

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
OCTOBER 24, 2016
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2016-0717
903 W. GIBSON STREET

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1946 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame house with a projecting front-gabled bay in the center of the façade, containing the entry under a partial-width inset porch on an ornamental metal support; single 1:1 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1946 by Coy Dobbins, the son of George and Emma Dobbins, who lived here until around 1948. Coy Dobbins was the proprietor of a lumber business in Austin. While living here, his father, George Dobbins, was a foreman for the lumber company. The house was a rental property from the late 1940s until the mid-1950s, when it was purchased by Julius and Florence Schmitz, who lived here through the 1990s. Julius Schmitz was a shoe salesman, who later became the manager of Vosburg-Martin Shoes on Congress Avenue. After Vosburg-Martin closed, Julius Schmitz went to work as a salesman for Kara-Vel Shoes on Burnet Road.

STAFF COMMENTS





The house is not listed in any City survey to date.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then 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, for archiving at the Austin History Center. The house, while representative of the post-World War II architecture of this neighborhood, lacks the required historical and architectural significance for individual designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



-  N
-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS
CASE#: HDP-2016-0717
903 W. GIBSON STREET



1" = 208'

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.

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

903 West Gibson Street
ca. 1946



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
903 West Gibson Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
October, 2016

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 1992 | Florence Schmitz, owner
Retired |
| 1985-86 | Julius L. and Florence L. Schmitz, owners
Salesman, Kara-Vel Shoes, 5517 Burnet Road. |
| 1981 | Julius L. and Florence L. Schmitz, owners
Salesman, Vosburg-Martin Shoes (not listed in the directory) |
| 1977 | Julius L. and Florence L. Schmitz, owners
Manager, Vosburg-Martin Shoes, 916 Congress Avenue. |
| 1973 | Julius L. and Florence L. Schmitz, owners
Manager, Vosburg-Martin Shoes, 916 Congress Avenue. |
| 1968 | Julius L. and Florence L. Schmitz, owners
Salesman, Vosburg-Martin Shoes (not listed in the directory) |
| 1965 | Julius L. and Florence L. Schmitz, owners
Salesman, Vosburg-Martin Shoes, 125 W. 7 th Street. |

- 1962 Julius L. and Florence L. Schmitz, owners
Salesman, Vosburg-Martin Shoes, 125 W. 7th Street.
- 1959 Julius L. and Florence L. Schmitz, owners
Salesman, Vosburg-Martin Shoes, 125 W. 7th Street.
- 1955 Laura Holmes, owner
Widow, Frank Holmes
No occupation listed
NOTE: Julius L. and Florence L. Schmitz are listed at 605 W. Elizabeth Street;
he was a salesman for Vosburg-Martin Shoes, 125 W. 7th Street.
- 1952 Gertrude Holmes, renter
No occupation listed
NOTE: Laura Holmes is not listed in the directory.
- 1949 Joseph A. and Katherine G. Coreno, renters
Joseph: U.S. Marine Corps
Katherine: Saleslady, J.C. Penney's, department store, 513-15 Congress
Avenue.
- 1947 George M. and Emma Dobbins, owners
Foreman, Dobbins-Campion Lumber Company, 707-09 Barton Springs Road.
- 1944-45 The address is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: George and Emma Dobbins are listed at 2908 Rio Grande Street. He
was a clerk for the State Health Department's Warehouse and Shipping
Department.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

George and Emma Dobbins (ca. 1946 – ca. 1948)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows George and Emma Dobbins as the renters of the house at 1611 Sabine Street in Austin. George Dobbins was 54, had been born in Texas, and was a truck driver for a lumber company. Emma Dobbins was 55, had been born in Tennessee, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 children: Thurman, 27, the proprietor of a candy and cigarette stand; and Vida, 25, the cashier in a lunch room. Both Thurman and Vida had been born in Texas.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows George M. and Emma L. Dobbins as the renters of the house at 1005 Clermont Street in Austin. George M. Dobbins was 45, had been born in Texas, and was a laborer for private firms. Emma L. Dobbins was 45, had been born in Tennessee, and had no occupation listed. They had 4 children: Coy L, 22, who had no occupation listed; Oletta, 20, a saleslady in a dry goods store; Thurman, 17; and Vida, 15. All of the children had been born in Texas.

His 1966 death certificate shows that George Miller Dobbins was born in Windom, Texas in 1884, and was living at 1717 Valeria Street in Austin at the time of his death. He was in the lumber business.

GEORGE MILLER DOBBINS

George M. Dobbins, 82, of 1717 Valeria, died in a local hospital Tuesday. He had been a resident of Austin and Travis County for 47 years and was a member of Woodmen of the World and Kinney Avenue Baptist Church. He was retired from C. L. Dobbins Lumber Co.

Survivors include his widow; daughters, Mrs. Oleta Madding and Mrs. Veda Garner, both of Austin; sons, Coy Dobbins, Houston and Thurman Dobbins, Austin; sisters, Mrs. Rispy Tra-week and Mrs. Susie Johnson of Pueblo, Colo.; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral will be Thursday at 2 p.m. from Chapel of Wilke-Clay Funeral Home with Rev. Jack Livingston, pastor of the Kinney Avenue Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial will be in Forest Oaks Memorial Park on Fredericksburg Highway.

