

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Texas
COUNTY: Wise
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE: " " MAY 1 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Waggoner Mansion

AND/OR HISTORIC:
El Castille

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1003 E. Main

CITY OR TOWN:
Decatur

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
17--Omar Burleson

STATE: **Texas** CODE: **048** COUNTY: **Wise** CODE: **497**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Comments _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

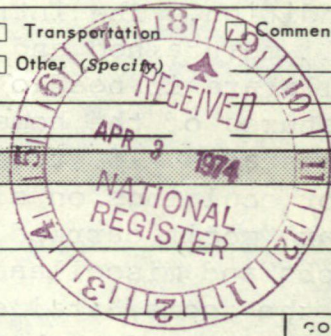
OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Luker

STREET AND NUMBER:
1003 E. Main

CITY OR TOWN:
Decatur

STATE:
Texas

CODE:
048



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Wise county Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Decatur

STATE:
Texas

CODE:
048

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Decatur

STATE:
Texas

CODE:
048

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

MAY 1 1974

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Waggoner Mansion or El Castille, as it is sometimes called, is an excellent example of Texas' finest Victorian masonry architecture. Built in 1883, the house has retained approximately ninety percent of its original craftsmanship and material. This percentage far exceeds most large Victorian homes of this nature that remain in such a good state of repair in Texas, and consequently by all means this home can be classified as being "authentic". Both the exterior and interior walls are of solid poriferous limestone construction. Although the exterior is in a good state of repair, it is in need of preventive maintenance such as painting and minor material replacement. Exterior cornice detailing, opening trims and porch construction are combinations of wood and metal. Grill work on the exterior around the roof is original, although the grill work around the porches of the house has been added after 1941.

The house contains a large basement, sixteen rooms and six and one-half bathrooms. There are two bedrooms downstairs and four upstairs. The interior of the house is in very good condition. The intricate woodwork, hardware and finishes are well maintained and only portions of some ceilings and upper walls are in need of any repair. There are many distinguishing features of the home. They include: 18 ft. ceiling heights downstairs, 16 ft. ceiling heights upstairs, intricately carved door mouldings on all the interior doors with a Texas "Lone-Star" motif carried throughout the house, brass hinges, door-knobs and miscellaneous hardware, frescoed ceilings in a few of the rooms, stained glass transoms above all doors and windows, interior wooden shutters on all windows, eight fireplaces each with decorative tile insets, light fixtures, especially made for individual rooms and marble lavatories in all of the bathrooms. An artisan named Decker was brought from France to the Waggoner Mansion at the turn of the century to add the fresco decorations in some of the rooms. Decker signed one of the compositions in an upstairs room.

Only a few interior alterations have occurred. For example, a butler's pantry has been converted into the kitchen. The original family kitchen is now used as a family living room-den with a fireplace that had previously been walled up. The fireplace was probably sealed when the home was restored by William Thomas Waggoner in 1931.

The house was built and owned by the Waggoner family from 1883 until 1942. The mansion was generally unoccupied from

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet) # 1

STATE	
Texas	
COUNTY	
Wise	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 1 1974

(Number all entries)

7. Description Continued.

about 1922 until it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Phil Luker in 1942. The Luker family have lived in the house since their purchase of it.

There is a separate addition to the house at the rear. Out-buildings include a wooden smokehouse, storm cellar, and a more recent four car garage with stables underneath. To the north-west of the house stands one of the original bunkhouses used on the Waggoner Ranch.



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1883

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This impressive masonry Victorian house was the home of the Waggoner family, prominent in the early days of ranching in Texas. In the boldness of the style and in the strength of the material the builder achieved an appropriate expression for the original owner, Daniel Waggoner, and the times he personified.

In the middle of the nineteenth century, Dan Waggoner drove a small herd of Longhorns into Wise County and launched a successful career that by 1870 earned him the recognition of being a "cattle king". At the time he built this baronial mansion it was the headquarters for the distinguished Waggoner Ranch which reached into a seven county area. By 1900 this sixteen room two story house was the headquarters for this well-watered and compact ranch that spread thirty miles east and west and twenty-five miles north and south, and included over a million acres. The Waggoner Ranch supported over 60,000 head of cattle, and it was served by three separate railroad lines. Dan Waggoner died in 1904, and this house became owned by his son, William Thomas Waggoner. After oil was discovered on the ranch in 1903, development resulted in the founding of the Waggoner Refinery in 1911. The fortune which resulted from this cattle and oil base enabled the Waggoner Family to become one of the richest and most influential families in the Southwest.

