

ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

CASE NUMBER: C14H-2009-0027

HLC DATE:

August 24, 2009

PC DATE:

September 22, 2009

APPLICANTS: Ken and Angela Hashman, owners

HISTORIC NAME: Potter-Pincoffs House

WATERSHED: Shoal Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 2607 Wooldridge Drive

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: Recommended the proposed zoning change from single family residence (SF-3) district to single family residence – Historic Landmark (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Vote: 5-0 (Leary ill).

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended the proposed zoning change from single family residence (SF-3) district to single family residence – Historic Landmark (SF-3-H) combining district zoning. Vote: 9-0.

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

CITY COUNCIL DATE: October 1, 2009

ACTION:

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. 1948 house is a good example of a post-war Tudor Revival-styled ranch house and is associated with Earnest B. Potter, the proprietor of the Hitchin' Post Restaurant, and Edmund Pincoffs, a prominent professor of philosophy at the University of Texas.

Architecture:

One-story cross-gabled plan stone-veneered Tudor Revival-styled frame residence with a central, projecting front gable with wood siding in the tympanum of the gable, a partial-width inset porch, casement windows, and a leaded-glass style window piercing the roofline on the left side of the principal block.

Historical Associations:

The house was built in 1948 for Earnest B. and Geneva Potter, who had recently moved to Austin to open a restaurant here. Their restaurant, the Hitchin' Post, was a steak and seafood house located at 1011 North Lamar Boulevard. The Potters Earnest Potter had been born in Tennessee, and had lived in Dallas and Wichita Falls before moving to Austin. Their restaurant was one of the best in Austin at the time, and when Earnest Potter passed away in 1963, some of the most prominent people in Austin served as his pallbearers. The Potters also opened the Jene Dress Shop on Guadalupe Street across from the University of Texas; Geneva Potter, who went by "Gene" was proprietor of the dress shop. After Earnest's death in 1963, Geneva sold the restaurant to Walter Schneck, but continued to operate the dress shop. When she sold this house to Edmund and Mary Elizabeth Pincoffs in April, 1965, she moved to the Greenwood Towers at 1801 Lavaca Street.

Edmund Pincoffs was a prominent professor of philosophy at the University of Texas. He was born in 1919 in Chicago, Illinois and received his undergraduate education at the University of North Carolina. After World War II, he entered the business world in Houston, but then went to graduate school and received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Cornell University in 1957. His first academic job was at the University of Houston, where he was chairman of the Department of Philosophy from 1959 to 1965, when he moved to Austin to begin teaching at the University of Texas. Dr. Pincoffs taught at both the undergraduate and graduate levels in philosophy, specializing in courses exploring the philosophy of law, the philosophy of education, ethics, and the history of philosophy. His principal works include *The Rationale of Legal Punishment* (1966), *Quandary Ethics* (1971) and *Philosophy of Law: A Brief Introduction* (1991). His study of *Quandary Ethics*, in which he discussed the ideal of a moral person rather than the commission of virtuous acts in dealing with ethical problems, had a major impact on the study of philosophy in American and world university circles. Dr. Pincoffs served as the Chairman of the Department of Philosophy at UT from 1976 to 1980, and retired from teaching at the University in 1989. He continued as professor emeritus in the Department of Philosophy until his death in 1991. His widow, Mary Elizabeth, lived in the house until 1996, when she sold it to David and Anne Boucher, who sold it to the current owners, Ken and Angela Hashman, in 1998.

PARCEL NO.: 01160006010000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lot 4, Pemberton Heights, Section 4

ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT: \$16,785 (owner-occupied); city portion: \$2,769 (1/2 of city taxes - capped).

APPRAISED VALUE: \$1,250,361

PRESENT USE: Single-family residence.

