HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION October 20, 2021

HDRC CASE NO: 2021-497

ADDRESS: 1115 WYOMING

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NCB 611 BLK E 1-2 14 LOT 15

ZONING: RM-4 CITY COUNCIL DIST.: 2

APPLICANT: OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

OWNER: KNEIFEL ALICE FBO & NJUS JOANNE KAY FBO TYPE OF WORK: Recommendation for Historic Landmark Designation

CASE MANAGER: Jessica Anderson

REQUEST:

The Office of Historic Preservation is requesting a recommendation from the Historic and Design Review Commission regarding designation of the property at 1115 Wyoming.

APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

Unified Development Code Sec. 35-606. - Designation Process for Historic Landmarks.

a. Authority. Requests for landmark designation may only be made by or with the concurrence of the property owner. In instances where a property owner does not consent to the landmark designation, the historic preservation officer shall request a resolution from city council to proceed with the designation process prior to any zoning commission hearing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a request for landmark designation may be made and approved by the city council. To the extent that this subsection conflicts with any other provisions of this chapter, this paragraph shall control except for buildings, objects, sites, structures, or clusters heretofore designated as local landmarks or districts, National Register landmarks or districts, state historic landmarks or sites, or state archaeological landmarks or sites. Additionally, requests for designation shall be made on a form obtained from the city historic preservation officer through the office of historic preservation. Completed request forms shall be returned to the office of historic preservation for processing. All buildings, objects, sites, structures, or clusters heretofore designated by the city council as historic landmarks under any pre-existing ordinance of the City of San Antonio shall be accorded the protection of properties designated historic landmarks under this chapter and shall continue to bear the words "historic, exceptional" (HE) or "historic, significant" (HS) in their zoning designation.

b. Designation of Historic Landmarks.

- 1. **Initiation**. Any person, the historic and design review commission, zoning commission, the historic preservation officer, or the city council may initiate a historic landmark designation by filing an application with the historic preservation officer. Requests for designation shall be made on a form obtained from the city historic preservation officer. Completed request forms shall be returned to the office of historic preservation for processing. Owner consent for historic landmark designation shall be required unless a city council resolution to proceed with the designation has been approved. Additionally, owners may submit with the application a written description and photographs or other visual material of any buildings or structures that they wish to be considered for designation as non-contributing to the historic landmark.
- 2. **Decision.** The historic preservation officer shall refer a completed application for historic landmark designation to the historic and design review commission. Property owners of proposed historic landmarks shall be notified of the historic and design review commission hearing by the historic preservation officer by mail prior to a historic and design review commission hearing for historic landmark designation. Notice to property owners shall state the place, date, time and purpose of the historic and design review commission hearing. The historic preservation officer shall also send notice of the meeting to any registered neighborhood associations located within the proposed district boundary. The historic and design review commission shall make and forward its recommendation to the zoning commission within forty-five (45) days from the date of submittal of the designation request by the historic preservation officer. Upon submittal of the historic and design review commission's recommendation, the proposed historic district or landmark designation shall be submitted to the zoning commission for its review recommendations along with its finding of historic significance. The zoning commission and the city council shall process the application as prescribed in section 35-421 of this chapter and this section. The zoning commission shall schedule a hearing on the historic and design review commission recommendation to be held within sixty (60) days of receipt of

such recommendation and shall forward its recommendation to city council which shall schedule a hearing to be held within sixty (60) days of council's receipt of such recommendation. Upon passage of any ordinance designating a historic landmark, or removing or upgrading the designation of historic, the city clerk shall send notice of the fact by mail to the owner or owners of affected property.

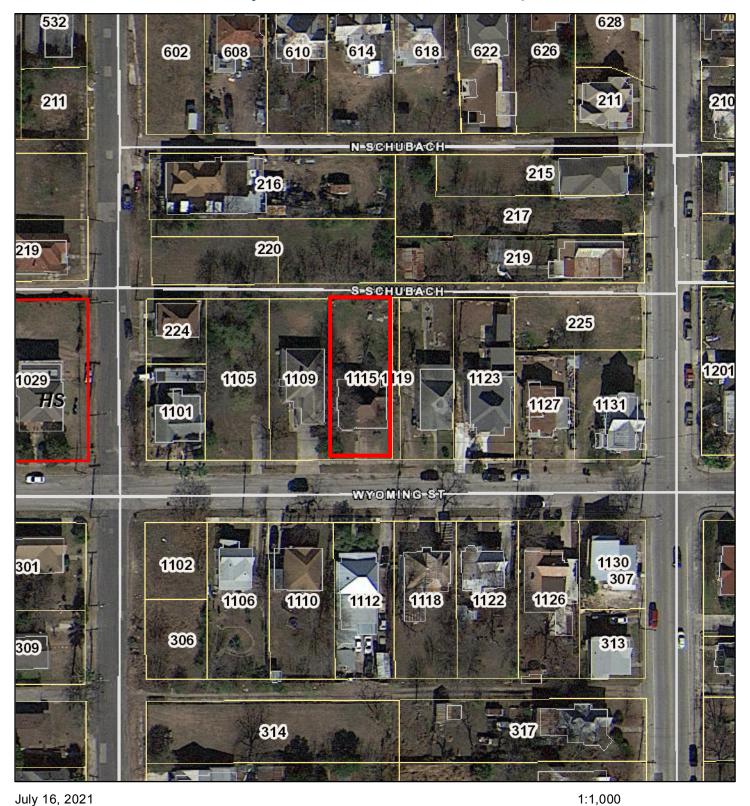
FINDINGS:

- a. On July 21, 2021, the Historic and Design Review Commission approved a Finding of Historic Significance for the property at 1115 Wyoming. On September 16, 2021, City Council approved Resolution 2021-09-16-0046R initiating a change in zoning for the property to include a historic landmark overlay. As a step in the zoning process, a recommendation regarding the proposed designation is required from the HDRC.
- b. On September 30, 2021, the Texas Historical Commission (THC) determined that 1115 Wyoming is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B in the areas of Ethnic Heritage: Black and Social History: Civil Rights at the local level of significance. The THC letter is included in the exhibits.
- c. The City offers a tax incentive for the substantial rehabilitation of historic properties because historic landmarks possess cultural and historical value and contribute to the overall quality and character of the City and its neighborhoods. If historic designation is approved, rehabilitation and restoration work may be eligible for this incentive. State and Federal tax incentives are also available for properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places and provide substantial relief for rehabilitation projects.
- d. City Council has the ultimate authority to approve the historic designation zoning overlay. A recommendation from HDRC will be forwarded to City Council.
- e. Per UDC Sec. 35-453, once the commission makes a recommendation for designation, property owners must receive a written approval (a Certificate of Appropriateness) for any exterior work until the City Council makes their final decision.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Historic and Design Review Commission recommend approval of historic landmark designation of 1115 Wyoming based on findings a and b.

