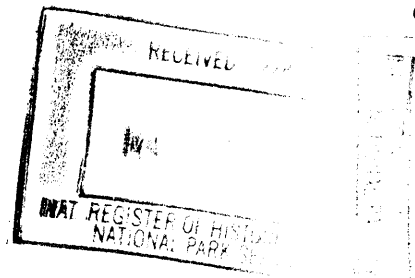


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1734



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being nominated, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Southern Pacific Railroad Depot

other name/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number: 201 West Main Street N/A not for publication
city/town: Casa Grande N/A vicinity
state: Arizona code: AZ county: Pinal code: 021 zip code: 85222

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

JAMES W. BOWMAN ARIZONA 23 MAY 2002
Signature of certifying official Date

ARIZONA STATE PARKS
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): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Sarah D. Pope 11/20/02

5. Classification

Ownership of Property Category of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>one</u>	<u>none</u>	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>one</u>	<u>none</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing).

Historic and Architectural Resources of Casa Grande, Arizona

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/ rail-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/ rail-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Pueblo

Art Deco

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls STUCCO

roof Unknown

other CONCRETE

TERRA COTTA

GLASS

METAL : Steel

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- 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 values, 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

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1939 - 1951

Significant Dates

1939

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Southern Pacific Railroad

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

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

Name of Repository:

Southern Pacific Railroad Depot

Name of Property

Pinal County, Arizona

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	12	429350	3637610	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gabrielle Harlan

organization Metropolis Design Group date August 30, 2001

street & number 2601 North Third Street, Suite 308 telephone (602) 274-9777

city or town Phoenix state: AZ zip code 85004

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **Black and White photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name N/A

street & number N/A telephone N/A

city or town N/A state N/A zip code N/A

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instruction, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 1

Southern Pacific Railroad Depot
Pinal County, AZ

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Southern Pacific Railroad Depot is located adjacent to the train tracks that run in a southeasterly direction southwest of the building and through what is the original town site of Casa Grande. A rail-related transportation building, this building utilizes the Pueblo Style that was particularly popular for use on buildings of this type during the era of its construction. The building is cast concrete and is finished with stucco. The depot is a modestly sized building for its type, as it is probably between 2000-3000 square feet. However, its size is not so modest considering its location in the small community of Casa Grande. Significant features of this building are its plain massing, terra cotta ornamentation, scoring around columns of the canopy, the use of heavy-timbered wood, and the decorative lettering used as signage on each facade. The building currently appears to be in sound structural condition, but some of the façade surfaces are in poor repair. Some of the surface terra cotta decoration is chipped and cracked, but it is all still in place. There is also discoloration of the stucco from water running down the side of the building from two window air conditioning units. With exception to two windows where air-conditioning units have been added, the building has very good historic integrity. It is on its original site, and within its original context next to train tracks still in use today. There are no additions to the building and important elements such as fenestration are intact. A few of the doors have been replaced, but the original freight doors are still in place. The building is still located on its original site next to the tracks, and although no longer in use as a depot, the feeling and association are unmistakably present.

This transportation, rail-related building, located adjacent to the train tracks, is on a lot with the same southeasterly orientation. Just as the original town site possesses the skewed orientation of the railroad lines that reflects the way it grew up around them, so does this building. Main Street, fronting the property to the north, also reflects the same skewed orientation of both the rail lines and the building. The overall shape of this building's plan is generally rectangular, with a slightly narrower rectangular wing on one end. An attached exterior canopy, square in shape, also extends as a wing to the side. This building is one story in height, with four different bays created through the massing. The building also has the varying roof heights typical of this style. The building is constructed primarily of cast concrete, with wood used elements like doors, and steel for windows. The building is finished in stucco, and terra cotta is used for ornamentation. The roof of this building is flat with parapet walls. The structural system is comprised of a concrete foundation upon which concrete bearing walls sit. These walls support the wood joists that carry the roof. Specific significant features of this building are the canopy, windows, and doors. The canopy extends over a concrete pad at the southeast end of the building; round concrete columns support a heavily massed canopy with a flat roof and rounded parapets. The windows are steel divided lights with a bottom section opening as an awning; there are also steel casement windows. Primary entrances are located on both the front and rear facades. The front entry faces the street and the rear entry faces the railroad tracks. One single door with sidelights opens onto the canopied area. There are also five large sliding wood freight doors, all of which are set about 3 feet above grade. Two of these doors are on the north street-facing façade, two on the south track-facing façade, and one opens onto a raised platform at the west side of the building. One of the most important decorative elements of this building is its plain massing. The way in which the form is segmented both vertically and horizontally is important in the vocabulary of this style, as well; a stepping effect is created through the use of different roof heights as well as by the stepping projections of the façade. Also emphasizing this horizontal stepping effect is the recession of the window planes in the middle of the projecting façade; these recesses lend another layer of multi-dimensionality to the building. The building's plain massing is broken by terra cotta ornamentation in relief around door and window openings. This ornamentation utilizes Native American design motifs that have been stylized using the imagery of Art Deco, which was also popular during the era of this building's construction. Decoration includes the scoring around the columns of the canopy, the use of heavy-timbered wood freight doors, and the words "Casa Grande" written on the each of the facades of the building in a stylized script evocative of the "primitive" and frontier imagery summoned in the style of the building. There are no outbuildings associated with this property. However, there are other manmade elements associated with the property that are important to its context. These elements

