

NOV 28 1989

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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

historic name The Wager House
other names/site number 8 BR 397

2. Location

street & number 621 Indian River Avenue N/A not for publication
city, town Titusville N/A vicinity
state Florida code FL county Brevard code 009 zip code 32796

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	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Titusville Multiple Property Group

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.

[Signature] Signature of certifying official State Historic Preservation Officer Date 11/21/89
Florida Department of State-Bureau of Historic Preservation
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.
 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] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 1/10/90

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
SOCIAL/meeting hall
RECREATION AND CULTURE/music facility
COMMERCE/TRADE/business

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/frame vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK piers
walls WOOD clapboard
WOOD shingle
roof ASPHALT shingle
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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

SOCIAL HISTORY

Significant Person

N/A

Period of Significance

1891-1915

Significant Dates

1891, 1900

1915

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hall, Pleasant J.

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

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please See Cover Nomination

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:

Bureau of Historic Preservation

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property approximately one acre

UTM References

A 17 518940 3164400
 Zone Easting Northing

C

B
 Zone Easting Northing

D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

S3, T22, R35, Subdivision #04, Wager's Subdivision, Lot 7

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary follows the legal and historic boundary of the property and includes only those portions historically associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Vicki L. Welcher - Historic Sites Specialist
 organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date October 25, 1989
 street & number 500 S. Bronough Street telephone 904-487-2333
 city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wager House is a two and one-half story wood framed vernacular styled residence located on a prominent riverfront lot at 621 Indian River Avenue. The house has a square plan capped with a hip roof. A widow's walk with stick balustrade and corner posts tops the hip roof. There is a gabled roof dormer at each elevation with paired 1/1 double hung wood sash windows. A simple entablature runs below the boxed eaves of the roof. Two large hexagonal bays extend from the south elevation. A hip roofed porch runs the length of the main (west) facade. The porch roof is supported by square post and turned post balustrade. A similar three bay porch is located at the rear (south) elevation. Fenestration is paired, vertical 1/1 double hung wood sash. The house rests on a brick pier foundation with replacement concrete block piers at the front porch. Siding is wood clapboard at the side elevations and imbricated wood shingle at the dormers and hexagonal south elevation bays.

A c. 1915 one story hip roofed garage is located at the north elevation and is connected to the main block at the front porch. The garage is likely to have been constructed at the same time the rear porch was added. The sides are constructed of novelty siding while the roof is covered in replacement asphalt shingle.

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SUMMARY

The Wager House is significant at the local level under Criterion A in the area of social history for its association with Ellis Wager and the publication of the Florida Star, Brevard County's first newspaper and the use of the house as a civic and social gathering hall. It is also significant at the local level under Criterion C as one of Titusville's finest wood framed vernacular styled residences. The house contributes to the Titusville Multiple Property Group under Associated Historic Context: Exploration and Settlement of Titusville, Florida 1867-1930 and Associated Property Type: Buildings of Titusville-1867-1930.

The Wager House is one of the oldest buildings in Titusville. It is located in Wager's subdivision of Titusville platted for Ellis B. Wager in 1889. Originally a two story, flat roof structure built by Pleasant J. Hall for Perry Wager in c. 1891, a third floor and hip roof with a widow's walk was added in the early 1900s, and the porch at the south elevation was added in 1915. Perry Wager's son, Ellis, published the Florida Star, Brevard County's first newspaper, on the first floor of the house. The second floor was used for special events and served as Titusville's ballroom and opera house. The house remained in the Wager family through the 1930s.

The house is significant in the area of social history for its part in the development of the social and cultural traditions of Titusville. The house served not only as a communal meeting hall, it also housed the county's first newspaper which helped to express, and possibly shape, the political, social and economic views of the fledgling community.

The Wager House is architecturally significant for its massive framed vernacular styling. The Wager House, because of its size and the quality of its overall design and individual features, is one of Titusville's most significant private residences. While basically vernacular in style and shape, the house incorporates several elements of Late Victorian styles. The paired fenestration with its vertical panes reflects Italianate Revival style influencing, while the imbricated wood shingles and the canted bays reflect the most elaborate of the styles, the Queen Anne. Because of this, the house conforms well to the description of Frame Vernacular style located in the above mentioned Associated Property Type.

TITUSVILLE MULTIPLE PROPERTY GROUP

E = PRITCHARD HOUSE
 F = WAGER HOUSE
 G = Judge George Robbins House
 H = SPELL HOUSE
 B, C, D = Titusville Commercial District
 563,000

- CONTRIBUTING
 - NON-CONTRIBUTING
 - BOUNDARY OF
 Titusville Commercial
 DISTRICT
 1" = 20'

INDIAN RIVER

Wager House
 621 Indian River Avenue
 Titusville, Florida
 Brevard County
 "F"



E 562,000