City of San Antonio One Stop



CoSA Addresses

Community Service Centers

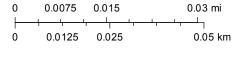
Pre-K Sites COSA City Limit Boundary

Historic Districts

Zoning Overlay Label

BCAD Parcels

Historic Landmark Sites



Bexar CAD

Property Search Results > 106542 KNEIFEL ALICE FBO & Tax Year: 2021 NJUS JOANNE KAY FBO for Year 2021

Property

Α	C	c	O	u	n	t

Property ID: 106542 Legal Description: NCB 611 BLK E 1/2 14 LOT

15

Geographic ID: 00611-014-0150 Zoning: RM-4 Type: Real Agent Code: 2887168

Property Use Code: 001

Property Use Description: Single Family

Protest

Protest Status: PHONEFO(TELEPHONE CONF FORMAL HEARING)

Informal Date: Formal Date:

Location

Address: 1115 WYOMING ST Mapsco: 617B6

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78203

Neighborhood: S. OF COMMERCE TO M.L.K. (SA Map ID: Neighborhood CD: 57101 E-File Eligible

Owner

Name: KNEIFEL ALICE FBO & NJUS JOANNE KAY FBO

Mailing Address: % QUEST TRUST

> 17171 PARK ROW DR #100 HOUSTON, TX 77084

Owner ID: 3262772

% Ownership: 100.0000000000%

Exemptions:

Values

\$37,470 (+) Improvement Homesite Value: (+) Improvement Non-Homesite Value: + \$0

(+) Land Homesite Value: \$92,000

(+) Land Non-Homesite Value: \$0 Ag / Timber Use Value + (+) Agricultural Market Valuation: \$0 \$0 \$0 (+) Timber Market Valuation:

\$0

(=) Market Value: \$129,470

(–) Ag or Timber Use Value Reduction: \$0

(=) Appraised Value: \$129,470 =

(-) HS Cap: \$0

(=) Assessed Value: \$129,470

Taxing Jurisdiction

Owner: KNEIFEL ALICE FBO & NJUS JOANNE KAY FBO

% Ownership: 100.0000000000%

Total Value: \$129,470

Entity	Description	Tax Rate	Appraised Value	Taxable Value	Estimated Tax
06	BEXAR CO RD & FLOOD	0.023668	\$129,470	\$129,470	\$30.65
08	SA RIVER AUTH	0.018580	\$129,470	\$129,470	\$24.06
09	ALAMO COM COLLEGE	0.149150	\$129,470	\$129,470	\$193.11
10	UNIV HEALTH SYSTEM	0.276235	\$129,470	\$129,470	\$357.64
11	BEXAR COUNTY	0.277429	\$129,470	\$129,470	\$359.19
21	CITY OF SAN ANTONIO	0.558270	\$129,470	\$129,470	\$722.79
57	SAN ANTONIO ISD	1.502300	\$129,470	\$129,470	\$1,945.02
CAD	BEXAR APPRAISAL DISTRICT	0.000000	\$129,470	\$129,470	\$0.00
SA011	San Antonio TIF #11 Inner City	0.000000	\$129,470	\$129,470	\$0.00
	Total Tax Rate:	2.805632			
				Taxes w/Current Exemptions:	\$3,632.46
				Taxes w/o Exemptions:	\$3,632.46

Improvement / Building

Improvement #1:	Residential	State Code:	A1	Livin Area		02.0	sqft	Value:	\$37,470
Туре	Description	ſ	Clas CD	SS	Exterior \	Wall	Year Buil	t so	QFT
LA	Living Area		A - \	NS			1920	15	02.0
OP	Attached Op	oen Porch	A - N	NO			1920	28	7.0

Land

#	Туре	Description	Acres	Sqft	Eff Front	Eff Depth	Market Value	Prod. Value
1	RES	R/1 Family not Farm Single	0.1691	7367.00	53.00	139.00	\$92,000	\$0

Roll Value History

Year	Improvements	Land Market	Ag Valuation	Appraised	HS Cap	Assessed
2021	\$37,470	\$92,000	0	129,470	\$0	\$129,470
2020	\$36,130	\$76,430	0	112,560	\$0	\$112,560
2019	\$38,470	\$61,150	0	99,620	\$65,271	\$34,349
2018	\$32,300	\$61,150	0	93,450	\$62,224	\$31,226
2017	\$25,120	\$33,060	0	58,180	\$29,793	\$28,387

Deed History - (Last 3 Deed Transactions)

# Deed Date	Туре	Description	Grantor	Grantee	Volume	Page	Deed Number
1 12/18/2020	GWD	General Warranty Deed	218 OPAL HOMES LLC	KNEIFEL ALICE FBO & NJUS JOANNE KAY FBO			20200312911

2	7/8/2019	GWD	General Warranty Deed	VALENCIA NORMA I	218 OPAL HOMES LLC	20190131861
3	3/14/2003	DD	Divorce Decree	VALENCIA JOE GONZALO &	VALENCIA NORMA I	2002-CI-17908

2021 data current as of Jun 15 2021 1:21AM. 2020 and prior year data current as of Jun 4 2021 5:03PM For property information, contact (210) 242-2432 or (210) 224-8511 or email. For website information, contact (210) 242-2500.

Website version: 1.2.2.33

Database last updated on: 6/15/2021 1:21 AM

© N. Harris Computer Corporation

RESOLUTION 2021-09-16-0046R

TO INITIATE HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION FOR 1115 WYOMING STREET, LOCATED IN CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2, AND TO WAIVE APPLICATION FEES TOTALING \$3,372.92.

* * * * * *

WHEREAS, the City's historic preservation program is designed to preserve, protect, and enhance historically, culturally, architecturally, and archaeologically significant sites and structures which impart a distinct aspect to the city and serve as visible reminders of the city's culture and heritage; and

WHEREAS, on July 21, 2021, the Historic and Design Review Commission approved the finding of Historic Significance and recommended approval to initiate the Historic Landmark designation for 1115 Wyoming Street, located in the located in the Denver Heights neighborhood of City Council District 2; and

WHEREAS, City Council seeks to initiate historic landmark designation of 1115 Wyoming Street, San Antonio Texas in accordance with Texas Government Code Chapter 211 and City Code of San Antonio, Texas, Chapter 35, Unified Development Code; NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. City Council hereby directs city staff to initiate historic landmark designation of the property located at 1115 Wyoming Street, San Antonio Texas 78203, and waive all related application fees, totaling \$3,372.92.

SECTION 2. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage by eight affirmative votes; otherwise it shall be effective on the tenth day after passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 16th day of September 2021.

M A Y O R

Ron Nirenberg

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Andrew Segovia, City Attorney



City of San Antonio

City Council Meeting September 16, 2021

27.

2021-09-09-0046R

Resolution to initiate historic landmark designation for 1115 Wyoming Street located in City Council District 2 and waive application fees. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; ShanonShea Miller, Director, Office of Historic Preservation].

