

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 8-16-82
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Gillette Historic District

and/or common Gillette Historic District

2. Location

street & number See Continuation Sheet #1, Item #2, page 1 N/A not for publication

city, town Tulsa vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Oklahoma code 40 county Tulsa code 143

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name See Continuation Sheet #2, Item #4, Page 1

street & number

city, town Tulsa vicinity of state Oklahoma

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Clerk

street & number 500 Civic Center

city, town Tulsa state Oklahoma

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Oklahoma Comprehensive Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

Tulsa Historic Preservation Office Inv.

date 1978/1977-1978 federal state county local

depository for survey records Tulsa City-County Library, 400 Civic Center

city, town Tulsa state Oklahoma

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Gillette Historic District is comprised of thirty-one (31) single family residences and six (6) duplexes built between 1924 and 1941 primarily for business executives and professionals. The district is bounded by an irregular line along East 15th Street to the north and East 17th Street to the south. All of the homes except one front either South Yorktown Place or South Gillette Avenue. The district's irregular northern boundary excludes later commercial strip development (1958-1966) along East 15th Street, a major artery to downtown Tulsa. The diverse architectural styles of the homes and historical importance of past and present residents set this neighborhood apart from adjacent areas. Brown fieldstone from Southern Arkansas, brick and stucco construction differentiate this area from the surrounding neighborhoods of predominately frame homes.

The Gillette Historic District is named after the home of J. M. Gillette which is located at 2130 East 15th Street. It is a large three-story Gothic Tudor house constructed of brick, stucco and heavy timbers. It has rock accents, many multi-paned leaded glass windows, Gothic arches, and a slate roof.

South Yorktown Place is one of Tulsa's five remaining boulevards. The original elm trees became diseased and were replaced with hardier trees. The homes along this street are larger than the cottages and bungalows along South Gillette Avenue.

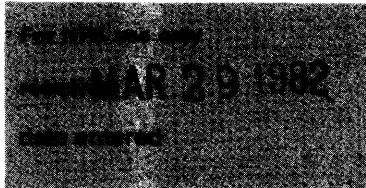
One of the more historic houses of this district is located at 1546 South Yorktown Place and was the Tulsa World Model Home of 1923. Designed by Tulsa architect W. Alva Fry and built by K.M. Vaughn, it was advertised in the Tulsa Daily World (a local newspaper) as "built by Tulsans, for Tulsans, from Tulsa materials". It is a two-story brick Jacobean/Tudor house, and is unique in that it has the only Tudor arches in the district.

The most architecturally pure structure is the home of J.B. McGay (1551 S. Yorktown Pl.). The house is an example of streamline Art Deco with elements of the early Zigzag style. It is constructed of painted brick and features Spanish style wrought iron window balconies. It was considered unusual for its time because of its corner windows, front garage, and five-level construction.

The alterations consist of four homes in which the sun porches have been enclosed with glass, and one house has had a wing added.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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



Continuation sheet 1

Item number 2

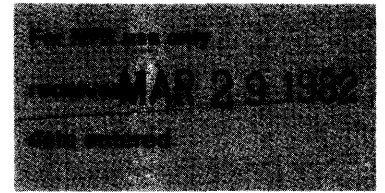
Page 1

Location

1507-1568 S. Gillette Avenue
1526-1568 S. Yorktown Place
2130 E. 15th Street

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet 2

Item number 4

Page 1

Gillette Street

1507, 1509 Mrs. C.D. (Faye) Benton, resides at 1507
1511 Mrs. A.W. (Aileen) Tillotson
1514 Amir K. & Delores R. Adib-Yazdi, 4131 S. Lewis, Tulsa, OK 74105
1517, 1519 Mr. & Mrs. J.A. Walton, reside at 1519
1518 Mr. & Mrs. P. David White
1522, 1524 Mr. & Mrs. P. David White, reside at 1518
1523, 1527 Helen R. Cowan, 5315 Connecticut NW, Washington, D.C. 20015
1528 Mrs. Guilford W. (Helen) Day
1531 Mary Leslie Dickerson
1532 Mrs. White Y. (Eunice) Mauzy
1535 Judith A. Miller
1539 Paul Ferguson
1540 John B. McGay, 1551 S. Yorktown Pl. Tulsa, OK 74104
1544 Mr. & Mrs. Henry B. Mouton
1547 Jean A. Owens
1551 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph T. Dotterman
1552 Mrs. Marie G. Schwartz, 4333 S. Birmingham, Tulsa, OK 74135
1555 Mr. & Mrs. Clyde N. Stone
1556 James J. Wolfe
1559 Richard R. and Linda R. Moderow
1560 Edward S. Dumit
1561 Mr. & Mrs. Edward S. Murray, Jr.
1564 Gary & Linda Watts
1565 Barbara Burris, 1717 S. Rockford, Tulsa, OK 74120
1568 Lynn F., Jr. & Marilyn K. Rose

