

ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

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CASE NUMBER: C14H-2010-0038

HLC DATE:

October 25, 2010

PC DATE:

February 22, 2011

APPLICANT: William Fleece, owner

HISTORIC NAME: Goyne-Norris House

WATERSHED: Boggy Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 1208 Hackberry Street

ZONING FROM: SF-3-NP to SF-3-H-NP

SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the proposed zoning change from family residence – neighborhood plan (SF-3-NP) combining district to family residence – Historic Landmark – neighborhood plan (SF-3-H-NP) combining district zoning.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION:

The ca. 1908 house is an excellent example of Victorian vernacular residential architecture, and is important as a relic of the change in the racial character of the neighborhood from primarily Anglo to primarily African-American. The house further represents an excellent embodiment of the housing of the craftsman class of the early 20th century, housing carpenters, painters, and later, the most long-term owner and occupant, an African-American porter and his family.

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended the proposed zoning change from family residence-neighborhood plan (SF-3-NP) combining district to family residence-historic landmark-neighborhood plan (SF-3-H-NP) combining district zoning based upon the architecture, historical associations, and community value of the house. Vote: 6-0 (Hansen absent).

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION:

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The house is listed as a high priority for preservation in the East Austin Cultural Resources Survey (2002).

CITY COUNCIL DATE:

ACTION:

ORDINANCE READINGS: 1ST 2ND 3RD

ORDINANCE NUMBER:

CASE MANAGER: Steve Sadowsky

PHONE: 974-6454

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION: Organization of Central East Austin Neighborhoods (OCEAN)

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

Architecture:

The house is an excellent example of vernacular Victorian residential architecture with its wing-and-gable plan, prominent front porch, and hipped roof. The house has 4:4 wood-frame, wood-sash fenestration and a standing seam metal roof.

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Historical Associations:

The house appears to have been built around 1908, and was originally associated with the Arnold House, located just to the east, facing San Bernard Street. Legend has it that this was a "honeymoon" cottage, but the Arnold family, which owned the property until the 1930s, never occupied the house and appears to have rented it out. The first occupant was Benjamin Goyne, a railway postal clerk, and his wife, Eddie. Goyne was born in Arkansas, and had previously lived in Elgin, where he was a grocery salesman. He and Eddie lived here for a short time; by the time of World War I, they were living in Waco, and by 1920, they had moved to Tennessee, where Goyne eventually began working for Alcoa. Robert Parsley, and his wife Alma, are the next known occupants of the house, appearing at this address in the 1910-11 city directory. Parsley worked as a cleaner and dyer in the shop of a relative, William L. Parsley, at 310 Congress Avenue. At the time that Parsley lived here, there was only one other house on the block. Robert and Alma Parsley are listed in the 1910 U.S. Census report at this address, but had moved to El Paso by 1920, and to Los Angeles by 1930. He continued his trade as a cleaner, dyer, and hatter in each new city. Henry Fowler, a carpenter, is listed at this address in the 1912-13 city directory, followed by Thomas H. Deats, a painter, by 1914. It is unclear whether the Thomas H. Deats who lived here was the father or the son; both had the same name, and both were in the house-painting business. Jack Edens, a department manager for C.A. Bradford, a wallpaper and paint store, was living here by 1916, followed by Thomas J. Rich, and his wife, M. Alice, who rented the house in 1918. Rich was an insurance man. Julius Stark, Jr., a salesman for the Stern Grain Company, lived here with his wife Dora in 1920, followed by two more carpenters, Thomas P. Harvill, and E. Monroe Lindner, through 1924. The house had seen a frequent turnover in occupants before 1927, when Otto Hinke, a native of La Grange, Texas, and his wife, Sophie rented the house. Hinke was a carpenter, who was managing Laura Achilles' filling station on Fiskville Road at the time that he and Sophie moved into this house around 1927. The Hinke family lived here until around 1931; Otto is listed in later directories as a carpenter.