Councilmember Sandoval moved to Approve on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Cabello Havrda seconded the motion. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

AYE:

Nirenberg, McKee-Rodriguez, Viagran, Rocha Garcia, Castillo, Cabello Havrda,

Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, Perry

No:

Bravo

Jessica L. Anderson (OHP)

From: Bonnie Tipton Wilson <Bonnie.Wilson@thc.texas.gov>

Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 1:04 PM **To:** Jessica L. Anderson (OHP); Gregory W. Smith

Cc: Jenny Hay (OHP); Alyssa Gerszewski

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for eligibility determination: 1115 Wyoming

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Jessica,

NR program staff met today to review the determination of eligibility request you submitted for 1115 Wyoming. We agreed the building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B in the areas of Ethnic Heritage: Black and Social History: Civil Rights at the local level of significance.

The documentation strongly supports an argument for the house's significance as the home of John A. Grumbles, an early 20th century reformer who founded San Antonio's first NAACP chapter in 1919. Although Grumbles died in 1921, only three years after the chapter's founding, his leadership was paramount to its establishment and early success. He also owned considerable property on San Antonio's east side and purchased land at Hackberry and Center Streets in 1918 where the NAACP chapter first met. (See *San Antonio Light*, August 18, 1925, pg.16) The house at 1115 Wyoming has a direct association with Grumbles; he and Ella built it in 1898 and he lived there until his sudden passing in 1921. The building appears to retain good integrity to communicate its historical significance.

The narrative indicated Ella Grumbles' activism was equally significant, but we would need to see additional evidence to justify extending the period of significance to 1948 when she moved from the house. We would encourage an applicant to do further research on Ella C. Grumbles. It is further recommended that a draft nomination identify other influential individuals associated with the chapter's formation to distinguish John A. Grumbles' contributions.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Tipton Wilson

Historian, National Register Program History Programs Division P.O. Box 12276 Austin, TX 78711-2276 P: 512-463-6046 F: 512-463-5750





Bonnie Tipton Wilson

Historian, Federal Programs
History Programs Division
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711-2276
Phone: +1 512 463 6046

thc.texas.gov

Fax: +1 512 463 5750



From: Jessica L. Anderson (OHP) < Jessica. Anderson@sanantonio.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 3:00 PM **To:** Gregory W. Smith < Greg. Smith@thc.texas.gov>

Cc: Jenny Hay (OHP) <Jenny.Hay@sanantonio.gov>; Alyssa Gerszewski <Alyssa.Gerszewski@thc.texas.gov>; Bonnie

Tipton Wilson <Bonnie.Wilson@thc.texas.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for eligibility determination: 1115 Wyoming

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Thanks!

J

From: Gregory W. Smith < Greg. Smith@thc.texas.gov> Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 2:50 PM

To: Jessica L. Anderson (OHP) < Jessica. Anderson@sanantonio.gov>

Cc: Jenny Hay (OHP) < Jenny. Hay@sanantonio.gov>; Alyssa Gerszewski < Alyssa. Gerszewski@thc.texas.gov>; Bonnie

Tipton Wilson <Bonnie.Wilson@thc.texas.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for eligibility determination: 1115 Wyoming

We are going to meet to discuss it tomorrow morning, so I'll get back to you in the afternoon.

Greg

Gregory W. Smith

From: Jessica L. Anderson (OHP) < <u>Jessica.Anderson@sanantonio.gov</u>>

Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 2:48 PM **To:** Gregory W. Smith < Greg. Smith@thc.texas.gov>

Cc: Jenny Hay (OHP) < <u>Jenny.Hay@sanantonio.gov</u>>; Alyssa Gerszewski < <u>Alyssa.Gerszewski@thc.texas.gov</u>>; Bonnie

Tipton Wilson < Bonnie. Wilson@thc.texas.gov >

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for eligibility determination: 1115 Wyoming

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Hi, Greg.

Checking in on this request. I have to post the case file by noon Friday (Oct 1), and I'd like to include THC's finding.

Let me know if I can provide any further info! Jess

From: Gregory W. Smith < <u>Greg.Smith@thc.texas.gov</u>>

Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 4:19 PM

To: Jessica L. Anderson (OHP) < Jessica. Anderson@sanantonio.gov>

Cc: Jenny Hay (OHP) < Jenny. Hay@sanantonio.gov >; Alyssa Gerszewski < Alyssa. Gerszewski@thc.texas.gov >; Bonnie

Tipton Wilson <Bonnie.Wilson@thc.texas.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for eligibility determination: 1115 Wyoming

OK. We'll have a look at it and get back with you by the end of next week.

Greg



Gregory W. Smith

Federal Programs Coordinator History Programs Division P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711-2276 Phone: +1 512 463 6013

thc.texas.gov

Fax: 512.475.3122



From: Jessica L. Anderson (OHP) < <u>Jessica.Anderson@sanantonio.gov</u>>

Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 1:35 PM
To: Gregory W. Smith < Greg.Smith@thc.texas.gov >
Cc: Jenny Hay (OHP) < Jenny.Hay@sanantonio.gov >

Subject: Request for eligibility determination: 1115 Wyoming

CAUTION: External Email – This email originated from outside the THC email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi, Greg.

OHP requests a determination of eligibility for the property at 1115 Wyoming. Please see the attached statement of significance, which includes current color photographs, a history of the property, and a current map.

Owners: Joanne Njus and Alice Kneifel

C/O Quest Trust

17171 Park Row Dr #100 Houston, Texas 77804

Joanne Njus: 210-912-2987, njusgroup@gmail.com Alice Kneifel: 210-219-6294, alice kneifel@gmail.com

Staff determined the property is eligible for local landmark designation after the owner requested demolition review. On July 21, 2021, the HDRC recommended a Finding of Historic Significance to City Council. The Council agreed with the property's eligibility, and on September 16, 2021, it instructed city staff to initiate the change in zoning to include landmark designation via City Council resolution. The case is scheduled to return to HDRC to consider City Council's recommendation for designation next month; the date is TBC, but likely either October 6 or October 21. I can update you on their action after the hearing if it's helpful.

If I can provide further information, don't hesitate to call or email.

Thanks!

Jess

////

Jessica L. Anderson, M.S.H.P.
Historic Preservation Specialist | ScoutSA | City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation
jessica@sapreservation.com | (210) 207-7984

sapreservation.com

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HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION COMMISSION ACTION

This is not a Certificate of Appropriateness and cannot be used to acquire permits

July 21, 2021

HDRC CASE NO: 2021-314

ADDRESS: 1115 WYOMING ST

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NCB 611 BLK E 1-2 14 LOT 15

APPLICANT: OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION - 839966 PO BOX

OWNER: KNEIFEL ALICE FBO & NJUS JOANNE KAY FBO - 17171 PARK ROW DR #100

REQUEST:

The Office of Historic Preservation is requesting a Finding of Historic Significance for the property located at 1115 Wyoming St.