Vacant Lot between 1539 and 1547 is owned by Steven Paul and Leslie R. Beavers,
4550A S. Harvard, Tulsa, OK 74135

Yorktown Place

1526 Mrs. Albert H. Mitchell
1530 Mr. and Mrs. C. Emery Buffum
1543 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Clark
1544 Mr. and Mrs. Jacob G. Braum IV
1546 Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Bonnell, Jr.
1551 Mr. John B. McGay
1554 Mr. and Mrs. James Kumpe
1557 Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Brett
1562 Mrs. Ada E. Andreen
1567 Mr. Tom Noulles
1568 Mr. and Mrs. Don E. Austin

Fifteenth Street

2130 Chrystal Sedger, 1595 S. Utica, Tulsa, OK 74104

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

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



Continuation sheet 4

Item number 7

Page 1

Buildings contributing to the character of the district:

1. Blethen House (1507-1509 S. Gillette Ave.): 1922, Tudor duplex, two story, clinker brick with rock accents.
2. Elgin House (1511 S. Gillette Ave.): 1927, shingle style, two story, shingled.
3. Evans House (1514 S. Gillette Ave.): 1929, Tudor duplex, two story, clinker brick with rock accents.
4. Thomason House (1517-1519 S. Gillette Ave.): 1929, Cottage duplex, 1 story brick.
5. Hopping House (1518 S. Gillette Ave.): 1929, Cottage, two story, brick.
6. Hinds House (1522-1524 S. Gillette Ave.): 1941, American Colonial duplex, two story, brick.
7. Norris House (1527 S. Gillette Ave.): 1926, Bungalow, one story, stucco.
8. Filley House (1528 S. Gillette Ave.): 1923, Bungalow, one story, brick.
9. DeForrest House (1531 S. Gillette Ave.): 1927, two story, frame.
10. Hopping House (1532 S. Gillette Ave.): 1923, Bungalow, two story, brick.
11. Branson House (1535 S. Gillette Ave.): 1924, Cottage, one story, brick.
12. Pargh House (1539 S. Gillette Ave.): 1926, Bungalow, one story, frame.
13. Maile House (1540 S. Gillette Ave.): 1923, Bungalow, one story, brick.
14. Woods House (1544 S. Gillette Ave.): 1933, Cottage, one story, brick
15. Avey House (1547 S. Gillette Ave.): 1929, Cottage, one story, brick
16. Mead House (1551 S. Gillette Ave.): 1930, Cottage, one story, brick, simulated thached roof.
17. Easterling House (1552 S. Gillette Ave.): 1929, Bungalow, one story, brown fieldstone
18. Turner House (1555 S. Gillette Ave.): 1928, Cottage, one story, brick

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet 5

Item number 7

Page 2

Buildings contributing to the character of the district (continued)

19. Lowry House (1556 S. Gillette Ave.): 1929, Bungalow, one story, brown fieldstone.
20. Morris House (1559 S. Gillette Ave.): 1927, Cottage, one story, brick, eyelid dormer.
21. Combs House (1560 S. Gillette Ave.): 1929, Bungalow, one story, brown fieldstone.
22. Orson/Thompson House (1561 S. Gillette Ave.): 1931, Federal duplex, two story, brick.
23. Siegismond House (1564 S. Gillette Ave.): 1929, Bungalow, one story, brown fieldstone.
24. Buchanan House (1565 S. Gillette Ave.): 1929, Southern Colonial, two story, brick with rock accents.
25. Walton House (1568 S. Gillette Ave.): 1929, Cottage, one story, brown fieldstone.
26. Mitchell House (1526 S. Yorktown Pl.): 1940, American Colonial, two story, brick.
27. Connely House (1530 S. Yorktown Pl.): 1926, Bungalow, two story, yellow brick.
28. Henthorne House (1543 S. Yorktown Pl.): 1926, Dutch Colonial, two story, frame.
29. Boyle House (1544 S. Yorktown Pl.): two story, stucco.
30. Gaskill House (1546 S. Yorktown Pl.): 1923, Jacobean/Tudor, two story, brick, 1923 Tulsa World Model Home.
31. McGay House (1551 S. Yorktown Pl.): 1936, Art Deco, five level, white brick.
32. Gillette House (1554 S. Yorktown Pl.): 1928, Tudor, two story, clinker brick.
33. Henneberry House (1557 S. Yorktown Pl.): 1926, Tudor, two story, brick.