Around 1932, this house, which had been one of the few in the neighborhood still occupied by Anglo families, became the home of Samuel A. and Hattie Norris, an African-American couple, indicating the change in neighborhood fabric from a predominantly Anglo neighborhood around San Bernard Street to a predominantly African-American neighborhood by the late 1920s. Samuel A. Norris is believed to have been the son of Andrew Norris, an African-American Baptist minister in Austin. Samuel Norris took up the ministry himself, and found himself preaching in places as far afield as Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and Portsmouth, Ohio, before returning to Austin between 1930 and 1932. It is important to note that in census reports, Norris is listed as a preacher; what is unusual is that this was a full-time occupation for him, where the vast majority of African-American ministers of the time were engaged in other, secular work to earn their livelihoods, and these occupations were generally the ones reported in census reports and city directories. Norris appears in Austin city directories from 1932 through 1958, living here at this house with his wife Hattie, who is not listed after 1945, but for whom no death record is apparent. Norris worked as a porter for the State Industrial Accident Board until the early 1950s, when he retired. There is no occupation listed for him in the city directories of the mid-1950s, and he passed away in 1958, although there does not appear to have been an obituary for him in the Austin newspapers.

The house was vacant after Samuel Norris' death, then rented by Demosneeds Odems and his wife, Ethel, who had been living just down the street at 1200 Hackberry. The Odems family lived here until the early 1970s; the house was again a rental or vacant from the mid-1970s until the present, when the current owner restored the deteriorating house to its original historic appearance.

PARCEL NO.: 02070802180000

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LEGAL DESCRIPTION: The southwest 54.35 feet of Lot 2, Block 6, Outlot 56, Division B, George L. Robertson Subdivision

ESTIMATED ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT: \$1,079 (owner-occupied); city portion: \$540 (no AISD or ACC participation).

APPRAISED VALUE: \$151,469

PRESENT USE: Residence

CONDITION: Excellent

PRESENT OWNER: William Andrew Fleece
1208 Hackberry Street
Austin, Texas 78702

DATE BUILT: ca. 1908





ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: New back porch and standing seam metal roof (2008).

ORIGINAL OWNER(S): The Arnold family at 1170 San Bernard Street

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: None.

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-  N
-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

HISTORIC ZONING

ZONING CASE#: C14H-2010-0038
 LOCATION: 1208 HACKBERRY ST
 GRID: K22
 MANAGER: STEVE SADOWSKY



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.

1208 Hackberry Street
 ca. 1908

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OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1208 Hackberry Street

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

- 1992 Gary L. Gilleland, renter
No occupation listed
NOTE: The directory indicates that Gary L. Gilleland was a new resident at this address.
- 1985-86 Kenneth G. Wright, renter
Waiter
NOTE: The directory indicates that Kenneth G. Wright was a new resident at this address.

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- 1981 Vacant
- 1975 Charles and Shirley Cleveland, renters
Employed by the Pool Construction Company
NOTE: The directory indicates that Charles and Shirley Cleveland were new residents at this address.
- 1972 Demosesneeds M. Odems, renter
Custodian, Grace United Methodist Church, 201 E. Monroe Street.
- 1969 Demosesneeds M. Odems, renter
Custodian, Grace United Methodist Church, 201 E. Monroe Street.
- 1966 Demosesneeds M. and Ethel R. Odems, renters
Custodian, Grace United Methodist Church, 201 E. Monroe Street.
- 1963 Vacant
NOTE: Demosesneeds and Ethel Odems are listed as living at 1200 Hackberry Street; he was the custodian at Grace United Methodist Church.
- 1958 Samuel A. Norris, owner
No occupation listed
- 1954 Samuel A. Norris, owner
No occupation listed
- 1952 Samuel A. Norris, owner
Porter, State Industrial Accident Board
- 1949 Samuel A. Norris, owner
Porter
- 1947 Samuel A. Norris, owner
NOTE: Samuel A. Norris is not listed in the main directory.
- 1944-45 Samuel A. and Hattie Norris, owners
Porter, State Industrial Accident Board
- 1941 Samuel A. and Hattie Norris, owners
Porter (no place of employment listed)
- 1939 Samuel A. and Hattie Norris, owners
Porter, State Industrial Accident Board
- 1937 Samuel A. and Hattie Norris, owners
Porter, State Industrial Accident Board
- 1935 Samuel A. and Hattie Norris, owners
Porter, State Industrial Accident Board
- 1932-33 Samuel A. and Hattie Norris, owners
Porter, State Industrial Accident Board

