



ARTHUR FEHR, FAIA
PRESIDENT
TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

1963



Arthur **Fehr**, F.A.I.A., Austin, was unanimously elevated to the presidency of the Texas Society of Architects for 1963 by the membership of the Society at its 23rd Annual Convention in Houston.

Fehr, prominent civic leader in Austin and nationally known architect, is a 1925 architecture graduate of the University of Texas, where he was a member of Tau Beta Pi, honorary engineering fraternity.

After graduation, he engaged in graduate study at Columbia University, New York University, Beaux Arts Institute of Design, New York, and extensive European study and travel.

Fehr has been active in professional affairs and is a charter member of the Texas Society of Architects. He has served as President of the Central Texas Chapter, A.I.A., Director of the T.S.A. for three years, Secretary-Treasurer for three years, Vice President in 1961, President Elect in 1962, leading to his elevation to the presidency in 1963.

After experience in architectural offices in New York and San Antonio and with the National Park Service, **Fehr** opened his office in Austin in 1937. He later formed a partnership with Mr. Charles Granger, also of Austin, and this firm has won many state and national architectural design awards. The firm has been honored for the Austin Airport Terminal, St. Stephens School Chapel, Westwood Country Club, Brown Schools in San Marcos, several buildings on the campus of the Texas Lutheran College at Seguin, and the Nurses Home, Wharton.

Fehr is currently serving on the A.I.A. Public Relations Committee as an executive member. He has been active in all phases of Austin civic and social life, having served as President of the Austin Symphony in 1960, on the vestry of St. David's Church for three years, United Fund campaigns, PTA work, and currently is a member of a civic committee to re-write the zoning ordinance for the city of Austin.

He is a member of Town and Gown.

Mr. **Fehr** is married to the former Mary Jane Grant, San Antonio, and the **Fehrs** have three sons—Kilian, Grant and John.



The most important Architectural Firm of the 20th Century in Austin Texas



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Curbed Austin

<https://austin.curbed.com/midcentury-modern-austin-...>

Midcentury modern masters' iconic works show at AIA Austin

Aug 14, 2017 — AIA Austin and the Austin History Center display the midcentury modern masters' iconic works in photographs.

For approximately two decades, one architectural firm ruled modernism this town—especially when it came to commercial building. That firm was Fehr & Granger.

The firm was founded in 1946 by fellow architects Arthur Fehr and Charles Granger, who originally met on the site of the still-extant [Bastrop State Park Cabins](#), designed by Fehr for the National Park Service from 1934 to 1936, when Granger was still a student working on the site. The firm went on to design some of Austin's most well-known and celebrated modernist structures, including the Robert Mueller Airport (now redeveloped as a planned community), O. Henry Junior High School, Saint Stephen's Chapel, Austin National Bank Drive-In, and the St. Elmo-tel in South Austin, as well as their own firm's building, which is still operational and can be seen (kind of—a lot of foliage has grown in since it was built) at 403 East 15th Street.

Fehr & Granger designed some stunning residential structures as well, including the Sneed residence in 1953 (fun fact! the Sneeds were Carly Fiorina's parents) and the International style Darnall House, which has just been renovated and received a City of Austin landmark designation.

Whatever the function of the building, the firm used its modernist sensibilities to create structures that functioned well in the often-brutal, pre-air-conditioned Central Texas environment, in ways often compared to those of Richard Neutra. Like Neutra, Fehr & Granger paid careful attention to siting, shade, ventilation, and other important environmental factors to create a "healthy" interaction between indoors and outdoors.

From Aug. 15 through Nov. 15, the Austin History Center, in conjunction with the Austin chapter of the American Institute of Architects, will present an exhibit of photographs of F&G's pioneering at the Austin Center for Architecture, 801 West 12th Street. In conjunction with the exhibit, later this month the history center will showcase the work of Dewey Mears, who photographed F&G buildings, as well as many others, and was considered "preeminent architectural photographer in Central Texas in the late 20th century," according to the center's [website](#).

