

PH0692085

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

OCT 18 1976

DATE ENTERED

AUG 18 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

* Val Verde County Courthouse and Jail
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

400 Block of Pecan Street (Public Square)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Del Rio

VICINITY OF

21

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Texas

CODE

048

COUNTY

Val Verde

CODE

465

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☒ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

County of Val Verde

STREET & NUMBER

Public Square

CITY, TOWN

Del Rio

VICINITY OF

STATE

Texas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the County Clerk, Val Verde County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Public Square

CITY, TOWN

Del Rio

STATE

Texas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Texas Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Austin

STATE

Texas

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1887, the Val Verde County Courthouse is a fine work of masonry with Classical details. Entrances on each of the sides were emphasized by triangular pediments with modillions and dentils. Above these features, in Second Empire style, were Mansardic roofs with convex curvatures covered with sheet metal and ornamental wrought iron railings, all of which have been removed. On one facade statues of the Goddess of Justice and Goddess of Liberty were positioned on pedestals rising from the sides of the pediment. Rising from the center of the temple of justice was a Mansardic roof with decorative ironwork and bull's eye windows containing lone star motifs (stars); while the circular features remain, the square Mansardic roof has been replaced by an octagonal dome with a low rise. At each corner, octagonal towers surmounted by steeply pitched roofs with finials at the apexes added picturesque charm to the building--the roofs, however, have been removed.

The tan colored limestone masonry is also distinctive. Walls were of pitch-faced ashlar are handsomely articulated by a cut stone water table and cut stone stringcourse. Roman arches of cut stone with pronounced keystones and imposts spanned the center openings while stilted arches of cut stone enhanced the wall and tower openings. Paired pilasters with geometric decorative features and broken entablatures further enhance the entrances; above these, single pilasters provided visual support for the pediments.* According to local historians, the stonework was done by Indian masons.

As has often happened in Texas courthouses, some of the openings have been changed but sympathetic alteration has preserved the nineteenth-century character. Early views show that openings on the alternating sides of the towers were filled with panels of stone; modified openings continued this pattern. In 1915 a third floor was added within the original envelope requiring modification of the upper windows. When the upper floor openings were modified to accommodate this change, the new spandrels between the windows incorporated ornamental features reminiscent of those removed from the tower cornices. Although three entrances have been modified, the west entrance remains in original condition.

About seventy feet square, the floor plan is similar to numerous other nineteenth-century courthouses. On the ground level, corridors divide the building into four quadrants containing offices. The district courtroom was located on the second floor. Today the county and district courtrooms and offices the county clerk, district clerk, county auditor and treasurer's office are still in the courthouse.

Built in ca. 1885 the old jail predated the present courthouse.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 18 1976

DATE ENTERED AUG 18 1977

CONTINUATION SHEET Val Verde

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

It was located on the northeast corner of the public square and evidently housed courthouse functions before the present temple of justice was completed. Two stories in height, the walls were of ashlar limestone.

In 1914 a three-story addition was made to the jail. Both were straightforward in design and with stonework characterized by fine workmanship.

In 1956 a new building housing the jail and sheriff's offices were erected west of the old jail. Upon completion of this modern building the old building was remodeled into offices for the tax assessor, tax collector, and justice of the peace.

*On the west, south and north facades a one-story, one-bay portico shelters the central entrance. At each end of the porticos, coupled columns support a classical entablature crowned by a balustrade. The balustrade has been removed on the north portico. On the east side the portico was removed when the paved parking extended to the building.

WILSON, D. L. 1976

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 15 1977

DATE ENTERED

AUG 18 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET Val Verde Cths ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3
and Jail

The entire courthouse square containing the 19th century court-
house and jail is being nominated to the National Register, but
the 1956 jail is not considered a historic resource.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES Jail ca. 1885
CH 1887

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Jail-unknown
CH-Larmour and Watson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Val Verde County Courthouse and Jail have architectural and historical significance. Although remodeled, the courthouse still retains much of its original fine workmanship and many handsome details. Moreover, it is the only courthouse the present county seat has ever had. This temple, along with the jail, have been the center of county governmental activities for about ninety years.

