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

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Cuero, Texas M-R Nomination

Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all

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NAME

Cuero Commercial Historic District

LOCATION

100 blocks of E. and W. Main streets; 100 to 300 blocks

of N. Esplanade Street, and 100 block of E. Church Street

CLASSIFICATION

Category: Historic District

Ownership: Private

Accessible: Not Applicable

Present Use: Commercial, Vacant, Offices

OWNERSHIP

See attached PROPERTY OWNERS list

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION DeWitt County Courthouse

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

Texas Historic Sites Inventory

1976, 1986

Texas Historical Commission

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark

Breeden Brothers Building

Texas Historical Commission

DESCRIPTION

Condition: See attached INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES

Unaltered/altered: See attached INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES

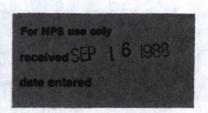
Original Site: Yes for each property

Physical Description: See attached DESCRIPTION narrative

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SIGNIFICANCE

Period: 1873 to 1936

Areas of Significance: Commerce, Architecture

Specific Dates: See attached INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES

Builder/Architect: See attached INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES

Statement of Significance: See attached STATEMENT OF

SIGNIFICANCE narrative

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA Acreage: approximately 21 acres

UTM Reference: A. 14/666200/3219340

B. 14/666580/3219160

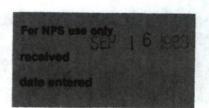
C. 14/666080/3219040

D. 14/666460/3218860

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE State

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51 **Page** CLINTON **193** 20 GONZALES CUERO COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT COURTHOUSE **₩**3 CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES 486 CHURCH 485 430 ESPLANADE ********* 947 395 472 427 426 425 470 468 TERREL

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PROPERTY OWNERS (BY SITE NUMBER) - CUERO COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

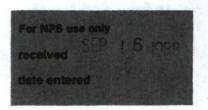
| Site No. | Address of Property | Category* | Owners' Name and Address |
|----------|---------------------|-----------|---|
| 395 | 112 W. Church | С | Ralph Coppedge 1105 McCleod, 77954 |
| 396 | 110-12 E. Church | С | Nielsen Seven Up Bottling Co. % Robert H. Nielsen Box 310, 77954 |
| 397 | 128 E. Church | C | Federal Building 128 E. Church, 77954 |
| 404 | 111 E. Church | С | Gerard Gonzales 505 W. French, 77954 |
| 405 | 113 E. Church | С | Mrs. Thomas Kalich P.O. Box 183, 77954 |
| 406 | 131 E. Church | C | R & S Properties 322 W. Main Kenedy, TX 78119 |
| 422 | 202 E. Main | С | Lawrence Henneke 605 E. Reuss, 77954 |
| 423 | 120 E. Main | C | B.T. Morris, % B.T. Morris, Jr. 7630 Wood Hollow # 268 Austin, TX 78731 |
| 425 | 116 E. Main | С | Charles Tubbs P.O. Box 529, 77954 |
| 426 | 114 E. Main | С | Charles Tubbs P.O. Box 529, 77954 |
| 427 | 112 E. Main | С | Buchel Bank P.O. Box 311, 77954 |

^{* &}quot;C" - Contributing; "N" - Noncontributing; See DEFINITION OF CATEGORIES

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| Site No. | Address of Property | Category | Owners' Name and Address |
|----------|---------------------|----------|---|
| 428 | 104 E. Main | С | Rosalind McMillan Box 941 Yorktown, TX 78164 |
| 429 | 106 E. Main | C | Murray & Kaye Tarkington 106 E. Main, 77954 |
| 430 | 108-10 E. Main | С | Richard Carbonara Sr. % Cuero Fed. S & L #6982 P.O. Box 808, 77954 |
| 431 | 114 E. Main | C | Joseph Reuss P.O. Box 270, 77954 |
| 432 | 118 E. Main | N | Joe W. Kessler 118 E. Main, 77954 |
| 433 | 120-22 E. Main | C | Cuero Fair & Turkey Trot Association Inc. 103 N. Esplanade, 77954 |
| 434 | 124 E. Main | С | Kin Marie 512 E. Reuss Blvd., 77954 |
| 435 | 130 E. Main | C | Theo A. Reuss Sr. Box 270, 77954 |
| 436 | 132-40 E. Main | С | T.A. Graves; Richard Reedy 401 Second; Rt. 4 Box 1118, 77954; 77954 |
| 437 | 144-46 E. Main | C | Sterling & Norma Morrow 408 N. Indianola, 77954 |
| 438 | 202-06 E. Main | C | Frank & Pauline Burns . 313 W. Prairie, 77954 |
| 439 | 210 E. Main | С | Mrs. T.A. Graves 401 Second Street, 77954 |
| 468 | 215-19 W. Main | С | Joe B. Reuss Box 270, 77954 % The Fair, 77954 |
| | | | |

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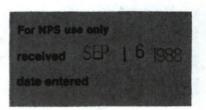
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| Site No. | Address of Property | Category | Owners' Name and Address |
|----------|---------------------|----------|--|
| 470–469 | 201 W. Main | N | William G. Nami 108 S. Esplanade, 77954 |
| 471 | 123-25 W. Main | C | Jake Cohn |
| 472 | 119 W. Main | С | Rene A. & Janie Garza P.O. Box 731, 77954 |
| 473 | 117 W. Main | C | Robert Saenz 705 E. Morgan, 77954 |
| 474 | 115 W. Main | С | Joe & Helen Gomez P.O. Box 602, 77954 |
| 475 | 111 W. Main | N | J.P. Bridges & W.E. Bridges % William E. Bridges P.O. Box 922 Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613 |
| 476 | 109 W. Main | N | Cuero Foodcraft 112 S. Esplanade, 77954 |
| 477 | 105 W. Main | С | Jake Cohn % The Fair, 77954 |
| 478 | 101 W. Main | N | Mollie Cohn % The Fair, 77954 |
| 479 | 103-05 E. Main | С | Rosemary Kokernot 306 N. Terrell, 77954 |
| 480 | 107 E. Main | С | Katherine Mae Doell A&M Route Box 1, 77954 |
| 481 | 109 E. Main | С | J.D. Kauffman P.O. Box 448, 77954 |
| 482 | 111 E. Main | С | J.D. Kauffman P.O. Box 448, 77954 |
| 483 | 113-15 E. Main | С | Weldon Stayton 408 N. Terrell, 77954 |

