

## Memorandum

To: Brookings Historic Preservation Commission

From: Staci Bungard, City Planner

Date: July 1, 2020

Re: Additional background information on Garage/Shed at 804 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Chair Merriman requested some additional information on the garage/shed at 804 5<sup>th</sup> Street. After some additional research, staff would like to share additional background information. The City building file indicates the garage/shed was permitted in 1954. The nomination form and the County tax records indicate the house was constructed in 1937. Furthermore the nomination states that, "the contributing buildings within the district were constructed from circa 1884 to 1943." Therefore if the garage was constructed in 1954, is it truly a contributing structure? The nomination narrative does not mention the significance of this property, besides its construction time period. Staff proposed these questions to SHPO and the response from Sofia Mattesini, Historic Preservation Specialist, is shown below:

*"This is an interesting question. With the information we have, a possibility could be that the garage was designed in 1954 with the intent to match the house and that at the time of the nomination it was assumed to be original. At that point there wouldn't have been guidelines for new construction in historic districts, and therefore the garage might have contributed to creating a false sense of history. Another possibility is that the garage was reconstructed in keeping with original designs and retained its original location and context, thus making it a contributing resource under Criteria Consideration E for reconstruction properties. If this were the case, it is likely that the district's overall period of significance was chosen to reflect the dates of construction of the most architecturally significant resources rather than subordinate structures such as garages/sheds. Also at the time of the nomination, 1993, the fifty year cut-off date would have been 1943 so extending the period of significance to the 1950s would not have been possible. Because of this uncertainty, I would probably proceed with the previous determination, and continue considering it a contributing resource."*

SHPO has determined the garage/shed structure is contributing; however, the Commission may use the background information, timeframe of construction, nomination form, and other factors when reviewing the 11.1 application to demolish the accessory structure.