United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Sweetwater Commercial Historic District

and or common same

2. Location

Roughly between 1st and 5th, and between Ash and Texas and Pacific RIR tracks

N/A not for publication

city, town Sweetwater

state Texas

code 048 county Nolan

code 353

3. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
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4. Owner of Property

name (see individual continuation sheets)

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Nolan County Courthouse

street & number 100 E. 3rd

city, town Sweetwater

state Texas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

(1) Sweetwater Urban Survey

(2) Historic Sites Inventory

has this property been determined eligible? | yes X no

date (1) December, 1982 (2) 1984

depository for survey records

(1) Willard B. Robinson, Prof. of Architecture, Texas Tech University

(2) Texas Historical Commission

(1) Lubbock

state Texas
7. Description

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Sweetwater Commercial Historic District represents the architectural and historical heritage of the city. The irregularly shaped district contains a concentrated group of early twentieth-century commercial and governmental structures. Within the district boundaries are 91 buildings of which 48 contribute to the historic character of the district. In a variety of styles, the structures portray the development of the city. Because the growth rate slowed and stabilized in the mid-1930s, Sweetwater's downtown area is small, compact in scale, and displays an architectural diversity no longer found in most contemporary West Texas cities.

Sweetwater was founded as a rail stop on the Texas and Pacific Railroad, and only began to emerge as a regional trade center between 1885 and 1900. Because of the temporary nature of many of its first structures, and because continued prosperity and repeated fires have altered the town's appearance, little remains of these earliest years. Since its economy has always been based upon agriculture, transportation, and retail sales, Sweetwater's downtown structures generally reflect these trades. Banks, retail stores, lumber yards, hardware stores, farm implement buildings, and automotive sales buildings predominate. Many structures once had offices on the upper floors. A few civic and governmental buildings are also included in the district.

Although the structures found in the Sweetwater Commercial Historic District vary somewhat in size and scale, ranging from one to four stories, and from 25 to 100-foot fronts, most of the buildings are of only one or two stories, have complementary cornice lines and similar setbacks, and present a cohesive streetscape. Building materials include cast stone, quarried stone, reinforced concrete, and brick veneer. Most commercial buildings are flat roofed, with raised parapets on the street facade.

Architecturally, several styles appear in the district. The majority of the buildings display a mix of styles common to commercial architecture of the period, adapted by local craftsmen to suit available materials and the desires of the owners. These styles include Neo-Classical Revival, Spanish Colonial Revival, and Moderne. The 1925 Texas Bank and Trust Building (No. 43), the remodeled First National Bank Building (No. 69), the 1913 Sweetwater Reporter Building (No. 41), and the 1931 U.S. Post Office (No. 88) all reflect influences of the Neo-Classical Revival style. The Municipal Auditorium and City Hall Complex (No. 90) and the Central Fire Station (No. 81), both built in 1926, are excellent examples of the Spanish Colonial Revival style popular in civic buildings in Texas during the 1920s. During the 1930s and early 1940s, the Moderne style came into vogue, and is represented in Sweetwater by the Texas Theater (No. 66), the remodeled Trammel-Cowan buildings (Nos. 38 and 39), Hartgraves Real Estate (No. 12), and 503 Oak (No. 56).

For the most part, the commercial district of Sweetwater remained clustered around the railroad depots and courthouse square until after World War I. Only slowly during this early period did the temporary frame buildings of the 1880s and 90s begin to give way to more substantial stone and brick structures. Two of the district's oldest surviving buildings can be found on the north side of the courthouse square: the Ragland Building (No. 74) and the First National Bank Building (No. 69). The earlier of these,
the First National Bank, was erected, along with 103 E. Third (No. 70), in 1886 but remodeled in the Neo-Classical Revival style in the early 1920s. The first story of the Ragland Building, on the other hand, was constructed in 1901, and a second story was added five years later. Both of these properties have been listed individually on the National Register.

Because the west side of the square burned in 1901, all of the buildings on this block date from late 1901 to 1908. Although some have been altered, these basic brick and stone structures remain intact. The Newman Building (No. 33), a fine, two-story, ashlar structure built in 1902, still retains the majority of its original exterior features.

Other buildings from this early period of prosperity can be found near the square. For instance, 108 W. Broadway (No. 30), a brick commercial structure with Neo-Classical influences, and the Crane-Bradford Building (No. 27), for instance, were among the first buildings to be erected away from the courthouse. The Luella Building (No. 48) at 319 Oak is also a fine example of this earlier commercial architecture. This two-story brick building, which was erected in 1910, still dominates a block of predominately single-story structures.

The Missouri Pacific Depot, which was originally constructed in 1916 as the Texas and Pacific freight depot, is the only remaining railroad depot of a half-dozen that once stood in or near downtown. The two-story, brick Santa Fe and Commercial hotels (Nos. 8 and 23) likewise represent the last survivors of a thriving hotel industry which grew up during this period in the downtown area.

Little construction occurred during or immediately after World War I, whereas an era of expansion throughout the 1920s swelled the size of the downtown district. Buildings on the square were replaced, altered, or expanded, and the central business district grew to the east, north, and west. Railroad tracks on the south and west eventually limited the district's expansion in those directions, pushing it eastward and northward instead.

The district's only commercial Mission style building, the Johnston Funeral Home (No. 11), was built at the western edge of downtown in 1929. The Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumberyard complex at the northwest corner of the district was also expanded during this period. The Carmichael Ford Building (No. 13) and the building at 200 W. Third (No. 14) were also built in the 1920s.

The Ford Building and other structures such as the Magnolia Petroleum Service Station (No. 2), the building at 408-412 Oak that housed auto and implement dealerships (No. 83), and the Motor Supply and Fuel Building at 420 Oak (No. 86) represent the increasing importance of the automobile and mechanized farm equipment in Sweetwater's economy.
The northeast corner of the district is anchored by the Municipal Auditorium and City Hall Building (No. 90), and by the Central Fire Station (No. 81). Built in 1926, these Spanish Colonial Revival structures were a major project of the city, and are still regarded with pride by the citizens of Sweetwater. The large Auditorium building is, perhaps, architecturally the most impressive and significant building in Sweetwater, and the only one still standing in the downtown area known to be designed by a major Texas architectural firm (Page Brothers of Austin). Earlier this same firm had designed the Classical Nolan County Courthouse, completed in 1917 and demolished in 1976.

As Sweetwater's economy boomed in the 1920s, many small buildings were replaced by larger, more elaborate structures. Terra-cotta and stone ornamentation appeared in large quantities on many of the structures. Among the more elaborate replacement buildings were the 1928 brick and terra-cotta Levy's Department Store (No. 61), the 1924 Neo-Classical Revival Texas Bank and Trust Building (No. 43), the brick and cast-stone Texas Electric Service Company Building (No. 50), and the Pittman Floor Coverings Building (No. 52) with its elaborate terra-cotta facade. The simple but massive Doscher Building (No. 76) replaced the old Nolan County Jail in 1928.

Once the full impact of the Depression hit Sweetwater in the 1930s, construction slowed dramatically. The large Neo-Classical Revival U.S. Post Office, built in 1931, and the two-story Southwestern Bell Building, built in 1933, were the last major buildings constructed in the downtown area that exhibited any Classical influences. After this, modern styling and materials became the trend both for new construction and for remodeling. The arched-girder, concrete highway bridge on the old Bankhead Highway (U.S. 80) (No. 1) was built in 1935 with federal funds. Moderne styling appeared in Sweetwater in the Hartgraves Real Estate Building (No. 12), 503 Oak (No. 56), Whitaker's Bakery (No. 63), and the Texas Theater (No. 66). The building at 217 Oak (No. 37) and the Trammel-Cowan complex (Nos. 38 and 39), all built in 1902, received new Moderne facades in 1940 and 1941.

Since 1940, a few structures have been added to the district, but most changes are the result of alterations and facade modifications. During the 1950s and 1960s metal facades appeared on several downtown buildings. Although modifications and remodelings have taken their toll, most modified buildings could someday be restored with a minimum of effort. Many original, or near original, storefronts are lurking behind aluminum and plywood panels, most notably Levy's Department Store (No. 61), the S.D. Myres Saddlery (No. 32), and the building at 217 Oak (No. 37).

At the present time, several buildings are being restored to their original appearance. Among these are the First National Bank Building and the Municipal Auditorium and City Hall Building. Other buildings have been restored, such as the Ragland Building. Many are simply preserved in a near original condition, including the Montgomery Ward Building (No. 43), the Newman Building (No. 33), the U.S. Post Office (No. 88), the Johnston Funeral Home (No. 11), and the Luella Building (No. 48). These edifices, along with the rest of the district's contributing structures, date from the 1900 to 1930 era, and retain the style and flavor of the period.
Since 1950, economic competition from Abilene, San Angelo, Big Spring, and Lubbock, in addition to the nationwide decline of the railroad industry, have served to retard Sweetwater's development. Interstate 20 passes on the southern edge of the city, well away from the center of town. The old Bankhead Highway (U.S. 80) which runs through the heart of downtown now serves only as a secondary route. The hotel and motel industry has moved to the Interstate, as have many restaurants and service stations. Highway traffic now passes by a city where it once stopped.

