HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS JANUARY 25, 2021 HR 2020-113802 223 EAST SIXTH STREET SIXTH STREET NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

PROPOSAL

Construct a roof deck on a ca. 1872 commercial building.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

Construct a roof deck atop a single-story commercial building. The proposed deck is two stories in height with a flat roof. It is clad in stucco and features full-height operable glass panels at the first floor and recessed glass-and-stucco enclosures at the second. It is surrounded by a metal guardrail that meets the parapet at the San Jacinto elevation and is set back approximately 43 feet from the 6th Street elevation. Metal stairs at the north elevation allow access to the upper deck.

ARCHITECTURE

1-story, 2-part commercial block with applied stucco and brick veneer over historic brick. Its Sixth Street façade features operable multi-lite windows, a brick veneer cornice below the parapet in the Art Moderne style, and fabric awnings. Its San Jacinto façade features several arches with brick infill, suggesting an interpretation of the Texas Vernacular Arched style described in the Sixth Street Design Guidelines.

RESEARCH

223 E. 6th Street was constructed between 1872 and 1885 as a commercial structure. The Sixth Street National Register District nomination form suggests that its build date was 1872; the Sanborn map from 1885 shows active construction on the site from that date, suggesting that the 1872 structure was altered or replaced.

The building's first owner-occupant was P. G. Roach, a relative of O. Henry, who operated a grocery store there before renting it out to brothers Isidore and Morris Michaelson in 1889. Roach eventually sold the property to Benjamin H. Smith and William B. Brady, who moved their eminently successful boot and shoe business to the building from 1891 to 1900. In 1894, they completed an extension to the store to increase the size of their sales floor. Smith & Brady shared the space with Deen & Deen Grocers, as well as Henry Vranian, a fruit stand operator.

Grocers William W. Deen and his partner Thomas B. Walling took over the entire space after Smith & Brady's 1900 departure. Deen and Walling sold groceries, liquor, coffee, and crockery from 223 E. 6th Street until around 1905, when R. B. Walling took over as a dry goods salesman. He remained only until around 1909, when Bohn-Shelby Dry Goods moved into the building. They commissioned storefront modifications around 1911. By 1916, the Profit-Sharing Stamp Company occupied the other half of the building at 221 E. 6th. Bohn-Shelby became the Shelby Dry Goods Company around 1920, and the Stamp Company left the building around 1922. Shelby remodeled the storefront in 1929, but went out of business by 1932 as the Great Depression set in. Grand Leader Dry Goods occupied the shop briefly from 1932 to 1935.

In 1935, Assad K. Hage, a well-known Texas businessman from Syria, purchased and remodeled the store. He operated a department store there for nearly 30 years, dying shortly after his retirement in 1955. The Commonwealth Life and Accident Company and Academy Army Surplus Company occupied the building after Hage's departure. It was purchased

again in 1959 by Groner's Department Store, who reworked the storefront and removed the partition between 221 and 223 E. 6th. After Groner's, the building housed the Disabled American Veterans' Thrift Store and ABC Plan Loans from the late 1960s to the early 1990s.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

The Sixth Street National Register District Guidelines are used to evaluate construction projects on buildings within the district. Applicable guidelines include:

2.26. Minimize the visual impact of rooftop uses as seen from the street. 2.27. Set activities back such that they are not visible from the sidewalk below. At a minimum, they should be set back the height of a one-story building.

The roof addition, including guardrail, is set back about 43' from the street at the main 6th Street elevation. It is slightly visible from 6th Street and fully visible from San Jacinto Street.

3.55. Preserve the historic character of the roof line. Altering an existing historic parapet line is inappropriate. 3.56. Set a new roof terrace back from the building front. Roof terrace railings and furniture should be placed well behind the parapet. 3.57. Avoid clutter on roofs that will be visible from the public way. Locate mechanical equipment away from view. Trees should be set back.

The proposed addition does not alter the parapet line. It is set back from the building front on 6th Street, including railings.

