HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION APRIL 23, 2018

PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS NRD-2018-0032

1004 SPENCE STREET WILLOW-SPENCE HISTORIC DISTRICT

PROPOSAL

Enlarge the second story, alter the rear massing, replace windows, replace roof materials, and restore and repair existing wood siding. A previous application to construct a 597-square-foot second-floor addition was approved administratively in September 2017.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

The existing building is a hip-roof, rectangular-plan wood-frame house with a front gable end, hipped dormers, and wraparound porch. It is clad in clapboard wood siding, with wood-sash double-hung windows and partially glazed wood doors. At least two of the windows have an ornate muntin configuration in the upper sashes. The previously approved rear addition is partially completed. This is a contributing property in the Willow-Spence Historic District.

The proposed project includes six components:

- 1. Enlarge the second story at the rear. The attic space will be expanded via a shallow shed roof west of the ridgeline, extension of the eastern hipped roof into a gable, and removal of the eastern hipped dormer. Cladding will be hardiplank, and fenestration will be fixed and double-hung clad-wood windows. The foremost portion of the enlarged second story will be set back 21'8" from the front wall of the house. At the rear, the second story is set back and opens onto a deck with half-height solid walls.
- 2. Alter the rear addition. As approved administratively last fall, the first floor of the rear addition was proposed to be enclosed. It is now proposed to be a partially enclosed porch with no windows or doors.
- 3. Replace all windows. Existing windows are proposed to be replaced with clad-wood double-hung windows.
- 4. Replace doors not facing the street. Existing doors on the west and north elevations will be replaced with fully-glazed wood doors. The original doors on the south (primary) façade and east elevation are proposed to be retained and restored.
- 5. Replace asphalt roof shingles with standing-seam metal.
- 6. Restore and repair existing wood siding.

RESEARCH

The house was constructed ca 1910. Carl G. and Selma Wagner were the first residents, with their ten children. The Wagners were German Americans—Carl was born to German immigrant parents, while Selma arrived in the U.S. as a baby. Carl co-owned the Schultz & Wagner Dry Goods & Men's Furnishings store on E. 6th Street; he had previously owned a restaurant on Guadalupe Street near the UT campus.

Around 1920, the Grein family purchased the property and lived there for the next two decades. The Greins were also a German American family, with a patriarch and matriarch—Matthias and Augusta Grein—who were both born in Germany and immigrated as youth. Matthias Grein was a baker who owned the Colorado Bakery. The property owner listed in city directories shifts between Matthias and his son Charles.

Various renters lived in the house at the same time: first family members, then other unrelated persons. Charles A. Grein worked as a brakeman for the Southern Pacific Railroad for fifty years.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

The property is contributing to the Willow-Spence Historic District. It does not appear to meet the standards for designation as a historic landmark.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building itself is over 50 years old, having been constructed ca. 1910.
- 2) The building appears to retain a high degree of integrity. Some windows are boarded up or missing.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (City of Austin Land Development Code (Section 25-2-352). The property does not appear to demonstrate significance according to any of the criteria.
 - a. Architecture. The building is built in a Queen Anne or vernacular Victorian style. It does not appear to be architecturally significant.
 - b. **Historical association**. The Grein family lived in the property for more than twenty years. However, there do not appear to be 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 appear to possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the community, Austin, or Texas as a whole.
 - e. Landscape feature. The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards are used to evaluate projects on contributing buildings in National Register historic districts. Applicable standards include:

- 2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
- 5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
 The proposed project largely retains the historic character of the property, with the exception of the removal of historic wood-sash windows and the hipped dormer on the eastern roof slope.
- 9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

 The rear addition is differentiated from the historic building via a 21'8" setback and compatible but differentiated cladding. The western addition is capped by a simple shed roof that is subordinate to the hipped roof of the original building. The eastern

addition is capped by a more prominent gable roof, but is still set back.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

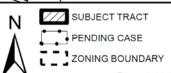
The rear addition could be removed in the future with moderate impact to the essential form and integrity of the historic property.

The proposed project complies with most of the standards.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Comment on and release the permit, encouraging the applicant to retain and rehabilitate as many historic windows as possible. Staff further recommends the completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center, prior to the release of any permits.





CASE#: NRD-2018-0032 LOCATION: 1004 SPENCE ST

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.

1 " = 250 '

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.



Photos



South (primary) façade of 1004 Spence Street.



South façade and east elevation.



Detail of window on south facade.



View of west elevation.

Occupancy Hi	istory
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City directory research, Austin History Center By Historic Preservation Office staff April 2018

1910 Carl G. Wagner

No employment listed

The property is listed with no street address, located on the north side of Spence Street, between San Marcos and Waller.

