

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



611

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

HISTORIC NAME: L.C. Anderson Hall
OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER: N/A

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: L.W. Minor Street, building #0541
CITY OR TOWN: Prairie View
STATE: Texas CODE: TX COUNTY: Waller
NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A
VICINITY: N/A
CODE: 473 ZIP CODE: 77446-0519

3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ 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
☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally
☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

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

6/3/99

5. CLASSIFICATION

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY: public-State

CATEGORY OF PROPERTY: building

NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING
	1	0 BUILDINGS
	0	0 SITES
	0	0 STRUCTURES
	0	0 OBJECTS
	1	0 TOTAL

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

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING: Historic and Architectural Resources of Prairie View A&M University, Waller County, Texas

6. FUNCTION OR USE

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS: EDUCATION/education-related

CURRENT FUNCTIONS: EDUCATION/education-related

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Late Gothic Revival

MATERIALS:

FOUNDATION	CONCRETE
WALLS	BRICK
ROOF	ASBESTOS
OTHER	GLASS; METAL/Copper, Aluminum; STONE/Limestone

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheet 7-5 through 7-11).

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 5

L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas

DESCRIPTION

Built in 1933 as a residence hall, this 3-story brick building reflects the influences of the Collegiate Gothic and Georgian Revival styles. Cast stone detailing focused at the entrance, gabled parapets and twin cupolas provide the hallmarks of the styles. One of three surviving works on campus by Texas A&M architect and educator Frederick Ernst Giesecke, the building retains sufficient integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association to remain recognizable to the period of significance.

Located on L.W. Minor Street, L.C. Anderson Hall (bldg. #0541) was constructed in 1933 as a residence hall for 101 women (see photo 1). Anderson Hall is an example of Georgian-style architecture. The interior contains 17,076 square feet of space. A porch was added on either side of the entrance and the original multi-paned windows replaced with single-paned opaque glass. The original interior included the Matron's room and an attached office area. As you entered the building from the south, the grand parlor or sitting room was visible with exits on the far east and west ends of the building. First through third floors were single occupancy housing for female students. Each room contained the amenities of home with common bathroom facilities. Two copper covered copulas, which have oxidized over the years, project from the roof.

The building itself has several distinct characteristics such as the owl gargoyles on all four outer corners, a feature seen on several of the other buildings on campus (see 7-6 through 7-11). The building exhibits detailed masonry work. The south entrance of the building includes a three-part masonry entrance on the first floor. On each side of the arched entryway are arched window featuring pilasters topped with typical Georgian style finials. The second and third floor windows above the entryway continue the masonry theme with pilasters that extend passed the roofline. These pilasters are also topped with Georgian-style finials. The windows on the first and second floors of the cross-gabled sections on the left and right ends of the front façade, feature inlaid Spanish tile in a geometric pattern. On the terminal ends of each of these cross-gabled sections are the carved heads of owls, which symbolizes wisdom and learning. The owl motif may be found on several of the other buildings on campus designed by Giesecke.

