

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received MAR 13 1986

date entered APR 10 1986

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

1. Name

historic The Havana

and/or common The Havana

2. Location

street & number 1015 Navarro Street

N/A not for publication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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Heinze Home Builders, Inc.

street & number P.O. Box 16832

city, town San Antonio

N/A vicinity of

state Texas 78216

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 Historic Sites Inventory

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date September 1985

federal state county local

depository for survey records Texas Historical Commission

city, town Austin

state Texas

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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 Havana is a load-bearing masonry structure with wood-framed floors and roofs. The roofs, approximately 6:12 in slope, consist of red pressed-metal shingles applied in a fish-scale pattern. Two twin towers at the northwest and southwest corners of the building (Navarro Street elevation) rise full height to three stories above grade. They are capped with 12:12-pitched roofs, giving the building a Chateausque profile, while broad, bracketed eaves at all roof-wall connections enhance the building's Mediterranean character.

The masonry Havana, possessing twin front towers that reach three stories tall, has a distinctly Mediterranean flavor accentuated by markedly overhanging eaves (see plan). The building contains three levels in addition to a basement floor which shall be accessible to the San Antonio Riverwalk. The third floor is actually an attic floor supplied with daylight through several dormers penetrating the building's hipped roof. The floor areas range from 6000 sq. ft. in the basement to 4600 sq. ft. on the third floor.

There is very little documentation on the Havana's original interior. The plan consists basically of a lobby leading from the entry at Navarro Street to a central stair core around which the building's rooms are organized. The interior has been altered somewhat, although many original walls remain intact. Finishes consist of plaster walls and ceilings with stained-wood moldings, trim, and paneled doors on the first floor. The plaster-coffered ceiling at the main entry lobby was reportedly quite decorative at one time, although that fact has not been verified. Ceiling heights range from 11'8" on the first floor to 10'0" on the second and third floors.

The brick exterior of the building is a very light tan contrasting with white cast-stone window sills, arched lintels, and the elaborate balusters of numerous interior porches at all four elevations. The wooden, double-hung windows and transoms are generally 1:2 in proportion, thereby emphasizing the verticality of the building's elevations. These features, together with the building's profile, its setbacks, projections, recessed porches, arches, balustrades, broad eaves, eyebrow dormers, and finished roof ridges give it a fanciful and romantic ambience. The building's careful siting enhances this imagery even more with many cypress trees, palms, magnolias, and various deciduous trees surrounding the building, particularly along the north elevation next to the San Antonio Riverwalk from the Ursuline Academy. There one gets glimpses of the Havana framed from below by the Romana Street Bridge and on the sides by dense vegetation. And yet at the street level the building is clearly a part of downtown San Antonio's vigorous urban vitality.

Along with several other historic buildings in the vicinity of Auditorium Circle, Navarro, and Jefferson streets, the Havana is unique in downtown San Antonio because it is free-standing, not linked to its neighbors as a series of downtown row buildings would be. And among its free-standing neighbors the Havana is still unique due to its river-side location, its flourishing downtown landscape, and its intriguing, eclectic architectural style.

