## NAME

**Historic**

ALAMO PLAZA HISTORIC DISTRICT

**AND/OR COMMON**


## LOCATION

**STREET & NUMBER**

North of Hemisfair Plaza

**CITY, TOWN**
San Antonio

**STATE CODE**
JMB

**COUNTY CODE**
Bexar

**CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DDISTRICT
- _BUILDING(S)_
- _STRUCTURE_
- _SITE_
- _OBJECT_

**OWNERSHIP**

- _PUBLIC_
- _PRIVATE_
- _BOTH_

**STATUS**

- _OCCUPIED_
- _UNOCCUPIED_
- _WORK IN PROGRESS_
- _ACCESSIBLE_
- _YES: RESTRICTED_
- _YES: UNRESTRICTED_
- _NO_

**PRESENT USE**

- _AGRICULTURE_
- _MUSEUM_
- _COMMERCIAL_
- _PARK_
- _EDUCATIONAL_
- _PRIVATE RESIDENCE_
- _ENTERTAINMENT_
- _RELIGIOUS_
- _GOVERNMENT_
- _SCIENTIFIC_
- _INDUSTRIAL_
- _TRANSPORTATION_
- _MILITARY_
- _OTHER_

## OWNER OF PROPERTY

**NAME**
Multiple Ownership

**STREET & NUMBER**

**CITY, TOWN**

**STATE**

## LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**
Bexar County Courthouse

**STREET & NUMBER**

Main Plaza

**CITY, TOWN**
San Antonio

**STATE**
Texas

## REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

**TITLE**

Historic American Buildings Survey; Historic Sites Inventory

**DATE**

1936; 1970-71

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**
Library of Congress; Texas Historical Commission

**CITY, TOWN**
Washington, D.C.

**STATE**
Austin, Tx
Located in the center of downtown San Antonio, adjacent to the Hemisfair Plaza on the south, and to the San Antonio river on the west, is the commercial area that grew up around Texas' most famous shrine, The Alamo. The Alamo Plaza Historic District contains the Alamo chapel, a public plaza once part of the mission courtyard, and the surrounding commercial structures built mainly in the late 19th century and early 20th century. The boundaries basically include the buildings immediately surrounding Alamo Plaza bounded by south Broadway, east Commerce, Bonham and Travis, including a building one block to the east, the Crockett Hotel, and another building one block to the north, the Turn Verein.

Originally Alamo Plaza was part of the courtyard of the Mission San Antonio de Valero founded on this site in 1724. By 1761 the mission buildings consisted of the convent, chapel, granary and the Indian quarters. The chapel, begun in 1744, was destroyed by a storm a few years later. Although the building is dated 1758 the towered chapel was still under construction when poor design caused a partial collapse. It was never completed. Encompassing the north end of what is now part of the Alamo Plaza district, the mission buildings and courtyard were enclosed and the missionaries and Indians lived within its walls. Activities waned after 1765 and by 1793 the Spanish secularized the mission and divided the lands. Serving the military, rather than an ecclesiastical headquarters during the early 19th century, the abandoned mission quartered troops of the Spanish and Mexican Army, and finally the rebellious Texas forces in 1836. Following the Battle of the Alamo in the Texas War for Independence, the fortifications had been destroyed and most of the buildings were in ruins. For a while squatters took advantage of the unsettled conditions and moved onto the plaza and in the building ruins that surrounded it. An 1840 account of the plaza described a deserted area with only a few jacales on the west side, but by 1848 there was a long row of adobe, flat-roofed buildings running from what is now the Post Office (17) to H.L. Green Department store (9). After Texas was annexed to the United States, the government took over the grounds and used them for quartermaster purposes. The present facade of the Alamo chapel dates from the 1849 restoration.

The first large structure to be built in the plaza was the Maverick house, a two-story, rectangular structure with outbuildings constructed in 1850. The house was built at the north on the current site of the Gibbs Building (16). Little else fronted on the courtyard except old Indian huts and jacales until William A. Menger built his house and brewery in the mid-1850's at the southwest corner of the Plaza de Valero, present site of the Menger Hotel. When he built his hotel in 1859, a few more business houses were attracted to the area.

The present size of the open space in the midst of the plaza district is the result of action taken by the city in 1871. That year the Roman Catholic church sold to the city the old granary building at the southern boundary of the old courtyard, with the condition that the area around it be incorporated as part of the plaza. The city used the building for a police station and jail for a few months, and then demolished it to incorporate the old mission courtyard and the adjoining Plaza de Valero to form what is now called Alamo Plaza.

The plaza began as a barren area which, in rainy weather, resembled a quagmire. During the Civil War, the plaza was neglected, but as cattle became important, the square teemed with drovers, cowboys and animals. The first pavement around the square, laid
in 1888, consisted of mesquite blocks. A city order in 1887 had erected a public water closet and privy. Alderman A. F. Wulff, a native of Germany who came to San Antonio in 1850, was interested in horticulture. He advocated beautification of this and Main Plaza by landscaping parks in their centers. Thus, at the same time the city council called for building the four paved streets around the plaza in 1888, a garden was planted and 30 iron benches were placed around the square. William Reuter erected the first bandstand in the plaza in 1890 at his own expense. Removed to San Pedro Park in the early 20th century, the structure was replaced in later years by another bandstand. Improvements to the plaza proper are currently in progress. The entire square is being covered with paving blocks and the street in front of the Alamo has been closed and is being incorporated into the square. In addition, a new bandstand (21) has been constructed in the plaza.

The Alamo Plaza area is located in the center of downtown San Antonio and has always been an important focal point of the city. During the late 19th century leading business firms began establishing stores in the area and the majority of buildings within the historic district date from this period. With the changes over the years, such as elaborate cornices, balconies, and awnings, many Victorian buildings have lost their original design features. Windows have been boarded up, ground floors have been remodeled, and whole facades have been hidden. Despite the number of architectural changes to these surrounding commercial structures, the area has a great deal of design potential. In most cases, late 19th century Victorian commercial facades have simply been buried beneath mid-20th century plaster and can be restored to their original character. In addition, there is a uniformity in scale that has been maintained in the district. The west, south and east sides surrounding the plaza contain buildings of one to four stories in height, while the north end is dominated by the taller buildings. Although some later buildings, particularly the Wax Museum in the 100 block of north Alamo and H. L. Green's at 301 Alamo Plaza, detract from the quality of design of the historic buildings, they conform in scale and use to the district and maintain the streetscape. The only non-conforming intrusion located within the boundaries is a filling station at the northeast corner of the district adjacent to the Turn Verein building (19).

Some of the larger buildings in the district have had trouble renting office space in the last few years and two of the buildings in the 100 and 200 block of north Alamo are currently threatened with demolition. However, with the success of the nearby San Antonio river walk as an important commercial and entertainment area, the adjacent downtown is undergoing revitalization. A University of Texas at Austin architectural class did a thorough design project of the Alamo Plaza District and the city is in the process of considering many of their proposals. Preservationists hope that future efforts toward revitalization in this area will include restoration, rather than further destruction of the historic resources.

Beginning at the southwest corner of the district the following list is a more detailed description of the buildings included within the district.
1. Dullnig Building, 101-103 North Alamo.

The Dullnig Building is a three-story brick building built in 1883 in the Victorian-Italianate style for George Dullnig, a grocer and dry goods merchant. The Alamo Plaza facade has been completely covered with plaster and the first floor of the Commerce facade has been altered. The second and third floors on the Commerce (side) and Broadway (rear) faces have remained relatively intact displaying stilted arched windows with hood molds. The windows of the central bay have more ornately carved hood molds. The top ten feet of the building is covered with a false facade, where once a cornice crowned the structure.

2. Scholz Palm Garden, 105-109 North Alamo

A two-story, six-bay brick building built before 1891 by Adolph Scholz, the building once served as a bar and garden. The segmental arched openings and brick corbeled cornice are evident on the Broadway (rear) facade, but the main facade has been plastered.

3. Old Joske's Building, 111-115 North Alamo

The original Joske building is a two-story, six-bay brick building (commercial) designed in 1888 by James Wahrenberger. The main facade was plastered during the 20th century, but the original face remains intact beneath the false front.

4. Dreiss, Thompson and Company Building, 117 North Alamo

A two-story, three-bay Victorian commercial building, this structure was erected in 1872 for Adolph Dreiss's drug store. The main facade on Alamo plaza has been covered completely, but the Broadway elevation retains much of its original design. Although the first floor has been altered, the second floor contains three segmental arched windows separated by brick pilasters. A brick corbelled cornice is crowned by an arched parapet of pressed tin containing the company's name.

The two adjacent buildings at 119-121 North Alamo are compatible in scale but their facades have been altered.

5. Vance Building, 207-209 Alamo Plaza

The Vance building is a two-story brick building that was basically rebuilt following a fire in the 1920s or 1930s.
6. 211-215 North Alamo

These three, two-story brick commercial buildings were probably built in the late 19th century. They have been plastered over on the main facade.

7. Reuter Building, 217-219 North Alamo

The Reuter Building is a four-story rectangular building with an angled corner on the main facade, which contained the original entrance. The first (1891) two floors on both the Alamo and Crockett facades have been covered with a false front. The narrow facade facing Alamo street contains elaborate classical detail. The third floor windows are the most elaborate with a blind balustrade and a complete entablature above each. The windows on the fourth floor contain transoms. Divided into bays by pilasters, this east facade is crowned by a massive stone and metal cornice. Along the north (Crockett) facade the arches of the second floor windows are visible above the false front. The covered third and fourth floor windows have a flat lintel topped by a segmental arch.

8. Old Chamber of Commerce Building, Southeast corner Broadway and Crockett.

This building is a two-story brick early 20th century commercial building with decorative cast concrete vertical members separating the windows on the second floor. Erected in 1919-21, this structure was occupied by the Chamber of Commerce until 1925.

9. H. L. Green's Department Store, 301-305 Alamo Plaza

A two-story, nondescript limestone building, Green's was erected in the 1950's. This was formerly the site of the 1886 Grand Opera House, which was destroyed by fire after World War II. The lavish Opera House was a theatre which seated 1500 and an exclusive men's club, the San Antonio Club, kept rooms in the building.

10. 307 Alamo Plaza

A three-story masonry building, this vacant structure was probably built in the 1950's, replacing the Old Mexican Consulate.
11. 309-315 Alamo Plaza

A series of one-story buildings. Although the main facades are modern, the structures are possibly the same buildings which are visible in early photographs of the Plaza.

12. Crockett Block, 317-323 Alamo Plaza

Designed by Alfred Giles, this row of four limestone buildings were erected in 1882 for William and Albert Maverick. The three-story buildings are joined visually by a pressed tin cornice, but the facades of the two center buildings have been covered by a false front. Although they have been altered on the first floor, the two outside buildings retain their original arched openings on the second and third floors. Pilasters accentuate the corners of the original facades.

13. 327 Alamo Plaza

A three-story masonry early 20th century commercial building which replaced the Old Palace Theatre is located on this lot.

14. Woolworth's Department Store, 518 East Houston

Woolworth's is a three-story brick building erected in the 1920's to replace the old Maverick Bank Building. Divided into six wide bays on the Alamo Plaza facade the second and third floors utilize fenestration typical of the Commercial Style. Each unit contains a broad central light of plate glass, fixed, and narrow side lights with an opening sash. Each of these lights contain a transom. A frieze and slightly projecting cornice terminate the building. This early 20th century commercial building replaced an elaborate 1886 Victorian structure, designed by Alfred Giles. The bank was the first five-story building in the city and contained continuous balconies at the four levels.

15. Moore Building, Northeast corner of Houston and Broadway

The Moore building is a six-story brick building stuccoed and scored to look like stone. Constructed in 1904, the building is basically rectangular with an angled southwest corner to mark the main entrance. Scoring accentuates the angled corner as well as the two flanking bays at the second, third and fourth levels. On both the south (Houston) and west (Crockett) facades fenestration is organized in vertical bands between three-story pilasters that are linked by arches at the top. A small cornice elaborated by terra cotta swag and cartouche motifs marks the fifth floor, while a dentilled cornice emphasizes the
6th floor. Terra cotta details further embellish the divisions between the paired windows on the 5th and 6th floors. Crowning the structure is a projecting pressed tin cornice.

