

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS
JANUARY 10, 2024
HR-2023-160720
SIXTH STREET NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
218 EAST 6TH STREET/600-602 SAN JACINTO STREET

PROPOSAL

Paint and repair storefront. Install new exterior vestibule at entrance. Install new metal awning. Replace deteriorated windows on the second floor to match existing.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

- 1) Paint and repair existing stucco façade as needed. Repair and repaint upper-story pediments, replace deteriorated cornice details in-kind, repair and repaint storefront as needed.
- 2) Repair upper windows where possible, replacing in-kind where deteriorated beyond repair. Install new aluminum-clad windows in first-floor infilled arches.
- 3) Install new metal awning at existing attachment points.
- 4) Install new central-bay entry vestibule, set back 42", to match existing flanking storefront windows. Install new light fixtures at entry.

ARCHITECTURE

Two-story stucco-over-brick structure with large arched openings at the street level and a deep pressed metal cornice. An awning installed in the 1930s has been removed, though connection points are evident.

RESEARCH

The building at 218 E. 6th Street was constructed around 1880. Its first occupant, the Gambrinus Saloon, was opened by O. Schubert and run by August Fuhrmann, though Fuhrmann's stake in the business is unclear until the 1890s, when Austin city directories list him as the saloon's proprietor. The saloon remained in business until after the turn of the twentieth century, when it became a grocer, a tire shop, and a furniture and carpet showroom owned by Felix Smith. After a brief vacancy, A. W. Brill opened a saddlery there in 1920 before purchasing his own building a block away. From the 1930s onward, the building was home to a variety of furniture stores: first the Gregory Furniture Store, owned by City Council-hopeful Tom Gregory; then the Brown-Sellers Company, operated by seasoned salesmen J.S. Brown and C.A. Sellers; then the short-lived Dayton Furniture Company, and finally the Craddock Furniture Company, who also owned the adjoining building. The building was later purchased by Dr. Ben Oran White, son of Councilman Ben White, and rented to a theater.

DESIGN STANDARDS

The City of Austin's [Historic Design Standards](#) (March 2021) are based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and are used to evaluate projects in National Register districts. The following standards apply to the proposed project:

Repair and alterations

1. General standards

The proposed project specifies that historic-age material will be replaced in-kind only where repair is not possible due to advanced deterioration. Architectural details at the cornice will be reconstructed from existing deteriorated elements and photographic documentation.

3. Roofs

The proposed project retains and repair historic decorative roof elements.

4. Exterior walls and trim

The proposed project includes repair and patching of exterior walls where needed.

5. Windows, doors, and screens

The proposed project repairs upper-story windows where possible, replacing in-kind only where needed with 4:4 windows. Proposed replacements at first floor appear compatible; the project proposes re-opening arches where infilled. The proposed new door takes cues from the surrounding materials and style and appears appropriately recessed from the historic-age

storefront.

11. Commercial storefronts

See 5. The proposed awning is appropriate in style and based on photographic documentation of a previously removed awning. Furthermore, the presence of awnings was common on 19th-century buildings on 6th Street.

Summary

The project meets the applicable standards.

PROPERTY EVALUATION

The 2022 Sixth Street Snapshot Resurvey by McRostie Historic Advisors, LLC lists the property as contributing to the Sixth Street Historic District.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain high to moderate integrity. Decorative pilasters at first floor and awning have been removed, and windows and doors have been replaced.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). Staff has evaluated the property and determined that it may meet two criteria:
 - a. Architecture. The building is a good example of a nineteenth-century two-part commercial block.
 - b. Historical association. The property is associated with the A.W. Brill saddlery; Dr. Ben O. White, Jr.; and the furniture industry 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. As one of the oldest buildings on Sixth Street, the building may 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; however, more research is needed.
 - e. Landscape feature. The property was not evaluated for its ability to convey a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

