United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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13. Hardy-Williams Building (Common names - Williams Pharmacy, Hillburn's Pharmacy)

Location: 127 East Hopkins Street

Classification: Category - building; Ownership - private; Status - occupied;

Accessible - yes, unrestricted; Present use - commercial.

Owner of property: Estate of Dr. Wilburn Cook Williams and heirs

c/o Mrs. Myrtle Penn Williams Tarbutton

626 Lindsey Street

San Marcos, Texas 78666

Description: Condition - good; Altered; Original site.

The north side of the courthouse square is distinguished by the Hardy-Williams Building (now Hillburn's Pharmacy). It is a two-story commercial structure of ashlar (front facade) and roughcut (side walls) limestone. Five round-arch windows with four-over-four lights pierce its second-floor, south facade. The windows are capped by key-stones and stone hoodmolds that connect as a stringcourse. Another stringcourse connects the sills. Six similarly shaped and paned windows are on each of the side walls, and their arches are formed by three rows of reddish-brown bricks. Dressed stones form the frames and sills. A door with a dressed-stone arch but a modern fitting forms the drive-up prescription window in the alley. There is a third door at the west end of the south wall, which leads up a stair to a second-floor pool hall.

The front facade is defined by a slight indentation back from its corners and cornice. An early photoshows that a more elaborate cornice, probably metal, once capped the structure. It was removed sometime between 1916 and the 1940s. A double door for horse carts is remembered by an informant, but its exact location is not. It may have been at the rear, to which was added a one-story addition in 1920. This addition, although unattractive, is effectively hidden and connected directly inside.

Other recent changes are minimal and reversible. The simple coffered ceiling with pressed tin is in place, as are the black and white, octagonal tiles of the floor, as well as an old scale. The iron columns that divide the pharmacy section of the front facade into thirds are still present and their tops are visible, although they are boxed in aluminum. Transoms are still in place above the modern awning and aluminum door.

Significance: Period - 1800-1899, 1900-; Areas of significance - architecture, commerce. Specific dates - 1880-1885..

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The Hardy-Williams Building is the best preserved of the commercial structures on the north side of the courthouse square, and strongly reminiscent of the pre-boom, late 19th century. Of rough- and smooth-cut limestone, the building is accented with round arches on its second floor. Several businesses important to small-town life have occupied the structure.

The building was constructed prior to 1886 by H. Hardy as a feed store. At one point, there was a double door that allowed horse carts to enter. Talmadge and Hudson then operated a hardware store at this address. During the first decade of the 20th century, probably in 1906, Dr. William C. Williams opened his medical office upstairs. His brother, John, ran Williams Drugstore downstairs. Dr. Williams, a native of nearby Caldwell County, and a 1905 graduate of the University of Tennessee's Medical School, also ran the San Marcos Sanitarium at 1251 Belvin. Following Dr. William's death in 1947, the business was sold to Mr. B.D. Hillburn, although the building remained in the hands of Williams' heirs. John Carson now runs a drugstore there, and the soda fountain continues to be a downtown gathering point.

Bibliography:

Interview with John Carson, March 1982. Interview with Myrtle Penn Williams Tarbutton, April 29, 1982. San Marcos Record, Golden Anniversary Issue, September 20, 1962. San Marcos Record, November 7, 1947.

Geographical data: Acreage - less than one acre.

UTM reference - 14 / 602330 / 3306140

Verbal Boundary Description - Original Town Site, Block 20, western 33.7 ft. of lot six. The property is a rectangle measuring 33.7 ft. by 157.67 ft.

WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Hardy-Williams	Building (San Marcos	MRA)		
Hays County				
TEXAS				2.14-03
				Working No. 2-14-83
				Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84 Date Due: 8/11/83 -8/28/83
				Accient 8/26/83
resubmission			Intered	ACCEPT 8/26/83 Register RETURN
	on or local government		National	REJECT
owner objection	on or read government			Federal Agency:
appeal				Todayar Agency .
Substantive Review:	sample re	quest 🗆 a	appeal	☐ NR decision
Reviewer's comments:				
				Recom./Criteria
				Reviewer
				Discipline
				Date
				see continuation sheet
Nomination returned fo	r:technical corrections			The property of the second sec
	substantive reasons of	discussed below		
1. Name				The state of the s
2. Location				
3. Classification				
Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessib	ble	Present Use
4. Owner of Property			3 or 10 (1)	nit yanka ya marangan ya kasa masa kata 1922. Barangan
5. Location of Legal De	scription			
6. Representation in Ex	isting Surveys			And the second s
Has this property been of	determined eligible?	yes 🗆 no		
7. Description				
Condition		Check one		Check one
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered		original site
good	ruins	altered		moved date
fair	unexposed			
Describe the present and	l original (if known) physical	appearance		
summary paragraph				
completeness				
clarity				
alterations/integrity				
dates boundary selection				
Doundary selection				

