

Howard Oil Company Seedhouse and Weingarten House landmarks recall an important part of Houston's past

The City designated the Howard Oil Company Seedhouse and the Weingarten House as historic landmarks.

The Howard Oil Company Seedhouse at 1200 National Street was constructed in 1887 by the Howard Oil Company. The building nominated for landmark status is the cottonseed warehouse, and it is the only part of the original, larger mill facility that remains. The building is an exceptional remaining example of the cottonseed oil industry, one of Texas' most important business interests of the late 19th Century.



The 39,564 square foot warehouse is a remarkable work of architecture. The Howard Oil Company Seedhouse is constructed with wood framing, walls, and roof, with interior brick fire walls located between the sections of warehouse. The Howard Oil Company Seedhouse is significant for its structure as the oldest remaining example of the cottonseed industry in Houston and as a reminder of the importance of cotton to the region.

Preservation Houston's story on this landmark can be found at

<http://www.preservationhouston.org/news/2015/10/21/newest-city-landmark-recalls-houstons-first-oil-boom>

The Weingarten House, at 4000 South MacGregor Way, was designed by architect Joseph Finger for the family of grocery chain magnate Joe Weingarten and is both architecturally and historically significant. Joe Weingarten was successively the founder, president and chairman of the board of J. Weingarten, Inc., a grocery retailing firm.



By the mid-sixties, Jewish families excluded from River Oaks built homes in Riverside Terrace to rival those of River Oaks, Completed in 1939, the Weingarten House is a large gracefully designed 1930s French manorial-style suburban chateau. It combines asymmetric massing with detail borrowed from eighteenth century French architecture. Situated on a beautifully landscaped estate overlooking the MacGregor Parkway, which joins Hermann Park with MacGregor Park, the Weingarten House was the grandest house to be built in the southern section of Riverside Terrace.

Houston Chronicle's story on this landmark can be found at:

<http://blog.chron.com/primeproperty/2015/10/historic-midtown-mansion-could-get-high-rise-neighbor/>