

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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received AUG 11 1986

date entered sep 22, 1986

1. Name

historic The Historic Resources of Victoria, Texas (Partial Inventory of Architectural and
Historic Properties)
and/or common

2. Location

street & number The 1985 city limits of Victoria, Texas N/A not for publication

city, town Victoria N/A vicinity of

state Texas code 048 county Victoria code 469

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	N/A yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> multiple properties	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name See individual site forms

street & number N/A

city, town N/A N/A vicinity of state N/A

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Victoria County Courthouse

street & number 101 North Bridge Street

city, town Victoria state Texas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Texas Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? N/A yes ☒ nodate March 1983 - June 1984 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276

city, town Austin state Texas, 78711

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one <u>x</u> see individual site forms
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> see individual site forms		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> see individual site forms	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Victoria has maintained its role as a financial, commercial, and governmental center for central South Texas for much of its history. The density and course of growth for the coastal plains community was fixed early by the grid plan imposed in the late 1830s by surveyor Edward Linn. With his 1870 addition, John J. Linn prescribed a near-north grid that determined the pattern of suburban development for the next century. Victoria's physical appearance and the variety of building types represented are largely the product of the cattle industry, the wealth it generated, the types of services necessary to sustain it, and the city's position as a regional commercial center. While Victoria retains significant numbers of historic structures, they do not exist in concentration. The original townsite remains largely residential, but commercial and other nonresidential development has gradually intruded to preclude the formation of districts of National Register quality. The majority of nominated structures are frame vernacular dwellings, although imposing Victorian and Neoclassical Revival buildings illustrate the work of local architects such as Jules Leffland, Charles Praeger, and James Hull. Nicholas Clayton, J. Riely Gordon, Leo M. J. Deilmann and Atlee B. Ayres--all celebrated regional architects--were commissioned to design several of the city's most important public and institutional structures. The 1894 Gordon-designed county courthouse is the centerpiece of the primary commercial district, as few of the historic structures surrounding the public squares remain unaltered. Two secondary commercial centers took form in the nineteenth century because of their locations along important trade and water routes. Although substantially rebuilt in the early twentieth century, one of these secondary retail districts, the South Bridge Street area, today remains a viable commercial center which is being nominated as an historic district. This multiple-resource nomination provides a physical context for the extant historic structures, identifies and describes the salient features of the city's historic neighborhoods and commercial districts, and links physical growth to the local historical record. Two types of sites are distinguished in the nomination text. Those sites identified as "N. R. Sites" denote properties being nominated herein. Sites identified as "Survey Sites" were documented, but because of alterations, or lack of architectural or historical importance, were not deemed eligible for inclusion in the present nomination. Properties mentioned in the text that are not followed by a Site Number have been razed.

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Original Townsite

The Mexican empresario Martin De Leon possibly envisioned his new settlement as a productive agricultural and commercial center when he chose the current site of Victoria as the capital of his Mexican land grant in 1824. De Leon's two previous capital locations in this flat coastal region apparently were not satisfactory, as Victoria, founded on the northeast bank of the Guadalupe River, was the third and final choice. The city is positioned within the vast Gulf Coastal Plain, a region interrupted only by the depressions of the river and its tributaries. The Guadalupe provided a source of water while the river's bottomland was rich with indigenous trees that included clusters of live oaks, nut-producing pecan trees, the enigmatic anagua, and other deciduous genera.

Before De Leon settled in the area, other European and Mexican explorers and missionaries had surveyed this fertile and largely uncharted region. Spanish missionaries established several eighteenth-century religious outposts in the area, including one two miles up the river from where De Leon later placed his townsite. In his site report (Jarrett 1966: 1) amateur archeologist John L. Jarratt reported, " . . . in the midst [sic] of the Indian huts, the Spanish built a stone church, or a chapel out of limestone and caliche mortar for their use. This church was 25 X 40, walls were 2 feet in width. The whole being surrounded by a stockade wall, all so [sic] partly made of Limestone rock."

Before De Leon's arrival, few settlements existed in the region and early residents of Victoria were dependent upon suppliers in Louisiana and Mexico for their material needs. The colony was connected to Nacogdoches, San Antonio, and New Orleans by overland trails or ships calling at the vicinity of present Port Lavaca, thirty miles away. Throughout the nineteenth century city leaders discussed dredging the Guadalupe River to create a navigable channel that would enable Victoria to call herself a seaport. The project was never realized, and through much of the second half of the century the nearby seaport of Indianola provided the city with a link to major commercial waters.

Through the 1840s the town was sparsely settled and little developed. The original Mexican settlers probably constructed homes in a comfortable manner from materials known to them. In the arid region south and west of the settlement, the jacal and adobe brick were commonly used. The jacal was constructed of thin vertical members placed directly in the ground and woven together with twigs or vines, chinked with mud and stone, and covered with stucco. Log structures were generally the first buildings constructed by pioneers in the regions east and north of the central Texas coastal plain. Written records chronicle the use of all three types, though no examples remain. Neither stone nor frame construction was widely utilized. Sidney

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Weisiger, noted local historian, identified at least one adobe structure standing as late as 1967 north of the city in the old Spring Creek community. The first courthouse in Victoria, a two-story adobe building on the west side of the government block, stood intact until about 1910. Juan Linn, one the first settlers in the colony, constructed a log house in 1831 that stood at the corner of S. Bridge and W. Juan Linn streets until 1893.

In 1839 Edward Linn, one of De Leon's colonists, re-surveyed the original townsite for the growing settlement. Officials notified the residents that a planned street grid would be implemented and that any structures in the proposed roadways would be moved. Records disclose that by 1839 many had purchased town lots from the newly incorporated city of Victoria and, with few exceptions, most chose to be close to the center of town since the possibility of Indian attacks was a continuing concern. Though the town planners designated four-lot residential blocks for most of the 256 blocks in the original plat, Linn's plan allocated land specifically for public amenities, religious facilities, and (to a lesser degree) commercial ventures. The public square, known initially as Constitution Square and finally De Leon Plaza (N. R. Site No. I-169), as well as the market square, became the nuclei of activity in the new town. The two blocks between the market and public squares developed as the center of the main commercial district which, within a few decades, encompassed several blocks around the two plazas. As an integral part of the town plan, the predominately Catholic settlers set aside the block south of the market plaza for the church. Educational facilities were to be built on block 162 in the northeast section of the townsite. The north-northeast, south-southwest orientation of the town grid, sited on the northeast bank above the river was most advantageous for utilizing the prevailing southeasterly breeze in the summer and avoiding the hazardous floodwaters of the Guadalupe. Because the river cut across the southwest part of the townsite, and since several blocks were in the floodplain itself, development never occurred in this area.

Early Appearance

By the 1850s, Victoria began to take on the appearance of an established community. During the turbulent years since the founding of the colony, Texas had gained its independence from Mexico, existed as a republic for nine years, and then joined the United States as its twenty-eighth state. The town emerged from this transitional phase with a healthy, expanding economy fueled by incipient ranching, agricultural production, and land speculation. Victoria's physical appearance is largely a factor of the commercial and agricultural activities that assured the community's economic well-being and created the demand for certain services. A secondary commercial district developed before 1870 along East Commercial Street,

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which was the main road to the coastal cities of Port Lavaca and Indianola. It was here that trading in agricultural commodities occurred in the frame shops and warehouses, while retail, banking, and social establishments remained downtown.

The town experienced moderate growth at mid-century, its population increasing to over 1500 by the outbreak of the Civil War. The city's physical development corresponded to this growth, and residential areas in time became enclaves of specific social and ethnic groups. The Anglo-American immigrants, who by this time outnumbered the Mexican Texans, became Victoria's power brokers. They settled the neighborhoods in the northwest and northern parts of town and, in the early twentieth century, in the Diamond Hill neighborhood of southeast Victoria. Records indicate that although blacks and Mexican-Americans lived in most parts of old Victoria, blacks seemed to concentrate in the east and southeast sections and on Diamond Hill, while Chicanos were located predominately in the south and southwest areas of the city. The architecture in each section of town reflected financial abilities more than cultural differences, and for the most part, Mexican Americans and blacks assumed the trappings of Anglo-American culture, rather than maintaining visible architectural traditions of their own.

Additions (Appendix A)

Even though sections of the original city plat were sparsely developed, owners of property adjacent to the original townsite began surveying and subdividing their land, as early as the 1870s, with the intention of adding residential developments. According to Victoria County deed records, John Linn, brother of the original townsite surveyor, was the first in 1870 to create an addition, a sixteen-block area along the northern extension of Moody Street. When Linn placed his addition on a near north-south grid abutting the original townsite, he established a pattern that determined the orientation of most northern additions to the city for a century and more. In the 1880s, four more developers subdivided their land into city additions. Richard and Elizabeth Owens were responsible for the Owens Addition recorded in 1882. The small, triangular parcel was later the site of the Goldman's Cotton Gin (Survey Site No. IV-208) and warehouse (N. R. Site No. IV-205) between South East, East Convent, and the old Goldman Road (NE. Water Street). William H. Carter entered his two-block addition east of North East Street into the record books in 1882. North of Rio Grande Street and adjacent to the Linn Addition, the thirty-two block Hall Addition, the eight-block Jessell Addition (both platted in 1884), and the 1885 Thurmond Addition supplemented the expanding townsite. The new

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additions allowed for residential development which occurred methodically over a period of several decades. By the end of the nineteenth century, the city was 25 percent larger than the original townsite, though the density of the development remained somewhat sporadic.

The nature of growth and expansion both within the original townsite and the early additions remained constant during the twentieth century until Victoria boomed during World War II and again in the 1950s. Typically, an owner bought a full lot or quarter of a block, and often two lots or occasionally an entire block. The house would occupy only part of the quarter-block lot, leaving room for a garden, stables, chicken coops, or similar dependencies. As the city grew and became more dense, or as families grew, a portion of the original purchase might be sold to a descendant or to someone outside the family to build a new home. This deliberate pattern of expansion provided Victorians with a sense of control over growth on a private level that remains an important issue to many long-time residents.

As in the nineteenth century, many additions were named after the developer, and the size of the original townsite doubled by 1940. New additions to the north included the Buhler Addition (1907), Queen City Addition (1908, 1912), Johnson Addition (1909, 1910), North Heights Addition (1909), Victoria Heights Addition (1912), Oliver Addition (1913, 1928), Buhler-Welder Addition (1914, 1930), Hillside Addition (1914), and the King Addition (1915). Additions were designed on a grid, a pattern also set by nineteenth-century developers. These additions were promoted primarily as residential developments, though the Queen City Realty & Development Co. was the first to include a park space (Survey Site No. III-33) as an integral part of their Queen City Addition. Other developers made some effort at providing amenities in their tracts as well. The North Heights Realty Co., developers of the sixty-four block North Heights Addition, provided a block for the North Heights (later Juan Linn) School at 1500 North Depot Street. In the eastern portion of the Oliver Addition, George Diesbach included a block for the new Municipal Assembly Hall (N. R. Site No. III-202) built in 1935. The development to the east and south of the original townsite was much more random than that to the north. Multiple ownership of this land restricted the size of additions and discouraged cohesive developments in the area. Property owners tended to create small additions, although the sizable Brownson Addition, with its modest-sized lots rather haphazardly juxtaposed, is an exception to this rule.

The city annexed the additions east of the old townsite in this order: the Brownson Addition (1908), Stubblefield Additions (1911, 1938), Krueger Addition, and Diesbach Addition (1914). Though these additions were laid out for modest residences, commercial and industrial structures were

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interspersed, giving the neighborhood a mixed pattern of land use. The city's best examples of warehouses and industrial structures are located in this section of town, east of the original townsite.

Because of flooding and drainage problems, only a few developers chanced selling residential lots on the south side of the city. Nevertheless, Jules W. Meyer laid out the Southend Addition below East South Street in 1912 and enlarged it in 1928. The ambitious northerner, Erik H. Green from Rhode Island, developed the Green Addition on the southwest bank above the river. Green's widow Edith Jackson Green filed for an addition to the original 1914 plat in 1944.

In 1932, A. F. Knowlan developed the first suburban tract that was detached from the city proper. A few miles north of downtown, he laid out the Hillcrest Addition on property that had been farmed by the Lingo family. The first restricted subdivision was the Boulevard Addition, a 1941 joint venture located along a stretch of the Houston Highway northeast of town. This development, like the Queen City Addition, included a neighborhood park plus land designated for commercial use.

Agriculture and Commerce

Industrial, commercial, social, and institutional services developed simultaneously with the expansion of Victoria and its population. The cattle, agricultural, and banking industries served as catalysts for growth, whereas the retail, entertainment, educational, and health-care sectors expanded as a result of the city's growth. The pervasive cattle industry and the arrival and development of the railroads in the nineteenth century set the direction and pace of the city's growth for over a century.

