

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
 DECEMBER 14, 2020  
 DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
 HDP-2020-0410  
 815 WEST 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET

## PROPOSAL

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Demolish a ca. 1911 house.

## ARCHITECTURE

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One-story, rectangular-plan, hipped roof frame house with permastone siding, a central, hipped-roof front-facing dormer containing two windows; partial-width inset porch on non-historic wood posts; .

## RESEARCH

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The house was built around 1911; the first occupants were Jasper J. and Blanche Coulter, who lived here until around 1917. Jasper Coulter was a book keeper for McKean-Eilers, a large wholesale dry goods company on Congress Avenue (their building is a historic landmark). The house was rented by Lucy Scott, a teacher at Pease School, in the late 1910s and early 1920s. Patrick J. Moran, an oil driller, and his wife, Imogene, are listed as the owners of the house in the 1927 city directory; only Imogene Moran is shown in the 1929 directory. Following the Morans' ownership of the house, it was a rental property again, with a meat cutter, the superintendent for the Austin Coca-Cola bottling plant, and a projectionist at the Varsity Theater among the tenants. Around 1946, Mrs. Gretta Catterall, a widow, purchased the property; she lived here until around 1970.

## STAFF COMMENTS

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The house was listed as a Priority 2 for research in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984).

Staff has evaluated this house for designation as a historic landmark and has determined that the house may meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code:

- a. **Architecture.** The house is a good example of a transitional house, between the older Victorian styles and the later bungalows. This house has a traditional form, but without the architectural ornamentation of earlier tastes, and without the simple floorplan and prominent front porch of the later bungalows. This neighborhood has a number of transitional houses; this one would be contributing to a potential historic district in the west end of downtown.
- b. **Historical association.** The house was the home of several middle class families, and represents the lifestyle of the middle class during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The house also has a history of both home ownership and rentals that typified residential patterns in this section of the city. While none of the inhabitants appear to have figured significantly in the history of Austin, the character of the house reflects middle class values.
- c. **Archaeology.** The house 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 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.




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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Strongly encourage rehabilitation and adaptive reuse, including consideration of a recommendation for historic zoning. If the Commission votes to release the permit, then condition that release 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 as this 109-year old house has potential historical significance, and would likely be contributing to a historic district in the area. Every consideration towards rehabilitation and restoration rather than demolition should be made before losing this house.

## LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 250'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2020-0410  
LOCATION: 815 W 11TH 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.

815 W.11<sup>th</sup> Street  
ca. 1911



Detail of permastone siding, wood porch posts, and 9:1 window

## OCCUPANCY HISTORY

### 815 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street

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

1992	John and Vivien Geneser, owners Contractor
1985-86	No return
1981	John Geneser, owner No occupation listed
1977	Zeke and Maria Romo, renters Research analyst
1973	Cruz and Seferina Romo, renters Laborer Also listed is Zeke Romo, a student.
1968	Gretta Catterall, owner Widow, Ernest V. Catterall Retired
1962	Gretta Catterall, owner Widow, Ernest V. Catterall No occupation listed
1959	Gretta Catterall, owner Widow, Ernest V. Catterall No occupation listed
1955	Gretta Catterall, owner Widow, Ernest V. Catterall No occupation listed
1952	Gretta Catterall, owner Widow, E.V. Catterall No occupation listed
1949	Gretta Catterall, owner Widow, Ernest V. Catterall No occupation listed
1947	Gretta Catterall, owner Widow, Ernest Catterall No occupation listed
1944-45	Alfred J. and Mary Poldrack, renters U.S. Army