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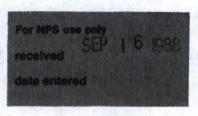


| Site No. | Address of Property | Category | Owners' Name and Address |
|----------|---------------------|----------|---|
| 484 | 119 E. Main | С | Todd Publications Inc. 4620 Lakeview Austin, TX 78731 |
| 485 | 121 E. Main | С | Gerald M. Frers 121 E. Main 77954 |
| 486 | 123 E. Main | С | L.G. North 1504 Renee Palacios, TX 77465 |
| 487 | 125 E. Main | С | Dick & Elizabeth Laughter 2246 Shadowdale Dr. Houston, TX 77043 |
| 488 | 127 E. Main | С | Caroline Lavender 3108 Warrington Rd. Birmingham, AL 35223 |
| 489 | 129 E. Main | C | Mrs. T.A. Graves 401 Second Street, 77954 |
| 490 | 131 E. Main | C | H.G. Kesling 131 E. Main, 77954 |
| 491 | 133 E. Main | C | Sandra Smythe % Jimmy Reiffert 610 Third St., 77954 |
| 492 | 135 E. Main | С | James K. Crain P.O. Box 427, 77954 |
| 947 | 302 N. Esplanade | С | W.T. & Mary Smith 506 W. Thomas, 77954 |
| 948 | 220 N. Esplanade | С | CTC Partnership % Jim Conrad P.O. Box 7, 77954 |
| 949 | 216 N. Esplanade | C | Rachel Sheppard P.O. Box 758, 77954 |
| | | | |

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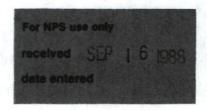
Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all



| Site No. | Address of Property | Category | Owners' Name and Address |
|----------|---------------------|----------|---|
| 950 | 202-06 N. Esplanade | С | Al Means Jr. & John Means 202 N. Esplanade, 77954 |
| 951 | 110 N. Esplanade | C | Walter Wagner 110 N. Esplanade, 77954 |
| 952 | 102-08 N. Esplanade | N | Buchel National Bank P.O. Box 311, 77954 |
| 953 | 112 S. Esplanade | С | Cuero Foodcraft 112 S. Esplanade, 77954 |
| 971 | 213 N. Esplanade | С | Paul E. Loos Route 4 Box 322, 77954 |
| 972 | 211 N. Esplanade | С | Donald & Marie Gips 211 N. Esplanade, 77954 |
| 973 | 201 N. Esplanade | С | Theo. A. Reuss Sr. Box 270, 77954 |
| 974 | 121-23 N. Esplanade | С | Theo Reuss Sr. Estate % Joe Reuss P.O. Box 270, 77954 |
| 975 | 119 N. Esplanade | С | John F. Dietze et al P.O. Box 148, 77954 |
| 976 | 115-17 N. Esplanade | С | Joe B. Reuss P.O. Box 270, 77954 |
| 979 | 113 N. Esplanade | С | Glen Ruschhaupt P.O. Box 825, 77954 |
| 1026 | 115-17 N. Gonzales | С | Weber Motor Co. P.O. Box 566, 77954 |
| 1173 | 109 N. Terrell | С | Keesling Metal Works % John T. Wofford II and III P.O. Box 712, 77954 |

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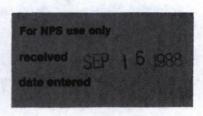


| Site No. | Address of Property | Category | Owners' Name and Address |
|----------|---------------------|------------|---|
| 1174 | 107 N. Terrell | С | Keesling Metal Works % John T. Wofford II and III P.O. Box 712, 77954 |
| 1175 | 210 N. Esplanade | С | CTC Partnership % Jim Conrad P.O. Box 7, 77954 |
| . C-1 | 117 E. Church | N | Fred White Rt. 4 Box 10, 77954 |
| C-2 | 119 E. Church | N | J. Massey 119 E. Church, 77954 |
| C-3 | 126 W. Main | N | B.T. Morris % B.T. Morris, Jr. 7630 Wood Hollow #268 Austin TX 78731 |
| C-4 | 102 E. Main | N | South Texas Savings Assoc. P.O. Box 2118 Victoria, TX 77901 |
| C-5 | 128 E. Main | N | P.A. Heisig 506 N. Esplanade, 77954 |
| C-6 | 212-14 N. Esplanade | N . | Ralph Coppedge 1105 N. McLeod, 77954 |
| C-7 | 120-A N. Esplanade | N | Buchel Bank P.O. Box 311, 77954 |
| C-8 | 120-B N. Esplanade | N | Buchel Bank P.O. Box 311, 77954 |
| C-9 | 108 S. Esplanade | N | Cuero Foodcraft 112 S. Esplanade, 77954 |
| C-10 | 207 N. Esplanade | N | Theo Reuss, % Joe Reuss P.O. Box 270, 77954 |
| (1ot) | 118 W. Main | - / | Keesling Metal Works % John T. Woffort II and III P.O. Box 712, 77954 |

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DESCRIPTION - CUERO COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

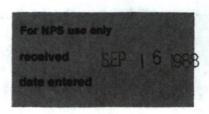
The Cuero Commercial Historic District contains an extremely cohesive collection of older commercial buildings, most of which date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Some structures have been altered with post-World War II "modernizations," although these changes are, for the most part, minor and irreversible and thus do not detract greatly from the district's overall historic character. The Romanesque Revival style is the dominant architectural expression found in the district, but there are several buildings with influences of Classical and Renaissance Revival architecture, which gained popularity in the early years of this century. The district is located in the town's center and lies just north of the old Gulf, Western Texas and Pacific Railroad (now part of the Southern Pacific Railroad system). With few exceptions, the buildings are one- or two-story masonry buildings, and buff-colored brick is the most common construction material. Jules Leffland, an architect who lived in nearby Victoria, probably exerted the greatest influence on the physical character of the district, and he is credited as the designer of at least seven structures. The McKnight Brothers of Halletsville, Robert Allert of the local contracting firm of Feuss and Allert, and the Bailey Lumber Co. of Victoria also were responsible for the construction of other structures in the district. The INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES includes more detailed information on the physical appearance of each building within the district.

When Cuero was founded in 1872, lots in this section were long and narrow, a common practice in town planning at that time. Such a configuration allowed frontage for many businesses onto the busy, heavily trafficked streets and also provided sufficient space in which to store, display and sell goods and merchandise. The first store owners built simple frame structures that conformed to this distinctive feature of the town's physical plan. Historic photographs show that most of these structures were one or two stories in height, with gable roofs and a front parapet. These early stores were detached and placed uniformly along the street to maximize useage of the lot. None of these structures survive within the confines of the district; however, the Leske Bar (N.R. Site No. 420) at 432 W. Main — two blocks west of the historic district — provides a vivid reminder of this type of building.

The Sanborn Fire Insurance Co.'s maps document the transformation of the downtown over time, as brick buildings began to replace their wood-frame predecessors by the early 1880s. Such a development, no doubt, symbolized permanence and stability not only for individual store keepers, but also for the entire community. The south side of the 100 block of E. Main Street was

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the location of the earliest and most intense development, possibly because its close proximity to the railroad made this block the most profitable and desirable. The 100 block of N. Esplanade was also lined with several brick buildings by the late 1880s and early 1900s.

Among the earliest masonry structures is the 1881 H. Runge and Co. Building (Site No. 478) at 101 W. Main. Although it has been altered in recent years, this structure features large, round-arch transoms that are presently covered with corrugated-metal panels. The round-arched motif later became a favorite in Cuero especially when the Romanesque Revival style became popular during the 1890s and early 1900s. Jules Leffland, an architect from Victoria, was particularly adept with this style, as can been seen by the Gohmert and Nagel buildings (Site Nos. 480 and 483, respectively).

