

# HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

June 16, 2021

**HDRC CASE NO:** 2021-252  
**ADDRESS:** 1951 W HUISACHE AVE  
**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** NCB 1951 BLK 19 LOT 13  
**ZONING:** R-6, H  
**CITY COUNCIL DIST.:** 7  
**DISTRICT:** Monticello Park Historic District  
**APPLICANT:** David Buchanan/Better by Design  
**OWNER:** Alex Hamilton/HAMILTON ALEX B  
**TYPE OF WORK:** Chimney removal  
**APPLICATION RECEIVED:** May 18, 2021  
**60-DAY REVIEW:** Not applicable due to City Council Emergency Orders  
**CASE MANAGER:** Rachel Rettaliata

## REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to remove one (1) existing rear chimney from the primary structure.

## APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

*Historic Design Guidelines, Chapter 2, Exterior Maintenance and Alterations*

### 2. Materials: Masonry and Stucco

#### A. MAINTENANCE (PRESERVATION)

- i. *Paint*—Avoid painting historically unpainted surfaces. Exceptions may be made for severely deteriorated material where other consolidation or stabilization methods are not appropriate. When painting is acceptable, utilize a water permeable paint to avoid trapping water within the masonry.
- ii. *Clear area*—Keep the area where masonry or stucco meets the ground clear of water, moisture, and vegetation.
- iii. *Vegetation*—Avoid allowing ivy or other vegetation to grow on masonry or stucco walls, as it may loosen mortar and stucco and increase trapped moisture.
- iv. *Cleaning*—Use the gentlest means possible to clean masonry and stucco when needed, as improper cleaning can damage the surface. Avoid the use of any abrasive, strong chemical, sandblasting, or high-pressure cleaning method.

#### B. ALTERATIONS (REHABILITATION, RESTORATION, AND RECONSTRUCTION)

- i. *Patching*—Repair masonry or stucco by patching or replacing it with in-kind materials whenever possible. Utilize similar materials that are compatible with the original in terms of composition, texture, application technique, color, and detail, when in-kind replacement is not possible. EIFS is not an appropriate patching or replacement material for stucco.
- ii. *Repointing*—The removal of old or deteriorated mortar should be done carefully by a professional to ensure that masonry units are not damaged in the process. Use mortar that matches the original in color, profile, and composition when repointing. Incompatible mortar can exceed the strength of historic masonry and results in deterioration. Ensure that the new joint matches the profile of the old joint when viewed in section. It is recommended that a test panel is prepared to ensure the mortar is the right strength and color.
- iii. *Removing paint*—Take care when removing paint from masonry as the paint may be providing a protectant layer or hiding modifications to the building. Use the gentlest means possible, such as alkaline poultice cleaners and strippers, to remove paint from masonry.
- iv. *Removing stucco*—Remove stucco from masonry surfaces where it is historically inappropriate. Prepare a test panel to ensure that underlying masonry has not been irreversibly damaged before proceeding.

### 3. Materials: Roofs

#### A. MAINTENANCE (PRESERVATION)

i. *Regular maintenance and cleaning*—Avoid the build-up of accumulated dirt and retained moisture. This can lead to the growth of moss and other vegetation, which can lead to roof damage. Check roof surface for breaks or holes and flashing for open seams and repair as needed.

#### B. ALTERATIONS (REHABILITATION, RESTORATION, AND RECONSTRUCTION)

i. *Roof replacement*—Consider roof replacement when more than 25-30 percent of the roof area is damaged or 25-30 percent of the roof tiles (slate, clay tile, or cement) or shingles are missing or damaged.

ii. *Roof form*—Preserve the original shape, line, pitch, and overhang of historic roofs when replacement is necessary.

iii. *Roof features*—Preserve and repair distinctive roof features such as cornices, parapets, dormers, open eaves with exposed rafters and decorative or plain rafter tails, flared eaves or decorative purlins, and brackets with shaped ends.

iv. *Materials: sloped roofs*—Replace roofing materials in-kind whenever possible when the roof must be replaced. Retain and re-use historic materials when large-scale replacement of roof materials other than asphalt shingles is required (e.g., slate or clay tiles). Salvaged materials should be re-used on roof forms that are most visible from the public right-of-way. Match new roofing materials to the original materials in terms of their scale, color, texture, profile, and style, or select materials consistent with the building style, when in-kind replacement is not possible.

v. *Materials: flat roofs*—Allow use of contemporary roofing materials on flat or gently sloping roofs not visible from the public right-of-way.

vi. *Materials: metal roofs*—Use metal roofs on structures that historically had a metal roof or where a metal roof is appropriate for the style or construction period. Refer to Checklist for Metal Roofs on page 10 for desired metal roof specifications when considering a new metal roof. New metal roofs that adhere to these guidelines can be approved administratively as long as documentation can be provided that shows that the home has historically had a metal roof.

vii. *Roof vents*—Maintain existing historic roof vents. When deteriorated beyond repair, replace roof vents in-kind or with one similar in design and material to those historically used when in-kind replacement is not possible.