<u>3.63. An addition should be compatible in scale, materials, and character with the main building.</u> <u>Using a similar material is appropriate. In some cases, a simpler, less noticeable material also</u> <u>may be appropriate. They should be in proportion to the historic building.</u>

The proposed roof deck uses "simple" materials—stucco, glass, and metal. However, its scale is potentially overwhelming when compared to the proportions of the existing building.

3.64. It should be set back from the primary, character-defining façade. A roof-top addition should be set back substantially, to preserve the perception of the historic scale of the building. If a rooftop addition is appropriate, a minimum set-back of 25' is recommended. An addition to a onestory building should be set back a greater distance than that of a two-story structure, to minimize its visual impact.

The proposed addition is set back around 43' from the primary façade.

3.65. The addition should be subtly distinguishable in its design from the historic portion. 66. It should be designed to remain subordinate to the main structure. Its materials, finish and details should not call attention to the addition. The addition should not alter, damage or obscure character-defining features.

The proposed addition is distinguished by its modern fenestration patterns, cladding, and massing. It does not significantly alter or damage character-defining features at the main elevation. Its materials and details are understated, though its position atop the historic building and relative height compared to the single-story historic building do not appear subordinate.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation are also used to evaluate new construction projects in National Register historic districts. Applicable standards include:

2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

The proposed project does not remove historic material, though it may affect the streetscape by adding visible height to a one-story corner building.

<u>9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic</u> materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

The proposed addition is distinguished by its modern fenestration patterns, glass and stucco cladding, and its rooftop massing. Its materials and details are understated. Its height and position atop the existing historic building are incompatible with and may overwhelm the streetscape.

<u>10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner</u> that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its <u>environment would be unimpaired</u>.

If the addition were removed, the building's essential form would be mostly unimpaired.

The proposed project partially meets the standards.

STAFF COMMENTS

The Sixth Street National Register District nomination form does not list contributing or non-contributing properties, though it describes this building in Item 7, Section 8(f): "223 East 6th, built ca.1872, is an early one-story brick commercial building. The main facade has been altered, but there are nice arches along the east facade of the building."

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain moderate to low integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). The property may demonstrate significance according to City Code:
 - a. *Architecture*. The building displays characteristics of the Art Moderne, Vernacular Storefront, and Texas Vernacular Arched styles.
 - b. *Historical association*. The building is associated with Smith and Brady Boots, Bohn-Shelby Dry Goods, and A. K. Hage Department Store.
 - c. *Archaeology*. The building was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
 - d. *Community value*. The building 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.

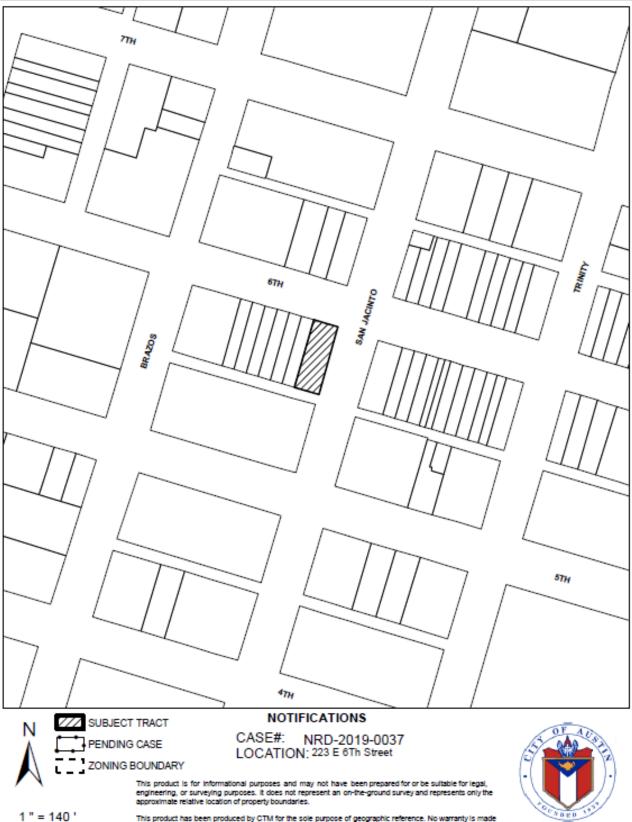
COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

