

BOCKMAN-ESTRADA HOUSE

2911 Broadway

Lots 4-5, Block 149

Built May 1915

In 1915, German immigrant and grocery merchant Henry Bochman built this brick two-and-one-half-story Prairie School inspired house to serve as his family's residence. Upon his death in 1939, his daughter in law, Minnie, inherited the property. Narciso Estrada, a cotton broker from Spain, purchased the house in 1944. The Estrada family maintained ownership of the house for fifty years and used it as their residence until 1994 when they sold it to the current owner.

On 1 April 1915, the Galveston Daily News reported that Henry Bochman had pulled a building permit to erect a new house on Broadway, between 29th and 30th Streets. The house was to be erected upon two lots Bochman purchased from the estate of Mary Lufkin, who, before her death, resided at 2901 Broadway at the home of her daughter Catherine Van Alstyne. After Bochman's house was completed, the Galveston Daily News reported on 1 October 1915, in a story that summarized building permits pulled within the city that year, that Bochman's house was one of several "expensive" residences built in 1915. The cost of the house was noted in the newspaper as \$7000, a respectable amount equivalent to approximately \$200,000 by today's monetary standards.

When completed in May 1915, the house Bochman built contained an elegant entry foyer with a formal parlor and small study to the east of the entry. Behind the foyer, on the south side of the first floor, a formal dining room connected to a butler's pantry, kitchen and a sunroom. The house also featured six porches that included a dominate wrap-around porch on the main elevation supported by wide masonry columns capped with a geometric design made of wood trim. The second floor of the house supported four bedrooms and one bathroom. Behind the main house, Bochman's property included an accessory structure described on the building's insurance record as a two-story frame garage and servants quarters that contained five rooms and a bathroom. To date, the only alterations to the buildings were done by the Estrada family when they enclosed several of the main house's porches in order to provide additional living space for their large family that included twelve children.

The Bochman-Estrada house still retains a high degree of architectural integrity through the retention of original materials that includes one-over-one windows with geometric patterns of small pane glass, paneled woodwork, hardwood floors, and interior glazed doors with unique geometric designs. Located in the Old Central/Central Business District, the Bochman-Estrada house is representative of the westward development of Broadway Boulevard in the early 20th century by the community's business class and is one of three remaining residential buildings along the 2900 block of Broadway Boulevard. The remaining residential dwellings on the block include the Albert

and Catherine Van Alstyne house, (2901 Broadway, built 1891), and the Edwin and Mary Moody Northen house, (2902 Broadway, built 1916). The elegant Broadmore Apartments (2922-2928 Broadway, built 1923/demolished 2010) once contributed to the block as well.

Bochman Family

Henry Dietrich Bochman was born in Geestemunde, Germany, on 30 January 1869. He immigrated to the United States in 1884 and resided in New York and Kansas prior to his arrival in Galveston. The first Galveston City Directory to include Bockman was in 1891, when the entry noted he worked as a clerk for the grocer Charles Roberts. By 1895, Bockman worked for A. Rakel's New Orleans Store, located at 2018 Market. The storefront specialized in groceries, liquors and wines. After the 1900 Storm, Bockman formed his own firm, H. Bockman & Company, and assumed ownership of the Rakel storefront on Market Street.

On 13 October 1891, Henry married Katherine Meyer in Galveston. Meyer was born in Hanover, Germany, 9 May 1863. She immigrated to the United States in 1886 and arrived in Galveston in 1888. After the couple were married, they had one child, Henry John A. Bochman, born on the island on 24 September 1893.

Henry John would later join his father's grocery firm, where he clerked until his untimely death in 1930. His widow, Minnie Bunse, continued to reside at 2911 Broadway with her in-laws. After Katherine's death in 1938, followed by Henry's in 1939, Minnie inherited the house. She continued to reside there until 1941 when she sold it to Leroy Reed, general manager of Fraser Ice & Cold Storage. Reed maintained ownership of the property for three years before he sold it to Narciso and Maria Estrada.

Estrada Family

Narciso Estrada was born in Barcelona, Spain, on 10 September 1894. He immigrated to the United States in 1918 and arrived in New York City on 30 September aboard the Spanish steamship LOPEZ Y LOPEZ. In 1920, Narciso married Maria Vallet. Maria was born in Barcelona on 22 April 1897 and immigrated to the United States the same year she married Narciso. After they wed, the couple relocated to New Orleans, Louisiana, where Narciso worked as a cotton trader.