The building originally had a roof garden above the fifth floor with pavilions at four corners. An alley off Houston provided access to the elevator. In 1909, the addition of the sixth floor replaced the roof garden and expansion to the east closed the Houston Street entrance.

16. Gibbs Building, 521 East Houston

An eight-story brick building, the Gibbs buildings, was constructed in 1912. The first two stories are scored and are divided from the shaft of the building by a bracketed cornice at the third floor level. The third through the seventh floors contain little ornamentation, but the top floor is articulated by a string-course and elaborate sculptural detail between the windows. Terminating the building is a bracketed cornice with modillions and dentils.

The remainder of the buildings along Houston between Alamo Plaza and Broadway, as well as the buildings along Broadway behind the 300 block of Alamo Plaza, are not significant architecturally or historically, but they are compatible in scale and use.

17. Post Office and Federal Building, 615 East Houston

The Post Office is a four-story limestone Renaissance Revival building located in the prominent position at the north end of the Alamo Plaza. The building was designed by Ralph Cameron and built in 1937 by the Works Progress Administration. The ground floor is rusticated and contains the entrances, but the dominant feature of the main (south) facade is the classical colonnade in antis on the second and third floor. A cornice divides this level from the final story.

The Postal Service first moved to Alamo Plaza in 1877 on the northwest corner of the present Joske's block. In 1886, J. Riely Gordon supervised construction of a Romanesque Revival building at this location. The present building replaced the 1886 Post Office.

18. Old Medical Arts Building (Landmark Building), 705 East Houston

A 13-story, steel framed, triangular building designed by Ralph Cameron, the old Medical Arts Building was constructed in 1926. The building contains two wings which form a triangular shape and, rising above the angled corner entrance at Houston and Avenue E, is a three-story, hexagonal tower. The first two floors are faced with stone and contain widearched window spaces. The upper portion of the building is brick with terra cotta detailing. The Medical Arts Building
represents a commercial example of the Chateauesque style with its corner tower and steeply pitched mansard front at the top floor, surmounted by cresting and containing the wall dormers with high pinnacled gables. Elements of both the Gothic and Renaissance styles are evident in the detailing. Gothic features predominate in the pointed arched openings of the first two floors and in the upper two floors of the tower. Below the dormers, however, the twelfth floor contains a series of round arched windows. The building has recently been purchased and renamed the Landmark Building.

19. San Antonio Turn Verein

The Turn Verein is a two-story brick building constructed in 1891 and designed by James Wahrenberger. The building is made of Chicago pressed brick relieved by stringcourses, lintels and balustrades of Kerrville limestone. A three-part composition of a recessed bay and projecting ends defines the east (main) facade. Within the wide central bay a slightly projecting main entrance is off center and is defined by a rusticated stone arch. The remainder of the first floor openings have stilted arches with a keystone and rusticated voussoirs. On the second floor above the main entrance are polished granite pilasters that frame a window with a pedimented entablature and square transom. An identical window is contained in the southeast projecting pavilion. The remaining windows have round arched windows supported by small granite columns, and are surmounted with a corbel table. The rectangular building displays a two-story bay window on the south facade. A metal, hipped roof shelters the building.

The building was restored in 1972 by the U.S. Postal Service employees. The floor is of alternating oak and black walnut stripes. The staircase hall at the back of the building is illuminated through stained glass windows. Covering the staircase landing is a hardwood parquette floor laid in a bright pattern of contrasting colors. The ballroom on the second floor and the gymnasium in the basement have not been restored.

20. Cenotaph, North end of the Plaza

A memorial to the Alamo defenders stands in Alamo Plaza about 200 feet from the Alamo chapel. Dedicated in 1940 the design was conceived by Adams and Adams, architects and the sculptured figures were done by the internationally famed Pompeo Coppini. The sixty-foot monument has a white marble shaft atop a 40x12 foot granite base. On the east and west sides of the shaft are figures of the Alamo heroes, with James Bowie, James Bonham, William Barrett Travis, and Davy Crockett in full relief. On the north side is a female figure representing Texas. To the south is the Spirit of Sacrifice. The names of the Alamo heroes and two memorial sentences are inscribed on the base. The Cenotaph was commissioned by the state of Texas as a Texas Centennial project.
21. Bandstand, South end of the Plaza

A recently constructed bandstand by the city which replaces the original bandstand built in the plaza by Wm. Reuter in 1890. The city is also currently covering the entire plaza with paving blocks.

22. The Alamo

This block contains the Alamo chapel building which has been restored and houses a museum. Several other buildings were erected in 1936 and a part of the old wall was reconstructed. The remainder of the block is covered by formally landscaped gardens and reveals part of the old acequia system. (see National Register submission, The Alamo, Bexar County, a NHL).

23. Lady Bird Johnson Fountain

This fountain honoring Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson was dedicated in 1974.

24. Crockett Hotel, 201 East Crockett

The Crockett Hotel was originally a six-story brick building, but a remodeling in 1927 added the seventh-story. A cornice with wide modillioned eaves surmounts the original six floors. Built in 1909 the hotel was designed by Padgett. The west facade is broken into two planes following the configuration of the block and the corner entrance at Bonham and Crockett is rounded.

25. Menger Hotel, 204 Alamo Plaza

Built in 1857 the Menger was originally a two-story limestone building designed by John Fries. Located at the southwest corner of the block the building later expanded to a three-story building at this corner. Alfred Giles is responsible for this later design. The west facade of the original building is now a three-story, three-bay structure. The slightly projecting central bay is crowned by a pedimented parapet. The first floor contains a central door flanked by two windows, while the second and third floors each contain three round arched openings. The end bays contain two flat arched windows on each floor and these pavilions are capped by a bracketed cornice. Iron balconies extend at the second and third floor levels. Additions to the north and east have been made several times in the 19th and 20th centuries and the hotel now fills the entire block.

A lavish three-story space in the Menger lobby, illuminated by a stained glass, leaded skylight, dominates the old part of the hotel. The solid block of hotel buildings is broken in the center by an interior courtyard of walkways through dense tropical foliage.
26. Joske's Department Store, Commerce at Alamo

Encompassing almost the entire south block of the plaza is Joske's Department Store, a four-story, U-shaped concrete structure with a stylized parapet. The present structure incorporates the 1888 brick building, designed by Alfred Giles, that stood at the southeast corner of the block. Joske's shared the north side of the block with the old 1877 Post Office, but in the 1950's Joske's expanded and remodeled, building on the entire block, except for the property of St. Joseph's Church.

27. St. Joseph's Church and Rectory, 623 East Commerce

Designed by G. Friesleben and Theodore Giraud, St. Joseph's Church was erected between 1868 and 1876. The limestone structure is a Gothic Revival, basilican plan church, dominated by a central entrance tower with a slate and copper roof. The third pastor of the church, Father Henry Pefferkorn, painted the Stations of the Cross which hang at the sides of the church and the Assumption of Mary and Ascension of Christ that hang at the front. He also designed the first altar and choir loft, replaced the canvas windows with glass, and installed a pipe organ. In 1898, Jacob Wagner built a spire designed by James Wahrenberger.

Adjoining the church is the limestone rectory, a two-story rectangular structure with a roof of intersecting pitches. Pedimented gables mark the center of the east facade and terminate the roof pitch on the south and north facades. The building is further embellished by quoinis, dentils, segmental arches over the openings, and by the second floor balcony on the east facade.
**SIGNIFICANCE**

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**SPECIFIC DATES**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The building and spaces that compose the Alamo Plaza Historic District chronicle the role this area played in the development of the city of San Antonio. From mission courtyard, to battlefield, to neglected residential area, to transportation center, and finally to commercial area, the district reveals a diverse history. In addition, the area serves as the setting for the famous monument to Texas independence—the Alamo.

In 1718 Franciscan missionaries combined two older Spanish missions, San Antonio de Padua and San Francisco Solano to create the new Mission San Antonio de Valero on a site believed to have been on the bank of the San Pedro Creek in present day San Antonio. After a hurricane destroyed the buildings on the old site in 1724, the Franciscans relocated at the site now called Alamo-Plaza. However, the Spanish abandoned the idea of colonizing the area with a series of missions and presidios and in 1793 the mission was partially secularized.

In the early 19th century the function of the old mission compound changed from religious activities to military. Beginning in 1803 a company of Spanish soldiers from Alamo del Parras, Coahuila, Mexico, occupied the abandoned mission, using its buildings as barracks. The name "Alamo" given to the old mission complex probably originated from this association. According to some historians, the name was derived from a grove of cottonwood trees growing on the banks of the acequia, "alamo" being the Spanish word for cottonwood. In 1813 Alamo Plaza became an arena in the fight for Mexican Independence from Spain. During the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition of 1812-13, a filibustering expedition against Spanish Texas, the Republican Army took San Antonio in March of 1813 and made the Alamo their headquarters. However, when the Royalist Army recaptured the city in August, the victorious army used the mission's square as a prison pen for those in the city who had aided the Republicans. Over 800 prisoners were executed and the savage butchery was thereafter known as la noche triste.

No official use was made of the building and plaza from the late 1820's until 1835 when the sites figured prominently in events of the Texas Revolution. Mexican General Martin Perfecto de Cos, sent to San Antonio by dictator General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to crush the rebellious Texans, converted the mission compound into a fortress in late 1835. However, in the Siege of Bexar, December 5-9, 1835, Texas soldiers defeated the Mexican troops and forced the surrender of Cos. An infuriated Santa Anna, led his army of almost 5000 men against the Texas forces at San Antonio in February 1835 and after a 13-day siege finally massacred the 187 men defending the Alamo on March 6, 1836. The restored chapel has since served as a tangible reminder of the men who fought in the Texas war for Independence, which finally culminated with the Texas victory at San Jacinto on April 21, 1836. The reconstructed buildings now function as museums containing many of the relics uncovered on the Alamo grounds.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY  _approved_ 30 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
Beginning at the southwest corner of the Alamo Plaza Historic District the boundary extends north along south Broadway across Houston street to include the buildings on the north side of Houston. The northern boundary follows the alley behind the 500 block of east Houston for a block, travel north along Alamo Plaza to Travis street, continues east and southeast along Travis street for a block and a half and then turns northeast to an alley to include the Turn Verein Building (19) at 411 Bonham. The

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

FORM PREPARED BY
NAME/TITLE  Joe R. William, Project Director
Marie D. Landon, Historian
ORGANIZATION  Texas Historical Commission
DATE  December 10, 1976
STREET & NUMBER  P. O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
TELEPHONE  512-475-3094
CITY OR TOWN  Austin,
STATE  Texas 78711

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL  XX  STATE  XX  LOCAL  XX

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  [Title]
DATE  December 13, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:  [Signature]
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  [Signature]
Following the Texas War for Independence the mission ruins and courtyard were seemingly abandoned by both the church and the city. New settlers took advantage of the unused buildings for shelter and a few jakes and adobe houses sprung up in this area in the 1840's. Badly neglected, however, the plaza was primarily a rundown residential area located some distance from the center of town.