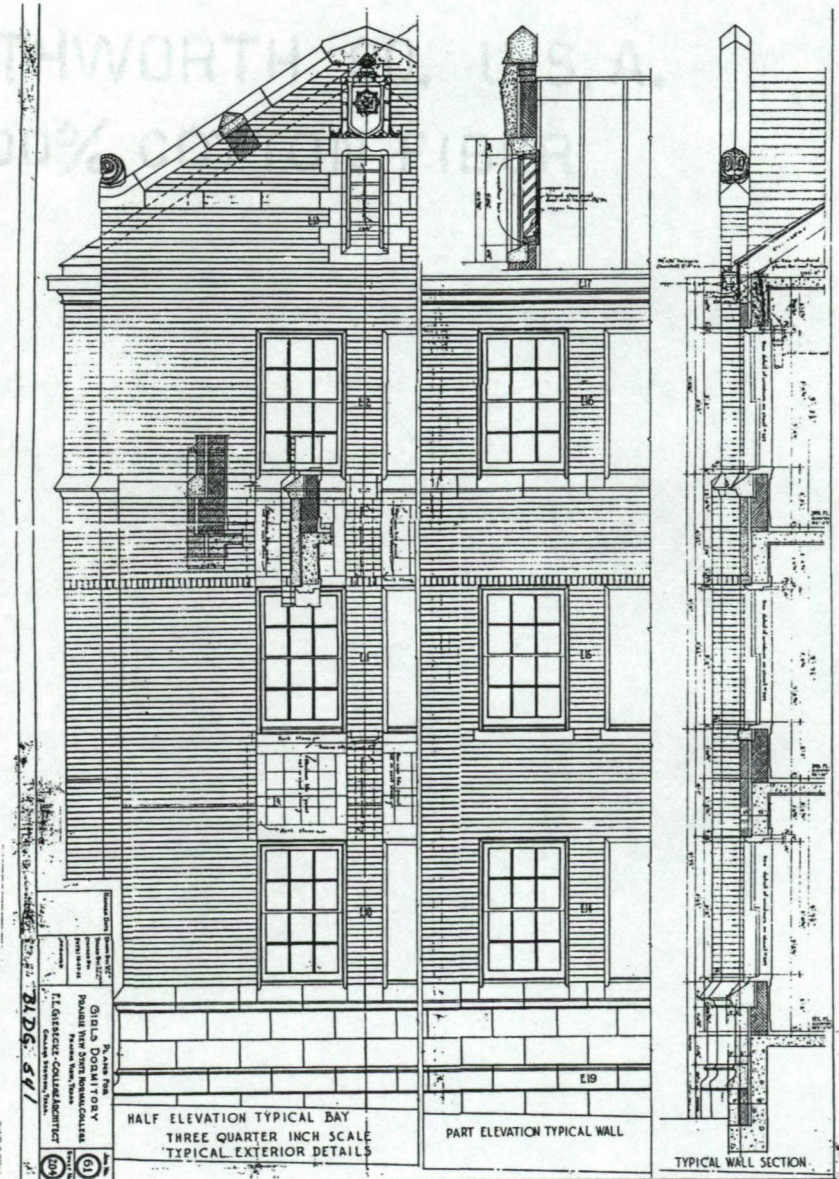
During the Renovation and Rehabilitation Project of 1975-76 Anderson Hall underwent a complete demolition of the interior, but all efforts were enforced to retain the exterior integrity of the building. Exterior masonry was cleaned and/or replaced and clear waterproofing was applied. Although the building has undergone some exterior changes to the windows and certain additions made, it still retains integrity of location, materials, feeling and materials.

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L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas

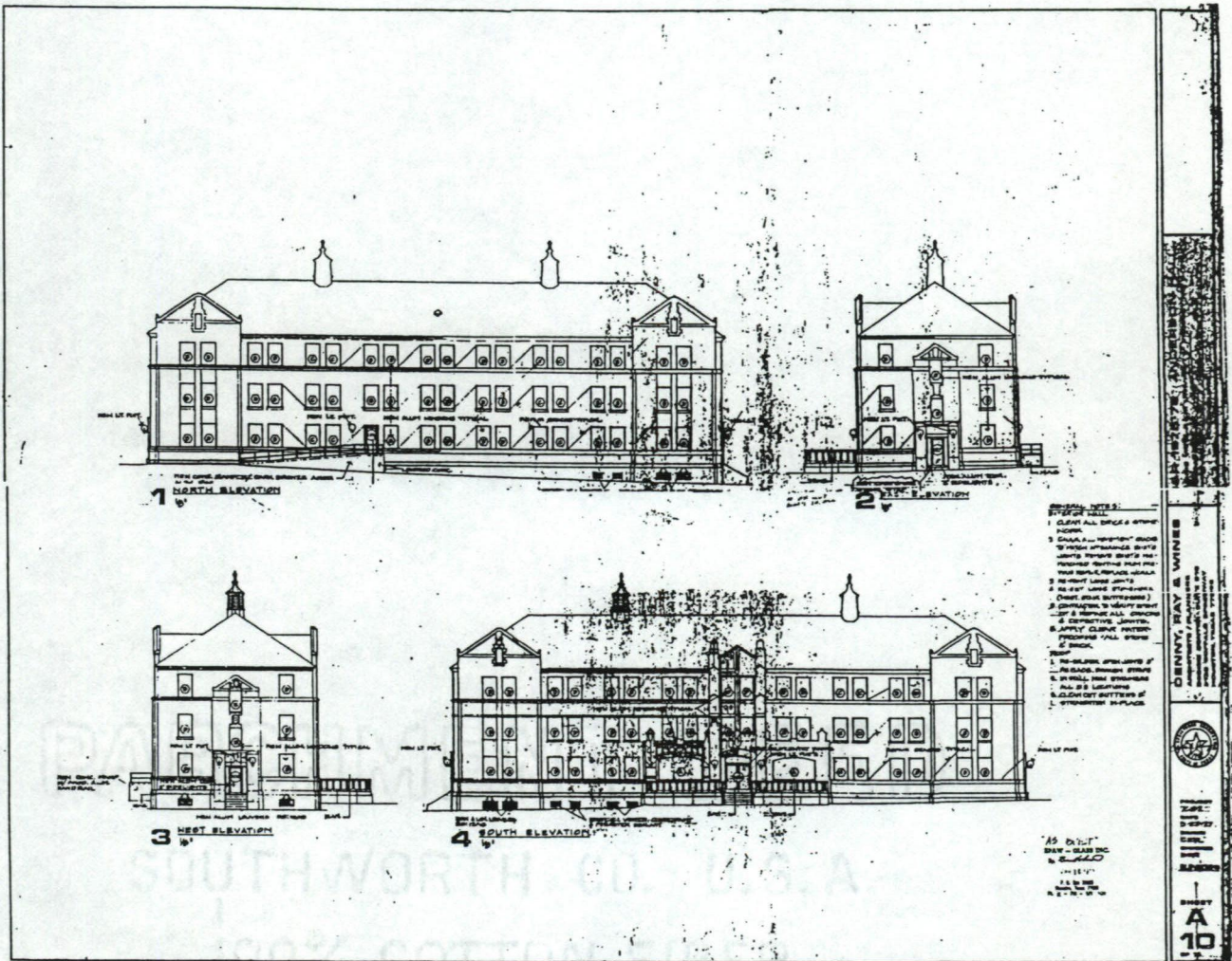


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L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas

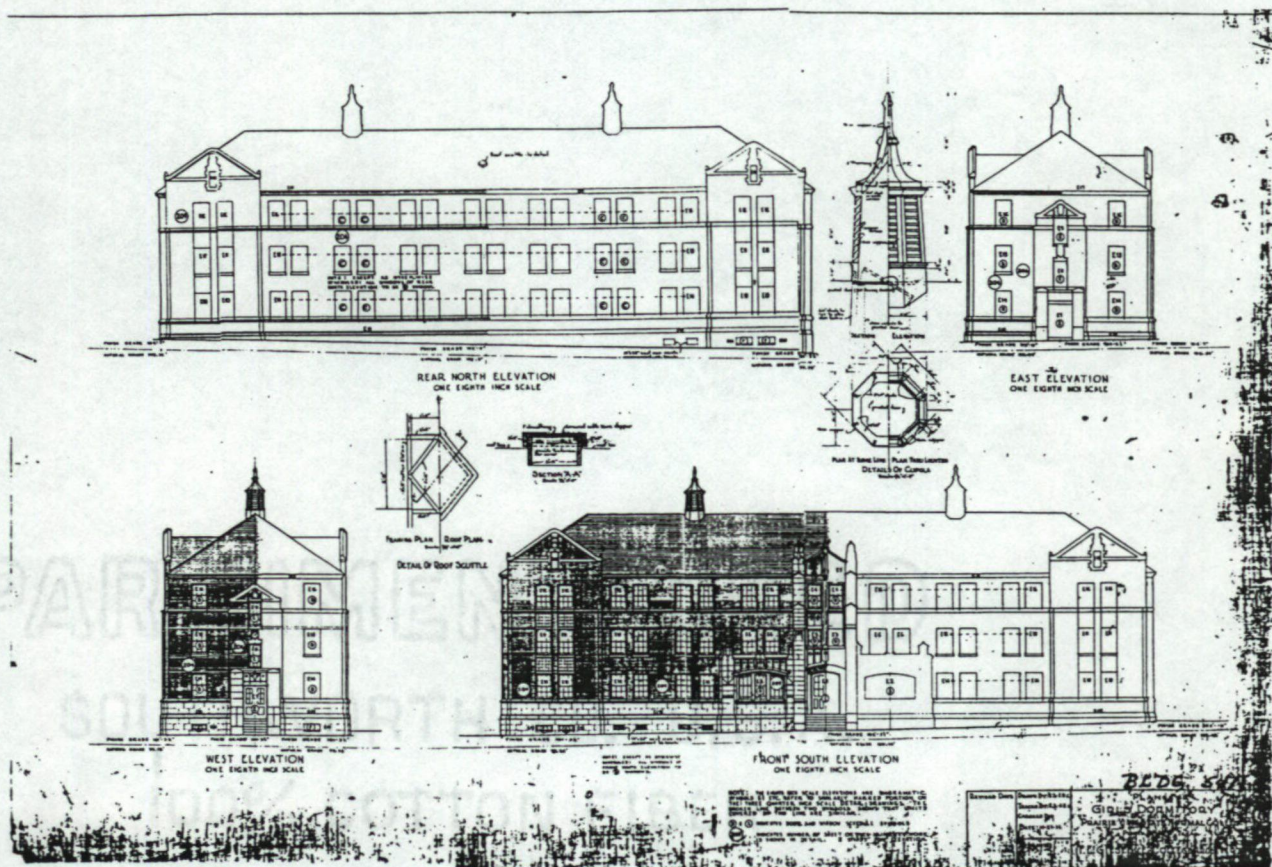


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L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas

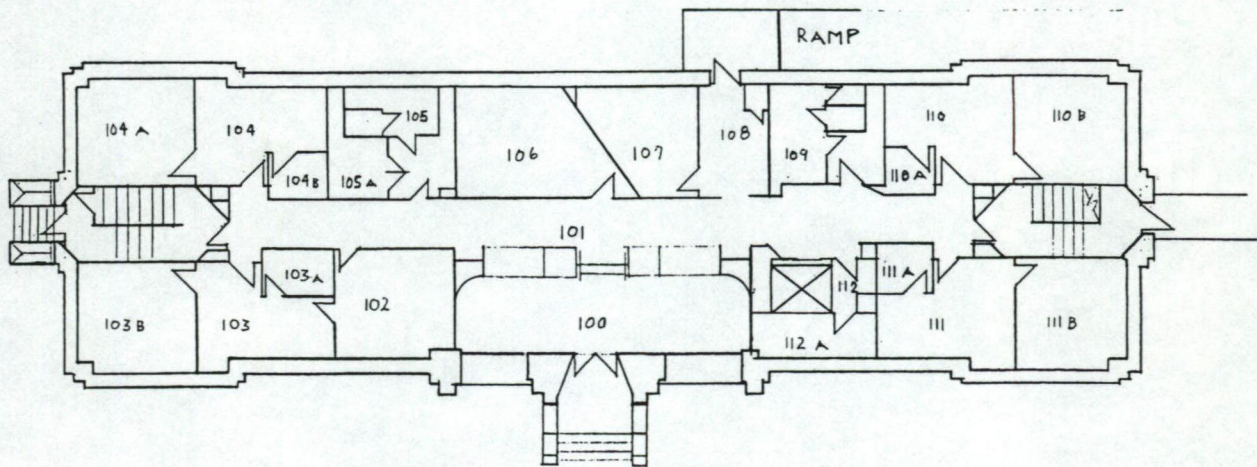


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L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas



FIRST FLOOR

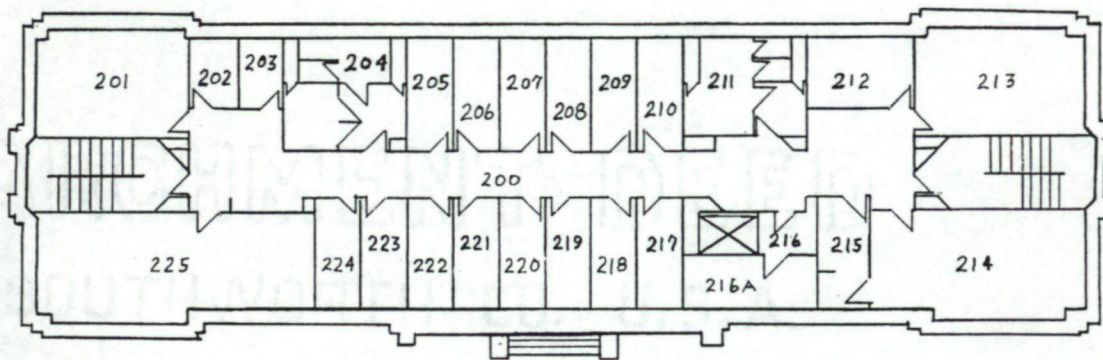


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Continuation Sheet

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L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas



SECOND FLOOR

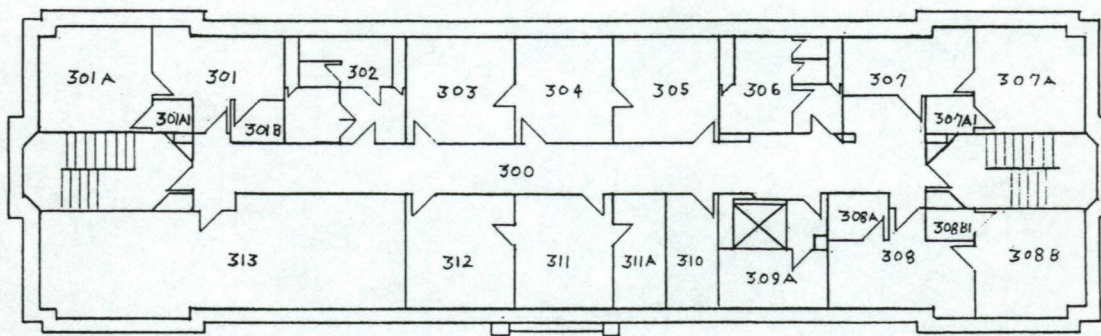


United States Department of the Interior
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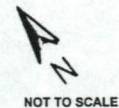
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L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas



THIRD FLOOR



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: Education; Ethnic Heritage/Black

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1933 - 1948

SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1933

SIGNIFICANT PERSON: N/A

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Giesecke, Frederick Ernst (Architect)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (see continuation sheet 8-12 through 8-13).

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY See bibliographic references of the associated historic context, *Historic and Architectural Resources of Prairie View A&M University, Waller County, Texas*.

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:

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**National Register of Historic Places
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L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Noted Texas A&M architect Frederick Giesecke designed this building in 1933 to serve as a women's dormitory. Construction of the Collegiate Gothic style building was funded with federal monies and a grant from the Rockefeller-funded General Education Board. Named in honor of the second principal of Prairie View Normal and Industrial College, L.C. Anderson, the building represents the expansion of the student body and physical plant wrought by changes in the curriculum during the early 1930s. The dormitory fits into the historic context "Historic and Architectural Resources of Prairie View A&M University" and is therefore nominated under Criteria A in the areas of Education and Ethnic Heritage at the state level of significance.

The Griffenhagen Report

Prairie View, although financed separately, was managed by a board of Texas A&M staff members. However the management came under scrutiny in 1932. The scathing Griffenhagen Report that of that year criticized Texas A&M's management of Prairie View. The report was made to the Joint Legislative Committee on Organization and Economy and included 43 recommendations relative to the black school. One of the recommendations suggested "that dining halls and dormitories should be operated on a self-supporting basis. . ." (Dethloff 325-326) The management of L.C. Anderson Hall and other dorms and dining halls built after that year reflected the application of some of the suggestions in the report. In Anderson the girls were required to maintain the general housekeeping of the building. Hilliard Hall, the campus' dining hall built in 1939, used the vegetables grown in campus gardens, meats and poultry for animals raised on the university's farm and milk products from the schools dairy to become self-sufficient. Finding sources of financial support would be an on-going process for all present and future university principals/presidents.

L.C. Anderson Hall and the General Education Board

L.C. Anderson is one of three buildings whose construction was aided by the General Education Board (GEB). This board was established through the philanthropy of Mr. John D. Rockefeller in 1903. The mission purpose of the board was "the promotion of education within the United States of America, without distinction of race, sex, or creed." (Leavell 66) When the observation was made in 1914 that there was a great need for well trained teachers, principals, and supervisors to work in the primary and secondary black schools, the GEB initiated a program to offer substantial aid to institutions of higher learning capable of training such individuals. (99) From 1923 to 1929, the GEB supported four types of work, one of which was aid to state colleges. A total of \$179,500 was given to aid the work of state colleges in Texas between the years 1924 to 1929. (180) [Please see the historic context for a fuller discussion of the involvement of government and philanthropic organizations in the development of Prairie View,]

L.C. Anderson, Second Principal of Prairie View Normal

After the death of his brother Ernest H. Anderson in 1884, L.C. assumed the position of principal of the Prairie View Normal, a position his brother held for fourteen years. L.C., a graduate of Fisk University, was "... a strong individualist, and an able administrator and solicitor of public and private funds." (Dethloff 316) By 1886,

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L.C. Anderson Hall
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the Normal had shown “ ‘a decided improvement in attendance and in the educational qualifications of the students.”

African Americans became an “important and controversial subject” during the political turbulence during the last decade of the 19th century. “Congress, in 1890, began debate on a new Force Bill which white Southerners believed would reinstitute reconstruction. The Negro became an increasingly important and controversial subject.” (317) Anderson took advantage of the situation to create the kind of curriculum that would best suit the black population. “He used the increasing preoccupation of the white world with Booker T. Washington’s concepts of industrial training to build and improve the normal as well as vocational features of Prairie View. His efforts materialized into an industrial education course that was introduced in 1887. (317)

Anderson, a Republican, had made many political enemies by the late 1890s. He was dismissed as principal in 1896 and replaced by Edward Lavoisier Blackshear, a Democrat. After leaving Prairie View, Anderson became principal of a high school in Austin, Texas that was named for his brother Ernest. He served with “efficiency and acceptability” according to Mr. R.P. Neal. Because of failing health, L.C. Anderson resigned his position in 1929 after having served 34 years. Anderson was granted many honors both at the hands of the local citizenry of Austin, black as well as white, and the state at large. Prairie View State College honored him during the college’s Jubilee Celebration in May 1955. He was a member of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Austin, Texas. His accomplishments in educational, civic and religious field will ever stand as a monument to his memory.

