OMB Control No. 1024-0018
expiration date 03/31/2022

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: American Smelting and Refining Company Southwestern Department Headquarters

Other names/site number: ASARCO Southwestern Department Headquarters, ASARCO Headquarters

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: 1150 North 7th Avenue

City or town: Tucson State: Arizona County: Pima

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___national ___statewide _X_local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

_X_A ___B _X_C ___D

Kathleen Ferrell SHPO 18 Nov 2021

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	X
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	X
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
2	1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/business

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Modern Movement

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property:
Foundation: Concrete (reinforced)
Walls: Concrete (reinforced)
Roof: Synthetic (composite rolled)
Spandrel Panel: Copper

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The American Smelting and Refining Company Southwestern Department Headquarters (ASARCO Headquarters) is a commercial office building at 1150 North 7th Avenue in the City of Tucson in Pima County, Arizona. The building is located in the northern portion of a 1.1 acre corner parcel and is surrounded by a combination of detached residential bungalows and low-rise commercial development which characterizes the adjacent neighborhood of Feldman's Addition. Within this area, the rectangular building footprint occupies approximately 7,800 square ft and is adjacent to a 76-car parking lot and a small outbuilding with a footprint of 1,848 square ft. The principal building rises above the parking lot and outbuilding for three stories over a partial basement. Overall, these floors contain 22,564 square ft and are topped by a flat roof with a rooftop elevator machine room. Between basement and roof, a reinforced concrete frame is composed of cast-in-place concrete columns which connect concrete decks. The east and west elevations of the building are bookended by upright planes of concrete masonry units covered in a white plaster skim coat. The north and west elevations, meanwhile, reveal the inner grid work of the building's structure behind which are recessed full-length rows of window walls. These window walls are divided by vertical and horizontal members with upper and lower spandrel panels formed from copper plates. Referencing ASARCO's primary product, the copper plates create a polychromatic effect adding visual interest to the building's otherwise neutral color

scheme. Along each floor, cast concrete L-shaped "sun shades" project from the grid and provide additional shading to the window walls.

As constructed in 1964-1965, the ASARCO Headquarters was a two-story building with exposed exterior stairways tucked into the planar walls of the east and west elevations. In 1971, the headquarters was fully built out with a third story added seamlessly above the lower two. At this time, the exposed stairways were enclosed with tripartite window walls added on each floor to their north and south elevations. Since 1971, the functional interior of the building has been altered through changes to the original color scheme, as well as the introduction of interior access doors and modifications to the central stair atrium. The dates of these changes are unknown. The exterior of the building, meanwhile, has undergone minimal alterations which are limited to the updating of its original signage in 1975 and the introduction of mature desert landscaping along its south perimeter at an unknown date. The single outbuilding has been repeatedly enlarged in recent decades to accommodate new functions. As the building's historic architectural significance is largely restricted to its external appearance, it retains its integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Narrative Description

The ASARCO Headquarters building is located within the Feldman's residential neighborhood (outside the Feldman's Historic District) in central Tucson where it occupies a corner lot bordered by North 7th Avenue to the west, East Helen Street to the north, and a mid-block alleyway named North Ferro Avenue to the east (Figures 1 and 2. See continuation sheets, Figures 29-35, for extended architectural plans). The official Feldman's Historic District, located immediately to the north, west, and east, is defined by single-story detached dwellings largely constructed in the first decades of the twentieth century. To the north is a two-story midcentury apartment complex, while to the northeast is a single-story commercial office block constructed in 1978 with Mission Revival features. Aside from the construction of the adjacent office space, the setting has changed little since the completion of the third floor of the ASARCO Headquarters in 1971.

As originally constructed, the building stood in stark contrast to its surroundings with its multi-story scale and late-Modernist design. This juxtaposition remains largely intact and the building continues to appear both monumental and novel within its surroundings. To further reinforce the stature of the ASARCO Headquarters building, the sloping grade of the parcel was retained and the building sited upon its apex near the parcels' northern edge. A low reinforced concrete retaining wall was constructed along the north and west property lines providing a podium to rise several feet above the level of the street. Topping this is a modern 5 ft steel fence which has been painted with a metallic gold color to emulate copper panels found on the building and in reference to ASARCO's principal product, copper. A sliding vehicular gate and smaller pedestrian gate provide access into the parcel from North 7th Avenue. A paved 76-car parking lot occupies most of the southern two-thirds of the parcel while the headquarters building occupies the northernmost third. A smaller outbuilding with stuccoed walls and a flat roof occupies an 1,848 square ft footprint in the southeast corner of the parcel where it originally served as a

garage and was later expanded to act as a data center. A shade structure extends from the southwestern corner of the outbuilding to cover five spaces of the parking lot.

The principal building occupies a footprint of 7,800 square ft which is rectangular in shape measuring in total 155 ft from east–to–west and 52 ft from north–to–south. Enclosed stairwells project from the center of the building's east and west ends where they each extend 9 ft beyond the central building block (Figures 3-4). This block is a three-story edifice with a flat roof and partial basement which is constructed from a reinforced concrete framework. The smaller east and west elevations are defined by blank expanses of stuccoed CMUs. The north and south elevations, meanwhile, are articulated by strong tectonic forms including rounded concrete columns which rise out of the ground for three stories, terminating at the level of the roofline. Not including the stairwells, these columns divide the elevation in 9 bays each with a width of 15 ft. Further division is made by L-shaped cast concrete "sun shades" which are set within each bay where they are positioned to overhang each of the three stories and project slightly beyond the columns to reveal the extent of their overhang. The rectilinear forms of the sun shades counterpoise the rounded forms of the columns and create a gridiron effect across the north and south elevations which itself is balanced against the planar elevations to the east and west (Figure 5).

Behind the gridiron of columns and sun shades, each story of the north and south elevations contains an inset window wall. These walls are composed of vertical and horizontal painted steel members which divide the wall into three horizontal friezes and a series of vertical panels with approximately five panels visible per bay (Figure 6). The larger middle frieze is glazed while above and below, smaller spandrel panels are covered with copper sheets. In this same configuration, groupings of three full panels are placed within each story of the two stairwell's north and south elevations (see Figure 4).

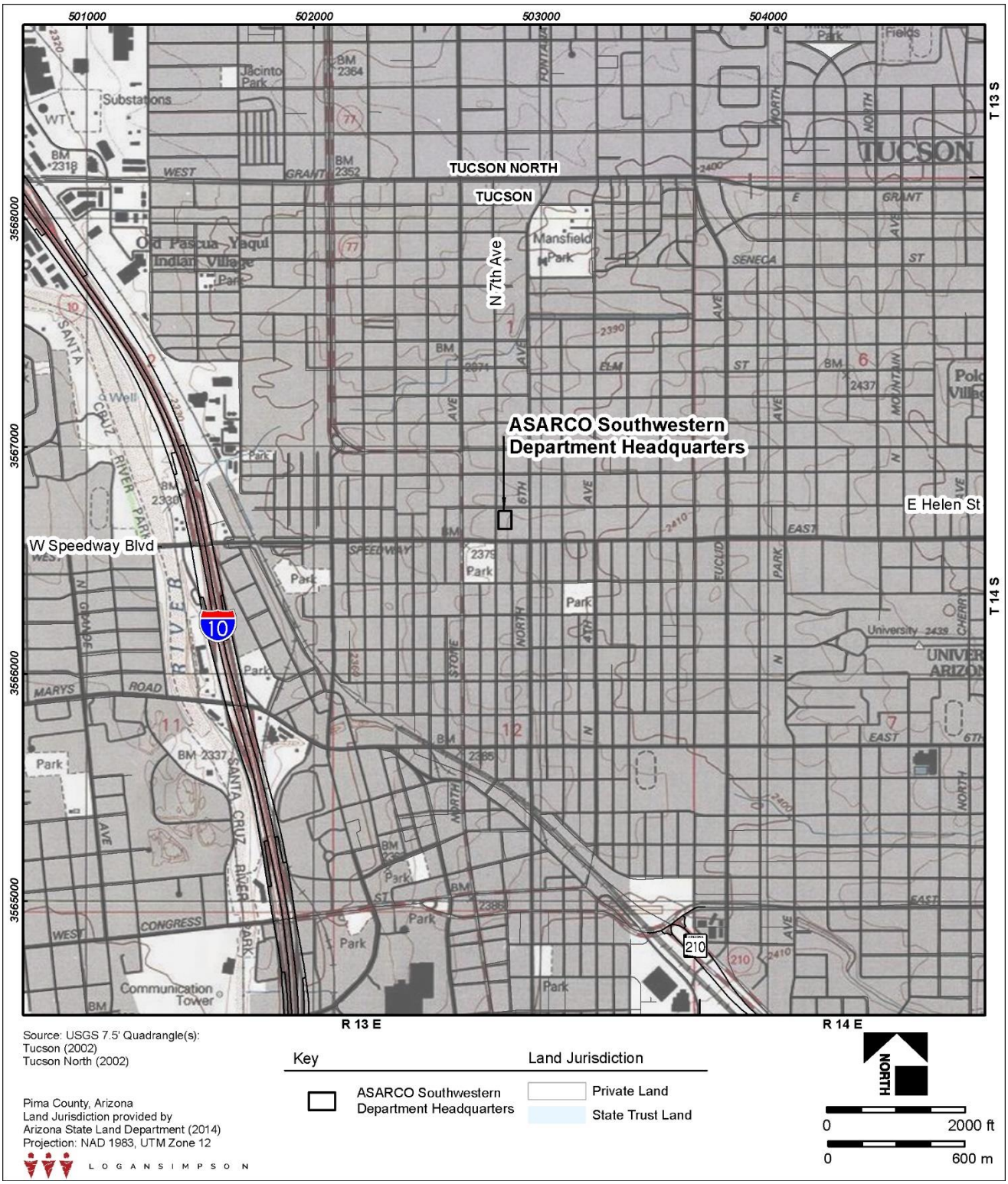

Figure 1. Location of the ASARCO Headquarters building.

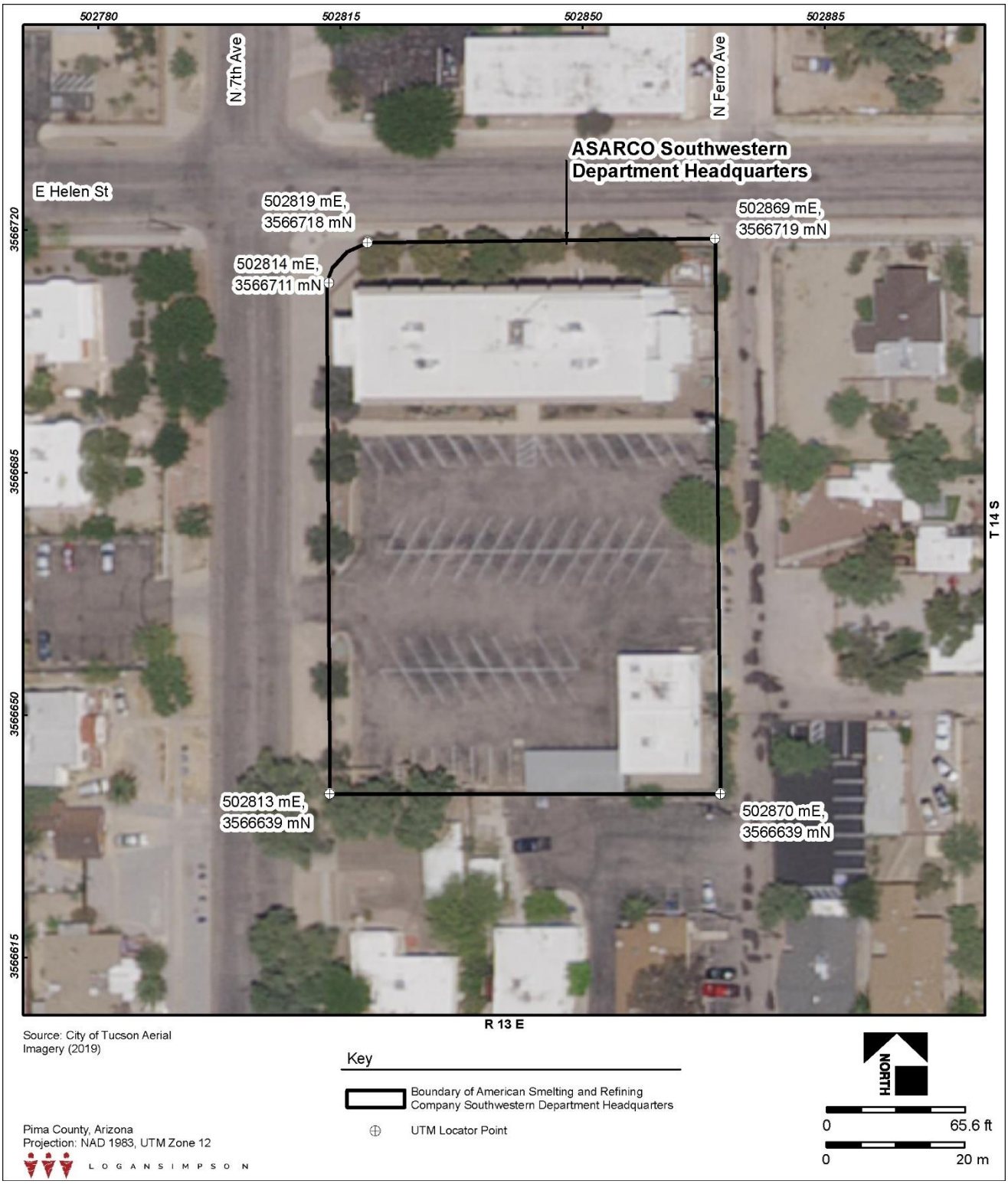

Figure 2. Aerial overview of the ASARCO Headquarters building showing nominated boundary.