Though cattle ranching had a profound impact on Victoria's economic growth, few physical vestiges remain as direct links to this industry. Many cattlemen, such as Thomas O'Connor, James McFaddin, and John J. Welder, built their primary residence in the city while ranching operations remained in rural Victoria County and other surrounding South Texas counties. Their substantial dwellings reflect the financial success and social standing they achieved in the middle and late nineteenth century. Many built impressive and stylish facilities at their ranches as well. The McFaddins provided a comfortable mid-nineteenth-century house for their foreman on the family's southwest Victoria County ranch. The structure (Survey Site No. II-49) was moved to the city and relocated twice. It was initially sited on their property in the 300 block of W. Commercial Street, then moved to its present location at 505 W. Brazos Street.

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Cattle and agricultural industries created a market for numerous support industries, and reinforced many existing businesses. The Texas-Continental Meat Co. was located on the east bank of the Guadalupe River in 1885, about one-half mile southwest of De Leon Plaza, though operations ceased before the turn of the century. Smaller ventures like the O'Connor and Hill Cold Storage plant and W. J. McNamara's hide processing and merchandising concern were run from small commercial structures. McNamara operated from a warehouse that once stood near the family residence (N. R. Site No. I-672) at 502 N. Liberty.

Entrepreneurs like Jacob Fox and Adolph Goldman started up several processing plants for cotton and grain crops. Fox's Gin, operating by the late nineteenth century in the 700 block of West Power, was one of the earliest to process and bale cotton. Goldman's Gin in east Victoria was operating by 1891, providing another facility to handle the rapidly increasing cotton production.

One of the last large ginning operations to open in the area was the Feik Gin (Survey Site No. VI-42) south of the city on the Old Goliad Road. Edward Feik started the operation in 1913 next to his home on Parsifal Street (Survey Site No. VI-38) amid several other dwellings later known as Feikville.

When the Gulf, West Texas & Pacific Railroad came to Victoria in 1872, the company purchased lots 1 & 2, block 238 on which to build their depot. Victoria's first depot was the Southern Pacific, located in the 500 block of N. Depot Street on lot 1, block 207. The Missouri Pacific freight and passenger depots were located at the terminus of W. Santa Rosa, while Southern Pacific built their second depot at the east end of Santa Rosa in the late 1880s. This structure and the auxiliary buildings and roundhouse occupied parts of three blocks on the eastern edge of the original townsite, and until recently three of the structures, including the remodeled passenger station, still stood. Now only one ancillary building remains.

By the end of the late nineteenth century, Victoria was a prominent regional rail center with a number of lines providing service to the city. Every major South Texas city was directly connected by one of several rail lines. Railroad tracks literally encircled the original townsite with the Missouri Pacific on the west and south, and the Southern Pacific on the north, east, and south. Steel truss bridges crossed the Guadalupe River, carrying the trains east and west across the overgrown banks along the silt-laden river. The Southern Pacific system constructed a four-panel truss bridge (N. R. Site No. VI-102) in 1927, one of few left in the area.

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Building supply companies were responsible for the availability of materials for Victoria contractors and home builders, and, not unexpectedly, lumber yards and mills were some of the most important and largest industries in early Victoria. Operating from the mid-nineteenth century until the 1880s in the 700 block of E. Commercial, the Sibley & Gilbert Planing Mill, Sash, Door & Cotton Gin Co. was one of the first lumber mills. The Bailey Brothers Planing Mill, later Bailey Mills, was possibly the most successful building and supply company in early twentieth-century Victoria. The Baileys operated in the same area from 1888 until 1918. Although the mill has been demolished, Madison Bailey still occupies the family home (Survey Site No. I-127) his grandfather built near the company yard before 1900. The W. C. Barnes Co. (Survey Site No. I-218) supplied building material from about 1895 to 1912 at a location in the 800 block of E. Santa Rosa. Several successive supply companies operated from this location and occupied the large, frame, lumber-storage shed built by the J. L. Dupree Co. in 1885. In 1911, father and son Joe and Jim Pickering moved the Anchor Lumber Yard (Survey Site No. I-378) from Port Lavaca to 307 W. Water in Victoria. Anchor prevails as the longest continually operating building-supply company in the city. J. M. Pickering hired Kai Leffland in 1928 to provide a design for the company's office.

Public and Institutional Buildings

The city's first courthouse, an adobe brick building, was replaced with a two-story frame structure in the 1847. This building was sited at the center of the government block and served the county until the construction in 1894 of a stone courthouse (National Register, 1977) designed by J. Riely Gordon to stand at the southeast corner of the square. Gordon's imposing design overshadowed Edward T. Heiner's county jail erected on the north side of the government plaza in 1883. Because the block was originally set aside for use by the "local" government, both the city and county claimed ownership. A lengthy court battle over ownership ensued while both groups were forced to share the land. The State Supreme Court settled the case in 1911, after five years of costly litigation, giving the north half to the city and the southern portion to the county. In the meantime, the city had assumed control of the original market square, and in 1901 it constructed Jules Leffland's design for a brick city hall building. Praeger & Dixon, Architects, designed the new, two-story, brick, central fire station (Survey Site No. I-160) in 1916, which is located on the northwest corner of the government block.

Victorians set aside land for public education, but shifted the responsibility to private educators to execute the process. Instruction was provided in private institutions prior to the erection of the first school. In October of 1857, the city let contracts to construct a male academy and a

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female academy. Though the male school was never built, city alderman and contractor Richard Owens finished the two-story female academy in 1858, and Miss Viola Case was the first instructor to lease the facility. The property was later sold to hotel operator Darwin M. Stapp. After the city reacquired the property, the newly created Victoria Independent School District (VISD) sold it at auction to be removed from the site. Contractor John Ryberg purchased the Stapp Hotel, dismantled it, and constructed two buildings from the materials in the 300 block of S. De Leon (Survey Site Nos. I-746 and I-747).

Private and parochial schools were in operation prior to the formation of the VISD, most notably the Nazareth Academy. The cloistered Order of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament started the school in 1867 shortly after arriving in Victoria. The enrollment grew steadily and facilities were added to keep pace. Jules Leffland designed a fanciful two-and-one-half-story brick classroom building (N. R. Site No. I-275) in 1904 for Nazareth Academy, a structure that was used for the school until 1951. St. Joseph's School, which merged with Nazareth in 1969 to avoid the closing of either facility, was started in the 1860s. St. Joseph's became the high school for Nazareth's coeducational elementary and junior high school, and operated in the complex of buildings on East Red River Street, the oldest of which was built in 1937 (Survey Site No. III-60).

At the turn of the century, the public school system engaged in an ambitious building program. The VISD had architect Jules Leffland design two new public school buildings, an effort that produced the two-and-a-half-story brick Victoria High School Building (Survey Site No. I-73) on block 162, and the two-story brick "Colored School" (N. R. Site No. I-290) on lot 2, block 215 in southeast Victoria. Because of steadily increasing enrollment, the high school, completed in 1901, was quickly outgrown. Within a decade, the two-story Brownson School (N. R. Site No. I-53) opened to accommodate the overflow from the high school and the administrative offices. In 1915, the North Heights, later known as the Juan Linn School, opened for classes, and soon after, planning began for a new high school on land donated by John J. Welder in the 2000 block of East North Street. Contractor Bailey Mills completed the facility, designed by Page Brothers Architects of Austin in 1917. Following a fire that destroyed the school in the mid-1920s, Victoria voters established Victoria Junior College and approved a bond to construct a new building on the site of the high school. The Junior College administrators selected William Ward Watkin of Houston as the architect. Apparently, when the college moved in the late 1930s, the old Junior College building was expanded with additions by Kai Leffland and was renamed Patti Welder Junior High School. Fire destroyed much of this structure in 1985, although some of the architectural detailing was subsequently incorporated into the new Patti Welder Junior High built on the same site.

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Early church buildings varied in size and stylistic complexity during Victoria's early years. Religious leaders held services in homes if necessary, but generally a meetinghouse was a high priority and was obtained or built soon after the congregation was formed. The dominant ecclesiastical facility in mid-nineteenth-century Victoria was St. Mary's Catholic Church, which by the early 1870s was composed of an imposing brick sanctuary, a convent, and "The Convent School" which occupied the west half of block 111. In 1894, the parish began construction on a new sanctuary according to the design of noted Galveston architect Nicholas B. Clayton. After the first contractor defaulted, further construction was delayed until 1903. Contractor Bailey Mills, with Fred Urban, supervisor, resumed construction and completed the new limestone sanctuary (N. R. Site No. 276) in 1904, according to the plans prepared by San Antonio architects Phelps & King. Italian stone cutters, including the Tibilettis, Antons, Fossatis, and Tasins, who had ventured to Texas to work on the State Capitol and the new Victoria County Courthouse, volunteered their services to haul and finish the stone for construction. After the new sanctuary was completed, contractors demolished the thirty-year-old building and saved the brick for the planned school building and convent. Jules Leffland exercised his talent for the original in designing the Nazareth Academy, utilizing historic and popular references for the three-story building.

Other Protestant congregations were actively planning and erecting places of worship during the middle and late nineteenth century. Few of these facilities remain, though many of the congregations have new sanctuaries at their historic locations. The German Methodists obtained lot 3, block 153-1/2, and constructed their first church in the 1850's. The Presbyterians selected the northwest portion of block 128-1/2 for their facility and portions of their frame church built in 1873 are standing in the 100 and 200 blocks of North Cameron Street in the form of houses reconstructed from the original materials by lumberman S. M. Bailey. Lutherans purchased lot 2, block 173, for their sanctuary. Their third meeting hall (N. R. Site No. I-78), designed by James Hull and built by Fred Urban in 1908, remains in use by the German Lutheran congregation. Most original exterior and interior features of the structure are intact, except for the spire removed in 1969 due to deterioration. Victorian Episcopalians first built their church at the northwest corner of N. Liberty and E. Common (Goodwin) streets and later relocated their church to 1501 N. Glass Street. Other congregations that organized and built structures in the early part of Victoria's history include the Webster Memorial Methodist Church, whose current sanctuary (N. R. Site No. I-487) was built in 1889 and then remodeled in the 1930s and in 1951; the Palestine Baptist Church (Survey Site No. I-289); and the now disbanded Salter A. M. E. Chapel (Survey Site No. I-914),

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Other Catholic parishes were formed, generally along ethnic or cultural lines. Our Lady of Lourdes Church (N. R. Site No. I-699) obtained the services of Leo M. J. Dielmann, noted San Antonio architect to design a sanctuary in 1923 for the predominately German parish. This new sanctuary was completed by contractor W. A. Fuessel. Our Lady of Sorrows (Survey Site No. I-336), a predominately Mexican-American Catholic Church, is located at the corner of W. River and S. Glass streets.

Valley View Hospital (Survey Site No. I-791), the area's first health-care facility, opened in 1898 at the northwest corner of S. Wheeler and E. River. Patients were accustomed to home treatment or visiting their physician at their residences or small offices.

At least two black physicians practiced in Victoria before the turn of the century. Dr. G. R. Townsend practiced medicine from his home (N. R. Site No. I-831) at 106 N. Navarro and later at 108 W. Santa Rosa in the late 1800s. Dr. J. H. Wilkins, who established the Lone Star Medical Association, took over the practice when Dr. Townsend moved to Los Angeles. In 1917 Dr. George M. Wilkins continued his father's practice, first at an office on 609 E. Juan Linn, and then at the family home, where he maintained an office until his death in 1969.

When Dr. Hugo Crouse opened Valley View Hospital, a three-story frame facility (Survey Site No. 791), the nature of local medical care advanced considerably. Dr. F. B. Shields assumed operation of the hospital after Dr. Crouse's departure in 1902, and remained until 1907. Dr. Jessie H. Lander, as new administrator, renamed the facility Victoria Hospital in 1919 and added two wings in the 1920s to enlarge the operation. Lander's widow passed the hospital on to Dr. Allan C. Shields, who left it to the final private operator, Dr. Allan H. Shields. In 1965, Dr. W.T. DeTar & Associates purchased Victoria Hospital and merged it with DeTar Hospital. The original facility was soon abandoned and it remains vacant and in poor condition.

Public Works

Civic improvement was not limited to grand public buildings, but encompassed other public amenities as well. A safe water supply, proper sewage and drainage facilities, paved roads, street lighting, and public parks were also important concerns of many Victorians.

The first public well was dug at market square. According to an article in the October 25, 1950 issue of the Victoria Advocate, the second public well, dug in the center of the public square in 1850, was built to specifications that it would be "brick with at least three feet of water."

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In 1872, the city added a windmill to pump water to the watering trough, but a standpipe replaced the windmill twelve years later. The standpipe came to be considered an eyesore and was removed in 1923 following years of complaints about overruns.

