

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 9, 2013
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2013-0577
94 N. IH-35**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1899 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, hipped-roof, frame house with a full-width inset porch on battered wood posts and brick piers; 1:1 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house appears on the 1900 Sanborn map, but there is no conclusive evidence from city directories as to who lived here at that time – the first time the address appears is in the 1903-04 directory. R. Pickens Matthews, a cotton buyer, lived here from around 1902 to around 1910. Andrew J. Speegle, a contractor, lived here from around 1912 to around 1917, and again from around 1921 to 1925. In between, the house was rented, first to a railroad clerk, then to a barber. From around 1928 to 1930, the house was rented by Elbert and Eldora McEachern; he was a driver for the Hyde Park Floral Company when he lived here – he later went on to be a salesman for a flower shop, and later a caretaker of the city cemetery. He died in a boating tragedy with his brother, in Gonzales in 1971.

Another carpenter/contractor, Eugene Morris, lived here with his wife, Emily, in the early 1930s. Drug store salesman Lester Arbuckle, and his wife, Annie, lived here in the mid-1930s. Lester Arbuckle was shot and killed in the liquor store where he worked (at 70 years old) in a 1972 robbery. Louie and Lillian Raven owned the house from the mid-1930s until around 1940. With his brother, Jesse, Louie Raven operated Raven's Garage, a long-standing auto repair garage on Red River Street, where a live-music venue and nightclub called "Raven's Garage" opened in the 1980s, and which later became Emo's. From the 1940s through the 1980s, the house has been associated with the Soto family. Rev. Felix E. Soto, Sr. devoted himself to the Methodist Church of the Rio Grande District throughout his career in Austin. His son, Felix E. Soto, who lived here with his wife, Amparo, was Austin's first Mexican-American city bus driver; he retired from the Austin Transit Company after many years of service.

STAFF COMMENTS



The house appears in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984) but without a priority for research.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage relocation over demolition, but release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center.

LOCATION MAP



 SUBJECT TRACT
 ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2013-0577
 LOCATION: 94 North IH 35



This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by the Planning and Development Review Department for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

94 East Avenue
ca. 1899



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
94 East Avenue

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
June, 2012

1992	Orlando S. Mata, renter Lawyer
1985-86	No return
1981	Hortencia Martinez, renter No occupation listed
1977	Felix. E. Soto, renter Retired
1973	Felix E. and Concepcion Soto, owners Retired
1968	Felix E. and Concepcion Soto, owners Retired
1962	Fred R. and Elizabeth L. Schneider, renters U.S. Navy
1957	The address is not listed in the directory.

1954	Felix R. and Amparo Soto, Jr., owners Bus operator, Austin Transit Company
1952	Felix R. and Amparo Soto, Jr., renters Driver, Austin Transit Company
1949	Felix R. and Amparo Soto, Jr., renters Bus operator, Austin Transit Company
1947	Rev. Felix E. and Concepcion Soto, owners Pastor, Mexican Baptist Church, 301 East Avenue. NOTE: Felix R. and Amparo Soto are listed as living at 1013 E. 9 th Street; he was a bus operator for the Austin Transit Company.
1944-45	Rev. Felix E. and Concepcion Soto, owners No occupation listed
1941	Vacant NOTE: Felix and Concepcion Soto are not listed in the directory.
1939	Louis H. and Lillian Raven, owners Proprietor (with Jesse L. Raven), Raven's Garage, automotive repair, 605 Red River Street.
1937	Louis H. and Lillian Raven, owners Louis: Proprietor (with Jesse L. Raven), Raven's Garage, automotive repair, 605 Red River Street. Lillian: Teacher, Bickler Junior High School
1935	Louis H. and Lillian Raven, owners Mechanic, Raven's Garage, automotive repair, 605 Red River Street.
1932-33	Lester C. and Annie Arbuckle, renters Clerk, Carl Harms, drugs, 409 E. 6 th Street. NOTE: Louis Raven (no wife listed) was a mechanic at Raven's Garage at 605 Red River Street; he lived at 805 Willow Street.
1930-31	Eugene M. and Emily Morris, renters Carpenter
1929	Elbert J. and Eldora McEachern, renters Drive, Hyde Park Floral Company, 917 Congress Avenue. Also listed is Lucille McEachern, no occupation stated.
1927	Edward and Mamie Wakefield, renters Proprietor of a soft drinks stand, 300 Congress Avenue.
1924	Andrew and Mary L. Speegle, owners No occupation listed
1922	Andrew and Mary Speegle, renters Carpenter

