

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hotpoint Living-Conditioned Home
other names/site number Anderson-Wilson House

2. Location

street & number 509 West Hills Road NA not for publication
city or town Knoxville NA vicinity
stat Tennessee code TN county Knox code 093 zip code 37909
e _____

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 for 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 sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	Signature of the Keeper	_____	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain): _____	_____			

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

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

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

Contributing

Noncontributing

1	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Historic & Architectural Resources of Knoxville & Knox County

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: ranch house

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
walls CONCRETE; WOOD; GLASS

roof ASBESTOS tile
other WOOD; GLASS

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for 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 N/A

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or 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

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1954-55

Significant Dates

NA

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)
NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

McCarty, Bruce (architect) **Is he still around?**
Bartling, Jr., Martin (builder)

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .5 acres **quad**

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1
Zone Easting Northing
2

3
Zone Easting Northing
4

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.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Annette Anderson and Claudette Stager
organization NA/Tennessee Historical Commission date January 2009
street & number 509 West Hills Road/2941 Lebanon Road telephone 865/588-9070/615/532-1550
city or town Knoxville/Nashville state TN zip code 37909/37204

Additional Documentation

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

Property Owner

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

name Annette Anderson and Robert Wilson
street & number 509 West Hills Road telephone 865/588-9070
city or town Knoxville state TN zip code 37909

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Knox County, Tennessee

Description

The Hotpoint House was built in 1954 as a demonstration model for small starter homes. It is a one story residence with a sloping cantilevered low pitch gable truss roof supported by a masonry core that runs the length of the building. Wide overhanging eaves contain historic lights that illuminate both the inside and outside of the house. Exterior curtain walls consist of alternating panels of glass and wood. A band of clerestory windows that surrounds the house gives the roof the appearance of floating above the exterior walls. The original carport was altered circa 1965 and in 1980 that alteration was modified to restore the front entry and roof overhang. The house retains its architectural integrity.

The 1,500 square foot house was one of the first in the West Hills neighborhood, a middle-class, mostly ranch and split-level subdivision which was the first major postwar, modern era subdivision in the region. The terraces outside the living room and dining/family room are visually connected to the interior by ceiling to floor windows. The connection is furthered by doors leading onto the terraces, where a sense of enclosure is created by exterior walls which are a continuation of the walls of house. A striking **historic** stone retaining wall separates the lower yard of terraces and gardens from a naturally wooded area sloping up and separating the house from an adjoining property. The side and back yard are visually enclosed at the property boundaries by dense planting so that the yard offers great privacy for both indoor and outdoor living spaces. **What remains of the planned landscaping design?**

The east façade of the residence reveals a low pitch gable front roof. The gable field contains horizontal wood louvers. **Is this solid or is it like shutters/louvers?** A narrow band of fixed (clerestory) windows is visible below the gable field. The concrete block core is situated below the gable and is flanked by glass block walls, slightly set back, on the north and a large jalousie (**does the window open?**) window with an adjacent narrow sidelight. The material is stack bond block or Shalite block made by the Southern Cast Stone Company.¹ The hollow blocks were filled with an aggregate, providing sound-proofing. A wall of vertical board wood extends from the door on the south. Part of the wall is the façade of the house and part is a fence for the yard. There is a single leaf door into the back yard in the fence. The glass block is a 1980 remodeling of an earlier enclosure of what was the carport. This area contains a second single leaf door, now used as the primary entry to the house, and the narrow (clerestory) windows are replicated. The current configuration of the space gives a sense of what the original design was.

The fence looks a little different in the photos, especially around the door to the backyard. Has something been replaced. It is difficult to tell in the photos. It also does not look like it encloses the entire yard.

¹ Sarah Booth Conroy, "Pilot Model of Living-Conditioned Home, Under \$20,000, To Be Built in Knoxville" (undated) and "Modern Designs Mark West Home on Exhibit This Week" (Sunday, May 22, 1955), *Knoxville News-Sentinel*. From owners collection.

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Knox County, Tennessee

The south elevation continues the juxtaposition of vertical board wood and large expanses of glass. The southeast corner contains sliding glass doors/or fixed windows(not sure from photos and reading news articles) and a single leaf glass (guessing, cannot see) door. There are two large (in the photos it looks like these are double hung but there also appears to be a jalousie window??) windows with narrow sidelights. The patio built here was "paved for dancing" and there was a pre-cast concrete table built in.² table gone? It looks different than the one in the articles.

