

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic TRUXAW-GERVAIS HOUSE MAY 27 1982
and/or common TRUXAW HOUSE OR THE WHITE HOUSE RESTAURANT

2. Location

street & number 887 South Anaheim Boulevard ^{Blvd.} n/a not for publication
city, town ANAHEIM n/a vicinity of congressional district 39
state CALIFORNIA 92805 code 06 county ORANGE code 059

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			other: _____

4. Owner of Property

name JAMES AND BARBARA STOVALL
street & number 1110 W. KATELLA AVENUE
city, town ANAHEIM n/a vicinity of state CALIFORNIA 92802

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. ORANGE COUNTY HALL OF RECORDS
street & number 630 N. BROADWAY
city, town SANTA ANA state CALIFORNIA 92701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title ~~NONE~~ Part 1, Tax Act Certification has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date n/a federal state county local
depository for survey records n/a
city, town n/a state n/a

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>n/a</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This large Colonial Revival home was built in 1909 on 2.5 acres and was at that time one of the finest homes in Anaheim. Since its recent restoration it has once again become a show place.

The exterior facade has 2-inch clapboard siding with a low stucco wainscoting around the entire perimeter of the house. The symmetrical placement of the windows and doors lends a colonial feeling to the front (east) facade. A wide Craftsman-style door is flanked by glass-paned sidelights in the center of the lower floor. Directly above, a French door with a double hung window directly on each side leads to the roof area of the porch. On the lower floor a large picture window with a transom and small double-hung windows is placed on each side of the front door and sidelights. On the upper floor two large double-hung windows are located on each side of the French door arrangement. Twin dormers project from the hip roof. They open into a finished attic which once was home to the three Truxaw sons.

The flat-roofed porch spans almost the entire front of the house. The porch has both round columns and square pillars. The square wooden pillars are decorated with bands of wood and a stylized drope at the top. Eight of these pillars support the porch and four of them support a porch on the south side of the house. A round, classically-styled column with an Ionic capital is placed beside each square pillar. The low, wide pediment in the center of the porch is bordered with the same dentil trim that runs the entire width and length of the front and south porches. The porch floor is concrete covered with new beige tile. The major additions to the lower floor were required by the building department. A squared post, similar in design but smaller than the original pillars, was added in the center of each side of the porch to provide added strength. An access ramp for the handicapped was placed on the north end of the house. It matches the stucco wainscoting and is trimmed in balusters milled to match those in the balustrade at the top of the porch. The building department also required additional height be added to the porch roof railing and railing of the south porch. The square posts and spindles in the balustrade were copied and the added height achieved by adding these to the top of the railing which already existed.

The upper section of the porch has a railing of rectangular stucco posts at the corner and on each side of the center pediment. These short stretches of wall support insets of short, turned balusters.

Pairs of brackets decorate the wide, enclosed eaves at the roofline. This treatment is used on the entire roofline.

All of the original windows and doors on the north, south and east sides of the house have been retained with the exception of one door in the north side which was changed from a standard kitchen door to a French door. It is compatible with the style of the house. Double-hung windows flank a row of three small Craftsman-style windows which are over the buffet alcove in the dining room. The required handicapped access is on this side. All of the windows located on the north and south sides have deep cornices with molding outlining each window and door. Upstairs in the north facade a double-hung window is placed on each side of a pair of leaded glass casement windows.

One of the most pleasing elements of the house is the south porch on the south side of the house. The original heavy wooden French door and double-hung windows lead from the south porch into the house. The supporting pillars and columns are of the same arrangement as those on the front porch. The dentil trim, stucco wainscoting, and the upper balustrade match those on the front porch. Upstairs the original French doors, set of casement windows and set of double-hung windows lead out onto the porch roof.

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This residence recently became a restaurant. A kitchen addition was placed on the back of the original house and can barely be seen from the front and sides. Every effort was made by the owners to match the exterior trim, stucco wainscoting, siding, materials, roof pitch, enclosed eaves and brackets of the existing structure. The necessary trash bins and service facilities are hidden from view by stucco walls
walls and wooden gates, all located
in the rear (west) and south corner.

Several old trees were retained and pruned. An ancient pepper tree and a hugh pine are located beside the driveway to the north of the house. An old olive tree has been left in the rear parking lot. Two Sycamore trees in the front benefited greatly by a good pruning.

