentor. All pursued active political careers.

Chuck's mother was Marie Sterzing. Her parents, Fred A. And Agnes Pressler Sterzing, were pioneer Austin residents. Fred Sterzing was a member of the Austin City Council, and was the City of Austin Tax Assessor and Collector for 54 yrs. He was one of the defenders of the State Treasury during the 1865 robbery.

Marie's paternal grandparents were Theodore and Helene Sterzing, original settlers of New Braunfels in 1845. Maternal grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pressler who came to Texas from Germany in 1842. Charles Pressler was a surveyor and cartographer who prepared and published a number of the earliest maps of Texas, including his 1858 map, which is recognized as the first accurate map of the State of Texas."

*Information from the obituary of Floyd and Marie Inks' son Floyd, Jr. ("Chuck") - 2011*

## **Marie Sterzing Inks**

Marie Sterzing Inks, 89, passed away on Wednesday, October 16, 1985.

She was a native and lifelong resident of Austin, attended Kennelworth Hall in Dallas, and was active during World War I, with the War Camp Community Services in San Antonio.

She was the widow of Floyd B. Inks, deceased. Mr. Inks was a decendent of early pioneer Texas families in the Burnet and Llano area of the Hill Country. Her parents were Fred A. and Agnes Pressler Sterzing, pioneer Austin residents. Mr. Sterzing was a member of the City Council, and was the Austin City Tax Assessor and Collector for 54 years. He was one of the defenders of the State Treasury during the attempted robbery in 1865.

Mrs. Inks' paternal grandparents were Theodore and Helene Sterzing, who were original settlers in 1844 in New Braunfels. Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Pressler were her maternal grandparents. They came to Texas from Germany in 1846. Mr. Pressler was a surveyor and cartographer, and in 1851 published the 'Pressler Maps', one of the earliest complete maps of Texas. He served with the General Land Office for 49 years, until 1899.

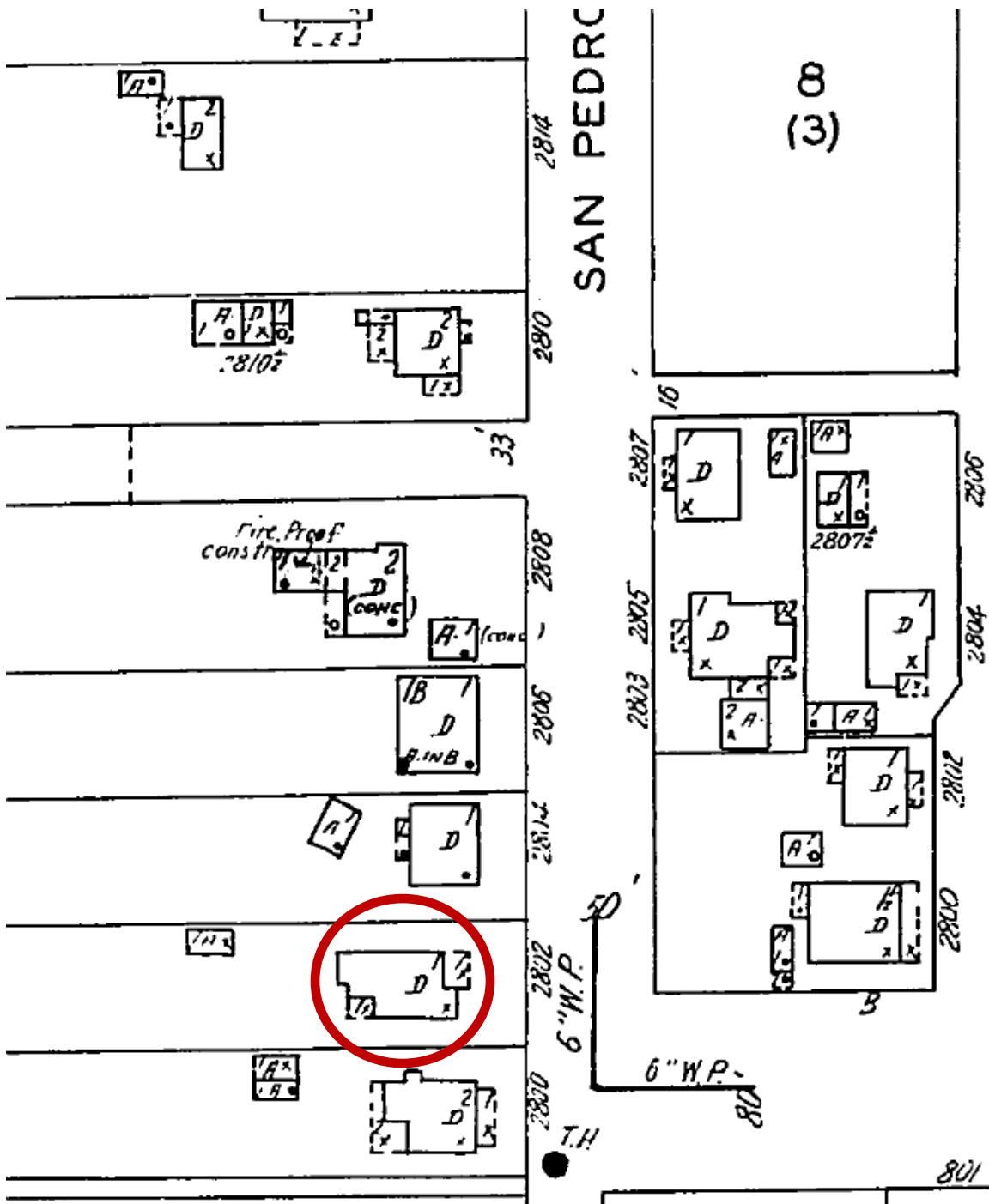
She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Floyd B. Jr. and Mickie Inks; sister, Nelle S. Barnhart, Dallas and Houston; two grandsons, Robert M. Inks and Floyd B. Inks, III; a granddaughter, Jeanna Inks Smith, all of Austin; niece, Winifred Whitener

