

Historical Associations:

The 1922 Sanborn map shows an earlier house on this site, which dates to closer to the turn of the 20th century; this house was replaced with the current house around 1931, according to city utility permits, and confirmed by the 1935 Sanborn map. The house was owned by the Wukasch family, who had several businesses in town, including Charlie's Confectionary on Guadalupe Street, which was operated by Walter and Billie Wukasch, the second tenants of this house. Walter Wukasch was the son of C.G. and Emma Wukasch; Emma Wukasch is shown as the owner of the property on a 1928 sewer service permit for this property. Walter and Billie Wukasch married in 1933 and moved into this house, which was apparently owned by his parents at the time. He operated Charlie's Confectionary on Guadalupe Street for several years, and by the late 1930s, he was working at Charlie's Liquor Store, owned by another Wukasch relative. From around 1940 to around 1946, the house was rented by William P. and Alvina Urban; William Urban had been a Lutheran and Methodist minister in rural Texas for several years, but by the time he was living in this house, he was also working as a clerk at Charlie's Liquor Store. It is possible that the Wukasch and Urban families were related; both were German families from the Serbin area in Lee County, Texas and are listed closely together on census reports. By 1947, the house was owned and occupied by Mary Hannusch, a widow, with two sons attending the University of Texas. After a short interval, the house was purchased by Olga Patschke, a widow, originally from Milam County, Texas. She worked as a clerk and food server at the University of Texas, and lived here from around 1960 until around 1975. By that time, the house had been converted to a duplex, and has remained a rental unit.

PARCEL NO.: 02170216040000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lot 4, Block 2-A, Outlot 72, Division D, Harper's Resubdivision

ESTIMATED ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT: \$2,735 (owner-occupied); city portion: \$814. \$1,466 (income-producing); city portion: \$407.

APPRAISED VALUE: \$290,506

PRESENT USE: Residence

CONDITION: Good

PRESENT OWNERS: Samuel McGaskill
25 S. 32nd Street
Boulder, Colorado 80305

DATE BUILT: ca. 1931

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: None apparent.

ORIGINAL OWNER(S): C.G. and Emma Wukasch (1931)

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: None.

603 W. 30th Street
ca. 1931



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 603 W. 30th Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
March, 2012

- 1992 Guy C. Henson, renter
 No occupation listed
- 1985-86 Lynn Ohrstrom, renter
 Student
 NOTE: The directory indicates that Lynn Ohrstrom was a new resident at this address.
- 1981 The address is not listed in the directory.
- 1977 A: Paul Murry, owner
 No occupation listed
 NOTE: The directory indicates that Paul Murry was a new resident at this
 address.
 B: Vacant
- 1973 A: Olga Patschke, owner
 Widow, Walter Patschke
 Retired
 B: Frank Korman, renter
 No occupation listed
- 1969 Olga Patschke, owner
 Widow, Walter Patschke
 Retired
- 1965 Olga Patschke, owner
 Food server, University of Texas
- 1961 Olga Patschke, owner
 Clerk, University of Texas
- 1958 Ben and Martha Grijlva, owners
 Student
 NOTE: Olga Patschke is not listed in the directory.
- 1953 Thurmond D. and Pauline Barnett, renters
 Salesman, Reliable Life Insurance Company, 400 W. 15th Street.
- 1949 Vacant
- 1947 Mary Hannusch, owner
 No occupation listed
 Also listed are Dennis C. and Vera Hannusch -he was a student at the University of
 Texas; and Eugene G. Hannusch, a student at the University of Texas.
- 1944-45 William P. and Alvina Urban, renters
 Clerk
- 1941 William P. and Alvina Urban, renters
 Clerk, Charlie's Liquor Store #1, 403 W. 19th Street.

Also listed are Clarence R. Urban, a truck driver for David Shipwash, groceries, 2900 Rio Grande Street; and Della R. Urban, a saleswoman at E.M. Scarbrough & Sons, department store, 522 Congress Avenue.

- 1939 Walter and Billye Wukasch, renters
No occupation listed
- 1937 Walter and Billie Wukasch, renters
Salesman, Charlie's Liquor Store (M.C. Wukasch, proprietor), 403 W. 19th Street.
NOTE: The house is listed as 503 W. 30th Street.
- 1935 Walter and Billie Wukasch, renters
Proprietor, Charlie's Confectionary, 2270 Guadalupe Street.
NOTE: The house is listed as 503 W. 30th Street.
- 1932-33 Herschel C. and Maude L. Walling, renters
Accountant, University of Texas
NOTE: The house is listed as 503 W. 30th Street.
NOTE: Walter Wukasch is listed as living at 407 W. 23rd Street. He had no wife listed and was the proprietor of Charlie's Confectionary, 2270 Guadalupe Street.

Earlier directories show tenants at a house listed as 503 W. 30th Street, but it is apparent that this house was built in 1931, based upon utility records and the 1922 and 1935 Sanborn maps.

Biographical notes

Walter and Billie Wukasch (ca. 1933 to ca. 1940)

Walter Wukasch appears in the 1920 U.S. Census report as the 11 year old son of C.G. and Emma Wukasch, who lived at 611 W. 23rd Street. The elder Wukasch was a grocer. The 1930 U.S. Census report shows Walter still living with his parents on 23rd Street, but he was the proprietor of a confectionary. His father had no occupation listed.

Walter Charles Wukasch

Walter Charles Wukasch, born July 24, 1908, in Austin, died Tuesday, December 20, 1994.

He attended St. Paul's Lutheran School, Allen Jr. High School, and graduated from Austin High School in 1925. He earned his BBA from the University of Texas where he lettered in tennis and was the University All Sports Intramural Champion. In 1928 he took over his father's business, Charlie's Confectionary located at 23rd and Guadalupe, and was active for 40 years in real estate development and property management. He was district president and state governor of Toastmasters International, nationally ranked masters badminton player, and Texas state champion in the over 70-year-old three-mile race walk. He was a lifelong member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church where he was an Elder for many years and Congregational President.

He married Billye Teyki in 1933 and they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 1993.

He is survived by his wife, Billye Teyki Wukasch; two sons, Dr. Don Charles Wukasch of Houston and Dr. Barry Charles Wukasch of Scottsdale, Arizona; and grandchildren, Wynne Hemingway of Scottsdale, Arizona, Ann Elizabeth Wukasch of Dallas, and Walter Charles Wukasch II of Houston.

