

ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

CASE NUMBER: C14H-2009-0006

HLC DATE:

February 23, 2009

March 23, 2009

April 6, 2009

PC DATE:

June 23, 2009

July 14, 2009

APPLICANT: Historic Landmark Commission

HISTORIC NAME: Walter E. and Janet Long House

WATERSHED: Shoal Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 1 Green Lanes

ZONING FROM: SF-3 to SF-3-H

SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the proposed zoning change from single family residence (SF-3) district to single family residence – Historic Landmark (SF-3-H) combining district zoning.

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION: February 25, 2009: Initiated the historic zoning case. March 23, 2009: Postponed the case to a specially-called meeting on April 6, 2009 in order to have a full Commission. April 6, 2009: Recommended a zoning change from single family residence (SF-3) district to single family residence – Historic Landmark (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Vote: 7-0.

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION: June 23, 2009: Postponed the case at the property owner's request to July 14, 2009. July 14, 2009: Forwarded the case without a recommendation but with the request that a plan be worked out to relocate rather than demolish the house. Vote: 6-1 (Dealey opposed; Hui and Castillo absent).

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The house is beyond the bounds of the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984).

CITY COUNCIL DATE: August 6, 2009
20, 2009 at the property owner's request.

ACTION: Postponed to August

ORDINANCE READINGS: 1ST 2ND 3RD

ORDINANCE NUMBER:

CASE MANAGER: Steve Sadowsky

PHONE: 974-6454

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION: Pemberton Heights Neighborhood Association

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The ca. 1933 house is a good example of a Pennsylvania-style Colonial Revival house with a narrow front-gabled front and stone veneer, and is associated with Walter E. Long, the long-time manager of the Austin Chamber of Commerce, and known as "Mr. Austin."

Architecture:

Two-story rectangular-plan front-gabled stone-veneered house in a Pennsylvania type Colonial Revival style with a symmetrical pattern of 6:6 windows across the front and an asymmetrical pattern of 6:6 windows on each side of the house; exterior stone chimney; front-gabled portico.

Historical Associations:

The house, believed to have been designed by Hugo Kuehne, was built in 1933; the first known owners and occupants were Walter E. and Janet K. Long. Walter E. Long was the long-time manager of the Austin Chamber of Commerce, and founded Texas Legislative Services, a public relations and business service bureau. Long was also instrumental in the establishment of the Lower Colorado River Authority, the expansion of the University of Texas campus, and the construction of the Stephen F. Austin Hotel. He passed away in 1973; this was his home for 40 years.

PARCEL NO.: 01150108080000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lot 1, and the South 40 feet of Lot 4, Josephine L. Fisher Reservation, Abstract 697, Survey 7, .03 acres, G.W. Spear League

ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT: \$10,363 (owner-occupied); city portion: \$2,073 (1/2 of city taxes).

APPRAISED VALUE: \$936,038

PRESENT USE: Vacant

CONDITION: Poor

PRESENT OWNER:

R. Steven and Donna Stockton Hicks
1 Green Lanes
Austin, Texas 78703

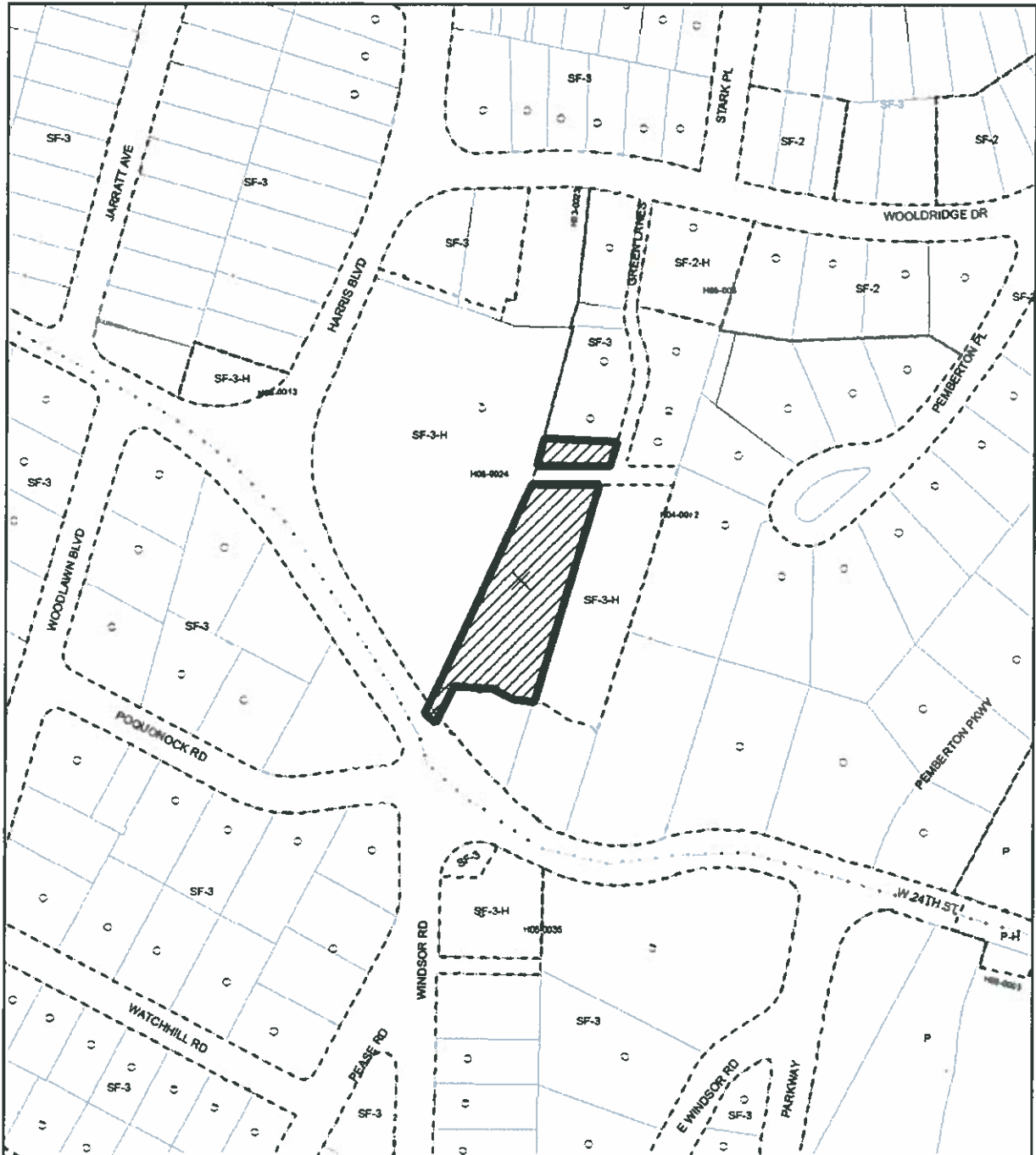
DATE BUILT: ca. 1933

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: The house has been badly shored up in the past, resulting in its crumbling today.




ORIGINAL OWNER(S): Walter E. and Janet K. Long (1933)

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: None.

LOCATION MAP



1" = 200'

-  **SUBJECT TRACT**
-  **ZONING BOUNDARY**
-  **PENDING CASE**

OPERATOR: S. MEEKS

NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT
 ZONING CASE#: **NRD-2009-0015**
 ADDRESS: **1 GREEN LANES**
 SUBJECT AREA: **0.000 ACRES**
 GRID: **H24**
 MANAGER: **S. SADOWSKY**



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 No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

1 Green Lanes
ca. 1933



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
1 Green Lanes

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
February, 2009

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1990 | Janet L. Fish, owner
Salesperson |
| 1983 | Russell H. and Janet L. Fish, owners
Superintendent, Texas Legislative Service (James C. Fish, manager), reports, 109 W. 10 th Street. |
| 1976 | Russell H. Fish, owner (Janet Fish is not listed)
Supervisor, Texas Legislative Service, reports, 109 W. 19 th Street
NOTE: James C. Fish is listed as a correspondent for Texas Legislative Service. |
| 1970 | Walter E. Long, owner
Retired |
| 1963 | Walter E. and Janet Long, retired
Supervisor, Texas Legislative Services, public relations, 910 Brazos Street |
| 1958 | Walter E. and Janet Long, owners
Supervisor, Texas Legislative Services, public relations, 910 Brazos Street |
| 1953 | Walter E. and Jeanette Long, owners
Proprietor, Texas Legislative Services, business service bureau, 110 E. 9 th Street. |

- 1949 Walter E. and Janet K. Long, owners
Supervisor, Texas Legislative Services, 107 E. 8th Street
- 1947 Walter E. and Janet K. Long, owners
Manager, Austin Chamber of Commerce, 807 Congress Avenue, and supervisor, Texas
Legislative Service, 107 E. 8th Street.
- 1944-45 Walter E. and Janet K. Long, owners
Manager, Austin Chamber of Commerce, 807 Congress Avenue
- 1942 Walter E. and Janet K. Long, owners
Manager, Austin Chamber of Commerce, 807 Congress Avenue
- 1940 Walter E. and Janet K. Long, owners
Manager, Austin Chamber of Commerce, 807 Congress Avenue
- 1937 Walter E. and Janet K. Long, owners
Manager, Austin Chamber of Commerce, 803 Congress Avenue
- 1935 Walter E. and Janet K. Long, owners
Manager, Austin Chamber of Commerce, 803 Congress Avenue
NOTE: Green Lanes is not listed in the directory; the Longs' home is listed as Pemberton
Heights.
- 1932-33 Walter E. and Janet K. Long are listed as living at 708 W. 19th Street; he was the
manager of the Chamber of Commerce.

