

ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEETCASE NUMBER: PR-2021-061096; GF-2021-066980HLC DATE: June 28, 2021PC DATE: N/AAPPLICANT: Historic Landmark Commission (owner-opposed initiation)HISTORIC NAME: N/AWATERSHED: Lake AustinADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 2708 Scenic DriveZONING CHANGE: LA, SF-3-NP to LA, SF-3-NP-HCOUNCIL DISTRICT: 10

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Since the house appears to have lost significant character-defining features over the years, staff cannot recommend historic zoning. While the overall form of the original building is consistent with Roessner's design ethos, this particular example does not appear to display the level of detail that defines his other residential work. The roof and some windows have been replaced and the roof pitch potentially altered; the existing standing-seam metal roof was installed after the period of significance. A ca. 1967 secondary unit is immediately adjacent the original and connected by a walkway; this site change may have altered the original building's relationship to the topography as designed by Roessner. Both appear to be missing materials present in Roessner's extant midcentury residential work elsewhere in Austin (e.g., specialty glass, exposed rafters, handmade metalwork and brick, natural limestone, indoor-outdoor Saltillo tile, and other textural accent materials).

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION: N/APLANNING COMMISSION ACTION: N/ADEPARTMENT COMMENTS: N/ACITY COUNCIL DATE: N/AACTION: N/AORDINANCE READINGS: N/AORDINANCE NUMBER: N/ACASE MANAGER: Kalan ContrerasPHONE: 512-974-2727

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS: Austin Lost and Found Pets, Austin Neighborhoods Council, Central West Austin Neighborhood Plan Contact Team, Friends of Austin Neighborhoods, Neighborhood Empowerment Foundation, Preservation Austin, SELTexas, Save Barton Creek Assn., Save Historic Muncy District, Sierra Club, Austin Regional Group, TNR BCP - Travis County Natural Resources, Tarrytown Alliance, Tarrytown Neighborhood Association, West Austin Neighborhood Group

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION: N/ABASIS FOR INITIATION:

See attached staff report for further research.

Architecture. The building is an example of Mid-century Modern/Contemporary architecture. It was designed by midcentury Austin architect Roland Gommel Roessner; however, the building does not appear to retain character-defining features of Roessner's work and appears to have been modified. There is no evidence that Roessner designed the 1967 secondary unit.

Historical association. The property is associated with Ethel and Robert McGinnis.

PARCEL NO.: 0121060525

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOT A MCGINNIS SUBD & ABS 313 SUR 8 GILBERT D J ACR 1.020

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: \$2,462,789

PRESENT USE: Single family residence

CONDITION: Fair

PRESENT OWNERS: ORSINI LLC

DATE BUILT: ca. 1955, 1967

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: The secondary building was added in 1967, according to aerial images and TCAD. There are no associated City permits. A 1986 roof remodel appears to have altered the slope and material of the roof, and several windows have been replaced. Other modifications as noted by applicant include: "Annex, skybridge, chimney, basement addition, aluminum retrofit windows, attempted waterproofing and drainage system, stone veneer on basement north wall" (See backup item A.1.2).

ORIGINAL OWNER(S): Robert C. and Ethel McGinnis

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: None

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
JUNE 28, 2021
PR-2021-061096; GF-2021-066980
2708 SCENIC DRIVE

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1952 house and ca. 1967 secondary unit.

ARCHITECTURE

The primary building is a two-story mid-century Modern house clad in vertical wood siding and stone veneer, with fixed and sliding aluminum full-height and clerestory windows, flat-roofed breezeways, a low-pitched side-gabled roofline, double-width stone chimneys, and balconies and skybridge with metal handrails. The secondary building features vertical wood siding and clerestory windows with a covered porch. Both buildings' multi-level designs responds to the hillside topography of the site.

RESEARCH

The house at 2708 Scenic Drive was built for attorney Robert C. McGinnis, Sr. and his wife, philanthropist Ethel Clift McGinnis, in 1952 by noted Austin architect and University of Texas luminary Roland G. Roessner. During his time in the house, Robert McGinnis was president of the Bar Association, a member of the State Judicial Qualifications Commission, and an instructor at the University of Texas, where his father had previously served as dean of the School of Business Administration.

Ethel Clift McGinnis devoted her life to promoting charitable causes. During her tenure at 2708 Scenic Drive, McGinnis directed the Pan-American Roundtable, the Volunteer Bureau of Austin, and the Austin International Hospitality Commission. As part of her work, McGinnis hosted dozens of events at her riverside homes, opening its doors to community members and visitors for regular galas, luncheons, and ceremonies.

The primary ca. 1955 building was constructed by Austin architect R. Gommel Roessner. According to a 2015 Historic Preservation Office report, Roessner's residential designs reflect their landscape, a common mid-century goal:

Roessner was a native of Indiana, educated in Ohio, and worked briefly in Florida before joining the faculty of the University of Texas School of Architecture in 1948. Roessner continued his architectural practice while teaching classes at UT, and began the school's Architectural Residency program, where students worked in the field to gain the knowledge beyond the classroom walls of how to address problems in architecture, meet with clients, and work out practical designs. Roessner applied his philosophy of practicality in architecture to his residential designs in Austin, all of which reflect mid-century Modern goals in integrating a house into its natural landscape, and blurring the division between the outdoor and indoor spaces. Mid-century Modern houses in Austin have been built on hilly lots, with the houses perched on ledges or other topographical feature to allow this integration with the natural environment. Midcentury Modern architects used large expanses of glass so that the outdoor environment became part of the indoor environment – and the outdoors was always a part of the experience inside a mid-century Modern house. However, Roessner also prized his clients' privacy, so while he used large sections of glass on a house, the glass was positioned so that the privacy of the inhabitants was maintained, while still achieving the goal of blending the outside and inside environments.

Source: <http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=239632>

STAFF COMMENTS

The McGinnis family has reached out to the Historic Landmark Commission in opposition to historic zoning. Petitions against landmark designation have been initiated by the property owner and the neighborhood.