1912 Carl G. Wagner

Schultz & Wagner Dry Goods & Men's Furnishings, 321 E. 6^{th} Street August Hilsberger, renter

1916 Carl G. Wagner

Schultz & Wagner Dry Goods & Men's Furnishings, 321 E. 6th Street Charles W. Coons, renter; clerk, American Express Company

1918 Carl G. and Selma Wagner, owners

Schultz & Wagner Dry Goods & Men's Furnishings, 321 E. $6^{\rm th}$ Street Miss Matilda A. Wagner; student, Nixon-Clay Commercial College, 921-23 Congress Avenue

1920 Charles A. Grien [or Grein], owner

Brakeman, H & TC Railroad Mrs. Augusta Grien (mother)

Miss Josephine T. Grien; wrapper, McNamara Bros.

Miss Rosa A. Grien (sister)

Thomas E. Dougherty, renter; salesman, McNamara Bros.

Matthias and Augusta Grien, owners

Baker

Charles A. Grien; brakeman, SP Lines

Robert R. and Josephine Hamilton, renters; machinist, Austin Street Railway Co.

1924 Mathias [sic] Grien, owner

Not listed in regular directory; employment not known

1930 Charles A. and Bertha W. Grien, owners

Brakeman, S&P Railway

Troy and Annie Ingram and Troy Jr., renters; fireman *This information was drawn from the 1930 Census*

1932-33 C. A. Grien, owner

C. E. Parkinson, renter

1940 Charles A. and Bertha Grien and Jack (son), owners

Brakeman, railroad

1942 Charles A. and Bertha Grien, owners

Brakeman, no place of employment listed

1947	James R. and Lena Page, owners No employment listed Bud and Syble Hansel, renters; Texas Public Service
1949	Madory and Bertha Wende, owners Brakeman, S&P Lines
1955	Adrian J. and Essie Malone Carpenter, no place of employment listed
1959	Mrs. Joanne Simpson, owner; widow of Charlie Attendant, Austin State Hospital
1962	Ben and Olga Robles U.S. Army
1968	Richard and Josephine Barron No employment listed
1977	Mrs. Josephine S. Barron, widow of Richard No employment listed
1986	Mrs. Josephine S. Barron Retired
1992	Derek Drummond Builder, University of Texas

Background Research

Carl G. and Selma Wagner lived at the property from ca. 1910 until ca. 1918. Carl Wagner was born in Texas ca. 1879 to parents who had emigrated from Germany. He married Selma Hillsberg prior to 1902 and the couple had ten children. Selma Hillsberg Wagner was born ca. 1880 in Germany and immigrated to the U.S. as a child in 1881.

In 1910, Carl Wagner co-owned the Schultz & Wagner Dry Goods & Men's Furnishings store at 321 E. 6th Street, which was listed as "among the prominent mercantile establishments" of 1913 by a 1938 retrospective article in *The Austin American* (6/5/1938). Prior to 1910, Wagner owned the Carl G. Wagner Restaurant at 2218 Guadalupe Street, where customers could purchase soda and ice cream. The Wagners moved to South Austin ca. 1918.

Charles A. and Bertha Grein (listed as Grien in city directories) and Charles's parents Matthias and Augusta Grein variously lived at the property from ca. 1920 until ca. 1942. Matthias (or Mathias or Mathew) Grein was born in Germany in 1851 and immigrated to the U.S. at age 17. He moved to Austin around 1875 and ran the Colorado Bakery for 35 years. The bakery was listed at 205 Colorado Street in 1889 and 1890. Later city directories locate the bakery at various addresses along E. 6th Street: 1200 E. 6th Street (1895), 722 E. 6th Street (1909-10), and 514 E. 6th Street (1920). Augusta Grein was born in Berlin, Germany, in 1861, and immigrated to Austin at the age three. She married Matthias in

Austin in 1884 and the couple had at least five children. Matthias Grein died in 1925, and Augusta Grein died in 1937.

WANTED—Everybody to know that the wagon formerly used by me and labeled "Colorado Bakery." is now used by another baker. My bread can be had only at 209 West Pecan street and at P. C. Roach's, Matth. Grein, Colorado bakery.

Matthias Grein ran an advertisement in the Austin Statesman alerting customers where his bread could be purchased, 9/22/1889.

Last Night's Alarm of Fire.

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The alarm of fire at 1:15 o'clock this' morning was caused by a big sheet of flame shooting up out of the chimney of the Colorado bakery, down in the First ward. Of course the fire boys turned out, but finding nothing but a baker's fire to extinguish, they immediately returned home to resume their interrupted slumber.

Routine fire at the Colorado Bakery, Austin Daily Statesman, 9/14/1891.

TENANT REMAINS.

Jury Thwarts Effort of G. M. Brass to Oust Matthias Grein.

