

**The Donley-Goode-Walton House**  
**Supporting Historical Documentation**

**1. Deed Chronology**

<b>Transaction</b>	<b>Vol./Page</b>
City of Austin to C. (Charles) C. Cushman, 1839	Original patent: Outlot 37, Division B (Austin City Lots and Outlots Records, Comptroller sales certificate, recorded Oct. 10, 1860, 1840 Sandusky map)
M.C. (Marvin Criddle) Culbertson to A. Donley and Guadalupe Donley, May 29, 1917	295/67A
Arcadio Donley, Sr., Raymond Donley, Willie Donley, Ernest Donley, Benita Donley Acosta, Huey Acosta to J.W. (John Wesley) Goode and Hattie Goode, October 20, 1944	Book 750/16-19
Hattie Goode to Helen Walton, December 13, 1954	1528/458
Helen Walton to Helen Shoulds, February 7, 2012	Instrument #2012019348

**2. Occupancy History**

Year	Name	Age	Occupation	Source
1939-1944	Arcadio Donley, Sr.	82-86	Day Laborer/Farmer/Grocery Store Owner & Operator	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Raymond (Ramon) Donley, Sr.	50-54	Barber and Violinist	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Delores (Quinones) Donley	40-44	Homemaker	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Delores Donley	16-20	-	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Raymond Donley, Jr.	15-19	-	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Manuel Donley	12-16	Musician	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Eslenda Donley	14-18	-	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Robert Donley	9-13	-	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Lupe Donley	8-12	-	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Beatrice Donley	6-10	-	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Joe Donley	4-8	-	1940 United States Federal Census
1940-1944	Edward Donley	1-5	-	1940 United States Federal Census
1944	Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Donley, Sr. (and family)	-	Barber and Violinist/ Homemaker	The Austin American Statesman Dec. 17, 1944
1944-1947	Ernest R. Goode	24-28	Military Service/ Clergyman	Family Records
1944-1952	Rev. John Wesley Goode	79-87	Clergyman/Farmer	Family Records
1944-1952	Willie "Boots" Walton, Sr.	44-52	Musician/Cab Driver	Marriage Records, The

				Austin American Statesman
1944-1979	Hattie Jane (Bailey) Goode	64-99	Homemaker/Washwoman	Directory, Family Records
1944-2015	Helen E. (Goode) Walton	27-96	Cosmetologist/ Cosmetology Instructor/ Companion Nurse	Family Records
~1947-1984	Walton's Beauty Shop/Salon	37 Years	Business	Family Records
1973-1975	Rubye Jean Goode	21-23	Student	Family Records
1981-1990	Ernest R. Goode	58-69	Truck Driver	Family Records
1981	Helen (Ware) Shoulds	19	Retail	Family Records
2007-2012	Johnny Goode	64-69	Retired	Family Records
2011-Present	Lillian (Ware) Scott	71-Current (82)	Caretaker (retired)	Family Records
2016-2017	Kenan Shoulds	33	Restaurant Hospitality	Family Records
2019-2021	Helen (Ware) Shoulds	57-59	Nurse	Family Records
2019-Present	Nneka Shoulds	33-Current (36)	Public Health	Family Records

### 3. Biographical Data

- **Marvin Criddle Culbertson, Sr.**
  - Married Henrietta Hawkins Beall
  - Children: Marvin "Cub" Criddle Culbertson, Jr., and Jacquelyn Culbertson Driver
  - Son, Marvin "Cub" Criddle Culbertson, Jr. (1927-2022), born August 30, 1927 in Vernon, Texas to Marvin C. Culbertson, Sr., and Henrietta Hawkins Beall. In 1946, Cub began his medical journey at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. During the Korean Conflict, he was the physician on a troop transport for the US Navy with the rank of Lieutenant (junior grade). He then completed his ENT residency in New York City at Bellevue Hospital. Returning to Dallas in 1956, he started his private and academic practice. In a time of segregation, Cub had the courage to stand against racism by integrating his waiting room. He was the first in Dallas to do so. During his career, Cub authored chapters of medical textbooks and developed innovative surgical instruments.
- **Arcadio Donley, Sr. 1857-1948**
  - Married Guadalupe Donley
  - Purchased all of lots 1 and 2 in Block 3, Outlot 37, Division "B" of the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas from M.C. (Marvin Criddle) Culbertson, Sr. on May 29, 1917
  - Widower in 1927 with death of wife, Guadalupe Donley
  - Recorded building permit for box residence at 1605 Leona St. for \$40 in May 1939