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

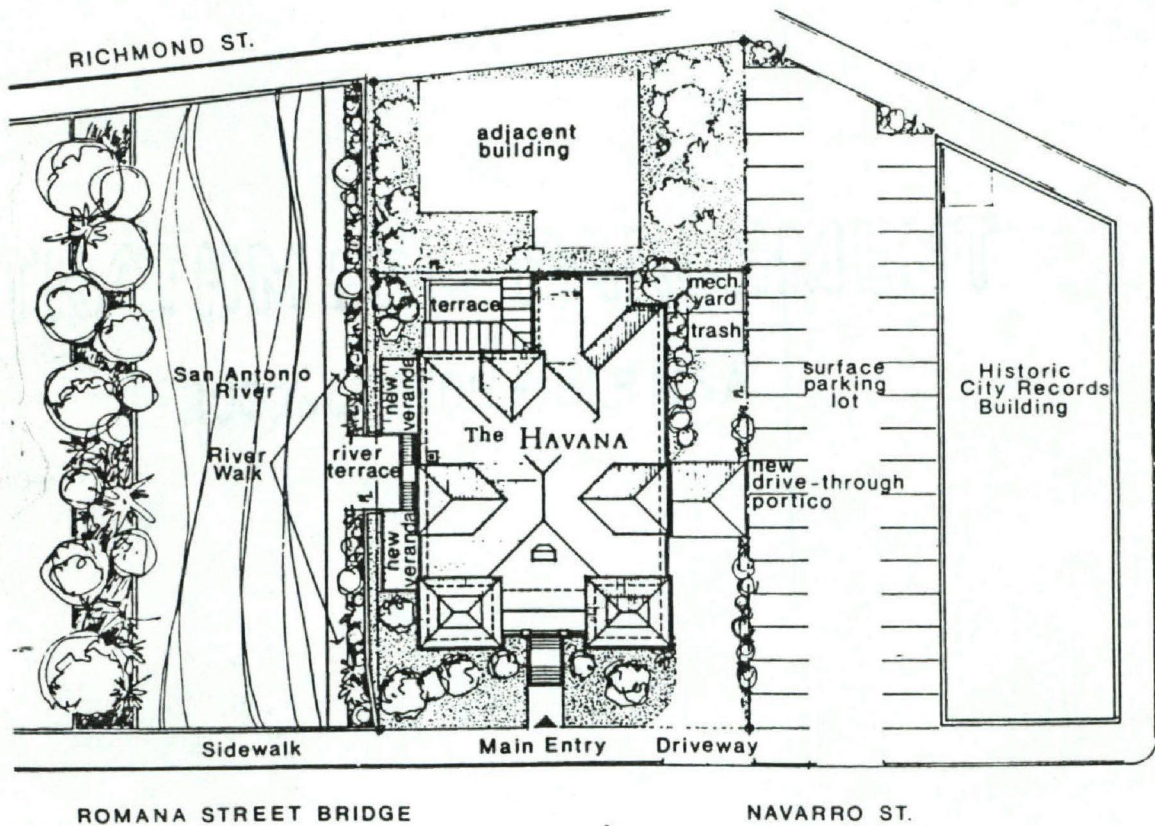
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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

The Havana:



NAVARRO ST.

ROMANA STREET BRIDGE



Site Plan SCALE: 1" = 30'

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/ 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 type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input 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	1913	Builder/Architect	Ed F. Melcher Arthur J. Herrmann
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The three-story masonry structure known as the Havana is an important example of early 20th-century classicism in the city of San Antonio. The design of the building is unusual for the period in that it does not follow any immediately recognizable prototypes of the Italian or Spanish renaissance, which were the dominant forms in use for large-scale buildings in the years before World War I.

Designed by the relatively obscure architect Arthur J. Herrmann, the Havana can nevertheless be considered one of the more important examples of early 20th-century classicism to be found in San Antonio. By the beginning of the present century, San Antonio was experiencing a major building boom, largely caused by the arrival of major railroad lines which spurred the commercial growth of the city. Given the Hispanic character of the city's past, it is not surprising that architects chose to turn to Spanish or Mexican sources for their inspiration. For example, the station erected for the International and Great Northern Railroad in 1907 took the form of an enlarged mission church. Also, one of the city's prominent banking institutions, the Old Alamo National Bank, constructed a neo-Italian renaissance headquarters in 1902.

The site which Herrmann was given for the Havana was different from those of the two above-noted National Register listings, being located alongside the banks of the San Antonio River where it is crossed by the Romano Street Bridge. Perhaps the inherently romantic character of the site led to the choice of a more ambiguous style for the structure, a style most often referred to in architectural journals of that period as Mediterranean. The massing of the structure, which is dominated by the two three-story towers capped by hipped roofs, incorporates a three-tiered verandah along the main elevation, set between the towers. The structure's design acknowledged the warm climate of the city by means of this verandah and the broad eaves of the roof, which served to cast shadows across the wall surfaces. The architectural imagery employed on the Havana is not specific to any work of architecture in Europe, rather relying upon more generalized features for its effect. In spite of its large scale, the structure still conveys a sense of domesticity, especially in the historic photograph (herein) taken from the opposite bank of the river.