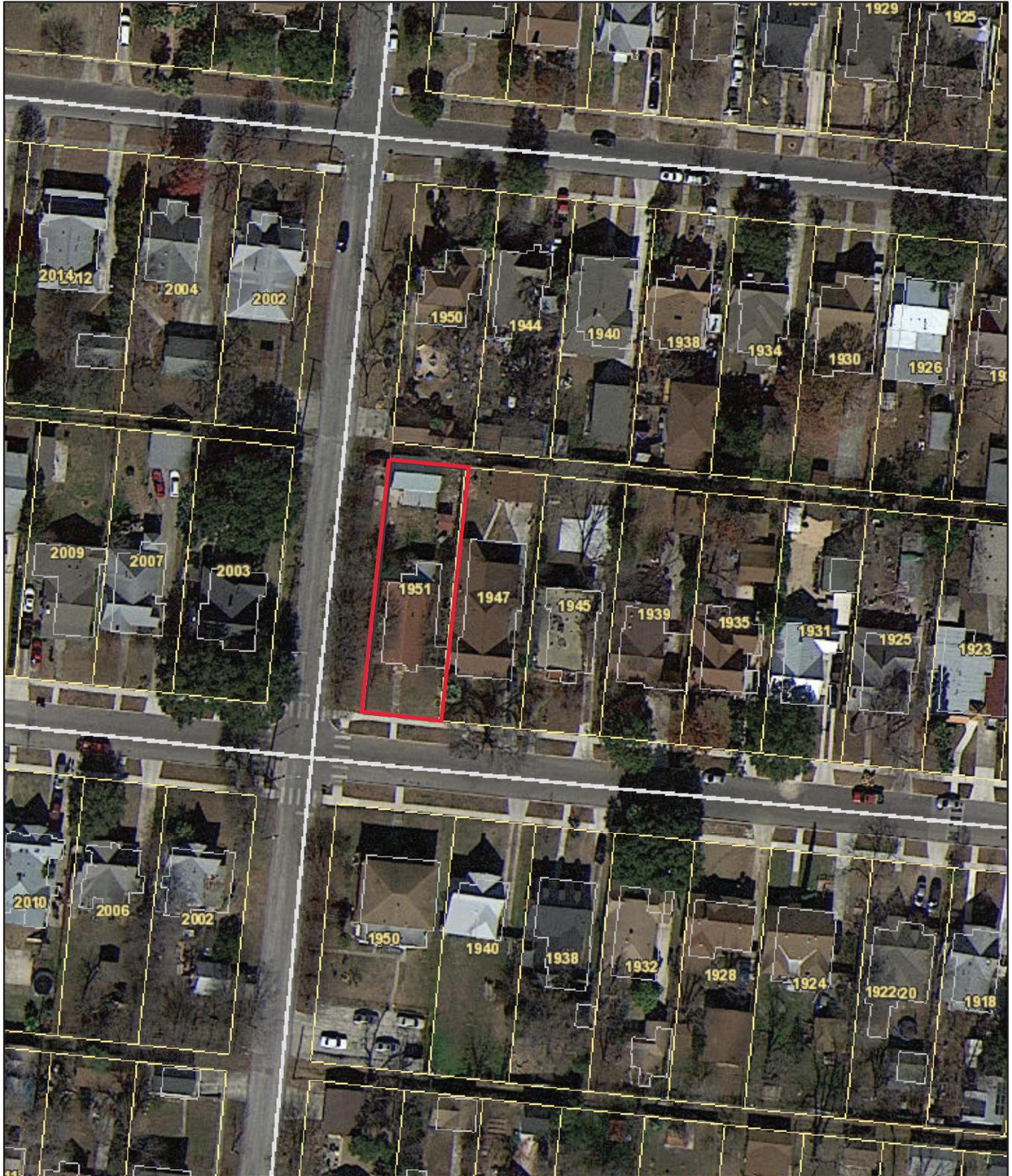
#### **FINDINGS:**

- a. The primary structure located at 1951 W Huisache is a 1-story, single-family residence constructed circa 1940. The home features a front gable red clay tile roof with no overhang, decorative gable end returns, brick cladding, stone and plaster windowsills, lintels, and window surrounds, an arched portico, carved front door surround, and 2 brick side chimneys, one featuring a carved relief detail. The property is contributing to the Monticello Park Historic District.
- b. CHIMNEY REMOVAL – The applicant has proposed to remove an existing brick chimney. The chimney is one of two chimneys located on the west elevation. The property is a corner property, and the two chimneys are highly visible from Vollum Boulevard. According to Guideline 3.B.vii, existing historic roof vents should be maintained. When deteriorated beyond repair, replace roof vents in-kind or with one similar in design and material to those historically used when in-kind replacement is not possible. Though the secondary chimney, located on the north (rear) of the west elevation is not the primary chimney on the structure, rear vents are characteristic of this style of home and period of construction. The applicant has not provided evidence that the secondary chimney is not original to the structure. Staff does not find chimney removal consistent with the Guidelines.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

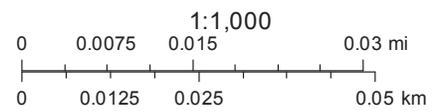
Staff does not recommend approval of the chimney removal based on findings a through b. Staff recommends that the existing chimney be repaired.

