

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received APR 28 1982
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic THE BAKER HOTEL (of Mineral Wells, Texas)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 200 East Hubbard Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Mineral Wells

N/A vicinity of

~~Congressional district~~ 17th

state Texas

code 048

county Palo Pinto

code 363

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. M. SETH HORNE

street & number 3033 N. Central

city, town Phoenix

vicinity of

state Arizona 85012

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. PALO PINTO COURT HOUSE

street & number

city, town Palo Pinto

state Texas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

THE BAKER HOTEL (of Mineral Wells) is a thirteen story, 180' tall structure containing 450 rooms and 250,000 square feet. The general configuration is a tower of an irregular elongated surface face. The yellow brick facade is of reinforced concrete construction. The style is best described as Spanish Colonial Revival, Commercial Highrise. The main structure includes a basement, ground floor lobby and grand stair, mezzanine, 10 floors of residential spaces of various floor plan and size, a ballroom, and a 40' tower. The swimming pool was constructed at the time of the Hotel's construction in 1929. The overall state of preservation is good, although the building has been vacant for several years. Numerous arcades and window openings have been enclosed. The parking garage is of recent vintage (1949) but is of sympathetic design and matching materials. Although the building is not one of significance in the Spanish Colonial design vernacular, the Baker's physical presence and design in a community the scale of Mineral Wells is unique in Texas.

The main structure is visually divided into four subsections; base, shaft, cornice and tower. The base consists primarily of an arcaded portico of wide and tall dimensions. The extradosed arches are of brick faces resting on tapered cast stone imposts. The columns continue to the cast stone banding running the length of the arcade and serving as sills to the openings created. The arcade, or loggia, a common design element of the Spanish Colonial genre, engages the building on the south, west and east elevations. Small portal windows and other odd-sized, stylized openings are placed at intervals to create an additional embellishment. Beneath the arcade is a ground level of commercial and office activities. These openings have been altered to allow for the particular tenant requirements during its years of active use. Glass block was placed in several of the store glass facade openings at a later date. An enclosed drive-in and turn-around area is found on the northeast corner of the site. The totally enclosed brick courtyard has a Spanish tile roof overhang and provides a strong sense of intimacy and luxury for the guests arriving at the hotel. The roof area of the arcade is of Spanish pantiled arrangement. A double roof line of moderate pitch, rising to narrow row of tile leading to a flat roof, is evidenced. Additional cast stone details embellish corners and various major openings. The main (front) entry is a highly detailed stone arrangement around windows, columns, cornices and parapets.

The second major section of the building, the shaft, consists of the 10 story apartment area. This is a fairly embellished section of brick. The major design attribute is the discontinuous facade lines that provide for additional window visibility. Windows are of wood frame, sash type, 8 over 8 lights. Sills are cast stone. A cast stone ornamental banding runs the length of the facade between Floors 2 and 3, and 9 and 10. This light design touch serves to quietly highlight and delineate this portion of the building. A center piece of the major facade planes is the two-story, paired Palladian cast window frame that encloses four sets of windows—the lower level of standard 6 over 6 with the upper Palladian multipaned lights.

The next major section to be considered is the cornice line area. An enclosed roof top ballroom (The Cloud Room) that reiterates the arcade effect at the base is to be found in this location. Windows are multipaned. Roof brackets are of jugged, wooden scallops. Wooden pilasters with capitals matching roof brackets complete the exterior roof top facade. A tile roof encloses the edifice.

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A forty foot single bell tower completes the building facade. Palladian windows with cut stone ballustrade and tile roof neatly balance the building, providing flair, elegance and a touch of the exotic to the small midwestern townscape. Following the philosophy of "form follows function" the structural bay interval was developed to accommodate the room layout and reflected little design innovation. Although the exterior walls were "curtain" in the sense that they covered an independent structural system, the walls and fenestration were characteristically conservative and mirror elements of a traditional design vocabulary.

While the municipal power company provided the electrical service for the hotel, the capacity of the local system was somewhat limited; there was also some question as to its reliability. Both of these factors contributed to the decision to provide a "back-up" system in the Baker that could generate the necessary electricity to permit the Hotel to function in the event of a power failure in the municipality's system. This back-up system was a coupling of steam boilers which provided the necessary energy to drive three electrical generators. As in most cases where this concept of energy supply exists, it was not uncommon for a system to generate more power than the Hotel could consume. While that potential existed and was recognized by the developer and local government, there is no evidence to support the fact that the contract between the Hotel and the City ever became anything more than a contract for supply.

Excavation for the project had hardly begun when a decision to move the Hotel was made. That original excavation is now the location of the swimming pool which is structurally different from pools today. Instead of the earth or sand fill providing the form and base for the pool's ultimate shape, the Baker pool has a separate set of structural columns and piers supporting it. The concrete pool is a structural entity and has a rather extensive sub-surface area that is connected under the access drive to the Hotel's basements.

