

(Oct. 1990)

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**



1522

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

HISTORIC NAME: Falls County Courthouse
OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER: N/A

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 1 Courthouse Square
CITY OR TOWN: Marlin
STATE: Texas **CODE:** TX **COUNTY:** Falls **CODE:** 145
NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A
VICINITY: N/A
ZIP CODE: 76661

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 nationally statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

11-7-00

Signature of certifying official

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission

State or 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 commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this 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

12/13/00

5. CLASSIFICATION

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY: Public - local

CATEGORY OF PROPERTY: Building

NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING
	1	1 BUILDINGS
	0	0 SITES
	0	0 STRUCTURES
	3	2 OBJECTS
	4	3 TOTAL

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER: 0

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING: N/A

6. FUNCTION OR USE

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS: GOVERNMENT: courthouse

CURRENT FUNCTIONS: GOVERNMENT: courthouse

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: MODERN MOVEMENT: Art Moderne

MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION CONCRETE
WALLS STONE/limestone, STONE/shellstone
ROOF GRAVEL
OTHER - METAL/steel, METAL/aluminum

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheets 7-5 through 7-16).

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Falls County Courthouse
Marlin, Falls County, Texas

Description

The Falls County Courthouse (1939) in Marlin, Texas, is an almost completely intact reinforced concrete Art Moderne building. Relatively small by today's standards, the courthouse has an area of 31,110 square feet, equally distributed on the first three floors (ground, first and second), with a smaller fourth level (third floor) designed as a sequestered jury dormitory. The ground floor, a raised basement, is slab on grade, with perimeter grade beam and steam pipe chase below. Exterior walls are mass masonry, faced with Austin Shellstone and limestone, while interior partitions are all masonry with plaster finish, with suspended plaster ceilings on metal lath. Original climate control features include steam heat, tall ceilings with ceiling fans, and large casement and hopper windows. Late Art Moderne in design, the building epitomizes the esthetic applied to a small, county courthouse.

Setting

Marlin, the county seat of Falls County, is at the intersection of State highways 6 and 7, four miles east of the Brazos River near the center of the county. The Falls County Courthouse Square is located on the flat rise, to the south and west of a ravine near the center of the original townsite of the City of Marlin. The courthouse square is surrounded on all sides by commercial and civic buildings, including: the 1920 fire hall (Fonzie Robertson, Architect), the vacant Tractor Supply Building (to be converted to county offices), and the Marlin City Hall (a 1960's cast stone and brick building) to the north; the 1970s Bank of Commerce building to the east; and a 1920s retail strip to the south (a continuation of the primary Marlin retail district along Live Oak Street). Recently constructed gasoline stations occupy two of the western corners at the Williams and Bridge St. intersection. The west side of the square includes contemporary restaurants and a converted 1950s gasoline station. The 1978 concrete-block county jail (soon to converted to an archives building) is on the northwest corner of the courthouse Square.

The site is relatively flat, gently sloping away from the courthouse on all sides to the curb. It is surrounded by mature live oak and cedar elm trees, original planting from the 1939 landscape design. The St. Augustine grass lawn is verdant and well cared for. Annual plantings in the entry stair bolsters on the north and south building elevations, with additional annual plantings in the beds between the parallel twin entry walks to the south and north main entrances, illustrate the care the county takes toward keeping their building presentable to the public. The Courthouse square is surrounded by head-in parking, with the drive separated by a curb from the surrounding street and highway rights of way. Access is available from all four surrounding streets into the inner parking around the courthouse. Concrete sidewalks, again as placed according to the 1939 design, with only one sensitive minor adjustment for handicap access, provide entry from the surrounding parking and city sidewalks on the other sides of the streets to the courthouse entries.

Exterior

The first level is faced with Austin Shellstone from grade level to the bearing line for the limestone above and capped with a Shellstone trim twenty inches wide. The Shellstone trim is continued vertically around door and window openings, extending around the third floor windows on the north and south elevations. The trim dies into massive Shellstone entry surrounds extending above first floor windows on east and west elevations.

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Stonework includes carved, stylized eagles above the east and west entries, located above the third floor windows. Vertically oriented, rectangular projecting carved panels are placed below the first floor windows between all pilaster columns; the carving can be interpreted as a derivation of vegetation, being a series of symmetrical, diagonal scalloped carving toward a central axis. Small projecting carved stones on corner pilaster columns and pilaster columns flanking the north and south entries include a centered, square geometric carving with octagon center, above five vertical round outside flutes recessed behind the surface of the surrounding stone. Inner pilaster column faces on all elevations are plain. All are surmounted with a trim cap eight inches height. The parapet cap stones at both second level roofs have the same trim profile. The third level parapet is faced with zig-zag incised decoration of classical derivation. Above the third floor parapet the boiler flu rises at the northeast corner, six feet above the parapet, and with the same profile as the lower roof parapet, at a smaller scale.

Entry steps at all four entries are Texas pink granite, both treads and risers, with a landing of the same material. All four entries are flanked by built-in concrete planters, having an integral foundation with the building and entry steps. All planters have an exterior face of Shellstone. All four entries have matching pairs of exterior light fixtures, one at each site, to provide evening entry illumination.

Windows are all steel casement, with both outswinging casement and hopper type windows, with interior brass operators and latches. Ground floor window sills are integrated as part of a projecting water table ledge expanding the building exterior by four inches, within the Shellstone face. First floor sills and third floor sills over the lower roofs are all projecting limestone with a profile similar to the pilaster and lower roof parapet profiles. Second floor sills are all integral with the window, facing over the cast aluminum spandrel panels between first and second floor windows. Third floor sills on north and south elevations also face over cast aluminum panels between second and third floor windows.

Entry doors are all custom glazed aluminum with 21 divided lights, aluminum push-pull bars, in aluminum frames with aluminum sills. Doors were delivered with a single hand on push-pull bars, but opposite hands for double doors, and left or right hand according to the installation. As doors and other aluminum work were a primary delivery problem delaying the completion of the project (per Commissioners Court Minutes) we are certain what was delivered was gladly accepted to allow occupancy. Doors were installed with sill-mounted closers and head mounted wind braces. None of the floor mounted closers work, and replacement head mounted closers have been surface installed on all currently active doors.

Interior

Building interior corridors run east and west along the length of ground, first and second floors. Ground and first floor corridors are centered, north to south; third floor is off-center, allowing additional interior space for the District Courtroom on that level. First and second floor corridors have three colors of marble, installed in a zig-zag pattern, with a marble border and base. The two floor colors are Tennessee rose gray and Tennessee medium gray selection from the same material, with a ten inch wide floor border of St. Albans Red. The same St. Albans Red is used for the base, with Striped Brocadillo (white marble with green veining) wainscot and trim above, to seven feet height.

The same marble finishes are used in the entry stairs, stairs at east and west ends of the building, and the central stairs to the second floor and on to the third floor landing. St. Albans Red is used for treads and risers, with a base of the same material, and Striped Brocadillo wainscot. Stair landings are finished with the Tennessee Rose Gray and Tennessee

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Medium Gray, with St. Albans Red border, in the same manner as the floors. Entry stairs, and ground to first and to second floor stairs all have elaborate Art Moderne aluminum handrails. The handrail is carried, along with marble finishes, to the third floor open landing. The stair to the third floor from this landing is unadorned, with plaster walls and ceiling, and with concrete stairs with metal pipe handrail on one side.

Ground floor finish is terrazzo, in the same pattern as the floors above, with ceramic tile base and wainscot. As the original documents call for marble floor and wainscot, this must be one of the cost reduction alternate options selected by Falls County, according to the Commissioners Court Minutes.

Ground, first and second floors have decorative plaster ceilings, with a linear, divided round, scalloped profile. The ground floor carries this in a low profile ceiling, with more decorative and arched ceilings in the first and second floor corridors. The third floor corridor has no decorative marble, terrazzo, or plaster installation, and is strictly functional.

Most offices have rubber tile floor, with natural finish wood base, red oak wood doors and trim, and painted plaster walls and ceilings. Original globe light fixtures and Hunter ceiling fans with globe lights remain in a number of these office and storage spaces. Cast iron painted radiators were located at each window; the windows had a shallow wood natural finish sill at the metal glazing, with sloped plaster sill to the interior. Venetian blinds with the wider blind panels were placed at all windows.

Commissioners Court has rubber tile floor, with St. Albans Red marble base, red oak wood doors, trim, bench, canopy, rails, pews and other features. Jury chairs are fixed swivel chairs on a six inch height platform, behind a rail. A rail separates the audience from the court, with entry on the side, in line with the room entry door. The plaster ceiling has a linear stepped ornament, with adhesive installed ceiling tiles framed by this border. Walls are painted plaster. Decorative Art Moderne light fixtures are installed, but have been relamped and no longer provide adequate lighting.

District Courtroom also has rubber tile floor, with St. Albans Red base, mahogany doors, trim, bench, canopy, paneling, rails, pews and other features. Jury chairs are fixed swivel chairs on stepped platform with six inch risers, behind a rail. A rail separates the audience from the court, with center entry gate. Plaster ceiling has a linear stepped ornament, with additional relief at each pilaster column, and with adhesive installed ceiling tiles framed by the border. The ceiling is higher over the audience, with the step aligned with the rail. Walls are painted plaster. Decorative Art Moderne light fixtures are installed, but have been relamped and no longer provide adequate lighting.

Toilet rooms were all finished with ceramic tile floors, Keenes cement wall finish, and plaster ceilings. Partitions were Tennessee gray marble with oak doors.

