

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0674940

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 9 1979  
JUN 14 1979  
DATE ENTEREDNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**HISTORIC 

John W. Parker House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER 2 Courtlandt Place

CITY, TOWN

Houston

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

18

STATE

Texas

CODE

048

COUNTY

Harris

CODE

201

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

## PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Inez McHale

STREET &amp; NUMBER

2 Courtlandt Place

CITY, TOWN

Houston

VICINITY OF

STATE  
Texas**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harris County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Houston

STATE  
Texas**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1976

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Texas Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Austin

STATE  
Texas

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John W. Parker House, built along Courtlandt Place in 1925-26, is one of 18 prominent residences facing an avenue which still retains the ambience of its early 20th century origins. Established as an exclusive neighborhood in 1906, Courtlandt Place, a tree-lined, divided boulevard, has maintained its residential integrity despite surrounding commercialism in adjacent blocks. Six restrictive covenants, established in perpetuity and enforced by a Board of Trustees of owner-residents, form the basis for the neighborhood's continued survival.

Designed by John F. Staub of Houston in 1925, the Parker House reflects the Cotswold style, adapted from the vernacular building traditions of rural England. The basic form of this two-story brick-veneered house includes a rectangular main block, one room deep, with a two-story ell-wing at the rear. A double pitched roof with gable ends to the sides crowns the structure.

The main (south) facade has an asymmetrical arrangement of openings due to the placement of a large exterior chimney between two windows on the east side of the main entrance. The tall, chamfered chimney, which forms two high hexagonal flues above the roof, is the dominating feature of the house. The main entrance is set within a segmental arch and has a wide twelve panel door, the top three containing glass lights. Above the door is a stepped geometrical pattern formed by raised bricks angled to set them apart from the flush wall. Within the stepped design the brickwork forms a herringbone pattern, drawing further attention to the ornamented doorway. Above the entrance a diamond-shaped window pierces the second floor. Flanking the entrance bay are two six-light casement windows on each level, the first floor windows being proportionally larger than those on the floor above.

A large two-story bay covers most of the narrow east facade. Highlighting the bay is the pegged wood framing and herringbone pattern infill of brick which reflects medieval building techniques. Brick corbelled corners embellish the gable ends at each end of the house.

The rear ell wing extends from the northwest corner of the house. Along the west elevation is a wing, with a steep double-pitched roof, which shelters utility rooms. An interesting feature on the second floor is the rounded, wrought iron balcony off the front bedroom. On the north (rear) facade a former open terrace has been glassed-in and now serves as a sitting room joining the living room and dining room. The dining room projects to the north and is sheltered by a shed roof. The house has been air-conditioned and centrally heated, and the kitchen and baths modernized, but no alterations of the original design have been made.

To the rear of the property is a two-story wood frame garage.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1925-26

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John F. Staub

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John W. Parker House built in 1925-26 was the 17th of 18 houses to be built on Courtlandt Place. Designed by John F. Staub, the house was one of his first design projects in Houston after he started his own firm. The house is a good example of the Cotswold style, one of the historical adaptations from which Staub creatively borrowed. The house is unique in design along the avenue and reflects the elegance and architectural quality common on Courtlandt Place, one of Houston's earliest and most exclusive subdivisions.

John F. Staub, who used a whole range of stylistic genres in this period, was one of Houston's foremost exponents of eclectic architecture. Staub moved to Houston in 1921 to represent the New York architect, J. T. Lindeberg and supervise construction of three houses he had designed in Shadyside, a residential enclave begun by J. S. Cullinan in 1916. When Lindeberg closed his Houston office in 1923, Staub remained to start his own office. Staub became one of Houston's most famous and popular architects of residential construction in the 20th century. Specializing in domestic architecture, Staub designed most of the houses in the exclusive Shadyside, several in Broadacres and numerous homes in River Oaks. One of his best known houses was Bayou Bend in River Oaks, built in 1926 for Ima Hogg, daughter of the turn-of-the-century governor James Hogg and well-known Houston philanthropist and civic leader. John Staub continued an active architectural practice until his retirement about eight years ago.

John W. Parker was a prominent Houston lawyer. In 1925 he commissioned Staub to build a house for his family on Courtlandt Place and lived there until his death in 1930. Mrs. Parker and her children occupied the house for several years and then rented it. In 1951 Thomas George McHale and his wife Inez McHale bought the house. T. George McHale, a local architect and friend of Staub's, died in 1975, but his widow, an interior designer, continues to live in the house.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fox, Stephen and Ann Bohnn. Historical and architectural monograph prepared for the nomination of "Broadacres" to the NR. Information on Staub from manuscript by Howard Barnstone to be published by the University of Texas Press, 1979.

McHale, Inez. Architectural description and biographical information provided for nomination of #2 Courtlandt Place to the NR.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Bellaire, TX

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 5 | 26, 9 | 6, 60 | 3, 2 | 9, 2 | 5, 80

B    |    |    |    |    |   

C    |    |    |    |    |   

D    |    |    |    |    |   

E    |    |    |    |    |   

F    |    |    |    |    |   

G    |    |    |    |    |   

H    |    |    |    |    |   

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Vol. 626, Pg. 75, Harris County Deed Records  
 Lot 1 and E 1/4 of Lot 2 (100' x 170')

## LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marie D. Landon, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Texas Historical Commission

DATE

February 26, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 12276, Capitol Station

TELEPHONE

512-475-3094

CITY OR TOWN

Austin

STATE

Texas

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

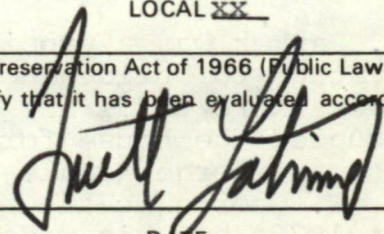
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL XX

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

Texas State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

March 30, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

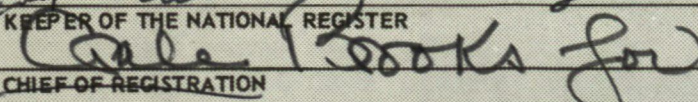
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6.14.79

ATTEST:

  
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

6/11/79

Property Parker, John W., House  
State Ill. (Harris) Working Number 49.79.793

79002966

**TECHNICAL**

Photos 3  
Maps 1

**CONTROL**

*OK pl*  
*4.10.79*

**HISTORIAN**

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

*Concur/Accept*  
*6/11/79*

**BRANCH CHIEF**

This property and the other ten on Courtlandt Place have local architectural significance. At least three of the properties have important local historical association - (See Historian's Comments on #5, #17 and #20). I am unhappy about listing these individually, but local political circumstances prevent listing as a district. Bill Lebovich concurs that we must accept them even though it will create more work for us later.

**KEEPER**

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Register Entry 7-3-79 Send-back \_\_\_\_\_  
Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

Entered JUN 14 1979



JOHN W. PARKER HOUSE (#2)  
South facade (front)

Landscaped East entrance to Boulevard  
left foreground.

April, 1976

John W. Parker House  
2 Courtlandt Place  
Houston, Harris County, Texas

Photo by Woodallen of Houston, 1976  
South elevation  
Photo #1

APR 9 1979

JUN 14 1979

WOODALLEN

3505 LOUISIANA

PHONE 713 - 526-1747

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

Fig. No.

