

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Registration FormRECEIVED  
OCT 11 1991NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Smith-Young Tower

other names/site number Transit Tower; Tower Life Building

## 2. Location

street &amp; number 310 South St. Mary's Street

n/a not for publication

city, town San Antonio

n/a vicinity

state Texas code TX county Bexar code 029 zip code 78205

## 3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
1	0 buildings
0	0 sites
0	0 structures
0	0 objects
1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Number of contributing resources previously  
listed in the National Register 0

## 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  
 nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the  
 National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.  
 In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

4 Oct. 1991  
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
- See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/trade: Business

Commerce trade: Department store

### Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/trade: Business

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification<sup>14</sup>

(enter categories from instructions)

Late Gothic Revival

### Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls brick, granite

roof ceramic tile

other terra cotta

### Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The 1927-1928 Smith-Young Tower is a 31-story Late Gothic Revival office tower. The exterior walls are brick with terra cotta and black granite ornamentation. The interior embellishments, particularly in the first floor lobby, also reflect Late Gothic Revival design. The Smith-Young Tower is one block east of the Bexar County Courthouse at the southernmost edge of San Antonio's central business district. It is bounded by Villita Street to the south, St. Mary's Street to the west, the San Antonio River to the north, and an adjoining parking garage to the east. The building faces southwest onto the intersection of Villita and St. Mary's streets (see Photographs 1, 2, and 3). In excellent physical condition, the Smith-Young Tower retains a high level of architectural integrity.

The building's form is that of a 3-part vertical block. Its 6-story base structure is of reinforced concrete and has an unusual 4-sided plan with no right angles (see Photograph 14). The street level of the base is heavily decorated. Above the 6-foot base course of black granite, the first 2-stories are faced with terra cotta, and the remaining upper stories are tan brick. The main (southwest) entrance has two pairs of double doors and an immense, segmentally arched transom bears massive bronze grills. The west and north elevations have segmentally arched plate glass display windows with copper ornamented transom bars and terra cotta sills on the 1st level. The south elevation also has segmentally arched plate glass windows, but they are set in bronze. Both the south and west elevations have copper canopies. On the west, north, and east elevations, 2nd level windows are grouped in threes and are heavily ornamented with terra cotta tracery (see Photograph 11). On the upper four levels of the base these elevations have aluminum sash windows, also grouped in threes, which replaced the original steel sash windows in 1961. The east elevation is adjoined to a parking garage and bears no fenestration or ornamentation. The base is set off from the shaft at the 6th floor with terra cotta tracery that acts as a parapet. The base beyond the tower support has a flat roof.

The 14-story midsection shaft is a steel frame octagonal plan (see Photograph 8). All eight sides of the shaft echo the rhythm of fenestration with aluminum sash windows grouped in threes separated by vertical framing members. Protected with a balustrade of terra cotta tracery, an observation deck at the 7th floor faces north and has red promenade tile flooring. Terra cotta decorates the 19th and 20th floors, while terra cotta tracery that acts as a parapet separates the shaft from the set-back "capital."

The 11-story "capital" is a series of three steel frame octagons that recess at the 20th, 25th, and 29th floors. Each section repeats the established fenestration pattern. Terra cotta embellishes the 26th and 29th floors with gargoyles accenting each of the eight corners. The conical roof is covered with green clay tile and has gable dormers. Above the roof is a square copper-covered lantern and a large antenna. Until 1947 an 80-foot flag pole had been perched atop the lantern.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Smith-Young Tower, San Antonio, TX - Bexar Co.

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The interior public spaces of the Smith-Young Tower are elaborately decorated with Gothic Revival detailing. The main lobby, accessed through the southwest-facing entrance, has marble flooring, marble wainscoting, and a 2-story-tall vaulted ceiling of gold-finished and terra cotta panels with Gothic characteristics. Six elevators in the lobby and three along the north wall feature cast bronze doors with green-colored Tiffany glass. Woodwork in the lobby is of Circassian walnut. Typical upper floor corridors have terrazzo flooring and marble wainscoting.

