

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
JUNE 1, 2022
PR- 2002-032448
2002 SCENIC DR.

PROPOSAL

Total demolition of ca. 1923 residence and accessory structures.

ARCHITECTURE

The primary building at 2002 Scenic Drive, known historically as River Street or River Avenue, is a two-story Spanish eclectic residence with Modern and eclectic additions constructed during the historic period. It is clad in stucco and masonry and capped with a compound-hipped roof with deep eaves. Fenestration includes multi-light wood casement windows irregularly placed throughout. A cylindrical turret with a crenellated parapet and arched windows flanks an open masonry porch that leads to an expansive designed landscape.

The secondary building is an eclectic Gothic Revival cottage. It is two stories in height with an arched palisade, cedar-shake roof, and masonry cladding. A two-story turret with faux chequerwork trim dominates the principal elevation. Each round arch includes a limestone keystone carved by famed local stoneworker Peter Mansbendel.

A renovation was designed circa 1946-47 for C.H. and Mildred Slator by prominent Austin architects Fehr & Granger. Officially established in 1946, Fehr & Granger was one of the first and possibly most influential mid-century modern architectural firms in Austin. The firm flourished and includes an extensive body of work consisting of both residential and commercial projects. They received multiple awards for their work in the magazine *Progressive Architecture*. Their Robert Mueller Airport received a Design Award in 1959 and another in 1961.

RESEARCH

The house at 2002 Scenic Drive, called River Street or River Avenue before 1940, was constructed around 1923 by Raymond Maurice Delisle. Delisle, the son of a Houston architect, built 16 other houses in the River Street area while also working as an optician in Austin. He owned and operated the Austin Optical Company from the early 1920s until his retirement around 1940. He was one of the 1927 incorporators of the Urnite Manufacturing Company. Urnite, a synthetic stone material, appears to have been used in several landscape features around the property.

Later occupants include William Foster and then Mr. and Mrs. K.D. Shoudy. After the Shoudys lost a young son while living at the property in 1945, they sold the house to C.H. and Mildred Slator. It stayed in the Slator family until 2021, according to TCAD records. C.H. Slator, son of a prominent Llano rancher, was a local attorney and co-owner of the Tavern (ca. 1953).

PROPERTY EVALUATION

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain high integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). Staff has evaluated the property and determined that it does meet two criteria:
 - a. Architecture. The primary building is a good example of Spanish eclectic architecture with Modern-style Fehr and Granger influences. The accessory structure is a unique example of eclectic, mid-century, and Gothic Revival architecture; it features unique Mansbendel keystones throughout. It appears to convey architectural significance as a one-of-a-kind structure in Austin.
 - b. Historical association. The property appears to have significant historical associations with builder, entrepreneur, and optician Raymond Delisle; and C.H. Slator, the co-owner of the Tavern and a prominent local attorney in Austin.
 - 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 possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, the neighborhood, or a particular demographic group.
- e.* Landscape feature. The property appears to have a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city. Landscape features, including arched bridge and bench, appear to incorporate Delisle's Urnite material.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Initiate historic zoning. Should the Commission decide against initiation over owner objection, require completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package prior to permit release. Should the Commission decide against initiation, approve the application upon receipt of a City of Austin Documentation Package.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT

PENDING CASE

ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: GF 22-047398

LOCATION: 2002 SCENIC DRIVE



1" = 250'

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.

PHOTOS PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



Northwest view of primary residence



Northwest view of accessory building



North-facing view of accessory building



West-facing view of accessory building



North-facing view of accessory building (middle window)



West elevation of accessory building



West elevation of accessory building



North elevation of primary residence



Primary residence



West elevation turret (primary residence)



West elevation (primary residence)



Landscape (Southside of property)



Landscape (Southside of property)



Landscape (Southside of property)



Landscape (Southside of property)



Pool (Southside of property)



Bridge (Southside of property)



Bench (South of primary residence)

Historic Preservation Office, 2022

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, March 2022

1959	C. H. and Mildred E. Slator, owners Lawyer 1211 Perry-Brooks building
1957	C. H. and Mildred E. Slator, owners Lawyer 1211 Perry-Brooks building
1955	C. H. and Mildred E. Slator, owners Lawyer 1211 Perry-Brooks building
1952	C. H. and Mildred E. Slator, owners Lawyer 1211 Perry-Brooks building
1949	C. H. and Mildred E. Slator, owners Lawyer 709 Littlefield building
1947	Address not listed

