

66

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ BLOCK \_\_\_\_\_ 145  
 CITY QUAD LOT \_\_\_\_\_ 1+  
 NAME: Thornton, Dr. Penn B., House COUNTY: Harris  
 ADDRESS: 1541 Tulane (originally Portland CITY: Houston  
Street) UTM: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 1899-1900 PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER: Etton Brimberry STYLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
1822 Foxwood Houston, TX 77008 THEME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DESCRIPTION: Square, frame, 2-story, hip roof, attached porch and gallery with square wooden posts, single front door, molded architraves at windows, windows 1/1, 2 brick chimneys.

BUILDING MATERIAL: wall: \_\_\_\_\_ roof: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHYSICAL CONDITION: excellent - significant SITE: original or moved \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

ALTERATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNIFICANCE: Dr. Penn B. Thornton, for whom the house was built, was one of the pair of doctors who began conversion of the Houston Heights Hotel into a hospital in 1899. Mrs. Thornton was very active in the social life for ladies in the Heights in that period.

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: \_\_\_\_\_ LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: \_\_\_\_\_

DESIGNATION: NR NHL RTHL HABS HAER HESI HSI OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

ORIGINAL USE: residence PRESENT USE: residence - rental property

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS: nice corner lot; only one tree

ACREAGE/BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: \_\_\_\_\_

BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INFO/CORRESPONDENCE FILES: \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDED BY: KLL INFORMANT: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 1-15-80 PHOTO DATA: 1 - 35mm

(rev. 6-79)



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 4, 7, 8, 10

Page 66

Site No. 66

NAME Dr. Thornton House COUNTY Harris BLOCK 145  
 ADDRESS 1541 Tulane (orig. Portland) Street CITY Houston LOT 1+  
 UTM Zone 15 E 267,800 N 3,298,780  
 ARCHITECT/BUILDER unknown DATE 1899 PERIOD 1800-1899  
 OWNER Robert H. Thomas STYLE Colonial Revival influence  
639 Heights Boulevard, Houston 77008 THEME \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION Two-story square, frame house; hipped roof; attached double gallery with square wooden posts; flat balusters on second floor; single front door flanked by pilasters and surmounted by ornate pediment; windows shuttered, with crown molding at top; one-over-one lights; interior brick chimney.

Building material: wall frame, clapboard roof composition

Physical condition excellent-significant site: original X or moved \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Alterations main doorway much altered

SIGNIFICANCE Dr. Penn B. Thornton, for whom the house was built, was one of a pair of doctors who began conversion of the Houston Heights Hotel into a hospital in 1899. Mrs. Thornton was active in the social life of the Heights in that period.

Area of significance architecture,\* Level of significance local

DESIGNATION: NR NHL RTHL HABS HAER HESI HSI OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

ORIGINAL USE residence PRESENT USE rental residence

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS attractive corner lot; tree; residential neighborhood

ACREAGE/BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION less than one acre

BIBLIOGRAPHY Sister M. Agatha (1956: 21, 50)

RECORDED BY K. L. London INFORMANT \_\_\_\_\_

DATE January 15, 1980 PHOTO DATA 1 - 35 mm., Tex. Hist. Commission

\*social/humanitarian

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 9 of 11

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Houston Heights Multiple Resource Area

State Harris County, Texas

Nomination/Type of Review

Entered in the  
National Register

Date/Signature

81. Perry-Swilley House

for Keeper

Delores Byers 6/22/83

Attest

82. Reagan, John H., Senior High School

Substantive Review

Keeper

Return 5

Attest

83. Renn House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Return 5

Attest

84. Schauer Filling Station

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 6/22/83

Attest

85. Schlessor-Burrows House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 5-14-83

Attest

86. Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

Substantive Review

OWNER OBJECTION

Determined Eligible

Keeper

Eligible - Beth Groover 6/22/83

Attest

87. Thornton, Dr. Penn B., House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 6/22/83

Attest

88. Upchurch House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 6/22/83

Attest

89. Ward House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 6/22/83

Attest

90. Webber House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 5/14/84

Attest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Thornton, Dr. Penn B., House (Houston Heights  
MRA)  
Harris County  
TEXAS

Working No. MAY 9 1983  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84  
Date Due: 6/9/83-6/23/83  
Action:  ACCEPT 6/22/83  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Entered in the National Register  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- 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
- boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- 9 YAM
- \_\_\_\_\_ 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

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UMT 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Other

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



154'

Houston Heights

Site No. 66, Dr. Thornton House, 1541  
Tulane

Houston, Texas 77008

Photo: K.L. London, January 15, 1980

On file, Texas Historical Commission

Front facade, looking west

Photo 86 of  
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Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000847