Historical Resources Survey Report

Capital Express Central – Intensive-level Survey:

Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office, 4000 North Interstate Highway (I-) 35

Project Name: I-35 Capital Express Central Project

Project Limits: U.S. Highway (US) 290 East to US 290 West/State Highway (SH) 71

District(s): Austin

County(s): Travis

CSJ Number(s): 0015-13-388

Principal Investigator: Rick Mitchell and Emily Pettis, Mead & Hunt, Inc.

Report Completion Date: May 2022

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated 12-9-2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

This historical resources survey report is produced for the purposes of meeting requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Antiquities Code of Texas, and other cultural resource legislation related to environmental clearance as applicable.

Abstract

The proposed Interstate Highway (I-) 35 Capital Express Central Project is to improve an approximately 8-mile segment of I-35 from U.S. Highway (US) 290 East to US 290 West/State Highway 71. The project Area of Potential Effects (APE) includes a portion of the Elgin-Butler Brick Company (EBBC) Main Office at 4000 North I-35, which was recommended as individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as part of the 2004 I-35 Corridor Survey conducted by Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc. Based on this previous finding, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) concluded that intensive-level work would be required to provide a definitive NRHP evaluation for the property. A description of the overall project area and detailed survey results are included in the draft reconnaissance *Historic Resources Survey Report* dated March 2022.

On behalf of the TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division, Mead & Hunt, Inc. performed an intensive survey in January 2022 to provide a definitive evaluation of NRHP eligibility for the EBBC Main Office. The intensive survey included extensive research, fieldwork, and comparative analysis.

Based on the findings of the intensive survey, the EBBC Main Office is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP at the local level under Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Based on the project designs as shown on April 2022 schematics, both build alternatives (Alternative 2 and Modified Alternative 3) would remove the EBBC Main Office, resulting in an adverse effect to the NRHP-eligible property. TxDOT will consult with the Texas State Historic Preservation Office and other consulting parties under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 to resolve adverse effects. A Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department Act evaluation for the property will be required.

Table of Contents

Abstract 2
Project Identification 4
Area of Potential Effects (APE) 5
Section 106 Consulting Parties 5
Stakeholders 6
Project Setting/Study Area 7
Survey Methods 9
Survey Results 10
Historical Context Statement 11
National Register Eligibility Recommendations 24
Determination of Section 106 Effects Recommendations 29
U.S. DOT Section 4(f) Applicability Statement 36
References Cited 37

Appendices

Appendix A: Project Information and ROW Information

Appendix B: Tabular Inventory of Surveyed Properties

Appendix C: Survey Forms for All Surveyed Properties

Appendix D: Figures

Project Identification

- **Report Completion Date:** 05/05/2022
- **Date(s) of Fieldwork:** 01/14/2022, 03/03/2022
- **Survey Type:** ☐ Windshield ☐ Reconnaissance ☒ Intensive
- **Report Version:** ☐ Draft ☒ Final
- **Regulatory Jurisdiction:** ☒ Federal ☐ State
- **TxDOT Contract Number:** WA57008SH004
- **District or Districts:** Austin
- **County or Counties:** Travis
- **Highway or Facility:** Interstate Highway (IH) 35
- **Project Limits:**
  - **From:** U.S. Highway (US) 290 East
  - **To:** US 290 West/State Highway (SH) 71
- **Main CSJ Number** 0015-13-388
- **Report Author(s):** Lauren Kelly; Mead & Hunt, Inc. (Mead & Hunt)
- **Principal Investigators:** Rick Mitchell and Emily Pettis, Mead & Hunt
- **List of Preparers:** Rick Mitchell – Principal Investigator, directed fieldwork and research activities, performed quality control for intensive survey products, reviewed National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation, prepared and reviewed effect recommendation.

  Emily Pettis – Principal Investigator, performed quality control for intensive survey products, reviewed NRHP evaluation and effect recommendation.

  Lauren Kelly – primary author of intensive survey report, participated in fieldwork and research, assisted in NRHP evaluation.

  Caroline Bruchman – prepared field survey maps, survey report maps, and GIS deliverables.

Area of Potential Effects (APE)

☐ Existing ROW

☐ 150' from Proposed ROW and Easements

☐ 300' from Proposed ROW and Easements

☒ Custom: Former Elgin-Butler Brick Company (EBBC) Main Office, now Austin Chronicle Building (4000 North I-35, Travis Central Appraisal District [TCAD] parcel 211825). (Note: The APE for the I-35 Capital Express Central Project reconnaissance HRSR extends 150 feet beyond the project's Environmental Study Area.)

- **Historic-Age Survey Cut-Off Date:** 1980
- **Study Area** For the I-35 Capital Express Central Project as a whole, the historic resources study area extends 1,300 feet beyond proposed new right-of-way (ROW) and easements. Results of the overall study area analysis are available in the project's *Historic Resources Research Design* and reconnaissance-level *Historic Resources Survey Report* (HRSR).

  For purposes of this intensive survey, the historic resources study area is limited to the EBBC Main Office parcel.

Section 106 Consulting Parties

- **Public Involvement Outreach Efforts:**

The proposed project includes ongoing focused Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (Section 106) public involvement outreach, as well as incorporation of historic resources as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) public involvement process. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) held a virtual Section 106 consulting parties meeting on October 6, 2021, to provide an overview of the project, cultural resources management as part of TxDOT's project development process, consulting party opportunities and roles in the Section 106 process, and upcoming historic resources survey tasks and schedule. TxDOT will involve consulting parties and other interested parties to provide input on potentially historic resources and historic districts in the project APE and study area. TxDOT will involve consulting parties throughout the Section 106 process, including review of the findings of historic resources investigations and potential mitigation activities. Additional Information on Section 106-focused public involvement efforts for the I-35 Capital Express Central Project is described in the March 2022 reconnaissance-level HRSR.

- **Identification of Section 106 Consulting Parties:**

TxDOT identified 28 potential consulting parties for the I-35 Capital Express Central Project. Of the consulting parties, the following groups are most likely to have interest in the EBBC Main Office based on geographic location and/or historical associations:

- Texas Historical Commission
- Travis County Historical Commission
- Preservation Austin
- Preservation Texas
- City of Austin Historic Landmark Commission/Historic Preservation Office
- Wilshire Wood/Delwood I Neighborhood Association
- Cherrywood Neighborhood Association

- **Section 106 Review Efforts:**

As noted above, TxDOT held a Section 106 consulting party meeting on October 6, 2021, to provide an overview of the project, cultural resources management as part of TxDOT's project development process, consulting party opportunities and roles in the Section 106 process, and upcoming historic resources survey tasks and schedule. On December 6, 2021, TxDOT updated consulting parties on the in-progress cultural resources investigations via email. TxDOT provided another update and outlined upcoming steps in the Section 106 process via email on February 2, 2022. In this email, TxDOT reminded consulting parties of the opportunity to provide input on potentially historic resources in the project APE. Mead & Hunt contacted several consulting parties to request additional information in the course of developing the draft HRSR. These included:

- City of Austin Historic Landmark Commission/Historic Preservation Office
- City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department, Historic Preservation and Tourism
- Preservation Austin
- Texas Historical Commission

TxDOT will continue to involve consulting parties throughout the Section 106 process, including review of the findings of historic resources investigations and potential mitigation activities. TxDOT will provide the draft reconnaissance and intensive-level HRSRs to all consulting parties for review and comment.

- **Summary of Consulting Parties Comments:**

There have been no consulting party comments regarding the EBBC Main Office to date.

Stakeholders

- **Stakeholder Outreach Efforts:**

In addition to the Section 106 consulting parties, anticipated project stakeholders may include property owners, residents, and business owners in and near the project APE; neighborhood

associations and planning contact teams; other neighborhood and community groups; and elected officials. The reconnaissance-level HRSR provides additional information on stakeholder outreach for the overall I-35 Capital Express Central Project.

- Identification of Stakeholder Parties:

As part of the intensive survey, Mead & Hunt identified the following additional potential stakeholders:

Nick Barbaro
Director/Vice President/Secretary, Austin Chronicle Properties, Inc.
P.O. Box 40966
Austin, TX 78765

Hancock Neighborhood Association
Coan Dillahunty, President
Coan.dillahunty@gmail.com

Midtexmod, regional chapter of Docomomo US
Elizabeth Porterfield, President
P.O. Box 12734
Austin, TX 78711

- Summary of Stakeholder Comments:

Nick Barbaro attended a Zoom meeting on September 1, 2021, with TxDOT staff to discuss parcel acquisition. The meeting covered how much of the property would be taken and the potential changes to the property value and current tax situation as Austin Chronicle Properties, Inc. owns nine parcels in the vicinity. Barbaro mentioned they had space to relocate and that the property was the second oldest in the area.

Project Setting/Study Area

- Study Area

This intensive investigation focuses on the parcel containing the 1957 EBBC Main Office, currently occupied by *The Austin Chronicle*. A location map is provided in Appendix D. The intensive study area also includes eight other parcels owned by Austin Chronicle Properties, Inc. on this block: TCAD parcels 211818, 211819, 211820, 211821, 211822, 211823, 211814, and 772063. Parcel 211823 is the only property that is not vacant and contains a 1947 converted single-family dwelling occupied by Arts & Labor advertising/video production studio and a 1998 two-story office building formerly used as offices for the South by Southwest (SXSW) festival. Mead & Hunt historians examined adjacent properties associated with the Plainview Heights subdivision plat and commercial properties along this portion of I-35 to better understand the EBBC property within its historic setting and context.

- **Previously Evaluated Historic Resources**

The EBBC Main Office at 4000 North I-35 was determined eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C in 2004 by Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc. (HHM, Inc.) as part of the Interstate Highway 35 Corridor Survey. The property is identified on TxDOT's Historic Resources of Texas Aggregator as an NRHP-eligible property (Object ID 2010). It was also recommended eligible as a city landmark and for the NRHP under Criteria A and C by Cox McLain Environmental Consulting in a 2019-2020 Historic Resources Survey of North Loop, Hancock, and Upper Boggy Creek for the City of Austin (Survey ID 211825).

- **Previously Designated Historic Properties**

There are no designated historic properties within the intensive study area.

- **Previously Designated Historic Districts**

There are no designated historic districts within the intensive study area.

- **Historic Land Use**

This property was vacant before the construction of the EBBC Main Office in 1957. The parcel was created in 1925 from Lot 1, Block 10 of the Plainview Heights subdivision, platted in 1910 on land owned by Zacharia Pannell Jourdan. It lies on outlot 20, originally owned by J.G. Swisher as shown on William Sandusky's 1840 map of Austin. It was owned by Jourdan's niece, John Cato Butler, from 1925 to 1946, when it was sold to Watt Schieffer. Schieffer petitioned to have the plat rezoned from residential to commercial in 1954 and sold it to Michael W. Butler, Martin Butler, and Tom Butler, Jr. (unrelated to the previous owner with the Butler surname) in 1956. The Butlers sold the lot at cost to the EBBC—their family's company—that same year to construct a new office.

- **Current Land Use and Environment**

The building is used as the main office for *The Austin Chronicle*, a weekly periodical. It faces the southbound frontage road for I-35. Austin Chronicle Properties, Inc. owns eight adjacent parcels: the six facing East 40th Street are zoned for limited office use, and the two facing East 41st Street are zoned for community commercial use. However, 1000 East 40th Street is the only property with improvements. It contains a 1947 converted single-family dwelling (now small professional office) and a 1998 two-story office building. The unaffiliated adjacent property at 1033 East 41st Street contains a five-story 1996 storage building. An unaffiliated three-story 1972 clinic with surrounding parking area is located to the south of East 40th Street at 3920 North I-35.

- **Historic Period(s) and Property Types**

The property includes a 1957 Contemporary-style office building. The period of significance spans from 1957 to 1989, the period the property was owned and occupied by the EBBC.

- Integrity of Historic Setting

The historic setting has been altered since 1957. The construction of this building was part of the shift from residential to commercial land uses along this part of East Avenue, which began in 1949 in anticipation of the construction of the Interregional Highway (now I-35). Many of the commercial properties facing the highway in this area were constructed in the 1960s in response to the highway's completion. Views north and east from the EBBC Main Office are currently obstructed by the 1996 five-story storage building north of the parcel and the highway's elevated upper deck constructed in the early 1970s.

This part of the Plainview Heights neighborhood was still very sparsely developed in the mid-1950s. The 1935 (updated 1962) Sanborn map shows nearby dwellings at 1011 East 41st Street and 1009 and 1011 East 40th Street (all nonextant). Commercial uses developed along the east side of the Interregional Highway by the mid-1950s, including a service station, motel, and the Delwood Shopping Center (all altered or nonextant).

Survey Methods

- Methodological Description

A reconnaissance-level evaluation was performed for the overall project area and compiled in the I-35 reconnaissance HRSR dated March 2022. Because the EBBC Main Office had previously been recommended eligible for the NRHP in two previous surveys, TxDOT requested an intensive survey to gather additional property-specific information and finalize an eligibility recommendation. This survey and report comply with the standards set forth by TxDOT for historic resources.

Fieldwork included two site visits for interior and exterior photography and to view blueprints held by *The Austin Chronicle* for the building. Mead & Hunt historians performed research online and at the Austin History Center and Travis County Clerk's Office. Mead & Hunt historians also contacted former EBBC historian Jeff Twining for additional information. Research subjects included the EBBC, the Butler family, Plainview Heights, and architect Olin Boese.

- Comments on Methods

Investigations include one non-archaeological cultural resources intensive survey, including photographic documentation and research. Findings of the intensive survey are compiled into this HRSR completed in accordance with TxDOT's *Documentation Standard: Historical Resources Survey Report.*

Survey Results

- Project Area Description

Two alternatives are currently under consideration for the proposed improvements: Alternative 2 and Modified Alternative 3. Under both alternatives, proposed improvements include removing the existing I-35 upper decks, lowering the roadway, and adding two non-tolled high-occupancy-vehicle managed lanes in each direction from US 290 East to SH 71/Ben White Boulevard. Both alternatives would reconstruct frontage roads, ramps, intersections, and east-west cross-street bridges. Shared-use (pedestrian and bicycle) paths would be added along the corridor. Under Alternative 2, additional flyovers would be constructed at the I-35 and US 290 East interchange. Under both alternatives, additional ROW acquisition would be required intermittently along areas throughout the corridor. In most areas, the proposed new ROW would not extend past the first tier of parcels adjacent to the existing I-35 ROW. Design files for both alternatives are available on the project website (www.my35capex.com). Parcels adjacent to the I-35 ROW include a mix of historic-age and non-historic-age commercial, institutional, or high-density multi-family residential resources. Several parks, cemeteries, and sports and entertainment stadiums/arenas are also present. Beyond the first tier of parcels, the APE surveyed for the project's reconnaissance HRSR includes a wider mix of resources, including established single-family residential neighborhoods, a wide range of commercial properties, governmental buildings, and educational properties.

