

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

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

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received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number all

Page 17

Site no. 10

Photo no. 10

Name: Windmill Realty Co.

✓ Historic Name: Western Union Building

✓ Address: 107 ~~South~~ Covington Street

Date: 1900-1905

Present Owner: Colonial Trust Co.
P.O. Box 406
Hillsboro, Texas 76645

Block/Lot: All of Lot 24, Block 107

Acreage: Less than one acre

Original Use: Commercial

Current Use: Realty Company

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

UTM Reference: 676720/3543080

Architectural Description:

Physical Condition: Good

Dates(s) of Alterations: early 20th century

This two-story brick and cast-stone commercial building is prominently marked by a yawning Richardsonian Romanesque arch on the ground floor. Above this, three windows are set below a high triangular gable. This entire central part of the building is framed by two tall, tower-like buttresses accented with thin, round lights at the base and a castellated cornice. With the exception of the closed off transom arch and a later canopy, the building remains essentially as it appeared in the early 20th century.

Significance:

Period: 1900-

Areas of Significance: Architecture, Communication

The Old Western Union Building is the finest surviving example of a relatively unaltered, Richardsonian Romanesque commercial building in Hillsboro. Especially striking are its prominent arch and romantically detailed corner turrets.

From 1918 until 1956, it housed the Hillsboro Western Union Office, which served as the hub for cotton-trading activity in the county.

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Hillsboro Multiple Resource Area
State Hill County, TEXAS

Nomination/Type of Review

11. U.S. Post Office

Entered in the
National Register

Date/Signature

JK Keeper Alma Byers 3/30/84

Attest

12. Western Union Building

Supplicative 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

Western Union Building (Hillsboro MRA)
Hill County
TEXAS

substantive review

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: _____

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

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

The Western Union Building is locally significant for its historical importance as the early 20th century hub of cotton-trading activity in Hill County. It is also architecturally important as a characterful local example of a commercial Romanesque revival style building.

Recom./Criteria Accept A, C
Reviewer Bushong
Discipline Historic
Date 3/29/84
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

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

- 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: _____



Historic Resources of Hillsboro
Hillsboro, Hill County, Texas
Site No. 10, Western Union Building, 107 South
Covington

Photographer: Ellen Beasley, December 1981
Negative on file, Texas Historic Commission,
Austin

View: west facade, camera facing east
Photo 10 of 23

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000846