HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION JUNE 24, 2019

PERMIT IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT NRD-2019-0023

2105 NEWFIELD LANE OLD WEST AUSTIN HISTORIC DISTRICT

PROPOSAL

Demolish a 1940 contributing house and replace with new construction.

ARCHITECTURE

The existing house is a one-story Minimal Traditional-style building clad in horizontal wood siding, with a cross-gabled composition shingle roof and gabled entryway. Its windows are 6:6 with wooden screens. It is set back approximately 25', in line with the other houses on the street. A contributing wood-frame accessory structure is located to the rear of the house.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

The proposed main building is two stories, with a standing-seam metal roof of varying heights and pitches. It is clad with horizontal fiber-cement siding at the first floor and vertical standing-seam metal at the second. It has fixed-pane windows of varying dimensions and placement, as well as a screened porch to the rear and stone fireplace at the south elevation.

The proposed accessory structure has a gabled roof with two shed dormers at the north and south elevations and a spiral staircase at the rear. It has horizontal siding and a standing-seam metal roof. The accessory building is located at the primary elevation of the main house; it is set back 25' from the curb, while the main house is set back approximately 55'.

RESEARCH

The house at 2105 Newfield Lane was built in 1940 by real estate speculator Nat Franzetti. Its first owners were Lindsay B. and Carlotta Newsum. Lindsay Newsum worked as an engineer for the State Board of Insurance Commissioners, while Carlotta Newsum owned and operated Carlinda Antiques on Georgetown Road.

By 1941, the Newsums had sold the property to J.D. and Gale Lemmon. Lemmon was in the Army, and sold the house shortly after purchase to Charles and Dorothy Kirstein. Kirstein, also a veteran, was trained as an expert furrier and worked at Snyder's department store for a number of years, along with his wife.

After the home's few initial owners, it was a rental property with relatively rapid occupant turnover. Many renters were affiliated with the University of Texas as either students or staff members.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The buildings are over 50 years old.
- 2) The house appears to retain high integrity. The garage appears to retain a moderate to low degree of integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation.
 - **a.** Architecture. The building does not appear to be architecturally significant.
 - **b.** Historical association. There appear to be no significant historical associations.
 - **c. Archaeology**. The property has not been 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, city, or state.

e. Landscape feature. The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation are used to evaluate new construction projects in National Register historic districts. Applicable standards include:

9) New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

The proposed new construction is differentiated from historic properties in the district by its modern cladding, fenestration, and two-story form. The proposed front-yard placement of the auxiliary garage structure and deep setback of the main house are not compatible with the lot placement of historic-age structures on the streetscape, nor are the proposed architectural features (metal siding, compound roof form, and irregular fenestration) compatible with the historic structures in the district.

10) New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

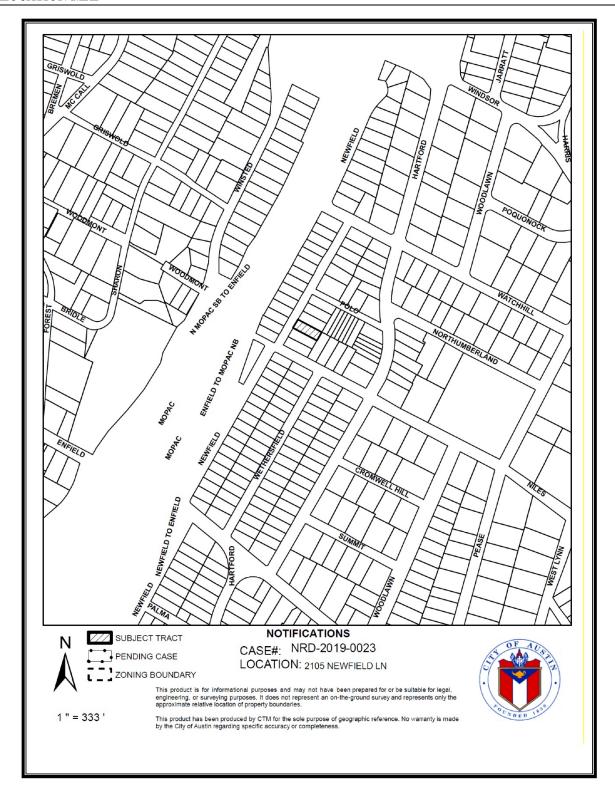
If the proposed building were to be removed, the form and integrity of the rest of the historic district would be unimpaired.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Consider retention and adaptive reuse of the existing house. For the proposed new construction, move the detached garage to the rear of the main house. Consider adding a porch to create a smooth transition between the two-story structure and the streetscape.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The applicant has indicated that the existing building will be relocated and/or donated. Comment on new construction and encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of the existing building, then release the demolition 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.