According to the Minutes of Commissioners Court, an electric water cooler was first installed in the courthouse corridor in 1950.¹ The Minutes did not state whether this was located as a replacement for one of the bubbler fountains, but as the installation adjacent to the County Judge's office appears to have been at that location for some time, it is quite possible that the first unit was installed at that location.

¹ Comm. Court Minutes, Book 8, p. 237.

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Changes since 1939

A poor county with an agrarian based economy and with all primary employers tax-exempt government institutions, Falls County could never afford to extensively remodel or change its Courthouse or dispose of the primary furniture purchased at its construction. Virtually unchanged since its construction in 1939, the Falls County Courthouse retains a very high degree of integrity of setting, location, materials, workmanship, design, feeling and association

Masonry repairs, including pointing, was performed on the exterior stone work of the courthouse according to the Commissioners Court Minutes in November 13, 1956, with the contract amount for \$10,840.² Also in 1956, exterior stair handrails were installed, according to Minutes of the Commissioners Court.³ Additional masonry repairs were performed in August 10, 1992, according to Commissioners Court Minutes.⁴ As can be seen from the site, these repairs did not correct the underlying problems, and additional remedial work must again be performed.

The first major remodel work on the Falls County Courthouse included addition of exterior electrical wiring and removal of existing window sash units to allow installation of window unit air conditioners to all building offices and court rooms. According to the dates on construction documents, this work was initiated in January 15, 1959.⁵ This work resulted in mullion, muntin and sash removal from the affected windows, and installation of electrical conduit, disconnects and other work on the exterior stone face of the building.

Possibly associated with this work was installation of two rooftop HVA C units serving the District Courtroom. As the plaster ceiling for this room was hung directly on concrete structure with no attic space, roof top penetrations continuing directly through the ceiling were used for both supply and return. One unit has a central supply grill with circumferential return, common with this type of installation. The other unit has a separate supply from the return, with a "J" shaped exposed sheet metal duct directing the air over to the bench, from the penetration location just west of the rail.

According to Commissioners Court Minutes, fluorescent lights were added to the District Courtroom in February 24, 1964.⁶ Also in June 25, 1964 new window AC units were added, and the location of existing units was changed.⁷ Repairs to the boiler were performed in September 22, 1969⁸, with the boiler replaced on July 23, 1990⁹, according to Commissioners Court Minutes.

The building has had only one exterior remodeling. The 1986 addition by Harold E. Kaemmerling, AIA, is a third floor expansion to accommodate the accessibility elevator and elevator lobby on this level. This addition can be seen from the street around the courthouse Square, but is behind the building parapet, matches the building color, is compatible with the building design. Additional exterior work was performed, adding concrete walk to provide access to the new accessible

² Ibid., Book 8, p. 618.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid., Book 11, p. 889.

⁵ "Air Conditioning Wiring for Courthouse", January 15, 1959.

⁶ Comm. Court Minutes, Book 9, p. 258.

⁷ Ibid., Book 9, p. 258.

⁸ Ibid., p. 476.

⁹ Ibid., Book 11, p. 232.

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entry, and over-pouring the concrete walk at the north entry of the building, flush with the bottom existing granite tread, apparently to repair existing work and to make up for the grade change caused by continued landscape cultivation around the courthouse.

The building has had one major interior remodel in its history. Part of the 1986 accessibility design by Harold E. Kaemmerling, AIA, work included the sensitive addition of an elevator with attendant partition changes, remodel of the basement toilets for handicap access, and creation of a ground floor handicap entry on the south elevation. This installation had the scope of work changed by the county after the contract was let, resulting in materials substitutions in the toilet rooms (per Mr. Kaemmerling) and a "...less sensitive installation by the Contractor"¹⁰. This work was completed by Mid-West General Contractors, of Dallas, Texas at the cost of \$246,000¹¹.

A pad mounted compressor unit for HVAC was installed along with the new air handler unit for the County Judge's office and his secretary, and for the Commissioners Court in October 13, 1997, per Commissioners Court Minutes¹². Work was contracted directly with an air conditioning contractor. The air handler was installed in an existing closet in the Judge's Secretary's office. Ductwork was exposed in both the County Judge's and his secretary's office in this insensitive installation by the contractor (no Architect was involved in the design).

Additional remodel work has included incremental addition of window unit air conditioners to all offices over the years, commencing in the 1960's. This work has resulted in mullion, muntin and sash removal from the affected windows, and installation of additional electrical conduit, disconnects and other work on the exterior stone face of the building.

The second electric water cooler was installed in the courthouse to replace the remaining bubbler fountain more recently than the first, mentioned above. The water cooler on the ground floor outside of the women's restroom was installed at the time of the accessibility remodel according to the drawings. The drawings mention the presence of water coolers and not bubbler fountains. This would indicate that the county first installed them at a time prior to the 1986 accessibility remodel. One of these original bubbler fountains can be found on the courthouse lawn between the small, portable storage shed on the northwest side of the courthouse, and the planter on the west side of the north entry steps, laying on the ground with a discarded electric motor and other junk equipment.

Additional new partitions have been placed throughout the building over the last three decades, primarily to subdivide space in the courthouse for expanding operations, additional personnel, and privacy needs in the various departments. New partitions were added by each County department, hiring outside contractors to perform the work or having the Building Engineer perform the work as their personnel and functions increased beyond their capacity. Plywood paneling was also installed on existing walls and new partitions both to cover damaged plaster as well as for interior decor.

¹⁰ Conversation with Harold Kaemmerling, AIA, December 20, 1999.

¹¹ Commissioners Court Minutes, Book 10, p. 985.

¹² Ibid., Book 13, p. 451.

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Section 7 Page 10Falls County Courthouse
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Buildings and objects on courthouse grounds

Property	Date	Contributing / Noncontributing
Confederate Soldier's Memorial	1925	Contributing
Old Courthouse Memorial	1946	Contributing
World War II Memorial	1950	Contributing
Sheriff's Deputy Memorial	1973	Noncontributing
Falls County Jail	1978	Noncontributing
Texas Revolutionary & Pioneer Memorial	1986	Noncontributing

The Confederate Soldier's Memorial was originally a granite drinking fountain. Long since disconnected from a water supply, it remains a simple and sentimental monument to the lost cause. The Old Courthouse Memorial consists of a bell and two cornerstones. The Texas Revolutionary and Pioneer Memorial (stone) is a Texas Sesquicentennial salute to all those who have participated in freeing and founding the immediate area as part of the early Texas Republic, and includes the names of all county signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence; members of the Meier Expedition; names of the Mounted Rangers from Falls County in the Republic; Texas Minutemen; Militias; occupants of the abandoned Viesca townsite; and the names of all early Falls County settlers. The Sheriff's Deputy Memorial, consisting of two gray granite stones with bronze tablets, is a tribute from the Sheriff's Department to two men lost in the performance of their duties. The WW II Memorial, also of gray granite, is also in very good condition and well maintained. A period piece, it bears more in its esthetic to the design of the courthouse than any of the other monuments. It is a simple statement of the enormous patriotism and enormous cost of WW II to the community. Original flagpoles at the monument have been removed, replaced by larger staffs behind the monument.

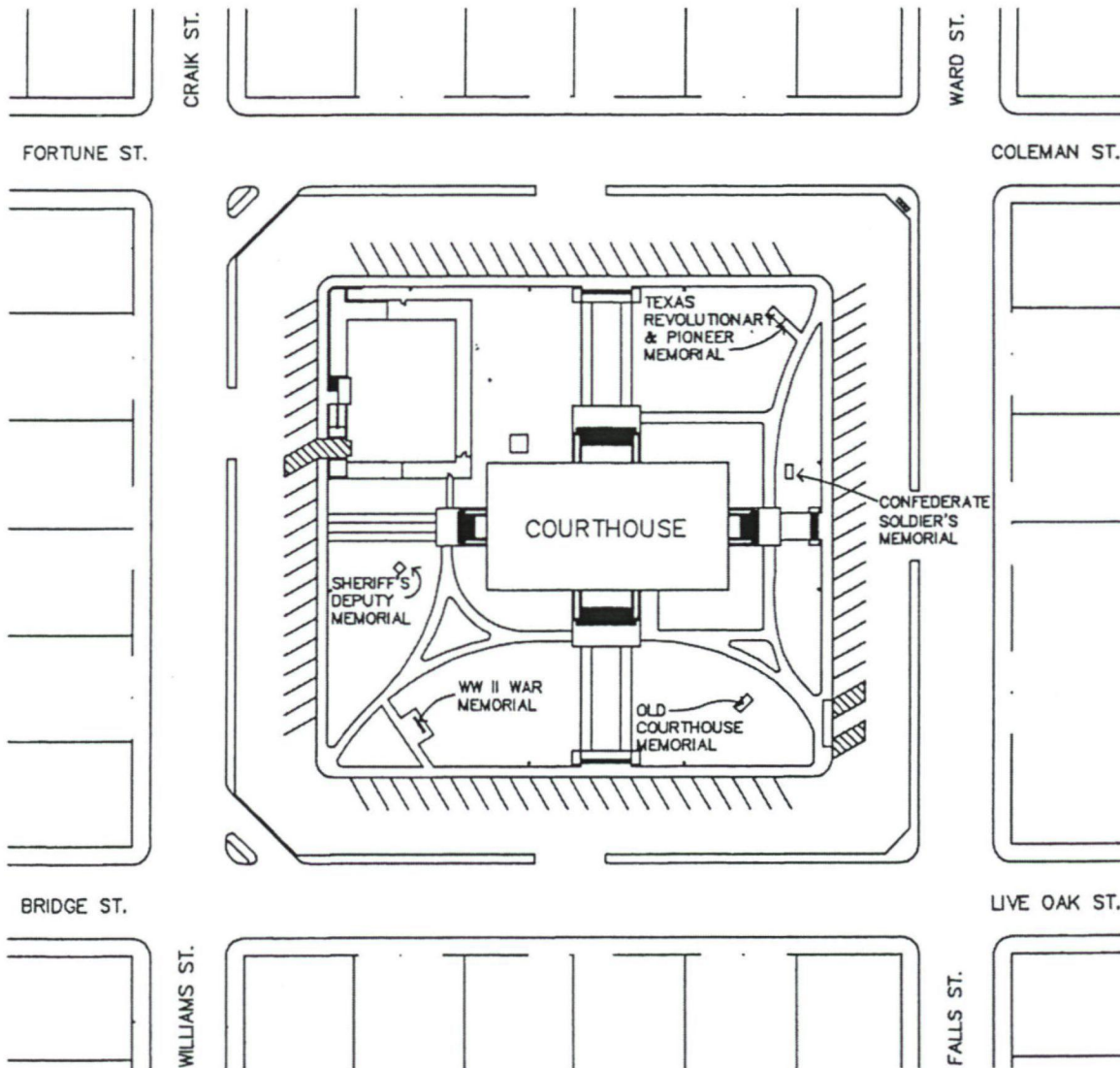
The 1978 Falls County Jail replaced the Old Jail (1915). Sparse planting and lack of mature trees to the west of the courthouse reflect the location of the demolished building. The Brutalist 1978 jail building is separated from the courthouse by exercise fencing. Although the jail detracts from the northwest view of the courthouse, additional planting on the street face softens the appearance. Though there is sentiment for demolition of this building, Falls County plans to retain the structure for economic reasons.

