

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 01 1975

DATE ENTERED

APR 23 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Ellis County Courthouse Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Waxahachie

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Texas

CODE

048

COUNTY

Ellis

CODE

139

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple ownership

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Waxahachie

VICINITY OF

STATE

Texas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Ellis County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Waxahachie

STATE

Texas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Texas State Historical Survey

DATE

November 1974

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Texas Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Austin

STATE

Texas

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE		CHECK ONE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ellis County Courthouse Historic District comprises an area of roughly 25 square blocks in the center of downtown Waxahachie, Texas. Located within this area are some fifty architecturally or historically significant buildings and engineering structures. Dating from the late nineteenth through the early twentieth century, these structures reflect the history of Waxahachie during its prominence as a major cotton producing region in the Southwest. Primarily commercial in character, the district centers around the Ellis County Courthouse in the public square.

The historic district is defined roughly by the area between Waxahachie Branch Creek on the North, Waxahachie Creek on the South, Elm Street on the West, and Flat Street on the East. The Ellis County Courthouse (1) dominates the central business district. Designed by the famous Texas architect J. Reilly Gordon in 1895, the building is rich in Romanesque detail. A central tower forms the stairwell around which the various county offices radiate from four levels. Originally open from the basement to the top of the bell tower, the stairwell has unfortunately been converted to an elevator shaft. Interior detailing is rich with Romanesque filigree patterns in plaster comprising the wainscoting in hallways, offices, and courtrooms. The axial plan in the form of a Greek cross is complicated with projecting bays and turrets. Entrances are located in the four corners formed by the projections of the cross from the central tower.

Exterior surface treatment of pink granite with rock-faced texture is combined with red sandstone window lintel and sill bands to enhance the massive quality of the building. Windows are typically Romanesque in detail with rounded arches and slender proportions. An extensive gray slate roof of steep pitch follows the various undulations around the exterior walls. Turrets with conical roofs and dormers with chimney extensions project from the roof in random fashion. The massive clock tower with projecting bartizans and a pyramidal roof can be seen from miles around.

Surrounding the courthouse on four sides are numerous late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings. On the Northwest corner of the square at 200 West Main is the Waxahachie Abstract Company building (3). Built ca. 1895 in the commercial Romanesque style, surface treatment combines cut sandstone of rock-faced texture on the street level with

(continued)

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

APR 23 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

red brick on the two upper levels. Window reveals indicate a 24-inch wall thickness with sandstone transom mullions. Cornice projections on the corners protrude from the flat roof. Original interior detailing and ornamentation, by contrast, is Neo-Classical in style.

Adjoining the Abstract Company at 210 and 208 West Main (2) are two Victorian commercial buildings built ca. 1890. Two stories in height, original cast iron storefronts and elaborate tin cornices are their finest features. To the North of the Abstract Company at 105, 107, and 109 North Rogers are three Victorian commercial buildings. Typical red brick construction is supported by cast iron storefronts on their East facades. Directly across Rogers Street from these buildings are two similar one-story Victorian commercial structures (5). Recently renovated in an effort to stimulate interest in the central business district, the buildings display attractive canvas awnings and color schemes.

The Northern end of the historic district is defined by Waxahachie Branch Creek. Recent landscaping along the creek between North Rogers and North College Streets has created a charming urban space (40). Overlooking the landscaped area is the second Ellis County Jail building (6), located on the Northeast corner of North Rogers and Water Streets. Built circa 1885, the building is Chateausque in style. Red brick walls are pierced in irregular fashion by tall, narrow windows. A round turret with conical roof dominates the two-story structure. The walls of the octagonal cell chamber are still extant, although the interior mechanism has been removed. Several other Victorian commercial structures, with cast iron storefronts are located along North College Street across from the jail (7, 8, 9).

The Rogers Hotel building dominates the Northeast corner of the courthouse square (10). Built in 1912 of dark brown brick, the hotel consists of twin four-story towers with an open well between. A roof garden provided the hotel guests with a panoramic view of the town for many years. An even balance between the large windows and the spandrels between floors conveys the structural steel framing system and the Commercial Style influence on its design.

(continued)

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Around the square are many late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings (11,12,13,14,16,17,19). The first Penn Building, 1894, (12) is an excellent example of the Romanesque Commercial Style with rounded arches, stone quoins, and a corbel table. Another Penn Building was built in 1912 (19), indicating the progression of architectural styles from the Romanesque to the Commercial Style. An interesting example of the Neo-Classical Revival style can be found in the First National Bank building (14), circa 1910. Restrained in form and surface ornamentation, the flat surfaced walls are built of white sandstone. Large rounded arched openings allude to the depth of the door and window reveals. Across the street on the Southwest corner of Franklin and Rogers Street is the finest example of the Romanesque Commercial Style on the square (16). Built circa 1898, the building is dominated by a square tower with pyramidal roof on the Northeast corner. The East facade is symmetrical with seven bays in an "ABCACBA" pattern. Composite pilasters in low relief divide each bay of the facade.

Only a few intrusions are found around the square. The Waxahachie Bank and Trust Company building located on the Southeast corner of Franklin at Rogers Streets (17) is probably the most offensive. The other three buildings that share the South side of the square are rather unpretentious late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial structures. However, the most elaborate example of the High Victorian Italianate Style in the district is the Masonic Building on the Southeast corner of Franklin at College Streets (18). Built in 1889 as an office-commercial structure in conjunction with the Masonic Temple, the building displays typical tall and narrow windows with stilted segmental and rounded arches. Brick pilasters flank either side of the double windows on the West facade. A profusion of decorative Victorian motifs embellish the tin cornice that caps the composition.

The streets behind the courthouse square to the East and South display many variations of the late nineteenth century one-story, cast iron storefront commercial building (20,22,23,25,26). Similarly, the streets Southwest of the square include examples of the early twentieth century equivalent of the nineteenth century cast iron storefront building: the large plate glass windowed storefront between brick columns (27,28,29,31,32). Located in the midst of all the commercial buildings is a law office

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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APR 23 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

in the Greek Revival style, circa 1875 (21), the third Ellis County Jail in the Mission Style, 1920 (24), and an original service station, circa 1915 (30).

