

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A)*. Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Abandoned Route 66, Cuervo to SR 156

other names/site number US 54

2. Location

street & number Cuervo to the junction with SR 156 not for publication

city or town Cuervo vicinity

state New Mexico code NM county Guadalupe code 019 zip code 88417

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] SI/NO 10-4-93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

[Signature] New Mexico
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature] 11-22-93

Rt. 66, Cuervo to SR 156
Name of Property

Guadalupe County, NM
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Hist. & Arch. Resources of Rt. 66 through NM

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION: road-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION: road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

no style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other earth fill, asphalt surfacing,
concrete culverts

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

transportation

Period of Significance

1932-1952

Significant Dates

1932, 1952

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Rt. 66, Cuervo to SR 156
Name of Property

Guadalupe County, NM
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 84 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

13	553610	3876200
Zone	Easting	Northing

2

13	553450	3876110
Zone	Easting	Northing

3

13	546770	3867940
Zone	Easting	Northing

4

Zone	Easting	Northing

 See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David J. Kammer Ph.D.
organization contract historian date August, 1993
street & number 521 Aliso Dr. NE telephone (505) 266-0586
city or town Albuquerque state NM zip code 87108

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7&8 Page 1

Historic and Architectural Resources of Rt. 66 through NM
Guadalupe County, New Mexico

7. Description

This 6.9 mile section of abandoned Route 66 serves as a local road for ranchers and utility company line crews. It marks one of the few places where the road deviated substantially from the railroad right of way. Although disuse and the erosive forces of nature have resulted in the deterioration of the asphalt surface, concrete culverts, a yellow center stripe, and modest bank cuts remain. These structural elements as well as the original cross section template and the vistas of the surrounding rural landscape contribute to the historic feeling of this road section.

Passing southwest from Cuervo, this abandoned portion of Route 66 crosses a deep arroyo carved by Cuervito Creek, employing a large concrete box culvert, and then climbs two hundred feet to an elevation of 5,100 ft. at Mesita Contadero. Small bank cuts marking the ascent give way to a table land where the road bed is built on the mesa's relatively flat rock and caliche surface. Despite much deteriorating asphalt the yellow median stripe of the twenty-four ft. wide road is often evident. Fences line the right of way, enclosing rangeland marked by short grasses and cholla cactus. Typical of most ascents along Route 66, a gas station awaited motorists at the rise, a spot now marked only by the buildings' foundations and concrete pump island. With I-40 well removed to the north, this road section offers unbroken scenic vistas of eastern New Mexico rangeland, conveying a strong feeling of early motor travel across rural portions of the state.

8. Statement of Significance

This road section was realigned from an earlier course in 1932 under FAP 114-C and served as Route 66 and 54 until 1952 when the highway was realigned along the course presently followed by I-40. This section of abandoned Route 66 is significant for its association with the rise of automobile

Name of Multiple Property Listing

County and State

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-66)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8, 9, 10 Page 2

Historic and Architectural Resources of Rt. 66 through NM
Guadalupe County, New Mexico

Significance (continued)

tourism in New Mexico as discussed in the Multiple Property listing and thus is eligible under Criterion A. With its historic alignment, its cross-section template, its structural elements including culverts and cut banks reflecting early road construction, design, materials and workmanship, the section is eligible under Criterion C.

9. Bibliography

"Plan and Profile of FAP 114-C" dated 12/1/32. On file at the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department, Records Control Unit of Records Management, Santa Fe.

Verbal Boundary Description

This property is 6.9 miles long and is indicated on Guadalupe County property maps as abandoned. The northeast end lies at the junction of old Route 66 with the eastbound I-40 exit ramp at Cuervo, and the southwest end is at the junction with SR 156. The sides are marked by a corridor extending fifty feet on either side of the road's centerline, marking a right of way of 100 feet, a minimum width used by the State Highway Department during the 1930s.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire parcel historically associated with this section of Route 66.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

10/13/93

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Route 66 Through New Mexico MPS

COVER	Date Listed
1. Atzac Auto Court	11/22/93
2. Cottage Bakery	11/22/93
3. El Vado Auto Court	11/22/93
4. Jones Motor Company	11/22/93
5. La Mesa Motel	11/22/93
6. Maisel's Indian Trading Post	11/22/93
7. Modern Auto Court	11/22/93
8. Pig'n Calf Lunch	2/15/94
9. Tower Courts	11/22/93
10. Abandoned Route 66—Cuervo to NM 156	11/22/93
11. Herman's, Roy T., Garage and Service Station	11/22/93
12. Log Cabin Motel	11/22/93
13. State Maintained Route 66—Manuelito to the Arizona Border	11/22/93
14. Blue Swallow Motel	11/22/93
15. Locally Maintained Route 66—Glenrio to San Jon	
16. State Maintained Route 66—Palomas to Montoya	
17. Evans, Greene, Garage	11/22/93

H ^ UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Abandoned Route 66--Cuervo to NM 156
NAME:

MULTIPLE Route 66 Through New Mexico MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW MEXICO, Guadalupe

DATE RECEIVED: 10/13/93 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/26/93
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/11/93 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/27/93
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93001206

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: Y
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: Y PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: Y SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11/22/93 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - A
REVIEWER Boland
DISCIPLINE Historian
DATE 11/22/93

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity to significance
 justification of exception
 other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



11

Abandoned Rt. 66, Cuervo to SR 156
Guadalupe Cty., NM



12

Abandoned Rt. 66, Cuervo to SR 156
Guadalupe Cty., NM



13

Culvert, abandoned Rt. 66, Cuervo to SR 156
Guadalupe Cty., N.M.