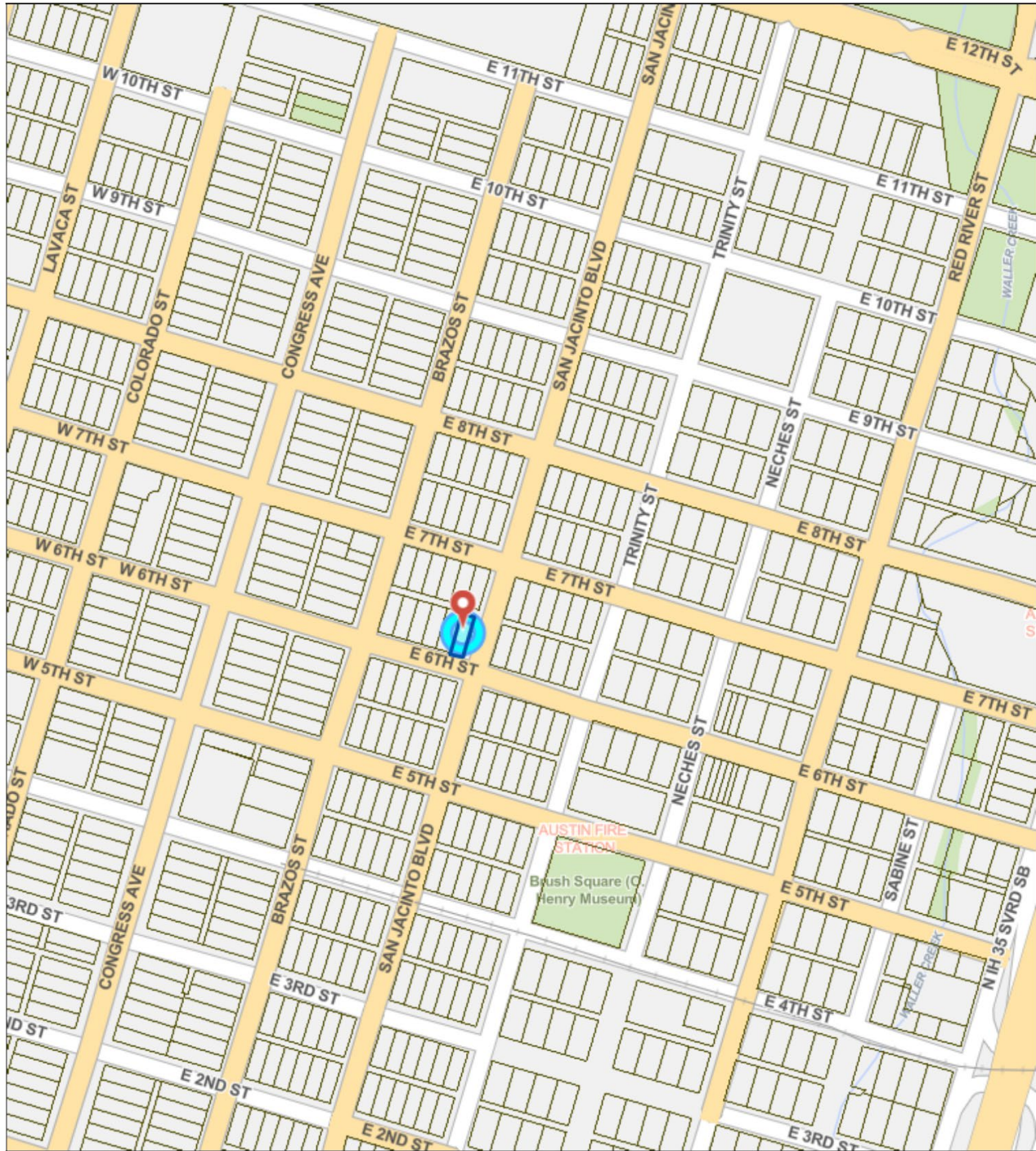
COMMITTEE FEEDBACK


Use 4:4 windows.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Comment on plans, encouraging applicant to retain applied decorative details at cornice. The applicant has amended the design to reflect Committee feedback.

