## HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION APRIL 22, 2019 DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS HDP-2019-0174 2016 EAST CESAR CHAVEZ STREET

# PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1929 house.

## ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular plan, hipped-roof frame house with a partial-width inset porch; single, paired, and triple 1:1 fenestration

#### RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built around 1929 and was rented out for many years. The first tenant was a widow, Ida Nelson, who lived here from around 1929 until her death in 1933. Her daughter, Hildur Brueggeman, and Hildur's husband, Hugo A. Brueggeman, rented the house next. Hugo Brueggeman was an asphalt tester for the State Highway Department. After his death in 1941 from an accidental gunshot wound, Hildur Brueggeman continued to live here until around 1963. She worked as a PBX operator.

Following Hildur Brueggeman's tenancy here, the house was rented by a series of Hispanic tenants, including a laborer at a dry cleaner and a newspaper mailer.

## STAFF COMMENTS

The house is recommended as contributing to a potential historic district along E. Cesar Chavez Street by the East Austin Historic Resource Survey (2016). The potential historic district stretches from San Marcos Street on the west to Llano Street on the east. This section of the proposed historic district has a large number of potentially contributing buildings.



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 appears to be a common form of vernacular architecture with a box frame, inset porch, and hipped roof that was relatively typical for blue collar housing at the time it was built. There does not appear

to be sufficient architectural distinction to qualify this house for designation as a historic landmark under the criterion for architecture.

- b. **Historical association**. The house has been a rental property for its entire existence; the longest-term tenants were Ida Nelson, her daughter, Hildur Brueggeman, and Hildur's husband, Hugo Brueggeman, an asphalt tester for the State Highway Department. 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.





# OCCUPANCY HISTORY 2016 E. Cesar Chavez Street

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

1929	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: Ida Nelson is not listed in the directory.
1930-31	Ida Nelson, renter No occupation listed
1932-33	Mrs. Ida Nelson, renter Widow, Charles Nelson No occupation listed
1935	Hugo A. and Hildur D. Brueggeman, renters Asphalt tester, State Highway Department NOTE: Hildur Brueggeman was the daughter of Ida Nelson. Ida Nelson died in 1933.
1937	Hugo A. and Hildur Brueggeman, reners Asphalt tester, State Highway Department
1939	Hugo A. and Hildur Brueggeman, renters Tester, State Highway Department
1941	Hugo A. and Hildur Brueggeman, renters Asphalt tester, State Highway Department NOTE: The house is listed as 2008 E. 1 <sup>st</sup> Street. NOTE: Hugo A. Brueggeman died from an accidental gunshot wound in 1941.
1942	Hildur Brueggeman renter Widow, Hugo A. Brueggeman No occupation listed
1944-45	Hildur A. Brueggeman, renter Widow, Hugo Brueggeman No occupation listed Also listed as owners are Fred and Agnes Roos; he was a baker for the Shulte Baking Company (not listed in the directory).
1947	Hildur A. Brueggeman, renter No occupation listed Also listed is Lorene H. Moore, a stenographer for the Veterans State Service.
1949	Hildur A. Brueggeman, renter No occupation listed
1952	Hildur A. Brueggeman, renter No occupation listed

1954	Hildur A. Brueggeman, renter Widow, Hugo A. Brueggeman Operator, telephone company
1957	Hildur A. Brueggeman, renter Operator, telephone company
1960	Hildur A. Brueggeman, renter Widow, Hugo A. Brueggeman No occupation listed
1962	Hildur A. Brueggeman, renter Widow, Hugo A. Brueggeman No occupation listed
1965	Ben and Felipa Gonzales, renters Laborer, Austin Laundry and Dry Cleaning (multiple locations).
1968	Mrs. Felipe Gonzales, renter No occupation listed
1973	Irene Rodriguez, renter No occupation listed
1977	Elizardo Astran, renter No occupation listed Also listed is Albert Astran, a mailer for the Austin <u>American-Statesman</u> , newspaper. NOTE: The directory indicates that Elizardo Astran was a new resident at this address.
1981	Albert Astran, renter Mailer, Austin <u>American-Statesman,</u> newspaper
1985-86	Ruben and Janie Romero, renters No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Ruben and Janie Romero were new residents at this address.
1992	Albert Flores, owner Retired

