

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

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

For NPS use only

received JAN 14 1985

date entered FEB 20 1985

Continuation sheet

Item number 4,7,8,9,10

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#45, PHOTO 16

NAME: Chappell Hill Circulating Library

DATE: 1912

ADDRESS: Cedar Street (Collete Street)

BLOCK/LOT: See Verbal Boundary
Description; Lot 4

PRESENT OWNER: Chappell Hill Historical Society
Mr. Robert Nebel, President
P.O. Box 211
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426

ACREAGE: Less than 1

ORIGINAL USE: Library

PRESENT USE: Library

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: 7.5' Chappell Hill, Tx

U.T.M. REFERENCE: 14/763440/3337540

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Physical Condition: Excellent

Dates of Alterations: 1964 (restored)—carriage lights and door handle added; original porch wooden; new brick with mortar; wooden (cedar) shingles

Constructed by J. W. Heartfield in 1912, this small Colonial Revival Library building is basically square in plan (20 feet x 24 feet) with clapboard siding and corner-boards. There is a hipped roof with wooden shingles over the entire structure. The front elevation exhibits a semicircular portico supported by two Doric columns capped with oversized capital blocks, and two pilasters. The building's symmetrical arrangement is reinforced by its central entry door with transom and all single windows on each side. The interior is simple, has one room, and beaded board wainscoting extends around the perimeter. The badly deteriorated building was restored in 1964 and 1965 by the Chappell Hill Historical Society, its first restoration project. Later, in the 1970s, necessary repairs were made to the roof, columns, and windows. Due to the repeated deterioration of the wooden porch floor, a new brick-faced concrete porch floor was built. This new porch, which does not detract from the integrity of the structure, could easily be removed. Other minor changes include the installation of a new door handle and carriage lights on each side of the windows.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Period: 1900-

Areas of Significance: architecture, education

This small but elegantly symmetrical structure is a landmark in Chappell Hill and evidence of the commitment of the town's residents to the educational process. The Circulating Library Association was formed in this early educational center in 1893, with 26 charter members, for the purpose of accepting an extensive collection of books donated by William Grayson Foote, Jr. This collection contained many of the books of his father who had been a Methodist minister and professor of mathematics at Soule University.

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The Library Association, which kept the collection in various locations throughout the years, was once housed in a one-story clapboard structure on the west side of Main Street north of Lesser's Store. The land on which the present library building was constructed was deeded in 1911 to the three directors of the Circulating Library Association, Mrs. Fannie A. Campbell, Mrs. Joe E. Routt, and Miss Nannie Adams. After 36 years of operation, the Library was closed in 1929, after which the building fell into disrepair. In 1964, the same year the Chappell Hill Historical Society was founded, descendants and friends of members of the long-inactive Library Association united for the purpose of restoring and preserving the Chappell Hill Library Building. Currently, each member of the Chappell Hill Historical Society possesses a key to the library. Shelves presently contain over 2500 volumes, ranging from rare books to histories, children's novels, and dramatic works. Throughout the years more books have been added through memorials, donations and purchases.

Architecturally, the library building is a rare example of a village library in Texas. Likewise, no similar small Colonial Revival architectural form for this purpose remains in the county. It is significant that such a small town known statewide as a prominent educational center, would choose to construct such a building for its public library.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Washington County Deed Records, Brenham, Texas.

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS: Originally situated to the east of Town Hall on College Street (now Cedar Street); currently set back from street in residential area; new shrubbery planted; new sidewalk constructed.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

(Part of Lot No. 4) Beginning at a stake in College Street (Cedar Street) and 40 feet east of the intersection of said College and Ravine Streets, then east with College Street 50 feet to corner; then north $1/2^{\circ}$ west 100 feet to corner of Town Hall Lot; then with the eastern line of same south $1/2^{\circ}$ east 100 feet to the beginning corner containing an area of 5000 square feet of land.

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Chappell Hill Multiple Resource Area
State Washington County, Texas

Cover account.

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Main Street Historic District | Substantive Review | Keeper | <i>Linda McClelland 5/15/85</i> |
| | | | Attest | |
| 2. | Applewhite, Isaac, House | Entered in the National Register | Keeper | <i>Shelene Byers 2/20/85</i> |
| | | | Attest | |
| 3. | Chappell Hill Circulating Library | Entered in the National Register | Keeper | <i>Shelene Byers 2/20/85</i> |
| | | | Attest | |
| 4. | Chappell Hill Methodist Episcopal Church | Entered in the National Register | Keeper | <i>Shelene Byers 2/20/85</i> |
| | | | Attest | |
| 5. | Chappell Hill Public School and Chappell Hill Female College Bell | Substantive Review | Keeper | <i>Linda McClelland 2/20/85</i> |
| | | | Attest | |
| 6. | Felder, E. King, House | Entered in the National Register | Keeper | <i>Shelene Byers 2/20/85</i> |
| | | | Attest | |
| 7. | Rogers, William S., House | Entered in the National Register | Keeper | <i>Shelene Byers 2/20/85</i> |
| | | | Attest | |
| 8. | Routt, J.R., House | Entered in the National Register | Keeper | <i>Shelene Byers 2/20/85</i> |
| | | | Attest | |
| 9. | Smith, John Sterling, Jr. House | Entered in the National Register | Keeper | <i>Shelene Byers 2/20/85</i> |
| | | | Attest | |
| 10. | | | Keeper | |
| | | | Attest | |

85000343

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEETChappell Hill Circulating Library (Chappell
Hill MRA)
Washington County
TEXASWorking No. JAN 14 1985Fed. Reg. Date: 2.4.86Date Due: 2/14/85 - 2/28/85Action: ☒ ACCEPT 2-20-85☐ RETURN☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

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

Entered in the
National RegisterSubstantive 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 Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

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: _____



CHAPPELL HILL
Circulating Library
Org. 1898 Bldg Erected 1911
Closed 1929 ★ Restored 1964

Historic Resources of Chappell Hill
Chappell Hill, Washington County, Texas

#45 Chappell Hill Circulating Library
Cedar Street

Photo by William Schaer, May 1984, neg on file
at Texas Historical Commission

Southeast elevation, camera facing northwest

Photo 16 of 58

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000834