Herrmann was evidently not able to follow the Havana commission with other projects of similar character, for neither extant nor demolished examples have been located. In the coming years, the architectural community in San Antonio would turn strongly towards forms that were directly borrowed from the city's Mexican colonial past, leaving the Havana to stand as an uncommon local example of architectural design during the first quarter of this century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Building Permit Records, San Antonio, Texas.

City Directory, San Antonio, Texas, 1914.

(see continuation sheet)

Deed Records, Bexar County, Texas.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name San Antonio East, Texas

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	4	5	4	19	5	12	10	3	12	5	5	6	0	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

Parts of lots 9 and 10, New City Block 180, San Antonio, delimited in Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

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 Kim Alan Williams, AIA (with John C. Ferguson, THC)

organization The Bennett-Williams Co.

date June 3, 1985

street & number 700 E. 44th St.

telephone (512) 452-5433

city or town Austin

state 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Lewis J. Purcell

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 4 March 1986

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

Joan M. McPherson
Keeper of the National Register

date 4/10/86

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received 10/11/85

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fletcher, Sir Bannister. A History of Architecture on the Comparative Method. Seventeenth Edition. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1967.

Lahr, Thomas F., Assistant Librarian/Reference Services, The American Institute of Architects. Letter to F. H. Bennett III, AIA, February 7, 1985.

Melcher, Gilbert. Telephone interview by Kim A. Williams with F. H. Bennett III, AIA. January 24, 1985.

Tenng, Mrs. Louise. Telephone interview by Kim A. Williams with F. H. Bennett III, AIA. January 24, 1985.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

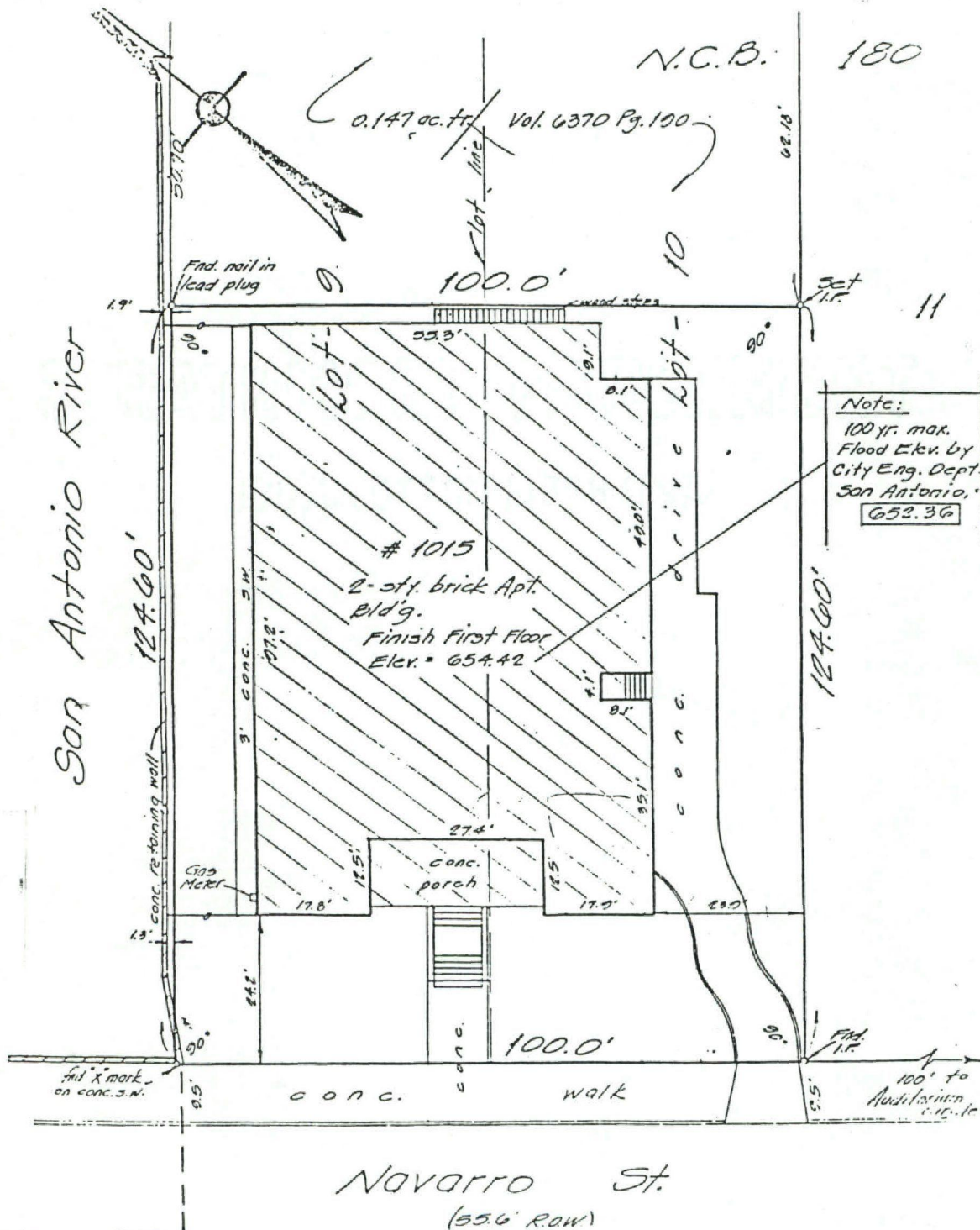
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Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

