

Like all of the original houses in the neighborhood, this one has a history which will be sad to lose. I'm sorry I wasn't able to learn more before the family left. I'm writing what I do know.

The former residents were a Mexican American family who had lived in the house many years before I moved next door 30 years ago. The father, Sebastian had worked for the City of Austin for many years, and was retired by then. The last resident was the daughter, now a grandmother, who grew up in the house and walked to neighborhood schools on streets without sidewalks.

The house, like mine, is a modest, sturdy structure built with long leaf pine lumber. There are several similar ones on this side of the street. They all have a front porch with two entry doors. This one has a hip roof.

Sebastian, lived there with his wife Tina when I moved next door. He spoke often of the anacua trees he planted in front of the house. He loved the tree from his childhood in South Texas. That tree (also called the "sand paper tree") isn't very common in Austin because it is native to South Texas and we're in the northern-most part of its range. Now this part of Willow Street is a grand anacua grove because of Sebastian's plantings many years ago. The trees are full of fragrant blossoms in the spring and enjoyed by all the neighbors.

PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

Although applicants and/or their agent(s) are expected to attend a public hearing, you are not required to attend. This meeting will be conducted online and you have the opportunity to speak FOR or AGAINST the proposed development or change. Email or call the staff contact for information on how to participate in the public hearings online. You may also contact a neighborhood or environmental organization that has expressed an interest in an application affecting your neighborhood.

During a public hearing, the board or commission may postpone or continue an application's hearing to a later date, or recommend approval or denial of the application. If the board or commission announces a specific date and time for a postponement or continuation that is not later than 60 days from the announcement, no further notice is required.

A board or commission's decision may be appealed by a person with standing to appeal, or an interested party that is identified as a person who can appeal the decision. The body holding a public hearing on an appeal will determine whether a person has standing to appeal the decision.

An interested party is defined as a person who is the applicant or record owner of the subject property, or who communicates an interest to a board or commission by:

- delivering a written statement to the board or commission before or during the public hearing that generally identifies the issues of concern (it may be delivered to the contact person listed on a notice); or
- appearing and speaking for the record at the public hearing; and
- occupies a primary residence that is within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development;
- is the record owner of property within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development; or
- is an officer of an environmental or neighborhood organization that has an interest in or whose declared boundaries are within 500 feet of the subject property or proposed development.

A notice of appeal must be filed with the director of the responsible department no later than 14 days after the decision. An appeal form may be available from the responsible department.

For additional information on the City of Austin's land development process, please visit our website: www.austintexas.gov/abc

Written comments must be submitted to the board or commission (or the contact person listed on the notice) before a public hearing. Your comments should include the board or commission's name, the scheduled date of the public hearing, the Case Number and the contact person listed on the notice.

Case Number: GF 21-060219 - 1709 WILLOW ST
Contact: Amber Allen, (512) 974-3393
Public Hearing: Historic Landmark Commission, May 24, 2021

☐ I am in favor
☒ I object

Kathleen McWhorter 1711 Willow St, Austin, TX 78702
Your Name (please print) Your address(es) affected by this application
Kathleen McWhorter 5-24-21
Signature Date
Comments: Attached

If you use this form to comment, it may be returned to:
City of Austin Housing and Planning Department
Historic Preservation Office, ATTN: Amber Allen
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767-8810
E-mail: preservation@austintexas.gov