Most contributing buildings (see DEFINITION OF CATEGORIES) in the district exhibit influences of the Romanesque Revival style and were built around the turn of the century. Other styles, however, are also found in the district. The Heaton Building (Site No. 430) features Victorian Italianate detailing which was popular in Texas during the 1870s and 1880s. This building has a pressed-metal cornice with brackets and pediment, distinctive characteristics of this style. Although the store was never severely altered, recent renovation efforts have successfully restored the building's noteworthy architectural features.

The early twentieth century witnessed the construction of many new stores in the central business district, and some were built in styles other than the Romanesque Revival mode. The most noteworthy example is the H. Runge and Co. complex (Site Nos. 490, 491 and 492) at the east end of the 100 block of E. Main Street. Robert Allert, who is credited as builder, erected three adjoining structures with detailing suggestive of the Second Renaissance Revival style. Jules Leffland designed a Mission Revival-styled building (Site No. 439) at 210 E. Main. The 1914 Graves Building (Site No. 438) exhibits classically inspired detailing.

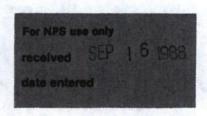
Little construction took place in the district during the 1920s and 1930s. The most prominent buildings of that era stand at 132-140 and 144-146 E. Main (Site Nos. 436 and 437, respectively), and both feature less exhuberant detailing than those stores built in previous decades.

After World War II the most significant development in the downtown was the widespread movement to upgrade or "modernize" storefronts. Many of the buildings in the district were altered on the street level but the upper floors and parapets were left intact. In the last three years, however, several buildings have been restored once the city became involved with the Texas Main Street Program. The downtown remains an active commercial center and attracts customers from the city and many nearby rural communities.

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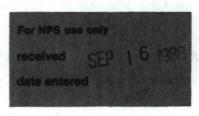
INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES (BY ADDRESS) - CUERO COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

- Address, Site Number, Category. Date of Construction. Historic Name, if known. Architect, if known. Builder, if known. Brief Description. Statement of Significance, if applicable.
- 110-12 E. Church, Site No. 396, Contributing. ca. 1930. One-story commercial building with hollow-tile-and-stucco construction and a stepped parapet; noncontributing addition to rear and side.
- 111 E. Church, Site No. 404, Contributing. ca. 1930. One-story, masonry, commercial building.
- 113 E. Church, Site No. 405, Contributing. ca. 1930. One-story, stuccoed-masonry, commercial building with structural glass blocks.
- 117 E. Church, Site No. C-1, Noncontributing. ca. 1950. One-story masonry commercial building.
- 119 E. Church, Site No. C-2, Noncontributing. ca. 1955. One-story masonry office building.
- 128 E. Church, Site No. 397, Contributing. 1915. Federal Building, Cuero, Texas. James A. Wetmore, Acting Supervising U.S. Treasury Architect. Two-story, buff-brick, institutional building with classical detailing and a colossal-order arched loggia. Housed both the post office and federal offices until a new post office was built on E. Main Street in the 1960s. Still serves as the federal building.
- 131 E. Church, Site No. 406, Contributing. ca. 1930. Stowers Furniture Store. One-story, stuccoed-masonry, commercial building with tiled detailing in parapet; interior ceiling w/ pressed-metal tile; noncontributing addition to side (west).
- 112 W. Church, Site No. 395, Contributing. 1912. Jules Leffland, architect. Two-story, buff-brick, commercial building with paneled parapet and corbeled brickwork. Part of the R. C. Flick Building (Site No. 950). Housed the Cerny Manufacturing Co., which made overalls.

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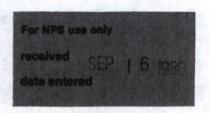
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- 104-108 N. Esplanade, Site No. 952, Noncontributing. 1911. Buchel Bank. Adickes Co., contractors. Two-story commercial building with load-bearing masonry walls; flat arched openings with keystones; aluminum-sash windows; recessed entry bay with Ionic columns. Otto Buchel came to Cuero in 1873 with George Seeligson and together they founded a grocery and mercantile store that proved to be very successful. Selligson left the firm a year later and Buchel soon introduced banking services there. The Otto Buchel Banking and Exchange Co. grew to become Cuero's largest bank facility. It remains the oldest such institution in the town. Alterations completed in 1960.
- 110 N. Esplanade, Site No. 951, Contributing. ca. 1890. Warn Building. Two-story commercial building with load-bearing masonry walls; castiron pilasters separate bays; cast-iron door thresholds engraved with original owner's name; R.C. Warn came to Cuero from Indianola after the 1886 storm and established a hardware store; he built this structure about 1890-91; after his death, it was known as Hutchins & Bates Hardware and later as Bates Hardware; it remains virtually unaltered and is still a hardware store; noncontributing building to rear.
- 113 N. Esplanade, Site No. 979, Contributing. 1903. Bell and Blackwell Dry Goods Store. One-story, brick, commercial building with recessed entry and a rounded parapet.
- 115-17 N. Esplanade, Site No. 976, Contributing. ca. 1895. Stratton Row Building. McKnight Brothers, contractors. Two-story, buff-brick, commercial building with stone detailing, decorative brick coursing, and a stepped parapet; noncontributing building to rear.
- 119 N. Esplanade, Site No. 975, Contributing. ca. 1895. Stratton Row Building. McKnight Brothers, contractors. One-story, buff-brick, commercial building with triangular, stepped parapet and paneled brickwork detailing.
- 120-A N. Esplanade, Site No. C-7, Noncontributing. ca. 1980. Modern bank drive-in window.
- 120-B N. Esplanade, Site No. C-8, Noncontributing. ca. 1980. Automated bank teller machine.
- 121-23 N. Esplanade, Site No. 974, Contributing. 1894. Old Florence Hotel, part of the Stratton Row. McKnight Brothers, contractors. Two-story, buff-brick commercial building with pressed-metal corner tower, decorative brickwork detailing, and a stepped parapet; noncontributing building to rear.

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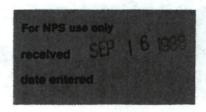


- 201 N. Esplanade, Site No. 973, Contributing. ca. 1895. Old First State Bank Building. Two-story, buff-brick, commercial building with stone detailing, arched window surrounds, and an emphasized corner pavillion. The bank was founded in 1881 by local businessman Alexander Hamilton, Sr. along with lumberman C.L. Stadler. In 1926 the institution was reorganized and renamed Farmers State Bank which remains in operation but occupies quarters several blocks north on Esplanade Blvd.
- 202-06 N. Esplanade, Site No. 950, Contributing. 1912. R. C. Flick Building. Jules Leffland, architect. Two-story, buff-brick, commercial building with arched windows and a bracketed cornice. Housed R. C. Flick's harness and saddle shop and later his automobile business.
- 207 N. Esplanade, Site No. C-10, Noncontributing, 1980. One-story masonry office building.
- 210 N. Esplanade, Site No. 1175. Contributing. ca. 1895. Two-story, brick, commercial building with arched openings and corbeled brickwork detailing. In 1907, according to Sanborn maps, the post office was in this building.
- 211 N. Esplanade, Site No. 972, Contributing. ca. 1910. A.C. Brueggman Building. One-story cast-stone commercial building with stepped parapet.
- 212-14 N. Esplanade, C-6, Noncontributing. ca. 1984. One-story, brick, commercial building with recently completed remodeling.
- 213 N. Esplanade, Site No. 971, Contributing. ca. 1920. One-story, stuccoed-masonry commercial building with recessed entry; noncontributing rear addition.
- 216-18 N. Esplanade, Site No. 949, Contributing. ca. 1915. One-story, brick, commercial building with triangular parapet. This was an auto repair shop.
- 220 N. Esplanade, Site No. 948, Contributing. 1894. Trautwein Building. Allert, Fink and Feuss, contractors. Two-story, brick, commercial building with piers dividing six-ranked facade, arched windows, and paneled brickwork detailing; noncontributing addition in middle. A furniture store occupied the building's ground floor.

