

(Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



895

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

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

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 808 Commerce
CITY OR TOWN: Refugio
STATE: Texas CODE: TX COUNTY: Refugio CODE: 391
NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A
VICINITY: N/A
ZIP CODE: 78377

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.)

Signature of certifying official

7-9-02

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

8/22/02

5. CLASSIFICATION

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY: Public-local

CATEGORY OF PROPERTY: Building

| NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY: | CONTRIBUTING | NONCONTRIBUTING |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|
| | 1 | 0 BUILDINGS |
| | 0 | 0 SITES |
| | 0 | 0 STRUCTURES |
| | 2 | 2 OBJECTS |
| | 3 | 2 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: Moderne

MATERIALS: FOUNDATION CONCRETE
WALLS CLAY TILE, BRICK, CAST STONE
ROOF ASPHALT
OTHER

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheets 7-5 through 7-9).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 5

Refugio County Court House
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Narrative Description:

The Refugio County Courthouse (1917, extensively enlarged and remodeled in 1951) is in Refugio County, Texas. The courthouse is an asymmetrical building with raised basement and roofline parapet. Shallow pavilions project from each side of the building. The walls are of a tan buff brick facing. The courthouse features a simple cross-axial design with entry porches at each of the four elevations. The interior plan features an octagonal two-story atrium at the junction of the main corridors. The courthouse is located downtown, on the south end of Refugio's commercial district. Designed by Atlee B. Ayres, the original architectural style of the courthouse was Mission. However, in 1950-51, in an effort to modernize the facility, Irving H. Dunbar redesigned the building into Moderne style courthouse with Art Deco ornamentation. The Refugio County Courthouse retains a good degree of integrity in its location, design setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association and is recognizable to its 1951 configuration.

The Refugio County Courthouse is set along the small, historic "main street" of Refugio, Texas. The courthouse is bound by Commerce Street to the east, Purisima Street to the north, Alamo Street (US Highway 77) to the west and East Empresario (State Highway 774) to the south. The courthouse occupies the east half of a city block located at the south end of, and contiguous with, Refugio's commercial district. A two-story, early 20th century classical revival style residence occupies the southwest quadrant of the block and a small metal storage building is located on the west side of the building. Several mercantile buildings, mixed in style and age, occupy the remaining quadrant.

Alamo Street has developed as a modern highway commercial strip parallel to Commerce Street. A small lumberyard is across Purisima Street, along with other small mercantile/office buildings of one and two stories. Across Commerce is King Park (the former constitutional square), occupying an entire block. In the southwest corner of the park is a one-story public library, modernistic in style. The park contains several monuments and public ceremonial spaces. There are two early 20th century two-story residences located on Empresario Street, the side yards are oriented toward the courtyards.

Two Texas Historical Commission subject markers flank the sidewalk on the east side of the building. "Empresario James Power" and "Refugio County Courthouses" are the subjects. Two pink granite monuments flank the same sidewalk, closer to, and facing Commerce Street. These monuments commemorate Colonel A.M. Hobby and Refugio County (the 1936 historical marker commemorating Refugio County was given by the Texas Highway Department during Texas's Centennial celebration and therefore is considered a contributing object). A flagpole is located in the northeast quadrant of the site. New vintage style streetlights (part of the Commerce Street design scheme) are located on the northeast and southeast corners of the site.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 6

Refugio County Court House
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

East Elevation:

The exterior walls of the 1917 portions of the building are 6" and 8" thick clay tile, with a brick veneer and cast stone ornament trim. The primary elevation faces east (Commerce Street). The courthouse is divided into twelve bays; the original 1917 building had five bays. The bays are divided by brick pilasters. The building's exterior is strongly grounded by the use of a horizontal base element, which is built with a dark brown brick facing. The first and second floor mass is articulated with large brick pilasters extending from the base to the cornice at the roof level. The main entry point of the building contains a pair of wood stile and rail doors in wood frame, with an undivided glass transom above, with an undivided glass panel. The east facade has an entry porch with roof and decorative cornice that is supported by large square piers. The main entry porch is given emphasis by the use of piers in antis beneath a large tablet with the name of the building incised in the surface. The east entry doors are original to the building. The building is given scale and detail by the use of cast stone ornament and projecting and corbelled brick trim bands. The windows are grouped in pairs between the piers. The basement level windows are wood frames, with wood double-hung sash. Windows on the first floor consist of a wood frame with wood double-hung sash. The second floor windows are wood framed with divided horizontal lights. The upper level windows at the 1951 south wing (jail) are aluminum-framed double-hung sash with a wire mesh security screen. The first floor windows are wood frames, double-hung sash. The windows in the upper levels of the 1951 north wing are wood framed with wood double-hung sash but with two horizontally divided lights in each sash. The windowsills are cast stone. The parapet displays an Art Deco geometric floral motif.

1951 South Elevation (Jail):

The south elevation originally had one bay, but five bays were added during the expansion. The bays are paired by brick pilasters. The addition is three-stories high with a raised basement. Concrete steps lead to the wood, stile and rail doors with transom. Brick architrave trim frames the entryway; the word "JAIL" is inscribed overhead. The south entry door is original to the 1917 building. The south end of the south wing contains a flush solid core wood door. The basement level windows are wood framed, with wood double-hung sash. The windows to the right of the doors are aluminum-framed with aluminum double-hung sash. Many of the windows in the former jail areas at the 1951 south wing have a wire mesh security screen affixed to the outside of the windows. Round bars are attached to the inside of these window openings and an expanded metal grille is attached on the inside surface of the bars. The windowsills are cast stone.

West Elevation:

The west elevation is also divided into twelve bays separated by brick pilasters. The original façade had five bays. Concrete steps lead to a pair of wood stile-and-rail door with an undivided glass panel. The door is wood framed with an undivided glass transom above. Brick trim frames the entryway with a decorative crown above. The west entry door is original. The south wing of the west elevation contains a painted wood stile and rail door with a glass top panel and a wood bottom panel. Spandrels are centered between the windowsills and lintels of the original 1917 west elevation. The basement level windows are wood framed, with wood double-hung sash.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 7

Refugio County Court House
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Upper level (second and third floor) windows at the 1951 south wing are aluminum-framed with double-hung sash. Because the southern portion of the west façade is associated with the jail area, the windows on the south wing also have a wire mesh security screen affixed outside the windows. The windows in the upper level of the 1951 north wing are wood framed and wood double-hung sash with divided lights in each sash.

North Elevation:

The north elevation is separated into five bays paired by brick pilasters. The left and right bays with spandrels are what remain of the 1917 courthouse. The 1951 addition projects forward from the original façade. In 1985, a provision was made to add an elevator and fire stair. The building is entered through the wood stile and rail door with transom. The door is original to the 1917 building. The basement level windows are wood framed, with wood double-hung sash. The windows on the 1917 and 1951 portions of the building are wood framed with wood double-hung sash. In the 1985 addition, the windows are wood frame with fixed glass. The window above the door is separated by a concrete stone lintel beam. Ornamental light fixtures are on either side of the window on the first floor. A cast stone portal head with the word "COURTHOUSE" is above the window on the first level.

Interior:

The 1917 plan of the building was a simple, cross-axial design, with entry porches at each of the four elevations. The plan was symmetrical at both axis on the first floor and asymmetrical on the second floor to accommodate the large district courtroom. The District Courtroom retains its wood-paneled wainscot. Many of the rooms in the original 1917 building retain their original wood chair rail and base wainscot. Most partitions consist of hollow clay tiles with cement plaster finish. In remodeled areas, such as the basement and in the sheriff's areas on the first floor, partitions are wood framed with plywood paneling.

The concrete flooring in the basement mechanical room is original to the 1917 building. First floor corridor flooring is terrazzo, installed at the time of the 1951 additions. The original 1917 ceramic mosaic tile is still in use on the east porch. Other first floor flooring includes carpet with a wood sub-floor, carpet with a concrete sub-floor, and resilient sheet flooring. The 1917 construction documents indicate wood flooring installed on sleepers over the concrete slab in many of the offices on the first floor. It is believed that the wood flooring is still in place beneath the carpet. Vaults, and the County Clerk's office, are shown to have "cement floors" in the 1917 drawings. A portion of this flooring, with scored joints, is visible in the County Clerk's office at the previous location of a case where the resilient sheet was omitted.

The 2nd floor corridor is ceramic mosaic tile, with a geometric pattern border of white, black, and green tiles. This flooring has been closely matched in the corridor of the 1951 north addition. The 1985 addition continues a similar design into the elevator lobby. The original wood flooring is still used in the District Courtroom, although heavy traffic areas have carpet. Wood floors are covered with carpeting, with the exception of the District Attorney's offices (the former Petit Jury room). Spaces converted into bathrooms during the 1951

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 8

Refugio County Court House
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

addition have ceramic tile. The former jail areas in the south 1951 wing have concrete floors, as do the 3rd floor jail areas.

Ceilings in the basement corridor have been lowered significantly to accommodate ductwork. These ceilings are plaster. Ceilings in other basement rooms are exposed concrete, suspended acoustical tile, and direct-glued acoustical tile.

Ceilings in the north end of the first floor corridor are slightly lower than the 1917 height. Ceilings at the south, east, and west ends of the first floor corridor are at the original 1917 location. These ceilings are plaster, with shallow vaulted arches around the central stair hall. The central hall has an arrangement of plaster beams, painted with a faux wood finish. Ceilings in other first floor rooms are exposed concrete, suspended plaster, suspended acoustical tile, suspended wood grilles, and direct-glued acoustical tile.

