

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION**  
**DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS**  
**FEBRUARY 7, 2024**  
**PR-2023-162417; GF-2024-005554**  
**1403 ELTON LANE**

**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1950 duplex.

**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story cross-gabled Ranch dwelling with stone veneer, a two-story rear addition, and a detached garage.

**RESEARCH**

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The house at 1403 Elton Lane was built in 1950 by Kelly DeBusk. It is unclear whether Kelly DeBusk, Sr. or Kelly DeBusk, Jr. is listed on the initial permit for the home, as both father and son were involved in the construction industry: DeBusk, Sr. as the manager of the Lamar Lumber Company, and DeBusk, Jr. as an architectural engineer and prominent Austin homebuilder. Kelly DeBusk, Sr. and his wife, Katie DeBusk, lived in the home until DeBusk, Sr.'s death in 1952. Katie DeBusk continued to live in the home until at least the 1960s, renting out half of the duplex to students, servicemen, and others. DeBusk was the only child of an early pioneering family in Bell County, and was active in charitable organizations and University of Texas service clubs until her death in 1971.

**PROPERTY EVALUATION**

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*Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark*

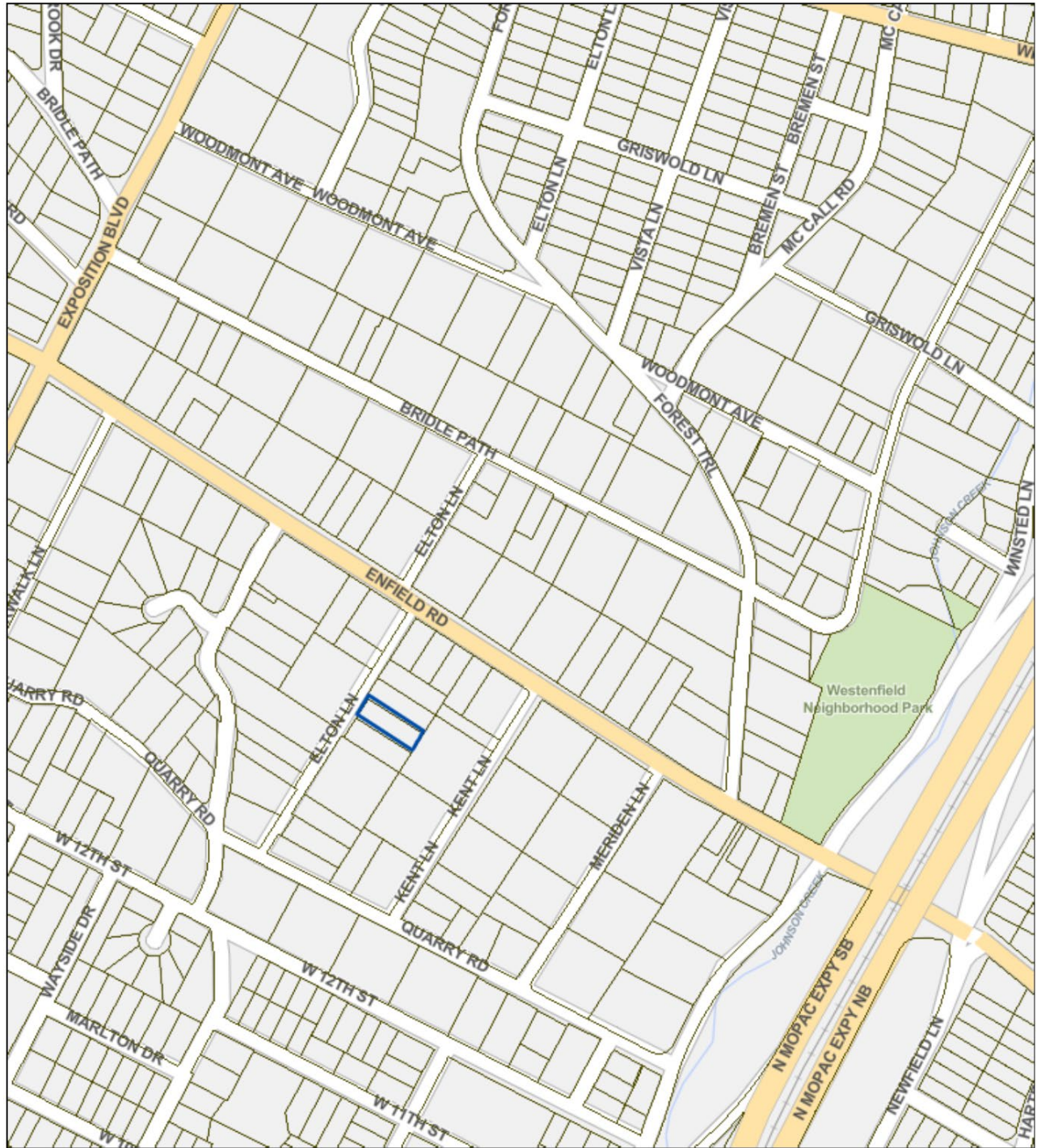
- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain moderate integrity. Modern outbuildings and a modern two-story addition have been added to the rear of the property, though they are set far back from the street. Windows have been replaced.
- 3) Properties must meet two 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 does not appear to convey architectural significance.
  - b. Historical association. The property is associated with the DeBusk family.
  - 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 was not evaluated for its ability 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**