- 1941 Fred R. and Ella Colgan, renters  
Salesman, Austin Daily Tribune, 10<sup>th</sup> and Colorado Streets.  
Also listed is E. Heath Colgan, a student.
- 1939 William E. and Lillian B. Simpson, renters  
Operator, Varsity Theater, 2400½ Guadalupe Street.
- 1937 William E. and Lillian Simpson, renters  
Projectionist, Varsity Theater, 2400½ Guadalupe Street.
- 1935 James C. and Delma E. Barnett, renters  
Plant superintendent, Austin Coca-Cola Bottling Company, 311 Colorado Street.
- 1932-33 Walter F. and Pauline Hale, renters  
Meat cutter, Slaughter's Rio Grande Cash & Carry, 1109 Rio Grande Street.
- 1930-31 J. William and Annie Gilbert, renters  
Yardman, State Board of Control
- 1929 Imogene Moran, owner  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is Paul Moran, no occupation stated.
- 1927 Patrick J. and Imogene Moran, owners  
Oil driller  
Also listed is Paul E. Moran, an office boy for the Austin American-Statesman,  
newspaper, 7<sup>th</sup> and Brazos Streets.
- 1924 William G. and Virginia Gordon, renters  
Waiter, Bon Ton Café, 609 Congress Avenue.
- 1922 Mrs. Lucie H. Scott, renter  
Widow, William L. Scott  
Teacher, Pease School
- 1920 Lucy Scott, renter  
Widow, William L. Scott  
Teacher, Pease School
- 1918 Vacant  
NOTE: Jasper J. and Blanche Coulter are listed at 1204 West Avenue; he was a  
book-keeper for McKean-Eilers Company, wholesale dry goods, 321-27  
Congress Avenue.
- 1916 Jasper J. Coulter  
Book-keeper, McKean-Eilers Company, wholesale dry goods, 321-27 Congress  
Avenue.
- 1914 Jasper J. Coulter  
Book-keeper, McKean-Eilers Company, wholesale dry goods, 321-27 Congress  
Avenue.



- 1912-13 Jasper J. Coulter  
Book-keeper, McKean-Eilers Company, wholesale dry goods, notions, men's furnishings, 321-27 Congress Avenue.
- 1910-11 The address is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Jasper J. Coulter is listed as book-keeper for McKean-Eilers & Company; he lived at 501 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

#### Jasper J. and Blanche Coulter (ca. 1911 – ca. 1917)

The 1910 U.S. Census shows J.J. and Blanche Coulter at 110 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Austin. J.J. Coulter was 36, had been born in Texas, and was a book-keeper for a wholesale grocery business. Blanche Coulter was 30, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a daughter, Dorothy, 5. With them lived Blanche's mother, Florine Heth, a 67-year old Kentucky-born widow with no occupation listed, and Blanche's sister, Ottie Heth, a 22-year old Texas-born saleslady in a dry goods store.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Jasper (listed as James J.) and Blanche Coulter renting the house at 1204 West Avenue with their two daughters, Dorothy, 15, and Marjorie, 7. James J. Coulter was a book-keeper for a wholesale house.

Jasper and Blanche H. Coulter appear in the 1930 U.S. Census as the renters of a duplex at 506 West Avenue. Jasper Coulter was 56, had been born in Texas, and was a real estate accountant. Blanche Coulter was 50, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a daughter, Marjorie, 17, who had no occupation listed.

#### **MRS. BLANCH HETH COULTER**

**Mrs. Blanch Heth Coulter,** the wife of J. J. Coulter, died at the family home, 104 East Annie street, at 10:30 a. m. Sunday. Besides her husband, she is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Polk C. Webb, Jr., and one sister, Mrs. O. D. Farquhar, all of Austin. Mrs. Coulter has been a resident of Austin practically all of her life and has been a member of the Central Christian church for more than 50 years. She is also a member of the Daughters of the Confederacy.

Funeral services will be conducted at the Weed-Corley Funeral home at 5 p. m. Monday by the Rev. John Barclay, who will be assisted by the Rev. O. C. Crow. Burial will be in Oakwood cemetery.

Obituary of Blanch Coulter  
Austin American, January 17, 1944

**J. J. COULTER**

**J. J. Coulter, 77, an Austin resident for over 50 years, died at his residence, 104 East Annie Street Friday. He was an accountant and had been retired for about a year. He was a longtime member of the Central Christian Church and for several years had served as superintendent of the Sunday School. He was a veteran of the Spanish-American war and a member of**

**the Thomas Scurry Camp No. 17 USWV of Austin.**

**Survivors are one daughter, Mrs. Polk C. Webb Jr., Austin; two sisters, Mrs. Dollie Crawford, Seattle, Wash., and Mrs. Ella Rather, Oklahoma City, Okla.**

**Funeral services will be held Saturday at 3 p.m. at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home. Dr. John Barclay will officiate assisted by the Rev. Sidney Hawkins. Burial will be in Oakwood cemetery.**

**Honorary pallbearers are all surviving comrades of Co. D, First Texas Volunteer Infantry and the Camp No. 17 USWV of Austin.**

Obituary of Jasper J. Coulter  
Austin American, August 25, 1951

**1930 U.S. Census**

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Bernard Saladee and his wife, Opal, as the renters of this house. Bernard Saladee was 42, had been born in Kansas, and was a salesman. Opal Saladee was 40, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a daughter, Florence, 16, who had no occupation listed.

