NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Curtis, Alice Ghorm	ley, House	1	
other names/site numberN/A			
2. Location			
street & number <u>1626 South Washing</u>	ton Street	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	NZAnot for publication
city or town <u>Amarillo</u>			N /A vicinity
state Texas code TX	county	Potter	code <u>375</u> zip code <u>79101</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification			
As the designated authority under the National request for determination of eligibility meets Historic Places and meets the procedural and p meets does not meet the National Regis nationally statewide locally. (See Signature of certifying official/Title <u>State Historic Preservation</u> State of Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does comments.)	the documentation professional requirer ter criteria. I reconstruction sheet continuation sheet Officer, 1	ion standards for regis irements set forth in 36 ommend that this prop let for additional comm <u>OMAYCA 199</u> Date Texas Historic	tering properties in the National Register of 6 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property perty be considered significant tents.) 22 cal Commission
Signature of certifying official/Title		Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau			
4. National Park Service Certification	Ento		Entered in the
I hereby certify that the property is: entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register	Spe	MM Raf	National Register Date of Action National Register B/14/92
 See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National 			
Register. other, (explain:)			

NATIONAL.

Curtis, Alice Ghormley, House Name of Property

Potter County, Texas County and State

5. Classification	The second se		States a St	The providenties	ented Status
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number (Do not in	r of Resource	s within Propert listed resources in th	y e count.)
I private	⊠ building(s)	Contribu	uting No	oncontributing	
 public-local public-State 	□ district	2		0	buildings
public-State public-Federal	☐ site □ structure	0		0	sites
	object	0		0	structure
		0		0	objects
	The ast we will	2		0	Total
Name of related multiple p (Enter "N/A" if property is not part	roperty listing of a multiple property listing.)		r of contributi National Regis	ing resources pr ster	eviously listed
N/A	1010120 1-177	0	112 53	in settion to	
6. Function or Use	tersester the she	7 14 1 14 1 4	- (ar she sa		and the second
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Fi	unctions pries from instruct	ions)	
Domestic: Single dwe		Commercial: Business			
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	Materials (Enter catego	pries from instruct	ions)	1250
Classical Revival		foundation	Brick		
			Brick		
and a strength of strength of			Wood	A State of the second	
		roof	Wood		
		other	Concrete		

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

tapered in the See Continuation Sheets 7-1 through 7-4.

7

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____

Page ____

1

Alice Ghormley Curtis House Amarillo, Potter County, TX

Description:

The Alice Ghormley Curtis House is a 2-story, frame, classically influenced dwelling with a center passage plan and a low pitched, bellcast, hipped roof. The foundation is red brick, the exterior walls are yellow brick, and the roof is covered with wood shingles. On a large lot with several large elm trees, the Curtis House fronts east on Washington Street in a residential area of Amarillo, about 10 blocks south of the central business district. In the place of a front lawn is a large concrete parking lot. At the northwest corner of the lot is a frame garage that is Contributing. The buildings are in excellent condition and retain their integrity to a high degree.

Potter County is in the Texas Panhandle, on the south portion of the High Plains. The county's terrain is level prairie land, broken by the Canadian River and its tributaries. Amarillo (1990 population 168,693) serves as county seat and the region's economic hub based on agriculture and the petrochemical industry. The south part of the town (beginning at South 29th Street) is in Randall County. The community follows a grid plan that has little variation (see USGS map). The Curtis House was built prior to the platting of the Bivins Addition, in which it now stands.

The main (east) facade has a full width, 1-story porch with a solid red brick balustrade that wraps around to the north elevation (see Photograph 1). Large, white columns are spaced equidistantly and support the porch's flat roof with its denticulated cornice and modillioned eaves; columns framing the off-center entry steps are grouped in threes. The front door is flanked by sidelights and Tuscan pilasters. Two 1/1 wood windows are on either side of the door; all windows on the house have cast concrete sills and lintels. A large, pedimented, gable dormer with wood siding has a tripartite window, with ornate tracery in the upper sashes. Tuscan pilasters are on either side of this window. The pediment features an elaborate cartouche with garlands and modillioned eaves. A small widow's walk with wrought iron cresting crowns the building's hipped roof. Two chimneys are most visible from this facade.