FINDINGS:

- a. On May 19, 2021, a demolition application was submitted to the Office of Historic Preservation by Gillermo Zertuche of JR Ramon Demolition on behalf of the property owner of 1115 Wyoming, located in the Denver Heights neighborhood of City Council District 2. OHP staff researched the property to determine eligibility during the 30-day review period provided by UDC 35-455. OHP contacted the owner on June 14, 2021, to inform them that preliminary evidence suggested the home may be significant and to arrange a site visit.
- b. If the HDRC agrees with the request, OHP will seek concurrence from the owner. If the owner is in favor of designation, the request may proceed in the designation process and will be presented to the Zoning Commission. In the case where an owner is not in favor, OHP must first forward the recommendation of the HDRC to City Council for consideration of a resolution to initiate the landmark designation process as outlined in UDC 35-606. If the HDRC does not agree with the request, a resolution from City Council to initiate the landmark designation will not be sought.
- c. DEMOLITION AND DESIGNATIONS COMMITTEE: The Demolition & Designation Committee (DDC) held a site visit on June 29, 2021. Notes are included in the case file.
- HISTORIC CONTEXT: The structure at 1115 Wyoming is a single-story Queen Anne residence built in 1898 for John A. Grumbles. It is located in the Denver Heights neighborhood of City Council District 2. Joanne Njus and Alice Kneifel currently own the property. John A Grumbles married Ella in November 1897, just a couple months before purchasing the lot on Wyoming. John purchased the lot in January 1898, and in March 1898, he was granted a building permit for a one-story dwelling. The house first appears in an 1898 article about the home's construction, which states, "Mail Agent J. A. Grumbles is building a five-room cottage at 715 Wyoming...It will be six weeks before it is occupied." John was responsible for creation of the San Antonio branch of the NAACP, organized in 1918 with 503 members after John called together a group of people "he felt had leadership ability and concern for the conditions that were allowed to exist" for Black residents of San Antonio. The chapter grew guickly, and by 1920, it was named one of the seven largest branches of the NAACP in the nation. The chapter secured property for a community house where the Carver Community Center now stands and worked with the publishers of the San Antonio Express to "establish a \$100,000 reward fund to combat lynchings." Ella was active in local politics; she worked for the Citizens League, and in 1931, Ella was chosen as the primary speaker for a League meeting with "a crowd of about 400" attendees and at which Maury Maverick also spoke. John lived in the house until his death in 1921. Ella remained in the house until at least 1948; she passed away in 1952. The home retains a number of character-defining features of the Queen Anne style: a steeply hipped roof with lower cross gables, gable ornamentation, corner brackets above cutaway bay windows, and turned columns. Though the historic free-

standing wood columns have been replaced by metal, turned wood pilasters are visible on the wraparound porch. The configuration of the main roof mass relative to the front gable and separate porch roof supports a build date between 1895 and 1905. Denver Heights is an historically black neighborhood located on San Antonio's near east side. Staff surveyed the block as part of the original 36 Square Mile survey in 2005 and found it to be an eligible local historic district. Should the neighborhood choose to pursue designation, 1115 Wyoming would contribute to the historic district.

- e. SITE CONTEXT: The structure at 1115 Wyoming is located on a block bounded by Wyoming St to the south, S Pine St to the east, N Schubach St to the North and S Olive St to the west. The historically unnamed alley that runs east-west across the center of the block is now called S Schubach St. The setback is about 20 feet, and there is a concrete sidewalk leading from the right-of-way to the front porch and door. The lot is largely covered in grass, with some old-growth trees growing very near the structure. The property sits about 10 feet east of a contemporary brick home.
- ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: The steeply hipped composition shingle roof has intersecting ornamented gables on each elevation. Commissioners from the Demolition and Designation Committee of the Historic and Design Review Commission observed a layer of either wood or slate shingle below the composition shingle roof. Further investigation may reveal the remains of the original roof cladding. The house is clad in wood lap siding with a stretches of faux brick skirting along the primary bay window and the porch, though wood lap is visible behind this faux brick where it has been pulled away from the house. The gable on the south/primary elevation is above a cutaway bay window with brackets at the corners and a decorative lintel over the center window. Wood windows on the primary elevation are one-over-one, while windows are secondary elevations are two-over-two. The front door has a transom and one side light to the east. Free-standing columns are metal, but pilasters along the porch are turned wood. Character-defining features include a steeply hipped roof with lower cross gables, wraparound porch, wood lap siding, gable ornamentation, turned wood porch columns, cutaway bay window with brackets on primary elevation, ornamented lintel above center window of the bay on the primary elevation, one-over-one wood windows on the primary elevation, and two-over-two wood windows on secondary elevations.
- f. EVALUATION: In order to be eligible for historic landmark designation, properties shall meet at least three (3) of the 16 criteria listed. Staff evaluated the structure against all 16 criteria and determined that it was consistent with UDC sec. 35-607(b):
- 1. Its value as a visible or archeological reminder of the cultural heritage of the community, or national event; 1115 Wyoming is located in an historically Black neighborhood and was built for a Black family who lived there for at least the first 50 years of the life of the house.
- 3. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the community, county, state, or nation; the house was built for John A. and Ella Grumbles, John was responsible for the creation of the San Antonio branch of the NAACP, and Ella was active in local politics.
- 5. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials; the house is an example of a single-story; the house is an example of a Queen Anne residence, and retains its historic footprint and character-defining features, such as its wood windows, steeply hipped roof with cross gables, gable and lintel ornamentation, wood lap siding, and turned wood porch columns.
- 13. It bears an important and significant relationship to other distinctive structures, sites, or areas, either as an important collection of properties or architectural style or craftsmanship with few intrusions, or by contributing to the overall character of the area according to the plan based on architectural, historic or cultural motif; the property is located in a neighborhood staff finds to be an eligible local historic district, Denver Heights.
- g. The City offers a tax incentive for the substantial rehabilitation of historic properties because historic landmarks possess cultural and historical value and contribute to the overall quality and character of the City and its neighborhoods. If historic designation is approved, rehabilitation and restoration work may be eligible for this incentive. State and Federal tax incentives are also available for properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places and provi de substantial relief for rehabilitation projects.
- h. Per UDC Sec. 35-453, once the Commission makes a recommendation for designation, property owners must receive a written approval (a Certificate of Appropriateness) for any exterior work until the City Council makes their final decision.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of a Finding of Historic Significance and direction to process a request on behalf of the HDRC to City Council to consider a resolution to initiate designation of 1115 Wyoming St based on findings a through g.