AUSTIN ARCHITECT ARTHUR FEHR



THE CCC AT BASTROP STATE PARK

PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT AND THE U. S. CONGRESS, AS PART OF THE NEW DEAL EFFORTS TO OFFER UNEMPLOYED WORKERS JOBS ON PUBLIC PROJECTS, CREATED THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS (CCC) IN MARCH 1933. DUE TO DECADES OF LUMBERING ACTIVITIES, BASTROP COUNTY'S "LOST PINES" FOREST WAS A PRIME CANDIDATE FOR THE CCC'S REFORESTATION PROGRAM AND A LOGICAL SITE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PARK.

TWO HUNDRED RECRUITS OF THE CCC'S COMPANY #1805 ARRIVED IN BASTROP IN NOVEMBER 1933. WITH THE HELP OF AUSTIN ARCHITECT ARTHUR FEHR AND A GROUP OF "LOCAL EXPERIENCED MEN" OR L. E. M.s, THE MEN WORKED TO CREATE A STATE RECREATIONAL PARK IN THE FOREST. BUILT OF NATIVE MATERIALS IN THE "NPS RUSTIC" STYLE PROMOTED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, THE PARK STRUCTURES, PARTICULARLY THE CENTRAL REFECTORY, REFLECT THE EXPERT CRAFTSMANSHIP OF THE CCC.

A SECOND CCC COMPANY, #1811, ARRIVED IN NOVEMBER 1934 TO ASSIST WITH REFORESTATION WORK AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEARBY BUESCHER STATE PARK. ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDED MAKING NATIVE WOOD FURNITURE FOR THIS AND OTHER TEXAS STATE PARKS, AND BUILDING ROADS, TRAILS, BRIDGES, AND SMALL LAKES. CCC WORK AT BASTROP ENDED WITH THE PARK SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE IN 1939.

(1091)

Bastrop State Park

U.S. National Register of Historic Places

U.S. National Historic Landmark District



Bastrop State Park Lake

Built 1933

Architect Arthur Fehr

Architectural style Bungalow/Craftsman, NPS
Rustic

FEHR AND GRANGER AUSTIN MODERN

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Fehr & Granger - Bastrop State Park

Bastrop State Park



Bastrop State Park AR-2009-014-175

Working for the National Park Service from 1934 to 1936, Arthur Fehr designed cabins and supervised the building of the refectory at Bastrop State Park in Bastrop Texas. A showplace of materials and craftsmanship, the park earned a National Historic Landmark designation in 1997, one of only 7 Civilian Conservation Corps state parks across the nation awarded that honor. Built with Bastrop County timber and red sandstone quarried nearby, Fehr designed the rustic style structures in harmony with the surrounding landscape. Fehr also designed furniture and fixtures that were used there and throughout the National Park Service. It is on the site of this project that Arthur Fehr met Charles Granger, who was working while still a student at The University of Texas at Austin.

[Home](#) | [Residential](#) | [Commercial](#) | [Educational](#) | [Ecclesiastical](#) | [Bastrop Park](#) | [Map](#) | [Resources](#)





GRANGER HOUSE AND THE PERCH

AUSTIN ARCHITECT **CHARLES GRANGER** (1913-1966) DESIGNED THE TWO STORY GARAGE AND APARTMENT STRUCTURE AT THE REAR OF THIS LOT IN 1938. "THE PERCH" FEATURES A STUCCO FACADE AND A CONTINUOUS BAND OF UNADORNED STEEL WINDOWS, AND IS A RARE AUSTIN EXAMPLE OF RESIDENTIAL INTERNATIONAL STYLE ARCHITECTURE. GRANGER MARRIED MARJORIE DODGE IN 1946, AND WHEN AN EXISTING VICTORIAN-ERA HOME WAS REMOVED FROM THE LOT, GRANGER DESIGNED A LARGER HOME FOR HIS GROWING FAMILY, WHICH WOULD EVENTUALLY INCLUDE FOUR CHILDREN. THE MIDCENTURY MODERN HOUSE WAS COMPLETED CA. 1951 AND INCORPORATES A LOWER REAR LEVEL BUILT INTO A HILLSIDE. EXTERIOR ELEMENTS INCLUDE A FACADE OF UNPAINTED CORRUGATED ASBESTOS PANELS AND A GLASS REAR ELEVATION.

