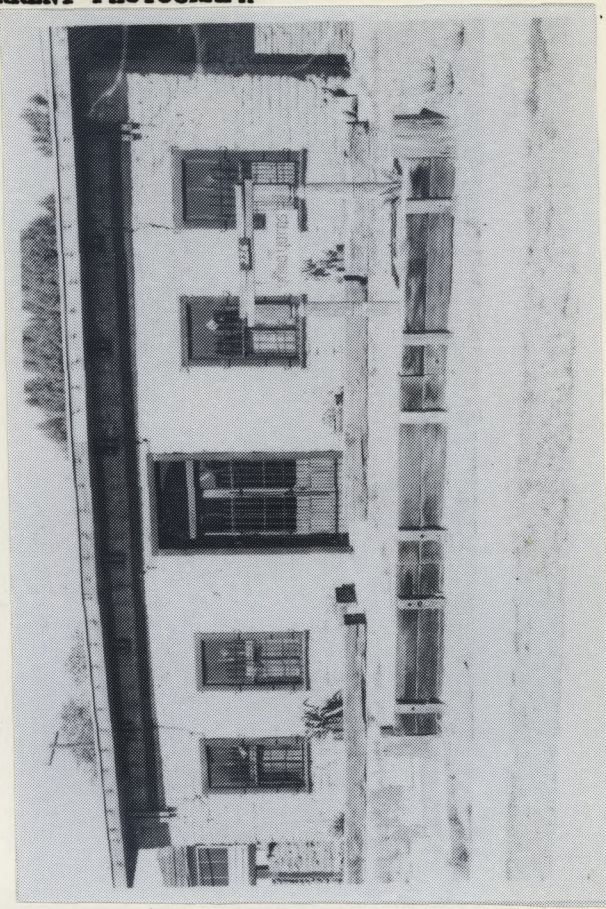


ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

APR 21 1980

PROPERTY NAME Norton House		CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH 
LOCATION 226 South First Avenue		
CITY/TOWN/VICINITY: Yuma	COUNTY Yuma	
OWNER Nick Graves		
OWNER'S ADDRESS 206 South First Avenue Yuma, AZ 85364		
FORM COMPLETED BY Yuma County Historical Society		
ADDRESS 240 Madison Avenue Yuma, AZ 85364		
PHOTO BY P. Callahan	DATE 4-78	
VIEW East elevation		
PRESENT USE Commercial	ACREAGE less/acre	
STYLE OR CULTURAL PERIOD Late 19th Century adobe cottage modified		
SIGNIFICANT DATES Constructed c. 1894, major modifications 1974		

Yu149

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION
The Norton house is a one story structure of rectangular plan, 40 feet wide by 35 feet deep. Constructed entirely of adobe, the original 12 foot high walls are reinforced by steel rods installed in the early 1900's. Plaster on the exterior walls was removed and the adobe impregnated with a moisture inhibitor when the building was stabilized and rehabilitated between 1970 and 1974. At the same time porches on the front and rear were removed and the truncated hip roof was replaced with a flat one. These features were in ruinous condition at the time. The main entry is through a pair of French doors which open onto a central hall. All openings in the facade are discrete.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
The building at 226 First Avenue was built about 1894 by Alejandro Figueroa, a local contractor, for George Duke, a real estate agent and banker. By 1913 the house had changed hands several times, but in that year it was purchased by George W. Norton whose family retained the property until 1972. Norton was an army engineer who first came to Yuma in 1877 as part of the Southern Pacific Railroad survey team. Over the next four decades he played an important role in development of the county as a mining developer, businessman, and legislator. While residing in the house on First Avenue he served in the Territorial and State Legislatures. The house is a local historic landmark.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
Block 96; Lot 2; Yuma Townsite