

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 92000253 Date Listed: 3/30/92

Boudreaux-Robison House
Property Name

Pima AZ
County State

Menlo Park
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Antoinette A. Rice
for _____
Signature of the Keeper

3/30/92

Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: The Period of Significance is amended to read: 1908-29.

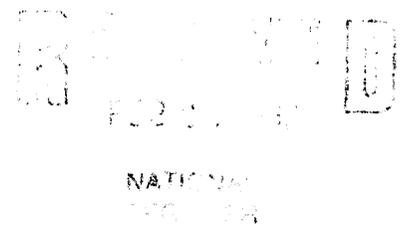
This information was confirmed with Jay Ziemann of the Arizona State historic preservation office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property Boudreaux/Robison House
historic name Boudreaux House
other names/site number Henderson House

2. Location
street & number 101 N. Bella Vista Drive Not for publication
city, town Tucson Vicinity
state Arizona code AZ county Pima code 019 zip code 85745

3. Classification		
Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u> buildings
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u> sites
		<u>0</u> structures
		<u>0</u> objects
		<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Copper Bell Bed & Breakfast
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 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 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Shereen Turner 2/18/92
Signature of certifying official Date
State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. Antoinette Lee 3/30/92
 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:)

fn Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic - Single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic - Single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

No Style

foundation vesicular basalt
walls vesicular basalt

roof flat, laid composition
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY

The two-level Boudreaux/Robison house, located west of the Menlo Park Neighborhood, at 101 N. Bella Vista Drive (Survey #7a-2) in the Tucson Terrace Addition, is one of the three significant Volcanic Stone Vernacular buildings included in the Survey Area. The family residence of Leon J. Boudreaux, a locally prominent builder, City Council member, and the owner/manager of Las Piedras Rest Home (another near-by volcanic stone structure), the residence is one of the earliest structures built in the area, probably dating back to 1908. Constructed of vesicular basalt probably from the nearby A Mountain quarry, the Boudreaux/Robison house is one of the six or so surviving structures of comparable age in Tucson using the material for its walls as well as its foundations. The Boudreaux/Robison house is an excellent example of a rare property type of buildings sharing a common method of construction using a regionally significant structural material. Considered to be Vernacular, or without a designated architectural style, the building exhibits a high degree of workmanship and was built by a stone mason named Mr. Kurtz, who lived at the base of Sentinel Peak. Though the original property included more land and a second residence, the Boudreaux/Robison house remains in its original location. During the historic era, in 1929, there were sensitive additions to the second level and modifications to the interior have also been made. In excellent condition, the Boudreaux/Robison house remains sufficiently unaltered to reflect the original artistry of volcanic stone masonry construction for which it is considered significant, although it is cloaked under a thick screen of trumpet vine.

SITE AND SETTING

The Boudreaux/Robison house is located on lot 1 and the south 6' of lot 2, block 1 of Tucson Terrace, on the east slope of an unnamed hill, just west of Sentinel Peak, with a panoramic view of Tucson and the mountain ranges beyond. The 150' by 56' lot is at the corner of Bella Vista Drive and High Street; both dirt roads. To the north of the Boudreaux/Robison house is a residence which until recently, pertained to the property, serving as a guest house. The guest house was sold along with approximately 40% of the original land. A high, wood fence currently divides the two properties. At the time the Boudreaux/Robison house was built, there were practically no other structures in the vicinity except Vernacular farmhouses. The other two

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volcanic stone buildings at 1408 W. Congress Street and 25 N. Westmoreland Avenue were being constructed around this same time. The Boudreaux/Robison house, built of local material and placed in a natural, desert setting must have fitted in very well with its environment, as it does to this day.

CONSTRUCTION

The Boudreaux/Robison house is constructed of massive volcanic stone walls approximately 18" thick. The walls are composed of uncoursed, rubble masonry. The foundation is also of vesicular basalt. The floors and roof are of wood frame construction and the windows are wood sash, double hung. Outside window sills are 2' deep and 2" thick. Openings over the entry, windows and the porch are spanned by stone arches.

