

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
AUGUST 26, 2019
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2019-0385
1709 TRAVIS HEIGHTS BOULEVARD

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1947 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story rectangular -plan, front-gabled concrete block residence with round-arched replacement window; front-gabled projecting bay contains a partially-enclosed portico with round-arched openings, lending a hint of Spanish Colonial Revival design to the house. It appears that the projecting bay was added to the house in either 1968, when there was a permit to construct a metal front porch (the existing front porch is not metal) or 1980, when city record indicate a permit for an addition.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1947; the first owners and occupants were Herman and Lois Peavy, who lived here for only a short time. There was a series of renters in the house until 1964, when the house was purchased by Frank Parra Goodman, and his wife, Elizabeth. Frank Parra Goodman was a long-time employee of various furniture stores in Austin, then opened Goodman's Furniture Store as his own business. Goodman was very active in various philanthropic activities in Austin, and was honored for his work among bed-ridden veterans in local hospitals. He was also very influential in the South Congress business district, where he had his furniture store, campaigning for the city's Christmas lights to be extended south across the bridge from downtown along South Congress Avenue. Frank Parra Goodman and his wife, Elizabeth, who had been the office manager for his furniture store prior to their marriage, lived here until around 1995.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house has not been included in 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:

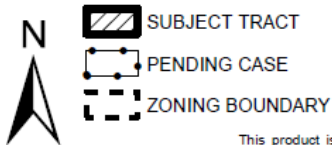
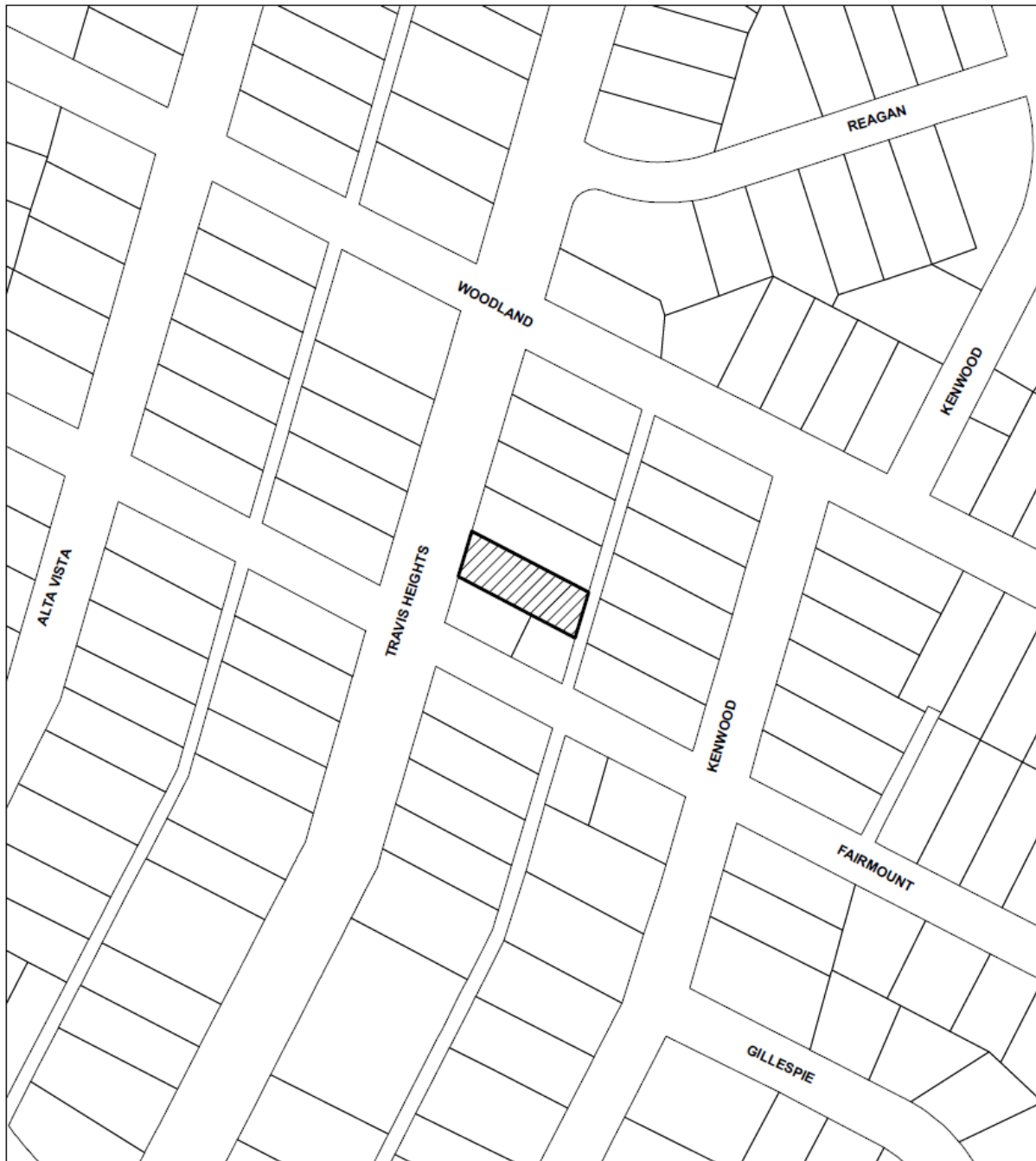
- a. **Architecture.** The house is a concrete block structure with no architectural distinction. There have been additions and modifications to the front of the house, done by the most significant owner, but which have compromised the integrity of materials and design from its original appearance. The 1962 Sanborn map shows the house without the current front porch, and it appears that the windows on the front have also been modified and replaced.
- b. **Historical association.** The house was the long-time home of Frank Parra Goodman and his wife, Elizabeth. Frank Parra Goodman was a philanthropist, decorated veteran, and business leader on South Congress Avenue.
- 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