Designation Criteria—Historic Landmark

- 1) The building is more than 50 years old.
- 2) The building appears to retain moderate to low integrity. The roof was altered in 1986; other modifications such as window replacement appear to have taken place without permits. There are no permit records for the 1967 secondary building.
- 3) Properties must meet two criteria for landmark designation (LDC §25-2-352):
 - a. *Architecture*. The primary building is an example of Mid-century Modern/Contemporary design by Austin

architect Roland Gommel Roessner. The secondary building is designed in a complementary style, but does not appear to have been designed by Roessner.





- b. *Historical association.* The property is associated with Ethel and Robert McGinnis.
- c. *Archaeology.* The property was not evaluated for its potential to yield significant data concerning the human history or prehistory of the region.
- d. *Community value.* The property 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

Recommend rehabilitation and adaptive reuse over demolition, but release the demolition permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package. Since the house appears to have lost significant character-defining features over the years, staff cannot recommend historic zoning. While the overall form of the original building is consistent with Roessner's design ethos, this particular example does not appear to display the level of detail that defines his other residential work.

LOCATION MAP



-  N
-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS
CASE#: PR-2021-061096
LOCATION: 2708 SCENIC DR



1" = 206'

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







Applicant, 2021



Street view, 2019

Occupancy History

City Directory Research, May 2021

- 1959 Robert C. and Ethel McGinnis, owners
Powell, Rauhut, McGinnis & Reavley, 702 Brown Building
Secretary-treasurer K&M Supply Co.
- 1957 Robert C. and Ethel McGinnis, owners
Powell, Wirtz, Rauhut & McGinnis Attorneys-at-law, 702 Brown Building
- 1955 Robert C. and Ethel C. McGinnis
Powell, Wirtz, Rauhut & McGinnis Attorneys-at-law, 702 Brown Building
- 1952 Address not listed

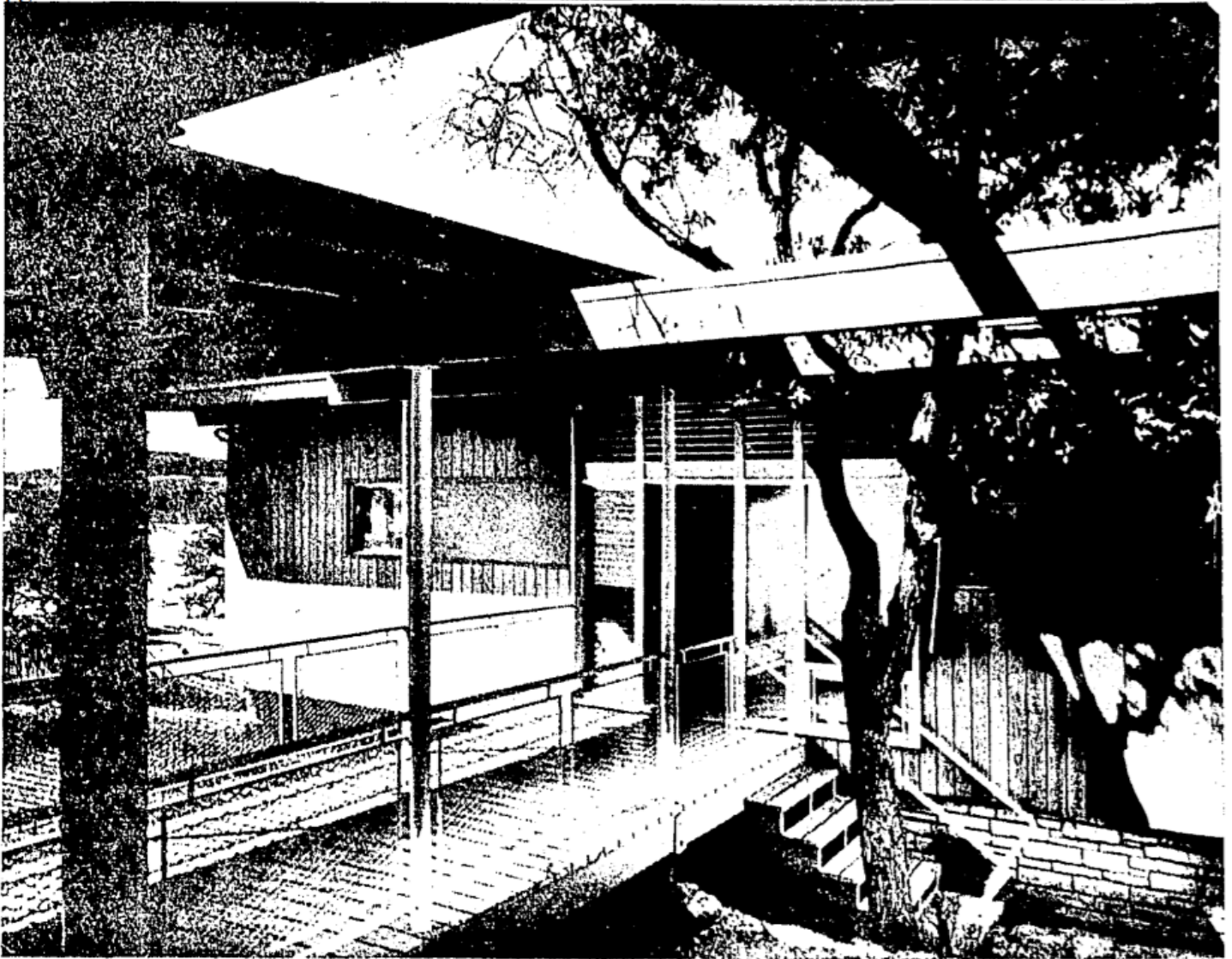
Maps

1965 aerial image, taken prior to construction of secondary unit



1977 aerial image showing relationship of secondary unit to main house.

