

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
PERMITS IN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS
JANUARY 25, 2021
HR-2020-181181
1504 WESTOVER ROAD
OLD WEST AUSTIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT**

PROPOSAL

Replace 21 windows.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

- 1) Remove existing windows.
- 2) Install vinyl and wood composite windows with simulated divided lights.

ARCHITECTURE

Two-story cross-gabled house clad with rusticated limestone; fenestration includes 6:6 paired and single wood windows.

RESEARCH

The house at 1504 Westover Rd. was built in 1945 by John Wattinger. Its first occupants were Raymond C. Smith, a dentist, and his wife Perrine. After the Smiths departed between 1949 and 1950, it was briefly rented by Helen and Elmer Patman. Patman worked as an attorney for the Superior Oil Company.

In 1954, Cleburne judge Ruel Walker was elected to the Texas Supreme Court, and he and his family moved in to 1504 Westover Rd. by 1955. According to a 2009 Historic Preservation Office zoning change report on the Walkers' later home on Wooldridge Drive, Ruel Walker was a devoted attorney and University of Texas alumnus who followed in his father's footsteps:

Ruel Walker was originally from Cleburne, Texas, and was the son of William and Nette Walker. Both William and Nette had been born in Kentucky; William Walker was an attorney in Cleburne. The 1910, 1920, and 1930 U.S. Census reports show the family living in Cleburne and William Walker is listed as an attorney. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Ruel Walker as their unmarried 20 year old son; he had no occupation listed in the census report.

Ruel Walker attended Austin College in Sherman, Texas, and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1931. He went on to the U. T. Law School, where he served as editor in chief of the Texas Law Review and graduated with highest honors in 1934. After serving as a legal investigator for Attorney General James Allred, Ruel returned to Cleburne, where he practiced law with his father and uncle for the next 18 years. In 1954, Governor Allan Shivers appointed Ruel Walker to the Texas Supreme Court, where he was noted for his scholarly opinions and served as the Court's authority on matters of civil procedure. He and his family moved to Austin in 1955, first renting a house at 1504 Westover Road. The Walkers purchased [the Wooldridge property] in 1956.... Walker served as an associate justice on the Supreme Court until his retirement in 1976. He also served as the Chairman of the Texas Commission on Higher Education. He died in Austin in 1998.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation are used to evaluate new construction projects in National Register historic districts. Applicable standards include:

2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

The existing divided-light windows will be removed.

6. Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.

The proposed replacement windows match the existing in size, but do not match the existing windows in material. More information is needed to determine whether the new windows sufficiently match the profile and visual depth of the existing windows.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house contributes to the Old West Austin National Register Historic District.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain moderate integrity.
- 3) Properties must meet two historic designation criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352). Staff has evaluated the property and determined that it does not meet two criteria:
 - a. *Architecture.* The building does not appear to be architecturally significant.
 - b. *Historical association.* The house is associated with Texas Supreme Court Justice Ruel Walker.
 - c. *Archaeology.* The house 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.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Postpone the public hearing to the February 22, 2021 meeting to allow applicant to submit more information on replacement window location, profile, and sill repair.

LOCATION MAP



1" = 133'



SUBJECT TRACT

PENDING CASE

ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HR-20-181181

LOCATION: 1504 Westover Rd.

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by CTM for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



PROPERTY INFORMATION

Photos



Source: Nicole Kessler Group, <https://www.nicolekessler.com/westover-rd>



Source: Nicole Kessler Group, <https://www.nicolekessler.com/westover-rd>



Source: Google Street View, 2020

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, 2020

1959	Ruel C. and Virginia A. Walker, renters Associate Justice, Supreme Court
1957	Ruel C. and Virginia A. Walker, renters Associate Justice, Supreme Court
1955	Ruel C. and Virginia A. Walker, renters Associate Justice, Supreme Court
1952	Elmer and Helen L. Patman, renters Attorney, Superior Oil
1949	Raymond C. and Percine V. Smith, owners Dentist, 801 Capital National Bank Bldg.
1947	Raymond C. and Percine V. Smith, owners Dentist, 801 Capital National Bank Bldg.
1944	Address not listed

Biographical Information

Raymond Smith

Rites Saturday

Funeral services for Dr. Raymond Collins Smith, 42, who died in Shreveport Wednesday night, will be held at the Hyttin-Mauor Funeral Home Saturday at 10 a.m. with the Rev. Carlyle Marney of the First Baptist Church officiating.

