HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 18, 2019
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2019-0591
4600 RIDGE OAK DRIVE

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1966 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, L-plan building; side-gabled roof; brick veneer and vertical wood siding; aluminum sash windows; double entry doors.

RESEARCH

4600 Ridge Oak Drive was built by Clarence T. Schneider and occupied by Keith and Tegwen Morrison from shortly after its construction until at least 1986. Keith Everett Morrison was born in 1910 in Hoisington, Kansas. He attended Bethany College, Kansas University, the University of Wyoming, and Yale University. His career began in agricultural economy and sheep ranching in Wyoming, then led to Texas in the late 1940s. From 1948 until 1980, Morrison worked as a professor of law at the University of Texas, where he specialized in tax law, with additional interests in electronic information retrieval and academic freedom. Keith Morrison died in 1998 in Austin.

Little information could be found about Tegwen Jones Morrison during research. She married Keith Morrison in 1945, and the couple had two children. Tegwen Morrison died in 1991 in Austin.

STAFF COMMENTS

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

1) The building is more than 50 years old.

2) The building appears to retain a moderate degree of integrity. The attached carport has been infilled, and building permits indicate that windows have been replaced.

3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (City of Austin Land Development Code, Section 25-2-352). The property does not appear to demonstrate significance according to any criteria.

   a. Architecture. The house is designed in the Ranch style and does not appear to be architecturally significant.

   b. Historical association. The house was occupied by Keith and Tegwen Morrison for at least twenty years, from around 1966 until at least 1986. There do not appear to be significant historical associations.

   c. Archaeology. The property was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.

   d. Community value. The house does not possess a unique location, physical characteristic, or significant feature that contributes to the character, image, or cultural identity of the city, the neighborhood, or a particular demographic group.
e. **Landscape feature.** The property is not a significant natural or designed landscape with artistic, aesthetic, cultural, or historical value to the city.

The property does not appear to be eligible for designation as a historic landmark.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of the existing building, then relocation over demolition; but release the demolition permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center.
PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos

Primary (south) façade of 4600 Ridge Oak Drive.

West elevation showing infilled carport (at right).
Occupancy History
Completed by Historic Preservation Office staff, November 2019

1965  Address no listed

1968  Keith E. and Tegwen Morrison, owners
       Professor, University of Texas

1973  Keith E. and Tegwen Morrison, owners
       Professor, University of Texas

1977  Keith E. and Tegwen Morrison, owners
       Professor, University of Texas

1981  Keith E. and Tegwen Morrison, owners
       Professor, University of Texas

1986  Keith E. and Tegwen Morrison, owners
       Retired

1992  William and Eleanor Gaston, owners
       Investor
Background Research

PROFESSOR KEITH E. MORRISON FEBRUARY 9, 1910 - FEBRUARY 8, 1998
Long-time University of Texas Professor Keith E. Morrison died quietly at home on Sunday morning, following a short illness.

Keith was born in a farming community in central Kansas, where he graduated from Hoisington High School in 1927. He attended Bethany College in Kansas for two years and graduated Phi Beta Kappa with an A.B. degree from Kansas University in 1931. He later received an M.S. degree from the University of Wyoming in 1939 and an LL.B. from Yale in 1948, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif. From 1939, Mr. Morrison was an agricultural economist from the Wyoming Agricultural Extension Service and spent two years on a sheep ranch in Wyoming. From 1945 to 1955 he was a member of the Board of Directors of the Hoisington National Bank. In 1948 he joined the faculty of the University of Texas School of Law, eventually being promoted to full professor, retiring in 1980. He was also a visiting professor at Stanford University and Northwestern University and was a widely published author in the fields of Federal Income and Estate and Gift Taxation. He was a member of Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity and active in numerous faculty committees and conferences at the University of Texas. Keith married Tegwen Jones in 1945 and felt Tegwen was a fine asset to his career.

