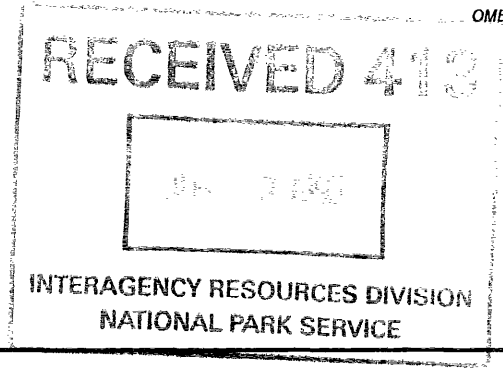


**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**



**1. Name of Property**

historic name: SWINDALL TOURIST INN

other name/site number: J.B. STEYAERT HOUSE

**2. Location**

street & number: 1021 E. Washington Street N/A not for publication  
city/town: Phoenix N/A vicinity  
state: Arizona code: AZ county: Maricopa code: 013 zip code: 85034

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation for additional comments).

Julia N. Cowman AZSAPD 12 JULY 95

Signature of certifying official ARIZONA STATE PARKS Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. 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
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Edson H. Beall      9/7/95

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property** (Check only one box)

- building (s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing).

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

Historic: DOMESTIC      Sub: Single Dwelling  
DOMESTIC      Hotel

Current: VACANT      Sub: Not in use

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification:

Bungalow/Craftsman

Other Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Materials: foundation Stucco roof Asphalt  
walls Stucco other Wood  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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### 8. Statement of Significance

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**Applicable National Register Criteria** (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations** (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B. removed from its original location.
- C. a birthplace or a grave.
- D. a cemetery.
- E. a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F. a commemorative property.
- G. less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance: ETHNIC HERITAGE/Black

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: 1920 - 1944

Significant Dates : \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person(s): N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Steyaert Brothers

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

\_\_\_\_\_ State historic preservation office  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other state agency  
\_\_\_\_\_ Federal agency  
\_\_\_\_\_ Local government  
\_\_\_\_\_ University  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreage of Property** less than one acre

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing

A 12 401610 3701270 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description**(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Name/Title: Robert G. Graham, AIA/Architect, Douglas E. Kupel/Consulting Historian

Organization: Ryden Architects Date: September 1994

Street & Number: 645 N. 4th Ave. #A Telephone: 602/253-5381

City or Town: Phoenix State: AZ ZIP: 85003

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets****Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **Black and White photographs** of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Desert Mashie Golf Club

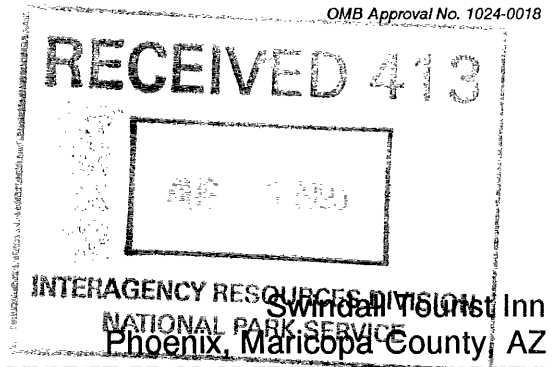
street & number P.O. Box 17882 telephone 602/470-0474

city or town Phoenix state AZ zip code 85011

United States Department of the Interior  
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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

#### SUMMARY

The Swindall Tourist Inn, built originally as a residence in 1913, is a 1-1/2 story Bungalow Style house of stuccoed brick construction with an intersecting gable roof and roughly rectangular plan. The interior remains largely unaltered, with wooden cabinets, trim, and other features which are typical of the Bungalow Style. It is placed on an urban residential parcel along East Washington Street near downtown Phoenix. It was converted from a single-family residence to a boarding house in 1920, and in 1950 a second-story expansion was made to the rear to accommodate additional rooms. Since it was built, the area along East Washington Street has been substantially redeveloped with modern commercial structures. This house is one of very few intact historic residences left along this major thoroughfare. With the sole exception of the unobtrusive addition, the house retains a remarkable measure of its original features, both inside and outside.

