

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS
SEPTEMBER 28, 2020
NRD-2020-0030
2525 HARTFORD RD.
OLD WEST AUSTIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1950 house.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

There are currently no plans for redevelopment.

RESEARCH

The house at 2525 Hartford Rd. was built in 1950 for George and Mary Williams. George Williams, an engineer, was killed in a car accident in 1958; Mary continued to live in the house until at least a year later, when she sold it to the Pfennig family. Robert W. Pfennig worked for the IRS; his wife, a nurses' aide, served at the Red Cross.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house is contributing to the Old West Austin National Register Historic District.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain high integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). The property may demonstrate significance according to City Code:
 - a. *Architecture*. The building is constructed with Ranch-style influences.
 - b. *Historical association*. There do not appear to be significant historical associations.
 - c. *Archaeology*. The building was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
 - d. *Community value*. The building 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 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

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive reuse, then relocation over demolition, but release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package.

LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 333'

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: GF 20-117987
 LOCATION: 2525 HARTFORD RD

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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PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



Source: Realtor.com, 2020

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, 2020

Note: Due to facility closure, post-1959 research is unavailable.

- 1959 Mrs. Mary D. Williams, owner (wid. G. Davis)
- 1955 George D. and Mary Williams, owners
Consultant engineer
- 1952 George D. and Mary Williams, owners
Consultant engineer

Biographical Information

Road Crash Fatal for 2

The devastating collision of an automobile and milk truck east of Austin on State Highway 71 has claimed the lives of two Austin consulting engineers, George Davis (Dave) Williams, 55, of 259 Hartford Road, and Carl Gustaf (Gus) Levander, 59, of 108 East 48th Street.

Williams and Levander died instantly in the collision which occurred at 5:58 p.m. Tuesday 6.3 miles east of the city on the Bastrop Highway.

Funeral services for Levander are pending at Weed-Corley Funeral Home. Williams' body will lie in state at the funeral home until Thursday morning when it will be taken to Beaumont where funeral services and burial will be held Thursday afternoon.

Levander's family asks that those wishing to do so may make contributions in his name to Hyde Park Christian Church. Williams' family requests that friends who desire may make memorial contributions to their favorite charity.

Williams was driver of the east-bound car, with Levander as a passenger, when it was in collision with the truck driven by Alfred Winter, 52, of 1007 West Elizabeth. Winter was uninjured, according to Highway Patrolman Homer Smith.

The car was a twisted mass of wreckage, Patrolman Smith said. The impact knocked the front wheel from the truck, which then overturned.

An ambulance driver for Hyltin-Manor Funeral Home, which sent two ambulances to the scene, said the front of the car was torn up worse than any he had ever seen. A pocket watch in Levander's pocket was stopped at 5:58.

The force of the collision jammed the motor and firewall against the front seat of the car so tightly that wreckers had to be used to remove the bodies. One wrecker was employed to anchor the car while another pulled the firewall (which separates the motor from the front seat) forward.

Levander was former city public works director, and when the late Walter Seaholm left as city manager in 1955 Levander resigned to form a consulting firm with Seaholm.

After the death of Seaholm, Levander joined the engineering firm of Montgomery and Williams to form the firm of Montgomery, Williams and Levander.

The firm, along with the Marvin Turner Engineers, had just finished a long range water and sewer survey for the City of Austin, setting up priority construction programs to meet needs of the city as it grows toward an anticipated population of 457,000 by 1980.

Levander began his engineering (See CRASH, Page 9)

CRASH

(Continued From Page One)

work after graduation from Valparaiso University, Indiana, with a BS degree in civil engineering. He was a highway engineer in Illinois and sewer engineer in Lakeland, Fla., before joining the city in 1928 as assistant city engineer. He became director of public works in Sept., 1939.

He belongs to several engineering and professional organizations.

Williams received his BS and MS degrees from Texas A&M College and came to Austin in 1938 as construction engineer with the Texas Highway Department, working under Julian Montgomery.

After Montgomery went into private business, he lured Williams away from the state job to be chief engineer in the construction of Bergstrom Air Force Base, and the men later became full partners in the firm of Montgomery and Williams.