- 1920 Joseph N. and Bessie Rowley, renters
Proprietor (with John Cherico and John Petelsky), Cherico, Petelsky, and Rowley, barbers, 305 E. 6th Street.
- 1918 Morgan F. and Bessie Dickerson, renters
Clerk, Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad
- 1916 A. Jackson Speegle
Carpenter
Also listed is A.J. Speegle, Jr., a salesman for Anderson & Benson, Studebaker cars, 111-15 E. 5th Street.
- 1914 A. Jackson Speegle
Carpenter, University of Texas
Also listed is A.J. Speegle, Jr., a collector for Anderson & Benson, Studebaker and Cadillac cars, 111-15 E. 5th Street.
- 1912-13 A. Jackson Speegle
Carpenter
Also listed is Jack Speegle, a clerk for Moreland Paint and Paper Company, 813 Congress Avenue.
- 1910-11 William W. Wilson
Proprietor (with John A. Volz), Wilson & Volz, owners of the Office Saloon, 501 Congress Avenue.
- 1909-10 R. Pickens Matthews
Cotton classer, William T. Caswell, 410 Chicon Street.
- 1906-07 R. Pickens Matthews
Classer, Austin Oil Mills, cottonseed products, (D.H. and W.T. Caswell, proprietors), 5th and Chicon Streets.
- 1905 R. Pickens Matthews
Manager, bowling parlor
- 1903-04 R. Pickens Matthews
Cotton buyer
- 1900-01 Unknown
NOTE: Pickens Matthews is listed as a book-keeper who lived on the north side of E. 5th Street, 2 miles east of Comal Street.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

R. Pickens Matthews (ca. 1902 – ca. 1910)

The 1900 U.S. Census shows Rufus P. and Frances [?] Matthews living in rural Travis County. He was 28; she was 27; they had no children. He is listed as an assistant book-keeper. Both had been born in Texas.

R. Pickens and Eddie Matthews are listed in the 1910 U.S. Census report living at 1503 E. 1st Street. Both were then 36 years old; both had been born in Texas. He is listed as a cotton classer; she had no occupation listed. They had no children listed.

The 1920 U.S. Census report shows Rufus P. and F. Eddie Matthews living at 611 Baylor Street, a house they owned. He was a cotton classer; she had no occupation. They had no children listed.

R. P. Matthews

Funeral services for R. Pickens Matthews of Austin, who died Monday morning at 2:30 a. m. at his

home, 611 Baylor street, will be held Tuesday morning at 10:30 a. m. from the First Methodist church, the Rev. W. F. Bryan officiating.

Mr. Matthews for 23 years was a cotton buyer for the W. T. Caswell company and was chief cotton classer for that concern. He was a native of Travis county and a son of the first sheriff of Travis county. Death occurred after a lingering illness.

He is survived by a wife and four brothers, W. S. Matthews, D. D. Matthews, J. S. Matthews and R. H. Matthews, and numerous other relatives of Austin and Travis county.

Pallbearers will be: H. A. Riley, W. E. Riddle, A. J. Kelleher, Ben C. Robertson, W. F. Ayres and D. B. Johnson. The Canton uniform rank of the Austin lodge of Odd Fellows will act as funeral escort. Burial will be in the Oakwood cemetery.

Obituary of R. Pickens Matthews
Austin American, July 5, 1927

R. P. Matthews

Funeral services for R. P. Matthews, cotton buyer and chief cotton classer for the W. T. Caswell firm, who died Monday morning at his home, 611 Baylor street, were held from the First Methodist church at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday morning, with the Rev. W. F. Bryan officiating. Burial was in Oakwood cemetery.

Mr. Matthews is survived by his widow and four brothers, W. S. Matthews, D. D. Matthews, J. S. Matthews and R. H. Matthews, and numerous other relatives residing in Austin and Travis county.

Pallbearers were: H. A. Rellly, W. E. Riddle, Arthur J. Kelleher, Ben C. Robertson, Will F. Ayers and Darrell B. Johnson. The Canton uniform rank of the local IOOF lodge acted as a funeral escort.

