

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
SEPTEMBER 27, 2021
PR-2021-121887
908 COLUMBUS STREET**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1936 house.

ARCHITECTURE

Single-story, side-gabled Minimal Traditional house with a central gabled porch stoop flanked by paired 1:1 windows with awnings. The house is clad in horizontal wood siding and has a metal roof.

RESEARCH

The house at 908 Columbus Street was occupied from 1937–1939 by the family of Morris D. and Birdie Scheid. Morris Scheid worked at the State Comptroller Department. The next owners of the house were John A. and Bernice Reed, who lived in the house briefly in 1941. The longest owners of the house were Luther M. and Ruby Leath, who owned the house from 1947–1959. Luther worked as a life insurance agent, and Ruby worked as a saleswoman.

PROPERTY EVALUATION

The Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Historic Resources Survey and Assessment (Preservation Central, Inc., 2016) lists the property as contributing to the potential Bon Air Historic District, recommended as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and as a local historic district.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building retains a moderate degree of integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (Land Development Code [§25-2-352](#)). Staff has evaluated the property and determined that it does not meet two criteria:
 - a. Architecture. The building has modest Craftsman and Minimal Traditional stylistic influences but is not an exemplar of either style.
 - b. Historical association. The house does not have significant historical associations.
 - c. Archaeology. The property was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
 - d. Community value. The property 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

Release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: PR 2021-121887

LOCATION: 908 COLUMBUS STREET

1" = 292'

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

Photos



Google Street View, 2014

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, August 2021

1959	Luther M. Leath, owner
1957	Luther M. and Ruby Leath, owners Luther – Representative, Life & Casualty Insurance Co. Ruby – Saleswoman, T.H. Williams & Co.
1955	Luther M. and Ruby Leath, owners Agent, Life & Casualty Insurance Co.
1952	Luther M. and Ruby Leath, owners Superintendent, Franklin Life
1949	Luther M. and Ruby Leath, owners Superintendent, Reliable Life Ins
1947	Luther M. and Ruby Leath, owners Luther – Salesman, Reliable Life Ins Ruby – Saleswoman, Williams & Co.
1944	Edward and Ina M. Taylor, renters
1941	John A. and Bernice Reed, owners Body builder, Cal Marshall Auto Body Shop
1939	Morris D. and Birdie Scheid, renters Supervisor, State Comptroller

1937 *908 & 906 Columbus St*
 Morris D. and Birdie Scheid, renters
 Tax supervisor, State Comptroller's Department

1935 Address not listed

Biographical Information

Leath Assigned To Camp Chaffee

CAMP CHAFFEE, Ark., Dec. 10
 Captain Luther Leath, son of Mr.
 and Mrs. Luther Leath Sr., 908
 Columbus Street, Austin, Texas, re-
 cently was assigned here as chief
 of the education and training
 branch of the US Army hospital.

Before coming here Captain
 Leath was with the 171st Station
 Hospital in Korea.

He received his commission in
 1943 upon graduation from Officers
 Candidate School, Camp Barkley,
 Texas. Capt. Leath served with
 the 582nd Ambulance Company in
 Europe during World War II.



OFFICER RETIRES—Lt.
 Col. L. C. Heath, formerly
 of Austin, has retired from
 military service after
 spending 22 years in the US
 Army. Heath served in
 Europe during World War
 II, in Korea in 1951 and 1953
 and in Germany from 1959
 to 1963. He retired from the
 service from Fort Dix, N.J.
 and will make his home at
 501 E. Oltorf, Apt. 150 in
 Austin. His parents are Mr.
 and Mrs. L. M. Heath, 908
 Columbus.

STATE OF TEXAS 227-01-2 227-01 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH 47671 STATE FILE NO. 47671

1. PLACE OF DEATH
a. COUNTY Travis
b. CITY OR TOWN (If outside city limits, give precinct no.) Austin
c. LENGTH OF STAY 55 years
d. NAME OF (If not in hospital, give street address) Seton Hospital
e. PLACE OF DEATH INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES ☒ NO ☐

2. USUAL RESIDENCE (If where deceased lived, if institution, residence before admission)
a. STATE Texas b. COUNTY Travis
c. CITY OR TOWN (If outside city limits, give precinct no.) Austin
d. STREET ADDRESS (If used, give location) 113 West Johanna
e. IS RESIDENCE INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES ☒ NO ☐ f. IS RESIDENCE ON A FARM? YES ☐ NO ☒

3. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print) LUTHER M. LEATH
a. SEX Male b. COLOR OR RACE Caucasian
c. MARRIAGE ☒ Married ☐ Never Married ☐ Widowed ☐ Divorced
d. DATE OF BIRTH July 4, 1894 e. AGE (In years, last birthday) 80
f. DATE OF DEATH May 22, 1975
g. HUSBAND'S maiden name Kyle, Texas h. CHILD OF WHAT COUNTRY? U S A

4. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done, during most of working life, even if retired) Ins. Representative Insurance
5. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY William Boone Leath
6. DECEASED'S maiden name Sarah Jane (Unobtainable)

7. SIGNATURE OF DECEASED William Boone Leath
8. SIGNATURE OF WITNESS Sarah Jane (Unobtainable)

9. SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN William Boone Leath
10. SIGNATURE OF CLERK William Boone Leath

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100. SIGNATURE OF CLERK William Boone Leath

Death certificate, Luther M. Leath

Permits

Unless the Plumbing is done in strict accordance with City Ordinances, do not turn on the water.

PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE AUSTIN, TEXAS No. 4070

Address Fred Ragland 3006 Columbus

Number 511 Size of Tap 1/2 Date 5-5-36

SW II

Foreman's Report

No.	Fittings	Size
1	Curb Cock	3/4"
1	Elbow	3/4"
1	St. Elbow	3/4"
1	Bushing	3/4"
1	Reducer	3/4"
1	Pipe	1/2"
1	Union	3/4"
1	Plug	3/4"
1	Stop	3/4"
1	Box	3/4"
1	Lid	3/4"
1	Valve	3/4"
1	Req. No.	9338

Checked by Engr. Dept. 5-7-36

Foreman's Signature HENSON

INDEXED

Water Service Permit, 1936

Connection Charge \$ 12.00 No. 12640

Application for Sewer Connection.

SW/T Austin, Texas, JUNE 18, 1936

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 FRED RAGLAND

at 906 COLUMBUS Street

further described as lot 15814, block 2, outlot

subdivision BONAIR KNOLL, division —, plat 113

which is to be used as a RESIDENCE

In this place there are to be installed 4 fixtures

Sewer Connection Permit, 1936