PH0691461

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

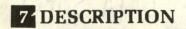
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RECEIVED AUG 1 9 1976

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	yan Carnegie Library	K San Comment of the		A Property
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REGISTRY OF DEEDS,	ETC. Brazos County Cou	rthouse	- 9	
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CITY, TOWN	Bryan		STATE Texas	
6 REPRESEN	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		2
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CONDITION

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X ORIGINAL SITE

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE
The Carnegie Library located at 111 South Main street in Bryan, Texas, is a two-story
brick masonry Classic Revival structure which occupies the western section of Bryan's
only public greenspace.

The Library, built in 1903 from plans designed by the architect T. E. Gieske of Texas A & M University's Architectural Department, was essentially a two-story rectangular structure with a two-story portico and projecting foyer on its west, or main facade, identical bay windows on its north and south sides, and an eastern facade with no major projections.

The Library's red brick exterior has not been modified since its construction. The western (main) facade consists of a four column, three bay portico flanked on each side by a single bay. The portico has smoothly plastered untapered columns with finely detailed plaster Corinthian capitals and moulded plaster bases. The pedimented portico has a modillioned cornice, which is repeated on each of the building's four sides and above the bay windows. The pediment contains a circular window framed with pateras and fillets of stucco acanthus and oak leaves.

The Library's main entrance is sheltered by the two-story portico, and is composed of a paneled double doorway with an unusual double transom. The twelve pane fanlight has five mullions which are tangent to the center of the transom bar. Beneath the fanlight is a hinged three light transom. The fanlight is set within a Roman Arch with plain limestone voussoirs and a large wedge-shaped keystone.

On the first floor, the main entrance is flanked on each side by double hung sash 1/1 light windows, with limestone flat arch lintels. The flat arches have keystones similar to the one above the main entrance. The second level consists of Roman Arched 1/1 light double hung sash windows, symmetrically placed above each ground floor window. Above the main entrance itself are paired windows with plain limestone voussoirs. The fenestration detail is repeated on the remaining facades of the Library.

The portico and foyer are brought slightly forward from the main block of the Library and are treated as a projecting entrance bay. This bay is flanked, on each side, by a narrow bay which defines the form of the building's main block. Each bay has a single window on each floor. On the first floor the linteled window has multiple diamond-shaped panes on the upper sash. The bays are given additional visual weight by the recessing of every fifth course of brick, which resembles the visual effect of deeply raked stone masonry.

In plan, the Library's ground floor consists of a single large room, and a projecting foyer on the west side. The foyer, with a random length, center match hardwood floor, contains identical staircases with massive, plain newel posts and machine turned balusters The complex staircases each contain a quarter and a half turn and ascends to a smaller second floor foyer.

The first floor library itself had encaustic tile floors (covered in 1968 by vinyl tile) and no major spatial divisions. The bays at the north and south ends of the library are framed by unadorned arches, and each bay was divided from the main space by a machine turned wooden balustrade which curved outward from the bay into the principal library space. The bays were used for librarians' offices and work space.

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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Eight Corinthian fluted cast metal columns, on pedestals support steel "I" beams laid north to south, one on each side of the bay's arched openings. The ceiling is stamped metal, consisting of low relief circular medallions set within a grid. Suspended at regular intervals, from the ceiling, are wooden bladed ceiling fans and simple white translucent glass globe lights which were installed when the library was built. The interior walls on both floors are lath and plaster.

The second floor is composed of a small foyer on the western side, and an auditorium. The auditorium has a slightly raised stage with an unadorned proscenium arch, centrally located on the western side of the building. The second floor has pressed metal ceilings and hardwood floors similar to those on the first floor.

In 1952 the auditorium was altered for use as a children's library. A striped awning was installed over the proscenium arch, and free standing bookcases were placed in the room. No structural alterations were made, however.

1.5 The Carnegie Library has approximately one acre of grounds with large trees and our shrubs. The building is located at the western edge of the property, facing see Main Street. The library grounds are the only public greenspace in downtown 🛊 🖊 LEBOUICH Bryan. 10,26,76

The library facilities were moved to a new building in 1968, and the Carnegie Library was adapted for use by the city planning and traffic departments of the Bryan municipal government. In altering the library for office use, planning stressed maximum reversability and virtually all of the library's original interior features, including the ceilings, ceiling fans, and columns, were preserved. The open plan office arrangement prevented partitioning of the library's ample interior space.