The porch wraps around to the east side of the north facade (see Photograph 2). A concrete ramp with an iron rail provides handicap access to the porch and building. Centered on this facade is a tripartite window with transom; the transom has ornate tracery detailing. Above this window is a gable dormer with wood siding, boxed cornice returns, and modillioned eaves. A pair of 1/1 wood windows is centered on the dormer.

A frame addition with a hipped roof dominates the back (west) facade (see Photograph 3). The addition may have originally been added as a porch. It existed as early as 1921, the first time the house appears on Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps. Wood windows are 1/1. Centered on this facade is a wood sided, pedimented, gable dormer with a single 1/1 wood window.

The south facade of the house has 3-bays. Protruding slightly, the central bay features a pair of 1/1 wood windows. Above is a dormer that echoes the dormer on the north facade.

The symmetrical interior of the Curtis house follows a center passage plan. The 1st floor has rooms flanking a central hall (see Continuation Sheet 7-3); living areas were on this floor while bedrooms were on the 2nd (see

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Pag

Page ____

2

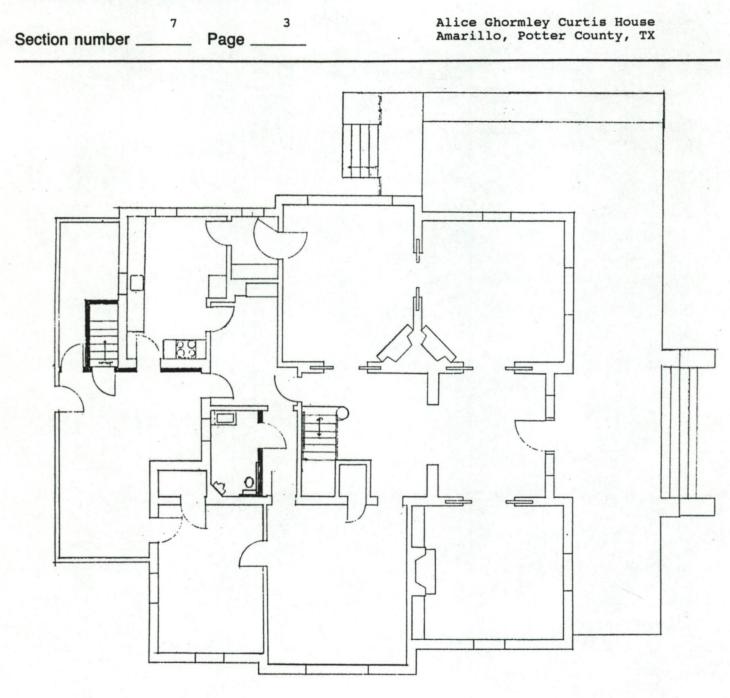
Alice Ghormley Curtis House Amarillo, Potter County, TX

Continuation 7-4); currently both floors provide office space. The interior exhibits refined wood detailing that includes deep cornice moldings with an egg and dart motif, elaborate door and window surrounds, and intricately carved fireplace mantels (see Photograph 5). The 1st floor entry hall is dramatically separated from the back hall stair by massive Tuscan columns and squared pilasters (see Photograph 6).

At the rear of the house is a Contributing 1-story frame garage. The Lplan building has a wood shingle intersecting gable roof and holds two cars (see Photograph 7). Two outbuildings, a windmill and a cistern, are no longer extant.

