

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



69

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

HISTORIC NAME: Woodward, David J. and May Bock, House
OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER: Woman's Club of San Antonio Clubhouse

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 1717 San Pedro Avenue NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A
CITY OR TOWN: San Antonio VICINITY: N/A
STATE: Texas CODE: TX COUNTY: Bexar CODE: 029 ZIP CODE: 78212

3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Handwritten Signature]

12-10-95

Signature of certifying official

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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):

[Handwritten Signature: Edson A. Beal]

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

2/10/96

Entered in the
National Register

5. CLASSIFICATION

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY: Private

CATEGORY OF PROPERTY: Building

NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING
	1	0 BUILDINGS
	0	0 SITES
	0	0 STRUCTURES
	0	0 OBJECTS
	1	0 TOTAL

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER: 0

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING: N/A

6. FUNCTION OR USE

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS: DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling; SOCIAL: Clubhouse

CURRENT FUNCTIONS: SOCIAL: Clubhouse

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival

MATERIALS: FOUNDATION Brick
WALLS Brick
ROOF Asphalt
OTHER Stucco; Wood; Concrete

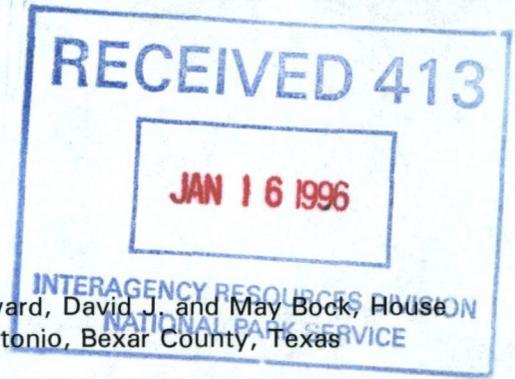
NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheets 7-5 through 7-15).

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Woodward, David J. and May Bock, House
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Description

The Woman's Club of San Antonio Clubhouse is a Classical Revival building constructed in 1904-1905 as a private residence for the David J. Woodward family. It was used as a residence until July 8, 1926, when it was purchased by the Woman's Club of San Antonio to be used as a social, cultural, and educational center. The 2 1/2-story brick house faces east on San Pedro Avenue at West French Place just north of historic San Pedro Springs and downtown San Antonio. The large rectangular shaped building is typical of the residential architectural designs of Atlee B. Ayres with four colossal Corinthian columns dominating the principal facade. Four columns across the facade support a curved flat-roofed portico; two on the south support a flat-roofed porte cochere leading to a parking area at the rear of the property. The house is covered in a large side gabled roof with intersecting front, side and rear gables of varying heights. In 1926, the Woman's Club purchased the house and altered it to meet its needs. These alterations included adding a 1-story main dining room at the back of the house next to the original dining room on the first floor. The remaining alterations made to the interior of the house did not change the exterior and included converting three bedrooms and a sitting room on the second floor to a large meeting room. These alterations were designed by the original architect, Atlee B. Ayres with his partner and son, Robert Ayres.

Bexar County is in south Central Texas surrounded by low rolling hills covered in live oaks and native plants feed by abundant natural waterways. San Antonio is the third largest city in Texas with a population of nearly 1,000,000. The economic base of the city is diverse including several military bases, colleges and universities, and national corporations ranging from agricultural to high tech industries.

The Woman's Club clubhouse was constructed at 1717 San Pedro and French Place on Lots 14, 15 and 16 of Block 9 NCB 1879. The lot is approximately 140.26 by 173.45 feet, with the main structure of the house on Lots 14 and 15, and the front porch extending over Lot 16. Access to the paved parking area which is west of the main house on Lots 12, 13 and a small part of 14 is from West French Place. The property slopes from the front on San Pedro to the west side of the parking area as much as an eight foot drop.

This house is in the Alta Vista subdivision which extends one block east into the City of San Antonio's Monte Vista Historic District. The Alta Vista neighborhood, as defined today, is bounded by Myrtle and Hickman on the south, San Pedro on the east, Hildebrand on the north, and the Missouri-Pacific Railroad tracks on the west. It is an inner-city neighborhood of large 2-story single-family dwellings on the southern end, modest 1-story dwellings to the north, and multi-unit apartment building, mostly along the eastern boundary. Although largely a prosperous middle class neighborhood, some of the earliest houses were built by wealthy San Antonio residents at the turn of the century and are similar in design and age (ca. 1880- 1930) to many in the Monte Vista Historic District. Several San

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Antonio architects designed houses in the area, but the most active architects appear to be Atlee B. and Robert Ayres. Properties immediately surrounding the clubhouse are used for mixed purposes including law offices, antique shops, and apartments. Landscaping at 1717 San Pedro reflects the planting materials and design used on the property since the early 1900s (see photographs).

The original building (see historic photograph), three chimneys and the foundation skirting are constructed of buff colored pressed bricks made in St. Louis. The dining room addition is cream colored stucco. At the back of the house are wooden stairs and landings extending from the second floor to the ground. Composition shingles cover the main roof and seamed tin covers the dining room addition.

The entrance to the basement is at the rear of the house. The walls of the basement are of red brick. There are three rooms in part of the basement which were used by the servants to tend to the laundry as can be seen by the original wash tub sinks that are still in place. A boiler, used to heat the house, is also in basement. A door in the rear, under the stairway, allows access under the house to view the foundation brick piers and supporting walls for the 11,000+ square feet, 2 1/2 story house.

The principal (east) facade is dominated by the 67 1/2 foot wide, semi-circular porch with four Corinthian columns and two pilasters extending from the porch to the ceiling of the second floor balcony. The terrazzo porch is fronted by curved wide steps. Entry to the interior of the house is through double wide beveled glass windowed front doors which are flanked by long windows with the original beveled glass (see first floor plan). Above the doors and side windows is a curved window with the original beveled glass that is irreplaceable. There are wide single 1/1 windows on either side of the entrance. The front facade extends an additional eight feet on either side of the front entrance with a single 1/1 window in the center of each extension. All of the windows on the first floor of the main facade have ornate stone lintels across the top with stone sills.

A similar 1/1 window is repeated on the south side to the right of the south entrance to the building from the portico and curved driveway. To the left of the south entrance there is a single 1/1 window with a straight lintel and sill of stone which is in the original dining room. To the left of this window are three 1/1 windows adjacent to each other and on the stucco addition made to the house in 1926 for the large dining room.

The north view of the house is similar to the south side with single 1/1 windows exhibiting an ornate lintel and sill of stone which is reflected in the interior parlor. Next are three single 1/1 windows with the same lintels and sills.

The second floor exterior view is similar to the first floor with the placement of windows directly above those on the first floor. The lintels and sills are without ornamentation.

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The interior of the house reflects the Classical Revival movement with a repeat of the Corinthian columns made of imported oak wood. This wood is used extensively in the main rooms of the first floor with elaborate wainscoting, massive beams across the ceiling of the reception room, fireplace with side bookcases in the library, door facings, floor to ceiling sliding doors, wall niches, the double-wide center staircase extending to the wide landing and up to the second floor, and up again with a wide staircases to another landing and up to the third floor which was originally a ballroom with two game rooms. The interior is particularly important because it is believed to reflect the ideas and requests of May Woodward.

As you enter the house from the front you are immediately aware of the massive details of this house. Above the wainscoting in the reception room are imported European tapestries affixed to the walls. There were originally eleven of them, but two have disintegrated. The two windows and beveled glass in the entry give light to the very large room. On the windows at the front of the house are the original sliding, louvered, wooden shutters. In the squares made on the ceiling by the massive beams are the original paintings.

The library is dominated by the large wood fireplace with mantel and with built-in glass fronted bookcases. The ceiling in this room has a bas relief design around the perimeter of the room. The floor in all the main rooms of the first floor is hardwood.