Smith was a practicing dentist in Tyler and at one time practiced in Austin. He had gone to the Austin public schools.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Smith of Austin; a daughter, Diane Smith of Fort Worth; one brother, P. L. Smith of Beaumont, and two sisters, Mrs. Charles Watson of Big Spring and Mrs. R. L. Williams of Houston.

Bullbearers will be Judson Wise, Lee Williams, Howell Jordan, Dr. Hugh Emerson, Dr. D. M. Curry and Dr. C. B. Dildy.

INFANT SMITH: The infant son of Dr. and Mrs. Raymond C. Smith died in a local hospital Monday night. The remains are resting at the Wilke Funeral Home pending the completion of final services.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Nov 23, 1951 and Oct 22, 1946

- Cochran - Kinser Moyer

DR. RAYMOND C. SMITH

ANNOUNCES THE REOPENING

Of his office for the
GENERAL PRACTICE OF
DENTISTRY

801 Capital Natl. Bank Bldg. Ph. 8-3138

Phone 8-8569

610 Brazos Street . Phone: 8-8569

OPEN SUNDAY: Modern 2-story cut stone home, consisting of living room, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, 2 all tile baths, 3 large bedrooms, many closets and lots of storage space. This is an expensive home, nothing cheap. If interested drive to 1504 Westover Road. Phone 8-5771.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Oct 8, 1945 and Jun 1, 1946

Ruel Walker Sworn in As Court Justice

By the Capitol Staff

Ruel C. Walker of Cleburne was sworn in Tuesday morning as associate justice of Texas Supreme Court, succeeding the late Judge Graham B. Smedley.

His oath was administered by Chief Justice John E. Hickman from the bench, with all members of the court present. Governor Allan Shivers, his University law classmate, who appointed Judge Walker; Attorney General John Ben Shepperd; George W. Sandlin, Democratic state chairman; John C. Calhoun of Corsicana, former chairman, and more than 100 officials, attorneys and friends of the Walker family were in the courtroom. Present were Justice Walker's wife, two daughters and one son, and his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. William R. Walker of Cleburne.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Oct 19, 1954



NEW SUPREME COURT JUSTICE RUEL C. WALKER'S FAMILY
Virginia (left), Mrs. Walker, W. Ruel II and Sara Beth.

New Associate Justice's Family Busy Settling Into Home Life Routine Here

By LOIS HALE GALVIN
Now that his wife, two teenage daughters and young son have joined him here, Judge Ruel C. Walker can call Austin home.

The judge came here from Cleburne Oct. 19 to assume his duties as associate justice of the Texas Supreme Court. And, of course, his family was here at that time to witness the induction ceremony which took place in the presence of Governor Allan Shivers and other state officials at the Capitol.

But after the ceremony Mrs. Walker and the children, Virginia, 15, Sara Beth, 13, and William Ruel Walker II, 6, returned to their home in Cleburne to remain until the midterm of school. They came back to Austin Feb. 1 to stay.

Varied Emotions

It was with varying emotions that the Walker family made preparations to move to Austin.

For Mrs. Walker it meant leaving a homey, two-story, eight room house in which life centered around a family room just off the kitchen. And, giving up, temporarily at

least, plans for a new home which she and her husband were going to build in Cleburne.

It also meant leaving the many cherished friends she had made in the 19 years she had lived there. But these things were not the important issue. Her husband's career was her first consideration, as it has been ever since she became his wife.

Mrs. Walker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Sansom of Plainview, met her future husband when he was a law student at the University of Texas. It was at a dance given by his fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon.

Community Activities

In Cleburne Judge and Mrs. Walker were active in many community organizations and projects. They taught Sunday School classes at the Main Street Methodist Church, and were active in PTA work. She also did Camp Fire work and belonged to several study clubs.

In Austin she plans to devote more time to her family. She's also looking forward to spending more time on some of her hobbies which include ceramics, block printing and art. At present she is transposing some of the childhood drawings of her children to ceramic tiles which she plans to make into a coffee table when completed.