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

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

Continuation sheet 6

Item number 7

Page 3

Buildings contributing to the character of the district (continued)

34. Andreen House (1562 S. Yorktown Pl.): 1929, Airplane Bungalow, two story, brick.
35. Brown House (1567 S. Yorktown Pl.): 1929, Southern Colonial, two story, brick.
36. Gillette House (1568 S. Yorktown Pl.): 1925, two story, stucco.
37. Gillette House (2130 East 15th St.): 1924, Gothic/Tudor, three story, brick and stucco with rock accents.

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 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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1922-19 **Builder/Architect** Multiple

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Gillette District, as a neighborhood, is significant to Tulsa because of its history, wide variety of architectural styles, use of building materials, and home sizes. The other neighborhoods that developed at the same time as this district are of more uniform architectural styles and sizes. This sets the Gillette Historic District apart from the others and makes it worthy of National Register recognition.

The Gillette Historic District is a potpourri of architectural styles which includes cottage, bungalow, Art Deco, and Jacobean/Tudor. The area was developed with the larger structures on Yorktown Place for executives and the area on South Gillette Avenue for middle management (the first Tulsa Society Register lists one-third of the area residents). This area was one of Tulsa's early commuter communities; three other similar areas developed at about the same time. The neighborhood has retained much of its original fabric and character through the efforts of an active neighborhood association. Only minor alterations have been made to these homes, and all changes have been architecturally compatible.

James Max Gillette was an important merchant, real estate entrepreneur and oilman. He was President of the J.M. Gillette Investment Company and the Max Oil Company. He was one of the organizers of the Central National Bank and served on its board. He was also a partner in the Boulder Building Corporation, builders the Gillette-Tyrrell Building. These were two of early downtown Tulsa's most outstanding Art Deco buildings. Gillette sited his home outside the city limits in 1921 and raised purebred cattle on this "country place" for several years.

Norvesta Avenue was platted by Joseph S. Hopping, a founder of the Fourth National Bank, partner in Evans and Hopping Farm Loans, and community leader. Hopping built his house at 1532 South Norvesta in 1922. He named the road in front of his home for his three children, Norris, Velma, and Esta. In 1927 this area was annexed to the city of Tulsa and the street was renamed to coincide with North Gillette Avenue. In 1923, the house at 1528 So. Gillette was constructed by Hopping's daughter Velma Hopping Filley and her husband, E. R. Filley; and in 1929, the house at 1518 So. Gillette was built by his son, Norris J. Hopping. The bricks for these three homes were made by the Mid-Continent Brick and Tile Company, owned by Albert H. Maile, original owner of 1540 S. Gillette.

The Tulsa World Model Home of 1923, located at 1546 South Yorktown Place, was sponsored by the newspaper and was furnished by Tulsa

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet #8, Item #9, Page 1

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 13 acres

Quadrangle name Tulsa

Quadrangle scale 1:2400

UMT References

A

1 5	2 3 3 7 8 0	4 0 0 3 3 9 0
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

1 5	2 3 3 7 8 0	4 0 0 3 1 3 0
Zone	Easting	Northing

C

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

D

1 5	2 3 3 5 6 0	4 0 0 3 3 9 0
Zone	Easting	Northing

E

Zone	Easting	Northing

F

Zone	Easting	Northing

G

Zone	Easting	Northing

H

Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet #9, Item #10, Page 1

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sharry White, President
Andrew A. Kinslow

organization Gillette Historic District Association
Associate, American Inst. of Arch. date July, 1982

street & number Sharry White / Andrew A. Kinslow White - (918) 744-1138
1518 S. Gillette / 1514 S. Gillette telephone Kinslow - (918) 742-8940

city or town Tulsa state Oklahoma

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature C. E. Metcalf 7-30-82

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Bob Greenwood</u>	date <u>9/20/82</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date:
Chief of Registration	

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

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

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Continuation sheet 7

Item number 8

Page 1

World advertisers with the latest in appliances, furnitures and accessories. Fifty thousand Tulsans visted it furing the few weeks it was open to the public, and an entire section of the newspaper was devoted to it on opening day.