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SITE PLAN

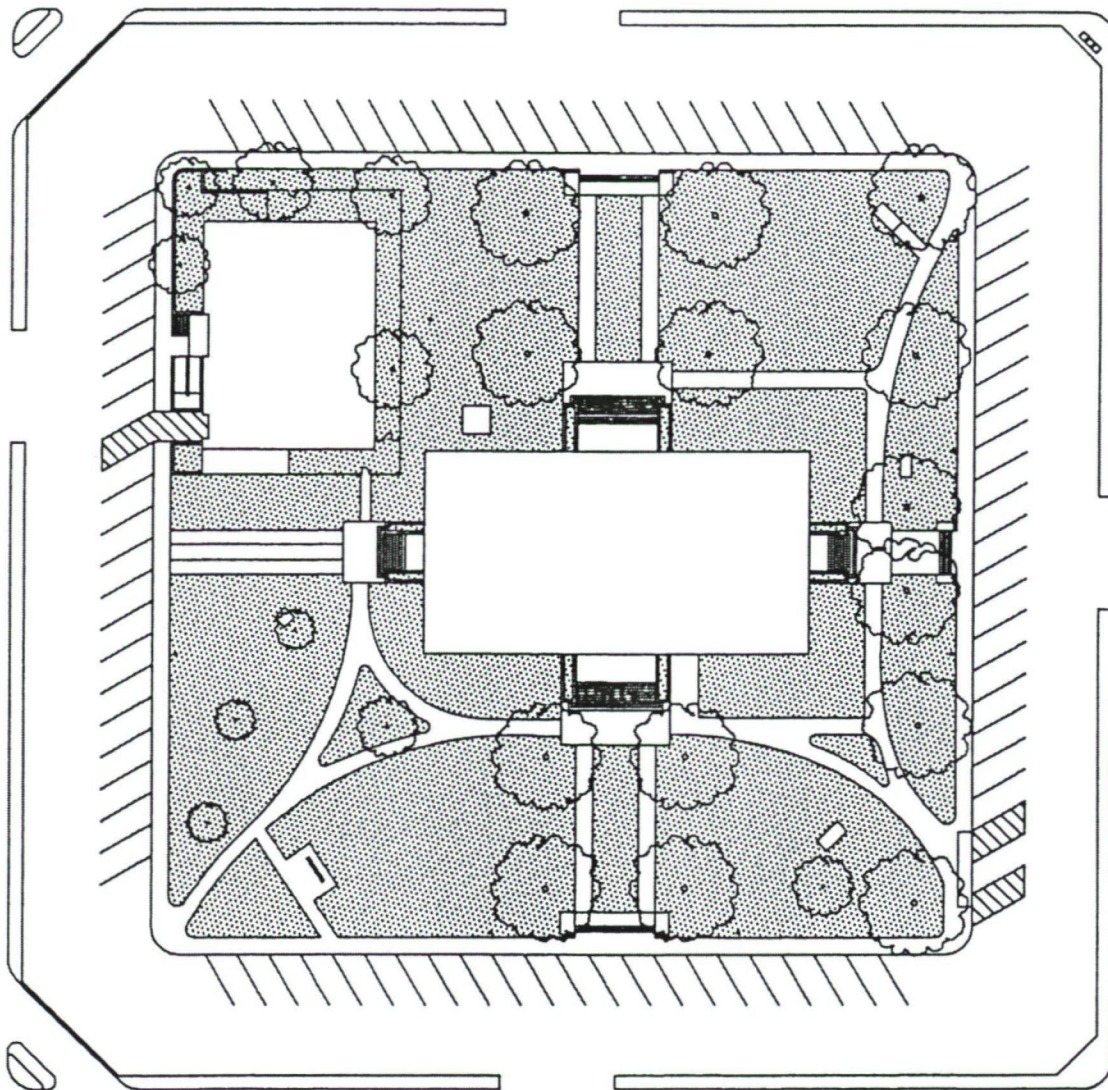


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Falls County Courthouse
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LANDSCAPE PLAN  NORTH

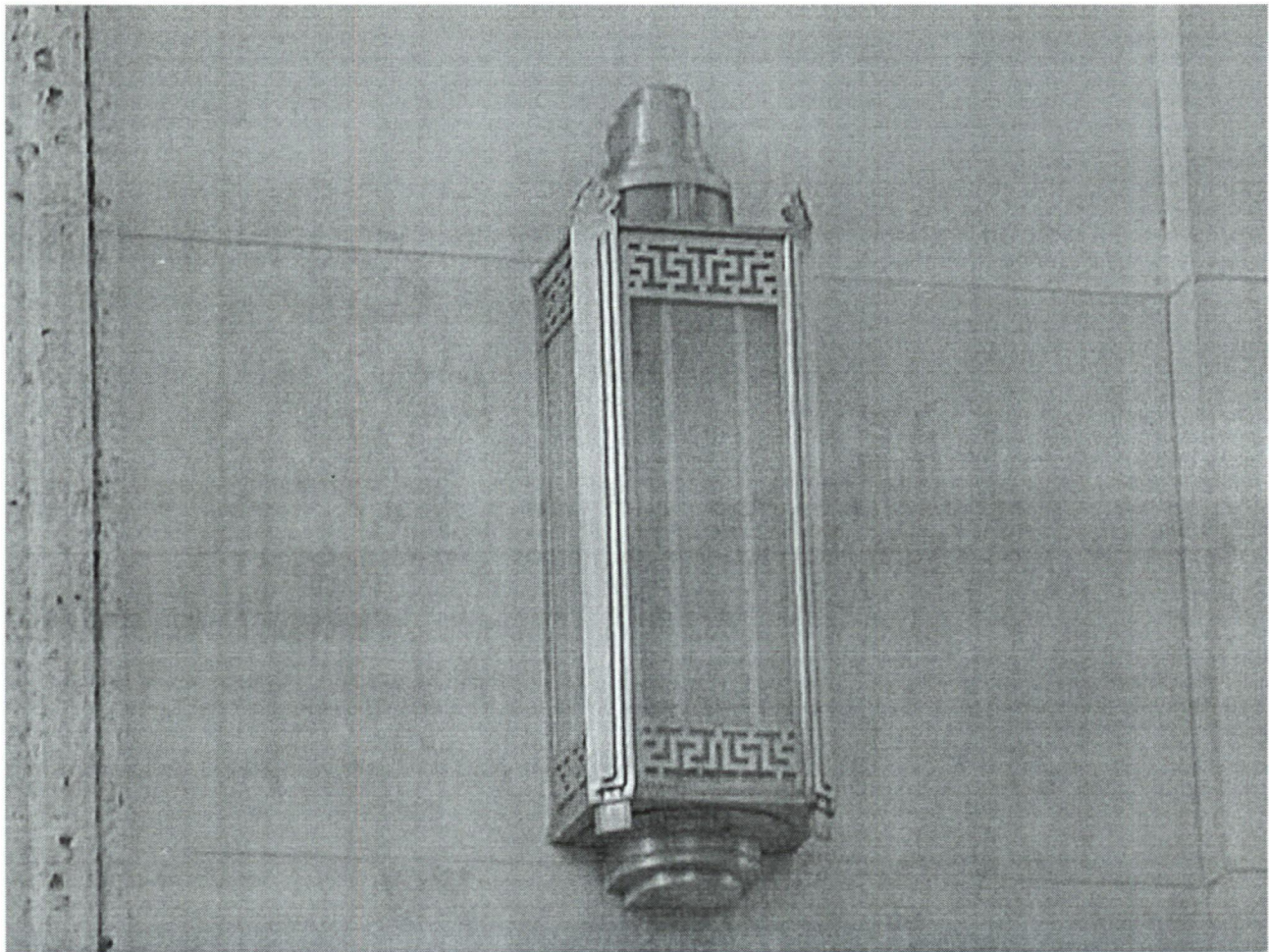
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Falls County Courthouse
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Exterior mounted building light, north entry jamb, typical for all four entries
Photo by Gretchen Gause