ORIGINAL APPEARANCE

According to Dr. Seth Schindler, previous occupant of 101 N. Bella Vista Drive, who did a State Level Inventory of the property in 10/1981, what was then called the Boudreaux house was built in stages. The following description is based upon that of Dr. Schindler. Situated on the side of a hill with the main entrance facing east, the house consisted of two levels, the lower being partly subterranean at the rear. A steep set of stone and concrete stairs led to a 12' by 15' covered porch. The porch had a wooden floor, massive stone support columns and arched openings. From the porch, entry was made through the original carved door with bevelled glass. Entry into the lower level of the house was made from the lower tier of the front patio to a door beneath the porch on the south side. In 1929, three additional rooms on the top floor were added to the south and west of the original structure, doubling the square footage of the top floor to about 2000 S.F. The stone wall construction and the roof line matched the original 1908 structure sensitively, if not exactly. According to Dr. Schindler, "(i)n terms of its architecture and visual impact, the Boudreaux house has long been recognized as special by the local community. Locally, it is referred to as the 'Castle'...Most prominent, and no doubt responsible for its local name, is the forceful, massive effect of the front facade jutting out at the viewer, the large arched openings and 5' thick stone pillars, the luxuriant old vines from roof level to ground level, the terraced landscaping and the combination of stone and iron fencing broken by vertical columns."

INTERIOR

Although the exterior of the Boudreaux/Robison house retains its integrity, the interior has been considerably modified. The large L shaped "family room" of the residence today, which includes the entrance, is a modification of what was once said to have been two or three rooms, one of which was a bedroom. The fireplace with its stone hearth, wood mantel, decorative cast bronze facing plate and built-in wood shelf units

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must have served the original living room. There was no doubt a dining room as part of the new L shaped space. The kitchen occupies its original location, but a small room on the south side of the kitchen, now used as a pantry/utility room was probably the original bathroom. To the north of the kitchen, what is now a small, enclosed rectilinear room with a subterranean west wall was mostly likely an open air sleeping porch. The lower level of the house consists of a room of the same dimensions as the porch above, with three windows, stuccoed walls and rounded corners. A west side entry opens into a similar plastered, rectangular room which has vent windows. This room is roughly the same dimensions as the L shaped room above, but it terminates in an unfinished crawl space. There is also a bathroom and a storage area in the lower level. Although these rooms were part of the original structure, they may not have been finished. The finish work was said to have been done in the 1970's.

CURRENT APPEARANCE AND ALTERATIONS

The Boudreaux/Robison house is at present in excellent condition and appears to have been well maintained over the years by its chain of owners. The east and north walls of the house as well as the stone porch pillars are covered with the same trumpet vine, probably over sixty years old to date. A non original aluminum sliding door has been installed in the 1929 bedroom addition opening, but other than this modification the exterior appears to have had no further alterations. The remodelling of the interior, as described above has included wall removal and change of use of spaces. However, essential features of the interior, such as the fireplace remain intact. An attempt has been made to maintain these early features which clearly identify the interior with its era. The interior alterations and slight modifications to the exterior do not constitute significant compromises to the integrity of the building.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1905-1941

Significant Dates

1908
1929

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

Boudreaux, Leon (builder)

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

SIGNIFICANCE

The Boudreaux/Robison house is locally significant under National Register Criterion C as an excellent example of a comparatively rare Volcanic Stone Vernacular building in the Menlo Park Neighborhood Survey Area. It is one of six or so surviving structures built around 1910 in Tucson, half of which are situated in the Survey Area near the A Mountain quarry which was closed around the 1930's. Most of the substantial additions to the house were made in 1929, during the historic era, and they were compatible. They building conveys a high degree of stone masonry craftsmanship and a high level of integrity of architectural form, massing and materials. Changes have not adversely impacted the predominant structural technology for which the property is considered significant. It is significant for its contribution to architectural development in Tucson from 1905 to 1941.

WORKMANSHIP

It must be surmised that the design of the Boudreaux house was that of its original owner/builder, Leon Boudreaux. According to a letter of Mr. Boudreaux's son, Sam, a stone mason known as Mr. Kurtz, who lived at the foot of A Mountain, was hired to construct the original portion of the residence at 101 N. Bella Vista Drive. It is unknown which craftsman was responsible for the 1929 addition. Constructed of uncoursed, rubble masonry, the unsquared pieces of stone were set without continuous horizontal joint lines in both the original structure and the addition.