A jury in M. M. Johnson's justice court deckled yesterday that Matthias Grein need not vacate G. M. Brass' building at 722 East Sixth street, where Grein has conducted a bakery for the past two or three years. It appears that Grein had paid his rent regularly up to the August 1 pay day, when he refused to pay until his landlord should screen the house so as to comply with the new city regulations in this regard.

The landlord couldn't see where he was under obligations to go to that additional expense, when he had a contract with his tenant until January 1, 1912, at \$17.73 per month, as the house stands. The jury thought otherwise.

A jury finds in Matthias Grein's favor for contested improvements to his bakery at 722 E. 6th Street, Austin Statesman, 8/20/1910.

The Dead

Funeral services for MATHEW GREIN, 74, who died early Thursday morning following a lingering filmest, will be field Eriday afternoon at the home of his son, 1004 Spence street, at five o'clock, with E. G. Roesener of St. Martin's Lutheran church officiating. Interment will be in Oakwood centetry.

Mr. Guein was born in Germany Dec. 14, 1851, and came to the United States at the ago of 17 years, For the past 50 years he has resided in Austin, where he had the Colorado bakery for 35 years. He is survived by his widow, two daughters, Mrs. T. E. Dougherty and Mrs. Robert Hamilton, and three sons, William E. Grein, Otto Grein and Charles Grein of Austin; three brothers, two residing in Seguin and one in St. Louis, Mo.

Obituary for Mathew Grein, Austin Statesman, 9/25/1925.

Last Grein Rites Set Late Friday

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); May 7, 1937; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman

Last Grein Rites Set Late Friday

Funeral services for Mrs. Augusta. Grein, 76, who died Thursday at her home at 910 Columbia street, will be held Friday at 5 p. m. from the Cook Funeral home.

The Rev. F. G. Roesener of St. Martin's Lutheran church will conduct the rites, and burial will be in Oakwood cemetery with the following serving as pallbearers: Charles Schrader, Vernon Johnson, Walter Stark, H. W. Schulz, James Dunlap and Steve Heffington,

Mrs. Grein was born in Berlin. Germany, April 14, 1861, and came to Austin when she was three years old. In 1864 she was married to Matthies Grein. Survivors are two daughters. Mrs. Tom Daugherty and Mrs. Josephine Hamilton, and three sons. William, Otto and Charles Grein.

Obituary for Augusta Grein, Austin Statesman, 5/7/1937.

Charles Alfred Grein was born around 1891. He worked as a brakeman at the H & TC Railroad, then later at S&P Lines (Southern Pacific Railroad) for fifty years until he retired in 1959. City directories note that Charles's wife was named Bertha, but his obituary from

1969 lists his wife as Lillian; it is not clear whether one is incorrect or whether he was married twice. Charles had an adopted son, Jack A. Grein, who died in 1961 in Chicago. Bertha Grein was active in raising money for the local chapter of Royal Neighbors, which provided life insurance for women and aided in disaster response efforts. In 1920, five Grein family members are listed as residing at the property, including a widowed sister of Charles Grein, Mrs. Tom Dougherty. (That sister likely met Tom Dougherty when he was a boarder with the Grein family at 1004 Spence around 1920.) Later city directories list other couples and families as renters at the property while the Greins were living there.

Change of Address

Mrs. Tom Dougherty and children have moved from 910 Columbus street to 1004 Spence street, the home of Mrs. Dougherty's brother, Charles Grein, since the death of Mr. Dougherty.

From the Austin American, 10/11/1943. Tom Dougherty was Travis County's deputy sheriff; he died suddenly of a heart attack.

CHARLES A. GREIN

Charles Alfred Grein, 78, of 2168 Indian Trail died in a local hospital Tuesday. He was a member of First Methodist Church, worked for Southern Pacific Railroad 50 years until his retirement in 1959. He was a member of Hill City Lodge 456 AF&AM and a member of the Railroad Conductors Brotherhood.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lillian Grein of Austin; one daughter, Mrs. Lillian Sandahl of Austin; two sisters, Mrs. Rose Doughtery and Mrs. Josephine Hamilton, both of Austin.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Cook Funeral Home with Rev. B. C. Schmidt officiating. Burial will follow in Oak Hill Cemetery in Burton. Graveside services will be under auspices of Masonic Lodge.

Charles Grein obituary, Austin Statesman, 4/16/1969.

Josephine S. Barron lived at the property from ca. 1968 until ca. 1986. No information was found on Ms. Barron.

BUILDING PERMITS.

C. G. Wagner to build garage, wood,
1004 Spence Street: 135.

Newspaper notice about the construction of a wood-frame garage by C. G. Wagner, Austin Statesman

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Building permit for remodel and repairs, issued to Charles R. Hernandez, 3/6/1978.