The Curtis House has not undergone major alterations; the property retains its integrity of setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet



FIRST FLOOR

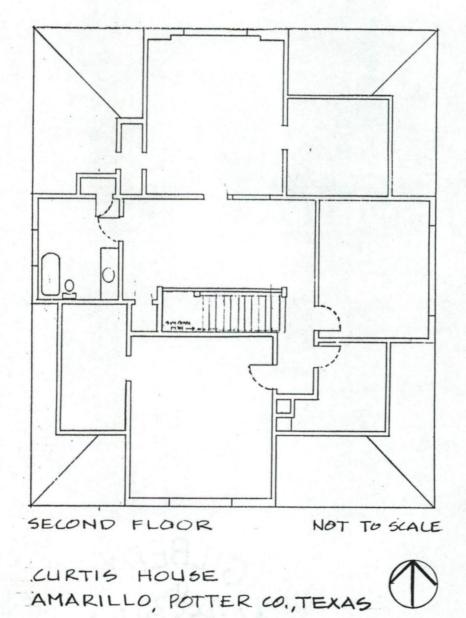
NOT TO SCALE



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

7 Section number _____ Page _

Alice Ghormley Curtis House Amarillo, Potter County, TX



Curtis, Alice Ghormley, House Name of Property

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- □ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- Property is: N/A
- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- **B** removed from its original location.
- **C** a birthplace or grave.
- **D** a cemetery.
- **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- □ **F** a commemorative property.
- □ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Potter County, Texas County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1906

1906

Significant Dates

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Sing	Leton,	J.D.
------	--------	------

Narrative Statement of Significance See Continuation Sheets 8-5 and 8-6. (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibilography See Continuation Sheet 9-7. (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- □ Local government
- University
- X Other

Name of repository:

Texas Historical Commission, Austin, TX Preservation Amarillo, Amarillo, TX

Curtis, Alice Ghormley, House	Potter County, Texas
Name of Property	County and State
10. Geographical Data	and the second second second finances
Acreage of Propertyless than one acre	
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)	
1 1 2 4 0 6 6 0 3 8 9 8 3 8 0 Zone Easting Northing 2 1	3 Zone Easting Northing 4 See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet 10-8.	
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Sally S. Victor and Larry D. Hodges	1927 LTRA STRANG
organization	dateJuly, 1989; Feb., 1992
street & number P.O. Box 1280	telephone5794
city or town Mason sta	ateX zip code76856
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	
nameCarole Durrett	
street & number Box 1081	telephone _ N/A
city or town <u>Amarillo</u>	state zip code79105

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

5

Section number _____ Page __

Alice Ghormley Curtis House Amarillo, Potter County, TX

Statement of Significance:

The 1906 Alice Ghormley Curtis House is a product of the historical revival styles that dominated residential design from the turn of the century through the 1940s. Eligible at the local level of significance, the house meets Criterion C in the area of Architecture, as an excellent example of exuberant Classical Revival detailing.

Until its 1887 incorporation the Amarillo area remained a remote region of Texas. The community experienced boomtown growth in the last decade of the 19th century. This surge is due to the 1887 construction of the Fort Worth and Denver City Railroad through Potter County. Amarillo savored remarkable growth propelled by its position as a railhead for cattle ranches in the Texas Panhandle (by 1900 the Southern Kansas, the Pecos and Northern Texas, and the Chicago, Rock Island and Gulf railroads had forged through town), and its vital role in the cotton industry. The population almost tripled between 1890 and 1900. This large influx of residents heralded a construction boom that resulted in unprecedented building.

Alice Ghormley Curtis built the house at 1626 South Washington Street in 1906. She was born in 1852 in Tennessee and moved to Jack County, Texas, with her family around the time of the Civil War. In 1868 she married W.R. (Bill) Curtis, a Texas Ranger and prominent Panhandle rancher. The couple moved to Henrietta, Texas, in 1881. He had extensive ranching interests in Texas and further west as well. After her husband's 1901 death, Curtis moved to Amarillo and built this house, which she lived in until her 1923 death.

Local contractor J.D. Singleton (1861-1928) built the house. A native of Alabama, he came to Amarillo in 1902 by way of McClennan County, Texas. He first entered the local planing mill business, and served as a general contractor by 1905. Singleton served as contractor on many buildings in the Panhandle.