Organized in 1885, Val Verde (Spanish for green valley) was named after the Civil War battle of Val Verde. The county is located next to the Rio Grande in southwest Texas and covers a large area of over 3,000 miles--sixth in Texas in area--although in 1973 the county population was less than 30,000. This large area supports numerous sheep, goat and cattle ranches.

Forming a gateway to Mexico, Del Rio (originally San Filipe del Rio) was established near the Rio Grande and became a gateway to Mexico. The population increased slowly, however, and at the time the present courthouse was built, the community contained less than 2,000 people.

As was often the case, the railroad had considerable impact on the destiny of Val Verde county. In 1881 the Southern Pacific Railroad reached Del Rio; four years later the county seat was moved from Bracketville, which was not served by the railroad. In May, 1885, commissioners rented a commercial building on Perry Street for county offices. Shortly thereafter they directed their energies toward the construction of a new courthouse.

The architectural firm of Larmour and Watson of Austin, Texas, was commissioned to design the new edifice--Jacob Larmour and A.O. Watson were prominent and talented architects who also designed courthouses for several other counties, including Comanche County and Milam County. Subsequently the firm of Hood and McLeod were contracted to build the courthouse for \$32,500.

In 1890 the Val Verde temple received national attention when a drawing of it was published in Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper. This building along with the old jail are among the best examples of extant nineteenth-century architecture in the region surrounding Del Rio and definitely warrants preservation and continuing use.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, October 18, 1890.

Walter Prescott Webb (ed), The Handbook of Texas, 2 vols., Austin:

The Texas State Historical Association, 1952.

June Rayfield Welch, and J. Larry Nance, The Texas Courthouse, Dallas
G.L.A. Press, 1971

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 14 315 316880 3249070 B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Val Verde County Courthouse and Jail are both located on the public square which is bounded on the west by Pecan Street, on the north by Losoya Street, on the east by Mill street, and on the south by Greenwood Street.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Willard B. Robinson

10-6-76

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Division of Architecture-Texas Tech University

806/742-2462

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

P.O. Box 4499

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Lubbock

Texas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer of Texas

DATE

10/8/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

8/18/77

DATE

8-16-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property Val Verde County Courthouse and Jail

State Texas

Working Number 10.18.76.4324

77001478

Val Verde

TECHNICAL

Photos 5+1
Maps 1

Existing appears incorrect

CONTROL

OK *XP*
10.18.76

HISTORIAN

accept
P. Grovono
11/10/76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*2 acres should be reduced to
exclude 1956 jail - 2 acres make
sense from a topographic
argument - statement information
included which excludes
1956 jail*

Held
11.30.76

Accept *Called*
6.28.77 *Lebowich*
11.26.76

ARCHEOLOGIST

It is justified

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Significant architecturally
Accept *Cole*
6/24/77

BRANCH CHIEF

Hunington
8.16.77

KEEPER

Wm
8/18/77

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

9.6.77

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered AUG 18 1977

INT:2106-74



East Side

C. I. Brown

PHOTO BY C. I. BROWN
Del Rio, Texas
Rights Reserved

3

Val Verde County Courthouse
Del Rio, Texas

C. I. Brown, Photographer, 1976
Del Rio, Texas

East (rear) elevation
Photo #1 *of 6*

OCT 18 1976

AUG 18 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Val Verde County Courthouse
Del Rio, Texas

Mike Yancey, 1975
Texas Historical Commission

Southwest oblique

Photo #2 of 6

OCT 18 1976

AUG 18 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Val Verde County Courthouse
Del Rio, Texas

Mike Yancey, 1975
Texas Historical Commission

Detail of west (main) entrance
Photo #3 *46*

OCT 18 1976

AUG 18 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Val Verde County Courthouse and jail
Del Rio, Texas

Mike Yancey, 1975
Texas Historical Commission

North elevation showing 1956 jail in the
foreground. Old jail is immediately to
the east of the new jail.

