

1877



NATIONAL
REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Lee, Walter J., House

other names/site number #12

2. Location

street & number 804 North College Street [NA] not for publication

city/town Belton [NA] vicinity

state Texas code TX County Bell code 027 zip code 76513

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Contributing	
Noncontributing			
[XX] private	[XX] building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
[] public-local	[] district	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
[] public-State	[] site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
[] public-Federal	[] structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
	[] object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Community Development in Belton, Texas, 1850-1945

Number of contributing resources
previously listed in NR 0

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [XX] 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 [XX] meets [] does not meet the National Register Criteria. [] See continuation sheet.

Curtis D. Russell
Signature of certifying official
Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

29 Oct. 1990
Date

=====

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria.

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
[] 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): _____

Entered in the
National Register

Arlene Byers

12/26/90

for Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

=====

6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification

OTHER: Foursquare Plan

Materials

foundation WOODwalls WOOD: horizontal siding
shinglesroof ASPHALT: composition shingles

other _____

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

[] See continuation sheet.

The Lee House is a 1 1/2-story irregular plan frame dwelling with steeply-pitched hipped roof and a large front porch with box columns. The property is an example of the evolution of the foursquare house and shows the influence of Classical Revival in its detailing. It faces east on a large lot in a residential neighborhood of North Belton and is surrounded by numerous small deciduous trees and shrubs.

While the Lee House takes the basic foursquare plan, its symmetry is broken by projecting gabled wings on its north and south sides. It is covered by a steeply-pitched hipped roof topped by massive finials and pierced by two brick chimneys. In the front pitch of the roof is a large hipped roof dormer with three windows. The house is sheathed with horizontal v-groove siding, with some use of decorative shingles around the dormer and gables. All of the windows are 1/1 double hung with wooden sashes. Running across the main facade is a large porch with box columns sheltered beneath an extension of the roof mass. The exterior of the house is in good condition with only minor alterations, however, the interior has undergone more extensive alteration.

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8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locallyApplicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G NA

Areas of Significance

Architecture

Period of Significance

1904

Significant Dates

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person(s)

NA

Architect/Builder

Walter J. & Ben D. Lee

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State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. ☐ See continuation sheet.

The Lee House is a good example of the dwarf hybrid of a foursquare house sometimes known as a "pyramid house" for its prominent hipped roof. Contextually, the house is related to Community and Regional Development in Belton, specifically to the growth of Belton during the cotton boom years at the beginning of the century. The house is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C, significant in the area of Architecture, as an intact example of this early century house type particularly common to Belton.

The Lee House was built in 1904 by local contractors Ben D. Lee and his son Walter J. Lee. Ben D. Lee was the contractor for the Curtis House, one of the most exuberant examples of the mansions built at the turn of the century by the town's cotton barons. It is interesting that when these contractors built a house for themselves it followed a patternbook design that would have appeared quite modern at the time, yet they added the prominent finials in a touch of Queen Anne eclecticism quite inconsistent with the house's design. The 1 1/2-story foursquare plan, or pyramid house, was being used elsewhere in Belton at this time, as illustrated by the James A. Ferguson House (site #8) built by T. Hamp Birdwell in the same year. It is an example of the new architectural influences imported to Belton via patternbooks around the turn of the century.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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[] See continuation sheet.

Please see bibliography accompanying context statement "Community Development in Belton, Texas, 1850-1945."

Previous documentation on file (NPS): NA
[] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
[] previously listed in 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:
[XX] State historic preservation office
[] Other State agency
[] Federal agency
[] Local government
[] University
[] Other

Specify repository:
Texas Historical Commission

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property less than 1 acre

UTM References

A [14] [646580] [3437580]

Zone Easting Northing

C [] [] []

B [] [] []

Zone Easting Northing

D [] [] []

=====

Verbal Boundary Description

[] See continuation sheet

North 49 feet of Lot 11 and south 25 feet of east 1/2 of Lot 12, Block 122, Wybrant Addition.

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Boundary Justification

[] See continuation sheet

The legal description consistent with current ownership and most closely associated with historic ownership of the property.

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11. Form Prepared By

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(based on research by Sally Victor, Victor & Victor Consultants)
Name/Title Chris Long, Historian (with Tory Laughlin Taylor, Architectural Historian)

Organization Texas Historical Commission, NR Programs date August 1990Street & Number P.O. Box 12276 Capitol Station telephone 512-463-6094City or Town Austin state TX zip 78711

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

Section number _____ Page _____

Belton MPS

Bell County, TEXAS

Date Listed

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|----------|
| 22. Harris, Capt. Andrew Jackson, House | Substantive Review | 12/26/90 |
| 23. House at 402 N. East St. | | 12/26/90 |
| 24. House at 730 N. Beal St. | Substantive Review | 12/26/90 |
| 25. Hudson, Dr. Taylor, House | | 12/26/90 |
| 26. James House | | 12/26/90 |
| 27. Kinchion, L. B., House | | 12/26/90 |
| 28. Lee, Walter J., House | | 12/26/90 |
| 29. McWhirter, George and Martha, House | | 12/26/90 |
| 30. Means, V. R., House | | 12/26/90 |
| 31. Miller, J. I., House | | 12/26/90 |
| 32. Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Bridge at
the Leon River | Substantive Review | 12/26/90 |
| 33. Morey House | | 12/26/90 |
| 34. Mount Zion United Methodist Church | | 12/26/90 |
| 35. Naismith, Robert, House | | 12/26/90 |
| 36. Potts, Arthur, House | | 12/26/90 |
| 37. Venable, W. J., House | | 12/26/90 |
| 38. Ware, H. A. and Helena, House | | 12/26/90 |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Lee, Walter J., House
NAME:

MULTIPLE Belton MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Bell

DATE RECEIVED: 11/14/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/30/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/16/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/29/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90001877

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 12/26/90 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 _____



540
840 N. COLLEGE

HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES of BELTON, TEXAS
WALTER J. LEE HOUSE
804 N. COLLEGE
BELTON, BELL CO., TEXAS
CAMERA FACING NORTHWEST

NEGATIVE WITH CONSULTANT
PHOTO 12 OF 38

~~Roll~~ No. 540, ROLL 29, #11

~~Address~~ 804 N. COLLEGE

View N.W. OBLIQUE

Belton, Texas Lee Meredith House
Historic Sites Survey, 1985
VICTOR AND VICTOR CONSULTANTS, INC.
P.O. Box 26189
AUSTIN, TEXAS

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500627