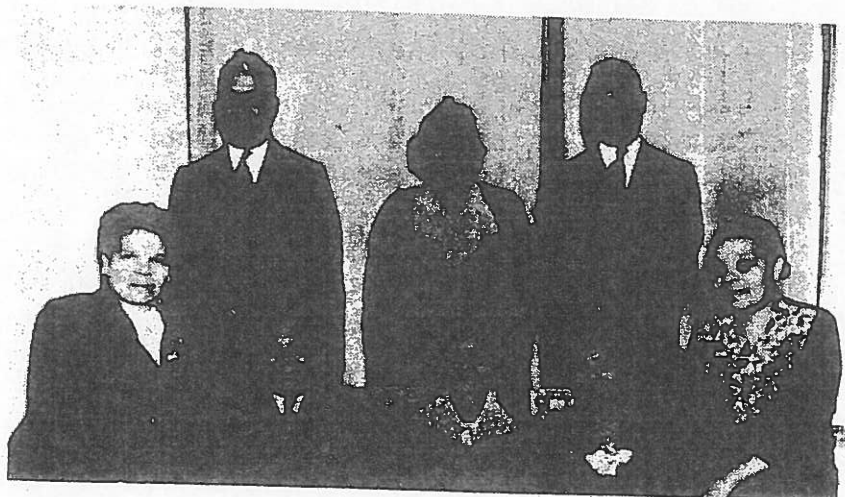


Thursday, June 30, 1983

Pastor helped build St. John's community



The family of the Rev. A.K. Black, sitting from left are Mrs. Carrie E. Black Martin, the Rev. Adam K. Black, Mrs. Martha Black, Mrs. Willie D. Black Andrews and Mrs. Lillian Beatrice Black Randolph. Standing from left are McKinley Black, Mrs. Ella Mae Black Campbell and Ventry Keats Black.

*... Don't view me with a critic's eyes,
But pass my imperfections by.
Large streams from little fountains flow,
Tall oaks from little acorns grow.*

Those lines, written by 7-year-old David Everett in 1791 for a school declamation, must have had great impact on Adam Keith Black when he was growing up.

Black was born in Sprinkle, a small farming community north of Austin in Travis County. His early years were typical of young black farm helpers. Schooling was skimpy and dollars were few. But, for the black family, ambition, aspiration and determination to be somebody were in abundance.

Black managed to graduate from college, was ordained a minister and married Martha Jackson, all in 1894. He taught school in three communities, then pastored in Port Lavaca for 24 years, and Rising Star Baptist in Austin for 29 years.

DURING THIS TIME he was active in the St. John Regular Missionary Baptist Association as secretary, vice moderator and moderator for more than 25 years. Along with his pastoral duties, with help from his wife and family, he operated stores, a service station, a rug cleaning plant and dabbled in real estate to help people of his race become homeowners.

In 1894, the late Dr. L.L. Campbell became moderator of the St. John Regular Missionary Baptist Association. During Campbell's administration, he negotiated plans for an orphanage and school, bought 303 acres of land and in 1906 built the St. John Orphan Home.

At Campbell's death in about 1927, the association was faced with an accumulated indebtedness of thousands of dollars and was forced to make a mortgage against the property. In 1930, the burden of saving the resources fell to the Black, who was then moderator.

FROM 1932 TO 1942, through many drives and appeals, these debts were liquidated. Meanwhile, St. John was ostracized by the state convention. The institution had to be abandoned, the school for orphans was closed and the orphanage abolished because of the lack of funds.

In 1946, the city of Austin and many developers began to show interest in the 300 acres of land North Austin. Black, with knowledge of real estate on one hand and his concern for his fellow men on the other, worked for justice in transactions that led to what is now the St. John neighborhood.

Black received a fair price for the land west of Interstate 35, and made it possible for many families to buy homes east of the interstate. A neighborhood school was built and several churches are in the area. The association benefitted from the transactions in a way that only a man such as Black could have brought about.

Black died Oct. 14, 1956. The Black Memorial Missionary Baptist Church in the St. John neighborhood is a monument to his years of service.

THE ST. JOHN'S association's annual camp meeting this year will be the third week in July in the spacious St. John's Tabernacle in the neighborhood. For more than 100 years this group has met under various circumstances. Today, the association moderator is the Rev. George I. Clark.

Thursday, July 28, 1983

Rev. Fontaine leader in black churches

The most grass-root institutions in a black community are its churches. To sit with an old-timer and talk about how his or her church started, you invariably hear that a handful of women (sometimes a few men joined them) met at a home to pray. Usually, on one such occasion, they decided to form a church.

In most instances, these prayer groups were the result of a visit by some traveling preacher who had brought together some men and women, quoted some scripture, led a few hymns, prayed and then moved on. He left behind a prayer-band, if you please, that grew into an organized church.

The Rev. Jacob Fontaine was such a man of the cloth. Just as Johnny Appleseed roamed a region scattering apple seeds, Fontaine roamed this region scattering teachings about Christianity.

According to Charles Groce in his treatise titled "Black Newspapers of the U.S.," Jacob Fontaine was born in Arkansas in 1808. He died in Austin in 1898 and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery. His name changed from Jacob Tuttle to Jacob Isaac to Jacob Fontaine as his slave ownership changed.