## **BIOGRAPAHICAL NOTES:**

#### Ida Nelson (ca. 1929 – ca. 1933)

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Ida Nelson as the owner of this house, which was worth \$3,500. Ida Nelson was 62, had been born in Sweden, and had no occupation listed. She was a naturalized citizen who had immigrated to the United States in 1892.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Charles and Ida Nelson living in a rented house at 1609 Sabine Street in Austin. Charles Nelson was a 59-year old Swedish-born house carpenter. Ida Nelson, 51, had been born in Sweden and had no occupation listed. They had 4 children: Hilda, 27, a telephone operator who had been born in Sweden; Elsie, 22, who had been born in Michigan and worked as a telephone operator; Annie, 18, who had been born in Michigan; and Elliott, 11 who had been born in Michigan.

# MRS. IDA NELSON

Mrs. Ida Christina Gustafson Nelson, 65, died at her home, 2008 East First, Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Nelson was born in Bonserad, Sweden. She was the widow of the late Charles H. Nelson of Austin.

She is survived by four daughters. Miss Ellen Bjork of Sweden, Mrs. Hildur Bjork Brueggeman, Mrs. Elsie Johnson, Mrs. Annie Walker and one son, Carl Elliott Nelson, all of Austin, three grandchildren, Gloria Ann and Martha June Walker and Martin Johnson, Jr., and also seven brothers and one sister, all of Sweden.

Funeral services were held Saturday from the residence and from the Swedish Evangelistic Free church 17th and Colorado, with the Rev. Eugene Wernberg officiating. Burial was in Oakwood cemetery. Pallbearers were C. A. Sandahl, Gotfred Johnson, C. E. Helm, Ernest Gustafson, Albert Anderson and C. E. Johnson.

## Obituary of Ida Nelson Austin <u>American-Statesman</u>, August 20, 1933

#### Hugo and Hildur Brueggeman (ca. 1933 – ca. 1963)

His 1917 World War I draft registration card shows that Hugo Brueggeman was living at 407 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Austin. He was born in 1888 in Austin and was self-employed in concrete construction. He was married and had a child. He was of medium height and build, and had grey eyes and light hair.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows H.A. and Hildur Brueggeman as the renters of this house. H.A. Brueggeman was 51, had been born in Texas, and was an asphalt tester for the State Highway Department. Hildur Brueggeman was 47, had been born in Sweden, and was a PBX operator. They lived in Port Neches, Texas in 1935. They had no children living with them.

Hugo Brueggeman was living in this house at the time of his death from an accidental gunshot wound in 1941. He was born in 1888 in Austin to a German-born father and a Belgian-born mother, and was a chemist for the Texas State Highway Department.

# Brueggeman's Funeral Set Wednesday

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Paraffin Tests Made on Hands Reported Positive

Paraffin tests made by state police of the hands of H. A. Brueggeman, 52 year old chemist for the state highway department were reported Tuesday as "positive," by Austin police investigating the Monday pistol death of Brueggeman.

day pistol death of Brueggeman. Meanwhile funeral services for Brueggeman were set for Wednesday at 2 p. m. at Cook funeral home. Burial will be in Oakwood.

Brueggeman was found dead—a pistol bullet wound in his lower chest—Monday about 5:45 p. m. in the rear bedroom of his home at 2008 East First street. A .38 caliber pistol with one empty shell and four cartridges in its chambers was found in a front bedroom closet, investigating officers reported.

Police Capt. Rex Fowler said he was informed that Brueggeman had been in ill health and had not been at work for about five weeks. Dets. Ned Severs and Sam Piper said Mrs. Brueggeman told them she had talked to her husband at 11:30 a. m. Monday and that he seemed all right at that time. She returned to her home about 5:45 p. m. and discovered his body.

Justice of the Peace Mace Thurman, called to conduct the coroner's inquest, said he would withhold his verdict until receipt of reports on fingerprint tests and ballistics tests being made on the pistol and pars affin tests on Mr. Brueggeman's hands.

Mr. Brueggeman's survivors include his widow; a daughter, Mrs.
E. A. Peschki, 2104 East Second
street; two sisters, Mrs. Bertha Varden and Mrs. Rose Nauman, and a brother, Max Brueggeman of Austin.

