



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Registration Form

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

HISTORIC NAME: Hutchinson County Courthouse  
OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER: N/A

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 500 South Main Street  
CITY OR TOWN: Stinnett  
STATE: Texas CODE: TX COUNTY: Hutchinson CODE: 233 ZIP CODE: 79083  
 NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
 VICINITY

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.)

Mark Wolfe State Historic Preservation Officer Date 7/5/12  
Signature of certifying official / Title  
Texas Historical Commission  
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

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 / bureau or Tribal Government

4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the 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  
 See continuation sheet.
- other, explain  
 See continuation sheet.

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 6-28-12

**5. CLASSIFICATION**

**OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY**

	private
<b>X</b>	public - Local
	public - State
	public - Federal

**CATEGORY OF PROPERTY**

<b>X</b>	building(s)
	district
	site
	structure
	object

**NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY**

contributing	noncontributing	
1	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	2	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

**CURRENT FUNCTIONS:** GOVERNMENT/courthouse

**7. DESCRIPTION**

**ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION:** LATE 19<sup>th</sup> AND 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Beaux Arts

**MATERIALS:** FOUNDATION CONCRETE  
 WALLS BRICK  
 ROOF OTHER/asphalt  
 OTHER STONE/limestone

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION** (see continuation sheets 7-5 through 7-12)



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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

## NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Hutchinson County Courthouse, located in Stinnett, is a four-story Beaux Arts brick building with a raised basement and flat roof. The large, rectangular building features grand round arch entries, elaborate limestone detailing, and metal casement windows. The design incorporates classical details such as pilasters, round arches, and balustrades. Fenestration and banding emphasize horizontality and decorative window articulation evokes a blind arcade. Decorative friezes depict the petroleum, farm and ranch, and cattle industries—historically the three principal commercial enterprises in the area. The courthouse is a good example of 1920s civic architecture in Texas, is in good overall condition, and retains a good degree of integrity.

## General Setting and Site Features

The Hutchinson County Courthouse sits at the highest point at the center of Block 65 in the original Stinnett townsite. The rectangular block measures approximately 400 feet wide (north to south) and 270 feet deep (west to east) and encompasses approximately 2.2 acres. The block is bounded by 5th Street on the north, Morse Avenue on the east, 6th Street on the south, and Main Street (also designated as Texas Highways 207 and 136) on the west. The elevation drops approximately 19 feet from the eastern boundary to the western boundary, and as a result one must first climb two flights of stairs to access the west lawn from the street and one flight of stairs to reach the north lawn. A concrete retaining wall extends along the entire western and northern edges of the property and wraps partially around the east side until it becomes flush with grade.

Five-foot wide concrete sidewalks follow the footprint of the courthouse. Additional ten-foot wide concrete sidewalks lead to the courthouse from 5th Street to the north, Main Street to the west, and a 15-space asphalt parking lot on the south. The east entrance steps terminate at a 49-space asphalt parking lot. Flagpoles stand on either side of the sidewalk near the west entrance. The State of Texas designated the courthouse a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) in 1962 and officials erected the aluminum marker just off the southwest corner of the west entrance steps in 1996. County citizens placed a gray granite marker featuring the Ten Commandments near the northwest corner of the west entrance steps in 2010. Neither of these two markers is included in the official resource count for this nomination due to their small size and scale.

Historic photos depict numerous large trees shading the courthouse grounds from the time of its construction through at least the 1940s. Today, however, landscaping is minimal and consists of shrubbery planted intermittently around the immediate perimeter of the courthouse, at either side of the steps on the west entry sidewalk, and clustered in the southwest corner of the lawn. Larger trees grow on either side of the north entrance sidewalk and in the northwest corner of the property. Aside from these sparse plantings, the lawn is open and grassy.

A 10,000 square foot jail facility (noncontributing building), constructed in 1982, sits on the southeast side of the block, replacing the jail facilities that were previously located within the courthouse.<sup>1</sup> Faced with brick slightly darker in color

<sup>1</sup> After a series of jail breaks in the late 1970s, a state inspection revealed that the historic fourth floor jail violated at least 39 of the Texas Jail Standards, thus precipitating the construction of new jail facilities.



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than that of the courthouse, the windowless, L-plan building is one story in height with a flat roof. Entry is provided by a single glass entry door or a solid metal garage-type door, both located on the west elevation. Though dwarfed by the four-story courthouse in height, the jail is still a substantial presence on the block, as its footprint is larger than that of the courthouse. It consumes nearly the entire southeast quadrant of the block and significantly impacts the historic setting of the courthouse. A modern, 180 square foot metal storage shed (noncontributing building) stands on the far northeastern corner of the property, adjacent to the parking lot. Small in scale, and more than 65 feet from the historic courthouse, its visual impact is minimal.

A variety of businesses, such as office buildings, gas stations, and restaurants, are located to the west of the courthouse. Development on the east, north and south is primarily residential, though a bank lies directly east of the courthouse and a church directly southeast. The City of Stinnett offices reside one block south of the courthouse square. In this small town of less than 2,000 residents (and just under 2.0 square miles in size), the high-style courthouse is a massive presence and a tangible reminder of the community's prosperous early beginnings.

## Exterior

The four-story courthouse features a rectangular, cross-axial plan that places the primary elevations on the terminus of the short axis, or the longer elevations. The first floor of the courthouse constitutes a partially exposed basement sitting more than a half-story above ground level. All four elevations of the Hutchinson County Courthouse feature a buff colored brick laid in running bond. All windows are painted steel casements—rectangular, tall, and four panes wide. Windows on the first and fourth floors are three panes tall. Those on the second floor are five panes tall, and those on the third floor are four panes tall. Lintels consisting of a single soldier course of brick top second-floor windows; decorative round arch stone lintels top those on the third floor. Second- and third-floor windows are subtly united by a single course of decorative brickwork that extends up over the arched lintel, meeting at the top center at a stone keystone. The overall effect is that of a blind arcade. Additional limestone details include horizontal banding, windowsills, copings, pilasters, cornice, balustrade handrails, quoins, parapet pediments, and decorative friezes.

The exterior massing consists of four horizontal bands. The first band is composed of that portion exposed below the second floor level, including the first floor (basement) level, west and east entry stairs, and the north and south entrances. The second band consists of the second and third floors as defined by the height of the arch-defining, paired pilasters that frame the west and east entrances. The third band includes the fourth-floor windows and the ornate stone detailing above each entry bay. The parapet comprises the fourth band and includes the low-relief frieze panels, stone coping, and the broken pediment and finial that extends beyond the parapet over each elevation's central bay.

The courthouse sits on a poured concrete foundation and walls. A 2000 structural inspection revealed a partial layer of red brick used as a leveling course on top of the concrete foundation. The flat roof is a built-up asphalt system with a gravel covering, surrounded by brick parapet walls with stone coping. A small 750 square foot penthouse sits on the roof. Constructed of hollow clay tile and brick, it features a poured concrete roof and twelve window openings, from which the sashes have been removed and replaced with painted plywood. The penthouse once housed generator equipment to power the fourth-floor jail during electrical outages; it now serves as storage.



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### *West and East Elevations*

The long east and west elevations lie on the terminus of the short axis in the courthouse's cross-axial plan and host the primary entrances. Three bays in width, the two elevations are identical. The central bay projects approximately six feet outward from the two end bays and is edged with limestone quoins. Grand concrete stairs, framed on either side by limestone balustrades, lead to recessed entrances on the primary level (second floor). Originally, a pair of arched openings created a breezeway underneath the stairs and provided access to a set of double doors that opened into the basement level (first floor). Solid metal doors now enclose these arched openings on the south side and those of the south side have been filled with brick. The original basement entry doors have been removed. Though tall cast iron and brass light standards appear at the base of the staircase in the original elevation drawings and in historic photographs, they are no longer extant and it is unknown when they were removed.

The central bay's first-floor fenestration consists exclusively of a single steel casement window on either side of the grand stairway. Fenestration of the second and third floors centers on the grand, arched, recessed entry. Pairs of two-story Ionic pilasters support a narrow frieze upon which is carved "COURTHOUSE." A round arch stone panel spans the pilaster pairs and rests upon fluted Corinthian pilasters. Centered above this arch, just below the frieze, is a simple medallion in low relief. Recessed beneath the monumental entryway are the entrance doors, surrounded by sidelights and transom and topped by an ornate cast stone spandrel and fanlight window. The stained oak and glass double doors feature original hardware, but the doors themselves are reproductions of the originals. They were installed in 1999. Original pendant-mounted light fixtures, with amethyst colored glass shades, hang overhead. Single casement windows—one each on the second and third floors—reside on either side of the central arch and are united by a single course of dentil-like stone detailing, echoing the pattern of the quoin edges. Because the third-floor windows are topped by an ornate rounded stone lentil, the suggested effect is that of a narrow, two-story arch on either side of the larger entryway arch.

