Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

PH 0664600

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAR 13 1978
DATE ENTERED AUG 11 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
XX

AND/OR COMMON
Congress Avenue Historic District

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Congress Avenue from 1st street to 11th street — NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Austin — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
10

STATE
Texas

CODE
048

COUNTY
~~Texas~~ Travis

CODE
453

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
X DISTRICT	— PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	— AGRICULTURE	— MUSEUM
— BUILDING(S)	— PRIVATE	— UNOCCUPIED	X COMMERCIAL	X PARK
— STRUCTURE	XX BOTH	— WORK IN PROGRESS	— EDUCATIONAL	— PRIVATE RESIDENCE
— SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	X ENTERTAINMENT	— RELIGIOUS
— OBJECT	— IN PROCESS	— YES: RESTRICTED	— GOVERNMENT	— SCIENTIFIC
	— BEING CONSIDERED	XX YES: UNRESTRICTED	— INDUSTRIAL	— TRANSPORTATION
		— NO	— MILITARY	— OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Multiple Ownership

STREET & NUMBER
(see continuation sheets..)

CITY, TOWN — VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Travis County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
11th & Guadalupe Streets

CITY, TOWN
Austin,

STATE
Texas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Austin Heritage Foundation Architectural Evaluation Inventory

DATE
1972 — FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY X LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Historic Sites Inventory, Texas Historical Commission (1971)

CITY, TOWN
Austin

STATE
Texas

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
_EXCELLENT	_DETERIORATED	_UNALTERED	_ORIGINAL SITE
_GOOD	_RUINS	_ALTERED	_MOVED DATE_____
_FAIR	_UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Congress Avenue, from the Colorado River to the Capitol, is a cross-section of an evolving, mainstream American city. As the principal avenue of a state capital, Congress Avenue has been the center of Austin since Edwin Waller laid out the city in a rigid and symmetrical grid plan in 1839. Austin's city plan, with Congress Avenue as its spine, reflected order and formality. On the south end of this broad Avenue lay the Colorado River, to the north of the Avenue terminated abruptly at high ground which had been set aside as the site of the Capitol building.

A grid plan was superimposed on a dramatic topography, with Congress Avenue following a natural depresssion that rose in elevation steadily from the river to the Capitol site. The ground to the east and west of the Avenue rose steeply from the depression and augmented its linear nature. The blocks of the grid were laid out roughly as squares, while ample alleyways dissected the blocks north and south from First Street to Eleventh. Lots were long and narrow, affording a maximum number of frontages on Congress Avenue.

Prime development property was at the intersection of Congress and Sixth Street, Sixth being the major route to the east through Bastrop. The intersection saw much early activity, with lots on or near it selling for the highest prices. The famous and influential Bullock's Hotel was located on the northwest corner. Later, the intersection was the location of the city's first two skyscrapers, the Scarbrough and Hicks Building, completed in 1910, and the Littlefield Building, constructed in 1912. In 1976, Austin's tallest building, the Austin National Bank Tower, was built at the southeast corner of Congress and Sixth street. Today, the intersection still retains its identity as a center of the city.

As buildings began to be constructed along Congress Avenue, they evolved from the crude and temporary to the sophisticated and permanent. Wood and rubble construction gave way to brick and cut stone. Simple shelter and space became shelter and space more specifically defined in use, structure, material, and decoration.

The primary building form, the basis for construction of the Avenue's first permanent buildings, fit the rectangular dimensions of the lots. One-, two-, and the three-story limestone and brick commercial buildings dominated the building history of the Avenue from around 1851--when the first brick building on Congress was constructed from bricks made near the mouth of Shoal Creek,--until just after the turn of the century, when new construction techniques in concrete, masonry, and steel allowed construction of taller buildings. Architectural decoration, largely in the form of cornice and window treatments, and use of rich materials, was limited to the building facades that faced on Congress Avenue, and to those facades that turned the corners at intersections. The rears of the buildings lacked decoration, having been built in an economical and utilitarian fashion. Awnings and canopies projected over the sidewalks to give protection from the weather and to provide shade.

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CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 1

Multiple Owners:

East Side:

Block		Lot
1. River to First		
a.	Austin Crest Hotel, Inc. P. O. Box 2187 Austin, Tx 78767	1-9
2. First to Second		
a.	Emory Thompson & Ben L. Chote P. O. Box 189 Austin, Tx 78767	1-3, and pt. of 4
b.	Louis F. Macher & A. Inez Macher 1702 W. 31 St., Austin, 78703	pt. of 4
c.	Richard W. and Wanda F. Carlson 119 Congress, Austin 78701	pt. of 5
d.	Hilda Rosene 1801 Lavaca, Austin 78701	6 & pts. of 4-5
3. Second to Third		
a.	Helen Elizabeth White c/o Mike Butler, P. O. Box 1947, Austin 78767	1-2
b.	Douglas B. and Anna D. Burton 12609 Silver Spur, Austin 78751	3 & pt. of 4
c.	George P. Shelley 1700 West Avenue, Austin 78701	pts. of 4-5
d.	Tom M. Attal Estate Austin National Bank Trust Dept., P. O. Box 908, Austin 78781	pt. of 5
e.	Alan Y. Taniguchi, et al 105 East 3 St., Austin 78701	pt. of 6
f.	Dr. Chas. A. Bahn Estate 610 Congress, Austin 78701	pt. of 6

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4. Third to Fourth

a. Southern Pacific Railroad c/o John W. Hopkins, Tax Comm., P. O. Box 219, Houston 77001	1-2, & pt. of 3
b. Chas. P. Davis 3803-A Mia Tia Circle, Austin 78731	pt. of 3, and 4-6

5. Fourth to Fifth

a. Greyhound Lines, Inc. 371 Market St., San Fransicso, Calif. 94106	1-3
b. Jacob Schmidt 712 Sparks, Austin, Tx 78705	4-5
c. Leon Schmidt Trust, Inc. 3920 Balcones Drive, Austin 78731	6

6. Fifth to Sixth

a. Austin National Bank	pt. of 1, 2-6
b. Austin National Bank Stockholders	pt. of 1

7. Sixth to Seventh

a. Littlefield Building Corp. c/o Hugh L. Scott 8966 Chatsworth Dr, Houston, Tx 77024	1 & pt. of 2
b. Mrs. R. A. Buford 1610 Northumberland Rd., Austin 78703	pt. of 2
c. Marie Hanna 1801 Lavaca, Austin, Tx 78701	e, & pt of 4
d. Alfred Ellison Estate c/o American Bank Trust Dept. Austin, Tx 78780	pt. of 4
e. R. L. Ziller c/o Zale Jewelry Co. P. O. Box 2219, Dallas, Tx 75221	pt. of 5
f. Mrs. Elma Lindeman 2603 Jarratt, Austin 78703	pt. of 5

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g. Mrs. Fannie Montgomery Hunt 718 Empire Central Bldg, Dallas 75247	6
8. Seventh to Eighth	
a. Seventh & Congress Corp. c/o Chas. Nash, 501 North Lamar Austin, 78703	1-2, & pt of 3
b. M. H. Reed Trust #1 c/o American Bank Trust Dept. Austin, Tx 78701 P.O. Box 226	4, & pt. of 3-5
c. Margaret B. Reed Trusts (same as above address)	pt. of 3, and all of 4
d. Harry D. Pruett Estate Trust #427 Capital National Bank Trust Dept., Box 550, Austin 78789	pt. of 5, all of 6
9. Eighth to Ninth	
a. Mina Miller c/o Tom Miller, Jr. 2806 Stratford Dr., Austin 78746	pt. of 1
b. Louis F. and Jean Southerland Box 2004, Austin 78767	pt. of 1-2
c. Laura Negley c/o Ravel & Marks, 807 Congress, Austin	pt. of 2
d. Martha Palm Cannon c/o Property Tax Service Co., 718 Empire Central Bldg., Dallas 75247	pt. of 3
e. Randolph G. Mueller, et al 3511 Jefferson, Austin 78731	pt. of 3
f. Mrs. Hattie B. Houston Estate c/o City National Bank 823 Congress, Austin 78767	pt. of 4
g. Charles L. Black, Jr., et al, Trust P. O. Box 28508, San Antonio 78228	pt. of 4

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h. Arthur P. Watson, Jr., et at. 400 W. 12th St., Austin 78701	pt of 5
i. Mrs. Herman Pressler c/o City National Bank (Lessee) P. O. Box 1727, Austin 78701	pt. of 5
j. City National Bank P. O. Box 1727, Austin 78701	6
10. Ninth to Tenth	1
a. Capitol Mortgage Bankers, Inc. 901 Congress, Austin 78701	
b. Mrs. Doris H. Granberry, et al 7718 Manchaca Rd., Austin 78745	pt. of 2
c. John B. Robertson, et al c/o Dan Moody, Jr. , Bx 98, Austin 78767	pt. of 2
d. Photo Processors, Inc. 909 Congress, Austin 78701	3
e. Capital National Bank 114 W. 7th	pt. of 4
f. Agnes W. Abbott 1502 Westover Rd., Austin 78703	pt. of 4
g. Theo P. Meyer, Jr. P. O. Box 597, Austin	pt. of 5
h. Austin National Bank Trustee	Pt of 5, and all of 6
11. Tenth to Eleventh	
a. A. C. Knippa Estate 1403 Ridgecrest Drive, Austin 78746	1, and pt of 2
b. Mutual Savings Institution 1005 Congress	pt of 2, and all of 3