Photo #4 *ofc*

OCT 18 1976

AUG 18 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Val Verde County Courthouse
Del Rio, Texas

Mike Yancey, 1975
Texas Historical Commission

East elevation of the old jail.

Photo #5 *76*

OCT 18 1976

AUG 18 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

4

1956 Val Verde County Jail
Courthouse Square
Val Verde, Val Verde County, Texas

C. I. Brown, 1976
Del Rio, Texas

Northwest oblique of the new building.

JAN 5 1977

#6 of 6

AUG 18 1977

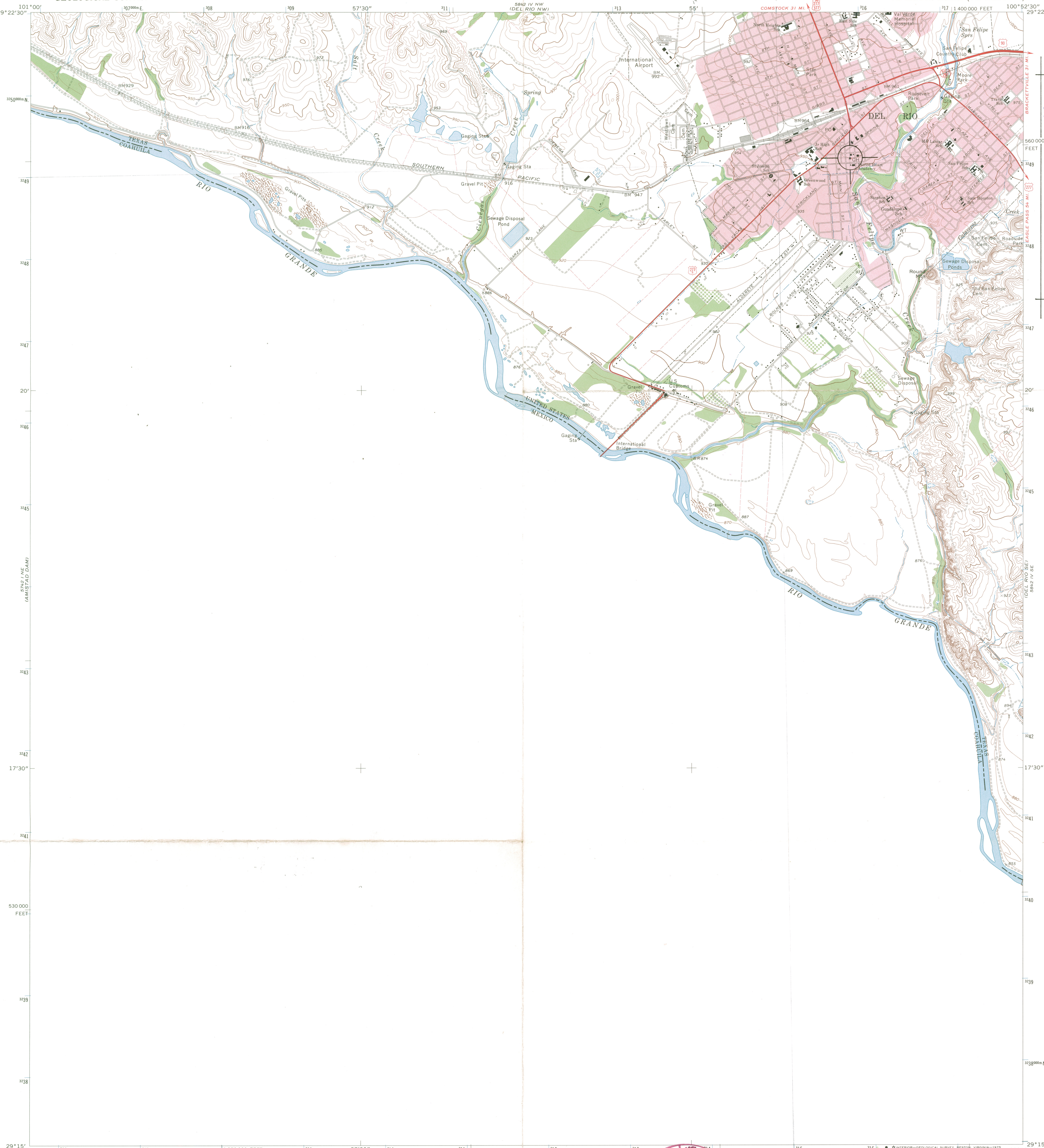
PHOTO BY C. I. BROWN
Del Rio, Texas
Rights Reserved