The Southern end of the district is dominated by seven structures which have played an important part in the daily life of Waxahachie. The Federal Building (33) located on the Southeast corner of Madison and South Rogers Streets is the finest public building in the Neo-Classical Revival Style in the city. Designed by the General Services Administration in the current style of the day, the building was completed in 1914. Restrained in detail with no extraneous surface ornamentation, the building exemplifies the primary principles of the Neo-Classical Style: heavy columns of the Greek order, linteled door and window openings, pilasters in low relief, simple entablature, and low-pitched hipped roof. The original bronze lamp posts with simple spherical globes flank either side of the entrance steps. The only exterior alterations were the replacement of the original front doors with those of extruded aluminum, and the enclosing of the large mail room windows on the East facade when the interior was remodeled for office space after the Post Office moved in 1967.

One block south of the Federal Building are the Rock Island and Katy Railroad Stations (35 and 36). The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Depot (35), circa 1900, is typical of the stations built at the turn of the century. The walls are of yellow brick while the door and window quoins and wainscoting are of contrasting red brick. An octagonal telegrapher's turret dominates the building. Two stories in height, the tower is capped by a crenelated parapet wall. An extensive red-tiled roof with wide eaves terminates the composition. A similar red-tiled roof caps the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railway Depot (36) in the same area. Much simpler in overall form than the Rock Island Depot, the Katy Depot, circa 1895, is also built of yellow brick with red brick wainscoting. A square telegrapher's bay protrudes through the roof in the form of a dormer window.

Perhaps the most unique engineering feature in the district is the Rogers Street Bridge that crosses Waxahachie Creek (37). Manufactured by the Wrought Iron Bridge Company in Canton, Ohio, the structure was shipped

(continued)

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APR 23 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

by rail to Waxahachie and assembled in 1889. Approximately 100 feet in length, the structural system would be classed as a three span covered truss bridge with wooden flooring. One block to the West of the wrought iron bridge is the Elm Street viaduct, circa 1918, spanning the valley along Waxahachie Creek (38). A structural system of reinforced concrete piers and beams support the span of 1000 feet. A heavy concrete balustrade forms the only railing along which simple lamp posts were originally spaced at intervals of 30 feet. Almost immediately below the viaduct on the South side of the creek is the Paymaster Oil Mill Company (39). Built before the turn of the century when the cotton industry was at its peak, the mill is constructed of red brick. A decline in cotton production in Ellis County in the last few years has contributed greatly to the lack of maintenance at the mill.

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DATE ENTERED

APR 23 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 5

Inventory of Historic Structures Located Within the Ellis County
Courthouse Historic District

1. Ellis County Courthouse (Courthouse Square): 1895
2. Two-story Victorian commercial buildings (210 and 208 W. Main Street): ca. 1890
3. Waxahachie Abstract Company (200 W. Main Street): ca. 1898
4. One-story Victorian commercial buildings (109, 111, and 113 N. Rogers Street): ca. 1890's
5. One-story Victorian commercial buildings (114 and 116 N. Rogers Street): ca. 1900
6. Second Ellis County Jail building (Northeast corner of N. Rogers at Water Street): ca. 1880's
7. Two-story Victorian commercial buildings (201 and 203 N. College): ca. 1890's
8. One-story commercial buildings (108, 110, 112 and 114 N. College): ca. 1900
9. One and two-story Victorian commercial buildings (109, 111, 113, and 115 N. College): ca. 1890's
10. Rogers Hotel (Northeast corner of Main at College): 1912
11. Two-story Victorian Commercial buildings (106, 108, and 110 Main Street): 1890's and 1900's
12. Penn Building No. 1 (114 Main Street): 1894
13. Commercial buildings (Southwest corner of Main at Rogers): ca. 1910
14. Bank building (114 Rogers Street): ca. 1905

(continued)

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APR 23 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 6

15. Commercial building (210 W. Franklin): ca. 1907
16. Commercial building (Southwest corner Rogers at Franklin): ca. 1900
17. Two-story commercial buildings (114, 112, 110, and 108 Franklin):
ca. 1910 and 1890's
18. Masonic building (201 and 207 South College): 1889
19. Penn Building No. 2 and other commercial buildings (East side of
courthouse square): 1912 and 1890's
20. One-story commercial buildings (200 block of East Main): ca. 1905
21. One-story Greek Revival building (200 East Main): ca. 1870's
22. One-story commercial buildings: ca. 1900
23. One-story commercial buildings (111 and 117 E. Franklin): ca. 1890's
24. Third Ellis County Jail building (200 E. Franklin): ca. 1920's
25. One-story commercial buildings (200 block of S. Jackson): ca. 1900's
26. One-story Victorian commercial buildings (215 South College):
ca. 1890's
27. Two-story commercial structures (300 block of S. College):
ca. 1910 and 1900's
28. Two-story Victorian commercial building (217 S. Rogers):
ca. 1890's
29. Two-story Victorian commercial building (214 and 208 S. Rogers):
ca. 1890's

(continued)

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APR 23 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 7

30. Service station (210 W. Jefferson): ca. 1915
31. Two-story Victorian commercial buildings (300 block S. Rogers):
ca. 1890's
32. Two-story Victorian commercial buildings (308 S. Rogers): ca. 1900's
33. Federal Building (401 S. Rogers): 1914
34. Rock Island Freight Depot: ca. 1900
35. Rock Island Passenger Station: ca. 1900
36. Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Passenger Station: ca. 1890's
37. Waxahachie Creek Bridge (South Rogers Street): 1889
38. Elm Street Viaduct: ca. 1918
39. Paymaster Oil Mill: ca. 1890's
40. Landscaping along Waxahachie Branch Creek (between North College
and North Rogers Streets): 1974

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT J. Reilley Gordon

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Within the twenty-five square blocks around the Ellis County Courthouse square in the central business district of Waxahachie, Texas, are located over fifty buildings and engineering structures representing the booming economy of the cotton industry during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Known at one time as the "Queen City of the Cotton Belt," Waxahachie enjoyed the finest amenities the bustling economy could provide for many years. Because of its good fortune during the time when labor and materials were cheap and its location in a semi-rural area, the town has been able to retain an early twentieth century quality both in appearance and life-style.

