Texas Historical Commission staff (AD), 4/28/2009, rev. 7/14/2009, rev. 7/17/2009
Official Texas Historical Medallion and 16" x 12" plaque without post for attachment to brick Travis County (Job #09TV04) Subject (Atlas) UTM: 14 620824E 3350059N
Location: Austin, 1306 Guadalupe St.

ADAMS-ZILLER HOUSE

AUGUSTA ADAMS (CA. 1817-1907), A WIDOW AND OF MECKLENBERG, NATIVE GERMANY. IMMIGRATED TO TEXAS AND PURCHASED LAND AT THIS SITE IN 1857. THIS MODEST STRUCTURE WAS CONSTRUCTED CIRCA 1868. AUGUSTA LATER MARRIED HERMAN HERTEL. HER TWO DAUGHTERS, MARY AND THERESA ADAMS, MARRIED BROTHERS AUGUST AND WILLIAM ZILLER, SONS OF ONE OF AUSTIN'S EARLIEST SETTLERS, MICHAEL ZILLER. THE REMAINED IN THE ZILLER FAMILY UNTIL 1955, AND WAS SAVED FROM DEMOLITION DURING THE 1990s. THE ONE-STORY RESIDENCE FEATURES A CENTER-PASSAGE PLAN WITH CHIMNEYS ON THE GABLE ENDS, AND BUFF BRICK LAID IN A COMMON BOND PATTERN.

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK – 2009

MARKER IS PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK MARKERS: 2009 Official Texas Historical Marker

Sponsorship Application Form

Valid October 15, 2008 to January 15, 2009 only

This form constitutes a public request for the Texas Historical Commission (THC) to consider approval of an Official Texas Historical Marker for the topic noted in this application. The THC will review the request and make its determination based on rules and procedures of the program. Filing of the application for sponsorship is for the purpose of providing basic information to be used in the evaluation process. The final determination of eligibility and therefore approval for a state marker will be made by the THC. This form is to be used for Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (building marker) requests only. Please see separate forms for either Historic Texas Cemeteries or subject markers.

Proposed marker topic (official title will be determined by the THC): Augusta Adams House

County: Travis

Town (nearest county town on current state highway map): Austin

Street address of marker site or directions from town noted above: 1306 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas 78701

Marker Coordinates:

If you know the location coordinates of the proposed marker site, enter them in one of the formats below: UTM Zone 14 Easting 620824 Northing 3350059

Lat: 30.276203 Long: -97.743813 (deg, min, sec or decimal degrees)

Otherwise, give a precise verbal description here (e.g. northwest corner of 3rd and Elm, or FM 1411, 2.6 miles east of McWhorter Creek): Southwest corner of 14th Street and Guadalupe Street

NOTE: Recorded Texas Historic Landmark markers must be placed at the structure being marked.

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark markers definition: Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) markers are awarded to structures deemed worthy of preservation for their historical associations and architectural significance. RTHL is a legal designation and comes with a measure of protection; it is the highest honor the state can bestow on a historic structure, and the designation is required for this type of marker. The RTHL designation becomes effective upon approval by the THC. Official Texas Historical Markers signify the RTHL designation, which comes only through application to and approval by the THC and must include public display of an Official Texas Historical Marker. Owners of RTHL-designated structures must give the THC 60 days written notice before any alterations are made to the exterior of the structure. RTHL status is a permanent designation and is not to be removed from the property in the event of a transfer of ownership. Only the THC can remove the designation or recall the marker. The marker must remain with the structure and may not be removed or displayed elsewhere until or unless the THC gives express approval in writing for such action. Once designated as RTHL, properties are subject to provisions of Texas Government Code, Section 442.006(f).

Criteria:

- 1. **Age:** Structures eligible for the RTHL designation and marker must be at least 50 years old.
- 2. Historical significance: Architectural significance alone is not enough to qualify a structure for the RTHL designation. It must have an equally significant historical association, and that association can come from an event that occurred at the site; through individuals who owned or lived on the property; or, in the case of bridges, industrial plants, schoolhouses and other non-residential properties, through documented significance to the larger community.
- 3. **Architectural significance:** Structures deemed architecturally significant are outstanding examples of architectural history through design, materials, structural type or construction methods. In all cases, eligible architectural properties must display integrity; that is, the structure should be in a good state of repair, maintain its appearance from its period of significance and be considered an exemplary model of preservation. Architectural significance is often best determined by the relevance of the property to broader contexts, including geography. Any changes over the years should be compatible with original design and reflect compliance with accepted preservation practices, e.g., the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.
- 4. **Good state of repair:** Structures not considered by the THC to be in a good state of repair are ineligible for RTHL designation. The THC reserves the sole right to make that determination relative to eligibility for RTHL markers.