Reduce visual impact by lowering the penthouse roof height, emphasizing horizontality in the design, and setting the addition far back from the San Jacinto and Sixth Street elevations. Take material and placement cues from a previous design approved by the Commission in 2014. The applicant has incorporated some Committee suggestions to improve transparency.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Comment on designs for new construction, concurring with Committee suggestions, and release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package.

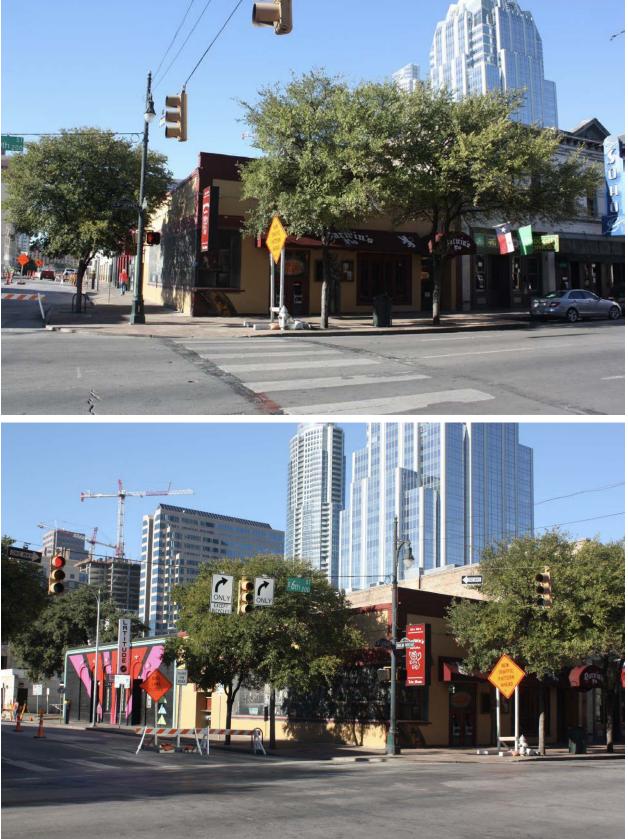
LOCATION MAP



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





C.12 - 6



Source: Applicant, 2020

Occupancy History

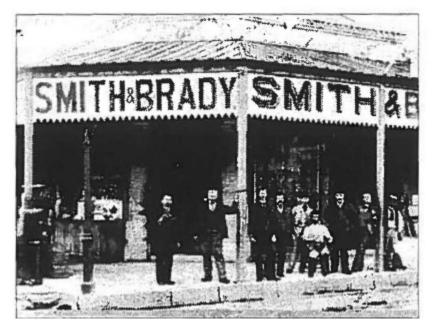
City Directory Research, Austin History Center By City Historic Preservation Office, July 2019 1885Building appears on Sanborn map, labeled as "being built (to be T. Sto)" 1885 221 E Pecan: Peter G. Roach Grocery 223 E. Pecan cor. San Jacinto: P.G. Roach restaurant, bakery, grocery 1887-88 1889 223 E. 6th: I. Michaelson and Bro. Grocers; wholesale grocers, liquors, western produce 1891 223: Smith and Brady boots and shoes, manufacturers and dealers 1893 221: Deen & Deen groceries 223: Smith and Brady boots and shoes, manufacturers and dealers 1895 221: Deen & Deen groceries 223: Smith and Brady boots and shoes, manufacturers and dealers 1897-98 221: Deen & Deen groceries 223: Smith and Brady boots and shoes, manufacturers and dealers 223: Henry Vranian fruit stand 1900 221-23: Deen & Walling groceries, produce, coffee roasters, china, crockery, glassware 1903 221-23: Deen & Walling groceries, produce, coffee roasters, china, crockery, glassware