# City of San Antonio One Stop

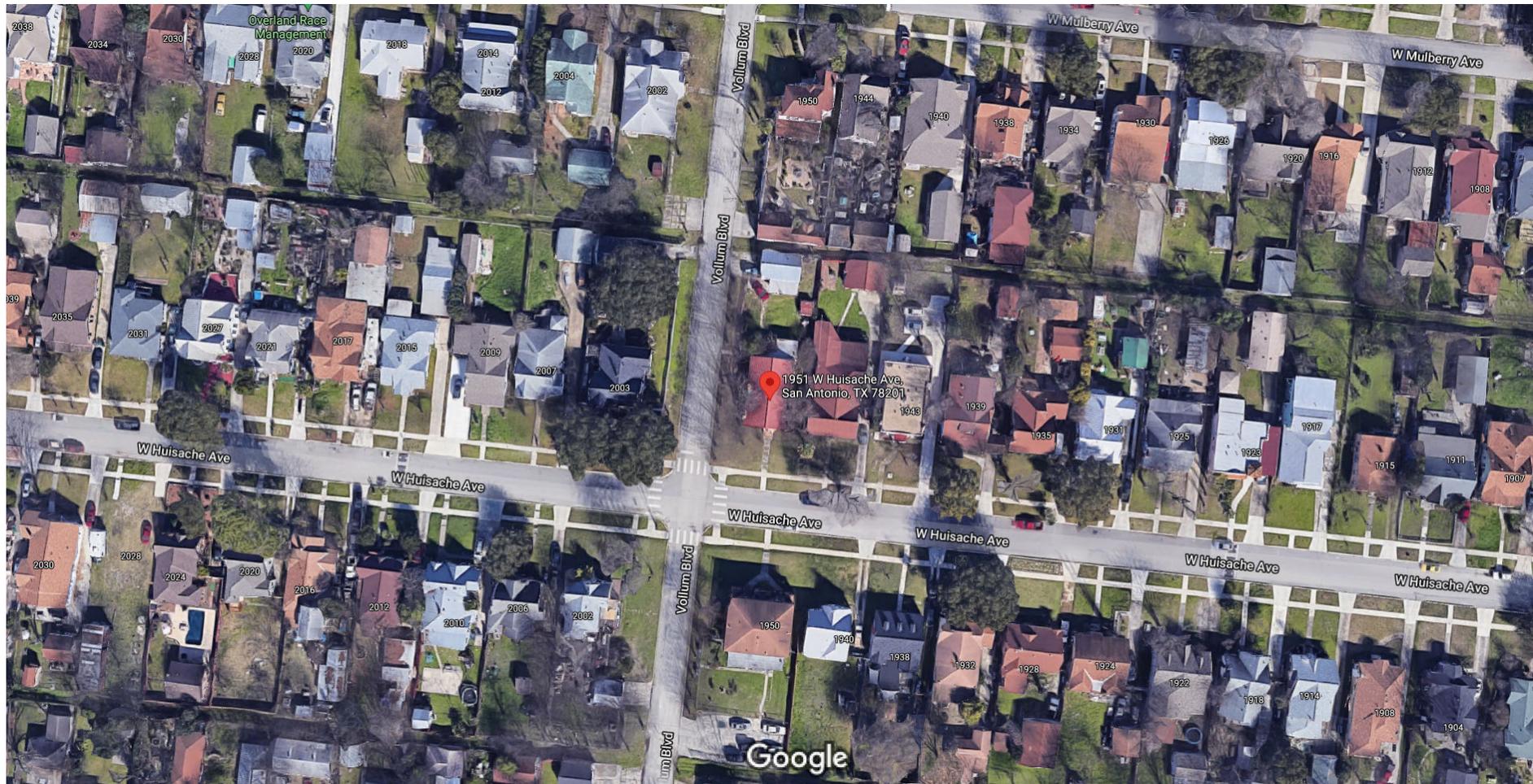


June 11, 2021

 User drawn lines

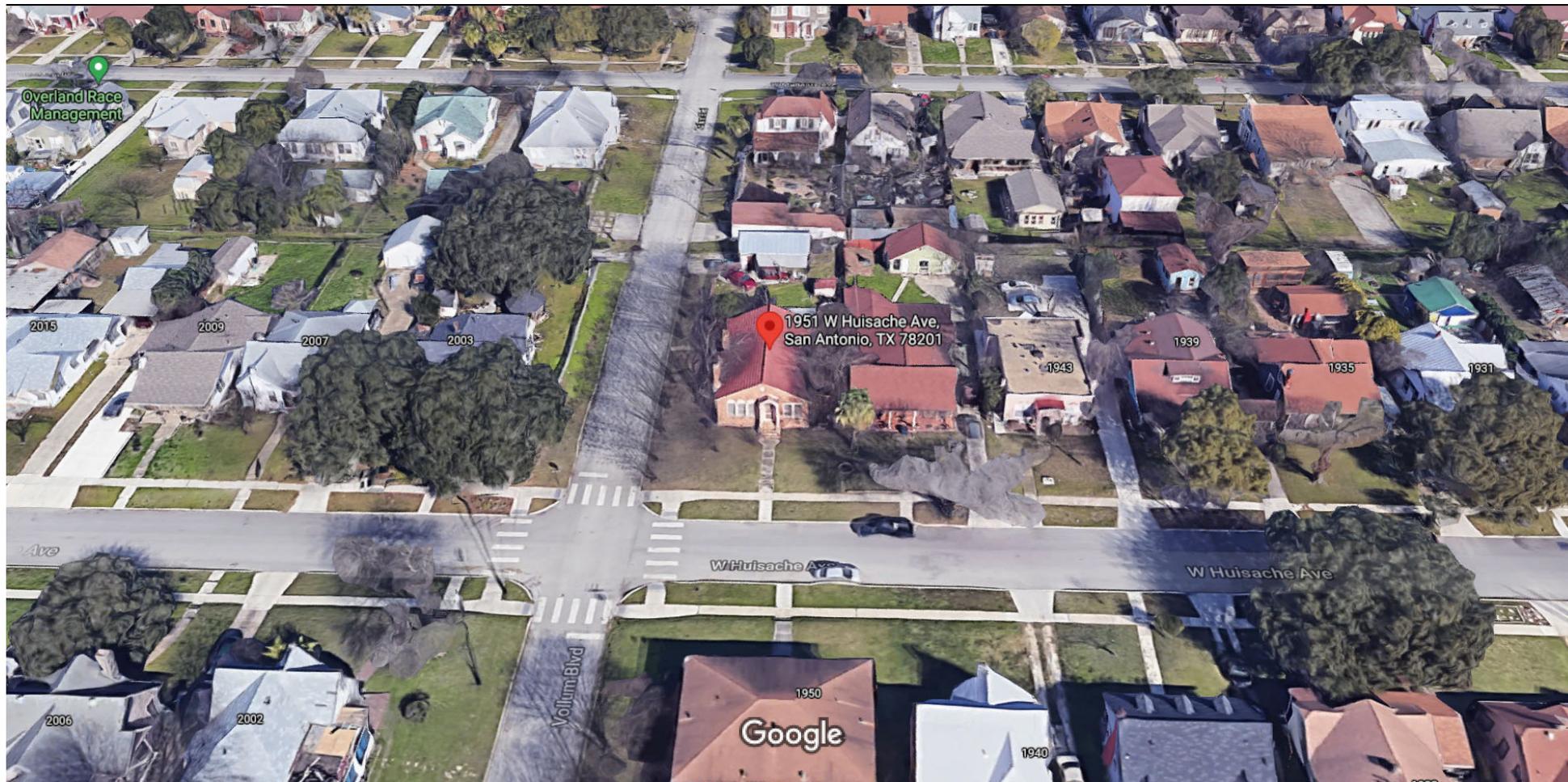


Google Maps 1951 W Huisache Ave



