

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **APR 01 1975**

DATE ENTERED

MAY 28 1975

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 La Lomita Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Five miles south ^{of Mission} on FM 1016

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Mission

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

15

STATE

Texas

CODE

048

COUNTY

Hidalgo

CODE

215

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME The Missionary Society of the Oblate Fathers of Texas

STREET & NUMBER

1015 Jackson-Keller Road, Room 211

CITY, TOWN

San Antonio,

VICINITY OF

STATE

Texas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hidalgo County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

100 North Closser

CITY, TOWN

Edinburg,

STATE

Texas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Texas State Historical Survey

DATE

1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Texas Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Austin

STATE

Texas

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located near the banks of the Rio Grande River in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Hidalgo County is La Lomita Historic District. The district contains the La Lomita Chapel, 122 acres of the original ranch lands of the Oblate Fathers, and St. Peter's Novitiate. In contrast to the flat, coastal plain which characterizes most of the valley, the property contains a rise of about 25 feet, which has given the name "La Lomita" or "little hill" to the area since the late eighteenth century. Set on this highest point is St. Peter's Novitiate, visually dominant from all approaches to the site. The hillside slopes are interlaced with trees, grass and brush. To the northwest across a canal and levee lies the La Lomita chapel.

The original adobe chapel built in 1865 was eventually destroyed by Rio Grande floodings in the late nineteenth century. In 1899 a small 12' by 25' stuccoed stone structure replaced the first mission chapel. Although lacking in detail, the chapel reflects the austere and modest life of the missionaries. The simple building is a rectangular stone building with a small open bell tower over the main (north) facade. The walls of the north and south facades extend beyond the wood shingled, pitched roof to form a parapeted gable. The window and door openings all have simple wooden post and lintels. A double door on the north facade marks the only break in the stuccoed stone wall surface. The small bell tower consisting of a shingled hipped roof supported by short, square posts with brackets is the building's only ornamentation. A cross rises from the top of the hipped bell tower. Two six over six light windows and a door form the opening in the east facade, while the south facade contains three windows.

Although void of many architectural embellishments on the interior, the scale and simplicity have charm and intimacy. One of the most interesting features is the exposed framing and open truss work of the ceiling. The floor is of stone set on a packed dirt surface. The pews and railings are original to the chapel and have been restored. However, the original altar was almost totally destroyed by vandals and a smaller altar was brought from France to replace it. The chapel is open and frequently used as a chapel and place of retreat by people living in the vicinity. Also, Mass is periodically celebrated by the Oblate Fathers.

After the missionary Oblates relocated their main church in Mission in 1908, the chapel became somewhat neglected.

At intervals, the people of Madero, a small river community, used the church and the surrounding buildings. However, despite the fact that the chapel was never completely abandoned, its infrequent use and

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

subjection to the hurricanes in the late 1920's, in 1933 and again in 1935 took their toll.

During this period the old frame buildings which had surrounded the chapel and served the old padres as barracks, dining room and grain-storage, as the blacksmith shed, were destroyed. Finally, in 1949, the 100 year anniversary of the arrival of the Oblates into South Texas from France, the chapel was dug out of the brush and chaparral and restored.

The chapel and surrounding 28 acres are presently leased to the La Lomita Lions Club of Mission and plans are underway to further restore the chapel. An old bake oven shaped like a hive and an original water well are also on the property.

In 1912 the Oblate Fathers selected the hilltop to locate the two story brick St. Peter's Novitiate. With characteristics of the Mission style the building has a tiled low pitched roof ending in a curvilinear gable on the main (north) facade. Flanking the central gable are twin towers with arched openings and pyramidal tiled roofs. Between the towers is a central bay which contains a triple arched entry framing the first floor porch, while carved brackets elaborate each corner of the second floor balcony. Dominating the east, north and south facades is the one story arcade of semicircular arches encircling the building. An impost is marked on this floor by a molded stringcourse. On the second floor segmental arches form the openings for a gallery across the north facade.

The interior plan of the basement, first and second floors contained a central hall with rooms on either side. The large rectangular building contains a half basement of 8,040 square feet, a first floor of 5,300 square feet with 2,740 square feet of porches, and a second floor of 6,050 square feet with porches of 1,610 square feet. The basement contained a food storage and vegetable cleaning area, a kitchen, dining room, laundry, storage, meeting and recreation rooms. An open stairway at the south end provided access to all levels. The first floor contained a chapel, offices and bedrooms for administrative and teaching staff. The second floor contained a large classroom, library, meeting rooms and a dormitory for Novitiates. The restored building will utilize the basement and second floors as educational and training facilities for the MH/MR center, while the first floor will house an art museum.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

With the establishment of the MH/MR Center on the property, additional buildings to house boarders have been built in a compatible architectural style.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3

The sketch map included with the submission indicates the proposed, as well as the present modern structures. The structure numbered "3" and indicated as "residence" is a two-story frame house used as an old convent. Built ca. 1912 the building housed an order of nuns who resided on the property during the period that St. Peter's Novitiate was used as a training center for priests. Immediately to the southeast is a proposed building to be used as a health care facility. Southeast of these buildings is a group of four proposed buildings, only one of which is presently built. These will be bunkhouses for the student/workers at the MH/MR center. Located to the east of the bunkhouses is a dining room/kitchen facility. All of the new structures have been built in an architectural style compatible with the Mission Revival style of St. Peter's Novitiate. The present bunkhouse and dining room building are one-story rectangular stuccoed structures with a red tile pitched roof and galleries supported by heavy timber beams on front and rear facades. The proposed bunkhouses will be built in the identical style. The modern structures, together with St. Peter's Novitiate, are located on the only hill within the area. The mission lands were named "La Lomita" or "little hill" for this geographical feature. This fact was one of the main considerations when deciding to include the modern structures within the district.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1899 and 1912

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The focal point of La Lomita Historic District is the small chapel of the old La Lomita Mission. Besides the architectural charm of the small rural chapel, the Mission served as an important impetus in the settlement of the area. The surrounding 122 acres contained within the historic district include the only hill evident within the area. Due to this geographical feature, owners have adopted the name "LaLomita" for this section of the land since the late eighteenth century. This land is a section of the original porciones inherited by the Oblate Fathers in 1871. Built on top of the "Little hill" in 1912, St. Peter's Novitiate served as a novitiate training center for student priests until the late 1950's. Together the Mission chapel, farm lands and novitiate represent not only a tangible reminder of the evolution of the Catholic church in the lower Rio Grande Valley, but also document the important role the Oblate Fathers played in settling this southern tip of Texas.