This house has been so modified that rehabilitation and re-use should focus on restoring the historic appearance of the house, which is unlikely. Staff recommends release of 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



1" = 133'

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2019-0385
LOCATION: 1709 Travis Heights Blvd.



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.

1709 Travis Heights Boulevard
ca. 1947



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
1709 Travis Heights Boulevard

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
August, 2019

- 1947 The address is not listed in the directory.
 NOTE: The house was built in 1947.
 NOTE: Herman and Lois Peavy are listed at 1218 Hillside Avenue; he
 was a mail carrier for the Post Office.
- 1949 Herman and Lois W. Peavey, owners
 Mail carrier, Post Office
- 1952 John T. and Margie Potter, renters
 Assistant State Auditor
- 1955 Mrs. Mathilde Wilson, renter
 No occupation listed
 NOTE: Mrs. Mathilde Wilson is listed at 1506 Kenwood Avenue in the
 alphabetical section of the directory.
- 1959 Walter B. and Gloria J. Swan, renters
 Foreman, J.M. Odom, general contractor, 914½ Congress Avenue.

1962	Vacant
1965	Frank P. and Elizabeth M. Goodman, owners Proprietor, Goodman's Furniture, 1506 S. Congress Avenue.
1968	Frank P. and Elizabeth M. Goodman, owners Proprietor, Goodman's Furniture Store 1001½ E. 1 st Street.
1973	Frank P. and Elizabeth M. Goodman, owners Proprietor, Goodman's Furniture Store
1977	Frank P. and Elizabeth M. Goodman, owners No occupation listed
1981	Frank P. and Elizabeth M. Goodman, owners Retired
1985-86	Frank P. and Elizabeth M. Goodman, owners Retired
1992	Frank P. and Elizabeth M. Goodman, owners Retired

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Frank P. and Elizabeth M. Goodman (ca. 1964 – ca. 1995)

Frank P. and Ruth Goodman appear in the 1930 U.S. Census as the owners of the house at 1014 W. Milton Street in Austin. Frank P. Goodman was 29, had been born in Texas to Mexican-born parents, and was a concrete worker. Ruth Goodman was 27, had been born in Nebraska, and had no occupation listed. They had no children listed with them.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows F.P. and Ruth Goodman living in a house they owned at 1016 West Milton Street in Austin. F.P. Goodman was 40, had been born in Texas, and was a retail furniture salesman. Ruth Goodman was 37, had been born in Nebraska, and had no occupation listed. They had a daughter, Mary A., 4, who had been born in Texas.

