Texas Historical Commission staff (BB), 1/20/2012, rev 3/14/12 27" x 42" Official Texas Historical Marker with post

Victoria County (Job #11VT01) Subject (Atlas) UTM: 14 000000E 0000000N

Location: Victoria, 601 W. North Street

J. MEREDITH TATTON HOUSE

J. MEREDITH TATTON (1901-1970), CONSERVATIONIST, COMPOSER, CATTLEMAN, AND WRITER, WAS BORN IN LEEK, STAFFORDSHIRE, ENGLAND. IN 1930, TATTON CAME TO TEXAS AND MARRIED VICTORIA NATIVE VIRGINIA DRAKE HALLINAN (1901-1993), A GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER OF LEGENDARY CATTLEMAN THOMAS O'CONNOR. THE COUPLE LIVED IN ENGLAND FROM 1932-36 BEFORE RETURNING TO MAKE VICTORIA THEIR HOME: THEY HAD ONE SON. THE TATTONS HAD EXTENSIVE AREA RANCHING INTERESTS. "JACK" TATTON WAS ALSO A DIRECTOR OF VICTORIA BANK & TRUST CO., A DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL QUARTER HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION, A TRUSTEE OF OUR LADY OF THE LAKE COLLEGE (SAN ANTONIO), A SENATOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS (HOUSTON), AND PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH TEXAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

NOTED ARCHITECT JOHN F. STAUB DESIGNED THIS HOME FOR THE TATTONS IN 1936, AND IT WAS COMPLETED THE FOLLOWING YEAR. STAUB, A TENNESSEE NATIVE, WORKED FOR COUNTRY HOUSE ARCHITECT HARRIE THOMAS LINDEBERG IN NEW YORK BEFORE RELOCATING IN 1921 TO HOUSTON, WHERE HE SOON OPENED HIS OWN PRACTICE. STAUB WAS A CO-FOUNDER OF THE SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS IN 1924. STAUB AND HIS ASSOCIATES DESIGNED VARIED PROJECTS, INCLUDING SEVERAL UNIVERSITY CAMPUS BUILDINGS, BUT BECAME BEST KNOWN FOR SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSES. IN 1933, JOSEPH VANDENBERGE HIRED STAUB TO REMODEL THE FREDERICK C. PROCTOR HOUSE; THE TATTON HOUSE ON THE SAME BLOCK BECAME HIS SECOND COMMISSION IN VICTORIA. THE COLONIAL REVIVAL AND MONTEREY-STYLE INSPIRED HOUSE FEATURES BRICK AND FRAME CLADDING, SECOND-STORY BEDROOMS, STUDY, BALCONY, AND REAR PORCHES. WILLIAM AND LUCILE WELDER MURPHY, REPRESENTING TWO MORE NOTABLE SOUTH TEXAS CATTLE RANCHING FAMILIES, BOUGHT THE HOUSE IN 1949, AND IT REMAINED IN THEIR FAMILY UNTIL 2005.

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 2011

MARKER IS PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK MARKERS: 2011 Official Texas Historical Marker Sponsorship Application Form

Valid September 1, 2010 to November 15, 2010 only

This form constitutes a public request for the Texas Historical Commission (THC) to consider approval of an Official Texas Historical Marker for the topic noted in this application. The THC will review the request and make its determination based on rules and procedures of the program. Filing of the application for sponsorship is for the purpose of providing basic information to be used in the evaluation process. The final determination of eligibility and therefore approval for a state marker will be made by the THC. This form is to be used for Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (building marker) requests only. Please see separate forms for either Historic Texas Cemeteries or subject markers.

Proposed marker topic (official title will be determined by the THC): J. Meredith Tatton House

County: Victoria

Town (nearest county town on current state highway map): Victoria

Street address of marker site or directions from town noted above: 601 W. North St.

Marker Coordinates:

If you know the location coordinates of the proposed marker site, enter them in one of the formats below:

UTM Zone Easting Northing

Lat: 28 degrees 48'21.22" NLong: 97 degrees 00'32.22" W(deg, min, sec or decimal degrees)

Otherwise, give a precise verbal description here (e.g. northwest corner of 3rd and Elm, or FM 1411, 2.6 miles east of McWhorter Creek): Corner of North Street at Victoria

NOTE: Recorded Texas Historic Landmark markers must be placed at the structure being marked.

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark markers definition: Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) markers are awarded to structures deemed worthy of preservation for their historical associations and architectural significance. RTHL is a legal designation and comes with a measure of protection; it is the highest honor the state can bestow on a historic structure, and the designation is required for this type of marker. The RTHL designation becomes effective upon approval by the THC. Official Texas Historical Markers signify the RTHL designation, which comes only through application to and approval by the THC and must include public display of an Official Texas Historical Marker. Owners of RTHL-designated structures must give the THC 60 days written notice before any alterations are made to the exterior of the structure. RTHL status is a permanent designation and is not to be removed from the property in the event of a transfer of ownership. Only the THC can remove the designation or recall the marker. The marker must remain with the structure and may not be removed or displayed elsewhere until or unless the THC gives express approval in writing for such action. Once designated as RTHL, properties are subject to provisions of Texas Government Code, Section 442.006(f).