In 1767 by order of King Carlos III of Spain the government began a more just and equal allotment of territory by laying out "porciones." Starting at the banks of the Rio Grande River, narrow tracts of land stretched inward so that each tract would have free access to the river. An average "porcion" consisted of about two-thirds of a mile on the river bank and stretched inland from eleven to sixteen miles. Porcion fifty-five was originally ceded to Jose Antonio Cantu ca. 1770 and he established a large ranch called "Rancho La Lomita", named for the one small hill on the porcion. After the land passed through several owners, Rene Guyard bought the property in 1851. Six years before Guyard had purchased porcion fifty-seven.

Guyard, a native of France who first settled in Reynosa in 1800, was a devout Roman Catholic. In 1852 he became acquainted with the missionary Oblates of Immaculate who had landed at Port Isabel three years before. Seeking spiritual guidance for those who worked on his extensive ranch lands, Guyard encouraged the priests to travel through his property. As Guyard's ranch became a way station between the Brownsville headquarters and the Roma Mission, the Oblate Fathers built an adobe chapel in 1865 and named it La Lomita Chapel. In 1871 Rene Guyard died and willed porciones fifty-five and fifty-seven to the Missionary Oblates.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

The Oblate Fathers retained ownership of the property and rented it to various ranchment in order to receive some economic return. The ranch increasingly became an economic burden and the priests were forced to turn to other means of financing the upkeep of the property. One solution was an agreement with the Wells Fargo Company to rent out a few of their houses and allow the mission to be used as a remount station for the stage coach. However, the financial burden eventually caused the Oblate Fathers to sell all the land except for the LaLomita Chapel and a few hundred acres surrounding it.

Flood waters eventually deteriorated the first adobe chapel and a new stone structure was built in 1899. A village sprang up around the chapel, which stood as the center of a small plaza. The Oblate Fathers built a rectory, guest house, quarters for the lay brothers, a blacksmith shop and a buggy shed. In addition, a dozen or more huts used by families of the Mexican laborers gathered in the area. But in 1904 the railroad arrived in Hidalgo County and by 1907-8 the people of the Mission village began to move to the new settlement located along the railroad approximately five miles north of La Lomita Mission.

In honor of the La Lomita Mission, which had helped bring the first settlers to the area, the new town took the name Mission, Texas. In 1908 the post office was transferred from La Lomita to renamed Mission. The town had been founded on the old mission lands originally owned by the Missionary Oblates. The Oblates purchased three plots in the new town and in 1910 and built Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. However, the chapel was never completely abandoned. Periodic services have continued for the ranch people in the immediate area since that time.

In 1912 the Missionary Oblates chose to build a Novitiate on their land in Hidalgo County. Selecting the most spectacular view, the three story brick building was located atop the little hill. St. Peter's Novitiate was named in honor of Father Peter Keralum, O.M.I., who tragically died while on a tour of the South Texas Missions in the 1870's. He was one of the early missionaries to serve the L Lomita Mission and was a founding father of Oblate work in Texas.

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ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The building was used as a Novitiate Training Center for student priests until the late 1950's. Recently St. Peter's Novitiate and 100 acres of farm lands have been leased by the Missionary Oblates to the Tropical Texas Center for Mental Health/Mental Retardation (La Lomita Farms) for a period of 50 years. The MH/MR Center will farm the surrounding acres and use the Novitiate for educational and vocational training for the mentally retarded. In addition, one floor of the building will be used as an art museum and community meeting space for the people of Mission, Texas.

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ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 3

La Lomita Historic District was nominated as a district rather than nominating the two individual buildings, for the significance of the buildings is tied so closely to the land. Serving as both an historical and visual link between the two buildings the 122 acres is part of the original lands owned by the Oblate Fathers and used for ranching and farming. La Lomita Mission was first founded to provide religious training and services for the members of the "Rancho La Lomita." When the owner of the ranch died he willed all of this property to the Oblate Fathers. The 122 acres included within the district are a portion of the remaining 300 acres the Oblate Fathers still own. The Mission Chapel was founded as a rural outpost and, as the district's focal point, the chapel retains this rural character.

The other significant structure, St. Peter's Novitiate, represents the evolution of the role of the Oblate Fathers in the region. Built on top of the hill for which "Rancho La Lomita" and "La Lomita Mission" were named, the Novitiate's significance is also tied to the rural surroundings. The site was chosen in 1912 because it was a secluded one and, once again, the rural setting is important in maintaining this ambience.

The specific boundaries were chosen because these are two parcels of land which the Oblate Father's have recently leased and on which restoration is taking place. St. Peter's Novitiate and 100 acres of land are presently leased to the MH/MR to adaptively restore the Novitiate as a center for the mentally retarded. The remaining lands will continue to be used as farm and ranch land. The Oblate Fathers have also leased an additional 22 acres west of the canal to the city of Mission. The city is planning to restore the chapel and utilize the remaining acres for a park.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Doyon, Bernard, O.M.I., The Cavalry of Christ on the Rio Grande, Catholic Life Publications, Bruce Press, Milwaukee, 1956.