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 2010

MARKER IS PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Westgate Tower

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 30°16′27″N 97°44′34″W﻿ / ﻿30.27417°N 97.74278°W﻿ / 30.27417; -97.74278

The **Westgate Tower** is a **mixed-use** high-rise building in **downtown Austin, Texas**. The twenty-six-story 261-foot (80 m) **tower block** was designed in 1962 and completed in 1966; its name reflects its location across the street from the west gate of the **Texas State Capitol**. Designed by architect **Edward Durrell Stone**.

Austin architects Arthur Fehr and Charles Granger,

After **World War II**, the neighborhood to the west of the **Texas State Capitol** began to be redeveloped, with four- and five-story **low-rise** office buildings replacing houses to make space for state agencies and businesses connected with the capitol. In 1962, the Lumbermen's Investment Corporation of Austin began planning to build a new residential **high-rise** building on a lot overlooking the capitol grounds from the west.^[1]

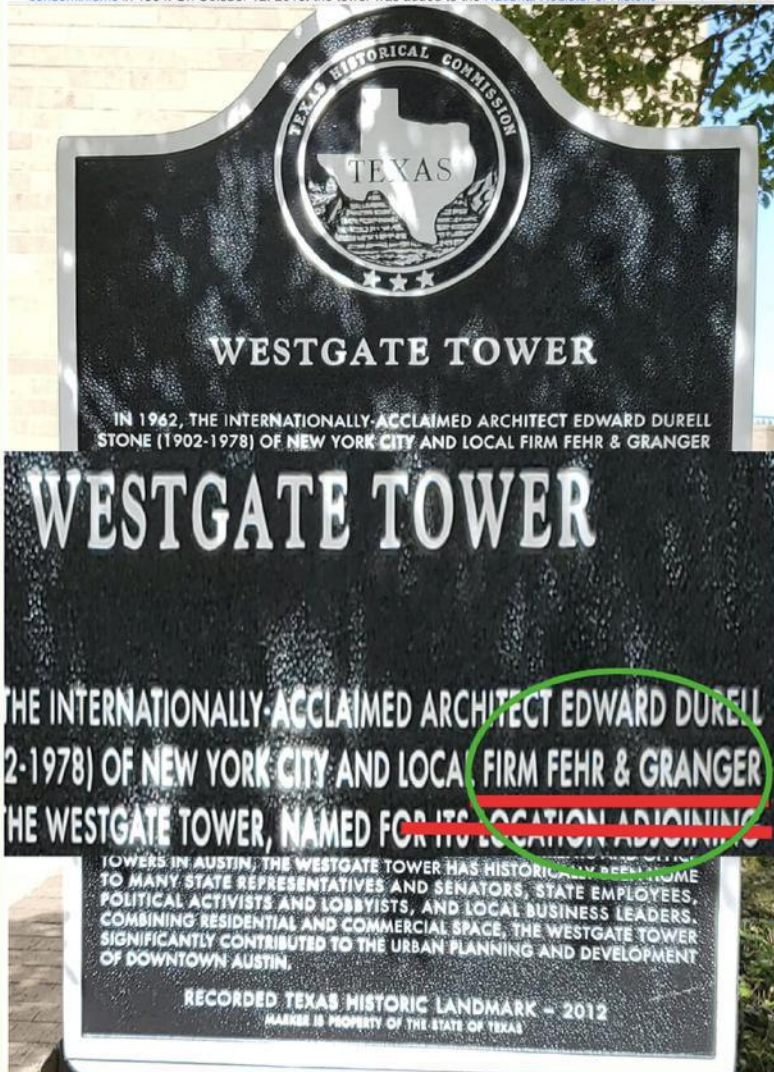
In July 1962, Lumbermen's hired New York architect **Edward Durrell Stone** to design the exterior of the planned tower; Stone's office collaborated with Austin architects **Arthur Fehr** and Charles Granger, who designed the tower's interior spaces and details. The building was publicly announced in the **Austin Statesman** on November 10, 1962 as the "Westgate Tower"^[1] (named for its proximity to the west gate of the capitol grounds).^[3] The developer purchased the lot on June 10, 1963;^[4] final plans for the Westgate Tower were submitted to the City of Austin in July 1964,^[5] and excavation for the tower's foundation began that October.^[6] The tower was completed and opened to occupants in 1966.^[1]

Its residential floors were originally leased out as **apartments**, until the residences were converted to **condominiums** in 1984. On October 12, 2010, the tower was added to the **National Register of Historic**

Westgate Tower



Viewed from the northeast



NEWS

Celebrated Fehr home is star of mid-century tour

Luke Quinton

Published 12:01 a.m. CT April 2, 2014 | Updated 2:17 p.m. CT Sept. 25, 2018



Fehr House is one of five featured on Preservation Austin's annual homes tour. *Austin American-Statesman*

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Fehr & Granger – Austin Modernists

August 15, 2017 to November 15, 2017.