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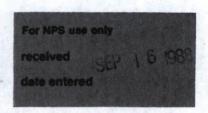


- 302 N. Esplanade, Site No. 947, Contributing. 1903. Knights of Pythias Building. Jules Leffland, architect. Two-story, buff-brick, commercial building with emphasized corner pavillions, arched windows, corbeled brickwork detailing, and a Knights of Pythias emblem in the parapet. Moore and Sames originally occupied the ground floor.
- 108 S. Esplanade, Site No. C-9, Noncontributing. ca. 1950. One-story, masonry, commercial building.
- 110-12 S. Esplanade, Site No. 953, Contributing. ca. 1900. One-story brick commercial building; corbeled brickwork on south elevation; stuccoed on front (east) elevation.
- 115-17 N. Gonzales, Site No. 1026, Contributing. ca. 1920. One-story, buff-brick, commercial building with angled orientation of entry at corner surmounted by triangular parapet and stepped parapets over other bays; noncontributing addition to rear. H. Runge & Co. was probably responsible for the construction of this building which houses an auto sales and service shop.
- 101-03 E. Main, Site No. 479, Contributing. 1907. Breeden Brothers Building. Jules Leffland, architect. Bailey Mills, contractors. One-story, red-brick commercial building with pedimented parapet, corbeled brickwork, and a recessed corner entry with Romanesque Revival detailing. Housed the Breeden Brothers Grocery Store, a prominent retail grocery firm in Cuero.
- 102 E. Main, Site No. C-4, Contributing. (ca. 1900)ca. 1960. One-story masonry building; severely altered historic building; little of original fabric can be seen (only at rear).
- 104 E. Main, Site No. 428, Contributing. ca. 1920. One-story, brick, commercial building with a stepped parapet and geometric detailing.
- 106 E. Main, Site No. 429, Contributing. 1913. Kleinecke Building. Twostory, brick, commercial building with a curvilinear parapet and corner piers with geometric caps.
- 107 E. Main, Site No. 480, Contributing. 1899. Louis Gohmert Building. Jules Leffland, architect. Finck and Feuss, contractors. Two-story, brick, commercial building with recessed entry, windows arranged in a Palladian motif, corbeled brickwork, and a pedimented parapet.
- 108-10 E. Main, Site No. 430, Contributing. ca. 1925. Francis Heaton Building. One-story, red-brick, commercial building with paneled brickwork and tiled detailing in the stepped parapet.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Cuero, Texas M-R Nomination

Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all

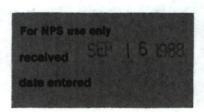


- 109 E. Main, Site No. 481, Contributing. 1893. Thomas A. Graves Building. Two-story, brick, commercial building with recessed entry, tripartite arched window composition, and a corbeled parapet; noncontributing addition to rear. Graves operated a dry goods business.
- 111 E. Main, Site No. 482, Contributing. ca. 1890. Very narrow, two-story, buff-brick, commercial building with geometric and corbeled brick detailing in the parapet.
- 113-15 E. Main, Site No. 483, Contributing. ca. 1907. Nagel Hardware Building. Jules Leffland, architect. Two-story, red-brick, commercial building with stone detailing, recessed entries, a prominent central bay with arched windows set within a larger arch, and a crenellated parapet; contributing building to rear. J.R. Nagel operated a hardware store in this building. He founded Cuero's first such business when he relocated from nearby Clinton when the railroad reached Cuero.
- 114 E. Main, Site No. 431, Contributing. 1889. Heaton Brothers Drug Store. Two-story, masonry, commercial building with ashlar courses, bracketed pressed-metal cornice, cast-iron storefront with a recessed entry, and Victorian Italianate detailing.
- 118 E. Main, Site No. 432, Noncontributing. ca. 1895. Peter Alonso Building. One-story, masonry, commercial building with modern false front. Obscures historic fabric.
- 119 E. Main, Site No. 484, Contributing. ca. 1907. J. C. Howerton Building. Jules Leffland, architect. Two-story, buff-brick, commercial building with red-brick detailing, arched windows, and a triangular parapet; noncontributing addition to rear. J.C. Howerton was founder and publisher of the Cuero Record. The newspaper still is published in this building.
- 120-22 E. Main, Site No. 433, Contributing. ca. 1890. Nitsche-Molesworth Building. Two-story, brick, commercial building with rounded hood-molds over windows and a corbeled-brick cornice.
- 121 E. Main, Site No. 485, Contributing. ca. 1930. One-story, stuccoed-brick, commercial building with a recessed entry and geometric detailing.
- 123 E. Main, Site No. 486, Contributing. ca. 1930. One-story, stuccoed-masonry, commercial building with a stepped parapet and geometric detailing.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Cuero, Texas M-R Nomination

Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all

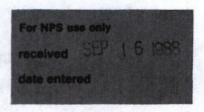


- 124 E. Main, Site No. 434, Contributing. 1899. Welch-Peavy Building. Twostory, buff-brick, commercial building with rounded hoodmolds over windows, a corbeled brickwork cornice, and a stepped parapet. John Welch, who had the structure built for \$3712.50, operated a jewelry store.
- 125 E. Main, Site No. 487, Contributing. ca. 1881. Regan Building. Twostory, stuccoed-masonry, commercial building with a pressed-metal cornice over the transom and pedimented window moldings. D.H. Regan was an Indianola dry goods merchant who moved to Victoria after the 1886 storm. He operated a branch store in this building.
- 127 E. Main, Site No. 488, Contributing. 1907. John Graves Building. Twostory, stuccoed-masonry, commercial building with classical detailing including a pedimented parapet, Palladian window, and bracketed window cornices. John Graves was a successful dry goods merchant and was also an investor in Cuero's textile mill.
- 128 E. Main, C-5, Noncontributing. ca. 1940. One-story, masonry, commercial building. Intrusive to the scale and rhythm of the district.
- 129 E. Main, Site No. 489, Contributing. ca. 1900. Two-story, stuccoed-brick, commercial building.
- 130 E. Main, Site No. 435, Contributing. ca. 1890. Reuss Drug Store. Two-story, stuccoed-masonry, commercial building with segmentally arched windows. J.M. Reuss, an immigrant from Germany, built this structure and maintained his drug store business. Reuss' Drug Store is still in business (although it no longer occupies this site) and is run by a fourth generation member of the Reuss family.
- 131 E. Main, Site No. 490, Contributing. ca. 1898. Two-story, brick, commercial building with stone classical detailing including arched windows, colonettes, and a pressed metal cornice with a balustraded parapet; noncontributing addition on rear. Historic photographs show that the H. Runge & Co. Hardware Store operated out of this building.
- 132-140 E. Main, Site No. 436, Contributing. ca. 1915. One-story, redbrick, commercial building with two pedimented parapets, paneled brickwork detailing, and piers dividing six-ranked facade.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Cuero, Texas M-R Nomination

Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all

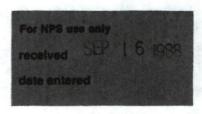


- 133 E. Main, Site No. 491, Contributing. 1907. H. Runge and Co. Bank Building. Robert Allert, contractor. Two-story brick commercial building with classical detailing including a Palladian motif, pilasters, and decorative medallions. The origins of H. Runge & Co. can be traced to 1845 when the company was founded in Indianola. The bank is reputed to be one of the state's first such institutions. A Cuero branch was established by 1873 and after Indianola was abandoned, the firm's headquarters moved to Cuero. The bank closed in the early 1930s.
- 135 E. Main, Site No. 492, Contributing. 1907. H. Runge and Co. Grocery Building. Robert Allert, contractor. Two-story, buff-brick, commercial building with an angled corner bay and stone classical detailing including arched windows, colonettes, and a pressed-metal cornice with a balustraded parapet. This was used by H. Runge & Co. to house their retail grocery business. See 133 E. Main for more information on H. Runge & Co.
- 144-46 E. Main, Site No. 437, Contributing. 1928. Sophia Gohmert Building. One-story, red-brick, commercial building with tile detailing in the stepped parapet.
- 202-06 E. Main, Site No. 438, Contributing. 1914. Graves Building (1914). Two-story, buff-brick, commercial building with a light well dividing the facade at the second story, brickwork cornices, and paneled parapets.
- 210 E. Main, Site No. 439, Contributing. 1907. Graves Post Office Building. Jules Leffland, architect. One-story, red-brick, commercial building with stone detailing including coping on the Mission Revival parapet and a similarly detailed window. Sanborn maps identify this structure as a post office in 1912. Leffland's daybook lists the Graves Post Office Building as one of his commissions.
- 101 W. Main, Site No. 478, Noncontributing. 1881. H. Runge and Co. Building (1881). One-story, brick, commercial building with classical detailing including a molded cornice, denticulation, and a pedimented parapet. The original owner's name can still be seen in the parapet. Roundarched transoms are covered with corrugated-metal panels. Sanborn maps show that a grocery and dry goods store was in this building through the early twentieth century.
- 105 W. Main, Site No. 477, Contributing. ca. 1900. Very narrow, one-story, brick, commercial building with segmental-arched opening and geometric brick detailing.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Cuero, Texas M-R Nomination

Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all

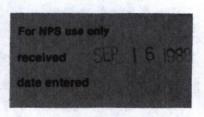


- 109 W. Main, Site No. 476, Noncontributing. (ca. 1930) 1987. One-story, stuccoed-masonry, commercial building with unadorned parapet. Fire destroyed the storefront which was completely rebuilt in 1987.
- 111 W. Main, Site No. 475, Noncontributing. ca. 1925. One-story, masonry, commercial building with modern false front.
- 112 W. Main, Site No. 427, Contributing. ca. 1910. One-story masonry building; two double-door entrances; round-arched transoms.
- 114 W. Main, Site No. 426, Contributing. ca. 1935. One-story frame structure; single-door entrance; false-front parapet.
- 115 W. Main, Site No. 474, Contributing. ca. 1905. Two-story, buff-brick, commercial building with segmental-arched openings, drip moldings, and a paneled parapet. Sanborn maps of 1912 show that a hardware store operated on the ground floor and a cigar factory was upstairs.
- 116 W. Main, Site No. 425, Contributing. ca. 1935. One-story brick office building; 3-bay facade; transoms covered.
- 117 W. Main, Site No. 473, Contributing. ca. 1905. One-story, buff-brick, commercial building with a recessed entry and a stepped parapet.
- 119 W. Main, Site No. 472, Contributing. ca. 1900. One-story, brick, commercial building with corbeled brickwork, raised piers, and a pedimented parapet.
- 120 W. Main, Site No. 423, Contributing. ca. 1930. One-story, brick, commercial building; altered storefront.
- 122 W. Main, Site No. C-3, Noncontributing. ca. 1940. One-story, brick, commercial building.
- 123-25 W. Main, Site No. 471, Contributing. ca. 1890. Swift Building. Two-story, brick, commercial building with paneled brickwork, hoodmolds over the windows, and cast-iron pilasters with acanthus leaf capitals. The Mistrot Dry Goods Store was in this building.
- 201 W. Main, Site No. 470, Noncontributing. ca. 1930. One-story, stuccoed-masonry, commercial building.
- 202 W. Main, Site No. 422, Contributing. ca. 1930. One-story, cast-stone, service station; pressed-metal ceiling in service bay.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Cuero, Texas M-R Nomination

Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all

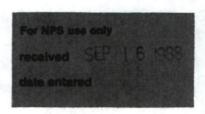


- 203 W. Main, Site No. 469, Contributing. ca. 1930. One-story, brick, commercial building.
- 215-19 W. Main, Site No. 468, Contributing. ca. 1915. Gohmert Building (ca. 1915). One-story, red-brick, commercial building with recessed entries, denticulated brickwork, and a triangular parapet.
- 107 N. Terrell, Site No. 1174, Contributing. ca. 1920. One-story warehouse building; stuccoed facade; stepped parapet.
- 109 N. Terrell, Site No. 1173, Contributing. ca. 1920. One-story warehouse building; stuccoed facade; metal casement windows.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Cuero, Texas M-R Nomination

Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all



Page 69

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE - CUERO COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Cuero Commercial Historic District, which extends along Main Street and Esplanade Blvd., includes virtually all of the town's old downtown area and, since the town's founding, has served as an important regional center for banking and retail operations. Only a few structures have been replaced or severely altered since World War II, and the district retains, to a remarkable degree, its early twentieth-century character. Few towns in Texas can boast such a fine collection of intact, turn-of-the-century commercial buildings, and for this reason, the district is being submitted at a state level of significance. In addition, numerous businesses that are important on a regional level have operated in the district over the years. Among the more significant are H. Runge & Co., Reuss' Drug Store, Breeden Brothers Grocery, Graves' Dry Goods and Buchel Bank. See the "Commerce" section of Item 8 of the nomination for more information about Cuero's more important retail establishments and the individuals responsible for their successful operation. The INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES - CUERO COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT also provides detailed information on all properties in the district. A total of 75 buildings stand within the confines of the district of which 59 are classified as contributing to the historic character.