Special National Register considerations for RTHL marker applications: If a structure has been individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under either Criterion A or B **and** Criterion C (Architecture), the historical text compiled as part of the National Register nomination process may be submitted as part of the marker process, provided it includes the required reference notes and other documentation. Acceptance of the National Register information for the purposes of the marker process will be up to the sole determination of the THC. Listing in the NRHP does not guarantee approval for an RTHL marker. See the THC web site at http://www.thc.state.tx.us/markerdesigs/madnrcrit.html for National Register criteria.

Check this box if the property is individually listed in the NRHP.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Any individual, group or county historical commission (CHC) may apply to the THC to request an Official Texas Historical Marker for what it deems a worthy topic. Only complete marker applications that contain all the required elements and are submitted online as required can be accepted or processed by the THC (for RTHL markers, the required elements are: sponsorship application form; narrative history; documentation; legal description of the property; site plan; floorplan; historic photograph; and current photographs clearly showing each side of the structure).

- Completed applications must be duly reviewed, verified and approved by the county historical commission (CHC) in the county in which the marker will be placed.
- The sponsorship application form, narrative history and documentation must be submitted as Microsoft Word or Word-compatible documents and sent via email attachments to the THC by no later than January 15, 2008.
- Required font style and type size are a Times variant and 12-point.
- Narrative histories must be typed in a double-spaced (or 1.5-spaced) format and include separate sections on context, overview, significance and documentation.
- The narrative history must include documentation in the form of reference notes, which can be either footnotes or endnotes. Documentation associated with applications should be broad-based and demonstrate a survey of all available resources, both primary and secondary.
- Upon notification of the successful preliminary review of required elements by the THC, a non-refundable application fee of \$100 is required. The fee shall be submitted to the THC within ten working days of application receipt notification.

APPROVAL BY COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The duly appointed marker representative (chair or marker chair) noted below for the county historical commission will be the sole contact with the THC for this marker application. To ensure accuracy, consistency and efficiency, all information from and to the THC relative to the application—and throughout the review and production processes—will be via direct communication with the CHC representative. All other inquiries (calls, emails, letters) to the THC will be referred to the CHC representative for response. By filling out the information below and filing the application with the THC, the CHC representative is providing the THC with notice that the application and documentation have been reviewed and verified by the CHC and that the material meets all current requirements of the Official Texas Historical Marker program.

As chair or duly appointed marker chair, I certify the following:

x Representatives of the CHC have met or talked with the potential marker sponsor and discussed the marker program policies as outlined on the THC web site. CHC members have reviewed the history and documentation for accuracy and made corrections or notes as necessary. It is the determination of the CHC that the topic, history and documentation meet criteria for eligibility.

CHC comments or concerns about this application, if any:

Name of CHC contact (chair or marker chair): Marty Moulthrop, Marker Chair

Mailing address: 7400 Anaqua Drive City, Zip: Austin 78750

jmoulthrop@austin.rr.com

PERMISSION OF PROPERTY OWNER FOR MARKER PLACEMENT

Property owner: W. Amon Burton and Carol Burton for Walnut-Guadalupe Joint Venture

Address: 1306 Guadalupe City, state, zip: Austin, Texas 78701

Phone: 512/473-8903 **Email address:** amonburton@sbcglobal.net and robinwhitt@sbcglobal.net

Legal Description of the property (metes and bounds, lot and block, etc.): Lot 5-A, Book 156, Original City of Austin

Upon receipt of the application, the THC will provide the owner with a letter that outlines the legal responsibility of ownership under the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark statute. The letter must be signed by the owner and returned to the THC before the evaluation can be completed.