C. I. Brown

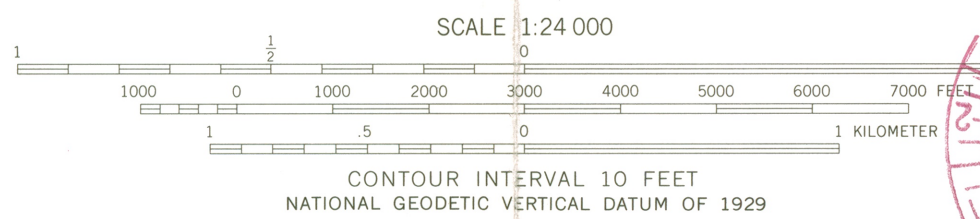
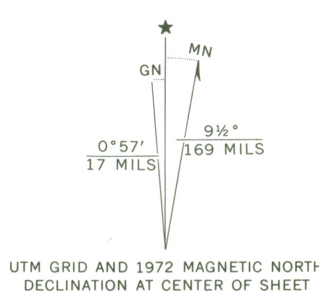
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

AUG 18 1977 - 005
DEL RIO SW QUADRANGLE
TEXAS—VAL VERDE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

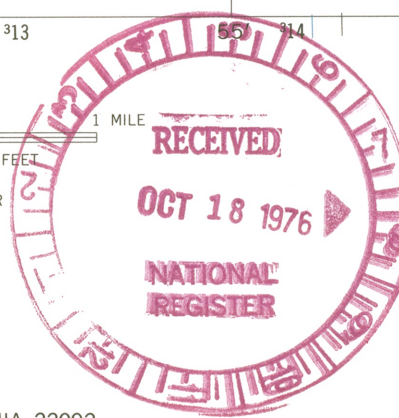
VAL VERDE COUNTY COURTHOUSE & JAIL
PUBLIC SQUARE
DEL RIO TEXAS
147 34680 / 3249070



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1971. Field checked 1972
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
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines
Precise delineation of international boundary line within
limitrophe channel of the Rio Grande in accordance with
Boundary Treaty of 1970 not completed at date of this map



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



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

DEL RIO SW, TEX.
N2915—W10052.5/7.5

1972

AMS 5842 IV SW—SERIES Y882

SEP 10 1975

2900-232



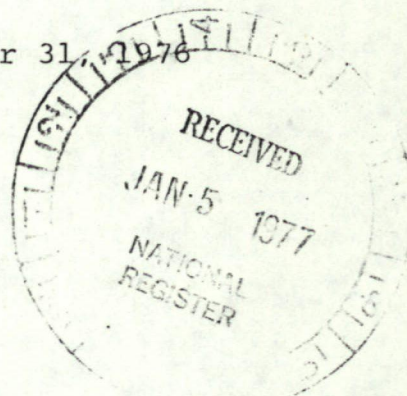
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P. O. BOX 12276 CAPITOL STATION AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

TRUETT LATIMER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

December 31, 1976



Mr. Bill Lebovich
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
18th and C Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Bill:

Regarding your request for photographic coverage of the Bexar County Courthouse additions, I have enclosed two pictures revealing the west and south additions. Although the modern annex is unsympathetic to the original building, the Richardsonian Romanesque design and architectural features of the 1890 courthouse are still evident. Furthermore, the additions were made to the southwest corner (rear) of the building and do not detract from the prominent north facade, which faces the Main Plaza. I think the description of the alterations in Item #7 is sufficient, but if you need further information, let me know. The appendixes mentioned in the description that you inquired about were part of a prepared format sent to us by the Bexar County Historical Commission and were only zerox pictures, not appropriate for the National Register nomination.