Visitation will be 5:30 to 7:00 PM Wednesday, December 21, at the Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 1:00 PM Thursday, December 22, in St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3501 Red River. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the St. Paul Lutheran Church Building Fund, 3501 Red River, Austin, Texas 78765.

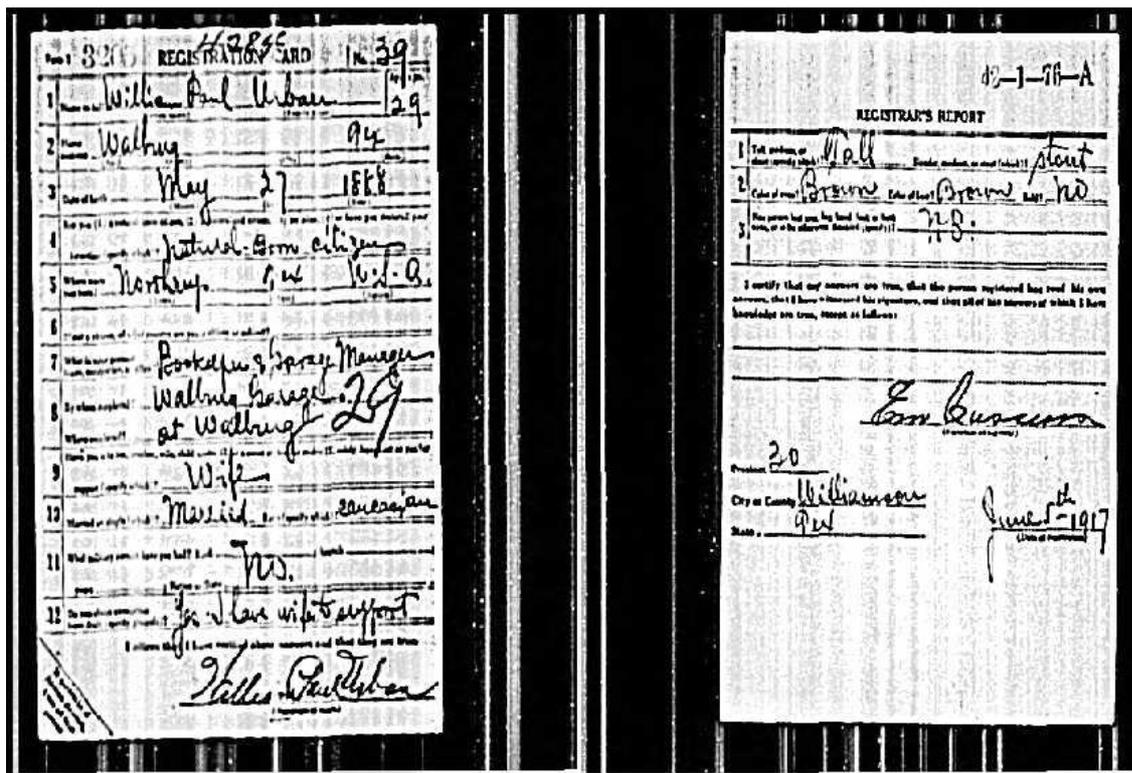
Arrangements by Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home, 3125 North Lamar, 452-8811.

Obituary of Walter Wukasch
Austin American-Statesman, December 21, 1994

William P. and Alvina Urban (ca. 1940 to ca. 1946)

William P. Urban was born in 1888 in Texas; the 1900 U.S. Census shows him as the 11-year old son of Andreas and Magdalena Urban, farmers in Serbin, Texas, who lived in close proximity to relatives of Charles G. Wukasch, the father of Walter Wukasch. William Urban was born in Texas, as was his father, but his mother had been born in Germany. The 1910 U.S. Census shows William (Wilhelm) Urban living on his parents' farm in Serbin, Lee County, Texas, where he was a 21-year old farm laborer. His 1917

World War I draft registration card shows that he was married, had been born at Northrup, Texas (Lee County), and was the book-keeper and manager of the Walburg Garage at Walburg, Williamson County, Texas. By 1920, according to the census report, William and Alvina Urban were living in rural Nueces County, Texas, where he was a Lutheran minister. William was 31; Alvina was 24, had been born in Germany, and had no occupation listed. The 1930 U.S. Census shows William and Alvina Urban living in Anderson (Grimes County), Texas with their young daughter and son, and a 21-year old boarder, Clarence Burt, who was a school teacher. William Urban is listed as a Methodist minister. He died in February, 1975, but the microfilm at the Austin History Center containing his obituary is badly damaged and unreadable – in any case, obituaries in the American-Statesman of that era were generally no more than a listing of survivors and the time and place of the funeral with no other information.



William Urban's World War I draft registration card shows him as a married man living in Walburg, Williamson County, Texas, where he was the book-keeper and manager of the Walburg Garage.

Olga Patschke (ca. 1960 to ca. 1975)

Olga Patschke appears in the 1930 U.S. Census report along with her husband, Walter. He was then 29; she was then 26. They had 2 small children. Both Walter and Olga had been born in Texas, and were living on a rented farm in Milam County, Texas at the time of the census report.

PATSCHKE, Olga, 89, of Thorndale died Wednesday. Services 10 a.m. Saturday, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Thorndale. Burial church cemetery. (Condra, Taylor)

Funeral notice for Olga Patschke
Austin American-Statesman, July 19, 1991

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE PERMIT

No. 8040B

Austin, Texas

Received of Harper Linscomb Date 8/16/1928
 Address 503 W. 30th.
 Amount twelve dollars \$ 12.00
 Builder or Owner Mrs. C. G. Wukasch Plumber _____
 Lot _____ Block _____ Subdivision _____ Plat No. _____

2nd lot from Fruth

Date of Connection	<u>8/28/1928</u>	No. Fittings 28' Pipe 4" tile Pipe Wyes Bends 4" 1/8 Reducers Plugs Sand Gravel Remix Stoppers Castings 1/8 other sack cement Labor: 40 hrs.
By City	_____	
By Plumber	_____	
Checked By	<u>Spence</u>	
Size Main	<u>6"</u>	
Depth	<u>4 1/2'</u>	
Main Assign.	<u>in St. 23' from PL</u>	
Stub Depth	<u>Prop. Line</u>	
Stub Location	_____	
Book No.	<u>A-489</u>	
Paving Cut	_____ No. _____	

This sanitary sewer permit shows that Walter Wukasch's mother, Mrs. C.G. Wukasch, owned the property in 1928; however, it does not appear that the house was built at that time.