The Rev. Edward Fontaine was his last slave master. Edward Fontaine is remembered as a secretary to Mirabeau B. Lamar, second president of the Texas Republic, as well as priest, lawyer, soldier and great-grandson of Patrick Henry. Jacob Fontaine's highly literate owner and his cousin, William Winston Fontaine, who years later became a Latin professor at the University of Texas, were influential in the educational development of Jacob.

Before slavery was abolished, Jacob regularly attended the Church of the Epiphany, where his master preached. Jacob also worshipped at the First Baptist Church (est. 1847). By 1856, seven of its 72 members were slaves who sat on back benches. Gov. Sam Houston was a member of



Looking back

Ada Simond



The Rev.
Jacob
Fontaine,
who died
in 1898.

the church. Its first permanent home was at 10th and Colorado streets.

The church attracted so many black members, they were allowed to hold their own services in the afternoon with Brother Jake Fontaine, as Jacob was called, as preacher. One white member was always present however. This group became the beginning of the First Baptist Church (colored) in about 1867.

Records about Jacob Fontaine, although they are skimpy, show him moving from place to place around Austin and surrounding areas, organizing churches, and then moving on. Some of the churches he organized were the First Baptist Church (colored) in 1867, St. John's Regular Missionary Baptist Association in 1867, Mount Zion Baptist Church in 1873, New Hope in 1887, Good Hope in Round Rock in 1874, Sweet Home in 1877 and St. Stephen's in Waters Park in 1870.

The Rev. I.J. Fontaine of Fontaine Memorial Baptist Church here in Austin, is his grandson.

Ada Simond is a lifelong resident of the Austin area and the author of a series of books on Austin's black history. Looking Back examines some of that history.

Saint John's: A Community's Struggle for Survival

Laurie Breihan
2705 Warren, 78703, 452-3664

Travis County Collection's Historical Essay
Contest

December 22, 1972

PICAO2582-02601

ADMINISTRATIVE - ST. JOHN'S
Breihan, Laurie
Saint John's: A Community's
Struggle for Survival.

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ST. JOHN'S: A COMMUNITY'S STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL

St. John's separate, small, black community lying along Buttermilk Creek on Austin's northeast side is struggling to continue its existence against the usual extension of a fast growing city. Neglect by the city, poverty, racial intolerance all have been the enemies against which survival had to be measured. Now a new ally has appeared in Professor Reynell Parkins and his classes from the School of Architecture at The University of Texas at Austin. Using knowledge of City Planning, Federal Funds through Urban Renewal and their own commitment, a new future seems possible.

St. John's community is a 275 acre neighborhood which was annexed into Austin in 1951 but virtually ignored by the city since that time. The boundaries of this black community are Ed Bluestein Boulevard and Atkinson Road on the north and the south. Rear lot lines of the commercial property on the east of Interstate Highway 35 form the western edge while the western side of a new development known as Cameron Park provide the eastern boundary. The 1965 census shows 1,225 residents, with a median age of only 18, identifying the community as unusually young.¹

The story of St. John's is a unique and fascinating one. It began in Wheatsville, Austin, Texas on the corner of 25th and Leon Streets two years after the Civil War, when four ministers met. They decided to divide Texas into four

¹Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Austin, Austin, Texas, Program Application, Neighborhood Development Program For The St. John's Area for Year January 1, 1973 thru December 31, 1973, Binder No. 19, 9-28-72.

sections: St. John's Regular Baptist Association, the Guadalupe Association, the Mt. Zion Baptist Association and the Lincoln Baptist Association. The St. John's Regular Association was then organized in Austin, Texas, by the Reverends Jacob Fontaine, Jessie B. Shackles, John Winn, Sr., Calvin Allen, Buffington and Horace Smith. Eight Churches with a total membership of 300 formed the nucleus of the Association originally named the Travis County Association.²

The Reverend Fontaine was elected to be the First moderator of the Association. John H. Winn, Sr., who had founded the St. John's Baptist Church in Dale, Texas, succeeded Fontaine as moderator. In honor of Winn's leadership and expansion efforts, the Travis County Association changed its name to the St. John Regular Baptist Association.

Reverend George Green, Reverend C. H. Anderson and Reverend W. M. Massey followed Reverend Winn as moderators. During this time the Association was "on wheels". It traveled from church to church for its July annual meetings.

The Association was still "on wheels" in 1894, when Dr. L. D. Campbell became moderator. Under his direction 303 acres of land in an area known as Huntland Heights (Middle Fiskville Road and Sage area) was purchased, with money acquired through gifts, donations and loans.

²(for history of St. John's Baptist Association in this paper) St. John Regular Missionary Baptist Association, History, 1867-1967, Travis County Collection, Austin Public Library, Austin, Texas.

William H. Gorman, Nancy Newborn, J. Daniel Udovic and Leslie Wright, Saint John's The Story of a Negro Community, January 16, 1970, report for course requirement, School of Architecture, University of Texas at Austin, Professor Reynell Parkins.

In the Annual session of the Association in 1904 at Barton Springs Baptist Church, an orphan home was discussed.³ In December 1905 there were ground breaking ceremonies for St. John's Industrial Home for Negro Orphans. When completed, this home was to be one of the best education institutions for blacks in the south.⁴

A frame building housed the orphanage, which burned on the night that the first group of orphans was brought in. The origin of the fire was never uncovered. Summer school and the Annual Encampment were all the activity that existed on this location until 1911 when a new orphanage was built.

