ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

CASE NUMBER: C14H-2020-0033       HLC DATE: April 27, 2020
PC DATE: May 26, 2020

APPLICANT: Willy Fischler, owner

HISTORIC NAME: Teer-Peterson House

WATERSHED: Shoal Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 2408 Harris Boulevard

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

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.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION: Architecture and historical associations.

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended the proposed zoning change from SF-3-NP to SF-3-H-NP. Vote: 9-0 (Papavasiliou and Jacob absent).

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION: Approved Staff recommendation 13-0 on the consent agenda.

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The house is beyond the bounds of the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984), but was identified as contributing to the Old West Austin National Register Historic District.

CITY COUNCIL DATE: June 11, 2020

ACTION:

ORDINANCE READINGS: 1ST 2ND 3RD

ORDINANCE NUMBER:

CASE MANAGER: Steve Sadowsky

PHONE: 974-6454

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION: Pemberton Heights Neighborhood Association

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:
Architecture:
One-story, L-plan, stone-veneered Tudor Revival house two steep front-facing gables, a prominent front-facing exterior stone chimney, a stuccoed gabled bay with false half-timbering containing the principal entry, and a combination of 9:9 and diamond-paned casement fenestration. There is an integral screened porch to the left of the principal block of the house. The house was designed by Charles H. Page, of the prominent Austin architectural firm of Page Brothers in 1930 and completed in 1933. Page designed a rear addition, known as the “Lodge” in 1935, and another addition designed by Austin architects Niggli & Gustafson was completed in 1945. There is a more modern gabled wood carport to the south (left) of the house.
Historical Associations

The house was designed and built for former state representative and then-chair of the State Board of Control Claude D. Teer and his wife Clara. Teer lived in his home town of Granger until 1927, when he moved his family to Austin. Prior to their residence in this house, the Teer family lived in a rented house on W. 13th Street. The family moved in around 1934. The 1932-33 city directory shows the family on W. 13th Street; by 1935, they lived at this Harris Boulevard address.

Claude D. Teer was born in Arkansas in 1881 but lived as a young man in Granger, Texas. He was elected to the State House of Representatives from Granger in 1919 and served until 1927 with a position on the appropriations committee. While in the legislature, he was active in the Texas Committee on Prisons, part of a national group that advocated for prison reform to eliminate prisoner abuse, mismanagement, and promote greater accountability. Among the other prominent Texans serving on this Committee were anti-lynching advocate Jesse Daniel Ames, and women’s rights activist Jane Y. McCallum.

Teer moved his family from Granger to Austin in 1927, when he began service as Secretary of the State Highway Department. In 1929, he was appointed to the State Board of Control, where he served, for many years as chairman, until his death in 1939. The State Board of Control was the agency in charge of state buildings and facilities, overseeing the Capitol, other state institutions, including orphanages, schools, hospitals, the State Cemetery, certain historical parks, and the Alabama-Coushatta Indian Reservation in East Texas. The Board of Control was responsible for all the purchasing and contracting for service and maintenance at every state-owned facility under its jurisdiction, and was one of the largest agencies in state government. While in office, Teer oversaw aspects of the Texas Centennial Celebration in 1936, including interring the bodies of Texas heroes in the State Cemetery in Austin. He negotiated an arrangement to settle bank loans to the old age pension funds that the State Board of Control oversaw, and was able to prevent pension cuts of up to 1/3 of the monthly benefit to over 100,000 seniors. Teer oversaw the creation of the Texas State Sanitarium for Negroes, a tuberculosis hospital, at Kerrville that closed in 1949 when a new commission was created to oversee state
medical facilities, and the Kerrville patients were transferred to the East Texas Tuberculosis Hospital in Tyler.