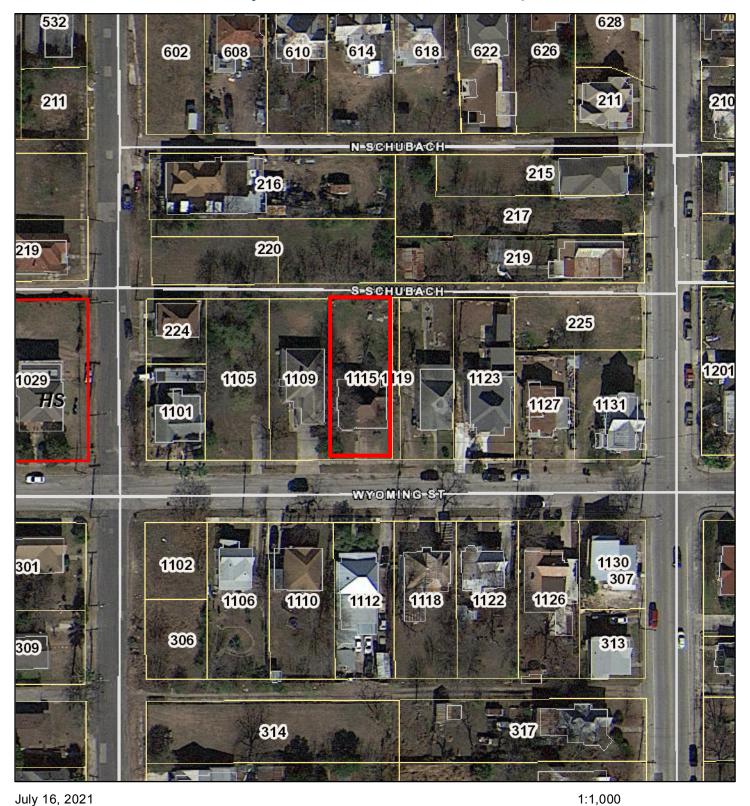
COMMISSION ACTION:

Approved as submitted.

Shanon Shea Miller

Historic Preservation Officer

City of San Antonio One Stop



CoSA Addresses

Community Service Centers

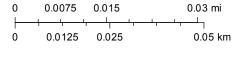
Pre-K Sites COSA City Limit Boundary

Historic Districts

Zoning Overlay Label

BCAD Parcels

Historic Landmark Sites



Bexar CAD

Property Search Results > 106542 KNEIFEL ALICE FBO & Tax Year: 2021 NJUS JOANNE KAY FBO for Year 2021

Property

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Property ID: Legal Description: NCB 611 BLK E 1/2 14 LOT 15

Geographic ID: 00611-014-0150 Zoning: RM-4
Type: Real Agent Code: 2887168

Property Use Code: 001

Property Use Description: Single Family

Protest

Protest Status: Informal Date: Formal Date:

Location

Address: 1115 WYOMING ST Mapsco: 617B6

SAN ANTONIO, TX 78203

Neighborhood: S. OF COMMERCE TO M.L.K. (SA Map ID: Neighborhood CD: 57101 E-File Eligible

Owner

Name: KNEIFEL ALICE FBO & NJUS JOANNE KAY FBO Owner ID: 3262772

Mailing Address: % QUEST TRUST % Ownership: 100.000000000%

17171 PARK ROW DR #100 HOUSTON, TX 77084

Exemptions:

Values

(+) Improvement Homesite Value: + \$8,000 (+) Improvement Non-Homesite Value: + \$0 (+) Land Homesite Value: + \$92,000

(+) Land Non-Homesite Value: + \$0 Ag / Timber Use Value

(+) Agricultural Market Valuation: + \$0 \$0

(+) Timber Market Valuation: + \$0 \$0

(=) Market Value: = \$100,000

(–) Ag or Timber Use Value Reduction: – \$0

(=) Appraised Value: = \$100,000

(–) HS Cap: – \$0

(=) Assessed Value: = \$100,000

Taxing Jurisdiction

Owner: KNEIFEL ALICE FBO & NJUS JOANNE KAY FBO

% Ownership: 100.000000000%

Total Value: \$100,000

Entity	Description	Tax Rate	Appraised Value	Taxable Value	Estimated Tax
06	BEXAR CO RD & FLOOD	0.023668	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$23.67
80	SA RIVER AUTH	0.018580	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$18.58
09	ALAMO COM COLLEGE	0.149150	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$149.15
10	UNIV HEALTH SYSTEM	0.276235	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$276.23
11	BEXAR COUNTY	0.277429	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$277.43
21	CITY OF SAN ANTONIO	0.558270	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$558.27
57	SAN ANTONIO ISD	1.502300	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$1,502.30
CAD	BEXAR APPRAISAL DISTRICT	0.000000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0.00
SA011	San Antonio TIF #11 Inner City	0.000000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0.00
	Total Tax Rate:	2.805632			
				Taxes w/Current Exemptions:	\$2,805.63
				Taxes w/o Exemptions:	\$2,805.63

Improvement / Building

Improvement #1:	Residential State Code:	A1 Livi		sqft \	Value: \$8,000
Туре	Description	Class CD	Exterior Wall	Year Built	SQFT
LA	Living Area	A - WS		1920	1502.0
OP	Attached Open Porch	A - NO		1920	287.0

Land

#	Туре	Description	Acres	Sqft	Eff Front	Eff Depth	Market Value	Prod. Value
1	RES	R/1 Family not Farm Single	0.1691	7367.00	53.00	139.00	\$92,000	\$0

Roll Value History

Year	Improvements	Land Market	Ag Valuation	Appraised	HS Cap	Assessed
2021	\$8,000	\$92,000	0	100,000	\$0	\$100,000
2020	\$36,130	\$76,430	0	112,560	\$0	\$112,560
2019	\$38,470	\$61,150	0	99,620	\$65,271	\$34,349
2018	\$32,300	\$61,150	0	93,450	\$62,224	\$31,226
2017	\$25,120	\$33,060	0	58,180	\$29,793	\$28,387

Deed History - (Last 3 Deed Transactions)

#	Deed Date	Туре	Description	Grantor	Grantee	Volume	Page	Deed Number
1	12/18/2020	GWD	General Warranty Deed	218 OPAL HOMES LLC	KNEIFEL ALICE FBO & NJUS JOANNE KAY FBO			20200312911
2	7/8/2019	GWD	General Warranty Deed	VALENCIA	218 OPAL			20190131861

				NORMA I	HOMES LLC	
3	3/14/2003	DD	Divorce Decree	VALENCIA JOE	VALENCIA	2002-CI-17908
				GONZALO &	NORMA I	

2021 data current as of Jul 16 2021 1:22AM.
2020 and prior year data current as of Jul 2 2021 6:19AM
For property information, contact (210) 242-2432 or (210) 224-8511 or email.

For website information, contact (210) 242-2500.

Website version: 1.2.2.33 Database last updated on: 7/16/2021 1:22 AM © N. Harris Computer Corporation



Statement of Significance

Property Address: 1115 Wyoming St

1. Application Details

Applicant: Office of Historic Preservation

Type: Request for Finding of Historic Significance

Date Received: 14 June 2021

2. Findings

The structure at 1115 Wyoming is a single-story Queen Anne residence built in 1898¹ for John A. Grumbles. It is located in the Denver Heights neighborhood of City Council District 2. Joanne Njus and Alice Kneifel currently own the property.