After the U.S. annexed Texas in 1845 the government took over the remains of the Alamo structures. With only the walls of the chapel remaining, the U.S. Army rebuilt the parapet. The present facade actually dates from the 1840 reconstruction. The federal government used the buildings and grounds for quartermaster purposes from 1848 until the Civil War and again after the War until 1876. Under an act of April 23, 1883, Texas purchased from the Roman Catholic church the Alamo church property and placed the Alamo in the custody of the city of San Antonio. This arrangement continued until January 25, 1905, when the Texas Legislature passed a resolution ordering the governor to purchase that part of the old Alamo fortress occupied by a business concern. It was further ordered that the governor should deliver the property thus acquired, with the property then owned by the state (the chapel of the Alamo), to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

The 1850's brought new life to the square with the erection of the Samuel Maverick House in 1850 and the Menger Hotel in 1858. Samuel Maverick, one of the Alamo defenders who escaped death because he was elected to attend the Convention of 1836 which drafted the Texas Declaration of Independence, was obsessed with the desire to live by the Alamo. He built the first large house on the plaza, a stone dwelling on the present site of the Gibbs building (16). Maverick's home at the corner of the Alamo grounds was the first encouragement of development in the area. Across Houston street from his homestead, Maverick owned a lumber yard, and in 1886 he constructed a commercial building on this site. The first five-story building in San Antonio, the Maverick Bank building was designed by Alfred Giles and housed a bank on the first floor and rented offices on the upper floors. This building was replaced in the 1920's by the Woolworth Department store (14).

The next substantial permanent structure erected on the plaza was the Menger Hotel (25). William A. Menger opened a brewery north of Blum street on the plaza in 1855. The brewery was the only one in this part of the southwest and was one of the first manufacturing enterprises in the city. Menger also opened a cooperage works for the manufacture of barrels for his beer. Menger's wife ran a boarding house and because of the popularity of the business, Menger chose to replace it with a two-story stone hotel erected at the corner of Blum and Alamo Plaza. With its opening in January 1859, the Menger Hotel brought elegance to the Plaza for the first time and within a year an addition had to be made to the building. The hotel again expanded in 1875, incorporating the first Turn Verein building, constructed by San Antonio Germans to the north of the Menger. The hotel has seen a number of additions in the 19th and 20th century.
for its excellent meals and beautiful patio garden, the Menger was San Antonio's most prominent hotel in the 19th century. With its location at the stage and later street rail terminus and across the plaza from the 1886 Grand Opera House, the hotel housed many famous visitors. In 1898 Theodore Roosevelt recruited volunteers here for his "Rough Riders" to fight in the Spanish-American war. In the 1930's the building was allowed to deteriorate and prospective buyers took an option with plans to destroy the hotel in the 1940's. However, due to immense public support from people in San Antonio and around Texas, the option was not taken and in 1943 W. L. Moody, Jr. of Galveston bought and restored the hotel.

Alamo Plaza underwent the transition from basically a residential area to a transportation center in the 1850's. The major stagecoach lines maintained their terminals on the plaza and later the first street railway system in the city operated between the square and San Pedro Springs. After the railroad began to predominate travel in the late 1870's and 1880's, the stage lines disappeared and commercial businesses began to replace transportation as the most important activity of the Alamo Plaza district. But the businesses were slow to come to the area. Prior to 1870 most of the business firms and stores clustered around Main and Military Plaza. However, to serve the residents and military personnel living around the Alamo, the city built a market house in the Plaza de Valero (joined with the Alamo Plaza in 1871). Other businesses in the area in the late 1860's were the lumber yards, livery stables, and a dry goods and grocery store. Even with the increase in commercial activity in the 1870's, many of the firms dealt in transportation and transportation services.

The plaza gained added significance when the San Antonio Post Office moved to the Plaza on December 22, 1877. The postal service occupied the first floor of the Gallagher Building, which had just been built at the south end of the Plaza where Joske's now stands. The location of the Post Office brought more people to the area and served as an incentive for more businesses to locate there.

The same year that the Post Office came to the plaza, Honore Grenet bought the site of the old convent foundations immediately north of the Alamo chapel and built a two-story frame building with double galleries around two sides and crennelated turrets at the corners. The first floor housed Grenet's wholesale grocery business, long the largest grocery in the southwest, while the second floor contained the Alamo museum of Gustav Toudouze. Grenet's clerks often gave tours of Toudouze's museum and the Alamo ruins. In 1886 Grenet's heirs sold the building to the Hugo and Schmeltzer Co. When the company went out of business and the city condemned the building in 1903, a controversy developed because a syndicate had formed to buy the site and additional land to the east to erect a hotel. In order to save the famous site as a monument to Texas history, rather than the site of a resort hotel, Clara Driscoll (see National Register submission, "Laguna Gloria", 12-6-75) bought an option on the property until the title was eventually acquired by the State in 1905. The State gave control and custody of the area to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.
The plaza also developed as a center of social and cultural events in the late 19th century. The location of the prominent Menger Hotel influenced several social clubs to find meeting space in the vicinity. The San Antonio Turn Verein, a German athletic and social organization, erected their club right next to the hotel in 1872 and eventually built a larger structure (19) north of the Alamo Plaza on Bonham in 1891. Another organization, the San Antonio Club, moved into rooms on the second floor of the Gallagher Building in 1882. Built in 1886 the Grand Opera House, located at the present site of H. L. Green's (9), brought additional splendor to the plaza. The opening of the opera house brought many road shows to the city and leading figures of the stage performed in this theater. The San Antonio Club relocated their exclusive men's club into this building. The building was demolished in the 1950's after it was largely destroyed by fire.

The largest concentration of building within the district dates from the late 19th century. Listed below are some additional buildings that are historically significant.

The Dullnig Building (1)

Built in 1883 for a grocer and dry goods merchant, George Dullnig, this building was the first steam-heated structure in San Antonio and contained one of the first elevators. Dullnig erected a 100-foot iron water tower five hundred feet behind his property on the river. Convinced the steam pump supplying heat and energy to his building did not have to be on the premises, Dullnig placed the machinery near his water tower and piped the steam five hundred feet to his store. The steam heated the structure, operated one of the first elevators in San Antonio and supplied the hydraulic pressure for the Dullnig coffee-roasting plant on Loyosa street (now south Broadway).

Dullnig, a native Austrian who immigrated to Texas with his parents in 1853 when he was seven, had established a successful retail shoe business at the age of 18 and eventually expanded into groceries. His business occupied the first and second floors by 1907, displacing an earlier dental office. Also, Schafer and Downey ran the Alamo City Business College on the third floor for many years.

Scholz Palm Garden (2)

Sometime before 1891, Scholz's Palm Garden, a two-story glass-enclosed building with a bar in front and a garden full of palms, banana plants and ferns behind, was erected adjacent to the Dullnig Building. The restaurant run by Adolph Scholz featured German bands which gave concerts four nights a week.

Dreiss, Thompson and Co. Building (4)

In 1872, Adolph Dreiss bought a lot on Alamo Plaza and erected a three-story building to house a retail drug establishment he had operated since 1867. Dreiss had entered the business as a clerk in a drug store owned by Dr. R. A. Dryden and had later run a
store at the southwest corner of Alamo and Commerce before building his own store. Dreiss took his father, Albert, and Edward, into the business which sold such specialties as the "Elixir of Life" and "Dead Shot for Screw Worms." In 1888, Albert Dreiss entered a partnership with Galveston druggists Thompson and Ohmstede, forming a wholesale drug division and creating the firm Dreiss, Thompson, and Company. The remodeled Dreiss building included an elaborate rear facade, which is still visible, but the main facade has been plastered.

Building at 215 North Alamo (6)

Before 1891, Franc I. Meyer built a wholesale and retail liquor store on the west side of the Plaza just south of the Reuter property. His wine cellars had a storage capacity for 100,000 gallons—the largest and finest in Texas at the time. Meyer eventually moved to a larger structure on North street. He was the largest importer of Rhine wines in San Antonio, and the principal dealer in California products. At an early San Antonio International Exposition, his wine display won first premium.

Reuter Building (7)

Built in 1891 for William Reuter's saloon, "Billy's Bar," the Reuter Building was considered one of the finest buildings in San Antonio. The former dance hall of the Knights of Pythias remains on the fourth floor. Reuter built the first bandstand on Alamo Plaza at his own expense in 1890.

Crockett Block (12)

The architect Alfred Giles designed the Crockett Block, now four commercial establishments, for brothers William and Albert Maverick. Construction of the building began in 1882 on property deeded through a priest to a carpenter who sold the land to Samuel Maverick, father of William and Albert. The structure was described as "one of the most beautiful and conspicuous of San Antonio's well-proportioned business houses." The Crockett Block has always been occupied by commercial establishments. Of particular note was the cigar store of Rafael Diaz. A Cuban exiled for political reasons from his home in Havana, Diaz established his business in 1868. He produced "La Flor de Diaz," for many years the most popular cigar sold in San Antonio. After 32 years of exile, Diaz continued to contribute his wealth to finance the revolution in Cuba.

U.S. Post Office and Federal Building (17)

The United States Postal Service has operated in San Antonio from Alamo Plaza since 1877 when the post office located in the building recently erected by Peter Gallagher at the northwest corner of the present Joske's block. In 1886 J. Riely Gordon designed a new building for the north side of the plaza. The present building replaced the Gordon design in 1937. Designed by Cameron, the building was built by the Works Progress Administration program. It is designed around a central courtyard in a Classical Revival style.
Turn Verein (19)

The Postal Service now also occupies the old Turn Verein. Designed by James Wahrenberger, the two-story brick building was erected in 1891 as a gymnasium and social center for the San Antonio Turn Verein. The lower floor was once occupied by cafe and cloak, reading, assembly and billiard rooms. The second floor contained the ballroom. The San Antonio Turn Verein sponsored the first Turnfest--or gymnastics competition--in Texas in 1873. The organization originated with Ludwig Jahn in Germany, who hoped to increase the physical and mental strength of his people to enable them to defeat Napoleon. The San Antonio organization was a social and gymnastics club for the early German settlers and their descendants.

Joske's Department Store (26)

Joske's came to the plaza in 1873 with Julius Joske's dry goods establishment. A building on the west side of the plaza (3), designed by James Wahrenberger in 1888, was outgrown in ten months and the Joske brothers, Albert and Alexander, commissioned Alfred Giles to design a new structure for the northeast corner of Alamo and Commerce. The three-story red brick building replaced Ed Steve's lumber yard, founded in 1866 and the best-known establishment in San Antonio by 1871. Until the 1950's Joske's shared its block with the Gallagher Building, constructed by Peter Gallagher for the Post Office in 1877. In the 1950s Joskes expanded and remodeled, building on the entire block except the site of St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

St. Joseph's Church and Rectory (27)

San Antonio's German Catholics built this church in 1868 after they were refused the use of the Alamo Chapel by the Army who maintained the building for supply storage. Delayed by a hurricane that devasted San Antonio, St. Joseph's was finally dedicated and opened for worship in 1871. For 30 years the church stood without a steeple, until one was erected in 1898 to complete the design.

Still functioning as a church for German-Americans at the advent of World War I, St. Joseph's caught the brunt of anti-German feeling which spread across the nation. During this period many parishioners feared for their safety and began attending Mass in other parts of the city. As the German-Americans withdrew to other Catholic churches around the city, non-German names began to appear on church rolls, including those of many Mexican-American families. In 1945, when German had fallen into disuse as the language of St. Joseph's and the church rolls had declined to only a few German families, the parish was changed from its historic role as the national church for German-speaking San Antonians to a conventional territorial parish. It was in this year, however, that the parishioners took a decisive stand against selling out to their powerful neighbor, Joske's. The department store, from small beginnings, had already bought St. Joseph's Academy and other church property for its expansion, and now it dominated the block with several separate buildings. Joske Brothers offered to purchase the church and
rectory, but the offer was refused. Today, the historic old church across from HemisFair Plaza attracts many tourists and conventioneers, along with its mixed congregation of Blacks, Anglos, and Mexican-Americans.
Stumpf, Ella D., *San Antonio's Menger*, 1953

boundary continues southeast along the alley beside the Turn Verein building to Bonham street, follows Bonham street southwest, jogging east to include the Crockett Hotel (24) at 301 East Crockett, extending east and south around the property line of the Crockett Hotel, the boundary then continues south to Commerce street. At the south the district line continues along Commerce from Bonham to South Broadway.
From the information provided, this appears to be acceptable. However, I'm reluctant to accept without seeing all of it. But if everyone agrees...

