

## PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

Although applicants and/or their agent(s) are expected to attend a public hearing, you are not required to attend. However, if you do attend, you have the opportunity to speak FOR or AGAINST the proposed development or change. You may also contact a neighborhood or environmental organization that has expressed an interest in an application affecting your neighborhood.

During a public hearing, the board or commission may postpone or continue an application's hearing to a later date, or recommend approval or denial of the application. If the board or commission announces a specific date and time for a postponement or continuation that is not later than 60 days from the announcement, no further notice is required.

A board or commission's decision may be appealed by a person with standing to appeal, or an interested party that is identified as a person who can appeal the decision. The body holding a public hearing on an appeal will determine whether a person has standing to appeal the decision.

An interested party is defined as a person who is the applicant or record owner of the subject property, or who communicates an interest to a board or commission by:

- delivering a written statement to the board or commission before or during the public hearing that generally identifies the issues of concern (it may be delivered to the contact person listed on a notice); or
- appearing and speaking for the record at the public hearing;

and:

- occupies a primary residence that is within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development;
- is the record owner of property within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development; or
- is an officer of an environmental or neighborhood organization that has an interest in or whose declared boundaries are within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development.

A notice of appeal must be filed with the director of the responsible department no later than 14 days after the decision. An appeal form may be available from the responsible department.

For additional information on the City of Austin's land development process, visit our web site: [www.ci.austin.tx.us/development](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/development).

Written comments must be submitted to the board or commission (or the contact person listed on the notice) before or at a public hearing. Your comments should include the board or commission's name, the scheduled date of the public hearing, and the Case Number and the contact person listed on the notice.

Case Number(s): **NRD-2016-0049 PR-2016-071561**

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing:

July 25, 2016 Historic Landmark Commission

Dimi Mastri

Your Name (please print)

I am in favor  
 I object

1207A Enfield Rd

Your address(es) affected by this application

Dimi Mastri

Signature

7/25/16

Date

Comments: UPDATE

I found the actual building plans for the correct property. I still object because of the construction noise and traffic disruption. I don't see how the property can sustain the changes. The neighborhood dogs will go insane. This is a historic neighborhood and we don't need the headaches.

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning and Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

## PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

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Case Number(s): C14H-2002-0020

Contact: Steve Sadowsky, 512-974-6454

Public Hearing: Historic Landmark Commission, July 25, 2016

Dimi Mestier

Your Name (please print)

I am in favor  
 I object

1207A Enfield Rd

Your address(es) affected by this application

Dimi Mestier

Signature

7/25/16

Date

Comments: UPDATE

Although I still don't want the construction and traffic problems, I found the plans for the property and withdraw my objections.

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:

City of Austin

Planning & Zoning Department

Steve Sadowsky

P. O. Box 1088

Austin, TX 78767-8810

Fax Number: (512) 974-9104

Peter Flagg Maxson  
Architectural Historian  
4212 Avenue F  
Austin TX 78751

512.452.3044

20 July 2016

Mr. Steve Sadowsky  
City Preservation Officer  
City of Austin  
[steve.sadowsky@austintexas.gov](mailto:steve.sadowsky@austintexas.gov)

Dear Steve:

I understand that the longtime home of Dr. Jenny Lind Porter (b. 1927) at 1715 Summit View is being considered for a possible demolition permit.

Unfortunately I am out of Austin this month and unable to reference Austin City Directories and other resources for learning of its early history. But it appears to have both architectural and historical significance sufficient to warrant its recognition and preservation.

I understand that it has the longest association with Dr. Porter of any of her residences in Austin. As you know, she was an author and longtime professor of English at Huston-Tillotson College and in 1964 was appointed Poet Laureate of Texas by Gov. John Connally. She received her B.A. and M.A. from Texas Christian University and her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. She also received an honorary doctorate from the University of Free Asia for her literacy and humanitarian efforts, and is also recognized as a member of the Texas Women's Hall of Fame at Texas Women's University.

Architecturally, her Summit View villa is a very distinctive example of the Mediterranean Revival style. I would have no trouble attributing the design of the house to esteemed Austin architect Hugo F. Kuehne, and it bears certain stylistic similarities with Kuehne's own home and other commissions in the Aldrich Place neighborhood and elsewhere. The round-headed doors, terra cotta tile roof, the picturesque massing of the building and the fine

ironwork, reportedly the work of iron master Fortunat Weigl combine to make it a significant building even in the Pemberton and West Austin context.