The interior of the house has been restored in an elegant, understated manner. All of the rooms on the lower floor have retained their size, shape and original windows and doors with the exception of those windows facing the rear. The stairway rail was stripped, stained and varnished to reveal its original beauty. The fireplace in the living room is the original with large egg-and-dart trim below the wide wooden mantel. A half wall was added in the living room to create a vestibule. In the original library (southwest corner) the detailed, restrained craftsman-style molding features a high plate rail trimmed with small rectangular brackets. Another strip of molding intersects the wall about two feet below the plate rail. The windows have a wider molding at the top which is even with the plate rail and features the same small rectangular brackets. Vertical molding intersects the horizontal molding in several places. Boxed ceiling beams intersect 18 inches from each corner in all of the rooms in the lower floor. In the bar area, which is new, the same beam pattern was used as the original. All of the woodwork is painted with the exception of the stairway. Colonial brass light fixtures have been installed throughout the house and are in keeping with the restrained elegance of the home. New drapes, carpets, and antiques have been used throughout the upper and lower floors. The original dining room, to the north of the front door, retains the original molding and windows. An arched ceiling, 14 inches wide extends from the east wall to the west wall at the north end of the room. A buffet was unable to be repaired and was removed and a piano put in its place.

ing
Upstairs the detailing resembles that used downstairs. The vertical and horizontal molding used downstairs has been duplicated here. The ceiling molding was duplicated and frames each upstairs room. The bedroom spaces which face the south, east, and north were left intact with wide archways in between. A former bath became a service area and the original large bath became the women's restroom and vestibule. A sixth bedroom facing the west was made into the men's room and a back stairway to the kitchen. The furnishings, light fixtures, carpets and window treatments are the same as those on the lower floor. The new stairway and hallway on the lower floor leading to the rear of the new addition have woodwork and molding to match the original. The kitchen area is new and a basement has been made into storage and an employee change room.

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Setting:

The house was a product of Mr. Gervais's success in the orange nursery business. The original plot of 2.5 acres was purchased by Mr. Gervais in 1901. He either leased or owned the adjacent 10 acres and leased land elsewhere in town for his additional 35,000 orange tree stock. This house was the only house on the west side of the street between South and Vermont Streets (now three short blocks) until the 1920's. A photograph taken in 1920 shows the house set back from the street about 120 feet, creating a wide sweeping grassy lawn. Informal plantings of bushes and young trees were planted around the house. The present setting retains as many of the original trees as possible including a hugh pine, a pepper and an olive tree to the north of the house. The new landscaping is more formal in nature and is compatible with the classical styling of the house. Planters, additional trees, and flower beds have been added. The large setback from the street and the grassy lawn still remain and are a very important element of the setting of this house. A portion of the grounds has been converted to parking for the restaurant.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

HOME OF WELL-KNOWN DOCTOR

Specific dates BUILT 1909 **Builder/Architect** UNKNOWN

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Truxaw House is significant to Anaheim's architectural and historical past because it is the largest and finest example of a Colonial Revival house and represents a time and place in Anaheim's history which will never be duplicated. It's first owner, Dosithe Gervais, was a nurseryman and pioneer in the citrus industry from just after the turn of the century until 1916. Oranges, while being only one of our area's agricultural industries, were by far the most successful and significant crop grown. At one time he had a total of 50,000 trees in his nurseries. The second owner, and the one for which the community has called the house, was Dr. John Truxaw who served the city for forty years, arriving in 1912 and practicing until he died in 1952.

Having been in a deteriorated condition, the house has been restored to retain all of the qualities of a grand house that it enjoyed during its early period of significance.

For many years this 3,842 square foot house stood alone on its block, over 100 feet back from the street. It was built in 1909 by Mr. and Mrs. Gervais who had purchased the property in 1901. Mr. Gervais was a telegraph operator and freight manager for the Southern Pacific Railroad before settling in Anaheim in 1903 on the land which he had already purchased. The Gervais family lived in another house on the property until they built the new house in 1909. For the first 6 years he also raised strawberries, but as oranges became an important crop, he started the nursery business. He had about 15,000 trees on the property and 35,000 trees on another property.

In 1909 oranges were already a successful crop; however, the industry had seen nothing yet! During the teens, twenties and thirties, mile after mile of oranges, lemons and grapefruit was planted in the area bounded by and including the Irvine Ranch to the south and the county line to the north. Mr. Gervais was one of the pioneer nurseryman who experimented with various varieties of oranges and was careful to see that he sold only the finest and best. citrus was a successful crop that put the county on the map

The new house was considered one of the show places of Anaheim. The many wide windows and French doors made it a light and pleasant home. Their three teenage daughters held parties in the house. However, since Mrs. Gervais was one of the most important members of the W.C.T.U. no liquor was served at these parties.

