

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
JANUARY 27, 2020
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS (PARTIAL)
HDP-2019-0756
1009 E. 14TH STREET

PROPOSAL

Construct an addition to a ca. 1929 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, T-plan building; cross-gabled roof; wood siding; 2:2 fiberglass windows; half-width porch; door with multi-lite transom.

RESEARCH

1009 E. 14th Street was built around 1929 by Robert and Delia Batts, an African American couple who occupied the house until around 1947 before moving next door to 1011 E. 14th Street. Robert Lee Batts was born in 1908 in Austin and completed school through the 10th grade. He worked as a linoleum layer at the Swann-Schulle Furniture Co. Robert Batts died in 1978 in Austin.

Delia Mae Batts (nee Daniels) was born in 1909 in Round Rock, where her father worked as a grocer and later as a farm laborer. She completed two years of college and married Robert Batts in 1929 in Austin; the couple had two children. After Robert died in 1978, Delia married Charlie Davidson in Travis County in 1980. She died in 1988.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Construct a second story atop and behind the existing building; add an attached garage to the west wall. The L-plan second-story addition is set behind the ridgeline on the east side of the building and behind the gable front on the primary (north) façade. It is clad in hardiplank siding and capped by a hipped metal roof with a front gable end that echoes that of the house. Windows will be fixed and casement with fiberglass sashes and be covered by historic-age wood screens. The garage is clad in hardiplank horizontal siding and capped by a hipped roof.

The existing horizontal wood siding, wood-sash windows, porch materials, and front door will be retained.

STAFF COMMENTS

The East Austin Historic Resources Survey (2016) identified the property as contributing to a potential historic district.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain a high degree of integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (City of Austin Land Development Code, Section 25-2-352). The property appears to demonstrate significance according to one criterion.

- a. **Architecture.** The house embodies the distinguishing characteristics of the Folk Victorian style and appears to be significant under this criterion.
- b. **Historical association.** Robert and Delia Batts lived in the house for more than 15 years. There do not appear to be significant historical associations.
- c. **Archaeology.** The property was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
- d. **Community value.** The house does not appear to possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, the neighborhood, or a particular demographic group.
- e. **Landscape feature.** The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION





Retain the front gable as a parapet wall for the balcony. The front gable has been retained.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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.

LOCATION MAP



-  N
-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: GF 19-237615
1009 E 14TH STREET



1" = 292'

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.

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



Primary (north) façade of 1009 E. 14th Street.

Occupancy History

Completed by Historic Preservation Office staff, December 2019

- 1929 Address not listed
- 1930-31 Robert and Delia M. Batts, owners
Porter Swann-Schulle Furniture Co.
- 1932-33 Robert and Delia M. Batts, owners
Porter Swann-Schulle Furniture Co.
- 1935 Robert and Delia M. Batts, owners
Salesman, Swann-Schulle Furniture Co.
- 1939 Robert L. and Delia M. Batts, owners
Linoleum layer, Swann-Schulle Furniture Co.
- 1941 Robert L. and Delia M. Batts, owners
Linoleum layer, Swann-Schulle Furniture Co.
- 1944-45 Robert L. and Delia M. Batts, owners
Jobber, Swann-Schulle Furniture Co.

- 1947 Robert L. and Delia M. Batts, owners
Linoleum layer, Swann-Schulle Furniture Co.
- 1949 John A. and Crezetta Joost, renters
Porter, no employer listed
- 1952 John A. and Crezetta Joost, renters
Laborer, no employer listed (John); clerk, Brackenridge Hospital (Crezetta)
- 1955 Walter W. Duncan, renter
Dentist, 1506 E. 12th Street
- 1959 Victor and Johnnie M. Smith, owners
Waiter, Elks Club
- 1962 Vacant
- 1965 State Offices, Board of Regents, State Teacher Colleges, renter
- 1968 Goldie M. Price, renter
Maid, State Board of Control
- 1973 Vacant
- 1977 Unit A – Vacant

