

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number all

Page 10

Site No. 7

Photo No. 7

Name: Hillsboro City Library

Historic Name: U.S. Post Office

Address: 118 ~~South~~ Waco St.

Date: 1913

Present Owner: City of Hillsboro  
P.O. Box 568  
Hillsboro, Texas 76645

Block/Lot: Block 5, Lot 2 Safeway Addition

Acreage: Less than one acre

Original Use: Post Office

Current Use: City library

U.S.G.S. Quadrangle: Hillsboro West

UTM Reference: 676630/3542860

Architectural Description:

Physical Condition: Excellent

Date(s) of Alterations: 1969; restored and renovated

The City Library is a single-story, Renaissance Revival building of brick, with a rectangular plan, hipped tile roof, full basement, and mezzanine. Contrasting with the tan brick, is the elaborate terra cotta and carved-stone trim. A molded frieze and cornice with headed molding crown the structure. Five arched entrances on the main facade are supported by paired columns with foliated capitals and connected by balustrades. Circular, decorative, carved motifs enhance the spandrels between the arches, while the recessed entrance contains openings with large tympanums, carved archivolt and architrave trim, and multilight fixed windows. At the sides of the building are small, rectangular, mezzanine windows having stone sills, with tall arched windows beneath. There is a series of arches between the lobby and main-floor area. The elaborate interior features marble lobby floors and wainscoting. The roof was repaired during the restoration of the building in 1969; the exterior was painted, and partitions were removed from the area where the post office windows were located.

Significance:

Period: 1900-

Areas of Significance: Architecture, Education, Government



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The Renaissance Revival City Library is architecturally one of the most sophisticated structures in Hillsboro. Designed by architect James K. Taylor, the structure's form appears to be related to McKim, Mead, and White's Boston Public Library of 1888-92, and Florence's Foundling Hospital, built in 1914. Other Texas cities such as Plainview, Temple, and Huntsville possess similar post office buildings. As both post office and library, the ornate Hillsboro building has served major governmental and educational needs in the community.

The lot which the building occupies was the site of the city's first fire department, founded in 1883 and officially organized in 1885. Although the property was purchased by the government in 1910, actual work did not begin until 1912. After continuous operation through the 20th century and increasing service demands, the Post Office constructed a new building on West Franklin Street in 1967. On February 14, 1968, the City of Hillsboro gained possession of the building and selected architect William Chambe of the firm of Rucker and Chambe in Temple to draft exterior restoration plans. Renovation of the interior was begun a year later. Dedicated in 1971, the newly restored library has continued to serve local civic, cultural, and education needs.

**Bibliography:**

Daily Mirror, December 16, 1914.

Hillsboro Mirror, January 13, 1965.

United States Department of the Interior  
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Page 2 of 2

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Hillsboro Multiple Resource Area  
State Hill County, TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. U.S. Post Office

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper *Helene Byers* 3/30/84

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

12. Western Union Building

Substantive Review

Keeper *Beth Grosvenor* 3/30/84

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

13.

Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

14.

Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

15.

Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

16.

Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

17.

Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

18.

Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

19.

Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

20.

Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

U.S. Post Office (Hillsboro MRA)  
Hill County  
TEXAS

Working No. 2-15-84  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5-85  
Date Due: 3/15/84 ~~3/31/84~~  
Action:  ACCEPT 3/30/84  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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



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**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

U.S. Post Office (Millions Hill)  
Mill County  
TX 75401

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_





HILLSBORO CITY LIBRARY

7

Historic Resources of Hillsboro  
Hillsboro, Hill County, Texas  
Site No. 7, Hillsboro City Public Library,  
118 S. Waco.  
Photographer: University of Texas, Dept. of  
Architecture, Sept. 1981  
Negative on file, Texas Historical Commission,  
Austin  
View: east facade, camera facing west  
Photo 7 of 23

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000846