Currently, plans are being developed by the City of Bryan for the preservation of the library and its grounds as a local cultural and historical museum. The library is in good condition and is accessible to the public.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Carnegie Public Library, & Classic Revival building located at 111 South Main Street in Bryan, Texas, has been the focal point of Bryan's cultural and civic affairs since it was opened, in 1903. The Library's grounds are Bryan's only public greenspace.

In 1895, twenty-five women formed the Mutual Improvement Club of Bryan (which became the "Women's Club" in 1909) for the expressed purpose of planting trees along Bryan's streets, creating a city park, and establishing a free public library. In 1902 two of the club's most prominent members, Mrs. Rose Fountain Howell and Mrs. George M. Brandon, assumed sponsorship of fund raising activities for the construction of the library.

A direct appeal for funds was made to Andrew Carnegie through Thomas W. Stewart, a Galvestonian financier whose father had been a close friend of Carnegie. Stewart was the brother-in-law of Lillie Wilson, whom the mutual Improvement Club had designated as Bryan's first librarian. Stewart succeeded in obtaining a grant of \$10,000 from Carnegie for the construction and furnishing of the library. There were no stipulations with the funds, other than an agreement that the city of Bryan would provide a building site, and \$1,000 a year for the Library's maintenance and acquisition of books.

The Bryan City Council accepted the agreement and appointed a nine member board of managers for the library, which included Mrs. Howell and Mrs. Brandon. A portion of Bryan's downtown municipal park was chosen as the site for the library, and building contracts were made with the Howell Lumber Company, the H. T. Lewis Construction Company, and F. E. Gieske, the Library's architect who was on the architectural faculty at nearby Texas A & M University.

The Classic Revival Library opened its doors on December 17, 1903. The purchase of books for the library became a community wide project, initiated with a \$1500 donation from the Mutual Improvement Club. In addition, substantial contributions from individual citizens of Bryan were received. A private circulating library, founded by Mrs. Howell in 1900, agreed to donate its entire collection to the library, as well as future purchases after each new book had made one circuit among each of the club's members. The Malcom McInnis family, prominent local residents, gave a reception for the library's benefit and invited virtually the entire population of Bryan, asking one book per person as the admission charge.

The newly completed library building had a second floor auditorium which became the focal point of Bryan's cultural and civic activity. It was the permanent meeting place of the

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

THE CARNEGIE LIBRARY. Monograph compiled for the Texas Historical Commission by Phyllis Dozier, Brazos Valley Arts Council, Bryan, Texas.

Texas Historical Commission, Marker files: Carnegie Library. Texas Historical

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ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Women's Club, housed various church congregations during the construction of new buildings, and was the scene of public meetings and political speeches. In 1919, the library was chosen as the permanent reunion hall for the survivors of Hood's Texas Brigade.

The Hood's Texas Brigade Association, a group of confederate veterans from the famed Texas unit, held annual reunions from 1872 to 1933 prior to 1919 the group met at various locations in Texas, twice previously in Bryan, in 1876 and 1902. The utility of the library's auditorium, and the hospitality of the citizens of Bryan appealed to the organization for which a champagne reception was given on the library grounds each year, after the library was designated as the permanent meeting hall in The Hood's Texas Brigade Association inserted a small plaque to the right of the library's main entrance which reads "Hood's Brigade, Bryan, our last headquarters, and this building our last home."

Hood's Texas Brigade was the most well known of Texas' confederate units, and the only one from Texas which fought as a body, in the eastern theatre of the Civil War. General John Bell Hood, the Brigade's commander, was the youngest confederate General, and assumed command of the Wilderness Campaign from fellow Texan, General Albert Sidney Johnston. Hood personally officiated at the reunion each year until his death in 1879. The last known member of the reunion association died in 1934, a year after the last reunion meeting.

During both World Wars I and II the auditorium of the library became a small factory, with Red Cross volunteers preparing shipments of clothing, blankets and bandages.