NOTE: The property owner will not receive any additional copies of correspondence from the THC. All other correspondence—notice of receipt, request for additional information, payment notice, inscription, shipping notice, etc.—will be sent via email to the CHC representative, who is encouraged to share the information with all interested parties as necessary. Given the large volume of applications processed annually and the need for centralized communication, all inquiries about applications in process will be referred to the CHC for response. The CHC is the sole liaison to the THC on all marker application matters.

SPONSORSHIP PAYMENT INFORMATION

Prospective sponsors please note the following:

- Payment must be received in full within 45 days of the official approval notice and must be accompanied by the THC payment form. The THC is unable to process partial payments or to delay payment due to processing procedures of the sponsor. Applications not paid in the time frame required may, at the sole discretion of the THC, be cancelled or postponed.
- Payment does not constitute ownership of a marker; Recorded Texas Historic Landmark markers and other Official Texas Historical Markers are the property of the State of Texas.
- If, at any time during the marker process, sponsorship is withdrawn, a refund can be processed, but the THC will retain the application fee of \$100.
- The Official Texas Historical Marker Program provides no means of recognizing sponsors or property owners through marker text, incising or supplemental plaques.

Marker sponsor (may be individual or organization): W. Amon Burton

Contact person (if applicable): W. Amon Burton

Mailing address: 1306 Guadalupe City, zip: Austin 78701

Email address (required): amonburton@sbcglobal.net Phone: 512/573-8903

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

In order to facilitate delivery of the marker, neither post office box numbers nor rural route numbers can be accepted. To avoid additional shipping charges or delays, use a business street address (open 8 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday through Friday).

Name: W. Amon Burton

Street address: 1306 Guadalupe City, zip: Austin 78701

Daytime phone (required): 512/473-8903 Email (required): amonburton@sbcglobal.net

TYPE AND SIZE OF RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK MARKERS

As part of its review process, the THC will determine the appropriate size marker and provide options, if any, for the approved topic based on its own review criteria, including, but not exclusive of, historical significance, replication of information in other THC markers, relevance to the Statewide Preservation Plan and the amount of available documented information provided in the application narrative. In making its determination, however, the THC will also take into account the preference of the CHC, as noted below.

The sponsor/CHC prefers the following size marker:
27" x 42" RTHL marker with post (\$1500)
27" X 42" RTHL marker without post* (\$1500)
18" x 28" RTHL marker with post (\$1000)
18" x 28" RTHL marker without post* (\$1000)
RTHL medallion and 16" x 12" plaque with post (\$750)
X RTHL medallion and 16" x 12" plaque without post* (\$750)
*For an RTHL marker without post, indicate to what surface material it will be mounted:
wood
X masonry

metal
other (specify)

SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION (via email required)

When the CHC has determined the application is complete, the history has been verified and the topic meets the requirements of the Official Texas Historical Marker Program, the materials should be forwarded to the THC via email at the following address: markerapplication@thc.state.tx.us.

- The CHC or marker chair should send an email containing the following attachments (see attachment function under file menu or toolbox on your computer):
 - This application form
 - The narrative history (including documentation)
 - Legal description of the property
 - Detailed floor plan for each floor of the structure
 - Detailed site plan of the property
 - At least one historic photograph
 - Current photographs clearly showing each side of the structure

RECORDS RETENTION BY CHC: The CHC must retain hard copies of the application as well as an online version, at least for the duration of the marker process. The THC is not responsible for lost applications, for incomplete applications or for applications not properly filed according to the program requirements. For additional information about any aspect of the Official Texas Historical Marker Program, see the Markers page on the THC web site (http://www.thc.state.tx.us/markerdesigs/madmark.html).

Official Texas Historical Marker Historical Narrative 1306 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas Amon Burton

When Augusta Adams arrived by oxcart to the Texas hill country in 1857, the state's blossoming capitol was experiencing a steady and natural growth. Seeds were being laid within the bounds of Edwin Waller's 1839 grid of the city within the heart of what we know to be downtown Austin today. By the time this German widow reached Austin with her two young daughters, there was a small state capitol building, a hardware store, a school for the deaf, an insane asylum, a governor's mansion, a mill, two churches and a cemetery. ¹

Augusta Adams arrived during a period of unparalleled growth. The 1850 census showed Austin's population to be at 629 while that of 1860 jumped to 3494—a 445.4% increase in the population within the city's limits.²

The mood matched the growth as one of hope—stately porched homes adorned with elegant verandas and columns were constructed by newcomers, government offices became more defined and people celebrated life with horse races, barbeques and musical concerts.