Summary

L.C. Anderson Hall reflects the financial contributions of white philanthropic groups, like the GEB, to the establishment of the Prairie View campus. By the turn of the 20th century denominational philanthropies, such as the American Missionary Society and the African Methodist Episcopal Church, could no longer support the financial needs of black colleges. Historically black colleges during this time had to turn to industrial philanthropic organizations to remain financially solvent. However, financial help came with conditions. Usually, these colleges had to adjust their curriculum to reflect industrial or vocational subjects. Likewise, in order to receive funding from the state, the schools curriculum had to reflect the same types of subjects. Today the building houses the Office of Admissions, Office of Career Planning and Outreach, Office of University Development and Alumni Affairs. The building retains integrity of location, feeling, design, materials, craftsmanship, and association. It is therefore nominated under Criterion A in the areas of Education and Ethnic Heritage at a state level of significance.

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L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas

BIBLIOGRAPHY

(See bibliographic references for, *Historic and Architectural Resources of Prairie View A&M University*, Waller County, Texas)

PARCHMENT DEED
SOUTH-WORTH CO. U.S.A.
100% COTTON FIBER

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	15	212780	3332760

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheet 10-16)

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION (see continuation sheet 10-16)

11. FORM PREPARED BY (with assistance from Karen Riles, THC Historian)

NAME/TITLE: Karen Charleston, Staff Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Prairie View A&M University

DATE: 8 May 1998

STREET & NUMBER: P.O. Box 519

TELEPHONE: 409/857-3200

CITY OR TOWN: Prairie View

STATE: TX

ZIP CODE: 77446-0519

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

CONTINUATION SHEETS

MAPS (see continuation sheet Map 7-16)

PHOTOGRAPHS (see continuation sheet Photo-17)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

PROPERTY OWNER

NAME: Prairie View A&M University

STREET & NUMBER: P.O. Box 519

TELEPHONE: 409/857-3200

CITY OR TOWN: Prairie View

STATE: TX

ZIP CODE: 77446-0519

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L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is a rectangular parcel of land measuring 78.5 feet x 174.5 feet, whose northwest corner is 28.3 feet in a northwesterly direction from the northwest foundation corner of the Anderson Hall and whose southeast corner is 28.3 feet in a southeasterly direction from the southeast foundation corner of the Anderson Hall.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

