

A U S T I N C I T Y C O U N C I L

## AGENDA



Thursday, November 16, 2006

+ Back Print

**Zoning and Neighborhood Plan Amendments  
(Public Hearings and Possible Action)  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

ITEM No. 63

**Subject:** C14H-06-0021 - Herbert and Alice Bohn House - Conduct a public hearing and approve an ordinance amending Chapter 25-2 of the Austin City Code by rezoning property locally known as 1301 W. 29th Street (Shoal Creek Watershed) from family residence (SF-3) district zoning to family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Staff Recommendation: To grant family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Historic Landmark Commission Recommendation: To grant family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Zoning and Platting Commission Recommendation: To grant family residence-historic (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Applicant: Historic Landmark Commission. Agent: Neighborhood Planning and Zoning Department. City Staff: Steve Sadowsky, 974-6454.

**Additional Backup Material**

(click to open)

No Attachments Available

**For More Information:**

## ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

CASE NUMBER: C14H-05-0021

HLC DATE:

August 28, 2006

September 25, 2006

PC DATE:

October 24 2006

APPLICANT: Historic Landmark Commission

HISTORIC NAME: Noyes Smith House

WATERSHED: Shoal Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 911 W. 21<sup>st</sup> Street

ZONING FROM: MF-4-CO-NP

TO: MF-4-H-CO-NP

SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends HABS Level II documentation of the structure prior to its relocation to Seguin.

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION: August 28, 2006: Initiated a historic zoning case. September 25, 2006: Recommended the proposed zoning change from multi-family, conditional overlay, neighborhood plan (MF-4-CO-NP) district to multi-family, conditional overlay, neighborhood plan – Historic (MF-4-H-CO-NP) combining district zoning. Vote: 8-0 (Hansen absent).

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended denial of historic zoning upon completion of HABS Level II documentation for the Austin History Center and the UT Architectural Archives. Vote: 8-0 (Moore absent).

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The Noyes Smith House is a Priority 2 for preservation in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984).

CITY COUNCIL DATE: November 16, 2006

ACTION:

ORDINANCE READINGS: 1<sup>ST</sup> 2<sup>ND</sup> 3<sup>RD</sup>

ORDINANCE NUMBER:

CASE MANAGER: Steve Sadowsky

PHONE: 974-6454

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION: West University Neighborhood Association

### BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The ca. 1917 Noyes Smith House has architectural significance as a good example of a 1910's bungalow and for its associations with Noyes and Irene Smith, prominent Austin businesspeople. Noyes Smith was the owner of an ice company and coal company in Austin, both indispensable for heating and cooling Austinites and their homes before the advent of gas or electric heat and air conditioning.

### **Architecture:**

One-story side-gabled stucco proto-bungalow with a round-arched entry under a gabled hood with prominent ornamental brackets; triple casement and other window configurations. The house is in very good condition with no alterations.

The house is an excellent example of an early bungalow in Austin. Bungalows were developed in Southern California as an upper-class residence, principally by the firm of Greene and Greene in Pasadena, Calif. Their popularity spread quickly, and by the early 1920s, the bungalow was the most popular and prolific housing type in the country. The typical bungalow form is a one-story, low-slung house with a prominent front porch and triple windows in the main living area. Porches could be inset or independent, and generally featured battered (tapered) porch posts on brick piers and a simple railing. Bungalows almost always have a gabled roof; the most popular styles were generally front-gabled, although side-gabled bungalows are common as well. A principal feature of the bungalow is the lack of ornamentation, the over-abundance of which had characterized the Queen Anne and vernacular Victorian houses of the 1880s through the 1910s. Bungalow ornamentation was limited to ornamental brackets at the eaves, and window configurations.

The Noyes Smith house is an excellent example of an early bungalow in Austin. It is a front-gabled house with ornamental brackets at the deep eaves and a round-arched entry door. Although it was not built with a front porch, it has a front-gabled hood over the principal entry.

### **Historical Associations**

Noyes D. and Irene Smith were the first owners and occupants of this house. Noyes D. Smith (1875-1933) operated the Lone Star Ice Company, and in 1923, purchased the McAlester Coal Company from his father, E.E. Smith, who had founded the company in 1895. The McAlester Coal Company shipped coal from the mines around McAlester, Oklahoma to Austin, and provided most Austinites with their heating coal in the 1920s and 1930s. Smith continued his ice business as well, and served on the Chamber of Commerce in the mid-1920s, and as president of the Associated Retail Credit Men of Austin. Smith also had interests in the Llano Ice and Milling Company in Llano, Texas, and Taylor Water, Light and Ice Company in Taylor, Texas. He was president of the Texas Retail Coal Dealers from 1927 until his death in 1933. After he passed away in 1933, his widow Irene continued the family business, then opened the Austin Home Appliance Company in the McAlester Coal Company's former offices on Colorado Street. Irene Smith was a member of the first State Board of Education, and was president of the Austin League of Women Voters in 1927, one of the first board members of the YWCA, and state president of the Austin PTA. Mrs. Smith moved out of the house in the late 1940s; it was occupied by Marguerite Simpson, who worked as a clerk, in the late 1940s and early 1950s. The house was later converted to a rental house and duplex.