In 1944, Mrs. Lee J. Rountree, president of the Library's board of managers, established the Childrens Educational Foundation, to create a separate library for children which would provide special services and programs. Mrs. Rountree obtained donations from townspeople as well as former residents for the project. The auditorium was slightly altered, with painting and decoration, an in 1953 became the Rountree Room for Children. The stage was occasionally used for the presentation of plays and lectures, and the auditorium itself was filled with shelves of children's literature.

A new public library was constructed in 1968, and the Carnegie Library was occupied by the Bryan City Planning and Traffic Departments. The Library was carefully renovated to maximize the reversability of the alterations. The fine coffered ceilings and cast iron pillars on the interior were not removed, and flourescent office lighting was dropped from the ceiling on an independently suspended grid.

The citizens of Bryan are conscious of the architectural and historical value of the Carnegie Library, and plans are being made to restore the structure and use the interior space for a local museum, and as a meeting place for local, civic, historical, and cultural groups.

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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Webb, Walter Prescott, ed. THE HANDBOOK OF TEXAS, Austin: The Texas State Historical Association, 1952.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

P. O. BOX 18876 AUSTIN TEXAS 78711

June 11, 1981

Carol Ebright, Joy Bush HCRS National Register Department Pension Building 440 G Street NW Washington, D.C. 20243

Carol, Joy,

As mentioned on the phone to Carol this week, another list of Item 10 corrections for previous NR listings from Texas has been compiled. A copy is enclosed for your records. In each case the readings were off slightly on the original forms or the maps have been changed slightly by the USGS revisions.

Thank you for the call on Ft. Anahuac, the local committee will be very pleased when everything is finalized. We have pretty much gone through all of the files, so I don't think there will be too many more corrections. Hope all is well with you.

Sincerely,

Ulrich Kleinschmidt

National Register Archeologist

Texas Historical Commission.

Whiel Klandmit

relative

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

10.

Item #10 corrections for:

Walker Ranch - Bexar County

(2/24/75)

USGS Castle Hills has UTM listed, although old form has only latitude/longitude. The UTM's have incorrect listing for Point (D), which should read: Z14/E548062/N326950 to conform to the mapped rectangle.

Lake Theo Folsom Site Complex - Briscoe County

(4/28/75)

Map correct as originally shown. UTM's listed incorrectly. Should be:

- A) 14/ 3 08 425 / 38 10 640
- B) 14/ 3 12 360 / 38 10 580
- C) 14/ 3 12 360 / 38 09 440 D) 14/ 3 08 415 / 38 09 540

Bridges-Johnson House - Meridian vicinity, Bosque County (10/25/79)

USGS map has changed and UTM location is now: Z 14/6 26 260 / 35 30 660

Bowie County Courthouse and Jail - New Boston, Bowie County (11/16/77)

UTM should read: 15/ 3 67 850 / 37 01 025

Saenger Theater - Texarkana, Bowie County (7/12/78)

UTM should read: 15/4 02 880 / 36 98 300

First National Bank Building - Meridian, Bosque County (11/7/79)

USGS 7.5 map lines for UTM's have changed with 1979 photo revision. Therefore 1981 location by UTM coordinates reads: 14/6 27 000 / 35 32 440

Varner-Hogg Plantation - West Columbia vicinity, Brazoria County (4/9/80)

- A) 15/ 2 42 890 / 32 29 030 C) 15/ 2 43 610 / 32 28 610
- B) 15/ 2 43 260 / 32 29 230 D) 15/ 2 43 380 / 32 28 200

Bryan Carnegie Library - Bryan, Brazos County (10/27/76)

A) 14/ 7 51 660 / 33 96 180

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2

Corrections continued -

Santa Fe Railroad Station - Brownwood, Brown County (1/2/76)

10 .