Popular interest in the 1893 World's Fair, widely available pattern books of the era, and the increasing accessibility of pre-fabricated parts influenced classically designed residences at the turn of the century. The 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago aroused an interest in reviving classical styles that became prevalent throughout the country during the first half of the 20th century, while pattern books and pre-fabricated parts exposed and proliferated this interest to a larger audience. A Classical Revival residence is generally defined with a 1-story porch that is supported by classical columns.

While the asymmetrical wraparound front porch, and pyramidal roof are more common to earlier Victorian era architecture, Classical Revival details define the Curtis House. On the exterior, ornate classical columns with Tuscan capitals support a 1-story porch that dominates the facade. Other typical characteristics include tripartite fenestration configurations, pedimented dormers with decorative garlands, and dramatic dentils and modillions. Interior Classical details include decorative swags that adorn the bay windows and transoms, deep molding on door and window surrounds, and large columns with Tuscan and Ionic capitals.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

8	6	Alice Ghormley Curtis House
Section number	Page	Amarillo, Potter County, TX

The Curtis' oldest son, James Owen, lived at the residence with his family as early as 1915. Since that time the house has had a succession of owners. Presently the building houses offices for Amarillo Consolidated Travel.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page ___

Alice Ghormley Curtis House Amarillo, Potter County, TX

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Amarillo City Directories.

Amarillo News-Globe.

Baker, Inez. Yesterday in Hall County. Dallas: Book Craft, 1940.

7

Key, Della Tyler. In the Cattle Country: History of Potter County, 1887-1966. Wichita Falls: Nortex Press, 1972.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. <u>A Field Guide to American Houses</u>. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.

Page, Charles Hall and Associates, Inc. <u>Amarillo Historic Building Survey and</u> <u>Preservation Program Recommendations</u>. Amarillo: Amarillo Historical Preservation Foundation/City of Amarillo, 1981.

Potter County. Mechanic's Liens: 2:364.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

10 8
Section number _____ Page _____

Alice Ghormley Curtis House Amarillo, Potter County, TX

Verbal Boundary Description:

Bivins Addition, Block 121, Lots 5 and 6

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes the area that has been historically associated with the property and that retains its historic and architectural integrity.

NPS Form 10-900-a

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____ PHOTOS

Alice Ghormley Curtis House Amarillo, Potter County, TX

Photograph Log

Alice Ghormley Curtis House 1626 Washington Street Amarillo, Potter County, Texas Photographed by Larry D. Hodge 1988 Negatives with Preservation Amarillo, Amarillo, Texas East facade, camera facing west Photograph 1 of 7

9

Alice Ghormley Curtis House 1626 Washington Street Amarillo, Potter County, Texas Photographed by Betty Howell May 1989 Negatives with Preservation Amarillo, Amarillo, Texas North facade, camera facing southwest Photograph 2 of 7

Alice Ghormley Curtis House 1626 Washington Street Amarillo, Potter County, Texas Photographed by Betty Howell May 1989 Negatives with Preservation Amarillo, Amarillo, Texas West facade, camera facing northeast Photograph 3 of 7

Alice Ghormley Curtis House 1626 Washington Street Amarillo, Potter County, Texas Photographed by Betty Howell May 1989 Negatives with Preservation Amarillo, Amarillo, Texas South facade, camera facing northwest Photograph 4 of 7

Alice Ghormley Curtis House 1626 Washington Street Amarillo, Potter County, Texas Photographed by Larry D. Hodge 1988 Negatives with Preservation Amarillo, Amarillo, Texas Interior, 1st floor, southeast corner room, camera facing northwest Photograph 5 of 7

Alice Ghormley Curtis House 1626 Washington Street Amarillo, Potter County, Texas Photographed by Larry D. Hodge 1988 Negatives with Preservation Amarillo, Amarillo, Texas Interior, 1st floor, center hallway, camera facing west Photograph 6 of 7

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PHOTOS 10
Section number ____ Page ____

Alice Ghormley Curtis House Amarillo, Potter County, TX

Alice Ghormley Curtis House 1626 Washington Street Amarillo, Potter County, Texas Photographed by Larry D. Hodge 1988 Negatives with Preservation Amarillo, Amarillo, Texas East facade of garage, camera facing west Photograph 7 of 7