The Baker Hotel was inspired by the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and was executed by the same architect, Wyatt C. Hedrick of Fort Worth. While typical of Hedrick's design efforts, the Mineral Wells building dominates the City in a different way than its Arkansas cousin. The impact of its 180 foot height on this basically one or two story downtown creates an expected powerful image. The Baker Hotel is easily the town's most viewed building, rising above the City from at least ten miles distance.

GARAGE

With time, mass production of the auto and well maintained State roads, Mineral Wells and The Baker had to reckon with the demand of the tourist and parking problems. The garage was built in 1949 of load-bearing masonry walls and long span steel joists. Wyatt Hedrick was careful in the development of the design for the new garage and transposed various architectural elements and details from the Hotel to the garage. Use of ornamental cast stone and twin "B" (for Baker) cartouches assist further in developing a unified theme. Purposefully understated, the facility successfully reflects the design of The Baker.

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INTERIORS

The quality of the interior design of The Baker is typical of large hotels of this vintage in Texas and the execution of the design effort in the rooms is uninspiring, with the following exceptions. While the Hotel's lobby, ballrooms and Brazos Club reflected the design image of the architecture, the coffee shop was distinctly different. The facility was a departure from that of the Hotel and employed aspects of the design philosophy suggested by the modern movement. While not radical in concept or spacial configuration, the furniture finishes and lighting in particular were those of another design idiom. As an example, the illumination for the coffee shop is provided by circular, recessed, indirect lighting with neon tubes. These combined with the mirror clad columns, vinyl floor and vinyl upholstered counter seating develop a visual quality that reflected those of the clear modern look. Design precepts other than those of a traditional nature were also present in the selection of tile in the bathrooms. Although the more sedate white tile work is dominant in the public facilities and bath house walls and floors, a mixture of lime green, brown, lavender and pink characterize the finish of the baths in private rooms. These tile colors have been mixed with contrasting colored tubs, water closets and lavatories and reflect the popular color theory of the modern movement.

Mr. Baker's private suite does reinforce his enthusaism for the Spanish Colonial style evidenced in the Hotel's public spaces. Entered through a massive, arched and carved doorway, one is immediately introduced to a tiled floor and ornate tile fireplace. Two columns of Spanish origin divide the entry from the parlour. Other rooms include a kitchen, two baths and two bedrooms that are basically typical of the accommodations throughout the building.

The interior spaces, although not excessive or innovative in design and embellishment are reflective of this period of time. The accommodations were comfortable. The public spaces were more elaborate and with comparable furnishings to the first-class hotels of the period in Dallas and Fort Worth.

All of this contributes to sustain the fact that the Hotel and its supporting facilities were no small enterprise. They compare in scale and scope to the program of urban hotels today and, for Mineral Wells in the late 1920's, were a rather major achievement.

Although the Baker is currently unoccupied, it is our intent to pursue a program of rehabilitation and renovation. We are conscious of the National Register's guidelines associated with exterior design, fenestration, glass and glazing and masonry care. Our rehabilitation purpose is to respect the quality of the existing facility in the effort to bring the Baker back as one of Texas' fine old hotels. We are sensitive to the character of the existing landmark and its complements, and intend to utilize and conserve those resources very judiciously.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Community
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates 1929 **Builder/Architect** WYATT C. HEDRICK, ARCHITECT
INGE & BURGER, INC., BUILDER

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Opened just three weeks after the great stock market crash of October 29, 1929, The Baker Hotel represents a period of time, place and values that will never again be approached. Built in a town of about 6,000 people, this 450 room hotel had a meeting capacity of over 2,500 people. Its significance as a social and community focal point is even more profound than its physical presence on the townscape. During the era of "the big band," few musicians missed a stop at this luxurious outpost. The guest register reads as a virtual Who's Who of social, political, cultural and military elite. At least one president and many also-rans had more than a fleeting knowledge of the Baker's mineral waters. To paraphrase Calvin Coolidge's observation that "the business of America is business," the business of Mineral Wells was the Baker Hotel.

Mineral Wells was founded in 1881 by Judge J.A. Lynch who happened accidentally on the magical medicinal properties of his well water. The town quickly developed as a health spa. The Crazy Well was so named for a disordered woman who regularly availed herself of the healing waters. A pavillion was constructed near the well in 1895 and finally in 1910 a hotel, appropriately named The Crazy Hotel, was constructed. This hotel was destroyed by fire in 1925. Realizing the market for a hotel, civic leaders convinced one of the most successful entrepreneurs in the state, T. B. Baker, to build a facility that would respond to that need.

T. B. Baker was born in Iowa in 1876 and was raised in Missouri. Baker's father was in the hotel business and the younger Baker began his professional career operating hotels in Missouri, Kansas and Illinois. Vacationing in San Antonio he quickly worked an arrangement to obtain the lease on the St. Anthony Hotel there. The Texas base thus established, Baker concentrated his efforts in the state. The Baker chain included the Menger and Gunther in San Antonio, The Stephen F. Austin in Austin, The Texas Hotel in Fort Worth, and The Baker Hotel in Dallas, The Goodhue in Port Arthur, The Galvez in Galveston, The Edison in Beaumont and The Sterling in Houston.