John A. Grumbles became a railway mail clerk in 1895 after successfully passing examination² and worked this position until his retirement. He and Ella married in November 1897, just a couple months before purchasing the lot on Wyoming. John purchased the lot in January 1898,³ and in March 1898, he was granted a building permit for a one-story dwelling.⁴ The house first appears in an 1898 article about the home's construction, which states, "Mail Agent J. A. Grumbles is building a five-room cottage at 715 Wyoming...It will be six weeks before it is occupied."⁵

John is listed in the 1880 census as "mulatto," an antiquated term used to describe a person who is Black-white multiracial; his father Benjamin was white, and his mother Rose was Black and likely born into slavery based on her age at the time of the census. John and his family—wife Ella and daughters Eleanor and May, all of whom resided at the Wyoming house—are later recorded as either Black or "mixed."

John was responsible for creation of the San Antonio branch of the NAACP, organized in 1918 with 503 members after John called together a group of people "he felt had leadership ability and concern for the conditions that were allowed to exist" for Black residents of San Antonio. The chapter grew quickly, and by 1920, it was named one of the seven largest branches of the NAACP in the nation. The chapter secured property for a community house where the Carver Community Center now stands and worked with the publishers of the San Antonio *Express* to "establish a \$100,000 reward fund to combat lynchings." Ella was active in local politics; she worked for the Citizens League, founded in 1928 by "prominent citizens" who "demanded honest elections, honest spending of bond proceeds, only two terms for officeholders, and an end

¹ "Building Permits Issued." San Antonio *Daily Light*, Wednesday, 2 March 1898, p. 7.

² "Their Records. Examination of the Railway Mail Clerks," San Antonio *Daily Light*, Friday, 26 April 1895, p. 4.

³ Bexar County Clerk (web site). Deed: Charles F. McKeen and Emma E. McKeen to J. A. Grumbles, 29 January 1989.

⁴ "Building Permits Issued." San Antonio *Daily Light*, Wednesday, 2 March 1898, p. 7.

⁵ "Along the Rails." San Antonio *Daily Light*, Wednesday, 6 April 1898, p. 8.

⁶ NAACPsanantoniobranch.com: About. Accessed 8 July 2021.

⁷ "San Antonio NAACP was once one of 7 largest NAACP branches in the nation." San Antonio *Register*, 15 October 1992, p. 3.

⁸ "Negro Speakers Talk to League: Ella C. Grumbles and H. M. Tarver Heard." San Antonio *Express*, Wednesday morning, 6 May 1931, p. 4.



to organized gambling." In 1931, Ella was chosen as the primary speaker for a League meeting with "a crowd of about 400" attendees and at which Maury Maverick also spoke. ¹⁰

John lived in the house until his death in 1921; by that time, it was addressed 1115 Wyoming. 11 Ella remained in the house until at least 1948; 12 she passed away in 1952.

The Queen Anne residence first appears on a Sanborn map in 1904, addressed 715 Wyoming. ¹³ Its footprint remains unchanged, though it lost a detached rear single-story outbuilding. The home retains a number of character-defining features of the Queen Anne style: a steeply hipped roof with lower cross gables, gable ornamentation, corner brackets above cutaway bay windows, and turned columns. Though the historic free-standing wood columns have been replaced by metal, turned wood pilasters are visible on the wraparound porch. The configuration of the main roof mass relative to the front gable and separate porch roof supports a build date between 1895 and 1905. ¹⁴

Denver Heights is an historically black neighborhood located on San Antonio's near east side. Staff surveyed the block as part of the original 36 Square Mile survey in 2005 and found it to be an eligible local historic district. Should the neighborhood choose to pursue designation, 1115 Wyoming would contribute to the historic district.

3. Architectural Description

The structure at 1115 Wyoming is a single-story Queen Anne residence built in 1898. It is located in the Denver Heights neighborhood of City Council District 2, on a block bounded by Wyoming St to the south, S Pine St to the east, N Schubach St to the North and S Olive St to the west. The alley that runs east-west across the center of the block is now called S Schubach St. The setback is about 20 feet, and there is a concrete sidewalk leading from the right-of-way to the front porch and door. The lot is largely covered in grass, with some old-growth trees growing very near the structure. The property sits about 10 feet east of a contemporary brick home.

The steeply hipped composition shingle roof has intersecting ornamented gables on each elevation. At a site visit on June 29, 2021, commissioners from the Demolition and Designation Committee of the Historic and Design Review Commission observed a layer of either wood or slate shingle below the composition shingle roof. Further investigation may reveal the remains of the original roof cladding. The house is clad in wood lap siding with a stretches of faux brick skirting along the primary bay window and the porch, though wood lap is visible behind this faux brick where it has been pulled away from the house. The gable on the south/primary elevation is above a cutaway bay window with brackets at the corners and a decorative lintel over the center window. Wood windows on the primary elevation are one-over-one, while windows are

⁹ Randolph, Nowlin. "San Antonio Citizens League." Handbook of Texas (online). Accessed 14 July 2021. https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/san-antonio-citizens-league.

¹⁰ "Negro Speakers Talk to League: Ella C. Grumbles and H. M. Tarver Heard." San Antonio *Express*, Wednesday morning, 6 May 1931, p. 4.

¹¹ San Antonio City Directory, 1921, p. 201.

¹² San Antonio City Directory, 1948, p. 1618.

¹³ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map: San Antonio, Texas, 1904, vol. 2, sheet 128.

¹⁴ McAlester, Virginia. A Field Guide to American Houses: The Definitive Guide to Identifying and Understanding America's Domestic Architecture. Knopf, 2015, p. 344-70.



secondary elevations are two-over-two. The front door has a transom and one side light to the east. Free-standing columns are metal, but pilasters along the porch are turned wood.

The rear porch is enclosed in contemporary wood siding with a sliding metal-sash window. The window nearest the northwest corner of the north elevation has been replaced with a smaller one-over-one wood window, but the original fenestration size is visible in the frame.

Character-defining features of 1115 Wyoming include:

- Steeply hipped roof with lower cross gables
- Wraparound porch
- Wood lap siding
- Gable ornamentation
- Turned wood porch columns
- Cutaway bay window with brackets on primary elevation
- Ornamented lintel above center window of the bay on the primary elevation
- One-over-one wood windows on the primary elevation
- Two-over-two wood windows on secondary elevations

4. Landmark Criteria

1115 Wyoming meets the following criteria under UDC 35-607(b):

- 1: Its value as a visible or archeological reminder of the cultural heritage of the community, or national event; 1115 Wyoming is located in an historically Black neighborhood and was built for a Black family who lived there for at least the first 50 years of the life of the house.
- 3: Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the community, county, state, or nation; the house was built for John A. and Ella Grumbles, John was responsible for the creation of the San Antonio branch of the NAACP, and Ella was active in local politics.
- 5: Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials; the house is an example of a single-story; the house is an example of a Queen Anne residence, and retains its historic footprint and character-defining features, such as its wood windows, steeply hipped roof with cross gables, gable and lintel ornamentation, wood lap siding, and turned wood porch columns.
- 13: It bears an important and significant relationship to other distinctive structures, sites, or areas, either as an important collection of properties or architectural style or craftsmanship with few intrusions, or by contributing to the overall character of the area according to the plan based on architectural, historic or cultural motif; the property is located in a neighborhood staff finds to be an eligible local historic district, Denver Heights.

