

TYLER REGISTER OF HISTORIC LANDMARKS
INVENTORY NOMINATION FORM

Print all entries - complete applicable sections

DATE: 01/3/95

1. NAME Birdsong, Gary W & Jenny L. Price

Historic Fred & Gussie Mae Birdsong

DATE BUILT: 1931/March

and/or Common Birdsong Home (Birdsong-Price Home)

2. LOCATION

Original Site Has Been Moved

Street & Number 518 Mockingbird Lane

City, Town Tyler

County Smith

State TX

Zip 75701

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

Original Use

residential

single family

multi family

commercial/institutional

mixed

industrial

Present Use

original

residential

single family

multi family

commercial/institutional

mixed

industrial

other

Type of Construction

structural concrete

structural steel

masonry

wood frame

Construction Material

Walls

structural tile

concrete

brick

rock

masonry - other

frame

other

Interior Wall Covering: Paint / Paper^{wall}

Foundations

none

sedimentary rock

pier & beams

concrete

other

Porches

north

east

south

west

none

Description of Porches

1 long across front

1 small East side

1 med. west side

Windows

- steel
- flat
- arched
- louvered
- wood
- single hung
- double hung
- sash
- stationary
- other _____
- type _____
- glazing _____

Condition of Structure

- well maintained
- poorly maintained
- deteriorating
- dilapidated

Structural Condition

walls excellent
 roof excellent
 foundations excellent

Number of Stories

- basement
- one
- two
- three
- four
- _____

Exterior Architectural Ornamentation

Columns front / side porch
Archway East side porch
Brick front walk & Brick patio / Garden

Roof Material

- metal
- wood shingle
- composition asphalt shingle
- built up comp asphalt _____
- other _____

Chimney(s)

number 1
 exterior/interior exterior
 material(s) exterior/brick; interior/wood

Alterations

- none
- additions
- remodeling
- replacements
- other _____

Description of Alterations

1957 - the Birdsong's remodeled*
1994 - the Price's are remodeling**

* Small master bath added
Redid kitchen cabinets
Added bookcases / Den

** updated: plumbing, wiring, floors, walls, roof, yard (extensive) - to restore to original grandeur.

Original Paint Color

Exterior Matched Brick
 Interior Wallpaper / Paint

Designation(s)

- National Register of Historic Places
- National Historic Landmark
- Historic American Buildings Survey
- Historic American Engineering Record
- Texas Historic Landmark
- Smith County Historic Landmark
- Tyler Historic Register
- Tyler Inventory of Historic Sites
- Other _____

Informant(s) _____

Recorder(s) _____

Date(s) _____

Photograph(s) and data _____

Roll #(s) _____

Negative #(s) _____

Rating

- Landmark
- Contributing
- Non Contributing

State Historic Resources Inventory

Period Subdivision yes _____
 Thematic Listing _____

Evaluation of Significance

- Historic
- National
 - Regional
 - State
 - County
 - City
 - Other _____

Architectural

- Architect
- Builder
- Motif
- Period
- Craftsmanship
- Surroundings
- Other _____

Cultural

- Ethnic
- Person
- Location
- Relationship to site
- Other _____

FORM PREPARED BY Jenny Price (561-8484 WK)

Name/Title GARY 597-6396 (WK)

Organization _____ Date _____

Street & Number _____ Telephone () 595-5042

City or Town _____ County _____ State _____

Send to: City of Tyler **HISTORICAL PRESERVATION BOARD**
~~Historic Landmark Commission~~
P.O. Box 2039
Tyler, TX 75710
~~214/531-1889~~
903 531-1175

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Date Historic Landmark Approved: _____

Date City Council Approved: _____

510 Mockingbird

In the spring of '31, while factories stood idle and Americans stood in bread lines from New York to Los Angeles, in East Texas Americans were caught in the whirlwind of the nation's last boom. And Tyler grew. Houses on Mockingbird Lane became home to people like Mr. Fred Birdsong, oil operator. He, his wife Mae, and three daughters, Fredna, Del Rose and Sylvia, were part of Tyler's roots in oil, roses and azaleas.

