

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
MARCH 22, 2021  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
PR-2020-192260  
3404 GOVALLE AVE.**

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish frame portions behind a 1955 masonry church.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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The former Loyalty Missionary Baptist Church building is a front-gabled concrete masonry unit church with a projecting entry bay flanked by large buttresses on the front elevation and regularly spaced vertical windows between shallow buttresses on the side elevations. A rear frame portion abuts the north (back) wall of the masonry church. A taller gabled volume with paired wood doors on the east and three rows of windows on the west is intersected by a lower wing to the north. Both portions are clad in asbestos shingles and have Craftsman details including knee braces and exposed rafter tails.

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**RESEARCH**

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Govalle Baptist Church was a white congregation active from ca. 1939 to 1976. The church erected a two-story frame building at 3402 Govalle Road in 1939, consisting of an auditorium and seven rooms. Newspaper articles report PTA meetings held in the building's basement. It is unclear whether this is the frame structure proposed for demolition; the applicant reports that the frame portions were moved to the site after the masonry church was built in 1955.

The Govalle Baptist Church congregation merged with Beacon Ridge Baptist Church in 1976. In the same year, the newly formed Loyalty Missionary Baptist Church, an African American congregation, acquired this building.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain high integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). Staff has evaluated this church for designation as a historic landmark and has determined that it does not appear to meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code:
  - a) *Architecture*. While the church has a unique design, it does not necessarily qualify for historic landmark designation under this criterion.
  - b) *Historical association*. While associated with two former churches, no significant historic events were identified.
  - c) *Archaeology*. The church was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
  - d) *Community value*. The church is not known to 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.

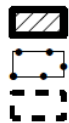
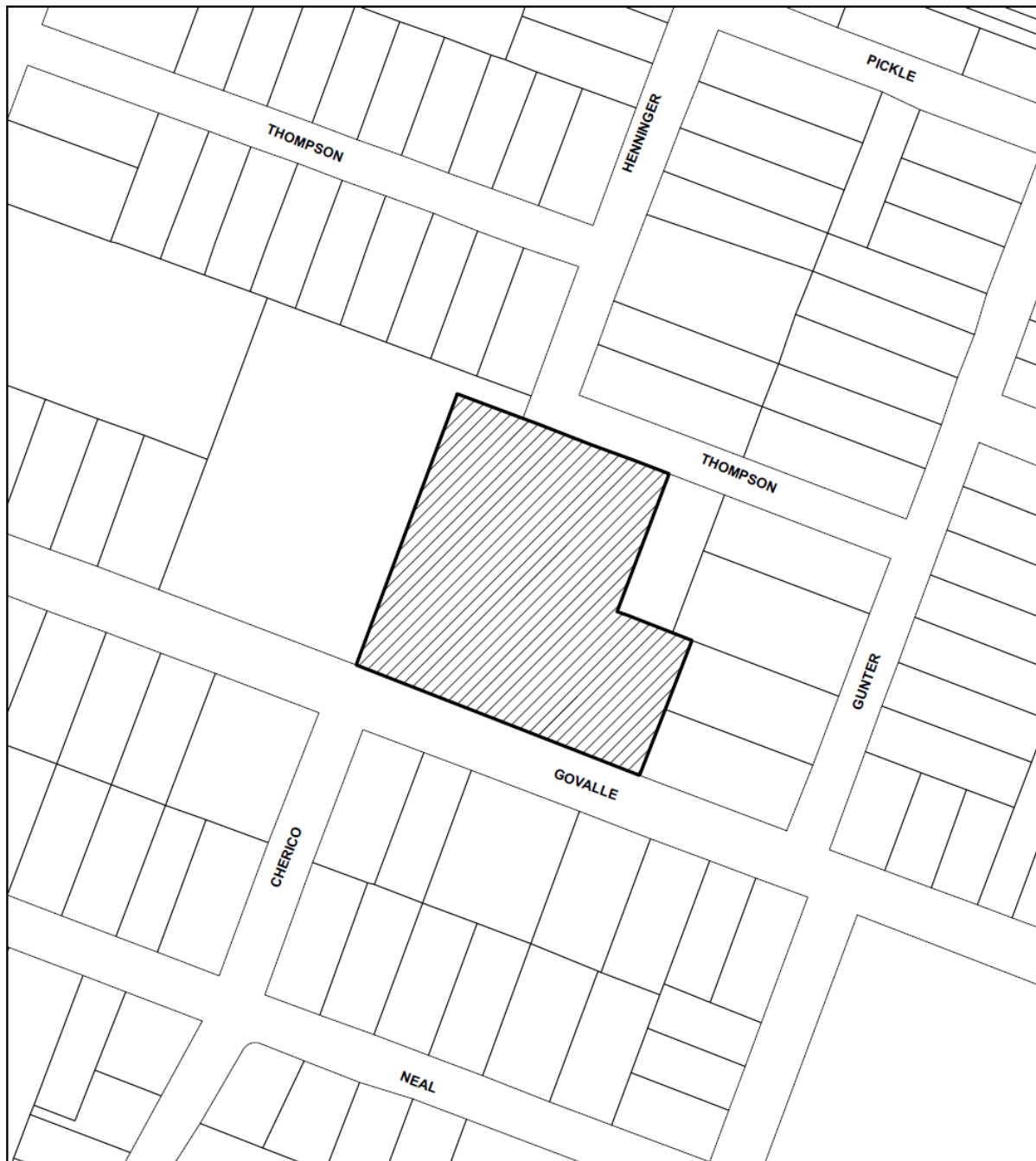
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Release the permit upon 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.

