

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

received **MAR 15 1985**

date entered **APR 11 1985**

**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 The Barr Building

and or common

2. Location

street & number 213-219 Broadway N/A not for publication

city, town San Antonio N/A vicinity of

state Texas code 048 county Bexar code 029

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input 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 Barr Building Properties: Curtis C. Gunn, Jr., Martha Clifton McNeel, Barry Morrell

street & number P.O. Box 598 telephone (512) 225-0803

city, town San Antonio N/A vicinity of state Texas 78292

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bexar County Courthouse

street & number

city, town San Antonio state Texas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title (1) San Antonio Historic Survey
(2) Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date (1) 1972, (2) 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records (1) City of San Antonio Historic Preservation Office
(2) Texas Historical Commission

city, town (1) San Antonio, (2) Austin state Texas

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Barr Building is a two-story masonry structure designed to serve both as a place of business and residence. Located near the center of downtown San Antonio, the structure features a rather ornamental street facade, and retains significant interior features which illustrates its multiple use.

Located a block east of Travis Park in downtown San Antonio, the Barr Building is a two-story masonry structure designed to contain leased commercial spaces, a photographic studio, and residence for the original owner. The main facade, which faces east onto Broadway, has recently been restored, using a contemporary newspaper illustration of the street facade as the source for replacing lost elements of the first-floor fronts. The structure's first floor is divided into three shopfronts, each with recessed entrances. The large amount of glass on the first floor provides for ample display on the part of the tenants. To the south end of the street front is a recessed door leading to a staircase to the second floor. The entrances and shop windows are sheltered by a metal canopy hung from the facade by six chains affixed to the building at the second-floor line, featuring a decorative copper band along its outer edges. Above the canopy is a continuous line of fixed-glass transom panels that provide additional lighting for the first-floor shopfronts.

The division between the first and second floors is defined by a stringcourse of cut stone. The character of the building's facade changes dramatically at the second-floor level, an outward expression of the change in use and function from rental commercial space below to residential space above. The second-floor facade is dominated by the cantilevered balcony and its bulbous copper canopy which form the central bay of the upper facade. The balcony also extends into the mass of the structure, framed by a broad and round arch in the facade wall. The projecting balcony section features a worked-iron balcony rail embellished with curvilinear designs, while the recessed wall face of the balcony space contains a centrally located doorway flanked by double-hung windows. Two other doorways provide access to the balcony on the flanking walls. The window-sash pattern found on the balcony windows utilizes a single pane of glass in the lower section, while the upper section is divided up into a series of narrow vertical panes by muntins which interlace at the top of the sash. The fenestration to each side of the balcony is symmetrical, with a very narrow double-hung window unit further out from the balcony. The sash design of these windows is consistent with that noted on the balcony. The large window units feature cast-stone pilasters and cornice that further enhance their prominence on the facade.

The upper section of the street front has a modillioned cornice which is separated from the lower wall surface by a stone stringcourse. The parapet is divided into three main sections by four paneled blocks, beneath which are three large modillions which seem to support the large masonry forms. Each of the blocks contains a round-arched niche. The central bay of the parapet is highly embellished with an oval cartouche with garlands extending to each side and attaching to the flanking parapet blocks. This cartouche form rises above the line of the parapet, and is contained within a round arch. The flanking parapet blocks are capped with ornamental forms featuring acanthus leaf scrolls.

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

The north and south elevations of the building are principally party walls that are unbroken and unadorned. As the mass of the building progresses to the west, it takes the form of a narrow wing whose north face is broken by a series of segmentally arched window openings, as well as a large north-facing slanted skylight. The latter was reconstructed on the basis of structural remains of the original which had been removed, and which provided natural light for an interior space originally used as a photographic studio.

