

Texas Historical Commission staff (AD), 3/17/2009
18" x 28" Recorded Texas Historic Landmark Marker with post
Travis County (Job #09TV02) Subject (Atlas) UTM: 14 619662E 3350707N
Location: Austin, 1509 Marshall Lane

CRUSEMANN-MARSH-BELL HOUSE

CARRIE MARGARET (GRAHAM) AND PAUL CONRAD CRUSEMANN HAD THIS HOUSE BUILT IN 1917 AS ONE OF THE FIRST HOMES IN THE ENFIELD SUBDIVISION. MRS. CRUSEMANN WAS A GRANDDAUGHTER OF TEXAS GOVERNOR E. M. PEASE, AND SERVED AS A SILENT PARTNER IN THE ENFIELD REALTY AND HOME BUILDING CO. WITH OTHER HEIRS OF THE PEASE ESTATE. *AUSTIN AMERICAN* CO-OWNER AND PUBLISHER CHARLES MARSH CHANGED THE HOME'S DESIGN AND MORE THAN DOUBLED ITS SIZE IN 1924, MOVING THE MAIN ENTRANCE FROM WINDSOR ROAD TO MARSHALL LANE. THE JACOBAN REVIVAL STYLE BRICK AND TIMBER HOME FEATURES HALF-TIMBERED MULTIPLE GABLES AND MULTI-PANE ARCHED WINDOWS. DETAILING BY NOTABLE CRAFTSMEN INCLUDES WOODCARVINGS BY PETER MANSBENDEL AND IRONWORK BY FORTUNAT WEIGL.

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK – 2009
MARKER IS PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK MARKERS:
2009 Official Texas Historical Marker
Sponsorship Application Form**

Valid October 15, 2008 to January 15, 2009 only

This form constitutes a public request for the Texas Historical Commission (THC) to consider approval of an Official Texas Historical Marker for the topic noted in this application. The THC will review the request and make its determination based on rules and procedures of the program. Filing of the application for sponsorship is for the purpose of providing basic information to be used in the evaluation process. The final determination of eligibility and therefore approval for a state marker will be made by the THC. This form is to be used for Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (building marker) requests only. Please see separate forms for either Historic Texas Cemeteries or subject markers.

Proposed marker topic (official title will be determined by the THC): Crusemann-Marsh-Bell House

County: Travis County

Town (nearest county town on current state highway map): Austin

Street address of marker site or directions from town noted above: 1509 Marshall Lane

Marker Coordinates:

If you know the location coordinates of the proposed marker site, enter them in one of the formats below:

UTM Zone 14 Easting 619662 Northing 3350707

Lat: 30.282159 Long: -97.755816 (deg, min, sex or decimal degrees)

Otherwise, give a precise verbal description here (e.g. northwest corner of 3rd and Elm, or FM 1411, 2.6 miles east of McWhorter Creek): 1509 Marshall Lane 78703. Lots 10 and 11, Enfield B subdivision of a part of Outlots #7 & #8, Division Z and a part of the George W. Spear League, Travis County, Texas.

NOTE: Recorded Texas Historic Landmark markers must be placed at the structure being marked.

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark markers definition: Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) markers are awarded to structures deemed worthy of preservation for their historical associations and architectural significance. RTHL is a legal designation and comes with a measure of protection; it is the highest honor the state can bestow on a historic structure, and the designation is required for this type of marker. The RTHL designation becomes effective upon approval by the THC. Official Texas Historical Markers signify the RTHL designation, which comes only through application to and approval by the THC and must include public display of an Official Texas Historical Marker. Owners of RTHL-designated structures must give the THC 60 days written notice before any alterations are made to the exterior of the structure. RTHL status is a permanent designation and is not to be removed from the property in the event of a transfer of ownership. Only the THC can remove the designation or recall the marker. The marker must remain with the structure and may not be removed or displayed elsewhere until or unless the THC gives express approval in writing for such action. Once designated as RTHL, properties are subject to provisions of Texas Government Code, Section 442.006(f).

Criteria:

1. **Age:** Structures eligible for the RTHL designation and marker must be at least 50 years old.
2. **Historical significance:** Architectural significance alone is not enough to qualify a structure for the RTHL designation. It must have an equally significant historical association, and that association can come from an event that occurred at the site; through individuals who owned or lived on the property; or, in the case of bridges, industrial plants, schoolhouses and other non-residential properties, through documented significance to the larger community.
3. **Architectural significance:** Structures deemed architecturally significant are outstanding examples of architectural history through design, materials, structural type or construction methods. In all cases, eligible architectural properties must display integrity; that is, the structure should be in a good state of repair, maintain its appearance from its period of significance and be considered an exemplary model of preservation. Architectural significance is often best determined by the relevance of the property to broader contexts, including geography. Any changes over the years should be compatible with original design and reflect compliance with accepted preservation practices, e.g., the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.
4. **Good state of repair:** Structures not considered by the THC to be in a good state of repair are ineligible for RTHL designation. The THC reserves the sole right to make that determination relative to eligibility for RTHL markers.

Special National Register considerations for RTHL marker applications: If a structure has been individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under either Criterion A or B and Criterion C (Architecture), the historical text compiled as part of the National Register nomination process may be submitted as part of the marker process, provided it includes the required reference notes and other documentation. Acceptance of the National Register information for the purposes of the marker process will be up to the sole determination of the THC. Listing in the NRHP does not guarantee approval for an RTHL marker. See the THC web site at <http://www.thc.state.tx.us/markerdesigns/madnrcrit.html> for National Register criteria.

☐ Check this box if the property is individually listed in the NRHP.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Any individual, group or county historical commission (CHC) may apply to the THC to request an Official Texas Historical Marker for what it deems a worthy topic. Only complete marker applications that contain all the required elements and are submitted online as required can be accepted or processed by the THC (for RTHL markers, the required elements are: sponsorship application form; narrative history; documentation; legal description of the property; site plan; floorplan; historic photograph; and current photographs clearly showing each side of the structure).

- Completed applications must be duly reviewed, verified and approved by the county historical commission (CHC) in the county in which the marker will be placed.
- The sponsorship application form, narrative history and documentation must be submitted as Microsoft Word or Word-compatible documents and sent via email attachments to the THC by no later than January 15, 2008.
- Required font style and type size are a Times variant and 12-point.
- Narrative histories must be typed in a double-spaced (or 1.5-spaced) format and include separate sections on context, overview, significance and documentation.
- The narrative history must include documentation in the form of reference notes, which can be either footnotes or endnotes. Documentation associated with applications should be broad-based and demonstrate a survey of all available resources, both primary and secondary.
- Upon notification of the successful preliminary review of required elements by the THC, a non-refundable application fee of \$100 is required. The fee shall be submitted to the THC within ten working days of application receipt notification.

APPROVAL BY COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The duly appointed marker representative (chair or marker chair) noted below for the county historical commission will be the sole contact with the THC for this marker application. To ensure accuracy, consistency and efficiency, all information from and to the THC relative to the application—and throughout the review and production processes—will be via direct communication with the CHC representative. All other inquiries (calls, emails, letters) to the THC will be referred to the CHC representative for response. By filling out the information below and filing the application with the THC, the CHC representative is providing the THC with notice that the application and documentation have been reviewed and verified by the CHC and that the material meets all current requirements of the Official Texas Historical Marker program.

As chair or duly appointed marker chair, I certify the following:

X ☐ Representatives of the CHC have met or talked with the potential marker sponsor and discussed the marker program policies as outlined on the THC web site. CHC members have reviewed the history and documentation for accuracy and made corrections or notes as necessary. It is the determination of the CHC that the topic, history and documentation meet criteria for eligibility.

CHC comments or concerns about this application, if any:

Name of CHC contact (chair or marker chair): Marty Moulthrop

Mailing address: 7400 Anaqua Drive **City, Zip:** Austin, TX 78750

Daytime phone (with area code): 512-343-0814 **Email address** (required): jmoulthrop@austin.rr.com

PERMISSION OF PROPERTY OWNER FOR MARKER PLACEMENT

Property owner: Melanie & Thomas Tucker

Address: 1509 Marshall Lane **City, state, zip:** Austin, TX 78703

Phone: 512-632-4681 **Email address:** memetucker@hotmail.com

Legal Description of the property (metes and bounds, lot and block, etc.): Lots 10 and 11, Enfield B subdivision of a part of Outlots #7 & #8, Division Z and a part of the George W. Spear League, Travis County, Texas.

Upon receipt of the application, the THC will provide the owner with a letter that outlines the legal responsibility of ownership under the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark statute. The letter must be signed by the owner and returned to the THC before the evaluation can be completed.

NOTE: The property owner will not receive any additional copies of correspondence from the THC. All other correspondence—notice of receipt, request for additional information, payment notice, inscription, shipping notice, etc.—will be sent via email to the CHC representative, who is encouraged to share the information with all interested parties as necessary. Given the large volume of applications processed annually and the need for centralized communication, all inquiries about applications in process will be referred to the CHC for response. The CHC is the sole liaison to the THC on all marker application matters.