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept with limited info of acceptable in everyone else

ARCHAEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

ACCEPT

REVIEW

5.12.77

KEEPER

5.12.77

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered

Federal Register Entry

Re-submit

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  WASO NO. 7
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Unknown, c. 1870
Reproduction negative, TX Hist. Comm.

West elevation of the Alamo (22).
The Alamo about 1870, serving as an
Army quartermaster depot.
Photo #1724

JUL 13 1977
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Unknown, c. 1880

Southwest oblique of the Alamo chapel (22) flanked by Hugo & Schmeltzer's wholesale grocery "castle." Structure in the foreground, located in the center of Alamo Plaza, is possibly a stage stand.

Photo #2924

DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Unknown, 1887

Southeast oblique of the west side of Alamo Plaza. The Grand Opera House(9) and old Mexican Consulate(10) are located in the center of the picture.

Photo #3824

DEC 7 1976

JUL 13 1977
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Unknown, 1887

Northwest oblique of Alamo Plaza showing the Menger Hotel (25) to the east and the old 1877 Post Office to the south. St. Joseph's Church (27) can be seen in the background.

Photo #458 24 DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Texas Historical Commission, 1971
Texas Historical Commission

Southwest oblique of the Dullnig
Building (1), 101-103 N. Alamo
Photo #5624

DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Stanley Klein, November 1976
Texas Historical Commission DEC 17 1976

Southwest oblique of the 100 and 200 block of N. Alamo (rear facades). The Dullnig Building (1) is in the foreground. Adjacent to this are the old Scholz Palm Garden (2), the old Joskes Building (3), and the Dreiss, Thompson and Co. Building (4).

Photo #68 24 JUL 13 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Stanley Klein, Nov. 1976
Texas Historical Commission

Northwest oblique of the Dreiss,
Thompson and Co. Building (4).
Photo #7 of 24

JUL 13 1977

DEC 17 1976
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Stanley Klein, Nov. 1976
Texas Historical Commission

Southeast oblique of the 100 and 200 block of N. Alamo (1-74), front facades. The Dullnig Building (1) is in the foreground, while the Reuter Bldg (7) terminates the block.

Photo #8

JUL 13 1977   DEC 17 1976
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Texas Historical Commission, 1971
Texas Historical Commission

Northeast oblique of the Reuter Building (7).
Photo #9

DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Stanley Klein, Nov. 1976
Texas Historical Commission

Southeast oblique of the 300 block
of Alamo Plaza, west side (9-12).
Photo #10

JUL 13 1977

DEC 17 1976
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Stanley Klein, Nov. 1976
Texas Historical Commission

Southeast oblique of the Crockett Block (12).
Photo #11

JUL 13 1977

DEC 17 1976
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Stanley Klein, Nov. 1976
Texas Historical Commission

Northeast oblique of the 300 block
of Alamo Plaza from the corner of
Houston and Alamo Plaza. The Woolworth
Building (14) is in the foreground.

Photo #12

DEC 17 1976
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Stanley Klein, Nov. 1976
Texas Historical Commission

Southwest oblique of the Moore
Building (15).
Photo #13

DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977
Title: PLAZA HISTORIC DISTRICT
BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

Property of the National Register

JUL 13 1977
Title: Alamo Plaza Historic District
Bexar County, Texas
14 of 24

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Stanley Klein, Nov. 1976
Texas Historical Commission

Southwest oblique of the Post
Office and Federal Building (17).
Photo #14/24

JUL 13 1977   DECEMBER 17, 1976

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

THC, 1971
Texas Historical Commission

Southwest oblique of the Medical
Arts Building (Landmark Bldg) (18).
Photo #15

DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

THC, 1971
Texas Historical Commission

Southeast elevation of the Turn Verein (19).
Photo #16

JUL 13 1977

DEC 17 1976
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Stanley Klein, Nov. 1976
Texas Historical Commission

Northwest oblique of the bandstand (21)
in Alamo Plaza. The Menger Hotel (25)
can be seen through the bandstand in
the background.
Photo #17

DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

THC, 1971
Texas Historical Commission

West elevation of the Alamo chapel (22).

Photo #184724

DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Stanley Klein, Nov. 1976
Texas Historical Commission

Southwest oblique of the west facade of the Crockett Hotel (24). The Lady Bird Johnson Fountain (23) in the foreground.

Photo #1976-24  DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

THC, 1971
Texas Historical Commission

Southwest oblique of the old part
of the Menger Hotel (25).
Photo #2024

JUL 13 1977

DEC 17 1976

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

THC, 1971
Texas Historical Commission'

West elevation of the new part of
the Menger Hotel (25).
Photo #21724

DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Jim Bonar, November 1974
Texas Historical Commission

Menger Hotel. Interior detail of the open three-story lobby from the third floor.
Photo #228824
DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Jim Bonar, November 1974
Texas Historical Commission

Menger Hotel. Detail of skylight over the open three-story lobby.
Photo #23

DEC 17 1976

JUL 13 1977
Alamo Plaza Historic District
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

THC, 1971
Texas Historical Commission

Southeast oblique of St. Joseph's Church and Rectory (27). Joske's Department Store (26) surrounds the church buildings.

Photo #24
Buildings that contribute to the district.
Buildings that are compatible with the district.
Nonconforming intrusions.
Boundary line of district.
1. **Dullnig Building**—built in 1863 in the Victorian-Italianate style for George Dullnig, a grocer and dry goods merchant. Facade completely covered over at Alamo Plaza side. Second and third floor facades are relatively intact. Windows at center portion have more ornate carved stone cornices over them than do those at the ends. Shape and size of windows are consistent. Capitals of Corinthian pilasters are visible above the removed facade at windows are rectangular with eased corners. Stone trim at top. Top ten feet of building covered with false facade. Pilasters disappear into covered-over portion and the cornice is completely removed. This was the first steam-heated building in San Antonio and contained one of the first elevators. Dullnig placed his steam pump five hundred feet from the building with no assurance that steam could be piped such a distance. He is credited with the discovery of the first oil well in Texas.

2. **Scholz Palm Garden**—erected before 1891. It was originally a two-story glass-enclosed building with bar and garden run by Adolph Scholz. The restaurant featured four concerts by a German band each week.

3. **Dreiss, Thompson and Co. Building**—erected in 1872 for Adolph Dreiss's drug store. Dreiss built this three-story and a one-story to the south to house a wholesale division. In 1877, the one-story was razed. Its three-story replacement and the old drug store were remodeled to bring 18,000 square feet of floor space under one roof. The facade on Alamo Plaza is now covered completely. The Broadway facade on the original three-story structure is elaborate. Dreiss eventually took his father, brother, and Galveston druggists Thompson and Ohmstede into the business. His son, Hermann, continued in the firm well into this century.

4. **Vance Building**—rebuilt following a fire in the 1920s or 1930s. The structure has been altered several times. There has been a substantial permanent structure on the site since the Civil War. William and James Vance maintained their grocery business at this location during that war. The present three-story building has ten window bays across the back and is divided between two businesses.

5. **Reuter Building**—erected in 1891 for William Reuter's saloon, "Billy's Bar," considered the finest in San Antonio. It was built in the Victorian-Empire style. Slate-sawed roof at attic. First two floors are covered. Top floors original. Stone cornice over windows at second floor barely visible above false front. Third floor windows 1/1 with blind classical balustrade and rounded cornice (pediment) over each. Pilasters four stories high, broken, and rusticated occasionally. Corinthian capitals. Fourth floor windows 1/1 with fixed glass panels above. Combination of stone and metal cornice. Pediment at center of building and small implied stone tower extending through attic level. The former dance hall of the Knights of Pythias remains on the fourth floor.
Reuter built the first bandstand on Alamo Plaza at his own expense in 1890.

6. H. L. Green's Department Store--from the 1950s. This was formerly site of the Grand Opera House built in 1886, called the finest west of the Mississippi. The San Antonio Club, an exclusive men's club, kept rooms in the building. The theater seated 1500 and contained a stage of record in the Southwest. Thirty-six chandeliers provided house lights, but the theater's greatest treasure was the curtain drop. It was actually a lavish painting, showing Gerald's "Beauty and Booty in a Moorish Court," given a curtain-like effect by a drapery border. The Opera House was destroyed by fire after World War II at which time the present structure was built on the site.

7. Crockett Block--erected 1882; designed by Alfred Giles in the Victorian-Italianate style for William and Albert Maverick for use in commercial endeavors. Facade at upper two floors is visible at two end firms but covered up at two center firms. Facade probably intact behind false fronts. All facades at the main floor are altered. Cast iron columns occasionally visible at first floors. Corinthian capitals are visible. Second floor has simple stone pilasters. Window heads are half an octagon in shape. Small cornice separates second from third floor. Stone keystone visible at arches. Handsome, classical cornice is at least partially metal. It is possible that a good part of the facade is of metal. William and Albert were sons of Sam Maverick who built his homestead on the plaza in 1850. A merchant once located in the Crockett Block, Rafael Diaz, was a Cuban exiled in 1868 for political reasons. He manufactured the most popular cigar in San Antonio and returned his profits to Cuba to finance the revolutions of his homeland for 32 years.

8. Woolworth's--built early 1920s. Previously the location of the Maverick Bank Building. Erected in 1886, this was the first five-story in the city. It was designed by Alfred Giles in a French style with continuous balconies at second, third, and fourth floors. After a 1912 remodeling that removed the balconies, the name was changed to the Swearingen-McCraw building. The first Sommers Drug Store was opened here.

9. Gibbs--erected 1912; 8 stories. The Gibbs Building replaced a one-story adobe drug store for which sixteen brass cannon from the Alamo battle had been used as cornerstones. The Maverick homestead was once on this site.

10. Moore Building--built in 1901 in the Victorian-Empire style. Brick is handled as stone and general expression of detailing is that of stone. Main floor facade completely removed. Upper floor facades are intact. Three floor order of full round arches at second through fourth floors is notable. Windows are 1/1 and of wood. Building has brick corbelled trim and some terra cotta trim. Terra cotta cornice with swage at fifth floor and more restrained terra cotta cornice at sixth floor. Fifth floor windows are paired with intricately modeled terra cotta panels between. Sixth floor windows are also paired but terra cotta panels between are even more intricately modeled. Very fine metal or cast stone cornice at roof.

The building originally had a roof garden above the fifth floor with pavilions at four corners. An alley off Houston provided access to the elevator. Main entrance was on Broadway. In 1909, the addition of the sixth floor replaced the roof garden and expansion to the east closed the Houston Street entrance.

11. Post Office and Federal Building--erected 1937 by the Works Progress Administration; designed by Ralph Cameron in the Renaissance Revival style. The Postal Service moved to Alamo Plaza in 1877 when Peter Gallagher erected a building for them on the northwest corner of the Joske's block. In 1885, J. Rieley Gordon supervised construction of a new building for the north side of the po
November 12, 1976

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the Register
National Register of Historic Places
Dept. of the Interior
National Park Service
18th & C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

The Alamo Plaza Historic District in San Antonio was approved on August 3, 1976, for nomination to the National Register. Enclosed are copies of research material for use in the nomination of this District.

Also enclosed are photographs of the Dullnig Building at 101-103 North Alamo and the Reuter Building at 217-219 Alamo Plaza, described in the research material, which are the immediate concern.

Notification of the proposed Historic District appeared in the July 22, 1976, San Antonio newspaper (see attached). Please consider this the preliminary submittal on the Alamo Plaza Historic District nomination.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures

cc: Mrs. Nancy Negley
President, San Antonio Conservation Society
107 King William St.
San Antonio, TX 78204
11. **Post Office and Federal Building**—erected 1937 by the Works Progress Administration; designed by Ralph Cameron in the Renaissance Revival style. The Postal Service moved to Alamo Plaza in 1877 when Peter Gallagher erected a building for them on the northwest corner of the Joske's block. In 1886, J. Healy Gordon supervised construction of a new building for the north side of the plaza. He added a frieze representing San Antonio's past to the modified Moorish government design. The 1886 building was replaced by the present structure.