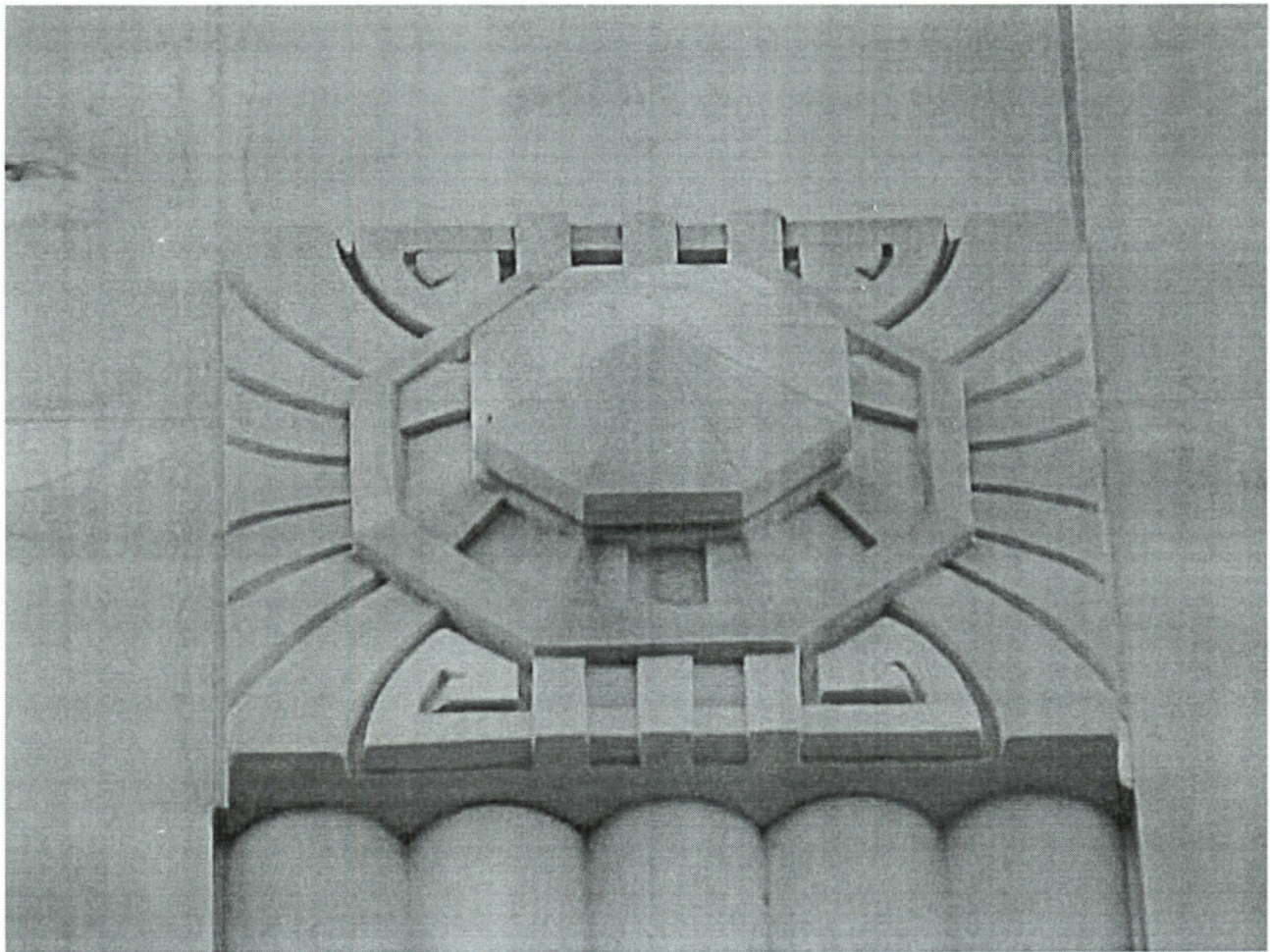
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Falls County Courthouse
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Carved stone column capital ornament, typical at corner pilaster columns, both sides of all four outside building corners
Photo by Gretchen Gause



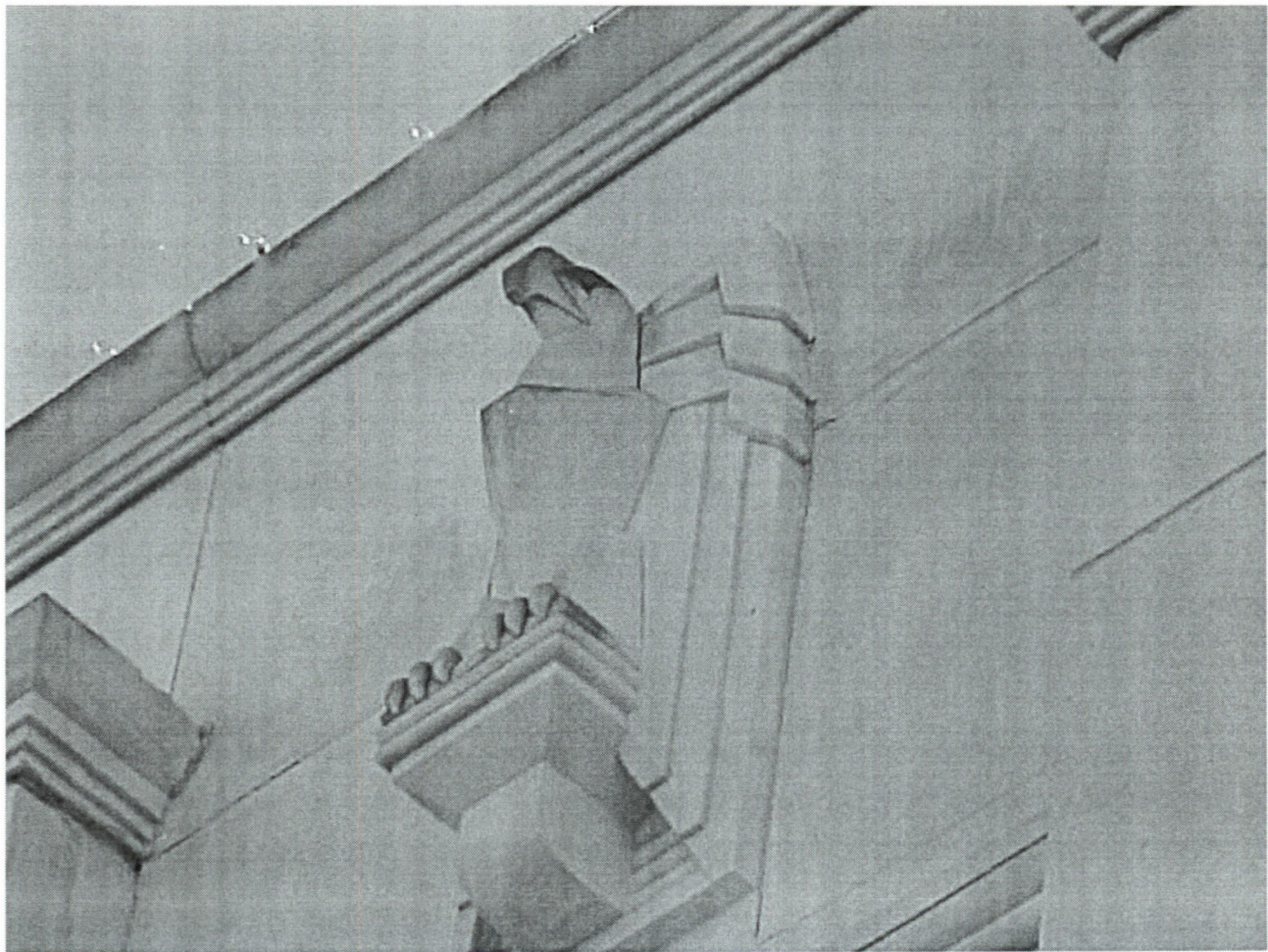
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Falls County Courthouse
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Carved stone eagle ornament over second floor (third level) window centered over entry below on E and W elevations
Photo by Gretchen Gause