The downtown commercial district reached the bottom of its economic slide in the 1970s. An unfortunate side effect of the economic decline has been the deterioration and demolition of many buildings. Quite a few downtown structures are in need of repair and maintenance. Many others have been removed entirely. The railroads have demolished most of their buildings, and the county's large Neo-Classical courthouse, built in 1922, was torn down in 1976 to be replaced by the present courthouse. Two entire blocks of structures directly east of the courthouse, including the seven-story Bluebonnet Hotel, were demolished in the early 1970s to make room for a bank. Also, two major hotels were demolished and the lots left vacant in the 400 block of Oak. The citizens of Sweetwater are now realizing that they must strive to preserve the remainder of the downtown area before it meets a similar fate.
The structures within the Sweetwater Commercial Historic District represent the growth and evolution of the city from a small whistle stop on the Texas and Pacific Railroad, into an important transportation, agricultural, and regional trade center serving a large part of West Texas. The buildings included in the district represent the architectural and historical development of Sweetwater, particularly during the prosperous period from 1900 to 1930. These buildings present a wide variety of types and styles, but form a cohesive unit consisting of the major remaining section of the city's earliest commercial, governmental, and transportation center.

Sweetwater was established on the right-of-way of the newly completed Texas and Pacific Railroad in 1881. The town became the Nolan County seat at the same time. For the next twenty years, the little town grew very slowly, reaching a population of only 670 by 1900. The cattle ranching industry initiated Sweetwater's role as a small regional trade center and shipping point in these early years.

Between 1900 and World War I, the town experienced a period of growth from increased ranching activities, the influx of farm families seeking new lands on the Texas ranges, and the development of railroads. A farming industry based on cotton and grain soon surrounded the city. The building of the Kansas City, Mexico, and Orient Railroad outward from Sweetwater during this decade also spurred local growth. The Orient line began construction in 1903. It built north to the Oklahoma line, then on to Wichita, Kansas, and south to San Angelo, Alpine, and Fort Stockton, Texas. The main division point and shops for the Orient were located in Sweetwater, thus contributing to the local economy. After the Orient line experienced financial difficulties, the Santa Fe Railway purchased it in 1928.

By 1910, Sweetwater was at the intersection of two major railroads, and had emerged as an agricultural and transportation center serving a large part of West Texas. The city's population swelled more than 600 percent in ten years, to 4,176 in the 1910 census.

A great many of the important downtown buildings were constructed between 1910 and World War I to serve the needs of the growing population. The Santa Fe Hotel (No. 8) and the Commercial Hotel (No. 23) provided shelter to newly arrived citizens, traveling men, and railroad workers. Only these two buildings remain to mark a once-thriving downtown hotel industry. The Missouri Pacific Depot (No. 57), built in 1916 as the Texas and Pacific Freight Depot, stands as the last survivor of a half dozen such depots that once stood in this railroad town.

The Crane-Bradford Building (No. 27) housed the offices of Royston Campbell Crane, a pioneer lawyer, booster, and founder of the West Texas Historical Association. Next door is 108 W. Broadway (No. 30), a Neo-Classical Revival building which provided retail
9. Major Bibliographical References


(see continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property ca. 37 acres

Quadrangle name Sweetwater, Texas

UTM References

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Verbal boundary description and justification
Beginning at the northwest corner of E.3rd and Locust, proceed east 230 ft. to the middle of the alley on the east side of the U.S. Post Office (Building #88). Then proceed north 380 ft. up the alley to the north curb of E. 4th Street, then east 150 ft. along the north curb, (see continuation sheet)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Donald R. and Sally Still Abbe (with Kenneth Breisch, THC)

organization

street & number 4124 Chicago

city or town Lubbock

state Texas

date November 15, 1983

telephone (806) 792-7826

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state X local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

For NPS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration
and office space for the downtown area. In the 200 block of Oak stand several buildings associated with local civic leaders. The Bradford Building (No. 31), was built by local civic leader J.A.J. Bradford. The building at 205 Oak (No. 32) was built by the famous West Texas saddlemaker and Sweetwater Mayor Samuel D. Myres in 1902. The Newman Building (No. 33) was built by pioneer (and land speculator) J.F. Newman in 1901. Pioneer merchant and banker Thomas Trammel built the Trammel-Cowan Building and the Trammel Bank Building (Nos. 38 and 39) in 1901.

Other significant structures from this early era are scattered throughout the district. The Sweetwater Reporter Building (No. 41) was built as the first Texas Bank and Trust Building, and has housed the newspaper since 1923. The Luella Building (No. 48) was built in 1910. It has housed a variety of businesses and offices through the years, and is one of the most impressive examples of early twentieth-century vernacular architecture in the district. The Ragland Building (No. 74) was built in 1901 and expanded in 1906 by pioneer lawyer R.A. Ragland. This structure housed Ragland's and R.C. Crane's law offices until 1909. The restoration of this building in the 1970s first focused attention on downtown Sweetwater's historic building stock.

Following a lull in its growth from 1910 to 1920, a period during which Sweetwater's population rose by less than 200 people, a population boom occurred between 1920 and 1930. This decade was marked by an economic surge caused by a continual expansion of the local agricultural sector, significant oil and gas discoveries in West Texas and the Permian Basin, and the growth of the local gypsum and plasterboard industry. Sweetwater served as a gateway to both the agricultural and oil empires developing in West Texas at the time.

During these years Sweetwater appeared to many to be a city of destiny. This was first given serious consideration as the location for Texas Technological College, showing that the city was seen as a progressive and competitive municipality in the early 1920s. Sweetwater's local leaders also led the movement for the West Texas Chamber of Commerce in 1916. Thomas F. Hodge, Secretary of Sweetwater's Chamber, and R.M. Grisson, a local civic leader, sponsored the West Texas Chamber's initial meeting, which was held in Sweetwater on April 7, 1916. Sweetwater's Mayor, A.B. Yantis, also attended. All Sweetwater delegates addressed the meeting, urging the creation of a regional Chamber of Commerce to further the needs and desires of the area. Sweetwater's leaders played an active role in the Chamber's activities and in West Texas politics throughout the 1920s.

During Sweetwater's second period of growth, in the 1920s, many more of the district's significant structures were built. The Texas Bank and Trust Building (No. 43) is an impressive Neo-Classical Revival bank building. It was built in 1925 and served as home to a major local financial institution for over forty years. The Texas Electric Utilities Building (No. 50) was built to house the company's offices, store, and ice house about 1926. A new and large Levy's Department Store (No. 61) was built in 1928 by early merchant Abe Levy. The Levy family was in the dry cleaning goods' business in Sweetwater from 1911 into the 1970s. Another office and commercial structure erected...
in this same year was the four-story Doscher Building (No. 75). The construction of such a large structure by a local investor was a sign of confidence in the city's future.

The city itself built two major structures in 1926: the Central Fire Station (No. 81) and the Municipal Auditorium and City Hall complex (No. 90). These Spanish Colonial Revival structures were designed by the Austin firm of Page and Page. To serve this growing community, the U.S. Postal Service constructed the large Neo-Classical Revival Post Office building (No. 88) near the square in 1931.

Sweetwater reached the zenith of its economic prosperity and strength during the years 1920-1930, achieving in 1930 a population of 10,848. However, the Depression of the following decade halted the town's rapid growth, and few significant structures were built after it struck. One exception was the original portion of the Southwestern Bell regional offices (No. 91), which was constructed in 1933. Most of the new buildings built in this period were of the popular Moderne style, including the Texas Theater (No. 66), 503 Oak (No. 56), and 206 W. 23rd (No. 12).

After 1930 Sweetwater never regained its former momentum. Its significance further diminished as nearby Abilene grew, and its population expanded only slightly between 1930 and 1960, to a high of 13,914 people.

By 1980, this figure had declined to 12,242. The years of declining population and loss of the economic base have taken their toll on the city. Recently, however, Sweetwater's city administration and local investors have begun to work to reverse this trend. It is now the intention of the city to revitalize and rehabilitate the downtown area, and make it once again the heart of the community.

City of Sweetwater, Texas Tax Rolls.

Cox, John Radford; Focht, Israel Shell; and Levy, Abe Reference Files. Southwest Collection, Texas Tech University.

Crane, R.C. "Early Days in Sweetwater." West Texas Historical Association Yearbook, 1932.


Harper, Carl. "Building the Santa Fe Railroad Through the South Plains." West Texas Historical Association Yearbook, 1933.


Nolan County Photo File, Southwest Collection, Texas Tech University.


"Sweetwater as a location for Texas Technological College." Located in Texas Tech Locating Board Records, 1923, Southwest Collection, Texas Tech University.


Sweetwater Daily Reporter, various issues.

Sweetwater Photo Collection, Nolan County Museum and City of Sweetwater.

Sweetwater Reference File, Southwest Collection, Texas Tech University.


150 ft. north up the west curb of Elm, then west 380 ft. along the north walls of the Southwestern Bell Building (#91) and the Municipal Auditorium (#90) to the west curb of Locust, then south 100 ft., then west along the north wall of the Presbyterian Church (#87) 150 ft. to the middle of the alley. Then proceed north 250 ft. to the intersection of this alley and the south curb of E. 5th, then west 230 ft. to the southwest corner of Oak and W. 5th. Then proceed north 230 ft. along the west curb of Oak, then west 150' along the north wall of 501 Oak (#55), 503 Oak (#56), and 110 W. 5th (#54), then south 380 ft., then west 530 ft. to the east curb of Ash. Then proceed south 860 ft. along the east curb of Ash, then west 155 ft. along the north wall of 300 W. Broadway (#2), then south 50 ft. to the north curbline of W. Broadway. Then proceed west approximately 800 ft. along the outside edge of the West Broadway Bridge to the northwest corner of the bridge, then south across W. Broadway to the southwest corner of the bridge, then east about 930 ft. along the outside of the bridge to the southeast corner of W. Broadway and Ash. Then, south 150' along the east curb of Ash, then east 580 ft. down the alley south of the 100 and 200 blocks of W. Broadway, then south 150' behind 101-115 Oak to the north curb of W. lst. Then proceed west 125 ft., then south 100 ft. past the southwest corner of the Missouri Pacific depot (#57), then north along Locust to the beginning point.