Figure 3. ASARCO Headquarters, south elevation, facing north (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0001]).

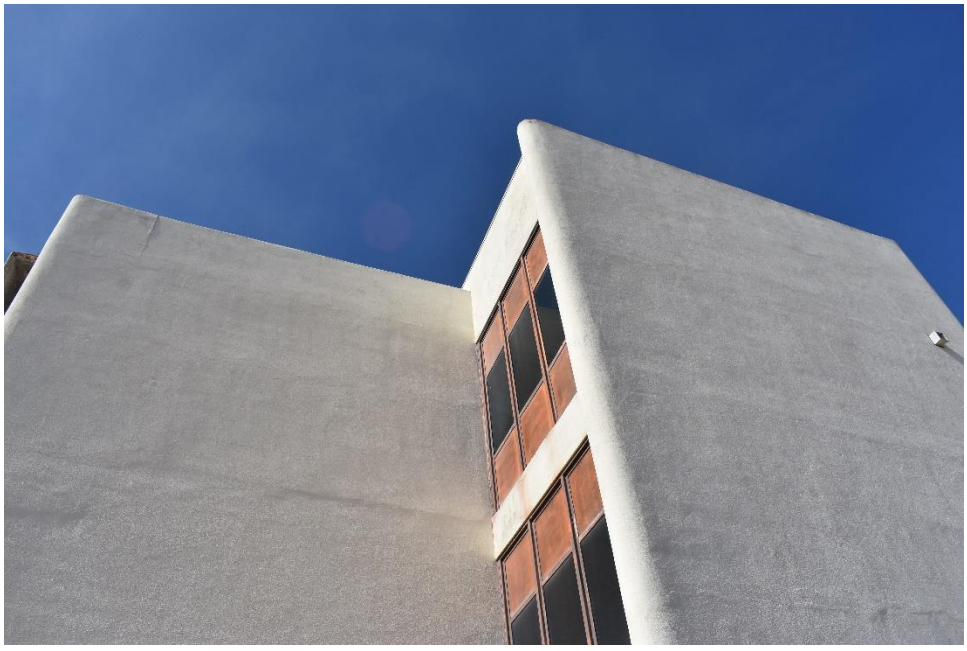

Figure 4. ASARCO Headquarters, east elevation, facing northwest (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0002]).

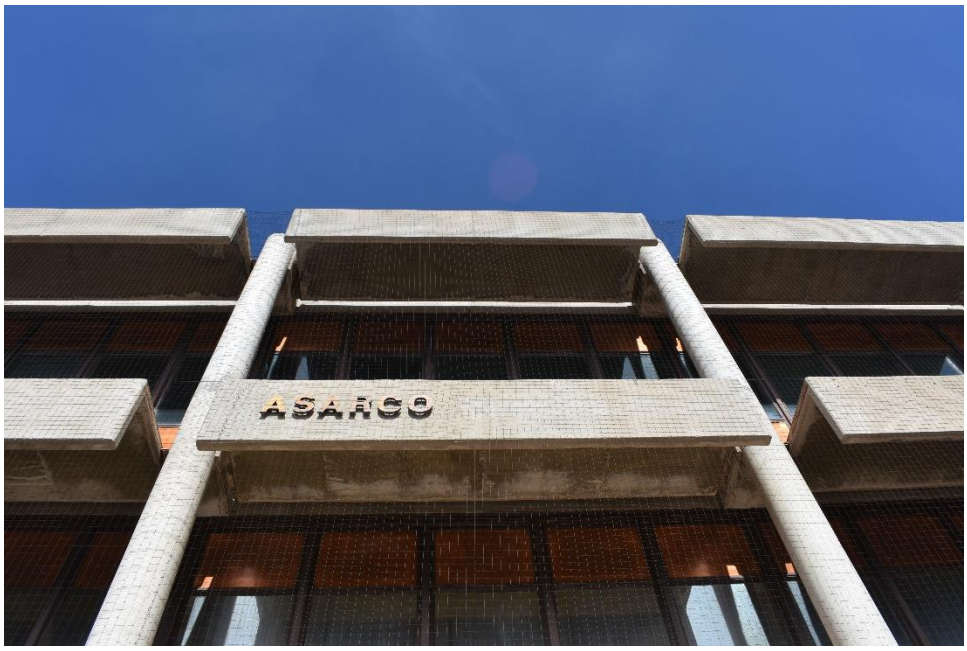

Figure 5. ASARCO Headquarters, showing south elevation, looking up (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0003]).

Figure 6. ASARCO Headquarters, facing northwest (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0004]).

The building's principal entry is found in the south elevation through the first story's central bay. Here, the painted steel members of the window walls are used to create five full-height panels of varying widths. The wider second and fourth panels are operable as doors with decorative handles molded in the appearance of an earlier ASARCO logo (Figure 7). Additional side entries are provided through the south elevations of the west and east stairwells which are composed of flush steel doors set into the window walls.

Figure 7. ASARCO Headquarters, showing principal entry in south elevation, looking north (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0005]).

Along the surface of the building, the word "ASARCO" has been spelled out in copper block lettering on the south and west elevations. Small flood lights are affixed to the east and west ends of the south elevation to help light the parking lot, while bird netting has been spread across the entire north and south elevations. Around the perimeter of the building, xeriscaping with gravel ground cover, various native cacti, small boulders, and small-scale shade trees have been used to ornament and screen the exterior elevations. Along the building's east side, vegetation gives way to utility equipment placed atop concrete pads within a fenced enclosure.

Although much of the ASARCO Headquarters' interior plan remains intact, some of the building's internal finishes have been upgraded to accommodate the needs of employees. The first story of the building is defined by a central lobby which leads to an open stairway and elevator (Figures 8 and 9). Bisecting the lobby is a central hallway which runs down the building's center from east to west and terminates in the flanking stairwells (Figure 10). Offices and other administrative rooms open off the hallway at regular intervals. The second story is similarly arranged but the entry lobby has been replaced by additional office spaces and several interior window walls with frosted glass to help light enclosed secretarial rooms (Figure 11). The third story, meanwhile, retains an elongated central lobby space with wider hallways leading to additional offices. Finally, the building's partial basement is accessed through a door in the first story lobby and contains a short hallway which leads to three unfinished storage and utility rooms of varying sizes (Figure 12).

Figure 8. ASARCO Headquarters, showing first story entry lobby, looking north (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0006]).

Figure 9. ASARCO Headquarters, showing central stairway from second floor lobby, looking northwest (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0007]).

Figure 10. ASARCO Headquarters, showing first story from lobby, looking east (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0008]).

Figure 11. ASARCO Headquarters, showing second story hallway, looking southeast (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0009]).

Figure 12. ASARCO Headquarters, showing basement storage room with hallway visible at left, looking southeast (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0010]).

Excepting the basement, original finishes include light gray asphalt tiles, vinyl baseboard trim, brass door hardware, aluminum switch plates, and a dropped acoustical ceiling (Figure 13). All of the central hallways have been carpeted except for the entry lobby which is paved in rustic ceramic tiles. Other intact interior spaces include the building's two restrooms, its central elevator, and the unfinished basement rooms which that include the original boiler system (Figure 14).

Figure 13. ASARCO Headquarters, showing first story from lobby, looking east (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0011]).

Figure 14. ASARCO Headquarters, showing basement boiler, looking southwest (Logan Simpson 2021 [AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0012]).

Integrity

Since the final buildout of the ASARCO Headquarters building in 1971, nearly all changes to its design during the intervening decades have concerned interior improvements and alterations. While the interior retains nearly all of its internal plan and much of its functional character, some internal offices have been enlarged through the removal of secretarial entries and locking access doors have been installed between the central lobby spaces and the axial hallways. The original floating stairway remains intact, however, its view from the entry has been obscured by a wood-frame wall and the original rock garden positioned beneath it has since been removed and tiled over (see Figure 26). Other internal alterations are consistent with the building's use over time and include replacement of the original dropped ceiling with a newer system of acoustical tiles, the covering of the original asphalt tiles with carpeting, and the introduction of an earth-toned paint scheme (see Figures 8, 11, and 13). The interior continues to express the feeling and association of a corporate administrative office and functions much as it was originally designed.

Beyond the principal building, the property's parking lot remains largely intact from the historic period and helps to demonstrate the property's design as a self-contained facility for accommodating both workers and their vehicles. The property's single outbuilding—originally a two-car garage—was altered and expanded to the north between 1972 and 1980 to accommodate a largescale computational facility and data center (NETR n.d.). It was again altered between 1990 and 1991 with the construction of a shade structure along the west elevation to cover five adjacent parking spaces (NETR n.d.).

The exterior of the principal ASARCO Headquarters building possesses historic integrity and retains nearly all of the building's essential physical features. These features are intact and unchanged since the end of the historic period and continue to readily communicate the building's late-Modernist design and corporate associations. The limited exterior changes which have occurred include alterations to the company's signage following its 1975 re-naming and the introduction of mature native landscaping in place of original shrubbery. The property's parking lot is similarly little changed from the historic period and continues to evince its important role in the design of Modernist commercial buildings. The single outbuilding, meanwhile, has been repeatedly altered outside of the historic period diminishing its integrity of design and association. Overall, the headquarters property as a whole retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The principal building and parking lot both contribute to the property's significance while the outbuilding does not.

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.)

- [X] 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.
- [X] 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.)

- [ ] 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Architecture
Industry

Period of Significance
1965-1970, 1971

Significant Dates
1965 (completion and occupation of original building)
1970 (enactment of Clean Air Act of 1970)
1971 (full buildout of third story)

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Cain, Nelson and Wares (CNW; architect)
W.F. Connelly Construction Co. (builder)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The ASARCO Headquarters building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) at the local level of significance under Criteria A and C. The building is significant in the areas of Industry (Criterion A) and Architecture (Criterion C) with a period of significance beginning in 1965 and stretching through 1970 with its final year including 1971. This period represents the completion and initial occupation of the building by ASARCO in 1965, continues through the beginning of its corporate decline with the enactment of the Clean Air Act in 1970, and finally includes the full buildout of the building's third story in 1971.

Founded as a collection of Smelters and Refineries in 1899, ASARCO came under the control of the Guggenheim family in 1901 and became the principal arm of the family's growing industrial empire. After expanding into mining in the early twentieth century, the company began extracting a variety of metals, including zinc and lead, through World War II. With declining mineral prices in the postwar era, ASARCO focused increasingly upon its copper interests and became the world's fourth largest copper producer by the early 1960s. To support its regional mining activities, ASARCO's Tucson-based Southwestern Department was expanded and placed in a purpose-built commercial office building after 1965. Although the company maintained

other regional departments, in all other known instances, these groups were located either within rented commercial suites or on the site of existing industrial facilities. Because of this, the ASARCO Headquarters building is a unique expression of the company's corporate image during the apex of its influence in the late-1960s. This influence extended unimpeded through 1970 when the passage of the Clean Air Act marked the first of numerous challenges which would slowly erode ASARCO's economic viability and corporate prestige.

The design of the ASARCO Headquarters building was produced by the local architectural firm of Cain Nelson Wares (CNW) who designed many of Tucson's modernist civic and commercial buildings. The building possesses high artistic value and is indicative of "situated modernism" found in the region throughout the mid-twentieth century. This localized form of the Modern Movement is representative of a regional response to national trends that considered both Arizona's extreme climate and incorporation of locally popular materials (e.g. copper). Within this larger context, the building is an expression of how local architects were using Modernist themes to develop an indigenous and original form of the movement.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Following the end of the American Civil War, the United States (U.S.) entered a period of unprecedented economic growth spurred by rapid industrialization. After the *Long Depression* of the 1870s, American manufacturing plants more than doubled, while railroad development, steel production, and the American banking sector all expanded and matured (Polley 2009:360; Bradley 2021). This economic growth coupled with dramatic social changes engendered by it, became known as the *Gilded Age*; a term coined by the 1874 novel by Mark Twain and Charles Dudley Warner of the same name (Polley 2009:360). Although often portrayed as the archetype of laissez-faire capitalism, the Gilded Age was, in fact, spurred by numerous governmental policies that encouraged rapid and large-scale development (Kazin et al. 2009). These policies included, the opening of the American West, the passage of protective tariffs, and use of armed forces to repress organized labor.

