

# ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

HISTORIC PROPERTY NAME Cruz Trading Post	
COMMON PROPERTY NAME	
PROPERTY LOCATION-STREET & NO. 200 West Main Street	
CITY, TOWN/VICINITY OF Casa Grande	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 507-07-068
OWNER OF PROPERTY Refugio & Josephine Martinez	PHONE
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX 1341 North Crane	
CITY, TOWN Casa Grande, Arizona	STATE ZIP Arizona 85222
FORM PREPARED BY Janus Associates Inc.	DATE 9/82
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX 2121 S. Priest Suite 127	PHONE 967-7117
CITY, TOWN Tempe, Arizona	STATE ZIP Arizona 85282
PHOTO BY Janus Associates Inc.	DATE Feb. 1982
VIEW looking northwest	
HISTORIC USE commercial	
PRESENT USE commercial	ACREAGE less/one
ARCHITECT/BUILDER	
CONSTRUCTION/MODIFICATION DATES Built c 1888, modified c 1937	

COUNTY Pinal County	INVENTORY NO. CG-116
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## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The Cruz Trading Post is a stuccoed adobe building, basically rectangular in plan with one story in front stepping up to a two-story rear addition. Later renovated to a Pueblo Revival Style, it has projecting vigas, flat roof, and stepped parapet walls. A similar parapet surrounds an arcade of lower height extending the width of the front facade. The arcade has rounded openings. A concrete block wall supports a partial overhanging second story at the rear of the west facade. An original entry in the front facade is infilled making the doorway smaller in height and width. The front window, symmetrical with the entry, is infilled with glass block and plywood. Windows of the rear addition's upper east facade are double hung and equally placed. Doors on the same facade are randomly placed at street level, and an original opening is infilled to make a smaller door and arched opening. Other windows are random in size and placement.

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE/HISTORY

Although the building at 200 West Main Street is best known as the Cruz Trading Post, it has a long history as a commercial building, housing a variety of businesses in Casa Grande's former central business district. Built by Thomas Tomlinson around 1888, it was originally a one-story rectangular adobe building with double entries and functioned as a general store and post office until 1897. Between 1897 and 1898 the building was operated as Ben Bible's Saloon. It continued to be used for general stores, offices for doctors, the telephone office, a lodge meeting hall, and as the Casa Grande Valley Bank building until 1937, when Ramon Cruz purchased it for his trading post. The building was subsequently remodeled into the present Pueblo Revival Style, and was the location of the trading post until 1955. It is presently a tavern.

Ramon Cruz, Sr., was a well-known Casa Grande businessman. After operating a trading post in Sacaton, he moved to Casa Grande in 1905 and opened a trading post. After his death in 1924, his sons continued the family business for many years. Cruz was a respected Casa Grande citizen and a member of the first elementary school board. This building is one of Casa Grande's oldest commercial buildings, is in sound condition, and retains its stylistic vigas and pressed tin ceiling. It is the only example in Casa Grande of a commercial building executed in a Pueblo Revival Style. Both the age of the building and the building's unique style contribute to its significance.

#### SOURCES OF ABOVE INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY

Casa Grande Valley Historical Society newspaper index files  
Casa Grande Valley Historical Society photo and history files

#### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA/LEGAL DESCRIPTION/VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

25' on Main Street x 100.5 on Washington Street, Block 12, Casa Grande Townsite

USGS QUAD - CASA GRANDE WEST

UTM references on continuation sheet

#### GENERAL COMMENTS/FUTURE PLANS FOR PROPERTY