In 1931, W. T. Waggoner restored the home. After the death of W. T. Waggoner in 1934, the house was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Phil Luker in 1942. The moviemakers of the film "Giant" duplicated the exterior for the movie set. Thus, the Waggoner mansion is one of the foremost and striking architectural remains of the indelible marks left by the cattle empire of Victorian Texas.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Handwritten notes:
 Daniel Waggoner
 1883

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Alexander, Drury Blakeley, Texas Homes of the Nineteenth Century, Austin: University of Texas Press, 1966.

Kirkland, Tom, "Visit to a Fabulous Texas Mansion", Denton Record-Chronicle, December 20, 1959, pp.5-6.

Webb, Walter Prescott, ed., Handbook of Texas, Vol. II, Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1952, pp.850-851.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

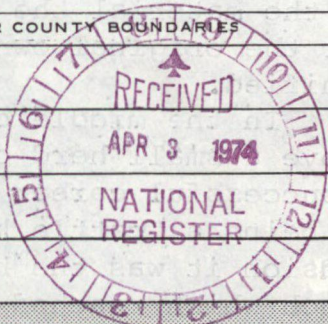
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	33°	14'	04"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	97°	34'	37"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

14/632600
3677960
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **9 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Gary L. Hume, Project Director**
Duncan G. Muckelroy, Historian

ORGANIZATION: **Texas Historical Commission** DATE: **3-29-74**

STREET AND NUMBER: **P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station**

CITY OR TOWN: **Austin** STATE: **Texas** CODE: **048**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Truett Latimer
Title: State Historic Preservation Officer
Date: March 29, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Date: 5/1/74

ATTEST:
Keeper of The National Register
Date: 5.1.74

PROPERTY Waggoner Mansion STATE Texas

Wise

WORKING NUMBER 43.74.530

TECH REVIEW
PHOTOS 4
MAPS 1

74002098

CONTROL REVIEW
OK

cm
4.4.
74

HISTORIAN
Accept
W.R. Luce
4/5/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
*Elizabeth Taylor walked through these doors?
Accept! Husband
4/8/74*

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF
Despite E.T.!
Accept
COLE
4/28/74

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER
Wm
5/1/74

National Register Write-up May 25, 1974

Send-back _____

Federal Register entry June 4, 1974

Re-submit _____

Entered MAY 1 1974



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

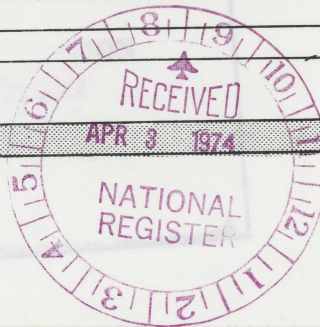
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Texas	
COUNTY Wise	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE MAY 1 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Waggoner Mansion			
AND/OR HISTORIC: El Castille			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1003 E. Main			
CITY OR TOWN: Decatur			
STATE: Texas	CODE 048	COUNTY: Wise	CODE 497
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: THC			
DATE OF PHOTO: 8-3-70			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: THC			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. North facade, rear view.			



☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973-729-152/1446 III-1

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

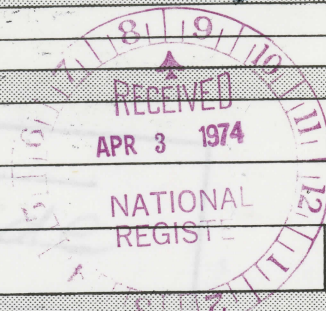
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Texas	
COUNTY Wise	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE MAY 1 1974

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1. NAME			
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2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1003 E. Main			
CITY OR TOWN: Decatur			
STATE: Texas	CODE 048	COUNTY: Wise	CODE 497
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Texas Historical Commission			
DATE OF PHOTO: 8-3-70			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: THC			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. East and north facade, view of east side and rear. 2064			



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(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

