Application for Naming a Public Facility or Property

Please follow the instructions below when submitting an application for naming a facility or property.

1. Complete the application by providing detailed information about the proposed park name. Please include supplemental information such as articles, letters of support and signature list with the application.
2. City of Austin Parks & Recreation Department must receive the application within the 90 day public comment period in order for the application to be considered.
3. Send all submittals to: Austin Parks and Recreation Department, Attn: April Thedford, 919 W. 28 ½ Street, Austin, TX 78705; (512) 974-9408; april.thedford@austintexas.gov.

Proposed Name for the Facility or Property: Charles Page Zilker Park Clubhouse

If proposing the name of an individual, include a biographical description of nominee:
Charles H. Page was the principal of Page Brothers architects who practiced architecture in Austin from 1892-1957. During his time of practice, he designed courthouses, schools, residences, municipal and commercial buildings. Some of the notable Austin buildings he designed include the Littlefield Building, Travis County Courthouse, U.S. Federal Courthouse, and Brown Building.

Describe the individual’s involvement in the Austin community:
Charles H. Page was active on the Parks and Recreation Board from 1934-1942. He served as Vice President of Construction of Zilker Park and later as President. He also served as president of the American Institute of Architects, Austin in 1932, was appointed Chairman of the Travis County Relief Board and helped to “beautify” Rosewood Park in 1934, and served on the board of the Lions Club.

Describe the individual’s connection to the facility or property, if any:
Charles H. Page desinged the Zilker Boy Scouts House, now known as the Zilker Clubhouse, while serving as V.P. of the PARD Board in 1934. Page oversaw the design of several other objects and structures in Zilker Park, including but not limited to: the Girl Scouts Hut, the Gateway Structure, the Mirror Ponds, and the Ashford/McGill Rectory.
Charles S. Page  
1911 Palo Duro Road, Austin, TX 78757  
512-470-5143  

Date: 9/28/14

To: April Thedford  
City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department

Subject: Zilker Park Clubhouse Naming

Dear April:

Thank you for the opportunity to recognize my great-grandfather Charles Page’s contributions to the Austin Parks and Recreation Department with the naming of the Zilker Park Clubhouse.

I have included several supporting documents for this submittal:

- Application for the Naming of Zilker Park Clubhouse
- Letter of support from AIA, Austin
- *Austin Statesman* clippings from the Charles Henry Page collection at the Austin History Center. The articles exhibit Page’s direct involvement in securing funding through the Federal WPA and CCC programs for the design and construction of Zilker Park. Page was the Vice President of Construction in 1934 and later president of the Austin Parks and Recreation Board. He also served as president of the American Institute of Architects, Austin in 1932 and was appointed Chairman of the Travis County Relief Board in 1934.
- *C. H. Page Architect 2014 Calendar Parks and Recreation Austin, Texas*. Enclosed are images from the calendar, exemplifying Charles Page’s contributions to Parks and Recreation in Austin.
- Profile of Charles Page & Son featured in the 1952 *Central Texas Business and Professional Directory*

The Page family appreciates your consideration in the naming of the Zilker Park Clubhouse. Thanks to Charles Page’s progressive vision and ability, he was able to provide structure and recreational programming for the citizens of Austin. Zilker Park was very important to Page in that respect, and we would be honored to have his name attached to the Zilker Park Clubhouse.

References and additional information are available upon request.

Sincerely,

Charles S. Page
If proposing a name other than individual, summarize the reason for the name:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Name of requester:  Charles S. Page

Address:  1911 Palo Duro Road, Austin, TX 78757

Phone Number:  512-470-5143

Email:  charles@austinairbalancing.com
March 15, 2006

Mr. Charles S. Page
1106 West 6th Street
Suite 206
Austin, TX 78703

Ref: Renaming of a City Facility for C.H. Page Sr.

Dear Mr. Page,

It is my pleasure to let you know that on Tuesday, March 7, 2006, the Executive Committee of AIA Austin voted unanimously to endorse the renaming of a City Facility for C.H. Page Sr.

Mr. Page served AIA Austin as president in 1932 and continued serving the profession until his death in 1957.

I understand that much of the work he did for the City was done on a pro-bono basis. His projects included the Travis County Courthouse, State Capitol Repairs, Old City Hall (1906), 300 school buildings in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana, county courthouses in Texas and a number of national registered historic buildings.

C.H. Page Sr. was truly a gift to both the City of Austin and to the profession of architecture.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lauren Goldberg, AIA
President
Page Architect
For Building

Long-Time Experience In
City of Austin

April 1, 1917

Whenever architecture or city beautification is mentioned, the name of Charles H. Page, Austin architect, is associated with these topics.

Mr. Page's office is located on the second floor of the George Building on West Seventh street, and has been practicing architecture in Austin for over 25 years, and has drawn plans for buildings all over the state during that time. He is a member of the American Institute of Architects.