12. **Landmark Building (Medical Arts)**—built in 1926, was designed by Ralph Cameron in the Neo-Gothic Revival style. Because of the triangular site and configuration of the building it has, from some angles, a two-dimensional quality. Features stone wainscot at first floor. First three floors are highly ornamented in terra cotta with highly intricate pointed arches and tracery. First floor is original with mostly large fixed glass show windows. Fine suspended metal street canopies are over street entrances. Large pointed arches at top of second floor define order for first two floors. Third floor is evenly spaced 1/1 windows with intricate terra cotta ornament and tracery. Above third floor, between fourth and tenth floor, windows are 1/1 and building is un-ornamented. Windows grouped in fours, defining bays. Tower is defined at street corner of building. Top two floors are highly ornamented with terra cotta tracery. Top floor has closely-spaced row of dormers set on a mansard roof. Dormers with pointed arches are highly ornamented. Tower rises two floors above roof with pointed arches, blind windows, flying buttresses. The building recently has been purchased and renamed. Exterior is undergoing restoration; interior adaptation for reuse.

13. **Turner Hall (Turn Verein)**—erected 1891; designed by James Wahrenberger in the Renaissance architectural style. The front is of Chicago pressed brick relieved by horizontal courses of Kerrville limestone. There are also limestone lintels and balustrades. Over the front entrance are two gigantic columns of polished granite, surmounted by carved Corinthian caps, which support an immense stone cornice. Similar columns support the arches of the other windows. Corinthian caps at the extreme top. A course of carved stone pillars runs over the cornice. Sides longer than the front; walls of cream colored Calaveras brick. The structure is surmounted by a French mansard roof.

The building was constructed as a social and gymnastics club for the San Antonio Turn Verein, which sponsored the first Turnfest, or gymnastics competition, in Texas in 1873. The building was restored in 1972 by U.S. Postal Service employees. The floor is of alternating oak and black walnut stripes. The staircase hall at the back of the building is illuminated through stained glass windows. There are four wood in the richly carved newel post. The landing is covered with a hardwood parquet floor laid in a bright pattern of contrasting colors; There is a ballroom on the second floor and a gymnasium in the basement which have not been reconstructed.

14. **Crockett Hotel**—erected 1909; designed by Fadgett. The hotel is owned by the Oddfellows' Lodge, a service organization chartered in San Antonio in 1849. The lodge occupies the fifth floor, where they have kept the Grand Lodge Museum of Texas since 1961. Henry P. Pheltz designed additions in 1927 that left the building with seven stories. There were originally six floors in the main wing and three to the west.
15. Menger Hotel--built in the Victorian-Italianate style; a two-story limestone structure with classic facade designed by John Fries. This portion of the present hotel is at the southwest corner. Third floor added later in accord with whole. Glazed, iron canopy across main floor supported on iron columns. This forms balcony for second floor and has iron railing. Center portion of building projects a few feet in front of side portions. Handsome, but indeterminate-style pediment at center portion of roof. Windows are 1/1 and extend to floor to provide access to balconies. Additions toward the north have been made several times. Hotel now fills the block on southeast side of Alamo Plaza.

William Menger had opened a brewery on the plaza in 1855; his wife ran a boarding house. In 1887, the Menger taproom was remodeled to resemble the House of Lords Club in London. The hotel has been expanded four times, displacing the stable, transfer and undertaking business of Carter and Mullally, the largest in San Antonio, and incorporating the first Turner Halle building. Improvements designed by Alfred Giles in 1909 sacrificed the Fries facade. The hotel has played a key role in San Antonio's history with ties to many famous people.

16. Joskes--The department store has expanded until it fills the entire south block of the plaza. Earlier buildings have been incorporated into the present structure, although some portions on southeast side remain behind facade. Julius Joske located his dry goods business on Alamo Plaza in 1873. In 1888, James Vahrenberger designed a building for Albert and Alexander on the west side of the plaza. Ten months later, Alfred Giles designed a three-story brick building modeled on the New Scotland Yard, which famed Victorian architect R. Norman Shaw had recently designed, at the southwest corner of the block. In the 1950s, Joskes expanded and now surrounds St. Joseph's church completely.

17. St. Joseph's Church--erected 1869; designed by G. Friesleben and Theodore Giraud; contractor John H. Kampmann; Gothic Revival. Superb limestone work. Superb stone, copper and slate spire. This church was built for the German Catholics of San Antonio. Improvements continue to the present day. The third pastor of the church, Father Henry Pefferkorn, painted the Stations of the Cross which hang at the sides of the church and the Assumption of Mary and Ascension of Christ at the front. He also designed the first altar and choir loft, replaced the canvas windows with glass, and installed a pipe organ. Four bells with matched tones were installed in 1891. In 1898, Jacob Wimer built a spire designed by James Wahrenberger, while Father William A. Fuhrwerk was pastor. The stained glass windows in the side walls were imported from the Emil Frei Art Glass Factory in Munich. Each was designed by a renowned European artist. The church renovated by Orlene and Company of Cincinnati in 1915. Adjoining limestone rectory is typical of vernacular houses of latter part of nineteenth century built by San Antonio's German settlers.

18. Cenotaph (Empty Tomb)--dedicated 1940; structural design by Adams and Adams, architects; sculptured figures by internationally famed Pompeo Coppini. The sixty-foot monument has a white marble shaft atop a 40 X 12-foot granite base. On the east and west sides of the shaft are figures of the Alamo heroes, with James Bowie, James Bonham, William Barrett Travis, and Davy Crockett in full relief. On the north side is a female figure representing Texas. To the south is the Spirit of Sacrifice. The names of the Alamo heroes and two memorial sentences are inscribed on the base. The Cenotaph was commissioned by the state of Texas as a Texas Centennial project.
19. Acequia Madre—Alamo Acequia—segment of the stone-lined water system constructed by the Franciscan fathers and mission Indians to bring water to the mission compound and fields. One section is intact on the Alamo grounds. Other sections may be intact underground in several locations throughout the plaza and nearby areas.
SIGNIFICANCE

Alamo Plaza was one of two areas set aside for public use in a grant from the king of Spain that defined the boundaries of San Antonio. In 1718, Mission San Antonio de Valero was created by the combination of two older Franciscan missions, San Antonio de Padua and San Francisco Solano. It was established on a site believed to have been on the bank of the San Pedro Creek, possibly the site of the present Chapel of Miracles. The mission was relocated after a hurricane destroyed buildings on the old site in 1724. The mission was partially secularized in 1794 and in 1803, a Spanish military unit occupied the compound. From this time it was given the name "Alamo." The Spanish stayed until the late 1820s. The mission was fortified by the Mexican General Cos in 1835 and again in 1836 by the Texas Army of Independence. On March 6 of that year, the thirteen-day siege by the Mexican dictator General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and an army of 5000 against the 136 defenders of the Texas Republic was ended. That heroic stand resulted in the great reverence in which the tiny mission church and the ruins surrounding it are held. The reconstructed buildings now function as museums containing many of the relics uncovered on the Alamo grounds. They succeed the museum kept by Gustav Toudouze in Honore Grenet's grocery store which once stood on the convent foundations.

Samuel Maverick, one of two Alamo soldiers elected to attend the convention to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence, built the first rock dwelling on the plaza, where the Gibbs building is now, in 1850. It was Maverick's location on the northwest corner of the Alamo grounds that opened the plaza to further development after years of neglect following the battle. Maverick kept flocks of quail behind a seven-foot cedar fence. He owned a lumber yard across Houston Street from his homestead. In 1886, he constructed the first five-story building in San Antonio, an Alfred Giles design. Maverick operated a bank on the first floor and let the upper floors as offices.
Continuous balconies fronted the building at the second, third and fourth levels. This building was renamed the Swearingen-McCraw office building after a 1912 remodeling. In the 1920s, F. W. Woolworth's department store was built on the site.

The next substantial permanent structure erected on the plaza was the Menger Hotel. William A. Menger opened a brewery north of Blum on the plaza in 1855. His wife ran a boarding house. The hotel was opened in 1859 to accommodate the growing number of guests. Charles Degen maintained the brewery nearby. Although the early Menger was famous for its turtle soup, changes were soon to obscure this simple glory. In 1887, the Menger tap room was remodeled to resemble the House of Lords Club in London and the bar became well known to many prominent visitors and residents. The Menger has been expanded four times, displacing the largest stable, transfer and undertaking business in San Antonio at the time—Carter and Mullally, proprietors. The original two-story limestone structure with a classic facade designed by John Fries as well as the first Turner Halle building in San Antonio are incorporated in the present hotel. Alfred Giles designed improvements in 1909 that sacrificed the Fries facade.

The other commercial structures in the Alamo Plaza area are noteworthy for their age and potential beauty, if nothing else. Of thirty-odd buildings included, half were constructed before 1900. Where the Vance building now stands (207½, 209 Alamo Plaza), pictures taken before the Civil War show a substantial structure of similar size. The Vance brothers, William and James, traded with Mexico during the Civil War. The present building was rebuilt following a fire in the 1920s or 1930s.

In 1872, Adolph Dreiss bought a lot on Alamo Plaza and erected a three-story building to house a retail drug establishment he had operated since 1867. Dreiss had entered the business as a clerk in a drug store owned by Dr. R. A. Dryden. He had run a store at the southwest corner of Alamo and Commerce before building his own store. Dreiss took his father, Albert, and brother, Edward, into the business which sold such specialties as the "Elixir of Life" and "Dead Shot for Screw Worms."
In 1888, Albert Dreiss entered a partnership with Galveston druggists Thompson and Ohmstede forming a wholesale drug division and creating the firm Dreiss, Thompson, and Co. The remodeled Dreiss building is three-story brick structure with 18,000 square feet of floor space under one roof. An elaborate facade is visible at the back side of the building on Broadway. Hermann Dreiss continued the family business at the same location well into this century.

Honore Grenet built his home and ran a grocery on the site of the Crockett Hotel at Crockett and Bonham. He purchased the convent foundations on the Alamo grounds in 1877. The next year he erected a two-story wood building with three towers and a wooden arcade to the south called the Alamo Building. His store was long the largest grocery in the Southwest. A Frenchman, Grenet imported objects of art from Rousseau, Oliver, & Cie. in Paris. His clerks gave tours of Toudouze's museum and the Alamo ruins. There was no fixed charge for admission. Grenet sold the structure in 1886 to Hugo and Schmeltzer who maintained a business there until 1905, when the site was acquired by the state of Texas, restoration began.

The architect Alfred Giles designed the Crockett Block, now four commercial establishments, for brothers William and Albert Maverick. Construction of the restrained Italianate building began in 1882 on property deeded through a priest to a carpenter who sold the land to Samuel Maverick, father of William and Albert. The structure was described as "one of the most beautiful and conspicuous of San Antonio's well-proportioned business houses." The Crockett Block has always been occupied by commercial establishments. Of particular note was the cigar store of Rafael Diaz. A Cuban exiled for political reasons from his home in Havana, Diaz established his business in 1868. He produced "La Flor de Diaz," for many years the most popular cigar sold in San Antonio. After 32 years of exile, Diaz continued to contribute his wealth to finance the revolution in Cuba.
The finest Gothic Revival building in San Antonio was erected in 1883 at the northwest corner of Commerce and Alamo. It was property of George Dullnig, a native Austrian who immigrated to Texas with his parents in 1853 when he was seven. At the age of 18, Dullnig established a successful retail shoe business and eventually expanded into groceries. The Dullnig Block eventually housed his wholesale and retail grocery businesses and a retail dry goods establishment. Dullnig erected a 100-foot iron water tower five hundred feet behind his property on the river. Convinced the steam pump supplying heat and energy to his building did not have to be on the premises, Dullnig placed the machinery near his tower and piped the steam five hundred feet to his store. The steam heated the structure, operated one of the first elevators in San Antonio and supplied the hydraulic pressure for the Dullnig coffee-roasting plant on Losoya Street (now South Broadway).