Ceilings in the second floor corridor are similar to the first floor, except that there are no shallow vaults. Other second floor rooms have exposed concrete, suspended plaster, suspended acoustical tile, and direct-glued acoustical tile ceilings. The District Courtroom has a suspended plaster ceiling with a shallow cove at the perimeter is original to the 1917 design. Acoustical ceiling tiles have been surface applied to the plaster ceiling.

Alterations/Additions:

Prior to the alterations and expansions, the Refugio County Courthouse had a simple square plan with a superimposed asymmetrical façade. It also featured details characteristic of the Mission architectural style, such as flat roof with "*Mission San Juan Capistrano*" parapet and porch supported by large square piers.

In order to meet the current needs of the county, two additional wings were added to the courthouse. The wing to the north contained four new rooms on both the first and second floors to be used for courthouse related functions. The wing to the south contained a three-story with basement addition to provide cell space for 54 prisoners, office space for the sheriff, a garage and secured prisoner entry, a residential unit for the jailer and an elevator. The remodeling work done on Ayres original design resulted in a Moderne building.

Remodeling began in 1951 and significant changes were made to the exterior appearance of the 1917 courthouse. Almost all of the cast stone ornament was removed from the exterior walls and the brick courses at the parapet level were replaced with new materials. In his effort to design a more contemporaneous courthouse, Dunbar removed the projecting decorative cornice and replaced it with simple, flat trim bands of cast stone, thus rendering a streamlined building with emphasis on the asymmetrical façade as well as leading the viewer's eye along the horizontal extension of the cast stone coping. Dunbar's decision to keep the ornamentation on the primary elevation from the 1917 building is a holdover from pre-World War II configurations and designs. The last major change to the building occurred in 1985, when an addition was made to the north end of the building to accommodate a fire stair and elevator.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 9

Refugio County Court House
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

In an effort to make the additions comparable to the original courthouse, both Dunbar and Roots/Foster used material similar to that of the 1917 building. A dark brown brick facing was used to match the basement level addition and tan buff brick facing was used for the north, and south wing's exterior walls. The scale is maintained by the continuation of the corbelled brick trim along the parapet roofline. Roots/Foster recycled the cast stone from the 1951 addition to make the portal head and to continue the flat trim bands of cast stone along the parapet roofline. Recycled cast stone was used to make the fluted caps and base on the north facade. Efforts were made to integrate the "old" with the "new" by using similar materials and by incorporating recycled material and cast stone from the 1917 and 1951 demolitions. Due to Irving Dunbar's modifications of the original configuration, the courthouse designed by Atlee B. Ayres was transformed into a late Moderne building in 1951. As an example of late Moderne architecture, the Refugio County Courthouse retains its architectural integrity.

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: Politics/Government

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1951-52

SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1951

SIGNIFICANT PERSON: N/A

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Atlee B. Ayres. Architect (1917 Courthouse); Irving Dunbar (1950-51 Remodeling and Additions)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (see continuation sheets 8-10 through 8-17).

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY (see continuation sheet 9-18 through 9-19).

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:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 10

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Narrative of Significance:

The Refugio County Courthouse in Refugio, Texas is a symbol of the prosperity and growth Refugio experienced during the turn of the century and immediately after War World II. Throughout its existence, the courthouse has served as the primary government building in Refugio County. The Refugio County Courthouse is nominated to the National Register under Criterion A in the area of Politics/Government at the local level of significance.

The county and city of Refugio were named for Nuestra Senora del Refugio Mission, established on the banks of the Mission River by the Spaniards in 1795. Spanish missionaries had been in the area since 1722, establishing several mission sites to minister to the Karankawa Indians and to maintain the Spanish claim to the coast. The mission remained in continuous operation until February 1830, when the last services were held. In 1831, the old mission and surrounding lands were acquired by the empresarios James Power and James Hewetson, who contracted with the Mexican government to settle Irish Catholics and Mexican families in a ten coastal league land grant from the Nueces River north to the Guadalupe River.

The town of Refugio was laid out in 1834 in accord with the laws of Mexican colonization. The laws required provision of a foursquare league grant for the town, with a "town proper" at the center and the "town commons" in the outlying areas. The town proper was to include a central plaza, or constitutional square, with government and military buildings located on the west side of the square and the church and its subsidiary buildings, including a school, located on the east side of the square. The town commons were to be subdivided into farming lots and sold for development. Surveyor James Bray completed the laying out of the town in August 1834, with a town proper of 49 blocks surrounding a constitutional square. Government buildings, beginning with a simple structure for a town clerk, have been located on the block west of the square continuously since that time.

Refugio County was organized in 1837, one of the original counties of the Republic of Texas, and the town of Refugio was designated the county seat. In October 1840, county commissioners made provision for a courthouse in the town by authorizing the Sheriff to take possession of the public property known as the Stone Church. (The Stone Church, now demolished, was located adjacent to the present-day Our Lady of Refuge Church, two blocks south and one block west of the existing courthouse.) The Sheriff was further authorized to procure benches and tables for the use of the county courts. County funds were limited, due largely to the devastation during the war for independence, and a separate jail was not provided. As late as the spring term of 1853, the county commissioners discussed this deficiency, but the county was deeply in debt and could not afford to construct a jail. However, the commissioners took comfort in the land on the west side of the town square, dedicated as a courthouse and jail site, in anticipation of a more abundant future.

The town began construction of a new courthouse in 1850, a two story shell-concrete building located on the block west of the town square. The unfinished building was deeded to the county in 1856 and the chief justice was authorized to perform the necessary repairs to finish the work, including plastering the walls and installing wooden floorboards. Portions of the building were leased for use as offices and a saddle shop. Over the next

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 11

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

few years, other portions of the building were finished for use as a clerk's office and separate courtrooms. By 1865 the county clerk found the building unfit as a place for safe storage of the court records and began to store the records at his home, with the support of the commissioners. In 1869, major repairs were completed on the building, including installation of new flooring, plaster, whitewash and stairs and repairs to the doors, windows and shutters.

In the years preceding the Civil War, portions of the original Refugio County lands were granted to Goliad County in 1841, to Calhoun, San Patricio and Victoria counties in 1846, Bee County in 1857 and Nueces County in 1858. By the Constitution of 1869, the county seat was moved to the town of St. Mary's, near the coast, but the county records were never moved. In March 1871, the Legislature again voted to move the county seat, this time to Rockport, in part because the coastal lands had been the most heavily populated and developed since the end of the Civil War. The commissioners initially sought plans and specifications for a new courthouse to be built in Rockport, planning to sell the old courthouse to the highest bidder, but subsequently rented rooms over the post office in Rockport for \$20.00 per month beginning in August 1871. The relocation of the county seat and county records was cause for concern by the early settlers of the region. They objected strongly to the change and in September 1871, the Legislature again acted by dividing the remaining area of the original county to establish Aransas County, with its county seat at Rockport. The county seat for the remainder of Refugio County was again set at the mission town and the concrete courthouse was re-occupied.

The commissioners approved plans and specifications for a new jail and courthouse in July 1874. The wooden jail was to be 16' by 24', one story, and outfitted with iron bars at the doors and windows. The courthouse was to be a two-story building, 40' by 40', built entirely of wood. Bids were due on September 1, 1874, and construction on the jail was to complete on January 1, 1875 and on the courthouse on April 1, 1875. The foundation work was to be completed separately. The construction contract was awarded to the firm of Robinson and Kohler at a cost of \$850.00 for the jail and \$2,850.00 for the courthouse. C. Sweeney was awarded to contract for the foundation work for both buildings at a cost of \$78.47. A special tax was levied to raise the funds for the construction and the sheriff was authorized to collect the tax in either coin or specie. Time extensions were granted for both the jail and the courthouse work and the contractor was hired to provide additional interior finish and detail work before the job was complete. The lumber from the old courthouse was sold at public auction in September 1875. During the meeting of October 16, 1875, the commissioners formally accepted the new courthouse as completed, except for the provision of the iron door at the jail. In 1878, a 5,000-gallon brick and concrete cistern was built for \$200.00. Ceilings were added to the four rooms on the first floor of the courthouse for \$137.00, and the interior stair was removed to make room for a new office, an exterior stair was added for \$76.00. A 5' by 8' privy, with two pits, doors with locks and a shingled roof, was added for \$24.00. The wooden courthouse burned down on the night of January 25, 1879, during smallpox quarantine in Refugio. By some accounts, the fire may have been related to an ongoing case involving cattle theft by changing brands, since tampering was discovered in the brand records shortly after the fire.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 12

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Plans and specifications for a fourth courthouse were approved in August 1879. The building was to be 45' long, 30' wide and two stories tall, framed of wood with wood siding and a wood shingle roof. There were to be four rooms and a hall on the first floor and court and jury rooms and a hall on the second floor. A small veranda in the front, to be accessed through a double-hung window extending to the floor, was called out. Bids were received on September 15, 1879 and the contract was awarded to Ryan & Martin and John Impson for \$1,945.00. Eugene St. Clair was awarded the contract to paint the building, with three coats of first class paint, for \$350.00. Although there was a dispute between the commissioners and the contractor over the cost of collar beams in the building, the county ultimately accepted the building. In 1881 chairs, benches and tables were purchased for the building and two years later, an earthen flue was added. In 1887, a tax was levied to pay \$200.00 for the installation of a well, windmill, pump and trough in the courthouse square. A new fence was installed around the square the following year. In August 1889, the first "phonograph concert" was held at the courthouse, a demonstration of the new technology developed by Thomas Edison. In 1900, telephone service was installed at the courthouse, one of ten subscribers to the new local telephone service offered in the town.