NOTE: In 1918, Walter and Janet Long rented the house at 3108 West Avenue.

Unless the Plumbing is done in strict accordance with City Ordinances, no permit will be issued on the water.

PERMIT FOR WATER SERVICE

AUSTIN, TEXAS

INDEXED

M. Mrs. B. Kaapke Address 1501 - Greenwood

Plumber Fox & Schmidt Size of Tap 3/4" Date 7-21-33

See paid. TR. C-5750

Date of Connection 7/31/33
Size of Tap Made 3/4"
Size Service Made 3/4"
Size Main Tapped 3/4"
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 4' 11"
From W Prop. Line to Curb Cock 5' 7"
Location of Meter on P.
Type of Box Iron
Depth of Moin in St. 18"
Depth of Service Line 16"
From Curb Cock to Tap on Moin 0' 2"
Checked by Engr. Dept. W.H.O. 8-7-33

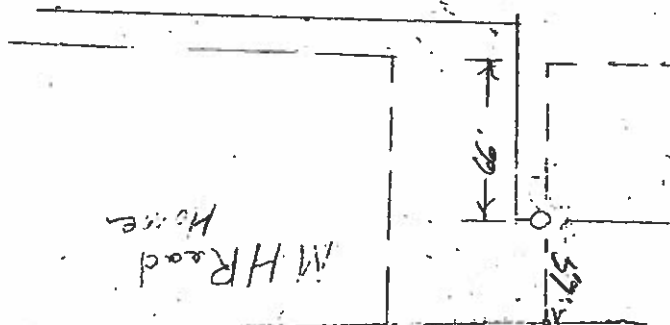
Foreman's Report

No. Fittings	Size	Material
2 Curb Cock	3/4"	Iron
1 Elbow	3/4"	Iron
1 St. Elbow	3/4"	Iron
2 Bending	3/4"	Iron
1 Reducer	3/4"	Iron
1 Pipe	3/4"	Iron
Lead Conn.	3/4"	Iron
2 Nipples	3/4"	Iron
Union	3/4"	Iron
Plug	3/4"	Iron
1 Tee	3/4"	Iron
1 Stop	3/4"	Iron
1 Box	3/4"	Iron
1 Lid	3/4"	Iron
Valves	3/4"	Iron

Foreman's Signature

B. H. H. H.

INDEXED



Permit for water service issued to Mrs. B. Kaapke (Janet Long's mother) (1933)

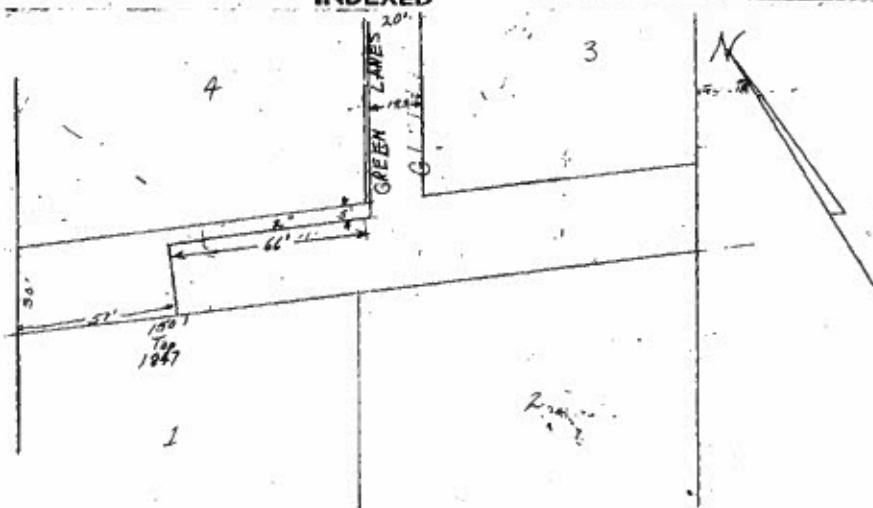
WATER SERVICE PERMIT

Austin, Texas

INDEXED No. 5750 Date 4-5-50

Received of **W. E. LONG**
 Address **#1 GREEN LANE**
 Amount **THIRTY & NO/100** **30**
 Plumber **Ref** Size of Tap **1"**
 Date of Connection **6-22-50**
 Size of Tap Made **1"**
 Size Service Made **1"**
 Size Main Tapped **2" 2nd**
 From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock **O.N.P.**
 From **W** Prop. Line to Curb Cock **6-7-1**
 Location of Meter **In yard**
 Type of Box **R. 1st**
 Depth of Main in St. **2'**
 Depth of Service Line **2'**
 From Curb Cock to Tap on Main **9'**
 Checked by Engr. Dept. **7-7-50** **RW**

No. Fittings	Size
1 Curb Cock	1"
1 Elbow	1"
1 St. Elbow	1"
1 Bushing	1"
1 Return Curb Cock	1"
10 Pipe	1"
1 Lead Comp. COP	1"
1 Nipple	1"
1 Union	1"
1 Plug	1"
1 Tee	1"
1 Strap	1"
1 Box	1"
1 Lid	1"
1 Valve	1"
Job No.	
P. No.	



