

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS
OCTOBER 5, 2022
PR-2022-117676; GF-2022-138148
2706 WOOLDRIDGE DRIVE
OLD WEST AUSTIN

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1936 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story brick house with 6:6 and 4:4 mulled wood windows, partial-width covered porch, a cross-gabled roof with shallow eaves, and a tapered brick chimney. Metal awnings shade the porch and windows at the main façade.

RESEARCH

The house at 2706 Wooldridge Dr. was constructed for Philip L. and Mary Younes Joseph in 1936. Both Philip and Mary were native Austinites whose families, after immigrating from Lebanon, owned successful businesses in Central Texas. Philip L. Joseph opened several package stores and inherited his father's haberdashery business, Joseph's Man's Shop, which operated on Congress Avenue and 6th Street from 1890 until after Philip's death in 1968.

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 high integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). Staff has evaluated the property and determined that may meet two criteria:
 - a. Architecture. The building displays Minimal Traditional-style influences.
 - b. Historical association. The property is associated with Philip L. Joseph, longtime Austin businessman. While other members of the Joseph family have been honored with landmarked buildings, it does not appear that this branch of the family is associated with currently landmarked structures.
 - 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

If the Commission feels that the historical associations with the Joseph family are sufficient for designation, consider initiation of historic zoning. Otherwise, strongly encourage adaptive reuse, but release the demolition permit upon receipt of a City of Austin Documentation Package.

LOCATION MAP



1" = 208'

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: GF 22-138148
LOCATION: 2706 WOOLDRIDGE DRIVE

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



Google Street View, 2022

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, August 2022

1959	Phillip L. Joseph, owner
1955	Philip L. and Mary Joseph, owners Joseph's Man's Shop; Kyle Hotel
1952	Philip L. and Mary Joseph, owners Joseph's Man's Shop
1949	Philip L. and Mary Joseph, owners Joseph's Man's Shop
1944	Philip L. and Mary Joseph, owners Assistant manager, Joseph's Men's Shop
1941	*Address change to 2706 Splitrock Ave* Philip L. and Mary Joseph, owners Joseph's Man's Shop

Permits

Connection Charge \$ 12 ✓
 Application for Sewer Connection. N° 13255

Austin, Texas, Mar. 19 1937

To the Superintendent of Sewer and Public Improvements,
 City of Austin, Texas

Sir:—

I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises owned by Philip Joseph
 at 2706 Spittrock Ave Street,
 Sewer service permit, 1937

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Joseph

WOOLDRIDGE DR.
 2706 SPITROCK AVE.

159

2

5

Edgemont

Residence

179 - 12/28/36

Building permit, 1936

Historical information

Back From Honeymoon



Mrs. Philip L. Joseph

Mrs. Philip L. Joseph and her husband have just returned from an extended honeymoon which included a visit in Chicago. Before her marriage June 15, Mrs. Joseph was Miss Mary Younes of San Antonio. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Younes.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Liquor Control Act that Aus-Tex Package Store is making application with the Texas Liquor Control Board for a retail package store permit. Said business is to be conducted at 6610 Dallas Highway in the city of Austin, County of Travis, Texas.

Aus-Tex Package Store
 Philip L. Joseph

"Back From Honeymoon." *The Austin American* (1914-1973); 06 Aug 1933: A2.
 "Legal Notice 1 -- No Title." *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 10 Mar 1947: 13.

Joseph Says Payoff Claim Not True

Philip L. Joseph, local haberdasher, Wednesday denied he had received any horse race bet payoffs from St. Louis Betting Commissioner James J. Carroll as charged by federal tax agents.

The federal treasury named Joseph as one of 20 persons to whom Carroll made payments totaling \$52,688.15 in 1948 and 1949. The government charges Carroll failed to report the payments.

The tax agents claimed Joseph received \$6691 from Carroll.

Joseph said, "It isn't so; I came out on the short end of the deal."

Joseph said he had not received any money or checks from Carroll and that he made all his bets with John Mooney in St. Louis.

He said he understood Mooney and Carroll were partners. He added he does not even know Carroll and had no contact with him.

In these deals, Joseph said he had been victimized by several Houston gamblers.

"I accommodated them and wound up on the short end," he explained.

He said that the Houston gamblers for whom he placed bets with Mooney in St. Louis, kept the money when they won, but sent him "hot checks" totaling \$4,724 when they lost.