Through such policies, the government helped spur the creation of trusts and other conglomerates across numerous economic sectors, and through this expansion these groups were able to attain enormous political and economic power (Kazin et al. 2009). Although some of these organizations were grown from modest beginnings, others were strategically assembled by financiers and businessmen in the hopes of amassing substantial profits. Using their combined capitol or the results of a stock issuance, these groups would purchase a controlling interest in the competing firms of a single industry and subsequently coordinate each firm's production to eliminate competition and maximize profits (Bradley 2021).

The first and, perhaps, most famous of these trusts was John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil Trust which was formed in Ohio in 1882 and later moved to New Jersey after the company ran afoul of local antimonopoly laws (Marcosson 1949:58; Bradley 2021). Standard Oil's model was quickly

followed by others and new trusts in whiskey, lead, cottonseed oil, salt, tobacco, and sugar had been incorporated by 1891 (Bradley 2021). Rockefeller was one of many prominent businessmen of the Gilded Age, and was later joined by other titans of industry, such as steel magnate Andrew Carnegie, railroader Cornelius Vanderbilt, and banker J. P. Morgan (Polley 2009:361).

The founding of the American Smelting and Refining Company (ASARCO)

Among these individuals was "master monopolist" (sometimes "Robber Baron") Henry Huttleston Rogers who had helped Rockefeller create Standard Oil from a variety of individual companies. Learning from this experience, Rodgers subsequently applied his business acumen to other interests in steel, gas, coal, and transportation (*Helena Independent* 1899:1; Marcosson 1949:58-59). While helping to form a copper trust—the Amalgamated Copper Company—in 1899, Rogers hit upon the emerging smelting and refining industry as another field ripe for consolidation (Marcosson 1949:60-61). Although far from a new enterprise, smelting—the process of extracting minerals from mined ore—and refining—the process of purifying those minerals—had exploded across the western U.S. as the region's rich mining districts were claimed and exploited. Dozens of smelters and refineries were located throughout the country and the industry was defined by fierce competition to attract the business of mine owners (Marcosson 1949:62).

Beginning as early as 1897, Rogers along with business associates Leonard Lewishon and John Moore began negotiations to acquire control over the country's smelters and refineries. Together, they acquired interests in 17 corporations and 1 partnership); amounting to 16 smelting plants, 18 refineries, as well as several mines and mining claims located in Colorado and Mexico (Marcosson 1949:61-64; Byron 2001:1). In total, the collection of facilities stretched from Utah to Pennsylvania and Nebraska to Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula (Marcosson 1949:64). On April 4, 1899, the trust was formally incorporated as the American Smelting and Refining Company (ASARCO, also abbreviated to AS&R; Marcosson 1949:63-64). Rogers and his partners had managed to "combine all the principal smelting works in the United States with the exception of the Guggenheims" (qtd. in Marcosson 1949:62). As company historian Isaac F. Marcosson explained, "[t]he last six words of the quotation are full of significance" (Marcosson 1949:62).

Guggenheim Family

Like Rockefeller, Carnegie, or Morgan, the Guggenheim name was also well known during the Gilded Age. The family patriarch Meyer Guggenheim emigrated to the U.S. from Switzerland between 1847 and 1848 (Marcosson 1949:24). Although trained as a tailor, Meyer Guggenheim entered into a variety of business ventures upon landing in Philadelphia, including the manufacture of lace and a highly successful stove polish (Marcosson 1949:27-31).

By 1881, Meyer had accumulated a "comfortable fortune" and founded the firm M. Guggenheim's Sons to control his varied business interests and share them with his seven sons; Isaac, Daniel, Murry, Solomon, Simon, Benjamin, and William (in addition to Guggenheim's sons, he had three daughters with his wife Barbara; Jeanette, Rose, and Cora; Marcosson

1949:29, 31; Figure 15). Through several business associates, Meyer became owner of two flooded mines in Colorado's Leadville district; the AY and the Minnie (Marcosson 1949:35-36). With substantial investment, both mines were drained and found to contain a "bonanza" of lead and silver; eventually producing ore worth more than $100,000 a month (Marcosson 1949:37-39).

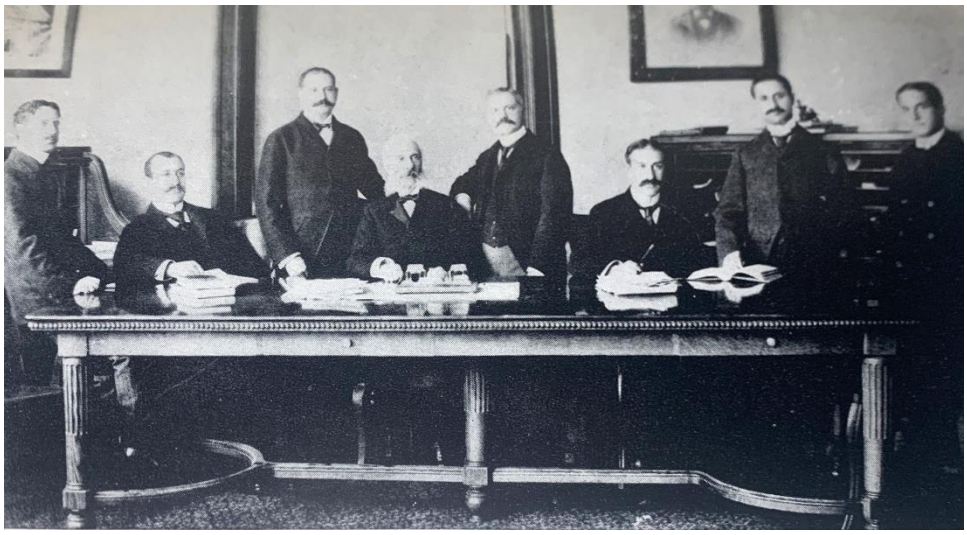

Figure 15. Guggenheim family showing from left to right: Benjamin, Murry, Isaac, Meyer, Daniel, Solomon R., Simon, and William, date unknown. (Courtesy of Marcosson 1949:90)

As the AY and Minnie continued to produce, Meyer Guggenheim became increasingly concerned over the prices of processing the ores which he referred to as "smelter extortion" (qtd. in Marcosson 1949:42). To reduce these costs, in 1889 he opened his own smelter in Pueblo, Colorado under the name of the Philadelphia Smelting and Refining Company and engaged three of his sons in its operation (Marcosson 1949:42-43). The smelter initially proved profitable processing not only the Guggenheim's Leadville ore, but also ore imported from American-held mines located in various Mexican districts (Marcosson 1949:44).

Changes in federal regulation after 1890 compelled the firm to construct a second smelter in the Mexican city of Monterrey which, in 1892, began processing Mexican ore from regional mining interests (Marcosson 1949:51-52). The Monterrey smelter was followed by a new plant at Aguascalientes the following year, marking the firm's first foray into copper mining (Marcosson 1949:52). Immediately thereafter, the company purchased various copper mines, constructed new transportation routes to connect the firm's properties, and erected a new smelting and refining facility at Perth Amboy, New Jersey (Marcosson 1949:54-55).

Through M. Guggenhiem's Sons, the family retained full ownership of the firm's holdings and were able to exert control over their operations. Although active managers, Marcosson explains that the Guggenheim's operated by two central principles; firstly, their "unfailing policy was to engage the most efficient experts in the industry, and let them alone, always abiding by their judgement" (Marcosson 1949:71). Secondly, the family sought to take advantage of economic

downturns "to [go] in big for development" and thus expand their enterprises at the lowest possible cost (Marcosson 1949:71). These policies guided the family's prudent investments and allowed the Guggenheim's to resist Rogers, Lewishon, and Moore's appeals to place their smelters and refineries within the ASARCO conglomerate. When asked, the firm responded that "[n]o, our business is a family affair. We control it and we will not enter into any arrangement that we cannot control" (qtd. in Marcosson 1949:63). Their absence would prove a major problem for ASARCO as the Guggenheim holdings would prevent the trust from operating as a complete monopoly.

Perhaps as the Guggenheims suspected, the substantial size and complexity of ASARCO's holdings made its profitability initially difficult (Lee 1950:42, 45). Administrative infighting, redundant facilities, and poor labor relations all stymied the efforts of Rogers and his associates to create a net revenue (Marcosson 1949:67). When strikes forced the closure of several ASARCO plants, the Guggenheims stepped in to help process the backlogged glut further complicating ASARCO's viability (Marcosson 1949:67).

Although the plants later reopened, ASARCO's debts continued to mount and by 1901, its stock had decreased from $100 per share to only $60 (Marcosson 1949:67-68; Lee 1950:45-46). Faced with the threat of insolvency, the trust's board of directors concluded that the Guggenheim interests were needed to create a complete monopoly and reverse the company's decline (Marcosson 1949:68). Over the objections of Rogers and Lewishon, the board of directors eventually traded an ownership stake in the ASARCO for most of the Guggenheim family holdings (Marcosson 1949:69). The trade was effected on April 8, 1901, leaving ASARCO the country's most powerful smelting conglomerate and the Guggenheim family at its helm (Marcosson 1949:69).

ASARCO's Subsequent Growth

Under Guggenheim control, ASARCO was further consolidated and optimized for increased profitability (Lee 1950:47). This helped to make the first decade of the twentieth century a "golden age" for the Guggenheim firm as its investments produced substantial returns (Lee 1950:81). Much of this money was re-invested particularly in Mexico where ASARCO and its subsidiaries would rapidly become the country's single largest mining and smelting company (Wasserman 2015:158).

Outside of Mexico, ASARCO also continued to expand into various other metals beginning with lead and later moving into copper (Marcosson 1949:78, 108). Copper proved enormously profitable for the firm following the introduction of open pit mining after 1903 (Marcosson 1949:89-91). New mining companies exploiting rich veins in Alaska, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, and Chile were all backed by Guggenheim funding and where possible, funneled their ore to existing ASARCO facilities or those newly purchased or under construction (Marcosson 1949:92-93). These activities made the Guggenheims "copper kings" giving them control of the largest copper syndicate in the world (Marcosson 1949:93). Following later expansions into zinc

mining after 1915. By the end of the 1920s, ASARCO became the world's largest refiner of nonferrous metals (metals without iron; ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia*] 2015:91-92).

To control this empire, ASARCOs original New York headquarters at 50 Broad Street were merged into those of the M. Guggenheim Sons (reorganized as Guggenheim Brothers in 1916) and moved through several locations before landing in the newly constructed Equitable Building at 120 Broadway (Marcosson 1949:72). Completed in 1915, the Equitable Building was designed by architect Ernest R. Graham in the Second Renaissance Revival Style and, upon its completion was described as the largest commercial office building in New York (Figure 16; Marcosson 1949:73). The Guggenheims occupied the whole of the 34th and 35th floors of the 38 story building and constructed a private stairway to connect each of their personal offices (Marcosson 1949:73).

Although less well documented, ASARCO also maintained satellite offices near many of its major holdings. These echoed the form of the central corporate office and were generally placed in noteworthy downtown commercial buildings within large urban centers. Among the earliest of these offices was the Western Department (later the Utah Department) which operated out of Salt Lake City and was followed at various points by a Northwestern Department based in Wallace, Idaho, a Colorado Department based in Denver, and a Southwestern Department based in Tucson (*Star Tribune* 1908:15; Richards 1915:456 Marcosson 1949:93; Associated Press 1993). These offices often contained sub-departments, including research laboratories, ore purchasing units, and mining divisions; all of which likely played crucial roles in the company's expansions and daily operations.

Figure 16. Artist's rendering of the Equitable Building, c. 1915. (Courtesy of Adams 1977)

Following its vast growth in the mining sector, the metals boom of the First World War (WWI; 1914-1918) had helped ASARCO to further diversify its interests with a copper and brass rolling mill and, later, a rod and wire plant (Marcosson 1949:126). At the impetus of New York investment firm, Kissel Kinnicutt & Company, these facilities were broken off from ASARCO in the late 1920s and organized by Kissel Kinnicutt into subsidiary trusts partially owned and underwritten by ASARCO financing (Marcosson 1949:126-129). The first of these trusts was created in 1927, which consolidated various wire and cable manufacturers under the General Cable Company (Marcosson 1949:126-127). The second trust was formed a year later from six copper and brass rolling firms organized as the Revere Copper & Brass Company after the firm's illustrious corporate ancestor, the Revere Copper Company

(Marcosson 1949:130). Both General Cable and Revere fulfilled their coordinator's aspirations by becoming "extremely profitable" throughout the remainder of the 1920s and again after the dark economic events of the Great Depression (Marcosson 1949:130).