Unless the Plumbing is done in strict accordance with City Ordinances, do not turn on the water.

PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE AUSTIN, TEXAS No. 9181 *Dec. 63*

Address 503 W. 30th St.

Plumber LEVERITT Size of Tap 3/4" Date 7/24/31

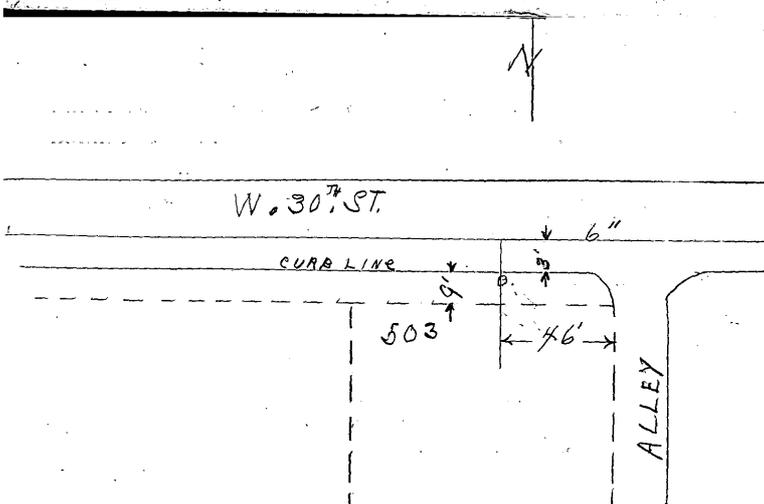
Foreman's Report *Ed. Jap*

Date of Connection	<u>7/24/31</u>	No. Fittings Curb Cock 3/4" Elbow St. Elbow Bushing Reducer 6" Pipe 3/4" cap Lead Comp. Nipples Union Plug Tee Stop Box Lid Valves Req. No.
Size of Tap Made	<u>3/4"</u>	
Size Service Made	<u>3/4"</u>	
Size Main Tapped	<u>6"</u>	
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock	<u>7'</u>	
From E. Prop. Line to Curb Cock	<u>46'</u>	
Location of Meter	<u>FRONT</u>	
Type of Box	<u>20" CK</u>	
Depth of Main in St.	<u>30"</u>	
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main	<u>5' 6"</u>	

Checked by Engr. Dept. 8-10-31 JCA.

INDEXED

Foreman's Signature _____



This 1931 water service permit shows the location of the house and a date of 1931. Both this permit and the sewer permit show the old address of 503 W. 30th Street, which is also shown on the 1935 Sanborn map.

OWNER	Olga Patschke	ADDRESS	603 West 30th Street
PLAT	63	LOT	4
SUBDIVISION		Garpers Resub	
OCCUPANCY	Bathroom		
BLD PERMIT #	100350	DATE	7-18-66
OWNERS ESTIMATE		350.00	
CONTRACTOR	O W Teinert	NO. OF FIXTURES 3	
WATER TAP REC #	SEWER TAP REC #		
Remodeling Frame Residence			

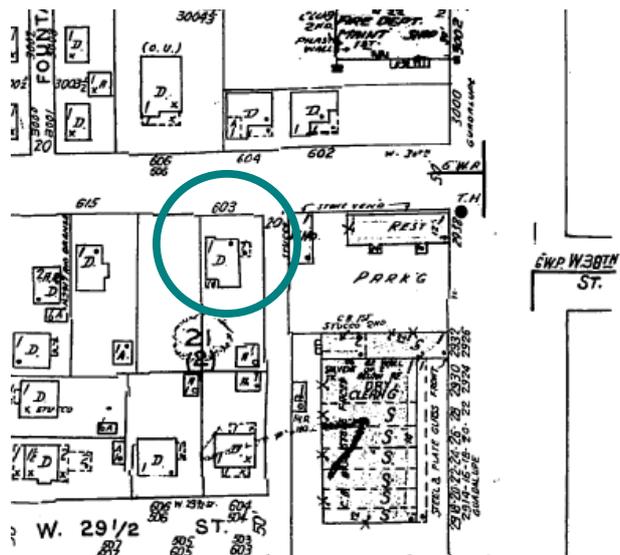
Olga Patschke obtained a permit in 1966 to remodel the house.



The 1922 Sanborn map shows a different house at the site of the current house.



The 1935 Sanborn map shows the current house with an address of 503 W. 30th Street.



The 1962 Sanborn map shows the current house with the address of 603 W. 30th Street.

CHARLIE'S CONFECTIONERY:

A SWEET SUCCESS STORY



By: Kenneth C. Wukasch

CHARLIE'S CONFECTIONERY: A SWEET SUCCESS STORY

Charles George Wukasch was born January 29, 1875, near Serbin, Texas in Lee County. He was the first and only child born to the marriage of George W. Wukasch and Marie Knippa. When his mother died two weeks later, Charles was raised by an aunt, Teresa Knippa.

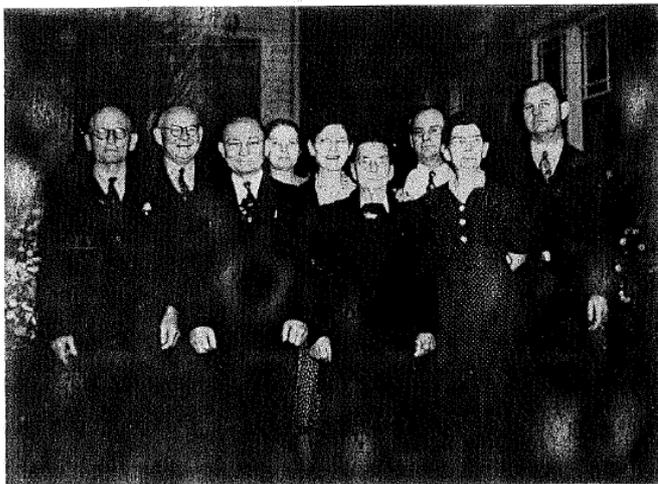


Theresa Knippa, sister of Marie



Marie Knippa, mother of C.G. Wukasch

Within a few years, George remarried and had eight more children; Gerhardt (Jerry), Martha, Louise, Selma, Frieda, August, Joe and Otto with his new wife, Marie Pilack who was affectionately called "Mutter."



