

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0674982

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 9 1979

JUN 14 1979

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

J. J. Carroll House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

16 Courtlandt Place

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Houston

VICINITY OF

18

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Texas

CODE
048

COUNTY
Harris 201

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Roanld Bartlett ✓

STREET & NUMBER

16 Courtlandt Place

CITY, TOWN

Houston

VICINITY OF

STATE
TX 77006

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harris County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Houston

STATE
Texas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Texas Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Austin

STATE
Texas

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The J. J. Carroll House, built along Courtlandt Place in 1912, was one of 18 prominent residences facing an avenue which still retains the ambience of its early 20th century origins. Established as an exclusive neighborhood in 1906, Courtlandt Place, a tree-lined, divided boulevard, has maintained its residential integrity despite surrounding commercialism in adjacent blocks. Six restrictive covenants, established in perpetuity and enforced by a Board of Trustees of owner-residents, form the basis for the neighborhood's continued survival.

The classically detailed gallery dominating the main facade of the two-and-a-half story Carroll House is the building's most distinguishing exterior feature. A central two-story portico on massive Doric columns is superimposed over a one-story gallery running the length of the house and extending out to form a porte cochere on the west. Both the one-story gallery and two-story portico are crowned by a full entablature and flat roof. A turned balustrade embellishes the first floor and the roof of this gallery, but the original balustrade on the roof of the two-story portico has been removed.

Sheltered by the gallery is a two-story symmetrical facade displaying central double leaded and beveled glass doors with leaded glass sidelights. Flanking each side of the entrance are large bay windows. The fenestration on the second floor displays a double door flanked by narrow windows in the central bay. On each side are two double-hung sash windows.

To the east is a two-story wing, originally forming a screened-in porch on both floors. In 1924 under the direction of Birdsall Briscoe, the open porches were enclosed to create a solarium on the first floor and additional bedroom and bathroom space on the second. Adding interest to the east facade of the first floor wing is a shallow rounded bay, framed by corner pilasters. Pilasters also frame each corner of this wing on the ground floor.

In the 1924 renovation, Briscoe added a second porte cochere, similar to the one formed by the gallery extension, to the rear of the west facade. Above it a room was added.

Crowning the residence is a steeply pitched, clay tile, hipped roof with chimneys symmetrically located on the east and west sides. Dormers provide light to a large attic area, once used as a ballroom.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Carroll House ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Directly behind the porte cochere is a two-story frame garage and attached greenhouse. Current owners have the original landscaping plans and intend to restore the design.

The spacious interior contains a wide central hall with the large dining room to the west and living room to the east. Double sliding wooden doors form the openings to both of these rooms from the hall. In both the living and dining room are handsomely carved fireplace mantels by Peter Mansbendel. To the east of the living room is the solarium. Across the rear of the first floor are smaller rooms which include the coat room and powder room, kitchen, butler's pantry, family dining room, utility room, and cutting room with easy access to the backyard greenhouse. This area of the house underwent some alteration of room arrangement in Briscoe's 1924 design. The second floor has a large central hall opening onto the porch across the front and four suites of bedrooms. The third floor attic, originally built for a ballroom, has been partitioned to incorporate several storage areas, a bedroom and bath, and a room with two large liquor cabinets built to hold fifths of whiskey during Prohibition.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1912 BUILDER/ARCHITECT J. J. Carroll, builder; Briscoe, 1924

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The J. J. Carroll House, one of the first houses built along Courtlandt Place in the first two years of its development, is an excellent example of early 20th century Neo-Classical Revival architecture. Built in 1912 in one of Houston's earliest and most exclusive subdivisions, the Carroll House reflects the elegance and architectural quality common along that avenue. Two fireplace mantels by Peter Mansbendel, Texas' most famous 20th century carver, provide the outstanding interior feature. Historically, the house served as the home of J. J. Carroll and Lena Carter Carroll, prominent business and social leaders in Houston.