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Southern Pacific Railroad Depot
Pinal County, AZ

include the railroad tracks to the southwest side, the large raised concrete platform on the northwest end, gravel and asphalt parking areas on the southeast and northeast sides, and a radio tower on the northeast side. There are few alterations to the building; two of the windows have air conditioning units mounted to them and some windows are broken, but the original steel casement and awning windows remain in place. The two principal entry doors have been replaced, but the original freight doors, which occupy substantially more of the buildings façade and are important in the function and history of the property, are still intact. This transportation building comprises the one contributing element to this nomination; there are no non-contributing elements.

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Southern Pacific Railroad Depot
Pinal County, AZ

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY

This Southern Pacific Railroad building is significant under Criterion C as a good example of the Pueblo style under the context of Architecture in Casa Grande, 1900-1950. The date of significance is 1939, which is the date of initial construction. This property is executed in a manner that incorporates aspects of both the Pueblo style as well as the Art Deco style, which were popular styles in the 1920s and 1930s. The combination of these two styles is referred to as Pueblo Deco, and is not common; Pueblo Deco is an example of how national popular styles became interpreted and regionalized. Its use is confined mostly to public and commercial structures. This property, featured in several publications on historic architecture, is considered to be one of the best examples of its type in the Southwest. The Casa Grande Depot is a flat-roofed, cast concrete building that has been plastered and decorated with terra cotta tile, which runs around the doorways and window openings as well as in a band across some of the exterior walls. It is a simple building with clean lines and relatively subdued ornamentation; its most noteworthy feature is its terra cotta tile. The building borrows its finish, stepped roofline, and rounded corners/ edges from the Pueblo Revival style, and its ornamentation and massing from the Art Deco Style. It has a stucco finish, earth tone colors, and a stepped roofline; this building also features Art Deco decoration based on Southwest Indian artistic motifs. As a member of the Railroad-related property type, this building exemplifies characteristics of its property type such as a dual orientation to the railroad tracks and the street that fronts it. Other characteristics include freight doors, a loading platform, over-scaled elements that convey a public function, durable construction materials, and large windows to provide both light and ventilation. The property retains almost all of its significant design qualities. There have been no additions to the building, and the replacement of entry doors does not detract from the significance of the resource; the building retains its integrity for listing as a member of its property type.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

In the early years, the railroad and freighting associated with area mines were the sole source of Casa Grande's livelihood. However by 1910, development had shifted to an agriculturally based economy rather than a rail-related economy. The rail continued to be an important element in the community so that when the first depot was destroyed by fire on June 13, 1937, this building was built by the Southern Pacific Railroad to replace it. This depot building was dedicated in 1940, just in time for service during the war years. Passenger service to Casa Grande was discontinued in 1945, but the building continued in use as a freight depot and office. When it was built, the depot had an open waiting room and office separated by a ticket counter, restrooms, baggage lockers, baggage room, freight agent's office, freight room, and an open-air waiting area with seating under the stuccoed canopy.

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Southern Pacific Railroad Depot
Pinal County, AZ

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

See *Section I: Major Bibliographical References* of the Multiple Property Nomination form for Historic and Architectural Resources of Casa Grande, Arizona.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Southern Pacific Railroad Depot property is defined by the curbline of the property along Main Street to the north, by the edge of the adjacent railroad tracks to the south, by a north/south line 10' from the easternmost end of the building to the east, and a north/south line 10' from the westernmost end of the building to the west.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary of the nominated property includes the building itself and the immediate surrounding context.

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Continuation Sheet**

Southern Pacific Railroad Depot
Pinal County, AZ

Section Number PHOTOS Page 5

Photo # 1 View: Southwest

Photographer: Bob Graham
Date: September 4, 2001
Location of Original Negatives: Metropolis Design Group
2601 N. Third Street, Suite 308
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Photo # 2 View: Northwest

Photographer: Bob Graham
Date: September 4, 2001
Location of Original Negatives: Metropolis Design Group
2601 N. Third Street, Suite 308
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Photo # 3 View: Northwest (Entry detail)

Photographer: Gabrielle Harlan
Date: December 7, 2000
Location of Original Negatives: Metropolis Design Group
2601 N. Third Street, Suite 308
Phoenix, Arizona 85004