5. Staff Recommendation

A property must meet at least three of the 16 criteria used to evaluate eligibility for landmark designation, and this assessment determines that 1115 Wyoming meets this threshold. Therefore, staff recommends a Finding of Historic Significance for the property at 1115 Wyoming. Further research may reveal additional significance associated with this property.



While not required by the Unified Development Code, this document has been prepared by OHP staff that meet the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualification standards for Architectural History as defined in 36 CFR Part 61.



North (primary) elevation.



West elevation with two-over-two windows.





South-facing gable with ornamentation and cutaway bay details. Note the ornamentation in the window lintel.



West elevation with gable ornamentation.





South (primary) and east elevations.



North elevation.







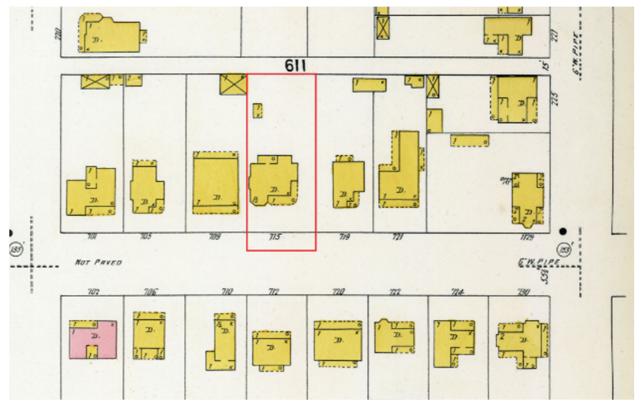
East elevation details: Gable and historic turned wood pilaster.





One-over-one and two-over-two wood windows on the porch.





Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1904, vol. 2, sheet 128.



DDC SITE VISIT: 1115 WYOMING

29 June 2021 | Time 5:15 PM

Summary prepared by the Office of Historic Preservation's ScoutSA Program

Case History:

- Demolition request received 19 May 2021
- Notice of potential eligibility (by phone) 14 June 2021
- Call with owner 22 June 2021, 11 AM

The structure at 1115 Wyoming is a single-story Queen Anne residence built 1898 for John A. and Ella Grumbles. It is located in the Denver Heights neighborhood of City Council District 2. Joanne Njus currently owns the property. John purchased the lot in January 1898, and in March 1898, he was granted a building permit for a one-story dwelling. The house first appears in an 1898 article about the home's construction, which states, "Mail Agent J. A. Grumbles is building a five-room cottage at 715 Wyoming...It will be six weeks before it is occupied."

John became a railway mail clerk in 1895 after successfully passing examination and worked this position until his retirement. He and Ella married in November 1897, just a couple months before purchasing the lot on Wyoming. John was responsible for creation of the San Antonio branch of the NAACP, organized in 1918 with 503 members after John called together a group of people "he felt had leadership ability and concern for the conditions that were allowed to exist" for Black residents of San Antonio. John lived in the house until his death in 1921; by that time, it was addressed 1115 Wyoming. Ella remained in the house until selling it in 1950; she passed away in 1952.

The Queen Anne residence first appears on a Sanborn map in 1904, addressed 715 Wyoming. Its footprint is unchanged other than loss of a detached rear single-story outbuilding. Further research may reveal additional significance associated with the property.

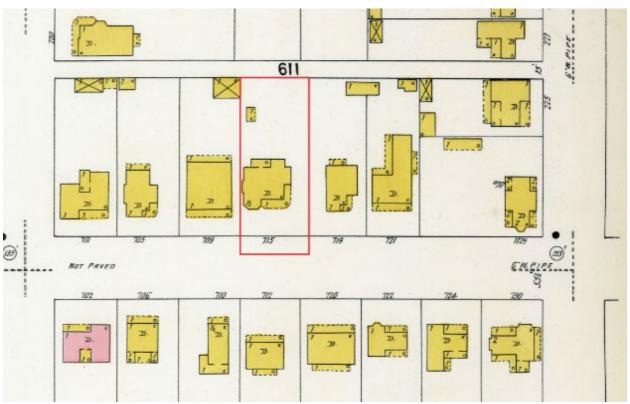
Eligible criteria under UDC Sec. 35-607(b):

- 1. Its value as a visible or archeological reminder of the cultural heritage of the community, or national event; 1115 Wyoming is located in an historically Black neighborhood and was built for a Black family who lived there for at least the first 50 years of the life of the house.
- 3. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the community, county, state, or nation; the house was built for John A. Grumbles, who was responsible for the creation of the San Antonio branch of the NAACP.
- 5. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials; the house is an example of a single-story; the house is an example of a Queen Anne residence, and retains its historic footprint.
- 13. It bears an important and significant relationship to other distinctive structures, sites, or areas, either as an important collection of properties or architectural style or craftsmanship with few intrusions, or by contributing to the overall character of the area according to the plan based on architectural, historic or cultural motif; the property is located in a neighborhood staff finds to be an eligible local historic district, Denver Heights.

1901 S. ALAMO ST, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78204







Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1904, vol. 2, sheet 128.

1901 S. ALAMO ST, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78204

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DDC Site Visit

29 June 2021 | 5:45 PM

1115 Wyoming
Request for Demolition Review/Finding of Historic Significance
HDRC Case #2021-314

In attendance

- Commissioners: Jeff Fetzer, Scott Carpenter

- Owner/owner rep: NA

- Staff: jenny hay, Jessica Anderson

- Other: Monica Savino (Conservation Society of SA)

Staff provided photos and videos of the interior and exterior of the subject structure along with a summary of staff's preliminary research prior to and at the meeting.

Fetzer: Has architectural integrity, but structural integrity is concerning.

Savino: What is the owner's plan?

Anderson: Plans to demolish and rebuild something residential, but hasn't confirmed replacement plans.

Carpenter: It's like everything shifted on the foundation.

Fetzer: It can be rehabbed on a new foundation. We've seen worse conditions. The only thing that shows serious racking is the rear west mast. It has architectural integrity and cultural integrity. The high-pitched roof leaves room for a rear addition with height matched to peak.

Carpenter: There's a lot of potential for rehab and new construction to maximize property value. There's too much integrity to demolish.

Fetzer: Staff should encourage the owner to tarp the roof to protect the interior from further damage. Lots of details remain—head details and trim, turned posts on the front porch.