During the early years of the twentieth century, the county underwent a number of changes that increased the population and the economic well being of the area. In 1905, the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railroad were built through the county, and new development of farmland and towns followed. Agricultural patterns shifted away from ranching and towards cotton raising and the number of farms increased dramatically. By 1913, a group of county residents felt that a new courthouse and jail were urgently needed. A petition was presented to the commissioners in May and an election was called for June 21, 1913. The ballot considered the issuance of bonds for \$60,000.00, at 5% interest and maturing in 40 years and included the question of an annual ad valorem tax to pay the interest and redeem the bonds. The bond issue failed, with 168 voting in favor and 257 voting against the bonds.

In November 1913, declaring a state of "imperative necessity," the commissioners awarded a contract for construction of a new jail to the Pauly Jail Building Company of St. Louis, Missouri, for \$11,560.00. In February 1914, a county tax for the jail construction costs was established and construction work began in June of that year. The new jail had a concrete frame, brick exterior with cast stone trim and iron cells. The commissioners accepted the completed jail during the meeting of October 12, 1914.

The Present-Day Courthouse

By 1916, the question of a new courthouse arose again, perhaps prompted by a fire that occurred in the existing courthouse in December 1915. Two employees apparently built a large fire in a cast iron stove in the building and it got out of control. The townspeople turned out, expecting the fire to destroy the old wooden building, since there were no fire-fighting facilities in the town. To their surprise, three men went on the roof and put out the flames using wet sacks and buckets of water. Perhaps most remarkable was the fact that one of the men was imprisoned in the adjacent jail. He was, however, a "trusty" and was able to let himself out of his cell, gather two friends and put out the fire. The old building was saved, and the three men were publicly thanked and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 13

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

rewarded for putting out the fire, but the vulnerability of the wooden courthouse, built in 1880, was made clear. The commissioners prepared for another bond election, somewhat wiser for the failed effort of two years earlier.

The bond election was scheduled for November 25, 1916. The ballot was for bonds for \$75,000.00, at 5% interest due in 40 years, with a tax levied to pay the interest and establish a sinking fund to redeem the bonds at maturity. The election returns were reviewed during the meeting of December 11, 1916, and the bond issue passed, 284 in favor and 101 opposed. Two days later, the county judge was authorized to advertise for bids for the construction work, which were due on January 15, 1917. The sale of the bonds was set for the same day. He was also authorized to advertise for bids for the sale of the old courthouse which was to be sold in its entirety, except for two iron vault doors from the clerk's and county treasurer's offices. These were to be salvaged for installation in the new courthouse.

Atlee B. Ayres 1917 Courthouse

In September 1916, the commissioners hired Atlee B. Ayres, a prominent San Antonio architect, to design the new county courthouse. Born in Ohio in 1873, Ayres came to Texas as a boy with his family in 1879. Eventually, the family moved to San Antonio, where Ayres remained until his death in 1969. He attended architecture classes in New York City at the School of the Metropolitan Museum of Art from 1892 to 1894, and then practiced architecture in San Antonio and Mexico City. In 1898, he returned to San Antonio and began an architectural practice with a partner, C. A. Coughlin that lasted until Coughlin's death in 1905. The firm continued as Atlee B. Ayres Architect until 1922, when he took his son, Robert, as a partner and the firm became Atlee B. Ayres & Robert M. Ayres, Architects.

Prior to receiving this commission, Ayres had considerable experience with the design of public buildings. The State of Texas hired Coughlin and Ayres to prepare a campus master plan for the University of Texas and design the Woman's Building (1903) and the Engineering Building (1904). After Coughlin's death, Ayres designed the Law Building (1908). Ayres was appointed the State Architect in 1915 and was responsible for designing the 1918 State Office Building (National Register 1998). Ayres also designed the State School for the Blind (1917) and the first building-wide remodeling of the State Capitol (1915). Perhaps the most compelling recommendation for the Refugio County commissioners was the fact that Ayres designed three county courthouses in south Texas: the Cameron County Courthouse (1912: NR 1980), the Jim Wells County Courthouse (1912) and the Kleburg County Courthouse (1914).

General contractors began corresponding with Ayres as early as October regarding the availability of plans and specifications for the Refugio County Courthouse. On December 13, 1916, Ayres notified contractors by mail that the plans and specifications were available for distribution to interested bidders. Bids were due on January 15, 1917.

During the meeting of January 15, 1917, the commissioners reviewed the bids for the bond sale and for the construction contract. The bonds were sold to the low bidder, Hagan, Walker & Company, of Houston, Texas. Bids were received from eleven general contractors, most from Texas. The bids ranged from a low of

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 14

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

\$63,875.00 to a high of \$75,525.00. The contract was awarded to the low bidder, the firm of DePuy & Ranney Construction, from San Antonio, Texas. The following day, the commissioners hired W. H. Bourglund to act as the county's superintendent for the construction work. In February, separate bids were received for the electrical wiring work and the plumbing work and these contracts were awarded to Martin Wright and A. M. Shafer, respectively.

Construction began in earnest in March 1917, once the bond paperwork was completed and all contracts were executed. Apparently, the work proceeded smoothly as there are no disputes recorded in the court minutes or in the architect's files available for this project. The only problem may have been one of logistics, since the existing courthouse and the ongoing construction project were on the same site. In late March, a space in a building known as the Auditorium was rented for use by the district court, to address this concern.

As the work progressed, Ayres prepared specifications for the furniture required for the new courthouse. Metal furniture was scheduled for use in the clerks' offices, including document tables and ledger shelving units, many remaining in the building today. Wood furniture was scheduled for the courtrooms and other offices, including benches, chairs and desks. Opera seating was scheduled for the district courtroom, to be installed in the audience seating area. Bids for this work were received in May 1917, and the metal furniture work was awarded to the Art Metal Construction Company, of Jamestown, New York, and the wood furniture and opera-seating work was awarded to A. M. McElwee & Company, of Ft. Worth, Texas.

Ayres also prepared plans and specifications for a small pump house to be built on the courthouse site. In May 1917, the commissioners purchased a house lighting plant to provide power for the building. In October 1917, the electric light fixtures were purchased from the Independent Electric Light and Power Company for \$377.80, which included fixtures, lamps, switches and installation.

The construction work may have taken a bit longer than initially anticipated, because the lease for temporary meeting spaces for the district court and later the county and commissioners courts was extended to include October and November 1917. The commissioners accepted the completed courthouse during the meeting of December 3, 1917, and approved the final settling of their accounts, pending approval of Ayres. A new janitor was hired a week later, charged with the care and maintenance of the new courthouse.

Historical Events

During the course of the celebration of the Texas Centennial in 1936, several significant events were held in Refugio, including ceremonies at the courthouse and the courthouse square. The town observed its centennial throughout the year of 1934, two years prior to the statewide celebration. On December 14, 1934, The Refugio Timely Remarks published a seventy-two page special Centennial Edition, with stories and pictures chronicling the history, growth and development of the town since its founding.

Earlier that year, a group of patriotic Refugio citizens, led by Father Oberste and Justice Frank Low, began a search for the unmarked graves of Captain Amon B. King and his men. King and his men had been captured and killed during the Battle of Refugio in March 1836. On March 14, 1886, the fiftieth anniversary of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Section 8 Page 15

battle, a monument to King and his men was erected in the center of the courthouse square, which was renamed King Park at that time. However, the grave was not located until the group of townspeople set to work in 1934. After searching for a few weeks, the single grave was located about a mile west of town. The brass buttons worn by the soldiers, as well as other bits of clothing were found in the grave. The bones were displayed in situ for several days, then removed to a simple casket and displayed in the courthouse for several days more. The re-burial was held on June 17, 1934 at the Mt. Calvary Cemetery.

During the Texas Centennial, an elaborate celebration was held in Refugio on October 21, 1936. The celebration began with a morning Field Mass at the site of the old mission. After the mass, a ceremony was held in the District Courtroom for the presentation of framed portraits of Judge Milford Norton, District Judge of Refugio in 1846, and of Judge Charles Norton, Chief Justice of Refugio County from 1856 to 1860. The portraits were presented by Miss Mary Norton, a descendant of the two judges, and were received by Judges J. P. Pool and W. L. Rea. The District Court formally recessed for the remainder of the day, in honor of the Centennial.

The celebration continued with a luncheon at the city hall, followed by a March of History parade, the largest parade to take place in the county. A huge crowd of 6,000 to 10,000 people lined the decorated streets to watch the passage of seven groups of beautiful and impressive floats, each illustrating a part of the county history. Following the parade, commemorative services were held in King Park, and local historian Hobart Huson delivered the main address entitled *The Refugio Colony and the Texas Independence*. Later that afternoon, motorcycle races were held, including a daredevil crash of the "wall of fire". The celebration concluded with a grand Centennial Ball in the city hall auditorium.