Charles & the children born to George W. Wukasch & Marie Pilack:
Left to Right- Charles, Jerry, Joe, Frieda, Louise, Marie (Mutter),
August, Martha & Otto



C.G. Wukasch at age 2.

As Charles grew to manhood he found life to be hard on the Wukasch farm near Serbin. His grandfather, Matthias had purchased 85.25 acres of the so-called Delaplain League in the 1860's for 50 cents per acre. ¹ It was probably a typical Wendish farm consisting of a cabin built out of small logs directly on the ground with a few furnishings and comforts. Livestock such as chickens, ducks, geese and a 'milch cow' provided food, down and dairy products for the family. ²



Charles' confirmation photo. July, 1894



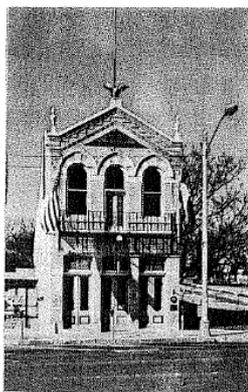
Charles Wukasch, Feb. 14, 1896

The years between 1875 and 1898 must have been extremely difficult for Charles and the other Wendish settlers. "Severe drought and low productivity of the soil prevented the dense settlement of a Wendish colony, and just as in Australia, the Wends scattered in search of more farm land or for jobs in the city."³ It was in the city that Charles saw his future and in 1898 moved to Austin.



Private C.G. Wukasch, Spanish American War, 1898.

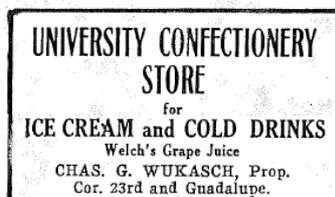
In April, 1898, the United States declared war on Spain and Charles immediately enlisted at Camp Mabry with Troop G of the 1st Texas Volunteers. Most of his enlistment involved routine marching and drilling: "Discipline was very strict; if soldiers didn't behave and follow orders they would be forced to carry rocks."⁴



Old Lundberg Bakery & Emporium
at 11th & Congress Ave.

With the end of the war in August, 1898, Charles began his search for work in Austin. He found a job that paid \$4.00 per month including room and board but later recalled how his third grade education severely limited his job opportunities. Soon however, he was offered work by Henry Maerki who managed the Lundberg Bakery on Congress Avenue. Here Charles worked long hours learning those skills that would one day be necessary to successfully operate his own business. He was also careful to save his money. "Thrift was a trait the Wend knew in Europe and it enabled him to exist in Texas. They improved themselves not only through hard work but through frugality and self-denial." ⁵ By 1902, Charles had saved and borrowed over \$300.00 and felt ready for self-enterprise. But what type of enterprise and where should it be located?

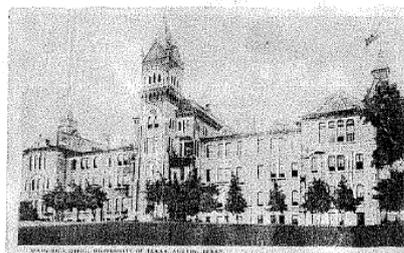
The population of Austin in 1900 had grown to 22,258; almost double of what it had been in 1890. The University of Texas now had an astounding attendance of 986. ⁶ It was here that Charles had a vision of a growing and dynamic university community so in 1902 he opened a sweet shop, Charlie's Confectionery at 24th Guadalupe Street. Within two years however his business was relocated when he purchased the corner of 23rd and Guadalupe. Charles' son Walter recalled how his father made this important decision: "When given the opportunity to either purchase the corner of 24th and Guadalupe for \$2000.00 or the corner of 23rd and Guadalupe for \$1000.00, he chose the less expensive property." ⁷ Charlie's University confectionery store became the first eating establishment located in the University area and the third business to open on "The Drag." (The other two businesses were a saloon and bank) Charles recalled that "when he first went into business here, the University physical plant consisted of one building." ⁸ (University of Texas Main Building) There was only one paved street in Austin, Congress Avenue, and the cost for riding a street car pulled by a horse from 1st street to the capitol was 5 cents.



Advertisement for Charles' first store.
The Texan, newspaper, April 22, 1908.



Charles' first store at 23rd Guadalupe.
University Confectionery Store-1904.

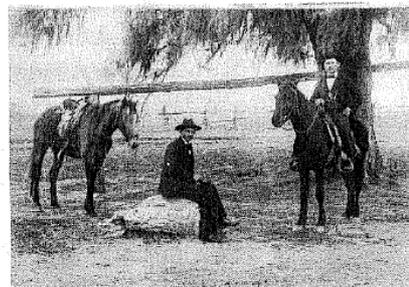


Main Building, University of Texas

With his business now firmly established Charles returned to Serbin and married Emma Helen Hannusch of Winchester on August 10, 1903, in the Serbin Community Lutheran Church. His best man and ushers were Henry and Jerry Wukasch of Austin and John Hannusch of Winchester. Her matron-of-honor was Mrs. Henry Schmidt of Winchester and bridesmaids Martha and Louise Wukasch of Austin. 9



Charles & Emma's wedding photo-1903.



John Hannusch, brother of Emma, & Charles enjoying their horses on family farm near Winchester.

and Louise Wukasch of Austin. 9 The couple returned immediately to 2218 Guadalupe to begin their lives in business together.

On July 11, 1904, Charles and Emma were blessed with a daughter, Edna Adeline; on July 24, 1908, a son was born, Walter Charles, and on February 20, 1915, the family was completed with the birth of Martin Charles. All three children were born in the upstairs portion of the business at 2218 Guadalupe that served as the family residence until 1919.



Walter Wukasch, 1908.

Although successful in business Charles never forgot his family in Serbin. Between 1904-1920 Charles provided a job and a place to live for his brothers, sisters and cousins. At times, Joe, August, Otto, Martha, Louise, Frieda and Pauline worked and lived at the confectionery. By 1910, they had even been able to move their mother Marie (Mary) Wukasch from Serbin to Austin where she lived at 405 E. 17th Street.



Martin Wukasch, age 2, at front door of original confectionery store.



Charles, Emma, Edna, "Mutter", (in middle) Walter (in front of Emma & Martin (child) at bottom (circa 1918)

Fifteen minutes after the fire was discovered the grocery and confectionery was practically destroyed with a loss estimated at \$5000.00.