Funeral story on R. Pickens Matthews
Austin American, July 6, 1927

Andrew J. and Mary Speegle (ca. 1912 – ca. 1917 and ca. 1921 – ca. 1925)

Andrew J. and Mary Speegle are listed in the 1910 U.S. Census report living at 94 Rainey Street with their daughter Salome and son Jackson. Andrew J. Speegle was then 57, had been born in Arkansas, and was a carpenter/contractor. Mary Speegle was then 53, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. Their children, Salome, 17, and Jackson 12, had been born in Texas.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Andrew and Mary Speegle living on E. 25th Street, but without a house number. He was then 67; she was then 63. He is listed as a house carpenter. They had no children living with them.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Mary Speegle as a widow, living in the home of her daughter Salome, and her husband, Erle Henry, at 608 E. 25th Street. Mary Speegle was then a 73-year old widow with no occupation listed. Her son-in-law, Erle Henry, was then 39, and was an automotive service manager.

CONTRACTOR, RETIRED, DIES

A. J. Speegle Survived By Nine Children, Widow.

A. J. Speegle, 74, died suddenly at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Earle Henry, 608 East 25th street, at 1 o'clock Friday afternoon.

Mr. Speegle was a contractor in Austin for almost 50 years, having retired from business about a year ago. He and his wife lived at their new home on 44th street, but during the past two months he had been staying with Mrs. Henry as he had been ill. Thursday morning he went to the downtown section of Austin to talk with old friends. He returned home sick. He died Friday.

Mr. Speegle was born at Fort Smith, Ark., Jan. 24, 1852. He left with his parents and moved to Bastrop county when he was 12 years old. He married Miss Mary Henry of Bastrop county.

For the past 22 years Mr. Speegle has made his home in Austin, living for the past 50 years in and around the city.

Mr. Speegle is survived by his widow, seven daughters, Mrs. J. C. Hunley, Mrs. D. R. McLeod, Mrs. Hugh Spence, Mrs. D. W. Schmitt, Mrs. Leonard Baker, Mrs. Earle Henry, all of Austin, and Mrs. E. A. Ellis of Houston; two sons, A. M. Speegle of Rosette, Wyo., and A. J. Speegle, Jr., of Wichita Falls; a niece, Mrs. Earl Craven of Austin, and two nephews, Speegle brothers of Taylor.

Obituary of Andrew J. Speegle
Austin American-Statesman, January 1, 1927

Joseph N. and Bessie Rowley (ca. 1919 – ca. 1921)

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Joe and Bessie Rowley at this address. He was then 38 and had been born in Texas. Bessie Rowley was then 28 and had been born in Kentucky. They had two children, son Gale, 7, and daughter Lois, 2. They also lived with Bessie's brother, Leslie Burgess, who was 18 and worked as a bank book-keeper. Joe Rowley is listed as a barber with his own shop. They rented the house.

ROWLEY BURIAL TODAY

Joe N. Rowley, aged 40, of Austin died Friday afternoon at 4:45 at the Taylor ranch, near Oak Hill. Mr. Rowley is survived by his wife and two children, as well as two brothers and one sister. Will Rowley of Oklahoma, Chas. Rowley of Austin, and Mrs. Leona Brickler of Carter Valley, Texas. Mr. Rowley was a member of the Modern Woodmen. The body was brought to Austin by Rosengren-Cook and taken to the residence of L. W. Mercer, 1300 East Second street. Funeral services will be held at the residence Sunday at 4 p. m., R. E. Duke of the Ward Memorial church officiating. Burial will be at Oakwood cemetery.

Obituary of Joseph N. Rowley
Austin American, December 11, 1921

Elbert and Eldora McEachern (ca. 1928 – ca. 1930)

Elbert and Eldora McEachern appear in the 1930 U.S. Census report; they were living in a rented house at 502 E. 43rd Street. Elbert McEachern was then 26 years old, had been born in Texas, and was a salesman for a floral shop. Eldora McEachern was then 24, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had an infant son, Bobby. With them lived Elbert's sister, Lucille, 19, who worked as a saleslady at a department store. By 1940, Elbert and Eldora McEachern were living at 2803 Cameron Road (in today's French Place), a house they owned. Elbert McEachern was a caretaker of the City Cemetery.