Water service permit issued to Walter E. Long (1950)

Connecting Charge \$ 12.00 No. 11338 7
Application for Sewer Connection.
 Austin, Texas, Sept. 6, 1933
 To the Superintendent of Sewer and Public Improvements,
 City of Austin, Texas.
 Sir:-
 I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises
 owned by Mrs. B. Knapke
 at Remberton Heights, Lot A Street
 which place is to be used as a residence
 In this place there are to be installed 10 fixtures.
 I agree to pay the City Sewer Department the regular ordinance charge.
 Respectfully, For. Schmidt
 Location of Public Sewer _____
 Stub Out 10/13/33
 Connected Stub 1' out
 Size of Main 6 inches of south lot
 Size of Service 4 inches line
4 Feet Deep
5 Feet from Property Line
 Feet from Curb Line _____
 Inspected by Hanson
 Connection made by H. Hamandey

Sewer service connection application by Mrs. B. Knapke (Janet Long's mother) (1933)

W. E. Long #1 Green Lanes
 158 1
 Josephine Fisher
 horse stable (private)
 26811 3-14-45 \$150.00
 day labor
 10-1-75-152281-Russell H. Fish - remodel None
 existing res - \$20,000.00 Frank Rundell contr.

Building permit to Walter E. Long for the construction of a horse stable (1945); and to Russell H. Fish to remodel the house (1975)

THE HANDBOOK OF TEXAS Online

[return to handbook view](#)

LONG, WALTER EWING (1886-1973). Walter Ewing Long, businessman and civic leader, was born on November 1, 1886, near Ladonia, Texas, the son of Andrew Davison and Alice Madora (McCown) Long. He graduated from high school in Ladonia in 1905 and from Austin College in Sherman with a B.A. degree in 1910 and an M.A. degree in 1911. He received a law degree with honors from the University of Texas in 1914, but instead of practicing law he took a job with the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce. Long became secretary of the Austin Chamber of Commerce in 1915; he later was manager of that group for thirty-five years. Long was considered the father of Austin city planning. He also helped organize the Colorado River Improvement Association, which evolved into the Lower Colorado River Authority^{qv} and built the dams forming what is now the Highland Lakes chain. He obtained options on land eventually used to increase the size of the University of Texas campus, and in 1922 he arranged a sale of bonds to construct the Stephen F. Austin Hotel, for many years a convention center in the city. He founded the Texas Legislative Service in 1925 and supervised its activities for forty years; he gave its collection of legislative history (1925-65) to the Texas State Library.^{qv} After his retirement in 1949 Long continued to work on various committees and to write on his favorite subjects, Austin and Central Texas. Among his many publications were *Flood to Faucet* (1956), *The Longhorn Crossing* (1960), *For All Time to Come* (1964), and *Stephen F. Austin's Legacies* (1970). He was appointed to the Texas State Library and Historical Commission in 1954, and he served as president of the Texas Fine Arts Association. He was also a member of the executive council of the Texas State Historical Association.^{qv} He was married to Janet Kaape on March 30, 1915, and they were the parents of two children. Long died in Austin on November 8, 1973, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Austin *American-Statesman*, August 9, 1966, November 9, 1973. Joe B. Frantz, "In Memoriam: Walter E. Long," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* 77 (January 1974). Vertical Files, Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas at Austin.

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Last Updated: January 18, 2008
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A

Meeting

of

friends

honoring

Walter E. Long

October 10, 1949

FLOWERS FOR THE LIVING

WHEN WALTER LONG rounded out a quarter-century of service in Austin, his associates got together for a sort of appreciation tribute. It took quite a bit of instruction and diplomacy to get the publicity-shy, self-effacing manager of Austin Chamber of Commerce to show up for his own party.

Public officials and civic leaders assayed to sum up the results of Walter Long's labors in Austin and for Austin. When they had finished, the outline was a step-by-step graph of Austin's progress for 34 years. But significantly, each speaker turned from the record of business, industrial and economic achievements, and to a discourse upon the unique personal attributes, the intangible qualities of vision and energy, of selflessness and friendship, of personality and character that have given Walter Long distinction in Austin, and, in his professional field, throughout the nation.

That was more than nine years ago; nine momentous years of World War II, of post-war readjustment, and of new and unprecedented steps in Austin's forward march. These nine years, in the fulness of his experience, in the challenge of an expanding city determined to hold fast to its heritage of culture, wholesomeness and high citizenship, have carried Walter Long through another era of community service and achievement.

As he approached the close of 34 years' unbroken toil in his arduous field of professional labor, Walter Long told his Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors he wished to lay aside his official duties, so that he might catch up on the things he'd long wanted to do.