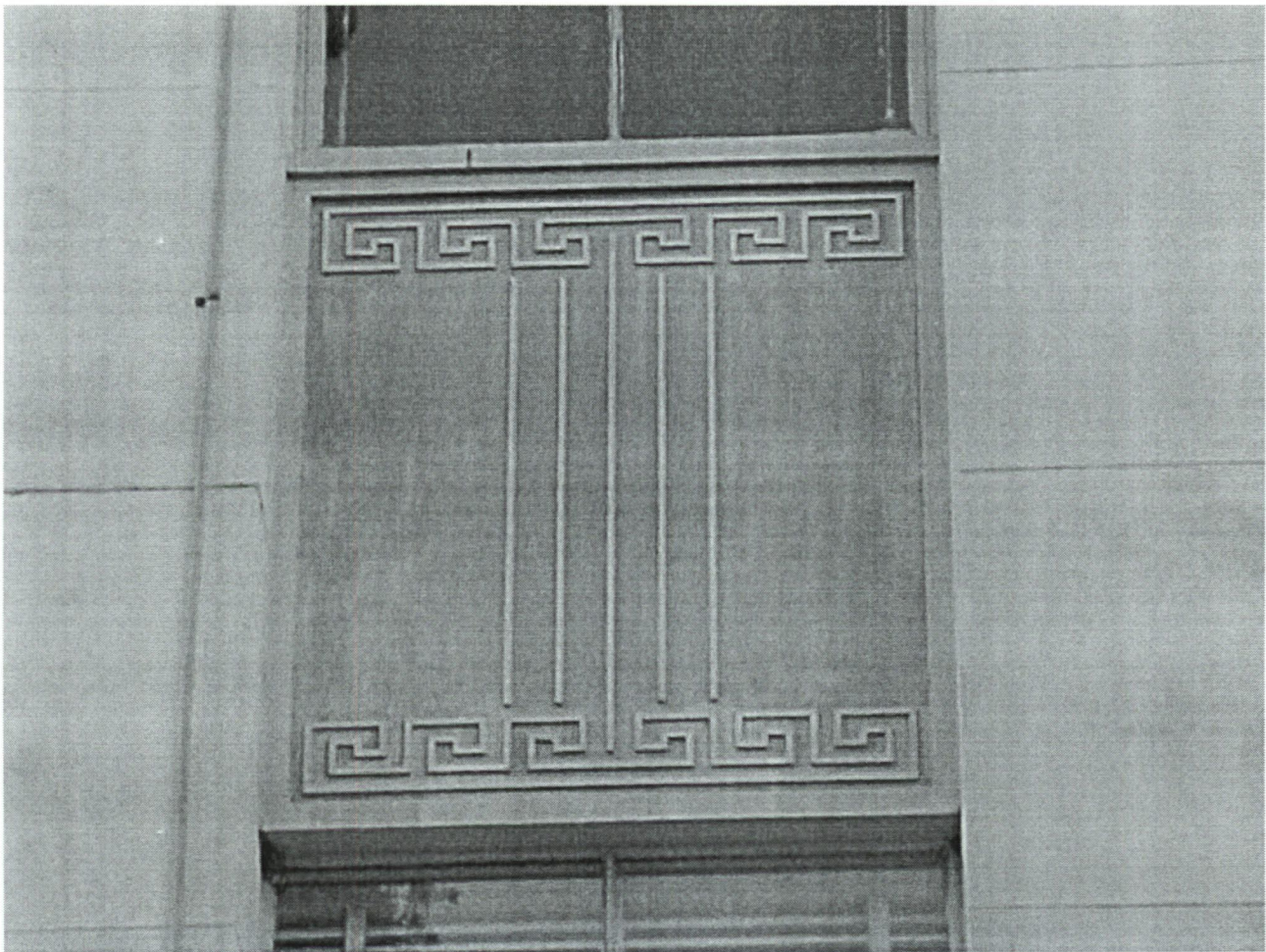
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Falls County Courthouse
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Cast aluminum spandrel panels
Photo by Gretchen Gause



8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

- 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 VALUE, 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: N/A

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Government

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1939-1950

SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1939

SIGNIFICANT PERSON: N/A

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Arthur E. Thomas (Architect); Hill and Combs (General Contractor)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (see continuation sheets 8-17 through 8-24).

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY (see continuation sheets 9-25 through 9-29).

PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS): N/A

- 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 (*Texas Historical Commission*)
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

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Falls County Courthouse
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Statement of Significance

County courthouses are the preeminent building type associated with local government in Texas, and are often the most prominent and sophisticated buildings of the counties in which they stand. The Falls County Courthouse (1939) in Marlin, Texas, stands as both an outstanding architectural achievement and the seat of county government. The building meets criterion A, in the area of Politics/Government at the local level, as the continued center of county government since 1939, and as a project partially funded by the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works (FEAPW, renamed PWA and placed under Federal Works Agency in 1939). The courthouse is also nominated under Criterion C, in the area of Architecture, at the local level, as an excellent example of a concrete Art Moderne building by Dallas architect Arthur E. Thomas.

Falls County and the Establishment of the Marlin

Falls County is located in Central Texas, surrounded by Limestone, Robertson, Milam, Bell, and McLennan counties. Marlin, the largest town and county seat, is 24 miles south of Waco and 121 miles south of Dallas. An initial visit by Americans to the area in 1819 failed to result in a permanent settlement. In 1825 the area was included in the grant to Robert Leftwich of the Texas Association, a group from Nashville, Tennessee which requested permission from Mexico to settle the area, but new laws prevented settlement until the early 1830s. The area served as hunting grounds for several tribes, including the Wacos, Tawakonis, Anadarkos and, by the 1830s, the Cherokees. Sterling C. Robertson began bringing American settlers to his Nashville colony (later called Robertson's colony) in 1834-35. In 1833 Robertson established the colony capital Sarahville de Viesca, four miles southwest of present-day Marlin.¹³ Fort Viesca (established in 1834 and renamed Fort Milam in December 1835) was built in for the protection of the settlers. After reaching a population of approximately 200, the community was abandoned in 1836 as a result of Indian hostilities and the approach of the Mexican army.¹⁴

After Texas' decisive victory at the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836, settlers returned to the Fort Milam area, only to face a series of hostilities with Native Americans in the area. In 1839, the Texas legislature authorized armed patrol of the region, and conflicts with Indians soon ceased, with peace officially declared in 1845. On January 28, 1850, the state legislature formed Falls County (named after falls on the Brazos River) from Limestone and Milam counties. The settlers of Falls County came from the slaveholding South, primarily Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama. According to the 1860 census, the county had 504 farms and 1,716 slaves (47 percent of the total population). Falls County boasted a diverse agricultural economy, relying less on cotton than other Texas counties (only 2,030 bales harvested in 1860), and a large wool crop, with 17,500 pounds produced in 1860, the highest in Falls County history. Cattle remained an important livestock through the 19th century.¹⁵

The Texas Legislature designated Viesca the county seat when Falls County was created on January 28, 1850, but no county courthouse was ever built there¹⁶. By act of the Texas legislature, the county was allowed to hold an election on

¹³ "Falls County" in *The New Handbook of Texas* (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1996), vol.2, p. 942.

¹⁴ "Fort Milam" in *The New Handbook of Texas* (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1996), vol. 2, p. 1112.

¹⁵ "Falls County" in *The New Handbook of Texas* (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1996), vol. 2, p. 942.

¹⁶ *History of Falls County*, p. 108, 110.

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January 21, 1851 to allow them to make their own selection of a county seat location¹⁷. The first Falls County Courthouse was constructed in the new town of Adams, later renamed Marlin in 1855, in honor of John Marlin, a noted pioneer¹⁸. There have been a total of five courthouses, with the current courthouse and three predecessors at the same location on Courthouse Square in the City of Marlin¹⁹.

Marlin incorporated in 1867. The Houston and Texas Central Railway completed its line in 1871, and the population of Marlin tripled from 500 to 1,500 the following decade. In 1901 a second railroad, the International-Great Northern, laid its tracks into town and dredged a lake in what became the City Park. In 1892, hot mineral water was found during the search for an artesian well. Dr. J. W. Cook promoted Marlin as a health center, and numerous bathhouses, including the Bethesda Bathhouse, Majestic Bathhouse, Imperial Hotel, Torbett Hospital soon sprang up. For the next fifty years Marlin geared its economy to the health industry. In 1925 Dr. Frank H. Shaw built a crippled children's clinic, providing treatment and therapy for handicapped children, including victims of polio and arthritis, utilizing the hot mineral water in a swimming pool. Shaw's hospital closed after World War II.²⁰

Early Falls County Courthouses

1851 - 1855

The City of Marlin was originally referred to as Adams, a location near the home of Dr. Allensworth Adams and Adams Spring. The home of Dr. Adams was located at 305 Ward Street, a few hundred yards north of the current courthouse Square²¹. The only information on the original Falls County Courthouse comes from a photograph by J.R. Kirkpatrick on which he had printed, "Falls County's first court house. Built in 1851."²² The photograph was of a log cabin but included no indication where the exact location was. A tradition left by the early pioneers of Falls County says that the log cabin stood on the grounds, which later became known as the courthouse Square²³. On May 5, 1851, the County Commissioners, seeking "a dignified place of business" ordered that the new Courthouse Square "...shall be One Hundred Twenty Yards Square..." and tracts "...running north and south, east and west..." to be 60 feet wide. The courthouse fence, and later curb, was set back from the 60 feet wide street to allow for "...more hitching and parking space around the square."²⁴ The 1851 courthouse square resembles the square of today, but no records indicate that it is the same one. This first courthouse was ordered sold to the highest bidder in 1855.²⁵

¹⁷A History of Marlin, 1851-1900, p. 3.

¹⁸*Ibid.*, p. 3.

¹⁹History of Falls County, p. 262, 263.

²⁰"Marlin, Texas" in The New Handbook of Texas (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1996), vol. 4, p. 514.

²¹*Ibid.*, p. 110.

²²*Ibid.*, p. 261, 262.

²³*Ibid.*, p. 261; also "Saga of Falls County", Marlin Democrat Jan. 3, 1939.

²⁴History of Falls County, p. 113, 114.

²⁵*Ibid.*, p. 264.

