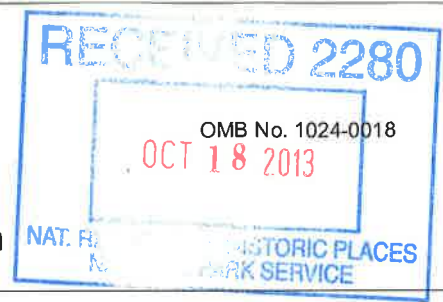


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



04000894

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national level of significance for the Municipal Building)

Other name/site number: Old Municipal Building

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

2. Location

Street & number: 1214 Main Street

City or town: Dallas

State: Texas

County: Dallas

Not for publication:

Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following levels of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Mark Wolf State Historic Preservation Officer 9/17/13
Signature of certifying official Title Date
Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency / Bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register
 determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register
other, explain: Additional Documentation Approved

Jay Edson H. Beall 11.29.13
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

Criteria Considerations: NA

Areas of Significance: Politics/Government, Law

Period of Significance: 1963

Significant Dates: 1963

Significant Person (only if criterion b is marked): NA

Cultural Affiliation (only if criterion d is marked): NA

Architect/Builder: 1914 Building: C.D. Hill & Company; Mauran Russell and Crowell (architects); Fred A. Jones (contractor). 1956 Addition: Smith and Mills Architects; Mark Lemmon (architects); Jansen Construction Company (contractor).

Narrative Statement of Significance (see continuation sheets 9 through 12)

Form Prepared By

Name/title: Marcel Quimby, FAIA
Organization: Preservation Dallas
Street & number: 2922 Swiss Avenue
City or Town: Dallas **State:** Texas **Zip Code:** 75204
Email: director@preservationdallas.org
Telephone: 214/821-3290
Date: August 1, 2013

Additional Documentation

Additional Items Description, pages 5-8
Bibliography, page 13
Figures, pages 14-23

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Photographs

Dallas Municipal Building
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas
Photographed by Marcel Quimby, July and August, 2013

Photo 1
West and south facades
Camera facing northeast
(view similar to Figure 1)

Photo 2
South façade of 1956 Addition
Camera facing northeast

Photo 3
South façade of 1956 Addition, detail of entry
Camera facing northeast

Photo 4
East façade of 1956 Addition
Camera facing west

Photo 5
North facade
Camera facing southwest

Photo 6
North and west facades
Camera facing southeast

Photo 7
West façade, detail of main entrance
Camera facing southeast

Photo 8
West façade, detail of upper floors above entrance
Camera facing east

Photo 9
West facade
Camera facing east

Photo 10
Third floor, public north-south corridor outside Homicide and Burglary department
Camera facing south
(view similar to Figure 6)

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Photo 11

Third floor, public north-south corridor outside Homicide and Burglary department
Camera facing north
(view similar to Figure 5)

Photo 12

Third floor, interior of Homicide and Burglary office, view towards Captain Fritz's office
Camera facing east

Photo 13

Fifth floor, interior of Jail, security cell block (Oswald stayed in center cell)
Camera facing east

Photo 14

Fifth floor, jail cell in security cell block
Camera facing east

Photo 15

Basement, entry to Dallas Jail Processing
Camera facing west
(view similar to Figure 8)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Summary of Previous Nomination Efforts and the Goal of this Amendment

The purpose of this nomination amendment is to support the national significance of the Dallas Municipal Building (listed as a contributing property within the Dallas Downtown Historic District, NR 2006) for its association with events that occurred in the building in the aftermath of the Kennedy Assassination in November, 1963. The established period of significance for the district ends in 1958, and this amendment proposes to add an additional period (1963), when the building was the site of the interrogation and detention of Lee Harvey Oswald on November 22-24, and the site of Oswald's murder by Jack Ruby on November 24. The property meets Criterion A in the areas of Politics and Government and Law.

Description

The former Dallas Municipal Building is comprised of a five-story (with a two-level basement) 1914 Beaux Arts building, with a distinctive five-story modern 1956 addition to the east. This impressive building is at the intersections of Main, Harwood and Commerce streets, a location at the eastern edge of downtown Dallas at the time of construction. The Municipal Building was originally surrounded by small, two-story commercial buildings and a number of single-family residences, although these were rapidly being replaced by commercial buildings. The Pacific Railroad and Houston and Texas Railroad tracks were located to the north and east; commercial development would soon occur near these tracks.