- Secured mechanic's lien from The Calcasieu Lumber Company (payable to M.C. Harris) for the construction of 1605 Leona St. November 1939
- Recorded building permit to repair and reroof residence at 1605 Leona St. for \$815 in December 1939
- Listed for sale 1605 Leona St., a 6-room 1-bath home, for \$2,500 in September 1943
- Listed for sale 1605 Leona St., a 6-room 1-bath home, for \$2,300 in October 1943
- Father of Benita Donley Acosta, Private Arcadio Donley, Jr., Raymond (Ramón) Donley, Sr., and Willie Donley
- Son, Private Arcadio Donley, Jr. (1890-1918), age 28, one of sixty-nine Travis County men killed during World War I. Served with the Company D National Guard Regiment in the 23<sup>rd</sup> infantry, which became a part of the Fourth French Army and participated in the Meuse-Argonne offensive (Champagne). Interred in East Austin's historic Oakwood Cemetery
- **Raymond (Ramón) Donley, Sr. (1890-1963)**
  - Son of Arcadio and Guadalupe Donley
  - Married Delores (Quinones) Donley
  - Barber and violinist with the Durango municipal symphony
  - Father of Delores Donley, Raymond Q. Donley, Jr., Manuel Donley, Eslanda Donley, Robert Donley, Lupe (Donley) Manchaca, Beatrice Donley, Joe Donley, Edward Donley, and Frank Donley
- **Raymond Q. Donley, Jr. (1923-2014)**
  - Son of Raymond (Ramón) Donley, Sr., and Delores (Quinones) Donley
  - Member of U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps. during World War II, serving in the Asiatic Pacific area
  - Austin, TX Mayoral candidate 1971, 1973, 1975, and 1977
- **Manuel "Cowboy" Donley (1927-2020)**
  - Son of Raymond (Ramón) Donley, Sr., and Delores (Quinones) Donley
  - Pioneering Tejano music singer-songwriter and National Endowment for the Arts' National Heritage Fellow. Earned the title "Godfather of Tejano music" after a decades long career as a singer, multi-instrumentalist, arranger, and composer. He was inducted into the Tejano Music Hall of Fame in 1986. In 2010, he was featured in a groundbreaking Austin History Center exhibit "Mexican American Firsts: Trailblazers of Austin and Travis County," which celebrated the lives of Mexican Americans who were the first to make advancements in their fields. Visitors of the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center can find his name engraved on a wall sculpture there after the artist received the center's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012. And hikers on the Trail of Tejano Legends can find a community park dedicated to Donley and his brother Robert near the former Holly Power Plant on Cesar Chavez Street
  - Interred in East Austin's historic Oakwood Cemetery
- **Rev. John Wesley Goode (1865-1952)**
  - Of Caldwell County, Texas
  - Married Hattie Jane (Bailey) Goode
  - Moved to Austin, TX in 1939
  - Purchased 1605 Leona St. Austin, TX, a 6-room 1-bath home for \$1,575 Oct. 20, 1944