Aerials



1940 Aerial



1977 Aerial



1977 Aerial

Permits

5
WATER SERVICE PERMIT
 Austin, Texas
 Received of C.H. SLATOR Date 5-22-51
 Address 2002 SCENIC DRIVE
 Amount THIRTY FIVE & NO/100 ~~35.00~~
 Plumber S Size of Tap 1/4
 Date of Connection 5-24-51

Water service permit, 1951

382 RTMS

C. H. Slator

2002 Scenic Drive

165

3, 4, and 5

4 - -

Laurel Heights


Masonry addition to residence.

40019 1-17-49

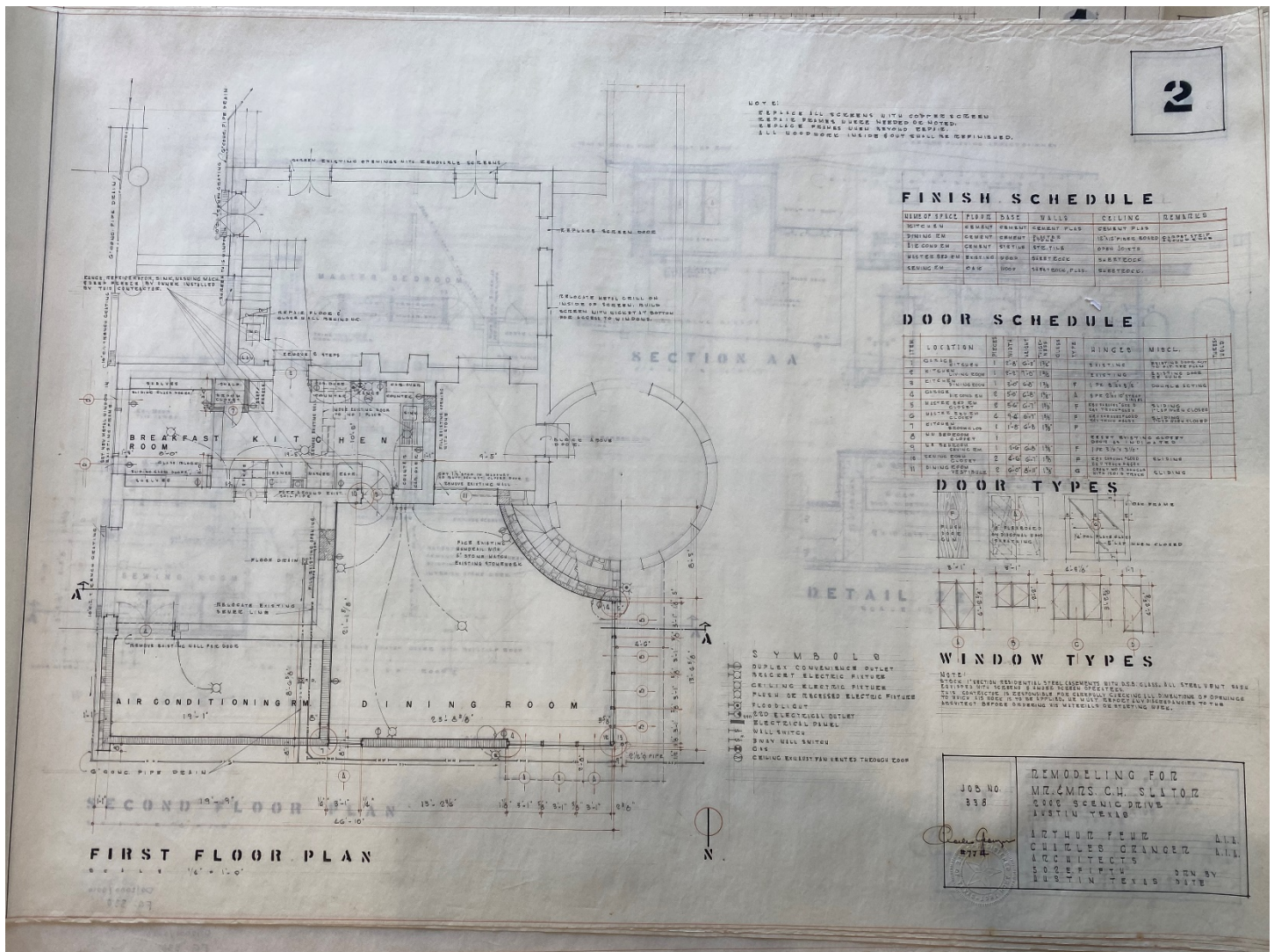
\$16,000.00

W. T. Walker and Son

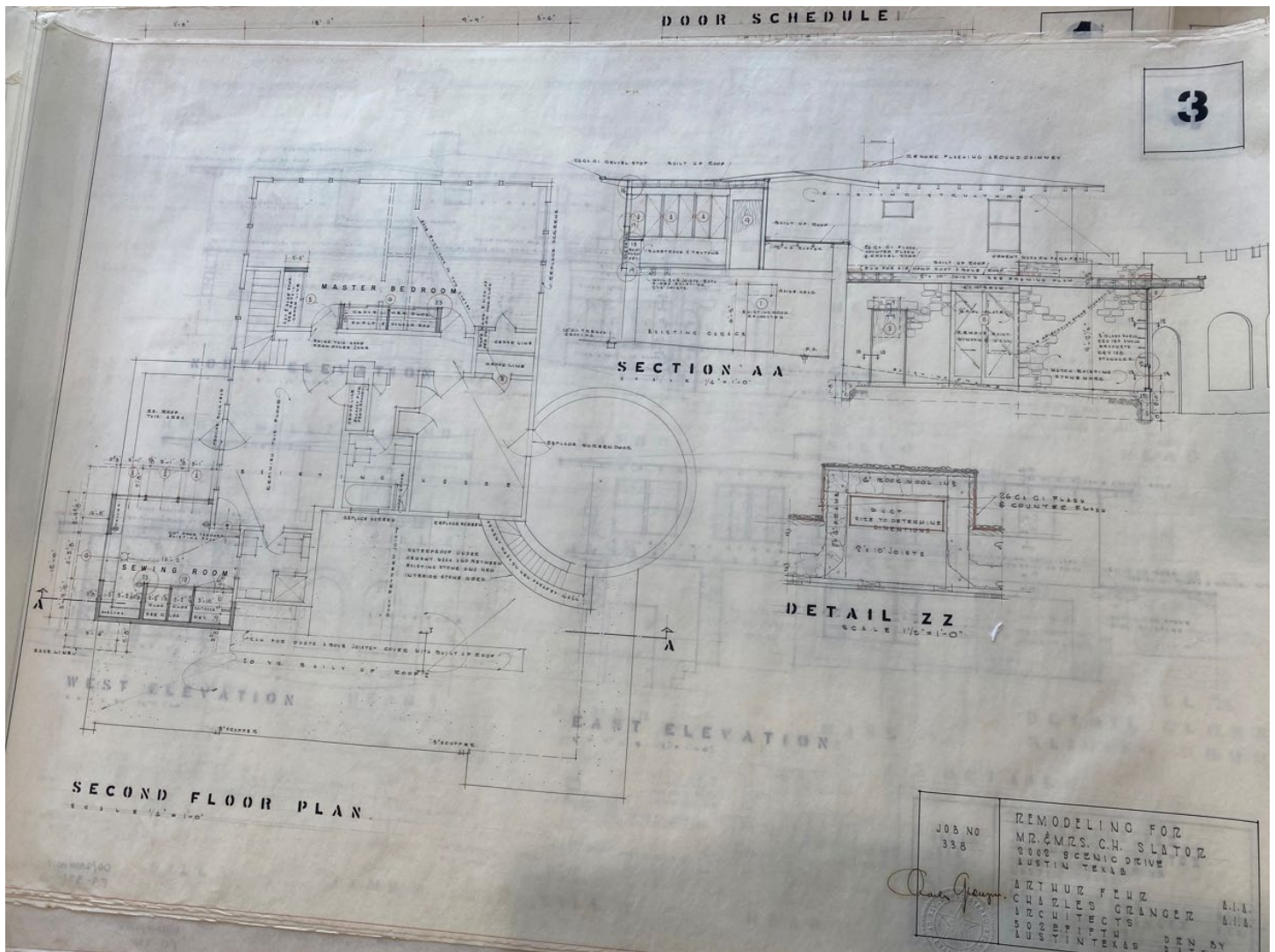
Building permit, 1949

JOB NO. 338	REMODELING FOR MR. & MRS. C. H. SLATOR 2002 SCENIC DRIVE AUSTIN TEXAS
<i>Charles Granger</i> 	ARTHUR FEHR A.I.A. CHARLES GRANGER A.I.A. ARCHITECTS 502 E. FIFTH AUSTIN TEXAS
	DGN BY DATE