CONDITION: Excellent

PRESENT OWNERS:

Ken and Angela Hashman
2607 Wooldridge Drive
Austin, Texas 78703

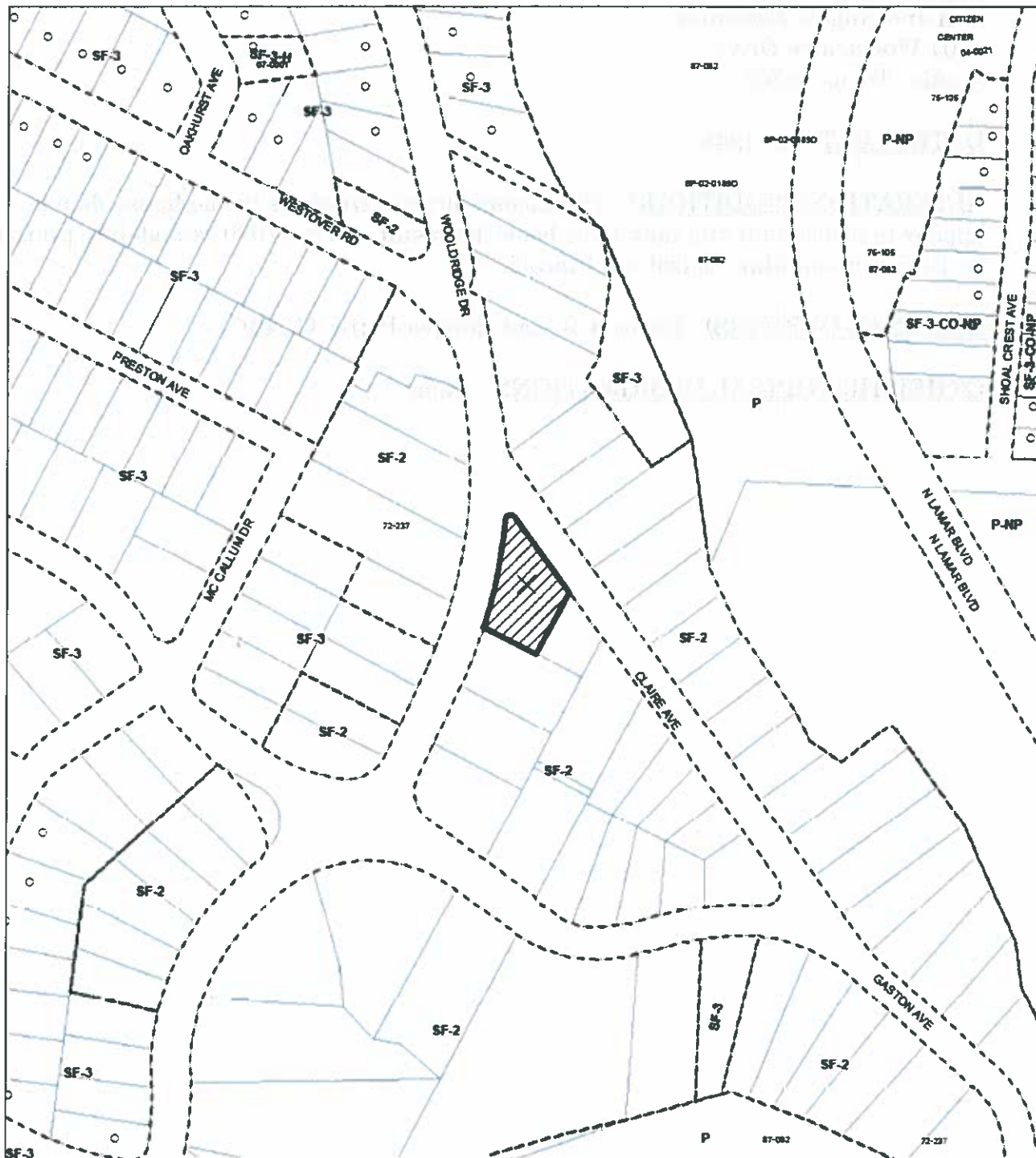
DATE BUILT: ca. 1948

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: The casement-style windows in the house do not appear to be original and may have been the result of a ca. 1970 remodeling project by Edmund and Mary Elizabeth Pincoffs.




ORIGINAL OWNER(S): Earnest B. and Geneva Potter (1948)

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: None.