The beginning of the town of Waxahachie dates from 1839 when E. W. Rogers received a grant from the Republic of Texas for 640 acres. Ellis County was an open prairie at that time with Indians and buffalo in abundance. The Rogers family built a homestead on the property in 1847 where the town now stands. Two years later in 1849 the village of Waxahachie was chartered and named from an Indian word. The Shawnee Trail, the principal route out of Texas used by cattle drivers seeking northern markets before the Civil War, passed through the center of present day Waxahachie on its route between San Antonio and the Red River. The fertile soil and climate of the prairie was found to be ideal for raising cotton in the period after the Civil War. With the arrival of the Texas and New Orleans Railroad in the late 1870's, Waxahachie had become quite a prosperous commercial center. The Texas and New Orleans Railroad (later acquired by the Southern Pacific) was soon followed by the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific and the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroads due to the increasing cotton production.

The present courthouse in the town square was preceded by three other structures on the same site (1). Designed by the famous San Antonio architect J. Reilly Gordon, the original construction contract was let to Otto P. Kroeger of San Antonio on November 3, 1894. The dedication

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 25 acres

UTM OK CO

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1,4 | 70,2 | 74,0 | 3,5 | 8,5 | 1,8,0 |

B | 1,4 | 70,2 | 76,0 | 3,5 | 8,4 | 5,2,0 |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C | 1,4 | 70,2 | 0,3,0 | 3,5 | 8,4 | 5,0,0 |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D | 1,4 | 70,2 | 0,2,0 | 3,5 | 8,5 | 1,6,0 |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The northern boundary of the Ellis County Courthouse Historic District begins at a point in the center of N. Rogers Street on the north bank of Waxahachie Branch Creek. From this point it follows the north bank of the creek to the center of N. Jackson Street. From there it follows the center of N. Jackson Street 200 feet to the center of the alley behind the buildings on the north side of

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Joe R. Williams, Project Director
Stephen Smith, Restoration Consultant

ORGANIZATION Texas Historical Commission

DATE March 28, 1975

STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 12276

TELEPHONE 512-475-3094

CITY OR TOWN Austin

STATE Texas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Julia Jalime

TITLE Texas State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE March 28, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

R. R. Montoye

DATE

4/23/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

APR 22 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

R. R. Montoye

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APR 23 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

was held July 4, 1895 and the pink granite structure has had only minor alterations to its Richardsonian Romanesque facades in the 80 years it has dominated the town square.

Around the courthouse on the four sides of the town square are located many examples of the architectural styles that were popular during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Among these styles are Romanesque Commercial, Victorian Commercial, High Victorian Italianate, Neo-Classical Revival and Early Twentieth Century Commercial. Most outstanding of these buildings is the Masonic Building (18) built in 1889 in the High Victorian Italianate style. Essentially unaltered from its original plan with only minor exterior deviations, the structure has been the focal point of major Masonic functions for many years. The property has recently been acquired by the Ellis County Historical Museum and Art Gallery for use as the headquarters for their annual "Gingerbread Trail" pilgrimage.

Another outstanding historical property on the town square is the Rogers Hotel building. Constructed on the site of the original 1847 Rogers Homestead in 1912, the building had been the center of Waxahachie social life before its decline as a hotel enterprise in the 1960's. It originally housed the town's first swimming pool, and the roof garden offered a panoramic view of the town. The Interurban Railway between Dallas and Waco stopped at the entrance on College Street. A ticket office occupied one of the original spaces off the first floor lobby. However, the interurban line was removed in 1940. The building was closed in 1964 after Interstate Highway 35 opened between Dallas and Waco and claimed the declining hotel business. The City of Waxahachie has recently purchased the property from the C. A. Wilson Company and will convert it into a retirement home with funds received from an HUD grant.

The outlying blocks around the square contain other significant examples of late nineteenth and early twentieth century architectural styles. The second Ellis County Jail building (6) is an excellent example of the Chateausque styled confinement institution. Unfortunately, the rotating

(continued)

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

octagonal cell mechanism was used for scrap metal during World War II. However, the original exterior walls are intact. Another interesting example of early twentieth century public architecture is the Federal Building (33). Built in 1914 of white sandstone to house both the U. S. Post Office and other Federal offices, the building is an excellent example of the Neo-Classical style designed by the General Services Administration. The U. S. Postal Service vacated the structure for a new building in 1967. The City of Waxahachie purchased the building in 1974 for adaptation into city offices. The lowered ceilings will be removed to reveal the original two-storied coffered ceilings.

A picturesque quality exists in the area along Waxahachie Creek. Both the Rock Island and Katy Railway depots (35 and 36) can be seen to the East from the 1918 Elm Street viaduct (38). Located a few feet from the Katy depot on South Rogers Street is the first wrought iron bridge over Waxahachie Creek (37). Built by the Wrought Iron Bridge Company of Canton, Ohio, the structure was shipped by rail to Waxahachie in 1889. The bridge is carefully maintained and is in daily service. To the west of the viaduct on the south side of the creek is the Paymaster Oil Mill Company. Among the first cottonseed oil mills in Ellis County, the plant has seen daily service since the late 1880's.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE one

