

**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 A11

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31. Name: Williams-Tarbutton House (~~Common names - Dr. Wilburn Williams House,
Tarbutton House~~)

Location: 626 Lindsey Street

Classification: Category - building; Ownership - private; Status - occupied;
Accessible - yes, restricted; Present use - private residence.

Owner of property: Mrs. Myrtle Penn Williams Tarbutton
626 Lindsey Street
San Marcos, Texas 78666

Description: Condition - good; Altered; Original site.

Nestled in an oak grove on a hillside is the Williams-Tarbutton House, an important Prairie-style home. Two stories plus basement, red brick walls, low hipped roof of green-painted standing-seam metal, broad overhanging eaves, and irregular plan are the basic characteristics of the house.

The house faces Lindsey Street. On that side occurs the main extension from the house block. Here four massive, rectangular piers define the large first-floor porch which has been screened. The porch openings rest on a broad concrete stringcourse that is also found under the second-floor windows. Small brick piers below the stringcourse add a touch of detail. Set back from the porch on the second floor is a section enclosed by 8-by-8 casement windows.

The long axis runs along Roger Street. On that side, the eaves of the hip-roofed porte-cochere and first-floor kitchen wing add horizontal emphasis. A rectangular bay distinguishes the Scott Street side. Three first-floor windows are double hung. All are on thick, white, concrete sills. The stained-glass panels that flank the fireplace replace plain glass.

There are several attractive interior features, such as pocket French doors between the entry and living room and dining room, low arches, built-in bookcases, and ceiling moldings. Progressive innovations include a laundry chute, a cedar closet, linen closet, and central vacuum system. Interior spaces are large and airy, in keeping with the exterior style.

The only major alteration was a 1948 extension of the kitchen. Glass bricks and casements indicate the newer section. Since the addition merely enlarged a pre-existing block, no real, adverse effect was made. The porch was screened at the same time. Carpeting was laid over the oak floors.

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On the northern edge of the property there is a reddish-orange garage. The grounds, much of which rest on stone infill, are shaded by large oak trees. A wall around the property and a matching garage envisioned by Ayres were not built because of a cost overrun.

Significance: Period - 1900- ; Areas of significance - achitecture, other (medicine);
Specific dates - 1912-1914. Atlee B. Ayres, architect, Oscar
Davis, mason.

The Prairie Style was never as popular in Texas as it was further north. Therefore, a clearly defined example of the style is inherently significant. Will Martindale's house, designed by Atlee B. Ayres with strong horizontal lines, overhanging eaves, and geometric forms, is such an example. Dr. Wilburn Williams, a long-time San Marcos physician, lent the house additional historical importance.

W.W. Martindale, a prosperous local farmer, began construction in 1912. A prominent San Antonio architect had drawn the plans; San Marcos resident Oscar Davis did most of the brick and rock work. The original cost estimate was \$12,000, but by the time the house was finished in 1914 it had increased to about \$15,000. At the time of completion, the house must have seemed a marvel of modernity. The sleek lines and open spaces still contrast dramatically with the late-Victorian structures that were then the norm. Built-in conveniences such as the cedar closet and vacuum system made life easier.

In 1930, Dr. Wilburn Williams bought the house and the Martindales moved to the former Williams home. Dr. Williams practiced medicine in town for 42 years. He and his wife Myrtle operated a private hospital, the San Marcos Sanitarium, on the corner of Bishop and Belvin from 1912 to 1919.

The Williams' daughter Myrtle inherited the house, and she and her husband now reside there.

Bibliography:

Tula Townsend Wyatt, "A History of Memorial Hospital," c. 1938, unpublished. On file at the San Marcos Public Library.

Interview with Frances Stovall, July 8, 1982.

Interview with Myrtle Penn Williams Tarbutton and Ed Tarbutton, April 29, 1982.

Interview of Myrtle Tarbutton by Gwen Smith, undated.

Geographical data: Acreage - approximately one acre.

