

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only
received JAN 31 1984
date entered

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Fairview, the William J. Bryce House (Fairview)
and/or common same

2. Location

street & number 4900 Bryce Avenue N/A not for publication
city, town Fort Worth N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~
state Texas code 048 county Tarrant code 439

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" 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 Dr. and Mrs. Irvin Clayton
street & number 4900 Bryce Avenue
city, town Fort Worth N/A vicinity of state Texas 76107

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Tarrant County Courthouse
street & number 100 Weatherford Street
city, town Fort Worth state Texas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

(1) Tarrant County Historic Resource Survey
title (2) Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no
(1) 1982
date (2) 1983 federal state county local
depository for survey records (1) Historic Preservation Council of Tarrant County
(2) Texas Historical Commission
(1) Fort Worth
city, town (2) Austin state Texas

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>N/A</u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Fairview is a masonry, two-story residence detailed in a rather simple, yet handsome French Renaissance mode. The house features asymmetrical fenestration and a series of recessed porches, some of which have been enclosed. The interior contains some fine, coved, plaster ceilings with relief ornament, and several handsome mantelpieces.

The two-story masonry house named "Fairview" by its builder and owner, is located on a large corner lot in the Arlington Heights section of Fort Worth. The house is positioned in the center of the lot, and is set well back from Bryce Avenue. Stylistically, the house is a reflection of the interest of late nineteenth-century American architects in French Renaissance architecture, especially the chateaux. Topped by a steeply pitched hipped roof, the house is essentially square in form, with a smaller, two-story wing projecting to the north. One enters the house from a pathway approaching from the southeast, through a simple iron gate. The southeast corner of the first floor is opened up by a pair of broad, round, arches that frame an inset porch. Exterior space is added to this porch by a semicircular piazza that extends out to the east. This piazza is surrounded by a brick balustrade with a stone cap. The simplicity of the detailing is apparent on this entry porch, whose arches are ornamented only by the careful laying of bricks to form the arches.

The central bay of the first floor of the Bryce Avenue elevation is formed by a group of three square-headed windows set under a single lintel. Continuing along towards the west side of the house, another large, round-arch opening appears, filled with windows set in a wooden frame. This infilled arch leads to a semicircular addition on the west elevation of the house, which consists of large one-over-one windows shaded by a canvas awning. Above the awning runs a band of wooden shingles, and the entire addition is topped by a decorative iron railing around the second-story porch. The second story of the south, or Bryce Avenue, elevation is more diverse in its fenestration, but is closely related to the first floor through its use of broad arches and grouped windows. The southeast corner of the second story is framed by two, somewhat flattened, round arches, one facing east, the other south. Both have been filled in with tripartite windows set in wooden frames, which rest on a base clad in wooden shingles. Ornamental iron grilles have been attached to the lower halves of these openings. Just to the east of this enclosed porch are three square-headed windows grouped together as a unit. Each window contains three lights and opens in a casement fashion. A broad, recessed, segmental arch frames the adjoining group of three windows, each set in a segmentally arched frame. The upward thrust of this window group breaks the horizontal line of the simple brick stringcourse above the second story, causing it to follow the outline of the arch. The southwest corner of the second story is also defined by a pair of flattened, round arches, of which the westward-facing arch opens onto the flat deck of the addition to the west side of the house. The south arch is filled in with a window unit treated identically to those noted on the southeast second-story corner.

The hipped roof topping the house still retains its original slate, and features a series of interesting dormers. On the east elevation, a large dormer with two roof peaks protects a rather low band of windows. On the south, or main elevation, are two dormers, the smaller of which is capped by a steeply pitched roof; its gabled face is covered with slates. The larger dormer, positioned above the large, triple window units

**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 7

Page 1

of the south facade, rises as a continuation of the wall plane. This dormer has a stepped-gable front, and contains three small windows set under massive rusticated lintels. The westslope of the roof is also broken by a single dormer which is identical in form to the small dormer of the south front. The character of the dormer windows is perhaps the most overt evidence of the French Renaissance inspiration for the design of the house.

The rear of the house is formed by a two-story extension to the main block. This rear wing is detailed in an expectedly simpler manner than the street fronts of the house; its only ornament consists of stone lintels and sills on the window openings. The northeast corner where the wing joins the main block is filled in by a shed-roofed mass that is original to the structure. Attached to this section, and to the rear of the wing, are single-story additions which are clad in wooden shingles.

Towards the rear of the house is a two-story, masonry carriage house which, although original to the residence, was converted to a separate apartment in the 1940s. Its design follows the lead of the house, with a steeply pitched hipped roof being the most memorable characteristic of the structure. Also on the lot are a small cottage and garage, which are of undetermined date and are not contributory to the site.