INTEGRITY

Other than slight modifications to the exterior, and remodelling of the interior there have been no substantive changes to the Boudreaux/Robison house which remains an excellent example of the three, rare Volcanic Stone Vernacular buildings in the Menlo Park Neighborhood Survey Area.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Arizona Daily Star, November 25, 1950

Arizona State Historic Property Inventory Form, prepared by Dr. Seth Schindler, October, 1981

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than 1

UTM References

A

1	2	5	0	0	7	1	0
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3	5	6	4	7	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the nominated property are the same as those for tax parcel number 116-15-0010, further described as lot 1 and the south 6' of lot 2, block 1 of Tucson Terrace

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the above. This is the present, but not the historic extent of the property. The historic extent included all of lot 2.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

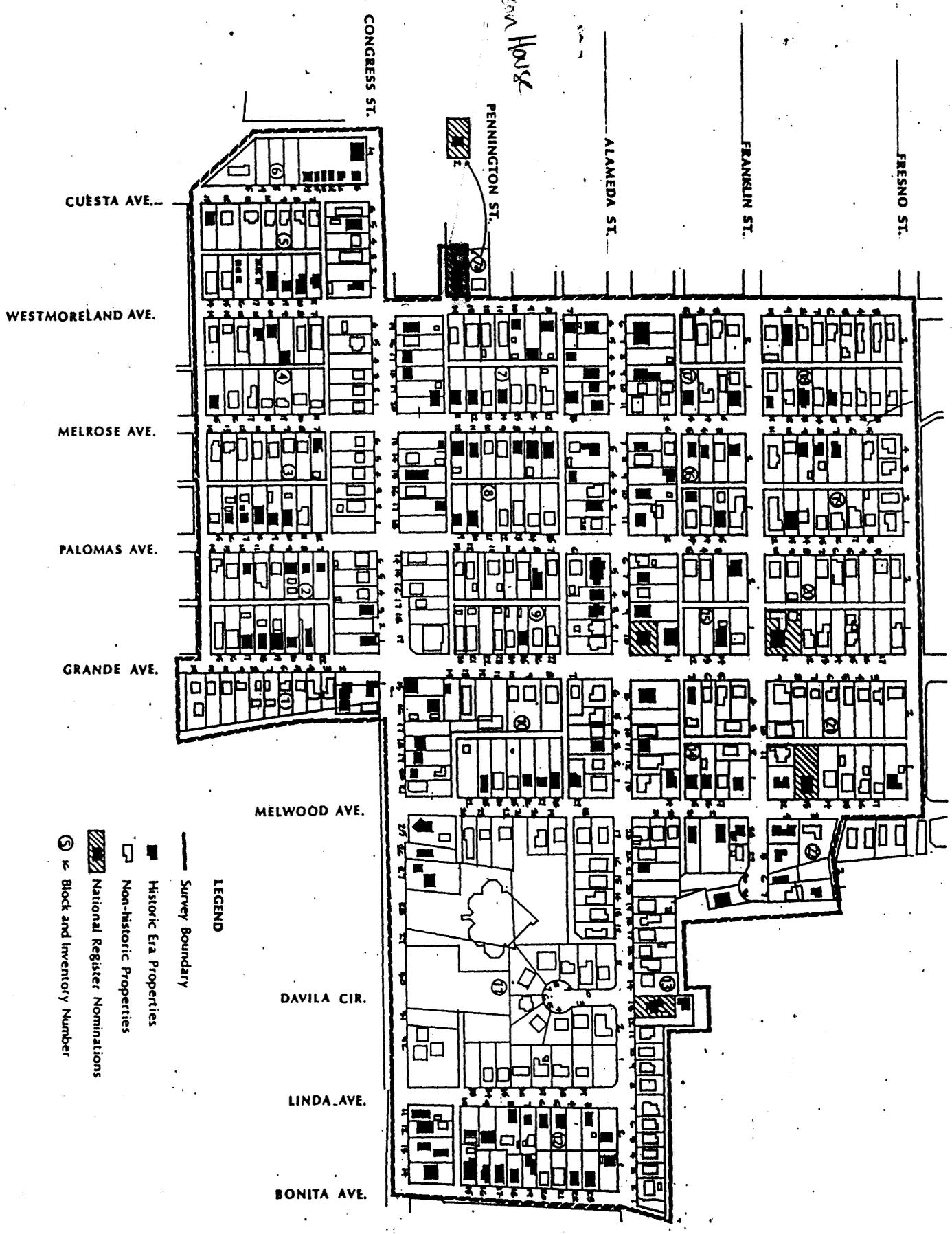
name/title Janet Strittmatter, Project Coordinator

organization Johns & Strittmatter Inc. date February 9, 1992

street & number 2960 N. Swan, #217 telephone (602) 325-2591

city or town Tucson state Arizona zip code 85712

Endreux / Robinson House



- LEGEND**
- Survey Boundary
 - Historic Era Properties
 - Non-historic Properties
 - ▨ National Register Nominations
 - ⊙ Block and Inventory Number

**MENLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY
PROPERTY INVENTORY**

1" = 200'



Prepared for:
Menlo Park Neighborhood Association
February, 1991

JOHNS & STRITMATER INC.

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