

**813, 817 Henderson, 2105 Decatur; lots 7 & 8, block  
406**

On November 20, 1871 W. R. Baker sells lot 8 and 9 to Elias Tharp for \$200 cash (11/80). On November 28, 1871 W. R. Baker sells lot 7 to Elias Tharp for \$125 cash (11/95).

**Elias Tharp:**

In the 1870 census Elias Thorp (40, brickmaker) and his wife Mary F. Thorp (33) live in Houston in Ward 4. In 1880 Elyas Tharp (51, brick maker) lives at 115 Henderson with his wife Mary F. Tharp (41), mother-in-law, and 1 granddaughter. In city directories he resides at the SW corner of Decatur and Henderson in 1879-80. Previously he lived elsewhere. In 1884-85 he is a brick moulder at the Houston Brick Works, and from 1886 to 1888 he and J. P. Williams are joint managers of J. T. Brady's Brick Yard. Williams is Tharp's brother-in-law; Elias Tharp married Mary F. Williams March 10, 1859 in Harris Co.

In 1889-90 Elias Tharp lives at 115 Henderson corner Decatur. In 1890-91 his entry is "Tharp Eli, groceries, 444 Washington cor Brashear". After that he seems to disappear. He probably died, but I have found no record of his death.

On May 18, 1889 Elias Thorp and Lizzie Thorpe, his wife, sell lots 7 and 8 to Mutual Building and Loan Association for \$1600 cash (44/140). On May 29, 1889 MB&LA sells lots 7 and 8 to John Hume for \$1600 to be paid within 10 years from date at \$14.56/month. (44/142)

A subsequent deed will clarify that the above purchaser is John Hume, Jr., although he is only about 21 in 1889 and his parents will live in the house until 1907.

### **John Hume :**

In the 1880 census John Hume (39, Scotland) is a gardener in Mobile, Alabama. He is living with his wife Ann (39, Scotland), two sons born in Scotland John (12) and Andrey (10), and two daughters born in Alabama. John Hume is in the Houston city directory for the first time in 1882-83. He is working for G. H. Bringhurst; John, Jr. is a cigar clerk and Andrew is a bell boy at the Hutchins House. By 1886-87 John, Sr. is a carpenter and John, Jr. is a machinist in the H. & T. C. shops. John Sr. works for H. & T. C. as a carpenter and car repairer for the rest of his life. He rents a house at 3 different locations before 1890-91, when he resides at 115 Henderson cor Decatur. In the 1900 census John Hume (59, M34, Scotland, 1872 Na, carpenter, OFH) is living at 817 Henderson with his wife Annie (58, M34/4/4, Scotland, 1872), his son John (32, S, Scotland, 1872 Na, inspector/air brake), and a daughter. In city directories John Hume, Sr. resides at 817 Henderson until 1907.

In 1907 John Hume, Jr. sold 817 Henderson and bought a smaller house at 2009 Decatur, where his parents lived until his father's death in 1912. He sold that house in 1913.

On February 4, 1907 John Hume, Jr. and wife Lula F. Hume sell lots 7 and 8 to Miss N. S. Leverkus for \$3800 (\$1000 cash and 7 promissory notes of \$400 each). (199/376)

### **John E. Devore :**

A few months later on June 5, 1907 Miss Nettie S. Leverkus married John E. Devore. John Devore is in city directories for the first time in 1899; he works for the Bering Mfg. Co., where he is a turner in 1900-01 and in 1902-03. In the 1910 census John Devore (39, M2/3, cutter/saw mill, OFH) is living at 817 Henderson with his wife Nettie S. Devore (28, M1/3/0/0), 1 son Lee (9), 1 nephew, 1 niece, and 1 brother-in-law Conrad Leverkus (40, S, engineer/locomotive). In the 1919 city directory John E. Devore works for the Bering Mfg. Co. as a machine operator and lives at 817 Henderson. His son Lee is a claim investigator for the I. & G. N. railroad and lives at 817 Henderson also.