MRS. EMMA LOU DOBBINS

Mrs. Emma Lou Dobbins, 88, of 1717 Valeria, died in a local hospital on Wednesday following a sudden illness.

Formerly of Amarillo, she had been a resident of Austin and Travis County for the past 50 years and was a member of the Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, George M. Dobbins in 1966.

Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. W. J. (Oleta) Mading and Mrs. Gene (Veda) Garner, both of Austin; two sons, Thurman Dobbins of Austin and Coy L. Dobbins of Houston; two sisters Mrs. Geneva Dobbins and Mrs. Gertrude White, both of Amarillo; five grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral is pending at Wilke-Clay Funeral Home.

Obituary of Emma Dobbins
Austin American, October 26, 1972

Julius and Florence Schmitz (ca. 1957 -)

Julius Schmitz appears in the 1940 U.S. Census as the 17-year old son of Julius and Agnes Schmitz, who rented their home at 907 W. 9th Street in Austin. Julius Schmitz had been born in Texas and worked in a drug store as a fountain dispenser. His father, Julius Schmitz, was 45, had been born in Texas, and was a brick mason. His mother, Agnes Schmitz, 36, had been born in Texas and was a janitress in the public schools. Julius was the oldest of the couple's 4 sons: Alfred, 15; Billy, 11; and Bobby, 9. All the boys had been born in Texas.

Julius L. Schmitz, Sr.

Julius L. Schmitz, Sr., age 68, a lifetime resident of Austin, died Monday, January 14, 1991.

Mr. Schmitz was a veteran of World War II and was assistant Sargeant at Arms, Texas House of Representatives. He worked for 30 years as manager for Vosburg-Martin Shoes.

Survivors include his wife, Florence Schmitz; sons, Louis Schmitz and Michael Schmitz; father, Julius Joe Schmitz; brothers, Bob Schmitz, Alfred Schmitz, and Bill Schmitz, all of Austin; two grandchildren; one great-grandchildren; three nieces; and two nephews.

Funeral services will be held 10:30 AM, Wednesday, January 16, 1991, at Harrell Funeral Home. Interment in Assumption Cemetery.

Arrangements by Harrell Funeral Home in Austin. 512-443-1366.

Obituary of Julius Schmitz
Austin American-Statesman, January 15, 1991

C. L. Dobbins

903 West Gibson St.

114

9 - 2

South Heights Subdiv.

Frame residence and box garage

28481 12-19-45

\$3,500.00

C.L.Dobbins Lbr. Co.

5

Building permit to Coy L. Dobbins for the construction of this house (1945)

WATER SERVICE PERMIT

No. 21714

Austin, Texas

INDEXED

Sec. 114

Received of C. L. DOBBINS data 1-3-46
 Address 903 WEST GIBSON ST
 Amount TWO AND 50/100 .250
 Plumber D.W. LANIER Size of Tap 1/2"

changed to 6" MAIN ONE-1308

Date of Connection	<u>1-21-46</u>
Size of Tap Made	<u>3/4"</u>
Size Service Made	<u>1/2"</u>
Size Main Tapped	<u>2"</u>
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock	<u>13'</u>
From W Prop. Line to Curb Cock	<u>8'</u>
Location of Meter	<u>W/PROP</u>
Type of Box	<u>CONC</u>
Depth of Main in St.	<u>14"</u>
Depth of Service Line	<u>14"</u>
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main	<u>12'</u>
Checked by Engr. Dept.	<u>21-10-346</u>

No. Fittings	Size
1	Curb Cock <u>5/8"</u>
1	Elbow <u>3/4"</u>
1	St. Elbow <u>3/4"</u>
	Bushing
1	Reducer <u>3/4" COPAIN</u>
6	Pipe <u>3/4"</u>
1	Lead Comp. <u>3/4" COP</u>
2	Nipples <u>3/4" COP</u>
1	Union <u>3/4" COP-IRON</u>
1	Plug <u>1/2" COP-IRON</u>
1	Tap <u>3/4" COP</u>
1	Stop <u>3/4" COP</u>
1	Box <u>CONC</u>
1	Lid <u>CONC</u>
	Valves
	Job No. <u>11222</u>
	Req. No. <u>11222</u>

Water service permit to Coy L. Dobbins for this address (1946)

Receipt No. 5310

Application for Sewer Connection No 19852

Austin, Texas, 1. 3. 1946

To the Superintendent of Sanitary Sewer Division, City of Austin, Texas.

Sir:—

I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises owned by

C. L. Robbins at 903 W. Gibson Street

further described as Lot 2 Block 9 Outlot Division

subdivision South Heights Plat 114, which is to be used as a Residence

In this place there are to be installed 5 fixtures. Plumbing Permit No. 21223

I agree to pay the City of Austin, the regular ordinance charge.

1-12-46
SV

Depth at Prop. Line 2 1/2 ft 3 at Main Respectfully,

Stub Out Connected } 8 1/2 ft E of WLL
(Location)

L. W. Lamm

Date 1-29-46

By [Signature]

NOTE: Connection Instructions 6" sewer in 12" deep - A185
Main 25 So. of N12. (Rock) CW

Sewer connection application by Coy L. Dobbins for this house (1946)