Joseph said he had made one trip to Houston in an effort to collect the money, but that he had not found the Houston bookmakers in. He said he stopped "accommodating" the Houston men when he realized he was getting "stuck."

Death Claims Mrs. Joseph

Mrs. Nora Joseph, widow of a pioneer Austin merchant, the late Cater Joseph, died in a hospital here Thursday morning at the age of 73.

Mrs. Joseph, born in Beirut, Lebanon, came to Austin before the turn of the century. Her husband, who opened a store here in the early 1880s, died several years ago.

Rosary service will be read at the family home, 2824 Rio Grande, Friday evening. Mass will be said at St. Austin's Chapel Saturday morning. Burial will be in Mt. Calvary cemetery Saturday.

Mrs. Joseph is survived by eight sons and two daughters. The sons are J. L. Joseph, Edward Joseph, Ernest Joseph, Philip Joseph, Harry Joseph, Cecil Joseph and Sammy Joseph, all of Austin; and Johnny Joseph of San Antonio. The daughters are Mrs. Sam H. Emmett of Dallas and Mrs. Carl Norton of Austin.

"Death Claims Mrs. Joseph." *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 07 Sep 1950: 1.
 "Joseph Says Payoff Claim Not True." *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 29 Mar 1951: 14.

Austin Sisters Rescue Girl From Deep Eddy



LIFESAVING SISTERS — Susan Joseph (at left), 8, and her 17-year-old sister, Norma, describe for a reporter how they rescued four-year-old Sandy Boyd from the bottom of Deep Eddy swimming pool Friday morning. Sandy, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Boyd, was found on the

pool's bottom in four feet of water by Susan, rescued by Norma. Lifeguard Alvin (Sonny) Fischer restored Sandy's breathing "in about a minute" through artificial respiration. The Joseph sisters are daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Joseph, 2706 Wouderidge. — (Neal Douglass Photo by Don Praeger.)

"Austin Sisters Rescue Girl From Deep Eddy: Youngster Strays Into Deep Water." The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); 02 July 1954: 1.



AUSTIN HOSTESS—Janice Adele Joseph, left, of Austin, joins Texas classmates relaxing poolside at American Airlines Stewardess College in Fort Worth. With her are Sharon Kidd, center, of Denver City, and Fay Garner of

Corpus Christi. Miss Joseph, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Joseph, 2706 Wooldridge Drive, Austin, will be assigned a crew base and begin flying as an American Airlines stewardess later this month.

"AUSTIN HOSTESS." *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 01 June 1961: A12

Phyllis Mary Joseph Wed To Ronald Milton Massad

Miss Phyllis Mary Joseph, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Lawrence Joseph, 2706 Wooldridge Drive, became the bride of Ronald Milton Massad, son of Phillip Massad of Corpus Christi, Sunday afternoon in St. Austin's Catholic Church. The Rev. Robert J. Murphy read the double ring rites.

The bride, who attended Incarnate Word College, is a graduate of The University of Texas where she was a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority. Mr. Massad attended the University of Houston and graduated from Del Mar Junior College. He is now in business in Corpus Christi.

A reception was held at Green pastures. Following a two-week trip to the West Coast, the couple will reside at 201 Dalphin in Corpus Christi.

Among the out-of-town relatives attending were the bridegroom's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ameen Elkouri; the bride's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Younes; and the bride's sister, Mrs. Frank Hogarty of New Jersey.

"Phyllis Mary Joseph Wed To Ronald Milton Massad." *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 05 June 1962: 7.

L. Joseph, died in Santa Rosa medical center Friday.

Born in Beirut, Lebanon, Younes, 78, had been a resident of San Antonio 60 years. For half a century he was owner and operator of Younes Produce Company, wholesale dealers in seafood and poultry.

Funeral services are pending here.

Younes is survived by his widow, Jamelia; and three other daughters, Mrs. Solomon Casseb Jr. of San Antonio, Mrs. Joe Okies of El Paso, and Mrs. Lawrence Bertetta of San Antonio, 11 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

JOSEPH S. YOUNES

SAN ANTONIO — Joseph S. Younes, well known San Antonio businessman and father of an Austin woman, Mrs. Philip

"Central Texas Deaths." *The Austin American* (1914-1973); 11 Apr 1964: 5.