Ruth G. Goodman died in September, 1977. She was living at 406 Crockett Street in Austin at the time of her death. She was born in Omaha, Nebraska in 1902, and was a retired foster grandparent for the State of Texas. She was divorced.

Frank P. Goodman's 1942 World War II draft card shows that he was born in El Paso, Texas in 1901 and was living in Austin at the time of his registration. He was 5'-5" tall, weighed 152 pounds, and had a light complexion with brown hair and brown eyes. He was employed by the Brown Furniture Company. His next of kin was Al Karotkin, the manager of the Karotkin Furniture Company on Congress Avenue.

Frank Parra Goodman married M. Elizabeth Mary Gutierrez in Travis County in September, 1961.



Newly promoted Sgt. Frank Goodman, Co.C of the Texas Defense Guard, is proud of his sergeant stripes, and rightly so. He won the rank by good attendance at meetings, military aptitude, and interest in the organization.

Frank Goodman of the Texas Defense Guard
Austin Statesman, October 22, 1942

Austin's Yule Spirit Moves Southward

Christmas spirit isn't going to stop at the Congress Avenue bridge.

City work crews Friday morning will start putting up shiny decorations from the bridge southward for about 25 blocks.

The "Santa Claus" responsible for the extension of the decorations is Frank Goodman, South Austin business man.

Goodman is conducting a one-man campaign to get money from South Austin merchants to pay for the decorations he has already ordered. He has collected \$250 of the \$800 he needs.

The decorations will be aluminum wreaths like the ones in downtown Austin and will be hung from the light poles on each side of South Congress, Goodman said.

"South Austin has been asleep," Goodman says. "We've got to make our part of Congress look as 'Christmasy' as it does downtown."

Goodman said Walter Seaholm, city utilities director, had agreed to have city workmen put up the 70 wreaths.

Frank P. Goodman's campaign to put up Christmas decorations on South Congress Avenue
Austin American-Statesman, November 24, 1949



ADVANCE WORK—Members of the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 4010 are preparing crosses decorated with poppies to be sold to merchants throughout the city on Memorial Day Friday. At left is Frank P. Goodman buying the first Memorial Day Cross. Others shown are (from left) Mrs. C. L. Lambright, poppy chairman; Mrs. T. C. Murry of the Fredericksburg auxiliary; Mrs. W. D. Davis; and Mrs. Frank P. Goodman, president of the local auxiliary. Proceeds from sale of the crosses will go to veterans at McCloskey Hospital, Temple, and Kerrville Hospital.

Frank Goodman buys the first Memorial Day poppy cross from the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 4010

Austin Statesman, May 27, 1952

Order of Eagles Aerie, Auxiliary Install Officers

The Aerie and Auxiliary of the Fraternal Order of Eagles 2815 recently installed officers.

New Aerie officers are James A. Smith, worthy president; Marvin Pehl, past worthy president; Clyde S. Lee, vice president; T. W. Caffey, conductor; Martin Broderick, chaplain; Frank P. Goodman, treasurer; George Sharping, trustee; Merle Rider, inside guard; C. W. Youngbloom, outside guard; and Tom Die, secretary.