As evidence of the draining toll of the years, the decision was almost taken out of his hands, for even before he had specified the date on which he would pass on his duties to other hands, his physicians beckoned him to a sickbed and recuperative convalescence, the longest and probably the only enforced rest of his life.

Walter Long, a law graduate of the University of Texas, looked forward to going back for studies he'd for years wanted to do at the University. He hoped to get in some fishing; he had his own personal ideas of a lot of things which could be done in an individual capacity. Anyone who has known Long and seen him in action will put it down as a certainty that his retirement from the routine of Chamber of Commerce work simply will divert his energies to other fields and let his faithful devotion to his Austin find expression in other channels of related objectives.

Walter Long grew up on a sandy-land cotton farm near Ladonia in Fannin County, where he gained the old-fashioned heritage of frugality, the Spartan morality and enduring character of a religious family life. He went on to earn his way through Austin College and the University of Texas. When he graduated from the University, he found a ready opportunity at San Antonio to enter Chamber of Commerce work. But only a few months later, Austin business men who had come to know him were called upon to select an executive for the Chamber of Commerce here. Some of the men still active in Chamber of Commerce work were on the committee which went to San Antonio in February, 1915, and invited him to return to Austin and undertake what became his faithful and productive career for a full third of a century.

A recital of his labors would be a tabulation of the myriad day-by-day achievements that have built Austin. But in his position, with his qualities and temperament, it was his unique contribution in all these years that he should have fitted the ideas and hopes, the planning and vision, the patchwork of many diverse sources of purpose and effort, into the firm structure of organized, consistent and steady achievement.

This service in his key post of opportunity went beyond the normal business development of a normal city, and both the Chamber of Commerce and Walter Long were called upon in the fulfillment of Austin's destiny to provide an integrating agency for educational, cultural, religious, civic and governmental interests. Austin Chamber of Commerce in many respects has been an entity of statewide contacts, functions and public service. A hundred thousand Texas youths have felt the inspiring impact of the carefully-nurtured moral, educational and cultural environment for University and college students in The Friendly City.

Years ago, Walter Long departed, knowingly and intentionally, from the limitations and strict channels of impersonal professional services as a commercial executive. He carried on those duties, but his sympathies and interests and energies overflowed the formal boundaries of the employed executive. He became a part, in a personal sense, of all the myriad things, big and little, designed to make Austin better, a more livable city, and to contribute to the well-being and happiness of groups and individuals and their pride in their city.

Walter Long can be understood and appreciated only by an understanding of this dual or overflowing characteristic of his life and work. It is known by those who have labored with him during the years; his outpouring of energy and devotion beyond any defined formula of required duties is a monument of achievement, upon the foundation of those duties, a monument visible to all in terms of a greater city and a happier citizenship.

One of his willing tasks through the years has been, at greater labor than to have performed the work himself as routine, to harness the interest and energies of more than 1,000 members of the organization from year to year in the complex and infinitely varied activities of the Chamber of Commerce. In keeping with Austin's diversity of interests, the Chamber of Commerce has had an extraordinary number of professional men and women, faculty members and executives of the University of Texas, public officials and state department heads on its committees, as members of its Board of Directors and among its officers.

Soon after Walter Long came to the Austin Chamber of Commerce, he began to gain recognition among fellow commercial executives and the chambers of commerce of Texas.

It was not long before a larger city invited him to be its chamber of commerce manager. He declined. And in the course of the years, virtually every large city of Texas, and half a dozen of the great cities of America have beckoned him to positions of greater financial reward. But Walter Long at some distant time had closed that door to financial and personal self-advancement, in adopting Austin as his home not only of the day but for all his life. That was an integral part of his dedication of his entire interest and his labors to the home city of his choice. He has been content.

Closely linked with this long-settled decision that Austin should be his home and that his efforts should be dedicated without stint to the service of Austin and those services which make Austin an intimate part of the public affairs of the entire state, Walter Long has, during this third of a century, trained numerous young men as Chamber of Commerce executives and leaders; and it was fitting, that when he laid aside his formal duties, Austin Chamber of Commerce called in to succeed him a successful young executive who had received his first training at the hands of Walter Long.

There is one phase of Long's life which no single individual nor any half dozen persons could tell, because no small group would know its extent. That is the countless thousands of acts of thoughtfulness and personal kindness and attention he has bestowed upon the people with whom he comes in contact, personal friends, University students, young Texans, public officials, war workers, fellow-laborers in civic effort, and the stream of people who eddy into contact with the business clearing-house of the Capital City.

Walter Long has been happy in an ideal family life. He and Mrs. Long have a son now well launched in a professional career and a delightful daughter of great accomplishments, the wife of a young professional man.

His relations with University and ex-student activities have been intimate and constructive. He has made a valuable contribution to the work of his Church, having for many years taught a class of young people at the University Presbyterian Church and participated in many ways in the activities of this congregation. Not conspicuously a joiner, he has been for many years a member of the Rotary Club and a member and moving spirit in some of the clubs and organizations designed to enrich Austin's cultural life.