The central bay's fourth-floor fenestration is simple, yet is accentuated by an elaborate array of stone details. A group of three casement windows is centered above the large entry arch, with a single casement window on either side. Three short pilasters frame the edges of the central bay on this level, as well as the vertical edges of each window. They are stacked one on top of the other—Ionic on bottom, Corinthian in the middle, and Doric on top. A thin course of stone molding runs horizontally across the entire face between each of these pilaster layers, effectively creating three horizontal bands. On the bottom band, on either side of the center window set, sits a plain, rectangular stone panel topped by a curved, broken pediment. Historically, wrought iron grilles screened the windows on this bottom band, but they have since been removed. No additional ornament appears in the middle band, but the top band, just below the stone cornice, consists of solid rectangular stone panels. Laid into each of these panels are seven "holes" (1.5-inch diameter; 1-inch depth) arranged in a U configuration—essentially a geometric swag. Topping the central bay is the brick parapet, which is accented by three ornate cast stone panels. Two of these are square and feature an arabesque design; the other is rectangular and depicts in low relief the petroleum, farm, and cattle industries—historically the three principal commercial enterprises in the area. Above this decoration, a stone broken pediment and finial extends beyond the parapet. Carved into the broken pediment is a lone star. A flagpole (no longer in use) stands tall just behind the finial.

Taken all together, the central bay's primary features (especially the triple-arch motif and use of paired pilasters) are reminiscent of the ancient Roman triumphal arches. Those monuments typically feature a three-part attic—a dedicatory inscription sandwiched between carved depictions of victorious achievements. This design feature is echoed in the



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Hutchinson County Courthouse's decorative central parapet which portrays the county's three primary economic achievements—triumph over what had been wild frontier just a few short decades before.

The two end bays (one on each side of the central bay) are identical, providing for classical symmetry. They are wider than the central bay and feature far less ornamentation. Fenestration consists of nine windows on each of the four levels. Stacked vertically, they are horizontally arranged in groups of three, albeit quite subtly. Like on the central bay, the third-floor windows are topped by carved stone arched lintels and are united with the second-floor windows by a thin course of brick which creates a faint arch and the illusion of a blind arcade. Limestone banding appears at the ground level, between the first and second stories, and above the third- and fourth-floor windows. Limestone cornices divide the third and fourth stories and define the roof line. A brick parapet, topped with limestone coping, extends beyond that.

The Beaux Arts design influence is apparent on the broad east and west elevations. The plan is formal and axial and the building's monumental composition is readily apparent as one enters Stinnett and views the courthouse on the slight hill. Other typical features of the style include the elevated primary entrance, quoins, grand stairway, paired pilasters, and decorative swags. Beaux Arts was a mixing of styles, however, and one can see that amalgam in the Hutchinson County Courthouse. Elements of the Italian Renaissance Revival style include the impressive round arch entries, classical pilasters, the suggestion of blind arcades, and rectangular form. The central bays' heavy ornamentation—characteristic of the Beaux Arts style—also suggests a Spanish Baroque influence, because while the ornamentation is elaborate and intricate, it is also clustered and alternates with plain surfaces.

### *North and South Elevations*

The north and south elevations are identical. Overall, their composition and ornamentation is very similar to that on the primary elevations. They also are three bays wide, but unlike the central bay on the opposite elevations, the central bay on the north and south elevations does not project outward in its entirety. Rather, only the first-floor portion of the bay projects, creating a one-story portico for the entrance. A decorative stone spandrel sits between a pair of simple brick pilasters to frame the portico. Four iron light fixtures (two on each side) originally sat atop these pilasters, but are no longer extant. Entry is provided to the first-floor level on these elevations, rather than the primary (second floor) level, suggesting that the north and south entries are subordinate to those on the east and west.

The central bay's fenestration consists of the entry door and sidelights on the first floor, a set of three casement windows on the second floor, an arched fanlight set of windows on the third floor, and a set of three casement windows on the fourth floor. The entry door and sidelights are aluminum and glass storefront systems installed in 1985, replacing the original wood entry doors. A carved stone spandrel stretches between the second- and third-floor windows. The scrolled foliar design is the same as that used on the east and west entry spandrels. Paired, two-story stone pilasters stand tall on either side of the central bay and support an entablature that bears "COURTHOUSE" on the frieze. A stone panel surrounds the third-story fanlight windows, creating the appearance of an arch and mimicking the grand arched entries on the primary elevations. Fourth-story ornamentation is also borrowed from the primary elevations. Stacked pilasters frame the window edges, broken pediment-topped stone blocks bracket the window set, and stone panels (with geometric swags, or "holes") top each window. Historically, the bottom third of the fourth-floor windows were obscured behind scrolled wrought iron grilles; however, just as on the other elevations, they have been removed. The parapet consists of three



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carved stone panels in a scrolling arabesque design. Like on the other elevations, a broken pediment and finial extends beyond the parapet and includes a carved lone star.

The two end bays are shortened versions of those on the east and west elevations. Fenestration entails three windows on each of the four floors. Third-floor windows are topped by carved stone arched lintels and are united with the second-floor windows by a thin course of brick which creates a faint arch. Limestone banding appears at the ground level, between the first and second stories, and above the third and fourth-floor windows. Limestone cornices divide the third and fourth stories and define the roof line. A brick parapet extends beyond that and is topped with limestone coping.

**Interior**

*General*

Throughout the courthouse, most interior doors are stained, solid wood, single panel, single light, and are original to the building. Entrances to offices from the corridors have glass transoms. Brass door hardware is also original and in good condition. Most of the interior lighting, however, is not original, having been replaced with strip fluorescents when the ceilings were dropped in the courtrooms and many of the offices. It is believed that the original fixtures for the district courtrooms and some offices are still intact, hidden above the dropped ceiling. A few other historic fixtures remain visible in storage-type areas throughout the courthouse. In the corridors, lights are surface mounted fluorescents with no shields or lenses. Much of the oak furniture throughout the building's public spaces is original (refer to the Preservation Mater Plan for detailed listing).

Two sets of marble stairs lead from the first floor to the second floor. One central grand marble staircase leads from the second to the third floor, and two marble stair sets lead from the third to the fourth floor. Aluminum handrails were added to all of them in 1985. Five spiral staircases originally facilitated the movement of inmates from the jail to the courtrooms. Four are no longer used; county and district clerks still utilize the fifth for access to records storage areas. The original elevator was not intended for public use; rather, it was used exclusively to transfer prisoners from the first floor to the jail on the fourth. A replacement elevator was installed in 1985 and the elevator entry was relocated to the main corridor, near the secondary stairway. This required converting small areas of the original first-floor mechanical room and fourth-floor storage into elevator lobbies.

With the exception of some gypsum board office partitions, painted plaster covers the majority of the walls and is in very good condition. Carpet covers most office floors, but some feature vinyl tile or concrete. Ceilings are largely suspended acoustical tile. Oak picture rails and windowsills adorn most of the offices. In addition to the dropped ceilings, the courthouse acquired air conditioning and various accessibility upgrades—such as handrails and larger elevator—in the 1980s.

*First Floor*

The first floor of the Hutchinson County Courthouse sits less than one-half story below ground. Entry is provided at the north and south ends into a small interior vestibule. After passing through the interior set of oak and glass doors, one must descend a short flight of four steps to reach the finished floor level. An electric chair lift (south entry only) provides



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access for those with mobility impairments. Secondary entrances are located on the north and south beneath the exterior stairs and also open into small vestibules.

Interior spaces are arranged on either side of a wide, central corridor. A solid black border surrounds the terrazzo floor. Gray and white marble paneling sits atop black marble bases. While the paneling is in good condition, some of the mortar joints are deteriorating. Painted plaster covers walls and ceiling, the intersection of which is defined by crown molding.

This floor houses the mechanical and boiler rooms, a break room, restrooms, the Stinnett Branch of the Hutchinson County Library, a records room, the justice of the peace offices and courtroom, and office spaces for the constable and the agricultural extension office. The records room occupies the northeast corner; a spiral staircase leads to the county clerk's office on the floor above. Near the center of the corridor, two staircases—each with terrazzo treads and mosaic tile risers—lead to the second floor.

### *Second Floor*

East and west entries open into interior vestibules. A single set of double doors (wood and glass) leads out of the west vestibule, while two sets lead out of the east vestibule. Finishes are similar to that found on the first floor—terrazzo floors with black border, black marble bases, gray and white marble paneling, and painted plaster walls and coffered ceilings. At the corridor intersection, a large lone star is inlaid in the terrazzo floor. Centered above, hanging from a delicate plaster ceiling medallion, is an original pendant light. At the wall corners of this corridor intersection stand marble-veneered pilasters, upon which rest ornate Corinthian capitals. The grand marble staircase lies across from the west entrance vestibule and boasts terrazzo treads and colorful mosaic tile risers. To the left of the stairs, these same colorful tiles line the wall behind the drinking fountain.

The northwest corner hosts the county courtroom. The judge sits at the original oak bench, facing north and in front of a tripartite solid oak panel with modified pediment. Jury seating is to his left and spectators sit in original oak benches. The ceiling consists of a suspended acoustical ceiling, installed in the early 1980s. Doors on either side of the judge's bench lead to offices. Ceiling fans hang from the suspended acoustical tile ceiling and carpet lies underfoot.

