

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: Alice H. Robbins House

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: 4311 Avenue A

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. Murrell
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

~~Entered in the~~
national Register

I, hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register
____ 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): _____

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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
Bungalow

Other Description: shotgun

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: 1925

Significant Dates: 1925

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Herndon, R.W. (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

A 1-story frame dwelling, the house at 4311 Avenue A features a shotgun plan coupled with Bungalow detailing. Although its surroundings have changed considerably over time (empty lots and new apartment buildings are now common), the house retains a remarkable degree of its historic character.

Facing west onto Avenue A, this small dwelling features a plan typical of the shotgun house. Common throughout the urban South, shotgun dwellings are characterized by linear plans, usually one room wide by two or three rooms deep, arranged perpendicularly to the street. Such houses also generally lack substantial or noteworthy architectural detailing. The Robbins House, however, is distinguished by detailing drawn from the Bungalow stylistic vocabulary, including fenestration, and treatment of foundation, porch, and eaves. A tapered foundation skirtwall masks the house's pier-and-beam foundation. The one-bay, gable-roof porch displays box columns with simple caps and a half column to define the entry. The 3-bay facade is focused on a door with vertical lights visually supported by squared brackets and flanked by double-hung, wood-sash windows. Exposed rafter ends and curvilinear knee brackets distinguish the front-gabled roof.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Constructed in 1925, the Alice H. Robbins House features a synthesis of the vernacular shotgun form and Bungalow detailing unique in Hyde Park. Built during the heyday of residential construction in Hyde Park (1920-1935), the house is a modestly scaled dwelling constructed in the vernacular shotgun form. Despite its unpretentious size and simple plan, the house displays details typical of the Bungalow style, including treatment of eaves, porch, foundation, and fenestration. As the house retains most of these original features, it stands as a unique example of this synthesis in Hyde Park. An unusually high degree of architectural integrity and the unusual combination of form and detailing suggest its nomination under Criterion C for its local architectural significance.

On February 23, 1925, the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Land Company sold the lot at 4311 Avenue A for \$50 to Alice H. Robbins, who had operated a sanatorium at 119 East 30th Street (DR 371:423; Austin City Directory 1916). One month later, Robbins contracted with R.W. (Wallace) Herndon, who agreed to furnish labor and materials worth \$767.76 for the construction of a ". . . weatherboard house 16 by 18 feet. . ." (DR 358:563).

Herndon was a life-long Austinite who worked for several local lumber companies and as an independent contractor. Shortly after he built this house, he became mill superintendent for the Reinhardt Lumber Company; he subsequently managed the Cash Lumber Company and the Theodore Low Lumber Company (Austin City Directories 1927-1937; Austin History Center. Biographical Files: Herndon, Eugene Wallace, 1836-1904).

Alice Robbins occupied 4311 Avenue A until her death in 1934 (Austin Statesman April 2, 1934:3). Her heirs held the property until 1950, when it was sold to Iva B. Marrs (DR 1042:489). Subsequent owners have included Joe R. Long (1968-1970), Dr Walter Myer (1970-1977), M.B. and S.L. Reinking (1977-1979), M.S. and J.L. Lackey, and Robert Abbassi and Morteza Hamidi (DR 1042:489; 3510:865; 3836:574; 5756:711; 6821:2147; 9314:109).

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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 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:

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	14	621880	3353500	B	_____	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lot 4, Block 11, Hyde Park Addition No. 1

Boundary Justification:

Boundaries are those historically associated with the property.

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Martha Doty Freeman - Historian

Organization: RioGroup Architects and Planners

Street & Number: 1711 S. Congress Avenue

City or Town: Austin

Date: July 1988

Telephone: 512/440-8751

State: TX Zip: 78704

Name/Title: David Moore - Historian

Organization: Hardy-Heck-Moore

Street & Number: 2112 Rio Grande

City or Town: Austin

Date: July 1988

Telephone: 512/478-8014

State: TX Zip: 78705

7/5/90

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Hyde Park MPS

Travis County, TEXAS

Date Listed

COVER

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

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Robbins, Alice H., 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: 90001235

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

Entered in the
National Register

DATE

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 _____



ALICE H. ROBBINS HOUSE
4311 AVENUE A
AUSTIN, TRAVIS CO., TEXAS

DANIEL HARDY

MARCH 4, 1987

NEGATIVE WITH TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST

3 OF 49 March 4, 1987

negative: Texas Historical Commission
Austin, TX

view: looking northeast

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500640