Biographical Information



CONTEMPORARY STYLE—This view of the main entrance of the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Robert McGinnis, 2708 Scenic Drive, illustrates the contemporary style of R. Gommel Roessner, Austin architect whose work is included in a new national architectural exhibition opening Tuesday evening at Laguna Gloria Art Gallery. Roessner, an architecture professor at the University of

Dewey Mears

Texas, is represented in the show by a series of enlarged photographs of his recent work, such as the McGinnis home and others in Austin. This view of the house shows the main entrance, approached from the street by the steps near the tree and from the carport (to the left of the picture) by the covered deck-type bridge.

The Austin American (1914-1973); Aug 5, 1956

Who's Who in Austin: Robert C. McGinnis, Attorney at law, s. Mr. and Mrs. E. Karl McGinnis, b. Dallas, Texas, 1918. Grad. Austin High School. AB degree at U. of T. in 1938; LLB at Yale U. in 1941. Started practicing law in Cleveland, O. 1941. Joined U. S. Navy and served from 1942-46, m. Ethel Clift in 1945. Five children. Taught in So. Meth. U. one year. Practiced in Dallas from 1946-49. Came back to Austin in 1949 and is now member of law firm of Powell, Rauhut, McGinnis and Reavly, mem. Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Delta Theta, Westwood Country Club, Y.M.-C.A. and Headliners Club. Hobby: Tennis. Church: Presbyterian. Res. 2708 Scenic Drive.

- Fred C. Morse.

The Austin American (1914-1973); Nov 9, 1958

Austin Family Floated Down the Colorado to Matagorda

Trip Couldn't Be Made, River Wasn't Navigable, Said All the Experts

By MARYHICK BRIDGEMAN
The telephone ring just once again for attorney Robert McGinnis one busy day.

And so a dream—a temporary escape from civilization in a "Mark Twain" type trip down the Colorado to the Gulf—was born.

Everyone discouraged them. They said it couldn't be done, that the Colorado wasn't navigable.

But the venturesome McGinnis family, 2808 Sevier Drive, decided to prove that it is possible to float down the Colorado from Austin to Matagorda. And they saw some scenery too people have seen while they were in it.

Bob and Ethel McGinnis and three of their five children—Mary, 12; Campbell, 11, and John, 9, set out on the trip which took them nine days and over 200 water miles down the winding Colorado.

"I remembered that the old Austin folks used to come up the Colorado to Austin," said Bob. "And I decided that the river couldn't possibly have changed that much."

So they started making their plans, bought a boat and a few horsepower motor and made for Longmire river mouth from the U. S. Geological Survey in Denver.

But trouble stalled the venture.

First, their boat was stolen just as they were ready to leave, and they had to postpone the trip until they could locate another boat and motor.

John pulled them as they tied on life preservers and loaded their 32-foot aluminum fishing boat with canned goods and provisions, oars, sealed beam flashlight, a change of clothing and a live gibbon can of gasoline.

It was chilly, despite raincoats over their bathing suits as they started in the early morning just before the Congress Avenue bridge. They were all

a bit breathless, having almost tumbled the motor getting it down the steep bank.

Heavy rain made watching the water difficult, and once they had to take shelter from lightning.

Fast, highwater scoured them along the way, but the rain cleared in the afternoon, and they resumed floating easily at 4 p.m.

The first few days required careful navigation. They soon learned the danger signs—little eddies meaning a submerged rock or log, changes in color of water indicating changes in depth.

Just as they reached Bastrop their first accident occurred. A storm was coming up, and they were watching some water skiers when their boat hit a submerged rock, flipping the motor up in the air and breaking a shear pin.

"I got to be pretty good at changing shear pins," recalled Bob. "The first one took me 45 minutes. Later I changed them in three minutes flat."

They tied up under the Bastrop bridge, spent the night in the state park.

Night and early the next morning the group set off. Navigation required river intuition. They were constantly juggling around rocks and over rapids through fast water.

Then Mary, who was poling, got through from the boat when it lodged a rock.

The jar knocked a hole in the boat, which sprung a fast leak. They floated Mary out of the river, and started bailing. The boat was leaking water as fast as they could bail.

It was with relief that they reached Smithville, loaded the boat, and spread their towels out to dry. They kept a search for a hardware store that carried plastic aluminum.

Aluminum notwithstanding, the hole in the bottom of the boat was filled with the plastic aluminum.



POLING ALONG THE COLORADO ARE THE ROBERT C. MCGINNIS FAMILY
... Lawyer and family sailed from Austin to Gulf in small fishing boat

and there it was—good as new.

It was a late start the next morning as they headed for La Grange through shallow water. Several times they had to get out and push the boat over rocks. Many shear pins were broken.

The only people they saw that day were fishermen in beam-boat boats sitting out fish lines. These solitary river folk were sparse first, often hid when they saw strangers approaching. All told them the Colorado was not navigable, and that they could not go much farther.

The party hurried along, hoping to reach their destination by dark. At LaGrange they tied up under a bridge, climbed the bank in fast falling darkness, and found their way blasted by an electrically wired ferry.

Warning the children to keep quiet, Bob took a slick, disconnected wire, and opened the gate. The next morning the motor had started it up again, so again they had to disconnect the wire. John, the youngest, was shocked before they realized it had been repaired.

The water had not been completely.

It is the opinion of attorney McGinnis that this is interfering with river navigation as well as illegally forcing state land.

The fourth day from LaGrange

to Columbus they broke only one shear pin, but ran into a storm and were forced to take shelter.

"The only thing that worried us on the trip," said Bob, "was being on the water when an electrical storm blew up. We could look around and see the number of charged clouds from which had been hit by lightning."

"We got up on shore and bailed in a clearing for 20 minutes. Heavy rain didn't bother us, but lightning did."

"I was surprised at the tremendous turtle population that exists on the river. There are more turtles than people along the river bank. We didn't see a single snake, but we must have spotted 20 turtles an hour—all sizes. It is not unusual to find a school of six or eight turtles swimming across the river."

"We spotted them on limbs of trees and along the banks all the way to the Gulf. Some were over a foot in diameter."

We never saw the legendary "white trip," commented Ethel. "And there are only a few bridges, all at times, across the Colorado."