In 1923, the New Orleans City Directory included the last entry for Narciso Estrada. By 1924, the Estrada family had relocated to Galveston, where Narciso opened a successful cotton trading firm, N. Estrada Incorporated. During the firm's first year of operation, the Galveston Daily News reported on 5 August 1924 the company had exported over 83,000 bales of cotton to Spain. He was elected vice-president of the Galveston Cotton Exchange & Board of Trade in 1930, the same

year he received the appointment of vice-consul to Spain for the state of Texas, a position he held until 1937.

By 1937, Narciso had shifted his business focus from exports to imports when he formed a new business, the Spanish American Trading Company. During World War II, the trading company expanded to include wholesale liquor sales and eventually became known as Estrada's Wholesale Liquors, located at 2109 Strand Street. His oldest daughter, Nuria, managed the business alongside her father while several of the other children also worked as clerks in the family business. During the 1950s, sons Albert and George entered the family business and assisted Nuria in the day to day operations, which allowed Narciso to retire.

After retirement, Narciso volunteered at the local hospitals and was an active parishioner at St. Patrick's Catholic Church where he, and wife, Maria, volunteered regularly to provide care for sick and needy parishioners. As a result of their years of dedication towards those in need, Narciso and Maria were honored by Pope Paul IV in 1966 and awarded a Pro Ecclesia Medal for their service to the community.

Narciso Estrada died in Galveston on 28 November 1973 after which Maria maintained the Estrada family residence at 2911 Broadway with her daughter Mary Rose. Maria continued her service to St. Patrick's Catholic Church where she was a member of the Alter Society and the Order of Martha, an Anglican religious order. She was also actively involved with the St. Vincent's DePaul Society and the Ladies Auxiliary at Galveston's St. Mary's Hospital. Maria died 15 May 1986. When her mother died, Mary Rose resided at the family home on Broadway until 1993. She sold it to the current owner in 1994 and ended fifty years of ownership by the family of Narciso and Maria Estrada.

ATTACHMENTS:

- I. Photograph, Bockman-Estrada House, 2911 Avenue J (Broadway Boulevard)
- II. Photograph, Henry and Katherine Bockman, from 1922 United States passport
- III. Chain of Title, 2911 Avenue J (Broadway Boulevard)
- IV. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Block 149
- V. City Directory Search, 2911 Avenue J (Broadway)
- VI. Photograph, Estrada's Wholesale Liquor Company, 2109 Strand

ATTACHMENT I:
Bockman-Estrada House, 2911 Avenue J (Broadway Boulevard)



ATTACHMENT II:

1922 United States passport photograph, Henry and Katherine Bockman



ATTACHMENT III:

Chain of Title, 2911 Broadway, Lots 4 & 5, Block 149

Estate and heirs of Mary A. Lufkin, widow of A. P. Lufkin, lots 4 and 5, block 149, to Henry and Katherine Bockman, 1915.