PARCEL NO.: 02120113020000

DEED RECORD: Unknown

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: 60 x 105 feet out of Outlot 25, Division D

ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT:

\$6,401 (owner-occupied); city portion: \$1,557

\$3,227 (income producing); city portion: \$778

APPRAISED VALUE: \$513,376

PRESENT USE: Residence

CONDITION: Good

PRESENT OWNER

Robert N. and Emily G. Lee

10303 Golden Meadows, #E

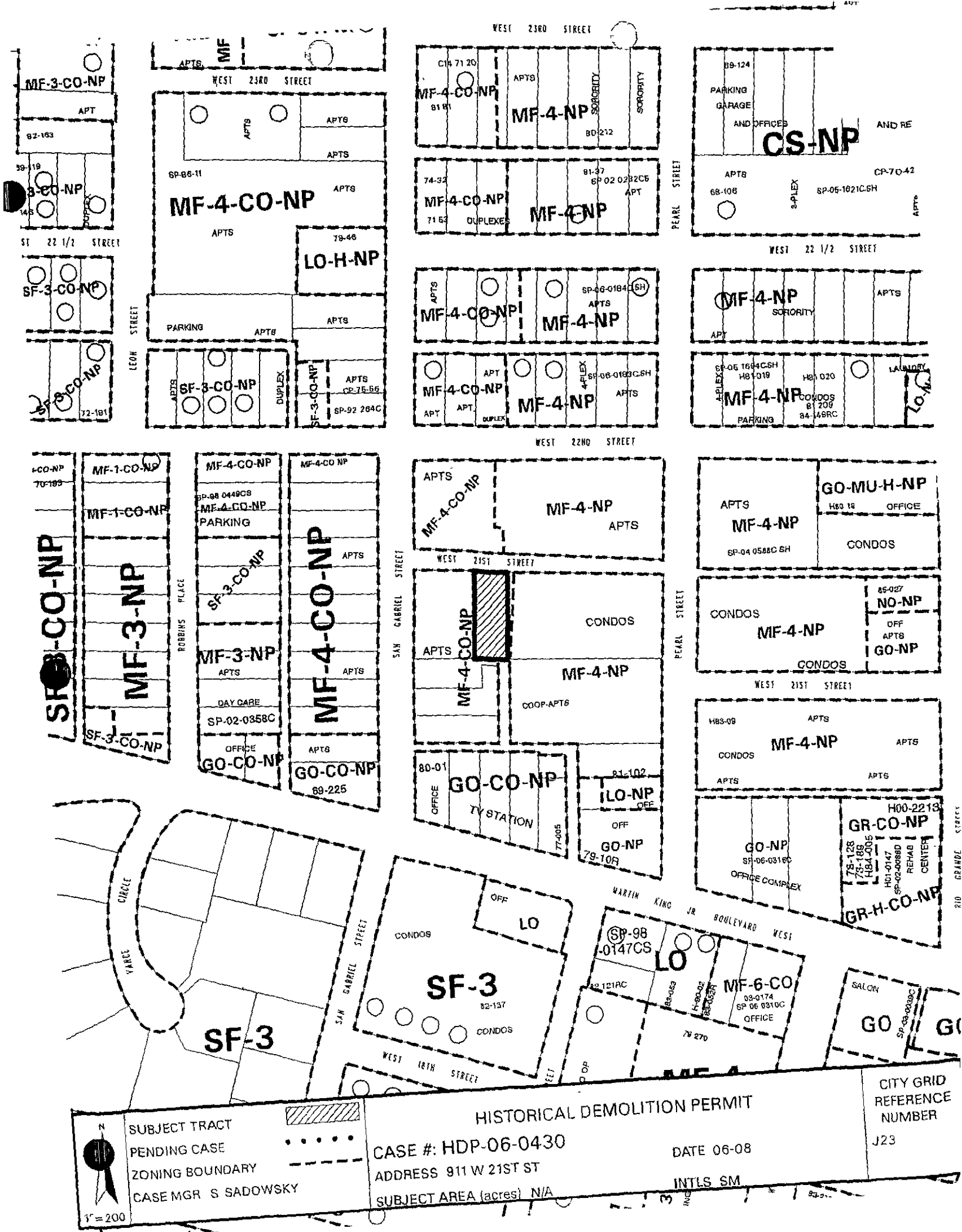
Austin, Texas 78758

DATE BUILT: ca. 1917

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: None apparent.