The trip from LaGrange to Columbus took eight hours. They tied up at the Northwest bridge and went into town. The next morning, bright and early, they set out for the southern bridge at Columbus. While only 10 blocks away from the first bridge, it took over three hours

to complete the loop in the river.

Along the 15 water miles to the second bridge at Columbus they passed many oil wells. Tall wooden derricks of heavy lumber lined the river bank, erected by landowners to prevent flood damage and keep their land from washing away. Acres and acres of rich farmland have been licked up by the greedy Colombians.

Flanking down the river, it became apparent that ranching is the principal source of income for river bottom farmers, rather than agriculture.

Beautiful beaches of white sand half a mile wide were located at turns in the river offering an invitation to stop and swim and hunt for shells.

Docking at the Southeast bridge, they braved back to Columbus and spent the night.

Agua, the McGinnis family was told that they could go as far as the Colorado and that it was a surprise that they had gotten this far.

"Navigating the Colorado is much like driving an automobile," said Bob. "If you take safety precautions, and watch what you are doing, you are all right. But you can run into trouble if you get to daydreaming."

It is well to have at least three

people along on such a trip," he said. One to pole constantly for depth, one to drive the boat, and a third to raise up the motor when the water gets shallow, and to spell the others.

Columbus to Garwood was the destination of the riverrunners the sixth day. Good, deep water facilitated travel and they arrived five hours later.

Blue heavens, cranes, and pipes and various types of long killed birds were noted along the sandy river benches as their boat drifted by.

Tying up under the Garwood

bridge, they spent the night at the old Chapman Hotel, which features good family style meals, iron beds, and one bathroom at the end of the hall.

Enthusiastic about river travel, they are now talking about floating down the Trinity to explore the Big Thicket Country next year.

and went through a little pass into Palacios Bay to fish. Returning, they caught a bass and headed for Austin.

"It's the best vacation we ever had," agreed all of the McGinnis clan.

Bob and Ethel McGinnis, Three Kids Sail to Gulf

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The Austin American (1914-1973); Sep 13, 1959



Prof. McGinnis Dies; Funeral Rites Tuesday

Dr. E. Karl McGinnis, 72, 3206 Kerbey Lane, died Monday morning in a local hospital.

He was a member of the University Presbyterian Church and a director of the First Federal Savings & Loan Association. Dr. McGinnis was a professor in the College of Business Administration at the University of Texas; having served from 1918 until his retirement in 1958.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs.

Helen Campbell McGinnis; and one son, Robert C. McGinnis, both of Austin; two brothers, Arthur W. McGinnis, Westbury, N. Y.; and John H. McGinnis, Dallas; one sister, Mrs. Alberta Price, Yates Center, Kan.

Funeral services will be held at Weed-Corley Funeral Home Tuesday at 4 p. m. Dr. William Logan will officiate and burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

Friends who desire to do so may make memorial contributions to the American Cancer Society.

Dr. McGinnis was professor of business law and real estate in the school of business administration at the University of Texas for 40 years before his retirement in February 1958.

He joined the UT faculty in 1918 and during his first year taught shorthand. He taught business law and real estate after that first year.

He served as acting dean of the School of Business Administration in 1926-1927, and at the same time was secretary of the University faculty.

He served at one time as a visiting professor at the University of Pittsburgh and at the University of North Carolina Law School.

Dr. McGinnis was the holder of a Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Texas. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Missouri Valley College.

He resided at 3206 Kerbey Lane in Austin. His son, Robert McGinnis, is an attorney in practice here.

A. B. Shierlow, president of First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Austin, praised Dr. McGinnis' service with First Federal, including 22 years as vice president. "He'll be surely missed," said Shierlow.

Dr. McGinnis was one of the organizers of First Federal and had been actively working in the organization since its founding.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Jan 18, 1960

International Hospitality Planned for UT Students

Plans for the coming year were discussed when unit chairmen of the International Hospitality Committee of Austin held a luncheon meeting at the home of Mrs. Robert C. McGinnis, 2708 Scenic Drive, Thursday.

Each unit chairman is responsible for working with 10 host families who will help orient foreign students to life in this country and assist in their entertainment. Host families and their "adopted" students will meet in October after assignments are made by the Hospitality Committee.

Mrs. McGinnis, co-chairman of

the group, spoke to members on the committee's expansion, and Mrs. John C. Phillips outlined plans for a Family Aid Program, which will offer special help to foreign students and their families.

Mrs. Wayne H. Holtzman, chairman, led the discussion of the Host Family Program and gave members copies of "Hospitality Hints" which was written by the Austin group especially for host families.

Unit chairmen are Mrs. Mike Butler, Mrs. H. M. Caskey, Mrs. Hume Cofer, Mrs. Miles DeLaney, Mrs. A. L. Exline, Mrs. Everett Holstrom, Mrs. Frances Horton, Mrs. Lee Jennings, Mrs. Corwin

Johnson, Mrs. Tom McKern, Mrs. William J. Millard, Mrs. Arno Nowotny, Mrs. W. B. Pratt, Mrs. Malcolm Quick, Mrs. Gibson Randle, Mrs. R. F. Schenkkan, Mrs. David Stitt, Mrs. John Sutton, Mrs. W. S. Warren, Mrs. Carl Wilson and Mrs. Melvin Zuck.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Sep 14, 1960

City Volunteer Bureau Proudly Aware of Record

By LOIS HALE GALVIN

"Only in its fourth year, the Volunteer Bureau of Austin is about 10 years old in its achievement and outlook."

Mrs. Robert C. McGinnis, first chairman of the board of directors when the bureau was organized in August of 1957, summed up the bureau's rapid progress in the above statement.

Recently returned from New York City, where she was the Southwest regional representative to the national convention of Volunteer Bureaus in Canada and the United States, Mrs. McGinnis was enthusiastic in her praise of the local bureau.

As one of the initial organizers and steering committee members of the bureau, much needed to recruit and coordinate growing Austin's volunteer potential, Ethel McGinnis has taken an active interest and personal pride in its every achievement.