The west elevation is similar to the east façade. The gable field contains horizontal wood louvers and the concrete block core bisects the elevation. The southwest portion of this elevation has vertical board wood siding, a large (jalousie? Double hung?) window and a single leaf glass and wood door. These are flanked by narrow sidelights. The northwest portion is composed of two floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors/or fixed windows (not sure from photos and reading news articles) and a single leaf door with jalousie windows. Extending north from the elevation is a vertical board wood wall that forms part of the elevation and encloses part of the yard. (This wall is original, correct?) This portion of the elevation is inset further back from the concrete core and has a patio space that is under the house roof. The patio is original, although the small pool(s) just outside of it are not? (News article says there was a looking/wading pool crossed by a bridge) One article has the patio as terrazzo and one just has concrete. What is it today? The north wall of the concrete core has two jalousie windows.

The north elevation is composed of vertical board wood wall and a single door/window (cannot see, not sure). The east portion of the elevation is the area that was historically the carport. Around 1980 (or 60s?) the carport was enclosed with vertical board siding similar to/replicating the historic siding. One jalousie window is visible on the concrete core. Three other jalousie windows are now part of the interior of the house.

The interior of the house is divided into three sections: the masonry core contains the kitchen, utility room and two bathrooms; the foyer and living room, along with a "plant room" which was originally part of a carport, are on one side of the core; and three bedrooms and a dining/family room are on the other. (Is what is labeled as storage originally part of the house or part of the garage? News articles stated there was a storage space but it looks like this area was doubled in size from the 1955 plans.) The interior walls of all rooms except the tiled bathrooms consist of smoothly finished, white concrete blocks of the masonry core and/or Philippine mahogany paneling. One wall of each room is fitted for a flexible storage system supported by vertical struts installed between wall panels which hold wood shelving or counter tops or wire shelves and several kinds of hangers. Still here? I assume this is the closest system mentioned in some articles. The lighting system by lighting engineer Richard Kelly is unusual in that it provides by light to both the inside and outside. Fixtures are set in the wide overhang around the house to illuminate both the house and terraces at night and mask the interiors, a technique used commonly

² Sarah Booth Conroy, "Modern Designs Mark West Home on Exhibit This Week." *Knoxville News-Sentinel*, May 22, 1955. From the owners collection.

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Knox County, Tennessee

in theaters, but unusual in homes. What is the floor and ceiling material? (In one of the articles it says that the ceiling will be wall board/plaster board and the floors terrazzo.)

The original façade door still exists but it is now enclosed in the plant room. The single leaf solid wood door leads to the foyer, an area that splits the central concrete core. The foyer ceiling is the original dropped ceiling of translucent panels. Concrete and wood siding and seen here. The living room fireplace is set in the concrete core and it has a hearth at floor level of ___ (what material?) What is the material above/ at the ceiling on the concrete core? The living room has a wall of windows and a wall of paneling, in addition to the concrete, and it looks out on the patio. The east wall contains “adjustable shelves supported by brackets held in exposed vertical double-faced framing channels.” The system was designed by L.A. Darling Company.³

The dining room/family room is separated from the kitchen by the concrete wall of the core. There is an opening but no door and a “pass through” area. Cabinets enclosed with wood are on the bottom and opening shelving is at the top. (I am guessing on some of this. Is this an original feature? From news articles- it looks like the cabinet area once had doors.) Original kitchen cabinets? Looks like cabinets are in similar configuration but maybe new materials, at least the countertops. Doors to the bedrooms are solid wood (?), as are closet doors in the bedrooms.

What about the bathrooms and utility space? I am assuming that the original Hotpoint appliances, heat and air systems are gone.

Sounds like the closet panels and shoe racks were unique. Are these gone?

Folding doors were between the kitchen, laundry, and family room. Still here?