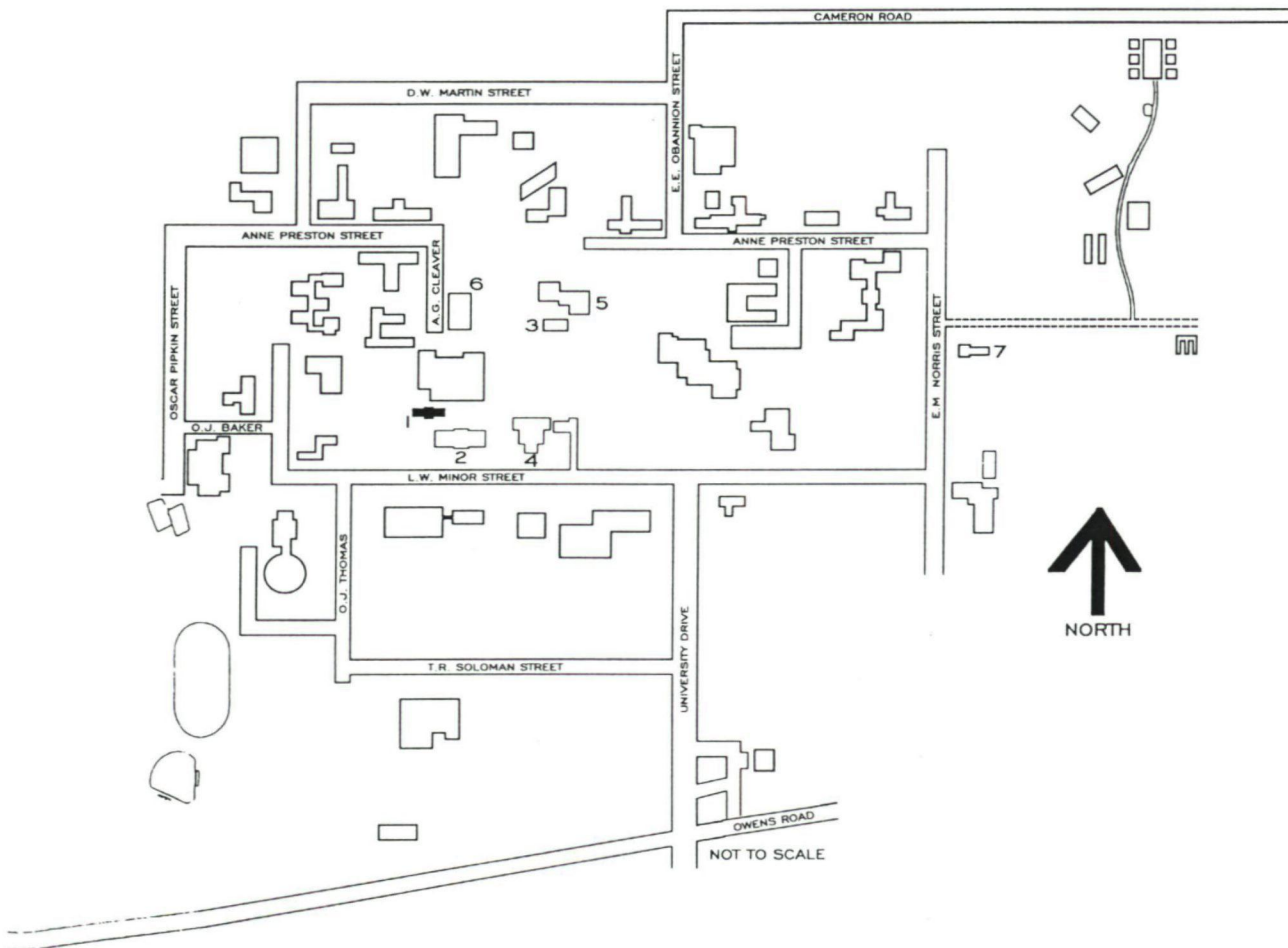
The boundaries include resources associated with the 1933 college building that retain their historic and architectural integrity.

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L. C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas



BUILDING KEY

- 1. L.C. ANDERSON HALL-#0541
- 2. ANNIE LAURIE EVANS HALL-#0544
- 3. G.R. WOOLFOLK SOCIAL & POLITICAL SCIENCE
BUILDING-#0503
- 4. W.R. BANKS LIBRARY -#0508
- 5. FRY-THOMAS POWER PLANT-#0529
- 6. HILLIARD HALL -#0537
- 7. VETERINARY HOSPITAL -#0517

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Section PHOTO Page 17

L.C. Anderson Hall
Prairie View, Waller County, Texas

PHOTO LOG

(Photo taken in 1997 by Charles Peveto, staff member of the Texas Historical Commission)

- 1) Front façade, 1998
Camera facing north

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Anderson, L.C., Hall
NAME:

MULTIPLE Praire View A&M University MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Waller

DATE RECEIVED: 4/21/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/03/99
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/19/99 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/05/99
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 99000611

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 6/3/99 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