LOCATION MAP



1" = 200'

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

OPERATOR: S. MEEKS

HISTORIC ZONING

ZONING CASE#: C14H-2009-0027
 ADDRESS: 2607 WOOLDRIDGE DR
 SUBJECT AREA: 0.000 ACRES
 GRID: H24 & J24
 MANAGER: S. SADOWSKY



This map has been produced by G.I.S. Services for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

2607 Wooldridge Drive

ca. 1948



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
2607 Wooldridge Drive

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

1992	Edmund L. and Mary E. Pincoffs, owners Professor emeritus, University of Texas
1987	Edmund L. and Mary E. Pincoffs, owners Professor, University of Texas
1983	Edmund L. and Mary E. Pincoffs, owners Professor, University of Texas
1979	Edmund L. and Mary E. Pincoffs, owners Professor, University of Texas
1975	Edmund L. and Mary E. Pincoffs, owners Professor, University of Texas Also listed are Peter Pincoffs, an associate with Consolidated Insurance Agency, 7 th Floor, Scarbrough Building; and E. Peter Pincoffs, a student
1971	Edmund L. and Mary E. Pincoffs, owners Professor, University of Texas Also listed are E. Peter Pincoffs, a student; and Ruth Pincoffs, a student
1967	Edmund L. and Mary E. Pincoffs, owners Associate professor, University of Texas
1963	Ernest B. and Geneva Potter, owners Proprietor, The Hitchin' Post restaurant, 1011 N. Lamar Boulevard NOTE: Edmund and Mary Pincoffs are not listed in the directory.
1959	Ernest B. and Geneva Potter, owners No occupation listed
1955	Ernest B. and Geneva Potter, owners Proprietor, The Hitchin' Post restaurant, 1011 N. Lamar Boulevard
1952	Ernest B. and Geneva Potter, owners Proprietor, The Hitchin' Post restaurant, 1011 N. Lamar Boulevard
1949	Ernest B. and Geneva Potter, owners Proprietor, The Hitchin' Post restaurant, 1011 N. Lamar Boulevard
1947	The address is not listed in the directory. NOTE: Ernest and Geneva Potter were listed as restaurant proprietors, but the name and location of the restaurant were not given in the directory. The Potters lived at 1606 Palma Plaza.

2607 Woolridge Dr.

159

4

Pemberton Heights #4

Stone veneer residence with frame
37307 garage attached
4-15-48 \$15,000.00

Harvey Oatman

12

7-28-70-Mr. E.L. Pincoffa- 118222-remodel exist residence

Building permit to Ernest B. Potter for the construction of the house (1948) and to Edmund L. Pincoffs for a remodeling project (1970)

Receipt No. 9716 Co. SP File No. 24181
 Application for Sewer Connection
 Austin, Texas, 4-28-48
 To the Superintendent of Sanitary Sewer Division, City of Austin, Texas.
 Sir: I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises owned by
E. B. Potter at 2607 Woodbridge Street,
 further described as Lot 44 Block 159 Outlot 1 Division
 subdivision Rembert Ave. 44 Plat 159, which is to be used as a R.
 In this place there are to be installed 12 fixtures. Plumbing Permit No. 29527
 I agree to pay the City of Austin, the regular ordinance charge.
 Depth at Prop. Line 3 1/2 3 1/2' at curb Respectfully,
 Stub Out 33' N of SLL
 (Location)
 Date 5-20-48
 By B. Humandy
 NOTE: Connection Instruction to be given in vicinity of Sport Lot 4
35' N of SLL, Sta. 4+70 A-12-21

Sewer service permit application to Ernest B. Potter (1948)



Photograph of the Hitchin' Post Restaurant (1953), run by Ernest and Geneva Potter
1011 N. Lamar Boulevard

Photograph by Neil Douglass, courtesy of the University of North Texas

Ernest B. Potter is listed in the 1920 U.S. Census as a roomer living in a Dallas boarding house. He worked as a clerk at a department store. He was then 21 years old, single, and had been born in Tennessee.

ERNEST B. POTTER

Ernest B. Potter, 65, of 2807 Wooldridge Drive, died Wednesday. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, Masonic Lodge and Shrine of Wichita Falls and veteran of World War I. For 19 years he was owner of the Hitchin' Post, also of Jene' Dress Shop.

Survivors are his widow; one daughter, Mrs. W. B. Reneau, Wetumpka, Ala.; son, Ross Greenstreet, Dallas; two sisters, Mrs. Thompson Reid, Tahlequah, Okla.; Mrs. Julia P. McClanahan, Richardson; three brothers, James M. Potter, Raleigh, N. C.; Rev. Robert A. Potter, Murphy, N. C. and Dr. Richard M. Potter, Ridgeville, Ind.

Funeral 10 a.m. Friday at Weed-Corley Funeral Home with Rev. Calvin Sachers and Rev. Thomas P. Lovett officiating. Burial in Austin Memorial Park.

