

ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

HISTORIC PROPERTY NAME <i>Concrete Block House</i> ✓		COUNTY Maricopa ✓	INVENTORY NO. BPP-4 (S)
COMMON PROPERTY NAME		QUAD/COUNTY MAP Phoenix Quad	
PROPERTY LOCATION-STREET & NO. 640 North 6th Avenue ✓			
CITY, TOWN/VICINITY OF Phoenix ✓		ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 111-39-196	
OWNER OF PROPERTY Shegeki Takahashi & Patricia Godfrey		PHONE	
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX 3749 East Cholla			
CITY, TOWN Phoenix		STATE Arizona ✓	ZIP 85028
FORM PREPARED BY Gerald A. Doyle & Associates		DATE August 1982	
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX 4331 North 12th Street		PHONE 264-3082	
CITY, TOWN Phoenix		STATE Arizona	ZIP 85014
PHOTO BY Robert Graham		DATE July 1982	
VIEW Toward NW			
HISTORIC USE Single family residence			
PRESENT USE Single family residence		ACREAGE Less/Acre	
ARCHITECT/BUILDER			
CONSTRUCTION/MODIFICATION DATES Constructed ca. 1911			



PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

This vernacular Neoclassical cottage is square in plan with a cut-away porch. An asphalt-shingled, hipped roof with bellcast eaves covers the house. The roof features a bellcast, hipped dormer with a pair of louvered ventilators flanking what was once a glass light, now boarded. The dormer is faced with wood shingles. One-over-one, double-hung windows with concrete lintels and projecting sills light the rooms. The most notable aspect of the house is its construction material: concrete block. The porch features a concrete block pillar at the Southeast corner and cast concrete columns with Tuscan capitals at the corners and the center of the front opening. A rear sleeping porch has been enclosed with wood siding. Additional modifications include a one-story addition on the rear, and a room extension projecting at the northeast corner; both additions are constructed of wood siding on a wood frame. The house is in good condition and fairly well maintained.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE/HISTORY

This vernacular Neoclassical cottage, constructed ca. 1911, is architecturally significant for its use of precast concrete block simulating rusticated stone. Although the use of concrete block at the turn of the century was not uncommon, this cottage is one of the few remaining examples of concrete block construction in Phoenix. Precast concrete block was promoted as "better and cheaper" than brick or stone and was valued for its insulating and fire resistant qualities. The blocks were made hollow to permit air circulation in the walls. The origin of the concrete block has not been determined. Concrete block was available in Phoenix as early as 1906, and concrete block machines were available through the Sears Catalogue. Moreover, by 1909, a concrete block manufacturer is known to have existed in nearby Tempe. As many as fourteen block designs were available with Sears' Wizard Concrete Building Block Machine. The design used in this house was the "Panel Face" with beveled edges. As one of the few extant examples of early concrete block construction in Phoenix, the house appears eligible for the National Register at the local level of significance.

SOURCES OF ABOVE INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY

Boyle, Bernard Michael. Materials in the Architecture of Arizona, 1870-1920.
Tempe: Arizona State University, College of Architecture, 1976.
Maricopa County Assessor's Records.
Maricopa County Recorder's Records.
Phoenix City Directories.
Sanborn Insurance Maps.
Schroeder, James J., ed. Sears, Roebuck & Co., 1908. Catalogue No. 117. Chicago:
Follett Publishing Company, 1969.
Woodward, Jim. Personal Communication, 1982.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA/LEGAL DESCRIPTION/VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

BLOCK G, LOT 10, BENNETT AND PLANKS ADDITION.

GENERAL COMMENTS/FUTURE PLANS FOR PROPERTY

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

10/18/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 2

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Roosevelt Neighborhood Multiple Resource Area
State Maricopa County, ARIZONAComm accepted 11/30/83

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Anderson, Helen, House | Substantive Review | for Keeper | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | | Attest | _____ |
| 2. Celora Stoddard/Lon Harmon House | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | | Attest | _____ |
| 3. Chelsea Place Historic District | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | | Attest | _____ |
| 4. Concrete Block House (640 N. 6th Ave.) | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | | Attest | _____ |
| 5. Concrete Block House (618-620 N. 4th Ave.) | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | | Attest | _____ |
| 6. Concrete Block House (614 N. 4th Ave.) | Entered in the National Register | Keeper | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | | Attest | _____ |
| - 7. Kenilworth Historic District | Substantive Review | for Keeper | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | | Attest | _____ |
| 8. DeMund, Herman P., House | Substantive Review | Determined Eligible | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | DOE/OWNER OBJECTION | for Keeper | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | | Attest | _____ |
| 9. Dunlap, Charles H., House | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | | Attest | _____ |
| 10. Elizabeth Seargeant/Emery Oldaker House | Entered in the National Register | for Keeper | <u>[Signature]</u> 11/30/83 |
| | | Attest | _____ |

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Concrete Block House (Roosevelt Neighborhood
MRA) (640 N. 6th Ave)
Maricopa County
ARIZONA

Working No. OCT 18 1983
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5-85
Date Due: 11/17/83 - 12/2/83
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 11/30/83
☐ RETURN
Entered in the National Register ☐ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
☐ justification of areas checked
☐ relating significance to the resource
☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
☐ Photographs
☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000053