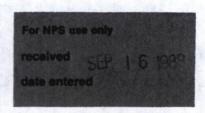
DEFINITION OF CATEGORIES

Contributing - Contributing structures are those which add to the significance and historic character of the district; the majority of these buildings fall within this category. These properties were built before 1937 and exhibit similar scale, proportions and materials. All of the buildings are one and two stories in height and are of masonry construction. Buff-colored brick is most common, but examples of red brick and cast-stone can be found. With few exceptions, these buildings were intended for commercial/retail purposes, and most are still used as stores or are vacant. Most buildings remain relatively unchanged, but some have been moderately altered over the years. Common changes include the removal of original architectural fabric and ornamentation, such as one of the Runge Buildings (Site No. 490), and the installation of new storefronts. Most often, this merely involves the replacement of the original display windows and doors with aluminum-sash equivalents. An example includes the Nagel Hardware Store (Site No. 483) at 113-15 E. Main. Despite the negative effect these alterations have upon the buildings, they frequently do not destroy the structure's historic character. In the example cited, the upper floor remains virtually intact; thus the building retains its integrity.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Cuero, Texas M-R Nomination

Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all



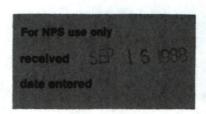
Page 70

Noncontributing - Noncontributing structures are those that detract from the historic character and include two groups of properties. Buildings that are less than 50 years old are classified as noncontributing because they do not meet National Register criteria. They generally are not compatible with the scale and/or materials that are seen in the contributing structures. The other group includes pre-1937 buildings that have been so severely altered that little, if any, of the historic fabric remains visible. The most extreme example is the Keesler Drug Store (Site No. 432) with its aluminum false front. In all likelihood, the building's original architectural features remain intact, but they are completely obscured from view. As it presently stands, the structure bears no physical cohesiveness with the other masonry buildings that line E. Main Street. In other cases, the historic building has been "modernized" with materials that are not compatible with the original historic fabric. An example is the Buchel Bank Building (Site No. 952). If restored, however, these buildings could be considered for reclassification as contributing members of the district.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Cuero, Texas M-R Nomination

Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all



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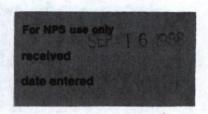
JUSTIFICATION OF BOUNDARIES - CUERO COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Cuero Commercial Historic District includes much of the town's central business district. The southern boundary runs along the north side of Railroad Street which provides a buffer between downtown and the rightof-way for the railroad tracks. The city's municipal building, erected in the 1950s, stands on the south side of the 200 block of E. Main Street and was excluded because it does not fall within the period of significance listed for the district. The Old Normana Theatre (Survey Site No. 440), which shares a common wall with the Graves Post Office Building (Site No. 439), was also excluded because of recently completed alterations. These changes obscure the building's historic fabric; it would be classified as an intrusive element and the boundaries were not extended to include noncontributing properties. Vacant lots abut the district to the northeast and a new (1970s) savings and loan association building was erected north of the Old Post Office (Site No. 397). Other post-1937 structures abut the northern boundary of the district and include a metal storage building (Survey Site No. 376) on E. Courthouse and a 1950s motel on N. Esplanade. The Terrell-Reuss Streets Historic District stands northwest of the Cuero Commercial Historic District. Its buildings are residential and are being nominated separately because its architecture and history differ greatly from that of the downtown. Modern public housing units stand to the west of the commercial district, except along W. Main Street where a large number of post-1937 commercial buildings are prevalent. These would be intrusive to the historic character of the district.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Cuero, Texas M-R Nomination

Continuation sheet Cuero Commercial Hist. Dist. Item number all



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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION - CUERO COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

Beginning at the northeast corner of lot 12, block 66, City of Cuero, thence west to the northwest corner of said lot. Thence south to the southwest corner of said lot, continuing across W. Courthouse St. to the northwest corner of lot 16. block 67. City of Cuero. Thence west along W. Courthouse St. to the northwest corner of lot 10, block 67, City of Cuero. Thence south along the west boundary of said property and continuing to the southwest corner of lot 7, block 67, City of Cuero and crossing W. Church St. to the northwest corner of lot 12, block 67, City of Cuero. Thence west to the northwest corner of lot 10, block 67, City of Cuero. Thence south to the northwest corner of lot 1, block 67, City of Cuero. Thence west across N. Terrell St. to the northwest corner of lot 7, block 71, City of Cuero. Thence south to the southwest corner of said lot. Thence east along said lot until reaching the southeast corner of said lot. Thence south across W. Main Street to the northeast corner of the east 1/2 of lot 3. block 70. City of Cuero. Thence south along said lot to the southeast corner of said lot. Thence east along the south boundary of block 70, City of Cuero, crossing Hutcheson St. and continuing the the south boundary of block 69, City of Cuero, crossing S. Esplanade St. and continuing along the south boundary of block 1, City of Cuero until reaching the southeast corner of lot 9, block 9. City of Cuero. Thence north along said lot and crossing E. Main Street until reaching the southeast corner of lot 8, block 2, City of Cuero. Thence east across N. Gonzales until reaching the southwest corner of lot 1. block 9, City of Cuero. Thence east along said lot and continuing until reaching reaching the southeast corner of 1ot 2 of said block. Thence north along said lot until reaching the northeast corner of said lot. Thence east along the north border of lot 3, block 9, City of Cuero until reaching the southeast corner of lot 6, block 9, City of Cuero. Thence north along said lot until reaching the northeast corner of lot 7, block 9, City of Cuero. Thence west along said lot and continuing across N. Gonzales St. until reaching the northeast corner of lot 15, block 2, City of Cuero. Thence north across E. Church St. until reaching the southeast corner of lot 12, block 3, City of Cuero. Thence north until reaching the northeast corner of the southern 1/2 of 1ot 14, block 3, City of Cuero. Thence west along said lot and continuing to the northwest corner of the southern 1/2 of lot 3, block 3, City of Cuero and continuing across N. Esplanade St. until reaching lot 14, block 67, City of Cuero. Thence north along said lot and continuing across W. Courthouse St. until reaching the point of beginning.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

| , | | | | Multiple Resource Area Thematic Group |
|------|----------------------|--|------------------|--|
| me | Cuero MRA | | | |
| | DeWitt County, | TEXAS | | |
| mina | ation/Type of Review | | | Date/Signature |
| 11. | City Water Works | Entered in the | Keeper | Alores Byen 10/. |
| | | , | Attest | |
| 12. | Clement-Nagel House | Substantive Review | Keeper | CheepShuel 10-31-8 |
| 13. | Colston-Gohmert Hou | ise Mational Regist | Attest | Albrei Byan 19 |
| 14. | Cook, Charles, Hous | se Substantive Review | Attest Keeper | 0 |
| 15. | Crain, W.H., House | Entered in the | Attest | Helmer Byan 10/3 |
| | | | Attest | 40 |
| 6. | Cuero Commercial Hi | | Keeper | Caeal Shell 11-17- |
| 4 | District | Substantive Loview | Attest | |
| .7. | Cuero Gin | Entered in the | Keeper | SelaruByen 10/31 |
| | | 6. | Attest | |
| 8. | Cuero High School | Substantive Review | Keeper | Caralashull 10-51-88 |
| | | | Attest | |
| .9. | East Main Street Re | esidential | wKeeper | Acloren Byen 10/31 |
| | MISCOLIC DISCILICA | Estimal Bogister | Attest | 7 (|
| 20. | Daule, E.A., House | Substantive Review | Keeper | |
| | | 1 - Name of Contract of Contra | Attest | Cacal DShuel 10-5/-8 |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION Cuero Commercial Historic District PROPERTY NAME: MULTIPLE Cuero MRA NAME: STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, De Witt DATE RECEIVED: 9/16/88 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/27/88
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/13/88 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/31/88 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST: REFERENCE NUMBER: 88001996 NOMINATOR: STATE REASONS FOR REVIEW: APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: N SAMPLE: Y SLR DRAFT: Y COMMENT WAIVER: N ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS: Property recommended for state level significance based on the architectural and commercial importance of the buildings within the district. However, nomination must be returned until National Register receives documentation indicating that the federal property owner in the district has been notified. RECOM./CRITERIA Accept REVIEWER Noble DISCIPLINE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

