

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS
SEPTEMBER 6, 2023
HR-2023-104361
TRAVIS HEIGHTS-FAIRVIEW PARK NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
1800 KENWOOD AVENUE

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1947 house and construct a new building.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

- 1) The proposed new building is clad in brick with a shingle roof. The carport is clad in cement board siding. The property is surrounded by a cedar fence.

ARCHITECTURE

1800 Kenwood Avenue is a one-story Minimal Traditional house clad in asbestos siding and capped by a compound cross-gabled roof. It features decorative vertical siding at the gable end and 1:1 screened wood windows.

RESEARCH

The house at 1800 Kenwood Avenue was built in 1947 for Nita T. Wiginton, a widow who worked as an analyst at the State Highway Department. It appears that Wiginton built the home after the death of her son, Murray, who was shot down over Italy in 1944; she was active in various organizations supporting Gold Star mothers. By 1959, Wiginton's daughter, Anna, was listed as the sole owner-occupant of the house.

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 house appears appropriately sited.

2. Orientation

The proposed buildings are oriented in a manner consistent with contributing buildings in the district.

3. Scale, massing, and height

While the building's massing appears appropriate at the main façade, it is taller than the surrounding contributing buildings. However, the design features stepped-down elements that help to reduce its verticality. The secondary elevations may appear overwhelming to the secondary streetscape.

4. Proportions

The building's traditional proportions appear consistent with the district.

5. Design and style

The building's Tudor Revival elements appear appropriately differentiated, as they are somewhat simplified in design.

6. Roofs

The building's rooflines appear mostly compatible.

7. Exterior walls

Primary and secondary wall materials appear compatible.

8. Windows and doors

Proposed fenestration is mostly compatible.

10. Chimneys

The proposed chimney meets the design standards.

Summary

The project meets most of the applicable standards.

PROPERTY EVALUATION

The property contributes to the Travis Heights-Fairview Park National Register district.

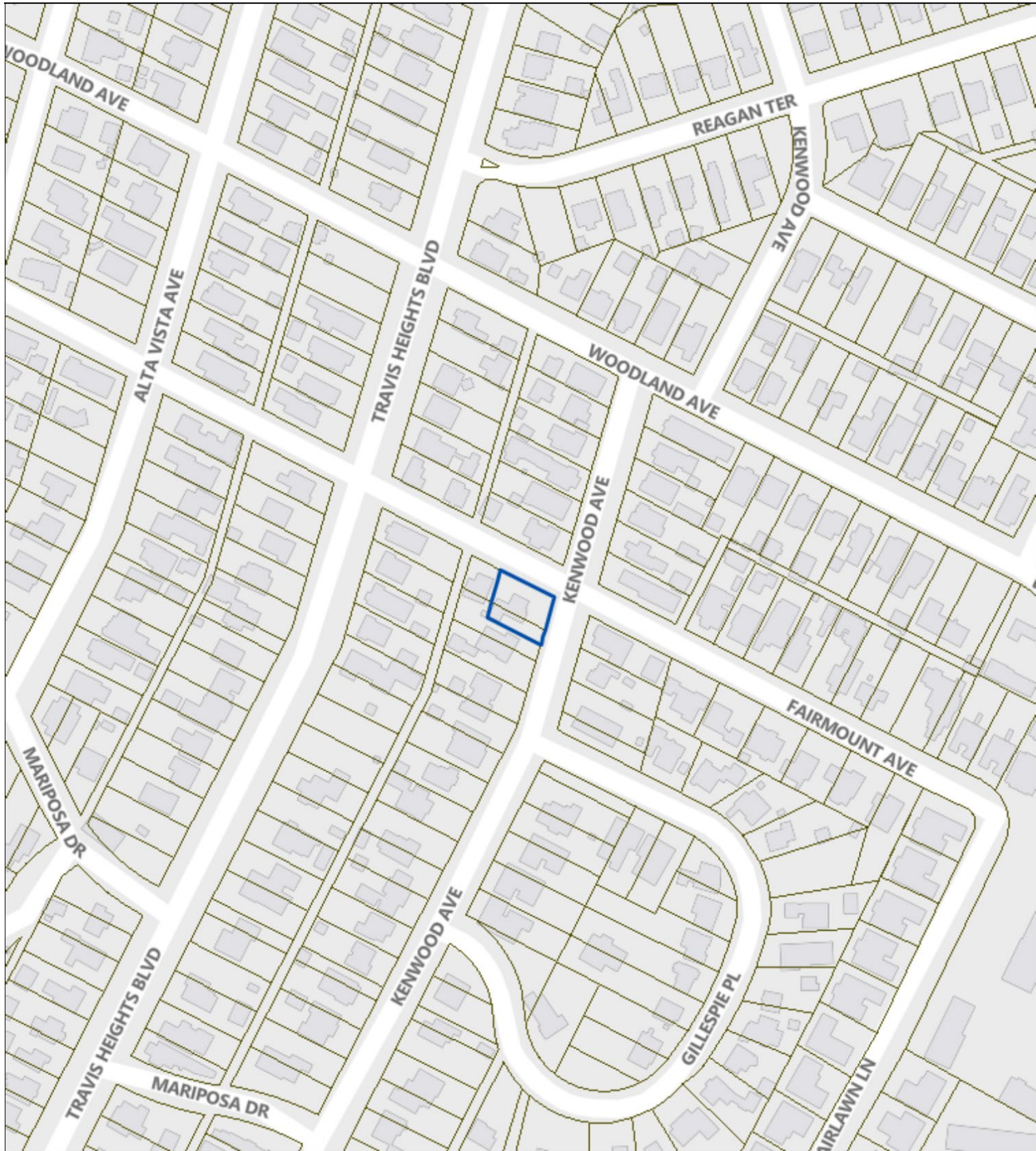
Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 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 it does not meet two criteria:
 - a. Architecture. The building is constructed with Minimal Traditional stylistic influences.
 - 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