Auxiliary officers installed are Mrs. R. W. Ater, past madam president; Mrs. Howard L. Caffey, madam president; Mrs. Harley Wied, vice president; Mrs. Tom Die, chaplain; Mrs. Dale Elmer, conductor; Mrs. Frank P. Goodman, treasurer; Mrs. Jim Cawthorn, inside guard; Mrs. George W. Patterson, outside guard; Mrs. Marvin Pehl and Mrs. T. O. Caffey, trustee; and Mrs. Joe Moore, secretary.

The annual picnic and barbecue will be held at 2 p. m. Sunday at Camp Ben McCullough.

Frank P. Goodman elected treasurer of the Fraternal Order of Eagles
Austin Statesman, June 6, 1952

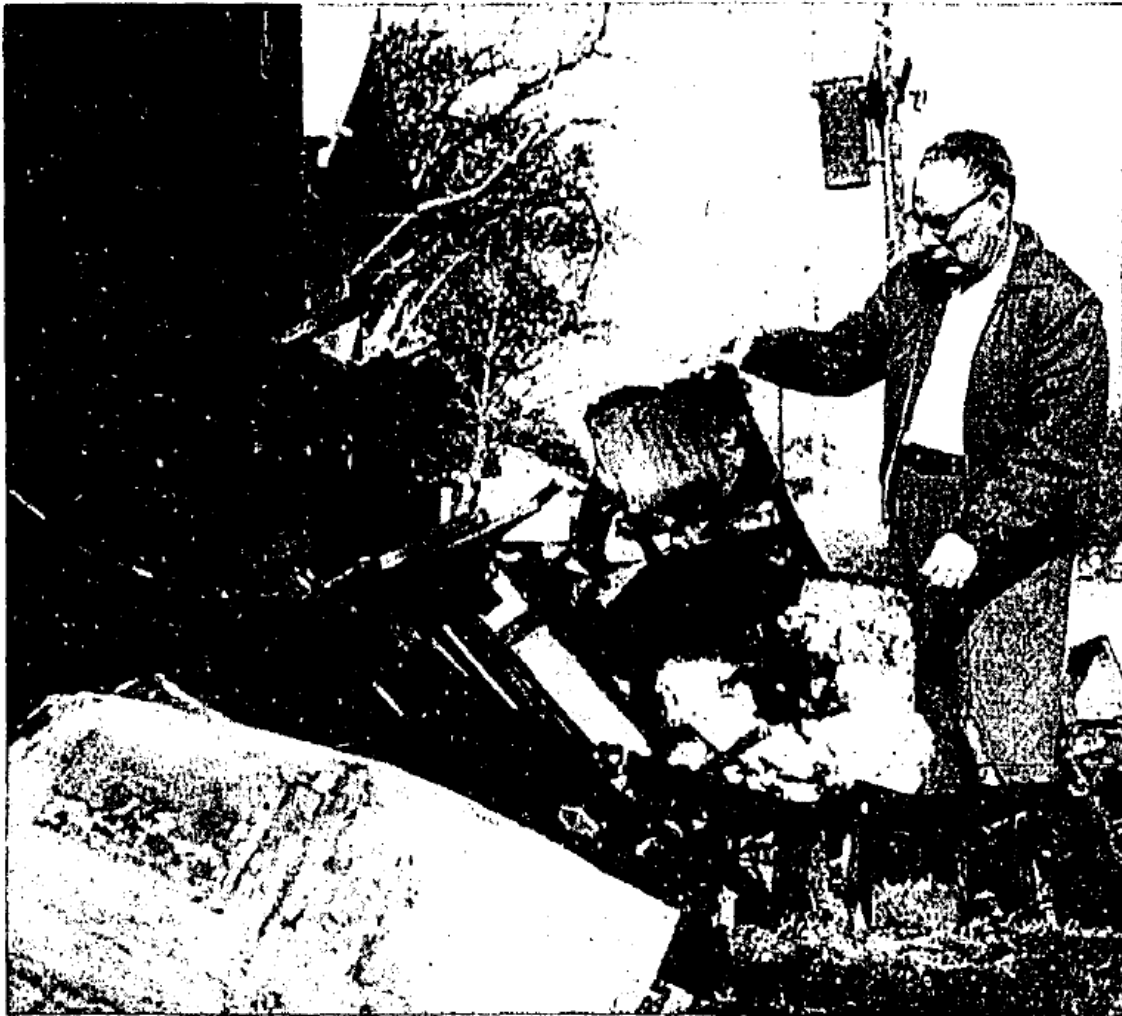
Goodman Honored For Hospital Work

Frank P. Goodman of Austin was commended for his "extraordinary good work in helping the confined veterans in VA hospitals in Temple and Kerrville" in a citation awarded him Sunday at the state convention of the Military Order of Cooties in Galveston.

It was the first such citation to be given in the United States. Goodman is hospital chairman for the local Cooties chapter, a division of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The certificate was presented by C. V. Schermacke of San Antonio, supreme hospital commissioner for the fifth district, Military Order of Cooties.

Frank P. Goodman recognized for his work with bed-ridden veterans in VA Hospitals
Austin Statesman, June 24, 1952



Owner Frank Goodman looks over the charred remains of furniture and household goods destroyed when the Goodman Furniture Company, 1500 South Congress, burned early Saturday. An esti-

Austin Statesman-United Press

mated \$25,000 worth of furniture and paint was destroyed in the blaze, plus heavy damage to the building. The fire apparently started from faulty wiring.

Furniture Store Swept By Early Morning Fire

Fire raged through the Goodman Furniture Company, 1500 South Congress, early Saturday, destroying an estimated \$25,000 worth of furniture and paint.

Frank Goodman, owner, said the fire started at 12:48 a. m., apparently from faulty wiring. It began on a small balcony in the

rear and spread quickly throughout the store.

Firemen battled this blaze—the second major fire in Austin this week—for over three hours. They worked until 4:30 a.m. before extinguishing all the smoldering fire.