Criteria:

- 1. **Age:** Structures eligible for the RTHL designation and marker must be at least 50 years old.
- 2. **Historical significance:** Architectural significance alone is not enough to qualify a structure for the RTHL designation. It must have an equally significant historical association, and that association can come from an event that occurred at the site; through individuals who owned or lived on the property; or, in the case of bridges, industrial plants, schoolhouses and other non-residential properties, through documented significance to the larger community.
- 3. **Architectural significance:** Structures deemed architecturally significant are outstanding examples of architectural history through design, materials, structural type or construction methods. In all cases, eligible architectural properties must display integrity; that is, the structure should be in a good state of repair, maintain its appearance from its period of significance and be considered an exemplary model of preservation. Architectural significance is often best determined by the relevance of the property to broader contexts, including geography. Any changes over the years should be compatible with original design and reflect compliance with accepted preservation practices, e.g., the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.
- 4. **Good state of repair:** Structures not considered by the THC to be in a good state of repair are ineligible for RTHL designation. The THC reserves the sole right to make that determination relative to eligibility for RTHL markers.

Special National Register considerations for RTHL marker applications: If a structure has been individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under either Criterion A or B and Criterion C (Architecture), the historical text compiled as part of the National Register nomination process may be submitted as part of the marker process, provided it includes the required reference notes and other documentation. Acceptance of the National Register information for the purposes of the marker process will be up to the sole determination of the THC. Listing in the NRHP does not guarantee approval for an RTHL marker. See the THC web site at http://www.thc.state.tx.us/markerdesigs/madnrcrit.html for National Register criteria.

Check this box if the property is individually listed in the NRHP.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Any individual, group or county historical commission (CHC) may apply to the THC to request an Official Texas Historical Marker for what it deems a worthy topic. Only complete marker applications that contain all the required elements and are submitted online as required can be accepted or processed by the THC (for RTHL markers, the required elements are: sponsorship application form; narrative history; documentation; legal description of the property; site plan; floorplan; historic photograph; and current photographs clearly showing each side of the structure—please resize photographs to 1-2 MB, or approximately 1024 x 768 pixels).

- Completed applications must be duly reviewed, verified and approved by the county historical commission (CHC) in the county in which the marker will be placed.
- The sponsorship application form, narrative history and documentation must be submitted as Microsoft Word or Word-compatible documents and sent via email attachments to the THC by no later than November 15, 2010.
- Required font style and type size are a Times variant and 12-point.
- Narrative histories must be typed in a double-spaced (or 1.5-spaced) format and include separate sections on context, overview, significance and documentation.
- The narrative history must include documentation in the form of reference notes, which
 can be either footnotes or endnotes. Documentation associated with applications should
 be broad-based and demonstrate a survey of all available resources, both primary and
 secondary.

• Upon notification of the successful preliminary review of required elements by the THC, a non-refundable application fee of \$100 is required. The fee shall be submitted to the THC within ten working days of application receipt notification.

APPROVAL BY COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The duly appointed marker representative (chair or marker chair) noted below for the county historical commission will be the sole contact with the THC for this marker application. To ensure accuracy, consistency and efficiency, all information from and to the THC relative to the application—and throughout the review and production processes—will be via direct communication with the CHC representative. All other inquiries (calls, emails, letters) to the THC will be referred to the CHC representative for response. By filling out the information below and filing the application with the THC, the CHC representative is providing the THC with notice that the application and documentation have been reviewed and verified by the CHC and that the material meets all current requirements of the Official Texas Historical Marker program.

As chair or duly appointed marker chair, I certify the following:

Representatives of the CHC have met or talked with the potential marker sponsor and discussed the marker program policies as outlined on the THC web site. CHC members have reviewed the history and documentation for accuracy and made corrections or notes as necessary. It is the determination of the CHC that the topic, history and documentation meet criteria for eligibility.

CHC comments or concerns about this application, if any:

Name of CHC contact (chair or marker chair): Gary Dunnam, Marker Co-chair

Mailing address: Box 1486 City, Zip: Victoria TX 77902-1486

Daytime phone (with area code):361.573-1878 **Email address** (required): gdunnam@vctx.org

PERMISSION OF PROPERTY OWNER FOR MARKER PLACEMENT

Property owner: Dr. & Mrs. John Kisalus

Address: 601 W. North St. City, state, zip: Victoria TX 77901

Phone: 361.894-1565 Email address: kisalus@aol.com

Legal Description of the property (metes and bounds, lot and block, etc.): Lots 1 & 4 Blk 44 Original Townsite of Victoria

Upon receipt of the application, the THC will provide the owner with a letter that outlines the legal responsibility of ownership under the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark statute. The letter must be signed by the owner and returned to the THC before the evaluation can be completed.