While some would evaluate potential landmarks solely on age, size or grandeur, they would miss the point. The Porter House among its contemporaries is in the upper tier for its architecture, and Dr. Porter must be considered an important early female academic, not just in Austin but arguably in a statewide Texas context. She had many philanthropic and collecting interests, and with her late husband, oil man Lawrence Evans Scott, was a patron of the O. Henry Museum, home of her distant kinsman William Sydney Porter. She has given generously to the Austin History Center, and a Jenny Lind Porter Scholarship Award was established at U.T. Austin in her honor.

Additionally, the Porter House will grow further in importance with the passage of time if its integrity is preserved. I hope the Landmarks Commission will work to insure the survival and continued enjoyment of this significant Austin property.

Please feel free to distribute my letters to the Historic Landmarks Commission and others who may be interested. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Peter Flagg Maxson

cc: Preservation Austin





**KUEHNE, HUGO FRANZ** (1884–1963). Hugo Franz Kuehne, architect and a founder of the school of architecture at the University of Texas, was born in Austin, Texas, on February 10, 1884, the son of Franz Conrad and Clara (Langer) Kuehne. After manual training at Austin High School he received a degree in civil engineering from the University of Texas in 1906. He received a bachelor of architecture degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1908. He subsequently became a draftsman for G. Henri Desmond, a Boston architect who designed the state capitol of Maine, and returned to Austin in 1910 to organize an architecture department for the University of Texas. He served as adjunct professor from 1910 to 1915 and founded the architecture library, which became one of the most important collections in the country.

He entered practice in 1915. His firms were Kuehne, Chasey and Giesecke (1915–17), Kuehne and Chasey (1917–19), H. F. Kuehne (1919–42), Giesecke, Kuehne and Brooks (1942), and Kuehne, Brooks and Barr (1942–1960). Among his major works was the elegant Austin Public Library (1933), now the [Austin History Center](#). Others include the Bohn Brothers building at 517 Congress Avenue (1929), alterations for [Brackenridge Hospital](#) (1933), the Steck Building at 419 Congress (1932), the Commodore Perry Hotel (1950), the International Life Building (1952), the American National Bank, the [Texas Department of Public Safety](#) building (1952), and buildings for the [Austin State Hospital](#). During the [Great Depression](#) Kuehne held supervisory positions with the United States Department of the Interior.

He was twice president of the Central Texas chapter of the American Institute of Architects and a director of the Texas Society of Architects; he was elected a fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1944. In 1954 he was named "Austin's Most Worthy Citizen" for his dedication and service in various city planning, zoning, and parks commissions. He married Sybil Glass in 1923, and they had two children. Kuehne was in partnership with his son when he retired in 1961. He died in Austin on November 23, 1963.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Hank Todd Smith, ed., *Austin, Its Architects and Architecture* (Austin Chapter, American Institute of Architects, 1986). *Who Was Who in America*, Vol. 4.

Roxanne Williamson

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## Citation

The following, adapted from the *Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th edition, is the preferred citation for

**POET LAUREATE.** A poet laureate of Texas, according to a resolution adopted by the Forty-third Texas Legislature in 1933, is appointed biennially by a committee composed of the governor, three senators, and three representatives. Until 1961 a new poet laureate of Texas was appointed every two years; subsequently, the term was reduced to one year, with alternate poets laureate selected in 1953, 1959, and for many of the years since 1963 in which appointments have been made. The honorary appointment carries with it no obligations or requirements. The selecting committee, for the most part, chooses those whose poetry can be understood by the average reader. The first ten poets laureate were [Judd Mortimer Lewis](#) of Houston (1932–34), [Aline T. Michaelis](#) of Austin (1934–36), [Grace Noll Crowell](#) of Dallas (1936–39), [Lexie Dean Robertson](#) of Rising Star (1939–41), Nancy Richey Ranson of Dallas (1941–43), Dollilee Davis Smith of Cleburne (1943–45), [David Riley Russell](#) of Dallas (1945–47), Aline B. Carter of San Antonio (1947–49), Carlos Ashley of Llano (1949–51), and Arthur M. Sampley of Denton (1951–53). Others from 1953 through 1988 have included Mildred Lindsey Railborn of San Angelo (1953–55), [Margaret Royalty Edwards](#) of Waco (1957–59), Jenny Lind Porter of Austin (1964–65), Dr. Terry Fontenot of Port Arthur (1971–72), William D. Barney of Fort Worth (1982–83), Ruth E. Reuther of Wichita Falls (1987–88), and Vassar Miller of Houston (1988–89). In the 1990s no appointments were made with the exception of Mildred Baass of Victoria (1993–94). In 2000 James Hoggard of Wichita Falls became poet laureate, followed by Walt McDonald of Lubbock (2001), Jack Myers of Mesquite (2003), Cleatus Rattan of Cisco (2004), Alan Birkelbach of Plano (2005), Red Steagall of Fort Worth (2006), Steven Fromholz of Kopperl (2007), Larry D. Thomas of Houston (2008), and Paul Ruffin of Huntsville (2009). Karla K. Morton of Denton was named poet laureate for 2010.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Margaret Royalty Edwards, *Poets Laureate of Texas* (San Antonio: Naylor, 1956; rev. ed., 1966).