Justification of Boundaries

The Sweetwater Commercial District contains the surviving, original section of the early twentieth-century economic core of the city. Within the boundaries of the district, which are detailed herein, are the remaining architecturally and historically significant structures of the 1990-1930s central business district. The railroad and industrial sections of the city are to the west and south of the district, as are two major railroad rights-of-way, while residential structures are on the north and new construction on the east.

The western boundary of the district is a straight line from the alley south of Carroll Buick (No. 3) to the edge of the property owned by Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber (No. 19). The only break in this line is the westward extension of the boundary around the old Bankhead Highway (U.S. 80) bridge to bring it into the district. Vacant land and a scattering of industrial structures along the railroad lie to the west of this district boundary. The northern boundary was drawn somewhat irregularly, to avoid residential structures yet include all of the commercial buildings at this end of the district, especially those on Locust and Oak. The eastern boundary of the district extends to Elm to include the U.S. Post Office (No. 88), the Southwestern Bell offices (No. 91), the Municipal Auditorium/City Hall (No. 90), and the new City Hall (No. 89). This eastern boundary then turns west, back to Locust, then south to avoid two square blocks of new and intrusive structures. The southern boundary is also irregular in order for it to cross south of First Street to the Missouri-Pacific (old Texas Pacific) freight depot and the old Railway Express office, (Nos. 57 and 20). This line turns north and then west to avoid a half-dozen or so deteriorated, heavily modified, intrusive structures that face either the lower end of Pecan or West First Street. The boundaries follow the natural limits of the historic commercial district and only vary to avoid buildings which do not belong in the district because of use, age, or modification.
DEFINITION OF CATEGORIES

Contributing: Structures classified as contributing reflect the district's historic and architectural significance as explained in Sections 7 and 8, and have retained a majority of their original facade details.

Noncontributing: Structures, which because of extensive alteration or a late construction date, do not reflect the areas of significance addressed in sections 7 and 8, have been classified as noncontributing. Generally, these are structures that were constructed after the mid-1930s, or that have had their facades extensively remodeled or covered after this period. Some of the latter group are potentially eligible for reclassification as contributing structures if the modern facades are removed and significant details are found to be intact or can be restored.
### Site No. 1

**Photo No. 7**

**Historic Name:** Highway Bridge  

**Address:** W. Broadway, across the A.T.S.F. Railway tracks  

**Owner:** Texas State Highway Department  

**Austin, Texas**  

**Date of Construction, Alteration:** 1935  

**Category:** Contributing  

**Description and Significance:** Two-lane, reinforced-concrete highway bridge with arched girders built by the Texas Highway Department in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Public Roads. Highway Engineer Gibb Gilchrist and contractor W.R. West collaborated on the public works project. The bridge has much ornate detailing in concrete along the railings, and includes concrete light standards along each side of the bridge.

### Site No. 2

**Photo No. 8**

**Historic Name:** Magnolia Petroleum Co.  

**Present Tenant(s):** Blair's Used Cars  

**Address:** 300 W. Broadway  

**Owner:** L.C. Hartgraves  

1405 Bristol  

Sweetwater, Texas 79556  

**Date of Construction, Alteration:** Between 1922 and 1927  

**Category:** Contributing  

**Description and Significance:** Small, one-story brick veneer service station with hipped roof. This typical 1920s station consists of a small rectangular office area with original wooden windows and door, and an open pump area supported by two massive tapered columns. A pressed-metal ceiling adorns the open pumping bay. A much newer (1940s) grease-rack building is joined to the station by a wooden and corrugated metal storage area.
Site No. 3

Address: 219 W. Broadway

Present Tenant(s): Carroll Buick-Cadillac Company

Owner: Carroll Buick-Cadillac
  P.O. Box 256
  Sweetwater, Texas  79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1922 and 1927

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Three tile and concrete commercial buildings with brick veneer facades, now combined as one auto dealership. The simple facades include some cornice and parapet detailing in brick. Some original wooden-framed windows remain, while other storefronts have had the windows replaced with new, aluminum-framed, plate glass. The storefront on the middle building is completely enclosed, hiding the fact that the structure is roofless. All the buildings are painted.

Site No. 4

Present Tenant(s): Seven Eleven Machine Shop

Address: 211 W. Broadway

Owner: Vivian Wimberly
  811 E. Broadway
  Sweetwater, Texas  79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1904 and 1914

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building, now stuccoed on front facade. Three-bay front with entrances in the narrow center bay, and a wooden garage door and new storefront in the outer bays. The corbelling along the cornice is still evident through the stucco.
Site No. 5

Present Tenant(s): Seven Eleven Auto Parts

Address: 207 W. Broadway

Owner: Vivian Wimberly
        811 E. Broadway
        Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Category: Contributing

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1914 and 1922

Description and Significance: Simple, one-story brick building which originally contained two storefronts. Metal-framed plate-glass windows, a metal and glass modern door, and new brick panels fill the storefronts. The transom lights above the wooden awning are filled with wood.

Site No. 6

Present Tenant(s): Candy's Auto Parts

Address: 113 Pecan

Owner: John Gandy
        113 Pecan
        Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Pre-1914

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building now completely stuccoed. All detailing on front facade has been obliterated, and a metal overhead door, new windows, and a solid wood-paneled door added.

Site No. 7

Photo No. 9

Present Tenant(s): Vacant

Address: 115 Pecan

Owner: John Anz
        107 Pecan
        Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1922 and 1930

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick building with unique polychrome brickwork on front facade. In addition to the red and black brickwork patterns, the principal features of the facade are the heavy concrete lintels above the window and storefront areas. All windows are now filled in with wooden inserts.

Site No. 8

Photo No. 10

Historic Name: Santa Fe Hotel

Present Tenant(s): Vacant

Address: 201 W. Broadway

Owner: Roland Kinsey
P.O. Box 308
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1908 and 1914

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story dark-red-brick hotel with a corner entrance. Unusual brick ornamentation, with buff brick set to form panels and to create a bracketed effect along the parapet edge. A wooden awning extends along the Broadway facade of the building. All doors appear to have been replaced, and window and transom openings are covered in wood. The building was used as a hotel until the 1940s, when automobiles replaced the railroad as the primary means of travel.

Site No. 9

Historic Name: C.S. Boyles Motor Co.

Present Tenant(s): Hartgraves Brothers Texaco and Tire Center

Address: 218 W. Broadway
Owner: L.C. Hartgraves
1405 Bristol
Sweetwater, Texas  79556
Category: Noncontributing
Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1922 and 1927

Description and Significance: Awkward complex of several units, all additions to a large, brick-veneered, tile building. Numerous doors and windows have been added to the building to join the various components, all of which have been altered substantially throughout the years. The most visible intrusion is a huge, corrugated-metal canopy supported by metal pipes which covers the pump area.

Site No. 10

Present Tenant(s): Alldredge Appliance Company
Address: 206 Ash

Owner: L.C. Hartgraves
1405 Bristol
Sweetwater, Texas

Date of Construction, Alteration: Late 1940s
Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick building with metal casement windows and plate-glass display windows. Simple structure with no ornamentation. Though it is of a later date than most other buildings in the district, it is of mass and materials similar to much of the district. Attached structures in the rear may be of an earlier date, and may have been moved in from other locations.

Site No. 11

Historic Name: Johnston Funeral Home

Present Tenant(s): Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council
Address: 219 W. Third

Owner: Nolan County
County Courthouse
Sweetwater, Texas  79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1929
Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story Mission Revival building. Exterior walls are of brick covered on the front facade in stucco. The front facade consists of a Mission Revival parapet, arched windows with fanlights, and a recessed entry way with French doors. The name "Johnston" and the year 1929 are etched on the upper facade. The building is virtually original.

Site No. 12

Historic Name: Western Product Co.

Present Tenant(s): Hartgraves Real Estate and Tax Service

Address: 207 W. 3rd

Owner: L.C. Hartgraves
1405 Bristol
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1930 and 1934

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story stucco-over-tile building in Moderne style. Small building is a good example of the style, with strong horizontal banding, corner metal casement windows, exaggerated pilasters flanking the recessed entrance, and glass-block inserts.

Site No. 13

Historic Name: Dabney Motor Company

Present Tenant(s): Harry Carmichael Ford

Address: 218 W. 3rd

Owner: Harry Carmichael
P.O. Box 398
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1922 and 1927

Category: Contributing
Description and Significance: One-story brown-and-black brick building designed for use as an auto dealership. One of the few buildings in the district that has maintained its original use throughout its history. The building, with its original plate-glass show windows, terracotta tile beneath the windows, and art deco light fixtures is little changed from the original.

Site No. 14

Present Tenant(s): Farmer Stockman Supply

Address: 200 W. 3rd

Owner: Willis Davis
1000 James
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1927 and 1930

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick structure built as a grocery store, and housing at various times a feed store, laundry, auto dealership, and implement dealerships. The red and black brick building has a stepped parapet and the multiple-bay construction typical of the 1920s. The bays remain intact, though some have been filled in with plaster and aggregate.

Site No. 15

Present Tenant(s): Unknown

Address: 305 Pecan

Owner: Willis Davis
1000 James
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: late 1940s

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick garage with flat roof. The narrow facade contains a large, wooden, overhead door and a single-paneled wooden door with a glass-block transom.
Site No. 16

Historic Name: Piggly-Wiggly Grocery Store

Present Tenant(s): Nolan Furniture Company

Address: 307 Pecan

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1937 and 1940

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building with a stucco facade built as a grocery store. Has many details common to Moderne style, especially in the black ceramic tile used as accents on the walls. The original transoms are filled in with corrugated metal, though the original glass display windows still span the front of the building. The Prairie style double doors are original, and a flat wooden awning runs the length of the building.

