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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1912 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story wing-and-gable plan, hipped roof frame transitional cottage with a partial-width inset porch on plain square wood posts and a non-historic wood railing; single and paired 2:2 fenestration; the tympanum of the projecting front gable contains hexagonal and horizontal imbrication.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house appears to have been built around 1912; the address first appears in the 1912-13 city directory as the home of Rev. Frank L. Kirkpatrick. Rev. Kirkpatrick has no occupation listed in the 1912-13 directory, but he is shown as the presiding elder for the Austin [African] Methodist Episcopal Church in the 1910-11 city directory, when he was living at 810 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Rev. Kirkpatrick only lived here a short time; the 1914, the house was occupied by Joseph H. Bell, an African-American laborer, who lived here until around 1917. Fannie Smith, an African-American laundress, rented the house from around 1918 to around 1923; the 1924 city directory is the first to show John and Mattie Van Dyke at this address. The Van Dyke family still owns the house.

John and Mattie Van Dyke were both born in Texas; John is listed as a laborer in the 1920 directory, when he and Mattie were living at 1607 New York Avenue, which is a smaller bungalow (still extant). John and Mattie moved into this house around 1923. The 1922 city directory shows him as working at the Cactus Tea Room at 2208 Guadalupe Street, and still living at 1607 New York. John remained in the restaurant business for most of his career; he is listed as the cook at the Original Mexican Café at 719 Congress Avenue in 1924, at the Elite Café at 2334 Guadalupe Street in 1929, at the Plaza Hotel at 1302 Congress Avenue, in 1932-33, at the Texas School for Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Colored Youths in 1941, and at the P-K-Grill in the late 1940s. He is listed as a porter at the Commodore Perry Hotel in the mid-1950s, and passed away in 1957. There was no obituary in the Austin newspapers.

Mattie Van Dyke was very prominent as a cook and caterer in Austin; she served as the food catering service director for Dan Moody and for James V. Allred while both served as governors of Texas. She also worked as a cook and maid for several prominent Austin families, including A.J. Eilers, the president of McKean-Eilers, a wholesale dry goods business on Congress Avenue, and William McCraw, the Texas Attorney General.

John and Mattie's daughter, Juanita, who lived here with her parents, graduated from Samuel Huston College, then taught at Gregory School, then at Blackshear, where she taught for the remainder of her career. After Mattie Van Dyke passed away in 1968, Juanita apparently moved away; the house was rented out in the 1970s and early 1980s. The current owner is a nephew of John and Mattie Van Dyke; he lived here in the late 1980s, but the house is currently a rental property.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is listed as a high priority for preservation in the Historic Resources Survey of East Austin (2000).

This map has been produced by the Communications Technology Management Dept. on behalf of the Planning Development Review Dept. for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

1506 New York Avenue  
ca. 1912







## OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1506 New York Avenue

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
June, 2010

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1992 | Marva Selmon, owner<br>Proprietor, Marva's of Austin Beauty Salon, 1805 Chicon Street.<br>NOTE: The directory indicates that Marva Selmon was a new resident at this address. |
| 1987 | Clifton Van Dyke, owner<br>Director, Austin Community College   |
| 1983 | Clifton Van Dyke, owner<br>No occupation listed<br>NOTE: The directory indicates that Clifton Van Dyke was a new resident at this address.                                    |
| 1978 | Mrs. Tommye Russell, renter<br>No occupation listed<br>NOTE: The directory indicates that Tommye Russell was a new resident at this address.                                  |
| 1974 | Marshall and Doris Neal, renters<br>No occupation listed<br>NOTE: The directory indicates that Marshall and Doris Neal were new residents at this address.                    |

