

CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

PROTECTED LANDMARK DESIGNATION REPORT

LANDMARK NAME: Henry W. Stude House
OWNERS: Carol S. and Dan Price
APPLICANTS: Same as Owners
LOCATION: 14 Remington Lane – Shadyside

AGENDA ITEM: IIIb
HPO FILE NO: 11PL101
DATE ACCEPTED: Jan-21-2011
HAHC HEARING: May-19-2011

SITE INFORMATION: Lot L, Shadyside, City of Houston, Harris County, Texas. The site includes a historic two-story, brick veneer residence.

TYPE OF APPROVAL REQUESTED: Landmark and Protected Landmark Designation

HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Henry W. Stude Home was constructed in 1924 and designed by the prolific Houston architects, Birdsall P. Briscoe and Sam Dixon, Jr., in a French provincial style. The house is one of the best examples of a modestly-sized home in Shadyside. It is, indeed, the smallest home in Shadyside and its lot, Lot L, was originally the smallest lot in Shadyside.

Henry W. Stude was a prominent baker and owner of the Texas Baking Company. Stude's grandfather, Henry Stude, purchased much land in Houston in the late 19th century. In 1915, the Stude family donated 22.4 acres of land along White Oak Bayou to Houston that were added to twenty acres already owned by the City to form Stude Park. Stude worked in partnership with Will and Mike Hogg in the early 1920s to develop Norhill, now a City of Houston Historic District, which was platted on Stude family land. Henry W. Stude was also the President of the American Association of the Baking Industry (ABA) from 1926 to 1938, and during this time, he aggressively campaigned for the establishment of the American Institute and School of Baking (AIB).

The Stude family sold the house to the Muller family in 1938. Now, the fourth generation of the Muller family is growing up in the house. The Henry W. Stude House at 14 Remington Lane meets Criteria 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 for Landmark and Protected Landmark designation.

HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE

The original owner of 14 Remington, Henry W. Stude (1880-1951), was the owner of the Texas Baking Company, a family company. He and his wife, Jane Talbot, purchased the lot in Shadyside from J.S. Cullinan in 1917. Jane Stude was a close friend of Cullinan's daughters. Henry Stude was one of the original trustees of Shadyside, along with W.W. Moore and H.A. Kipp.

Henry Stude benefitted from the legacy of his grandfather, Henry Stude, who purchased much land in Houston in the late 19th century. When he died in 1905, his holdings were left to Henry W. Stude's mother, Louise. Henry W. Stude and his siblings worked together as a family to develop and sell the land. In 1915, they gave 22.29 acres of land along White Oak Bayou to the City for parkland.

CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

Stude worked in partnership with Will and Mike Hogg to develop Norhill, now a City of Houston Historic District, which was platted on Stude family land. Henry W. Stude was a Vice President of Varner Realty, which undertook the development of East and West Norhill in 1922-24. Furthermore, the Hogg Brothers and Henry Stude bought two tracts of Camp Logan in 1924 and, rather than develop it, sold the land to the City of Houston at cost. This land became Memorial Park. Both of these ventures were occurring while the Stude House was being constructed.

Stude also stayed busy with his baking interests. He was the President of the American Association of the Baking Industry (ABA) from 1926 to 1938, and during this time, he aggressively campaigned for the establishment of the American Institute and School of Baking (AIB). This school was eventually established in Chicago, and Stude unexpectedly became President of the AIB as well as the ABA in 1927. It is likely that these additional responsibilities, and the demands for reorganization due to the looming Great Depression, are what caused the Studes to move from Houston to Chicago in 1930. From 1938 until 1949, Stude was the Vice President of the Purity Baking Company of Chicago. Stude returned to Houston after his retirement, and built 56 Tiel Way in River Oaks, designed by Hugh Neuhaus, Jr. He died in 1951.

When the Studes moved to Chicago, they rented out the house to several families, including Richard W. and Laura Rice Neff, and Frederick B. and Grace Asche. Both families had two children, but when their families grew by one more child, each looked for a larger home. The Studes eventually sold the house to Mr. and Mrs. Anton C. Muller in 1938.

Anton Charles Muller and Josephine (Brummett) Muller relocated from an apartment at the nearby Warwick to 14 Remington Lane. Muller had emigrated from the Bohemia region of Czechoslovakia as a young man with an entrepreneurial bend toward cotton. Because of his business acumen and his ability to speak four languages fluently, his fortunes in the cotton export industry rose. A cotton merchant working with, among others, Anderson Clayton and Weatherford Crump, he brought Texas cotton to previously closed European markets after World War I. The Mullers raised their two children, Walter Muller and Josephine Muller Shanks, in the house.

A.C. Muller lived in the house until his death in 1978 and Mrs. Muller lived there until her death in 1997. The fourth generation of the Muller family – the Price children – is now growing up in the house.