SPONSORSHIP PAYMENT INFORMATION

Prospective sponsors please note the following:

- Payment must be received in full within 45 days of the official approval notice and must be accompanied by the THC payment form. The THC is unable to process partial payments or to delay payment due to processing procedures of the sponsor. Applications not paid in the time frame required may, at the sole discretion of the THC, be cancelled or postponed.
- Payment does not constitute ownership of a marker; Recorded Texas Historic Landmark markers and other Official Texas Historical Markers are the property of the State of Texas.
- If, at any time during the marker process, sponsorship is withdrawn, a refund can be processed, but the THC will retain the application fee of \$100.
- The Official Texas Historical Marker Program provides no means of recognizing sponsors or property owners through marker text, incising or supplemental plaques.

Marker sponsor (may be individual or organization): Phoebe Allen

Contact person (if applicable): Phoebe Allen

Mailing address: 2510 Cedarview Drive **City, zip:** Austin, TX 78704

Email address (required): phoebezink@aol.com **Phone:** 512-444-1326; **mobile** 627-8170

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

In order to facilitate delivery of the marker, neither post office box numbers nor rural route numbers can be accepted. To avoid additional shipping charges or delays, use a business street address (open 8 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday through Friday).

Name: Melanie Tucker

Street address: 1509 Marshall Lane **City, zip:** Austin, TX 78703

Daytime phone (required): 512-632-4681 **Email** (required): memetucker@hotmail.com

TYPE AND SIZE OF RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK MARKERS

As part of its review process, the THC will determine the appropriate size marker and provide options, if any, for the approved topic based on its own review criteria, including, but not exclusive of, historical significance, replication of information in other THC markers, relevance to the Statewide Preservation Plan and the amount of available documented information provided in the application narrative. In making its determination, however, the THC will also take into account the preference of the CHC, as noted below.

The sponsor/CHC prefers the following size marker:

- ☐ 27" x 42" RTHL marker with post (\$1500)
- ☐ 27" X 42" RTHL marker without post* (\$1500)
- ☒ 18" x 28" RTHL marker with post (\$1000)
- ☐ 18" x 28" RTHL marker without post* (\$1000)
- ☐ RTHL medallion and 16" x 12" plaque with post (\$750)
- ☐ RTHL medallion and 16" x 12" plaque without post* (\$750)

*For an RTHL marker without post, indicate to what surface material it will be mounted:

- ☐ wood
- ☐ masonry

- ☐ metal
- ☐ other (specify)

SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION (via email required)

When the CHC has determined the application is complete, the history has been verified and the topic meets the requirements of the Official Texas Historical Marker Program, the materials should be forwarded to the THC via email at the following address: markerapplication@thc.state.tx.us.

- The CHC or marker chair should send an email containing the following attachments (see attachment function under file menu or toolbox on your computer):
 - This application form
 - The narrative history (including documentation)
 - Legal description of the property
 - Detailed floor plan for each floor of the structure
 - Detailed site plan of the property
 - At least one historic photograph
 - Current photographs clearly showing each side of the structure

RECORDS RETENTION BY CHC: The CHC must retain hard copies of the application as well as an online version, at least for the duration of the marker process. The THC is not responsible for lost applications, for incomplete applications or for applications not properly filed according to the program requirements. For additional information about any aspect of the Official Texas Historical Marker Program, see the Markers page on the THC web site (<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/markerdesigns/madmark.html>).

Crusemann-Clark-Marsh-Bell House

1509 Marshall Lane

SUMMARY

The Crusemann-Clark-Marsh-Bell House is a contributing property in the National Register's Old West Austin Historic District (OWAHD). Although listed in that district as a 1927 home, it was originally built in 1917, possibly the first home in the Enfield subdivision. An extensive remodel in 1924 gave the home its present embodiment in the asymmetrical Tudor Revival style.

The home is closely linked to the development of the Enfield subdivision through its association with the home's first occupant, Margaret Graham Crusemann, a granddaughter of Governor Pease. The house is also associated with Charles E. Marsh, who was at the center of Austin's political and financial life for two decades as the co-owner and publisher of the *Austin American-Statesman*.

Although the architect of the original home and its Tudor remodel remains uncertain, the house is clearly of value architecturally and historically. Moreover, the lovely carvings by Peter Mansbendel in the library and entry, as well as the Fortunat Weigl ironwork in the interior and exterior, represent some of these craftsmen's best work.

The integrity of the home's exterior, as well as much of its interior, is largely intact and clearly deserves preservation with status as a City of Austin Historic Landmark as well as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Located on 1½ acres at the southeast corner of Marshall Lane and Windsor Road in the Old Enfield neighborhood, the home was originally built in 1917 facing Windsor Road. The house was extensively remodeled in 1924 in Jacobean Revival style, a subtype sometimes referred to as Stockbroker's Tudor, based on more formal English building traditions of Late Medieval times

in which the walls of the characteristic front-facing gables are projected above the roof behind. A slight variation in the color of the bricks indicates the addition of the solarium. The timber framework is partially visible from the exterior, with stucco at the upper level; the upper and lower levels of the dominant front bay are brick. The entry features a semi-hexagonal hood supported by two brackets that are more ornate than those of the original Windsor-facing entry.¹ A narrow, two-part arched window to the right of the entry features leaded, stained glass panes with a shield motif. The floor plan is L-shaped, with a connecting wall and hallway to the garage annex added by the Bells.

Three brick chimneys are visible – one to the left of the front entry, one between the living room and solarium, and one near the rear/kitchen door (no longer in use). A semi-hexagonal bay window with diamond-shaped, leaded lights was added in 1925. The projecting bay on the second level of the north façade, with similar windows, is also a likely 1925 addition. Its supporting brackets, like those of the newer front entry, are curved, while the 1917 brackets are simple and straightforward. The timber detail below this bay window, with quatrefoil design, differs from that of the rest of the house. Two large, beautiful old oak trees shade the north lawn, and a four-foot-high curving stone wall, likely added in 1925 or somewhat later, borders the property along Windsor Road and Marshall Lane. The property includes one of the city's first residential pools, ranging from four to eleven feet in depth.

Visitors enter the front door via an exquisite, decorative wrought iron screen made by **Fortunat Weigl**, whose true love was ornamental ironwork. Weigl also made the railings, gates²

¹ Sconces at front door are not original.

² Not including the gate in the arch of the wall leading to the garage, which was added by the Bells.

and other ironwork on the property. The unusual interior of the house, with its **Peter Mansbendel** carvings, deserves special mention.

Interior

The front door, fronted by a Weigl screen featuring a heron, leads into a large entry hall and library, both with original hardwood floors, dark mahogany paneling, and elaborate carvings by **Peter Mansbendel**. A hand-carved staircase, also the work of Mansbendel, leads to the second floor.³ It is not certain who commissioned the Mansbendel carvings and Weigl ironwork, but it is believed to have been Marsh.⁴ A Mansbendel-carved mantel and fireplace surround is featured in the library, depicting a similar rose detail to that carved by Mansbendel for the Rosewood Mansion on Turtle Creek in Dallas (built in 1925 by a cotton mogul). A series of shields is carved in the cornice molding in the library. The original Windsor-facing front door has four panes of beveled glass in the door. Interior double doors with multiple beveled glass panes are in the library.

Beyond these rooms lie a half-bath, a dining room with paneled walls and a paneled plaster ceiling, and a kitchen with a hexagonal breakfast nook that originally had a fountain that was 4.5 feet deep. (The Tuckers removed the non-working fountain from the breakfast nook because of the danger to their young children. The original tile in the breakfast nook area was removed at

³ Mrs. Bell recalled that there was once a carved owl on the top of the newel post. Since it could not be found, she replaced it with the figure of a conquistador.

⁴ Mansbendel and Kreisle worked together on a 1925 Tudor home, the Paul Simms House in Aldridge Park (with similar shield motif in front stained-glass windows), and Mansbendel was working on his own home in 1925 (which has a staircase with similarities to this one). The original Windsor entry has a simple, uncarved stairwell, indicating that the 1917/18 house trim was not elaborate. One might thus deduce that the Mansbendel carvings in the library and entry hall stairwell were added by Marsh during the 1924 Tudor remodel, when the entry was moved to face Marshall Lane.

the same time and replaced with travertine tile.) The kitchen area originally had a woodburning stove or heater near the kitchen door, where a chimney remains. The period chandelier in the dining room is from the Tuckers.

The living room is to the right (south) of the entry and features leaded glass windows with diamond-shaped panes on the front façade. All of the wood floors are original, including **tiger oak** downstairs and 12 and 14-foot East Texas **longleaf pine** upstairs.

The solarium, west of the living room, originally an outdoor sitting area with a double-sided fireplace, was enclosed by the Marsh family and was their favorite room; the Marsh family liked to sit here in the summer with the windows open and in winter beside a roaring fire in the fireplace.⁵ The doors from the living room to the solarium are original. All of the sunroom doors and windows have the same, diamond-shaped panes. The original tile floors in the solarium could be Italian but are assumed to be Mexican saltillo tiles.

The Bells screened in the original patio porch off the living room; screened porches were popular for sleeping before air conditioning.

The second floor includes 6 bedrooms and 4½ baths, a sitting room and game room. There is an arched opening with glass doors between one bedroom and the sitting room. The hardware in the master closet, which allow racks of clothing to slide out, is original. The home includes four fireplaces and the original outdoor fountain. **Fortunate Weigl** created the interior sconces (exterior sconces are recent), front door screen, railings, gates and other ironwork for the interior and exterior.