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	Block	Lot
1.	River to First City of Austin	all
2.	First to Second	
	a. Rudolph Wukasch c/o Mrs. Lester Egedi, 1526 Grand Ave., Fillmore, Calif. 93015	1
	b. Marie B. Hanna 1801 Lavaca,Austin 78701	2
	c. Ruben H. Johnson P. O. Box 1237, Austin 78767	3
	d. Wm. J. Koen 807 West Avenue, Austin 78701	pt. of 4
	e. Ray McGee and Richard McCullough 112 Congress, Austin 78701	pt, of 4
	f. Gatewood Newberry 3407 Monte Vista, Austin 78703	5
	g. Velma Brown Newberry Estate 3407 Monte Vista, Austin 78703	6
3.	Second to Third	
	a. Wolf Estate Elenora Wolf, trustee, 2400 Vista Lane Austin, 78703	1 & 2, improvements only
	b. Charles and Oswald G. Wolf c/o Trust Dept., City National Bank, P. O. Box 1727, Austin 78767	1 & pt. of 2
	c. Margaret W. Hart c/o Turst Dept., City National Bank	pt. of 2, all of 3-4
	d. Oswald G. and Jewell Wolf see"b"for address	pt. of 2
	e. Nalle Plastics, Inc. 108 West 2nd,Austin, 78701	pt. of 5 all of 6-7 etc

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4. Third to Fourth — pt. of 1, all of 2
   a. Carl Ross and James H. Ross Trust
      1600 Ethridge, Austin 78703

   b. Sue R. Pope — pt. of 1, all of 3, pt of 4
      1928 Kensington, Ft. Worth

   c. Ruth D. Prestwood — pt of 4, all of 5
      2100 Rio Grande, Austin 78705

   d. George L. Dacy — 6
      610 Congress, Austin 78701

5. Fourth to Fifth
   a. Douglas C. Dacy — 1
      610 Congress, Austin 78701

   b. Donald A. Dacy — 2
      610 Congress, Austin 78701

   c. Mrs. Agnes Martin — pt of 3
      4313 Ramsey Ave, Austin

   d. Leon Schmidt Trust — pt. of 3
      3930 Balcones Drive, Austin 78731

   e. Claire L. M. Anderson, et at — 4
      (no information)

   f. Alex Pope, III, et al — 5
      206 West 38th, Austin 78751

   g. Southern Union Gas Co. — 6
      P. O. Box 1268, Austin

6. Fifth to Sixth
   a. Elizabeth W. Roberdeau and Virginia R. Horton — 1 and pt of 2
      307 West 9th , Austin

   b. Ernest Rosner. — pt. of 2
      P. O. Box 5202, Austin

   c. John H. Chiles — pt. of 2 and pt. of 3
      705 Scarbrough Bldg, Austin 78701

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d. A. D. Riley, et al 4115 Rosedale, Austin 78756	pt. of 3
e. Austin National Bank Trustee E.M. Scarbrough Estate P. O. Box 908, Austin	pt. of 3, all of 6
7. Sixth to Seventh	1
a. T. W. Gregory, Jr. and H. C. Nall c/o F. W. Woolworth Co., 11-15 River Rd., Box 146,Fair Lawn, N. Jersey	
b. E. P. Wilmot Estate c/o Mrs. S. B. Roberdeau 307 West 9th St., Austin	pt. of 2
c. Mrs. Dorothy Rudley and Mary L. Cannon (no information)	pt. of 2
d. Marie B. Hanna 1801 Lavaca, Austin 78701	pt. of 3
e. Mrs. Pauline Robinson Estate c/o Martin Butler, Box 1947, Austin 78767	pt. of 3
f. John H. and Mary Chiles 705 Scarbrough Bldg., Austin 78701	pt. of 4, pt of 5
g. Dr. Chas A. Bahn Estate 610 Congress Austin 78701	pt of 4
h. Mrs. R. A. Buford 1610 Northumberland Dr, Austin 78703	pt of 5
i. George S. Nalle 1003 Rio Grande, Austin	6
8. Seventh to Eighth	
a. Ruby Key c/o Austin Lerner Shops, Inc. 460 West 33rd St. New York, N.Y. 10091	1
b. Mrs. Rosa Metz Estate c/o Zale Jewelry, Co., Box 2219, Dallas 75221	pt. of 2

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c. Mrs. Laura M. Bunton & Trustees see "b"	pt of 2
d. Tips, Goeth, Scherding & Kamer c/o Thos. A. Graham, Box 5007 West Austin Station, Austin	all of 3, pt of 4
e. Austin Schools Exempt	pt of 4
f. George W. and Ruth A. Foote, Jr. P. O. Box 2246, Austin 78767	pt of 5
g. R. G. Mueller, Jr. 3511 Jefferson, Austin 78731	pt of 5
h. Mrs. Fannie Montgomery Hunt 718 Empire Central Bldg. Dallas, Tx 75247	pt of 6
i. French Bootery D/B/A Interstate Location #370 P. O. Box 17, Nashville, Tenn. 37202	pt of 6 Improvements only
j. Jules H. Tallichet, Jr., Estate 2421 Wooldridge Dr.,Austin 78703	pt of 6
9. Eighth to Ninth	
a. Centaur Enterprises, Inc. 108 West 8th St., Austin 78701	1
b. Mrs. Winifred Brown, et al c/o Phil B. Brown 803 N. 8th Avenue Dillon, So. Carolina 29536	2
c. Tennessee Ravenwood Properties c/o S. H. Kress & C.# 603, 808 Congress Avenue, Austin 78701	3 and pt of 4
d. R. G. Mueller Estate 3511 Jefferson, Austin 78731	pt of 4
e. Laura E. Mueller, et al 3511 Jefferson, Austin 78731	pt of 4-6

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f. Martha Palm Cameron — pt of 4-6
1409 Manford Hill Drive
Austin 78753

10. Ninth to Tenth — 1, pt of 2-3
a. Texas State Bank
b. George S. Nalle, Jr. — pt of 2-3
1003 Rio Grande, Austin
c. Charles M. Morton — pt of 4
Box 1544, Austin 78767

d. Wm. B. Houston, et al — pt of 4
504 West 7th,Austin,78701

e. John C. Watson — pt of 5
7011 Hart Lane, Austin 78731

f. Don W. Tobin (deceased) — pt of 5
1109 So Texas Bldg., San Antonio 78205

g. Capital National Bank Trust Dept. 456 — 6
114 West 7th St., Austin 78701

11 Tenth to Eleventh — 1-6
State Building Commission
P. O. Box 12427, Capitol Sta.
Austin, Tx 78711
Attention: Knox Davis, Director

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Stylistically, the dominating structures of significance reflected general Victorian form and detailing, tempered by local materials and building techniques. More specifically, the dominant buildings expressed many forms of revival architecture, such as Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, and Venetian. Some of these revival forms were apparent in buildings such as the Houston and Texas Central Railroad Station at 301 Congress (Romanesque Revival), the McKean and Eilers Building at 321 Congress (Romanesque Revival), the Tips Building at 710-712 Congress (Venetian and Gothic Revival), and the Brueggerhoff Building at Tenth and Congress (Gothic Revival).

Structurally speaking, the prime mode of building utilized load-bearing, masonry party walls of local limestone or brick, with spanning joists supporting floors and roofs. Flooring was wood, as were roof decks. All roofs sloped to drain to the alleyways. Some roofs were centrally pitched with shallow trusses. The roof of the Tips Building was constructed with a low-rise, arched truss of cast iron which spanned parallel, cast-iron colonnades. The cast-iron structure intermediate to the load-bearing masonry walls was made from exploded Confederate shells.

Roofs were hidden behind parapet walls which were often used jointly as party walls. These parapets served the additional purpose of stopping the spread of fire from one building to another. Facades of the buildings were usually of a multi-bay configuration, supporting cast-iron, or highly-detailed brick or stone cornices.

Materials provided the largest local influence in the significant buildings on Congress Avenue. Local hardwoods of cypress, oak, and pine from Bastrop were readily available for construction. Limestone, in rubble form and as cut-faced stone from local quarries, provided, with local and imported brick, the basic masonry materials. Texas granite, from Granite Mountain in Burnet County, was a facade material of limited but effective use. Limestone was burnt to make lime and mixed with sand to make a lime-sand mortar suitable for use with soft limestone and brick. Iron work was used extensively in cast-iron columns, cornices, and pediments. The Pearl House Saloon at 223 Congress, built in the mid-1880s, had a cast-iron front, while the Tips Building at 710-712 Congress used cast iron extensively in its internal structure. An unusual building was the one reportedly built in 1855 by James E. Brady, who constructed a three-story concrete building measuring forty-six by one hundred sixty feet. However, the building is not in evidence today.

The advent of the skyscraper, and the use of reinforced concrete, brought a new excitement to building after the limits of two-and three-story, load-bearing-wall, commercial construction. Higher real estate prices called for better use of urban land, and the romance of building a tall building, perhaps taller than the building next door, was an incentive to construct skyscrapers. The Scarbrough Building, Austin's first skyscraper, was eight stories tall. Its completion in 1910 was quickly followed in 1912 by the Littlefield Building which rose nine stories.

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Paralleling the development of buildings along Congress Avenue were changes in the Avenue itself, and changes in the appurtenances that accompany buildings and streets. Improvements in drainage and utilities; the advent of the automobile and of air-conditioning and provisions for street lights, signs, traffic signals, curbs, gutters, and fire-hydrants, began to change the texture of the street. Awnings disappeared. Merchants no longer let their goods spill out onto the sidewalks.

