HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS FEBRUARY 7, 2024 PR-2023-163776; GF-2024-005557 508 EL PASO STREET

PROPOSAL

Demolish a house built prior to 1949.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story rectangular-plan house with corrugated metal roof, 1:1 wood windows, horizontal wood siding, and a steeply pitched gablet supported by decorative triangular brackets above the entry stoop.

RESEARCH

The house at 508 El Paso Street was built before 1949; the earliest evidence of its existence is a tap permit from 1948, though it appears to have been built in a much earlier style. Its first residents to appear in City directories were Hazel and Forrest Bowers, who sold the house to George and LaVerne Pickle. George Pickle worked as a mechanic at the Lopez Garage. The Pickles did not stay in the house long; by 1952, Christoval and Janie Sosa had purchased the home for their family. Christoval worked as an installer at Dill-Challstrom's, who sold Venetian blinds and carports, and Janie worked as an office secretary for the R. C. Foster Company.

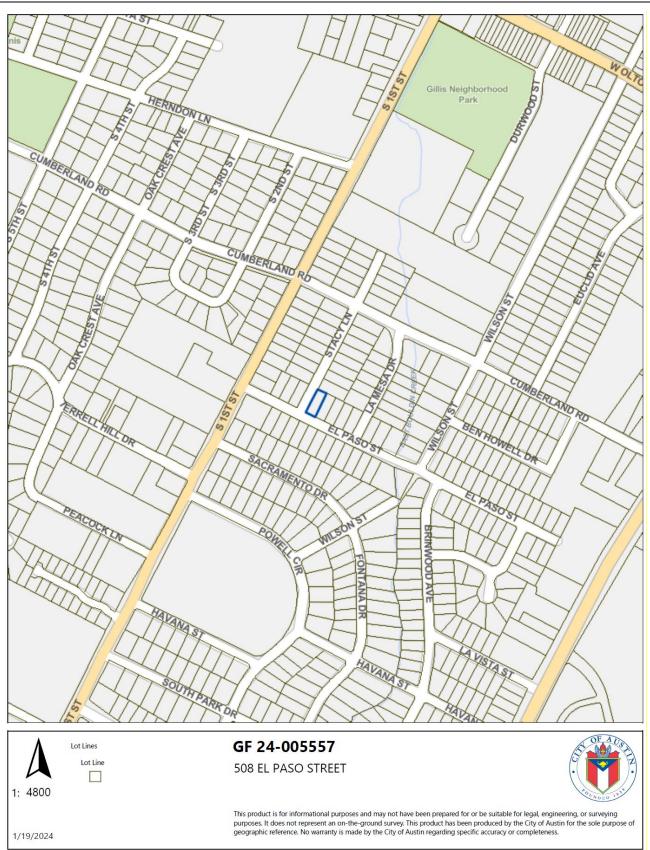
PROPERTY EVALUATION

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 Craftsman influences.
 - 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, then relocation over demolition, but release the demolition permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package.



PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



Demolition permit application, 2023



Zillow.com, https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/508-El-Paso-St-Austin-TX-78704/29476379_zpid/?mmlb=g,0

Occupancy History City Directory Research, January 2024

- 1959 Christoval and Jamie Sosa, owners installer at Dill's-Challstrom and office secretary at R.C. Foster Co.
- 1955 Christoval and Jamie Sosa, owners installer at Dill's-Challstrom
- 1952 George D. and LaVerne Pickle, owners mechanic at Frank S. Lopez Garage
- 1949 Forest and Hazel Bowers, owners student
- 1941 Address not listed

Historical Information

The Statesman

Congratulates

MR. and MRS. R. I. TPA-HAN, 5414 Grover Avenue, a girl. Monday at Brackenridge.

MR. and MRS. FRANK B. ROBERTS JR., 3303 Cherry Lane, a girl. Monday at Seton.

MR. and MRS. FOREST B. BOWERS, 508 El Paso, a boy, Monday at Seton. MR. and MRS. CHRISTOPHER SOSA, 508 El Paso Street, a boy, Monday. MR. and MRS. RALPH ERNEST

WHITE JR., Route 7, Box 39-R, a girl, Tuesday.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 18 May 1949: 9 The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 02 Jan 1959: 7.



66TH ANNIVERSARY — Mr. and Mrs. George Lewis, 508 El Paso St., will celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary Wednesday. They were married Aug. 27, 1903, at Sims, Ark., and have lived in Austin for 36 years. They had 10 children, seven of whom are still living, 25 grandchildren and 40 great-grandchildren.

JESSIE GEORGE LEWIS

Jessle George Lewis, 85, of 508 El Paso died on Sunday at his residence.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Americas Lewis of Austin; six daughters, Mrs. Lorell Burnett and Mrs. Frank Smith, both of Kingsland, Mrs. Les Ramsey of California, Mrs. Jack Sandefur and Mrs. Barbara Livingston, both of Austin, and Mrs. Velma Stevenson of Freeport; a son, Calvin Collidge. Lewis of Austin; 25 grandchildren and 40 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Wilke-Clay Funeral Home, with Rev. Dr. Charles Petty, pastor of Fairview Baptist Church, officiating.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 24 Aug 1969: B16. The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 15 June 1970: 35.

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