# HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION JUNE 24, 2013 DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS HDP-2013-0414 2525 NUECES STREET

#### **PROPOSAL**

Demolish a ca. 1910 house.

#### ARCHITECTURE

Two-and-a-half story, rectangular-plan with a projecting front gable, pyramidal-roofed frame house with 1:1 fenestration. The original house had a one-story full-width independent porch across the front; the current porch is two-stories with a "bird's nest" up to the third level. The house has a large, two-story, rectangular-plan addition on the rear; a back porch that faced north on the back of the house, has now been filled in, but has a second-story full-width wood-railed balcony facing north.

### RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built around 1910, and was listed as vacant in the 1910-11 city directory. The 1900 Sanborn map shows the lot as vacant. The first occupants of the house were Franck and Clotilda Sistermans, who moved here from El Paso. Frank Sistermans was a mining engineer. He and his famly lived here until around 1915, and eventually moved to Los Angeles, where Frank still worked as a mining engineer. From 1915 to around 1919, the house was rented by Lulu Broussard; there is no information available about Ms. Broussard apart from her residency in this house. She had no occupation listed in the city directories, and does not appear on the 1910 or 1920 U.S. Census reports.

Furniture store owner Henry W. Schlieker and his wife Ida owned and occupied the house from around 1919 to around 1923; then Frances B. Fly moved from Galveston and established her home here. Frances Brand Fly was the widow and second wife of Dr. Ashley W. Fly, a very prominent physician in Galveston, mayor of that city, and regent of the University of Texas. Dr. Fly was born in northern Mississippi, and moved to Galveston in 1876. He taught anatomy and surgery at the Texas Medical College in Galveston, and had a prominent medical practice there. He served as mayor of Galveston in the 1890s, and was noted for cleaning up corruption. He attended to victims of the 1900 hurricane and various smallpox epidemics, and was later appointed to the Board of Regents for the University of Texas. After his first wife died in 1905, he married Frances Brand in 1915. He died in Galveston in 1919. Four years later, his widow moved to this house in Austin with her young son. She had been a nurse in Galveston, and occasionally listed her profession as a nurse in the Austin city directories. In 1941, she was listed as the superintendent of nurses at Seton Hospital. Frances Fly apparently died in Austin in March, 1971, but there was never an obituary in the Austin newspapers. She is buried in Albuguerque, New Mexico.

## 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 and completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package prior to the release of any permits. The original section of the house retains a high degree of architectural integrity, and is a very good example of late Victorian residential architecture. While staff wonders whether the house has sufficient historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark, the architecture of this house is worth reconsidering demolition in favor of preservation, even if not on this same site.



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.

LOCATION: 2525 Nueces Street

//// SUBJECT TRACT

ZONING BOUNDARY

This product has been produced by the Planning and Development Review Department for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



2525 Nueces Street ca. 1910











## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 2525 Nueces Street

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

1992 Vacant

1985-86 Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity

1981 No return

NOTE: The address is listed as 2523; there is no listing for 2525 or 2503.

NOTE: Sigma Tau Gamma is not listed in the directory.

1977 Valentine's Discotecque (no proprietor listed).

The address is listed as 2523; there is no listing for 2525 0r 2503.

1973 Vacant

NOTE: The address is listed as 2523; there is no listing for 2525 or 2503.

1968 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly

Retired

½: Vacant

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1962 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly

No occupation listed ½: Vacant

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1959 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly No occupation listed

Vacant

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1955 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly No occupation listed 1/2: Vacant

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1952 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly

Superintendent of nurses, Seton Hospital.

Also listed is Ashley W. Fly; no occupation stated. NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1949 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly

No occupation listed

½: Duane D. and Mary K. Wolf, renters

Student, University of Texas Also listed is Ashley W. Fly, a salesman

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1947 H Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly

No occupation listed

½: David R. and Nina Grace Matthis, renters

Both were students at the University of Texas Also listed is Ashley W. Fly, a salesman for Conoco Oil Company.

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1944-45 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly No occupation listed

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1941 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly

Nurse

Also listed is Ashley W. Fly, the district circulation manager for the American

Publishing Company (<u>American</u> and <u>Statesman</u> newspapers).

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1939 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly Nurse (at the house)

Also listed is Ashley W. Fly, a circulator.

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1937 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly No occupation listed

Also listed is Ashley W. Fly, Jr., no occupation stated. NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1935 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly No occupation listed

Also listed is Ashley W. Fly, a helper at the State Capitol Cafeteria.

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1932-33 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly No occupation listed

Also listed is Ashley W. Fly, no occupation stated. NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1930-31 Vacant

NOTE: Frances B. Fly is not listed in the directory.