Modifications

⁵ Young, Ione, “The Cruseman-Marsh-Bell House,” April 28, 1985, Heritage Society Austin. Based on an interview and tour of the home with Beverly Bell on April 26, 1995.

After water damage from an upstairs bathroom caused part of the dining room ceiling to crumble and fall in large chunks, the Bells had the ceiling duplicated in plaster of a lighter weight.

A separate two-car garage with attached servant quarters/apartment is connected by an arched brick walkway added by the Bells. The Bells converted the space above the garage into a gym for their four sons. It was later converted into offices for lawyer Paul Parsons and is now a game room with exposed beams, trusses and a loft.

The Tuckers replaced two exterior, wood frame windows due to water damage. Double pane glass was used in the replacements. The Tuckers also replaced all plumbing and wiring in the house, and restored or/or replaced all piers and beams. The Tuckers added tile in the bowl of the outdoor fountain; the fountain's structure and surrounding tile is original.

HISTORY OF THE LAND & THE PEASE ESTATE

In early 1838, the Fayette County Board of Land Commissioners issued a head right certificate for one league of land to **George W. Spear**, who had emigrated to Texas with his family in 1835. Spear died in 1839. The Spear Survey, 25 labors west and north of the city's central business district, was sold to C.S. Parish in 1841. Parish sold the land to George M. Martin for \$100 cash in 1846, and it was resold seven months later for \$150 to James B. Shaw, State Comptroller under Governor Pease.

In 1853 Shaw hired master builder Abner Cook to build the Greek Revival style home known as **Woodlawn**, which he sold to **Governor Elisha Marshall Pease** (1812-1883) and his wife **Lucadia Niles Pease** (1813-1905) for \$15,000 in 1859.

Governor Pease was instrumental in establishing public education and persuaded the legislature to appropriate land for the Austin State Hospital, the Texas School for the Deaf, and

the Texas School for the Blind. He also supervised the completion of the Governor's Mansion; the Peases were the first to live there.

After the Pease family moved to Woodlawn, their home became a social and cultural center. Their eldest daughter **Carrie Augusta Pease** married **George Graham** (1847-1897) there in 1875; the young couple lived with the Peases for a few years and introduced grandchildren to the gardens. When Carrie died in childbirth in 1882 (their youngest daughter Anne had died in 1862), Lucadia, together with her daughter **Julia Pease** (1853-1918), assumed care of Carrie's three children, including the newborn, at Woodlawn. Julia, a Vassar-educated woman interested in the arts and philanthropy, took over the family estate after her father died in 1883.

The three children – **Marshall** Pease Graham (1875-1910), Richard **Niles** Graham (1881-1959) and Carrie **Margaret** Graham (1882-1961) – had two grandfathers who were prominent in early Texas history. Their paternal grandfather, physician **Beriah Graham** (1804-1879), moved from North Carolina to Texas in 1846. Governor Sam Houston appointed Beriah as superintendent of the State Lunatic Asylum (later Austin State Hospital) in 1859, and Governor Edmund Davis appointed him as State Treasurer in 1872.⁶

The Pease estate, originally around 3,000 acres, extended from what is now West 12th Street on the south to West 24th Street on the north, and from Shoal Creek on the east to the Colorado River on the west, remained in the family until 1916, when the heirs of the estate—including Julia Pease, her sister's two remaining children (Niles and Carrie Margaret Graham) together with Margaret's husband Paul Crusemann—subdivided the property and formally announced the formation of **Enfield Realty and Home Building Company** with their first cousin, Walter **Murray Graham** (1879-1957), serving as president of the company.

⁶ The Greek Revival Beriah Graham House survives on 26th and Salado Streets in Austin.

After Julia Pease's death in 1918, the estate passed to Niles Graham and the Crusemanns. Woodlawn, the four-acre antebellum home, remains at the heart of the neighborhood at the intersection of Niles and Pease Roads. Governor Pease donated 22 acres along Shoal Creek, now Pease Park, to the City of Austin in 1875.

Niles, who attended Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, returned to Austin to work for Crawford & Byrne, a cotton company, and became active in business, civic and social life. In the 1920s he was the secretary of the Infield Petroleum Company, which had offices in Austin and Brownwood. Niles and his cousin Murray were partners in several businesses. Murray was the son of James Walter Graham (1854-1931), who was a brother to Niles' and Margaret's father. Murray married **Helen Gault Hood** in 1910. Niles married **Anita Laura Goeth** (1889-1953) in 1910; they lived at Woodlawn from 1911-1913 and from 1928-1938 with their three children. Anita Laura's father, Adolph C. Goeth, and her grandfather, Walter Tips, both headed prominent early Austin families.⁷ Governor and Mrs. Allan Shivers purchased Woodlawn from the family in 1956.

Enfield Neighborhood

The original Pease Estate was around 3,000 acres. On a bluff overlooking Shoal Creek, Pease Park and the downtown district, the Enfield neighborhood was designed to accommodate large, beautifully appointed homes in a rural setting. Many of the homes were built by Enfield Home Building and Realty.

Austin native **Hugo Kuehne**, founder of the University of Texas School of Architecture and its architectural library in 1910, was called upon to design a plan for Enfield that would preserve the unique country-like charm, topography, and natural beauty of the wooded area while

⁷ Graham and Pease family files, and Enfield Realty Company file, Austin History Center.

incorporating modern conveniences such as paved streets, concrete sidewalks, gas, electricity and water.

One hundred fourteen homes were built in the first eight years. Between 1924 and 1940, Westfield (1925), Tarry-Town (1934), and Westenfield (1932) opened additional tracts of the estate for development. Thanks to the Enfield Home Building and Realty Company, the neighborhoods had a swimming pool, a riding club, landscaped parks, a paper called “Westenfield Screech,” and in 1940 a shopping center. Enfield was one of the first suburbs to depend on the automobile for transportation, but Niles Graham was convinced the addition would not prosper without public transportation and agreed in 1926 to subsidize a bus line to serve Enfield if the line failed to make a profit.

The Pease-Graham family’s contribution to the development of Austin was a very important one, as the city had been lagging in economic development and population growth since the dream of turning the city into a manufacturing center had collapsed with the Colorado River dam in 1900. Austin continued to serve as the government and educational center, but it was not until 1928 that the city began to provide such infrastructure as paved streets, sewers, sidewalks, and parks with playgrounds and swimming pools.

Thus the Enfield development furthered the idea of Austin as a beautiful place to live, touting restrictive covenants that prevented the sale of alcohol, construction of apartments, or occupancy by those of African descent. Dwellings were required to have a 30-foot setback from the street. A minimum of \$3,500 for a one-story or \$7,500 for a two-story home was required. Expert craftsmanship was characteristic of the development.

Clearing and design layout for Enfield A was begun in 1915, with Kuehne⁸ serving as the landscape architect. Enfield Road bisected the addition, which began just west of Shoal Creek and ended just west of Lorrain Street, with Windsor Road and Parkway at the north edge, and 12th and 14th Streets as the south boundary.

Enfield took its name from Enfield, Connecticut, the birthplace and home of Governor Pease⁹ before his move to Texas, and its streets were named for Connecticut towns: Windsor, where his wife was born; Hartford, the state's capital; Poquonock, where Lucadia's family lived, and others. Niles Road was named in honor of Lucadia Niles Pease; Lorrain Street took its name from Governor Pease's father, Lorrain Thompson Pease. Other streets named for family members include Marshall, Murray and Pease.¹⁰

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE of 1509 Marshall Lane

The first lots in the Enfield suburb went on sale in September of 1916. It is thought that this home may have been the first home in the suburb. It was built by **Carrie Margaret Graham**, granddaughter of Governor Pease, and **Paul Conrad Crusemann**, a German emigrant who owned a successful cotton business in Fort Worth. The couple had married in 1903 and had one child, Paul Jr. The family moved several times between Germany and the U.S. before settling in Austin in 1916. Margaret, a sister of Niles Graham, then became a silent partner and co-developer in the Enfield Realty Company. Her husband served as the firm's secretary.

⁸ Kuehne left the University and established his private practice the same year he began work on Enfield.

⁹ Enfield, Connecticut, was first settled by Pease's direct ancestors on the banks of the Connecticut River. Windsor Road was given its name by Governor Pease when he made his home at Woodlawn.

¹⁰ Sources include: Farrell, Mary D. & Elizabeth Silverthorne. *First Ladies of Texas, the first one hundred years 1836-1936, A History*. Stillhouse Hollow Publishers, Inc. Belton, Texas. 1976. Austin History Center: Graham and Pease family files, and Enfield Realty Company file.

Initially, slow sales frustrated the developers. Thus, in addition to advertisements and auctions, the heirs of the Pease estate lured new homeowners to Enfield by building and decorating a home for one of the family members, who moved on to another lot after a few years. Niles Graham and his wife, Anita Laura Goeth, lived in several Enfield homes, including one on the southwest corner of Enfield and Lorrain (1920-22), before returning to Woodlawn. Enfield Realty's president, Murray Graham, lived at 15 Enfield Road in 1920, at Windsor Road and Marshall Lane in 1922, and on the southwest corner of Westlin (as West Lynn was then known) and Windsor Road in 1924. Enfield Realty & Home Building Company built a home for Murray's sister Belmont Graham and her husband Florian King at 1500 Lorrain in 1922; the Kings sold the home a year later. Belmont and Murray's father, **James Walter Graham** (1854-1931), a druggist, lived on the north side of Enfield Road just west of Lorraine Street by 1922.

