

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Friendly City Building and Jail
other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: State Route 2, Orchard Street not for publication: N/A
city/town: Friendly vicinity: N/A
state: WV county: Tyler code: 095 zip code: 26146

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally.

Susan M. Pierce 6/7/99
Signature of Certifying Official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of Certifying Official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau Date

Tyler County, WV
County and State

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of Keeper	Date of Action
_____ entered in the National Register	_____	_____
_____ See continuation sheet.		
_____ determined eligible for the	_____	_____
National Register		
_____ See continuation sheet.		
_____ determined not eligible for the	_____	_____
National Register		
_____ removed from the National Register	_____	_____
_____ other (explain): _____	_____	_____

<p>Ownership of Property: (Check as many boxes as apply)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> private</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> public-State</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal</p>	<p>Category of Property (Check only one box)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> district</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> site</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> structure</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> object</p>
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Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	TOTAL

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Friendly City Bldg & Jail
Name of Property

Tyler County, WV
County and State

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
GOVERNMENT: City Hall;
Correctional Facility

Current Functions
GOVERNMENT: City Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

VERNACULAR

Materials

Foundation Stone Piers
Walls Clapboard
Roof Metal - tin
Other

Narrative Description
(See continuation on sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

☒ 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.

Friendly City Bldg & Jail

Tyler County, WV

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

_____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

 B removed from its original location.

_____ C a birthplace or grave.

_____ **D** a cemetery.

_____ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

_____ F a commemorative property.

_____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

Government

Period of Significance

1901-1949

Significant Dates

1901

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(See continuation sheets.)

Friendly City Bldg & Jail
Name of Property

Tyler County, WV
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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

_____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
_____ previously listed in the National Register
_____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
_____ designated a National Historic Landmark
_____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
_____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

_____ State Historic Preservation Office
_____ Other State agency
_____ Federal agency
_____ Local government
_____ University
_____ Other

Name of Repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

17 494825 4373680
Zone Easting Northing New Matamoras, Ohio Quad Map

Verbal Boundary Description
(See continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(See continuation sheet.)

Friendly City Bldg & Jail
Name of Property

Tyler County, WV
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Katherine M. Jourdan
with Arnold Jones

Organization: WV SHPO Date: June 17, 1999
Street & Number: 1900 Kanawha Blvd East Telephone: 304/558-0220
City or Town: Charleston State: WV Zip: 25305-0300

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Name: Town of Friendly, City Building
Street & Number: PO Box 95 Telephone: 304/652-2709
City or Town: Friendly State: WV Zip: 26146

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Friendly City Bldg & Jail Tyler County, WV
Name of Property County/State

Section number 7 Page 1

The Friendly City Building and Jail is sited off State Route 2, known locally as Orchard Street. There is a long narrow lot that borders SR 2, and the small clapboard building is between two nearby houses. On the local maps a small street runs along the north side of the building called Union Street, but physically no street exits today.

The front or west facade has a gable end with a wide entablature board above the front single 2/2 double-hung wood sash window. The front door is on the north side of the building, and is a new stout metal replacement door. The south facade of the building has an original 2/2 double-hung sash window, and for the jail cell there is a small narrow opening. The building rests on a stone foundation and has a gable seamed metal tin roof.

The interior of the building has two rooms, the meeting room and jail cell. Both rooms are small with a carpeted wooden floor and beaded wood walls. The four walls of the jail cell have an interior cavity with actual 2 x 6 “ boards stacked horizontally. The thick wooden walls were to deter escape by prisoners. The door between the two rooms is metal in a lattice pattern, with a lever locking system instead of a key. The jail cell was originally furnished with a cot and washstand.

On the north facade a small plywood shed addition has been added. The room connects with the former jail cell and has a rear exit door. The addition was added in the 1970s by the town Emergency Squad during their tenure in the building. There is a question if this addition will be removed in the nearby future.

Summary:

Although small for a city building, the two room structure has provided a monthly meeting place for the town board, office for the police and emergency squad, and provided a place for temporary prisoners or hobos.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Friendly City Bldg & Jail
Name of Property

Tyler County, WV
County/State

Section number 8 Page 1

The Friendly City Building and Jail is significant under Criteria A for Government during the period of 1901 to 1949. The building is still used by the town as a meeting place for monthly town board meetings.