ELBERT L. McEACHERN

Funeral for Elbert L. McEachern, 67, of Kingsland, will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Cook-Walden Funeral Home with Rev. Willis Erickson and Rev. Windle Lee officiating.

McEachern and his brother, Neill W. McEachern of Kyle, died in a boating accident while fishing Saturday in Gonzales. He was a member of the Gethsemane Lutheran Church and had worked for the City of Austin as an electrician before he retired.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. S. L. Bearden of Arlington; one son, Bobby L. McEachern of Houston; one sister, Mrs. Lucille McDuffy of Phoenix, Ariz.; three brothers, Hubert Weldon McEachern and Gilbert Doyle McEachern, both of Austin, and James Cicero McEachern Jr. of Huntsville, Ark.; and five grandchildren.

Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery. His brother will be buried in Manor Hill Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Gordon Bailey, Howard Sweeney, Bill Bailey, Landrum Bailey, Dewey Pickens and Leslie F. Winans.

Obituary of Elbert McEachern
Austin American, May 10, 1971

Eugene and Emily Morris (ca. 1930 – ca. 1932)

Eugene and Emily Morris appear in the 1930 U.S. Census renting a house at 1617 Willow Street with their 5 children. Eugene Morris was then 52, had been born in Louisiana, and worked as a carpenter for a building contractor. Emily Morris was then 42, had been born in Louisiana, and had no occupation listed. Their children (the oldest was 17), had all been born in Texas.

20-Year Resident Of Austin Dies

Eugene Morris Is Taken by Death

Eugene Morris, 58, resident of Austin for 20 years, died at his home, 505 Rio Grande street, Tuesday. Survivors are his widow, seven daughters, Mrs. Fred Roy of Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. H. L. Poston, Mrs. L. J. Priest, Misses Opal, Doris, Sadie Rae and Mary Frances Morris; two sons, Roy and Ben J. Morris, all of Austin; two sisters, Mrs. Wiley Mitchell of Lueders and Mrs. Louise Stevens of San Antonio; and three brothers, Anderson Morris of Georgetown, Lee Morris of Los Angeles, Calif., and Richard Morris of Louisiana. The body is at the Cook Funeral home pending the arrival of his daughter from California.

Obituary of Eugene Morris
Austin American, August 26, 1936

Lester and Annie Arbuckle (ca. 1932 – ca. 1934)

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Lester and Annie Arbuckle renting a house at 302 Willow Street with their young daughter, and Annie's sister, Ruth Peterson. Lester Arbuckle was then 28, had been born in Texas, and was a drug store salesman. Annie Arbuckle was then 22, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. Ruth Peterson was a 26-year old bookbinder. According to the 1920 U.S. Census, Lester Arbuckle was the son of Ida Arbuckle, a widow who lived on Manor Road on a farm. He was listed as a business college student. The 1910 U.S. Census reveals that Lester's father's name was Joe, who farmed in eastern Travis County.

Aged Clerk Shot Dead In Robbery

By LARRY SPRINGER
Staff Writer

A 70-year-old clerk was shot to death Thursday afternoon during the armed robbery of an East Austin liquor store.

Dead is Lester C. Arbuckle of 3407 Robinson. Municipal Judge Ronald Earle ruled Arbuckle's death a homicide.

Police Lt. Colon Jordan said Arbuckle was shot about 4.30 p.m. Thursday during an apparent armed robbery of Yeates Beer and Liquor Store at 1815 E. 12th St.

"We received a call about the robbery from an unidentified person who said there had been a holdup and that Arbuckle had been shot," the lieutenant said.

Jordan said another clerk, Charles McAlister of Route 6 Austin, had taken the store's receipts to the bank about 20 to 25 minutes before the holdup occurred and was not in the store at the time of the robbery.

"While Arbuckle was alone in the store," Jordan said, "someone came into the place, emptied three cash registers and shot him (Arbuckle)."

When police arrived at the scene of the robbery, the lieutenant said, Arbuckle was lying behind a counter, about mid-way down the length of the store.

"He was alive when the first officer arrived," Jordan said. However, a Brackenridge Hospital spokesman said Arbuckle was dead on arrival.

He was shot once in the heart, Jordan said.