John Andrewartha, an Austin architect,⁵ designed the new orphanage which was an impressive structure and the only large building on the north side of Austin. The Texas State Capital was even visible from the top floor of the new building. Besides the orphanage building there was one dormitory for teachers, one for boys and two large tabernacles providing shelters for outdoor activities. The road leading to the orphanage and a twin row of cedar trees lining the road, are all that remain of the original site.

In 1912, when the Institute re-opened, there were approximately 200 youngsters enrolled. Dr. Campbell, to help pay the expenses of the orphanage, raised the dues paid by the Association's members from twenty-five cents to one dollar and

³"Colored Orphan's Homes, " Austin Statesman, Austin Travis County Collection, Vol. 33, Feb. 5, 1904.

⁴"Negro Institution Ground Breaking, " Austin Statesman, Austin Travis County Collection, Dec. 28, 1905, p. 20.

⁵American Statesman, 1-2-55.

twenty-five cents a year. Black orphans were not permitted in public facilities by the State of Texas at this time.

The 125 students at the Institute in 1915 were studying from the first grade through the senior year of college. Mathematics and English were mandatory at each level. Optional courses offered were in Latin, German, Spanish, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Domestic Science, History, Agriculture and Manual Training.

The enrollment of the summer school program was 2,000 in 1915, with 10,000 people attending the mass lectures on diverse topics such as Farming Techniques, Sociology, Physiology, the Bible, and special female lectures for ladies.

During a public concert in the House of Representatives at the Capital on April 27, 1923, designed to raise money for the orphanage, unexpectedly seventy Ku Klux Klansmen in full hoods visited and gave "a purse" to Dr. Campbell. The Klan leader stated that they "stood for the protections of the colored man...". In accepting the gift, Dr. Campbell replied that their "best friend was the negro of the South."⁶

Yes, they were some good times. We had no cars then. Horses and buggies, horseback, and on foot is the way people got to the campgrounds. The streets were all dusty and we just had an old tabernacle up there and a dirt floor. We had a rostrum built for the choir and guest speakers. . . We ran the encampment there until St. John's was bought out. We had a

⁶Klansmen parade in Hall of Capital as Negro Concert Given, "Austin American, April 27, 1923, Vol. 9 #317.

jolly time. Churches made their representations, you see, to keep the financial side going. They had preaching service, song service, then we had stands with people selling food and drinks. At one time we had a big farmers' hall up there where different farmers would bring their crops and different produce from their farms and gardens--cotton, corn, grain, oats, everything like that, and put it all on exhibit. C. H. Davidson was chairman of that committee. There was some mighty fine stuff, that they had. But, of course, in time it vanished away. So we had a big time.⁷

The Reverend M. Hurd succeeded Dr. Campbell as moderator in 1928. Later when he died and Reverend A. K. Black became moderator an accumulated indebtedness of several thousand dollars and numerous other problems were clearly apparent. To satisfy this operational indebtedness, which had built up in the past years, a ten thousand dollar mortgage was made against the property that was to be paid off in ten years.

The liquifying of this mortgage was a difficult things as it came during the great depression. St. John's was also ridiculed, rejected and ostracized by the Convention (State). The Orphanage and the Institute were being physically attacked by the whites of the area. Pillaging, marauding, vandalism and sometimes even arson was carried out. Reverend Black had to close the orphanage but became involved in a seemingly endless skirmish with City of Austin officials over taxation, sanitation and other relationships. Apparently considerable unrest developed over the blacks owning the 300 choice acres.

The State of Texas expanded its care to include all orphans resulting in the removal of the last of the children from St. John's in 1942. George King, a

⁷George King, Personal interviews, op. cit., Saint John's: The Story of a Negro Community.

black farmer, began farming the acreage while the orphanage buildings were terrorized often but with no arrests following the frequent reports to the Austin Police Department.

Reverend Black constantly refused to sell St. John's holdings realizing himself, the immense potential value of this real estate. Great pressure was put on him and he was threatened if he did not sell. In 1956 an arrangement was finally developed that did result in a sale to Edmond Brown of Houston for \$600,000.

At various times other uses were planned for the area. Austin Public School officials considered the location for a central sports facility. During World War II the area was considered as the location of a naval hospital.⁸ Currently, commercial and residential developments occupy the area.

Reverend I. W. Robinson, who succeeded Reverend Black as moderator, led to the purchase and developing of the present location in the 7500 block of Blessing Avenue. This area lies just to the east of the small black community known as St. John's community. Here the St. John's Association erected a beautiful tabernacle which was dedicated on June 1, 1958. Across Buttermilk Creek they have also built Love and Care Nursing Home and a St. John's Day Care Center. Since this is not a regular local congregation it does not take a very active role in the St. John's community. ~~The nursing home has no St.~~

⁸American Statesman, 8-2-56.

John's community residents among its current population. Clients come primarily from Austin State Hospital.⁹

Most of the original settlers of the St. John Community were former share-croppers. They came to this area and settled during the great depression because the price of cotton had dropped so low that it was not longer feasible to make money from the growing of cotton. President Franklin Roosevelt developed the cotton subsidy program which paid farmers not to plant cotton. Since the land lay dormant there was no longer need for the farm hand or the share-cropper.

Displaced black farmers knew only cotton farming. They moved to the cities in search of work. The depression, coupled with their own lack of skills made life very difficult for them. It was at this time and under these circumstances that most of the residents of St. John's came to Austin.