Obituary of Ernest B. Potter
Austin American, August 6, 1964

EARNEST B. POTTER

Funeral for Earnest B. Potter, 65, 2807 Wooldridge Drive, will be held at Weed-Corley Funeral Home Friday at 10 a.m. Rev. Calvin Sachers and the Rev. Thomas P. Lovett will officiate. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be Walter Long, Ben Parrish, Louis Shanks, Leo Herzog, Harry A. Trueblood and Eugene Guthrie.

Funeral notice for Earnest B. Potter
Austin American, August 7, 1964

Rites Set On Friday For Potter

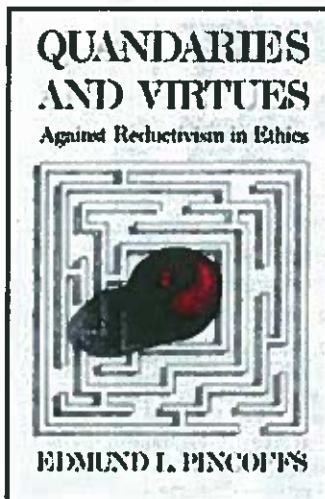
Funeral services for Earnest B. Potter, 65, 2807 Wooldridge Drive, will be held at the Weed-Corley Funeral Home Friday at 10 a.m. The Rev. Calvin Sachers and the Rev. Thomas P. Lovett will officiate. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park. Pallbearers will be Walter Long, Ben Parrish, Louis Shanks, Leo Herzog, Harry A. Trueblood and Eugene Guthrie. Potter died at his home Wednesday. A resident of Austin for the past 19 years, he was formerly a resident of Wichita Falls and Dallas. Potter was a

member of the Presbyterian Church and the Washington Masonic Lodge No. 1117 A.F. & A.M. Dallas, Wichita Falls Commandery and Ben Hur Temple Shrine. A veteran of World War I, Potter has been owner of the Hitchin' Post and was also the owner of Jene' Dress Shop. Survivors are his wife; one daughter, Mrs. W. B. Reneau, Wetumpka, Ala.; one son, Ross Greenstreet, Dallas; two sisters, Mrs. Thompson Reid, Tahlequah, Okla.; Mrs. Julia P. McClanahan, Richardson, Tex.; three brothers, James M. Potter, Raleigh, N. C.; Rev. Robert A. Potter, Murphy, N. C., and Dr. Richard M. Potter, Ridgeville, Ind.

Funeral notice for Ernest B. Potter
Austin Statesman, August 6, 1964



University Press of Kansas



Quandaries and Virtues

Against Reductivism in Ethics

Edmund L. Pincoffs

x, 190 pages, 6 x 9

Cloth ISBN 978-0-7006-0308-4, \$25.00

Attuned to the revival of moral concern in public and private life, Edmund Pincoffs argues in *Quandaries and Virtues* that the "structures known as ethical theories are more threats to moral sanity and balance than instruments for their attainment because ethical theories are, by nature,

reductive."

Pincoffs's is the first full-scale examination of the reductionist tendencies in contemporary ethical theory. It explores questions that previously have received scant attention: How can mutually inconsistent and systematically reductive ethical theories be 'applied' to the resolution of moral problems? Is there a defensible form of virtue-oriented perfectionism? How are we to understand the relation of virtue-ideals to the ethics of obligation?

"A first-rate book of importance to two quite different audiences. Academic moral philosophers will find themselves presented with an impressive exposition of a distinctive type of moral theory, one which makes the virtues fundamental to the moral life, but which is not a teleological theory. They will also note with pleasure that Pincoffs's wonderfully lucid prose makes his book accessible even to undergraduates. Schoolteachers and parents are addressed by someone who shares their concerns on the topic of moral education. No recent writer has brought philosophy to bear upon those concerns more tellingly."--Alasdair MacIntyre, author of *After Virtue: A Study in Moral Theory*

"A bold, innovative, important book. It challenges the basic approaches to ethical theory developed by modern philosophy; it presents a new analysis of the virtues while defending a virtue-based ethic; and it shows the relevance of this ethic to

based ethic . . . a significant contribution to an increasingly important subject."--

Richard T. DeGeorge, author of *The Nature and Limits of Authority*

"So far as I know, no one has considered the nature or the relation between moral judgment and moral character with more clarity and penetration than Pincoffs."--

Joel Feinberg, author of *Moral Concepts*

EDMUD L. PINCOFFS is professor of philosophy at the University of Texas at Austin. His writings in ethics include *The Rationale of Legal Punishment* and "Quandary Ethics."