Teenagers Excelled

Virginia and Sara Beth were excited about the move, although they had some misgivings. They say that Austin has long been their favorite city next to Cleburne, but making new friends and entering new schools posed a serious problem to the teenagers. But at Austin High School, where Virginia is now a sophomore, and at O. Henry Junior High, where Sara Beth is a seventh grader, they have been encircled in warm friendly groups, and made to feel that they have always belonged there.

Even young Ruel, who attends the Tarrytown Kindergarten, has made friends and is finding that life here offers about the same fun and excitement for a little boy as did Cleburne.

Housing Problem

One of the important problems, of course, was a house to live in. The solution to this problem came

for the Walkers through a long distance call from Dr. C. T. McCormick's wife offering them their home during the six months she and her husband are out of the city. He is on leave of absence from the University of Texas where he is a professor of law.

Now settled comfortably in the McCormick home at 1410 Gaston until June, the Walkers are getting used to the idea of living in Austin—and they're enjoying it, they say.

Barton Springs will be a favorite spot, for the two girls are expert swimmers and Ruel is progressing nicely. Virginia looks forward to the wonderful tennis courts, for this is her hobby and she is taking tennis lessons. She's also studying Latin, and plans to take it four years. She's taking it, she says, because "my father's a brain," and she wants to be well educated too. Latin, she feels, will help with the other languages she plans to study later.

Avid Readers

Sara Beth's hobby is reading. She and her sister are both avid readers, but hobbies or no, both girls spend much time helping their mother sew and cook.

Does Mrs. Walker like sewing and cooking?

"Any mother of two girls just naturally has to learn to sew," she says, "but in my case, I feel it is a creative pastime just like any other phase of the art crafts I enjoy."

As for cooking, she looks upon it as a must for any woman with a husband and three active children to feed.

2 Judges Will Seek Reelection

By Associated Press

Two State Supreme Court justices announced for reelection Thursday.

Associate Justices Ruel Walker and Frank P. Culver announced that they had paid their filing fees to the State Democratic Executive Committee to be placed on the July 26 primary ballot.

A total of three regular terms on the nine-man court expire at the end of this year. Associate Justice St. John Garwood announced earlier that he would not seek reelection.

Associate Justice Joe Greenhill is expected to announce shortly for the two years of the unexpired term to which he was appointed last year.

Walker, a native of Cleburne, was appointed to the court in 1954 and was elected to the unexpired term at the election later that year. He served in the Attorney General's Department in 1934. He also was district rationing attorney for one year for the Office of Price Administration in Fort Worth.

Culver served as judge of the 17th District Court and as associate justice of the Fort Worth Court of Civil Appeals before he was elected to the Supreme Court in 1952.

In a brief announcement Thursday Culver said that he was the only living jurist who has served on all three levels of the state judiciary.

He is a graduate of the University of Texas School of Law, a veteran of both world wars and a former officer of the 36th National Guard Division.

His home is in Fort Worth.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Apr 17, 1958

State Jurist Due Honor By College

SHERMAN — Judge Ruel C. Walker, associate justice of the Texas Supreme Court and a resident of Austin, will be one of four Austin College alumni to receive Alumni Meritorious Service Awards at Austin College Day, May 2.

The awards will be presented at the luncheon. Speaker will be Dr. James I. McCord, a 1938 graduate of A.C. Dr. McCord is president-elect of Princeton Theological Seminary and has been dean and professor of systematic theology at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary since 1944.

Judge Walker completed his studies in law at the University of Texas in 1934, and, during the war, served in the Navy and worked in the Office of Price Administration.

He is vice-chairman of the Texas Bar Association's Judicial Section and a member of the American Bar Association and the American Judicature Society. Judge Walker has served as chairman of the interim Texas Commission on Higher Education and was chairman of the Cleburne Board of School Trustees while a partner in Walker and Baker law firm there.



JUDGE RUEL WALKER

The Austin American (1914-1973); Apr 26, 1959



STATE LADIES—The gavel of the Austin State Official Ladies' Club was handed on to the new president at a meeting Friday at Bergstrom Officers' Club. Mrs. Ruel C. Walker, left, outgoing president, presents the symbol of office to the new president, Mrs. Mau-

rice Acers, right. The group includes, from left, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Frank Jackson, secretary; Mrs. Ernest Belcher, vice president; Mrs. Bill Allcorn, treasurer, and Mrs. Acers.

