

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Urton Orchards

other names/site number Tooth Acres; Dr. W.D. McPherson Farm

2. Location

street & number Route 3, Box 209 M

N/A not for publication

city, town Roswell

N/A vicinity

state New Mexico

code NM

county Chaves

code 005

zip code 88201

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>2</u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
Historic Resources of Roswell, New Mexico and  
outlying environs of Chaves County

Number of contributing resources previously  
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

[Signature]  
Signature of certifying official

7-27-88  
Date

[Signature]  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. 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): \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

[Signature]

8/29/88

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwellingDomestic/secondary structure

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwellingDomestic/secondary structure

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stonewalls BrickStoneroof Asbestosother WoodWood/shingle

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY

This Queen Anne-style house has a turret in the southwest corner and a porch which extends across the entire main facade and wraps around the two sides. East of the house is a stone milk house. These two buildings are in excellent condition without significant alteration.

DESCRIPTION1. House    Photo #1

This is a two-story house built of red brick. The porch, which has been screened, is supported by singly-placed, classical columns, raised on pedestals at a height slightly above the railing of the spindled balustrade. The roof has gables on all four sides (that on the east side is hipped), which are covered with plain shingles painted white. A polygonal tower rises from the porch roof, the roof of which is covered with scalloped shingles. Two tall brick chimneys rise from the slope of the roof on the east and west sides of the building. A false third floor window has an extended gable overhang with columns and a balustrade which echo those of the porch below. Windows are 1/1, double hung with sills and lintels of rough-cut stone.

Changes on the interior of the house have been minor, such as the removal of doors and the opening of the butler's pantry. A side porch on the northwest corner (back) of the house has been enclosed. There is original woodwork throughout including door and window surrounds, beamed ceilings in the front rooms, oak stair railings, and a carved "drop" between the living room and hallway.

2. Milk House    Photo #2

This small, rectangular building has a hipped roof, and is constructed of blocks of gray, cut stone. The main facade has two doors with brick arches above.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

<b>Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)</b> <u>Agriculture</u> <u>Architecture</u>     	<b>Period of Significance</b> <u>1900-1929</u>     	<b>Significant Dates</b> <u>N/A</u>     
		<b>Cultural Affiliation</b> <u>N/A</u>   
<b>Significant Person</b> <u>N/A</u> 	<b>Architect/Builder</b> <u>Unknown</u> 	

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SUMMARY

This was the farm and residence of William G. Urton in his later years. Urton had come to the Pecos Valley in 1883-4 as a principal organizer, stockholder, and eventual ranch manager of one of the large cattle companies to enter the valley in the 1880's. In 1900, with the ranching business in decline, he settled on this farm/orchard. These buildings represent not only the development of orchards in the Roswell vicinity after the discovery of artesian water, but also the movement of the early cattle men to homes built in styles fashionable in other parts of the country, styles made possible by the new availability of building materials after the arrival of rail transport. Finally it is one of the better examples of the Queen Anne style remaining in the Roswell vicinity which has not been significantly altered.

HISTORY OF THE FARM DURING THE PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE (1900-1929)

This house was built by W.G. Urton in 1900 and was his residence until his death in 1929. Urton had come to New Mexico in the spring of 1884 as one of the principle founders of the Cass Land & Cattle Company which had been formed in Cass County, Missouri the previous winter. Taking up residence in an adobe house, he and others established what would eventually become well-known as the Bar V Ranch on the east side of the Pecos River. In 1886 Urton assumed management of the ranch. During his tenure the company took over the famous Bar V brand. Like other large cattle enterprises, the Cass Land & Cattle Company was forced to reduce its operations and finally closed out in 1908-09.

In 1900 Urton gave up management of the ranch and moved to this Queen Anne-style farm house. Orchards were planted south of the house which were well known until they were destroyed in the deadly freeze of 1933. It is not

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A 

1	3
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5	4	7	7	8	0
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3	6	9	9	3	8	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone Easting Northing

D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Corinne Sze (revisions and additions) John Petronis (original nomination)  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date July 20, 1988  
street & number 1042 Stagecoach Road telephone (505) 983-5605  
city or town Santa Fe state New Mexico zip code 87501

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National Park Service

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known when the milk house was built, but it is believed to be constructed of a type of stone that was manufactured in Roswell until about 1908. Water was piped through the milk house under a bench upon which were placed things to be kept cool.

### HISTORY OF THE FARM AFTER THE PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE

After W. G. Urton's death in 1929 this orchard/farm was inherited by his sons, one of whom, W.C. (Cooley) Urton, lived there after his own home burned down. In the mid-1950's the property was purchased by a dentist and his wife, Walter and Carol McPherson. They named the property "Tooth Acres".

### ARCHITECTURE

The Queen Anne style, which was popular in other areas of the South and West after 1880, only became practical in the Roswell area after the coming of rail transportation into the Pecos Valley had made possible the importation of a greater variety of building materials as well as pre-cut architectural details. The house is one of a small number of excellent, unaltered examples of the style remaining today in the Roswell area, and represents the coming into the mainstream of Roswell's architecture, as well as the gentrification of the early ranchers.

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Books and Articles

Shinkle, James D. Fifty Years of Roswell History, 1867-1917. Roswell, New Mexico: Hall-Poorbaugh Press, Inc., 1964.

Treasures of History: Historic Buildings in Chaves County, 1870-1935.  
Roswell, New Mexico: Chaves County Historical Society, 1985.

