

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION  
JUNE 25, 2018  
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS  
HDP-2018-0282  
2502 INWOOD PLACE

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**PROPOSAL**

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Demolish a ca. 1949 house.

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**ARCHITECTURE**

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One-story, rectangular-plan, flat-roofed frame house stone wainscot and accent walls, and reflects the transition from International style to a mid-century Modern design aesthetic; metal-framed multi-lite casement windows.

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**RESEARCH**

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The house was built in 1949 by Kenneth Fink, an engineer at an air-conditioning contractor. He and his wife Barbara lived here until around 1953. Glen Ramsey, a psychologist, is listed as the owner of the house in the mid-1950s; the house was then owned and occupied by a civil engineer, Holton F. Cook, and his wife, Catherine, until the mid-1960s. The house was then briefly a rental property, then purchased by Paul E. Russell and his wife Cosette, who lived here until very recently. Paul Russell taught engineering courses at the University of Texas, and then worked as a computer programmer for various state agencies. After his retirement in 1999, he went back to teaching at Austin Community College.

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**STAFF COMMENTS**

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The house is not listed in any City survey to date.

Staff has evaluated this house for designation as a historic landmark and has determined that the house does not meet the criteria for landmark designation as set forth in City Code:

- a. **Architecture.** The house is a good example of a transitional house reflecting both International style and mid-century Modern design, with a long, low profile, large areas of window glass, and the use of native materials, especially the stone accent walls and wainscot on the house. However, this style and configuration is relatively common in Austin, and this house does not exhibit any distinctive architectural features that sets it apart from other houses of similar style and vintage.
  - b. **Historical association.** The house was the home of an air conditioning engineer for a few years after it was built, then of an engineering professor at the University of Texas who later worked as a computer programmer for state agencies. There do not appear to be significant historical associations.
  - 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.
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

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Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, then relocation over demolition, but release the 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. The house does not meet the criteria for individual designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



-  N
-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

**NOTIFICATIONS**

CASE#: HDP-2018-0282  
LOCATION: 2502 Inwood Place



1" = 135'

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.

2502 Inwood Place  
ca. 1949



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
2502 Inwood Place

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
June, 2018

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 1992    | Paul E. and K. Cosette Russell, owners<br>Employed by the State Comptroller's Office  |
| 1985-86 | Paul E. and K. Cosette Russell, owners<br>Employed by the State Comptroller's Office  |
| 1981    | Paul E. and K. Cosette Russell, owners<br>Programmer, Texas Air Control Board   |
| 1977    | Paul E. and K. Cosette Russell, owners<br>Programmer, State Department of Public Welfare  |
| 1973    | Paul E. and K. Cosette Russell, owners<br>Assistant professor, University of Texas  |
| 1968    | Paul E. Russell, renter<br>Assistant professor, University of Texas<br>NOTE: K. Cosette Russell is not listed in the directory. |

- 1965      Iola W. Smith, renter  
Widow, Aubrey B. Smith  
Claims rep, Social Security Administration  
NOTE: Paul E. Russell is not listed in the directory.
- 1962      Holton F. and Catherine B. Cook, owners  
Consulting engineer (at the house)
- 1957      Holton F. and Catherine B. Cook, owners  
Civil engineer
- 1954      Glen and Mary Ramsey, owners  
Psychologist  
NOTE: Holton F. and Catherine B. Cook are not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Kenneth C. Fink is not listed in the directory.
- 1953      Kenneth C. Fink, owner  
No occupation listed  
Also listed as an owner are Glenn and Mary Ramsey; neither had an occupation shown.
- 1952      Kenneth C. and Barbara Fink, owners  
Engineer, Climate, Inc., air conditioning, 910 Lamar Boulevard.
- 1949      Kenneth C. and Barbara Fink, owners  
Engineer, Climate, Inc., air conditioning, 910 Lamar Boulevard.
- 1947      The street is not listed in the directory.  
NOTE: Kenneth and Barbara Fink are listed at 1419 Preston Avenue; neither had an occupation shown.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:****Kenneth C. and Barbara Fink (ca. 1949 – ca. 1953)**

