

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
JUNE 24, 2019  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2019-0252  
1408 EAST CESAR CHAVEZ STREET

### PROPOSAL

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Demolish a ca.1906-1910 house.

### ARCHITECTURE

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One-story, wing-and-gable plan frame house with horizontal wood siding; partial-width porch, and 2:2 wood and single-light fixed-pane metal windows.

### RESEARCH

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The house appears to have been built between 1906 and 1910 on a lot subdivided from the adjoining Stavely estate. It was a rental property for most of its lifespan.

From 1912-1918, it was inhabited by masons and stonecutters, who were most likely working on materials for the new post office building (now UT's Claudia T. Johnson Hall at 220 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St.). From 1927-1939, it was occupied by William J. Criswell and his family; he was employed by the City Water, Power, and Light Division for the duration of his residence at the house.

Other occupants from the 1940s onward included the Goushe family, dry-goods salesmen; Gussie Adams, a clerk; Louis and Henrietta Martinez, an installer and a laundress; Earl Wesson, a trucker; and the Davis family, who operated a retirement home next door.

### STAFF COMMENTS

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The property was recommended contributing to a local and National Register historic district by the East Austin Historic Resource Survey (2016). A site plan for remodel and adaptive reuse of the structure was approved in 2017.

#### *Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark*

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain a moderate degree of integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (City of Austin Land Development Code, Section 25-2-352).
  - a. **Architecture.** The house is designed in a Folk Victorian style. It does not appear to possess architectural significance.
  - b. **Historical association.** There do not appear to be significant historical associations.
  - c. **Archaeology.** The property was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
  - d. **Community value.** The property does not appear to have a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, a neighborhood, or a particular group.
  - e. **Landscape feature.** The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.




### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then 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. Though the house is part of an extant Folk Victorian grouping of buildings – a style that defined railroad-era South East Austin -- it does not meet the criteria for individual designation as a historic landmark.

# LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 168'

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2019-0252  
LOCATION: 1408 E Cesar Chavez St.

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 CTM for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



## PROPERTY INFORMATION

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*Photo: Citywide Historic Building Scan, August 2018*

### *Occupancy History*

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office, May 2019

1992	Leonor Montelongo, renter Mirthala Montelongo, renter Martha Montelongo, renter Delia Montelongo, renter Ana M. Montelongo, renter
1985-86	Jimmie G. and Sarah V. Ramos, renters
1981	Vacant
1977	Cecelia Rodriguez, renter
1973	Vacant
1968	Carney E. and Lola M. Davis, owners Davis Home for the Elderly, 1410 E. 1 <sup>st</sup> St.
1965	Address not listed
1962	Vacant
1959	John J. Coy, renter
1955	Earl J. and Ora F. Wesson, renters Trucker
1952	A. Louis A. and Henrietta Martinez, renters Installer, Dill's Plant worker, Capitol Laundry and Cleaning B. Luke G. Rodriguez, renter

1949 Gussie O. Adams, renter  
Wid. Claude A. Adams  
Clerk, Texas Employment Commission

1947 Abed and Huson Goushe, renters  
Salesman  
  
Essa Goushe, renter  
Austin Exchange Dry Goods, 401 ½ E. 6<sup>th</sup> St.

1944-45 Abed and Huson Goushe, renters  
Salesman

1941 Abed and Huson Goushe, renters  
Salesman

1939 William J. and Dora E. Criswell, renters  
Gatekeeper  
  
Harold L. Criswell, renter  
Clerk

1937 William J. and Dora E. Criswell, renters  
Gatekeeper; City Water, Light, & Power  
  
Harold L. Criswell, renter  
Yard clerk, SP Lines

1935 William J. and Dora E. Criswell, renters  
Gatekeeper; City Water, Light, & Power  
  
Harold L. Criswell, renter

1932-33 William J. and Dora E. Criswell, renters  
Employee; City Water, Light, & Power