Del Rose Yale associates "lots of happy memories" with this house built in 1931. The three girls shared a bedroom. Their family farm was nearby at Augusta St. and Mockingbird. From there the girls would bring their Shetland pony, Nancy, to their home and ride her in their backyard. Evenings were spent with the children playing and the neighbors drinking lemonade.

Mrs. Birdsong was known for a yard that was always beautiful. A charter member in 1937 of the Rose City Garden Club, Mae Birdsong wrote a book on wildflowers. Many tea parties were held in the gardens that were graced with camelias, azaleas and two ponds.

After ~~two~~^{several} years in their home, the Birdsongs enclosed the side porch and made changes to the front porch, eliminating the existing grillwork. Another bathroom was added.

After the death of Mr. Birdsong, the house was sold. J. Paxton and Jean E. Hart resided here from the mid seventies until 1991. Bob Winslow, co-owner of Encore, followed as owner. In the spring of 1994 Gary and Jenny Price, along with their daughter, Mindy, began their adventure with this home.

Appreciating anything old and the reputation of beauty associated with this house, the Prices have carefully renovated the house and gardens.

When the brass chandeliers were taken to Mr. Jerger for restoration, he recognized them since he had originally hung them in the home. Windows are covered with 2" wooden blinds typical of the era. One bathroom has its original fixtures and tiles of green and lavender-pink and a pull down seat for dressing. The original floors of red and white oak have been refinished. Reminiscent of a "dogrun", the house has a wide central hallway. Rooms feature original built-in bookcases. Doors have been added to some to create cabinets.

Much effort, including the planting of over 400 azaleas in the backyard, has been made to restore the gardens to their original beauty. Mr. W.S. Hanley is reported to have planted the first azaleas in Tyler at his home on Mockingbird.

As you tour this home, recall the memories of a time when life was good with the presence of oil and the beauty of flowers.

Gary & Jenny Price

March 27, 1998

Mr. Michael Staks
518 W. Mockingbird
Tyler, Texas 75701

Re: Lot 16, Block 283, 518 W. Mockingbird, also known as Birdsong-Price Home

Dear Mr. Staks:

Enclosed is a copy of the Historic Designation: Verified Certificate, which verifies that your home is registered in the Tyler Register of Historic Places and with Smith County Clerk. I am keeping the original in the Landmark file in our office.

The copy of the certificate is to assure you, Landmark property owners, that the above property is indeed on the register and also to provide you a copy of the verification for your records.

If you have any historical pictures or historical information that you would like retained in our file, please forward them to me at the above address.

If you have any questions, please call me at (903) 531-1175.

Regards,

Marolee Lunsford
Planner

HISTORIC DESIGNATION: VERIFIED CERTIFICATE

This Verified Certificate Re: Historic Designation ("Certificate") is being recorded in compliance with section 315.006(h) of the Local Government Code which provides that each municipality shall file in the real property records of the County Clerk's office of each county in which the municipality is located a verified written instrument setting forth each historic structure or property that is located in the municipality and county. Additionally, it should be noted that for purposes of this section 315.006(h) requirement a "historic structure or property" is as defined in TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. § 442.001, or it can be a structure or property that is designated as historic by a political subdivision of the State, the State, or the federal government. See TEX. LOCAL GOV'T CODE ANN. § 315.006 (a).

Furthermore, it should be noted that pursuant to TEX. LOCAL GOV'T CODE ANN. § 315.006(i) upon the recording and indexing of this Certificate TEX. LOCAL GOV'T CODE ANN. § 315.006(a) - (g) become applicable. In that light, all persons take note that:

1. The historic structure or property described in this Certificate has been given the following designation: [Registration in the National Register of Historic Places and/or Recorded Texas Historical Landmark or any of the other historic designations set forth in TEX. LOCAL GOV'T CODE § 315.006(a)].

