

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
 AUGUST 26, 2019
 PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS
 NRD-2019-0043
 2519 HARTFORD ROAD
 OLD WEST AUSTIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

PROPOSAL

Demolish a one-story house built ca. 1941.

ARCHITECTURE

1-story, side-gabled, rectangular-plan house; clad in stone veneer with multi-lite double-hung and casement windows; features include a broad stone chimney and a small entry porch.

RESEARCH

Guy and Emma D. Burks constructed the house around 1941 and lived there until their deaths in 1987 and 1995. Guy Burks was born in 1900 in Itasca, Texas, where his father managed a cotton gin. He attended the University of Texas at Austin in the early 1920s. By 1941, he was working as an engineer at the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), where he remained until around 1959. At the LCRA, Burks headed the Distribution Department, supervising distribution lines from the design stage to operation, then as the assistant chief engineer. Beginning around 1959, he worked as the chief engineer at the Bluebonnet Electric Co-op in Giddings until his retirement around 1977. Guy Burks died in 1987 in Austin.

Emma Davis Wiseman Burks was born in 1902 in Covington, Texas, to a farming family. She attended Texas Presbyterian College and Baylor University, where she received a Teacher's Certificate. She taught in public schools before marrying Guy Burks in 1928 in Hill County. The couple had two children. Emma Burks was involved with a number of social and civic activities, including the Austin Federated Woman's Club, the UT Alpha Phi Mother's Club, the University Junior High Band Mothers' club [sic], and the Auxiliary to the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. Emma Burks died in 1995 in Austin.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

The house is a contributing property in the Old West Austin Historic District. It does not appear to meet the standards for designation as a historic landmark.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old, having been constructed ca. 1941.
- 2) The building retains a high degree of integrity.
- 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 an intact example of the Minimal Traditional style, but does not appear to be architecturally significant.
 - b. **Historical association.** Guy and Emma Burks lived in the house for at least fifty years, from the time the house was constructed until at least 1992. 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.




STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of the existing building, including consideration of a demolition delay, as the building is contributing to the historic district. Encourage relocation over demolition. If the Commission votes to release the demolition permit, then staff recommends 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.

Due to the building's location in a National Register historic district, the Commission must review and comment on the proposed plans for new construction prior to the release of the demolition permit. Plans were received after the notice of public hearing was mailed, so will be reviewed at the Commission's September 23 meeting.

LOCATION MAP



-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

1" = 333'

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: NRD-2019-0043

LOCATION: 2519 HARTFORD RD

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



Primary (west) façade of 2519 Hartford Road. Source: Google Street View (March 2019).

Occupancy History

City directory research, Austin History Center

By Historic Preservation Office staff

July 2019

1941	Address not listed
1944	Guy and Emma D. Burks + 2 children, owners Engineer, U.S. Lower Colorado Rivera Authority
1947	Guy and Emma Burks, owners Engineer/distribution, Lower Colorado Rivera Authority
1949	Guy and Emma D. Burks, owners Distribution engineer, L.C.R.A.
1952	Guy and Emma Burks, owners Engineer
1955	Guy and Emma D. Burks, owners Head distribution engineer, L.C.R.A.
1959	Guy and Emma D. Burks, owners Assistant chief engineer, L.C.R.A.

- 1962 Guy and Emma D. Burks, owners
Assistant chief engineer, Co-op
- 1965 Guy and Emma D. Burks, owners
Chief engineer, Bluebonnet Electric Co-op (Giddings)
- 1968 Guy and Emma D. Burks, owners
Chief engineer, Bluebonnet Electric Co-op (Giddings)
- 1973 Guy and Emma D. Burks, owners
Chief engineer, Bluebonnet Electric Co-op (Giddings)
- 1977 Guy and Emma Burks, owners
Retired
- 1981 Guy and Emma Burks, owners
Retired
- 1986 Guy and Emma Burks, owners
Retired
- 1992 Guy Burks, owner
Retired
[Staff note: This appears to be a typographical error, as Guy Burks died in 1987. Emma Burks lived in the house until at least 1992, and likely until her death in 1995]

Background Research



MANAGERS OF THE ELECTRIC UTILITIES systems of the various Central Texas municipalities served by the Lower Colorado River authority are pictured above with Max Starcke, manager of the LCRA, at a conference here Saturday. In the group are, standing, left to right: L. E. Rankin, LaGrange; R. A. Toler, Giddings; A. C. Harper, San Marcos; H. G. Foshee, Austin; Henry H. Broesche, Brenham; C. J. Blum, Brenham; Sam H. Tabor, Lockhart; A. N. Johnson, Lampasas; A. H. Grantham,

Lockhart: Lewis Nix, Gonzales; G. G. Medders, Weimer; W. C. Barnett, Goldthwaite; R. E. Bristol; Lampasas; F. L. Wilke, Fredericksburg; T. O. Buchel, Cuero; E. H. Apelt, and Bodo Habenicks, Fredericksburg.

Seated, left to right, are: R. M. Mickel, Kerrville; A. O. Krauskopf, Luling; **Guy Burks**, Austin; M. G. Hyllin, San Marcos; Mgr. Max Starcke, Sam Friedsam, Austin; William Schneider, Bellville; C. T. Morene, Schullenberg, L. Jilek, Moulton, and Miss Sagebiel, city attorney of Fredericksburg.

"Managers of the electric utilities," The Austin American, 5/31/1942.