EXHIBIT "A"



86000725

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Havana, (The)
Bexar County
TEXAS

Working No. MAR 13 1986

Fed. Reg. Date: 2-3-87

Date Due: 4/10/86 ~~4/27/86~~

Action: ACCEPT 4/10/86

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
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	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

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

Entered in the
National Register

Tarrant County
Texas

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: _____



The Havana, 1015 Navarro Street
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photographer unknown, (c. 1920s)

Western corner
camera facing east

photo 1 of 6

colu/85



ONE
WAY
←

The Havana, 1015 Navarro Street
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photo by F. H. Bennett III, 1985, neg. with
Texas Historical Commission, Austin

view of southwest elevation
camera facing northeast

photo 2 of 6

ca/ulr



The Havana, 1015 Navarro Street
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photo by F. H. Bennett III, May 1985, neg. with
Texas Historical Commission, Austin

View of southeast elevation
camera facing northwest

photo 3 of 6

20/11/85



The Havana, 1015 Navarro Street
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photo by F. H. Bennett III, May 1985, neg. with
Texas Historical Commission, Austin

View of north elevation
camera facing south

photo 4 of 6

06/11/85



The Havana, 1015 Navarro Street
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photo by F. H. Bennett III, May 1985, neg. with
Texas Historical Commission, Austin