Levander's survivors include his widow; three sons, Dale H. Levander of Torrance, Calif., Ted C. Levander of Albuquerque, N.M., and Richard Levander of Waco; a daughter, Mrs. Mary Rosado of New York City; and two brothers, two sisters and three grandchildren.

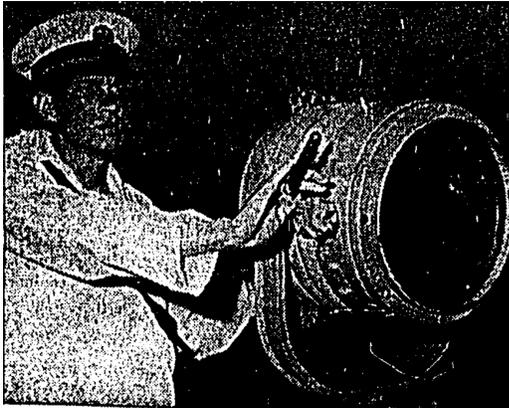
Williams is survived by his widow of Austin and one son, Lieutenant (jg) Dave H. Williams of New York City.

In a wreck inside the city at 41st and Duval Tuesday night, a motorcyclist, Norman Carroll Soward, 28, of 1311A Bracken-

ridge Apartments, sustained a fractured right foot and cuts and bruises about the body. His motorcycle was in collision with a pickup truck driven by Harold E. Luckinger, 36, of 511 East 41st Street.

In a two-car collision at Vista Lane and Windsor Road, Mrs. Joan Elizabeth Hodgkins, 28, of 3303 Mercedith Lane, sustained a shoulder injury. She underwent treatment at Seton Hospital.

The Austin Statesman: Oct 15, 1958



Dave Williams Is Advanced

ATLANTIC FLEET (FITNG) Dave H. Williams was advanced to Navy lieutenant (junior grade) Dec. 1, while serving aboard the Atlantic Fleet surveying ship USS Maury.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Williams of 2525 Hartford, Austin, Texas, and husband of the former Miss Patricia Perlitz of 2900 Greenlee, Austin.

WHAT'S THAT?—Sending a blinker message from the bridge of the destroyer USS Healy is Midshipman Dave H. Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. George D. Williams of 2525 Hartford Street. Blinker messages are a means of visual communications by the Navy's warships at sea. Williams is one of 3,000 midshipmen cruising European waters in a training exercise.—(Navy Photo.)

Before entering the service in January 1956, he graduated from the University of Texas.

The Austin Statesman: Jul 23, 1954 and Dec 19, 1957

R. W. Pfennig 'Civil Servant Of the Month'

September's "Civil Servant of the Month" award has gone to Robert W. Pfennig, Internal Revenue Service conference coordinator.

Selected by a citizens committee in observance of the Civil Service Act diamond anniversary, Pfennig is a native of Travis County and a University of Texas graduate. He is technical advisor to District Director R. D. Phinney and an assistant technical coordinator for the Dallas Region of the Internal Revenue Service.

The award was presented by George Meriwether III, vice president of the Austin National Bank.

Pfennig is a member of the State Society of Certified Public Accountants, the Austin Chapter, Certified Public Accountants and the National Association of Internal Revenue Employees.

The Austin Statesman: Sep 25, 1958

Mrs. Pfennig To Head Nurses' Aides

A new chairman of the nurses aides program in the Travis County Chapter, American Red Cross, was announced Monday.

Mrs. Robert W. Pfennig was appointed as nurses aides chairman to succeed Mrs. Joe Bland. New co-chairman, succeeding Mrs. H. M. Bettis, is Mrs. B. O. White.

Mrs. Pfennig and Mrs. White are the true example of Red Cross "People helping People." They are close friends who not only share their Red Cross volunteer work together but other things as well. They are both members of St. Martins Lutheran Church and are Sunday School teachers there besides working in all the women's groups.

They each have two children and three grandchildren. Mrs. Pfennig and her husband reside at 2525 Hartford Rd. They have one son who is a Lutheran minister in Hondo, Texas, and a daughter who is a senior at the University of Texas majoring in sociology.