Release the demolition permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package. Comment on plans for new construction.

LOCATION MAP



1: 2400

Lot Lines

Lot Line

**HR 23-104361**

1800 KENWOOD AVENUE



8/23/2023

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PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



Demolition permit application, 2023

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, August 2023

- 1959 Anna G. Wiginton, owner
- 1955 Mrs. Nita T. Wiginton, owner (widow of Murray) – analyst, State Highway Department
- 1952 Nita Wiginton, owner (widow of Murray B.) – analyst, State Highway Department
- 1949 Nita Wiginton, owner (widow of Murray B.) – analyst, State Highway Department

Historical Information

Aviation Cadet Murray Boyd Wiginton, Jr., 19-year-old son of Mrs. Nita Wiginton of 808 West 11th, is completing his primary flight training at Sikeston, Mo. A graduate of Austin high school, he took his pre-flight work at Kelly Field.



KRUEGER WIGINTON NEWTON

Lt. Wiginton Missing Over Italy

First Lt. Murray B. Wiginton, 20, was reported missing in action over Italy on July 10, his mother, Mrs. Nita T. Wiginton, 808 West 11th street, was notified Tuesday by the war department.

Pilot of a Flying Fortress, Lt. Wiginton joined an overseas unit early in April and had been on 27 missions when his mother last heard from him.

A graduate of Austin high school, he took NYA radio training at the University of Texas and was a supervisor at Duncan field before he joined the air corps on Oct. 19, 1942. He was commissioned upon graduation from the army air field at Frederick, Okla., on July 29, 1943.

His promotion to first lieutenant came overseas on June 24.

*FIGHTERS for FREEDOM. The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); 25 Feb 1943: 5.
Lt. Wiginton Missing Over Italy. The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); 25 July 1944: 10*

Airmen, Families Get Medals At Bergstrom Rites

Three Tots Accept Awards on Behalf Of Absent Fathers

Two tiny Texas sons and a 22-month-old daughter received high AAF decorations for their hero-fathers who could not be present at a ceremony Saturday morning at Bergstrom field because they are either missing in action or prisoners of war.

