

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received **APR - 6 1983**
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Henrietta M. King High School
and/or common

2. Location

street & number Kleberg Avenue and ^{3rd St} ~~Third Street~~ N/A not for publication
city, town Kingsville N/A vicinity of
state Texas code 048 county Kleberg code 273

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Kingsville Independent School District
street & number 635 East King
city, town Kingsville N/A vicinity of state Texas 78363

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kleberg County Courthouse
street & number P. O. Box 1327
city, town Kingsville state Texas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Recorded Texas Historical Landmark has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1981 federal state county local
depository for survey records Texas Historical Commission
city, town Austin state Texas

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 Henrietta M. King High School is a large, masonry, two-story structure designed in the Mission style. The design of the main facade is said to have been based upon elements from three of the San Antonio missions of the 18th century. The twin-towered main front survived a major fire and the school was rebuilt with a large addition to the rear (1926).

Located on a large plot in the center of Kingsville, the Henrietta M. King High School represents a substantial Mission design from the early 20th century. The two-story masonry school presents a 15-bay front towards Third Street, with the school looking up Kleberg Avenue towards the County Courthouse eight blocks to the east. Entry to the school is by means of a pair of porches enclosed at the base of the two facade towers. The south tower, which is said to be based upon those of Mission Concepcion in San Antonio, is topped by a hipped roof. The open upper stage of the tower features a triple, round-arch arcade on each of its four sides. The north tower, which is the taller of the two, is said to have been based upon the bell tower of Mission San Jose y San Miguel, also located in San Antonio. The upper stages of the north tower are largely open, with large, rectangular openings instead of the round arches found on the south tower. The final stage of the tower is set back from the main block and appears as a belfry with a single round-arch opening on each side. Each of the towers is divided into vertical segments by a series of horizontal string courses. These courses are of a dark pressed brick which provides a handsome contrast to the tawny pressed brick used for the wall surfaces. The entry porches are raised up above the ground, with access provided by a broad flight of brick steps. Each of the two outer sides of the entry porches features a broad, fully round-arch opening, the arches of which are outlined with reddish-brown pressed brick.

The central portion of the main front, set between the two towers, is a mass three bays wide, capped by an elaborate scrolled gable. This elevation is said to have been inspired by the facade of the Alamo. The first-floor openings are formed by broad, round arches of equal height, while the second-floor openings show a large, round-arch opening in the center flanked by two smaller round-arch openings. The gable is decorated by low-relief strapwork decoration of the sort associated with Dutch and English Early Renaissance architecture.

The north and south extensions of the facade are each five bays wide, with a series of closely spaced, round-arch windows on both the first- and second-floor fronts. The roofs of these parts of the building each feature a single dormer whose gabled peak is ornamented in the manner of the central gable.

The north and south elevations of the original block are detailed much in the same manner as the north and south segments of the main facade, with six round-arch window openings on each floor level. At the northwest corner is a brick chimney.

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

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

Subsequent to the fire in 1925, a large addition was made to the rear, or west side, of the school. Although the fenestration of the addition is rectangular instead of having round arches, the new section of the school was constructed using bricks of matching color, and the hipped roof rises to the same height as the original roofline, and is covered in the same type of roofing tile. A flat-roofed, one-story segment forms the westernmost portion of the main building.

The floor plan is fairly symmetrical, with the central portion of the first floor devoted to office space flanked by large classrooms. The rear addition houses the library on the first floor. The entire second floor is divided into classrooms with access halls.

In terms of alterations, the main building has undergone little change since it was rebuilt in 1926, and no significant changes have occurred since the structure was photographed and surveyed in 1980. The windows have all been screened with fixed, horizontal, wooden louvres for hurricane protection, but it is possible that these are early additions made following the rebuilding.

To the south and west of the main building are a series of later classroom buildings. The structures housing the science and music departments are single story designs with covered porches across the fronts of the two science buildings. Directly west of the main building is the single-story Industrial Arts building. All of these classroom buildings apparently date from the post-World War II era, and thus are not contributing, insofar as the significance of the earlier structure is concerned. One later addition, the Home Economics cottage to the southwest of the main building, is a rather attractive one story stuccoed design which is quite compatible in detailing and materials with the original school. It was built in the early 1940s, and should, in time, be considered a contributing element.