The 1950s and 1960s saw extensive demolition and alterations of significant buildings on Congress Avenue. The Brueggerhoff Building and the Houston and Texas Central depot were demolished in 1960 and 1965 respectively. Nineteenth-century building facades were "modernized" with coverings of stucco and metal, and business signs replaced identifiable buildings to compete for the shopper's eye. In effect, building facades became billboards. The McKean and Eilers Building, designed by the notable architect, J. Riely Gordon, had its Romanesque Revival facade covered by a sheer plaster storefront. The Tips Building no longer showed its hierarchy of orders from Corinthian on the first floor to Venetian on the second and third floors as its second-floor facade was plastered over in order to support a large commercial sign.

Today, Congress Avenue is a mixture of development, preservation and neglect. But it retains cohesiveness and strength through a long-standing force of character. The boundaries of Congress Avenue as an historic district are not arbitrarily applied. They result from an identifiable topography and history, and from the intensity and quality of the Avenue's architecture.

Physical Description of Individually Significant Buildings

1. 223-225 Congress

This is a two-story, brick Victorian commercial building with a cast-iron storefront. Corinthian columns and pilasters rise from the well-detailed bases and are broken by a band of dentils between the first and second floors. Second floor windows are arched and richly-faced with trim. A well-detailed cornice with dentils and modillions complete the upper lines of the building. Floral medallions occur where horizontal bands traversing the second floor intersect vertical window facings or expressed pilasters. Although half of the structure was destroyed by fire in the late fifties, and only the corner portion remains, the building retains its scale and balance. The basic ground level storefront fenestration remains intact and unaltered.

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2. 320-322 Congress

The Koppel Building is a two-story, Victorian Gothic Revival commercial structure with a pressed metal cornice rich in detail. Brick pilasters divide the building's facade into bays, and floral medallions enrich vertical and horizontal intersections. The structure is brick with occasional corbelling which adds ambiguity to the planes of the facade. Windows are arched and expressed strongly. A corner pavilion once supported a tower, but both are gone, leaving a chamfered and stark corner. Alterations have detracted from the storefront at ground level.

3. 300 Block of Congress, east side

Behind an anonymous plaster facade added in 1967 lies one of the most outstanding pieces of architecture on Congress Avenue. Built in 1897 and designed by Burt McDonald and J. Riely Gordon, the McKean Eilers Building at 321 Congress is an excellent example of Romanesque Revival Commercial architecture.

An outstanding description of the construction and appearance of the building appeared in the Statesman on December 12, 1897, and has application to many of the buildings constructed on Congress Avenue prior to the advent of skyscrapers.

The building is constructed with three large, arched openings on the first story. The arches spring from massive piers and are of Texas granite. The second story has three large, twin windows divided by gray granite, polished columns with carved capitols and molded bases. The third floor is divided into six arched openings. Milsap pressed red brick and Pecos sandstone comprise the main materials used on the second and third floors of the facade.

4. 410 Congress

A two-story, brick commercial building is at 410 Congress. The first floor utilizes two rusticated stone arches in the facade. The second floor contains five arched windows, separated by columns. A brick cornice completes the composition of the structure, which was remodeled in 1898.

5. 412-414 Congress

A 1916 fire has destroyed the third floor of this structure, leaving a two-story, non-descript, brick commercial building. Designed by the architects Larmour and Watson, and constructed by John McDonald, the building was a six-bay, generous Victorian structure with a cast-iron storefront at street level and richly-detailed horizontal bands delineating each floor. The building's cornice projected strongly over the street, completing and tying the facade together.. The building is presently in a state of neglect.

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6. 416 Congress

This rich, three-story, brick Victorian facade is presently covered with a false front. The false front covers a three-bay facade comprised of horizontal bands at each floor, pilasters between the bays, and three-arched, third-floor windows. The three windows are each divided into three parts, and above each arched window an expressed gable eyebrow mixes and breaks an irregular cornice. The rear of the building is unchanged.

7. 419 Congress

What remains of this three-story brick structure leaves much to the imagination. The few 6 over 6 windows that have not been filled in are reminders of classic revival proportions. Although severly altered, the rear portion of the building shows a construction of early, mixed, poor quality brick, perhaps expressive of the hard times following the Civil War.

8. 512 Congress

The Scarbrough Building is presently on the National Register.

9. 601 Congress

The Littlefield Building is presently on the National Register.

10. 620-622 Congress

This three-story, limestone commercial building, constructed in 1859, is the oldest building left on Congress Avenue. Designed and constructed by Austin master builder, Abner Cook, in association with Captain William H. Wilson and Thomas H. Jones, this structure expresses the use of local materials and local building techniques better than any other building on Congress. The facade on the Avenue is extremely formal and simple. At street level, some recent commercial storefronts slightly detract from the composition, but the building loses none of its force. On the second and third floors facing Congress, four beautifully proportioned, arched windows at each level rest on subtle horizontal bands of faced, regular limestone with projecting dentils. The entire facade is of faced limestone. The facade is expressed by setting the windows in a slightly recessed panel, framed at the corners of the building by broad pilasters. On the north side of the building, the same pilaster/panel situation occurs, but the stone in the panels is a more economical, irregular limestone with mortar joints that are slightly larger than those used between the face stones. The cornice is simple stone cyma recta supported by corbeling brackets, doubled at the corner pilasters. The rear of the building is rubble and irregular limestone. The entire building is an exercise in simplicity and careful, elegant detailing.

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11. 710-712 Congress

Designed by J. N. Preston, architect of the Driskill Hotel, the Tips Building is a three-story, Victorian commercial structure of Gothic Revival styling which may be identified more specifically as "Venetian." Built of limestone, faced on the facade, and utilizing cast iron for its cornice and entablature as well as part of its internal structure, the Tips Building is rich and striking in its detail. Its facade rises from Corinthian columns to support an intermediate floor line cornice which, in turn, supports attached "Venetian" columns, themselves separating five arched and heavily detailed windows. The seond and third floors are divided by a band which supports a similar third-floor facade. The third-floor windows are each divided with tracery, and rise to a richly-detailed frieze below the cornice and half-oval pediment.

The interior of the structure utilizes an inventive structural system consisting of fluted columns with arch plates which spring from one column to the next through the center of the building. Scrap iron from exploded Confederate shells was used in this intermediate structural system. Low rise, arched roof trusses support an arched roof which slopes to the alley to drain. The facade is partially covered with a plaster false front.

Immediately to the south of the Tips Building, a small two-story Victorian commercial building of similar detailing remains hidden behind a modern attached facade.

12. 718 Congress

This is a two-story, masonry commercial building constructed by Angelina Townsend in 1878. The original facade lies behind a more recent one.

13. 720 Congress

This is a two-story, masonry commercial building constructed by Gustav Palm. The original facade is presently covered by a twentieth-century false front.

14. 722 Congress

Facing on Congress is a two-story, Victorian commercial building behind a false front. Behind this structure, at 105-111 West Eighth Street, are two structures which exhibit late nineteenth-century architectural characteristics. The buildings at 105 West Eighth Street is a two-story brick and wood structure. Three bays rpoject from the second floor and are supported with simply-detailed knee braces. The structure at 111 West Eighth Street is a two-story, simple brick structure with arched windows.

Behind the interesting structures that make up the 700 Block on the west side of Congress Avenue, runs Bradford's Alley, a visually exciting conglomeration of the backs of Victorian buildings.

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15. 713 Congress

The Paramount Theater is presently on the National Register.

16. 800-804 Congress

Originally a one-story structure, this building was remodeled with a second floor and large porch facing east. In 1905, a third story was added to bring the building to its present configuration. Presently the building is a three-story, brick commercial structure, with two-story projecting bays running from the second to the third stories. A brick cornice concludes the upper limits of the building.

17. 901 Congress

This complex of three two-story Victorian structures has recently been restored. The main structure, which faces onto Congress Avenue, is mixed stone and brick construction, and is now covered with plaster. 9/9 windows with detailing at their heads and the heavy cornice reflect a well-scaled, Victorian commercial structure. The two other buildings, both listed at 106 East Ninth street, are similarly detailed and scaled.

18. 900 Block of Congress, west side

Nine buildings of similar detailing and style were built by the prolific Austin architect, Jacob Larmour, on this site in 1876. Seven remain virtually intact. The structures are two-story, Victorian commercial buildings with Gothic Revival detailing. Each unit was of a three-bay configuration expressed with three windows on each second floor of the facade. The central window of the three rose above the other two. Pressed metal cornices united the buildings as did the similar detailing and consistent use of limestone as a facing material. Pilasters with floral designs lightened the rich detailing. Although a number of pressed metal cornices are missing, and two of the buildings reside behind false fronts, the continuity of the group remains. One of the buildings, at 906 Congress Avenue, has been partially restored.

19. 1006 Congress

The Old Lundberg Bakery is presently on the National Register.

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DEFINITION OF BUILDING CATEGORIES:

Contributing

Most of Congress Avenue's original late 19th and early 20th century commercial buildings remain, but a large number have been modified by stuccoed or metal facades. The buildings designated as contributing are those buildings which retain their historical integrity and have had only minor alterations. This includes buildings of major architectural significance, as well as less unique buildings that have retained their historic late 19th or early 20th century facades. Generally these buildings have some first floor alterations, but the original fenestration and most of the detailing remains.

Compatible

In the category of compatible include buildings that are historic structures, but have been altered by false facades. These are buildings that can be restored to their original character and a number of owners have been investigating this possibility. A second type described as compatible are the nonhistoric structures, built in the mid-20th century, which do not reflect the architectural style of the late 19th and 20th centuries, but are compatible in size and material to the historic buildings and reflect the scale of the district.

