

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ BLOCK \_\_\_\_\_ 231  
 CITY QUAD LOT \_\_\_\_\_ Pt. Lots 5-6

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Harris  
 ADDRESS: 921 Heights Blvd. CITY: Houston  
 UTM: \_\_\_\_\_

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Wm. A. Wilson-developer DATE: 1903 PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_  
 OWNER: Mrs. Robert J. Keyland STYLE: \_\_\_\_\_

921 Heights Blvd. Houston, TX 77008 THEME: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION: Victorian, frame, 2-story, combination roof, octagonal tower on second floor at corner of the house (windows on 4 sides), attached porch wraps to side supported by turned posts, squared balusters, single door with transom, windows 1/1.

BUILDING MATERIAL: wall: \_\_\_\_\_ roof: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHYSICAL CONDITION: good-qual. signif. SITE: original \_\_\_\_\_ or moved \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

ALTERATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNIFICANCE: House is very good example of the fine Victorian houses built along the Boulevard in the early years. This was also the home of Jay L. Durham for a few years. Durham later became the first fire chief of the Heights to

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: \_\_\_\_\_ LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: \_\_\_\_\_ (cont)

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

ORIGINAL USE: residence PRESENT USE: residence

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS: nice yard; in middle of block

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

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

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

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

DATE: 4/2/80 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

4/9/80

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 4, 7, 8, 10

Page 46

Site No. 46

NAME House at 921 Heights Blvd. (H.H.M.P.A.) COUNTY Harris BLOCK 231  
 ADDRESS 921 Heights Boulevard Blvd. CITY Houston LOT pt. lots 5-6  
 UTM Zone 15 E 268,190 N 3,297,450  
 ARCHITECT/BUILDER William A. Wilson\* DATE 1903 PERIOD 1900--  
 OWNER Tom Parr STYLE Queen Anne  
921 Heights Boulevard, Houston 77008 THEME \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION Two-story frame house with hipped roof and a lateral front gable; octagonal tower on second floor at corner of the house (with windows on four sides); attached front porch wraps to side, supported by turned posts with turned balusters between; fan-shaped brackets on posts; single door with transom; windows with one-over-one lights

Building material: wall weatherboard \*\* roof composition

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

Alterations new brackets on porch posts, which themselves appear recent

SIGNIFICANCE House is good example of the fine houses built along the Heights Boulevard in the early years. This was the home of Jay L. Durham for a few years. Durham later became the first fire chief of the Heights to be paid for his work. He was also socially active in clubs in the Heights.

Area of significance architecture Level of significance local

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

ORIGINAL USE residence PRESENT USE residence

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS well-kept yard; situated in middle of block of residential neighborhood.

ACREAGE/BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION less than one acre

BIBLIOGRAPHY Sister M. Agatha (1956: 48)

RECORDED BY K. L. London

INFORMANT \_\_\_\_\_

DATE April 2, 1980

PHOTO DATA 1 - 35 mm., Texas Hist. Commission

\* a developer

\*\* and shingles

87002246

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

House at 921 Heights Boulevard  
(Houston Heights MRA)  
Harris County  
TEXAS

*resubmitted as:*  
*(Burham, Jorg L., House)*  
**Substantive Review**

APR 9 1984

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

Fed. Reg. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Due: 5-10-84 / 5-24-84

Action:  ACCEPT

RETURN 5-14-84

REJECT

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

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

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Return for VBD clarification*

Recom./Criteria Return

Reviewer Burham

Discipline Historic

Date 5/14/84

\_\_\_\_\_ 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

**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**

Acreege of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

X Verbal boundary description and justification

*what "pt of lots 5-6" are being nominated*

**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 *Dr. Byers* Date *5-14-84* Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

For NPS use only  
received **DEC - 2 1987**  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 4,7,8,10

Page 122

Site No. 122 (former Site No. 46)

<u>NAME</u> Jay L. Durham House	<u>COUNTY</u> Harris	<u>BLOCK</u> 231
<u>ADDRESS</u> 921 Heights Boulevard	<u>CITY</u> Houston	<u>LOT</u> N $\frac{1}{2}$ 6, S 37.5' of 5
	<u>UTM</u> 268320/3297500	
<u>ARCHITECT/BUILDER</u> William A. Wilson	<u>DATE</u> 1903	<u>PERIOD</u> 1900 -
<u>OWNER</u> Andrew D. & Marguerite Swanson	<u>STYLE</u> Queen Anne	
<u>921 Heights Blvd., Houston, TX 77008</u>	<u>THEME</u>	

