

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 Rt. 66: Montoya to Cuervo

other names/site number Ozark Trail, U.S. 54

### 2. Location

street & number W. of Montoya to Cuervo  not for publication

city or town Cuervo  vicinity

state New Mexico code NM county Quay, Guadalupe code 037 zip code 019 88417

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Signature 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

Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Rt. 66: Montoya to Cuervo

Quay, Guadalupe, NM

Name of Property

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**

0

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

**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

**Narrative Description**

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

Rt. 66: Montoya to Cuervo  
Name of Property

Quay, Guadalupe, 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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

transportation

**Period of Significance**

1936-1956

**Significant Dates**

1936

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

Rt. 66: Montoya to Cuervo  
Name of Property

Quay, Guadalupe, NM  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreege of Property 246 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	3
---	---

5	8	4	5	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	8	8	3	4	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

3 

1	3
---	---

5	6	3	8	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	8	8	0	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

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

**Boundary Justification**

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

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title David J. Kammer, Ph.D.  
organization contract historian date August, 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 Reductions 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 Route 66 through NMState maintained Rt. 66: Montoya  
to CuervoSection number 7 Page 1Historic and Architectural Resources of Rt. 66 through NM  
Guadalupe and Quay Counties, New Mexico**7. Description**

This 20.3 mile section of state maintained Route 66 serves as a frontage and local road along Interstate 40 from west of the Montoya interchange to where the road junctions with the westbound exit ramp at the Cuervo interchange. Generally following what, prior to 1926, was known as the Ozark Trail and, after 1926, Route 66, the alignment received a hard surface in 1936 under FAP 114. During 1951 further improvements were made on the road including the addition of concrete box and pipe culverts and roadbed stabilization. Coursing across pinyon and juniper covered hills and mesas and crossing small drainages feeding into Bull Canyon and Parajito Creeks, this portion of Route 66 is largely unaltered beyond normal road maintenance and conveys a strong feeling of travel along Route 66 during the period of significance. Brown and white signs denoting "Historic Route 66" have recently been erected by the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department along the roadside.

Heading west, the road section begins west of the I-40 interchange at Montoya and parallels I-40, holding the highway to the north. At 7.1 miles an overpass, resulting in an alignment deviation of approximately .5 miles carries the road into a hilly area punctuated by sandstone outcroppings. Several ridges permit striking vistas of the interstate, railroad and Route 66 grades roughly paralleling each other. Each alignment, however, negotiates the topography differently, offering a striking contrast in evolving alignment engineering. At mile 12 the road passes through Newkirk, a rural village with several vacant garages, tourist courts and cafes that once served Route 66 travellers. West of Newkirk, Route 66 resumes its close parallel with I-40. The road section ends at the east exit of the I-40 interchange at Cuervo. Although I-40 closely parallels some portions of this section of Route 66, causing a slight deviation from the original alignment of less than a half mile at one overpass, 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 Resource  
of Rt. 66 through NM

State maintained Rt. 66: Montoya  
to Cuervo

Section number 8 & 9 Page 2

---

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

8. Significance

Designated as State Highway 3 in 1914 and a part of the Ozark Trail, a regional road association that preceded the creation of the federal highway system in 1926, the road from Montoya to Cuervo underwent improvements and slight realignments in the late 1920s and early 1930s. These improvements were funded under FAP 114 and resulted, in 1936, with the hard surfacing of the present alignment. 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. With its historic alignment, its structural elements including cut banks, concrete culverts and a steel beam bridge reflecting early road construction techniques, design and materials, the section is eligible under Criterion C.

9. Bibliographical references

"Descriptive Log, Federal Aid Primary Route No. 3, Route Section No. 3." n.d. On file at the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department, Records Control Unit of Records Management, Santa Fe.

"Plans and Profiles of FAP 114" dated 8/28/35. On file at the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department, Records Control Unit of Records Management, Santa Fe.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Historic & Architectural Resources  
of Route 66 through NM

Section number 10 Page 3

State maintained Rt. 66: Montoya  
to Cuervo

---

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

Verbal Boundary Description

This property is 20.3 miles long. The east end lies at the junction of the frontage road and the eastbound exit ramp of I-40 at the Montoya interchange, and the west end lies at the junction of the frontage road and the westbound exit ramp of I-40 at the Cuervo interchange. The sides are defined by a corridor extending fifty feet on each side of the road's centerline, marking a right of way of 100 feet, a minimum width used by the State Highway Department during the 1930s.

Boundary Justification

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