#### DESCRIPTION

The house is set on a 148-foot by 50-foot parcel along East Washington Street. The parcel is a part of Murphy's Addition to the City of Phoenix. While Washington Street, both east and west of the 1872 Phoenix townsite, was originally developed with fine homes, today most original houses within a mile or so of the townsite have been demolished and the parcels redeveloped with modern commercial buildings. Adjacent parcels on either side of the Swindall House are typical examples.

The rectangular site has no other structures in addition to the house itself. A wood-post-and-wire-mesh fence defines the north property line, bordering Washington Street. A simple concrete walk leads from the street to the front porch. The house is centered on the lot, about forty feet from Washington Street. There is little mature landscaping. The back yard is barren. The house's footprint is roughly rectangular, and a small concrete parking slab abuts the building on the south side.

With the exception of a second-story addition in the rear, the exterior of the house appears much the way it did the day it was built. The medium-pitched roof is a cross-gable form, with a front gable extending out over a full-width veranda porch. As is typical for homes of the Bungalow Style, the rafters at the wide eaves are left exposed and are supported by decorative wooden knee braces. The brick exterior walls and gable ends are covered in a heavily-textured spatter-and-dash stucco. The entry facade is more or less symmetrical; a central entry door is flanked by wide double-hung windows, and the gable dormer sports a central tripartite window with decorative wood balcony. Other decorative details include cast stone urns atop piers flanking the porch steps, and cast stone brackets at the top of each segmentally-arched door and window head at the facade.

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The veranda porch is reached up a short run of three steps from the entry walk. The porch is spanned by a wide, wooden arch supported by a pair of tapered elephantine columns. The perimeter of the eight-foot-wide porch is defined by a continuous low seat wall with a concrete cap. The original wooden entry door remains in place. It is a six-light french door, with three small square lights over three tall, thin lights, all glazed with bevelled glass. Windows throughout the house are of a simple, single-light design whether casement or double-hung.

East and west sides of the house face narrow side-yards. Windows relating to the interior room arrangement punctuate the side elevations. Large roof gables on each side feature central double-hung wood windows which provide light to second-story rooms.

The full width of the rear of the house was originally enclosed by a screen porch, most of which has since been filled in with wooden siding. The second-story expansion of the house, dating to 1950, was constructed over this screen porch. The addition is confined to the back slope of the house's main gable, so little is visible from the street. The roof of the addition is close to flat, sloping gradually to the rear of the house and terminating in a shallow overhang. The wood-frame walls are sheathed in stucco, and windows are one-over-one double-hung wood windows.

The interior of the house also has a high degree of integrity. Except for minor changes to the screen porch, the first floor plan is unaltered. The main entry opens into a large sitting room separated from the dining area by a wooden colonnade. A large brick fireplace flanked by wooden seats and small casement windows dominates one end of the room. Glass-doored cabinets are built into the bases of the wood columns on each side of the passage into the dining area. Maple floors are found in both rooms.

The dining area is large and open. A pass-through china cabinet with glass doors is built into the wall between the dining area and the kitchen. All the woodwork in the dining and living areas carries the original dark stain and varnish.

While the kitchen has many original features, such as painted wood cabinets, some modernization has taken place. Cabinets have been placed over a window which looked on to the rear screen porch. The original wood stove has been removed and replaced with a modern appliance.

While the living, dining, and kitchen areas take up the eastern half of the house, three bedrooms line the west wall. The north bedroom is accessed from the living area, an inconvenient layout which is nevertheless typical of Bungalow Style homes in Phoenix. The other two bedrooms are reached through a short hallway leading from the dining area, which also connects to the house's only original bathroom. Two of the bedrooms are provided with built-in closets, while the third had a direct connection to the rear screen porch, now filled in.

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Swindall Tourist Inn  
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The rear screen porch appears to have been divided into at least two parts, each with its own exterior door. Near the center of the porch is a narrow stairway down to the cellar, a small, concrete-lined room which was left open to the crawlspace and which mainly housed the furnace.