E. Main Street. From here it continues for two city blocks to the center of Kaufman Street at which point it continues south to the center of North Main Street. It follows the center of the street westerly to the center line of the intersection with Flat Street and continues south along Flat Street to the center of the alley behind the buildings facing north on Franklin Street. From this point it continues westerly to the center of Jackson Street, continues south along Jackson Street to the intersection with Jefferson Street, and then continues west along Jefferson Street to the intersection of College Street. From here it continues south for two blocks to the Rock Island Railroad property where it encircles the Rock Island Freight Station on the east side of College Street. From here it continues south to the south bank of Waxahachie Creek. From this point it continues in a straight line for three city blocks until it reaches the outer western edge of the Paymaster Oil Mill Company property. From this point the boundary line projects north to the north bank of Waxahachie Creek, then continues in a straight line easterly to the centerline of the S. Elm Street viaduct. From here it continues northerly for approximately 1000 feet to the north end of the viaduct, at which point it follows a straight line easterly to the center of the block between Elm and Rogers Streets. Then it continues north to the centerline of W. Jefferson Street, where it continues westerly to the center of S. Elm Street. From here it continues one block to the center of W. Franklin Street and continues east for half a block to the center of the alley behind the buildings facing east onto the courthouse square. It continues north through the alley until it intersects W. Main Street where it heads west down Main Street to the center of Elm Street. From here it continues north for half a block to the alley behind the present City Hall. Then it continues east again around the City Hall to the center of N. Rogers Street where it continues north to the beginning point of the boundary.

75001971

Property Ellis County Courthouse Historic
State Texas Working Number 4.1.75.572 District Ellis

TECHNICAL

Photos 26
Maps 1

Sketch map

CONTROL

OK pl
4.3.75

HISTORIAN

Accept
E. Smith
4-15-75

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

What are the intrusions? Good photo
documentations esp. Smith pix - wide variety of bldgs & structures included
but historically cohesive.

ACCEPT H. J. and
4/19/75

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
4-17-75

BRANCH CHIEF

accept
Hunt
4.21.75

KEEPER

[Signature]
APR 22 1975

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____
Federal Register Entry 6-3-75 Re-submit _____

Entered APR 23 1975

INT:2106-74



NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse West Dist
Ellis Co., Texas

Loc. Ellis Co. Courthouse,
NW oblique (1)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

photo 1

(9)

(TXS)

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Ellis County Courthouse Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN	VICINITY OF	COUNTY	STATE
Waxahachie		Ellis	Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Ted Powers

DATE OF PHOTO 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT
Texas Historical Commission

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 1

Ellis County Courthouse, Northwest oblique (1)



NPS Number

4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.

Ellis Co., Texas

Loc. Ellis Co. Courthouse,

NE oblique (1)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#2

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1 NAME

HISTORIC
Ellis County Courthouse Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN
Waxahachie

____VICINITY OF

COUNTY
Ellis

STATE
Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT
Texas Historical Commission

DATE OF PHOTO 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT
THC

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 2

Ellis County Courthouse, Northeast oblique (1)



NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.

Ellis Co.) Texas

Loc. Ellis Co. Courthouse,

detail of SE entrance (1)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

photo 3

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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PHOTO NO 3

Ellis County Courthouse, detail of Southeast entrance (1)



NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist Dist.

Ellis Co, Texas

Loc. Ellis Co, Courthouse,

detail of column

NE porch

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PHOTO NO 4

Ellis County Courthouse, detail of column - Northeast porch



①
NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.

photo # 5

Ellis Co., Texas

Loc. Waxahachie Abstract Co.

SE. oblique (3)

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Waxahachie

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Ellis

STATE

Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

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Kenneth Springer

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City of Waxahachie, Texas

4 IDENTIFICATION

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Waxahachie Abstract Company, Southeast oblique (3)

PHOTO NO 5



(4)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number 4-23-76

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist Dist
Ellis Co., Texas

photo 6

Loc. Waxahachie Abstract Comp.
SE oblique (3)

Early 20th c. commercial
bdgs (4, 12, 13)

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PHOTO CREDIT Kenneth Springer

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PHOTO NO 6

Waxahachie Abstract Company, Southeast oblique (3)
Early 20th Century commercial buildings (4,12,13)



NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist Dist.

Ellis Co., Texas

Loc. 2nd Ellis Co. Jail

SW oblique

(6)

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photo # 7

F/G # 252a +

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Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Stephen Smith

DATE OF PHOTO 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Texas Historical Commission

4 IDENTIFICATION

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Second Ellis County Jail, Southwest oblique (6)

PHOTO NO 7



NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.
Ellis Co. , Texas

Loc. Landscaping along Waxahachie
Branch Creek, Looking West
from the N. College St. bridge (Go)

photo 8

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Kenneth Springer

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Waxahachie City Hall

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 8

Landscaping along Waxahachie Branch Creek, looking West
from the N. College Street bridge (40)



ANTIQUES
WED. - THUR. - SUN.



ROBINS PRINTING

AND ASSOCIATES

NPS Number Apr. 23, 1975

Title: Ellis County Courthouse Hist. Dist.

Ellis County, Texas

Loc. East elevations of late 19th C.
commercial bldgs; looking S.
along N. College St.

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Spec # 2 + 1/4

#9

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Stephen Smith

DATE OF PHOTO 1974

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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 10

Rogers Hotel, Southwest oblique (10)



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist Dist

Ellis Co. Texas

Loc. Rogers Hotel,

SW oblique (10)

photo 10

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STATE

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Stephen Smith

DATE OF PHOTO 1974

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Texas Historical Commission

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 9

East elevations of late 19th Century commercial buildings,
looking South along N. College Street (9)



②
NPS Number

9-23-75

Title: Ellis Co Courthouse Hist Dist

Ellis Co, Texas

- oc. Rogers Hotel, SW oblique
from Ellis Co. Courthouse (10)
Early 20th C. commercial
buildings (11, 19)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

photo - 11

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Kenneth Springer

DATE OF PHOTO

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NEGATIVE FILED AT

City of Waxahachie, Texas

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 11

Rogers Hotel, Southwest oblique from Ellis County Courthouse (10)

Early 20th Century commercial buildings (11,19)



5

NPS Number 4-23-75

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.