The final event of the Texas Centennial celebration took place during the week of May 17, 1937, when the Texas Centennial Historical Commission erected several markers in the county. The most prominent of the markers was the large marble and bronze monument set in King Park depicting the tragedy of Captain King and his men. The bronze sculpture was the work of Raoul Josset, a French sculptor who also worked on the Texas Centennial Exhibition in Dallas. The old monument, a white marble shaft erected in 1886, was relocated to the grave of King and his men in Mt. Calvary Cemetery.

The new building served the county well, because the minutes include no references to problems and only very few to changes or repairs. In 1925, a steel vault door was installed in the county clerk's office and gas service was provided to the building. Roof repairs were made in 1932, including installation of new flashings and roof drains and waterproofing of the parapet walls and cornice. In 1943, major roof repairs were completed as an emergency item to address damage that occurred in a hurricane of the previous year and more recent heavy rains. These issues -- maintenance of the flat roof and building repairs following hurricane damage -- would continue to be the predominant work required at the building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 16

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Postwar Remodeling

The pattern of growth and economic development in the county that had begun at the turn of the century continued through the middle years of the twentieth century. Although farming and ranching were still an important part of the economy, the primary force was the discovery of oil and natural gas after 1920. Even the downturn in the Great Depression was mitigated somewhat by the continued growth of the oil and gas industry. By 1940, the population in the county reached an all-time high of 10,383. In November 1949, county residents began a petition effort for a bond election to provide a new jail and courthouse. Architect Irving H. Dunbar, of Refugio, was hired that same month to provide preliminary plans and estimates for use in the bond election.

The March 9, 1950 edition of the Refugio Timely Remarks carried a front-page article describing the project, which included new wings to the north and south of the existing courthouse. The wing to the north contained four new rooms on both the first and second floors to be used for courthouse related functions. The wing to the south contained a three-story with basement addition to provide cell space for 54 prisoners, office space for the sheriff, a garage and secured prisoner entry, a residential unit for the jailer and an elevator. The remodeling work also included rehabilitation work on the existing building. The preliminary plans were on display at the courthouse and the county residents were asked to express themselves to the commissioners regarding the proposed work.

The commissioners apparently received no objection or negative comment to the proposed courthouse expansion, and during the meeting of March 13, 1950 the bond election was set for the following month. The ballot was for bonds in the amount of \$100,000.00 at 3% interest and due in 15 years for the courthouse remodeling and \$250,000.00 at 3% interest and due in 15 years for the jail addition. The election returns were reviewed during the meeting of April 11, 1950, and the bond issue passed, 317 in favor and 115 opposed. The bonds were sold in May 1950.

Mr. Dunbar completed the preparation of the plans and specifications, which were issued to interested bidders that summer. All bids were received on August 3, 1950 and separate contracts were awarded for the major components of the work, as follows: general construction to Howard Bumbaugh & Company, \$248,697.00; jail equipment to Southern Steel Company, \$81,195.00; plumbing to Acme Plumbing Company, \$35,414.00; electrical wiring and fixtures to Refugio Hardware & Electric Company, \$10,957.76 and air conditioning to W. R. Cook Air Conditioning, \$55,957.00. Work began immediately and proceeded without incident. The only further mention in the minutes is a description of fund transfers in July and October 1951, as work was completing.

Irving H. Dunbar received his Texas architectural registration in 1938. He resided in Refugio at the time he received his registration and continued to live in the town until the late 1960's. He was a well-known man about town and had designed the Refugio City Hall in 1936. Apparently, the commissioners were confident in his abilities as a public architect, because they went on to hire him to design an addition to the county hospital shortly after the completion of the courthouse and jail project.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 17

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

In the following years, various maintenance and remodeling projects are briefly described in the minutes. The roof was repaired several times on five to fifteen year intervals, maintenance painting was completed and interior remodeling was done. The mechanical system was repaired several times and ultimately was completely replaced in 1975. Refurbishing work was done in 1977, including sandblasting and waterproofing the concrete on the courthouse in March of that year. (Evidence of this work remains at the building today.) Emergency repairs of an unknown nature were performed on the exterior walls in August 1980 to correct damage done during Hurricane Allen. In early 1981, plans for remodeling work in the sheriff's office area were prepared.

The last major change to the building occurred in 1985, when an addition was made to the north end of the building for provision of a fire stair and elevator. The firm Roots/Foster Associates, of Corpus Christi, Texas, did the architectural work. Bids for the construction work were received on January 30, 1985 and the contract was awarded to Toland Construction Company of Taft, Texas for \$297,100.00. The courthouse no longer resembles the 1917 courthouse designed by Altee B. Ayres; the 1950-51 plans and alterations reflect the moderne architectural influences of the 1920's through the early 1950's. The courthouse continues to serve as the seat of county government. The Refugio County Courthouse is in good condition, retaining much of its historical and architectural integrity. It is nominated under Criterion A in the area of Politics/Government at the local level of significance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 18

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Selected Bibliography

1. Ayres & Ayres Collection, Alexander Architectural Archive, University of Texas at Austin, files, indexes, drawings and photographs.
2. Carson, Chris, ed. A Guide to San Antonio Architecture. San Antonio Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, 1986.
3. Fehrenbach, T. R., Lone Star, A History of Texas and the Texans. New York: American Legacy Press, 1983.
4. Flannery, John Brendan, The Irish Texans. San Antonio: The Institute of Texan Cultures, 1995.
5. Henry, Jay C., Architecture in Texas. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1993.
6. Huson, Hobart, Refugio: A Comprehensive History of Refugio County from Aboriginal Times to 1953. 2 volumes, Woodsboro, Texas: Rooke Foundation, 1953, 1955.
7. Kelsey, Mavis P. and Donald H. Dyal, The Courthouses of Texas. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1993.
8. Moore, Robert Lee, History of Refugio County. M. A. Thesis, University of Texas, 1937.
9. Office of HDR/Simpson, San Antonio, Texas, files and archives.
10. Robinson, Willard B. The People's Architecture, Texas Courthouses, Jails and Municipal Buildings. Austin: The Texas State Historical Association, 1983.
11. Refugio County, Commissioners Court Meeting records, 1840-1990.
12. Refugio County Historical Museum, newspaper and photographic archives.
13. Refugio County History Book Committee, The History of Refugio County, Texas. Dallas, Texas. 1985.
14. Refugio County, Souvenir Program, County Centennial Celebration, October 21, 1936.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 19

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

15. Refugio County Courthouse, A Preservation Master Plan for the Refugio County Courthouse. Corpus Christi, Texas. 2001.
16. Tyler, Ron, ed. The New Handbook of Texas. Austin: The Texas State Historical Association, 1996.
17. University of Texas, Institute of Texan Cultures, files and photographic archives.
18. Welch, June Rayfield and J. Larry Nance, The Texas Courthouse. Dallas: G. L. A. Printing, 1971.
19. Welch, June Rayfield, The Texas Courthouse Revisited. Dallas: G. L. A. Press, 1984

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: less than one acre

| UTM REFERENCES | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|----------------|------|---------|----------|
| | 14 | 669220 | 3131060 |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The entire city block bound by Commerce Street (east), Purisima Street (north), Alamo Street (west) and E. Empresario (south)

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION: The boundaries include all property historically associated with the Refugio County Courthouse

11. FORM PREPARED BY:

NAME/TITLE: Diane Houston-Floyd, based on Master Plan by architectural firm McGloin and Sween, Corpus Christi, Texas

ORGANIZATION: Texas Historical Commission

DATE: December 19, 2001

STREET & NUMBER: P. O. Box 12276

TELEPHONE: 512/463-6046

CITY OR TOWN: Austin

STATE: Texas

ZIP CODE: 78711

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

CONTINUATION SHEETS

MAPS (see continuation sheet)

PHOTOGRAPHS (see continuation sheet Photo-34 through Photo-35)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS (see continuation sheet Figure-20 through Figure-33)

PROPERTY OWNER

NAME: Refugio County, Texas (Roger Fagan, County Judge)