LOCATION MAP






Lot Lines
Lot Line

1: 4800

12/27/2023

HR 23-160720
218 E 6TH STREET



CITY OF AUSTIN
FOUNDED 1839

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

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



McRostie Historic Advisors, LLC, 2022



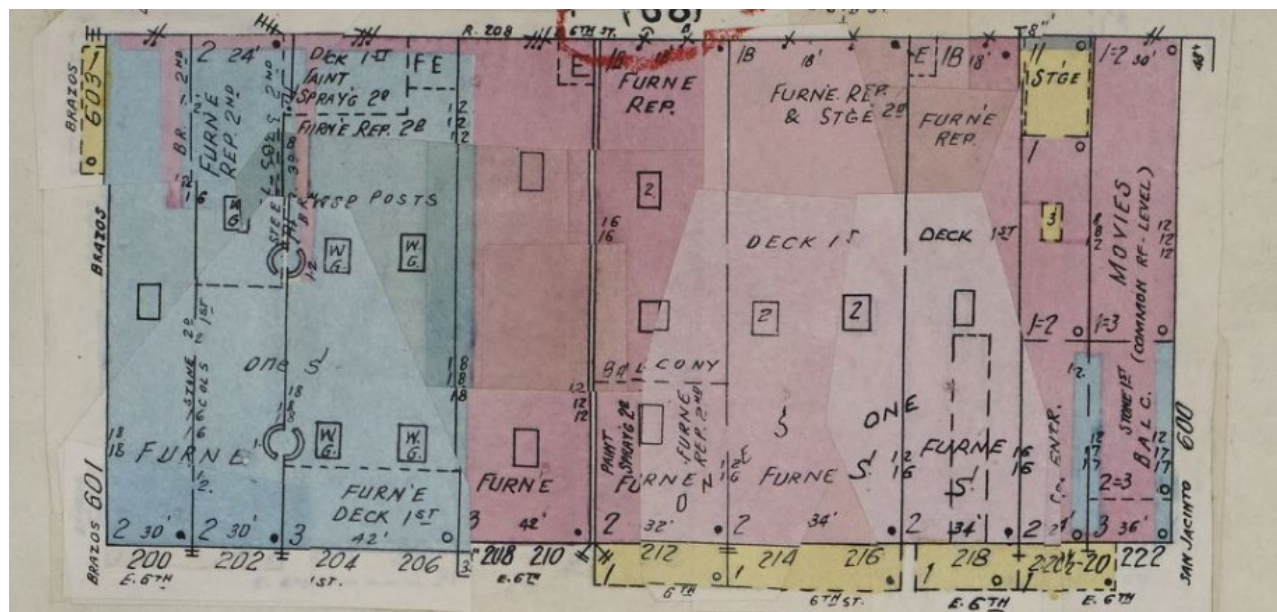
Portal to Texas History, 1970

Occupancy History

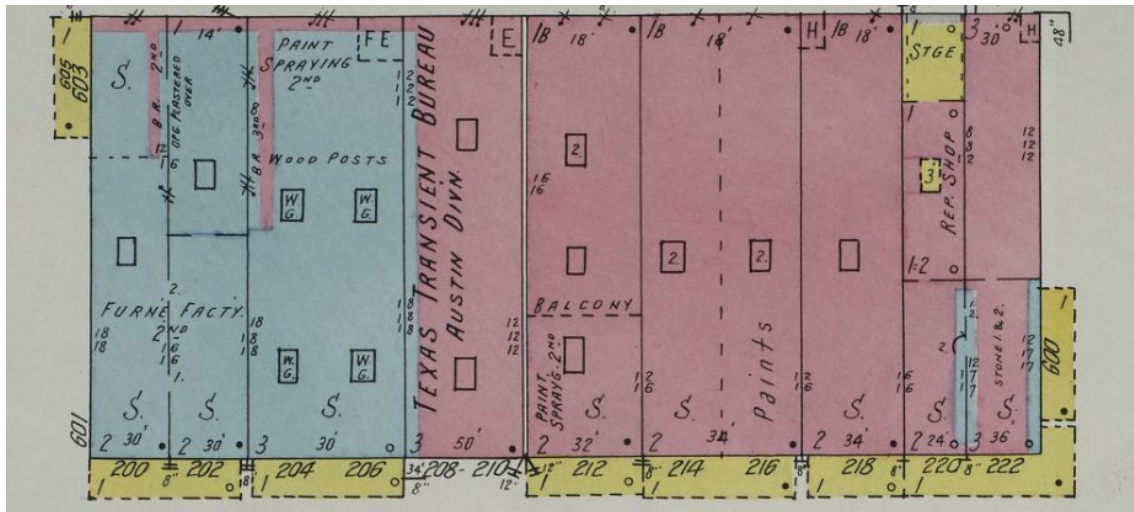
City Directory Research, July 2022

1959	Craddock Furniture Company
1955	Dayton Furniture Company
1952	Brown Furniture Company
1947	Brown Furniture Company
1944	Brown Furniture Company
1941	Brown Furniture Company
1937	Brown & Sellers Furniture Company
1932	Gregory Furniture Company
1927	A.W. Brill (harness)
1924	A.W. Brill (harness)
1920	A.W. Brill (harness)
1916	Vacant
1912	Swann Furniture & Carpet Company
1909	David G. Hodges (fruits)
1906	*Address likely listed as 212-218 E 6 th Street* Webb, Taylor & Perry
1895	August Fuhrman, Sr. (Gambrinus Hall)
1891	Rudolf Krause
1887	Schubert O. (Gambrinus)
1885	Gambrinus Saloon (O. Schubert) T. F. Purnell