When Walter Long laid aside the executive and routine duties of the Chamber of Commerce, it did not mean the termination of a useful and active career; but rather, a decision to enable him to do more of the things he had saved up for the day of more time and freedom of choice. His closing one historic chapter of 34 years' service in one field of responsibility simply meant the opening of another phase of endeavors.

Walter Long is known by perhaps more Texans than any other person. He is known and cherished as a friend by those who linger on from the little city of Austin to which he came in 1915, and by those who since have become part of the Austin of today. He is known and respected by the people who have served in state government for over three decades, and by a great percentage of the thousands of young Texans who have spent formative years in the shadow of Old Main Building and of the Tower. He is known, respected and admired as an upright man, a man of character and integrity and Christian ideals, a man whose life and labors have made happier and better the lives of others around him.

That is Walter Long, friend of man.

PROGRAM

Toastmaster

A. B. SPIRES

Invocation

REV. HARRY M. MOFFETT

Duet

MR. AND MRS. MALCOLM GREGORY

In Appreciation

E. B. MOODY

Presentation of Gifts

CARL EDWARD BOCK

Presentation of Volume of Letters

MAX STARCKE

Presentation of Portrait

JOE C. CARRINGTON

APPRECIATION DINNER

Tendered With Admiration and Respect By
The Directors and Officers Past and Present of
The Austin Chamber of Commerce
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN HOTEL — 7:00 P. M.

A. G. Adams, Jr.
Fred W. Adams
Jack C. Adams
Pat Adelman
Harry Akin
J. Rector Allen
R. C. Ammann
Francis J. Amaler
Martin Anderson
S. M. Apperson
Roy C. Archer
A. F. Ashford
Rev. John Barclay
Ben M. Barker
C. W. Barker
George Bandett
W. S. Benson
Ernest Best
Max H. Bickler
Chas. L. Black
Walton Bohn
A. D. Balm
Walter Bremond, Jr.
A. W. Brill
S. Raymond Brooks
G. H. Brush
A. C. Bull
H. W. Bull
John S. Burns
John F. Butler
Tom Butler
Ronald W. Byram
R. E. Cain
Joe C. Carrington
W. T. Carwell
Fred W. Catterall, Jr.
John H. Chiles, Jr.
Ben Lee Chote
A. B. Cox
E. P. Cravens
Norman R. Cunningham
L. F. Daley
Lloyd Davidson
J. W. Davis
T. H. Davis
Theo Davis
H. H. Dickhut
W. H. Dodson
G. A. Doering

James C. Dailey
George S. Dowell
W. S. Drake, Jr.
E. L. Early
J. Anderson Fitzgerald
W. H. Felts
Louis Frank
Rabbi N. J. Friedman
Dr. John H. Frederick
J. Harris Gardner
Coleman Gay
Woodie Gilbert
Taylor Glass
Ralph C. Goeth
L. N. Goldberg
John A. Gray
Murray Graham
R. Niles Graham
C. Read Granberry
Ireland Graves
W. D. Graves
Chas. E. Green
Ben W. Greig
George Groce
Dr. C. P. Hardwick
J. E. Harrison, Sr.
S. D. Hedington
Herman F. Heep
W. L. Heiserman
C. L. "Ox" Higgins
Claude E. Hill
Harold Hoesgen
C. Willard Houser
H. M. Houston
Adam R. Johnson
J. F. Johnson
Tom E. Johnson
Hubert B. Jones
E. M. Joseph
Starr Kachhofer
H. E. Kelly
E. G. Kingsbery
E. P. Knobel
W. I. Kocurek
W. J. Koen
David T. Lammie
William Lawler, Jr.
Ray Lee
W. R. Lang, Jr.

H. H. Loedecke
Bob J. Lyles
Rev. J. R. McAllister
A. N. McCallum, Jr.
J. E. McClain
P. L. McNamara
W. F. McNamara
Dennis Mocken
A. J. McManey
A. F. Martin
Carl Mayer
Theo P. Meyer
Dudley Miller
John D. Miller
Tom Miller
H. W. Mills
Andy Montgomery
Dan Moody
E. B. Moody
Eldridge Moore
Roy E. Morey
Fred Morse
Carl H. Mueller
Leo Mueller
R. G. Mueller
E. A. Murdochson
G. W. Murray
Fred S. Nagle, Jr.
Jas. P. Nash
George Nalle
Jim Novy
Louis Novy
Rev. James J. O'Brien
C. H. Owens
Chas. H. Page, Sr.
V. P. Patterson
W. J. Perlitz
E. H. Parry
E. H. Parry, Jr.
D. T. Parr
Frank W. Poesey
Noble W. Prentice
S. B. Price
George C. Quinn
W. B. Ransom
E. C. Raither
J. R. Reed
W. H. Richardson
A. V. Riley

