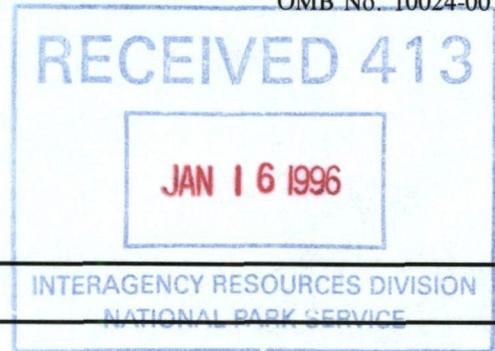


065

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**



1. NAME OF PROPERTY

HISTORIC NAME: Wynn Seale Junior High School
OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER: Wynn Seale Academy of Fine Arts

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 1701 Ayers Street
CITY OR TOWN: Corpus Christi
STATE: Texas **CODE:** TX **COUNTY:** Nueces

NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A
VICINITY: N/A
CODE: 355 **ZIP CODE:** 78404

3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 Curtis J. Funnell
Signature of certifying official

 21 Dec. 1995
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

 B. Wynn M. Rapsberg Signature of the Keeper **Entered in the** Date of Action
National Register 2/16/96

5. CLASSIFICATION

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY: public - local

CATEGORY OF PROPERTY: building

NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING
	1	0 BUILDINGS
	0	0 SITES
	0	0 STRUCTURES
	0	0 OBJECTS
	1	0 TOTAL

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER: 0

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING: N/A

6. FUNCTION OR USE

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS: EDUCATION/school

CURRENT FUNCTIONS: EDUCATION/school

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

MATERIALS: FOUNDATION CONCRETE
WALLS BRICK
ROOF CERAMIC TILE
OTHER CONCRETE; GLASS; CERAMIC TILE

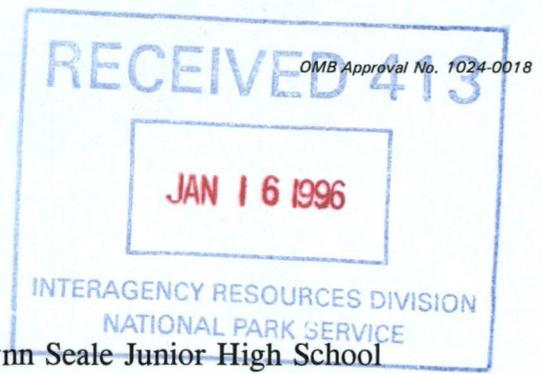
NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheets 7-5 through 7-8).

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Section 7 Page 5

Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas



Built between 1934 and 1936 under the auspices of the Public Works Administration, the Wynn Seale Junior High School displays the influences of the Spanish Colonial Revival style. The 2-story academic building features Spanish-inspired detailing executed in cast stone, tile and plaster. It serves an established residential neighborhood approximately one mile southwest of the downtown commercial center. The historic building occupies the northern edge of a rectangular site along Ayers Street, with later buildings and playing fields filling the lower portion of the tract. While these later additions to the property compromise its setting, the historic school building retains a high degree of its integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

The essentially E-shaped floor plan of the 2-story symmetrical school centers on an auditorium and gymnasium flanked by large side wings branching off of a transverse hallway. These parallel wings, connected by L-plan arcades, enclose flanking courtyards (see Map-16). Constructed of reinforced concrete and structural clay tile, the building features exterior finishes of cream colored brick veneer accented by contrasting, ornamentally detailed cast stone.

The primary (north) facade parallels Ayers Street. A slightly projecting entrance pavilion at its center dominates the composition with its elaborate Spanish Colonial Revival style ornamentation. Flanking the entrance pavilion, two additional projecting pavilions feature tiled fountains which form visual termini at either end of the main facade (see Photo 2).

A loggia of three arches dominates the entrance pavilion (see Photo 3). With springs broken by ornate moldings composed primarily of cyma recta curves, these modified arches rise to ornamental keystones consisting of cartouches decorated with fleur-de-lis. The spandrels are decorated with incised lines forming squares with rosettes at each corner. Engaged Corinthian columns set on high panelled pedestals flank the arches. Although not readily visible, panelled pilasters back each column. The lower third of each column shaft is decorated with stylized acanthus leaves in two layers above an attenuated base. While single columns frame the center arch, paired columns flank the outer arches, thereby visually strengthening the composition. The loggia features tiled floors, wall surfaces of tile and plaster, and wood doors surmounted by arched transoms.

The columns support a classically proportioned entablature comprised of egg and dart molding and a cornice. The frieze is unadorned except for cartouches positioned directly above the columns. Aligned with the columns, panelled pedestals support finials resembling urns. Between the pedestals is a blind balustrade with a guilloche motif, above which three large casement windows are separated by panelled Corinthian pilasters. Executed in mosaic glazed tiles, the inscription "Wynn Seale Junior High School" appears above the entablature.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 6

Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

Flanking the arches and the windows of the first and second stories of the entrance, single metal casement windows complete the composition of the entrance pavilion. Each lower window is topped by a simple lintel of rusticated blocks, with keystone, while the upper windows are crowned with scrolled, broken pediments, in the Baroque manner. Cast stone jambs and architrave moldings with brackets embellish the upper windows. A torus molding forms the sill of the lower openings.