The Gold Room (interior parlor) was especially designed by May Woodward for the award winning French design gold furniture purchased at the 1904 St. Louis World Exposition. Artists were hired to put bas relief designs on the walls, painted mural on the ceiling to compliment the lovely furniture. The artist responsible for the delicate painted ceiling of the formal parlor, the reception room and the niches is believed to be Frank A. Cloonan, who did like murals and designs for the Elks Club and for the Steves Home in the King William Historic District. When the Woman's Club purchased the house in 1926 from Mrs. Woodward, they received the furniture for that room. There is a massive elaborate gold mirror on the west wall of the room purchased in Chicago.

The other rooms on the first floor of this house are the original dining room, the large dining room added in the 1926 alterations, the butler's pantry, the breakfast room/office, kitchen, and a small powder room.

The second floor of the house was originally five bedrooms, a sitting room, and a bath. Three bedrooms across the front of the house, one bedroom and bath to the right of the stairs on the south of the house, and a hallway to the left of the stairs which led to two bedrooms or a bedroom and a sitting room on the north. All of the rooms had large single 1/1 windows with the rooms that were located on the corners having at least two. The flooring was of pine, not the narrow hardwood of the first floor. When the alterations of 1926 were made, the front three bedrooms were combined to make a large meeting room

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with a stage at the north end of the room. Supporting columns were placed where the supporting walls had been. From the large meeting room, there are doors that lead to the second story balconies on the east of the house and on the south above the portico. From either of these balconies there is a beautiful view of downtown San Antonio.

The third floor was originally the ballroom and game rooms for the Woodwards. Since the Woman's Club has owned the building it has become the attic where items are stored. The room, however, retains its wood wainscotting and cloth covering the upper wall space and ceiling. There are window box seats where dancers rested. The windows on this third floor are different from the other floors. They are diamond shaped panes. There is a door on the east side of the room that leads to the third balcony and what was known as the best view of downtown San Antonio in the early 1900s. On the south wall there is a door that leads to another balcony with another beautiful view of downtown San Antonio.

There are no other buildings on the grounds at the present time. Behind the house where the parking lot is there was originally a carriage house, a large livery stable with many stalls for the fine horses Mr. Woodward raised and raced, and servants quarters. There are no extant photographs of this building. There is a sidewalk by the street that gives access to the house from the parking lot. A curved driveway from West French Place gives access through the porte cochere and out to West French Place. Along San Pedro Avenue there is a sidewalk from which a double wide sidewalk leads to the curved steps at the front of the house.

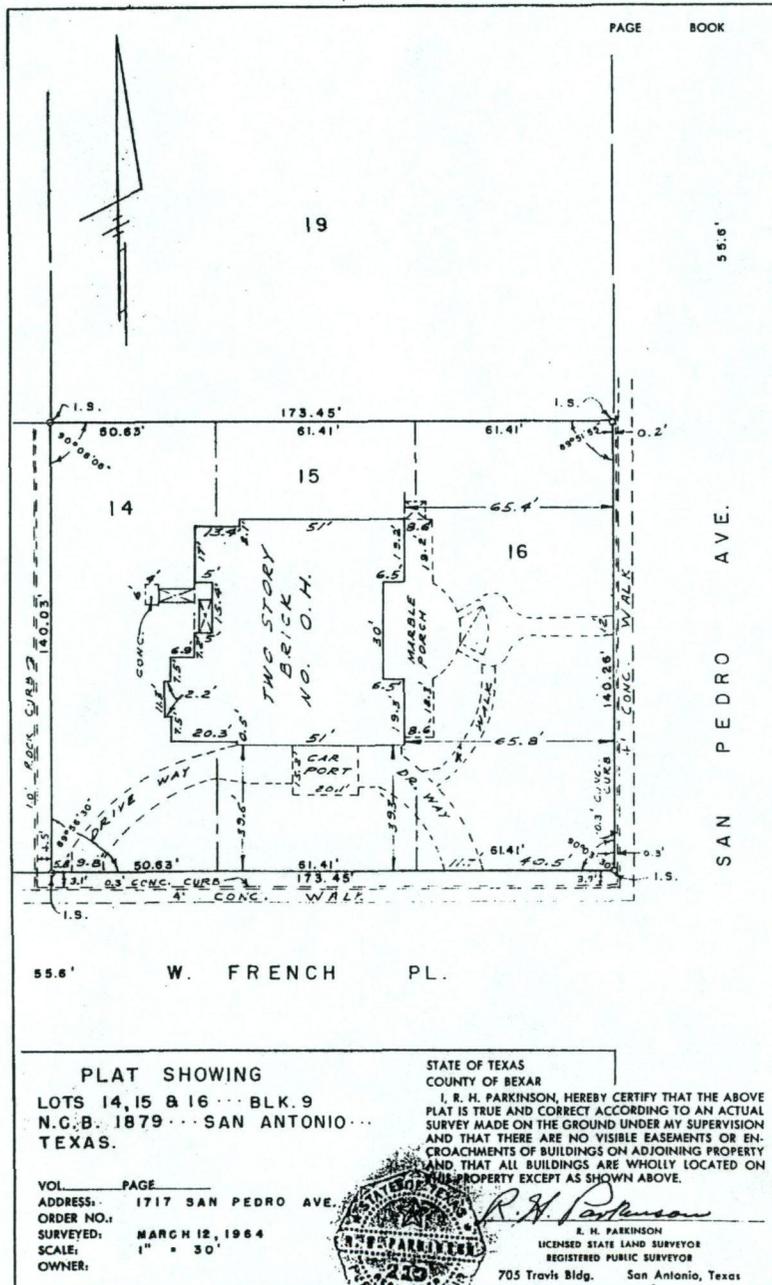
The David and May Woodward House is in remarkable condition. There have been only two owners since it was built. It provides a stately site for passersby daily. There is a dedicated desire of the owners to maintain this house so that all of San Antonio can be proud. The design of this structure will endure as it has for the past 91 years.

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PLAT SHOWING
 LOTS 14, 15 & 16 ... BLK. 9
 N.C.B. 1879 ... SAN ANTONIO ...
 TEXAS.

STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF BEXAR
 I, R. H. PARKINSON, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE
 PLAT IS TRUE AND CORRECT ACCORDING TO AN ACTUAL
 SURVEY MADE ON THE GROUND UNDER MY SUPERVISION
 AND THAT THERE ARE NO VISIBLE EASEMENTS OR EN-
 CROACHMENTS OF BUILDINGS ON ADJOINING PROPERTY
 AND THAT ALL BUILDINGS ARE WHOLLY LOCATED ON
 THIS PROPERTY EXCEPT AS SHOWN ABOVE.

