

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION**  
**JANUARY 25, 2021**  
**DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS**  
**GF 2020 191587**  
**702 KEASBEY STREET**

**PROPOSAL**

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Partially demolish and construct a two-story addition with roof deck to a one-story, ca. 1930 house. Construct a pool and new deck.

**PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS**

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- 1) Partially demolish existing building, including rear addition and deck.
- 2) Construct a new two-story addition with roof deck. The proposed addition, set back approximately 22', begins immediately behind the ridgeline of the existing roof. It is clad in corrugated metal, stucco, and horizontal wood siding with steel screen accents. It features a flat roof with compound roofline. Fenestration includes composite casement windows, picture windows, and fixed windows of varying sizes and orientations. The roof deck is topped by a metal guardrail with transparent panels.
- 3) Construct a pool and deck to the rear of the addition.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story side-gabled bungalow with gabled partial-width front porch supported by decorative metal columns. The house features decorative bargeboards and brackets, exposed rafter tails, horizontal wood siding, a corrugated metal roof, and screened 1:1 wood windows.

**RESEARCH**

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The building at 702 Keasbey Street was constructed around 1930 for Charles "Charley" Ivy Robertson and his wife Lela Barber Robertson. They were the home's sole owner-occupants until at least 1959. Charles Robertson worked for the University of Texas as a repairman, foreman, and carpenter for his entire known tenure in the house. After Charles passed away in 1965, Lela and their daughter, Ideal Robertson Lane. Lela Robertson passed away five years later; Ideal Lane remained in the home until her own death in 1980.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

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*Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark*

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain high integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). Staff has evaluated the property and determined that it does not meet two criteria:
  - a) *Architecture*. The house is constructed in the Craftsman style.
  - b) *Historical association*. The house does not appear to have 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.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation are used to evaluate alterations to historic properties. Applicable standards may include:

2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

The original roof will be partially demolished to accommodate the addition. A 1961 rear addition and shed will be demolished as well. The character-defining features at the historic portion of the house's primary façade will remain intact.

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

The new work is differentiated by its massing, flat roof, modern cladding materials, two-story massing, and modern fenestration patterns and materials. While the addition is set back from the original house, its massing atop the house, roof deck height, flat roof, varied cladding materials, and irregular fenestration patterns are not compatible with the historic portion of the building.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

If the addition were removed in the future, significant work would be required to restore the building's essential form beyond the ridgeline. The front of the house would be unimpaired.