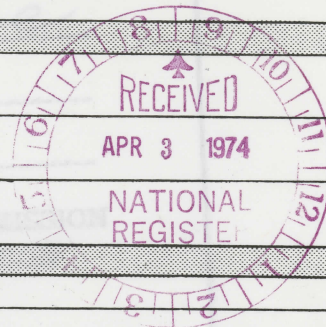
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Texas	
COUNTY	
Wise	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 1 1974

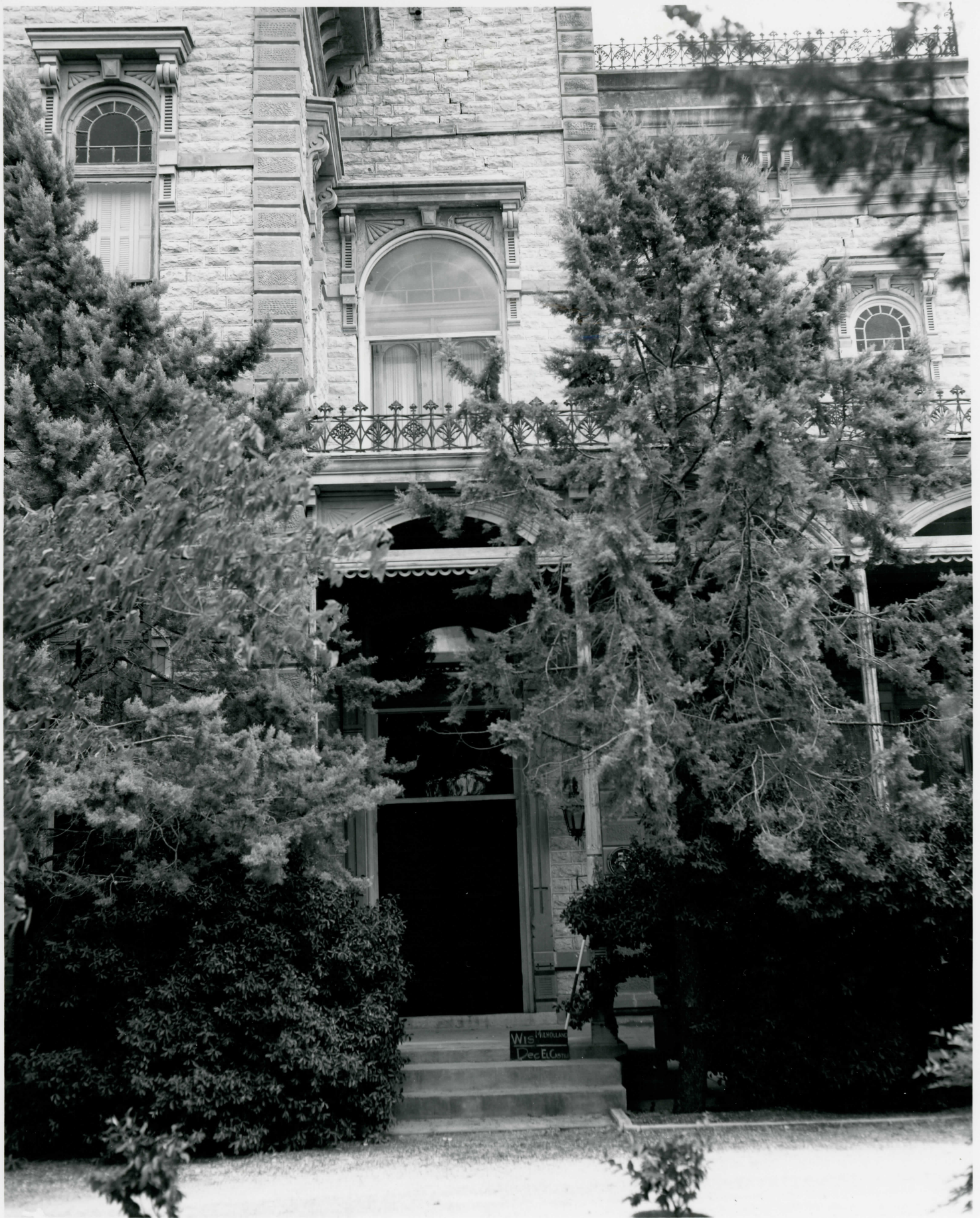
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1. NAME			
COMMON: Waggoner Mansion			
AND/OR HISTORIC: El Castille			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1003 E. Main			
CITY OR TOWN: Decatur			
STATE: Texas	CODE 048	COUNTY: Wise	CODE 497
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Texas Historical Commission			
DATE OF PHOTO: 8-3-70			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: THC			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. South and east facade, view of front and east side.			



☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973-729-152/1446 III-1

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

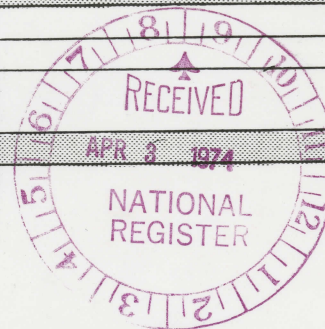
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Texas	
COUNTY Wise	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 1 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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COMMON: Waggoner Mansion			
AND/OR HISTORIC: El Castille			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1003 E. Main			
CITY OR TOWN: Decatur			
STATE: Texas	CODE 048	COUNTY: Wise	CODE 497
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Texas Historical Commission			
DATE OF PHOTO: 8-3-70			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: THC			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. South facade, entrance details.			



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Texas	
COUNTY Wise	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 1 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: **Waggoner Mansion**
AND/OR HISTORIC: **El Castille**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

1003 E. Main

CITY OR TOWN:

Decatur

STATE:

Texas

CODE

048

COUNTY:

Wise

CODE

497

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

USGS 7.5 minute series

SCALE:

1:24000

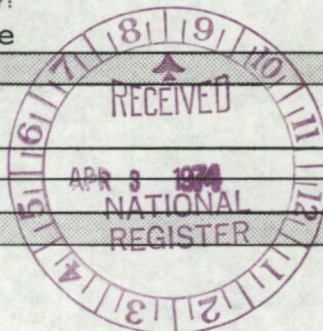
DATE:

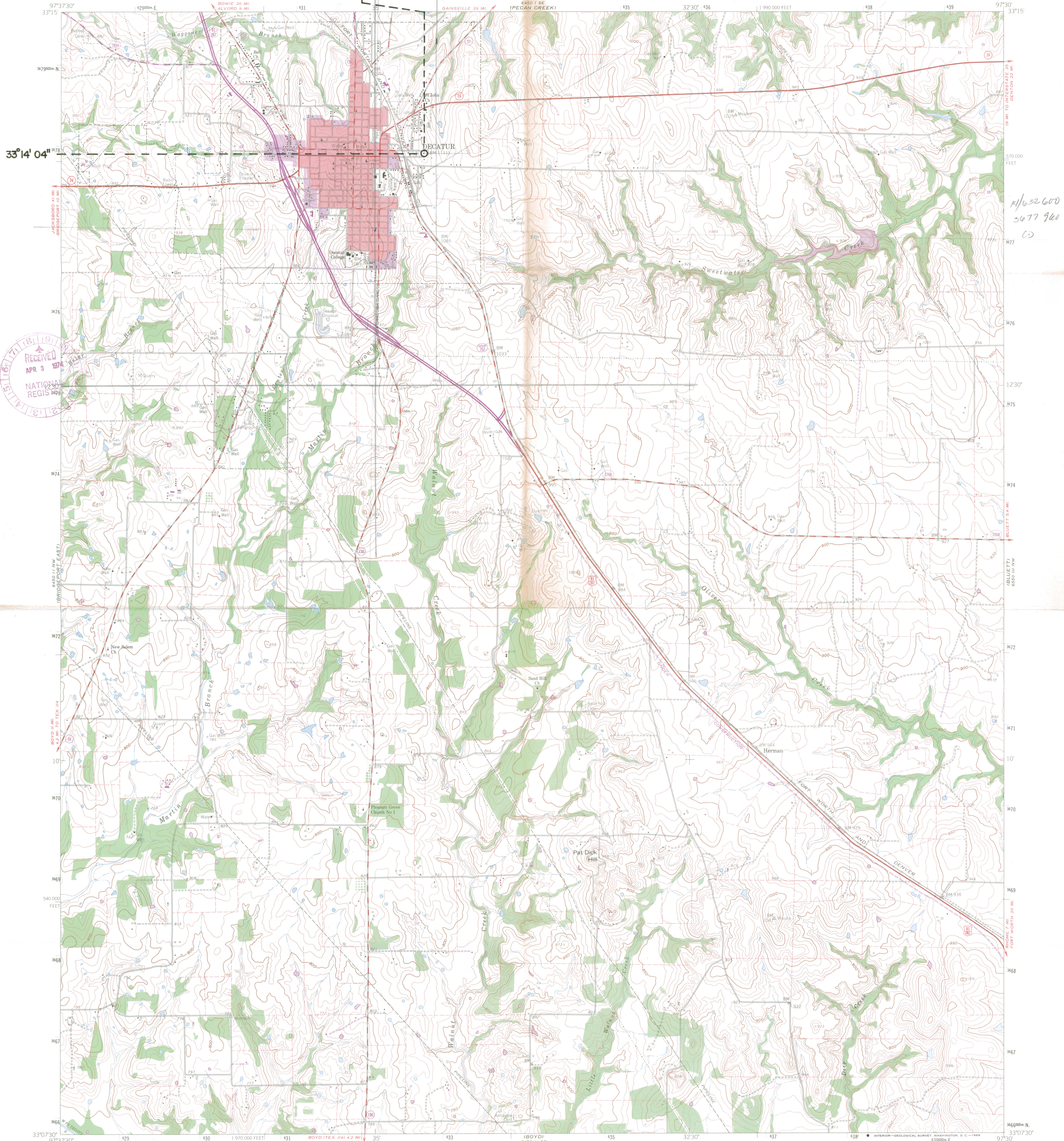
1960

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.





RECEIVED
APR 3 1977
NATIONAL
REGISTRY

11/632600
3677960
63

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods

Aerial photographs taken 1957. Field check 1960

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum

10,000 foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,

north central zone

1000 meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,

zone 14, shown in blue

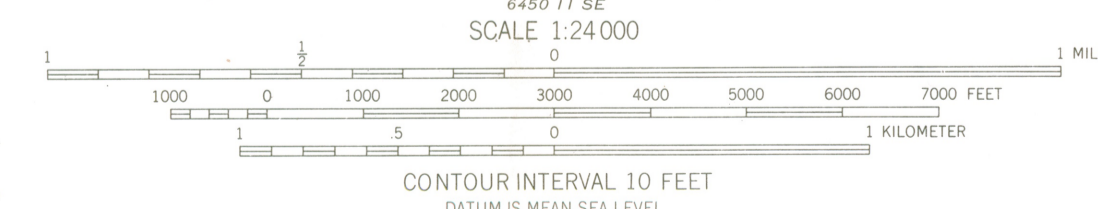
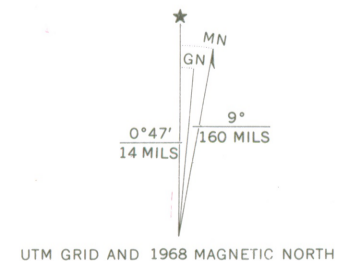
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines

where generally visible on aerial photographs

This information is unchecked

Red tint in this area in which only

landmark buildings are shown



SCALE 1:24,000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET

DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

DECATUR, TEX.
N3307.5-W9730.7/5

1960
3397 914

APR 17 1969

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from
aerial photographs taken 1968. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **TEXAS**

Date Entered MAY 1 1973

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Waggoner Mansion	Decatur Wise County



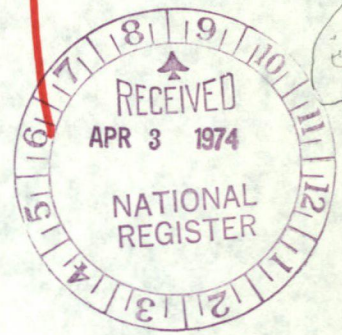
Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower
Hon. Lloyd M. Bentsen
Hon. Omar Burleson

Regional Director, Southwest Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Truett Latimer
Executive Director
Texas State Historical Survey Committee
Post Office Box 12276
Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

RUSH



Possible Grant-in-aid Pending.