Intrusion

Instrusions are buildings, such as the multi-story glass and steel bank buildings (821 Congress and 521 Congress) that are unsympathetic in style, scale and material to the historic nature of the district. In addition, two historic buildings, 826 Congress and 422 Congress, were also designated as intrusions because of the extensive remodeling.

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Photographs have been taken from each block to give an overall view of the district. Photograph locations are indicated on the map.

Number references indicated in the photograph descriptions relate to the specific buildings described in Item #7.

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RELATIONSHIP TO AREA:

The Congress Avenue Historic District intersects and overlaps the Sixth Street Historic District (entered on the National Register, 12-30-75) at 6th and Congress. In addition, the district adjoins the Texas State Capitol (entered on the National Register, 6-22-70) at the north end of the district.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

MAR 13 1978

PERIOD

__PREHISTORIC
__1400-1499
__1500-1599
__1600-1699
__1700-1799
X 1800-1899
X 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
__AGRICULTURE
X ARCHITECTURE
__ART
X COMMERCE
__COMMUNICATIONS
X COMMUNITY PLANNING
__CONSERVATION
__ECONOMICS
__EDUCATION
__ENGINEERING
__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
__INDUSTRY
__INVENTION
__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
__LAW
__LITERATURE
__MILITARY
__MUSIC
__PHILOSOPHY
__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
__RELIGION
__SCIENCE
__SCULPTURE
__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__THEATER
__TRANSPORTATION
__OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Planned as the widest street in the 1839 Austin plat, the 120 foot wide Congress Avenue from the Colorado River to the State Capitol, remains the city's most scenic approach to the State Capitol building and a reflection of the city's original plan. A large concentration of 19th and early 20th century commercial architecture line the wide thoroughfare and demonstrate the popularity of this location for business enterprises during that period.

When Frederick Law Olmsted remarked in 1854 that Austin reminded him somewhat of Washington, D. C., "en petit," he recognized not only the similarity of Austin to the nation's capital in the formality of its plan, but verbalized, as well, the intentions of the Texans who had conceived of the city's form twenty years before. As Roxanne Kuter Williamson has pointed out in Austin, Texas: An American Architectural History, Austin's meaning from the beginning was symbolic as well as actual. It was intended to be a national capital, and like other such seats of government, it had its own main street and organizing thoroughfare. Today, the street is called "Congress." For over seventy years, it was known simply as "The Avenue".

The Avenue was laid out in 1839 after Austin was selected as the capital city. Mirabeau B. Lamar appointed Edwin Waller agent with the responsibility of surveying and selling the city's lots, a job that was completed in a few short months. The Capitol site was located at the summit of a high hill, and the valley which fell away from it to the south was made into a broad street, Congress Avenue, which created a monumental approach to the center of the city, and increased the visual importance of the Capitol.

The significance of Congress Avenue was not lost on the multitude of land speculators, politicians, and ordinary citizens who flooded Austin when Waller advertised lots for sale The Avenue was clearly the first choice of most speculators, and some of them tried the ruse of squatting on the lots of their preference, improving them with pole shanties, and then hoping to purchase them at the average price for which lots similarly situated sold. As Waller complained to Lamar in May of 1839, "In this manner all of the most eligible lots upon Main Street will be taken up."

By August 1, the first auction had taken place, with the prize lot at the southwest corner of Congress and Pecan (Sixth) bringing well over $2,000. Typical purchasers of lots on the twenty-one blocks between the Colorado River and Capitol grounds to the north included Abner Cook, merchant, alderman, and future architect of the Governor's Mansion; Frank Brown, compiler of an early Austin history; S.A.J. Haynie, doctor, postmaster, mayor, representative, and future head of a large Congress Avenue mercantile firm; Edwin Waller, former alcadle from Brazoria, member of the Consultation Convention of 1835, signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence, Austin's designer and first mayor; and Andrew Neill, participant in the Texas Revolution. Finally, Austin's first

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY c. 38¼ acres

Quad. scale: 1:24000

Quad. name: Austin East, Tex.

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	14	621045	3349~~150~~ 480
B	14	621185	3349445
C	14	620865	3348420
D	14	620725	3348460

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Congress Avenue Historic District is bounded by 1st St. on the south, 11th St. on the north, and by the rear alleys on either side of Congress Ave.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Joe Freeman, Architectural Historian M. Landon & D. Hardy--THC
Martha Freeman, Historian

ORGANIZATION Texas Historical Commission

DATE March 7, 1978

STREET & NUMBER Box 12276 Capitol Station

TELEPHONE 512-475-3094

CITY OR TOWN Austin

STATE Texas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE X LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE [signature]

TITLE Texas State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 3-7-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

[signature]

DATE 8/11/78

~~DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION~~ KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: [signature]

DATE 8.9.78

~~KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER~~

GPO 892-453

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resident, Jacob Harrell, who lived on the future site of First and Congress before the block was even designated, purchased Lots one and two in Block five, probably on or near the location of his log cabin and stockade.

For all its visual beauty and air of inevitability, Congress Avenue was not without its problems. The "narrow valley which appears as if made by nature expressly for this noble purpose," was in fact a natural drainage and the lowest point in over twenty square blocks. Stream branches, one of which was called the Rio Barbo, ran from the head of the Avenue along the east side, crossed Sixth Street, and emptied into Waller Creek. Drainage was difficult to effect during construction of new buildings, and each new rain opened yawning holes, "big enough to swallow a bull dog (sic), donkey, juvenile elephant, etc." As late as 1874, the occupants of the Statesman office and the Krohn Building were startled to discover two springs of cold water suddenly appearing out from the curbstones.

Earliest structures on Congress were a mixture of governmental buildings, and retail businesses many of which catered to a seasonal population of Texan politicians and other government employees. Government offices, most of which were log or frame, included the Treasury Building between Fifth and Sixth; the Navy, State, and War departments, as well as offices for the Secretary of State, Auditor, and Adjutant General between Seventh and Eighth; State Department storeroom, Land Office, and Quartermaster-Executive Business office building between Eighth and Ninth; the Committee on Finances between Ninth and Tenth; and the Secretary of the Navy between Tenth and Eleventh.

Prime business property was focused on the area north of Fifth street. Sixth and Congress contained the highest concentration of early structures, largely because Sixth, then called Pecan, was the highway to Bastrop, Houston, and most of the rest of Texas. Typical businesses included restaurants, saloons, retail merchandise establishments, and hotels, such as Bullock's at Sixth and Congress, social center of the capital city during the Lamar administraton. On the southeast corner of the same intersection was a two-store frame building owned by M.H. Beatty and then used by F. Dieterich and known as Dieterich's Corner. Elsewhere, the Austin City Hotel offered rooms convenient to the Capitol and other departments of government, as well as good stables, corn, fodder, and attentive ostlers. William Mockford, tailer, took up quarters opposite the Treasury Department, while an assortment of druggists, including Messrs. Robertson and Johnson, and McKinstry and Hyde, opened shops up and down the Avenue. A restaurant called the Log Cabin, which opened conveniently near the State Department offices, offered its services "at all hours."

By the late 1840s, Congress was a well-established business street, and not even the brief emigration of citizens following the aborted Archive War, in which orders came from Sam Houston to move the State records to Washington-on-the-Brazos, could dampen its development. Indeed, following a general election, the outcome of which assured Austin's role as the capital city for the next twenty years, Congress Avenue

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experienced the first of several building booms.

In 1853, the Southwestern American noted, in reference to buildings on Congress, that "our wooden age is passing away, ushering in one of brick and stone." Other papers mentioned the extensive improvements and increases in business houses all along the Avenue. In 1850, Dr. Haynie finished a new building below the post office; and Messrs. R. F. Parker & Co. were completing a store house between Seventh and Eighth streets on the west side. Lamar Moore erected a three-story building, the second brick structure in Austin, on the former site of the Tobin Store; while S.M. Swenson of later Spur Ranch fame was at the corner of Congress and Seventh. By early 1855, Swenson had completed a new building on the Avenue which was touted as "the largest and most elegant in Texas."

Not even the trauma of civil war during the early 1860s could completely interrupt the pattern of sound economic growth and steady building established ten years before, for now, where once it had been a location of business and government, the Avenue became a hub of statewide patriotic activity. December 1860 saw a demonstration on Congress in favor of Southern independence. And during the following years, companies of soldiers, such as the Tom Green Rifles, formed at the head of the Avenue while hundreds of citizens lined the street to see them off.

Some businesses, such as the Avenue Hotel, could not weather the financial storms of the War and closed. But others obviously prospered. As soon after the War as December, 1865, the Southern Intelligencer commented that rents had never been so high. "Business houses on the Avenue command almost fabulous prices, and are very difficult to be had."

In the early 1870s, at least four major events conspired to create a new boom on the Avenue. The Civil War had ended. Another general election confirmed Austin's choice as the state capital. The Houston and Texas Central Railroad was built in 1871. And the city initiated numerous improvements on or near the street. Messrs. Millet, Criser and Millican built a crude but effective water works at the foot on Congress and supplied businesses with water at five cents a barrel. About the same time, the city council passed an ordinance which fixed the street, gutter, and sidewalk gradients, with sidewalks to be twelve feet wide and paved with smooth, hammer-dressed stone four inches thick. In August, 1871, S.B. Brush experimented with red cedar block paving in front of his store, an early precedent to the asphaltum paving that was specified two years later. In 1874, gas light illumination of Congress was accomplished, and the following year, the first mule-drawn streetcar of the Austin City Railway Company hauled passengers up and down the Avenue from store to store. Finally, the old pontoon bridge across the Colorado River was replaced by a wooden toll bridge, which was followed, in 1884, by a relatively permanent and secure iron toll bridge, thus opening Congress to the southern part of the city.

