

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Texas
COUNTY:	Grimes
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	APR 16 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:	P.A. Smith Hotel
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Railroad Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Navasota		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2.--Charles Wilson	
STATE Texas	CODE 048	COUNTY: Grimes	CODE 185

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Grimes County Historical Survey Committee			
STREET AND NUMBER: % Mrs. W. T. Wilcox Box 44			
CITY OR TOWN: Navasota		STATE: Texas	CODE 048

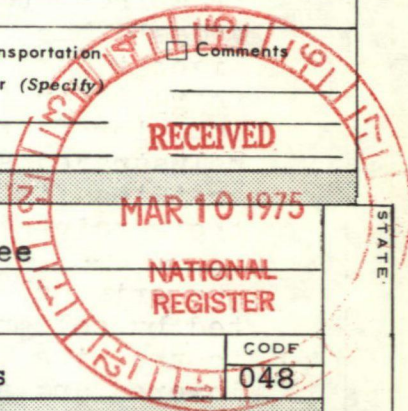
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Grimes County Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Anderson		STATE: Texas	CODE 048

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Texas State Historical Survey			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1974 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Texas Historical Commission			
STREET AND NUMBER: Box 12276			
CITY OR TOWN: Austin		STATE: Texas	CODE 048

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)
☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed
 (Check One)
☐ Altered ☒ Unaltered (Check One)
☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The three story structure is constructed of rough limestone rubble with cast iron facade at the first floor and cast iron sills and arched decorative lintels on the second and third floor. The front facade is capped with a pressed tin cornice. The openings on the north and east facades have stone segmented arch lintels and cast iron sills. The east or rear facade has been stuccoed. All of the exterior windows are six over six lites.

The building measures approximately 50' by 80'. The walls are solid limestone and about two feet in width at the first floor reducing to 12 inches at the third floor. The first floor has been modified to accomodate various commercial establishments, but still retains the central stairway. The original hotel room organization is preserved on the second and third floor. This room organization consists of a central hallway from front to rear with rooms to either side. A smaller hallway, also running from front to rear, is found along the south wall and provides a back access for the rooms on that side. Natural light illuminates the central halls on the second and third floor from a roof skylight and lightwell. Other interior features include wainscoting in the halls, balustrated stair opening and lightwell and feather-graining finish on the paneled doors which still retain their painted room numbers.

The original canopy at the first floor exterior was supported by columns at the street and offered protected access to the nine sets of double doors. The canopy was later lowered and suspended from iron hangers imbedded in the wall. The original skylight cover on the roof was a small frame structure with double hung windows on all four sides. The windows could be raised and the air on the interior would be naturally drawn from the second and third floor through the lightwell and out the open windows in the skylight structure. Access to the skylight structure was provided by a small set of interior stairs. The stairs to the roof still remain but the functional skylight cover has been replaced with a sealed metal and glass cover.

The Grimes County Historical Survey Committee presently owns the building and is in the process of raising funds for its restoration. The first floor will continue to be used for commercial tenant space, the second floor will be used for community meetings and events and the third floor will be used for small private meeting rooms.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1876

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although 19th century commercial architecture abounds in other Texas cities such as Galveston, The P.A. Smith Hotel in Navasota stands as a unique Texas blend of native limestone construction with the sophistication of cast iron detailing. Built in 1876 by Captain Philip Aurene Smith, the structure served as a hotel until the death of his wife in 1890. After that time, the upper floors were used as the private residence of the Smith family while the first floor was leased as commercial space. The building was maintained by members of the Smith estate until 1944 when it was sold to Martin Allen. It was later sold to Eddie Coneley who deeded the property to the Grimes County Historical Survey Committee.

P.A. Smith was born in Lewis County, New York on March 21, 1829. He studied to be a schoolteacher and first accepted a job in Springfield, Illinois. A good friend of Smiths, Abraham Lincoln, failed to persuade him from his Copperhead (Northern Democrat) politics and Smith traveled south to join the Confederate Army, Company A, 12th Regiment, Parson's Brigade. By 1868, Smith, after having returned to school-teaching, settled in Hillsboro, Texas.

Smith soon found his way to Navasota in 1869 where he engaged in many business adventures. As well as building and operating the hotel, he organized the Navasota Weekly Tablet, a newspaper catering to the politics of the conservative Southern Democrats. In addition to a furniture store, a cotton business and extensive real estate, Smith built the Navasota Opera House that brought many plays and larger stage companies to Navasota. Smith is recognized in local history as a man whose public-spirited manner contributed greatly to the cultural enlightenment and commercial success of Navasota.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Grimes County Courthouse Records, County Clerk's Office.
Anderson, Texas

Kilpatrick, Dr. Robert Andrew. "Brief Historical Sketch of Navasota". Navasota Weekly Tablet. July 29, 1876.

Read, Clara Curtis. Handwritten MS. (Smith's adopted granddaughter).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		30° 23' 15"	96° 05' 47"	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Joe Williams, Project Director Marie D. Landon, Historian David Hoffman, Arch. Consultant	
ORGANIZATION Texas Historical Commission	DATE 1-6-74
STREET AND NUMBER: Box 12276	
CITY OR TOWN: Austin	STATE Texas
	CODE 048

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name

Truett Latimer

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date January, 6, 1975

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

APR 9 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

14/779800
3365140
CD

Property

Smith, P. A., Hotel

76002036

Grimes

State

Texas

Working Number

3.10.75-252

TECHNICAL

Photos

Maps

2
1

CONTROL

OK 3.11.75

HISTORIAN

Accept
W.R. Luce
3/12/75

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ACCEPT
LEBOVICH
3-12-75

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
4-8-75

BRANCH CHIEF

Accept
Hunt
4.9.75

KEEPER

Wm
APR 9 1975

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

6-3-75

Send-back

Re-submit

Entered

APR 16 1975

INT:2106-74



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

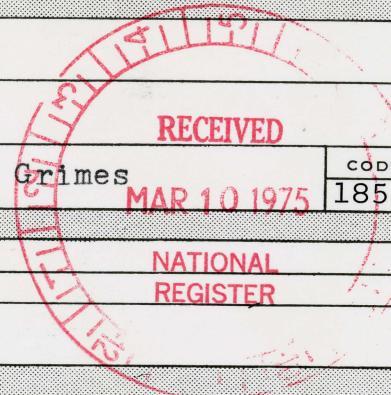
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Texas	
COUNTY Grimes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER APR 16 1975	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:		P.A. Smith Hotel	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:		Railroad Street	
CITY OR TOWN:		Navasota	
STATE:	Texas	CODE 048	COUNTY: Grimes
			CODE 185
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		David Hoffman	
DATE OF PHOTO:		October, 1974	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Wayne Bell and Associates	
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Photograph from alley showing rear (east) facade.			
#1082			



☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973-729-152/1446 III-1

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#1082



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

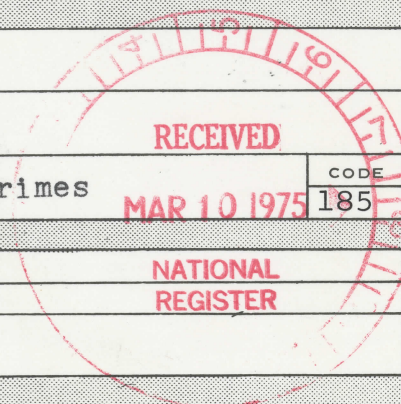
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Texas	
COUNTY Grimes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER APR 16 1975	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:		P.A. Smith Hotel	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Railroad Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Navasota			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	048	Grimes	185
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		David Hoffman	
DATE OF PHOTO:		October, 1974	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Wayne Bell and Associates	
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Photograph taken from railroad tracks looking across Railroad Street showing front (west) elevation and side (north) elevation. #2072			



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#2072

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Texas	
COUNTY Grimes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: P.A. Smith Hotel

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Railroad

CITY OR TOWN:

Navasota

STATE:

Texas

CODE

048

COUNTY:

Grimes

CODE

185

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

U. S. Geological Survey

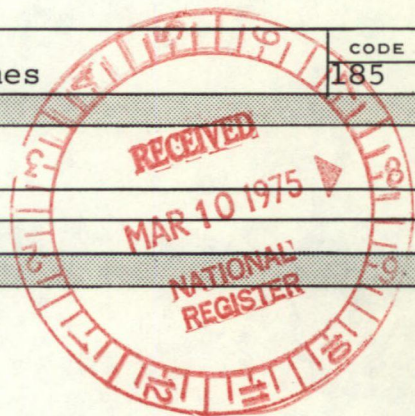
SCALE: 1:24000

DATE: 1958

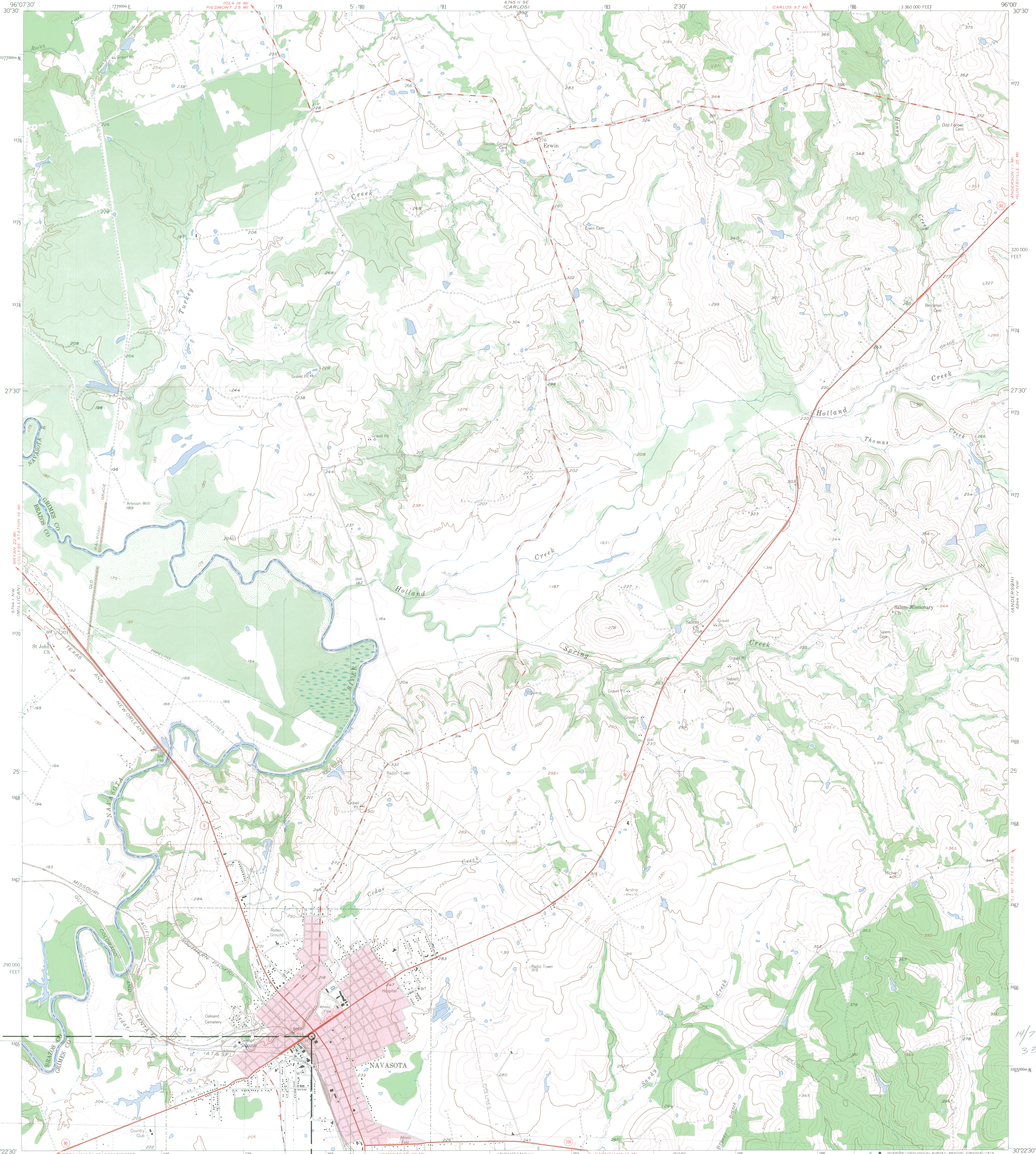
4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

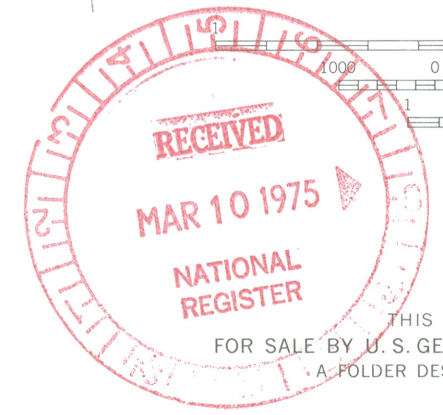


30°23'15"

14779800
336540
60

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
Aerial photographs taken 1958. Field check 1958
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,
central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 14, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown
Unchecked elevations are shown in brown

UTM GRID AND 1983 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



SCALE 1:24,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
State Route



NAVASOTA, TEX.
N3022.5-W9600/7.5
1958

3096-144

AMS 6744 I NE-SERIES V882

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE TEXAS

Date Entered APR 16 1975

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Paggi, Michael, House	Austin Travis County
Blake-Bentley-Orton Home	Jasper Jasper County
Smith, P.A. Hotel	Navasota Grimes County
Brown, John M., House	Washington-on-the-Brazos vicinity Washington County
Wilson Utility Pottery Kilns Archeological District	Seguin vicinity Guadalupe County
Kreische, Henry L., Brewery and House	LaGrange Fayette County

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower	State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. Lloyd M. Bentsen	Mr. Truett Latimer
Hon. J.J. (Jake) Pickle	Executive Director
Hon. Charles Wilson	Texas State Historical Survey Committee
Hon. Abraham Kazen, Jr.	Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station
Regional Director, Southwest Region	Austin, Texas 78711

✓ PR

MMott/bsh

4/21/75

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 12-6-76
Reviewer INITIALS: nesbitt
NR DOE 4/16/75

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: P.A. Smith Hotel

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER: Railroad Street
CITY, TOWN: Navasota
STATE: TX
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: second
COUNTY: Grimes
code: 185

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST
SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

<u>INTERIOR</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-1 <input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 4 <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 7	<u>EXTERIOR</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-2 <input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 5 <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 8	<u>ENVIRONS</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-3 <input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable-9
<input type="checkbox"/> Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0		
CONDITION - <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcavated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED <input type="checkbox"/> Reconstructed <input type="checkbox"/> Excavated

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO
IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- HOTEL

now- NOT IN USE

SIGNIFICANCE:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE -4 <input type="checkbox"/> ART <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE -6 <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE <input type="checkbox"/> LAW/Gov't/politics <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> health <input type="checkbox"/> recreation <input type="checkbox"/> settlement <input type="checkbox"/> socio/cultural <input type="checkbox"/> urban & commun planning
---	--	---	--	---

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: ITALIANATE

architect/m.builder:

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

personal

(label role

&

appropriate date)

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1876

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

1 acre

✓ COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

Limestone, cast-iron 3 stories, rectangular, flat roof, interior chimneys; ^{1st story and 2nd story} ground-floor entrance and large windows, ^{segmental-arched} 1st-story, cast-iron facade; 2nd & 3rd story, cast-iron window sills and decorative segmental-arch headers; bracketed, denticulated pressed-tin cornice ^{with brackets,} 1st-story full-width canopy; interior light well; ¹⁸⁹⁰ converted to private residence ¹⁸⁹⁰ restoration in progress. ITALIANATE. Built for Captain Philip Aurene Smith, early Navasota entrepreneur and developer of Grimes County.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)