

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received **OCT 14 1982**
date entered

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

1. Name

historic George L. Wright House
and/or common 831 North Minter Street

2. Location

street & number 831 North Minter Street n/a not for publication
city, town Santa Ana n/a vicinity of
state California 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name French Park Investment Group, Minter Street Investment Group, Historic Bldg., Inv. Grp.
street & number 2269 32nd Street
city, town Santa Monica n/a vicinity of state California 90405

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office, County of Orange
street & number 630 North Broadway
city, town Santa Ana state California 92701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Santa Ana Historic Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1979 federal state county local
depository for survey records State Office of Historic Preservation, P.O. Box 2390
city, town Sacramento state California 95811

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

Situated adjacent to French Park, the George L. Wright house is a large (38' X 66') two story, wood frame building of the Western Stick, or Craftsman, style. It was originally built as a triplex. The spacious ground floor unit, which was occupied by the owner, has an informal plan, as do the two upstairs units. The upstairs units divide the second floor into two halves perpendicular to the street facade. The ground floor has a veranda that extends across the entire front. Above it there are two sleeping porches for the upstairs units. The use of exposed structural timbers for decorative effect is repeated in the gabled porticos of the front and side entries, multiple lookout beams, exposed rafter tails, and deep barge rafters. The front elevation is symmetrical with the large porch openings framed by brick supports and wood beams on the first floor and with a central arched opening flanked by a pair of wide openings with radiused corners and square posts on the second. A heavy timbered portico projects from the facade plane. The principal side elevation shows the low sloped gable roof with broad eaves which creates great height since the ridge runs with the short axis of the plan. The rear elevation has two gables, one projecting ahead of the other. Overall the effect is horizontal and emphasized by the bevel siding of the first floor, the uniform rows of shingles with a slightly flared skirt of the second story, and the moulding bands at the plate lines. The wide eaves, deep porches, and the breaking up of long planes by bays and porticos create dramatic shadow patterns associated with the Western Stick style. On the other hand, the few curved elements soften an otherwise vigorous Craftsman treatment.

The living room is entered directly through a beveled, eight-light pocket door. This room has a large, curved crown moulding around its perimeter which also incorporates indirect lighting. Typical Craftsman openness of space is seen in the division of the living and dining rooms by means of heavy square posts over built-in bookcases, open at the top. Throughout the house, stained wood of stock sizes is used abundantly in wide trim mouldings, wainscoting and plate rails, built-in sideboards, desks and dressers. Detailing is straightforward. Windows are double hung and square, with the exception of the six or eight light casements in the living rooms of both floors. In the rear bedrooms, there are vertically sliding pocket windows which disappear into the lower part of the wall. In the den, there is a Murphy bed with a beveled glass mirror. The bay window of the dining room is a departure from the usual rectilinearity of this style. The downstairs bath has been remodeled (1950s).

The house occupies a large corner lot. No other buildings occupy the site. One landscaping feature is a seventy foot cedar tree in the rear yard.

Exterior alterations are minimal. Two rear porches have been screened; otherwise, the exterior design remains completely intact. The building is undergoing rehabilitation and conversion into three condominium units. Some interior walls are being rearranged, especially on the second floor where the former side-by-side arrangement of the two units is being changed to front-and-back. The primary spaces, however, are being retained and restored.

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 1913 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This structure, built in 1913, is the largest and most impressive remaining example of the Craftsman style in the Santa Ana area. In excellent condition, the principal elevations and major rooms have not been altered or remodeled. The house has local significance for its architectural value and for its association with an important local citizen, George L. Wright. Wright arrived in Santa Ana before the real estate boom of 1885–89. At first a carpenter, Wright later went into trucking. He and his wife, Emma, lived on the property for many years prior to building this house. In the 1901 City Directory, they are listed at this address, with George Wright's occupation listed as a truckman. Wright developed his own moving business, known as Wright & Dunkin Transfer and Storage Company, which grew to be the largest in the area. Active in the community, he served on the city council from 1902 to 1906. During his term of office, a new City Hall was built, the streets were paved and the waterworks extended.

The Wright House is a good example of Craftsman architectural styling, popular in Santa Ana in the 1910's. A review of the city's historical and architectural resources inventory indicates that this structure is the most imposing of the numerous local residences in the style. The impressive scale and quality of design of the new house in a popular architectural fashion of the time gives some indication of Wright's newly acquired social and economic success in the local community. The building replaced an earlier 1890's cottage occupied by the Wrights on the same site.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Armor, Samuel, History of Orange County, California, 1921, pg. 664
Swanner, Charles, History of Santa Ana, Pg. 144
J.M. Guinn, Historical and Biographical Record of Southern California, 1902, pg. 675
Survey form, Santa Ana Historic Survey, 1979

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .126 ac.
Quadrangle name Tustin Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>1</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>3</u> <u>7</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>8</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	B	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone Easting Northing
C	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	D	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
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Verbal boundary description and justification House occupies its original 52' x 106' parcel. Lots 1 and 2 and the Northwesterly 2.00 feet of Lot 3 in Block 83 of Santa Ana East, as per Map recorded in Book 10, Page 43 of Misc. Maps in the Office of the County Recorder, excepting therefrom the Northeasterly 44.00 feet.

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

state	n/a	code	county	n/a	code
state	n/a	code	county	n/a	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title W. Brock Chappell

organization n/a date February 1982

street & number 831 North Minter Street telephone (714) 541-5723

city Santa Ana state California

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 *W. Brock Chappell* 9/29/82

title State Historic Preservation Officer date September 29, 1982

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register Entered in the National Register

John D. Alloune Byrum
Keeper of the National Register

date 11/12/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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1209	1230
1207	1224
	1218
	1216
	1116
	1112
	1108
1105	1104
1025	1102
1019	1016
1013-17	1014
1016-13	
1009	1006
1009	1002

1235	406	410	420
1229			
1227		1218	
1225		1214	
1109	419		
1107			
1101			

500

George L. Wright House
 831 N. Minter Street
 Santa Ana, CA