The original Municipal Building faces Harwood Street between Main and Commerce Streets, major streets that extend from the historic area of Dallas (at the west end of downtown Dallas) to the east edge of the downtown area – just a few blocks to the east of the building at the historic location of the Houston and Pacific Railroad tracks. Harwood Street is also one of Dallas' older streets that historically extended to South Dallas and north towards Highland Park. The building occupied the western portion of the block. The site has a slight slope that was easily accommodated by siting the building a half story above grade at Harwood Street, and accessed by a wide, gracious monumental stair at the Harwood Street façade.

Highlights of the Beaux Arts style are symmetrical building form, facades with colossal classical columns, enriched moldings, window openings enframed by engaged or free-standing columns, rusticated raised basement and ground story, and pedimented entablatures at the roof. Pronounced horizontal cornices and enriched entablatures are frequently topped with an attic story, often within a mansard roof; flat roofs are common. Friezes of varying levels of articulation and ornamentation are often used, as were the incorporation of decorative, sculptural elements. Other characteristics used are monumental stairs to building entries, prominent arched openings, planes that advance and recede, roofs as a major form of the building, and a climatic central mass that dominates the building. The Municipal Building exhibits many of these features. Other characteristics of this style that are not exhibited in the Municipal building are free-standing and paired columns, free-standing statutory, balustrades, pedimented entablatures and tall parapets.

The building form of the Municipal Building is considered an 'enframed block' type – with most the front façade punctuated by the wide recess containing the three-story engaged columns and windows, and bracketed at each end by narrow end bays that form an almost continuous wall plane. These end wall planes contain large, two-story high arched window openings with a horizontal band at the floor line. The typical enframed block sits directly at grade unlike the Municipal Building where the first floor is raised a half-floor above grade. As such, this building is similar to the 'three part vertical block' type with a base (ground or first floor), the shaft (floors two through 4) and the capital (fifth floor). As the Municipal Buildings' major form elements are of the enframed block type but the raised elevation is a significant modification to that type, this building is considered a modified enframed block type.

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
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West Facade

The building's primary facade faces Harwood Street. The first floor is raised a half-story above the sidewalk level, with a wide monumental exterior stair leading to three pairs of brass-clad monumental entry doors. The building exterior is clad in Texas gray granite (used at the base) and Indiana Limestone for the main portions of the facades. The building is constructed of structural steel frame .

The building form is typical of Beaux Arts design, with a central mass (facing Harwood Street) flanked by 'wings' which protrude only slightly. This central mass contains ten three-story Corinthian columns which line this façade, providing 'bays' which contain the three entry doors and windows at the upper levels. These windows alternate with arched and triangular pediments. The cornice line above these columns at the entries displays some distinct features – the architrave states 'Municipal Building,' carved into the limestone. Near the top of the building (above the fourth floor), a balustrade occurs above the two rows of dentaling on the Harwood Street façade. The planar 'wings' on either side of the central mass at Harwood Street way have a large two-story arched window that is divided by a spandrel that bears an elaborate medallion. The window has doric columns at the first floor of this window opening and the arch has a radiating voussoir.

The original windows were wood and varied in size and shape; large arched windows were located at the wings to articulate the major offices. Other windows were multi-lite, operable wood windows. The wood windows were later replaced with aluminum fixed windows, in a bronze color, that are sympathetic to the original design. The mansard roof at the fifth floor is clad with the historic ceramic green roof tiles; the roof is topped by copper cresting ornamentation.

North and South Facades

The Main Street façade (north) and Commerce Street façade (south) are approximately half the width of the Harwood Street facade but are treated no less impressively. The entrances on Main and Commerce Streets are smaller versions of the Harwood Street entrance, with a single pair of brass-clad doors flanked by free-standing three-story Corinthian columns; each is topped with the same ornamental cartouche and accessed by a narrower monumental stair. The windows on either side of these entrances are the same arched windows with a spandrel in the middle containing a medallion and radiating voussoirs around the arch. A large mansard roof of green ceramic tiles climaxes this composition, and is topped with a copper egg and dart coping at the top.