With the stock market crash of 1929 and the onset of the Great Depression (1929-1934), ASARCO struggled to remain profitable and its board of directors oversaw a $4.5 million deficit in 1932 (ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia*] 2015:91-92). Nonetheless, in keeping with Guggenheim's business practices, the company took advantage of the downturn by purchasing scrap metal supplier Federated Metals in 1932, and various Australian mining claims in 1934 (ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia*] 2015:91-92). Both investments would flourish in the enormous markets of the Second World War (WWII; 1939-1945) and help position the company to open further mines in Australia, Bolivia, Chile, Alaska, and the Congo in the booming postwar period (ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia*] 2015:91-92). This same era would mark the end of direct Guggenheim control with the death of Simon Guggenheim in 1941 (Marcosson 1949:72). Although the family firm retained large stock holdings and close ties to the company, it had been forced to sell its controlling interest during earlier financial difficulties, leaving ASARCO fully in control by its shareholders.

As it expanded, a midcentury decline in lead and zinc prices impelled ASARCO to increase its focus on both utilizing and expanding its copper holdings (ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia*] 2015: 92). By the early 1960s, the company was the world's fourth-largest copper producer and its foremost custom smelter (*Arizona Republic* 1953:2.2; ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia*] 2015:92). By the 1970s, copper had come to form two-thirds of ASARCO's total revenue with the remainder composed of aggregates, lead, molybdenum, silver, specialty chemicals, and zinc (ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia*] 2015:92).

Stagnation and Buyout

The 1970s, however, would prove to be the end of ASARCO's unfettered growth as a combination of factors eroded the company's profitability and its industrial prestige. Beginning in 1970, the Environmental Protection Agency began administering the Clean Air Act which sought to dramatically curtail nationwide emissions, impacting numerous ASARCO facilities (Capaldo 2013:240). To comply with the new regulations, ASARCO was forced to close or make expensive upgrades to its existing plants without receiving a comparable increase to their bottom line (Flynn 2003:E.1; Davis 2012).

These losses were compounded by a sharp drop in the price of copper prompted by a severe glut from oversupply followed by a sharp recession (Gana 1999:63). As copper prices approached their lowest levels since the 1930s, ASARCO was further impacted by a 154 day strike in 1974 followed by a two month strike in 1977 (*New York Times* 1977:31; Gana 1999:63; Flynn 2003:E.1). In the same year, the market continued to remain bleak and ASARCO—along with other U.S. copper companies—idled many of its facilities and conducted temporary layoffs to prevent even greater shortfalls (*New York Times* 1977:31). While the company managed through

these crises, its formerly aggressive growth was now inhibited with rising labor costs, higher maintenance expenditures, as well as a declining grade of ore (Gana 1999:63).

Although the price of copper again rose the early-1980s, the reprieve was brief as another glut sunk the market losing ASARCO over $304 million in 1984 (ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia* 2015:92). The following year, ASARCO closed one of its lead smelters as well as another smelter located in Washington State (Flynn 2003:E-1). Corporate restructuring instituted by a new CEO helped the company to regain profitability by 1987 and ASARCO again started growing to mine a record one billion pounds of ore in 1996 (ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia*] 2015:92). Despite this success, the company was beset by a mounting litigation as both citizen activists and the federal government brought lawsuits against the company over its poor environmental practices (Capaldo 2013; ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia*] 2015:92).

In 1999, ASARCO was purchased for $2.25 billion by Mexico-based conglomerate Grupo Mexico who restructured the company and transferred portions of its holdings to other, subsidiary firms (Rico 2008; Davis 2012). During this period, the company closed or idled some of its facilities including sites in Texas and Arizona and relinquished its New York headquarters in favor of new leased spaces in Phoenix, Arizona (Flynn 2003:E-1; Rico 2008). By 2005, transfers by Grupo Mexico had weakened ASARCO's cash reserves in the face of EPA orders to clean up more than 112 damaged and "superfund" sites throughout the U.S. (ASARCO [*Gale Encyclopedia*] 2015:92). Forced into Chapter 11 bankruptcy, ASARCO seemed to be on the reverting from foreign ownership until Grupo Mexico agreed to a $1.79 billion settlement to clean up the sites—then the largest environmental bankruptcy settlement in the country (Kaufman 2009:A-26).

As of 2021, ASARCOs formerly vast holdings have been considerably reduced from its midcentury peak with one refinery in Amarillo, Texas, as well as mines in Arizona, Mexico, and Peru (ASARCO n.d.). The company's administrative headquarters was relocated to Tucson in 2005 with long-term plans to consolidate all U.S. office facilities to Tucson's William Centre office park (Rico 2008).

Southwestern Department

The first references to ASARCO's Southwestern Department are found in 1912 when the *El Paso Herald* noted that George C. Kaufman was the company's Tucson-based southwestern representative (*El Paso Herald* 1912:11). Perhaps unsurprisingly, 1912 was also the first year that ASARCO's new smelter at Hayden, Arizona was fully operational and Kaufman's presence is likely indicative of the company's growing regional investments (Marcosson 1949:152; Davis 2012). During the heightened demands brought about by World War I, ASARCO purchased the interests of a bankrupt mining operation in the Silver Bell Mining District northwest of Tucson (*Tucson Citizen* 1917b:6; Briggs 2017:10). These facilities, including the Arizona Southern Railroad, were rehabilitated and utilized through the war's end when the site's smelter was abandoned and its mining activates curtailed (Briggs 2017:11). In addition to the acquisition and management of this and other sites, the Southwestern Department helped to purchase raw ore to help supply the Hayden smelter, as well as others located throughout the country.

Figure 17. Postcard showing the Consolidated National Bank Building (later the Valley National Bank Building), date unknown. (Courtesy of Southern Arizona Guide)

Like ASARCO's other divisions, the Southwestern Department began its life in suites rented within several different downtown office blocks. Tucson city directories indicate that among the earliest of these was the Fenner Building which housed the office from 1913 through 1917 (Arizona Directory Company 1913:27, 1917:23). In 1918, the department had moved to offices at 7 East Pennington Street and, in 1930, had moved again to an 8th floor suite in the Consolidated National Bank Building (later the Valley National Bank Building) at 2 East Congress Street (Figure 17; Arizona Directory Company 1918:56, 1930:15). Between 1936 and 1941, this suite was enlarged and its functions split into the Southwestern Mining and Ore Purchasing Departments headed by two separate managers (Arizona Directory Company 1936:125, 1941:28). These suites were further expanded prior to 1960 with the majority of the space occupied by the Ore Purchasing Department (Mullin-Kille Company of Arizona 1960:87).

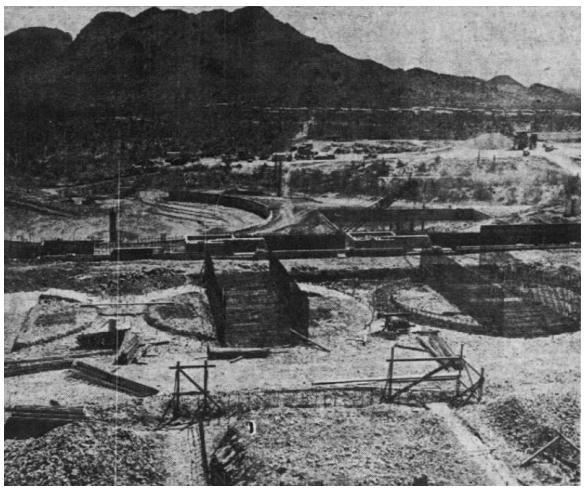

Figure 18. Newspaper image of the Silver Bell Mine undergoing re-development for expanded use, April 1953. (Courtesy of *The Arizona Republic*)

Although no administrative histories of ASARCO are known to exist, it is likely that the growth of the Southwestern Department during midcentury was reflective of the region's rising importance. As ASARCO

placed greater emphasis upon copper in the postwar period, Arizona—"the Copper State"—held some of the company's most important North American mines. Beginning in 1954, the Silver Bell claims were re-developed as open pit mines and expanded in the 1960s (Figure 18; Davis 2012; Briggs 2017:15-16; ASARCO n.d.). In 1961, production began at the company's Mission copper mine south of Tucson, while the adjacent San Xavier mine was developed in 1967 (Davis 2012; ASARCO n.d.).

To support the extent of these operations, in the early-1960s, ASARCO contracted local Tucson architectural firm Cain, Nelson and Wares (CNW) to design a modern, purpose-built commercial office building for the company's sole usage. Although ASARCO had already constructed numerous facilities in conjunction with its extractive and industrial operations, the Southwestern Department office building is the only known example of a corporate administrative facility constructed by the company within the United States.

CNW and the Development of Southwestern Modernism

CNW—founded by Edward Nelson, James Wares, and Gerald Cain—was among the most prominent architectural firms practicing within Southern Arizona during the middle decades of the twentieth century. The firm was part of a unique brand of regional Modernist architecture that developed out of and alongside the larger Modernist Movement's more traditional forms found in Europe and the Eastern United States.

As conventionally understood, architectural Modernism was formulated in Central and Western Europe in response to both the stylistic eclecticism of the late-nineteenth century and a host of newly developed building materials (Allaback 2003:2). Through architects and designers including Adolf Loos, Le Corbusier (Charles-Édouard Jeanneret), Eileen Gray and others, a new style emerged which self-consciously separated itself from earlier architectural traditions. Termed the "International Style," this new style was, arguably, the first truly modern architectural expression and it eschewed ornamentation and historicism in favor of a "machine aesthetic" of strong geometric massing and unadorned surfaces (Allaback 2003:2; Evans and Jeffery 2015:7).

The International Style spread slowly in the U.S. where architectural patrons retained a taste for traditional building modes and surface ornamentation. More decorative architectural styles such as the Art Deco of Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie Style remained popular and represented a competing strain of the Modern Movement (Allaback 2003:2). The rise of European fascism forced many of the most talented European practitioners of International Modernism, including Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Walter Gropius, westward to accept teaching posts at prominent American architectural schools (Evans and Jeffery 2015:10).

Although these architects were able to design little during the lean years of the Great Depression or WWII, they and their students were well-positioned to dominate the building boom of the postwar period (Evans and Jeffery 2015:10). From the 1950s onwards, the International Style and a variety of consecutive styles came into common usage spreading across the United States,

Europe, and, ultimately, the world. Like the International Style, many of these styles followed a central aesthetic philosophy which undergirded the Modern Movement; they collectively avoided reference to historical architectural styles, celebrated advances in engineering and construction techniques, and often relied on geometric massing as a central design generator.

These tenets resulted in a wide range of designs which were easily classified as "modern" but only sometimes fit neatly into stylistic categories. In many other instances, Modernism's focus on philosophy rather than form allowed for a diverse range of expressions which have not been so clearly defined (Evans and Jeffery 2015:10). Nonetheless, critics and later architectural historians identified a softening in early Modernism's academic rigidity and greater acceptance of designs constructed for their form as well as their function. A lexicon was developed, and new styles such as New Formalism, Neo-Expressionism, or Brutalism emerged; all of which retained enough formal coherence to constitute a dedicated architectural style (Whiffen 1992). Hallmarks of these styles were most readily found in the American Midwest and East Coast but prominent examples may also be found in Europe and in select West Coast American cities. From these, the influence of Modernism was filtered to more localized examples and successfully permeated nearly every aspect of the American built environment.

While the rise of architectural Modernism would have an enormous impact on the Western U.S., the region possesses comparatively few examples of acclaimed or influential Modernist buildings. Unlike further east where an artistic through line is easily traceable back to the movement's beginnings, the American West has a more disparate architectural history and its Modernist buildings have often been viewed as derivative (Hess 2020). More recent scholars have disputed this narrative and have sought to both recognize the West's important contributions to American architectural history, as well as the enormous generative creativity found within the region (Faragher 2001; Hess 2020). In a 2020 lecture, critic and architectural historian Alan Hess contends that:

> "…in the American West in the twentieth century, a sense of Modernism grew which was indigenous, which grew out of the conditions, the people, the lifestyle, the place of the West. It did not require imported ideas from Europe or New York. It grew up naturally because people here were living a modern life. Instead of having one central locus in the development of Modern Architecture, we find instead a network of cities… which have some intercommunication but which each found themselves in similar conditions… [This led] some really brilliant architects to be inspired and to invent a new sense of architecture very different from those glass boxes" (Hess 2020).

Although this "network" of cities spread across the American West, a localized constellation could be found in the American Southwest which included Los Angeles, Palm Springs, Las Vegas, Phoenix, and Tucson (Hess 2020). Here, a unique "Situated Modernism" (also referred to as Critical Regionalism) developed which was driven by a variety of forces, including the region's striking natural environment, its harsh weather patterns, widespread reliance on the automobile, the growth of tourism, and various important designers (Hess 2020). Within the

region, all of these elements combined and, in Hess's words, "reinvented what modern architecture was all about" (Hess 2020).

The Tucson strain of Southwestern Modernism was slow to develop and few consciously Modernist buildings were constructed until the end of WWII (Evans and Jeffery 2015:12-13). Like many other sunbelt cities, this changed with the War's end, when the city experienced a dramatic boom as returning GIs, a newly buoyant economy, and improvements in air conditioning all coalesced (Evans and Jeffery 2015:13). Long inhibited by the capitol and material shortages of the 1930s and 1940s, private residential construction soared in the 1950s to meet rising demand and helped to fuel accompanying expansions in infrastructure, as well as new commercial and industrial districts (Evans and Jeffery 2015:13). Through the use of Modernist forms and motifs, the architecture of this new construction was successfully able to reflect the optimistic zeitgeist of the period (Evans and Jeffery 2015:12).