VOL. _____ PAGE _____
 ADDRESS: 1717 SAN PEDRO AVE.
 ORDER NO.:
 SURVEYED: MARCH 12, 1964
 SCALE: 1" = 30'
 OWNER:



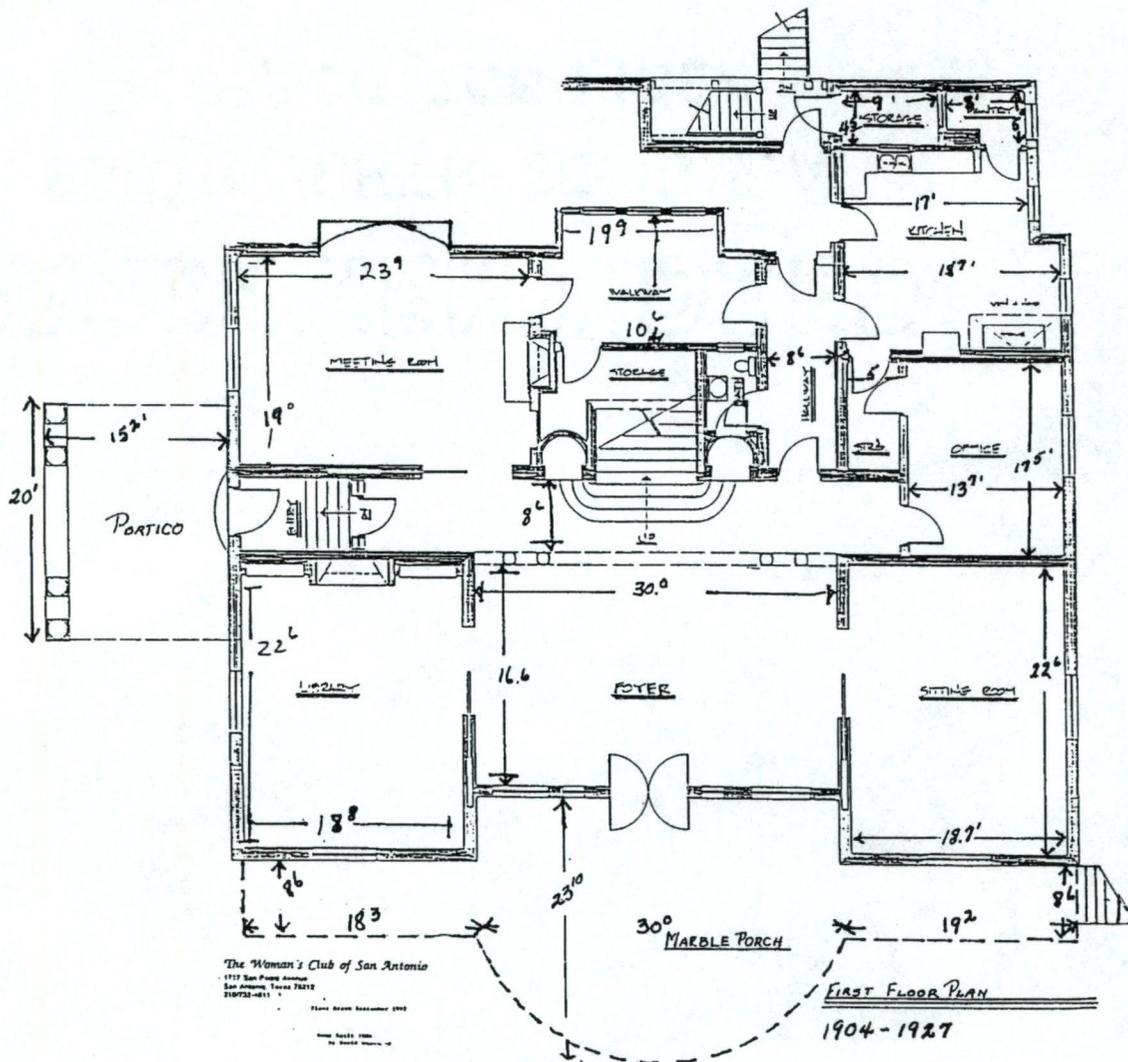
R. H. Parkinson
 LICENSED STATE LAND SURVEYOR
 REGISTERED PUBLIC SURVEYOR
 705 Travis Bldg. San Antonio, Texas

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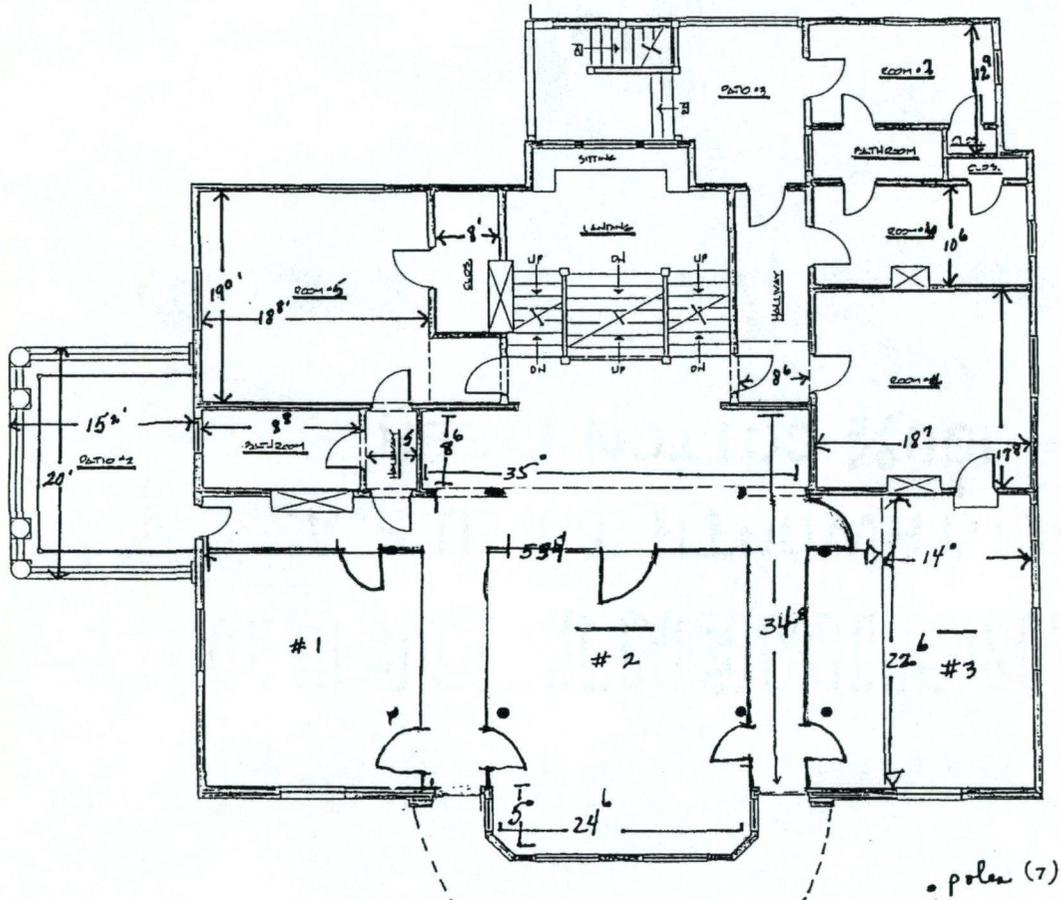