Dullnig's business occupied the second and main floors by 1907, displacing Dr. J. M. Caine's dental offices. Schafer and Downey ran Alamo City Business College on the third floor for many years.

George Dullnig's wealth was estimated at $225,000 in 1886. He started the fifth national bank in San Antonio about this time. However, a railroad venture financed through the bank failed, and it was liquidated in 1898. Dullnig invested heavily in land later in life. He is credited with the discovery of the first oil field in Texas (six miles east of the city).

The buildings, although greatly altered, retain many outstanding architectural features. The Broadway facades are relatively intact, while those on Alamo are covered.

Sometime before 1891, Scholz's Palm Garden, a two-story glass-enclosed building with a bar in front and a garden full of palms, banana plants and ferns behind, was erected adjacent to the Dullnig Block. An excellent German band gave concerts four nights a week.
Before 1891, Franc I. Meyer built a wholesale and retail liquor store on the west side of the Plaza just south of the Reuter property. His wine cellars had a storage capacity for 100,000 gallons—the largest and finest in Texas at the time. Meyer eventually moved to a larger structure on North street. He was the largest importer of Rhine wines in San Antonio, and the principal dealer in California products. His wine display won first premium at an early San Antonio International Exposition.

Joske's came to the plaza in 1873 with Julius Joske's dry goods establishment. A building on the west side of the plaza, designed by James Wahrenberger in 1888, was outgrown in ten months and the Joske brothers, Albert and Alexander, commissioned Alfred Giles to design and new structure for the northeast corner of Alamo and Commerce. The three-story red brick building was Giles's least successful work, probably modeled on the New Scotland Yard, which famed Victorian architect R. Norman Shaw had recently designed. It replaced Ed Stevens's lumber yard, founded in 1866 and the best-known establishment in San Antonio by 1871.

Until the 1950s, Joskes shared its block with the Gallagher Building, constructed by Peter Gallagher for the Post Office in 1877. In the 1950s, Joskes expanded and remodeled building on the entire block except the site of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Joske's now surrounds St. Joseph's church completely.

At the southeast corner of Broadway and Crockett stands a two-story building erected 1919-1921 and called the Chamber of Commerce Building. It was occupied by the Chamber until 1925.

The Moore Building was erected in 1904 in the Victorian-Empire style. It originally had a roof garden above the fifth floor with pavilions at four corners. The sixth floor was added in 1909.

The eight-story Gibbs office building (Houston and Alamo), was erected in 1912 on the site of a one-story adobe previously used as a drug store. This was the location of Samuel Maverick's homestead. At the corners of the old adobe building were
sixteen old brass cannons used to defend the Alamo. These were uncovered when the Gibbs building foundation was dug. At least one of them is displayed on the Alamo grounds.

The Landmark Building, renamed after a recent $2-million renovation—previously known as the Medical Arts building—was designed by architect Ralph Cameron. Construction began at the northeast corner of Avenue E and Houston late in 1924. Twelve stories, intended for office space, were finished in April, 1926. In November the hospital on the thirteenth floor was completed. The site earlier was occupied by a livery stable.

The last important commercial structure in the area, the Crockett Hotel, was built in 1909 with Padgett as the architect. The Oddfellows' Lodge owns the building and occupies the fifth floor. Their meeting halls house some impressive mahogany chairs and ceilinged platforms. The San Antonio Lodge has kept the Grand Lodge Museum of Texas since 1961. Oddfellows first organized in San Antonio in 1815. They were chartered in 1849 as the eleventh lodge in Texas. The Oddfellowship was once the largest organization of its kind in the world.

The Crockett was erected on a portion of the original Alamo grounds; also once the location of Honore Grciet's store. Additions in 1927 designed by Henry P. Pheltz raised the building to seven stories. There were originally six floors in the main wing and three to the west.

The United States Postal Service has operated in San Antonio from Alamo Plaza since 1877 when Peter Gallagher erected a building for them on the northwest corner of the Joskes block. In 1886, J. Rieley Gordon was employed to design a new building for the north side of the plaza. Gordon added a frieze of historic character, representing San Antonio's past to the original modified Moorish government design. The present Post Office and Federal Building designed by
Cameron, was built as a part of President Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration program in 1937. It is designed around a central courtyard in a Renaissance Renaissance Revival style. Workers digging the foundation for the building in 1936 found human bones in the site that could have been those of Mexican troops or defenders of the Alamo.

The Postal Service now also occupies the old Turner Halle, in the northern corner of Bonham and Travis, where San Antonio's district office is maintained. James Wahrenberger designed the building in 1891 as a gymnasium and social center for the San Antonio Turn Verein. Wahrenberger was a native Texas architect, educated in Europe. Of thirteen competing designs for the state capitol in the 1880s, Wahrenberger's took second place. The building has two floors. The lower floor was once occupied by a cafe and cloak, reading, assembly and billiard rooms. The second floor is a ballroom not yet remodeled. The staircase hall at the back of the building is an outstanding design. There are four different woods in its richly carved newel post. Light enters the hall through stained glass windows.

The San Antonio Turn Verein sponsored the first Turnfest—or gymnastics competition—in Texas in 1873. The organization originated with Ludwig Jahn in Germany, who hoped to increase the physical and mental strength of his people to enable them to defeat Napoleon. The San Antonio organization was a social and gymnastics club for the early German settlers and their descendants.

The San Antonio Club was located on the plaza from 1882, when it occupied the second floor of the Gallagher Building. The club kept rooms in the Grand Opera House, a piece of San Antonio's golden age demolished in the 1950s after it was largely destroyed by fire. "The Grand," built in 1886, was called "the costliest and most comfortable temple of Thespis in the South." It seated 1500 and contained a stage of record size in the Southwest. Thirty-six chandeliers provided house light,
but the theater's greatest treasure was the curtain drop. It was actually a lavish painting, showing Gerald's "Beauty and Booty in a Moorish Court," given a curtain-like effect by a drapery border.

St. Joseph's church and parish house are the last structures of significance in the indicated area around Alamo Plaza. San Antonio's German Catholics built the church in 1868 after having been refused the use of the Alamo mission because the Army could find no room elsewhere for the supplies they had stored there. The construction of the church was delayed by a hurricane that devastated San Antonio, occupying its laborers. The cornerstone was laid November 5, 1868. It bears the date May 8, 1868, and the inscriptions: "Sich die Wohnung des Gottes bei den Menschen" (Behold the dwelling of God among men) and "Domus Dei, Porta Coeli" (Habitation of God, Entrance to Heaven). The church is one of the most outstanding church structures in the Southwest. The third pastor of the church, Father Henry Pefferkorn, painted the Stations of the Cross and the Assumption of Mary and Ascension of Christ that hang in the church. He designed the first altar and choir loft, replaced canvas windows with glass, and installed a pipe organ. Father Pefferkorn also organized the St. Joseph's Society and the San Antonio Leiderkranz, both still in operation. Four bells with matched tones, named Joseph, Mary, Henry and Joseph, were installed in 1891. They are now run by electric motors.

The next pastor, Father William A. Fuhrwerk, commissioned James Wahrenberger to design the spire, completed by Jacob Wagner in 1898. He also installed electric lights, a Gothic confessional and pulpit and new pews. For $3000, the stained glass windows in the side walls were imported from the famed Emil Frei Art Glass factory in Munich, each designed by a renowned European artist. He also had the ceiling and side walls painted by two well-known artists and employed Leonard M. J. Dielmann to enlarge the sacristy. St. Joseph's parish is now territorial after a long history as a national parish. Griewe and Company of Cincinnati were in charge
of renovation in 1945.

The plaza proper, Alamo square, began as a barren area which, in rainy weather, resembled a quagmire. During the Civil War, the plaza was neglected. As cattle became important, the square teemed with drovers, cowboys and animals. The first pavement around the square, laid in 1888, consisted of mesquite blocks. A city order in 1887 had erected a public water closet and privy. Alderman A. F. Wulff, a native of Germany who came to San Antonio in 1850, was interested in horticulture. He advocated beautification of this and Main Plaza by landscaping parks in their centers. So a garden was planted and 30 iron benches were placed around the square. William Reuter was allowed to erect a bandstand at his own expense. The bandstand removed to San Pedro Park in the early 20th century has now been replaced on the South end of the plaza.

Store owners were required to build Class "A" sidewalks along their Plaza fronts. Wulff, to execute his plans, was appointed the first City Park Commissioner. At present the plaza is undergoing renewal.

The Alamo monument, the Cenotaph, is famous as an object of controversy as well as of memorial. Some Texans opposed construction of anything directly before the Alamo mission church, itself a proper memorial. J. Frank Dobie, historian, compared the present structure to a swimming pool slide.

Several unsuccessful attempts to erect monuments preceded the erection of the Cenotaph in 1936. The first memorial to the Alamo defenders was proposed in 1887 and Alfred Giles submitted a design for something like the Confederate Monument in Travis Park. The idea was dropped after $25,000 had been raised. A second attempt was likewise unsuccessful in 1909. In October of 1912, plans for a monumental building 802 feet high with a base 85 feet square were accepted by the Alamo Monument Association. An elaborate campaign was undertaken to raise the
$2 million required to complete this enormous project was never completed. The Cenotaph (Empty Tomb) was commissioned by the State of Texas as a Texas Centennial project.
STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BEXAR

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority,

personally appeared Cynthia E. Coe

to me personally known to be the Bookkeeper

OF THE SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS and SAN ANTONIO EVENING NEWS, daily newspapers published in the City of San Antonio, in the county and state aforesaid, and being by me first duly sworn, deposes and says

that the advertisement of Texas Historical Commission

appeared in all editions of said newspapers in the manner and style

shown by the attached clipping on the following dates:

July 22, 1976

Subscribed and sworn to this 25 day of

Notary Public
Bexar County
December 13, 1976

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the Register
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
18th & C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Enclosed is the completed information on the Alamo Plaza. Please note that the Medical Arts Building (Landmark Building) is included within this district.

In view of the buildings threatened within the district, I hope you will be able to review the nomination as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer
State Historic Preservation Officer

TL/ps

Enclosures
ARThUR VELTMAN JR.

Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director  
Texas Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276  
Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Latimer:

As a property owner in New City Block 914, and New City Block 148, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, I would wholeheartedly endorse an amendment to the Alamo Plaza National Register of Historical Places designation, that would include these two New City Blocks, and their inclusive properties within the designated boundary.

The properties are known as:

223 South Broadway; construction undertaken in 1890's as a hotel along the San Antonio River. Plans include a complete restoration utilizing Community Development funding for downtown residential application, and facade restoration. Construction should proceed within ninety days.

310-318 North Presa; construction undertaken in 1920's as a commercial complex; remodeling undertaken in 1960's for mixed usage along San Antonio River, Paseo del Rio. Project includes three restaurants, four retail stores, and one office. Plans include addition of two additional floors for apartment condominiums. The project is part of an overall project including other properties, called River Square.

These properties are architecturally significant, and the South Broadway property may have historic significance. They serve in the vital linkage between Alamo Plaza and the Paseo del Rio.

I am prepared to work toward this amendment to the Alamo Plaza National Register of Historical Places designation, by securing additional endorsements from adjacent property owners, if called upon to do so. Please let me know what I may do to be of assistance in any way.

Yours very truly,

Arthur Veltman, Jr.

AVj:hs

Copy to:
Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register, U.S. Department of Interior, National Parks Service, 18th & C Street, Washington, D.C. 20240

February 16, 1977
Mr. Truett Latimer, February 16, 1977, page 2

Ms. Nancy Negley, President, San Antonio Conservation Society, 107 King William, San Antonio, Texas
Ms. Pat Osborne, City of San Antonio Historic Preservation Officer, City Hall, San Antonio, Texas
Mr. Chris Carson, Architect, 528 King William, San Antonio, Texas
Ms. Cynthia Emrick, Director  
Southwest/Plains Field Office  
National Trust for Historic Preservation  
903 Colcord Building  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  73102  

Dear Ms. Emrick:

Thank you for your response to my letter. To date I have not received anything from the Governor's office, but I have heard from the general counsel to the DRT. With this letter Truett Latimer will receive a copy of the original letter as well as a copy of all subsequent correspondence pertaining to the matter of the DRT and the Alamo. Mr. Latimer probably has been involved more than he wanted to be in the Alamo Plaza Bicentennial renovation and the San Antonio Transit Contraflow Project.