The Austin American (1914-1973); May 29, 1960

Judge Seeks Reelection

Capitol Staff

Associate Justice Ruel C. Walker of Texas Supreme Court announced Thursday for reelection to a six-year term on the court, and paid his filing fee for a place on the Democratic primary ballot.

Judge Walker's state service started as assistant attorney general with James V. Allred. Later, when he returned to his home, Cleburne, to practice law, he was appointed chairman of the Texas Commission on Higher Education. He was president of his home-town school board, and a member of The University of Texas Committee of 75. He is a member of the Austin College Development Commission and of the executive council of The University of Texas Ex-Students Association.

He served for two years in the Navy during World War II.

Judge Walker was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1954 as successor to Judge Graham B. Smedley.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Jan 17, 1964

Historical Associations:

The house was built in 1959 for Judge Ruel C. Walker and his wife Virginia. Ruel Walker was originally from Cleburne, Texas, and was the son of William and Nette Walker. Both William and Nette had been born in Kentucky; William Walker was an attorney in Cleburne. The 1910, 1920, and 1930 U.S. Census reports show the family living in Cleburne and William Walker is listed as an attorney. The 1930 U.S. Census shows Ruel Walker as their unmarried 20-year old son; he had no occupation listed in the census report.

Ruel Walker attended Austin College in Sherman, Texas, and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1931. He went on to the U.T. Law School, where he served as editor in chief of the Texas Law Review, and graduated with highest honors in 1934. After serving as a legal investigator for Attorney General James Allred, Ruel returned to Cleburne, where he practiced law with his father and uncle for the next 18 years. In 1954, Governor Allan Shivers appointed Ruel Walker to the Texas Supreme Court, where he was noted for his scholarly opinions and served as the Court's authority on matters of civil procedure. He and his family moved to Austin in 1955, first renting a house at 1504 Westover Road. The Walkers purchased this property in 1956. They hired Dallas architects Beran and Stelmire to design this house, which was completed in 1959. Walker served as an associate justice on the Supreme Court until his retirement in 1976. He also served as the Chairman of the Texas Commission on Higher Education. He died in Austin in 1998.

Zoning change review sheet for 2419 Wooldridge, built for the Walkers. The house was not designated a landmark. <http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=138629>

Biography of Ruel Carlile Walker

- Born February 26, 1910 in Cleburne, Texas
- Attended Austin College in Sherman, Texas where he was a cheerleader
- Named a Distinguished Alumnus and awarded an honorary doctorate in 1976
- Received a B.A. degree, summa cum laude, from U.T. Austin in 1931
- Received LL.B. in 1934 from U.T. Law School, with highest honors
- His class notes and course outlines were used by law students at U.T. for several generations after he graduated
- At U.T., was a track manager, member of Delta Kappa Epsilon, Order of the Coif, Chancellors, and Friars
- Editor in chief of the Texas Law Review
- Served as legal investigator for Attorney General James V. Allred
- Practiced law in Cleburne with his father's and uncle's law firm
- In Cleburne, served as chairman of the Cleburne School Board, chairman of the Board of Stewards of the First Methodist Church, president of the Rotary Club, chairman of the county Democratic Party, and member of the State Democratic Executive Committee
- During WWII, served in Washington, D.C. as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Navy
- Chairman of the Texas Commission on Higher Education
- Appointed to the Texas Supreme Court in 1954 by Governor Allan Shivers
- Named in Who's Who in the South and Southwest, 1961-2
- Served on the court for 22 years until his retirement in 1976
- Died May 9, 1998 at the age of 88 and is buried in the Texas State Cemetery