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1855 - 1870

Commissioners Court records show that on November 1853 the Court stated that "...on the first day of February, 1854, there will be a letting of a contract to build a courthouse in the town of Marlin." The courthouse was to a 40' x 40' square two story building with 8' wide corridors along both center axes' dividing the bottom floor into 4 identical rooms. The upper floor was divided into two jury rooms on one half and a large courtroom on the other half. There were to be four chimneys in the building with each having two fireplaces. This would allow for one fireplace in each of the six rooms and two fireplaces in the courtroom. The courthouse was to be made of Merchant table brick 20 feet high, plain plank, and "...covered with good heart lumber or cedar."²⁶ Other county records call for 5' wide corridors on the bottom floor with the entire second floor to be used as the courtroom. Records also add "...four inside doors and eight windows below and 12 above; also four outside doors to close the galleries; the windows to have good Venetian blinds and to have a cupola on top of said house; also have stairs running from the center of said house to the wall."²⁷

The Building Records show that \$5,000.00 was appropriated for the new courthouse on June 3, 1854.²⁸ The roof was to be made of zinc and the building was to be provided with "...good seats and judge-stands, tables, ...with all the necessary conveniences for a courthouse." The contract was awarded to Cremer and Arnold in 1854 and construction was completed in the middle of 1855.²⁹ The courthouse was made of cedar and changes to the plans caused the cost of the courthouse to exceed the original \$5000.00; the State Legislature released 90% of the State's tax for 1854 for construction. This money and additional funding by a wealthy farmer, Churchill Jones, allowed the county to proceed with construction of the more expensive courthouse.³⁰ The courthouse was whitewashed and painted and a fence and a well were added to the property. The last surviving recorded meeting is dated January 4, 1868. Sometime between this date and November 24, 1872 the courthouse burned. A casualty of Reconstruction, at one time rumors that the courthouse would be burned prompted the Court to remove important records and place them in a "more secure" building on the courthouse Square.³¹ The speculated cause of the fire ranges from an accident to a man burning it for \$15.00.³²

1870 - 1876

After fire destroyed the second courthouse, records indicate that the county rented space for County government. There are various "...references to 'orders to pay William Killebrew' certain amounts for 'rents for jury room.'" During this time they also appointed a committee of three men to "...prepare a plan, or plans for a new courthouse."³³ The cost of the new courthouse was not to exceed \$15,000 and the committee was to report to the March 1873 term of court. On March 29, 1874 the plans prepared by Mr. William McComb and Mr. Jones were accepted. This new courthouse was to be located on the spot where the old courthouse previously stood. In May 1876, Commissioners Court opened sealed bids

²⁶ Ibid., p. 263.

²⁷ "Saga of Falls County", Marlin Democrat, January 3, 1939.

²⁸ History of Falls County, p. 263.

²⁹ "Saga of Falls County", Marlin Democrat, January 3, 1939.

³⁰ History of Falls County, p. 264.

³¹ History of Falls County, p. 265.

³² Ibid., p. 265.

³³ Ibid., p. 266.

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and awarded the construction contract to Thomas R. King who bid \$9000. A second committee was assigned to supervise construction and "...report to the Court from time to time."³⁴

1876 - 1886

Construction began on the new one-story courthouse. The contractor presented plans to the court for the addition of a second story and the court approved them and authorized the changes.³⁵ Complications in construction arose and court "...minutes show that a 'state architect from Austin' was called in for 'advisement and recommendations.'"³⁶ The 1876 courthouse was a square brick building with wooden floors, a brick vault in the west passage, a wooden cornice and a standing seam tin roof.³⁷ According to 1886 Court records, a storm caused severe damage to the courthouse and various repairs were completed. On May 10, 1886, it was a popular notion that the courthouse was no longer safe and "Judge Stuart was authorized to have an architect inspect it." The architectural firm Dodson and Dudley gave an unsatisfactory report of the building and Eugene T. Heiner of Houston was engaged to draw plans for the fourth courthouse.³⁸ These plans were accepted and seven contractors submitted bids on August 19, 1886. The contract was awarded to A. Baumbach of Houston for \$47,793.00. William McComb was contracted to remove the old courthouse in 30 days for a cost of \$850.00.³⁹

1886 - 1939

On December 9, 1886 a clerk was appointed by the architect to "...supervise work while foundation is in process of construction, pay not to exceed \$5 per day while working." The Marlin Masonic Lodge No. 152 in 1887, assisted by the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas, leveled the building cornerstone.⁴⁰ To celebrate this occasion, a barbecue and dance was held in the Ward Street Park. County ranchmen donated meat for the barbecue and people came "...from miles around in their farm wagons and surries." People placed souvenirs into the cornerstone. The cornerstone remained in place during the entire life of the courthouse.⁴¹ On June 14, 1887 two contracts were awarded for courthouse furnishings. One contract was given to L.M. Cravens of Kansas Furniture Co. for new furniture in the amount of \$1,800, and the other to Western File and Index Co. for vault equipment in the amount of \$1,300. Due to the death of Judge Stuart and the absence of newly appointed Judge Wharton, the Court appointed T.J. Wilsford to supervise construction on July 6, 1887.⁴² On December 14, 1886, the Court's committee was authorized to meet with the city's committee to select a new clock to be placed in the tower of the new courthouse.⁴³ The building was officially completed on February 28, 1888.⁴⁴ The new

³⁴ Ibid., p. 266.

³⁵ History of Falls County, p. 266.

³⁶ Ibid., p. 266.

³⁷ "Saga of Falls County", Marlin Democrat, January 3, 1939.

³⁸ "Saga of Falls County", Marlin Democrat, January 3, 1939.

³⁹ History of Falls County, p. 268; and "Saga of Falls County", Marlin Democrat, January 3, 1939.

⁴⁰ History of Falls County, p. 269.

⁴¹ Ibid., p. 269

⁴² "Saga of Falls County", Marlin Democrat, January 3, 1939.

⁴³ Ibid., January 3, 1939.

⁴⁴ History of Falls County, p. 268.

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building was a three story stone building with a large clock tower extending beyond the roof. The building had two sets of stairs on the east and west sides of the building to access the second and third floors. The first floor consisted of offices and the County Commissioners Court room. The second floor consisted of offices and the District Courtroom, which is estimated to have taken up 75% of the second floor. In addition to this, the Courtroom was said to have walls that continued through the third floor, and had two story high ceilings. The remainder of the third floor was divided into additional offices.⁴⁵ The large clock tower had four faces, one in each direction (north, south, east and west). The bell inside rang the hour and was always kept in time within a two or three minute difference of the official time.⁴⁶

Falls County Courthouse of 1939

It is noted in Commissioners Court Minutes in 1930 and 1934 that extensive repairs had to be made to the existing courthouse. The 1930 repairs included installation of eight bracing rods to contain the spreading walls⁴⁷; the 1934 repairs were not itemized.⁴⁸ Commissioners Court, on August 10, 1938, authorized Judge Carroll Pearce to confer with "...an Architect or Architects to secure plans and data to build a new courthouse."⁴⁹ On September 2, 1938 the Commissioners Court passed a resolution to file an application to the United States government through the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works for "... a grant in aid for construction of the new courthouse, complete with furnishings and fixtures, designating Carroll Pearce, County Judge and Arthur E. Thomas to furnish such information as the government may request."⁵⁰ On September 24, 1938, a bond election for a new county courthouse was held but was defeated, 979 "for", and 1078 "against." After the election, State Building Inspector A.C. Barry conducted a public inspection and reported, "...He would not regard the present courthouse as a safe place in adverse weather conditions."⁵¹ Mrs. Gibbs recalls Mr. Berry stating directly to her at the courthouse, "...that the courthouse was a disaster waiting to happen."⁵² The second bond election, held on October 29, 1938 favored the new construction of a new courthouse, 1821 "for" and 705 "against."⁵³ Prior to demolition, the four clock faces and bell were retrieved from the clock tower. Upon demolition of the courthouse, the souvenirs from the original cornerstone were retrieved and opened.⁵⁴ The cornerstone was later placed on the courthouse lawn in 1946, along with the original cast iron bell from the clock tower and the cornerstone from one of the county schools, also demolished about that time. This memorial, known as the Courthouse Memorial, stands on the southeast corner of the courthouse lawn.⁵⁵

One of President Roosevelt's New Deal programs, the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works was established June 16, 1933, pursuant to the National Industrial Recovery Act, to prepare a comprehensive public works program. Under Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes (who ran the program 1933-39), the agency administered the

⁴⁵ Ibid., p. 270.

⁴⁶ History of Falls County, p. 271.

⁴⁷ Comm. Court Minutes, Book 5, p. 529.

⁴⁸ Ibid., Book 6, p. 160.

⁴⁹ Ibid., Book 6, p. 564.

⁵⁰ Ibid., Book 6, p. 584.

⁵¹ "Falls County Will Get New Courthouse", Dallas Morning News, December 4, 1938.

⁵² Conversation with Mrs. Marian Garrett Gibbs, January 6, 2000.

⁵³ "Falls County Will Get New Courthouse", Dallas Morning News, December 4, 1938.

⁵⁴ History of Falls County, p. 271.

⁵⁵ Ibid., p. 278.

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construction of various public works, such as public buildings, bridges, dams, and housing developments, and made loans to states and municipalities for similar projects. Renamed the Public Works Administration (PWA) and placed under Federal Works Agency (FWA) in July 1, 1939, the agency was abolished in 1943.