Henry D. Bockman estate to daughter in law, Minnie Bochman, May 1939

Minnie Bockman to Leroy Wade Reed Jr., October 1941

Leroy Wade Reed to Narciso Estrada, February 1944

Mary Rose Estrada to current owner, May 1994

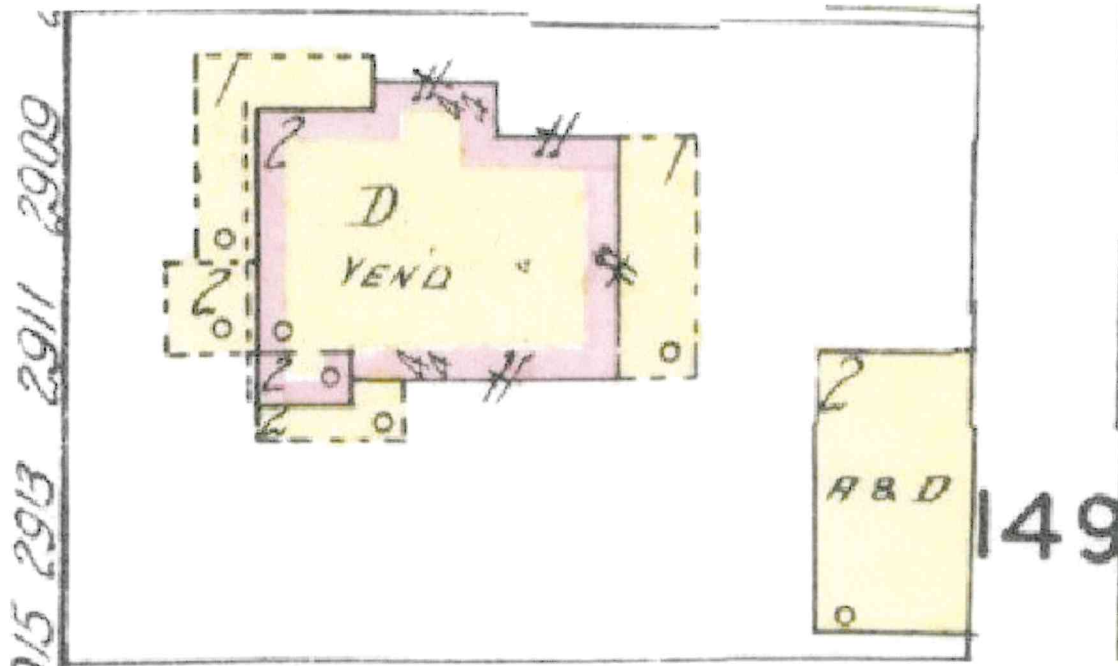
ATTACHMENT IV:
 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1912 and 1947



1912- Block 148, lots 1-5 vacant. The only existing residence on the south side of the 2900 block of Broadway seen is 2901 Broadway, the Van Alstyne house.



1947- Block 149. The footprint for the Bochman-Estrada house, built 1915, is recorded on the 1947 maps. The house was flanked by the Van Alstyne house to the east (2901 Broadway, built 1891) and the Baylis Harriss house to the west (2925 Broadway, built 1915, demolished 1964). On the north side of Broadway, the Broadmore Apartments are noted at 2922-2928 Broadway (demolished 2010) as is the Northern House, at 2902 Broadway (extant).



A close-up view of the 1947 Sanborn Map footprint of 2911 Broadway notes a two-story brick house with six porches. The two-story frame garage and servant's quarters identified on the property's original insurance record is also noted on the southwest quarter of the lots along the alley.

ATTACHMENT V:

Galveston City Directory Search, 2911 Broadway (Avenue J) and first owner, Henry Bockman

1891-1892, First directory listing for Bockman-

Henry D. Bockman, clk Charles Roberts, rms. Mrs. Hannah Jones

Charles Roberts, groceries, provisions, liquors & California wines, 2201 Church cor 22nd, r. same

Hanna Jones (wid John), Mexican laces & fancy goods, also employment office, 702 Tremont cor

Winnie, r. same

1895-1896

Henry D. Bockman, clk A. Rakel, r. 1110 Market

A. Rakel, New Orleans store, groceries, liquors, wines, feed, 2018-2020 Market, Hermann Rakel, proprietor

1899-1900

Henry D. Bockman, clk A. Rakel, r. 1110 Market

1901-1902

Henry D. Bockman, groceries 2018 Market, r. 1110 Market. 3

1905

Henry D. Bockman, (H. Bockman & Co.) r. 1624 Church. 3

H. Bockman & Co., (Henry D. Bockman, Fritz Egner), proprietors New Orleans store, groceries, teas, coffees, 2018 Market, Ph. 291-4

1909-1910

Henry D. Bockman, (Bockman & Egner), r. 1624 Church. 3

Bockman & Egner, (Henry D. Bockman, Fritz Egner), groceries 2018 Market, Ph. 2318

1914

Henry D. Bockman (H. D. Bockman & Co.), r. 2911 Ave J

Henry J. A. Bockman, clerk H. D. Bockman & Co, m h. 2911 Ave J

H. D. Bockman & Co., (Henry D. Bockman), grocers 2018 Ave D

1916

Henry D. Bockman (H. Bockman & Co.), r. 2911 Ave J

Henry J. A. Bockman, clerk H. Bockman & Co, m h. 2911 Ave J

H. Bockman & Co., (Henry D. Bockman), grocers 2018 Ave D

1921

Henry D. Bockman (Catherine; H. Bockman & Co.), r. 2911 Ave J
Henry J. A. Bockman, (Minnie), clerk H. Bockman & Co, h. 2911 Ave J
H. Bockman & Co., (Henry D. Bockman), grocers 2018 Ave D

