

PH0670995

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **NOV 11 1976**

DATE ENTERED **APR 11 1977**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC **** *nrh*
Hopkins County Courthouse
 AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Church and Jefferson Streets ___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Sulphur Springs 1

STATE VICINITY OF
Texas CODE

COUNTY CODE
048 Hopkins 223

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Hopkins County

STREET & NUMBER
Church and Jefferson Streets

CITY, TOWN STATE
Sulphur Springs Texas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hopkins County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Church and Jefferson Streets

CITY, TOWN STATE
Sulphur Springs Texas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historic Sites Inventory & Recorded Texas Historic Landmark

DATE 1970 & 1975 ___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
 SURVEY RECORDS Texas Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN STATE
Austin Texas

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

San Antonio architect J. Riely Gordon was noted for the design of a number of Central Texas courthouses such as the Bexar County Courthouse in San Antonio, the Fayette County Courthouse in La Grange and the Victoria County Courthouse in Victoria, in which he developed a distinctive Romanesque Revival idiom characterized by use of towers, turrets and similiar elements in broken massing, as well as by the use of polychromatic ashlar masonry. In a departure from the traditonal cross-axial plan, Gordon developed a cruciform layout of a central space surrounded by a gallery and then by adjoining rooms. Convenient to all of the rooms, the stairway was placed in a central position. Acess was effected at the reentrant angles of the resulting Greek cross plan. The Hopkins County Courthouse while similar in plan to Gordon's other efforts is sited differently from the traditional layout of Texas courthouses. Located across the street from the main square rather than squarely in the middle, as was usual, it lacks the normal quadrilateral symmetry of entrances, substituting a modified plan with entries on the northwest and southwest.*

The broken massing of Gordon's cruciform pattern was readily accommodated by the stylistic vocabulary of the Romanesque Revival. Walls were ashlar masonry in pink granite. Walls and steps were of polished blue granite. Completing the vivid polychromatic treatment, voussiors, lintels and strip courses were of red sandstone. A band of stones of contrasting hue, set in a checkerboard pattern forms a border at the roof line.

The dominant architectural feature is a hip-roofed central tower set off by ornamental turrets and dormers which break up the roof line.

In the center of the north and south facades below small balconies, appeared delightful carvings including designs and faces. Heavily carved cartouches, bear the date of construction.

The Hopkins County Courthouse, described with the other buildings of J. Riely Gordon, is a bold and vigorous statement of seats of government. Its overall state of preservation and intrinsic interest as a departure from the standard courthouse layout would appear to mandate its conservation.

*At the northeast and Southeast angles are three-story quarter-circular bays with flat arched windows on the first level and tall rounded windows on the second and third levels which have been enclosed.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1894-1895

BUILDER/ARCHITECT J. Riely Gordon

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Land in Hopkins county was first patented during the period of the Texas Republic, and with the creation of the county on May 25, 1846, the town of Tarrant became the county seat. In 1871 following several boundary charges in which the county lost a portion of its area to Lamar County, the county seat was moved to Sulphur Springs.

By 1882, two courthouses had been built in Hopkins County. The third one, erected in 1882 was destroyed on February 11, 1894, by a fire that also burned the jail and several adjacent structures. On March 24, 1894, the County Commissioners' Court selected J. Riely Gordon of San Antonio as the architect for the new courthouse. The Dallas firm of Sonnafield and Emmins was awarded the contract for construction.

Early in 1895, Austin architect A.O. Watson was hired to inspect the work. He admired the structure, praising it as a "very neat clean design, coventionally arranged and substantial in its general construction," but suggested additional bracing to strengthen the stonework.

The building was accepted on August 22, 1895, at a final cost of \$75,000.00. A clock for the tower was petitioned for by some citizens, but the County Commissioners refused to provide funds for it.

The courthouse still serves its original function despite unsympathetic remodeling which detracts from the beauty of the original design. Examples include iron hand railings which cracked the sandstone when clamped to the stone, a wooden shed which covers the southwest entrance, and window enclosures. However, the alterations do not detract from the overall beauty of the design.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Robinson, Willard B., and Webb, Todd, Texas Public Buildings of the Nineteenth Century, Austin, 1974.
 Latimer, Truett, "Evaluation of Application for Commemorative Marker, Texas Historical Commission" (Correspondence).
 Hopkins County Commissioners' Court Minutes, Vol.7

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/4 acre

UTM REFERENCES

257
 A | 1,5 | 25,64,20 | 36,6,9,4,4,0 | B | | | | | | | | | |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C | | | | | | | | | | D | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Hopkins County Courthouse is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of state highways 313 and 154. These highways border the north and west sides. On the east a jail joins the structure and on the south an unpretentious business building forms a physical boundary.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Willard B. Robinson, Professor of Architecture
S. Elizabeth Sasser-Research Associate 8/24/76
 ORGANIZATION DATE
Division of Architecture-Texas Tech University 806/742-2430
 STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE
P.O. Box 4499
 CITY OR TOWN STATE
Lubbock Texas