- Father of John Joseph Goode, Rev. Kensey “Mike” W. Goode, Ernest R. Goode, Alga (Goode) Hargrove, Bernice (Goode) Ware, and Helen (Goode) Walton
- Provided lawncare services via push mower for The University of Texas, Austin
- Interred in East Austin’s Evergreen Cemetery
- **Hattie Jane (Bailey) Goode (1880-1979)**
  - Of Caldwell County, Texas
  - Married Rev. John Wesley Goode
  - Moved to Austin, TX in 1939
  - Purchased 1605 Leona St. Austin, TX, a 6-room 1-bath home for \$1,575 Oct. 20, 1944
  - Widowed in 1952 with death of husband, Rev. John Wesley Goode
  - Conveyed the property (1605 Leona St.) to daughter, Helen Walton, for \$1 on December 13, 1954
  - Served as David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church’s first Mother of the Year under Rev. James E. Obey, Pastor
  - Member of David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Sunday School and Missionary Society
  - Mother of James M. Larremore, J.J. Goode, Titum, Rev. Kensey “Mike” W. Goode, Ernest R. Goode, Bernice (Goode) Ware, and Helen (Goode) Walton
  - Interred in East Austin’s Evergreen Cemetery
- **Ernest Rae Goode 1920-1990**
  - Married Velma Brown 1940. Divorced
  - Name appears on Corinth Baptist Church’s (next door to 1605 Leona St.) original cornerstone: Organized March 23, 1930 by Rev. R. Q. Allen. Built January April 1941-Trustee-Deacon Board
  - Enlisted in US Armed Forces January 12, 1942
  - Served as Mechanic at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX and abroad in Italy during WWII
  - Battles and Campaigns:
    - Sicilian Naples Foggia Rome Arno North Apennines Po Valley GO 33 WD 45
  - Awarded EAME Campaign Medal for military duty served in the European Theater (Italy) during the Second World War
  - Honorably discharged from the military service of the United States of America, October 13, 1945
  - Married Blanche Gibson 1946. Divorced 1950
  - Relocated from Austin, TX to San Francisco, CA, 1951
  - Moved back to Austin, TX 1981
  - Honored for service to US Armed Forces at death, 1990
- **Helen Elizabeth (Goode) Walton 1917-2015**
  - Married Willie “Boots” Walton, June 1944. Divorced, January 1952
  - Certified Cosmetology Instructor, Johnson & Randolph Beauty School, 1951
  - Built, owned, and operated Walton’s Beauty Shop/Salon, located at 1605 Leona St. Austin, TX for close to 40 years. Served as hairstylist and cosmetology instructor. Salon specialized in styling African-American hair and increasing accessibility of professional-

grade cosmetology products designed specifically for African-American hair textures, ~1947-1984

- Selected as one of “My Best Dressed Women” of Austin, *The Austin Mirror*, Wednesday December 30, 1959
- Noted as Austin’s first cosmetologist to receive a gold cup from Prairie View A & M College for satisfactorily completing the five-year course in advanced cosmetology, *The Austin Mirror*, Friday September 30, 1960
- Missionary Baptist General Convention of Texas, David Chapel Baptist (host) Souvenir Book Committee, 1970
- Speaker, Ninth Annual Women’s Day service, David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, February 10, 1973, *The Austin American Statesman*
- Member of Hair Designer’s Guild, sponsor of the Miss Black Austin Pageant. Guild chartered November 26, 1962. Members must be licensed beauty operators, Oct. 30, 1980, *The Austin American Statesman*
- David Chapel 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, 1974
- Elected David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Woman of the Year in 1993, the first to receive this honor under Pastor Joseph C. Parker, Jr., Esq., D. Min
- Member of David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church for more than 64 years. Involvement in church ministries included serving as treasurer, playing piano, Youth Department counselor, Sunday School teacher, and serving as a Circle President and teacher in Missionary Society 1. Mrs. Walton also sang in the Senior Choir
- Companion Nurse of Former First Lady of Texas (1927-1931), Mildred Paxton Moody, (wife of Texas Governor Dan Moody), 1981
- Honored by Texas Governor, Ann W. Richards for years of outstanding service to David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, family, and community, 1993
- Conveyed the property (1605 Leona St.) to great-niece, Helen Shoulds, on February 7, 2012
- Received 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday greetings from Dawnna Dukes, Texas State Representative-District 46, October 1, 2012
- **Willie “Boots” Walton, Sr. (1900-1985)**
  - Married Lillian Fowler ~1920
  - Fathered Willie Walton, Jr. (1920-1977) with Lillian Fowler
  - Married Nora Walton, 1924
  - Court date on complaint of passing forged instrument, June 28, 1946, *The Austin American Statesman*
  - Married Helen Elizabeth Goode, June 1944. Divorced, January 1952
  - Assisted in building Walton’s Beauty Shop, 1950
  - Arrested in vice raid at hotel. Charged with “procuring”. July 12, 1949, *The Austin American Statesman*
  - Survived miraculous head-on crash. September 17, 1951, *The Austin American Statesman*
  - Married Goldie M. Henderson, 1960
  - Blues and ragtime piano musician credited with bringing the famous ‘Pine Top Boogie Woogie’ to Austin, Feb. 7, 1980, *The Austin American Statesman*