Nettie Devore died August 29, 1919 at the age of 37; according to her obituary she was a lifelong member of the Lutheran Trinity Church on Young Avenue, and she is buried in the German Lutheran Cemetery (Trinity Lutheran Cemetery). I cannot find John Devore in the 1920 census; he appears to have left Houston.

On November 15, 1919 J. E. Devore sells lots 7 and 8 to J. H. Bloch for \$5200 (\$1200 cash and 5 promissory notes of \$800 each payable 1,2,3,4,5 years from date) (439/371). On November 14, 1919 in preparation for this sale John Hume, also known as John Hume, Jr., gives John Devore a correction deed that clarifies Devore's ownership. Hume states he purchased the lots May 18, 1889 from the Mutual Building and Loan Association, that the deed was made in the name of John Hume only, that John Hume and John Hume, Jr. are the same person, and that he sold the lots to Miss N. S. Leverkus, who married John Devore and then later died (439/371).

The 1896 Sanborn map shows a 2-story house at 817 Henderson in the middle of lots 7 and 8. The house has an L-shaped 1-story extension on the north side, a service porch south of the extension, and a long 1-story porch that covers the entire front of the house. In 1907 and in 1924 the house is the same except that the center portion of the front porch has become 2-story.

It may be that Elias Tharp constructed and lived in the 2-story house, or it may be that he lived in a smaller house that was later enlarged.

### **Joel H. Bloch:**

Joel H. Bloch is in city directories for the first time in 1895-96. He is a clerk in Isaac Gimbel's dry goods store. He resides various places; in the 1910 census Joel H. R. Bloch (39, M1/15, salesman/dry goods), his wife Mary (35, M1/15/4/4), and their 4 children rent a house at 2015 Decatur. In 1920 Joel H. Bloch (46, salesman/dry goods, OM) resides at 817 Henderson with Mary (43), sons Morris (22) and Arthur (19), and daughters Louise (16) and Margueritte (11). In 1930 Joel H. Bloch (59, M24, salesman/dry goods, O\$8000) resides at 817 Henderson with wife Mary (53, M18), son Arthur H. (S, dentist/own office), daughter Louise B. (27, S), and daughter Margaret J. (21, S, stenographer/street railway). In 1940 Joel (69) and Mary (64) live at 817 Henderson with 1 lodger.

Mary Bloch died June 19, 1950. In city directories Joel H. Block continues to live at 817 Henderson until 1951. He died July 7, 1953 at age 82.

The house that Joel Bloch lives in at 817 Henderson in 1920 is the 2-story house that we see in the 1924 Sanborn map. In 1930

he still lives at 817 Henderson, but in a completely different house. In the 1950 map 3 houses occupy lot 7 and 8. 817 Henderson at the corner of Henderson and Decatur is a rectangular house with a porch covering most of the front. 813 Henderson is a rectangular house with a porch that covers only the north half of the front of the house. An almost square house with a porch on the NE corner faces Decatur at 2105 Decatur. There is a garage in the SW corner of the property. The 3 houses (817, 813, 2105) are still there today.

The addresses 813 Henderson and 2105 Decatur first appear in city directories in 1928. We would naturally conclude that they were built in 1927 or 1928. We can be more specific:

On August 10, 1927 J. H. Bloch and wife Mary Bloch, being desirous of erecting a 6-room frame residence on the S 1/2 of lots 7 and 8 in block 406, sign a contract with Roy Lingle, who agrees to furnish all labor and material necessary to erect the building according to the plans and specifications agreed upon at a cost of \$3100. The owners designate the N 1/2 of lots 7 and 8 as their homestead and waive any homestead rights to the property described in the contract (47/342, Harris Co. Contract Records). This house will be 813 Henderson. Roy Lingle lives half a block away, at 2009 Decatur.

On November 1, 1927 the same parties sign an essentially identical contract for another 6-room frame residence on the N 1/2 of lots 7 and 8 that will cost \$4400 (149/368). This house will be 817 Henderson.