A stair from the hallway leads to the second floor rooms. Three of these rooms appear to have been original to the house, each occupying one of the three roof gables. The rear expansion of the second floor provided four additional rooms and a bathroom, all added to the rear of the original three rooms. It may have replaced a rear gable. The addition has not changed appreciably since it was built. All rooms, both original and of the addition, are reached from a central stairwell/hallway.

**CONDITION**

The house is not well-maintained, and presently requires a great deal of repair. Many windows have been boarded up to eliminate break-ins and vandalism, as the house is unoccupied most of the time.

**ARCHAEOLOGY**

The site has not been evaluated for the presence of archaeological resources. The site is in an area known to have been populated by Hohokam Indians hundreds of years ago; thus, the presence of prehistoric resources is a possibility.

**CONTRIBUTING ELEMENTS**

The Swindall Tourist Inn is the only site element. It is classified as a contributor.



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Swindall Tourist Inn  
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**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

**SUMMARY**

The Swindall House, constructed in 1913, is significant under National Register Criterion "A" as an example of public accommodations for Blacks in Phoenix during an era of segregation. Originally constructed as the private home for the Steyaert family, by 1920 Mrs. Steyaert began to take in Black boarders. A widow, Mrs. Steyaert rented furnished rooms in the home as a way to supplement her income. Located in an area of Phoenix that was home to many Black residents, Mrs. Steyaert provided needed housing for Blacks at a time when public accommodations in Phoenix were segregated. In 1940 Golden and Elvira Swindall purchased the home and continued to use it as a boarding house for Blacks. The Swindall House served an important function as a temporary residence for Black visitors to Phoenix and as such is significantly associated with the broad pattern of segregation in American history. The period of significance for the purpose of this National Register nomination begins in 1920 when Mrs. Steyaert began to take in Black boarders and ends in 1945. Although segregation did not end in 1945, the end of World War II represents the start of a twenty year struggle to end the practice of race discrimination as returning Black veterans began to lobby for equal treatment. The Swindall House continued to provide needed housing for Blacks until well after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which outlawed discrimination in public accommodations.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE**

The Swindall House was constructed for Matilda Steyaert who arrived in Phoenix in 1897. Joannes Baptiste and Matilda Steyaert were born in Belgium and arrived in the United States in 1890. The couple first settled in Canada, but soon moved to Michigan and then Wisconsin. It may be that health reasons prompted the move to Arizona, but it proved too late for Mr. Steyaert and the couple's eldest child, a daughter named Mary. J. B. Steyaert died in July of 1897 and Matilda buried her twelve year old daughter Mary in the pioneer cemetery of Phoenix in November of 1897. At this time Mrs. Steyaert had six other children to support, all boys, ranging in age from one to eleven years.

By 1905 the Steyaert family settled in the vicinity of east Jefferson street in Phoenix, residing first at 1115 E. Jefferson and then at 1033 E. Jefferson. The Steyaert boys worked as laborers and teamsters to help put food on the table. By 1913 the oldest son, Emil J. left home to seek his fortune as a miner, but the rest of the boys advanced their careers in Phoenix. That same year, second and third sons August B. and Benjamin P. landed good jobs as firemen for the Arizona Eastern Railroad and fourth son Joseph J. worked for the A&E RR as a coppersmith. Fifth and sixth sons Frank P. and Medard T. (Max) worked as carpenters.

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Swindall Tourist Inn  
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With all of her boys embarked on their careers and beginning to earn good wages, Mrs. Steyaert began to think of a permanent home. On December 10, 1912, she purchased Lot six in Block eight of Murphy's Addition to Phoenix from P. A. and Alma Grace Theraldson. Son Gus recorded the deed on February 11, 1913. The Steyaerts soon started construction on the house, and the Steyaert boys helped to keep costs down by completing much of the labor themselves. All of the boys were skilled in the engineering trades, particularly carpentry. Although deteriorated, the building today still shows signs of the master carpentry skills of the Steyaert boys, especially in cabinetry. As the Steyaerts remained a close family, the house contained plenty of bedrooms for each of the boys. Completed in late 1913, by 1915 five boys lived at the house along with their widowed mother.