- The preacher's daughter that he fell in love with, later married, and who got him to stop playing the blues and start playing gospel music was Helen Elizabeth Goode
- **Lillian (Ware) Scott (1940-)**
  - Married Jimmy Ware, Sr. 1958. Divorced 1986
  - Relocated from Austin, TX to San Francisco, CA, 1964
  - Mother of Nina Ware, Jimmy Ware, Jr., Helen (Ware) Shoulds, and James Ware, Sr.
  - Relocated from Las Vegas, NV to Austin, TX, 2011
  - Caretaker of Helen E. Walton from 2011 until her death in 2015
- **Helen (Ware) Shoulds (1962-)**
  - Relocated from East Palo Alto, CA to Austin, TX, 1981
  - Married Robert E. Shoulds, 1982. Divorced 2019
  - Licensed Practical Nurse Certificate, Austin Community College, 1984
  - Mother of Kenan Shoulds and Nneka Shoulds
  - Relocated to Liberty Hill, Texas, 2021
- **Nneka Shoulds (1986-)**
  - Relocated from Baltimore, Maryland to Austin, TX, 2019

#### 4. Historically Significant Events

Childhood home where Godfather of Tejano music (the hybrid of American pop forms like big band and rock & roll, with traditional Mexican conjunto), the arranger, guitarist, and lead vocalist for *Las Estrellas* (The Stars), **Manuel "Cowboy" Donley**, took an early interest in music and taught himself to play guitar, following the lead of his father, **Raymond Donley, Sr.**

**Raymond**, a classically trained violinist, once played with the Durango Symphony. He made his living as a barber by day, but at night, he led his band, *La Orquesta de Ramon Donley*.

**Manuel Donley** began his apprenticeship as a musician hanging out in his father's barbershop, where musicians were as likely to come by for a haircut as they were to break out a fiddle or accordion for a couple of tunes. By the time he was 11 (living at **1605 Leona St.**), **Manuel Donley** had taught himself how to play the guitar and later, the requinto (a type of six-string guitar).

In 1949, the 21-year-old **Donley** formed *Los Heartbreakers*, the first Mexican-American band to play rock & roll and rhythm & blues in Austin. **Donley** went on to transform *música tejana* from a traditional acoustic sound into the modern electric sound that dominates *tejano* music today.

As a 2014 recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship, the NEA recognized **Donley** for his contributions to the ethnic American musical tradition of *orquesta tejana*.

**Donley** was a cultural product of his geography, and his musical style reflected his lived experience. His family heritage is Tejano-Irish on his father's side and Mexican national on his mother's side. With his family's arrival in Austin during childhood, he became bilingual and bicultural, a resident of *Mexico de Afuera* (Mexico outside of Mexico). As a first-generation Mexican-American growing up in East Austin, his Mexican-American neighborhoods bordered African American neighborhoods. **Donley** lived a tricultural experience, drawing on influences from Anglos, African-Americans, and Mexicans.

## 5. Information on architect, builder, contractor, and any craftsman who worked on the building and structure on the site

### Builder:

The Calcasieu Lumber Company, 1939-1940

### Renovations:

- **Contractor:** Unknown (**Willie "Boots" Walton** was member of likely unlicensed crew)
- **Date:** ~1947
- **Project:** Rear wall of Bedroom "3" demolished to extend the room into beauty shop in rear of **1605 Leona St.** Wood siding refinished. Carport installed. Interior renovated to section formerly larger open spaces in smaller rooms
  
- **Contractor:** Unknown
- **Date:** ~1950
- **Project:** Aluminum siding installed on exterior walls
  
- **Contractor:** Unknown
- **Date:** ~1970
- **Project:** Interior wood paneling installed in Living area "A", hallway, and Bedrooms "3, 4, 5"
  