Site No. 17

Historic Name: Ira's Cafe

Present Tenant(s): Spanish Inn

Address: 311 Pecan

Owner: Patricia Lopez
1400 Avondale
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: After 1947 (majority), except for S.E. corner late 1930s.

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story concrete block building covered in heavily textured stucco, surrounding a tiny brick building in the southeast corner. Multi-light windows, carved wooden door, and aluminum storm door.

Site No. 18

Historic Name: Hartgraves Oil Co.

Present Tenant(s): Vacant
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Address: 313 Pecan
Owner: Patricia Lopez
1400 Avondale
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1937 and 1941 (original section); After 1947 (concrete-block section)
Category: Noncontributing
Description and Significance: One-story gasoline station. Original section at east corner of the building is stuccoed brick, and has a metal canopy over the pump area. The older building is surrounded by a newer concrete-block section.

Site No. 19
Historic Name: Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Co.

Present Tenant(s): Same
Address: 401 Pecan
Owner: Higginbotham-Bartlett
P.O. Box 636
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Pre-1914 (some sheds); Between 1922 and 1930 (brick warehouse)
Category: Contributing
Description and Significance: Complex of buildings including lumber sheds and brick warehouse on the southern side of the lot. The one-story lumbershed on the north side of the complex, with a tin roof and brick walls, existed as early as 1914. The brick warehouse was built of multicolored brown brick to replace an earlier frame structure. Through the warehouse remains intact, the original storefront windows and entrance are filled in with vertical wood panels.

Site No. 20
Photo No. 11
Historic Name: American Railway Express Company

Present Tenant(s): Unknown/storage
Address: Railroad Right of Way, south of block W. 1st

Owner: Missouri Pacific Railroad
c/o G.H. Kading, Jr.
505 N. Industrial Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75207

Date of Construction, Alteration: Circa late 1910s

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story, hipped-roof, frame building with brick veneer applied to the lower part. Very little has been altered on this building, which has large, diamond-shaped, composition shingles, multilight wooden windows, large wooden freight doors, and interior brick chimneys. The outline of the diamond-shaped Railway Express sign is visible on the exterior of the building.

Site No. 21

Present Tenant(s): Napa Auto Parts

Address: 119 W. Broadway

Owner: James G. Tucker
704 Thomas
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1922-1923

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story building of concrete blocks and brick built to house a service station, a "stadium and cinema," and a hardware store and warehouse. The building was modified at a later date, probably in the 1930s, with the addition of stucco and black-ceramic-tile ornamentation. At that time the corner bay was rounded. Original doors, windows, and transoms remain in some portions of the building.

Site No. 22

Historic Name: American Cafe

Present Tenant(s): Unknown

Address: 101-107 Oak
Owner: Dale Martin
1803 Morris
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Clovis Epps
1714 Harvey
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration, Between 1914 and 1915

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick and concrete building that has housed a variety of businesses over the years, including a cafe to serve passengers from the trains stopping across 1st Street. The building originally had a corner entrance and typical wooden storefronts along the Oak Street facade. Over the years, the building has been modified with stucco and a conglomeration of entrances and garage doors.

Site No. 23
Photo No. 12
Historic Name: Commercial Hotel
Present Tenant(s): residence
Address: 109-113 Oak

Owner: Cecil Stracener
111 Oak
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1911
Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick hotel built in 1911 and operated as the Commercial Hotel until after World War II. The dark brick facade has been covered in stucco, though original details, including recessed panels, a dentil course, and the date "1911," are still visible. An arched window marks the upstairs hallway. The wooden storefronts retain their original paneled-glass doors, and a metal shed awning covers the front of the building.

Site No. 24
Present Tenant(s): Stracener’s Furniture
Address: 121 Oak

Owner: Cecil Stracener
111 Oak
Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Dates of Construction, Alteration: Between 1908 and 1914

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick building now covered in stucco. Originally dark brick, very similar to 109 Oak. The projecting brick cornice and some ornamentation are still visible. The lower facade was renovated in the 1950s with tilted-glass show windows and new brick. The one-story addition on the northern side of the building was added in the late 1940s or 1950s. At various times fraternal orders such as the Loyal Order of the Moose, the I.O.O.F., and the Woodmen of the World met on the second floor.

Site No. 25

Present Tenant(s): James L. Wilkes, Attorney at Law

Address: 101 W. Broadway

Owner: James Wilkes
       1 W. Broadway
       Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1976

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story contemporary, brick, office building surrounded by parking lots. Building has extended flat roof and smoked-glass windows. Surrounded by extensive landscaping and parking lots, the building, though attractive, is an interruption to the streetscape.

Site No. 26

Present Tenant(s): Little China Shop, Lanco Storm Doors

Address: 116-120 W. Broadway

Owner: Vivian Wimberly (W. 45')
       811 E. Broadway
       Sweetwater, Texas 79556

       Jimmy Dulaney & Mary Jane Bell (E. 45')
       P.O. Box 188
       Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Dates of Construction, Alteration: Between 1922 and 1927

Category: Contributing
Description and Significance: One-story brick building with a mezzanine. The simple four-bay facade is divided by five engaged pilasters and includes simple brick ornamentation at the cornice line. The original marble remains under the storefront windows, though some doors have been replaced with new metal and glass units. Interior pressed-metal ceilings and the wooden mezzanine balustrade remain on the interior. Among the many stores housed in the building over the years were Sears and Roebuck, and Safeway.

Site No. 27

Photo No. 13

Historic Name: Crane-Bradford Building

Present Tenant(s): Texas Employment Commission, Taylor Jewelers

Address: 112-114 W. Broadway

Owner: A.B. Hawley
1105 Pine
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1908 and 1910

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story solid masonry structure originally used for offices and retail stores. Three-bay storefront arrangement is repeated in the upper facade divisions, with one large arched window flanked by two smaller units. Above the three window openings bracketed ledges form a broken cornice. The building has a crenelated parapet which includes cast-stone ornamentation similar to the other facade elements. Although the original storefront arrangement remains, alterations include new doors, a wooden awning, and an awkward stucco and tile band across the facade.

R.C. Crane, pioneer lawyer, booster, and founder of the West Texas Historical Association, had his law offices on the second floor of the building as early as 1910.

Site No. 28

Historic Name: Sears Roebuck

Present Tenant(s): Lamp Post Restaurant
Address: 206 Pecan

Owner: John Johnson
P.O. Box 843
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1927 and 1930

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick structure. All original entrances and windows have been covered in stucco, and the entrance consists of two solid, covered, wooden doors set in a recessed entryway.

Site No. 29

Present Tenant(s): Nolan Furniture Company
Address: 119 W. 3rd
Owner: Jack Reeves
P.O. Box 758
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1922 and 1927; alterations at various times through its history

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick commercial building constructed as a general store. At various times the building was divided into as many as six storefronts, housing such diverse businesses as music stores, several furniture stores, barbershops, and a saddlery. Over the years, the building was modified with popular remodeling materials including black ceramic tiles under the plate-glass windows, new textured stucco, and a metal mansard roof. The alley behind the store was enclosed and a door added to the Pecan Street side to create the Nolan Furniture Company Appliance Annex.

Site No. 30

Photo No. 14

Present Tenant(s): Al's Cafe, Barber Shop
Address: 108 W. Broadway

Owner: Al Brower
1403 Sunnyvale
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1908 and 1914

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story, solid masonry structure with Neo-Classical references. The front facade is virtually intact, with cast-stone projecting cornice and ornamentation on the engaged pilasters forming panels above and under the 1/1 wooden windows. Older wooden storefronts also remain, with glass-paneled doors and transoms covered in plywood. A large air-conditioning unit is balanced precariously on the wooden awning. The building has housed a series of office and retail uses over the last 70 years, including the local selective service offices in World War II.

An exterior stairwell connects this building and 201 Oak.

Site No. 31

Historic Name: Bradford Building

Present Tenant(s): Harris Pharmacy, Farm and Ranch Western Wear

Address: 201-203 Oak

Owner: Bill Harris
P.O. Box 648
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1902; front facade late 1920s

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick and stone building constructed for J.A.J. Bradford. The south wall (Broadway facade) is brick covered in stucco, with rusticated stone courses forming lintels and sills for the windows and a corbeled cornice. The front facade (Oak) was originally in this style as well, but was replaced by the present brick in the late 1920s. This facade is dark-red brick with a projecting brick cornice, a crenelated parapet, and large windows. The storefronts have been remodeled several times over the building's history.
### Site No. 32

**Historic Name:** S.D. Myres Saddlery  
**Present Tenant(s):** Staton's Pharmacy  
**Address:** 205 Oak  
**Owner:** James Staton  
1504 Crescent  
Sweetwater, Texas 79556  
**Date of Construction, Alteration:** 1902  
**Category:** Noncontributing  
**Description and Significance:** Two-story brick commercial building built for S.D. Myres, famous saddlemaker and early mayor of Sweetwater. The original brick facade is now covered with vertical, corrugated metal and a modern brick and glass storefront. However, the original front probably remains under the metal and could be uncovered with a minimal effort.