Crowning the entrance pavilion is a prominent red, barrel tile gabled roof, with its ridge parallel to the front entrance facade. Facing east and west, its gable ends display corbeled parapets. In the center of each gable is a scalloped, quatrefoil window. With the exception of the tile roofs over the entrance pavilion, above the staircase halls leading into the gymnasium and cafeteria at the rear of the center wing and the arcaded walks, the building is flat-roofed.

Between the pavilion ends and the east and west or side wings, the wall surfaces are treated in the same manner. A 4-foot base course consists of concrete stucco punctuated at intervals by cast iron vents over a 4-foot crawl space below the first floor. The base course is topped by a torus molding water table, above the brick veneer breaks only for windows on the first and second stories. All display three horizontal mullions dividing the windows into three multi-light bands of 4 lights each. These awning type windows originally swung out from the top. Installation of climate control systems led to their replacement by anodized aluminum windows that carefully approximated the original configurations. Installed in 1992 by Roots & Foster, Architects, they no longer open. All windows feature a torus molding at their sill. A thin string course of cast stone molding and modified cornice design runs horizontally across the tops of the second story windows, creating a horizontal band between them corresponding in proportion to the concrete stucco base below. These bands continue around the end pavilions of the front facade, visually unifying the composition.

The face of each pavilion is decorated at its center by a semi-circular basin that once functioned as a fountain, but has since been filled with dirt (see Photo 4). Above is a considerably smaller, semi-circular basin projecting from the wall. A stylized dolphin once spouted water into this basin, which overflowed into the larger basin below. Surrounding the dolphin in a modified cast stone arched frame, almost semicircular in shape, is a small amount of carving that most closely resembles the exuberant, late Spanish Baroque or Churrigueresque, to be found at the school. This intricate fountain backs onto a large, blind arch, decorated with large brown and orange tiles, surrounded by a border of much smaller, multi-colored mosaic tiles. The arch is centered on the pavilion, forming a striking contrast to the surrounding brick. At the top of each pavilion, two feet from the outer edges, projecting cast stone pilasters extend above the string course of cast stone up to the brick dentils and cast stone cornice topping the parapet. Topping each pilaster is an urn-like stone finial, identical to the urns at the entrance pavilion.

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Section 7 Page 7

Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

The side (east and west) elevations are similarly detailed, with ornamentation concentrated at rear doors leading into interior stair halls (see Photos 5 and 8). Noteworthy surrounds executed in cast stone embellish these entries. These surrounds consist of rusticated blocks supporting a plaque framed on either side by baroque scrolls. A window capped by a lintel of rusticated blocks supporting a curved Baroque pediment surmounts this composition. Scrolls and an acroterion of the anthemion motif terminate the pediment. As on the pavilions, stone pilasters above either side of the window extend above the string course to the brick and cast stone coping, topping the parapet.

The rear of the building features arcades linking the side wings with the rear wing that historically housed the cafeteria and gymnasium (see Photo 7). Square pavilions capped by pyramidal roofs occupy the juncture of each leg of these arcades. A cast stone anthemion plaque is centered above each of the two exterior arches of these pavilions. Tile roofs cover staircase halls leading to interior spaces. Ornate quatrefoil windows embellish the second story landing of each staircase hall.

Interior courtyards bounded by the auditorium, side wings, arcaded walkways and cafeteria bring light into the interior spaces at the rear of the building (see Map-16). The walls of the auditorium mass are dominated by two windows, two stories in height, flanked by three colossal order pilasters featuring stylized cast stone capitals. At the center of the south elevation four similar pilasters frame the five large windows of the former gymnasium and cafeteria below. Torus molding sills of cast stone grace these windows. Doors on the north wall lead into the two main staircase halls giving access to the transverse hallway. Adjoining the west courtyard, the boiler room is marked by a 3-story exhaust stack in the form of a campanile (see Photo 6). Arched openings and a pyramidal tile roof cap this architectural feature.

The entrance loggia opens into a vestibule that gives access to the transverse hallway via a short flight of steps (see Photo 9). Small beige and brown tiles line the hallways to a height of six feet, with a plaster coat on the upper walls. Poured concrete floors are tinted brown and bordered in black, except in the vestibule, where the floors are bordered in ocher terrazzo. A large star in black terrazzo is centered in a circle of ocher terrazzo in the vestibule. Classroom floors are of beech, although most are now covered by carpet.

Noteworthy for its decoration, the auditorium opens off these spaces. Double doors featuring glazed panes and ornate brass hardware provide access to the auditorium. Except for original red velvet curtains, the auditorium retains its original furnishings. The most elaborate ornamentation is focused on the proscenium arch of the stage (see Photo 10). Paired salomonic columns with Corinthian capitals, stylized acanthus leaves and diamond patterning. The columns support an entablature that spans the stage and is decorated with five regularly spaced plaques. The small tinted plaques depict urns and foliage in high relief.

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Section 7 Page 8

Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

Access to the stage is provided via flanking flights of steps graced with ornate wrought iron railings. Door surrounds at these access points repeat the salomonic detailing of the proscenium arch at a smaller scale. Surmounting these compositions, balconets are framed with similarly detailed wrought iron railings and low relief Baroque scroll moldings. Colossal order pilasters with stylized acanthus leaf capitals enframe the large windows on the side walls. These in turn visually support the beams that divide the ceiling into fourteen recessed coffers. The beams are stenciled in delicate linear patterns. Dark brown celotex panels in the coffers also display decorative stenciling. The original octagonal ceiling fixtures of etched glass set in bronze frames continue to light the space. The original laminated wood seats with metal supports have been restored. The rear third of the space includes a balcony supported by square columns with acanthus leaf capitals (see Photo 11).