Teer died tragically after being hit by a train in 1939. His widow Clara continued to live in this house until her death in 1977, but transferred the house in 1954 to her daughter and son-in-law, Anna Faye and Harry Peterson, who lived here until 1988. Harry Peterson began his career as the dairy and farm supervisor at the State Board of Control, but in 1937, established Hillcrest Farms, one of the largest and most-modern dairies in the region. Peterson sold the business in 1970.
Claude Teer
Killed When
Hit by Train

Control Board’s
Chairman Meets
Sudden Death;
Funeral Pending

Claude D. Teer, chairman of the Texas board of control, was instantly killed Monday at 6 a.m., when struck by a train at San Antonio.

Mr. Teer, recuperating from a long illness, was a guest in the home of Dr. W. J. Johnson, superintendent of the San Antonio state hospital. He was walking in the hospital grounds near the railroad line when he was struck by the train. His skull was fractured and he was killed instantly, Dr. Johnson said.

An inquest verdict said he came to his death when he walked into the train.

Mr. Teer, formerly of Williamson county, former member of the legislature, originally was appointed to the board of control by Gov. Dan Moody. One of the most popular state officials, he was reappointed by

Gov. James V. Allred, and had three and one-half years remaining of his present term.

He had been ill five or six months, and was slowly recovering. Friends said his illness was caused by overwork.

His body was brought to Austin Monday by the Cook funeral home, and funeral arrangements were to be made later in the day.

Mr. Teer leaves a widow and a daughter, Mrs. Harry Peterson.

As chairman of the board of control, Mr. Teer had gone through five years of exceptionally intense work, as many noted duties had been imposed on the commission.

Besides its general duties, it was the state relief commission, which administered a $200,000,000 relief program; it has been, until Sept. 1, the Texas old-age assistance commission. It had charge of the state’s $2,000,000 Texas Centennial program; and it has directed child welfare work, the purchase of all state supplies, the preparation of the state budget, the administration of all state eleemosynary institutions and supervision of the accounting of all state institutions, colleges and departments.
State Flag Lowered

Mr. Teer, about 55, has been chairman of the commission for the past eight years.

Other members of the commission are Tom DeBerry and Henry C. Meyer. Mr. Meyer's term will expire next Dec. 31.

The state flag, which has been lowered many times on Mr. Teer's order in the deaths of state officials and former officials, was lowered by order of his colleagues Monday out of respect to his memory.

A successor to Teer will be appointed by Gov. W. Lee O'Daniel. Expiration of the term of Meyer on Jan. 1, 1940, will give O'Daniel two appointments, a majority on the board. After Sept. 1, administration of old age assistance will pass to the O'Daniel-appointed state welfare board, but the board of control will continue to be the state purchasing agency and supervises affairs of eleemosynary institutions.

Teer was regarded as one of the most competent men in the state government.

"The citizens of Granger are deeply shocked," said Mayor A. A. Street, in a telegram to The Austin Statesman, "by the news of the untimely death of our distinguished citizen, Claude D. Teer, chairman of the board of control. The loss is irreparable to our entire state. His many years of honest and unselfish service in his state has won for him the confidence and admiration of every Texan."

O'Daniel Morris

Upon learning of Teer's death, Gov. W. Lee O'Daniel said:

"It is with profound sympathy and regret that we receive the sad news of the untimely death of Claude D. Teer, chairman of the board of control of the state of Texas. On behalf of the state I extend heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Teer, other relatives and friends in their sad hour of bereavement."

Col. Ernest O. Thompson, member of the Texas railroad commission said:

"In my opinion the state of Texas never had a more faithful public servant than Claude Teer. He served his life out working for his state."
Claude Teer
Funeral Here
Today at 5

Many Messages
Of Regret Pour
In From State

Funeral services were to be held here Tuesday at 6 p.m. for Claude D. Teer, 57, chairman of the Texas board of control who was killed by a train at San Antonio Monday.

Rev. Homer E. Tiry, pastor of the First Baptist church of Teague, was to be in charge of the funeral at the Cook funeral home. Teer will be buried at the State cemetery here.

The state official was killed when he walked into a train. He had been a guest in the home of Dr. W. J. Johnson, superintendent of the State Hospital at San Antonio, while undergoing medical treatment. Teer became ill three months ago and went to San Antonio last week.

Messages of regret came from many parts of the state when news of Teer's death was announced. He was one of the most energetic and most highly-praised men in state government. Teer first entered state office in 1910 when he was elected to the legislature from Granger, Williamson county.

After serving as secretary to the state highway commission for a year, Teer was appointed to the board of control by Gov. Dan Moody in 1929. He was reappointed in 1930 by Gov. James V. Allred to serve until December, 1941.

As member of the board of control, Teer was active in directing affairs at state eleemosynary institutions and administering old age assistance.

Teer's death will give Gov. W. Lee O'Daniel two appointees on the board. The term of W. C. Meyer expires next January. The third member is Former Sen. Tom DeBerry of Bogata.

Survivors of Teer include his wife, a daughter, his mother, four sisters, and four brothers.


News story on the death and funeral of Claude Teer
Austin Statesman, August 29, 1939
TEER, CLARA WAYMAN (1885 ~ 1977). The following is an obituary for Clara Wayman Teer provided by then Weed-Corley Funeral Home of Austin. The obituary was likely published in the *Austin American-Statesman* on Thursday, June 30, 1977 two days after her death.

"Clara Waymen Teer, 92, of 2408 Harris Boulevard, died in Austin Tuesday. She was a member of an early pioneer Central Texas family, coming here from Virginia in the early 1870's. She was the third child to be born in the town of Granger, Texas.

Mrs. Teer was the widow of the late Claude D. Teer, who served the State of Texas as a member of the State Legislature and as chairman of the Board of Control. She had been a resident of Austin for 50 years.

Services will be held at 10:00 A.M. Thursday in the Weed-Corley Chapel with burial in the State Cemetery. Pallbearers will be E.B. Snead, Everette Kelly, John Donovan, John Caudill, Roderic Thomas, H.T. Hibler and Jim Martin.

Survivors are her daughter, Mrs. Harry Peterson, Austin; 2 Granddaughters, Mrs. John Donovan, Austin and Mrs. John Caudill, Houston; 3 Great Grandsons, John, Peter and Michael Donovan, Austin; 1 Great Granddaughter, Anne Caudill, Houston.

Memorial Contributions should be made to the Settlement Home or to Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, Amarillo, Texas."
Hillcrest Dates
Back to 1937

Back in 1937 a man named Harry Peterson was the dairy and farm supervisor on the State Board of Control. He had worked up to that position by way of a county agent’s job in Dallas and a BS degree in dairy husbandry from Texas A&M.

But in 1937, Peterson had everything he had—two 50-gallon pasteurizers and a delivery truck—on a new venture.

The venture turned out to be Hillcrest Farms. Peterson now has a new location, a partner in the firm, four herds of cows and employs more than 45 persons in an operation whose sales total over $1 million annually.

It was a long way to the top, but Peterson and Fred Barge Jr., the partner, now have one of the largest and finest dairies in Central Texas.

The dairy began operations in 1937 on the Cameron Road with 125 acres. The firm has shown steady expansion since that time and is now located on the Bastrop Road across from Bergstrom Air Force Base.

Barge, who joined the firm in 1947, is connected with the plant’s processing and office details. The processing plant now handles more than 30,000 pounds of milk.

And the one delivery truck now has grown into 22 such vehicles handling routes all over the city and Central Texas. Peterson and Barge, along with Edgar Smith, George Brewer and Louis Beaird, own four herds totalling 263 cows.

HILLCREST HEADS—Harry Peterson (left) and Fred Barge are the operators of the Hillcrest Farms Dairy. Peterson started the business back in 1937 with two pasteurizers and a delivery truck. Now there are 22 trucks and some 265 cows providing milk for Austin and Central Texas. Barge joined the firm in 1947.-(Neal Douglass Photos)

News story on the establishment and growth of Hillcrest Farms, once one of Austin’s largest dairies.