The city's water and sewage needs soon exceeded the capacities of the public wells. An 1890 pumphouse (N. R. Site No. V-48), located near the river at the west end of Stayton Street, pumped river water to all parts of Victoria. In 1907, the city contracted with Layne & Bowler to dig two deep wells and a settling basin which, when finished, eliminated the use of river water. City crews enlarged the pump station in 1926 and 1936, and again in 1938. Busy architect Kai Leffland designed the 1936 addition to the facility. Construction crews, under the supervision of city waterworks Superintendent William Wheeler, completed the first link of the city sewer line from City Hall down Main Street to the river in February of 1905.

Public roads remained subject to the elements until the first gravel was spread in the city on the road from Goldman's Hill to the river bridge in 1889. By 1897, Main Street was also paved with gravel, but it was twenty-six years later that the Uvalde Rock-Asphalt Co. of San Antonio and Beaumont provided the city with its first paved streets in an area of about fifteen blocks of downtown.

The city responded to the growing number of automobiles by upgrading the streets in 1917, erecting traffic signals in 1937, and widening a few old residential streets to channel traffic through town. Suburban developers expanded the city in all directions. Rio Grande Street, once a landscaped boulevard, was first paved in 1930 by contractors Brown & Root. Rio Grande connected with Moody Street, which was widened to create a through-town highway. Stores, gas stations, parking lots, and empty lots became common among the few remaining residences. To a lesser degree, Navarro Street and Water Street have undergone the same transition.

In February of 1890, the Victoria Light, Power, and Ice Co. proposed to provide the city forty street lights with thirty-two candle power, which were to replace the gas lamps that were hand lit every day.

The bandstand (N. R. Site No. I-169), built prior to 1885 on the southside of the square, was moved to cover the old well in 1923 by contractor J. P. Bailey. J. D. Mitchell, naturalist and civic leader, planted the pecan trees in 1916 and removed the hackberrys. An article in the Victoria Advocate on October 9, 1940, mentioned that "an application was

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waiting for funds from the PWA to raise the elevation of the Park and beautify De Leon Plaza," an effort that provided the sidewalks, grass, and benches. The 1912 Confederate monument and the dedication in 1923 of twelve light standards as the Memorial White Way furthered the beautification of the square. These efforts were fully realized with the completion of the Six Flags monument in 1962.

Private and Social Organizations

Spirited Victorians have always found some form of entertainment available in their city. Private organizations, primarily ethnic and cultural, provided what the clubs, churches, and saloons did not. The Casino Hall (Survey Site No. I-132), built in the 1850s at S. Liberty and E. River streets, was a frame structure that served as the home to the Teutonia Verein, a German social organization. The structure was moved twice, once to 203 S. Bridge Street in 1875, where it was reconstructed to its original form. The Hall was then split into three structures and moved to locations on N. Moody and W. Forrest. The final move came about in 1909, when the buildings were transformed into apartments or single-family houses. The only one to survive stands at 408 W. Forrest (Survey Site No. I-132). Hotels also served as important social centers. The Stapp Hotel, the city's most notable early hostelry, was built as a school building in 1858 and moved in two sections by contractor John Ryberg to the 300 block of S. De Leon Street in 1901 (Survey Site Nos. I-746 and I-747). The Denver Hotel, originally located at the southwest corner of E. Constitution and S. Williams streets, emerged as the center of Victoria's social life in the early twentieth century. The hotel's proprietor, James J. Fitzgerald, began its operation in 1902. Like the Stapp Hotel, however, the Denver was relocated. In 1920, contractor Fred Urban dismantled, moved, and reconstructed the building (Survey Site No. I-781) at 107 N. Wheeler Street for railroad engineer Joshua Bianchi, using materials salvaged from the early hotel. The original site was redeveloped as a hotel, evolving into a complex of several buildings, portions of which were designed by C. H. Page and Brothers and by Jules Leffland. The Old Continental Hotel (Survey Site No. I-516), built in 1871, is the only mid-nineteenth-century structure of its type to remain on its original location, though the building has been altered considerably.

Victorians were provided with other social activities when H. J. Hauschild opened his theater in 1893. Hauschild's Opera House (Survey Site No. I-136) became the showplace for theater, entertainment, and other types

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of gatherings for several decades. The two-story brick building contained retail space on the first floor with a balconied auditorium above. The Frels family began their long association with the moving-picture business in the 1920s when the Victoria Theater (Survey Site No. I-175) opened. Of the many theaters to operate since, only the old Victoria Theater remains a movie house, while the old Princess Theater and others have been razed.

Architectural Development

The architectural development of Victoria is as rich and varied as the city's history. Building forms representing 140 years of occupation run the gamut from modest single-room vernacular dwellings and stores to palatial, finely-styled residences to ornate and complex public, institutional and commercial structures. In characterizing the city's architecture, it would be easy to assume that this is a city of grand Victorian and Neoclassical Revival houses. But beyond that initial impression lies a rich mosaic of regional and international cultures and building customs expressed in the vernacular structures that remain.

Victoria's cityscape, past and present, reveals the confluence of cultures and ideologies typical in the southern border region of the United States. The people who came and settled here were from diverse cultural backgrounds, and the city's built environment reveals the melding of their different ideas. These various cultural influences were most clearly

manifested in the earliest structures, while most of the remaining physical evidence suggests the rapid assimilation of the Mexicans, Germans, Czechs, Irish, Italians, Eastern Europeans, and blacks into the mainstream of traditional Anglo-American practices.

Arriving at the De Leon colony, early settlers survived in a harsh and unfriendly environment, and their cultural traditions were largely retained in the early years. The Mexicans who settled in the 1820s built jacales, a form familiar to them, and one that could be easily adapted to this region. In spite of the initial influence of Mexican settlers, American and European immigrants soon numerically dominated the original Victorians and imposed their traditions on the early settlement. Those arriving from both the Upland and Lowland South introduced simple one- or one-and-a-half-story vernacular dwellings. Constructed of log, adobe, brick, or stone, these houses were generally one or two rooms arranged laterally with a porch serving as an exterior passage or work area. Often the two rooms were separated by a central passage which provided circulation and additional space where meals were taken and domestic routines were performed. Inset porches formed by extended gable roof lines are typical of the earliest structures. Finished attics provided supplemental sleeping areas and

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storage space. Small interior or exterior stairs furnished access to the half-story space above. The dwellings at 107 S. De Leon (N. R. Site No. I-745) and 204 E. Santa Rosa (N. R. Site No. I-213) are especially fine examples of this form. By the last quarter of the nineteenth century these forms were elaborated into L-plan and T-plan house types. The L-plan dwelling is by far the most common house form found in the city. The houses at 1507 N. Vine (N. R. Site No. II-201) and 401 N. Liberty (Survey Site No. I-637) provide example of one- and two-story versions of this building type.

The vernacular builders were in most cases local carpenters and lumbermen. Recalling previous architectural experience, they replicated familiar forms drawn from memory. Theobald Sengele built the brick dwelling (Survey Site No. I-137) at 210 E. Forrest in the 1840s, utilizing a common form. This structure, believed to be the oldest remaining in the city, had two lateral rooms and porches on the front and rear elevations. Various owners have altered the house, substantially rendering the original form a minor element of the structure. Another house built during the same period is the Callender House (National Register, 1979) at 404 W. Guadalupe, originally constructed in 1854. A formal arrangement of exterior features and a central-passage plan suggest the symmetry popular in mid-nineteenth-century dwellings. As with the raised Callender House, the Judge Alexander H. Phillips House (National Register, 1983), constructed in 1851, illustrates a form associated with the Deep South. Judge Phillips, a member of the gentry class, built an elegant brick dwelling with a two-story gallery. The stucco surface simulates quarried stone while the fine, classically detailed, interior woodwork exemplifies the high quality of an early twentieth-century remodeling.

Few other extant buildings are as old as these three mid-nineteenth-century architectural expressions, although several frame vernacular dwellings remain that are thought to date to the 1850s. An 1873 bird's-eye map of Victoria confirms the construction dates for several dwellings and nonresidential buildings.

The city's first commercial buildings were of frame construction, generally sheathed with weatherboard siding, or on occasion with board and batten. Many stores were one story in height with a gable roof, but appeared larger because of the extended facade parapet which served as a location for signage. Though built in about 1900, the old Fossati Delicatessen (Survey Site No. I-624) at 302 S. Main is the best and one of the few remaining examples of early frame commercial buildings that once lined the streets of downtown Victoria. In constructing the structure, proprietor Frank Fossati used lumber from the old 1850s toll bridge across the Guadalupe River at the south end of Bridge Street, according to local historian Sidney Weisiger.

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It was not uncommon in Victoria for families to enlarge their modest houses. This layering obscured the original parts of several dwellings, though many original rooms are now utilized as kitchens or as utility or bedroom wings. J. M. Fox attached a two-room frame structure (N. R. Site No. I-41) of the 1850s, now a kitchen and den, to a later dwelling built in 1892. The J. L. Dupree House (Survey Site No. I-65) has a two-room box-frame, rear kitchen wing that is the original mid-nineteenth-century dwelling. The house at 401 S. Navarro (Survey Site No. I-820) was once a small two-room dwelling, but the Fred Munsch family moved it back from the street in the late 1800s and built a new two-story dwelling, attaching it to the old house to accommodate family growth.

Victorians built larger and more decorative buildings as individual and collective prosperity grew. By the 1860s, many impressive private, public, and ecclesiastical buildings existed. Greek Revival commercial and public buildings were common throughout the city, but most were of frame construction—a condition that discouraged longevity. Few buildings showing distinctive Greek Revival characteristics have survived.

The Greek Revival dwelling found more widespread and richer expression in East Texas. Victorians constructed simpler structures without concern for the grand and careful proportions that characterized the style elsewhere. In Victoria the one-story frame dwelling at 207 E. Third (N. R. Site No. I-413), with a central passage separating two rooms, is typical of the period. The temple form is implied by the porches, normally composed of single, sometimes paired, box columns reaching from floor to the gable end or pediment, as in the Robert Clark House (N. R. Site No. I-580). Simple cyma recta molding is often applied to window and door facings, fascia, column caps and bases, and pedimented gable ends of the portico.

The transition from mid-century classicism to Victorian expression is evidenced by highly embellished, but rigidly symmetrical, houses built in the 1870s, such as the D. H. Regan House (N. R. Site No. I-751) and the dwelling at 507 W. Forrest (Survey Site No. I-155). But craftsmen, builders, contractors, and laymen were modifying their building habits to conform to changing esthetic ideals, new social patterns, and spacial needs—all of which were reflected in the new structures. The symmetry and scale indicative of mid-nineteenth-century forms gave way to asymmetry and playfulness in the last quarter of the century. The period between was one in which builders melded the old and the new. The same detailing appearing on the formally arranged houses of the 1850s to 1870s also appeared on asymmetrically planned dwellings, such as the Pela House (N. R. Site No. I-226). Architectural ornament normally associated with Victorian structures is mixed with Greek Revival details in dwellings such as 302 E. Goodwin (N. R. Site No. I-102) or applied to vernacular buildings such as 407 E. Convent (N. R. Site No. I-301).

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By the 1880s, Victorian's aesthetic preferences reflected the prevailing taste. South Texans accepted the proliferation of different ideas of home, design, and spatial arrangement as manifestations of popular styles and building forms filtered into the region. Buildings of exuberance were rare early in Victoria's history, but by 1880, private, public, and ecclesiastical structures of great style and scale dotted the city's townscape. Rapid growth and expansion marked the period from 1880 to 1900, when a new influx of population and an extensive market of architectural publications and builders' guides, introduced new architectural forms to the area.

Rich ornamentation and fanciful designs replaced traditional, unembellished forms. Many Victorian styles—Italianate, Queen Anne, Gothic Revival, and Romanesque Revival—are represented by extant structures. The Italianate was perhaps the first distinctively Victorian style to appear locally, as illustrated by the 1860s Wheeler House (razed, c. 1890) at 700 N. Main Street. The high-style houses built in late nineteenth-century Victoria were often designed by one of the several architects who resided in this small city by the 1880s. Jules Leffland, a Dane trained at the Institute of Technology in Copenhagen, was the most prolific, versatile, and perhaps the most masterful. Other prominent local architects included Charles Praeger, James Hull, and Sam Dixon.

Builders and carpenters only tentatively accepted the Victorian forms. Yet machine-cut ornament updated vernacular structures such as those at 701 N. Washington (Survey Site No. II-185), 601 S. Bridge (Survey Site No. I-548), and 1701 E. Juan Linn (Survey Site No. IV-173). Subtle changes in scale and proportion accompanied the addition of jigsaw and turned architectural detailing, as seen at 301 E. Commercial (Survey Site No. I-86). Domestic and nonresidential architecture began to demonstrate a stronger vertical emphasis in massing and detail, with floor-to-ceiling heights, steeper roof pitches, taller and narrower windows, slender porch supports, and broken massing. This is illustrated by the structures at 1501 N. Bridge (Survey Site No. II-254) and 307 E. Convent (Survey Site No. I-299).