ORIGINAL OWNER(S): Noyes D. and Irene Smith (1917)

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: None





Noyes Smith House  
911 W. 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
ca. 1917

## OCCUPANCY HISTORY

### 911 W. 21<sup>st</sup> Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
August, 2005

1975	John E. Nelson, renter No occupation listed
1970	Mrs. Jeanie Patterson, renter Clerk, TEC
1965	Marguerite J. Simpson, owner No occupation listed  911a: Jeanie Patterson No occupation listed  911b: Vacant
1961	Marguerite J. Simpson, owner No occupation listed  911a: Jeanie Patterson No occupation listed  911b: Vacant
1957	Marguerite J. Simpson, owner No occupation listed  NOTE: No apartments were listed
1953	Marguerite J. Simpson, owner Clerk
1949	Marguerite J. Simpson, owner No occupation listed
1947	Charles Beasley, owner Student  NOTE: Marguerite J. Simpson is listed as a clerk at the State Unemployment Commission and lived at 2104 San Gabriel Street
1944-45	Rita H. Thornton, owner Widow, Charles G. Thornton No occupation listed

1942 Mrs. Irene H. Smith, owner  
Widow, Noyes D. Smith  
Proprietor, Austin Home Appliance Company, electrical appliances, 205  
Colorado Street

Martha Bernstein  
Nurse

1940 Mrs. Irene H. Smith, owner  
Widow, Noyes D. Smith  
Proprietor, Austin Home Appliance Company, electrical appliances, 205  
Colorado Street

NOTE: The house is listed as 807 W. 21<sup>st</sup> Street.

1937 Mrs. Irene H. Smith, owner  
Widow, Noyes D. Smith  
No occupation listed

1935 Mrs. Irene H. Smith, owner  
Widow, Noyes D. Smith  
No occupation listed

1932-33 Noyes D. and Irene Smith, owners  
Proprietor, McAlester Coal Company, 207 Colorado Street

1930-31 Noyes D. and Irene Smith, owners  
Proprietor, McAlester Coal Company, 207 Colorado Street

1929 Noyes D. and Irene Smith, owners  
Proprietor, McAlester Coal Company, 207 Colorado Street

1927 Noyes D. and Irene Smith, owners  
Proprietor, McAlester Coal Company, 207 Colorado Street

1924 Noyes D. and Irene Smith, owners  
Proprietor, McAlester Coal Company, 207 Colorado Street

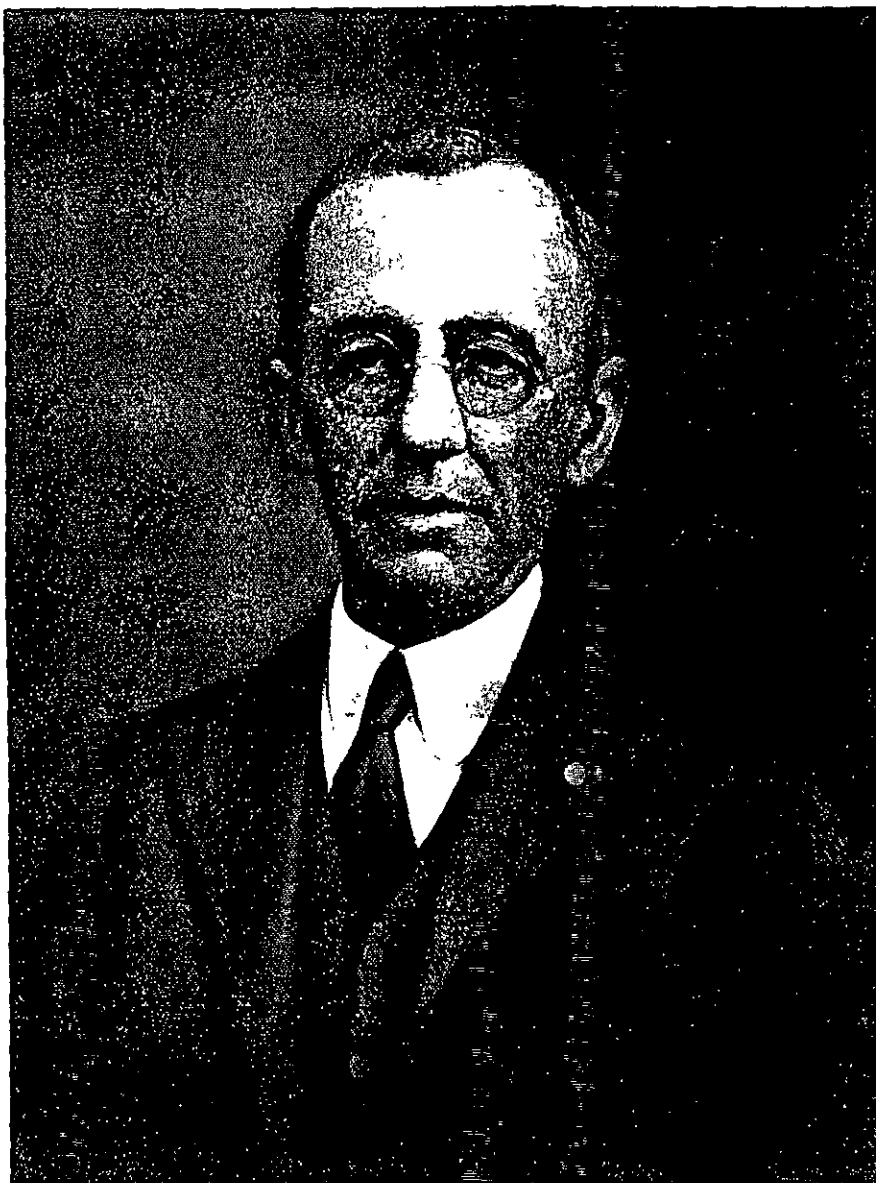
1922 Noyes D. and Irene Smith, owners  
Secretary, Lone Star Ice Company, 107 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

