

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS
FEBRUARY 28, 2022
HR-2022-009233
OLD WEST AUSTIN
2507 HARTFORD ROAD

PROPOSAL

Demolish a noncontributing garage and construct a new accessory dwelling unit.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

- 1) Demolish existing garage (ca. 1999).
- 2) Construct a new ADU. The proposed building is two stories in height, with a compound hipped roof clad in composition shingles to match the main house. The ADU's exterior is clad in fiber-cement siding and features 1:1 mulled and single aluminum-clad wood windows, as well as fixed windows and a front-facing garage door.

RESEARCH

The house at 2507 Hartford Road was built around 1951 with an attached garage. It was built for John and Elsie Clemens and their family. John E. Clemens, a CPA, worked as the business manager for the Austin Independent School District. He was also president of Austin's chapter of the American Kennel Club.¹ Permit history shows several remodels to the house and garage during the 1990s and early 2000s, including reworking the home's parking structure.

DESIGN STANDARDS

The City of Austin's [Historic Design Standards](#) (March 2021) are based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and are used to evaluate projects in National Register districts. The following standards apply to the proposed project:

Residential new construction

1. Location

The proposed ADU is constructed in roughly the same location as the existing garage, at the side and rear of the main house.

2. Orientation

The proposed ADU's orientation is consistent with the existing garage's orientation, as well as the orientations of other detached garages in the district.

3. Scale, massing, and height

While the proposed building is two stories in height, its location at the rear of the lot will likely mitigate its impact to the one-story front house. The applicant may wish to consider removing the projecting bay from the front elevation for enhanced compatibility.

4. Proportions

The proposed building's proportions appear compatible with the existing house and the district as a whole.

5. Design and style

The proposed building's design is relatively simple and appears mostly compatible with the main house.

6. Roofs

With the exception of the projecting bay, the house's hipped roof is compatible with the main house.

7. Exterior walls

The proposed horizontal siding is understated and appropriate.

8. Windows and doors

The proposed wood-clad aluminum windows and painted garage door appear appropriate.

¹ "Clemens Heads Kennel Club." The Austin Statesman (1921-1973), May 17, 1954. <https://atxlibrary.idm.oclc.org/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/clemens-heads-kennel-club/docview/1559220216/se-2?accountid=7451>.

Summary

The project meets most of the applicable standards.

PROPERTY EVALUATION

The property contributes to the Old West Austin National Register district.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark




- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain moderate integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). Staff has evaluated the property and determined that it does not meet two criteria:
 - a. Architecture. The building does not appear to convey architectural significance.
 - b. Historical association. The property does not appear to have significant historical associations.
 - 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 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

Comment on and release the plans, encouraging the applicant to consider omitting the projection above the garage, instead articulating the first- and second-floor planes at the garage bay with a simple roof form, step-back, or similar division.

LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 333'

NOTIFICATIONS
CASE#: HR 22-009233
LOCATION: 2507 HARTFORD ROAD

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





Demolition permit application, 2022

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, February 2022

1959 John E. Clemens, owner
 1957 John E. and Elsie e. Clemens, owners
 Business manager, Board of Education
 1955 John E. and Elsie E. Clemens, owners
 Business manager, Austin Public Schools
 1952 Under construction

Permits

WATER SERVICE PERMIT
 Austin, Texas
 Received of W. C. HADELER Date 9-26-51
 Address 2507 HARTFORD Rd
 Amount TWENTY \$ 20.00
 Plumber PORTER Size of Tap 3/4
 Date of Connection 9-28-51

Water service permit, 1951

Receipt No. 17923 Application for Sewer Connection N° 294531
 Austin, Texas, 12-27-1951

To the Superintendent of Sanitary Sewer Division, City of Austin, Texas.

Sir:—
 I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises owned by
W. C. HADELER at 2507 Hartford Rd Street,
 further described as Lot 50.5 Block 31 Outlot Division
 subdivision Plat #106 Plat 106 which is to be used as a res
 In this place there are to be installed 9 fixtures. Plumbing Permit No. 44690
 I agree to pay the City of Austin, the regular ordinance charge.

Sewer service permit, 1951

John E. Clemens 2507 Hartford Road
 161 So.25' of 8 & No.55' of 9- 31 - -
 Pemberton Heights #10
 Brick veneer and frame residence and
 gar. attch.
 49100 9-18-51 \$17,500.00
 W. C. Hadelor
 Building permit, 1951

Historical information

Clemens Given School Position Held by Porter

Superintendent of Schools Irby Carruth Tuesday announced the election of John E. Clemens as business manager of the Austin Independent School District. He succeeds the late T. N. Porter who died April 2.

Clemens is a certified public accountant and presently is director of the Division of School Audits for the Texas Education Agency, which position he has held for the last four and one-half years. Prior to that, he was with the state auditor's office assigned to school auditing for five and one-half years. He has also taught commercial and accounting subjects for several years in both Tyler Commercial College and in Nixon-Clay College in Austin.

He attended Tyler Commercial College with his major work in the fields of business administration and accounting. He has also attended Stephen F. Austin College and has taken specialized courses from the University of Texas. He became a certified public accountant in 1943.

He and Mrs. Clemens live at 2507 Hartford Road. They have one daughter, Miss Gaye Elizabeth Clemens, who is attending Southwestern University. Clemens will begin his new duties on May 14.



HONORED — Wayne Richards (left), principal of Bryker Woods Elementary School and president of the Austin Educators Association, joins three winners of AEA pins presented for "outstanding contributions to the educational professions." The recipients are Mrs. Alice Marshall of Blanton Ele-

mentary School; John Clemens (center), business manager for the Austin Public Schools, and Dr. D. Richard Bowles, assistant director of curriculum and instruction for the school system. Supt. Irby Carruth also received one of the AEA pins.

American Statesman/UPI

"Clemens Given School Position Held by Porter." *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973), May 03, 1955. <https://atxlibrary.idm.oclc.org/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/clemens-given-school-position-held-porter/docview/1559816048/se-2?accountid=7451> and "HONORED." *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973), May 03, 1967. <https://atxlibrary.idm.oclc.org/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/historical-newspapers/honored/docview/1515811834/se-2?accountid=7451>.