NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:

Parker County Courthouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Courthouse Square

CITY OR TOWN:

Weatherford

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

(Check One)

- District
- Site
- Object
- Building
- Structure

OWNERSHIP

- Public
- Private
- Both

Public Acquisition:

- In Process
- Being Considered

STATUS

- Occupied
- Unoccupied

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

- Yes:
  - Restricted
  - Unrestricted
- No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainmment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Museum
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Scientific
- Park
- Transportation
- Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER’S NAME:

Parker County

STREET AND NUMBER:

Courthouse Square, Parker County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:

Weatherford

STATE:

Texas

CODE:

048

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Parker County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

Courthouse Square

CITY OR TOWN:

Weatherford

STATE:

Texas

CODE:

048

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Texas State Historical Survey

DATE OF SURVEY:

1965

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Texas State Historical Survey Committee

STREET AND NUMBER:

108 W. 15th Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Austin

STATE:

Texas

CODE:

048
A three-story limestone courthouse with fourth-story attics and a central tower that adds three additional stories. The building is square in plan with four identical facades, each facade divided into five bays by the shallow projection of the central and end pavilions. The end pavilions are surmounted by prominent convex mansard roofs each with four dormers with pedimented architraves above arched windows. The central pavilions have gables and the eaves of the building are bracketted with irregularly spaced brackets of two sizes. The corners of each pavilion have ashlar pilasters contrasting to the rustication of the rest of the fabric. The openings are arched. The first floor windows are of the one-over-one light double-hung sash type. The second and third floor windows are vertically continuous with small pediments above the terminal arch at the third floor. There is a small, somewhat Palladian, arrangement of windows at the attic story of the central pavilions. The tower is arranged so that two convex mansard roofs are united by a vertical section—all shingled. The lowest story has paired dormers with broken segmentally arched pediments on each side; the second story has louvered bell-windows with broken segmentally arched pediments. The top is ornamented with large clock faces with molded archivolts and prominent keystones.
8. SIGNIFICANCE

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</table>

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1884-1886

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Aboriginal
- Prehistoric
- Historic
- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Art
- Commerce
- Communications
- Conservation
- Education
- Engineering
- Industry
- Invention
- Landscape
- Literature
- Military
- Music
- Political
- Religion/Philosophy
- Science
- Sculpture
- Social/Humanitarian
- Theater
- Transportation
- Urban Planning
- Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Parker County Courthouse is an eye-catcher. Its tall central tower and four corner pavilions with handsome mansard roofs are a naive and charming version of the French Second Empire style in architecture.

Parker County is located in North Central Texas. The first permanent settlers came to the region after 1849. The county was created from Bosque and Navarro counties in December of 1855. The site for Weatherford, the county seat, was chosen from three sites selected by the county commission at that time. For some years, Weatherford was the last settlement on the western frontier between Fort Worth and El Paso.

The first courthouse was of rough pine. The second was a two-story brick building destroyed by fire in 1874. A third burned in 1884. The present courthouse is the fourth and was built in 1884-1886 for a cost of $55,555.55. The architect was W. C. Dodson, at that time in partnership with a man named Dudley. Dodson was the architect for at least five other Texas courthouses, two of them, the courthouses of Hill and Hood counties - both built in 1890, with central towers that duplicate this one in Weatherford.

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1965.
Design and Built by W.C. Dodson

Historian

Archaeologist

Architect

Assistant Keeper

Keeper

Entry

Chief, Camp

Editorial Processing, Editor

Federal Register Entry 8/3/71

Date

Received March 15, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number 71.4.48.0039
Title: Parker County Court House
Loc. Parker Co., Texas View from the main street

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P. O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
NPS Number 71.6.48.0039

Title: Parker County Courthouse

Loc. Parker County, Texas

One of 4 identical facades

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P. O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
Form 10-301

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Property Map Form

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

1. Name
   Common: Parker County Courthouse
   And/or Historic: 

2. Location
   Street and Number: Courthouse Square
   City or Town: Weatherford
   State: Texas
   Code: 048
   County: Parker
   Code: 367

3. Map Reference
   Source: United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey
   Scale: 1:24000
   Date: 1957, 1959

4. Requirements
   To be included on all maps
   1. Property boundaries where required.
   2. North arrow.
   3. Latitude and longitude reference.

Texas Map Reference #3297-331
Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director  
Texas State Historical Survey Committee  
Post Office Box 12276  
Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Mr. Latimer:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Senators John G. Tower and Lloyd Bentsen and the appropriate Representatives are being informed. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed for each of the property owners. Please withhold any publicity on this until you have received a carbon copy of the Congressional correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Director

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register

JAN 21 1971

cc:

HR 6/10/71 PDHerrick:naf BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR
Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

**TEXAS**

**T. H. Mathis House**  
Aransas County,  
Rockport, Texas

**Levi Rockshelter**  
Travis County,  
Austin, Texas

**Paint Rock Indian Pictograph Site**  
Concho County,  
Paint Rock, Texas

**Lubbock Lake Site**  
Lubbock County,  
Lubbock, Texas

**Old Nacogdoches University Building**  
Nacogdoches County,  
Nacogdoches, Texas

**Westerman Mound**  
Houston County,  
Kennard, Texas

**Hill County Courthouse**  
Hill County,  
Hillsboro, Texas

**Ezekiel Cullen House**  
San Augustine County,  
San Augustine, Texas

**"Liendo"**  
Waller County,  
Hempstead, Texas

**Lampasas County Courthouse**  
Lampasas County,  
Lampasas, Texas

**Parker County Courthouse**  
Parker County,  
Weatherford, Texas
Hon. Lloyd Bentsen  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Bentsen:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Texas and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senator John G. Tower and the appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee, Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Director

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register  
JUN 21 1971

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

Also notified: United States Senate  
Hon. John G. Tower  
House of Representatives  
Hon. John Young  
Hon. J. J. (Jake) Pickle  
Hon. Craig Burleson  
Hon. George H. Mahon  
Hon. John Dowdy
Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

TEXAS

T. H. Mathis House  
Levi Rockshelter  
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Aransas County,  
Rockport, Texas  
Travis County,  
Austin, Texas  
Concho County,  
Paint Rock, Texas  
Lubbock County,  
Lubbock, Texas  
Nacogdoches County,  
Nacogdoches, Texas  
Houston County,  
Kennard, Texas  
Hill County,  
Hillsboro, Texas  
San Augustine County,  
San Augustine, Texas  
Waller County,  
Hempstead, Texas  
Lampasas County,  
Lampasas, Texas  
Parker County,  
Weatherford, Texas