STREET & NUMBER: 800 Commerce

TELEPHONE: 361/526-4434

CITY OR TOWN: REFUGIO

STATE: Texas

ZIP CODE: 78377

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

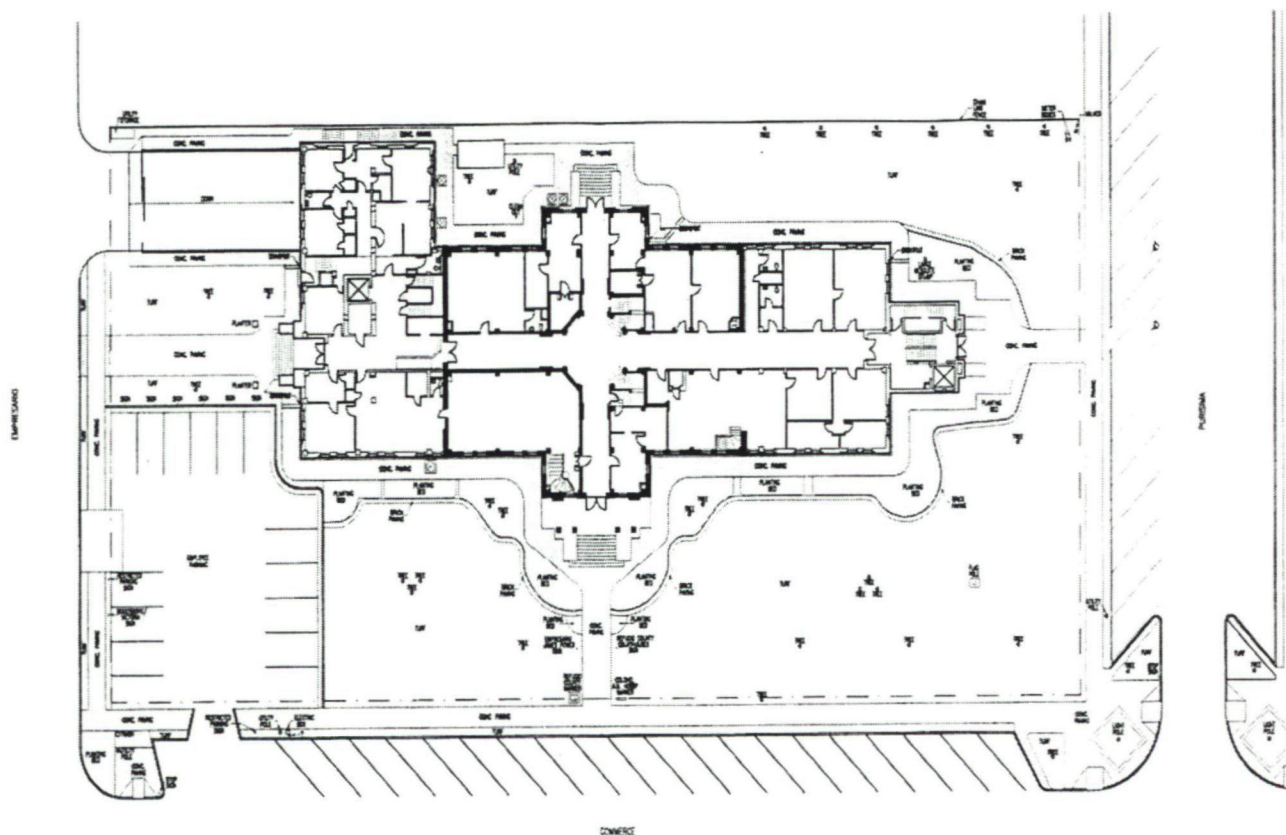
Section Figure Page 20

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Site Plan (2001)

Plans by McGloin and Sween

Source: McGloin and Sween, *A Preservation Master Plan for the Refugio County Courthouse*



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Figure Page 21

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Refugio County Courthouse

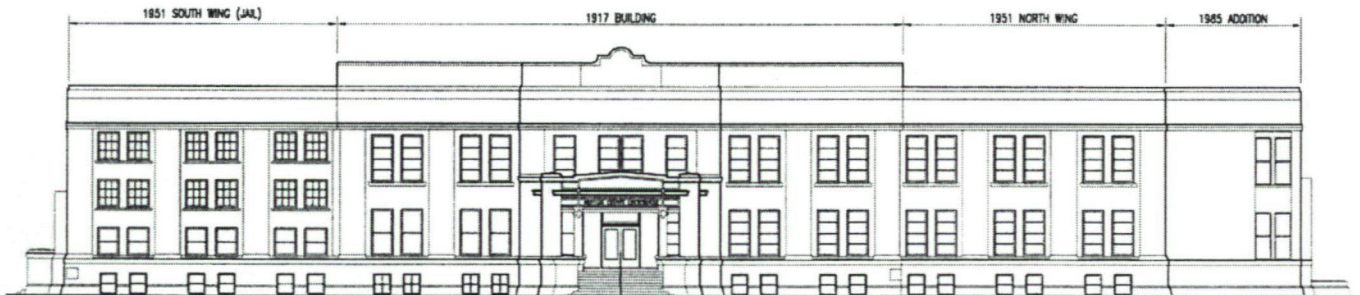
East and South Elevations

Drawn by McGloin and Sween

Source: McGloin and Sween, *A Master Plan of Refugio County Courthouse*



South Elevation
Scale: 1/16"=1'-0"



East Elevation
Scale: 1/16"=1'-0"

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

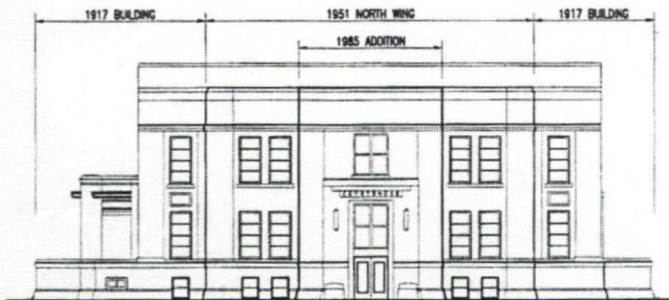
Section Figure Page 22

Refugio County Courthouse

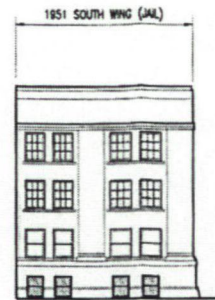
West and North Elevations

Drawn by McGloin and Sween

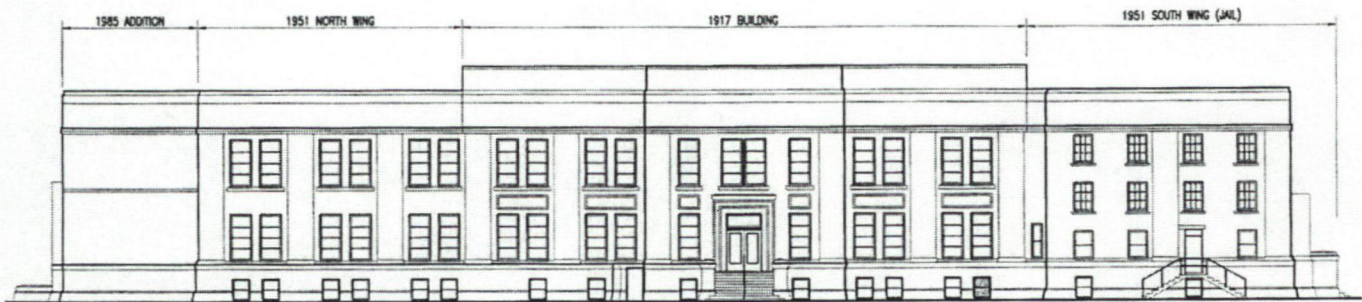
Source: McGloin and Sween, *A Master Plan of Refugio County Courthouse*



North Elevation
Scale: 1/16"=1'-0"



North Elevation (1951 South Wing)
Scale: 1/16"=1'-0"



West Elevation
Scale: 1/16"=1'-0"

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Figure Page 23

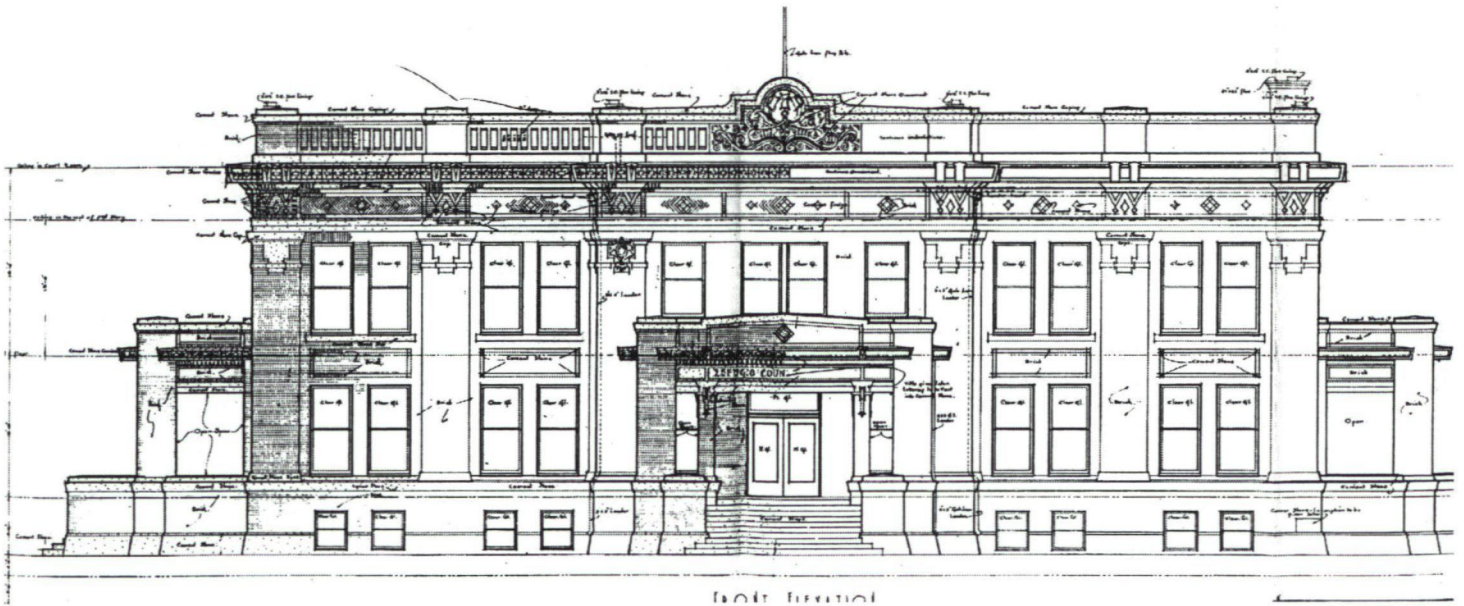
Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1917 Refugio County Courthouse

