

938

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



1. NAME OF PROPERTY

HISTORIC NAME: Potter County Courthouse and Library
OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER: N/A

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 501 South Taylor Street

CITY OR TOWN: Amarillo

VICINITY: N/A

NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A

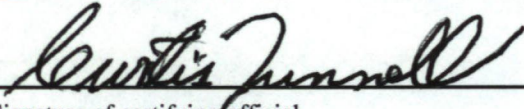
STATE: Texas CODE: TX

COUNTY: Potter

CODE: 375 ZIP CODE: 79101

3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination
request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
x meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally
 statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official

2-1-96
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

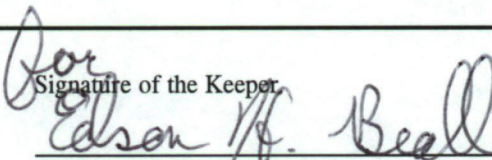
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other (explain) :


Signature of the Keeper
Date of Action 5/22/96
Entered in the
National Register

5. CLASSIFICATION

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY: public-local

CATEGORY OF PROPERTY: building

NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING
	2	0 BUILDINGS
	0	0 SITES
	0	0 STRUCTURES
	0	3 OBJECTS
	2	3 TOTAL

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER: 0

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING: N/A

6. FUNCTION OR USE

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS: GOVERNMENT/courthouse; EDUCATION/library

CURRENT FUNCTIONS: GOVERNMENT/courthouse; GOVERNMENT/government office

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: Art Deco; Prairie School

MATERIALS:	FOUNDATION	CONCRETE
	WALLS	TERRA COTTA; BRICK
	ROOF	ASPHALT
	OTHER	GLASS; CONCRETE; METAL

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheets 7-5 through 7-6)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 5

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Built between 1930 and 1932 at a cost of \$315,000, the Art Deco style Potter County Courthouse rises eight stories above the courthouse square in downtown Amarillo. Regionally prominent architect W.C. Townes designed the terra cotta clad building in a stepped configuration more typical of urban skyscrapers during the period. The rectangular building originally housed government offices, court rooms and the county jail facilities. Stylized portrayals of regional motifs such as cattle and cactus grace its main entries and the apex of its tower. This stylized ornamentation complements the simple geometric detailing Townes employed in his earlier design for the Potter County Library, built on the same courthouse block in 1922. Rising above a high basement, this 1-story buff brick building features stylistic references to the Prairie School movement. Prominent as the visual symbols of county government in Amarillo, these buildings retain a high degree of their historic integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

The Potter County Courthouse visually dominates the courthouse square from its position at the eastern edge of Block 60 in downtown Amarillo. An extensive lawn dotted with mature elm and juniper trees occupies 210 feet between Taylor Street and the primary (west) facade (see Figure 17). The rear (east) entrance provides direct access to Fillmore Street, while secondary entrances on the north and south elevations lead to parking lots. At the southwest corner of the grounds, the Potter County Library building faces Taylor Street. Subordinate objects on the property include a red granite obelisk at the northwest corner of the block, an official Texas Historical Marker adjacent to the primary entrance (see Photo 4) and a tank from Desert Storm on the southeast lawn (see Photo 5).

Symmetrical in composition and massing, this courthouse features four similarly detailed elevations. It takes the form of a diminutive skyscraper, with volumetric blocks stepping back as they rise to a central tower. Transverse wings of four and five stories flank the central tower, creating an H-plan configuration with overall dimensions of 140' x 80'. The reinforced concrete frame features an exterior veneer of cast-stone. A tripartite arcaded loggia marks the primary entrance on the west facade. Fenestration includes aluminum doors and operable steel casement windows. Uninterrupted piers and stepped massing emphasize the building's vertical qualities. Ornamental detailing takes the form of bas relief panels above the entry and at the apex of the central tower. These panels portray figures symbolic of the local history and environment. Those above the primary entrance depict flowering cactus, while Native Americans wrapped in blankets, pioneers carrying rifles, and local vegetation and wildlife grace the apex of the tower (see Photos 8-10). A single ply membrane roof covers the building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Section 7 Page 6

The interior of the arcaded entry incorporates a Texas longhorn steer medallion cast from aluminum. Elongated light fixtures hang over the entrance. Original doors and hardware remain throughout the building. Some interior spaces survive, as does most of the original marble wainscoting. Two courtrooms on the fourth floor are intact, including one restored as a courtroom for visiting judges.

Facing west from the southwest corner of the same block, the 1922 Potter County Library building incorporates a single story above a raised basement (see Photos 1-3). Local architects J. Roy Smith and W.C. Townes designed the buff brick building with simple geometric detailing popularized by the Prairie School movement combined with an austere classicism popular in the 1920s. An expansive entrance with an angular stairway provides the focal point of the symmetrical primary (west) facade. Flanking banks of double-hung windows feature transoms with decorative mullions. A corbeled brick belt course and a cast stone cornice provide a note of austere classicism to the composition. Other cast-stone detailing includes window sills and stylized hood moldings, as well as coping for the stepped parapet. This parapet hides a flat asphalt roof. Similar detailing graces the sides and rear of the building, although prominent chimneys provide the focal point for each of the side elevations. Arched entries cut into the mass of the fireplaces to provide access to the basement on these elevations.

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

- ☒ **A** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH EVENTS THAT HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE BROAD PATTERNS OF OUR HISTORY.
- ☐ **B** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIVES OF PERSONS SIGNIFICANT IN OUR PAST.
- ☒ **C** PROPERTY EMBODIES THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION OR REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER, OR POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUE, OR REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE ENTITY WHOSE COMPONENTS LACK INDIVIDUAL DISTINCTION.
- ☐ **D** PROPERTY HAS YIELDED, OR IS LIKELY TO YIELD, INFORMATION IMPORTANT IN PREHISTORY OR HISTORY.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS: N/A

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Social History; Politics/Government; Architecture

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1922-1946

SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1922 1930 1932

SIGNIFICANT PERSON: N/A

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Townes, Lightfoot & Funk (courthouse architects); Lambie, Charles (courthouse builder); Smith and Townes (library architects); W.M. Rice Construction Company (library builder)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (see continuation sheets 8-7 through 8-11)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY (see continuation sheet 9-12)

PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS): N/A

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

PRIMARY LOCATION OF ADDITIONAL DATA:

- ☒ State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission*)
- ☐ Other state agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other -- Specify Repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 7

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Block 60 of the Glidden & Sanborn Addition in Amarillo historically served as the focal point of county government in this Texas Panhandle community. Increasing demands for governmental services prompted by the oil boom of the 1920s moved the Potter County Commissioner's Court to authorize construction of two new buildings on the block during this period. Regionally prominent architect W.C. Townes designed the first in 1922 to house the Potter County Library. Townes also played a significant role in the subsequent design for a new county courthouse and jail facility on the same property. Financed by a bond election in 1930 and formally dedicated in 1932, this Art Deco building stands out among numerous similar commissions throughout the Texas Panhandle and eastern New Mexico. In continuous service as county offices since their construction, these buildings represent the economic development, cultural aspirations and political history of this county seat. As a result, the property is nominated at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Politics/Government and Social History and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture.