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

# LOCATION MAP






1: 4800

1/19/2024

**GF 24-005554**

1403 ELTON LANE



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**PROPERTY INFORMATION***Photos*





*Demolition permit application, 2024*

*Occupancy History*

City Directory Research, January 2024

1959	Mrs. Katie DeBusk, owner
1955	Mrs. Katie DeBusk, owner – widow of K. S. DeBusk Charles M. Little, renter
1952	Kelly S. and Kate DeBusk, owners Eugene E. Rayland, renter
1949	Address not listed



pg. A10

## Bride-To-Be, Bride in News



Miss Katheryn McDonald



Mrs. R. M. Wiley

Photo by Jensen

Miss Katheryn McDonald, left, is a bride-to-be of the Easter season. Her engagement to Kelly DeBusk of Austin was announced Saturday afternoon at an elaborate tea given in her honor. She is the daughter of Mrs. Florence McDonald and Mr. DeBusk is the son of Mr. and Mrs. K. S.

DeBusk of Austin.

Mrs. R. M. Wiley was married last week Methodist parsonage in Bastrop. She is the sister of H. J. Eskew and was Miss Wilma before her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Wiley home at Pearsall for the present.

*The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 27 Mar 1938: A10.*

### KELLY S. DEBUSK SR.

Kelly S. Debusk Sr. died at his home at 1403 Elton Lane Wednesday. He was born Feb. 24, 1876 and moved to Austin in 1935. He was the manager of the Lamar Lumber Company and a member of the University Baptist Church.

Survivors are his widow, Mrs. Kelly DeBusk Sr.; two daughters, Mrs. Maurine Elkins of Sealy and Mrs. Helen Riddle of Austin; a son Kelly S. DeBusk Jr. of Austin; four grandchildren, and two brothers, J. R. DeBusk of Denison and Herman DeBusk of Arizona. Funeral services will be held from the Cook Funeral Home Friday at 2 p. m. Burial will be in the Capital Memorial Gardens.

*The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 01 May 1952: A2.*

# Housing Development Planned for S. Austin

Growing South Austin, given impetus by the location of the new Internal Revenue Service Center at the intersection of the Interregional Highway South and Ben White Boulevard, will get a new residential development during the summer and autumn months this year.

Purchase of 70 acres of land in that area by Kelly DeBusk for a consideration "in excess of \$100,000" for use as a subdivision of homes was announced here by Raymond Furr, president of the Austin Title Company.

The tract fronts 1,400 feet on Ben White Boulevard east of the Interregional Highway and is located approximately 400 yards from the Internal Revenue Service Center site. The tract was purchased from C. A. Freund, Alton Greeven and C. B. Smith.