John B. McGay, who still resides at 1551 South Yorktown Place, came to Tulsa in 1928. In 1932, he and a partner formed the Macnick Company which manufactured the world's first parking meters in 1934. His other inventions included a gas calculator and various gauges. In 1942 McGay invented the tubeless tire. He donated his invention to the tire industry.

Attorney Thaddeus D. Evans built his home at 1514 S. Gillette Ave. in 1929. Evans and J.S. Hopping founded Evans and Hopping Farm Loans. Evans was elected mayor of Tulsa in 1920 and served until 1922. During his administration, Tulsa experienced its greatest disaster, the race roit of 1921. One of Tulsa's greatest booms also began during his administration, the promise of an abundant supply of pure drinking water. Working on his theory that pure water from Spavinaw Lake, if properly channeled, would flow by gravity to Tulsa, Evans retained George W. Geothals, chief engineer of the construction of the Panama Canal. Evans created Tulsa's first Water Commission.

The Gillette District enjoys a cohesive spirit promoted through the Gillette Historic District Association. The Gillette Historic District Association. The Gillette Historic District Association is unique to Tulsa in that it was formed (April, 1979) specifically to coordinate proservation activities within its neighborhood and to provide research assistance in the preparation of the nomination of the district to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Tulsa Historic Preservation Office surveyed the area in 1978. A review committee of national, state, and local preservation experts determined in June, 1978 that the Gillette District met the Department of Interior criteria for Historic Preservation District designation. The Gillette Historic District was named to the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory on January 18, 1979.

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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



Continuation sheet 8

Item number 9

Page 1

Major Bibliographical References

Douglas, C. B., History of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Vol. III, 1922

"Gillette Historic District News", July 1, 1979

Oral History Interview, Miriam E. Morrison, Tulsa County Historical Society,
June 12, 1979

Oral History Interview, Velma Hopping Filley, Tulsa County Historical Society,
June 14, 1979

Oral History Interview, John B. McGay, Gillette Historic District Association,
July 7, 1979

Oral History Interview, Lois Dow Bonnell, Gillette Historic District Association,
July 1, 1979

Presenting Greater Tulsa, October 1923

The Tulsa Spirit, March 1925

Tulsa Daily World, Sunday, October 28, 1923

The Junior League, Carol Newton Johnson, Tulsa Art Deco, 1980

The Tulsa Society Register, 1937

The Tulsa Historic Preservation Plan Report, 1980

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Continuation sheet 9

Item number 10

Page 1

Beginning at a point located at the Northwest corner of the property known as 2130 East 15th Street, then south along the east curb of S. Yorktown Place 229 feet, then west crossing S. Yorktown Place, along the north line of the property known as 1526 S. Yorktown place to a point at the northwest corner of aforementioned property. From this point south 631 feet along the west property lines of the properties on the west side of S. Yorktown Place to a point at the southwest corner of the property known as 1568 S. Yorktown Place. From this point, east along the north curb of 17th Street, crossing S. Yorktown Place, crossing S. Gillette Street to a point, southeast corner of the property known as 1565 South Gillette Street then north along the east property lines of all properties facing South Gillette Street to a point located at the northeast corner of the property known as 1507 South Gillette Avenue. Then west along the north line of the property known as 1507 South Gillette Street to the east curb of South Gillette Street, then south 36.6 feet. Then across S. Gillette, along the north line of the property known as 1514 S. Gillette to a point located at the northwest corner of aforementioned property. Then north 100 feet to the south curb of 15th street, the west along the curb to the beginning point.

E. 15TH ST.

J.M. GILLETTE HOUSE

MODEL HOME 1923

S. YORKTOWN PL.

S. GILLETTE AV.

J.D. MCGAY HOUSE

E. 17TH ST.







GILLETTE HISTORIC DISTRICT

150' = 1"

△ REFER. TO LIST OF HOMES FOR STYLE AND DESCRIPTION.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

-  BRICK
-  STUCCO
-  FRAME
-  ROCK

NOTE! CHARE INDICATES BUILDING MATERIALS ONLY. NUMBER INDICATED NUMBER OF STORIES

AUG 10 1982

GILLETTE Historic District
Tulsa, OKLAHOMA



- 1920-1929
- 1930-1939
- 1940-1941

FIFTEENTH STREET

SOUTH YORKTOWN AVENUE

SOUTH YORKTOWN PLACE

SOUTH GILLETTE STREET

SOUTH LEWIS AVENUE

VACANT LOT

SEVENTEENTH STREET

MAR 29 1982