Minimalist aesthetics have made a resurgence in recent years and you can see examples of midcentury modern design almost everywhere you look. The Austin History Center, in conjunction with the Austin chapter of the American Institute of Architects, presented a new exhibit, Fehr & Granger, Architects – Austin Modernists at the Austin Center for Architecture, 801 West 12th St. Fehr & Granger were some of the first architects to bring modernist architectural design to Central Texas post-World War II.

ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

Fehr & Granger, Architects was established by Arthur Fehr and Charles Granger in Austin in 1946 when the era of Mid-Century Modernism was just beginning in the United States. Both men graduated with degrees in architecture from the University of Texas before going on to further study, apprentice with well-known modernist architects, and travel throughout Europe where modernist design had an earlier start.





Historic Name: **The First English
Evangelical Lutheran
Church**

Architect | Builder: **Arthur Fehr**

Year: **1939**

Style:

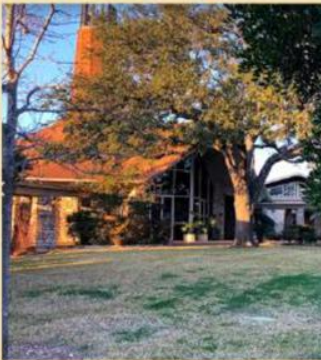
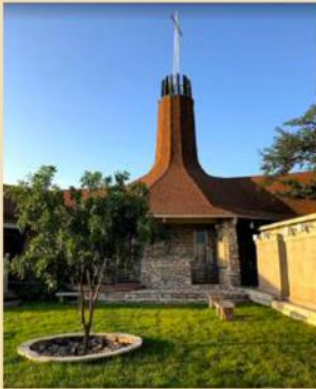
Areas of **Art, Architecture**
Significance:

City: **Austin**



ST. LUKE'S ON THE LAKE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1965, *Fehr and Granger*



ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL CHAPEL



O. Henry Junior High School

1954, Fehr and Granger.

FEHR AND GRANGER AUSTIN MODERN

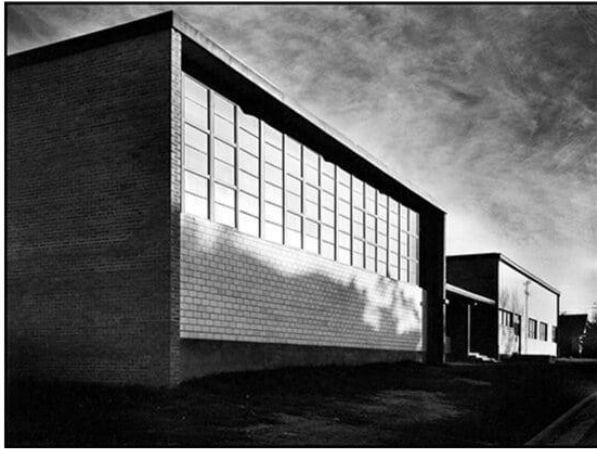
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Fehr & Granger - Educational

Educational Work

"Good taste, color harmony, design should start in our elementary schools."

-Arthur Fehr 1963



Becker Elementary School, AR-2009-014-076, Photograph by Ulric Meisel

Becker Elementary School Addition

Additions of a school cafeteria, gymnasium and auditorium to Becker Elementary School were designed by Fehr and Granger with a ground breaking in May of 1947. The project required permission from the Austin Zoning Board to extend frontage restrictions in order to fit the new structures on the site. The cafeteria and auditorium wrap around a giant oak tree, creating a court with a covered walkway between the buildings that connects to the gymnasium.



