

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
MAY 21, 2018  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2016-0698  
1408 E. 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1897 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-and-a-half story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame house with a full-width inset porch; central, front-gabled dormer containing a pair of 2:2 windows; central entry framed with sidelights and a transom; single 2:2 windows.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house appears to have been built around 1897; the first owners and occupants were Gustav Falk and his family, who lived here until the early 1940s. Gus Falk and his wife, Christine, were both born in Sweden, and immigrated to the United States around 1890. Like many in this neighborhood, Gus Falk worked for the Houston and Texas Central Railroad from the 1890s through the 1910s, with an interruption in the mid-1910s for work as an engineer at the Littlefield Building. He then returned to being a car inspector for the railroad in the early 1920s, before starting work for the City Water Department at the city filtration plant, a job he retained for the rest of his working life. He raised his family in this house, including his son, Bibb Falk, a professional baseball player who returned to the University of Texas as the baseball coach for many years. Disch-Falk Field is named for him. In his later years, Gus Falk moved in with his son, Bibb, at a house in Hyde Park, which is a historic landmark.

The house was owned and occupied by a widow, Eula Daily, from the mid-1940s through the mid-1950s. Mrs. Daily was from Williamson County, Texas, and had no occupation listed while she lived in this house.

From the mid-1960s through the early 1990s, the house was owned and occupied by Pete and Frances Rincon. Pedro Rincon, Jr. was born in Texas to Mexican-born parents, who lived in rural Travis County. He was a farm laborer while still living with his parents. Upon his marriage and moving into Austin, Pete Rincon became a cabinet maker and worked in the mill works of Stripling-Blake Lumber Company.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is not recommended for individual designation nor as contributing to a local or National Register historic district by the East Austin Historic Survey (2016) due to the replacement of doors and exterior siding.

The house was in a serious state of disrepair when this case first came before the Commission in 2016, when staff recommended initiation of a historic zoning case. The house sat vacant for several years at the time of the original hearing in 2016, and the then-owner attempted to sell the property rather than attempt to rehabilitate and preserve the house. Since 2016, the house has fallen into further decline, and has suffered major deterioration from the collapse of a section of the roof. The current owner purchased the property with the intention of restoring the house, but has since determined that it is not financially feasible to do so given the level of deterioration. The current owner (who purchased the property this past winter) met with the Certificate of Appropriateness Review Committee in May, 2018 and presented evidence in support of an application for

demolition of the structure. The Certificate of Appropriateness Review Committee members agreed that the house is beyond repair and that the current owner exercised due diligence in considering preservation and restoration of this house, and that a recommendation to approve a demolition permit was an unfortunate but necessary action at this time.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**




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Staff must reluctantly agree with the members of the Certificate of Appropriateness Review Committee to release the demolition permit, but recommends the completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package to the greatest extent possible after the boards have been removed from the windows and doors, as well as the salvage of any usable materials from the inside and exterior of the house. There are still many fine examples of vernacular Victorian woodwork on the house, and the configuration of the windows and doors should be salvaged if possible for re-use on this or another site.

## LOCATION MAP



1" = 208'

-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

**NOTIFICATIONS**

CASE#: HDP-2016-0698  
1408 E. 2ND 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.

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.





1408 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
ca. 1897







Photos taken in 2016



## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1408 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

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

1992	P., Jr. and Frances M. Rincon, owners Retired B: Paul Rincon, renter Employed by the Wyndham Hotel, 4140 Governors Row.
1985-86	Pete, Jr., and Frances M. Rincon, owners Retired B: Pete Rincon, III, renter Painter
1981	Pete, Jr., and Frances Rincon, owners Door maker, Stripling-Blake Lumber Company, 3400 Steck Avenue. B: Gilbert and Carolyn Martinez, renters Printer, State Department of Parks and Wildlife
1977	Pete, Jr., and Frances Rincon, owners Door mill, Stripling-Blake Lumber Company, 3400 Steck Avenue. B: Gilbert and Carolyn Martinez, renters No occupation listed
1973	Pete, Jr. and Frances Rincon, owners Door mill, Stripling-Blake Lumber Company, 3400 Steck Avenue.