1920 Noyes D. and Irene Smith, owners  
Secretary, Lone Star Ice Company, 107 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

1918 Noyes D. and Irene Smith, owners  
Secretary, Lone Star Ice Company, 207 Colorado Street

1916 Address not listed  
NOTE. Noyes D. and Irene Smith lived at 1006 E 9<sup>th</sup> Street He was  
listed as the secretary of the Lone Star Ice Company





Engraved by Campbell New York

*Noyes L. Smith.*

the Lutheran Church commonly known as the "Missouri Synod."

He was married in Beloit, Wisconsin, on July 11, 1899, to Miss Caroline Samp. Children: Rev. Max Edward Studtmann, Hooker, Oklahoma; Mrs. Clara Meyer, Riesel, Texas; Henry William Studtmann, Austin, Texas; Karl Theodore and Dorothy M. Studtmann, also of Austin, Martin Paul Studtmann, St. Louis, Missouri; and Miss Gertrude Adeline Studtmann, Austin.

### NOYES DARLING SMITH

AS OWNER and general manager of one of the leading utility companies in Texas, Noyes Darling Smith was an important contributing factor to the prosperity of the territory and to the people of the district the company serves. The same was true of his directorial management of other allied corporations in various parts of the State. Also, his logical mind and public spiritedness were qualities that readily won for him a deserved reputation as a civic leader who merited his position of trust and whose work rounded to the advantages of his fellowman.

Mr. Smith was brought by his family to Austin, Texas, when he was six years of age and received his scholastic training in the public schools and in the State University located in that city. Upon graduation from the University he became a member of the firm of a large ice and coal company in Austin and simultaneously began taking an active interest in numerous civic affairs. Although his business was pre-eminent in his life, this latter phase became of increasing importance. His talent for organization and his devotion to the public welfare soon became known, and he was asked to become identified with numerous organizations in an official capacity. Among the many offices held by Mr. Smith should be especially mentioned the following: He served as a director of the Austin Chamber of Commerce from 1926 to 1927, also as president from 1926 to 1927; and as president of the Associated Retail Credit Men of Austin, from 1929 to 1930. During his term as president of this body, Mr. Smith exercised a fine balance between progressiveness of outlook and due conservatism in the operation of the organization's affairs and brought about several lasting changes which added greatly to the success of their programme. After retiring from the office of president, he continued to be active as a member of the board of directors until his death. In addition, he was a member of the Austin Rotary Club and of several other civic bodies.

His principal business interest for a period of years was the McAlester Coal Company, of which he was owner, having purchased the company on July 28, 1923. Prior to that time he was secretary and treasurer (also stockholder) of both the McAlester Coal Company and the Lone Star Ice & Coal Company, the former company being a subsidiary of the latter. He was also financially interested in the Llano Ice & Milling Company, and the Taylor Water, Light & Ice Company. Mr. Smith's professional affiliations were with the Texas Retail Coal Dealers, of which he served as president from 1927 until the time of his

death; and the National Coal Dealers, of which he was a member of the executive board.

Mr. Smith was born in Toledo, Ohio, on July 10, 1875, the son of Edward Everett and Maria Pitney (Burnap) Smith. The family moved to Hutto, Texas, in 1878 and to Austin in 1881. Mr. Smith was graduated from the Austin High School and from the University of Texas, receiving the B. S. degree in Civil Engineering (with distinction) from the latter institution.

He was admitted to the society of the Sons of the American Revolution on April 3, 1900, through Abigail Noyes and Thomas Darling, of New Haven, Connecticut; and was a member of State No. 32 and National No. 12832 of this society. In social, club and religious life, he was a member of the Austin Country Club; vice president of the University Faculty Club; and active in the work of the First Presbyterian Church of Austin, uniting with this church in 1888. Being deeply appreciative of fine music, Mr. Smith was a talented musician, playing both the piano and the pipe organ, and he occasionally served as organist at the First Presbyterian Church and the All Saints Episcopal Church. In fraternal life, he was a member of the following Masonic bodies: Austin Lodge, No. 12, A. F. & A. M.; Lone Star Chapter No. 6, R. A. M., Past High Priest; Austin Council No. 2, R. & S. M., Past Thrice Illustrious Master; Colorado Commandery No. 4, K. T., Past Commander; Austin Consistory, No. 4, A. A. S. R., and Ben Hur Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. Mr. Smith also greatly enjoyed playing golf, driving, and fishing.