1/15

| CLASSIFICATION | N |
|-------------------------------|---|
| count | resource type |
| STATE/FEDERAL | L AGENCY CERTIFICATION |
| FUNCTION | |
| historic | current |
| DESCRIPTION | |
| architectumaterials | aral classification |
| descriptiv | re text |
| SIGNIFICANCE | |
| Period | Areas of SignificanceCheck and justify below |
| Specific date Statement of | Builder/Architect Significance (in one paragraph) |
| summary pa completene | |
| applicable justificat | e criteria tion of areas checked significance to the resource |
| context relations | nip of integrity to significance |
| other | Ton of exception |
| | |
| | |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | |
| GEOGRAPHICAL | DATA |
| acreage | verbal boundary description boundary justification |
| | DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION |
| | |
| sketch map | psUSGS mapsphotographspresentation |
| OTHER COMMEN | rs |
| Questions con | ncerning this nomination may be directed to |
| | Phone |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

| REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION | |
|---|----------------|
| PROPERTY Cuero Commercial Historic District | |
| ULTIPLE Cuero MRA | |
| STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, De Witt | |
| DATE RECEIVED: 11/10/88 DATE OF PENDING LIST DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: DATE OF WEEKLY LIST: | T: 12/25/88 |
| REFERENCE NUMBER: 88001996 | |
| NOMINATOR: STATE | |
| DETAILED EVALUATION: Y | |
| ACCEPTRETURNREJECT _/1-17-88_DATE | 205 |
| ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS: | |
| | |

Nomination can now be accepted based on evidence supplied by SHPD which indicates that federal owner was notified about the nomination.

| Accept - A.C |
|--------------|
| oble |
| storian |
| 7/88 |
| |

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

| CLASSIFICATION |
|---|
| countresource type |
| STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION |
| FUNCTION |
| historiccurrent |
| DESCRIPTION |
| architectural classificationmaterialsdescriptive text |
| |
| SIGNIFICANCE |
| Period Areas of SignificanceCheck and justify below |
| Specific dates Builder/Architect Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) |
| summary paragraphcompletenessclarityapplicable criteriajustification of areas checkedrelating significance to the resourcecontextrelationship of integrity to significancejustification of exceptionother |
| |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY |
| GEOGRAPHICAL DATA |
| acreageverbal boundary descriptionboundary justification |
| ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION |
| sketch mapsUSGS mapsphotographspresentatio |
| OTHER COMMENTS |
| Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to |
| Phone |
| Signed Date |



"Historic Resources of Cuero, Texas" Multiple-Resource Nomination; city limits of Cuero, DeWitt County, Texas.

Photo: David Moore of Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc. 1986; negative with Texas Historical Commission, Austin, Texas.

Subject: Cuero Commercial Historic District 100 Block E. Main, South Side

View: Camera looking southwest

Photo 48 of 77



"Historic Resources of Cuero, Texas" Multiple-Resource Nomination; city limits of Cuero, DeWitt County, Texas.

Photo: David Moore of Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc. 1986; negative with Texas Historical

Commission, Austin, Texas.

Subject: Cuero Commercial Historic District 100 Block E. Main, South Side

View: Camera looking southeast

Photo 49 of 77



"Historic Resources of Cuero, Texas" Multiple-Resource Nomination; city limits of Cuero, DeWitt County, Texas.

Photo: David Moore of Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc.

1986; negative with Texas Historical

Commission, Austin, Texas.

Subject: Cuero Commercial Historic District

100 Block E. Main, North Side

View: Camera looking northeast

Photo 50 of 77



Photo: David Moore of Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc. 1986; negative with Texas Historical

Commission, Austin, Texas.

Subject: Cuero Commercial Historic District

100 Block E. Main, North Side

View: Camera looking northwest

Photo 51 of 77



Photo: David Moore of Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc. 1986; negative with Texas Historical

Commission, Austin, Texas.

Subject: Cuero Commercial Historic District 100 Block W. Main, South Side

View: Camera looking southeast

Photo 52 of 77



Photo: David Moore of Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc. 1986; negative with Texas Historical

Commission, Austin, Texas.

Subject: Cuero Commercial Historic District 100 Block W. Main, North Side

View: Camera looking northeast

Photo 53 of 77



Photo: David Moore of Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc.

1986; negative with Texas Historical

Commission, Austin, Texas.

Subject: Cuero Commercial Historic District 100-200 Blocks N. Esplanade, East Side

View: Camera looking southeast

Photo 54 of 77



Photo: David Moore of Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc. 1986; negative with Texas Historical Commission, Austin, Texas.

Subject: Cuero Commercial Historic District
Heaton Bros. Drug Store, Site No. 431

114 E. Main

View: Camera looking north

Photo 55 of 77



Photo: David Moore of Hardy-Heck-Moore, Inc.

1986; negative with Texas Historical

Commission, Austin, Texas.

