SIGNIFICANCE Veroxed from Santa Cruz County Courthouse AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW PERIOD PREHISTORIC __ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC __COMMUNITY PLANNING __LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE ___RELIGION ___ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC __CONSERVATION 1400-1499 _LAW ___SCIENCE _1500-1599 AGRICULTURE ___ECONOMICS ___LITERATURE ___SCULPTURE X___ARCHITECTURE _1600-1699 __EDUCATION ___MILITARY __SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN _1700-1799 ___ART ___ENGINEERING ___MUSIC ___THEATER _1800-1899 ___COMMERCE __EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT __PHILOSOPHY ---- TRANSPORTATION X₁₉₀₀. __COMMUNICATIONS X_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT __INDUSTRY ___OTHER (SPECIFY) __INVENTION

SPECIFIC DATES 1903

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Trost and Rust

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Santa Cruz is the smallest county in Arizona with a little less than 800,000 acres, over half of which is within the Coronado National Fores It is a sparsely populated area with several large ranches, some mines, and a few scattered small towns. It has a mild climate and a moderate rainfall. The largest population is concentrated at Nogales on the Mexican border. The location is determined by the intersection of the international boundary and the Santa Cruz River. The Valley has been the main north-south highway between Arizona and Mexico for centuries, and Nogales lies in a mountain pass.

Although the border was marked with the Gadsden Purchase of 1854, there was no town until the 1880s. The first settler at this location was a peddler or merchant from San Francisco named Jacob Issacson who opened a trading post in 1880. Isaacson knew that the railroad to Guaymas would soon be constructed. The store he built was an ocotillo hut where the present Southern Pacific depot stands. When the railroad surveyors came through in 1881, they called the tiny settlement Isaacson. By 1882 a few permanent buildings were being constructed. In October of that year the railroad was completed, but the "station" for the time being was a boxcar.

As the community grew, it acquired the name Nogales, from the native walnuts of the area, and was incorporated under that name in 1893. When Santa Cruz County was created out of Pima County in 1899, Nogales became the county seat. The Board of Supervisors signed a 3-year lease with George B. Marsh for a suite of 12 rooms and space for a jail at a cost of \$100 a month. In August, Ramon Vasquez was the successful bidder to construct a jail for \$590.

The need for adequate permanent quarters increased as the county's business increased, and in 1902 Congress authorized the county to issue bonds in the amount of \$35,000 to build a courthouse and jail.

Lot 18, Block 16, was purchased from Anton Proto for \$2,000. The county then sold part of Block 27 and Lot 1 of Block 17 at auction for \$2,390 to pay for the courthouse lot. James Vandevort's bid of \$28,280

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

to build a courthouse was accepted as was the \$4,761 bid of the Pauly Jail Building Company to construct 4 cells.

In February of 1903 Vandevort assigned his contract to Roy and Titcomb, Inc. In October the Board of Supervisors authorized a water system and F.T. Rodriguez was the successful bidder to construct a 15 foot steel windmill with 30 foot steel tower, 2000 gallon pump, 10,000 gallon tank, and 20 foot water tower

The architects for the courthouse were Trost and Rust of Tucson and the building was completed in November of 1903. It was apparently occupied in the spring of the following year.

Nogales has grown steadily since the turn of the century. Its prosperity derives mainly from its position on the border. Tourism is of great importance, but large amounts of produce and cattle are shipped in annually. The border gate is a busy one and never closes. Nogales and its sister city in Sonora are virtually bilingual. The result is an interesting community with an attractive setting and amild climate that will continue to attract tourists and retirees while its strategic location will continue to make Nogales an important trade center.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

structure was to be built on the Grand Avenue lot at that time occupied by the third headquarters of the Fire Department.

In 1912 the Town leased office space in the Ephraim Building on Morley Avenue and remained there until the Old City Hall and Fire Station building was completed. The Volunteer Fire Department moved to a temporary site across Grand Avenue from the present site of the Old City Hall and Fire Station. In July of 1914, Town workmen poured the foundation for the new building at a cost of \$2,229.71. Ed Burton and Son won a \$22,650.00 contract for the superstructure; "extras" came to another \$3,700.00. A \$12,000.00 local bond issue proved inadequate to cover the cost of the construction, and the firemen were forced to negotiate three smaller loans to complete the work.