Urton, Cooley. "The Old Bar Bar V Told by a Bar V Man," Roswell Daily Record. October 7, 1937, p. 1, 8.

WPA File #186. State Records Center and Archives. Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Interview

6/23/88 Carol McPherson

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
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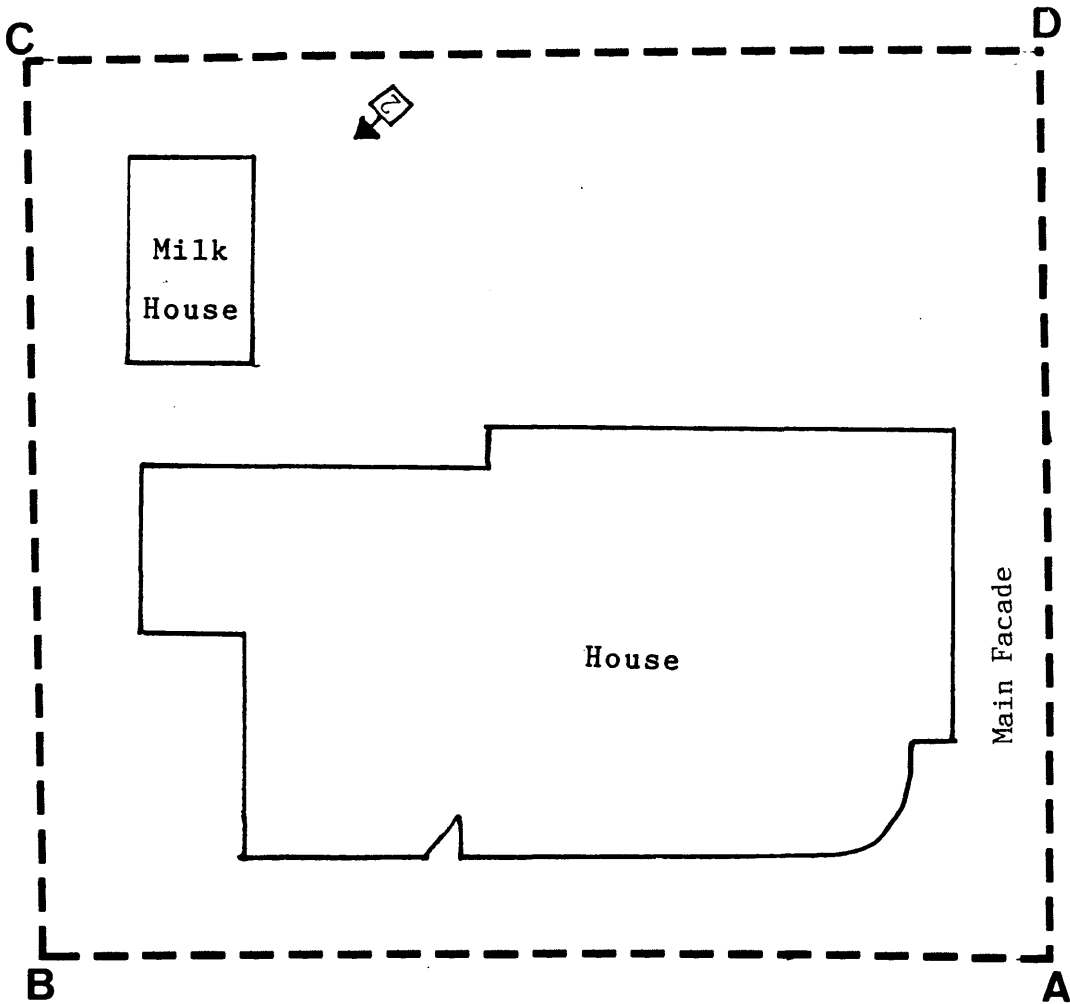
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Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning a point A on the sketch map, proceed north along a line (AB) which runs ten feet from the farthest extension of the west facade of the Urton Orchards house to point B. Proceed east along a line which runs ten feet from the farthest extension of the north facade of the house to point C which is the intersection of BC with a line CD which runs ten feet from the farthest extension of the east facade of the milk house. Proceed south from point C to point D which is the intersection of (CD) with a line (DA) which runs ten feet from the farthest extension of the south and main facade of the house. From D proceed along this line DA back to point A.

Boundary Justification

A rectangle encompassing both buildings which are surrounded by unplatted farmland.



Urton Orchards

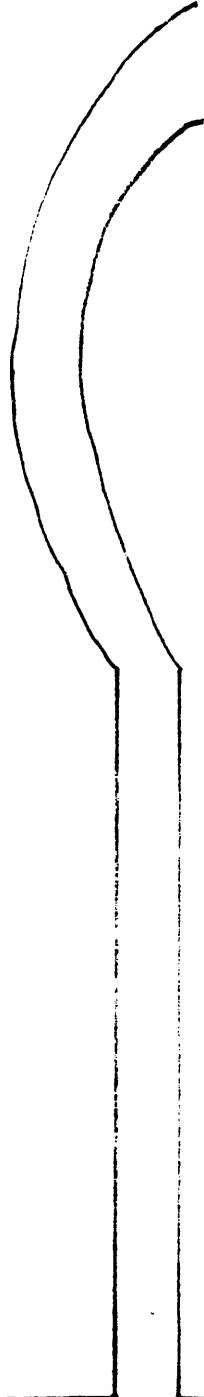
Historic Resources of  
Roswell, New Mexico

Scale of Building 1":20'

Boundary - - - -

Photo 

N 



County Road