By 1920 the Steyaert boys began to marry, leave home, and start families of their own. Mrs. Steyaert, needing an income of her own, began to rent out rooms in the house to boarders. It may well be that the house was designed with this in mind, as it was common for widow ladies to take in boarders as a means to supplement their income. With its large bed rooms, kitchen, and dining room, the building was well suited as a boarding house. Mrs. Steyaert rented the rooms on a furnished basis and provided meals. Mrs. Steyaert was non-discriminatory in her rentals and she provided needed housing to the Black Phoenix visitor. The availability of the property as a boarding house for Blacks was disseminated through the "grapevine," an informal network of communication used by Blacks. Mrs. Steyaert did not advertise the property in Black newspapers, but instead relied on referrals. Because of discrimination practiced by the Anglo population, which controlled the economy of Phoenix, word quickly passed in the Black community about the location of public accommodations such as Mrs. Steyaert's where Blacks were welcome.

Mrs. Steyaert continued to operate her boarding house through the 1920s and early 1930s, but by the mid-1930s her health began to fail. On March 29, 1938, she gave the property to her son Emil J. Steyaert, and son Medard T. Steyaert and his wife Helen. Mrs. Steyaert then moved in with Medard (Max) and Helen. Mrs. Steyaert died on July 27, 1941.

The Steyaert family had little interest in running the boarding house, since they all had careers and families of their own. They decided to sell the property. On June 13, 1940, Emil, Max, and Helen transferred their interest in the property to Golden and Elvira Swindall.

Golden Swindall was born in Luther, Oklahoma on February 16, 1903. The son of Ras Swindall and Mary Carter Swindall, Golden met and married Elvira Turner, a native of Guthrie, Oklahoma, also born in 1903. The Swindalls arrived in Phoenix in 1937 and Golden found employment as a janitor for the Valley Bank. The Swindalls lived in several locations in the Jefferson neighborhood, including 1142 E. Jefferson, and 9 S. 15th Street, before purchasing the boarding house at 1021 E. Washington in 1940. The Swindalls are remembered today as devoted, church-going people. Golden Swindall was a deacon in the First Institutional Baptist Church and Elvira was a deaconess.

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Swindall Tourist Inn  
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The Swindalls continued the use of the property as a boarding house for Blacks. In 1950, spurred by a need for additional housing caused by the post-War boom and the continuing Cold War, the Swindalls expanded the number of rooms in the building by constructing an addition to the second floor. On December 12, 1950 Golden Swindall received a building permit to spend \$4,000 to add bedrooms to the second floor of the building. In December of 1958, he added a carport to the rear of the property. The Swindall Tourist House was an on-going, successful business for the Swindalls since they first purchased the property in 1940. It offered a friendly and home-like atmosphere to Blacks who boarded overnight or visited the Salt River Valley as winter tourists.

The Swindalls continued to run their boarding house through the 1970s and the 1980s. The business provided additional income to the Swindalls, although Golden continued to work as a custodian. It also continued to provide a temporary home for Black visitors to Phoenix. Golden Swindall died on July 2, 1989 and Elvira passed away on January 7, 1990. The Swindall House lapsed into disrepair as the estate went through probate. By 1993 the City of Phoenix issued a notice of contractual enforcement for the deteriorating conditions on the property. On July 21, 1993, the Swindall House was acquired by the members of the Desert Mashie golf club who plan to preserve the building.

**HISTORIC CONTEXT - Public Accommodations for Blacks in Phoenix, 1920-1945**

The Swindall House is named after Golden and Elvira Swindall who purchased the property in 1940 and advertised it as the "Swindall Tourist House," a boarding house for Blacks. Constructed in the predominantly Black Jefferson Street neighborhood of Phoenix in 1913 by the Steyaert family, the large home had been operated since 1920 as an boarding house for Blacks by Matilda Steyaert who rented furnished rooms in the building. Prior to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, public accommodations in Phoenix and Arizona were segregated and Blacks were not permitted to register at downtown hotels or tourist resorts. Black visitors to Phoenix stayed at locations such as the Swindall House in Black neighborhoods when business took them to Arizona's capitol city. As such, the Swindall House is representative of an era of segregation in public accommodations. The Swindall House is the only known surviving Black boarding house in Phoenix. Although its use was necessitated by the negative and discriminatory policy of segregation, the Swindall House provided a needed service to Black visitors and residents of Phoenix.

