city, town

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

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

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

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### 7. Description

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#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Stamford, Texas, is a typical small town of northwest Texas which developed entirely in the 20th century. Its creation, in 1900, was followed by steady growth for the following half century. During those years the commercial, residential, social, civic, and religious needs of the community were met by an interesting and varied array of structures. One-, two-, and a few three-story commercial structure were constructed on the town square, while impressive churches and civic buildings were put up in the central part of the city. Residential areas developed, as did a warehouse/industrial section. Vernacular treatments predominate in Stamford, but excellent examples of Beaux Arts, Neo-Classical Revival, Spanish Colonial Revival, Mission Revival, and late Victorian stylistic influences can be seen scattered throughout the town. Twenty-one of these structures are here being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

The present nomination results from a historical/architectural survey of the city made in 1983-84, by Don and Sally Abbe, Historic Preservation Consultants of Lubbock, Texas. After driving and walking every street, the survey crew photographed all commercial and industrial structures with any possible historical potential, as well as all residences with historic or architectural merit. Needless to say, library and documentary research was also carried out. One hundred thirty-six buildings were documented. The survey also reported on all industrial downtown governmental and religious studies built before 1950. The activities of the local Main Street Program have resulted in a well-preserved and accurately restored downtown section.

Stamford lies in the rolling plains section of Texas, about 40 miles north of Abilene. The land was originally relatively treeless, except for along stream beds and near natural springs. Today the town is fairly heavily wooded with ornamental types of trees and shrubs, while the ranch lands around the city are now heavily infested with mesquite. One presently finds both ranching and farming lands contiguous to the city.

Stamford is basically laid out in a grid pattern, with the central, commercial section in the flattest area. Most of the city is situated on relatively flat terrain, except for the southeast section of town (the College Heights area) which is in a lower and more rolling section. Two railroad routes cross Stamford; the old Texas Central crosses the city center on a northwest-southeast line, while the old Wichita Valley track enters the city on its northeast corner, then curves across the south-central neighborhood, exiting the city on the southwest side. The city limits are irregular but clearly marked. Stamford has brick streets in the business district and in the older residential neighborhoods near downtown, which complement the historical buildings.

A wide variety of structures emerged in Stamford over the years. Architectural styles varied, as did the uses to which buildings were put. Retail stores, warehouses, facilities, and residences gave builders numerous choices to express the styles and building types of the era.

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Most existing commercial structures are of one or two stories with 25-ft. or 50-ft. fronts. Exceptions are the three-story Penick-Hughes Building (property no. 6), last known as Thompson's Hardware; the West Texas Utilities Building (property no. 8), a long, low, one-story structure; and the C.R. Anthony Store, a modern, one-story building. Corner buildings are narrow and deep, to utilize the long side frontage for commercial purposes. The typical Stamford commercial building tends towards the vernacular, but some recognizable stylistic elements also appear. The use of the Spanish Colonial Revival style on the West Texas Utilities Building (property no. 8), and on Gail's Hallmark Shop (the old West Texas Utilities Building) (property no. 2) represents the most elaborate application of style on any of Stamford's commercial buildings.

Civic structures tend to be small but of high quality. Examples are the two-story City Hall (property no. 4) and the one-story U.S. Post Office (property no. 1), both of which were designed in the Beaux-Arts style, as interpreted on a small scale.

Churches in Stamford are either small and simple, or large and complex, depending on the wealth and size of the congregation. The earliest, largest, and wealthiest churchs in Stamford are the First Baptist (property no. 7) and St. John's Methodist (property no. 5) churches. In 1908 the Baptists constructed a large two-story building with Neo-Classical Revival influences, while in 1910 the Methodists build a two-and-a-half-story building which utilized the Prairie Style mixed with Gothic touches.

Residential needs of Stamford's citizens were met by a variety of structures as well. Large and expensive Neo-Classical Revival homes, such as the Astin House (property no. 17), appeared in small number, as did elaborate Queen Anne houses or late Victorian homes. However, the typical house in Stamford is a smaller, one- or one-and-a-half-story house built initially within a vernacular or simplified Queen Anne style, later generally a bungalow. Some isolated examples of larger homes in other styles are found in the city, but they are certainly not representative of the norm.

Materials used to construct Stamford's buildings vary almost as much as the styles. Most commercial buildings are either of solid brick or have a brick veneer over wooden frame. Concrete and clay tiles were also much used. Unfortunately, many of these early vernacular brick facades are now encased in stucco. The best surviving examples of the brick commercial structure in Stamford are the old Penick-Hughes Building (property no. 6) and the A.C. Humphrey Warehouse (property no. 9). The Humphrey Warehouse is a particularly good example of the early twentieth-century use of

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decorative and elaborate brickwork in a commercial structure designed for a mundane purpose. Civic buildings are also of brick, as are the large churches. Some buildings used a rough-cut ashlar stone, while one, the SMS Building, is of smooth-cut and polished stone. The most unusual treatment in Stamford is the front facade of the West Texas Utilities Building (property no. 8), whose ornate Spanish Colonial Revival treatment was achieved by using precast concrete panels across the entire front of the building.

Residential construction was dominated by the simple frame house, with a smaller number being frame with a brick veneer. A few examples of brick over a clay tile inner wall can be found, as can stucco over clay tile walls.

Generally, the civic, religious, and residential structures in the town retain their original appearance and materials. The same cannot be said of the commercial buildings. Many of the better stone and brick structures have been encased in stucco and "modernized" over the years. As a result, many fine buildings have been denatured or completely obliterated by stucco or by aluminum, wooden, or concrete panels on their original facade. The downtown commercial section no longer retains the cohesive look of style and materials which it once possessed. The unaltered or lightly altered building leaps out of the streetscape as a reminder of what once existed downtown.

It is the intention of this nomination to present those structures in Stamford which are architecturally or historically significant and which retain their original appearance and character. It is also intended to nominate structures which do not possess great historical or architectural merit, but which are still representative examples of a type of building at a point in time, and still original in appearance and materials. Unfortunately, these criteria eliminate several historically significant structures which are heavily modified or badly deteriorated. In particular, the Stamford Inn (STA-012), Hassan's (STA-047), Hassan's for Her (STA-049), Bunkley's Drugstore (STA-046), White's Auto (STA-098), and others, would be clearly eligible for nomination if they were restored or stabilized.

#### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 X 1900–		conservation economics education	music	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation X other (specify ranching
Specific dates	(see individual continuation sheets)	Builder/Architect (see	individual continuat	ion sheets)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Stamford, Texas, is presently an excellent example of an early twentieth-century town spawned by speculators selling acreages to land-hungry farmers. It is also a good example of a small, rural town which was born and matured during the early decades of this century. Because of this, Stamford contains many fine structures which represent both early twentieth-century architecture and the local history of this small West Texas city. Shortly after 1900, the town developed as a busy agricultural center with railroads, flour mills, and cotton gins. Stamford remained prosperous even in the 1930s, when newly discovered oil provided badly needed support for the local economy.

Before the arrival of Anglo ranchers, the Stamford region was within the domain of the nomadic Comanche and Kiowa tribes. In the 1870s the ranching frontier arrived in Jones County in the form of S.M. Swenson, who purchased huge acreages in this part of Texas for a variety of ranching operations. Stamford lies in the very northern part of Jones County and actually spills over into neighboring Haskell County. It was begun as a joint venture between the SMS Ranch and Texas Central Railroad. In the late 1890s, A.J. Swenson, manager of the SMS, decided to partition some of the ranch's holdings in Jones County and sell the land to newly arriving farmers. To stimulate land sales, Swenson joined with the Texas Central Railroad in creating a townsite at the head of a forty-mile branch line, which was to be constructed from Albany to a section of land located in the middle of the SMS pasturage. Arrangements were finalized in 1899, land chosen for a townsite, and construction initiated. By 1900 the rail line was complete, a town was under construction, and farmers had begun to arrive.

Between 1900 and 1910, Stamford emerged as a flourishing trade center for an expanding agricultural economy. The city's population reached 3,902 by 1910, as the production of cotton, wheat, corn, cane, and grain sorghum skyrocketed. Flour mills and cotton gins appeared in the city to process the local crops, while transportation facilities grew to carry these to market. The original Texas Central Railroad line to Albany prospered, as did other newly constructed rail lines. The Wichita Valley Railroad Company decided to link Stamford with Wichita Falls, so in 1907 and 1908 a line was built from Seymour to Stamford via Haskell, Mundy, Wichita, and Goree. Then, in 1908, the W.V.R.R. extended another line from Stamford to Abilene. During 1909 and 1910 another railroad project led to the construction of a line, the Stamford and Northern Railway, from Stamford to Spur. Thus by the end of 1910 Stamford stood at the center of a comprehensive rail system which served a large part of northwestern Texas.