- 1970 James and Beverly Lee, renters  
U.S. Air Force
- 1967 Mattie M. Van Dyke, owner  
Widow, John Van Dyke  
Clerk, Dairy Queen  
Also listed is Juanita Van Dyke, a teacher at Blackshear Elementary School.
- 1963 Mattie M. Van Dyke, owner  
Widow, John Van Dyke  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is Juanita Van Dyke, a teacher at Blackshear Elementary School.
- 1960 Mattie M. Van Dyke, owner  
Widow, John Van Dyke  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is Juanita Van Dyke, a teacher at Blackshear Elementary School.
- 1957 John and Mattie M. Van Dyke, owners  
No occupation listed  
Teacher, public schools.
- 1954 John and Mattie M. Van Dyke, owners  
Porter, Commodore Perry Hotel, 800 Brazos Street  
Also listed is Juanita M. Van Dyke, a teacher at Blackshear School.
- 1952 John and Mattie M. Van Dyke, owners  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: Juanita Van Dyke is not listed in the directory.
- 1949 Mattie Van Dyke, owner  
No occupation listed  
NOTE: John Van Dyke is listed as a cook at the P-K Grill at 108 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street;  
Juanita Van Dyke is listed as a teacher at Blackshear School. Neither have a home address listed in the directory.
- 1947 John H. and Mattie Van Dyke, owners  
Cook, P-K Grill, 108 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street.  
Also listed is Juanita M. Van Dyke, a teacher at Blackshear School.
- 1944-45 John H. and Mattie Van Dyke, owners  
John: Cook  
Mattie: Maid  
Also listed is Juanita Van Dyke, a teacher in the public schools.
- 1941 John H. and Mattie Van Dyke, owners  
Cook Texas School for Deaf, Dumb and Blind Colored Youths  
Also listed is Juanita Van Dyke, a public school teacher.
- 1939 John H. and Mattie Van Dyke, (not listed as owners)  
No occupation listed  
Also listed is Juanita Van Dyke, a public school teacher.

- 1937 John H. and Mattie Van Dyke, (not listed as owners)  
 John: No occupation listed  
 Mattie: Maid, William McCraw, Attorney General, State of Texas, 717 West Avenue.  
 Also listed is Juanita Van Dyke, a teacher at Blackshear School.
- 1935 John H. Van Dyke, owner  
 No occupation listed  
 Also listed are Juanita Van Dyke, a teacher at Gregory School; and Mattie Van Dyke, the cook at the Governor's Mansion, 1010 Colorado Street.  
 NOTE: Mattie Van Dyke is not listed as John's wife in this directory.
- 1932-33 John and Mattie Van Dyke, owners  
 John: Cook Plaza Hotel, 1302 Congress Avenue  
 Mattie: Domestic, Mrs. L.K. Shelley, 1306 Windsor Road  
 Also listed is John H. Van Dyke, a porter for Nelson Davis & Son, wholesale groceries, 107 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street; and Juanita Van Dyke; no occupation stated.
- 1930-31 John and Mattie Van Dyke (colored), owners  
 No occupation listed  
 Also listed are Elbert Van Dyke and Juanita Van Dyke; neither had an occupation stated.
- 1929 John and Mattie Van Dyke (colored), owners  
 John: Cook, Elite Café, 2334 Guadalupe Street  
 Mattie: Cook, Governor's Mansion  
 Also listed is Juanita Van Dyke, a student at Samuel Huston College.
- 1927 The John Van Dyke listed in the directory is likely John and Mattie's son John, who was married to a woman named Carolyn and worked as a porter at Griffith Drug Company at 6<sup>th</sup> and Congress. John and Mattie Van Dyke are not listed in this directory.
- 1924 John and Mattie Van Dyke (colored), not listed as owners.  
 John: Cook, Original Mexican Café, 719 Congress Avenue  
 Mattie: Cook, A.J. Eilers, 311 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Eilers was the president of McKean-Eilers, a wholesale dry goods business on Congress Avenue.  
 Also listed is John Van Dyke (no wife), a porter at the Griffith Drug Company, 103-07 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1922 Fannie Smith (colored), renter  
 No occupation listed  
 NOTE: John and Mattie Van Dyke are listed as living at 1607 New York Avenue. John Van Dyke is listed as a worker in the Cactus Tea Room, 2208 Guadalupe Street; Mattie Van Dyke was listed as a domestic for A.J. Eilers at his home at 311 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 1920 Fannie Smith (colored), renter  
 No occupation listed  
 NOTE: John and Mattie Van Dyke are listed at 1607 New York Avenue; he is listed as a laborer; she had no occupation listed.