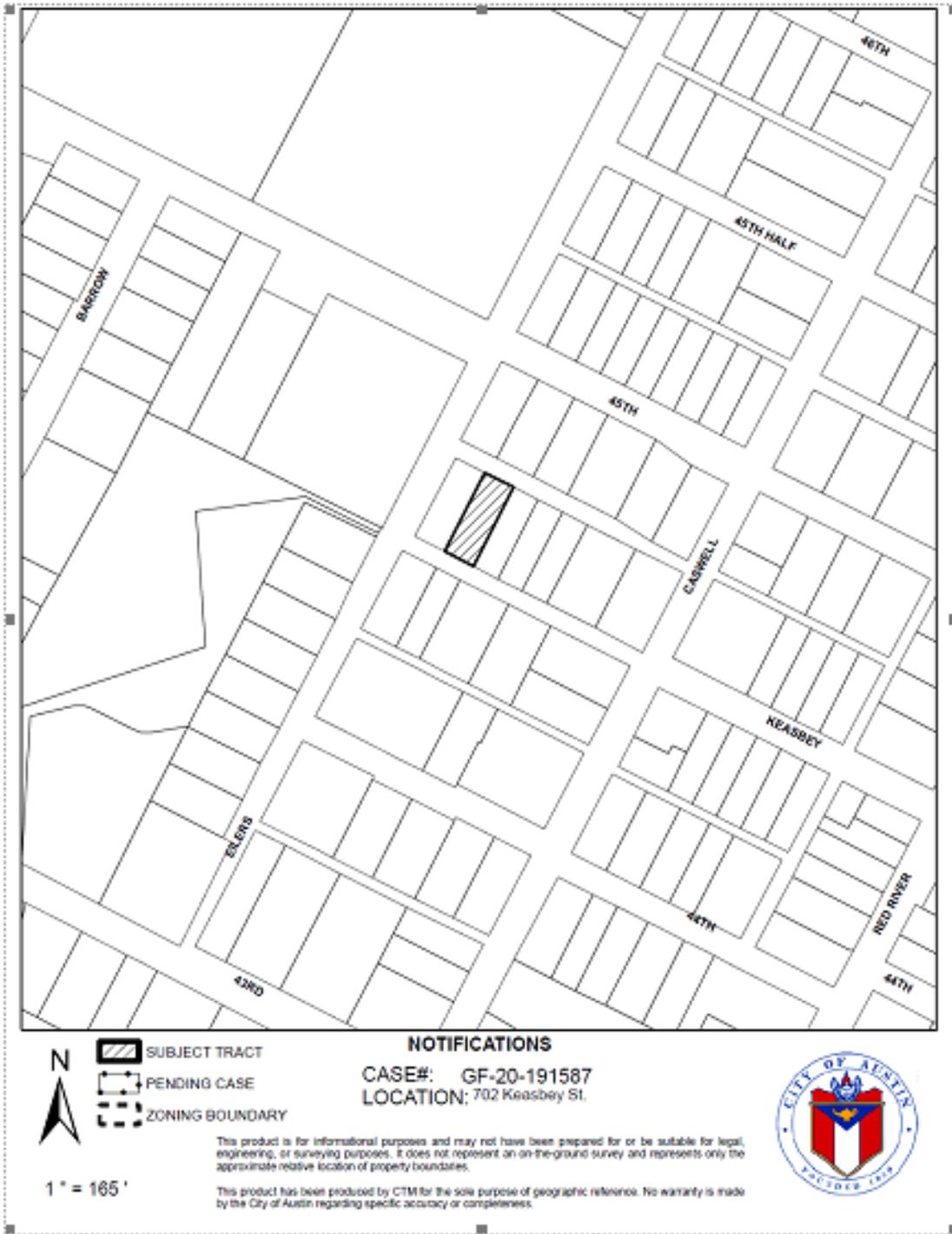
The proposed project somewhat meets the applicable standards.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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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.

LOCATION MAP



PROPERTY INFORMATION

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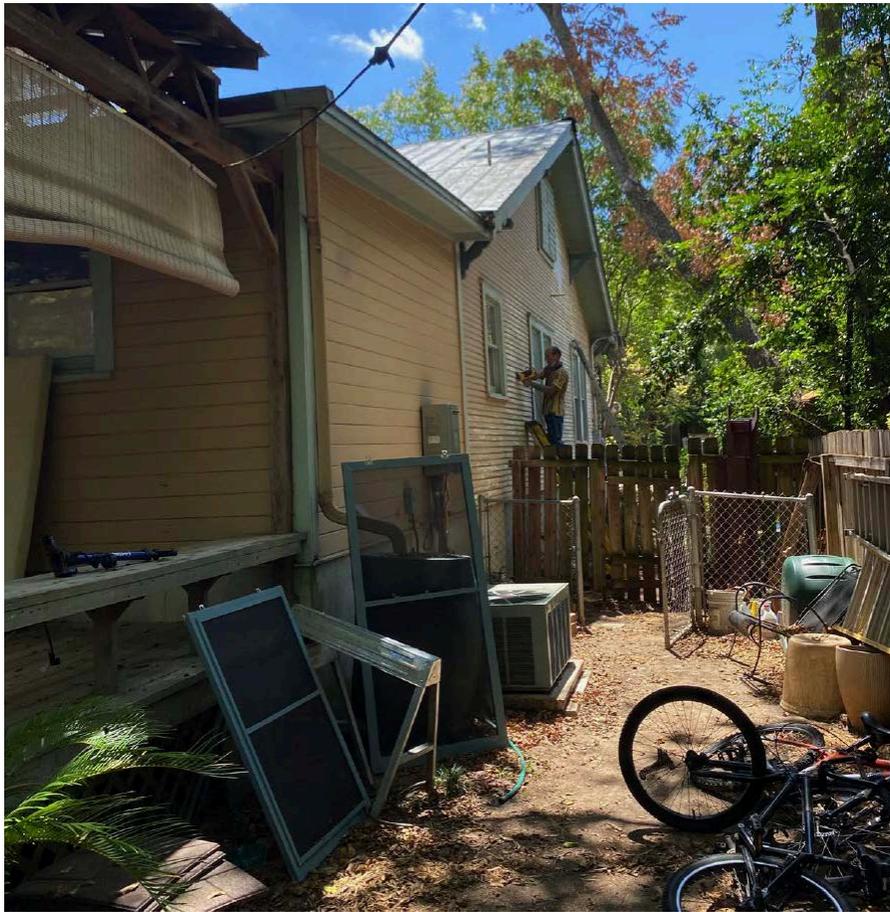
*Photos*