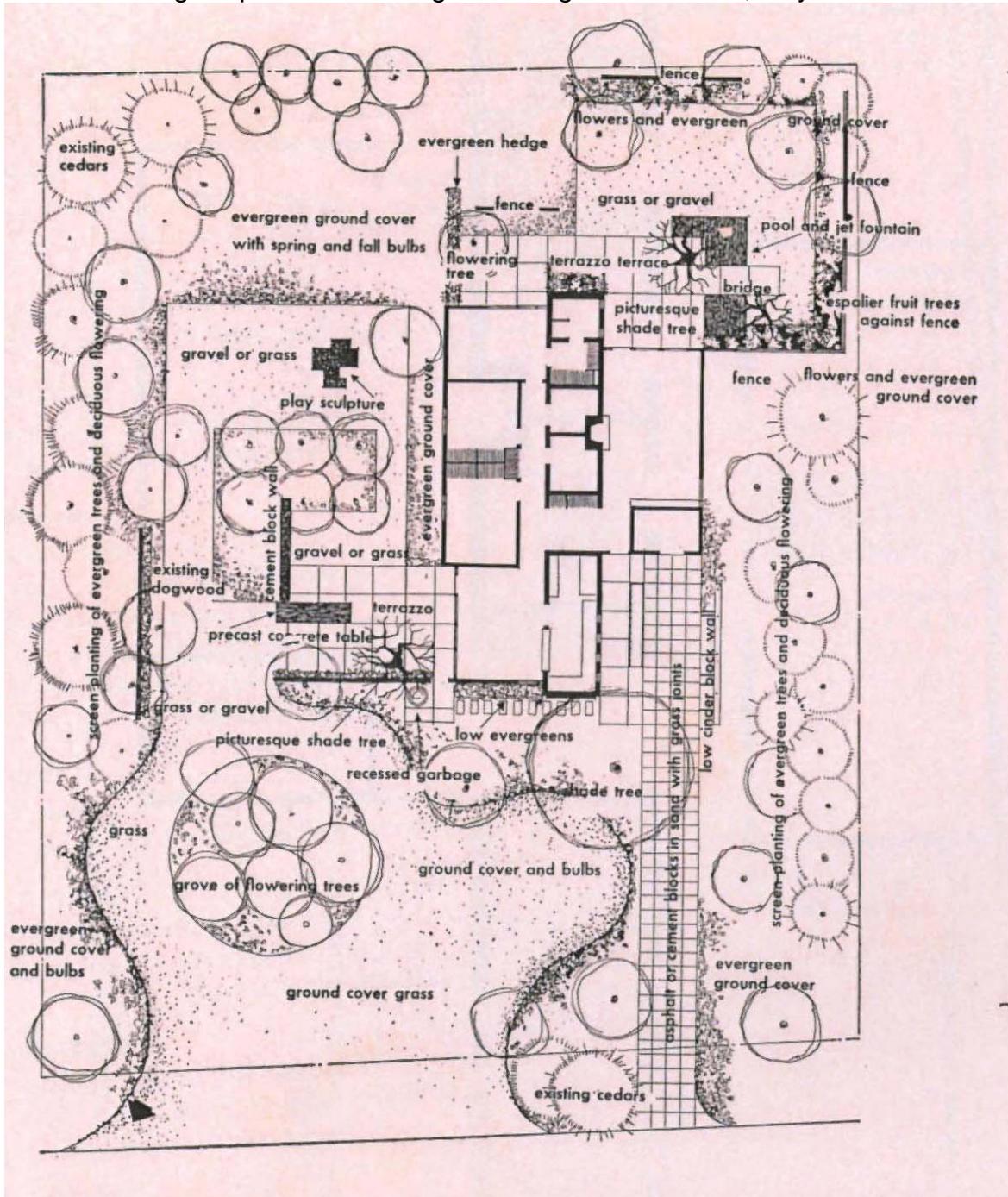
³ “A house with a perfect sense of shelter” in *Living for Young Homemakers*, December 1955. In owner’s possession. Today the L.A. Darling Company is part of The Marmon Group and it manufactures wood and metal display systems for commercial use.