He was married in Austin, Texas, on October 6, 1908, to Miss Irene Clair Horton, the daughter of Anthony Wayne and Ella (Stewart) Horton. Mrs. Smith's father was engaged as a realtor in Austin. Mr. and Mrs. Smith became the parents of two sons: Noyes Darling Smith, Jr., who graduated from the University of Texas in 1930 with Phi Beta Kappa honors, is now working on his Ph. D. degree in physics at Harvard University and is married to the former Miss Ruth Graham, of Columbus, Ohio; and Horton Wayne Smith, who graduated with the B. B. A. degree from the University, is now managing his father's business. Mrs. Smith continues to reside in the family home in Austin and is actively identified with the educational, religious, and club life of that city. She is vice chairman (president pro-tem) of the State of Texas Board of Education, and a member of numerous other organizations.

The death of Mr. Smith on December 31, 1933, at his home in Austin, was widely mourned. Among the messages of condolence received by the family was the following tribute, from Thomas W. Currie, President, The Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, of Austin, with which we bring this biography to a close.

"It has been my privilege to know Noyes D. Smith rather intimately over a period approximating a quarter of a century. Mr. Smith has been through these years tacitly acknowledged by the community at large as the type of citizen who was constructively interested in every institution in the community making for the on-going of righteousness. To begin with, his personal business has been conducted on the highest sort of ethical principles. His service and his time and money have always been available for the church, civic and charitable organizations. His kind of living expressed itself in the type of family which he built, a family which has been a satisfaction to itself and an ornament to the community."

# SIXTY YEARS OF ICE



A Brief Historical Resume of  
the Pioneer Days of the  
Artificial Ice Industry  
In Southern Texas



COMPILED BY CHAS. A. ZILKER



NUMEROUS REQUESTS FOR THE DATA  
CONTAINED HEREIN RECEIVED FROM  
RESEARCHERS INSPIRED ITS PRINTING

IN 1880 I came to Texas and secured a position in an ice plant in Austin, Mr. Joe Brunet who was connected with the Company, operated a small absorption ice plant. Previous to his installing this plant, he operated a one thousand pound machine of the Caire absorption type. This machine used copper ice cars of ten pounds capacity. He stated that this machine was imported into Matamoros, Mexico, from France, before the Civil War. It was operated there for a few years and then moved to San Antonio by J. B. LaCoste and Joe Brunet, Frenchmen. After operating it in San Antonio for a number of years, it was replaced by a two ton machine, then it was shipped to Austin, Texas. About the year 1870, it was replaced with a one ton Caire machine imported from France. The thousand pound machine was sold to his brother, Jean Brunet, who loaded it on an ox wagon and moved it to Belton, Texas, it was operated there for several years, then it was moved to Lampasas, Texas, and then later to San Saba, Texas. This machine was one of the first ice machines that Caire built in France. The ammonia generator (retort, as it was then called) was set in a furnace that was fired with chips and kindling wood to heat the

each summer. The absorber, which was a small iron vessel, set into an open iron tank in which the water circulated around in the tank to absorb the heat. The amusing feature was that he had a dirty or a Mexican to fire this furnace and watch the pressure gauge, and when the pressure would get above a certain head, they would draw the ice to bring it down to the normal working pressure. The ammonia and water pump was operated by the same character of labor, and the water supply was derived from the river or stream at these various locations for the condenser and absorber. It required careful work and attention to the various parts of the machine to make a thousand pounds of ice in twenty-four hours. The freezing tank top was about the size of an ordinary kitchen table. While it was operated in Austin, the owner stated that he got ten cents a pound for all the ice he could make, when the machine was first installed, during the hot weather. It was quite a common thing then, when there was a special gathering at Austin, for his customers to send down for forty or fifty pounds of ice with the money and give him a bottle of wine as a "pilon". Natural ice at that time was snipped

« 4 »

to Calveson from Boston in sail boats, which made it very expensive to be had in any part of Texas, and it was a rare luxury in those days.

In Austin there were two ice plants, one was an Absorption Can Ice Machine, operated by the Austin Ice Company and owned by Mr. Joe Bauner, the other plant was the Capitol Ice Company, a Boyle Piste Plant, operated by a company of which Mr. George B. Zimmerman was at the head. This was a David Boyle machine and the ice was made on plates. It required from six to eight days to freeze an 800 to 1,000 pound cake. It was put in for a ten ton machine, but never made over six or seven tons a day at any time in hot weather. Mr. John Mattingly, who was chief engineer and operator of this plant at that time, converted it into a can system, making twenty-five pound blocks. At that time there was no company in the country that specialized in the making of ice cans, and he had a local tinner to make these cans for that company out of galvanized iron. After the Boyle plant was changed, there was a five ton Holden compressor shipped to Austin and erected in that plant. I am not positive where this machine was built, but believe it was somewhere in the South.