Police questioned several persons at the scene of the holdup, but late Thursday night Jordan said homicide detectives

had no suspects in connection with the robbery - shooting.

"I've known Mr. Arbuckle for many a year," said G. P. Longmire, manager of the nearby Tartan Store, 1813 E. 12th St. "He was one of the best guys I've known all my life."

Longmire, who said he had worked with Arbuckle in the past, described Arbuckle as "the kind of the guy who would do anything in the world for you."

"Practically all folks around here knew him," Longmire said. "I can't imagine who would want to shoot that poor old man for a few dollars."

Funeral for Arbuckle is pending at Cook-Walden Funeral Home.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Annie Arbuckle, Austin; son, Brady Arbuckle, Austin; daughter, Mrs. Margaret Fugler, Marshall; four brothers, Gene Arbuckle, Woodrow Arbuckle, Inar Arbuckle, all of Austin; and Ralph Arbuckle of Alice; a sister, Miss Bueh Arbuckle, Austin and 23 grandchildren.

Louis and Lillian Raven (ca. 1934 – ca. 1940)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Louie and Lillian Raven as the owners of a house at 1008 E. 38th street in Austin. Louie Raven was then 39, had been born in Texas, and was an automobile mechanic with his own garage. Lillian Raven was then 32, had been born in Texas, and was a public school teacher. They had two children: Leissner, 3; and Sharon Gale, 1.

Lillian Leissner Raven

Lillian Leissner Raven, 77, of 3109 Dancy died Thursday.

Mrs. Raven was employed with the Austin Public School System for 33 years, and retired in 1964. She was with the Parks and Recreation Department for many years.

Funeral services will be held at 11:30 AM, Saturday in the Colonial Chapel of the Cook-Walden Funeral Home with Reverend Joe K. Ader, Pastor of Memorial United Methodist Church, officiating. Interment will be in Capital Memorial Park Cemetery.

Mrs. Raven was wife of Louie H. Raven; mother of Louie L. Raven, Sharon Raven Clark; grandmother of Linda Raven, Clayton Raven, Sabrina Clark, Rebekah Clark; sister of Robert Leissner of Austin, Butler Leissner of Victoria, Jake Leissner of LaSalle, Merzell Wischkaemper of Victoria, and Clara Bell Kennedy of Livingston.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in memorials to the United Methodist Church or to the donor's favorite charity.

Obituary of Lillian Raven
Austin American-Statesman, July 6, 1984

Louie H. Raven

Louie H. Raven, born October 3, 1900, passed away on Saturday, March 29, 1997, in Indianapolis.

Louie was born, raised and educated in Austin. He and his brother, Jesse Raven owned and operated Raven's Garage for many years.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Lillian.

Survivors include his son, Louie L. Raven and wife, Joyce, of Austin; daughter, Sharon Clark and husband, Malcolm, of Indianapolis; three granddaughters, Sabrina Callin and husband, Mark, of San Francisco, Rebekah Clark of Los Angeles, Linda Raven of Austin; one grandson, Clayton Raven and wife,

Karen, of Austin; and four great-grandsons, Trey, Clay, Tyler and Cody, all of Austin.

Graveside services will be held at 1:00 p.m. Friday, at Capital Memorial Park Cemetery.

Arrangements by Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home, 3125 N. Lamar, 452-8811.

Obituary of Louie H. Raven
Austin American-Statesman, April 4, 1997

Rev. Felix E. and Concepcion (Conchita) Soto (ca. 1943 – ca. 1948 and ca. 1965 – ca. 1980)

Reverend Felix E. Soto, Sr.

Reverend Felix E. Soto, Sr., 91, of Manor, Texas, died Wednesday, December 28, 1988.

He was born on March 17, 1897, in Monterrey, Mexico, and came to the United States at the age of two. He attended schools in Austin, and in 1922, graduated from Lydia Patterson Institute in El Paso, Texas. He married Conchita Reyes in September of 1922, at El Paso, Texas. Reverend Soto spent 44 years of faithful service in the Methodist Church of The Rio Grande Conference.

Prayer services will be held at 7:30 PM, Friday in the Colonial Chapel at Cook-Walden Funeral Home, Lamar location.

Funeral services will be Saturday, 10:00 AM at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 200 Brushy Street, with Reverend Juan Canales officiating. Interment will be in Capital Memorial Gardens.

