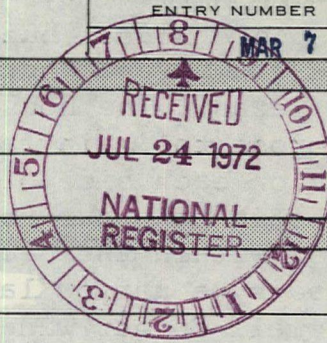


Form 10-300
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Texas	
COUNTY: Carson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
8	MAR 7 1973



1. NAME

COMMON:

Carson County Square House Museum

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Square House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

5th and Elsie streets (Highway 207)

CITY OR TOWN:

Panhandle

STATE

Texas

CODE

048

COUNTY:

Carson

CODE

065

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious			
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Carson County Historical Survey Committee

STREET AND NUMBER:

Mrs. Ralph Randel, Chairman, 400 Charles

CITY OR TOWN:

Panhandle

STATE:

Texas

CODE

048

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Carson County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Panhandle

STATE

Texas

CODE

048

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Texas State Historical Survey

DATE OF SURVEY:

1966

☐ Federal☒ State☐ County☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Texas State Historical Survey Committee

STREET AND NUMBER:

108 W. 15th Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Austin

STATE:

Texas

CODE

048

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered ☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☒ Moved ☐ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Square House, built in Panhandle in 1887-1888 is an attractive frame residence which has become a landmark of Northwest Texas. The house is a symmetrical building with a veranda across the main facade. A central doorway and a pair of windows on each side of the door open onto the porch.

The house has four rooms on the first floor with an upstairs room within the deck-on-hip roof. The upper chamber was reached by a narrow ladder-like stairs. The upper room is lit by a small dormer window with a clipped-gable roof. The flat deck-portion of the roof has a surrounding balustrade. The "widow's walk" however, is purely ornamental.

The structure is sheathed with clapboarding and has very restrained architectural detailing, including a simple box cornice surrounding the square structure.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

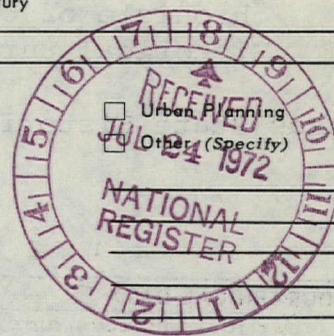
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1887-1888

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Square House Museum, although a modest building in size and architectural detail, is an important example of domestic architecture for Northwest Texas in that it represents one of the earliest frame residences (1887-1888) constructed during the period of settlement on the Staked Plains. At the time this residence was constructed (the lumber was brought from Kansas City) to house an official of the Southern Kansas Railroad, a majority of the Panhandle settlers were housed in dugouts. Consequently, this building, among the oldest extant structures in the Texas Panhandle, represents a significant milestone in the history and development of Northwest Texas.

The Square House was built as the residence of an official with the Southern Kansas Railway when terminal track was laid from Kiowa, Kansas, to Panhandle, Texas. This, the oldest house in Panhandle, was the home of several notable Panhandle pioneer families, including Judge James Christopher Paul, Judge J. L. Harrison, James B. Wilks, and Sheriff Oscar L. Thorp.

Judge James Christopher Paul and his family occupied the Square House in the early 1890s. Paul and several business partners opened the Panhandle Bank in 1888. This was the oldest bank in Northwest Texas, and from 1888 until it voluntarily closed in 1942, was highly instrumental in the economic development of the Panhandle area.

Judge J. L. Harrison and his family moved to the Square House in 1896, and lived there for several decades. Harrison was a prominent cattleman in the Panhandle area, and later, around 1900, was elected county judge.

Oscar L. Thorp bought the Square House in 1920. Thorp, originally a rancher, was elected sheriff in 1922, and served in that office for eight years during the oil boom days - a chaotic period for law enforcement.

The Square House was occupied as a private residence until 1965, when, in order to save it from destruction, the building was moved to its present site. The restored building is operated as a regional museum, and has been accredited by

(See continuation sheet #2)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Randel, Jo Stewart (Mrs. Ralph), ed. 1966. A time to purpose: a chronicle of Carson County. Panhandle: Carson County Historical Survey Committee and Pioneer Press. Vols. I & II.

Texas State Historical Survey Committee marker files.

HR
14/283660
39 13760

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"		35° 20' 44"	101° 22' 50"	
NE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				
SE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				
SW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .25 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Wayne Bell, Project Director
Gary Hume, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: Texas State Historical Survey Committee DATE: 7-5-72

STREET AND NUMBER: 108 W. 15th Street

CITY OR TOWN: Austin STATE: Texas CODE: 048

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name W. L. Lattin

Title State Liaison Officer

Date July 17, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert H. Hiley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 3/7/73

ATTEST: W. L. Lattin

Keeper of The National Register

Date 3.5.73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet) #2

STATE	
Texas	
COUNTY	
Carson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 7 1973	

(Number all entries) 8. (cont'd)
the American Association of Museums.