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SECOND FLOOR PLAN
S E A E

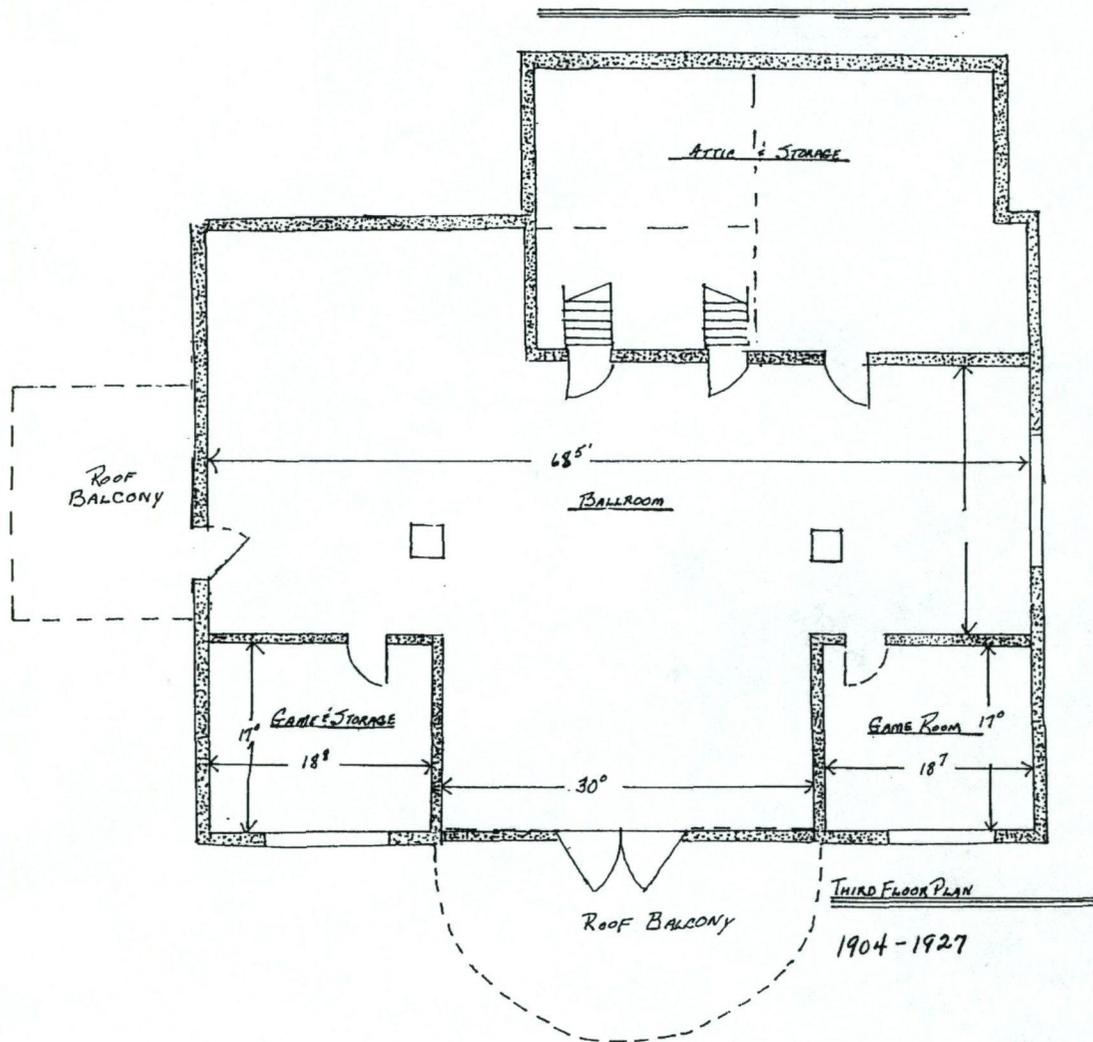
1904-1927
THIS IS AN ESTIMATE BASED ON
NOTES AVAILABLE.

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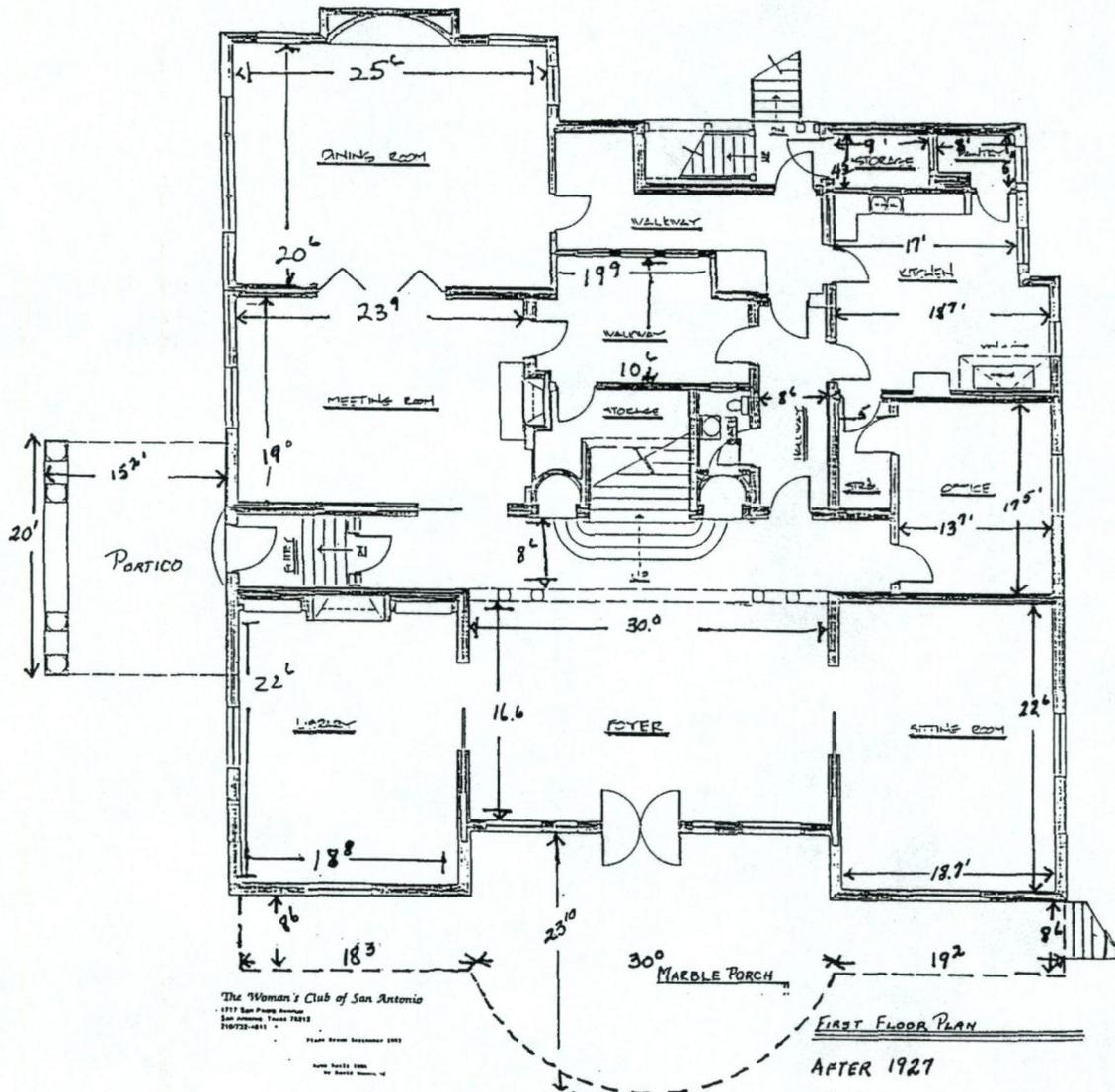