"We have a board of directors and a bureau director to be particularly proud of," said Mr. McGinnis pointing out that the rapid growth of the bureau, a member of the United Fund of Austin and Travis County, was due to the personal and active interest of members of the board.

Dan Moody Jr. is now chairman, and Mrs. T. N. (Edythe) Porter, executive director of the board.

In turn, the board and director feel it is a great honor for the bureau to have an Austinite as representative for the entire Southwest region, including Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas and Louisiana.

The executive committee of the National Association of Volunteer Bureaus is comprised of two representatives from each of the seven regions in the national organization.

The main purpose of this group's annual meeting is to plan a spring workshop, which is attended by all bureau directors and lay regional directors. At the recent meeting, held just before Christmas in New York City, the national group chose Minneapolis as the site of the 1961 workshop planned for the middle of May.

Mrs. McGinnis believes that the

workshop will prove informative and stimulating. Its main theme is to be "Leadership of Volunteer Bureaus," and if plans materialize, George Romney will be the principal speaker.

The workshops will take up the volunteer bureaus' role in regard to senior citizens, friendly visitors, public agencies and case work, and also the preparation of professional people for the supervision of volunteers.

"Although we have already moved into the leadership phase here," Mrs. McGinnis explained, "it is still the topic we are most concerned about. We hope to have this vital phase of volunteer bureau work discussed by Dr. Charles Brink at the May workshop."

"Here in Austin we have a teenage program which is coordinated and directed by Mrs. T. Hardie Bowman.

"We are hoping to have volunteers who will serve as friendly visitors for Austin's senior citizenry, and also to provide more transportation for them.

"Many of these elderly people are completely dependent on volunteer transportation to enable them to attend church or the Senior Citizen Center activities, or even to keep their medical and dental appointments.

"I learned much from the national executive committee meeting. Although our problems are vastly different from those in Minneapolis, California and Canada, they are familiar. A few we have already hurdled. Many now challenge us, or soon will."



Mrs. Robert C. McGinnis gives an enthusiastic report to Dan Moody Jr., chairman of the Volunteer Bureau of Austin, on her recent attendance of the National Association of Volunteer

Bureaus annual meeting in New York City, at which she was representative for the Southwest region. She was first board of director chairman of the local bureau, organized in August, 1957.

Hospitality for Tots

By ERNESTINE WHEELOCK

A smile and an extended hand. That's all it takes to make friends with a child.

Little Egyptians, little Indians and little Americans respond to love with love, find joy wherever they are, and adapt easily to their surroundings — conversing with smiles or frowns, twinkling or tearful eyes, mobile hands and pointing fingers.

Children from many countries of the world, transplanted to Austin by parents who attend The University of Texas, arrived here to discover friends who they had no idea existed.

These friends, Austin's International Hospitality Committee, "adopted" the children and their parents and unmarried foreign students—if they wanted to be adopted. Then they gave a party for mothers and children to introduce Venezuelan to Frenchman, Arab to Canadian and everybody to the Austinites. The party, the first of a monthly series, was held at the lake-front home of Mrs. Robert McGinnis, 2708 Scenic Drive, where today's cover page pictures were taken.

The 300 host families of the International Hospitality Committee get together with their student or students (the Larry Joneses claim four) at least once a month for supper, an excursion or just a night at home, where a game of chess or an eve-

ning of music can overcome the most difficult language barriers.

Quite often the "adopted" foreign student reciprocates by cooking favorite native dishes for his host family or inviting them to an international student event at the University.

The James Lindemans, host family to Omar Khalifati, laughingly tell that they became "host in-laws" this summer when Omar went home to Saudi Arabia and brought a bride (Waila) back to Texas. To help Waila learn English, Mrs. Lindeman, substitute teacher at the United Fund's Austin Community Nursery School, has taken her along to the school to listen to the pupils.

The first day, Mrs. Lindeman taught Waila to say "I love you" to the children, and everyone of them gave her a hug.

Mrs. Lindeman is also official entertainer for the international children who accompany their mothers to the monthly coffees given by the Hospitality Committee.

Two years ago, the Wayne Holtzmans were host family to Yogi Vohra from India. Yogi still comes to visit and usually brings friends for a Sunday afternoon jam session with two guitars, bongo drums, a (See HOSPITALITY, Page E-2)



D ENAS MATAR, EGYPT, TO COMPLETE RING-AROUND ROSES CIRCLE AT THE ROBERT MCGINNIS HOME
ers, Omar Abib Jr., Brazil; Francois Melancon, Canada; Yvette Salas, Austin; Hasam Khalaf, Egypt.

HOSPITALITY

(Continued from Page E-1)

banjo and Mrs. Holtzman at the piano — sometimes playing her original compositions. One Holtzman son plays a guitar, and the other three get in the act one way or another.

The E. L. Reinhardts who are hosts to Eberhard von Freyman of Germany gave a birthday party for him the first week he was in Austin. He and his roommate, Helmut Biefield, needed dishes, pots and pans, linens and groceries for their new apartment. Just an hour before the celebration, the Reinhardts' neighbors heard about the party and began contributing things. The two boys got all their kitchen needs, plus a birthday cake.

International Hospitality Committee got its start two years ago from an idea borne by Mrs. McGinnis, who is co-chairman with Judge Ruel Walker, of the committee's board of directors.

The committee, working from the International Student Office at the University, provides a household loan closet for foreign students, maintains a foreign student speakers' bureau, sponsors English conversation classes taught by Delta Kappa Gamma, and helps entertain visiting foreign dignitaries, in addition to looking after their "adopted" sons and daughters. Its support comes from voluntary contributions.

Here's a story of its success. One Friday, a young Saudi Arabian was told who his host family was to be and that he was to meet them Sunday. He just couldn't wait until Sunday—he bicycled out to Tarrytown to meet his "new mother" right then.