In 1916 George Waterman and his wife purchased the house and acreage. In April of 1919 he sold it to Dr. Truxaw and his wife, Louise. The Truxaw family grew to include three boys and five girls while they lived in the house. Dr. Truxaw, a graduate of U.S.C. Medical School, came to Anaheim in 1912. In addition to his private practice he was also Anaheim's only City Health Officer for a number of years. His white car became a fixture in Anaheim. Some of his duties were the posting of quarantine signs warning against contagious disease, examining drunks at the police station, and condemning unsanitary

9. Major Bibliographical References

Microfilm of 1909 and 1921 Anaheim Gazettes
 Story of a Parish published by St. Boniface Catholic Church
 Orange County California, History of Samuel Armor
 All of the above were obtained in the Mother Colony History Room of the Anaheim Public Library
 Interview of James Truxau, son of Dr. John Truxau

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.85 acre
 Quadrangle name Anaheim Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>111</u>	<u>4115</u>	<u>81410</u>	<u>317</u>	<u>412</u>	<u>71710</u>	B						
	Zone	Easting	Northing					Zone	Easting	Northing			
C							D						
E							F						
G							H						

Verbal boundary description and justification Assessor's Parcel No. Book 37 Page 07
 The nominated property is the present remnant of the once-large estate. The whole parcel from the street to the wall to the rear of the house is included because the setting is important to the significance of this house. continued;

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code
state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diann Marsh, Preservation Chairman
 organization Anaheim Historical Society date March 17, 1982
 street & number P. O. Box 247 telephone (714) 635-9249
 city or town Anaheim state California 92805

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:
 national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature R M Ellen

title State Historic Preservation Officer ; date 9-29-82

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
 Entered in the National Register date 10/29/82
 Keoper of the National Register
 Attest: _____
 Chief of Registration

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conditions. It was in connection with this later duty that he inadvertently caused the burning of Anaheim's Chinatown. He delivered 3500 babies spanning three generations. Dr. Truxaw had a reputation for never refusing to help anyone and for rarely taking a vacation. He often went for miles out into the canyons in inclement weather to make house calls. He was a charter member of the St. Joseph Hospital, now one of the largest in Orange County and the Anaheim Hospital. The entire Truxaw family was active in organizations in the St. Boniface Catholic Church. He died in 1952 at the age of 69. Mrs. Truxaw remained in the home until she died in 1969.

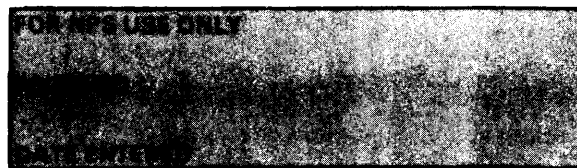
While the estate was being settled the house became a rental for several years. In 1977 an organization for reformed alcoholics rented the house and the interior was severely neglected. The cupboards were burned in the fire place, holes were knocked in the walls, the home was littered with wine bottles and trash. Many prospective owners thought the house was beyond repair.

In 1978 Mrs. Anthony Bouck purchased the home with the idea of opening a high-class antique store. Mrs. Bouck, an energetic lady in her 70's, expected to spend about \$60,000 to restore the home. She ended up spending a little over \$100,000. She made no structural changes but did completely rebuild the kitchen, brought the home up to code and applied fresh paint and carpeting. Failing health and eyesight prevented her from realizing her goal of opening her store.

