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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

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NATIONAL REGISTER

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 documented, 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 State maintained Route 66: Palomas to Montoya

other names/site number Ozark Trail, Texas-New Mexico Mountain Highway, SR 3, US 54

2. Location

street & number State frontage road from Palomas to Montoya  not for publication

city or town Montoya  vicinity

state New Mexico code NM county Quay code 037 zip code 88401

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.)

[Signature] SMPD 10-4-93  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Historic Preservation Division, State of New Mexico  
State of 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 certifying official/Title Date

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

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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

[Signature]

3/24/94

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Rt. 66, Palomas to Montoya  
Name of Property

Quay County, NM  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

**Category of Property**  
(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	
0	0	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

Hist. & Arch. Resources of Rt. 66 through NM

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION: road-related

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION: road-related

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

no style

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other earth fill, asphalt surfacing,  
concrete culverts and bridges

**Narrative Description**

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

Rt. 66, Palomas to Montoya  
Name of Property

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Quay County, NM  
County and State

**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 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)

transportation

**Period of Significance**

1933-1956

**Significant Dates**

1933

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**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:

\_\_\_\_\_

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Rt. 66, Palomas to Montoya  
Name of Property

Quay County, NM  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 126 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	13	600870	3886210
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	13	596260	3887300

3	13	584990	3883770
Zone	Easting	Northing	
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 David J. Kammer Ph.D

organization contract historian date August, 1993

street & number 521 Aliso Dr. NE telephone (505) 266-0586

city or town Albuquerque state NM zip code 87108

**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 SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**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 instructions, 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.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 1

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**Historic and Architectural Resources of Rt. 66 through NM  
Quay County, New Mexico**

**7. Description**

This 10.4 mile section of state-maintained Route 66 serves as a frontage road for local traffic. Except for a subway in which the road passes under Interstate 40, deviating from the historic alignment for less than a quarter mile, it represents the alignment of the completed road project of 1933 and is marked by five concrete culverts and three reinforced concrete slab bridges. These structural elements as well as the original cross section template and surrounding landscape contribute to the historic feeling of Route 66 that this road section conveys.

Passing through the Parajito Creek Valley with Mesa Rica to the north and Palomas Mesa to the south, Route 66 remains on relatively flat terrain at an elevation of about 4,300 ft. As a result few bank or slope cuts mark the road. Several sections, however, are marked by raised grades with the culverts and bridges permitting water from small intermittent streams to flow into Parajito Creek just to the north.

Of particular interest are the road section's three bridges. Located 6.0, 7.2 and 8.0 miles west of the eastern end of the road section, each is a single-span measuring approximately 40 ft. in length and consisting of a reinforced concrete beam construction with concrete abutments. Each bridge has a 24 ft. wide concrete deck flanked by concrete curbs and reinforced concrete railings. WPA project number plates are affixed to their headwalls.

As the road approaches Montoya, it diverges from its close parallel with I-40, passing a series of small roadside businesses, now vacant and some deteriorating, as well as the Montoya cemetery. Combined with other landscape elements including the nearby railroad grade and the low telephone line paralleling the road, this portion of old Route 66 evokes a strong feeling of travel across rural New Mexico. With the exception of the subway and a few cattleguards, little of the

Name of Multiple Property Listing

County and State

NPS Form 10-900-a  
(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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Quay County, New Mexico

## Description (continued)

1930s-era road has been altered.

## 8. Statement of Significance

This road section was realigned from an earlier course in 1933 under FAP 5 (REO). This "reopening" of road work for further improvements is a good example of the Bureau of Roads' "staged construction" policy discussed in the historic context section of the Multiple Property listing and, particularly with its bridges, illustrates the changes New Deal road building projects brought to Route 66. It served as Routes 66 and 54 (coinciding with 66 from Tucumcari to Santa Rosa) until it was replaced by I-40 following the Interstate Highway Act of 1956. This section of state-maintained Route 66 is significant for its association with the rise of automobile tourism in New Mexico and thus is eligible under Criterion A.

## 9. Bibliography

"Plan and Profile of FAP 5 REO" dated 6/14/33. On file at the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department, Records Control Unit of Records Management, Santa Fe.

Rae, Steven R. et. al. New Mexico Historic Bridge Survey. Santa Fe: New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department, 1987.

## 10. Geographical Data

## Verbal Boundary Description

This property is 10.4 miles long and is maintained as a frontage road by the State Highway Department. The east end lies at the junction of Route 66 with the Palomas interchange overpass road one hundred yards south of the interchange, and the west end is

Name of Multiple Property Listing

County and State

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(8-86)

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Continuation Sheet

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**Historic and Architectural Resources of Rt. 66 through NM  
Quay County, New Mexico**

**Verbal boundary Description (continued)**

at the cattleguard marking the entrance to the Montoya interchange at the west end of the village of Montoya. The sides are defined by a corridor extending fifty feet on either side of the centerline of the road, marking a right of way of 100 feet, a minimum width used by the State Highway Department during the 1930s.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the entire parcel historically associated with this section of Route 66.