

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

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

For NPS use only

received AUG 11 1986  
date entered SEP 24 1986

Continuation sheet

Item number all

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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

Description (altered, good condition)

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.

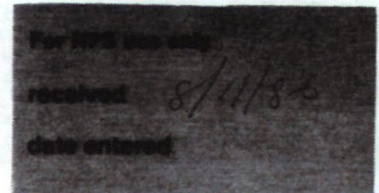
Not only is the building architecturally significant, it is historically important. When West Texas Utilities began to expand in the 1920s, it entered many new markets, in particular the small towns of West Texas. The company built numerous expensive and stylish buildings across the state using the Spanish 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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Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Stamford Multiple Resource Area  
State Jones County, TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review			Date/Signature
11. House at 815 East Campbell	<u>Entered in the National Register</u>	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byrum 9/24/86</u>
		Attest	
12. Jackson, A.J., House	<u>Substantive Review</u>	for Keeper	<u>Patrick Andrews 9/24/86</u>
		Attest	<u>Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 9/24/86</u>
13. Old Bryant--Link Building	<u>Entered in the National Register</u>	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byrum 9/24/86</u>
		Attest	
14. Old Penick--Hughes Company	<u>Substantive Review</u>	for Keeper	<u>Patrick Andrews 9/24/86</u>
		Attest	<u>Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 9/24/86</u>
15. Old West Texas Utilities Company	<u>Entered in the National Register</u>	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byrum 9/24/86</u>
		Attest	
16. Old Wooten, H.O., Grocery Company	<u>Substantive Review</u>	for Keeper	<u>Patrick Andrews 9/24/86</u>
		Attest	<u>Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 9/24/86</u>
17. SMS Building	<u>Entered in the National Register</u>	for Keeper	<u>Melona Byrum 9/24/86</u>
		Attest	
18. St. John's Methodist Church	<u>Substantive Review</u>	for Keeper	<u>Patrick Andrews 9/24/86</u>
		Attest	<u>Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 9/24/86</u>
19. Stamford City Hall	<u>Entered in the National Register</u>	Keeper	<u>Melona Byrum 9/24/86</u>
		Attest	
20. Swenson, A.J., House	<u>Substantive Review</u>	for Keeper	<u>Patrick Andrews 9/24/86</u>
		Attest	<u>Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 9/24/86</u>



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Old West Texas Utilities Company  
(Stamford MRA)  
Jones County  
TEXAS

Working No. AUG 11 1986  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87  
Date Due: 9/4/86 - 9/25/86  
Action:  ACCEPT 9-24-86  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

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

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

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

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

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location \_\_\_\_\_

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	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"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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



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**8. Significance**

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

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

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

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

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

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Verbal boundary description and justification

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

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

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

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

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





Gail's  
Hallmark  
Shop

OPEN

SALE  
SALE  
SALE  
SALE  
SALE  
SALE  
SALE



Historic Resources of Stamford, Texas  
Jones County, Texas  
Photo 1985 by Don Abbe, neg. with Texas  
Historical Commission, Austin

Property No. 2 (STA-008), Old West Texas  
Utilities Co./Gail's Hallmark Shop  
127 E. McHarg, looking NW

Photo 3 of 41.

1-1-7







#-8A

Historic Resources of Stamford, Texas  
Jones County, Texas  
Photo 1985 by Don Abbe, neg. with Texas  
Historical Commission, Austin

Property No. 2 (STA-008), Old West Texas  
Utilities Co./Gail's Hallmark Shop  
127 E. McHarg, looking SW to rear of building

Photo 4 of 41.







Historic Resources of Stamford, Texas  
Jones County, Texas  
Historic photograph; photographer unknown

Property No. 2 (STA-008), Old West Texas  
Utilities Co./Gail's Hallmark Shop  
127 E. McHarg, under construction in 1927-28

Photo 5 of 41.







Historic Resources of Stamford, Texas  
Jones County, Texas  
Historic photograph; photographer unknown

Property No. 2 (STA-008), Old West Texas  
Utilities Co./Gail's Hallmark Shop  
127 E. McHarg, under construction in 1927-28

Photo 6 of 41.







Historic Resources of Stamford, Texas  
Jones County, Texas  
Historic photograph; photographer unknown

Property No. 2 (STA-008), Old West Texas  
Utilities Co./Gail's Hallmark Shop  
127 E. McHarg, interior view at opening

Photo 7 of 41.



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000854