

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED FEB 8 1980  
DATE ENTERED

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

Old Nogales City Hall and Fire Station

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

223 Grand Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Nogales

STATE

Arizona

VICINITY OF

CODE  
04

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

A 2

COUNTY  
Santa Cruz

CODE

023

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

City of Nogales

STREET & NUMBER

1018 Grand Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Nogales

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arizona 85621

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

City of Nogales

STREET & NUMBER

Morley Avenue & Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Nogales

STATE

Arizona

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Nogales City Hall and Fire Station, designed by Tucson architect Henry O. Jaastad and constructed in 1914, is a two-story Mission Revival Style building featuring a prominent clock tower.

Located on Grand Avenue in Nogales, the building occupies an irregularly-shaped lot a few yards away from the International Boundary between the United States and Mexico. The building, which is basically wedge-shaped, stands at the south end of a row of adjoining commercial properties facing Grand Avenue. In conformance with the shape of the lot on which it stands, the building narrows from its 52-foot-wide north facade, which is obscured by the adjoining property, to its 28-foot-wide south facade, from which a clock tower rises. The east facade of the building is 105 feet long and the west facade measures 121 feet in length.

Rising two stories in height from foundations of reinforced concrete, the exterior walls are of brick finished with concrete stucco. Covering the building is a roof of metal tiles painted to simulate terra cotta tiles. The roof is gabled at the north end of the building, hipped at the south end, and topped by a flattened ridge. At the north end, the exterior walls rise to form a broad curvilinear gable, and the roof line is pierced by two smaller curvilinear gables, one rising from the midpoint of the east facade and exhibiting a trefoil vent opening, and one rising from the midpoint of the west facade, pierced by a quatrefoil vent opening. Roof eaves rest on exposed rafters extending well beyond the exterior walls. A single chimney projects from the roof ridge, toward the south facade of the structure.

The first story of the building is arcaded, with each semicircular arch enclosing either a window or doorway. Over the years some windows have been partially blocked in and some doorways have been converted to windows. The arches are visually connected by a beltcourse and impost molding. Circular-shaped molding graces the spandrels between all the arches, and molding in the shape of a lozenge tops one arch on the south facade and one on the east facade. Seven of the first-floor arches still contain multiple-paned semicircular transoms, whereas the transoms in eight other arches have been filled in with various materials. Two of the arches, located on the west facade, have been practically obliterated by the installation of a motor-driven rolling door which provided access to the fire engine bay.

At the second-story level, fourteen tripart windows provide light to the interior. Most of the windows consist of 16-over-1 double hung central openings flanked by narrower 8-over-1 double hung side openings, all rectangular in shape. Second-story windows rest on a beltcourse that visually separates the first and second stories.

Just below the curvilinear gable on the west facade, a set of multi-paned french doors open onto a second-floor balcony graced by a wrought-iron railing. The balcony is supported from above by wrought-iron chains attached to wrought-iron lions' heads, one on either side of the doorway. An ornamental wrought-iron balconet graces the opening just below the curvilinear gable on the east facade of the structure.

(Continued)

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3 . 80

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Located at the southwest corner of the structure, a square clock tower rises to form a vented octagonal base for a saucer-like dome topped by a finial, upon which rests a globe-shaped lamp. Set into the dome are four clock faces, each of them four feet in diameter. At the second-story level the clock tower features two sets of french doors, each set within a semicircularly-arched opening, and each girded by a wrought-iron balconet.

The interior of the building was divided to accommodate the functions of city offices and fire station. A large fire engine bay occupies the center of the first floor. The remainder of the first-floor rooms were used for city functions, including the small jail cell block located along the east side of the building. The second floor was used for meeting space, as well as to accommodate the volunteer firemen. A large ballroom occupies the northern half of the second floor. Housed in the clock tower is a large cast bronze bell which can be operated either automatically by the clock mechanism, or manually by a cable leading down into the fire engine bay.

Today, the Old Nogales City Hall and Fire Station stands little changed from its original appearance, with the exception of reversible modifications to some of the windows and doors. The Pimeria Alta Historical Society is renovating the building for use as an historical museum. The Society hopes to restore the building at a later date.

# 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1914

BUILDER/ARCHITECT C. Burton & Son/Henry O. Jaastad

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1914, the Old Nogales City Hall and Fire Station played a vital role in the development of the City of Nogales by serving as the community's first permanent Town Hall and the first substantial headquarters for the local volunteer fire department.

Early settlement in the area centered on the Cañon de los Nogales ("Walnut Canyon"), a narrow tributary canyon of the Santa Cruz River, at the International Boundary between the United States and the Mexican State of Sonora. Growth of the settlement was spurred by its location at the junction of the New Mexico and Arizona railroad, and the Sonora Limited, Mexico's first west coast railroad, which provided access from the United States to the Mexican seaport of Guaymas. Both railroads were branches of the Atchinsen, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad. The New Mexico and Arizona railroad was leased to Southern Pacific Railroad in 1897, and was sold to Southern Pacific in 1911. The Sonora Limited eventually was nationalized by Mexico and became the Ferrocarril del Pacifico.

