

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
APRIL 27, 2015
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2015-0305
4811 BURNET ROAD

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1958 commercial building.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, irregular-plan, gabled- and flat-roofed concrete block and Masonite commercial building with a large flat-roofed overhang supported by angled metal posts; plate-glass fenestration in bands around the building.

RESEARCH

The site was originally the home of a branch lot of Capitol Chevrolet in 1957, but it is unclear as to whether there was a building on the site. There is no building permit extant for the current building, and it is believed to have been built as a Frostop Drive-In restaurant in 1958. Frostop was a root beer company out of Columbus, Ohio, that built drive-in restaurants throughout the country in the late 1950s and early 1960s, similar to its principal competitor, A&W. There is still a Frostop Drive-In in Huntington, West Virginia, that shares some of the architectural features of the building on Burnet Road, including the extended overhang and Masonite construction. This building was the Frostop until around 1970, when it became Walt's Coffee Pot. It was The Cove restaurant in the late 1970s, and around 1978, it became the Omelettry, which it remains to this day, although the restaurant will be moving to a new location in a strip center on Airport Boulevard.

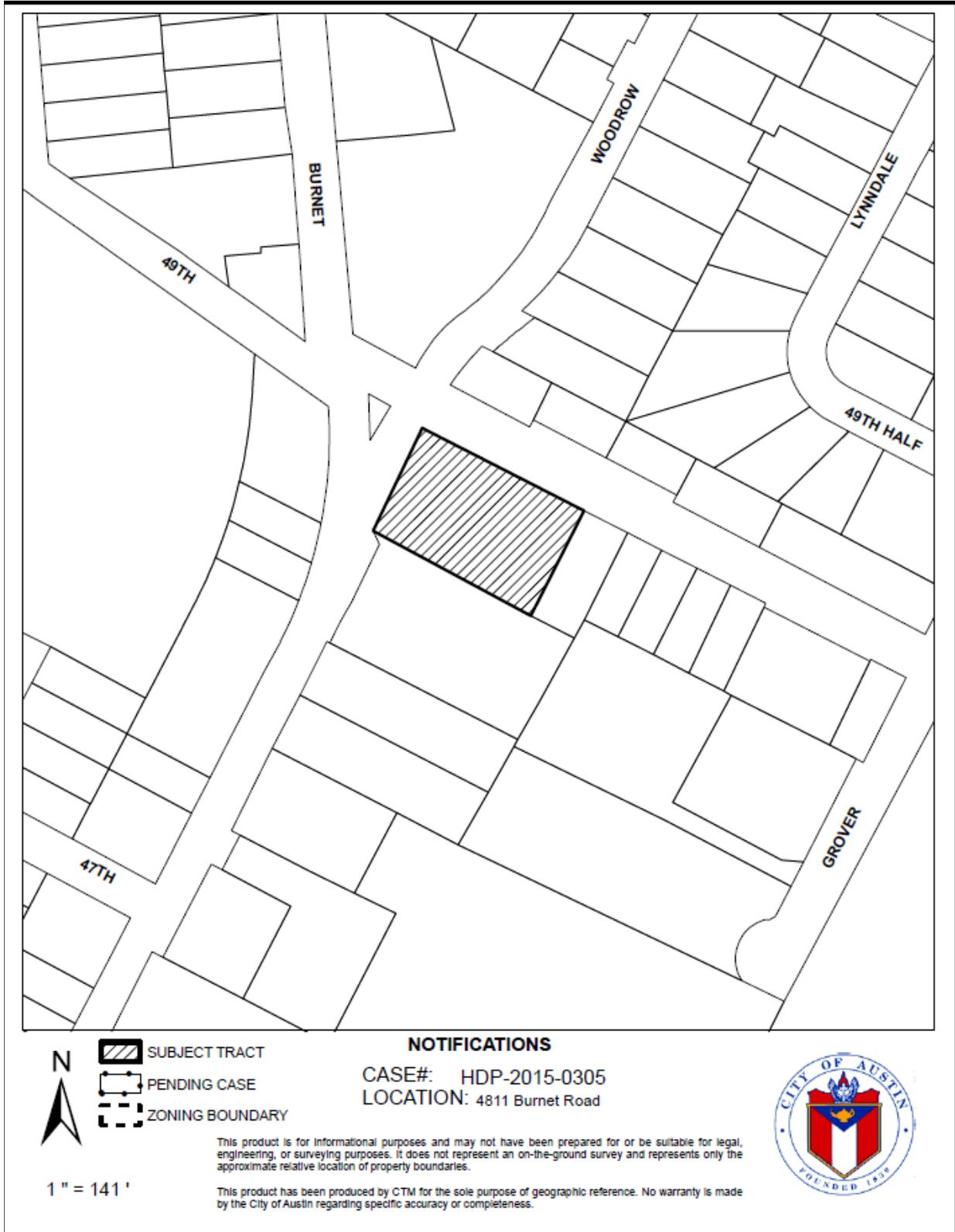
STAFF COMMENTS

The building does not appear in any City survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

If this building had retained its original configuration as a Frostop Drive-In, then staff would have recommended initiation of a historic zoning case as an example of mid-century modern design and association with the drive-in restaurant culture of the 1950s. However, this building has been substantially modified over the years, and no longer retains its integrity of materials and design. Staff recommends release of the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center.

LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2015-0305
LOCATION: 4811 Burnet Road



1" = 141'

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by CTM for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

4811 Burnet Road
ca. 1958



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 4811 Burnet Road

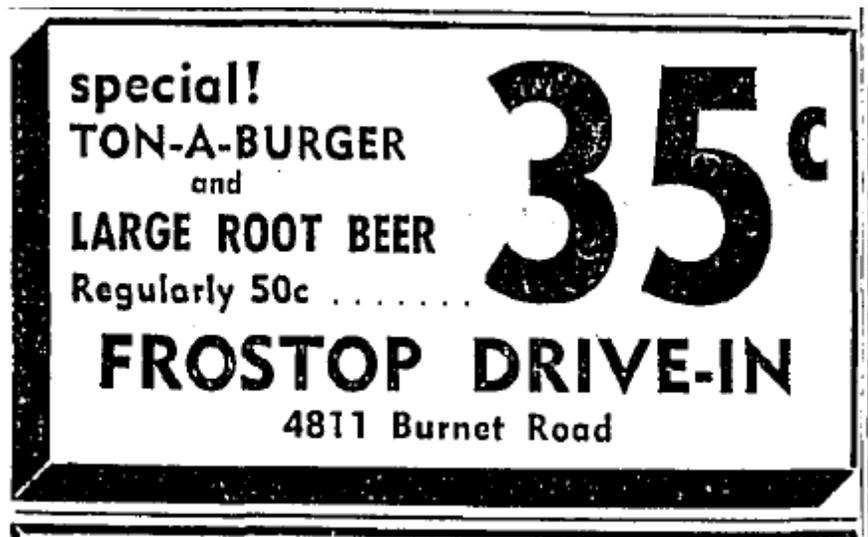
City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
April, 2015

1992	The Omelettry, restaurant Ken Carpenter, proprietor
1985-86	The Omelettry, restaurant Ken Carpenter, proprietor
1981	The Omelettry, restaurant Ken Carpenter, proprietor
1977	The Cove Restaurant Rockwell Boyd, proprietor NOTE: There is no listing for The Omelettry; Ken Carpenter is listed as the peace education secretary for the American Friends Service Committee.
1973	Walt's Coffee Pot, restaurant Walter Harden, proprietor
1968	Frostop Drive-In, restaurant Billy V. Jackson, proprietor
1962	Frostop Drive In, restaurant Curtis Kirksey, proprietor
1959	Frostop Drive-In, restaurant Curtis Kirksey, proprietor

- 1958 Vacant
- 1957 Capitol Chevrolet branch show lot
- 1955 The address is not listed in the directory.



The Frostop Drive-In in Huntington, West Virginia
Note the angled metal posts supporting the overhanging roof, identical to those on the current Burnet Road building.



Ad for the Frostop Drive-In
Austin Statesman, April 28, 1960

TAKE HOME SPECIAL!
1/2 Gal. Frostop Root Beer FREE!
WITH EVERY ORDER OF 5 HAMBURGERS
OR MORE!
WED., THURS., FRIDAY
PHONE YOUR ORDER FOR IMMEDIATE PICKUP
FROSTOP DRIVE-IN • • 4811 BURNET RD.

Ad for Frostop Drive-In
Austin Statesman, January 11, 1961

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SPECIALS!
TUESDAY—WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY (11 TO 9 P.M.)

- STEAK SANDWICH
ON BUN WITH SALAD
- BURGER IN A BOAT

49^c ea.

All Served With French Fries and Root Beer

- EXTRA SPECIAL — COKE FLOAT 9¢

Frostop Drive-In Restaurant
4811 BURNET ROAD
CALL GL 2-1015 AND YOUR FOOD
ORDER IS WAITING
VISIT OUR AIR-CONDITIONED DINING ROOM

Ad for the Frostop Drive-In
Austin Statesman, September 5, 1963

Sign Permit:
 OWNER Omelettry ADDRESS 4811 Burnet RD.

 PLAT 189 LOT 1 BLK.

 SUBDIVISION Albert Wilson

 OCCUPANCY Sign

 BLDG. PERMIT # 170048 DATE 1-23-78 OWNERS ESTIMATE 500.00

 CONTRACTOR Port A Sign NO. OF FIXTURES

 WATER TAP REC# SEWER TAP REC#

Sign permit for the Omelettry (1978)