

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION**  
**JUNE 22, 2020**  
**DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS**  
**HDP-2020-0205**  
**1615 HOLLY STREET**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1942 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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The house at 1615 Holly Street is a one-story rectangular-plan cottage with a side-gabled composition shingle roof. Box columns support its shed-roofed entryway. It is clad in vertical wood siding, with 2:2 aluminum replacement windows and metal handrails flanking a poured concrete stoop.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house was constructed in 1942 by Martin Herman, who sold it to Ernest J. and Ethel Kunkel in 1944. Kunkel was a taxi driver. He and his wife lived at 1615 Holly until around 1946, when they sold the home to Mary Gonzales Cordova and her husband Vicente, who worked as an upholsterer. The Cordovas leased the home until after 1952. By 1955, Lorenzo and Mary Corpus had purchased it. Lorenzo Corpus worked for the City's Water and Sewer Department as a pipe layer. The Corpus family lived at 1615 Holly until at least 1972, when they remodeled the home.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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1615 Holly Street was recommended in the 2016 East Austin Historic Resource Survey as a contributing structure to potential National Register and local historic districts.

*Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark*

- 1) The building is under 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain moderate to high integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). The property does not appear to demonstrate significance according to City Code:
  - a) *Architecture*. The building does not appear to convey architectural significance.
  - b) *Historical association*. 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.

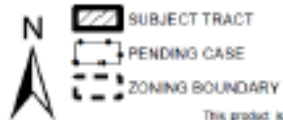
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then relocation. Release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin documentation package.

## LOCATION MAP



1" = 167'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2020-0205  
LOCATION: 1815 Holly Street

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.



PROPERTY INFORMATION

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*Photos*



*Zillow.com and Google Street View, 2009-19*

*Occupancy History*

City Directory Research, May 2020

Historic Preservation Office

Note: Scope of research limited by library closure.

1959	Lorenzo P., Sr. and Mary S. Corpus, owners
1955	Lorenzo Perez and Mary Schafer Corpus, owners Pipe layer, City Sewer & Water Department
1952	D. L. and Vallie Hibbs, renters Mechanic
1949	Martin Howard and Frances Augusta Toliver, renters Bricklayer Waitress, Austin State School
1947	Vincente and Mary Cordova, owners Upholsterer, Gregory Furniture
1944-45	Ernest J. and Ethel Kunkel, owners Taxi driver

*Biographical Information*

## 3 Men Hold Up Taxi Driver

Ernest Kunkle, 1615 Holly, taxicab driver, reported to police Friday a holdup by three men Thursday night near Lake Austin on Pecos street.

He said he picked up the three men at Seventh and Congress about 11 p. m. to take them to Lake Austin. As they approached Hopi trail on Enfield road, he was told to turn right. He did so, he said, and then figuring something was wrong, he attempted to get back on the main road by Pecos when he was told to stop and hand over his money.

When he refused, he was struck by the man in the front seat, grabbed from behind by the other two men and knocked out. He said he regained consciousness about 7 a. m. and found his wallet containing about \$12 was missing.

He described one of the men as being about 5 feet 9 inches tall, weighing about 155 pounds, with dark hair and dressed in khaki trousers and a white sport shirt.

*The Austin Statesman: Jul 21, 1944*



Lorenzo P. and Mary S. Corpus, 1940s. Source:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/26209952/mary-corpus> and  
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/26202412/lorenzo-perez-corpus>

### Building Permits

**Martin Herman**  
~~1615~~

1615 Holly St

58 - 52' x 150' of 4

Frame Res

23234- 1-19-42

Building permit, 1-19-42

E. J. Kunkel

1615 Holly St.

~~58~~ 58 2 50 x 150

one room addn. to res.

25748 5-25-44 \$183.00

owner

Building permit for addition, 5-25-44



OWNER Loranzo Corpus ADDRESS 1615 Holly St.  
 PLAT 16 LOT 50 X 150 of 2 BLK  
 SUBDIVISION Unplatted  
 OCCUPANCY Residence  
 BLD PERMIT # 130255 DATE 6-26-72 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$3340.00  
 CONTRACTOR owner NO. OF FIXTURES  
 WATER TAP REC # SEWER TAP REC #  
 Remodel exist residence

*Building permit for remodel, 6-26-72*

# 3778 N° 18335A  
 APPLICATION FOR SEWER CONNECTION.  
 Austin, Texas  
 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 Martin Herman  
 at 1615 Holly Street,  
 further described as lot 52 X 150 of 2, block 58,  
 subdivision 0, division 0, plat 20,  
 which is to be used as a Res.  
 In this place there are to be installed 5  
 I agree to pay the City Sewer Department the regular ordinance  
 charge.  
 2 DEEP Respectfully, E. M. Lanier  
 AT-PL Stub Out Permit Pld.  
 Connected 3 10 19 42 1-28-42  
 Size of Main 3 1/2 inches. 3-4-42  
 Size of Service 4 inches. 0V  
8 Feet Deep in St Start  
41 Feet from Property Line Com 10'  
7 Feet from Curb Line 7 W PL  
 Inspected by Boatright  
 Connection made by Cunningham R-740  
16355 Sewer @ E of Property line

*Water tap permit, 3-3-42*