The new courthouse as designed by the firm of Arthur E. Thomas, of Dallas, features a ground floor, two upper floors and a penthouse – in all, twice the size of the previous courthouse.⁵⁶ The existing jail, also on the courthouse Square, was not to be disturbed by the new work. The Falls County bond issue, in the amount of \$130,000 was matched by the PWA 45% grant, per Commissioners Court Minutes of November 30, 1938, in the amount of \$104,988.⁵⁷ The project was let for bid and the contract was awarded to Hill and Combs of San Antonio in the amount of \$173,930. Each contractor had been instructed to include separate bids for his primary sub-contractors as part of the bid. Plumbing and heating was Wm. F. Kaun and Son, Wright Brothers were electrical, and furniture was let to Wilhide Equipment Co. All bids totaled \$224,565, an amount less than the anticipated budget of \$234,988. The bond issue and PWA grant amount were reduced accordingly.⁵⁸ Commissioners Court Minutes of January 2, 1939 record that most courthouse functions were temporarily relocated to 107 Commerce Street, also known as the J.C. Penney Building. The Sheriff's offices were moved to temporary quarters in the Log Cabin. The Agricultural Agent was temporarily moved to 108 Commerce Street. The City Hall steps were ingeniously redesignated as the "Courthouse Steps" for customary county procedures.⁵⁹

On July 4, 1939, the new cornerstone was leveled by the Grand Lodge of Texas A.F. & A.M. and Auspices Marlin Lodge No. 152.⁶⁰ During the ceremony a copper casket with memorabilia was soldered and placed inside the cornerstone. The actual contents of the current cornerstone were not recorded but most likely include "A Bible, records of Masonic Lodges of Falls County, and of the Grand Masonic Lodge; copies of Falls County and State papers, including the *Marlin Democrat* of July 4, 1939, daily and semi-weekly issues; records of the county and city; pictures of the old courthouses and public buildings of the city; membership rosters of Marlin and Rosebud Chambers of Commerce, Marlin Lions and Rotary Clubs, Marlin's post of the American Legion; pictures of County Judges and Commissioners, who were in office when the movement began and when the courthouse was completed; and an advance copy of U.S. Senator Tom Connally's speech, prepared for the occasion, which the senator did not deliver, because he was detained elsewhere; other records, papers, souvenirs and papers removed from the cache of the cornerstone of the 1887 courthouse."⁶¹ Due to the absence of Senator Connally, the chief speaker was the Reverend William D. Daugherty, grand chaplain of the Masonic Lodge of Texas.⁶² After several time extensions, the work and furnishings were mostly completed by November 27, 1939⁶³, per Commissioners Court Minutes. Exceptions included aluminum stair handrails and Venetian blinds.⁶⁴ A formal opening celebration was held, with no refreshments served per Commissioners Court Minutes⁶⁵, on December 12,

⁵⁶ "Falls County Will Get New Courthouse", Dallas Morning News, December 4, 1938.

⁵⁷ Comm. Court Minutes, Book 7, p. 20 thru 22.

⁵⁸ Ibid., Book 7, p. 75.

⁵⁹ Comm. Court Minutes, Book 7, p. 77.

⁶⁰ "Courthouse Stone at Marlin Laid by Masons", Dallas Morning News, July 5, 1939.

⁶¹ History of Falls County, p. 276.

⁶² "Courthouse Stone at Marlin Laid by Masons", Dallas Morning News, July 5, 1939.

⁶³ Comm. Court Minutes, Book 7, p. 201.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Ibid., p. 204.

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1939, with the building opened by U.S. Senator Tom Connally.⁶⁶ By January 1, 1940, the county had moved into the offices.⁶⁷ The final cost of the courthouse was \$235,000 and was paid for by a \$130,000 bond issue approved by Falls County voters and a PWA federal grant of \$105,000.

The Falls County Courthouse is an excellent example of the Art Moderne Style, popular in the U.S. from the late 1920s through the early 1950s. Characteristics of Moderne styling present in the building include the symmetrical massing, simple cornice, modern steel casement windows set vertically between pilasters, stonework featuring stylized eagles, symmetrical organically-derived ornament on the spandrels, and geometric motifs on some pilasters. The third level parapet is faced with zig-zag decoration of classical derivation. First and second floor corridors feature 3-color marble floors, installed in a zig-zag pattern, with a marble border and base. Entry stairs, and ground to first and to second floor stairs all have elaborate Art Moderne aluminum handrails. Ground, first and second floors have decorative plaster ceilings, with a linear, divided round, scalloped profile. Decorative Art Moderne light fixtures are installed through the major public areas of the building. In keeping with typical Moderne styling, many elements are left plain.

Arthur Elliott Thomas, Architect (1893-1973)

Arthur Elliott Thomas was born in Crockett, Texas, on August 16, 1893, and attended the University of Texas from 1913-1916, graduating with a Bachelors degree in Architecture. He opened his own practice in 1925, before entering into a short-lived partnership with Cornell Curtis, under the firm name Curtis and Thomas, in 1927. The firm designed the Rusk County Courthouse (1928) in Henderson, Texas, a concrete and brick building with restrained Beaux Arts-influenced ornamentation. Although the firm dissolved in 1928, architects Curtis and Thomas worked together to design the Liberty County Courthouse (1931) in Liberty, Texas, a 3-story concrete and brick building with elaborate Art Deco detailing. From 1929 through 1938, Thomas again ran his own firm, completing the Falls County Courthouse before entering into a series of partnerships, including Goodwin, Tatum, McCammon and Thomas (1939-1940), Thomas, Sharp, Welch and Goodwin (1941-1944), Thomas, Jameson, and Merrill (1945-1963), and Thomas and Jameson (1964-1973). Thomas, Jameson and Merrell designed the 1955 Smith County Courthouse in Tyler, Texas, a six-story Modern building with a buff brick exterior, and a central tower/wing massing which recalls that of the Falls County Courthouse. Thomas, Jameson and Merrill were also responsible for three projects for the Marlin Independent School District, including the Marlin High School and Musical Arts Building in 1948, the Marlin High School and Gymnasium in 1949, and the Booker T. Washington High School. Drawings for these three projects are in the Blake Archives at the University of Texas at Austin.⁶⁸

Thomas' work also includes notable Dallas buildings such as the Dr. Pepper Company Headquarters (1947), Baylor University Hospital (1949), the Blue Cross Blue Shield Building (1950), Gibraltar Life Insurance Building (1952), Baptist Relief and Amenity Building (1959), Southwest Bell Telephone Administration and Equipment Building (1963), Children's Medical Center (1967), Lonestar Gas Office Building (1967), and the Joneson Medical and Surgical Hospital

⁶⁶ "Connally Opens New Marlin Courthouse", Dallas Morning News, December 13, 1939.

⁶⁷ History of Falls County, p. 276.

⁶⁸ American Architect Directory, 1956, p. 555; 1962, p. 699; 1970, p. 911. On file in Alexander Architectural Archive, University of Texas at Austin.

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at Baylor University Medical Center of Dallas (1970). He worked in association with other Architectural firms including Harrell & Hamilton and Grayson Gill, Inc. on the Republic National Bank Tower in Dallas in 1965.⁶⁹

Thomas was a City of Dallas Building Code Committee Member 1928-1929, and served on the Building Code Board of Appeal 1939-1943. His military record includes service in the 817 Depot Aero Squadron, Instructor, Austin, Texas, 1917-1924. He was actively involved in the American Institute of Architects Dallas Chapter since 1926, acquired the status of "Fellow" in 1950, and held offices including Secretary (1929), President (1940-42), Chairman of the Membership Committee (1943-44), Chairman of the Fellowship Committee (1954-55), and on the Memorial, Hospitals, and Health Committee (1953-58). He served as President of the Texas Society of Architects (1945) and as Organizing President of the Texas Architects Foundation (1952-53).⁷⁰

Conclusion

The Falls County Courthouse meets Criterion A, in the area of Politics/Government, for its role as the center of local government in Falls County since 1939, and as a project partially funded by the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works. The courthouse also meets criterion C, in the area of Architecture, as one of the finest and best-preserved regional examples of a Moderne style building. The building retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, materials, design, feeling, and association to a very high degree.

⁶⁹ Ibid., p. 911.

⁷⁰ Ibid.

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Telephone conversation between Arthur W. Weinman and Mr. Harold Kaemmerling, AIA, December 20, 1999.

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Book 7, p. 101, March 13, 1939
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Book 11, p. 232, July 23, 1990
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Clock and dials photograph from History of Falls County, compiled by Old Settlers and Veterans Association of Falls County, Texas; Eddins, Roy, Editor; copyright 1947, privately published, page 271. Copy obtained from Mrs. Marian Garrett Gibbs.

Opening of the cache in the cornerstone photograph from History of Falls County, compiled by Old Settlers and Veterans Association of Falls County, Texas; Eddins, Roy, Editor; copyright 1947, privately published, page 278. Copy obtained from Mrs. Marian Garrett Gibbs.

Memorial Cabin photograph from History of Falls County, compiled by Old Settlers and Veterans Association of Falls County, Texas; Eddins, Roy, Editor; copyright 1947, privately published, page 271. Copy obtained from Mrs. Marian Garrett Gibbs.

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“Removal of Architectural Barriers, Falls County Courthouse, Marlin, Texas”; 14 sheets including structural and with attached written specifications; Harold E. Kaemmerling, AIA, Lufkin, Texas; September 29, 1986.

“Falls County Office Complex”, aka Courthouse Annex; 1 sheet; Abacus Engineering, Waco, Texas; February 10, 1999.

Sketch plan of existing County Jail building, no designer or architect; no date.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: 1.55 acres

UTM REFERENCES Zone Easting Northing
 14 700040 3465320

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Falls County Courthouse Square, bounded by Fortune Street (Coleman Street) to the north, Falls Street (Ward Street) to the east, Bridge Street (Live Oak Street) to the south, and Williams Street (Craik Street) to the west.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION: The nomination includes all property historically associated with the building.