By 1920 Mrs. Steyaert converted the family home into a boarding house. This change came during a period of rapid influx of Blacks to Phoenix and a corresponding shortage in housing and public accommodations. The decade from 1910 to 1920 witnessed a doubling of the Black population in Phoenix, which rose from 328 to 1,075. Although by 1920 Blacks comprised only 3.7 per cent of the Phoenix population, the population increase for Blacks themselves since 1910 was a startling 227 per cent. The influx of Blacks during this decade made these individuals targets for discrimination at the hands of the

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Swindall Tourist Inn  
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Anglo majority. In the aftermath of World War I, Phoenix and the nation experienced a wave of ethnic violence as evidenced by the rise of the Ku Klux Klan in Phoenix and Tucson from 1921 to 1925. These were difficult years for agriculture in the Salt River Valley, as prices for cotton crops had dropped since the end of the World War, and since many of the recent migrants came from agricultural areas of the South and the Texas Panhandle to work the cotton crop, the resulting competition for fewer jobs meant increased discrimination towards Blacks.

Discrimination was most evident in housing and public accommodations. As Phoenix developed a series of residential subdivisions outside the city center in the 1920s, the developers of the subdivisions included restrictive covenants in the deeds to the houses. Homes could not be sold to those other than Anglos. In 1924, the Phoenix Board of Real Estate adopted a code of ethics which stated that real estate agents should "never be instrumental in introducing into a neighborhood .. members of any race, or nationality, or individuals ... detrimental to property values in that neighborhood." Lenders supported the segregation of housing as well, by refusing to issue mortgage loans to Blacks in white neighborhoods. Public accommodations followed this same pattern. Blacks were not allowed to stay at the hotels of downtown Phoenix and at tourist hotels such as the Westward Ho. If they had the audacity to attempt to register, they were turned away to seek shelter in hotels and rooming houses which catered to Blacks.

As a result of segregation in housing and discrimination in public accommodations, Black neighborhoods developed in Phoenix. Two centers of Black population emerged by the 1920s, the first bounded by Central Avenue on the west, by 16th Street on the east, by Madison Street on the north and East Buckeye Road on the south. Known as the "Jefferson" neighborhood, this area was the original location for Black settlement in Phoenix and tended to be the home for professional and middle income Blacks. A second Black neighborhood developed west of downtown Phoenix, bounded on the east by 7th Avenue, on the west by 17th Avenue, by Madison Street on the north and by West Buckeye Road on the south. Known as the "Washington" neighborhood, this location was home to more recent migrants who were often of a lower socio-economic group than the first wave of black immigrants to the Salt River Valley.

The segregated neighborhoods gave rise to a wide variety of Black cultural institutions. Most noteworthy among these was George Washington Carver High School, constructed as Phoenix Union Colored High School in 1926. The high school, constructed at 4th and Grant streets between the two main Black neighborhoods, served Black students from throughout Phoenix. Another important Black cultural institution was the church, and three were influential in the Jefferson neighborhood. These were the African Methodist Episcopal Church at 2nd and Jefferson Streets, the Colored Baptist Church at 5th and Jefferson Streets, and the First Institutional Baptist Church, whose members first met in a home at 21 E. Madison. Dr. Winston C. Hackett established the Brooker T. Washington Memorial Hospital at 1342 E. Jefferson in the 1920s to meet the health care needs of the Black community. Eastlake Park, the first of two parks dedicated for use by Blacks, is located at 16th Street and Jefferson. It was the site of a community celebration in 1911 when Brooker T. Washington visited Phoenix.