When the plans for the American-Statesman building at Colorado and Seventh street were started, the owners of that building stepped across the street from the site of the new building and laid their plans before Mr. Page. The result was the design of the most beautiful and modern newspaper plant in Texas.

Court House Designer

When the Travis county commissioners court about 1888 decided to construct the million dollar courthouse at 10th and Guadalupe streets, it called on Mr. Page to design the structure. Mr. Page also designed the beautiful new Austin National Bank on Congress avenue. The city council availed itself of the services of Mr. Page in employing him to design the beautiful new municipal market completed a year ago at Seventh and East avenues, and also the new nurses home at Brackenridge hospital which was recently completed.

Other outstanding contracts which Mr. Page has supervised as architect include the Potter county courthouse at Amarillo, the auditorium and city hall at Sweetwater, the subterranean vaults for the treasury department at the state capital building and dormitories at the Austin state school.

Buildings under construction for which Mr. Page drew the plans are the mechanical building at the Texas School for the Deaf, the United States courthouse at Eighth and Colorado streets, and redoring halls, corridors, vestibules and the rotunda on the first floor of the Texas capitol building.

Mr. Page is now designing plans for the new bus terminal in Austin and for the new Charles W. Marsh office building on West Seventh street west of the new American-Statesman building.

Work in Zilker Park

During his residence here, Mr. Page has consistently been associated with all of the leading civic interests here, his desire to help build a more beautiful city resulted in his appointment as a member of the city park and recreation board. When Zilker park was being developed from a wilderness by the city, Mr. Page offered his services free to all in the CWA and CCC programs for its transformation into a park for the citizens of Austin. He supervised the construction of the girl and boy scout houses, the new soccer field, rock gardens, and the general plan of beautifying this 330-acre park.

Mr. Page also is an active member of the Chamber of Commerce, serving that body for a time as director.

Mr. Page numbers among his hobbies the growing of flowers and is particularly proud of the huge greenhouse and giant dahlias which are in his gardens at his home, 708 West 24th street. He also raises tropical fish.

For diversion from his business, Mr. Page goes hunting with deer, turkey and ducks as his favorite game and salt water fishing for tarpon, king and other fish.

Office Associates

When Mr. Page is absent from the city, E. Niggil, chief draftsman, handles the problems of the customers. Mr. Niggil has been associated with Mr. Page for the last 16 years and is now serving as superintendent for the construction of the new American-Statesman building.

Burl Jansen, designer of the new American-Statesman building, is a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a master of architecture degree after receiving a bachelor of science in architecture degree at the University of Texas. Mr. Jansen recently won first prize of $1000 in the Portland Cement association cement house design competition. This house is now under construction on the Texas Centennial exposition grounds at Dallas. Mr. Jansen won the American Institute of Architects medal in 1928 and has won numerous Beaux Arts medals for his problems.

C. H. Page Jr., son of Mr. Page, is a bachelor of arts in architecture at the University of Texas, a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Lions club and Bachelors' club.

Others associated with the Page architectural firm are: W. E. Simpson of San Antonio, structural engineer; R. F. Taylor of Dallas, mechanical engineer; J. N. Converse, draftsman; and Mrs. Frances Davis, stenographer and bookkeeper.
Charles Page
On Relief Board

Dr. Gettys' Resignation Is
Accepted by County

Appointment of Charles H. Page
as a member of the Travis county
relief and welfare board by the
commissioners court Saturday was
approved by Adam R. Johnson,
state director, Saturday afternoon.
A meeting of the Travis county
board will be held probably Tues-
day to pick a chairman to succeed
Dr. W. E. Gettys, University of
Texas professor of sociology, who
resigned as chairman and member
several days ago. Mr. Page was
named to succeed Dr. Gettys.
A meeting of the board was held
Friday night to discuss adminis-
trative matters. Mr. Taylor pre-
sided as acting chairman. Dr.
Gettys attended and turned over all
records of the board.
Mr. Page was nominated for the
post by Commr. Warren S. Freund.
County Judge Roy C. Archer said
Mr. Page was selected because of
his work in Zilker park on projects
under the RFC, CWA and PERA.
"We learned that Mr. Page had
the time to devote to this work and
we know that he is interested in
relief and welfare work. His work
at Zilker park was sufficient rec-
ommendation for his appointment," said
Judge Archer.
The commissioners' court Sat-
urday also accepted the resignation
of Dr. Gettys and sent him a let-
ter thanking him for his co-operation,
courtesy and hard work.
Mr. Page, the new board mem-
er, is a member of the city parks
and recreation board, and is head
of the construction division.