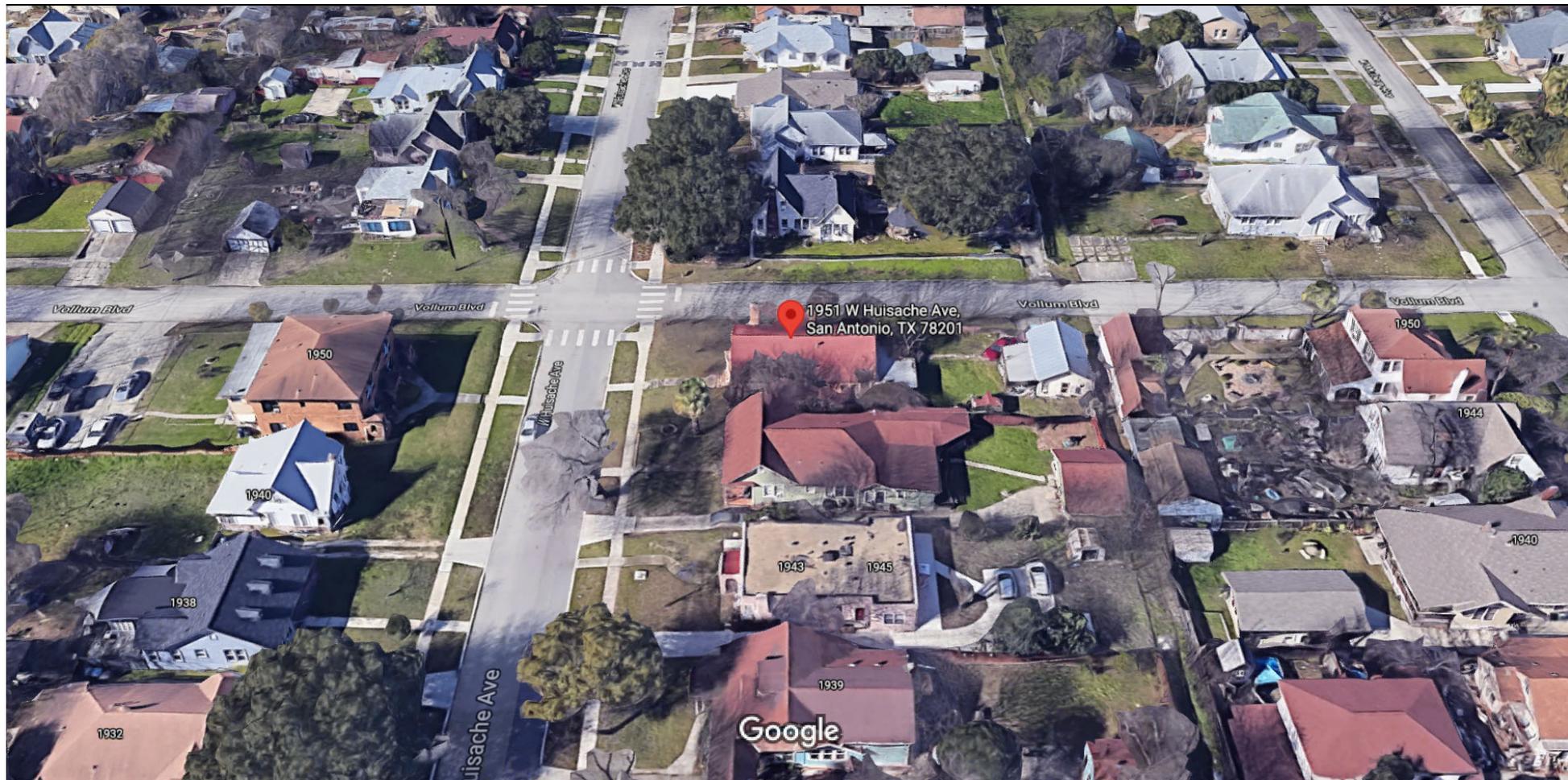
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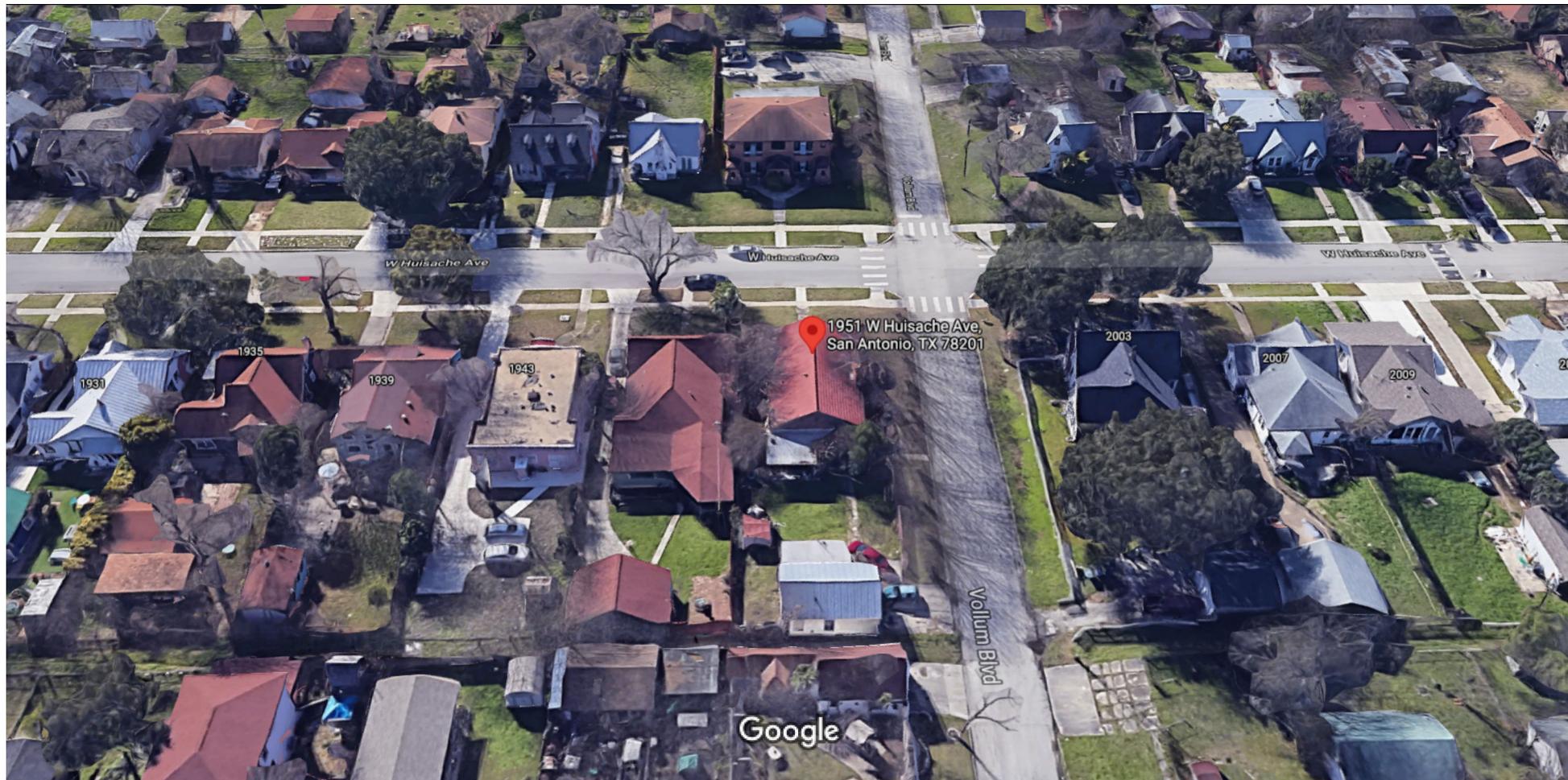