The northeast quadrant of the second floor houses offices for the county clerk staff, while various tax offices fill the southeast quadrant. Offices for the county attorney, auditor, and treasurer are located in the southwest quadrant. Public restrooms are adjacent to each interior entry vestibule.

### *Third Floor*

Finishes on the third-floor corridors are the same as on the lower ones—terrazzo floors with black border, black marble bases, gray and white marble paneling, and painted plaster walls and coffered ceilings. Plain, unshielded fluorescent strip lights illuminate the corridors, which are furnished with long, historic oak benches.

The Hutchinson County Courthouse contains two district courtrooms. These courtrooms, along with the accompanying judges' suites, are located in the northeast and southeast quadrants of the third floor and mirror one another in layout. Judges sit facing west. A pair of lighted sconces (original) ornaments the pilaster and pediment oak paneling behind the



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judges' bench. The paneling and the oak bench are original, as are the oak gallery bench seats, railings, pictures rails, and jury boxes. A suspended acoustical ceiling system hangs overhead; original light fixtures are still in place above it. Courtroom walls are original painted plaster and floors are carpeted. Each courtroom has two spiral staircases that lead to the fourth floor and the original jail facilities and jury rooms.

The gallery of both district courtrooms has been reduced in size. Each originally had a balcony. However, in 1966, in an effort to gain more office and storage space, the balconies and the space beneath them were enclosed. The balconies were converted to storage rooms, while the space beneath them was converted to offices and conference rooms for the district clerk and district attorney staffs.

### *Fourth Floor*

The fourth-floor corridor is much less grand than that of the others. Ceilings and walls are painted plaster, but feature no crown molding, ceiling beams, or marble paneling. Corridor floors are terrazzo. The few offices on this level are finished with carpeting on the floors, painted plaster walls, and suspended acoustical ceilings. Some have ceiling fans. Wood paneling (not original) lines the walls of the grand jury room, while carpet covers the floor.

The eastern half of the fourth floor is the location of the original jail facility. The plumbing fixtures have been removed, but the original jail cells and steel doors remain intact. Casings and doors on the fourth floor are painted steel. This space is now used for storage of county records and miscellaneous items. Fourth-floor restrooms have original plaster walls, ceramic wainscot, one-inch hexagonal white ceramic tile floor, original steel toilet partitions, wood doors, and plaster ceilings.

### **Overall Condition and Integrity**

In general, the Hutchinson County Courthouse is in good repair and retains a good amount of integrity. The exterior exhibits minor masonry mortar joint deterioration, some degradation on the brick leveling course, and minor cracks on the limestone friezes. These are all normal issues of wear, reflect the age of the building, and do not negatively affect the property's integrity. Elements that have a minor impact on integrity include the use of modern aluminum storefront doors on the north and south entries, the enclosure of the historically open breezeway beneath the east and west exterior stairs, and the removal of the historic light fixtures on each elevation. These changes, however, could be reversed without damage to the historic fabric and the exterior could be returned to its original appearance. The presence of the massive jail, located in such close proximity to the courthouse, negatively impacts integrity of setting. If a full site restoration was ever considered, though, it would be possible to remove the jail without negatively impacting the historic courthouse.

The interior of the courthouse retains the majority of its original materials and finishes, though floors and walls exhibit minor cracking and other minor damage from elements such as water leaks. Integrity is further supported by the fact that the spatial configuration of the first, second, and fourth floors is largely unchanged. The dropped acoustical ceilings—and, as a result, the loss of historic light fixtures—certainly detract from the historic feeling throughout the courthouse. The reduced size of the district courtrooms and the enclosure of the balconies also negatively impact integrity. However, the loss of historic materials is minimal, and the partition walls and dropped ceilings could be removed without significant damage to the historic fabric.

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Taken as a whole, the Hutchinson County Courthouse retains sufficient integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association to positively convey the significant aspects of its past.



8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

Property:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>A</b>	is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>B</b>	is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>C</b>	embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>D</b>	has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS: N/A

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Government, Architecture

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1927-1962

SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1927

SIGNIFICANT PERSON: N/A

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT / BUILDER: Townes, William C. (architect)/ C. S. Lambie & Company (builder)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (see continuation sheets 8-13 through 8-18)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY (see continuation sheets 9-19)

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, Austin
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: Office of the County Clerk, Stinnett, Hutchinson County



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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hutchinson County Courthouse, designed by noted Texas architect W.C. Townes, is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A for Government and Criterion C for Architecture. The four-story brick and limestone courthouse is a good regional example of the Beaux Arts style as interpreted for civic use and is the only building of this style in Stinnett. The courthouse remains as a symbol of the community's prosperity during the 1920s oil boom days and of the citizens' confidence in their future. The most prominent building in this small rural town, it has served continuously as the seat of county government since its completion in 1928.

## Hutchinson County, Texas

Located in the north central Texas Panhandle, approximately 60 miles northeast of Amarillo, Hutchinson County comprises 871 square miles of plains and broken terrain. The Canadian River, fed by several small creeks, flows from southwest to northeast across the county. The northern part of the county is high rolling plains and supports crops such as wheat, corn, alfalfa, and grain sorghums, as well as cattle, hog, and poultry raising. The southern portion of Hutchinson County is the center of oil, gas, petrochemical, and synthetic-rubber production in the Panhandle and is home to the world's largest natural gas pumping station, which supplies gas to cities as far west as Denver and as far east as Indianapolis.<sup>2</sup>

Though Spanish, Mexican, and American explorers and traders traversed the area as early as the 1540s, clashes with Native Americans prevented permanent settlement of the northern Panhandle for centuries. The struggle for control of the Southern Plains (of which the Hutchinson County area is a part) came to a head in the 1870s, as the U.S. Army and various Native American tribes fought a series of skirmishes and battles known as the Red River War of 1874–1875. Quanah Parker's attack on a buffalo trading post at Adobe Walls (in what would later become Hutchinson County) ignited the war in June of 1874. A relentless Army campaign steadily forced the Native Americans to reservations in Indian Territory. The last band of free-roaming Southern Plains Indians finally surrendered on June 2, 1875. Settlers moved in to the Panhandle almost immediately, establishing huge ranches for the most part. The railroads soon followed, providing the farmers and ranchers access to distant markets and allowing communities to grow.<sup>3</sup>

The Texas Legislature created Hutchinson County—along with 53 others—in 1876, but the county did not formally organize until 1901. At the time, just over 300 people lived in the county. Plemons, a community established a few years earlier in 1898, was designated the county seat. The county's namesake is pioneer jurist Judge Anderson Hutchinson.<sup>4</sup> The first county courthouse, built by J.P. Orr for \$95, was a wooden building intended for temporary use. The county

<sup>2</sup> H. Allen Anderson, "Hutchinson County," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hch23>), accessed November 16, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

<sup>3</sup> Texas Historical Commission, *Red River War of 1874–1875: Clash of Cultures in the Texas Panhandle*. Texas Travel Guide series, 2010.

<sup>4</sup> Anderson, "Hutchinson County."



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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 14

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

solicited bids for construction of the primary courthouse in June 1901. For \$2,670, E.E. Ackers built a simple, two-story wood courthouse.<sup>5</sup>

Important to the numerous area ranchers as a river-crossing town, Plemons never managed to attract a healthy population and grew slowly. By 1905 only a handful of businesses and fifteen families called the town home. The community never even erected a church, opting instead to hold services in the school or in the courthouse.<sup>6</sup> Dominated by large ranches, Hutchinson County as a whole remained sparsely populated for its first couple of decades. The county's entire population numbered just 721 in 1920, according to the U.S. Census.

### Oil and Gas Bring Wealth—and a New County Seat—to Hutchinson County

Though the oil and gas industry reigned in other parts of the state as early as 1901, the Panhandle did not enjoy the benefits until its discovery led to successful drilling in Amarillo in 1918. The boom was on. Five years later, J. C. Whittington drilled the first flowing well in Hutchinson County.<sup>7</sup> Townsites and oil camps sprang up all over the county to accommodate drillers and the various petroleum-related industries, and railroads built branch lines as quickly as they could to service them all.

One of many men to take advantage of the boom was Albert Sidney Stinnett, a successful Panhandle developer who worked tirelessly to connect Amarillo to northern markets via railroad. In 1925, he financed the first three months of construction on the Rock Island Railway branch from Amarillo to Liberal, Kansas. Other financiers quickly stepped in to help. Stinnett and various partners platted numerous new townsites along the Rock Island right-of-way. One of the first was in Hutchinson County and named in his honor. Lots went up for sale in Stinnett in 1926.<sup>8</sup> Veteran town promoters A.P. "Ace" Borger and J.T. Peyton went to work and quickly sold more than \$400,000 worth of lots, bringing the new town's population to near 2,500 almost overnight.<sup>9</sup> Though Stinnett grew rapidly that first year, it did not grow as large or as quickly as other boomtowns in the Panhandle. Borger, in south central Hutchinson County, for example, grew to an

<sup>5</sup> Hutchinson County Courthouse Application for Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, 1995. On file at the Texas Historical Commission.