Reverend Soto is survived by his sons, Felix R. Soto, Jr. of Manor, Raul R. Soto of Puyallup, Washington, Luis A. Soto of Houston, Rodolfo R. Soto of Venturi, California, and Mario R. Soto of New Orleans, Louisiana; brother, Arturo, E. Soto of Austin; 19 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Emmanuel United Methodist Church.

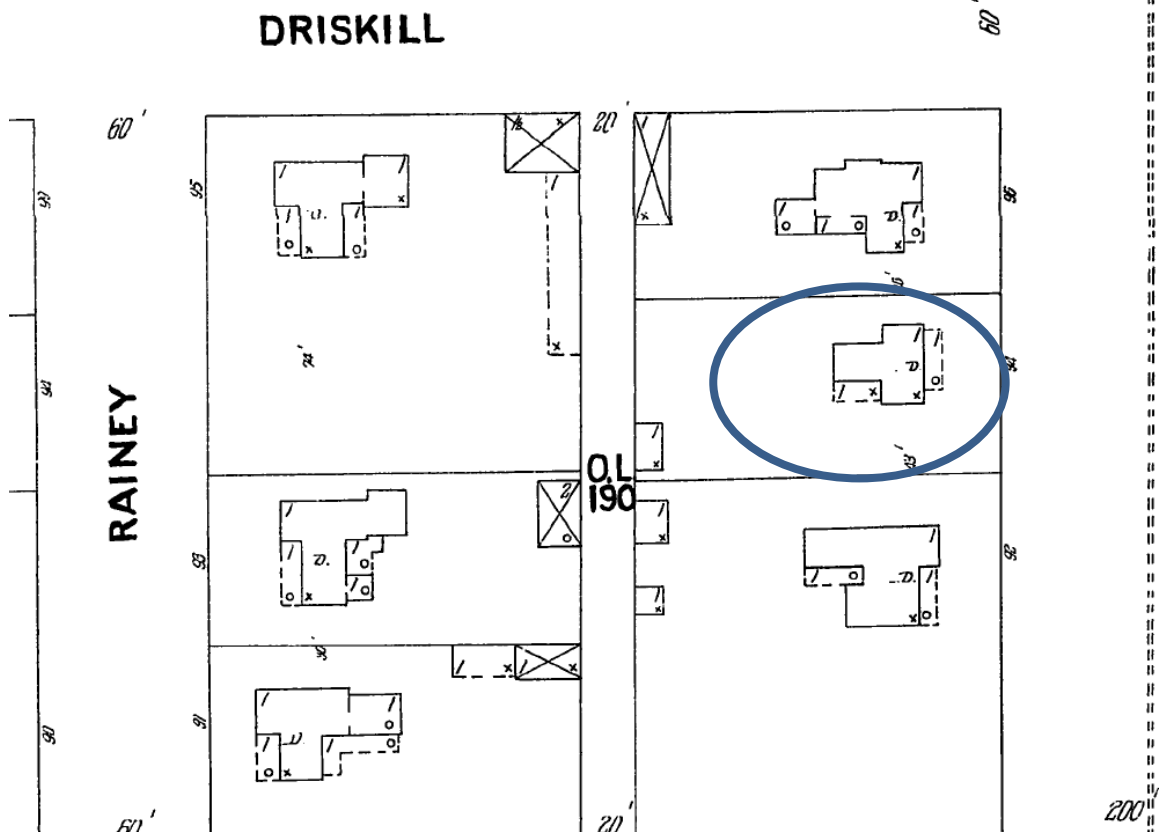
Arrangements by Cook-Walden Funeral Home, Lamar location.