2105 Decatur was probably built at the same time, but I did not find a contract for it.

Was the old house destroyed by fire or other catastrophe? Perhaps, but I think it is more likely that Joel Bloch demolished it in order to build 3 "modern" houses on the same property. He lived in one of them for many years and rented the other two. In the case of 2105 Decatur his daughter Louise and her husband Anton E. Wagenhauser live there from 1932-33 until 1937-38. A. Edmund Wagenhauser married Miss Louise O. Bloch September 6, 1930. After 1951 until 1975 all 3 houses are rented and occupied. Several tenants stay for many years.

The property remains in the Bloch family until 1995. Mrs. A. H. Ruth Bloch cited in the 1988 deed is the widow of Joel Bloch's son Arthur H. Bloch, who was a dentist.



## Census :

1850 Jackson Co., Mississippi

John	Williams	55	Va	carpenter
Liza	"	33	Md	
Mary F.	"	13	Ms	
John P.	"	6	Tx	
Benjamin F.	"	3	Ms	
Saphrony	"	2	Ms	

I cannot find them in 1860.

In 1850 Elijah Tharp (25, Ms) and Elias Tharp (24, Ms) are bricklayers living in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana, probably as boarders.

I cannot find him in 1860.

1870 Houston, Ward 4

Elias Thorp	40	Ms	brickmaker	\$500/\$---
Mary F.	"	33	Ms	
Eliza Williams	53	Md		
Soprano	"	22	Ms	
Andrew J.	"	17	Ms	

1880 115 Henderson [Thark in index]

Elyas Tharp	51	Ms	brick maker	
Mary F.	"	41	Ms	

mother-in-law \_\_\_ Williams (63, Md), granddaughter (6, Tx)

1880 Mobile, Alabama

John Hume	39	Scotland	gardner	
Ann	"	39	Scotland	
John	"	12	Scotland	
Andrey	"	10	Scotland	

2 daughters born in Alabama

1900 817 Henderson

John Hume	59	M34	Scotland	1872	Na	carpenter	OFH
Annie	"	58	M34/4/4	Scotland	1872		
John	"	32	S	Scotland	1872	Na	inspector/air brake

1 son, 1 daughter

1910 2009 Decatur

John Hume, Sr.	69	M1/44	Scotland	1872	Na	carpenter/railroad	OFH
Anne	"	68	M1/44/4/4	Scotland			

1920 4802 Main [John, Jr.]  
John Hume (52, Scotland, expert mechanic/brake co.), wife Lula F., one son, 1 niece, 1 cousin

1930 Bartlett Ave.  
John Hume (62, mechanical expert/air brakes), Lula F., 1 son

1910 817 Henderson  
John Devore 39 M2/3 cutter/saw mill OFH  
Nettie S. " 28 M1/3/0/0  
Lee " 9 S  
Conrad Leverkun 40 S b-i-l engineer/locomotive  
1 nephew, 1 niece

In 1910 Joel H. R. Bloch (39, M1/15, salesman/dry goods) rents a house at 2015 Decatur. wife Mary (35, M1/15/4/4), 2 sons, 2 dau, all children born in Texas

1920 817 Henderson  
Joel H. Bloch 46 salesman/dry goods store OM  
Mary " 43  
2 sons Morris (22) & Arthur (19), 2 daughters Louise (16) & Margueritte (11)

1930 817 Henderson  
Joel H. Bloch 59 M24 salesman/dry goods store O\$8000  
Mary " 53 M18  
Arthur H. " S dentist/own office  
Louise B. " 27 S  
Margaret J. " 21 S stenographer/street railway

1940 817 Henderson  
Joel H. Blach 69 none O\$6000 [Black in index]  
Mary F. " 64  
1 lodger

### **Find-a-Grave:**

John Hume, Sr. unknown -- Jan 16, 1912; no marker, burial date from cemetery records [short obituary Houston Post, Jan 18, 1912]

Nettie Leverkuhn Devore 1881 -- 1919 (3 Nov 1880-29 Aug 1919)  
Trinity Lutheran Cem.