Organized on 30 August 1887 in response to construction of the Fort Worth and Denver City rail line, Potter County initially established its seat at a site promoted by J.C. Berry and Company of Abilene, Texas. Held on 26 September 1887, the first commissioner's court session ordered construction of a temporary frame courthouse in the new community of Amarillo. They accepted a bid of \$191 submitted by the partnership of Mays, Hightower and Jackson. Within a year, however, they commissioned Martin, Bryan and Johnson to build a brick court house on the courthouse square bounded by Bowie, Travis, Fourth and Fifth streets. The building's completion in May 1889 coincided with unusually heavy rains that flooded the new community and prompted property owners to move their homes and business to higher, dryer ground. This mass relocation to the Glidden and Sanborn Addition one mile to the east fulfilled the aspirations of Henry Sanborn, a barbed wire salesman and promoter whose earlier efforts to locate the town on his land met with little success.

County law barred relocation of the courthouse within five years of its construction, so the facility in the original town site remained the seat of county government throughout this early period in Amarillo's history (McCallum: 1965). The commissioner's court nevertheless rented offices in the new town to facilitate provision of county services. Clerks carried records back and forth as needed. This awkward situation attracted the attention of the *St. Louis Democrat*, which sent a reporter to cover the story of the community that moved away from its courthouse (Crudginton: 1957).

This state of affairs prompted petitions calling for the relocation of the courthouse to the Glidden and Sanborn Addition. In 1896 the county commissioners acquiesced, purchasing a lot at Fifth and Taylor streets. They accepted the bid of C.H. Black to dismantle the old court house and rebuild it on

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 7

Potter County Courthouse and Library
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 8

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

the new site just west of Block 60, the officially designated public square in the Glidden and Sanborn Addition. Sanborn's refusal to allow so small a facility to occupy the tract resulted in Block 60 remaining vacant for another decade.

By 1903 the inadequacy of this facility led to controversial efforts to build a larger courthouse. County Judge Lon Marrs led a bitter fight to authorize a bond issue to finance construction of a new courthouse and a jail centered in Block 60. Voters approved a \$50,000 bond issue despite claims that the new buildings were too big and costly. Although Marrs ultimately lost his own bid to get reelected as a result of the controversy, the commissioner's court hired J.J. Holt to construct two native stone buildings with classical detailing. Completed in April 1906, the buildings featured horizontal bands of rusticated stone (see Figure 18). A fourth floor was added to the courthouse in 1915.

During this period Amarillo evolved as the focus of regional markets for agricultural, livestock, commercial and petroleum interests. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway network established the community as the hub of a trading area that embraced the Texas Panhandle and neighboring parts of Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico. Regional discoveries of oil and natural gas fueled a period of widespread economic expansion and rampant population growth which in turn fostered unprecedented demands for governmental services.

Among the county's responses was authorization of a new building on Block 60 to house a free library for local citizens and facilities for travelers through Amarillo. The concept for the building arose from the vision of 12 young women of the J.U.G. (Just Us Girls) club. In 1902 the club decided to devote themselves to library work under the direction of Mrs. J.H. Willis, rather than pursue strictly social goals. Willis and her husband donated a lot and secured a house to be relocated onto the lot as a free public library. The women opened the library with donated books and funds raised through bazaars, candy sales, and membership fees of \$1.50. By 1907 other women's clubs were assisting operation of the library, which quickly outgrew the initial facilities. Local businessmen donated funds to cover rent in a series of locales including rooms over the old post office, a hall over the fire station, and finally rooms at the city hall. The women's clubs initially paid the salary of Elizabeth Doris, the first librarian, until the Board of City Development assumed the responsibility. In 1915 the library board unsuccessfully sought a \$40,000 Carnegie grant to sustain the establishment when city officials balked at raising taxes to support the library.

Determined that the library should be a public institution despite these setbacks, the library board turned to the county for support. In response, the commissioner's court authorized establishment of a county library in July 1921, commissioning local architects J. Roy Smith and W.C. Townes to design the building. Established after the Dallam County Library (April 1920), the Cooke County Free Library

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 9

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

(July 1920), and the Harris County Free Library (May 1921) as the fourth county library in Texas, the Potter County Library opened on 22 June 1922 as the only such facility with its own building (*Amarillo Daily News*, 11 May 1924).

At the behest of Judge Ray C. Johnson, Townes incorporated public lounge facilities into the basement of the library building. Judge Johnson publicly called attention to the need for a facility allowing women and small children to refresh themselves while downtown (*Amarillo Daily News*, 17 September 1921). With support from the Potter County Federation of Women's Clubs, plans emerged to accommodate shoppers and tourists at the public library building. Mrs. Samuel Worth, described as a good Christian woman, served as matron at the opening of these public lounge facilities in July 1922 (*Amarillo Daily News*, 1 July 1922). Possessing a wide knowledge of the city, Worth also gave directions to tourists and rendered First Aid assistance. Her realm included an assembly hall, a living room, a lunch room and a resting room with beds for napping babies and women. Anna Bauer, county home demonstrator, also maintained an office in the basement to assist women with homemaking advice.

Within a few short years, the pace of economic expansion in the region again prompted discussion of the need for new county facilities to handle the increased demand for governmental services. Large oil strikes in 1925 fostered a frenzied period of economic expansion in the region, with dozens of oil companies establishing their headquarters in Amarillo. During the first quarter of 1926 alone almost 400 building permits were issued to accommodate the demand for offices, residences and services required by business travelers, oil workers, and others pouring into the community. While Amarillo's tallest building prior to this period rose only four stories, eight new skyscrapers transformed the cityscape after 1925 (see Figure 19).