Obituary of Rev. Felix E. Soto
Austin American-Statesman, December 30, 1988

Felix R. and Amparo Soto (ca. 1948 – ca. 1960)

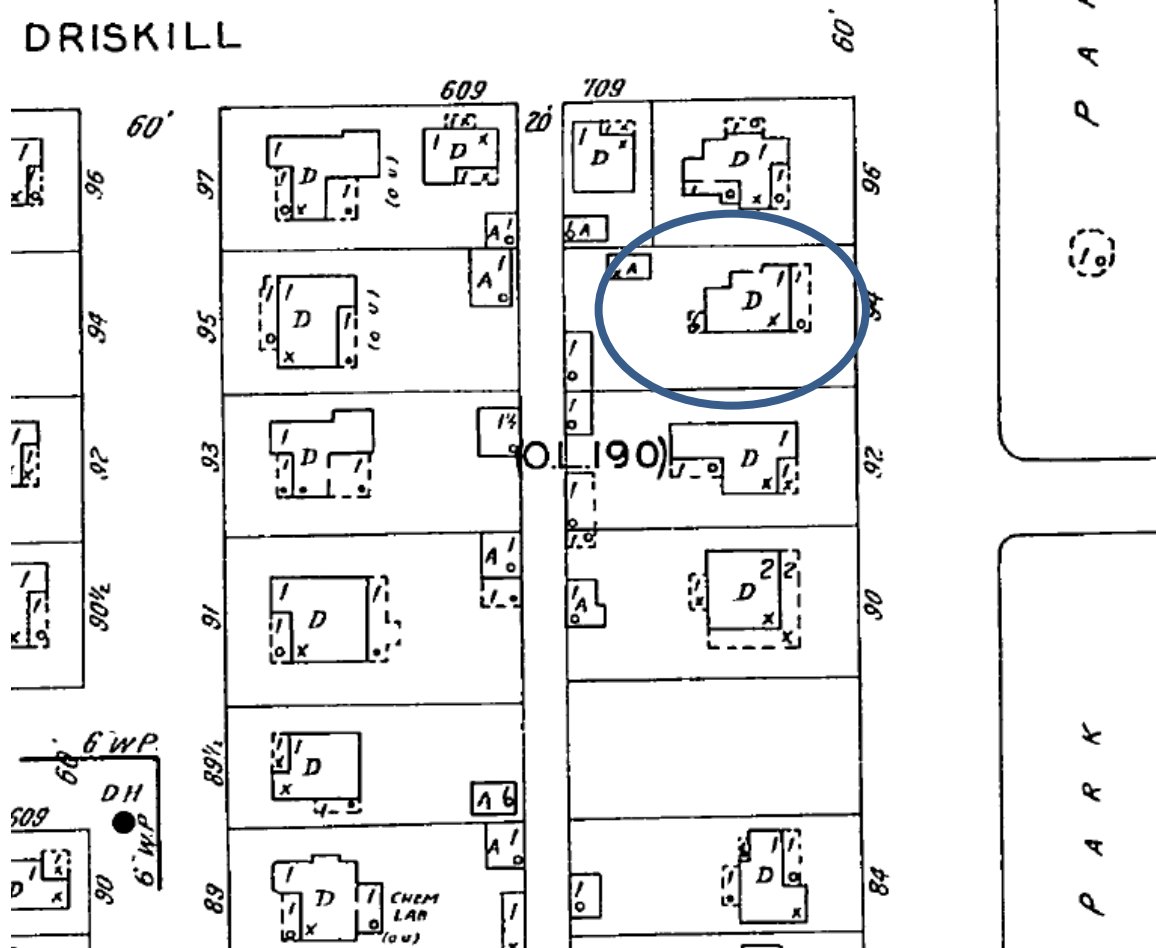
Felix R. Soto June 21, 1923 - July 8, 2011 Felix was the first born to Felix E. Soto Sr. and Conchita Reyes. After graduating from Del Rio High School, Felix proudly served his country in the Coast Guard during [WWII](#). He was a member of the Emmanuel United Methodist Church. Felix was preceded in death by his first wife Amparo, of 58 years. Felix was the first Hispanic bus driver for the Austin Transit System for 13 years. He later worked for the United States Postal Service for 32 years where he retired in 1992. Felix married Blanca MacManus in 2006. She loved and cared for him. Along with 2 brothers, Felix leaves behind 5 children, 8 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren. Felix will be remembered as a loving father, grandfather, husband, brother, God-father, uncle and a friend to many.

In lieu of flowers, contributions appreciated to Christopher House hospice, The [American Heart Association](#), The National Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, or The [Alzheimer's Association](#) of America. Visitation services will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Sunday, July 10, 2011 at Cook-Walden Capital Parks Funeral Home, Pflugerville, Texas. Funeral services, with burial to follow, will be held at 10:00 a.m., Monday, July 11, 2011 at Cook-Walden Capital Parks Funeral Home and Cemetery, Pflugerville, Texas.