1905 221-23: R.B. Walling Dry Goods

1906-07	223: R. P. Wright & Co
1909	221: Bargain Furniture House 223: R. P. Wright & Co. Dry Goods
1910	221: Bargain Furniture House 223: Bohn-Shelby Dry Goods
1912	221-23: Bohn-Shelby Co. dry goods
1914	221-23: Bohn-Shelby Co. dry goods
1916	221-23: Bohn-Shelby Co. dry goods Profit Sharing Stamp Co.
1918	221-23: Bohn-Shelby Co. department store Profit Sharing Stamp Co.
1920	221-23: Shelby Dry Goods Co. Profit Sharing Stamp Co.
1922	221-23: Shelby Dry Goods Co. Profit Sharing Stamp Co.
1924	221-23: Shelby Dry Goods Co.
1927	221-23: Shelby Dry Goods Co.
1929	221-23: Shelby Dry Goods Co.
1932	221-23: Grand Leader dry goods
1935	221-23: A.K. Hage dry goods
1937	221-23: A.K. Hage Department Store
1939	221-23: A.K. Hage Department Store
1941	221: Assad K. Hage Department Store
1944	221: A.K. Hage Department Store
1947	221-23: A.K. Hage Department Store
1949	221-23: A.K. Hage Department Store
1952	221-23: A.K. Hage Department Store
1955	223-25: Commonwealth Life & Accident Co Academy Army Surplus Store
1959	223: Vacant
1962	223: Groner's Department Store
1965	223: Grover's Department Store
1968	223: Disabled American Veterans Thrift Store
1973	223: ABC Plan Loans

- 1977 223: ABC Plan Loans1981 223: ABC Plan Loans
- 1986 223: ABC Plan Loans
- 1992 223: ABC Plan Loans

Biographical Information



Historic photo included in Sixth Street Design Guidelines document, ca. 1885-1900



THC photo, ca. 1980

R O A C H SERVICES Are set here Today

Dr. P. G. Roach, stepfather of O. Henry's wife and a resident of Austin for 47 years, died at his home Monday afternoon and will be burled beside his wife, who died here a year ago. Services will be held at 4:30 this afternoon, with the Rev. W. B. Minter officiating. Pailbearers will be: Herman Pressler, J. O. Garrett, Otto Buatz, L. A. Jukring, Louis Kreisle and J. J. Brydson, Burlal will be in Oakwood cemetery under direction of J. D. Pelphrey mortuary.

Dr. Roach, who lacked three months of belog 97 years old, had three an opportunity to know O. Henry, or William Sidney Porter, as few people in Austin did. He married the mother of Athol Estes, O. Henry's wife, while the writer was living in Austin, Later O. Henry started on the strange series of adventures which led him away from his family and brought bim the heartaches and experiences which placed him foremost among American writers. His wanderings took him to Houston, where he worked on a newspaper, and later brought him back to Austin to become teller in a bank. Finally he wandered away to New Orleans and took a boat to South America, where he remained for a long time.

Dr. Roach, who was born in Waynesburg, Pa., and received a degree in medicine, came to Austin 47 years ago and has been a resident here over since. He lived in retirement during the past fewyears. He is survived by two daughters. Mrs. J. T. Hofer of Austin and Mrs. Nettie C. Dailey of Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Austin <u>Statesman</u>, Apr 1, 1930

Death Takes A. K. Hage; Rites Slated

A. K. Hage, retired Austin merchant and resident of 2200 Hartford Road, died Wednesday morning.

Funeral services will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral Thursday at 10 a. m. with the rector, the Rev. Francis Sullivan, officiating, Rosary services will be held Wednesday at 8 p. m. at the Cook Funeral Home.

Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery, Pallbearers will be Tom Kouri, J. J. Kouri, Joe Daywood, Sam Hage, M. K. Hage Jr., and Phillip Hage, all of Austin. Honorary pallbearers will be Fred Joseph, Alex Joseph, Charles Kouri, L. P. Lehmann, Elgin Williams, Dr. James Glynn, J. Boone Bakes and Elias Ferris, all of Austin.

