

NR LISTED

MAY 28 1999

AHPP

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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Historic Name: Womack House

Other Name/Site Number: PU9830

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2. Location

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Street & Number: 1867 South Ringo Street

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Little Rock

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR County: Pulaski Code: 119 Zip Code: 72206

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Womack House
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Historically Black Properties in Little Rock's Dunbar School Neighborhood

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. _____ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Womack House
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

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5. National Park Service Certification

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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):

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

Womack House
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

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6. Function or Use

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Historic: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

Current : DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials: foundation Brick roof Other/Composition Shingles
walls Wood/Weatherboard other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

SUMMARY

The existing Womack House, a very nice frame example of a Craftsman bungalow, apparently replaced a shotgun house that previously stood at the same address. The house is situated on one elevated lot near the south end of its block. A low-pitched, gabled roof with exposed rafter ends; porch gable with decorative knee braces; and "battered" porch columns are among the typical Craftsman characteristics found in the design of the house, which appears to have undergone almost no alteration since its construction.

ELABORATION

Although the 1913 Sanborn Insurance Map of Little Rock shows a shotgun dwelling at 1867 Ringo Street, no signs of this earlier house are apparent today. Perhaps remnants of the shotgun are "buried" within the walls of the existing bungalow, or perhaps it was entirely removed when the bungalow was constructed around 1922.

The main side-gabled roofline of the Womack House is broadly pitched with exposed rafter ends. Triangular knee braces are positioned under the eaves of its gable ends. The exposed rafter ends and pitch of the main roof are echoed by the porch, whose front-facing gable also has knee braces. A pair of windows, each divided vertically into four lights, is centered in the porch gable, which is sheathed in the same narrow weatherboard that covers the rest of the house.

The porch roof is supported at each outside corner by a "battered" wooden column on a square brick pier. Centered between these supports is a third brick pier that does not have a column. Concrete steps leading to the porch are located between the center pier and the one at the southwest corner of the porch. A simple Craftsman-influenced wooden balustrade encloses the porch.

The porch steps are positioned directly in front of the main entrance, located near the south end of the main (west) facade and comprised of a multi-paned door with sidelights. A large four-over-one, double-hung window near the north end of the main facade balances the entryway.

All of the Womack House's windows have four-over-one, double-hung sashes, with the exception of two casement windows (now sealed off inside but still visible from the exterior) that flank the brick chimney on the north side of the house, near the front corner.

The generally square floorplan of the Womack House is broken by bays that project near the middle of the house, one on the south side containing a pair of windows and one directly opposite on the north side containing a grouping of three windows. Each bay is topped by its own gable with exposed rafter ends and triangular knee braces.

The main side-gabled roofline of the Womack House stops at the east end of the projecting bays. Behind the main roofline, a section of the house that is two rooms wide but only one room in depth has a hipped roof with exposed rafter ends. A single room projecting off the rear (east) of the house also has a hipped roof, again with exposed rafter ends. The back door of the house opens into this rearmost room.

A fieldstone retaining wall runs across the front of the Womack House property, with concrete steps leading through the wall to the sidewalk that goes to the porch. Along the north side of the property, a concrete ribbon driveway leads to the back yard (where there once was a small frame garage, now gone).

Womack House
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

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8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: _____.

Applicable National Register Criteria: B and C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Ethnic Heritage/Black
Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1922-1956

Significant Dates: 1922

Significant Person(s): Dr. A. A. Womack

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

SUMMARY

The family of Dr. A. A. Womack lived at 1867 Ringo Street from 1911, when a shotgun house was located at that address, until 1956, when Mrs. Womack sold the existing circa 1922 bungalow to its current owners. As a professional, Dr. Womack was well-respected in Little Rock's black community, and he was able financially to build a very nicely-detailed Craftsman bungalow as his family residence. The Womack House is significant both for its association with Dr. Womack and for its unaltered Craftsman design.

ELABORATION

Dr. A. A. Womack and members of his family were the occupants of 1867 Ringo Street from 1911 until 1956. Initially, the Womack residence apparently was the shotgun dwelling that is shown on the 1913 Sanborn Insurance Map of Little Rock. Around 1922, Dr. Womack either demolished the shotgun or extensively remodeled and enlarged it, creating the existing bungalow.

Dr. Womack's office was located on West 9th Street, in the black business district that flourished along that street for several decades. His wife, Myrtle, worked for a time as a clerk for the Mosaic Templars of America, the black fraternal organization that was headquartered at West 9th Street and Broadway. (Later, Mrs. Womack served as a notary public.)

His profession helped to ensure Dr. Womack's prominence in the black community, as well as providing him with the means to build a very nice home. The Womack House is significant as a nearly unaltered, well-detailed Craftsman bungalow that was built for a prominent African-American resident of the Dunbar neighborhood.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Abrams, Annie. Little Rock, Arkansas. Interview and tour of Dunbar neighborhood, 25 March 1998.

Insurance Maps of Little Rock, Arkansas. Vol. I. New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1939.

Insurance Maps of Little Rock, including Argenta and Pulaski Heights, Arkansas. Vol. I. New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1913.

Little Rock, Arkansas. Arkansas History Commission. Pulaski County Real Estate Assessment Records, 1917-1924.

Little Rock City Directories: 1910 through 1956.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

— preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

Womack House
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

- 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
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	—	_____	_____	B
C	—	_____	_____	D

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lot 5, Block 25, Wright's Addition to the City of Little Rock

Boundary Justification:

The legal description of the Womack House property has remained unchanged since the house was built, making these boundaries appropriate for use in this nomination.

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11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Cheryl Griffith Nichols/Consultant

Womack House
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

Organization: N/A

Date: August 26, 1998

Street & Number: 1721 S. Gaines St.

Telephone: 501-375-2686

City or Town: Little Rock

State: AR

ZIP: 72206