BK014448PG00633

ORDINANCE NO. (2011) 907

WAKE COUNTY, NC 129
LAURA M RIDDICK
REGISTER OF DEEDS
PRESENTED & RECORDED ON

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE PAUL AND ELSIE STAHL HOUSE IN THE PLANNING JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, A HISTORIC LANDMARK

800K:014448 PAGE:00633 - 00637

WHEREAS, the property located at 3017 Granville Drive, Raleigh, NC, is owned by Paul O. Jr. and Carol K. Stahl; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina authorized the creation of the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission for the City of Raleigh and otherwise provided for the preservation of certain historic sites and buildings by the passage of Part 3C, Chapter 160A, Article 19 of the North Carolina General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission has made an investigation and recommended the following property be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources has made an analysis and recommendation that the following property be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, on the 7th day of June, 2011, a joint public hearing was held in the Council Chamber of the Avery C. Upchurch Municipal Complex, Raleigh, before the City Council of the City of Raleigh and the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission to determine whether the hereinafter described property should be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, all requirements of Part 3C, Chapter 160A, Article 19 of the North Carolina General Statutes, preceding the adoption of this ordinance, have been complied with.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA THAT:

<u>Section 1</u>. The property designated as Paul and Elsie Stahl House, in the planning jurisdiction of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, be and is declared a Raleigh Historic Landmark. Said property being more particularly described as follows:

The property located at 3017 Granville Drive, Raleigh, NC, owned by Paul O. Jr. and Carol K. Stahl, that property described in deed book 5967, page 657 recorded in Wake County Registry, comprising approximately .87 acres.

<u>Section 2</u>. Those elements of the property that are integral to its historical, prehistorical, architectural, archaeological and/or cultural significance or any combination thereof are as follows:

The one-story house and the .87 acres on which it sits. The Stahl House is architecturally and historically significant in the development of post-war residential architecture in Raleigh as an excellent and remarkably intact example

Ordinance No. (2011) 907 Adopted: 6/21/11

Page 2 Effective: 6/21/11

of a Contemporary Ranch. The house is significant because of its rare-for-Raleigh contemporary architectural design and not as an example of the Ranch type. Its character defining features include window walls, an open and flexible interior floor plan, front and back patios, an integrated carport, post-and-beam construction, and a low-pitched side-gable roof. The Stahl House possesses a level of architectural integrity very rarely seen, likely due to its continued ownership by the same family – designed and built for Paul O. Stahl Sr. and his wife Elsie H. Stahl and then owned by Paul Stahl Jr. and his wife Carol.

Located at 3017 Granville Drive across from the Carolina Country Club golf course in the Country Club Hills neighborhood, the 1956 house was designed by local architect Milton Small. Curving roads, rolling hills, and a mature tree canopy characterize the neighborhood; the Stahl House faces southeast and is set in the middle of a generously deep parcel with mature pines and grassy front and back yards. At the southwest side of the house, the parcel's grade slopes down to expose a partial basement and a straight paved drive along the northeast edge of the parcel leads from Granville Drive to the carport where the drive flares.

A detailed architectural description and historical background is found in the 2010 Raleigh Historic Landmark designation application and report.

Section 3. No portion of the exterior features of any building, site, structure, or object (including walls, windows, fences, light fixtures, steps, pavement, paths, or any other appurtenant features), trees, nor above ground utility structure located on the hereinbefore described property that is designated in this ordinance may be altered, restored, moved, remodeled, or reconstructed so that a change in design, material or outer appearance occurs unless and until a certificate of appropriateness is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission or its successors; provided however that the Raleigh Planning Director or designee may approve certificates of appropriateness for minor works as listed in the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission.

Section 4. No building, site, structure, or object (including walls, windows, fences, light fixtures, steps, pavement, paths, or any other appurtenant features), trees, nor above ground utility structure located on the hereinbefore described property that is designated in this ordinance may be demolished unless and until either approval of demolition is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission or a period of three hundred sixty-five (365) days has elapsed following final review by the Commission of a request for demolition (or any longer period of time required by N.C.G.S. 160A-400.14 as it maybe amended hereafter); provided however, that demolition may be denied by the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission in the event that the State Historic Preservation Officer determines that the building, site, or structure has statewide significance as provided by N.C.G.S. 160A-400.14.