At 3:30 the fire had not been brought completely under control, but other property in the neighborhood was not believed to be in any great danger.

Being located just opposite the University the fire created considerable excitement and much uneasiness lest the flames spread to shacks on the campus just across the street. To prevent this firemen were directing their best efforts. The origin of the fire had not been determined. At 4 o'clock the fire was under control. 14

June 5, 1920

GUADALUPE ST. FIRE NEAR THE UNIVERSITY

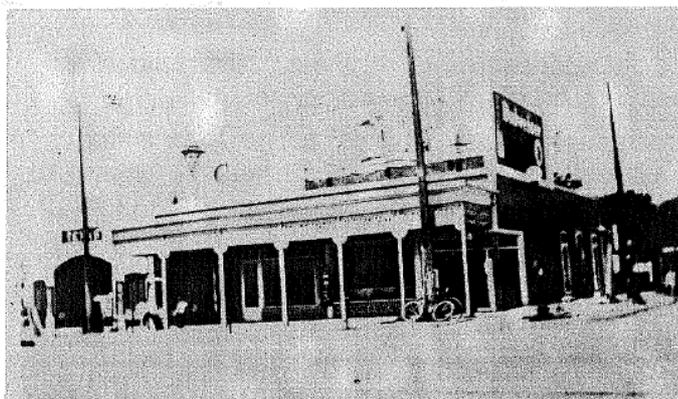
Fire completely destroyed the shop of the University cleaners and Dyers, 2214 Guadalupe Street, directly across from the University of Texas campus, when a gas stove exploded in the drying room Friday afternoon.

The fire swept up the block, practically ruining the Club Pressing shop next door, burning away the roof and demolishing the second story of the Wukasch Bros. Cafe and the Joe Wukasch Grocery Store, subjecting the stock and goods of each to severe damage by water.

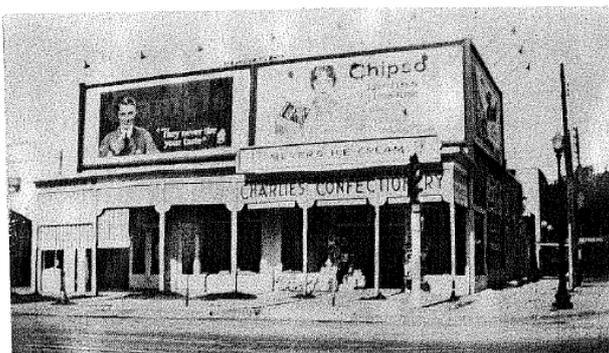
The Wukasch cafe, familiarly termed "Charley's Place" in University circles, and an old landmark and rendezvous of students, presented closed doors Friday night for the first time in years. 15

Following the 1920 fire, Charles & Emma, Joe, Otto and August were faced with a number of difficult financial and business decisions: rebuild or relocate? Joe decided to relocate by moving south to 2000 Guadalupe St. and opening a new grocery store, Otto and August meanwhile moved next to their brother Joe and opened Wukasch Bros. Cafe at 2002 Guadalupe. Charles and Emma rebuilt and opened a new Charlie's Confectionery at the corner of 2220 Guadalupe.

This new store was quite bright and modern: The back dining area was two steps higher than the front with tables and chairs for eating and studying. In the front a long, glass and marble cigar and cigarette counter held the cash register and "more cigars than anyone could possibly smoke." 16



New Charlie's Confectionery Store at 2220 Guadalupe St.
(Early 1920's)



Charlies Confectionery (late 1920's)

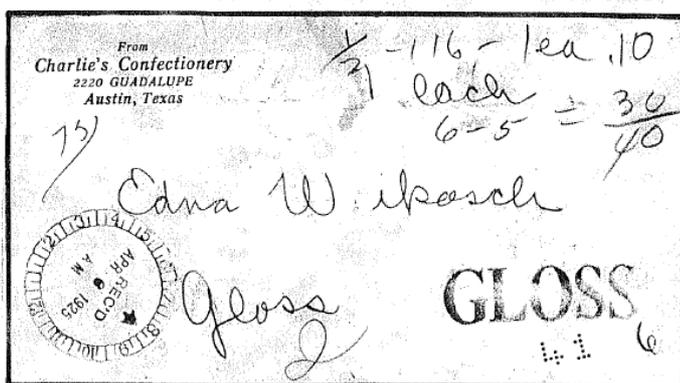
A white-marbled soda fountain served thirsty students cold drinks, ice cream and malts behind which a door led to the kitchen and storage area. Ceiling fans cooled customers on hot, summer days. Walter remembered that on one particular day something got spilled on a lady customer's dress: "Dad was threatened with a lawsuit and had to hire a lawyer. He finally wound up having to buy her a new dress." 17



Interior of new confectionery with Charles behind counter. (circa 1927)

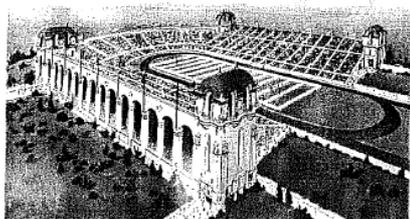


Wukasch auto next to Charlie's Confectionery - (1920)



Advertising envelope for Charlie's Confectionery. (April, 1925)

Always involved in community affairs, Charles was an active member of the Chamber of Commerce and Retail Merchant's Association. In 1921, there was a serious attempt to relocate the University of Texas on the Brackenridge tract along the lake which would have damaged the trend of growth in the university neighborhood. Also, several Texas cities made offers to attract the University. "The Chamber intervened and secured options to purchase and furnish additional land adjoining the campus for expansion of the University on its present site...this definitely ended the constant threat of removing the University of Texas from Austin." 18



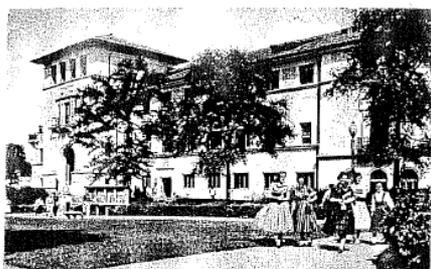
Memorial Stadium. University of Texas. (1920's)

Charles also donated generously and helped solicit financial contributions for the construction of Memorial Stadium, Gregory Gymnasium, The Union Building and other University expansion projects. 19 In 1926, Charles aided in the securing of a campus site for a Missouri Synod Lutheran College-Concordia.