Joseph's

Men's Shop

**OPEN THURSDAY
NIGHT UNTIL 9**

609

CONGRESS

78 years ago Mr. Cater Joseph, father of Ernest and Phillip Joseph, present owners and operators of Joseph's Men's Shop, started business in the 200 block of Congress Ave. Mr. Cater Joseph remained at this location from 1890 to 1920 at which time he moved his already very popular clothing store to 127 East 6th where the business continued to enjoy the success as one of Austin's leading clothing stores from 1920 to 1966. In 1966 Mr. Ernest Joseph and Mr. Phillip Joseph saw the need for a larger more complete store. This need was filled by their present location at 609 Congress.

"Display Ad 117 -- No Title." *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 21 Apr 1968: D7.

Final Rites Scheduled For Joseph

Rosary for Philip L. Joseph, 62, co-owner of Joseph's Men's Shop, will be recited at 8 p.m. Friday at Cook Funeral Home with Rev. Harold Zink, C.S.C., officiating. Mass will be offered at 9 a.m. Saturday at St. Mary's Cathedral with Rev. Harold Zink officiating. Burial will follow in Assumption Cemetery. He died Thursday in a local hospital.

Joseph, of 2706 Wooldridge, had been a lifelong resident of Austin. He was a graduate of St. Edward's University and was the Past Faithful Navigator of Fourth Degree, Austin Council of Knight of Columbus.

Joseph is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mary Joseph of Austin; four daughters, Mrs. William Lynch of Austin, Mrs. Ronald Massad of Corpus Christi, Mrs. Frank Hogarty of McGuire AFB, N.J., and Miss Susan Joseph of Austin; two sisters, Mrs. Jennie Emmett of Dallas and Mrs. Carl Norton of Austin; six brothers, Eddie Joseph, Ernest Joseph, Harry Joseph, Sammie Joseph and Cecil Joseph, all of Austin and Johnny Joseph of San Antonio; and six grandchildren.



PHILIP L. JOSEPH
Funeral Saturday

PHILIP L. JOSEPH

A requiem mass will be offered at 9 a.m. Saturday in St. Mary's Cathedral for Philip L. Joseph, 62, Austin merchant and life-time resident, who died Thursday in a local hospital. Burial will be in Assumption Cemetery. A rosary service was held Friday night at Cook Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Cater Harry Joseph, Riley Farris, William Atkins, A. D. Riley, Stan Gresh, Jack Balagla, Joe Waggoner, Philip Bashaara, Lawrence Bertetti and Solomon Casseb III.

Joseph was the son of the late Cater and Nora Joseph, pioneer Austin residents. He was co-owner of Joseph's Men's Shop. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and a past faithful navigator of the local assembly, Fourth Degree.

He is survived by his widow, Mary Younes Joseph; daughters, Mrs. William Lynch, Austin; Mrs. Ronald Massad, Corpus Christi; Mrs. Frank Hogarty of Maguire Air Force Base, New Jersey and Miss Susan Elaine Joseph of Austin; and six grandchildren, sisters, Mrs. Jennie Emmett, Dallas and Mrs. Carl Norton, Austin; brothers, John R. Joseph of San Antonio and Edward Joseph, Ernest Joseph, Harry Joseph, Sammie Joseph and Cecil Joseph, all of Austin.

"Final Rites Scheduled For Joseph." *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 27 June 1969: 20.

"DEATHS and FUNERALS." *The Austin Statesman* (1921-1973); 28 June 1969: 13.

Isaac Joseph Cater was born in 1862 in Lebanon. (Joseph was engaged in general merchandising for thirty-nine years with his business first on the lower portion of Congress Avenue and later at this address. At this location, the family resided above the retail store as was customary for many businesses. Isaac Joseph died in 1933.

Emily Joseph, widow of Isaac, was born in Beirut, the capital of Lebanon. She died in Austin in July of 1955, at which time this property was left to two daughters, Elizabeth Joseph and Margaret Joseph.

This structure was leased (three addresses) for various uses ranging from retail store, boarding house, bar, church, shoe shine parlor, etc. until its sale by Isaac Joseph's daughter in 1976.

The structures are presently owned by Harry D. Grief and Sidney B. Grief, who plan to restore the masonry structure as nearly as possible to its original style to compliment East 6th Street as well as the Waller Creek Development.

Historic zoning change summary sheet, C14H-2022-0032, Walton-Joseph Building: 706-08 E. 6th St.