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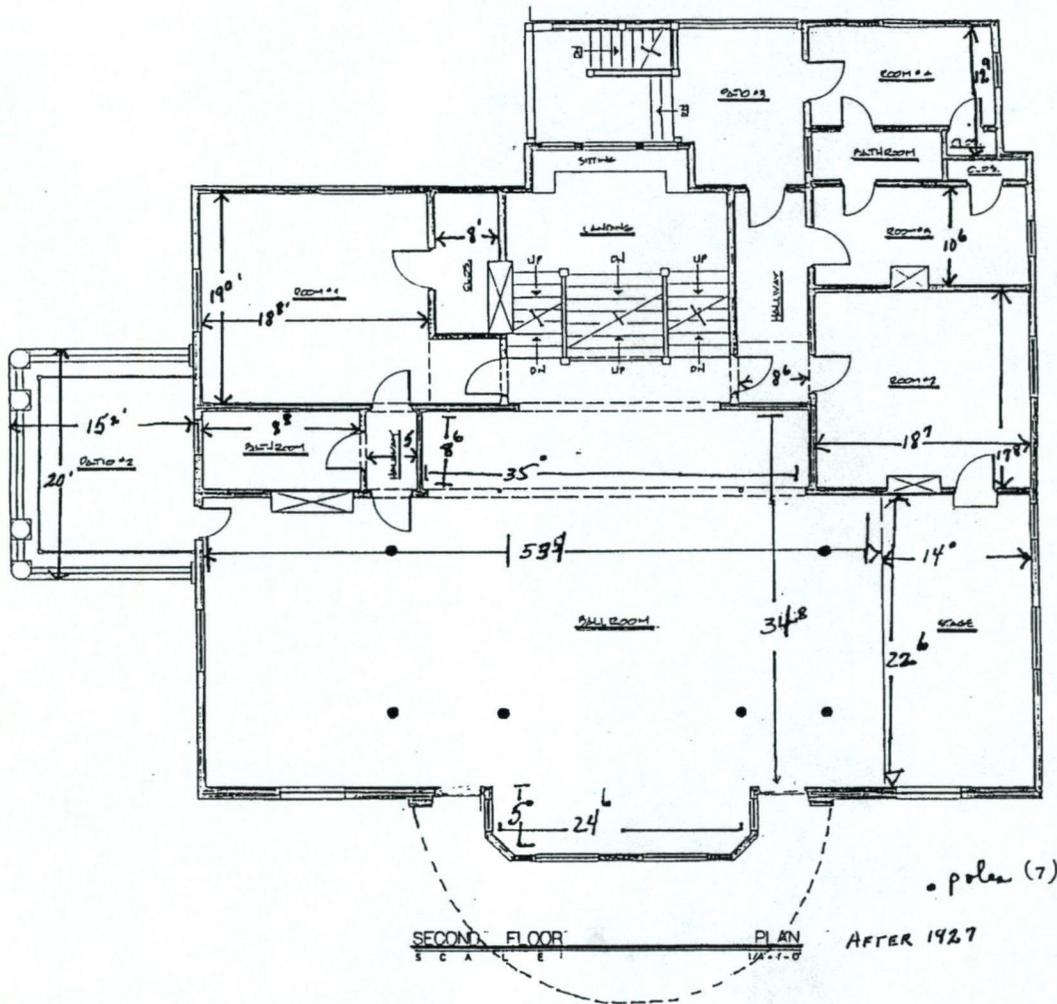


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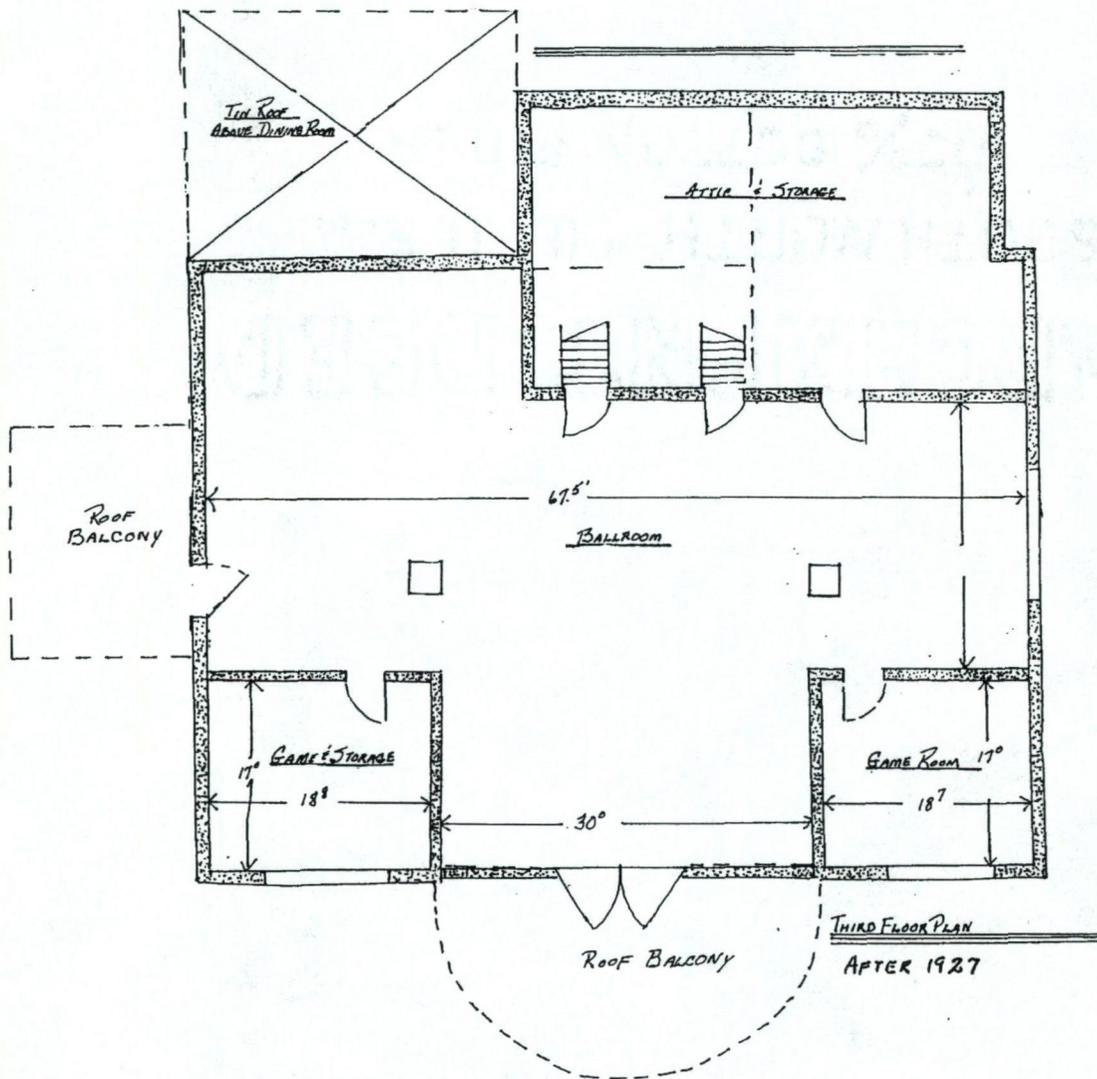


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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

- A** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH EVENTS THAT HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE BROAD PATTERNS OF OUR HISTORY.
- B** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIVES OF PERSONS SIGNIFICANT IN OUR PAST.
- C** PROPERTY EMBODIES THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION OR REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER, OR POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUE, OR REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE ENTITY WHOSE COMPONENTS LACK INDIVIDUAL DISTINCTION.
- D** PROPERTY HAS YIELDED, OR IS LIKELY TO YIELD, INFORMATION IMPORTANT IN PREHISTORY OR HISTORY.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS: N/A

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Social History; Architecture

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1904 - 1946

SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1904; 1926; 1927

SIGNIFICANT PERSON: Woodward, David J.

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Ayres, Atlee B. (architect); Woodward, David J. (builder)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (see continuation sheets 8-16 through 8-22).

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY (see continuation sheets 9-23 through 9-24).

PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the 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:

- State historic preservation office *Texas Historical Commission*
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: Woman's Club of San Antonio

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Statement of Significance

The David J. and May Bock Woodward House/ Woman's Club of San Antonio Clubhouse was built in 1904-1905 by local businessman and building contractor David Woodward to be his last family home. With assistance from May Bock Woodward, Atlee B. Ayres, one of San Antonio's most noteworthy and prolific architects, designed the house in the Classical Revival style on a prominent site at San Pedro Avenue and French Place in the prestigious Alta Vista subdivision. The Woman's Club of San Antonio acquired the house in 1926 following the death of David Woodward. It has served as the clubhouse and center of activity for this community organization for almost seventy years. The property is eligible at the local level under Criterion A in the area of Social History for its association with the Woman's Club of San Antonio, Criterion B for its association with David J. Woodward, and Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent example of early 20th century Classical Revival domestic architecture in San Antonio.

