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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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JAN 27 1994

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 Smith/Beck House
other names/site number Smith House

2. Location

street & number 425 Huachuca Street Not for publication
city, town Benson Vicinity
state Arizona code AZ county Cochise code 003 zip code 85602

3. Classification

Ownership of Property		Category of Property		Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local		<input type="checkbox"/> district		<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State		<input type="checkbox"/> site			_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal		<input type="checkbox"/> structure			_____ structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> object			_____ objects
				<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Historic Architectural Properties in the Benson, Arizona Survey Area

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.

James Garrison AZSAPD 1/6/94
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.

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:)

Paul R. Lynn 3/11/94
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic - single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic - single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation wood

walls wood

roof wood

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Summary: The Smith/Beck house is a local example of the Colonial Revival Style popular during the railroad era in Benson from 1893 (when the style became popular nationwide) until 1910. Local residents believe the house was built before 1900. Mary Woodman Smith, Arizona's first woman banker and her husband, A. G. Smith, purchased the residence in 1919.

Location and Setting: Located at 425 Huachuca Street, the house occupies its original lots in block 40 of the Town of Benson. The property is enclosed by a metal post and wire fence and features mature trees.

Construction: The structure is redwood framing on a foundation of redwood piers. The floor is raised above a crawl space and there is an attic above the ceiling. The walls are clad in wood, clapboard siding and the roof in wood shingles.

Original Appearance: The property consisted of a 1,330 sq. ft. house. A one-car garage was added before 1942, during Benson's historic era. The house featured a boxed eaved, pyramidal roof over its main portion with three ventilated gable dormers, each having fixed paned six-light sashes and boxed eaves. A hipped roof extension to the east covered the kitchen. There was a central panel door with leaded glass and six-over-one light double hung windows. Along the two main facades was a wood shingle roofed, wrap-around veranda with turned posts. The interior included a living room, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms and one bath. The living room featured a brick fireplace and redwood panelled walls. There was probably a fireplace in the dining room as well. The other rooms also had wood strip paneling on the walls and ceilings. Wood floors, heavy baseboards and ornamental door casings were employed.

Current Appearance: The exterior and much of the interior of this house are original and in good condition. The dining room fireplace appears to have been removed. The ceilings in all rooms except the kitchen have been lowered. There is a shed roofed addition of more recent vintage to the east behind the kitchen. The kitchen has been modernized but still retains the wood panelled walls and ceiling plus some of the original cabinetry.

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1880-1942

Significant Dates
pre 1900

Cultural Affiliation
NA

Significant Person

Architect/Builder
unknown

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

Significance: The Smith/Beck house is locally significant under National Register Criterion C as an excellent example of a wood frame Colonial Revival Style house. It is significant for its contribution to architectural development in Benson from 1880 to 1942. The Colonial Revival Style was very popular in Benson from 1898 to 1910 while Benson was still a major railroad junction point. The house has had few modifications, is in good condition and reflects a high degree of architectural integrity.

Early Resident: The Smith/Beck house was owned by Mary Woodman Smith and her husband, A. G. Smith. According to The Arizona Republic (11/15/49), Mary Woodman Smith was the state's first woman banker, having played a major role in shaping the state's destiny. Originally from Boston, Mary Woodman came to work for I. E. Solomon, founder of the town of Solomonville and director of the Gila Valley Bank (later known as the Valley National Bank). Mary's first job was to transport gold and silver coin to Clifton, Arizona, since a woman was felt to be safe from prevalent marauders who feared the Territory's lynch laws. She later became the first woman officer of the Gila Valley Bank at Solomonville and manager of the branch bank at Clifton. She married cashier A. G. Smith, and resided in Benson where she eventually operated an insurance agency. Mary Woodman Smith made an important contribution to the history of banking in Arizona.

Integrity: Other than minor modifications to the interior and the shed roofed extension to the east, there have been no substantive changes to the Smith/Beck house which remains an excellent example of the Colonial Revival Style in Benson, Arizona.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Arizona Cattlelog, November 1949, p.p. 3-6.

