United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form  
Continuation sheet

Site No. 6
Photo No. 6

Name: Grimes Garage
Address: 110 North Waco
Present Owner: Marion Sides
1000 East Elm
Hillsboro, Texas 76645
Original Use: Service station/garage
U.S.G.S. Quadrangle: Hillsboro West

Historic Name: same
Date: 1914
Block/Lot: Block K 2, Lot 7, 8
Acreage: less than one acre
Current Use: Service station/garage
UTM Reference: 676660/3543120

Architectural Description:

Physical Condition: Excellent
Date(s) of Alterations: Minor, some windows painted over

This early-20th-century, vernacular brick service station with an L-shaped plan contains one-and-a-half stories plus a single-story brick garage, concrete floor, and steel ceiling. The roof rests on 16" x 16" reinforced concrete columns. The exterior brick is painted white with a red stripe, and the name "Fred O. Grimes" appears on the plaque on the upper facade. A large garage door is located at the north end of the facade. Wide display windows at the street level are framed by decorative black-and-white, ceramic-tile patterns enhanced by diamonds and triangles. The shaped brick parapet wall crowning the structure is capped with limestone coursing and bordered by two slightly projecting corner pilasters of brick. The exterior also displays decorative courses of dentils. The interior features a fine, tin ceiling and glass-brick lounge. The garage has remained unaltered except for a few windows which have been painted over.

Significance:

Period: 1900-

Areas of Significance: Architecture, Commerce, Transportation

This vernacular commercial building is significant as one of the earliest and best-advertised gas stations in Texas. It was constructed on the main highway between Waco and Dallas by Fred O. Grimes, Sr., in 1914. A pioneer in automotive service and repairs,
Grimes had earlier opened the first garage in Hill County and improvised the first motorized gas pump in Hillsboro. The Grimes Garage, itself, was advertised on billboards all over the state and was known for its elaborate glass-tiled lounges and restrooms. Grimes also worked with various highway associations to organize early routes and main thoroughfares for automobiles throughout the state, and served on the Chamber of Commerce Highway Commission for 35 years. His first garage opened in 1906, but failed within a year because of insufficient automobiles in the county. The present enterprise was begun in 1913, and moved to its permanent location the following year.

Bibliography:


# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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<tr>
<th>Item number</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Date/Signature</th>
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Grimes Garage (Hillsboro MRA)
Hill County
TEXAS

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| Federal Agency: |  |

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<th>Reviewer’s comments:</th>
<th>Recom./Criteria</th>
<th>Reviewer</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>see continuation sheet</th>
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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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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
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4. Owner of Property
5. Location of Legal Description
6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? | yes | no |

7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection
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
Historic Resources of Hillsboro
Hillsboro, Hill County, Texas
Site No. 6, Grimes Garage, 110 N. Waco
Photographer: Ellen Beasley, Spring 1982
Negative on file, Texas Historical Commission, Austin
View: west elevation, camera facing east
Photo 6 of 23
Please refer to the map in the Multiple Property Cover Sheet for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000846