UTM never listed, it is: A) 14/ 5 01 920 / 35 08 765

St. John's Episcopal Church - Brownwood, Brown County

(9/4/79)

A) 14/ 5 01 420 / 35 09 100

Bishop Site - Salt Gap vicinity, Concho County (6/17/77)

Typo: should be 14/ 4 41 300 / 34 63 000



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Bryan Carnegie Library Bryan, Brazos County, Texas AUG 1 9 1976

Texas Historical Commission, 1976 Texas Historical Commission

West (main) elevation Photo #1

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

OCT 27 1976



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Bryan Carnegie Library Bryan, Brazos County, Texas

Texas Historical Commission, 1976 Texas Historical Commission

Northwest oblique Photo #2

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AUG 19 1976

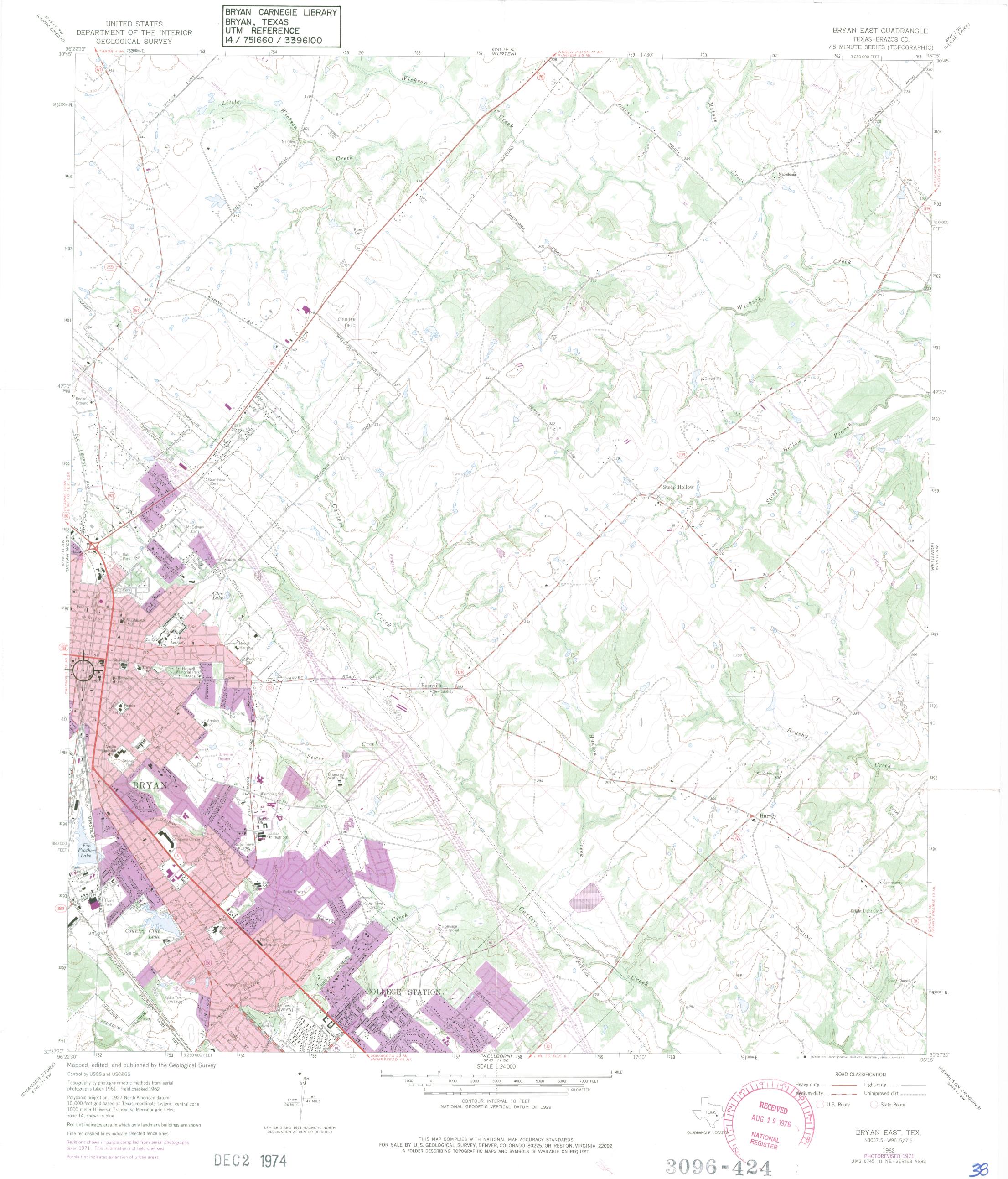
Bryan Carnegie Library Bryan, Brazos County, Texas

Texas Historical Commission, 1976 Texas Historical Commission

Northeast oblique Photo#3

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER OCT 2 7 1976

9/08/05





Arts Council of Brazos Valley

October 11, 1976

Congressman Olin E. Teague Rayburn House Office Building Room 2311 Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In August two Brazos County nominations to the National Register of Historic Places were forwarded to Washington after necessary preparations were completed by the Texas Historical Commission. One of those was the nomination of the Carnegie Library Building in Bryan which last year was designated a future museum by the Bryan City Council.