J. J. Carroll, a lumberman, designed his house in 1912 and in 1924 hired Birdsall Briscoe to remodel and make some additions. Briscoe, who designed many houses on Courtlandt Place, was one of Houston's most distinguished 20th century architects, practicing in that city from 1906-71.

Peter Mansbendel, who designed the living and dining room fireplaces for the Carrolls, also did extensive wood and limestone carving for both the exterior and interior of the T. J. Donoghue House at 17 Courtlandt Place. A Swiss-born wood carver who apprenticed and studied in Switzerland, London and Paris, Mansbendel emigrated to the U. S. in 1907. In 1911 he married an Austin, Texas, native and eventually settled in that city. In Texas Mansbendel became known as the leading artist in his profession and during the 1920's and '30s prominent architects would summon him to put finishing touches on their most important projects. His fireplace mantels were especially popular. In addition to architectural detail work, he also created an endless array of furniture and household decorative items. Peter Mansbendel died of cancer on July 20, 1940.

J. J. Carroll was in the lumber business as managing partner of the W. T. Carter and Bros. Lumber Co. (The Carter family built four houses on Courtlandt Place.) Mr. Carroll served on the Houston School Board for many years and participated in a number of social and intellectual activities. His wife, Lena Carroll was also active in local community and political activities. Through the Carroll's interest their house became a regional center for the Audubon Society. Mr. Carroll died of a stroke in the 1930's, but Mrs. Carroll continued to live in the house until her death in 1971. The present owners bought the house from the Carroll grandson in 1978.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bartlett, Mrs. Ronald, Architectural and historical information gathered for the NR application of the J. J. Carroll House.

Schlumberger, P. M., Information compiled from Title Abstract, Deed Records, Survey Map, Courtlandt Improvement Company's Incorporation Charter, architectural plans and city histories.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Bellaire, TX

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 | 2,6,9 | 4,5,0 | 3,2,9,2,5,8,0

B | | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | |

D | | |

E | | |

F | | |

G | | |

H | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Vol. 229, Pg. 495, Harris County Deed Records
Lot 9 and part of Lot 8 (125' x 170')

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marie D. Landon, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Texas Historical Commission

DATE

512 475-3094

STREET & NUMBER

Box 12276, Capitol Station

TELEPHONE

February 28, 1979

CITY OR TOWN

Austin

STATE

Texas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

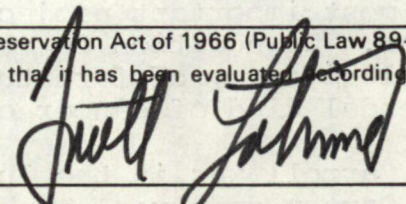
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL xx

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

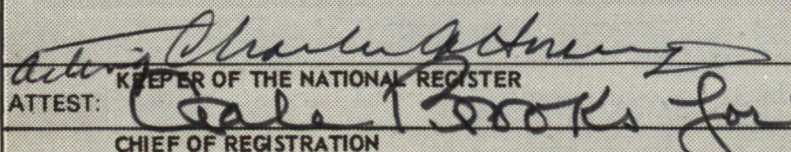


TITLE Texas State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE March 30, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: 
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 5-20-77
DATE 6/11/79

Property Carrall, J. J., House

79002955

State Id (Harris) Working Number 4.9.79.789

TECHNICAL

Photos 4
Maps 1

CONTROL

pl
OK 4.10.79

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Confer/Accept
Scale Books
6/11/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Federal Register Entry 7-3-79

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered JUN 14 1979



LEWIS
PHOTO

APR 9 1979

J. J. Carroll House
16 Courtlandt Place
Houston, Harris County, Texas

Photographer and date unknown, Photocopy by
Woodallen of Houston
Southwest oblique of south (front) facade
Photo #1

FR5 -14
JUN 14 1979



J. J. CARROLL HOUSE (#16)

South facade (front)

April, 1976

APR 9 1979

J. J. Carroll House
16 Courtlandt Place
Houston, Harris County, Texas

Photo by Woodallen of Houston, 1976
Southeast oblique
Photo #2

JUN 14 1979

WOODALLEN

3505 LOUISIANA

PHONE 713 - 526-1747

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

Reg. No.