Subject: Cuero Commercial Historic District

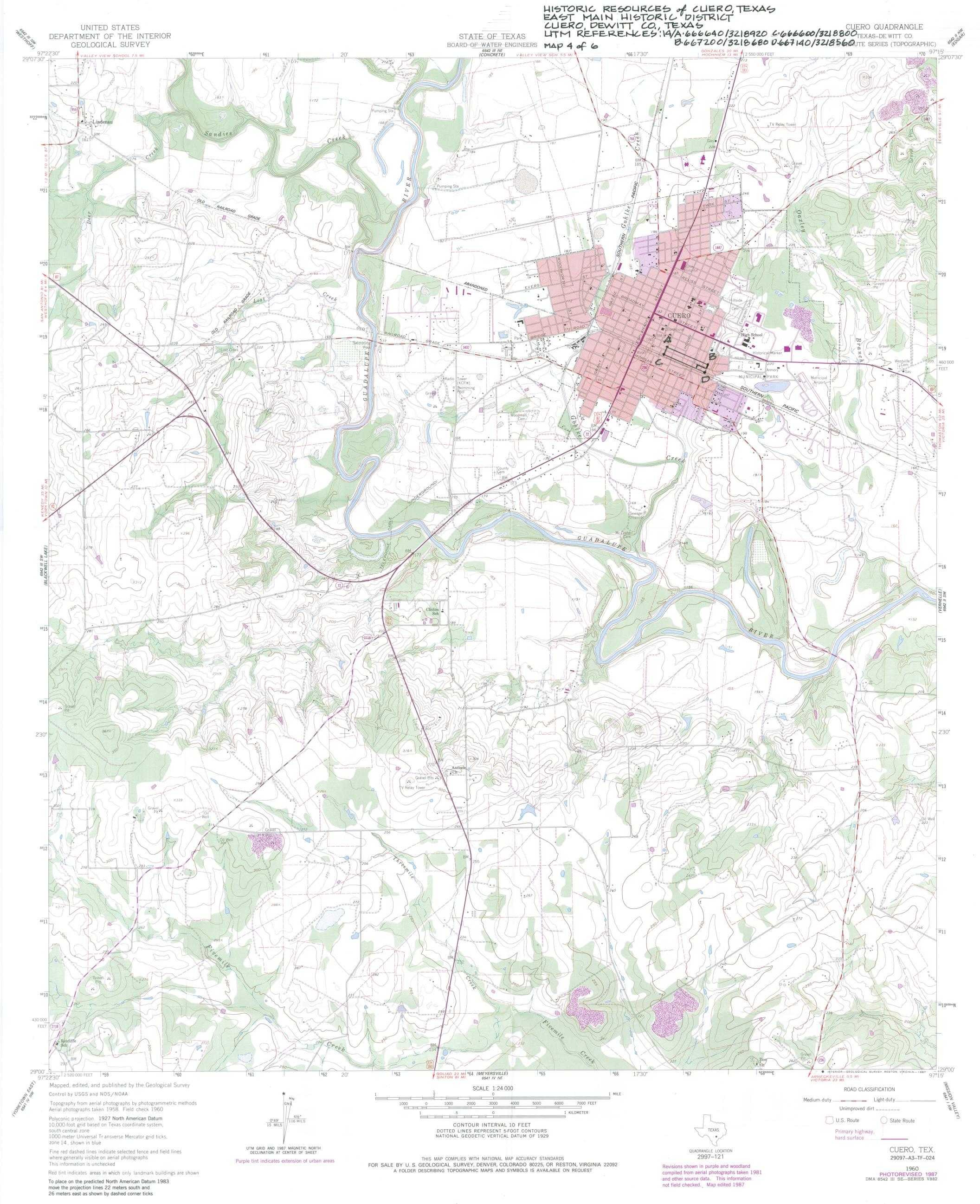
Old Federal Building, Site No. 397

128 E. Church

View: Camera looking northwest

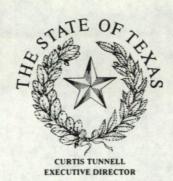
Photo 56 of 77

T.



T.R. FEHRENBACH, SAN ANTONIO CHAIRMAN MRS. E.L. LONG, KILGORE VICE-CHAIRMAN DR. DAN A. WILLIS, FORT WORTH SECRETARY

MRS. LUNELLE A. ANDERSON, SAN MARCOS JOHN M. BENNETT, SAN ANTONIO CARRIELU B. CHRISTENSEN, AUSTIN GEORGE CHRISTIAN, AUSTIN



RICHARD H. COLLINS, DALLAS
HAROLD D. COURSON, PERRYTON
MARTHA J. CROWLEY, RICHARDSON
MAXINE E. FLOURNOY, ALICE
BETTY E. HANNA, BRECKENRIDGE
SUZANNE W. HARRIS, SAN ANTONIO
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MARY ANN PERRYMAN, ATHENS
GAY RATLIFF, AUSTIN
EVANGELINE L. WHORTON,
GALVESTON ISLAND

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

(512)463-6100

November 3, 1988

General Services Administration Attn: Howard Cappell 7-PEP 819 Taylor Street Fort Worth, TX 76102

Re: Federal Building, 128 E. Church Cuero, DeWitt County, Texas

Dear Mr. Cappell:

We are pleased to inform you that the above-mentioned property has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the Federal Government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register provides recognition and assists in preserving our nation's heritage. Listing in the National Register results in the following for historic properties:

- 1. Consideration in planning for Federal, federally licensed, and federally assisted projects. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 requires that Federal agencies allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to have an opportunity to comment on all projects affecting historic properties listed in the National Register. For further information please refer to 36 CFR 800.
- 2. Eligibility for Federal tax provisions. If a property is listed in the National Register, certain Federal tax provisions may apply. The Tax Reform Act of 1986 revises the historic preservation tax incentives authorized by Congress in the Tax Reform Act of 1976, the Revenue Act of 1978, the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980, the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, and Tax Reform Act of 1984, and as of January 1, 1987, provides for a 20 percent investment tax credit with a full adjustment to basis for rehabilitating historic commercial, industrial, and rental residential buildings. The former 15 percent and 20 percent Investment Tax Credits (ITCs) for rehabilitations of older commercial buildings are combined into a single 10 percent ITC for commercial or industrial buildings built before 1936. The Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980 provides Federal tax deductions for charitable contributions for conservation purposes of partial interests in historically important land areas or structures. Whether these provisions are advantageous to a property owner is dependent upon the particular circumstances of the property and the owner. Because tax aspects outlined above are complex,

individuals should consult legal counsel or the appropriate local Internal Revenue Service office for assistance in determining the tax consequences of the above provisions. For further information on certification requirements, please refer to 36 CFR 67.

- 3. Consideration in issuing a surface coal mining permit: In accordance with the Surface Mining and Control Act of 1977, there must be consideration of historic values in the decision to issue a surface coal mining permit where coal is located. For further information please refer to 30 CFR 700 et seq.
- 4. Qualification for Federal grants for historic preservation when funds are available. Presently, funding is unavailable.

National Register listing does not:

- 1. require the owner to provide public access,
- 2. obligate the owner to maintain the property,
- 3. require notification of changes in ownership, or
- 4. impose restrictions of any kind unless grant assistance is received or tax credits taken.

Owners of private properties nominated to the National Register of Historic Places have an opportunity to concur in or object to listing in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR 60. Any owner or partial owner of private property who chooses to object to listing may submit to the State Historic Preservation Officer a notarized statement certifying that the par ty is the sole or partial owner of the private property and objects to the listing. Each owner or partial owner of private property has one vote regardless of what part of the property that party owns. If a majority of private property owners object, a property will not be listed. However, the State Historic Preservation Officer shall submit the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register for a determination of the eligibility of the property for listing in the National Register. If the property is then determined eligible for listing, although not formally listed, Federal agencies will be required to allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment before the agency may fund, license, or assist a project which will affect the property. If you choose to object to the listing of your property, the notarized objection must be submitted to Curtis Tunnell, State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas, 78711.

If you wish to comment on the nomination of the property to the National Register, please send your comments to the State Historic Preservation Officer as soon as possible. The property is currently being reviewed by the Department of the Interior, National Park Service in Washington, D.C.

A copy of the nomination and information on the National Register and the Federal tax provisions are available from the above address upon request.

Sincerely yours,

James W. Steely, Deputy State Historic

Preservation Officer