FR2 - 34



APR 9 1979

John W. Parker House  
2 Courtlandt Place  
Houston, Harris County, Texas

Photo by Woodallen of Houston, 1969  
South elevation  
Photo #2

JUN 14 1979

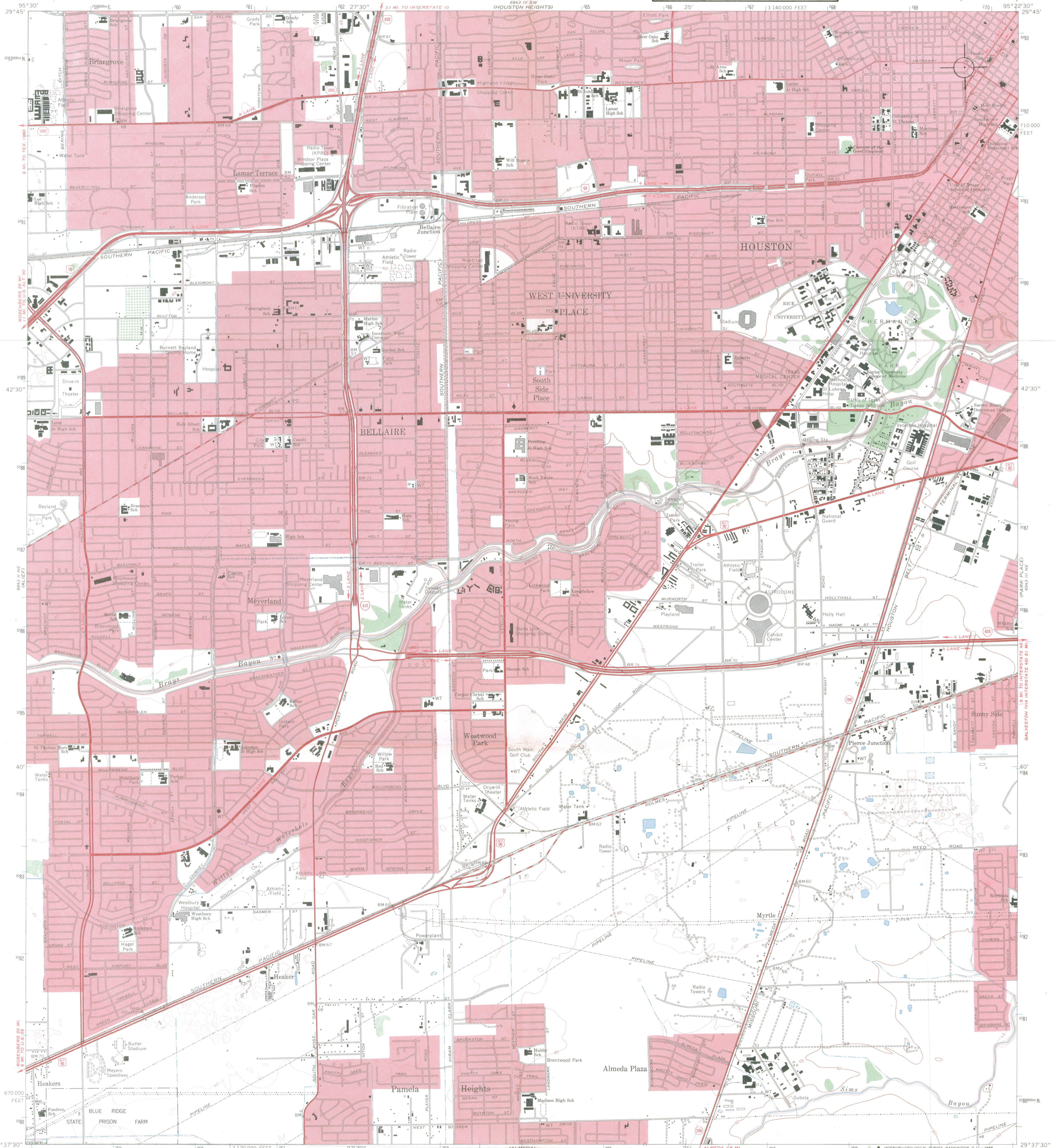


APR 9 1979

John W. Parker House  
2 Courtlandt Place  
Houston, Harris County, Texas

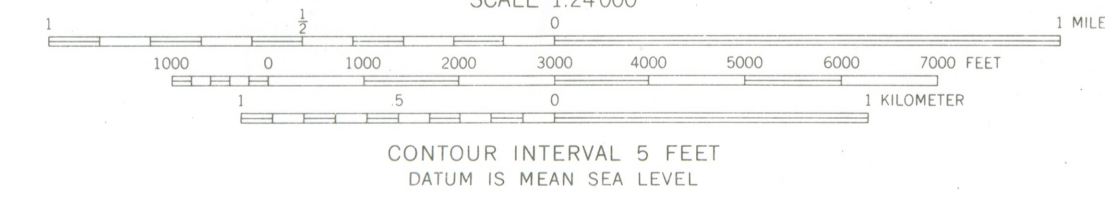
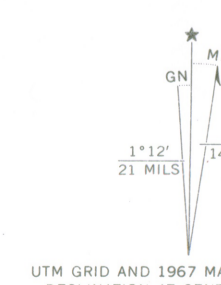
Unknown photographer, photocopy by Woodallen  
of Houston, 1969  
Northeast oblique showing bay on east facade,  
dining room extension, and rear ell.  
Photo #3