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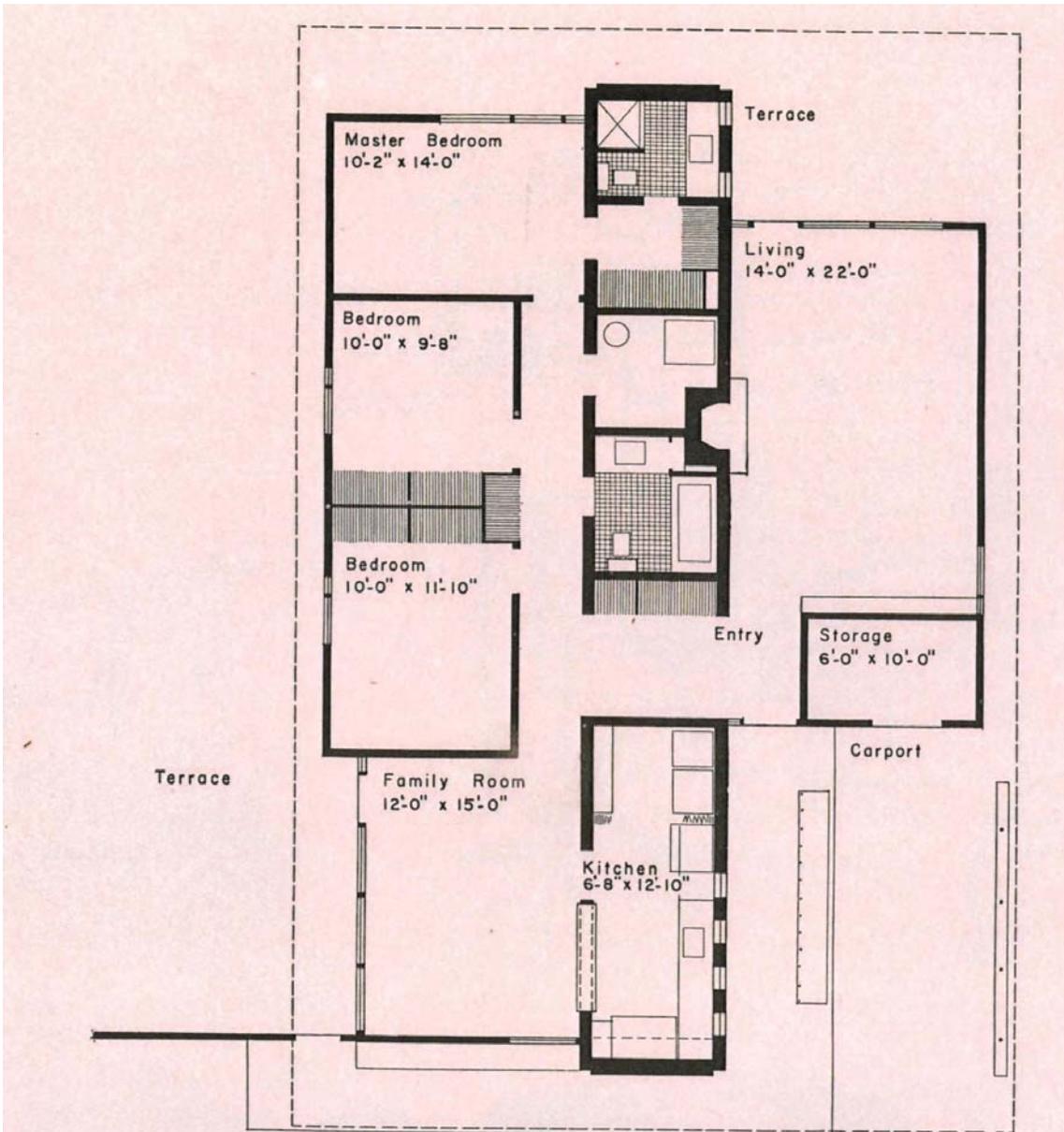
Original plans from *Living for Young Homemakers*, May 1955