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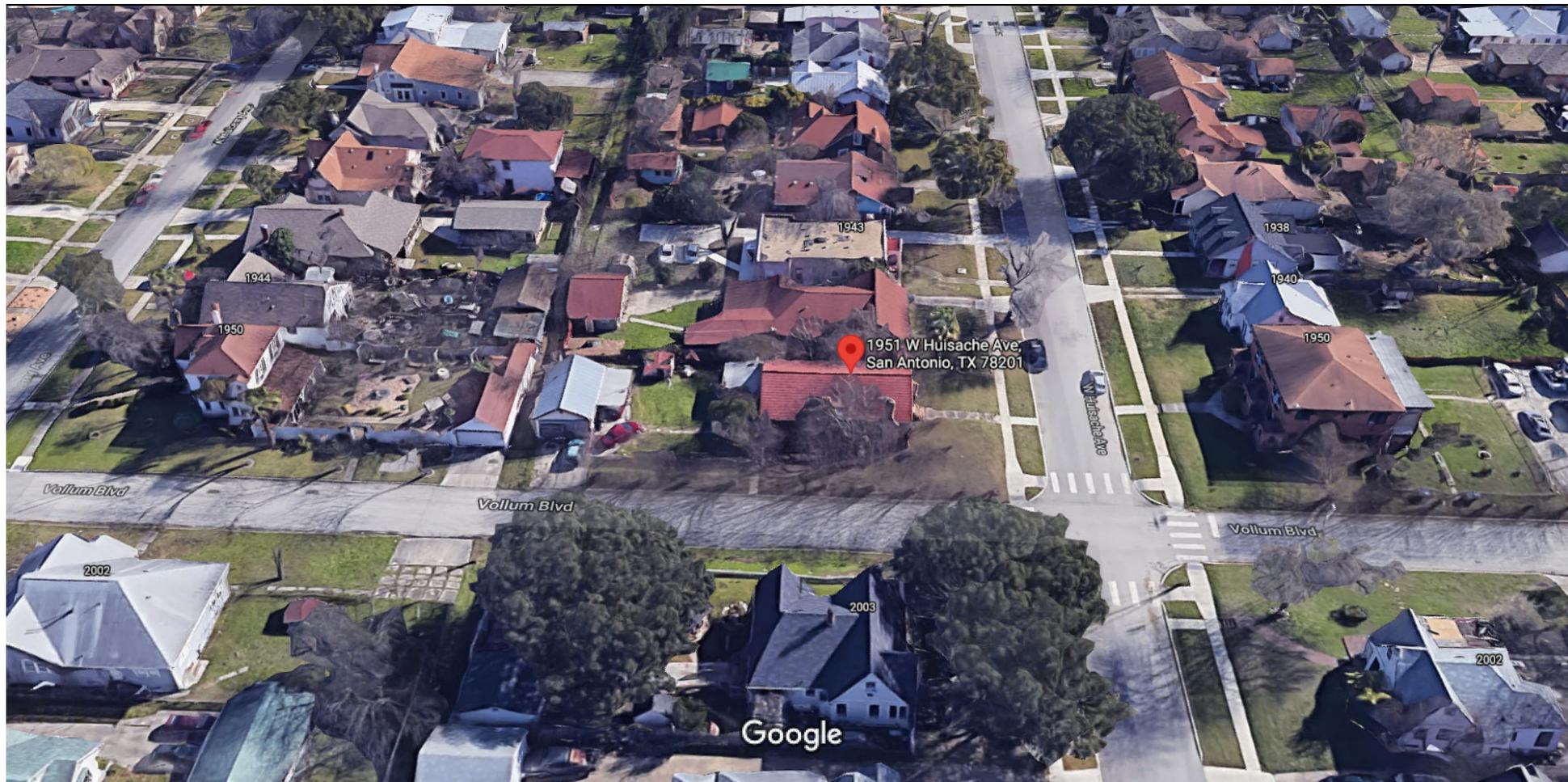
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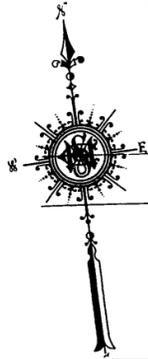