SARI COLOR AT PARTY—When Austin's International Hospitality Committee gave a coffee at the home of Mrs. Robert McGinnis, 2708 Scenic Drive, recently for foreign women students and wives of foreign students at The University of Texas, guests from India came dressed in their colorful native saris. They are, from left, Mrs. Jaspal Mayell and Vinu of

American-Statesman/UPI

New Delhi; Mrs. Jyotsma Amin and Sushama of Bombay; Mrs. N. C. Sinha, Calcutta; Mrs. Munisamappa Narayanna and Vaidehi of Bangalore; Mrs. Shankara Prabhu, Mangalore; and Mrs. Alexander John and Renuka of Madras. (See related pictures and story on cover page of Mainly About Women.)

The Austin American (1914-1973); Nov 5, 1961

State Bar's Governors To Gather

Fall sessions of the Texas State Bar's governing board of directors open here Friday at 9 a.m. at Bar headquarters.

The officials, representing each congressional district, face a 75-item agenda. This includes committee and section reports from the board advisors, proposed legislation for 1963, and budget and other administrative matters.

Board chairman W. O. Shafer of Odessa will preside, and Bar president Leon Jaworski of Houston will lead budget discussions.

The Texas Bar, second largest state legal organizations in the nation, has 14,672 members. The largest bar, California, has more than 20,000 members.

A series of entertainment functions have been planned for the visiting officials and their wives. Bar director and Mrs. C. C. Small Jr. of Austin will be buffet supper hosts Thursday night at the Forty Acres Club, and the Austin Lawyers Wives Club will honor the wives with a luncheon Friday at the new Gondoller Hotel. Local bar president and Mrs. Robert C. McGinnis will give a buffet supper at their home, 2708 Scenic Drive, Saturday evening before the Texas-Arkansas football game.

City Lawyer Will Teach At University

Austin attorney Robert C. McGinnis will be a visiting law professor at The University of Texas during the spring semester, teaching a course on "Remedies."

McGinnis is senior member of the firm of Powell, Rauhut, McGinnis, Reavley and Lochridge. He joined the firm in 1949, after practicing law in Dallas and Cleveland, Ohio.

His father, the late E. Karl McGinnis, was a University business administration faculty member for 42 years. At the time of his death in 1960 he was professor of business law and real estate.

Robert McGinnis, born in Dallas, was graduated from Stephen F. Austin High School. He received a bachelor of arts degree from the University in 1938 and a bachelor of laws degree from Yale University in 1941.

He is a member of the American and Travis County Bar Associations, State Bar of Texas, American Judicature Society and Phi Beta Kappa, top-ranking honor society in arts and sciences. His civic work has been with the American Cancer Society, Boy Scouts of America and other groups.

McGinnis is married to the former Ethel Clift. They have a daughter and four sons.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Oct 18, 1962 and Jan 25, 1963

Pan American Round Table Looks Forward to Meeting

Mrs. James C. Nelson and Mrs. B. W. Armstrong of the San Antonio Pan American Round Table were in Austin Monday to attend a luncheon of the Austin Table and to coordinate plans for the 50th anniversary Hemispheric Alliance Convention to be held March 6-12 in San Antonio.

Mrs. Nelson, assistant director General of the Alliance of Pan American Round Tables, outlined plans already made in San Antonio.

Austin's part in the convention will be a tea to be given in honor of delegates March 9 at the Governor's Mansion. Buses will bring the guests to Austin for the party hosted by Mrs. John Connally. Mrs. McVinn Hall is in charge of plans.

The organization includes 88 Tables in 18 Latin American countries and throughout the United States. Its object is to promote friendship, knowledge and understanding among women of the Western Hemisphere.

Mrs. Henry Y. McCown, director of the Austin Table, presided and Mrs. Thomas F. McGinnis, associate director, introduced the guest speaker, Sra. Jose Honorio Rodrigues, who spoke on Brazil, her native country.

Sra. Rodrigues, in Austin with her husband, a distinguished archivist and historian from Brazil, has been a secretary to the Brazilian Supreme Court and has published a book of the US Supreme Court and the first volume of a series on the high court of Brazil.

tion and her own government for the work they have done in stamping out malaria in Brazil. Sra. Rodrigues concluded her talk with the hopeful side of the Brazilian picture, discussing advances in business, education and the arts. She told the women that 20 years ago in Brazil it was very unusual for a

work. Now it is common to see girls in colleges and in jobs. The government encourages their working by providing four-month maternity leaves at full pay.

During a business session preceding the meeting, the Table elected the following new officers:

Mrs. Robert McGinnis, director; Mrs. Cleo Seelinger, associate director; Mrs. Charles E. Lunkford, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Archibald Hill, recording secretary; Mrs. John H. Matthews, treasurer; Mrs. Malcolm McBurn, parliamentarian; and Mrs. Aaron Schaffter, historian.



PAN AM GROUP HEARS MRS. RODRIGUES, SECOND FROM RIGHT
Mrs. Hall, left, and Mrs. Nelson and Mrs. Armstrong of San Antonio

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Feb 9, 1966

Ladies of the Round Table

By ERNESTINE WHELOCK
Woman's Staff

Today is Pan American Day, celebrated to remind all the Americas of the creation of the Pan American Union on April 14, 1890.

The Pan American Round Table of Austin, a group of 100 women interested in promoting friendship and understanding between the United States and Latin America, will observe the 78th anniversary of the formation of the Union at a Tuesday luncheon at Austin Country Club.

The luncheon program, with an artistic theme, will be presented in an art studio setting where artists will be working at easels. Loren Mozley, professor of art at the University of Texas, will give a gallery talk on an exhibit of Latin American paintings, loaned by local collectors. Wayne Holtzman Jr., guitarist, will play selections of Latin music. A committee headed by Mrs. Perry Jones planned the program.

During the year, Pan American Round Table members study Latin America, entertain Latin American guests and student

wives, assist with activities at the Pan American Center and give scholarships (see story below).

In November, a luncheon meeting was given for Latin American teachers of English attending the University of Texas under the International Teacher Development program. Pan American costumes belonging to the Brownsville Round Table were modeled for the guests by Austin members.