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Curtis, Alice Ghormley, House NAME :

MULTIPLE NAME :

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Potter

7/01/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/17/92 DATE RECEIVED: DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/02/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/15/92 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92000980

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	Ν

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT ____RETURN ____REJECT ______NATE

Entered in the National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA
REVIEWER
DISCIPLINE
DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

____count ____resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

____architectural classification ____materials ___descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ____verbal boundary description ___UTMs ____boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

____sketch maps ____USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone _____

Signed _

Date ____



CURTIS RESIDENCE / AMARILLO CONSOLIDATED TRAVEL 1626 5. Washington, Site # 1613 AMARILLO, TEXAS, Potter Cty CAMERA FACING WEST EAST FACADE PHOTOGRAPHER: L.D. HODGE, 1988 Negatives on file: PRESERVATION AMARILLO, AMARILLO, TX

> ALICE GHORMLEY CURTIS HOUSE 1626 WASHINGTON AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH I of 7



Curtis Residence 1626 5 Washington Amarcillo, Potter Coy, TK Photo by: Betty Howell, 4/89 Negon file: Preservation Amarcillo Amarcillo, TK

NE oblique camera faring sw

> ALICE GHORMLEY CURTIS HOUSE 1626 WASHINGTON STREET AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 2 of 7

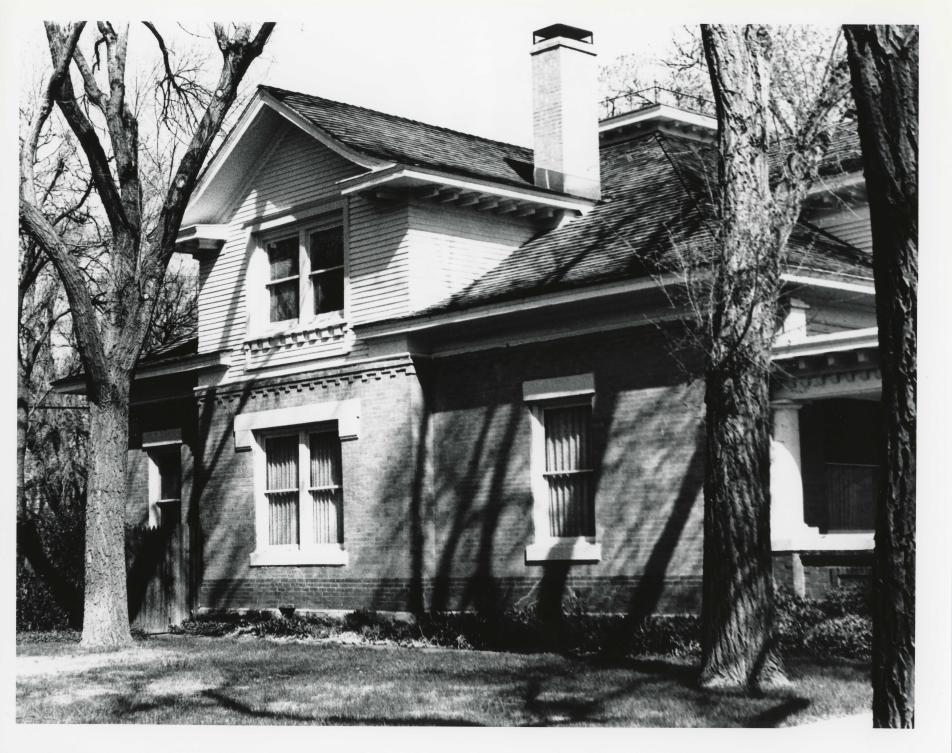


Curetis Residence 1626 5. Washington Amarcillo, Pottere Cty, TX Photo by: Bety Howell, May, 1989 Negan file: Preservation Amarcillo Amarcillo, TX

west facade Camera facing east

> ALICE GHORMLEY CURTIS HOUSE 1626 WASHINGTON STREET AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 3 of 7



Curtis Residence 1626 5. Washington Amarillo, Pottie Cty, TK Plasto by: Betty Howell 4/89 Negon file: Preservation Amarillo Amarillo. TK Souch focade Camena focing north

> ALICE GHORMLEY CURTIS HOUSE 1626 WASHINGTON STREET AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 4 of 7



CURTIS RESIDENCE | CONSOLIDATED TRAVEL 1622 S.WASHING TON, SITE # 1613 AMARILLO, POTTER CTY, TEVAS INTERIOR VIEW, LIBRARY Photographere, 'L.D. HODGE, 1988 Negon file: PRESERVATION AMARILLO, AMARILLO, TX

> ALICE GHORMLEY CURTIS HOUSE 1626 WASHINGTON STREET AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS

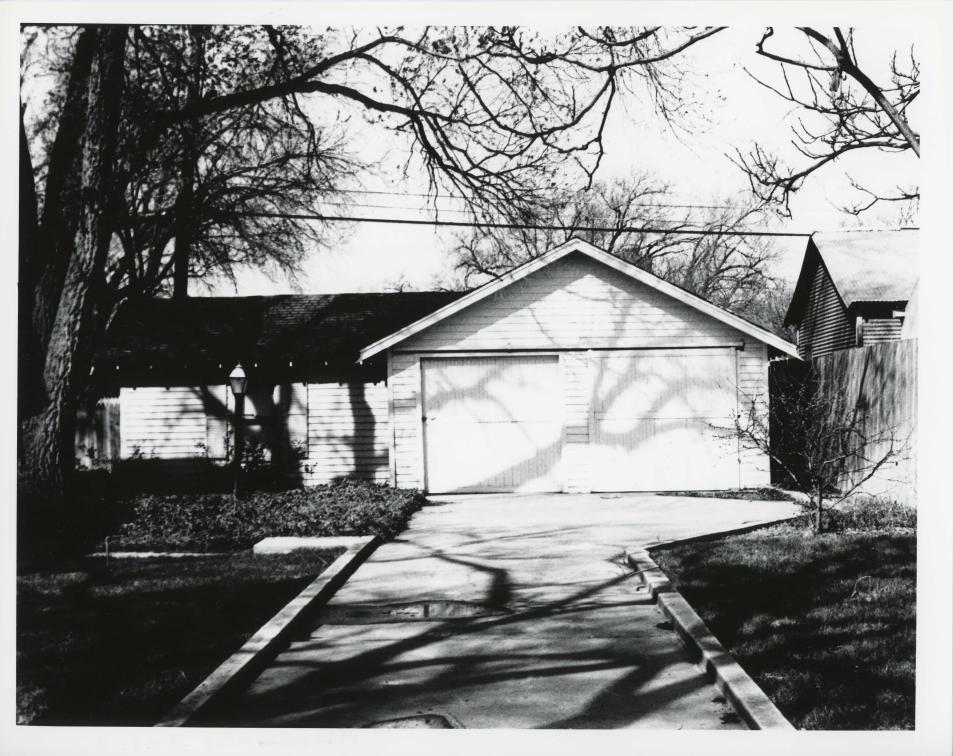
PHOTOGRAPH 5 of 7



CURTIS RESIDENCE/CONSOLIDATED TRAVEL 1626 S. WASHINGTON, SITE # 1613 Amarillo, Potter County, TEXAS INTERIOR VIEW, ENTRY/STAIR HALL PHOTOGRAPHER: L. D. HODGE, 1988 Negatives on file: PRESERVATION AMARILLO AMARILLO TV

ALICE GHORMLEY CURTIG HOUSE 1626 WASHINGTON STREET AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 6 of 7