St. John's community area was owned by the Wendtlants prior to 1939. Through his father's friendship with the Wendtlant family, Reverend A. K. Black was permitted to serve as the agent for the selling of lots in the St. John's community area to the displaced black share-croppers.

Then came the farmers who had been displaced off their land because of parity of money. The farm owner was paid so much if he didn't plant, whether he was a share-cropper or not. The owner wanted it all, and finally got it all. And when someone told them they can't get it all, then the owners told the hands and croppers we can't use you... Reverend Black sold out all that land over there to the folks. All those families there got their homes because Reverend Black had that stuff divided up and sold

⁹Visit to St. John's Love and Care Nursing Home, 1200 Wheatley, Austin, December 19, 1972.

it to them for fifty dollars, five dollars down and a dollar a week. They put up any kind of shelter they could find . . . any shack.¹⁰

A displaced black farm worker, who migrates to the city, usually was forced to live in vacated older houses. However, the people of St. John's were able to create their own environment. They built the only one that they knew anything about--a rural one. Today's St. John's community is essentially the same. Jesse Shaw and Arch Mason, for example, raise hogs. Chicken coops are easily in view.

"Structural deterioration and lack of improvements have marked this neighborhood as undesirable for residential use." Almost two-thirds of the 261 residential structures are dilapidated to the point where repair is not feasible. The median value of an owner occupied structure in 1960 was \$5,000. The average population per household was 4.2, with 37 percent of all of the families having five or more members.¹¹

Since annexation in 1951, the City of Austin has expended very little for public improvements in the area. There are just a few paved streets. There is an inadequate water system, no fire stations, branch libraries, bus service or convenient shopping facilities. Sanitary sewer lines were installed to a few of the houses in 1965. Today, about sixty-five outdoor privies are in use.

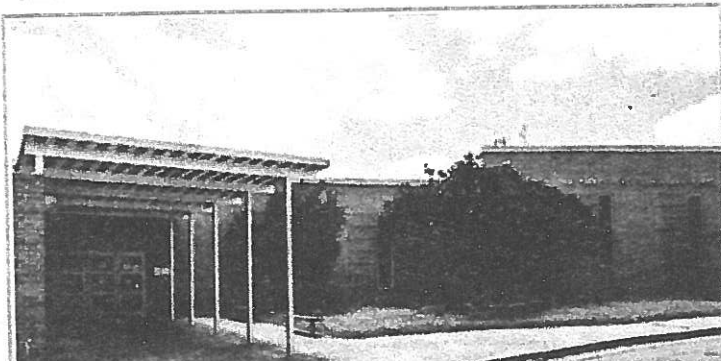
¹⁰Rev. I. W. Robinson, Personal Interview, op. cit, Saint John's: The Story of a Negro Community.

¹¹Op. cit., Neighborhood Development Program for the St. John's Area, ND-303, NP-401-3-4.

St. John Neighborhood Newsletter

for residents of the St. John Community

Community Events and Activities for May / June



YOU'RE INVITED!

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE PRESENT OUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL PLAN
TO THE AISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18TH, 2016


6:00 - 7:30 PM

PICKLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY

In partnership with Austin Voices, Pickle families and staff have identified five key strategies to strengthen our Community School. Come learn about the planning process and what's in store for the coming school year!
Light dinner and childcare will be provided.

St. John Branch Public Library

Hours: Mon. - Wed. 10:00am - 9:00pm, Fridays 10:00am - 6:00pm and Saturdays 10:00am - 4:00pm.

Talk Time every Saturday, 11:30am - 1:00pm. Practice speaking English with others who want to improve their conversational English skills. (512) 974-7570 

St. John Community Meeting: Redevelopment Plan for St. John Park

(located behind the old Home Depot)



Tuesday, May 24, 6:00 - 7:00pm

Pickle Early College Prep Elementary Cafeteria

The City of Austin is investing money in the redevelopment of the St. John park and is seeking community input. Parents and local residents, come share your ideas!

The City of Austin wants to spend money on our Neighborhood! Tell them how.


Take the St. John Neighborhood Prioritization Plan Survey:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/StJohnPhase2_2016



Health and Wellness

Fresh Food for Families, FREE food distribution on Tuesday, May 24 starting at 9:00am in front of the St. John Community Center. Bring your own bag!


My Library Keeps ME HEALTHY offers free informational tours and health screenings including blood pressure, blood glucose, cholesterol and body fat index testing every Tuesday from 2:00 - 4:00pm at the Virginia Brown Recreation Center.

Yoga classes now offered Mondays at 6:30pm and Wednesdays at 10:30am at the Virginia Brown Rec. Center. Learn to manage pain and stress safely! Presented by PureAction Yoga is Medicine. 



FREE Community Resources

Emancipet Free Pet Services Wednesday, May 25 at the St. John Community Center. Have your pet spayed or neutered (line starts at 6am) and/or vaccinated and receive a microchip (10am-4pm). Space is limited and services are first come, first served. www.emancipet.org/mobile 

SNAP (Food Stamps) Application Assistance provided by Capital Area Food Bank every Thursday in May from 1:00-5:00pm at the Webb Family Resource Center, 7000 Roland Johnson Ave. Portable F. Must have an appointment and bring the following documents: Photo ID, Social Security Card, Proof of income, current bills & bank statement. Call (512) 841-9018. 