The interior of the first floor of the structure has been rehabilitated to contain a series of commercial spaces that will be finished according to the needs of the various tenants. This section of the building had undergone major alterations over the years, and has suffered a corresponding loss of original design features. Access to the second floor, which is fully rehabilitated, is provided by an exterior iron staircase on the north elevation of the building, as well as by the original interior stair which leads to the Broadway sidewalk. The rear part of the second floor was rehabilitated as a series of small offices, although the original studio skylight was restored to provide a clear idea of the character of the space as it was in the original design. This section of the interior had suffered serious alterations over time which resulted in the loss of most of the original interior walls. Towards the front of the building one encounters the intact residential plan of the second floor. This suite of six rooms served as the residence of the structure's builder and occupant, and still retains the original millwork and pressed-metal ceilings. Also of note are the three skylights which were included in the apartment design for additional illumination. All are located in rooms without exterior wall openings. The largest of the apartment rooms, which faces Broadway, features the only ornamental fireplace mantel in the apartment.

Also of interest is the fireproof construction system used between the first and second floors. A series of flat arches set between steel beams forms the core of the floor, which is covered by a concrete slab. This slab is topped with cinder concrete to which are applied the wooden sleepers serving as the base for the finished wood floors. The flooring of the second floor, originally of pine, suffered from deterioration and was replaced with oak during the rehabilitation of the structure.

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 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/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)	

Associated with important person

Specific dates 1912 **Builder/Architect** Charles Schoenfeld - Builder
Leo M. J. Dielmann - Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The two-story building constructed for David Perry Barr and designed by the San Antonio architect Leo M.J. Dielmann represents an unusual combination of commercial and residential functions within a single structure. Dielmann, who was noted for ecclesiastical work as well as numerous commercial buildings, was a major figure on the San Antonio architectural scene for much of the 20th century. David Perry Barr, a native of Ohio, began his photographic career during the Civil War, and moved to San Antonio in 1880. He chose to combine his studio and residence in the second floor of the building, thus determining its rather original design.

The Barr Building was constructed as the combination residence-photographic studio and rental property for San Antonio photographer David Perry Barr. Located near the center of the city's business district, the structure was designed by San Antonio architect Leo M.J. Dielmann. A native of San Antonio, Dielmann was educated at St. Mary's College, graduating in 1898. He later studied architecture and architectural engineering in Germany, returning and setting up his office in San Antonio in 1902. His father, John C. Dielmann, must have been a major influence upon his son's choice of a career, as he ran a building supply firm.

The younger Dielmann's career in architecture was a lengthy one, ending with his retirement in 1957. His output in the first thirty years of the century is well known, largely thanks to a booklet entitled Dielmann's Review - an illustrated list of executed designs by the architect. Dielmann's work was evenly divided between commissions from various Roman Catholic dioceses in central and south Texas, and commissions from individuals and companies. His numerous small commercial buildings can be found in many of the county seats surrounding San Antonio, as well as in that city.

A number of Dielmann's commercial designs still exist, but none contain the diverse functions of the Barr Building under one roof. That structure's high level of ornamentation is also somewhat unusual, and was perhaps dictated by the fact that the client would occupy the building twenty-four hours a day.

David Perry Barr was a native of Ohio, and despite his place of birth, sympathized with the cause of the South in the Civil War. Trained in photography, Barr moved to Vicksburg, Mississippi. Several of his views of warships and officers have survived from this period. Following the Civil War, Barr moved to Texas, settling first in Houston and, in 1880, San Antonio. He maintained a photographic studio in the latter

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bexar County Records, Bexar County Courthouse, San Antonio, Texas, ML 7, p. 459.

Dielmann, Leo M. J. Collection, Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library, University of Texas Archives.
(see continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name San Antonio East, Tex

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	4	5	4	9	7	5	0	3	2	5	5	3	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 7, in Block 16, New City Block 418, on the west side of Broadway. Property fronts 56 feet on Broadway and runs back 120 feet for depth to a public alleyway. San Antonio, Texas.

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lynn Osborne Bobbitt/Richard H. Mycue (with John Ferguson, THC)

organization date December 18, 1984

street & number 410 King William/515 E. Houston St. telephone (512) 227-7804/(512) 222-2842

city or town San Antonio state Texas 78204

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Curtis J. Purnell

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 28 Feb. 1985

For NPS use only

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

for Delores Byer
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 4-11-85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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date entered

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city until his death in 1925. Barr's first studio was located on Main Plaza and no longer survives. Following his death, the building served as the home of the Sarli School of Music and the New York School of Dance, both of which would have found the large open spaces of the second floor advantageous to their needs. Since the 1940s, and until its purchase by the present owners, the structure served a variety of tenants, with modifications to the original fabric of the building taking place during this period. While no original plans were available to aid in the renovation of the Barr Building, the present owners used information gained through careful study of the character of the structure to return many of the missing original features.