In response, boosters began promoting construction of a courthouse and jail commensurate with Amarillo's new status as the metropolis of the Panhandle. Fiscal conservatives proposed remodeling the old courthouse, but county judge Sam B. Motlaw and the commissioner's court supported construction of new facilities. A successful \$420,000 bond election on 31 August 1930 enabled the commissioner's court to authorize construction of a new building to house both courthouse and jail functions. Plans called for the new building to face west from the east side of Block 60. This placement allowed courthouse operations to continue in the old buildings until completion of the new facility. Former county judge J.W. Crudginton proposed selling the west half of the block for about \$800,000 to reduce the indebtedness of the county following demolition of the old courthouse and jail buildings. "What is a courthouse square, anyway," he asked, "except a sitting ground for loafers? Did anybody ever see a courthouse square that was a beauty spot?" (*Amarillo Daily News*, 30 January 1930). County commissioners overrode this approach, however, approving plans to establish a park setting on the western half of the block. This option also protected the county's recent investment in the Potter County Library building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 10 Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Proponents of the new construction project portrayed it as a way to ameliorate the effects of the Depression. County commissioners, for example, structured contracts for the project to ensure employment of local workers and provision of supplies by Amarillo firms. The commissioner's court hired the local architectural firm of Townes, Lightfoot and Funk to design the new facility. In a similar move, they awarded Amarillo builder Charles S. Lambie (1880-1966) both the contract to raze the old buildings and the contract to construct the new courthouse at a cost of \$315,000. They stipulated that he hire only local laborers at a salary of 40 cents an hour. A front page newspaper story reported that more than 500 laborers, all heads of families and residents of the county, applied for work on the project. County residence for one year was required before a job application was accepted (*Amarillo Globe*, 18 December 1930). Local firms were awarded all bids for the project, with the exception of specialty equipment provided by the Busby Electric Company of Dallas (electrical wiring), the Southern Prison Company of San Antonio (jail equipment), Otis Elevator and Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. Page Brothers of Austin, well known for their courthouse and jail projects throughout the state, served as consulting architects jail equipment installation for the new facility.

His previous work on the Potter County Library made William C. Townes (1883-1961) the logical choice to head up the new courthouse project. Born in Haskell, Texas, Townes arrived in Amarillo as a carpenter in 1905. He studied at home for his architectural degree, finding work with the Santa Fe Railway during World War I. He initially partnered with J. Roy Smith in the architectural firm of Smith & Townes between 1920 and 1924. By 1927 he formed the partnership of Townes, Lightfoot & Funk. The successor firm of Townes & Funk dissolved upon the death of Rabey Funk in 1939 and Townes practiced solo for the rest of his life. In addition to Potter County's courthouse, Townes designed six more courthouses still in use in Briscoe, Castro, Childress, Dallam (1923; NR 1992), Hutchinson and Ward counties in Texas. He specialized in courthouses; reportedly designing a total of 27 in Texas and eastern New Mexico (Breeze: 1990). He also designed many residences in Amarillo including the the Jons-Danner House (with W.F. Janzen; 1907; NR 1992) and others throughout the Plemons and Mrs. M.D. Oliver-Eakle neighborhoods (NR 1992). In addition to the courthouse and library (with J. Roy Smith) commissions from the county, his institutional designs in Amarillo included the Municipal Auditorium (demolished), the Hilltop School, the Will Rogers School and the Lucerne Apartments. He also designed elementary and high schools in Canyon, Phillips, Pampa, Dimmitt, Follett and other Panhandle cities.

Support from county judge Sam B. Motlow proved instrumental to the success of Townes' design for the new courthouse. A progressive leader, Judge Motlow also campaigned for road improvement projects and the establishment of facilities for tourists. County Commissioners W.W. Lynch, Carl Hill, M.L. Parker, and C.E. Weymouth joined him in attending ground breaking ceremonies on 18 December 1930. The building was ready for occupancy on 18 January 1932, when hundreds of Potter County

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 11

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

citizens crowded into their new courthouse for public inspection tours. ROTC cadets and Shriners served as guides while the Amarillo College of Music Junior Band and the Khiva Chanters Orchestra gave concerts. The judge and commissioners occupied offices on the first floor (see Plan 14-15). Sheriff W.N. Thompson also occupied ground floor space along with the two justices of peace and the constable. A secure elevator conveyed prisoners from the sheriff's department to the jail floors in the tower. The second floor housed county records, with floors three to six providing courtroom facilities. The new courthouse also housed a jury dormitory

Functions of Potter County government remained in the buildings on Block 40 throughout the period of significance. The Potter County Library building continued to serve as county offices after its initial functions ceased. By 1940 the city assumed control of the library, initially moving the collection into the Municipal Auditorium and subsequently to the Mary Elizabeth Bivins House (1904; NR 1974) in 1955. With the decline in tourist traffic prompted by the onset of World War II basement, the basement of the library building served as a meeting facility, while the U.S. Selective Service operated out of the original library space during this period. After the war, the main floor of the library building housed the Potter County Judge's office and the Potter County Commissioner's Court. The building now contains offices for the Potter County Probation Department. Expansion of other county offices resulted in adaptation of commercial buildings across Sixth Avenue into facilities for the county tax department and a central jury room. In 1986 the commissioner's court authorized construction of a new courts building and central jury room to the east across Fillmore Street. Court orders requiring construction of a new jail building to meet current jail standards resulted in the abandonment of the jail floors and their subsequent conversion to storage facilities in May 1988. Other space for county offices was secured with the purchase of the vacant 14-story Santa Fe Building in 1995. None of these alternatives resulted in irreversible exterior changes to the historic buildings on Block 60.

The Potter County Courthouse is significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as one of the best Art Deco courthouses in Texas. It is the centerpiece of downtown Amarillo with its full block setting of grass and trees. Virtually unaltered, it is also among the best examples of the style in Amarillo. Other extant examples include the old Paramount Theater (1932) at 817 South Polk Street, converted into an office and parking building, the White & Kirk Building (1938) at 516 South Polk, insensitively altered in recent years, and the S.H. Kress Building (1932) at 700 Polk. In addition, the courthouse is eligible under Criterion A in the area of Politics/Government as the seat of county government for more than half a decade. The adjacent Potter County Library is also eligible under Criterion A in the area of Social History for its significant role as an early public library and tourism facility. It is further significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as a distinctive public building of the 1920s. Together these buildings represent the economic development, cultural aspirations and political history of this county seat throughout the early 20th century.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 12 Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: approximately 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
14 241920 3899600

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 60, Glidden & Sanborn Addition, Amarillo, Texas

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

Boundaries encompass all property historically associated with the operation of county government in the nominated buildings.