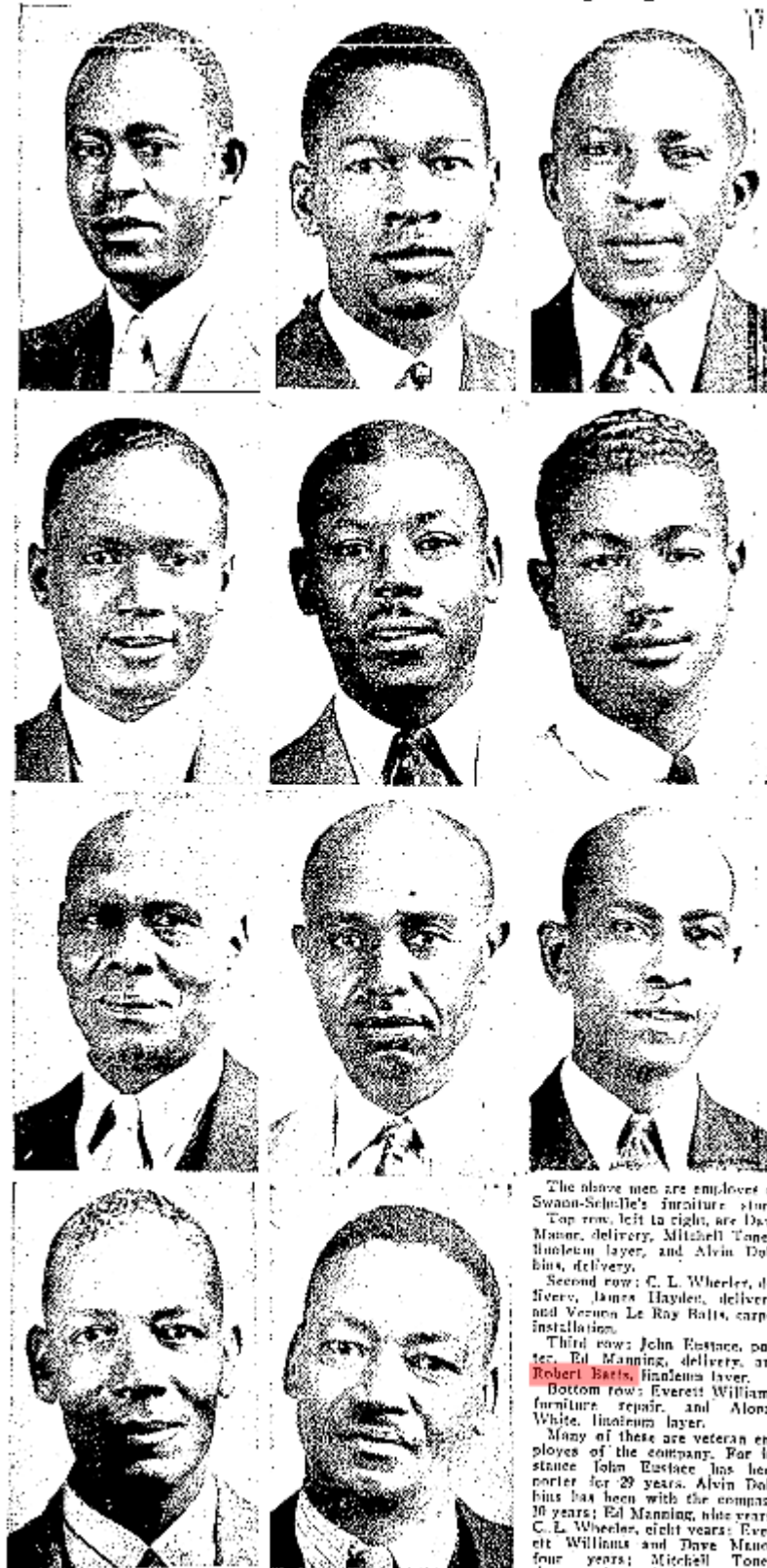
Unit B – Jim Finney, renter
No occupation listed
- 1981 Unit A – No return

Unit B – Evan Dickson, renter
No occupation listed
- 1985-86 Unit A – Jack and Jemmie Brown, owners
Retired

Unit B – Jack W. Brown, renter
No occupation listed
- 1992 State Senate Public Health Subcommittee

Background Research

Veteran Furniture Store Employees



The above men are employees of Swann-Sehulle's furniture store. Top row, left to right, are Dave Manor, delivery; Mitchell Toney, linoleum layer; and Alvin Dolbins, delivery.

Second row: C. L. Wheeler, delivery; James Hayden, delivery; and Vernon Le Ray Batts, carpet installation.

Third row: John Eustace, porter; Ed Manning, delivery; and **Robert Batts**, linoleum layer.

Bottom row: Everett Williams, furniture repair; and Alonzo White, linoleum layer.

Many of these are veteran employees of the company. For instance John Eustace has been porter for 29 years. Alvin Dolbins has been with the company 16 years; Ed Manning, nine years; C. L. Wheeler, eight years; Everett Williams and Dave Manor, four years; Mitchell Toney, three and one-half years; and

"Veteran furniture store employes [sic]," Austin American, 3/11/1940. Robert Batts is in the third row on the right side.