John E. Devore 1869--1960 (15 Nov 1869-28 Mar 1960) Woodlawn  
Cem., Houston

Louise Bloch Wagenhauser 14 Feb 1903 -- Apr 30, 1988 Forest  
Park

Anton Edmund Wagenhauser 17 Jun 1901 -- 29 Nov 1976 Forest  
Park

Dr. Arthur H. Bloch 27 May 1900 -- 22 Jul 1969 Forest Park

Ruth Loftin Bloch Jan 24, 1900 -- Oct 1, 1990 Forest Park

### **Texas Death Certificates:**

Joel Hiram Bloch, retired salesman, widowed, 767 E 16th, Houston  
died July 7, 1953 age 82 yrs 4 mos 23 days; born Feb 14, 1871 in  
Alabama

### **Texas Death Index:**

Mary Bloch died 19 Jun 1950 in Harris Co., Certificate #28400

### **Marriage:**

Elias Tharpe m. Mary F. Williams March 10, 1859 Harris Co.

Elias Tharp m. Miss Lizzie Yeomans Jan 19, 1885 Harris Co.

John E. Devore m. Miss Nettie S. Leverkuhn June 5, 1907 Harris  
Co.

Miss Louise O. Bloch m. A. Edmund Wagenhauser 6 Sep 1930 Harris  
Co.

### **City Directory:**

**1867-68** W. A. Leonard's City Directory; 184 pages

**1870-71** Murray's City Directory; 97 pages

pgs 59,60

no Tharp, Thorp

**1873** Houston City Directory; 93 pages

pg 79

Tharp Elijah, brickmaker, res Washington St.

**No directory between 1873 and 1877**

**1877-78** Mooney & Morrison's City Directory; 301 pages

pg 243

Thorpe Elias, brick manfr, res n e cor Decatur and Hemphill

**1879-80** C. D. Morrison & Co.'s City Directory; 288 pages

pg 244

Thorpe Ellas, brick maker, res s w cor Decatur and Henderson.

**1880-81** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 394 pages

pg 206

no John Hume

pg 332

Tharp Elias brick moulder, res 115 Henderson cor Decatur.

**1882-83** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 248 pages

pg 134

Hume Andrew, bell boy Hutchins House.

Hume John, wks G. H. Bringham, r. same.

Hume John, cigar clk Hutchins House.

**1884-85** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 235 pages

pg 90

Hume Andrew, clk T. R. Franklin, h. John Hume.

Hume John, jr., clk Thomas B. Gale, r. same.

Hume John, sr., carp, r. 101 Decatur bt Henderson, White.

pg 146

Tharp Elias, brick moulder Houston Brick Works, r. 115 Henderson cor Decatur.

**1886-87** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 255 pages

pg 95

Hume Andrew, clk T. R. Franklin, h. John Hume, sr.

Hume John, jr., machinist H. & T. C. shops, h. John Hume, sr.

Hume John, sr, carp H. & T. C. shops, r. 77 Decatur bt Silver, White.

pg 155

Tharp Elias (Williams & Tharp), r. 115 Henderson cor Decatur.

pg 167

Williams John P. (Williams & Tharp), r. es Factory bt F, G.

Williams & Tharp (John P. Williams, Elias Tharp), mgrs J. T.

Brady's brick yard, es Grand ave bt C, E.

**1887-88** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 200 pages

pg 101

Hume Andrew G., clk T. Hadley Franklin, h. John Hume, sr.

Hume John, jr., machinist H. & T. C shops, h. John Hume, sr.

Hume John, sr., carp H. & T. C. shops, r. 77 Decatur bt Silver,  
White

pg 168

Tharp Elias (Tharp & Williams), r. 115 Henderson cor Decatur.

Tharp & Williams (Elias Tharp, John P. Williams), mgrs J. T.  
Brady's brickyard, e s Grand ave bt D, F.

**1889-90** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 264 pages

pg 134

Hume John, jr., machinist H. & T. C. shops, h. John Hume, sr.