« 5 »

Captain King, of the famous King Ranch, came to Austin in 1882 looking for an engineer for a plant in Brownsville, Texas. My brother, A. J. Ziser, and I learned of it and we called at the hotel and met him and he stated that his engineer in Brownsville, Texas, had died of yellow fever and he needed an engineer to operate that plant. We accepted the position, as they were badly in need of ice at that place. This, it was claimed, was the first complete ice machine built at that time. It was on exhibition at the Centennial in Philadelphia in 1876, when Captain King saw it, purchased it and had it erected in Brownsville, Texas. He purchased a duplicate machine for Corpus Christi, Texas. These machines were built by the Crane Company of Chicago and were of Boyle type and the plate system, of five ton capacity each. Being familiar with this system, we converted them into can ice, making fifty pound blocks, in both locations. We had to arrange for shipment from the mills of all the material required to make these cans at both locations, which was a great saving in the construction and operation. In Corpus Christi they were getting 1 1/2 and 2 cents a pound for commercial ice and fifteen to twenty dollars a ton from fishermen and other large users.

After working for Captain King for two years, I returned to Austin and accepted employment with the same company I had worked for. They had installed an absorption machine, and the manager showed me the advantage and the efficiency of that machine over the compressor. After giving these matters some thought and study, I could clearly see where, if this machine were properly built and balanced where they had ample water, it was superior to the compressor at that time. After working in this plant for a year, and since I was only twenty years old, I concluded that I would go North and take mechanical training, but my brother induced me to remain in Texas and go into the ice business. He was determined to buy an old Pictet ice machine and move it to Austin. I refused to join him unless we put in an absorption machine. There were few ice absorption machine manufacturers in the United States at that time, one was the Blymeyer Co. of Cincinnati, the other was the Columbus Ice Machine Company of Columbus, Georgia. In checking up the cost of these machines, we found that we did not have capital enough to put in an eight or ten ton plant, as the cheapest machine we could buy at that time cost \$30,000.

... of a machine that was being built in  
Canton by the Ice Works. I visited the  
place and found there a small absorption plant  
with a ten ton machine. Works of that size  
in the place of using coils in both the generator  
and absorber, they used tubes. Mr Lee, who took  
the contract to build an absorber generator and  
condenser for us, used tubes in the place of coils,  
which was much simpler and much more effective  
and enabled him to make shipment of the various  
parts of a ten ton machine to Austin, and in four  
months we had a complete ten ton ice plant in  
operation. However, in operating it I found that  
it was impossible to dehydrate or dry the gas and  
absorb the gas in mid-summer in that hot climate  
with the warm water we had to use to operate  
the machine, adding a supplementary dehydrator  
and a compound absorber, which absorbed the gas  
in winter. After these changes were made, the  
machine operated very satisfactorily. After that  
time there were ice plants being built in differ-  
ent towns and cities of the compressor type by the  
various ice machine companies.

In the year 1884, a company brought  
suit against all the ice companies that were manu-  
facturing clear ice from distilled water, claiming

they had a patent on that method. Mr. Burrell  
advised that he had been thinking clear ice for over  
thirty years, and it was discovered by accident  
the water used to operate the absorption plant  
was pumped from the Colorado River, and was  
times very muddy. He condensed the steam from  
his ammonia generator by having a submerged  
coil in a tank, which made opaque ice. One  
morning, to his surprise, he found clear ice being  
pulled out of the machine. In checking over and  
looking for the cause, he ascertained that in the  
place of distilling all the water, the tank had  
partly filled with mud, causing the steam to blow  
out with the water, which eliminated the greases,  
and from that time on he made clear distilled water  
ice. He gave these facts to his lawyer and never  
heard from that suit again.

The absorption system was believed by engi-  
neers at one time to be the most economical system  
for producing refrigeration, especially where the  
elements were favorable, but steam was necessary.  
But as refrigeration advanced and high speed com-  
pressors were perfected and clear ice was made by  
treatment of water, with other improvements,  
great strides were made over the absorption. To-  
day the most efficient medium of producing re-

generator is mechanical, and not chemical, since the production of electric motors, Diesel and gas engines. Recently a new method has come into use where large capacity is needed, and it has been found more economical to produce this refrigeration through the absorption system, that is being adopted by oil refineries and has brought the cost of refrigeration down to a minimum.

In the latter part of the 60's there was a one and a two ton Carre machine erected in San Antonio and Austin, replacing the thousand pound machine. The ammonia generator set in furnaces that were fired with chips. Later on they installed steam boilers, then used coils and steam in the place of fire under the generators. The coils were made out of one, and one and one-quarter inch pipe. It was said the first coil that was made, the engineer bored a hole in a tree and placed the end of the pipe in it, then wrapped the pipe around the tree. After he had the coil made, he had to cut the tree down to get the coil off. Not having a system of welding coils together, they cleaned and turned four inches of each end of the section of the coil, made a thimble to fit the end, turned these thimbles on the inside and these were used for couplings. Sections of

"10"

coils were put together, and then sweated with solder to make the size coil needed. On several occasions, the engineer allowed acid ammonia to get below the solder joint, which melted the solder and the coil would leak. This almost always happened in hot weather.