Austin American-Statesman, October 18, 1935
Hillcrest Farms Dedicated to Simple Idea
Of Producing Best Possible Milk Products

Back in 1937 a small one-man dairy started in Austin, dedicated to a simple idea: to produce the best possible milk products, with the most delicious flavor.

The founder: Harry Peterson, a Texas A&M University graduate, had studied the milk industry and knew the importance of having a fine healthy herd and the proper management of the herd. That was the start of Hillcrest Farms.

With an MS degree in dairy husbandry, Peterson supervises all the production. In those early days he did the milking, processing and the delivery, too.

As Hillcrest Farms grew, Peterson knew he needed a partner who knew the dairy business from top to bottom. And Fred Barge joined him.

Barge had grown up in the business under his father. A native of Austin, Barge is a firm believer in quality and flavor control from start to finish.

The beautiful Hillcrest Farms plant is located on the Bastrop Highway just across from Bergstrom Field, and is easily seen by those driving by. All milk comes from local dairy herds and Hillcrest Farms’ own Guernsey herd.

Specializing in home delivery, Hillcrest Farms is the largest dairy in home delivery in Cen-
The familiar advertising symbol of the route man with a rose in his teeth has been used by the dairy to indicate their pleasure in providing this service. The route man delivers the milk products wherever the customer wants them, including placing them right in the refrigerator.

Hillcrest Farms distributes these dairy products: homogenized Vitamin D milk, light and heavy cream, Golden Guernsey milk, cereal and chocolate milk, buttermilk, cottage cheese, low-calorie milk, sour cream and orange juice.

The Hillcrest Farms products on display at the Talking House are examples of these. Anyone in the Austin area can get home delivery by calling Hillcrest Farms.

Story on Hillcrest Farms
Austin American-Statesman, May 15 1966

1951 photograph of Hillcrest Farms and its fleet of delivery trucks
Originally established on Cameron Road, this photo shows the later Del Valle operations.
HILL CREST FARMS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

PLEASE RETURN PROMPTLY
Austin businessman Harry Lee Peterson Jr. was remembered this week by a longtime friend and associate as `kindly, generous, just the most wonderful guy.'

Peterson died Tuesday at age 92. His funeral will be at 2 p.m. today at Weed-
Corley-Fish Funeral Home. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park Cemetery.

Peterson founded a dairy farm here in the late 1930s and went on to start an auto dealership and a number of bowling centers. He was on the founding board of directors of North Austin State Bank, now Bank One.

A Dallas native, he held bachelor's and master's degrees from Texas A&M University. His friend, Windy Winn of Austin, said humorously but affectionately this week that Peterson was ``the only Aggie I ever loved."

Winn did public relations and advertising for the former Hillcrest Farms Dairy, which Peterson founded here in 1937.

The loyalty of the dairy's clientele, Winn recalled, was demonstrated by an incident in the late 1950s, when some of Peterson's dairy cattle broke through a fence in Southeast Austin and got into an onion patch. The milk they produced tasted like onions, which wasn't discovered until delivery drivers were already on the road.

At Peterson's urgent direction, Winn said he got the word out through newspaper and radio announcements that, although the milk smelled unmilklike, it was no threat to the dairy's exclusively home-delivery consumers. ``Remarkably," Winn said, ``they didn't lose a single customer."

Peterson is survived by his wife, Anna Faye Peterson of Austin; two daughters, Anne Peterson Donovan of Austin and Claire Peterson Caudill of Houston; a sister, Genevieve Thomas, and two brothers, Hugh Peterson and Earl Peterson, all of Dallas; and four grandchildren.

Obituary of Harry L. Peterson, Jr.
Austin American-Statesman, January 2, 1998

Anna Faye Peterson
March 22, 1912 - January 4, 2018

Anna Faye Teer Peterson, age 105, died on January 4, 2018. She was born on March 22, 1912, to Clara Wayman Teer and Claude Duval Teer in Granger, Texas. She was educated in Granger until the family moved to Austin in 1927, when Claude Teer left the Texas Legislature to become secretary of the Highway Commission. He later served as chairman of the Texas State Board of Control until his death in 1939.

Anna Faye graduated from Stephen F. Austin High School in 1929. She attended the University of Texas, where she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and the Reagan Literary Society. She was elected to Omicron Nu, the honorary home economics organization, and graduated in June, 1933, with a B.S. in Home Economics.

After graduation, she taught Home Economics at Alamo Heights Junior High School in San Antonio for one year, then returned to Austin to teach at Austin High. She served as a sponsor of the Red Jackets and designed the military-style uniform that the group wore until they stopped marching and started dancing. She married Harry Lee Peterson, Jr., on June 27, 1936,
and helped him establish Hillcrest Farms Dairy. They had two daughters, Anne Peterson Donovan and Claire Peterson Caudill.

Anna Faye was a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumnae Association and received her 50-, 65-, and 75-year pins. She started collecting antique dolls in the mid-1940s, encouraged by Willie Hunter (Mrs. Hal) Armstrong. An avid doll collector most of her life, she was a member of the Austin Doll Study Club. She was a life-long member of First United Methodist Church; a member of the Settlement Club, which she joined in 1948; and has also belonged to the Austin Woman's Club and the Austin Art League II.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband of 61 years, Harry. She is survived by her daughters, Anne and Claire, and their husbands, John C. Donovan and John W. Caudill. She has four grandchildren: John P. Donovan and his wife, Jacy; Peter L. Donovan and his wife, Abigail; Michael H. Donovan and his wife, Deanna; and Anne Caudill Vidacovich and her husband, Ron. She also has eight great-grandchildren: Harrison, Hudson, and Hayes Donovan; Clara and Helena Donovan; Jane and Harry Donovan; and Nicole Vidacovich.

Anna Faye would never allow a guest to leave her home without choosing a cookie from the bottomless tin in her freezer. She enjoyed her dolls, her spectacular azaleas, watching British comedies on PBS, and going out to dinner, almost always picking up the check. But she was most interested in the lives and accomplishments of her daughters and their families, and happiest when surrounded by them.

The family wishes to express their appreciation and gratitude to Anna Faye’s wonderful caregivers: Gloria Cervantes, Lola Guerra, Summer Hernandez, Sandra Khan, Annalee Litchfield, and Shannon Wood; to her cardiologist, Dr. Kunjan Bhatt, and her nurse, Debbie Cooper; and to her special friend, Carol Rabel Petersen.

Following a private burial, a memorial service will be held at Tarrytown United Methodist Church on Saturday, January 13, at 1:00p.m. Serving as pallbearers will be John C. Donovan, John W. Caudill, John P. Donovan, Peter Donovan, Mike Donovan, Ron Vidacovich, and Rene Cardenas. The soloist will be Deanna Donovan.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Settlement Home for Children, 1600 Payton Gin Road, Austin, Texas 78758-6506; Hospice Austin, 4107 Spicewood Springs Road, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78759; or First United Methodist Church, 1200 Lavaca, Austin, Texas 78701.

(Published by Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home, Friday, January 5, 2018)

PARCEL NO.: 0115010505

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOT 5 & N 7.5 FT OF LOT 4 & S 35 FT OF LOT 6 & E 15 FT OF LOT 17&18 BLK 1 PEMBERTON HEIGHTS SEC 1

ESTIMATED ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT: $8,500 (owner-occupied); city portion: $2,500 (capped); county portion: $2,500 (capped); AISD portion: $3,500 (capped).

APPRaised VALUE: $1,675,788 NOTE: Approximately 2/3 of the value of this property is accounted for by its .46 acre of land.

PRESENT USE: Single family residence.
CONDITION: Excellent

PRESENT OWNER(S):
Willy Fischler
2408 Harris Boulevard
Austin, Texas 78703

DATE BUILT: ca. 1933

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: All additions to the house were completed during the historic period: additions in 1935 and 1945. There is a ca. 2019 detached carport to the south of the house.

ORIGINAL OWNER(S): Claude and Clara Teer (1930)

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: Contributing to the Old West Austin National Register Historic District

Sewer connection application by Claude Teer for this house (1933)
## Deed Research for 2408 Harris Blvd

List Deeds chronologically, beginning with earliest transaction first and proceeding through present ownership. The first transaction listed should date at least back to when the original builder of any historic structures on the site first acquired the property (i.e., should pre-date the construction of any buildings/structures on the site). Please use the format delineated below.

For each transaction please include: name of Grantor/Grantee, date of transaction, legal description involved, price, and volume/page number of deed records. If there is a mechanic's lien please copy the entire document.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transaction</th>
<th>Vol./Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austin Development Company to Claude D. Teer</td>
<td>Vol. 450, pp. 528-529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lots 5* &amp; N 7.5',4* &amp; S 35', 6*</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 28, 1930</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pemberton Heights Company to Claude D. Teer</td>
<td>Vol. 563, pp.295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lots 17* E 15' &amp; 18*, Block 1, Pemberton Heights</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14, 1937</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claude D. Teer to Clara Teer</td>
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<td>Lots 5* &amp; N 7.5',4* &amp; S 35', 6* &amp; E 15', 17* &amp; 18*, Block 1, Pemberton Heights</td>
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<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clara Teer to Anna Faye Paterson</td>
<td>Vol. 1450, pp.480</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>May 6, 1954</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Harry Peterson and Anna Faye Peterson to John J. Hanley and Alexandra Bowe</td>
<td>Vol. 10759, pp.730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>$306,600.00</td>
<td>August 19, 1988</td>
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<tr>
<td>John J. Hanley and Alexandra Bowe to Willy Fischler</td>
<td>Vol. 11557, pp.1653</td>
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<tr>
<td>$340,000</td>
<td>Oct 4, 1981</td>
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</table>
Claude D., Chairman of the Texas State Board of Control and a former member of the Texas State Legislature (1919-1927), initially commissioned Charles H. Page and the Page Brothers Architects in 1930 to design a residence for his family. In 1933, initial design for the house was complete. In 1935 Mr. Teer commissioned Mr. Page again to design an addition to the house in the back known as the Lodge. Mr. Teer died in 1939, and his wife Mrs. Clara Teer stayed in the house until 1954. Mrs. Clara Teer commissioned an extension of the house in 1945 by Niggli and Gustafson Architects, which were known for the retail and restaurant architecture work at the time. In 1954 Mrs. Teer's daughter Anna Faye Peterson and Harry Peterson inherited the property and lived at the house. No future additions occurred. In 1988 John Hanley and Alexandra Bough bought the house, which was then purchased in 1991 by the current owner Willy Fischler.

Important Persons Associated with House:

Famous Architects:

Charles H. Page, Page Brothers Architects (pre-cursor to Page Southerland Page)
Page Brothers Architects was formed by Bother Charles Henry Page and Louis Charles Page in 1898. It became one of the leading firms of its type in Texas specializing in the planning of building of schools and courthouses. Charles Page formed a professional partnership with Louis Southerland in 1898 which lead to the creation of Page Southerland Page, now an international leading architecture firm based in Austin. Representative works in Austin by Page Brothers Architects and Page Southerland Page including the Littlefield Building at 601 Congress Ave, the Travis County Courthouse at 1000 Guadalupe, the US Federal Courthouse at 8th and Colorado, and the Normandy Arms Apartments in 108 W 15th St. City Hall at 118 W Eight Street. Architect Charles Page both lived in Pemberton Heights and designed many of its homes in a variety of architectural styles. The Teer Residence at 2408 Harris Blvd is a prototypical examples of Charles Page iconic residential work in Pemberton Heights, now designated as a national historic district. In fact, the Teer resident may have been of the last residential projects that Charles H. Page Sr worked on before his death in 1934.

Niggli and Gustafson:
Need more info
Notable Residents

Biography of Claude Teer:
Claude Teer was born in 1881 in Monticello Arkansas. At some point he moved to Granger, Williamson County, Texas, where he married Clara Wayman. Wayman was the third child born in Granger. The couple had one daughter, a Mrs. Harry Peterson.

Claude Teer was elected to the State Legislature from Granger in 1919. Teer served in the 36th through 40th Legislatures and served as Secretary to the State Highway Commission from 1927-1928. He was appointed to the State Board of Control by Governor Dan Moody in 1929. He was then reappointed to the Board in 1936 by Governor James V. Allred and served as its chairman to the time of his death.

There is evidence that Teer believed in prison reform as he worked with the Texas Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, a prison-reform organization that operated during the 1920s, according to the Handbook of Texas Online.

As Chairman of the State Board of Control, Teer oversaw the creation of a hospital for black Texans. According to Texas State Library and Archives Holdings, "The Texas Locating and Building Board of the State Tuberculosis Sanatorium for Negroes was created in 1935 by the 44th Legislature (Senate Bill 467) to find a location for and to oversee the building of a tuberculosis sanatorium for African-Americans. It was composed of the Chairman of the State Board of Control, the State Health Officer, and the Superintendent of the State Tuberculosis Sanatorium. The Board of Control Chairman, Claude Teer, served as chair of the Locating and Building Board. After hearing proposals from a number of cities and towns, the sanatorium for African-Americans was built in Kerrville. Upon its completion, the sanatorium was turned over to the Board of Control and the Locating and Building Board was abolished."

Teer was also Chairman of the State Board of Control during the Texas Centennial Celebration when the remains of many notable Texans were reinterred in the Texas State Cemetery. The Cemetery was under the State Board of Control at the time.

Teer died while still serving as Chairman on August 28, 1939 and he was buried at the Cemetery a short time later.

Biography of Harry Peterson:
Harry Peterson married the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Teer and they lived in the residence after Mrs. Teer's passing. Harr Peterson was the dairy and farm supervisor of the State Board of Control. In 1947 he bet his assets on a new farming venture called Hillcrest Farms. At its height, in 1953, it was considered to be the one of the largest and finest dairies in Central Texas. While it launched in 1947 with only 1 truck, at its height it saw over $1 million in revenue annually and processed nearly 30,000 pounds of milk a month.
PERSONAL

Honorable Joe A. Martin
600 West Seventh Street
Austin, Texas

My dear Friend:

I enclose herewith copy of a little extemporaneous statement which I made at the public hearings of the State Highway Commission some days ago, in respect to the service and passing of that great citizen and devoted friend of Texas, Honorable Claude D. Teer.

I know of his devotion to you and your friendship for him and I though you might like to know what we think of him as expressed in this little statement, which is a part of the records of the Highway Department.

Claude was a great and good man, and a friend of that excellent type which is rare in any day and generation.

Sincerely your friend,

[Signature]

ROBERT LEE BOBBITT

ENCLOSURE 1.
On August 31, 1939, in the regular open hearing meeting of the State
Highway Commission, Robert Lee Sobbitt offered the following tribute:

IN MEMORIAM

CLAUDE D. TEER

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission and the Highway Department
and the citizens of Texas:

Since we last met here, undertaking to discharge our duties as we
see them, there has passed from the overburdened duties of life one
of the best men who ever lived in Texas, one of the most beloved and
efficient public servants, who has ever served this State: Honorable
Claude D. Teer.