Anonymous

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*Handbook of Texas Online*, Anonymous, "Poet Laureate," accessed July 24, 2016, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/kzp01>.

July 20, 2016

Austin Historic Landmark Commission

Dear Members:

This letter is in response to the proposed demolition of Jenny Lind Porter's home at 1715 Summit View Place. I appreciate the Austin Historic Landmark Commissioner's vote to postpone this case at the June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting in order to thoughtfully consider the architectural importance of the home and to consider its preservation as one of the last representations of this type of architecture in Old Enfield. Furthermore, I hope that the Commissioners consider the importance of the house as it relates to the life work of the author and poet Jenny Lind Porter.

I have known Jenny Lind Porter for almost thirty years and on visits to her home, she would often remark of how proud she was of her house and its history. She purchased the house in 1979 and proudly named it Casa Magni. She told me about the architect Hugo Franz Kuehne who designed the house and the ironsmith Fortunat Weigl who made the house's beautiful iron work. She greatly valued its importance—its unique architectural style and its history.

Jenny Lind Porter made ongoing repairs to the house consisting of:

- exterior repairs to the stucco
- repairs to the front windows
- structural repairs to the garage and foundation repairs to the main house
- improvements to the exterior drainage away from the front of the house
- lathe and plaster repairs to the second floor walls
- second floor ceiling repairs
- refinishing the hardwood floors, throughout
- second floor plumbing

She told me of her vision of the house that someday it would become a writer's center. Jenny Lind filled her home with her finest collection of books and art objects. And the house did take place during her most historic and prolific writing period. In her second floor library study, Jenny Lind wrote many poems and books. Some of her works were three biographies about her cousin William Sidney Porter—known as O. Henry, El Sol Colorado , Three Dramatic Monologues: da Vinci, Michelangelo, Rembrandt , The Siege of the Alamo , The Judges Collection , The American Poets' Corner In The Cathedral of St. John The Divine , and a translation from the Old French to English of Versus On Death: By Helinand of Froidmont. I have only listed some of her many writings.

Please consider thoughtfully the future of this valuable Old Enfield and Austin treasure.

Sincerely,

Valerie Welch Bennett

City of Austin, Curator (retired)

*M. Wayne Bell, FAIA*

20 July 2016

James Powell  
715 West Avenue  
Austin, TX 78751

Subj: Hugo Kuehne House at 1715 Summit View

Dear James,

Thanks for calling my attention to the house at 1715 Summit View. As you know, the house was designed by prominent Austin architect Hugo Kuehne, who was a founding architect of the UT School of Architecture. I recall the house and its one-time owner, Jenny Lind Porter, very well. I particularly remember the Weigl decorative iron that was visible from the front elevation. I don't think I was ever in the house, so I can't speak to interior ironwork by Weigl, but was aware that the exterior had beautiful iron at the front door and on one or two balconies.

I'm surprised that the house was never listed as an Austin Historic Landmark based on its connection with Hugo Kuehne, Jenny Lind Porter and the F. Weigl iron Works...all qualifying criteria. I don't recall the date of the house but it certainly is within the age qualification for landmark status. I'd be curious to know if there is any Mansbendel carving in the interior.

The photos that you sent are disappointing to see in that one of the major features has been removed, that being the ironwork. However, Kuehne himself is a strong qualifier for landmark status, and I strongly feel that the Landmark Commission should give their careful consideration for designation. It absolutely contributes to the historic neighborhood and should be carefully considered in an effort to stop demolition and set it apart for future restoration and continued use as a residence.

If my comments can bring any influence in saving this important part of Austin's history and landmarks, you have my wholehearted support and certainly my permission to submit this letter of recommendation for inclusion in the inventory of historic city landmarks.

I've enjoyed our telephone conversations and hope that we can have a visit on my next trip back to Austin. Please keep me informed of your efforts to give this important piece of architecture its rightful recognition.

Yours truly,

M. Wayne Bell, FAIA  
Professor Emeritus. UT School of Architecture  
2320 NW Norwood Street, Camas, WA 98607