### Site No. 33

**Historic Name:** Newman Building  
**Present Tenant(s):** Cowen's Shoes, Backstage Clothing  
**Address:** 207-209 Oak  
**Owner:** Cowen's, Inc.  
P.O. Box 297  
Sweetwater, Texas 79556  
**Date of Construction, Alteration:** 1902  
**Category:** Contributing  
**Description and Significance:** Two-story rusticated stone building built by pioneer J.F. Newman. For many years the Elk's Lodge had meeting space on the second floor of the building. The parapet ornament, which reads "1902 Newman," has been removed but is in the possession of the building's owner. The building has a bracketed cornice and arched openings for both the second-floor windows and the first-floor storefronts. The second-floor windows are double-hung 1/1 wood with a semicircular metal insert with embossed fan design. The first-floor storefronts have been modified, though the original arched shape is still preserved behind the modern signage.
Site No. 34

Present Tenant(s): Connie's

Address: 211 Oak

Owner: Estate of Jimmie Pullig
P.O. Box 3277
San Angelo, Texas 76902

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1902 and 1908; altered 1970s

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick building with original polychromatic brick facade covered with corrugated metal. The original facade probably remains fairly intact under the metal and could be uncovered. The storefront has been heavily altered, with large rubble stone added along with new doors and windows. A stairwell to the upper floor opens into the sidewalk. This stairway is shared by 211 and 209 Oak.

Site No. 35

Present Tenant(s): Joe Liner Shoes and Apparel

Address: 213 Oak

Owner: Joe Liner
P.O. Box 738
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1902 and 1908

Description and Significance: One-story brick commercial building. Its relatively unadorned facade has a raised central parapet and brick coping. The lower part of the facade has been altered with a recessed doorway, new plate-glass windows, and vertical wood siding. The building has a metal awning.

Site No. 36

Historic Name: Wood Building

Present Tenant(s): Cat's Meow

Address: 215 Oak
Owner: Eugene Kouri  
c/o Salem Kouri  
6344 Inca  
Fort Worth, Texas 76116

Date of Construction, Alteration:  Between 1902 and 1908

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building that has housed many different retail businesses over the years. Original brick detailing still evident, though stucco covers much of the simple facade. The original storefront has been removed and replaced by a modern plate-glass and metal arrangement recessed several feet.

Site No. 37

Photo No. 15

Historic Name: Commercial Building (KTXS-TV)

Present Tenant(s): KTXS-TV

Address: 217 Oak

Owner: Frank Morgan Estate  
P.O. Box 608  
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1902-1908, altered in 1930s, again in 1970s

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: A one-story brick building built between 1902 and 1908. It originally had a simple brick facade with flat awning, typical transoms and store front. During the early 1930s, a Moderne facade was attached. This was a stucco alteration, and the awning was replaced by one of canvas. During the 1970s, a metal, vertically seamed front was installed over the Moderne facade. Removal of the 1970s facade will reveal the Moderne facade, and make this a contributing structure.

Site No. 38

Historic Name: Trammel-Cowan Building

Present Tenant(s): Commercial Building—Beall Abstract
Address: 219 Oak

Owner: Frank Morgan Estate
       P.O. Box 608
       Sweetwater, Texas  79556

Date of Construction, Alteration:  1902-1908, altered in early 1940s

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: Originally an ornate two-story brick building built between 1902 and 1908. Gutted and totally remodeled in the early 1940s. The facade is now stuccoed in a Moderne look, with horizontally and vertically grooved concave elements. Metal casement windows are in front and back, and metal covers the transoms in the front, and the lower floor has been altered in the recent past with new brick and display windows.

Site No. 39

Historic Name: Trammel Bank

Present Tenant(s): Commercial Building, Millie's

Address: 221-225 Oak

Owner: Willis Davis
       1000 James
       Sweetwater, Texas  79556

Date of Construction, Alteration:  1902-1908; altered in very early 1940s

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: A two-story brick bank building erected between 1902 and 1908 by Thomas Trammel, the well-known early Sweetwater pioneer. Gutted and totally remodeled in the Moderne style in the early 1940s. The building is now stuccoed, two-story structure with both vertical and horizontal concave detailing along the parapet. The building has metal casement windows and a large band of black ceramic tile around the front where the transoms once were. The building still has its Moderne, grooved, metal awning, but the lower part of the front has been altered with new brick work, doors, and windows to a limited degree.

Site No. 40

Present Tenant(s): Roy's Barbershop, Doyle Hammack Tax Service
Address: 111 W. 3rd

Owner: Willis Davis
1000 James
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1922 and 1927; altered 1950s
Category: Noncontributing
Description and Significance: One-story brick commercial strip, with front modified with metal, stucco, and new brick. Metal awning across front facade.

Site No. 41

Present Tenant(s): Sweetwater Reporter

Address: 112 W. 3rd

Owner: Donrey Inc.
P.O. Box 1359
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72902

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1911-13; addition in 1970s
Category: Noncontributing
Description and Significance: One-story Neo-Classical Revival brick building built as a bank. The small brick building has Tuscan columns flanking its recessed entrance and pedimented doorway. A large addition on the west side of the building was constructed in the 1970s.

The Sweetwater Reporter began publication in 1911, and acquired this building in 1923. The building is marked as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. It served from 1913 to 1923 as the headquarters for the Texas Bank and Trust.

Site No. 42

Historic Name: McCain Motor Company

Present Tenant(s): Western Auto Company

Address: 306 Pecan

Owner: Andrew McBeath
c/o Jack Harris
P.O. Box 128
Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1937 and 1941 (main building), After 1947 (auto service center, N. side)

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story, concrete-block building with brick veneer. Buff brick walls ornamented only by a simple concrete parapet cap. Three-bay front with narrow separate entrance bay. Transoms filled with wood, and an abbreviated metal awning complete the front facade.

Site No. 43

Historic Name: Texas Bank and Trust

Present Tenant(s): Sweetwater Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1148
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Address: 301 Oak

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1925

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story reinforced-concrete building with brick curtain walls built for the Texas Bank and Trust Company. Neo-Classical red-brick building with ornamentation in the Ionic order, including columns flanking the front door and a projecting cornice with dentils around the street facades of the building. Brick pilasters divide the facades, and windows and doorways are delineated with additional cast-stone ornamentation. Three pedimented doorways lead into the interior. The banking lobby is relatively intact, with much of the original woodwork and counters, and the original vault.

Site No. 44

Historic Name: Clark Insurance Company

Present Tenant(s): Clark Insurance Company

Address 309 Oak
Owner: Davis Clark  
2014 Country Club  
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Late 1940s

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: Brick building built after 1947 that replaced several older brick buildings. Part served as the drive-up bank for the Texas Bank; the building consists of an open steel framed roof. The Clark Agency is in a small office in the northern part of the structure.

Site No. 45

Historic Name: Bullock Electric Co.

Present Tenant(s): Bullock Electric Co.

Address: 311 Oak

Owner: Mike Pridmore  
P.O. Box 1276  
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1908 and 1914

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building intended as an electrical supply store. The tall facade is accented by exaggerated pilasters at the corners, with cast-stone pilaster caps. A corbeled cornice, recessed sign panel, and relatively new storefront complete the front facade. A flat wooden awning runs across the building just below the transom area, which is filled in with stucco.

Site No. 46

Present Tenant(s): Vacant

Address: 313-315 Oak

Owner: Mike Pridmore  
P.O. Box 1276  
Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1914 and 1922

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building containing two storefronts. Simple ornamentation including some corbeling at the cornice level. A concrete lintel spans both storefronts. One storefront is flush with the front of the building and has wood-framed windows, a multi-light transom, and glass-paneled wooden doors. The northern store has a recessed entrance, glass paneled doors, and wood covering the transom lights.

Site No. 47

Present Tenant(s): Ponder and Pearson, Attorneys

Address: 317 Oak

Owner: Ponder and Pearson, Attorneys

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1914 and 1922; altered late 1970s, early 1980s

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story, flat-roofed, brick building that has been heavily modified with a new brick facade, carved wooden door, and tinted glass.

Site No. 48

Historic Name: Luella Building

Present Tenant(s): Richburg's Decorator Center

Address: 319 Oak

Owner: Don McDorman
   P.O. Box 207
   Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1910

Category: Contributing
Description and Significance: Two-story brick building with full basement, built for commercial use on the first floor and offices on the second. Has been a saddle shop, grocery store, J.C. Penney's department store, and a furniture store since the late 1950s. In the early years, district court was held in the upstairs office section while the courthouse was being built. The building consists of a storefront divided into three bays by engaged pilasters and iron posts, with a smaller bay at the south side that contains stairs to the second-floor offices. The store-front is recessed, with ceramic tile under the storewindows, glass-paneled wooden doors, and a metal ceiling in the entry. The dominant feature of the building is the large metal cornice. The date "1910" appears above the stairway entrance. The interior is virtually original, with metal ceilings, a mezzanine at the rear of the first floor, and the original offices on the second floor.

Site No. 49

Historic Name: Watson-Focht Printing

Present Tenant(s): Vacant

Address: 323 Oak

Owner: John C. Vandiver, Jr.
c/o George Poe
P.O. Box 1669
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1914 and 1922

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: Simple, two-story, brick building which originally housed a grocery store on the first floor and a print shop upstairs. Little ornamentation other than a tile panel above the storefront and green ceramic tile under the windows and in the recessed entryway. Upper-story windows filled with wood.

Site No. 50

Historic Name: Texas Electric Service Co.

Present Tenant(s): Harp Music Co.

Address: 325 Oak
Owner: L & H Enterprises  
325 Oak  
Sweetwater, Texas  79556  

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1922 and 1927  

Category: Contributing  

Description and Significance: Two-story brick building constructed as offices, store, and ice house for Texas Electrical Service Company. Variegated brown brick with cast-stone ornamentation around the parapet. An open porch at the rear of the building allowed access to the ice vault from West 4th Street. Rustic stone has been used to enclose the original storefront, and windows on all facades are covered in metal.

