

400 Emerson (1910). This Colonial Revival style house was the home of Texas Governor James V. Allred from 1939 to 1940. Before that, prominent violinist Joseph Moody Dawson, a leading Texas musician and teacher, resided here. The house is an older type of Houston house known as the three bay southern townhouse. The entrance hall is not centered in front of the house, but placed to one side, so that people in the main rooms might enjoy the prevailing southeast breeze. The two-story inset front porch roof is supported by four colossal Doric columns. Note the dentils on the cornice and the double door entry with leaded cut glass windows in the transom and sidelights.



Dawson-Allred House (drawing courtesy of Dr. & Mrs. H. M. Mark)

401 Emerson (1905). This house is a variation of the Four-Square style. The house was once occupied by E.A. Sterling, general manager of Sterling Oil Company. Another early occupant of this home was attorney and independent oil man John Hamman, whose business continues to operate today as Hamman Oil and Refining Company. He, his brother George Hamman, H.T. Staiti and others founded the American Sulphur Royalty Company.

410 Emerson (1905). This is one of the few relatively pure Queen Anne style cottages in Westmoreland, a style typical in turn-of-the-century Houston. Typical Queen Anne features include the wraparound porch decorated with ornamental millwork known as “gingerbread.” This house is more overtly Victorian in detail than the house across the street at 411 Emerson. The porch woodwork is a modern replacement after Hurricane Alicia destroyed the original porch. The first resident, Oscar S. Cummings, owned Texas Novelty Company and was president of Texas Savings Bank and president of Congress Mercantile Company. Note the decorative roof brackets and porch details.

411 Emerson (1907). This Queen Anne cottage is typical of Houston architectural style at the time. Instead of gingerbread detail, the porch is detailed with small classical colonettes, which was increasingly common in Houston by the mid 1890s.

416 Emerson (1911). This excellent example of a Craftsman style bungalow exhibits fine craftsmanship throughout. The house is raised high, with a shingled skirt that flares out below the porch, a common detail on Houston bungalows.

417 Emerson (1908). This Four-Square style house with Craftsman influence was the home of William Mayfield, an editor who at different times worked for both the *Houston Post* and the *Houston Chronicle*.

Westmoreland

200 Westmoreland (c.1905). This Colonial Revival style house uses the design of older houses with its side hall and the main rooms lined up on the side of the house to catch southeasterly breezes. The house was first occupied by Brian Brewster Gilmer, president of Southern Drug Company. In 1908 Elliot Cage, a lawyer, and Roene Masterson Cage lived here. Her family lived in a fine Colonial Revival house at 3702 Burlington.

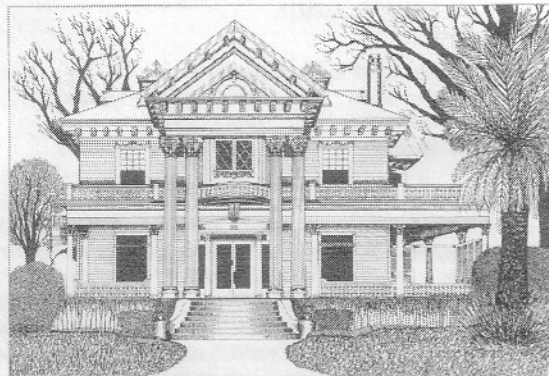
201 Westmoreland (1886 and 1903-05). The Waldo mansion is an Italianate style house with fine Victorian interiors. Railroad magnate Jedediah P. Waldo (called “J. Waldo”), his wife Mary Virginia Gentry, and their four children lived here. In 1905 the house was moved here from the corner of Rusk Avenue and Caroline, when Rusk Avenue was one of the fanciest residential streets in Houston. The Waldos’ son, Wilmer Waldo, a civil engineering graduate of Princeton, supervised the dismantling and reconstruction of the family home. He

replaced its original two-story Victorian porches with this one-story brick loggia, and removed a three-story cupola tower. In the early 1900s the well-educated Misses Waldo conducted a select school for young ladies here. The house strongly retains the feeling of a Victorian house, as all of the interior architectural details were reincorporated in the house. This is the only grand Victorian house still surviving in Houston. A historic marker in front of the house gives more information.

208 Westmoreland (1913). This stucco house is a two-story version of a Craftsman bungalow.

214 Westmoreland (1907-08). This Craftsman bungalow was purchased by W. Edgar Fondren, an officer in the Eagle Lumber Company, in 1908. Esteemed Texas historian Louis Wiltz Kemp bought the house on December 14, 1921 and lived here many years. Kemp, an engineer, worked with the Texas Company (later Texaco) and spent his spare time studying Texas history. At the end of his career he was considered the leading authority on Texas history. He authored or coauthored several works, including *The Signers of the Declaration of Independence* (c.1939) and *The Heroes of San Jacinto* (1932). In addition, he verified numerous inscriptions on historical monuments and, along with others, located the massacre site and burial place of James W. Fannin’s men. Kemp was instrumental in the plan to construct the San Jacinto Monument and Museum. His collection of Texana was bought by the Houston Endowment and the University of Texas and is in the university’s Barker Texas History Center.

215 Westmoreland (1907). The Nash house is a grand Colonial Revival house that resembles the Connecticut State Building designed for the Chicago World’s Fair of 1893. The house, designed by architect H.C. Cooke, is the most ambitious example of Colonial Revival construction remaining in Westmoreland. One feature of Colonial Revival style seen here is the monumentally scaled entrance. The front porch is covered by a second floor porch supported by fluted Corinthian columns as well as a pedimented portico at the third floor. The large plate glass windows without any mullions in them on the ground floor exhibit a style in late nineteenth century Victorian houses that became less common after 1900 as architects turned back to older historical examples, including the smaller paned windows seen on the second floor of this house. Note also the elaborate beveled glass double entrance doors, sidelights and transom and the fine ornamental details above the windows in the porch and gables and in the denticulated frieze. A characteristic detail for expensive houses of the time is the ornamental date palm tree, a status tree in early twentieth-century Houston. Not indigenous to Houston, they spoke of resort locales and leisure living. This house was built as a town house for the family of William Nash, a rancher and farmer from Brazoria County. The Nashes divided their time between this house and the ranch until Nash died in 1931. Frank Cullinan, President and Manager of Operations of Producer Oil Company (later Texaco) rented the house in 1917 during World War I. William P. Hobby rented the house in 1926. Hobby was Texas’ Governor from 1917 to 1921. Judge Roy Hofheinz, developer of the Astrodome, later owned the house.



Nash House (drawing courtesy of R. Crockett)

220 Westmoreland (1925). The Heyne house, designed and built by architect C. B. Schoeppel, is a Mediterranean Revival style house. The house, with its ornamental details and its use of brick rather than wood, echoes the trends that occurred in Houston domestic architecture after World War I. The house was one of the last single-family houses to be built in Westmoreland. Fred and Mayne Green Heyne first owned the house. Heyne was a Civil War veteran and was vice president of Bankers Mortgage Company and all Jesse Jones’ companies. This is also the site of the Whittaker farm house.