The Arizona Republic, November 15, 1949.

Blumenson, J.G. *Identifying American Architecture*. Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1977.

Garrison, James. The Arizona State Historic Preservation Office. "The Architecture of Benson, Arizona," a survey report, 1991.

Interview with Cheryl Beck, owner, February 11, 1992.

See continuation sheet

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

Specify repository: S. Pedro Arts & Hist. Soc. Museum, Benson & Az. Hist. Soc. Library, Tucson

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property .258 acres

UTM References

A

1	2	5	6	6	4	8	0
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3	5	3	6	5	9	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundaries are the same as those of tax parcel number 123-23-360, further described as the north 75' of lots 27 through 32, inc. Blk. 40, Benson. See accompanying Historic Resource Map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See accompanying Historic Resource Map.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet H. Strittmatter (Partner)
organization Johns & Strittmatter Inc. date August 16, 1993
street & number 2960 N. Swan, #217 telephone (602) 325-2591
city or town Tucson state Arizona zip code 85712

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page 1

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS THE SAME FOR ALL PHOTOGRAPHS
ACCOMPANYING THIS NOMINATION:

- 1). Smith/Beck House
- 2). Benson, Arizona
- 3). Janet Gibson
- 4). March 5, 1992
- 5). Johns & Strittmatter Inc.

INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

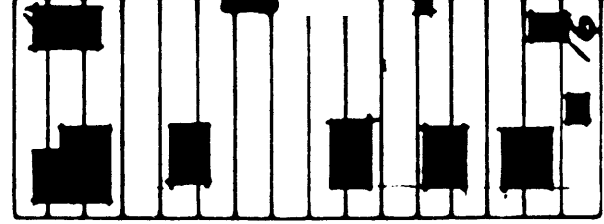
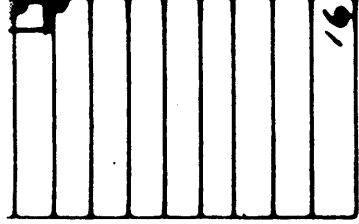
- 6). 3/4 view, facing southeast
- 7). #1

- 6). 3/4 view, facing northeast, of south facade with boxed eaved dormer
- 7). #2

- 6). View facing south, of north facade
- 7). #3

- 6). View facing northeast, of turned posts on veranda
- 7). #4

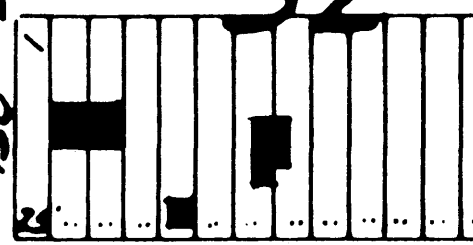
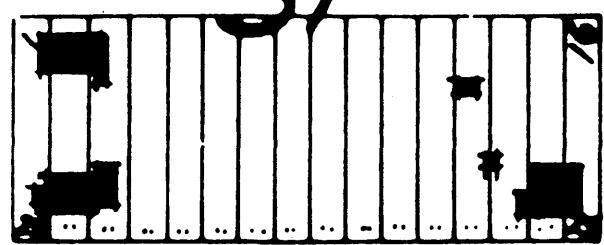
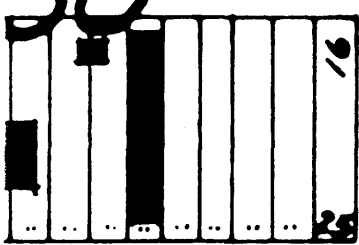
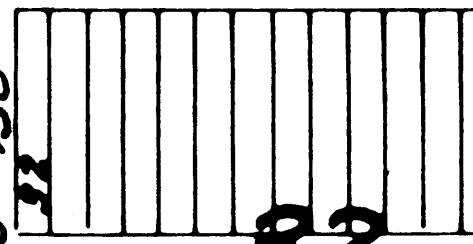
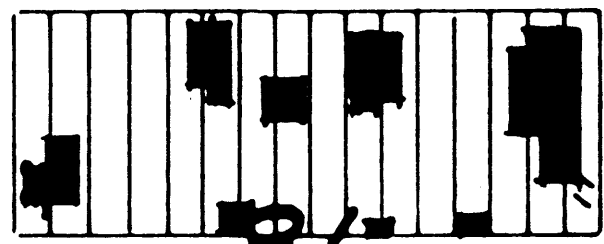
- 6). View facing east, of front door.
- 7). #5



