

Early Courthouse

On November 6, 1838, Nancy Tevis deeded to Jefferson County the land described in the plat of the Town of Beaumont as Square 9, further described in the deed recorded in Volume B, Page 225, of the Deed Records in the Jefferson County Clerk's Office, as " ... a certain lot or square of ground situated lying and being in the town of Beaumont, County aforesaid, bounded as follows on the North west by Milam Street, on the South west by Pearl Street, on the Southeast by Franklin Street, and on the Northeast by Main Street..."

The Texas Historical Marker for the courthouse reads:

Marker Date: 1980

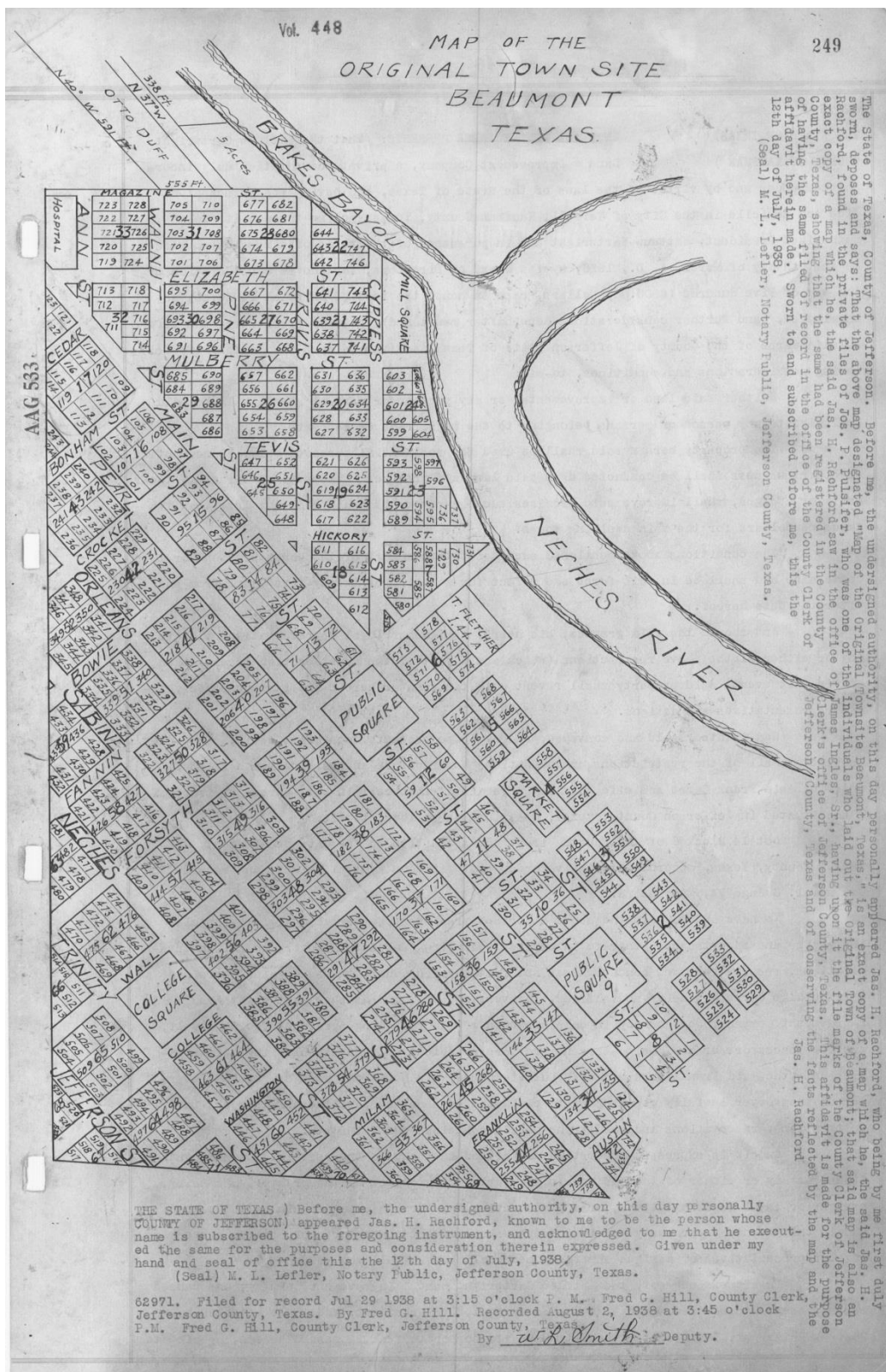
Marker No.: 10536

Atlas No.: 5245010536

Title: JEFFERSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Address: 1149 Pearl St. at Franklin, Beaumont, Texas

The first county building constructed at this site was a jailhouse completed in 1838, two years after the organization of Jefferson County. Located on land acquired from Nancy Tevis, a pioneer settler of the area, it also housed county offices and courts. When the Commissioners Court outgrew the facility, sessions were held in private homes. The first courthouse here was completed in 1854. Built by John A. Beaumont, it was a two-story square structure surrounded by a six-foot picket fence. Baptist and Methodist congregations conducted Sunday services in the building and during the Civil War it was leased to D. T. Inglehart, a Confederate surgeon, for use as a hospital. A second courthouse was constructed in 1893, twelve years after the incorporation of Beaumont. Designed by E. T. Heiner, it was a three-story red brick building with white trim. Following the area oil boom of the 1920s it proved inadequate to meet the needs of the growing population and was replaced by the present brick courthouse in 1931. Designed by Fred Stone and A. Babin, the fourteen-story building features art deco styling in the use of sculpted ornamentation and marble interior work.



Map of Townsite of Beaumont, recorded in Deed Records Vol. 448, Page 249, in the Jefferson County Clerk's Office.