Brown Robbins
Ed. Robinson, Jr.
Jesse L. Rose
John C. Ross
Dr. M. E. Sadler
Ed. St. John
J. W. Scarbrough
H. E. Schallan
Wm. C. Schulle
Dr. H. A. Scott
Dan F. Seacright
G. C. Seiders
Earle Simms
Loris Slaughter
C. B. Smith
Sidney P. Smith
A. B. Spires
J. F. Springfield
Art Sprinkle
Max Starcke
Mrs. E. L. Stock
F. W. Stensenberg
W. C. Stoney
Albert Taylor
O. C. Taylor
W. L. Thompson
Dr. G. F. Thornhill
Lee S. Thrift
George H. Templin
George Tod
H. M. Toland
E. J. Tucker
Gus F. Urbanke
T. S. Walling
T. B. Warden
Arthur Watson
Thurston B. Weed
J. G. Wilcox
T. H. Williams
T. H. Williams, Jr.
W. T. Williams
R. E. Wilson
A. J. Wirth
Oliver L. Wolfe
D. K. Woodward
F. W. Woolsey
Mrs. Goodall H. Woolen
E. R. L. Wroe
Henry Wunderlich
George F. Zimmermann

Noted Austin Civic Leader Walter E. Long Dies at 87



WALTER EWING LONG
—former leader dies

The "Pillar Statesman of Austin," Walter Ewing Long, died Thursday at the age of 87 after devoting more than a half century of his life to outstanding leadership in state and community affairs.

He was the father of the city manager form of government in Austin and the founder of the Texas Legislative Service.

Long was the dean of Chambers of Commerce in Texas and served as manager of the Austin Chamber almost 35 years until his retirement from executive duties in 1949.

He was the "Dean of Austin Civic Clubs," and he continued to attend many of

Related Stories
Pages A7, A42
their meetings until becoming ill with cancer last year.

Long, a member of the Travis County and American Bar Associations since 1914, began working on a plan for city manager government in 1915. The City of Austin adopted the plan in 1926.

He was the "Sparkplug" behind the creation of the Lower Colorado River Authority and the construction of the chain of Highland Lakes. He started the campaign to secure Barton Springs for the city, and he raised \$13,500 to

purchase the site for the School for the Blind

When Long retired as chamber manager in 1949, the Austin American-

Statesman described him as "one of the hardest working men we've ever seen. Walter Long's affection for Austin, his sense of devotion to the Austin of his ideal, will be a true and lasting part of Austin's heritage."

Funeral services for Long will be at Oakwood Cemetery Friday at 3 p.m. Rev. Paul H. Pettigrew and Rev. Robin F. Nash will officiate. Wood-Calley Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Water Long's Life Filled With Service to City

ALICE, Tex. (AP)—Four persons died in the fiery collision of a carnival truck

In 1941, Long was chairman of a committee which was instrumental in getting the Army to build Camp Swift at Bastrop. In 1942, he was co-author with Cal Parks Houston of a book called "Come South."

...and the American people have been lying to themselves for years."

Long's Christmas cards
-see collector items
-in 1941, he sent out a
four-page card from an old
 Sears catalog saying "We
can't make delivery of any of
the above, but we are
delivering to you once again

Good wishes toward everyone and high hopes for

everything seemed to have been a part of Walter Lane ever since he grew up in a family where there was a leader, educated himself with a McGuffey Reader, worked his way through Johns Hopkins and the University of Texas Law School and became an Attorney with the death of cancer Thursday at his home at No. 1 Green Lane.

SANYO 
 Transistor Amplifier
 First place in the
 EAST ... **3700**

RENT 513-2111 **1000-0000**
 5124 Sprague Rd. 464-6791
 5134 Woodbridge 476-3335
THE NEW SANYO CITY

Absolutely the Best Bargain Because

1. Their slight irregularity is guaranteed not to affect their wear.
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Mr. & Mrs. R. Steven Hicks & Donna Stockton Hicks
1 Green Lanes
Austin, TX 78703

February 23, 2009

Mr. Steve Sadowsky
City of Austin
505 Barton Springs Road
Austin, TX 78704

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Re: Petition -- 1 Green Lanes

Dear Mr. Sadowsky,

As current owners of the above stated property, my wife and I are informing you we oppose the rezoning of our property to SF-3-H. This letter serves as a petition against any proposed historic zoning.

Please let me know if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,



R. Steven Hicks

cc: Laurie Limbacher, Historic Landmark Commission
Patti Hansen, Historic Landmark Commission
Joe Arriaga, Historic Landmark Commission
Timothy Cuppett, Historic Landmark Commission
Daniel Leary, Historic Landmark Commission
Terri Myers, Historic Landmark Commission
John Rasato, Historic Landmark Commission
Stephen Metcalfe, Drenner & Golden Stuart Wolff, LLP

Sadowsky, Steve

From: Andy Fish [afish@telicon.com]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2009 11:36 PM
To: La Bonte, Lei Lonnie; Sadowsky, Steve
Cc: Waltlong@aol.com
Subject: 1 Green Lanes information...