New construction kept pace with the recent improvements. In September, 1874, rock

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work on five new stores north of the Statesman office building was drawing to a close, and the paper boasted that returning legislators would see some nine or ten large rock and brick buildings completed by October 1874. The Travis County Courthouse was built during 1875-1876 at the head of Congress on the east side, designed by architect Jacob E. Larmour who also completed a block of nine stores on the west side of Congress between Ninth and Tenth streets.

In 1880s, Congress Avenue superceded even busy Sixth Street, becoming the most fashionable and prestigious shopping location for many retail businesses. Some of this preemption was due to the advent of another railroad; to an even greater extent, Congress' new popularity may have been due to the construction of a new Capitol at the head of the Avenue, an event which encouraged businesses on Sixth, such as restaurants and hotels catering to the Capitol trade, to move to a new location.

By 1900, Austin had grown from a small frontier town of log cabins and few commercial buildings concentrated near Sixth and Congress, to a busy city with almost every block of its Avenue filled with propserous businesses. Indeed, the various economic blows which hit other parts of the city during the course of two world wars, a depression, and the flight to the suburbs, left less of a mark on Congress Avenue than on many other downtown streets. Because of its unique relationship to the Capitol, and proximity to permanent inner-city populations such as The University of Texas campus, the Avenue continued to develop and change.

Many changes have wreaked havoc with historic buildings as new businesses, such as banks, vying with one another for prime Avenue property, have destroyed older structures. Fortunately, however, the prosperity of the late 1960s and 1970s has also resulted in a surge of appreciation for historic structures, and the initiation of numerous restoration projects. At 223 and 920 Congress, owners have successfully adapted buildings to excellent architectural offices, while businessmen at 910 Congress have stripped off 100 years of plaster and revealed the remains of a fine structure, formerly a livery stable and now the offices of the Capital Mortgage Bankers.

Many of Congress Avenue's finest buildings remain hidden behind facades added during the past thirty years. Recent trends, however, to the simultaneous construction of skyscrapers and restoration of significant older buildings, assure the Avenue's success as a commercial and historic district.

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History of Individually Significant Buildings:

1. 223-225 Congress

In 1881, John Schmetz, a laborer, listed his residence as the southeast corner of Congress Avenue and Cypress (Third Street). It is unlikely, however, that the structure presently at this address was built until several years later.

First confirmable use of the present building occurred in 1885 when Hermann Schmidt, former proprietor of the Star House Restaurant and Saloon at 617 Congress, opened the Pearl House, a business that offered services as a hotel, restaurant, and saloon. It was touted as "The most convenient hotel to all trains in the city," and probably for that reason alone, operated as a restaurant for at least seventy-six of its eighty-eight years of existence.

In 1891, the Pearl House was still the largest building between the Colorado River and Third Street. Proprietorship had changed to Hermann's widow, Lena Schmidt, and after she vacated the premises, there was a rapid turnover of tenants. Charles Melville Miller moved to 223 from his old address at 711 Congress and sold furniture and musical instruments in 1905. Ellsworth Riddle used the building as a saloon from 1906 to 1910, as did George S. Bradshaw from 1914 to 1918.

In 1920, the Sam Wah Restaurant at 221 Congress expanded to 223, and until 1962, several years after the south half of the building burned, three partners--Harry Bon, Lin Chew, and Ah Num---operated one of Austin's most popular cafes.

In the mid-sixties, after the building had been vacant for a number of years, two architects, Tom Shefelman and Alan Taniguchi, former Dean of the School of Architecture at The University of Texas at Austin, bought and restored the building for use as an architectural office.

1. 320-322 Congress

Although the name most associated with this building is that of Koppel, 320-322 was actually constructed by William Radam about 1888 two years after he paid off the lot, and several years before he sold it with improvements to Jacob and Samuel Koppel for $21,000.00.

Radam, a character in a Princeton University Press publication, The Toadstool Millionaires, was the building's most notorious occupant. He came from Prussia around 1861, and after settling in Austin became a seed merchant and florist. Plagued by poor health and inspired by Louis Pasteur, Radam attributed his illness to microbes and invented a nostrum called the "Microbe Killer." By 1890, the patent medicine was so popular that Radam had seventeen plants manufacturing his product, and he had earned money sufficient to purchase a Manhattan masion where he died in 1902.

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3. 300 Block of Congress, east side

The building at 321-323 Congress was built by McKean Eilers, a company that was in business for seventy-six years. After starting out as A.H. Crow, the company became Crow-McKean and Company when Crow took his brother-in-law as partner. By the time the new McKean, Eilers and Company Building opened in December, 1897, the company was an established business which would eventually operate under the same name for more than sixty years.

In 1967, the owner of Davis Hardware, Charles P. Davis, purchased the entire east side of the 300 block of Congress and put a new facade on the old McKean-Eilers building.

4. 410 Congress

This structure, occupying the north half of Lot 3, Block 43 on the west side of Congress Avenue, was financed during the spring and summer of 1886 by Frank Brown, a longtime Travis County District Clerk, and author of a valuable historical resource study, Frank Brown's Annals. His building was ready for occupancy by July 6, 1886, and one of the first tenants was the Phoenix Cigar Company.

On December 13, 1898, Brown sold his building to the Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company of New York, which hired A. W. Watson to remodel the front. The Company occupied the building until April 1920, when they sold it to the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for $80,801.38.

In 1922, the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company moved to a new building, and sold 410 Congress to John L. Martin who ran a plumbing company next door at 408 Congress. The Martin family retained the property until the law firm of Jack N. Price and Ivan R. Williams, Jr., purchased it on July 22, 1976. Current plans by Williams and Price include the restoration of the facade to its 1900 style, and of the interior to accomodate their offices.

5. 412-414 Congress

In 1886 the Kreisle family (the widow of Mattais H. Kreisle and her two sons) who had been in the furniture and house furnishings business in the Sampson Building for many years, purchased Lot 4, Block 43. Less than two years later, Sophie Kreisle signed a mechancis lien with John McDonald in which McDonald promised to complete a three-story brick storehouse in accordance with plans furnished by Larmour and Watson, architects. The building was to be completed by August 20, 1888.

For a number of years the Kreisles ran their furniture business from 412-414 Congress. Later, in the mid-1890s, Scarbrough and Hicks occupied the site.

In 1916, a fire damaged the building while it was occupied by the C.J. Martin Company. But it has remained a usable structure, housing a variety of tenants, including Isaac Bledsoe, and the Bowman-Cravens Furniture Company.

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6. 416 Congress

In the early 1890s, James Harvey Robertson, one of Texas' most eminent attorneys and law partner of Governor James Hogg, purchased the lot adjacent to Kreisle's. He built a three-story brick and masonry trim building which was occupied by N. V. Dittlinger, seller of furniture and pianos in 1893-1894. Later occupants included Raatz & Riley (1910), and W. H. Richardson Hardware which moved from East Pecan and occupied the building until 1945. Today, Abel Stationers does business in the old building behind a twentieth-century facade.

7. 419 Congress

Although 419 Congress is not architecturally outstanding, it is historically significant to the development of Congress Avenue. Originally a three-story structure, 419 Congress was completed in 1869 by the Austin Building Association to house the U.S. Army Headquarters in Texas. The headquarters moved to a forty-acre site in San Antonio, however, and within two years after its construction, the building had become a hotel, the Raymond House.

For about fifteen years, the Raymond House was a center for Austin entertainment. It was a popular saloon, and the hotel was frequently used for dances and parties.

After use as a saddle and harness shop by W.T. Wroe & Sons in the late 1880s, the building changed hands numerous times. Finally, the Karotkin Furniture Company moved in during the mid-1930s and effected extensive renovations. A more recent occupant has been the Barker Office Furniture business.

8. 512 Congress

The Scarbrough Building is presently on the National Register.

9. 601 Congress

The Littlefield Building is presently on the National Register.

10. 620-622 Congress

The Sampson Henricks Building was constructed in 1859 by Abner Cook, W. H. Wilson, and Thomas H. Jones. Work was directed by the partners, one of whom, Abner Cook, went on to become Austin's best-known nineteenth-century architect.

The firm for which the building was intended was headed by George W. Sampson who came to Texas in 1848 and started the company two years later. His partner was Abram Henricks, and later Ben Henricks, and they sold "staple and fancy dry goods."

After the firm went out of business, the building was leased, at one time to M. Kreisle. Despite a variety of occupants, however, the building is still owned by descendents of the original owner, Captain George Sampson.

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Property Congress Avenue Historic District

State Texas Working Number 3.13.78. 2661

Travis
Ref # 7E00 G989

TECHNICAL ~~Nothing appears incorrect~~ (A) **CONTROL**

Photos 28
Maps 2

OK- 3.13.78 pl

HISTORIAN

This is the 3rd or 4th Texas nomination where significance is early history -- not any summation of ~~[illegible]~~ significance of what remains or even history of buildings we are seeing. We don't really know what % of buildings have recoverable facades — or constr. dates of most of the structures. I think this warrants returning → [redacted]

Sheffy 6-22-78

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ALTHOUGH IT CONTAINS SOME INTRUSIONS, THIS CORRIDOR RETAINS SIGNIFICANT EXAMPLES OF 19TH & EARLY 20TH C. ARCHITECTURE BEHIND THE MORE RECENT APPLIED FACADES.