These new buildings were made possible by an influx of architects who arrived in Tucson after the War's end. Between just 1945 and 1947 alone, the number of architects listed in the city's telephone directory more than doubled from 8 to 17 (Evans and Jeffery 2015:11). The relative scarcity of western architectural schools meant that many of these individuals and those who followed came from better established schools in the upper Midwest (Evans and Jeffery 2015:11). With their proximity to the architectural cradle of Chicago, these schools instilled new and progressive ideas in their alumni, but remained less ideologically rigid than their East Coast counterparts (Evans and Jeffery 2015:11-12).

Those architects who eventually came to Tucson brought with them these new ideas while retaining a flexibility which would prove valuable in the unfamiliar environment of the desert southwest. The minimalist glass boxes of the International Style were wholly unsuited to the extreme climate, thereby forcing a regionalist design response into architects' work (Evans and Jeffery 2015:10).

Among the young architects flocking to Tucson during its postwar boom was a young graduate of Yale's architectural school, Edward Humphrey "Ned" Nelson (Find A Grave 2018). Nelson was born in Winchester, Massachusetts in 1918 and had fought in WWII before acquiring his graduate degree (Find A Grave 2018). Following an intense episode of rheumatic fever, Nelson and his new wife moved to Tucson where they constructed their first house by hand with adobe masonry (Find A Grave 2018). Nelson initially worked for local architect Gordon Luepke before opening a practice of his own, and eventually partnering with James Wares and Gerald Cain to form CNW in 1961 (*Arizona Architect* 1961; Find A Grave 2018).

James Albert "Jim" Wares was born in 1910 to Scottish emigrants living in Chicago, Illinois (*United States Census Bureau* 1910, 1930.) Wares received an undergraduate degree in architecture at the University of Illinois before completing a graduate degree at Northwestern University (*Arizona Daily Star* 1998:A23). From 1923-1960, Wares worked as Chief Architect for the Chicago-based department store chain Marshall Field and Company and was active in the Chicago chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA; *Arizona Architect* 1961; *Arizona*

Daily Star 1998:A23). After leaving Marshall Field, Wares and his family moved to Tucson for reasons that remain unclear whereupon he briefly opened his own firm before choosing to partner with Nelson and Cain (*Tucson Daily Citizen* 1961:2c).

The final member of the trio, Gerald I. "Gerry" Cain appears to have been born in Champaign, Illinois in 1923. In 1946, he receive a degree in architectural engineering from the University of Illinois (*United States Census* 1930, 1940; *Tucson Daily Citizen* 1959a:52, 1961:2c). Cain left Champaign shortly thereafter and moved to Tucson in 1946 (*Tucson Daily Citizen* 1959b:33). Upon arrival in Tucson, Cain worked for Architects Terrence "Terry" Atkinson and Arthur T. Brown before forming a partnership with established local architect Merritt H. Starkweather in 1955 (Figure 19; *Tucson Daily Citizen* 1959a:52; 1961:2C). Starkweather and Cain collaborated through 1961, after which point the partnership was dissolved and its final projects transferred to CNW (*Arizona Daily Star* 1961:A2).

CNW was formed in March 1961 and first headquartered in the Broadmoor Center Building at 151 South Tucson Boulevard (Figure 20; *Tucson Daily Citizen* 1961:2C). Newspaper articles indicate that the partnership planned to offer "[c]omplete architectural services... and the organization will have associated consultants in the fields of market analysis, finance, real estate, land planning and engineering for commercial, institutional, educational and residential developments" (*Tucson Daily Citizen* 1961:2C).

Figure 19. Newspaper advertisement for Butler Buildings showing the O'Rielly Chevrolet Truck Sales designed by Starkweather & Cain. Note the emphasis on structural components as ornament, the use of a window wall, and the textured block of the exterior walls, January 1961. (Courtesy of *The Arizona Daily Star*)

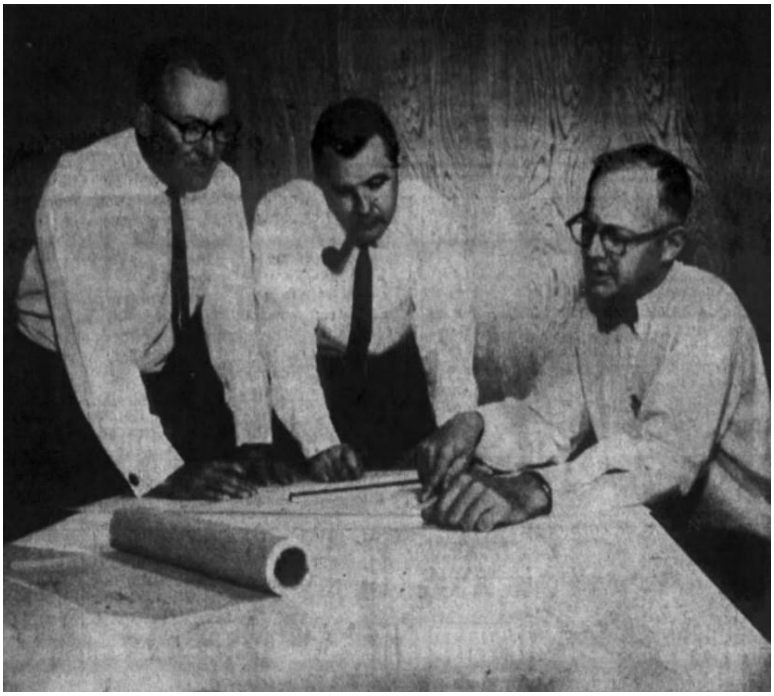

Figure 20. CNW showing from left to right: James Wares, Gerald Cain, and Edward Nelson, 1961. (Courtesy of *Tucson Daily Citizen* 1961:2C)

With their combined past work, the three men brought a wealth of experience in Modernist architectural design to the new firm. From Luepke, Nelson would have been exposed to a deep appreciation for the natural desert environment and some of the myriad ways architecture could respond and adapt to it (Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation n.d.). Wares meanwhile, the eldest of the group, would have been well-aware of architectural developments taking place in his native Chicago and would have brought both new ideas, as well as his own extensive experience with the design of commercial architecture. Finally, in Brown's studio, Cain would have observed the power of solar articulation through the use of shades, screening, and thermal mass, while from Atkinson and Starkweather he would have become more familiar with the everyday employment of Modernist forms and motifs (see Figure 19).

Upon opening CNW, the firm's first commissions were largely institutional and included additions to the El Con Mall, an addition to Doolen Junior High School, and designs for the $2 million dollar Yuma Junior College (*Tucson Daily Citizen* 1961:31, 40). In 1962, CNW prepared plans for a new Coronado National Forest Visitors Center to be located in Sabino Canyon, and later news stories indicate they were also working on designs for both the North Stone Union Bank, and the new Campbell branch of the First National Bank (*Arizona Daily Star* 1962:15; *Tucson Daily Citizen* 1963:13; *Arizona Architect* 1964:25). All of these designs show a clear emphasis on the tectonic qualities of a building with exposed structural elements utilized as the principal design concept (Figures 21-23).

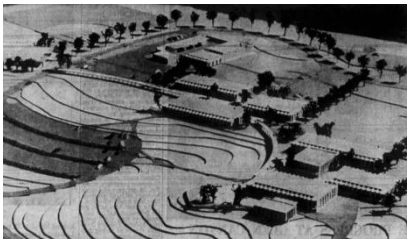

Figure 21. Model of the Yuma Junior College, November 1962. (Courtesy of *Tucson Daily Citizen* 1962b:40)

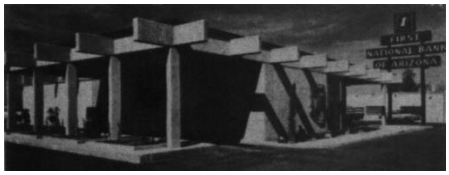

Figure 22. Photograph of the completed Campbell Branch of the First National Bank of Arizona, July 1964. (Courtesy of *Arizona Architect* 1964:25)

Figure 23. Rendering of the Coronado National Forest Visitor Center at Sabino Canyon, December 1961. (Courtesy of *Arizona Daily Star*:1962:15)

In 1963, CNW began to receive professional recognition for their work when the AIA's Western Mountain District bestowed a merit award upon the 1962 plans for the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church (*Arizona Architect* 1963:29). Early descriptions of the church attribute its design to Nelson and the project may have straddled the end of Nelson's private career and the beginning of CNW's partnership (*Tucson Daily Citizen* 1962a). Regardless of its origins, the church was situated north of Tucson's urban core and possessed striking views of the nearby Santa Catalina Mountains. Nelson emphasized the site's natural setting through the use of a steeply pitched A-frame roof which covered the church's central nave and framed the mountains through a glazed window wall. Native stone masonry walls surrounded the exterior of the roofline further tying the building to its setting while its structure remained obvious through the use of Y-shaped cast concrete piers which supported heavy roof beams.

The firm's rising profile and experience with large-scale clients were probably among the central factors which brought it to the attention of ASARCO officials in the early 1960s. Although internal ASARCO archives have remained inaccessible to preparers of this nomination form, ongoing and anticipated growth in the Southwestern Department more than likely forced the company to move beyond its established offices in the Consolidated National Bank Building. Specific programmatic requirements are unknown, but the company clearly required an office building of moderate scale which could be further enlarged when need required. Such growth-minded planning coupled with the financial outlay required for the building can only be indicative of ASARCO's focus and optimism for its future in the Southwestern region.

Contemporary architectural plans (see continuation sheets, Figures 29-35) indicate that the building's designs were largely complete by July 1964 and show a site plan for the original two-story building with parking for 75 cars and a garage for two trucks (Figure 29). These plans show CNWs ongoing interest with structure as a generative design force. The ASARCO Headquarters building toys with solid volumetric massing along its east and west elevations while expressing a dark void to the north and south. This void—created from a recessed window wall—is

articulated by the structural grid work of columns and sun shades which juxtapose smooth and round forms over the glazed surface (Figures 24-25).

Figure 24. ASARCO Headquarters building as originally constructed showing solid end massing with recessed sides. Note the exposed tops of the columns which are poised for continued upward expansion. Looking southeast c. 1965. (Courtesy of the Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation, Bill Sears Collection)

In its use of planes and heavy concrete massing, the design clearly evoke elements of the Brutalist style which was popular across the country in the early 1960s (Whiffen 1992:279-284). CNW adapted the style, however, to Tucson's desert environment by orientating the building so that its solid end walls would receive the most solar exposure and adding cast concrete sunshades to help screen the window wall. The building's materials were also regionally inspired with the use of copper spandrel panels on the curtain wall as a clear reference to Arizona's mineral wealth, as well as ASARCO's primary product (Figure 25). The building's interior was less striking with modern but standard finishes including light asphalt tiles, vinyl molding, a dropped ceiling, and brass finishes. A small entry lobby contained a floating cast concrete stairway which hung above a small landscaped planter bed (Figure 26).

Figure 25. ASARCO Headquarters building. Looking northwest, c. 1965. (Courtesy of the Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation, Bill Sears Collection)

Figure 26. ASARCO Headquarters building showing original entry lobby. Looking northwest, c. 1965. (Courtesy of the Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation, Bill Sears Collection)

With the completion of the building's plans in 1964, the ASARCO Headquarters was constructed the following year by local contractor, W. F. Connelly Construction Company (*Arizona Daily Star* 1965:8). Surprisingly few references to the building were made in contemporary periodicals or journals and the only known published photograph was included in the *Arizona Daily Star* on April 3rd, 1965 (*Arizona Daily Star* 1965:8). Subsequent articles published over the next several years noted that approximately 50 ASARCO employees were based in the building and that its basement could function as a protective fallout shelter in the event of a nuclear attack (*Tucson Daily Citizen* 1966:2, 1970:10).

By 1971, the building required expansion and ASARCO was granted a building permit to fully build out the office and complete its third story. Preliminary plans were drawn by CNW in 1970 who had grown since first designing the building with addition of a new partner; William H. "Bill" Cook. The initial designs prepared by Cain Nelson Wares Cook (CNWC) simply extruded the main building block up by another floor by extending the columns and adding another row of sun shades over the expanded window wall (see Figure 35). In succeeding iterations, this design was refined by enclosing the exterior stairwells to likely protect pedestrians from the hot and wet months of the year.

As of 2021, the company had nearly completed its move into its new Tucson office at William Centre and put their former departmental headquarters on the open market. The building is currently owned by the Fenton Investment Co. who plans to rehabilitate and convert it into a multi-unit residential complex.