Additional interior spaces with original finishes include the library, interior stairways and the large transverse hall. Other spaces experienced changes as they were converted to new uses. In 1981 the historic gymnasium and locker rooms were updated. Two theater arts rooms, an orchestra room, and a piano lab were built in the historic cafeteria space. The manual training room was converted into a choir room while the boiler room and repair shop were transformed into storage space for custodians. In addition, the main building was air-conditioned, bathrooms remodeled, classrooms painted and carpeted, and administrative offices remodeled. In spite of such spatial reconfigurations, however, the basic fabric and detailing of the school remains intact.

Changes to the historic campus included a 2-story building constructed in 1958-59 under the auspices of architects Donnelly and Whittet. Built southwest of the main building facing 15th Street, it included shop facilities, art rooms, a special education room, science labs and a general class room. In 1963 architects Christian, Bright and Pennington designed a new cafeteria and band room facility southeast of the main building, facing Buckaroo Street. In 1966 a 1-story vocational education unit was built adjacent to the 2-story building on 15th Street. New gymnasium facilities were added south of the original building in 1981 and 1991 under the direction of architects Kipp, Winston and Richter. These additional facilities are housed in separate buildings displaying unadorned facades clad in cream color brick veneer. Portable classrooms also occupy the southern reaches of the campus along 15th Street. As these modern additions to the campus do not reflect the Spanish Colonial Revival style of the main building, they are excluded from the boundaries of the nominated property (see Map-17).

Historic landscaping included an extant 34-foot cast iron flagpole set on an ornate base in front of the entrance loggia (see Photos 1 and 2). The bulk of the western half of the grounds was replaced by parking lots. The first lot was paved in asphalt in the mid 1980s. In 1993 an additional parking lot of poured concrete was constructed along 15th Street, adjacent to the west wing. At the same time, the front grounds were curtailed to incorporate a new drop-off lane and parallel parking. A row of ash trees along Ayers Street was replaced with the widening of Ayers Street in 1993. Recent landscaping efforts reintroduced appropriate plantings to the campus.

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

- 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 VALUE, 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: N/A

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1936

SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1936

SIGNIFICANT PERSON: N/A

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Griffith, Hamon & Levy (architects); Payne, Harry (architect)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (see continuation sheets 8-9 through 8-12).

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY (see continuation sheets 9-13).

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:

- State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission*)
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

One of the most architecturally significant public buildings in Corpus Christi, the Wynn Seale Junior High School continues to play a strong role in the community's educational system. Since its completion in 1936, the school has provided educational and cultural opportunities to the entire community. Regionally prominent architects Griffith, Hamon & Levy and Harry D. Payne designed the school during the Depression under the auspices of the Public Works Administration (PWA). As was typical for such projects, the architects incorporated visual references to the area's heritage into a standard program for an educational facility. The resultant composition exhibits the hallmarks of the Spanish Colonial Revival style, including an arcaded entry loggia, Churrigueresque ornamentation, fountains and red tiled roofs. Evaluated within the context of architecture, the building is nominated under Criterion C at the local level of significance.

At the time of the school's completion in 1936, approximately 46,000 people lived in Corpus Christi. While the Great Depression hampered growth elsewhere in the state, the city doubled its population between 1930 and 1940. A major oil boom and thriving seaport activities ensured the economic well being of the coastal community. Newly created subdivisions such as Del Mar prompted a demand for services on the city's south side. In response, public officials planned a new junior high school on Ayers Street as a showcase for the city's educational system.

During the New Deal era, the Public Works Administration (PWA) channeled federal funds to school districts for construction of modern school facilities. This investment in public infrastructure created employment opportunities and boosted morale in communities struggling under the economic impact of the Great Depression. Published in 1939, *Public Buildings: Architecture Under the Public Works Administration* reported that the PWA funded approximately 2,000 grants for the construction of schools between 1933 and 1938. Guidelines for these funds defined the characteristics of the modern school by establishing standards for classroom sizes, specialty areas such as libraries, music rooms, athletic facilities and auditoria, as well as health and safety issues such as fire protection. Of 817 school superintendents questioned, 98% reported that these standards were higher or about the same as those traditionally employed in their communities. While the PWA established standards and monitored accounting methods, it also afforded local authorities the autonomy to directly employ project architects and select locally appropriate architectural styles.

Of the approximately 100 schools illustrated in *Public Buildings*, projects evenly fell into progressive (Art Deco or Art Moderne) and historicist (Georgian Revival, Spanish Colonial Revival, or Tudor Revival) styles. While examples of the progressive styles were scattered geographically, historicist models tended to cluster regionally. Georgian Revival examples predominated in the Northeast, for example, with Spanish Colonial Revival models prevailing in the southwest. Such

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Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

stylistic references were often only skin deep, as plans and layouts were generally interchangeable among the various styles. Buildings in colder climates tended towards compact plans, while those in the south and southwest were generally lower and more rambling. As architects were not identified for specific projects published in *Public Buildings*, it is assumed that school districts hired local professionals.

