

1896

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NATIONAL
REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Birdwell, T.Hamp and Beulah, House

other names/site number #34

2. Location

street & number 503 North Wall [NA] not for publication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			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u> </u>	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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.

Carroll J. Powell
Signature of certifying official

29 Oct. 1990
Date

Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

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:

- 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~~

Shelove Byer
Signature of Keeper

12/26/EC
Date of Action

for Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Prairie School

Materials

foundation WOOD

walls WOOD: weatherboard

roof ASPHALT: composition shingles

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

[] See continuation sheet.

The Birdwell House is a 1 1/2-story, frame foursquare-plan bungalow with Classical Revival detailing that shows a strong Prairie School influence. It has a pyramidal roof, full width front porch and dormers on the front and sides. The structure faces west on a large lot in a residential neighborhood of North Belton overhung with mature deciduous trees.

The Birdwell House rests on a pier and beam foundation, is sided in weatherboard, and is covered with a hipped asphalt shingle roof. On the front, north and south facades are three wide hipped-roof dormers with balconies. The dormers, like the roof of the house, have broad eaves. French doors open onto a narrow balcony and are flanked by double-hung sash windows with decorative perimeter mullions in the Prairie School style. Three brick chimney stacks pierce the roof. Stretching the length of the main facade is a 1-story porch with a separate hipped roof supported by boxed columns. The porch has a simple balustrade and is decorated with lattice. The entry has a transom and elliptical sidelights. Windows are generally 1/1 double-hung sash with a decorative upper sash. The house is in good condition with its original architectural features intact.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: [] nationally [] statewide [XX] locally

Applicable National Register Criteria []A []B [XX]C []D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) []A []B []C []D []E []F []G NA

Areas of Significance: Architecture; Period of Significance: 1913; Significant Dates: NA

Cultural Affiliation: NA

Significant Person(s): NA; Architect/Builder: unknown

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

The Birdwell Residence, built in 1913, is a product of the dissemination of the Prairie School literature and aesthetic in the early 20th century. Contextually, the property relates to Community and Regional Development, specifically to the steady growth and consequential residential construction in Belton in the later years of the cotton boom. The house is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C, significant in the area of Architecture, as an excellent example of the Prairie School house adapted to a 1-story bungalow.

The Birdwell residence was built in 1913 by prominent local builder T. Hamp Birdwell for his family. Born around 1864, Birdwell moved to Belton from Louisiana with his parents in 1871. He trained as a carpenter and builder and became an independent contractor in his twenties. Over the course of his long career--which lasted until the 1930s--he built numerous houses in Belton and in the Central Texas area. His apparent preference for the 1 1/2-story bungalow based on the foursquare plan accounts for the proliferation of this type in Belton.

This house is a good example of a patternbook Prairie School house. Birdwell's houses in Belton reveal the builder's dependence on patternbooks for inspiration, as they are usually variations on forms or styles that were heavily promoted in the architectural press of their time. However, Birdwell did not hesitate to mix influences, as can be seen here in the Queen Anne sunburst detailing on the sides of the dormers.

9. Major Bibliographical References

[] 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

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1 acre

UTM References

A [14] [647080] [3437100]
 Zone Easting Northing
 C [] [] []

B [] [] []
 Zone Easting Northing
 D [] [] []

Verbal Boundary Description

[] See continuation sheet

South 1/2 of Lot 1, Block 5, Alexander Addition.

Boundary Justification

[] See continuation sheet

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

11. Form Prepared By

(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 1990
 Street & Number P.O. Box 12276 Capitol Station telephone 512-463-6094
 City or Town Austin state TX zip 78711

11/14/90

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Belton MPS Bell County, TEXAS

DATE LISTED

COVER

Substantive Review

12/26/90

1. Austin, F. K. and Mary, House

12/26/90

2. Baggett, Ele, House

12/26/90

3. Baggett, Silas and Ellen, House

12/26/90

4. Baylor Female College Historic District

12/26/90

Substantive Review

5. Beamer, William, House

12/26/90

6. Belton Academy

12/26/90

7. Belton Commercial Historic District

12/26/90

8. Belton Farmers' Gin Coop

12/26/90

9. Belton Standpipe

12/26/90

10. Belton Yarn Mill

12/26/90

11. Birdwell, T. Hamp and Beulah, House

12/26/90

12. Burford, R. F. and Lena, House

12/26/90

13. Cornelison House

12/26/90

14. Elliott, Joel, House

12/26/90

~~15. Farr, Dr. R.S., House~~

Removed
8.30.94

12/26/90

16. Ferguson, James A., House

12/26/90

17. Ferguson, James E. and Mirian, House

12/26/90

18. First Christian Church Parsonage

12/26/90

19. Frazier, Dr. Jacob Moore, House

12/26/90

20. Gray Rental Houses

Substantive Review

12/26/90

21. Hammersmith, John P., 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 NAME: Birdwell, T. Hamp and Beulah, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Belton MPS

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: 90001896

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
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



490
503 N. WALL

HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES of BELTON, TEXAS
 T. HAMP & BEULLAH BIRDWELL HOUSE
 503 N. WALL
 BELTON, BELL CO., TEXAS
 CAMERA FACING EAST
 NEGATIVE WITH CONSULTANT

Site No. 490, ROLL 26, #14
 Address 503 N. WALL
 View W. FACADE

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

PHOTO 34 of 38

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500627