As to the matter of parking spaces in front of the Alamo property, they were removed during the Plaza renovation to enhance the visual impact of that historic pile; and, indeed, it works. One now has a clean, clear view of the Alamo from the north side of Joske's to Houston Street. Please keep in mind that the Alamo and its adjacent walls are low structures, being approximately 20 to 30 feet and 10 to 15 feet, respectively. The DRT should be concerned with this visual factor but seem to be preoccupied with the declining revenues of their museum shop. Other persons concerned with the quality of life in San Antonio would prefer not to have street parking reintroduced in front of that property again. Essentially the same number of spaces removed would be provided on the opposite side of the bus curb.

Even if the parking space question is settled, it does not erase my concern for the Alamo situation. More than 70 years ago, Clara Driscoll bought the Alamo to save it from destruction. She sold it to the State of Texas with the provision that the DRT would be responsible for it and its maintenance. Indeed, they are to be commended for establishing a fine library, restoring the Long Barracks, making the grounds an attractive garden, and numerous other deeds with funds derived from sales in the museum shop and gifts from private sources. The problems lie in the cluttered appearance of the chapel and the complete lack of discriminating quality in the shop. A more awe-inspiring effect could be achieved in that noble place with more dramatic lighting and effective arrangement of artifacts than with a brass sign demanding silence or asking gentlemen to remove their hats. Besides having a painting of John Wayne in a scene from The Alamo, the shop has merchandise that looks embarrassingly like Woolworth's; that which does not is very poorly displayed. I have never known this to be the case in a shop on National Trust property.

If the Daughters could be encouraged to improve the quality in the Alamo and the museum shop, all of us would benefit. No longer would people who escort dignitaries or friends who have heard and read about the Alamo since childhood feel personally embarrassed in doing so.

Sincerely,

Sally Buchanan

CC: Truett Latimer  
Dr. William Murtaugh  
Robert Garvey
March 1, 1977

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

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

As the owner of property, and the operator of businesses within the proposed Alamo Plaza Historic District, I would like to wholeheartedly endorse this undertaking.

I represent the owners as trustee, or own the following listed properties which you have under consideration:

- 223 South Broadway, presently under development
- 310-318 North Presa, remodeling in progress
- 317-321 Alamo Plaza, considering restoration at this time

I operate a business in the following properties:

- 526 River Walk (part of 429 East Commerce); Royal Street Crossing Restaurant
- 516 River Walk (part of 310-318 North Presa); Greenhouse Restaurant
- 512 River Walk (part of 310-318 North Presa); Kangaroo Court Restaurant

If I may be of any assistance in this regards, please contact me at once.

Yours very truly,

Arthur Veltman, Jr.

AVj:hs
Copy to:
Mr. Chris Carson, 528 King William, San Antonio, Texas
ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE   TEXAS

Date Entered    JUL  13  1977

Name                Location

Alamo Plaza Historic District       San Antonio
                                 Bexar County

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower
Hon. Lloyd M. Bentsen
Hon. Henry B. Gonzalez
Regional Director, Southwest Region

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

880 Mott     7/25/77
April 30, 1980

Honorable Lila Cockrell
Mayor of San Antonio
P. O. Box 9066
San Antonio, Texas 78285

Dear Mayor Cockrell:

Enclosed is the Memorandum of Agreement reflecting the agreement to mitigate the adverse effects of Alamo Plaza/Paseo del Rio Linkage Project on Alamo Plaza Historic District reached by the consulting parties.

Please sign and date this agreement and forward it to Mr. Truett Latimer, Texas State Historic Preservation Officer, for his dated signature. Thereafter, it must be returned to the Council for ratification by the Chairman. The agreement will become final 30 days after receipt by the Chairman or earlier if ratified by the Chairman. The ratified Memorandum of Agreement will constitute the Council's comments in accordance with Section 800.6(c)(3) and completes your responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 2(b) of Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment," and the Council's regulations.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. King
Director, Office of Cultural Resource Preservation

Enclosures
MOA
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the City of San Antonio (City), Texas, proposes to design and construct the Alamo Plaza/Paseo del Rio Linkage Project with an Urban Development Action Grant; and,

WHEREAS, the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), in consultation with the City, has determined that this undertaking as proposed would have an adverse effect upon the Alamo Plaza Historic District, a property included in the National Register of Historic Places; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 470f, as amended, 90 Stat. 1320) and Section 800.4(d) of the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council), "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR Part 800), the City has requested the comments of the Council; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 800.6 of the Council's regulations, representatives of the Council, the City, and the Texas SHPO have consulted and reviewed the undertaking to consider feasible and prudent alternatives to avoid or satisfactorily mitigate the adverse effect;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed that the undertaking will be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations to satisfactorily mitigate any adverse effect on the above-mentioned property:

Stipulations

The City will ensure that the following measures are carried out:

1. A design review process will be established between the City and the Texas SHPO permitting the latter to review and comment on proposed new construction or restoration work within the project in order to ensure design compatibility between new work and cultural properties associated with the Alamo Plaza Historic District. The opportunity to review and comment on design proposals will be afforded the Texas SHPO at a reasonable time prior to undertaking the actual work.

2. As a previously undiscovered element of the historic fabric of Mission San Antonio de Valero (the Alamo), the remnants of the adobe compound walls will be disturbed as little as possible during the project undertaking. The location of the below grade wall remnants will be indicated at ground surface, for
purposes of public interpretation, by constructing new masonry walls of low height; compatible in design to the character of the district and subject to Texas SHPO review and comment in accordance with Stipulation 1.

3. The City will, via its contract with the University of Texas at San Antonio Center for Archeological Research, and in coordination with its demolition and construction contractors, undertake a program to protect and recover archeological resources within the project area. This program will include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

a. Extensive historical and archival research leading to the production of a detailed history of the project area from prehistoric times to the early twentieth century.

b. Testing of parking areas to locate undisturbed cultural deposits.

c. The protection, recording and recovery of cultural resources discovered during building removal.

d. The recovery of archeological data where the project requires destruction of all or part of an archeological resource (e.g., basement or foundation excavation, terracing a slope, etc.).

e. Designing features to exhibit cultural properties for purposes of public information.

f. Analysis and preservation of the artifacts and data recovered; and, curation of these materials through the Laboratory of the University of Texas at San Antonio Center for Archeological Research.

g. Production of a final report which will provide the results of the Center's historical and archeological research.

h. Provision of copies of the final report to the Texas SHPO, the Council and Interagency Archeological Services, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, in accordance with 36 CFR Sec. 66.4.

4. Failure to carry out the terms of this Agreement requires that the City again request the Council's comments in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800. If the City cannot carry out the terms of the Agreement, it shall not take or sanction any action or make any irreversible commitment that would result in an adverse effect with respect to National Register or eligible properties covered by the Agreement or would foreclose the Council's consideration of modifications or alternatives to the Alamo Plaza/Pasco del Rio Linkage Project that could avoid or mitigate the adverse effect until the commenting process has been completed.

5. If any of the signatories to this Agreement determine that the terms of the Agreement cannot be met or believes a change is necessary, that signatory shall immediately request the consulting parties to
consider an amendment or addendum to the Agreement. Such an amendment or addendum shall be executed in the same manner as the original Agreement.

6. Within 90 days after carrying out the terms of the Agreement, the City shall provide a written report to all signatories to the Agreement on the actions taken to fulfill the terms of the Agreement.

Robert J. Kelly  
April 29, 1980  
Executive Director  
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

City of San Antonio  
(6/4/80)

Texas State Historic Preservation Officer  
(6/24/80)

Chairman  
(7-21-80)

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
JUN 15 1981

Mr. Thomas E. Huebner
City Manager
City of San Antonio
P. O. Box 9060
San Antonio, TX 78285

Dear Mr. Huebner:

The Council has received your signed proposal including the written concurrence of the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer for the proposed Tiendas del Rio Downtown Development, San Antonio, Texas.

We have reviewed the proposal and have identified two areas of ambiguity that we believe need correction. The provision for an archeological survey and development of data recovery program is rather vague, particularly considering the alleged high archeological sensitivity of the area. The provision for design review is also somewhat weak, and we feel that this is a very important area of concern in view of the project's proximity to the Alamo Plaza Historic District.

The simplest method for correcting these minor problems is to provide for subsequent Council review of the archeological survey report, data recovery program, and design review program. This will allow us to work out any deficiencies through subsequent consultation, without extending the review process at this time. Accordingly, we have added a stipulation to the Memorandum of Agreement and are returning it for your signature. We trust that this approach is acceptable to you. When you have signed the agreement, please forward it to the Texas SHPO for his dated signature. He will return it to us for ratification by the Chairman. The agreement will become final after 30 days or earlier if ratified by the Chairman, and the undertaking may then proceed. A copy of the ratified agreement will be provided for your records. The ratified agreement will constitute the Council's comments in accordance with Section 800.6(c)(3) and completes your responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Council's regulations.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. King
Director, Office of Cultural Resource Preservation
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) proposes to approve a Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) for the City of San Antonio, Texas (City), for the Tiendas del Rio Downtown Development; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Housing and Community Development Act of 1977, as amended, HUD has delegated its responsibility for seeking the comments of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council) pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 470f, as amended, 90 Stat. 1320) to the City; and,

WHEREAS, the City, in consultation with the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), has determined that implementation of this project will adversely affect the Alamo Plaza Historic District, a property included in the National Register of Historic Places; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the regulations of the Council, "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR Part 800), the City has requested the comments of the Council; and,

WHEREAS, representatives of the Council, the City, and the Texas SHPO have consulted and reviewed the proposed undertaking to consider alternatives to avoid or satisfactorily mitigate adverse effects on the above-mentioned property;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed that implementation of the project in accordance with the following stipulation and the attached proposal from the City Manager, City of San Antonio, will avoid or satisfactorily mitigate the adverse effects.

Stipulation

A report of the archeological survey called for in Section 3 of the attached proposal, the data recovery program called for in Section 3 of the attached proposal, and a description of the design review process called for in Section 7 of the attached proposal, including pertinent standards and guidelines, will be submitted to the Council for review and comment prior to the implementation of the archeological data recovery program or the design review process. Should the Council comment favorably, or not comment within 30 days after receipt of the documents, the City will proceed to implement the data recovery program and the design review process. Should the Council comment adversely, the parties to this Agreement will consult to resolve the differences.
Memorandum of Agreement
City of San Antonio
Tiendas del Rio

Executive Director
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

City of San Antonio

Texas State Historic Preservation Officer

Chairman
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
STIPULATIONS

The City will insure that the following measures are carried out:

1. A survey of the Tiendas del Rio Downtown Development project area bounded by Crockett, Bowie, Commerce and Bonham Streets, plus those portions of Blocks 553, 164, 165, and 167 which will be acquired by the City with UDAG funds will be undertaken to identify districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects (hereafter "properties") that may meet the Criteria for listing in the National Register (36 CFR Part 1202). The survey will be conducted in consultation with the Texas SHPO and in accordance with the "Guidelines for the location and Identification of Historic Properties Containing Scientific, Prehistoric, Historical, or Archeological Data" (36 CFR Part 66, Appendix B, proposed Guidelines) and with reference to "Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning" (GPO Stock #024-016-00089-7) and "The Archeological Survey, Methods and Uses" (GPO Stock #024-016-00091-9).

   a. The survey will be completed within 180 days of a Contract for Services.

   b. Properties that appear to meet the Criteria will be nominated by the City to the National Register through the process provided for in the State of Texas within three months of the completion of the survey's final report. If any such property cannot be nominated to the National Register for any reason, it will be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior for determination of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register in accordance with 36 CFR Sec. 1204.3 or 36 CFR Sec. 1204.4 (formerly 36 CFR Sections 63.3 and 63.4, respectively).

   c. If there is any question as to whether a property may meet the Criteria, the City will request a determination of eligibility from the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with 36 CFR Part 1204.