St. John Center Senior Activity Program meets Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Virginia L. Brown Recreation Center Senior Activity Room with games, activities, and free lunch for ages 55 and up.

Helpful Phone Numbers: Emergency - 911 City of Austin, non-emergency - 311 Health & Human Services - 211
St. John Neighborhood Center 512-974-5781 St. John Library 512-974-7570 Virginia L. Brown Recreation Center 512-974-7865
St. John Neighborhood Association - 512-797-4847 Webb Family Resource Center - 512-841-2280

FAX

To:	Steve Sadowsky	From:	Vive Griffith
Fax:	512-974-9104	Pages:	2
Phone:		Date:	5.23.2016
Re:	Protest: HDP-2016-0309	CC:	

Comments:

Attached please find a letter for consideration for tonight's hearing about the property at 1500 Inglewood St. Thank you.

5.23.2016

May 23, 2016

City of Austin Planning and Zoning Department
Steve Sadowsky
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-8810

RE: Case #HDP-2016-0309, 1501 Inglewood St.

Dear Mr. Sadowsky,

I am writing to protest the demolition of the Senator's House at 1501 Inglewood Street, the hearing for which will be tonight with the Historic Landmark Commission. Since 2005 my husband, Chris Cavello, and I have lived directly across the street from this house, at 1500 Inglewood Street. We have built a home and a neighborhood there, and we have not protested as numerous houses have been torn down and replaced with new, larger houses that are not in keeping with the neighborhood. We understand that development is necessary in a city as fast-growing as Austin. However, I feel differently about the house at 1501 Inglewood Street.

This house was built by Texas Senator Carl C. Hardin and was known across the neighborhood as the Senator's House. Senator Hardin is buried in the Texas State Cemetery and played an important role in Texas history. It's a shame to see his home demolished. The house itself is a classic Texas house, built of local limestone and boasting a large stone fireplace and charming exterior. I can't say how many times someone visiting my home has turned and looked across the street and remarked on the beauty of the Senator's House. My own house was built by a University of Texas professor in 1945, after the Senator's House. When the professor's daughter came to visit several years ago, now a retiree living in North Texas, she talked of how the whole neighborhood looked to the Senator's House as part of what made this neighborhood special. Since then the highway has sliced the neighborhood and Riverside Drive has become the fast-moving and busy road we know today. But the Senator's House has remained and holds the area's history.

I understand that the house has fallen into disarray, and I believe that is largely the fault of the bank that repossessed the house after the 2008 mortgage crisis and then sat on the property, leaving it empty for years. I welcome new neighbors and support their ability to make the house their own. But there is now little remaining of the historic core of our neighborhood, and thus little remaining of the story of Austin: the lawmakers that came here to shape the state, the limestone of the Edward's Plateau, the small cottages that mark the character of Austin.

There is already little left of the neighborhood I moved into 11 years ago. I ask that you don't allow this piece of Texas history to be demolished, but instead encourage renovation and renewal in our quadrant of the city.

Sincerely yours,



Vivé Griffith

PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

Although applicants and/or their agent(s) are expected to attend a public hearing, you are not required to attend. However, if you do attend, you have the opportunity to speak FOR or AGAINST the proposed development or change. You may also contact a neighborhood or environmental organization that has expressed an interest in an application affecting your neighborhood.

During a public hearing, the board or commission may postpone or continue an application's hearing to a later date, or recommend approval or denial of the application. If the board or commission announces a specific date and time for a postponement or continuation that is not later than 60 days from the announcement, no further notice is required.

A board or commission's decision may be appealed by a person with standing to appeal, or an interested party that is identified as a person who can appeal the decision. The body holding a public hearing on an appeal will determine whether a person has standing to appeal the decision.

An interested party is defined as a person who is the applicant or record owner of the subject property, or who communicates an interest to a board or commission by:

- delivering a written statement to the board or commission before or during the public hearing that generally identifies the issues of concern (*it may be delivered to the contact person listed on a notice*); or
 - appearing and speaking for the record at the public hearing;
- and:
- occupies a primary residence that is within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development;
 - is the record owner of property within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development; or
 - is an officer of an environmental or neighborhood organization that has an interest in or whose declared boundaries are within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development.

A notice of appeal must be filed with the director of the responsible department no later than 14 days after the decision. An appeal form may be available from the responsible department.

For additional information on the City of Austin's land development process, visit our web site: www.ci.austin.tx.us/development.

Written comments must be submitted to the board or commission (or the contact person listed on the notice) before or at a public hearing. Your comments should include the board or commission's name, the scheduled date of the public hearing, and the Case Number and the contact person listed on the notice.

Case Number(s): HDP-2016-0279 PR-2016-043367

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing:

May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

Carol Roark

Your Name (*please print*)

☐ I am in favor
☒ I object

301 Moore Blvd.

Your address(es) affected by this application

Carol Roark

Signature

5-19-2016

Date

Comments: The incremental demolition
of older housing stock in the
neighborhood north of UT will have
a detrimental impact on Austin. West
University was designated for dense
development — the North University area
should not be.

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning and Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

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Case Number(s): HDP-2016-0309 PR-2016-046157

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing:

May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

Kristin Kavanaugh
Your Name (*please print*)

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am in favor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I object

1103 Loping Lane
Your address(es) affected by this application

Kristin Kavanaugh 5.18.16
Signature Date

Comments: Rather than deny
the building the owner's
should consider an addition
in keeping with the original
stone cottage.