UTM reference - G 14 / 601330 / 3306060

Verbal Boundary Description - C.L. McGehee Addition, Block 4, Lots 3 and 4.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Williams-Tarbutton House (San Marcos MRA)

Hays County

TEXAS

Working No. 7-14-83

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84

Date Due: 8/11/83 - 8/28/83

Action: ACCEPT 8/20/83

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 Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

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"/> unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | | |
| <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*) _____

- 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 _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM 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 _____

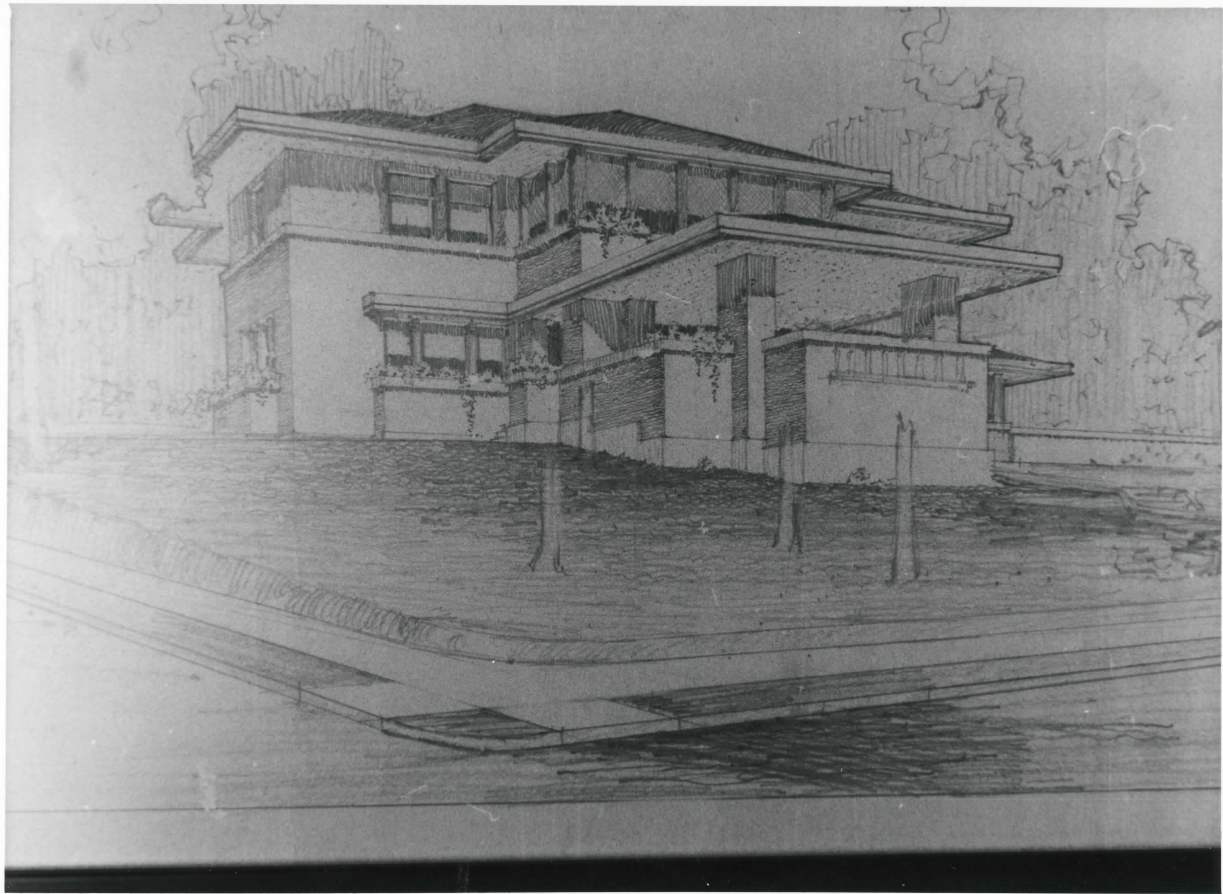
title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Historic Resources of San Marcos
San Marcos, Hays County, Texas

#31. Williams-Tarbutton House

Drawing by Atlee Ayres, courtesy of the owner.
Copy photo by Sally S. Victor, negative
property of HASM, on file at SMPL.

South oblique, facing north.
Photo 124 of 150.



Historic Resources of San Marcos
San Marcos, Hays County, Texas

#31. Williams-Tarbutton House

Photo by Lissa Anderson, January, 1983.
Negative property of HASM, on file at SMPL.

South oblique, camera facing north.
Photo 125 of 150.



Historic Resources of San Marcos
San Marcos, Hays County, Texas

#31. Williams-Tarbutton House

Photo by Lissa Anderson, July, 1982.
Negative property of HASM, on file at SMPL.

Southeast facade, camera facing northwest.
Photo 126 of 150.



Historic Resources of San Marcos
San Marcos, Hays County, Texas

#31. Williams-Tarbutton House

Photo by Lissa Anderson, July, 1982.
Negative property of HASM, on file at SMPL.

North oblique, camera facing south.
Photo 127 of 150.

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000853