## LOCATION MAP



SUBJECT TRACT  
PENDING CASE  
ZONING BOUNDARY

## NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: GF 21-011446  
LOCATION: 3404 GOVALLE AVE



1" = 137'

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**

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*Source: Google Street View*







*Source: Applicant, 2021*

*Occupancy History*

3400 and 3404 Govalle Avenue

City Historic Preservation Office, March 2021

- 1959    3400:    Govalle Baptist Church  
           3404:    Reverend Everett S. and Pansy C. Martin, renters  
                  Pastor, Govalle Baptist Church
- 1957    3400:    Govalle Baptist Church  
           3404:    Reverend Everett S. and Pansy C. Martin, renters  
                  Pastor, Govalle Baptist Church
- 1955    3400:    Govalle Baptist Church  
           3404:    Reverend Jas O. Folkes, renter  
                  Pastor, Govalle Baptist Church
- 1952    3400:    Govalle Baptist Church  
           3404:    Reverend Timothy D. and Lucille Taylor, renters  
                  Pastor, Govalle Baptist Church
- 1949    3400:    Govalle Baptist Church  
           3404:    J. B. Adalr, renter  
                  Student, University of Texas
- 1947    3420:    Govalle Baptist Church

*Historical Information*

## Building Permits Reach \$5,395,383

### Housing Jobs Boost Total Here

Permits issued to Vincent Balbo and Sons, San Antonio general contractors, for the construction of the Mexican and negro low cost housing projects of the Austin Housing authority, on which construction has started in East Austin, sent building for the last week to \$321,166 which shot the year's total to a new high mark for Austin at \$5,395,383.

A two-story frame church building will be erected by the Govalle Baptist church at 3402 Govalle road, consisting of an auditorium and seven rooms, but no cost estimate was given to the building inspector at the week-end and hence its cost is not included in the weekly and yearly figures, thus bringing both to a higher total than actually shown on the permit records.

*The Austin American (1914-1973); Dec. 4, 1938, p. 14*

## Public Health Education Will Be P-TA Subject

Mrs. M. R. Withers, chairman of the Home and Family Life Group of the Govalle P-TA, has announced the following subjects and dates for the course to be studied this year.

The main subject, "Public Health Education," will be discussed by Boyce Campbell of the Austin Travis Health Unit who will be in charge of the six week course.

He will give talks and show a movie each week in the basement of the Govalle Baptist Church from 9 to 11 a. m.

The first meeting will be Nov. 5, the subject being "Social Hygiene." The second meeting Nov. 12, the subject, "Food and Nutrition." The third meeting, Nov. 19, the subject,

"Safety and Sanitation in the Home." The fourth meeting, Dec. 3, the subject, "Cancer and Polio." The fifth meeting, Dec. 10, the subject, "Dental Hygiene." The sixth meeting, Dec. 17, the subject "Tuberculosis."

All P-TA members are urged to attend as well as interested persons in the community.

*The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Oct 30, 1947, p. 11*

### NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF GOVALLÉ BAPTIST CHURCH

The Govalle Baptist Church in regular business meeting of September 8, 1976 voted to declare all members on the Govalle Baptist Church roll as inactive members of The Beacon Ridge Baptist Church after October 1, 1976. All those wishing to be active on the Beacon Ridge Baptist will have to transfer personally from October 1, 1976 to October 1, 1978 from the inactive list. All such inactive members will be handled by Beacon Ridge Church when letters are granted to other Churches. Those transferring to the active list will come at any worship service with the rededication spirit. On October 1, 1978 the books of the inactive list will be closed and all persons transferring from that date forward will have letters issued as members of Govalle Baptist on October 1, 1976.

If there are questions, call 926-0170, Austin, Tx.

*The Austin American Statesman (1973-1980); Sep 18, 1976, p. B9*

Formerly Govalle Baptist Church, LOYALTY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 3400 Govalle Ave., will hold its formal entrance service at a special service at 3 p.m. Sunday.

Rev. J.R. Williams of True Light Missionary Baptist Church will be the guest speaker.

*The Austin American Statesman (1973-1980); Jul 17, 1976, p. B9*

See also: <https://www.heimsath.com/sacred-space-holy-place/what-will-become-of-loyalty-missionary-baptist>