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GPO 911-399

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A.J. Swenson, nephew of SMS Ranch owner S.M. Swenson, represented the SMS Ranch interests in Stamford from 1905 to 1921 as superintendent of the SMS-owned Ellenshire Ranch, and from 1922 to 1946 as manager of all local SMS Ranch holdings. His residence, at 511 East Oliver (property no. 20), is one of the structures being nominated herein.

Another influential person in the Stamford's early growth was J.P. Astin, a real estate speculator and developer who came to the city soon after it was founded. Astin became very successful, as his lavish home at 111 E. Campbell attests (property no. 17). R.L. Penick likewise had a great impact on the city. His Penick-Hughes Company, a wholesale-retail hardware and implement store, was one of Stamford's most successful and lucrative businesses. Housed in a large three-story building at 100 E. Hamilton (property no. 6), the company contributed to local growth for many decades after its creation in 1900. Mr. Penick emerged as a leader in the city as well, serving as mayor in 1903, and again in 1917 and 1919. These men and companies, and others like them, created, nurtured, and guided Stamford for over three decades.

During Stamford's first thirty years of growth, its citizens constructed a variety of structures to meet the everyday commercial, civic, social, religious, and residential need of the community. Most commercial structures were small one— and two-story buildings which either have not been preserved or have been heavily modified.

However, five commercial buildings remain intact to represent Stamford's early growth. The last remaining commercial structures in the city that are unaltered and historically significant are the old Penick-Hughes Building, last known as Thompson's Hardware (property no. 6); A.C. Humphrey's Warehouse (property no. 9); the old Bryant-Link Drygoods and Hardware Store, now West Texas Utilities (property no. 8); Gail's Hallmark Shop, the old West Texas Utilities Building (property no. 2); and the Swenson Land and Cattle Company/Berry's Furniture Building (property no. 3).

The First Baptist Church (property no. 7) and St. John's Methodist Church (property no. 5) are two of the most monumental structures in town, as well as two of the best preserved. The Stamford City Hall (property no. 4) and the U.S. Post Office (property no. 1) are good examples of the Beaux Arts style and are the two most important civic buildings. The Buena Vista Hotel (property no. 10), a small rooming house, is an excellent example of its genre and the only one of its kind left in the city.

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The city benefitted from the railroads through increased economic activity (including both wholesale and retail sales companies) and as a railroad division point complete with engine shops, roundhouses, and other service facilities. The growth of Stamford's trade area led to its development as a financial center as well. By 1910 the city possessed three banking facilities as well as two newspapers which "boosted" the city's image.

Indeed, Stamford's future seemed so bright in the early years that the Methodist Church established Stamford College in 1906. The school opened with twelve teachers and 256 students housed on a twenty-acre campus which contained an administration building, as well as a men's and a women's dormitory. In 1918 the Administration Building burned and the college was closed. It was incorporated into McMurray College in Abilene in 1920, and its land and buildings in Stamford were given to the Stamford school system.

Stamford has remained a relatively prosperous town throughout its entire history. At first it flourished on agriculture and railroad dollars. Then, in the dark days of the 1930s, oil discoveries pumped new life into the flagging local economy. For these reasons the city has developed a diversified farming, ranching, and oil economy which has served it well over the years.

Population figures reflect this stability. The city's population of 3,902 in 1910 dropped slightly to 3,704 in 1920, then rose steadily for three decades, to 4,095 in 1930, 4,810 in 1940, and 5,819 in 1950. Consolidation and mechanization in agriculture and decline in the railroad industry have caused a population decline since 1950: to 5,259 in 1960 and 4,558 in 1970. The decline stabilized by 1980, as the population only dropped that year to 4,542 residents.

Throughout its history, certain corporations and individuals guided Stamford's development. The primary factor in the town's growth was the Stamford Townsite Company, a creation of the Swenson brothers and the Texas Central Railroad. This company created the townsite, sold lands, and dominated local affairs for decades. The Stamford Townsite Company (SMS Ranch included) funneled time, effort, and dollars into the town. It built and maintained the Stamford Inn, a well known local hostelry, and rebuilt it after a fire in 1925. The Swenson Land and Cattle Co. built its local headquarters building in Stamford (property no. 3), and donated lots in the city for schools and for the city hall (property no. 4).

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Eleven residential structures are included in this nomination because they are architecturally and/or historically significant, or because they are well-preserved, representative examples of early twentieth-century housing in Stamford.

Each of the above 21 structures will be addressed individually on continuation sheets for each property.

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- Complete Business and Professional Directory of Abilene, Albany, Aledo, Alvard, Anson, Baird, Barstow, Benjamin, Big Springs, Bluffdale, Carbon, Cisco, Clyde, Colorado, Comanche, Decatur, DeLeon, Dublin, Eastland, Fort Worth, Gordon, Goree, Gorman, Granbury, Hamlin, Knox City, Travis, McCauley, Merkel, Midland, Millsap, Mingus or Thurber Royston, Rule, Sagerton, Santo, Seymour, Stamford, Stanton, Stephenville, Strawn, Sunset, Sweetwater, Tolar, and Weatherford, Texas. n.p., 1908.
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### PROPERTIES NOMINATED TO NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

All properties are 1900-; all are on their original locations; unless otherwise stated, all buildings are privately owned, occupied and have restricted areas. Architects/builders are not known unless indicated.

Property No.	Name	Survey No.	Use
1.	U.S. Post Office	01	Government
2.	Old West Texas Utilities Bld Gail's Hallmark Shop	g•/ 08	Commercial
3.	SMS Building/Berry Furniture	10	Commercial
4.	Stamford City Hall	11	Government
5.	St. John's Methodist Church	15	Religious
6.	Old Penick-Hughes Company/ Thompson Hardware	17	Vacant
7.	First Baptist Church	36	Religious
8.	West Texas Utilities/Old Bry Link Building	ant- 43	Commercial
9.	A.C. Humphrey Warehouse	61	Commercial
10.	A.J. Jackson House	67	Private residence
11.	Buena Vista Hotel	78	Rooming house
12.	Residence - 501 N. Swenson	87	Private residence
13.	Residence - 502 S. Orient	100	Private residence
14.	Dr. E.P. Bunkley House	107	Private residence
15.	Residence - 709 E. Reynolds	113	Private residence
16.	Residence - 719 E. Reynolds	115	Private residence

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17.	J.P. Astin House	116	Private residence
18.	Residence - 815 E. Campbell	118	Private residence
19.	Residence - 610 E. Oliver	119	Private residence
20.	A.J. Swenson House	120	Private residence
21.	Residence - 710 E. McHarg	123	Private residence

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Property No. 1

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-002

Name of property- United States Post Office

Address of property- Town Square

Owner of property- U.S. Postal Service

Owner's Address- Facilities Department

475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW

Washington, D.C. 20260-6400

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town; Town

Square bounded by State Hwy 6, Wetherbee,

U.S. Hwy 277 and McHarg

UTM Coordinates- 14/425020/3645260

The Stamford Post Office's classical allusions seem to have been inspired by the Beaux Arts school. The small building, sited in the middle of the town square, is of buff brick with concrete and wooden ornamentation.

The one-story building has a raised basement delineated by a concrete sill. Concrete steps on three sides lead to a lobby/customer-service area which retains many of its original furnishings. A small clerestory and large nine-over-nine-light wooden sashes allow much light into the lobby and work areas.

The major feature of the front facade is a pedimented central portico. All details, including decorative panels and Tuscan columns, are of wood. A large metal-framed fanlight over the entry doors and two tall sidelights form an entrance reminiscent of a Palladian window. The north and south entrances repeat many of the same details, though without the portico. The projecting cornice is of wood, and topped by a parapet which alternates

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solid brick sections with sections of wooden balustrade. The gabled clerestory with its standing-seam metal roof occupies only a small portion of the roof area, and is barely visible from the ground.

Though new aluminum-framed glass doors are at each entrance and metal screening has been added over each window, the building is little changed from when it was built in 1917.

Significance: local level, architecture 1917

The U.S. Post Office in Stamford is both architecturally and historically significant. It is a perfectly preserved example of a small Beaux Arts building from the early twentieth century, as well as a major local landmark and civic structure.