OHP Staff Site Visit Photos 28 May 2021

















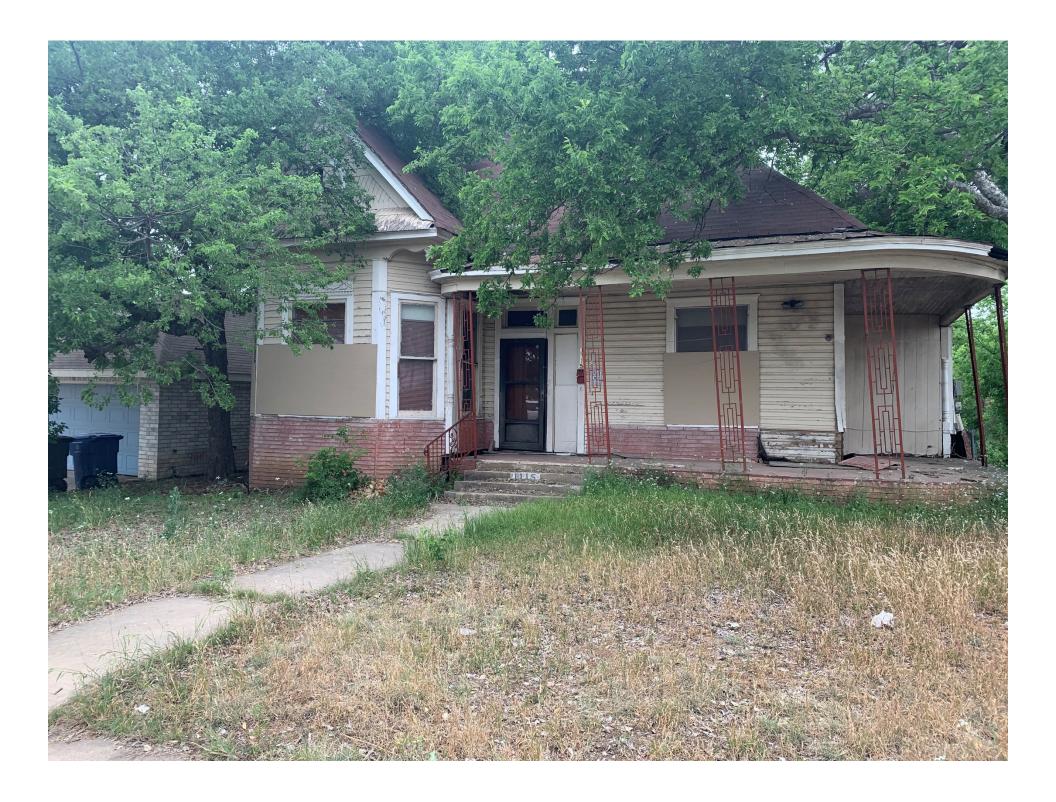




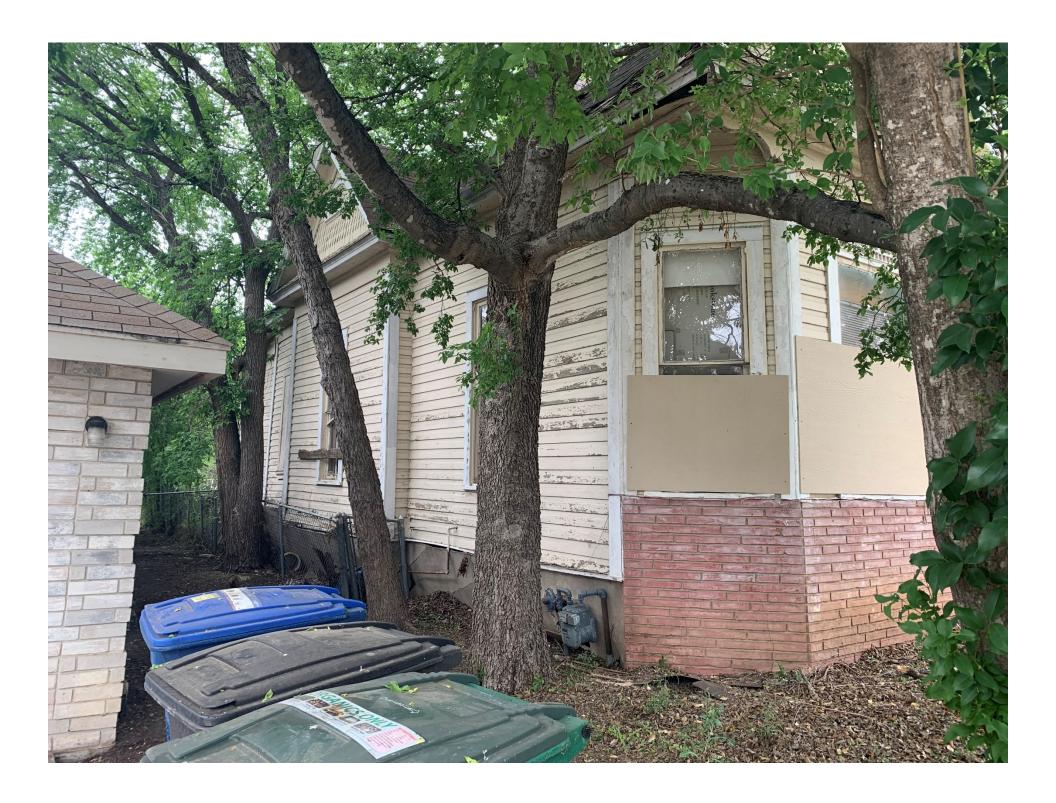














Jessica L. Anderson (OHP)

From: Claudia L. Walker <clwteacherdiva@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 8:28 AM

To: Jessica L. Anderson (OHP); Deborah Omowale Jarmon; Claudia Espinosa

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Grumbles property

Good morning I could not access the Google doc and I will not be available today but I would like to submit this written comment to be read at the hearing.

My name is Claudia L. Walker I reside at 141 Ozuna Drive Cibolo, TX 78108. I am sending this correspondence in reference to the property being considered for demolition. As a Black female, retired disabled veteran with 20 years of service in the United States Air Force and now an educator, I believe in service to the community. Mr. Grumbles served not only his community but also the nation directly and indirectly through his activity and service to the NAACP. In a time where ethnicity and cultural awareness should be at its peak in our country, we find ourselves at a crossroads. With no disrespect to the current property owner, I believe it is shameful to want to tear down a building that once belonged to an Icon in the community. This is a time to hold true and close to our hearts the triumphs and losses of our pasts. I am not a Texas native, but Texas has been my home for 24 years now. I am proud to say I live in Texas. There is so much rich Black history here and preserving the home of Mr. Grumbles should not even be in question. It should absolutely be protected and made as an educational piece to continue to educate and enlighten others who are not familiar with the rich Black history of San Antonio, TX. To be very clear, it has nothing to do with critical race theory, but everything to do with educating and enlightening everyone about the greatness that comes from San Antonio, TX.

Claudia L. Walker

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL SENDER OUTSIDE OF THE CITY.

Be cautious before clicking links or opening attachments from unknown sources. Do not provide personal or confidential information.



July 21, 2021

STATEMENT:

Historic and Design Review Commission, City of San Antonio

RE: Item 18: 1115 Wyoming

HDRC Case No.: 2021-314

The Conservation Society of San Antonio concurs with the OHP staff findings that the house at 1115 Wyoming meets four of the criteria for landmark designation. The Queen Anne home was built in 1898 for John Grumbles, one of the founders of the San Antonio Branch NAACP in 1918. The Conservation Society has worked closely with the San Antonio Branch NAACP in recent years and enthusiastically supports the designation and preservation of this important property.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF SAN ANTONIO

Kathy Rhoads, President