

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

119
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic name: Texas and New Orleans Railroad Depot

Other name/site number: Site No. 614

2. LOCATION

Street & number: 100 Block of North Sunset

Not for publication: N/A

City/town: Wharton

State: TX *County:* Wharton

Code: 481 *Zip Code:* 77488

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property: *Contributing* *Noncontributing*

<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	<i>buildings</i>
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	<i>sites</i>
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	<i>structures</i>
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	<i>objects</i>
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>	<i>Total</i>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Resources of Wharton, Wharton County, Texas

4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

 See continuation sheet.

Lawrence J. Russell
Signature of certifying official

27 Jan. 1993
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

Helene Byers

3/18/93

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic: TRANSPORTATION: Rail-related

Current: TRANSPORTATION: Rail-related

VACANT: Not In Use

7. DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification: 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Mission

Materials: foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

 x See continuation sheet.

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Transportation

Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: ca. 1915 - 1942

ca. 1915

Significant Dates: ca. 1915

ca. 1915

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

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

 x See continuation sheet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Texas and New Orleans RR Depot
Wharton, Wharton County, Texas

Description:

The Texas and New Orleans Railroad Depot is a 1-story Mission-inspired building facing east in the 100 block of Sunset Street near the intersection of Sunset and West Milam Streets. A double-pitched hipped roof with wide overhanging eaves, supported by heavy timber brackets, dominates the roughly rectangular building. Buff brick walls with a darker brick belt course under the window sills provides visual contrast. Various single and double doors and single or paired windows punctuate the facade on all sides.

The Texas and New Orleans Railroad Depot is a 1-story Mission-inspired building at the western end of Wharton's principal commercial street, West Milam. The depot aligns the railroad tracks on the east and is historically and temporally related to the small collection of businesses at the intersection of West Milam and Sunset Streets (West Milam Mercantile Historic District). It is set on a level site and devoid of any landscaping.

The depot is divided into two functional parts denoted on the exterior by a higher pitched hipped roof on the northern end and lower pitched hipped roof on the southern. The northern part primarily functioned as a passenger depot with appropriate administrative and ticket offices and waiting room(s). The southern part served for shipping and receiving freight. Both parts are dominated by the large roof with deep overhanging eaves. Large heavy timber brackets support the roof and provide the primary stylistic reference to Mission architecture. Buff brick walls and the single band of darker brick aligned with the window sills offer a visual contrast. The principal facades (east and west) are represented by an irregular fenestration, both single and paired doors and windows. All windows are currently covered with plywood.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Texas and New Orleans RR Depot
Wharton, Wharton County, Texas

Statement of Significance:

The Texas and New Orleans Railroad Depot (ca. 1915) in the 100 block of North Sunset is a noteworthy example of commercial architecture and an important symbol of the impact of railroads on the City of Wharton. It retains a high degree of integrity with few alterations. The depot is nominated under Criteria C and A and associated with the context: *Community Development in Wharton, Texas, 1875-1942.*

Early efforts to bring a railroad to Wharton started in 1854 when the Texas Legislature chartered the Columbus, Wharton, and Austin Railroad. This effort was unsuccessful. In 1881, The New York, Texas and Mexican Railroad, headquartered in Victoria, Texas, extended its line through Wharton. A flurry of economic activity followed. Area farmers used the rail service to transport products; more finished goods were shipped into Wharton to meet the growing consumer demands. Local rail service centered around the intersection of West Milam, Wharton's principal commercial street, and Sunset Street. This activity stimulated the development of a small commercial area (West Milam Mercantile Historic District) separate from the central business district at the courthouse square.

In 1885 the Texas and New Orleans Railroad acquired the New York, Texas and Mexican Railroad. A new depot was constructed ca. 1915 to meet the growing demand for rail service. The T. & N.O. was later consolidated into the Southern Pacific Railroad system. All rail service was discontinued to Wharton ca. 1989.

The depot is virtually unaltered and retains its integrity. Although vacant, the building is one of two remaining resources representing the railroad and its impact on Wharton. It is also one of the few buildings in Wharton reflecting a Mission style influence.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See bibliography of historic context statement.

x See continuation sheet.

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 #

Primary Location of Additional Data:

x State historic preservation office (Texas Historical Commission)

 Other state agency

 Federal agency

 Local government

 University

 Other -- Specify Repository:

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	14	781100	3245960	B	—	—	—
C	—	—	—	D	—	—	—

 See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: Vineyard Addition, Block 2

Boundary Justification: The property includes all areas historically associated with the building.

11. FORM PREPARED BY (assisted by Dwayne Jones, Preservation Planner, THC staff)

Name/Title: Ed Galloway and Ralph Newlan

Organization: Hardy-Heck-Moore

Date: July 1989

January 1992

Street & Number: 2112 Rio Grande

Telephone: 512-478-8014

City or Town: Austin

State: TX *Zip:* 78705

2/1/93

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Wharton MPS

Wharton County, TEXAS

Date Listed

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 21. House at 401 North Richmond | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 22. House at 512 North Resident | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 23. Linn Street Historic District | Substantive Review | 3/18/93 |
| 24. Merrill--Roten House | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 25. Moran--Moore House | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 26. Speaker, J. H., House | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 27. St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 28. Texas and New Orleans Railroad Depot | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 29. Texas and New Orleans Railroad Bridge | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 30. West Milam Street Mercantile Historic District | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |
| 31. Worthing, Louis F., House | Entered in the
National Register | 3/18/93 |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Texas and New Orleans Railroad Depot

MULTIPLE NAME: Wharton MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Wharton

DATE RECEIVED: 2/01/93 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/16/93
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/04/93 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/18/93
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000119

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 3/18/93 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

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



TEXAS AND NEW ORLEANS RAILROAD DEPOT
SITE NO. 614
WHARTON CO., TEXAS
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Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500657