East Facade

The 1956 addition is connected to the east façade at the first and second floors. As this facade was originally surrounded by adjacent buildings, the first two floors of this facade was finished in common brick. The upper floors which extended above the height of the adjacent buildings were finished in limestone to match the adjacent facades. The mansard roof continues the design and materials of the Main and Commerce Streets retains the historic ceramic green roof tiles. Much of the upper floors of this façade remain visible above the adjacent, later addition.

Building Interior

The interior of the 1914 building was organized and finished in a manner typical of city hall buildings in major and growing cities of the era. Finishes were consistent with the ornate, exterior materials, were permanent and of quality. The public lobbies and corridors had marble floors and high wainscoting at the walls, marble columns, and plaster walls. The ceilings were of ornamental plaster beams and perimeter coves, with plaster suspended ceilings or applied to the concrete structure. Offices and other areas had cement or marble flooring, plaster walls with

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

marble or wood bases and plain or ornamental plaster ceilings. A monumental stair led from the main lobby to the upper floors – this was constructed of marble treads and carved balustrades; the walls were also marble wainscoting. Concurrent with the construction of the addition (1956), the vast majority of these original finishes were removed and the building plan reconfigured. New finishes included resilient tile flooring throughout, new drywall partitions, and a suspended lay-in acoustical ceiling was installed throughout the building. The only spaces that were not modified were the three vestibules at the west, south and east building entrances. These later finishes remain in place today.

1956 Addition

The Municipal Building addition extends east from the back of the original building and occupies the center portion of the city block. The addition faces both Main and Commerce streets, with these two nearly-identical facades providing public entry to the building. This portion of the city block is relatively level, and the entrances are set at grade.

The modern design of the addition stands in stark contrast to the original building, reflecting a combination of functionalism with aesthetic ideals that rejected historical design precept and styles. The simple building form, use of standard building materials (yellow brick with simple cast stone elements), planar surfaces and aluminum curtain walls and horizontal windows exemplify this postwar modern style. The addition, however, is sympathetic to the original building even while its' design is in strong contrast to it. According to Richard Longstreet's system of categorizing buildings by façade composition in "The Buildings of Main Street," the Municipal Building addition is a 'Central Block with Wings' type: the north and south façades (facing Main and Commerce Streets) each have a five-story projecting center section with subordinate, projecting three-story narrow wings at each side. The center portion accommodates the building entry in a stone 'frame' surrounding a five-story aluminum curtain wall with entry doors at the first floor.

North and South facades

These almost identical facades are comprised of three separate elements – the five-story center block and flanking three-story wings. The dominant exterior wall material is yellow brick with light gray stone sills. At the center block, a stone, five-story stone 'frame' (of approximately 4' to 5' in width/height) surrounds a 5-story curtain wall this opens into the building lobby and upper public corridors and lobbies. At each floor, a pair of aluminum windows are 'punched into' the wall surface on the outside of this frame; these windows are surrounded by stone trim that outlines the window. Stone coping terminates the roof.

The flanking two-story wings are set back slightly from the center block and clad in the same materials – yellow brick, clear anodized windows with clear glass, stone trim and stone coping. The windows at these wings are grouped in horizontal bands.

The original ramp to the basement garage was removed and replaced (at the same location) with a new concrete ramp in 1956. New concrete columns were placed adjacent to the exterior facade of the original (1914) Municipal Building's east façade to support this new ramp and addition. A large opening, framed in stone that matches the stone surround of the windows at the second floor, leads to a small area with the overhead door that serves the vehicular ramp to the basement.

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
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West Façade

This façade adjoins the original Municipal Building and only the upper two floors (4th and 5th floors) are exposed, and are only partially visible from the streets. The materials at the adjoining north and south façade turn the corner to these façades.

East Façade

This façade faces the adjacent parking lot and originally appeared as a continuation of the north and south façades – with horizontal bands of aluminum windows along this rear façade. These windows remain at the northern portion of the façade. At the southern portion of this façade, a small addition of brick wall has resulted in the windows being covered up by the City. This addition appears to be utilitarian and has yellow brick exterior walls. This presumably provided space for mechanical or similar equipment.