Gregory Gymnasium. University of Texas. (1920's)

Throughout the 1920's, Charlie's Confectionery became a study hall, meeting place and social center for university students. "During the week, library dates were popular. When the lights blinked at 8:45 p.m., students closed their books and, with their dates, walked the Perip, the twelve blocks around the original Forty acres. Students might munch apples or popcorn as they walked, or if the boy was feeling affluent he would take his girl to Charlie's Confectionery at 23rd for a thick chocolate malted milk." 20 But this was more than just a business to Charles and Emma. They actually got to know most of the students who attended the University between 1902-1929. Many of them were not only hired in part-time jobs, some were able to complete their education through this indirect aid.



Union Building. University of Texas. (1950's)

The whole C.G. Wukasch family worked to make the confectionery successful. While attending parochial and public schools the three children cleaned, cooked and

waited tables. The family always owned a newer model automobile. Walter remembered that it was a Buick that in those days offered few luxuries. "When it was very cold Dad would heat bricks, wrap and then set them in the car-there was no heater." 21



Emma in front of family car amused at canine passenger (1920's)

With only a limited formal education it was Charles and Emma's dream to see their children obtain college diplomas. In 1925, Edna became the third woman to receive a degree from the U.T. School of Architectural Engineering, Walter received a B.B.A. degree in 1929, and Martin received his degree in Chemical Engineering in 1941. Since Walter had earned his degree in Business Administration, Charles decided to turn the management responsibilities of Charles' over to him. Walter remembered his dad being told by one of his customers: "You don't need a bookkeeper, let Walter do it - let him take over the business." 22

The 1930's saw the effects of the Great Depression on Texas and the whole country. Business and bank failures came to symbolize America during the decade. However, Austin was one of the bright spots among cities with the worst effects of the Depression never really hitting the city. "University money helped the Austin economy, along with Roosevelt administration work funds. It would bring an expansive building program, including completion of the University Tower in 1937." 23

Charles and Emma especially enjoyed sharing time with their children in spite of the heavy demands of business. Vacations were often spent taking outings to Lake Travis, traveling to visit relatives or on picnics with their growing family.



Charles & Emma with friends at Lake Travis.



Charles & Emma on vacation

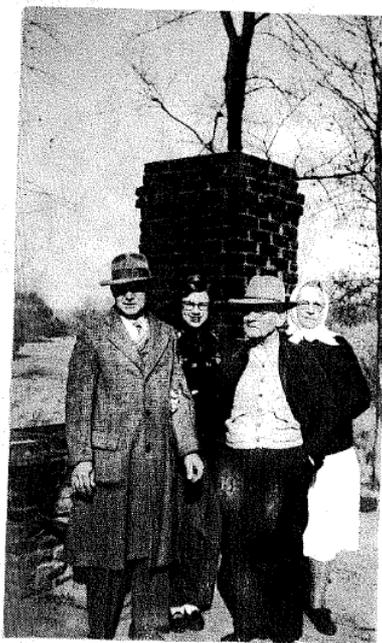


Emma. "Just returned from Chicago. Among the hedges in Edna & Alvin's yard." (1930)

In 1925, their oldest daughter Edna married Alvin Swiedom of Austin, in 1933 Walter was married to Billye Teykl of Austin and in 1937 Martin married Ruth Faubion of Leander. They were especially proud each time another grandchild was born: Arlene(1930), Connie(1936), Don(1937), Barry(1939), Charles(1940), Ken(1942), and Jim and Jan(1954). By 1938, Charles and Emma were ready for retirement and closed Charlie's Confectionery for good.



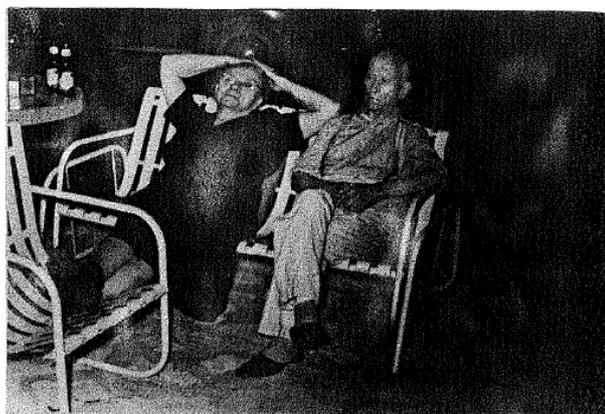
Charles & Emma's new daughter-in-laws: Billye Teykl & Ruth Faubion



Charles & Emma with son-in-law Alvin Swiedom & daughter Connie.



Grandchildren of Charles & Emma:
Left to Right- Barry, Arlene, Charles,
 Don, Ken, Connie (1945)



Charles & Emma relaxing and enjoying retirement.



Charles & Emma with the whole family in Walter's boat,
 "Dixie Belle", at Lake Travis. (1950's)

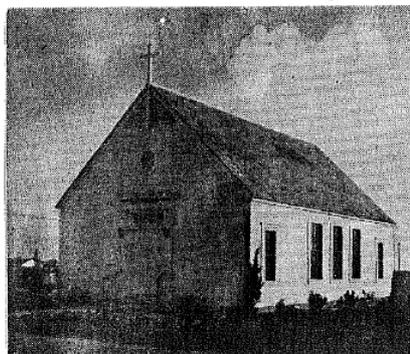


Grandchildren of Charles & Emma-
 Jim & Jan (1958)

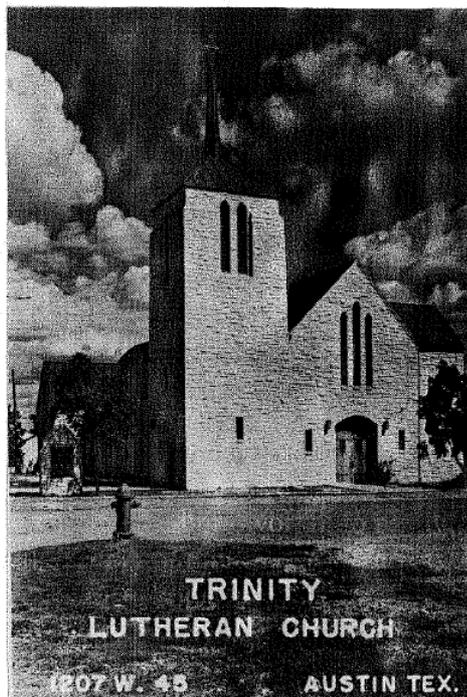
Always very active church members, they now helped organize a new congregation in Austin. As a member of St. Paul Lutheran since 1898, Charles was always interested in expanding membership and participating in church work while Emma was active in the Women's Missionary League and Ladies Aid Society. Both were charter members of Trinity Lutheran Church that was dedicated on October 2, 1938. After the original property had been secured for Trinity, Charles donated the land on which the school now stands, one lot in 1941 and one lot in 1944. His brother Otto donated the parking lot on West 45th in 1943. 24

By 1952, the congregation had grown to 575 members creating the need for a new church. The church was completed and dedicated on July 20, 1952 at Maybelle and 45th street with the total cost at \$136,000. 25 Charles and Emma always could be counted on by the congregation: the candlesticks were donated in gratitude to Rev. Arthur E. Graf for faithful service to the Lord and Emma later donated the choir handbells. The work of the

Lord and the congregation was very important and special to both of them.