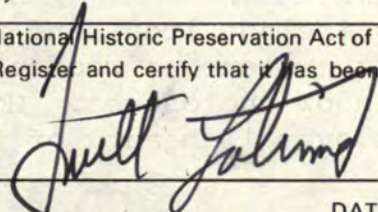
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

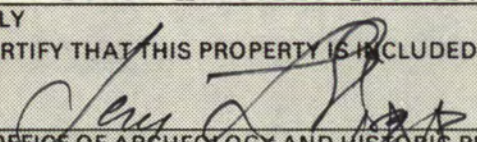


TITLE Texas State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 11/4/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CHIEF 
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 4/11/77

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 3/25/77

Property Hopkins County Courthouse

Hopkins

State Def. Working Number 11.11.76.4534

TECHNICAL

Photos 2
Maps 1

Easting incorrect

Called 3.22.77 **CONTROL**

OK *pl*
11.12.76

*Badly altered, but
sufficiently intact.*

HISTORIAN
ACCEPT
Livengood
17 Nov 76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept
M. Hurley
12-16-76

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
3-21-77

BRANCH CHIEF

Hunt
3.25.77

KEEPER

Wm
3/25/77

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____ Entered APR 11 1977
Federal Register Entry 5-3-77 Re-submit _____



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NOV 11 1976

Hopkins County Courthouse
Sulphur Springs, Texas

Mike Yancey, May 1975
Texas Historical Commission

Northwest oblique
Photo #1 *rf2*

DOE APR 11 1977



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

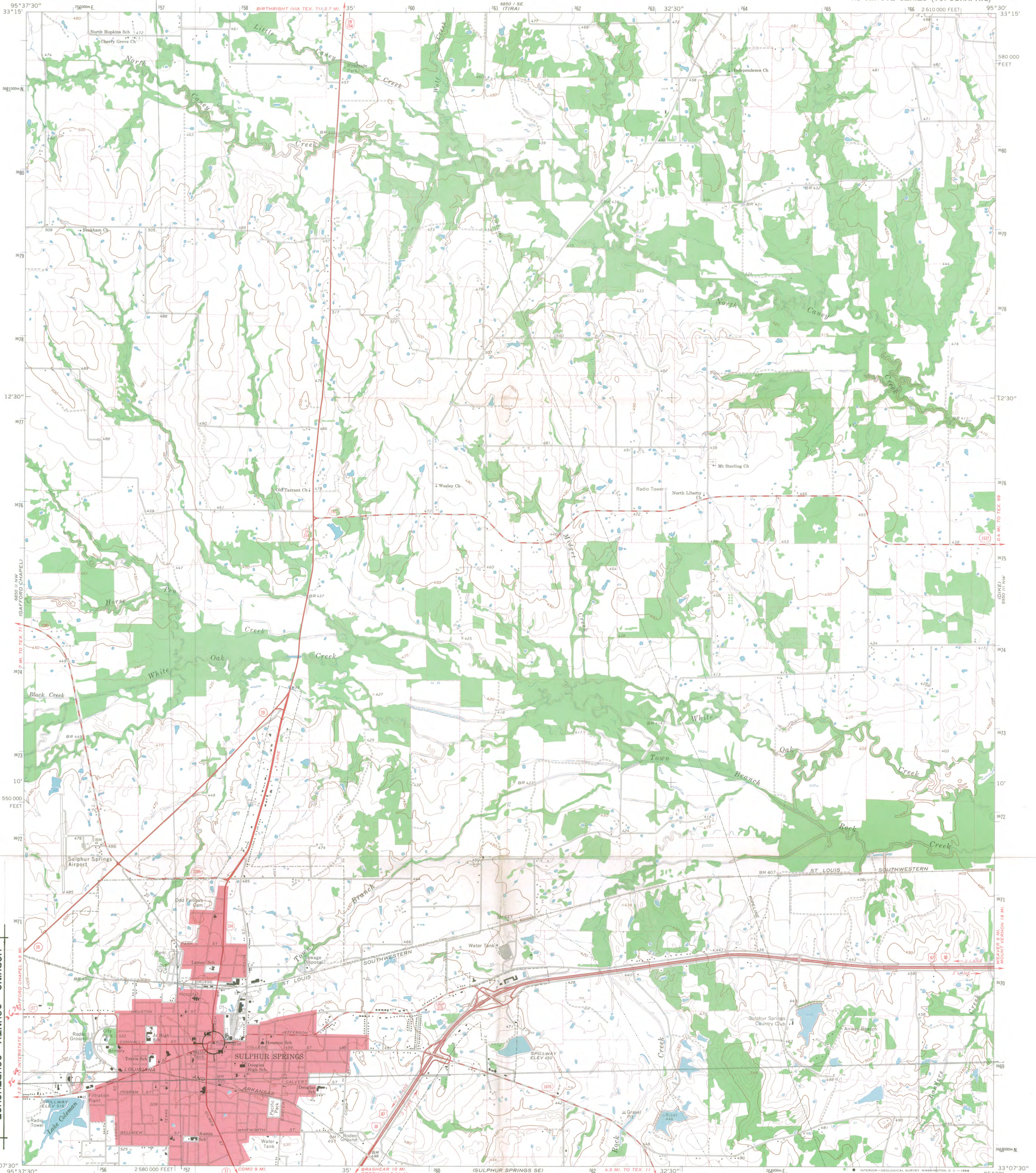
NOV 11 1976

Hopkins County Courthouse
Sulphur Springs, Texas

Mike Yancey, May 1975
Texas Historical Commission

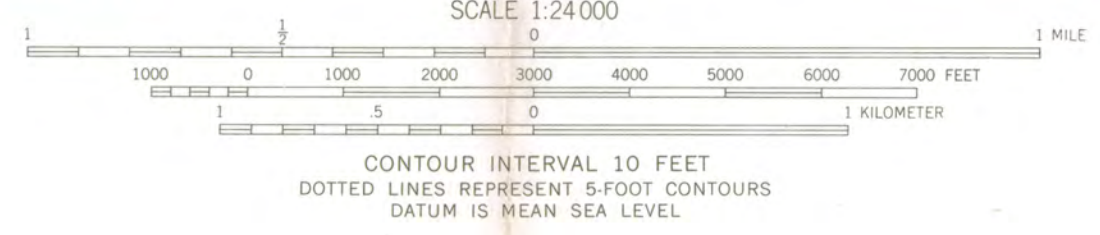
Northeast oblique
Photo #2 of 2

DOE APR 11 1977



HOPKINS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
CHURCH and JEFFERSON STREET
SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS
UTM Reference: 15 / 256420 / 3669440

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1964. Field checked 1964
Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,
north central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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



SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEX.
N3307.5—W9530/7.5
3395 214
AMS 6850 II NE—SERIES V882

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

AUG 30 1966
APR 11 1977

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE TEXAS

Date Entered APR 11 1977

Name

Location

Sgt. Doyle Site

El Paso vicinity
El Paso County

Hopkins County Courthouse

Sulphur Springs
Hopkins County

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower
Hon. Lloyd Bentsen
Hon. Richard C. White
Hon. Sam B. Hall
Mr. Francis B. Roche

Regional Director, Southwest Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Truett Latimer
Executive Director
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

880 Mott/ej

4-12-77

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 17 N 76
 Reviewer: INITIALS: [Signature]
 NR DOE APR 11 1977

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Hopkins County Courthouse