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
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Statement of Significance

The old Dallas Municipal Building is nationally significant as the site of well-documented events associated with the Kennedy Assassination that occurred between Friday, November 22 and Sunday, November 24, 1963. Following Lee Harvey Oswald's arrest at the Texas Theater in the Oak Cliff neighborhood of Dallas, he was brought to the Municipal Building, which housed the city police department and the city jail, to be arraigned for the murder of Patrolman J.D. Tippitt. Oswald stood in police lineups and spoke with members of the press before being formally arraigned for the murder of President Kennedy the following day. On Sunday, November 24, Jack Ruby shot Oswald in the basement of the Municipal Building as he was being transferred to the Dallas County Jail, an event witnessed by millions as it was broadcast live on nationwide television. The Dallas Municipal Building meets Criterion A in the area of Politics/Government and Law at the national level of significance as site of key legal proceedings and related events that occurred in Dallas immediately after the Kennedy Assassination.

The 1914 Dallas Municipal Building at 106 South Harwood Street, was Dallas' fourth city hall, and replaced a building at Commerce and Akard Streets that was demolished so the Adolphus Hotel could be built at the site. C. D. Hill & Company, with Mauren, Russell and Crowell of St. Louis, were the architects for the new Municipal Building. Design began in 1912 and the drawings were issued for bid on December 21, 1912. The construction contract was awarded to Fred A. Jones on February 14, 1913 for \$414,000; this contract included a 300-day schedule with an \$88.00 a-day liquidated damages clause. This contract did not include the jail cells at the fifth floor; these were let under a separate contract which was typical for jail construction during that time. Construction commenced on May 15, 1913. Unfortunately on November 1913, Jones declared himself insolvent. There was no surety and the City Commissioners took over the project, hiring C. D. Hill to oversee the construction. The building was opened October 17, 1914 to coincide with the grand opening of the State Fair. The final cost was reported as \$700,000. The original design accommodated all of the City of Dallas' municipal offices, including municipal courtrooms, police department, city utilities, city council chambers, and offices of the mayor, park board, city attorney, city engineer, and jail. A multi-story Municipal Auditorium was located at the south half of the building with entrance to its main floor seating and stage at the third floor, and to the balcony at the fourth floor.

Changes to the building through November, 1963

There have been numerous changes to the Municipal Building since it was first occupied, with the first major change made in 1924, followed by subsequent changes in 1933, 1940, 1945-46 and 1950. The auditorium was also removed and the space utilized for offices and jail space; the date of this change was not known.

By the late 1940s, overcrowding at the Municipal Building, largely due to the rapid increase in the city's population, necessitated the acquisition of additional space. The City of Dallas considered several options and other sites and decided to build an addition at the east side of the Municipal Building. Mark Lemmon was hired as the design architect, with Harwood K. Smith and Joseph Mills the architects of record and responsible for the construction documents. The original design for the addition was ten stories in height, but a five story building was ultimately approved; this building is thought to be structurally capable of supporting several additional floors. The design of the addition was modern in style, with an enframed center five-story central component flanked with three-story wings on each side; the west wing was adjacent to the east façade of the original Municipal Building. The addition, clad in a yellow brick and limestone trim, had its own identity and did not attempt to copy the original building; a clear distinction (and small separation at the upper floors) was made between the original building and this addition.

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
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The original ramp to the basement garage was removed and replaced (at the same location) with a new concrete ramp; new concrete columns were placed adjacent to the exterior facade of the 1914 Municipal Building's east façade to support this new ramp and addition. Two levels of parking were provided at the Basement and a lower basement level. Jansen Construction Company was the contractor for the addition; it was completed in May, 1956 at a cost of \$2.5 million. As this addition was intended to serve as the new public entry to the Municipal Building, the building's address was changed to 2014 Main Street.

Concurrent with the construction of this addition, the interiors of the original Municipal Building was extensively renovated with the original monumental marble stairs largely removed and a new stair added to connect to the addition – which did not align with the floors of the original building. A central conditioning system was installed, suspended ceilings added, most of the original floor and wall finishes, decorative materials (including marble columns and wainscoting) were removed and the interior layout reconfigured throughout the building. In summary, almost all vestiges of the original building ornamentation were removed. Tatum and Quade Architects and Engineers were the architects for this extensive renovation work. Jansen Construction Company was also the contractor for these modifications which were completed in October 1957 at a cost of \$1,319,420.

Following these changes to the building, the Dallas Police Department moved their offices to the third floor of the original Municipal Building, and expanded their Jail Processing department in the Basement and their Jail facilities on the fourth and fifth floors.