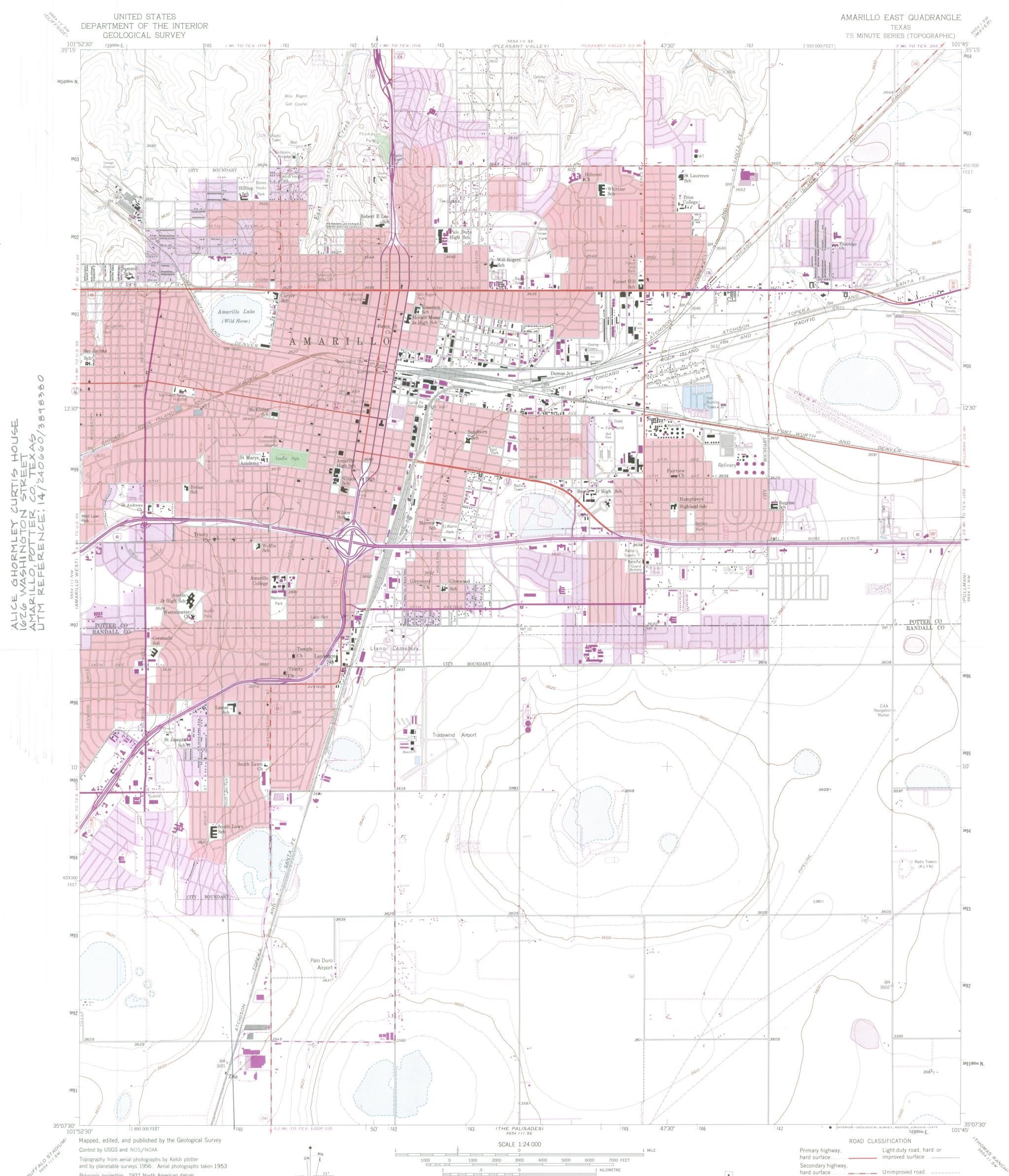


Carebis Residence Garage 1626 5 Washington Amerillo, Potter Cty, TK Photo by: Betty Howell, 4/89 Negan file: Preservation Amarillo Amarillo, TK

East facade Comerca facing west

> ALICE GHORMLEY CURTIS HOUSE 1626 WASHINGTON STREET AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 7 of 7



Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, north zone 1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue

BU

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1967 and 1973. This information not field checked Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas 1°37/ 29 MILS

UTM GRID AND 1973 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

TH.IS 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