First Trinity Lutheran Church in Austin. (1938)



New Trinity Lutheran Church. Built in 1952.

Probably the highlight of Charles and Emma's retirement was the celebration of their golden wedding anniversary on August 9, 1953. An open house was held at the home of Walter and Billye Wukasch at 719 Carolyn Avenue. On display was Emma's wedding veil and the veil her daughter Edna had worn 28 years earlier along with pictures of both weddings. There was also a reunion of the majority of the wedding party who witnessed the marriage of Charles and Emma in the Serbin Community Lutheran Church in 1903. 26



Proud moment for Charles & Emma with children at their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1953. Left to Right- Walter, Emma, Charles, Edna, Martin

UT FRIEND CHARLIE WUKASCH DIES AT HOME; RITES PENDING

Headlines of Charles' death announcement in the Austin Statesman, March 23, 1954.

Early on the morning of Tuesday, March 23, 1954, Charles George Wukasch peacefully died at his home. The funeral was arranged by Hyltin-Manor Funeral Home. 27 Relatives came throughout the day to pay their respects and remember Charles. Trinity Lutheran Church was filled to capacity with people of all ages and professions who had known or whose lives had somehow been touched by his. The silver casket was covered by an American flag in recognition of his service during the Spanish-American War and he was buried with full military honors in Oakwood Cemetery.



Emma's brother (at her left)
John Hannusch of Winchester.
(1954)

Emma remained active in business, family and church activities. Soon after Charles' death she moved her brother John Hannusch to live with her. She looked after and cared for him until his death in 1964. Emma especially enjoyed visiting older friends and relatives, reliving and talking about the early days in Serbin and Austin. She was a very caring and generous friend and grandmother. In spite of her strong will and determination to remain active her health was beginning to fail due to her diabetes and high blood pressure. And after her brother's death she seemed to feel that her life's work was complete. On April 1, 1964, Emma Helen Hannusch Wukasch was found dead in bed by her grandson Charles. On Friday, April 3, at 2 p.m. funeral services were held at Trinity Lutheran Church with Pastor Martin Ramming officiating. Emma was buried next to Charles in Oakwood Cemetery. 28

Mrs. Wukasch, 80, Dies; Rites Friday

Headlines of Emma's death announcement in the Austin American, April 2, 1964.

Texas Wendish Heritage Society

Newsletter

Volume XXIV, Number 2, April 2011

Wendish Ancestral Sketches

Following is the first of what we hope will become a continuing series of sketches, each focusing on one individual. The goal for publishing these sketches is to share with all our readers some interesting stories about the individuals and families who came before us. Have you been collecting family history, stories and data and wondered how you could share those interesting stories with others who might be related to you, but grow faint at the thought of trying to write a book about your family history? If so, read the following sketch about Charles George Wukasch—hopefully you will be inspired to write a brief article about your Wendish ancestor and send it to us. We will happily provide editorial assistance. Who knows? The result might just be the compilation of a large collection of stories about our Wendish ancestors that would be preserved so that future generations can also read about their ancestors. If you are interested, please contact Jan Slack, Newsletter editor, at the museum.

Charles George Wukasch, Wendish Businessman Ken Wukasch

Charles George Wukasch is representative of those Wends who left the agricultural life of Lee County for careers in Texas cities. From 1902 until 1929, he owned and operated Charlie's Confectionery, near the campus of the University of Texas at Austin. His business, located on Guadalupe Street, a stretch next to the campus that later became known as "The Drag," soon became a popular place for students to meet and relax. His business also became an anchor for neighboring business development and provided employment for friends and relatives.

Charles George Wukasch was born January 29, 1875, near Serbin, Texas in Lee County. He was the first and only child born to the marriage of George W. Wukasch and Marie Knippa. When his mother died two weeks later, Charles would be raised by an aunt, Teresa Knippa.

As Charles grew to manhood he found life to be hard on the Wukasch farm near Serbin. The years between 1875 and 1898 were extremely difficult on the Wendish settlers. Drought, combined with poor soil, resulted in the settlers not being able to grow sufficient crops to support their families. Consequently, many of the Wends left Serbin in search of better opportunities.

Just as Charles was questioning his future, the Spanish-American War broke out. On April 18, 1898, Charles traveled to Schulenburg to enlist with Troop G of the 1st Texas Volunteers. He was not sent out of the country, but spent the majority of his time at Camp Mabry in Austin where most of his enlistment involved routine marching and drilling. According to Charles, "discipline was very strict; if soldiers didn't behave and follow orders they would be forced to carry rocks." After the war Charles went to Austin and looked for a job. One of his first job opportunities was with Henry Maerki who managed the Lundberg Bakery on Congress Avenue. Here, Charles learned the skills necessary to successfully operate his own business.

By 1902, Charles had saved and borrowed over \$300 and felt ready for self-enterprise. The population of Austin by 1900 had grown to 22,258—almost double from what it had been in 1890—and the enrollment at the University of Texas was an astounding 986. Charles envisioned being part of a growing and dynamic university community, so in 1902 he opened a sweet shop, Charlie's Confectionery, at the corner of 24th & Guadalupe Street.

In 1904, Charles saw the opportunity to purchase the corner property at 23rd & Guadalupe, across the street from the campus. Charlie's Confectionery was the third business to open on the "Drag." The other two businesses were a saloon and a bank. With his business now established, Charles was ready to take the next step: on August 10, 1903, he married Emma Helen Hannusch in a ceremony at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Winchester, where Emma had grown up.