Hume John, sr., carp H. & T. C. shops, r. 82 Kane cor White.

pg 212

Tharp Elias, r. 115 Henderson cor Decatur

**1890-91** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 311 pages

pg 166

Hume Andrew G., clk Parker & Archer, r. 29 Young's ave.

Hume John, sr., carp H. & T. C. shops, r. 115 Henderson cor  
Decatur.

pg 259

Tharp Eli, groceries, 444 Washington cor Brashear

**1892-93** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 364 pages

pg 69

no Bloch

pg 150

Hume Andrew G, clk Levy Bros., r. 107 Preston ave.

Hume John, carp H. & T. C. shops, r. sw cor Henderson, Decatur.

Hume Mary Miss, h. John Hume.

pg 252,

no Elias Tharp/Thorp

**1894-95** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 348 pages

pg 68

no Bloch

**1895-96** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 263 pages

pg 54

Bloch Joel H., clk Isaac Gimbel, r. 2004 Commerce.

pg 76

no Devore

pg 91

Gimbel Isaac, dry goods, notions, clothing, boots, shoes,  
furniture, hardware, 807 Congress ave, furniture dealer, 207  
Milam, r. Troy, Alabama, L. Gimbel, mgr

pg 110

Hume John, jr., mchst, h. John Hume, sr.

Hume John, sr., carp H. & T. C. shops, r. 817 Henderson cor  
Decatur.

**1897-98** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 213 pages

pg 67

no Devore

**1899** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 281 pages

pg 49

De Vore Eleanor, wks Bering Mfg Co., bds A. J. D. Sapp.

**1900-01** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 275 pages

pg 20

Bloch Joel H., clk Meyer & Gimbel, r. 1513 LaBranch.

pg 50

Devore John E., turner Bering Mfg Co., r. 705 Crawford.

**1902-03** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 385 pages

pg 85

Devore John E., turner Bering Mfg Co., r. 1815 Dart. 3.

**1903-04** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 381 pages

Bloch, Joel H., clk A. M. Levy, r. 2015 Decatur. 5.

no Devore

Hume John, car rpr H. & T. C. shops, r. 817 Henderson. 2.

Hume John, jr., air brake inspr H. & T. C. shops, r. 817

Henderson. 2. Sw. ph. 3236.

**1905-06** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 348 pages

pg 111

Devore John E., r. 1908 Edwards. 2.

**1907** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 317 pages

pg 152

Hume John, car rpr H. & T. C. shops, r. 817 Henderson. 2. Sw.

ph. 2425

Hume John, jr., airbrake instructor H. & T. C., r. 408 Bremond.

2. Sw. ph. 3236

**1908-09** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 376 pages

pg 168

Devore John E., stock cutter Bering Mfg Co.. r. 817 Henderson.  
3.

pg 211

Hume John, carp H. & T. C. car shops, r. 2009 Decatur. 2. Sw.  
ph. 2425.

Hume John, jr., . . . 403 Hawthorne

**1910-11** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 547 pages

pg 271

Hume John, carp H. & T. C. shops, r. 2009 Decatur, 2. ph. Taylor  
766.

Hume John, jr., air brake inspr H. & T. C. shops, r. 403  
Hawthorne ave, Westmoreland 3. Ph. Hadley 3434

**1911-12** Texas Publishing Co. City Directory; 724 pages

**1912** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 574 pages

**1913** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 700 pages

**1915** Houston City Directory; 527 pages

**1917** Houston City Directory; 717 pages

**1918** Morrison & Fourmy's City Directory; 717 pages

**1919** Houston City Directory; 786 pages

pg 230

Devore John E mach opr Bering Mfg Co r 817 Henderson

Devore Lee C claim investigator I & G N h 817 Henderson

**1920-21** Houston City Directory; 916 pages

pg 280

no John or Lee Devore

**1922** Houston City Directory; 963 pages

**1923-24** Houston City Directory; 1055 pages

**1926** Houston City Directory; 6 files

### **Contracts:**

no contract for John Hume

no contract for John DeVore

no contract for Elias Tharp

Joel H. Bloch, 2 contracts 1927