11. FORM PREPARED BY (with assistance from Bruce Jensen, THC Architectural Historian)

NAME/TITLE: Lueise Tyson

ORGANIZATION: Preservation Amarillo

DATE: January 1996/June 1996

STREET & NUMBER: 2220 South Tyler

TELEPHONE: (806)371-0728

CITY OR TOWN: Amarillo

STATE: TX **ZIP CODE:** 79109

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

CONTINUATION SHEETS

MAPS (see continuation sheet Map-13 through Map-14)

PHOTOGRAPHS (see continuation sheet Photo-20)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS (see continuation sheets Plan-15 through Plan-16 and Figure-17 through Figure-19)

PROPERTY OWNER

NAME: The Honorable Arthur Ware, County Judge, Potter County

STREET & NUMBER: 501 South Taylor, Room 102 **TELEPHONE:** (806)379-2250

CITY OR TOWN: Amarillo

STATE: TX **ZIP CODE:** 79101

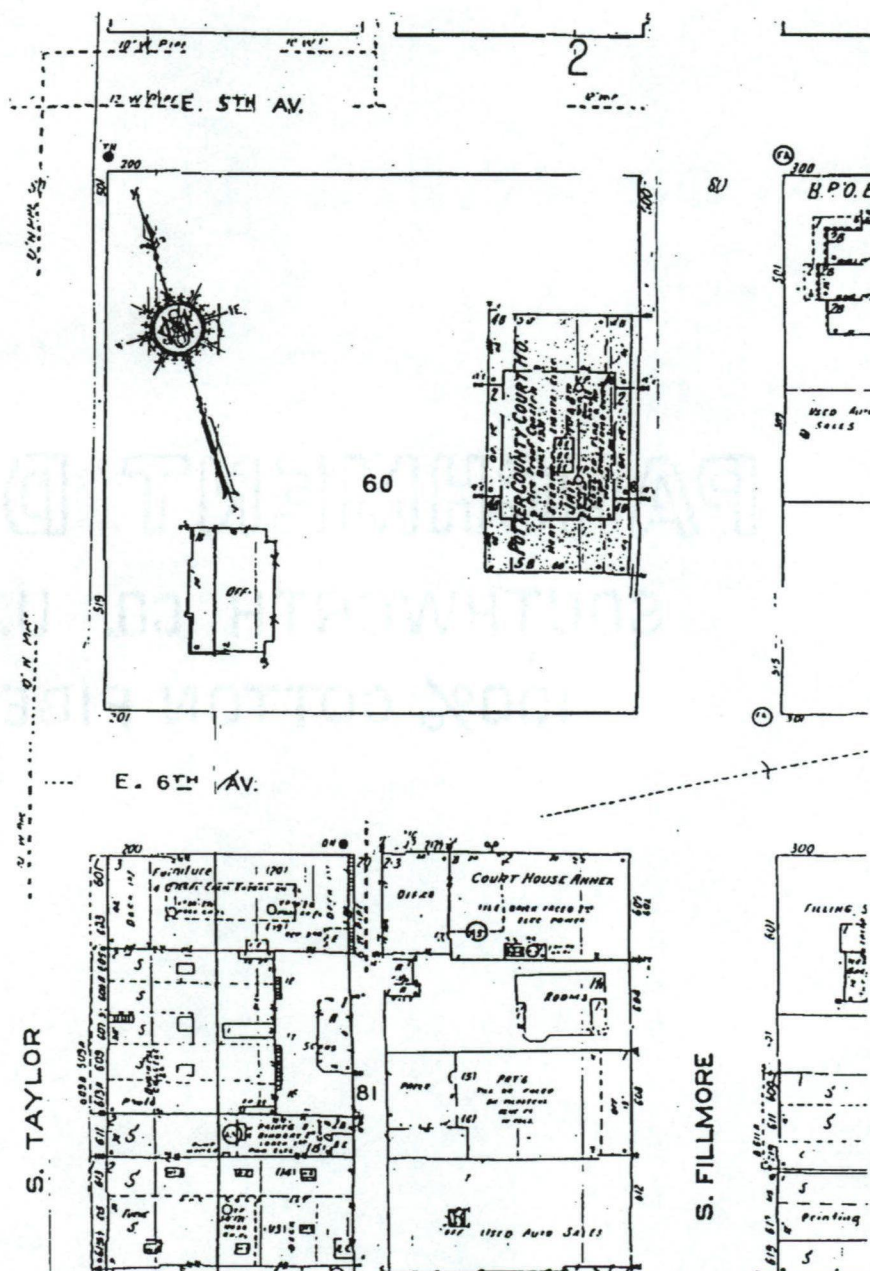
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Section MAP Page 13

Map of Block 60, Amarillo
(source: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Company, c.1931)



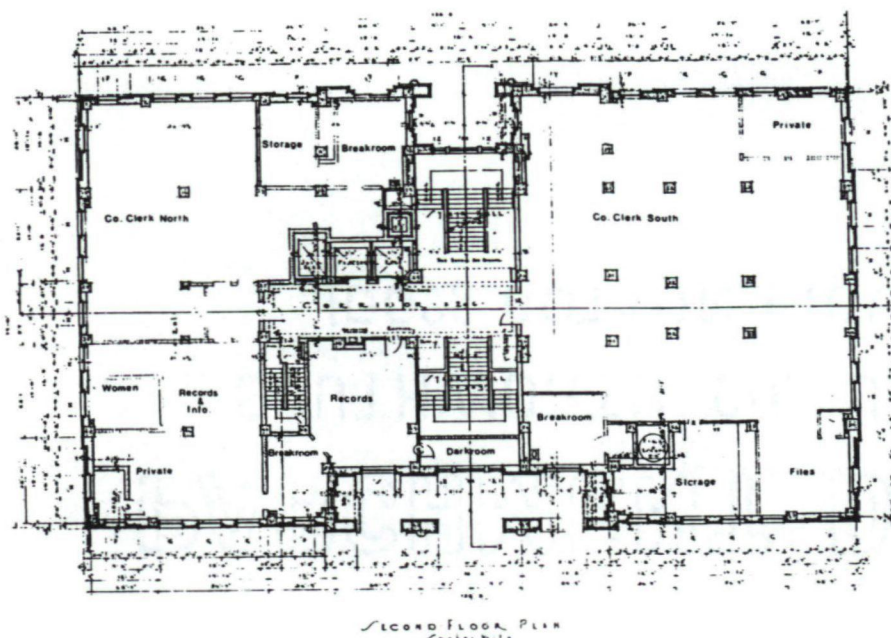
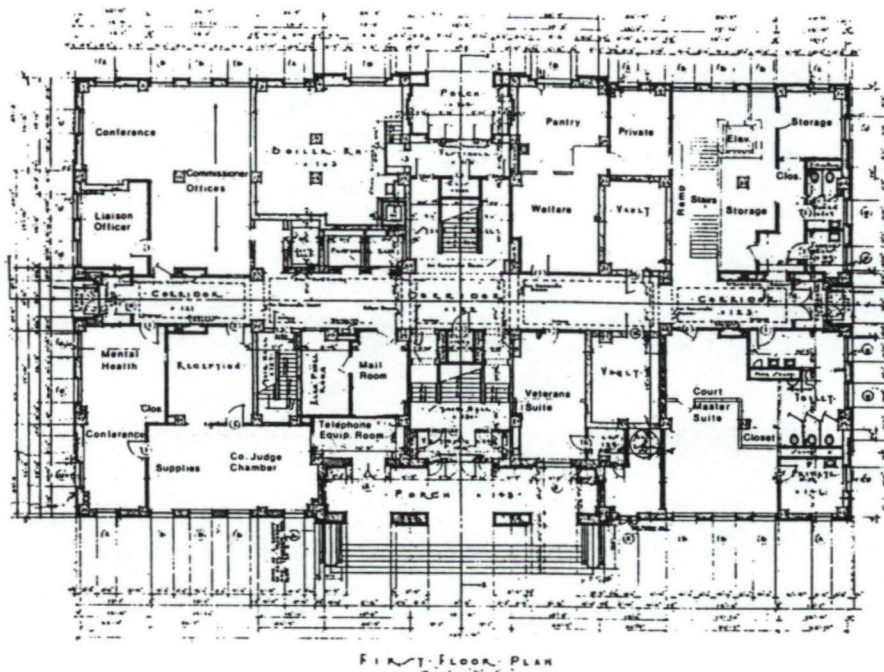
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section PLAN Page 14

