

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
MARCH 25, 2013
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
1907 EVA STREET
HDP-2013-0097**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1913 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled asbestos-shingled frame house with a Cumberland-style entry consisting of two front doors framed by a partial-width shed-roofed independent porch on plain, square wood posts and a plain, vertical railing section; 1:1 and 4:4 fenestration. An addition was made to the rear of the house in 1958.

RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built around 1913; the first occupant was telegraph operator William H. Roberts, who lived here until around 1915. August Pop, a carpenter, is listed as the occupant in the 1916 city directory; William F. and Fannie Dickey are listed as the renters of the house in the 1918 directory. He was a house painter. The house was vacant in 1920; by 1921, John W. and Frances Bracken had purchased the property, and lived here the rest of their lives. John W. Bracken was significantly older than Frances, and had a colorful career as the owner of a livery stable in San Marcos, a night watchman at the State Capitol, and in his 70s, was listed as a Texas Ranger. He died in 1939. Frances Bracken continued to live in the house until her death in 1960. Her sister, Barbara Volz, a book-keeper, lived here until the late 1960s. The house was then vacant throughout most of the 1970s and early 1980s, then became a rental property in the mid-1980s.

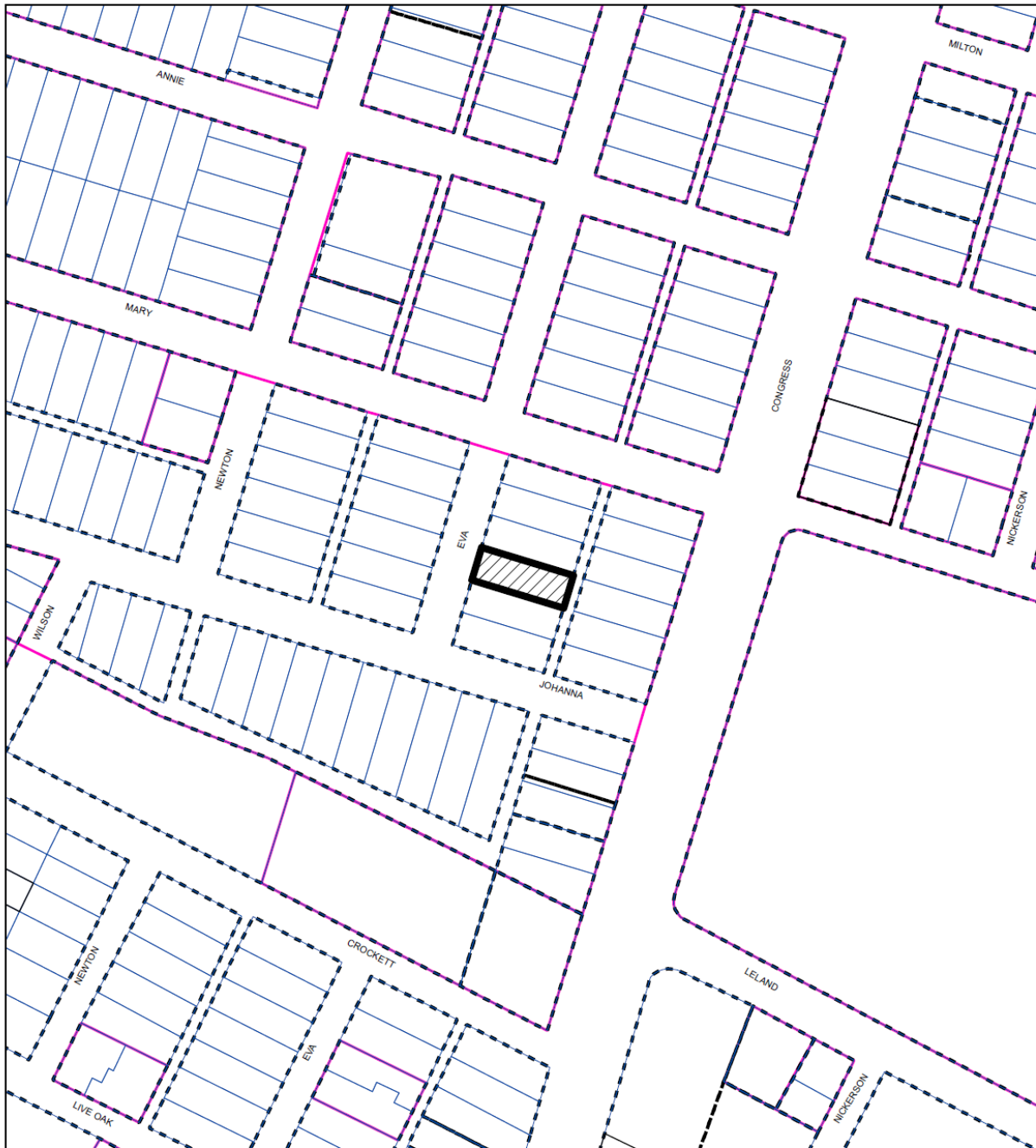
STAFF COMMENTS

The house is listed as a Priority 2 for research in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage relocation over demolition, but release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history of the house, to be archived at the Austin History Center.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2013-0097
LOCATION: 1907 Eva Street