I BELIEVE THOUGH, THAT THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE LIES W/ THE ORIGINAL PLANNING INTENT — A GRAND APPROACH TO THE SEAT OF GOV'T.

ACCEPT
H Spitz
6/21/78

ARCHEOLOGIST

N.R. LISTING WILL SERVE AS A PLANNING CATALYST — POSSIBLY TO ~~[illegible]~~ AVOID FURTHER INTRUSIVE DEVELOPMENT.

MANY OWNERS COULD BENEFIT FROM T.R.A. HERE.

Use map to consider how few structures really contribute.

OTHER

7-5-78 - I may be too harsh. I may not have recognized all facades that could come off. But I still wonder if this Main Street isn't more mixed than we will want to take consistently?

Sheffy 7-5-78

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

As pointed out in section 8, this district bears a striking relationship to Penn. Ave in concept. We are recognizing the monumental avenue concept with the space defined by good bldgs, altered bldgs, and new bldgs that although out of scale maintain the street line.

Accept
Lebovich
8/4/78

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

8/11/78

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____ Entered AUG 11 1978

Federal Register Entry 9.5.78 Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service WASO No. 7

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

View north toward the Texas State Capitol in the distance. The buildings in the foreground are located in the 100 block of Congress Ave.

Photo #1 of 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Southeast oblique of the 100 block of
Congress Ave., west side.

Photo #2
8 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Northwest oblique of the 200 block of Congress Ave., east side. The building in the foreground is 223-225 Congress (1).

Photo #3
of 28

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Southeast oblique of the rear facades of buildings in the 200 block Congress, east side.

Photo #4 of 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

View of the 200 block of Congress, west side, showing an example of an "intrusion" in the district.

Photo #5

9 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Northeast oblique of the 300 block of Congress, west side. The building in the foreground is 320-22 Congress (2).

Photo #6
6 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Northwest oblique of the 300 block of Congress, east side. (3).

Photo #7

928

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Southeast oblique of the 400 block of Congress, west side. The two-story building with arched first floor is 410 Congress (4), the adjacent one 412-14 Congress (5), & the three-story building is 416 Congress (6).

Photo #8 828

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Northwest oblique of the 400 block Congress, east side. The three-story building in the foreground is 419 Congress (7).

Photo #9

928 MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Northeast oblique of the 500 block of Congress, west side. The building in the foreground is the Scarbrough Building at 512 Congress (8).

Photo #10 of 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 1 1 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

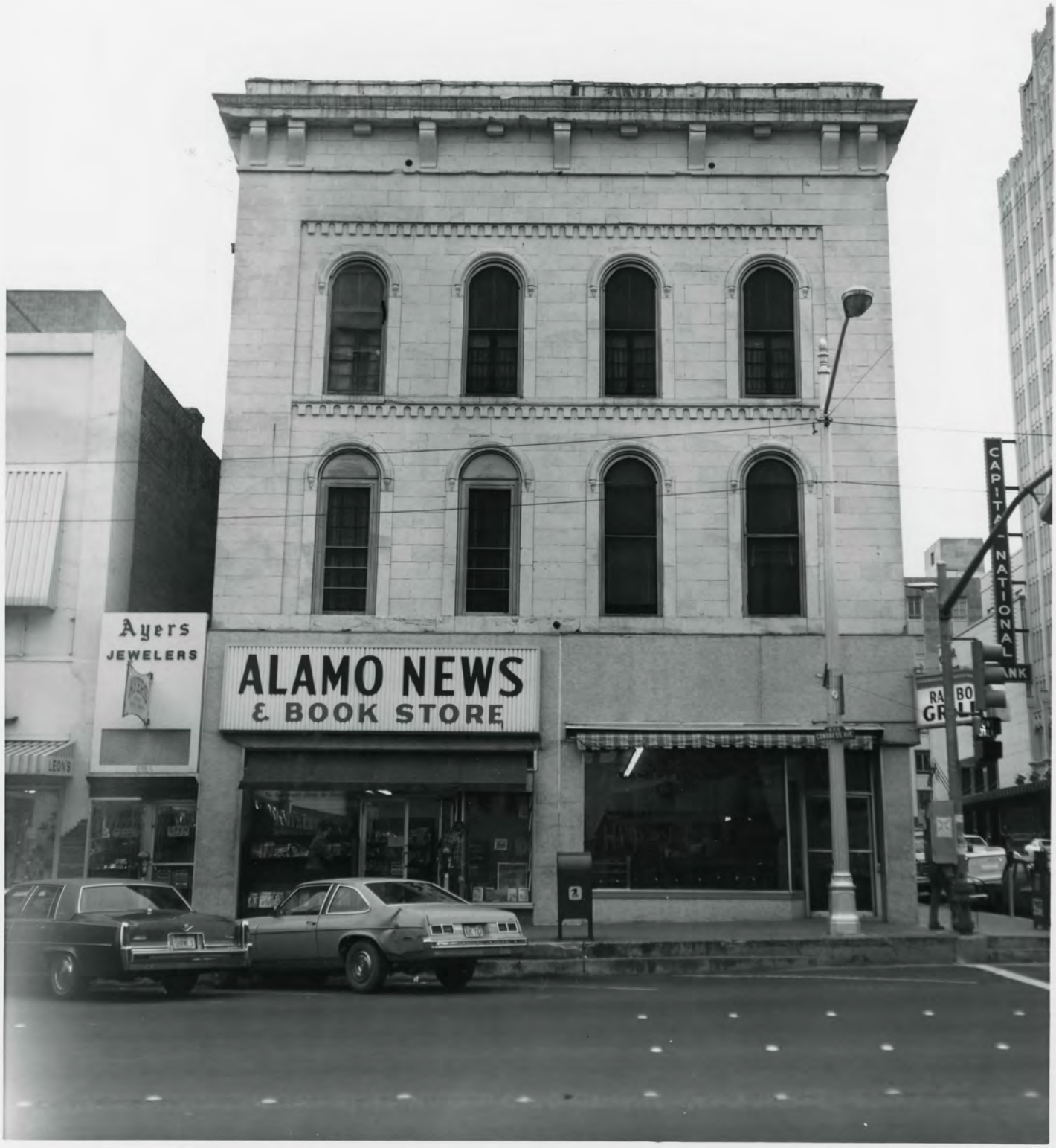
Northeast oblique of the 600 block of Congress, west side. The building in the foreground is 620-622 Congress (10).

Photo #11

928

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

East elevation of the Sampson-Hendricks Building, 620-22 Congress (10).

Photo #12

928

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

West elevation of the rear facades in the 600 block of Congress, west side.

Photo #13 of 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Southwest bolique of the 600 block of Congress, east side. The building in the foreground is the Littlefield Building, 601 Congress (9).

Photo #14 MAR 13 1978
8 28

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Northeast bolique of the rear facades in the 600 block Congress, east side. The multi-story building in the background is the Littlefield Building (9).
Photo #15 of 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Northeast oblique of the 700 block Congress, west side. The three-story Gothic Revival building in the center of the block is the Tips Building, 710-12 Congress (11).

Photo #16
928

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

East elevation of the Tips Building,
710-12 Congress (11).

Photo #17

8 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Northeast oblique of 105 W. 7th St.,
located on the side street behind 722 Congress

Photo #18

928 MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Southwest oblique of the 800 block Congress, east side.

Photo #19 MAR 13 1978

9 2.8

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, Febnnary 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Southeast oblique of the rear facade of
811 Congress.

Photo #20
828

MAR 1 3 1978

AUG 11 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Southeast oblique ofs the 800 block Congress, west side. The building in the foreground is 800-804 Congress (16).

Photo #21

928

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Northwest oblique of the 900 block Congress, east side. The building at the far end of the block is 901 Congress (17).

Photo #22
9 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Texas Historical Commission
Danny Hardy, February 1978

Southwest oblique of 106 E. 9th (rear of 901 Congress (17)).

Photo #23

8 28 MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic Distric
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

West elevation of 905 Congress

Photo #24
8 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Northeast oblique of the 900 block Congress, west side (18).

Photo #25

228

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

East elevation of 906,908,910 Congress

Photo #26

2 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

East elevation of the Lundberg Bakery,
1006 Congress (19).

Photo #27 of 28

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AUG 11 1978

Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Travis County, Texas
Danny Hardy, February 1978
Texas Historical Commission

Looking south from the Capitol walk down the Congress Avenue Historic District. To the right is the Lundberg Bakery with park space on either side.

Photo #28

928

MAR 13 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CITY OF AUSTIN

AUSTIN EAST QUADRANGLE
TEXAS—TRAVIS CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 AUSTIN 15' QUADRANGLE

6444 IV NE (JOLLYVILLE)
6444 I NE (PFLUGERVILLE EAST)
6444 I NW (PFLUGERVILLE WEST)
6444 IV SE (AUSTIN WEST)
6444 I SW (MANOR)
(OAK HILL) 6444 II NE
(MONTOPOLIS) 6444 II NW
(WEBBERVILLE) 6444 II NE

97°45′ — 97°37′30″ — 30°22′30″ — 30°15′ — 40′ — 42′30″ — 17′30″ — 20′

2 850 000 FEET — 260 000 FEET — 2 820 000 FEET — 230 000 FEET

3360000m N. — 3348000m N.