1918	Fannie Smith (colored), renter Laundress
1916	Joseph H. Bell (colored) Laborer NOTE: Fannie Smith is listed as a laundress living at 807 E. 13 <sup>th</sup> Street.
1914	Joseph H. Bell (colored) No occupation listed
1912-13	Rev. Frank L. Kirkpatrick (colored) No occupation listed
1910-11	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: Rev. Frank L. Kirkpatrick is listed as the presiding elder in the Austin Methodist Episcopal Church; he lived at 810 E. 12 <sup>th</sup> Street.

## NOTES:

The 1930 U.S. Census shows John and Mattie Van Dyke living in this house, which they owned, and which was worth \$2,400. John was then 38; Mattie was 36; their son Elbert was 12. All had been born in Texas. John is listed as a cook in a café; Mattie is listed as a cook for a private family.

Neither John nor Mattie Van Dyke appear in the 1920 census report for Travis County, nor is their house, 1607 New York (evidenced from city directory listings) listed in the census report. The 1920 census shows Fannie Smith at this address as a renter. Fannie Smith was a 53-year old widow who lived here with her son Clint, 32, and widowed daughter, Eddie, 28. Fannie Smith had been born in Mississippi and is listed as a laundress for a private family. Clint Smith was born in Texas and worked as a yard man for a private family. Eddie was also born in Texas, and worked as a laundress for a private family. Jewel Lewis, Fannie Smith's 7-year old grand-daughter, also lived in the house.

The 1910 U.S. Census shows John and Mattie Van Dyke as servants in the home of Adolph Goldmann at 404 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. John is shown as a cook in a hotel; Mattie is shown as a cook for a private family.

# Governors'

## Food Aide

## Dies Here

Mrs. Mattie VanDyke, a food service director for two governors of Texas, died in a local hospital Monday at the age of 85.

Mrs. VanDyke was a food and catering service director for Dan Moody and James V. Allred during their terms as governor. She also was employed by a number of prominent Austin families.

Funeral will be Thursday at 4 p.m. at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Rev. B. H. Hansboro, superintendent of the San Antonio District of the Methodist Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery under direction of King-Tears Mortuary.

Surviving Mrs. VanDyke are a daughter, Mrs. Juanita VanDyke Wilson, Austin; sons, John H. VanDyke and Elbert C. VanDyke, Austin; sister Mrs. Minnie Maxwell, Austin; brothers, Sylvester Walton and Willie Walton Sr., of Austin, and C. J. Walton of Little Rock, Ark.; one grandson and two great-grandchildren.

Obituary of Mattie Van Dyke  
Austin American-Statesman, December 25, 1968



The Austin Citizen

# Long Teaching Career Ends

Forty-three years ago, an enthusiastic young music teacher named Juanita Van Dyke launched her career in the Austin school district.

This month, she will retire.

"To be a good teacher, you must be a lover of children," Mrs. Juanita Van Dyke Wilson said. "Teaching requires enthusiasm; a teacher should be active in every situation if she is to motivate children to learn."

"I believe I still have those qualities. But I'm going to retire because I need to relax."

Mrs. Wilson graduated from Anderson High School in 1927. "Teaching had always fascinated me," she recalls. "My mother stressed how important education is in life, and I saw teaching as a tool to help others. By the time I graduated from high school, I had my eyes set on just one profession — teaching."

She earned college degrees in music and education by 1930 and settled down in East Texas to teach at a rural school called Moore's Station.