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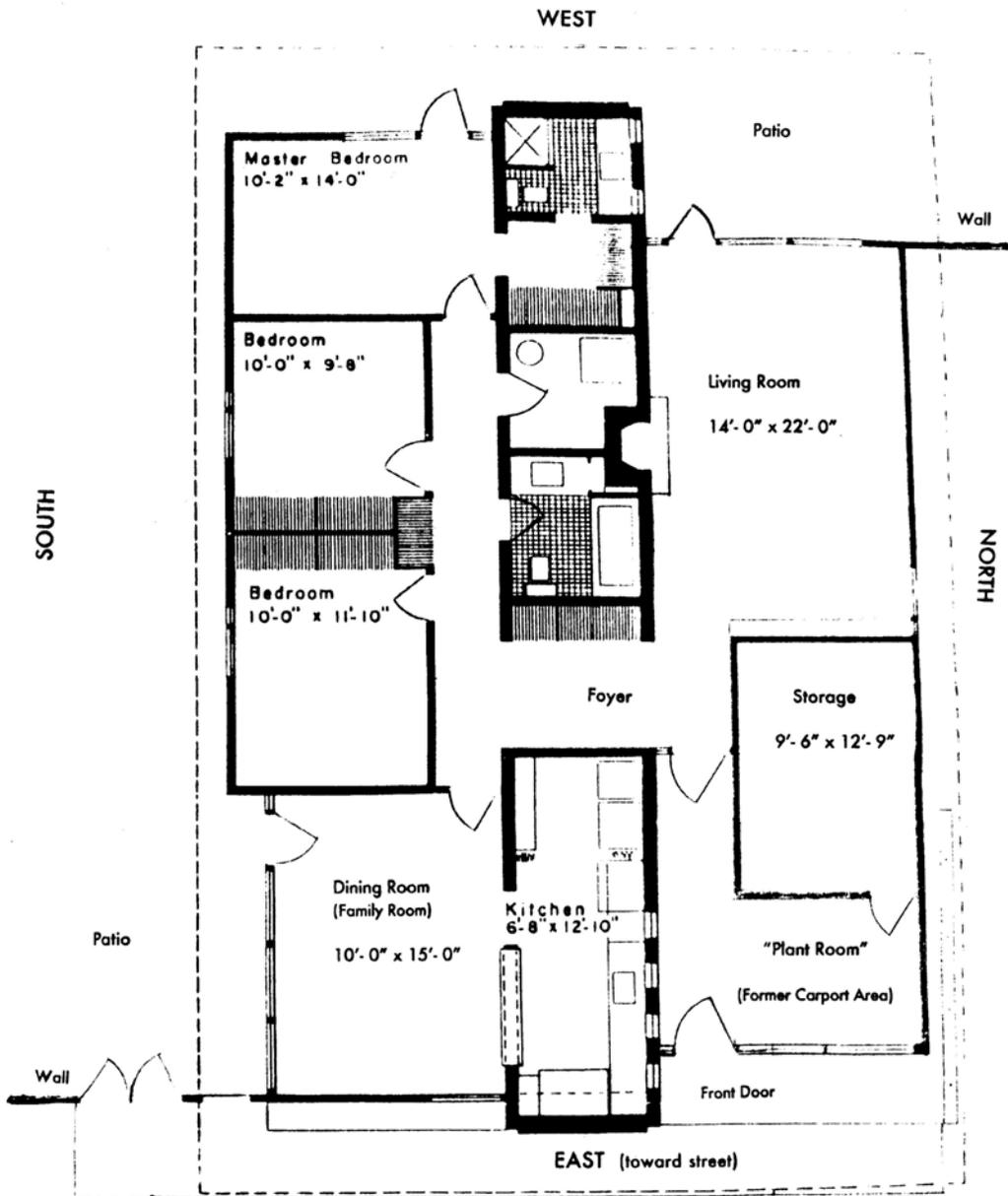
A backbone of masonry, the central core forms a barrier between quiet and active areas and, since the hollow block, filled with an aggregate, has both acoustical and thermal qualities, is a sound-conditioned housing for plumbing, heating and air-conditioning units. Its texture is a decorative asset throughout

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Current plan



HOTPOINT HOUSE
509 West Hills Rd., Knoxville, Knox County, Tennessee

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Statement of Significance

Knoxville's Hotpoint Living-Conditioned Home, built in 1954 in the West Hills subdivision, is eligible for listing in the National Register under criterion C as an excellent example of post WWII modern suburban residential design. One of four demonstration houses in the country built through a program sponsored by Hotpoint and the magazine *Living for Young Homemakers*, it was designed by Knoxville architect Bruce McCarty of Painter, Weeks and McCarty as a moderately priced all-electric house that could be easily replicated elsewhere in the South. Knoxville Martin J. Bartling, Jr. was the builder. Called the "Hotpoint Living-Conditioned House" the magazine was responsible for the interior decorations and for making the plans available to others. The one-story ranch house has a concrete core supporting a cantilevered truss roof and curtain walls of glass and wood paneling. The core contains the bathrooms and kitchen and divides the interior spaces into public and private areas. There have been some changes to the house, but it retains its character defining floor plan, most interior and exterior materials, and some of the original setting.

The Hotpoint House

Hotpoint Electrical Appliances, a division of General Electric (since 1910), was the main sponsor of a promotion to build modern houses for the expanding post WWII suburbs. All appliances would be Hotpoint or General Electric brands. The magazine *Living for Young Homemakers* was responsible for interior decoration. Four architects from around the country were chosen to design the model or pilot houses. In addition to Knoxville's Bruce McCarty, Don Emmons in San Francisco, Normal Nagel in Minneapolis, and Stanley Reese in New York were chosen to design houses. According to a promotional article in the Knoxville newspaper

Living-conditioned means a house planned to be lived in ...Living-conditioned means a house where the climate is governed by wise heat and good cooling; where the lighting is planned to change to fit the moods of the occupants; where the traffic pattern is planned and people move around easily without tumbling over each other.⁴

Edith Brazwell Evans, editor of *Living for Young Homemakers*, spoke to the Knoxville Home Builders Association in Knoxville and noted that the magazine and Hotpoint ads would bring national exposure to the model house. The house was expected to sell for around \$20,000 or \$25,000.⁵ Evans, McCarty, and Bartling chose the site in suburban West Hills, a newly developing area of Knoxville. In the immediate post WWII years much of Knoxville's new housing was scattered in existing automobile era subdivisions. Earlier streetcar suburbs had few if any vacant spaces for development. As the early automobile suburbs' vacant spaces were filled in,

⁴ Sarah Booth Conroy, "Living-Conditioned Home," 1955, from owner's collection. [Knoxville paper?](#)

⁵ Sarah Booth Conroy, "Pilot Model of Living-Conditioned Home, Under \$20,000, To Be Built in Knoxville," *Knoxville News-Sentinel*, [undated clipping from owner's collection](#).