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin
Planning and Zoning Department
Steve Sadowsky
P. O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-8810
Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

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 - is an officer of an environmental or neighborhood organization that has an interest in or whose declared boundaries are within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development.

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Case Number(s): LHD-2016-0007

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing: May 23, 2016, Historic Landmark Commission

Your Name (please print)

☐ I am in favor
☐ I object

Your address(es) affected by this application

Signature

Date

Comments: _____

PLEASE update your records
to reflect the Addressee's
on this mailing address
have moved out of state.

Resend to the appropriate
owners of 4411 Avenue B
AUSTIN TX

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning & Zoning Review

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

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Case Number(s): HDP-2016-0307 PR-2016-048154

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing: May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

Brandie Baker

Your Name (*please print*)

☐ I am in favor
☒ I object

2014 Ford St.

Your address(es) affected by this application

Brandie Baker

Signature

5/18/16

Date

Comments:

If this property is of
historical significance I do
object to tearing it down.

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning and Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

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Case Number(s): HDP-2016-0258 PR-2016-039864

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing:

May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

George Ellman / Resident
Your Name (please print)

700 A W 34th Street
Your address(es) affected by this application

George Ellman
Signature

☒ I am in favor
☐ I object

5/19/16
Date

Comments:

I am in favor of the
relocation of the house.
Please proceed ASAP.

Thank you

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning and Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

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Case Number(s): NRD-2016-0036 PR-2016-045094

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing:

May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

Susan Ogden

Your Name (please print)

1731 W. 10th 1414 W. 6th

Your address(es) affected by this application

Susan Ogden

Signature

5/23/16

Date

☒ I am in favor
☐ I object

Comments:

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning and Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

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Case Number(s): NRD-2016-0030 PR-2016-127500

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing:

May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

Susan Ogden
Your Name (please print)

1731 W. 10th 1414 W. 6th
Your address(es) affected by this application

Susan Ogden 5/23/16
Signature Date

☒ I am in favor
☐ I object

Comments: _____

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning and Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

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Case Number(s): NRD-2016-0035 IR-2016-046811

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6451

Public Hearing:

May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

Susan Ogden
Your Name (please print)

☒ I am in favor
☐ I object

1404 W. 9th 1406/08/10 W. 9th
Your address(es) affected by this application 905 Manfair

Susan Ogden
Signature

5/23/16
Date

Comments: _____

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning and Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

3/23/2016

To whom it may concern:

Regarding the small rock house on Englewood that is slated for demolition:

I am a neighbor on Summit and strongly recommend that this historic rock cottage NOT be demolished! It is unique and one of the last original properties in this area.

Thank you, I

**Margaret Carson
1109 Summit St
78741
512-441-2322**

~ C

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Case Number(s): HDP-2016-0086 PR-2016-012936

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing: March 28, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

Linda Roark

Your Name (please print)

☐ I am in favor
☒ I object

3107 Grooms St.

Your address(es) affected by this application

Jarvis Roark

Signature

3.28.2016

Date

Comments: This house contributes to the
historic character of our neighborhood.
The loss of each historic structure
seriously impacts the potential to
establish a local historic district
here, and for the neighborhood
to preserve its historic character.

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning & Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

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Case Number(s): **HDP-2016-0279 PR-2016-043367**

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing:

May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

Linda Roark

Your Name (please print)

☐ I am in favor
☒ I object

3107 Grooms St.

Your address(es) affected by this application

Linda Roark

Signature

5-23-2016

Date

Comments: I object to the proposed demolition of this house and that of the house at 107 E 31st. Both houses evoke the history of our neighborhood, even though the City long ago targeted this side of our neighborhood for redevelopment to apartments and condos by changing the zoning from SF to MF. Even now, TCAD is raising the land values and lowering structure values to encourage demolitions. I came to the first hearing on the proposed demolition of 107 E 31st by this same applicant, and waited many hours to speak. It would be unusual for such modest houses to have had significant connections to important historical figures, but they are still important to conveying the ~~history~~ history of our neighborhood and retain their historical character.

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning and Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

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Case Number(s): HDP-2016-0309 PR-2016-046157

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing:

May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

Maverick Fisher
Your Name (please print)

☐ I am in favor
☒ I object

1107, 1104 Summit Street
Your address(es) affected by this application

[Signature] May 23, 2016
Signature Date

Comments: This is one of the only
historically significant properties in
East Travis Heights. That it was
the long-time residence of a state
Senator plus its unique architectural
features (native limestone, great
room with enormous hearth) also
distinguishes it as an increasingly
blank block.

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City of Austin

Planning and Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

Old West Austin Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 2724
Austin, TX 78768

May 20, 2016

Historic Landmark Commission
City of Austin

Re: Case NRD-2016-0035, and NRD-2016-0033

Dear Chair Galindo and members of the Historic Landmark Commission:

Dear Chair Galindo and Historic Landmark Commissioners:

The zoning committee of the Old West Austin Neighborhood Association has voted to request a postponement on two cases that are scheduled to be heard before you on May 23, 2016:

- 1315 W. 9th St., Historic Case #: NRD-2016-0035, and
- 910 Baylor St., Historic Case #: NRD-2016-0033.

Both of these cases are awaiting permission to demolish existing structures. OWANA would like to have the opportunity to meet with the owners/ developers of these properties to learn what type of development is being proposed in place of the current structures.

