

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Texas

COUNTY:
Potter

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE
DEC 31 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Bivins Library

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Bivins ~~Home~~ House (use this)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1000 Polk Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Amarillo

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
13--Graham Purcell

STATE: Texas CODE: 048 COUNTY: Potter CODE: 375

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Amarillo

STREET AND NUMBER:
509 E. 7th

CITY OR TOWN:
Amarillo

STATE: Texas CODE: 048



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Potter County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Amarillo

STATE: Texas CODE: 048

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
NONE

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Amarillo

STATE: Texas CODE: 048

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

DEC 31 1974

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bivins House at 1000 Polk Street in Amarillo is a two-story and attic brick mansion with limestone trim and a two-story pedimented portico across the front. In its overall composition, the house is a West Texas version of the late Georgian Revival style. The architectural detailing illustrates a more eclectic combination of Edwardian bay windows, leaded glass, and rusticated stone trim in addition to the Georgian Revival elements. The roof is hipped with a balustraded deck, large dormer windows, and wide eaves.

The entrance is framed in the two-story pedimented portico with fanlight. The composite columns which support the projecting pediment are in a group of three at either end of the simple entablature, while the remainder of the portico is supported by one composite column at either end.

Massive steps with stone balustrade lean to the first floor entrance and are terminated by large cement urns. The front door, which is glazed with leaded glass in the transom and sidelights, is enframed in a massive stone segmental arch. This is in turn flanked by ornate leaded glass windows on either side.

Above the front door is a gently curved balcony and balustrade which is accessible from the second floor doorway. This entrance is very similar to that of the first floor in scale and detail.

A two-story brick octagonal bay occupies the space under the portico and to the left of the front door. It is striped with a stone band which follows the lines of the window sills and lintels. The windows are large with one pane per sash, which is characteristic of the period when the house was built. The space to the right of the entrance is occupied by a large window on each floor, similar in design to the center window of those in the bay.

L. BROWN
11-74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1904

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input 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

This impressive brick mansion with limestone trim was the home of the Bivins family, prominent in the early days of ranching in Texas and the Southwest. In the grandeur of the overall composition and in the solidness of the material the builder achieved an appropriate expression for the original owner, Lee Bivins, and the times he personified.

The building of the Bivins Home began in 1904. Labor difficulties developed during the construction while Mr. Lee Bivins was away on business, so Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Bivins discharged the craftsmen with whom she was having difficulties and she then employed replacements. In addition to taking personal supervision of the craftsmen, she painted the murals in the dining room. It required eighteen months to complete the house. This landmark has always been one of the showplaces of the Panhandle and a constant reminder of the role of the Bivins family in the heritage of the region.

Mr. Lee Bivins was born in Grayson County, Texas, in October of 1862. In 1890 he purchased a ranch southwest of Claude, Texas, known as Mulberry Pasture. A few years later he purchased the old Crow Bar Ranch northwest of Amarillo and moved to that city. In 1906 he purchased the LX Ranch north of the city and acquired the brand which is known throughout the Southwest. Later he bought the LIT Ranch near Lascosa, the Coldwater Ranch south of Texhoma, a part of the XIT holdings near Channing and a large ranch near Fort Sumner, New Mexico. At the time of his death he owned approximately 500,000 acres of land and was recognized as the largest individual cattle operator in the world. He often had 60,000 head in his ownership. The natural gas deposit on this land also resulted in his owning the largest proven gas acreage in the United States. In addition to these vast holdings, he leased more than a million acres located in Texas, New Mexico, and other states. Besides his fabulous cattle, natural gas, and land interests, Bivins had large holdings in Amarillo

(See Continuation Sheet # 1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Amarillo Globe, Amarillo, Tx., Dec. 31, 1951, p.1.

Breen, Dick, "Lee Bivins, Giant," Amarillo Sunday News and Globe, Amarillo, Tx., Golden Anniversary Edition, 1938, Section E., p. 7.

Webb, Walter Prescott, ed., Handbook of Texas, Vol. II, Austin, Tx., State Historical Association, 1952, p. 1.