On February 15, 1915, the whole town turned out to celebrate the dedication of the "ultra-modern" Old City Hall and Fire Station. After a ceremonial inspection of the building, the crowd finished the day with dancing in the second-floor ballroom to the music of the 12th Infantry Band.

The volunteer firemen settled into their new quarters, with the town officials housed in their leased offices in the southern portion of the building. The northern portion was leased to county physician Dr. A. L. Gustetter, and the Santa Cruz Club, which was a men's athletic club, rented the entire second floor under a three-year lease. By 1915 the Fire Department had acquired its first motorized vehicle. Prior to that time, the firemen had responded to calls on foot, dragging their equipment behind them. In its efforts to maintain the building, the Fire Department discovered by 1916 that it had assumed a greater financial burden than it could handle. As a result, in 1921, the fire department and the town signed an agreement stipulating that the Town would assume the debts of the Volunteer Fire Department and would acquire title to the property. The legal document, however, contained a clause stating, "As long as the Fire Department shall actively assist in fighting fires, it shall have use and control of the second story without payment of rent," an agreement still in effect as of 1980.

The Volunteer Fire Department served as the town's emergency squad and before the flood control channel was constructed in the 1930s, the firemen were kept occupied after each heavy rain with calls to pump water out of flooded basements. In 1926, the Nogales City Charter was adopted and shortly thereafter the City hired its first paid fireman. The Nogales Fire Department, which is now stationed in the new City Complex on Grand Avenue, constructed in 1978, now has 16 paid employees. For many years the Nogales (Arizona) Fire Department had cooperated with the Nogales (Mexico) Fire Department in fighting fires on either side of the border. They continue to assist each other when requested. The Nogales (Arizona) Fire Department still maintains a roster of volunteer firemen, some of which turn out for monthly drill, followed by a ritual steak fry in the second-floor club rooms of the old building.

The second-floor ballroom is now used for meetings of vaious local organizations, as well as a polling place for City elections. The City of Nogales has granted use of the Old City Hall and Fire Station's first floor and basement to the Pimeria Alta Historical Society for use as a museum and research library. Plans for rehabilitation of the building have been completed. MAY 191977 NATIONAL REGISTER

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FRYTHING SAME EXCEPT SHERIFFL JALLOUT



GROUND FLOOR

- 1. Supervisors Office
- 2. Sheriffs Outer Office
- 3. Sheriffs Inner Office
- 4. Cell
- 5. Juvenile & Womens Cell
- 6. Storage
- 7. Court Yard
- 8. Storage

Scale 1= 16 Feet

Supervisors Office Vault 9. 10. Rest Rooms

- 11. Coffee Lounge
- 12. Sheriff's Coffee Lounge
- 13. Main Cell Security Block
- 14. Boiler Room & Storage
- 15. Storage and Maintenance Room
- 16. Storage Corridor

3-4-5-6-7-8 Were sheriff. 13- Jail.

NOW1975



FIRST FLOOR

- Superior Court Rest Room 1.
- 2.
- 3. Cnty Rec Vault
- 4. County Recorder
- 5. Treasurer County Trsurer's Vault







- 1. County Superior Court PROBATION 2. Planning and Zoning 3. Storage

 - 4. Vault-Clk of Supr Crt
 - 5. Clerk of the Superior Court
 - 6. Court Reporter
 - 7. Probation Officer

Scale: 1 = 16 Feet

- 8. Judges Chamber
 9. Vault Sch Suprvsr's
 10. County School Supervisor
 11. Assessors
 12. Assessors
 13. Assessors
 14. Assessors
- 13. ABEEBEER Shool SuPERVISON
- TITIC: 14. Rest Room







16. Storage Corridor

COURTYARD8. Storage

Scale 1= 16 Feet

WOMEN

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- 7. SUPERIOR COURT

Scale 1 = 16 Feet



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SECOND FLOOR



Scale: 1 = 16 Feet

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