E. 621000m — 622 — 624 — 625 — 627 — 629 — 630 — 631 — 632000m E.

LEANDER 15 MI. — 9 MI. TO INTERSTATE 35 — TEMPLE 60 MI. GEORGETOWN 19 MI. — TAYLOR 24 MI. — BURNET 54 MI. — HICKMUNTON 10 MI. — JOHNSON CITY 43 MI. OAK HILL 9 MI. — SAN MARCOS 29 MI. — SAN MARCOS 27 MI. SAN ANTONIO 76 MI. — DESSAU 4.7 MI. — ELGIN 15 MI. BRENHAM 85 MI. — 3 MI. TO U.S. 290 — BASTROP 29 MI.

AUSTIN — ROBERT MUELLER MUNICIPAL AIRPORT — COLORADO RIVER — TOWN LAKE — GRAVEL PIT

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1952. Field checked 1954. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1966

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1973. This information not field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

UTM GRID AND 1973 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:24 000

1 MILE
1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

TEXAS
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

AUSTIN EAST, TEX.
SW/4 AUSTIN 15' QUADRANGLE
N3015—W9737.5/7.5

1966
PHOTOREVISED 1973
AMS 6444 I SW—SERIES V882

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1975

CONGRESS AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT
AUSTIN, TRAVIS CO., TEXAS
UTM REFERENCES: 480
A: 14/ 621045/ 3349150
B: 14/ 621185/ 3349445
C: 14/ 620865/ 3348420
D: 14/ 620725/ 3348460

RECEIVED
MAR 13 1978
NATIONAL REGISTER

AUG 11 1978

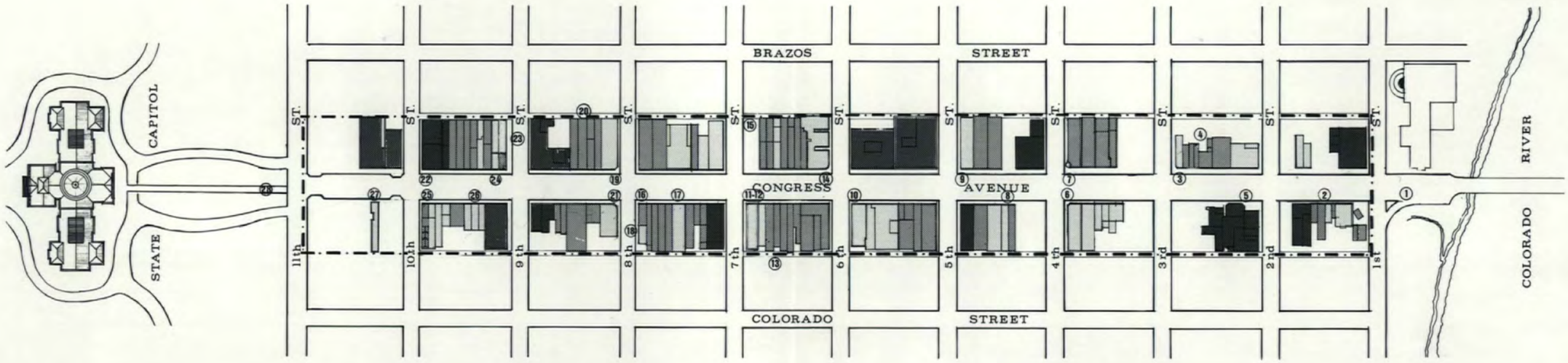
3097-242

AUG 11 1978

RECEIVED
MAR 13 1978
NATIONAL REGISTER

CONGRESS AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

scale: 1 to 200



KEY

CONTRIBUTING	
COMPATIBLE	
INTRUSION	
DISTRICT BOUNDARY	

NORTH

Numbers ①-㉘ indicate photograph locations

NP letter sent 6-21-78
SL

placed in file

3-25-78

NP listed

Harrison-Pearson Associates, Inc. h-p

AFFILIATES: Standard Mortgage Co., Inc.
Harrison-Pearson Agency

May 25, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: H32-NR

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

This office is the managing agent for a variety of owners of property on Congress Avenue in the City of Austin. Enclosed are the mailing addresses from two of these owners concerning a single piece of property, and I am certain that we will receive other mailings from you involving other properties.

For the record, and as respects the property identified by the ownership indicated on the enclosed mailing labels, let us say that this property has no historic significance, has been remodeled into a modern jewelry store, and any funds expended by any tax-supported authority in connection with this property would be a waste.

As a matter of fact, these comments are my personal opinion, and they extend to the majority of the properties along Congress Avenue. There are in fact several properties worthy of the designation and they have received it. However, Congress Avenue is no different from any other main street of a city that has existed for as much as 100 years, and unless we were to destroy that main street and move it elsewhere and make an archeological relic out of it, some discretion should be used as to the extent of the preservation and the effect of so-called "district zoning".

Each of your letters referred to an "enclosed green leaflet", but neither letter contained such leaflet. If I can be of any further assistance or cast any additional light on any of the properties in the nominated district, I should be more than pleased to have you call on me.

Yours truly,

Forest S. Pearson

Mrs. Rosa Metz Estate
C/O Zale Jewelry Co.
Box 2219
Dallas, Texas 75221

Mrs. Laura M. Bunton & Trustees
c/o Zale Jewelry Co.
Box 2219
Dallas, Texas 75221

Re: Congress Ave. Hist. Dist. - Austin, TX

y Committee

agement / Mortgage Loans / Insurance
/ Austin, Texas 78767 / 512-472-6201

NP. letter sent 6-21-78
SL

placed in file

3-28-78

NP listed

Harrison-Pearson Associates, Inc. h-p

AFFILIATES: Standard Mortgage Co., Inc.
Harrison-Pearson Agency

May 25, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: H32-NR

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

This office is the managing agent for a variety of owners of property on Congress Avenue in the City of Austin. Enclosed are the mailing addresses from two of these owners concerning a single piece of property, and I am certain that we will receive other mailings from you involving other properties.

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Yours truly,

Forest S. Pearson

FSP:mb
cc: Executive Director
Texas State Historical Survey Committee

Real Estate Sales / Property Management / Mortgage Loans / Insurance
6th at Lavaca / P.O. Box 1987 / Austin, Texas 78767 / 512-472-6201

Phone

~~FIELD~~ REPORT

OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PROJECT: Congress Ave H D.

CONTACT: Austin TX, Travis Co.

ADDRESS: PHONE:

REPORT: DATE: 7/2/80

Corp Lloyd Benton office
in Austin, TX
Travis Co - FTS 734-5834

Barbara Optenheimer

called regarding boundaries of
district

D. Byers

NP

THE SCARBROUGH BLDG. IS ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT IN THE DISTRICT.

ALREADY LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER AS PART OF THE SIXTH STREET H.D. 12/30/75.

ABritt 8/7/80

GRAVES, DOUGHER

IRELAND GRAVES (1885-1969)
J. CHRYS DOUGHERTY
ROBERT J. HEARON, JR.
DAN MOODY, JR.
WILLIAM L. GARWOOD
WM. TERRY BRAY
JAMES A. WILLIAMS
BEN F. VAUGHAN, II
H. LEE GODFREY
W. AMON BURTON, JR.
R. JAMES GEORGE, JR.
DUNCAN ELLIOTT OSBORNE

2300 A
A

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the National Re
Heritage Conservation and
Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

We represent the owners of the "Scarbrough Building" located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Sixth Street and Congress Avenue in Austin, Texas, within what we understand to be the proposed "Congress Avenue Historic District." The representatives of the owners of this building are in receipt of your letter of May 4, 1978, indicating that this property has been nominated for listing in the National Register.

The owners object to the proposal to include this property in the Register, and wish to make your office aware of their objection. We do not know what information, if any, you have before you concerning the Scarbrough Building. Basically, it is a large retail and office building structure covering approximately 1/4 of a block. The basement and first three floors are presently occupied by a downtown department store. The seven-story office tower is occupied by a variety of retail and service offices. The building itself was initially constructed in 1910, was very substantially remodeled in 1931, and again in the early 1950's. The department store lease runs for another several years, and the office space is generally well occupied. However, because of the age of the building, maintenance and other associated problems are occurring, and it is likely that substantial refurbishing and/or remodeling may need to be done at some time in the future. The owners would vastly prefer to be free to perform such remodeling and refurbishing as economic circumstances indicate, and do not believe that this structure is deserving of listing in the National Register, with the consequent restrictions and benefits which flow from that listing.

While the structure is slightly older than fifty years, the owners are not aware of any significant events, persons, or distinctive characteristics that have been associated with this building in the past, and do not consider that it is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

NP

GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON, MOODY & GARWOOD

2300 AUSTIN NATIONAL BANK TOWER
POST OFFICE BOX 98
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767
(512) 478-6421

IRELAND GRAVES (1885-1969)
J. CHRYS DOUGHERTY
ROBERT J. HEARON, JR.
DAN MOODY, JR.
WILLIAM L. GARWOOD
WM. TERRY BRAY
JAMES A. WILLIAMS
BEN F. VAUGHAN, III
H. LEE GODFREY
W. AMON BURTON, JR.
R. JAMES GEORGE, JR.
DUNCAN ELLIOTT OSBORNE

W. ST. JOHN GARWOOD
OF COUNSEL

JAMES CHRISMAN PHILLIPS
OWEN L. ROBERTS
JOHN T. ANDERSON
ROBERT COLE GRABLE
LYDIA WOMMACK BARTON
R. ALAN HAYWOOD
R. CLARKE HEIDRICK, JR.
LINDA ALBRIGHT
DAVID H. DONALDSON, JR.
THOMAS A. EATON

May 31, 1978

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation and
Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Re: H32-NR

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

We represent the owners of the "Scarbrough Building" located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Sixth Street and Congress Avenue in Austin, Texas, within what we understand to be the proposed "Congress Avenue Historic District." The representatives of the owners of this building are in receipt of your letter of May 4, 1978, indicating that this property has been nominated for listing in the National Register.