The Crusemann-Marsh House is a perfect example of this sales technique. In 1917 the Crusemanns (or Enfield Realty & Home Building Company) built this home on the southeast corner of Windsor Road and Marshall Lane, facing Windsor Road, as a smaller, two-story traditional house with three upstairs bedrooms, an entrance hall, library, kitchen and dining room. The original house was less than half of its present size.

No records indicate when the Mansbendel and Weigl works were completed, or who commissioned them, but it is probable that Marsh was responsible. The property includes one of the first residential **swimming pools** in the city, but it is not certain when the pool was built, or whether by the Crusemanns, Clarks or Marshes. The pool is made of real cement, and the rock wall surrounding it is original. When in use, the pool could originally be drained once a week by an outlet that forced the water down the hill to Shoal Creek in Pease Park; the Bells installed a filter system and proper drain.

The property passed from the Pease-Graham heirs (R. Niles Graham, Margaret Graham & Paul Crusemann) to **Pearl and Charles Edgar Clark** in June and August of 1918. The Crusemann home was located on Lot 11, which sold for \$11,000, while Lot 10 sold for only \$1,000 in 1918, and for \$2,500 in 1923 when it passed briefly to L.J. Tankersly. C.E. Clark was a partner with **Leigh Ellis & Company, cotton exporters**. Ellis lived one house north of Clark on Windsor.

In March of 1924, **Charles Marsh**, co-owner and publisher of *The Austin American Statesman*, and his wife Leona purchased both lots, paying \$12,500 for Lot 11 and \$2,500 for Lot 10. The home was more than doubled in size when Marsh desired an English Tudor country house. During this post-war era, many new houses reflected continental architectural influences. The remodeling of the Crusemann house was so extensive that what resulted was almost an entirely new structure in the Jacobethan Revival style, known less reverently as Stockbrokers Tudor. It was decided that the front entrance of the house would face Marshall Lane rather than Windsor Road; Weigl created the screen on this door and Mansbendel carved two roses in the doorframe. The Marshes added a living room, solarium, two bedrooms, a screened porch, and the garage and servants' quarters. Seventy-two leaded diamond panes were put in the new windows of the added rooms.

Peter Mansbendel, a close friend of Niles Graham, and his apprentice Fortunat Weigl did much of the finish work in the Enfield Addition. It is believed that the Marshes utilized Mansbendel and Weigl extensively in their remodeling. The Marshes also added three fireplaces and two fountains, one outside and one in the breakfast nook. The Marshes moved into the house in 1925 with their three children (Amorette, John E. and Charles E. Jr.) and remained there until

around 1945. The 1930 census indicates that Leona's mother, Susan Johns, and three servants also lived in the home, which was valued at \$50,000.¹¹

CHARLES E. MARSH

Charles E. Marsh (1887-1964) left an indelible imprint on Austin's financial circles, on its newspapers, and on The University of Texas. One of six children born to Elizabeth and Andrew J. Marsh in Ohio, Charles attended the University of Oklahoma in 1908 and became the editor of the Akron Press four years later. Marsh married his first wife, Leona K., in 1912; they had three children.

He met E.S. Fentress in 1914 in Des Moines, Iowa, where Fentress was business manager of Scripps newspaper and Marsh was its editor. Going it on their own in 1917, the pair first bought and quickly sold the Fargo, North Dakota Forum, then bought the Waco Morning News, which became the Waco News-Tribune with acquisition of the weekly Waco Tribune. Fentress was the business manager and Marsh the editor and co-publisher. Marsh lived in Waco from 1917 through 1921.

Marsh and Fentress bought the American and Marsh moved to Austin in late 1921 as publisher. For the next 20 years Marsh took an active role in Austin business and Texas politics. The partners acquired numerous Texas dailies, including those at Port Arthur, Cleburne, Breckenridge, Mineral Wells, Cisco, Eastland, Ranger, Harlingen, Brownsville, Laredo and Corpus Christi; for a time they also operated newspapers in Wichita Falls and Texarkana.

¹¹ Sources include: Young, Ione, "The Cruseman-Marsh-Bell House," April 28, 1985, Heritage Society Austin. Based on an interview and tour of the home with Beverly Bell on April 26, 1995. Heritage Society of Austin files, 1995 home tour. The Austin Statesman, Dec. 31, 1964, Obituary of Charles E. Marsh. "In the Spotlight: 1509 Marshall Lane, Old Enfield," Austin American Statesman, Aug. 5, 2000. Austin History Center files on Pease, Enfield, Crusemann, Marsh, and Bell. Interviews with owners Melanie Tucker and Jerry Bell, 2008.

In December of 1924 the partners bought the Austin Evening Statesman, by then one of the oldest dailies in Texas, and combined it with The American. The American remained the morning paper, the Statesman an afternoon paper, and the Sunday morning issue of the American was renamed the Sunday American-Statesman.

Marsh was a member of the Texas A & M College Board from 1920-22, and the UT Board of Regents from 1922-24. The 1930 census indicates that Leona and their three children Amorette (16), John (14), and Charles E. Jr. (12) were living in the Marsh home with Leona's mother, Susan Johns, 64, and three servants – Roosevelt & Georgia Polk and Fred Coleman.

The Marshes enjoyed luxuries like a summer house on Cape Cod and trips to Europe even in the years of the Depression. Marsh traveled with Leona to England from NY in 1935 aboard a ship. As owner of a securities company, he helped Austin banks weather the Depression.

Fentress and Marsh began to shed their distant holdings in the 1930s, holding only the Waco, Austin and Port Arthur newspapers by the end of the decade, while Marsh went on to acquire newspapers in New England and the South.

In 1933 Marsh mediated an impasse between Governor Miriam A. Ferguson and Banking Commissioner James Shaw. The governor wanted to order all state banks closed in order to keep the Texas banks from going under; Shaw and the Fergusons were not on speaking terms. Shaw did issue the order, and President Roosevelt closed the nation's banks three days later.

Marsh later gave his support to Dan Moody in his race to defeat the Fergusons as governor. In another personal victory, Marsh took emergency action to prevent a move of the University of Texas from its present location to the Brackenridge Tract on the Colorado River by securing 2,000 signatures in less than 30 hours for a million-dollar bond to purchase 135 acres of land

adjoining the original 40 acres. He later gave scholarships to deserving UT students through his Public Welfare Foundation.

Marsh also had an impact in state government by helping Cone Johnson of Tyler write a law allowing the state to take over ownership of highway rights of way, formerly a county matter, and the Road Bond Assumption Act that paid off county highway indebtedness during the Depression. Marsh was an influential man who lobbied for a Lower Colorado River Authority to reduce flooding. He and his neighbor, **James Nash** (father of Beverly Nash Bell), later founded Capital National Bank.

Marsh and his mistress, **Alice Glass** (1911-1976), were good friends of President Lyndon Johnson and early supporters in Johnson's first race for Congress in 1937. Alice later became Marsh's second wife, by whom he had two more children. Alice encouraged Marsh to use his newspapers to support Johnson in his race for the United States House of Representatives in 1937. In 1938 she and Johnson assisted Austrian conductor Erich Leinsdorf, a refugee from the Nazis, in securing a permanent residence in the United States.

In 1934 Marsh took the lead in organizing Capital National Bank; as the bank's largest individual stockholder, he held controlling interest in the bank until 1943, when he sold his stock holdings. During his years in Austin, Marsh initiated a plan to build a Low Water Dam on the Colorado to form a lake inside Austin, and supported the construction of the Travis County Courthouse and the Municipal Auditorium as well as the change to a city council-manager plan, among other projects. He worked with Lyndon Johnson to create the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) reservoirs and generating plants, was at various times associated in banking and real estate ventures with Herman Brown, and was a major backer of Ft. Worth oilman Sid Richardson.

In Washington, Marsh was a confidant of Vice President Henry A. Wallace in FDR's third term and led an unsuccessful effort to secure Wallace's renomination in 1944; Harry Truman received the bid.

After 1940 Marsh expanded his newspaper interests in New England, New Jersey, and the Deep South and sold his interest in the Waco, Austin and Port Arthur newspapers in 1947 to Fentress and his son or brother.¹² Marsh moved to Washington in 1941 and died there in 1964. His third wife and widow was Claudia E. Haines, who traveled with him beginning in 1948.¹³

RIVERS – LAIRD – BELL – TUCKER: 1945-current

Some years after the Marshes divorced, Leona Marsh sold the home to **Waylon Rivers** of Elgin in March of 1945. He lived there less than a year before selling the house in early 1946 to rancher **Merwyn W. Laird** and his wife Marian.

Mrs. Laird sold Lots 9, 10 & 11 to **Beverly Anne Nash & Jerry Bell** in 1953. The Bells moved into the home in 1954 and lived in the home for over 40 years until 1996, when the Bells built a smaller home on Lot 9, where Mr. Bell lives today. The Bells modernized the kitchen and installed a sprinkler system, a security system, and a filter system and fence for the pool. The only exterior change the Bells made was to convert a neglected rose garden south of the house

¹² Early in 1948 all of the Marsh-Fentress newspapers became a part of Newspapers Incorporated. The American joined the Associated Press, subscribed to the daily wire services of the United Press International News Service, and acquired comics and other news features on an independent basis from NEA, the Chicago Tribune, and other syndicates. In 1973 the Austin American and the Austin Statesman combined to become an all-day newspaper issued in four daily editions as the Austin American-Statesman.