NOTE: The property owner will not receive any additional copies of correspondence from the THC. All other correspondence—notice of receipt, request for additional information, payment notice, inscription, shipping notice, etc.—will be sent via email to the CHC representative, who is encouraged to share the information with all interested parties as necessary. Given the large volume of applications processed annually and the need for centralized communication, all inquiries about applications in process will be referred to the CHC for response. The CHC is the sole liaison to the THC on all marker application matters.

SPONSORSHIP PAYMENT INFORMATION

Prospective sponsors please note the following:

- Payment must be received in full within 45 days of the official approval notice and must be accompanied by the THC payment form. The THC is unable to process partial payments or to delay payment due to processing procedures of the sponsor. Applications not paid in the time frame required may, at the sole discretion of the THC, be cancelled or postponed.
- Payment does not constitute ownership of a marker; Recorded Texas Historic Landmark markers and other Official Texas Historical Markers are the property of the State of Texas.
- If, at any time during the marker process, sponsorship is withdrawn, a refund can be processed, but the THC will retain the application fee of \$100.
- The Official Texas Historical Marker Program provides no means of recognizing sponsors or property owners through marker text, incising or supplemental plaques.

Marker sponsor (may be individual or organization): Dr. John Kisalus

Contact person (if applicable): same

Mailing address: 601 W. North St. City, zip: Victoria TX 77901

Email address (required):kisalus@aol.com Phone: 361.894-1565

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

In order to facilitate delivery of the marker, residence addresses, post office box numbers and rural route numbers are not permitted. To avoid additional shipping charges or delays, use a business street address (open 8 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday through Friday).

Name: Victoria County Historical Commission

Street address: 205 W. Goodwin Ave. City, zip: Victoria TX 77901

Daytime phone (required): 361.573-1878 Email (required): gdunnam@vctx.org

TYPE AND SIZE OF RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK MARKERS

As part of its review process, the THC will determine the appropriate size marker and provide options, if any, for the approved topic based on its own review criteria, including, but not exclusive of, historical significance, replication of information in other THC markers, relevance to the Statewide Preservation Plan and the amount of available documented information provided in the application narrative. In making its determination, however, the THC will also take into account the preference of the CHC, as noted below.

The sponsor/CHC prefers the following size marker:	
27" x 42" RTHL marker with post (\$1500)	
27" X 42" RTHL marker without post (\$1500)	
18" x 28" RTHL marker without post (\$1000)	
18" x 28" RTHL marker with post (\$1000)	
=	
RTHL medallion and 16" x 12" plaque with post (\$750))

RTHL medallion and 16" x 12" plaque without post* (\$750)
*For an RTHL marker without post, indicate to what surface material it will be mounted:
wood
masonry
metal
other (specify)

SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION (via email required)

When the CHC has determined the application is complete, the history has been verified and the topic meets the requirements of the Official Texas Historical Marker Program, the materials should be forwarded to the THC via email at the following address: markerapplication@thc.state.tx.us.

- The CHC or marker chair should send an email containing the following attachments (see attachment function under file menu or toolbox on your computer):
 - This application form
 - The narrative history (including documentation)
 - Legal description of the property
 - Detailed floor plan for each floor of the structure
 - Detailed site plan of the property
 - At least one historic photograph
 - Current photographs clearly showing each side of the structure

RECORDS RETENTION BY CHC: The CHC must retain hard copies of the application as well as an online version, at least for the duration of the marker process. The THC is not responsible for lost applications, for incomplete applications or for applications not properly filed according to the program requirements. For additional information about any aspect of the Official Texas Historical Marker Program, see the Markers page on the THC web site (http://www.thc.state.tx.us/markerdesigs/madmark.html)



J. MEREDITH TATTON HOUSE 601 WEST NORTH STREET VICTORIA, TEXAS

I. CONTEXT

The J. Meredith Tatton House, located at 601 W. North Street in the original townsite of Victoria, was designed in 1936 by noted Houston architect, John F. Staub, and built the following year¹. The house is a fine example of the numerous "country" homes designed by Staub throughout Texas and the South². Notably, the Tatton house was built during an era when so many of Victoria's finest historic homes were falling under the wrecking ball.

II. OVERVIEW

The work of architect John Fanz Staub (1892–1981), hardly needs to be articulated. Staub was born at Knoxville, Tennessee, on September 12, 1892, the son of Frederick and Anna Cornelia (Fanz) Staub. He attended Knoxville High School, the University of Tennessee (class of 1913), and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, from which he received a master's degree in architecture in 1916. From 1916 to 1921 Staub worked in New York for Harrie Thomas Lindeberg, an architect well known for his country houses. Sent to Houston in 1921 to supervise the construction of three houses that Lindeberg had designed in the Shadyside section of that city, Staub decided to remain in Houston, and in 1923 he established his own practice there.³ According to author and architectural historian, Stephen Fox, Staub's initial experience in Houston, "and what caused him to remain there, was not simply

¹ Original architectural drawings in possession of current owners.

