

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 29 1980

DEC 1 1980

DATE ENTERED

**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

Judge Louis Gates House

AND/OR COMMON

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

4146 Cambridge St.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Kansas City

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF No. 3, Larry Winn, Jr.

STATE

Kansas 66103

CODE

20

COUNTY

Wyandotte

CODE

209

**CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Maxine Harman

STREET & NUMBER

4146 Cambridge

CITY, TOWN

Kansas City

VICINITY OF

Kansas 66103

STATE

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Wyandotte County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Kansas City

STATE

Kansas 66103

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 Judge Louis Gates residence is a two-story Prairie School design with a hip roof, wide overhanging eaves, and a side entrance porch. The house faces east and the garage, which is below the porch, is entered from the rear. The Gates house is located approximately in the center of a block of single family homes dating from 1910-1950. These are generally attractive and well-maintained, but stylistically unrelated.

The main block of the Gates house is 25 feet wide and 38 feet long with a one-story extension (7 feet x 15 feet) to the west. A breakfast room and rear entry are located in this area. The rest of the first floor is occupied by the kitchen, dining room, and living room. There are three bedrooms and a bathroom on the second floor. The stairs are located in the center of the north side of the house.

At the second floor level, the exterior face of the stair landing projects two feet from the wall. There is an entrance below this overhang and a chimney beside it in the northwest corner of the house. A wide central chimney rising from the living room fireplace emerges just west of the roof peak.

The Gates house is a frame structure with stuccoed walls, stone foundation, and 1½-story stone pylons at the lower front corners of the building. The side porch is supported on stone pillars and the retaining walls protecting the entrance to the garage are made of stone. Wall surfaces, the porch railing, and buttresses were laid up in broken ashlar bond. The pylons at the corners and the porch columns were laid up in range bond. There are brick caps on the pylons, pillars, front window sill, and chimneys. The Exterior walks, steps and the side porch floors are made of brick.

Between the pylons which bracket the front facade, there are two banks of six windows with horizontal muntins. The row of second-story windows overhangs the lower row. These windows are trimmed with broad wooden mouldings of cypress or redwood painted brown. The sill board of the second-story windows is carried like a horizontal band around the house. The landing projection is also trimmed with wood.

There is a 3½ foot roof overhang. The soffit is stuccoed like the upper exterior walls. Curved gutters at three corners of the house provide necessary drainage, but also add a decorative element to the simple lines of the house. The roof itself is covered with wood shingles.

### Alterations

Although the exterior of the Gates House is remarkably unaltered, metal storm windows have been installed and the garage has been slightly enlarged. The interior of the house has been extensively remodeled.

# 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

1922-23

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Clarence

Shepard

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1922-23, the Judge Gates residence is a pristine example of Prairie School residential design adapted to the small suburban house lot. It was designed by Clarence E. Shepard, who enjoyed an extensive residential design practice in the Kansas City metropolitan area. The house is associated with Judge Louis Gates, who was remembered in Wyandotte County as "one of the great lawyers of his day."

The Gates residence is a relatively late example of Prairie School design. Architect Clarence Shepard had studied at the University of California beginning in 1895. He opened his office in Kansas City in 1907. During his active years as an architect, he designed more than six hundred homes in the Country Club and Mission Hills districts. These houses represent a wide range of the fashionable styles used during the period.

By the time Shepard designed the Gates house--more than five years after what H. Allen Brooks has called the "climactic years" of Prairie School design--the character of Prairie School architecture was available to him as one of several possible design idioms. The Gates house resembles Prairie School designs that began to appear after 1914 which Vincent Scully has described as "more upstanding, cubical, somewhat more heavily closed and enclosing forms."

The Gates residence exhibits most of the visual characteristics identified with the Prairie School: use of natural materials, precise angular forms, deep eaves and continuous horizontals punctuated by short verticals. The cross-axial plan around a fireplace mass and the interwoven interior spaces of the most innovative Prairie School designs were also features of Shepard's plan for the Gates house.

Certainly, the Judge Gates house also imitates what Scully identified as Frank Lloyd Wright's mastery of "the American grid and its rectangular plots." Like Wright, Shepard utilized features that make a home on a small lot private and compact without unnecessary complication or artifice. The side entrance also functions as a secluded porch. The garage is contained beneath the porch, making room at the rear of the house for a service yard.

When the house was completed in 1923, Louis Gates was serving in the legislature

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See attached Sheet)

## ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

### 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

### UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

QUADRANGLE NAME Kansas City Missouri

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 360805 4323520

B                 
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C               

D               

E               

F               

G               

H               

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 5, Robbins Addition, Wyandotte, County, Kansas.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

### 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Julie A. Wortman, Architectural Historian and Dale Nimz  
Historic Preservation Department

ORGANIZATION Ks. State Historical Society DATE 10-1-80

STREET & NUMBER 120 West 10th TELEPHONE 913 296-3251

CITY OR TOWN Topeka STATE Kansas 66612

### 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL      STATE      LOCAL X

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

TITLE Executive Director, Ks. State Historical Society DATE 10-14-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

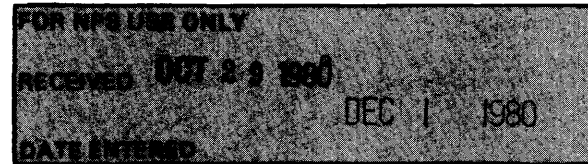
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12-1-80

ATTEST:      DATE     

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

1

as a representative from Rosedale. He had received his law degree from the University of Michigan. Gates was admitted to the bar of Kansas, Missouri, and Michigan in 1910. After World War I, he opened an office in Kansas City, Kansas and "remained a sole practitioner during most of his active years as an attorney."

The most notable achievements of Gates' career followed in the twenty years after construction of his home. From 1925 to 1929, he was the judge of City Court. Then he was Wyandotte County counsellor for a year. He was president of the Kansas City, Kansas Chamber of Commerce in 1931 and president of the local bar association in 1937. From 1938-1943, Gates was a referee in United States bankruptcy hearings. After his death, Gates was praised for his exemplary dedication to the legal profession and for his personal integrity.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO FUTURE AMENDMENT.

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ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

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**Bibliography:**

Blueprints and specifications: Judge Louis Gates residence. (1922-23) Building #484.

Kansas City Star. Shepard obituary. 5-1-1949.

Memorial-Judge Louis Gates. District Court: Wyandotte County. 5-25-1963.

Prairie School Architecture: Studies from the 'Western Architect'  
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Scully, Vincent. "American Houses: Thomas Jefferson to Frank Lloyd Wright,"  
in The Rise of an American Architecture. ed. Edgar Kaufmann, Jr.  
(New York: Praeger Publishers, 1970).