

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
MAY 3, 2023
PR-2023-020353; GF-2023-043161
702 WEST MONROE STREET

PROPOSAL

Relocate a ca. 1918 house outside the city limits.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, cross-gabled house with horizontal wood siding, paired and single 1:1 wood windows, boxed columns with simple trim supporting a partial-width porch, and double entry doors.

RESEARCH

The house at 702 W. Monroe Street was built as early as 1918 as a rental property. Its earliest residents were the Martinez family, who later purchased the home, as well as the one next door at 704. City Directories indicate that Melquides and Elena Martinez sold the house at 702 W. Monroe St. to James and Viola Benson around 1938, then moved next door. James Benson worked for the water department. After his death in 1960, his widow remained in the home for another nine years.

PROPERTY EVALUATION

The 2016 Bouldin Creek Neighborhood survey lists the property as a medium priority and contributing to a potential historic district.

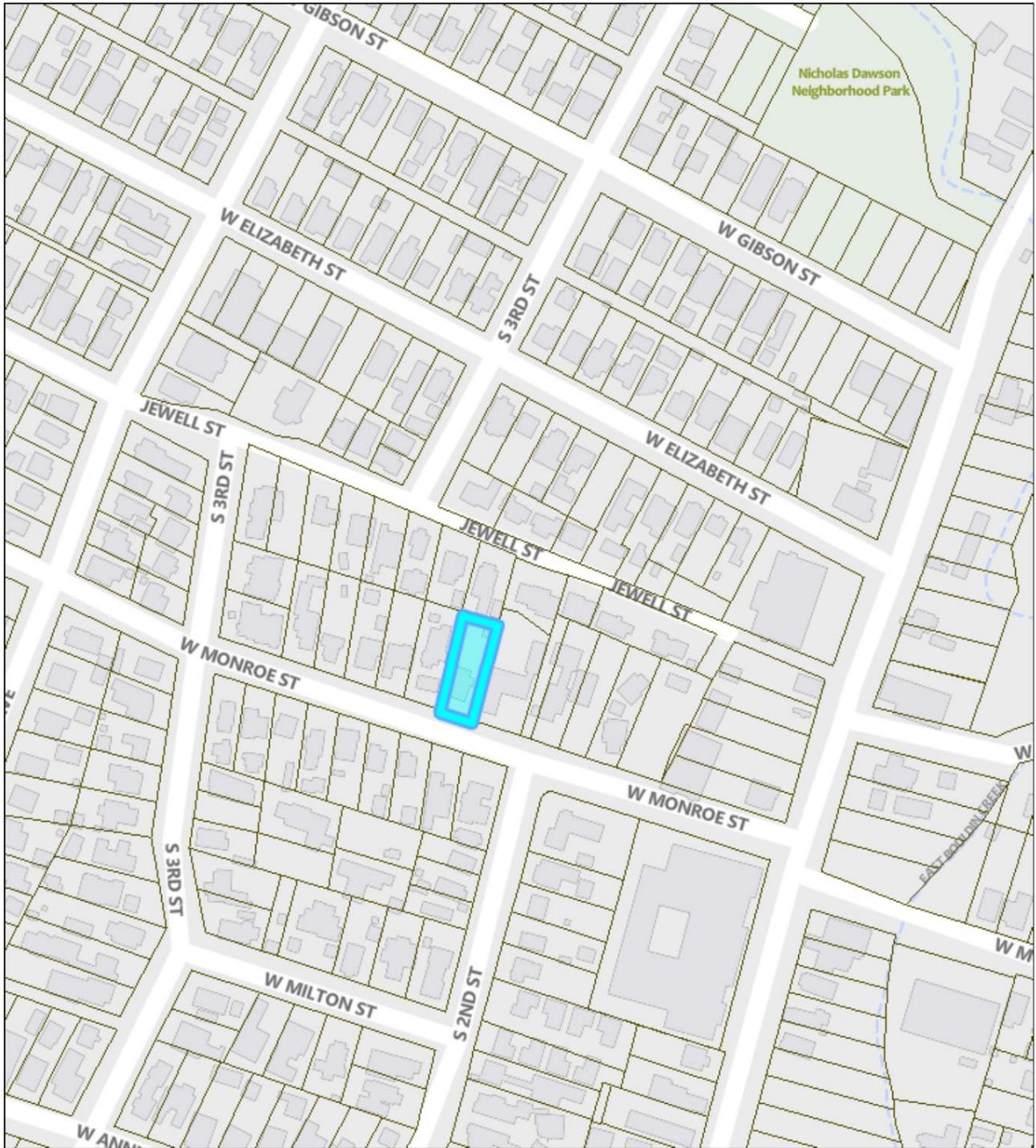
Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain high integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two 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 building is constructed with Colonial Revival influences, though its detailing is modest.
 - b. Historical association. The property does not appear to 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 appear to 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

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive reuse, but release the relocation permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package.