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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 # _____
_____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

_____ State Historic Preservation Office
_____ Other State agency
_____ Federal agency
_____ Local government
_____ University
__x__ Other
Name of repository: (historic photos) Bill Sears Collection, Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.1 acres

UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

[ ] NAD 1927 or [x] NAD 1983

1. Zone: 12 S	Easting: 502814 mE	Northing: 3566711 mN
2. Zone: 12 S	Easting: 502819 mE	Northing: 3566718 mN
3. Zone: 12 S	Easting: 502869 mE	Northing: 3566719 mN
4. Zone: 12 S	Easting: 502870 mE	Northing: 3566639 mN
5. Zone: 12 S	Easting: 502813 mE	Northing: 3566639 mN

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the nominated property includes the entire parcel owned and developed by ASARCO which is bounded by East Helen Street to the north, North 7th Street to the west, three residential cum commercial lots fronting East Speedway Boulevard to the south, and North Ferro Avenue to the east.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

In accordance with National Register Bulletin 16, this boundary was chosen to incorporate the full extent of the parcel historically associated with the ASARCO Southwestern Department Headquarters including its adjacent parking lot and former garage.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Langston Emerson Guettinger (author), Jennifer Levstik (editor)
organization: Logan Simpson
street & number: 177 North Church Avenue, Suite 607
city or town: Tucson state: Arizona zip code: 85701
e-mail: LGuettinger@logansimpson.com
telephone: (520) 884-5500
date: September 24, 2021

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: American Smelting and Refining Company Southwestern Department Headquarters

City or Vicinity: Tucson

County: Pima County State: Arizona

Photographer: Langston Emerson Guettinger and Jennifer Levstik

Date Photographed: February 2, 2021

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0001
ASARCO Headquarters, south elevation, facing north (Logan Simpson 2021)

2 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0002

ASARCO Headquarters, east elevation, facing northwest (Logan Simpson 2021)

3 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0003
ASARCO Headquarters, showing south elevation, looking up (Logan Simpson 2021)

4 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0004
ASARCO Headquarters, facing northwest (Logan Simpson 2021)

5 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0005
ASARCO Headquarters, showing principal entry in south elevation, looking north (Logan Simpson 2021)

6 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0006
ASARCO Headquarters, showing first story entry lobby, looking north (Logan Simpson 2021)

7 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0007
ASARCO Headquarters, showing central stairway from second floor lobby, looking northwest (Logan Simpson 2021)

8 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0008
ASARCO Headquarters, showing first story from lobby, looking east (Logan Simpson 2021)

9 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0009
ASARCO Headquarters, showing second story hallway, looking southeast (Logan Simpson 2021)

10 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0010
ASARCO Headquarters, showing basement storage room with hallway visible at left, looking southeast (Logan Simpson 2021)

11 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0011
ASARCO Headquarters, showing first story from lobby, looking east (Logan Simpson 2021)

12 of 12. AZ_PimaCounty_ASARCOHeadquarters_0012
ASARCO Headquarters, showing basement bailer, looking southwest (Logan Simpson 2021)

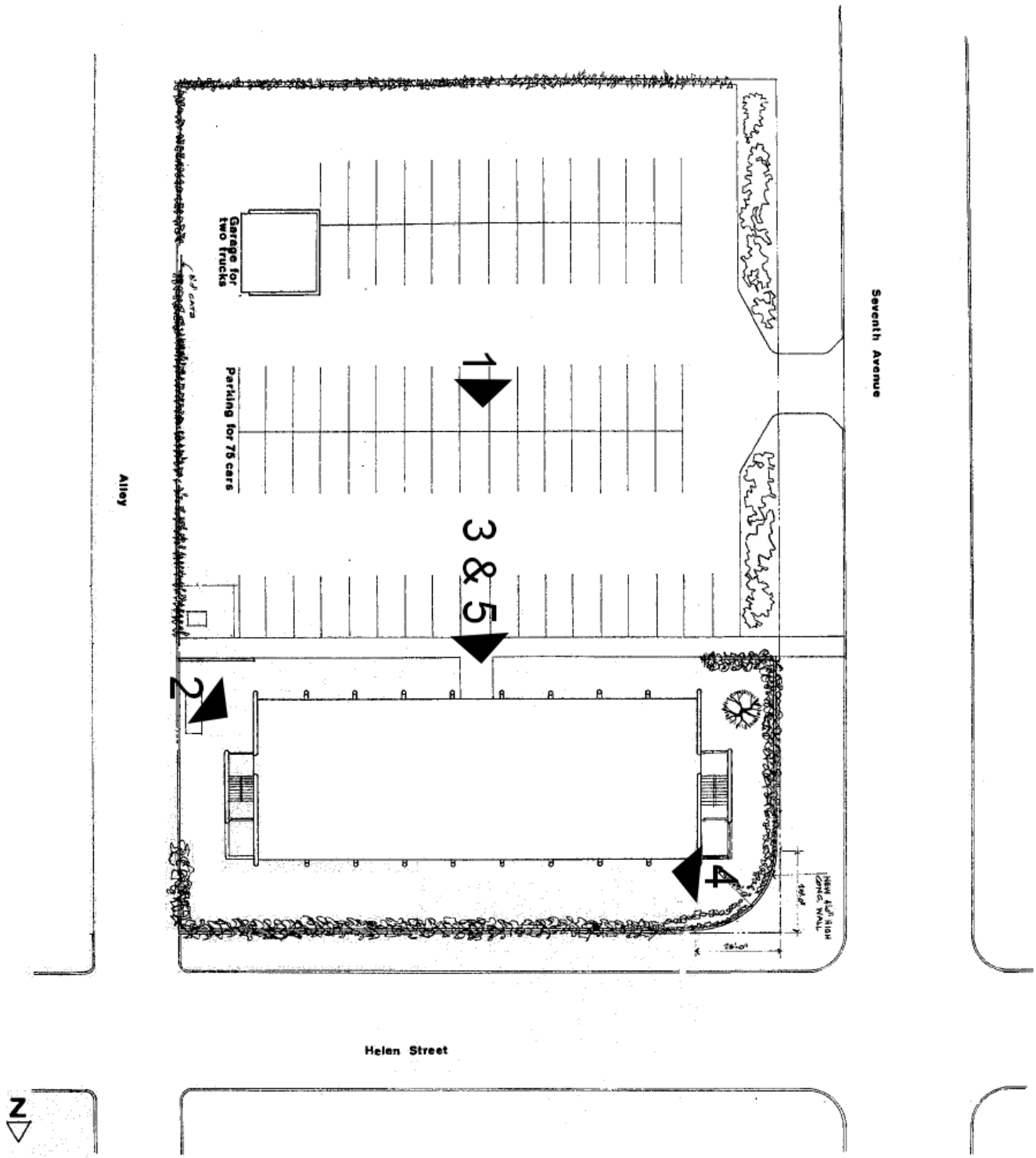

Figure 27. Photo Sketch Site Plan. Note that the footprint for the "garage for two trucks" has since been expanded to the south. (CNWC with additions by the author. Courtesy of the Fenton Investment Company, Inc.)

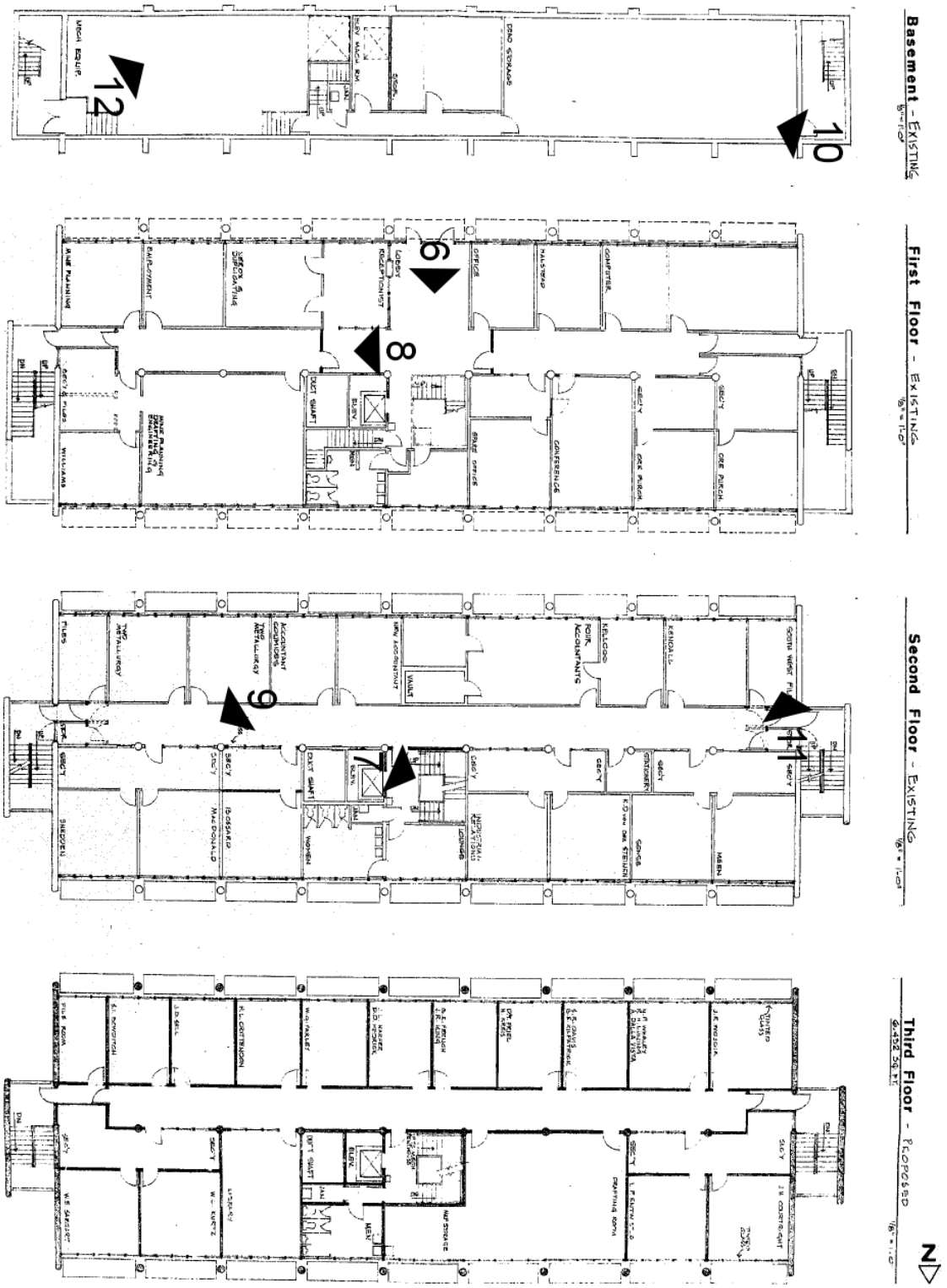

Figure 28. Photo sketch floor plans. Note that final construction of third story plan was different than shown here. (CNWC with additions by the author. Courtesy of the Fenton Investment Company, Inc.)

American Smelting and Refining Company Southwestern Department Headquarters | Pima County, Arizona
Name of Property | County and State

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
Tier 2 – 120 hours
Tier 3 – 230 hours
Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

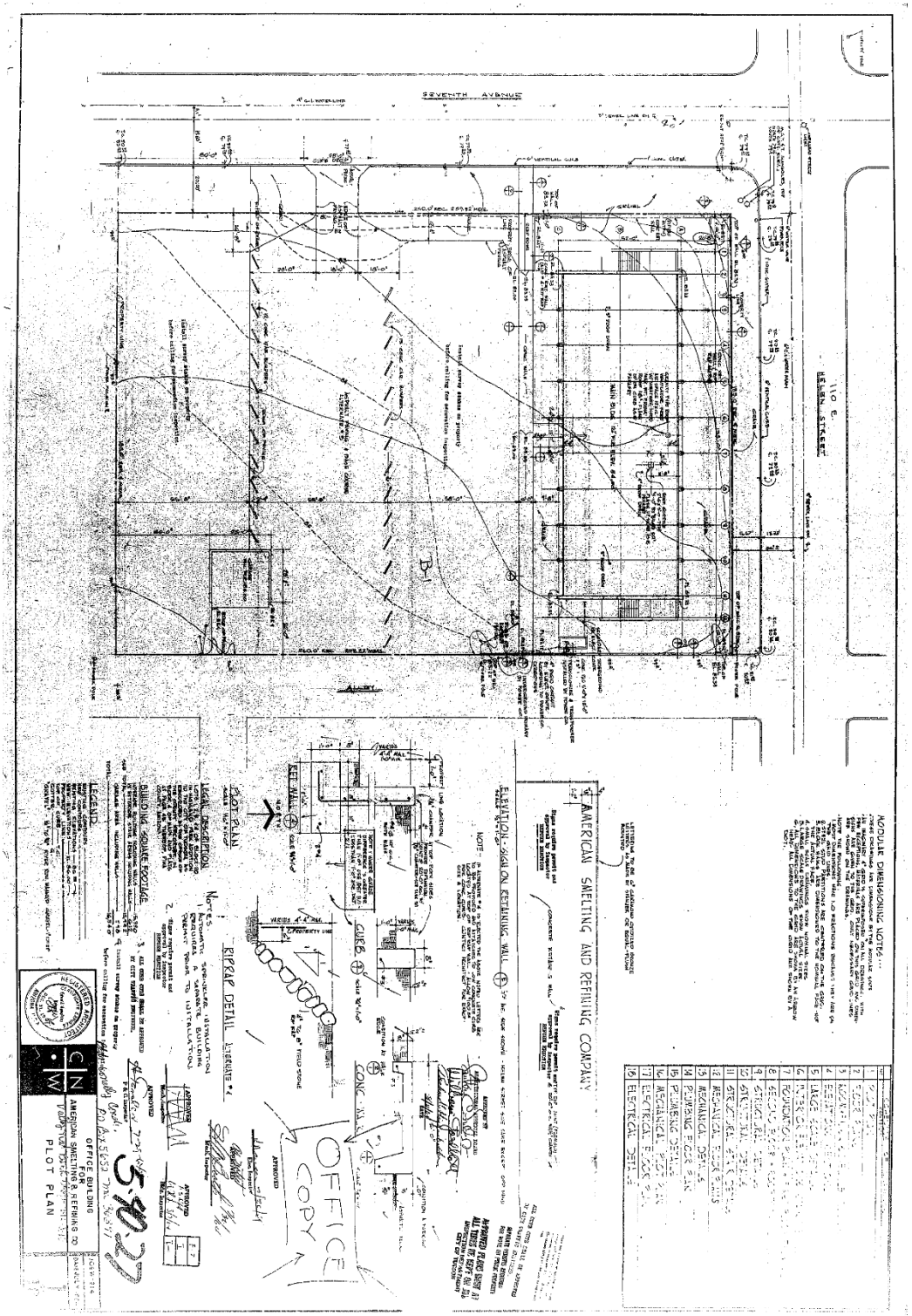

Figure 1. Original ASARCO Headquarters plot plan. July 1964. (CNW. Courtesy of the Fenton Investment Company, Inc.)