Born into a wealthy German family, after both her husband and father had died, Augusta Adams left for America by way of Indianola in order to avoid political turmoil. Her arrival demonstrated a solidity of will and the strong clear vision of a new world's potential. Augusta Adams' grandson, Robert Ziller, remembered his grandmother as a pioneer spirit, full of endurance during trying times: along with her husband and fathers' deaths, her two brothers were killed in war, their family fortune was depleted and her safety in her birthplace became compromised and fleeting.³

Despite hardships, however, Augusta Adams did come equipped with her family's silver and other valuables she then used to acquire Lots 5 and 6, Block 156 in the City of Austin where she would build a home for her family on Lot 6 (403 West 14th Street) and

³ Wadene C. Harrison, History of 1306 Guadalupe (Austin, Texas), p.3

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¹ Early History of Austin, Texas http://www.utexas.edu/course/mis311f/history/Austin.htm

² Mary Starr Barkley, History of Travis County and Austin 1839-1899 (Austin, Texas:

The Steck Company, Second Edition, September 1967) p. 46.

later, on Lot 5 the houses now known as 1306 and 1304 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas. It is not certain exactly when the structure at 1306 Guadalupe, which is located at the southwest corner of 14th and Guadalupe Streets, Austin, Texas, was built, but we know, according to tax records, that it was sometime before September 7, 1868. Further, it is documented in a Letter Patent signed by Governor E. M. Pease that Augusta Adams obtained this land on February 23, 1857 so it can be assumed that the structure was built after this time. Today two modest buildings at 1306 and 1304 Guadalupe stand nearly mirroring their original construction—their effect, a succinct glimpse into our state capitol's beginnings. That their original construction and design have remained almost entirely uncompromised is remarkable. Many buildings erected similarly during this early era have since been demolished.

There were three buildings on the two lots: one was the residence located on Lot 6, 403 West 14th Street where Augusta Adams and her new husband, Herman Hertel, lived with Augusta's two daughters, and later with their daughters' families. The residence at 403 West 14th Street was later demolished and is now used as a parking lot. Fortunately, the two buildings constructed on Lot 5 still exist. The brick cottage at 1306 Guadalupe is believed to have been constructed in 1868 and was used as a residence by the Secretary of State, of Texas, W. C. Phillips.⁴ The second building, a wood structure, was built between 1873 and 1881 or 1882. It was most likely used as a private school for girls where both Mary and Theresa, at different times, taught.

At the time 1306 Guadalupe was built, what is now the University of Texas was a native American camping site. Robert Ziller remembered from stories told, the native people would come to Augusta Adams' house to exchange bear meat for spring water and other goods.⁵

A major asset to the history of the house at 1306 Guadalupe is its connection to the Ziller family, one of the earliest families in Austin. Augusta's two daughters, Mary and Theresa, married two brothers, August Ziller and William Ziller, the son of Michael Ziller, one of Austin's original settlers. Michael Ziller came to Austin from France in 1834 and built the first stone building in downtown Austin—at 601 Congress, the current

⁴ Harrison, p. 6.

⁵ Harrison, p. 3.

location of the Littlefield Building. Both Mary and Theresa are documented to have been teachers at the private school for girls. Theresa Ziller and Mary Adams Ziller were school teachers and during the time of its operation, the school was attended by many young girls from the community at the cost of \$3.00 per month. Margaret Graham, the granddaughter of Governor Pease and Ima Hogg, the daughter of Governor Stephen Hogg, were pupils at the school.

Ima Hogg's attendance is of particular note because of her own personal historical significance. The enormous contribution she made to Texas as a philanthropist and patron of the Arts, is felt throughout our state today. "Miss Ima," as she was known throughout her life, was eight years old when her father was elected Governor, and very likely a student at the girl's school at the time. Ima Hogg's contributions to the social well-being and stimulus of the arts are innumerable. An accomplished pianist, she helped found and later became the President of the Houston Symphony in the early 1900s. She was a proponent of equal rights and valued education. In 1943, she was elected, as a democrat, to the school board and worked to establish symphony concerts for school children, equal pay for teachers regardless of race or sex, and a painting to music program in public schools, among other things. She was the first female president of the Philosophical Society of Texas in 1946 and served on a committee appointed by Dwight Eisenhower for the planning of a Cultural Center, known today as the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. ⁶ Suffice to say, her indelible mark on this state's history resonates in the society today and her memory is one of inspiration and hope. That she began her schooling within the classroom walls of 1306 Guadalupe is an attribute to the building's legacy.