Upon entering Fairview, the first space encountered is the stairhall, from which the staircase rises in three sections to the second story of the house. The stairhall features paneled wainscotting. Proceeding westward from this room, one enters a space which was originally an open porch, but has been closed in to form a sunporch. This space is enlarged by the semicircular addition noted earlier on the western, exterior elevation of the house. Running north from the stairhall is a narrow hallway leading to the service wing. To the right of the hall is the living room; to the left, the dining room. Both of these rooms feature handsome, coved, plastered ceiling moldings with ornament in relief consisting of swags of foliage. The ornate character of the wooden mantel in the dining room is also noteworthy, while the fireplace opening is framed with a blind, round-arch molding. The second-story plan follows that of the first, with a narrow hallway running northward from the stairhall. The formerly open porches on the south corners of this floor have been enclosed, and both now serve as dressing rooms. Two large bedrooms are set to each side of the hallway, with the rear wing devoted to a sitting room.

Although there have been alterations largely executed in the 1940s by the second occupant, the original character of Fairview is largely intact. The once-open porches at the southwest corners of the first and second floors and on the southeast corner of the second story have been enclosed, but this work did not result in the loss of any significant details, and could be reversed. The small structural additions to the north side of the house are simple and are of a smaller scale than the original work. The most substantial addition is the semicircular sun porch of the west elevation. All of the original, major, interior elements are still in place and in excellent condition.

The neighborhood around Fairview is still residential and quite well-kept, although most of the residences are smaller than Fairview and are sited on smaller lots.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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 1893, 1946 additions **Builder/Architect** Marshall Sanguinet, architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) William J. Bryce, builder

The William J. Bryce House, named "Fairview" by its owner and builder, is an excellent example of a late 19th-century residence designed by the noted Fort Worth architect Marshall Sanguinet. Inspired by French Renaissance sources, the house exemplifies the quality of life found in the Arlington Heights subdivision at the turn of the century. William J. Bryce, the builder and first occupant of the residence, was a successful contractor who later served as the mayor of Fort Worth.

Turn-of-the-century Fort Worth experienced rapid expansion in population and an increase in prosperity. In terms of residential construction, perhaps the most important neighborhood was Arlington Heights, located to the southwest of the downtown central business district. One of the best preserved of these houses is the 1893 residence of William J. Bryce. The house was designed by the firm of Messer, Sanguinet, and Messer, a firm which dissolved around 1895 to re-emerge as Sanguinet and Staats. A small illustration of the Bryce House appeared in an 1896 promotional book by Sanguinet and Staats. Marshall Sanguinet, the design partner in these firms, was also a resident of Arlington Heights, and his residence at 4729 Collinwood Avenue was recently listed on the National Register. Sanguinet was a graduate of Washinton University in St. Louis, class of 1883, whose architectural career in Fort Worth lasted until his retirement in 1926. He established a partnership with Carl Staats, by training an engineer, and by the mid-1890s, had become the city's preeminent architect. Among the many works of the firm in Fort Worth are the Flatiron Building of 1907 and the Knights of Pythias Hall of 1901. The firm was also responsible for many of the city's most prominent houses, including those for J.R. Pollock, Bacon Saunders, and C.H. Silliman, none of which have survived.

William J. Bryce, the builder of the house, settled in Fort Worth in 1883, after immigrating from Scotland. Trained as a brickmason, Bryce quickly established himself in the local building trades, and founded the Bryce Building Company in 1907. Bryce was to work with Sanguinet and Staats on many joint ventures, the most notable of which was the Knights of Pythias Hall. Bryce and Sanguinet were evidently close friends, since Bryce served as an honorary pallbearer at Sanguinet's funeral in 1934. Bryce became active in Fort Worth political circles in 1924, at which time he was appointed to the commission that drafted a new city charter resulting in the establishment locally of the council-manager form of government. In April of 1925, he was elected to the first city council to be seated under the new charter. In 1927, he was elected mayor, a post he would hold until his wife's failing health caused him to resign in 1933. Bryce resided at Fairview until his death in 1944. The present owners of the house have continued to maintain the residence in excellent condition. While the house has undergone some alterations, it still clearly reflects the character of Sanguinet's design.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Publications:

Fort Worth City Directory. Volumes for 1892 to present. (see continuation sheet)

A History of Texas Together with a Biographical History of Tarrant and Parker Counties. Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1895.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Benbrooke, Texas

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	2	6	5	0	5	7	0	3	6	2	3	3	1	9	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing										

B

Zone		Easting				Northing										

C

Zone		Easting				Northing										

D

Zone		Easting				Northing										

E

Zone		Easting				Northing										

F

Zone		Easting				Northing										

G

Zone		Easting				Northing										

H

Zone		Easting				Northing										

Verbal boundary description and justification

All of Lot F-4, Chamberlain Arlington Heights Addition to the City of Fort Worth, Block 25.