- **Contractor:** Lynn Sutton DBA Precision Builders
- **Date:** 1993
- **Project:** Installed pitched roof on flat portion of house, removed carpet in kitchen, primed floor and installed vinyl floor, and installed cabinets on wall 3x8, 5x8
  
- **Contractor:** Quality Foundation Repair (Simon Wallace)
- **Date:** September 5, 2012
- **Project:** Pier and beam foundation repair on the existing single-family structure (Permit/Case: 2012-089466 BP)
  
- **Contractor:** Austin Siding & Windows
- **Date:** September 2012
- **Project:** Living area "A", which includes current living space adjacent to kitchen area: Removal of wall dividing Living Room and front bedroom to create a larger Living/Dining space. Paneling removed from remaining living room walls and new 1/2" drywall sheet rock installed, complete with tape/float and texture, then painted. Ceiling in living area repaired on as needed basis, which will be known upon completion of pier and beam repairs currently being made on the home



Bedroom "1": Converted upon demolition of the wall dividing it from the living area. Existing closet removed. Paneling removed, with drywall replacement complete with tape/float and texture. Room painted and ceiling repaired as needed upon inspection

Bathroom "1": Sink/counter space removed with the sink relocated to a location closer to the door along the same wall and the toilet relocated along this wall as well to streamline bath space and make access to the bath/shower area more convenient as well as making the space more aesthetically pleasing. Bath tile will be removed to allow for a longer sliding window to increase ventilation and more efficient water evaporation to help control mildew issues. Demolition of shower and installation of a "green wall" to repel moisture and ensure proper installation of shower tile

Bedroom "2": Removal of paneling and ceiling and installation of new drywall complete with tape/float as well as texture. The conduit to the ceiling fan/light fixture elevated approximately 6" and removed from view by the new ceiling drywall. Room painted

Bedroom "3": Paneling removed and new drywall installed complete with tape/float and texture. Ceiling inspected for replacement, entire room including the ceiling painted

Air conditioning unit relocated and its current location made into a connecting doorway to the back room of the home, formerly the salon. Adjacent to its current location in the former salon, a new station complete with stand and walls constructed to house the a/c unit

The salon, Bedroom "4," remodeled with paneling removed and drywall including all tape/float and texture installed. The load supporting 4 x 4 replaced with a supporting ceiling beam to open the space into a bedroom. Bath area expanded to become adjacent to the new a/c room. Shower added, as well as a new toilet and sink to this expanded bathroom area

- **Contractor:** Austin Siding & Windows
- **Date:** November 2012
- **Project:** Single-pane original windows replaced with double-pane tilt-in windows
  
- **Contractor:** Unknown
- **Date:** 2013
- **Project:** Build shed in rear of 1605 Leona St. Remove exterior aluminum siding. Paint exterior wood siding and trim.
  
- **Contractor:** Unknown
- **Date:** 2013
- **Project:** Deck built in rear of 1605 Leona St.
  
- **Contractor:** Rey's Landscaping Services

- **Date:** May 2013  
**Project:** Remove chain link fence and construct wooden fence along rear property line
  
- **Contractor:** Edward Pagano
- **Date:** May-August 2021
- **Project:** Exterior and interior remodel:
  - Fascia and soffit reconstruction
  - Exterior trim revision
  - Install wood paneling in carport and front porch ceiling
  - Replace carport and front porch support beams
  - Replace laundry room door
  - Replace damaged wood siding planks
  - Replace damaged deck boards
  - Replace damaged drywall in Living area "A"
  - Install crown molding in Living area "A"
  - Install interior window trim in Living area "A" and Bedroom "4"
  - Install crown molding in hallway bathroom
  - Install wainscoting in hallway
  - Replace door in Bedroom "3"
  - Install closet in Bedroom "4"
  
- **Contractor:** Heritage Construction Co.
- **Date:** June 9, 2021
- **Project:** Total roof removal/installation:
  - Synthetic Felt
  - Ridge High Profile
  - Ice & Water Barrier
  - Drip Edge Installed (Painted to Match Shingle)
  - Plumbing Boots (Painted to Match Roof)
  - Ventilation Replaced/Reconditioned & Painted
  - All Debris Removed & Site Cleaned, Swept of Metals, Nails, etc.
  