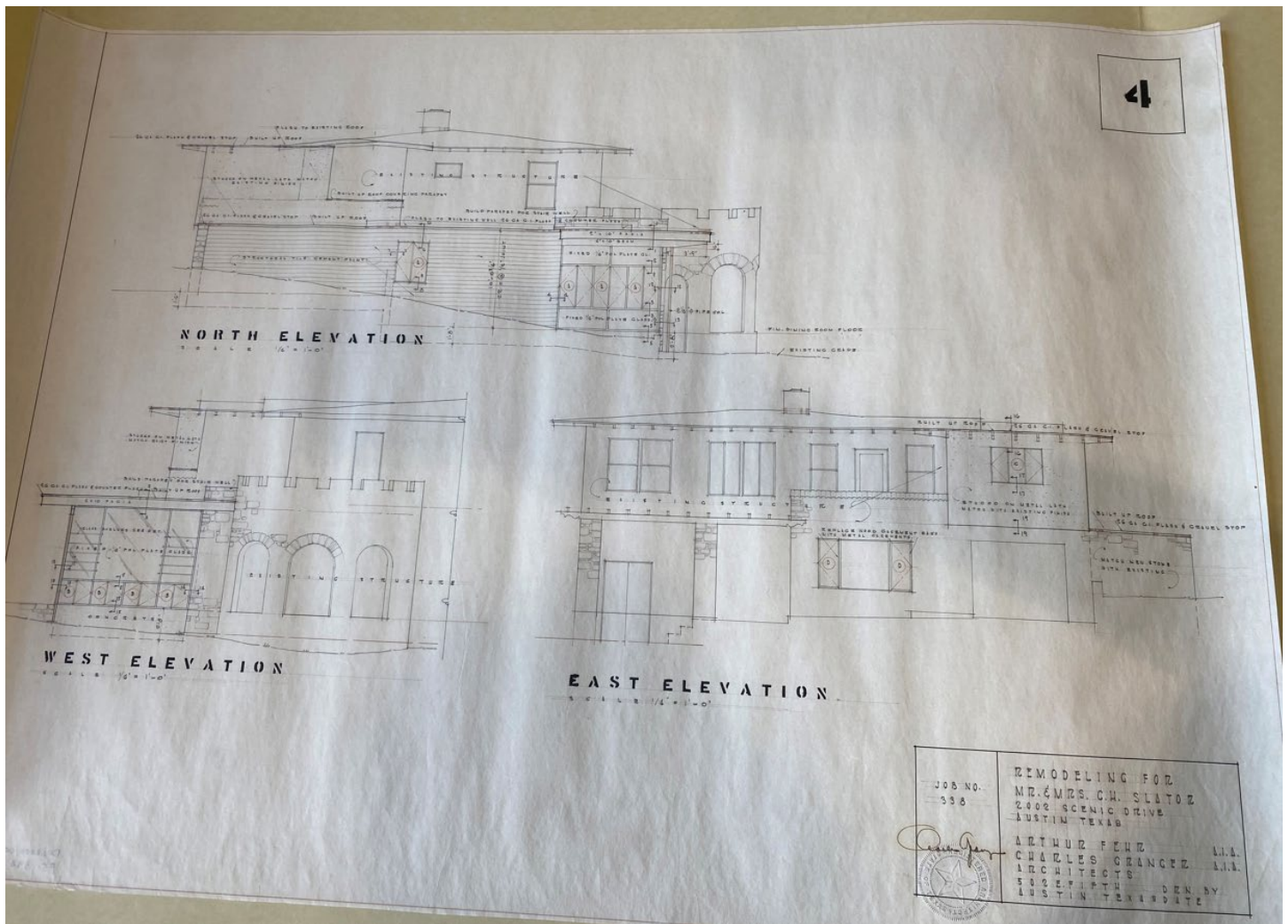
Fehr & Granger Stamp



Fehr & Granger remodel plans, date.



Fehr & Granger remodel plans.



Fehr & Granger remodel plans.