Since 1946 when the Austin Round Table helped organize the Pan American Center, 2100 East Third Street, under sponsorship of the City Recreation Department, members have assisted with English and citizenship classes and pre-school and arts and crafts groups. This year, eight members directed by Mrs. Fred Morse Jr., chairman, are "room mothers" for a class of 25 pre-school children. They have taken the class on field trips to the Texas Memorial Museum, the Natural Science Center, a zoo and to a dairy and bakery. An Easter egg hunt was

given for the youngsters Tuesday and an end-of-school picnic is planned at Zilker Park.

Mrs. Robert C. McGinnis, director of the Austin Round Table, Mrs. Orville Wyss, director for 1968-69, and Mrs. Cleo Seelinger attended the Eleventh International Alliance of Pan American Round Tables in Managua, Nicaragua, in March. Thirteen countries were represented at the gathering by 350 representatives of 100 Round Tables.

Senora Carmen de Recalde of Managua was elected director general of the Alliance. Officers from the United States are Mrs. Wanda Smalley of Deming, N. M., associate director general, and Mrs. N. E. McClure of San Antonio, treasurer.

Local officers who will serve with Mrs. Wyss next year are Mrs. Perry Jones, associate director; Mrs. Ernest Allen Jr., corresponding secretary; Mrs. J. J. Boyd, recording secretary; Mrs. Hugo Steinfink, treasurer; Mrs. Edna Simpson, parliamentarian and Mrs. Antonio Medina, historian.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Apr 14, 1968

Scholarship Honors UT Prof, Wife

Gifts to the College of Business Administration Foundation at the University of Texas have initiated a new scholarship fund in memory of a UT Austin business professor and his wife.

The scholarship, to be known as the Karl and Helen McGinnis Scholarship, received its first impetus with a \$1,000 gift from Mrs. Charles T. McCormick of Austin, a long-time friend of the McGinnis family.

Another \$1,000 gift from Robert C. McGinnis, Austin attorney and son of the deceased couple, was added to the fund.

In making the contribution that established the scholarship, Mrs. McCormick asked that the funds be invested and when income reaches \$300 a scholarship in that amount be awarded to a junior or senior student in the College of Business Administration who plans to enter law school upon graduation.

Mrs. McCormick is the widow of a former UT Austin Law School dean.

Dr. E. Karl McGinnis, who died Jan. 18, 1960, taught at the University from 1918 until his retirement in 1958. He was a professor of business law and real estate and for a time was acting dean of the UT business school and secretary of the faculty. He held the Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Chicago.

His wife, the former Helen Campbell, died Jan. 18, 1971.

The McGinnis family had other than teaching ties with the University. Their son, Robert, is a graduate of UT Austin, and their grandson, Campbell, is currently enrolled as a business student.

The College of Business Administration Foundation is hopeful that other funds will be added to the McGinnis account so that the scholarship may be awarded annually.

Friends and former students who wish to contribute to the Karl and Helen McGinnis Scholarship may contact either Colonel Seymore Schwartz, Assistant to the Dean, College of Business Administration, the University of Texas, or Mrs. Robert C. McGinnis, 2708 Scenic Drive, Austin.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Mar 12, 1971

Austin Man On Judicial Commission

Austin attorney Robert C. McGinnis has been named to the State Judicial Qualifications Commission, State Bar president James C. Watson of Corpus Christi announced Tuesday.

McGinnis will be given the oath of office Nov. 19 by Associate Justice Thomas M. Reavley of the Texas Supreme Court. He succeeds Austin attorney Fred B. Werkenthin.

The 53-year-old Dallas native received his academic degree from the University of Texas in 1938 and his law degree at Yale Law School in 1941. He formerly taught law at Southern Methodist University and the University of Texas.

He was president of the Travis County Bar Association in 1962-63 and has been active on several committees of the State Bar of Texas.

Other barristers named to the committee include Supreme Court Associate Justice Phil Peden of the First Court of Civil Appeals from Houston to succeed Houston appellate judge Spurgeon E. Bell; and District Judge R. C. Vaughan of Sherman.

The nine-member commission has jurisdiction over all Texas judges and has the power to order a judge publicly censured as well as issuing a private reprimand for cause.

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Nov 10, 1971



OATH — Austin attorney **Robert C. McGinnis**, left, newly-appointed member of the State Judicial Qualifications Commission, was administered the oath of office by his former partner, Associate Justice

Thomas M. Reavley of the Texas Supreme Court. McGinnis was named by the State Bar for a six-year term, subject to Senate confirmation. (Photo by Ray Cobb)

The Austin Statesman (1921-1973); Nov 23, 1971



Staff Photo by Richard Creed
MRS. FRED DU PUY, LEFT, HOSTS PUBLIC TV BACKERS
Mrs. Terrell Webb, Mrs. Robert McGinnis, seated; Mrs. Jerry Williams standing

Volunteer Task Force Backs Public-Interest TV Shows

A task force of volunteers for building support of two popular public interest radio-television programs, "Capital Eye" and "The Way People Live," has been organized in Austin, according to Page Keeton.

Keeton is president of the nonprofit organization, Public Information Corporation, which administers the programs through a 37-member board of trustees.

"We're very impressed with the work Public Information Corporation is doing," said Mrs. Robert McGinnis, a member of the task force.

"The shows it supports deal with two extremely vital areas of public education—public affairs and mental health. They need to be kept going.

"We hope that through some extensions of 'Capital Eye,' with personal contact and some citizens getting to ask questions benefit activities, our task force can show the public how it can help sustain these productions.

Through tax-deductible contributions—and maybe have

some fun and learn something while doing it."

"Capital Eye," an independently-produced press panel show featuring Capitol correspondents, is seen weekly over much of the state on Channel 9, Austin-San Antonio; Channel 11, Dallas-Fort Worth, and by way of cable companies. "The Way People Live" is produced cooperatively by Public Information Corporation and Channel 9.