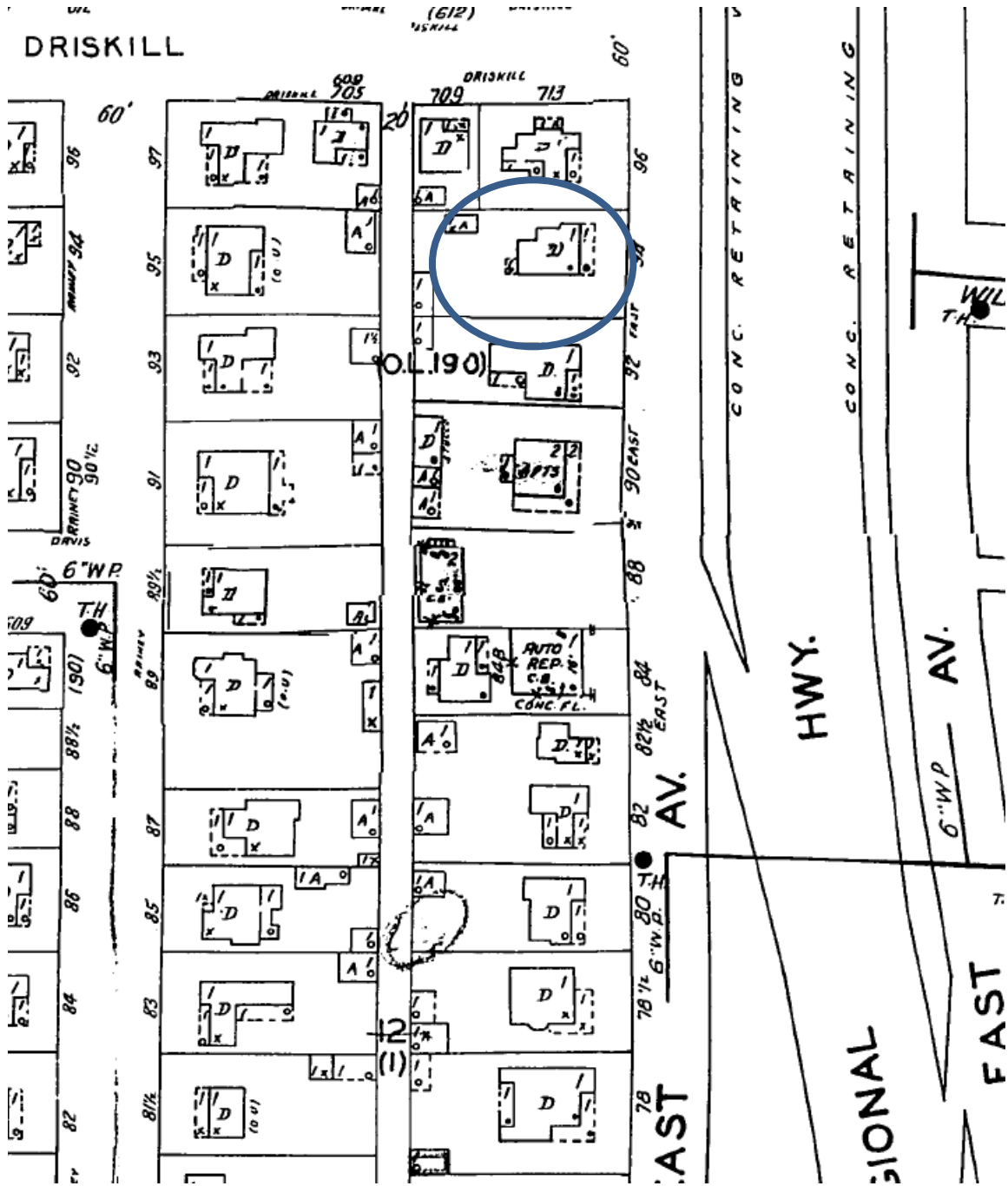


The house appears on the 1900 Sanborn map, but has a side porch on the south that had been enclosed by 1935, as shown on the map below.

DRISKILL



The 1935 Sanborn map shows the house after the south porch had been enclosed.



The 1961 map shows the same configuration as the 1935 map above.