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# CITY OF SAN ANTONIO OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION  
COMMISSION ACTION

This is not a Certificate of Appropriateness and cannot be used to acquire permits

January 15, 2014

**HDRC CASE NO:** 2014-005  
**ADDRESS:** 544 Hammond Ave.  
**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** NCB 3303 BLK 35 LOT 11 AND 12  
**APPLICANT:** Rudolfo & Edna Martinez 119 Robert E. Lee  
**OWNER:** Rudolfo & Edna Martinez  
**TYPE OF WORK:** Finding of Historic Significance

**REQUEST:**

The applicant is requesting a Finding of Historic Significance for the property at 544 Hammond Ave.

**FINDINGS:**

- a. The house at 544 Hammond Ave was constructed ca. 1910-1911 and was the home of George W. and Sallie (Sarah) Henrichson (also spelled Henrickson) for many decades.
- b. The house is a two-story Queen Anne style home and features wood cladding, an asphalt composition roof, two original brick chimneys, a two-story wrap-around porch, decorative shingles in the gable ends, and a Palladian window in the front gable.
- c. The house at 544 Hammond is one of the largest and most significant homes within the surrounding neighborhood of primarily bungalows and other smaller one-story houses. It may also have been one of the earliest homes constructed within the area, as the area was not platted as Highland Park until 1913.
- d. Despite some alterations, the house retains a good degree of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. It remains in its original location and setting within an early 20th century residential neighborhood on a large double lot at the southwest corner of the intersection of Hammond and St. Anthony.
- e. This house meets more than the three required criteria for landmark designation, as per the UDC Section 35-607(b).
- f. This application is owner-initiated.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval as submitted based on findings a through f.

**COMMISSION ACTION:**

Approved as submitted based on findings a through f.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Miller'.

For Shanon Shea Miller  
Historic Preservation Officer

**544 Hammond Ave.  
Statement of Significance**

The two-story Queen Anne style home at 544 Hammond Avenue is located within the Highland Park neighborhood. The house features wood cladding, an asphalt composition roof, two original brick chimneys, a two-story wrap-around porch, decorative shingles in the gable ends, and a Palladian window in the front gable. Fenestration appears to be largely original one-over-one-light wood sash windows, although several modern replacement windows have been incorporated on the second floor on the east side elevation. A small shed-roof addition is located along the west side elevation, and what appear to be at least two additions (including a deck and carport) are located along the rear elevation. Despite some alterations, the house retains a good degree of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. It remains in its original location and setting within an early 20<sup>th</sup> century residential neighborhood on a large double lot at the southwest corner of the intersection of Hammond and St. Anthony.

The house was constructed ca. 1910-1911 and was the home of George W. and Sallie (Sarah) Henrichson (also spelled Henrickson) for many decades. George Henrichson purchased the two lots in 1910 from G.A. and Beatrice Gage (vol. 343 pg. 85-86, Bexar County Clerk's Office). George and Sallie Henrichson (spelled Henrickson at that time) appear in the City Directory for the first time at this address in 1911 (although it is listed at that time as 534 Hammond rather than 544). It's assumed that the house was constructed shortly after the purchase of the property in 1910, although a mechanics lien for the construction has not yet been located. G.W. and Sallie Henrichson (again with alternate spellings of the last name) remain listed as owners of the property at 544 Hammond through at least 1941. By 1951, the property is listed under Mrs. Sarah Henrichson (his widow Sallie), and she remains at this address through 1955. By 1960, the property is listed as vacant, and it was offered for sale in 1971. Mrs. Henrichson died in 1966 in Uvalde at the age of 92. At the time of her death she was survived by two daughters, four sons, and ten grandchildren. Mr. Henrichson died much earlier in 1940 at the age of 72 (*San Antonio Express*, Dec. 23, 1940). According to his obituary, Henrichson was a native of DeWitt County and a retired rancher who had lived in San Antonio for 31 years. City directories in the 1920s also list him as a banker and bank teller. It appears that several of the children of G.W. and Sallie Henrichson lived in the house with their parents (and later with their widowed mother) through the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The house at 544 Hammond is one of the largest and most significant homes within the surrounding neighborhood of primarily bungalows and other smaller one-story houses. It may also have been one of the earliest homes constructed within the area, as the area was not platted as Highland Park until 1913. Highland Park became a residential streetcar suburb in the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century with mostly modest bungalows and cottages designed in the Tudor Revival and Spanish Eclectic styles. The house at 544 Hammond remains an intact and early example of suburban residential construction typical of San Antonio's streetcar suburbs in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The property meets the following criteria for local landmark designation:

- Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials [35-

607(b)5]: an intact example of a Queen Anne style home within the early 20<sup>th</sup> century Highland Park neighborhood;

- Its unique location or singular physical characteristics that make it an established or familiar visual feature [35-607(b)7]: its prominent corner location and its size and massing in relation to the more modest surrounding homes;
- Its historical, architectural, or cultural integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship [35-607(b)8];
- It is an important example of a particular architectural type or specimen [35-607 (b)12]: an intact example of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century Queen Anne style residence and likely one of the earliest homes within the Highland Park neighborhood.