Enthusiasm, generated by efforts of Citizens for Historical Preservation for the museum project, is very high at this time with all interested persons literally awaiting word of nomination acceptance on a day to day basis. Having the old library building and the other nomination (the Cavitt House in Bryan) as well on the National Register will be a "first" for the Brazos Valley.

The Texas Historical Commission assures us that their part in the nomination process has been completed and that your office will rective first notification of the decision reached concerning the two nominations.

Citizens for Historical Preservation hope to simultaneously announce to the public the acceptances to the Register, as well as the well formulated plans for adapting the Carnegie Library Building as a museum.

Consequently any information you may have at present, could ascertain or may receive concerning these nominations would be appreciated by the Citizens for Historical Preservation.

Phyllis Dozien

Phyllis Dozier, ACBV Executive Director Public Relations Chairman, Citizens for Historical Preservation

cc: Mrs. Travis Bryan Jr., President Citizens for Historical Preservation

> Mrs. Hazel Richardson, Librarian Bryan Public Library

WASHINGTON ADDRESS: SUITE 2311, RAYBURN BUILDING TEL.: AREA CQDE 202 - 225-2002

COUNTIES:

BRAZOS LIMESTONE ELLIS NAVARRO HILL ROBERTSON JOHNSON

PORTIONS OF DALLAS, PARKER, TARRANT CITY OF STREETMAN Muitar Gtatas

VETERANS' AFFAIRS
STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

COMMITTEES:

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States Bouse of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

October 14, 1976

Mr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
 of Historic Places
U.S. Department of Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Murtagh:

Enclosed is copy of a letter I received from Ms. Phyllis Dozier, Public Relations Chairman, Citizens for Historical Preservation, College Station, Texas regarding two nominations they have submitted for approval. The letter is self explanatory.

I would appreciate it if you can advise me the status of these nominations.

Thanking you for your assistance in this matter, I am,

Sincerely,

Olin E. Teague

Member of Congress

/mb

Encl.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

October 20, 1976

Honorable Olin E. Teague House of Representatives Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Teague:

I am pleased to acknowledge your inquiry in behalf of Ms. Phyllis Dozier concerning the nominations of the Carnegie Library Building and the Cavitt House, Brazos County, Texas, to the National Register of Historic Places.

We appreciate your interest and will proxide you a reply at the earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

Gary Everhardt Director

XEM

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ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Date Entered DGT 2 7 1976

Name

Location

Cavitt House

Bryan

Brazos County

Bryan Carnegie Library

Bryan

Brazos County

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower
Hon. Lloyd M. Bentsen
Hon. Olin E. Teague
Regional Director, Southwest
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Truett Latimer Executive Director Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78711

880 MMott/row

11/4/76

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Honorable Olin E. Teague House of Representatives Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Teague:

Thank you for your recent letter in behalf of Ms. Phyllis Dozier concerning the nomination of the Bryan Carnegie Library and the Cavitt House, Brazos County, Texas, to the National Register of Historic Places.

We are pleased to advise you that both the Bryan Carnegie Library and the Cavitt House were entered in the National Register on October 27, 1976. Enclosed are leaflets which describe the National Register and grants-in-aid programs.

We appreciate your interest in historic preservation.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Allen Connolly

Director

Enclosures

Mr. Truett Latimer
Executive Director
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711) w/c of inc.