Ellis Co., Texas

- oo. Romanesque commercial bldg.,
NE oblique (16) Waxahachie Bank &
Trust Co (17), 1st National
Bank Bldg. (14)

photo 12

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Kenneth Springer

DATE OF PHOTO

1975

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Texas Historical Commission

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 12

Romanesque commercial building, Northeast oblique (16)

Waxahachie Bank & Trust Co (17), 1st National Bank Building (14)



NPS Number

4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.

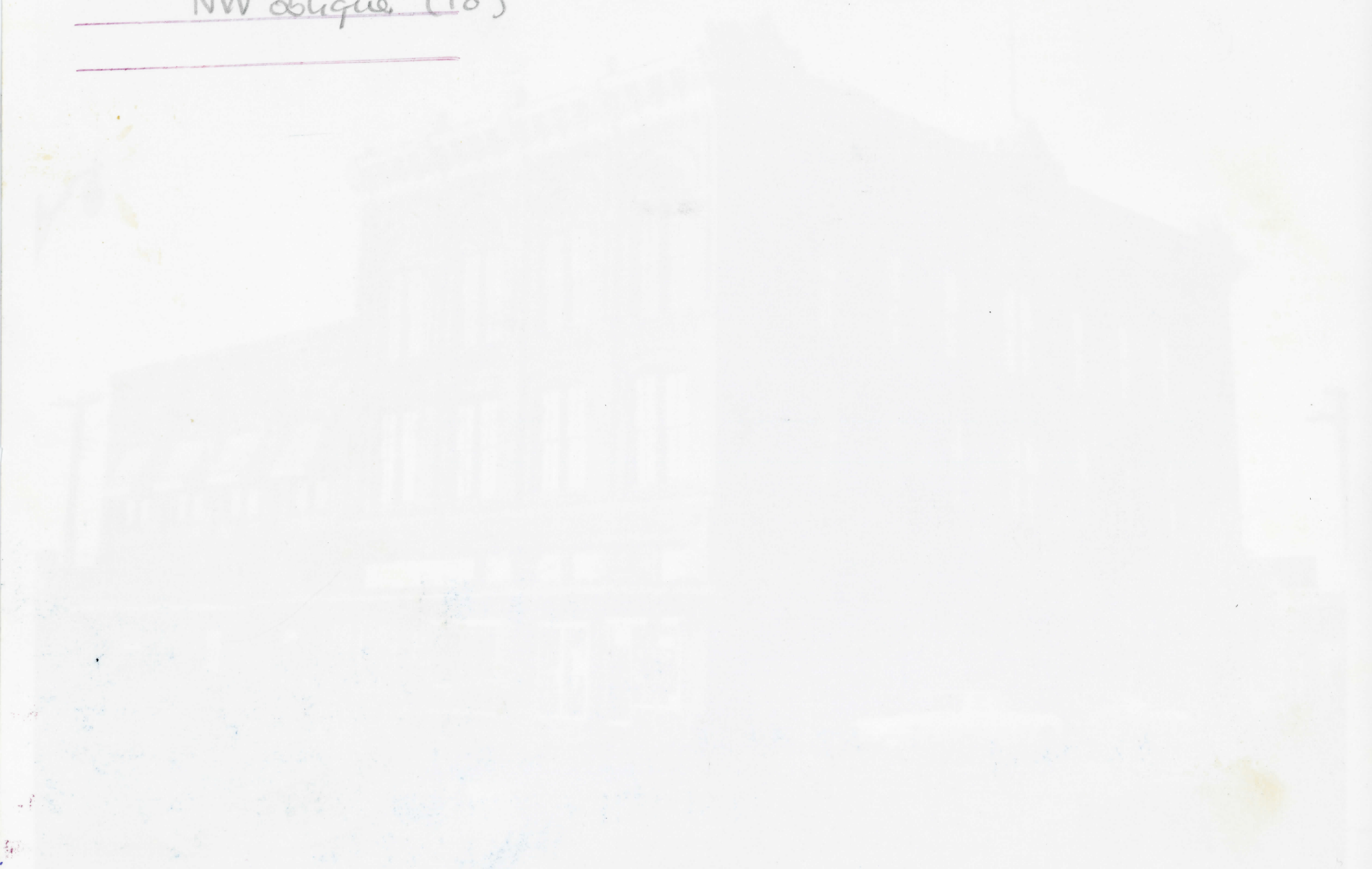
Ellis Co, Texas

Loc. Masonic Bldg.

NW oblique. (18)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

photo 13



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STATE

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Stephen Smith

DATE OF PHOTO 1974

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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Masonic Building, Northwest oblique (18)

PHOTO NO 13



16

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number 4-23-76

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist Dist.

photo 14

Ellis Co, Texas

Loc. Masonic Bldg.

SW oblique (18)

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Kenneth Springer

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

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City of Waxahachie, Texas

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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Masonic Building, Southwest oblique (18)

PHOTO NO 14



6

NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co Courthouse Hist Dist

Ellis Co, Texas

no. Masonic Bldg, NW oblique (18)

One-story early 20th C.

Commercial bldgs (26)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

photo 15

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Waxahachie

____VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Ellis

STATE

Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

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DATE OF PHOTO 1975

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City of Waxahachie, Texas

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 15

Masonic Building, Northwest oblique (18)

One story early 20th Century commercial buildings (26)



11

NPS Number 4-23-75Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist, Dist.
Ellis Co., TexasLoc. 1-story early 20th C. commercial
bdgs (20) looking E. in the
300 block of E. main st.

photo 16

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN	_____ VICINITY OF	COUNTY	STATE
Waxahachie		Ellis	Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

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PHOTO NO 16

One-story early 20th Century commercial buildings (20)
(looking East in the 300 block of E. Main Street)



WHAT
OFFICE

12

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.
Ellis Co., Texas

Loc. Greek Revival board-and-batten
Commercial structure (21)

photo 17

[Faint, illegible text and markings]

[Faint, illegible text]

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Greek Revival board-and-batten commercial structure (21)

PHOTO NO 17



LEVINE'S
DEPT.
STORE

K
WOLENS

LEVINE'S

DO NOT
ENTER
→

20

NPS Number 4-23-75

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Title: Ellis County Courthouse Hist. Dist
Ellis Co., Texas

Loc. Row of 2-story late 19th & early
20th c. commercial bldgs.
W. facades in the 300 block of
S. Rogers St. (31)

Photo # 18

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PHOTO NO 18

Row of two-story late 19th and early 20th Century commercial
buildings, West facades in the 300 block of S. Rogers St. (31)



19

NPS Number 4-23-75

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Title: Ellis Co, Courthouse Hist. Dist.

