

HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION
Compliance and Technical Advisory Board
April 18, 2025

HDRC CASE NO: 2025-088
ADDRESS: 711 MATAGORDA
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NCB 712 BLK 9 LOT S 77.05 FT OF 17
ZONING: RM-4, H
CITY COUNCIL DIST.: 1
DISTRICT: Lavaca Historic District
APPLICANT: Sherry Hess
OWNER: Sherry Hess/HESS SHERRY M
TYPE OF WORK: Fence replacement
APPLICATION RECEIVED: March 17, 2025
60-DAY REVIEW: May 16, 2025
CASE MANAGER: Caitlin Brown-Clancy

REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace the existing wooden frame cattle panel style fence in the exact same location as existing with a metal cattle panel style fence featuring an operable vehicle gate at the rear and a pedestrian gate at the front entry walkway.

APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

Historic Design Guidelines, Chapter 5, Guidelines for Site Elements

2. Fences and Walls

B. NEW FENCES AND WALLS

- i. *Design*—New fences and walls should appear similar to those used historically within the district in terms of their scale, transparency, and character. Design of fence should respond to the design and materials of the house or main structure.
- ii. *Location*—Avoid installing a fence or wall in a location where one did not historically exist, particularly within the front yard. The appropriateness of a front yard fence or wall is dependent on conditions within a specific historic district. New front yard fences or wall should not be introduced within historic districts that have not historically had them.
- iii. *Height*—Limit the height of new fences and walls within the front yard to a maximum of four feet. The appropriateness of a front yard fence is dependent on conditions within a specific historic district. New front yard fences should not be introduced within historic districts that have not historically had them. If a taller fence or wall existed historically, additional height may be considered. The height of a new retaining wall should not exceed the height of the slope it retains.
- iv. *Prohibited materials*—Do not use exposed concrete masonry units (CMU), Keystone or similar interlocking retaining wall systems, concrete block, vinyl fencing, or chain link fencing.
- v. *Appropriate materials*—Construct new fences or walls of materials similar to fence materials historically used in the district. Select materials that are similar in scale, texture, color, and form as those historically used in the district, and that are compatible with the main structure. Screening incompatible uses—Review alternative fence heights and materials for appropriateness where residential properties are adjacent to commercial or other potentially incompatible uses.

FINDINGS:

- a. The primary structure at 711 Matagorda is a 1-story, single-family residence constructed circa 1920 in the Craftsman style. The structure features a side gable metal roof, overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails, wood cladding, a deep-set front porch with wood columns on brick bases, and one-over-one wood windows. The property is contributing to the Lavaca Historic District.

- b. FENCING (LOCATION & HEIGHT) – The applicant is requesting to replace the existing 4’0” wooden and cattle panel style fence with a 4’0” all-galvanized metal cattle panel style fence in the same location and at the same height as the existing fence. The Guidelines for Site Elements 2.B.ii and iii state that fences should generally be installed where only where one historically existed and that front yard fences should not exceed 4’0” in height. Staff finds the proposed location and height appropriate and consistent with the Guidelines.
- c. FENCING (MATERIAL) – The applicant is requesting to install an all-galvanized metal cattle panel style fence. Guideline 2.B.v states that new fences should be constructed of materials similar to fence materials historically used in the district. The Lavaca Historic District features both metal and wooden front yard fences. Staff finds the proposed material appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the installation of a fully metal cattle panel style fence with the following stipulation;

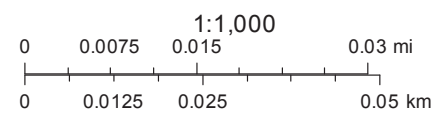
- Fence to feature 4x4 posts, a 2x4 bottom rail, 2x4 top rails and 1x2 interior trim installed on the panel side of each post.