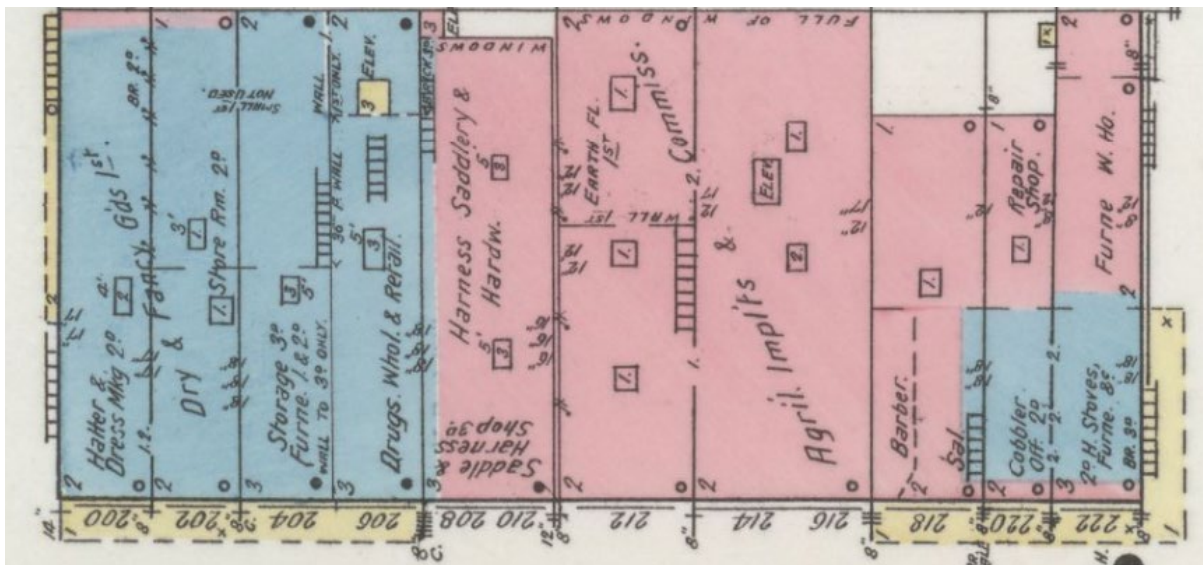
Historical information



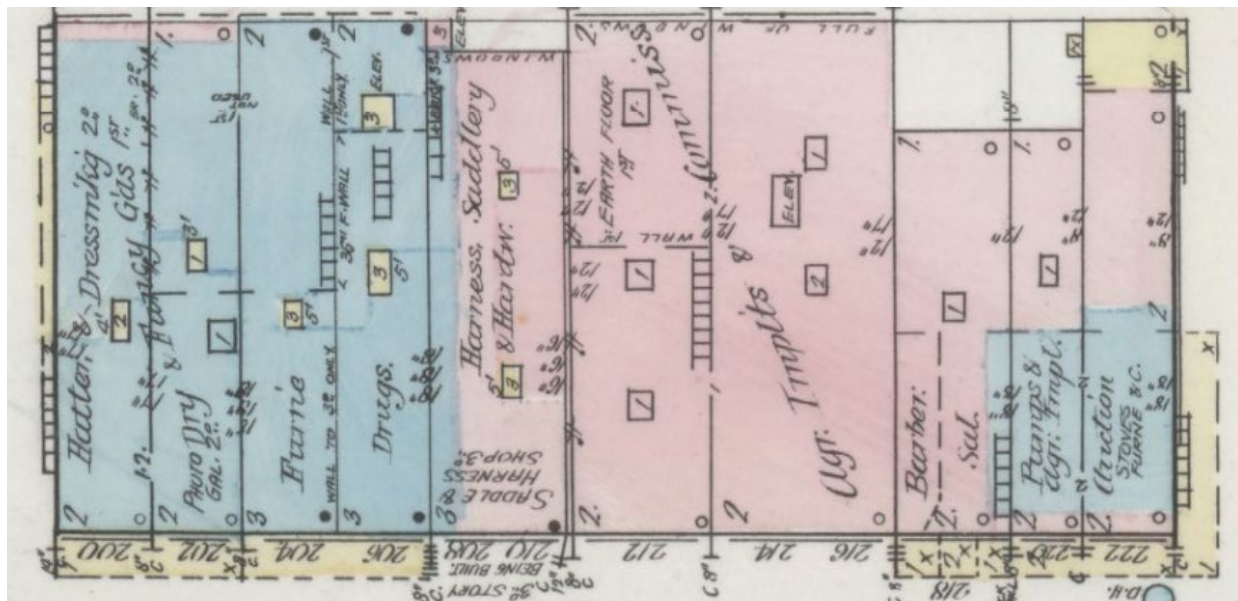
Sanborn map, 1962



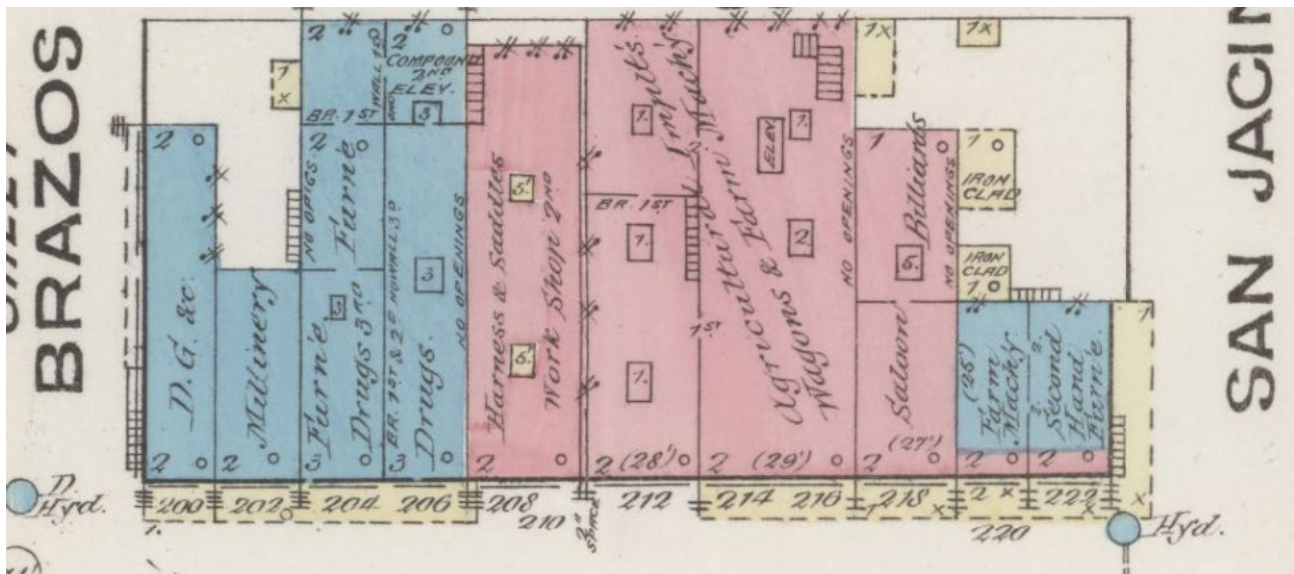
Sanborn map, 1935



Sanborn map, 1894



Sanborn map, 1889



Sanborn map, 1885

FOR RENT—Parties desiring a good outfit for fishing, hunting and other recreations, can secure a No. 1 double team, seating 8 persons, at reasonable terms by leaving orders at the Gambrinus saloon, E. Pecan street, or 27 W. Cedar street. **FRED SALTZER.**

DISASTROUS ACCIDENT.

Max Rector, while under the influence of benzine, tried to ride his horse into the Gambrinus saloon, which bit of pleasantry cost Max \$20 and costs. Robt. Klien also abandoned himself

The Austin Daily Statesman (1880-1889); Austin, Tex.. 12 June 1884: 3

The Austin Daily Statesman (1880-1889); Austin, Tex.. 07 Oct 1884: 4.

GAMBRINUS SALOON.

In writing up the various establishments of our city we are called upon to mention the above-named house, located at 218 East Sixth street, and presided over by Mr. August Fuhrmann, one of the most genial gentlemen in Austin. His establishment is fitted up for the comfort and convenience of his numerous patrons. The bar is stocked with a superb line of wines, whiskies, liquors and cigars, a specialty being made of bottled goods. Nothing but straight goods being sold over the counters. Mr. Fuhrmann has been a resident of Austin since 1871, and stands high in his particular line.

FUHRMANN & PETRI.