This intensive survey focuses only on the former EBBC Main Office property. The project area is TCAD parcel 211825, containing 0.33 acres. It faces the I-35 southbound frontage road to the east and East 40th Street to the south. Neighboring parcels west of the site are vacant, and the parcel directly north contains an unaffiliated modern storage facility. The former EBBC Main Office is occupied by *The Austin Chronicle*.

- Literature Review

Mead & Hunt consulted a range of primary and secondary sources to develop the historic context and evaluate the subject property for NRHP eligibility. Below is a general description of sources used and how each informed the intensive survey. Individual resources are also identified in the References Cited section.

The following historic mapping and aerial imagery sources obtained online were used to trace development patterns and land uses in the study area and analyze the relationship between the subject property and the Plainview Heights subdivision:

- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1935 (updated 1962)
- Historic aerials from the Portal to Texas History
- Travis USDA historic imagery from TNRIS

Online newspaper and magazine research at the following repositories yielded background information on the EBBC, Butler family, Plainview Heights, East Avenue/Interregional Highway/I-35, and architect Olin Boese for the historic context and property-specific information:

- Newspapers.com
    - *Austin Weekly Statesman*
    - *Austin-American Statesman*
    - *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*

- Ancestry.com
    - *San Antonio Light*
    - *The Denton Record-Chronicle*
    - *Corpus Christi Times*
    - *San Antonio Express*

Primary source materials were obtained online, at the Travis County Clerk Office, and the Austin History Center. These sources included the following:

- Travis County deed records and plat maps
- City directories
- Census records
- EBBC files, including meeting minutes, held at the Austin History Center, providing valuable information on the history of the company
- Construction blueprints of the building held by *The Austin Chronicle*

Mead & Hunt historians contacted Jeff Twining, EBBC company historian in the early 1990s, for general information about the history and function of the building.

Historical Context Statement

The EBBC Main Office is located at 4000 North I-35 on Lot 1, Block 10 of the Plainview Heights subdivision. It was constructed on a vacant lot deeded to the company from members of the Butler family in 1956. The EBBC was significant to the development of both Austin and Elgin, Texas, and its products are prolific on Austin's built landscape. The EBBC Main Office, designed by Fort Worth architect Olin Boese, is an intact example of a postwar Contemporary office and serves as a showcase for EBBC's innovative products.

The Elgin-Butler Brick Company

The Butler Brick Company was founded by Irish immigrant Michael Butler in Austin, Texas, in 1873. He was a mason by trade and started his first brick-making plant in Dallas in 1869, which he later sold to his brother. Butler's first plant in Austin, started in 1873 on the north side of the Colorado River in East Austin, was prone to flooding. In 1875 the company moved operations to what was initially a 32-acre plat but grew to a massive tract of land on the south side of the river between Barton Creek and South 1st Street, extending south from the river to Barton Springs Road (see Figure 1). The family lived in a house on this property at 200 South Lamar (demolished in 1958), which was described in 1885 as "one of the palaces of the city."[1] In 1887 the family moved to a grander home at the corner of 11th and Guadalupe Streets in downtown West Austin designed by Thomas Harding (demolished 1971).

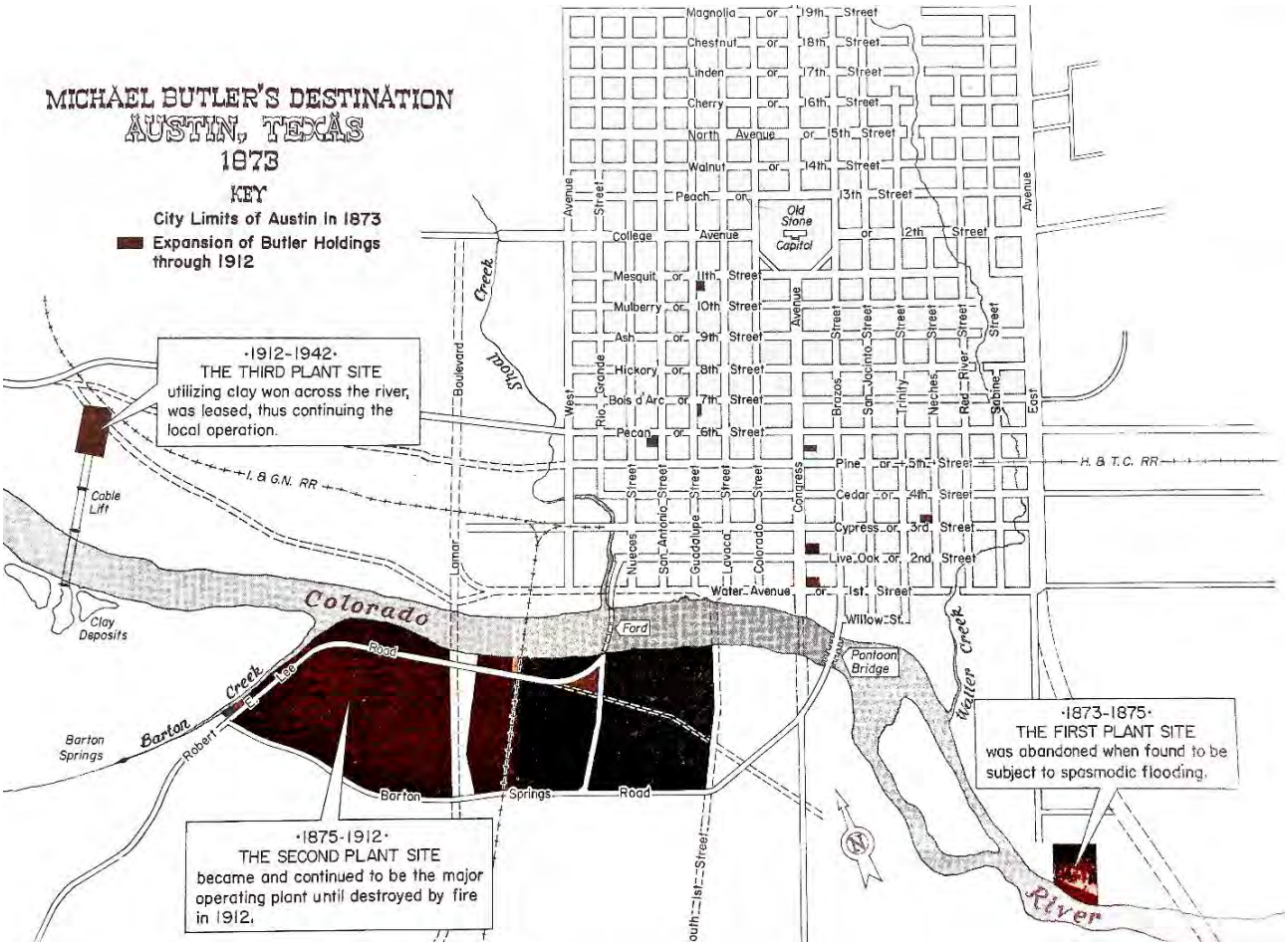


Figure 1. Map showing the original Butler plant location (lower-right) and the second location (lower-left to center). A third plant site discussed below is also shown.[2]

[1] "Bricks: Their Wholesale Manufacture in Austin, A Reporter's Visit to the Extensive Yards of Mr. M. Butler, and What He Saw.," *The Austin Weekly Statesman*, April 10, 1884.

[2] August Watkins Harris, "The Elgin-Butler Brick Company, 1873-1963," n.d., Available in Elgin Butler Brick Company Records, Austin History Center.

By 1884 Butler's brick company was a thriving and prominent business in Austin. A reporter from the *Austin Weekly Statesman* visited the brickyards and spoke to Michael Butler, who was preparing to meet an anticipated demand for building materials in Austin.[3] The company had recently implemented a new Sword brickmaking machine and expected to produce around 3 million bricks per year.[4] The plant had four clamps (or kilns) at the site fired by cedar from another plat owned by the family located several miles up the river (see Figure 2). At the time the Butler Brick Company had 50-75 employees and produced more brick than any yard in the state.[5]

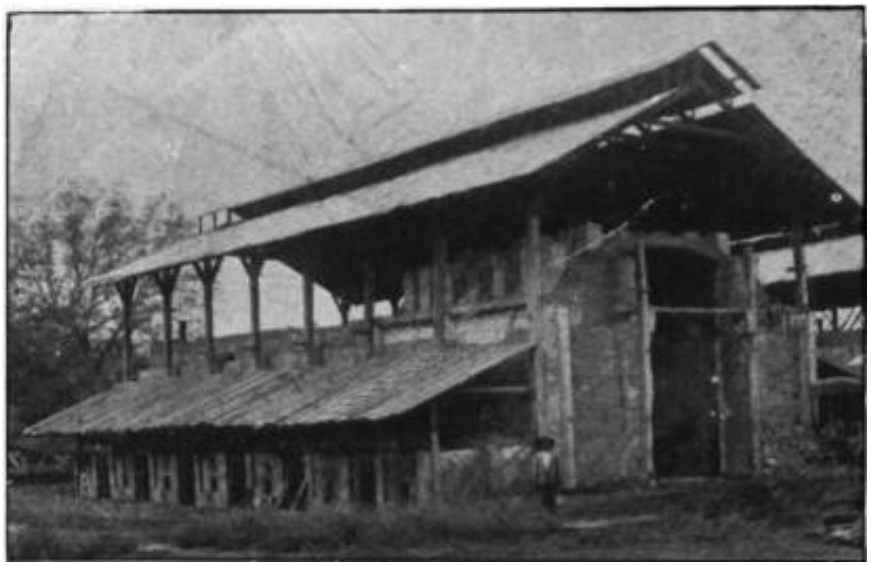


Figure 2. A 1900 photograph of one of the kilns at Butler's plant.[6]

The Sword brickmaking machine used by the Butler Brick Company appears in newspapers along the East Coast and across the Midwest starting in 1867. It was widely employed but far from the only option on the market. That year alone *Scientific American* reported 20 new designs for brickmaking machines, which used steam power for uniform compression to create stronger bricks that were truer in form than previous methods.[7] The same year Michael Butler

[3] "Bricks: Their Wholesale Manufacture in Austin, A Reporter's Visit to the Extensive Yards of Mr. M. Butler, and What He Saw."

[4] "Bricks: Their Wholesale Manufacture in Austin, A Reporter's Visit to the Extensive Yards of Mr. M. Butler, and What He Saw."

[5] "Bricks: Their Wholesale Manufacture in Austin, A Reporter's Visit to the Extensive Yards of Mr. M. Butler, and What He Saw."

[6] *Austin, Texas, Illustrated : The Famous Capital City of the Lone Star State*, 1900, https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth33020/m1/37/.

[7] I. B. Holley, "The Mechanization of Brickmaking," *Technology and Culture* 50, no. 1 (2009): 82–102.

began using the new Sword machine, Porter and Charles Sword submitted a new patent for their machine to keep up with the pace of the industry.[8]

The late nineteenth century was a time of rapid change in the brickmaking industry. With the widespread use of machines came uniformity in brick forms. At the same time, the industry was professionalizing. More technical knowledge was needed to assess varying clays, which affected the efficacy of the machines, and the machines themselves required engineering knowledge to maintain. A dedicated industry journal, *Clay Worker*, began in 1884, and its editor, Theodore Randall, was instrumental in the founding of the National Brick Manufacturers Association (NBMA), which began two years later.[9] The NBMA established standardized brick forms, and its members recognized the need for a more scientific approach to brick production. With industry standardization, specialization became more important as companies attempted to separate themselves from competing brickmakers.

In 1894 a member of the NBMA named Edward Orten, Jr. founded the nation's first ceramic engineering program at The Ohio State University. By 1930 there were 16 similar programs in the country. In 1898 the American Ceramic Society was founded by Orten and like-minded men for the educationally qualified. There was resistance in the NMBA to this scientific approach from what were dubbed "practical men," who felt it was best to learn brickmaking in the field. [10]

Michael Butler was one of these "practical men," who determined the suitability of soil by tasting it, but his eldest son, John Francis Butler, became one of the early students of the ceramic engineering program at The Ohio State University. His second son, Thomas Butler, would similarly go on to serve in professional organizations as president of the Clay Products Association of the Southwest and as director of the Structural Clay Products Institute in Washington, D.C.[11] John encouraged his father to buy land in Elgin, approximately 25 miles northeast of Austin, to take advantage of the quality of their clay.[12]

Elgin lies on the Wilcox group of formations, a band of clay that cuts a diagonal line across Texas from Texarkana down to Eagle Pass. The northeast portion of the formation contains high-quality kaolin clay capable of producing fine white ceramics. The portion near Austin is known as the Butler Clay District of the Rockdale formation, and the clay around Austin (and in Elgin) produces an attractive buff-colored brick.[13] The clay there is found in seemingly endless quantities that attracted the Butlers in 1903 and several other companies after.[14]

---

[8] *Annual Report of the Commissioner of Patents for the Year 1884* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1885).

[9] Holley, "The Mechanization of Brickmaking."

[10] Holley, "The Mechanization of Brickmaking."

[11] "Thomas Butler Sr. Dies at Age 87," *The Austin American*, January 5, 1973.

[12] Harris, "The Elgin-Butler Brick Company, 1873-1963."

[13] "UT Laboratory Pushing Tests on Use of Clay," *Austin American-Statesman*, August 23, 1949.

[14] "UT Laboratory Pushing Tests on Use of Clay."

The company built a plant in Elgin in 1901 and began selling bricks from the new plant in 1903, and the company name changed to Elgin-Butler Brick Company. In 1909 Michael Butler died, and control of Elgin-Butler Brick passed to his two sons, John Francis Butler, who served as Chairman of the Board, and Thomas James Butler, who served as President of the Company. In 1912 the plant in Austin burned, and the company leased Colonel A. J. Zilker's Austin Brick Company and moved operations again, this time to the north side of the Colorado River (see Figures 1 and 3), moving clay across it to kilns on the other side via cable lift.