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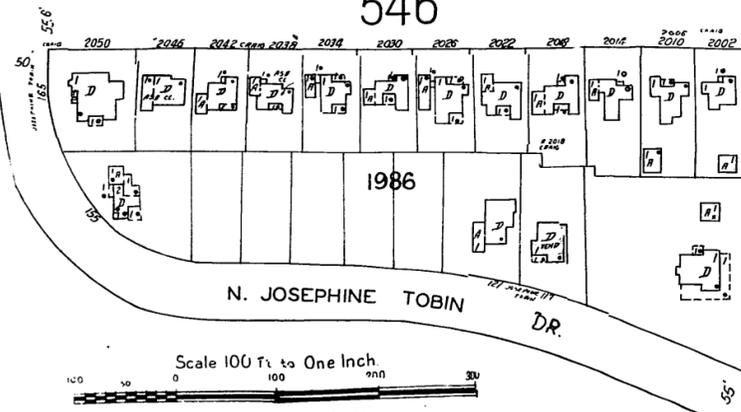
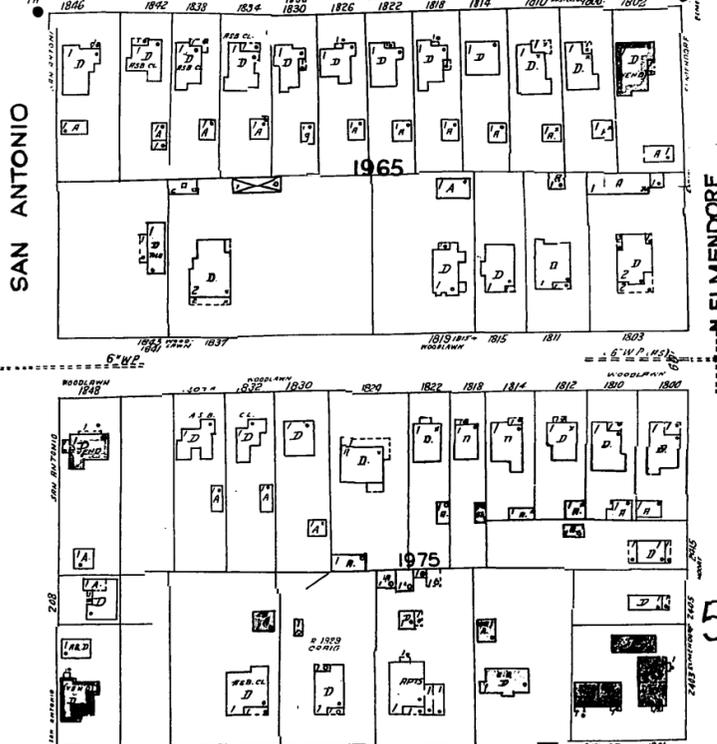
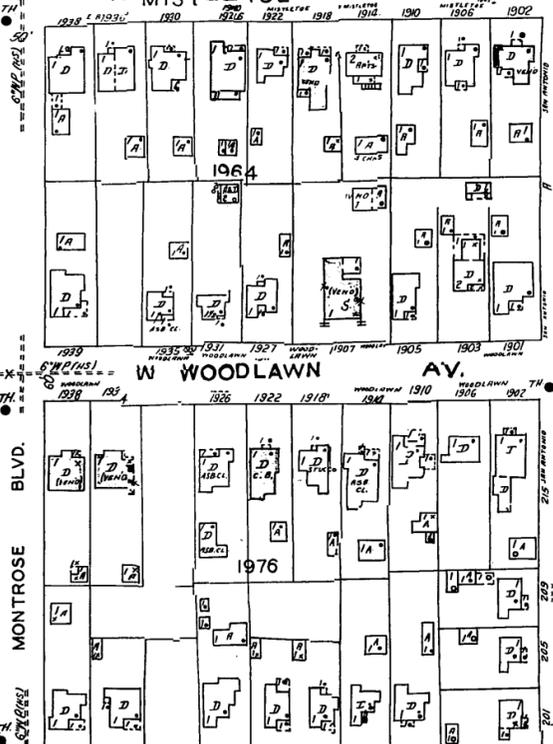