Stamford contains few examples of the closely related Neo-Classical Revival and Beaux Arts styles. Beaux Arts was popular with designers of public building in the U.S. before World War I. The Stamford building is a good example of how this style was interpreted on a small structure to produce an imposing and pleasing appearance for the post office.

The best-preserved example of this style in town is the U.S. Post Office, built in 1917 in the very center of the city, on the town square. The Post Office building was built on the site of Stamford's first city hall building, and occupies a spot which has been a community focal point for over eight decades. As in any small town, Stamford's Post Office is a major civic and social facility. It not only serves as a point of delivery for the mail but is a meeting place, has bulletin boards for public announcements, and was intended to be an architectural showpiece for the town. It is a significant structure in the city, and has been for over 65 years.

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Property No. 2

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-008

Name of property- Old West Texas Utilities Co./Gail's Hallmark Shop

Address of property- 127 E. McHarg

Owner of property- Chris S. Jones

Owner's Address- P.O. Box 872

Stamford, Texas 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town;

Block 18, Lot 14

UTM Coordinates- 14/425060/3645360

The Spanish Colonial Revival commercial building at 127 E. McHarg is one of Stamford's outstanding rehabilitation projects. The long and narrow, buff-brick building has a concrete frame which is articulated on the outside of the building in the brick-veneered piers with ornamental cast-stone panels and the concrete course above the transom windows.

The front portion of the building was built to house a retail function, and has large wood-framed plate-glass windows. The transom lights here, as elsewhere on the building, have been filled with wood panelling to match the original glass. Glass-paneled wooden doors, with multi-light transoms, allow entry to the interior. An elaborate copper awning shades the McHarg street entrance.

The two east side entrances are the architectural focal points of the building. Detailed cast-stone panels at the transom level repeat and elaborate the detailing found on the piers. Wrought-iron grilles cover small niches above each entrance. The tiled parapet above each door is gabled and slightly higher than the main parapet.

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The middle and rear portions of the building have metal fixed and awning windows. A wooden awning shades the irregularly shaped rear portion and loading dock.

The Old West Texas Utilities Company Building is located on the town square among other commercial buildings.

Significance: local level, architecture, 1928

The Old West Texas Utilities Company Building is a structure which is both architecturally and historically significant. It is an excellent example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style—a rare style in Stamford—as well as being the old office building for the West Texas Utilities Company, a major firm in town since the 1920s.

This structure was built in 1928 by the West Texas Utilities Company. The Spanish Colonial Revival style was common across the Southwest during the 1920s, although not in Stamford. The building is an excellent example of the style as used on a smaller building; it survives today as one of the city's more handsome commercial buildings.

Not only is the building architecturally significant, it is historically important. When West Texas Utilities began to expand in the 1920s, it entered many new markets, in particular the small towns of West Texas. The company built numerous expensive and stylish buildings across the state using the Spanish Colonial Revival or the Art Deco style. Gail's Hallmark Shop is one of the best surviving, unaltered examples of this early expansion. Since its construction in 1928, this building has served as a local landmark for Stamford's citizens. Until it was sold by West Texas Utilities in the mid-1970s, it also served as an informal meeting place, of sorts, for local businessmen and workers.

After a decade of neglect, the structure was purchased and restored to serve its present retail function. It is again a local landmark and an example to the rest of the town of how they can again restore the character of their heavily modified older buildings.

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Property No. 3

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-010

Name of property- SMS Building/Berry Furniture

Address of property- 101 S. Wetherbee/210 E. McHarg

Owner of property- Swenson Ranches Partnership

Owner's Address- P.O. Box 551

Stamford, Texas 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town;

Block 22, Lots 1, 2

UTM Coordinates-

14/425100/3645280

Description (altered, good condition)

The Swenson Land and Cattle Company Building contains both the Swenson offices and a retail lease space. Because frontage on the town square was potentially valuable to a commercial venture, the office portion is located at the eastern end of the building (facing E. McHarg) while the store faces S. Wetherbee.

The one-story and basement building is constructed of tile with stone veneer on the three facades readily visible, and brick veneer on the hidden south side. The stone came from nearby Lueders. The roof structure and floors are of wood.

The ornamentation on the building is restrained yet elegant, befitting the Swenson Company's status in the community. A simple cornice provides continuity between the office and retail portions of the building, as do the regularly spaced piers along the building. The retail facade is primarily glass, allowing easy viewing of merchandise in the show windows. One side bay originally contained an entrance with double glass-paneled doors. The other side bays originally consisted of two sheets of plate glass, topped by a wide wooden transom bar. The three-sectioned transoms

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(each section having three lites) in each bay included an operable, screened, central section. The original storefront was much like the sidebays, but included a recessed entry way. A simple awning and sign completed the commercial portion of the building.

The office section is more closed, in keeping with its less public function. Its three bays are covered in stone decorated in classical motifs. Two sections contain Palladian windows, while a door takes the place of the central window in the third bay. According to historic photos, the lintels of these windows match the height, width, and shape of the transom bars of the commercial section. The words "Swenson Land and Cattle Co." and "SMS Ranch" (using the reversed S and undulating M of the Swenson brand) are etched in the frieze.

Few changes have been made to the building since its construction. The Lueders stone has darkened considerably. The wooden office windows are now covered by metal-framed storm windows, and metal awnings have been placed over each door. Unfortunately, the original retail entryway has been filled in with stone and new aluminum and glass doors, while the transoms have been covered with corrugated metal. However, the outlines of the original entry are visible in the pressed-metal interior ceiling and can easily be reconstructed. Aside from this alteration, the basic structure of the building has not changed over the past five decades.

Significance: state level, architecture, ranching, 1927-Nichol and Campbell, architects; C.S. and C.B. Oats, contractors.

The Berry Furniture/Swenson (SMS) Land and Cattle Company Building is one of the most significant structures in the city. It is an architecturally sophisticated building, as well as the main local offices for the SMS Land and Cattle Company, Stamford's most historically significant commercial venture.

This building was constructed in 1927 and early 1928 to replace the original Stamford Townsite Company land sales office, built on this location in 1902. The new facility was designed to contain profit-making commercial space in the front two thirds of the building and to house the SMS Land and Cattle Company's local office in the rear third. The SMS Company felt that an expensive and durable structure was warranted, one that would uphold thier image as an important element in the local economy. Thus the company commissioned a sophisticated and unusual building. The entire project was a local affair, as the firm of Nichol and Campbell, Architects, of Abilene designed the structure while the contractors were C.S. and C.B. Oats, also of Abilene.

The Swenson Land and Cattle Company (SMS Ranches) is one of the great ranching enterprises in Texas. In the <u>Handbook of Texas</u> (1952), the four SMS ranches were said to occupy considerable portions of twelve counties in western Texas comprising more than 3000,000 acres. The SMS Building achieves statewide significance as the principal head-quarters for many years of the Swenson Ranches.

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The Berry Furniture/SMS Building is one of the most elaborately designed and finely crafted structures in the city. Its understated elegance reflects the SMS Company's conservative, yet impressive, economic and commercial position in the area. It is not a flamboyant building, but is exceedingly well built and full of details only apparent to the close and thoughtful observer. It is an important structure, not only in Stamford but in the region and state as well.

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Property No. 4

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-011

Name of property- Stamford City Hall

Address of property- 201 E. McHarg

Owner of property- City of Stamford (government)

Owner's Address- 201 E. McHarg

P.O. Drawer 191

Stamford, Texas 79553

Acreage-

Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town; Block 19, Lots 1, 2, West 10' of 3

U'IM Coordinates-

14/425100/3645360

The edifice constructed by the City of Stamford has its roots in the Beaux Arts style popular at the time for public buildings. The two-story rectangular building included a one-story rear garage for the city fire department.

The brick building rests on an unusually tall concrete base which actually forms the sill for the first-floor windows. Ornamental brick work, including panels and recessed courses, provides decoration for the building.

Other decorative features are of cast stone. Four engaged Ionic columns divide the recessed front facade into three portions. Bracketed segmental window hoods top the ground-floor windows, while a similar triangular pediment adorns the door. A molded architrave and cornice encircle the building, while cast-stone panels, paterae, and the words "City Hall" adorn the frieze. The cartouche adorning the raised central portion of the parapet and the parapet coping are also of cast stone.

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Though the building is little altered structurally, the replacement of original doors and windows leaves much to be desired aesthetically. The original wooden sashes, transoms, and doors have been replaced with fixed glass and metal panels which alter the proportions of the openings.

Significance: local level, architecture, government, 1917.