Classified Ad 4 -- No Title

The Austin American (1914-1973); Dec 10, 1944;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman
pg. 23

108--WANTED: REAL ESTATE
WANTED TO buy one 8 room and 1 6
room house from owner, immediate
possession necessary. Write or contact
William J. Foster, 2002 Scenic Drive,
Austin.

Delisle Rites Set at 3 P.M.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Jan 6, 1953;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman
pg. 16

Delisle Rites Set at 3 P. M.

Raymond Maurice Delisle, 63,
resident of Austin for the past 35
years, died at his home Monday.
A retired optical, he owned the
Austin Optical Company for 25
years until about 10 years ago.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Am-
mon Delisle; a daughter, Mrs. Ed
Wroe Jr., both of Austin; two sons,
Robert R. Neyland, Fort Worth and
Major Mayo W. Neyland, Kelly Air
Force Base, San Antonio; a brother,
Ernest A. Delisle, Los Angeles,
Calif. and an aunt, Mrs. F. L.
Adams, Atlanta, Ga.

Funeral services were scheduled
at St. David's Episcopal Church
Tuesday at 3 p. m. with the Rev.
Charles A. Summers officiating.
Burial was in Austin Memorial
Park under the direction of the
Weed-Corley Funeral Home.

George M. Taylor Dies at Son's Home

The Austin American (1914-1973); Jan 21, 1945;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman
pg. 12

KENNETH D. SHODY, JR.

Kenneth D. Shoudy, Jr., infant
son of Mr. and Mrs. K. D. Shoudy,
2002 Scenic drive, died in a local
hospital Friday night. Besides his
parents, he is survived by one sis-
ter, Lois Jan.

The body will be at the Weed-
Corely Funeral home until 3 p. m.
Sunday when it will be taken to
the First English Lutheran church
where services will be held at 4
p. m. Rev. Lewis P. Speaker will
officiate and burial will be in Me-
morial park.

Delisle Timeline

1889

Raymond Maurice Delisle, born February 8, 1889, to Adrien and Florence McLeod Delisle in Chattanooga, Tennessee; there are four sons in the family (Ernest, Eugene, Raymond, and Albert)

ca. 1900

Delisle family moves to Houston, Texas; father works as architect

1917–1918

Delisle registers for draft in Houston, No. M1509

Delisle marries Gladdys (sometimes Gladys) Katherine Legg of London, Ontario, March 2, 1918, Christ Church, Houston; born March 1890 to Archie and Margaret Legg

1919

Raymond M Delisle, 1908 Drew Ave, Houston, Texas, Optician (Houston City Directory, 1919, lists this address as also the home of Adrien Delisle and Albert J. Delisle)

Delisles move to Austin, Texas

Death of “infant Delisle” (male, premature birth), October 5, 1919, Physicians’ and Surgeons’ Hospital [610 W. 17th], Austin; buried October 6, 1919, in Oakwood Cemetery, Austin

1920

March 17, 1920 (Travis County Deed Records, Book 328, p. 555)

Margaret A. Stiles to R. M. Delisle, part of Lot 4, Block 5, James Subdivision, Outlet No. 3, Division 2 (may be the first property purchased by Delisle)

1920 city directory: R. M. Delisle (Austin Optical Co.), rms 712 W 14th, Austin, Texas
Austin Optical Co., 204 W. 6th

1922

April 12, 1922 (Book 335, p. 283A)

J. M Walsh et al. (owners of Wm Walsh Estate) to R. M Delisle, 13.45-acre tract “out of what is known as Walsh Place,” Division B; “adjacent to and just northeast of the Lake Austin Dam in Travis County”; \$8,800 (\$3,000 in cash plus six promissory notes).

1922 city directory: Raymond M Delisle (Austin Optical Co., Gladys), r 1011 W. 17th, Austin, Texas
Austin Optical Co., 108 W. 6th

1923

May 2, 1923 (Book 349, p. 267A)

R. M. Delisle and Gladdys K. Delisle to J. Garland Shelton, part of 13.45 acres of Walsh Place Addition, Division B

1924 city directory: Raymond M Delisle (Austin Optical Co., Gladys), r Lake Austin, Austin, Texas

Austin Optical Co., 108 W. 6th

1925

May 18, 1925 (Book 394, p. 72A)