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Dielmann, Leo M. J. Dielmann's Review, San Antonio: privately published, n.d.

"Memories of Dorothy Matthies," August 5, 1980, San Antonio Conservation Society Library.

Picturesque San Antonio, n.p., 1909

Souveneir, The City of San Antonio, Texas, n.p., 1902

William C. Darragh, Cartes de Visite in Nineteenth Century Photography. Gettysburg, Pennsylvania: William C. Darragh, Publisher, 1981

Ellis A. Davis & Edwin H. Grobe, editors, The New Encyclopedia of Texas. Dallas, Texas: Texas Development Bureau, 1930.

J.S. Reilly, San Antonio, Past, Present and Future. San Antonio: J.S. Reilly, n.d.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Barr Building
Bexar County
TEXAS

MAR 15 1985

Working No. _____

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/4/86

Date Due: 4/11/85 - 4/29/85

Action: ACCEPT 4-11-85

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

Entered in ~~NPS~~
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date _____

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: _____



RENTAL
SPECIAL
OFFER

TRAVELERS

PAY H
NO FREE
15
15

Barr Building
213-219 Broadway, San Antonio, Bexar County,
Texas

Photograph 1984 by Parish Photography,
5021 Broadway, San Antonio; neg. with Texas
Historical Commission, Austin.

East facade, looking west
Photo 1 of 6



Barr Building
213-219 Broadway, San Antonio, Bexar County,
Texas

Photograph 1984 by Curtis C. Gunn; neg. with
Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

Northeast oblique detail, looking southwest
Photo 2 of 6



87 12 10

Barr Building
213-219 Broadway, San Antonio, Bexar County,
Texas

Photograph 1984 by Curtis C. Gunn; neg. with
Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

West oblique view, camera looking east
Photo 3 of 6



84 12 5

Barr Building
213-219 Broadway, San Antonio, Bexar County,
Texas

Photograph 1984 by Curtis C. Gunn; neg. with
Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

Parlor mantel
Photo 4 of 6



Barr Building
213-219 Broadway, San Antonio, Bexar County,
Texas

Photograph 1984 by Curtis C. Gunn; neg. with
Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