**Gretta Catterall (ca. 1946 – ca. 1970)**

Gretta Catterall is listed in the 1910 U.S. Census as the wife of Ernest Catterall of Galveston, Texas; Ernest was a bank teller. By the time of the 1920 census report, they were renting a farm in Travis County. Ernest V. Catterall was 36, had been born in England, and was a farm book-keeper. Gretta Catterall was 33, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 4 daughters: Eunice, 14; Constance, 12; Miriam, 3; and Sybil, 3 months. Ernest Catterall died December 15, 1922 in Kendall County, Texas.

Gretta Catterall appears in the 1930 U.S. Census as a 43-year old widow renting a house at 405 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Austin. She had no occupation listed. With her lived her daughters Constance, a stenographer for the railroad; Miriam, and Sybil, neither of whom had an occupation listed. By 1940, according to the U.S. Census report, Gretta Catterall was renting a house at 307 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Austin with her daughters Miriam and Sybil. Miriam was a junior clerk and stenographer



for the National Park Service; Sybil was an odd-job typist. Gretta had no occupation listed. They had two lodgers: Selma Patterson, 21, a Texas-born waitress in a café who had lived in Beeville, Texas in 1935; and Eddie Yantis, 23, an Oklahoma-born bus driver who had lived in San Antonio in 1935.

Travis County real estate records show that she purchased this property in 1946.

**MRS. GRETTA MABUS  
CATTERALL**

Mrs. Gretta Mabus Catterall, 90, of 2705 Northland Drive, long time Austin resident died Thursday, January 27th.

Services will be held at St. David's Episcopal Church on Sat. Jan. 29th at 2:00 PM., with the Rev. Mr. Charles Sumners and Dr. Edwin Harvey officiating. Burial will be at Austin Memorial Park.

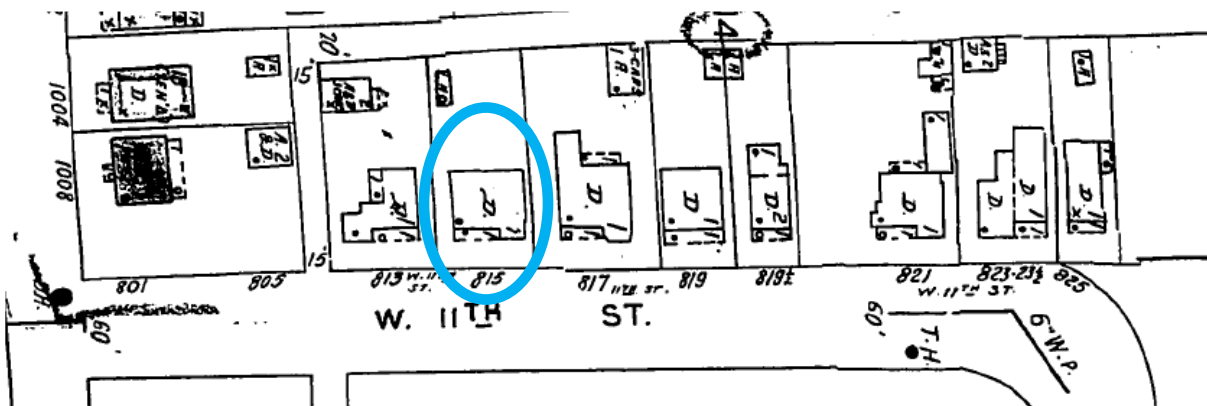
Survivors include four, daughters, Mrs. Eunice Williamson, Mrs. Connie Naylor, both of Austin, Mrs. Miriam Kriechbaum of El Paso and Mrs. Sybil McDaniel of Farmington, New Mexico. Also surviving are four granddaughters; eight grandsons; six great granddaughters and nine great grandsons.

Mrs. Catterall was the widow of the late Earnest Victor Catterall of Gal-

veston, Tex. Mrs. Catterall was born in Galveston, Tx. in 1887. She moved to Austin in 1915. She was an active member of St. David's Church for fifty years.

Pallbearers for Mrs. Catterall will be, James Williamson, Robert Williamson, Charles Williamson, Walter Naylor, Ritner Kriechbaum, Victor Kriechbaum, Steve Kriechbaum, Frederick McDaniel.

Obituary of Gretta Catterall  
Austin American-Statesman, January 28, 1977



93	John C. Gracy	815 W. 11th St/ Pt. of 2&3
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19017 - 3-7-40

### Permit to John Gracy to re-roof the house (1940)