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developers began to subdivide tracts of land on the city's fringes. West Hills, Martha Washington Heights, and West View are some of the post-war suburban developments in Knoxville and Knox County.⁶

A principal feature of the Hotpoint Living-Conditioned Home was that it was to be built for contemporary living, with modern amenities like Ceil Heat and General Electric air conditioning. Most plumbing and electrical elements were placed in the concrete core. *Living for Young Homemakers* would showcase all four pilot houses and make plans available throughout the country. Knoxville's model was scheduled to open to the public in May 1955.

In addition to building the model home and opening it for public tours, Hotpoint sponsored a contest where four winners would each win one of the houses and have it built in their hometown. Contestants had to state in twenty-five words or less why they would like a Hotpoint appliance. Contestants also had a chance to win one of fifty second prizes or 5,000 third place prizes – all given by Hotpoint. *Living for Young Homemakers* May 1955 issue carried sketches of all the model houses. Knoxville's house opened on schedule and the first open house was May 22, 1955. The Knoxville newspaper noted that builder Martin L. Bartling planned to live in the house after the contest and open house period was over.⁷

Everything in the house was planned and designed to work together, even the color schemes. *Living for Young Homemakers'* decorating director Paul Krauss put the interior furnishings together. An adjustable closet system designed by L.A. Darling, with moveable shelves, was used throughout the house. Two terraces, shielded from the street by wood fencing, were accessible from the living room and the dining/family room. The terrace off the dining/family room was for informal entertaining and a space for children. The terrace outside of the living room was for more formal entertaining. Even outside furnishings, such as a built-in picnic table and a small pond, were included in the plans. In addition to kitchen and bathroom appliances, items like a lawnmower and tools were part of the model house. (See figure...)

The house was said to be designed "from the inside out" since the concrete block core held the kitchen and bathrooms and supported the cantilevered truss. McCarty said that the house was also designed to be a part of its site and that outside living spaces received as much attention as the inside.⁸

Hotpoint, McCarty, Bartling, and the magazine were the main participants in the design and development of the model house but many others helped. Robert L. Zion was the landscape

⁶ Ann K. Bennett, "Post 1940 Suburban Growth and Development in Knoxville" in "Historic and Architectural Resources of Knoxville and Knox County" (2000). None of these areas have been assessed for National Register eligibility.

⁷ Sarah Booth Conroy, "Modern Designs Mark West Hills Home on Exhibit This Week," *Knoxville News Sentinel*, May 22, 1955, from owner's collection.

⁸ Ibid.

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architect, Richard Kelly was the lighting engineer, Fred N. Severud was the structural engineer, and Guy B. Panero was a consulting engineer. Furniture, fabrics, kitchen and dining equipment, outdoor furnishings, interior house materials, even telephones were provided by numerous companies. *Living for Young Homemakers* decorating director Paul Krauss did the interior decorating. (See figure x) The 36' x 56' house was designed for a lot of around 125' x 75'. Landscaping included with the model house was allotted \$2,500. The result of all these companies and individuals working together resulted in what the magazine called a house where "...all the reassuring aspects of living-conditioning appear in the tempering of light, space, heating and cooling, safety, sound and color" and "Movement and vision flow effortlessly from interior to exterior with glass walls and doors to dispel all sense of barrier."⁹

The house plans were offered for sale through *Living for Young Homemakers* for \$10.00. Designed to be built in the South, the house designed by McCarty was built as a model in forty-three states according to the magazine. In Oklahoma City, Oklahoma they reported that 25,000 visited the model house and in Charleston, South Carolina about 11,000 people toured the house.¹⁰

Do you know if Bartling actually lived in the house or what happened to it after all the public viewing?

Martin J. Bartling, Jr. and Bruce McCarty

When you contacted Bruce McCarty did he give you any information on how/why he was chosen to build the house? Was there a contest for that or did GE/Hotpoint just chose him and Knoxville? Is the elder McCarty still practicing? (An article in 2008 said he was.)

This was not the first project Bartling and McCarty had collaborated on. They worked on a concrete-bent house in Knoxville's West Hills in 1954.¹¹ Both the architect and builder became well-known in their fields. Bartling and McCarty participated separately in other model projects and worked to build modern middle class houses for the expanding suburbs.

Bartling received attention in national magazines, although not always for his building company. A 1956 issue of *Life* magazine called him a nationally known builder, but the focus of the article was on how the 6'6" Bartling dealt with being so tall.¹² Bartling built at least one other model home, this one sponsored by the National Association of Home Builders, around 1958. *Time* magazine reported on the \$13,500 house after which Bartling received letters and visits from forty-nine

⁹ "A house with a perfect sense of shelter" in *Living for Young Homemakers*, p. 80, December 1955. Article from owner's collection.

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 106

¹¹ The existence/condition of this house is not known???

¹² "The Happy Plight of Unusual Height," photographed for *Life* (October 8, 1956; Vol. 41, No. 15) by Alfred Eisenstaedt. <http://google.com/books>, accessed October 29, 2009.

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states, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and other places around the world.¹³ *Popular Mechanics* also reported on his various projects.

Born in 1917, Knoxville native Bartling was a lieutenant during WWII, stationed in the GHQ in Tokyo. During the 1950s he was the president of the National Association of Home Builders and a trustee of the organization's research institute. Bartling was an official of the Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago where he moved in the 1960s to become the vice president of research for US Gypsum. While there, he worked primarily on low cost housing. He died in 1995 in his home in Knoxville.¹⁴

Bruce McCarty was a partner with Painter, Weeks and McCarty (1955-1965) and the principle of Bruce McCarty, with Bob Holsaple, from 1965-1970. McCarty partnered with several other architects and since 1984 the firm has been known as McCarty Holsaple McCarty. Bruce McCarty began practicing in 1949 when he was a designer and draftsman for Rutherford and Painter, which evolved into Painter, Weeks and McCarty. McCarty's early interests included postwar housing and development. In addition to the Hotpoint project he worked on National Broadcasting Company's House That Home Built program and the National Association of Home Builders Research House.¹⁵ A 2008 article noted "His modular home designs, priced in the middle range, drew both from modernist theories and manufacturing innovations. With the housing system he developed, houses could be mass produced while addressing individual site requirements and offering design variety."¹⁶

Ranch Houses

Similar to the bungalow in the early twentieth century, the mid-century ranch house tied the interior of the house to the outside with expanses of glass or windows, low pitch gable roofs with overhangs, and an open floor plan. However, the ranch house was more likely to have a prominent garage or carport. The basic form could be embellished with Colonial Revival or Craftsman details or reveal a modern flair. The Hotpoint Living-Conditioned Home shares these features and another important characteristic of the ranch house. It has the elongated or "rambling" floor plan, although in the Knoxville house it is not oriented towards the street as most 1950s ranch houses were. Rambler, an alternate name for ranch houses, was used in the title of one 1955 publication by the Home Plan Book Company. *The Book of Rambler and Ranch-Type Homes* offered plans that met the requirements of the FHA and could be ordered from local lumber dealers.¹⁷ Numerous other companies printed plan books where plans and materials could be

¹³ "A Letter from The Publisher, Nov. 17, 1958," in *Time* (November 17, 1958; Vol. LXXII, No. 20)

<http://www.time.com/time/>, accessed October 30, 2009.

¹⁴ *Chicago Sun-Times*, April 21, 1995, Obituary for Martin Bartling Jr., from www.highbeam.com, accessed October 29, 2009.

¹⁵ Stephani L. Miller, *spotlight on bruce mccarty*, www.residentialarchitect.com. Accessed November 2, 2009.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *The Book of Rambler and Ranch-Type Homes* (St. Paul, MN: Home Plan Book Company, 1955), front inside cover.

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purchased at local lumber companies.¹⁸ Aladdin Read-Cut Homes had been selling “kit houses” in 1906 and the company updated their models in the 1950s to include ranch houses in addition to the more traditional bungalows and Cape Cod houses.¹⁹

The inspiration for the ranch house type of home originated in the West and its present great popularity is based on sound reasons. It is a one-story type home which features plenty of light and air. Its longest dimension usually faces the street or road and its approach is inviting and friendly. If you require a one car garage, we will be glad to quote with breezeway connecting, or if you desire a two car garage, we can quote the arrangement as shown in the illustration above.²⁰

The ranch house style was being built before WWII, but it was not until the post-war years that the style's popularity surged. Returning servicemen could get at loan to buy one of the newly built ranch houses in suburbs that sprang up on inexpensive land near most major metropolitan areas. Developments of three bedroom houses, maybe with a garage, on property bigger than an urban parcel sprang up rapidly throughout the US. “The Ranch turned housing into a mass-market commodity, but one that allowed a range of choices in appearance, amenities, and location. ... Twentieth century mass media – magazines, movies, and television – spread the look and lifestyle.”²¹ The ranch house was both mass produced and mass marketed. *Living for Young Homemakers* was only one of the popular magazines that endorsed this “new” type of housing. Similar magazines published ranch plans and ideas on modernizing older homes. All were filled with advertisements from companies involved in building or decorating.