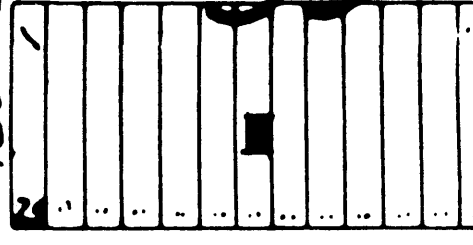
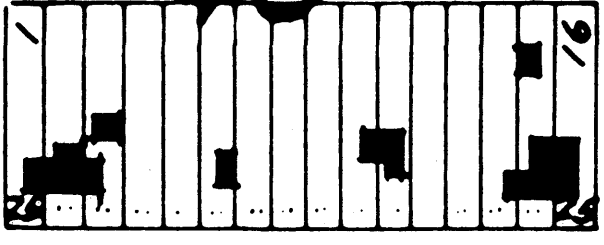
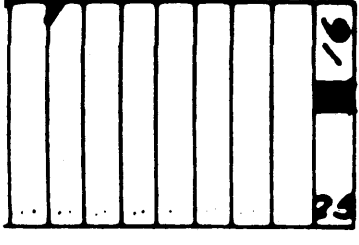
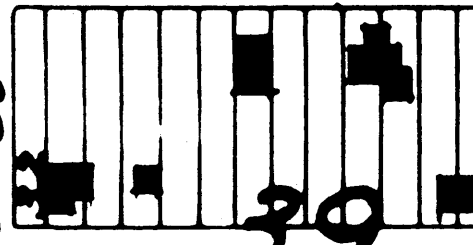
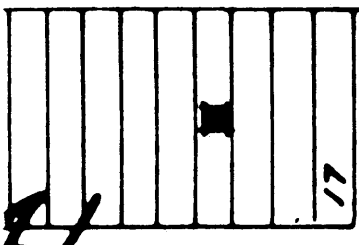
HUACHUCA ST.

SIXTH ST.

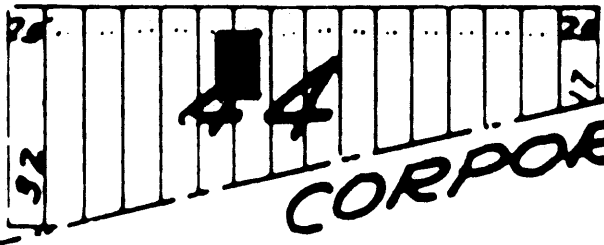
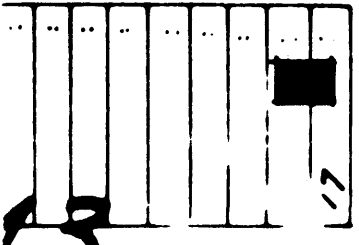
SAN PEDRO ST.



SEVENTH ST.



EIGHTH ST.