<u>Section 5.</u> The Raleigh Historic Districts Commission shall have no jurisdiction over the interior features of the property.

BK014448PG00635

Ordinance No. (2011) 907 Adopted: 6/21/11

<u>Section 6</u>. All owners and occupants of the property hereinabove described, whose identity and addresses can be ascertained by the exercise of due diligence shall be sent by certified mail a copy of this ordinance.

Page 3

Effective: 6/21/11

<u>Section 7</u>. This ordinance shall be indexed after the property owner's name in the grantor and grantee indexes in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Wake County.

Section 8. City administration and the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have erected an appropriate sign on the site hereinabove described setting forth the fact that said site has been designated a historic landmark by action of the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission and the City Council of the City of Raleigh provided, should the owners of the hereinabove described property not consent to the erection of said sign on the described premises, City administration and the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have said sign located on the public right-of-way adjacent to said property.

<u>Section 9</u>. In the event any building, site, structure, or object designated by this ordinance is demolished in accordance with the ordinances of the City of Raleigh, this ordinance shall automatically be null and void.

Section 10. Any violation of this ordinance shall be unlawful as by law provided.

Adopted: June 21, 2011

Effective: June 21, 2011

Distribution: Department of City Planning

Inspections Department

Raleigh Historic Districts Commission

Wake County Tax Assessor

Property Owner and Occupant (if not the owner)

Registrar of Deeds

BK014448PG00636

www.raleighnc.gov



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA) COUNTY OF WAKE)

CERTIFICATION

I, Ralph L. Puccini, Assistant Deputy Clerk of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and exact copy of City of Raleigh

Ordinance No. (2011) 907 adopted June 21, 2011.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have unto set my hand and have caused the Seal of the City of Raleigh to be affixed this 19th day of August, 2011.



One Exchange Plaza 1 Exchange Plaza, Suite 1020 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 Ralph L. Puccini Assistant Deputy Clerk

City of Raleigh
Post Office Box 590 • Raleigh
North Carolina 27602-0590
(Mailing Address)
Printed on Recycled Paper

Municipal Building 222 West Hargett Street Raleigh, North Carolina 27601



BOOK:014448 PAGE:00633 - 00637

Yellow probate sheet is a vital part of your recorded document. Please retain with original document and submit for rerecording.



Wake County Register of Deeds Laura M. Riddick Register of Deeds

This Customer Group

of Time Stamps Needed

This Document

New Time Stamp
of Pages

22.004-8/15/11

Raleigh Department of City Planning One Exchange Plaza 3rd floor Raleigh, NC 27602 919-516-2626

Fee	
Amt Paid	
Check #	
Rec'd Date:	
Rec'd By:	
Completion 1	Date:

www.raleighnc.gov/planning

(Processing Fee: \$266.00 - valid until June 30, 2011 - Checks payable to the City of Raleigh.)

RALEIGH HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION APPLICATION

This application initiates consideration of a property for designation as a Raleigh Historic Landmark by the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission (RHDC) and the Raleigh City Council. It enables evaluation of the resource to determine if it qualifies for designation. The evaluation is made by the Research Committee of the RHDC, which makes its recommendation to the full commission which in turn makes its recommendation to the City Council. Procedures for administration by the RHDC are outlined in the Raleigh City Code, Section 10-1053.

Please type if possible. Use 8-1/2" x 11" paper for supporting documentation and if additional space is needed. All materials submitted become the property of the RHDC and cannot be returned. Return completed application to the RHDC office at One Exchange Plaza, Suite 300, Raleigh or mail to:

Raleigh Historic Districts Commission PO Box 829 Century Station Raleigh, NC 27602