Mrs. McGinnis said that among activities planned by the task force are a series of "Rap With" parties, where guests may come and converse with knowledgeable figures in the fields of government, politics, drug abuse, environment or education.

"These will be rather like extensions of 'Capital Eye,' with citizens getting to ask questions of the experts," said Mrs. McGinnis.

"Then, too, members of our task force are planning some rather elegant 'soirees,'

complete with chamber music, dancing, and exhibits of Austin artists."

Added Mrs. Terrell Maverick Webb, another member of the task force and a trustee of the corporation: "After all, 'Capital Eye' and 'The Way People Live' are very civilized programs. We hope as we back them up and tell the story of how they operate, we can do so in a way that is civilized—and adds a bit to our cultural richness in Austin."

Mrs. Webb said public address and entertainment features are also in the planning stages.

Other members of the task force include Mrs. Jerre Williams, Mrs. Lowell Lebermann, Mrs. Fred DuPuy, Mrs. Millard Ruud, Mrs. Alan Taniguchi, Mrs. Graham Wilson, Mrs. Maurice Cohn, Mrs. James H. Havey and Mrs. Phillips D. Brooks.

Members will be working with the finance committee of Public Information Corporation, which

includes board members Julian Zimmerman and Bill Hilgers.

Public Information Corporation was incorporated as a non-profit, non-partisan educational organization in May of 1970. This September it was granted public foundation status by the IRS. Dean Keeton said corporation activities are supported by grants, tax-deductible contributions, and some station fees. A concentrated effort will be made to seek grants from foundations next year, Keeton added.

Offices of the corporation are at 1005 International Life Building in Austin.

Officers of Public Information Corporation are:

Page Keeton, president; Irwin Salmanson, vice president; Leon Lebowitz, secretary; Dr. Calvin (Pat) Blair, treasurer; Winston Bode, executive director.

Voting trustees of the statewide board are:

Mrs. J. Frank Dobie, Charles Alan Wright, Julian Zimmerman, John T. Jones Jr., Will Garwood, Judge Tom Reavley, Dr. Blake Smith, Amy Freeman Lee, Maj. J. R. Parten, Mrs. Terrell Maverick Webb, Mrs. Charles T. McCormick, Dr. John R. Stockton, Bill Hilgers, Gertrude Barnstone, Lowell Lebermann, Mrs. Alan Taniguchi, Dr. Jose San Martin, Otto Mullinax, Dr. Reynell Purkins, Mrs. Exaltion DeLeon, Mrs. O'Neill Ford, Rev. John Allen Chalk, Mrs. Chesler Snyder, Ted Siff, Mrs. Maurice Cohn, Chris Harte, Dr. Clifton McCleskey, Dr. Janice May, Joe Tom Enslay, Mrs. Ruth Epslein, Dr. Forest Hill, and John Henry Faulk.



Roland Gommel Roessner received his bachelor of architecture degree from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, in 1935 and his master's from the University of Cincinnati in 1942. After serving in World War II, Roessner practiced in St. Petersburg, Florida, before joining the faculty of the University of Texas School of Architecture (UTSOA) in 1948. Roessner, who successfully combined teaching with a professional career, realized the importance of integrating practical experience with a strong theoretical foundation. He was responsible for establishing the school's Professional Residency Program, which provided the students with on-the-job training within the profession before the completion of their degrees. Roessner's early use of computers to augment teaching included a project for teaching management processes in architecture.

Roessner's ability to create spaces that preserved the client's privacy while maintaining an openness in plan garnered for him numerous design awards. His graceful design for the George Thorne House (1953) received *Newsweek's* 1955 House of the Year Award. His talent for flexible planning on restricted sites is perhaps best illustrated by The Oaks Apartments (1962) which provided each apartment, ground around an intimate, secluded courtyard, with its own private balcony and view. This sensitive project, which carefully preserved the site's beautiful oak trees, received an AIA Award of Merit in 1965. Roessner's other projects included the Foster Residence (1963), the RGK Foundation Building (1980), and the Southwestern Bell Telephone Building in Corpus Christi (1981). Roessner was named professor emeritus in 1983 and an endowed Centennial Professorship was established in his name at the University of Texas at Austin. He is an AIA Fellow.

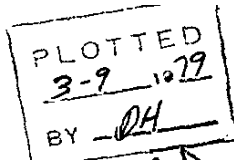
-Lila Stillson

-From: "Texas 50." *Texas Architect* (Nov./Dec. 1989): p. 69.

From <https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/utaaa/00040/aaa-00040.html>

Permits

Rbt C McGinni 2708 Scenic Dr
map 34
Tarrytown River Oak sec 2
stone ven & frm res & att carpt
69117 1-12-55 32,870/
Thomas Hinderer 13



WASTEWATER SERVICE PERMIT

Austin, Texas

DE
8258.9

City of Austin

Paid by David L. Johnson Date 10-19-77
 Address 2708 S. Greenbush Amount 4400 (250)
 Plumber Customs Plat No. 167
 Lot B Block Subdivision McGuinnis
 M.A. RECEIVED MAR 3 7 1979

Profile No. A-3337 A-2931
 Main Location in back
 Stub Location Spot in field
 Stub Depth _____
 Cut Over From Septic Tank _____
 Classification _____
 Drainage Area _____
 Treatment Plant _____
 Released by Jew Date 2/21/79
 Connected by Edgo Date 3-6-79
 Tap Location IN M.H. 12+32.78 IN REAR
 Tap Depth 1'
 Zone: East _____ Central _____ West _____

WPL 0007

| Ft./No. | Type/Hrs. | Cost |
|--------------|-----------|-------|
| 2' Pipe | 6" Iron | 26.4 |
| Pipe | | |
| Wyes | | |
| Bends | | |
| Manholes | | |
| 1 Supervisor | | 7.00 |
| Worker II | | |
| Eq. Op. | | |
| 5 Helpers | | 19.50 |
| 5 Worker I | | 2.125 |
| 1 Pickup | | 2.50 |
| 5 Truck | | 12.50 |
| Backhoe | | |
| TOTAL: | | 66.09 |