Crowded together, the first flimsy buildings of the Nogales settlement were particularly vulnerable to fire, and organization of a bucket brigade followed closely after the 1882 arrival of the railroad from the east and establishment of the local post office. In 1895 the Nogales Volunteer Fire Department was organized; it consisted of 28 volunteer firemen who drilled regularly, held annual efficiency contests, participated in holiday parades, and limited actual involvement in firefighting to dues-paying members. Captain L. W. Mix, who later served two terms as mayor of Nogales, was elected chief of the department.

In 1896 the Volunteer Fire Department purchased a used hand-operated pumper from the Town of Tombstone, as well as a hook-and-ladder truck that they housed in a shed next to Hogan's Blacksmith Shop. Shortly thereafter, the firemen built an adobe engine house with galvanized iron roof and free-standing bell tower. In 1899 when the town incorporated, the firemen received a lot on Grand Avenue in the heart of town, upon which they constructed a new headquarters for their operations.

In 1906 the Nogales Town Council, which had been previously conducting its meetings in the private offices of its members, moved into the Santa Cruz County Courthouse, constructed in 1904, five years after the County was officially established with Nogales as the County Seat. The Town Council, however, desired a permanent town hall, and the volunteer firemen also desired larger quarters. As a result, town officials and the Volunteer Fire Department began developing plans for a jointly-funded building that would accommodate the needs of both organizations. In 1910, they adopted plans prepared by Tucson architect Henry O. Jaastad, with the agreement that the Fire Department would own the structure and rent space to the Town for its offices. The

(Continued)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ready, Alma, Open Range and Hidden Silver, Alto Press, Nogales, Arizona, 1973.  
 "The Oasis", December 31, 1914.  
 Minutes, Nogales Fire Department.  
 Minutes, City of Nogales, Books X, XI, 1920, 1922, 1923, 1924.

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less/1

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,2 5,0,5,6,5,0 3,4,6,6,5,0,0  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
 C                                    

B                                      
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
 D                                    

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Southerly 100 ft. of Block 27, Original Nogales Townsite, as set forth in Deed Book 1, pg. 569 (1899)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Thomas S. Rothweiler and Mary Jane Gregory

ORGANIZATION

Arizona State Parks Board

DATE

November 13, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

1688 West Adams

TELEPHONE

(602) 255-4174

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Arizona 85007

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL X

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

*James A. Ayres*

30 Jan 1980

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*W. Ray Luce*  
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 ATTEST: *[Signature]*  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