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 Dr. Irvin Clayton

organization

date August 19, 1983

street & number 4900 Bryce Avenue

telephone (817) 732-2122

city or town Fort Worth

state Texas 76107

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 24 Jan. 1984

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

date 3/1/84

for Allorene Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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 9

Page 1

Hoffmeyer, Michael C. Fort Worth Architecture: A History and Guide, 1873-1933.
M.A. thesis, University of Texas at Arlington, 1980.

Makers of Fort Worth. Fort Worth Newspaper Artists Association, 1914.

Morrison, Andrew (ed.). The City of Fort Worth and the State of Texas. St. Louis:
George W. Englehard, 1890.

Paddock, Capt. B.B. (ed.). History of Texas, Fort Worth and the Texas Northwest Edition,
vols. I and III, 1922.

Texas Writers' Project. Research Data: Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Texas. 1936-1941.

Documents

Mimeographed documents on William J. Bryce, on file with Acme Brick Company, Fort Worth.

Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County, Architectural Survey, October 1981.

"Some Works from the Office of Sanguinet and Staats." Published by the firm of Sanguinet
and Staats, Fort Worth, 1896.

Fort Worth Star Telegram, "Who's Who on Commission," by Mae Biddleston Burson, June 28, 1925.

Interviews by Irvin Clayton with:

Bennett, Walter, Jr., grandson of founder of Acme Brick Company.

Bondurant, Miles, Fort Worth.

Guthrie, Jack Bryce, 1983.

Saxe, Mrs. Serge, née Westbrook.

Shanafelt, Beverly, daughter of C.B. Brafa, 1983.

Sherrill, O.B.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Bryce, William J., House (Fairview)
Tarrant County
TEXAS

Working No. JAN 31 1984
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.5-85
Date Due: 3/1/84 - 3/16/84
Action: ACCEPT 3/1/84
 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
- 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: _____



FAIRVIEW.

10

8A-9

Fairview
4900 Bryce Avenue
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photo: by Dr. Irvin Clayton, August 1983; neg. on
file with him at 4900 Bryce Avenue

Front elevation facing Bryce Avenue (showing
carriage stone-"Fairview") camera facing
northwest.

Photo 1 of 7



Fairview
4900 Bryce Avenue
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photo: by Dr. Irvin Clayton, August 1983; neg. on
file with him at 4900 Bryce Avenue.

East elevation showing shingled addition by Bryce,
camera facing southwest.

Photo 2 of 7.



Fairview
4900 Bryce Avenue
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photo: Dr. Irvin Clayton, August 1983; neg. on file
with him at 4900 Bryce Avenue

West facade of house, camera facing east.

Photo 3 of 7



943

Fairview
4900 Bryce Avenue
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photographer: Dr. Irvin Clayton, August 1983, neg.
on file with him at 4900 Bryce Avenue.

Entry hall showing stairway and paneled wainscot,
camera facing south/southwest.

Photo 4 of 7



Fairview
4900 Bryce Avenue
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photo: by Dr. Irvin Clayton, August 1983; neg. on
file with him at 4900 Bryce Avenue

Hallway, looking from entry to back door, camera
facing north.

Photo 5 of 7

4-11



4A.5 (100#)

Fairview
4900 Bryce Avenue
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photo: by Dr. Irvin Clayton, August 1983; neg. on
file with him at 4900 Bryce Avenue

Living room ceiling showing molding, camera facing
east.

Photo 6 of 7



607

Fairview
4900 Bryce Avenue
Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas

Photo: by Dr. Irvin Clayton, August 1983; neg. on
file with him at 4900 Bryce Avenue.