Mr. Baker was no doubt familiar with the success of the small spa center located just some thirty miles from Fort Worth. Mineral Wells provided an opportunity to extend his hotel concept into a slightly different field of hostelry— catering to a more permanent and vacation minded crowd seeking the healthful curing waters. A hotel would be built, but it could not be ordinary in any respect. Certainly not in this era of the "roaring twenties." The Mineral Wells Hotel Company, headed by T. B. Baker was formed and immediate plans began for the development of this extraordinary edifice.

Baker inspected many other hotels. He engaged the design services of Wyatt C. Hedrick. After visiting Hedrick's Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs, Arkansas, he decided on a

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reasonable facimile and construction soon began in 1926. Mr. Hedrick was an engineer by education and in the absence of Texas licensing laws at the time, was permitted to proclaim himself an architect and practice that profession. The engineering background of Mr. Hedrick and the influences of that training were obvious in this project. The structure of poured-in-place concrete, although not radical in design, was a significant effort in Mineral Wells. The structure is typical of the early efforts in multi-story design as high tensile steel had yet to emerge as a viable structural alternative. The lack of a labor force skilled in structural steel erection techniques contributed to the decision to employ the more accepted mode of reinforced concrete piers, columns, beams and floors. Shortly after construction began in 1926, Mr. Baker decided to move the building back and build the pool on the foundation prepared to the south. Consequently a below level tunnel and passage was provided.

The Baker Hotel opened formally on the evening of November 22, 1929. It received considerable notice in the Dallas and Fort Worth newspapers. This was obviously one of the great social events of the year.²

Constructed at a cost of \$1.25 million, the hotel boasted three dancing areas, a gymnasium, a bowling alley, and a fanciful drinking bar offered in this era of Prohibition, the grand elixir, mineral waters. A 117 acre golf course club was developed at this time as well.

Activity at the Baker Hotel continued at a hectic pace despite The Depression. Cattlemen came to Mineral Wells to regain their health and the widows came to marry them.³ One of the performers at the Hotel during the period recalls, "I have fond memories of all the people who gave me a start. I remember the Baker as one of the more lavish hotels in Texas, a famed resort. Lots of rich ladies. I came off the farm and still couldn't speak much English then. Due to this language problem, I didn't think I made too big a hit with them," recalled Lawrence Welk.⁴ If Welk was a fledgling performer, many of the others who appeared were not. Their numbers included Guy Lombardo, Paul Whiteman, Herbie Kay and Jack Amlung. Mary Martin, a country girl from nearby Weatherford, operated a dance studio in the Hotel and sang at the evening shows. Dorothy Lamour, Judy Garland, Giselle McKinzie, Sophie Tucker, and later Pat Boone were other entertainers who stopped at the Baker.

A waiter recalls the \$2.00 given him by desperados Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow, although he didn't recognize them at the time. Others of prominence included Will Rogers, Tom Mix, Marlene Dietrich, Gen. John Pershing, Elliot Roosevelt, Lyndon Johnson, Jean Harlow, Sam Goldwyn, Sammy Kay, Clint Murchison, Sr., Dr. Charles Mayo, Jack Dempsy, Sam Rayburn, Clark Gable, Alvin Barkley, Hellen Keller, Roy Rogers, and last but not least, the Three Stooges. J. W. Neel (owner of the coffee company that developed the Maxwell House brand), spent 3 weeks at the Hotel for over 17 years. He stated that it was the best investment of time and money he ever spent. U.S. Senator Ed Moore's (of Oklahoma) constituents once complained to him that they elected him and he should spend at least some time in Oklahoma rather than at The Baker.⁵ Despite the activity, the Baker actually filed for bankruptcy in 1932, but it never closed its doors. The company was reorganized as the Resort Hotel Company.

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The advent of the '40's ushered in a new activity and economy to the area. Fort Wolters was opened on October 13, 1940. During the War, Fort Wolters grew to be the largest infantry replacement training center in the country with a population of 30,000 men. The Baker was at its peak as it catered to civilians and military personnel alike. The end of WW II and the closing of Ft. Wolters marked a period of significant decline for The Baker. Its popularity was revived briefly in 1951 when Ft. Wolters was re-activated as an air force installation with a mission of helicopter personnel training.

In 1952, T. B. Baker, advanced in years and childless, passed the operation of The Baker chain to a nephew, Earl M. Baker. T. B. continued to live for quite a few years, passing away at the age of 96 in 1972.

