

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: Frank M. and Annie G. Covert House

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: 3912 Avenue G

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	1	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	1	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. Jurnell
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.

Alvin 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): _____

[Signature]
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	stone
	walls	brick
	roof	asphalt shingles
	other	

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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.1898

Significant Dates: c.1898

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.

See continuation sheet.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

The massive 2-story dwelling at 3912 Avenue G is distinguished by eclectic Queen Anne detailing. At the southwest corner of Avenue G and East 40th Street, it faces east in a predominately residential area in Hyde Park. The house was built about 1898 and remains virtually unaltered.

With asymmetrical massing typical of Victorian-era dwellings in Hyde Park, this modified L-plan dwelling is surmounted by an elaborate roofscape of hipped and gable forms. The primary (east) facade is dominated by a 2-story wraparound porch of 6 bays. Paired Doric columns rest on wooden piers linked by squared-wood balustrade. A full-height pedimented portico marks the entry bay and features a combination of mansardic and gable roof forms with imbricated shingles in the gable end. Double doors with oval-shaped lights and leaded-glass transoms open onto each floor of the porch. Windows are double hung with 1/1 lights and feature stone sills and lintels. Unlike the majority of dwellings in Hyde Park, walls of this house are constructed of load-bearing buff brick. A moderately pitched hipped roof (less steep than most similarly styled dwelling) covers the main body of the house, while gabled extensions project from each side of the hipped roof. Exterior brick chimneys with elaborately crafted caps add to the complexity of the roofscape.

A 2-story frame garage/apartment stands on the northwest corner of the property. Built about 1980, it is simply detailed with a gable roof and wood siding. Its recent date of construction and lack of historical association with the main house classify this ancillary dwelling as a Noncontributing element.

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Constructed about 1898 for a real estate and insurance agent, the Covert House dates to the initial period of Hyde Park's development. As one of the very few brick houses constructed in Hyde Park, it is a landmark example of the design idioms of Victorian-era dwellings in the area. Numerous architectural elements typically associated with the Queen Anne style are to be found on the house, including a variety of detailing, texture and materials. Brick was not to become a prevalent building material in the neighborhood until the 1930s. As the second example of brick construction in the new development, the Covert House typified Shipe's marketing strategy of encouraging construction of grand, stylistically pretentious houses in highly visible locations near the streetcar line. Recently restored, the Covert House retains its distinguishing architectural elements and is nominated for its local architectural significance under Criterion C.

On June 26, 1897, Annie G. Covert acquired a portion of Block 36 in the Hyde Park Addition from the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad of Dickinson County, Kansas, and from A.C. and Gertrude L. Marconnier of Seattle, Washington, through their agent, Monroe M. Shipe (DR 138:353; 147:263). City directories indicate that Frank and Annie Covert moved into a new house at 3912 Avenue G very soon thereafter.

The Coverts conveyed title to the property to the Stacy-Robbins-Covert Co. sometime after 1900, relocating to 1511 Colorado Street (NR 1970). The Company sold the Covert House and 14 lots in 1909 to Nellie T. Heald, whose husband was a professor of botany at the University of Texas. Heald, in turn, sold the house to the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Land Co. in 1913, which conveyed it in 1917 to Fred Sassman, Sr., (DR 235:355; 254:295; 293:52).

Like the owners who preceded them, the Sassmans occupied the house only a brief time before moving out, apparently turning the house into rental property. It was occupied at various times by a rancher, a doctor, and the Home of the Holy Infancy (Austin City Directories 1918-1940). Ownership passed from the Sassman family in 1945 (DR 749:692). Recent owners have undertaken a sizeable restoration effort, and the City of Austin granted historical zoning to 3912 Avenue C in 1978 (City of Austin. Historic Landmark Inventory File C14h-78-036).

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	622120	3352740	B	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lot 27 less 8.5 ft x 66 ft and 10 ft x 38 ft, North 5.5 ft of Lot 26, 29.5 ft x 39.5 ft of Lots 11 and 12, Shadow Lawn Addition

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. | 8/10/90 |
| 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 |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Covert, Frank M. and Annie G., 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: 90001185

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



FRANK M. & ANNIE G. COVERT HOUSE

3912 AVENUE G.

AUSTIN, TRAVIS CO., TEXAS

DANIEL HARDY

MARCH 4, 1987

NEGATIVE WITH TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

CAMERA FACING WEST

15 OF 49

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500640