East Elevation

Drawn by Atlee B. Ayres (1917)

Source: Ayres & Ayres Collection, Alexander Architectural Archive
University of Texas at Austin



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Figure Page 24

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1917 Refugio County Courthouse

South Elevation

Drawn by Atlee B. Ayres (1917)

Source: Ayres & Ayres Collection, Alexander Architectural Archives
University of Texas at Austin



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Figure Page 25

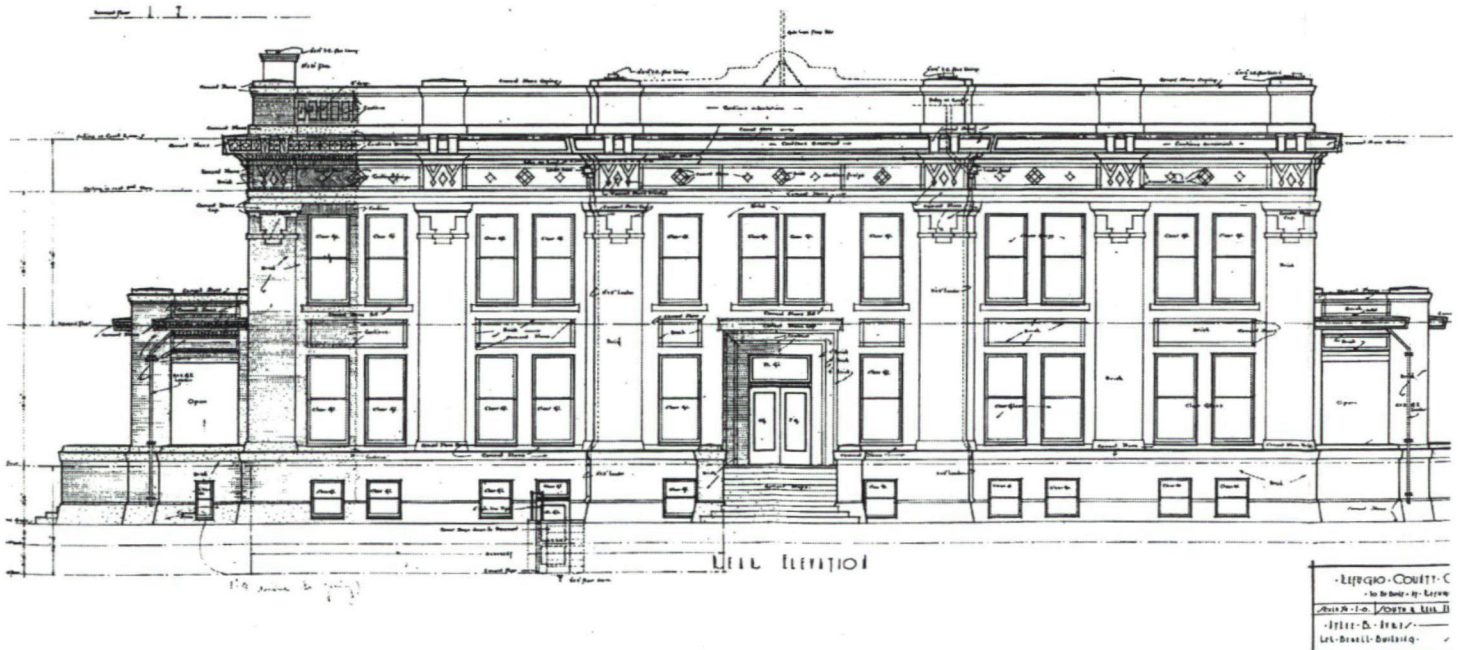
Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1917 Refugio County Courthouse

West Elevation

Drawn by Atlee B. Ayres (1917)

Source: Ayres & Ayres Collection, Alexander Architectural Archives
University of Texas at Austin



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Figure Page 26

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1917 Refugio County Courthouse

North Elevation:

Drawn by Atlee B. Ayres (1917)

Source: Ayres & Ayres Collection, Alexander Architectural Archives
University of Texas at Austin



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Figure Page 27

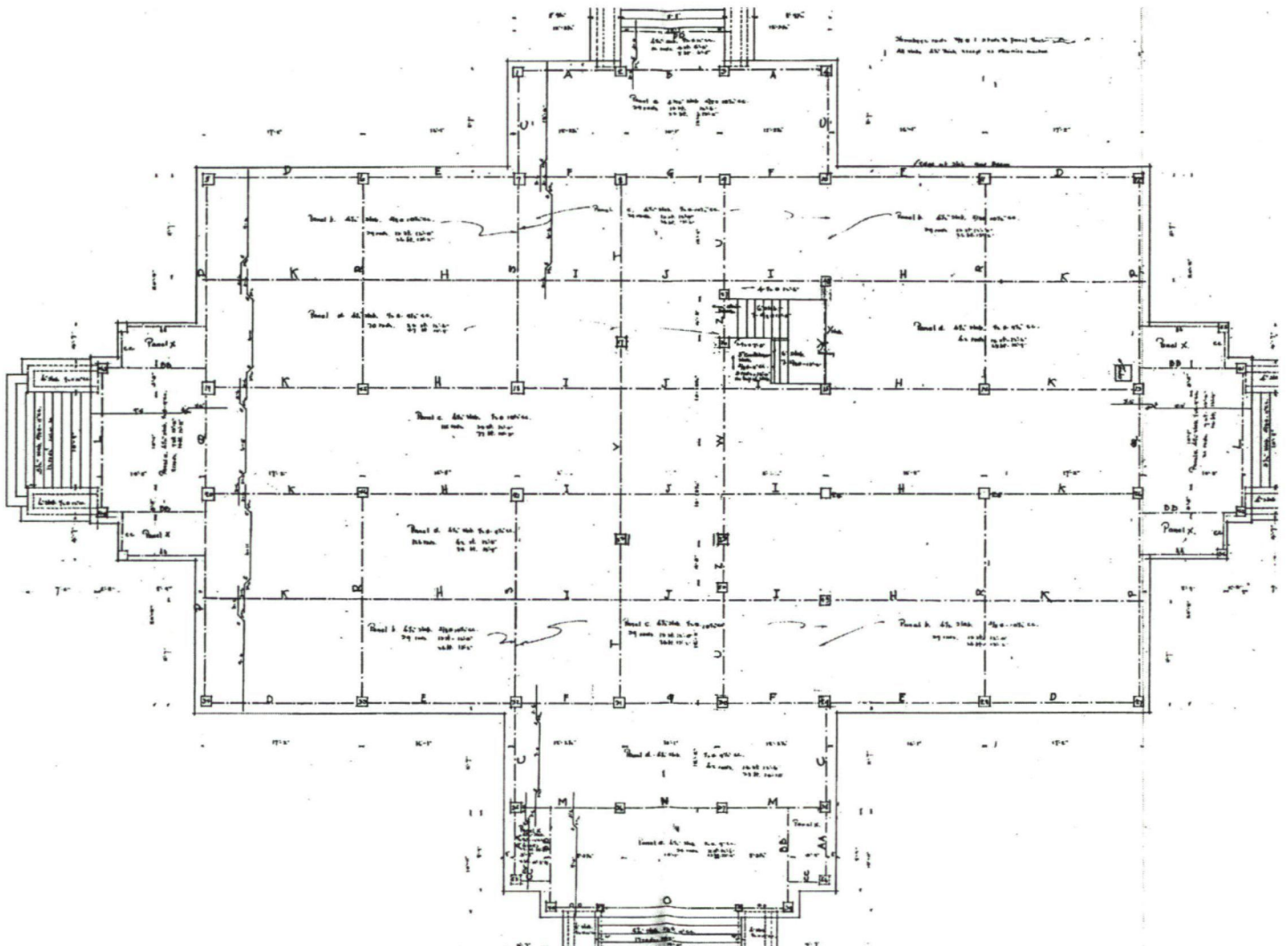
Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1917 Refugio County Courthouse

First Floor Plan

Plans by Atlee B. Ayres

Source: Ayres & Ayres Collection, Alexander Architectural Archive
University of Texas at Austin