NOTE: There is no listing for a secondary apartment with the address of 1408-B E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

- 1968 Pete, Jr. and Frances Rincon, owners  
Mill worker, Stripling-Blake Lumber Company, 5453 Burnet Road.
- 1965 Pete, Jr., and Frances Rincon, owners  
Cabinet maker
- 1962 Lorenzo Reyes, renter  
Cook, Caruso's Café, 311 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.  
Also listed is Lorenzo Reyes, Jr., U.S. Army.  
NOTE: Pete, Jr. and Frances Rincon are listed at 1406 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, a ca. 1951 house that was demolished in 2009. He was a carpenter.
- 1959 Morris and Bernice Daily, owners  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is Eula Daily, the widow of Landis Daily; she had no occupation shown.
- 1955 Eula Daily, owner  
Widow, Linden C. Daily  
No occupation listed
- 1952 Eula Daily, owner  
Widow, Landon C. Daily  
No occupation listed  
Also listed are Cyril H. and Norma J. Daily – he was an examiner for the Texas Insurance Checking Office and she was a clerk for the Texas Insurance Checking Office, Commodore Perry Hotel, 812 Brazos Street; and Morris L. and Bernice Daily – he was a clerk.
- 1949 Eula Daily, owner  
No occupation listed
- 1947 Eula Daily, owner  
Widow, Landon Daily  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is Landon C. Daily, a student at the University of Texas.
- 1944-45 Eula Daily, owner  
Widow, Landon Daily  
No occupation listed  
Also listed are Geneva S. Daily, a clerk at the Texas Insurance Checking Office, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Scarbrough Building; and L.C. Daily, a soda dispenser at The Corner, confectionary, 2354 Guadalupe Street.  
NOTE: The 1942 city directory shows Eula Daily living at 2307 Willow Street; she had no occupation listed.

Nelson E. Ponder, owner  
Book-keeper American National Bank, 601-05 Congress Avenue.

NOTE: Gus and Christine Falk are listed at 4213 Avenue D; neither had an occupation shown.

- 1941 Gus H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Operator, City Filtration Plant  
NOTE: Eula Daily is not listed in the directory.
- 1939 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Operator, City Filtration Plant
- 1937 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Operator, City Filtration Plant
- 1935 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Operator, City Filtration Plant
- 1932-33 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Operator, City Filtration Plant
- 1930-31 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Operator, City Filtration Plant
- 1929 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Operator, City Filtration Plant
- 1927 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Operator, City Water and Light Department plant
- 1924 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Trouble man, City Water Department
- 1922 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Car inspector  
Also listed are Carl O. Falk, a student at the University of Texas; and Elsie W. Falk, a book-keeper for Stebbins & James, men's clothing and furnishings, 612 Congress Avenue.
- 1920 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Car inspector  
Also listed are Collie Falk, a student; Elsie Falk, a stenographer at J.R. Reed Music Company, 805 Congress Avenue; P. Arthur Falk, no occupation shown; and P. August Falk, no occupation shown.
- 1918 Gustaf H. and Christine Falk, owners  
Engineer, Littlefield Building  
Also listed are Collie Falk, employed by the Austin Coca-Cola Bottling Plant, 121 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street; G. Arthur Falk, a clerk at Quality Mills, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Nueces Streets; Nellie C. Falk, a teacher; and P. August Falk, a clerk at the Austin Coca-Cola Bottling Plant, 121 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street.
- 1916 Gustaf H. Falk  
Engineer, Littlefield Building  
Also listed are Elsie Falk, a cashier for the United Telephone Company, 202 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street; G. Arthur Falk, a student; Nellie C. Falk, a clerk at F.W. Woolworth Company, department store, 800-02 Congress Avenue; and P. August Falk a student.



1914	Gustaf H. Falk Car inspector Also listed are Elsie Falk, a stenographer for the United Telephone Company, 202 W. 8 <sup>th</sup> Street; and Nellie Falk, a clerk for T.C. Jensen (no business description provided), 918 Congress Avenue.
1912-13	Gustav Falk No occupation listed Also listed is Elsie Falk, a stenographer for the United Telephone Company, 202 W. 8 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1910-11	Gustav Falk Chief car inspector, Houston and Texas Central Railroad yards Also listed is Elsie Falk, a stenographer.
1906-07	Gustav Falk Car inspector, Houston and Texas Central Railroad
1905	Gustav Falk Car inspector, Houston and Texas Central Railroad
1903-04	Gustav Falk Car repair, Houston and Texas Central Railroad
1900-01	Gustav Falk Boiler washer, Houston and Texas Central Railroad
1898-99	Gustav Falk Boiler washer, Houston and Texas Central Railroad NOTE: The house is listed as 1410 E. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street.
1897-98	Unknown NOTE: Gustav Falk is not listed in the directory.

### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

#### **Gus and Christine Falk (ca. 1897 – ca. 1942)**

The 1900 U.S. Census shows Gustav and Christina Falk at this address. Gustave Falk was 31, had been born in Sweden, and was a boiler washer for the railroad. Christina Falk was 35, had been born in Sweden. They had 4 children: Elsie, 7; Nellie, 6; Gustave O, 4; and August, 1. All of the children had been born in Texas.

The 1910 U.S. Census shows Gustav and Christine Falk at this address. Gustav Falk was 42, had been born in Sweden, and was a car inspector for the railroad. Christine Falk was 45, had been born in Sweden, and had no occupation listed. They had 6 children: Elsie, 18, a type writer for the city; Nellie, 16; Arthur, 14; August, 11; Carl, 8; and Chester, 5. All of the children had been born in Texas.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Gustav and Christina Falk as the owners of this house. Gustav Falk was 50, had been born in Sweden, and was a car inspector for the railroad. Christina Falk was 55, had been born in Sweden, and had no occupation listed. They had 5 children: Elsie, 27, a stenographer for a music store; Arthur, 23, a book-keeper in a flour mill; August, 21; Carl, 17; and Chester, 14. All of the children had been born in Texas.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Gus H. and Christine Falk as the owners of this house, which was worth \$5,000. Gus H. Falk was 60, had been born in Sweden, and was an operator at the City Filtration Plant. He had become a naturalized citizen in 1888. Christine Falk was 65, had been born in Sweden, and had no occupation listed. She had become a naturalized citizen in 1890. They had 2 of their children living with them: Bibb A., 31, who had been born in Texas, and was a professional baseball player; and Chester, 24, who had been born in Texas, and was a professional baseball player.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows G.H. and Christine Falk as the owner of this house, which was worth \$3,500. G.H. Falk was 71, had been born in Sweden, and was an operator at the City Filtration Plant. Christine Falk was 74, had been born in Sweden, and had no occupation listed. With them lived their son, Bibb, 41, who had been born in Texas, and was a professional baseball player.

Her 1952 death certificate shows that Christine Falk was born in 1864 in Sweden and was living at 4213 Avenue D at the time of her death. She was a housewife.

According to his 1963 death certificate, Gustaf Harald Falk was born in Wadstena, Sweden in 1869, and was living at 4213 Avenue D at the time of his death. He was a widowed retired city employee.

Her 1980 death certificate shows that Elsie Maria Falk, the oldest daughter of Gus and Christine Falk, was born in 1892 in Texas, and was living at 4213 Avenue D at the time of her death. She was never married, and worked as a secretary for an insurance agency.

# Mrs. Falk Dies; Funeral Today

Mrs. Christine Falk of 4213 Avenue D died in a local hospital Saturday morning.

She is survived by her husband, G. H. Falk of Austin; a daughter, Miss Elsie Falk; four sons, B. A. Falk of Austin, A. G. Falk of Dallas, C. E. Falk of Austin, and C. O. Falk of San Antonio; six grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 4 p. m. Sunday at the Cook Funeral Home with the Rev. Will-Matthis Dunn officiating.

Pallbearers will be H. A. Johnson, Eric Fredrickson, Cloister Miles, Arthur Johnson, O. J. Hill, and Carl Quick. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

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News story on the death of Christine Falk  
Austin American-Statesman, August 3, 1952



# Gus Falk, UT Coach's Dad, Dies

Gus Falk, 94, of 4213 Avenue D, died in a local hospital Wednesday morning. He was born in Sweden and came to Austin in 1888. He was a member of Memorial Methodist Church.

He is survived by a daughter, Miss Elsie Falk of Austin; three sons, Bibb Falk, University of Texas baseball coach, Chester Falk, both of Austin, and Collie Falk of San Antonio; 6 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at 3:30 p.m. from the Cook Funeral Home with Rev. Milton Dare and Rev. Oscar Linstrom officiating. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be George Falk, Carl Falk, Cloister Miles, William A. Hergotz, C. W. Ryden and Chester Falk, Jr.

