# Historic Landmark Commission February 27, 2012 National Register Historic Districts NRD-2012-0013 Old West Austin 2604 Wooldridge Drive

#### **PROPOSAL**

Construct a 2-story addition on a c. 1955 house.

### PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

The existing building is a blond brick, one-story house with a two story wing to one side. The house has a front-facing garage set back from the front façade, and two rear projecting wings. The house is a mid-century ranch design with full height 4:3 double-hung windows with shutters, and hipped roofs.

The applicant proposes to demolish the existing garage and a rear wing (approximately 960 sq. ft.) and construct a new garage, with second story above, to provide for an additional 2,000 sq. ft. of living space.

The applicant proposes to side the first story of the addition with brick to match the existing house, but is requesting consideration of two options for siding the second story. The first option is to use brick to match the existing, and the alternate is to use horizontal hardiboard siding. Windows on the new addition will be of similar pattern and dimension as the existing windows.

# STAFF COMMENTS

The house is list as non-contributing to the Old West Austin National Register Historic District. The Old West Austin National Register Historic District has no design guidelines for new construction. Applicable general design review guidelines state:

- The distinguishing original qualities or character of a property and its environment shall not be destroyed. Removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural features should be avoided.
- All properties shall be recognized as products of their own time. Alterations which have no historical basis and which seek to create an earlier appearance shall be discouraged.
- Changes, which have taken place in the course of time may have acquired significance in their own right, and shall be recognized and respected.
- Distinctive stylistic features or examples of skilled craftsmanship, which characterize a property, shall be treated with sensitivity.
- Contemporary designs for alterations and additions to existing properties are appropriate when such alterations and additions do not destroy significant historic, architectural, or cultural material and are compatible with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood, or environment.

• Whenever possible, new additions or alterations to structures shall be done in such a manner that if such additions or alterations were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the structure would not be impaired.

The scale and style of the addition and the façade changes are compatible with the architectural character of the National Register District.

# STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approving release of the permit with use of either brick or horizontal hardiboard siding at the second level addition.



Front façade of 2604 Wooldridge



Front façade of 2604 Wooldridge





CASE#: NRD-2012-0013 LOCATION: 2604 Wooldridge Drive



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