Because of Keith's broad business, banking and agricultural background, he was an outstanding teacher, lecturer and mentor to many young attorneys across the State. He loved chess, classical music and golf. To the end, Keith demonstrated great integrity, style, and grace and will be missed by all.

Keith is survived by his daughter, Megan Morrison Sawyer and husband, John, and granddaughter, KateLyn of Palo Alto, California; his son, Bruce T. Morrison and wife, Mary Leonard Morrison, and their daughter, Michelle Leonard Morrison of Austin, Texas; and his beloved brother-in-law, W. Bruce Smith of St. Louis, Missouri.

Keith is preceded in death by his wife, Tegwen Morrison, his grandson, Grantland Keith Morrison and his sister, Marjorie Morrison Smith.
**Collection Summary**

**Creator:** Morrison, Keith Everett, 1910-1996  
**Title:** Keith E. Morrison Papers  
**Dates:** 1950-1970  
**Abstract:** Correspondence, memoranda, minutes, printed material, committee reports, and handwritten notes created and collected by Keith E. Morrison span twenty years of the law professor's work and research in the areas of electronic information retrieval and academic freedom.  
**Size:** 4.6 linear ft. (11 boxes)  
**Language:** English  
**Repository:** Special Collections, Tarlton Law Library, The University of Texas at Austin, 727 E. Dean Keeton St., Austin, TX 78705-3224, (512) 471-7263

**Historical Background**

Keith E. Morrison was a member of the University of Texas faculty of law from 1948 until his retirement. Prior to his joining the faculty, he worked as an agricultural economist for the Wyoming Agricultural Extension Service. From 1945-1955, he was a member of the Board of Directors of the Hoisington National Bank. He served as a visiting professor at Stanford University during the summer of 1959 and at Northwestern University in the spring of 1962. While a member of the University of Texas School of Law faculty, he taught courses in federal income taxation, federal estate and gift taxation, and other tax related issues. He also served on a number of law school and university committees including Library, Curriculum, Summer School, and Standards of Work committees. He was a member of the Order of the Coif and Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity.

**Contents of the Collection**

Correspondence, memoranda, minutes, printed material, committee reports, and handwritten notes created and collected by Keith E. Morrison span twenty years of the law professor's work and research in the areas of electronic information retrieval and academic freedom.

The first series is Electronic Information Retrieval. It documents Keith E. Morrison's electronic information retrieval activities, affiliations, and research. Subheadings indicate committees and projects to which Morrison directed his interests in electronic information retrieval, and are arranged by committee involvements, projects, and research.

The second series is Academic Freedom. Included in this series are correspondence, minutes, legal documentation and printed material related to academic freedom issues. These materials concern Morrison's involvement in tenure disputes, faculty rights and just termination procedures, as well as the campus and student unrest that marked the 1960s in both the United States and abroad. The series is divided into U.S./International Student Protests and Academic Freedom, University of Texas at Austin Student Protests and Academic Freedom, and Censorship and Intellectual Freedom.

**Guide to the Keith E. Morrison Papers, Tarlton Law Library, Texas Law School.**

**Building Permits and Maps**

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OWNER: C. T. Schneider  ADDRESS: 4600 Ridge Oak Drive

LOT  234  BLD  1  BIK  S

SUBDIVISION: Highland Park West

OCCUPANCY: Residence

BLD PERMIT #: 100572  DATE: 8-9-66

OWNERS:  ESTIMATE: $40,000.00

CONTRACTOR: owner  NO. OF FIXTURES: 15

WATER TAP REC #: 817237  SEWER TAP REC #: 66581

Brick Veneer & Frame Residence with Attached Carport

Building permit for wood-frame residence with attached carport issued to C. T. Schneider, 8/9/1966.
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Sewer tap permit issued to C. T. Schneider, 8/9/1966.

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sewer tap</td>
<td>4600 Ridge Dr.</td>
<td>8/9/1966</td>
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Water tap permit issued to C. T. Schneider, 8/9/1966.

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Permit records indicate that a porch, deck, bathroom, and dining room were added in 1990.