*Source: Google Street View, accessed 2021*







### *Occupancy History*

City Directory Research, 2020

*Note: Post-1959 research unavailable due to facility closure.*

1959	Charles Ivy and Lela Esther Robertson, owners Carpenter, UT
1957	Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners Carpenter, UT
1955	Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners Carpenter, UT
1952	Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners Carpenter, UT
1949	Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners Foreman, UT
1947	Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners Carpenter, UT
1944	Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners Foreman, UT
1941	Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners Foreman, UT
1939	Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners Foreman, UT

- 1937 Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners  
Repair foreman, UT
- 1935 Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners  
Repair foreman, UT
- 1932 Charles I. and Lela Robertson, owners  
Foreman, UT
- 1929 Address not listed

*Biographical Information*

**CHARLES I. ROBERTSON**

Charles I. Robertson, 81, of 702 Keasby Lane, died in a local hospital Monday morning. He was a member of the Hyde Park Christian Church, was a retired maintenance foreman at the University of Texas and had been a resident of Austin for 40 years. Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Lela Robertson of Austin; two daughters, Mrs. D. W. Lane and Mrs. Ben Garner, both of Austin; three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services are pending at the Hyttin-Manor Funeral Home. **LANE, Mrs. Ideal (Shorty), 64, 702 Keasby Lane, died Wednesday. Graveside services 10 a.m. today at Austin Memorial Park. (Hyttin-Manor)**

The Austin Statesman, Dec 20, 1965; The Austin American Statesman, Mar 15, 1980.

0061

THE STATE OF TEXAS }  
County of Williamson } 2648

To any Regularly Licensed or Ordained Minister of the Gospel, Jewish Rabbi, Judge of the District or County Court, or any Justice of the Peace, in and for Williamson County, Greeting:

You are hereby Authorized to Solemnize the Rites of Matrimony Between  
Mr. Charlie Robertson and Miss Lela Barber

and make due return to the Clerk of the County Court of said County within sixty days thereafter, certifying your action under this License.

Witness my official signature and seal of office, at office in Georgetown  
the 10 day of March, 1905

Thos. H. Flavin  
Clerk of County Court, County, Deputy.

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy.

I, J. L. Lawson, hereby certify that on the 12 day of March, 1905  
I united in Marriage Mr. Charlie Robertson and Miss Lela Barber  
the parties above named.

Witness my hand this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1905

J. L. Lawson, a minister of the Gospel

Returned and filed for record the 15 day of March, 1905, and recorded the 27 day of March, 1905

Thos. H. Flavin  
County Clerk, Deputy.

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy.

