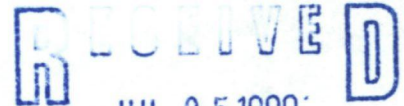


NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: Sears (Rev. Henry M. and Jennie) House

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: 209 W. 39th Street

city/town: Austin

state: TX County: Travis

code: 453

zip code: 78751

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing:

HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES OF HYDE PARK, AUSTIN, TEXAS

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

Curtis J. Russell
Signature of certifying official

27 June 1990
Date

Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Entered in the
National Register

entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

Delores Byers 8/16/90

determined eligible for the
National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the
National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____

fu
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Domestic Sub: single dwelling

Current: Domestic Sub: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Other: vernacular
Queen Anne

Other Description: modified L-plan

Materials:	foundation	wood
	walls	wood - weatherboard
	roof	asphalt shingles
	other	

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

 X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: locally

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: c.1903

Significant Dates: c.1903

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

 X See continuation sheet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

The Sears House at 209 West 39th Street is a 1-story vernacular dwelling that exhibits detailing associated with the Queen Anne style. Built about 1903, the house has changed little over the years and retains most of its historic character. Recently completed restoration efforts have successfully revitalized one of the neighborhood's few extant examples of a turn-of-the-century dwelling.

The frame dwelling faces north on two lots in the middle of the 200 block of West 39th Street. As was common among vernacular housing of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, an off-center gabled wing lends asymmetry to the facade. Cutaway corners, a pent roof, and fish-scale shingles in the gable end distinguish the projecting wing. A 3-bay porch features delicate turned-wood detailing common to houses of similar vintage in Austin and surrounding areas. The primary entrance is set within the porch and includes a single door with three vertical lights and a transom with geometric glazing. Windows are double-hung sash with 2/1 lights. The steeply pitched roof is comprised of hipped and gabled forms that provide mass and weight to the dwelling's overall design. A simply detailed chimney, not believed to be original, rises on the outer wall of the east-facing gable end. Largely shielded from public view, a screened porch extends along the rear of the house.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Nominated under Criterion C for its local architectural significance, the Reverend Henry M. and Jennie Sears House is a 1-story frame dwelling built during the late Victorian era. The house was constructed about 1903 for Sears, who served many years as the chaplain of the State Senate. A noteworthy example of Victorian architecture in Hyde Park, the house is one of the most pristine illustrations of the synthesis of vernacular form with stylistic detailing to be found in the area.

Near the intersection of Avenue C and West 39th Street (historically designated Second Avenue), the house was built on lots purchased by Sears on June 18, 1897. The purchase price of \$1750.00 and notation by City directories that Sears' residence was on the southwest corner of the intersection suggests that Sears occupied a 2-story residence upon moving to Austin to serve as presiding elder of the Austin district of the Methodist Episcopal Church. By 1903, however, his residence was listed at the southeast corner of the intersection, and so it is presumed that 209 West 39th was constructed between 1898 and 1903.

Sears continued to live in the house until 1915. During his residency in the house, he served as chaplain of 29th legislative session of the Texas Senate (1905-07) and the State Lunatic Asylum, and simultaneously for both institutions between 1912 and his death on March 13, 1915 (Austin City Directories, 1905-1914; Probate File No. 4191).

Upon his death, the property passed to his wife, Jennie, and subsequently to their daughter, Florence. By 1924, Florence Sears married Frank W. King, who dealt in cedar products, and they lived at 209 West 39th until his death in 1961 (Probate File No. 22,864). Florence King sold the property to Randolph G. Mueller on May 23, 1975 (DR 5173: 1544); recent owners have rehabilitated the dwelling.

Although established in the 1890s, Hyde Park retains relatively few dwellings that predate World War I. Built about 1903, this house is one of the neighborhood's finest examples of late-Victorian architecture. Although a vernacular dwelling in form and plan, the house's ornate detailing suggests the Queen Anne style. Similar house scattered throughout Hyde Park do not retain the historic integrity of 209 West 39th Street.

Apart from its architectural significance, the Sears House also represents development efforts in Hyde Park. Constructed when Hyde

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Park after initial marketing strategies changed to meet economic pressures, the dwelling typifies the affordable suburban house that early promoters heralded as an alternative to urban living arrangements.

9. Major Bibliographical References

X See bibliography for associated historic context.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey# _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record# _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- x State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	14	621700	3352800	B	_____	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lots 13- 14, Block 13, Hyde Park Addition No. 2

Boundary Justification:

Boundaries are those historically associated with the property.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Martha Doty Freeman - Historian
 Organization: RioGroup Architects and Planners Date: July 1988
 Street & Number: 1711 S. Congress Avenue Telephone: 512/440-8751
 City or Town: Austin State: TX Zip: 78704

Name/Title: David Moore - Historian
 Organization: Hardy-Heck-Moore Date: July 1988
 Street & Number: 2112 Rio Grande Telephone: 512/478-8014
 City or Town: Austin State: TX Zip: 78705

7/5/90

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Hyde Park MPS Travis County, TEXAS

Date Listed

COVER

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1. Bluebonnet Tourist Camp | 8/16/90 |
| 2. Commercial Building at 4113 Guadalupe St. | 8/16/90 |
| 3. Covert, Frank M. and Annie G., House | 8/16/90 |
| 4. Hildreth-Flanagan-Heierman House | 8/16/90 |
| 5. Hyde Park Historic District Substantiva Review | 8/16/90 |
| 6. Hyde Park Presbyterian Church | 8/16/90 |
| 7. Ledbetter, Charles P., House | 8/16/90 |
| 8. Mansbendel, Peter and Clotilde Shipe, House
Substantiva Review | 8/16/90 |
| 9. Missouri, Kansas and Texas Land Co. House | 8/16/90 |
| 10. Oliphant--Walker House Substantiva Review | 8/16/90 |
| 11. Page--Gilbert House | 8/16/90 |
| 12. Parker, James F. and Susie R., House | 8/16/90 |
| 13. Ramsey, F. T. and Belle, House Substantiva Review | 8/16/90 |
| 14. Sears, Rev. Henry M. and Jennie, House | 8/16/90 |
| 15. Shadow Lawn Historic District | 8/16/90 |
| 16. Smith--Marcuse--Lowry House | 8/16/90 |
| 17. Williams, W. T. and Clotilde V., House | 8/16/90 |
| 18. McCauley, Robert H. and Edith Ethel, House | 8/16/90 |
| 19. Robbins, Alice H., House | 8/16/90 |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Sears, Rev. Henry M. and Jennie, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Hyde Park MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Travis

DATE RECEIVED: 7/05/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/17/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/02/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/19/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90001174

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8/16/90 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to
Phone

Signed Date



REV. HENRY M. & JENNIE SEARS HOUSE

209 W. 39TH

AUSTIN, TRAVIS CO., TEXAS

DANIEL HARDY

MARCH 4, 1987

NEGATIVE WITH TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

CAMERA FACING SOUTHWEST

2 OF 49

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500640