"The schoolhouse was several miles off the highway, and there was only one automobile in the community," Mrs. Wilson said. "I enjoyed my stay there, but after two years I knew it was time to come home to Austin."

In 1932, she started



Juanita Van Dyke Wilson

teaching at Blackshire Elementary School, where she stayed until 1969, when Mrs. Wilson was assigned to Ridgetop Elementary.

"I've taught school for less than \$50 a month, so I'm certainly not in this for the money," she said. "I simply love the

profession; teaching is its own reward."

Mrs. Wilson said that although the school district has its share of problems, it is moving in the right direction.

"Austin schools are constantly improving," she said. "What sometimes seems discouraging is that

parents do not visit their children's schools often enough. We should set aside a separate day just for mothers to visit the classrooms — and working mothers who participate should be paid just as if they were on the job."

The involvement of parents in school activities is one way to promote integration, Mrs. Wilson said.

"When a teacher enters a classroom, she must be completely without prejudice. Love has got to be the target, regardless of the race, color or creed of the students."

Over the past 4 1/2 decades, elementary school children have changed, she said, and often there are discipline problems.

"When I first started teaching, the children in school could be spanked if they misbehaved. But now they can't be spanked, and they know that. The children sometimes enjoy telling the teacher, 'You can't touch me,' when they've been wrong," Mrs. Wilson said.

"When I was small and a teacher told me to do a task I did not particularly want to do, I wouldn't dare let her know that I wasn't happy with what she was telling me," she added.

"But today, a teacher must reason with a child and must tell her students why they are supposed to do what they are told."

Austin Citizen story on Juanita Van Dyke Wilson  
May 8, 1975



### Juanita Van Dyke Wilson

Juanita M. Van Dyke Wilson, a longtime Austin resident, was called to Heaven by our Lord and Savior on November 15, 2000.

She was born February 14, 1911, to the late John Van Dyke Sr. and Mattie Walton Van Dyke.

She received her early education in the public schools of Austin, graduating from Anderson High School. She received her B.A. degree from Samuel Houston College in Austin, and Masters degree from Prairie View A & M University. Her extended studies in music were at the University of Berkeley and the Chicago College of Music. She was an outstanding educator, well respected by her colleagues and students. Her professional career included 38 years of dedicated service to the Austin Independent School District as a teacher.

Her professional, civic and social affiliations included: Austin Retired Teachers Association, Texas Retired Teachers Association, Capital City Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction Inc., Phi Kappa Sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and the Douglas Club.

She was an active member of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, where she served as a pianist for the Youth Choir; Sunday School Teacher; Deaconess; Chairperson for Woman's Day; a member of Lydia Missionary Circle; and sang in the Senior Choir since she was 18 years of age.