1. Name of Property (if historic name is unknown, give current name or street address):
Historic Name: Paul O. and Elsie Stahl House
Current Name:
2. Location:
Street Address: _3017 Granville Drive, Raleigh, NC 27609
NC PIN No.: 0795948418
(Can be obtained from http://imaps.co.wake.nc.us/imaps/)
Legal Owner of Property (If more than one, list primary contact): Name: Paul and Carol Stahl
Address: 3017 Granville Drive,
City: Raleigh State: NC Zip: 27609
Telephone No: (919) (838)-(2019) Fax No. () ()-()
E-Mail: postahl@bellsouth.net
Applicant/Contact Person (If other than owner): Name: Cynthia de Miranda, MdM Historical Consultants, Inc., for Raleigh Historic Districts Commission
Address: PO Box 1399
City: Durham State: NC Zip: 27702
Telephone No: (919) (906)-(3136) Fax No. () ()-()
E-Wail: chuthia@mdmpc.com

5. General Data/Site Information:

Date of Construction	and mai	or additions/	/alterations:	1956

Date of Construction and major	additions/alterat	ions: 1956				
Number, type, and date of cons	truction of outbu	ildings: One p	orefabricated shed, added ca. 1994			
Approximate lot size or acreage	: .87 acres					
Architect, builder, carpenter, an contractor	d/or mason: Milto	on Small, arch	nitect, and Frank Walser, general			
Original Use: dwelling						
Present Use: dwelling						
6. Classification:						
A. Category (check all that app	oly):					
Building(s) X Structu		Object 🗌	Site			
B. Ownership						
Private X						
Public Local		State	Federal 🗌			
C. Number of contributing and non-contributing resources on the property:						
	Contribu	iting	Noncontributing			
Buildings	1 1		-			
Structures Objects	0		<u> </u>			
D. Previous field documentatio	-	whom): Ruth	-			
E. National Register of Historic	Places Status:					
Check One:						

Check One:

Entered Date:	Nominated		
Determined Eligible Date:	Determined Not Eligible Date:		
Nomination Not Requested X	Removed Date:		
Significant changes in integrity since listing should be noted in section 10.B. below.			

7.	Reason for Request: For the	e recognition an	d retention of an	historically significant	resource

8. Is the property income producing? Yes	No X		Yes	ng?	produ	' income	operty	the r	Is	8.
--	------	--	-----	-----	-------	----------	--------	-------	----	----

- 9. Are any interior spaces being included for designation? Yes \(\square\) No X
- 10. Supporting Documentation (Attach to application on separate sheets. Please type or print):

A. Photographs/Slides:

At least two sets of current exterior archival-grade photographic prints (minimum print size 5"x7") of all facades of the building and at least one photo of all other contributing and non-contributing resources. If interior spaces of the property are being considered for designation, please include two sets of photos for these features. Prints may be created by using archival-grade black and white film photography and processing or digital photography. The minimum standard for a digital print is 5x7 at a resolution of 300 pixels per inch (ppi). This translates into a pixel dimension of 1950 x 1350. Digital images must be printed with an acceptable ink and paper Park determined combination as by the National Service to: http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/publications/bulletins/photopolicy/index.htm. All photographs must be labeled with the name of the structure, address and date the photograph was taken with pencil or archival-approved photo pen. In addition to prints, all digital images should be submitted on a CD-R in TIF format. Any additional exterior or interior views and views of other structures on the property (color, black and white, or slides) will be helpful.

B. Boundary Map:

Please include a map showing the location of the property. A sketch map is acceptable, but please note street names and number. Any other structures on the property should also be shown. Please include a "North" arrow. Map should be no larger than 11" x 17". A tax map with boundaries marked is preferred, which can be found at: http://imaps.co.wake.nc.us/imaps/.

C. Architectural Significance:

Describe the property, including exterior architectural features, additions, remodelings, and alterations. Also describe significant outbuildings and landscape features. If the owner is including interior features in the nomination for the purpose of design review protection; describe them in detail and note their locations. Include a statement regarding the architectural significance of the property.

D. Historic Significance:

Note any significant events, people, and/or families associated with the property. Include all major owners. Note if the property has ever been recorded during a historic building survey by the City of Raleigh or by the NC State Historic Preservation Office. If so, who and when? (See application item 6.D.) Please include a bibliography of sources. Information regarding prior designations can be found by contacting the Survey and Planning Branch of the NC State Historic Preservation Office (NCSHPO) at 919-807-6570, 919-807-6573 or at: http://www.hpo.dcr.state.nc.us/spbranch.htm.

