UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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SEE I	INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T TYPE ALL ENTRIES	COMPLETE APPLICABI		
NAME				
HISTORIC	Spanish Governor's	Palace		
AND/OR COMMON				
····	Spanish Governor's	Palace		
LOCATION	J			
STREET & NUMBER	105 Military Plaza			
			NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN	San Antonio	_ VICINITY OF	congressional distri 20th	ICT
STATE	<u> </u>	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
	Texas	48	Bexar	029
CLASSIFIC	CATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	X PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	X_MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	BOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	-XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER O	F PROPERTY			
•	City of San Antonio	adm by Donartmo	ont of Parks and I	Pearoation
NAME	CITY OF Sail AllColle	o, adm. by bepareme	and of Fairs and i	Necreacion
STREET & NUMBER		_		
CITY, TOWN	950 East Hildebran	<u>a</u>	STATE	
CITT, TOWN	San Antonio	VICINITY OF	Texas	
LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESC	RIPTION		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Bexar County Court			
COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS,		iouse		
STREET & NUMBER				
	South Main Street	l block south of Co	ommerce Street	
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
	San Antonio		Texas	
REPRESEN	ITATION IN EXIST	'ING SURVEYS		
TITLE				
DATE				
DATE		FEDERAL	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR				
SURVEY RECORDS			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
CITY, TOWN			STATE	

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT
XGOOD

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS

__UNALTERED

XALTERED

X ORIGINAL SITE

__FAIR

__UNEXPOSED

__MOVED DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Spanish Governor's Palace is a long one-story, U-shaped building with three-foot thick walls of stone covered in lime plaster. The walls rise in a parapet above the flat roof with projecting downspouts or <u>canales</u> to carry rain water off the roof. There are two rooms and a loft which was once used to store food. The rooms in the rear open out onto a patio and a large courtyard. The pebbled paving is a reproduction, designed from a Spanish patio, but one similar to this is mentioned in historical documents.

By the 1920s, the building had long been neglected, and the rooms had been leased for various commercial purposes. It was saved only after it became unsafe for its tenants. The entrance hall was once the "Hole-in-the-Wall Bar" advertising nickle beer. The room to the right-the chapel--was used as a clothing store. The long room to the left, the ball room, was once a produce market; and the room beyond it was a tailor shop. It had also been used as a school at one time. The will of Jose Ignacio Perez from 1849 aided in the restoration as he had bequeathed each room separately to members of his family.

The building was purchased in 1928 by the city and was restored in 1929. The architect and contractors tried to preserve as much of the original building as possible. The rock and brick walls were in tact for the most part. Those walls that were replaced were done so on the basis of existing foundations. The lime plaster covering the walls now had to be added since the original had deteriorated over the years. The wooden lintels over the doorway are the originals. The tile floors in several of the rooms are the original; but had to be relaid since they were badly warped. The native flagstone was laid in place of that which was in the building at the time of the restoration and are said to have been used at one time as parts of the city streets. The doors were put on in 1929, but all were hand-carved according to the design of one remaining original door. The corrugated tin roof that covered the building was replaced with an authentic reproduction. Old telegraph poles and railroad ties were used for the ceiling. Because they look like telegraph poles rather than hand hewn vigas it produces a less than desirable result. The interior is furnished with authentic period pieces and is used as a museum of Spanish Colonial history.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW					
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION		
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE		
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE		
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<u>X</u> 1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER		
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION		
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	X_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

1749

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Erected in 1749 as the residence of the commanding officer of the San Antonio presidio, the Spanish Governor's Palace is a restored example of a large Spanish Colonial town house. It is also the only remaining example in Texas of an aristocratic 18th-century Spanish residence.

HISTORY

The city of San Antonio was founded in 1718 by the Spanish Viceroy, the Marquis de Valero. It was a midpoint between the presidios of northern Mexico and those of the early Texas capital, Los Adaes, in the eastern part of the State. The East Texas settlements were not permanent, but they had been established as a buffer along the border of French territorial possessions.

The San Antonio Mission--San Antonio de Valero--(later known as the Alamo) was established at the city's founding. The accompanying fort--one half mile west--was called the Presidio San Antonio de Bexar.

The present structure of the Presidio was begun in 1722. All that remains is now called the Spanish Governor's Palace. This building was originally intended as the residence of the presidial commander, but it was later used as the home of several of the Spanish governors who resided in San Antonio. The presidio was built for the protection of the area Missions, because of the constant threat from the various Indian tribes of the region.

The original thatch buildings, by 1749, were replaced with permanent fire-proof structures including the walls, ramparts, warehouses, officer's quarters, soldiers' barracks, and the Commandancia which was located along the west side of the fortification. The Commandancia, the residence of the Captain of the Presidio, came to represent the seat of Government, when the Villa of San Fernando (San Antonio) was made the capital of the Province of Texas in 1772. After this, the Spanish governors resided in the Commandancia of the Presidio, which became known as the Governor's Palace. There were thirty-two governors between 1722 and approximately 1804.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Continuance Sheet)

GEOGRAPHICAL DAT			
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	1 acre	_	
UTM REFERENCES			
	3 2 5 4 9 5 0 PRTHING	B L L L L ZONE EASTING	NORTHING
		- 1-1 26 6 11 12	
The Spanish Governor's Plaza on the east, Dolor and West Commerce Street and west to the full wid (city location map, item	rosa Street on t on the north dth of the blo	the south, Calder . The house and i	Street on the west ts gardens extend east
LIST ALL STATES AND COU	NTIES FOR PROPERT	IES OVERLAPPING STATE	OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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In 1804 the house was purchased by Igancio Perez, whose heirs retained the title until the city of San Antonio bought it in 1928. In the 1860's the house was used as a school house and later as a second-hand clothing store, restaurant and bar. By the time the city acquired it in 1928, the building had been considerably altered. The house was restored in 1929-30 and is now a museum with Spanish Colonial period furniture.

Since the dedication in 1931, the Governor's Palace has been under the supervision of the Department of Parks and Recreation of the city of San Antonio.

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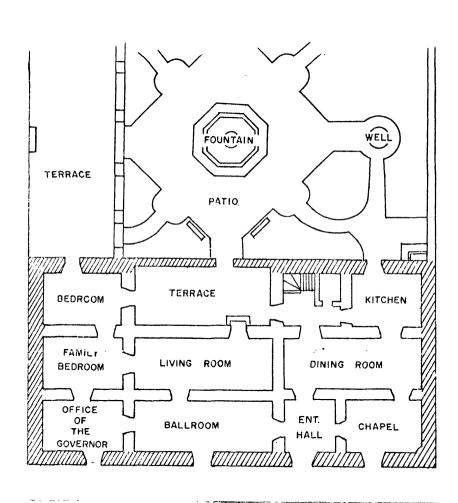
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Floor plan for Governor's Palace, San Antonio, Texas