R. M. Delisle and Gladdys K. Delisle to A. J. Kleberg, part of 13.45 acres of Walsh Place Addition, Division B

1926

July 31, 1926 ("deed of conveyance lost before the same was filed"; replacement deed "to correct the record" executed July 30, 1929; see below)

R. M. Delisle and Gladdys K. Delisle to Harry Hartman, 13.45 acres [less carve-outs of sold parts] of Walsh Place, Division B; \$2,000 cash plus five promissory notes of \$1,500 each

October 4, 1926 (Book 396, p. 68A)

R. M. Delisle and Gladdys K. Delisle to O. G. Hofheinz, part of Walsh Place, Division B

1927

1927 city directory: Raymond M Delisle (Austin Optical Co., Gladys), r Lake Austin

Austin Optical Co., 108 W. 6th

February 24, 1927, divorce decree filed in Bexar County

1928

April 9, 1928 (Book 450, p. 249A)

E. C. Fallwell and Sallie M. Fallwell to R. M. Delisle, Lots 3 and 4, Block 4, Laurel Heights Addition No. 1; \$950 (\$550 cash, \$400 note)

July 12, 1928 (Book 450, p. 248A)

E. C. Fallwell and Sallie M. Fallwell to R. M. Delisle, Lot 5, Block 4, Laurel Heights Addition No. 1, \$400 (\$100 cash, \$300 note)

1929

July 30, 1929 (Book 473, p. 179A); replacement deed "to correct the record"

R. M. Delisle and Gladdys K. Delisle [now "femme sole"] to Harry Hartman, 13.45 acres of Walsh Place Addition, Division B [less carve-outs]

1929 city directory: Raymond Delisle (Austin Optical Co.), res Laurel Heights

1930–1931 city directory: Raymond M Delisle, Laurel Heights, Lake Austin

Austin Optical Co., 202 Norwood Bldg.

1931

April 28, 1931 (Book 465, p. 571A)

E. H. Perry to R. M. Delisle, Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4, Block 5, Laurel Heights; \$2,000 (\$1,500 cash, \$500 note)

1932 city directory: Raymond M Delisle, Lake Austin

1935 city directory: Raymond M Delisle, Lake Austin

1937 city directory: Raymond M Delisle, Lake Austin

1939

1939 city directory: Raymond M Delisle (Austin Optical Co.), 1906 Laurel Ave. [changed to Matthews Drive in November 1940]

January 1, 1939, marriage to Ammon McGaughey Neyland (Book 37, p. 517); notice of license issued: *Austin American*, December 24, 1939 [1938?]; previous marriage to Mayo W. Neyland, June 5, 1921, Hunt, Texas

December 27, 1939, R. M. and Ammon Delisle of 2002 River St., Austin, Texas, sail from New Orleans as cruise passengers on the S.S. *Santa Marta*, returning January 4, 1940

1940 city directory: Raymond M Delisle, 2002 River Av [changed to Scenic Drive in November 1940], Laurel Heights

1941

January 4, 1941, R. M. and Ammon Delisle of 106 W. 6th, Austin, Texas, sail from Havana, Cuba, as cruise passengers on the S.S. *Tolca*, arriving in New Orleans on January 6, 1941

1941 city directory: Raymond M Delisle, 2002 River

1942 city directory: Raymond M Delisle, 2002 River Av, Optician, Ammon Delisle, Austin, Texas

1942

Delisle registers for draft in Austin, No. U-2607; lists himself as “retired optician”

1944

May 8, 1944 (Vol. 744, p. 119)

R. M. Delisle and Ammon Delisle to B. L. Shannon and Amy Shannon, Lots 3, 4, and 5 in Block 4 and Lots 1 and 2 in Block 5, Laurel Heights, includes “premises and improvements”; \$20,000 note

1947 city directory: Raymond M. Delisle, 2200 San Gabriel, Austin, Texas

1949 city directory: Raymond M. Delisle, 2200 San Gabriel

1953

January 5, 1953, death of R. M. Delisle (age 63), buried in Austin Memorial Park Cemetery

1953 city directory: Ammon Delisle, 3600 Meredith, Austin, Texas, R M Delisle

1957 city directory: Mrs. Ammon Delisle, 2103a Woodmont Av, Austin, Texas

1960 city directory: Mrs. Ammon Delisle, 2103a Woodmont Av

1988

October 8, 1988, death of Ammon Delisle (age 87), buried in Austin Memorial Park Cemetery

Timeline of Raymond Delisle family

NEW FACTORY

Urnite Develops Austin Product.