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER

Church and Jefferson Sts.

CITY, TOWN

Sulphur Springs

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Texas

048

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

code

Hopkins 223

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

<u>INTERIOR</u>	<u>EXTERIOR</u>	<u>ENVIRONS</u>
- Substantially intact-1	- Substantially intact-2	- Substantially intact-3
- unknown - 4	- unknown -5	- unknown -6
- not applicable - 7	- not applicable - 8	- Not applicable-9

Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	<input type="checkbox"/> Reconstructed	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
		<input type="checkbox"/> Unexcavated	<input type="checkbox"/> Excavated	

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
 IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO
 IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- COURTHOUSE

now- same

SIGNIFICANCE:

- | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW/Gov't/politics | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> health |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | <input type="checkbox"/> recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | <input type="checkbox"/> settlement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | <input type="checkbox"/> socio/cultural |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | | <input type="checkbox"/> urban & commun |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | | <input type="checkbox"/> planning |

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

Richardsonian

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Romanesque

architect/m.builder: J. Pielly Gordon

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor: Sanna Field + Emmins

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES: personal

(label role & appropriate date)

events

institutional

DATES: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1894-5

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE: (OF NOMINATION) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY

OTHER Students FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE: (to nearest tenth of an acre) .3

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

~~Pink~~ Pink granite ashlar, blue granite, red sandstone trim; 3 1/2 stories, Greek Cross shape; intersecting gabled and hipped roof sections; central bell tower with open bell section, corner turrets and pyramidal roof; bowed porch sections set into corners created by arms of the cross with enclosed 2nd-story and balustraded 3rd story deck, window arcades, turrets, gabled dormers. Richardsonian Romanesque

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

This distinguished building, designed to symbolize its function, continues to serve as courthouse for the county after three-quarters of a century.