*Marriage license for Charlie Robertson and Lela Barber Robertson, 1905*

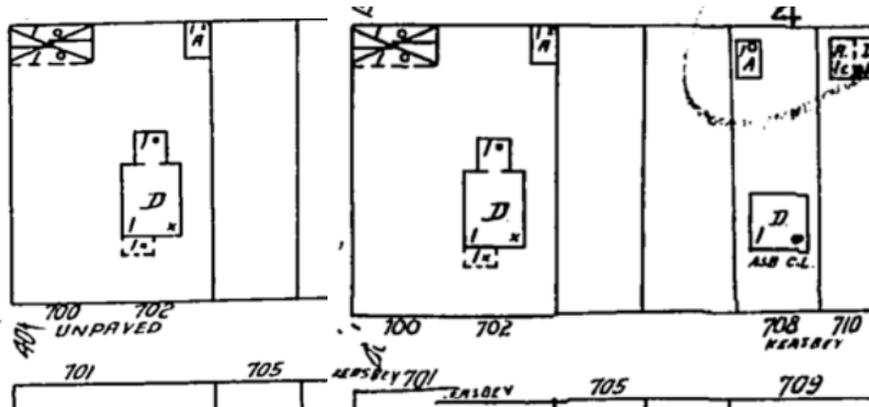


STATE OF TEXAS *227-012 227-01* CERTIFICATE OF DEATH *4297* STATE FILE NO. **21910**

1. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print) <b>Ideal</b> <b>Robertson</b> <b>Lane</b>			2. SEX <b>female</b>	3. DATE OF DEATH <b>March 12, 1980</b>		
4. RACE <b>Caucasian</b>		5a. WAS THE DECEDENT OF SPANISH ORIGIN? <b>no</b>	5b. IF YES, SPECIFY MEXICAN, CUBAN, PUERTO RICAN, ETC. <b>n/a</b>	6. DATE OF BIRTH <b>April 23, 1915</b>	7. AGE (In years last birthday) <b>64</b>	IF UNDER 1 YEAR Months Days Hours Minutes
8a. PLACE OF DEATH - COUNTY <b>Travis</b>		8b. CITY OR TOWN (If outside city limits, give precinct no.) <b>Austin</b>		8c. NAME OF (If not in hospital, give street address) HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION <b>Brackenridge Hospital</b>		8d. INSIDE CITY LIMITS? <b>yes</b>
9. MARRIED, NEVER MARRIED, WIDOWED, DIVORCED (Specify) <b>widowed</b>		10. BIRTHPLACE (State or foreign country) <b>Austin, Texas</b>		11. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? <b>USA</b>		12. WAS DECEDENT EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? <b>no</b>
13. SURVIVING SPOUSE (If wife, give maiden name) <b>none</b>		14. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. <b>459-20-2364</b>		15a. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired) <b>housewife</b>		15b. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY <b>homemaking</b>
16a. RESIDENCE - STATE <b>Texas</b>		16b. COUNTY <b>Travis</b>	16c. CITY OR TOWN (If outside city limits, show rural) <b>Austin</b>		16d. STREET ADDRESS (If rural, give location) <b>702 Keasbey Lane</b>	
16e. INSIDE CITY LIMITS? <b>yes</b>		17. FATHER'S NAME <b>Charles Robertson</b>		18. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME <b>Lela Barber</b>		19. SIGNATURE OF INFORMANT <i>Henry L. Robertson</i> <b>Daughter</b>
20. IMMEDIATE CAUSE (Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b), (c))						Interval between onset and death

Death certificate for Ideal Robertson Lane, 1980

Maps



1935 Sanborn map and 1962 Sanborn map

Building Permits

C. I. Robertson . . . . . 702 Keasbey St.  
 82 . . . . . 16 and 17 . . . . . 4  
 Ridgetop Annex  
 Frame Addition to Accessory Building  
 81095 . . . . . 8/30/61 . . . . . 100.00  
 Owner

Shed to cross property line onto lot 16; 1' from shed to rear property line

STORAGE SHED

Addition and shed permits, 1961

**APPLICATION FOR SEWER CONNECTION.**

Austin, Texas 5-12-1941

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 C. J. Robertson at 702 Keasby Street, further described as lot 17, block 4, outlet subdivision Ridge Top Annex, plat 83, which is to be used as a Res

In this place there are to be installed COC

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

3 DEEP Respectfully,  
C. J. Robertson

Sewer tap permit, 5-12-41

**WATER SERVICE PERMIT** <sup>MM</sup> No. 38569  
Austin, Texas

Received of MRS. C. J. ROBERTSON Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address 702 KEASBY ST.

Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Per Tap

Plumber move meter from alley to front Size of Tap \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Connection 4-3-63

No. Fittings	Pipe	Size
	Corp. Cock	
	Cop. to Iron ell	
	Cop. to Cop. ell	
	Cop. to Iron Coupling	
	Cop. to Cop. Coupling	
	Angle Stop	
	Stop	
	Flushing	
	Nipples <u>8" x 3/8" BRASS</u>	
	Service Clamp	
	Valve	
	Meter Box	
	Lock Lid	
	Drain Tile	
	Drain Tile Lid	
	Stop & Drain	
	Job No. <u>WSES-502</u>	
	Foreman <u>V. Keane</u>	

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 7'

From ON EAST Prop. Line to Curb Cock \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Meter SUB (WEST METER)

Type of Box TWO-WAY

Depth of Main in St. \_\_\_\_\_

Depth of Service Line \_\_\_\_\_

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main \_\_\_\_\_

Checked by Engr. Dept. \_\_\_\_\_

Water tap permit, 4-3-63