² Howard Barnstone, *The Architecture of John f. Staub: Houston and the South*, Austin: University of Texas Press, 1979)

³ The Handbook of Texas Online, entry for John Fanz Staub.

professional opportunity but also the possibility of functioning, like Lindeberg, as an arbiter of taste, style, and form. As a country house architect in the 1920s and 1930s, Staub was responsible for formulating a representational style that enabled Houston's elite to affiliate with an American patrician class."

From 1923 until 1942 Staub worked under his own name. He reorganized his firm as Staub and Rather in 1942, and as Staub, Rather and Howze in 1952. He retired from active practice in 1963, and his firm was dissolved in 1971. Staub was a cofounder of the South Texas chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1924 and served as the chapter's second president. In 1941 he was elected to fellowship in the AIA. Staub was best known as an architect of single-family houses. During the 1920s he employed the full range of romantic European vernacular styles then in vogue for his domestic architecture. After the early 1930s, however, he displayed a consistent preference for more restrained architectural styles, especially Georgian Revival. His houses were characterized by harmonious proportions, elegant detail, and fine materials. In planning them he artfully reconciled architectural composition and functional requirements with ingenuity and resourcefulness.⁵

In 1931 Staub designed a home in River Oaks for George A. (Jr.) and Mary Vandenberge Hill at 1604 Kirby Drive.⁶ Mary Hill's father, Joseph V. Vandenberge, was subsequently responsible for "bringing" Staub to Victoria, having seen first-hand the quality and practicality of his refined designs.⁷ In 1933 Vandenberge hired Staub to remodel the Frederick C. Proctor house in Victoria, which was then owned by Vandenberge's second wife,

⁴ Stephen Fox, *The Country Houses of John F. Staub*, Texas A&M Press, published in 2007, p. 2.

⁵ Howard Barnstone, ibid, pp 18-19

⁶ Howard Barnstone, *ibid*, p. 204

⁷ Conversation between Gary Dunnam and Jerry Hill Goodpasture, grand-daughter of George and Mary Hill.

the widow of Preston Rose Austin.⁸ The result and effect was stunning; Staub was the logical choice to design the Tatton house in 1936. Curiously, these two residences designed by Staub in Victoria occupy the same city block.

Houses by Staub in Houston, Beaumont, and Dallas, Texas, and Memphis, Tennessee, are now open to the public as museums. In addition to his residential work, Staub designed the parish house of Palmer Memorial Church (1930), the Junior League Building (1930), and the Bayou Club (1940), all in Houston. His firm was responsible for buildings on the campuses of the University of Texas, Rice University, and the University of Houston, and at the Texas Medical Center in Houston. John Fanz Staub died on April 13, 1981, and is buried in Glenwood Cemetery in Houston.

J. Meredith Tatton, a widely known conservationist, composer, cattleman, and writer, was born in Leek, Staffordshire, England, on November 1, 1901. He received both a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1924 and a master's degree in 1928, from Cambridge University. He served as inspector of Schools with the Board of Education in England. Tatton had the honor of having one of his best-known unison songs sung before Queen Elizabeth and her two daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret Rose, by a choir of a thousand school children accompanied by the London Symphony Orchestra at a festival in London in 1938. Many of Tatton's compositions have been published, both in England and the United States¹⁰.

Tatton came to Texas in 1930. On May 14, 1930, he married Virginia Drake Hallinan. The couple returned to England in 1932, where they remained until 1936. At that time they officially made Victoria their home. Purchasing land at the corner of North and Victoria

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⁸ Howard Barnstone, ibid. p. 321

⁹ The Handbook of Texas Online.

¹⁰ Theora Whitaker, VICTORIA, printed by The Victoria Advocate. 1941

Streets from Virginia Tatton's cousin, Maude O'Connor Williams¹¹, they then contracted with John F. Staub to design a Monterrey-style house as a home for themselves. The result occupies the east half (Lots 1 & 4) of Block 44 of the Original Townsite of Victoria.

Subsequent to his marriage, Tatton served for many years as a director of the Victoria Bank & Trust Co., and as a director of the National Quarter Horse Breeder's Association. During the last decades of his life, he served as a longtime trustee of Our Lady of the Lake College in San Antonio, and was a senator at the University of St. Thomas from 1947 until 1955. He served as president of the South Texas Historical Association, a member of the Archdiocesan Music Commission, and a director of the Refugio County Farm Bureau. He was a member of the National Writer's Club, the Catholic Writer's Guild of America; the National Association of American Composers and Conductors; the American National Cattleman's Association, and the American Quarter Horse Association 12.