The Stamford City Hall is an architecturally and historically significant structure in the local setting. It is an excellent example of the Beaux Arts style as it is interpreted on a relatively small building, as well as the major focal point for city politics and local civic affairs.

The Stamford City Hall was built in 1917, to replace the original city hall/opera house torn down to make way for the U.S. Post Office. Stamford's city fathers chose the Beaux Arts style, with its classical features, as it was popular for use on civic and public buildings in that era. Also, the Beaux Arts style quite effectively enabled a smallish or moderately sized building to take on a much more impressive and massive appearance through the use of columns and other classical features. Within Stamford, the city hall is a rare example of this elaborate and expensive style.

City Hall has served the city well for almost seven decades, and is a well-known local landmark and symbol. It has been, and still is, the focal point for local political and civic activities. Thus, its architectural and historical significance rank it as one of Stamford's most important surviving structures.

The Stamford City Hall is located adjacent to the town square in the central business district.

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Property No. 5

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-015

Name of property- St. John's Methodist Church

Address of property- S. Ferguson Street

Owner of property- St. John's Methodist Church

Owner's Address- S. Ferguson Street

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town; Block 31, Lots 1, 2, 3

UTM Coordinates- 14/425240/3645160

The imposing St. John's Methodist Church is a fine example of the Prairie Style as interpreted on a large building. Many architects across the country, including Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright, preferred this style. James E. Flanders, a noted Dallas architect, utilized this mode on several Texas churches, including St. John's in Stamford. St. John's uses the geometrical plan and appearance of the Prairie Style, but emphasizes the vertical rather than the horizontal to achieve a contrast with the surrounding environment.

St. John's is a large, buff-brick, gable-roofed church built on a cruciform plan. The largest and tallest roof is on a north-south axis, with slightly lower gables pushing out to the east and west from the center of the building to form the basic cross plan. A small, square cupola with a pavilion roof is located on the ridge of the main north-south roof, marking the center of the plan.

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Square towers rise from the empty space on each corner of the building, somewhat obscuring the basic plan and making the structure appear to be square and monolithic. Three of the towers are no taller than the main roof line, but the northwest tower, over the main entry, is much taller. The three lesser towers are capped by pavilion roofs, while terra-cotta freizes are found on all four sides of each tower. The taller tower is also capped by a pavilion roof, but it resides over an open belfry with two small wooden columns set in each opening. Verticality is stressed by the long, narrow louvers on each side of this tower.

A bell hip-roofed portico at the base of the taller northwest tower covers the main entrance to the church, while lesser entrances are found on the other three towers as well. The roofs of the main structure, the towers, and all porches were originally covered with metal shingles which are currently being replaced with composition units.

The verticality of the structure is relieved somewhat by string courses which enrich the building. Gothic-style stained-glass windows are set in the ends of the main gables on the north and south sides of the building, while lesser one-over-one or fixed-pane stained-glass units are used elsewhere.

Significance: state level, architecture, 1910

St. John's Methodist Church is one of the most significant structures in Stamford for both architectural and historic reasons. Historically, it has served for generations as the religious home for one of Stamford's largest denominations and architecturally it is a fine example of late nineteenth— and early twentieth—century, Prairie Style church architecture designed by a nationally known architect.

The Methodist congregation in Stamford emerged as soon as town building began. After using temporary quarters for several months, a lot was purchased in December of 1900, and a small frame building erected. In 1907 Stamford College was established in the south-eastern edge of town as a Methodist institution of higher learning. By early 1909 the growing congregation decided to build a new and impressive structure between downtown and the new college campus in order to serve both communities better.

After arranging initial financing (and later borrowing \$15,000 from the Southern Union Life Insurance Co. of Waco), the church hired two contracting firms (E.J. Holderness Co. and C.S. Oates & Co.) and began the magnificent structure designed by James E. Flanders of Dallas. While construction began in 1910, it took two years of start-and-stop work to

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complete the exterior of the building. Construction was interrupted by both funding problems and a direct hit by a tornado which severely damaged the unfinished building in 1910. The Methodist congregation chose Flanders to design their church because of his proven track record of impressive churches and courthouses in many Texas cities. Flanders produced an impressive design which uses the Prairie Style with some Gothic features to create a truly unusual structure.

Once the exterior was completed, funds dried up and work on the building slowed. The congregation moved into the building in February of 1912 but struggled for ten more years, until 1922, to complete the interior.

Since its exterior completion in 1912, St. John's Methodist has served as the spiritual home of the large Methodist congregation in Stamford. It has been the religious focal point for one of the town's largest congregations, as well as a local landmark for all its citizens. The church dominates the entire downtown area, towering over the lesser one—and two—story structures in the area. Architecturally it is an exquisite structure perfectly preserved since its original construction, and still serving its congregation faithfully after seven decades of use.

St. John's Methodist Church bears strong similarities with Flanders' Trinity Methodist Church in Dallas (National Register 1975, burned and removed 1983). The Stamford church is located between the central business district and an older residential neighborhood.

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Property No. 6

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-017

Name of property- Old Penick-Hughes Company/Thompson Hardware

Address of property- 100-106 E. Hamilton

Owner of property- A.C. Humphrey

Owner's Address- 128 E. Rotan

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town;

Block 29, Lots 12, 13, 14

UTM Coordinates- 14/424980/3645160

This three-story brick building, built in 1909 and 1910, dominates the square in downtown Stamford. The various levels of the building (including the basement) housed the activities of one of the city's earliest and largest enterprises. The 75-ft. by 165-ft. building, though boarded up and vacant, is little changed from the original.

The lower floor originally housed retail portions of the business. Store entrances and windows were located on the west side (which remain) and the north side. This north facade has been altered by the removal of the original store fronts and the addition of corrugated metal and new aluminum and plate glass. Small semi-circular windows along the west side allow light into the building above shelves on the interior wall. A wooden awning covers the west side entrances and store windows.

Portions of the interior are original, including the pressed-metal ceilings on the first floor. Some original counters and railings also remain. The rear portion of the first floor is raised, and windows at sidewalk level allow light to enter the basement. Luxor prisms in the sidewalk also provide illumination to the basement.

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Stone string courses separate the remaining elements of the building. The arched windows of the second floor and rectangular windows of the third floor are set in groups of three, possibly as an expression of the spacing of the structural elements of the building. All upper-level windows are now boarded up.

Above the third-story windows several courses of stone and corbeling in a dentil pattern form a wide cornice. The building is topped with a mesh fence that once held the Penick-Hughes Company's signs. A ladder and fire escape were added to the building after its construction.

Significance: local level, commerce, 1909

The building last occupied by Thompson Hardware was built in 1909 and 1910 to serve as the headquarters for the Penick-Hughes Company, a wholesale and retail hardware store also selling farm implements and furniture. The Penick-Hughes Company opened a small retail store in Stamford in 1899, even before the town was established. The venture was successful, and the company headquarters was transferred there from Anson. By 1909 the firm felt a need for more space and built the present building. The structure, when completed, measured 75 ft. by 165 ft., and occupied four floors including the basement. Within the structure were the company's general offices as well as wholesale and retail sales departments—all linked by an internal telephone network.

The company's major partner and moving spirit, R.L. Penick, soon became a civic leader in the city, as well as one of its leading citizens. He served as mayor of Stamford in 1903, then again in 1917 and 1919. After over 40 years of commercial and civic success, R.L. Penick died in 1944 and the company dissolved soon thereafter.

The structure he built to house his business continues to dominate the downtown of Stamford, looming over the smaller, lesser commercial structures on the square. It remains a local landmark, well known to old timers as the "old Penick building." Historically it is one of the most significant commercial structures in the city, a reminder of one of Stamford's most successful businesses during the town's era of growth and development.

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Property No. 7

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-036

Name of property- First Baptist Church

Address of property- E. Oliver and N. Swenson

Owner of property- First Baptist Church

Owner's Address- P.O. Box 24

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town; Block 10, Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

UTM Coordinates- 14/425000/3645540

Description (altered, good condition)
The 1908 Stamford First Baptist Church is a massive, domed structure
built on a Greek Cross form. The buff brick building rises from a dark,
brown-brick, rusticated water table. Four large gabled roofs cover the

arms of the cross below the domed portion of the building. Two-storied, flat-roofed, squared entrances are found at each corner of the building.

Classical influences are found in the pilaster strips on the secondary facades, the plain metal cornice, and the dentil moldings which appear at various locations on the building. The large stained-glass windows on the north side of the structure are surrounded by a large segmental—arch opening flanked by two brick piers. Ornamental brick work adds textural interest to the building.