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, 1966.



PROPERTY CARSON CO. SQUARE HOUSE Museum STATE TEXAS

Working number

7-24-72-1141

Carson

TECH REVIEW

Photos

2

Maps

1

73001961

REVIEW

HISTORIAN

Since it's in Texas I guess we
don't care if it's been moved.

11-6-72
2-15-73
Shuel

ARCHEOLOGIST

ARCHITECT

KH
OK 2/14/73

BRANCH CHIEF

Surviving structure most
importantly associated with several
locally significant persons & events.
A good little museum too.

OK Rgt
3/5/73

EDITORIAL REVIEW

KEEPER

WJ
3/5/73

National Register write-up

Acknowledge

7-24-72

Federal Register entry

4-3-73

Send-back

Re-submit

Register no.

MAR 7 1973



NPS Number 3/7/73

Title: CARSON COUNTY SQUARE HOUSE

Loc. CARSON, TEXAS

PRINCIPLE OR EAST FACADE

①

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Texas State Historical Survey Committee
Preservation & Research Department
Box 12276, Capitol Station,
Austin, Texas 78711

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

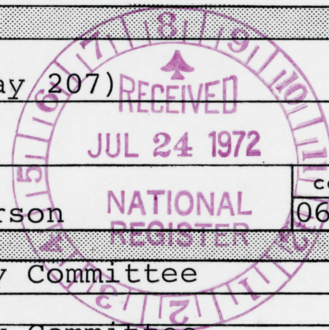
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Texas	
COUNTY Carson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER MAR 2 1973	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:		Carson County Square House	
AND/OR HISTORIC:		Square House	
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
5th and Elsie streets (Highway 207)			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Panhandle			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	048	Carson	065
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		Texas State Historical Survey Committee	
DATE OF PHOTO:		February, 1972	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Texas State Historical Survey Committee	
108 W. 15th Street, Austin, Texas 78711			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Principle or east facade			





NPS Number 3/7/73

Title: CARSON COUNTY SQUARE HOUSE

MUSEUM

Loc. CARSON, TEXAS

VIEW FROM THE SOUTHEAST

②

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Texas State Historical Survey Committee
Restoration & Research Department
Box 12276, Capitol Station,
Austin, Texas 78711

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

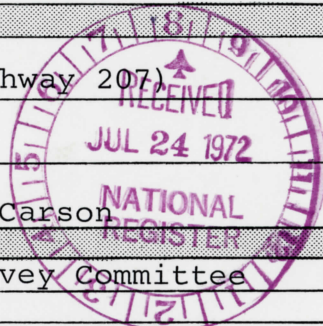
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Texas	
COUNTY Carson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 7 1973	

1. NAME			
COMMON:		Carson County Square House Museum	
AND/OR HISTORIC:		Square House	
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:		5th and Elsie streets (Highway 207)	
CITY OR TOWN:		Panhandle	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	048	Carson	065
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		Texas State Historical Survey Committee	
DATE OF PHOTO:		February, 1972	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Texas State Historical Survey Committee 108 W. 15th Street, Austin, Texas 78711	
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
View from the southeast			



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

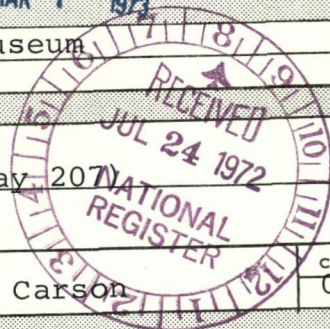
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Texas	
COUNTY Carson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