1929 William J. and Dora E. Criswell, renters  
Machinist

1927 William J. and Dora E. Criswell, renters  
Boiler repairman; City Water, Light, & Power  
  
Lorene Criswell, renter  
Teacher

1924 E. C. and Virginia Harsch, renters  
Barber

1922 E. C. and Virginia Harsch, renters  
Barber, University Barber Shop  
  
Marvin Holeman, renter

1920 W. T. and Bonnie Ward, renters  
Agent, San Jacinto Life Insurance Company

1918 Ezro and Naomi M. Beghe, owners  
Stonecutter, A.L. Gooch

1916 Ezro Beghe, renter  
Stonecutter, A.L. Gooch

1914 Adis Whitaker, renter  
Granite cutter, A.L. Gooch  
  
Charles Seaborn, renter

Bricklayer

1912-13 Adis Whitaker, renter  
Granite cutter, A.I. Gooch

1910-11 Hardie K. Davis, renter  
Davis & Company tailors, cleaning, and pressing; 1008 Congress Ave.

1909-10 1408 not listed  
1406 E. 1<sup>st</sup> St.: Miss Celia Stavely, dressmaker

1906-07 1408 not listed  
1406 E. 1<sup>st</sup> St.: Miss Celia Stavely, dressmaker

1905 1408-1406 not listed  
Celia Stavely listed at 1400 E. 1<sup>st</sup> St.

*Building Permits*

27 J. A. Dagar 1408 E. 1st St.  
27 (61' x 148.5')

frame garage

20047 - 7-22-40

None

*Permit for garage, 7-22-40.*

OWNER	M John A Dager	ADDRESS	1408 East 1 st. St.
PLAT	27	LOT	60.37 of S .1485 ft. BLK.
			of West 31 ft. OL 20
SUBDIVISION	Unplatted		
OCCUPANCY	Res.		
BLDG. PERMIT #	169173	DATE	12-7-77
		OWNERS ESTIMATE	600.00
CONTRACTOR	Same	NO. OF FIXTURES	
WATER TAP REC#		SEWER TAP REC#	
Repair & remodel res to min standrs.			

*Repair/remodel permit, 12-7-77.*

OWNER	Gilbert Rodriquez	ADDRESS	1408 East 1st Street
PLAT	27	LOT	60.37 of South 148.5 ft. BLK.
			of West 31 ft.
SUBDIVISION	Unplatted		
OCCUPANCY	Residence		
BLDG. PERMIT #	173192	DATE	5-24-78
		OWNERS ESTIMATE	2,000.00
CONTRACTOR	Owner	NO. OF FIXTURES	
WATER TAP REC#		SEWER TAP REC#	

Repair and remodel res to min standards

*Repair/remodel permit, 5-24-78*

*Background Information***LIMESTONE CONTRACT MADE**

**A. L. Gooch of Austin Will Furnish  
Trimnings of Postoffice Build-  
ing—Work Pushed.**

Following soon after the contract let W. B. Canion for the excavation work on the postoffice building yesterday, A. L. Gooch received notification that his bid of \$2500 for all the limestone to be used in the new building had been accepted by the Dieter & Wenzel Construction Company of Wichita, Kan.

As the building will be faced with limestone this material is an important one. Mr. Gooch in speaking of the time required to fulfill the contract said he had until June 1, 1913, but he did not think it would take so long to have the stone ready. It is estimated 1800 tons of finished limestone will be used and the finishing and other work will be done here in Austin.

Thus far the construction company having the building of the postoffice in hand has allowed all contracts as far as possible to local men and it is thought they will continue to do so.

Twenty teams will be put on the job of excavating this morning. The trap was practically completed yesterday afternoon and it is thought the work will be completed in the time specified in the contract. Labor is the only thing that is standing in the way of a speedy completion of this part of the work. Most of the laborers are in the cotton fields, but it is said sufficient men will be recruited to put the work through.

Water will soon be kept cool in the work room of the postoffice by two five-gallon coolers. These are to be of the glass jar type. An iron safe has been awarded to the inspector's department and it is expected here Sept. 1.

Watering of the street on the west side of the Federal building has come to a halt, due to the fact that the Government refuses to allow the expenditure of \$5 per month for that purpose.

*Local masons and stonecutters were hired to work on the Austin post office. Several of these craftsmen occupied the house at 1408 E. Cesar Chavez St. The Austin Statesman; Aug. 28, 1912.*