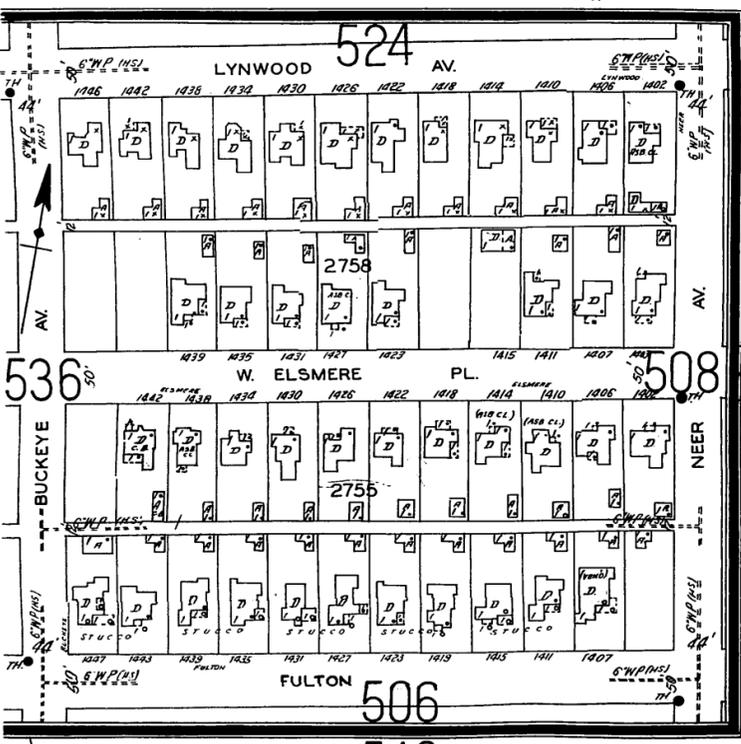
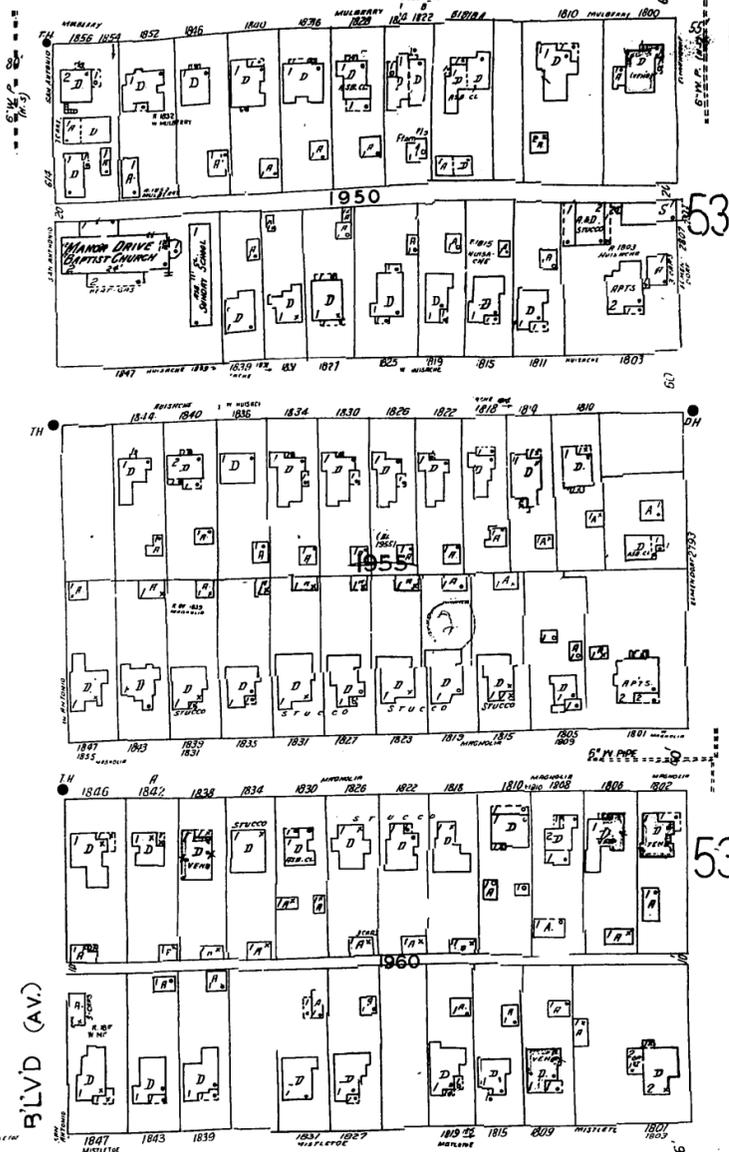
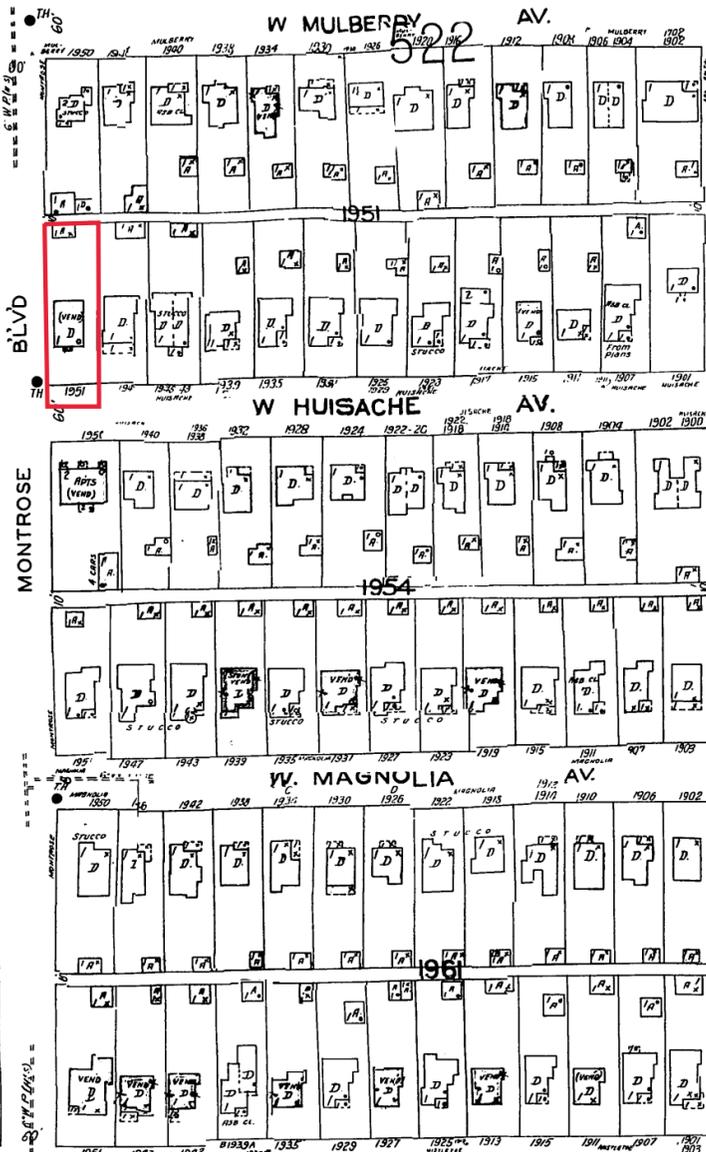


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Scale 100 Ft to One Inch

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Vollum Blvd



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San Antonio, TX 78201