The Smith-Young Tower is in excellent condition. Some minor alterations include the addition of a mezzanine level in the main lobby and modernization of elevator lobbies and rest rooms. A noticeable exterior modification is the replacement of original windows; however, the newer aluminum sash windows do not detract from the overall quality of the building. The Smith-Young Tower conveys its significance through its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
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**Photograph Log**

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989  
Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Map indicating location of Smith-Young Tower, circa 1929  
Photograph 1 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989  
Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Promotional literature, circa 1929  
Photograph 2 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographer unknown  
Circa 1929  
Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Bexar County Courthouse, Smith-Young Tower in background, camera facing east  
Photograph 3 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographer unknown  
Circa 1950s  
Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
San Antonio skyline, Smith-Young Tower center, camera facing north  
Photograph 4 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographer unknown  
Circa 1940s  
Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
View of Smith-Young Tower and adjacent Plaza Hotel, camera facing northeast  
Photograph 5 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

**United States Department of the Interior  
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Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Architectural rendering of Smith-Young Tower, northeast facade, circa 1929  
Photograph 6 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
South elevation, camera facing north  
Photograph 7 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
North elevation, camera facing south  
Photograph 8 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
North elevation, camera facing south  
Photograph 9 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Detail of tower, camera facing east  
Photograph 10 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Detail of south elevation, camera facing north  
Photograph 11 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Detail of gargoyles on south elevation, camera facing north  
Photograph 12 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Detail of gargoyles on south elevation, camera facing north  
Photograph 13 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
First floor plan of Smith-Young Tower, 1928  
Photograph 14 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Interior, first floor lobby ceiling  
Photograph 15 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Interior, detail of first floor lobby light fixture and wall treatments  
Photograph 16 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989

Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Promotional literature for Smith-Young Tower windows  
Photograph 17 of 20

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Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989  
Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Promotional literature for Smith-Young elevators  
Photograph 18 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989  
Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Interior, first floor lobby elevator doors  
Photograph 19 of 20

Smith-Young Tower  
310 St. Mary's Street South  
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas  
Photographed by Stephanie Hetos Cocke  
August 1989  
Negative with Killis Almond and Associates, 342 Wilkens, San Antonio  
Interior, historic view of Ayres & Ayres offices, circa 1929  
Photograph 20 of 20

## 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G n/a

### Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1927-28

Significant Dates

1927-28

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

n/a

Architect/Builder

Ayres, Atlee B. and Ayres, Robert M.

### State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Smith-Young Tower, constructed from 1927 through 1928, is an exceptional example of a skyscraper in downtown San Antonio. The building, bearing masterful treatment of form, scale and ornamentation, meets Criterion C in the area of Architecture as one of the best illustrations of Late Gothic Revival commercial design in the state and as the work of master architects Atlee B. and Robert M. Ayres.

J.H. and F.A. Smith, natives of Crockett, Texas, began careers as road builders in 1905. J.W. Young, also a native of Crockett, worked as attorney for the brothers beginning in 1908. Successful South Texas developers, the brothers and Young turned their interests to general contracting and, in 1922, incorporated as Smith Brothers in Dallas. J.H. Smith concentrated his time on the contracting business, serving as the company's president. Vice president F.A. Smith managed the company's farm and ranch interests; at one time the company owned more than 40,000 acres in Texas. Young also acted as a vice president. W. Broadnax and R.J. Windrow of Dallas joined Smith Brothers, Inc., in 1922. The same year the Smith Brothers Properties Company traded the 3,000-acre Riverside Plantation in Washington County, Texas, for L. Ward's 10-acre estate, Bowen's Island, a natural peninsula in the San Antonio River connected to the city at the present-day Navarro Street Bridge on the east side and bounded by the river on the other three sides. [Bowen's Island was known as Galveston Island until 1845.] Estimates suggest that the monetary value of this transaction was approximately \$600,000.

The 1920s was an era of unrivaled prosperity across the United States paralleled by commercial growth and consequent construction booms. San Antonio, then the largest city in Texas, flourished as an urban center. The economy thrived on the numerous rail systems that ran through town, affording transportation for local industries such as flour mills, foundries, breweries, and ranching, in addition to several military establishments.

In 1923 the Smith Brothers Properties Company was organized in San Antonio to develop Bowen's Island. [In 1926 the City of San Antonio cut a channel that allowed the river to follow a more direct southerly course between Villita and Nueva streets. The new channel reduced the threat of floods. See Photograph 1.] Literature and correspondence the company produced suggest that the developers envisioned Bowen's Island as a multiple use complex similar to Rockefeller Center in New York, a project that was also in the conceptual stage. To that end the company constructed several buildings including the 1924 Ormsby Chevrolet Company Showroom (demolished), the 1924 Allen Auto Electric Company (demolished), two 1924 garages, the 1926

See continuation sheet

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet 9-1.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): n/a

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

A 

1	4	5	4	9	4	0	0
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3	2	5	4	7	8	0
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Zone      Easting      Northing

B 

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

  
Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

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

D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

New City Block 986, Lots 6-9, San Antonio, Texas.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the area that has been historically associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stephanie Hetos Cocke (with Amy E. Dase, Historian, Texas Historical Commission)  
organization Killis Almond and Associates date May, 1990; July, 1991  
street & number 342 Wilkens telephone 512/532-3212  
city or town San Antonio state Texas zip code 78210

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Smith-Young Tower, San Antonio, TX - Bexar Co.

A.B. Frank Company Wholesale and Drygoods Building (now the City Public Service Building), the 1926 Montgomery Ward & Company Department Store (demolished), the 1927 Plaza Hotel and Garage (now the Granada Homes/Hotel), and the 1928 Federal Reserve Bank Building (now the Mexican Embassy).

Architects Atlee B. Ayres & Robert M. Ayres had already designed all of the major buildings the Smith Brothers Properties Company had erected on Bowen's Island. Again Smith Brothers turned to San Antonio's most prominent architectural firm to design a monumental tower of noble scale and form. Preliminary drawings were underway by December 1927, with 29-year-old Robert Ayres serving as chief designer. Joseph Dodge, a draftsman with the architects' office, was also assigned to the project and worked especially close with the general contractors, McKenzie Construction Company, a firm that had worked on other Bowen's Island buildings as well as the 1926 Olmos Dam on the San Antonio River north of the city.

Robert and his father, Atlee Ayres, were two of Texas' most important architects in the 20th century; their work left a lasting impact on South Texas' distinctive Spanish-influenced building designs. Atlee Ayres (1873-1969), born in Hillsboro, Ohio, came to San Antonio with his parents in 1888. As a collegian, he took courses at the Metropolitan School of Art in New York City, a subsidiary of Columbia University. There he won first prize in the school's annual design competition. His teachers included William Ware, a student of Richard Morris Hunt. He took drawing lessons at the Art Students League and studied painting under Frank Vincent Dumont. Following his 1894 graduation, he returned to San Antonio briefly, working for other architects and then practicing in Mexico until 1900. He shared a firm with C.A. Coughlin from 1900 until 1905 when Coughlin died. Atlee then practiced alone in San Antonio designing the 1906 Heimann Building, the 1909 First Presbyterian Church, and numerous residences for prestigious San Antonio citizens like Colonel George W. Brackenridge. He was appointed State Architect of Texas in 1915, which allowed him opportunities to design several buildings for the state. In 1922, when son Robert (1898-1977) graduated with an architecture degree from the University of Pennsylvania, they joined in partnership. In 1926 Atlee published Mexican Architecture, a collection of photographs, drawings, and texts on buildings of colonial Mexico.

The Ayres team designed many important buildings in San Antonio, including the 1925 Municipal Auditorium (NR 1981), the 1927 Plaza Hotel, the 1928 Federal Reserve Bank Building, and the 1931 Administration Building at Randolph Field, known as the "Taj Mahal" (NR 1987). Their work outside San Antonio includes the Blind Institute and, on the University of Texas campus, Carothers Dormitory and the Pharmacy Building in Austin; county courthouses in Kingsville, Alice, Refugio, Del Rio (NR 1977), and Brownsville (NR 1980); and Episcopal churches in Kerrville and Corpus Christi. In addition, the architects designed several hundred homes in San Antonio and other cities and became strongly associated with distinctive and prevalent Spanish traditions of composition.

In the 1920s architecture, on an international level, was making a bumpy transition from traditional to architectonic objectives. The 259 entries, presented in competition for the design of the Chicago Tribune Tower in 1922,

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Section number 8 Page 2 Smith-Young Tower, San Antonio, TX - Bexar Co.

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ranged from Howells and Hood's winning Gothic Revival tower to Eliel Saarinen's Art Deco skyscraper to Dane, Knud Longberg-Holm's representation of the European modern movement. The diversity of the entries made apparent the polarization of architectural ideals at the time. However, in the midst of this transition, the widely publicized Tribune Tower (1923-25) served as a prototype for skyscrapers around the country, including the Smith-Young Tower.

This skyscraper is a mature example of a 3-part vertical block building, a most predominant form for large commercial buildings in the 1920s. Its composition is analogous to the units of a classical column with an obvious 6-story base, a 14-story midsection shaft, and an 11-story "capital" that has three recesses. The base frames wide-windowed retail space between structural piers and is set off from upper stories by a strong horizontal motif. The tower shaft consists of identical superimposed stories for offices, "fluted" by the expression of vertical framing members that outline the building's steel frame composition. The rib-like quality of these elements achieves a Gothic spirit as does historical detailing, reduced and simplified, in the form of cast stone griffins, gargoyles, and other decorative motifs. The "capital" was often recessed in several intervals like this, accenting the concept of unbroken vertical movement, and giving the building a ziggurat shape. Engulfed in vigor, progress, and capitalism, this stepped-back skyscraper silhouette became the embodiment of 20th century America.

While under construction, the Smith-Young Tower attracted widespread attention. Both the Saturday Evening Post (13 April 1929) and Texas Pioneer (October 1928) published articles about its construction. The Young & Becker Company of Chicago handled real estate financing and advertising for the project. These promoters boasted in their literature that the tower was "a self-identifying business address...visible at the end of every street."

Sears, Roebuck and Company occupied the first six floors of the building for 10 years. Large display windows along St. Mary's and Villita streets, ornamental doorways and monumental fronts offered sensational distraction and enticed the attention of consumers. The upper stories were rented as office space, housing prominent local professionals and businesses including attorney J.H. Groce, architects Ralph Cameron, George Willis, and Ayres and Ayres, and the Humble Oil Company. To best accommodate tenants the building had numerous "modern" amenities like nine Otis elevators, steel sash windows (lower sections opened in to act as a wind guard, while upper sections opened out [See Photograph 17.]), ceiling fans, water fountains and bathrooms on each floor, ice water connections in each office, a penthouse at the 7th floor, a ladies' lounge at the 18th floor, an underground pneumatic tube system that linked to the Bexar County Courthouse, and a tunnel connecting to the adjacent Plaza Hotel.

The Smith-Young Tower bears a colorful history. It has served as a mooring mast for a blimp, a performance site for a duo of accomplished aerialists, as headquarters of the Third U.S. Army, and as a transmission tower for a television station. In the 1950s the San Antonio Transit Company owned the building and it was known as the Transit Tower. The Tower Life Insurance Company has owned the building since the 1960s and locals since refer to it as the Tower Life Building.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
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Section number 8 Page 3

Smith-Young Tower, San Antonio, TX - Bexar Co.

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Arguably the most widely recognized 20th century skyscraper in south Texas, the building retains a high degree of architectural integrity. Its construction marked the transformation of San Antonio into a growing metropolis. The Smith-Young Tower serves as a reminder of the exuberant, optimistic expectations that characterized urban landscapes prior to the Great Depression.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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Section number 9 Page 1 Smith Young Tower, San Antonio, TX - Bexar Co.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Smith--Young Tower

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Bexar

DATE RECEIVED: 10/11/91 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/25/91  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/10/91 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/25/91  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 91001682

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 11/13/91 DATE

Entered in the  
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**CLASSIFICATION**

count       resource type

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**STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION****FUNCTION**

historic       current

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**DESCRIPTION**

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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**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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**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

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**ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION**

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

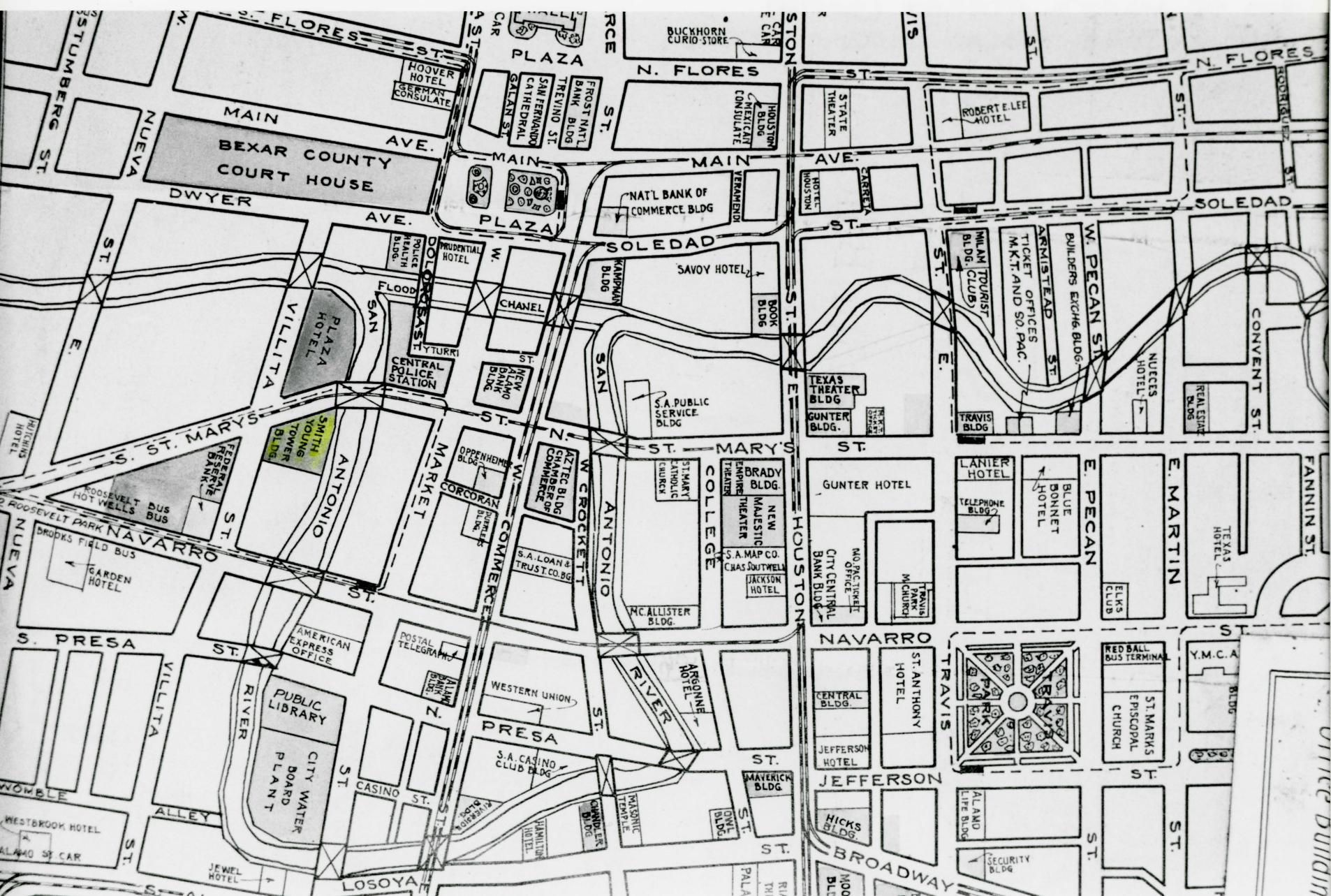
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**OTHER COMMENTS**

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

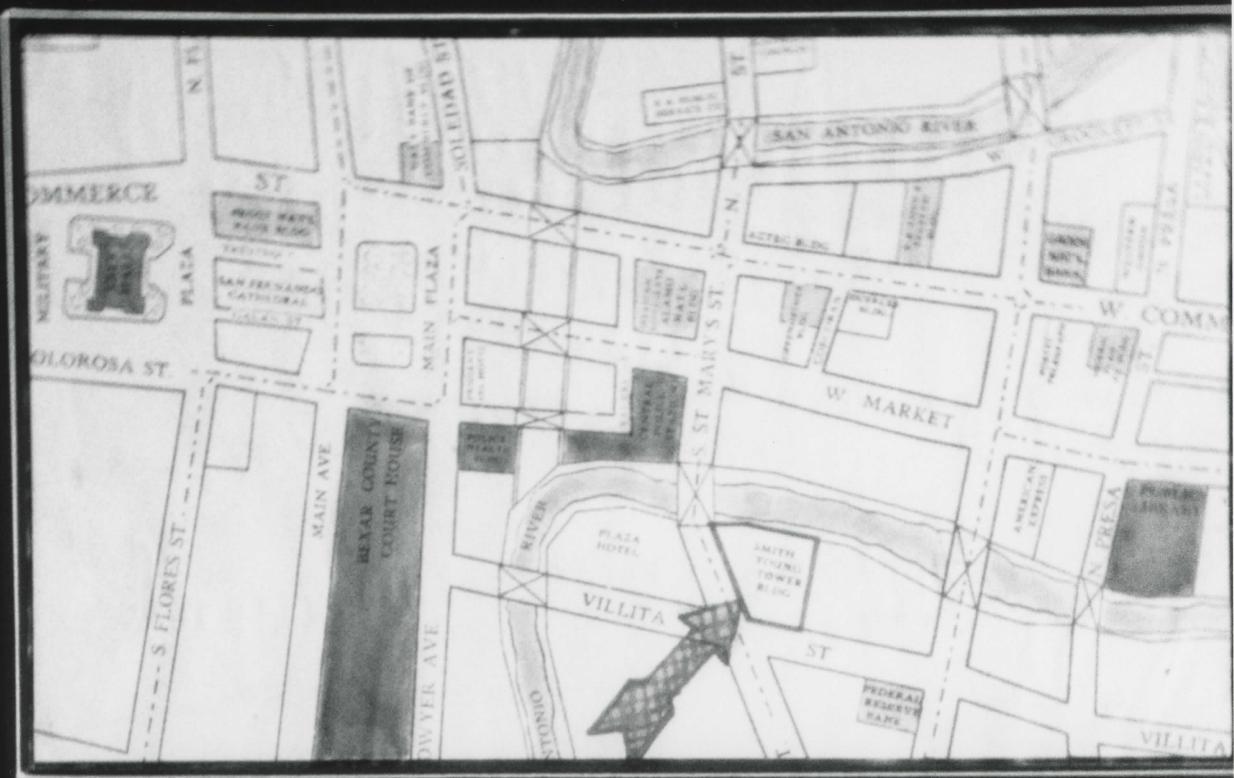
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



SMITH - YOUNG TOWER  
310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 1 of 20



**BANKS**



**PUBLIC BUILDINGS**

**THE SMITH YOUNG TOWER IS  
CONVENIENTLY LOCATED  
TO ALL OF SAN ANTONIO'S LEADING  
BANKS, THE CITY HALL, COURT  
HOUSE AND OTHER IMPORTANT  
BUILDINGS**

SMITH - YOUNG TOWER  
310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 2 of 20



SMITH - YOUNG TOWER  
310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

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SMITH - YOUNG TOWER  
310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
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310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
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310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
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310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
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310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
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310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
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SMITH-YOUNG TOWER  
310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

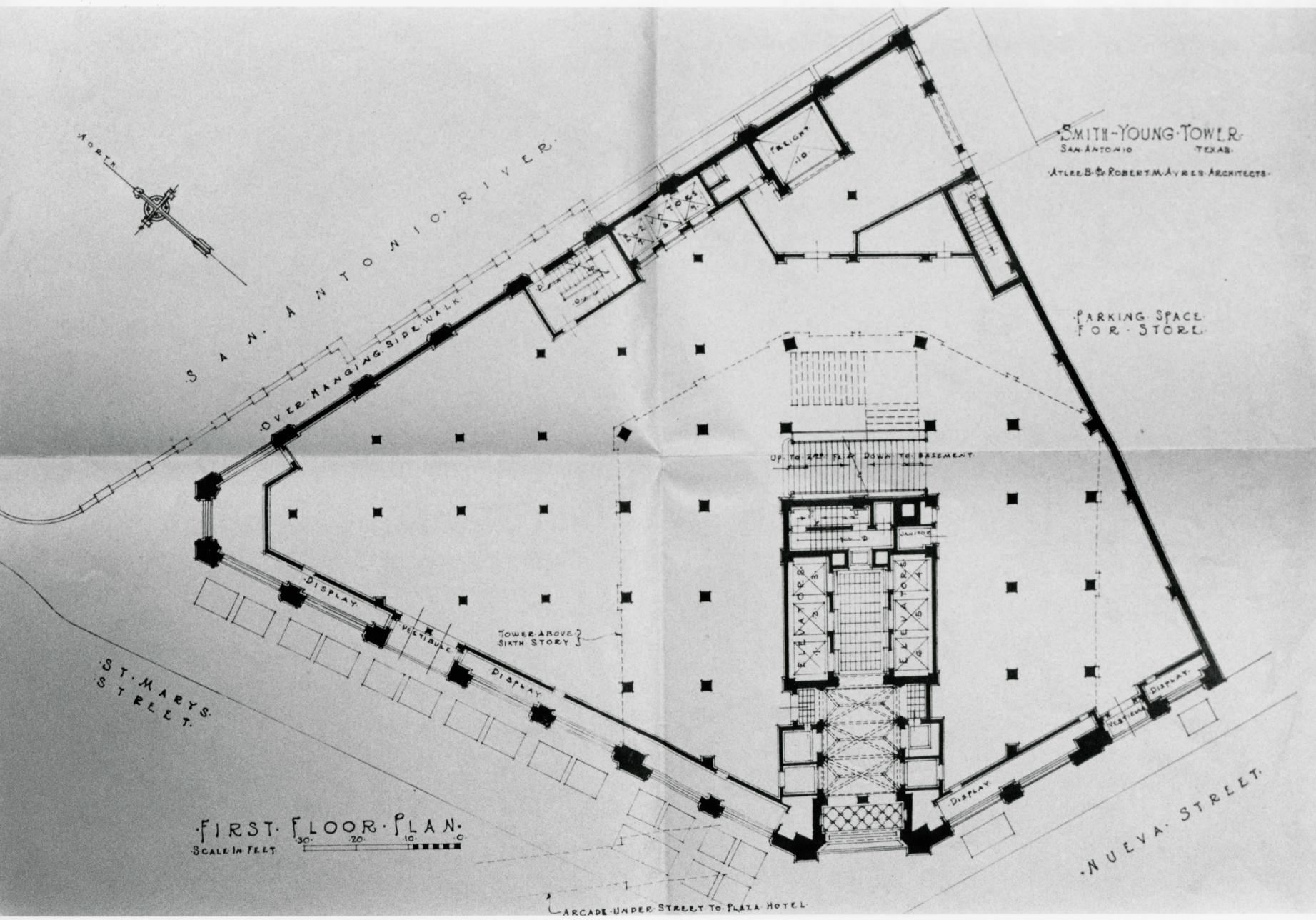
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310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
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310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
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310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
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LUPTON COMBINATION STEEL CASEMENT WINDOWS THAT RUN NEARLY TO CEILING, ARE PLACED CLOSE TO EACH OTHER TO GIVE AN **EXTRA** ABUNDANCE OF LIGHT. THE LOWER SECTION OF THE WINDOW OPENS IN AND ACTS AS A WIND GUARD, WHILE THE UPPER SECTION OPENS OUT. THIS SPECIAL TYPE ALONG WITH THE OCTAGONAL TOWER CONSTRUCTION INSURES **100%** VENTILATION, WITH EVERY OFFICE AND OUTSIDE ROOM.

SMITH - YOUNG TOWER  
310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

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**IN THE SMITH YOUNG TOWER YOU WILL FIND:  
THE FINEST ELEVATOR SERVICE IN THE CITY,  
AND EQUAL TO THE BEST ANYWHERE.  
SIX OTIS AUTOMATIC SELF LEVELLING  
ELEVATORS CENTRALLY LOCATED TRAVEL AT  
A SPEED OF 800 FEET A MINUTE.  
TO MAINTAIN THIS FINE STANDARD OF SERVICE  
A STARTER ON THE FIRST FLOOR CONTROLS  
THE CARS THROUGHOUT THE REGULAR WORKING HOURS**

SMITH-YOUNG TOWER  
310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
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SMITH - YOUNG TOWER  
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RECEPTION ROOM  
**ATLEE B. & ROBERT M. AYRES**  
*Architects*

SMITH-YOUNG TOWER  
310 ST. MARY'S STREET (SOUTH)  
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

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