

1937

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Belton Academy  
other names/site number #2 Wedemeyer, Charles, House

2. Location

street & number 404 East Ninth [NA] not for publication  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 |            |
|---|---|---|------------|
| Property                                    |   |   |            |
| 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>                                | 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.

Curtis J. 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
State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

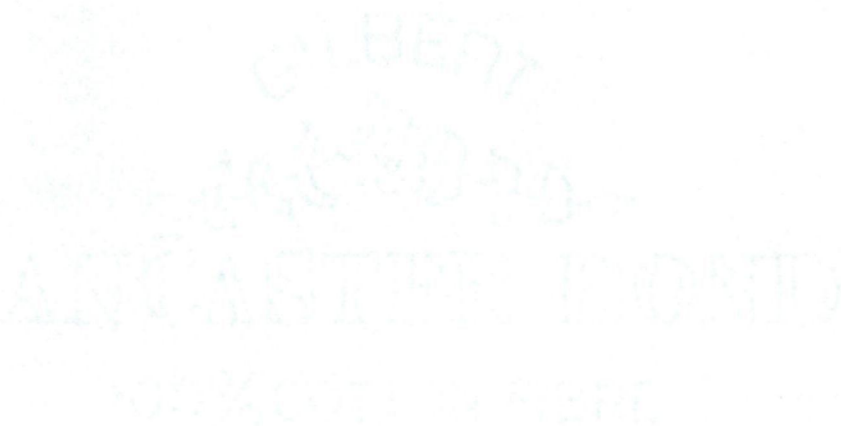
- [x] entered in the National Register
[ ] See continuation sheet.
[ ] determined eligible for the National Register
[ ] See continuation sheet.
[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register
[ ] removed from the National Register
[ ] other (explain):

Entered in the National Register

Signature of Keeper

12/20/80
Date of Action

Signature of Keeper
Date of Action



6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

EDUCATION: school

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Queen Anne

Materials

foundation STUCCO

walls WOOD: weatherboard

shingle

roof ASPHALT: composition shingles

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

[ ] See continuation sheet.

The Belton Academy/Wedemeyer House is a 2 1/2-story asymmetrical plan wood frame dwelling with a hip-and-gable roof. Though generally plain, the house has modest Queen Anne details including projecting bay windows on the south and west facades and decorative shingle finishes. The building originally had an east wing that has been demolished, but the property is otherwise in good condition with only minor recent alterations.

The Belton Academy/Wedemeyer House faces south on a large wooded corner lot in a neighborhood of houses from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The 2 1/2-story structure is asymmetrical in plan and rests on a raised pier-and-beam foundation with stucco skirting. The house represents a simple vernacular Victorian-era structure with modest Queen Anne details, including a fancy butt shingle frieze between the first and second floors and a "Queen Anne" window (with decorative perimeter colored glass) on the south dormer. On the south and west facades are projecting bay windows. Entrance is via a small cutout porch at the southeast corner of the house. The building is clad with 105 wood siding and has a hipped roof with projecting pedimented gables; the roof is covered in composition shingles. On the west facade is a brick chimney. All of the windows are 1/1 double hung with wooden sashes. Currently the windows are covered with external aluminum storm windows with a diamond pane pattern that compromises the appearance of the house but is not a permanent alteration.

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 [XX]A [ ]B [XX]C [ ]D

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

Areas of Significance: Education, Architecture; Period of Significance: 1891-1911; Significant Dates: 1891

Cultural Affiliation: NA

Significant Person(s): NA; Architect/Builder: T. Hamp Birdwell, builder

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

The Belton Academy/Wedemeyer House, built in 1891, is a good example of a vernacular Victorian-era house with simple Queen Anne detailing. Structures such as this were once very common in Belton but most have been demolished or considerably altered over the years. Contextually, the house relates to Community and Regional Development in Belton, particularly to the development of education in the city because of its early function as a private school. The house meets National Register Criterion A in the area of Education for its association with one of the early schools in Belton, and it meets Criterion C in the area of architecture as a fine example of a vernacular Victorian house with Queen Anne details.

The Belton Academy/Wedemeyer House was built for Charles Wedemeyer by well-known local builder T. Hamp Birdwell in 1891. The building originally served as both Wedemeyer's residence and housed the private school that he operated. Wedemeyer was a graduate of Baylor University in Independence, Texas, and apparently came to Belton sometime in the late 1880s. Known as Belton Academy, the preparatory school operated from about 1891 until 1911. During the first years of the school's existence the building housed the entire school; sometime later Wedemeyer relocated the school to a building (now demolished) across the street. Private preparatory schools were common in Texas during the second half of the 19th century, but few remain in recognizable condition. The Belton Academy/Wedemeyer House represents a good example of a simple vernacular late 19th century domestic building which served an additional educational function.

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] [647200] [3437460]
Zone Easting Northing
C [ ] [ ] [ ]

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

Verbal Boundary Description

[ ] See continuation sheet

68 feet of south 125 feet of Lot 7, Fractional Lot 3, 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: Belton Academy

MULTIPLE NAME: Belton MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Bell

DATE RECEIVED: 11/14/90  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/16/90  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/30/90  
DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/29/90

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90001937

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 \_\_\_\_\_





# 70  
404 E. 9TH

HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES of BELTON, TEXAS

~~WEDEMAYER HOUSE~~ / BELTON ACADEMY

404 E. 9TH

BELTON, BELL CO., TEXAS

CAMERA FACING

NEGATIVE WITH CONSULTANT

PHOTO 2 OF 38

Site No. 70, ROLL 25, #12

Address 404 E. 9TH

View N.E. OBLIQUE

Belton, Texas

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