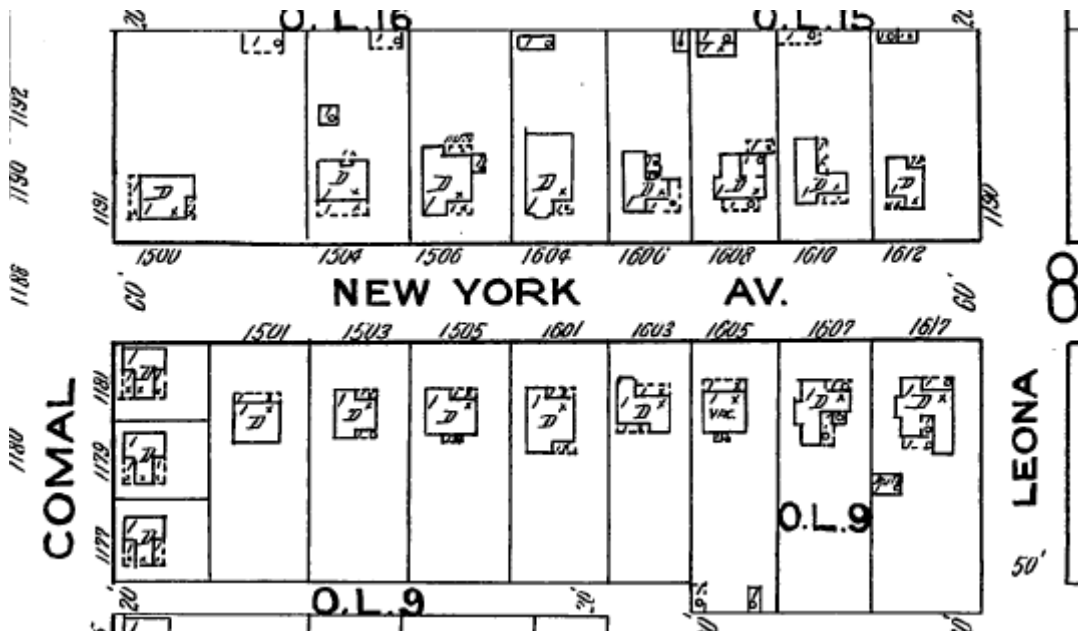
She is preceded in death by her husband, Jesse M. Wilson Sr. and brother, John Van Dyke Jr.

Survivors include her brother, Elbert C. Van Dyke; nephew, Thomas C. Van Dyke Sr. and wife, Yvonne; stepdaughter, Mae Helen James; stepson, Jesse M. Wilson Jr.; great-nephew, Thomas C. Van Dyke Jr. and wife, Karon; greatniece, Shawne A. Dickerson and husband, Robert and many extended family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be made to the Senior Choir, Ebenezer Baptist Church.

The family will receive friends at King-Tears Mortuary Inc., 1300 East 12th Street at 7:00 p.m., Friday, November 17, 2000.

A service in celebration of her life will be held at Ebenezer Baptist Church, 1010 East 10th Street on Saturday, November 18, 2000, at 1:00 p.m. Interment Evergreen Cemetery.



The 1922 Sanborn map shows the house at 1506 New York Avenue as the third from the left on the north side of the street. The house at 1607 New York, where John and Mattie Van Dyke lived before moving into this house, is also shown as the second from the right on the south side of the street.

Connecting Charge \$ 12.00 ✓  
 Application for Sewer Connection. No. 16396A  
 Austin, Texas, 9-4- 1931  
 To the Superintendent of Sewer and Public Improvements,  
 City of Austin, Texas.  
 Sir:-  
 I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises  
 owned by Mattie Van Dyke  
 at 1506 New York Ave. Street  
Lot 11 - BK 10 residence  
 which place is to be used as a residence  
 In this place there are to be installed 4 fixtures.  
 I agree to pay the City Sewer Department the regular ordinance charge.  
\$2.00 per month. Respectfully,  
Mattie Van Dyke  
 Location of Public Sewer Sewer in Street - 1100  
 Stub Out Located 4" W.C.  
 Connected 9-9 1931 11 1/2' W.C.  
 Size of Main 6 inches 2' x 10' @ R.V.  
 Size of Service 4 inches B-25"  
42 Feet Deep Sept 1960  
8.0 Feet from Property Line in St  
Feet from Curb Line  
 Inspected by Alex Boatright  
 Connection made by M. Morris

Sewer service permit to Mattie Van Dyke (1931)

OWNER Mattie Van Dyke ADDRESS 1506 New York Avenue  
PLAT 36 LOT 14 BLK 16  
SUBDIVISION Patterson Addition  
OCCUPANCY Residence OWNERS  
BLD PERMIT # 101468 DATE 11-10-66 ESTIMATE 1,700.00  
CONTRACTOR Elvin W. Brown NO. OF FIXTURES  
WATER TAP REC # \_\_\_\_\_ SEWER TAP REC # \_\_\_\_\_  
Remodel Frame Residence

Building permit to Mattie Van Dyke to remodel the house (1966)