Charles H. Page
Is Named Relief
Board Chairman

New Member Succeeds
Dr. Gettys in Travis
County Post

The Travis county relief board
Thursday elected Charles H.
Page, Austin architect, and newly-
appointed member of the board,
as its chairman.
Mr. Page succeeded Dr. W. E.
Gettys, resigned chairman. He
was named on the relief board as
Dr. Gettys' successor by the com-
missioners' court. By unanimous
vote of his colleagues Thursday, he
was made the new chairman.
Mr. Page was engaged during the
day Thursday as chairman of an
Austin Chamber of Commerce com-
mmittee in conferences looking to
the retention in Austin of the state
relief administration headquarters. Q.
C. Taylor, secretary-member of the
county relief board, announced Mr.
Page's election, and his acceptance
of the post, as county relief chair-
man.
No other changes in the county
relief set-up have been made. Other
members of the board are Mr. Tay-
lor, L. J. Schneider, W. W. Carson
and Emmett Shoffton.
Resolutions were adopted, ex-
pressing regret at Dr. Gettys' res-
ignation, and praising his loyal,
devoted, unselfish service in the re-
lief work. Copies of the resolu-
tion were sent Dr. Gettys and Pres.
H. Y. Benedict of the University
of Texas.
"During his residence here, Mr. Page has consistently been associated with all of the leading civic interests here. His desire to help build a more beautiful city resulted in his appointment as a member of the city park and recreation board. When Zilker park was being developed from a wilderness by the city, Mr. Page offered his services free to aid in the CWA and CCC programs for its transformation into a park for the citizenship of Austin."

Austin American Statesman July 29, 1937

PAGE, CHARLES HENRY (1876-1957).

Charles H. Page, architect, was born in 1876 in St. Louis Missouri, to where his parents, Charles Henry and Mary Ann Page, had immigrated from England. His father was a mason and contractor. The family moved to Austin, Texas, in 1886; Page’s father worked on the construction of the Capitol. Page was trained in architecture in the office of the local builder-architect Burt McDonald and began practice at the age of nineteen in the firm of Makin and Page. He was in independent practice as C.H. Page, Jr., in 1898 but was soon joined by his brother Louis. His first major commission was for the first Austin National Bank building on Congress Avenue. In 1903 he received the commission for the Texas Building at the St. Louis World’s Fair. During his more than sixty years of practice Page’s firm grew substantially in size and prestige and designed hundreds of schools and courthouses. Among his varied works of interest is the art deco Travis County Courthouse (1930-1936) in Austin. Page died in Austin on October 5, 1957, leaving his firm, C.H. Page and Son, to Charles Henry Page, Jr.

Handbook of Texas Online
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ZILKER PARK CLUBHOUSE
Austin, Texas
C.H. Page, 1934
Photographs
Existing

Constructed by the Civil Works Administration (CWA), the Boy Scouts Hut exhibits great handcrafted details including ornamental ironwork, lanterns, hinges and door handles. Other notable features are the massive stone chimney and wagon wheel chandelier. Today, the Zilker Clubhouse is a popular venue for special events.

ZILKER PARK GIRL SCOUTS HUT
Austin, Texas
C.H. Page, 1934
Photographs
Existing

Located on Columbus Road in Zilker Park, the Girl Scouts Hut was constructed by the Civil Works Administration (CWA). The southern elevation overlooks the Barton Creek Greenbelt. The cabin is an excellent example of parks and recreation architecture during the Depression.
ZILKER PARK REFECTORY
ASHFORD McGIll HOUSE
Austm, Texas
C.H. Page, 1934
Photograph
Existing

Located at 2389 Stratford Drive, the Zilker Park Refectory was originally the 1870s Ashford McGill homestead. The limestone home fell into disrepair, and in 1934 C.H. Page, with the help of the Civil Works Administration (CWA), restored the home and built an addition. Today it is used as a pre-school.

ZILKER PARK SKITTLE CONCESSION HOUSE
Austm, Texas
C.H. Page, 1934
Historic and Existing Photographs
Existing

Located on Rollingwood Drive just before Zilker Clubhouse Drive, the Zilker Skite Range, was constructed for bird hunting enthusiasts to practice on skites. The range is currently abandoned and needs lead abatement.
ZILKER PARK MIRROR PONDS
Austin, Texas
G.H. Page, 1934
Historic Photograph
Existing

The Zilker Park Mirror Ponds are located on Eanes Creek below the Austin Nature Center service road. The Mirror Ponds were built by the Civil Works Administration (CWA) as part of the beautification of Zilker Park. Two rock dams and a water line were installed to fill a portion of the dry creek.