Wynn Seale Junior High School typified these PWA school projects. Completion of the building added a much needed second junior high facility to the local education system. To meet the needs of an expansive population on the city's south side, the Corpus Christi Independent School District approved construction of the facility in 1934. Referenced as Project 4525 of the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works, the school was one of the period's few public facilities constructed with federal monies. The area's relative prosperity during the Great Depression limited federal projects to port and infrastructure improvements, a state park, a Texas Centennial museum and a dam in adjacent San Patricio County.

The school's plan and style differed little from PWA projects elsewhere, particularly in states with historic ties to Spain and Mexico. Although the spirited interpretation of the style distinguished the school, strong precedents for the choice of the Spanish Colonial Revival style existed elsewhere in the region. Owners of the nearby King Ranch chose the Mission Revival style in commissioning the Henrietta M. King High School (1909; NR 1983) in Kingsville and their Santa Gertrudis Ranch headquarters (1912; NHL 1961). Architects Hardy & Curran demonstrated their proficiency in the style in designing both the Menger School (1928) and the Corpus Christi High School (1929). The Princess Louise Hotel, designed by William Ward Watkin in 1929, and the White Plaza Hotel, designed by Adams & Adams in the same year, exemplified commercial applications of the style. The style found its greatest popularity with the residential properties built along Ocean Drive, including the Crook House (1927), the Fischer-Harris House (1935), the Luby House (c.1935) and the Donigan House (1936). Architect designed examples from the 1930s include Phil Lloyd Schoop's Knox-Culton House (now Catholic Bishop's residence), Richard Colley's Hawn House, and William Van Sicen's Watsonia, designed in the Pueblo Revival style in 1937 for May Mathis Green Watson.

Plans for the Wynn Seale Junior High School identify the \$387,624 project as a joint venture between local architects Griffith, Hamon & Levy, architect Harry D. Payne of Houston and general contractor Charles F. Runck. Everett Elijah Hamon (1885-1956) was a native of Kearny, Missouri who settled in Corpus Christi in 1906. After stints as an apprentice carpenter and construction foreman, he took correspondence courses in order to register as an architect in 1925. Hamon specialized in school design, with many local schools to his credit. In his 30-year career, San Antonio-born architect Morris Levy (1891-1983) designed more than 300 buildings, including the west wing of the Nueces County Courthouse (1931; NR 1976) and the Dortigan House (1936) on Ocean Drive. His partner Harry D. Payne (d.1985) was a classmate at Washington University in

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Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

St. Louis. Payne may have played the leading role in designing this school, as it very closely resembles his earlier Robert E. Lee High School (1928) in Baytown. Payne designed six comparable elementary schools in Houston, as well as the Sam Houston Memorial Museum (1937) at Huntsville, the Houston Independent School District Stadium (1941) and Houston's Christ Presbyterian Church (1947-52).

The architects' design for the Wynn Seale Junior High School reveals the Beaux Arts training they received at Washington University, as well as the influences modern architectural tenets exerted during the 1930s. While the eclectic historicist influences provide the key character-defining elements of the building, the form, technology and systems were modern. This approach typified many PWA public building projects. Much of the cast stone and other elaborate architectural details were likely stock items rather than handcrafted. Their disposition gives the building its rich Spanish Colonial Revival character.

Edmund Wynn Seale (1887-1934), for whom the school was named, enjoyed a career as a prominent South Texas educator. A native of Floresville, Texas, he earned his degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. His service as a teacher and administrator in several small South Texas towns resulted in stints as principal of Corpus Christi High School and president of the College of Arts and Industries at Kingsville (now Texas A.&M. University at Kingsville). His sudden death in 1934 coincided with the planning stages for Corpus Christi's new junior high.

The school's formal opening on 7 March 1936 attracted much attention in Corpus Christi. Modern amenities of the latest design, including audio-visual capacities, cafeteria, homemaking facilities, lockers, business instruction materials and scientific lab equipment, were particularly impressive to opening day visitors. Reporters noted general approbation for the auditorium and its advanced sound and lighting systems.

The facility benefitted more than just the students of Corpus Christi, serving as a cultural center for the entire community. It served as one of three public facilities offering "lectures, concerts and local productions" in the city (*Texas: A Guide to the Lone Star State*, 1940). Public auditoria were in great demand for community cultural events during the period. As the most modern and perhaps attractive of those in Corpus Christi, the school's was particularly sought after.

According to former teacher Corinne Britt, academic programs at the school in its early days were based on traditional teaching techniques rather than being innovative or experimental. The facility was considered the community's elite junior high school during its first two decades. Many students and teachers passed through its doors to play prominent roles in the city and state. The subsequent construction of schools in newer neighborhoods during the 1950s lessened the status of Wynn Seale, which by the 1970s was considered an inner city school. In 1983 the school was

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Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

rededicated as the Wynn Seale Academy of Fine Arts, the only arts magnet facility in Corpus Christi. Art instruction, dance, drama, photography and music programs are all held at the school.

In spite of its status as one of the older and larger cities in Texas, Corpus Christi lost much of its architectural heritage to hurricanes and insensitive development. Few 19th century buildings survive and many early 20th century landmarks remain threatened. Thus the Wynn Seale Junior High School ranks of great significance in the local built environment. A 1985 *Corpus Christi Caller-Times* article quoted Texas Historical Commission architectural historian John Ferguson in noting that the Nueces County Courthouse and Wynn Seale Junior High School were "the [two] most important buildings in the city." As a consequence, the building was designated a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1986 on the 50th anniversary of its completion.