Hage came to the United States 50 years ago and settled first in Donaldsonville, La. Later he moved to Manor where he operated a general merchandise business for 25 years, He came to Austin and located at 221 East Sixth Street, retiring about four years ago.

He is survived by eight daughters, Mrs. Ernest Joseph, Mrs. Joe Daywood, Mrs. Josephine Haik, Mrs. Fred Jabour, Mrs. William Jarem, Mrs. James Semon, Miss Mary Hage and Miss Bernice Hage, all of Austin; one son, Charles K. Hage of Austin, ard two brothers, M. K. Hage and John Hage, both of Austin.

The Austin Statesman, Oct 14, 1959

CITY NEWS.

Recovered His Horse.

Mr. John Dowell had a horse stolen from him a few days ago, and yesterday he was found in a pasture not far from Round Rock.

Br. W. A. Oatman Hurt.

Dr. W. A. Oatman, on his farm in Bastrop county, was badly hurt last Friday evening by falling off a fence. Being an old gentleman, the jar was quite serious. He is confined to his bed, but was resting easier yesterday when heard from. It is hoped he will soon be out again.

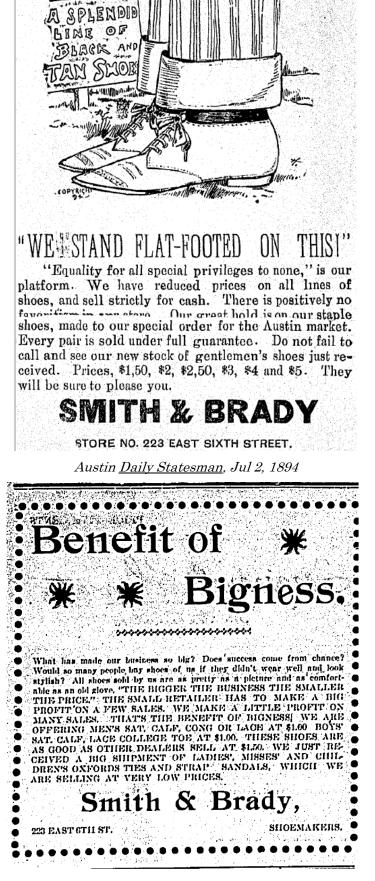
Alderman for the Third Ward.

Mr. B. H. Smith of that well known firm, Smith & Brady, this morning announces himself a candidate for alderman from the Third ward, at the coming election. Mr. Smith is a spiendid business man, and if elected will carry with him into the council sterling business habits and qualifications.

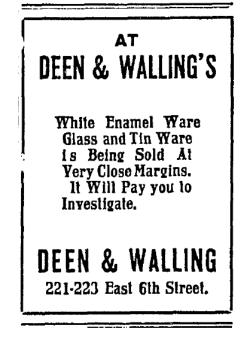
The Austin <u>Daily Statesman</u>, Oct 25, 1891

MISCELLANOUES. FOR SALE-Nice new cottage on E. College ave, 3 rooms, nice corner lot 70x147; prico \$1050, \$100 cash balance in installments of \$10 per month. W. F. McGehee 620 Cong. ave., 2nd floor. SIGHTS AND SCENES No. 14, 15 and 16 have desiring these parts will please call early. CONTRACTORS are requested to submit estimates and proposals for building an extention to store at 221 East 6th st. Smith & Brady.