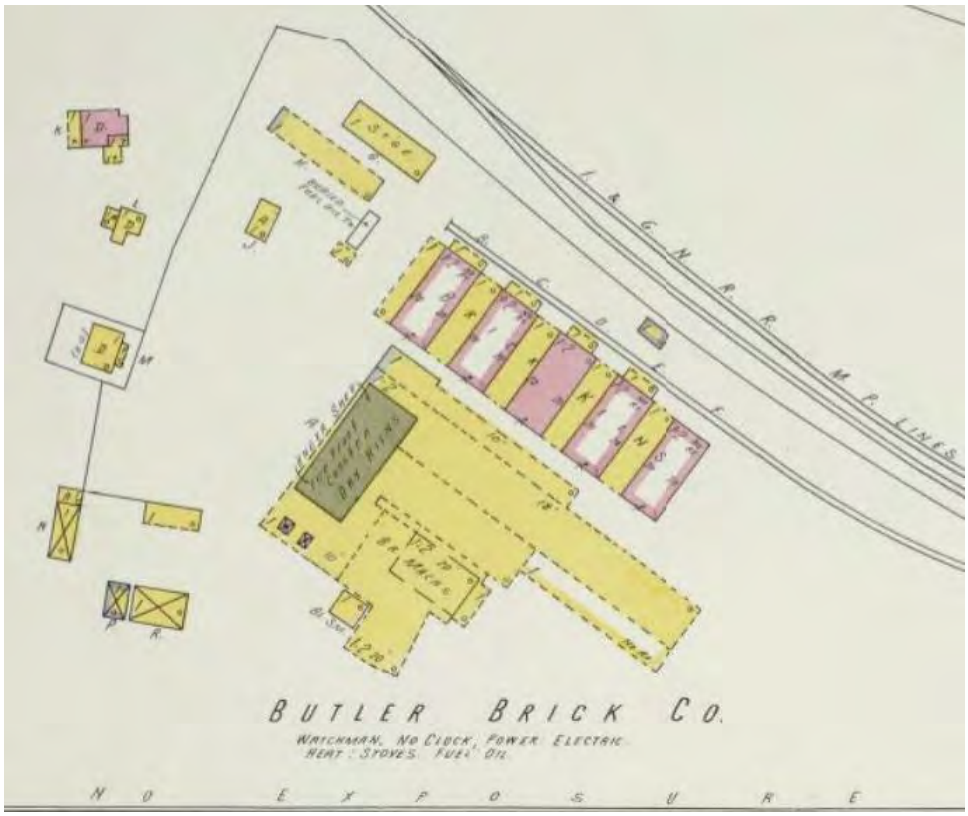


Figure 3. The final Butler Brick Company plant in Austin, leased from Zilker, Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1935.[15]

By 1924 the EBBC was the largest brick company in the Southwest with an annual output of 20 million bricks.[16] It had recently supplied brick for the Stephen F. Austin Hotel, then the tallest private building in Austin. The article noted that the hotel was the most substantial structure yet built with Butler brick, but that the company had furnished materials for almost all brick structures in Austin during the 15 years prior. Forty-two types of brick were manufactured at the time, making it notable not only in scale but variety.[17]

[15] "Austin, Texas, 1935 Vol. 1.," 1:600 (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1935), 1, Library of Congress, https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn08415_006/.

[16] "Elgin-Butler Brick Company Largest in the Southwest," *Austin American-Statesman*, May 18, 1924.

[17] "Elgin-Butler Brick Company Largest in the Southwest."

By 1924 the EBBC had distributing offices in various cities across the Southwest and salesmen on the road. Though the EBBC maintained a small factory in Austin, most production shifted to its 320-acre tract in Elgin after the second plant in Austin burned. At the time the EBBC employed approximately 150 people, some of whom lived in company housing on the Elgin site, which also had a commissary and general store. The 1916 Sanborn map of Elgin shows only one dwelling and the commissary on the EBBC site, but later aerials show approximately 20 dwellings, all nonextant (see Figure 4). Brick production continued in Austin until 1942, after which all production activity took place in Elgin.[18] The Austin plant was demolished in 1958, but the clay pit bucket tower is still extant along the Colorado River with a City of Austin historical marker. The Butler family sold the 91 acres south of the Colorado River that housed their second plant to the City of Austin in 1941 for $60,000.[19] The land was to be an extension of the popular Zilker Park, and recreational areas on the tract still bear the Butler name.

Figure 4. Aerial image of the Elgin plant in 1959, including the now nonextant dwellings on the right.[20]

[18] Harris, "The Elgin-Butler Brick Company, 1873-1963."

[19] Morris Midkiff, "Big Butler Tract Obtained," *Austin American-Statesman*, August 8, 1941.

[20] Neal Douglass, "Butler Brick Company," Photograph, *The Portal to Texas History*, (August 29, 1959), https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth18998/.

The EBBC maintained an office in Austin until it sold the subject property at 4000 North I-35 in 1989. At least as early as 1918, its downtown office was located at 201 Congress Avenue (nonextant). In 1946 the company built a new office at 1308 North Congress Avenue, designed by Page Southerland Page. It was a modern building that "gave advertisement to the possibilities in architectural usage of the ceramic materials in current production by the Company" (see Figure 5).[21]

Figure 5. Undated photograph of the EBBC's second office in Austin, located at 1308 North Congress Avenue.[22]

In 1956 the EBBC's office and several other properties were slated for demolition as part of a Capitol expansion project, necessitating the move to East Avenue.[23] On July 3, 1956, a special meeting of the board of directors was held. Present were President Thomas Butler and his wife, Hazel; Mike Butler (son of John Butler); Thomas Butler, Jr. (son of Thomas Butler); and Martin Butler (son of Thomas Butler). They voted to transfer the property on East Avenue from the family to the company at cost and construct an office. The subject EBBC Main Office was designed by architect Olin Boese and built by the Yarbrough Construction Company for $80,000, completed in 1957 (see Figures 6 through 8).[24]

[21] Harris, "The Elgin-Butler Brick Company, 1873-1963."

[22] "Michael Butler Scrapbook," n.d., Elgin Butler Brick Company Records, Austin History Center.

[23] The Capitol Staff, "Capitol Site Clearing Bids Being Opened," *Austin American-Statesman*, August 24, 1956.

[24] "Meeting Books 1939-1996," n.d., Available in Elgin Butler Brick Company Records, Austin History Center.

Figure 6. An undated photograph of the EBBC Main Office at 4000 North I-35.[25]

Figure 7. 1958 aerial showing the EBBC Main Office near the Interregional Highway. The EBBC Main Office parcel is outlined in red.[26]

[25] "Various Records Compiled by Historian Jeff Twining," n.d., Elgin Butler Brick Company Records, Austin History Center.

[26] United States Department of Agriculture, "Travis USDA Historic Imagery" (TNRIS DataHub, January 30, 1958), https://data.tnris.org/collection?c=4e1c31c4-5d13-4a6f-8672-8da77c825dea#8.06/30.326/-97.771.

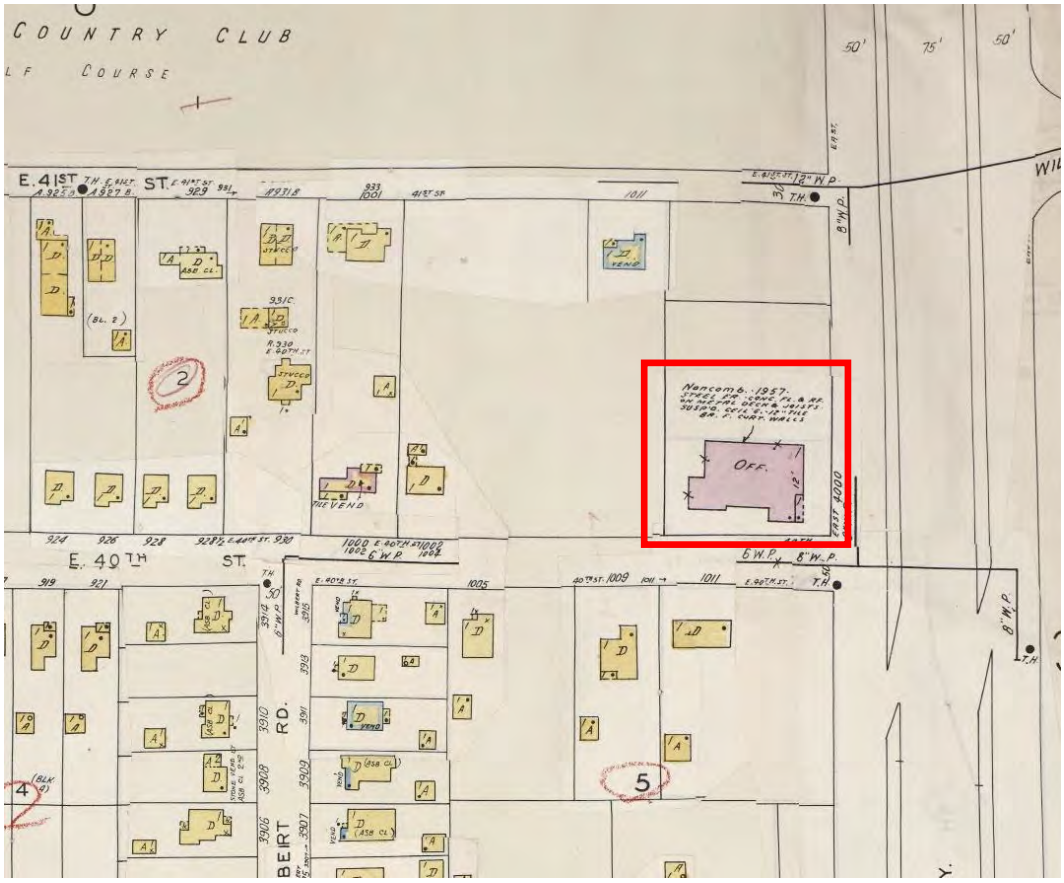


Figure 8. EBBC Main Office in pink on the 1935-1962 Sanborn map update. The EBBC Main Office parcel is outlined in red.[27]

Austin architect and Butler family friend August Watkins Harris explained the function of the EBBC Main Office in his 1963 book on the company's history:

> In the Main Office in Austin there is centrally maintained the service of preparation of setting and shop detail drawings, indispensable to the Architect and the Builder, especially where Structural Glazed Tile and Structural Glazed Brick are involved. While each Branch Office is also equipped to perform this service, insofar as possible it is performed in the Austin Office to assure the utilization of standard shapes wherever possible, and where close co-ordination with the manufacturing Plant is maintained.[28]

From its construction in 1957 until its sale in 1989, the subject building served as administrative headquarters for the EBBC and its Austin sales office. The third and fourth generations of Butlers maintained offices there, as did salesmen and architects who worked as full-time draftsmen producing shop drawings for buildings utilizing EBBC brick. During this period, EBBC brick was used as a material by noted Texas architects such as Wyatt Hedrick,

[27] "Austin, Texas, 1935 (Revised 1962) Vol. 2.,"

[28] Harris, "The Elgin-Butler Brick Company, 1873-1963."

Roy Thomas, and George Dahl, as well as Mies van der Rohe for his project at the Houston Museum of Fine Arts in 1972.[29]

Like the Congress Avenue office before it, the EBBC Main Office on I-35 advertised the possibilities of EBBC products. At the time, the EBBC was the only U.S. company capable of producing structural hollow clay tile with a glaze made from the same material. Thomas Butler applied his ceramic engineering education to invent a clay-based glaze at a time when salt glaze was the industry standard. Clay glazes allowed products of nearly any color that were not susceptible to spalling and cracking.[30]

In 1957 the company purchased four additional lots adjoining the parcel containing the EBBC Main Office and continued to grow in the ensuing years. In 1964 it bought competitor Elgin-Standard Brick Company from second generation owner J.K. Prewitt. Thomas Butler, Sr. passed away in 1973. That year, an article written in celebration of the company's 100th year in business noted it produced approximately 100 million bricks per year and employed 450 people.[31] It sold more than 1,000 different products and had recently supplied four million bricks for the construction of the Jester dormitory at the University of Texas at Austin (UT), at which the company was often used for construction projects. Gregory Gymnasium was a massive project constructed from EBBC brick, with the original 1930 building and the 1962 expansion both constructed using Butler brick as the primary exterior material. At least 27 UT building projects used EBBC brick.

The company continued to innovate through the mid- and late twentieth century. In the early 1980s, the EBBC constructed an early commercial gasification plant, which allowed the company to convert the lignite it was already mining with its clay into usable fuel (known as syngas) for its kilns.[32] At the time the company already had a kiln capable of running on syngas.

In 1989 the EBBC sold the subject property to Texas Commerce Bank. Two years later, it sold the Elgin-Standard Company to Acme Brick, along with sales rights to its glazed tile and related products. The EBBC was sold to Matthew Galvez in 2005, though members of the Butler family continued to work at the company. The main office and showroom are now in Elgin.

Austin Chronicle Properties, Inc. bought the EBBC Austin office in 1991. Austin Chronicle Properties, Inc. also owns eight adjoining parcels, all undeveloped excluding a 1947 house and 1998 two-story office building at 1001 East 40th Street. These buildings served as an early headquarters for SXSW, a music and media conference first planned by *Austin Chronicle* staff in 1986 and now the highest revenue-producing event in Austin not affiliated with UT.

---

[29] "Elgin-Butler Brick Company Drawings," n.d., Alexander Archives, University of Texas Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin.

[30] Jeff Twining, "Butler Brick Main Office," February 17, 2022.

[31] Wayne Jackson, "'Jillions and Jillions of Bricks,'" *Austin American-Statesman*, June 3, 1973.

[32] Jim Fuquay, "Texas Firm Hopes to Build First Commercial Gasification Plant," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, September 4, 1980.