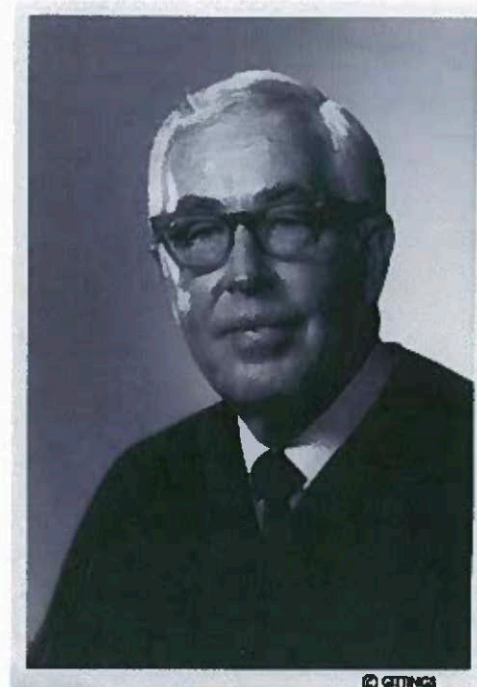
Biography of Virginia Sansom Walker

- Born May 13, 1912 and grew up in Plainview, Texas
- Attended the College of Industrial Arts (now Texas Women's University in Denton) before coming to the U.T.
- Was a dedicated member of the Settlement Home, the State Official Ladies' Club, the Art Club of Austin, the P.E.O., University Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, Meals on Wheels
- Participated in Meals on Wheels and served as a docent for the Huntington Art Gallery
- Served on boards of community organizations, including YWCA, the Wesley Foundation, and Laguna Gloria Art Museum
- Since the age of 16 (in 1928) began designing Christmas cards for her friends and family. Many of these are on file in the AHC.
- Was very artistic and designed jewelry
- She and Ruel had three children, Virginia Carmichael, Sara Beth Peacock, & William Ruel Walker, Jr.
- Designed a seating area in the shape of a star at the Capital as part of the State Official Ladies' Club. The seating area has since been removed but a plaque remains.
- Died on July 3, 2005 and is buried in the Texas State Cemetery

From 2010 historic zoning application for 2419

Wooldridge: <http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=138629>

Ruel Carlile Walker (1910-1998)



Ruel Carlile Walker

© GITTINGS

Associate Justice, Texas Supreme Court, 1954-1975

Ruel Carlile Walker was born February 26, 1910 in Cleburne, Johnson County, Texas. His parents had come to Texas from Kentucky, and his father practiced law in Cleburne. Walker attended public schools in Cleburne and began his college studies at Austin College in Sherman, Texas, where he was a cheerleader. Two years later he transferred to The University of Texas at Austin, where he earned a B.A.

degree in 1931 and then entered The University of Texas Law School, earning an LL.B. in 1934. He earned both degrees with highest honors and served as editor-in-chief of the Texas Law Review.

Following law school, Walker was a legal investigator for Texas attorney general James V. Allred before returning to Cleburne, where he joined Walker and Baker, the law firm of his father and uncle. A cousin also later joined the family firm. Walker was married in 1935, and he and his wife had three children. He became active in civic affairs and served as chairman of the local school board for fourteen years, chaired the Johnson County Democratic party, and was a member of the Texas Democratic executive committee. During the Second World War, he served as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Navy and was stationed in Washington, DC.

Ruel C. Walker was appointed an associate justice of the Texas Supreme Court in 1954 by Gov. Allan Shivers to fill the vacancy left when Graham B. Smedley died. He was elected to the position in the November election and reelected in 1958, 1964, and 1970. Walker was highly regarded by his peers on the court for his scholarly, well organized, and well written opinions, for his contributions to improving rules of civil procedure, and for his abilities to bring opposing factions together to create strong majority opinions. He retired from the court in 1975 after twenty-one years of service.

Walker also served as a member of the Texas Commission of Higher Education, now the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. He died May 9, 1998 at the age of eighty-eight and was buried in the Texas State Cemetery in Austin.

From 2010 historic zoning application for 2419

Wooldridge: <http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=138629>

Texas' Tests of Character Come Too Late

By RUEL C. WALKER, *Chairman*
Committee on Legal Education and Admissions

The legal profession was one of the first to restrict admission to its ranks, but until recent years neither lawyer nor layman has shown any great interest in the standards for admission to the bar as the method of improving the personnel. Although a restricted membership in other professions has long been recognized as proper and in the interest of society, it has been argued that any limitation of the fundamental "right" to become a lawyer is not democratic and therefore not in accord with the principles of American government. The entire profession, however, suffers a disproportionate loss of prestige because of the conduct of a comparatively small group of unworthy individuals who have been admitted to the bar.

