

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
MAY 21, 2018
PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS
NRD-2018-0039
606 AUGUSTA AVENUE
WEST LINE HISTORIC DISTRICT

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1938 garage apartment.

ARCHITECTURE

Two-story, rectangular-plan, hip-roofed building with garage on ground floor and residence above; clad in wood siding with double-hung wood-sash windows.

RESEARCH

The house was constructed as a frame garage apartment by Lena Wattinger in 1938 and occupied shortly thereafter by David T. Lamme Jr. and his wife Norma. David Jr. worked at Lammes Candies, which was established by his grandfather, and was away from Austin in the Army from 1943 to 1945. Norma Lamme worked as a saleswoman at the Renfro Drug Company, a Texas chain with four Austin locations. By 1947, the Lammes had moved out. The property subsequently was occupied by a succession of people, including students, a deliveryman, a restaurant night manager, and a secretary.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

The property is contributing to the West Line Historic District. However, it does not appear to meet the standards for designation as a historic landmark.

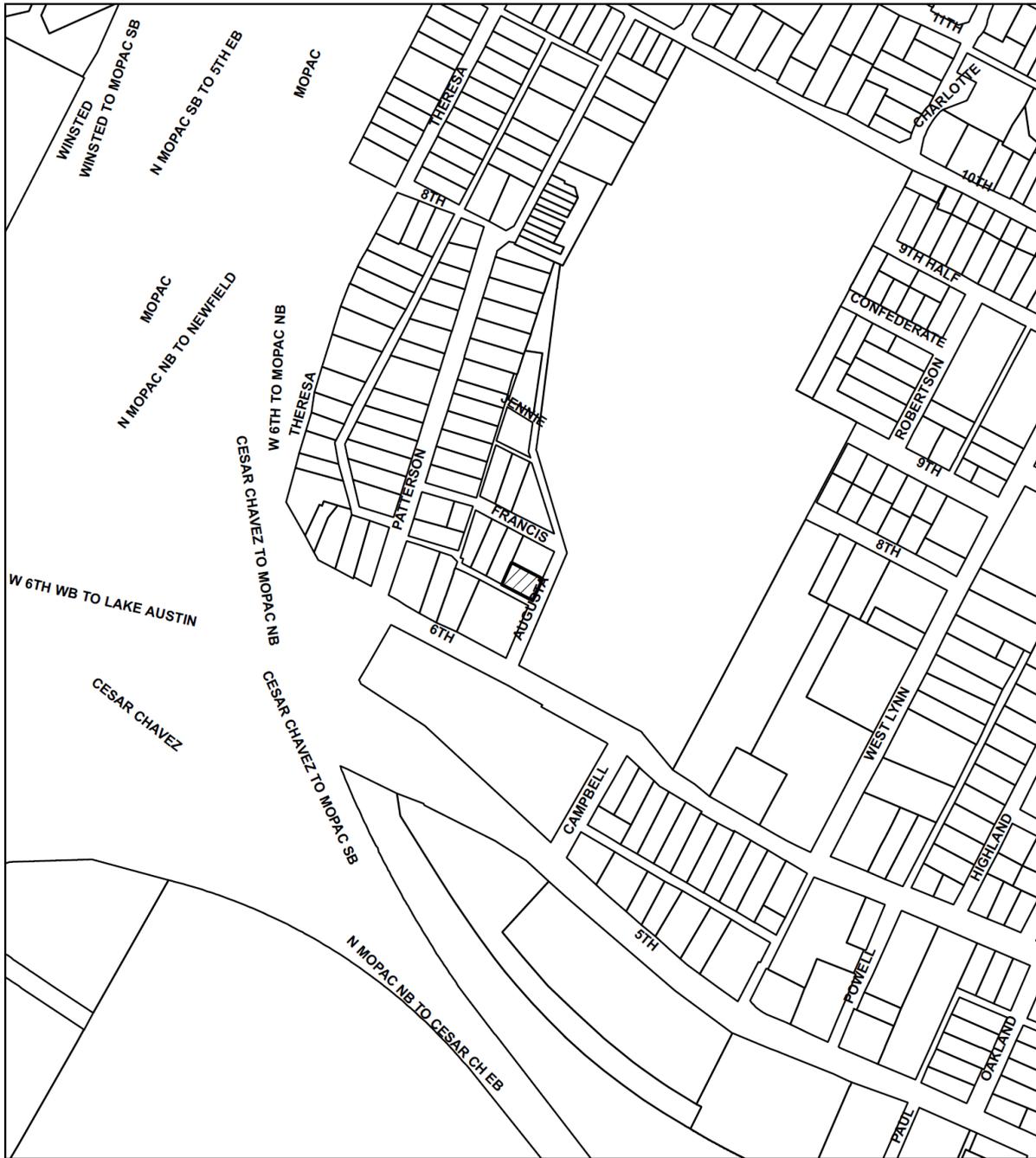
Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building itself is over 50 years old, having been constructed ca. 1938.
- 2) The building retains a high degree of integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (City of Austin Land Development Code (Section 25-2-352). The property does not appear to demonstrate significance according to any of the criteria.
 - a. **Architecture.** The building is built with Craftsman influences. It does not appear to be architecturally significant.
 - b. **Historical association.** David T. Lamme Jr. and his wife Norma occupied the property for approximately ten years. However, there do not appear to be significant historical associations. Though David Jr. went on to manage Lammes Candies, a venerable business established by his grandfather, and was active in civic affairs in Austin, he was not responsible for any notable innovation at Lammes or significant civic service while living at the property.
 - c. **Archaeology.** The property was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
 - d. **Community value.** The property does not appear to possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the community, Austin, or Texas as a whole.
 - e. **Landscape feature.** The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of the existing building, including consideration of a demolition delay, as the building is contributing to the historic district. If the Commission votes to release the permit, then staff recommends 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. Due to the property's location in the National Register historic district, the demolition permit will not be released until the Commission has reviewed and commented on plans for new construction.

LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 333'

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: NRD-2018-0039
LOCATION: 606 AUGUSTA AVE

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.



PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



North elevation and east (primary) façade of 606 Augusta Avenue.



South elevation.

Occupancy History

City directory research, Austin History Center
 By Historic Preservation Office staff
 May 2018

- 1935 Address not listed
- 1937 David T. Jr. and Norma Lamme
 (Address not listed in reverse directory; Lammes appear in regular directory)
- 1939 Address not listed
- 1944 David T. Jr. and Norma Lamme
 Manager, Lamme's Confectioners (located at 919 Congress Avenue)
 The directory lists Norma and Lena Lamme as the owners of Lamme's.
- 1949 Earl C. Davis
 Student, University of Texas
- 1952 Vacant
- 1953 Frank A. and Mary Maxwell
 Deliveryman, no place of employment listed
- 1955 Doyle F. and Jeannette R. Hurley
 Night manager, The Snak Shack
- 1962 Irma J. Skelton
 Office secretary, A. Lassberg & Co. (cotton exporters located at 304. E. 5th Street)
- 1968 Vacant
- 1977 William W. Hunt
 Student

Background Research

David Turner Lamme Jr. and Norma Lamme appear to have lived at 606 Augusta Avenue for approximately ten years. David Lamme Jr. was the grandson of William Wirt Lamme, who founded the Red Front Candy Factory—what is now Lammes Candies—in 1878. The company was subsequently managed by David T. Lamme Sr., then David Jr. and his sisters Lena Lamme and Evelyn Teich. Together, the siblings added five retail stores and a new manufacturing plant, plus mail ordering.

David T. Lamme Jr. was born in 1911 in Austin to David Lamme and Lillian Freidrich. David Jr.'s parents had met when Lillian worked at the Lammes Candies store, and he and his two sisters grew up in an apartment above the store. David Jr. entered the family business in 1931 and married Norma between 1930 and 1940. The couple moved to 606 Augusta around 1938. David served in the Army during World War II (1943-45), then returned to help run Lammes with his sisters. By 1947, the Lammes were living at 2011 Sunset.

David Lamme Jr. continued to play a prominent role in Lammes Candies, as well as civic affairs in Austin. By 1951, he was the president and general manager of the company. By 1952, he was serving as the president of the Austin Lions Club. In 1956 he was elected president of the Austin School Board. Upon his election, *The Austin American* noted that “Lamme... has been a well-known Austinite for many years. As a candy manufacturer, [he] is known to most of the city’s businessmen” (4/6/1952). At the time, Lamme was also a charter member of the Austin Sunshine Camp, founded to provide underserved children with “sunshine and supervised health, diet, and recreation programs”; one of the first members of the Fire and Police Civil Service Commission (established in 1948); a steward of the First Methodist Church; and past director of the Chamber of Commerce.

David Jr. passed away suddenly in 1970 at the age of 60, one year after he and his sisters received an award from the Associated Confectioners of North America.

Norma Lamme was born ca. 1916 in Texas. By 1940, she had married David. T. Lamme Jr. In 1941, she worked as a saleswoman at the Renfro Drug Company. She and David Jr. had four children together. No additional information was located during staff research.

Building Permits

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

PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE AUSTIN, TEXAS No. 7028

Address 606 AUGUSTA AVE **INDEXED**

Plumber *NW F* Size of Tap 3/4 Date _____

Foreman's Report

Date of Connection 8-2-37

Size of Tap Made 3/4

Size Service Made 3/4

Size Main Tapped 3/4

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 2'

From E, Prop. Line to Curb Cock 18'

Location of Meter ALLEY

Type of Box LOCK

Depth of Main in St. 2'

Depth of Service Line 1.5'

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 6"

Checked by Engr. Dept 9-13-37

No. Fittings	Size.	Req. No.
	Curb Cock	
	Elbow	
	St. Elbow	
	Bushing	
	Reducer	
	Pipe	
	Lead Comp.	
	Nipples	
	Union	
	Plug	
	Tee	
	Stop	
	Box	
	Lid	
	Valves	

Foreman's Signature *J. S. Whiteaker*

Permit for water service, 8/2/1937.

Miss Lena Wattinger 606 Augusta Ave.
So. pt. of

07 - A 5 -

96

Ecks Heights

Frame garage apartment

241n - 9/14/38

Permit for frame garage apartment issued to Lena Wattinger, 9/14/1938.