¹³ Austin History Center: Charles Marsh, biographical files, including "A 'Big Man' was Charles E. Marsh," by Raymond Brooks, Austin American Statesman, Dec. 31, 1964. The Austin Statesman, Dec. 31, 1964, Obituary of Charles E. Marsh. "City Pays Honor to Marsh," Austin Statesman editorial, Jan. 1, 1965. *Handbook of Texas* online: Alice Glass Kirkpatrick; Austin American Statesman.

(Lot 9) back into a tennis court. A clay court had been there before Mrs. Marsh turned the area into a rose garden.

The Bells brought one child with them when they moved into the house; another was born three months later, and in time the number of children increased to six. Thus, the Bells converted the servants' quarters into two bedrooms and a sitting room and attached the garage to the house via an upper enclosed walkway and lower brick wall with an arched opening. A later conversion created two apartments in the area over the garage annex, which were rented to students after their children left home. All but one of the Bell children were tennis players, and all attended UT and regularly invited their school friends to play tennis and swim in the pool. In 1993, when the last child married and left home, the Bells converted the tennis court into a home site and built a smaller house on that lot for themselves, at 1505 Marshall Lane.¹⁴

During the residency of the Bells, the home was included in a 1982 tour of five Enfield homes, and a 1995 Heritage Society Homes Tour of the Enfield area.

Beverly & Jerry Bell (1953-1996)

Jerry Arch Bell (1922-) received a degree in business administration from the University of Texas. He served four years in the Armed Forces and was an insurance broker for 40 years. He and his wife were childhood friends. Jerry served as president of the Headliners Club (1960) and was a member of the Knights of Holy Sepulchre, the USO, St. Austin's Catholic Church, past-president of St. Austin's Parents' Club, and member of the board of the UT Nursing School (1964). All six of the couple's children are graduates of UT and live in Texas.

¹⁴ AAS, Aug. 5, 2000, "In the Spotlight: 1509 Marshall Lane, Old Enfield."

Beverly Nash Bell (1926-1997) was a native and lifelong resident of Austin. Her mother was the daughter of John E. Thornton, who moved to Austin with his wife in the 1870s. Her father, **James P. Nash** (-1979), was a well-known Austin banker. Beverly grew up in the pink house at 1503 Marshall Lane, less than a block away, and had pleasant memories of the Marsh family. Beverly received a liberal arts degree from the University of Texas and planned to be a reporter; her grandfather and uncle were correspondents for the Dallas Morning News, and her mother wrote for the Austin newspaper.

Beverly was chiefly known as an active fundraiser for Seton Medical Center. In 1981 she was a founding member of the Seton Fund Board of Trustees, which raised more than \$40 million for the hospital. She founded the Seton Development Board in 1977 to sponsor the hospital's annual fundraising gala.

In 1973 Bell was named the first female member of the board of directors of Capital National Bank, taking the place of her father, who had founded the bank and served as its chairman. Beverly served on the CNB/Texas Commerce board for 20 years (1973-1993).

Bell also spearheaded a 1985-86 fundraising drive for St. Michael's Academy, the first Catholic high school in Austin. She was also a founder of Austin's Recording for the Blind. She was an Associate Member of the Settlement Club and a Sustaining Member and past president of the Junior League of Austin. She was honored by the Counseling and Pastoral Care Center of Austin as one of Austin's Ten Most Outstanding Citizens for 1987, and by the Austin Citizen newspaper as one of Austin's Ten Most Outstanding Women for 1979. She was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels and on the board of the USO.

Beverly was the parish council president of St. Austin's Catholic Church and received one of the highest honors the Catholic Church bestows when she became a Lady of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

The Bells had only one child when they moved into 1509 Marshall, five more followed: Jerry Jr., Nash Philip, Mary Catherine, Beverly Anne, Sheila and Chris. The Bells rebuilt the tennis court in 1967; the Marshes had converted the original court to a rose garden.¹⁵

Melanie & Thomas B. Tucker (2004-present)

The present owners, Melanie and Thomas Tucker, purchased the home in 2004. The Tuckers recognize the historic value of the home and wish to preserve it for future generations.

Melanie states: "My husband and I love old world architecture. We soundly believe that older homes not only have charm and character, but carry quality marksmanship that is no longer alive in our building world. Today's society believes in tearing it down and building it back big and gaudy. Many people don't realize the beauty of restoration nor are they encouraged to take on the costs involved. Restoration can be frustrating but rewarding. The structure, quality and charm of 1509 Marshall Lane can never be mass-produced nor could it ever have the history it maintains if ever destroyed. The home's details in its woodwork, flooring, windows, space and design has been loved by families over the 87 years of existence."

"Thomas and I fell in love with it from the moment we stepped on the front curb. My husband never left the library as I examined the rest of the home. It was overwhelming and in dire need of restoration. I was five months pregnant with number three on the way. The home

¹⁵ "The Jerry Bells: A Tennis Squad," Austin American Statesman, Dec. 6, 1970. "Seton supporter Bell dead of cancer at 71," AAS, Sept. 18, 1997. Austin History Center biographical files: Jerry & Beverly Bell. Interview with Jerry Bell, April 2008.

had original wiring, plumbing, gas and main water lines. The windows were broken and warped and there were leaks in bathrooms that caused a ceiling to fall when construction began. I was the main contractor for the home, and my husband never stepped foot back in the home until it was complete. I completed restoration in 3.5 months, giving birth 3 days before it was complete; my workers helped move us in. The house is full of love and children. We also have the privilege of my grandmother, Madelon Dieteze Hysaw, living with us.”

An honor graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington, Dr. Tucker received his doctorate from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. He completed an internship and residency at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and a fellowship in Hematology-Oncology at the Boston University Medical Center. A clinical researcher, Dr. Tucker is board certified in Internal Medicine and Oncology. Dr Tucker is a private practitioner with Southwest Regional Cancer Center in Austin. He has been listed twice in the National Guide to Top Doctors and is currently listed in Texas Monthly’s Super Doctors. He performed the first autologous stem cell transplant for cancer therapy in Central Texas. He is a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the American Society of Hematology. He is actively involved on the staff of area hospitals and is chairman of the Quality Assurance Committee at St. David’s Hospital. The Tuckers have four young children.

THE ARCHITECT

Although the specific architect of the house is uncertain, two architects have strong connections to the Grahams and to Enfield; either could have influenced or designed the Crusemann-Marsh home.¹⁶

¹⁶ In the opinion of architectural historian Blake Alexander, Kreisle would have been the more likely architect, as the remodeled design does not reflect Kuehne’s high design standards.

Hugo Kuehne (1884-1963) was serving as consulting architect at the time and designed model homes for Enfield. A native of Austin, Kuehne attended Austin High School, received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Texas in 1906, and a bachelor's in architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1908. Subsequently he worked as a draftsman for G. Henri Desmond, a Boston architect, before he was called back to Austin to organize an architectural program in the UT College of Engineering. The founder of the School of Architecture at UT, Kuehne served as an adjunct professor from 1910 to 1915 and founded the architecture library, which became one of the most important collections in the country. Kuehne was involved in the master plans for the Enfield suburb in 1915, and in the development of Austin's first master plan in 1928. Kuehne is probably best known for the Old Austin Library (1933), now the Austin History Center, at 400 West Ninth Street. Kuehne also designed the **Tudor-style Tavern** (1916) at Lamar and 15th Streets for Niles Graham.

Well-known architect **Edwin C. Kreisle** (1888-1971), who opened his practice in Austin in 1911, is the more likely candidate. He was also a friend of the Graham family and was frequently consulted to help monitor the architectural development of Enfield. A native of Austin, Kreisle held a 1907 degree in engineering from Bradley Polytechnic Institute in Peoria, Illinois. Concurrently, he studied architecture through International Correspondence School courses.

Kreisle designed and built many early Enfield homes, including 1502 Marshall Lane, 1702 Windsor (supervising architect with Atlee B. Ayers, 1919), a home for Dr. John C. Thomas at Three Niles Road, his own Tudor-style home at Five Niles Road (1928; altered), the Watt-Scruggs House (1921) at 1502 Marshall Lane, and many others in addition to the Paul Simms Tudor home at 212 West 33rd in Aldridge Place. Kreisle designed about 5,000 homes in the city, many in the suburbs of Old West Austin. Kreisle was known for attention to detailing and

reliance on the finish work of his friends, woodcarver Peter Mansbendel, who was a close friend of Niles Graham, and his apprentice, ironworker Fortunat Weigl.¹⁷

THE CRAFTSMEN: MANSBENDEL & WEIGL

PETER HEINRICH MANSBENDEL (1883-1940)¹⁸

Mansbendel was born to Johann Peter and Valeria Siegrist Mansbendel in Basel, Switzerland. The elder Mansbendel was a businessman who gave his children little beyond three meals a day and a grade school education.