A great deal of time and thought has been devoted to the educational requirements for admission to the bar. Notable progress has been made in that field, and those who have spent much of their time in endeavoring to better these requirements are to be highly commended for their efforts. But students of the subject feel that neither sufficient time nor thought has been devoted to ways and means of selecting only persons of character for admission to the bar. No one would seriously contend that legal education is sufficient or that the character of an applicant is not of great consequence, but the inherent difficulty of accurate character analysis has made progress in that field extremely slow. Yet the importance of being able to assure the public that the holder of a license to practice law is of good character demands that every effort be made to bring this about.

The statutes of Texas recognize that the

profession should be restricted to men and women of the highest integrity, and the Supreme Court is authorized to make rules to insure "good moral character on the part of each candidate for license."



"Responsibility rests on local committees"

(Tex. Rev. Civ. Stat. (1925), Art. 306.) Pursuant to the authority thus conferred, the Supreme Court has prescribed that the applicant shall present "a certificate signed by the President and Secretary of his local bar organization, showing that the Committee on Bar Candidates of such organization . . . has made a careful examination of applicant's character and reputation for honorable deportment, and has found them good." Non-resident attorneys who apply for admission to the bar "must present satisfactory evidence of good moral

character."

Theoretically, a scrupulous application of the foregoing rules would result in the elimination of any applicant unworthy to become a lawyer, but the local committees are vested with an unlimited discretion as to what constitutes a "careful examination." The committees in some of the larger cities conscientiously attempt to investigate the applicant's character, and their methods and work are to be commended and should be made available to the committees in the smaller towns. The great majority of the candidates, however, are strangers to all of the members of the committee, and the investigation is necessarily mechanical. In the more sparsely populated counties, a character committee composed of lawyers of long practice will have an acquaintance with most of the applicants for admission, but all too often the work of the committee is entirely perfunctory. The applicant is

rarely required to answer a questionnaire, and in many instances he does not appear before the committee. Although it is impossible to reduce character investigation to an exact science, it would seem that the procedure should be prescribed as far as possible to the end that it might be uniform throughout the state.

Dean Young B. Smith of Columbia University Law School has been quoted as follows:

"Justice is so dependent upon the efficiency and honesty of those who administer it, that changes in legal rules and in methods of administration will accomplish little unless membership in the bar is restricted to men of high ideals, ability and integrity. . . . The time to eliminate the unfit is before they begin their professional training. Any other procedure is not only wasteful but inhuman."

Under the Texas system, the question of the applicant's character is not raised until he is ready for the bar examination. After attending grammar school, high school, and college, and after the completion of his legal training, the student is notified that he must obtain a character certificate from his local bar association. The work of the committee is thus performed when there is little opportunity for character observation and analysis. Such procedure is unfair to the candidate, because it contemplates his rejection after he has devoted a considerable portion of his time and money to legal education. It places an almost impossible burden upon the committee, because any committee would hesitate to deny the right to practice law to a person who had met all educational requirements and was ready for the bar examination, unless he had been guilty of some positive misconduct. Even if some undesirable qualities are discovered by the committee, perhaps it will recommend the applicant because it seems unfair to prevent his admission at that late hour.

The functions of the character and fitness committee are educational as well as inquisitorial. In addition to investigating the character and fitness of the applicant, it should assist him to acquire a knowledge of the duties and obligations of a member of the profession. It has been suggested that registration with the committee and a preliminary character examination be required of each candidate at the

time of his declaration of intention to study law. At that time the committee would feel free to reject any applicant whom they believed unworthy, and the candidate would have an opportunity to take up another occupation. Throughout the period of his legal education, the individual would be conscious of the fact that he is an applicant for admission to the bar and that he must meet certain character standards as well as fulfill the educational requirements. The committee, on the other hand, is given a period of several years in which to observe the applicant, gather and study information, and finally form an intelligent opinion as to his character. It also has an opportunity to encourage the pursuit of higher educational requirements before applying for admission.

