

MANHATTAN'S HISTORIC LANDMARKS & DISTRICTS

E. A. & Ura Wharton House

The E. A. and Ura Wharton House is architecturally significant as a vernacular style house. The house was built in 1897 for Edward Augustus (E. A.) Wharton and Ura Burgoyne Wharton. The first floor is constructed of limestone, which came from a nearby quarry owned by William and Edward Ulrich. A one-story, concrete block and clapboard garage that stands northwest of the house was originally constructed in 1907 for carriages.

Ura, daughter of Uriah Higinbotham, was born and raised in Manhattan. E. A. came to Kansas from Pennsylvania in 1880 and opened the New Dry Goods Store in Manhattan in 1887.

Wharton's mercantile was well known in the community for its quality merchandise and



E. A. & Ura Wharton House, 608 Houston

unique window displays. The Manhattan Republic reported that, "Wharton's store is one of the very finest dry goods stores in the state", while the Manhattan Nationalist noted, "the show window of E. A. Wharton is one of the most tasty displays in town. Many a

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a passerby is attracted to it and of course is disposed to investigate.”

Wharton owned the mercantile until 1909. In addition to owning the mercantile, Mr. Wharton was elected to the City Council in 1903. The Whartons lived in the house until their deaths, E. A. in 1939 and Ura in 1941.

*Source: Kansas State Historical Society
National Register of Historic Places - Nomination Form*