Birdsall Parmenas Briscoe

Birdsall P. Briscoe, architect, was born on June 10, 1876, in Harrisburg, Texas, to Andrew Birdsall and Annie Frances (Paine) Briscoe. He was the grandson of Andrew Briscoe and the great-grandson of John R. Harris, founder of Harrisburg. During the Spanish-American War, Briscoe served in the United States Army Infantry as a sergeant; he subsequently served as a major in the army during World War I. He was educated at Texas A&M University and began his architectural career in Houston in 1904 with architects Lewis Wilson and Lewis Sterling Green. During this time, his firm designed the original Blessed Sacrament church (circa 1910), a former East End landmark demolished in 2005. After a brief partnership with Green (1909-11), Briscoe began independent practice in 1912. He designed the Clayton House (City of Houston Protected Landmark) on Caroline in 1916 in the Georgian Revival style and construction was completed in 1917. From 1922 until 1926, he was in partnership with Sam H. Dixon, Jr. From 1919 until his retirement in 1955,

CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

Briscoe shared an office with Maurice J. Sullivan. Although from time to time he collaborated with both Dixon and Sullivan on nonresidential commissions, Briscoe was best known for his elegantly composed and detailed houses

Briscoe established his reputation as an exceptional designer at the outset of his career. His aptitude for disciplined formal composition and correct, scholarly rendition of historic detail placed him at the forefront of the eclectic trend in Houston architecture during the second decade of the twentieth century. Briscoe's 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.

Briscoe worked extensively in the Houston neighborhoods of Courtlandt Place, Shadyside, Broadacres, and River Oaks. Among his clients for houses were William Lockhart Clayton (1917), W. T. Carter (1920), R. Lee Blaffer (1920), Walter H. Walne (1925), Burdine Clayton Anderson (1928), Robert W. Wier (1928), Milton R. Underwood (1934), Wirt A. Paddock (1936), I. H. Kempner, Jr. (1936), and Dillon Anderson (1938). Outside Houston, Briscoe's best-known project was the remodeling of the Patton-Varner House near West Columbia for Ima and William Clifford Hogg in 1920.

Briscoe married Ruth Dillman in 1927. He joined the American Institute of Architects in 1921 and was elected a fellow of the institute in 1949. From 1934 until 1941 he served as district officer for South Texas of the Historic American Buildings Survey. He was the author of two western adventure novels, *In the Face of the Sun* (1934) and *Spurs from San Isidro* (1951). He was a parishioner of Christ Church. He died in Houston on September 18, 1971, and is buried at Oak Hill Cemetery in Goliad.

Hare and Hare

Hare and Hare prepared landscape plans for the Stude House in 1924. The only extant part of this plan is a stone pathway between the front walkway and the driveway. Hare and Hare also worked closely with Will Hogg on city plans for Houston, while Hogg was the Chairman of the Houston Planning Commission. Hare and Hare was hired by the Board of Park Commissioners in 1923 to consult on city parks and they undertook extensive planning efforts for Houston parks, including Memorial Park, Hermann Park, and Stude Park.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND RESTORATION HISTORY

The house, completed by Briscoe and Dixon in 1924, is designed in a French provincial style. The house faces east on Remington and is sited in the middle of the lot. The tall, plastered Shadyside wall blocks the view of the house from Sunset Drive and adds privacy to the lot. From the 1980 City of Houston Architectural Survey:

“The house consists of three volumes: the east wing, a two story gabled volume containing the living room and master bedroom; a central volume containing the main entry portal and stair in a one and two story configuration, ending in an exposed gable on the west face; and a third two story volume on the north end of the house, containing kitchen and servants’ room, beneath an exposed gable.”

CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

Construction: Masonry bearing walls on reinforced concrete foundation; wood trim. Exterior walls are faced with skintled orange brick laid in Flemish bond.”

When built, the house contained 43,000 cubic feet and cost 62 cents per foot. The original cost of the house was \$22,000. The first floor is almost level with the grade, which gives the house the appearance of being level with the street. The house has a pier and beam foundation and a small basement.

The entrance of the house is positioned under a gabled roof with an arched alcove, in a very picturesque style. The stairhall to the north of the entry way is defined by a projecting one and one-half story bay with large casement window with diagonally placed leaded glass lights.

The windows, which are double hung and wooden, have varying light patterns: 4-over-4 and 8-over-12 on the ground floor, and 4-over-4 and 8-over-8 on the second floor.

The main roof is hipped with the ridge pole running north-south. The roof over the kitchen wing is gabled. The slope of the main roof is carried over the entrance porch and produces an interesting contrast with the high stairhall gable beside it. Two massive chimneys on the West and East facades balance the home.

At the north end of the house, and visually connected by a masonry wall but bisected by the driveway is a large garage structure with an apartment above. Instead of being placed behind the house, the garage is setback the same distance as the house.