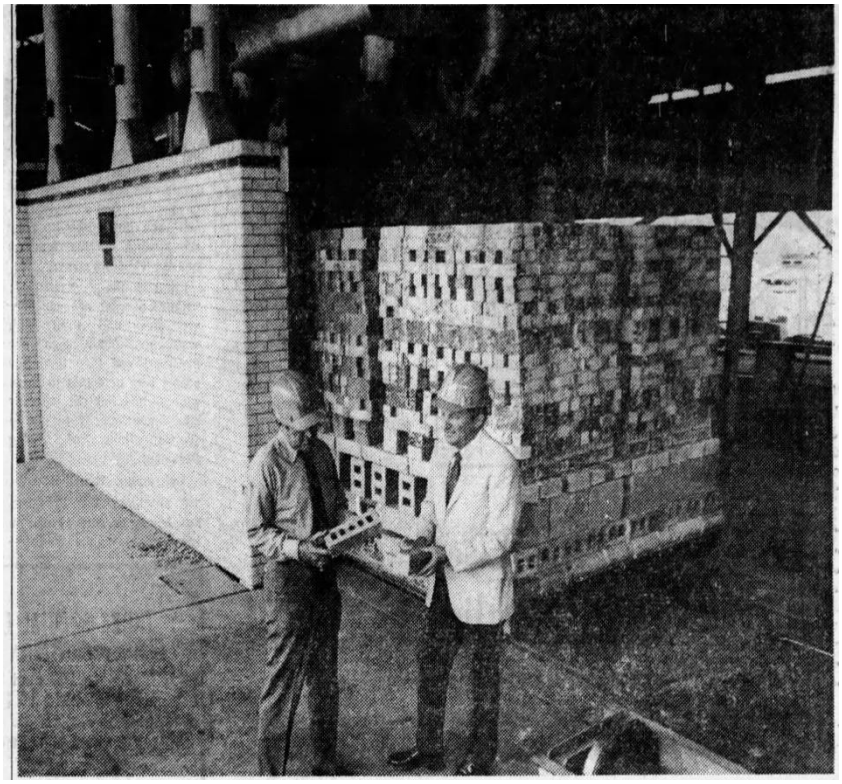


Figure 9. Third and fourth generation Butlers (Tom, Jr. at left and Russ at right) at the Elgin plant in 1973.[33]

Olin Boese, Architect

The architect of the EBBC Main Office was Olin Boese. Little biographical information exists on Boese or his work beyond his 1930s projects for the Texas State Parks Board. Most of his work, found in contemporary newspapers, was focused on schools and public housing projects. The EBBC Main Office seems to be an outlier in his portfolio both in terms of scale and style. Boese's name was not on the blueprints currently held by *The Austin Chronicle*. Boese's obituary mentions only his work on Fort Worth's Texas and Pacific Passenger Station, an Art Deco high-rise designed by Wyatt Hedrick, completed in 1931 and another outlier in his list of projects.[34] A detailed biography has been included as this information does not exist in any known secondary sources.

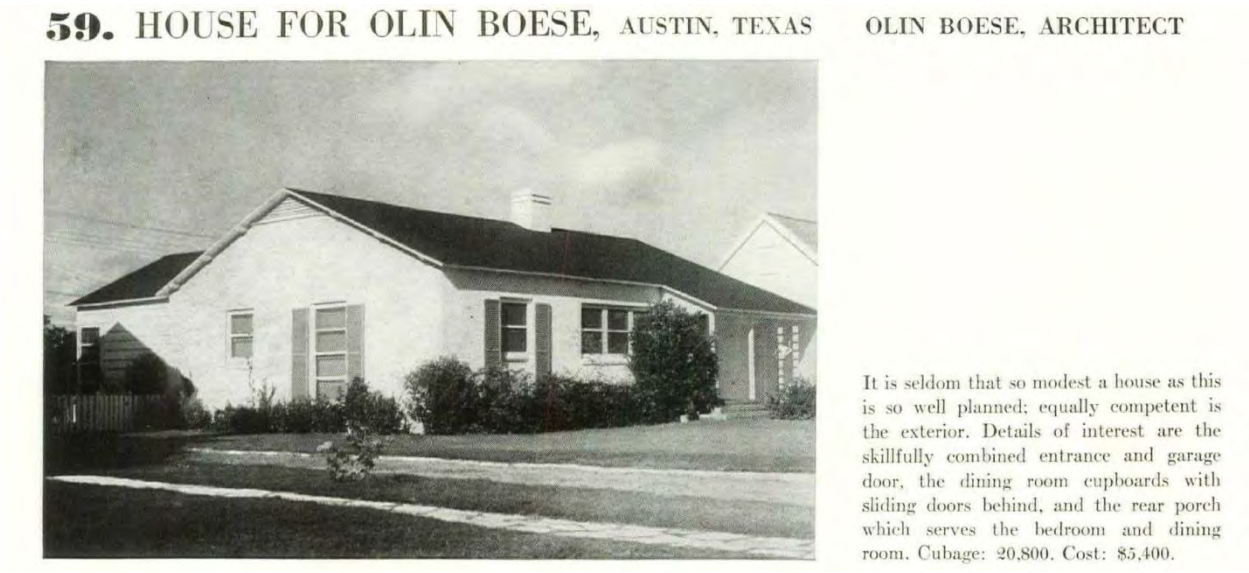
Boese was born Charles Olin Boese in Temple, Texas, on August 8, 1904. He studied architecture at UT under Frederick Giesecke between 1921 and 1926, leaving without finishing his degree. The 1929 Austin city directory lists him as a draftsman in the firm of Giesecke and Harris. In 1931 Boese was working in his own office in the San Antonio Builder's Exchange. He is credited in local newspapers with several schools in the San Antonio area between 1930 and

[33] Jackson, "'Jillions and Jillions of Bricks.'"

[34] "Olin Boese, Architect, Dies at 68," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, May 3, 1973.

1932. In 1931 he designed a restaurant in San Antonio, and in 1932 designed two buildings with Thomas Thompson: a residence in Terrell Hills and a store in Stockdale.[35]

In 1935 Boese was employed as regional inspector for the National Park Service and resided in Austin. Around this time he designed buildings for the State Parks Board for Lake Corpus Christi State Park and Abilene State Park, constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps.[36] Boese's home at 1607 Westover Road in Austin (extant but heavily altered) was featured in *The Architectural Forum* in October 1939 (see Figure 10).[37] That year he is listed in the Austin city directory as being in business with Thomas Thompson.[38]



59. HOUSE FOR OLIN BOESE, AUSTIN, TEXAS — OLIN BOESE, ARCHITECT

It is seldom that so modest a house as this is so well planned; equally competent is the exterior. Details of interest are the skillfully combined entrance and garage door, the dining room cupboards with sliding doors behind, and the rear porch which serves the bedroom and dining room. Cubage: 20,800. Cost: $5,400.

Figure 10. Boese's Austin home in Architectural Forum*, October 1939.*[39]

In 1945 Boese was listed as a planner for the Federal Public Housing Authority in the Fort Worth city directory. Before establishing his own firm in 1955, Boese partnered with engineer Clovis Harkrider and operated as Boese and Harkrider from 1950-1955 with offices in the Texas & Pacific Passenger Building. Boese and Harkrider designed low-income housing projects all over Texas, as well as churches and schools, including South Hills Elementary School in 1953 (see Figure 11).[40]

---

[35] "Plans Now Being Drawn on Terrell Hills Residence," *San Antonio Light*, July 10, 1932, Ancestry.com; "Store Building," *San Antonio Express*, July 24, 1932, Ancestry.com.

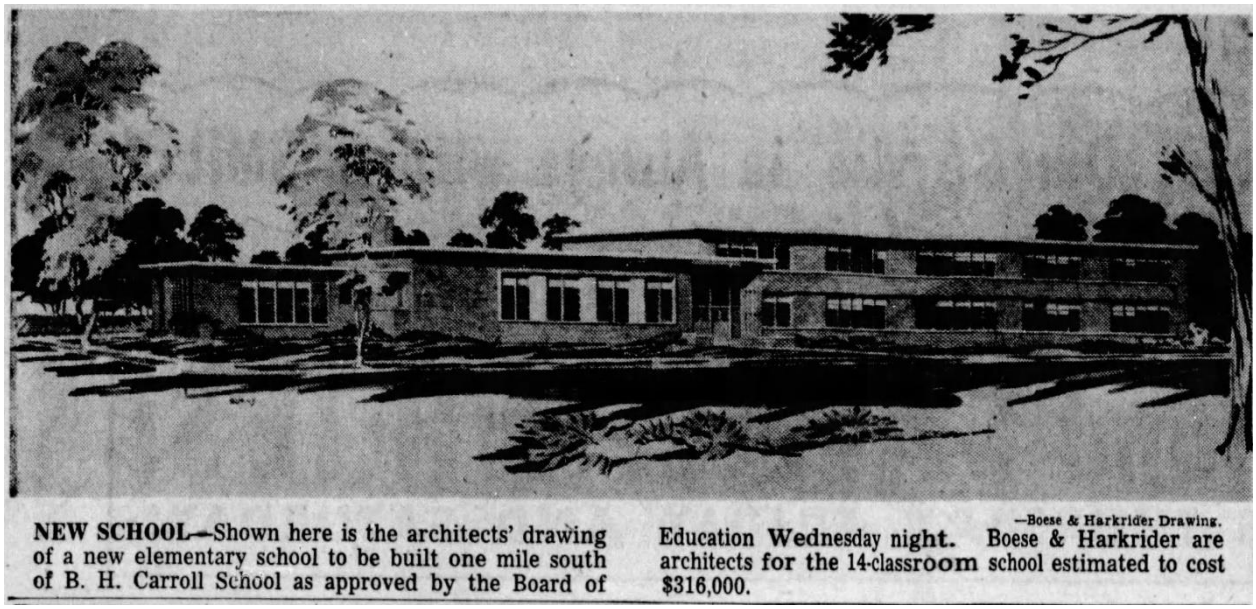
[36] "TPWD Item: Refectory, Lake Corpus Christi State Park, June 6, 1934," *Texascccparks.Org*, n.d., accessed March 17, 2022.

[37] "101 New Houses," *Architectural Forum* 71, no. 4 (October 1939), https://usmodernist.org/AF/AF-1939-10.pdf.

[38] *Austin City Directory* (Austin, Tex., 1939).

[39] "101 New Houses."

[40] "New School," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, May 14, 1953.



NEW SCHOOL—Shown here is the architects' drawing of a new elementary school to be built one mile south of B. H. Carroll School as approved by the Board of Education Wednesday night. —Boese & Harkrider Drawing. Boese & Harkrider are architects for the 14-classroom school estimated to cost $316,000.

Figure 11. South Hills Elementary School shown in an article in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram *on May 14, 1953.*[41]

In 1955 Boese established his own firm in Fort Worth called Olin Boese Architectural Associates, and his work for the EBBC came in the early days of this independent firm. In 1964 Homer Mitchell of Olin Boese Architectural Associates noted to a client that the firm had designed 35 to 40 public housing projects by that time.[42] Nothing similar to the EBBC Main Office has been found in newspapers among his credited works, and Boese is not found in the list of EBBC project drawings at the Alexander Archives. The only known connection is that, in the 1920s, he worked for August Watkins Harris, a friend of the Butler family. Boese died at age 68 in Fort Worth in 1973.[43]

Conclusion

In 2013 *The Austin-American Statesman* declared that "We built this city. Not on rock'n'roll. But rather on Butler Brick, Calcasieu Lumber, and Austin White Lime."[44] Founded in 1873 and family-run until its sale in 2005, the EBBC is an iconic Austin business. Nearly all brick residences, institutional buildings, and businesses constructed in Austin in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were constructed with Butler brick.[45] The Texas State Capitol

[41] "New School."

[42] Mike Moon, "Pilot Point Project Urged," *The Denton Record-Chronicle*, December 8, 1964, https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/51327/images/News-TE-DE_RE_2.1964_12_08-0002?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=yj1-878593&_phstart=successSource&pId=505815042&rcstate=News-TE-DE_RE_2.1964_12_08-0002%3A1521%2C633%2C1590%2C658%3B2062%2C5129%2C2138%2C5154%3B500%2C3667%2C579%2C3692%3B1451%2C633%2C1507%2C658.

[43] "Olin Boese, Architect, Dies at 68."

[44] Michael Barnes, "Austin's Building Blocks," *Austin American-Statesman*, May 19, 2013.

[45] "Elgin-Butler Brick Company Largest in the Southwest."

building alone contains three million of these bricks, carried to the site by horse cart in the 1880s. By the company's 90th anniversary in 1963, the EBBC maintained branch offices in Baton Rouge, Dallas, El Paso, San Antonio, and Houston, and shipped its products all over North America. The subject EBCC Main Office served as the face of the company and home to three generations of Butlers from 1957 to 1989. It is the EBBC's last remaining building in Austin.

National Register Eligibility Recommendations

- Eligible Properties/Districts

Resource 179: EBBC Main Office, 4000 North I-35

Description

The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a pier and beam foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries facing the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6-inch by 6-inch by 1-inch glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and a corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree.

The front facade faces southeast toward the I-35 frontage road. It is asymmetrical with a recessed main entry on the south side and an English clay tile stoop. Wide overhanging eaves form an awning over the entrance with three rectangular cutouts (infilled with wood) and two small, square, flush lights over the doorway. The main entry has a wood double door with five stacked lights each; a large, fixed, metal-frame transom; and full-height sidelight. The wall extending from the entry to the southeast corner is stacked bond brick with teal glaze and a low stacked bond brick planter that has been partially replaced with rusticated stone wraps around the corner. The remaining front wall is running bond brick in the buff hue for which the EBBC was known with a high stack bond planter extending across the north end of the facade. The planter wall has been patched on the north corner with cement. The wall behind the planter features stacked bond brick with yellow glaze and two sliding metal windows with a wood lintel, painted teal. A neon sign reading "The Austin Chronicle" is centered on the front wall, and visible behind are holes in the brick where the original lettering read "Elgin-Butler Brick Company" above and "Since '73" below.

The secondary facade faces southwest toward East 40th Street. The low planter and stack bond teal brick wall on the front facade wrap around to this side, and it features a large, fixed, metal window and a secondary entrance facing northwest (currently used as a main entrance). The single wood door with transom and sidelight match the front door. It has a smaller stoop with matching glazed English tile and a single small flush light in the eave above the door. The stoop

leads to a wide concrete walk that extends to East 40th Street. The southwest wall is buff colored running bond brick with sliding metal windows with wood lintels, painted teal. Part of the wall on the west side extends slightly forward with stacked bond brick in the same buff hue interspersed with glazed bricks in light blue, teal, dark brown, yellow, and white.

The side (northeast) elevation is partially obscured by foliage and a retaining wall around the parking lot belonging to Public Storage (a storage company) next door. The wall is buff-colored running bond brick with unevenly spaced single metal windows with wood lintels and a ribbon of three sliding metal windows on the west side toward the rear of the building.

The rear (northwest) elevation faces the back parking area and has walls of running bond brick. The south side of the wall extends out with a single metal door and sliding metal window facing northwest and a rear entrance facing northeast. This door matches the primary and secondary entrances with a sidelight. On the wall perpendicular to this entrance is an additional double metal door. A shed-roof rear addition was studded but never fully constructed, and the addition is clad in corrugated metal around the bottom and corrugated acrylic above with a corrugated metal roof that forms an awning over the rear entrances. Window and door openings are also covered.

On the interior, a lobby connects the I-35 and East 40th Street entrances and is open to an interior corridor, which encompasses an atrium (see Figure 12). Workspaces are located off the corridor. The atrium has walls of metal-frame glass windows with a low tile planter box inside and a large sycamore tree. There is a half-wall grille of green glazed brick in the corridor near the lobby. The offices and gathering spaces each feature different EBBC products. For example, the lobby contains glazed brick and three different varieties of face brick.

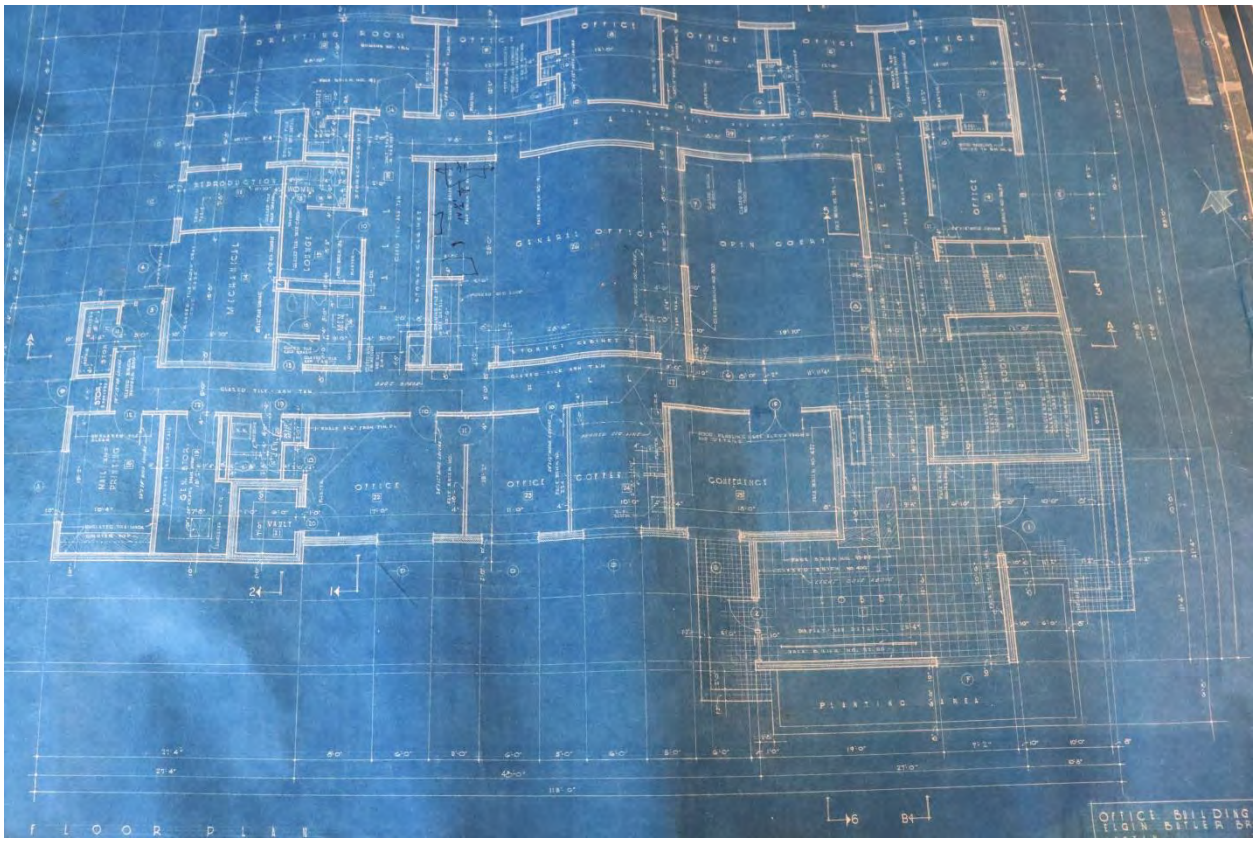


Figure 12. Photograph of the blueprint showing the layout of the EBBC Main Office, courtesy of The Austin Chronicle*.*

Significance

Criterion A

The EBBC was a significant contributor to the development of both Austin and Elgin, Texas. The Butler Brick Company was founded in Austin in 1873 and manufactured brick there until 1942. It became one of the largest brick manufacturers in the Southwest and implemented new glazing methods that allowed for greater resiliency and a variety of colors. The leaders of the company also held positions in organizations like the Clay Products Association of the Southwest, the Structural Clay Products Institute in Washington, D.C., and the Structural Clay Research Foundation in Geneva, Illinois.

The Butlers began manufacturing brick in Elgin in 1903 and represented one of several thriving brick companies in the area. Elgin newspapers proclaimed how fortunate they were to have these companies to carry them through uncertain times when periods of drought threatened local farms. Companies like the EBBC, Elgin-Standard, and Acme Brick contributed greatly to the development of Elgin, which is still known for its brick manufacturers.

Almost all brick structures built in Austin in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries feature Butler brick, including the Texas State Capitol and many of the buildings at UT, as well

as National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) buildings in the Houston area. The company's reach extended across the United States and into Canada. The EBBC collection at the Austin History Center contains a picture book of substantial early projects constructed mainly in Oklahoma. The EBBC was renowned for the quality and desirable pale color of their brick. Brick color is derived from a combination of factors including the clay composition, atmosphere in the kiln, and firing temperatures, and expertise was required to accomplish EBBC's buff hue.

To be eligible under Criterion A, the NRHP bulletin *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* states: "a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history; and a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation."[46] The EBBC Main Office possesses significance at the local level under Criterion A in the area of Commerce, as the best representative of the EBBC, an influential company in the history of Austin's development, which served as headquarters and regional sales office from its construction in 1957 to its sale in 1989.

Criterion B

As noted in the context, the Butlers were an important Austin family with many professional, civic, and religious affiliations. Five generations of the Butler family were members of Austin's first Catholic congregation at St. Mary's, and Michael Butler donated the cathedral's bells. Beyond the EBBC Main Office, no other extant resources convey the history and importance of the Butler family in Austin. The two earliest residences related to the Butler family have been demolished, as have the three Austin brick plants they operated. The historic integrity of the Elgin brick plant is unknown. The NRHP bulletin *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* states:

> A building that served as the seat of an important family will not be eligible under Criterion B if the significant accomplishments of individual family members cannot be documented. In cases where a succession of family members have lived in a house and collectively have had a demonstrably significant impact on the community, as a family, the house is more likely to be significant under Criterion A for association with a pattern of events.[47]

EBBC founder Michael Butler is locally significant but unaffiliated with the subject office. His son, John Francis Butler, who was responsible for the company's expansion into Elgin and many of its innovative clay manufacturing techniques, would have been in his late 70s at the time of the subject office completion. City directories from the late 1950s list him as "with" EBBC while other family members have stated positions. John Francis Butler does not seem to

[46] National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, revised 1997 1990, https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB-15_web508.pdf.

[47] National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*.

have played an active role in the EBBC by 1957 nor to have been affiliated with the subject office, which served the third, fourth, and fifth generations of Butlers. Research has not indicated individuals within the later generations who would meet the threshold for significance under Criterion B. Therefore, the EBBC Main Office is not significant under Criterion B.

Criterion C

The EBBC is a 1956 Contemporary-style office building at a time when domestic tastes turned to more natural materials, regional architecture, an emphasis on indoor/outdoor spaces with window walls, a return to brick and wood construction, and the use of local materials. These were the hallmarks of the Contemporary style that dominated domestic architecture in the post-World War II years.

Identifying features of the Contemporary style found on the EBBC Main Office include widely overhanging eaves, windows found just below the roofline, use of natural materials like wood and brick, a broad expanse of uninterrupted wall surface, integration of indoor/outdoor space, a lack of symmetry, the recessed front entrance, and the almost hidden side entrance. Contemporary buildings often feature ornamental elements in the brick, demonstrated on the subject building by the pattern of color on some surfaces. An interior half-wall in the building is a play on the concrete grilles of the Contemporary style, constructed in polychrome glazed brick. The interior of the office is centered around the atrium with offices situated along a corridor around the space. A further emphasis on the natural can be found in the numerous planters on the main facades and inside the atrium.

The EBBC favored these playful expressions of modern architecture that showcased their products. The company's 1946 Austin office, designed by prominent Austin firm Page Southerland Page, was a two-story stucco building with flat roof and band of decorative tile around the base and up the corner of the building. Its 1966 Houston office (demolished in 2013) was another modern brick building with an asymmetrical façade and polychrome brick spandrels between ribbons of aluminum windows. The subject Austin office has a more domestic feel that may have been a service to the city planning commission's preferred "transitional zoning" for the lot, as the area was still largely residential at the time.

To be significant under Criterion C, the NRHP bulletin *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* states: "a property must meet at least one of the following requirements: embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction."[48] The EBBC Main Office is a locally rare example of a post-World War II Contemporary office that is reflective of its time and serves as a showcase for the EBBC's innovative products. As such, the EBBC Main Office possesses

[48] National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*.

significance at the local level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, both possessing the distinctive characteristics of the Contemporary style as applied to a small office building, and displaying a wide range of the EBBC's distinctive brick and tile products of the 1950s.

Integrity
The building exhibits few alterations, including a small, partial shed-roof addition added to the back of the building; concrete patching and replacement materials in the planters where the stacked brick has failed; wood infill in the front awning skylights; and a change in the building's signage on the front (metal lettering to a neon sign). These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. Windows and doors have been retained, and the footprint has altered only in the back. Even the building's interior spaces retain a high degree of historic integrity, maintaining the original layout and materials. Small historic-age details throughout the interior, such as light fixtures and restroom signage, remain intact.

The view of the EBBC Main Office from the road has changed little since 1956. While I-35 now has an elevated upper deck, the EBBC Main Office was part of the initial commercial rezoning along former East Avenue, and the position of the building in a residential area fronting a limited-access highway has not changed. Therefore, integrity of setting remains intact. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it retains integrity of association. As such, the EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

NRHP Boundaries
The NRHP boundaries of the eligible property conform to of the legal parcel boundaries of TCAD parcel 211825, containing 0.33 acres.

- Ineligible Properties/Districts

Though TCAD parcels 211818, 211819, 211820, 211821, 211822, 211823, 211814, and 772063 are associated with *The Austin Chronicle* and historically owned by the EBBC or members of the Butler family, they are not directly related to the subject property at 4000 North I-35 and are not considered part of the EBBC Main Office property. These properties are not eligible for the NRHP.

- Recommendations for Further Study

None

Determination of Section 106 Effects Recommendations

- Direct Effects

Resource 179: 4000 North I-35 (Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office)
The Elgin-Butler Brick Company (EBBC) Main Office is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C. The NRHP boundaries conform to the TCAD parcel boundaries. At this

location, I-35 currently has four main lanes in each direction, with two lanes in each direction carried on elevated structures (the "upper deck") and two lanes in each direction slightly below grade (the "lower deck"). There are three-lane at-grade frontage roads in each direction of traffic. Just north of the EBBC Main Office property, an exit ramp extends from the southbound lower deck main lanes to the southbound frontage roads. The EBBC Main Office property directly abuts the I-35 ROW at the southbound frontage road. The EBBC Main Office property edge is located 0 feet from the northbound frontage road pavement edge, about 28 feet from the southbound upper deck structure, about 38 feet from the closest upper deck main lane and about 80 feet from the closest lower deck main lane. The building face is located about 20 feet from the southbound frontage road pavement edge, about 48 feet from the northbound upper deck structure, about 58 feet from the closest upper deck main lane and about 100 feet from the closest lower deck main lane.

Alternative 2

At this location, I-35 would be reconstructed with depressed main lanes and at-grade frontage roads. An at-grade, shared-use path would be located to the outside of the southbound frontage road. Managed lanes and ramps would be located at grade, carried on bridge structures over the center of the depressed main lane section (see Figures 13 and 14).

The I-35 ROW at this location would be expanded on the west side of the existing ROW, with the shared-use path, southbound frontage road, and depressed southbound main lanes constructed at the current EBBC Main Office location. Alternative 2 would displace and remove the EBBC Main Office and would require acquisition of about 85 percent of the property parcel. Alternative 2 would result in an **adverse effect** to Resource 179, the NRHP-eligible EBBC Main Office at 4000 North I-35.

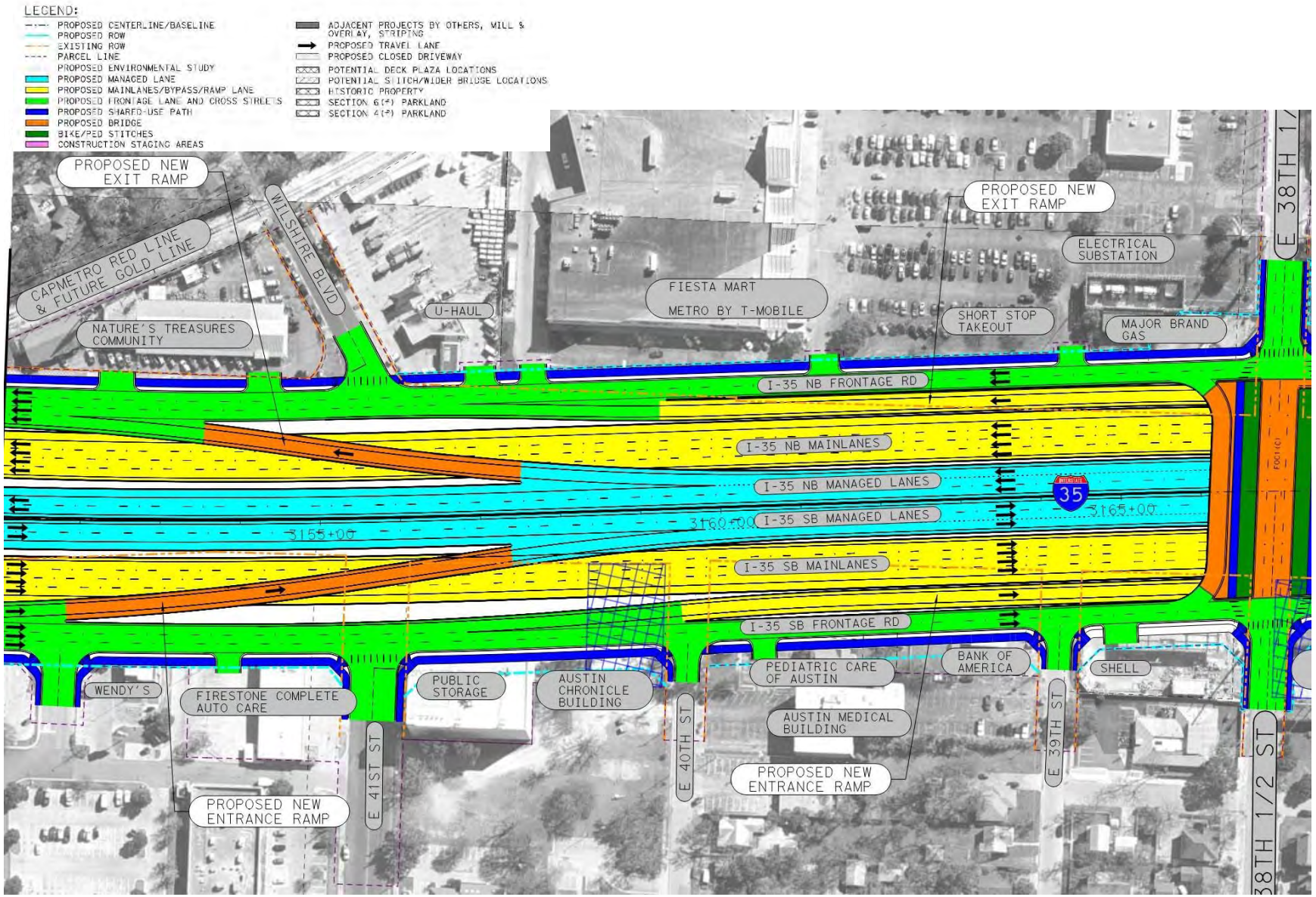


Figure 13. Close-up of Alternative 2 project schematic (April 8, 2022, version) showing proposed configuration in EBBC Main Office vicinity. EBBC Main Office property hatched in purple and labeled as "Austin Chronicle."