Site No. 51  

Historic Name: Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Co.  

Present Tenant(s): Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Co.  

Address: 112 W. 4th  

Owner: Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Co.  
P.O. Box 636  
Sweetwater, Texas  79556  

Date of Construction, Alteration: c. mid-1930s  

Category: Contributing  

Description and Significance: One-story, brick-faced, tile structure built in the mid-1930s as an expansion of Higginbotham-Bartlett's lumberyard on Pecan Street (directly west). Buff brick facade facing w. 4th has engaged pilasters delineating openings in the building, and there is some ornamental brickwork around the cornice.

Site No. 52  

Present Tenant(s): Pittman's Floor Coverings  

Address: 401 Oak
Owner: Andrew McBeath
  c/o Jack Harris
  P.O. Box 128
  Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1922 and 1927

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick building with terra-cotta facade built according to a plan used by Montgomery Ward across the state, although there is no record that Ward's ever occupied the building, which stood vacant for years during the 1930s. The terra-cotta facade includes urn statuary along the curvilinear parapet, foliage swags, and a variety of medallions. Green terra-cotta panels in the upper facade are repeated in a wide band of green tile between the first and second-story window level. The lower storefront has been altered with black ceramic tile, new brick, and new windows and doors. The upper story windows are covered with corrugated metal.

Site No. 53

Present Tenant(s): Jack Hobbs Plumbing, Salvation Army

Address: 405-409 Oak

Owner: Jack Hobbs
  P.O. Box 77
  Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1902 and 1908; alterations to front facade in the 1930s.

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story concrete building built early in the century and altered in the 1930s to its present appearance. The front of the building is identical to that of 116 Oak. Storefronts consist of stucco scored to look like stone, a metal-tile shed roof at the parapet edge, and wood-framed plate-glass transoms, and glass-paneled wooden doors. A brick pillar from the Wright Hotel (now demolished) remains at the northern edge of the building.

Site No. 54

Present Tenant(s): Ludlum Measurements
Address: 110 W. 5th

Owner: Ludlum Measurements
P.O. Box 248
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1922 and 1930

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building constructed as a bus garage. Brick similar to 501 Oak. Three-bay front with ornamental panels and a vaguely Mission style parapet. Storefront bays have been filled in with stucco and new windows and doors, but the basic structure remains intact.

Site No. 55

Historic Name: Sunbeam Market Place

Present Tenants: Ludlum Measurements

Address: 501 Oak

Owner: Ludlum Measurements
P.O. Box 248
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: About 1930

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building used over the years as an automobile dealership, grocery store, and manufacturing concern. The major feature of this building is the arrangement of regularly spaced pilasters with rounded caps. Brick panels between the pilasters are in a basketweave pattern. The original storefront areas have been filled with stucco, and the transoms covered in metal.

Site No. 56

Present Tenant(s): Ludlum Measurements

Address: 503 Oak
Site No. 57

Historic Name: Texas and Pacific Railroad Freight Depot

Present Tenant(s): Missouri-Pacific Railroad

Owner: Missouri-Pacific Railroad
c/o G.H. Kading, Jr.
505 N. Industrial Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75207

Address: Railroad Right-of-Way, south of 100 block E. 1st

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1916

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Red-brick freight depot built for the Texas and Pacific Railway which arrived in Sweetwater in 1881. Building has a two-story office section and a one-story warehouse/freight section with large metal freight doors. The building is of fireproof construction, with brick-veneered tile walls and a concrete roof. The exterior brick work is accented by a concrete string course and parapet, now painted white. Most windows and doors have been replaced with new aluminum and glass units. The Missouri-Pacific Railroad was always a major Texas and Pacific stockholder, and absorbed T. & P. completely in the 1940s.

Site No. 58

Present Tenant(s): B & H Refrigeration

Address: 112 Oak
Owner: Ruffus Carey  
804 Crescent  
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1902 and 1908

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story concrete building that has held as many as three stores. Unadorned stuccoed front facade with raised central parapet. Half the lower facade is now enclosed with wooden garage doors, while the other half consists of two fixed plate-glass windows and a glass-paneled wooden door.

Site No. 59

Present Tenant(s): Arlene's Bookhouse, Holiday Beauty Salon

Address: 116-120 Oak

Owner: I.A. Loeb Estate  
c/o Bill Sheridan  
1400 Avondale  
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1930 and 1935

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick store building with metal-tile shed roof supported by a bracketed cornice. Front divided into three storefronts by brick pilasters. Flat awning suspended from front of building below transom areas which have been filled with wood. Similar to 405 Oak Street.

Site No. 60

Historic Name: Prim Building

Present Tenant(s): Superior Office Products

Address: 122 Oak

Owner: I.A. Loeb Estate  
c/o Bill Sheridan  
1400 Avondale  
Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1914 and 1922

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick building constructed with retail space at ground level and offices on the second story. Typical brick commercial construction with raised central parapet and some corbeling. Ground-floor entrance for stairwell. The first-floor facade has been heavily modified with stucco and vertically grooved wooden storefronts.

Site No. 61

Historic Name: Levy's Department Store

Present Tenant(s): Vacant

Address: 100 E. Broadway

Owner: I.A. Loeb Estate
c/o Bill Sheridan
1400 Avondale
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1928; altered

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick building erected in 1928 and modified heavily in the 1950s. Presently the building is completely encased in white-enamel, metal panels and has 1950s heavy plate glass frameless doors. However, the original copper window frames still hold the first-floor show windows, and according to city officials, the original fenestration, cornices, and details remain intact under the metal shell. Levy Brothers, pioneer merchants and civic leaders, had several stores on this site, beginning in 1911. Removal of the metal panels will expose a significant and contributing facade on a key corner of the downtown.

Site No. 62

Present Tenant(s): Ronnie Cox

Address: 115 E. 1st

Owner: Ronnie Cox
P.O. Box 1268
Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1914 and 1922

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story, small brick building. Probably had a simple wooden storefront. Now stuccoed, with plate-glass and aluminum windows and doors. Wooden awning projects from front facade.

Site No. 63

Historic Name: Whitaker's Bakery

Present Tenant(s): Unknown

Address: 101 Locust

Owner: Ronnie Cox
  P.O. Box 1268
  Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1935-1940

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: This one-story building with stucco over tile was built between 1935 and 1941 as a bakery. It has metal casement windows with fixed transom lights and glass-paneled doors. A metal overhead door has been installed on the south side of the building. The building has Moderne influences, particularly the rounded parapet cap. Originally the entry and the windows on either side were shaded by a small metal awning with rounded corners. This has since been removed. Other than that, the building retains its original appearance to a high degree.

Site No. 64

Historic Name: Commercial Building

Present Tenant(s): United Steel Workers Hall

Address: 111 Locust

Owner: United Steel Workers
  c/o Robert Gomez
  309 W. Louisiana
  Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Date of Construction, Alteration: Built between 1930 and 1935. Recent alterations.

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: A one-story brick commercial building built between 1930 and 1935. Has slight Moderne influence in its rounded parapet cap. The original storefront has been filled in with stucco and new brick, as have the transoms. A solid wooden door is the only remaining opening in the facade. A small metal awning spans the front.

Site No. 65

Present Tenant(s): Cox's Jeweler's

Address: 110 E. Broadway

Owner: Cox's Jewelry
        P.O. Box 1268
        Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1902 and 1908

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building which has been altered many times throughout its history. Built between 1902 and 1908, this structure has served as a dry-goods store, a hardware store, and an auto supply store. Currently the front facade is covered in gray marble and white granite. The display windows and plate-glass door are trimmed in gold anodized finish. A terrazo entry floor has the name of the store inlaid in it. Cox's has been in business in Sweetwater since 1895 but did not utilize this building until the 1930s.

Site No. 66

Photo No. 21

Historic Name: Texas Theatre

Present Tenant(s): United Artists Theaters

Address: 114 E. Broadway
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form  

Continuation sheet  

Owner: United Artists Theaters  
c/o Texas Theatre  
114 E. Broadway  
Sweetwater, Texas  79556  

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1935-37; lower level altered in 1950s  

Category: Contributing  

Description and Significance: Two-story Moderne theater, built between 1935 and 1937. Originally an early twentieth-century stone building occupied the site. Between 1935 and 1937 the building was razed except for its two side walls. A new structure was built within the two walls, as a new steel framework, a new roof, a new front, and a new rear were all built. The front facade was stuccoed in a Moderne style common in that era. In the 1950s, the lower part of the facade was altered by installing mosaic tiles on the walls, an oversized metal marquee across the front, and metal-framed windows and a glass door. The theater is still in business, showing first-run movies.

Site No. 67  

Present Tenant(s):  

Address: 116 E. Broadway  

Owner: John R. Bradford  
c/o A. Bond  
P.O. Box 1029  
Pecos, Texas  79772  

Date of Construction, Alteration: late 1940s or 1950s  

Category: Noncontributing  

Description and Significance: A one-and-a-half-story commercial structure with an interior mezzanine built after 1948, probably in the 1950s. Walls are stuccoed, while the front facade is encased in metal. Upper-level windows are rather small casement units, while the lower level has large, metal-framed display windows.

Site No. 68  

Historic Name: Nolan County Courthouse  

Present Tenant(s): Nolan County Courthouse
Address: Courthouse Square

Owner: Nolan County
   Nolan County Courthouse
   Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1976

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: This massive purple structure replaced the third Nolan County Courthouse, which was built in 1915-1917. The new courthouse is essentially a closed structure, with few entrances or other exterior openings. It presents a grim and forbidding face to the street. In contrast, the earlier red-brick and terra-cotta building included entrances on all four facades and ample fenestration, making the courthouse a vital part of downtown activity. The 1915 courthouse was designed by C.H. Page and Brother, Austin, while the 1976 courthouse was the work of Hampton Associates, Sweetwater.