The school is situated in a residential neighborhood, with its large front yard separating it from the street. The school grounds are dotted with palm trees and rather picturesque gnarled oaks.

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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1909, 1926 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The first permanent school building of the Kleberg County public school system, the Henrietta M. King High School is a major architectural feature of the town of Kingsville and an important example of the Mission style in the Coastal Bend area. The school was built with funds provided by Mrs. Henrietta M. King, widow of the founder of the King Ranch. Mrs. King played a pivotal role in the founding of Kingsville, deeding the land on which the town was established.

By virtue of its prominent site and its design, the Henrietta M. King High School is one of the most significant structures in Kingsville. An early example of the Mission style, the rebuilding of the school following a fire in 1925 retained the original facade with its twin towered entrances. The placement of the school at one end of Kleberg Avenue, the main business street of Kingsville, gives the school a position equal to that of the county courthouse, which it faces to the east. This sort of axial planning is characteristic of urban design in the U.S. at the start of the 20th century.

King High School was constructed in 1909 to serve better the rapidly growing student body in the embryonic public school system. The building was funded by Mrs. Henrietta M. King (1832-1925), the widow of Captain Richard King, founder of the renowned King Ranch, and a rancher, capitalist and philanthropist of note in her own right. Mrs. King can deservedly be referred to as the founding mother of Kingsville, as she deeded 853 acres of land in 1904 to the Kingsville Town and Improvement Company, which was responsible for the plan of the town and the creation of public parks. In 1906, Mrs. King paid for the construction of a small, frame school house which still stands, although greatly enlarged, at the corner of Alice and Third Streets. The initial enrollment for the school was only 13 students but, by 1909, that figure had risen to 125, and Mrs. King decided that a larger and more permanent structure was required to meet the needs of the rapidly growing student body. The cornerstone for the new school was laid in a Masonic ceremony on July 21, 1909. While no documents have been uncovered naming the architect responsible for the design of the school, certain similarities between this building and the Nazareth Academy in Victoria, designed by Jules Leffland five years earlier, suggest a possible connection with Leffland, or at least a knowledge of his work by the designer or builder of the King School. Mrs. King's thoughts on the new school were expressed in a letter written to the school board, in which she noted that ". . .As I have carefully selected good house builders for this work, so I would urge upon you the importance of employing expert character builders for the work within."

The original school building contained 12 classrooms. By 1913, enrollment had reached 600, with 17 teachers. After its destruction by fire in 1925, the school was rebuilt with 22 rooms, expanding in a large addition to the west.

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

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

The King School is unquestionably the dominant element of the site, but in more recent years, several additional smaller classroom buildings were constructed on the school grounds. The school complex was used as a junior high school after 1964, when the new Henrietta M. King High School opened. Plans call for the renovation of the structure for continued educational use in the future.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Allhands, J.L. Gringo Builders. Dallas: Privately printed, 1931.

Branda, Elton S. (ed.) Handbook of Texas, III. Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1976.

Kleberg County Historical Commission. Kleberg County, Texas. Austin: Hart Graphics, 1979.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 5.96

Quadrangle name Kingsville East, Texas

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	4	6	1	1	9	5	0	3	0	4	3	3	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

state		code	county	code
-------	--	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John C. Ferguson, Architectural Historian

organization Texas Historical Commission

date February 1983

street & number P. O. Box 12276

telephone (512) 475-3094

city or town Austin

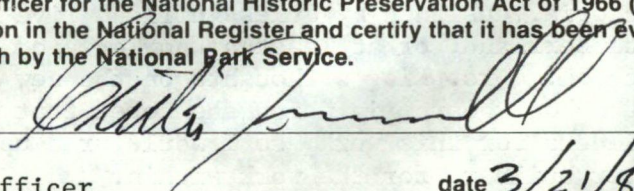
state Texas 78711

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

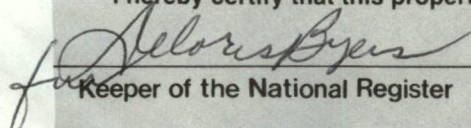
date 3/21/83

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 5/9/83


Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

The school site is bounded to the East by Third Street, to the South by King Avenue, and to the West by Second Street. The North boundary is formed by a line drawn from Second to Third Streets which passes approximately eight feet to the north of the main school building. The site encompasses approximately 5.5 acres.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