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- 1930-31 Otto and Sophie Hinke, renters
Carpenter
Also listed is Louis W. Hinke, the district manager of the International Automobile Protection Corporation.
NOTE: Samuel A. and Hattie Norris are listed as living at 1168 Angelina Street; he was a porter at the State Industrial Accident Board.
- 1929 Otto and Sophie Hinke, renters
Carpenter
Also listed is Louis W. Hinke, a salesman for the Grayburg Oil Company.
- 1927 Otto and Sophie Hinke, renters
Manager, Laura Achilles, filling station, west side of Fiskville Road, 8 buildings north of 45th Street.
Also listed is Louis Hinke, a driver.
- 1924 E. Monroe and Annie Lindner, renters
Carpenter
NOTE: Otto and Sophie Hinke are listed as living at 1153 Angelina Street; he was a carpenter.
- 1922 Thomas P. and Frances Harvill, renters
Carpenter
- 1920 Julius and Dora T. Stark, Jr., renters
Salesman, Stern Grain Company, 621-25 E. 6th Street.
NOTE: The address is listed as 1210 Hackberry Street.
- 1918 Thomas J. and M. Alice Rich, renters
Insurance
NOTE: The address is listed as 1210 Hackberry Street.
- 1916 Jack N. Edens
Department manager, C.A. Bradford Company, wallpaper and paints, 705 Congress Avenue.
NOTE: The address is listed as 1210 Hackberry Street.
- 1914 Thomas H. Deats
Painter
NOTE: Deats is the only white person on the block.
NOTE: The address is listed as 1210 Hackberry Street.
- 1912-13 Henry Fowler
Carpenter
NOTE: The address is listed as 1210 Hackberry Street.
- 1910-11 Robert Parsley
Dyer, William L. Parsley, 310 Congress Avenue
NOTE: There was only one other house on the block.
NOTE: The address is listed as 1210 Hackberry Street.
- 1909-10 Benjamin Goyne
Railway postal clerk
NOTE: The address is listed as 1210 Hackberry Street.

1906-07 The address is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: Benjamin Goyne is not listed in the directory.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Benjamin Goyne – ca. 1908 – ca. 1910

Ben Goyne appears in the 1900 U.S. Census report in Elgin, Texas, where he was a 22-year old boarder in the home of a widow. Ben Goyne had been born in Arkansas and was a grocery salesman. The 1910 U.S. Census report finds him in Austin at 912 E. 9th Street, where he lived with his wife, Eddie, and their daughters, Pauline, 6, and Lillian, 5. The Goynes had been married for 9 years. Ben was listed as the postal clerk for a railroad, the job he lists in the 1909-10 Austin city directory when he had moved to this house. His 1918 World War I draft registration card shows that he was living in Waco, where he worked as a car clerk for Winston and Company. By 1920, the family was living in Alcoa, Tennessee, where Ben was an engineer for the Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa). They had moved by 1930 to Maryville, Tennessee, where Ben was an accountant for a wholesale firm. Their daughter, Pauline, who was then 26, was a file clerk in the "prohibition office". The Goynes also had two younger daughters, Miriam [?], 18, and Lucile, 12.

Robert O. Parsley – ca. 1910

The 1910 U.S. Census shows Robert O. Parsley and his wife Alma living here – the address is shown as 1210 Hackberry Street, and the only other house on the block is at 1200 Hackberry, which is consistent with the city directory listings. Robert Parsley was a 30-year old native Texan; Alma Parsley was 26, and had also been born in Texas. They had two children, Zelma, 3, and a son, Hillary, 1½. Parsley is listed as a cleaner. The family had moved to El Paso by 1920, where Robert is listed as a cleaner and hatter in the census report. By 1930, they were living in Los Angeles, where Robert worked as a presser. Daughter Zelma was a stage dancer, and son Hillary was a timekeeper for a construction company. They had two more sons and another daughter. They also had three boarders, an actor, a dietician, and a photograph retoucher.