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Representative floor plans of Potter County Courthouse

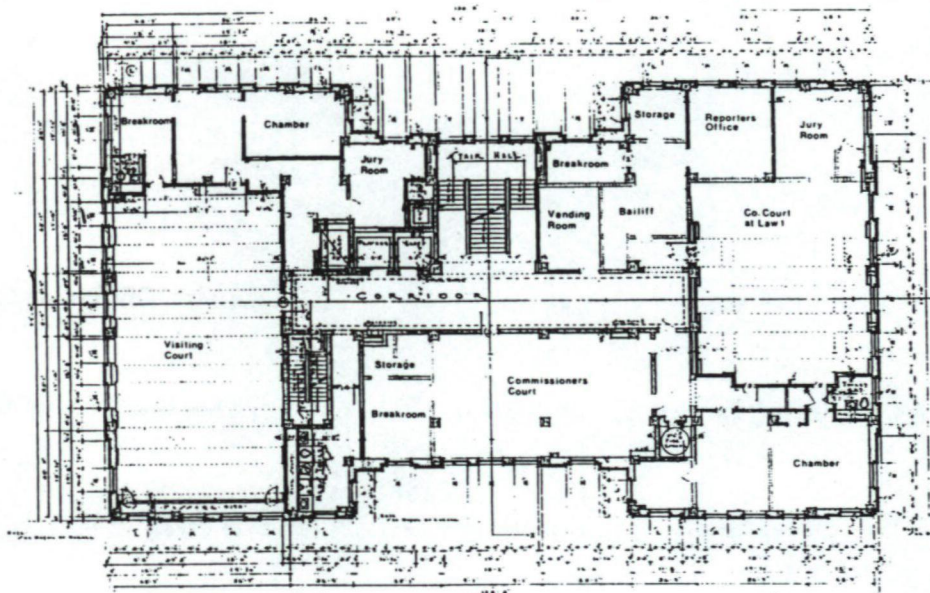


National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

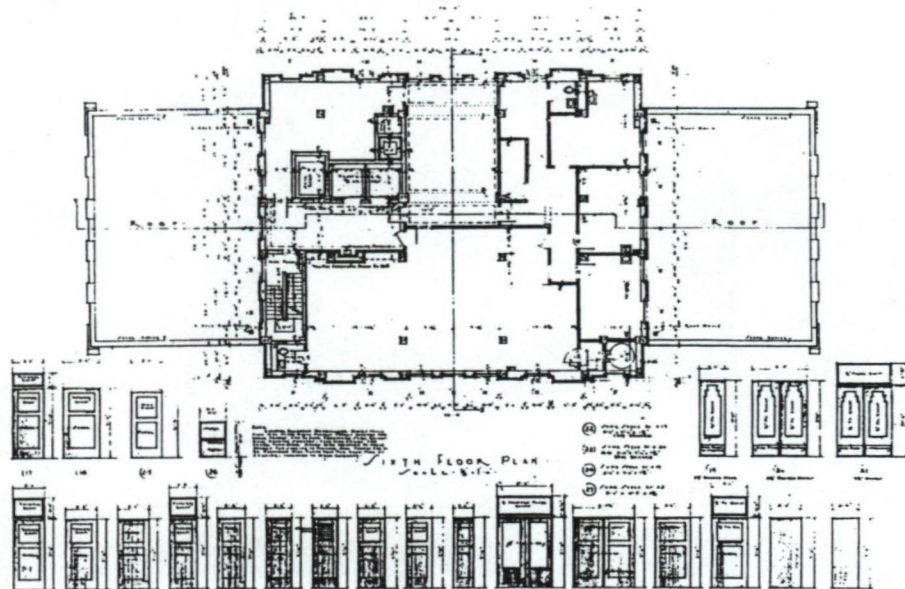
Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Section PLAN Page 15

Representative floor plans of Potter County Courthouse



FOURTH FLOOR PLAN

[illegible]