Virginia Drake Hallinan, born July 23, 1901, was the daughter of John T. and Mary O'Connor Hallinan, and the great-granddaughter of Thomas O'Connor, the legendary cattle king of Texas. Her parents divorced after four years of marriage in 1903, and she continued to live with her mother in the historic Abraham Levi house, 403 N. Main in Victoria until her mother's death February 14, 1910. She then lived with her grandmother (and namesake) Virginia Drake O'Connor, until adulthood.¹³

The Hallinan-Tatton marriage took place at the home of Virginia's uncle, Tom O'Connor, Sr., 501 N. Vine, in Victoria. The Rev. Patrick B. Feeney, pastor of St. Anne's Catholic Church in San Antonio (and former associate pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in

¹² J. Meredith Tatton, Obituary, The Victoria Advocate. Copy on file in office of Victoria Preservation Inc., 205 W. Goodwin, Victoria TX 77901

¹¹ Victoria County Deed Records, Vol 152 p. 149

W. Goodwin, Victoria TX 77901

Conversation with Louise S. O'Connor, a cousin of Virginia Hallinan. Notes on file in office of Victoria

Preservation Inc., 205 W. Goodwin, Victoria TX.

Victoria, 1917-1929¹⁴) performed the ceremony which was attended only by members of the bride's immediate family.¹⁵

A son, John Francis, was born in 1938. Ranching interests (primarily in Refugio County) occupied more and more of the Tatton's time. The Tatton family retained ownership of the house in Victoria until 1949, at which time it was purchased by William Maston Murphy, Jr., and his wife, Lucile Welder Murphy¹⁶.

William Maston Murphy, Jr., was born on the Murphy Ranch near Nursery Texas, in Victoria County on October 29, 1919.⁵ Murphy married Lucile Welder, a great-great-granddaughter of the empresario James Power on April 22, 1946. Subsequent to their purchase of the home, the Murphys made alterations to the rear elevation; primarily, the upstairs porch was enclosed to provide accommodations for the growing Murphy family, which eventually included four children.¹⁷

William Maston Murphy, Jr. died in 1970; his widow survived him another nine years. ¹⁸ Ownership of the Tatton house remained with the Murphy family until 2005, at which time it was purchased by Dr. and Mrs. John Kisalus. For the past five years the Kisalus family has worked diligently to renovate the interiors and restore the exterior.

¹⁴ Sidney R. Weisiger Collection, Victoria Regional History Center, Victoria College Library, Victoria TX.

¹⁵ Wedding Announcement from Victoria Advocate, May 16, 1930. Copy on file in office of Victoria Preservation Inc. 205 W. Goodwin, Victoria TX.

¹⁶ Victoria County Deed Records, Vol 262, p. 117

¹⁷ Notes on the history of the Murphy Family compiled by Lela Welder Cliburn. Copy on file in office of Victoria Preservation Inc. 205 W. Goodwin, Victoria TX.

¹⁸ Obituaries of William M. and Lucille Welder Murphy, from Victoria Advocate - copies on file in office of Victoria Preservation Inc. 205 W. Goodwin, Victoria TX.

III. SIGNIFICANCE

In addition to the significance of John F. Staub's contributions to the architecture of twentieth-century Texas, the history of this house has been intimately associated with what the late Henry Clay Koontz called "the Bovine Aristocracy of Victoria County." The names of O'Connor, Welder, and Murphy have been prominent in the ranching history of Texas for the past century and a half. From the original brick circular drive parting the decades-old hedge to the white painted brick and black cypress shutters, this fine home and its accompanying servants' quarters stand as a reminder of two notable Texas ranching families.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Howard Barnstone, *The Architecture of John F. Staub: Houston and the South*, (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1979).

Stephen Fox, *The Country Houses of John F. Staub*, (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2007)

 $\textit{The Handbook of Texas Online}, \underline{\text{www. tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/SS/fst94.html}}$

Victoria County Deed Records, Volume 152, page 249.

Cliburn, Lela Welder, Research notes on the Murphy Place, personal interview with Jane Murphy Welder. Copy on file in office of Victoria Preservation Inc, 205 W. Goodwin Ave, Victoria TX 77901.