In 1860, the bright era of the last decade developed a thick grey cloud above its head. The state capitol was marred by talk of secession and the minds of the people were consumed by the looming thought of war. In 1861, the Travis Rifles and Tom Green Rifles gathered in groups to head to war and Sam Houston, the revered leader and founding father of Texas, died. During the civil war, no state funds were available for public schools and in effect, the only things available were private schools. After the war, when the public school system became centralized, the populace was bitter about the 1869 Reconstruction Rule which took power from local county judges as superintendents

⁶ New Handbook of Texas, volume 3. The Texas State Historical Association, 1996.

and gave it to a more bureaucratic entity called the "superintendent of public instruction." As a result, the people kept their children in private schools. There are varying accounts of the number of private schools during the time but it is estimated that nearly four hundred students were being educated in around twelve schools by 1879, including a school run by Mary Ziller.

The Ziller family became a very prominent family in Austin and today, remains one of the oldest. Native to the city, Mary and Theresa's husbands were closely involved with many of the city's most famous historical figures including Governor Stephen Hogg. August and William's father, Michael, immigrated from France after serving under Napolean. He worked in freight and eventually helped construct the first stone building in the city, now Littlefield at 601 Congress Avenue.

August Ziller was a very esteemed public figure, heralded for his various positions in the community including a volunteer for the fire department and a veteran of the Civil War. Robert Ziller, the son of August and Mary and grandson of Augusta Adams, recalls that the house at 1306 Guadalupe is remembered to have many prominent figures mingling within its corridors, socializing with the Zillers. He even fondly remembers sprawling out on the floor atop a bear-skin rug beside the fireplace while his elders talked about the direction of Texas' future.

The property on Guadalupe remained in the Ziller family until 1955 when Robert Ziller sold it to a Marjorie and Adair Lockman who used it as a residence. A photograph taken in 1971 shows 1306 Guadalupe as a furniture store called Jack Scheib. In June 1996 the building was purchased by W. Amon Burton and his wife, Carol C. Burton, on behalf of Walnut-Guadalupe Joint Venture. In order to acquire the historic house at 1306 Guadalupe, they had to file a lawsuit to prevent the house from being torn down for a parking lot. Today, the house is used as an office for Mr. Burton's law practice.

The significance of this structure is many-fold. Most notably, that a young woman arrived against many odds, by oxcart to obtain her own plot of land and construct a dwellings for her and her family. That the family's pioneering spirit led to the establishment of a modest but thriving school is a remarkable page in history. And that, along the course of their lives, the Adams' and the Zillers found themselves at the center

⁷ Barkley, p. 169

of a prospering and burgeoning town that would years later become the esteemed city we live in today, is something we should honor as historians.

Bibliography

Austin American Statesman, July 23, 1965, "Buildings to be Demolished."

Barkley, Mary Starr, <u>History of Travis County and Austin 1839-1899</u> (Austin, Texas: the Steck Company, Second Edition, September 1967).