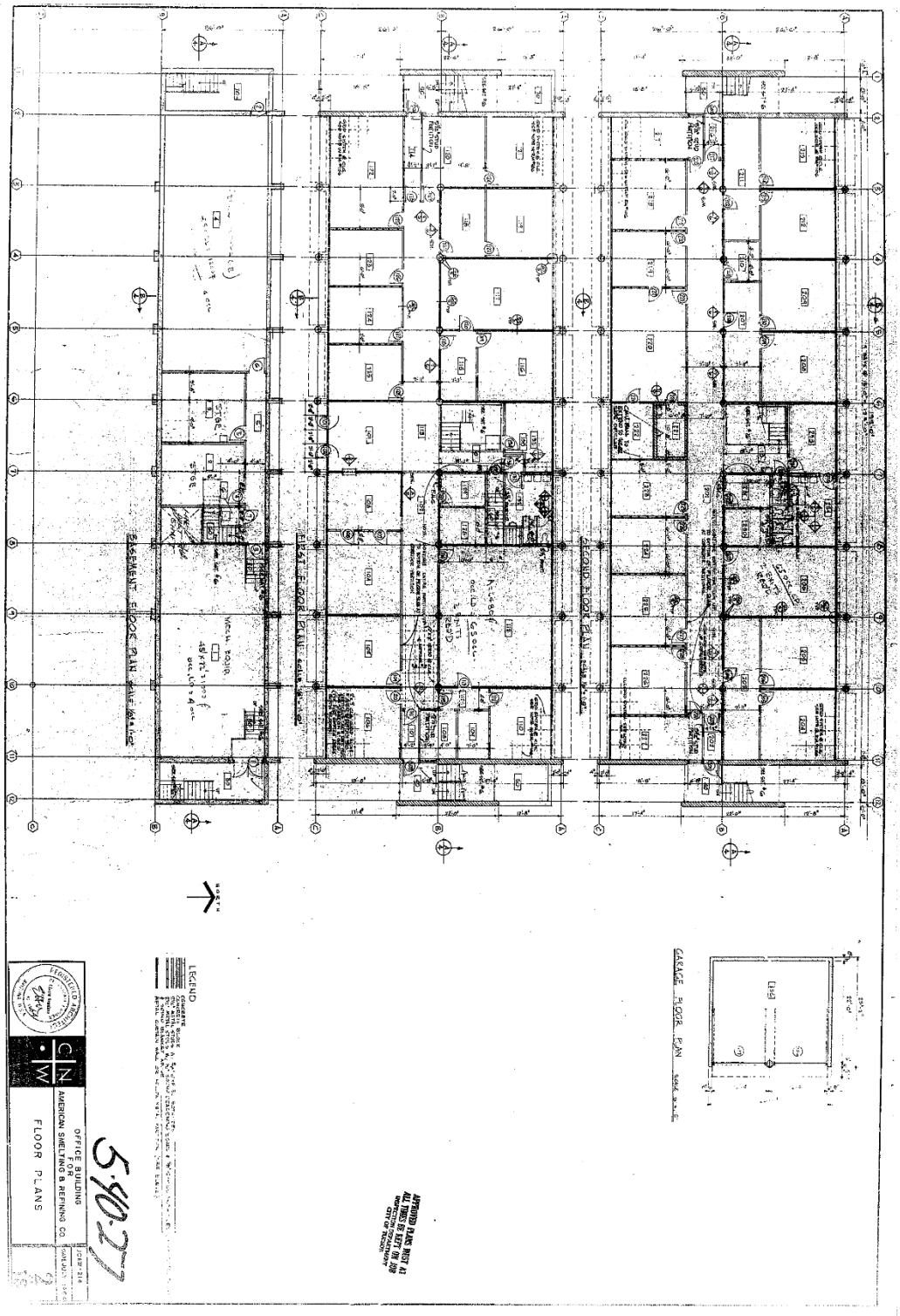

Figure 2. Original ASARCO Headquarters floor plans. July 1964. (CNW. Courtesy of the Fenton Investment Company, Inc.)

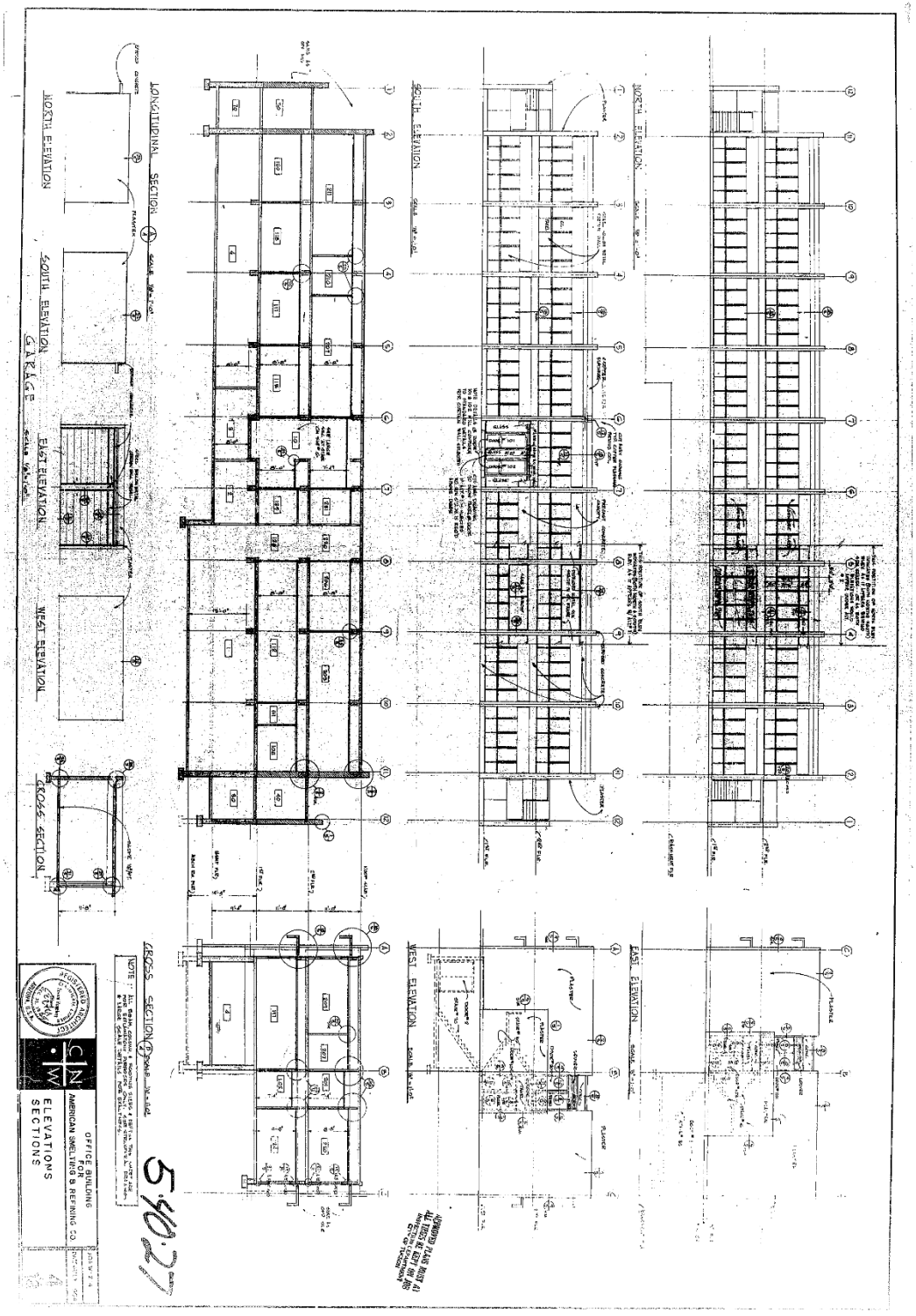

Figure 3. Original ASARCO Headquarters Elevations and Sections. July 1964. (CNW. Courtesy of the Fenton Investment Company, Inc.)

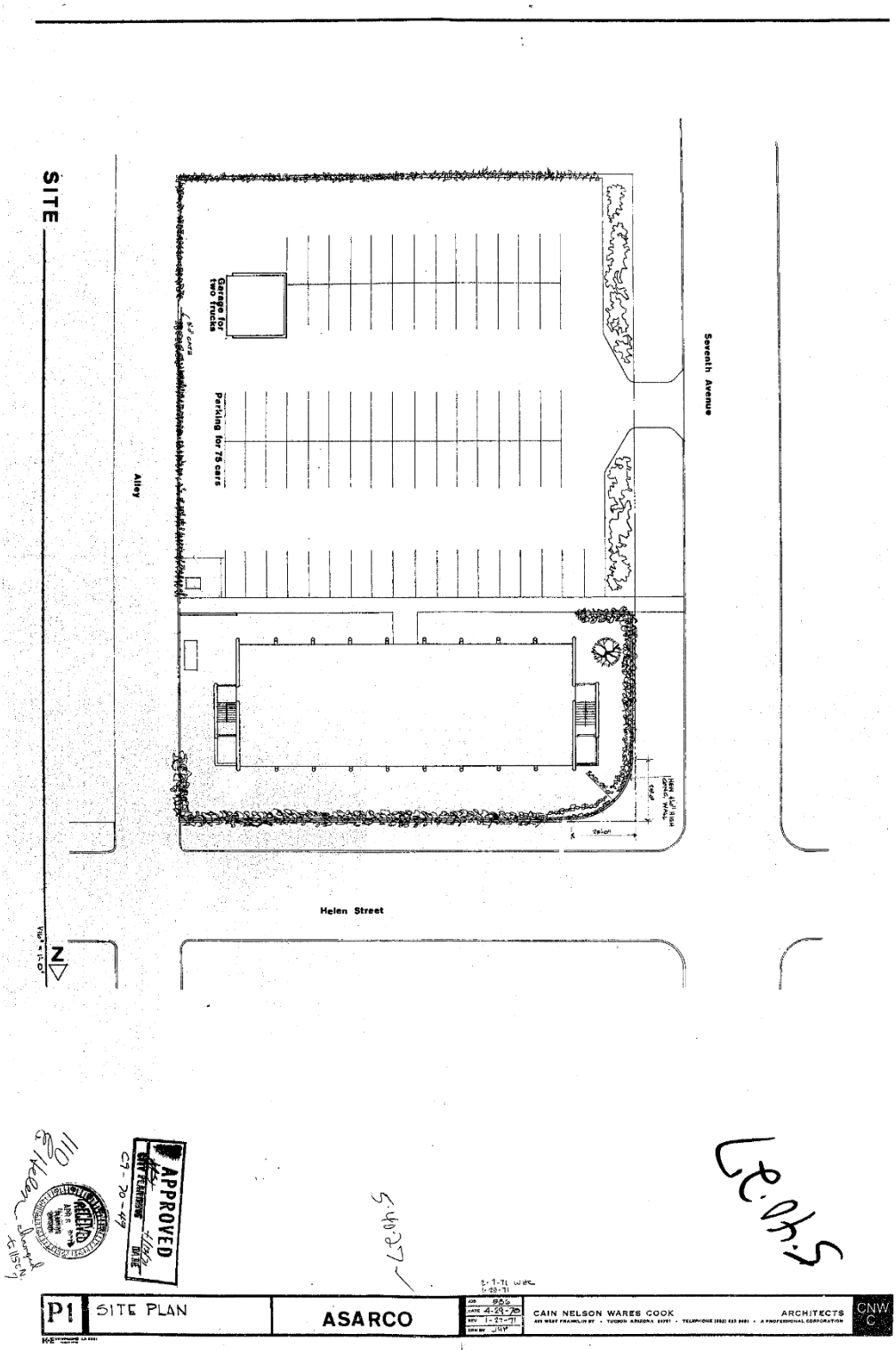

Figure 4. Third story buildout ASARCO Headquarters Site Plan. April 1970. (CNWC. Courtesy of the Fenton Investment Company, Inc.)

