

Homes of noted architects Staub and Briscoe as well as Schneider House receive historic designation

On June 6, 2012, Houston City Council designated the H. George Schneider House, the Birdsall P. Briscoe House and the John F. Staub House as historic landmarks.

The John F. Staub House at 3511 Del Monte was designed by renowned Houston architect John Staub in 1925. Staub designed the house specifically for his family. It was designed in a Colonial New England style to honor the heritage of his wife who hailed from Massachusetts. The house remains in the family and is owned by Peter S. Wareing, Staub's grandson.



Staub opened his Houston architectural practice in 1923 and his first independent commission in the city was the River Oaks Country Club. Staub is best known for his elegant single-family houses including the Ima Hogg mansion and is closely identified with the River Oaks neighborhood. Between 1924 and 1958, he designed thirty-one houses in River Oaks. Outside of River Oaks, Staub houses from this period were built in Broadacres, Courtlandt Place, and the Fort Worth neighborhood of River Crest. His firm designed buildings for the campuses of the University of Texas, Rice University, University of Houston, Texas Medical Center, and John Reagan High School. He was also consulting architect for the new building and planetarium for the Houston Museum of Natural Science.



The Birdsall P. Briscoe House was designed by Birdsall P. Briscoe in 1936 for his own family. The house was later owned by prominent attorney Joseph C. Hutcheson, III. The Briscoe House at 1829 Sharp Place is on one of the two courtyards designed to avoid home frontage on the higher volume of traffic on San Felipe Street and South Shepherd Drive. The two-story shingle-clad house is sited on the south side of the northern of the two courtyards.

Birdsall P. Briscoe, one of Houston's most important architects, worked extensively in the Houston neighborhoods of Courtlandt Place, Shadyside, Broadacres, and River Oaks. His finest houses, designed between 1926 and 1940, exhibit the array of historical architectural styles characteristic of American eclectic architecture and are distinguished by the architect's gift for harmonious proportion and full-bodied ornamental detail.

The house at 3434 Del Monte Drive was designed in 1941 for H. George Schneider and his wife Margaret by Houston architect, Birdsall P. Briscoe. The home is of the American Colonial Revival style with Creole style elements. H. George Schneider was an oil engineer and an accomplished horse breeder. He lived in the home from 1941 until 1971.