Photos



Façade



Streetscape and adjacent structures

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, Austin History Center Completed by Historic Preservation Office staff, April 2019

- 1939 Address not listed in directory
- 1941 Lindsay B. and Carlotta Newsum, owners Assistant engineer, State Board of Insurance Commissioners Proprietor, Carlinda Antiques, 5224 Georgetown Rd.

1944	J. D. and Gale Lemmon, owners U.S. Army		
1947	Charles and Dorothy L. Kirstein, owners Furrier, Snyder's Smart Shop Saleswoman, Snyder's		
	Harry and Janice Dunlap, renters Office manager, KTBC		
1949	Arthur W. and Jane Wilson, owners Department manager, Hutchins Brothers		
1952	Shirley and Gertrude Gardner, renters Accountant		
	Mrs. Hildegaard S. Gardner, renter Assistant actuary, Western Reserve Life Insurance		
1955	Edward S. and Hildegaard Gardner, renters Auditor		
	Department head, Western Republic Life Insurance		
1959	Edward S. and Hildegaard Gardner, renters Accountant Assistant actuary Western Republic & Plymouth Life Insurance, 702 Colorado		
1962	Hillared Norman, renter Clerk		
1965	Edward S. Gardner, renter student		
1968	H.P. Ethleved and Anastasia Hammerloch, renters Animal tester approval		
	H.P. III and Emma Y. Ethleved, renters Animal tester		
	Gremillion T. Ethleved, renter Animal sampler		
	Terry L. Weldon, renter Student		
1973	Susan Martin, renter Technologist, County Health Department Note: The directory listing indicates that Susan Martin is a new resident.		
1977	Randall A. Puckett, renter		
1981	Student John Dennison, renter Note: The directory listing indicates that John Dennison is a new resident.		
1986	Grover S. Campbell, renter Assistant professor, U of T		
1992	Helen L. Lettunich, renter Programs travel coordinator, U of T Note: The directory listing indicates that Helen L. Lettunich is a new resident.		



Ad for early resident Charles Kirstein's services as a furrier. The Austin American, 6-23-1946.

Building Permits

Nat. Franzetti

2105 NewField La.

148

33

Enfield G

Frame Res. & Box Carage

18911 - 2-23-40

5

Building permit, 2-23-40

V	WATER SERVICE PE Austin, Texas			Nº 171	
	Received of			Date R	eb. 26,1940~
	Address 2105 Newfield Lane				
	Amount Two And 50/100			*, ,	\$ 2.50
	PlumberSmoot			Size of Tap	in in
Dec 7470 m.	Date of Connection 2-26-42 Size of Tap Made Size Service Made Size Main Tapped From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock From S Prop. Line to Curb Cock Location of Meter Type of Box Depth of Main in St. Depth of Service Line From Curb Cock to Tap on Main Checked by Engr. Dept. 3-18-40-16	No. Pittings Size Curb Cook Elbow	Bushing AMM Bushing AMM Reducer & SILLUM Pipe Lead Comp.	Nipples Union Union Plug 7 1 1/1 Stop 1 1/1D	Box Lid Color (1978 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18

Water service permit, 2-26-40

Connection Charge \$ 22229	N 16588B
APPLICATED FOR SEWER CONNECTION.	
Austin, Texas, 2-23	1920
To the Superintendent of Sewer and Public City of Austin, Texas	Improvements,
Sir:—	
I hereby make application for sewer com	·
on premises owned by	etti.
at 2105 How hell	Street,
further described as lot, block	, outlot,
subdivision En hell H, division_	plat 14 5.
which is to be used as a Rio	
In this place there are to be installed	- First
I agree to pay the City Sewer Departmen	
charge.	the regular ordinance
18 DEL PRESPECTION WITTE	ean prince
Stub Out	
K- 5 10	Permit Pd
Connected 19 40	3-4-40
Size of Main 4 inches.	4-3-40
Size of Service inches.	OV
L Feet Deep Ut Cun l	10
Feet from Property Line	10 10 M
Feet from Curb Line	12 3 2 2
Inspected by Something	4-1271
Connection made by	1000
13146 lat location of the	f. L. H. B.
Sewer connection permit,	2-23-40