

**CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS**

**Application Date:** April 27, 2016

**Applicant:** Bernardo Rios, o3 Designs for Andre Merle, owner

**Property:** 4627 Oak Ridge St., Lot 5, Block 112, Norhill Subdivision. The property includes a historic 1,500 square foot, one-story wood frame single-family residence and a detached garage situated on a 5,000 square foot (50' x 100') interior lot.

**Significance:** Contributing garage, constructed circa 1950, located in the Norhill Historic District.

**Proposal:** Demolition – Demolish a contributing, one-story detached garage located at the rear (southwest corner) of the lot on the basis of unusual and compelling circumstance as described in the Houston Code of Ordinances, Historic Preservation, Section 33-247(d).

See enclosed application materials and detailed project description on p. 3-6 for further details.

**Public Comment:** No public comment received at this time.

**Civic Association:** The Norhill Neighborhood Association has not reviewed this application.

**Recommendation:** Approval

**HAHC Action:** -

DRAFT

APPROVAL CRITERIA

DEMOLITION OF A LANDMARK, PROTECTED LANDMARK, CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE, OR WITHIN AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

Sec. 33-247(a): The issuance of a certificate of appropriateness for the demolition of a landmark, a protected landmark, or a contributing structure, or for the demolition of a building, structure or object on or in an archaeological site shall be subject to the establishment of an (c) unreasonable economic hardship or the establishment of an (d) unusual and compelling circumstance.

(c) Determination of the existence of an unreasonable economic hardship shall be based upon the following criteria:

S D NA S - satisfies D - does not satisfy NA - not applicable

- (1) That the property is incapable of earning a reasonable return, without regard to whether the return is the most profitable return, including without limitation, whether the costs of maintenance or improvement of the property exceed its fair market value;
(2) That the property cannot be adapted for any other use, whether by the current owner, by a purchaser or by a lessee, that would result in a reasonable return;
(3) That efforts to find a purchaser or lessee interested in acquiring the property and preserving it have failed; and
(4) If the applicant is a nonprofit organization, determination of an unreasonable economic hardship shall instead be based upon whether the denial of a certificate of appropriateness financially prevents or seriously interferes with carrying out the mission, purpose, or function of the nonprofit corporation

OR

(d) Determination of the existence of an unusual and compelling circumstance shall be based upon the following criteria:

- (1) That current information does not support the historic or archaeological significance of this building, structure or object or its importance to the integrity of an historic district, if applicable;
(2) Whether there are definite plans for reuse of the property if the proposed demolition is carried out and what effect such plans have on the architectural, cultural, historical or archaeological character of the surrounding area; and
(3) Whether reasonable measures can be taken to save the building, structure or object from further deterioration, collapse, arson, vandalism or neglect.



**PROPERTY LOCATION**  
NORHILL HISTORIC DISTRICT

- Building Classification**
- Contributing
  - Non-Contributing
  - Park



**INVENTORY PHOTO**



**CURRENT PHOTOS**



PROPERTY SURVEY OR SITE PLAN

