

Old Courthouse
Castroville, Texas.

HABS No. Tex-364 ✓

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Texas-3

Historic American Buildings Survey
Bartlett Cooke, District Officer
615 Maverick Bldg., San Antonio, Texas.

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OLD COURTHOUSE
Castroville, Medina County, Texas.

Owner: Medina County

Date of Erection: 1853

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Present Condition: Practically in ruins

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction: Limestone, cypress and oak.

Other Existing Records: None

Additional Data:

In 1852-53 the state of Texas donated their part of the Medina County taxes, which amounted to \$650.00, toward the erection of the Courthouse. This was insufficient, however, as the building cost \$1500.00. The lumber cost \$495.80, the rock cost approximately \$7.50 per square, which in German was called plafter. The masonry contractor had to post \$1,000.00. Immediately on completion an addition was started, as it was seen that the building was not large enough for a courthouse and a jail; the new addition was patterned after the "old bat cave" in San Antonio, Texas. In 1878 there was added another addition, and in 1894 the county seat was moved to Hondo, Texas and the building was abandoned.

This information was contributed by Judge Herman Haas of Hondo, Texas.

Author: Homer H. Lansberry
Homer H. Lansberry

APPROVED: Bartlett Cocke
Bartlett Cocke, Dist. Officer

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