Ellis Co, Texas

photo 19

Service Sta., ca. 1915 SW oblique (30)

Alley façades of two-story
commercial bldgs (15 & 29)

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PHOTO NO 19

Service station, ca. 1915, Southwest oblique (30)
Alley facades of two-story commercial buildings (15 and 29)



NPS Number

4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.

Ellis Co., Texas

oo. Federal Building,

SW facade (33)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

photo # 20

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Federal Building, Southwest facade (33)

PHOTO NO 20



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis County Courthouse Hist. Dist.

Ellis Co., Texas

Loc. Federal Bldg.

W. facade (33)

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Federal Building, West facade (33)

PHOTO NO 21



NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.

Ellis Co., Texas.

oo. Chicago, Rock Island,

1/2 Pacific RR Station

S. facade (35)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

photo# 22

f/22 4 1/2 sec

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Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railroad Station,
South facade (35)

PHOTO NO 22



NPS Number

4-23-75

Title:

Ellis Co Courthouse Hist Dist

Ellis Co, Texas

loc.

Missouri - Kansas - Texas

RR station, SW oblique (36)

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photo 23

4/6 #2 tree

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PHOTO NO 23

Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Station, Southwest oblique (36)



NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.
Ellis Co., Texas

Loc. Rock Island RR & Katy
RR depots from the S. Elm St
Viaduct (35, 36, & 38)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

photo 24

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Kenneth Springer

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

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PHOTO NO 24

Rock Island Railroad and Katy Railroad depots from the
South Elm Street viaduct (35,36, and 38)



NPS Number 4-23-75

Title: Ellis Co. Courthouse Hist. Dist.

Ellis Co., Texas

Loc. S. Rogers St. bridge over

Waxahachie Creek, looking

N. on S. Rogers Street

#1 1/2 + 16-22 5 nee

25

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 01 1975

DATE ENTERED APR 23 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Ellis County Courthouse Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Waxahachie

___ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Ellis

STATE

Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Stephen Smith

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Texas Historical Commission

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 25

S. Rogers Street bridge over Waxahachie Creek, looking
North on S. Rogers Street (37)



NPS Number 4-23-75Title: Ellis Co Courthouse Hist Dist

photo 26

Ellis Co, TexasLoc: Paymaster Oil MillSoutheast obliquefrom from Elm St. Viaduct (39,38)

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STATE

Texas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Kenneth Springer

DATE OF PHOTO

1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT

City of Waxahachie, Texas

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 26

Paymaster Oil Mill, Southeast oblique from Elm Street viaduct (39,38)

photo pulled

5/78

Publications

Branch

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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___VICINITY OF