Changes to the building included the composition shingles covering the majority of the domed portion and the gabled roofs. Plexiglass now covers all the stained-glass windows. Aluminum framed doors have been added to all the corner entrances, which apparently were once open.

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The 1932 section of the building is a two-story educational building east of the 1908 building. Its buff-brick, dark-brown water table and concrete cornice are intended to relate to the older building. The 1960 addition is relatively harmonious in scale, design, and materials, but is should be considered non-contributing because of its recent age.

Significance: local level, architecture, 1908, 1932, 1960.

The First Baptist Church in Stamford is an important complex of structures with both architectural and historical significance. It is the religious home for one of the town's earliest and largest congregations, and is also a good example of the large-scale, classically influenced church building.

The First Baptist Church was organized in Stamford in early 1900. Temporary facilities were used at first, then a small structure was built in late 1900 or 1901. By 1908 the congregation had grown and prospered enough to initiate a new structure. Ten leading members of the church each pledged \$1,000 for construction, and work began in early 1908. The building was completed in 1909 and stood as one of the city's most elaborate and expensive structures. Twenty-six years later, in 1932, the overcrowded congregation once again decided to expand by constructing a two-story educational wing behind the main chapel, on the east side of the lot. This two-building complex served the needs of the congregation until the late 1950s. In 1960 a new educational wing was added to the south of the old main building, completing the present First Baptist Church complex.

The First Baptist complex has served as the spiritual home for a large part of Stamford's population for generations. It has been the focal point for one of the city's largest religious denominations and is a well-known local landmark.

Not only is this complex important historically, it has a great deal of architectural merit. It is a good example of the Classical influence which is rare in Stamford, particularly in large buildings. Use of this style with its classical features makes the main church building one of the most imposing structures in town. The 1932 educational building, which also has a hint of classical styling, adds to the mass and imposing nature of the complex.

The mildly altered structure, with its long history and landmark status, as well as its architectural merit, undoubtedly ranks as one of Stamford's most important cultural resources.

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Property No. 8

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-043

Name of property- Old Bryant-Link Building/West Texas Utilities

Address of property- 120 S. Swenson

Owner of property- Thompson Jewelry

Owner's Address- c/o W.C. Thompson

P.O. Box 748

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town;

Block 23, N. 10' of Lot 2, S. 18 1/3'

of Lot 3

UTM Coordinates- 14/424920/3645240

Description (altered, good condition)

The commercial structure at 120 S. Swenson is the most elaborate in the city. The elegance and attention to detail befitted the growing "empire" of the Bryant-Link retail chain, and it is prominently sited on the town square.

The Stamford headquarters and store is a one-story tile building with a prefabricated concrete facade. According to one of the Bryant heirs, the front facade was precast in San Antonio, shipped to the site, then installed.

The elaborate cast-concrete motifs of the facade are influenced by the Plateresque architecture. The presence of such an unusual style in Stamford is probably found in the San Antonio origins of the building. The building consists of two storefronts: one (presumably the former store), occupying approximately two-thirds of the frontage, and another, smaller store/office occupying the remaining third. The original storefront in the larger portion is unchanged, with dark metal bases and framing, original

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brass-stripped plate glass and glass-paneled doors. The entrance floor is covered in small mosaic tiles that include Maltese crosses, swastikas, and other symbols of unknown origin. The smaller storefront, while retaining the configuration of modern plate glass and aluminum have created an effect totally alien to the original receding fronts.

Significance: local level, architecture

The West Texas Utilities Building in Stamford is perhaps the city's most impressive architectural achievement, as well as a historically significant structure on both the local and regional levels. Built in 1928 for the Bryant-Link Company, one of Stamford's earliest and most successful commercial ventures, it remains one of the best and, perhaps, the only commercial example of the Plateresque style in the entire region.

The Bryant-Link Company began in Anson as a small farm-implements/dry-goods store in 1884. During 1900 the firm opened a store in Stamford and moved the company headquarters to the new city. The company prospered, and by the mid-1930s it owned stores in Stamford, Lamesa, Jayton, Post, and Spur. During the late 1920s, at the height of its prosperity, the company decided to construct a new and fashionable building on the site of their original large brick building. This structure was built during 1928 to house the company's home offices and its local dry-goods and department store operation.

The firm chose the popular Spanish Colonial Revival (Plateresque) style to portray a lavish and contemporary picture for the public. The entire 850-ft. front facade was made of precast concrete in San Antonio, then shipped to the site and installed on the new building. Since its construction it has remained one of Stamford's most noteworthy and unusual structures. After serving the Bryant-Link Company and other tenants for decades, the building was purchased by West Texas Utilities in 1973. After the remodeling of the interior and refurbishing of the exterior, basically in a sympathetic manner, the structure was ready to embark on its next half-century as a local landmark and viable commercial structure. It has served the West Texas Utilities Company well for over a decade and shows every sign of forging ahead into the next century with its original character and most of its fabric intact.

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Property No. 9

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-061

Name of property- Old H.O. Wooten Grocery Co./A.C. Humphrey Warehouse

Address of property- 128. E. Rotan

Owner of property- A.C. Humphrey

Owner's Address- 128 E. Rotan

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town;

Block 34, Lots 2, 3, 4, 5

UTM Coordinates-

14/425060/3645040

Description (altered, good condition)

The A.C. Humphrey Warehouse is the most interesting and best preserved of Stamford's early twentieth—century facilities. The brick structure was built as a grocery warehouse about 1916.

The solid brick walls are divided into bays by piers. The brick wall between each pier has a corbeled cornice and both string courses and sill courses.

Small arched windows pierce the wall in the upper portion of the high-ceilinged interior space to allow natural lighting. On three sides of the building, larger one-over-one wood-framed windows with relieving arches provide additional lighting and ventilation.

On the remaining side, wooden steps allow access to a wooden loading dock and the entrance to the office. Two sets of sliding, braced doors open wide for easy loading and unloading. A flat wooden awning shelters the entire dock and is tied to the main structure by wooden beams supplemented with steel rods.

The Warehouse is located near the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad tracks in a commercial/industrial area south of the town square.

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Significance: local level, architecture, c. 1917

The A.C. Humphrey Warehouse was built between 1913 and 1922, but most likely in 1916 or 1917. It serves as a historical reminder of the flourishing wholesale grocery trade which emerged in Stamford before World War I, and is the best surviving example of commercial masonry work in the city.

During Stamford's first three or four decades of existence it developed a healthy wholesale grocery industry. The T.M. Radford Company arrived in 1904, the H.O. Wooten Grocery Company opened in 1905, Waples-Platter Company in 1909 and the Walker Smith Company in 1915. The H.O. Wooten Grocery Company decided to expand its operations, and in 1916 purchased the lots which the present building occupies. Soon thereafter they built this large and handsome structure.

Although this building was essentially a warehouse, the company spent extra money to construct an ornate structure which was built by skilled craftsmen from quality materials. Many of Stamford's early commercial structures were built of similar materials at a similar or higher level of craftsmanship. Regrettably, most of these buildings are either gone or heavily modified (usually stuccoed), so that the high-quality brickwork is now obliterated. The A.C. Humphrey Warehouse is the last, and largest, remaining example of high-quality commercial masonry left in the city, as well as being the best preserved and best built of all Stamford's surviving warehouse structures.

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Property No. 10

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-067

Name of property- A.J. Jackson Residence

Address of property- 305 S. Ferguson

Owner of property- Noble J. Young

Owner's Address- 305 S. Ferguson

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town; Block 32, Lots 4, 5

UTM Coordinates- 14/425060/3645400

The small house at 305 S. Ferguson is one of Stamford's earliest existing residences. The wood-frame house is built on a U-shaped plan (with a shed porch connecting the two gables) and has a shed-roofed rear addition. An interior chimney sits along the main ridge line. Multiple entrances and many long windows provided ventilation in pre-air conditioning days. It is in an older residential/commercial neighborhood near the town square.

Significance: local level, architecture

The A.J. Jackson Residence is a good, unaltered, frame dwelling which typifies the inexpensive housing built in Stamford in its first years. The house was erected before 1908, probably in 1905 (according to the present owner, who is the daughter of the original owner).

Most of Stamford's early working-class housing has either been demolished, denatured, or heavily modified with stucco or asbestos-tile siding coupled with the removal of trim. The fact that this little house remains intact down to the original windows, siding, plan, and even trim is highly unusual. It serves as a reminder of the typical early Stamford housing unit, a type of structure quickly disappearing from the local scene.