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Edmund Pincoffs (1919-1991) on the Moral Void

Hegel suggests that an approach to understanding a philosophical view may be to find out what, on that view, are the chief obstacles to overcome. The chief obstacle for the quandarist faced with a moral perplexity is, I think, the void. It is the nightmare realm in which we can find no ground as heavier and disconcertingly heavier burdens descend upon us. The chief problem is how to find footing. The existentialists create it: harden thin air. The naturalists and intuitionists claim to discover it where intelligent men had somehow missed it before. The subjectivists fashion it out of their own approval. None of this is very plausible. We must ask, not how we find ground in the void, but why we think that we are in one. Who are "we" who are supposed to be in a void? Are we not concerned to find answers to our repeated demands for ground? We are not then morally featureless, but we have concerns. The intuitions are ours, the discoveries ours, the introspection ours. We are not disembodied, historyless, featureless creatures. We are beings who have developed to a point, have even cultivated ourselves. The problems which we face must qualify as problems for us, be our problems: it makes a difference who we are. We cannot describe the problem by describing an anonymous collision situation. Aristotle did not give open lectures; St. Paul did not write open letters. When they used the word "we", they spoke from within a community of expectations and ideals: a community within which character was cultivated.

(Edmund Pincoffs, "Quandary Ethics," *Mind*, n.s., 80 [October 1971]: 552-71, at 569-70)

IN MEMORIAM

EDMUND LLOYD PINCOFFS

Edmund Pincoffs died in Austin on November 7, 1991, at age 74. He taught in the Philosophy Department at The University of Texas at Austin from 1965 to the time of his retirement in 1989. He had also served as Associate Dean of the Graduate School, 1967-1968, and as Chairman of the Department of Philosophy, 1976-1980. In the two short years he held the title of Professor Emeritus he continued to be active both within the University and in the community of scholars internationally. In July 1991 he was honored by the American Philosophical Association, Central Division, by being elected to the office of Vice President. He was to assume the office of President of the Division in 1992.

In an article on "Quandary Ethics" that made a powerful impression when it was published in the English journal *Mind* in 1971, Pincoffs decried the excessive emphasis twentieth-century ethical theory had placed on moral dilemmas. He called instead for a return to the classical conception of virtue, or human excellence, pointing out that the function of morality should be that of nurturing the morally complete person, so that moral "quandaries" can be forestalled as much as possible. He developed this theory further in other articles and ultimately in his major book, *Quandaries and Virtues: Against Reductionism in Ethics* (1986). The "reductionism" Pincoffs opposed is the view that moral reasoning is possible only when a master premise (e.g., one drawn from theology or from political dogma) is assumed. Stressing the importance of the community in the articulation of moral values, while also arguing against communitarian relativism, he urged that the appropriate metaphor for ethics is not that of building on a foundation but rather that of weaving and mending a net -- "comparing the joint strength of one set of considerations to the joint strength of alternative sets."

An augmented issue of the journal *Social Theory and Practice*, for summer 1991, was dedicated to Dr. Pincoffs. The issue collected in a single volume ten articles that had been presented at a special UT Austin conference in his honor on the theme "The Nature of Virtue Ethics: Its Political Relevance." Held in March 1990, the conference brought to Austin prominent American ethicists as well as UT Austin graduates who had studied under Dr. Pincoffs.

All whose lives were touched by Edmund Pincoffs give witness that such virtues as courage, tolerance, openness, even-temperedness, modesty, sincerity, loyalty, benevolence -- which are among the sixty-seven distinct types he describes and analyzes in his book on that theme -- were also among the virtues Pincoffs embodied in his character and in his conduct.

Dr. Pincoffs' other area of scholarly distinction was the philosophy of law. His first book was in that field: *The Rationale of Legal Punishment* (1966). And so was his last published book: *Philosophy of Law: A Brief Introduction* (Wadsworth Publishing Company, 1991). He was also the editor of a collection of essays on *The Concept of Academic Freedom* (1975), based on a conference he had convened at UT Austin in 1972. In 1988 he delivered the Romanell lecture, a special event annually sponsored by the American Philosophical Association. The topic of Dr. Pincoffs' address was "The Practice of Responsibility-Ascription."