FR2 - 32



#16 contact

APR 9 1979

J. J. Carroll House
16 Courtlandt Place
Houston, Harris County, Texas

Photo by Institute of Texan Cultures, c. 1977
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permission of the University of Texas.
Detail of living room fireplace by Peter
Mansbendel.
Photo #3

JUN 14 1979

Living Room: 16 Courtlandt Pl.

Peter Mansbendel



APR 9 1979

J. J. Carroll House
16 Courtlandt Place
Houston, Harris County, Texas

Photo by Institute of Texan Cultures, San
Antonio, C. 1977

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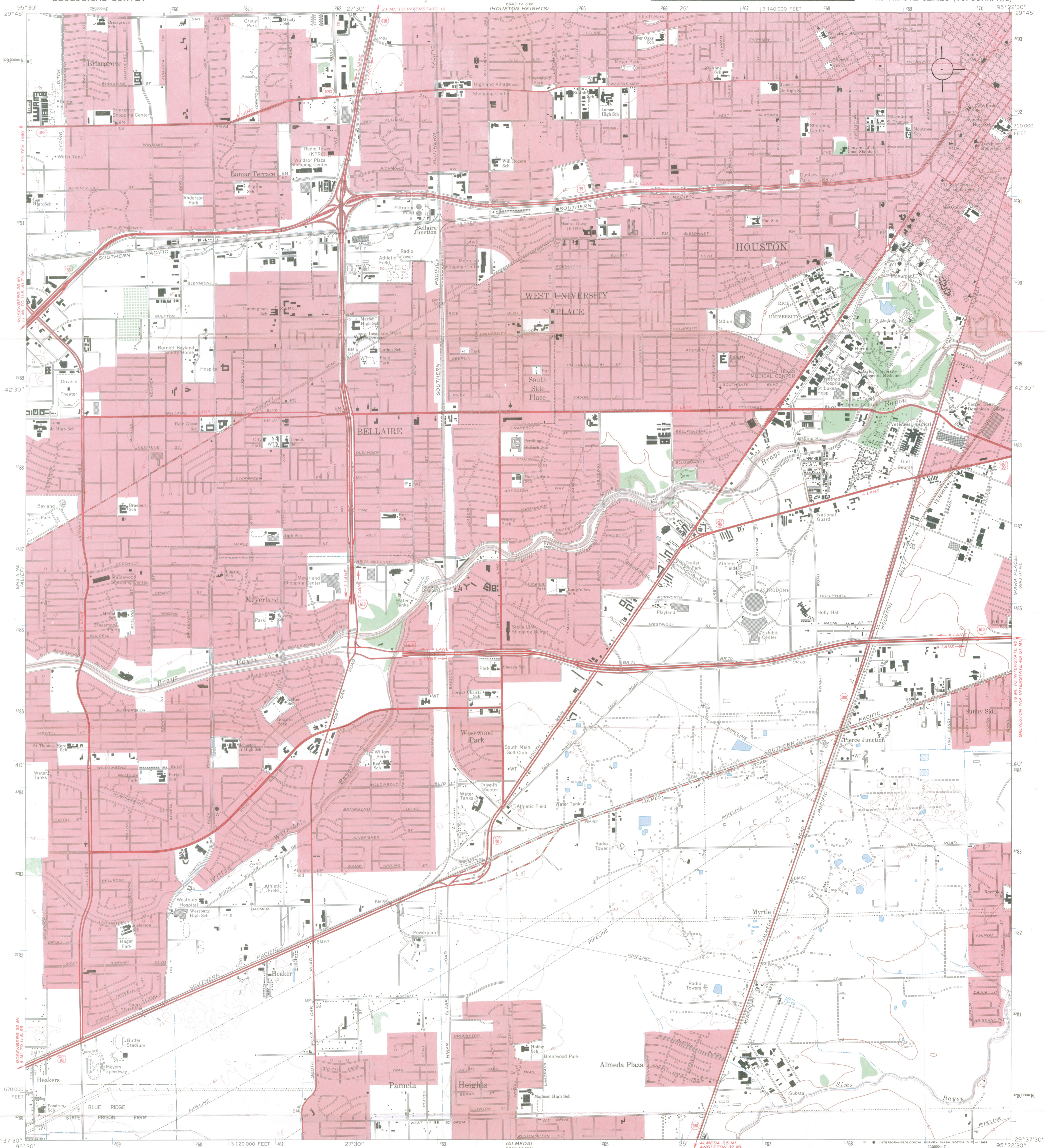
Detail of dining room fireplace by Peter
Mansbendel.