IN REPUBLICAN POLITICS.

THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SESSION IN THIS CITY YESTERDAY.

MARCH 3, SELECTED AS THE DAY

For the County Convention to Meet in This City—The Congressional Convention Meets Here March 5, and Promises to be Interesting.

The county Republican executive committee, under the call of the chairman, met yesterday at No. 218 East Sixth street at 12 o'clock noon, but a quorum not being present at that hour, an adjournment was had until 2 o'clock p. m. At that hour Chairman John H. Traynham of this city and William White of this city, secretary, and a quorum of the justices' precinct chairmen, who compose the county executive committee, were in their places and proceeded to business.

Austin Daily Statesman (1891-1902); Austin, Tex.. 22 Mar 1894: 10.

Austin Daily Statesman (1891-1902); Austin, Tex.. 20 Feb 1896: 8.

PS -
Insure your health in Prickly Ash Bitters. It regulates the system, promotes good appetite, sound sleep and cheerful spirits. For sale by C. O. Yates, Seventh and Congress Avenue; P. W. McFadden, 1401 Lavaca street; J. R. Carpenter, 218 East Sixth street.

Austin Daily Statesman (1891-1902); Austin, Tex.. 28 June 1902: 3.

Tires and a Full Line of Accessories Carried in stock. Webb, Taylor & Perry, 212-218 E. 6th St.

The Austin Statesman (1902-1915); Austin, Tex.. 14 Nov 1909: 20

*This Is
Clean-Up
Time*



PAINT Your Home Now!

The woodwork being dry, will absorb the paint and oil and it will last longer.

Do not use cheap paint and especially paste paint--time and money thrown away.

We are the largest dealers in Central Texas in

**Paints, Varnishes, Oils
Wall Paper, Hangings**

Quality Best---Prices Right

**Campbell's Paints, Col-
lier's White Lead, Midland
Linseed Oil**

GET IN TOUCH WITH US
 Old Phone 338 New Phone 338

Bradford-Dorflinger Co.

813 Congress Avenue TWO STORES 218 East Sixth Street

PS -
BUILDING PERMITS.

Mrs. A. Zander, 901 East Seventh Street, sleeping porch, \$50.
 Felix E. Smith, 218 East Sixth Street, addition to store, \$1250.

The Austin Statesman (1902-1915); Austin, Tex.. 24 Aug 1913: 5.

The Statesman (1916-1921); Austin, Tex.. 06 June 1917: 6

A. W. BRILL

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

SADDLERY — HARNESS

All Kinds and Grades of
Leather Shoe Findings

AUSTIN, TEXAS

218 East 6th Street

The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 08 Feb 1925: D5.

BRILL PRODUCTS SOLD WIDELY

An example of a business that sells its products over a nationwide territory without the need of advertising is that of A. W. Brill, manufacturer of saddlery and harness, at 302 East Sixth street.

The Brill products are known and used in virtually every state in the union—in fact the products advertise themselves, according to Mr. Brill, because of their excellent workmanship.

Most of the business done by the Brill firm is wholesale leather and shoe findings. The concern's immediate trade territory in this busi-

ness extends to West Texas, with regular orders going to the boot-makers at Junction, Brady and Mason where the cattlemen demand leather that comes from Brill's.

The Brill concern has been supplying the eleemosynary institutions of the state with leather, harness and shoe findings since 1912, Mr. Brill stated.

After being in business for eight years in the Felix Smith building at 218 East Sixth street, Mr. Brill moved to his own building at 302 East Sixth six weeks ago and his business has shown a splendid increase as a result, he said.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 22 Sep 1928: 10.

AUSTIN SADDLERY FIRM KNOWN THROUGHOUT NATION

An Austin firm that is known nation-wide is that of A. W. Brill, manufacturer of saddlery and harness, at 302 East Sixth street.

Mr. Brill started in business here in September, 1912, when he purchased the firm of Kluge Brothers, one of the pioneers in this line of business in Central Texas. For eight years Mr. Brill's establishment was located in the Felix Smith building at 218 East Sixth street but it has been in the present location for the past four months.

Associated with Mr. Brill are Charles Kluge, one of the most ex-

pert and best known belt and scabbard makers in this section of the country and Henry Kluge, who is bookkeeper for the concern. Two expert harness makers are also employed.

The Brill scabbards and officers belts are custom-made and hand-tooled and are in demand everywhere. The firm has supplied officers of both the Burns and Pinkerton detective agencies with these products and recently an order for 2500 scabbards was received from Detroit, according to Mr. Brill.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 20 Oct 1928: 8.

Gregory and Pepkin are opening a furniture store at 218 East Sixth street on Nov. 1 which building they leased for a term of years through O. G. Hofhelz rental agency.

Bennie White Returns

Bennie O. White, who has been attending the university school of medicine at Galveston, returned to Austin Thursday and will spend the summer here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben White.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 26 Oct 1928: 9.

The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 31 May 1931: A4.

3 More Come Out For City Council Spring Election

E. R. York, Tom Gregory
And Hilliare Nitschke
Announce

With the biennial spring city election less than a month away, the local political situation Saturday began to take definite shape and become more lively as three new candidates for the council announced definitely they would make the race.

The three announcing Saturday were:

EDWIN R. YORK, Austin attorney and former assistant adjutant general of Texas.

TOM C. GREGORY, East Sixth street furniture dealer.

HILLIARE F. NITSCHKE, Austin attorney and former tire merchant of Austin.

Entry of these three men into the

Gregory for Cutting Expenses

Mr. Gregory said his announcement came after a number of friends had urged him to run for one of the five council places. He is 56 years of age, has lived in Austin 32 years, and is owner of the Gregory furniture company, 218 East Sixth street.

"I am running independently of any ticket on a platform that calls for cutting city expenses wherever I believe they can be reduced without serious damage to the city government," Mr. Gregory said.

"I shall try to please all of the people of Austin to the best of my ability if I am elected."

The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 05 Mar 1933: 1.



TOM C. GREGORY

TOM C. GREGORY, independent candidate, is 56 years of age and has lived in Austin for the past 32 years. He is the owner of the Gregory Furniture company at 218 East Sixth street.