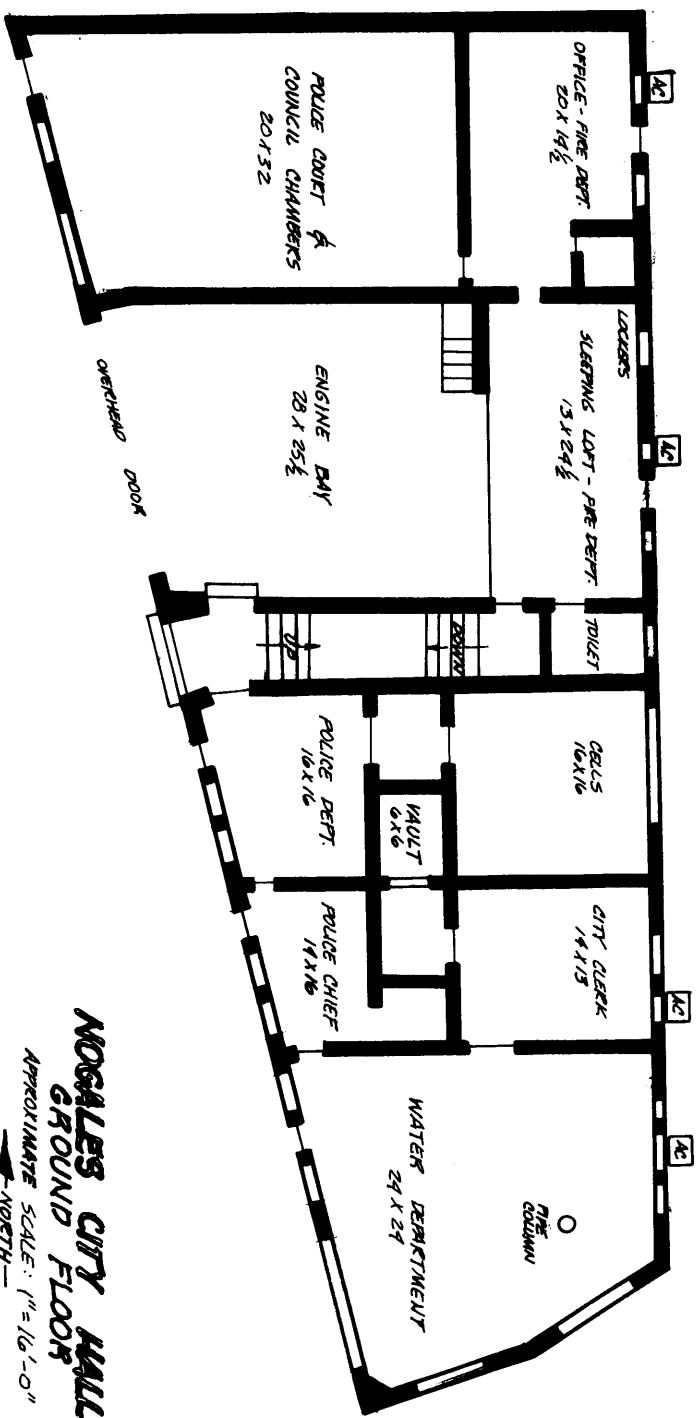
DATE

4/3/80

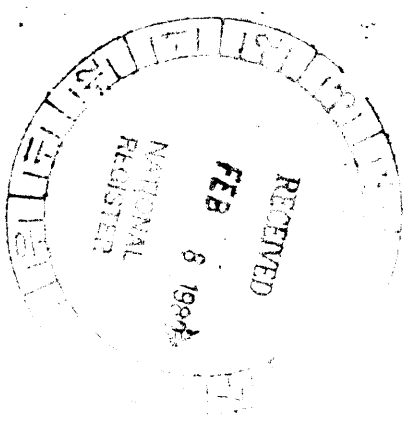
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

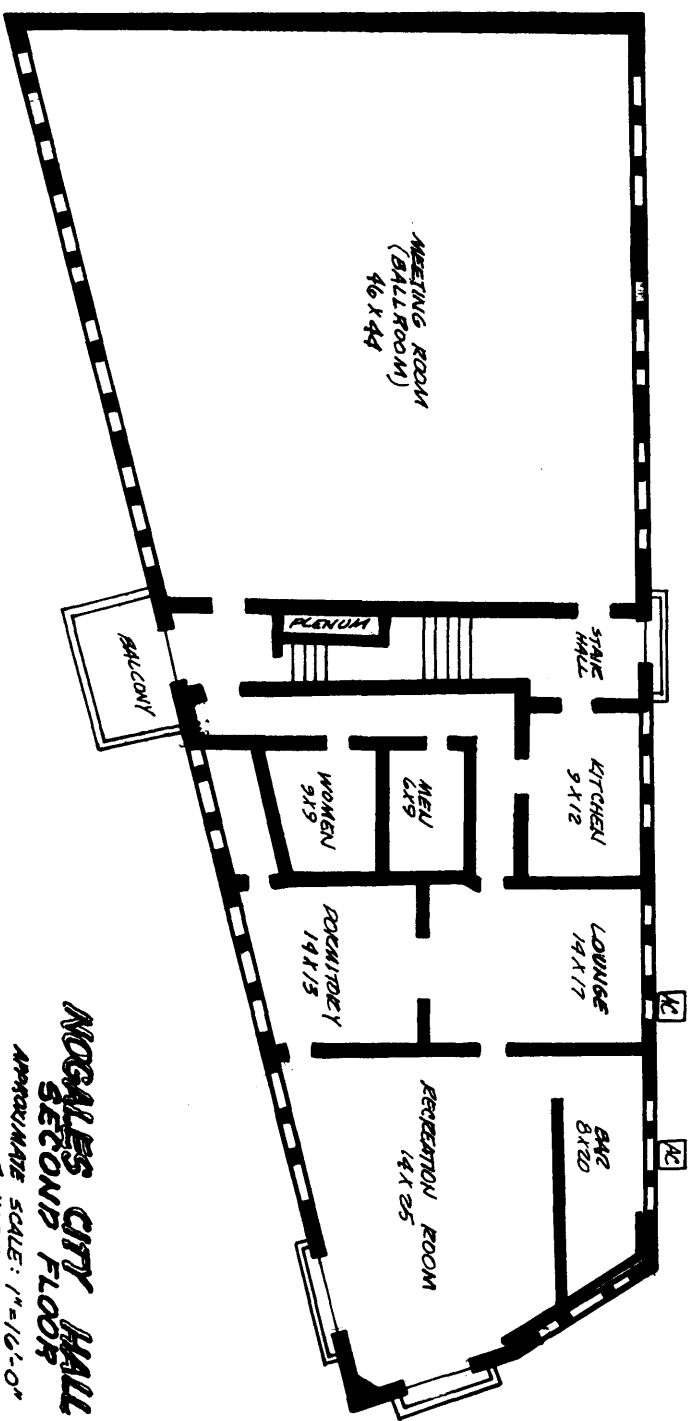
DATE

4-2-80



**NOGALES CITY HALL**  
**GROUND FLOOR**  
 APPROXIMATE SCALE: 1" = 16'-0"  
 ← NORTH





**NOGALES CITY HALL**  
**SECOND FLOOR**  
 APPROXIMATE SCALE: 1"=16'-0"  
 NORTH