Regional Director-South Kawest)

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FNP: KJBurns: JLN:mj:/0/29/76

1/25/77

BRYAN CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Owner:

City of Bryan
Mayor and City Officials
Bryan, Texas 77840

ismo

ADOLPHUS STERN HOUSE Owner:

> City of Nacogdoches Mayor and City Officials Nacogdoches, Texas 75961

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TURKEY ROOST PETROGLYPHS Owner:

Pleas Childress
P. O. Drawer K
Ozona, Texas 76943

TAX REFORM ACT

77

GALVESTON CAUSEWAY Owner:

County of Galveston
Galveston County Courthouse, 722 Moody St.
Galveston, Texas 77550

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SI NAME as it appears on federal register: Bryan Carnegie Library 10-27-76 041 5 LOCATION street & number vicinity of (6)NPS REGION: state county 111 S. Main Street Brvan TX Brazos Southwest OWNER | PRIVATE | STATE | MUNICIPAL | COUNTY | MULTIPLE | FEDERAL (agency name) (9) EXISTING SURVEYS _ HABS _ HAER _ NHL (10) FUNDED? _ YES _ NO (11) CONGRESS. DISTRICT 12 SOURCE of NOMINATION if state who prepared form? BOWITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? SHPO CIYES, NAME. 1.5 acre PRIVATE ORGANIZATION CONDITION deteriorated Xaltered Xoriginal site mfeatures: SSUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 Dexcellent Oruins. Qunaltered moved ONOT INTACT-O v good unexposed reconstructed Dunknown UNKNOWN-4 5 UNKNOWN - 6 | fair unexcavated Dexcavated ≥ NOT APPLICABLE-7 MOT APPLICABLE - 9 18 ACCESS YES-Restricted XYES-Unrestricted No Access (19) ADAPTIVE USE X YES ONO 200 Unknown IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes X no SAVED? TYES 21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE : ☐ ENGINEERING - 11 LANDSCAPE ARCH - 15 22CLAIMS: explain □ POLITICS / GOVT. - 21 KRECREATION -28 ARCHEOLOGY - prehistoric - 2 COMMERCE - 6 'first' ☐ ENTERTAINMENT-26 ☐ LAW - 16 RELIGION - 22 ARCHEOLOGY - historic - 1 EXPLORATION - 12 ☐ LITERATURE - 17 SCIENCE- 23 URBAN PLANNING-31 ☐ AGRICULTURE -3 'oldest' CONSERVATION - 8 THEALTH - 27 MILITARY - 18 SOCIAL / HUMANITARIAN (24) OTHER (SPECIFY) X ARCHITECTURE-4 ECONOMICS - 9 ☐ INDUSTRY - 13 MUSIC - 19 SOCIAL / CULTURAL-30 'only' & GREENSPACE, IN D'TOWN ART-5 EDUCATION-10 ☐ INVENTION - 14 ☐ PHILOSOPHY - 20 TRANSPORTATION - 25 BEYAN . 28 functions adates of initial construction: WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Library major alterations : CURRENTLY: Office Building/Commercial historic events: architectural style(s): architect: master builder: engineer: Neo-Classical Revival T.E. Gieske alandscape architect/garden designer: alinterior decorator: artist: 33 artisan: Duilder/contractor: HOWELL LUMBER CO. H.T. LEWIS CONST. COMPANY MAMES give role & date PERSONAL: THOS. W. STEWART - GALVESTON FINANCIER - ASSOCIATE OF CARNEGIE - CIRRANGED FINANCING THEU. CARNEGIE ANDREW CARNEGIE - STEEL MAGNATE - PHILANTHROPIST - ENDOWED LIBRARIES WORLDWIDE. EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL: MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT CLUB - WOMEN'S CLUB - FORMED TO SET UP CITY PAIK & ESTABLISH LIBRARY MATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP BRICK, 2 STORIES, MODIFIED RECTANGLE, GABLED AND HIPPED ROOF SECTIONS, FRONT CENTER GLAZED DOUBLE-DOOR ENTRANCE WITH FANLIGHT, FULL-HEIGHT TETRASTYLE COR-INTHIAN PORTICO WITH LETTERED FRIEZE AND PEDIMENT BULLS EYE, MAIN FACADE QUOINS AND RUSTICA-TION, WINGED WINDOW LINTELS WITH KEYSTONES, POLYGONAL SIDE BAY; STAMPED TIN INTERIOR CEILINGS; RENNOVATED FOR OFFICE USE, 1968. NEO-CLASSICAL REVIVAL. TYPICAL OF EARLY 20TH C. CARNEGIE LIBRARY BUILDINGS; GROUNDS ARE CITYS OF BRYAN'S ONLY PUBLIC GREENSPACE reviewers initials SEOFF date 6.15.77