Goodman said over \$3,000 in floor covering, linoleum and carpeting was destroyed. The fire also burned several dining room and living room suites, cook stoves, refrigerators, and dozens of small tables and lamps.

Over \$2,000 worth of paint was destroyed.

Seven fire units fought the fire.

Earlier this week, Allan Junior High burned with a loss estimated at \$500,000.

The fire completely destroyed the second-floor balcony and burned out most of the ceiling of the entire store.

Neither Goodman nor fire department officials would estimate the dollar damage to the building, but they both said it was "heavy."

The flames did not get outside the building, but burned out most of the wood material under the slate-rock roof.

Goodman said everything in this store—a large area stacked solid with furnishings and appliances—was damaged so badly it could not be sold.

Fire destroys Frank Goodman's furniture store on South Congress Avenue
Austin Statesman, March 24, 1956



MRS. ELIZABETH GUTIERRES
Goodman-Gutierrez

Announcement is made of the engagement of Mrs. Elizabeth Gutierrez of Star Route A to Frank P. Goodman, 1506 South Congress Avenue.

Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. J. Mat Barnett of Star Route A and the late Mr. and Mrs. Clearence Goodman.

Mrs. Gutierrez is manager of the Goodman Furniture Company, and Mr. Goodman is owner.

Announcement of the engagement of Frank P. Goodman to Elizabeth Gutierrez
Austin American-Statesman, December 25, 1960

Frank Goodman Gets Promotion

Frank Goodman, a member of the State Guard since 1940, has been promoted to the rank of first lieutenant.

Goodman, who lives at 1506 South Congress Avenue, serves with the 601st Internal Security Battalion.

His promotion had been earlier listed incorrectly as that of second lieutenant from sergeant.

New story on Frank Goodman's promotion to first lieutenant in the State Guard, 601st Internal Security Battalion
Austin Statesman, April 28, 1964

Frank P. Goodman

Frank P. Goodman, age 87, of Austin, passed away Sunday.

He was a member of the VFW Post #76 in San Antonio. He was a sergeant with the Texas National Guard in Austin.