<sup>6</sup> H. Allen Anderson, "Plemons, TX," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hrp44>), accessed November 28, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

<sup>7</sup> Roger M. Olien, "Oil and Gas Industry," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/doogz>), accessed November 16, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

<sup>8</sup> H. Allen Anderson, "Stinnett, Albert Sidney," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fstck>), accessed November 16, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

<sup>9</sup> H. Allen Anderson, "Stinnett, TX," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hjs26>), accessed November 16, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.



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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

estimated 45,000 within ninety days of its founding in 1926 and gained a reputation as a rowdy, violent, and lawless community.<sup>10</sup>

Plemons, however, was not able to capitalize on the boom, and the railroad chose to bypass it in favor of towns in closer proximity to the oilfields. In a special election in September of 1926, Hutchinson County citizens voted to move the county seat to centrally-located Stinnett, and Plemons began a gradual decline. Though the area oil boom kept the town alive for about twenty more years, the population was just 100 in 1940 and ceased to exist by the early 1950s. Neither of Hutchinson County's first two courthouses still stand; in fact, the cemetery is all that remains of Plemons today.<sup>11</sup>

While Plemons declined, however, the rest of the county began to prosper thanks to the petroleum industry. By 1926, the Panhandle was a major producing region, with most of the activity centered in Hutchinson County and neighboring Carson County. Peak production during the era of exploration in the Panhandle occurred in 1927, at 39.4 million barrels, principally from Hutchinson County. Related industries such as refineries, carbon black operations, and gasoline stripper plants quickly followed, as did all of the businesses necessary to support such a large, new population. Like it had in other places in Texas, the oil and gas industry diversified the formerly agricultural-based economy in the Panhandle.<sup>12</sup> In the midst of this explosive and unprecedented economic growth, Hutchinson County built its fourth and final courthouse.

### A New County Seat and a New County Courthouse

Moving the county seat to the new town of Stinnett meant, of course, that Hutchinson County once again found its government operating out of temporary quarters (the Stinnett Townsite Company's office building at 600 Main Street) until completion of a permanent courthouse. The Stinnett Townsite Company (Albert Sidney Stinnett, president) sold the land to the county for one dollar in January 1927. By October of that year, the commissioners court voted to accept Amarillo architect William C. Townes' plans and specifications for a courthouse and jail and almost immediately opened the project to construction bids. Amarillo contractor C.S. Lambie & Company won the competitive process with the lowest bid of \$341,880 and secured the contract on November 26, 1927. The commissioners approved a bond for the construction price on February 15, 1928, and then accepted the courthouse for occupancy on December 3.<sup>13</sup>

The headline of the December 13, 1928, issue of the *Borger Daily Herald* boldly reported that organizers expected 5,000 people to attend the courthouse opening. The article proclaims that the new courthouse "typify[ies] the spirit of phenomenal progress made in this section, with a view to the future" and lauds its modern and complete features, namely sophisticated courtroom acoustics, vaults for every department, and bath suites for every judge. It continues with these remarks about the courthouse's size:

<sup>10</sup> H. Allen Anderson, "Borger, TX," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/heb10>), accessed November 16, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

<sup>11</sup> Anderson, "Plemons, TX."

<sup>12</sup> Olien, "Oil and Gas Industry."

<sup>13</sup> Hutchinson County Commissioners Court Minutes, vols. 1 and 2.



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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 16

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

“A year ago when the contract was let for the building, it was thought by some that the planners and architects had verged on extravagance. When the various county officers were brought together under one roof, and system brought about, it was found that the designers had provided wisely. There is a place for everything. Offices are so arranged that with the progress that is expected for this county in the next 10 years there will be efficient and convenient arrangements for handling the enlarged business.”

The citizens of Hutchinson County celebrated the new courthouse's debut with a twelve-hour opening reception held December 15, 1928. The festivities began at noon with the Ladies' Missionary Society of Stinnett Baptist Church serving lunch for all visitors, followed by a performance of the Borger Concert Band. Numerous speeches and other concerts took place throughout the rest of the afternoon. Electric lights illuminated each and every room after dark. Unfortunately, the power company had yet to install the permanent line, and the temporary one was quickly overloaded, throwing the transformer and plunging the building into complete darkness during Judge Newton P. Willis' address. Undeterred, he continued speaking while the local Boy Scouts lit candles and kerosene lamps.<sup>14</sup> The evening ended with a dance from nine until midnight.<sup>15</sup>

The rate of initial growth and newfound prosperity could not last. Stinnett's population fell to just 500 by 1930, as crude oil prices plummeted and the Great Depression set in. Fewer than twenty businesses still operated in the town—down from more than seventy-five just two years before. Though prices were low, however, petroleum production remained relatively steady in other parts of Hutchinson County and kept many people working—welcome news since the agricultural sector was decimated by the Dust Bowl. By 1960, the population grew to 2,695 in Stinnett (Hutchinson County totaled 34,419) thanks in part to a steady growth in the area's gas and petroleum industries during the war and post-war years.

Though much of the county's population and economy centers around Borger—the largest of the county's communities—the county government seat remains steadfast in Stinnett and the town retains some importance as a commercial center for the surrounding area.<sup>16</sup> Nonetheless, the population of Stinnett continues to fall. The 2010 census recorded 1,881 persons living in Stinnett (Hutchinson County totaled 22,150).

Despite the decline in population, the Hutchinson County Courthouse remains the central hub of county government and political activity in Hutchinson County and houses all vital functions and offices of county government. All levels of justice are administered from within the courthouse, from Justice of the Peace to the District Courts, meaning everything from traffic tickets to capital murder cases are heard within the walls. County commissioners conduct public business, county clerks administer elections, and local politicians often use the courthouse as a forum for political events. Numerous civic groups conduct trainings and other functions, and the media visits often to report on it all. The Hutchinson County Courthouse is an active, working building which conducts a large amount of business each day.

<sup>14</sup> Hutchinson County Historical Commission, *History of Hutchinson County, Texas* (Borger, 1980), 51.

<sup>15</sup> RTHL application and *Borger Daily Herald*.

<sup>16</sup> Anderson, "Stinnett, TX."



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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 17

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

### William C. Townes, Architect

Born June 28, 1883, in Haskell, Texas, William C. Townes moved to Amarillo in 1905 as a carpenter. While working as a carpenter, he studied architecture from home, finding work with the Santa Fe Railway during World War I. Townes partnered with J. Ray Smith in the architectural firm of Smith & Townes from 1920–1924, and formed the firm of Townes, Lightfoot and Funk in 1927. The firm disbanded upon Rabey Funk's death in 1939 and from that point on the firm operated as William C. Townes and Associates. He was a member of Amarillo's Covenant Presbyterian Church, the Elks' Lodge, the American Institute of Architects, the Texas Society of Architects, and was active for a number of years in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He died on May 21, 1961 in Amarillo, Texas.<sup>17</sup>

Though he designed numerous residential and institutional buildings, Townes specialized in courthouses, reportedly designing twenty-seven in total throughout west Texas and eastern New Mexico.<sup>18</sup> His eight Texas county courthouses include Briscoe County (1922), Castro County (1940), Childress County (1939), Dallam County (1922; NR 1992), Hansford County (1931), Hutchinson County (1927), Potter County (1932; NR 1996), and Ward County (1940). All eight actively still serve as county courthouses (see Table 1 on page 18). Townes served as the contractor for the Jons-Gilvin House in Amarillo (1907; NR 1992) and also designed the Potter County Library (1922) in Amarillo, as well as numerous school buildings throughout the Texas Panhandle.

The County Commissioners Court meeting minutes do not reference any discussion of design selection, but Revival styles were popular for civic buildings in Texas during the first decades of the twentieth century. The Hutchinson County Courthouse was built during the waning years of the Golden Age of Texas courthouse construction. Spanning from the 1880s to the 1920s, this golden age coincided with a period of tremendous economic and cultural development in the state and the increase in wealth led to an increase in new public buildings.<sup>19</sup> Author Carla Breeze points out that like many architects working on civic buildings at the time, Townes "was concerned with designs that reflected regionalism, which was concurrent with the search for 'Americanism,' or a greater appreciation for one's region and culture."<sup>20</sup> This is illustrated in the Hutchinson County Courthouse through the prominent depiction of the region's three major industries on the entry friezes, as well as the use of the Lone Star in the exterior pediments and interior floor embellishments. The use of such elements in combination with Revival design has led some to refer to the style as "Texas Renaissance Revival."

The Hutchinson County Courthouse is the sole visible reminder of Stinnett's early growth and prosperity; very few buildings from that era remain and none exhibit the same high style and exuberance. For serving Hutchinson County citizens as the seat of county government continuously since 1928, and as a significant example of regionally-interpreted Beaux Arts civic architecture designed by a prominent local architect, the Hutchinson County Courthouse is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for Government and Criterion C for Architecture, both at the local level of significance.

<sup>17</sup> William C. Townes obituary. *Amarillo Globe-Times*. May 22, 1961.

<sup>18</sup> Carla Breeze, *Pueblo Deco* (New York: Rizzoli International Publications, 1990), 70.

<sup>19</sup> Willard B. Robinson, *The People's Architecture: Texas Courthouses, Jails, and Municipal Buildings* (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1983), 195-260. See also Michael C. Andrews, *Historic Texas Courthouses* (Houston: Bright Sky Press, 2006).