Earl Baker had considerable experience in the hotel business. Letters and correspondence from the Baker Company records indicate that he played a dominant role in the corporate structure. Baker, who lived in San Antonio, stated that he would continue to operate the hotel until his 70th birthday on April 30, 1963. True to his word, Baker closed the hotel on May 31, 1963, ending 34 years of active use serving over 2 million guests. The closing of The Baker had a profound effect on Mineral Wells. "The May 31 (1963) closing of the Baker was more than the end of an era. It stifled social life in Mineral Wells. Business leaders could no longer relax in luxury at their morning coffee break or at lunch. Visitors from out of town, which tended through the years to add a metropolitan touch to a town of under 15,000 people, stayed away...It put more than 200 persons out of a job." (Undated newspaper account)

The Hotel was put up for auction at a public sale in August, 1963. Bidding was light and nothing came of the activity, other than to raise townspeople's hopes for a dramatic reopening. Finally in 1965 a group of local leaders formed The Civic Development Corporation and reopened the Hotel once again. Profits were slim, however, and the venture was forced to a premature ending in 2½ years. Earl Baker, while visiting the Hotel, died suddenly on December 3, 1967. The Civic Development Corporation attempted to sell the Hotel on several occasions and finally succeeded in selling the property to the Horne Texas Trust, James Stewart and the United Funding Corporation in 1972.

The Baker Hotel is history. Its physical presence gives testimony to the eloquence and excesses of the good years preceding The Great Depression. The 1930's saw the era of the Big Bands and the 1940's War Effort. It hosted the State Republican Conventions of 1952 and 1955, and the State Democratic Convention of 1954. It has been cited by the American Medical Association as one of the finest resorts in America. Today it sits empty, looking to the future that holds a promise of a return to the days of distant glory.

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Significance

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Footnotes:

- 1 Various accounts number the Baker Hotel chain between 23 - 30 sites in several states.
William J. Gabriel, Real Estate Investment Analysis; The Baker Hotel, Mineral Wells, Palo Pinto County, Texas, prepared for Southern Methodist University Real Estate Program, Dr. Robert O. Harvey, January 1, 1981. See "Baker Hotel Chain."
- 2 "Resort City to Dedicate Hotel Nov. 22" Fort Worth Record-Telegram, 11-14-29 1-3.
"Resort City Opens New Baker Hotel," by Harold Banks, Fort Worth Record-Telegram, 11-23-29, 1-2.
- 3 "A Golden Past, and a Broken Present," Randy Eli Grothe, The Dallas Morning News, 12-5-76, 4-6.
- 4 Ibid.
- 5 Fort Worth Press, 4-14-63, 8-A.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ITEM NOT VERIFIED

9. Major Bibliographical References

- W.J. Gabriel, Real Estate Investment Analysis; The Baker Hotel, Mineral Wells, Palo Pinto County, Texas, prepared for Dr. R.O. Harvey, SMU, Jan. 1, 1981.
- "Resort City to Dedicate Hotel Nov.22," Fort Worth Record-Telegram, 11-14-29.
- "Resort City Opens New Baker Hotel," Fort Worth Record-Telegram, 11-23-29.
- "A Golden Past, and a Broken Present," The Dallas Morning News, 12-5-76.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Mineral Wells

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A

1	4
5	8
4	2
5	0
3	6
3	0
3	5
0	

 Zone Easting Northing

B

 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification Mineral Wells, Texas

On a block bounded by Northeast First Street on the north, East Hubbard on the south, Northeast Third Avenue on the east and Northeast First Avenue on the west. All of Blk B French Add. and So. Half of Blk 2 Lynch Add. (Lots 1-8); and strip 92'x200' adj. Lots 7 & 8.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title ALAN MASON AND R. GENE BROOKS, AIA/AICP

organization V. AUBREY HALLUM ARCHITECTS/PLANNERS
ALAN MASON, PLANNER

date 18 February 1982

street & number 722 Republic Bank Building

telephone (817) 731-8551

city or town Fort Worth, Texas

state Texas 76116

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 24 March, 1982

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

date 6/23/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: BAKER HOTEL
State, County: TX PALO PINTO
Federal Agency: _____

Working No. 4/28/82-1235-
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 5/27/82 - 6/12/82
Action: ACCEPT
 RETURN 5/19/82
 REJECT
photos
maps

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

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom. / Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
 see continuation sheet

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

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category Ownership Status
Public Acquisition Accessible

Present Use

Please fill in blank

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair
 deteriorated ruins unexposed
Check one unaltered altered
Check one original site moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

NPS USE ONLY

8. Significance

Please fill in blank

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UNIT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:
_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

Site _____ date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed *Delores Byers* Date 5-19-82 Phone: 202 272-35

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

820045186

Property: Baker Hotel
State, County: TX, Palo Pinto
Federal Agency: _____

Working No. 4.28.82-1235
Fed. Reg. Date: FEB 1 1983
Date Due: 7/24/82
Action: ACCEPT 6/23/82

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

Entered in the RETURN _____
National Register REJECT _____
photos
maps

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
 see continuation sheet

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

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

for NPS use only

8. Significance

Period 1861 Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Address of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS TEXAS