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Ellis

STATE

Texas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

United States Geological Survey

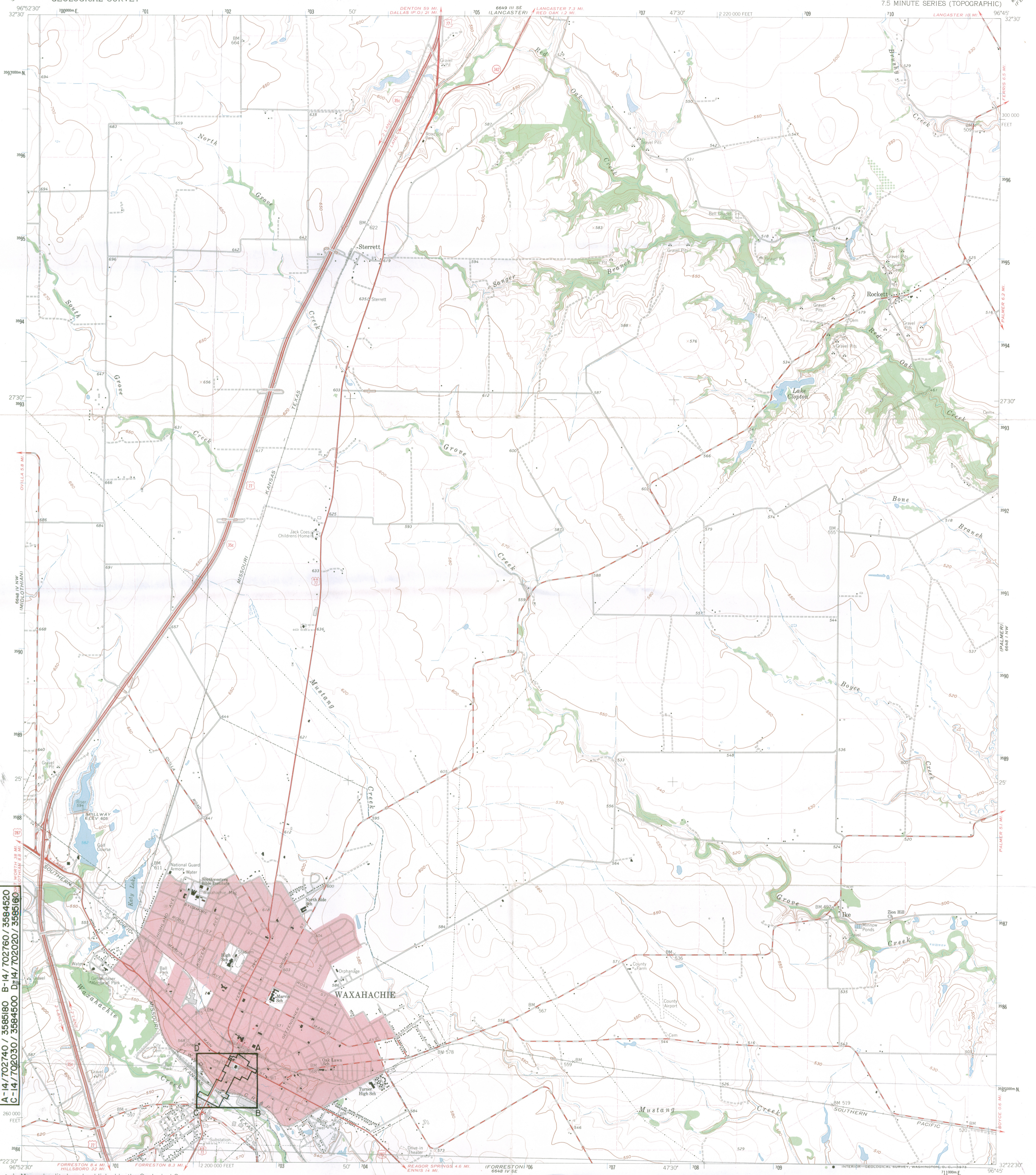
SCALE 1:24,000

DATE 1961

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

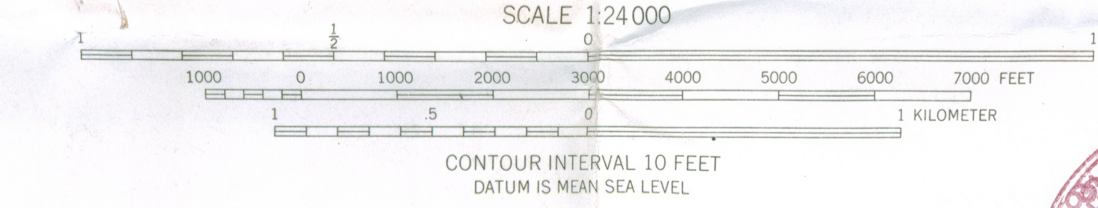


ELLIS COUNTY COURTHOUSE HISTORIC DISTRICT
WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS
UTM REFERENCE:
A-14/702740 / 3585180 B-14/702760 / 3584520
C-14/702030 / 3584500 D-14/702020 / 3585180

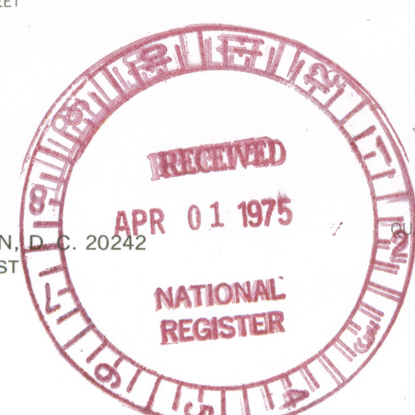
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1958. Field checked 1961
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system, north central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecke
Area covered by dashed light-blue pattern is subject to controlled inundation

UTM GRID AND 1961 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



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 ———
○ Interstate Route □ U.S. Route ○ State Route

WAXAHACHIE, TEX.
N3222 5 - W9645 7.5
1961
AMS 6648 IV NE-SERIES V882

JUL 19 1973

3296-234

51

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STATE

Texas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE Sketch Map

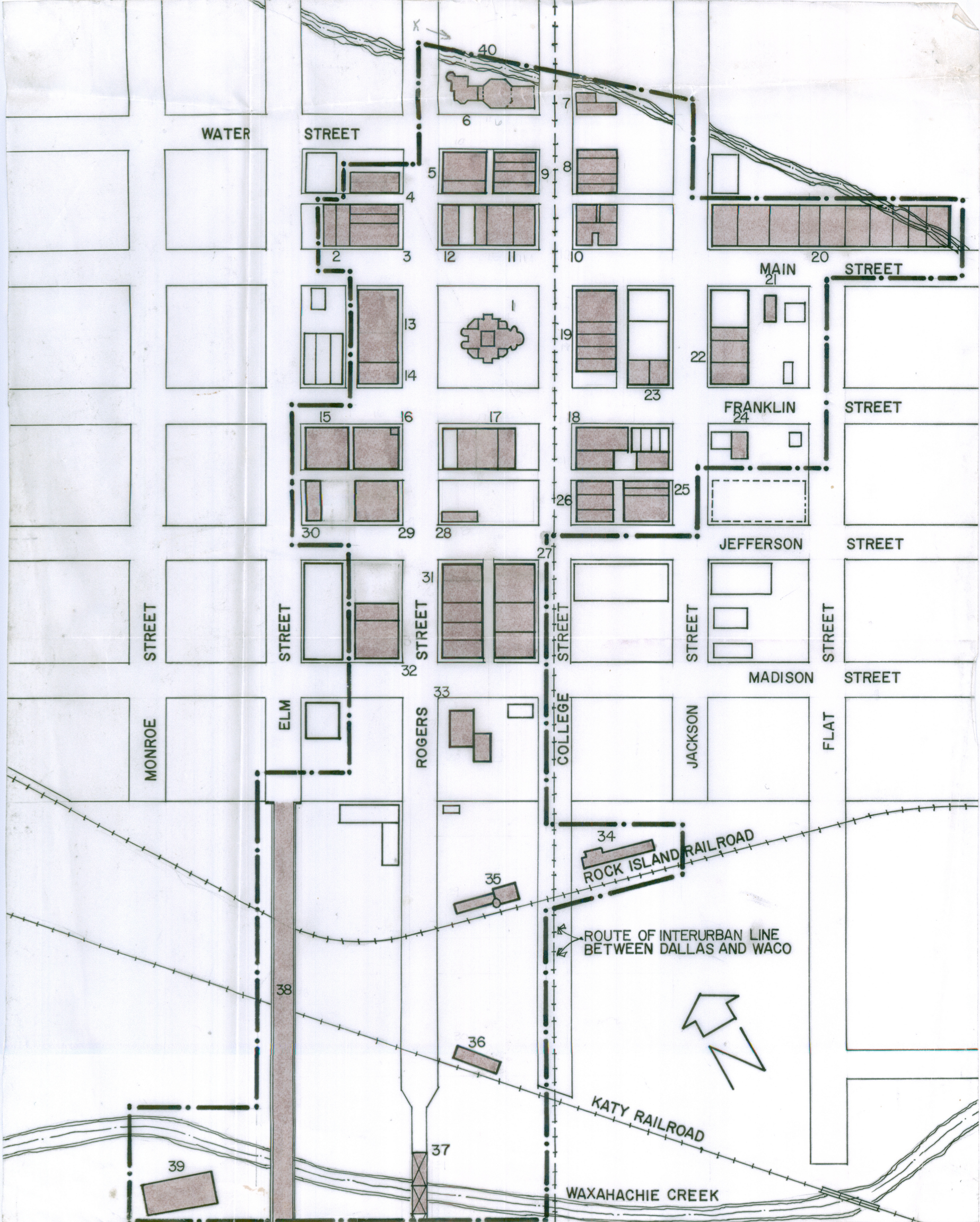
SCALE 1"=200'