At ten Peter had determined to become a woodcarver and was apprenticed to a local master named Ulrich Huber, with whom he trained for the next six years. There followed a period of study at the Industrial Arts School and then a stint of compulsory service in the Swiss Artillery. Once discharged, Mansbendel yielded to wanderlust and set out for London to examine the woodcarvings of the seventeenth-century English master, Grinling Gibbons.

He then departed for Paris to complete his education at the Coquier-Roland School of Art. Mansbendel immigrated to America in 1907, working first in Boston and then in New York, where he executed woodcarving for L. Marcotte and Company, an interior-design firm. During this time he also taught night classes in clay modeling at the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art.

While still in New York, at tea in his studio he met **Clotilde Shipe**, whose father, **Monroe M. Shipe**, was a prominent Austin real estate developer. Mansbendel followed Miss Shipe to

¹⁷ “Kreisle Home Typifies European Style,” West Austin News, June 26, 1987. Austin: Its Architects and Architecture (1826-1986), Austin Chapter AIA, 1986, page 67.

¹⁸ Biography from *Handbook of Texas* online. *Peter Mansbendel: A Swiss Woodcarver in Texas* (San Antonio: University of Texas Institute of Texas Cultures, 1977). Vertical Files, Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas at Austin.
<http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/MM/fma97.html>.

Austin, where they were married in 1911 and in time became the parents of a daughter, Valerie, born in 1913, and a son, Peter Monroe, born in 1920. The 1925 **Peter and Clotilde Shipe Mansbendel House** at 3824 Avenue F, a National Register property in the Hyde Park Historic District. Mansbendel personally carved wood decorations in the home.¹⁹

In 1915 Mansbendel opened a studio in a corner of the former Swedish Consulate and Swante Palm Library Building at 109 West Ninth Street, where Swante Palm once housed his library. He worked out of this studio until ill health overtook him late in 1939.

During the 1920s and 1930s leading architects in Austin, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio summoned Mansbendel to put finishing touches on their most important projects. His fireplace mantels were especially popular. In addition to architectural detail work, he also made furniture and decorative household items. He frequently interpreted Texas themes-historic persons, places, and events as well as the flora and fauna of his adopted land. His pieces are noted for their fidelity, strength, and spirit. He was always the seeker of the quick, spontaneous effect, always careful to avoid chiseling the life out of an object. Except for portrait carvings, surfaces were never sanded; crisp tool marks were left for texture and effect.

The market for Mansbendel's kind of artistry was in decline during his lifetime, however. Texas had only recently emerged from its frontier past, and the children of its pioneers had just begun to develop a serious interest in the fine arts. Moreover, Mansbendel was at the peak of his ability just as the Great Depression settled over the country. Nonetheless it was during these hard times that he produced some of his most notable public work: the magnificent carved doors of the Spanish Governor's Palace and of Mission San José at San Antonio, as well as the portrait medallions of former University of Texas presidents which are located in the Texas Union on the

¹⁹ <http://www.petermansbendel.com/mansbendelhome.asp>

University of Texas campus in Austin. In addition to his career in woodcarving, Mansbendel was actively engaged in the Austin Community Players, both as a set designer and performer, in the Austin Sängerrunde, and in St. David's Episcopal Church. He died of cancer on July 20, 1940, in Austin.

Mansbendel's work includes carvings at the Austin History Center, John Bremond House, Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest, First English Lutheran Church, Laguna Gloria, Scholz Bier Garten, The Tavern, Woodall Home (Mansion at Judges Hill), Commodore Perry Mansion, and many other stately homes in Austin. Mansbendel carved the mantle and possibly executed the beams of the 1925 Tudor Revival **Paul O. Simms House** (a City of Austin Historic Landmark) at 212 West 33rd in Aldridge Place. Designed by **Edwin Kreisle**, the Simms home is also graced by F. Weigl ironwork²⁰.

FORTUNAT WEIGL²¹

Fortunat Weigl (1884-1973), an early apprentice of **Peter Mansbendel**, completed much of the finish work in the Enfield Addition. Born March 21, 1884, in Bavaria, he worked for a master ironmonger there in his youth. He immigrated to Texas with his wife and sons, Lee and Herbert, in 1913. Fortunat spent his first years working at odd jobs for German-speaking tradesmen before turning to iron crafting. Among other jobs, he worked for more than a year as a woodcarver for Peter Mansbendel, who gave him his first local job as an iron craftsman. In 1917, when Weigl had been in Austin about four years, the woodcarver hired him to make four wrought-iron light fixtures that Mansbendel had designed. Mansbendel equipped Weigl with a

²⁰ The Simms home also has a stained glass window with a shield motif similar to that of the arched window in the Crusemann-Clark-Marsh-Bell home

²¹ *Hammers in Hand, Weigl Family Iron Works* published by the Laguna Gloria Art Museum in 1980; Austin American-Statesman, February 21, 1975; "The Weigls: Art Craftsmen in Iron," *Austin Homes & Gardens*, December 1979.

forge, an anvil, a hammer, a vise, some raw iron, and a sack of coal, for which he received the four light fixtures and \$3 a week in cash until the debt was settled.

Weigl's work can be seen in many Austin buildings, including the Austin Public Library, the French Legation, the Elisabet Ney Museum, Mayor Roy Butler's home, the Capitol, the Dobie Room in the University of Texas Academic Center, Woodlawn, the Gary Morrison home, the Bremond Block, the cemetery at the LBJ Ranch, and most of the important historic buildings in Austin. After Fortunat's death in 1973, Lee and Herbert continued to run the family iron business until their retirement in 1977. During their years they fashioned pieces for the celebrities of their era--icons such as Jack Benny, Lucille Ball and Bob Hope.

Identifying Weigl Iron Works²²

According to Fritz Weigl, grandson of Fortunat, techniques requiring added work and skill are characteristic of the southern German iron working tradition passed down through the Weigl family. A rose, for example, would be hammered and chiseled from a single piece of iron. The petals were not cut and hammered separately and then welded to the stem as might normally be done, thus each petal bears an imprint of the one beneath it on its underside. The Weigls considered making a one-piece rose the epitome of forging skill, requiring about 10 hours of work per rose. One of the hallmarks of Weigl iron work can be seen at the end of the cut stem of a rose; the Weigls forged a small curl of bark at the end of the stem as if the stem had been torn off and often chiseled a small circle or loop to replicate the boundary between the bark layer and the core wood of the stem.

²² Fritz Weigl of Dallas, son of Herbert Weigl and grandson of Fortunat Weigl, via email: "This information is a compilation of information from various sources including magazine articles written about the iron works when my father and uncle were still living (with input from them), tapes my father recorded, etc."

On their better work the Weigl often used features characteristic of South German iron working technique such as banding of scrolls to each other or the frame where they touch, and even threading of one part of a scroll through another part rather than welding them together. Scrolls are finished with tight ends or balls on their tips; the balls must be added when the scroll tip is heated at the forge, an extra, time-consuming step not followed by many suppliers. Almost all scroll tips had some kind of hand-forged ends, which usually appears as a ball, but sometimes as a flattened and curved blade, a fiddle head, or even a dragon or animal head. This is the easiest identifier for Weigl ironwork. In his early work, Fortunat sometimes chiseled tiny faces in the rivet heads as a humorous touch. Having forge work done on the scroll tips does not ensure that it is Weigl work, but absence of such forge work is a very strong indication that it is not.

APPENDIX

Legal Description: Lots 10 and 11, Enfield B subdivision of a part of Outlots #7 & #8, Division Z and a part of the George W. Spear League, Travis County, Texas, Plat Map Vol. 3, page 75

MAPS, etc.
Floor Plan
Site Plan

PHOTOS (see photo disk)

Photos by Phoebe Allen, January 2008

PICH 05407b	Historical Photo, Austin History Center
IMGP0891.JPG	Front/west façade
IMGP0814.JPG	Front façade w/ Weigl gate
IMGP0815.JPG	Detail of arched window to right of entry
IMGP0817.JPG	Front entry w/ Weigl screen
IMGP0817.JPG	North façade, formerly the main entry
IMGP0818.JPG	View of north and east facades
IMGP0820.JPG	Detail of east façade
IMGP0821.JPG	Arched gateway added by Bells
IMGP0822.JPG	Pool w/ original stone wall, rear view of garage to right
IMGP0823-24.JPG	Views of south façade
IMGP0825.JPG	Mantle and fireplace in library

IMGP0826-33.JPG	Details in library, Mansbendel carvings on mantle and surround
IMGP0834.JPG	Stairwell by Mansbendel in front entry hall
IMGP0835.JPG	Detail of stairwell
IMGP0836.JPG	Weigl screen on front entry
IMGP0837.JPG	Front door
IMGP0838.JPG	Stairwell detail
IMGP0839.JPG	Stairwell detail
IMGP0840, 41, 42, 44, 45, 48, 50.JPG	Details of Mansbendel library carvings
IMGP0851, 52.JPG	Dining room
IMGP0853.JPG	Arched stained-glass window viewed from interior
IMGP0854.JPG	Light fixture (Weigl)
IMGP0855.JPG	Weigl ironwork at front entry
IMGP0856.JPG	Stained-glass window from interior
IMGP0857.JPG	Master bedroom mantle
IMGP0858.JPG	Master bedroom closet (original sliding racks in closet, arched doorway)
IMGP0856.JPG	Living room, doors to screened porch
IMGP0860.JPG	Living room bay windows
IMGP0862.JPG	View from Windsor Road of north and west facades
IMGP0863.JPG	View approaching home from north at Windsor Road
IMGP0864.JPG	View approaching from south on Windsor Road
IMGP0866.JPG	Weigl gate at front entry
IMGP0867.JPG	Nash home at 1503 Marshall Lane
IMGP0913.JPG	Simms House in Aldridge Place (similar style), front façade
IMGP0914.JPG	Simms House in Aldridge Place, front façade
IMGP0915.JPG	Simms House in Aldridge Place, detail of stained glass window

