

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
MARCH 27, 2017
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2017-0083
1123½ GUNTER STREET**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1938 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, front-gabled frame bungalow with a partial-width, partially-inset, front-gabled porch on plain, square, wood posts; single and double 1:1 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built around 1938 by William and Viola Stafford, who lived here until 1973, when William passed away. William Stafford was a station engineer, or combination of janitor and handy-man at the Norwood Building at the time that he and Viola bought this house, which was outside the city limits at the time of their purchase. William Stafford had other jobs, including repairman, carpenter, and finally, proprietor of the Govalle Trailer Courts on this property. After he passed away in 1973, the house was rented by a student, then owned by a series of retired men.

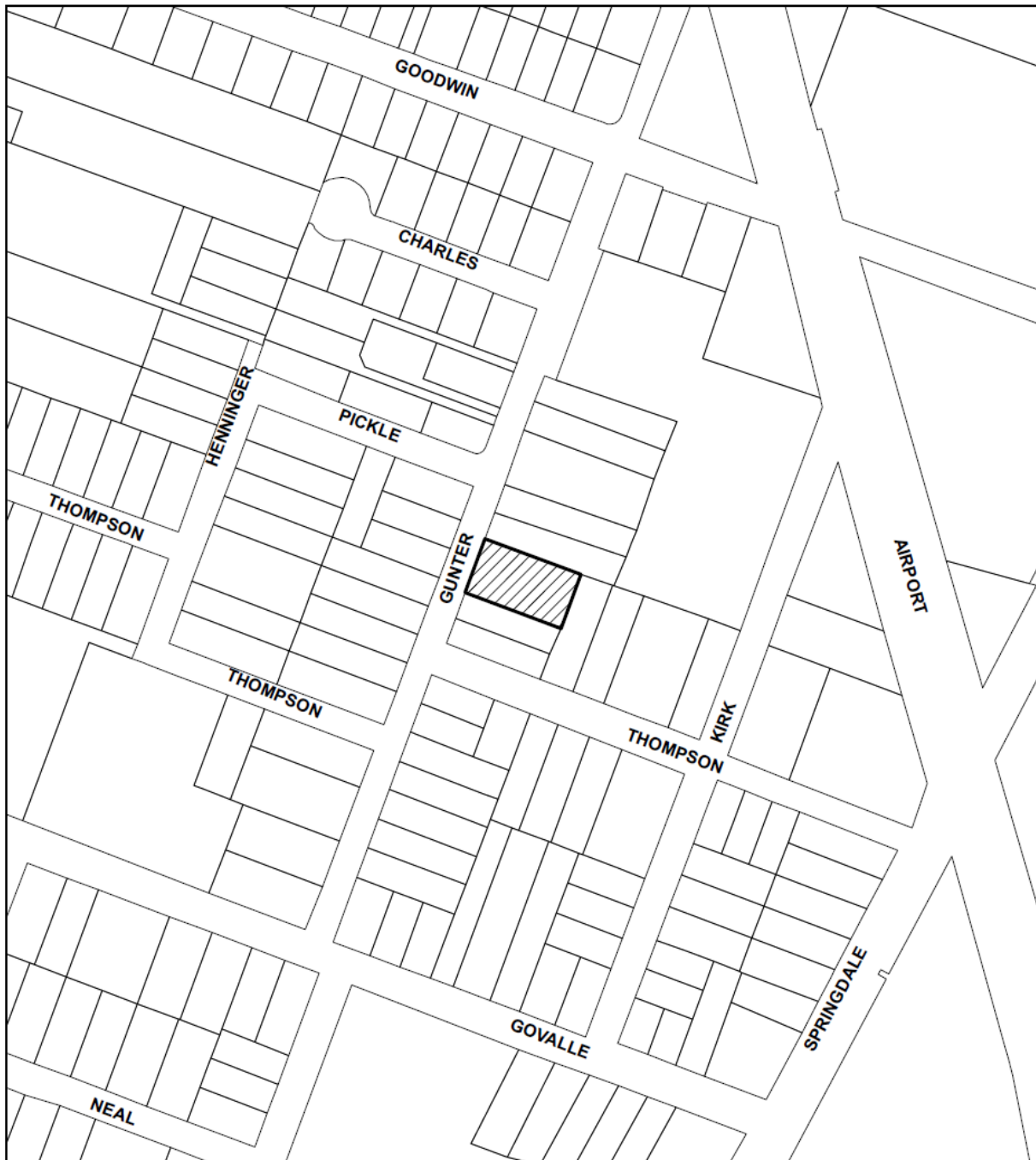
STAFF COMMENTS

The house is beyond the bounds of any City survey to date.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then relocation over demolition, but release 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. The house has neither the architectural nor the historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 208'

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2017-0083
1123 HALF GUNTER ST

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.

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1123½ Gunter Street
ca. 1938



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1123½ Gunter Street

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
March, 2017

1992	Jerry L. and Billie F. Thompson, owners Retired
1985-86	Albert Zapata, owner Painter
1981	Jerry L. Thompson, owner Retired NOTE: There is no listing for a Billie F. Thompson
1977	Daniel M. and Rosa Valadez, renters Student
1973	William A. Stafford, owner Proprietor, Govalle Trailer Courts (at the property).
1968	William A. and Sadie H. Stafford, owners Proprietor, Govalle Trailer Courts (at the property).
1964	William A. and Nellie B. Stafford, owners Proprietor, Govalle Trailer Courts (at the property).

- 1961 William A. Stafford, owner
Proprietor, Govalle Trailer Courts (at the property).
- 1957 Arthur and Martha Garcia, owners
Carpenter
NOTE: William A. and Bertie Stafford are listed at 4003 Avenue G; he was an engineer in the Capital National Bank Building, 114 W. 7th Street.