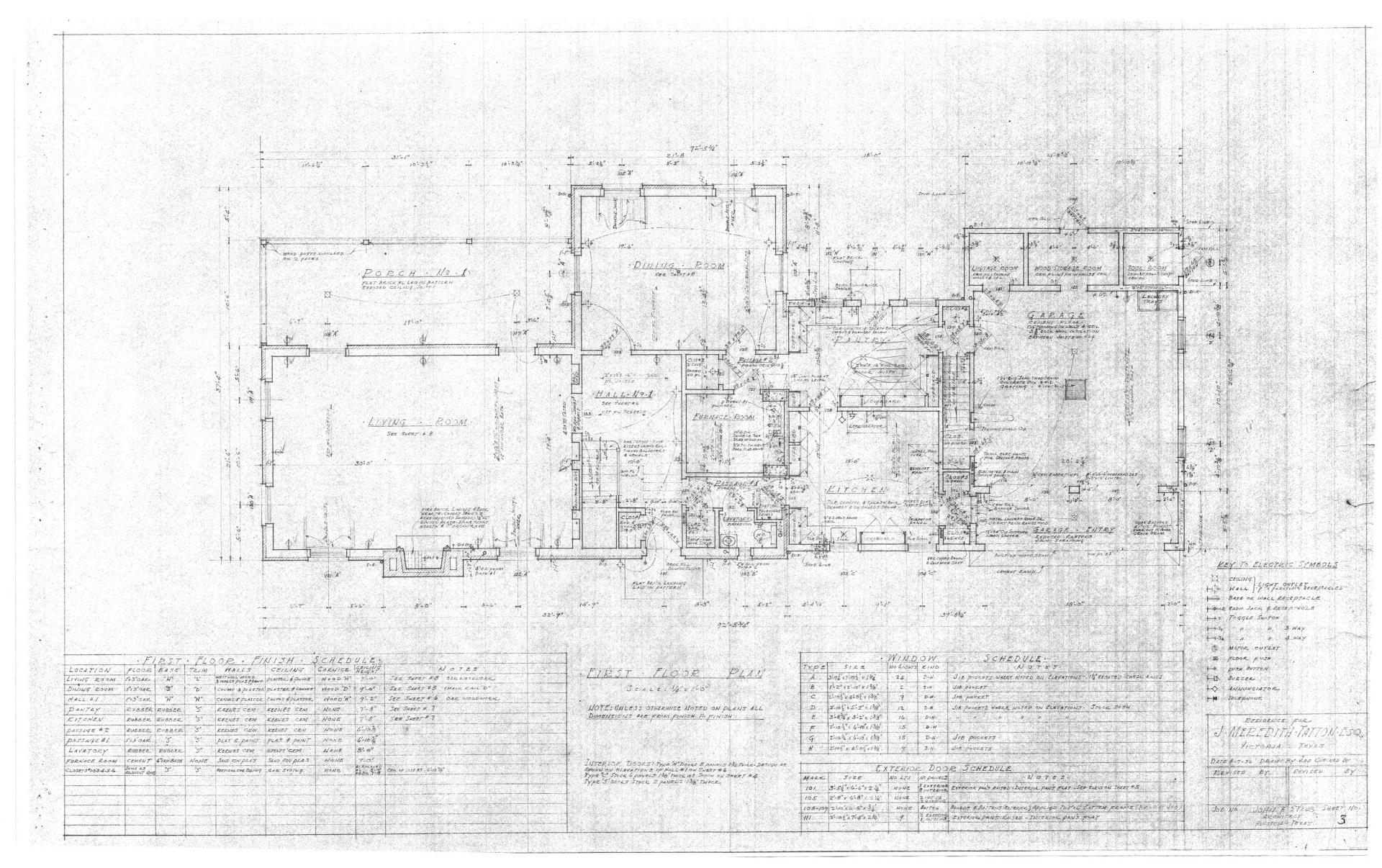
Sidney R. Weisiger Collection, Victoria Regional History Center, Victoria College/UH-Victoria Library.

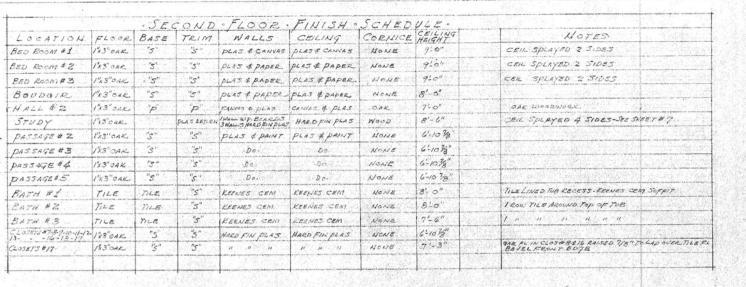
Victoria County Deed Records, Volume 262, page 117.