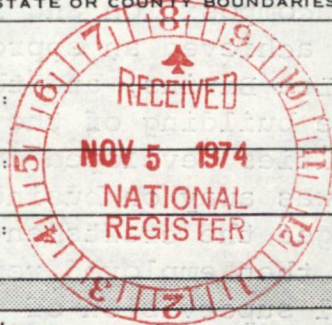
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		35° 12' 11"	101° 50' 16"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2

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



UTM
14/241620
3899060
CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Gary L. Hume, Project Director Architect.
Duncan G. Muckelroy, Historian; Steve Smith, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Texas Historical Commission DATE: Aug. 23, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station

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: Truett Latimer
Title: Executive Director

Date: November 1, 1974

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

[Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: DEC 31 1974

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: DEC 31 1974

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

(Continuation Sheet)# 1

STATE	
Texas	
COUNTY	
Potter	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	DEC 31 1974

(Number all entries)

8. Significance Continued.

property and was a stockholder in many Amarillo and Panhandle firms.

The civic and philanthropic activity of Mr. Bivins also is noteworthy. He served for one term as County Commissioner of Armstrong County. He was president of the Panhandle Livestock Association for one term, and was also a director of the Texas-Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, Inc. for many years. For a long period of years, he served actively on the building committee of the First Christian Church. He contributed substantially to the programs of Methodist Church and Christian Church Colleges in Texas. This pioneer cattleman and civic leader was serving his fourth year as mayor of Amarillo when he died in January of 1929.

After the death of Mr. Lee Bivins, his wife, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Bivins, continued the charitable contributions of the Bivins family. Hundreds of Texas Panhandle Plains stockmen remember her best as a spirited bidder at the annual sale of boys' livestock in the 4H and FFA Auctions at the Amarillo Fat Stock Show. Mrs. Bivins seldom kept the stock she bought from the boys. After she had bought an animal she usually designated it for re-sale with the proceeds to benefit one of the many charities she assisted. Another one of Mrs. Bivins' noted contributions was the creation of the Mary E. Bivins Foundation. This foundation financed the construction of a home for elderly people. This home for the elderly accommodated 50 to 70 persons, including operating personnel, and is located on a 35 acre tract in east Amarillo. The Mary E. Bivins Foundation also endows the continued maintenance of this home for the elderly. Mrs. Bivins bequeathed her family home to the City of Amarillo at the time of her death in 1951. The City of Amarillo operates the Bivins' family home as the Mary E. Bivins Memorial Library.



PROPERTY

Bivins Library House STATE *Ivks*

74002088

WORKING NUMBER

11.5.74.1933

Potter

TECH REVIEW

PHOTOS *2*

MAPS *1*

CONTROL REVIEW

OK
11.18.
74

HISTORIAN

Difficult to believe no alterations were needed to change this from a residence to a library. More hist. of house would be good. Areas of sig. should be architecture + social/humanitarian. (OVER)

Accept
ET
11-22-74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*Should be nominated for commerce rather than education, literature.
Cull.*

LEBOWITZ
11-21-74

ARCHEOLOGIST

*ACCEPT w/ changes
in areas of significance
HUGGARD 12/15/74*

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
12/31/74

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

OK
12/31

National Register Write-up

1-28-75

Send-back

Federal Register entry

34-75

Re-submit

Entered

DEC 31 1974

I asked Gary Hume about this. 1st floor was an open plan, so no structural alterations were necessary. Areas of sig. should be archit. & assoc. w/ historic personage -

Accept w/ changes
in areas of significance
12/12/74

Accept
12/12/74

12/31

DEC 31 1974

Entered
Re-submitt
Send-back

Federal Register entry
National Register Write-up



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

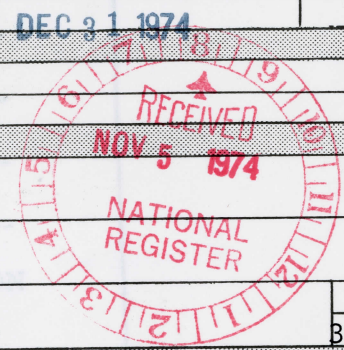
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

STATE	
Texas	
COUNTY	
Potter	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	DEC 31 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Bivins Library			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Bivins Home			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
1000 polk			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Amarillo			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	048	potter	375
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Texas Historical Commission			
DATE OF PHOTO: 8-19-73			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
THC			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
East facade			