The current owners, Carol and Dan Price, have made sensitive changes to the house, which help return the house to the original style. In the rear of the house, a narrow, screen porch on a concrete slab (later addition), was removed. A larger, family room addition replaced the porch and is connected to the house's rear façade; it is not visible from the front façade. The family room is built in wood, so as to distinguish it from the original brick house. The addition was designed by architect Neal Lacey and built in 2001.

The garage has recently been enhanced by the addition of an additional bay to the west side of the original structure for parking below and apartment space above. This new addition mirrors the original garage portion and, because it is added to the west façade, is sited to the rear of the building and is minimally visible from the front of the house. In addition, a wooden portico has been added to the front of the garage structure. These changes, nearing completion, are the work of architect Stephanie Adolph Eugster and are designed to be most sensitive to the original Briscoe design. None of the original east facing façade was altered in this addition.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Architectural Forum. March 1926. Plate 49, “House for Henry Stude, Esq., Houston, Texas.”

Civics for Houston. March 1928. Vol. 7, pp. 6-7. Birdsall P. Briscoe, “The Private Garage.”

Houston Post. 23 September 1951. “City Builder Henry Stude Dies at 71.”

Texas General Contractors Association Monthly Bulletin. May 1924. Vol. 5, p. 33.

CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

“The Architectural of Birdsall Parmenas Briscoe.” John Charles Susman. M. Arch. Thesis, University of Texas at Austin, 1979.

City Directories.

Joseph Stephen Cullinan Papers. Houston Metropolitan Research Center, Houston Public Library.

DeBevec, Jeff. Norhill Historic District application, 1999.

Fox, Stephen, ed., *Houston Architectural Guide 2nd edition*, American Institute of Architects, Houston Chapter, 1999.

Fox, Stephen. “Public Art and Private Spaces: Shadyside.” *Houston Review*, 1980, Volume II, Number 1.

Stephen Fox, "Briscoe, Birdsall Parmenas," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fbrbw>), accessed December 26, 2010.

Holmes, Ann. “The Spotlight.” *Houston Chronicle*, Sunday, April 11, 1976.

Houston Architectural Survey, Volume 5. 1980.

Reinhold, Robert. “On Foot in Houston.” *New York Times*, October 11, 1987.

www.aibonline.org

[www.umkc.edu/whmckc/hare/Hare history.htm](http://www.umkc.edu/whmckc/hare/Hare%20history.htm)

The information and sources provided by the applicant for this application have been reviewed, verified, edited and supplemented with additional research and sources by Diana DuCroz and Courtney Spillane, Planning and Development Department, City of Houston.

APPROVAL CRITERIA FOR PROTECTED LANDMARK DESIGNATION

The HAHC shall review each application for designation of a protected landmark that is included in an application for designation of a landmark at the same time and in the same manner as it reviews and considers the application for a landmark. The HAHC and the Planning Commission, in making recommendations with respect to a protected landmark designation, and the City Council, in making a designation, shall consider whether the building, structure, site, or area meets at least three of the criteria in Section 33-224, or one of the criteria in Section 33-229, as follows:

S NA

S - satisfies NA - not applicable

Meets at least three of the following (Sec. 33-229(a)(1):

- (1) Whether the building, structure, object, site or area possesses character, interest or value as a visible reminder of the development, heritage, and cultural and ethnic diversity of the city, state, or nation;
- (2) Whether the building, structure, object, site or area is the location of a significant local, state or national event;

CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

- (3) Whether the building, structure, object, site or area is identified with a person who, or group or event that, contributed significantly to the cultural or historical development of the city, state, or nation;
- (4) Whether the building or structure or the buildings or structures within the area exemplify a particular architectural style or building type important to the city;
- (5) Whether the building or structure or the buildings or structures within the area are the best remaining examples of an architectural style or building type in a neighborhood;
- (6) Whether the building, structure, object or site or the buildings, structures, objects or sites within the area are identified as the work of a person or group whose work has influenced the heritage of the city, state, or nation;
- (7) Whether specific evidence exists that unique archaeological resources are present;
- (8) Whether the building, structure, object or site has value as a significant element of community sentiment or public pride.

AND

- (9) If less than 50 years old, or proposed historic district containing a majority of buildings, structures, or objects that are less than 50 years old, whether the building, structure, object, site, or area is of extraordinary importance to the city, state or nation for reasons not based on age (Sec. 33-224(b)).

OR

- The property was constructed before 1905 (Sec. 33-229(a)(2));

OR

- The property is listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places or designated as a “contributing structure” in an historic district listed in the National Register of Historic Places (Sec. 33-229(a)(3));

OR

- The property is recognized by the State of Texas as a Recorded State Historical Landmark (Sec. 33-229(a)(4)).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission recommend to City Council the Landmark and Protected Landmark Designation of the Henry W. Stude House at 14 Remington Lane.

CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

EXHIBIT A
HENRY W. STUDE HOUSE
14 REMINGTON LANE



CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

EXHIBIT B
SITE LOCATION MAP
HENRY W. STUDE HOUSE
14 REMINGTON LANE
NOT TO SCALE