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Along with the cultural institutions, the Jefferson neighborhood became the site for public accommodations for Blacks visiting Phoenix. Barred from downtown hotels and tourist hotels that catered to whites, black hotels and rooming houses were established in the Jefferson neighborhood for Blacks. Like many other residents of Arizona, Blacks often visited the capitol city on business and needed a place to stay. Black entertainers and sports figures, who passed through the Salt River Valley on tour, found accommodation in the Jefferson neighborhood. In the 1920s, the prominent location for Black lodging was the St. Louis Hotel at 605 E. Jefferson. In the 1930s the Rice Hotel at 535 E. Jefferson provided the same service. Because these hotels had limited accommodations, many Blacks stayed in boarding houses such as the Gardener Home at 1229 E. Washington, which advertised in the *Phoenix Index*, a Black newspaper. Other Blacks stayed in less formal accommodations, such as the Swindall House which did not advertise in newspapers. Mrs. Steyaert rented furnished rooms to Blacks travelling through Phoenix. Since these individuals were barred from obtaining lodging elsewhere, boarding houses such as the one run by Mrs. Steyaert served an important need for Blacks visiting Phoenix. Because of the shortage in lodging for Blacks, when singer Marian Anderson toured Phoenix in 1940, she stayed at the home of the concert promoter, Mrs. Archie Linde. The development of the Swindall House as accommodations for Blacks was a gradual process. After word got out that Mrs. Steyaert opened her doors to Blacks, their use of the property increased from occasional to frequent.

After Mrs. Steyaert took ill in 1938, she moved out of the home. The remaining family members had no desire to operate a boarding house and decided to sell the property. On June 13, 1940, Emil, Max, and Helen Steyaert transferred their interest in the property to Golden and Elvira Swindall.

Golden and Elvira Swindall represent a third wave of Black migrants to Phoenix. Migration in the 1930s was characterized by an influx of transplants from Texas and Oklahoma. Sometimes known as "Okies," these individuals were escaping the severe economic conditions caused by the depression and were seeking a new life in the west. Although many of these migrants came from agricultural backgrounds and settled in South Phoenix, others came from urban areas and preferred to reside in town. Golden and Elvira Swindall belonged to this latter category.

Phoenix during World War II and the immediate post-War era witnessed another large influx of Blacks. Soldiers came to the valley to train, and workers arrived to labor in war industries. These men brought their families with them and many decided to stay in Arizona. Although times had changed, segregation in housing and employment for Blacks had not. The war migrants continued to settle in the Washington and Jefferson neighborhoods of Phoenix. Because housing was scarce across the Salt River Valley, it was particularly limited in the small areas traditionally known as neighborhoods for Blacks. The conflict between the new Black migrants and Anglos in Phoenix is well documented by a war-time riot in 1941, spurred in part by simmering conflict over a lack of housing. Events such as this meant a continued need for Black accommodations in Phoenix.

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Swindall Tourist Inn  
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The Swindalls continued the use of the property as a boarding house for Blacks through 1945, the end of the period of significance for this National Register nomination. World War II was a watershed in American history, starting a chain of events that would eventually lead to a change in race relations in this country. Black soldiers, hardened by combat, came home with a new attitude and perspective. They would no longer tolerate second class treatment from the country they had fought to protect.

By the 1950s, race relations began to change in the United States and in Arizona. Spurred by the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954, Blacks began to break down the barriers of discrimination and segregation. The Phoenix Union School Board voted to end segregation in 1955 and in 1956 George Washington Carver High School was converted to office space as Black students took their seats in integrated classrooms. It took a bit longer to break down the barriers in public accommodations. In 1960 the Arizona Restaurant Association adopted an "open door" policy of serving everyone regardless of race, religion, or national origin. Still by 1962, Samuel Mardian, Jr., Mayor of Phoenix, noted that "private rental property is restrictive," meaning that owners of rental properties in Anglo areas did not rent to Blacks. The beginning of the end for discrimination in public accommodations came with the passage of the U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1964. This Federal legislation banned racial segregation in public places and outlawed job discrimination on the basis of race, religion, and national origin. It also set up the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Despite the presence of legislation at a national level that outlawed discrimination, it took a tremendous struggle for Blacks to translate the law into reality. The decade of the 1960s witnessed a long battle for civil rights, particularly in the South. In Phoenix, the struggle for civil rights was perhaps less visible but no less difficult. Records of the Arizona Civil Rights Commission document many cases of discrimination in public accommodations throughout the 1960s and early 1970s. In one such incident recorded in the files of the Commission, Oliver W. Luck, a scout for Major Sports Associates, was refused the rental of a trailer space in 1966 on account of his race. This was not an isolated incident and underscored the continuing need for Black boarding houses and hotels such as the one run by the Swindalls.