Black & White Photos (similar views to above), February 2008 by Phoebe Allen

10840022	View of attached garage w/upper apartment
10850002	Rear view of attached garage (on right)
10850024	Driveway side gate (Weigl)

Deed Chronology

1509 Marshall Lane

Legal Description: Lots 10 and 11, Enfield B subdivision of a part of Outlots #7 & #8, Division Z and a part of the George W. Spear League, Travis County, Texas, Plat Map Vol. 3, page 75

DATE	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	NOTES
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6/1/1918R.	Niles Graham & Margaret Graham Crusemann & Paul Crusemann to C.E.Clark & wife Pearl T. Clark, \$4,000 cash + \$7,000 note to Enfield Realty & Home Building Company, with improvements, required insurance against fire loss, V. 343/12-17 ; requirement that residence face Windsor; lot #11		
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8/22/1918 R. Niles Graham & Margaret Graham Crusemann & Paul Crusemann to C.E. Clark & wife – (filed 4/14/23) **348/309** \$1000, lot #10

4/7/1923 C.E. Clark to L.J. Tankersly Jr., Book **349/142**, \$2,500, lot #10

3/21/1924 Pearl & C.E. Clark to **Charles E. Marsh**, Vol. **360/116**, \$12,500, lot #11

3/21/1924 L.J. Tankersley Jr. & wife to **Charles E. Marsh**, Vol. **360/121**, \$2,500; lot #10

3/14-20/1945 Leona Marsh to **W.C. Rivers** & Luruth Smith Rivers

2/24/1945 Charles E. Marsh of Florida to W. C. Rivers (Lot #9), 755/534

1/2/1946 W.C. Rivers to **Marian & M.W. Pete Laird**, \$14,000, Vol. 773/575

12/10/1953 Marian C. Laird to Beverly Anne Nash & Jerry **Bell**, Vol. 01415/00511 \$25,000, lots 9, 10 & 11

6/28/1995 Jerry Bell & Beverly Anne Nash Bell to Patrick F. **Thompson**, single
Vol. 12468/1265 \$500,000, lots #9, 10 & 11

2/15/1996 Patrick F. Thompson to Kay Lynn & Richard E. **Gray III**, Vol. 12624/00831, \$450,000, lots 10 & 11

3/24/2004 Richard E. Gray and Kay Lynn Watson Gray to Thomas B. **Tucker** and
Melanie A. Tucker \$980,000 Lots 10 & 11, #2004056209

Occupancy Research for 1509 Marshall Lane & related listings

Year	Occupant Name and Reference	Source: City Directories
1918	No Marshall Lane listed Crusemann, Paul (Margt G) sec-treas Enfield Realty & Home Bldg Co, res Windsor 1 mi. nw of W. 12 th Graham, W. Murray, res 1220 Castle Hill <u>Windsor Av:</u> – from 1206 Blanco nw beyond city limits: ss - Key, S.N. ss - Knies, A.T. ns – Pease Park ws – Travis Cty Poor farm ws – Winn, Marget Mrs. (o) ws – Strade, chars ® ss – Pease, Julia M. Miss (o) ss – Crusemann, Paul	
1920	Clark, C. Edgar (Pearl T.; Leigh Ellis & Co.) res Windsor av se cor Marshall Ln Ellis, Leigh (Frances T) res ss Windsor av 1 w Marshall Ln (partner of Clark in Leigh Ellis & Co. cotton exporters) Crusemann, Paul, sec-treas Enfield Realty & Home Bldg Co, res Ft. Worth Graham, W. Murray (Helen H) – res 15 Enfield Rd. Enfield Realty & Home Building Co, Inc. Wm. Graham, Pres & Gen. Mgr.; R. Niles Graham, VP; Paul Crusemann, sec- treas; H.F. Kuehne, Consulting Architect	
1922	Windsor Av: 1224 - Key; 1226 - Watt; 1408 - Buford; 1410 – Woodward Clark, C. Edgar r ws Windsor av 1 n of 1410 Ellis, r ws Windsor 2 n of 1410 Travis County Poor Farm, ws Windsor Av.	

Graham, Murray – r. Windsor Rd & Marshall Lane (ws Marshall 3n)
 Graham, Niles – r. ws Lorrain 1s Enfield Rd.
 Crusemann, Paul (Margt) – ws Windsor 1 n. Westlin
 Marsh, Chas E. (Leona) – Pres. Am Pub co, editor Austin American, r. 901 Baylor

1924 **Clark, Chas E** (Pearl) cotton, r ws Windsor av 1 n of 1410
 Crusemann, Paul (Margt), r. Sunset Hill
 Graham, W. Muray, r. Westlin sw cor Windsor Rd
 Marsh, Chas E, r. 3100 Speedway
 Windsor Ave – Travis County Poor Farm, then Taylor Dairy
 Marshall Lane – no listing

1927 Marsh, C.E. 1309 Marshall Lane
 Crusemann, P. (Margt) h. Sunset Hill, Windsor Rd.
 Windsor – w.s. 1-4 mi. Travis County Poor Farm (1/4 mile west of RR)
 Graham, Murray, 1318 W. Lynn

1929 Marsh, C.E. (#1309)
 1930 Marsh, Charles E. (Leona) Pres American Publishing Co, Editor Austin American, Austin Statesman, r
 1309 Marshall La
 1935 same
 1939 same, 1309 (no listings in 1400s or 1500s)
 1940 Marsh, Chas E, h 1509 Marshall Lane (street numbers change) Marsh, Chas E (1509), pres American
 Publishing Co, Editor Austin American, Austin Statesman, and Sunday American-Statesman
 1940 same (Leona)
 1941 same
 1944-45 Marsh, Leona K. (**wid** [sic] Chas E; 1) h 1509 Marshall Lane

1947 Laird, Merwyn W. (Marian) rancher h 1509 Marshall Lane listed as (o)
 no listing for Leona Marsh

1949 Merwyn Laird, (o) at 1509 Marshall Lane
 1952 Laird, Merwyn W. (o) & Jas. W. Williams, nurse

1955 **Bell, Jerry, Beverly** (o), agent Southland Life Insurance Co. r1509 Marshall

1996-7 Patrick Thompson, Tim Jones

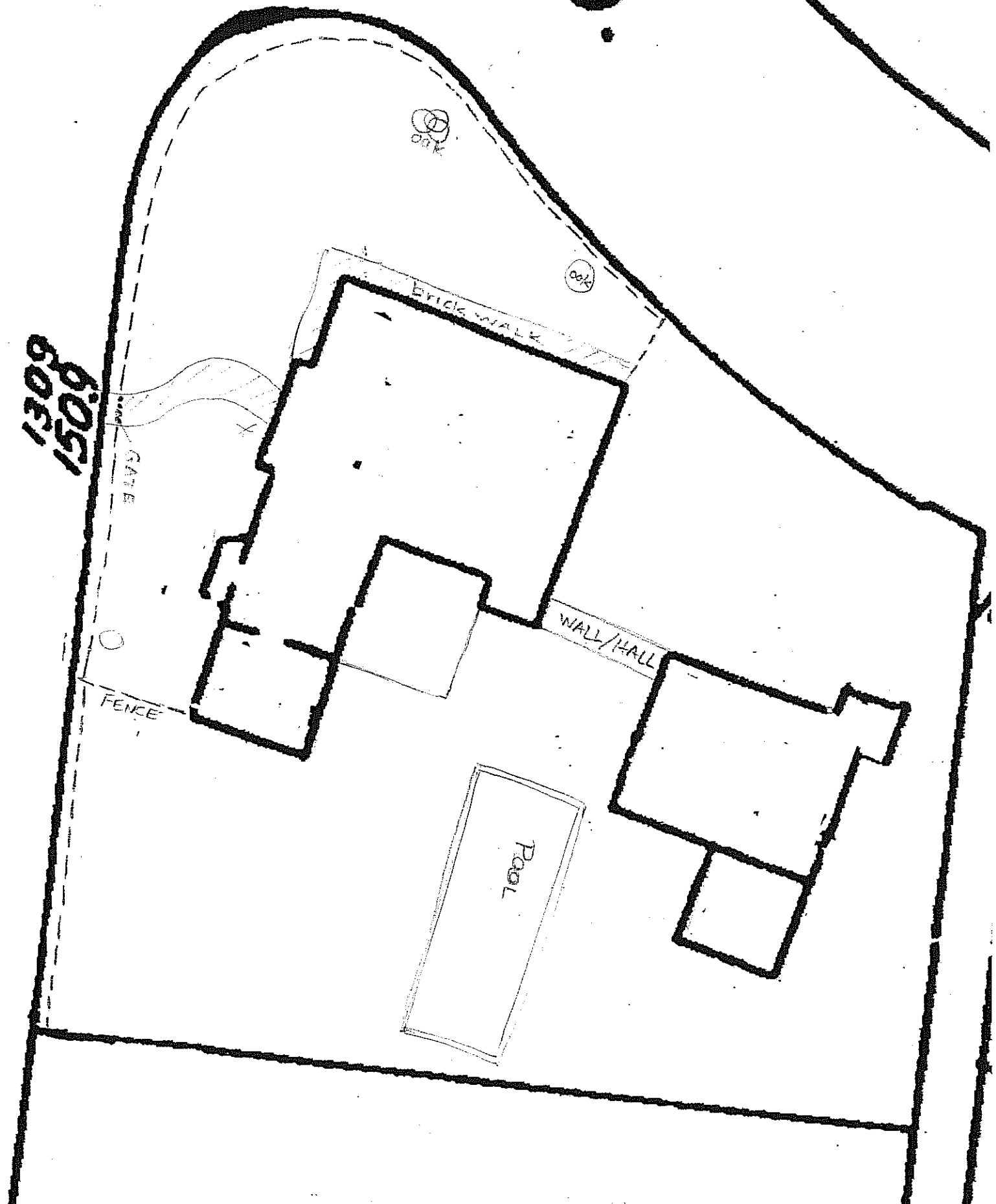
1997 Rick Gray, Wylie Moore, M.D.
 1998-99 Rick Gray, Jake Andrews
 1999-2002 Rick Gray, C. Weyandt

2004 Tucker, Thomas & Melanie...to present

Site Plan 1509 Marshall Lane

R.D.

1308
1509
1508























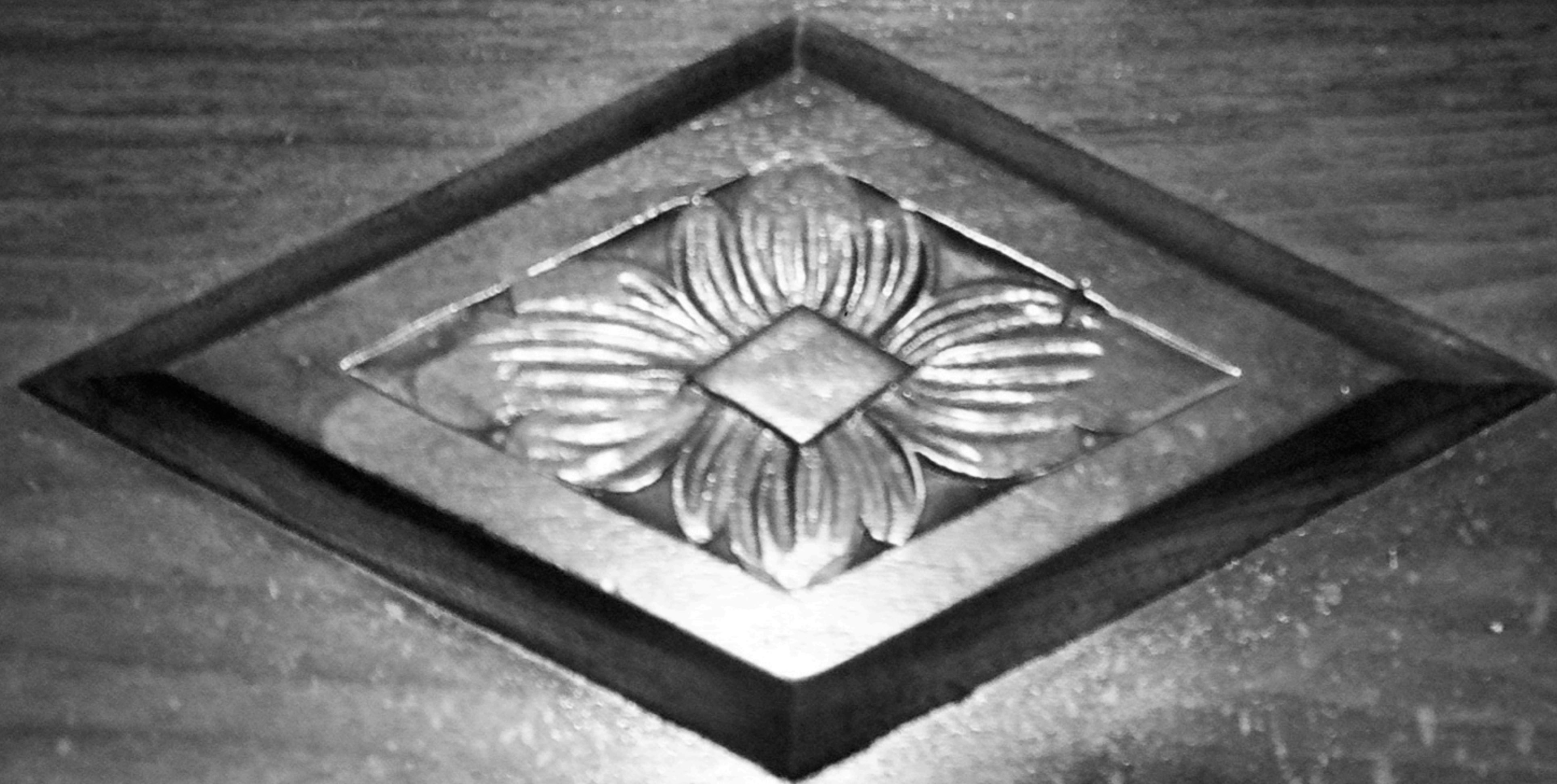


























































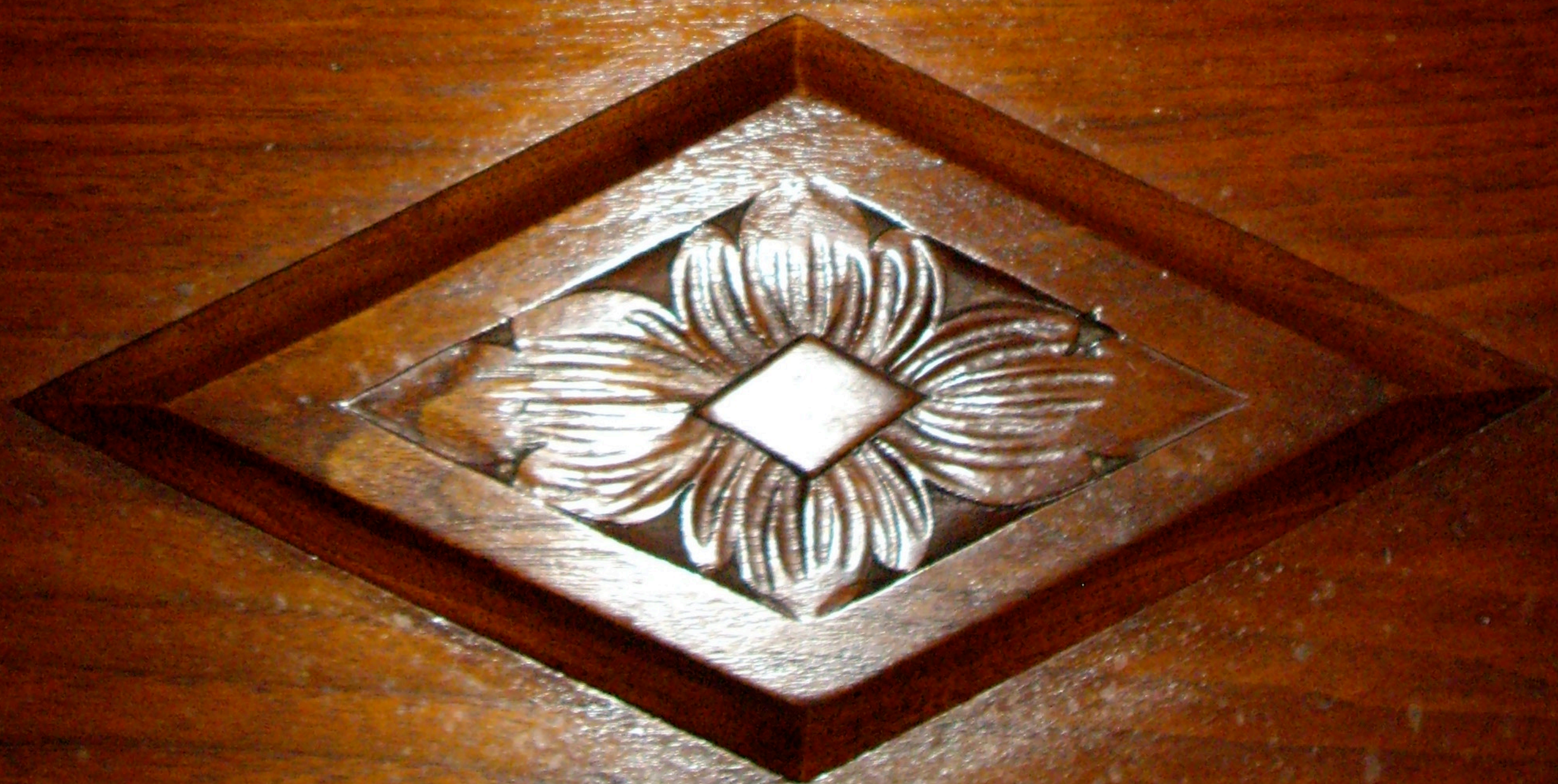












































































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