2. Until the survey is completed, properties that may be affected by the project will be evaluated by the City, in consultation with the SHPO, against the National Register Criteria.

   a. Properties that appear to meet the Criteria will be submitted by the City to the Secretary of the Interior for determinations of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register in accordance with 36 CFR Part 1204.

   b. If there is any question as to whether a property may meet the Criteria, the City will request a determination of eligibility from the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with 36 CFR Part 1204.

   c. The City will keep a written record of the reasons why any property does not appear to meet the Criteria.
3. Prior to major ground disturbing activities connected with the project, the City will undertake an archeological survey of the project area in accordance with proposed Guidelines, 36 CFR Part 66, Appendix B, and Appendix C. "Professional Qualifications". In the event that archeological resources are found that meet the National Register Criteria (36 CFR Part 1202) a data recovery program for these resources will be developed and implemented in accordance with The Advisory Council's publication, "Treatment of Archeological Properties - A Handbook". (Handbook).

   a. Archeological specimens will be retained at least until analysis, and descriptive reporting are complete. Field notes, photographs negatives, processed data, and specimens will be stored in good order and in a manner that makes them available for future study at an appropriately equipped institution. Specimens may be made available to other parties for research or other purposes provided permanent access for research, through an appropriately equipped institution, is guaranteed within reason.

   b. Copies of final reports of data recovery will be supplied to the Texas SHPO. A copy of any final technical reports will also be furnished to Interagency Archeological Services, (Department of the Interior, 5000 Marble N.E. - Room 211, Albuquerque, N.M. 87110), for possible submission to the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). Any precise locational data should appear in a separate appendix and may be withheld from NTIS publication pursuant to Section 11 of the General Authorities Act of 1970, as amended (P.L. 94-458).

4. An archeologist meeting the professional qualifications for supervisory archeologist set forth in proposed Guidelines, 36 CFR Part 66, Appendix C, will be present during all clearing and ground disturbing activities. In the event that archeological properties are found that may meet the Criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (36 CFR Part 1202), activities that could affect the properties will be stopped and a determination of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register will be obtained from the Secretary of the Interior. If the properties are determined eligible, the City will evaluate the feasibility of their preservation in-place. If preservation in-place is determined to be feasible, a data recovery program will be developed and implemented in accordance with the Handbook.

5. Properties that are determined to be eligible for the National Register, nominated to the National Register, or listed in the National Register, will be treated in the following manner:

   a. Properties that are to be rehabilitated will be rehabilitated in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation" (Standards) which will be applied in consultation with the Texas SHPO.

   b. If the Standards cannot be met, or the proposed treatment of the property is not rehabilitation, or demolition is contemplated, or if the contemplated action could have an indirect effect on such properties, prior to taking any action the City
will consult with the Texas SHPO and obtain the comments of the Council in accordance with 36 CFR Sec. 800.6 (b) of the Council’s regulations;

c. The City will ensure that properties rehabilitated under the project will be maintained and preserved in accordance with the Secretary’s Standards.

6. Prior to demolition or alteration of any properties listed on or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register, the City will record the property so that there will be a permanent record of its present appearance. The City will first contact the National Architectural and Engineering Record (NAER) (Department of the Interior) to determine what documentation is required. All documentation must be accepted by NAER prior to the demolition or alteration. The City will also make available copies of this documentation or alteration. The City will also make available copies of this documentation to the Texas SHPO and the San Antonio Conservation Society, if these agencies express a desire for such information.

7. A design review process will be established between the City and the Texas SHPO permitting the latter to review and comment on proposed new construction or restoration work within the project in order to ensure design compatibility between new construction and cultural properties associated with the Alamo Plaza Historic District. The City will provide the Texas SHPO an opportunity to review and comment on design proposals at a reasonable time prior to initiating the actual work.

8. Failure to carry out the terms of this Agreement requires that the City again request the Council’s comments in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800. If the City cannot carry out the terms of the Agreement, it shall not take or sanction any action or make any irreversible commitment that would result in an adverse effect with respect to National Register listed or eligible properties covered by the Agreement or would foreclose the Council’s consideration of modifications or alternatives to the Las Tiendas del Rio Project that could avoid or mitigate the adverse effect until the commenting process has been completed.

9. If any of the signatories to this Agreement determine that the terms of the Agreement cannot be met or believes a change is necessary, that signatory shall immediately request the consulting parties to consider an amendment or addendum to the Agreement. Such an amendment or addendum will be executed in the same manner as the original Agreement.

10. Within 90 days after carrying out the terms of the Agreement, the City will provide a written report to all signatories to the Agreement on the actions taken to fulfill the terms of the Agreement.
Memorandum of Agreement

City of San Antonio  4/27/81

Texas State Historic Preservation Officer  4/24/81
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**TAX REFORM ACT**

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<td>Madelynn Greenbury Goldfein et al-E (or Larger part of A-7) 5403 N. New Braunfels San Antonio, Texas 78209</td>
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<td>L. E. Bates 717 E. Houston San Antonio, Texas 78205</td>
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<td>Peter Canavati P.O. Box 59 Laredo, Texas 78040</td>
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<td>Frank Sol Abe Rosenberg 517 E. Houston San Antonio, Texas 78205</td>
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<td>Box 7968, 210 W. 6th Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vienna Maverick</td>
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<td>Augusta Maverick Huth</td>
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<td>110 Auditorium Circle</td>
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<td>L. J. Scharlack ZIP</td>
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<td>132 E. Houston San Antonio, Texas 78205</td>
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<td>Estate of Ethel Kincaid Joe M. Kincaid</td>
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<tr>
<td>1166 Bitters Road San Antonio, Texas 78216</td>
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<tr>
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<td>119 Larkwood San Antonio, Texas 78209</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estate of Mrs. Eva Scholz C/O Pete Scholz</td>
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<td>Alamo and Commerce Building C/O Paul E. Williams</td>
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<td>1747 Mick Williams San Antonio, Texas 78209</td>
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<td>Christian Service Center Tom Burns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 2375 San Antonio, Texas 78298</td>
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<td>ZIP</td>
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Additional Alamo Plaza Owners:

1. Allied Stores
   Joskes Department Store
   William McCormick, President
   Alamo Plaza
   San Antonio, TX 78205

   NCB: 151

2. Mr. Art Abbott
   Menger Hotel
   Alamo Plaza
   San Antonio, TX 78205

   NCB: 143

3. Alamo
   Mrs. Charles A. Hall
   HT Libr^ary
   Alamo Plaza
   San Antonio, TX 78205

   NCB: 115

4. Crockett Hotel
   William C. Raines
   Chairman of the Board
   San Antonio Oddfellows
   P. O. Box 1359
   San Antonio, TX 78205

   NCB: 165

5. Turnverein
   John J. Saldana
   Postmaster
   Main Post Office
   San Antonio, TX 78291

   NCB: 552
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<th>NAME AND ADDRESS</th>
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<td>1 Robert &amp; John Yturri</td>
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**TAX REFORM ACT**
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<td>N. W. part of A-7</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2 Madelyn Greenbury Goldfein et. al-E (or Larger part of A-7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 (Same as above)</td>
<td>S (or A-8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Archdiocese of San Antonio</td>
<td>A-7 &amp; A-8</td>
<td>151</td>
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<tr>
<td>9123 Lorene</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 L. E. Bates</td>
<td>east irr. 25.8' of lot 1 excluding N.E. 424</td>
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<tr>
<td>717 E. Houston</td>
<td>Tr. 1, 9.5' &amp; NCB552</td>
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<td>Lot S irr. 9.02 of W. 4.1' of A- Cir. 3, Excluding SE</td>
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<td>6 Crain Warren</td>
<td>irr. 5.43'X32'. Lot 37 424</td>
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<td>112 Avnue &quot;E&quot;</td>
<td>and n. Tr. 1 pt. of 1</td>
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<td>7 R. C. Booton</td>
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<td>104 Roleto</td>
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<td>8 1st San Antonio Properties</td>
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<td>c/o Ginther Davis</td>
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<td>1.2.3, &amp; 25' of 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abe Rosenberg</td>
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<tr>
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NAME AND ADDRESS

1 City Properties Ltd.,
  100 E. Salinas
  San Antonio, Texas 78205
2 Julia Burns Sheldon, Et. Al.
  115 West Kings Highway
  San Antonio, Texas 78212
3 A. J. Khoudi, Et. Al.
  1004 Milam Building
  San Antonio, Texas 78205
4 Marcia Heinen Harris
  c/o Richard W. HARRIS
  1577 Tower Life Building
  San Antonio, Texas 78205
5 Loysoya Corp.
  c/o Scharlack
  121 Twinleaf
  San Antonio, Texas 78213
6 W. A. Johnson
  118 S. Broadway
  San Antonio, Texas 78205
7 Lauterstein Properties Co.
  Herbert Lauterstein
  126 S. Broadway
  San Antonio, Texas 78205
8 Jim Stafford
  518 E. Houston
  San Antonio, Texas 78205
9 Scharlack
  D. B. Harrell
  801 N. St. Marys
  San Antonio, Texas 78205
10 Ruth Gurwitiz
  216 Primrose
  San Antonio, Texas 78209
11 University of Texas System
  c/o Mr. Tom E. Smith
  Box 7968, 210 W. 6th Street
  Austin, Texas 78701
12 Vienna Maverick
  Augusta Maverick Huth
  110 Auditorium Circle
  San Antonio, Texas 78205
13 Balamo Corp
  (Scharlack)
  325 Alamo Plaza
  San Antonio, Texas 78208
14 (Same as above)

LOT

ZONING CASE

NCB

1 A-1 & A-17 423
2 A-16 & ½ lot interest " alley
3 E, part of lot 15, " 4 interest in alley
4 W part of lot 15  " 4 interest in alley
5 E & part of lot 14  "
6 A-2  "
7 A-3  "
8 A-12 & A-13  "
9 A-4 & part of A-5  "
10 A-11 & part of A-4  "
11 A-18 and part of A-5  "
12 S (or A-10)  "
13 11 (or A-9)  "
14 12 (or A-6)  "
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<td>Alamo Plaza Realty Co. C/O Mrs. Wm. F. Joseph</td>
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<td>3 &amp; 4</td>
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<td>132 E. Houston San Antonio, Texas 78205</td>
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<td>Clarice Meer</td>
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<td>Alpya Jewelry Co. 209 Alamo Plaza S.A. Tx 78205</td>
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<td>Lillie V. Hollock</td>
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<td>611 ThreeA Life Building San Antonio, Texas 78205</td>
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<td>316 N. Presa San Antonio, Texas 78205</td>
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<td>Estate of Ethel Kincaid</td>
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<td>1166 Bitters Road San Antonio, Texas 78216</td>
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<td>c/o Claire Kaufman</td>
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   DRT Library  
   Alamo Plaza  
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   San Antonio Oddfellows  
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   NCB: 165

5. Turnverein  
   John J. Saldana  
   Postmaster  
   Main Post Office  
   San Antonio, TX  
   NCB: 552
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NR Data Sheet

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Alamo Plaza Historic District

LOCATION:
roughly bounded by Commerce, S. Broadway, Travis, and Bonham Sts.

CITY, TOWN San Antonio
STATE Texas

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline) FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

FEATURES:

CONDITION: _EXCELLENT _GOOD _FAIR _FAIR

ACCESS: Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION (S): (use vocabulary words)

SIGNIFICANCE:

Claims "first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder:
landscape/garden designer:
interior decorator:

engineer:
artist/artisan:
builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES: personal
(events

institutional

DATES: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century):
DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:
HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE: (OF NOMINATION) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY
OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE: (to nearest tenth of an acre)

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

SOME HABS

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)