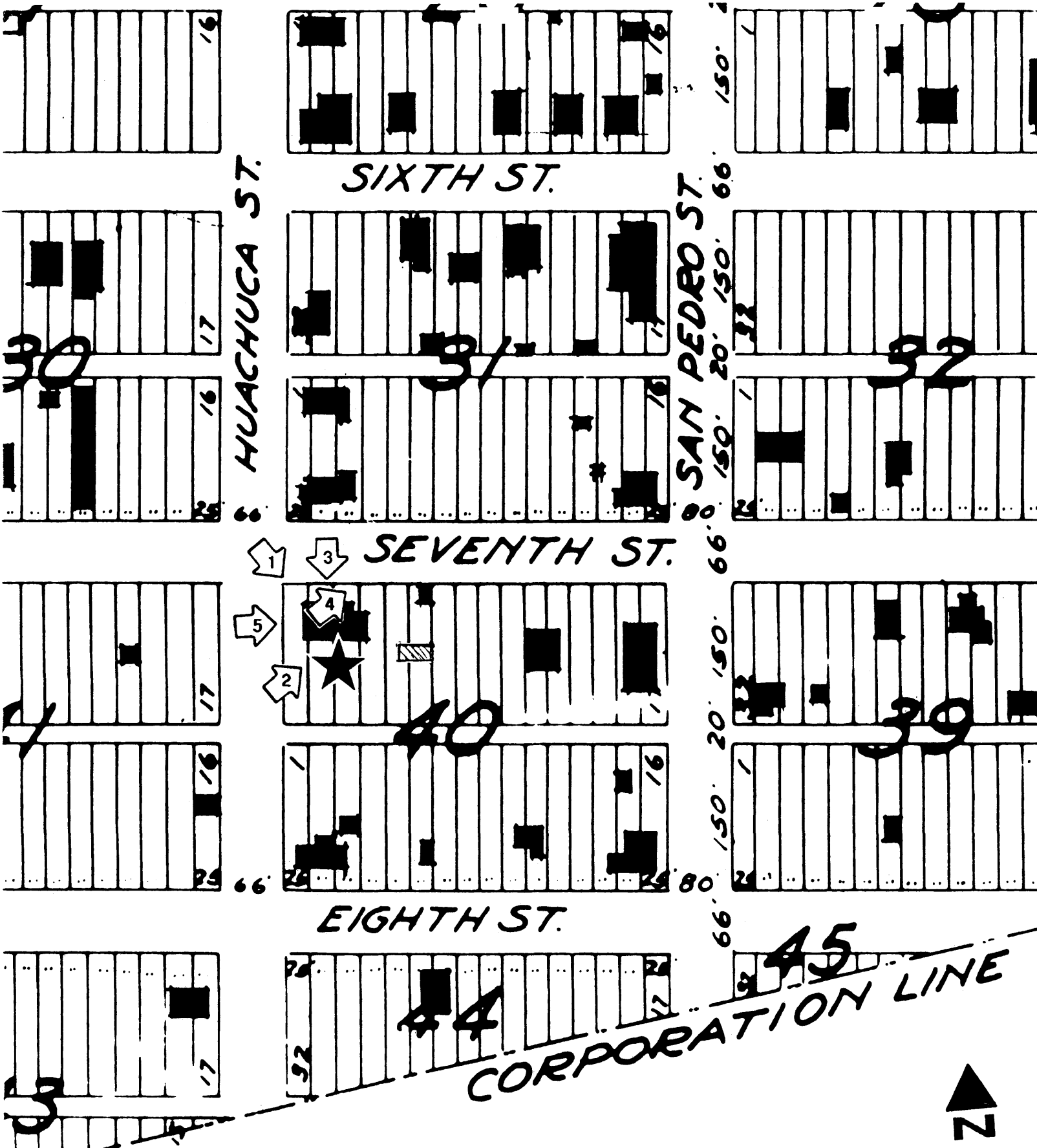
CORPORATION LINE



★ Smith/Beck House
425 Huachuca Street
Benson, Arizona

■ Contributing
▨ Noncontributing

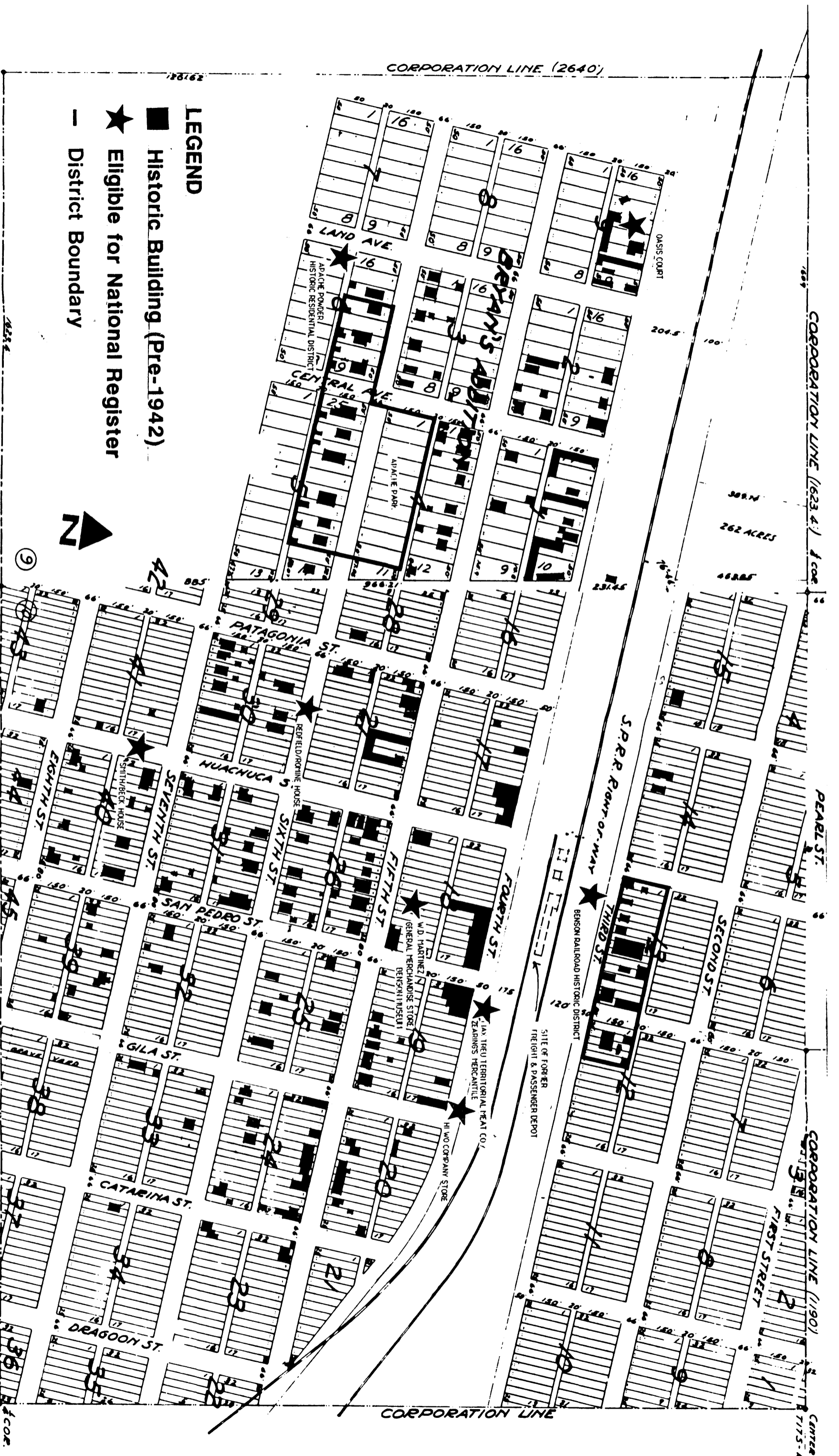




★ Smith/Beck House
 425 Huachuca Street
 Benson, Arizona

↑ Photographic Views

■ Contributing
 ▨ Noncontributing



- LEGEND**
- Historic Building (Pre-1942)
 - ★ Eligible for National Register
 - District Boundary



BENSON HISTORIC RESOURCE MAP
BENSON, ARIZONA

JOHNS & STRITTMATER INC.

ARCHITECTURE • PLANNING • PRESERVATION
 296014 SW 411 217
 1147A PALM BLVD. C
 MIAMI, FL 33147
 (305) 375-2591

CORPORATION LINE (1623 & 1) 1 COR
 PEARL ST.
 262 ACRES
 46285
 S.P.R.R. RIGHT-OF-WAY
 BENSON RAILROAD HISTORIC DISTRICT
 SITE OF FORMER FREIGHT & PASSENGER DEPOT
 CORPORATION LINE (1190)
 CENTER SEC 10
 7175-220E

CORPORATION LINE (2640)

CORPORATION LINE