Also at your request I am sending a photograph of the modern Val Verde County Jail located on the square with the historic courthouse and jail, as well as a continuation sheet explaining exactly what is being nominated.

Sincerely,

Marie D. Landon
Coordinator, National
Register Nominations

MDL/s
Enclosures

6/9/77

Bill —

As you
requested ... the missing
copy of Val Verde
Co. Ctrs & Jail
continuation sheet.

Marie

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE TEXAS

Date Entered AUG 18 1977

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Coryell County Courthouse	Gatesville Coryell County
Erath County Courthouse	Stephenville Erath County
Old Victoria County Courthouse	Victoria Victoria County
Point Bolivar Lighthouse	Port Bolivar vicinity Galveston County
Val Verde County Courthouse and Jail	Del Rio Val Verde County
Galveston Seawall	Galveston Galveston County
Oliphant House	Milam vicinity Sabine County

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower
Hon. Lloyd Bentsen
Hon. W. R. Poage
Hon. Omar Burleson
Hon. John Young
Hon. Jack Brooks
Hon. Robert C. Krueger
Hon. Charles Wilson

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

Courthouse Entered In National Register

Of special significance to history-minded Del Rioans is the announcement today from the office of U.S. Rep. Bob Krueger that the Val Verde County Courthouse and old jail have been designated to be included in the National Historical Register.

The old jail is the building occupied by the county tax assessor-collector's office.

In this new designation the two buildings will be placed on the National Register of Historic Places, the official list of the Nation's Cultural Resources worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register provides federal protection for the landmarks. It also makes the structures eligible to receive federal grants for historic preservation.

Congressman Krueger said, "At a time when the complexities of modern life seem more and more often to be crowding us away from that which is historically and culturally important, this designation is especially welcome."

The courthouse was constructed after 1885 and at that time was a two-story building with turrets on the four corners. Photographs of the structure show statues as a part of the architectural decorations on the roof.

In 1915 the building was remodeled and a third floor added. The statues disappeared and presently there is said to be no information as to what became of them.

In 1932, more remodeling was done and one of the stairways was closed. Since then there have been periodic changes, including the renovation in the district courtroom.

Mrs. Louita D. Wilson, chairman of the Val Verde County Historical Commission, pointed out that Val Verde County is one

of few in the 254 counties of Texas still using the original courthouses. Many counties have torn down their cour-

thouses when new structures were built, she said, a fact considered making the courthouse here of great historical value.

NAME OF PAPER Del Rio New-Herald
WHERE PUBLISHED Del Rio, Tx
DATE OF ISSUE 8/24/77
SENT BY Bettye Briscoe
LOCATION Amistad Recreation Area
COPY SENT SWRO YES ☐ NO ☐
COPY SENT WASO YES ☐ NO ☐

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 11/10/76
 Reviewer INITIALS: B6
 NR DOE AUG 18 1977

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Val Verde County Courthouse and Jail

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER 400 Pecan St.

CITY, TOWN Del Rio

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 21st

STATE Texas 048

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Val Verde. code 465

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

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

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

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR	EXTERIOR	ENVIRONS
<input type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-1	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-2	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-3
<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 4	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 5	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 6
<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 7	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable-9

☐ Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

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

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

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

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

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- courthouse, jail
 now- courthouse;
 gov't office, municipal

SIGNIFICANCE:

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

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO only courthouse county has ever had

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.buider: *Harmon & Watson (courthouse)*
unknown (jail) engineer:
landscape/garden designer: artist/artisan:
interior decorator: builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

personal

(label role
&
appropriate date)

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): *c1885 (jail); 1887 (courthouse)*

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS: *1914, 1915, 1936*

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S): *1885 - present*

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

2

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

The Val Verde Courthouse is the only courthouse ever built in Del Rio, ~~since~~ ^{earliest} the city since it became the county seat in 1885. The Courthouse and jail are among the best examples of extant 19th C architecture in the region.