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Property No. 11

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-078

Name of property- Buena Vista Hotel

Address of property- 123 North Wetherbee

Owner of property- Margaret E. Chase

Owner's Address- 59478 46th St. Reynolds Lake

Lawrence, MI 49064

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town;

Block 18, N. 82 1/2' of Lots, 15,

16, 17, 18, 19, 20

UTM Coordinates- 14/425240/3645000

Description (unaltered, good condition)

The Buena Vista Hotel was constructed in 1928 as a rooming house. The two-story house is a brick-veneered tile structure with a metal-tile roof. All rafters are exposed. The rooms are arranged along two long central hallways which are evident on the outside because of the central doors in the front facade.

The main feature of the simple structure is the porch. The roof of the porch is flat to form the wrought-iron railed porch opening off the second-floor hall. A metal-tile hipped roof surrounds this deck and covers the first-floor porch. Four large brick pedestals and square wooden posts support the porch. It is in an older residential/commercial area.

Significance: local level, commerce, 1928

The Buena Vista Hotel is the last remaining example of the family operated "rooming house" in Stamford. Between 1900 and 1930 many of these small two- and three-story buildings were built to serve the transient labor force associated with the railroad and local industrial operations. All have been demolished, have burned, or have been moved away except for the Buena Vista.

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The Buena Vista Hotel was built in 1928, by D.D. and Vista Duncan, to capitalize on the local housing needs. The two-story tile structure with brick veneer was built by E.D. Jones, a local contractor, for \$9,500. It contained 21 rooms and two baths. Since its construction, it has served faithfully as a rooming house and stands as a reminder of what was once a flourishing "cottage industry" in Stamford.

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Property No. 12

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-087

Name of property- Residence, 501 N. Swenson

Address of property- 501 N. Swenson

Owner of property- Mrs. Olivia Williamson

Owner's Address- 501 N. Swenson

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town; Block 90, Lots 1, 2

UTM Coordinates- 14/424920/3645860

The small frame house at 501 N. Swenson is typical of the type of permanent housing first built in Stamford. It is an example of the simplified Queen Anne style popular in the late nineteenth century and built in West Texas as late as the early 1900s.

The house has a central, hipped and wood-shingled section with two projecting gables forming an L-shaped plan. A small shed addition at the rear and an asymmetrical corner porch complete the structure.

Two decorative elements add a Queen Anne look to an otherwise simple structure. The gable ends have a full-shingled return, wide bargeboards, and decorative shingle siding. A sunburst-patterned panel accents each gable.

This small attached porch has turned columns, a spindle frieze, and decorative brackets all contributing to a modest, but intact, version of late Victorian styling.

The house is located in a mixed residential/commercial area on U.S. Hwy 277.

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Significance: local level, architecture, c. 1905

The small house at 501 N. Swenson is a good example of a small frame dwelling built in Stamford in its first few years, and one of the few surviving examples of the simplified Queen Anne style in the city. It is even more unusual in that it has survived eight decades of use with little or no alteration.

This dwelling was built between 1900 and 1908, probably between 1904 and 1906. The simplified Queen Anne style was beginning to lose popularity during that period, and few such structures were being built in Stamford, especially small ones. Thus this house was unusual when constructed, and it is quite rare in Stamford today.

The fact that this little house is virtually original in every detail adds to its rarity. It is the only small, simplified Queen Anne, unaltered, and non-deteriorated example in the city. As such it stands as one of the town's more significant dwellings.

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Property No. 13

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-100

Name of property- Residence, 502 S. Orient

Address of property- 502 S. Orient

Owner of property- Robert E. Taylor

Owner's Address- 502 S. Orient

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town; Block 126, Lot 1

UTM Coordinates- 14/425720/3644760

Description (unaltered, good condition)

The house at 502 S. Orient is a large two-story frame structure. The hipped roof has composition shingles and boxed eaves. Four hipped dormers project from the roof to allow light to the attic story.

The house is basically rectangular, with a wide, hipped-roof porch across the front elevation. Groups of two or three Doric columns set on square wooden pedestals support the porch roof. A wooden balustrade completes the porch.

Although a hipped-roof projection over the porch appears to have been added, it appears on the earliest Sanborn map (1922) for this area. Lozenge windows in various sizes and configurations are found around the house. A two-story bay and a bracketed oriel window add interest to an otherwise simple structure. The upper part of the chimney flue has been removed.

NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

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

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e 27

Significance: local level, architecture, about 1908

The residence at 502 S. Orient is important in Stamford as an example of the traditional large house built early in the city's history. It is also important for its possible connection with Stamford College.

Probably built between 1907 and 1910, this house was finally mapped by the Sanborn Company in 1922. It does not possess any great architectural merit, but is a good, representative example of a typical, vernacular, early twentieth-century residence of large size. It is also important for its possible association with Stamford College. Although the dating on this section of town is vague because of spotty mapping by the Sanborn Map Company, it is likely that this pre-1922 structure was actually built around 1907 or 1908 in conjunction with Stamford College, which occupied the land directly across the street.

When Stamford College was built in 1907, it no doubt prompted the construction of some houses on nearby streets. Unfortunately, the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps do not deal with this part of town except to indicate the college campus. The area around the college, the College Heights addition, was platted in 1907, so construction did take place at that date. (A house a half-block east, for instance, was built in 1910.) In 1922 this dwelling was finally mapped. It is very likely that the present house was built much earlier, as a dwelling for a college employee or a faculty member.

In any case, the house is one of the best examples of the large, early twentieth-century residential houses in the city. It is virtually unaltered and is representative of the kind of well-built, middle-, or even upper-class housing constructed in Stamford during its first two decades of growth. It may well be the most substantial example in Stamford of the American Foursquare style. The surrounding area is largely residential.

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Property No. 14

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-107

Name of property- Dr. E.P. Bunkley Residence and Garage

Address of property- 1034 E. Reynolds

Owner of property- C.E. Swenson

Owner's Address- 1034 E. Reynolds/P.O. Box 551

accentuate the horizontal appearance of the house.

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town;

Block 150, Lot 16, 17

UTM Coordinates- 14/426460/3644760

Description (unaltered, good condition)

The two-story brick house at 1034 E. Reynolds was built in 1927.

Though not Prairie Style in the strictest sense, the house shows strong elements of horizontal styling.

The rectangular house is of buff brick with the horizontal mortar joints emphasized. Subdued panels of ornamental brick patterning occur between the second-story windows, and a soldier course appears at the roof lines. Triple sets of windows with concrete sills continue the feeling. Long, bracketed, concrete window boxes under first-floor windows further

The entrance and side porch have flat roofs with wrought-iron balustrades. Each is supported by massive square columns of brick.

The house is dominated by a steeply hipped red-tile roof. The eaves are boxed in on all sides, contributing to the long look of the house.

A detached double garage with a second-story garage apartment is of the same material and repeats the major features of the main house. It is a contributing feature in terms of the nomination.

The property is sited on a corner lot in an older residential neighborhood.

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Significance: local level, architecture, 1927 E.D. Jones, contractor The large brick dwelling at 1034 E. Reynolds is an example of the housing erected by Stamford's more affluent citizens in its first several decades of growth. It was also the home Dr. E.P. Bunkley, an early Stamford pioneer and civic leader.

The dwelling was built for Dr. Bunkley in late 1927 by E.D. Jones, a local contractor. Bunkley purchased a "modern two-story brick house" for \$10,000. Although the house possesses few outstanding architectural characteristics or stylistic features, it is an attractive and imposing dwelling.

Shortly after Bunkley built the structure he began to advance his civic career. He was elected mayor of Stamford in 1933 and 1935, leading the city through some of the darkest hours of the Depression. Thus, for at least four years, this dwelling served as the focal point for local politics, as well as a home for Dr. Bunkley.

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Property No. 15

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-113

Name of property- Residence, 709 E. Reynolds

Address of property- 709 E. Reynolds

Owner of property- Danny Duggan

Owner's Address- 709 E.

709 E. Reynolds Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage-

Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) College Heights; Block 132, Lot 5

UTM Coordinates-

14/425800/3644840

Description (unaltered, good condition)

The house at 709 E. Reynolds is similar in materials and detailing to its neighbor at 719 E. Reynolds. While somewhat unusual, the house exhibits many Craftsman details and features.