Photographer: R. Gene Brooks

Date of photograph: 2-12-82

Negative: R. Gene Brooks

722 Ridglea Bank Building

Fort Worth, TX 76116

MAIN ENTRANCE ELEVATION -

Bldg. Facing SE; Camera facing NW

1 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS TEXAS

Photographer: R. Gene Brooks

Date of Photograph 2-12-82

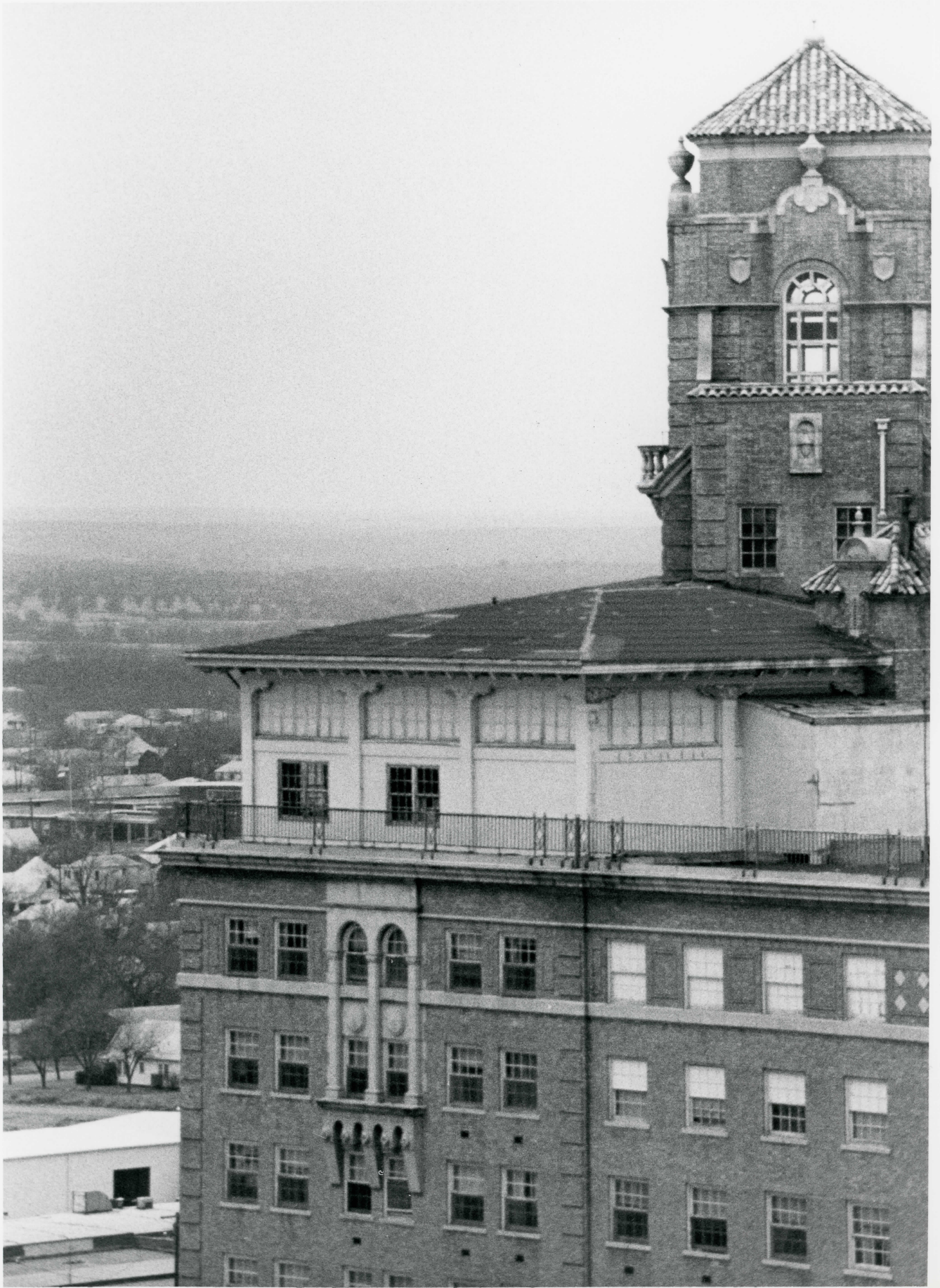
Negative: R. Gene Brooks

722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.

Fort Worth 76116

BUILDING NE CORNER: CAMERA FACING SW

2 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS

Photographer: R. Gene Brooks

Date of Photo: 2-12-82

Negative: R. Gene Brooks

722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.