DESCRIPTION Two-story, frame dwelling faces east on brick piers; hipped roof with intersecting gable at southeast corner forms basic rectangular plan; 3-bay principal facade has 1-over-1 windows in first and second bays of both floors; a single French door with transom above occupies the third bay of the first floor; 1-story front porch extends the full east elevation and wraps around a part of the south; porch has shed roof with gable over the northeast corner entrance supported by turned columns that are connected by a balustrade with turned balusters; octagonal turret with tent

Building material: wall frame, clpbd. roof composition

Physical condition excellent site: original  or moved date

Alterations Rear addition at southeast corner completed in 1940s; modern frame

SIGNIFICANCE The Durham House is typical of the upper, middle-class housing in the Heights in the early 20th century. The house was built for Jay L. Durham by William A. Wilson, a prominent developer. Mr. Durham became the first Fire Chief of the Houston Heights Fire Department from 1911 to 1915 following a period as First Vice-President and Secretary of the Model Carriage Company and was active in religious and fraternal organizations there. The property is significant because of its unusually intact and well-preserved architectural features.

Area of significance architecture Level of significance local

DESIGNATION: NR NHL RTHL HABS HAER HESI HSI OTHER

ORIGINAL USE residence PRESENT USE residence

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS Located in the middle of the west side of Heights Blvd., a major thoroughfare, and surrounded by houses of similar scale and period. Driveway

ACREAGE/BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION less than one acre

BIBLIOGRAPHY Tax Rolls, Sanborn Maps, Deed Records

RECORDED BY G. Randle Pace INFORMANT

DATE August 1987 PHOTO DATA 35mm b/w & slides (5), THC

145 of 147

**CONTINUATIONS:**

Desc. cont. roof, topped with finial, dominates the facade; turret flares at the bottom in a continuous extension from the porch roof; three 1-over-1 windows punctuate the turret with classical detailing below the turret eaves and fish-scale shingles below the windows; dentilation around the porch eave; closed porch gable has fish-scale shingles and classical detailing; closed front gable roof formation has fish-scale shingles with horizontal, rectangular vent.

Alt. cont. garage completed in 1982 is not contributing.

Rel. to Surr. cont. on the south side of the lot.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received 4/9/84  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 11/811

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Houston Heights Multiple Resource Area  
State Harris County, TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

101. House at 122 East Fifth Street

Entered in the National Register

for Keeper

Melona Byers 5/14/84

Attest

102. ~~House at 921 Heights Boulevard~~  
**DURHAM, JAY L., HOUSE**

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Linda McClelland 4/15/84

Attest

103. House at 444 West 24th Street

Entered in the National Register

for Keeper

Melona Byers 5/14/84

Attest

104. Keller House

Entered in the National Register

for Keeper

Melona Byers 5/14/84

Attest

105. Wisnoski House

Entered in the National Register

for Keeper

Melona Byers 5/14/84

Attest

6 COVER II

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Linda McClelland 4/15/84

Attest

106. Anderson, John W., House

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Linda McClelland 4/15/84

Attest

107. Baring, Otto H., House

Entered in the National Register

for Keeper

Melona Byers 4/15/84

Attest

108. Burlingame, George L., House

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Linda McClelland 4/15/84

Attest

109. Clare, J.H., House

Entered in the National Register

for Keeper

Melona Byers 4/15/84

Attest

87007246

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

102

Durham, Jay L., House (Houston Heights MRA)  
Harris County  
TEXAS

*(originally submitted as:  
House at 921 Heights Boulevard)  
4-9-84*

Working No. DEC 2 1987  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/7/89  
Date Due: 12/31/87 - 1/16/88  
Action:  ACCEPT 1-15-88  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

**Substantive Review**

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

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*This nomination was previously returned because of an imprecise VBD. The problem has been resolved.*

Recom./Criteria Accept - C  
Reviewer Noble  
Discipline Historian  
Date 1/15/88  
\_\_\_\_\_ 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: \_\_\_\_\_





Historic Resources of Houston Heights  
Site No. 122, Durham House, 921 Heights Boulevard  
Houston, Harris County, Texas

Photo by Dean Swanson, 1987, neg.  
with photographer, Houston, Texas.

Front facade; camera looking west

Photo 145 of 147

169 of 176

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000847