**Kenneth C. Fink** Kenneth C. Fink, age 84, went to be with his Lord on January 27, 2009. Kenneth was a member of Kinney Avenue Christian Fellowship. He served in the Army Air Corps during WWII. While stationed at Bergstrom AFB in Austin, he met the love of his life, Barbara Nell Swinebroad. They were married May 25, 1946. Survivors are his wife, Barbara Fink; sons, Brian and wife Sharon, Greg, and Doug and wife Carol; grandchildren, Chelsea Derickson, Lance Fink, Aaron Fink, Melody Mangham, Dane Derickson; sisters, Charlotte Romanak and Marge Smith; numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, January 30, 2009 at Kinney Avenue Christian Fellowship. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your choice. The family thanks Heart to Heart Hospice and Home Instead for the efficient and loving care shown Ken and his family.

**Paul E. and K. Cosette Russell (ca. 1966 - )**

**Paul Eugene Russell** Paul Eugene Russell passed away peacefully at home on December 29, 2011. He was born and raised in Orange, CA. Growing up in southern California, he enjoyed surfing, beach volleyball and sailing. He graduated from Stanford University with a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering. In the 1970s, Paul passed the examinations required to become a member of Mensa. He also was a member of Sigma Xi for many years. His love of learning was fueled by a voracious appetite for reading on a myriad of topics. He expressed his love for art through life drawing. His most noted influences included Picasso, Matisse and Henry Moore. For more than 30 years, Paul attended Saturday morning drawing sessions at Elizabeth Ney Art Museum and later at Hancock Recreation Center. He formed strong friendships with his fellow artists and leaves behind numerous charcoal and ink drawings that will be cherished for years to come. In 1961, he married Cosette Sargeant and they moved to Clear Lake City, TX, where he performed contract work for [NASA](#). Soon after, the hills of central Texas called him to Austin. Upon viewing the skyline, Cosette exclaimed that this was home. In 1967, Paul began his second career teaching engineering courses at the [University of Texas](#) at Austin where he received recognition for outstanding academic advising. He eventually transitioned to work for a number of state agencies as a computer programmer. These included the Texas Air Control Board, Texas Employment Commission, and State Comptroller's Office. Simultaneously, he continued to hone his craft as a teacher while working as an adjunct professor in the IT Department at Austin Community College. While at ACC, he was called upon to participate in several grant funded National Science Foundation studies. After retiring from the state in 1999, he became a full-time associate professor. He regularly received recognition as a distinguished faculty member while working at the Rio Grande, Riverside and Northridge campuses. In May 2011, Paul retired. His volunteer work included founding and organizing the Olympic Way League summer swimming program in the 1970s at Westfield Pool where all three of his children flourished and competed. Later, he was involved with the parent's association for Austin Aquatic Club and Longhorn Aquatics. Despite his many responsibilities, he always found time to pursue other interests including handball, karate, cycling, swimming, tai chi and qi gong. Many of his vacations were spent on Maui and Kauai. Brenneke's Beach was his favorite for body surfing. He would surf throughout the day and enjoy numerous sunsets with Cosette. Paul always had something nice to say about everyone he met and set a wonderful example for his children on how to view life and handle its challenges. He loved his family and will be dearly missed by those who knew him. His greatest gifts were modesty and selfless devotion to his family, students and co-workers. He is survived by Cosette, his wife of 50 years; brother Roger Russell of Orange, CA; daughter Laurie Painter and husband Theo Painter, III of Austin; daughter Aysha White and husband James White of Austin; son Bennett Grey of San Antonio; and grandchildren Katharine Painter, Theo Painter, Marissa Abrego, Tommy White, and Chloe White. Good night, Prince Valiant. We will see you again.