Photo #4

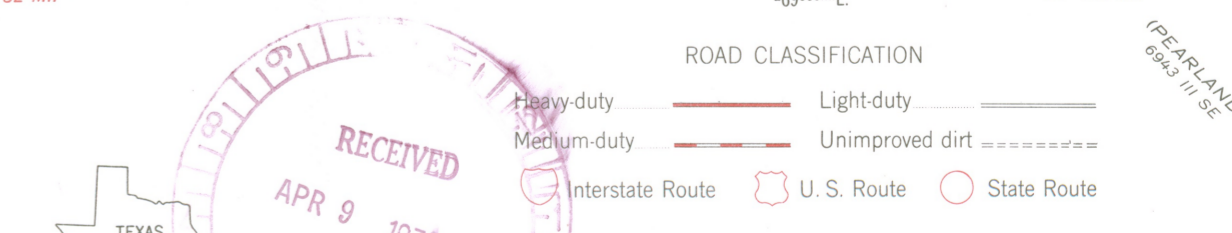
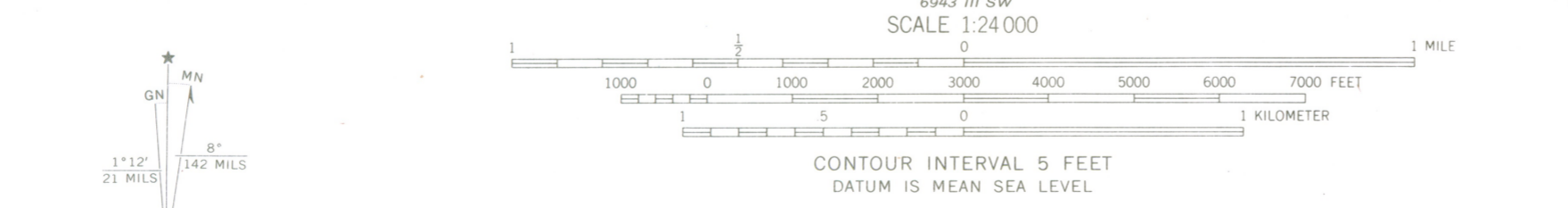
JUN 14 1979

Peter Mansbendel

Dining Room #16 Courtlandt Pl



Map, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1966. Topography enlarged from 1:31 680-scale AMS map
of Bellaire quadrangle. Original map by planetable surveys 1943
Field checked 1967
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,
south central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



2995-423 JUN 14 1979
AMS 6943 III NW—SERIES V882

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE TEXAS

Date Entered JUN 14 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Dorrance, John M., House	Houston Harris County
Carroll, J. J., House	Houston Harris County
Donoghue, Thomas J., House	Houston Harris County
Carter, W. T., Jr., House	Houston Harris County
Taylor, Judson L., House	Houston Harris County
Jones-Hunt House	Houston Harris County

Also Notified

Honorable Lloyd M. Bentsen

Honorable John G. Tower
Honorable Charles W. Stenholm
Honorable George (Mickey) Leland

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Truett Latimer
Executive Director
Texas State Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

NR Byers/bjr 6/15/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.