

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

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AUG 11 1986

SEP 24 1986

Continuation sheet

Item number all

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Property No. 20

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-120

Name of property- A.J. Swenson House

Address of property- 511 E. Oliver

Owner of property- B.H. Connally

Owner's Address- 511 E. Oliver  
Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town;  
Block 120, E. 1/2 of Lot 5, Lots 6, 7

UTM Coordinates- 14/425520/3645600

Description

(altered, fair condition)

The A.J. Swenson House at 511 E. Oliver was built in 1905 and displays Queen Anne massing and Classical features on a basically square, wood-frame house. Details such as the bay windows, the asymmetrical porch, and the elaborate dormer, appear grafted into a relatively simple structure.

The two-story house has an almost pyramidal roof line with a minimal ridge. Changes in plan are provided by two-story, hipped-roof bays at each rear corner and a gabled dormer at the front of the house. Each ridge section of the roof is capped by a metal fleur-de-lis finial, while a brick chimney exits from the slope of the main roof.

The wood-shingled and gabled dormer is the most elaborate feature of the house, having an extended, bracketed roof line and a recessed arch framing a Palladian window. A small shingled and railed balconet of semicircular shape projects from the main roof at the base of the dormer.

The front facade of the house is unbroken except for a small second-story bay window directly below the dormer. A full-width one-story porch is the dominant feature of the house. The asymmetrical porch has a

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semicircular entry feature similar to that on Colonial Revival houses. Classical detailing includes Ionic columns which support the porch, the simple balustrade pattern at floor level and along part of the roof line, and dentil molding along the cornice. Additions and modifications are largely limited to the rear of the building. It is located in an older residential neighborhood.

Significance: state level, architecture and ranching, 1905

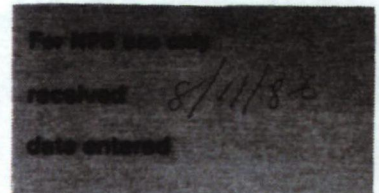
The A.J. Swenson House, 511 E. Oliver, possesses both historical significance and architectural merit. A.J. Swenson, nephew of SMS Ranch owner S.M. Swenson, came to Texas in 1881 and arrived in Jones County to work for his uncle in 1889. In 1894 he took over Swenson's Ellerslie Ranch, then in 1897 became superintendent of all SMS Ranch holdings. In 1922, A.J. became manager of the entire Swenson Land and Cattle Company, a position he held until 1946.

In 1905, A.J. Swenson decided to build a suitable residence in the town he helped create. A large two-story dwelling was constructed with both Queen Anne and classical features. This home served the Swensons well as a house sufficiently large to raise five sons, and as an edifice suitable for a leading citizen of the city. Following A.J.'s death in 1953, the house changed hands and has suffered from neglect, although it still retains its early 20th-century visage and its unusual blend of classical and Queen Anne styling.

Because of its historical association with the Swensons and its unusual architectural characteristics, this structure stands as one of Stamford's most historic structures.

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Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Stamford Multiple Resource Area  
State Jones County, TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review		Date/Signature
11. House at 815 East Campbell	Entered in the National Register for Keeper	Melona Byrum 9/24/86
	Attest	
12. Jackson, A.J., House	Substantive Review for Keeper	Patrick Andrews 9/24/86
	Attest	Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 9/24/86
13. Old Bryant--Link Building	Entered in the National Register for Keeper	Melona Byrum 9/24/86
	Attest	
14. Old Penick--Hughes Company	Substantive Review for Keeper	Patrick Andrews 9/24/86
	Attest	Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 9/24/86
15. Old West Texas Utilities Company	Entered in the National Register for Keeper	Melona Byrum 9/24/86
	Attest	
16. Old Wooten, H.O., Grocery Company	Substantive Review for Keeper	Patrick Andrews 9/24/86
	Attest	Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 9/24/86
17. SMS Building	Entered in the National Register for Keeper	Melona Byrum 9/24/86
	Attest	
18. St. John's Methodist Church	Substantive Review for Keeper	Patrick Andrews 9/24/86
	Attest	Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 9/24/86
19. Stamford City Hall	Entered in the National Register for Keeper	Melona Byrum 9/24/86
	Attest	
20. Swenson, A.J., House	Substantive Review for Keeper	Patrick Andrews 9/24/86
	Attest	Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 9/24/86

86002395

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Swenson, A. J., House (Stamford MRA)  
Jones County  
TEXAS

Substantive Review

AUG 11 1986

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/97

Date Due: 9/4/86 - 9/25/86

Action:  ACCEPT 9-24-86

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments: *The house's architectural significance stems from its unusual architecture which features both Queen Anne and classical elements. Historically, significance is derived from Swenson's position as manager of the Swenson Land and Cattle Company. The photographs don't adequately document the alterations to the rear of the house.*

Recom./Criteria Accept, B.E.C.

Reviewer Bruce J. Noble, Jr.

Discipline Historian

Date 9/24/86

\_\_\_\_\_ 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"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	date _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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**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

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

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

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

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Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

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

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



10-15

Historic Resources of Stamford, Texas  
Jones County, Texas  
Photo 1985 by Don Abbe, neg. with Texas  
Historical Commission, Austin

Property No. 20 (Sta-120), A.J. Swenson  
Residence, 511 E. Oliver, looking N

Photo 38 of 41.





Historic Resources of Stamford, Texas  
Jones County, Texas  
Photo 1985 by Don Abbe, neg. with Texas  
Historical Commission, Austin

Property No. 20 (Sta-120), A.J. Swenson  
Residence, 511 E. Oliver, looking NW

Photo 39 of 41.

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000854