View of studio space, looking west
Photo 5 of 6

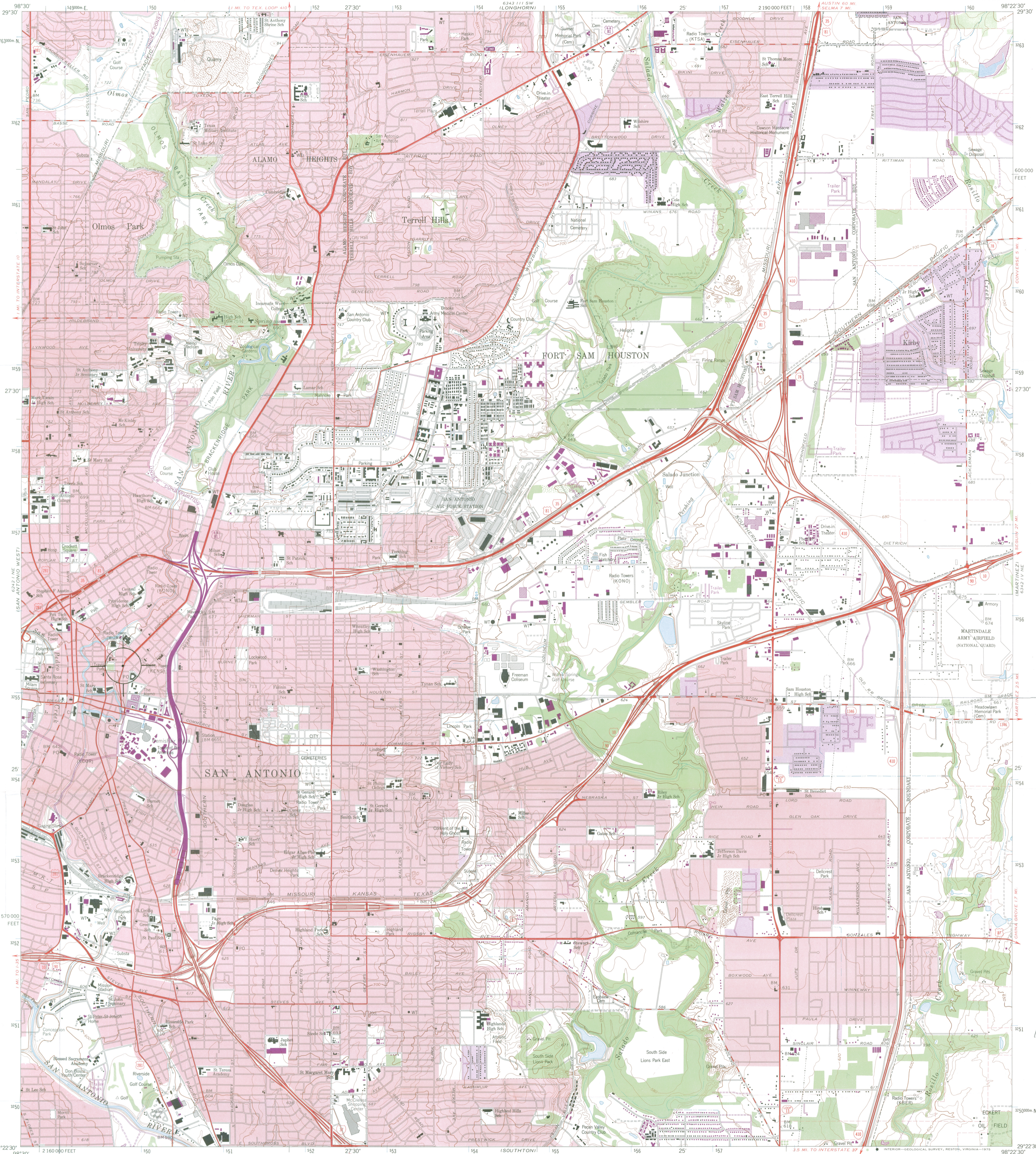


9 21 48.

Barr Building
213-219 Broadway, San Antonio, Bexar County,
Texas

Photograph 1984 by Curtis C. Gunn; neg. with
Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

Ceiling skylight detail
Photo 6 of 6

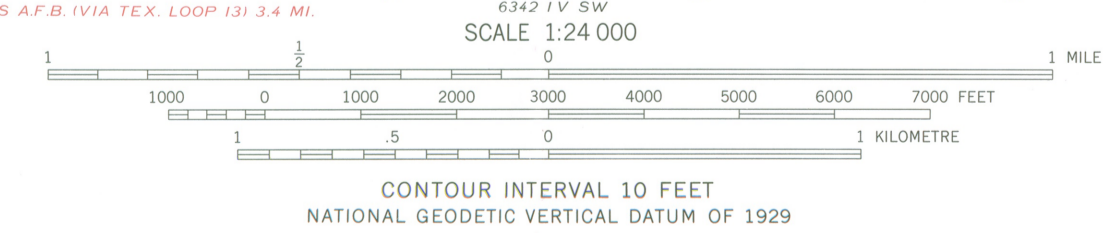


THE BARR BUILDING
213-219 BROADWAY
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 14/544750/3255340

760
140
098

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and USCE
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1952. Field annotated 1953. Revised by Geological Survey
from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1967.
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,
south central zone
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 14, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines
Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from
aerial photographs taken 1973. This information not field checked

UTM GRID AND 1973 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET
0°17' 5 MILLS
8°16' 151 MILLS



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface ——— Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface ——— Unimproved road
Interstate Route ——— U.S. Route ——— State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

2998-133

SAN ANTONIO EAST, TEX.
N2922.5-W9822.5/7.5
1967
PHOTOREVISED 1973
AMS 6342 IV NW-SERIES V882