One of the problems back in the 70's was charging the compression machine. The acid ammonia was shipped in 5 and 10 gallon cans and a small distill converted it into gas. It passed through a cylinder charged with lump lime to extract the moisture and dry the gas before it was pumped into the ice machine. Five pounds of pressure was the strong point in the distill, and when the gauge went to zero the steam was cut off. If they turned on more steam after the pressure dropped the moisture would slack the lime into a soft state and there would be a certain amount of water pass through the dryer that would be permeated with lime, and, in operating the machine, at times this water would leak through the stuffing box on the piston and it would require the greatest care to get the gas pure. The first anhydrous ammonia that was used by that company in the year 1881 or 1882, was manufactured by the Larkin & Schaffer

"11"



AMERICAN ICE CAN COMPANY

Chemical Company of St. Louis, who supplied the Southwestern trade at that time.

We had several absorption ice plants built for our Company. The ice cans were made at these locations. We would have the tools, solder and iron shipped to each location. At the mill they would cut the sheets to the proper size to make the 75, 100 and 200 pound cans that were used in these different machines. The first ice cans purchased by us were manufactured by the Kiechler Manufacturing Company of Cincinnati, which was one of the first companies that specialized in ice cans at that time.

SELLING COAL 38 YEARS IN AUSTIN

# MCALISTER COAL COMPANY

Phone 6246

NOYES D. SMITH, Prop.

"GUARANTEED COAL" No. C02035

207 Colorado St.

South of I. C. N. Depot

1921

Austin, Tex.,

*H. B. Cantel*

Sold to

Address

*500 W 300*

WEIGHT		KIND OF COAL	PER TON	AMOUNT
Gross	Tare			
Net 2000		<i>Mea</i>		<i>1550</i>

*Arthur*

YOUR ORDER NO.	DELIVERY NO.	RECEIVED BY	2
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1857 "GUARANTEED BUSINESS SYSTEMS" CHICAGO

We guarantee unreservedly the QUALITY, WEIGHT and SATISFACTORY DELIVERY of all "GUARANTEED COAL" making it a part of the transaction to cheerfully remove the coal at our own expense and refund your money if you are not satisfied.

CUSTOMER'S COPY

We guarantee unreservedly the QUALITY, WEIGHT and SATISFACTORY DELIVERY of all "GUARANTEED COAL" making it a part of the transaction to cheerfully remove the coal at our own expense and refund your money if you are not satisfied.

Charles W. Harrison, Austin, Texas

SELLING COAL 40 YEARS IN AUSTIN

Office and Yards:  
207 Colorado St.

Phone 4348



Noyes D. Smith  
Proprietor

No. 14925

Authorized IRON FIREMAN Dealer

Date 10/14/30

Sold to

Address

WEIGHT	KIND OF COAL	PER TON	AMOUNT
1000	Monticello		14.00
Your Order No.	Delivered By	Received By	2

We guarantee unreservedly the QUALITY, WEIGHT and SATISFACTORY DELIVERY of all "GUARANTEED COAL" making it a part of the transaction to cheerfully remove the coal at our own expense and refund your money if you are not satisfied.

85178 BUSINESS LARCO SYSTEMS CHICAGO

SELLING COAL 40 YEARS IN AUSTIN

Office and Yards:  
207 Colorado St.

Phone 4348



Noyes D. Smith  
Proprietor

No. 23959

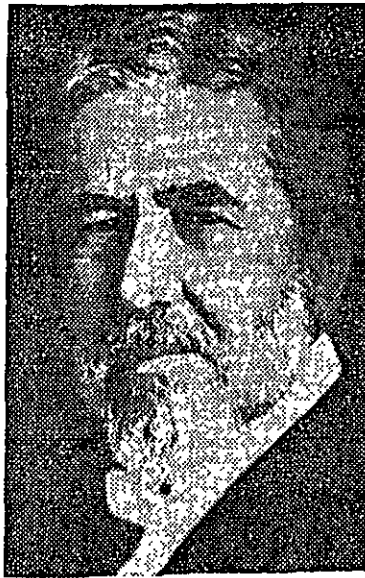
Date 10/28/30

Sold to

Address

WEIGHT	KIND OF COAL	PER TON	AMOUNT
Gross			
Tare			
Net 1000	Monticello		14.50
Your Order No.	Delivered By	Received By	2

REF-ICE INDUSTRY - LONE STAR ICE CO. - AUSTIN HOME APPLIANCE CO.  
**Three Generations of Smiths Build Firm**



1885



1896



Am. St. 2/29/37 1934

The Austin Home Appliance company, 205 Colorado, an electrical appliance and air conditioning business, is built upon 52 years of stable and continuous operation, which for three generations has supplied comforts to the homes of Austin, Charles Hull, manager, said.

Ice and coal were furnished for Austin homes in 1885 when Edward Everett Smith founded the McAlister Coal company, from which the Austin Home Appliance company has developed, he said.