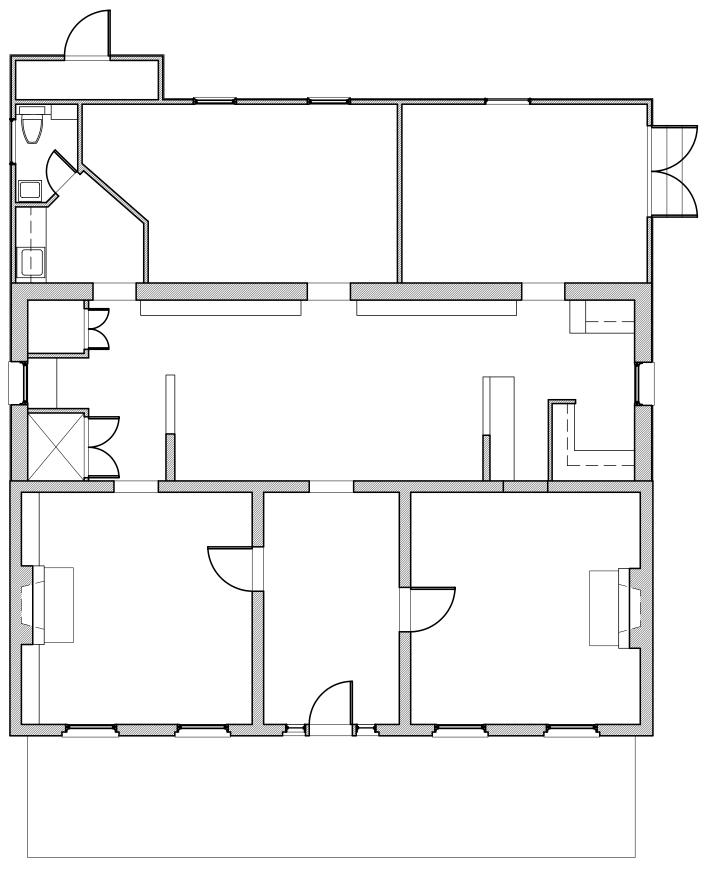
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Harrison, Wadene C., Documented History of 1306 Guadalupe (Austin, Texas).

Long, Willie Madora, <u>Education in Austin Before Public Schools</u> (Austin, Texas, University of Texas at Austin Masters Thesis, 1952).

New Handbook of Texas, Volume 3, The Texas State Historical Association 1996.

Interview: Ziller, Jack L., family member, July 2004.





1306 Guadalupe Austin, Texas 78701



Lot 6 N 18° 56′07′E Z 70° 36'40"E 69° ON' ALLEY 59'33"W 5.0673.F. LOT 5B ONE STORY BRICK & STUCCO RESIDENCE 68.87 deck 40.3 0 156 20.3 ONE STORY WOOD BUILDING (69.007) 10.3 CONC CONIC 0 54.9 CONE Walk 129,53' ,6 (128.0") S 18° 59′50°W 1304 Guadalupe 1306 Guadalupe GUADALUPE STREET

09TV04 Hertel-Ziller House-Notes:

(all web pages accessed 4/28/2009)

Augusta (Adams) Hertel obituary, located at http://www.austintxgensoc.org/records/obits.php

HERTEL, Mrs. Augusta Hertel, aged 90 years [b. 1817], died at an early hour yesterday morning after a lingering illness at the home of her son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. August Ziller, 506 West Fourteenth street. She was born in Germany and came to Texas when quite a young woman, and for the past fifty years has made her home in this city, seeing it grow from a little village. Austin paper, Dec 1, 1907.

US Federal Census, 1860
Austin, Travis County, Texas
Series: M653 Roll: 1306 Page: 272
Adams, A.
36 years old [b. 1824]
Female
Widow
b. in Mecklenburg
(also in house, M. Adams, 12 yrs., b. in Mecklenburg; T. Adams, 10 yrs, b. in Mecklenburg; Mary Cone [Kohn?], 72 yrs. widow, born in Mecklenburg)

US Federal Census, 1870 Austin, Travis County, Texas Series: M593 Roll: 1606 Page: 305 Hertel, Augusta (Herman Hertel is HoH) 42 years old [b. 1848] Keeping house Born in Mecklenburg

US Federal Census, 1880
4th Ward, Austin, Travis County, Texas (Walnut Street)
Series: T9 Roll: 1329 Page: 206
Hertel, Augusta
63 yrs old [b. 1817]
Born in Mecklenburg
Keeps house
Her two daughters & Ziller bros. living w/ her(daughter listed as Theresa ADAM, not ADAMS)

US Federal Census, 1900 Pct. 3, Austin, Travis County, Texas Series: T623 Roll: 1673 Page: 50

Hertel, Agusta
Boarder w/ Aug Ziller
b. Apr 1817
83 yrs old
Widow
Mother of 2 children, 2 living
Occupation, landlord
Can read, can write, can speak English

Oakwood Cemetery inventory, located at http://files.usgwarchives.net/tx/travis/cemeteries/oakwood4.txt Hertel, Herman 1877 1
Hertel, Augusta 1817 1907 1













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