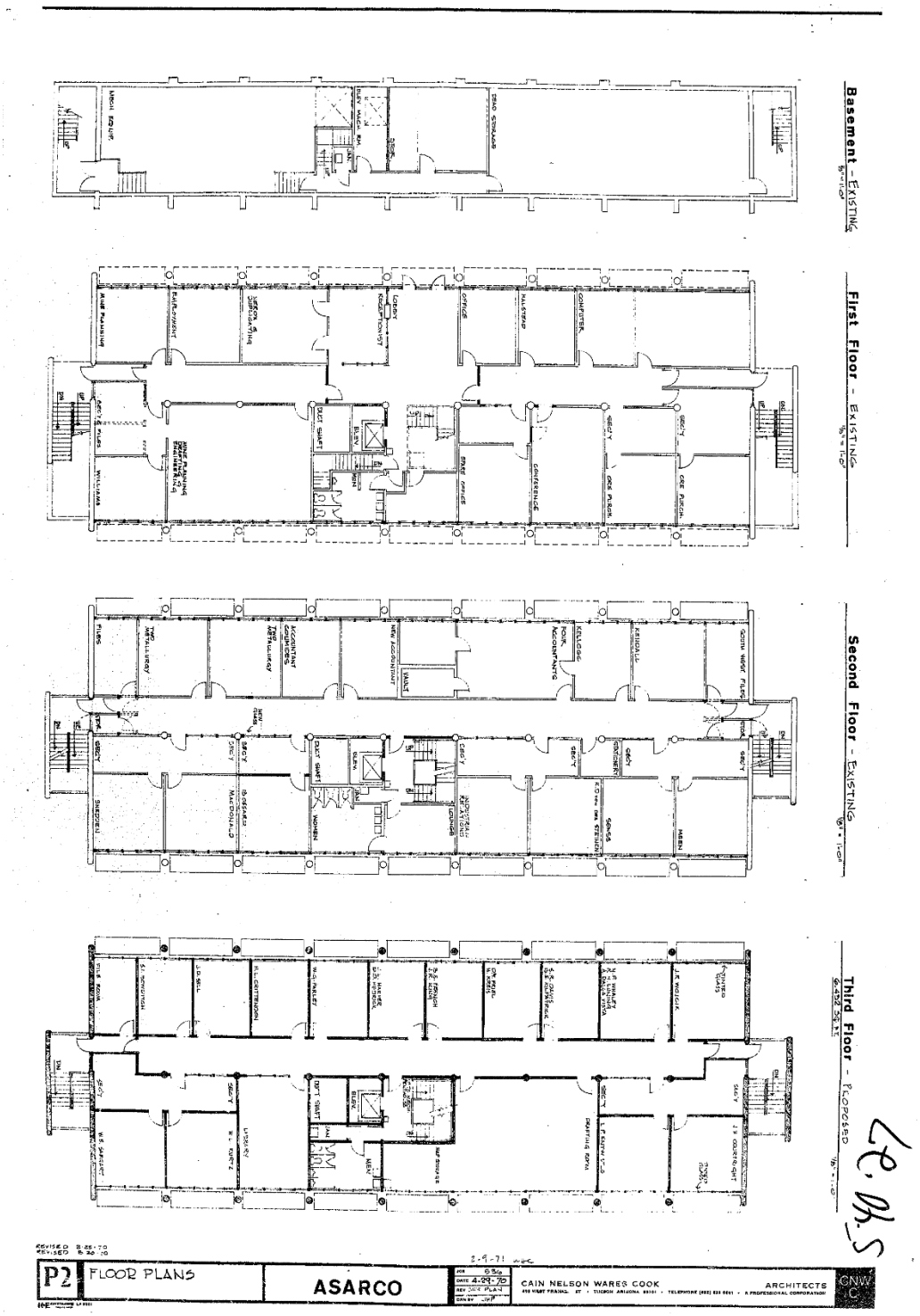

Figure 5. Third story buildout ASARCO Headquarters floor plans. Note that these plans are not as built and the stairway never extended to the third story. April 1970. (CNWC. Courtesy of the Fenton Investment Company, Inc.)

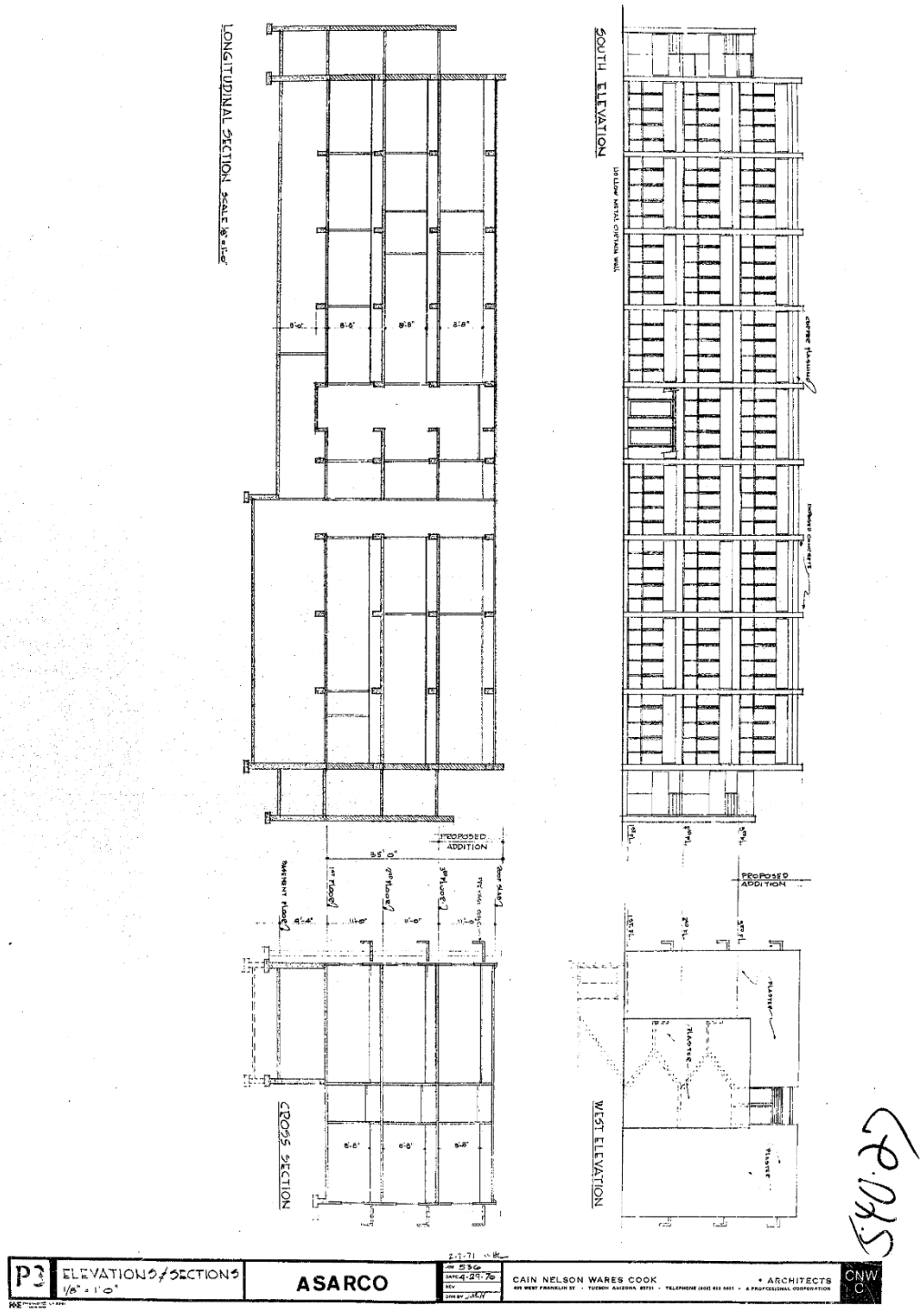

Figure 6. Original ASARCO Headquarters Elevations/Sections. April 1970. (CNWC. Courtesy of the Fenton Investment Company, Inc.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 55

American Smelting and Refining Company Southwestern Department Headquarters
Name of Property
Pima County, Arizona
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

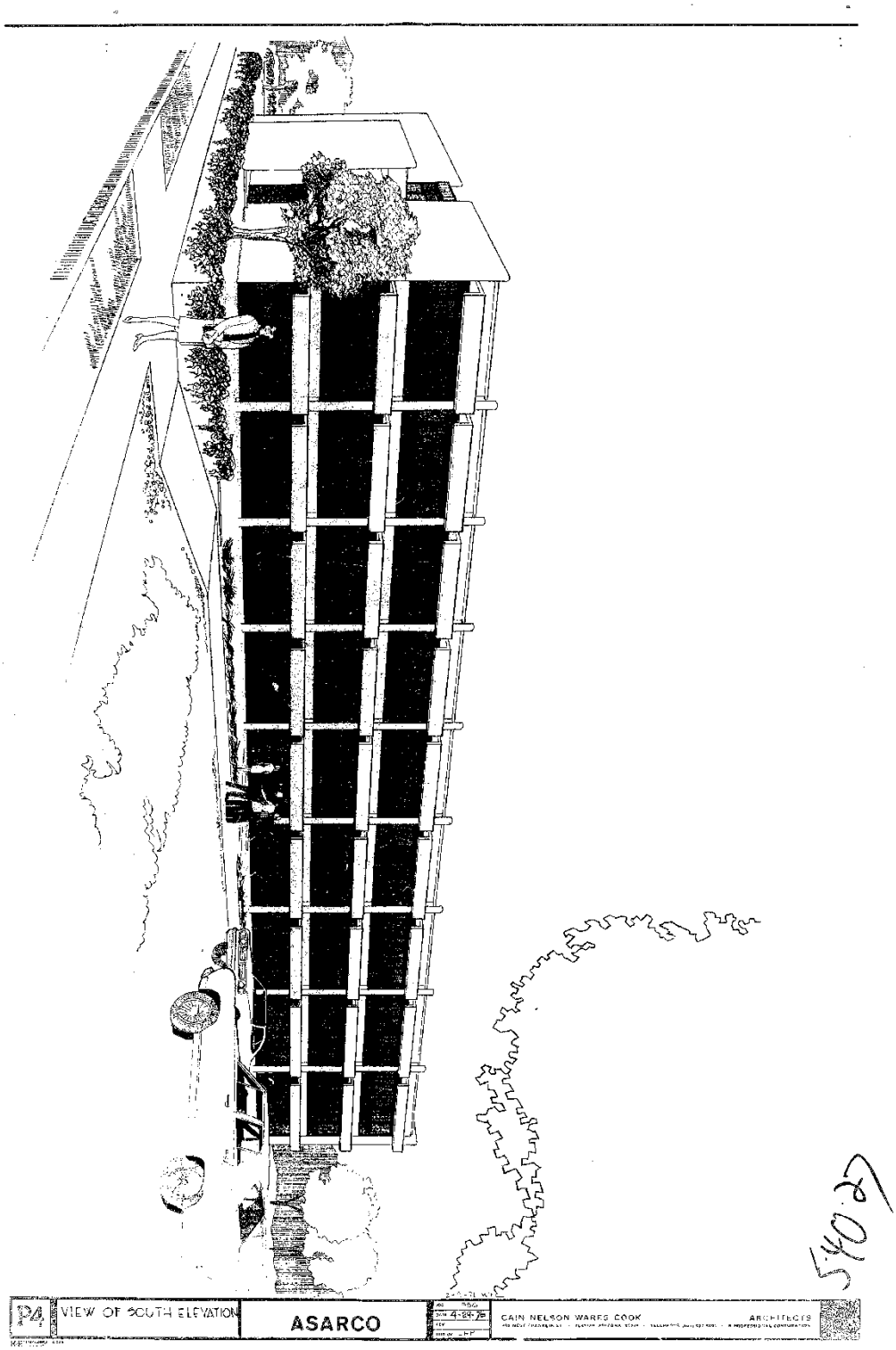

Figure 7. Original ASARCO Headquarters view of south elevation. Note exposed exterior stairwells still evident in this proposal. April 1970. (CNWC. Courtesy of the Fenton Investment Company, Inc.)