Fort Worth, Texas 76116

DETAIL OF UPPER STORIES AT NE CORNER
CAMERA FACING SW

3715



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS
photographer: R. Gene Brooks
date of photo: 2-12-82
Negative: R. Gene Brooks
722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.
Fort Worth, TX 76116

VIEW ACROSS TOWN CENTER; BUILDING
FACING NW; CAMERA FACING SE

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BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS

Photographer: R. Gene Brooks

Date of Photo: 2-12-82

Negative: R. Gene Brooks

722 Ridglea Bank Building.
Fort Worth, TX 76116

NORTH SIDE ELEVATION, CAMERA FACING
SOUTH

5 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS
photographer: R. Gene Brooks
date of photo: 2-12-82
Negative: R. Gene Brooks
722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.
Fort Worth, TX 76116

DETAIL OF MAIN ENTRANCE FROM EAST
HUBBARD STREET FACING SE: CAMERA
FACING NW

6 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS

photographer: R. Gene Brooks
date of photo: 2-12-82

Negative: R. Gene Brooks
722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.
Fort Worth, TX 76116

DETAIL OF VERANDA ON WEST ELEVATION:
CAMERA FACING EAST

7 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS
photographer: R. Gene Brooks
date of photo: 2-12-82
negative: R. Gene Brooks
722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.
Fort Worth, TX 76116

DETAIL OF BELL TOWER, PALLADIAN WINDOW
AND BALLROOM FENESTRATION/BALCONY:
CAMERA FACING NW

8 of 15



POSTED
KEEP OUT

BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS
Photographer: R. Gene Brooks
Date of photo: 2-12-82
Negative: R. Gene Brooks
722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.
Fort Worth, TX 76116

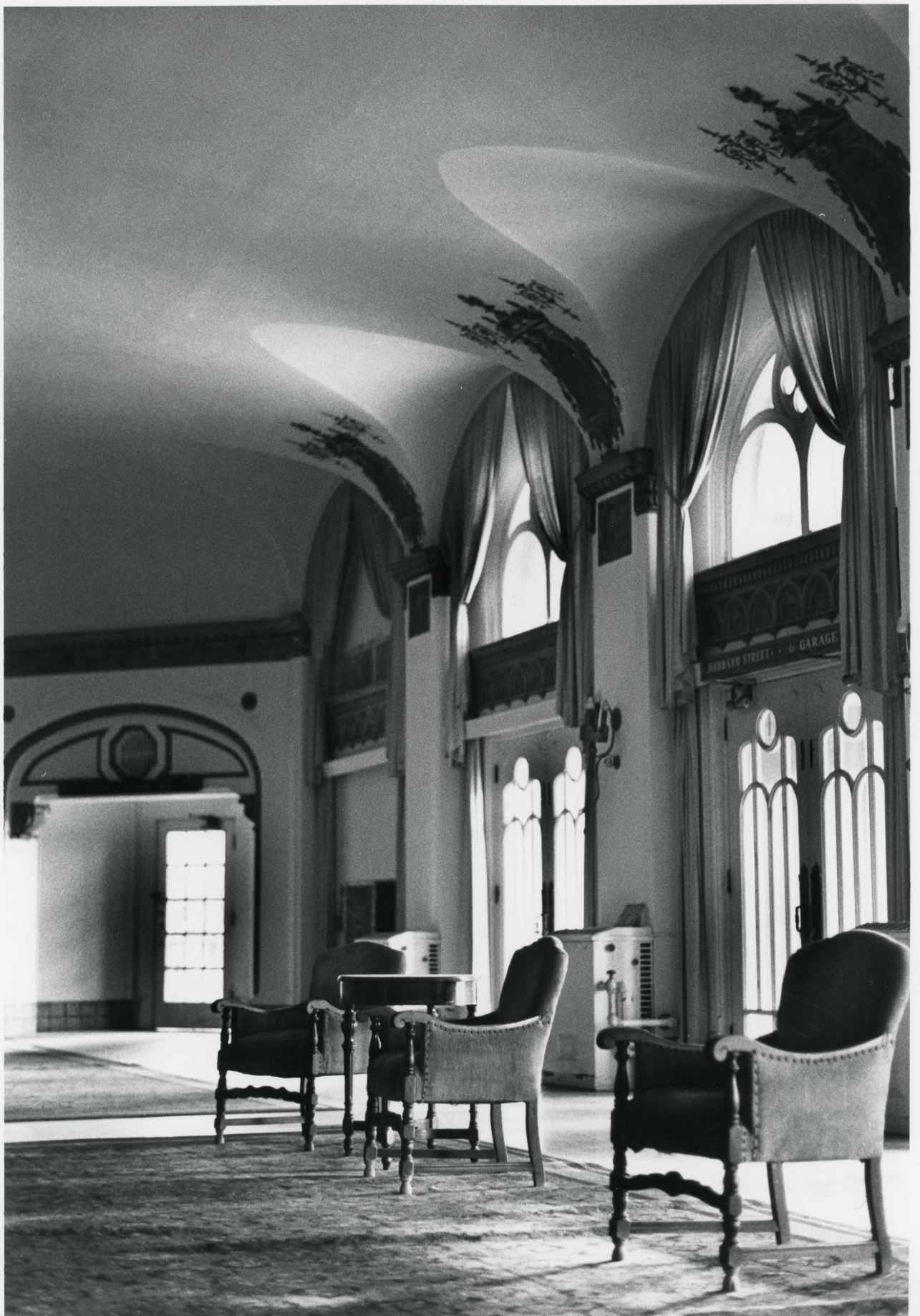
DETAIL OF CAST STONE AND MINOR
ENTRANCE DESIGN AT STREET LEVEL ON
NORTH ELEVATION

9 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS
Photographer: R. Gene Brooks
Date of photo: 2-12-82
Negative: R. Gene Brooks
722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.
Fort Worth, TX 76116

DETAIL OF CAST STONE CORNER COPING
ON BUILDING AT LOWER LEVEL - NORTH
ELEVATION
10 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS

Photographer: R. Gene Brooks

Date of photo: 2-12-82

Negative: R. Gene Brooks

722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.
Fort Worth, TX 76116

INTERIOR: VIEW OF ENTRANCE DOORS
IN LOBBY

11 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS
Photographer: R. Gene Brooks
Date of Photo: 2-12-82
Negative: R. Gene Brooks
722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.
Fort Worth, Texas 76116

INTERIOR: VIEW OF COLUMN BAY AND
MEZZANINE

12 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS
Photographer: R. Gene Brooks
Negative: R. Gene Brooks
722 Ridglea Bank Bldg.
Fort Worth, TX 76116
Date of Photo: 2-12-82

INTERIOR: VIEW ACROSS LOBBY TOWARD
ENTRANCE TO BRAZOS CLUB

13 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS
Photographer: R. Gene Brooks
Negative: R. Gene Brooks
722 Ridglea Bank Building
Fort Worth, TX 76116
Date of photo: 2-12-82

INTERIOR: VIEW ACROSS LOBBY OF PIANO
ALCOVE

14 of 15



BAKER HOTEL, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS

Photographer: R. Gene Brooks

Date of Photo: 2-12-82

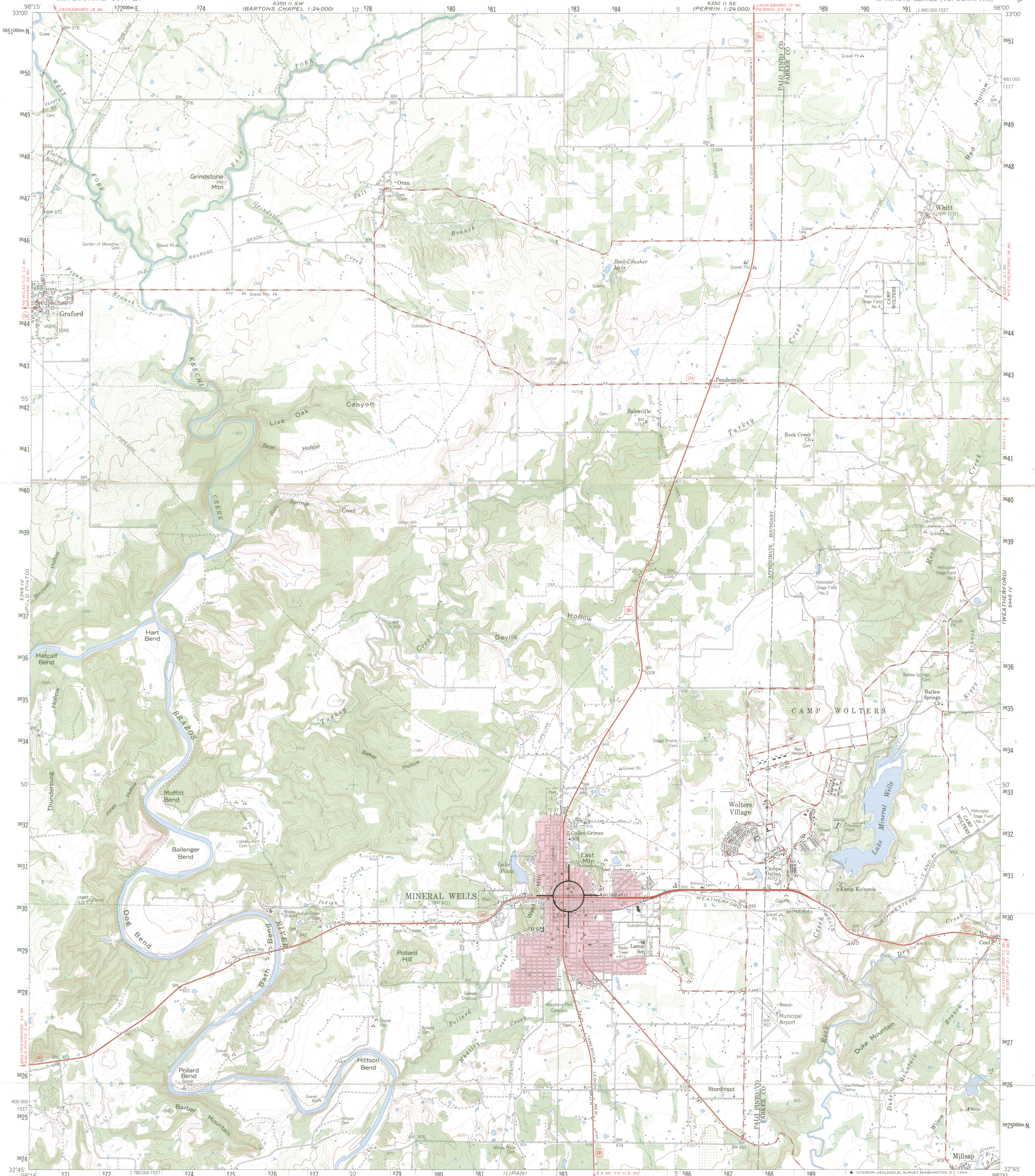
Negative: R. Gene Brooks

722 Ridglea Bank Building
Fort Worth, Texas 76116

INTERIOR: DETAIL OF PLASTER AND TERRA
COTTA DETAIL AT COLUMN CAP
IN LOBBY

15 of 15

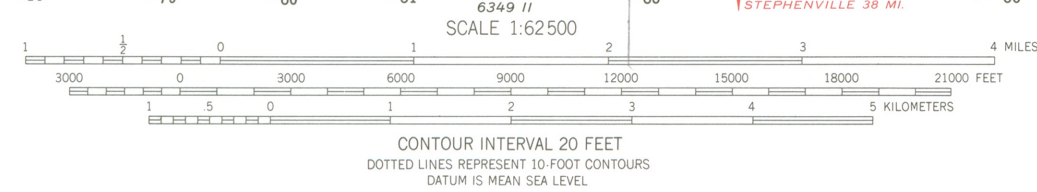
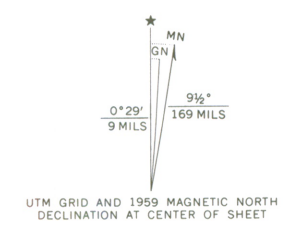
6350 II SW
1:24,000
RAIBOW



BAKER HOTEL
200 EAST HUBBARD ST.
MINERAL SPRINGS, PALO PINTO CO.
UTM REFERENCE : 14/584250/3630350

3630

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
and by planetable surveys 1959. Aerial photographs taken 1958
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,
north central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 14, shown in blue
Red tint indicates area in which only
landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



MINERAL WELLS, TEX.
N3245-W9800/15
1959
AMS 6349 I-SERIES V782

3298-440

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

OCT 28 1982

....., 19.....

Congressional Liaison Office
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

