

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number all

Page 8

Site No. 6

Photo No. 6

✓ Name: Grimes Garage

Historic Name: same

✓ Address: 110 North Waco St.

Date: 1914

Present Owner: Marion Sides  
1000 East Elm  
Hillsboro, Texas 76645

Block/Lot: Block K 2, Lot 7, 8

Acreage: less than one acre

Original Use: Service station/garage

Current Use: Service station/garage

U.S.G.S. Quadrangle: Hillsboro West

UTM Reference: 676660/3543120

Architectural Description:

Physical Condition: Excellent

Date(s) of Alterations: Minor, some windows painted over

This early-20th-century, vernacular brick service station with an L-shaped plan contains one-and-a-half stories plus a single-story brick garage, concrete floor, and steel ceiling. The roof rests on 16" x 16" reinforced concrete columns. The exterior brick is painted white with a red stripe, and the name "Fred O. Grimes" appears on the plaque on the upper facade. A large garage door is located at the north end of the facade. Wide display windows at the street level are framed by decorative black-and-white, ceramic-tile patterns enhanced by diamonds and triangles. The shaped brick parapet wall crowning the structure is capped with limestone coursing and bordered by two slightly projecting corner pilasters of brick. The exterior also displays decorative courses of dentils. The interior features a fine, tin ceiling and glass-brick lounge. The garage has remained unaltered except for a few windows which have been painted over.

Significance:

Period: 1900-

Areas of Significance: Architecture, Commerce, Transportation

This vernacular commercial building is significant as one of the earliest and best-advertised gas stations in Texas. It was constructed on the main highway between Waco and Dallas by Fred O. Grimes, Sr., in 1914. A pioneer in automotive service and repairs,

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Continuation sheet

Item number all

Page 9

Grimes had earlier opened the first garage in Hill County and improvised the first motorized gas pump in Hillsboro. The Grimes Garage, itself, was advertised on billboards all over the state and was known for its elaborate glass-tiled lounges and restrooms. Grimes also worked with various highway associations to organize early routes and main thoroughfares for automobiles throughout the state, and served on the Chamber of Commerce Highway Commission for 35 years. His first garage opened in 1906, but failed within a year because of insufficient automobiles in the county. The present enterprise was begun in 1913, and moved to its permanent location the following year.

**Bibliography:**

Dallas Morning News, January 30, 1965.

The Reporter, February 4, 1982.

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2/15/84

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 2

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Hillsboro Multiple Resource Area  
State Hill County, TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Farmers National Bank

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 3/30/84

Attest

2. Gebhardt Bakery

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 3/30/84

Attest

3. Grimes House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 3/30/84

Attest

4. Grimes Garage

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 3/30/84

Attest

5. Hill County Cotton Oil  
Company

Substantive Review

Determined Eligible

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Keeper

Eligible - Beth Grosvenor 3/30/84

Attest

6. Hillsboro Cotton Mills

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 3/30/84

Attest

7. Hillsboro Residential  
Historic District

Substantive Review

Keeper

Beth Grosvenor 7/9/84

Attest

8. Old Rock Saloon

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 3/30/84

Attest

9. Sturgis National Bank

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 3/30/84

Attest

10. Tarlton Building

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 3/30/84

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Grimes Garage (Hillsboro MRA)  
Hill County  
TEXAS

Working No. 2-15-84  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-15-85  
Date Due: 3/15/84 ~~3/31/84~~  
Action:  ACCEPT 3/30/84  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

- |                                    |                                       |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Condition                          |                                       | Check one                          | Check one                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> original site    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good      | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input type="checkbox"/> altered   | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair      | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |                                    |   |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

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**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_  
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

James G. ...  
Hill County  
Texas

Historic ...  
National ...

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_  
Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Historic Resources of Hillsboro  
Hillsboro, Hill County, Texas  
Site No. 6, Grimes Garage, 110 N. Waco  
Photographer: Ellen Beasley, Spring 1982  
Negative on file, Texas Historical Commission,  
Austin  
View: west elevation, camera facing east  
Photo 6 of 23

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000846