There has been no comprehensive survey of post-WWII housing in Knoxville or Knox County. The West Hills subdivision has houses dating from the 1950s and later, as well as a school and commercial areas. There are other 1950s ranch houses but there is only the one model Hotpoint Living-Conditioned Home. A circa 1948 house, the Daniel House, was listed in the National Register in 1998. Like the nominated property, this is a unique house. It is an architect designed house that was an experiment in using scrap material to build innovative and inexpensive houses. Leftover marble from a nearby quarry and ribs from Quonset huts were re-used in the house. It does have an open plan and feeling of a floating roof, like the Hotpoint Living-Conditioned Home, but it was never replicated.

¹⁸ Examples include Weyerhaeuser Sales Company, National Plan Service Inc., Home Building Plan Service, and Standard Homes Company,

¹⁹ *Aladdin Read-Cut Homes* (Bay City, MI: Aladdin Company). 1956 and 1957 catalogues

²⁰ *Aladdin Read-Cut Homes* (Bay City, MI: Aladdin Company, 1949), 8.

²¹ Alan Hess, *The Ranch House* (New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 2004), 11.

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Knox County, Tennessee**Bibliography**

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Geographical Data

Boundary Description

Rectangular lot measuring 120.4 feet wide and 198.7 feet deep, approximately, located on the west side of West Hills Road and known as CLT Parcel 120CA021, per deed recorded in DB 1571, pg. 822, Plat Book 21, page 75, Knox County Records.

Boundary Justification

The description is of the original lot on which the Hotpoint House was constructed and contains all the property associated with the building.



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We need black and white photos but if they are digital images, the CD needs to have color images. What you sent has black and white images. If these are not digital, we do not need a CD but we need negatives.

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FURNITURE

CUSTOM CRAFT: upholstered furniture
designed by Paul McCobb

HARVARD: bedframes

WINCHENDON FURNITURE: wood pieces
designed by Paul McCobb

FABRICS, RUGS

BARWICK: viscose rayon carpets

BLOOMCRAFT: fabrics and ready-mades

DEERING-MILLIKEN: *Milium* insulating drapery
lining

B. F. GOODRICH: *Spongex* carpet cushion

INDIAN HEAD MILLS: cotton place mat and
napkin fabric

BEDDING

FIELDCREST: sheets, blankets and towels

PUROFIED DOWN PRODUCTS: bed pillows

SERTA: mattresses and box springs

KITCHEN AND DINING EQUIPMENT

CURTIS: kitchen cabinets

CUTCO: cutlery

DOMINION: toaster and coffee-maker

HOLMES & EDWARDS: *Bright Future* silver-
plated flatware

HOTPOINT: major appliances

KOHLER: sink

METALCRAFT: *Magikan* step-on refuse container

OWENS-ILLINOIS GLASS: Libbey glassware

PLAS-TEX: mixing bowls

PLASTICS MANUFACTURING: *Texas Ware*
plastic dinnerware

WEAR-EVER: *Hallite* cooking utensils

OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT

CHATTANOOGA ROYAL: barbecue

JOHNSTON: lawn mower

MOLLA: iron terrace furniture

DECORATIVE STRUCTURAL MATERIALS

AMERICAN-OLEAN TILE: bathroom ceramic tile

CONGOLEUM-NAIRN: *Gold Seal Vinyltile*
flooring

HEXCEL: *Honeylite* translucent ceiling panels

UNITED STATES PLYWOOD: *Samara* mahogany
paneling

MISCELLANEOUS

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM: colored telephones

GENERAL ELECTRIC: television, radios

GOULD-MERSEREAU: drapery hardware

HERSCHEDE: clocks

HOOVER: vacuum cleaner

KATZENBACH & WARREN: wallpaper

KOCH & LOWY: lighting fixtures

LASKY BROS. & ELISH: closet accessories

LAUREL: lamps

HOWARD MILLER: fireplace equipment

living mag, dec 1955, fig. x

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Add sketches of house from living magazine; maybe add other photos.