View of interior coffered ceiling of lobby

photo 5 of 6

20/11/85



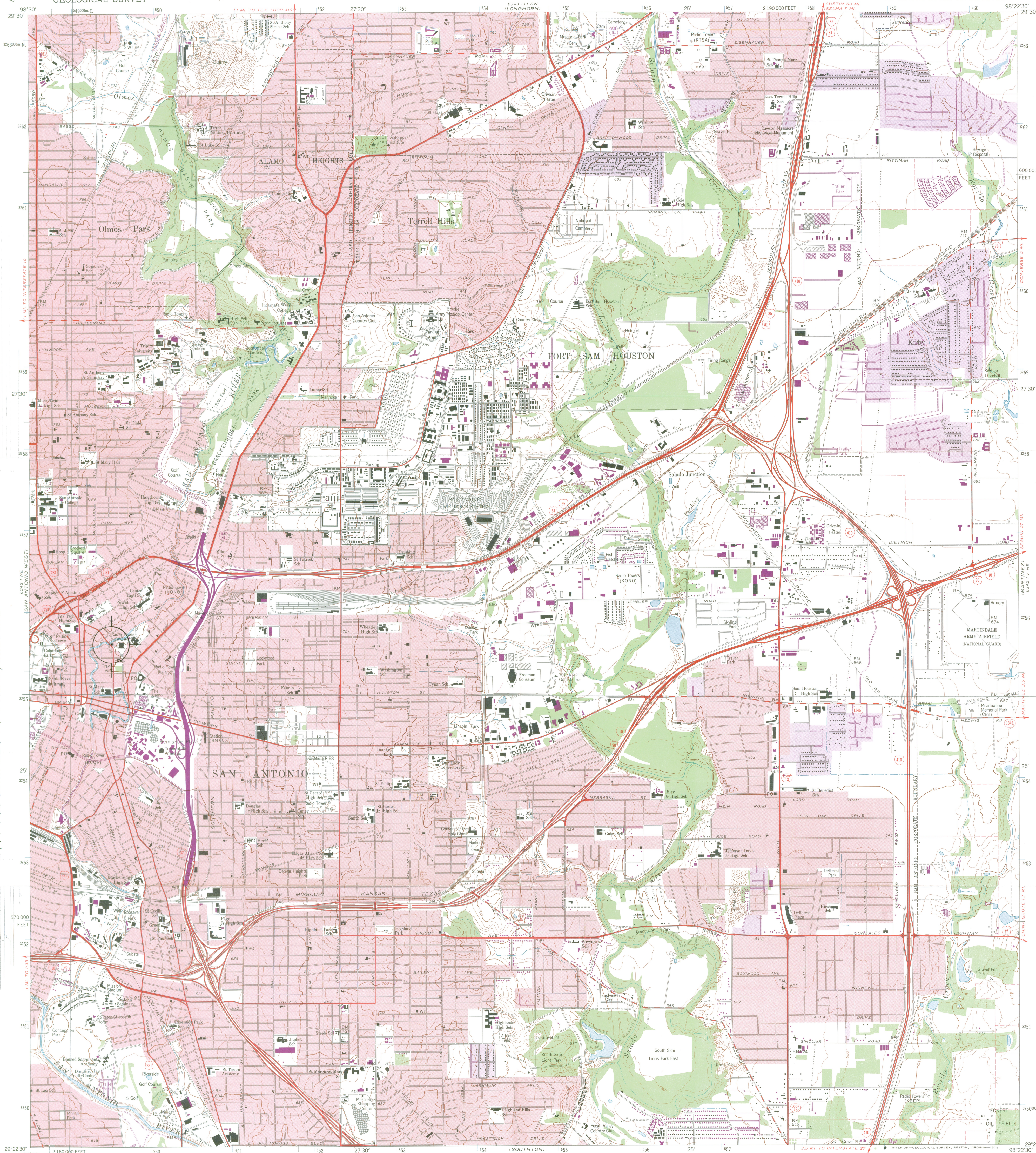
The Havana, 1015 Navarro Street
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photo by F. H. Bennett III, May 1985, neg. with
Texas Historical Commission, Austin

View of interior main stairway

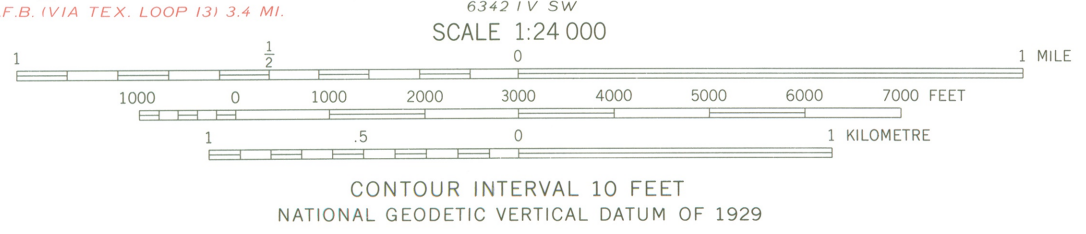
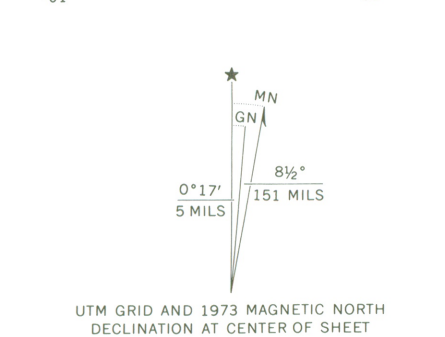
photo 6 of 6

10/11/85



THE HAYANA STREET
1015 NAVARRO, BEXAR CO., TEXAS
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 14/549520/3255600

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



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



SAN ANTONIO EAST, TEX.
N2922.5-W9822.5/7.5

2998-133

1967
PHOTOREVISED 1973
AMS 6342 1V NW-SERIES V882

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