The events since 1945 represent the strong conviction by Blacks to free themselves from the era of segregation in public accommodations that came before it. The historic context study by Jackie Thul, *Blacks in Arizona From Early Settlement to 1990: A Historic Context Study*, prepared for the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office in 1990, identifies segregation in public accommodations as a major theme in the ethnic heritage of Blacks in Arizona. The Swindall House is an example of the response by the Black community to the practice of segregation. It is a significant example of the types of public accommodations used by Blacks in an era of segregation.

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Phoenix, Maricopa County, AZ

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Phoenix city directories, 1895-1945.

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U.S. Census records on microfilm, 1910 and 1920.

**II. City of Phoenix**

Building permits for 1021 E. Washington.

**III. Interviews**

Jackie Berry, Jr., Phoenix real estate agent.

Sherry Gresh, great grand-daughter of Matilda Steyaert.

A.G. Kendrick, former Pastor of First Institutional Baptist Church.

Jewell Varner, cousin of Golden Swindall.

**IV. Maricopa County Recorder's Office, Phoenix**

Book 102 of Deeds, page 184 (recorded February 11, 1913).

Book 343 of Deeds, page 451 (March 29, 1938).

Book 348 of Deeds, page 115 (June 13, 1940).

Book 11 of Marriages, page 209 (November 8, 1916).

Book 15 of Marriages, page 6 (May 19, 1917).

Book 18 of Marriages, page 84 (September 10, 1919).

Docket 90-171667, death certificate of Golden Swindall.



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### **VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

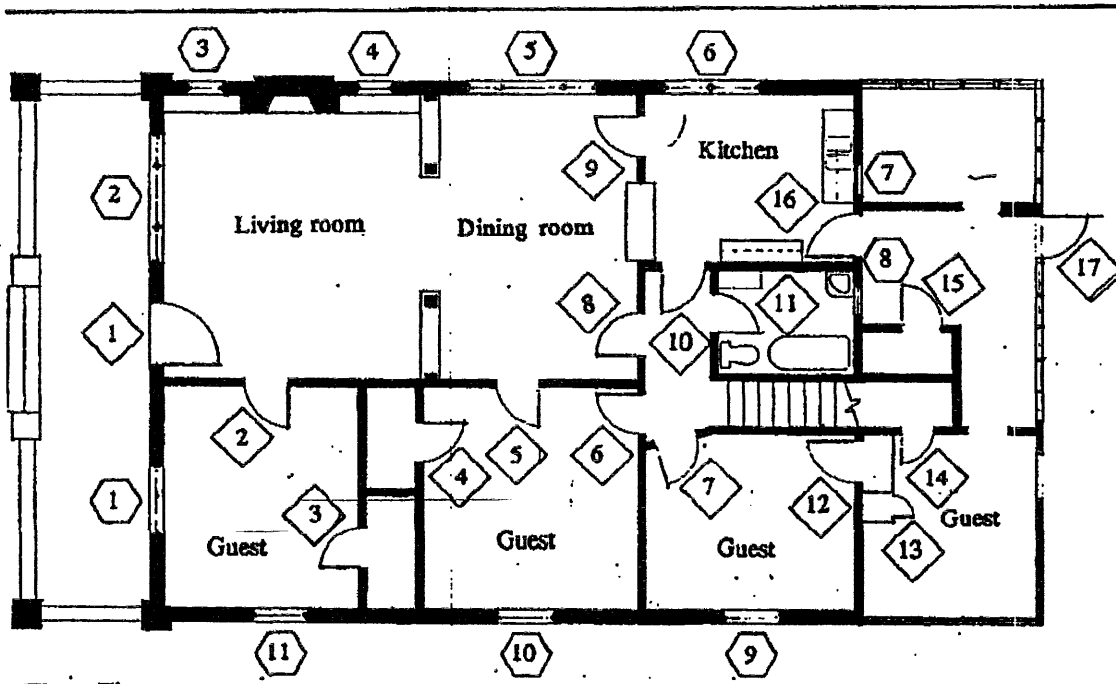
Lot 6, Block 8, Murphy's Addition to the City of Phoenix.

### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

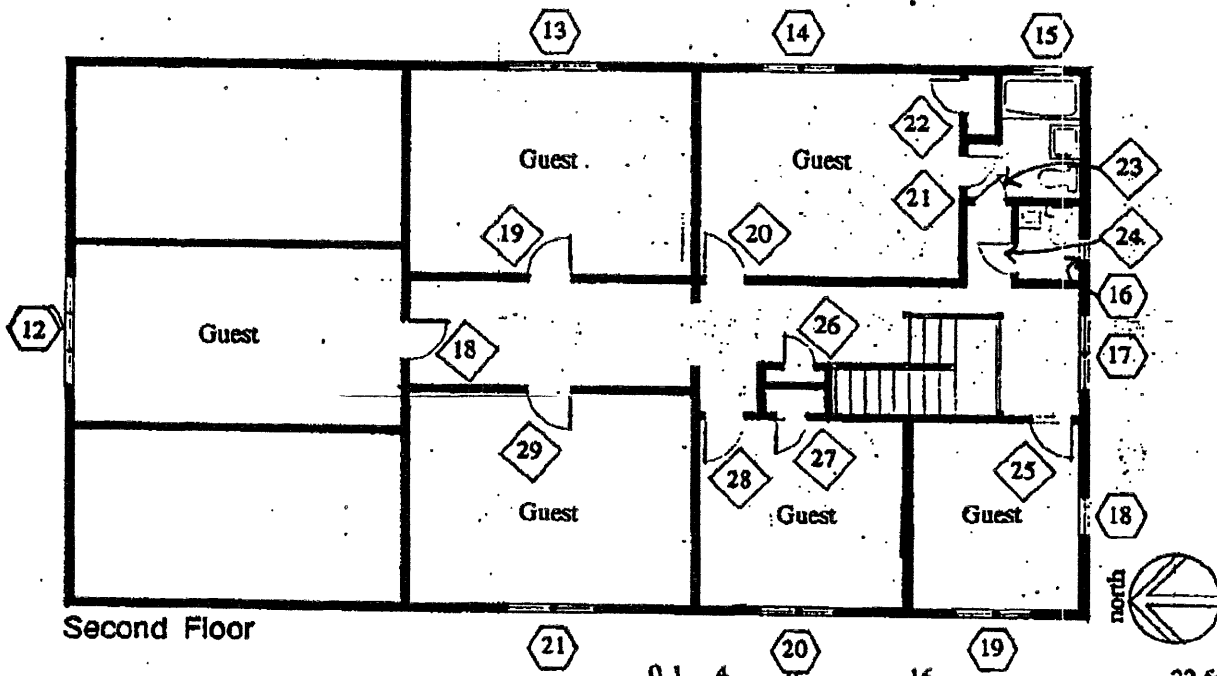
Boundary coincides with the historic and current property ownership.

**Photographer:** D. Parmiter  
**Date:** September, 1994  
**Location of Original Negatives:** Ryden Architects  
645 N. Fourth Avenue, Suite A  
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

<b>Photo #</b>	<b>View to</b>
1	SW
2	S
3	N

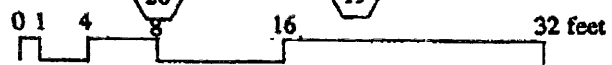


First Floor



Second Floor

Floor Plans



Site Plan

ALLEY

WASHINGTON

50 feet

0 5 10 20



Property Line

SEWER

SLAB



B

