

1938

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 Means, V.R., House

other names/site number #4

2. Location

street & number 609 East 14th Street [NA] not for publication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	
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.

Signature of certifying official: [Handwritten Signature]
Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

Date: 29 Oct. 1990

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:
[] entered in the National Register
[] determined eligible for the National Register
[] determined not eligible for the National Register
[] removed from the National Register
[] other (explain):

[Handwritten Signature]

Submitted in the National Register

12/20/90

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

Colonial Revival

Materials

foundation WOOD

walls WOOD: weatherboard

roof ASPHALT: composition shingles

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

[] See continuation sheet.

The Means House is a 1 1/2-story frame house based on a popular house form of the early 20th century. It has a symmetrical form, a clipped side-gable roof with a large shed-roofed dormer, weatherboard siding and Colonial Revival details. The house faces north on a large wooded lot in a neighborhood of houses from the early 20th century.

The Means House rests on a pier-and-beam foundation and is said to be of cedar board construction without stud walls. It is rectangular in plan but has a small wing addition that projects from the east end of the house. The clipped side-gabled roof is clad in asphalt shingles and pierced by two brick chimneys. A wide shed-roofed dormer with three windows is set in the front slope of the roof with a small decorative gable capping it. A small porch with boxed columns and a boxed frieze is centered on the main facade. The front door has a large beveled glass pane and beveled glass sidelights. All of the windows are 1/1 double hung sash and are flanked by decorative shutters. A number of mature deciduous trees are scattered on the lot.

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 Period of Significance Significant Dates
Architecture 1913 NA

Cultural Affiliation
NA

Significant Person(s) Architect/Builder
NA New Lumber Company

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

The Means House, built in 1913, is a good example of the kind of popular house type that was promoted across the country through local lumber yards. It takes its detailing from the Colonial Revival style which was one of the most popular domestic style in the U.S. in the early 20th century. Contextually the house relates to Community and Regional Development as a product of the growth of Belton around the turn of the century. The house meets National Register Criterion C, significant in the area of architecture as an illustration of the dissemination of popular house types, and particularly the Colonial Revival style, in small communities across the country.

The Means House was built by the local New Lumber Company for V.R. Means, an officer of the company. The company built approximately 100 homes in Belton during the first quarter of the century and this sturdy house was apparently intended as an model house to demonstrate the quality of the firm's work. From the late 19th century until World War II, lumber companies played a central role in the construction of middle-class housing in America, promoting house plans and acting as contractors to provide the material and build the houses. The widespread availability of architectural publications and stock house plans contributed to the national popularity of certain house forms and styles.

The Colonial Revival style gained momentum in the late 19th century after the American centennial celebration in 1876; however, it did not broadly influence popular house designs until the 20th century. Colonial Revival homes like the Means House were more common in Texas after World War I. This house, built in 1913, reflected the popular move away from the asymmetrical and ornate Victorian-era dwellings toward the symmetrical and classical-influenced forms. In the growth of middle class housing after World War I, the Colonial Revival became the most popular style in the United States. Through publications and the mass-marketing of small house plans the style was popularized, and lumber yards played a central role in marketing the houses. The Means house is both an early example of this phenomenon in Belton.

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] [647820] [3437860]
Zone Easting Northing
C [] [] []

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

Verbal Boundary Description [] See continuation sheet

Lots 2, 4 and 6, Block 6, Revised Leon Heights 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
22. Harris, Capt. Andrew Jackson, House <u>Substantive Review</u>	<u>12/26/90</u>
23. House at 402 N. East St.	<u>12/26/90</u>
24. House at 730 N. Beal St. <u>Substantive Review</u>	<u>12/26/90</u>
25. Hudson, Dr. Taylor, House	<u>12/26/90</u>
26. James House	<u>12/26/90</u>
27. Kinchion, L. B., House	<u>12/26/90</u>
28. Lee, Walter J., House	<u>12/26/90</u>
29. McWhirter, George and Martha, House	<u>12/26/90</u>
30. Means, V. R., House	<u>12/26/90</u>
31. Miller, J. I., House	<u>12/26/90</u>
32. Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Bridge at the Leon River <u>Substantive Review</u>	<u>12/26/90</u>
33. Morey House	<u>12/26/90</u>
34. Mount Zion United Methodist Church	<u>12/26/90</u>
35. Naismith, Robert, House	<u>12/26/90</u>
36. Potts, Arthur, House	<u>12/26/90</u>
37. Venable, W. J., House	<u>12/26/90</u>
38. Ware, H. A. and Helena, House	<u>12/26/90</u>

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Means, V. R., 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: 90001938

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 _____



HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES of BELTON, TEXAS
MEANS / SHORT HOUSE
609 E. 14TH STREET
BELTON, BELL CO., TEXAS
CAMERA FACING
NEGATIVE WITH CONSULTANT
PHOTO 4 OF 38

7
Site No. 572
Address 609 E 14th
View seoblique
Belton, Texas Means / Short 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