The north and south façades of the addition (facing Main and Commerce Streets) incorporated 'Municipal Building' signage at these entries to the building. Following the completion of the new addition and interior modifications to the original building, the new addition was then referred to as 'Municipal Building' and the original Municipal Building was then known as the 'old Municipal Building' or 'old City Hall'.

Events associated with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy

In late November 1963, this building gained national notoriety when Lee Harvey Oswald was apprehended and detained by the Dallas Police Department on suspicion of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy at Dealy Plaza in downtown Dallas. At the time, the Dallas Police Department occupied the third floor and the City's Jail was located at the fifth floor of the Municipal Building. Following Oswald's arrest in the Texas Theater in Oak Cliff by the Dallas police, he was brought by police car to the basement of the Municipal building, and then escorted to the Robbery and Homicide offices on the third floor of the Municipal Building on the afternoon of the assassination – Friday, November 22, at approximately 2:15 pm – and brought to Captain Fritz's office for interrogation.

Shortly after 4 pm, he was brought to the lineup room in the Basement, and then returned to Captain Fritz's office; he was brought to the basement again around 6 pm, for a second lineup and returned to Fritz's office afterwards for further questioning. Shortly after 7 pm, the Police Department charged Oswald for the murder of Patrolman Tippitt, and he was formally arraigned (advised of charges) in Fritz's office.

A third lineup was held in the basement around 7:40 pm, and Oswald was again returned to Fritz's office. Shortly after midnight, Oswald was taken to the basement assembly room for an appearance before members of the press; this lasted only several minutes and he was then taken to a maximum security jail cell on the fifth floor; this cell was the center one in a block of three – with the other two cells vacant. An officer was stationed outside the jail cell when Oswald was there. Shortly after 1:30 am, Oswald was brought to the identification room on the fourth floor and formally arraigned for the murder of President John F. Kennedy.

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
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On Saturday morning, November 23, Oswald was questioned in Captain Fritz's office for about an hour; Oswald had a number of visitors that day (his wife, mother and brother), several meetings, made several telephone calls, another lineup and was questioned again by Captain Fritz and then brought to the jail cell shortly after 7 pm.

The Dallas Police Department planned to transfer Oswald to the Dallas County Jail on Sunday morning, November 24. He was signed out of jail at 9:30, and taken to Captain Fritz's office for a final round of questioning that lasted until 11:15 am. He was then escorted downstairs to the jail's processing department in the basement and held there until the two unmarked police cars were in place at the bottom of the ramp; the cars were positioned to leave on the ramp towards Main Street. Members of the news media had been alerted that Oswald's transfer would occur sometime after 10 am on Sunday, and began gathering at the Municipal Building late that morning. At that time, approximately 70 to 75 officers and 40 to 50 newsmen were in the basement. When Oswald was brought from the Jail offices to the waiting car, the group of newsmen surged towards him, with many asking questions of Oswald and thrusting their sound mikes forward. Prior to this fracas, Jack Ruby, a local night club owner, had walked down the Main Street ramp without drawing attention to himself and merged with this crowd. Ruby stepped forward, in front of the crowd, and fatally shot Oswald in the abdomen with a single shot. This second assassination in Dallas was captured by numerous photographers and for the second time in three days, the world's attention was again focused on events in Dallas – this time at the Dallas Municipal Building.

The major spaces associated with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and Lee Harvey Oswald – the Homicide and Burglary Bureau's offices and adjacent corridor, the jail cell and the entrance to the Jail Processing department – remain largely intact. The Homicide and Burglary Bureau's offices, where Oswald was questioned and interrogated on the afternoon and evening of November 22, on several occasions on November 23 and the morning of November 24, remains largely intact with only had minor changes – the other private office that existed in 1963 has been removed, leaving a larger open office space in front of Captain Fritz's office. The original door from the corridor to the bureau has been removed to the Dallas Police Department's headquarters; this door is prominent in many of the photographs taken at the time. Captain Fritz's office remains intact. The public corridor in which Oswald was brought to and from the bureau in full view of the national media remains intact. The small segregation cell area that includes the cell Oswald occupied for two nights is intact. The area outside the entry to the Basement Jail entry and adjacent ramp are intact; the only change to this entry has been the relocation of the pair of aluminum and glass exterior doors closer to the drive. Other, minor spaces associated with this event remain in place but been painted, or the rooms' configuration has changed including the Jail Processing's line up area.