LOCATION MAP



Lot Lines
Lot Line

1: 2400

4/14/2023

GF 23-043161

702 W MONROE 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. This product has been produced by the City of Austin for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos









Relocation Permit Application – 2023

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, March 2023

- 1959 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1957 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1955 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1954 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1953 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1952 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1949 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1947 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1944 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1942 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1941 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1940 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1939 James S. & Viola Benson, owners
- 1937 Melquinaldes & Ellen Martinez, owners
- Note: Melquides Martinez listed as owner of 702 and 704*
- 1935 Malquides & Ellen Martinez, owners
- 1932 Malquides & Ellen Martinez, owners
- Ysabel Martinez

- Rear: Mrs. P. Samaniego, owner
- 1930 Malquedes & Ellen Martinez, owners
- 1929 Malquedes & Ellen Martinez, owners
- 1927 Mrs. Helena Martinez, owners
- 1924 Mantura Martinez, renter
- 1922 Mantura Martinez, renter
- 1920 Mantura Martinez, renter
- 1918 Manuel & Elena Martinez, renter
- 1916 Address not listed.

Historical information

YSABEL MARTINEZ

Ysabel Martinez, 52, died as a result of an accident at his home, 704 W. Monroe Saturday morning when he fell into a power saw. He is survived by his mother Mrs. Elena Martinez of Austin, his father, Melquides Martinez of Austin; his sister, Asencion Costello of Austin.

The body is at the residence and will remain there until time for the funeral services Sunday.

Services will be held at St. Jose Church Sunday at 4:30 p. m., with Father Hauser officiating. Burial will be in Mt. Calvary Cemetery under the direction of the Wilke-Donnelly Funeral Home.

MELQUIDES MARTINEZ

Funeral services for Melquides Martinez, who died at his home, 704 West Monroe, Wednesday, will be held Thursday at 3 p.m. at his home and San Jose Church.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Elena Martinez; one daughter, Mrs. Asencion M. Castillo of Austin; 12 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Burial will be in Mt. Calvary Cemetery.

DEATHS AND FUNERALS. *The Austin American* (1914-1973); 13 Jan 1952: A19.

DEATHS AND FUNERALS. *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 16 June 1954: 18.

JAMES SHAW BENSON

James Shaw Benson 76, died at his home Friday evening, he was a life long resident of Austin and a member of the Wager Presbyterian Church. He was employed by the City for 25 years in the water department, having retired recently. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Annie Viola Benson of Austin, one daughter, Mrs. Viola Hasselmeier of Austin, 2 sons, C. D. Benson and Otis S. Benson both of Austin, one sister, Mrs. Liddie Spencer of Austin; 5 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren, all of Austin.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at the Wilke-Clay Funeral Home with the Rev. Robert F. Gribble officiating. Pallbearers were Walter Chapman, Marshall Chapman, Dale Carpenter, Bill Helgren, Frank Bates and J. C. Hilbig.

Burial was in the Masonic Cemetery.

MRS. ANNIE VIOLA BENSON

Mrs. Annie Viola Benson, 82, of 702 West Monroe, widow of the late James Shaw Benson, died Friday at her residence. She was a Presbyterian.

Survivors include: her daughter, Mrs. Vida Hasselmeier of Austin; two sons, Charlie D. Benson and Otis Shaw Benson, both of Austin; sister, Mrs. Eula Joyce of Austin; brother, William T. Cargill of Houston; five grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren.

Funeral will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Chapel of Wilke-Clay Funeral Home with the Rev. Keith Wright, pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church officiating and Mr. Robert J. Barnard Sr. assisting.

Pallbearers will be James Douglas Benson Sr., Dale Carpenter, Bill Helgren, J. C. Hilbig, Jim Earls, and Gary Carpenter.

Burial will be in Masonic Cemetery. Those desiring may make contribution to the Cancer Society or to Faith Presbyterian Church, 1314 East Oltorf.

DEATHS, FUNERALS. *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 13 Feb 1960: 3.

DEATHS and SERVICES. *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 15 Feb 1969: 11.

Permits

Connecting Charge \$ 1700 No. 97982
Application for Sewer Connection.
 Austin, Texas, 11/5/00 1930
 to the Superintendent of Sewer and Public Improvements,
 City of Austin, Texas.
 I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises
 owned by J. S. Benson
702 West Monroe Street
 which places to be used as a residence
 In this place there are to be installed 2 fixtures

Water service permit - 1930

OWNER Mrs. J. S. Benson ADDRESS 702 West Monroe St.
 PLAT 117 LOT 1 BLK. - DIV -
 SUBDIVISION James E. Bouldin Estate
 OCCUPANCY Remodel interior of Res.
 BLD PERMIT # 87032 DATE 3-1-63 OWNERS ESTIMATE 150.00
 CONTRACTOR Bill Hasselmier NO. OF FIXTURES 3
 WATER TAP REC # _____ SEWER TAP REC # _____

BATHROOM

Convert walk in closet into a Bathroom. Must be electrically vented.

Remodel permit - 1963

J. S. Benson 702 West Monroe St
117 - - 1 -

R. G. Smith

Porch addn to rear of Res.

21576 - 4-8-41

Porch Addition permit - 1941