Oblate Fathers, The Story of La Lomita Chapel. Booklet published by Oblate Fathers.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 122 acres

VTM OK
HL

UTM REFERENCES

NW A	14	566500	2893330	NE B	14	567870	2893350
SE C	14	567880	2892070	SW D	14	566530	2892050
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

11 FORM PREPARED BY Joe R. Williams, Project Director

NAME/TITLE Marie D. Landon, historian

3-29-75

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Texas Historical Commission

475-3094

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

P. O. Box 12276 - Capitol Station

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Austin,

Texas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

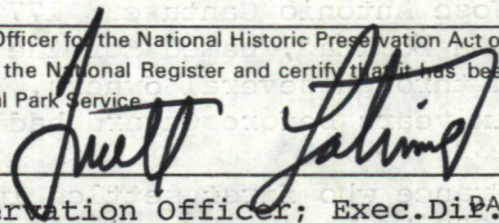
NATIONAL

STATE

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.

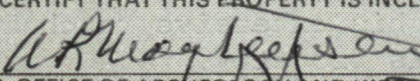
FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer; Exec. Dir. DATE 3-29-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

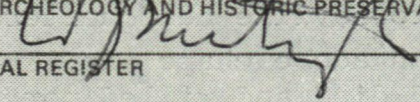


DATE

5/28/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:



DATE

MAY 22 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property La Lomita Historic District

76002041
Hidalgo

State Texas

Working Number 4.1.75.567

TECHNICAL / sketch

Photos 7
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK kl
4.2.75

HISTORIAN

Conference
E. Smith
4-8-75

I'm not so worried about the ~~religious~~ religious connection. The statement of significance is strong enough to justify the exception. However I am not sure if this is a district. Perhaps only the ~~two~~ ^{nominated} ~~two~~

I think we need a stronger statement of significance to justify exception.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Conference or call
Seleovich

ALSO, I DON'T THINK AREA FORMS A DISTRICT. NO DISCUSSION OF NEW BUILDINGS.

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

The oven could be included in the nomination as a "structure."

E. Smith
4-8-75

Conference call 4-15-75

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

* Letter with continuation sheets were received April

29, 1975 explaining how the area blends together as a district. Also a satisfactory description was given for the proposed modern structures to be built.

Accept
E. Smith
4-30-75

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
5-14-75

BRANCH CHIEF

accept
Hemphill
5-15-75

KEEPER

Whe
MAY 22 1975

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____
Federal Register Entry 7-1-75 Re-submit _____

Entered MAY 28 1975

INT:2106-74



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AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Mission VICINITY OF COUNTY Hidalgo STATE Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Texas Historical Commission

DATE OF PHOTO 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT
THC

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Northeast oblique of St. Peter's Novitiate

PHOTO NO 6

1087

1087

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



CORWAY & HOIT

OLD MISSION, TEXAS.

Date: 1911

La Lomita Mission Chapel and other structures.

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CITY, TOWN

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COUNTY

Hidalgo

STATE

Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Unknown

DATE OF PHOTO

ca. 1911

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Mission Historical Society

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO

4

SE
#2087
South oblique of La Lomita Chapel revealing some of the structures that were built around the Mission.

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#2087



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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Texas Historical Commission DATE OF PHOTO 1974
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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 51

North elevation of St. Peter's Novitiate

#307

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#307



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STATE Texas

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PHOTO NO 2

#4067 North
East elevation of La Lomita Chapel

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#4067



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PHOTO CREDIT

Texas Historical Commission

DATE OF PHOTO

1973

NEGATIVE FILED AT

THC

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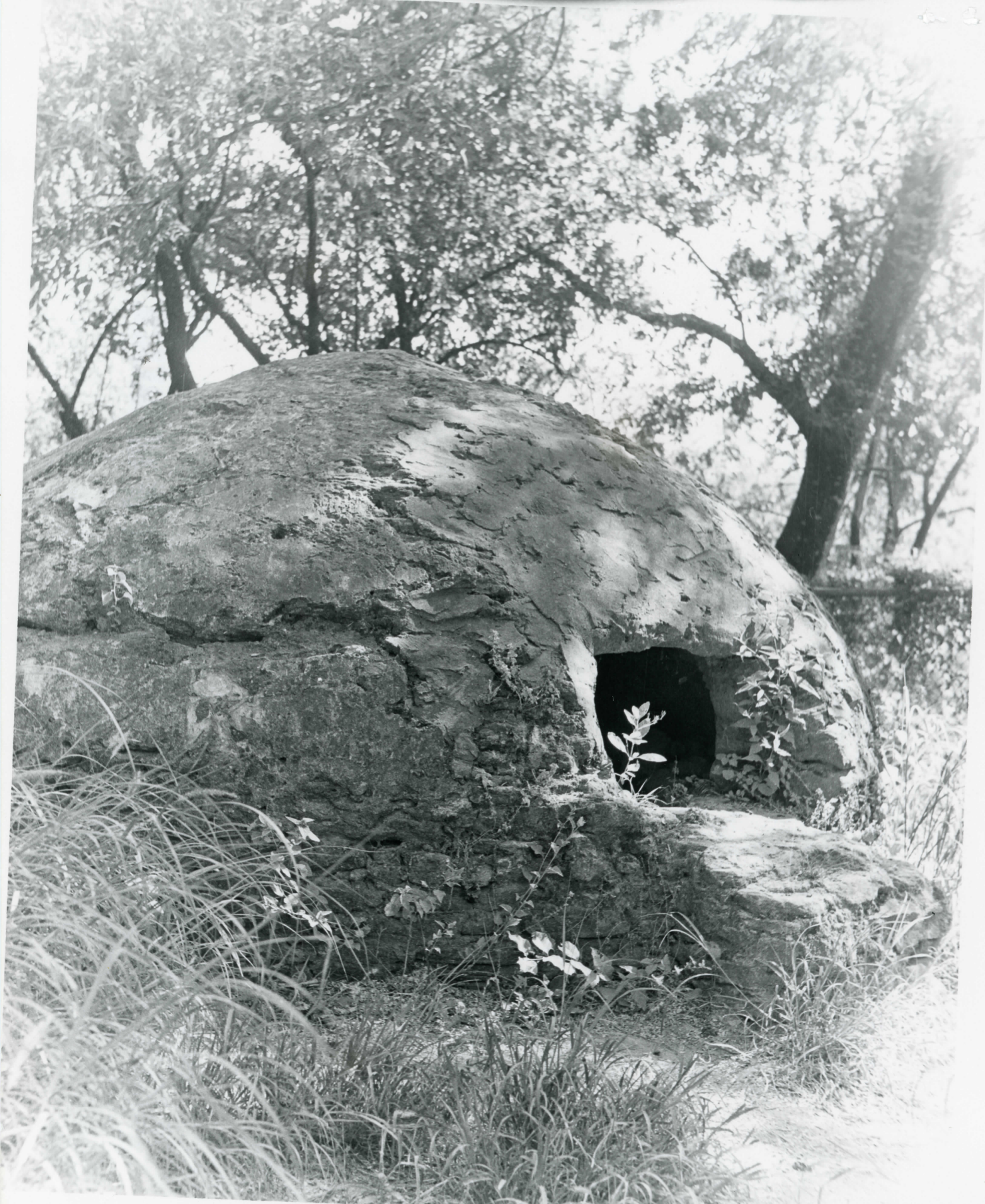
Interior detail of La Lomita Chapel

