

Gaudette, Angela

From: Kim Barker [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:59 AM
To: PAZ Preservation
Subject: HDP-2020-0258 - Sol Wilson House

*** External Email - Exercise Caution ***

Hello,

I am a neighbor of this house and wish to both support historic landmark designation and register my position against demolition. Based on the research completed by City staff, it is my understanding this is the Sol Wilson House and perhaps the oldest house in the neighborhood. Both a street and subdivision were named after Sol Wilson. Like the Sol Wilson House, my house is at the intersection of Bedford and Sol Wilson Streets in the Sol Wilson subdivision.

The City's research notes that not much is known about Mr. Wilson, but that he was a porter and worked at automobile dealers (and was married with many children). I suspect not much more is typically known about Black residents who lived in Austin during the 1920s and 1930s. Which does not mean that he was not important.

This neighborhood is being decimated by demolition and over-scaled new construction, but my support for designation is not just a vote against that. Mine is a vote to recognize the house of Sol Wilson, a Black homeowner and the subdivision's namesake. Photographs of the house are not a sufficient trade off for properly recognizing Mr. Wilson with landmark designation and prevention of demolition.

Thank you,
Kim Barker
1170 Bedford Street

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