- **Contractor:** Fresh Coat Painters-Austin
- **Date:** July 2021
- **Project:** Exterior/Interior Painting:
  - Power wash exterior
  - Siding, trim, soffit, exterior doors, carport, and porch ceiling staining
  - Paint shed, trim
  - Paint kitchen cabinets, install hinges
  
- **Contractor:** Jimmy
- **Date:** August 2021
- **Project:** Hallway bathroom renovation:
  - Replace shower kit with bathtub and subway tile

- Replace ceramic floor tile with marble tile
- Replace vanity top and faucet
- Replace toilet
- Replace light fixture
- Install wall shelf
- Paint

## 6. Historical Narrative

**Arcadio Donley, Sr.** and wife, **Guadalupe Donley** secured all of lots 1 and 2 in Block 3, Outlot 37, Division “B” of the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas from **M.C. (Marvin Criddle) Culbertson, Sr.** on May 29, 1917. During this time, East Austin was thriving, while also undergoing a demographic change— as many white families were moving away. Notorious city planning efforts, including the 1928 Koch & Fowler Plan to remove African-Americans to East Austin from the central city, and a nationwide intensification of racial prejudice in the 1920s led to East Austin's identification as an African-American neighborhood. By the 1930s, many Hispanic families had also begun moving into the area as political instability and revolution in Mexico led many to flee their home country.

In the 1920s and 1930s, scores of bungalows were being built within the area. Many with the assistance of the historic **Calcasieu Lumber Company**, who's materials found their way into nearly every major Austin project of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. **The Calcasieu Lumber Company** offered standardized home plans and provided all the materials, even the crews, for the construction of houses on an owner's site. By the 1920s, the firm was offering financing for the construction of new homes in downtown-adjacent neighborhoods. These low-interest loans and installment plans opened homeownership to more Austinites than ever — “the company employed builders and became a one-stop shop for those looking for a new home,” according to the Austin Public Library's collection of company records.

After having an initial home established on the lot at 1710 E. 16th St, Austin, TX 78702, on November 28, 1939, **Arcadio Donley, Sr.** secured a mechanic's lien from **The Calcasieu Lumber Company** (payable to M.C. Harris) for the construction of **1605 Leona St.** Initial building permits for a box residence and roof at **1605 Leona St.** were recorded by **Arcadio Donley, Sr.** in 1939. It appears construction was complete by 1940, as **Arcadio Donley, Raymond (Ramón) Donley, Delores Donley, Delores Donley, Raymond Donley, Jr., Manuel Donley, Eslenda Donley, Robert Donley, Lupe Donley, Beatrice Donley, Joe Donley,** and **Ernest Donley** are recoded residents of **1605 Leona St.** in the 1940 United States Federal Census.

**Raymond (Ramón) Donley, Sr.,** was a classically trained violinist who once played with the Durango Symphony. **Raymond** made his living as a barber by day, but at night, he led his band, *La Orquesta de Ramon Donley*. His son, **Manuel Donley**, took an early interest in music, following the lead of his father. **Manuel Donley** began his apprenticeship as a musician hanging out in his father's barbershop, where musicians were as likely to come by for a haircut as they were to break out a fiddle or accordion to play a couple of tunes. By the time he was 11 years old, **Manuel Donley** had taught himself how to play the guitar and later, the requinto (a type of six-string guitar). **Manuel** formed the band ‘*Los Heartbreakers*’ as a teen and was performing mostly instrumentals at Church festivals and street fairs until their breakthrough performance at *Parque Zaragoza* in Austin, TX in 1949. While **Manuel's** star was rising, his

family was in search of a new homestead. The **Donley** family listed **1605 Leona St.**, a 6-room 1-bath home, for sale for \$2,500 in September 1943, and for \$2,300 in October 1943.

**Arcadio Donley, Sr. Raymond Donley**, Willie Donley, Ernest Donley, and Benita Donley Acosta and husband accepted an offer of \$1,575.00 (payable in monthly installments of \$20.00) from **Rev. John Wesley Goode** and wife **Hattie Jane Goode** on October 18, 1944 for the purchase of **the North 47-2/3 feet of Lots Nos. 1 and 2, in Block No. 3, of Outlot No. 37 in Division "B", in the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas (1605 Leona St.)**.