Thomas H. Deats – ca. 1914

The 1870 U.S. Census shows Thomas H. Deats as a 16-year old carpenter living with his family in Galveston. By 1880, Deats had moved to Austin, and is listed as a 25-year old painter living on Ash Street in Austin with his wife Sarah, and their daughter, May. Deats was born in Alabama. He was listed as a painter in the 1914 city directory when he lived in this house. It is possible, however, that the Thomas H. Deats who lived in this house was actually Thomas H. Deats, Jr., who registered for the draft in World War I and who was born in 1890 in Austin. His draft registration also shows him to be a house painter in the employ of his father. T.H. Deats, Sr. also appears in the 1920 U.S. Census as a painting contractor living at 403 W. 14th Street in Austin with his wife, Sarah, while Tom Deats, Jr., a 29-year old paint and paper contractor, lived with his wife, Zephyr in a rented house at 305 W. 5th Street.

Julius J. Stark and Dora T. Stark – ca. 1920

Julius Stark, Jr., and his wife Dora lived here around 1920. Stark's World War I draft registration card shows him to have been born in 1897 and working as an assistant manager at Stern Lumber Company in Austin. He was living in rural Travis County at the time. His draft registration card indicated that he was near-sighted and had a bad leg. He apparently was not married yet – he lists his father as his next of kin. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Julius and Dora Stark in rural Travis County, where he is listed as a laundry operator. They had a son, Norman, who was 6 at the time. Stark died in Austin in 1956.

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JULIUS J. STARK

Funeral services for Julius J. Stark will be held Friday at 2 p.m. at Cook Funeral Home with Rev. Raymond Brink officiating.

Stark, of 1013 East 51st Street, died in a local hospital Thursday.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Dora Stark of Austin; one son, Norman W. Stark of Austin; his stepmother, Mrs. J. C. Stark, and two sisters, Mrs. Walter Achilles and Mrs. Otto Frederick of Austin.

Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Walter Achilles, Frank Stark, Bennie Stark, Walter Stark, Willie Stark and Warren Stark.

Obituary of Julius Stark, Jr.
Austin American, February 14, 1956

Otto and Sophie Hinke - ca. 1925 to ca. 1931

The 1930 U.S. Census report shows Otto and Sophie Hinke at this house. Otto Hinke was then 53 and had been born in Texas to Austrian-born parents. Sophie Hinke was then 50, and had also been born in Texas. They had a son, Louis, who was then 29. Otto Hinke is listed as a house carpenter. Louis Hinke was a salesman for a printing company. They are shown as renters of this house (confirmed by city directories); their rent was \$17 a month. Prior to moving into this house, the Hinke family lived in Fayette County, Texas, as shown in the 1920 U.S. Census report. Otto Hinke is listed as a farmer, which is also confirmed on his World War I draft registration card, showing Otto and Sophie Hinke in La Grange, Texas. His sister was Mrs. J.C. Stark, the step-mother of Julius Stark, the previous tenant of the house, as indicated by Stark's obituary above.

OTTO HINKE

Otto Hinke, 73, died in a local hospital Monday. Born near La

Grange in 1875, he was engaged as a farmer for many years, but had made his home in Austin for the past 29 years.

Surviving him are his widow, Mrs. Sophie Hinke of Austin, and one son, Louis W. Hinke, also of Austin, and a sister, Mrs. J. C. Stark of Austin.

Funeral services will be held at the Hyttin Funeral Home Tuesday at 2 p. m. with the Rev. Lewis P. Speaker officiating.

Burial will be in Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be Walter Achilles, Otto Friedrich, Alfred Peschka, Ernest Stark, Walter Stark and Bennie Stark.

Obituary of Otto Hinke
Austin American, February 22, 1949

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Samuel A. and Hattie Norris – ca. 1932 to ca. 1958

Samuel A. Norris does not appear to have been listed in the 1930 U.S. Census report; the 1920 census report shows a Samuel A. and Hallie Norris living in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where he was a preacher. Both Samuel and Hallie were born in Texas and were African-American. He was then 46, and his wife was then 45. In 1910, the couple was living in Portsmouth, Ohio, where he is listed as a Baptist minister. The 1880 Census shows a Samuel A. Norris as the 9-year old son of African-American minister Andrew Norris in Austin. It is unclear whether these census listings show the same man who lived here for over 20 years from the early 1930s until his death in 1958. He had been married to a woman named Hattie (possibly the "Hallie" shown in the census reports), and while living here worked as a porter at the State Industrial Accident Board. There was no obituary in the Austin newspapers upon his 1958 death.