Registration in the Tyler Landmark Register of Historic Places

2. The legal description of the real property on which the aforementioned designated historic structure or property is located is as follows:

Lot 16, Block 283

3. The street address of the real property on which the aforementioned designated historic structure or property is located (if available in the municipal files) is shown to be as follows:

518 W. Mockingbird Lane, Tyler, TX

4. The aforementioned designated historic structure or property may generally be described as follows:

Birdsong-Price Home

5. The name and address of the owner of record of the real property on which the aforementioned designated historic structure or property is located and is shown to be as follows in Volume number/Page number:

Gary and Jenny Price

518 Mockingbird Lane, Tyler, TX 75701

(VOLUME 3490, PAGE 787)

Filed for Record in:
SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS
MARY MORRIS - COUNTY CLERK

On Feb 15 1996
At 8:23am

Deputy - Janis Farrell

VERIFICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS

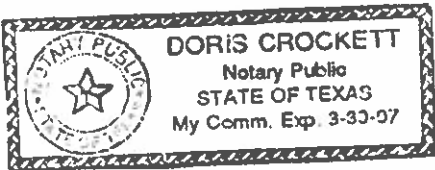
COUNTY OF SMITH §

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally appeared ANN LANIER and being by me sworn on her oath states:

- 1. that she is the CITY CLERK;
- 2. that she is over 21 years of age and fully competent to make this statement;
- 3. that she is duly authorized to make this verification;
- 4. that the matters contained in the foregoing Certificate are based on information collected and maintained by the CITY CLERK in her files which are kept in the regular course of municipal business by a municipal employee whose business it is to collect and maintain such information for the municipality.

Ann Lanier
 ANN LANIER
 CITY CLERK

1996 . SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to me before me on this the 18 day of Jan;



Doris Crockett

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF TEXAS

[SEAL]
*City of Tyler
 P.O. Box 2039
 Tyler TX 75710*

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF SMITH
 I hereby certify that this instrument was filed on the date and time stamped hereon by me and was duly recorded in the Official Public records of Smith County, Texas.



FEB 15 1996

MARY MORRIS
 COUNTY CLERK, Smith County, Texas
 By *Jane Hubbar* Deputy



City of Tyler, Texas

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Agenda Number	Date 03-08-95	Subject: Consider Designating the Birdsong-Price Home as an Historic Landmark	Page 1 of 1
---------------	------------------	---	----------------

One of the responsibilities of the Tyler Historical Preservation Board is to recommend historic properties to be included in the Tyler Landmark Register of Historic Places.

On February 15, 1995, the Tyler Historical Preservation Board approved the recommendation of the Birdsong-Price Home for inclusion in the local register of historic places. A brief description of the structure is as follows:

Birdsong-Price Home - located at 518 W. Mockingbird Lane, the structure was built in 1931. The structure is a 1930's Dog-trot style with original fixtures of the period. The original owners, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Birdsong, built the home during the East Texas oil boom. Mrs. Birdsong was a charter member of the Rose City Garden Club and the author of a book on wildflowers. The home was well noted for its grounds which consisted of some of the first azaleas planted in Tyler.

The current owners Gary and Jenny Price have completely restored the structure to original conditions and have refurbished the gardens to their original grandeur with the planting of over 400 azaleas.

In accordance with Code Sections 10-11 and 10-12, the Tyler Historical Preservation Board recommends the inclusion of the Birdsong-Price Home for a building marker in the Tyler Landmark Register of Historic Places.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the City Council designate the Birdsong-Price Home as a historical landmark to be placed on the Tyler Register of Historic Places.

Submitted for the City Manager's Office by:	Disposition By the City Council <input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Departmental Referral: To: _____ _____
Originating Department Head: PAUL L. PARKER		By: _____ _____ Date: _____

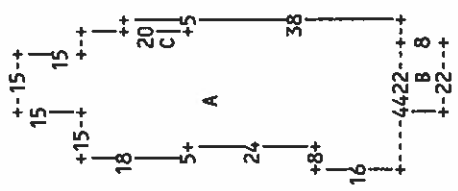
1-50000-0283-00-016000 MAP C 78 RT 0000
 01 OF 01 ISD: TY CITY: TY
 PRICE GARY W & JENNY L COLLEGE: TY
 518 MOCKINGBIRD LN BERGFELD SUB
 TYLER TX LT 9 & W/2 LT 8
 75701-2921 TX
 RECD INFO: WD 9343
 RECD DATE: 03/15/94
 VOLUME: 3490 PAGE: 787
 SPTB: A01
 BLDG COND:

CLASS.....: RI
 SUBD TYPE.....: RUS
 NBRHOOD.....: TY16.0
 ROUTING.....: 0000
 LIVING UNITS: 001
 DEPR. BLDG. VALUE 47,900
 MISC IMPROVEMENTS 0
 OTHER IMPROVEMENT 10,000
 TOTAL LAND VALUE 18,000
 MARKET VALUE 75,900

STORY HEIGHT: 1.0 HOMESTEAD DISABLED VET
 GRADE FACTOR: 5-

CDU.....: GD
 YEAR BUILT...: 1932
 EFFECTIVE YR: 32

PIER AND BEAM
 BRICK VENEER
 COMPOSITION SHINGLE
 HARDWOOD
 WALLPAPER
 STOVE
 WINDOW UNIT 1 HALF
 1 FULL
 0 ADDL
 1 MASONRY
 PLUMBING 952
 WBFP 2,400
 RCN 88,700
 PERCENT FACTOR .54
 TOTAL DEPR. VAL. 47,900



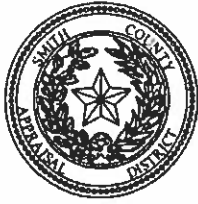
02/15/94 MJ ARB FORMAL REVIEW
 3/94 SALE, DT: \$62,400
 DM

A GFA 2431 817
 B OMP 176 26
 C OMP 70 10

CORNER LOT 76 145 200.00 220.00 .00 16,720
 INVTRD TRIANGLE 17 145 200.00 75.88 .00 1,290

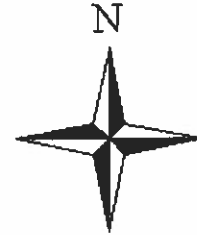
\$18,000

REVIEWED INFORMAL: BRICK GAR APARTMENT WAIVER: \$10000
 FORMAL: TOTAL OBY: 0
 09/21/94 09.08.37 50.642
 LAST MAINTENANCE 05/03/94



Smith County Appraisal District

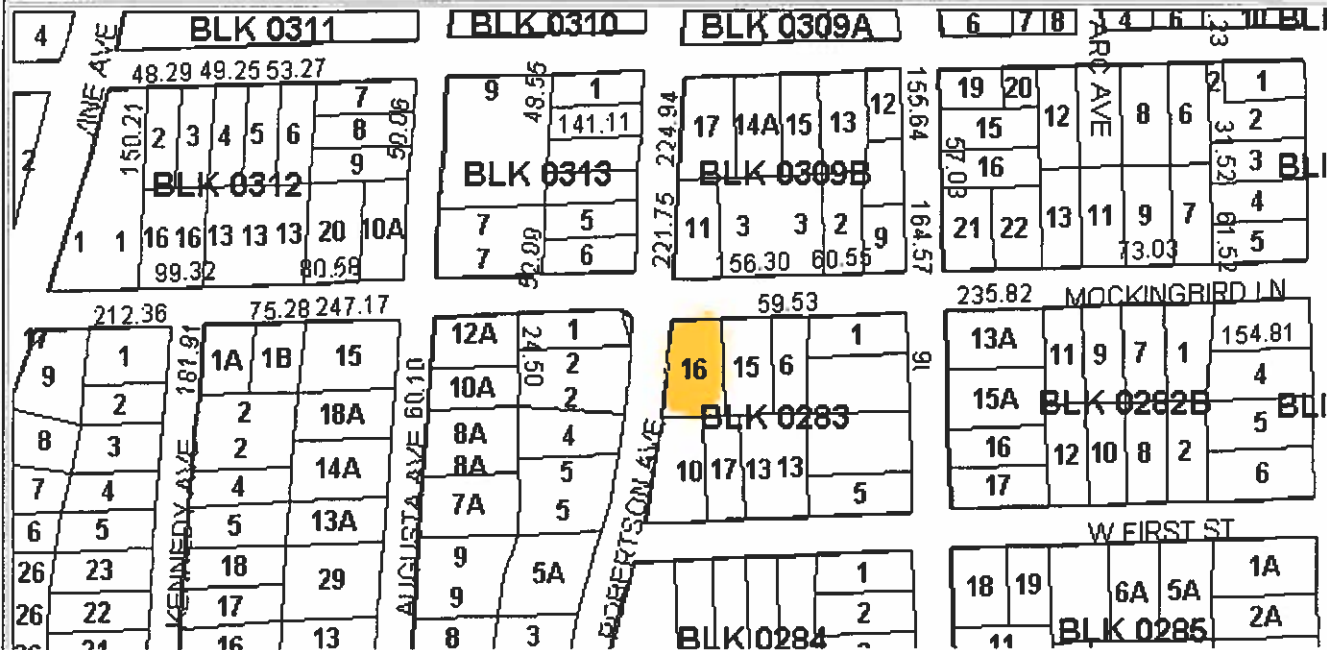
THIS MAP WAS PREPARED BY THE SMITH COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT FOR ITS USE ONLY, AND MAY BE REVISED WITHOUT NOTIFICATION TO ANY USER. NO WARRANTY, GUARANTEE, OR REPRESENTATION IS MADE BY THE SMITH COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT AS TO THE ABSOLUTE CORRECTNESS OR SUFFICIENCY OF ANY REPRESENTATION CONTAINED IN THIS MAP, AND THE SMITH COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.