attached communication is sub-
for your consideration, and to ask
request made therein be complied
sible.

If you will advise me of your action in
this matter and have the letter returned to
me with your reply, I will appreciate it.

Very truly yours,



.....
M.C.

JIM WRIGHT
TEXAS 12th

..... District.

OCT 15 1982

NEW ADDRESS.
3404 PARK RIDGE BLVD.
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76109**WILLIAM JOSEPH GABRIEL**~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76109~~

OCT. 15, 1982

Dear Congressman Jim Wright -

Keep up the good work! I have several concerns that I hope you can take care of.

- 1) Recently the Baker Hotel in Mineral Wells, TX was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Could you please send me a copy of its official designation papers from the Dept of Interior? I am a realtor involved w/ the project.
- 2) Could you have the US Weather Bureau send me any books, manuals or pamphlets on weather forecasting and cloud types?

I sincerely appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

Bill Gabriel

P.S. What is the address & phone # of your local office in Ft. Worth?

H32-710
CL-06625

NOV 10 1982

Harrison
Shull
Aten
Rogers (draft)
Gilley 11/9
Whitaker 11/9
Grier 11/10

Honorable Jim Wright
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Wright:

Thank you for your inquiry of October 28 on behalf of Mr. Bill Gabriel concerning the listing of the Baker Hotel, Mineral Wells, Palo Pinto County, Texas, in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Baker Hotel was entered in the National Register on June 23, 1982. Enclosed is the official National Park Service notice, as well as a copy of the nomination form. Also, enclosed is information on the benefits for listing and a leaflet on Federal tax incentives for rehabilitation.

If you need further information or assistance, please let us know. We appreciate your interest in the historic preservation programs of the National Park Service. Your constituent's letter is returned as requested.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mary Lou Grier

Director
ACTING
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Curtis Tunnell
Executive Director
Texas State Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711) w/c of inc.

bcc: CL) w/ticket Reg. Dir., Southwest) 001-R.F.
700 710) 190-Gilley)

FNP:SHarrison:272-3504:C:-06625:11/8/82:drr:Lexitron:D-11

(BASIC FILE RETAINED IN 710)