King, Henrietta M., High School
Kleberg County
TEXAS

Working No. APR 6 1983

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/7/84

Date Due: 5/5/83 - 5/21/83

Action: ACCEPT 5/9/83

RETURN

REJECT

Entered in the
National Register

Federal Agency: _____

- 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	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

8. Significance

Period _____ 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

Acreage of estimated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USGS Reference _____

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



Henrietta M. King High School
Kleberg Avenue and Third Street
Kingsville, Klerberg County, Texas

Photo by Carol Kennedy, November, 1980.
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission.

East facade, camera facing West.

Photo 1 of 8.



Henrietta M. King High School
Kleberg Avenue and Third Street
Kingsville, Klerberg County, Texas

Photo by Carol Kennedy, November, 1980.
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission.

East facade, camera facing West.

Photo 2 of 8.



Henrietta M. King High School
Kleberg Avenue and Third Street
Kingsville, Klerberg County, Texas

Photo by Carol Kennedy, November, 1980.
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission.

East facade, camera facing West.

Photo 3 of 8.



Henrietta M. King High School
Kleberg Avenue and Third Street
Kingsville, Klerberg County, Texas

Photo by Carol Kennedy, November, 1980.
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission.

Oblique: South/East facades, camera facing West.

Photo 4 of 8.



Henrietta M. King High School
Kleberg Avenue and Third Street
Kingsville, Klerberg County, Texas

Photo by Carol Kennedy, November, 1980.
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission.

Rear oblique: West/South facades, camera facing East.

Photo 5 of 8.



Henrietta M. King High School
Kleberg Avenue and Third Street
Kingsville, Klerberg County, Texas

Photo by Carol Kennedy, November, 1980.
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission.

Rear oblique: West/South facades, camera facing East.

Photo 6 of 8.



Henrietta M. King High School
Kleberg Avenue and Third Street
Kingsville, Klerberg County, Texas

Photo by Carol Kennedy, November, 1980.
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission.

Oblique: North/West facades, camera facing East

Photo 7 of 8.

