

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 19, 2018
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2018-0596
1902 W. 39TH STREET

PROPOSAL

Partial demolition of a ca. 1950 house to allow the construction of a two-story rear addition.

ARCHITECTURE

The existing house is a one-story, rectangular-plan, side-gabled frame cottage with a central, front-gabled independent entry porch on plain posts; single 1:1 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house was built in 1950 by Walter Hejl and his wife, Margaret “Peggy.” The Hejls lived in this house for the rest of their lives. Walter Hejl was a native of Bell County and worked as an analyst and accountant for the State Highway Department for the 37 years prior to his retirement in 1986.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house is beyond the bounds of 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 frame post-World War II cottage, which, while typical of the Oakmont neighborhood, has little architectural distinction.
- b. **Historical association.** The house was built by an accountant and analyst for the State Highway Department, who lived here until at least the late 1990s when his first wife passed away. 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.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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. While the proposed addition to the house is large and two-story, it is set at the back of the house, and complies with the general principles of design standards in historic districts. The house does not rise to the level of individual designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



- NOTIFICATIONS**
-  SUBJECT TRACT
 -  PENDING CASE
 -  ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2018-0596
LOCATION: 1902 W 39th Street



1" = 167'

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.

1902 W. 39th Street
ca. 1950



OCCUPANCY HISTORY 1902 W. 39th Street

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

1992	Walter and Margaret Hejl, owners Retired
1985-86	Walter and Peggy M. Hejl, owners Employed by the State Highway Department
1981	Walter and Peggy M. Hejl, owners Employed by the State Highway Department
1977	Walter and Peggy M. Hejl, owners Employed by the State Highway Department
1973	Walter and Peggy M. Hejl, owners Chief accountant, State Highway Department
1968	Walter and Peggy M. Hejl, owners Staff service assistant, State Highway Department
1965	Walter and Peggy Hejl, owners Administrative analyst, State Highway Department

- 1962 Walter and Peggy Hejl, owners
Administrative analyst, State Highway Department
- 1957 Walter and Peggy Hejl, owners
Analyst, State Highway Department
- 1953 Walter and Peggy Hejl, owners
Analyst, State Highway Department
- 1952 Walter J. and Peggy Hejl, owners
Analyst, State Highway Department
- 1949 The address is not listed in the directory.
NOTE: Walter and Peggy Hejl are listed at 401½ W. 39th Street; he was an
analyst for the State Highway Department.
NOTE: The 1947 city directory shows Walter and Margaret Hejl living at 1631
Palma Plaza; he was a claims examiner for the State Unemployment
Commission.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Walter J. and Peggy Hejl (ca. 1951 – ca. 1999)

Walter Hejl appears in the 1930 U.S. Census as the 6-year old son of Joe and Frances Hejl, who rented their home in rural Bell County, Texas. Walter was born in Texas, and was the 4th of Joe and Frances Hejl's 5 children. Joe Hejl was 34 and was born in Texas to Czech-born parents. He is listed as a farmer in the census report. Frances Hejl was also 34, had been born in Texas to Czech-born parents, and had no occupation listed. Walter's oldest brother, Johnnie, 15 is listed as a farm laborer.

Walter Hejl and Margaret Lee Rice were married in August, 1946. After Margaret's death in 1999, Walter married Evalea Thomason in 2001.



—Christianson-Leherman Photo.

MRS. WALTER WILLIAM NEJL . . . bride of Saturday . . .
was Miss Peggy Rice before her marriage.

Peggy Rice, Walter Hejl Marry Here

TUCC Employees Exchange Vows At St. David's

In the presence of their immediate families, Miss Peggy Rice became the bride of Walter William Hejl of Temple Saturday night at St. David's Episcopal Church here.

The church was decorated with white gladioli, astors, chrysanthemums and lighted by tapers in cathedral candelabra as Dr. Frank J. Ruetz performed the double-ring rites.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Devereaux Rice, 1721 Enfield Road, and a graduate of Austin High School. She is employed with the Texas Unemployment Compensation Commission.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe F. Hejl of Temple. He was recently discharged after service as a pharmacist mate second class with the Navy in both the Atlantic and Pacific, and is now employed by the Texas Unemployment Compensation Commission also.

Harlan Burns sang the wedding solos, "Ave Maria" and "The Lord's Prayer," accompanied by Mrs. Lois Oliver.