1929 Vacant

1927 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly No occupation listed

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1924 Frances B. Fly, owner

Widow, Dr. Ashley W. Fly No occupation listed

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

NOTE: Henry W. and Ida Schliker are listed as living at 2108 Pearl Street; he

was the proprietor of a hardware store at 717 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

1922 Henry W. and Ida Schlieker, owners

Proprietor of a furniture store at 717 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

Also listed are Joyce Schlieker, no occupation stated; and Marie Schlieker, a

student at the University of Texas.

NOTE: Frances B. Fly is not listed in the directory. NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1920 Henry W. and Ida Schlieker, owners

Proprietor of a furniture store at 717 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

Also listed are Joyce Schleiker and Marie Schlieker; both were students at the

University of Texas.

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1918 Lulu Broussard, renter

No occupation listed

NOTE: Henry and Ida Schlieker are listed as living at 402 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street; he still

had his furniture store on 6th Street.

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1916 Lulu Broussard, renter

No occupation listed

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

NOTE: Frank H. Sistermans is listed as a mining engineer in the El Paso city

directory.

1914 Frank H. Sistermans

Mining engineer

Also listed are Francis Sistermans, a student; Louise Sistermans, the widow of John H.C. Sistermans, no occupation listed; and Louise Sistermans, a student at

the University of Texas.

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

1912-13 Frank H. Sistermans

Engineer

Also listed is Louise Sistermans, no occupation stated.

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

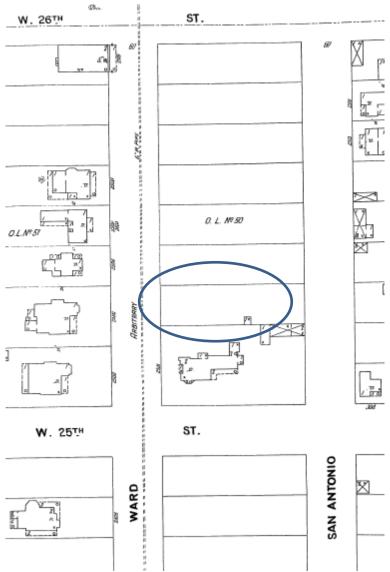
1910-11 Vacant

NOTE: Frank H. Sistermans is listed as a mining engineer in the El Paso city

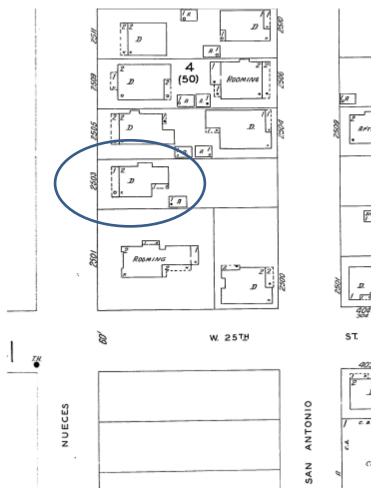
directory.

NOTE: The address is listed as 2503 Nueces Street.

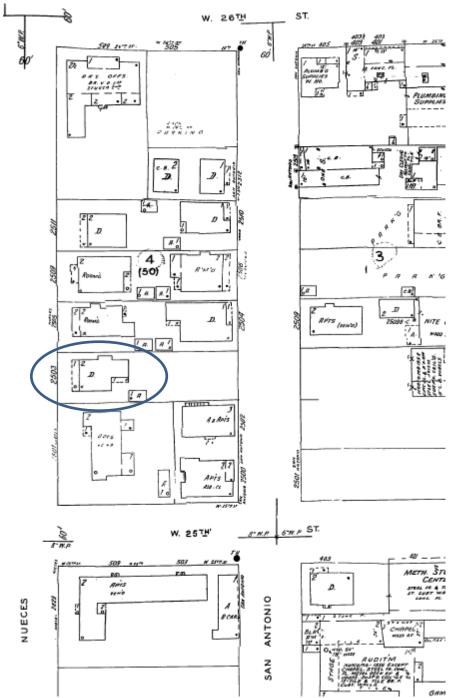
1909-10 The address is not listed in the directory.



The 1900 Sanborn map shows the site as vacant. Note that this section of Nueces Street was called Ward Street at the time. Today's Seton Avenue was shown as Nueces Street on the 1900 map.



The 1935 Sanborn map shows the house, and the house shown on the 1900 Sanborn map is now designated as rooming house.



The 1961 Sanborn map shows the house with the same configuration as shown on the 1935 map above. Note that the house just to the south (at the corner of 25<sup>th</sup> and Nueces) has replaced the house shown on the 1900 and 1935 maps. That house is now gone as well.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

## Frank H. and Clotilda Sistermans (ca. 1912 – ca. 1915)

Frank H. and Clotilda Sistermans are listed in the 1910 U.S. Census for El Paso, Texas. Frank Sistermans was then 40 years old, had been born in New York, and was a mining engineer.