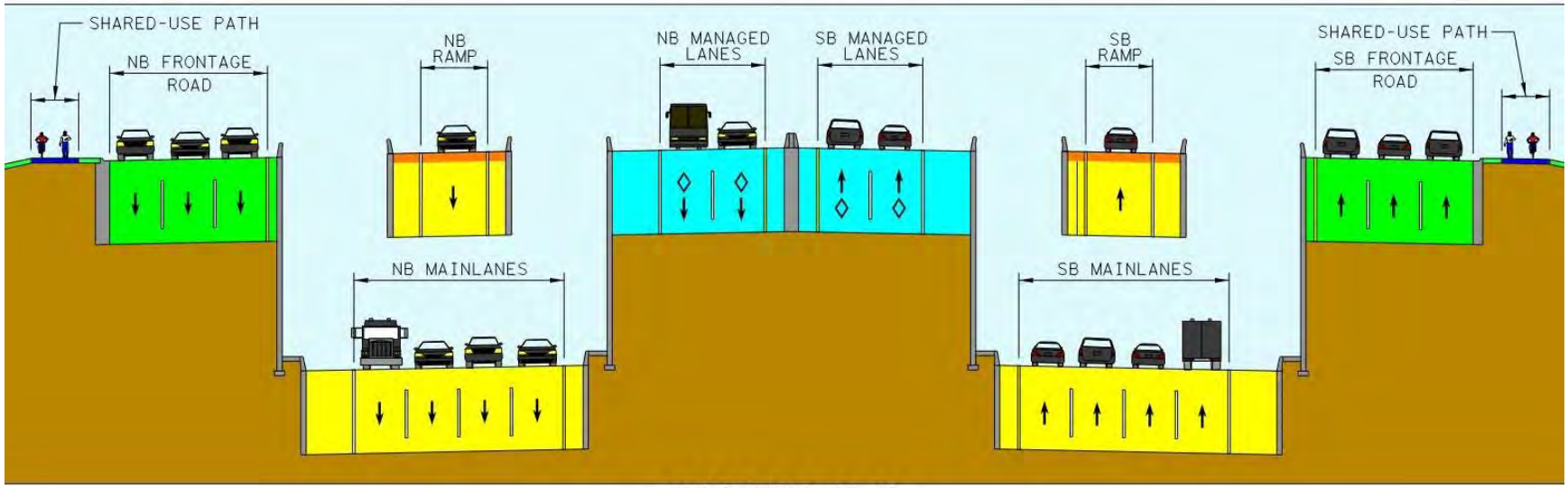


Figure 14. Cross-section of Alternative 2 project schematic (April 8, 2022, version) showing proposed configuration in the EBBC Main Office vicinity.

Modified Alternative 3

At this location, I-35 would be reconstructed with depressed main lanes and at-grade frontage roads. An at-grade, shared-use path would be located to the outside of the southbound frontage road. Managed lanes would be located at grade, carried on bridge structures over the center of the depressed main lane section (see Figures 15 and 16). Unlike Alternative 2, no ramp structures would be present near the managed lanes under Modified Alternative 3, resulting in a slightly narrower section in this location.

The I-35 ROW at this location would be expanded on the west side of the existing ROW, with the shared use path, southbound frontage road, and depressed southbound main lanes constructed at the current EBBC Main Office location. Modified Alternative 3 would displace and remove the EBBC Main Office. A small strip of land at the west edge of the property would remain beyond the proposed roadway and shared use path construction. However, TxDOT would acquire the full EBBC Main Office property parcel as the strip of land is considered an uneconomic remainder, meaning it could not be adequately accessed and/or redeveloped. Modified Alternative 3 would result in an **adverse effect** to Resource 179, the NRHP-eligible EBBC Main Office at 4000 North I-35.

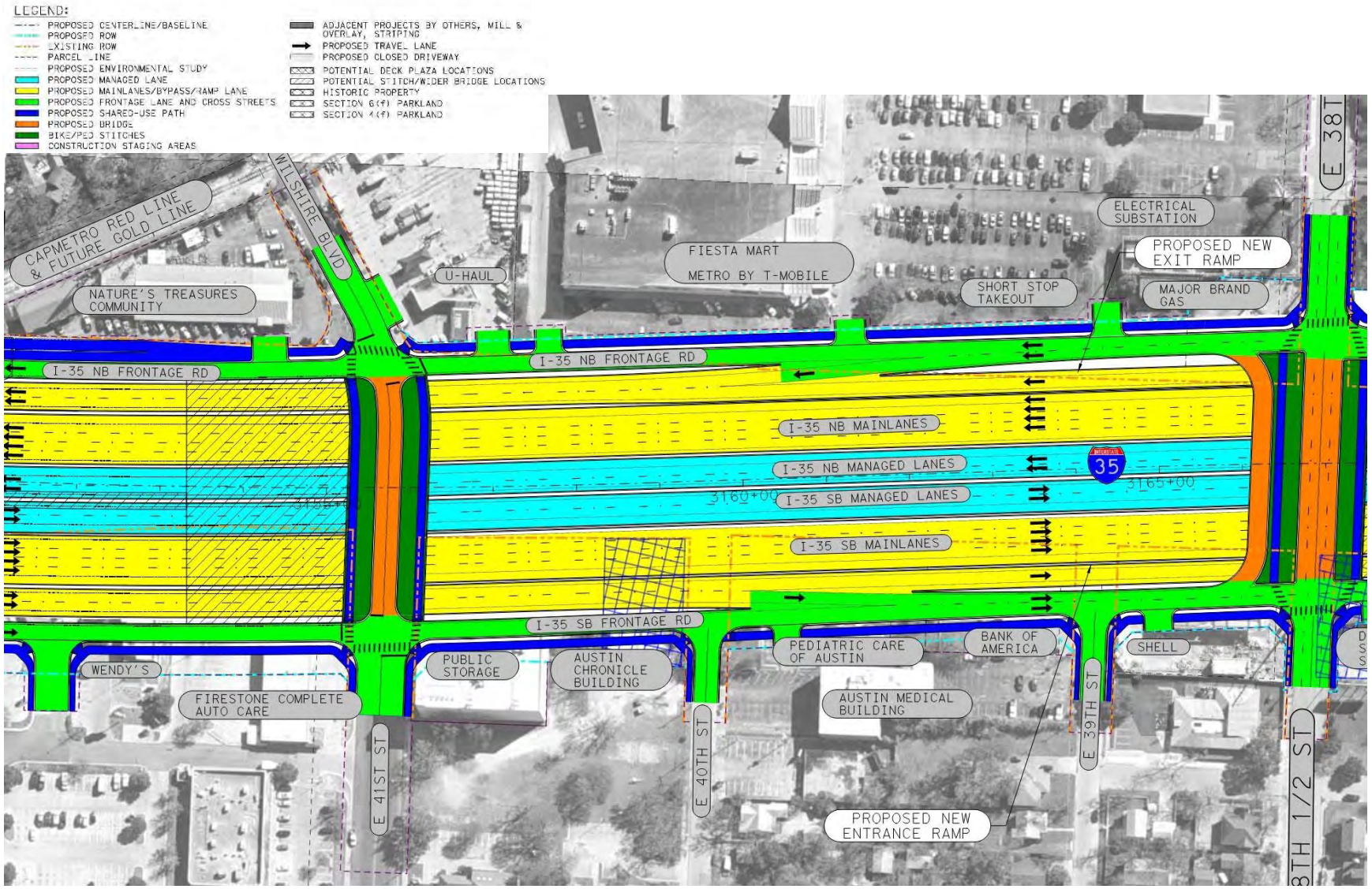


Figure 15. Close-up of Modified Alternative 3 project schematic (April 8, 2022, version) showing proposed configuration in EBBC Main Office vicinity. EBBC Main Office property hatched in purple and labeled as "Austin Chronicle."

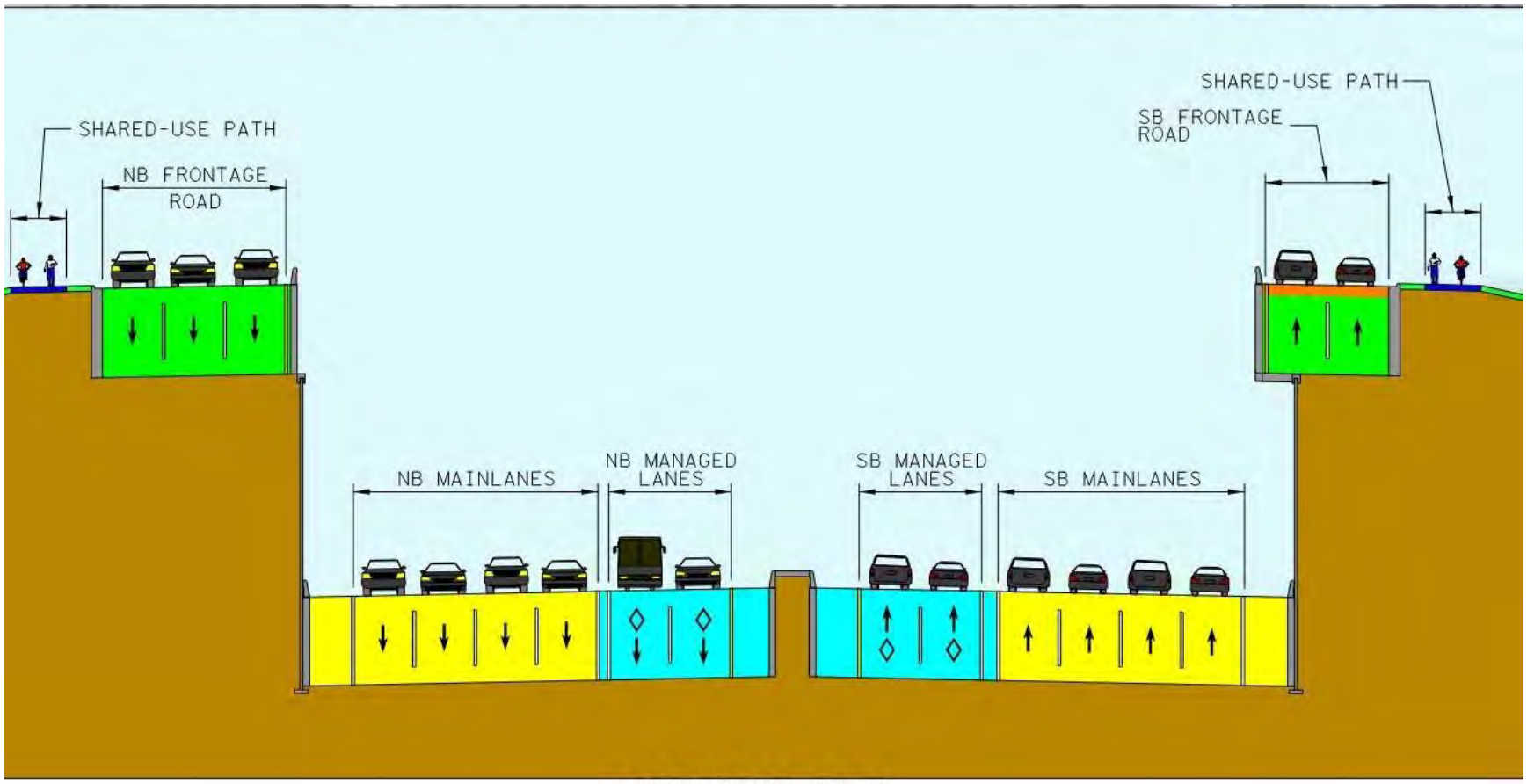


Figure 16. Cross-section of Modified Alternative 3 project schematic (April 8, 2022, version) showing proposed configuration in the EBBC Main Office vicinity.

- Indirect, Cumulative or Reasonable Foreseeable Effects

Redevelopment along and close to I-35 is an existing developmental trend already present in the EBBC Main Office vicinity. The proposed project does not deviate from established urban development trends that result in both beneficial and adverse impacts to historic resources from large infrastructure projects; these trends are not likely to be substantially changed by this project. A cumulative impacts analysis, including cumulative effects to historic properties, is being prepared by TxDOT as a separate technical report for the overall I-35 Capital Express Central Project.

Both project build alternatives would result in an adverse direct effect to the NRHP-eligible EBBC Main Office property. The project is not expected to result in indirect, cumulative, or reasonably foreseeable adverse effects on the EBBC Main Office property beyond those discussed in the Direct Effects section above.

U.S. DOT Section 4(f) Applicability Statement

The NRHP-eligible EBBC Main Office property parcel (Resource 179) is 0.3305 acres in size, conforming to the parcel boundaries as shown in TCAD records. Under Alternative 2, TxDOT would acquire approximately 0.28 acre, or about 85 percent, of the parcel. Under Modified Alternative 3, TxDOT would acquire 100 percent of the parcel. Both alternatives would result in displacement and removal of the EBBC Main Office building. Under Alternative 2 and Modified Alternative 3, project activities constitute a Section 4(f) use of the historic property as defined in 23 CFR 774. Both alternatives would have an adverse effect to the historic property. An individual Section 4(f) evaluation will be required for the property.

References Cited

"101 New Houses." *Architectural Forum* 71, no. 4 (October 1939). https://usmodernist.org/AF/AF-1939-10.pdf.

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Patents for the Year 1884. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1885.

Austin City Directory. Austin, Tex., 1939.

"Austin, Texas, 1935 (Revised 1962) Vol. 2." 1:600. New York, 1962. Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867-1970. ProQuest.

"Austin, Texas, 1935 Vol. 1." 1:600. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1935. Library of Congress. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn08415_006/.

Austin, Texas, Illustrated : The Famous Capital City of the Lone Star State, 1900. https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth33020/m1/37/.

Barnes, Michael. "Austin's Building Blocks." *Austin American-Statesman*. May 19, 2013.

"Bricks: Their Wholesale Manufacture in Austin, A Reporter's Visit to the Extensive Yards of Mr. M. Butler, and What He Saw." *The Austin Weekly Statesman*. April 10, 1884.

Douglass, Neal. "Butler Brick Company." Photograph. *The Portal to Texas History*, August 29, 1959. https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth18998/.

"Elgin-Butler Brick Company Drawings," n.d. Alexander Archives, University of Texas Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin.

"Elgin-Butler Brick Company Largest in the Southwest." *Austin American-Statesman*. May 18, 1924.

Fuquay, Jim. "Texas Firm Hopes to Build First Commercial Gasification Plant." *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. September 4, 1980.

Harris, August Watkins. "The Elgin-Butler Brick Company, 1873-1963," n.d. Available in Elgin Butler Brick Company Records. Austin History Center.

Holley, I. B. "The Mechanization of Brickmaking." *Technology and Culture* 50, no. 1 (2009): 82–102.

Jackson, Wayne. "'Jillions and Jillions of Bricks.'" *Austin American-Statesman*. June 3, 1973.

"Meeting Books 1939-1996," n.d. Available in Elgin Butler Brick Company Records. Austin History Center.

"Michael Butler Scrapbook," n.d. Elgin Butler Brick Company Records. Austin History Center.

Midkiff, Morris. “Big Butler Tract Obtained.” *Austin American-Statesman*. August 8, 1941.

Moon, Mike. “Pilot Point Project Urged.” *The Denton Record-Chronicle*, December 8, 1964. https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/51327/images/News-TE-DE_RE_2.1964_12_08-0002?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=yj1-878593&_phstart=successSource&pId=505815042&rcstate=News-TE-DE_RE_2.1964_12_08-0002%3A1521%2C633%2C1590%2C658%3B2062%2C5129%2C2138%2C5154%3B500%2C3667%2C579%2C3692%3B1451%2C633%2C1507%2C658.

National Park Service. *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, revised 1997 1990. https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB-15_web508.pdf.

“New School.” *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. May 14, 1953.

“Olin Boese, Architect, Dies at 68.” *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. May 3, 1973.

“Plans Now Being Drawn on Terrell Hills Residence.” *San Antonio Light*, July 10, 1932. Ancestry.com.

“Store Building.” *San Antonio Express*, July 24, 1932. Ancestry.com.

The Capitol Staff. “Capitol Site Clearing Bids Being Opened.” *Austin American-Statesman*. August 24, 1956.

“Thomas Butler Sr. Dies at Age 87.” *The Austin American*. January 5, 1973.

“TPWD Item: Refectory, Lake Corpus Christi State Park, June 6, 1934.” *Texascccparks.Org*, n.d. Accessed March 17, 2022.

Twining, Jeff. “Butler Brick Main Office,” February 17, 2022.

United States Department of Agriculture. “Travis USDA Historic Imagery.” TNRIS DataHub, January 30, 1958. https://data.tnris.org/collection?c=4e1c31c4-5d13-4a6f-8672-8da77c825dea#8.06/30.326/-97.771.

“UT Laboratory Pushing Tests on Use of Clay.” *Austin American-Statesman*. August 23, 1949.

“Various Records Compiled by Historian Jeff Twining,” n.d. Elgin Butler Brick Company Records. Austin History Center.

Appendix A: Project Information and ROW Information

Back To List

- WPD Section I - Project Definition
- WPD Section II - Tool
- WPD Section III - Project Work Plan
- WPD Section IV - Findings

Archived WPD I | Print this Page

Project Definition

Project Name: I-35 Capital Express Central (US290E to US290W/SH71)

CSJ: 0015 - 13 - 388

Anticipated Environmental Classification: EIS

No — Is this an FHWA project that normally requires an EIS per 23 CFR 771.115(a)?

Project Association(s)

Auto Associate CSJ from DCIS

Manually Associate CSJ:

Add

CSJ	DCIS Funding	DCIS Number	Env Classification	DCIS Classification	Main or Associate	Doc Tracked In	Actions
CSJ:091404341			EIS		Associate	Main	
CSJ:001513433			EIS		Associate	Main	
CSJ:001513432			EIS		Associate	Main	
CSJ:001513423	Federal,State	F ()	EIS	WF	Associate	Main	
CSJ:001513428	Federal,State	F ()	EIS	FOI	Associate	Main	
CSJ:001513399	State	ROW 15-13-399	EIS	ROW	Associate	Main	

DCIS Project Funding and Location

Funding

DCIS Funding Type:

☑ Federal ☑ State ☐ Local ☐ Private

Location

DCIS Project Number: NH ( )

Highway: IH 35

District: AUSTIN

County: TRAVIS

Project Limit -- From: US 290E

Project Limit -- To: US 290W/SH 71

Begin Latitude: + 30 . 3221403

Begin Longitude: - 97 . 7068134

End Latitude: + 30 . 2164257

End Longitude: - 97 . 7513401

DCIS & P6 Letting Dates

DCIS District: 08/25

DCIS Approved:

DCIS Actual:

P6 Ready To Let:

P6 Proposed Letting: 09/02/2019

DCIS Project Description

Type of Work:

Layman's Description:

WIDEN ROAD - ADD LANES

DCIS Project Classification: WF - WIDEN FREEWAY

Design Standard: 4R - New Location and Reconstruction

Roadway Functional Classification: 1 - Interstate

Jurisdiction

No — Does the project cross a state boundary, or require a new Presidential Permit or modification of an existing Presidential Permit?

Who is the lead agency responsible for the approval of the entire project?

☑ FHWA - Assigned to TxDOT ☐ TxDOT - No Federal Funding ☐ FHWA - Not Assigned to TxDOT

TXDOT — Who is the project sponsor as defined by 43 TAC 2.7?

No — Is a local government's or a private developer's own staff or consultant preparing the CE documentation, EA or EIS?

Yes — Does the project require any federal permit, license, or approval?

☑ USACE ☐ IBWC ☐ USCG ☑ NPS ☑ IAJR ☑ Other Formal USFWS consultation is anticipated, th

No — Does the project occur, in part or in total, on federal or tribal lands?

Environmental Clearance Project Description

Project Area

Typical Depth of Impacts: 26 (Feet) Maximum Depth of Impacts: 80 (Feet)

New ROW Required: 44 (Acres)

New Perm. Easement Required: 0 (Acres) New Temp. Easement Required: 3.9 (Acres)

Project Description

Describe Limits of All Activities: Spell

TxDOT is proposing improvements to I-35 from US290E to US290W/SH71 in Travis County (~8 miles in length).

The proposed improvements include the removal of the existing I-35 decks from Airport Blvd. to MLK Jr. Blvd., lowering the roadway, and adding two HOV managed lanes in each direction. One alternative would add direct connectors at I-35/US 290E. The project will also reconstruct east-west cross-street bridges, add shared-use paths (SUP), and make additional safety and mobility improvements within the project limits.

TxDOT, in coordination with the City of Austin and the University of Texas (UT), is designing the project to accommodate potential deck plaza locations that would cover sections of the main and HOV lanes of I-35 and provide community enhancement opportunities in those areas. The City is currently evaluating potential deck plazas between Cesar Chavez St. and 8th St. UT is evaluating potential deck cap areas between Dean Keeton St. and 15th St. In addition, “stiches,” or bridges with enhanced (widened) pedestrian and bicycle accommodations and amenities, are being evaluated at the following locations: the CapMetro Red Line crossing south of Airport Blvd., Wilshire Blvd., 38th ½ St., 32nd St., 12th St., 11th St., Holly St., and Woodland Ave.

In addition, this project will make improvements to the drainage system including potential drainage tunnels and outfall sites. Currently, TxDOT is proposing major drainage systems along and

Describe Project Setting:

The proposed project location is in an urban setting. The existing roadway experiences high traffic volume throughout the day, as I-35 is one of only three north-south-oriented controlled-access facilities in the Austin metropolitan area.

Land use in the vicinity of the project area is highly developed and comprised of a variety of property types including commercial (large shopping and office/retail centers, car dealerships, hotels/motels, restaurants, municipal buildings), churches, hospitals/health care providers, schools, parks, and residential (single-family residential and multi-family apartment and condominium complexes). There are a few undeveloped parcels; however, none are being used for cropland, pasture, or range land.

Eight stream features cross the project area and include two tributaries of Tannehill Branch (intermittent), Boggy Creek (intermittent flow regime), Lady Bird Lake (perennial), two unnamed tributaries of the Colorado River/Lady Bird Lake (one perennial and one ephemeral), and two tributaries of Blunn Creek (one ephemeral and one intermittent).
Vegetation in the project area consists of maintained roadside grasses and forbs within existing ROW. Landscaped grasses, forbs, and shrubs are located within developed areas. In undeveloped areas, vegetation consists of disturbed pasture, Ashe juniper/live oak woodlands, and narrow riparian areas.

Cemeteries adjacent to the project area include Mt. Calvary, Oakwood, and Assumption.

There are Section 4(f)- and Section 6(f)-protected parkland properties adjacent to the project limits, including: Northwest Greenway along Philomena Street; Swede Hill Pocket Park; Waller Creek Greenbelt; Waterloo Greenway; Waller Beach at Town Lake Metro Park (Section 6(f)); Sir Swante Palm Neighborhood Park; Edward Rendon Sr. Metro Park at Festival Beach (Section 6(f)); Norwood Tract at Town Lake Metro Park; and Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike 1300 Riverside Easement. There are also some historic sites that may trigger individual Section 4(f) evaluations, such as the Haster House (Glass Coffin), Austin Chronicle Building and the Dura Tune Service Station.

There are adjacent properties that are listed in or are eligible for the NRHP (i.e. Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Austin Chronicle building, Palm Park, etc.).
This project is located in USFWS karst zone 3B, but it is not located within the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone.

There is potential freshwater mussel habitat in the Colorado River near Longhorn Dam.

Describe Existing Facility:

The existing I-35 roadway from US290E to US 290W/SH71 is located in an urban area with adjacent commercial, residential, institutional, governmental, and parks/open space properties. Within the proposed project limits, I-35 is an access-controlled interstate highway. Beginning at the southern limit, US 290W/SH 71, the roadway typically has three to four, 12-foot-wide mainlanes (concrete barrier-separated) with 4- to 12-foot-wide inside shoulders, 10- or 12-foot-wide outside shoulders, and two to three, 11- or 12-foot-wide frontage road lanes with curb and gutter in each direction. From Lady Bird Lake to 15th St., I-35 generally includes three 12-foot-wide mainlanes in each direction with auxiliary lanes between some of the ramps. North of 15th St., the roadway has four mainlanes in each direction and includes the upper/lower deck split just north of MLK Jr. Blvd. with a continuation of the upper decks to north of Airport Blvd. From Airport Blvd. to US 290E, I-35 includes four barrier-separated mainlanes in each direction. The roadway here typically has 2- to 6-foot-wide inside shoulders, 10-foot-wide outside shoulders, and two to four, 11- or 12-foot-wide frontage road lanes with curb and gutter in each direction. US 290E, between I-35 and Cameron Rd., is a four-lane freeway with 12-foot-wide mainlanes in each direction and 6-foot inside and 5’-20’ outside shoulders. Frontage roads are 2 to 4 lanes in each direction and direct connector ramps provide access to and from the I-35 general purpose lanes.

Sidewalks exist in most, but not all, locations throughout the project area and SUP are located within the project area in “downtown” Austin, defined as between MLK Jr. Blvd. and Holly St. Drainage along the roadway (mainlanes and frontage roads) is provided by storm sewer networks and

Describe Proposed Facility:

~8 m in length - 1,500 ft north of US290E to 1,000 ft south of SH71. Removal of decks (Airport to MLK), lowering roadway, adding 2 HOV lanes in each direction, reconstructing E-W cross-streets, adding SUP.

Construction access/staging needed within parkland: Waller Beach (6(f)); Edward Rendon (6(f)); Norwood Tract; & Ann/Roy Butler Hike & Bike Easement.

Improvements to drainage include new drainage systems & outfalls. Project lowers roadway profile below existing grade north/south of Lady Bird Lake, which severs drainage systems connected to Harpers Branch, Lady Bird Lake, Colorado River, Waller Creek, & Boggy Creek. New systems needed to drain runoff severed from existing outfalls: storm drains along both FRs & MLs (Harper’s Branch outfall to Oltorf); tunnel east I35 (Lady Bird Lake to 15th); tunnel west I35 (Waller Creek outfalls [3rd, 9th, & 15th)] to Hancock Center), tunnel down Cesar Chavez (CO River downstream of Longhorn Dam to I35); tunnel Clarkson Branch to I35 (via 38th½ & north to Hancock Center); & storm drain Boggy Creek to the west of I35 (via a crossing north of Airport).

Based on alternatives screening process, TxDOT will analyze 2 build alts. and the No Build in the EIS:

Alt. 2

Yes Would the project add capacity?

Transportation Planning

Yes Is the project within an MPO's boundaries?

No Does the project meet the definition for a grouped category for planning and programming purposes?

The project is located in Attainment/Unclassified area.

This status applies to:

- CO - Carbon Monoxide
- O3 - Ozone
- NO2 - Nitrogen Dioxide
- PM10 - Particulate
- PM2.5 - Particulate

Environmental Clearance Information

Environmental Clearance Date:

Environmental LOA Date:

Closed Date:

Archived Date:

Approved Environmental Classification:

Project Contacts

Created By: Shelly Eason

Date Created: 10/17/2016

Project Sponsor: TXDOT (Or) Local Government

Sponsor Point Of Contact: Sonya Hernandez - Environmental Specialist

ENV Core Team Member: Lindsey Kimmitt - Environmental Specialist

District Core Team Member: Sonya Hernandez - Environmental Specialist

Other Point of Contact(s): Spell

Tricia Bruck-Hoyt (Mobility35 GEC) - 512-739-9450

Last Updated By: Tricia Bruck-Hoyt-C

Last Updated Date: 04/08/2022 11:13:40

Appendix B: Tabular Inventory of Surveyed Properties

Resource No.	Address/ Location	Function/ Sub-function	Architectural Style	Date(s)	Description/Comments	Integrity Considerations	NRHP Eligibility
179	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708	COMMERCE/ office	Contemporary	1957	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)

Appendix C: Survey Forms for All Surveyed Properties

Date:	March 3, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Front facade facing southeast

Date:	March 3, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Oblique facing south.

Date:	March 3, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Side elevation facing southwest.

Date:	March 3, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Oblique facing west.

Date:	March 3, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6”x6”x1” glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building’s signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Rear view facing northwest.

Date:	March 3, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Oblique view facing north.

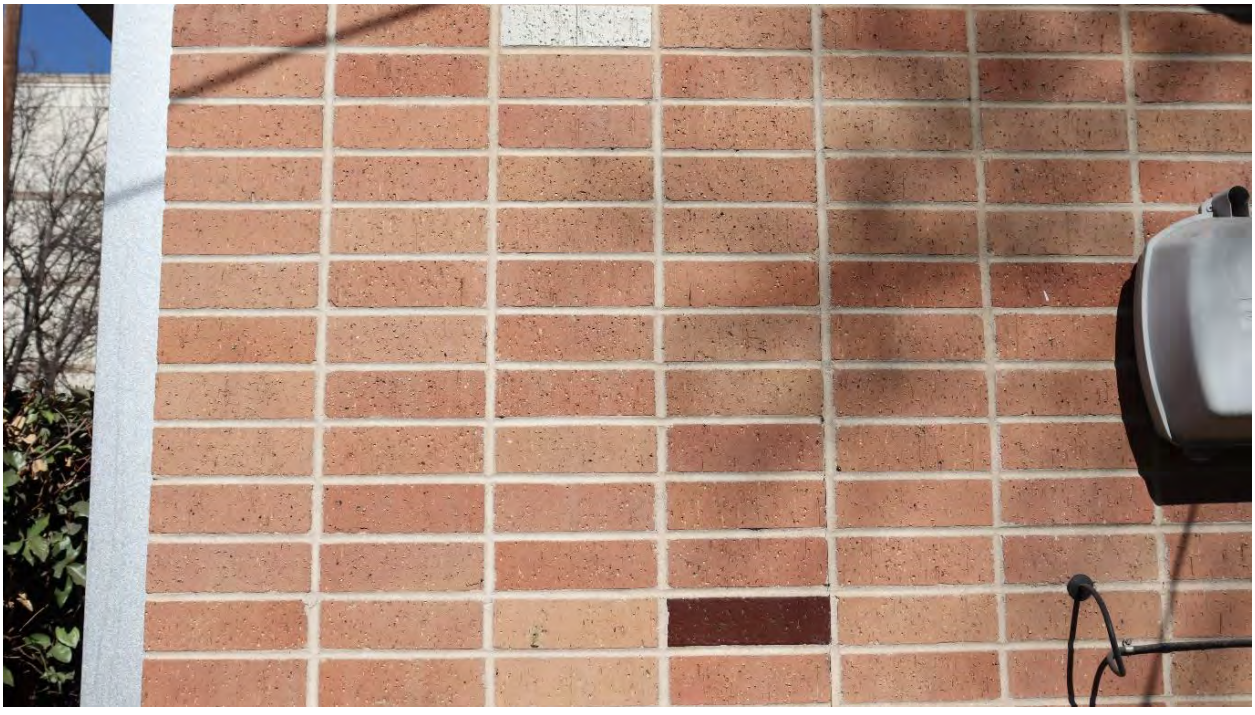
Date:	March 3, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Oblique view facing northeast.

Date:	January 14, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6”x6”x1” glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building’s signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Window detail, northeast wall.

Date:	January 14, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

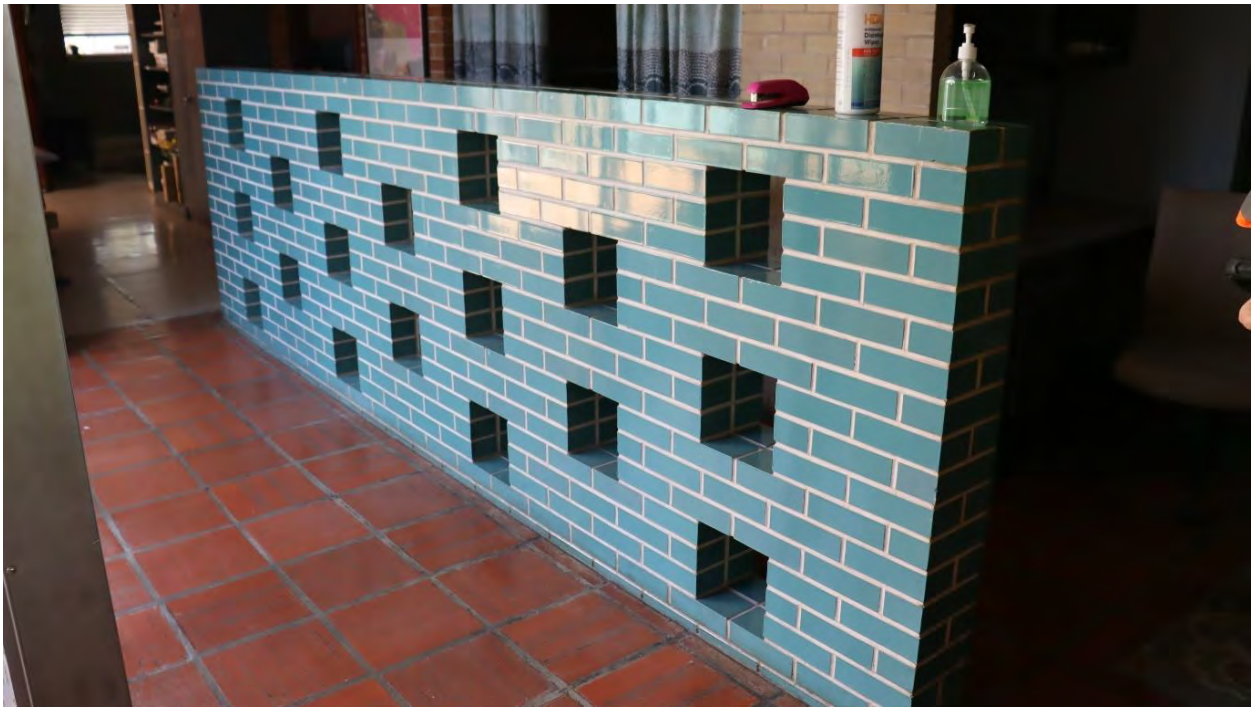


Brick detail, southwest wall.

Date:	January 14, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Interior atrium.

Date:	January 14, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.



Glazed brick half-wall in lobby.

Date:	January 14, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Interior office showing use of three kinds of brick.

Date:	January 14, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6”x6”x1” glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building’s signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Interior office wall with rusticated Roman brick.

Date:	January 14, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Interior pierced glazed brick wall.

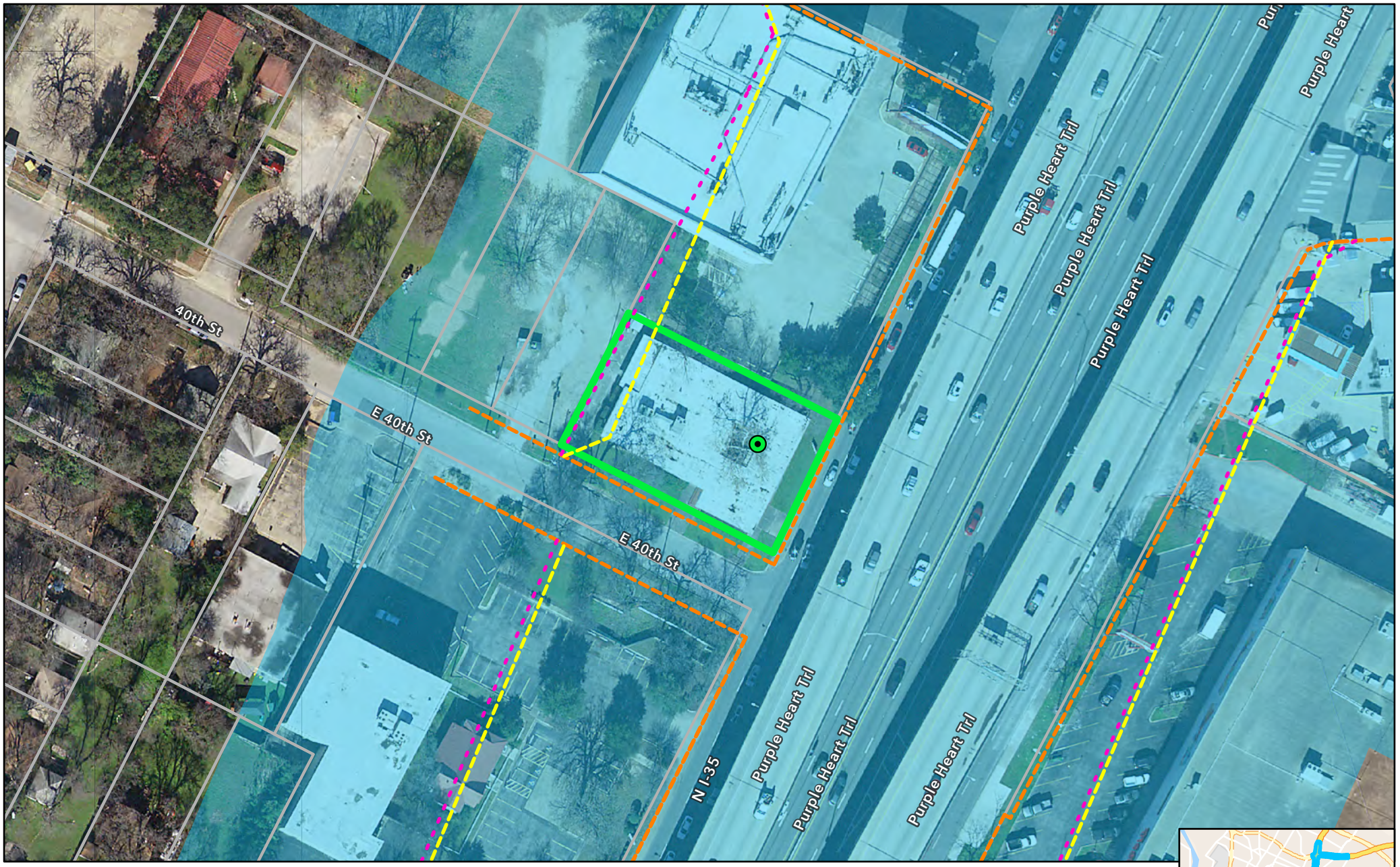
Date:	January 14, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6”x6”x1” glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building’s signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

View of I-35 looking northeast.

Date:	January 14, 2022
Resource No:	179
Project Location:	Austin, Travis County, I-35: US 290 East to US 290 West/SH 71
Project Name and CSJ:	Capital Express Central – Elgin-Butler Brick Company Main Office Intensive Survey; 0015-13-388
Address, Lat/Long:	4000 North Interstate Highway 35, Austin, Texas 78751; 30.296950, -97.718708
Function/Sub-function:	COMMERCE/office
Construction Date:	1957
Architectural Style/Form:	Contemporary
NRHP Eligibility	Eligible (Criterion A: Commerce; Criterion C: Architecture)
Description/Comments:	The EBBC Main Office is a one-story, rectangular-plan, Contemporary-style building with a flat roof and overhanging eaves. It has a concrete foundation and brick walls of varying colors and patterns. Windows are fixed and sliding metal tucked below the eaves. Entries on the I-35 frontage road and East 40th Street have wood doors and 6"x6"x1" glazed English tile stoops. A partial shed-roof addition on the rear has corrugated metal and acrylic cladding and corrugated metal roof. The building has an interior courtyard constructed around a sycamore tree. Resource 179 is significant under NRHP Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It does not possess historical or architectural significance within the historic contexts necessary for NRHP eligibility under Criterion B.
Integrity Considerations:	Alterations include a change in the building's signage on the front, replacement materials and patching where the stacked brick in the planter boxes has failed, and wood infill in the skylights in the main entry awning. A small, partial shed-roof addition was added to the back of the building. These changes are not enough to affect integrity of design, workmanship, materials, or feeling. The location has not changed, and because the building is still used as an office, it has not lost integrity of association. The EBBC was part of the initial commercial rezoning along East Avenue, and the area has developed much more since 1957, but the position of the office in a residential area fronting a highway has not changed. The EBBC Main Office retains all aspects of historic integrity.

View of I-35 looking southwest.

Appendix D: Figures



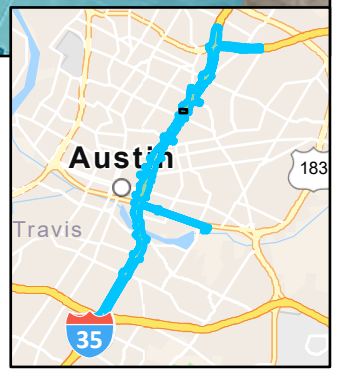
NRHP Boundary Map
I-35 Capital Express Central
Intensive Survey
CSJ: 0015-13-388
April 2022

APE
NRHP Boundary
Parcel Boundary (Travis CAD)
Existing ROW (TxDOT)
Proposed New ROW (Alt 2) (TxDOT)
Proposed New ROW (Modified Alt 3) (TxDOT)

NRHP Eligibility
Eligible

Resource Name: Elgin Butler Brick Building
Resource Number: 179

0 25 50 100 Feet



Aerial imagery: Strategic Mapping Program (StratMap). CapArea Imagery, 2019-01-29. Web.