EMMA WISEMAN BURKS

Emma Wiseman Burks, age 93, of Austin, Texas, died Thursday, November 23, 1995.

Graveside service Sunday, November 26, 1995, at Two o'clock p.m., Covington Cemetery, Covington, Texas. Officiating is Dr. Ervin Gathings and Dr. Charles Pitts. Interment, Covington Cemetery, Covington, Texas.

She was born August 12, 1902, in Covington, Texas. She graduated from Texas Presbyterian College in Milford, Texas, and attended Baylor University.

Subsequently, upon receiving her Teacher's Certificate, she taught in the Bynum and Grandview, Texas public schools prior to her marriage to **Guy Burks**, of Itasca, Texas, on September 29, 1928.

She had resided in Austin since 1939, devoting her energies to her family, friends and various charitable and service activities, including the Austin Federated Woman's Club and the U.T. Alpha Phi Mother's Club. She had been a member of the University Presbyterian Church in Austin for 51 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, **Guy Burks**; her parents, John W. and Margery Wiseman, of Covington; a sister, Jennie Wiseman of Covington; and two brothers, John Wiseman of Covington and James Wiseman of Waco.

Survivors include a son, John C. Burks and wife, Lynn, of Austin; a daughter, Sue Burks Anderson of Houston; two granddaughters, Suzanne Anderson of Austin and Jean A. McNamara of Houston; and one great-granddaughter, Paige McNamara of Houston.

Marshall & Marshall Funeral Directors, 200 East Franklin Street, Hillsboro, Texas 76645, (817) 582-2581, in charge of arrangements.

Obituary for Emma Burks, Austin American-Statesman, 11/25/1995.

Building Permits

3280 N^o 17827
 APPLICATION FOR SEWER CONNECTION.
 Austin, Texas 7-3-1941
 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 Guy Burks
 at 2519 Hartford Rd. Street
 further described as lot 3, block 31, outlot
 subdivision Pemb. Hts. #10, division, plat 161,
 which is to be used as a Res.
 In this place there are to be installed 5
 I agree to pay the City Sewer Department the regular ordinance
 charge.
 Respectfully,
D. H. Lauer
 - by Mrs. D. H. Lauer
 Stub Out
 Connected 9-8 1941 Permit Pd.
 Size of Main 6 inches. 7-3-41
 Size of Service 4 inches. 8-26-41
4 Feet Deep Basement Stub out
 Feet from Property Line 40' W of
 Feet from Curb Line House
 Inspected by Boatright 4' S of S.
 Connection made by Texas Line of House
15426 Sewer in agreement in front
R-11 & 3

Sewer connection permit issued to Guy Burks, 7/3/1941.

Guy Burks 2519 Hartford Rd.
 161 - 31 3
 Pemberton Hts.
 Rock Ventr. Res & Box Garage
 22104 - 7-8-41
 8

Building permit for rock veneer residence and detached garage issued to Guy Burks, 7/8/1941.

WATER SERVICE PERMIT No 16090

Austin, Texas *Moved Meter* Sec. 161

Received of *Guy Burks* 11 So. out of Drive Date 9-22-41

Address *2519 Hartford* (P)

Amount *Set on this Tap* \$ 2.50

Plumber *E. W. Lanier* Size of Tap $\frac{1}{2}$ "

USED-STUB 15038

Date of Connection _____

Size of Tap Made _____

Size Service Made _____

Size Main Tapped _____

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock _____

From Prop. Line to Curb Cock _____

Location of Meter _____

Type of Box _____

Depth of Main in St. _____

Depth of Service Line _____

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main _____

Checked by Engr. Dept. *12-8-41 LE*

No. Fittings	Curb Cock	Elbow	St. Elbow	Bushing	Reducer	Pipe	Lead Comp.	Nipples	Union	Plug	Tee	Stop	Box	Lid	Valves	Job No.	Req. No.

Move Meter

Water tap permit issued to Guy Burks, 9/22/1941.

WATER SERVICE PERMIT No G 36399

Austin, Texas *Spec increase*

Lot *3* Block *31* Plat Sec. *161*

Received of *Guy Burks* Date 7-27-83

Service Address *2519 Hartford Rd.* Size of Meter *1"*

Amount _____

Subdivision *Pinkerton Heights No. 10* ENTERED JUL 2 1986

NW II 401 P.R.V. Yes No

Date of Connection *8-24-83*

Size of Tap Made *1"*

Size Service Made *1"*

Size Main Tapped *2" P.V.C.*

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock *6'*

From *S* Prop. Line to Curb Cock *52'*

Location of Meter *F.C.T. 11*

Type of Box *Small Round*

Depth of Main in St. *3 1/2'*

Depth of Service Line *3'*

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main *34'*

Zone: East Central West *West*

No. Fittings	Pipe	Corp. Cock	Cop. to Iron ell	Cop. to Cop. ell	Cop. to Iron Coupling	Cop. to Cop. Coupling	Angle Stop	Stop	Bushing	Nipples	Service Clamp	Valve	Meter Box	Lock Lid	Drain Tile	Drain Tile Lid	Stop & Drain	Job No.	Foreman
<i>35</i>	<i>PE</i>												<i>Small</i>					<i>222558</i>	<i>Paul M. Oneto</i>

MAINTENANCE

Water service permit issued to Guy Burks, 7/27/1983.