**John Wesley Goode**, Laborer, **Hattie Goode**, Wash-Woman, their son, **Ernest Goode**, Military Serviceman, daughter, **Helen (Goode) Walton**, Cosmetologist, and son-in-law, **Willie "Boots" Walton**, Blues and Ragtime Piano Musician, moved into the new home. **The Goode Family** benefitted from the multiple streams of income present within the home, which allowed them to maintain a comfortable middle-class lifestyle. Similar to many other East Austin families, **The Goode Family** had plans to operate a business out of their new home and quickly began making the necessary alterations.

In about 1947, a crew including **Willie "Boots" Walton**, demolished the rear wall of Bedroom "3" to extend and refurbish the room into a full-service salon located in the rear of **1605 Leona St.**, complete with a separate entrance. The exterior wood siding was also refinished, the carport constructed, and the interior renovated to section the formerly larger open spaces into smaller and private rooms. White aluminum siding was installed to the home's exterior around 1950. Renovations completed during this period were undocumented and likely unlicensed, as the city had not yet enforced zoning ordinances or construction permits in East Austin.

Construction of **Walton's Beauty Salon** was completed around 1947. **John Wesley Goode** became ill and died in 1952 and soon after, **Helen (Goode) Walton** and **Willie "Boots" Walton** divorced. **Hattie Goode** and **Helen Walton** were the primary residents of **1605 Leona St.** for many years. **Hattie Goode** conveyed **1605 Leona St.** to daughter, **Helen Walton**, for \$1 on December 13, 1954. **Ernest Goode** used the home as a permanent address between military service and marriages. His name is inscribed on Corinth Baptist Church's (next door to **1605 Leona St.**) original cornerstone as a member of the Trustee-Deacon Board. **Ernest** relocated to San Francisco, CA in 1951.

**Walton's Beauty Shop/Salon** thrived the 1950's and **Helen Walton's** career as a cosmetologist offered a level of economic independence that was rare for a Black woman during a time when employment opportunities were limited. Most white salon owners served white customers and did not serve Black customers or hire Black beauty professionals. This created an extremely viable market for Black beauty shop Operators/Instructors who ensured that East Austin and other African-American communities had access to the services and specialized products their customers needed.

Dissatisfied with her singular role as a cosmetologist, **Helen Walton's** ambitions led her to the Johnson & Randolph Beauty School, where she became a Certified Cosmetology Instructor in 1951. At the time, Texas law required beauty shop operators to complete 1,000 hours of training, which Cosmetology Instructors provided to those entering into the profession and/or maintaining licensure. **Helen Walton** would go on to receive a gold cup from Prairie View A & M College's Cosmetology Institute for satisfactorily completing the five-year course in advanced cosmetology. She is noted as Austin's first cosmetologist to do so.

**Helen's** industriousness provided the financial means needed to continue making improvements to the home. On trend for the time, wood paneling was installed throughout the home's interior living spaces around 1970, and in 1993, a pitched roof was installed on the flat portion of the house and the kitchen received a renovation.

**Hattie Goode** and **Helen Walton** were both committed in their devoted service to David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. **Hattie Goode** served with the Sunday School Society and Missionary Society and was honored as the church's first Mother of the Year under Rev. James E. Obey, before her death in 1979 at the age of 99.

**Helen Walton** was a member of David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church for more than 64 years and contributed in various capacities within that time. Of note, **Helen** served as a Sunday school teacher, treasurer, piano/organ player, and as a member of the Senior Choir. She was elected David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Woman of the Year in 1993, the first to receive this honor under Pastor Joseph C. Parker, Jr., Esq., D. Min.

As matriarch, **Helen Walton** set high expectations for her younger family members. Having no children of her own, **Helen Walton** often welcomed relatives to stay at **1605 Leona St.** for as long as they needed. In 1981, her great-niece and namesake, **Helen (Ware) Shoulds**, took advantage of the opportunity to live with her aunt in Austin, Texas, where **Shoulds** moved to shortly after completing high school in East Palo Alto, California. **Helen Shoulds** lived with her aunt for 1 year while attending nursing school before getting married and moving away. **Helen Walton's** brother, **Ernest Goode**, also moved back to Austin, Texas from San Francisco, California in 1981. **Ernest** would remain with his sister at **1605 Leona St.** until his death in 1990.