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Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

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- Wynn Seale Junior High School *Wynner* (newspaper). Various dates. Wynn Seale Academy of Fine Arts, Corpus Christi.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: 3 acres

UTM REFERENCES Zone Easting Northing
 1 14 657340 3072700

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(_x_ see continuation sheet 10-14)

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

(_x_ see continuation sheet 10-14)

11. FORM PREPARED BY (with assistance from Bruce Jensen, THC Architectural Historian)

NAME/TITLE: Peter Flagg Maxson (Architectural Historian); John Govatos (Architectural Historian); Henry Wagner (Architectural Historian)

ORGANIZATION: for the Nueces County Historical Commission **DATE:** July 1995

STREET & NUMBER: 601 West 14th Street **TELEPHONE:** (512)474-1912

CITY OR TOWN: Austin **STATE:** TX **ZIP CODE:** 78701

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

CONTINUATION SHEETS

MAPS (see continuation sheet Map-15 through Map-17)

PHOTOGRAPHS (see continuation sheet Photo-18)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

PROPERTY OWNER

NAME: Corpus Christi Independent School District

STREET & NUMBER: 801 Leopard Street **TELEPHONE:** (512)886-9005

CITY OR TOWN: Corpus Christi **STATE:** TX **ZIP CODE:** 78403

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Section 10 Page 14

Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Boundaries coincide with a portion of Block 1205, Merchant Addition Subdivision, City of Corpus Christi as outlined on the accompanying Map-17.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes the historic school building as well as its surrounding historic setting to the front and sides. Excluded are sections at the rear of the property whose character changed with the construction of additional buildings on the property between 1958 and 1981. Outside the period of significance, these buildings do not reflect the architectural character of the historic building and detract from the overall integrity of the original site.

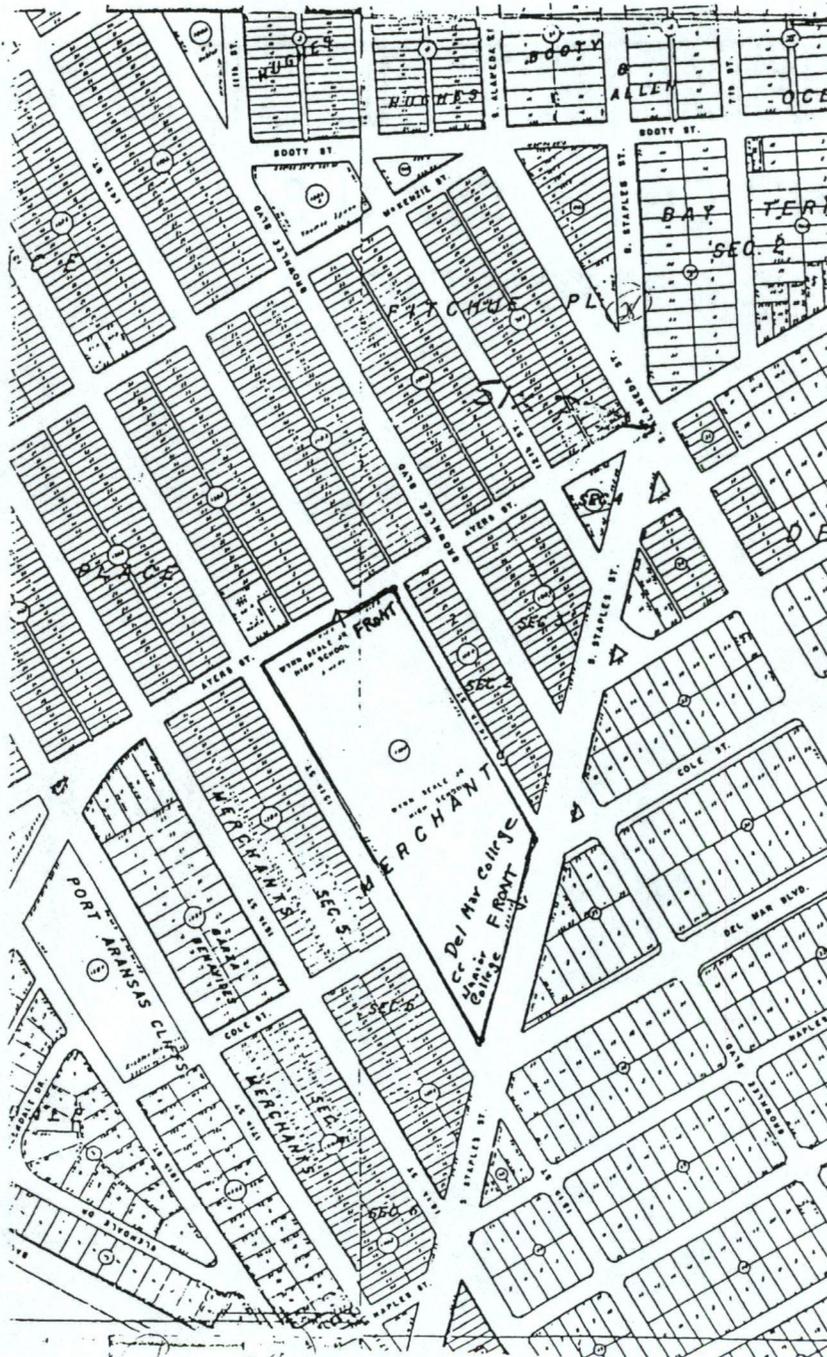
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Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