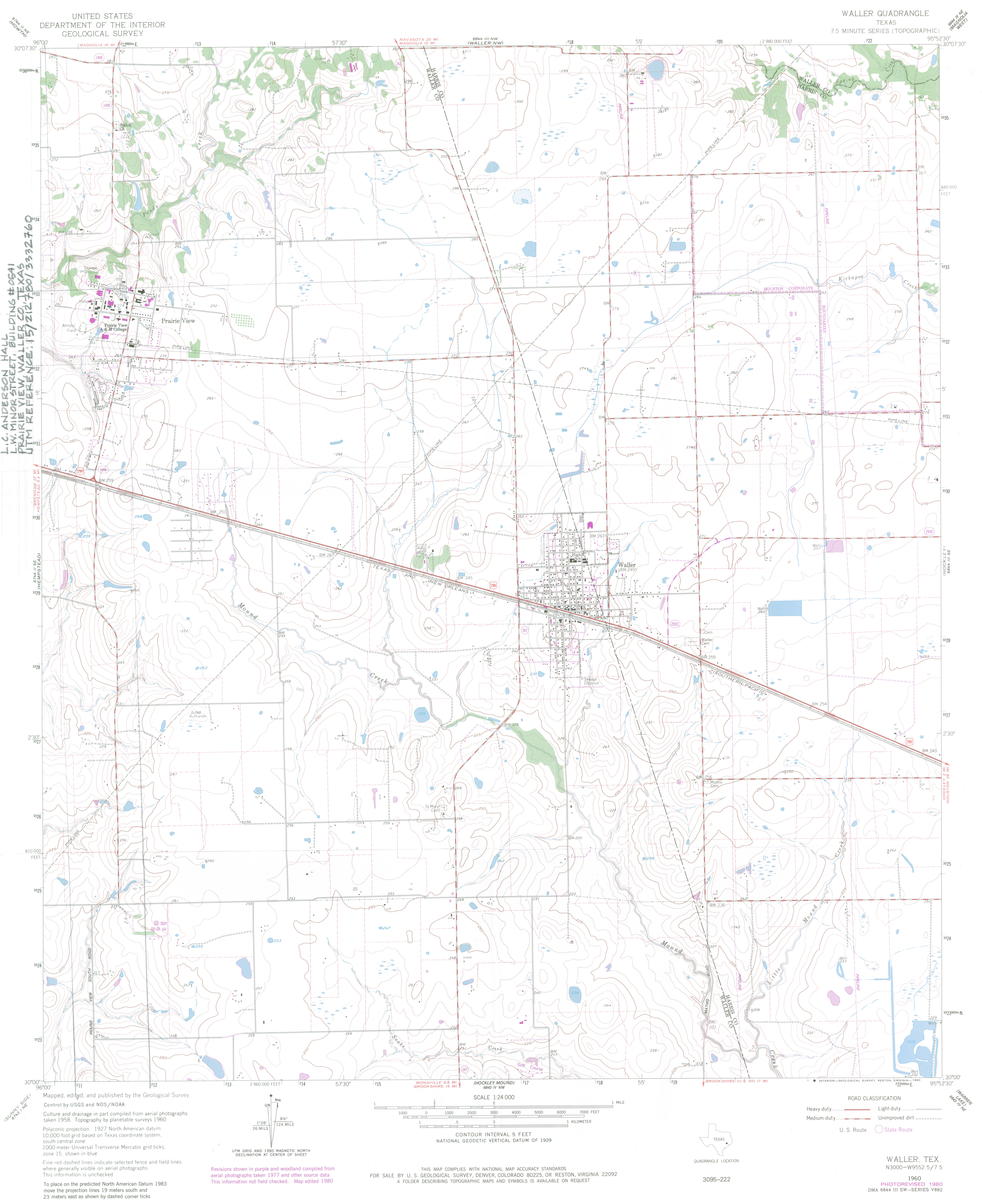
TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



L.C. ANDERSON HALL
I.W. MINOR STREET, BUILDING #0541
PRAIRIE VIEW, WALLER CO., TEXAS

PHOTOGRAPH 1 of 1



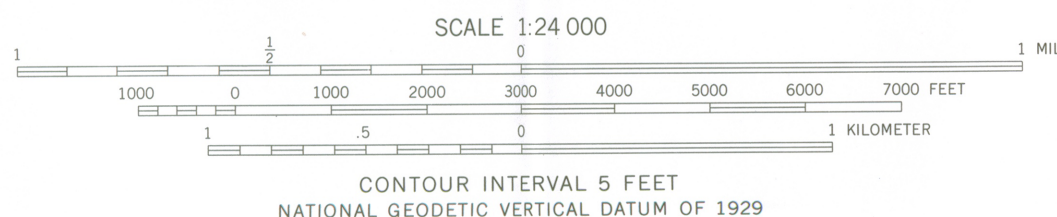
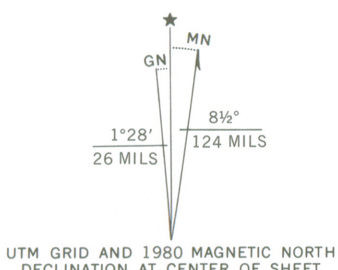
L.C. ANDERSON HALL
L.W. MINOR STREET, BUILDING #0541
PRAIRIE VIEW, WALLER CO., TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE: 15/2127801 3332760

SLURRY SIDE
6245 11 NE

WARREN
6245 11 NE

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs taken 1958. Topography by planetable surveys 1960
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, south central zone
1000 meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs
This information is unchecked
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 19 meters south and 23 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other source data
This information not field checked. Map edited 1980



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



3095-222

ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route	State Route

WALLER, TEX.
N3000-W9552 5/7.5
1960
PHOTOREVISED 1980
DMA 6844 III SW-SERIES V882