The name, the David J. and May Bock Woodward House/The Woman's Club of San Antonio Clubhouse, is derived from the names of the only two owners of the property since it was constructed on the edge of what was then the city of San Antonio. At the top of a rise overlooking the center of San Antonio, just north of San Pedro Springs, Mr. Woodward bought as many as ten lots in the Alta Vista subdivision for the construction of his new home and associated outbuildings. He later developed or sold all the lots he did not use. At the turn of the century, Alta Vista and its neighboring subdivision, Monte Vista, were attractive locations for San Antonio's wealthiest citizens to build new houses. Although at the edge of town in 1900, San Antonio was the state's largest city with a population of 53,321 and the city quickly engulfed the new subdivisions. The Woodward House is now in the center of San Antonio which has grown to encompass all of Bexar County with a population of nearly one million people.

David J. and May Bock Woodward

David J. Woodward was born at Benela, Mississippi, on the 23rd of May, 1864, the son of J. S. Woodward and Addie (Rice) Woodward. When he was three years old the family came to Texas, settling in Anderson County on a farm near Palestine. Some historical accounts state that at age 18 he left home with only a fifty cent piece in his overall pocket. His first job was buying cattle in East Texas for D.S. Combs of San Antonio for a salary of \$20 per month. Mr. Combs taught Woodward about business and became partners with him in many ventures later in San Antonio. In 1896, David Woodward decided he needed more education after working as a cattle and horse trader for D.S. Combs and a ranch hand in Presidio County. He came to San Antonio and enrolled in Alamo Business College. For the next thirty years, 1896-1925, David Woodward made San Antonio his home and business headquarters. Few men contributed more to the extension of the San Antonio trade territory, or were more directly concerned with the development of Southwest Texas. Mr. Woodward had an unusual talent for organizing and carrying

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forward large enterprises, and his generalship lent success to more than one colonization project in Southwest Texas. Many of San Antonio's early civic improvements are credited to Mr. Woodward, whose strong personality is said to have dominated the local scene.

Some of the businesses founded by David J. Woodward were: The Woodward Carriage Company, for many years one of the leading business concerns of San Antonio, which later became the Winerich Motor Company and the Woodward Body Works in Austin. Mr. Woodward sold many fine buggies to the people of San Antonio. When Henry Ford built and started marketing his automobile, D.J. Woodward determined to join the market and started building the first Ford plant in Texas at San Marcos. The building was destroyed and was not reconstructed. David Woodward, however, continued his interest in the automobile and became one of the first owners of one in San Antonio.

Woodward also was the President of the Woodward Vichy Water Company located in the town of Woodward, Texas, which was founded by him. Mr. Woodward was the president of the Jordan Marble Mountain Company of Alpine and the vice president of the Three Rivers Glass Company. Woodward Place in downtown San Antonio was named for him after he built all the houses on that street. He was instrumental in planning many other street locations in the early part of 1900s including the widening of Commerce Street. He owned Bowen's Island and had the San Antonio River changed to its present location where St. Mary's Street crosses it. He had the land filled south of the river where the Smith-Young Tower and other large buildings are today. Mr. Woodward was a public speaker of renown and was sought after for many functions. David Woodward was the first carnival king here in San Antonio, King Selamat I, which is Tamales spelled backwards. This was the year Clara Driscoll was the queen. The carnival later became the annual Fiesta celebration.

Mr. Woodward was married in San Marcos, on the 17th of July, 1889, to Miss May Bock of that city. She was the daughter of Charles and Annie Young Bock. May Bock was born in Belton, Texas, May 1, 1866. She was an artist in the medium of oil and china painting. May was also an avid reader. She often took a book and bamboo pole and spent the day under a tree fishing and reading according to her granddaughter, Eugenia May Tips Niles.

May was a great asset to David in his business of building residences or houses. While he is credited with the construction of the houses, May Woodward was the one who decided on the interior design, colors, woodwork details, and other decorations within the house. Hazel Woodward Tips, daughter of David and May Woodward, wrote to the Woman's Club in 1972, that the Woodward's built a number of houses including those on Woodward Place, just off of Dwyer Avenue in downtown San Antonio. They lived in twenty-three residences while they were married. They would build the house, she would decorate it, and then they would sell it for a very nice profit. Each time they moved to a more beautiful and always a 'little' larger home. One of the houses he built was at Howard and Laurel Street where the Aurora

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Apartments are now located. Mr. Woodward was responsible for having the twin parks established in that location.

When May Woodward planned the house at 1717 San Pedro she made her plans to include all necessary aspects of a house plus design elements that would afford her the pleasure of entertaining her friends in an elegant manner. It was from her drawings that the architect designed the plans for this house.

Her granddaughter wrote that she was known as the "grande dame of society" in San Antonio. The hostesses of early 20th century did a brilliant job of entertaining with teas, elegant dinners, balls and presentations of their daughters in debuts. David and May Woodward traveled extensively around the world where May selected fine furnishings for her home in San Antonio. Most of these furnishings are located in the homes of her four grandchildren.

May really suffered from the heat. In order to make life more comfortable, she created a homemade version of an air conditioner by placing a large block of ice in a galvanized tub, then hanging a wet sheet spread out above the tub, and then placing a fan so it blew into the sheet. Most summers, however, May would take her children to Michigan or her favorite place, New York City, to stay at the Waldorf Astoria. She would spend a great amount of her time with her friends at Peacock Alley where she was always dressed elegantly in long evening dresses.

David and May Woodward had three children, Raymond, who was with the firm of Morgan-Woodward Company, the largest Ford dealership in San Antonio; Hazel, who became the wife of Charles Tips, a prominent financier and developer of San Antonio and a member of the first Texas State Historical Survey Committee; and David J. Woodward, Jr., who was with the firm of Woodward & Hardie, manufacturers of ready-cut houses in San Antonio. Their sons married, but left no heirs. Their daughter, Hazel and Charles, her husband, had four children--three daughters and one son--May Louise, Hazel, Eugenia May, and David.

Mr. Woodward died in San Antonio on the 16th day of November, 1925. His loss to San Antonio, both from a business and civic standpoint, was inestimable, for leaders such as Mr. Woodward are rare. After he died, May Woodward sold the home at 1717 San Pedro to The Woman's Club of San Antonio in 1926. She then moved to a house on Ashby Street for a short while, then lived either at The St. Anthony Hotel or the Aurora Apartments until her death on October 26, 1942, of bronchial pneumonia. Both David and May Woodward are buried in Mission South Cemetery in San Antonio.

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Atlee Bernard Ayres

Atlee Bernard Ayres, the architect of this house, was born in Hillsboro, Ohio, July 12, 1874, to Nathan Tandy Ayres and Mary Atlee Ayres. His family moved to Texas when he was six years old. They settled first in Houston and then moved to San Antonio in 1888 when Atlee B. was fourteen. In 1890, he went to New York to study architecture at the Metropolitan School of Art, a subsidiary of Columbia University. In New York, he attended The Art Students League and studied painting under Frank Vincent Dumont. Upon graduation in 1894, he returned to San Antonio. He married Olive Moss Cox in 1896 and after several years in Mexico, set up practice in San Antonio.

Early commissions of Mr. Ayres that are important include the Engineering Building for the University of Texas at Austin which he designed while he was a member of the firm, Coughlin and Ayres. In 1915, he was appointed State Architect. While in this office he drew the plans for the Land Office Building (1916) and the Blind Institute (1917) and worked on renovations to the Capitol building in 1916. Mr. Ayres was a charter member of the Texas Society of Architects and the West Texas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects of which he was a Fellow. His Texas license number was #3. He was responsible for seeing that legislation was passed for the licensing of architects in Texas.