John D. Rice gave his daughter in marriage. She wore a suit of off-beige which she accented with brown accessories, and her corsage was of yellow sweetheart roses.

Best man to the groom was Ray Faltinson.

After the ceremony, the couple left for a wedding trip to Monterrey. They will make their home in Austin.

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Story on the marriage of Peggy Rice and Walter Hejl
Austin American-Statesman, September 1, 1946

Margaret L. (Peggy) Rice Hejl

Peggy was born February 8, 1926, and left this earth on January 21, 1999.

Her early childhood was spent in Dallas. Her family relocated to Austin where she attended and graduated from Austin High School in 1944. After graduation from high school she began employment with what was then the Texas Unemployment Commission. It's there that she met her husband of 53 years, Walter Hejl. Peggy then began her lifetime career of raising her three children, Sheri, Tricia and Paul. Her dedication to her family is reflected in the loving support, strength, and out-pouring of love that has endured for many years.

After raising her children, Peggy and Walter were able to travel extensively throughout the United States and Europe as well as enjoying cruises to many ports-of-call.

Walter would later say that Peggy's extreme generosity kept him constantly bankrupt. Her companionship will be missed by the Hejl's many friends and family members. Her extended family knew no bounds. She will be remembered for her kindness, understanding, extensive collection of Lladro statues and her Christmas snow village that eventually filled the entire living room. Peggy always completed her Christmas shopping in August and wrapping was finished by October. She was known for her sense of style and incredible taste.

Her parents, John D. and Darrell Mills Rice and her sister, Adelle Rice, predeceased Peggy. Along with her husband Walter, she is survived by three children, Sheri Levitsky of Dallas, Tricia Parker and her husband Buddy of Austin, and Paul Hejl and his wife Debbie of Austin. Peggy has eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Also surviving her is her four-legged child and love of her life, Ginseng. Additional survivors include Edmond and Jean Hejl, Lu and Tommy Turner, Francile Hejl, and Cathy Hejl.

An open Visitation will be held from 5:00-7:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 24, 1999, at Cook-Walden Funeral Home, Lamar location.

Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, January 25, 1999, in the Mausoleum Chapel of Cook-Walden/Capital Park Cemetery.

Honorary pallbearers are her grandsons, Mark Levitsky, Mathew Levitsky, Bryan Hejl, Jeff Parker and Todd Parker.

After a courageous struggle with her illness, her husband, her three children and their spouses surrounded Peggy when she died. The family wishes to extend their thanks to the doctors and nursing staff at the Seton Intensive Care Unit who treated Peggy with the utmost love and compassion during her illness. Their actions created an environment that allowed her death with dignity.

"I can't believe
I've lost the very best of me
You were the love
For certain of my life
For fifty years simply my beloved wife
With another love, I'll never lye again
It's you I can't deny
It's you I can't defy
A depth so deep
Into my grief
Without my beloved soul
I renounce my life
As my right
Now alone, without my beloved wife".

All My Love, Walter

Obituary of Margaret "Peggy" Hejl
Austin American-Statesman, January 24, 1999



Walter Hejl

Walter was born on April 4, 1924 in the Rosebud/Seton area of Texas to Joe and Francis Hejl. He was raised on a farm during the depression with his brothers Johnny, Andrew, Edmond, and his sister Lu.

Walter enlisted in the Navy in 1942 to join the war effort. He was a pharmacist mate, spending most of the war in the South Pacific on a submarine tender. He also served 5 years in the Naval Reserve after the war.

He married Margaret (Peggy) Rice in 1946. They were married 53 years until Peggy's death in 1999. Their marriage produced three children, eight grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren. He enjoyed a life full of friends, family, and above all humor. Walter and Peggy were known to their grandchildren and great grandchildren as 'Wally Honey' and 'Gammie'.

Walter spent 37 years working for TxDOT in the Transportation Planning Division where he formed many lifelong friendships. Additionally, he worked more than 27 years part-time for Sears in the Credit Department at Hancock Center. He retired in 1986.

Walter and Peggy enjoyed his retirement by traveling extensively throughout the United States and Europe as well as enjoying cruises to many ports.

After Peggy's death, he married Eva Leach and found comfort in her companionship until her death in 2010. Walter's life was further enriched by Eva's four children.