When **Helen Walton** wasn't occupied by family, work, or the attaining of educational or professional goal, her social calendar was filled with meetings and events that reflected her reputation as a well-known and respected businesswoman. **Helen** was selected as one of "My Best Dressed Women" of Austin in 1959, and was a member of the Hair Designer's Guild, sponsor of the Miss Black Austin Pageant. Later in life, after closing the beauty shop and retiring in 1984, **Helen Walton** provided companion care to former First Lady of Texas, Mildred Paxton Moody, (wife of Texas Governor Dan Moody). **Helen** was honored by Texas Governor, Ann W. Richards for years of outstanding service to David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, her family, and the community in 1993. She received 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday greetings from Texas State Representative- District 46, Dawnna Dukes in October 2012.

**Helen Walton's** health declined as she aged and the home fell into ill repair. In 2011, when it became clear to relatives that **Helen** was no longer able to live independently or maintain the household, **Helen Shoulds** arranged for her mother, **Lillian Scott** (Helen Walton's ex niece-in-law) to move in and provide care. **Helen Walton** conveyed **1605 Leona St.** to great-niece, **Helen Shoulds**, on February 7, 2012.

**Helen Shoulds** quickly evaluated the declining state of **1605 Leona St.** and lined up the much-needed repairs. The pier and beam foundation was completely repaired in 2012, followed by various other major interior and exterior renovation projects, which were completed through the summer of 2013. In 2015, **Helen Walton** passed away in the home she'd lived in for over 70 years at the age of 97. **Lillian Scott** provided day-to-day in-home care until her death.

**Lillian Scott** lived mostly independently at **1605 Leona St.** until 2019, when granddaughter, **Nneka Shoulds**, (daughter of **Helen Shoulds**) relocated to Austin, Texas from Baltimore, Maryland. Following her divorce, **Helen Shoulds** also left Maryland for Austin, Texas in 2019.

The three generations completed more renovations in 2021, including interior and exterior cosmetic improvements, installing a new roof, and repainting the home's exterior. **Helen Shoulds** relocated to Liberty Hill, Texas in 2021. **Lillian Scott** and **Nneka Shoulds** remain current residents.

### **Justification**

**Age:** Originally constructed in 1939, the home located at **1605 Leona St.** is 83 years old.

**Integrity:** The many renovations required to maintain the home for over 8 decades have not compromised the integrity of the home. The retention of many original physical features, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, and location of the home contribute to the high degree integrity and significance of the property.

### **Historical Associations:**

- Long-standing Individual Associations
  - Manuel "Cowboy" Donley
  - Willie "Boots" Walton
  - Helen Walton
- Business Associations
  - Walton's Beauty Shop/Salon
  - The Calcasieu Lumber Company
- Historical Event
  - Childhood home where Godfather of Tejano music, Manuel "Cowboy" Donley, took an early interest in music and taught himself to play guitar.

### **Community Value:**

Recommended as not eligible for a local historic landmark designation in the *East Austin Historical Resources Survey of 2016*, **1605 Leona St.** was essential in assisting a multicultural Tejano-Irish immigrant family and a marginalized Black American family establish strong foundations upon which future generations would use to launch long-lasting legacies.

Uniquely located directly across from historic Oakwood Cemetery (originally called City Cemetery and the oldest city-owned cemetery in Austin), the home tells the untold story of two families who achieved their American dreams against unimaginable odds. The people who lived here experienced and endured painful racial segregation and discriminatory practices, and they fought against those conditions with dignity and courage to break barriers in education, the military, music, and business.

As urban renewal projects wipe out whole neighborhoods and Central East Austin continues to be a hot spot for new development, remarkably, this property, **1605 Leona St.**, is one of few that have been maintained by direct descendants.

It is our intention to preserve the rich histories of the **Donley** and the **Goode/Walton** families, who made significant contributions to the cultural identity of historic East Austin, Tejano music, and the world.