PHOTO NO 3

#507

#507

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Ancient oven was used for baking.

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COUNTY Hidalgo

STATE Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mrs. T. L. Duncan, Jr.

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Mission Historical Society

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 7

View of old baking oven near La Lomita Chapel

#6087

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THC

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 1

SW Southwest oblique of La Lomita Chapel

#7087

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#7087

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 01 1975

DATE ENTERED

MAY 28 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC La Lomita Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Mission _____ VICINITY OF COUNTY Hidalgo STATE Texas

3 MAP REFERENCE

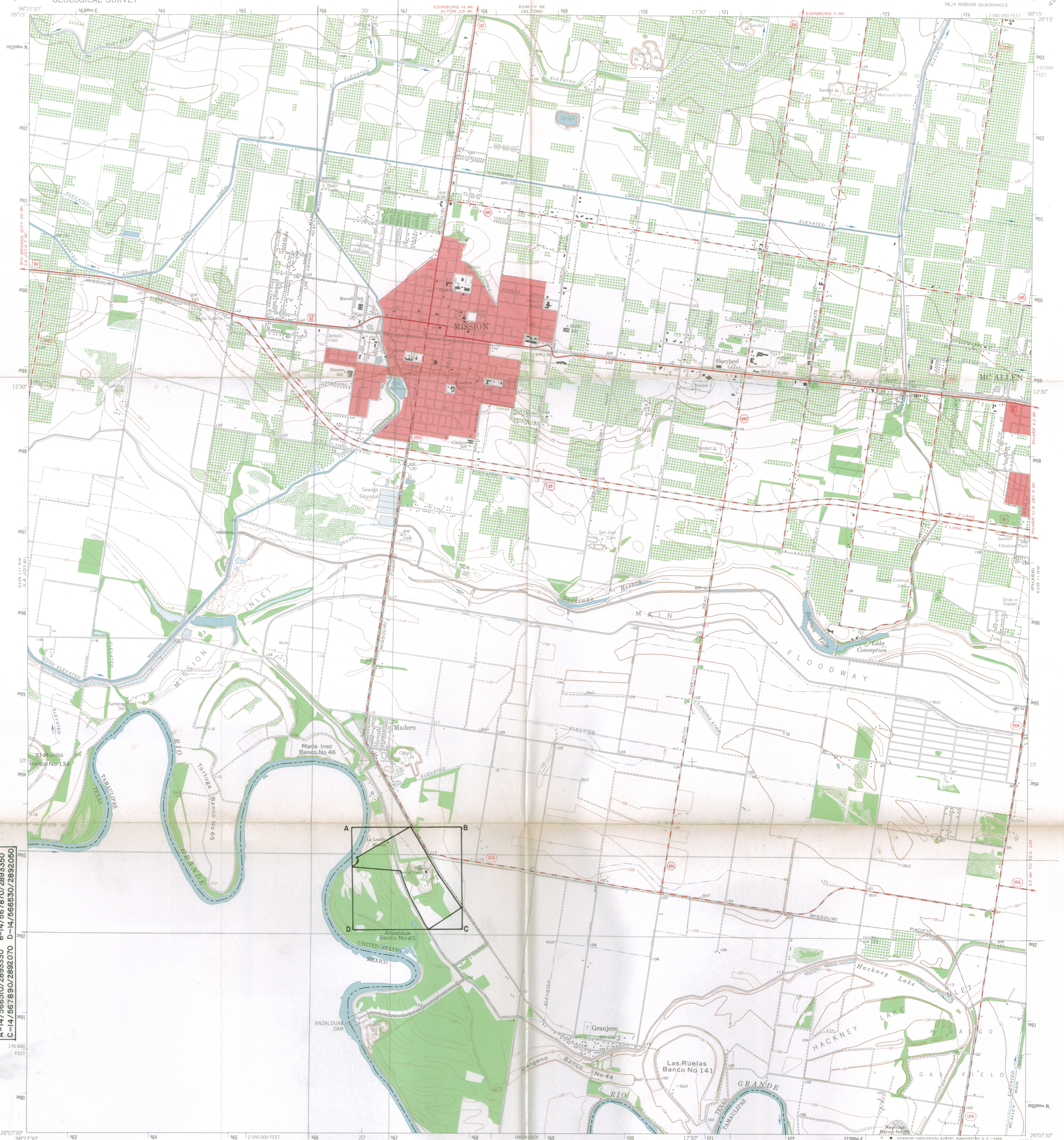
SOURCE USGS

SCALE 1:24000 DATE 1963

4 REQUIREMENTS

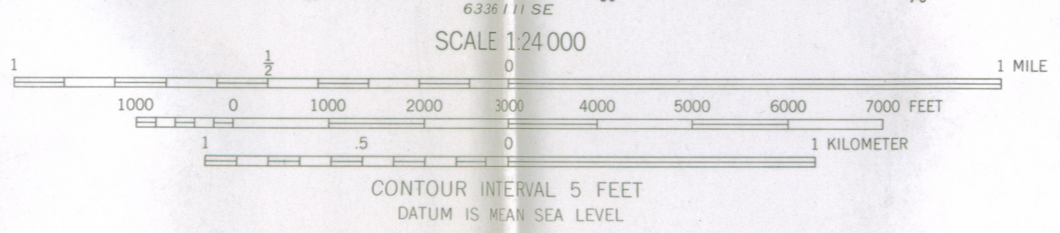
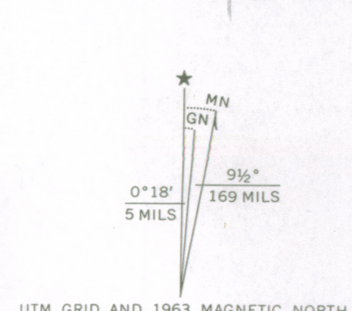
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



LA LOMITA HISTORIC DISTRICT
4 MI. S. OF MISSION, TEXAS ON F.M. 1016
UTM REFERENCE:
A-14/566510/2893330 B-14/567870/2893350
C-14/567890/2892070 D-14/566630/2892050

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1961. Topography by planetable surveys 1963
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



RECEIVED
APR 01 1975
NATIONAL REGISTER

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

MISSION, TEX.
NE/4 MISSION QUADRANGLE
N2607.5-W9815.7.5

1963
AMS 6336 111 NE-SERIES V882

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER 25, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

2698-124

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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RECEIVED APR 01 1975