<sup>20</sup> Breeze, 58.



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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

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Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

**Table 1: William C. Townes' Texas County Courthouses**

<b>County</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Style</b>	<b>2012 Status</b>	<b>NR Listing Status</b>
Briscoe	1922	Classical Revival	Active	None
Dallam	1922	Classical Revival	Active	1992, individually
Hutchinson	1927	Beaux Arts	Active	None (nominated 2012)
Hansford	1931	Moderne	Active	None
Potter	1932	Moderne/Art Deco	Active	1996, individually
Childress	1939	Moderne	Active	None
Castro	1940	Moderne	Active	None
Ward	1940	Moderne	Active	None



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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 19

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

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[www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hjs26](http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hjs26) (accessed November 16, 2011).
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**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**ACREAGE OF PROPERTY:** 2.2 acres

<b>UTM REFERENCES</b>	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
1.	14	279372	3967562

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:** All of Block 65 in the original town site of Stinnett, Texas. The property is bounded on the north by East 5th Street, on the east by Morse Avenue, the south by East 6th Street, and on the west by Main Street (also designated Texas Highways 207/136). This nomination excludes the portion of the sidewalk, approximately one foot in width, which lies within the Texas Department of Transportation's right-of-way along Main Street.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:** Nomination includes all property historically associated with the courthouse, excluding that portion of the sidewalk which falls within the Texas Department of Transportation's right-of-way along Main Street.

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

**NAME / TITLE:** Carlyn Hammons, Historian, based upon the Preservation Master Plan prepared in 2000 by Wharry Engineering and the Hutchinson County Commissioners Court

**ORGANIZATION:** Texas Historical Commission

**DATE:** February 27, 2012

**STREET & NUMBER:** P.O. Box 12276

**TELEPHONE:** 512.463.6046

**CITY OR TOWN:** Austin

**STATE:** Texas

**ZIP CODE:** 78711

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION**

**CONTINUATION SHEETS**

**MAPS** (see continuation sheet Map-20 through Map-23)

**PHOTOGRAPHS** (see continuation sheet Photo-33 through Photo 34)

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS** (see continuation sheets Figure-24 through Figure-32)

**PROPERTY OWNER**

**NAME:** Hutchinson County (The Honorable Faye Blanks, County Judge)

**STREET & NUMBER:** P.O. Box 790

**TELEPHONE:** 806.878.4000

**CITY OR TOWN:** Stinnett

**STATE:** Texas

**ZIP CODE:** 79083



United States Department of the Interior  
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section MAP Page 20

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

**Maps 1 and 2:** Hutchinson County (shaded) is located in the Panhandle region of Texas. The Hutchinson County Courthouse is located near the center of Stinnett.





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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section MAP Page 21

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

**Map 3:** Map Depicting UTM Coordinates. UTM Zone 14. Source: Google Earth, accessed July 5, 2012.





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Section MAP Page 22

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

**Map 4:** The Hutchinson County Courthouse grounds are bounded by 5th Street on the north, Morse Avenue on the east, 6th Street on the south, and Main Street (also designated as Texas Highways 207 and 136) on the west.





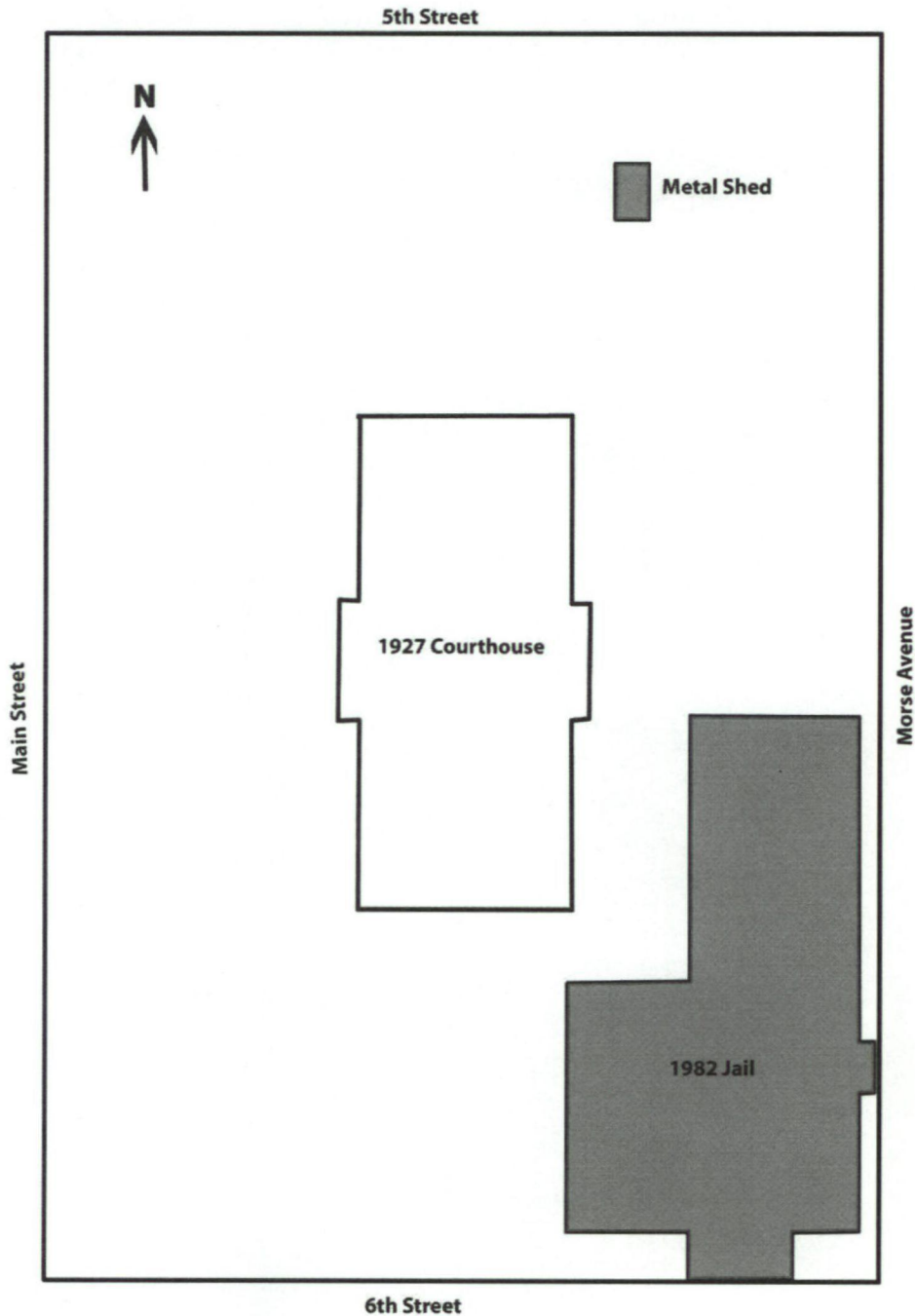
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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section MAP Page 23

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

**Map 5:** Site plan of the nominated property. Only the courthouse itself (shown unshaded) is contributing.





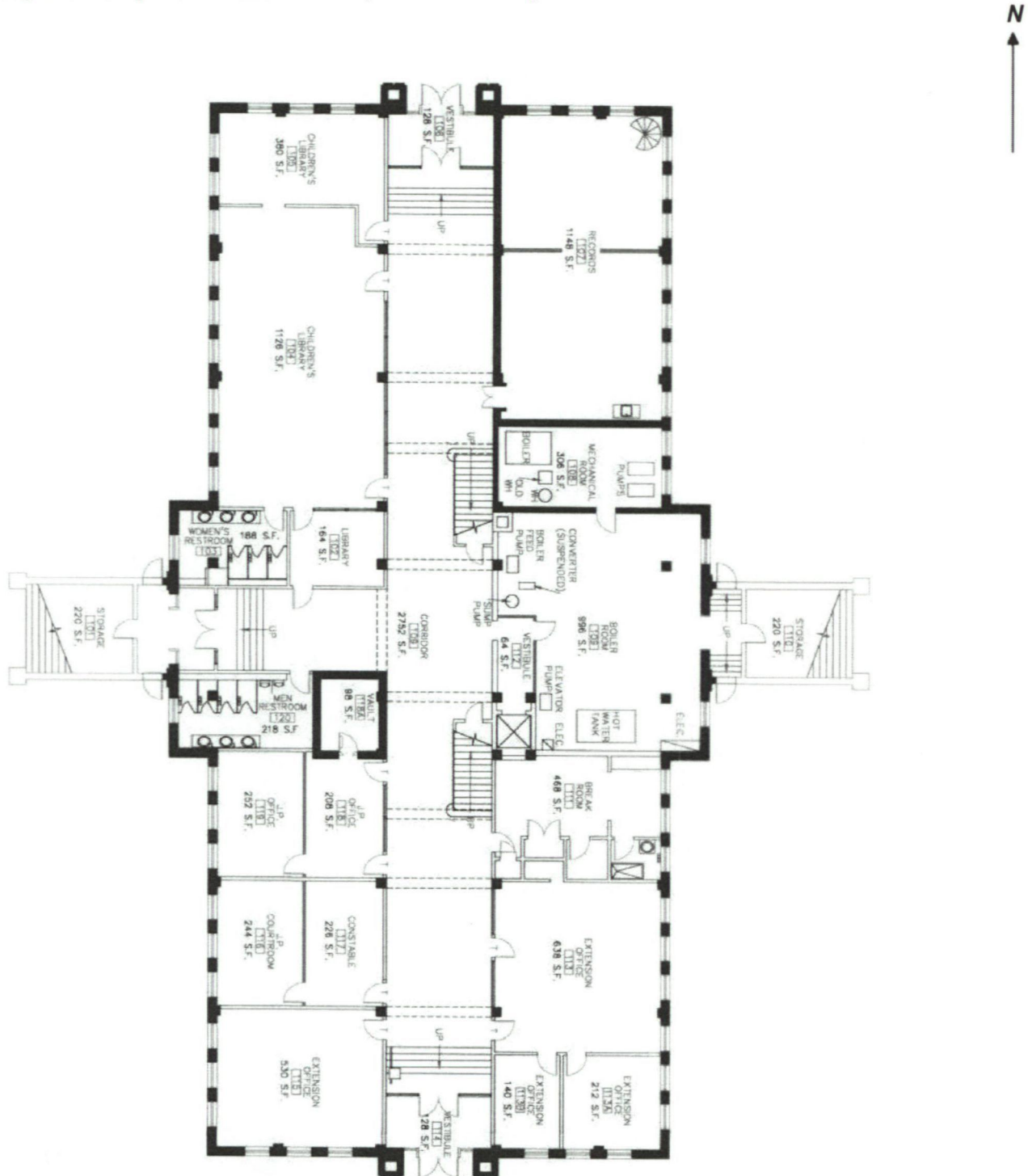
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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section FIGURE Page 24