- 1953 Frederick and Betty Mergy, renters
U.S. Air Force
- 1949 Clyde J. and Rose M. Wyatt, renters
Student
- 1947 Viola Stafford, owner
No occupation listed
NOTE: William A. Stafford is listed at 1123 Gunter Street. He had no occupation shown.
- 1944-45 William A. and Viola Stafford, renters
Repair man
- 1941 William A. and Viola Stafford, owners
Engineer, Norwood Building, 114 W. 7th Street.
NOTE: The house is listed as being on the east side of Gunter Street, 3 houses north of Govalle Avenue.
- 1939 William A. and Viola Stafford, owners
Station engineer
NOTE: The house is listed as being on the east side of Gunter Street, 3 houses north of Govalle Avenue.
- 1937 The street is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: William A. and Viola Stafford are listed at 1902 Eva Street in South Austin. William A. Stafford was the partner of Paul Simon in Simon & Stafford Service Station, 510 E. 6th Street. Viola Stafford was employed by the Driskill Hotel Laundry.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

William A. and Viola Stafford (ca. 1938 – ca. 1973)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows William A. and Viola Stafford as the owners of a house worth \$2,000 on Gunther Street in the Govalle rural free delivery route. William A. Stafford was 49, had been born in Texas, and was the assistant engineer for an office building. Viola Stafford was 41, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a daughter, Mary Jo, 11, who had been born in Texas. Horace Campbell, 24, is listed as their son. He was divorced, had been born in Texas, and was a labor foreman in building construction.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows William A. and Viola B. Stafford living on the grounds of the Texas Men's Confederate Home with 3 of their children: William H. Campbell, 14; Grace L. Campbell, 12; and Mary J. Stafford, 1. William A. Stafford, 39, had been born in Texas, and was an engineer. Viola Stafford, 31, had been born in Texas and had no occupation listed.

His 1917 World War I draft registration card shows that William Archie Stafford was born in San Antonio in 1891, and was living at Stockdale, Texas, where he was a railroad laborer for the Galveston, Houston, and San Antonio Railroad. He was married with 3 children. He was short, had a medium build, and had dark blue eyes and light brown hair.

His 1973 death certificate shows that William Arch Stafford was living in this house at the time of his death. He was born in Texas in 1891, and was the chief engineer at the Capital National Bank Building. He was a widower.