Survivors include, wife, Elizabeth Goodman, Austin; sons, Jimmy Barnett, Austin, William R. Gutierrez, Laredo, Gary Goodman, Irving, Albert Gutierrez, San Antonio; daughters, Mary Hunter, North Carolina, Kay Goodman Jarrett, Dallas, Rose Reynolds, Austin, Elizabeth Hughes, Austin, Gail Skube, New Jersey, and Linda Clark, Rosenberg, Texas; numerous grandchildren.

Funeral services, 3:30 PM, Tuesday from Wilke-Amey-Clay Funeral Home. Burial Forest Oaks Memorial Park.

Pallbearers include member of VFW Post #76, San Antonio.

Those desiring may make memorial contributions to VFW Post #76, San Antonio.

Services under the direction of Wilke-Amey-Clay Funeral Home.

Obituary of Frank P. Goodman
Austin American-Statesman, May 25, 1987

Joe Fuhrman

1709 Travis Hts.Bld.

133

11

33

Travis Heights

Masonry residence with car port

11-3-47

attached

35628

\$4000.00

Owner

5

Building permit for the construction of this house (1947)

WATER SERVICE PERMIT		No. ¹³³ 4546
Austin, Texas		
Received of	HERMAN PEAVY	Date 11-8-47
Address	1709 TRAVIS HTS. BLVD.	
Amount	TWENTY AND 00/100 \$20.00	
Plumber	T. E. MYLER	Size of Tap 3/4"
Date of Connection	11-14-47	
Size of Tap Made	3/4"	
Size Service Made	1/4"	
Size Main Tapped	2" - R.I.	
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock	7.5'	
From 60' Prop. Line to Curb Cock	25'	
Location of Meter	CURB	
Type of Box	LOCK	
Depth of Main in St.	30"	
Depth of Service Line	2'	
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main	9'	
Checked by Engr. Dept.	12-22-47 RB	
No. Fittings	1 Curb Cock	Size 1/2"
	1 Elbow	3/4" COP
	1 St. Elbow	3/4" S.C.O.P.
	1 Bushing	3/4" COP
	1 Reducer	2 1/2 3/4" TAPS
	1 Pipe	1/2 3/4" COP
	Lead Comp.	
	Nipples	
	Union	
	Plug	1 1/2"
	Stop	1 1/2"
	Box	LOCK
	Lid	
	Valves	
	Job No.	12-22-47-502
	Req. No.	12-22-47-502

INDEXED

Water service permit to Herman Peavy, the first owner of this house (1947)