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

Figure 1: Existing first floor plan, Hutchinson County Courthouse. Reproduced from the Preservation Master Plan.





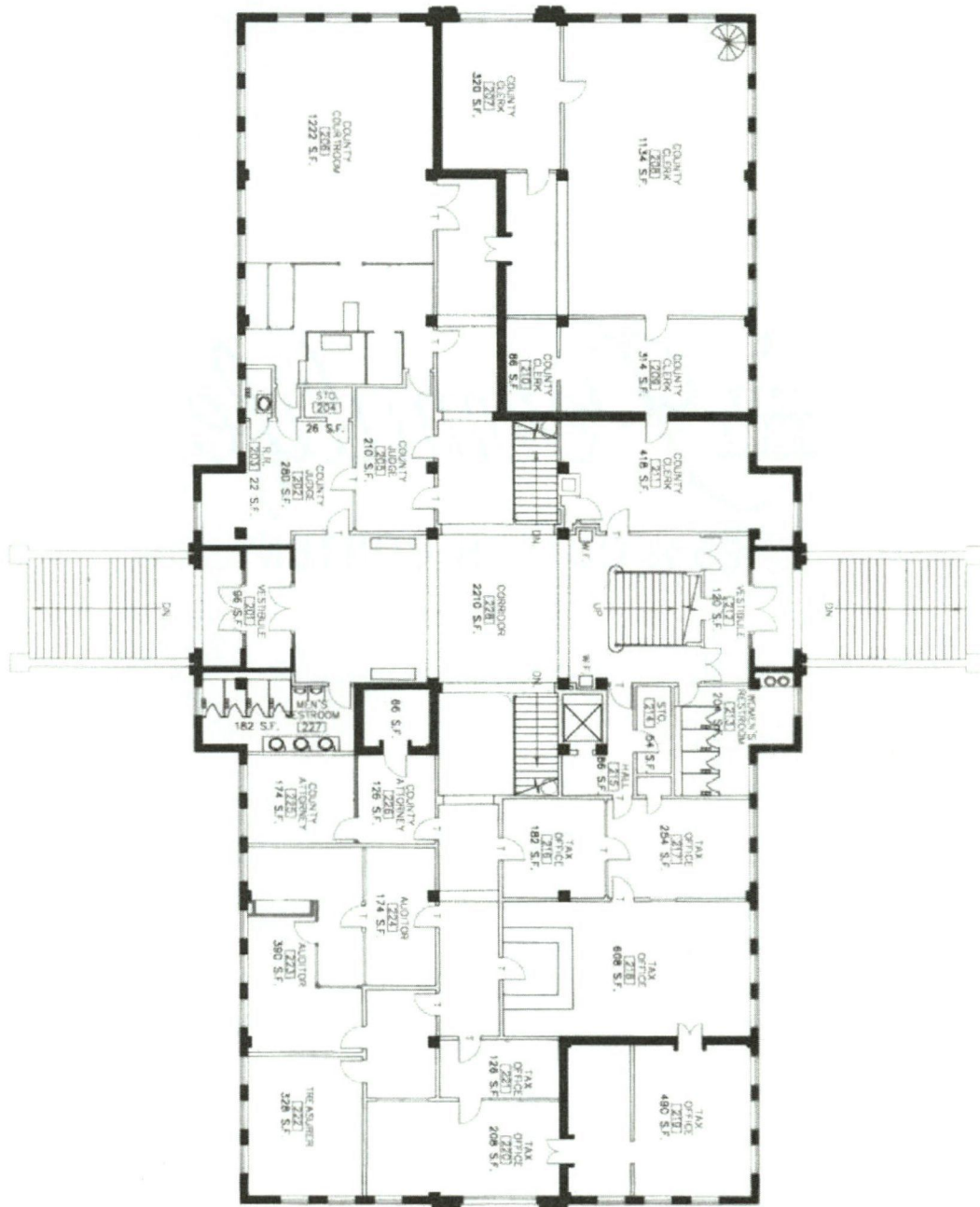
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section FIGURE Page 25

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

Figure 2: Existing second floor plan, Hutchinson County Courthouse. Reproduced from the Preservation Master Plan.





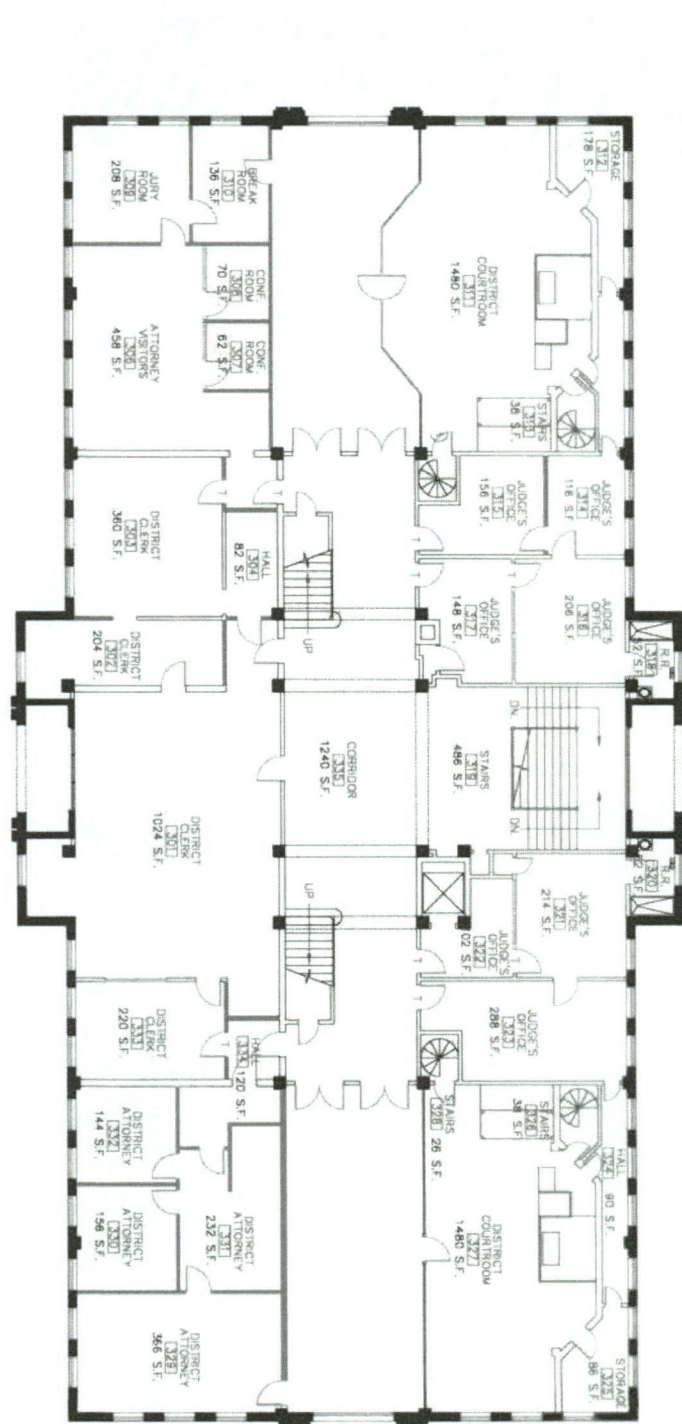
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section FIGURE Page 26