1930

Henry D. Bockman (Kate; H. Bockman & Co.), h. 2911 Ave J
John A. Bockman, (Minnie), emp H. Bockman & Co, r. 2911 Ave J
H. Bockman & Co., (H.D. Bockman), grocers 511 20th

1936-1937

Henry D. Bockman (Kate), h. 2911 Ave J
Minnie Bockman (wid J.A.), r. 2911 Ave J

1939

Henry D. Bockman, h. 2911 Ave J
Minnie Bockman (wid J.A.), r. 2911 Ave J

1941

Minnie Bockman (wid J.A.), r. 2911 Ave J

1945-1946

Narciso Estrada (Maria; Estrada's; 7), h. 2911 Ave J
Nuria Estrada (Estrada's), r. 2911 Ave J
Estrada's (Narciso and Nurio Estrada), wholesale liquors 2109 Ave B, Tel 7468
Monty Estrada, student, r. 2911 Ave J
Charles Estrada, US Army, r. 2911 Ave J
Albert Estrada, US Army, r. 2911 Ave J

1951

Narciso Estrada (Maria; Estrada's; 7), h. 2911 Ave J
Nuria Estrada (Estrada's), r. 2911 Ave J
Estrada's (Narciso and Nuria Estrada), wholesale liquors 2109 Ave B, Tel 7468
Monty Estrada, off sec, r. 2911 Ave J
Charles J. Estrada, student, r. 2911 Ave J
Albert Estrada, salesman Estrada's, r. 2911 Ave J
William J. Estrada, student, r. 2911 Ave J

1960

Narciso Estrada (Maria), Estrada's, h. 2911 Ave J
Estrada's (Narciso, George N., Albert J. and Mrs. Nurio Burrese, LaMarque), wholesale liquors
2109 Ave B (Strand), Tels SOuthfield5-7468, Southfield5-7469
Mary R. Estrada, clk First Hutchings Sealy Natl Bank, r. 2911 Ave J
Maria Estrada, student, r. 2911 Ave J
Albert J. Estrada, Estrada's, r. 2911 Ave J
George N. Estrada, Estrada's, r. 2911 Ave J

1968

Narciso Estrada (Maria), Estrada's, h. 2911 Ave J
Estrada's (Narciso, George N., Albert J.), wholesale liquors 2109 Ave B (Strand), Tels SOuthfield5-
7468, Southfield5-7469
Mary R. Estrada, loan dept First Hutchings Sealy Natl Bank, r. 2911 Ave J

1972

Narciso Estrada (Maria), Estrada's, h. 2911 Ave J
Estrada's (Narciso, George N., Albert J.), wholesale liquors 2109 Ave B (Strand), Tels SOuthfield5-
7468, Southfield5-7469
Mary Rose Estrada, asst cashier First Hutchings Sealy Natl Bank, 2200 Market, Tel 763-8831, r.
2911 Ave J, Tel 762-7675

1976

Maria Estrada (wid Narciso), h. 2911 Ave J
Mary Rose Estrada, asst cashier First Hutchings Sealy Natl Bank, 2200 Market, Tel 763-8831, r.
2911 Ave J, Tel 762-7675

1980

Maria Estrada, h. 2911 Ave J
Mary Rose Estrada, asst cashier First Hutchings Sealy Natl Bank, 2200 Market, Tel 763-8831, r.
2911 Ave J, Tel 762-7675

1984

Maria Estrada, h. 2911 Ave J
Mary Rose Estrada, V-Pres Interfirst Bank of Galveston, r. 2911 Ave J, Tel 762-7675

1988

Mary Rose Estrada, V-Pres First Republic Bank, r. 2911 Ave J, Tel 762-7675

1991

Mary Rose Estrada, V-Pres First Republic Bank, r. 2911 Ave J, Tel 762-7675

1993

Mary Rose Estrada, V-Pres First Republic Bank, r. 2911 Ave J, Tel 762-7675

Charles J. Estrada, h. 2911 Ave J

1996

Dwayne Gregory, 2911 Broadawy

John T. Young, 2911 Broadway

ATTACHMENT IV:

Photograph, Estrada's Wholesale Liquor Company, 2109 Strand. (far left, blue building)