DATE ENTERED MAY 28 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

La Lomita Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Mission

___ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Hidalgo

STATE

Texas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

Sketch Map

SCALE

None

DATE

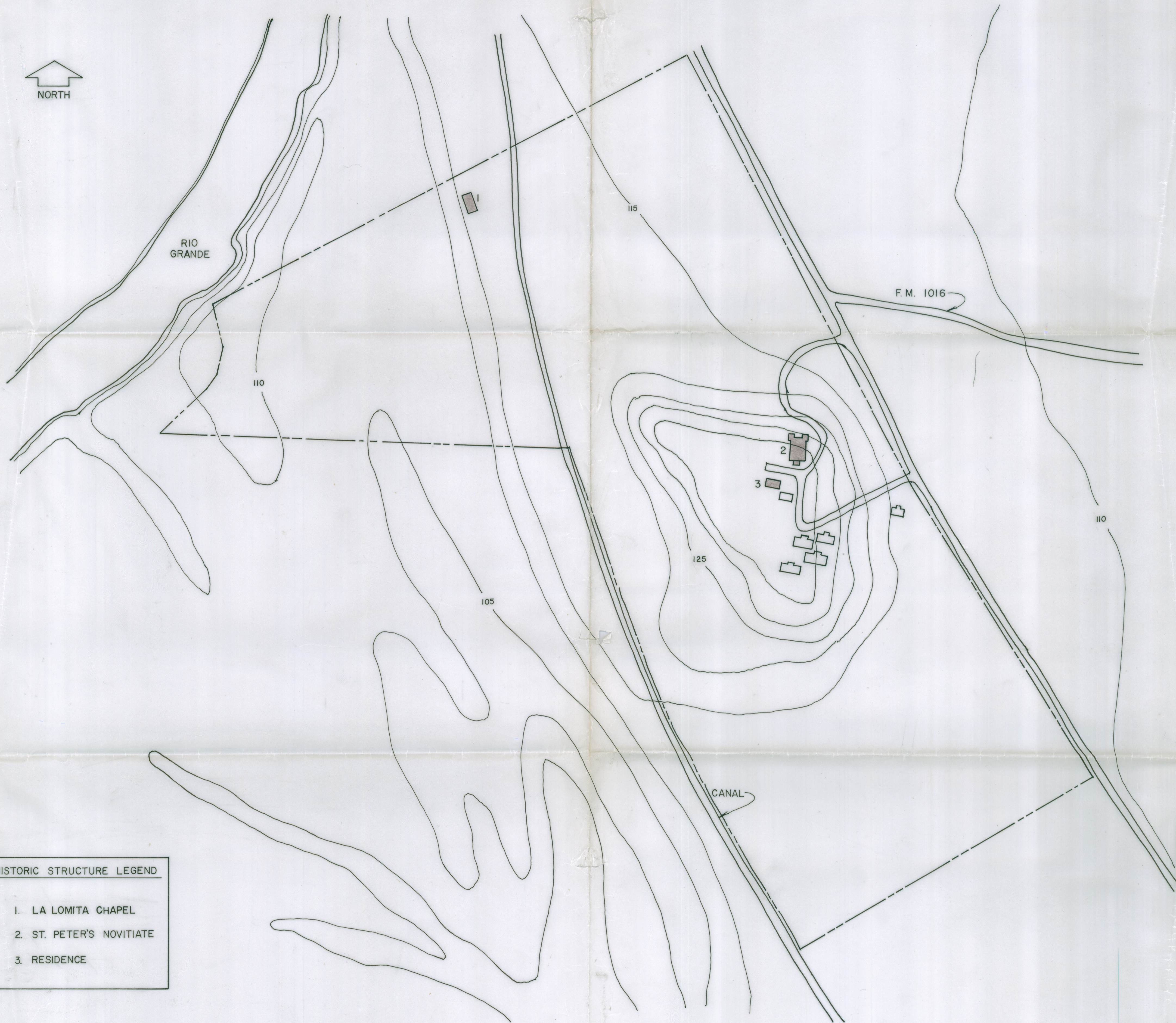
3-29-75

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

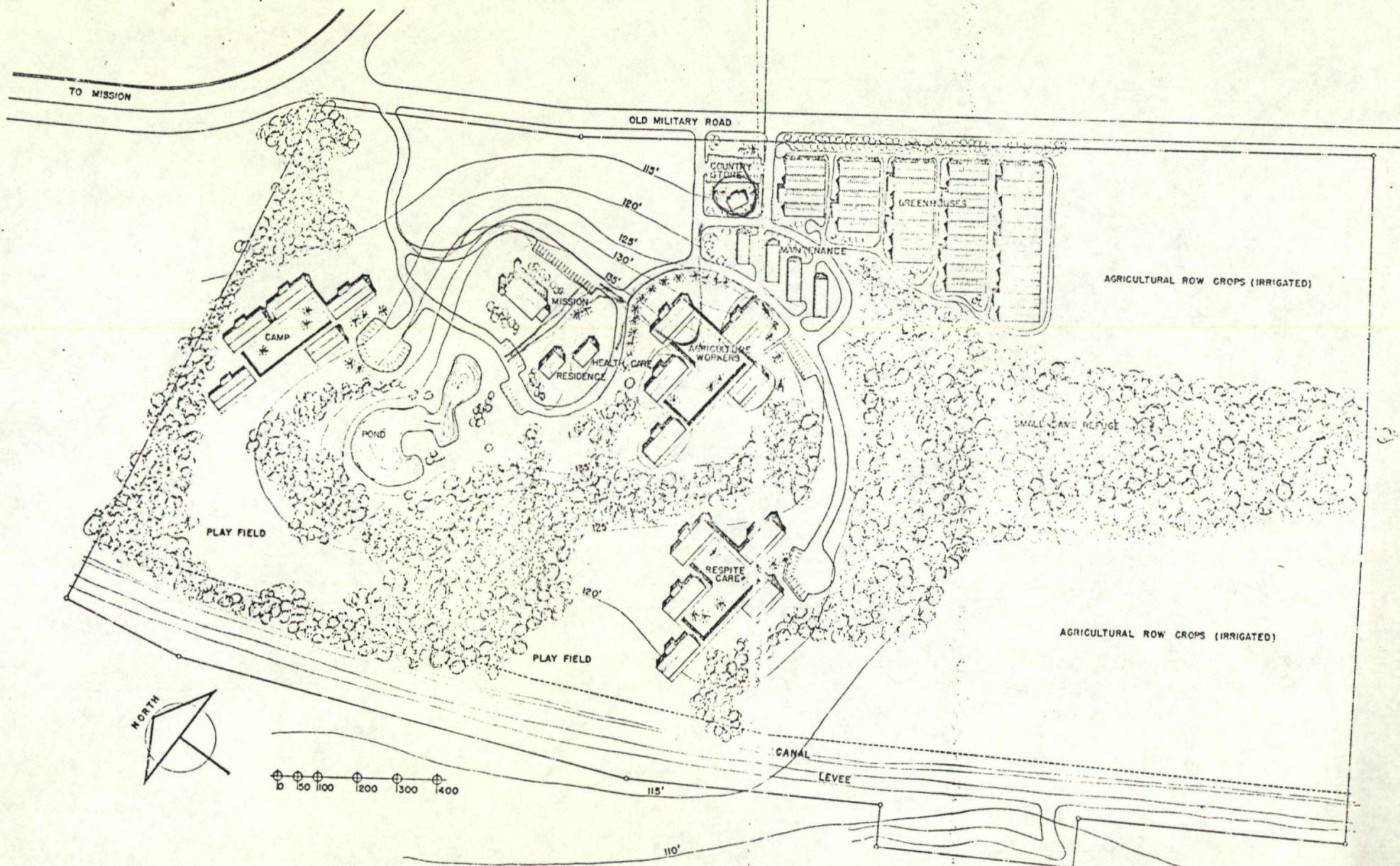
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

LA LOMITA HISTORIC DISTRICT



HISTORIC STRUCTURE LEGEND

- 1. LA LOMITA CHAPEL
- 2. ST. PETER'S NOVITIATE
- 3. RESIDENCE



MASTER SITE PLAN

A FACILITY OF SERVICE TO THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED IN THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY, MISSION, TEXAS

LA LOMITA



DESIGNED BY GUYTON & COMPANY, INC. MISSION, TEXAS



Texas Historical Commission
Box 12276, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
Truett Latimer
Executive Director

4.1.75

April 23, 1975

Ed Smith
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
18th and C Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Ed:

The information you requested concerning the modern buildings within La Lomita Historic District and the justification for the district designation are enclosed. If you need additional material, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie D. Landon".

Marie D. Landon
Historian

MDL/s
Enclosure

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE TEXAS

Date Entered MAY 28 1975

Name

Location

La Lomita Historic District

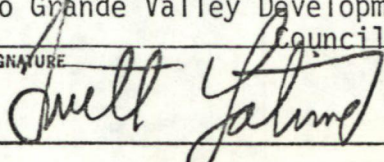
Mission
Hidalgo County

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower
Hon. Lloyd M. Bentsen
Hon. E. (Kika) de la Garza

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

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE		2. APPLICANT'S APPLICATION	a. NUMBER	3. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER	a. NUMBER																												
1. TYPE OF ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> PREAPPLICATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPLICATION <small>(Mark appropriate box)</small> <input type="checkbox"/> NOTIFICATION OF INTENT (Opt.) <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT OF FEDERAL ACTION		b. DATE 19 78 06 18	b. DATE Year month day	b. DATE ASSIGNED 19	Year month day																												
4. LEGAL APPLICANT/RECIPIENT a. Applicant Name : State Historic Preservation Office b. Organization Unit : Texas Historical Commission c. Street/P.O. Box : P.O. Box 12276 d. City : Austin e. County : Travis f. State : Texas g. ZIP Code : 78711 h. Contact Person (Name & telephone No.) : Truett Latimer (512) 475-3094		5. FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO 74-6016195		6. PRO-GRAM (From Federal Catalog) a. NUMBER 1150904 b. TITLE Historic Preservation																													
7. TITLE AND DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT <u>St. Peter's Novitiate Development - Phase I Mission, Hildalgo County, Texas</u> The St. Peter's Novitiate is local within the La Lomita Historic District. The project objectives are to stabilize deteriorated conditions on the exterior.		8. TYPE OF APPLICANT/RECIPIENT A-State B-Interstate C-Substate District D-County E-City F-School District G-Other (Specify)		9. TYPE OF ASSISTANCE A-Basic Grant B-Supplemental Grant C-Loan D-Insurance E-Other																													
10. AREA OF PROJECT IMPACT (Names of cities, counties, States, etc.) Texas		11. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS BENEFITING 12,000,000		12. TYPE OF APPLICATION A-New B-Renewal C-Revision D-Continuation E-Augmentation																													
13. PROPOSED FUNDING <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>a. FEDERAL</td><td>\$ 10,000</td><td>.00</td></tr> <tr><td>b. APPLICANT</td><td>25,130</td><td>.00</td></tr> <tr><td>c. STATE</td><td></td><td>.00</td></tr> <tr><td>d. LOCAL</td><td></td><td>.00</td></tr> <tr><td>e. OTHER</td><td></td><td>.00</td></tr> <tr><td>f. TOTAL</td><td>\$ 35,130</td><td>.00</td></tr> </table>		a. FEDERAL	\$ 10,000	.00	b. APPLICANT	25,130	.00	c. STATE		.00	d. LOCAL		.00	e. OTHER		.00	f. TOTAL	\$ 35,130	.00	14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF: <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>a. APPLICANT</td><td>statewide</td></tr> <tr><td>b. PROJECT</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>c. PROJECT START DATE</td><td>1/ See 33</td></tr> <tr><td>d. PROJECT DURATION</td><td>18 Months</td></tr> <tr><td>e. ESTIMATED DATE TO BE SUBMITTED TO FEDERAL AGENCY</td><td>19</td></tr> </table>		a. APPLICANT	statewide	b. PROJECT	15	c. PROJECT START DATE	1/ See 33	d. PROJECT DURATION	18 Months	e. ESTIMATED DATE TO BE SUBMITTED TO FEDERAL AGENCY	19	15. TYPE OF CHANGE (For 12c or 12e) A-Increase Dollars B-Decrease Dollars C-Increase Duration D-Decrease Duration E-Cancellation F-Other (Specify): N/A	
a. FEDERAL	\$ 10,000	.00																															
b. APPLICANT	25,130	.00																															
c. STATE		.00																															
d. LOCAL		.00																															
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e. ESTIMATED DATE TO BE SUBMITTED TO FEDERAL AGENCY	19																																
20. FEDERAL AGENCY TO RECEIVE REQUEST (Name, City, State, ZIP code) OAHF, HCRS, Washington, DC 20240		21. REMARKS ADDED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		22. THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES THAT a. To the best of my knowledge and belief, data in this preapplication/application are true and correct, the document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the assistance is approved. b. If required by OMB Circular A-95 this application was submitted, pursuant to instructions therein, to appropriate clearinghouses and all responses are attached:																													
23. CERTIFYING REPRESENTATIVE a. TYPED NAME AND TITLE: Truett Latimer, State Historic Preservation Officer b. SIGNATURE: 		(1) Governor's Office of Budget & Planning <input type="checkbox"/> (2) Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council <input type="checkbox"/> (3) <input type="checkbox"/>		25. APPLICATION RECEIVED Year month day 19 78 6 20																													
24. AGENCY NAME Department of the Interior		26. ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT Service Heritage Conservation & Recreation		27. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE Grants Administration Div.																													
29. ADDRESS 18th and C Streets NW, Washington, D.C. 20240		30. FEDERAL GRANT IDENTIFICATION 48-8801		31. ACTION TAKEN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. AWARDED <input type="checkbox"/> b. REJECTED <input type="checkbox"/> c. RETURNED FOR AMENDMENT <input type="checkbox"/> d. DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> e. WITHDRAWN																													
32. FUNDING <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>a. FEDERAL</td><td>\$ 10,000</td><td>.00</td></tr> <tr><td>b. APPLICANT</td><td>25,130</td><td>.00</td></tr> <tr><td>c. STATE</td><td></td><td>.00</td></tr> <tr><td>d. LOCAL</td><td></td><td>.00</td></tr> <tr><td>e. OTHER</td><td></td><td>.00</td></tr> <tr><td>f. TOTAL</td><td>\$ 35,130</td><td>.00</td></tr> </table>		a. FEDERAL	\$ 10,000	.00	b. APPLICANT	25,130	.00	c. STATE		.00	d. LOCAL		.00	e. OTHER		.00	f. TOTAL	\$ 35,130	.00	33. ACTION DATE Year month day 19 78 8 14		34. STARTING DATE Year month day 19 78 8 1											
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d. LOCAL		.00																															
e. OTHER		.00																															
f. TOTAL	\$ 35,130	.00																															
35. CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Name and telephone number) Stephen D. Newman 202 523-5472		36. ENDING DATE Year month day 19 80 1 31		37. REMARKS ADDED <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No																													
38. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 ACTION		a. In taking above action, any comments received from clearinghouses were considered. If agency response is due under provisions of Part 1, OMB Circular A-95, it has been or is being made.		b. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 OFFICIAL (Name and telephone no.) Same as #35																													

SECTION I—APPLICANT/RECIPIENT DATA

SECTION II—CERTIFICATION

SECTION III—FEDERAL AGENCY ACTION

To Both
LE
B6

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 11-2-76
Reviewer INITIALS: NESBITT
NR DOE 5/28/76

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: ^{✓0} LA LOMITA HISTORIC DISTRICT

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER

✓ 5 mi. S of Mission on FM 1016

CITY, TOWN

STATE
TX

VICINITY OF
Mission

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

15

COUNTY

Hidalgo

code

215

Multiple public/private

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

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR

Substantially intact-1

- unknown - 4

- not applicable - 7

EXTERIOR

Substantially intact-2

- unknown - 5

- not applicable - 8

ENVIRONS

Substantially intact-3

- unknown - 6

- not applicable - 9

- Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION - EXCELLENT
GOOD
FAIR

DETERIORATED
RUINS
UNEXPOSED
Unexcavated

UNALTERED
ALTERED
Reconstructed
Excavated

ORIGINAL SITE
MOVED
Unknown

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO

IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO

IF YES, NAME:

N.A.

ADAPTIVE USE: YES ~~NO~~ Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- RELIGIOUS / EDUCATION

now- ~~RELIGIOUS~~ / EDUCATION

SIGNIFICANCE:

ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC
AGRICULTURE
ARCHITECTURE -4
ART
COMMERCE
COMMUNICATIONS

CONSERVATION
ECONOMICS
EDUCATION -10
ENGINEERING
EXPLORATION
INDUSTRY
INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
LAW/Gov't/politics
LITERATURE
MILITARY
MUSIC
PHILOSOPHY
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION -22
SCIENCE
SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
TRANSPORTATION
OTHER (SPECIFY)

entertainment
health
recreation
settlement -29
socio/cultural
urban & commun
planning

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: **SPANISH COLONIAL REVIVAL & MISSION ELEMENTS**

architect/m.builder:

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role & appropriate date)

personal **JOSE ANTONIO CANTU - ORIGINAL PARCEL OF LAND CEDED BY CARLOS III OF SPAIN CA. 1770 / RENE GUYARD BOUGHT "RANCHO LA LOMITA" 1851 - WILLED IT TO OBLATE FATHERS IN 1871.**
events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century):

~~1899 (Chapel)~~
**1899 (Chapel),
1912 (ST. PETER'S)**

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

122 acres

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

the

LA LOMITA

RANCH OF OBLATE FATHERS

INCLUDES ~~the~~ SMALL, STUCCOED STONE CHAPEL AND ~~ST. PETER'S~~ ST. PETER'S NOVIATE, BRICK, 2-STORY, RECTANGULAR, ~~with~~ GABLED ROOF, 3-STORY SQUARE TOWERS FLANKING ENTRANCE, ~~1st story~~ WRAP-AROUND ARCADE, ~~and~~ 2ND-STORY GALLERY; SPANISH COLONIAL AND MISSION ELEMENTS.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

EARLY OBLATE MISSION, FIRST ESTABLISHED 1865 FOR FARM LABORERS.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: **SPANISH COLONIAL REVIVAL & MISSION ELEMENTS**

architect/m.builder: _____ engineer: _____
landscape/garden designer: _____ artist/artisan: _____
interior decorator: _____ builder/contractor: _____

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES: personal **JOSE ANTONIO CANTU - ORIGINAL PARCEL OF LAND CEDED BY CARLOS III OF SPAIN CA. 1770 / RENE GUYARD BOUGHT "RANCHO LA LOMITA" 1851 - WILLED IT TO OBLATE FATHERS IN 1871.**
(Label role & appropriate date) events

institutional

DATES: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): **1879 (Chapel), 1912 (St. Peter's)**
DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:
HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

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

ACREAGE: (to nearest tenth of an acre)
122 acres

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here) **RANCH OF OBLATE FATHERS**
INCLUDES ^{the} SMALL, STUCCOED STONE LA LOMITA CHAPEL AND ~~ST. PETER'S~~ ST. PETER'S NOVIATE WITH GABLED ROOF, 3-STORY
UNIPACED, BRICK, 2-STORY, RECTANGULAR,

Ranch of Oblate fathers ^{land and mission site} ~~includes~~ ^{contains} small stuccoed stone La Lomita Chapel, and brick 2-story St. Peter's Novitiate with 3-story square towers flanking entrance, 1st-story wraparound arcade, and 2nd-story gallery. Spanish Colonial and Mission elements. Early Oblate mission established 1865 for farm laborers; land bequeathed to Oblate Fathers ^{was} in 1871; mission served as impetus to area settlement.

EARLY OBLATE MISSION, FIRST ESTABLISHED 1865 FOR FARM LABORERS.