DeBusk reportedly plans to build 200 homes in the \$12,000

class and up. About 1,300 feet of commercial property on Ben White Boulevard is included in the tract.

## Home Builders Meet Monday

The regular monthly meeting of the Austin Association of Home Builders will be held Monday at 6:30 p.m. in Austin Engineers and Associates Club, 602 West 7th Street. Bob Connelly, president, will preside.

Bill Youngblood, president of the Terminix Company, will discuss "How to Build Out Termites." He will suggest methods builders can apply in constructing new homes which, at little or no cost, will reduce termite and other insect infestation.

The social hour for the evening will be sponsored by the Capitol Aggregates, Inc.

*The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 10 June 1962: C12.*



**BUILDER COMBINES ART SHOW, OPEN HOUSE**  
Kelly DeBusk, the artist, relaxes at easel

# Artist To Technician To Artist

Artist to technician to artist. This is the story of Kelly DeBusk and it's an interesting one.

And, the prominent Austin home builder will exhibit his dual talents Sunday with a one-man art show and an open house in a new model at 6100 Highlandale, just off Bullcreek Road in Northwest Hills.

The exceptional artistic talents of DeBusk became apparent at the age of 10 when, in Temple, Texas, one of the city's leading artists began giving him private instructions with hopes of directing him into a career in art.

During the years that followed DeBusk did follow this course and, in the early 30's entered Texas Christian University as an art major, where he studied under the renowned S. P. Ziegler.

In 1933, he transferred to UT to further his training under the direction of Professors Gideon and Everett. During this period many DeBusk paintings were sold by the Bradford Galleries.

UT, at the time, did not have a school of fine arts, so DeBusk enrolled as an architectural engineering student. After taking all the art courses offered by the University, he transferred to Art Center School at Los Angeles.

These, of course, were lean days for artists, thus DeBusk turned to the home building and

Commercial construction industries for livelihood.

With his architectural and engineering training, and as the son of a Temple lumberman, the building industry was a natural choice and, as the past 30 years will testify, a wise one.

DeBusk built his first home on Indian Trail in 1938, which was then on the western edge of the city.

Except for the war years, DeBusk's main interest remained with home building.

"During all this time I was still painting, if only in my mind," DeBusk said. "But I also felt home building gave me an opportunity to use creative skills in designing."

The net result is that DeBusk has provided thousands of Austinites with unique homes.

He continued to do so and Sunday he will reveal his talents with a combination open house and art show at 6100 Highlandale, in Northwest Hills.

The two story, two-and-a-half bath, four bedroom and study home is constructed of native stone trimmed in rich brown, rough sawn cedar, and surrounded with native trees.

*The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 25 Aug 1968: D15.*



**MRS. K. S. DeBUSK**

Funeral for Mrs. Katie DeBusk, 83, will be 3 p.m. Sunday at the Cook-Walden Funeral Home with Rev. Bill Glover officiating. Burial will be in Capital Memorial Gardens.

Palbearers will include Charles Wiltzius, Sherman DeBusk, Dr. Floyd S. Elkins, Arthur VonRosenberg, C. K. DeBusk, and Hal J. DeBusk.

Mrs. DeBusk died Friday.

She was a resident of Austin about 40 years. Mrs. DeBusk was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Maury, pioneers of Bell County. Her parents were among the first to buy property when Temple was laid off as a townsite. She was born in Temple, Dec. 14, 1887.

She was a member of the University Baptist Church and was active in the Rebecca Sunday School Class. Mrs. DeBusk was a member of the University Dames, Bluebonnet Chapter of the Grandmother Club and the Kingsdaughters.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Maurine Elkins of Levelland and Mrs. J. T. (Helen) Riddle of Austin; one son, Kelly S. DeBusk of Carrizo Springs; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

*The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 19 Sep 1971: A6.*



## Permits

K. S. DeBusk

1403

~~1401~~ Elton Lane151 *Center*  
No. 70' of 6

5

Westfield "A"

Duplex

Stone Ven. & Fr. ~~Fr.~~ & Gar. Intregal.

45839 8-7-50

\$12000.00

Owner