HISTORIC PLAT MAP



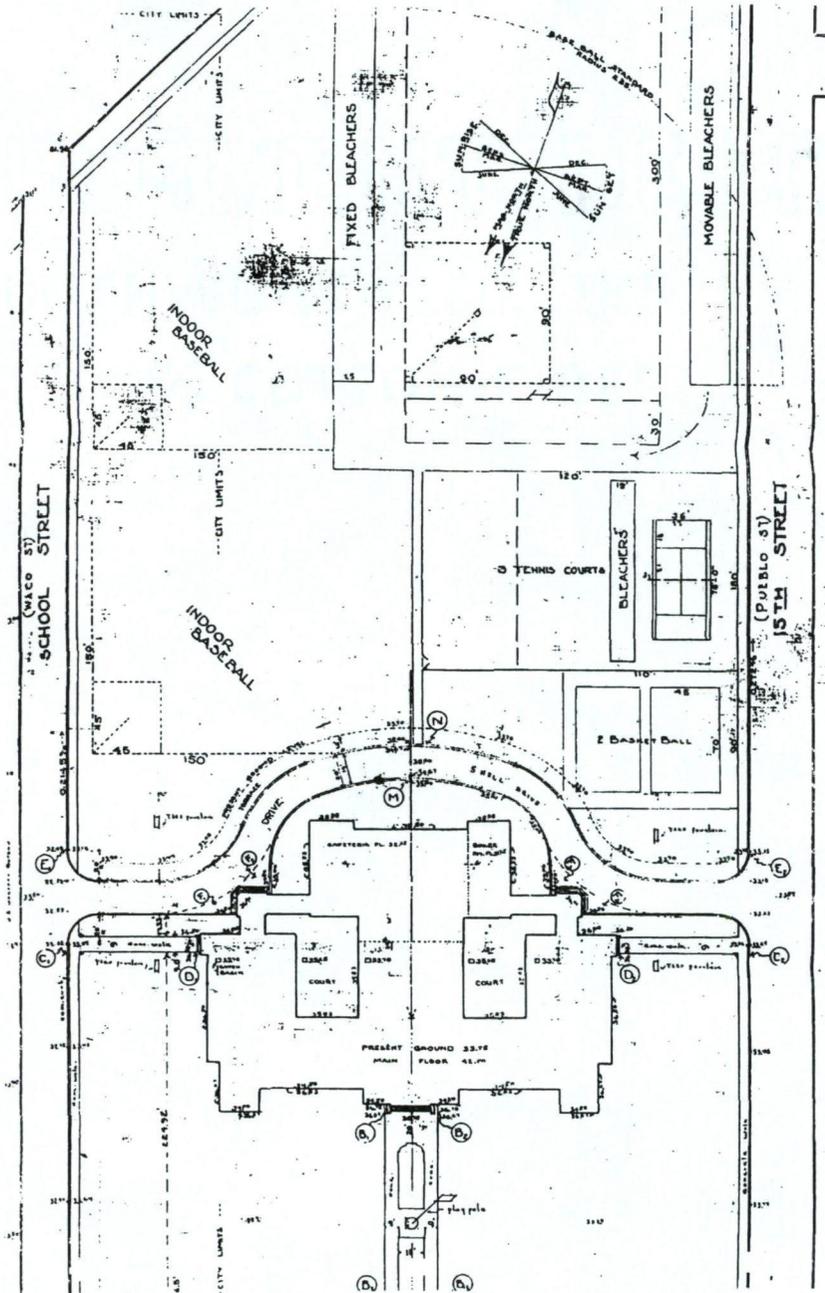
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Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