Death of Hugo A. Brueggeman Austin <u>Statesman</u>, February 4, 1941

# Brueggeman's Gun Death Is Termed Accidental In Thurman's Inquest Verdict

Death of Hugo Brueggeman, 52year-old chemist for the state highway department. Monday afternoon at his home, 2008 East First street, was termed accidental in a verdiet returned by Mace B. Thurman, Jr., justice of the peace, after a coroner's inquest.

Thurman's verdict said Brucggeman's death was "caused by a .38 police positive special accidentally firing."

Thurman said he reached the conclusion that the pistol was accidentally discharged while in Brueggeman's hand, which accounted for the positive parafin test made in the case. He said Brueggeman was found lying across the bed in the back bedroom of the home, while the pistol was found on the shelf of a closet in the front room of the house.

Thurman also found, he said, that the bullet entered Bruggeman's body "one-half inch to the right of the sternum on his left side, one inch below the ribs: the bullet had come out on the left side between the fourth and fifth ribs, including the three floating ribs."

Justice Thurman reported finding the bullet imbedded in the front screen door, "having gone through the front door at an angle of 70 degrees, showing Mr. Brueggeman was standing to the right of the closet, probably in the doorway."

From the position that the bullet entered and left the body and its place of lodgment, Justice Thurman said he reached the verdict of accidental death.

Story on the finding of accidental death for Hugo Brueggeman Austin Statesman, February 5, 1941

Hildur Pauline Brueggeman died in 1972 in Austin. Her last address was 4211 Red River Street. She was the daughter of John Bjork and Ida Gustafson (later Ida Nelson), and was a widow. She was born in 1892 in Sweden and worked as a PBX operator for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.

# MRS. HILDUR BRUGGEMAN

Mrs. Hildur A. Bruggeman, 79, of 4211 Red River, died Wednesday in a local hospital. She was the widow of the late Hugo Bruggeman, a long time resident of Austin, and for many years she was PBX Operator at the State Capitol.

Survivors include two sisters, Mrs. Elsie Johnson, and Mrs. Annie Walker and one brother, Elliott C. Nelson, all of Austin; esveral nieces and nephews.

Funeral will be 11 a.m. Friday at Wilke-Clay Funeral Home, Rev. Herbert Johnson, pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

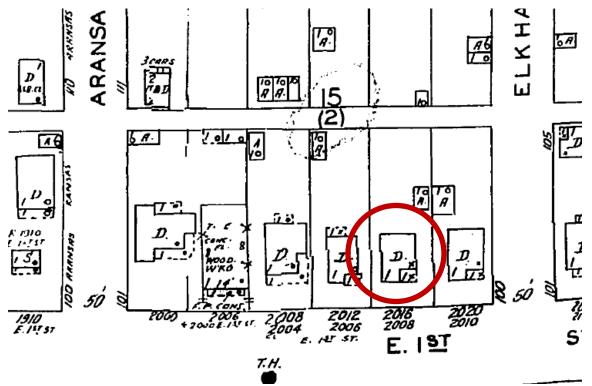
> Obituary of Hildur Brueggeman Austin <u>American</u>, March 9, 1972

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Unless the Plumbing is done in strict accordance with City Ordinances, do not turn on the water. Ñ⁰∕A 2261 PFR VATER SERVICE Austin, Texas CESAR Chave 0 . М. Address Plumber Size of Tap Da SEE PAID TAP(S) ın's Report Date of Connection Size of Tap Made Size Service Made. Size Main Tapped. From Front Prop. Line to ,, · Location of Meter Elbow. Coc Type of Box. Fittings Curb Elbow Depth of Main in St. LO " " Service Line. No. From Curb Cock to Tap on Main. Checked by Engr. Dept. INDEXED Foreman's Signature Water service permit for this house (1929) ARANS トレ A. 6 Ąŧ 7 0 10 10 E A A 2 A 101 10 A A 70 0 7÷. D D Л I\$ 50 ĝ 50 2000 2010 2004 2006 2008 E. IST TH.

The 1935 Sanborn map shows the house with its former address of 2008 E. 1st Street.

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The house appears on the 1962 Sanborn map with its former and current addresses.