Most of Victoria's leading citizens who built or remodeled houses during the 1890s did so by incorporating at least minimal Queen Anne elements. Jules Leffland and other designers were successful in creating complex and inventive Queen Anne dwellings for clients J. D. Mitchell (Survey Site No. I-541), Mrs. J. V. Murphy (N. R. Site No. I-206), John H. Clegg (N. R. Site No. I-460), Henrietta Little (N. R. Site No. I-458), George Hauschild (N. R. Site No. I-675), and Theodore Buhler (N. R. Site No. I-16).

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At the close of the century, Victoria's architects designed several nonresidential structures in other Victorian expressions. J. Riely Gordon's design for the Old Victoria County Courthouse (National Register, 1976) is a testament to his proficiency in Romanesque design. Across De Leon Plaza to the northeast, is the handsome red brick and limestone O'Connor-Proctor Building (N. R. Site No. I-609), a design of Cuero architect Paul Helwig built by the McKnight Brothers contractors of Hallettsville in 1895. Noted San Antonio architect Leo M. J. Dielmann designed the imposing Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Romanesque Revival style (N. R. Site No. I-699) in 1923.

Gothic Revival architecture, naturally lending itself to ecclesiastical structures, was utilized often in Victoria. The 1872 St. Mary's Catholic Church was an early expression, while the replacement sanctuary completed by the Bailey Mills Construction Co. in 1903 continued the Gothic Revival tradition. Phelps & King, architects from San Antonio, apparently altered the original design of Galvestonian Nicholas Clayton when the Clayton scheme for the church was not put into effect, due to financial difficulties. Victoria architect James Hull designed the new sanctuary for the German Lutherans (N. R. Site No. I-178) in 1907 while the simplified Gothic Revival sanctuary was completed the following year by Bailey Mills. Jules Leffland's versatility is demonstrated in his simple plan for the Mexican Presbyterian Church (N. R. Site No. I-749) at 401 S. De Leon.

Other styles popular at the turn of the century, such as the Second Empire mode selected by Jules Leffland for his design of the Old City Hall, were used less frequently.

Following the twenty-five year prominence of Victorian architecture, a distinctive shift in South Texas' stylistic preference occurred. The change was demonstrated most readily in the homes designed and built for the wealthy ranchers and professional-class families after 1905. Jules Leffland was most often selected to provide Neoclassical Revival designs for the city's privileged. Many of his designs, typically incorporating grand elliptical, semicircular, or rectangular porticos with colonnades, remain intact today. Outstanding examples of his designs include his own home at 302 E. Convent (Survey Site No. I-288), and the Vandenberg House (N. R. Site No. I-465) at 301 N. Vine. Local architect Charles Praeger, not to be outdone, produced grandiose dwellings of comparable scope with equal success. Frank Alonzo's house (N. R. Site No. I-886) at 401 S. Cameron and J. F. McCan's house (N. R. Site No. I-514) at 401 N. Glass are Praeger's best remaining works.

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The period when Neoclassical forms were popular was a time of moderate expansion in the local business and government sectors. Aside from a few landmarks such as the thoroughly altered First Victoria National Bank (Survey Site No. I-195) and the old J. C. Penney Building (Survey Site No. I-581) at 113-115 S. Main, no examples of commercial Neoclassical Revival remain. The B'nai Israel congregation secured the services of contractor Joseph Gruy to build their classically inspired temple (N. R. Site No. I-604) at 604 N. Main, the only ecclesiastical building in the city of classical design. During the 1930s, when the popularity of classically inspired architecture was limited for the most part to institutional buildings, Mrs. Royston Nave built a memorial (N. R. Site No. I-68) to her deceased husband, a building subsequently used as a library and an art museum. Designed by Ayres and Ayres of San Antonio, the structure is a poured-in-place concrete temple with crisp, pleasing proportions and intricate details.

Victoria's downtown commercial district continued to expand through the 1920s. Notable landmarks built during the early twentieth century include the old City Hall on Market Square of 1901 (razed), the old U.S. Federal Building and Post Office of 1910 (N. R. Site No. I-176), and the First Victoria National Bank (Survey Site No. I-195) built in 1914. Other commercial buildings along Main Street began to exceed two stories and included the Iroquois Building (Survey Site No. I-584) and the Wood Building (Survey Site No. I-623). Little development took place during the Depression. It was after that era that service-oriented enterprises such as the telephone company, banks, and the federal government expanded their downtown facilities. Many significant nineteenth- and early twentieth-century commercial structures have been severely altered since World War II. They include the old J. F. Welder Building (Survey Site No. I-586) at 205 S. Main, the Jecker Building (Survey Site No. I-616) at 202 S. Main, the McFaddin Building (Survey Site No. I-135) at 108 E. Forrest, the Hauschild Opera House (Survey Site No. I-136) at 102 E. Forrest, and the First Victoria National Bank building at 101 S. Main.

Some of the earliest service stations, seemingly incompatible with their neighbors when built, are now architecturally important in their own right. The Texas Company Filling Station (N. R. Site No. I-722) at 102 S. William, and the Magnolia Filling Station No. 122 (N. R. Site No. I-724) at 108 S. William, best exemplify the local expressions of this building type. Commercial structures are interspersed with residences in many of the older city neighborhoods, a condition that creates an interesting and often incongruous mixture of building forms and land use.

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The Georgian Revival, which the Mitchell House (N. R. Site No. I-100) at 402 W. Goodwin best exemplifies in Victoria, was rarely utilized in the city. The design for the 1910 Post Office and Federal Building recalls Renaissance elements in the stately three-story, three-part composition. Builders synthesized the Spanish and Mission styles and bungalow forms popularized in trade and mass market publications. These forms are typified by the Thomas O'Connor House (N. R. Site No. I-461) at 501 N. Vine, and the Dr. F. J. Kreneck House (N. R. Site No. I-574) at 607 N. Main. The Victoria Theater at 206 E. Constitution and the Keef Building (N. R. Site No. I-622) at 214 S. Main are commercial examples of Mission-influenced buildings.

Builders capitalized on the immense and immediate popularity of the bungalow dwelling which began at the turn of the century. The form first appeared in America in the last quarter of the nineteenth-century, and was a fusion of nineteenth-century workers' cottages with Queen Anne and Arts-and-Crafts details. The innovative and finely crafted bungalows designed in Southern California by Charles and Henry Greene are largely credited for the popularization of the form. The typically simple and universally recognizable bungalow took on many variations in South Texas. Bungalow builders generally relied on various publications for their designs, plans, and materials. Women's magazines, trade journals, and publications devoted specifically to the dispersal of bungalow plans and ideals--economy, efficiency of space, harmony with nature, comfort, and (importantly) a crafted appearance--these were instrumental in popularizing the form. Local interpretations include two-story, Prairie School-influenced dwellings, such as the F. S. Buhler House (N. R. Site No. I-240), Swiss chalets such as the F. H. Crain House (N. R. Site No. I-463), and modest one- and two-room shed bungalows. More typical of the genre are the examples with gently sloped roofs, horizontal emphasis, wide eaves supported by exposed rafter-ends, and expansive porches inset under extended roofs or gable ends with bays defined by stout and tapered masonry or wood piers. Bungalow architecture reached its zenith during the 1910s-1920s, when the purest expressions and most elaborate versions of the type prevailed.

Eric H. Green, a native Rhode Islander who moved to Victoria in the early 1900s, was responsible for the construction of some of the most atypical and earliest bungalows in the city. Built in Green's Addition southwest of the city across the Guadalupe River, these conspicuously textured one- and one-and-a-half-story cottages were generously detailed with intricate lattice supports, spandrel and baluster panels, cantilevered boxed windows, steeply pitched bellcast hipped or gable roofs with shed or hip dormers and (usually) wood-shingle sheathing. Several, including Green's own home (Survey Site No. VI-81), still remain, though most have experienced unsympathetic alterations. The few unaltered examples are located at 702 Sigfried (N. R. Site No. VI-6), 706 Sigfried (N. R. Site No. VI-64), and 804 Sigfried (N. R. Site No. VI-62).

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Few other forms were popular for dwellings in Victoria after the bungalow era. In its various forms, modernism found its way into the local architectural repertoire, though traditional buildings continued to hold fast. The house (Survey Site No. V-53) at 1310 E. Park Street and the Trailways bus station (Survey Site No. II-147) are rare expressions of the Moderne movement in Victoria, though both are late versions of their types, having been built in the 1940s. The city, assisted by the federal Works Progress Administration, was responsible for the most impressive of the historic Moderne buildings erected. Kai Leffland designed the Old Municipal Assembly Hall (N. R. Site No. III-202) in 1935 and successfully integrated classical references with Moderne details.

Following World War II, traditional forms permeated Victoria's cityscape. Business proprietors modernized most older buildings downtown in order to update their image. New commercial, institutional and ecclesiastical architecture was representative of some popular architectural movements during the 1950s and since, but none can yet be judged in a historical context. Residential architectural forms varied greatly after the close of the war, and represented a broad range of traditional and modern types and styles.

Survey Methods

The Victoria Multiple Resource Nomination includes properties which were selected on the basis of information generated from a survey of the historic resources of Victoria and its Extra Territorial Jurisdiction. The survey, produced by the firm of Hardy-Heck-Moore from March 1983 to June 1984, identified nearly 2500 historic resources through architectural and historical research. Identification and evaluation of potentially eligible properties in this nomination were made by Daniel Hardy (architecture graduate), Marlene Heck (architectural historian) and David Moore (historian). Information generated by this project is on file at the National Register Department of the Texas Historical Commission and in the archives of Victoria Preservation, Inc.

The impetus for this project was provided by Victoria Preservation, Inc. The group sought to document Victoria's built environment in order to provide a sound footing for preservation planning in the community. To this end, Hardy-Heck-Moore canvassed the city to determine the type, quantity, and location of historic resources. All pre-1940 structures and recent structures of interest were initially included in the survey. Integrity of the site, uniqueness, common themes, concentration of structures and patterns of development were considered as general guidelines for the preliminary overview. Every street in the older sections of the city was

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traversed in order to locate eligible resources. A 1936 Texas Highway Department map was used to identify contemporary streets, roads and structures in those areas developed after the 1930s. Each resource's type, address and map location were recorded. These data were used to develop a preliminary inventory which served as the basis for subsequent fieldwork, research and evaluation.

As each site was surveyed, its physical condition, context and relative significance were recorded with the use of photographic documentation and written evaluations.

Historical research synthesized data from such primary sources as tax rolls, city directories and mechanics' liens. "Bird's-eye view" maps and Sanborn fire insurance maps yielded additional information. Significant insights into the historical development of Victoria and the documentation of individual properties were realized through investigations of the Sidney Roper Weisiger Local History Collection at the University of Houston-Victoria Library. The private collection of Henry Hauschild and his Victoria Sesquicentennial Scrapbook also proved to be valuable references. Finally, historical photographs and supplementary documentation were solicited from current property owners of the more significant sites.

Using established criteria, the sites were evaluated and assigned priorities. High priority sites contributed significantly to local history or broader historical patterns. They may also have been outstanding or unique examples of architecture, engineering, or crafted design. In addition, they retained a significant portion of their original fabric and contextual integrity. The diminution of a site's integrity through alterations placed a site in the medium priority category. Outstanding examples of traditional local building forms were also placed in this category. The low priority category included examples of common local building forms with no identified historical associations and severely altered resources with reversible modifications.

In order to assess the suitability of a resource for inclusion in this nomination, the collected historical data and evaluations were reviewed in the final phase of the project. Particular attention was paid to those resources which were of high priority or contributed to a historic district. A detailed analysis of Victoria's architectural development delineated the common and unusual styles, forms, and types in the city. Considerations were made not only of stylistic categories, but also of those resources with historical associations to the agricultural, industrial, religious, and other socio-economic institutions of the community's past. Relying on these guidelines, this nomination identifies those quintessential examples which are most fitting for inclusion on the National Register.

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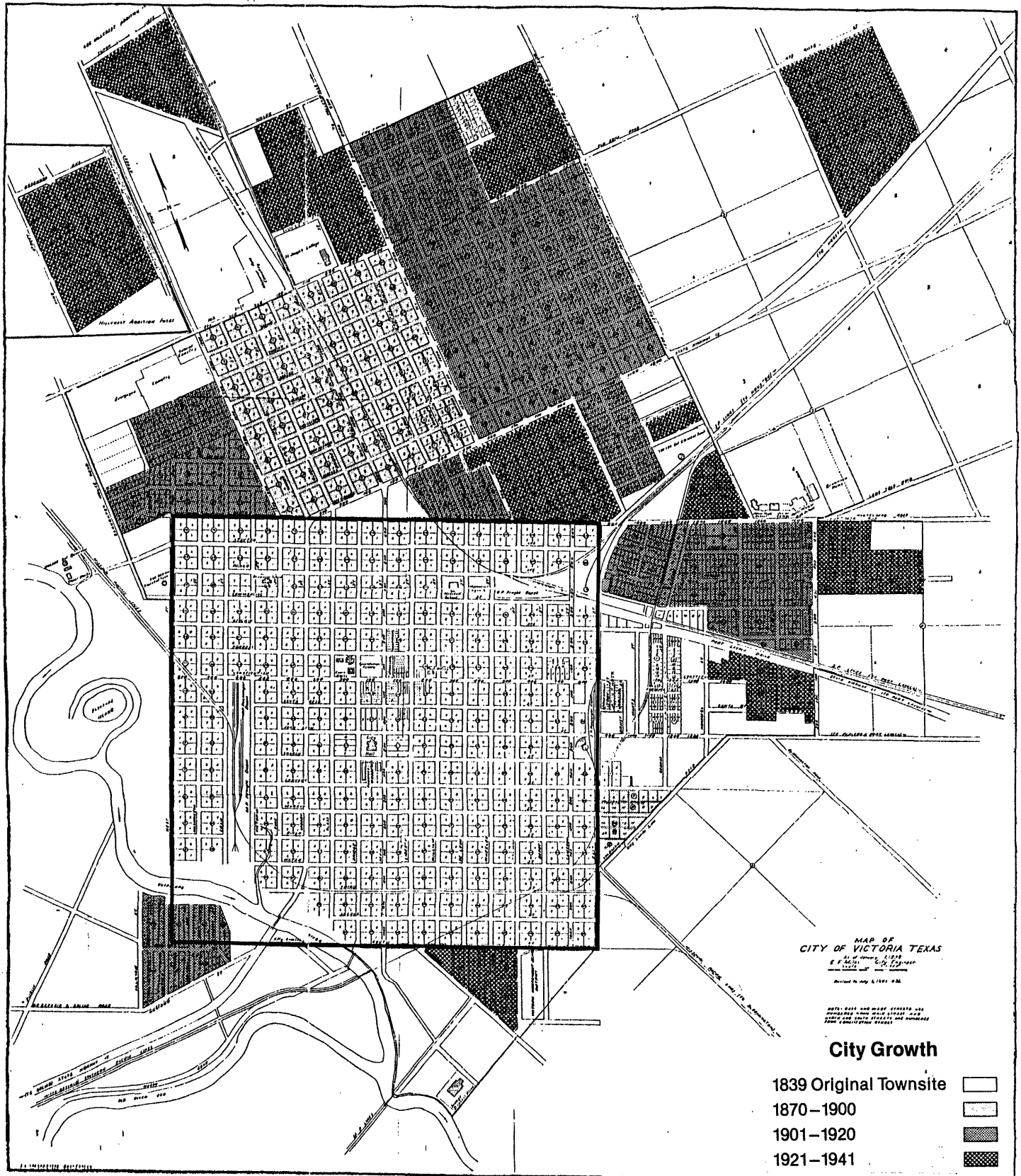
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8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
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<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–1935	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) ethnic history

Specific dates see individual
site forms

Builder/Architect see individual site forms

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Victoria, founded in 1824 by empresario Martin De Leon, is one of only a handful of cities within the state to have survived from Texas' Mexican colonial era. Since its establishment, Victoria has been the seat of government, initially for the De Leon colony, and then later for Victoria County when it was formed after independence from Mexico. Cattle ranching has been the cornerstone of Victoria's economy, enabling a large number of its citizens to attain substantial wealth and land holdings. During the last fifty years, however, the drilling and processing of oil has become the town's dominant industry. Because of its strategic location near the once-important port of Indianola, Victoria has been a significant retail center in the South Texas region, especially after a hurricane destroyed Indianola in 1886. Its proximity to the port city also enabled Victoria to become the home of a large number of European ethnic groups including Germans, Alsatians, Irish, and Italians who elected to settle in the town rather than proceed further inland. Victoria also has substantial Hispanic and black communities. All these peoples have contributed to the historic and architectural development of the city, and this multiple-resource nomination includes examples of properties that reflect Victoria's rich heritage. A total of 149 individual sites, one complex that includes five small houses, and one small historic district comprise the properties being nominated.

During the 1820s a struggle for control of New Spain pitted loyalist citizens who wished to remain a part of the Spanish empire against others who believed the country should become an independent state. This conflict was resolved when the Republic of Mexico was formally established with the Constitution of 1824.

Under the Spanish colonial regime prior to 1821, and the interim governments that ruled Mexico between 1821 and 1824, American colonization of lands in Texas, which was then part of the state of Coahuila, was partly discouraged. The new government, however, soon revised colonization policies to encourage greater settlement in Texas. The laws were more favorable toward native Mexicans, although Anglo-Americans and even some Europeans were also allowed to establish settlements in Texas. With the relaxed immigration policies of the government, numerous individuals known as empresarios established colonies in Texas.

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While most of the empresarios of this period were Anglo-Americans, such as Moses Austin, his son, Stephen F. Austin, and Green DeWitt, a few native Mexicans also established colonies in Texas. Perhaps the most successful of these was Martin De Leon. On April 8, 1824 De Leon petitioned the provincial delegation in San Antonio to found a colony between the Guadalupe and Lavaca rivers. Five days later, government officials granted his petition "for the distribution of lands and founding of the town, which will be known by the name and style as they request of Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe de Jesus Victoria" (Grimes 1968: 60). Later historians have reported that De Leon's original request sought to establish a town to be known as Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe de Jesus and that the word "Victoria" was inadvertently omitted. Others believe that the provincial delegation added the word themselves in honor of the first president of the Republic of Mexico. De Leon's town became known as Guadalupe de Victoria, then as Guadalupe Victoria and, after Texas gained independence from Mexico in 1836, simply as Victoria. The original colony extended to Coleto Creek on the west, to Mission Valley on the north, and on the south and east to a line parallel to, and about fifteen miles from, the coastline of the Gulf of Mexico.

The first settlers of the De Leon colony arrived in October 1824, and included the families of Martin De Leon and twelve others. Although the original grant called for forty-one families to settle in the colony, the remaining twenty-nine came the following year. Thirty-three of the families were native Mexicans while the other eight were Anglo-Americans. The establishment of a church, Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe, was one of the first acts of the new colonists, and it is reputed to be the second-oldest Catholic parish in the state (Mooney 1950: 11). In 1829 De Leon petitioned the government for additional land to help settle 150 more families in the colony. Guadalupe Victoria continued to be a predominately Hispanic community, although a number of Irish and Anglo-American immigrants, most of whom were Catholics, had settled in the town.

Although it is not known who laid out the original town site, the earliest known reference to the town plat came in 1839 when city records mention James Kerr, from the DeWitt colony, as the town surveyor. Dwellings were randomly placed throughout the town, but two large open spaces were set aside for a market square and a public square. The town's commercial activity centered around the market square, where the Victoria City Hall now stands. The square was the scene of the town's earliest trading, as farmers from surrounding areas sold their crops at the site. Because of this activity, the first merchants established their stores around the square.

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With the establishment of the Republic of Texas in 1836, Victoria County was among the initial group of counties created by the new government, and Victoria is cited as the third town in Texas to receive a charter for incorporation in the Republic (Mooney 1950: 13). The new municipal government, in one of its first official acts, called for the original town site to be resurveyed. In April 1839, Edward Linn, brother of Mayor John J. Linn and one of four newly elected aldermen, was hired to complete this task. He was instructed to make the building lots fifty varas square (a vara is approximately 3 1/2 feet), except for those facing onto Market Square, where the Victoria City Hall now stands. Because this area comprised the city's center of commercial and business activity, lots there were long and narrow, measuring 25 by 100 varas. Linn implemented a grid system and some of the town's earliest dwellings stood in the path of the designated thoroughfares. Owners were permitted ten years to relocate their dwellings. After that period the structure would be moved or demolished by the city. The Linn survey included the market and public squares that had existed since the town's founding, but his plan also reserved six squares for churches and four others for educational buildings. The area surrounding the original four-square-league town site was surveyed into farm lots of ten or twenty acres. Linn completed the work by the early summer, and on July 4, 1839, unclaimed lots were sold at a public auction.

Both the Texas Revolution and the Mexican War had a profound impact on the region's social, political, and economic structure. Anglo settlers assumed prominent positions throughout the Republic while the numbers and influence of Mexicans declined. During the Mexican War numerous ports on the Gulf were established where troops came ashore before heading south to Mexico. Military provisions were shipped through these harbors, increasing their trade and spurring development. Just as the Mexican War encouraged commercial activity, it also marked the beginning of European migration into Texas during the middle of the nineteenth century.

The Germans began to arrive in substantial numbers in the 1840s and 1850s, and were the largest group of Europeans to settle in Texas. Although German settlements existed as early as 1838 in Austin, Fayette, and Colorado Counties, the number of immigrants increased after a group of wealthy, titled noblemen in Germany founded the Verein zum Schutze Deutscher Einwanderer in Texas (Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas). The Verein, as it is commonly known, bought vast amounts of land in central west Texas--then a hostile, frontier territory. Prince Carl Solms-Braunfels, who supervised and coordinated the actual immigration for the Verein, selected Indianola on Matagorda Bay and Galveston as the primary ports of entry. Solms-Braunfels established the township of New Braunfels on the upper Guadalupe River about thirty miles north of San Antonio. Indianola became the favored port for the Germans because its location

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enabled them to make the journey to New Braunfels by following the path of the Guadalupe River. From Indianola they traveled through the coastal prairies until they came upon the Guadalupe River a few miles downstream from Victoria. By following the river, the Germans passed through Victoria, Gonzales, and Seguin, all settlements that had been founded during the Mexican colonial period.

The first wave of immigrants arrived in March 1845, and by 1846 over 7000 Germans had arrived. During this short time, several problems arose which, though not stemming the flow of immigration, did create severe hardships on the arriving Germans. The Fisher-Miller Grant, which the Verein had secured for the colony, proved to be unfit for settlement. The territory at that time was still controlled by Indians and the climate was not conducive to farming. Travel by ox-cart, the main mode of transportation, was slow and tedious. Also, the Verein was not prepared to resettle such vast numbers of settlers. This combination of factors created a bottle-neck at Indianola, and the city was literally overwhelmed by the large number of immigrants. With too few provisions and supplies, and with rampant disease, many died. Chaos prevailed, although many managed to make the trip up the Guadalupe to Central Texas. Most eventually settled in the German colonies, but others decided to remain in towns along the route from Indianola to New Braunfels. By 1858 Victoria's German population was approximately 800 out of a total population of 1500 (Jordan 1966: 54).

In settlements throughout the Hill Country of central Texas, Germans erected dwellings that reflected their European heritage, and numerous houses of Fachwerk or half-timbered construction were erected in towns such as New Braunfels and Fredericksburg. In Victoria, however, no extant examples of this house form exist, and no written accounts of the Germans in Victoria make any reference to such dwellings. Although a large number of historic structures being nominated to the National Register are associated with the German community, these were erected in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and reflect traditional Anglo-American building styles. Some have been important to the entire German community, and include Trinity Lutheran Church (N.R. Site No. I-178), Our Lady of Lourdes (N.R. Site No. I-699), and Casino Hall (Survey Site No. I-132). Other extant buildings erected for prominent individuals of German heritage are the A. Goldman Building (N.R. Site No. I-200), the A. Goldman Cotton Gin Warehouse (N.R. Site No. IV-205), and the Herman Kremer House (Survey Site No. I-548).

A large number of German-speaking Alsatians also settled in Victoria during the mid 1800s. They immigrated to Texas after Henri Castro, a French nobleman of Portuguese extraction, obtained a land grant from the Republic of Texas in 1842. Securing territory west of San Antonio, he founded the

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town of Castroville by 1844. He brought a total of 2124 settlers to Texas, most of whom came from the Alsace-Lorraine region between Germany and France. While the majority came by way of Galveston, others landed at Indianola, with some settling in Victoria. Census records of 1860 reveal that ninety-three individuals from Alsace lived in Victoria. Most were successful entrepreneurs who went on to erected important commercial buildings and residences throughout the community. Like those of the Germans, these structures are more traditional Anglo-American forms. Extant examples include the Louis Liebold Building (Survey Site No. I-616), the E.J. Jecker House (N.R. Site No. I-780), the Jacob Fox House (N.R. Site No. I-41), the A.T. Sengele House (N.R. Site No. I-246), and the Pela House (N.R. Site No. I-226).

The Irish were another prominent group to settle in the city. Some immigrated directly from Ireland but others first settled in the nearby Power-Hewetson or McMullen-McGloin colonies before eventually relocating to Victoria. James Power and James Hewetson established a colony for Irish immigrants between the Nueces and Lavaca rivers. Their endeavor was not very successful, as disease killed many of the Irish enroute to Texas and legal difficulties with regional officials of the Mexican government in nearby La Bahia (now Goliad) hampered their colonization efforts.

Many of the Irish that did settle in Victoria assumed prominent roles in the community. Perhaps the most significant of the first generation Irish was John (Juan) Linn, who served as alcalde during the Mexican colonial period and was also the city's first mayor after Texas Independence. His residence, as historic photographs reveal, was a small, simply adorned log dwelling typical of Anglo-American traditions. It was razed in the 1890s when J.D. Mitchell erected a house (Survey Site No. I-541) on the same site. Besides Linn, others of Irish heritage became extremely powerful and influential in Victoria as merchants, bankers, or cattle ranchers. They often built massive residences as symbols of their position in the community. The McNamara House (N.R. Site No. I-672), the Thomas O'Connor House (N.R. Site No. I-542), and the James McFaddin House (N.R. Site No. I-83) are good examples.

Although many of the new citizens of Victoria arrived from Europe, a large number of American citizens from other parts of the United States settled in the town during the 1840s and 1850s. The majority came from the Upland and Lowland South, while others relocated from northern and midwestern states. Settlement by Mexicans had come to a virtual standstill by the 1840s.

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The black population in Victoria swelled following Texas' annexation as Southerners, attracted by the low land prices, introduced coerced labor to work the piney woods and coastal plains cotton plantations. The majority of blacks lived in the rural parts of Victoria County, but census records reveal that a substantial number resided in the city. In 1850, 154 or about 17 percent of the county's black population lived in Victoria. Census records seem to indicate that most lived in the houses of their city-dwelling owners. With emancipation, the majority of blacks settled along low-lying, less desirable areas near the Guadalupe River. Their houses were small and simple and occupied narrow lots. The Diamond Hill area, in the southeast quadrant of the original town site, had a substantial black population. The two earliest black congregations in Victoria, the Webster Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church and the Palestine Baptist Church, met in this neighborhood, and each built small frame churches in the 1860s (Rose 1961: 63). Neither structure has survived, but the congregation of the Webster Church built a frame sanctuary (N.R. Site No. I-487) in 1889. It was veneered with brick in the 1930s. The Palestine Church erected a new facility (Survey Site No. I-289) in the mid-twentieth century. Most of the other mid-nineteenth century structures in Victoria's old black neighborhood have been lost by subsequent development. Over the years, the Diamond Hill area has become a relatively integrated neighborhood. A large part of Victoria's black population has relocated to the Queen City neighborhood to the north, and below Water Street to the south. The most significant historic structures associated with the black community still remain, however, in the Diamond Hill neighborhood. Besides the aforementioned churches, the old Victoria Colored School (N.R. Site No. I-290) and the house (N.R. Site No. I-831) of Dr. Townsend remain vital links to the heritage of Victoria's black community.

As Anglo-American and European cultures came to dominate life in Victoria, the strength of the original Mexican traditions lessened and new institutions changed the town's character. Catholicism was the dominant religion in the years following the town's founding, but Protestant congregations were formed soon after Texas independence. Presbyterian and Methodist churches were founded by 1841, although some people claim each was organized in the 1830s. In 1852 a German Lutheran church was established, and a year later a German Methodist congregation was formed. The old sanctuary of the latter (N.R. Site No. I-178), built in 1907, stands at 402 E. Constitution. The Jewish community of Victoria founded Temple B'Nai Israel in 1868. Despite its early establishment, the temple did not build a synagogue until 1923, when a small brick structure (N.R. Site No. I-604) was erected on N. Main.

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Early Victoria citizens considered the provision of educational facilities to be of highest priority, and by the late 1850s a city-supported school system was begun. The city built the schools and, for a brief while, allowed the teachers to keep tuition as salary, also providing them with rent-free use of the facility. Casino Hall, founded by Germans in the 1850s, provided a showcase for plays, lectures, music recitals, and other social events. This structure (Survey Site No. I-132) remains today, although it was moved to its present location at 408 W. Forrest about 1910 and has been remodeled in the 1980s.

Victoria's first newspaper, the Texan Advocate, was established on May 8, 1846, and is believed to have been the first newspaper "west of the Colorado River." The paper's name eventually became the Victoria Advocate, and it is still published. The only other continuously printed newspaper in the state that has been in circulation longer than the Victoria Advocate is the Galveston News, which began publication in April of 1842.

Ranching was the primary livelihood of the early settlers, and many, especially the De Leon family, excelled in raising livestock in the naturally grassy pastures that surrounded Victoria. Martin De Leon had raised cattle and other livestock in Texas as early as 1805, and brought the tradition to his colony in the 1820s. When he died in 1833, his eldest son Fernando headed the De Leon clan and was also a successful cattleman. As such, members of the De Leon family were among the most significant instigators of the cattle-ranching business not only in Victoria, but in the entire state. By proving that this enterprise could be quite profitable, they helped set the stage for the expansion of an industry that played a vital role in the growth and development of nineteenth-century Texas.

Victoria's economy diversified as the town grew. Existing trade lines expanded, new routes were opened, and regular steamship service operated between nearby Indianola and New Orleans. Trade lines with the coastal city were so important that a second commercial district took shape when Commercial Street, the principal road to Indianola, was completed. As the port of Indianola grew in size and importance, previously unavailable goods, materials, and merchandise could be found in the stores in Victoria, and the city became an important regional retail center.

Despite this increased diversification, ranching continued to be one of the most important components of Victoria's economy. It flourished because of the available expanses of open land, and the ideal grazing conditions and favorable climate that prevailed. The advent of reliable shipping from Indianola also contributed to the boost in the cattle industry during the middle of the nineteenth century. Herds were driven to Indianola and then shipped to markets in New Orleans, whereas the cattle had previously been

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driven overland to midwestern markets. These cattle-shipping operations were small in scale compared to the cattle drives of later years. Still, the shipping of the livestock by steamship was an important component of Victoria's pre-Civil War economy. Robert Clark, whose house (N.R. Site No. I-580) still stands at 317 N. Main, was heavily involved with transporting cattle by ship.

The flat grasslands surrounding Victoria were ideal for cattle grazing, but the land, once cleared and tilled, could also be profitably cultivated. The introduction of cotton farming about this time had a sweeping effect on the economic, social, and political composition of the town. Because most of these early cotton planters hailed from the Deep South, the institution of slavery, unheard of in Victoria during the Mexican colonial period, became commonplace. The 1850 census reveals that 270 bales of cotton were produced in the county; importantly, of the county's overall population of just over 2000, about 500 were black slaves. As cotton production expanded, more plantations were established and the number of bound laborers increased. By 1860 Victoria County's slave population had more than tripled in a decade. Only two of the antebellum houses remain in Victoria, and these are the Phillips-Sayles House (National Register 1983) and the Callender House (National Register 1979).

With the success of the cattle and cotton industries, the citizens of Victoria began to explore different ways to improve their modes of transportation, which relied most heavily upon ox-driven carts. Victoria's location on the Guadalupe River and its relative proximity to the Gulf coast prompted many townspeople to consider dredging the river to make it navigable for steamship operations. Plans were made to remove all obstacles on the river as early as the 1840s. However, no serious attempts took place until 1857, when the State Rivers and Harbor Commission pledged funds to clear the river with the stipulation that additional monies would be provided by the city and county. For a brief while, steamboats operated on the Guadalupe, but the service was never profitable. The river regularly changed course, creating the need for constant dredging; operations were suspended with the outbreak of the Civil War. After the war numerous attempts were made to reopen the river, but none proved successful. The notion to navigate the Guadalupe River was a popular idea until the 1940s, when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers stated that any further attempts to open the river were not economically feasible.

While the Guadalupe River provided opportunities for inexpensive shipping and transportation, it also was a natural barrier that hindered overland transportation south of town. Although a city-licensed ferry service was established by the 1840s, it was the construction of a bridge in 1865 that facilitated trade with the south. A flood destroyed this structure in 1869, but later that year the municipal government commissioned

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the building of an iron bridge. The area on the north bank of the river, where the structure spanned the waterway, developed into a secondary commercial center, and the thoroughfare that led to the bridge became known as Bridge Street. When the railroad arrived several years later, this area prospered until about the turn of the century, when the tracks were relocated to another part of the city. The Thurmond Building (Survey Site No. I-557) is all that remains of this once-active commercial area.

The construction of a rail line to Port Lavaca was perhaps the most historically significant event in the improvement of transportation systems for the city. Captain J.O. Wheeler, a prominent and successful Victoria businessman who was also the pioneer navigator of the Guadalupe River, constructed the line. Known as the San Antonio and Mexican Gulf Railway, it was among the state's earliest railroads. The first to operate was the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos, and Colorado Railway, which began service between Houston and Fort Bend County in 1853. The railroad to Victoria was completed in 1860; Wheeler made ambitious plans to extend the line to San Antonio, but the Civil War ended this scheme. In 1863 Confederate General John B. Magruder ordered the tracks to be dismantled, fearing that the railroad might fall into Union hands.

When the question of secession arose in Texas in 1861, the majority of Victoria citizens supported the Southern cause. A secessionist convention in Austin called for a state-wide vote on the issue, and the tally in Victoria overwhelmingly favored withdrawal from the Union. This vote reflected the dominance of traditional Southern political ideals in the town. Cotton had become a vital element in the town's economy, with the slave system an integral part of cotton's success. The sentiments of most voters in Victoria was shared by a majority of eligible voters throughout the state. That same year, Texas joined the Confederate States of America.

For the third time in twenty years, Victorians were asked to make sacrifices for a war effort, and many of town's finest and most promising men joined the Confederate Army. Without this leadership and with little capital to spend on improvements, commercial operations came to a halt. Once prosperous businesses and stores closed, few new residents came to Victoria, and European immigration virtually ceased during the conflict. Although no battles were fought in Victoria, the town functioned as an important supply center and stood on a branch of the Cotton Road, along which crops were transported to Mexico in exchange for ammunitions and other goods vital to the war effort.

The period immediately following the Civil War was a trying time for the citizens of Victoria, for unlike the years following the Texas War for Independence and the Mexican War, recovery and prosperity were slow to appear.

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One of Victoria's most successful merchants, Abraham Levi, closed his grocery operations in 1861, returning to his native France. By 1867 he made his way back to Victoria to resume his business and, upon his arrival, he discovered his old residence (N.R. Site No. I-579) occupied by the commander of the federal troops stationed in Victoria. Levi eventually regained possession of his old home, and he went on in the years that followed to achieve tremendous financial success as a wholesale grocery merchant and banker.

The town's two economic underpinnings, cotton planting and cattle raising, virtually collapsed during the Civil War. Because of manumission many of the old cotton plantations were abandoned and the lands left uncultivated. Within a few years, demand for cotton increased and large-scale production of that crop resumed. The cattle industry, as the area's dominant and most profitable business, was severely crippled by the war and its aftermath. Demand for beef was so low that cattlemen could make more money by selling their stock to skinners. By the start of the next decade the meat market had recovered and the stockmen of Victoria were among the state's leading cattlemen.

Cattle ranching and herding in Victoria reached its peak in the 1870s and 1880s, remaining the most significant vestige of Mexican culture in Texas. Although some of the old Mexican families continued to ranch in the Victoria area, they were surpassed in numbers by Anglo-American settlers and Irish and German immigrants. The Welders, Stoners, McFaddins, and O'Connors were among the more prominent ranching families. All had vast land holdings, some of which stretched into several counties, and most maintained homes in Victoria as well as ranch houses in the country. Many of these opulent residences have since been razed, such as the John J. Welder House, a massive three-story brick dwelling that stood on the 1000 block of N. Main. Others, however, have survived and include the Thomas O'Connor House (N.R. Site No. I-542) and the James McFaddin House (N.R. Site No. I-83).

Cattle were driven along any one of the famous cattle trails that ran through Texas up to the Kansas and Missouri markets established from the 1850s through the 1880s. Some of Victoria's more enterprising cattlemen, attempting to increase profits, joined forces to open the Texas Continental Meat Co. A branch facility operated in Fort Worth; in 1890 the Victoria plant closed and all the equipment was moved to Fort Worth. Although the introduction and widespread use of barbed wire halted the famous cattle drives by the late 1880s, cattle raising continues to be a dominant force in Victoria's economy to the present.

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The decline of the trail drives signaled the end of the more speculative and certainly the most romantic era of the cattle industry. South Texas cattlemen continued to invest in livestock, but they also diversified their financial interests. The vast wealth that many cattlemen had acquired enabled them to invest in the small private banks that were established a few years earlier. The first banking institution in Victoria was founded in 1867 by John Brownson who conducted a successful grocery business. He was joined by Eugene Sibley in the 1880s, and together they operated the Brownson and Sibley Bank. The bank was reorganized, chartered, and renamed the First National Bank of Victoria and, then, the Victoria National Bank, with many prominent local cattlemen serving on its board of directors. Victoria's other bank was established in the 1870s by A. Levi, who also ran a grocery business. This institution eventually became the Victoria Bank & Trust, its board formed by members of the O'Connor, Proctor, and other successful ranching families.

Two of Victoria's most important institutions were established in the 1860s. The sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament founded Nazareth Academy, a parochial school, in 1867; and a year later, St. Joseph's School opened. Both provided quality education and each experienced substantial growth soon after their establishment. By the early years of the twentieth century, enrollment in Nazareth Academy had increased so dramatically that new facilities were needed. Local architect Jules Leffland was hired to design a new building (N.R. Site No. I-275) in 1904. St. Joseph's operated nearby, at the northeast corner of E. Church and S. Main streets, before relocating to E. Red River (Survey Site No. III-60) by 1937. Both institutions merged in 1951, with Nazareth handling elementary and junior school students and St. Joseph's serving as the high school.

Federal troops rebuilt the old railroad from Port Lavaca to Victoria, which stimulated trade and economic activity. At first the railway was used exclusively for military purposes, but in 1869 it was sold to Charles Morgan who had operated a steamship service from Matagorda Bay to New Orleans both before and after the war. Although the original railroad had been completed prior to the outbreak of war, the citizens did not yet realize what the railroad could mean to the community. Under Morgan's ownership, the line was known as the Gulf, Western Texas, and Pacific Railroad, and it was extended to Cuero by 1874. The company also incorporated a line that ran from Clark's Station to Indianola, thus linking Victoria with what was then the state's busiest port.

This profitable enterprise was struck by disaster when hurricanes hit the Gulf coast at Matagorda Bay in 1875 and 1886. Prior to these storms, Indianola was developing into one of Texas' largest and most active cities. It was blessed with a natural harbor, surpassed in its navigability and ease of entry only by that of Galveston. The railroad, which ran through

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Victoria, opened the vast territory to the west, and many in the state expected Indianola to become one of the state's most important commercial centers. All of this was shattered by the devastating storms which totally destroyed the coastal community. Several business establishments in Indianola relocated to Victoria and nearby Cuero, and many of the buildings that survived the storm were dismantled and rebuilt in either of the two cities. Examples are the Huck+Welder House (Survey Site No. I-299) and the D.H. Regan House (N.R. Site No. I-751). Nothing remains at the old townsite.

The demise of Indianola had a profound impact on the history and development of Victoria. With the cessation of all shipping operations from that coastal city, Victoria no longer had access to a major port. Supplies, materials, and goods were not as easily obtained, nor as inexpensive to transport as they had been. In addition, the state legislature authorized the abandonment in 1886 of the branch of the railroad that ran from Clark's Station to Indianola. Port Lavaca, Indianola's early rival, was also hard hit by the storm, but, unlike Indianola, it survived. Rail service continued between Victoria and Port Lavaca but only limited trade ensued.

Although Victoria had access to rail service as early as 1860, railroad barons seemed to overlook the town during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. In 1880, however, a newly formed company received a land grant from the state to construct a line that would eventually run from New York to Mexico. This line, the New York, Texas, and Mexican Railway, established headquarters in Victoria. Italian nobleman Count Joseph Telfener headed the venture and he brought 1200 Italian workers to Texas to construct the railway, most of whom lived in small hotels or boarding houses in Victoria. The first track between Rosenberg and Victoria was built by two crews, working from opposite ends. The line was completed by July 4, 1882, when, amidst great fanfare and celebration, the first train arrived in Victoria carrying important backers of the effort as well as distinguished citizens of the city. The railroad soon became known as the Macaroni Line because of the Italians who were primarily responsible for its construction. In 1885 the state revoked the railroad's landgrant and the company immediately ran into financial difficulty. The railroad was taken over by the Southern Pacific rail system that same year.

Although the New York, Texas, and Mexican Railway did not bring the tremendous economic growth and development that many citizens of Victoria had originally expected, the railroad did make a lasting impact on the town and nearby areas. A large number of the Italian rail workers remained in Victoria, contributing to the town's already diversified ethnic composition.

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Many became prominent citizens in business and political circles. The J.N. Fossati Store (Survey Site No. I-624) and the E.J. Fossati House (N.R. Site No. I-753) at 607 S. De Leon are extant historic structures associated with members of Victoria's Italian community. Others are scattered in rural areas outside the town. Our Lady of Lourdes (N.R. Site No. I-699) was founded with the support of both Italian and German Catholics.

The railroad played a pivotal role in the construction boom by providing better materials and equipment than could be obtained locally. Prior to the railroad era, most of the buildings were vernacular structures, built of readily available materials. At first jacales (traditional Mexican dwellings) were common, but hand-hewn log structures were soon built. During the mid-nineteenth century some of the city's wealthiest residents ordered milled lumber from more developed port cities, such as Galveston. Victoria's first sawmill was operating by 1868, and dwellings and store buildings constructed of machine-planed lumber became commonplace. Most were built by independently employed carpenters. The building profession obviously prospered, as the census records of 1850, 1860, and 1870 list carpentry as one of the most common trades in Victoria.

As early as the 1840s brick was made in Victoria, with early records referring to Richard Owens' brickyard in what is now City Park, and Alexander Adams' brickyard on the east bank of the Guadalupe River. Relatively few brick structures were ever built during Victoria's early years, but the oldest extant structure in Victoria is the one-story brick Theobold Sengele House (Survey Site No. I-137) at 210 E. Forrest, which was built about 1844. In 1890 the city government passed an ordinance designating the downtown area as a fire zone and requiring all new buildings in that part of Victoria to be built of brick. Most of the new residences were still of frame construction.

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Victoria experienced a dramatic transformation in its physical appearance, as a construction boom changed the character and style of the town's residential, commercial, and institutional architecture. This boom resulted from the town's overall prosperity, a factor of the thriving cattle industry. Victoria's population in 1860 was estimated to be about 1800, but by 1900 the census recorded over 4000 residents.

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Many of the dwellings built at the turn of the century were for the large number of new residents in the town. Some were modest vernacular dwellings for middle class individuals, such as the Fred Urban House (N.R. Site No. I-360) and the S.M. Bailey House (Survey Site No. I-127). Others were built for successful businessmen and professionals that resided in Victoria. Examples include houses constructed for groceryman Max Bettin at 602 E. Santa Rosa (N.R. Site No. I-213), physician D.H. Bramman at 206 W. Stayton (N.R. Site No. I-15), and attorneys Frank Crain and Joseph Vandenberg at 307 and 301 N. Vine (N.R. Site Nos. I-463 and I-465, respectively).

While many of the new buildings of the period were constructed for newly arrived citizens, as well as recently successful citizens of Victoria, many members of the town's wealthiest and most established families also constructed new homes. The majority had attained their wealth as merchants or from the success of the cattle industry during the nineteenth century. Some built new residence because their family had grown in size or because they simply wanted new homes. Still others constructed or moved into older, larger homes as they started their own families. Examples include the McCan-Nave House (N.R. Site No. I-514), the Thomas O'Connor, Jr., House (N.R. Site No. I-461), the Hauschild House (N.R. Site No. I-675), and the Levytansky-O'Connor House (Survey Site No. I-22).

The architecture in Victoria during the late nineteenth century became more sophisticated not only in the use of materials, but also in appearance and details. During this period, architects received commissions for the design of both important institutional buildings and dwellings for the town's wealthiest citizens. Two of Texas' most celebrated nineteenth-century architects, Nicholas Clayton and James Riely Gordon, worked briefly in the city. Clayton, who is best known for designing the Gresham House (Bishop's Palace) and the Ashbel Smith Building (Old Red), as well as numerous other buildings in his adopted town of Galveston, provided the original plans for St. Mary's Catholic Church (N.R. Site No. I-276) in Victoria. Before the structure was completed, the original contractors went bankrupt, and because of financial reasons, the subsequent builders significantly changed the design to save costs. The church thus bears little resemblance to any of Clayton's other finely executed efforts. Nonetheless, this Gothic Revival edifice remains a prominent landmark in the community. James Riely Gordon maintained offices in San Antonio, and in 1892 he was selected architect of a new Victoria County courthouse. This design received nationwide attention when it was published in the October 17, 1896, issue of American Architect and Building News. Gordon was well-known throughout Texas for his courthouse designs, including ones in Bexar, Ellis, Fayette, and Lee counties.

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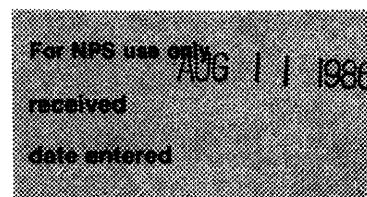
A number of other architects established their practices in Victoria at the turn of the century. Professional designers were attracted to the rapidly expanding city with its flourishing construction industry (that offered opportunities for those in the building trades) and large number of potential clients (who wanted houses that publicly acknowledged their social and economic status). James Hull was, perhaps, the first architect to settle in Victoria, establishing his practice between 1880 and 1886. Others who followed include Charles E. Praeger, Sam H. Dixon, and Jules Leffland. All were successful, but none were as important or as influential as Jules Leffland.

Born in Usserod, Denmark, Leffland studied architecture at the Institute of Technology of Copenhagen, following both his father and grandfather in the profession. After working for a Copenhagen architect for five years, he established his own practice in the early 1880s. In 1886 he decided to immigrate to the United States, initially locating in New York before settling in Victoria by April of that year. The reasons for his selection of Victoria remain unknown, but his decision certainly proved to be of benefit to that community. Leffland first joined forces with James Hull, but the partnership was short-lived, as Leffland soon opened his own office. One of his first commissions, according to Sidney Weisiger, was to dismantle the Huck House in Indianola after the hurricane of 1886, and to supervise its reconstruction in Victoria (Survey Site No. I-299). Leffland developed a successful regional practice, and he received commissions in Wharton, Beeville, Kingsville, and San Diego, Texas, as well as other South Texas communities. He designed many building types including stores, residences, schools and government buildings. As were most successful architects at the turn-of-the-century, Leffland was well-versed in a variety of stylistic expressions, although the Neoclassical Revival mode seems to be not only his most successful style but his personal favorite as well. His own impressive residence (Survey Site No. I-288) at 403 E. Convent is an outstanding example of this style. His eclectic design for the Nazareth Academy (N.R. Site No. I-275), built in 1904-05, at 105 W. Church is one of the most unusual, high-styled, nineteenth-century buildings in Texas. Leffland's practice declined during the late 1910s, and by 1922 he was forced to sell his house; he then moved to a small dwelling in the city (Alcorn, 1984: 5). Jules Leffland died in 1924, but his son Kai continued the architectural practice.

While architects designed some of Victoria's most important structures, local lumberyards and contractors actually constructed the buildings. These same companies also built more modestly scaled and styled homes for the majority of the townspeople. At first the lumberyards offered only building materials, but they soon entered the construction business. Rather than producing original designs, they often relied on pattern books and prefabricated materials that were popularized during the late nineteenth

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century. In some cases, however, these lumberyards had their own designers, who drew plans that were not as intricately detailed or carefully proportioned as those drawn by professionally trained architects, but were noteworthy in their own right. The earliest lumberyard in Victoria was established in 1867 by F.E. Sibley. As the town grew and the demand for housing increased, more lumberyards were founded. Some were first established in Victoria, but others, such as H.J. Huck's business, moved from Indianola after the 1886 hurricane. With time, however, the number of lumberyards dwindled and those that survived expanded their operations. One of the most successful was Bailey Mills, which was established in 1888 by Samuel M. and Ira P. Bailey, originally from Michigan. The company closed in 1917, but while in operation it erected some of Victoria's most important commercial and institutional buildings, in addition to constructing numerous residences. Another such business was the Anchor Lumber Co. (Survey Site No. I-378) at 307 W. Water Street. Founded in 1911, the firm is still operating in its original structure, built in 1928 and designed by Kai Leffland. It remains the oldest lumberyard business in Victoria.

Victoria's economy during the first decades of the twentieth century continued to rely heavily upon cattle ranching, agriculture, and the city's role as the major regional retail center. Victoria County maintained its lofty position as one of the largest cattle-producing counties in the state.

Cotton continued to be the most profitable crop grown in Victoria during the early twentieth century, and Sanborn maps reveal that at least five gins operated during the 1920s. In September 1923, the Victoria Advocate reported that 7000 bales of cotton were ginned in the county, and farmers were hoping to reach the 10,000-bale plateau that same year. While much of the cotton was baled in gins located throughout the rural areas, about half of the cotton grown in the county was ginned in Victoria. This same newspaper account stated that 1403 bales were produced at the Goldman Gin (Survey Site No. IV-208), while 1190 bales came from the Feik Gin (Survey Site No. VI-42). Both gins were important to the cotton industry in Victoria. A. Goldman, a successful merchant in the community, built his gin about 1900 near the tracks of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Otto Feik founded another gin in 1909 near the banks of the Guadalupe River just south of Victoria proper. That gin became the center of a small rural community which was eventually absorbed into the city of Victoria.

Large-scale rice farming was introduced in Victoria around the turn of the century. Although unsuccessful, it introduced another ethnic group to the town--the Japanese. William S. Barton, an Englishman who came to Victoria by way of Mexico, purchased a large tract of land between 1896 and 1902 about eleven miles south of town and established the Victoria Rice and Irrigation Co. The business ended in failure after only a few years, but by March 1907 Japanese rice farmer O. Takayama bought the land. He hired

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fellow Japanese immigrants to operate the farm, which lasted only six years. According to information in the Weisiger Collection most Japanese farmers reportedly moved to the Alvin area in Brazoria County after the Victoria operation closed. Nothing of the old complex remains, and the few accounts of the business endeavor appear in period newspaper reports and manuscript collections. Much still remains to be discovered about this brief but interesting chapter in the ethnic history of Victoria.

The oil and natural gas industry in Victoria was begun during the 1920s and 1930s, and has easily surpassed all others, even cattle ranching, during the last fifty years. Files in the Weisiger Collection reveal that the first attempts to drill for oil in Victoria took place as early as 1915 on farmland that now comprises the 3600 to 4000 block of E. Rio Grande Street. Several other efforts were made but none were successful. Often the city's newspaper gave detailed, almost daily, accounts of the drilling process. The first truly successful oil well in Victoria was put down on the McFaddin Ranch, just outside of Victoria, on December 1, 1931. In 1932 the county's oil production reached about 60,000 barrels. By 1938 over 4.8 million barrels of oil were pumped in Victoria County, and by 1948 that figure had exceeded 8.3 million barrels (Mooney 1950: 35). Because of the abundance of oil in the area, petroleum-related industries established operations in Victoria, and the opening of the local Dupont chemical plant, in 1950, was the most significant.

The discovery of oil insured continued prosperity and wealth for Victoria, although fortunately it did not bring about a boom-and-bust economy as it had in other parts of the state. Instead, Victoria's growth has been steady and constant. Since the discovery of oil in Victoria, the town has consolidated its position as an important South Texas commercial center and it has continued to be one of the state's largest producers of cattle.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheets - Selected References

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property See individual site forms

Quadrangle name Victoria, East, Texas

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References Victoria, West, Texas

1:24000

see individual site forms

A

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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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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See individual site forms

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By (with John Ferguson, Texas Historical Commission)

name/title Daniel Hardy - Project Director for HARDY HECK MOORE; Marlene Heck - architectural historian and David Moore - historian. Morgan Dunn O'Connor - Project Director for HARDY HECK MOORE for Victoria Preservation, Inc.

organization Victoria Preservation, Inc. date June 1985

street & number HHM - P.O. Box 13392 telephone 512-459-4464

VPI - P.O. Box 1486 telephone N/A THC: 512-463-6094

city or town HHM - Austin state Texas 78711

VPI - Victoria state Texas 77902

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national X state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Constance Russell

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 8 Aug. 1986

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Patrick Andrews

date 9/22/86

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration

See Continuation sheets for testimony

date

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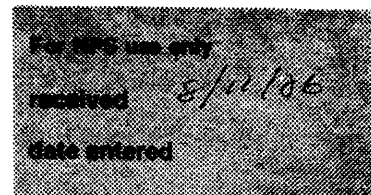
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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Victoria Multiple Resource Area
State Victoria County, TEXAS

Substantive Review

Concur Patrick Anderson 9/22/86

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Alden, C.R., Building

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

12/9/86
William B. Bushong

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

2. Alonso, Frank, House

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

12/9/86
William B. Bushong

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

3. Barden--O'Conner House

Entered in the
National Register. Keeper

12/9/86
William B. Bushong

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

4. Barnes, W.C., House

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

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William B. Bushong

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5. Bendt, E.H.D., House

Entered in the
National Register. Keeper

12/9/86
William B. Bushong

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

6. Bettin, Max, House

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

12/9/86
William B. Bushong

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

7. B'Nai Isreal

Entered in the
National Register. Keeper

12/9/86
William B. Bushong

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

8. Braman House

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

12/9/86
William B. Bushong

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

9. Buhler, Theodore, House

Substantive Review *for* Keeper

12/9/86
William B. Bushong

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

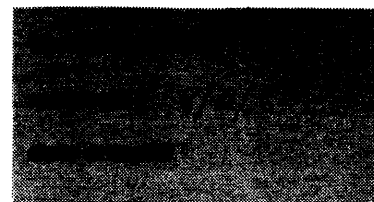
10. Buhler, F.S., House

Determined Eligible *for* Keeper

12/9/86
William B. Bushong

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Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

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Thematic GroupName Victoria MRA
State TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| 11. Burrough--Daniel House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melous Byers</u> 12/9/86 |
| | | Attest | |
| 12. Calhoun Bakery | Substantive Review | for Keeper | <u>William B. Bushy</u> 12/9/86 |
| | | Attest | <u>Bruce J. Noble, Jr.</u> 12/8/86 |
| 13. Clark House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melous Byers</u> 12/8/86 |
| | | Attest | |
| 14. Clark, Robert, House | Substantive Review | for Keeper | <u>William B. Bushy</u> 12/9/86 |
| | | Attest | <u>Bruce J. Noble, Jr.</u> 12/8/86 |
| 15. Clegg, John H., House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melous Byers</u> 12/9/86 |
| | | Attest | |
| 16. City of Victoria
Pumping Plant--Workworks | Substantive Review | for Keeper | <u>William B. Bushy</u> 12/9/86 |
| | | Attest | <u>Bruce J. Noble, Jr.</u> 12/8/86 |
| 17. Crain, F.H., House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melous Byers</u> 12/9/86 |
| | | Attest | |
| 18. DeLeon Plaza and
Bandstand | Substantive Review | for Keeper | <u>William B. Bushy</u> 3/24/87 |
| | | Attest | |
| 19. Diebel--Hyak House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melous Byers</u> 12/9/86 |
| | | Attest | |
| 20. Farmers and Merchants
Cotton Gin Warehouse | Substantive Review | for Keeper | <u>William B. Bushy</u> 12/9/86 |
| | | Attest | <u>Bruce J. Noble, Jr.</u> 12/8/86 |

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Date/Signature

21. Fleming--Welder House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

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22. Fossati, E.J., House

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

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23. Fox, Jacob, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

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Attest

24. Gaylord--Levy House

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

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Attest

25. Goldman, A., Building

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

Attest

26. Goldman's Cotton Gin
Warehouse

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

27. Gramann House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

Attest

28. Hauschild, George H.,
Building

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

29. Hauschild, George &
Adele, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

Attest

*30. Hiller House
SUI E Church

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

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Date/Signature

31. Hill--Howard House

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National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 12/9/86

32. Hiller House
3003 N. VINE

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

William B. Buckley 12/9/86

33. ~~House~~ ^{Building} at 205 East
Constitution

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86
Delores Byers 12/9/86

34. House at 304 West Stayton

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

William B. Buckley 12/9/86
Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

35. House at 306 East Forrest

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 12/9/86

36. House at 401 East
Stayton

Substantive Review

for Keeper

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Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

37. House at 407 East Convent

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National Register

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38. House at 604 East Santa
Rosa

Substantive Review

for Keeper

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Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

39. House at 702 Siegfried

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 12/9/86

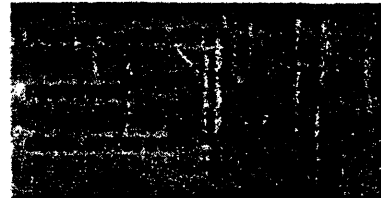
40. House at 706 Siegfried

Substantive Review

for Keeper

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William B. Buckley 12/9/86
Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

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State TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

41. House at 804 Siegfried

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42. House at 1602 North Moody

~~Substantive Review~~

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William B. Buckner 12/9/86Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/8643. House at 1907 Southwest
Ben JordanEntered in the
National Register

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Shelton Byers 12/9/8644. House at 4402 East
Juan Linn~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

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William B. Buckner 12/9/86Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

45. Hull House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Shelton Byers 12/9/86

46. Jecker, J.T., House

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

Attest

William B. Buckner 12/9/863/24/87

47. Jecker, E.J., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Shelton Byers 12/9/86

48. Jordan--Koch House

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

Attest

William B. Buckner 12/9/86Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

49. Keef--Filley Building

Keeper

Attest

William B. Buckner 12/9/86Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

50. Kaufman, E.C., House

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

Attest

William B. Buckner 12/9/86Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

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National Park Service

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8/11/86

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Victoria MRA
State TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

51. Krenek House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 12/9/86

Attest

52. Lander--Hopkins House

Substantive Review

for Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/8/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

53. Lane--Tarkington House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 12/9/86

Attest

54. Lawrence House

Substantive Review

for Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

55. Levi-Welder House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 12/9/86

Attest

56. Little House

Substantive Review

for Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

57. Martin Fiek-Thumford,
Vera House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 12/9/86

Attest

Determined Eligible

58. Magnolia Service Station
No. 122

Substantive Review

for Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

59. McCabe Building

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Shelene Byers 12/9/86

Attest

60. McCan--Nava House

Substantive Review

for Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

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Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Date/Signature

61. McDonald House

Attest

62. McFaddin, James, House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

63. McNamara--O'Connor
House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

64. Mitchell, Guy, House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

65. Moeller House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

66. Mohris--Abschier House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

67. Murphy, Mrs. J.V., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

68. Nave, Royston,
Memorial

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

69. O'Connor-Proctor Building

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

70. O'Connor, Thomas M., House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

Melrose Byers 12/9/86

William B. Bushong
3/24/87

Melrose Byers 12/9/86

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

Melrose Byers 12/9/86

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

Melrose Byers 12/9/86

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

Melrose Byers 12/9/86

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

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Thematic Group

Name Victoria MRA
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71.. Old Brownson School

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Melrose Byers 12/9/86

Attest

72. O'Connor, Thomas, House

Substantive Review

Determined Eligible

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/8/86

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

73. Old Municipal Assembly
Hall

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Melrose Byers 12/9/86

Attest

74. Old Federal Building &
Post Office

Substantive Review

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/8/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

75. Old Nazareth Academy

Keeper

Melrose Byers 12/9/86

Attest

76. Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Substantive Review

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

77. Pela House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Melrose Byers 12/9/86

Attest

78. Pippert House

Substantive Review

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

79. Pickering House

Keeper

Melrose Byers 12/9/86

Attest

293 80. Presbyterian Iglesia
Nicea

Substantive Review

Keeper

return 9/22 7-5

Attest

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81. Proctor House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvyn Byers 12/9/86

Attest

82. Proctor--Vandenberg
House

Substantive Review

for Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

83. Randall Building

for Keeper

Melvyn Byers 12/9/86

Attest

84. Regan, D.H., House

for Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

85. Schroeder House

for Keeper

Melvyn Byers 12/9/86

Attest

86. Sigmund House

Substantive Review

for Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

87. Southern Pacific RR
Guadalupe Bridge

Substantive Review

for Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

88. South Bridge Street
Historic District

for Keeper

accept Patrick Andrews 9/24/86

Attest

89. Stuart House

for Keeper

Melvyn Byers 12/9/86

Attest

90. Townsend--Wilkins House

for Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

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Thematic Group

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State TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review

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91. St. Mary's Catholic Church

Keeper

Shelene Byers 12/9/86

Attest

92. Schrader, Henry, House

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

93. Schummacker Company
Building

Keeper

Shelene Byers 12/9/86

Attest

94. Senegle, A.T., House

Keeper

return PWA 8/24/86

Attest

95. Tasin House

Keeper

Shelene Byers 12/9/86

Attest

96. Texas Company Filling
Station

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

97. Trinity Lutheran Church

Keeper

Shelene Byers 12/9/86

Attest

98. Urban, Fred, House

Keeper

return PWA 8/24/86

Attest

99. Vandenberg, J.V., House

Keeper

Shelene Byers 12/9/86

Attest

100. Victoria Colored School

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

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Date/Signature

101. Weber--Schuchert House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Melona Byrum 12/9/86

Attest

102. Webster Chapel United
Methodist Church

Substantive Review

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

103. Wheeler, William, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Melona Byrum 12/9/86

Attest

104. Williams, B.F., House

Substantive Review

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

105. Woodhouse House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Melona Byrum 12/9/86

Attest

106. Zahn, Herman and Alvina,
House

Substantive Review

Keeper

William B. Bushong 12/9/86

Attest

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 12/8/86

107. Gervais House **Entered in the
National Register**

Keeper

Mark L. Baker 5 July 1990

Attest

108. Roselle--Smith House **Entered in the
National Register**

Keeper

Mark L. Baker 5 July 1990

Attest

Keeper

Attest

Keeper

Attest

4/5/91

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Victoria MRA

TEXAS

Victoria County

Date Listed

109 Fossati's

Entered in the
National Register

Helmut Byrum 5/20/91

110. House at 402 W. Colorado

Substantive Review

Quinnella Lee 5/20/91

111. Leffland, Jules, House

Substantive Review

Quinnella Lee 5/20/91