POTTER COUNTY COURT - ROB/L
TOWNE/LIGHTFOOT & FRANK, THE PIGEON DR

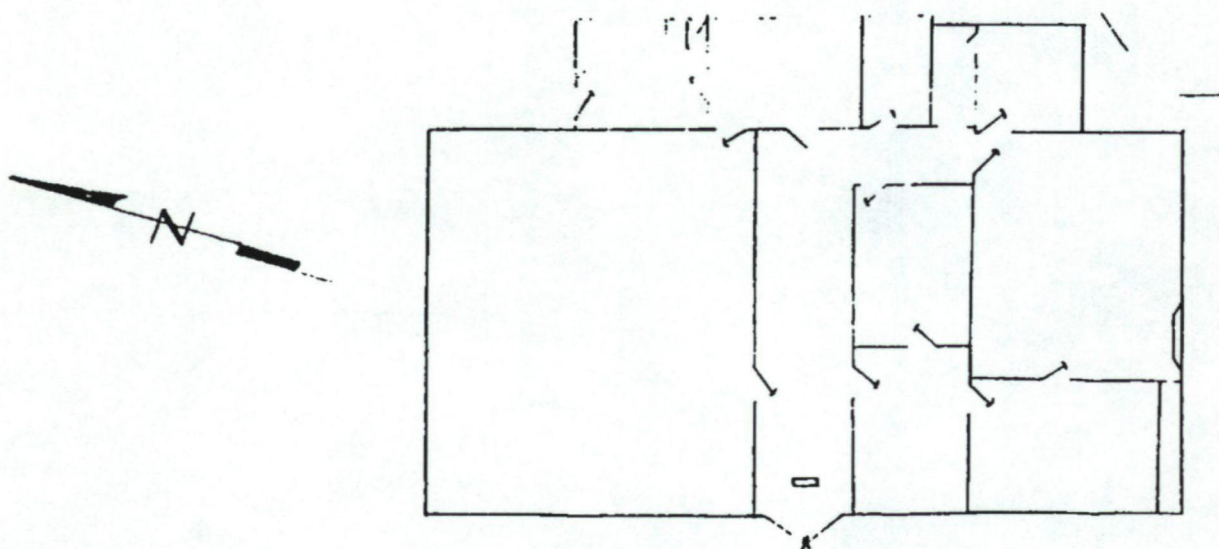
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section PLAN Page 16

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Floor plan of Potter County Library



PARCHMENT DEED
SOUTHWORTH CO. O.S.A.
100% COTTON FIBER

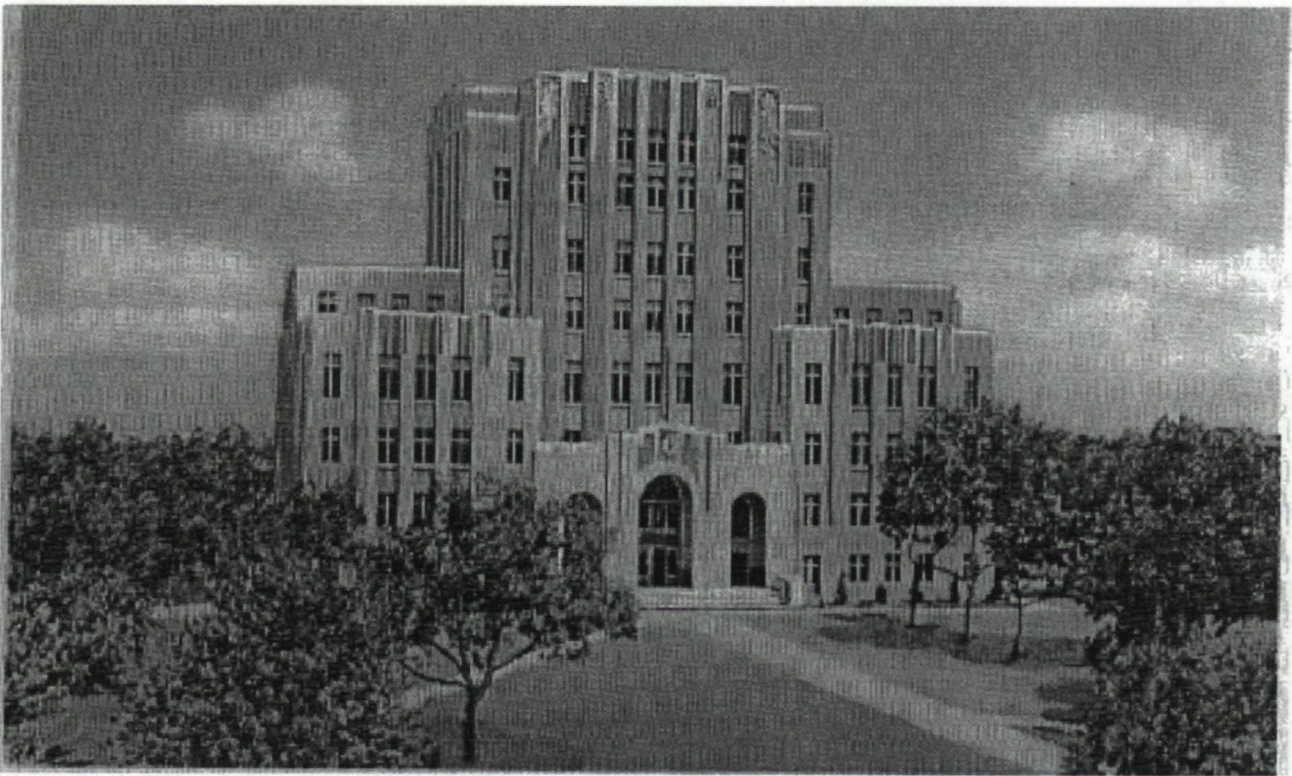
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section FIGURE Page 17

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Historic image of Potter County Courthouse, c. 1935



PARCHMENT DEED

SOUTHWORTH CO. U.S.A.