News media's role during and after the assassination

Following President Kennedy's assassination, local, national and international news media arrived in Dallas to report on the first significant international event to be widely covered during the first decade of the television era. After Lee Harvey Oswald was captured at the Texas Theater on suspicion of murder of Patrolman Tippitt and was shortly thereafter suspected of Kennedy's murder, national and international media converged on the Municipal Building, which became the heart of a media frenzy. The media broadcast glimpses of Oswald as he was escorted through the building, including his murder on Sunday morning. The events covered by broadcast media at the Dallas Municipal Building following the Kennedy Assassination demonstrated that television could be a source of serious news, provide up-to-date information on breaking stories, and allow the public to see events unfolding as they happened, with input from eyewitnesses and public figures. The manner in which Oswald was paraded in front of the media over the weekend and the lax security that allowed Ruby to shoot Oswald in front of numerous witnesses while he was in police custody demonstrated the need to find a balance between journalistic access and public safety.

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Changes to the building since November 1963

Interior changes occurred somewhat regularly at the Municipal Building between 1965 and 2001. In 1978 Dallas's fifth City Hall, designed by I. M. Pei, was completed, and many city departments moved to the new building. The old building was modified to better accommodate the police department and the municipal courts. In 1980, the original exterior windows of the Dallas City Hall were removed and new, bronze-finished aluminum windows were installed in their place; this is one of the few exterior changes that have been made to the original building. The jail closed in 1982 and all detainees moved to Dallas County's Lew Street Justice Center. Interior changes continue to be made to both buildings, including a major remodel to the 1956 addition to accommodate Dallas' municipal courts, offices, and public courts cashiers in 2012. The areas associated with Lee Harvey Oswald at the basement, third floor and jail at the fifth floor are vacant, and all municipal court functions have been relocated into the addition. In August 2013, the public entry at 106 South Harwood was closed and the entry to the Dallas Municipal Court Building opened at 2014 Main Street. The connection between the original building and the addition was closed in 2013 and the sections will function as two independent buildings. The City of Dallas plans to lease the building to the University of North Texas to house the university's new law school. A definite schedule for this rehabilitation is not yet set but is anticipated to be within the next several years.

Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

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Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Figure 1

Photograph of the west and south facades, at corner of Harwood and Commerce Streets

Camera facing north-east

Courtesy of Texas/Dallas History and Archives, Dallas Public Library

c. 1960s



Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Figure 2

South facades of original Municipal Building (left) and addition (right)

View from south side of Commerce Street

Camera facing north-west

Courtesy of Courtesy of Texas/Dallas History and Archives, Dallas Public Library

c. 1960s



Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Figure 3

Third floor - Dallas' Police Departments

View of public corridor and door into Homicide and Robbery offices.

Camera facing east

Courtesy of Dallas Times Herald Collection/The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza

November 23, 1963



Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Figure 4

Third floor - Dallas' Police Departments' Homicide and Robbery Bureau
View of entry area in Homicide and Robbery offices with Captain Fritz's office (w/ man in doorway)
Camera facing south-east
Courtesy of Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza
November 1963



Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Figure 5

Third floor - Dallas Police Department, public corridor
View towards elevator lobby, filed with newsmen
Camera facing south
Courtesy of Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza
November 1963



Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Figure 6

Third floor – Dallas Police Department, public corridor
View of Oswald escorted to Homicide and Robbery offices
Camera facing south
Courtesy of Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza
November 1963



Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Figure 7

Basement, bottom of ramp

View towards entry to Dallas Police Department's Jail Processing; Jack Ruby in foreground seconds before firing.
Camera facing south

November 24, 1963

Photographer Jack Beers, Dallas Morning News



Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Figure 8

Basement, view of entry to Dallas Police Department's Jail Processing

View of Oswald in center with Ruby at right in foreground seconds after firing.

Camera facing west

Courtesy of Dallas Public Library

November 24, 1963

Photographer Robert Jackson, Dallas Times Herald

(Pulitzer prize for Photography, 1964; estimated to have been taken 1/16 second after Jack Beers photo).



Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Figure 9
Plan of Basement floor of Municipal Building
Entry to Jail Processing area noted
Historic Structures Report, Dallas' Old City Hall, HLM/Quimby, 2002

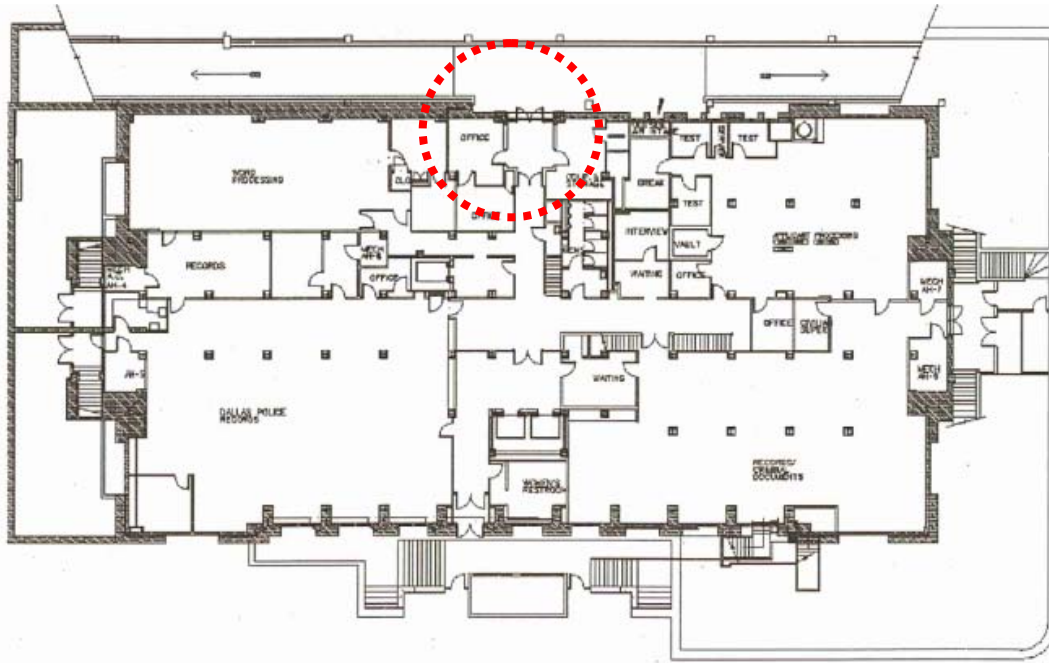
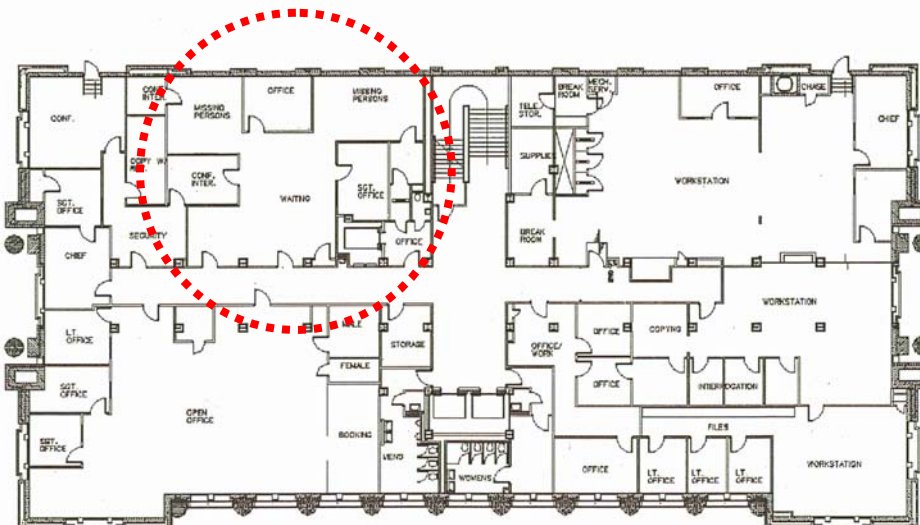


Figure 10
Plan of Third floor of Municipal Building
Homicide and Robbery Department noted
Historic Structures Report, Dallas' Old City Hall, HLM/Quimby, 2002



Dallas Downtown Historic District (amendment to justify national significance of the Municipal Building)
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