This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

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1907 Eva Street
ca. 1913



OCCUPANCY HISTORY

1907 Eva Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
 By City Historic Preservation Office
 March, 2013

1992	Marguerite Harrell, renter No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Marguerite Harrell was a new resident at this address.
1985-86	Richard Spikes, renter No occupation listed
1981	Vacant
1977	Vacant
1973	Vacant
1968	Barbara E. Volz, owner Retired
1962	Barbara E. Volz, owner Book-keeper NOTE: Barbara Volz was Frances Bracken's sister.
1959	Frances Bracken, owner Widow, John W. Bracken No occupation listed
1955	Frances Bracken, owner Widow, John W. Bracken No occupation listed
1952	Frances Bracken, owner Widow, John W. Bracken No occupation listed
1949	Frances Bracken, owner Widow, John W. Bracken No occupation listed
1947	Frances Bracken, owner Widow, John W. Bracken No occupation listed
1944-45	Frances Bracken, owner Widow, John W. Bracken No occupation listed

1941	Frances Bracken, owner Widow, John W. Bracken No occupation listed
1939	John W. and Frances Bracken, owners No occupation listed
1937	John W. and Frances Bracken, owners No occupation listed
1935	John W. and Frances Bracken, owners No occupation listed
1932-33	John W. and Frances Bracken, owners No occupation listed
1930-31	John W. and Frances Bracken, owners No occupation listed
1929	John W. and Frances Bracken, owners No occupation listed
1927	John W. and Frances Bracken, owners No occupation listed
1924	John W. and Frances Bracken, owners No occupation listed
1922	John W. and Frances Bracken, owners Pound master
1920	Vacant
1918	William F. and Fannie Dickey, renters Painter
1916	August Pop Carpenter
1914	William H. Roberts Telegraph operator
1912-13	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: William H. Roberts is not listed in the directory.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

William F. and Fannie Dickey (ca. 1917 – ca. 1919)

William F. and Fannie Dickey appear in the 1920 U.S. Census as the owners of a house at 2115 E. 1st Street in Austin. William Dickey was then 51 years old, had been born in Alabama, and was a house painter. Fannie Dickey was then 44, and had been born in Texas. She had no occupation listed. They couple had two children: Robert, 17, a house painter; and Lorene, 11. They also apparently had tenants, Chris and Pearl Gardner, both of whom had been born in

Alabama. Chris Gardner was a 38-year old watchman at the cotton oil mill. Pearl Gardner was 30 and had no occupation listed.

John W. and Frances Bracken (ca. 1921 – ca. 1960)

John W. Bracken first appears in the 1880 U.S. Census for Austin – he was the son of land agent E.R. Bracken and his wife, Anna. John is listed as a huckster in the census report. By 1910, he had married Frances Volz, and they were living in San Marcos, Texas, where John was the owner of a livery stable.

John W. and Frances Bracken appear in the 1920 U.S. Census as the renters of the house at 209 E. 1st Street in Austin. John W. Bracken was then 62, had been born in Texas, and was a night watchman at the Capitol. Frances Bracken was then 40, and had been born in Texas to German-born parents. She had no occupation listed. With them lived Leland Purnell, 33, and Fleecia Purnell, 31, who are listed as nephew and niece, but were more likely a married couple. Both had been born in Texas, but their parents had been born in different places. Leland Purnell was an electrician at the University. Fleecia had no occupation listed.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows John W. and Frances Bracken as the owners of this house. John W. Bracken is listed as a 72-year old Texas Ranger.

JOHN W. BRACKEN
 John W. Bracken, a resident of Austin since 1890, died at 9:30 a. m. Monday at a local hospital. Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Frances Bracken, and two sisters, Mrs. Blanch Phillips and Mrs. Leila B. Jones, all of Austin.
 Mr. Bracken was a Spanish American war veteran, an ex-Texas ranger and former member of the Austin police force.
 Funeral services will be held from the Cook funeral home at 4:30 p. m. Tuesday with Father Patrick R. Duffy officiating. Burial will be in the state cemetery.

Obituary of John W. Bracken
 Austin American, April 4, 1939

MRS. FRANCES V. BRACKEN

Mrs. Frances Volz Bracken, 80, of 1907 Eva St., died in a local hospital Tuesday. She was a life-long resident of Austin, a member of the St. Ignatius Catholic Church and Altar Society.

Survivors include three brothers, Joe Volz, Frank Volz and William Volz, all of Austin; and two sisters, Miss Barbara Volz and Mrs. Ernestina Fitzsimmons, both of Austin.

Rosary was recited Tuesday at Hyttin-Manor Funeral Home by Rev. John W. Payne.

Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Payne Wednesday at 9 a.m. at St. Ignatius Catholic Church. Burial will be in State Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Sam Hill, R. C. Lozano, Pat Hanley, John J. Brady, Joe Adams and Charles Dellana.

Obituary of Frances Bracken
Austin American, June 15, 1960

Francis Bracken

1907 Eva St.

35

123

9

Swisher Addition

Frame addition to rear of residence.

71117

12/8/58

2200.00

Lake Const. Co.

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2 BEDROOMS

Building permit to Frances Bracken for the construction of a rear frame addition (1958)