In San Antonio he designed many famous landmarks of the city, and many beautiful houses, a great many of which are still in use today. Two of the city's most imposing landmarks which he designed are the Municipal Auditorium and the Administration Building at Randolph Air Force Base, known as the "Taj Mahal." Other buildings designed by the firm of Ayres and Ayres are: the Transit Tower Office Building, the Plaza Hotel, the Menger Hotel, the Groos National Bank, the Frost National bank, six buildings at the University of Texas, numerous court houses jails, hospitals, churches, and outstanding residences in San Antonio, Oklahoma City, Kansas City, and Spain.

In addition to his commercial and public buildings, the firm was well-known for their residential designs that spanned the entire range of period revival styles and many decades of the 20th century. Among his best known residences are the William Negley House (1901), David Straus House (1922) and H. Lutchter Brown House (no date). Atlee B. Ayres introduced a regional interpretation to San Antonio with the Spanish Colonial Revival style house for Marion Koogler McNay (1927) and Thomas Hogg (1923).

The David J. and May Bock Woodward residence at 1717 San Pedro is among the many residences Ayres designed in San Antonio. It is, however, believed to be one of the first houses he designed after his return from living several years in Mexico and before turning to design work influenced more by Spanish Colonial Revival architecture and other period revival styles. Under the direction of May Woodward, Mr. Ayres designed this house in the Classical Revival style largely resulting from the influence of the World's

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Woodward, David J. and May Bock, House
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Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893. Ayres designed a number of residences with variations of the Classical Revival style between 1900 and 1923, many of them for wealthy clients moving to the Alta Vista and Monte Vista neighborhoods.

A 1923 publication of the Higher Publicity League of San Antonio illustrated fifteen similar houses designed by Ayres. (The other residences reflected Mission Revival, Tudor Revival, or variations on these styles.) The Woodward House is typical of these residential designs in scale and materials. Most of these houses are 2 1/2 story, masonry buildings with multiple Corinthian columns dominating the principal facades. While the massing and details differed, these residential designs created strong, imposing facades with generous porches and other defined exterior spaces such as porte cocheres. These exterior features balanced commodious interior spaces highlighted with handsome wood and plaster details. The Woodward House reflects the typical interior with its large rooms designed for entertaining and generous entry halls allowing for an easy flow of traffic from the reception room to the library, formal parlor, and dining rooms. The double wide center staircase dominates the entry hall while visually and physically connecting these interior spaces.

Although similar to other work of Ayres, the Woodward House is an exception today. Few of the houses from the turn of the century remain in such excellent condition with relatively few alterations. The only major alterations are on the interior completed by the Woman's Club to accommodate its membership uses. The most significant is the addition of a dining room at the southwest corner designed by Ayres. Robert Ayres assisted his father in these alterations in 1927.

The impact of Atlee B. and Robert M. Ayres on the architecture of San Antonio is well known and documented. In an article dated November 13, 1969, in the *San Antonian* about the loss of one of San Antonio's best loved friends, these words were written about Atlee Ayres: "His love for beauty went deeper than affinity for good design. He once headed the San Antonio Beautification Committee." "His was a long and remarkably productive life. We should all be thankful he chose our city to mark with his talents. Mr. Ayres died on November 6, 1969, at the age of 95, and was survived by his second wife, Katherine Cox Ayres and son Robert M. Ayres."

The Woman's Club of San Antonio

The Woman's Club of San Antonio was organized in October, 1898, by Miss Eleanor Brackenridge and Miss Marion Fenwick. It is the oldest departmental club in the State of Texas and is a charter member of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs in Texas in 1899, a member of the General Federation since 1904, was incorporated in July, 1920, and received a Texas State Historical Marker for the organization in 1975. Prior to the organization of the club as a departmental club, the nucleus of the club was a literary club with Miss Brackenridge as the President. A departmental club is one organized around separate areas

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of study and activities such as the study of a foreign language, hence the Spanish Department, the study of literature--the Literary Department, the enjoyment of the arts, music, fine arts, theatre--the Fine Arts Department. The Club has seven departments: Art, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Affairs, Public Affairs, and Texas Heritage. After the club was organized with eighteen charter members, much work was done to improve life of women of that time. A sewing school was begun from which the ladies convinced the public schools to include sewing in their curriculum, which led to the inaugurating of manual training in our public schools. Later a cooking school was established by the Department of Philanthropy. The club influenced the city to appoint a police matron at the city jail. The ladies established a traveling library from their own personal libraries to be sent out by the Club to the rural districts for the benefit of the mothers and their children. In the 1920s and 1930s club members worked to see that sanitary regulations were established to help provide a more healthful environment for the citizens of San Antonio. During the polio epidemic, the women worked tirelessly to assist the city in the poorer sections of town to establish sanitary conditions.

The membership of The Woman's Club of San Antonio has read like a Who's Who in San Antonio. From Eleanor Brackenridge and Marion Fenwick to Mrs. Eli Hertzberg, Mrs. Charles Zilker, Mrs. Beckwith who helped to establish the City Federation of San Antonio, and many other notable women have added to the prestige of the club. Mrs. May Bock Woodward became a member of the Club in 1926, probably in the fall of that year after she had sold the house to The Woman's Club of San Antonio. In 1931 she was made an Honorary Life Member. Mrs. Atlee B. Ayres became a member in 1924. Mrs. Woodward was a member until her death in 1942.

In the 1920s the women of The Woman's Club of San Antonio gave choral concerts and sponsored Mme. Nordica in concert at the Grand Opera House. Over the years they have had classes in Spanish, literature, gardening, have distributed seeds and plants, and through the civic department have had the study of parliamentary procedure and learned about legislation and how to vote, and promoted the study of art and music.

Beginning in 1899 they have participated in the annual Fiesta celebration in San Antonio. The Woman's Club has participated in the Fiesta events in the spring of each year since 1913. The Club held the first Fiesta Flower Show. In 1965, they sponsored the first Fiesta Teenage Coronation which is also an official Fiesta event. The members and their children participate in all the events of Fiesta and they have three official events during Fiesta.

The Woman's Club is a charter member of the San Antonio Conservation Society. In 1899 the organization also became a charter member of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs. In 1904 they became a member of the General Federation, and they are charter members of the San Antonio Federation and the Alamo District Federation of Women's Clubs. They were the first club in the State of Texas to

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back the Women's Suffrage Movement and were prime movers in the cause of women's freedom of self-expression in the ballot until the nineteenth amendment was a fact. Mrs. LeRoy Bates, our seventh president, organized the Travelers Aid Society. The present membership is 181 including about 30 life members.

By the early 1920s, club members decided to build a clubhouse to house all their many activities and benefit the community. The members estimated that the building would cost at least \$100,000. By 1926, they had saved a total of \$36,500. After David Woodward's death and since her children were grown, May Woodward decided the house was too large for just one person. When she heard that the Woman's Club was looking for a clubhouse, she offered it to them for a reasonable sum. She asked them what they could pay and agreed to sell it to them if they promised to keep it as near like a home a possible for \$47,000. They agreed and paid for the house the \$36,500 in cash and signed a note for \$10,500 to be paid over a ten year period. She agreed to let them keep the gold furniture from the 1904 St. Louis World Exposition in the formal parlor. They have been the owners since that time and have made alterations that affected the exterior plan of the house only once in July of 1927. The club hired the firm of Ayres and Ayres to design the addition of a large dining room on the first floor and the conversion of three bedrooms to a large second floor meeting room/ballroom. The cost of this remodeling was \$3,229.00

During World War II, the Woman's Club of San Antonio was an active participant in all war efforts in the city. Many of the members were directly connected to the military whether through their husbands, sons, and/or daughters. The guest register reflects the great number of military men who came to programs given by the Club during that time. Other visitors are also noted during these years and come from places around the world, including Mrs. Winston Churchill.

The Woman's Club has occupied the Woodward House for almost seventy years. During these years, the club's membership grew and breadth of activity expanded to influence many areas of the community in social, cultural, and educational affairs. For this reason, the property is significant for its association with the Woman's Club and role in the social and cultural history of San Antonio.