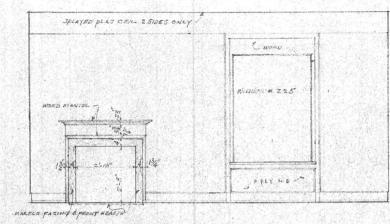
Project research and narrative written by:

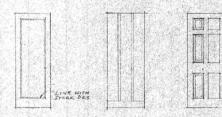
Gary Dunnam P.O. Box 1486 Victoria TX 77902-1486 361-573-1878

John C. Kisalus, Ph.D. 601 West North Street Victoria, Texas 77901 361-894-1565





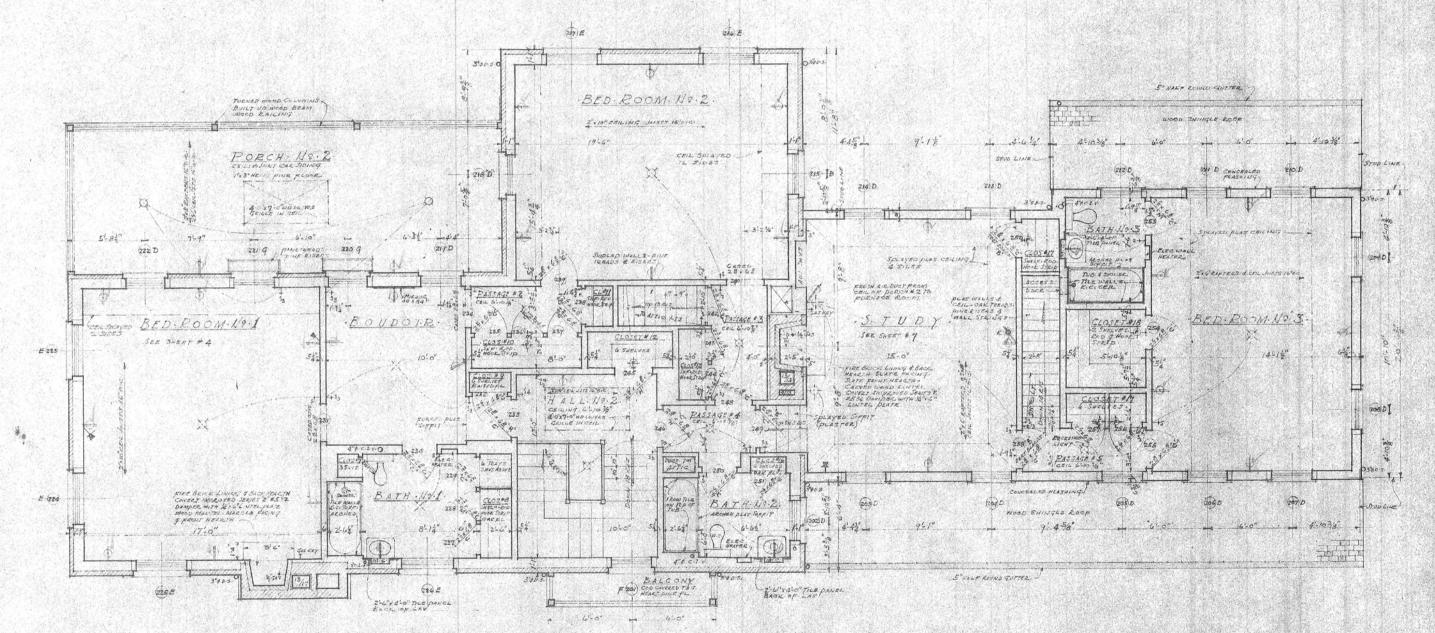




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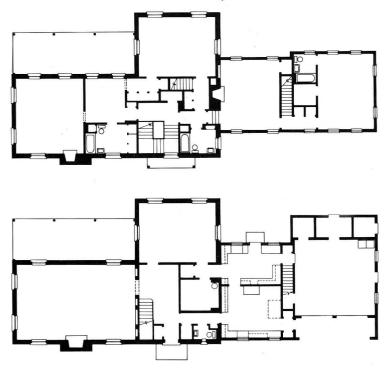
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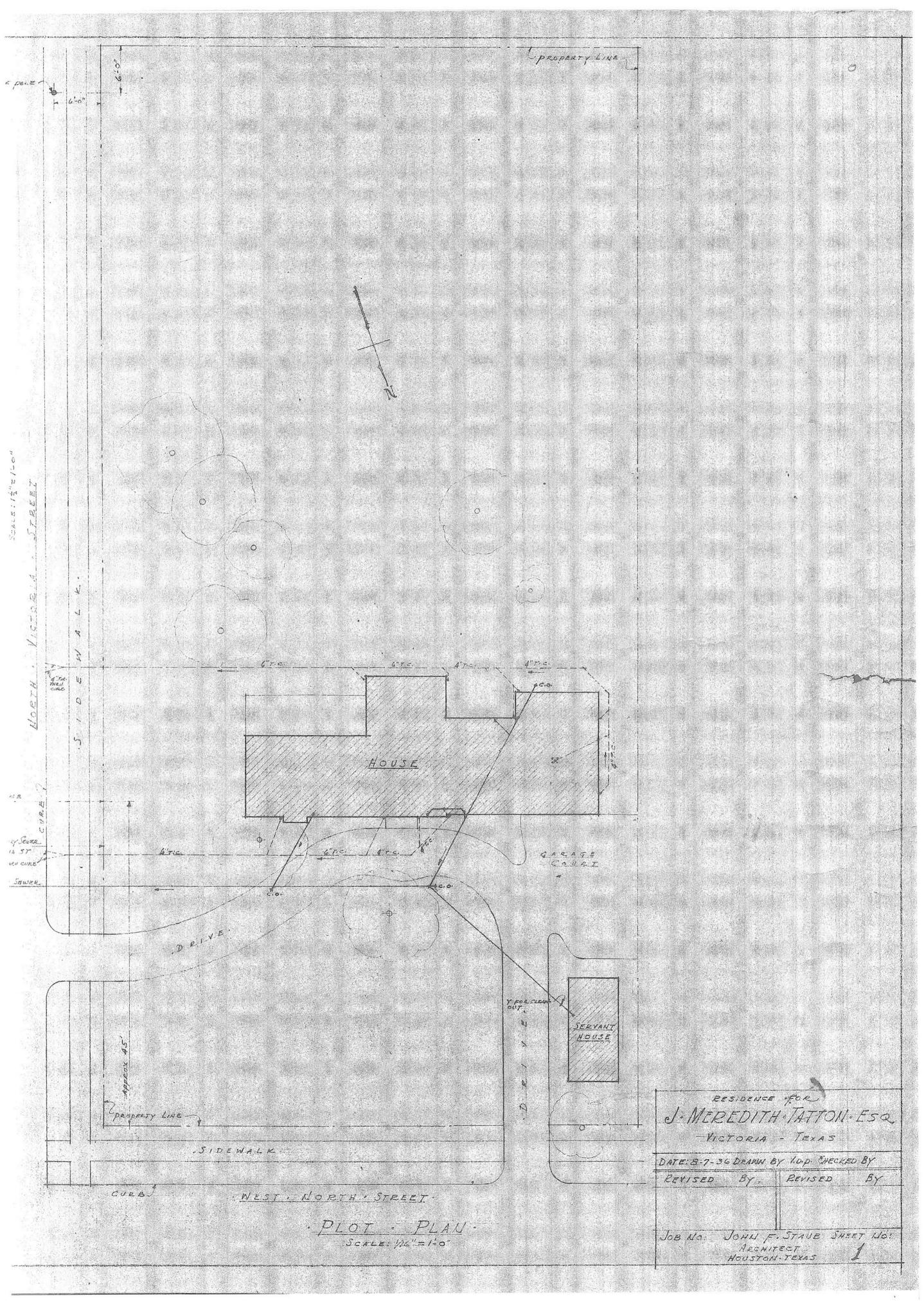
JOB NO: JOHN F STAUS SHEET HO

ARCHITECT
HOUSTON. TEXAS

J. Meredith Tatton House, Victoria TX



The Architecture of John F. Staub, Howard Barnstone - p. 323



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Authorization for Recorded Texas Historic Landmark Designation

The Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) designation is awarded to historic structures deemed worthy of preservation for their architectural integrity and historical associations. Authorized by the Texas Legislature under Texas Government Code, Chapter 442, RTHL is the highest honor the state can bestow on historic structures in Texas. Designated properties are afforded a measure of legal protection and become part of the recorded history of the state's built environment.

Benefits of the RTHL designation:

- Recognition that a property is of local, regional or state significance.
- Protection for up to 90 days from exterior alterations, including demolition or relocation.
- Ad valorem tax exemptions, where granted by local taxing authorities.
- Inclusion in the Texas Historic Sites Atlas.
- Technical preservation assistance through the THC.

Responsibility of the property owner under the RTHL provision, as noted in Texas Government Code, Chapter 442.006 (f):