Claude D. Teer was Secretary of the State Highway Commission from
September 19, 1927 to December 31, 1928, under the administration,
as you know, of Governor Ross S. Sterling, as Chairman of this
Commission, the beloved Cone Johnson of Tyler, and Judge W. R. Ely
of Abilene. There are many members of the Department and staff
here in the service who served with him.

It was my privilege to serve with Claude D. Teer in the Legislature
for six years. When he was Secretary of the State Highway Commission,
and on the Board of Control, it was my privilege to try to serve with
him as Attorney General of the State.

From December 31, 1928, to August 26, 1939, Claude D. Teer was a
member of the State Board of Control, the major portion of that time
its Chairman.

In all of these relationships, as a Member of the Legislature, when
he helped restore this Department in its integrity to the people of
Texas; during the time he was Secretary to the Highway Commission;
during the years he approved the purchase contracts for material and
equipment, Claude D. Teer performed his duty in a manner and form
that some people often theorize and talk about, but quite often don't
accomplish. It is not my purpose, and certainly I could not pay any
tribute of respect to the memory of this devoted friend of all Texas,
the accomplished and efficient public servant of Texas, but out of
respect to his memory, I move, Mr. Chairman, that when we adjourn
this meeting, we do so out of respect to his memory; and that nota-
tion of this fact be certified by the present Secretary of the Com-
misson and to his bereaved and beloved wife and members of his family.

I am looking into the eyes of men who know that Claude D. Teer literally
wore out his life in honest, capable, efficient, and trustworthy
public service to his people.

Mr. Chairman, it was your and my simple duty and privilege, and that
of many of the boys here who worked with him to serve in the military
forces of our native State and Country during the World War, but we
know that no soldier who died on the Western front, nor any boy who
perished in a training camp, did more in his capacity for his country
than Claude D. Teer, who died in the service of his State.
of the best men who ever lived in Texas, one of the most beloved and efficient public servants, who has ever served this State: Honorable Claude D. Teer.

Claude D. Teer was Secretary of the State Highway Commission from September 19, 1927 to December 31, 1928, under the administration, as you know, of Governor Ross S. Sterling, as Chairman of this Commission, the beloved Cone Johnson of Tyler, and Judge W. R. Ely of Abilene. There are many members of the Department and staff here in the service who served with him.

It was my privilege to serve with Claude D. Teer in the Legislature for six years. When he was Secretary of the State Highway Commission, and on the Board of Control, it was my privilege to try to serve with him as Attorney General of the State.

From December 31, 1928, to August 28, 1930, Claude D. Teer was a member of the State Board of Control, the major portion of that time its Chairman.

In all of these relationships, as a Member of the Legislature, when he helped restore this Department in its integrity to the people of Texas; during the time he was Secretary to the Highway Commission; during the years he approved the purchase contracts for material and equipment, Claude D. Teer performed his duty in a manner and form that some people often theorize and talk about, but quite often don't accomplish. It is not my purpose, and certainly I could not pay any tribute of respect to the memory of this devoted friend of all Texas, the accomplished and efficient public servant of Texas, but out of respect to his memory, I move, Mr. Chairman, that when we adjourn this meeting, we do so out of respect to his memory; and that notation of his fact be certified by the present Secretary of the Commission and to his bereaved and beloved wife and members of his family.

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IT WAS MOVED AND CARRIED, by the Texas Highway Commission, that this simple tribute of respect and esteem to Claude D. Teer be made a matter of record by the secretary to the Commission, and that a copy be sent to each member of his family.

[Signatures]

Frank Carter, Chairman

Harry Rines, Warden

Robert Lee Bobbitt, Member
HARRY PETERSON
HARRY

Classification
Major: Live Stock Industry
Minor: Dairy Farming

Owner, Hillcrest Farms
Bastrop Road
P.O. Box 445
Telephone 8-1070

Rotary Ann: Anna Faye

Children: Anne Peterson
Claire Peterson

Home: 2408 Harris Blvd.
Telephone 2-1392

Entered Club: February 27, 1945