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Woodward, David J. and May Bock, House
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Bibliography

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Article dated, December 16, 1985
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Section 9 Page 24

Woodward, David J. and May Bock, House
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Records of The Woman's Club of San Antonio

Minutes

President's Reports (misc. years)

Unpublished history reports from 1923-1994

Who's Who in Texas and Why. "Atlee B. Ayres," San Antonio Express/Austin American, 1917.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	14	548580	3257760	3	##	#####
2	##	#####	#####	4	##	#####

(__ see continuation sheet 10-#)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Lots 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, Block 9, NCB 1879

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION The nomination includes all property acquired by the Woman's Club from the Woodward family in 1927. It encompasses all buildings as well as the sites of former outbuildings.

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE: Lucille Stanford

ORGANIZATION: Woman's Club of San Antonio

DATE: 6/95

STREET & NUMBER: 1717 San Pedro

TELEPHONE: (210) 732-4811

CITY OR TOWN: San Antonio

STATE: TX

ZIP CODE: 78212

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

CONTINUATION SHEETS

MAPS (see continuation sheet Map-#)

PHOTOGRAPHS (see continuation sheet Photo-#)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

PROPERTY OWNER

NAME: Woman's Club of San Antonio

STREET & NUMBER: 1717 San Pedro

TELEPHONE: (210) 732-4811

CITY OR TOWN: San Antonio

STATE: TX

ZIP CODE: 78212

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Woodward, David J. and May Bock, House
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Section PHOTOS Page 26

Woodward, David J. and May Bock, House
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photograph Inventory

Photograph Number: 1 of 2
Property Name: Woodward, David J. and May Bock, House
Property Location: 1717 San Pedro Avenue
City/County/State: San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas
Camera Facing: Northwest
Photograph Date: ca. 1910
Photographer: Unknown
Location of Negative: Woman's Club of San Antonio
1717 San Pedro
San Antonio, Texas 78212

Photograph Number: 2 of 2
Property Name: Woodward, David J. May Bock, House
Property Location: 1717 San Pedro Avenue
City/County/State: San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas
Camera Facing: Northwest
Photograph Date: 1995
Photographer: Lucille Stanford
Location of Negative: Woman's Club of San Antonio
1717 San Pedro
San Antonio, Texas 78212

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Woodward, David J. and May Bock, House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Bexar

DATE RECEIVED: 1/16/96 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/31/96
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/16/96 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/01/96
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96000069

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 2/16/96 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Entered in the
National Register*

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



Residence of Mr. D. J. Woodward

WOODWARD HOUSE
1906 - 1910

WOODWARD, DAVID J. & MAY BOCK HOUSE
1717 SAN PEDRO AVENUE
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 1 of 2



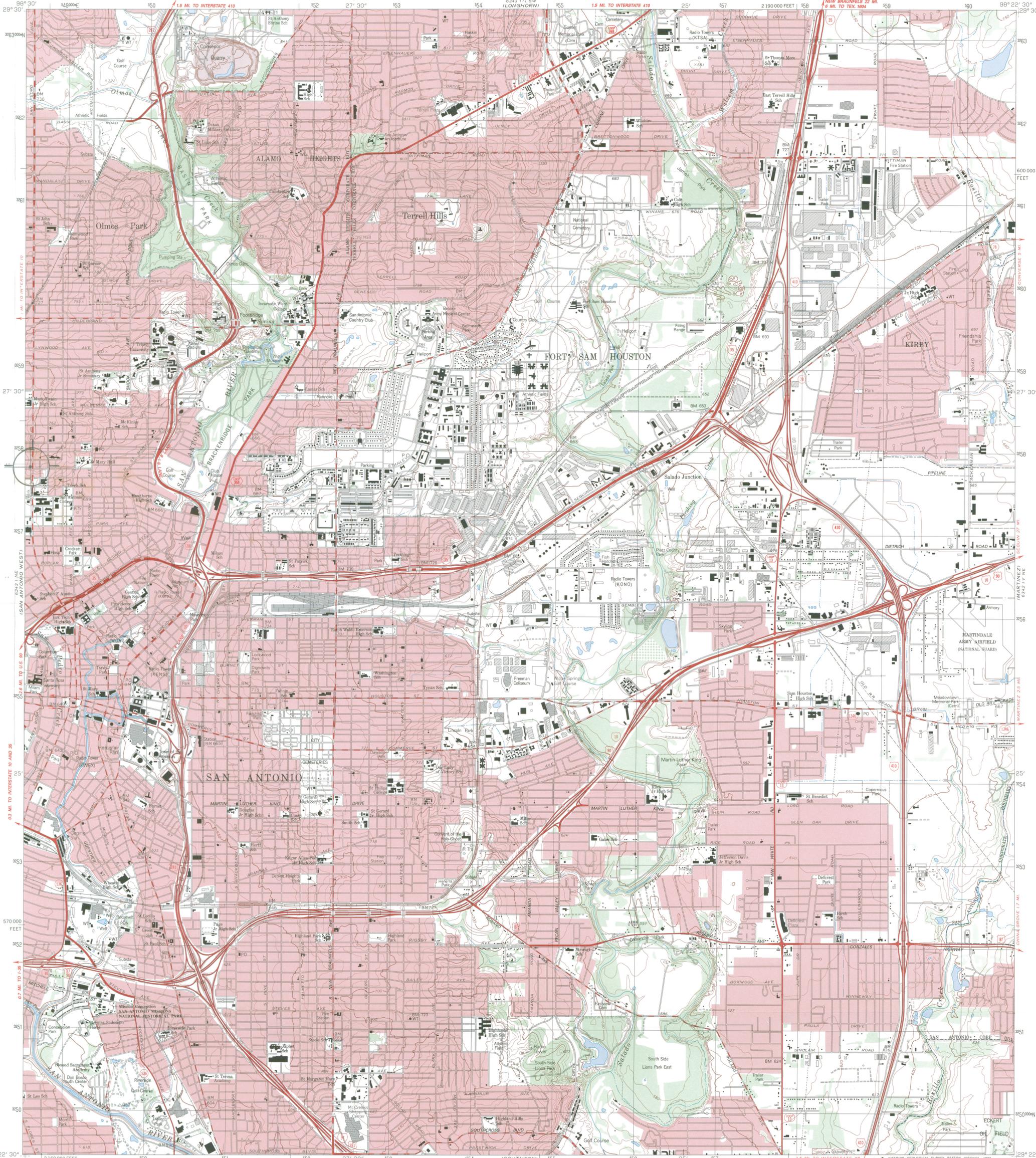
II 1995 PHOTOGRAPH

WOODWARD, DAVID J. & MAY BOCK HOUSE

1717 SAN PEDRO AVENUE

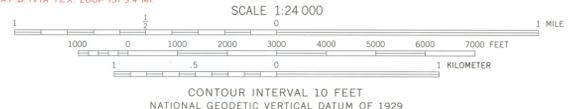
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 2 of 2



WOODWARD, DAVID J., MAY BOCK HOUSE
1717 SAN PEDRO AVENUE
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR CO., TEXAS
UTM REFERENCES: 14/548580/3257760

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA and USCE
Compiled by Defense Mapping Agency from aerial photographs
taken 1952. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1986
and other source data. Field checked 1987. Map edited 1992
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and
10 000-foot grid ticks. Texas Coordinate System,
south central zone (Lambert Conformal Conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 14
The difference between NAD 27 and North American Datum of
1983 (NAD 83) for 7.5 minute intersections is given in USGS
Bulletin 1875. The NAD 83 is shown by dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the
National or State reservations shown on this map
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

SAN ANTONIO EAST, TEX.
29098-D4-TT-024

2998-133

1992
DMA 6342 IV NW-SERIES V882