HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION

PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS JANUARY 23, 2012 NRD-2011-0104 612 E. $6^{\rm th}$ Street

Sixth Street National Register Historic District

PROPOSAL

Remodel the existing non-historic façade.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

The applicant proposes to remodel the existing non-historic façade by piercing new window openings on the second story, and replacing all doors and windows on the ground floor with aluminum units with transoms within existing openings. The applicant further proposes the construction of a new flat metal awning across the front of the building.

Preliminary research shows that this building was constructed around 1900 and was a one-story building until the second story was added in the 1980s. The original building had the existing segmentally-arched bays and a pressed metal cornice. It was divided into two distinct spaces, with addresses of 610 and 612 E. 6th Street or 612 and 614 E. 6th Street. The western section of the building, containing two segmental-arched bays, appears to have been a warehouse space for a number of years, but served as auto painting shops and auto repair shops for the longest amount of time. The eastern section of the building has a long association with William Tears' funeral home in the 1910s and 1920s. Tears was one of Austin's most prominent African-American undertakers in the early 20th century; he later formed King-Tears Funeral Home with Charles B. and Alice King in 1955 in East Austin, which remains to this day. After Tears moved out of this building in the mid-1930s, it became an auto parts store until the late 1980s.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

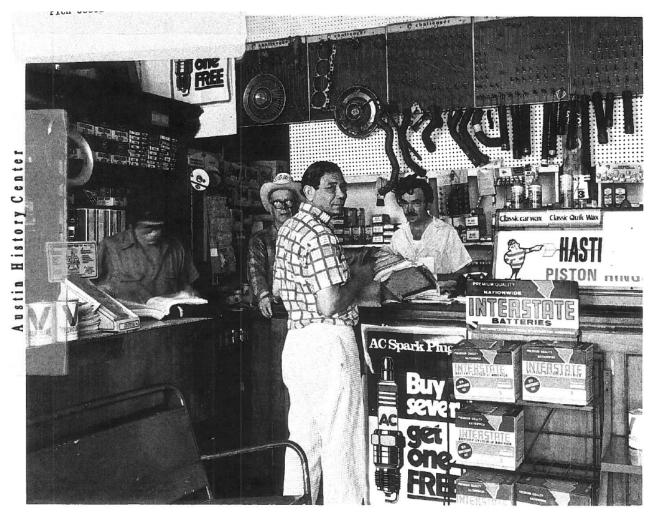
The application is for the modification of a non-historic storefront. The Commission has no standards for review of this proposal.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Release the building permit. Unfortunately, this building has been changed to such an extent that restoration of the original one-story building is no longer feasible. The applicant has been very sensitive in maintaining the shape and rhythm of the segmentally-arched bays on the ground floor and mitigating some of the most unsympathetic modifications to this building with a design appropriate for the historic character of the district.



This 1971 photograph shows the current building before the second story was added in the 1980s. The segmental-arched doorways remain but the cornices have been removed. The applicant is maintaining the original openings; the proposed design for the replacement doors will have transoms.



This 1977 photograph shows the interior of the building when it was A A Auto Parts, a business that occupied this space from the late 1930s through the late 1980s.



The existing facade

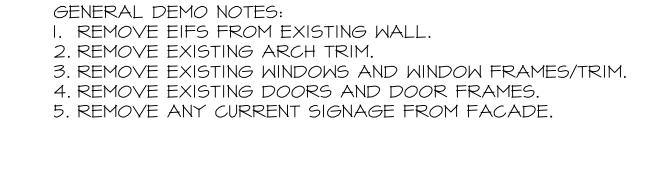
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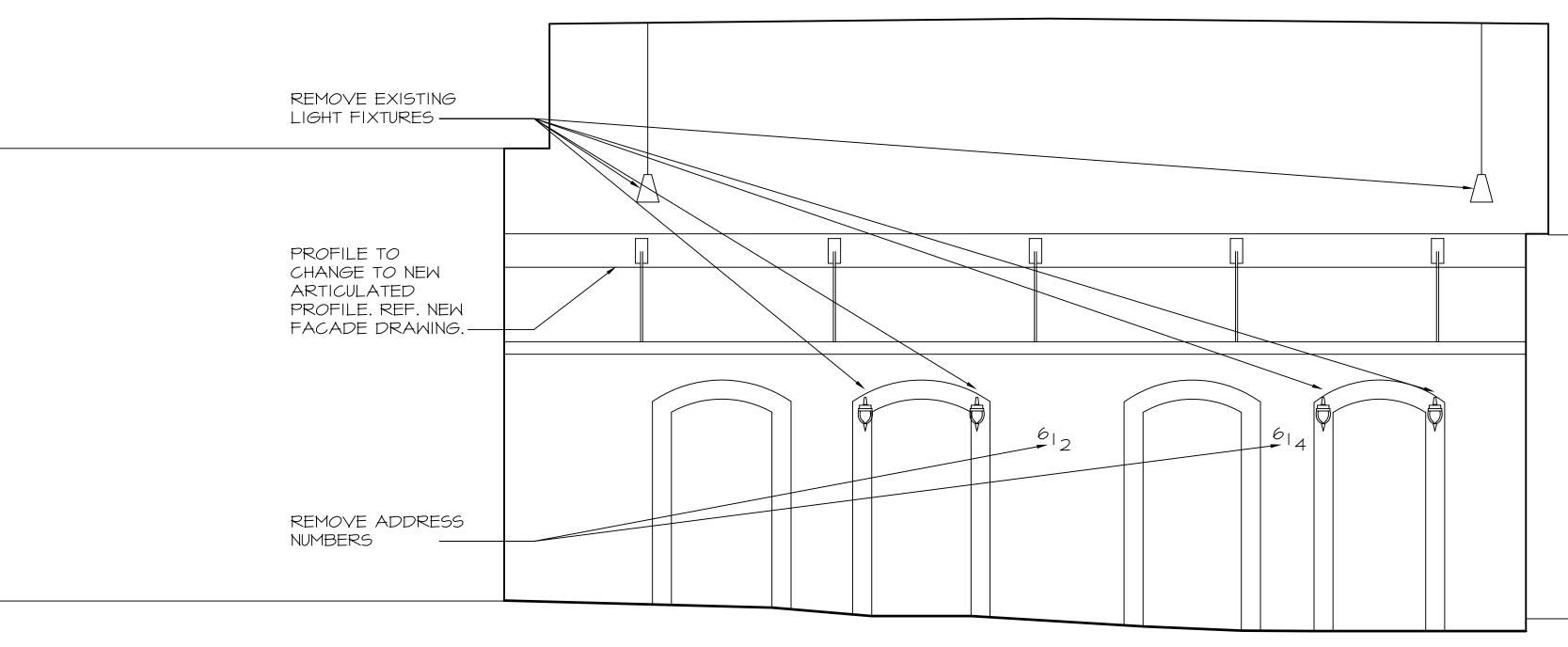
3 SHEET CONTENTS:

EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

SHEET:

AX1





EXTERIOR ELEVATION DEMO PLAN

