

News Release



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Four River Oaks homes and one First Ward commercial building/artist studio designated as historic landmarks

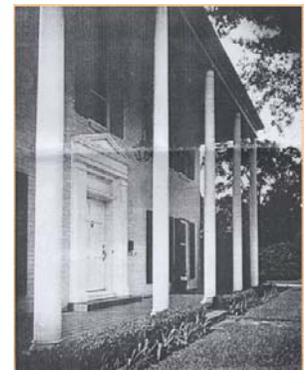
HOUSTON, July 8, 2011 – Houston City Council designated the following properties as historic landmarks: C.B. Roberta Delhomme House at 2232 Looscan, the Egbert and Fay Spencer House at 2440 Inwood, the George D. Stevens House at 2404 Brentwood, the Raymond and Daisy Powell House at 3640 Piping Rock and the Cook Paint and Varnish Company at 2500 Summer Street.

The C.B. and Roberta Delhomme House was designed in an eclectic Tudor Revival style and constructed in 1938 by builder W. L. Gordon. The architecture of this home represents a transition to a revival style incorporating modernistic elements. Born in Scott, Louisiana, in 1921, C. B. Delhomme operated a large boat distributor. At the height of the business, C. B. Delhomme had the South's largest boat distributor. Delhomme was one of the founders of the Houston Boat Show.



The Egbert and Fay Spencer House was constructed in 1937 and designed in the Neo-Classical style by Houston architects, Harvin C. Moore and Hermon Lloyd. The body of work created by Moore and Lloyd is substantial and includes over 84 houses in River Oaks, as well as public and commercial buildings such as the Memorial Center and Chapel at Rice University. Moore and Lloyd also designed a building at 2006 West Alabama that became the first architectural office in Houston with central air conditioning.

The George D. Stevens House was constructed in 1935 and designed by Houston architects, Harvin C. Moore and Hermon Lloyd. George Stevens, the first owner of the house, was a geologist. The two-story house is an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style and features a full-length portico on the front façade.



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The Raymond and Daisy Powell House was built in the Neoclassical style in 1940-41 by W. E. White, an active River Oaks builder, as a speculative home. Since its completion, the home has been owned by only three families – the Powells, the Knolle/Andrews, and the Youngs. The original owner, Raymond E. Powell, was a retired superintendent of the Baytown Refinery of the Humble Oil and Refining Company.



The Cook Paint and Varnish Company Building was constructed in 1948. The 78,000 square-foot complex is representative of the southwest expansion of the Cook Paint and Varnish Company in Texas. The company was the primary paint suppliers to the American automotive industry; Cook received the “E” Award for Excellence during World War II for its service to both the U.S. Navy and the U.S. At its peak, Cook had captured more than one-third of the entire paint market. The Houston facility at 2500 Summer Street became the only Cook plant to serve all of Texas. In 1991, Cook was sold and split up amongst three major paint companies although some paints are still sold under the Cook brand by Davis Paints in Kansas City.



In 1995, the property was acquired by Houston-based artist David Adickes. Adickes is most famous in Texas for his larger-than-life works: a sixty-seven-foot tall statue of Sam Houston which stands on Interstate Highway 45 near Huntsville. Adickes has also sculpted the busts of 43 American presidents, and the four-story tall Beatles sculpture.

For information regarding historic preservation, go to www.houstonplanning.com.