HISTORIC SITE PLAN



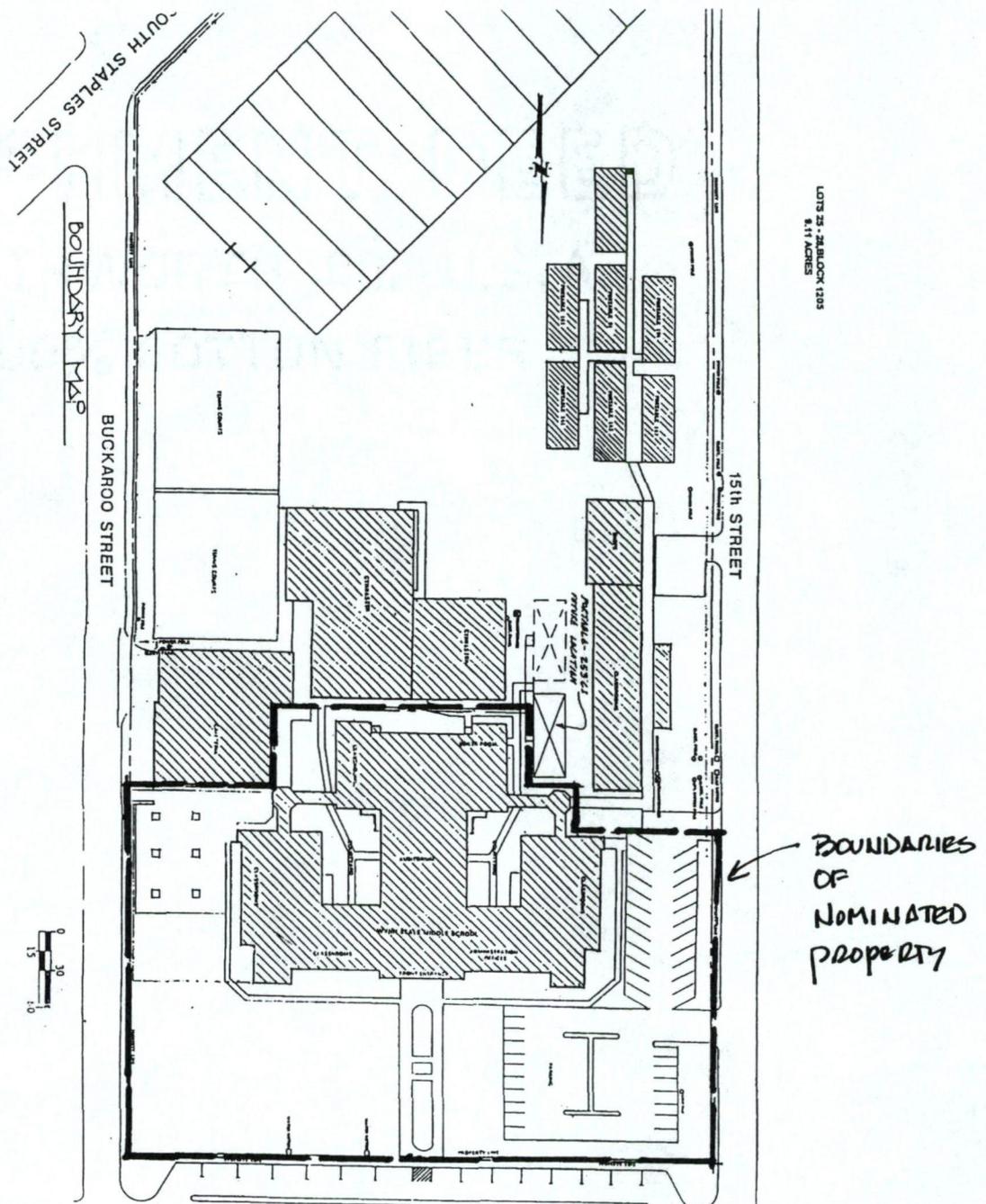
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Section MAP Page 17

Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

CURRENT SITE PLAN



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Section PHOTO Page 18

Wynn Seale Junior High School
Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

PHOTO INVENTORY

WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1707 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES COUNTY, TEXAS
LEE JOHN GOVATOS - PHOTOGRAPHER (EXCEPT AS NOTED)
JULY 1995 (EXCEPT AS NOTED)
ORIGINAL NEGATIVES ON FILE WITH THE PHOTOGRAPHER

- PHOTO 1 - Historic view of principal facades, c.1940, photographer unknown, camera facing southeast
- PHOTO 2 - View of principal facades, camera facing southeast
- PHOTO 3 - Detail of principal entry, camera facing southeast
- PHOTO 4 - Detail of fountain on north facade, camera facing south
- PHOTO 5 - View of west elevation, camera facing east
- PHOTO 6 - View of interior courtyard, camera facing south
- PHOTO 7 - Oblique view of south and east elevations, camera facing northwest
- PHOTO 8 - View of east elevation, camera facing west
- PHOTO 9 - Interior view of corridor at entry stairs, camera facing northeast
- PHOTO 10 - Interior view of auditorium stage, camera facing south
- PHOTO 11 - Interior view of auditorium seating, camera facing northeast

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Seale, Wynn, Junior High School

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Nueces

DATE RECEIVED: 1/16/96 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/31/96
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/16/96 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/01/96
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96000065

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: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2/16/96 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 1 of 11

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WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 2 of 11



WYNN SERLE - JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 3 of 11



WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 4 of 11



WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 5 of 11



WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO, TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 6 of 11



WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 7 of 11



WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 8 of 11



TAKE
A
STAND

FOR
ACADEMY
PRIDE!

Small text below the sign, likely a school name or year.

WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 9 of 11



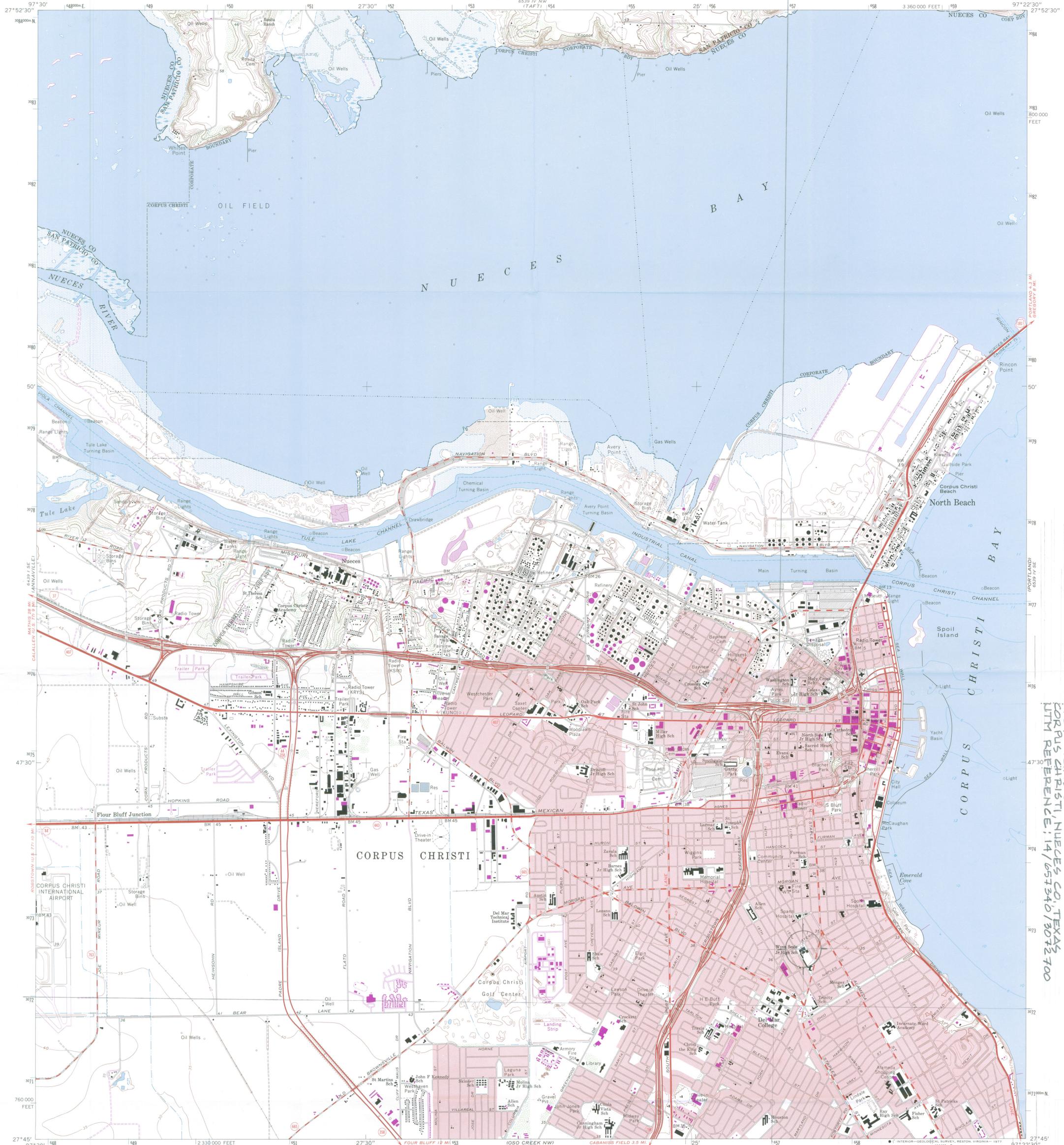
WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 10 of 11



WYNN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 11 of 11



WINN SEALE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1701 AYERS STREET
CORPUS CHRISTI, NUECES CO, TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 14 / 657340 / 3072 700

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1967. Field checked 1968
Supersedes Corpus Christi map dated 1951
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS chart 524 (1969)
This information is not intended for navigational purposes
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
Water stages in this area vary with meteorological conditions
Approximate limits of occasional inundation shown by dashed blue lines where mean high water is undetermined for lack of visual evidence

Dotted blue lines indicate the approximate limits of low water
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1975. This information not field checked

SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS NEGLIGIBLE



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface
Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
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

MILLER BLUEPRINT CO.
P.O. BOX 2065 78768
AUSTIN, TEXAS
1-800-252-3469

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEX.
SW/4 CORPUS CHRISTI 15' QUADRANGLE
N2745—W9722.5/7.5
1968
PHOTOREVISED 1975
AMS 6539 IV SW—SERIES V882

PROPERTY NAME: Seale, Wynn, Junior High School

OTHER NAME/ Wynn Seale Academy of Fine Arts
SITE No. :

MULTIPLE NAME: NOT APPLICABLE

ADDRESS/ 1701 Ayers St.
BOUNDARY :

CITY: Corpus Christi

COUNTY: Nueces

STATE: TEXAS

Restricted Location Information: Owner: LOCAL Resource Type: BUILDING

Contributing Noncontributing

Buildings	1	0
Sites	0	0
Structures	0	0
Objects	0	0

Nomination/Determination Type: SINGLE RESOURCE

Nominator: STATE GOVERNMENT

Nominator Name:
NOT APPLICABLE

Federal Agency: NOT APPLICABLE

NPS Park Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Certification: DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION

Date: 01/16/96

Other Certification: NOT APPLICABLE

Historic Functions: EDUCATION

Historic Subfunctions: SCHOOL

Current Functions: EDUCATION

Current Subfunctions: SCHOOL

Level of Significance: LOCAL Applicable Criteria: ARCHITECTURE/ENGINEERING

Significant Person's Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Criteria Considerations: NOT APPLICABLE

Area of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Periods of Significance: 1925-1949

Circa: Specific Sig. Years:

1936

Architect/Builder/Engineer/
Designer:

Griffith, Hamon & Levy
Payne, Harry

Other Documentation:

NOT APPLICABLE

HABS No. N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

NOT APPLICABLE

HAER No. N/A

Architectural Styles: MISSION/SPANISH REVIVAL

Describe Other Style: NOT APPLICABLE

Foundation Materials: CONCRETE

Wall Materials: BRICK

Roof Materials: CERAMIC TILE

Other Materials: CONCRETE CERAMIC TILE

Acreage: 3.0

UTM	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
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Coordinates:	14	/	6	57	340	/	30	72	700	/	/	/	/
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