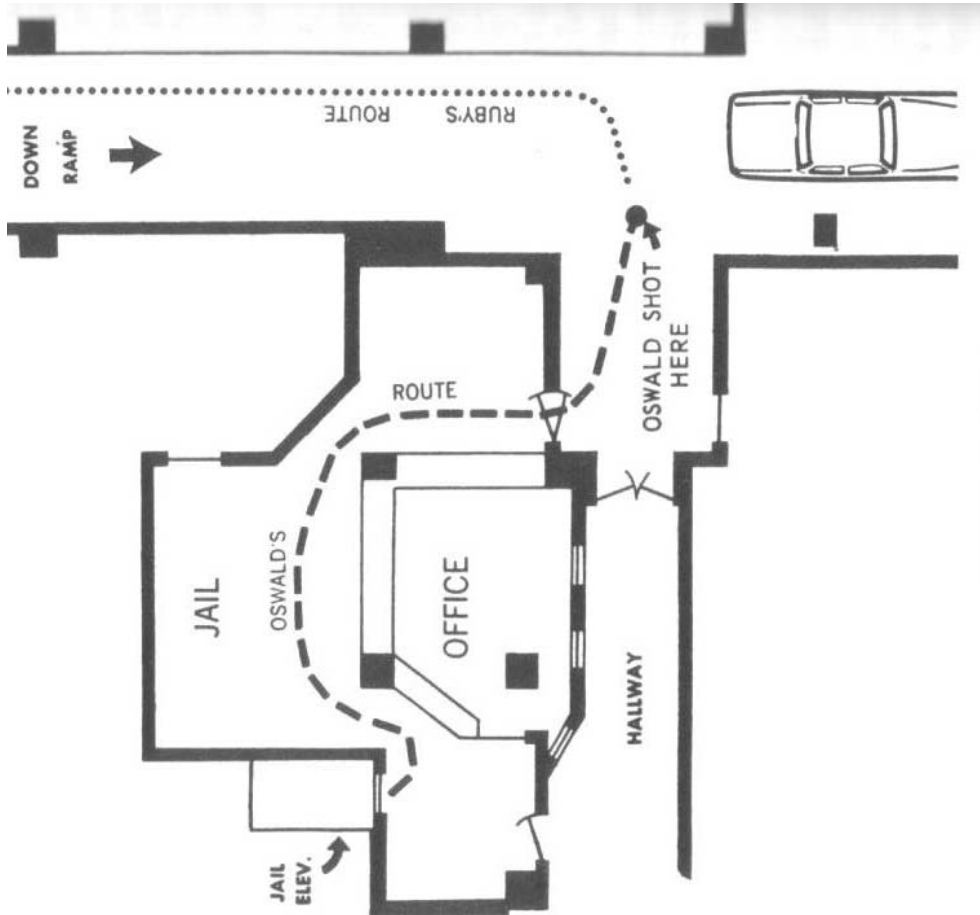
Figure 11

Plan of Basement floor of Municipal Building

Oswald's path noted with dashed line.

Courtesy, Warren Commission Report on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy;

Plan of Jail Office and Immediate Vicinity, exhibit 2177, page 217.







NO ENTRY

VEHICLE ENTRANCE
DO NOT ENTER BY RAMP

MURKIN

NO PARKING

NO STOPPING

NO PARKING

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

2015

EXIT ONLY
ENTER TRUO HAWKWOOD
ENTRANCE
←

SALIDA SOLAMENTE
ENTRADA POR LA ENTRADA
DE HAWKWOOD ST.
←

ENTRADA SOLAMENTE
POR LA ENTRADA DE HAWKWOOD ST.
NO SE PERMITEN PASAJEROS
EN ESTE PASADIZO

STOP
ENTRANCE
NO SE PERMITEN PASAJEROS
EN ESTE PASADIZO

EXIT ONLY
ENTER TRUO HAWKWOOD
ENTRANCE
←

SALIDA SOLAMENTE
ENTRADA POR LA ENTRADA
DE HAWKWOOD ST.
←





NO PARKING
ANYTIME

NO PARKING

NO PARKING

NO PARKING

NO PARKING

NO PARKING

NO PARKING

NO PARKING

NO PARKING

NO PARKING

NO PARKING









MUNICIPAL BUILDING



MUNICIPAL BUILDING



EXIT
EXIT
EXIT









PEDESTRIANS PROHIBITED
DO NOT EXIT BY RAM