Clotilda Sistermans was then 35 and had been born in Mexico. They had three children: Louise, 17, Frances, 12, and Alice, 10. Both Louise and Alice had been born in Mexico; Frances had been born in California. Frank's mother, Louise Sistermans, a 70-year old New York-born widow, also lived with the family. By 1930, Frank and Clotilda Sistermans were living in Los Angeles, where the 68-year old Frank was a mining engineer. His mother, Louise, now 90, also continued to live with them. Their son, Frank, Jr., was also a mining engineer and lived in the family's home.

Frank Sistermans died in Los Angeles in December, 1980.

## Lulu Broussard (ca. 1915 - ca. 1919)

There is no additional information on Lulu Broussard.

## Henry W. and Ida Schlieker (ca. 1919 – ca. 1923)

Henry and Ida Schlieker appear at this address in the 1920 U.S. Census report; they are listed as renters. Henry Schlieker was then 52 years old, had been born in Missouri, and was furniture merchant. Ida Schlieker was then 47, and had been born in Missouri. She had no occupation listed. The family included three children: Joyce, 23, Marie, 18, and Milton, 10. Joyce and Marie had both been born in Missouri; Milton had been born in Texas. All the children were listed as students. In addition, Ida Schlieker's parents, Joel and Lydia Milton, lived in the house. Both were 83 years old. Joel is listed as a retired farmer from Missouri.

By 1930, the family was living in Hyde Park, close to Duval Street, but the census report does not indicate the street name. Henry Schlieker is again listed as a retail furniture merchant. Only Milton, then 20, still lived in the house with Henry and Ida. He had no occupation listed. By 1940, Henry and Ida were retired. They lived at 304 E. 43<sup>rd</sup> Street in Austin.

## HENRY WILLIAM SCLIEKER

Henry William Sclieker, 83, died in his Austin home Monday night.

He was a retired merchant and a resident of Austin for 45 years.

Surviving are his widow, Ida Scheker, a son, H. M. Sclieker of Bryan and two daughters. Mrs. D. U. Buckner of Pharr and Mrs. Marrie S. Cannon of San Angelo; and a sister, Mrs. William Kersten of California, Mo.

Obituary of Henry Schlieker Austin American, March 6, 1951

# HENRY WILLIAM SCHLIEKER

Funeral services for Henry William Schlieker, 83, retired merchant who died Monday night, will be held at the Hyltin-Manor Funeral Home Wednesday at 4 p.m. with the Rev. James Sapp of First Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Funeral notice for Henry Schlieker Austin American, March 7, 1951

## Frances B. Fly (ca. 1923 – ca. 1971)

Frances Brand Fly was the widow of Dr. Ashley W. Fly, a prominent physician, and mayor of Galveston, Texas, who had died there in 1919. Mrs. Fly moved to Austin around 1923. She is listed as the owner of this house in the 1930 U.S. Census. The house was valued at \$7,000, a substantial amount for the time. Frances Fly was then a 47-year old Kentucky-born nurse. With her lived her son, Ashley W. Fly, 13, and born in Texas; and a roomer, 22-year old Texas-born Maynard Robinson, a clerk in the State Banking Department.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Frances Fly as a widow living in a house she owned in Galveston. She had no occupation listed. Her son, Ashley, was then 4. She lived in Galveston until 1923 – the Galveston city directory of that year still lists her there, working as a registered nurse. The 1924 city directory shows her move to Austin.

The 1900 U.S. Census shows Fannie Brand (Frances Fly's maiden name) living with her family in Como, New Madrid County, Missouri. Fannie was then 18. Her father, James Brand, was a Kentucky-born carpenter.

In the late 1920s and early 1930s, Frances Fly is listed as living in San Antonio, which corresponds to a period of vacancy of this house at the same time. She apparently died in Austin in March, 1971, but there is no obituary for her in the Austin newspapers. She is buried in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

FLY, ASHLEY WILSON (1855–1919). Ashley Wilson Fly, Galveston surgeon and mayor, was born in Waters Valley, Yalobusha County, Mississippi, on August 27, 1855, the son of Anderson B. and Margaret Jane (Giles) Fly. He received his medical degree from Louisville Medical College in 1875, and in the course of his studies he won prizes for his work in anatomy and surgical anatomy. After practicing in Bryan, Texas, for a short time, he moved to Galveston in 1876. Fly taught anatomy and surgery at Texas Medical College and Hospital (1877–81, 1888–91), attended patients at Galveston City Hospital and St. Mary's Infirmary (later St. Mary's Hospital<sup>qv</sup>), and served as member and president of the Galveston Board of Health (1881–84). He was mayor of Galveston from 1893 to 1899, during which time he helped pass measures to clean up financial corruption in the city. He was president of the Galveston County Medical Society in 1914. In July 1913 Governor Oscar B. Colquitt appointed Fly to the University of Texas Board of Regents, a post he held until 1917. On March 28, 1878, Fly married Kate R. Wilson, who died in 1905. On June 23, 1915, he married Frances E. S. Brand; they had a son. Fly died in Galveston on January 24, 1919

(From The Handbook of Texas, Texas State Historical Association)

### **PERMITS**

The house was remodeled and an addition constructed in 1983.