100% COTTON FIBER

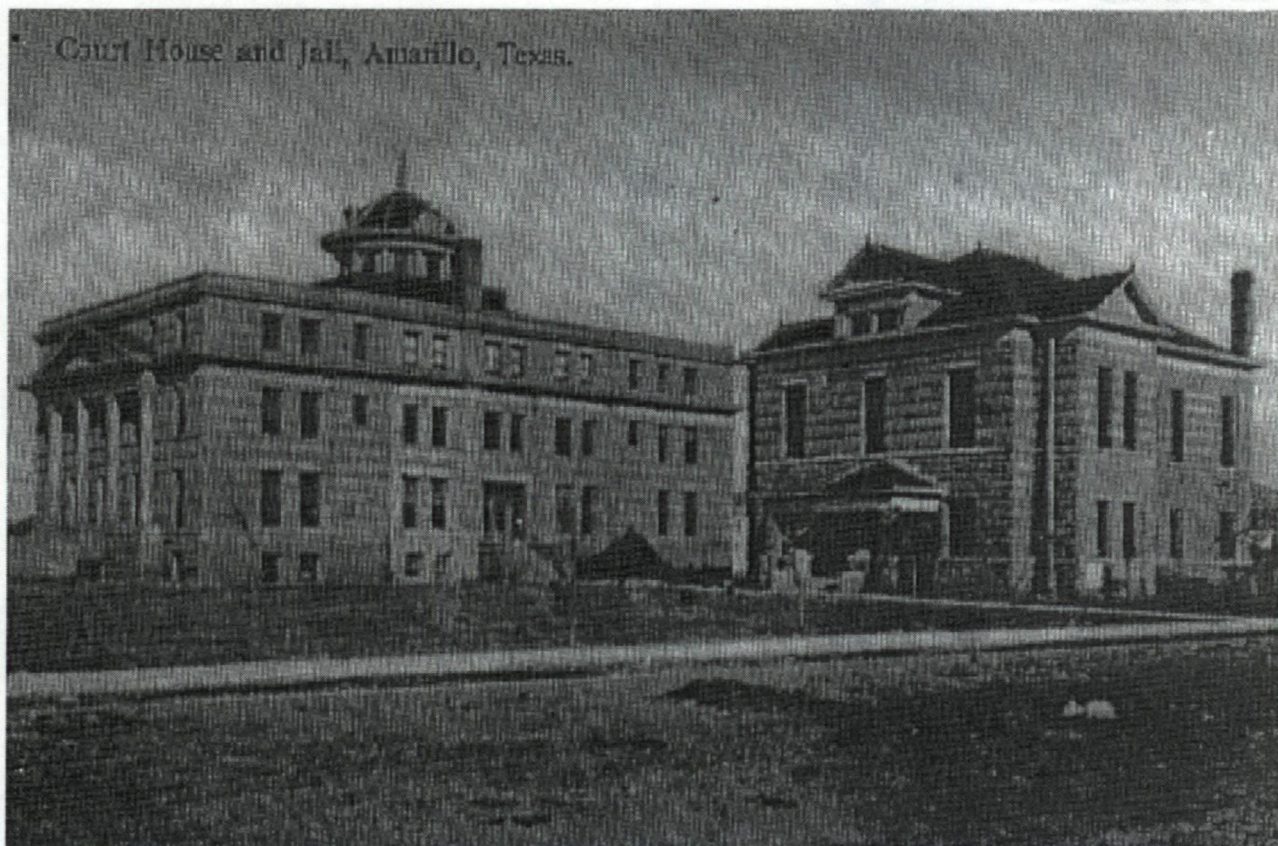
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Section FIGURE Page 18

Historic image of previous Potter County Courthouse and Jail, c.1906



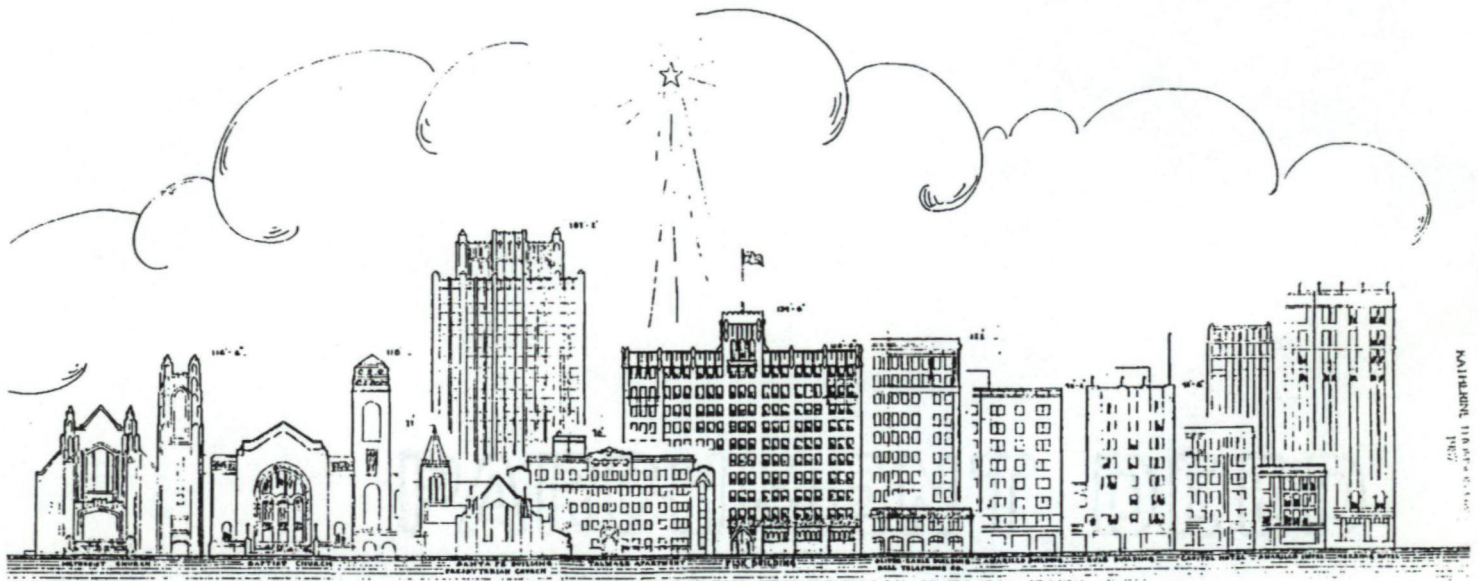
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section FIGURE Page 19

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Design for a greeting card showing Amarillo skyline, c.1935
(source: Carlander Collection, Panhandle Plains Museum, Canyon)



WE GREET YOU WITH AMARILLO'S SKYLINE
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

J. A. Carlander

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section PHOTO Page 20

Potter County Courthouse and Library
Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

PHOTO INVENTORY

POTTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND LIBRARY

501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET

AMARILLO, POTTER COUNTY, TEXAS

LUEISE TYSON - PHOTOGRAPHER (EXCEPT AS NOTED)

MARCH 1996 (EXCEPT AS NOTED)

ORIGINAL NEGATIVES ON FILE WITH THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

PHOTO 1 - Historic photo of Potter County Library with previous courthouse and jail buildings in background, c.1922, photographer unknown, oblique view of south and west elevations, camera facing northeast, original negative on file with the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum, Canyon, credit line required for reproduction

PHOTO 2 - Oblique view of north and west elevations of Potter County Library, with current Potter County Courthouse in background, camera facing southeast

PHOTO 3 - View of south elevation of Potter County Library, camera facing north

PHOTO 4 - View of principal (west) facade of Potter County Courthouse, camera facing east

PHOTO 5 - View of south elevation of Potter County Courthouse, camera facing north

PHOTO 6 - Oblique view of south and east elevations of Potter County Courthouse, camera facing northwest

PHOTO 7 - View of north elevation of Potter County Courthouse, camera facing northwest

PHOTO 8 - Detail of primary entrance on principal facade, camera facing east

PHOTO 9 - Detail of parapet of principal facade, camera facing east

PHOTO 10 - Detail of parapet of principal facade, camera facing east

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Potter County Courthouse and Library

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Potter

DATE RECEIVED: 7/22/96 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/06/96
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/22/96 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/05/96
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96000938