The owners object to the proposal to include this property in the Register, and wish to make your office aware of their objection. We do not know what information, if any, you have before you concerning the Scarbrough Building. Basically, it is a large retail and office building structure covering approximately 1/4 of a block. The basement and first three floors are presently occupied by a downtown department store. The seven-story office tower is occupied by a variety of retail and service offices. The building itself was initially constructed in 1910, was very substantially remodeled in 1931, and again in the early 1950's. The department store lease runs for another several years, and the office space is generally well occupied. However, because of the age of the building, maintenance and other associated problems are occurring, and it is likely that substantial refurbishing and/or remodeling may need to be done at some time in the future. The owners would vastly prefer to be free to perform such remodeling and refurbishing as economic circumstances indicate, and do not believe that this structure is deserving of listing in the National Register, with the consequent restrictions and benefits which flow from that listing.

While the structure is slightly older than fifty years, the owners are not aware of any significant events, persons, or distinctive characteristics that have been associated with this building in the past, and do not consider that it is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

In short, the owners would like to register their objection to the inclusion of this property, and request your advice as to any further rights they may have to participate in any hearings or other proceedings that may occur in which your office may give further consideration to the matter.

We would appreciate your confirmation of the receipt of this objection, together with any information you can give us concerning future procedures to be followed, as well as any further information concerning the property itself which you feel the owners should supply. Thank you very much for your attention.

Yours very truly,

Robert J. Hearon, Jr.

RJHjr:kp

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
DATE LISTED JUN 06 1978
DATE FORWARDED
INITIALS P.A. 6/20/78

Called & explained

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE TEXAS

Date Entered AUG 11 1978

Name	Location
Randlett House	Lancaster Dallas County
Congress Avenue Historic District	Austin Travis County

Also Notified

Honorable Lloyd M. Bentsen

Honorable John G. Tower
Honorable Olin E. Teague
Honorable J. J. (Jake) Pickle

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Truett Latimer
Executive Director
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

NR Byers/bjr 8/15/78

8/23/78

Service

Bill L.

Bill Lebovich
for
action
property listed
Aug 11, 1978

Truett Latimer out this week.
I told Joe Williams
that we wanted to make
sure Texas Gov Knew District
listed.

K ... ths way
of ... essure
... the
S ... t is
a ... t we
ha ... t a
ba ... es.

Can you expedite this one
now & have someone call
TL to avoid writing a
letter?

over — R 8/22

P. O. BOX 12276
AUSTIN TEXAS 78711

...strict

...he Office of Archeology
... Recreation Service, the
...Avenue Historic District.
...initiate at this time
...rict is not yet listed

...e of historic preservation
...hing that you can do to
...l Register?

...stated interest in expe-
...ge Conservation and Rec-
...m where we have already

... on this matter.

Latimer

Mr. Chris Therral Delaporte
United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Washington, D. C. 20240

HERITAGE CONSERVATION & REC. SERVICE
1978 AUG 18 AM 8:33
MAIL ROOM
RECEIVED

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Washington, D.C. 20240

Bill F.

Keeper:

This is truly the way of returning the procedure we are putting on the States. I think it is ample evidence that we had better prevent a backlog at all times. Can you expedite this one now & have someone call TL to avoid writing a letter?

over — CR 8/22

P. O. BOX 12276
AUSTIN TEXAS 78711

trict

e Office of Archeology
Recreation Service, the
Avenue Historic District.
initiate at this time
rict is not yet listed

e of historic preservation
ning that you can do to
Register?

stated interest in expe-
ge Conservation and Rec-
n where we have already

on this matter.

Sincerely,

Mr. Chris Therral Delaporte
United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Washington, D. C. 20240

HERITAGE CONSERVATION & REC. SERVICE
1978 JUN 19 PM 3:33
MAIL ROOM
RECEIVED

Please have Charles submit the schedule for a new approach to nomination that I asked for before I left.

DATE 8-18

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

TO: 1. ~~Dr. Donnelly~~ OAHP

2.

3.

FROM: Chris Therral Delaporte, Director

FOR:
- ☐ Surname
- ☒ Take appropriate action
- ☐ See me
- ☐ Call me
- ☐ For your information
- ☐ Prepare for Secretary's signature
- ☐ Prepare for Director's signature

AND:
- ☐ Return
- ☐ File
- ☐ Forward

REMARKS:

P. O. BOX 12276
AUSTIN TEXAS 78711

trict

Office of Archeology
Recreation Service, the
venue Historic District.
nitiate at this time
ct is not yet listed

of historic preservation
ng that you can do to
Register?

ated interest in expe-
Conservation and Rec-
where we have already

n this matter.

Mr. Chris Therral Delaporte
United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Washington, D. C. 20240

HERITAGE CONSERVATION & REC. SERVICE
1978 AUG 18 AM 8:33
MAIL ROOM
RECEIVED

TRUETT LATIMER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P. O. BOX 12276
AUSTIN TEXAS 78711

August 8, 1978

Re: Congress Avenue Historic District
Austin, Texas

Dear Chris:

On March 9, 1978, our records show that we sent to the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, the nomination to the National Register of the Congress Avenue Historic District. One of the grants-in-aid which we are attempting to initiate at this time is to a building within this district, and this district is not yet listed in the Register.

In order to fulfill our obligations regarding the use of historic preservation funding via the grants-in-aid program, is there anything that you can do to expedite the placing of this district on the National Register?

I am calling this to your attention because of your stated interest in expediting the review process in all areas of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service and, in particular, the grant program where we have already qualified for expanded participation.

Please let me know if I can fill in any more details on this matter.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer

TL/cm

Mr. Chris Therral Delaporte
United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Washington, D. C. 20240

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION
& REC. SERVICE

PH0664600

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

(1) NAME as it appears on federal register: Congress Avenue Historic District

(2) OTHER NAMES:

(3) date of entry: AUG 11 1978

(4) county code: 453

(5) LOCATION street & number: over | city / town: Austin | vicinity of | state: TX | county: Travis

(6) NPS REGION: SW

(7) OWNER ☐PRIVATE ☐STATE ☐MUNICIPAL ☐COUNTY ☒MULTIPLE ☐FEDERAL (agency name)

(8) ADMINISTRATOR:

(9) EXISTING SURVEYS ☐HABS ☐HAER ☐NHL

(10) FUNDED? ☐YES ☐NO

(11) CONGRESS. DISTRICT 10th

(12) SOURCE of NOMINATION ☒STATE ☐FEDERAL

(13) WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐YES, NAME ☐NO

(14) WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? ☐YES, NAME ☐NO

(15) ACREAGE

If state, who prepared form? SHPO staff ☐LOCAL ☐PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

(16) CONDITION
☐excellent ☐good ☐fair ☐deteriorated ☐ruins ☐unexposed ☐unexcavated ☐altered ☐unaltered ☐reconstructed ☐excavated ☐original site ☐moved ☐unknown

(17) features:
INTERIOR ☐SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 ☐NOT INTACT-0 ☐UNKNOWN-4 ☐NOT APPLICABLE-7
EXTERIOR ☐SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 ☐NOT INTACT-0 ☐UNKNOWN-5 ☐NOT APPLICABLE-8
ENVIRONS ☐SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 ☐NOT INTACT-0 ☐UNKNOWN-6 ☐NOT APPLICABLE-9

(18) ACCESS ☐YES-Restricted ☐YES-Unrestricted ☐No Access ☐Unknown

(19) ADAPTIVE USE ☐YES ☐NO

(20) SAVED? ☐YES

IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐yes ☐no

(21) AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:
☐ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 ☐ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 ☐AGRICULTURE-3 ☐ARCHITECTURE-4 ☐ART-5
☐COMMERCE-6 ☐COMMUNICATIONS-7 ☐CONSERVATION-8 ☐ECONOMICS-9 ☐EDUCATION-10
☐ENGINEERING-11 ☐ENTERTAINMENT-26 ☐EXPLORATION-12 ☐HEALTH-27 ☐INDUSTRY-13 ☐INVENTION-14
☐LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 ☐LAW-16 ☐LITERATURE-17 ☐MILITARY-18 ☐MUSIC-19 ☐PHILOSOPHY-20
☐POLITICS/GOVT.-21 ☐RELIGION-22 ☐SCIENCE-23 ☐SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 ☐SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 ☐TRANSPORTATION-25
☐RECREATION-28 ☐SETTLEMENT-29 ☐URBAN PLANNING-31 ☐OTHER (SPECIFY)

(22) CLAIMS: explain
'first' ☐
'oldest' ☐
'only' ☐

(23) functions
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT:
CURRENTLY:

(24) dates of initial construction:
major alterations:
historic events:

(25) ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

(26) architectural style(s):

(27) architect:

(28) master builder:

(29) engineer:

(30) landscape architect / garden designer:

(31) interior decorator:

(32) artist:

(33) artisan:

(34) builder/contractor:

(35) NAMES give role & date
PERSONAL:
EVENTS:
INSTITUTIONAL:

(36) NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP

reviewers initials_____ date_____ IF ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED, NUMBER & PUT ON REVERSE

5. Congress Ave. from 1st to 11th Sts.