Ownership / Jurisdiction Data		Legal / Deed Data	
Account:	150000028300016000	Location:	518 MOCKINGBIRD LN
PIN:	053203	Lot/Tract:	LT00016
Owner:	STACKS MICHAEL L & BETTYE	Block:	BL02830
Address:	518 MOCKINGBIRD LN	Sub/Survey:	BERGFELD SUB
City/ST/Zip:	TYLER, TX 75701-2921	Abst/Subd#:	105702
		Acres:	0
		Map#:	C 78
		Tile#:	
		Book/Page:	3697/ 468
		Recd. Date:	1995-08-22 00:00:00
		Recd. Info:	WD 27708
		Transfer#:	
		Instrum#:	
County:	SMITH COUNTY		
City:	CITY OF TYLER		
ISD:	TYLER ISD		
College:	TYLER JR. COLLEGE		
Special:			
Improvement Data		Values/Exemptions	
Ext. Wall:	BRICK VENEER	Land Value:	\$18100
Yr. Built:	1932	Building Value:	\$124200
#Stories:	1	Ag Value:	\$
Square Feet:	2431	Total Value:	\$142300

Birdsong House

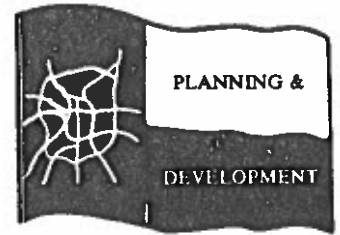
SELECTED PARCEL





CITY OF TYLER

Tyler Development Center
Planning & Zoning Department
423 West Ferguson Street
Post Office Box 2039
Tyler, Texas 75710



(903) 531-1175
(903) 531-1155 (FAX)

April 5, 1995

Mr. Mike Barnett, Chief Appraiser
Smith County Appraisal District
245 SSE Loop 323
Tyler, Texas 75702

Dear Mr. Barnett:

This letter is to advise you of a local historic landmark that was designated by the Tyler City Council on March 8, 1995. Please document the following in your records:

Structure: Birdsong-Price Home
Owners: Gary and Jenny Price
Address: 518 W. Mockingbird Lane
Tyler, Texas 75702

As you are aware, the structure is now eligible to receive the 10% ad valorem discount on their property taxes. If you should need additional information, please feel free to call me at 531-1175.

Sincerely,

Kara Spitz
Planner

Memorandum

To: Tyler Historical Preservation Board Members
From: Kara Spitz, Planner
Date: February 2, 1995
Subject: Tour For Birdsong-Price Home Nomination

We have received an application for historic designation from Gary and Jenny Price, located at 518 Mockingbird Lane. Attached is the application for your review. **A tour has been set up for Wednesday, February 8, 1995, at 2:00 p.m., at the Price residence.**

Please call me if you are unable to attend. A quorum is needed so a vote can be made at the next Board meeting on the 15th.

Thank you.