Mr. and Mrs. B. O. White, of 1706 West 31st, have two sons. One is in the physical education department at University Junior

High School and the other son is a sophomore at the medical school in Galveston.

Mrs. Pfennig has been a Red Cross Nurses Aide since 1958. Mrs. White has been a Nurses Aide since 1959. They both do their volunteer work at Brackenridge Hospital and have put in many faithful hours.

The training course for the Red Cross Nurses Aide is 40 hours: 20 hours classroom work; 20 hours practical work on the hospital

floor. A training course has been tentatively set for some time in late November. Mrs. Pfennig states there is a great need for more Nurses Aides. Here in Austin, Red Cross Nurses Aide work at Brackenridge and Bergstrom Air Force Base Hospitals. An additional two hours Red Cross orientation is also a prerequisite in the training which will be held Tuesday, October 16th from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Red Cross Chapter House, 322 Jessie Street. Plans are also being made for a night orientation at a later date. Mrs. Pfennig asks that those interested in the nurses aide training course or those who would like to know more about the Nurses Aide work, to call her at BR 8-3908 or her co-chairman Mrs. White at GL 3-3725 or Red Cross, GR 8-1601.

Red Cross volunteer nurses aides not only work in hospitals but in time of disaster are greatly needed to work in Red Cross disaster shelters. Both Mrs. Pfennig and Mrs. White have had this experience here in Austin which included the big job of "Carla". Your Red Cross is a working partner with United Fund.

The Austin Statesman: Oct 17, 1962

Permits

G. D. Williams	2525 Hartford Road
161 1	31 - -
Pemberton Heights #10	
Brick veneer residence and garage.	
44962 6-15-50	\$17,000.00
H. T. Baker	
<i>Building permit, 6-15-50</i>	

OWNER R. W. Pfennig ADDRESS 2525 Hartford Road
 PLAT 161 LOT 1 BLK 31
 SUBDIVISION Pemberton Hts.
 OCCUPANCY Store Room
 BLD PERMIT # 118254 DATE 7-29-70 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$100.00
 CONTRACTOR owner NO. OF FIXTURES
 WATER TAP REC # Exist SEWER TAP REC # Exist
 Frm acc bldg.
 70 sq. ft.

Accessory building permit, 7-29-70

OWNER R. W. Pfennig ADDRESS 2525 Hartford Rd.
 PLAT 161 LOT 1 BLK 31
 SUBDIVISION Pemberton Hts.
 OCCUPANCY Den
 BLD PERMIT # 118834 DATE 9-8-70 OWNERS ESTIMATE \$1,000.00
 CONTRACTOR owner NO. OF FIXTURES
 WATER TAP REC # Exist SEWER TAP REC #

Remodel exist residence

Remodel permit, 9-8-70

507-1 Sub-31 Pemberton Hts.

161 31-31

WATER SERVICE PERMIT E No: 71209
 Austin, Texas

Received of R. W. Pfennig Date 4-24-71
 Address 2525 Hartford Rd.
 Amount Eighty \$ 80.00
 Plumber _____ Size of Tap 1 1/4

RESIDENTIAL WATER

Date of Connection 5-25-72
 Size of Tap Made 1 1/4"
 Size Service Made 1 1/2"
 Size Main Tapped 6"
 From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 2'
 From E Prop. Line to Curb Cock 78'
 Location of Meter CURB
 Type of Box ROUND
 Depth of Main in St. 3'
 Depth of Service Line 2'
 From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 3'
 Checked by Engr. Dept. MM-1-19-73

No. Fittings	Size
3	1/2" Pipe
1	Corp. Cock 1 1/2"
1	Cop. to Iron ell 1 1/2"
	Cop. to Cop. ell
	Cop. to Iron Coupling
	Cop. to Cop. Coupling
	Angle Stop
	Stop
1	Bushing 1/2" x 1/2"
2	Nipples 1/2" x 1/2"
1	Service Clamp 6X1 1/2"
1	Valve 1 1/2"
1	Meter Box <u>Round</u>
1	Lock Lid
1	Drain Tile
1	Drain Tile Lid
	Stop & Drain
	Job No. 71209, No. 5101, 30
	Foreman J. LAMPELL

Water tap permit, 4-24-71