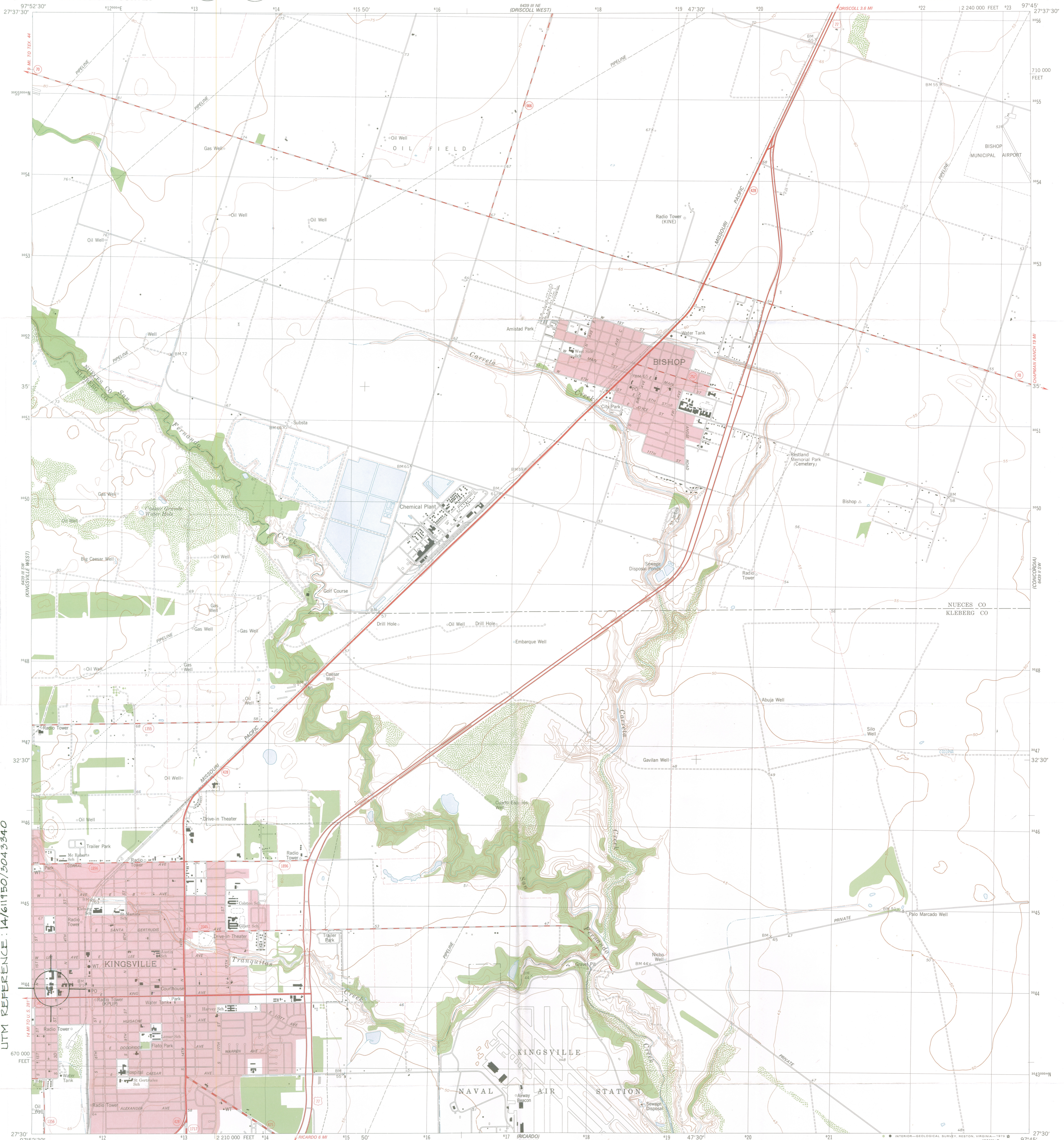


Henrietta M. King High School (Outbuilding)
Kleberg Avenue and Third Street
Kingsville, Klerberg County, Texas

Photo by Carol Kennedy, November, 1980.
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission.

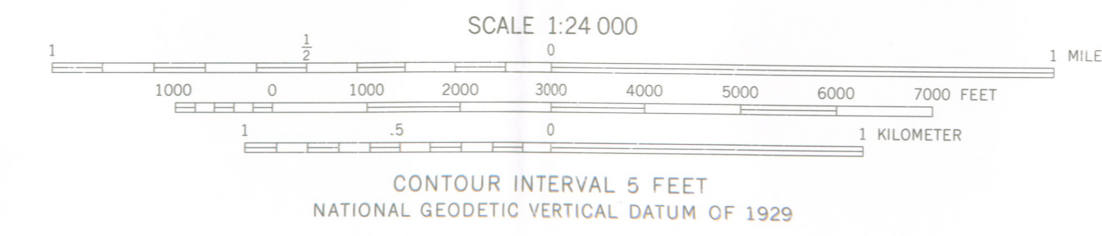
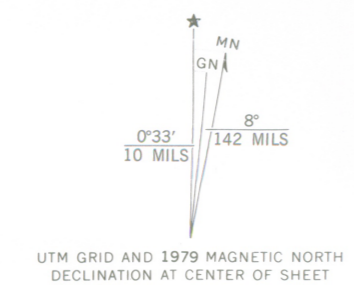
Home Economics Cottage
Northeast facade, camera facing South.

Photo 8 of 8.



HENRIETA M. KING HIGH SCHOOL
KLEBERG AVENUE AND THIRD STREET
KINGSVILLE KLEBERG CO TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 14T6115013043340

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1974. Field checked 1975. Map edited 1979
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Texas
coordinate system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 14
1927 North American datum
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

KINGSVILLE EAST, TEX.
SE/4 KINGSVILLE 15' QUADRANGLE
N2730-W9745/7.5

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

2797-321

1979
AMS 6439 III SE-SERIES V882