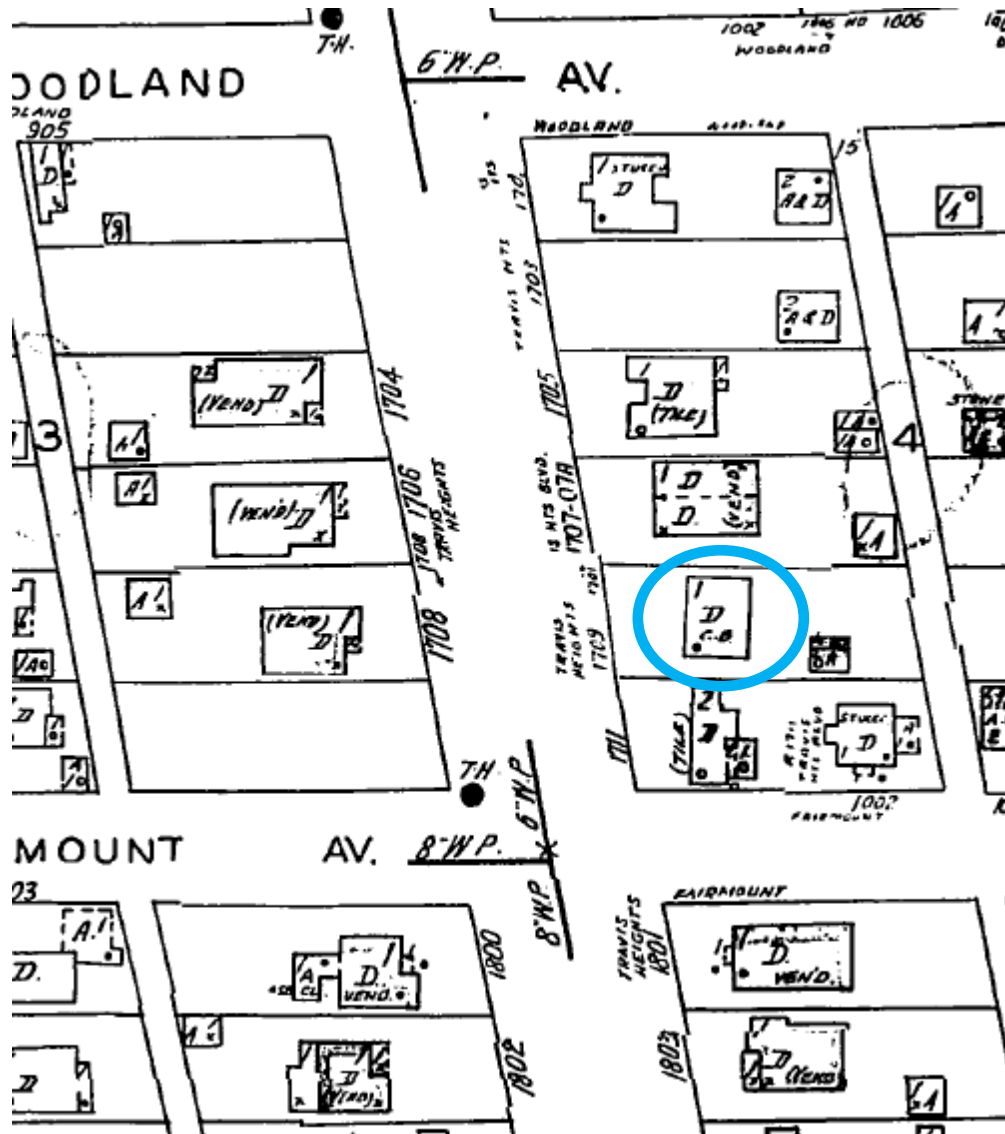
OWNER Mr. Goodman ADDRESS 1709 Travis Hgts. Blvd.
 PLAT 132 LOT 11 BLK 33
 SUBDIVISION Travis Hgts.
 OCCUPANCY Porch
 BLD PERMIT # 110608 DATE 11-22-68 OWNERS ESTIMATE 250.00
 CONTRACTOR Dills Challstrom NO. OF FIXTURES
 WATER TAP REC # SEWER TAP REC #
 Metal addn. to front of res.
 1-6-72-132264-repair existing residence
 5-23 -73 136275 metal acc. bldg.
~~9-5-75 151748 frn addn to existing res 132 sq ft.~~
~~\$200.00~~

Building permit to Frank P. Goodman for a metal front porch (1968), for repairs to the house (1972), for a metal accessory building (1973), and for a frame addition (1976)

OWNER Mr. Frank Goodman ADDRESS 1709 Travis Hts. Blvd
 PLAT 132 LOT 11 BLK 33
 SUBDIVISION Travis Hts.
 OCCUPANCY Addn to res
 BLDG. PERMIT # 195544 DATE 5-2-80 OWNERS ESTIMATE 900.
 CONTRACTOR Owner NO. OF FIXTURES
 WATER TAP REC# SEWER TAP REC#

Building permit to Frank Goodman for an addition (1980)

City records indicate a complaint that the house was abandoned in September, 1999 with the roof caving in; the City ordered repairs to minimum standards and noted that the house was vacant.



The house appears on the 1962 Sanborn map, the first to show this section of Travis Heights. The map indicates that the house is constructed of concrete block. The current porch addition to the front of the house is not shown on this map.