City of San Antonio One Stop



March 29, 2021

— User drawn lines



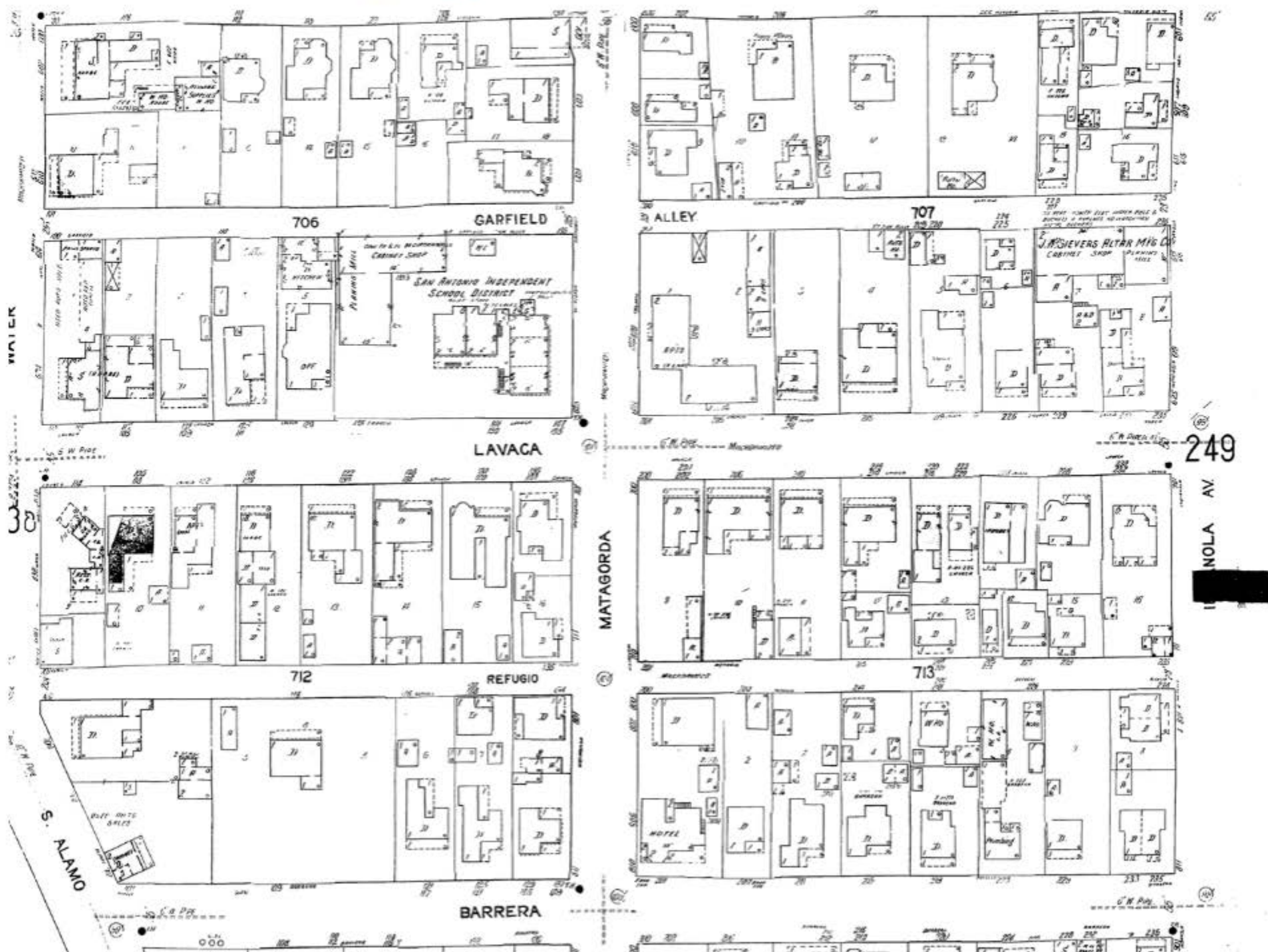
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711
MATAGORDA

**Certified
WILDLIFE
Habitat**
This property has been certified as a wildlife habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. It is a place where wildlife can thrive and where people can enjoy nature.
NWF
NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION
nwf.org