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

**Figure 3:** Existing third floor plan, Hutchinson County Courthouse. Reproduced from the Preservation Master Plan.





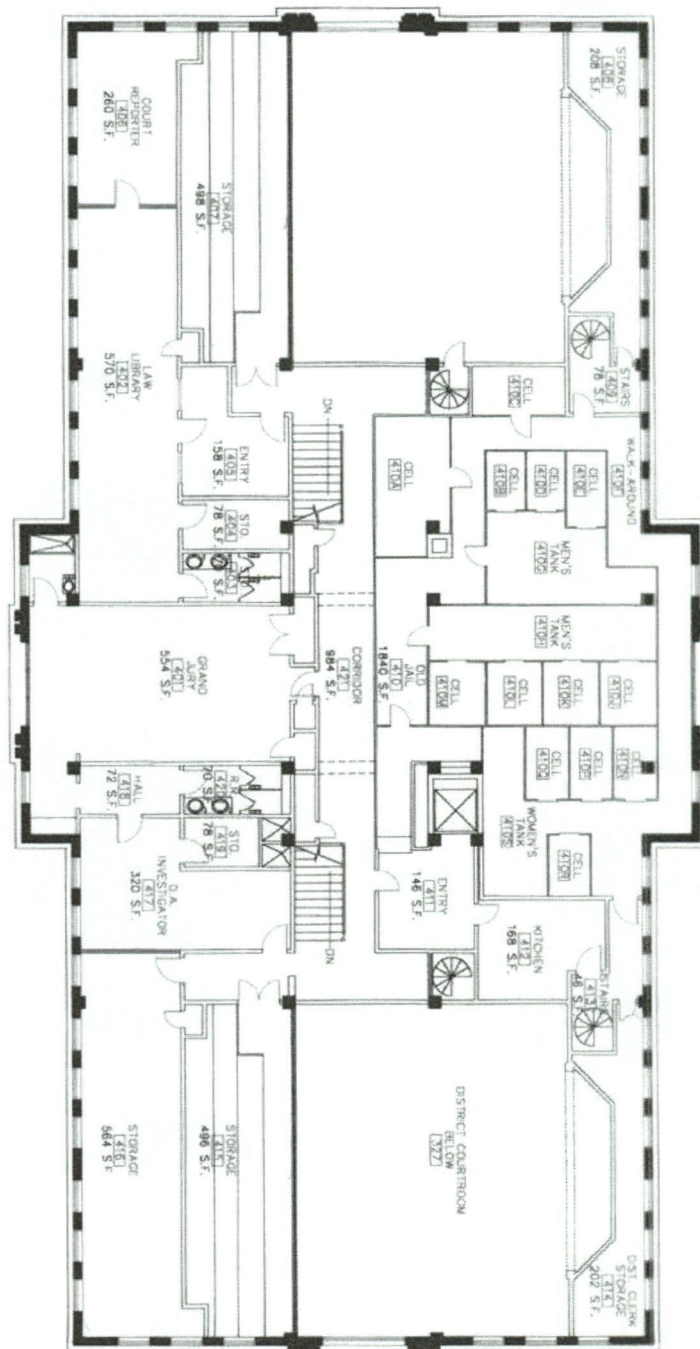
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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section FIGURE Page 27

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

Figure 4: Historic and current floor plan, fourth floor. Reproduced from the Preservation Master Plan.





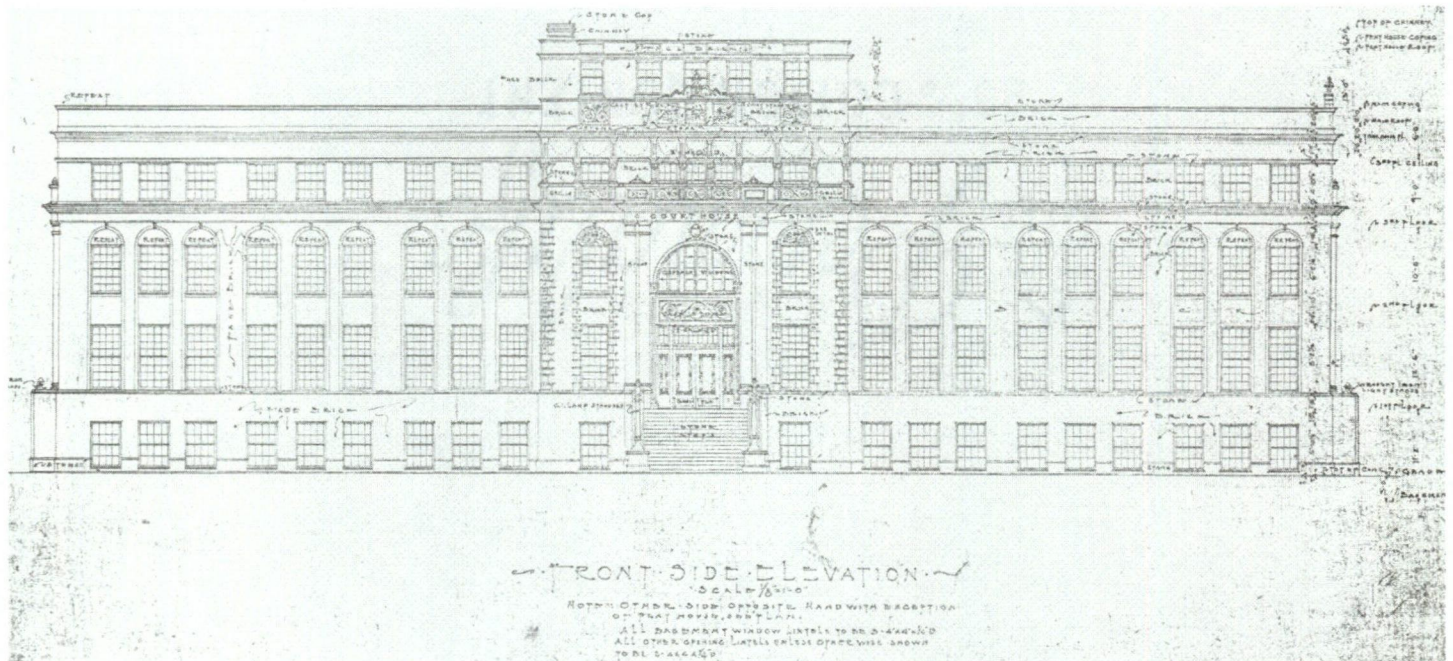
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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section FIGURE Page 28

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

**Figure 5:** "Front Side Elevation." Original drawings by the architect, William C. Townes. On file in the office of the Hutchinson County Clerk, Stinnett, Texas.





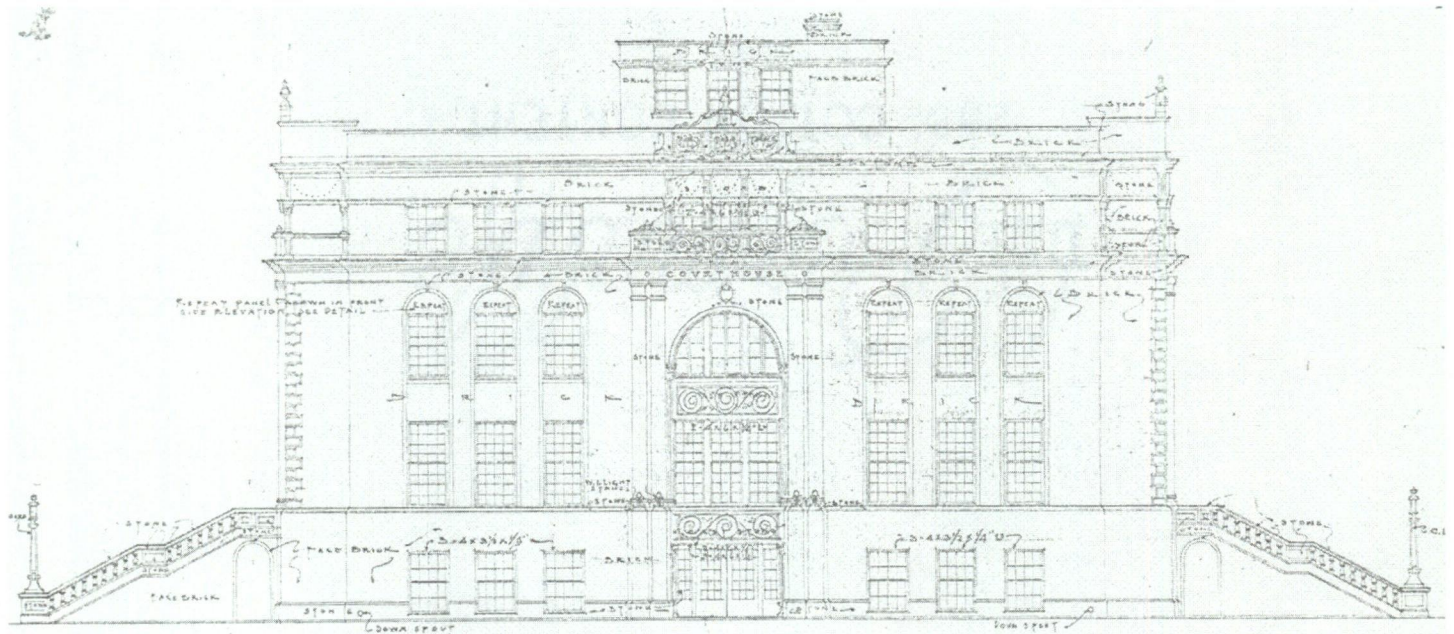
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

Section FIGURE Page 29

**Figure 6:** "End Elevation." Original drawings by the architect, William C. Townes. On file in the office of the Hutchinson County Clerk, Stinnett, Texas.