Another suggestion which has received considerable support is that each applicant, upon commencing the study of law, be assigned to a sponsor in the locality in which he lives in order that he may have the benefit of advice and suggestions from an active practitioner during his course of law study. In Pennsylvania, where such a plan has been in operation for a number of years, the duties of the sponsor are defined as follows:

"During the entire period between registration and taking the final examination, while attending law school, the student is required to keep in touch, by correspondence or otherwise, with his preceptor. The preceptor assumes the responsibility of vouching for the student at the beginning; of helping him to understand the ethics, duties, responsibilities, and temptations of the profession; of endeavoring to develop in the student a high standard of character; of having him serve a clerkship of six months or more in his office; and of certifying, at the end, what he knows of his character and fitness to become a creditable member of the bar."

Other suggestions include the adoption of a standard form of questionnaire, conferring upon the committee power to cause oaths to be administered and witnesses subpoenaed, personal interviews with all applicants, setting up machinery for the investigation of applicants when the questionnaire or interviews show that further information is needed, and use of the reports of the National Conference of

(Continued on Page 200)

TESTS OF CHARACTER—

(Continued from Page 178)

Bar Examiners in the case of non-resident attorneys.

No system of character investigation can be perfect in its operation, and we must not hesitate to try a more efficient plan merely because it will not be infallible. The use of improved methods is not, however, a substitute for conscientious work by a capable committee. The responsibility for the effective operation of the Texas system, or any other plan, rests upon the local character committees. It is incumbent upon these committees to pursue their investigations with a full realization of their obligations to the public and to the bar. The issuance of a license to practice law should be "evidence of good character, and fair capacity and real attainment and proficiency in the knowledge of law." (Tex. Rev. Civ. Stat. (1925), Art. 306.) We may be sure that the lawyer will regain his rightful place in society when the public knows that only people of highest integrity, equipped by education and experience, are admitted to the bar.

From 2010 historic zoning application for 2419

Wooldridge: <http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=138629>

Permits

Jno. Wattinger	"	- 1504 Westover Road
61	4	16

Edgemont

Frame garage

27629 - 9/11/45	\$150.00
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Building permit for garage, 9-11-45

John Wattinger	1504 Westover Road
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61	4	16
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Edgemont

2 story brick veneer residence

33000 - 10/51/45	\$3000.00
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Building permit, 10-51-45

WATER SERVICE PERMIT

Austin, Texas

Received of JOHN WATTINGER Date 11/26/45

Address 1504 WESTOVER RD

Amount FIVE & NO/100 50°

Plumber SF Size of Tap 3/4"

Date of Connection 12-20-45

Size of Tap Made <u>3/4"</u>	Size No. Fittings Curb Cock <u>5/8"</u> Elbow St. Elbow Bushing Reducer <u>3/4" COPPIN</u> Pipe <u>3/4" COP</u> Lead Comp. <u>3/4" COP</u> Nipples Union Plug <u>3/4" TAP</u> Tap <u>3/4" TAP</u> Stop <u>3/4" TAP</u> Box <u>3/4" TAP</u> Lid Valves Job No. <u>W328-352</u> Reg. No. <u>BENSON</u>
Size Service Made <u>3/4"</u>	
Size Main Tapped <u>2"</u>	
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock <u>11'</u>	
From W/Prop. Line to Curb Cock <u>19'</u>	
Location of Meter <u>CURB</u>	
Type of Box <u>COCK</u>	
Depth of Main in St. <u>CURB</u> <u>14"</u>	
Depth of Service Line <u>12'</u>	
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main <u>1'</u>	
Checked by Engr. Dept. <u>11-30-45</u>	

Water tap permit, 11-26-45

Receipt No. 5132 Application for Sewer Connection No. 19717 A

Austin, Texas, Nov 26 1945

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 John Wattinger at 1504 Westover Rd Street, further described as Lot 8/4 Block 4 Outlot Division subdivision Edgemont Plat 61, which is to be used as a Res

In this place there are to be installed 8 fixtures. Plumbing Permit No. 20997

I agree to pay the City of Austin, the regular ordinance charge. 11-30-91-
or

Depth at Prop. Line 2 ft 2 at stub Respectfully,
 Stub Out 17 ft W of E.L.
 Connected (Locals) John Wattinger

Date 12-3-45

By John Hernandez

NOTE: Connection Instructions 6" sewer in Westover St ± 7 ft deep ✓
main 20' S. of W. R.
4" Stub out to R.R. 1' W. of E.R. B-98

Sewer tap permit, 11-26-45