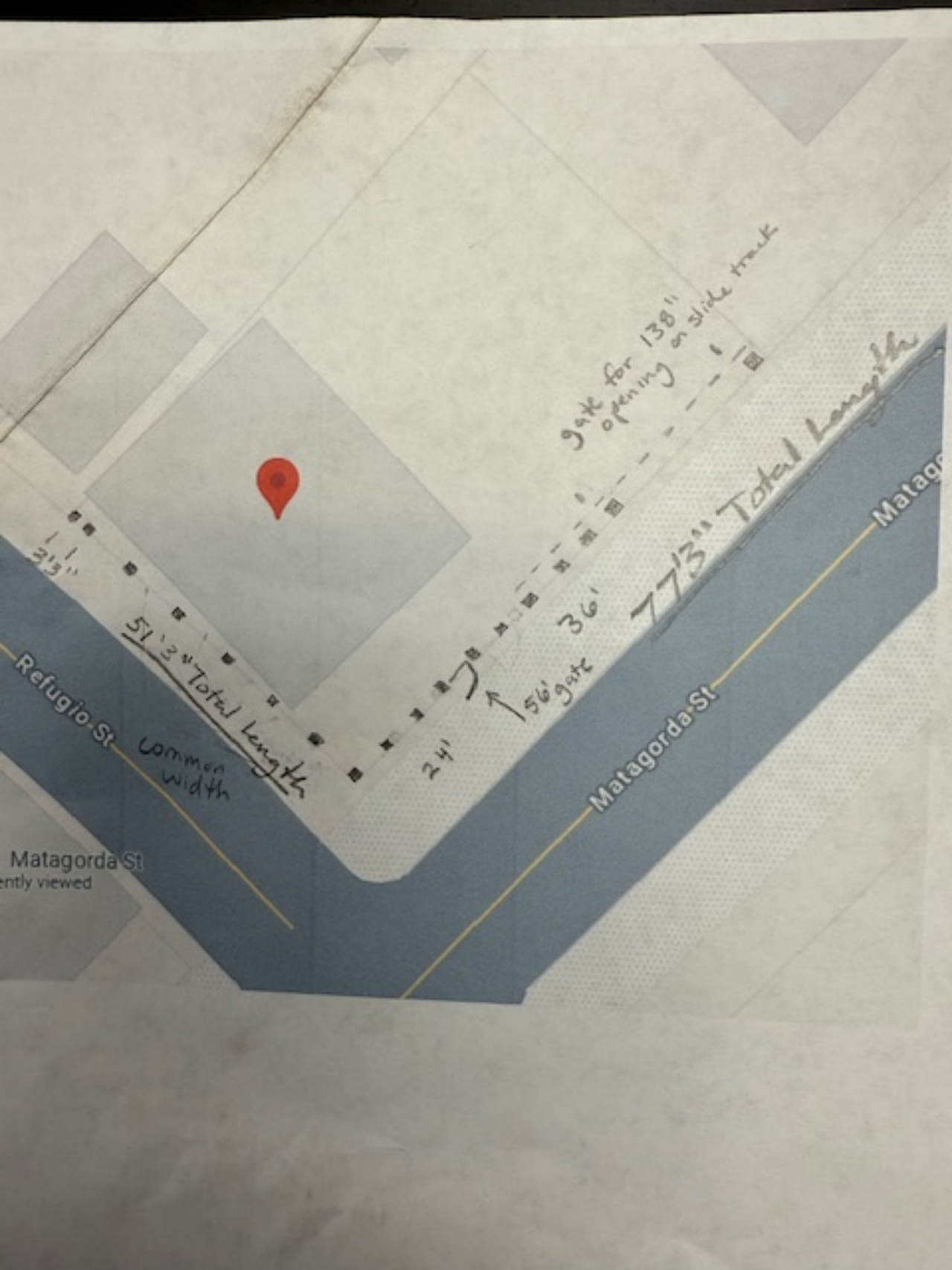


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ADT
SECURITY







Matagorda St
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