As you may know OWANA created a zoning committee to review all notices for development within its boundaries. The group meets monthly and reaches out to contacts listed on the city notices when an application is made for demolition or building permits. The zoning committee was unable to meet with the owners/developers of these two properties prior to the May HLC hearing.

Respectfully,



Scott Marks

Chair, OWANA Steering Committee

May 23, 2016
James Burrows & Margaret Peiler
1209 Kinney Ave #J
Austin, Texas 78704

Historic Landmark Commission
City of Austin

RE: Historic Case Number: HDP-2016-0269
Review Case Number: PR-2016-042281

Steve Sadowsky:

We are writing this letter in response to the Public Hearing regarding the Demolition Permit for the single family home at 2301 Rundell Place. We have been living in this South Austin neighborhood for almost 3 years on Kinney Ave, and are renovating our future home at 2302 Rundell Place across the street from the property that is the focus of this Historic review.

We have known the property owner at 2301 Rundell for years, first as a builder for a friend's house in the neighborhood and more recently as our contractor for our remodeling project. Michael Smeets has been trustworthy and reliable, working closely with us on the design for our remodel and then working through the permitting and initial stages of construction.

Michael continues to impress us with his ability to balance the different perspectives that we bring to our renovation; specifically, balancing the needs of a modern family for space (e.g., laundry, storage, office) with the desire to preserve as much of the history and character of the original house as possible. In this and other renovations and new construction that Michael's company has driven, the designs and implementations reflect tasteful, appropriate construction that are consistent with the style and scale of the existing neighborhood. As a resident of our South Lamar neighborhood, Michael shares our goals of supporting growth while preserving the diversity in income and culture that still characterizes our neighborhood.

We strongly urge the Historic Commission to work quickly to approve the plans for 2301 Rundell, and in doing so to send what we consider the correct signals to builders and homeowners that projects will be evaluated based on balanced criteria, and avoid rigid standards that will discourage improvements in the neighborhood.

We are happy to answer any questions the Commission may have.

Thanks,

James Burrows & Margaret Peiler

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Case Number(s): HDP-2016-0269 PR-2016-042281

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing:

May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

V. Raymond Smith

Your Name (please print)

☒ I am in favor
☐ I object

2304 Rundell Pl., Austin, Texas 78704

Your address(es) affected by this application

V. Raymond Smith

Signature

May 19, 2016

Date

Comments: (Please see attached comments)

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning and Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

Case Number(s): HDP-2016-0269 PR-2016-042281

Contact: /Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing:

May 23, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

V. Raymond Smith
2304 Rundell Pl
Austin, Texas, 78704
In

I AM IN FAVOR


Signature


Date

Comments: As an architect and owner of an early A. D. Stenger house for 46 years, I know that his houses need some changes to make them livable. Flat roofs are troublesome and require extreme maintenance. The bathrooms are tiny and really need to be enlarged to make them useful. Kitchens are also small and are in need of renovation. The houses were built really small, requiring room additions. His early houses had little or no insulation. I've talked to Mike Smeets and what he proposes to do is reasonable. In my opinion, partial demolition and subsequent renovations are not only reasonable, but necessary.

(My phone number is: 512-584-8588)





From:
To: [Galindo, Mary - BC](#); [Whitworth, David - BC](#); [Sadowsky, Steve](#); [Panju, Arif - BC](#); [Tollett, Blake - BC](#); [Reed, Emily - BC](#); [McKenzie, Grace - BC](#); [Clites, Madeline - BC](#); [Trevino, Michelle - BC](#); [Myers, Terri - BC](#); [Osburn, Tiffany - BC](#); [Papavasiliou, Alexander - BC](#); [Valenzuela, Sarah - BC](#)
Cc: [\[redacted\]](#), [\[redacted\]](#), [\[redacted\]](#), [\[redacted\]](#)
Subject: Re: 1602 Garden St.
Date: Monday, May 23, 2016 11:12:04 AM

Dear Commissioner's and Staff,

I write regarding the property at 1602 Garden St., under consideration for release of a demolition permit tonight.

Attached you will find pictures of the iron balcony that has been added to my own 1911 home at 1402 East 2nd St.

I understand that this may represent the work of the ironworker who previously lived at 1602 Garden. This type of porch has been added to homes of many styles and eras in our East Austin community. It represents the artistry of the local craftsmen and ties together homes of different ages to a common (or communal) narrative. The physical evidence of the various hands that built and maintained ours home over the generations tells the story of our neighborhood.

Though not original to the architectural style of my own home, my porch (literally) frames how I see my neighborhood every day. When I pass homes with similar porches makes me feel connected to my community. I hope that City staff are able to discover more about the man who made these porches, and that the current owner of 1602 will value and honor his contribution to the community in which he is now a stakeholder.

Thank you,
Amy Thompson
1402 East 2nd St.

Subject: Re: 2102 Ford Street, 78704
Date: Monday, May 23, 2016 12:31:17 AM

Kalan, thanks for your help with this. Phil here. My wife Carol is busy tonight but asked me to fill you in on some things & correct a couple more.

Carol says that a Betsy Stern owned the bungalow before she purchased it in 1989 or 1990. Carol thinks that Betsy **may** be a relation of Suzy Stern [Suzi Stern Music](#)-- a local jazz singer. Somehow the Stern conveyance was not noted.