Mr. Gregory makes his home at 803 Oakland avenue. He was born in La Grange and came to Austin after residing at La Grange, Smithville, Waco and Hillsboro. He was one of the first residents of the eastern portion of the old 10th ward, building the first house in the area between Waller street and Montopolis bridge, which was located at 2001 East First street.

Mr. Gregory said he entered the race for the city council upon the solicitation of numerous friends. The council, after its organization, should carefully investigate the essential needs of the city and try to fill these needs first. Present day conditions, he added, demand a new deal from top to bottom. He said he favors an economical administration, construction of the low water dam,

One-Half the City Election Entry List. The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 02 Apr 1933: 4.

Head New Furniture Firm



Photo by Jensen Studio



Photo by Jensen Studio

J. S. Brown, left, and C. A. Sellers, right, are now partners in the Brown-Sellers Furniture company, formerly the H. B. Lee Furniture company, located at 218 East Sixth. Although this is a new firm, both Mr. Brown and Mr. Sellers have years of furniture experience in Austin behind them.

The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 19 July 1936: 113.

Quality Stressed By Brown-Sellers

Convenient Terms Are Offered

The Brown - Sellers Furniture company is one of Austin's youngest and most progressive furniture stores. The company started in business here in 1935, and since that time has made a rapid growth. The store is located at 218 East Sixth street.

The company is owned and managed by J. S. Brown, who has been in the furniture business in Austin for the past 15 years. Since its beginning the store has observed a policy of dealing in fine quality furniture sold at low prices and of extending to the patrons convenient easy low terms handled in a dignified way, Mr. Brown pointed out.

Customers Slick

"We believe this is why a large percentage of our customers continue to buy all their furniture needs from us after they have once availed themselves of our service," he added.

"Even though we are only one and one-half blocks from Congress avenue, we find that we are able to make better prices on our merchandise. One of the reasons we are able to offer furniture without a carrying charge attached to the purchase is because we are out of the high rental districts of the city."

Complete Store

The Brown - Sellers Furniture company today is a complete furniture store, handling furniture from leading manufacturers of the nation. Among the prominent lines carried in the store are Crosley radios, refrigerators and washing machines, Auto gas ranges, Tennessee red cedar and Bluebird cedar chests, Cavalier and Camden bedroom suites, lawn furniture, shades and floor coverings as well as fine living room, bedroom and dining room suites.

In addition to new furniture, the firm handles used furniture, radios, refrigerators and other home furnishings at exceptionally low prices.

"We invite comparative prices on a single piece of furniture up to furniture for the complete home," Mr. Brown stated.

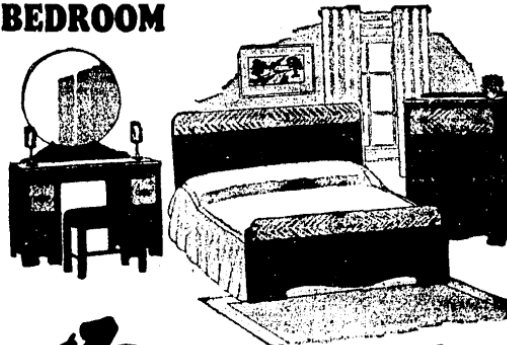
The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 05 June 1938: A6

3-PIECE MODERN BEDROOM

SUITE EXACTLY AS
ILLUSTRATED

A NOTICE AND AN APOLOGY

We wish to thank the many customers who bought this bedroom suite during our last special and to apologize to those who failed to get theirs due to a shortage of stock. We wish to announce that we have 12 more of these suites to offer during this special at this sensationally low price. Come early before they are gone ... avoid disappointment again.



\$1 Down ONLY **\$36.50**

BUY
ON A
BUDGET!

BROWN
FURNITURE CO.

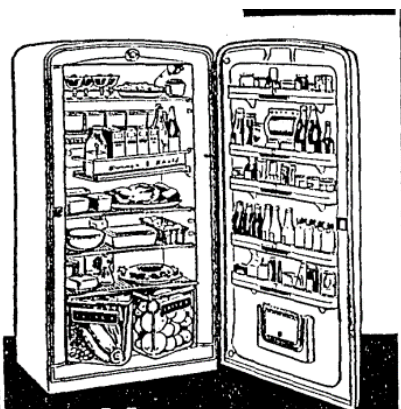
SHOP
OUR
WINDOWS

218 EAST 6th ST.

FORMERLY BROWN-SELLERS CO.

PHONE 4444

The Austin American (1914-1973); Austin, Tex.. 13 Nov 1938: 8.



world premier
of the first refrigerator designed
for the modern family... NEW

GIBSON
"market master"

- 30% more usable fresh-food storage area.
- No freezer compartment
- True automatic defrosting
- New "radiant" cooling
- Lowest price — biggest value
- Exclusive Gibson Swing-Out Servers

Priced 30% under most dealers
on ex. & substitutions of only

\$299⁹⁵

We have it!