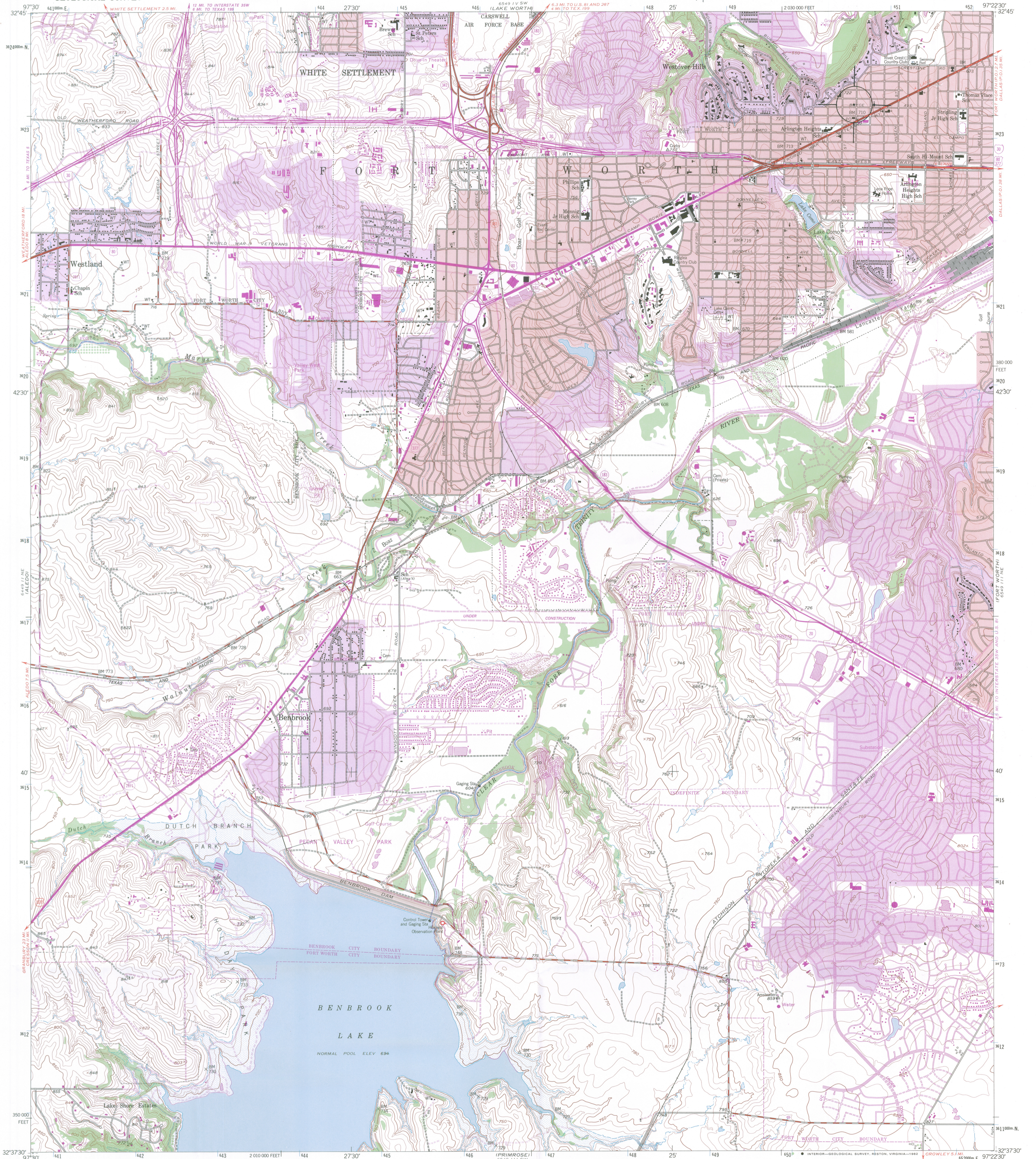
Dining room, decorative ceiling molding, camera
facing west.

Photo 7 of 7

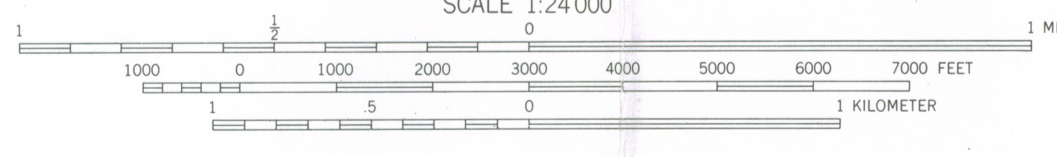
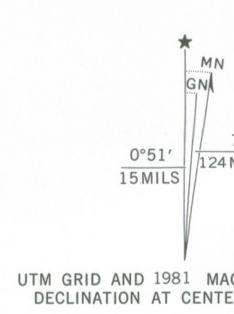
"FAIRVIEW" THE WILLIAM J. BRYCE HOUSE
4900 BRYCE AVENUE
FORT WORTH, TARRANT CO. TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 12/650570/3623390

BENBROOK QUADRANGLE
TEXAS-TARRANT CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and USCE
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1952-1954. Field checked 1955
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on
Texas coordinate system, north central zone. 100-meter
Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14,
shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum. To
place on the predicted North American Datum
1983 move the projection lines 10 meters south and
28 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Areas covered by dashed light-blue pattern are subject
to controlled inundation
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries
of the National or State reservations shown on this map
Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from
aerial photographs taken 1978 and other sources. The
information not field checked. Map edited 1981
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

BENBROOK, TEX.
N3237.5-W9722.5/7.5
1955
PHOTOREVISED 1981
DMA 6549 III NW-SERIES V882

3297-423