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 8.22.96 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



POTTER CO. LIBRARY
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 1 of 10



POTTER CO. COURTHOUSE & LIBRARY
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 2 of 10



POTTER CO. LIBRARY
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 3 of 10



POTTER CO. COURTHOUSE
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 4 of 10



POTTER CO. COURTHOUSE
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 5 of 10



POTTER CO. COURTHOUSE
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 6 of 10



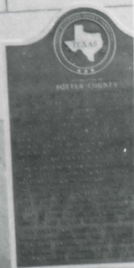
POTTER CO. COURTHOUSE
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO, TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 7 of 10



THEIR
EFFORTS
WERE
TIRELESS

TO THE
EARLY SETTLERS
OF THIS COUNTY
THIS BUILDING IS
RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

THEIR
COURAGE
WAS
UNDAUNTED



POTTER CO. COURTHOUSE
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 8 of 10



POTTER CO. COURTHOUSE
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 9 of 10

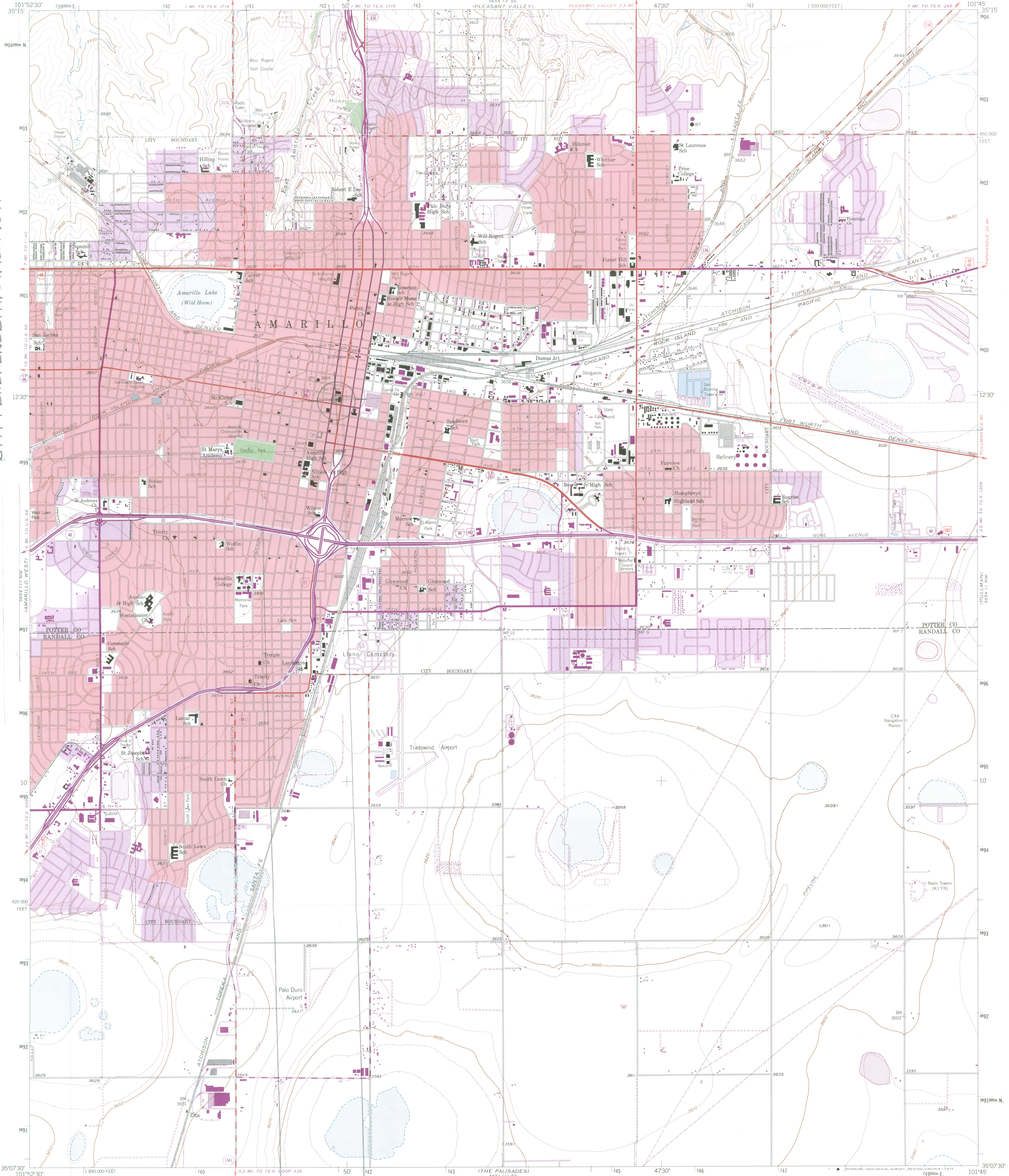


POTTER CO. COURTHOUSE
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS
PHOTOGRAPH 10 of 10

POTTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE & LIBRARY
501 SOUTH TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 14/241920/3899600

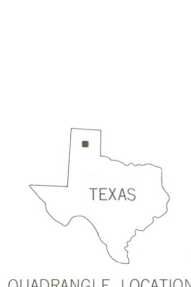
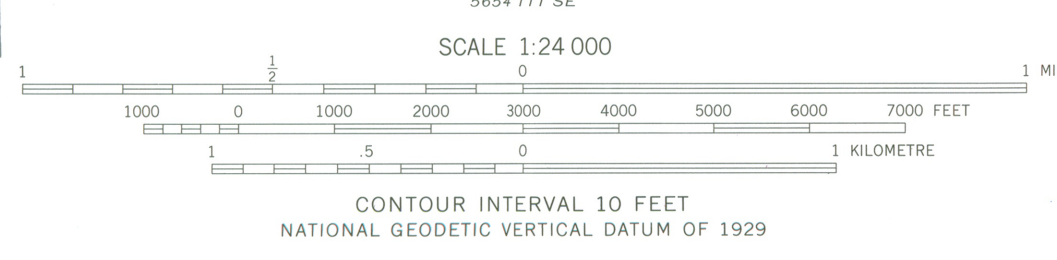
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

AMARILLO EAST QUADRANGLE
TEXAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography from aerial photographs by Kelsh plotter
and by planimeter surveys 1956. Aerial photographs taken 1953
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, north zone
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 14, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1967 and 1973. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

UTM GRID AND 1973 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

AMARILLO EAST, TEX.
N3507.5—W10145/7.5
1956
PHOTOREVISED 1967 AND 1973
AMS 5654 III NE—SERIES V882

3501-224