Born in Chicago in 1919, Dr. Pincoffs attended schools in Houston and at Pottstown, Pennsylvania. He received an A.B. degree from the University of North Carolina in 1941. During the Second World War he served as U.S. Coast Guard officer on anti-submarine- and assault-landing-vessels in the Caribbean and the Western Pacific. Returning to civilian life he first pursued a career as a businessman in Houston, but after four years he chose to turn to professional philosophy. He received the Ph.D. from Cornell University in 1957. His academic career started at the University of Houston, where he rose quickly through the ranks, serving as Chairman of the Department of Philosophy from 1959 to 1965.

At UT Austin, Dr. Pincoffs taught a wide variety of courses at both the undergraduate and graduate level, including courses in philosophical analysis, political and social philosophy, ethics, the philosophy of law, the philosophy of education, and the history of philosophy.

He held visiting appointments at Princeton University, Oberlin College, and Cambridge University. In 1981-82 he held a National Endowment for the Humanities Senior Fellowship as well as a Fellowship at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina. His many other honors include the presidency of the Southwestern Philosophical Society, the presidency of the International Association for Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy (American Section), and election (in 1988) to The Philosophical Society of Texas.


Concerned to bring philosophy into a public arena where it could affect people's lives, Dr. Pincoffs pursued this goal not only in his teaching and in his writing but also through public service. He served terms as Chairman of the Texas Committee for the Humanities, as Vice Chairman of the Texas Humanities Resource Center, and as President of the English-Speaking Union. The congregation of the Unitarian Church of Austin remembers him with great affection and respect as a frequent lay speaker. Deeply committed to the safe-guarding of human and academic rights, he served terms as Board Member of the Central Texas Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, as President of the Texas Conference and of the University of Texas Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, and as Member of the national Council of the A.A.U.P.


He is survived by his wife, Mary Elizabeth Zimmerman Pincoffs, two daughters, Mary Elizabeth Pincoffs Wilson of Austin and Ruth Posey Pincoffs Boicourt of Trappe, Maryland, and a son, Edmund Peter Pincoffs of Austin.

The Pincoffs Estate has donated the professional papers of Edmund Pincoffs to UT Austin's Center for American History and has donated the books from his study to the Brogan Reading Room at the Department of Philosophy.

The Edmund L. Pincoffs Faculty Fellowship in Philosophy, made possible by a major gift by the family and from contributions received in Dr. Pincoffs' memory, will from time to time provide a semester's research leave for a junior member of the Philosophy faculty.




Robert M. Berdahl, President
The University of Texas at Austin


H. Paul Kelley, Secretary
The General Faculty

Dr. Edmund Lloyd Pincoffs

Dr. Edmund Lloyd Pincoffs, professor *emeritus* at the University of Texas at Austin, died on November 7, 1991.

He was born on June 7, 1919 in Chicago, Illinois. After overseas service as an officer in the United States Coast Guard during World War II, and a business career, Dr. Pincoffs entered academic life. He was educated at Rice University, the University of North Carolina, and received his doctoral degree from Cornell University. He was a professor of philosophy at the University of Houston and chairman of that department. In 1963 he became a professor at the University of Texas where he also served as department chairman.

At the time of his death, he was president-elect of the Western Division of the American Philosophical Association. He was the author of books and articles on ethics and social justice and enjoyed membership in numerous professional and civic organizations.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Elizabeth Zimmerman Pincoffs; two daughters, Mary Elizabeth Pincoffs Wilson of Austin, and Ruth Posey Pincoffs Bolcourt of Trappe, Maryland; and a son, Edmund Peter Pincoffs of Austin. He is also survived by eight grandchildren; two sisters, Louise P. Ellington and Rosalind P. Zimmerman of Houston; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 5:00 PM, Saturday, November 9, 1991, at the First Unitarian Church of Austin, 4700 Grover Avenue, Austin, Texas.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Edmund L. Pincoffs

Philosophy Faculty Fellowship, Department of Philosophy, Waggener Hall, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712-1180.

Arrangements by Weed-Corley Funeral Home, 3125 N. Lamar, 452-8311.

Obituary of Edmund Pincoffs
Austin American-Statesman, November 8, 1991