In 1981 the home was sold to James and Barbara Stovall. The Stovall family owns several large motels in the Disneyland area. They planned to build condominiums there and hired architect J. Ward Dawson to design the buildings. A friend of the Stovalls saw the old house and told them that it would make an ideal restaurant, and Barbara Stovall was much taken with the idea. On the eve of the day the house was to be torn down, Mrs. Stovall told her husband that she could not bear to have the house torn down. New plans were drawn up for the restoration of the house into the "White House Restaurant". The restaurant opened January 15, 1982 and has become an uplifting experience for a city that has lost almost its entire historic downtown. This project is a beautiful example of historic preservation which the average citizen can relate to and appreciate.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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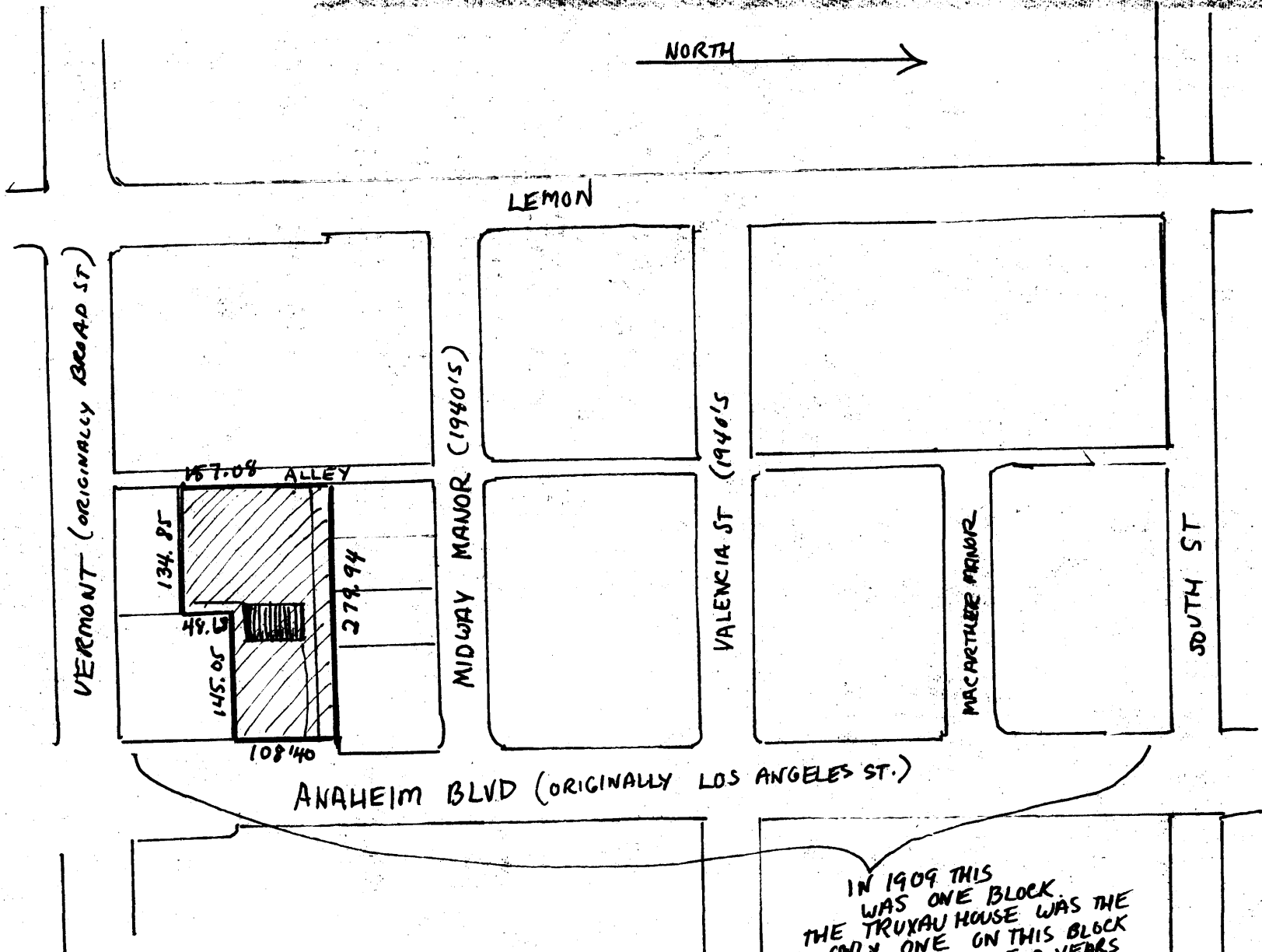
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Commencing from the corner of Anaheim Boulevard and Vermont St. the southeast corner of the property begins 106 feet from the center of Anaheim Blvd. and Vermont St. (going north on Anaheim Blvd.). The boundary of the property extends 108.40 feet on Anaheim Blvd. before turning west. The boundary then turns west and runs 279.94 feet to the alley. Turning south the property goes for 157.08 feet then turns east for 134.85 feet before it jogs. Jogging north 48.68 feet, it turns east again for 145.05 feet, to the starting point on Anaheim Blvd.

Orange County, CA

Truxau-Gervais House
887 S. Anaheim Blvd.
Anaheim, Ca. 92805



NORTH →

LEMON

VERMONT (ORIGINALLY BROAD ST)

MIDWAY MANOR (1940'S)

VALENCIA ST (1940'S)

MACARTHUR MANOR

SOUTH ST

ANAHEIM BLVD (ORIGINALLY LOS ANGELES ST.)

IN 1909 THIS WAS ONE BLOCK. THE TRUXAU HOUSE WAS THE ONLY ONE ON THIS BLOCK FOR YEARS