~ END ELEVATION ~  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

NOTE: OTHER END OPPOSITE HAND EXCEPT  
FRONT HOUSE SEE PLAN.  
ALL DETAILS 2-1/2" x 3/4" UNLESS OTHERWISE SHOWN



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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section FIGURE Page 30

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

**Figure 7:** Hutchinson County Courthouse under construction in 1928. Photo courtesy of the Hutchinson County Historical Museum, Borger, Texas.





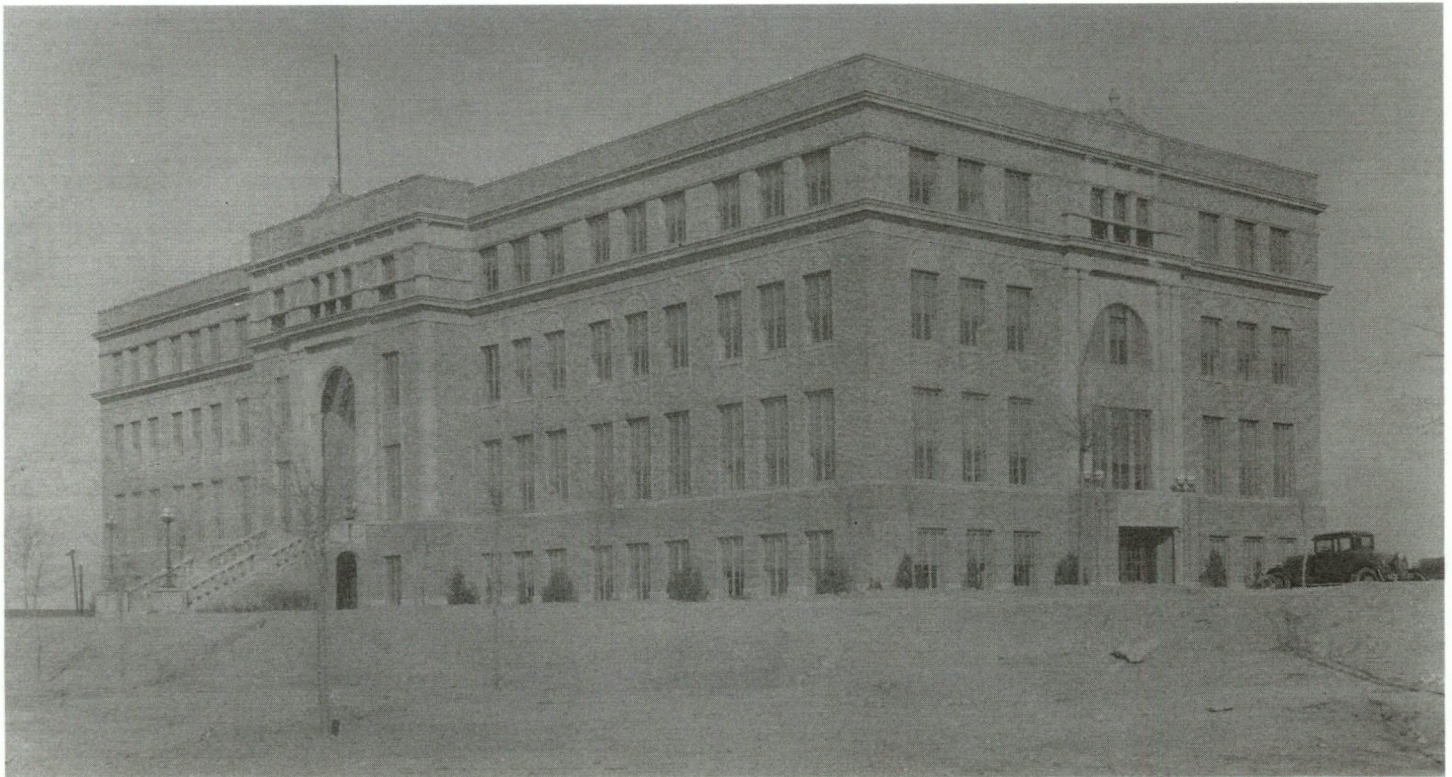
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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section FIGURE Page 31

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

**Figure 8:** The newly completed Hutchinson County Courthouse in 1928. Photo courtesy of the Hutchinson County Historical Museum, Borger, Texas.





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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section FIGURE Page 32

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

**Figure 9:** The Hutchinson County Courthouse grounds as they appeared circa 1940. Note the terracing of the landscape. It has since been more uniformly graded. Photo courtesy of the Hutchinson County Historical Museum, Borger, Texas.





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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section PHOTO Page 33

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

## PHOTOGRAPH LOG

All photographs are credited as follows:

Name of Property: Hutchinson County Courthouse  
City: Stinnett  
County: Hutchinson County  
State: Texas  
Photographer: Lyman Labry, Texas Historical Commission  
Dates: June 19, 2012  
Location of digital files: Texas Historical Commission, Austin

Printed on HP Premium Plus Photo Paper with HP Vivera ink

**Photo 1** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_Courthouse\_0001)  
Southwest oblique of the courthouse and west elevation of the jail  
Camera facing: Northeast

**Photo 2** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_Courthouse\_0002)  
Southwest oblique  
Camera facing: Northeast

**Photo 3** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_Courthouse\_0003)  
West elevation  
Camera facing: East

**Photo 4** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_Courthouse\_0004)  
Central bay detail, west elevation  
Camera facing: East

**Photo 5** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_Courthouse\_0005)  
Central bay decorative parapet detail including cast stone depictions of the farming, petroleum, and ranching industries and the geometric "swags;" west elevation  
Camera facing: East

**Photo 6** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_Courthouse\_0006)  
Northeast oblique; also includes the prefabricated metal storage shed  
Camera facing: Southwest

**Photo 7** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_Courthouse\_0007)  
East elevation; also includes a portion of the northeast corner of the jail  
Camera facing: West



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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section PHOTO Page 34

Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

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**Photo 8** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_ Courthouse\_0008)

South elevation

Camera facing: North

**Photo 9** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_ Courthouse\_0009)

Detail, entrance, south elevation

Camera facing: North

**Photo 10** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_ Courthouse\_0010)

Southwest oblique, jail

Camera facing: Northeast

**Photo 11** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_ Courthouse\_0011)

Central lobby, second floor interior

Camera facing: Approximately northeast

**Photo 12** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_ Courthouse\_0012)

Detail, monumental stairs with mosaic tile risers, second floor leading up to third floor

Camera facing: East

**Photo 13** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_ Courthouse\_0013)

Central lobby, second floor interior

Camera facing: North

**Photo 14** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_ Courthouse\_0014)

County courtroom, second floor interior

Camera facing: Approximately south

**Photo 15** (TX\_Hutchinson County\_ Courthouse\_0015)

District courtroom, third floor interior

Camera facing: Southeast



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Hutchinson County Courthouse  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Hutchinson

DATE RECEIVED: 6/01/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/18/12  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12000587

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 8.28.12 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.





Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., TX  
Photo 1 of 15





Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., Tx  
Photo 2 of 15







Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., TX  
Photo 3 of 15







Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., TX  
Photo 4 of 15





Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., Tx  
Photo 5 of 15







Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., TX  
Photo 6 of 15





Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., Tx  
Photo 7 of 15







Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., Tx  
Photo 8 of 15







Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., TX  
Photo 9 of 15





Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., TX  
Photo 10 of 15







Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., TX  
Photo 11 of 15







Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., Tx  
Photo 12 of 15





Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., TX  
Photo 13 of 15







Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., TX  
Photo 14 of 15







Hutchinson County Courthouse  
Stinnett, Hutchinson Co., TX  
Photo 15 of 15

**TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

*real places telling real stories*



TO: Edson Beall  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)  
Washington, DC 20005

FROM: Carlyn Hammons  
Texas Historical Commission

RE: Hutchinson County Courthouse, Stinnett, Hutchinson County, Texas

DATE: July 11, 2012

The following materials are submitted:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Original National Register of Historic Places form
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resubmitted nomination
<input type="checkbox"/>	Multiple Property Documentation form
<input type="checkbox"/>	_ Resubmitted form
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photographs printed from digital files
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gold CD with TIFF photograph files
<input type="checkbox"/>	Photographs printed from negatives
<input type="checkbox"/>	USGS map
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence – Notification of federal property owner (USPS)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: A copy of a Google Earth map with UTM coordinates is provided in lieu of a hard copy USGS map (page 21).

COMMENTS:

SHPO requests substantive review (cover letter from SHPO attached)  
 The enclosed owner objections (do ) (do not ) constitute a majority of property owners  
 Other:

