

Five River Oaks area homes receive historic designation

City Council designated five homes in the River Oaks area as historic landmarks of the city of Houston.

The residence at 2455 Pine Valley Drive, designed by Salisbury & McHale, was built in 1935 for Herbert A. and Elizabeth Kipp. Kipp was a Vice President at the River Oaks Corporation. He was a civil engineer responsible for the layout of all the subdivisions in River Oaks. He also developed plans for Hermann Park, Glenwood Cemetery and the Texas Medical Center. Much of what we see and experience in central Houston is the work of Herbert Kipp. The Kipp House was designed in a traditional Colonial Revival style and incorporates some Spanish Revival elements.



The Lucian and Kate Carroll House at 3247 Inwood Drive was designed and built by the owners who moved there in 1926. Both Lucian and Kate Carroll were involved in the wholesale paper business. The Carroll house was one of the first homes built in newly formed River Oaks Country Club Estates. The home was designed in Colonial Revival style and is distinctive for the use of oozing mortar. The house has had very few alterations and appears much as it did in 1926.

The residence at 3262 Ella Lee Lane, designed by well-known architect Cameron Fairchild, was built in 1935 for Robert and Bessie Cooper. Cooper was a land agent for Humble Oil, where he remained for his entire working life. The home was later owned by Robert and Betty Bland. The house is designed in the Colonial Revival style.



The Baldwin-Riddell House was originally designed by architects Harvin Moore and Hermon Lloyd in 1940, and built between 1941-42 in the newly opened River Oaks Tall Timbers for Edward and Annie Baldwin. Mr. Baldwin worked for the Hughes Tool Company, where he managed exports. He also served in the Navy in both World Wars. The property was purchased in 1959 by Mr. and Mrs. John F. Riddell, who commissioned John F. Staub to rework the original house and add to the eastern end of the house. Mr. Riddell was an independent oil producer.

The William B. Ferguson House at 3003 Chevy Chase was designed by Salisbury & McHale for the Ferguson family in 1935. It was constructed by builder E.B. Crawford. William Ferguson was the financial advisor to the Hogg family, and he was active with the Hogg Brothers operation from the 1920s through the 1970s. The Ferguson House was designed in the Colonial Revival Style.