JUN 14 1979



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE  
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1966. Topography enlarged from 1:31 680-scale AMS map  
of Bellaire quadrangle. Original map by planetable surveys 1943  
Field checked 1967

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,  
south central zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route



2995-423

BELLAIRE, TEX.  
N2937.5—W9522.5/7.5

1967

AMS 6943 III NW—SERIES V882

JUN 1 1979

TRUETT LATIMER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



RECEIVED

P. O. BOX 12276  
AUSTIN TEXAS 78711

APR 9 1979

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

March 30, 1979

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Enclosed are National Register nominations for ten houses on Courtlandt Place in Houston, Texas. When the photographs arrive, we will send an eleventh. Originally, these houses were grouped in a very cohesive district nomination. However, several property owners were so opposed to Register listing that we decided inclusion of their homes at this time would not further the cause of historic preservation. The eleven owners that were enthusiastic wished their houses to be listed separately, in hopes that the recalcitrant neighbors could eventually be persuaded to join the effort. Since the inception of the separate nominations project, I have received several tentative inquiries from owners that had until then been unalterably opposed to listing. Therefore, this hope is well grounded, and we think Courtlandt Place may someday again be grouped as a historic district. We will continue to work in that direction.

In the meantime, your favorable review of these nominations would be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer  
State Historic Preservation Officer

Dr. William J. Murtagh  
Keeper of the National Register  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Pension Building  
440 G Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20243

TL:la

*The State Agency for Historic Preservation*

4P

Parker, John W., House  
4/24/79

(TX)

H-32-NR.

Mrs. T. George McHale  
2 Courtlandt Place  
Houston, Texas 77006

May 8, 1979

William J. Mustagh,  
Keeper of the National Register -  
Dear Mr. Mustagh:-

I am very pleased  
that my house is being  
considered for listing in  
the National Register.

Although it is not one  
of the larger houses Mr.  
Staub designed it is one  
of his favorite ones and  
its to be shown in a  
book on his works.

The architectural elements  
of the house make it  
an outstanding property.

I look forward to  
its listing in the National  
Register.

#2 Courtlandt Pl. Most sincerely  
Houston Tex 77006  
RE. PARKER-JOHN W. HOUSE  
Trey McHale

105/18

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D MAY 15 1979

\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

\_\_\_\_ INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT

\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN \_\_\_\_\_

INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_

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# TELEPHONE REPORT

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OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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PROJECT: Courtlandt Place, Houston

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TO/FROM: Joe Campisi

DATE: June 12, 1979

---

ADDRESS: 17 Courtland Place

PHONE: 713-523-4404

---

STAFF MEMBER: Gale Brooks

DIVISION: NR

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## REPORT:

Returned Mr. Campisi's call to give him the status of the review of the 11 Courtland Place nominations. Suggested he contact his Congressman to determine the exact date of listing. Mr. Campisi said it looked more hopeful that a district nomination could be prepared because a few of the older, more negative owners are now being replaced by younger, more supportive ones.

Also talked with David Moore ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ at the Texas Historical Commission later in the day. David said that one of the residents, a leader in Texas Republican Party politics, is still opposed and has threatened a law suit if a district is nominated. It appears that situation will not change for some time.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
TEXAS  
STATE

Date Entered JUN 14 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
First Presbyterian Church	Mineral Wells Palo Pinto County
Parker, John W., House	Houston Harris County
Myer, Sterling, House	Houston Harris County
Autry, James L., House	Houston Harris County
Neuhaus, C. L., House	Houston Harris County
Cleveland, A. S., House	Houston Harris County

Also Notified