E. Special Significance Summary:

Include a one to two paragraph summary of those elements of the property that are integral to its historical, prehistorical, architectural, archaeological, and/or cultural importance.



Overall view from front lawn, showing shed (L) and facade of house (C)



Facade and NE elevation, view from E



Facade, showing windowwalls (L) and front entry at recessed porch (center R)



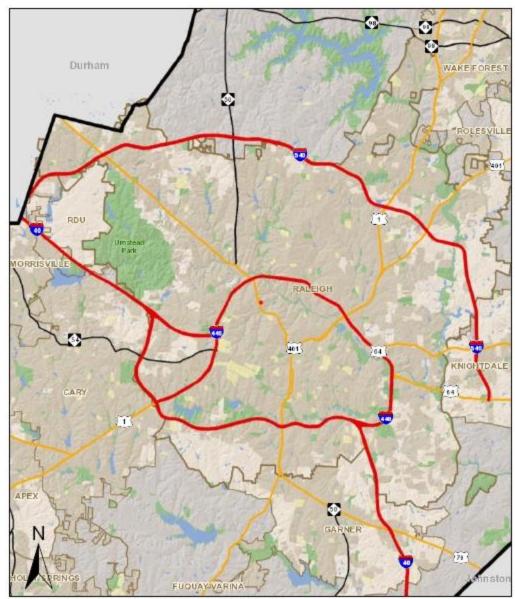
Rear elevation, view from N



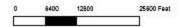
Rear Elevation, view from W



SW elevation and facade, view from S

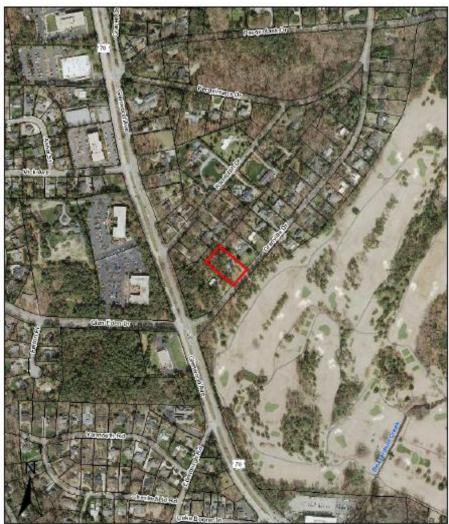


City-wide Location Map for 3017 Granville Drive









Location Map for 3017 Granville Drive

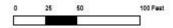








Paul and Elsie Stahl House, 3017 Granville Drive, Raleigh, Wake C



Description

The Stahl House is an excellent and intact example of a Contemporary Ranch; its defining features include window walls, an open and flexible interior floor plan, front and back patios, an integrated carport, post-and-beam construction, and a low-pitched sidegable roof. The 1956 house, designed by local architect Milton Small, stands across Granville Drive from the Carolina Country Club golf course in the Country Club Hills neighborhood of Raleigh, northwest of the downtown commercial district. Curving roads, rolling hills, and a mature tree canopy characterize the neighborhood, which is generally populated by mid-twentieth-century dwellings in both contemporary and traditional styles. The Stahl House faces southeast and is set in the middle of a generously deep parcel. Mature pines tower over the house in the grassy front and back yards. Islands of azalea bushes also dot the back lawn; more azaleas line the perimeter of the rear yard. At the southwest side of the house, the parcel's grade slopes down to expose a partial basement. A straight paved drive along the northeast edge of the parcel leads from Granville Drive to the northeast side of the house. The drive flares at its terminus, providing paved parking beneath the carport.

Trussed wood roof rafters with a thirty-six-foot span enable an open interior plan. Post-and-beam construction supports the rafters and allows for the distinctive window walls along the facade and rear elevation. Posts and beams are four-by-four wood columns; posts are set every four feet across the facade and rear elevation and beams are set into steel channels for reinforcement. The entire construction is exposed at the exterior, creating a steady rhythm of slender verticals across the width of the house—a nod to the Miesian style Small generally employed. The unpainted wood of the structural elements, however, differs from Mies's customary metal and marble and contributes a warmth and naturalness that complement the verdant surroundings. The house also features vertical wood siding painted dove gray, cement-asbestos panels in both dove gray and a contrasting lemon yellow, and a broad end chimney of Wake County stone at the northeast side elevation.

Roughly half of the facade is recessed behind the supporting posts, creating an engaged front patio at the northeast end. The patio is paved with concrete, excepting an island planting area in the center. The recessed portion of the facade wall holds the front entrance—a full-height wood door—at its left edge. A fixed, floor-to-ceiling window is to the right of the door and fills a single bay between support posts; a matching window is at the northeast end of the facade. Vertical wood siding painted dove gray sheathes the three blind bays between the windows. Left of the front entrance, in the remainder of the facade, two window walls light a pair of bedrooms. Each window wall occupies three bays and features fixed-glass in the upper two-thirds and a hopper window below. A single blind bay between the window walls features vertical wood siding.

Vertical wood siding also appears at the gable walls of the side elevations, with cement asbestos board in the gable ends themselves; all is painted dove gray. The southwest

Continuation Page 8 of 13 Section C: Architectural Significance DRAFT -- September 2010

elevation has a large louvered vent in the center bay of the gable end and a slightly offcentered pair of hopper windows in the wall below.

The similarly off-center stone chimney dominates the northeast elevation and replaces the windows seen at the opposite elevation. The roof extends five bays beyond the northeast elevation, creating the attached carport. The gable end of the carport matches that of the dwelling's southwest elevation. A small shed occupies the north corner of the carport and features repeats the dove gray wood siding, adding louvered wood doors for access.

The dramatic rear elevation is nearly all glass. Moving from left to right, the first four bays feature full-height, single-light glass walls, two fixed and two sliding. The next four are a combination of windows and yellow cement-asbestos panels, followed by another pair of full-height windows, including another sliding glass door. The final three bays, at the back bedroom, repeat the window-wall pattern of the front bedrooms. A concrete patio stretches across the entire rear elevation.

The interior is a classic Ranch floor plan, with the bedrooms at one end of the broad, single-story house and public spaces at the other end. As at the exterior, distinctive architectural elements and materials set the house apart from the typical Ranch. Interior as well as exterior doors are full-height, an elegant touch that also facilitates airflow throughout the dwelling. Partial, pierced, or movable walls of fir and maple paneling define functional space in the open-plan public areas and provide flexibility while maintaining the fluidity of the space.

At the front entrance, a nearly-full-height custom-built cabinet creates a foyer and divides the dining room from the foyer. The cabinet holds a coat closet behind hinged doors on the foyer side and shelving behind a sliding panel on the dining room side. The sliding panel is adorned with a large "X" rendered in wood molding. Uplighting on top of the cabinet provides indirect lighting.

The dining room wall opposite the cabinet is a full-height paneled wall with a centered cutout that functions as a pass-through from the kitchen, on the other side of the wall. The pass-through can be closed off from the kitchen, creating a recessed nook on the dining room side. A floor-to-ceiling sliding wood panel forms the southwest wall of the dining room; when this panel slides away, the dining room opens into an informal dining area adjacent to the kitchen. The dining room is completely open to the living room, which occupies the northeast end of the house.

The informal dining area overlooks the back yard through the three-bay-wide full-height window wall at the rear elevation; the center window panel is a sliding door, providing direct access to the back patio and yard beyond. The galley kitchen spans three bays of the rear elevation between the informal dining area and the living room. The placement of kitchen cabinets along the exterior wall corresponds to the yellow cement-asbestos panels at the exterior. Window glass between cabinets and countertops keeps the kitchen bright and maintains the transparency of the rear elevation. Additional cabinets and a novel range occupy the kitchen side of the wall shared with the dining room. Each burner

Continuation Page 9 of 13 Section C: Architectural Significance DRAFT -- September 2010

of the electric range is set into an individual hinged block that flips up into the wall, clearing the countertop for additional workspace when the burners are not in use. Countertops are black formica and yellow ceramic tile, and cabinets are unpainted wood.

The bedrooms, clustered in the southwest end of the house, are accessible either from a hall leading from the front foyer or from a transverse hall between the informal dining area and the bedrooms. Two smaller bedrooms are at the front of the house; they each have a window wall and as well as a built-in dresser and closet with floor-to-ceiling doors on their shared wall. The window wall in the master bedroom overlooks the rear yard. The wall opposite has closets and the door into the master bathroom. A second bathroom is in the transverse hall, situated between the master bedroom and the front bedrooms. Across the hall is a door leading to the partial basement, which houses storage and mechanical systems. An exterior door in the basement opens to a brick exterior stair that leads back up to grade.

The Stahl House possesses a level of architectural integrity very rarely seen, likely due to its continued ownership by the same family. The house has seen no alterations to its design, no significant replacement of materials or architectural elements, and has had no additions. Original materials and finishes, light fixtures, bathroom and kitchen fixtures, and even kitchen appliances remain. Many pieces of original furnishings also remain. Mechanical systems have been updated and carpeting has been installed over original floors.

Significance

The house is significant in the development of post-war residential architecture in Raleigh as an excellent and intact example of a Contemporary Ranch house. The house and this architectural type were identified locally in Ruth Little's survey update of historic architecture in Raleigh, completed for the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission in 2006; the report resulting from the survey is "The Development of Modern Architecture in Raleigh 1945-1965."

The report describes the Contemporary Ranch as possessing "innovative forms such as groupings of large windows, post-and-beam frameworks, wide eaves with exposed joists, clerestory windows, and the integration of the house into the site through exterior living spaces such as terraces, porches, and carports." In other words, a Contemporary Ranch—or any other "Contemporary" dwelling—follows the tenets of Modernism. The Stahl House does not possess all of the listed elements; however, any Contemporary Ranch would likely include many but not all of the elements. Indeed, the report goes on to identify the Stahl House as a good example of the type. ¹

The house is significant because of its contemporary architectural design and not as an example of the Ranch type. As Little's report notes, hundreds of Ranch houses populate Raleigh's post-war suburbs, and the vast majority are not architecturally significant.

¹ Ruth Little, "The Development of Modern Architecture in Raleigh 1945-1965," survey report produced for the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission, August 2006, 29-30.

Continuation Page 10 of 13 Section C: Architectural Significance DRAFT -- September 2010

Houses with contemporary design, however, are rare in Raleigh and intact examples like the Stahl House are significant as representatives of an important architectural trend in the post-war period.²

In fact, the relative unpopularity of Contemporary dwellings in the city belies the strong interest that Raleigh's architectural community had in Modernism. Beginning in 1948, the new School of Design at North Carolina State College attracted top-notch professors who were all Modernists and who maintained architectural practices in addition to their teaching workloads. Milton Small was a non-faculty architect who came to Raleigh on the recommendation of the School of Design's Dean Hanry Kamphoefner to work in the office of William Henley Deitrick. Small had worked in the office of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe in Chicago and was heavily influenced by Mies and the International Style. He soon established his own firm in Raleigh. He designed both downtown and suburban office buildings, institutional buildings (notably on the campus of N.C. State), and residences.³

A number of buildings designed by Milton Small have already been granted Local Landmark status, including his own office building (at 105 Brooks Avenue) and his own home (at 310 Lake Boone Trail). These buildings show the strong influence of Mies on Small. The Stahl House shows another side of Small's work: It is a softer, more organic version of Modernism that turns to wood and stone rather than Miesian steel and marble. Here, Small applies Modernism's astylistic architectural treatment to a ubiquitous house type to create a higher version of that type. The house illustrates Small's ability to meet a client's needs by delivering a simple, popular house type while remaining true to his Modernist sensibilities.

² Little, 13.

³ Little, 13-14; David Black, "Early Modern Architecture in Raleigh Associated with the Faculty of the North Carolina State University School of Design, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina," Multiple Property Documentation Form, 1994, Section E, pages 32-33.

History

The Stahl House was designed by Raleigh architect Milton Small and built by local general contractor Frank Walser for Paul O. Stahl Sr. and his wife Elsie H. Stahl in 1956. Paul Stahl designed and installed HVAC systems and co-owned the Stahl-Rider Heating and Air Conditioning Company; larger projects included buildings throughout the campus of North Carolina State University and at North Hills Mall. Milton Small was one of Raleigh's most notable architects of the period and a dedicated Modernist, and general contractor Frank Walser and his highly skilled workers built most of the Modernist dwellings in Raleigh. As noted above, the Stahl House was recorded during the 2006 survey update of Raleigh's architecture, which culminated in the report authored by Ruth Little entitled "The Development of Modern Architecture in Raleigh 1945-1965."

In 1953, the Stahls purchased two adjoining partial lots in the new neighborhood of Country Club Hills, one of the first upper-middle-class postwar suburbs established in Raleigh. The development, platted in 1947, "provided ample lots and a modern suburban atmosphere where a series of modern houses were designed by faculty and former students of North Carolina State University." ⁵

Paul Stahl, a mechanical engineer, attempted to design a house for his family, drawing a plan and taking it to Milton Small with the family's domestic requirements. Stahl and Small may have known each other professionally; both did extensive work on the campus of North Carolina State University. The Stahls found Small's first attempt at consolidating all of the family's ideas into a cohesive plan unsatisfactory; there was just "too much house," as the *Raleigh Times* quoted Stahl's reaction. Small's second version distilled the Stahls requests, finding the essentials and arranging the living space graciously and efficiently. The family found it perfect, both upon seeing the plans and after four years of living in the house.⁶

Interiors were designed by M. Van Buren of Charlotte, who furnished the house with classic Modernist furnishings, including Eero Saarinen's Womb Chair and Russell Woodard patio furniture. The original color scheme was gray with accents in blue, black, and "melon" yellow. The colors survive at the exterior and in the tile finishes of the bathrooms and kitchen. Stahl, not surprisingly, designed the heating and air conditioning systems, which have recently been replaced. A control panel for the original system remains in the shelving storage area in the cabinet that divides the living room from the foyer. Stahl personally built the panel, using one of his wife's cake pans as the housing for the controls.⁷

⁴ Paul O. Stahl Jr., interview with the author, August 2, 2010; Little, 14-15, 29-30.

⁵ Stahl, Paul O. Jr. to Paul O. Stahl Jr. and Carol K. Stahl, January 11, 1994, Book 5967, page 657, Wake County Deeds, accessed online at http://web.co.wake.nc.us/rdeeds/ on August 8, 2010; Little, 10.

⁶ Stahl interview; Raleigh Times, September 10, 1960.

⁷ M. Van Buren to Elsie Stahl, November 14, 1962; *Raleigh Times*; Stahl interview.

The Stahls left the house to their son, Paul Stahl Jr., who returned to his childhood home as the second owner in 1994. He and his wife Carol Stahl have owned and lived in the house since then.

Bibliography

- Black, David. "Early Modern Architecture in Raleigh Associated with the Faculty of the North Carolina State University School of Design, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina." Multiple Property Documentation Form, 1994.
- Little, Ruth. "The Development of Modern Architecture in Raleigh 1945-1965." Survey report produced for the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission, 2006.
- Stahl, Paul O., Jr. Interview with the author, August 2, 2010.
- Smith, James Arthur, and Edna E. Smith to Paul O. Stahl and Elsie H. Stahl, July 16, 1953, Book 1132, page 92, Wake County Deeds. Accessed online at http://web.co.wake.nc.us/rdeeds/ on August 8, 2010.
- Raleigh Times. September 10, 1960.
- Van Buren, M. to Elsie Stahl, November 14, 1962, letter in the personal files of Paul and Carol Stahl, Raleigh.
- Stahl, Paul O., Jr. to Paul O. Stahl Jr. and Carol K. Stahl, January 11, 1994, Book 5967, page 657, Wake County Deeds. Accessed online at http://web.co.wake.nc.us/rdeeds/ on August 8, 2010.

Continuation Page 13 of 13 Section E: Special Summary of Significance DRAFT -- September 2010

Statement of Significance

The Paul and Elsie Stahl House, a contemporary Ranch designed by Milton Small and built by Frank Walser in 1956, is locally significant for its architectural design. The house is an excellent and intact example of a popular house type rendered in the Contemporary style, a term synonymous with Modernism that is applied to residential architecture. Houses with contemporary design are rare in Raleigh and intact examples like the Stahl House are significant as representatives of an important architectural trend in the postwar period.