Site No. 69
Photo No. 19
Historic Name: First National Bank Building

Present Tenant(s): Vacant

Address: 101 E. 3rd

Owner: Bennye J. Morgan
   P.O. Box 608
   Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1886, present facade added 1920s

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: The present Neo-Classical building with limestone and stucco facade, erected in the 1920s, surrounds a much older stone building erected in 1886. The 1920s facade includes five limestone columns in Roman Doric style, a projecting cornice, and a parapet crowned by an eagle that was carved from a single block of limestone. Much of the 1920s interior remains, including the pressed-metal ceiling, original vaults, and some counters and teller furnishings. The stone building, built by merchants N.I. and J.D. Dulaney, was reportedly the first stone building in Sweetwater. The First National Bank occupied the building from 1901 until it failed in the 1930s. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 1982.

Site No. 70

Present Tenant(s): Cardwell's Appliance
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address: 103 E. 3rd</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner: Paul Hartman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>507 W. Colorado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweetwater, Texas 79556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Construction, Alteration: 1886; remodeled various times, last in 1950s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category: Noncontributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description and Significance: One-story stone structure originally half of the stone building built by the Dulaney family (See 101 E. 3rd). Has been remodeled at various times over the years in styles and materials popular at those times. In 1930s it had a black Carrera-glass storefront. Presently has a 1950s brick and wood facade with metal and glass windows and doors, and a recessed entryway.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Site No. 71

Present Tenant(s): Mercury Bail Bonds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address: 105 E. 3rd</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner: L.L. Medlock Estate</td>
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<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 396</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roscoe, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Construction, Alteration: pre-1902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category: Noncontributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description and Significance: One-story brick building that originally shared a common storefront with 109 E. 3rd. The major remnant of the original facade is the elaborate brick cornice. The lower portion of the facade has been covered with stucco and &quot;rustic&quot; wood siding, and the store windows replaced with tinted glass. Old-style glass paneled wooden doors remain.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Site No. 72

Present Tenant(s): The Image Maker

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address: 109 E. Third</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner: Van Baucum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 1339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweetwater, Texas 79556</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Date of Construction, Alteration: Pre-1902

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building with stucco facade. Originally shared a brick facade with 105 E. 3rd, and had an elaborate brick cornice. The original storefront has been replaced with modern plate-glass and aluminum windows and doors, and new brick has been added.

Site No. 73

Present Tenant(s): Bunkley's and Marco's

Address: 111 E. 3rd

Owner: Pierce, Brilla, May, and Willis
        4919 Glenmeadow
        Houston, Texas 77096

Date of Construction, Alteration: pre-1902

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building altered many times since its construction. Originally had a brick cornice and a metal or stone parapet ornament. Renovations in the past eight decades include black and mosaic tilework, stucco, and doors and windows. The transoms have been covered in plywood.

Site No. 74

Photo No. 20

Historic Name: R.A. Ragland Building

Present Tenant(s): Skeet's Landing Restaurant
                   Moore, Dickson, Roberts, and Ratliff, Attorneys

Address: 113-117 E. 3rd.

Owner: Moore, Dickson, Roberts, and Ratliff
       P.O. Box 639
       Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1901 (first floor), 1906 (second floor)

Category: Contributing
Description and Significance: Two-story stone and brick building with a six-bay front facade and two storefronts. Parapet ornament contains the words "R.A. Ragland," for the builder and original tenant of the building. Ragland was a Sweetwater pioneer, and he and Judge Royston C. Crane had their law office in the building. After 1909, the building housed a variety of tenants. It fell into disrepair, and was under condemnation when purchased and restored by its present owners. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, 1979.

Site No. 75
Historic Name: Montgomery Ward
Present Tenant(s): Vacant
Address: 119 E. 3rd
Owner: Texas Bank and Trust
P.O. Box 630
Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Date of Construction, Alteration: 1929
Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick building built as a furniture store. The exterior of the building is relatively unchanged, with the original storefront still visible, though some of its elements are encased in metal. The original marble remains beneath the plate-glass show windows in the recessed entryway. Fixed-glass transoms and a retractable canvas awning complete the storefront. Second-story wooden windows and a simple concrete ornamentation for the parapet are also intact. The interior mezzanine, reached by a wide, wooden stairway, has a wooden balustrade.

Site No. 76
Historic Name: J.H. Doscher Building
Present Tenant(s): J.H. Doscher Building
Address: 123 E. 3rd
Owner: Sweetwater Investors
c/o Charles Nunn
P.O. Box 485
Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Date of Construction, Alteration: 1928

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Four-story commercial and office building built during Sweetwater's heyday as a sign of confidence in the future. Built on the site of the old Nolan County Jail. The simple structure is of fireproof construction with 12 inch brick curtain walls. Numerous large wooden windows allow ample light into all offices in the building. The first floor originally consisted of several storefronts facing both E. 3rd and Locust, with brick pilasters delineating the bays and large plate-glass windows and transom lights. In the 1930s, the first floor facade was partially covered in black Carrera Glass, including an etched panel bearing the name of "Bowen's Drug." Much of this glass remains, although it needs some maintenance and repair.

Site No. 77

Present Tenant(s): Bennett Agency Insurance

Address: 310 Oak

Owner: Henry Bennett
       1309 Avondale
       Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1914 and 1922

Category: Noncontributing.

Description and Significance: One-story brick and concrete-block building. Although the brick facade has been stuccoed, the original storefront arrangement remains, along with glass-paneled wooden doors. The store windows have been partially filled in with new brick, and a metal awning is suspended from the front of the building. The building has housed insurance agencies for at least 55 years.

Site No. 78

Present Tenant(s): Vacant

Address: 314-320 Oak

Owner: Moore, Dickson, Roberts, and Ratliff
       P.O. Box 639
       Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Dates of Construction, Alteration: Between 1902 and 1908

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story, cast-stone building with the original cast-stone construction visible on the south alley wall. The variegated brick facade on Oak Street may not be original, but was in place by 1930. A wooden awning suspended by metal ties from metal rosettes covers the sidewalk in front of the building. Four storefronts have recessed entryways, tile under the display windows, and paneled doors with beveled glass.

Site No. 79

Historic Name: R & R Palace Theater, Masonic Lodge

Present Tenant(s): Masonic Lodge

Owner: Masonic Lodge
c/o Ellis Carter
1208 E. 14th
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Address: 324 Oak

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1922

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick theater/lodge hall built when Texas Bank and Trust acquired the old Masonic Hall at 301 Oak for demolition. Though the first floor has been radically altered with new brick and frosted glass, the original stone cornice and pilaster strips remain. Most of the second story-windows have been covered in corrugated metal.

Site No. 80

Historic Name: Lone Star Gas Company

Present Tenant(s): Lone Star Gas Company

Address: 307 Locust

Owner: Lone Star Gas Company
310 S. Harwood
Dallas, Texas 76221

Date of Construction, Alteration: Built 1922, 1940s-1950s
Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: A one-story brick and stucco office building. The northern part was built between 1922 and 1930, and the southern part was added in the late 1940s or early 1950s. The entire front was remodeled when the southern portion was added. The front facade is now covered in stucco, with fossilized limestone surrounding the glass-panel door. Large, horizontally oriented, plate glass windows surrounded by metal box-like frames span the front. A horizontally grooved parapet cap tops the facade and accentuates the building's low, long look. A long, curved, flat, aluminum awning also spans the entire front of the building. Metal letters spelling out "Lone Star Gas Co." are mounted on the awning, and "Blue Flame" is centered in its middle.

Site No. 81

Historic Name: Central Fire Station

Present Tenant(s): Central Fire Station

Address: Corner of E. 4th and Locust, on the southwest corner of the intersection

Owner: City of Sweetwater
        P.O. Box 450
        Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Built 1926, altered after 1946

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: A two-story fire station built in 1926. Designed by Page Brothers of Austin, Architects and built by Ramey Brothers, Contractors, of El Paso. The fire station was built in conjunction with the Municipal Auditorium/City Hall and shares its Spanish Colonial revival style with that building. Originally, the entire fire station was stucco, with four arched bays for firetrucks set in a projecting one-story section which formed a balcony for the second floor. Three long, arched, multipaneled casement windows opened onto the balcony, which had a wrought iron railing around its entire perimeter. A four-sided bell-tower on the north side of the building continued the Spanish Colonial theme. Some time after 1946 the station was modified to its present appearance. The projecting front balcony was removed and the entire front facade was then bricked. Larger metal overhead doors were installed on the lower level of the facade to accommodate larger trucks. The bell tower's openings were filled in, and a cover for the outside staircase on the north side of the building was also installed.

Site No. 82

Historic Name: Lang Aycock (residence)
Present Tenant(s): D.D. Roland (residence)

Address: 400 Oak

Owner: D.D. Roland
400 Oak
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1930s

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story, brick, Tudor Revival residence built after 1930 on the site of a much older frame residence which had also been owned by Lang Aycock. Buff brick with simple steep gable, brick chimneys, Prairie-style windows, and wrought iron railings. This is the only residence in the district, and is unusual in that it was built after much of the area became commercialized.

Site No. 83

Present Tenant(s): Unknown

Address: 408-412 Oak

Owner: George Ludlum
1206 Bristol
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction: Between 1914 and 1922

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story, red-brick building with buff brick ornamentation. Originally used as an automobile dealership, later as the International Harvester dealership. The three-bay storefront has been filled with a hodgepodge of vertical wood siding and doors.