**Curry, Austin; nephew, Paul F. Barnhart, Houston; and four great-grandchildren, Robert Riley Inks, Robin Inks, Riley Hartwell Inks, and Aaron Michael Smith, all of Austin.**

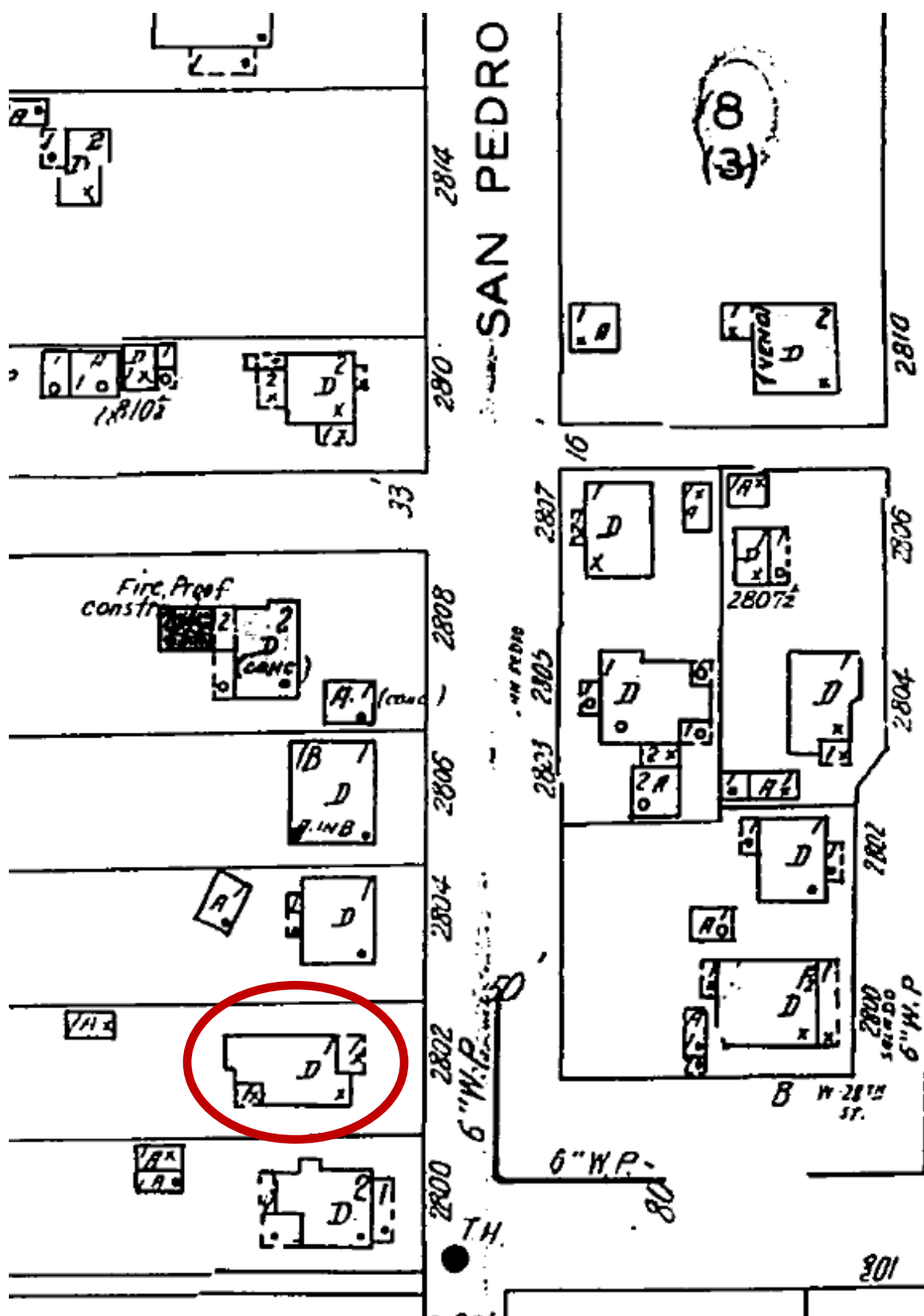
**Private family services will be held Friday at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home with Minister Laura C. Mendenhall, Central Presbyterian Church, officiating. Interment will be in Oakwood Cemetery.**

**If so desired, and in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, or the M.D. Anderson Cancer Foundation.**

Obituary of Marie Inks  
Austin American-Statesman, October 18, 1985



The house appears on the 1935 Sanborn map.



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

No building or utility permits appear to exist for this address