Urnite Manufacturing company, Austin's newest manufacturing plant, was incorporated this past week in the office of the Secretary of State with A. M. Bohn, M. Holec, A. M. DeLisle, C. F. Paul and Max Werkenthin as incorporators.

Urnite is the name of a patented synthetic stone, a process worked out by an Austin man, C. F. Paul. This new stone has the appearance of white marble, but is much lighter and possesses exceptional strength.

"Articles of any design can be manufactured from this process stone," Max Werkenthin pointed out, "and its qualities of strength and lighter weight make it superior over concrete or metal."

The Urnite Manufacturing company was organized for the purpose of developing this invention and for manufacturing urns, benches, tables, fountains, bird baths and similar articles for the beautification of the home and garden, Mr. Werkenthin said.

At present these articles are manufactured at a small plant near the Austin dam. The new corporation plans to erect a temporary building in the immediate future on a tract of land just south of the Woodward Body Works on the Post road.

During the past year, a number of urns, birdbaths, benches and fountains have been manufactured by the company. C. B. Cook has two urns of a beautiful design before his funeral home on Colorado and Eleventh street. A birdbath has recently been on display at the Griffith Drug company. Barker Motor company has several decorative pieces from the Urnite company decorating their sales room during the showing of their new line of cars.

"We are planning to have a goodly supply of garden fixtures on hand by the time gardens are blooming this spring," Mr. Werkenthin stated "and we know that our fixtures are going to do their part to make Austin a 'City Beautiful.'"

Mrs. DeLisle Hostess at Lake Austin Home

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973): Aug 12, 1923;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman
pg. A1

Mrs. DeLisle Hostess at Lake Austin Home

Mrs. R. M. DeLisle entertained with a delightful swimming and bridge party Thursday at her home on Lake Austin. The lovely home, with its patio and private swimming pool, has been the inspiration of a number of charming entertainments this summer, and this affair was not unlike its predecessors.

The guests arrived early and at once donned their bathing suits, following which a number of bridge games were played. Mrs. Roy West was presented with a vase in lavender luster as winner of high score, and Mrs. Earl Simms, Mrs. Felix Thaxton, Mrs. E. G. LaMay and Mrs. Malcolm Reed Jr. won the table prizes, bridge score sets. Miss Ida Tobin cut the consolation, a deck of cards.

A refreshing luncheon was served at noon to the following guests: Mmes. Sanford Smith, Robert Dale of Houston, Earl Simms, Paul Simms, Joe K. Johnson, Ed Johnson, John Ward, Malcolm Reed Jr., Jeff Dibrell, Felix Thaxton, McKean Eilers, Tom Steely, E. G. LaMay, Fred Penick, Roy West and Miss Ida Tobin.

Urnite Plant Size To Be Tripled Soon

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Aug 15, 1927;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman
pg. 3

**Urnite Plant Size
To Be Tripled Soon**

Increasing its capital stock from \$5000 to \$30,000, the Urnite Manufacturing company, synthetic stone manufacturing company and one of Austin's newest, will open on Sept. 1 a plant triple the size of its present one, Max Werkenthin, president of the company, said Monday morning.

The controlling interest in the company will be kept by the original stockholders, Mr. Werkenthin said, and those stockholders will constitute the board of directors. The men who owned stock in the company when it first opened operations in April were C. F. Paul, Max Werkenthin, R. M. DeLisle, H. M. Bohn and M. Holck.

URNITE PLANT IN OPERATION: Durable Building Material Is Made Here

The Austin American (1914-1973); Aug 14, 1927;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman

pg. B47

URNITE PLANT IN OPERATION

Durable Building Material Is Made Here.

Urnite, a manufactured stone substance weighing but one-tenth ordinary stone, harder and more durable than cement, is a product developed by C. F. Paul, Austin chemist, and now being manufactured here by the Urnite corporation, composed of Austin business men. Urnite is being made into tables, benches, decorative and ornamental ware. Its extensive use in building industries was predicted by Mr. Paul.

The Urnite corporation is a \$30,000 manufacturing concern, having as its officers H. M. Bohn, Manfred Holck, R. M. de Lisle and Max Werkenthin. Mr. Paul is in charge of operations of the plant.