<https://www.jayfarrellarchitect.com/grangerhouse>

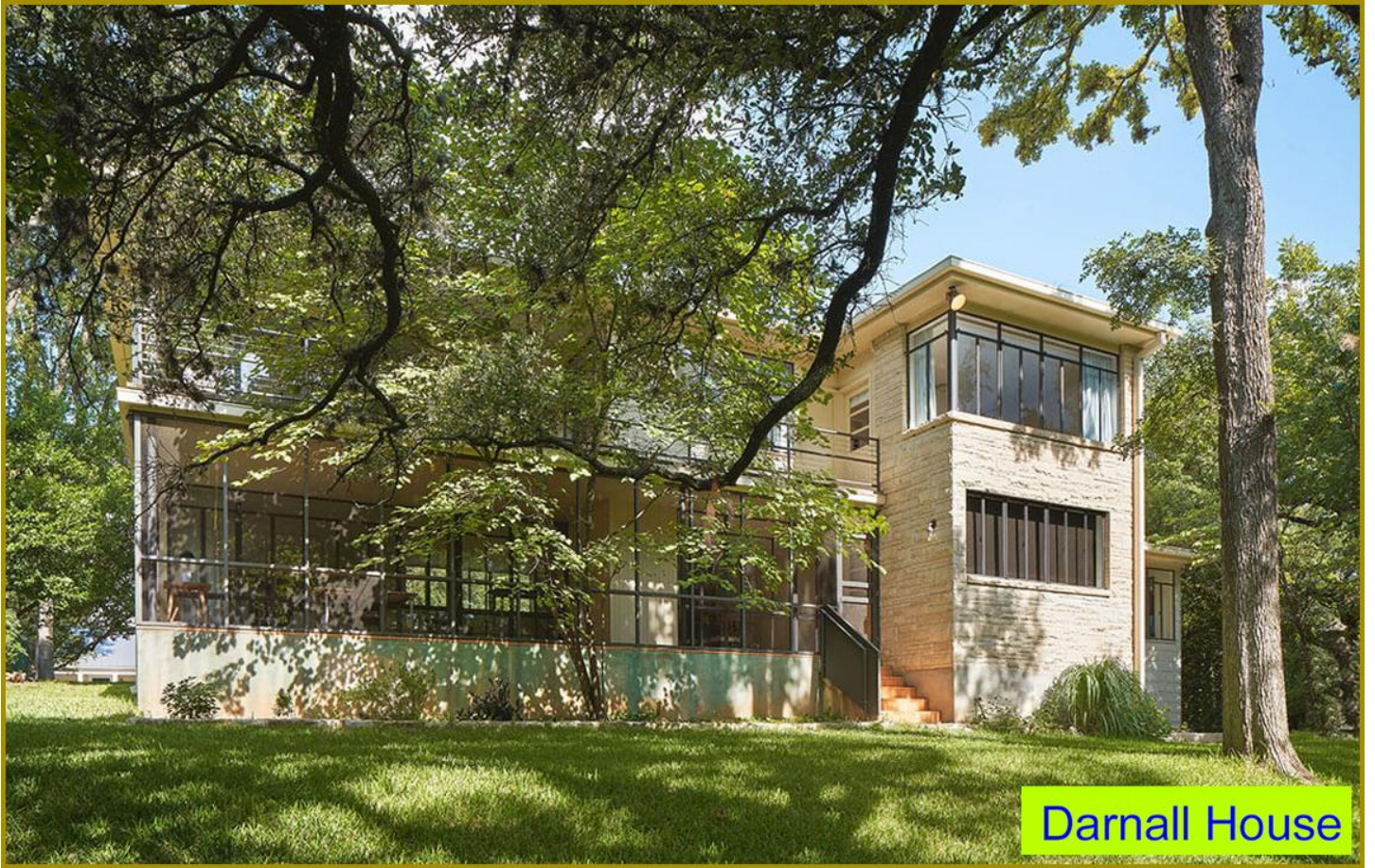


FEHR & GRANGER

ARCHITECTS

**AUSTIN
MODERNISTS**

AN EXHIBIT OF ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHS
FROM THE AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER



Darnall House



East Elevation
Trueman Edgar O'Quinn Home



Charles Granger Home



Trueman Edgar O'Quinn Home



won a Texas Society of Architects award

Sneed House



Trueman O'Quinn House