Obituary of Paul E. Russell  
Austin [American-Statesman](#), January 1, 2012

**RUSSELL (nee Sargeant), Katharine Cosette "Cosey"**

Katharine Cosette "Cosey" Russell (nee Sargeant) passed from this earth on July 29, 2017, at the age of 80. Cosette was born on July 7, 1937, in Philadelphia, PA to Emmet and Katharine Sargeant. Growing up in Southern Cal, she enjoyed a rural lifestyle riding horses, working at the general store in Yosemite National Park and becoming an accomplished snow skier and instructor at Mt. Shasta. After graduating from Verdugo High School, she then went on to work at Lockheed Martin where she met the love of her life, Paul Eugene Russell. Cosette began her professional artistic career creating abstract batiks. For many years she showed her work at Fiesta Art Festival at Laguna Gloria Art Museum, Pecan Street Festival and various other venues around Texas. She then transitioned to the medium of hand-marbling silk and cotton which she found both extremely rewarding. Cosey's



# WATER SERVICE PERMIT

Austin, Texas

C N° 3923

100d Po-k

Received of PLANCON INC. Date 7-22-49  
 Address 2502 INWOOD PLACE  
 Amount TWENTY & NO/100 \$ 20.00  
 Plumber PORTER Size of Tap 3/4"

Date of Connection 7-29-49  
 Size of Tap Made 3/4  
 Size Service Made 3/4  
 Size Main Tapped 4" CI.  
 From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 7.5'  
 From E Prop. Line to Curb Cock 36'  
 Location of Meter curb  
 Type of Box Lock  
 Depth of Main in St. 30"  
 Depth of Service Line 18"  
 From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 36"  
 Checked by Engr. Dept. 8-17-49 RWJ

No. Fittings	Size	Valves	Job No. (11) 225-502	Req. No.
1	Curb Cock 1/8"			
1	Elbow 3/4 copper			
1	St. Elbow 3/4 copper			
1	Brassing 3/4 copper			
	Reducer			
	Pipe			
	Lead Comp.			
	Nipples			
	Union			
	Plug			
	tee brass type			
	stop			
	Box			
	Lid			

INDEXED

Water service permit to Plancon, Inc. for this address (1949)

Receipt No. 12457 Application for Sewer Connection No. 41057  
 Austin, Texas, 7-22-49  
 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 Plancon Inc. at 2502 Inwood Place Street, further described as Lot 2 Block 2 Outlot 2 Division 2 subdivision Inwood Park Plat 152, which is to be used as a Res.  
 In this place there are to be installed 5 fixtures. Plumbing Permit No. 34383  
 I agree to pay the City of Austin, the regular ordinance charge.  
 Depth at Prop. Line 3' 4'-at main Respectfully,  
 Date 8-16-49 Porter Ed  
 By Leary  
 NOTE: Connection Instruction 6" sewer in St. 24' through 6'x6" 31150- (Rock)  
7-25-49  
OC  
Ed  
OWN  
1101

Sewer connection application for this address (1949)

Glen V. Ramsey

2502 Inwood Place

152

2

Inwood Park

Carport addition to residence.

55368 11-4-53

\$400.00

W. H. Griffin

*inch s.B.* O.K. by Zoning Board on 10-26-53 on condition that runoff fall on owners property.

Building permit to Glen Ramsey for a carport (1953)

OWNER	Paul Russell	ADDRESS	2502 Inwood Place
PLAT	152	LOT	2
		BLK.	
SUBDIVISION	Inwood Place		
OCCUPANCY	Remodel res.		
BLDG. PERMIT #	191315	DATE	2-12-80
		OWNERS ESTIMATE	6,355.00
CONTRACTOR	Robert Cunningham	NO. OF FIXTURES	
WATER TAP REC#		SEWER TAP REC#	
	Remodel & repair res.		

Building permit to Paul Russell to remodel the house (1980)