Site No. 84

Historic Name: Bus Depot

Present Tenant(s): Cathey's Poultry and Eggs

Address: 414 Oak
Owner: N.N. Cathey Estate  
P.O. Box 686  
Sweetwater, Texas  79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1914 and 1922

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story concrete-block and brick building constructed as a garage, and used over the years as a bus depot, body and paint shop, and since the mid-1940s as Cathey's Poultry and Eggs. The simple brick facade, now covered in stucco, still shows its origins as a garage, as two of the three bays contain original wooden garage doors. The third bay is filled by a wood and glass storefront. A painted sign is barely visible at the top of the facade.

Site No. 85

Address: 418 Oak

Present Tenant(s): Davison Sign Company

Owner: Ray Davison  
508 E. New Mexico  
Sweetwater, Texas  79556

Date of Construction: Between 1914 and 1918; alterations in 1930s

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick building with stucco facade which was probably added in the 1930s. Facade influenced by Moderne style, with window wall curving into a recessed entrance, strong horizontal lines produced by the metal awning, and glass-block panels.

Site No. 86

Historic Name: Motor Supply and Fuel

Present Tenant(s): Vacant

Address: 420 Oak

Owner: Ray Davison  
508 E. New Mexico  
Sweetwater, Texas  79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: Between 1927 and 1930
Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Brick service station/garage that has remained virtually unchanged since its construction. Open corner bay construction with a pressed-metal ceiling on verge of collapse. The original wooden storefront remains intact at the back of the open bay, with wooden doors and multilight wooden windows. Recently some wood covering the party wall with 418 Oak was removed, and two World War I recruiting posters were uncovered.

Site No. 87

Historic Name: First Presbyterian Church

Present Tenant(s): United Cable T.V., J.W. Scott Insurance

Address: 114 E. 4th

Owner: J.W. Scott
1916 Lakeview
Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1924, late 1970s

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: One-story brick church with raised basement, corbeled cornice, and narrow windows. Basic shape of the structure little altered, though four Greek Doric columns that once supported the front entrance have been removed. An outside entrance has been added at the basement level on the E. 4th Street facade. Original colored-glass windows and wooden doors have been replaced with aluminum and plate glass.

Site No. 88

Historic Name: United States Post Office

Present Tenant(s): United States Post Office

Address: 201 E. 3rd

Owner: United States Postal Service
Postmaster
201 E. 3rd
Sweetwater, Texas 79556
Date of Construction, Alteration: 1931

Category: Contributing

Description: Large brick post office designed by James A. Wetmore, Acting Supervising Architect of the Postal Service. The Neo-Classical building has eight large Ionic columns across the recessed entryway, a raised basement level, and long, narrow windows. The building has a hipped roof which is clearly visible, though surrounded by a raised parapet. Although the exterior doors have been replaced, the interior of the building is almost original, and includes a high-ceilinged lobby and service area with dentil moldings and original interior doors.

Site No. 89

Historic Name: Safeway

Present Tenant(s): Sweetwater City Hall

Address: 200 E. 4th

Owner: City of Sweetwater
       Box 450
       Sweetwater, Texas 79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: c. 1945; remodeled 1980-81

Category: Noncontributing

Description and Significance: New city offices remodeled from an old grocery store built between 1941 and 1947. The original one-story brick building has been covered in stucco and given arched window surrounds and other Spanish touches in an effort to be compatible with the Auditorium/Municipal Building complex to the North across E. 4th.

Site No. 90

Photo No. 21

Historic Name: Municipal Auditorium/City Hall

Present Tenant(s): Same

Address: Northeast corner of E. 4th and Locust
Owner: City of Sweetwater  
P.O. Box 450  
Sweetwater, Texas  79556

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1926

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story brick and reinforced concrete building designed by Page Brothers, Architects, and built by Ramey Brothers Contractors of El Paso in 1926. The Spanish Colonial Revival building is of fire-proof construction, with brick-faced tile curtain walls. The ornate structure originally housed the auditorium, city hall, a city library, and the city jail. The building originally had metal and metal-casement windows throughout and most of those remain. New plate-glass doors have been installed in the front, and new metal handrails have also been put in. The City of Sweetwater has stabilized this building, and has completed a total restoration of the structure.

Site No. 91

Historic Name: Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

Present Tenant(s): Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

Address: 211 E. 4th

Owner: Southwestern Bell Telephone  
c/o Tax Dept., 1509 Main DTR, Rm. 415  
P.O. Box 225521, Dallas, Texas  75265

Date of Construction, Alteration: 1933 (original section); additions in late 1940s and 1950s.

Category: Contributing

Description and Significance: Two-story buff-brick office and operations building. Terra-cotta detailing includes window and door surrounds, molding, quoins, and cornice ornamentation. Building has original 3/3 metal windows and original doors. Original (southeastern) portion is of brick-veneered tile with a full basement. Other sections were added after 1946, using similar materials.

Sweetwater is the operations center of Bell's 915 area code, and Southwestern Bell has been a major employer in the city since the 1920s.
## Sweetwater Commercial Historic District

**Nolan County**  
**TEXAS**  

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Working No.</th>
<th>MAY 8 1984</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date Due:</td>
<td>6/7/84 - 6/22/84</td>
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<td>ACCEPT 6-7-84</td>
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**Nomination returned for:** technical corrections cited below  
substantive reasons discussed below

1. **Name**

2. **Location**

3. **Classification**

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<th>Category</th>
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<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>Public Acquisition</td>
<td>Accessible</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

4. **Owner of Property**

5. **Location of Legal Description**

6. **Representation in Existing Surveys**

Has this property been determined eligible? \(\bigcirc \) yes  \(\bigcirc \) no

7. **Description**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>(\bigcirc ) excellent</th>
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<th>Check one</th>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance:

- \(\bigcirc \) summary paragraph
- \(\bigcirc \) completeness
- \(\bigcirc \) clarity
- \(\bigcirc \) alterations/integrity
- \(\bigcirc \) dates
- \(\bigcirc \) boundary selection

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**Reviewer's comments:**

Recom./Criteria  
Reviewer  
Discipline  
Date  
see continuation sheet

Federal Agency: 

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**Entered in the National Register**
8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☑ summary paragraph
☑ completeness
☑ clarity
☑ applicable criteria
☑ justification of areas checked
☑ relating significance to the resource
☑ context
☑ relationship of integrity to significance
☑ justification of exception
☑ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

UTM References

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national  ☐ state  ☐ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title  date

13. Other

☐ Maps
☐ Photographs
☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed  Date  Phone:

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

200 Block of Oak

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; Neg. on file at
Sweetwater City Hall

Camera facing northwest.

Photo 1 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

300 Block of Oak

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; Neg. on file at Sweetwater City Hall

Camera facing southwest

Photo 2 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

100 Block of West 3rd

Photographer: Greg Wortham, March 1984; neg. on file at Sweetwater City Hall

Camera facing east

Photo 3 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

400 Block of Oak

Photographer: Greg Wortham, March 1984; neg. on file at Sweetwater City Hall.

Camera facing northwest

Photo 4 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

100 Block of West Broadway

Photographer: Greg Wortham, March 1984; neg. on file at Sweetwater City Hall

Camera facing northeast

Photo 5 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Northwest corner of 4th and Oak

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file
at Sweetwater City Hall

Camera facing northwest

Photo 6 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 1, Bridge on West Broadway

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file at Sweetwater City Hall

Camera facing west

Photo 7 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 2, Magnolia Petroleum Co. Building,
300 W. Broadway

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file
at Sweetwater City Hall

Southeast oblique, camera facing northwest

Photo 8 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 7, 115 Pecan

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg on file at Sweetwater City Hall

East elevation, camera facing west

Photo 9 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 8, Santa Fe Hotel, 201 W. Broadway

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file, Sweetwater City Hall

Northeast oblique, camera facing southwest

Photo 10 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 20, American Railway Express Company, railroad right-of-way

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file, Sweetwater City Hall

Northeast elevation, camera facing southwest

Photo 11 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 23, Commercial Hotel, 109-113 Oak

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file, Sweetwater City Hall

East elevation, camera facing west

Photo 12 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site no. 27, Crane-Bradford Building, 112-114 W. Broadway

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file, Sweetwater City Hall

South elevation, camera facing northeast

Photo 13 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 30, 108 W. Broadway

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file, Sweetwater City Hall

South elevation, camera facing northeast

Photo 14 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 37, 217 Oak

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file, Sweetwater City Hall

East elevation, camera facing west

Photo 15 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 43, Texas Bank and Trust Co., 301 Oak

Photographer Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file, Sweetwater City Hall

Southeast oblique, camera facing northwest

Photo 16 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 60, Prim Building, 122 Oak

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file, Sweetwater City Hall

North elevation, camera facing southeast

Photo 17 of 21
North elevation, camera facing south

Sweetwater City Hall

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file

Site No. 66, Texas Theatre, 124 E. Broadway

Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 69, First National Bank Building, 101 E. 3rd

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983

Negative on file, Sweetwater City Hall

South elevation, camera facing north

Photo 19 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 74, R.A. Ragland Building, 113-117 E. 3rd

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file, Sweetwater City Hall

South elevation, camera facing north

Photo 20 of 21
Sweetwater Commercial Historic District
Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas

Site No. 90, Municipal Auditorium (City Hall, E. 4th and Locust)

Photographer: Don Abbe, July 1983; neg. on file, Sweetwater City Hall

Southwest oblique, camera facing northeast

Photo 21 of 21