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Figure Page 28

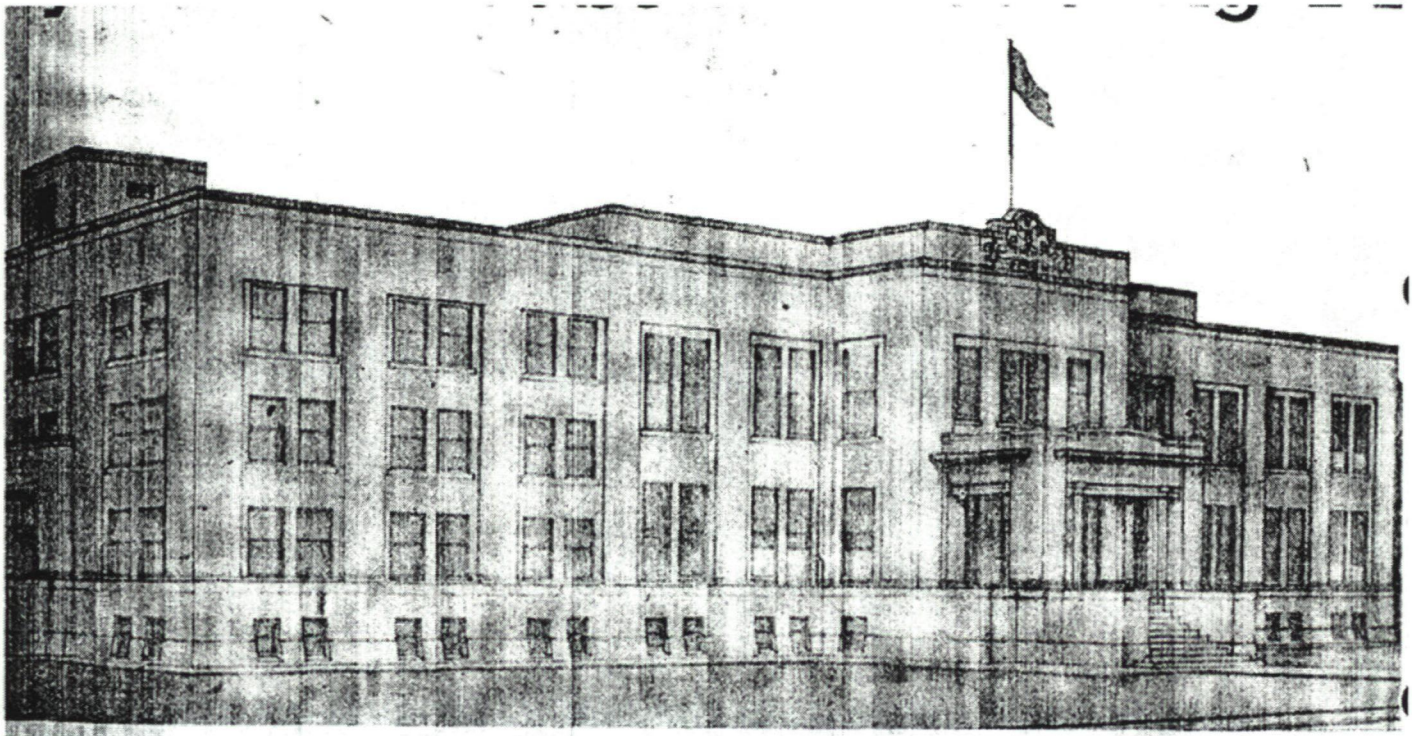
Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1951 Refugio County Courthouse

East Elevation

Drawn by Irving H. Dunbar (1951)

Source: McGloin and Sween, *A Preservation Master Plan for the Refugio County Courthouse*



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

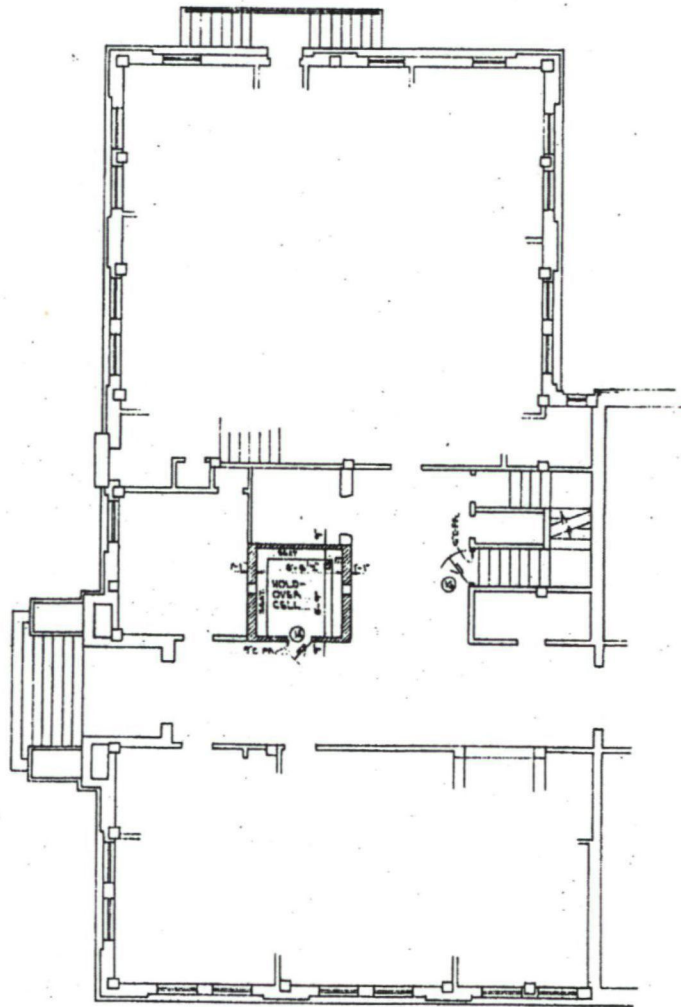
Section Figure Page 29

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1951 Jail Addition, First Floor

Plans by Irving H. Dunbar

Source: McGloin and Sween, *A Preservation Master Plan for the Refugio County Courthouse*



← FIRST FLOOR PLAN →
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

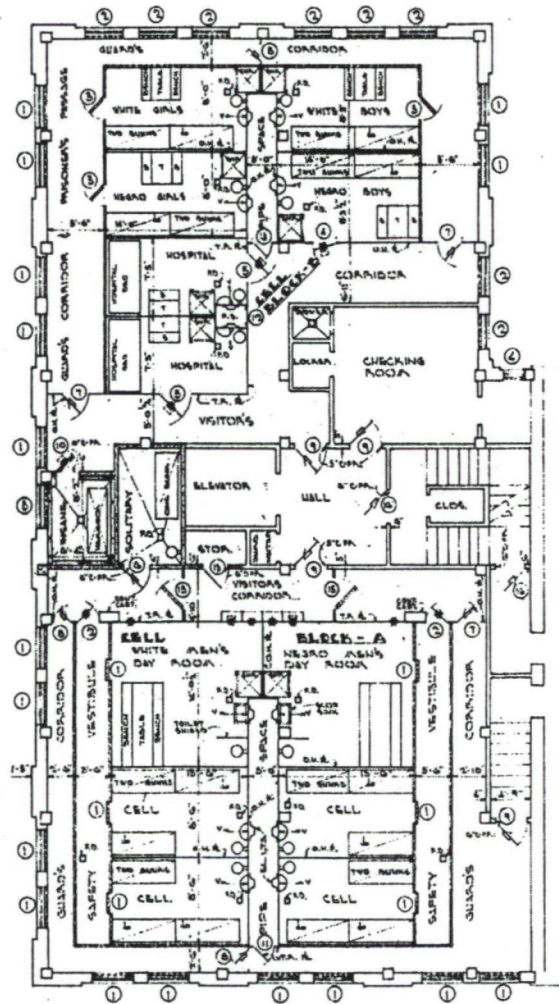
Section Figure Page 30

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1951 Jail Addition, Second Floor

Plans by Irving H. Dunbar (1950)

Source: McGloin and Sween, *A Preservation Master Plan for the Refugio County Courthouse*



— SECOND FLOOR PLAN —
SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

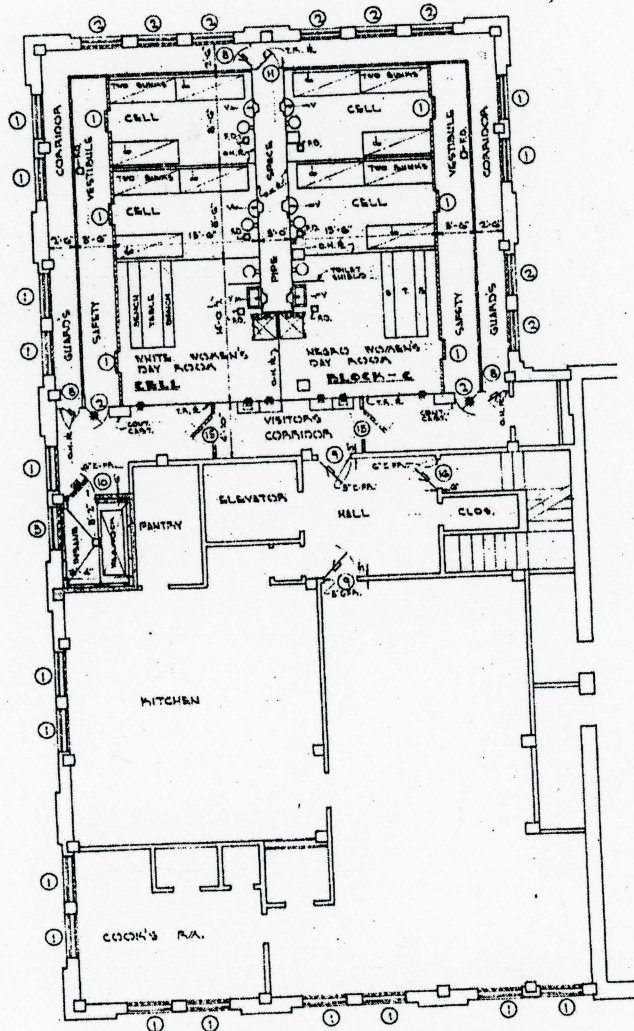
Section Figure Page 31

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1951 Jail Addition, Third Floor

Plans by Irving H. Dunbar (1950)

Source: McGloin and Sween, *A Preservation Master Plan for the Refugio County Courthouse*



— THIRD FLOOR PLAN —
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Figure Page 32