ZILKER PARK ROCK GARDEN
Austin, Texas
G.H. Page, 1934
Historic Photograph
Existing in Disrepair

The Zilker Rock Garden ponds are located on the bluff north of Barton Springs Pool dam. The "Charlie Page Rock Garden" is a fine example of Depression Era landscape architecture. The Civilian Works Administration (CWA) constructed footpaths, stone steps and two ponds containing lilies, turtles and goldfish.
LIONS MUNICIPAL CLUBHOUSE
Austin, Texas
Page Brothers, 1939
Rendering
Existing
Located at 2901 Enfield Road, the Colonial Revival Lions Municipal Clubhouse was built at a cost of $10,000. In 1951 Lions became the first desegregated golf course in the Southern States of the Old Confederacy. The clubhouse and golf course are in danger of being redeveloped by the University of Texas.

HANCOCK RECREATION CENTER
(Formerly Austin Country Club House)
Austin, Texas
Page Brothers, 1934
Existing and Historic Photographs
Existing
The Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st Street, designed in a Colonial Revival style, is actually the 3rd Austin Country Club House. It replaced the previous one that was destroyed by fire. The large cut limestones were reused from the University of Texas' Old Main Building.
WOOLDRIDGE SQUARE BAND STAND

Austin, Texas
C.H. Page & Bro., 1909

Photograph
Existing

Wooldridge Square, 900 Guadalupe Street, is one of four original Austin Squares, and was donated by former Austin Mayor A.P. Wooldridge. The band stand was the site for several historic political events and became landmarked in 1975. In 2013 several improvements were made to the park followed by a grand reopening.

View in East Avenue Park and Band Stand.
Austin, Texas.

The band stand is attributed to an organization of Austin architects lead by President A.O. Watson, First V.P. C.H. Page, 2nd. V.P. L.N. Iredell. They were responsible for the beautification of East Avenue Park. The park was demolished in the 1970s to make room for the IH 35 expansion and development of Disch-Faulk Field.
ROSEWOOD PARK BAND STAND
Austin, Texas
Attributed to C.H. Page, 1934
Photograph: Existing

As Chairman of the Construction & Maintenance Division of the Austin Parks & Recreation Board, C.H. Page oversaw the improvements of Rosewood Park, 2300 Rosewood Avenue. The band stand and limestone landscaping throughout the park are attributed to C.H. Page.

CAMP TEXLAKE STARCKE LODGE
Spicewood, Texas
Paul Pressler & C.H. Page, 1949
Photographs: Existing

Starcke Lodge is located at 3700 Pace Bend Park Road on 250 acres. The dining and recreational hall are constructed of Austin field stone and cedar wood costing $35,000. Funds for the development of the camp came from the Texas Colorad0 Lakes Area Camp Committee.
C. H. PAGE AND SON

One of the oldest architectural firms in Texas, C. H. Page and Son was established by senior Page in Austin in 1888. Mr. Page's son, C. H., Jr., joined the firm as a partner in 1936. Designing buildings of all types and supervising their construction, the firm handles work throughout Texas and the surrounding area. At the present, C. H. Page and Son are working on numerous government buildings and private projects.

Hospitals designed by this firm include the $5,300,000 John Sealy Hospital in Galveston; the Dreisbach Foundation Children's Hospital in Corpus Christi; and the 500-bed hospital at Albuquerque, N. M.

The firm handled the remodeling of the State Capitol in 1942. Their other buildings in Austin are designed by this firm include the Federal Building, Brown Building and Littlefield Building.

C. H. PAGE, JR., Partner, C. H. Page, and Son, Austin. Mr. Page became associated with his father in the architectural business in 1936. Previous to joining this firm, he had worked for the United States Government.

Born in Austin on July 4, 1910, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Page, Sr. His father had founded the Page architectural firm in 1888. Receiving his early education in the Austin public schools and at the Westview School, Mr. Page received his B.A. degree from the University of Texas in 1932. He had one year of graduate study.

Mr. Page was married in Austin in 1936 to Marjorie Sutton. They have three children: Miriam, Charles H., III, and Susan Gibbs.

He is vice-president of the Austin Concrete Works and is on the Board of Directors of the Child Welfare Service. Mr. Page is a 22nd degree Mason and a member of the Ben Hur Shrine.

He is also affiliated with the Austin Club, Austin Country Club, and various other Clubs, the Chamber of Commerce and Junior Chamber of Commerce. Professionally, Mr. Page is associated with the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. He is also a member of the American Institute of Architects.

KUEHN, BROOKS AND BARR

The architects-engineers firm of Kuehn, Brooks and Barr was organized in 1951 as successors to Giesecke, Kuehn and Brooks, which was formed in 1902, by Hermann E. Giesecke, Hugo F. Kuehn and R. Max Brooks, who united their individual architectural and engineering offices. Howard B. Barr, who had been with the firm since 1946, became a partner following the death of Mr. Giesecke in 1951.

The partners established their organization in order to offer the client a full architectural-engineering service backed up by the technical knowledge acquired through years of training and experience, and it is this type of service which they offer today.

Mr. Brooks was granted a leave of absence in October, 1943, to enter service in the U.S. Navy. He resumed his duties with the firm in February, 1946.