8. Significance	A STATE OF THE STA
Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below	
Specific dates Builder/Architect	
Specific dates Builder/Architect Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)	
summary paragraph	Hays County
□ completeness □ clarity	
applicable criteria	
justification of areas checked	
relating significance to the resource context	
relationship of integrity to significance	
☐ justification of exception	
other	
9. Major Bibliographical References	
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of nominated property	
Quadrangle name	
UTM References	
Verbal boundary description and justification	
11. Form Prepared By	
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification	Anna Anna San Malanta
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:	
nationalstatelocal	A STATE OF THE STA
State Historic Preservation Officer signature	
title date	
13. Other	
☐ Maps	
□ Photographs	The state of the s
Other	
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to	
Signed Date	Phone:

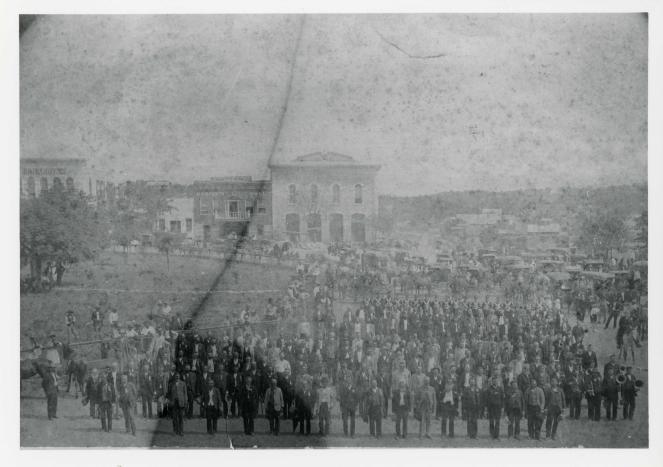


Photo courtesy of San Marcos Public Library, dated 1886, negative on file at SMPL.

Subject is at far left. South facade, camera facing north.
Photo 59 of 150.



Photo courtesy of Tula Townsend Wyatt, dated 1916 (?). Copy photo by Sally S. Victor, negative property of HASM, on file at SMPL.

Subject is at center. Southeast oblique, camera facing northwest.

Photo 60 of 150.

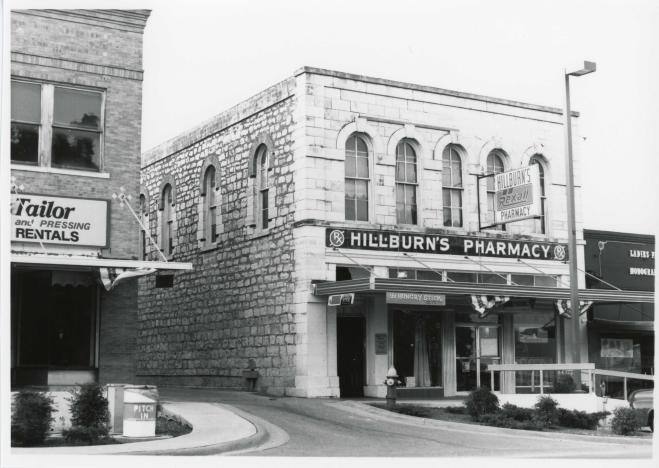


Photo by Marian Oles, June, 1982. Negative property of Marian Oles, Studio II.

Southwest oblique, camera facing northeast. Photo 61 of 150.



Photo by Lissa Anderson, July, 1982. Negative property of HASM, on file at SMPL.

Southeast oblique, camera facing northwest. Photo 62 of 150.

Please refer to the map in the Multiple Property Cover Sheet for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: ______64000853