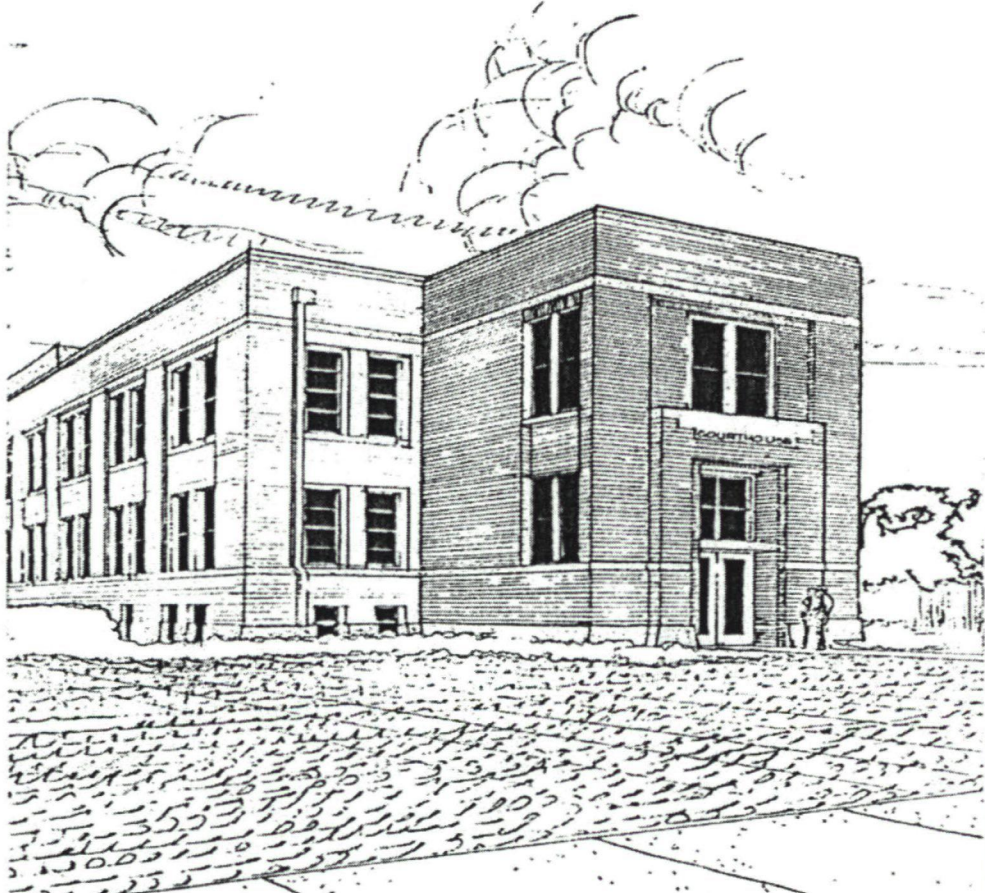
Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1985 Refugio County Courthouse Modification

1985 Fire and Stair Addition, North Elevation Addition

Drawn by Roots/Foster Associated Inc. Architects (1984)

Source: McGloin and Sween, *A Master Plan for Refugio County Courthouse*



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Figure Page 33

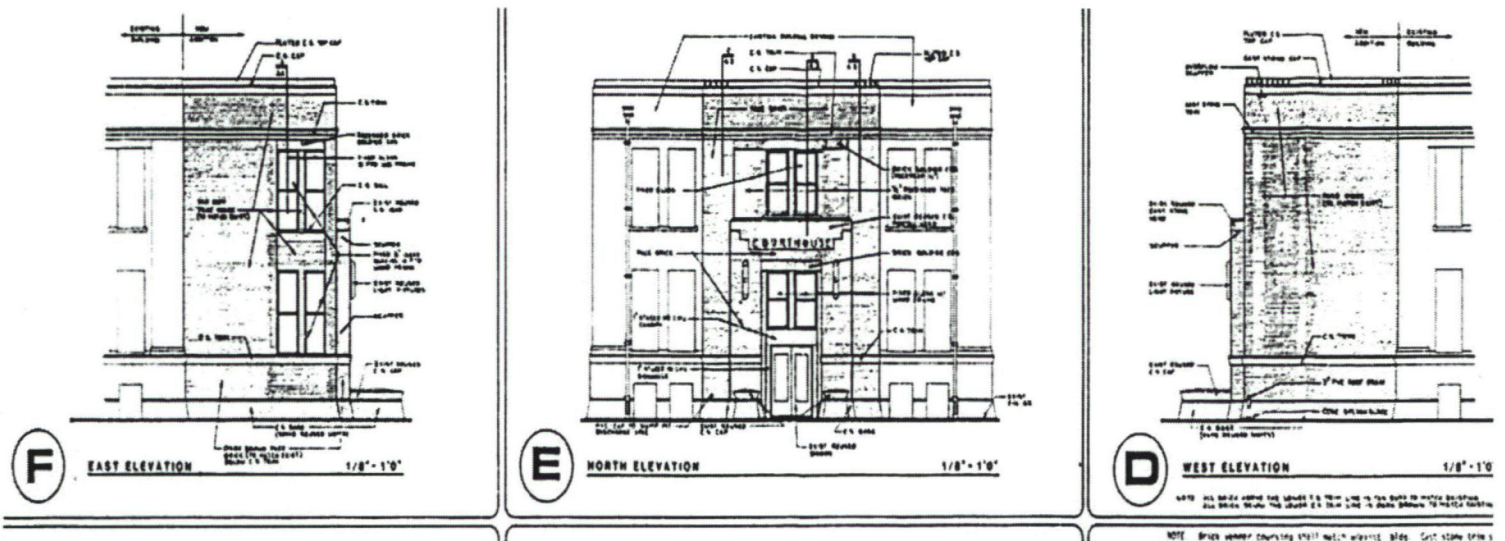
Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

1985 Refugio County Courthouse Modification

1985 Fire and Stair Addition, North Elevation Addition

Plans by Roots/Foster Associated Inc. Architects (1984)

Source: McGloin and Sween, *A Master Plan for Refugio County Courthouse*



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Photo Page 34

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Historic Photo of 1917 Refugio County Courthouse
Source: Ayres & Ayres Collection, Alexander Architectural Archive
University of Texas at Austin



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Photo Page 35

Refugio County Courthouse
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas

Photo Log

Refugio County Courthouse
808 Commerce Street
Refugio, Refugio County, Texas
Photographs provided by McGloin + Sween
December 2001

1 of 5
East Elevation,
Camera facing west

2 of 5
East Elevation,
Camera facing west
**Photo courtesy of Randolph photography

3 of 5
South Elevation,
Camera facing north

4 of 5
West Elevation
Camera facing east

5 of 5
North Elevation
Camera facing north

6 of 6
Interior View of lower level
Camera facing west
**Photo courtesy of Randolph photography

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Refugio County Courthouse
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Refugio

DATE RECEIVED: 7/12/02 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/06/02
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/22/02 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/26/02
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 02000895

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 8/22/02 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



REFUGIO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
808 COMMERCE STREET
REFUGIO, REFUGIO CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 1 of 6



REFUGIO COUNTY COURTHOUSE

808 COMMERCE STREET

REFUGIO, REFUGIO CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 2 of 6



REFUGIO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
808 COMMERCE STREET
REFUGIO, REFUGIO CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 3 of 6



COURTHOUSE

REFUGIO COUNTY COURTHOUSE

808 COMMERCE STREET

REFUGIO, REFUGIO CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 4 of 6



REFUGIO COUNTY COURTHOUSE

808 COMMERCE STREET

REFUGIO, REFUGIO CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 5 of 6



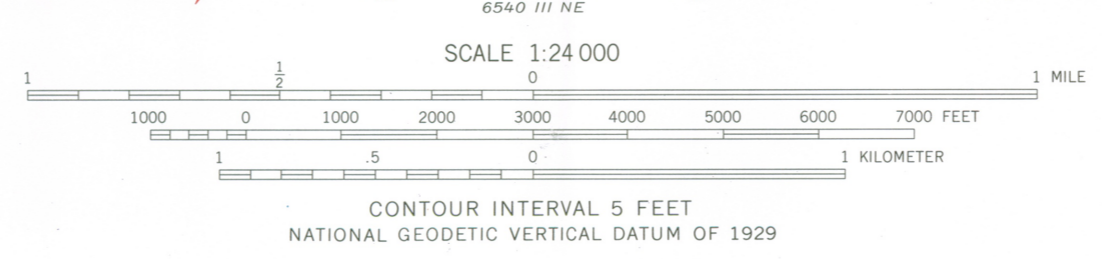
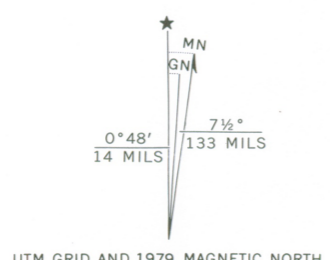


REFUGIO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
808 COMMERCE STREET
REFUGIO, REFUGIO CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 6 of 6



REFUGIO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
808 COMMERCE
REFUGIO, REFUGIO CO., TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 14T69T20/3131060

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NDS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1972. Orthophoto from aerial photograph taken 1972. Field checked 1974. Map edited 1979
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Texas coordinate system, south central zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue; 1927 North American datum



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Primary highway, hard surface | Light duty road, hard or improved surface |
| Secondary highway, hard surface | Unimproved road |
| Interstate Route | U. S. Route |
| | State Route |

REFUGIO, TEX.
SE/4 REFUGIO 15' QUADRANGLE
N2815—W9715/7.5
1979

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