

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Page 126

1. Name: LOUISE MASSEY HOUSE
2. Location: 209 West Alameda Street, Roswell, New Mexico 88201
4. Owner: Frances Meyer  
209 W. Alameda, Roswell, NM . 88201
7. Description:

The home was built about 1925 and is of the Gable with Box style. A fence, porch cover and brick flower bed were added in the 1950's. The front gable is partially obscured by the porch roof. The exterior wall are of wood frame with a stucco finish. The original chimney and fire-place remain in the house.

8. Significance:

The house gains its significance as the home of Louise Massey (1902-1983). This was the Massey Home from 1918 to 1982. In 1928 in this house Louise Massey and her husband, Milt Mabie, her two brothers, Curt and Allen, were interviewed for their first professional singing job as "The Westerners" by the Red Path Chatauqua. By 1930 they had a five year contract on CBS Radio in Kansas City. Later they joined WLS National Barn Dance. By 1938 Louise Massey was a star solo singer with the Westerners and with other shows on NBC Radio Programs in N.Y. City. Louise's 1934 recording of "When the White Azaleas are Blooming" sold three million copies and earned her a lifetime recording contract with Columbia Records. In 1940 Louise and Milt bought a ranch on the Hondo River, but retained her previous residence as a second home. Louise wrote her most famous song "In My Adobe Hacienda" which was her biggest hit single recording in this house. In 1945 she retired and lived with her husband on Hondo Ranch. After Milt's death in 1973 and due to failing health, Louise spent her last years in this home in Roswell and in various nursing homes. Louise died in June, 1983.

A copy of Louise's oral history tape, made by Chaves County Historical Society, is in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. In 1982 Louise was inducted into the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame in Hereford, Texas.

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Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 127

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Roswell First 100 Years "Roswell Savings & Loan.  
Chaves County Historical Encyclopedia - Fleming  
Chaves County Historical Society Archives and Taped Recording.  
Old Timers Review Vol III, summer 1982, Adams.

10. Geographic Data:

Quadrangle: Roswell North, New Mexico  
Scale: 1: 24,000

A. UTM Reference: Zone/Easting/Northing  
13/544190/3695400

The house is located on property of less than one acre and is on its original setting. It is bounded on the south by West Alameda Street and by adjacent property lines on the east, west and north. The legal description is the east 50 feet, west 150 feet of Lots 9 and 10, Block 1 of the Thurber addition.