Walter is survived by his siblings, Edmond and Lu; his children, Sharon Levitsky of Garland, Patricia Parker (husband Buddy) of Marble Falls, Paul Hejl (wife Debbie Estes) of Round Rock, grandchildren Leslie Mirsky, Mark Levitsky, Mathew Levitsky, Cori Kamego, Jeff Parker, Todd Parker, Bryan Hejl, Lindsay Wood and seven great-grandchildren.

A visitation will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday January 5th at Cook-Walden/Capital Parks Funeral Home in Pflugerville. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on January 6th in the Mausoleum Chapel, which is located on the grounds of Cook-Walden/Capital Parks Cemetery.

To share memories with the family, please visit www.cookwaldencapitalparks.com.

Obituary of Walter Hejl
Austin American-Statesman, January 5, 2012

Walter Hejl

1902 West 39th St.

178

2

13

- -

Oakmont Heights #2

Frame residence and garage.

46035 8-23-50

\$6500.00

R. G. Mueller, Jr.

5

7-26-77 #166167 prvt swim pool & required enclosure device
\$6,729.00 Gary Pools

Building permit to Walter Hejl for the construction of this house (1950)

2-13-50

WATER SERVICE PERMIT

Austin, Texas

INDEXED
 C No. 7180

Received of E. J. KING Date 8-31-50

Address 1902 W 39

Amount TWENTY + 10/100 \$ 20.00

Plumber E. J. KING Size of Tap 3/4"

Date of Connection	<u>8-9-50</u>
Size of Tap Made	<u>3/4"</u>
Size Service Made	<u>3/4"</u>
Size Main Tapped	<u>12"</u>
From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock	<u>2.5'</u>
From <u>W</u> Prop. Line to Curb Cock	<u>30'</u>
Location of Meter	<u>CURB</u>
Type of Box	<u>LOC</u>
Depth of Main in St.	<u>3'</u>
Depth of Service Line	<u>2'</u>
From Curb Cock to Tap on Main	<u>7'</u>

Checked by Engr. Dept. 9CT-1-2-1256

No.	Fittings	Size
1	Curb Cock	5/8"
1	Elbow	3/4" Cop.
1	St. Elbow	3/4" Cop.
1	Boasting	3/4" Cop.
9	Reducer	3/4" Cop.
	Pipe	3/4" Cop.
	Lead Comp.	
	Nipples	
	Union	
	Plug	
1	Tap	3/4"
1	Stop	4" Loc
1	Box	4" Loc
1	Lid	"
	Valves	
	Job No.	10323-502
	P. No.	W. H. K.

INDEXED

Water service permit for this address (1950)

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE PERMIT

No. 27292 *A*

Austin, Texas

Received of King Date 11/14/1950
 Address 1902 W. 39th.
 Amount \$ _____
 Builder or Owner R. G. Mueller Plumber _____
 Lot 2 Block 13 Subdivision Oakmont Plat No. 178

Date of Connection	<u>11/22/1950</u>	No. Fittings 39" Pipe 6" con 7.41 3" Pipe 4" con .39 Wyes Bends 6" .95 Reducers Plugs Sand Gravel Remix Stoppers Castings Other RT2 6" tap .95 RT2 6" 6.00 truck 40 Labor: forming 1:00 42 hrs. 29.40
By City	<u>1' W/ELT</u>	
By Plumber		
Checked By	<u>Arama</u>	
Size Main	<u>6"</u> Depth <u>6'</u>	
Main Assign.	<u>in St. 20' N/S. P1</u>	
Stub Depth	<u>Prop. Line 11 1/2'</u>	
Stub Location		
Book No.	<u>B-1045</u>	
Paving Cut	<u>No.</u>	

Sewer service permit for this address (1950)

Walter Hejl **1902 W. 39th St.**
178 **2** **13**
Oakmont Hts
frm add to res
59008 4-7-55 1550/
Ben Goldstein

Building permit to Walter Hejl for a frame addition (1955)

OWNER Walter Hejl ADDRESS 1902 West 39th
PLAT 178 LOT 2 BLK 13
SUBDIVISION Oakmont Hts.
OCCUPANCY Patio
BLD PERMIT # 104212 DATE 7-10-67 OWNERS ESTIMATE 1,500.
CONTRACTOR Ben Goldstein NO. OF FIXTURES
WATER TAP REC # SEWER TAP REC #
remodel fr. res and addn to acc bldg
200 Sq. Ft.
Building permit to Walter Hejl to remodel the house and add a patio (1967)