The frame house has wood siding ranging from a narrow width near the eaves to a much wider board near the ground, creating the effect of slightly battered walls. The hipped roof has gablets at each end, four gabled dormers, and hipped extensions over the front porch and the two square bays. Exposed purlins and rafters further enhance the Bungalow effect.

The asymmetrical porch stretches across the front of the house. A solid wall continues the wide siding found on all walls below the window sill, and several sets of columns support the roof. The square columns are joined with decorative stickwork.

In keeping with the Craftsman concern for light and ventilation, the house has many windows. Most are single-light sashes, though a few of the first-floor windows have multilight upper sashes.

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Significance: local level, architecture, c. 1908

The residence at 709 E. Reynolds is quite similar to the one two doors away at 719 E. Reynolds, at least in terms of general historical and architectural characteristics.

This type of small bungalow, as it is built at 709 E. Reynolds, is one of the best examples of the style in Stamford. Although dating on this section of town is vague, due to a lack of complete mapping by the Sanborn Map Company, it is likely that this pre-1922 structure was actually built around 1907 and 1908 in conjunction with Stamford College, which occupied the land directly across the street.

When Stamford College was built in 1907, it no doubt prompted the construction of some houses on nearby streets. Unfortunately, the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps do not deal with this area of town, except for including the college campus. The area around the school, the College Heights addition, was also platted in 1907, so construction did take place. The house next door, for instance, was built in 1910 and finally mapped in 1922. It is highly possible that the present house was built much earlier, as a dwelling for a college employee or a faculty member.

In any case, it is one of the best examples of this kind of vernacular bungalow in the city. The structure is virtually unaltered and is representative of quality middle-class housing in Stamford during its first two decades of growth.

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Property No. 16

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-115

Residence, 719 E. Reynolds Name of property-

Address of property- 719 E. Reynolds

Owner of property-Carl L. Cooper

Owner's Address-719 E. Reynolds

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage-Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) College Heights; Block 132, Lot 7

UTM Coordinates-

14/425860/3644840

Description (unaltered, good condition) The house at 719 E. Reynolds is one variation of the typical bungalow built in Stamford early in its history. The one and one-half story, wood-frame house is built on a cross-gable plan with broad, steeply pitched, wood-shingle roofs to allow use of the attic story. Exposed rafters are

evident around the roof edge.

The textual variation so popular in the Craftsman-type house is provided in a simple manner by the use of siding that varies in width from narrow at the roof line to very wide at the ground. As the width of the weatherboard increases, the wall flares slightly. This treatment is used around the house, including the bay windows and porch posts. It was possibly used along the now-stuccoed porch wall as well.

The L-shaped porch is contained under the main roof line. Geometric patterns adorn the porch posts. Multilight and single-light windows are used in a variety of sizes and configurations. An aluminum storm door has been added to the large paneled door with sidelights.

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Significance: local level, architecture, c. 1908

The small bungalow built at 719 E. Reynolds is one of the best examples of that style built in Stamford. Although dating on this section of town is uncertain, due to a lack of early mapping by the Sanborn Map Company, it is likely that this pre-1922 structure was actually built around 1907 or 1908 in conjunction with Stamford College (which occupied the land directly across the street).

When Stamford College was built in 1907, it no doubt prompted the construction of many houses on nearby streets. Unfortunately, the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps only include the college campus in this part of town. Since the area around the college—the College Heights addition—was platted in 1907, we know that construction took place in that part of the city. The house next door, for instance, was built in 1910; nevertheless, it was not until 1922 that this dwelling was finally mapped. It is highly possible that the house at 719 E. Reynolds was built much earlier, as a dwelling for a college employee or a faculty member.

In any case, it is one of the best examples of the small bungalow in the city. The house is virtually unaltered and is representative of the kind of high-quality, middle class housing built in Stamford during its first two decades of growth.

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Property No. 17

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-116

Name of property- J.P. Astin House

Address of property- 111 E. Campbell

Owner of property- Dr. R. Mark and Robbye Probst

Owner's Address- 111 E. Campbell Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town; Block 61, Lots 8, 9, 10

UTM Coordinates- 14/425060/3645720

Description (unaltered, excellent condition)

This elaborate Neo-Classical Revival home is of wood-frame construction with wooden detailing. The two-story house has a hipped roof now covered in composition shingles.

A widow's walk on the roof provides a view for many miles in all directions. Large, square dormers project from each side of the roof, each with lozenge windows and parapet; the cornice detailing repeats that found elsewhere on the house. The boxed eaves of the roof have modillions, a row of dentils, and a wide and simple frieze. Three interior chimneys are found on the roof.

The two-story flat-roofed entry portico is supported by matched pairs of wooden fluted columns with Ionic capitals. The portico is topped with a wooden railing consisting of slat balusters and a decorative pattern representing St. George's cross.

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Independent one-story porches are found on each side of the house. These hipped-roof porches have slender Ionic columns and cornice detailing similar to the main roof line. The porch that passes under the full-height entry forms a porch for the second story. The balustrade of this porch repeats the railing motif of the portico.

Bay windows are found under the east and west porches. A porte cochere with similar detailing extends from the west porch.

Lozenge windows are found in most of the large rectangular openings, while a lozenge-paned wooden door with sidelights and heavy wooden surrounds is found at the main entry. A similar door arrangement opens onto the second-floor porch.

A stable and servants quarters are located at the rear of the grounds. The quarterblock on which the house stands is surrounded by a low iron fence. A portion of the side yard is enclosed by a white lattice—work fence.

Significance: local level, architecture, about 1909

The J.P. Astin House, built between 1908 and 1913 (probably 1908-1910), is one of the most significant structures in Stamford. It is an architectural gem, a fine example of the Neo-Classical Revival style as it is interpreted on a very large house. Also, its builder and first occupant was J.P. Astin, a very early Stamford pioneer and civic leader.

The Neo-Classical Revival style was a popular residential style in the U.S. from the mid-1980s until World War I. It was particularly adaptable to the large-house format. The Astin House is an outstanding example of the style, which is rare in the city. It is one of Stamford's largest and most impressive homes, and one of its best preserved and unaltered early twentieth-century dwellings.

J.P. Astin, the builder of the house, came to Stamford in 1908 to participate in the building of the town as a real estate agent, speculator, and developer. He was apparently quite successful at these enterprises, and built his magnificent residence after approximately ten years in the city. Since its construction, the house has remained basically unaltered. The present owners conducted a thorough restoration/modernization in 1983 and early 1984 which is extremely sympathetic to the original fabric and character of the house.

The house is prominently sited on a corner lot in an older residential neighborhood.

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Property No. 18

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-118

Name of property-Residence, 815 E. Campbell

Address of property- 815 E. Campbell

Owner of property-Emil Mueller

Owner's Address-P.O. Box 1174

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage-

Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Hanna Eastside; Block 7, Lots 6, 7

UTM Coordinates-

14/426040/3645700

Description (unaltered, good condition)

The simple house at 815 E. Campbell possesses some detailing which sets it apart from the average frame structure. The wood siding on the house ranges from very narrow at the eaves to quite wide at the ground, producing slightly battered walls—an effect seen on several other houses in Stamford (See also No. 15 {STA-113} and No. 16 {STA-115}). Historic photos of the present house show a two-tone paint scheme which further enhances the textural variation.

The hipped roof, now covered by composition shingles, flares slightly at the corners. The roof has boxed eaves and one small, hipped dormer. brick flue extends through the roof.

Large windows with leaded-glass transoms are located around the house, while the wide, simple entry has a multilight wooden door.

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The raised porch under the main roof line is the major feature of the house. The porch wall continues the sill line of the side windows at the height of the lower part of the wall which is covered by wide siding. The porch is supported by four short, but large, Ionic columns—an incongruous detail on an otherwise plain house.

Significance: local level, architecture, about 1910

The house at 815 E. Campbell is an excellent example of the high-quality, middle-class housing built in Stamford during the first decades of its existence. It is an unusual house with architectural features that set it apart from the normal middle-class or working-class house.

Probably built between 1907 and 1920, the house at 815 E. Campbell is a well-built, ornate small house typical of many Stamford residences. It is unusual, however, in that it employs some Craftsman architectural features as well as thick Ionic columns on the front porch. These extra architectural details give the house a moderately imposing appearance, setting it somewhat apart from its neighbors.

It is reminiscent architecturally of a Pyramid House, so-called because of its roofline, and is a not uncommon, one-story, Texan counterpart of the American Foursquare style. The house presents an interesting contrast with the U.P. Astin House (Property No. 17).

The house is located at the northeastern edge of town in an older residential area.