#1 of 2

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

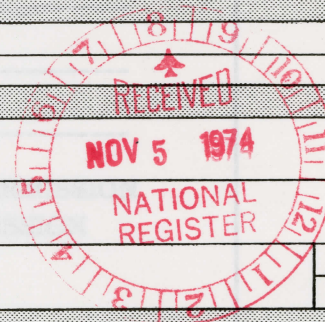
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Texas	
COUNTY	
Potter	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
DEC 31 1974	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Bivins Library			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Bivins Home			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
1000 Polk			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Amarillo			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	048	Potter	375
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Texas Historical Commission			
DATE OF PHOTO: 8-19-73			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
THC			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Southeast oblique			

#2 of 2



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

STATE	Texas	
COUNTY	Potter	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		DEC 31 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Bivins Library
AND/OR HISTORIC: Bivins Home

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1000 Polk

CITY OR TOWN:
Amarillo

STATE: Texas	CODE 048	COUNTY: Potter	CODE 375
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3. MAP REFERENCE

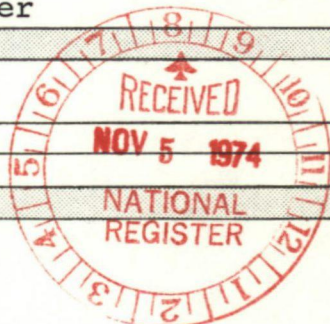
SOURCE:
U.S.G.S. 7.5' series

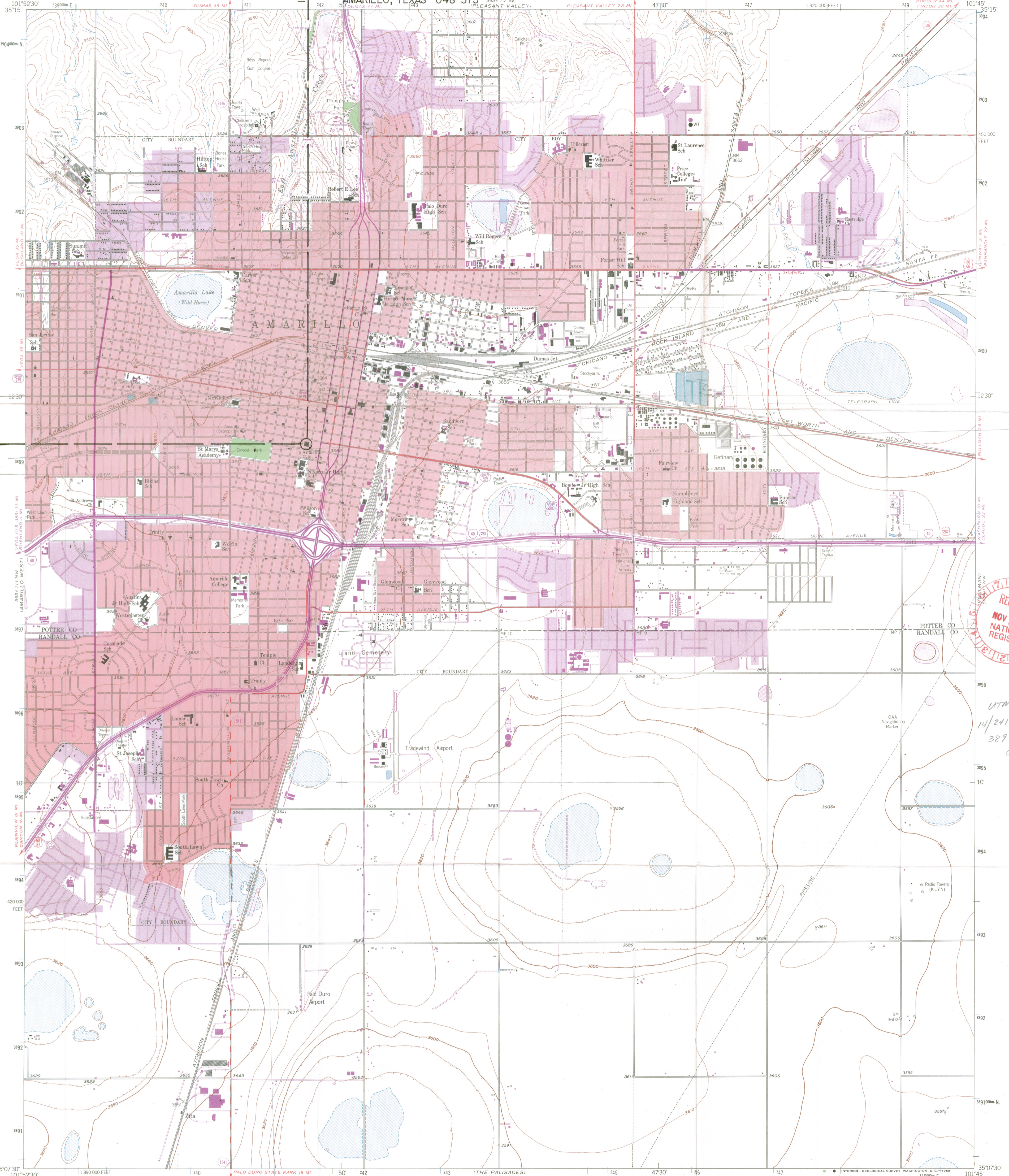
SCALE: 1:24000

DATE: 1967

4. REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
 2. North arrow.
 3. Latitude and longitude reference.



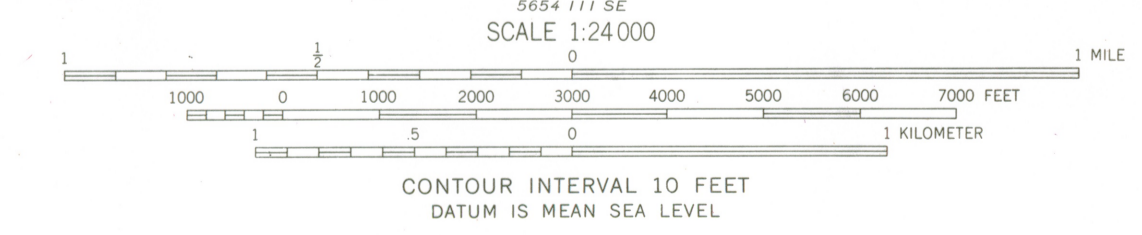


RECEIVED
NOV 5 1974
NATIONAL REGISTER

UTM
14/241 620
3899 060
00

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by Kelsh plotter
and by planetable surveys 1956. Aerial photographs taken 1953
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
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from