The company's office are located in the new Masonic building. The factory is on the Post road, near Penn field.

Urnite Firm Growing Fast: Products Sold All Over Southwest
The Austin American (1914-1973); Aug 12, 1928;
 ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman
 pg. A5

Urnite Firm Growing Fast

Products Sold All Over Southwest.

One of Austin's youngest and fastest growing industries is the **Urnite** Manufacturing company, located on the Post road, three and one-half miles south of the city.

A \$30,000 corporation, this young firm has been established since March, 1927, and its growth is reflected in its steadily increasing volume of business.

Incorporators are H. M. Bohn, M. Holck and M. J. Werkenthin, all Austin men.

The **Urnite** company makes a specialty of garden lawn furniture, which includes seats, rotunda benches, fern bowls and the like.

PRODUCT IS DURABLE

These products are manufactured by applying a plastic solution over a rust-proof steel fabricated form. According to Werkenthin, the result is a product very light and durable, having the appearance of concrete. Construction material is all bought in Austin, he said.

Although spending practically all of its money here, the volume of business done by the firm comes mostly from other cities. Shipments recently have been made to Mexico City, Oklahoma and Long Island, N. Y.

The firm already has dealers in San Antonio, Beaumont, Houston, Fort Worth, Dallas and New Braunfels, and expects to establish others soon.

In speaking of the firm's business, Mr. Werkenthin stated that the plant itself is the company's best advertising medium. Many people traveling between Austin and San Antonio stop in to load a piece of furniture on their way.

21 COATS APPLIED

21 COATS APPLIED

The laminated process, as it is called, consists of 21 coats of the plastic solution, and each of these is allowed to completely oxidize before another is applied. The solution is not poured nor cast as is concrete, Mr. Werkenthin declared. Thus, it requires 30 days to complete a piece of the garden furniture.

San Antonio Ceremony Unites Pair: Mildred Edgar Becomes Bride Of C. H. Slator
The Austin American (1914-1973): Nov 2, 1947;
 ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman
 pg. A9

San Antonio Ceremony Unites Pair

**Mildred Edgar
Becomes Bride
Of C. H. Slator**

In a double-ring ceremony read Tuesday noon in the Alamo Heights Methodist Church in San Antonio Miss Mildred Edgar, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Edgar Sr., 51 Summit View, Austin, became the bride of C. H. Slator, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Slator Sr. of Llano.

The Rev. Kermit Gibbons officiated.

Mrs. Reynolds N. Cate of San Antonio and Colonel Alfred P. Petsch of Fredericksburg attended the couple, and only members of the immediate families were present for the ceremony.

The bride wore a custom-made suit of beige French velour fashioned in a mandarin design and heavily embroidered in rose beige and gold thread. Her accessories were of bronze reptile, and she wore a corsage of bronze orchids. For "something old" an antique gold pin that had belonged to her paternal grandmother was pinned at the neckline of her blouse.

Immediately following the ceremony members of the wedding party attended a champagne party and luncheon in the Percaux Room of the St. Anthony Hotel. This was followed by a cocktail party in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds N. Cate, 140 Castano Avenue.

Afterwards the couple left for New Orleans from where they sailed Nov. 1 on the SS Antikua for Havana, Cuba, and Guatemala. On their return they will live in their new home at 2002 Scenic Drive, Austin.

Mrs. Slator studied fine arts at Southwestern University, Mary Hardin-Baylor College and the University of Texas. Mr. Slator received his degree from the University of Texas and is now practicing law in Austin.



MRS. C. H. SLATOR

The Austin American (1914-1973): Nov 2, 1947

It's New

It's News



THE TAVERN

12th and LAMAR

TV ROOM

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS
 Fried Oysters • Fried Shrimp
 Fried Chicken Livers
 SALADS
 Chicken • Shrimp
 Huacoma

Private Dining Room
 For Your Parties
 Phone, 2-3620
 for Reservations

Where Old And New Friends Meet

BILL NEWMAN

C. H. SLATOR

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973): Nov 19, 1954

The Office of Fehr and Granger

"It is the architect's responsibility to translate through research and creative professional skill the client's needs into their proper functional relationships within the economic resources available, using not only his creative ability but the best engineering judgment and technology. The buildings which result from this approach are structures of beauty, efficiency and sound economy. This is true architecture."

-Fehr and Granger Portfolio Statement