Suzi Stern Music

Listen to the music of world renowned singer Suzi Stern.

View on www.suzistern.com

Preview by Yahoo

Also --all the write up says is that Carol was an accounting clerk at UT which is true but actually she worked in various administrative jobs over 15 years at UT--mainly in the Performing Arts Center. She graduated from UT in 1992-- after slowly working her way through school. (She started college late I think in her 30s.)

She worked also as a freelance investigative journalist and traveled mainly in Latin America -then worked for many years for WINGS Women's International News Gathering Service-- an international feminist radio group that began in Austin and later moved to Canada. She contributed some articles to the Austin Chronicle, Texas Observer, San Antonio Express-- and others. She covered human rights issues and later military pollution.

Throughout this she was also a silversmith, goldsmith and very much a part of the Austin art scene. She sold her jewelry wares on the drag in some years but mainly did custom designs. in the late 70s through the mid 80s, she had a studio at 16th & Lavaca with various music poster artists including Micael Priest, Guy Juke, Danny Garret and many other assorted artists.

As a writer she also contributed to a local short story anthology called "Tilted Planet Tales" published by Robin Cravy.

Don't know how much info is needed or is helpful but "accounting clerk" does not tell very much of the story.

Regards,

Phil Thomas

From: "Contreras, Kalan" <Kalan.Contreras@austintexas.gov>
To: "Sadowsky, Steve" <Steve.Sadowsky@austintexas.gov>; "Phillip Thomas and Carol Stall"
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2016 3:24 PM
Subject: FW: 2102 Ford Street, 78704

Hello Carol,

Thanks so much for the info – this is great. I'm going to forward this along to case manager Steve Sadowsky, and I'll also include it in our citizen communication posting to our website at the end of the week.

Best,
Kalan Contreras, MSHP
Historic Preservation Planner | 512-974-2727
City of Austin Planning and Zoning Department

From: Phillip Thomas and Carol Stall
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2016 2:35 PM
To: Contreras, Kalan
Cc: Aaron Shneidman; Tami Hart; Lynn Robbins; Brandie Baker; Adam Butler; Julie Butler; Maraba Diraddo; Lou Schmidt; Russ & Cindy Ham Yates; Aimee Kandl; Liz Kweiler; Luke & Traci Bibby; Matt & Nicole Gaulden; Stephen Meyers; Krista & Russ Jordan; Ruth B. Kaplan; Martin Tower; Sarah Tower; Mark Gracie; Eric Martin; Rene Renteria; Eileen Nehme; Chris Dirrado; Julie Lachance; Jonathan Lachance; Camilla Hsieh; Ben Kweiler
Subject: 2102 Ford Street, 78704

Hello Kalan, Here are a few tidbits regarding the property at 2102 Ford Street in Zilker which is up for demolition.

First an overview of the neighborhood (which you likely already know). Back in the day, the area was farmed for cotton. After the civil war, groups of Black freedmen farmers settled in what is now Zilker. The area was eventually gentrified after WWII when returning soldiers sought suburban life-- and little housing developments sprang up. Sadly all that was left by the 80s was a small church and a graveyard and an elderly Deacon who lived on Treadwell.

Ford Street appeared at the end of the 40s. and was populated with many veterans including Joe Jacobs, Mr.Ralph Kaplan and others who spent much of their lives on the street.

My husband, Phil Thomas and I lived at 2102 Ford Street for many years. I moved there in 1990 and Phil in 1997. (I had lived in Zilker since 1981.) During this time we got to know our neighbors and while we were there the street formed a group that

exists to this day.

7870-4rd or (originally 7870-Ford) was created to celebrate and encourage the village-like ambiance on the street (and surrounding areas). It began of a need to form a sort of community. The group did that and helped to cement deep friendships as well. Because of the strong relationships, abundance of creativity, mutual assistance and general *Joie de vivre*, Ford Street has become something of a phenomenon throughout the area. People want to live there and raise their kids in its remarkably nurturing environment.

7870-4rd turned out to be inspiring and in the Austin Neighborhood issue of Tribeza Ford Street was featured to represent Zilker.(Please see links after message)

An important component of 7870-4rd was a special list serve so all who were online could all easily communicate both important and mundane matters. But those who were not tech savvy were not forgotten either. This helped to knit even tighter bonds and continues to keep people in touch.

Over the years, Halloween has become a complete Ford Street phenomenon due to the tradition of scary houses and people who offer adult treats (tequila shots). Hundreds of people come from all over Austin to join the fun.

The idea for 7870-4RD came up in several homes-- 2102 being one--and spread throughout the street. The first meeting to plan the first gathering was at 2102 Ford and it was the site of many subsequent annual parties and gatherings.

Sadly one of our jobs left town and the taxes became so high we made the very tough decision to leave. Now we live in the 02-- and you see us often before the HLC as we try to save the character & existing sense of community in our new neighborhood.

While we do not expect this home to be saved due to it's fame as part of a creative and close-knit community, we do hope that at least part of this era will be preserved as an inspiration for others seeking an alternative to urban anonymity.

Sincerely,

Carol S. Stall & Phil Thomas

Ford Street full article:

<https://issuu.com/tribeza/docs/july/44>

Also

[Ford Street | TRIBEZA Austin Magazine](#)

Ford Street | TRIBEZA Austin Magazine

Author: Ford Street Residents Images

by: ...

[View on 205.186.161.206](#)

Preview by Yahoo