News story on the death of Gus Falk  
Austin American, July 11, 1963

**FALK, Mrs. Elsie, 87, 4213 Avenue D, died Sunday. Services 3:30 p.m. today at Cook-Walden Funeral Home Burial, Austin Memorial Park.**

Obituary of Elsie Falk, who lived here with her parents  
Austin American-Statesman, March 11, 1980

**Eula O. Daily (ca. 1943 – ca. 1960)**

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Landon and Eula Daily living in a house they owned worth \$8,000 in "Old" Round Rock, Texas. Landon Daily was 33, had been born in Texas, and was a

common laborer on a WPA sewerage project. Eula Daily was 46, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 5 children: Nelson, 15 (who was Eula's son from a prior marriage); Jeannie Sue, 13; L.C., 11; Cyril H., 9; and Morris L., 6. All of the children had been born in Texas. The family had lived in rural Williamson County in 1935.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Landon C. and Eula Daily living in a house they owned in Precinct 8 of Williamson County, Texas. Landon C. Daily was 23, had been born in Texas, and was a labeler in a broom factory. Eula O. Daily was 36, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 children: Geneva S., 2; and Landon C., Jr., 1. In addition, two of Eula's children from her prior marriage lived with them: Maxine F. Ponder, 9; and Nelson E. Ponder, 5. All of the children had been born in Texas.

The 1910 U.S. Census shows Eula as the 16-year old daughter of John and Johnnie Putnam, who lived on the Lower Georgetown Road in Travis County. Eula was the oldest of the couple's 5 daughters listed. Her father, John Putnam, was a 39-year old Mississippi-born farmer. Her mother, Johnnie Putnam, was 44, had been born in Mississippi, and had no occupation listed. All of the girls were listed as farm laborers on the home farm. The 1900 U.S. Census shows the Putnams living in Justice Precinct 8 of Williamson County, Texas on a rented farm. John Putnam was a farmer.

Her 1977 death certificate shows that Eula Olive Daily was living at 5114 Martin Avenue at the time of her death. She was born in 1893 in Hutto, Texas, and was a homemaker. She was a widow.

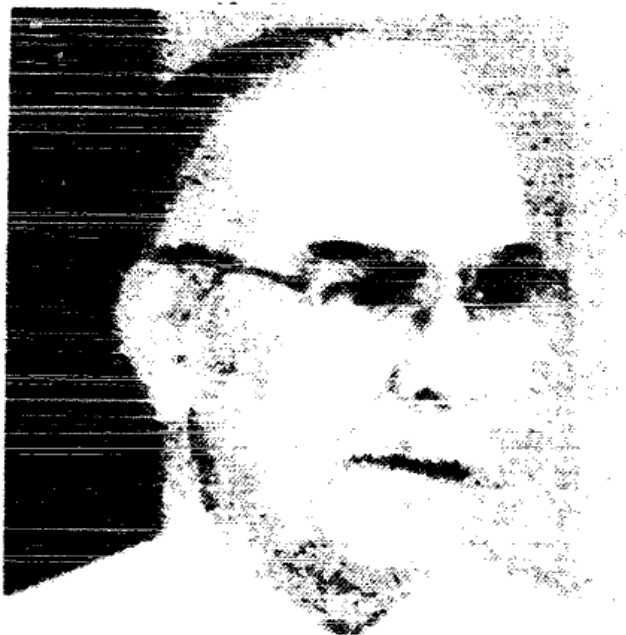
Apparently, Landon and Eula Daily divorced – he died in Round Rock, Texas in 1986.

**. DAILY, Mrs. Eula P., 84, 5114 Martin,  
died Tuesday. Services 2 p.m. Thursday  
at Cook-Walden Funeral Home.**

Death notice for Eula P. Daily  
Austin American-Statesman, December 28, 1977

**Pete and Frances Rincon (ca. 1962 – ca. 2013)**

Pedro Rincon, Jr. appears in the 1940 U.S. Census as the 17-year old son of Pedro and Teresa Rincon, who lived in a rented house on Route 6 in rural Travis County. Pedro, Jr. was born in Texas and was a farm laborer. He was the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the couple's 9 children listed. His father, Pedro Rincon, Sr. 50, had been born in Mexico and was a farmer. His mother, Teresa Rincon, 44, had been born in Mexico, and had no occupation listed. Pedro, Jr.'s two next-younger brothers were also farm laborers. All of the children in the family had been born in Texas.