11. FORM PREPARED BY (with assistance from Gregory W. Smith, THC Historian)

NAME/TITLE: Arthur Weinman

ORGANIZATION:

DATE: May 24, 2000

STREET & NUMBER: 6777 Camp Bowie Blvd., Suite 339

TELEPHONE: (817) 737-0977

CITY OR TOWN: Fort Worth

STATE: TX

ZIP CODE: 76116

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

CONTINUATION SHEETS

MAPS (see continuation sheets 7-11 and 7-12)

PHOTOGRAPHS (see continuation sheet Photo-30)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

PROPERTY OWNER

NAME: Falls County, Judge Michael Meyer

STREET & NUMBER: PO Box 458

TELEPHONE: (254) 883-1426

CITY OR TOWN: Marlin

STATE: TX

ZIP CODE: 76661

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section PHOTO Page 30

Falls County Courthouse
Marlin, Falls County, Texas

PHOTO LOG:

March 2000

Photographed by Arthur Weinman.

Negatives on file at Arthur Weinman's office

Southwest oblique
Camera facing northeast
Photo 1 of 8

North elevation
Camera facing south
Photo 2 of 8

Southwest oblique
Camera facing northeast
Photo 3 of 8

Central stair traverse
Camera facing southeast
Photo 4 of 8

Central corridor and central building stair traverse, second floor
Camera facing west
Photo 5 of 8

First floor corridor
Camera facing east
Photo 6 of 8

Commissioner's Court interior
Camera facing east
Photo 7 of 8

District Court interior
Camera facing east
Photo 8 of 8

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Falls County Courthouse
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Falls

DATE RECEIVED: 11/13/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/27/00
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/13/00 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/28/00
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00001532

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12/13/00 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



FALLS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
MARLIN, FALLS CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 1 of 8



ONE
WAY
←

RESERVED
FOR
DISTRICT
JUDGE

CHEVROLET

FALLS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
MARLIN, FALLS CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 2 of 8



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FALLS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
MARLIN, FALLS CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 3 of 8



FALLS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
MARLIN, FALLS CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 4 of 8



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FALLS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
MARLIN, FALLS CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 5 of 8



FALLS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
MARLIN, FALLS CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 6 of 8



7



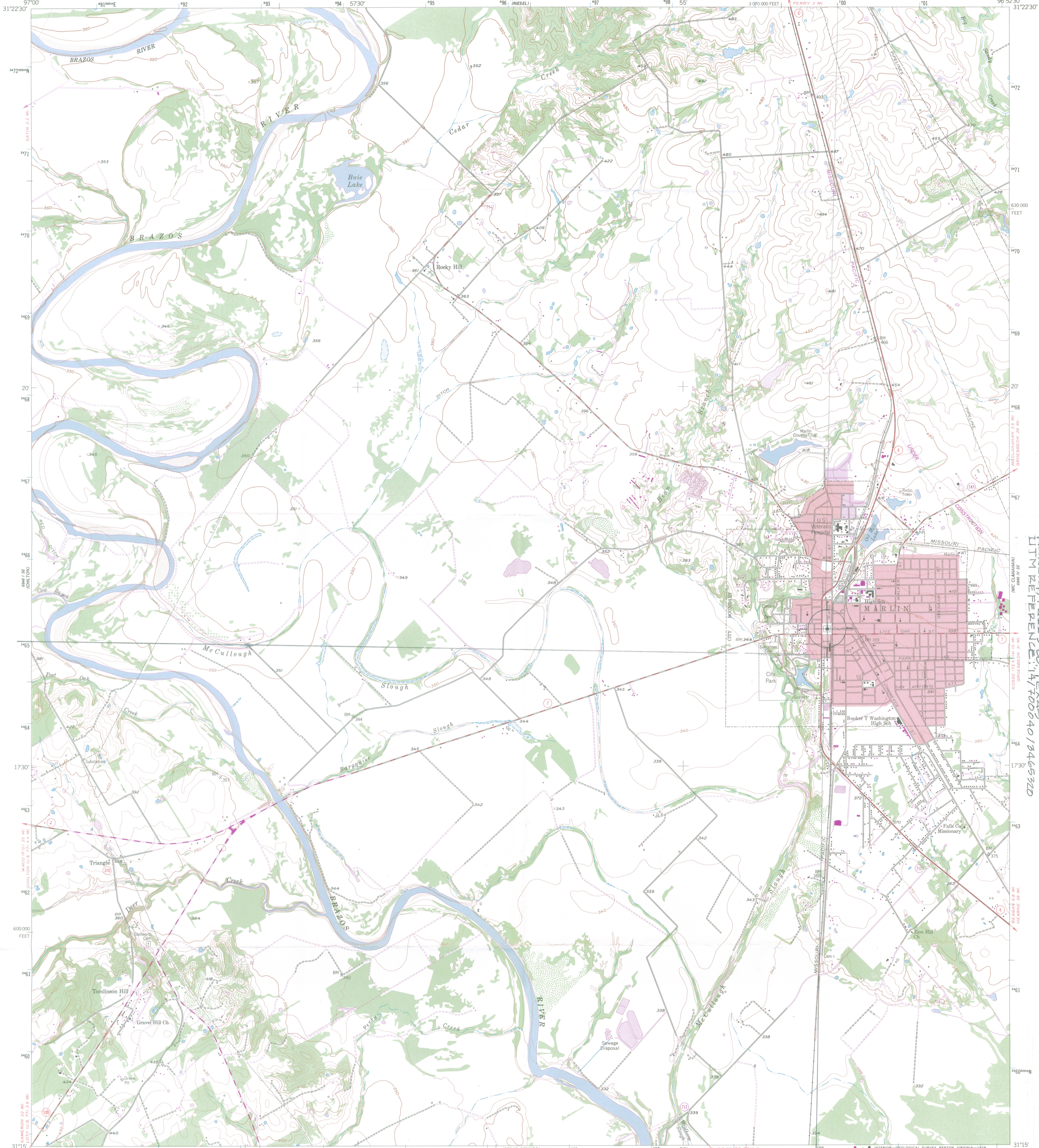
FALLS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
MARLIN, FALLS CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 7 of 8



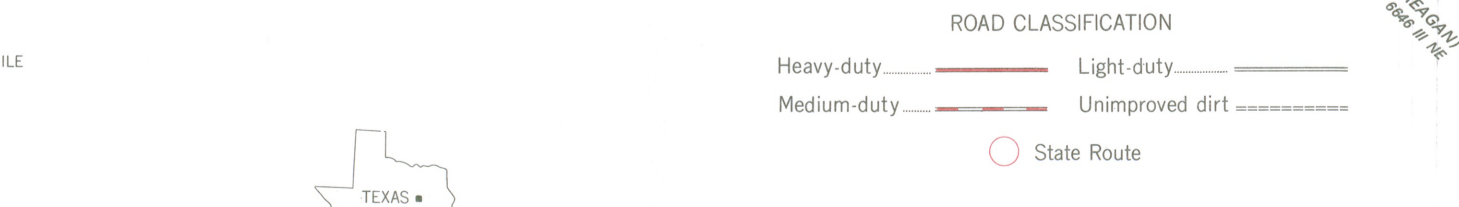
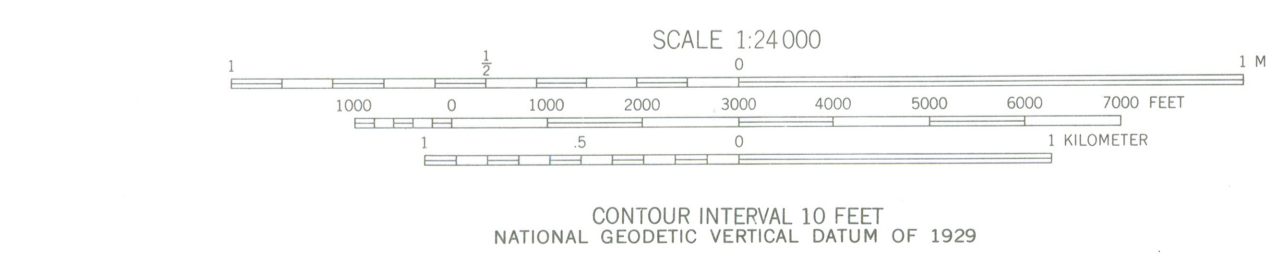
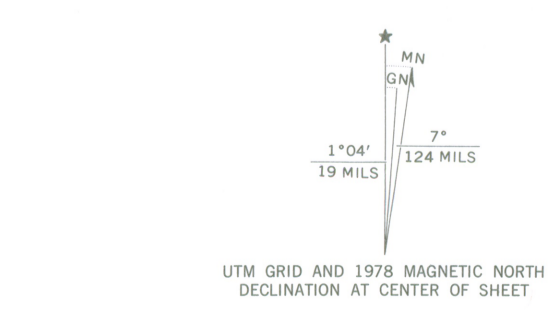
NO
SMOKING

8

FALLS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
MARLIN, FALLS CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 8 of 8



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by ER-55 plotter
Aerial photographs taken 1955. Field check 1957
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum,
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,
central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 14, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown
Revision shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1976 and other source data. This information not
field checked. Map edited 1978
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



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

QUADRANGLE LOCATION
MARLIN, TEX.
N3115-W9652.5/7.5
1957
PHOTOREVISED 1978
AMS 6646 IV SW-SERIES V882

FALLS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
COURTHOUSE SQUARE
MARLIN, FALLS CO., TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 14T008040/3465320