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Property No. 19

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-119

Name of property- Residence, 610 E. Oliver

Address of property- 610 E. Oliver

Owner of property- Mrs. R.L. Howse

Owner's Address- 610

610 E. Oliver

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage-

Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town; Block 120, Lot 16 and W 20' of Lot 15

UTM Coordinates-

14/425660/3645540

Description

(altered, good condition)

The residence at 610 E. Oliver is a frame cottage with hipped roof. The house is raised, has a rubble-stone footing, composition shingles, and boxed eaves.

The major architectural feature of the house is the monumental Greek Revival porch. The gabled porch with a pent roof is supported by two groups of three square wooden columns. A simple balustrade and two square pedestals complete the porch. A Palladian-style lunette is found in the tympanum.

The house has two doors, each set to one side of the porch. A classically detailed window feature with recessed lights and columns is flanked by the doors and occupies the place generally reserved for an elaborate entrance. Other windows have one lozenge sash over a single light in a simple frame.

Significance: local level, architecture, c. 1907

The residence at 610 E. Oliver, built between 1900 and 1913, is an unusual example of extensive and expensive architectural features on a small house. It is also an excellent example of the quality housing built by Stamford's middle class in the first decade of its existence.

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This house is unusual in an architectural sense because it utilizes expensive Greek Revival elements, such as heavy columns and a Palladian lunette to enhance an otherwise average structure. These features are not normally found on a smaller middle-class, or perhaps even a working-class home.

Although this house is atypical in an architectural sense, it is very representative of the quality built throughout Stamford in its early decades. It is a small house, moderately expensive when built, yet it provided its owner with a bit more in the way of "image" than a small cottage or bungalow.

This property is in an older residential neighborhood.

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Property No. 20

Historic Resources of Stamford

Stamford Historic Structures Survey Identification number, STA-120

Name of property- A.J. Swenson House

Address of property- 511 E. Oliver

Owner of property- B.H. Connally

Owner's Address- 511 E. Oliver

Stamford, TX 79553

Acreage- Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description- (Legal Description) Original Town; Block 120, E. 1/2 of Lot 5, Lots 6, 7

UTM Coordinates- 14/425520/3645600

Description

The A.J. Swenson House at 511 E. Oliver was built in 1905 and displays Queen Anne massing and Classical features on a basically square, wood-frame house. Details such as the bay windows, the asymmetrical porch, and the elaborate dormer, appear grafted into a relatively simple structure.

The two-story house has an almost pyramidal roof line with a minimal ridge. Changes in plan are provided by two-story, hipped-roof bays at each rear corner and a gabled dormer at the front of the house. Each ridge section of the roof is capped by a metal fleur-de-lis finial, while a brick chimney exits from the slope of the main roof.

The wood-shingled and gabled dormer is the most elaborate feature of the house, having an extended, bracketed roof line and a recessed arch framing a Palladian window. A small shingled and railed balconet of semicircular shape projects from the main roof at the base of the dormer.

The front facade of the house is unbroken except for a small second-story bay window directly below the dormer. A full-width one-story porch is the dominant feature of the house. The asymmetrical porch has a

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semicircular entry feature similar to that on Colonial Revival houses. Classical detailing includes Ionic columns which support the porch, the simple balustrade pattern at floor level and along part of the roof line, and dentil molding along the cornice. Additions and modifications are largely limited to the rear of the building. It is located in an older residential neighborhood.

Significance: state level, architecture and ranching, 1905

The A.J. Swenson House, 511 E. Oliver, possesses both historical significance and architectural merit. A.J. Swenson, nephew of SMS Ranch owner S.M. Swenson, came to Texas in 1881 and arrived in Jones County to work for his uncle in 1889. In 1894 he took over Swenson's Ellerslie Ranch, then in 1897 became superintendent of all SMS Ranch holdings. In 1922, A.J. became manager of the entire Swenson Land and Cattle Company, a position he held until 1946.

In 1905, A.J. Swenson decided to build a suitable residence in the town he helped create. A large two-story dwelling was constructed with both Queen Anne and classical features. This home served the Swensons well as a house sufficiently large to raise five sons, and as an edifice suitable for a leading citizen of the city. Following A.J.'s death in 1953, the house changed hands and has suffered from neglect, although it still retains its early 20th-century visage and its unusual blend of classical and Queen Anne styling.

Because of its historical association with the Swensons and its unusual architectural characteristics, this structure stands as one of Stamford's most historic structures.

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Multiple Resource Area Thematic Group dnr-11

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7 1.	Astin,	J.P.	, House	Entered in the National Regists	Keeper Keeper	Shlower Byen 9/24/86
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, 12.	Buena	Vista	a Hotel	Substantive	Keeper	Patrick Andres 9/24/86
					Attest	Bruce J. Noble Jr. 9/24/86
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4.	First	Bapt	ist Church	Substantive	Keeper	Patrick Andres 9/24/86
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6.	House	at 5	02 South Orient	Subsective 1	Keeper	Patrik Anders 9/24/86
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§ 11.	House at 815 East Campbell	Entered in the Keeper	Stelones Byen 9/24/1
12.	Jackson, A.J., House	Attest	Patrik Andres 9/24/86
		Attest	Bruce J. Moble Jr. 9/28
<sup>ي</sup> 13.	Old BryantLink Building	Entered in the Reeper National Register Reeper	11 111
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14.	Old PenickHughes Company	Keeper	Patrick Andres 9/24/86
		Attest	Bruce J. Moble Jr. 7/24/86
15.	Old West Texas Utilities Company	Antered in the Keeper	Alous Byen 9/24/
16.	Old Wooten, H.O., Grocéry Company	Attest	Patick Andres 9/24/86
°17.	SMS Building	Entered in the Register Keeper	Delous Byen 9/24/86
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18.	St. John's Methodist	Keeper	Patrick Andres 9/24/86
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19.	Stamford City Hall	Intered in the Entired Register Keeper	Alelous Byen 9/24/80
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20.	Swenson, A.J., House	Keeper	laterile Andres 9/4/86
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### **Restricted Properties**

The following properties are restricted and not included in the Stamford MRA cover sheet.

Property Name, County, State House at 710 E. McHarg, Jones County, Texas Reference Number 86003840 **Reason** Owner objection

COVER

WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Stamford MRA-		
Jones County	Weyl	ALIC 1 LOCA
TEXAS	Substantive Hevie	Working No. AUG 1 1986
COVER		Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87
		Date Due: 9/11/86 -9/25/86
		Action:
resubmission		RETURN
nomination by person or local government		REJECT
owner objection		Federal Agency:
L appeal		
Substantive Review: sample request	appeal	☐ NR decision
Reviewer's comments: The description section was	well organized	
and very comprehensive. The significance section was well done, although politics/government was not ad in the cover or the Individual properties.	as basicelly	
well done, although politicif government was not ad	equately justified	Recom./Criteria Accept A. C
in the cover or the Individual properties.		Reviewer Bruce J. Moble, B.
		Discipline Historian
		Date 9/24/86
		see continuation sheet
Nomination returned for:technical corrections cited below	ow	
substantive reasons discussed by	pelow	
The second secon		46-72 September 201
1. Name		Committee of the commit
2. Location		
3. Classification		
Category Ownership	Status	Present Use
Public Acquisition	Accessible	
4. Owner of Property	age float e two	a local property and to a property of harden month
5. Location of Legal Description	, a desire	La company to the company of the com
6. Representation in Existing Surveys		
	□ no	
7. Description		
	ck one	Check one
	unaltered	original site
	altered	moved date
fair unexposed		
Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance	e	
summary paragraph		
completeness		
☐ clarity		
☐ clarity ☐ alterations/integrity		
☐ clarity		

8. Signifi	cance		
Period	Areas of Significance—Check and	justify below	
Specific o	dates Builder/i t of Significance (in one paragraph)	Architect	
comp		walved avitamiadas	
applic	cable criteria		
	ng significance to the resource		
relation relation	onship of integrity to significance cation of exception		
other			
9 Major	Bibliographical References		
	graphical Data		
	of nominated property ple name	MODEL TO THE	
UTM Ref			
Verbal be	oundary description and justification	n	
	And the second		
11. Forn	Prepared By		
	Historic Preservation Officer Certi		
The ordin	nationalstate	local	
State His	toric Preservation Officer signature		
title	date		
13. Othe			
☐ Maps ☐ Photo ☐ Other	ographs		
Question	s concerning this nomination may b	pe directed to	sector le seguides PATE de l'appoir l'a
Signed		Date	Phone:

