

1396

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 State maintained Route 66: Albuquerque to Rio Puerco

other names/site number Laguna cut-off

2. Location

street & number West Central exit at I-40 W to the Rio Puerco Bridge ☐ not for publication

city or town Albuquerque ☒ vicinity

state New Mexico code NM county Bernalillo code 001 zip code 87121

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.)

Ly Sebastian SHPO 10-1-97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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

Beth Boland

Date of Action

11/19/97

Rt. 66, Albuquerque to Rio Puerco
Name of Property

Bernalillo 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.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

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

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 culvert, metal bridge

Narrative Description

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

Rt. 66, Albuquerque to Rio Puerco
Name of Property

Bernalillo County, NM
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.

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

transportation

Period of Significance

1933-1956

Significant Dates

1933, 1937

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Rt. 66, Albuquerque to Rio Puerco
Name of Property

Bernalillo County, NM
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 103 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	113	335980	3881120
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	113	3301150	3880130

3	13	322810	3878250
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

☐ 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, 1996
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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018). Washington DC 20503

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Historic & Architectural Resources
of Rt. 66 through NM

State maintained Route 66: Albuquerque
to Rio Puerco

Section number 7 Page 1

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

7. Description

This 8.5 mile section of state maintained Route 66 serves as a frontage road along Interstate 40 west of Albuquerque. A portion of what was referred to as the Laguna Cut-off in the early 1930s, the road was paved and became a part of straightened Route 66 in 1937, serving as a part of the highway until it was replaced by I-40 after 1956. Marked by a scenic descent from Nine Mile Hill into the Rio Puerco Valley and a through truss bridge across the steeply eroded banks of Rio Puerco, this portion of Route 66 is largely unaltered and conveys a strong feeling of travel along Route 66 in the 1930s and 40s.

The road section crosses a segment of the basin and range that characterizes Route 66 through the mid-portion of the state. Rising out of the Rio Puerco Valley, the road section climbs more than 500 ft., a climb marked by several slope cuts and small concrete box culverts, to an elevation of over 5,700 ft. at its eastern end at Nine Mile Hill. The summit offers notable vistas. Eastward lies the emerald chain marking the middle Rio Grande Valley with Albuquerque stretching across the valley to the Sandia Mountains beyond. Westward lies the Rio Puerco Valley and Mt. Taylor, rising to 12,000 ft. Crossing the Rio Puerco is a Parker through truss bridge. The bridge received substantial repairs in 1957. However, its reinforced concrete approaches and superstructure date to its construction, and the original bridge plates remain affixed to the headwalls of the reinforced concrete approaches. Although I-40 closely parallels this portion of Route 66, causing a slight deviation from the original alignment for less than a quarter mile at the westbound I-40 exit at Rio Puerco, the historic alignment, cross-section template, and surrounding landscape remain largely intact.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Historic & Architectural Resources
of Rt. 66 through Nm

State maintained Route 66: Albuquerque
to Rio Puerco

Section number 8 & 9 Page 2

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

8. Statement of Significance

Although this portion of the highway was not paved and officially designated as Route 66 until 1937, it was included as mileage in the state's Federal Aid Projects (FAP 178-A and B) in 1932, anticipating its inclusion as a part of Route 66. Federal funding was then used to construct the Rio Puerco Bridge in 1933. When the bridge, to be included as an individual property in a separate multiple property submission treating the historic bridges of New Mexico, was completed many travellers used the so-called "Laguna Cutoff" rather than the official alignment of Route 66, which was several miles longer. Many who travelled the highway during the period of significance recall the vistas at Nine Mile Hill, especially the views of Mt. Taylor and of Albuquerque at night, as some of the most inspiring in the American West. This section of state-maintained Route 66 is significant for its association with the rise of automobile tourism in New Mexico and thus is eligible under Criterion A.

9. Bibliography

"Plan and Profile of FAP 178 A and B" dated 5/18/35 and 6/6/35. On file at the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department, Records Control Unit of Records Management, Santa Fe.

Rae, Steven R. et. al. New Mexico Historic Bridge Survey. Santa Fe: New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department, 1987.

Verbal Boundary Description

This property is 8.5 miles long and is maintained as a frontage road by the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department. The east end lies 200 yards west of the junction of Route 66 with the westbound entry ramp to I-40 at the West Central Avenue interchange, and the west end is at the west end

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97001396

Date Listed: 11/19/97

Rte. 66, St. Maintained, Albuq.-Rio Puerco, Bernalillo Co., NM
Property Name **County** **State**

Route 66 Through New Mexico MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Beth Boland
Signature of the Keeper

8/12/98
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Criteria Consideration G should be checked. Also, the bridge is a contributing resource; therefore, the correct resource count is 2 contributing structures.

This information was verified by Mary Ann Anders of the NM SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Rte. 66, state maintained from Albuquerque to Rio Puerco
NAME:

MULTIPLE Route 66 through New Mexico MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW MEXICO, Bernalillo

DATE RECEIVED: 10/10/97 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/22/97
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/07/97 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/24/97
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 97001396

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: Y
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N
(in 1398)

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT ___ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept - A

REVIEWER Boland

DISCIPLINE Historic

TELEPHONE _____

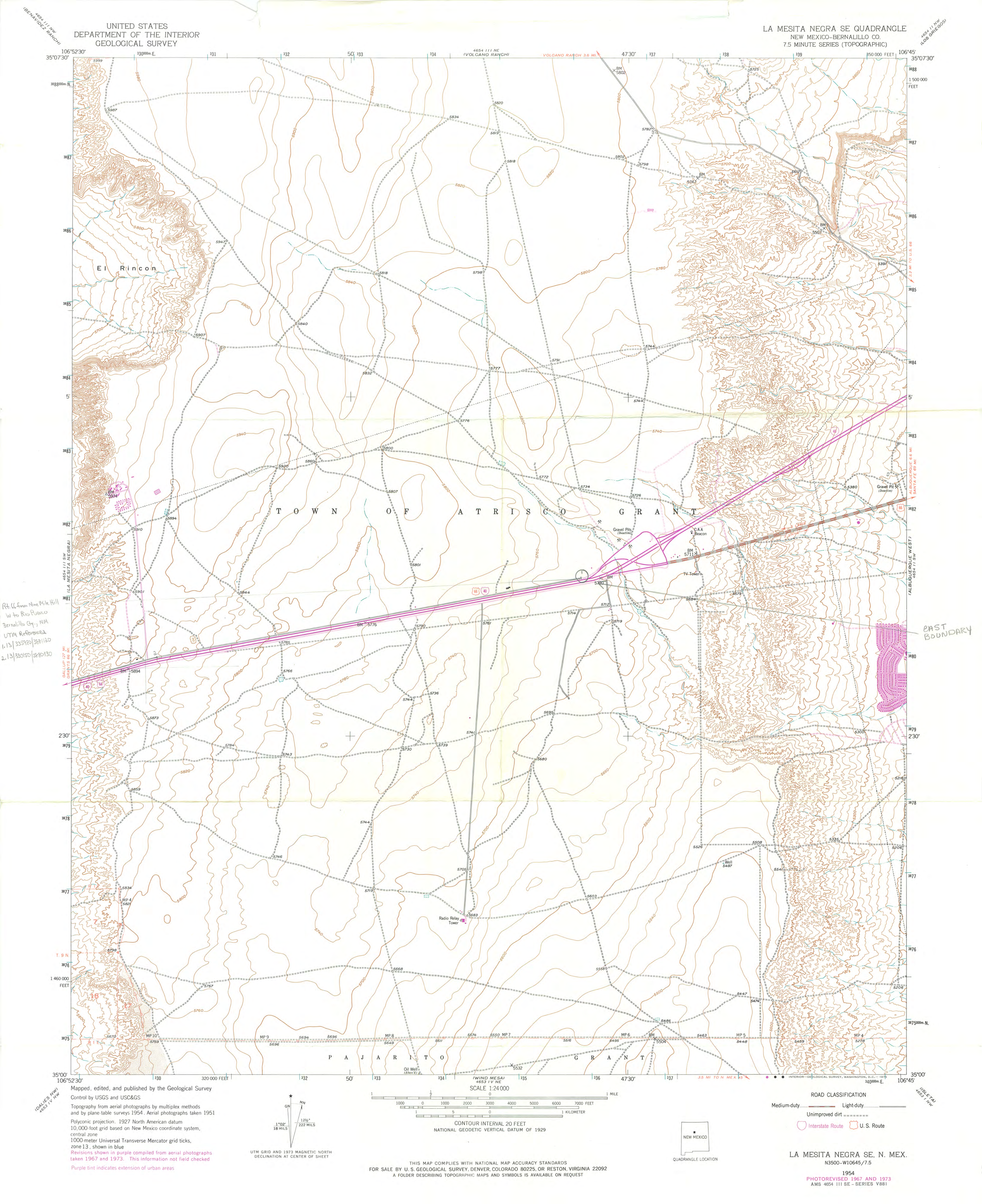
DATE 11/19/97

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

crit. 4 and bridge



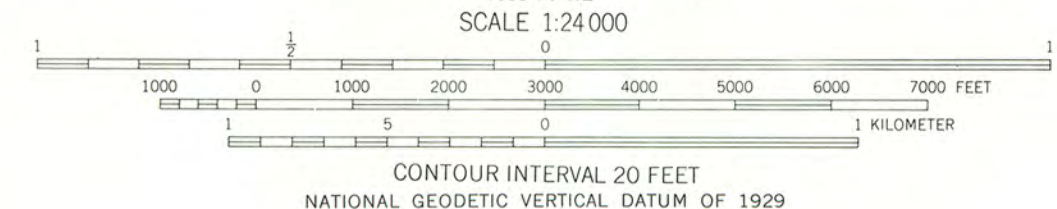
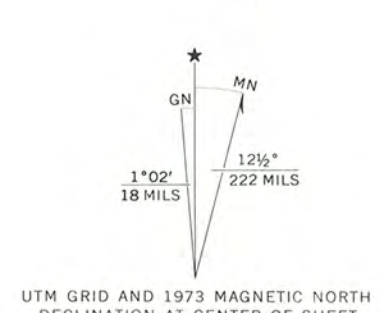
1. Rt. 66 Albuquerque to Rio Puerco
2. Bernalillo, NM
3. D. Kammer
4. 5/93
5. NM SHPO
6. Rio Puerco Bridge road, E
- 7 1



Rt. 66 from Nine Mile Hill
to Rio Puerco
Bernalillo Co., NM
UTM Reference
1.13/335780/3881180
2.13/330150/3880130

EAST
BOUNDARY

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
and by plane-table surveys 1954. Aerial photographs taken 1951
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on New Mexico coordinate system,
central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 13, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1967 and 1973. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LA MESITA NEGRA SE, N. MEX.
N3500-W10645/7.5
1954
PHOTOREVISED 1967 AND 1973
AMS 4654 III SE - SERIES V881

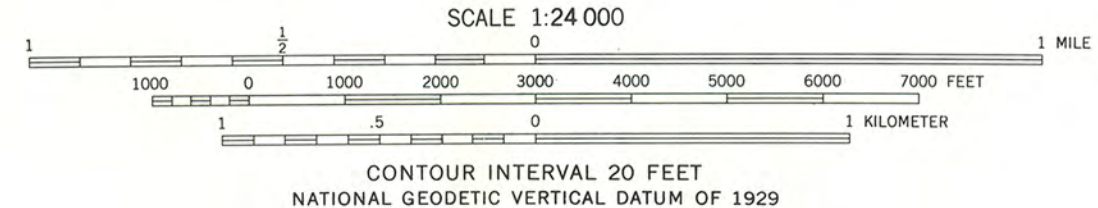


WEST
BOUNDARY

Rt. 66 from Nine Mile Hill
W to Rio Puerco
Bernalillo City, NM
UTM Reference
213722E 103878250

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
Aerial photographs taken 1951. Field check 1954
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American Datum
10,000 foot grid based on New Mexico coordinate system,
central zone
Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 13, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1971. This information not field checked

UTM GRID and 1971 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 1 meter south and
53 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
U. S. Route ——— State Route ———
Interstate Route ———

LA MESITA NEGRA, N. MEX.
35106-A8-TF-024
1954
PHOTOREVISED 1971
DMA 4654 III SW-SERIES V881
PHOTOINSPECTED 1975

PROPERTY NAME: Rte. 66, state maintained from Albuquerque to Rio Puerco

OTHER NAME/ SITE No.: Laguna cut off

MULTIPLE NAME: Route 66 through New Mexico MPS

ADDRESS/ BOUNDARY: Rte. 66. West Central exit at I-40 to the Rio Puerco Bridge

CITY: Albuquerque

VICINITY

COUNTY: Bernalillo

STATE: NEW MEXICO

Restricted Location Information: Owner: STATE Resource Type: STRUCTURE

Contributing Noncontributing

Buildings	0	0
Sites	0	0
Structures	1	0
Objects	0	0

Nomination/Determination Type: MULTIPLE RESOURCE

Nominator: STATE GOVERNMENT

Nominator Name:
NOT APPLICABLE

Federal Agency: NOT APPLICABLE

NPS Park Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Certification: DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION

Date: 10/10/97

Other Certification: NOT APPLICABLE

Historic Functions: TRANSPORTATION

Historic Subfunctions: ROAD-RELATED

Current Functions: TRANSPORTATION

Current Subfunctions: ROAD-RELATED

Level of Significance: STATE Applicable Criteria: EVENT

Significant Person's Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Criteria Considerations: NOT APPLICABLE

Area of Significance: TRANSPORTATION

Periods of Significance: 1925-1949 1950-1974 Circa: Specific Sig. Years:

1933

Architect/Builder/Engineer/
Designer:

Cultural Affiliation:

NOT APPLICABLE

NOT APPLICABLE

Other Documentation:

NOT APPLICABLE

HABS No. N/A

HAER No. N/A

Architectural NO STYLE LISTED
Styles:

Describe Other Style: NOT APPLICABLE

Foundation Materials: NONE LISTED

Wall Materials: NONE LISTED

Roof Materials: NONE LISTED

Other Materials: EARTH ASPHALT

Acreage: 103.0

UTM	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
Coordinates:	13/	/3 35 980/	/38 81 120	13/	/3 30 150/	/38 80 130
	13/	/3 22 810/	/38 78 250	/	/	/