We have it!

Dayton Furniture

218 EAST 6th

PHONE 2-0534

LEGALS

In Bankruptcy No. 1736

In the matter of
Merlin Dayton, Bankrupt—

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of April, 1958 at 2:00 P.M. at 218 East 6th St., the assets of the above named bankrupt will be offered for sale to the highest bidder free and clear of all liens and encumbrances.

The assets consist of the stock of merchandise which inventories \$5,600.52 consisting of new furniture, also furniture and fixtures valued at \$380.00 consisting of typewriter, cash register, file cabinets, desk, chairs, show cases, etc.

A 10% deposit in cash or its equivalent is required of all bidders. Bids will be accepted subject to confirmation of the Court.

For further information regarding the sale and examination of the assets and inventory, contact Horace C. Barnhart Jr., Trustee, 1103 Capital National Bank Building, P. O. Box 1016, phone GR 2-7271.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 14 Mar 1955: 10.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 18 Apr 1958: 24.

NURSERY DISCUSSION — Miss Frances Harris, left, director of the Austin Community Nursery, a United Fund agency located at Meadowbrook Housing Project, discusses plans for a new nursery building with Mrs. Peter Flawn, retiring board president, and Mrs. Dorothy Casey, new president. The day care center for children of working mothers will move into new quarters, across from the old

building, in February. Officers serving with Mrs. Casey are Mrs. William R. Penn, vice president; Miss Georgia Lucas, secretary; and Father Edward Jordan, treasurer. New board members are Dr. John King, Dr. Phyllis Richards and Dr. and Mrs. Norman Prentice. Continuing members are Mrs. Robert Sneed, Mr. and Mrs. James Lindeman, Miss Mary Finks, Mrs. J. Darrouzet and Dr. Ben White.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Austin, Tex.. 07 June 1966: 7

Permits

Address: 218 E 6TH ST Permit: 205775 Plat: 8
 Lot: A of 5 Block: 68 Subdivision: Original City
 Fire Zone: C-2-4H Occupancy: Remodel 3rd Floor of existing Bldg
 Use Dist. 11-20-80 Framing 5/15/80 Final Commercial

Foundation	Floor joist size & o.c.	Bldg. Conn.	Parking
Front setback	ceiling joist size & o.c.	Room Vent.	Exits
Total & Min. side yard	stud size & o.c.	Stairs	Exit lights
Side St. Yard	2x7	Rails	Fences
	16	Attic Vent.	Corridors
		Insulation	
Type Const.	W. Insulation	Hood Vent.	
Spec. Permit #	Sheetrock	Glass	
BOA	Commercial Sheetrock	Deadbolts	
	Occup. Sep. Thru out	Fireplaces	

 Owner: Dr. B.O. White Contractor: Proctor Office Corp

Building permit, 1980

ADDRESS: 218 E 6TH PERMIT: 118408 PLAT: 8
 LOT: Block SUB: ORIG CITY
 FIRE ZONE F USE DIST: C 4TH OCCUPANCY: TINER

LAYOUT		5-25-70		FRAMING		9-3-70		FINAL		ROOF OVERHANG	
PRINC. BLDG.	ACC. BLDG.			PRINC. BLDG.	ACC. BLDG.			PRINC. BLDG.	ACC. BLDG.	PRINC. BLDG.	
FOUNDATION		FLOOR JOIST SIZE & O.C.		NECESSARY BLDG. CONN.				ACC. BLDG.			
FR. SETBACK		CEILING JOIST SIZE & O.C.		ROOM VENTILATION				PAVED PARKING			
TOTAL & MIN. SIDE YD.		STUD SIZE & O.C.		STAIRS REQ. & NO.				* METAL STUDS			✓
SIDE STREET YARD		MASONRY WALL		ATTIC FIRE STOPS REQ.				* 98 F.G. S.R.			✓
								* DOOR TO BOOTH			✓
								* 8" LABEL			✓
								* W. CLOSET			✓
								* 500 TIF			✓
								* AUTO. SHUTTER			✓
								* AUTO. CLOSER			✓
								* EXHIT LIGHT			✓
								* PANIC HORN			✓

 OWNER: ACT 5-13-70 CONTRACTOR: 5-25-70
11-1-70

Building permit, 1970

OWNER Dr. B.O. White ADDRESS 218 East 6th street
 PLAT 8 LOT 5 BLK 68
 SUBDIVISION Original City
 OCCUPANCY Canopy
 OWNERS
 BLD PERMIT # 118408 DATE 8-10-70 ESTIMATE \$800.00
 CONTRACTOR Simon Bldg. Sales & Conn. OF FIXTURES
 WATER TAP REC # Exist SEWER TAP REC # Exist
 Repair canopy to comm bldg.

Building permit, 1970