Col. Samuel J. Davis, base commanding officer, presented:

Donna Claire Deen, daughter of Lt. Grover C. Deen, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal and one Oak leaf cluster to the Air Medal. Lt. Deen is a prisoner of war in Europe;

William Lloyd Vorhies, Jr., son of Lt. William L. Vorhies, the Air Medal. Lt. Vorhies is a prisoner of war;

Michael Bradford Ramos, 14-month-old son of Lt. Frank M. Ramos, Jr., the Air Medal. Lt. Ramos is missing in action in the CBI.

Navigator Decorated

Also decorated was Capt. John S. Hatchett, Harlingen, navigator for the troop carrier command in Italy. He was presented the DFC and four Oak Leaf clusters to the Air Medal.

Mrs. Mary R. Maulding of 1606 Navasota, received the Air Medal and a silver oak leaf cluster and a bronze oak leaf cluster for her son, T-Sgt. Lee R. Maulding, who is a prisoner of war in Italy. Mrs. Nita T. Wiginton, 808 West 11th street, accepted the Air Medal with Oak Leaf cluster for her son, Lt. Murray B. Wiginton, who is missing in action in Italy.



DECORATIONS for bravery and achievement won by their husbands, sons and fathers in the air battles of foreign wars were accepted by these Austinites Saturday morning at Bergstrom field. Left to right are Mrs. Viola M. Deen, and little Donna Claire; Mrs. Mary R. Maulding, Mrs. Nita T. Wiginton, Mrs. William L. Vorhies and William, Jr., Mrs. Frank M. Ramos, Jr., and son, Michael Bradford, and Mrs. Fay R. Chiles.

Airmen, Families Get Medals At Bergstrom Rites. The Austin American (1914-1973); 25 Mar 1945: 10.



In the early fall Miss Anna Helen Wiginton and Ed Giles, Jr., both of Austin, will be married. Miss Wiginton's engagement was recently announced by her mother, Mrs. Nita Wiginton. The bride-elect is a graduate of Austin high school and is now employed with the Texas highway department.

Giles, son of Ed Giles, Sr., is also a graduate of Austin high school. He recently returned from two and one-half years overseas duty with the strategic and tactical air forces. He served as staff sergeant in England and France and is now employed with the Texas insurance checking office.



—Staff Photo
MURRAY EDWARD GILES

1st Birthday Party Given

Murray Edward Giles celebrated his first birthday recently with a party given by his grandmother, Mrs. Nita Wiginton, at her home at 1800 Kenwood Avenue.

Murray Edward is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Giles Jr., of 1811 Alameda Drive.

Marriage Announcement 7 -- No Title. The Austin American (1914-1973); 03 Feb 1946: A7.

1st Birthday Party Given. The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); 18 Oct 1948: 7.

Austinites Attend Gold Star Meeting

Attending the national convention of American Gold Star Mothers in Washington, D. C., are three representatives from the Austin Chapter: Mesdames Lois M. Fugler, Lucy Rutledge and Nita Wiginton.

Mrs. Fugler will participate in the Memorial Day services at Arlington National Cemetery, Wednesday. She will also be a luncheon guest of Mrs. Lyndon Johnson and will be honored at several other entertainments.

The convention which will end Sunday, is being held at the Statler Hotel.

Austinites Attend Gold Star Meeting. The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); 31 May 1951: A10.

Permits

Mrs. Nita Wiginton 1800 Kenwood Avenue
17 and 1/2
132 of 16 34 - -

Frame residence

33229 3-22-47 \$6000.00

Frank Rundell

Neta Wiginton 1800 Kenwood Avenue
of 16
132 E. 90' of 17 & E. 90' of No. 1/2 34 - -

Travis Heights

Add garage to residence.

47491 2-12-51 \$100.00

Bert Reinki