

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 28, 2015
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2015-0876
2823 MANOR ROAD**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1947 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, wing-and-gable plan frame house with a partial-width shed-roofed integral porch on ornamental metal posts; non-historic brick-columned, front-gabled entry with a segmental-arched opening framing a single-leaf door with sidelights; single, paired, and triple, and banded fenestration; the single, paired, and triple windows generally have a 6:6 Colonial Revival-styled configuration; the banded windows are on the back of the house and along the back of the east elevation; they consisting of sets of multi-light metal-framed casement windows with fixed multi-light transoms; aluminum siding.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1947 by Tomas and Josefa Galindo, who moved here from a rented house on Willow Street. Tomas Galindo was born in Mexico, and came to Austin in the mid-1920s. He first worked as a yardman for Dr. Goodall Wooten, at his mansion at Rio Grande and 19th (now MLK) Streets, a job he held until around 1939, when he decided to open a restaurant at 1300½ E 6th Street. In 1940, Tomas and Josefa opened El Fenix Tortilla Factory and Mexican Curios at 1200 E. 6th Street; largely under Josefa's command. Their children worked in the tortilla factory as clerks, and eventually became the owners of the business. Sons Joe and Thomas, Jr. took over the business, and in the early 1970s, they divided the business between El Galindo, owned by Thomas Galindo, Jr. and his wife; and El Lago, owned by Joe Galindo. Both brands remain strong today.

Tomas and Josefa Galindo were actively involved in the family business until the early 1960s, when they retired, living in this house until their deaths in the 1980s.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house is not listed in any City survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation of the house on-site if feasible, and incorporation into the new proposed development. The house lacks architectural significance, but is the first home that the Galindo family actually owned, and their significance in the Mexican-American and culinary history of Austin is profound. The house also represents the lifestyle of Mexican-American families in Austin, who came to the United States, engaged in menial, blue collar jobs, and established their own businesses, at first principally for the Mexican-American community, but later for restaurants and other commercial establishments.

If on-site rehabilitation and re-use is not feasible, then staff recommends relocation over demolition, and in any case, 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