A person may not damage the historical or architectural integrity of a structure the commission has designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark without notifying the commission at least 60 days before the date on which the action causing the damage is to begin. After receiving the notice, the commission may waive the waiting period or, if the commission determines that a longer period will enhance the chance for preservation, it may require an additional waiting period of not longer than 30 days. On the expiration of the time limits imposed by this section, the person may proceed, but must proceed not later than the 180th day after the date on which notice was given or the notice is considered to have expired.

Additionally:

- The designation requires the public display of the RTHL marker. The marker is the property of the State of Texas and may not be removed or relocated without the prior permission of the Texas Historical Commission.
- RTHL status is a permanent designation which is retained with the property even upon transfer of ownership. Only the Texas I listorical Commission may remove the designation.
- Structures designated as RTHLs do not have to be open to the public, but the marker must be accessible to the public.
- RTHL designation does not imply eligibility for federal tax incentives for rehabilitation.

I, the property owner or legal administrator of the property noted herein, signify below that I have read the information regarding Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks and that I voluntarily seek the designation for the property. I further promise to comply with the provision noted in the Texas Government Code.

Name (print): John C. Kisalus

Mailing address: 601 W. North St.

City, etate, sign Victoria, TX 77901

Signature: Phone: 361574-7982

Date: 2-4-11



PHONE \$12.463.6100 • FAX \$12.475.4872

