aerial photographs taken 1967. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

UTM GRID AND 1967 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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



AMARILLO EAST, TEX.
N35075-W10145/7.5

1956
PHOTOREVISED 1967
AMS 5654 III NE-SERIES V882

3501-224

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **TEXAS**

Date Entered **DEC 31 1974**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Ginocchio Historic District	Marshall Harrison County
<i>House</i> Bivins Library	Amarillo Potter County

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower
Hon. Lloyd M. Bentsen
Hon. Wright Patman
Hon. Jack Hightower

Regional Director, Southwest Region

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

PR MMott/bsh 1/13/75

RANDALL, POTTER COS. TEXAS

November 1, 1978

Mr. John S. Stiff
City Manager
City of Amarillo
P. O. Box 1971
Amarillo, Texas 79186

Dear Mr. Stiff:

On October 30, 1978, the Council received a determination from the City of Amarillo that the proposed rehabilitation and restoration of the Mary E. Bivins Home would not adversely affect that property which is included in the National Register of Historic Places. The Executive Director does not object to your determination.

A copy of your determination of no adverse effect, along with supporting documentation and this concurrence, should be included in any assessment or statement prepared for this undertaking in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and should be kept in your records as evidence of your compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470f, as amended, 90 Stat. 1320).

Your continued cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Signed

Louis S. Wall
Assistant Director, Office of
Review and Compliance, Denver

cc: Chairman
AC Member-Kennedy
SHPO:TX
FLO:HUD-EMBRY
HUD-KARAS
HCRS:NR
ORC:QUINN
FILE:TX/BIVINS HOME/106/CITY/Rehabilitation
MQ:DRS 11-01-78