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*University of Texas Permian Basin*

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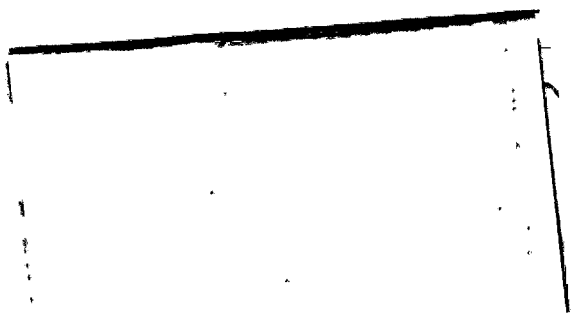
Rudd, Harriet Jan, "A Study of Pease Elementary School, Odessa, Texas; The Development of the Pease Elementary School Neighborhood and its Changing Demographic Characteristics" (1990). *College of Education*. 15.

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A STUDY OF PEASE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ODESSA, TEXAS  
THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
THE PEASE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEIGHBORHOOD  
AND ITS CHANGING DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS



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by

HARRIET JAN RUDD, BS

RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT

Presented to the Graduate Faculty of Education

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

in Partial Fulfillment

of Requirements

for the Degree of

MASTERS OF ARTS IN EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN

August, 1990

## Abstract

The economic development of the city of Odessa flourished when oil was discovered in the Permian Basin. Oil field service businesses opened which provided jobs for the educated as well as for the uneducated. These available jobs encouraged people to move to Odessa. In 1958, Pease Elementary was built. The area around the school was being developed by local developers. The city grew to the east which decreased development in west Odessa. There have been no significant residential developments in the Pease neighborhood since 1981. This neighborhood has basically been unchanged for ten years. During this time the properties have increased only slightly in value, and some have even decreased creating a housing market for low-income families, and creating a racially balanced neighborhood. The demographics indicate that, in the next ten years, Pease will have approximately a fifty percent minority population.