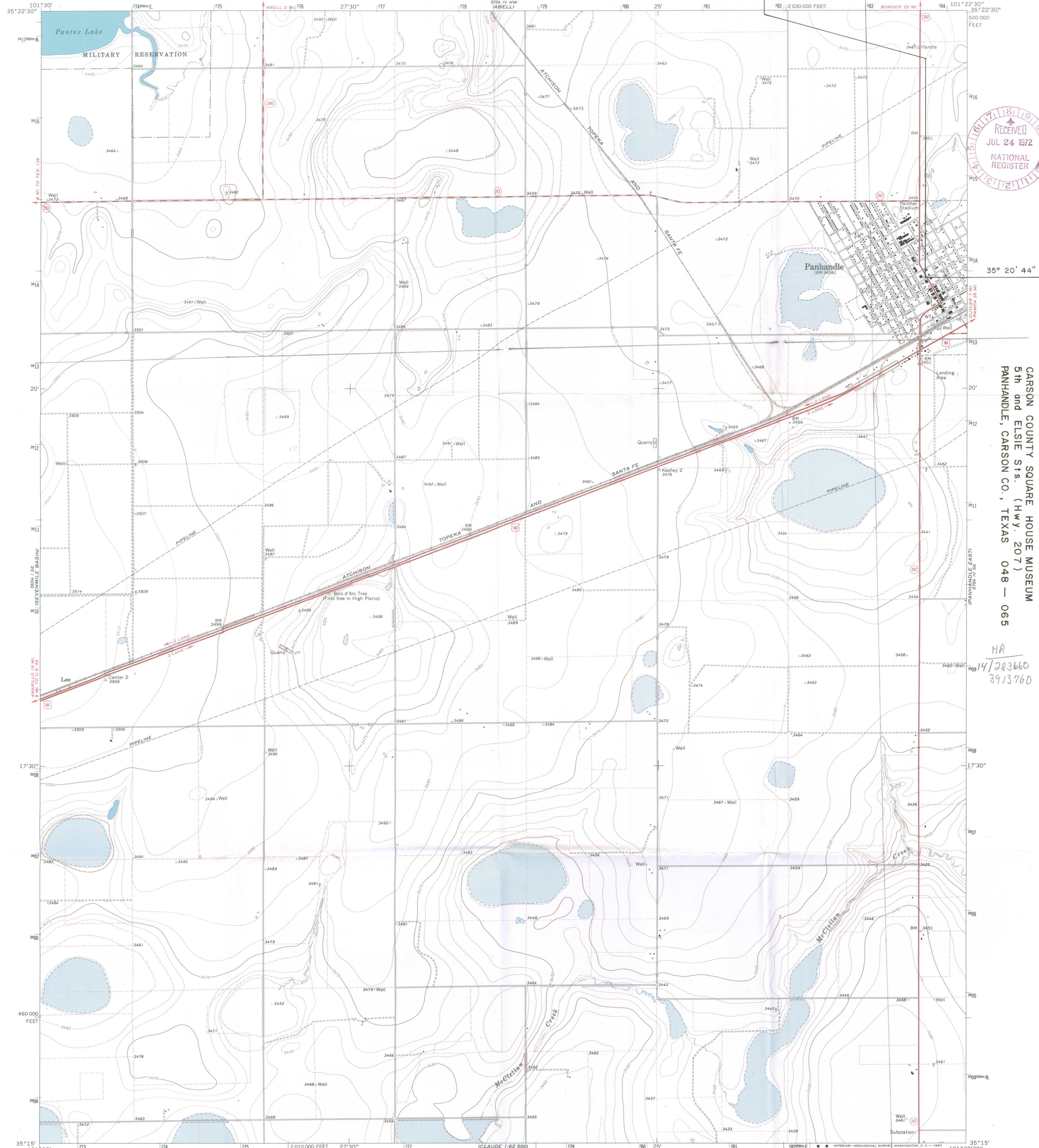
MAR 7 1972



1. NAME			
COMMON:		Carson County Square House Museum	
AND/OR HISTORIC:		Square House	
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
5th and Elsie streets (Highway 207)			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Panhandle			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	048	Carson	065
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey			
SCALE: 1: 24000			
DATE: 1966			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

Panhandle west, Texas

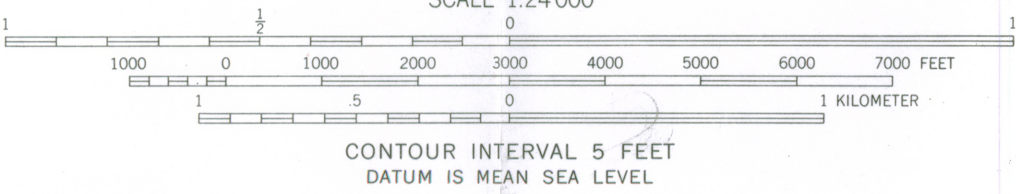
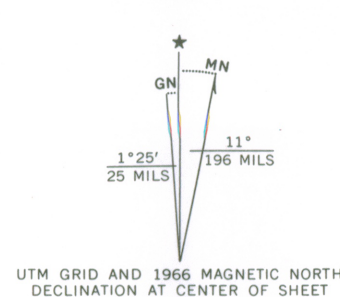
SEE INSTRUCTIONS



CARSON COUNTY SQUARE HOUSE MUSEUM
5th and ELSIE Sts. (Hwy. 207)
PANHANDLE, CARSON CO., TEXAS 048 — 065

HR
14/283660
3913760

Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1962. Topography by planetable surveys 1966
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,
north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 14, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



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

PANHANDLE WEST, TEX.
N3515—W10122.5/7.5

1966
3501-132

JUN 7 1968

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE TEXAS

Date Entered

3/7/73

Name

Location

Blount (Capt. Thomas Wm.) House

San Augustine vicinity
San Augustine County

Carson County Square House Museum

Panhandle
Carson County

St. Edward's University Main
Building and Holy Cross Dormitory

Austin
Travis County

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower
Hon. Lloyd M. Bentsen, Jr.
Hon. Charles Wilson
Hon. Barbara Jordan
Hon. J. J. (Jake) Pickle

Director, Southwest Region

PHR

State Liaison Officer
Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director
Texas State Historical Survey
Committee
Post Office Box 12276
Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

NRowland:mm 3/12/73