Austin <u>Daily Statesman</u>, Apr 19, 1894



Austin Daily Statesman, Mar 10, 1898



The Austin <u>Statesman</u>, Jan 26, 1904

WALLING'S New Attractions Just Received

One lot Ladies' Gilt Belts, 1 1-2 inches wide	_35c
One lot Gold and Silvered Belts in changeable colors, wreaths and figured designs, at	
Ladies' White Kid Belts, burnt Persian figured effects at	_50c
Ladies' White Linen Belts, embroidered and plain,	_10c
One lot of All Silk Neck Ribbons in embroidered cgg-shaped figures, at.	_20c
One lot of All Silk Taffeta Ribbon, over three inclues wide, in all colors; a bargain at	_10c
Some beautiful Condus, in plain, inlaid and funcy, sets or back combs only, at 50c and	_25c

í

A new lot of Ladies' Lace, Plain and Embroidered Collars, Bead Necklaces, Corset Embroideries, Beading and Ladies' Muslin Underwear just in. Call and see us. Everything absolutely new and prices right.



The Austin Statesman, Mar 11, 1906



The Austin <u>Statesman</u>, Jan 1, 1919



The Austin <u>Statesman</u>, May 4, 1928

NEWS ITEMS Bona Schoenfeld, Austin's most successful newsstand operator, back at his place of business after a visit to Rockport, Ind. . . Bona sold his business when he left, bought it back when he returned, some weeks later . . Could you do that with your business . . L. E. Shelby of the Shelby Dry Goods company has enlarged his store front in order to take care of the crowds his store attracts from advertising in The American-Statesman * * What we need is a

The Austin Statesman, Jul 27, 1929

SATURDAY, APRIL 21st

Will be another big opportunity for the people of Austin and vicinity. It marks the opening of the A. K. Hage Dry Goods Co. on the corner of 6th and San Jacinto streets. Mr. Hage has just returned from the market where he purchased a complete line of new merchandise and is offering many wonderful bargains. We are listing only a few of the many values here, so come early and see for yourself.



The Austin <u>Statesman</u> (1921-1973); Apr 20, 1934

- Eright Styles		. 221 I. 6th					
8. part o	2 7	67					
Orig.	City						
Remodel front & interior of Bldg.							
62399	12-9-65	\$760 .00					
Day La	rod	_					
	Remodel permit, 12	-9-55					
Silverste	in	223 E: 6th Street					
8	7	57					
original city							
Remodel	interior of comm	ercial building & extend					
7181		glass front. 500.00					
ĸ	elly De Busk	a					
DEPT. STORE Tear out inside partition to include space into present grace store. Extend plate glass in front to include present doorway.							
	Remodel permit, 2-	13-59					
<u>Owner Max & Jak</u>	e SilbersteinnDress	223 E. 6th St.					
PLAT 8 1	OT 7 BLK	<u>57 DIV</u>					
<u>SUBDIVISION</u> Org	inal City						
OCCUPANCY Repair roof on comm. bldg.							
BLD PERMIT # 9064	8 DATE 1-23-64	OWNERS ESTIMATE \$439.00					
	ge Bros.	NO, OF FIXTURES					
WATER TAP REC #	SEWER]	CAP_REC #					

Roof repair permit, 1-23-64

C.12 - 16

OWNER Silverstein	ADDRESS	223 East 6th St.	·				
PLAT 8 LOT	7	BI,	<u> </u>				
<u> şubdivision</u> Original	City	ngtgt t					
OCCUPANCY Dept. Sto	ore						
BLD PERMIT # 134384	DATE 2-20-73	OWNERS ESTIMATE \$6,000.00)				
<u>CONTRACTOR</u> Owner		NO. OF FIXTURES					
WATER TAP REC #exi	st <u>sewer t</u>	<u>AP REC #</u> exist					
Remodel exist.							
	Remodel permit, 2-2	20-73					
OWNERAUStin National	Bank ADDRESS	<u>221 E. 6th St.</u>	· .				
<u>plat8_lot</u>	part of 7	BIJ	K				
<u>SUBDIVISION</u> Orginal C	ity	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
OCCUPANCY Offices							
	DATE 4-8-75	OWNERS ESTIMATE \$1000.00	0				
CONTRACTOR OWNER		NO. OF FIXTURES					
WATER TAP REC # SEWER TAP REC #							
remodel existing	comm bldg.						

-

Remodel permit, 4-8-75