

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED
JUL 05 1990

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: Oliphant-Walker House

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: 3900 Avenue C

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. Jernell
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:

- X entered in the National Register Autawietta Lee 8/16/90
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
 National Register
- See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
 National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

for _____
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	brick
	walls	wood - weatherboard
		wood - shingles
	roof	asphalt shingles

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: B C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1936

Significant Dates: 1936

Significant Person(s): Walker, Anna E.

Period of Significance: 1906-1940

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Ellingson, E.A. (builder)

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

At the northwest corner of Avenue C and 39th Street, the 2 1/2-story Oliphant-Walker House features exuberant Queen Anne detailing. One of the oldest dwellings in Hyde Park, the building exhibits few alterations that detract from its historic character. The house occupies a large lot shaded by mature pecan and oak trees.

As is typical for most Queen Anne-styled dwellings, the house features an asymmetrical composition with a strong vertical emphasis (in contrast to the Bungalow-era dwellings that define Hyde Park's residential character) and a variety of architectural details, textures and materials. The modified L-plan vernacular form is capped by a steeply pitched hipped roof with lower cross gables. A front-gabled wing features cutaway corners and a richly textural gable end featuring details drawn from the stylistic idioms of the Queen Anne style. Tripartite window opening, imbricated shingles, wooden bargeboards with circular motifs, and Stick-style bracketing enliven the composition. Flanking the projecting gabled wing, two porches feature spindled columns, balustrades and friezes. Each is surmounted by a balcony with a spindled wood railing. Single doorways with 2-light transoms open onto both levels of the porches. Windows are double-hung wood sash with 2/2 lights divided by vertical muntins that further emphasize the dwelling's verticality. An interior chimney with relatively simple brickwork extends from the southern slope of the hipped roof.

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National Register of Historic Places
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Section number 8 Page 1

A fine example of the Queen Anne style, the Oliphant-Walker was constructed in 1894 for William Jones Oliphant, a prominent local photographer, and his wife, Alice. During the 20th century, the house served as the residence of Anna E. Walker, who helped organize the Texas Woman Suffrage Association, and her husband Lewis, president of an Oklahoma-based railroad. Due to these historical associations and its architectural significance, the house is nominated under both Criterion B and Criterion C.

Like the Smith-Marcuse-Lowry House at the opposite end of the 3900 block of Avenue C, the Oliphant-Walker House is an architecturally sophisticated residence dating to the earliest development period in Hyde Park. Deed restrictions imposed on land sold by the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Land and Town Company during this period required the construction of relatively large and costly homes on lots in proximity to major trolley lines or the entrance to the subdivision. This tact was taken as a marketing strategy to reassure potential investors of the permanence and desirability of the new development. The resultant houses were generally large-scale dwellings constructed in vernacular forms with applied stylistic ornamentation from the design idioms of the Queen Anne style. Highly crafted examples such as the Oliphant-Walker House still make a strong visual contribution to the architectural fabric of the neighborhood.

Shortly after the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Land and Town Co. platted the Hyde Park Additions, William James Oliphant and his wife Alice decided to build in Austin's newest subdivision. Upon purchasing lots 20-22 in Block 9 of Hyde Park Addition No. 2 in 1894, they hired builder Elling A. Ellingson to construct their new home (DR 90:575). Plans called for the contractor to use the best quality lumber, including California weatherboarding, a shingle roof with 5-inch dimension shingles, and lattice work between brick piers. The contract was signed on June 22, 1894, and work was to be completed by September 15th at a cost for labor and materials of \$1875.00 (DR 90:564).

Oliphant, a well-known photographer in Austin, produced many of Austin's earliest-known photographs. Retired from photography while living at 3900 Avenue C, he served as secretary for the Board of Public Works and for the Water and Light Commission, as well as Deputy Tax Assessor for Travis County (Austin City Directories 1895-1905).

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Section number 8 Page 2

In 1906 the Oliphants decided to return to their old home at 602 West 9th Street. They sold 3900 Avenue C to Carrie B. and J.H. Freeman, who subsequently deeded the house to Anna E. Walker in 1914 (DR 205:550; 268:434). While living at 3900 Avenue C, her husband Lewis became president of the Buffalo Northwestern Railroad, headquartered in Buffalo, Oklahoma. In the meantime, the house served as a headquarters for Anna's efforts towards organizing the Texas Woman Suffrage Association, for which she served as state treasurer (City of Austin. Historic Landmark Inventory File C14h-74008).

Upon Anna Walker's death in 1948, the property was sold to Arthur R. Erwin (DR 954:439). In 1974 neighborhood efforts and the assistance of the Austin Heritage Society helped find a buyer for the house, M.K. Marshall, who initiated renovation work. Further renovation was undertaken by Donald G. and Avis Jane Davis after 1977, and the house was zoned Historic by the City of Austin in 1978. The Austin Heritage Society conferred a Historic Preservation Award upon the house in 1979 (Hyde Park Historic Homes Tour 1984:7).

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	3352840	B	_____	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lots 20-22, Block 9, 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

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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. | 8/10/90 |
| 3. Covert, Frank M. and Annie G., House | 8/10/90 |
| 4. Hildreth-Flanagan-Heierman House | 8/10/90 |
| 5. Hyde Park Historic District Substantiva Review | 8/10/90 |
| 6. Hyde Park Presbyterian Church | 8/16/90 |
| 7. Ledbetter, Charles P., House | 8/10/90 |
| 8. Mansbendel, Peter and Clotilde Shipe, House
Substantiva Review | 8/16/90 |
| 9. Missouri, Kansas and Texas Land Co. House | 8/10/90 |
| 10. Oliphant--Walker House Substantiva Review | 8/16/90 |
| 11. Page--Gilbert House | 8/10/90 |
| 12. Parker, James F. and Susie R., House | 8/10/90 |
| 13. Ramsey, F. T. and Belle, House Substantiva Review | 8/16/90 |
| 14. Sears, Rev. Henry M. and Jennie, House | 8/10/90 |
| 15. Shadow Lawn Historic District | 8/16/90 |
| 16. Smith--Marcuse--Lowry House | 8/10/90 |
| 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 | 8/10/90 |

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Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 90001177

Date Listed: 8/16/90

Oliphant-Walker House
Property Name

Travis
County

TX
State

Hyde Park MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

in *Autawilla Lee*
Signature of the Keeper

8/16/90
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: Under Architecture, the period of significance should read 1894 and significant date should read 1894.

Under Criterion B, the period of significance should read 1914-1940 and the area of significance should be politics/government.

This information was confirmed with Bruce Jensen of the Texas SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Oliphant--Walker 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: 90001177

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: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8/16/90 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Oliphant - Walker House is significant as a notable Queen Anne
style residence in Hyde Park. It was constructed close to the
major streetcar lines to impress upon potential investors the community's
prestige and desirability. Constructed in 1894, the residence was
purchased and occupied by Anna E. Walker, a prominent figure in
the Texas Woman Suffrage Association.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept / B+C
REVIEWER Autaweth A. Lee
DISCIPLINE History
DATE 8/16/90

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
___ UTM ___ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___ sketch maps ___ USGS maps ___ photographs ___ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone

Signed Date



OLIPHANT-WALKER HOUSE

3900 AVENUE C

AUSTIN, TRAVIS CO., TEXAS

DANIEL HARDY

MARCH 4, 1987

NEGATIVE WITH TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

CAMERA FACING NORTHWEST

7 OF 49

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500640