Charles and Emma returned to Austin immediately to begin their lives together. While the couple worked downstairs they lived upstairs above their business. These early years in business often meant long hours and hard work. Cleaning, mopping, washing, cooking and serving customers left little spare time for family and pleasure.

On July 11, 1904, Charles and Emma were blessed with a daughter, Edna Adeline. On July 24, 1908, a son, Walter Charles was born. On February 20, 1915, the family was completed with the birth of Martin Charles. All three children were born in the upstairs portion of the business that served as the family residence until 1919.

Although successful in business in Austin, Charles never forgot his family in Serbin. Between 1904 and 1920 Charles provided jobs and a place to live for other members of his family. Over time, they would begin their own jobs and businesses that would contribute to the economy and growth of Austin.

By 1919, Charles and Emma had been successful enough to be able to purchase a home not far from the business. As it happened, the timing of this purchase was quite fortunate. On June 4, 1920, a devastating fire broke out on the 23rd block of Guadalupe and within a few hours had completely destroyed Charlie's Confectionery. Following the fire, Charles and Emma were faced with a difficult decision: rebuild or relocate? By 1922, Charles and Emma were able to open a new and thoroughly "modern" Charlie's Confectionery close to the original location and still across the street from the campus.

Always involved in community affairs, Charles was an active member of the Chamber of Commerce and Retail Merchants Association. He also was a generous contributor to the construction of Memorial Stadium, Gregory Gymnasium, and the Student Union Building on the U.T. campus. In 1926, Charles aided in the securing of a campus site for Concordia Lutheran College.

Throughout the 1920s, Charlie's Confectionery became a study hall, meeting place and social center for University of Texas students. Charles' family worked to make the business a success. While attending parochial and public schools the three children cleaned, cooked and waited tables. With only a limited education, it was Charles and Emma's dream to see their children obtain college diplomas. In 1925, Edna became the third woman to receive a degree from the U.T. School of Architectural Engineering. Walter received a B.B.A. degree in 1929 and Martin received his degree in Chemical Engineering in 1941. By 1929, Charles made the

(continued on next page)



C.G. Wukasch, age 21



Charlie's Confectionery ca. 1928

decision to retire and turned the business over to Walter.

Walter had bought property on Lake Travis in the late 1930s so the family was often found in and around the lake's cool and relaxing waters. Vacations were often spent traveling to visit out-of-state relatives or on picnics to favorite Austin landmarks like Barton Springs and Deep Eddy. They also took every opportunity to enjoy time with their eight grandchildren.

Always very active church members, Charles and Emma helped to organize a new congregation in Austin, Trinity Lutheran Church. This new church was dedicated on October 2, 1938. As in business, Charles' generosity to the work of the Lord could be counted on. After the original property had been secured for Trinity, Charles donated the land on which the school now stands; one lot in 1941 and another in 1944. By 1952, the congregation had grown to 575 members creating the need for a new sanctuary. The work of the Lord was very important and special to both of them.

Early on the morning of Tuesday, March 23, 1954, Charles George Wukasch died peacefully at his home. Trinity Lutheran Church was filled to capacity with people of all ages and professions who had known him or whose lives he had touched. Charles was buried in Oakwood Cemetery with full military honors. On April 1, 1964, Emma died in the same home that she had shared with Charles since 1919. She was buried next to Charles in Oakwood Cemetery.

51st Annual Michael Schoppa Family Reunion
 June 17, 18 & 19th, 2011
 Fathers Day Weekend
 Camp Graham Ball
 at Lake Kickapoo
 RV sites & cabins
 Camp opens: Friday 4:00 PM
 Camp closes: Sunday 4:00 PM
 Questions? Contact
 Edgar Schoppa -
 nschoppa@att.net
 or Brian Schoppa -
 (940-552-2312)

HELP WANTED

Wendish volunteers forming team to create research website. Many topics include customs, history, religious beliefs, accomplishments, genealogy, and more. Many roles to be filled. Many volunteers needed. Technical & non-technical positions. Learn while helping preserve our history. Visit <http://ResearchProject.info> for more info, or call Weldon at 512-635-6429.

Lower-Wendish Dictionary Available

Martin Dobring is presently accepting pre-orders from those who wish to purchase a copy of the second printing of his Lower-Wendish Dictionary. Please note that this is the Lower Sorbian language, spoken in the Cottbus area of Germany. Martin would like to know how many firm commitments there are before he has them printed. He will sell copies at his cost, which will be about \$16.00 per book plus packaging and shipping costs (\$5 US). Individual copies sent to Australia, Europe, or South Africa presently cost \$16 US each to ship and he anticipates an increase in that cost in the near future.

If you are interested in ordering a copy, please contact Martin by mail at 1317 Chestnut St., Port Huron, MI 48060-5719 or by phone at (810) 985-5262.

In Search of...



Shantell Grace is seeking information about the German Mercantile in Thorndale. Her great-great grandfather, J. C. Leschber, went bankrupt following several lawsuits. He, along with several members, were shareholders of some sort in the German Mercantile. Please contact her if you have any information on the German Mercantile in Thorndale or on the following ancestors: Woelfel, Unnasch, Miller, Schwarz, Simank, Dornbusch, and Leach. Shantelle can be contacted by email at bluebonnet-hill@att.net or by mail at 1205 Buice Drive SW, Lilburn, Georgia 30047.

Samuel McCaskill

25 S 32nd St • Boulder, Co 80305 • Phone: 512-565-3744
E-Mail: scott.mccaskill@hotmail.com

Date: April 4, 2012

Steve Sadowsky
Historic Preservation Officer
City of Austin

Dear Mr. Sadowsky:

I understand that a approval of a demolition/relocation permit for 603 W 30th St. has been recommended by your office but not approved by the Historic Landmark Commission of the City of Austin at the March 26, 2012, hearing on grounds that there may be historical value to the house. I also understand the Historic Landmark Commission initiated historic zoning of my property against my wishes and without my consent at the same hearing instructing you to perform more research on the property.

However, initiating and approving any sort of landmark designation requires the approval of the property owner, according to Sec. 191.094. DESIGNATING A LANDMARK ON PRIVATE LAND of the Natural Resources Code. The City of Austin and the Historic Landmark Commission do NOT have my consent as owner for my property at 603 W 30th St.

I request that you approve the demolition/relocation permit immediately, as delaying approval threatens the sale of my property and places undue financial hardship on my family.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Samuel G McCaskill III