### **Pete Rincon, Jr.**

**Pete Rincon, Jr., 68, of Austin died Sunday, June 2, 1991.**

**He was a World War II veteran; and had retired from Stripling Blake Lumber Co.**

**Survivors include his beloved wife, Frances M. Rincon of Austin; sons, Marlo Rincon, Peter Rincon III, Earl Rincon, Paul Rincon, and Victor Rincon; daughters, Viola Salas of Austin, Carolyn Martinez of Buda, Texas, and Elizabeth Rincon Rodriguez of Austin; brothers, Frank Rincon of Austin and Ruben Rincon of San Antonio; sisters, Pilar Rincon, Elizabeth Aguilar, Rachel Samplaski, and Ovelia Smith, all of Austin; sons-in-law, Lawrence Salas, Gilbert Martinez, John Rodriguez; daughters-in-law, Lydia S. Rincon, Diana Rincon, Lydia N. Rincon, Esmeralda Tijerina, Nancy Rodriguez; 21 grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.**



**Rosary will be recited at 7:30 PM, Wednesday, June 5, 1991, at Mission Funeral Home Chapel. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 10:00 AM, Thursday, June 6, 1991, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. Interment will follow in Mount Calvary Cemetery.**

**Pallbearers include Mario Rincon, Peter Rincon III, Earl Rincon, Paul Rincon, Victor Rincon, Zachary Martinez. Honorary pallbearers include Mario Rincon, Jr., Lawrence Salas III, Marv Salas, Lonnie Rincon, Adrian Aguilar, Gary Samplaski, Raymond Maldonado.**

Obituary of Pete Rincon, Jr.  
Austin American-Statesman, June 5, 1991

## FRANCES MORENO RINCON



**Frances Moreno Rincon** On April 16th, 2013, Our mother, Mrs. Frances Moreno Rincon, of Austin, Texas, passed away at the age of 89. She was born to Mary B. Moreno and Earl Moreno in Austin, Texas on October 10, 1923. Mom was known for raising chickens and caring for many neighborhood cats. She enjoyed playing checkers and would surprise many by her innovative wins. Mom had a green thumb, planting rose flower beds around the house and other plants throughout the seasons. Mom was a generous person, helping many people. She was preceded to God's kingdom by her husband Pete Rincon Jr., her parents Earl and Mary B. Moreno. Brothers: Earl Moreno, Frank Moreno, Willie Moreno, Robert Moreno. Sisters: Julia Pineda and Lucy Herrera. She is survived by her eight children. Three Daughters - Viola R. Salas and husband Lawrence; Carolyn R. Martinez and husband Gilbert; Elizabeth Rincon and husband John Rodriguez. Five Sons, four of which served in the U.S. Armed Forces: Mario Rincon (US Air Force) and wife Lydia; Pete Rincon III (US Navy) and wife Diane; Earl Rincon (US Marines) and wife Lisa; Victor Rincon (US Army) and wife Esmeralda; and taking care of the home fort - Paul Rincon and wife Nancy. Her memory will forever be in the hearts and souls of her children, 25 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren, many nieces and nephews. Also survived by her two sisters Ann Ledesma and Rose Tannlund. And by her faithful puppy Felipe. Special appreciation to Victor and Esmeralda Rincon and their daughters Shelby and Victoria for consistently taking care of mom and being supportive of her needs. A special thanks to Dr. Jackie Kerr. Holy Rosary will be recited at 7 pm on Thursday, April 18, 2013 at Mission Funeral Home on Cesar Chavez street. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 10 am on Friday, April 19, 2013 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Austin, Texas. Interment will follow in Mount Calvary Cemetery. Pallbearers Viola R. Salas, Mario Rincon, Pete Rincon III, Earl Rincon, Paul Rincon and Victor Rincon. Honorary spiritual pallbearer our military father Pete Rincon Jr., served in World War II, US Army.

Obituary of Frances Rincon  
 Austin American-Statesman, April 18, 2013

Pete Rincon, Jr.

1408 East 2nd St.

27

122' x 138'

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Unplatted

Remodel &amp; Repair Residence

84888

8-6-62

800.00

Owner

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**RESIDENCE****Sheetrock interior of Residence**6-28-73 136976 Frame acc. bldg. (gar) 720 sq. ft.  
10-19-78# 176952- Peter Rincon- Siding

Siding on res. 3750.00

Building permit to Pete Rincon, Jr. for remodeling and repairs (1962) and for siding (1973)