Automatic heat control and scientific handling of coal with the Iron Fireman were introduced by his son, Noyes Darling Smith, who became a member of the firm in 1896.

Modern refrigeration and air conditioning were added by his son, Horton Wayne Smith, who became a member of the firm in 1934.

Now, in keeping with modern trends and the progressive spirit of this firm, the Austin Home Appliance company, the latest development of this 52-year-old firm, is equipped to continue its years of dependable service to the modern homes of Austin, Mr. Hull said, by offering to them: the Leonard and Hot Point Refrigerators, Hot Point Ranges and All Electric kitchen, New Yorker gas ranges, Easy Laundry equipment, Grunow, Emerson and Strumberg Carlson radios and Chrysler Airtemp air conditioning equipment.

Austin History Center & Austin Public Library

# Austin Home Appliance Co. Celebrates 55th Birthday

This week the Austin Home Appliance company, owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Horton



**HORTON WAYNE SMITH**

Wayne Smith, will celebrate 55 years of existence in Austin.

In 1885 the company was launched by Edward Everett Smith, grandfather of Horton Wayne Smith, as the McAlester Coal company, dealing in coal and other fuels.

In 1896, Edward Everett Smith was joined by his son, Noyes Darling, together they went into the scientific heating field which began to develop about that time. They handled types of furnaces, automatic heating units, etc. In 1934 Horton Wayne Smith, son of Noyes Darling Smith, joined the firm.

A year later the firm adopted the name Austin Home Appliance company gradually taking on addition lines of electrical appliances and latest types of heating and air-conditioning units. The company has operated for 25 years at its present home at 205 Colorado.

Lines handled by the firm include some of the longest-established in the electrical field. Leonard refrigerators founded in 1881; Easy Washers and Ironers, founded in 1887; Estate electric ranges, founded in 1842; Zink floor furnaces; Golden Eagle evaporating coolers; Fairbanks-Morse air-conditioning equipment; Gulf-Breeze attic fans.

*Ad. Dan. Loh*

4-14-1940

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CHAS. A. ZILKER

DESIGNER and BUILDER

of the

*New Improved Compound Absorption Ice  
and Refrigerating Machine*

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

February 9, 1944

P O Box 975

Dean W. R. Holtrich  
Dean of Engineering  
University of Texas  
Austin, Texas

Dear Dean Holtrich:

Yours of the 8th duly received and in reply will state that I believe in my little book, "Sixty Years of Ice," I gave you the actual facts on the first ice machine that made commercial ice in this country. I got this information from Mr. J. Brunet who with Mr. Trajan LaCoste, the grandfather of Professor LaCoste who was connected with the University, purchased this machine from some party in Matamoros, Mexico, that was installed at that place during the civil war. It was of the Carre design and came from France. This machine as I wrote made a 1,000 pounds of ice and I believe afterwards, they increased it to a ton. It was then shipped to San Antonio and operated here and then sent to Austin and Mr. Brunet purchased a two ton machine and a one ton machine direct from France. Mr. Brunet with another party had it imported from France and these are the machines that I worked with and gave me my first experience in the absorption end.

The following year Mr. John Mattingly of the Capitol Ice Company purchased a Holden Compression that I think was made in Palestine or St. Louis and I understood it was the only machine of that kind in Texas. I helped to install it as a lad. This compressor was the horizontal type and supposed to make from 3 to 5 tons of ice. It got its power from a slide valve Atlas engine that came from Indianapolis but I understand the absorption machines were hauled on ox wagons. The I. & G. N. Railroad was built into Austin later on, and Mr. Mattingly told me that he knew Mr. Holden and was in the shop when this compressor was built.

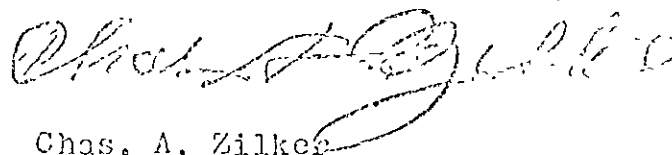
While the Capitol Ice Company was originally built by David Boyle of Chicago it was the Plate system. At that time we were not familiar with making clean ice only by slow freeze and made it in cakes weighing from 5 to 1000 pounds, depends entirely upon the perfect air circulation they had in the sheets. There was three of these machines in the State at that time as far as I am aware, one in Brownsville, one in Corpus Christi and they were purchased by Captain King and the one in Brownsville

was on exhibition at the Centennial in Philadelphia. It was of the Plate system type. These were the first compression ice machines that I am familiar with. The Holden machine was put in a year later in Austin in connection with the Capitol Ice Company that was operating the Boyle Plate Plant. I have a photograph of that plant - it shows me as a kid on that platform. It was taken about the year the old capitol burned. If that information will assist you any or I can help you any, I will do so as I have practically retired and am not very active in the game.

I attended the last engineering convention to meet up with some of the old timers and I was very much disappointed in not seeing you as I was told that you had gone to Chicago.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours very truly,



Chas. A. Zilke