

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

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Continuation sheet

Item number All

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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 keystones 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 photoshow 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.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Hardy-Williams Building (San Marcos MRA)
Hays County
TEXAS

Working No. 2-14-83

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84

Date Due: 8/11/83 - 8/28/83

Action: ACCEPT 8/26/83
 RETURN
 REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name _____

2. Location _____

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property _____

5. Location of Legal Description _____

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- 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

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Historic Resources of San Marcos
San Marcos, Hays County, Texas
#13. Hardy-Williams Building

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.



M
M
M

BAR

VARIETY STORE

PLUMS - D
WGS - Sp - Cl

HARRISON'S
EST 1885

WOOD
EST 1885

RRO'S
EST 1885

J. C. PENNEY
CO.

GENERAL
STORE

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Historic Resources of San Marcos
San Marcos, Hays County, Texas
#13. Hardy-Williams Building

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.

Tailor
and PRESSING
RENTALS

HILLBURN'S PHARMACY

HILLBURN'S
Rexall
PHARMACY

the HUNGRY STICK

LADIES
MONOGRAM

PITCH
IN



Historic Resources of San Marcos
San Marcos, Hays County, Texas
#13. Hardy-Williams Building

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

Southwest oblique, camera facing northeast.

Photo 61 of 150.



Historic Resources of San Marcos
San Marcos, Hays County, Texas
#13. Hardy-Williams Building

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