DATE 1975

4 REQUIREMENTS

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2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE TEXAS

Date Entered APR 23 1975

Name

Location

Old Algerita Hotel

Post
Garza County

McBride Ranch House

Sanford Recreation Area
Potter County

Southwestern University Administration
Building and Mood Hall

Georgetown
Williamson County

Ellis County Courthouse Historic District

Waxahachie
Ellis County

Mr. Douglas Wheeler, Department of the Interior
Mr. L. David Williamson, Department of the Interior

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower
Hon. Lloyd Bentsen
Hon. Omar Burleson
Hon. Jack Hightower
Hon. W.R. Poage
Hon. Olin E. Teague

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

Regional Director, Southwest Region



ED SEEGMILLER
CITY MANAGER

PR

File

Mott

CITY COUNCIL
W. H. LARKIN, MAYOR
JACKIE L. BROWN THOMAS R. DUNN
HUBERT C. DAVIS GEORGE BROWN

May 7, 1975

Mr. A. R. Mortensen, Assistant Director
Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Department of Interior
1100 L Street NW, Rm. 5113
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Mortensen:

I want to express my personal appreciation to you for your efforts in helping place our Ellis County Courthouse Historical District on the prestigious National Register of Historic Places. Our entire citizenry was elated when the official news was released by our Congressman, Olin Teague, on Friday. Without the help of dedicated individuals such as yourself, the concept of a historical district in downtown Waxahachie could not have become reality.

9/16

At long last the citizens of our community have become aware of the rich historical heritage which we have in Waxahachie and have charged themselves with the task of preserving and restoring the many historical structures in our city that should remain forever for future generations to enjoy. We feel indeed fortunate to have in our city these many historic buildings and sites which your department has deemed deserving to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Again, my deep appreciation for your support, and if ever I may be of Assistance to you, please feel free to call on me.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Ed Seegmiller, City Manager

ES/nr

cc: Jerry L. Rogers ✓
Chief, Division of Grants

MAY 13 1975

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 12-20-76
 Reviewer INITIALS: nesbitt
 NR DOE 4/23/75

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Ellis, County Courthouse Historic District

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION: Roughly bounded by both sides of Waxahachie Creek N to Union Pacific RR. tracks and between both sides of Elm and Flat Sts.
~~area around the Courthouse Square~~

CITY, TOWN: Waxahachie
 STATE: TX
 VICINITY OF: 048
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: sixth
 COUNTY: Ellis
 code: 139

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER: MULTIPLE public/private

ADMINISTRATOR (underline):
 FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):
 NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST
 SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

<u>INTERIOR</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-1 <input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 4 <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 7	<u>EXTERIOR</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-2 <input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 5 <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 8	<u>ENVIRONS</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-3 <input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable - 9
- Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0		
CONDITION - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED <input type="checkbox"/> Unexcavated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED <input type="checkbox"/> Reconstructed <input type="checkbox"/> Excavated
ACCESS - Yes-restricted <u>Yes-unrestricted</u> No access Unknown		

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO } NA.
 IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO } NA.
 IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)
 then- Commercial/Governmental
 now- Commercial/Governmental

SIGNIFICANCE:

- | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LAW/Gov't/politics | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | <input type="checkbox"/> recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE - 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | <input type="checkbox"/> settlement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | <input type="checkbox"/> socio/cultural |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE - 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | <input type="checkbox"/> urban & commun planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS-GOVERNMENT | | |

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: examples of Richardsonian Romanesque, Neo-Classical Revival, Romanesque and Italianate

architect/m.builder: J. Riely Gordon (~~Etise.~~)

engineer:

landscape/garden designer: (~~Courthouse~~)

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES: personal

(label role

&

appropriate date)

events

insitutional

DATES: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1875-1915

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE: (OF NOMINATION) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE: (to nearest tenth of an acre) 25 acres

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here) Primarily Commercial district of

approx. 50 significant structures relating to the town's importance as the center of all

cotton-producing region in the period of late 19th-early 20th c. ^{Majority of buildings are} Primarily 1-2-story ~~late~~

19th c. stone and brick buildings; notable of which are ^{the Romanesque Revival style} 1895 Ellis Co. Courthouse (1895)

designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style by J. Riely Gordon, 1914 Neo-Classical

Revival Federal Building, ^{(1914),} the 1889 Italianate style Masonic Building ^{(1889),} and the 1895

Romanesque style Waxahachie Abstract Company Building, ^{(1895),} Commercial importance declined

~~along with cotton production, ca. 1950's; retains~~ along with cotton production, ca. 1950's; retains

much late 19th c. feeling. ^{character.}

