

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
JUNE 25, 2018
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2018-0279
3402 DUVAL STREET

PROPOSAL

Partial demolition of a ca. 1934 house to construct a second-story addition.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled, Tudor Revival-styled brick-veneered house with a front-facing gable containing a triple set of 1:1 windows, and another front-facing gabled bay containing the round-arched entry way with a series of receding brick layers framing the door; fenestration on the house also includes narrow, multi-lite wood-framed casement windows with a multi-lite transom above.

RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built in 1934, but was vacant for the first year or so of its existence. The first known owners and occupants were Rudolph Wukasch, and his wife, Ruth, who lived here from around 1936 until around 1948. Rudolph Wukasch was the son of Henry Wukasch, a very prominent and successful general merchandise merchant, with his store on the west corner of 1st (now Cesar Chavez) Street and Congress Avenue. Rudolph Wukasch served as his father's book-keeper and later was the manager of the store. Henry Wukasch stayed in business until 1946. After the store closed, Rudolph and Ruth Wukasch moved to Santa Barbara, California, where they spent the rest of their lives.

The house was then owned by Jimmy and Yvonne Greear; he was a student at the University of Texas, and she was a secretary in an advertising agency while they lived in this house in the late 1940s. Euelda Wood, a widow, then purchased the house around 1953 after her husband's death. Euelda's husband, Franklin A. Wood, was an auditor for the State Liquor Control Board. Euelda Wood worked as a clerk. After her death in 1978, her daughter, Inez Lewis, an art teacher, lived here until the early 1990s.

STAFF COMMENTS

The applicant proposes the partial demolition of the house to accommodate a second-story addition. Staff has reviewed the plans for the addition, which is sensitively designed and planned. The proposed addition will be located on the back of the house, and will have 818 square feet on the ground floor, and 1,283 square feet on the second floor. The proposed addition is in line with the north wall of the house, and built completely behind the ridgeline of the existing roof. The addition will have a brick veneer, as well as stucco on the second story to match existing materials, and single and paired 1:1 fenestration that complement those on the existing house. Additional space on the second story will be achieved through longitudinal shed dormers on both sides of the proposed pitched roof. The roof will have composition shingles to match those on the existing portion of the house.

The house was listed with no priority for research in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984).

Staff has evaluated this house for designation as a historic landmark and has determined that the house has some potential for designation as a historic landmark, and would be contributing to a historic district in this neighborhood:

- a. **Architecture.** The house is an excellent example of Tudor Revival residential architecture, with its brick veneer, false half-timbering in side gables, steeply

pitched roof, and decorative elements, especially the round-arched doorway and narrow sets of casement windows, which set this house apart from other Tudor Revival houses in the neighborhood and throughout the city. The house qualifies for landmark designation for its architectural significance.

- b. **Historical association.** The house was built by Rudolph Wukasch, the son of Henry Wukasch, a well-known merchant in the city; Rudolph Wukasch was very involved in his father's business. Rudolph and Ruth Wukasch lived in this house during the entire time of their residency in Austin as a married couple, from the mid-1930s until they moved to Santa Barbara, California in the late 1940s. Although more research is necessary to fully flesh out the role and significance of Rudolph Wukasch to the community, it appears that there is a potential for landmark designation for the historical associations of the Wukasch family in Austin.
- c. **Archaeology.** The house was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
- d. **Community value.** The house does not possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, the neighborhood, or a particular demographic group.
- 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

Approve the plans for the addition to the house, which staff recognizes as sensitive to the architecture and character of the existing house, and release the partial demolition permit, but request that the applicant complete 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 prior to the release of any permit.

LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2018-0279
LOCATION: 3402 Duval Street



1" = 172'

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.

- 1968 Euelda M. Wood, owner
Widow, Franklin A. Wood
Retired
- 1965 Euelda M. Wood, owner
Widow, Franklin A. Wood
No occupation listed
- 1962 Euelda M. Wood, owner
Widow, Franklin A. Wood
No occupation listed
- 1959 Euelda M. Wood, owner
No occupation listed
- 1955 Euelda M. Wood, owner
Widow, Frank A. Wood
No occupation listed
- 1953 Euelda Wood, owner
Widow, F.A. Wood
Clerk
- 1952 Clifford and Geneva Ashton, renters
Oil operator
NOTE: Franklin A. and Euelda Wood are listed at 2110 Woodmont Avenue. He was an auditor for the State Liquor Control Board.
NOTE: Jimmy R. and Yvonne E. Greear are not listed in the directory.
- 1949 Jimmy R. and Yvonne E. Greear, owners
Jimmy: Student, University of Texas
Yvonne: Office secretary, R.A. Gilbert, advertising, 309 E. 11th Street.
NOTE: Rudolph H. and Ruth Wukasch are listed in the 1949 city directory for Santa Barbara, California. Neither had an occupation shown.
- 1947 Rudolph H. and Ruth S. Wukasch, owners
No occupation listed
- 1944-45 Rudolph H. and Ruth Wukasch, owners
Manager, Henry S. Wukasch, general merchandise, 104-06 W. 1st Street.
- 1941 Rudolph H. and Ruth I. Wukasch, owners
Clerk, Henry Wukasch, general merchandise, 104 W. 1st Street.
- 1939 Rudolph H. and Ruth S. Wukasch, owners
Book-keeper, Henry Wukasch, general merchandise, 104 W. 1st Street.
- 1937 Rudolph H. and Ruth Wukasch, owners
Book-keeper, Henry S. Wukasch, general merchandise, 104-06 W. 1st Street.
- 1935 Vacant

NOTE: Rudolph H. Wukasch is listed at 2600 Speedway, the home of his parents. He was a book-keeper for his father, Henry S. Wukasch, a general merchandise merchant at 104-06 W. 1st Street.

1932-33 The address is not listed in the directory.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

Rudolph H. and Ruth Wukasch (ca. 1936 – ca. 1948)

Rudolph Wukasch appears in the 1930 U.S. Census as the 21-year old son of Henry S. and Matilda Wukasch, who owned their \$12,500 home at 2600 Speedway in Austin. Rudolph Wukasch was born in Texas and was a salesman in a general merchandise store. His father, Henry S. Wukasch, 49, was a Texas-born general merchandise merchant. His mother, Matilda Wukasch, 53, had been born in Texas and had no occupation listed.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Rudolph and Ruth Wukasch as the owners of this house, which was worth \$7,000. Rudolph Wukasch was 31, had been born in Texas, and was a general merchandise merchant. Ruth Wukasch was 29, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a daughter, Kirsten, 1, who had been born in Texas.

Mrs. Wukasch Feted

Mrs. Martha Wolf and daughter, Margaret, entertained Saturday with a bridge party and crystal shower honoring Mrs. Rudolph Wukasch, a recent bride.

A color scheme of green and white was carried out in decorations and refreshments. The bride's cake was cut by Mrs. Wukasch.

The following were guests: Mesdames Charles Wolf, C. A. Peters, M. Manz, C. A. Fehr, H. Johnson, H. Johnson, J. R. Probes, Lloyd. Sells, R. H. Knipping, Fred Pease, J. I. Cherico, Carl Sterzing, E. K. Schulz, H. Wukasch, H. Fehr, Anna Killan, Martin Killan, Fred Kriegel, Henry Mearkl, Jewel Mitchell, Amanda Stein, and Misses Alma Schulz, Dorothy Peters, Clara Brown, Esther Killan and Meta Kuntz.

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Story on a bridge party and crystal shower given for Ruth Wukasch
Austin American-Statesman, February 24, 1935

After 42 Years, Merchant Retires To Take Up Hobbies

By WILLIAM J. WEEG
The American-Statesman Staff

Henry Wukasch has closed up shop and gone fishing. After spending 42 years in the general mercantile business the 66-year-old Austin business man decided he would retire and indulge in his hobbies of fishing and hunting and look after his extensive property interests, including special attention to a fine citrus orchard of 12 1-2 acres seven miles from Brownsville.

Having disposed of all of his merchandise stock and fixtures during the last few weeks, Wukasch locked the door at his general merchandise store at 104-106 West First Street for the last time on Sept. 30. The following morning the place was opened as a wholesale meat market serving hotels, restaurants and boarding houses by Marvin and Raymond Knippa, who have leased the building.

And to climax his first week of retirement, Wukasch celebrated his 66th birthday anniversary Saturday.

With his retirement from business came the termination of a business institution that was one of the best known and most popular in Central Texas, for the Wukasch general store was the gathering place of farmers and ranchmen within 75 miles of Austin. Here came men and women from Giddings to exchange news with those from Fredericksburg and those from Walburg mingled with visitors from Burnet.

Into this general store came the pecans, butter, eggs, chickens and turkeys from the farms throughout Central Texas to be exchanged for flour, sugar, and a lot of other items that the farmers needed in their households.

Many Stories Told

Into the Wukasch store came the hunters in quest of shells and the fishermen seeking rods and reels and tackle and hooks. Many fishing and hunting stories were told within the four walls of this institution.

Citizens of Austin found the Wukasch store the place to find items they were looking for. Here could be purchased anything from a needle up to a plow.

"In fact, I would sell a man a coffin if he wanted one," Wukasch asserted.

It was on June 7, 1904, that Henry Wukasch, then 24 years of age, decided to invest \$150 in a store and with T. J. Christal of Austin, he opened in a building at 100-102 Congress Avenue under the name of Christal and Wukasch. After eight years of operation under this partnership, Wukasch purchased Christal's interest in January, 1912, the purchase including the store, buildings and fixtures. The firm had acquired the two buildings at 104-106 West First Street which then were used as warehouses for the general merchandise store stock.

Tribute Paid Partner

Six years afterwards, Wukasch leased the Congress Avenue location to the Grayburg Oil Company for use as a filling station. The building was razed and Wukasch moved the store to the West First Street location where he operated the store until he retired from business last Monday night.

"Christal was my first partner who helped to start me in business," Wukasch said in tribute.

"My next good partner was my wife, who helped me to build the business."

His wife and partner in the business was Mrs. Matilda Wukasch, who died six years ago, after serving for 32 years as his mate and helper. Wukasch 18 months ago married Mrs. Annabel Carter of Austin and they are making their home at 104 East 26th Street, ad-



LAST WEIGH—Henry Wukasch, 66-year-old Austin general merchant, weighs a ham at the store which he closed last Monday night where he had weighed hams and other merchandise for 42 years, thus terminating an institution that was a landmark in Central Texas.

joining the two-story frame residence on Speedway where Henry and Matilda Wukasch reared their two children, Rudolph Wukasch and Martha Wukasch, the latter now Mrs. Martha Christal, who has been living in Memphis, Tenn., for the past 10 years.

Wukasch paid tribute to Mrs. Wukasch and the two children for their loyal cooperation and help in making the Wukasch general merchandise one of the leading business firms in Austin for more than four decades.

Early Prices Quoted

Mrs. Christal, the daughter, served as bookkeeper and cashier for 10 or 12 years while Rudolph was reared in the store and worked there for more than 30 years. When Mrs. Christal moved to Memphis, Mrs. Wukasch took over the duties of cashier and Rudolph served as bookkeeper.

During the early years of the store's operation, Wukasch said he paid farmers 5 cents a dozen for eggs and sold them to his customers at 25 cents for three dozen in contrast to today when eggs are selling for a nickel apiece and more. Sugar was quoted at 20 pounds for \$1 and it took only a dollar to buy 20 pounds of salt bacon. Hams, which now cost 58 to 60 cents a pound if obtainable at all, used to sell anywhere from 9-4 to 12 1-2 cents a pound, while butter could be purchased at Wukasch's in the early days for 10 to 15 cents a pound in comparison with 75 to 85 cents a pound in 1946.

"Now that I have disposed of my business I am going to pay more attention to my orchard near Brownsville," Wukasch declared. "Last year the orchard, which has 788 trees—grapefruit, oranges and

other citrus fruits—on it, produced 100 tons, but with closer supervision could have yielded 200 tons," he added.

During his leisure hours at home, Wukasch likes to work with flowers and shrubs and he has gained a neighborhood reputation for the various varieties of flowers to be found in the garden in the rear of his home.

In between time he plans to pursue his favorite diversions of hunting and fishing. His favorite fishing place is Cow Creek about 40 miles from Austin in the hills west of here.

Just about that time one of his fishing companions entered the door of the First Street store.

"He's waiting for me now to go fishing with him," Wukasch remarked.

With that, Wukasch finished the story of his 42 years in business, put on his hat, and joined his fishing partner for an afternoon of relaxation.

FOR SALE

**USED JEWELRY STORE
FIXTURES**

**EXCELLENT CONDITION
PRICED TO SELL**

- 1—8' Wall Case
- 2—12' Wall Cases (1 mirror back)
- 2—8' Table Show Cases (All Plate Glass)
- 1—8' Floor Case (Plate glass top)

Call or Write
A. M. HOUSE
TAYLOR, TEXAS

Story on the closing of Henry Wukasch's general merchandise store, where his son, Rudolph Wukasch worked as a book-keeper
Austin American-Statesman, October 6, 1946

Ruth May Wukasch died in Santa Barbara, California in 1968. Rudolph H. Wukasch died in Ventura, California in 1970. Both are buried in Santa Barbara, California.

MRS. RUDOLPH WUKASCH
 Mrs. Rudolph (Ruth) Wukasch of Santa Barbara, Calif., a former resident of Austin, died Monday in Santa Barbara. Funeral will be in Santa Barbara on Monday.
 Mrs. Wukasch was a graduate of Brackenridge School of Nursing. She is connected with Sansum Clinic in Santa Barbara.
 Survivors include her husband; daughter, Mrs. Kirsten Egedl; one grandson, all of Santa Barbara.

Obituary of Ruth Wukasch
 Austin American-Statesman, August 25, 1968

RUDOLPH WUKASCH

Rudolph Wukasch, 62, a native of Austin, died Tuesday night in Santa Barbara, Calif., following a long illness.

Services will be in Santa Barbara. Rev. Paul Gammons will officiate.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Kirsten Egedl of Thousand Oaks, Calif.; his father, Henry Wukasch of Austin; one sister, Mrs. J. M. Chrystal of Austin, and two grandchildren.

Obituary of Rudolph Wukasch
 Austin Statesman, October 7, 1970

Euelda Wood (ca. 1953 – ca. 1978)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Frank and Eula Wood as the owners of the house at 3008 Glenview Avenue in Austin. Frank Wood was 55, had been born in Texas, and was employed by the Liquor Control Board. Eula Wood was 47, had been born in Missouri, and had no occupation listed. They had a daughter, Inez, 22, who had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. The family lived in Nocona, Texas in 1935.

Euelda Wood died in 1978; her last address was this house. She was a widowed homemaker who was born in 1892 in Trenton, Missouri. She is buried in Nocona, Texas, with her husband, Franklin A. Wood.

FRANKLIN A. WOOD
 Funeral services for Franklin A. Wood, 70, were held at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home Tuesday with Dr. John Barclay officiating, assisted by Dr. Edmund Heinsohn. The body was sent to Nocona for burial there Wednesday.
 Honorary pallbearers were N. F. Pribble, J. W. Wiley, Rep. Tony Fenaglio, Sen. Wayne W. Wagon-seller, Bert Cabaniss, Emil Jordan, Al Ehrlich, J. W. Acock and Senator Crawford Martin.
 Active pallbearers were Martin Holler, Harry McKee, Coke Stevenson Jr., R. W. Gribble, Bert Ford, C. Draper, R. L. Coltharp, Pat Hickerson and W. R. Nabbits.

Obituary of Franklin A. Wood, the husband of Euelda Wood
 Austin American, April 8, 1953

WOOD, Euelda M., 3402 Duval St., died Sunday. Services 11 a.m. Tuesday at Weed-Corley Funeral Home and Wednesday at Scott Funeral Home in Nocona. Burial, Nocona Cemetery. Survivors: daughters, Mrs. Inez Lewis of Austin, Ineta (Topsy) Glodt of San Antonio; son, Foye Wood of Henrietta; brother, Willard Schachelford of Montague; sister, Mrs. Rubie Hobbs of Reserve, N.M.; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.

Obituary of Euelda Wood
 Austin American-Statesman, December 25, 1978

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

PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE AUSTIN, TEXAS No. 23908

M. Rudolph Wukasch Address 3402 Duval St.

Plumber M. H. Kilian Size of Tap 1/2 Date 12-4-34

INDEXED

Foreman's Report

used 57.9 A 458 NY II

Date of Connection 12/5/34

Size of Tap Made 3/4

Size Service Made 3/4

Size Main Tapped 1 1/4"

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 9'6"

From Prop. Line to Curb Cock 20'6"

Location of Meter at curb

Type of Box lock

Depth of Main in St. 3'

Depth of Service Line 2'

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 11'

Checked by Engr. M.H.K.

INDEXED 1-4-35

No. Fittings	Size	Req. No.
	Curb Cock	
	Elbow	
1	St. Elbow 3/4 x 3/4	
	Bushing 3/4 x 1/2	
	Reducer 3/4 x 1/2	
	Pipe	
	Lead Comp.	
	Nipples	
	Union	
	Plug	
	Tee	
1	Stop at main	
1	Box lock	
1	Lid	
	Valves	

Foreman's Signature Burman

Water service permit to Rudolph Wukasch for this address (1934)

OWNER	Inez Lewis	ADDRESS	3402 Duval St.
PLAT	70	LOT	part of 2 & 3
		BLK.	9
SUBDIVISION	Grooms Addn		
OCCUPANCY	Res Remodel		
BLDG. PERMIT #	188107	DATE	11-21-79
		OWNERS ESTIMATE	780.00
CONTRACTOR	Eldridge McCutchen		NO. OF FIXTURES
WATER TAP REC#		SEWER TAP REC#	
	Remodel & addn to create stair way		
	18 sq. ft.		
Building permit to Inez Lewis, the daughter of Euelda Wood, for a stairway (1979)			

City records indicate a permit to remodel the existing attic to create a study in 1986; the detached garage will be demolished in the summer of 2018.