Mr. Sadowsky –

My grandfather was Walter Long. He contracted to have the home at 1 Green Lanes constructed on a lot next to his best friend, Judge Graves (of Graves, Dougherty, ... law firm in Austin). The land I believe was purchased originally in the name of my great grandmother and mother to my grandmother Janet Long who was the wife of Walter. The home was complete in 1935. My grandparents, my uncle (Walter) and my mother (Janet) moved there from a home on what is now called Judge's Hill which is the top of 29th street and Rio Grande. They grew up in the house. My grandmother lived there until she passed away in the 1960s and my grandfather passed away several years later. My mother and father then lived in the house until they were divorced and my father moved to Baton Rouge. While they were living there, my mother contracted with an engineer regarding the foundation of the home which was suffering from damage inflicted by a very porous clay. The clay during the dry season would shrivel up but when it became wet, the foundation could move as much as 6 inches or more. The engineer drilled piers down to bedrock, 30 feet and the front and around 15 at the back. The concrete piers were roughly 15" diameter. The house was then placed on spider legs of I-beam steel and then excavated entirely under the walls to separate the home from the clay. My mother continued to live there until I was married, had two children, and twins on the way at which time she moved into the smaller house at 2401 Windsor where I had been living and my family moved into Green Lanes. My family lived there until we were divorced in 2004 and I moved back in, spent roughly \$700,000 remodeling the interior and extensive grounds work. I lived there until 2008 when it was sold to Steve and Donna Hicks.

At the time of the sale it was discussed at length that the home would be preserved and further restored. They showed appreciation for the history which included an Indian campground in the flat area in the back yard which was convenient to the fresh water springs below the cliff, the lily pool in the front yard that was dug by a man looking for the buried Spanish gold that was documented in several history books. The front gates which were the last works of iron by the Weigel Brothers whose family had done iron sculpture for King Ludwig of Germany and whose building is now the home of the Iron Works baroque.

It was a surprise, but not completely unexpected, to see the yard bulldozed, the lily pools filled in and then to find that a demolition permit had been requested for the home. Several days later I was contacted by a representative for the Hicks offering me pieces from the home. It was explained that their engineer had indicated that it would cost \$350,000 to shore up the foundation. When I notified my children of the situation, they asked if the home could be moved. I contacted the Hick's representative and asked if that would be permissible which they responded that it would. I have contacted several movers and we are working aggressively to get logistical and financial information regarding the possibility. We currently have not located a site for the home.

Walter Long was an important icon in Austin. In no particular order, he graduated valedictorian of his University of Texas Law School class. He was the manager of the Austin Chamber of Commerce for 25 years. He has published many books of historical reference including Wings Over Austin which is the history of aviation in Austin, Flood to Faucet which is the history of the Highland Lakes, For All Time to Come which is the history of the University of Texas, and numerous others. He taught Sunday school at University Presbyterian Church for students and had what I have been told is the largest class in the history of the church. He started Texas Legislative Service which has been family owned and continuously operated since 1924. During WWI, he would bring troops in from the bases in San Antonio and entertain them at the home on Sunday's. Many long-time friends were made during that time including RAF pilots brought to this country to train.

His most notable contribution his quest to tame the Colorado River. Through his efforts and connections, he was able to secure the support both locally and federally to create the dam system along the Colorado River. There was a motion before the city council years ago to name Town Lake after him, however, he was still alive and rejected the notion out right. Posthumously, Lake Walter E. Long was named after him. His extensive historical collection of artifacts, photographs, and stereo vision, was the basis for the Austin Public Library, Travis County Collection. His daughter, my mother, who grew up at Green Lanes, rode horses from the barn still family property and located at 2401 Windsor. She created the Hike and Bike trail system which has been well documented – beginning at Pease Park and going as far north as 51st street.

I was asked by the Hicks to draft a letter to the Historical Landmark Commission indicating my desire to move the house and expressing my appreciation for their contributions to historical preservation which you have probably read. I don't want to provoke them because they have a significant amount of clout in a lot of places. Ideally, I would like the Hick's to stand by their verbal commitment to me to preserve the house where it is. If that is not possible, I would like to pursue options to move the home either to private property or to a public place where it could be utilized again to entertain. I don't know the processes involved. Architecturally, the home is attractive but not distinctive like an Abner Cook home. It is structurally sound and after the extensive remodel on the interior, it has a definite elegance to it. The dynamics, cost and damage to the home would be extensive, however, moving it is feasible. The question remains whether or not it is reasonable.

I will be glad to discuss this issue with you and do have a fair amount of family knowledge. Thanks for any advise and direction you can give me.

- Andy Fish
- 512-415-5524
- afish@telicon.com