

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received FEB 8 1983

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Lichtenstein, S. Julius, House

and/or common Creative Arts Center

2. Location

street & number 1617 North Chaparral Street N/A not for publication

city, town Corpus Christi N/A vicinity of

state Texas code 048 county Nueces code 355

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Corpus Christi

street & number 302 South Shoreline

city, town Corpus Christi N/A vicinity of state Texas 78401

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Nueces County Courthouse

street & number 901 Leopard

city, town Corpus Christi state Texas 78401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Recorded Texas Historic Landmark has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date February 24, 1975 federal state county local

depository for survey records Texas Historical Commission

city, town Austin state Texas 78711

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date 1929

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Lichtenstein House, a one-story frame dwelling in a transitional Colonial Revival/Queen Anne style, is typical of middle-class housing at the turn of the century. Moved from its original location nine blocks south of its current site in 1929, the Lichtenstein House has been at 1617 North Chaparral Street for over half a century; its original location at 715 North Chaparral was covered by the Art Deco Ritz Theatre about 1930.

The single-story Lichtenstein House rests on a foundation of brick piers infilled with latticework. The entrance (east) facade has a central front door with transom and sidelights, the panes of which are divided into the pattern of a St. George's cross. To the north is a three-part bay window (with one-over-one lights, as found elsewhere in the house); it is surmounted by a small apron of shingles and a very small tower with high-pitched octagonal roof. The drum of the tower features small windows with a horizontal diamond-shaped pane motif. To the south of the front door is a wide window with four-over-one lights. The entrance porch has rounded corners and is supported by doric columns. A small lateral gable, a hip dormer and two brick chimneys emerge from the cedar-shingle, hipped roof.

The south elevation of the Lichtenstein House has irregular fenestration and a lateral gable as its chief architectural details. The north facade is similar, but is further enriched by a three-part bay window beneath its shingled lateral gable. The north-east tower is also visible on this elevation. The rear (west) of the house features two windows with one-over-one lights, a central door and two hipped roofs, indicating that the southwest corner may have been either an addition or a closed-in porch.

The interior of the house was adapted for the current use of the house as a creative arts center after its acquisition by the City of Corpus Christi in the 1970s. While the original parlor mantel and some other historic detailing of the interior survive, the house has been divided into classrooms with varnished pine floors and tongue-and-groove siding running diagonally to give the rooms a decorative treatment.

Extensive landscaping was done in 1982, to complete the Victorian atmosphere of the area. The Lichtenstein House has been enlivened with trees, flowers, shrubberies, period lamps, and a white picket fence which also surrounds the Gugenheim and Sidbury houses.

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 checked="" 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1905 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Located near an older mixed residential-commercial neighborhood in a new city park, the Lichtenstein House is a good example of the type of middle-class residential structures common in Corpus Christi at the turn of the century but very scarce today. Reflecting Colonial Revival and Queen Anne architectural treatment, the Lichtenstein House was built for prominent Corpus Christi merchant S. Julius Lichtenstein and his wife, nee Carrie Weil. After some years facing an uncertain future, the Lichtenstein House has been rehabilitated as a creative arts center for children.

A native of Indianola, Texas, and son of European immigrants Moritz and Selina Egg Lichtenstein, Julius Lichtenstein (1871-1923) was brought to Corpus Christi as a child in 1874. His father soon established a drygoods store which prospered and celebrated its centennial in 1974. The younger Lichtenstein married Carrie Weil (1877-1958) in 1902, and assumed management of M. Lichtenstein & Sons two years later.

In 1905, Julius and Carrie Lichtenstein built a home at 715 North Chaparral in Corpus Christi, which is the subject of the present nomination. While typical of middle-class houses of that period, the Lichtenstein House has become a rare survivor in Corpus Christi of turn-of-the-century homes. One of Texas' older and larger cities, Corpus Christi has been plagued by hurricanes and bulldozers in the 20th century, and arguably has lost more of its architectural heritage than any major city in the state. Accordingly, this once fairly ordinary house has become more important to its community than comparable dwellings in other Texas cities.

The Lichtensteins built a larger home (still extant) in 1913, but retained ownership of their former home until 1926. About three years later it was sold to realtor Oliver Bird, who then moved it to its present location nine blocks to the north of the original site. It apparently was used for rental/residential purposes for the next several decades, and a local landmark, the Ritz Theatre, was built on the original location.

The Lichtenstein House was acquired by the City of Corpus Christi several years ago, and underwent a restoration by local architect James Rome as a creative arts center for children. Located on a block with the Sidbury and Gugenheim Houses (also under consideration for National Register listing), the Lichtenstein House is in the city's Bayfront Arts and Science Park. Other older residential and commercial buildings survive, but the immediate neighborhood beyond the Lichtenstein-Sidbury-Gugenheim block has largely been cleared.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Ramage, Margaret and Lee John Gavatos to Peter Flagg Maxson, interviews by telephone, July 11, 1982.
Cole, Sharon, "The S. Julius Lichtenstein House." National Register application form, July 28, 1980, on file, Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Corpus Christi, Texas

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UTM References

A

1	4	6	5	8	0	2	0	3	0	7	6	2	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

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D

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E

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 5, Block 70, Beach Subdivision

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Peter Flagg Maxson, Chief Architectural Historian (LeRoy Johnson, Jr., ed.)

organization Texas Historical Commission date July 11, 1982

street & number P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station telephone 512 475-3094

city or town Austin state Texas 78711

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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 

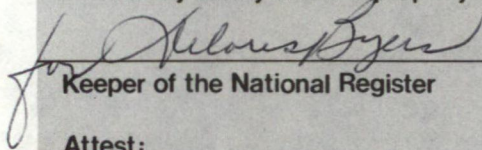
title State Historic Preservation Officer date 3 Feb. 1983

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 3/10/83


Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Lichtenstein, S. Julius, House
Nueces County
TEXAS

Working No. FEB 8 1983

Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84

Date Due: 3/10/83 - 3/25/83

Action: ACCEPT 3/10/83

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input 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

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Geographic name _____

USIT References

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is

national state local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Site _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3500



Creative
Arts
Center

The Lichtenstein Home
Daniel Hardy
The Lichtenstein House
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas
Daniel Hardy, January 1980
neg. on file, Texas Historical Commission, Austin
Oblique view of front (east) facade looking
southwest
photo 1 of 4

Photo 1 of 4

The Lichtenstein House
The Lichtenstein House
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas
Sharon Cole, July 1980
neg. on file with Sharon Cole, Corpus Christi
View of the front (east) facade looking west
photo 2 of 4
*copy sent
photo 2 of 4*



The Lichtenstein House
The Lichtenstein House
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas
Sharon Cole, July 1980
neg. on file with Sharon Cole, Corpus Christi
View of northeast corner of house, looking
southwest
photo 3 of 4
from street corner
Photo 3 of 4

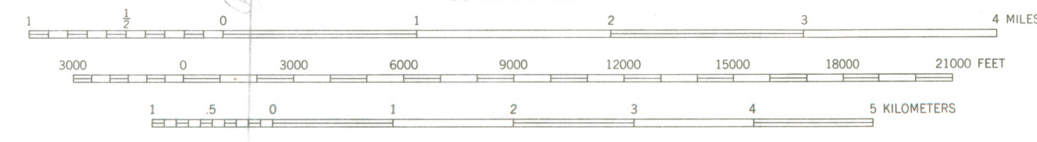
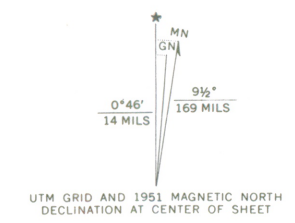


The Lichtenstein House
The Lichtenstein House
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas
Daniel Hardy, January 1980
neg. on file, Texas Historical Commission, Austin
View of northwest corner of house looking
southeast
photo 4 of 4



LICHTENSTEIN, S. JULIUS, HOUSE
1617 NORTH CHAPARRAL STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO, TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 14/658020/3076240

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USCGS, and USCE
Culture and drainage in part compiled by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. Topography by plane-table surveys and in part by Texas Reclamation Department. Field check 1951 Hydrography from USCGS Chart 523, 1951
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, south zone
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue



The south half of this area is also covered by 1:24,000 scale maps of Corpus Christi and Portland 7.5 minute quadrangles

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	4 LANE 16 LANE	Light-duty
Medium-duty	4 LANE 16 LANE	Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route		State Route

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

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEX.
N2745-W9715/15

1951
AMS 6539 IV-SERIES V782

2097-430

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