The community of Friendly was settled in 1785 by two brothers, Thomas and John Williamson. The area was called Fairview Landing and consisted of 27 acres. The town takes its name from the first given name of Friend Cochran Williamson, grandson of Thomas Williamson. The name was used for the first post office in 1883.

Although the area had been settled in the late 18th century, it was the late 19th century when the town developed. A ferry across the Ohio River had operated since 1830 and after 1883 the Wheeling, Parkersburg and Charleston Railroad and the Ohio Valley Railroad, which was a branch of the B&O Railroad, provided service. What is today's State Route 2 was a roadway along the bank of the Ohio, connecting all the river towns.

By the end of the 1890s, the town was booming with various businesses and industries such as a flour mill, lumber mill, and amenities like gas lights and board walks. The First National Bank of Friendly was constructed in 1895. Installation of the first phone service by WV Western was in 1898.

It was in 1898 that the town was incorporated, with the first town board meeting in May of that year. The property for the city building was deeded in June 1901 by A.T. and Mary Smith. The small city building was built during that year, located off Orchard and Union Street. Its use was for the town board to have a meeting room and a one room jail cell. The meeting room also doubled as a sheriff's office.

The construction of the building was simple, with frame construction on a stone foundation. Original 2/2 double-hung wood sash windows still light the meeting room. The jail cell had walls thick enough to stack 2 x 6" pieces of lumber from floor to ceiling in all four walls. A metal door with open lattice swings on large hinges, and locks with a lever mechanism. Close laced metal lattice near the lever prevented a hand from inside the jail cell to unlock the door.

Town records indicate various incarcerations for law breaking. The town also had a policy of offering housing for traveling hobos who wanted to stay overnight. A cot and washstand in the jail cell served this double purpose.

The town continued to prosper with a new grade school being built in 1900, having a two year high school program too. The Electric Railroad Company was constructed in 1903 and more stores continued to open such as hardware, feed stores, and a gasoline plant. The town survived a tornado in 1909 and various floods over the years, especially 1913 and 1936.

The first all women city government in the county was elected for office to serve between 1937 and 1939. The women became well known with a film documentary being made about their role in town government. The members were: Mayor Stella Eddy, Recorder - Elgie Rustemeyer, and Treasurers - Moude Livingston, Ella Williamson, Letatia Bowles, Gladys Knowlton, Clara Williamson, and City Police - Josephine Cline. During the women's tenure the town saw various

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improvements including new trees, a new town pump, new laws on animals and new steps up Friendly Hill to the area known as Home City. The women took office just a year after the flood of 1936, and may have had to deal with the aftermath of the destruction.

The jail cell was last used for prisoners in the 1930s. After that time prisoners were transferred to the Tyler County Jail in the Middlebourne Courthouse. For many years the building was used by the Police Department until 1980. During the 1970s, the local Emergency Squad kept equipment and had an office in the building.

Summary:

The small frame city building has a long history of serving the town of Friendly. While diminutive in size, the building has been a place of city government for over 100 years. Some fragile records still are housed in the building and the town board meets here monthly.

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Bibliography

- Tyler County Heritage and Historical Society, Inc. HISTORY OF TYLER COUNTY WEST VIRGINIA TO 1984. Marceline, MO: Walsworth Publishing Co., Inc. 1984.
- Tyler County Deed Books, Middlebourne, WV.
- Town Records, Friendly City Building, Friendly, WV
- Universal Newsreel, National Archives of Motion Picture and Sound Recording Branch, #5919x3, "Town Run By Women," Feb 1939. (This reel may be missing due to a fire at the archives. It is unclear if a cut was used for another production.)
- Interview with Arnold Jones by Katherine Jourdan, in Friendly on March 19, 1999.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The lot is a square approximately 30 feet by 30 feet. It is located 90 feet east of the east side of State Route 2 or Orchard Street, along the line known as Union Street.

See attached plat map.

Boundary Justification

The lot is described in Deed Book 54, Page 369, Tyler County Courthouse.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Friendly City Bldg & Jail
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Tyler County, WV
County/State

Section number Photo Page 1

Name of Property: Friendly City Building and Jail
Address Off SR 2
Town Friendly, WV
County Tyler County

Photographer: Katherine Jourdan

Date: March 1999

Negatives: WV SHPO, Charleston, WV

Photo 1 of 3: Front (West) and south facades
 Camera looking NE

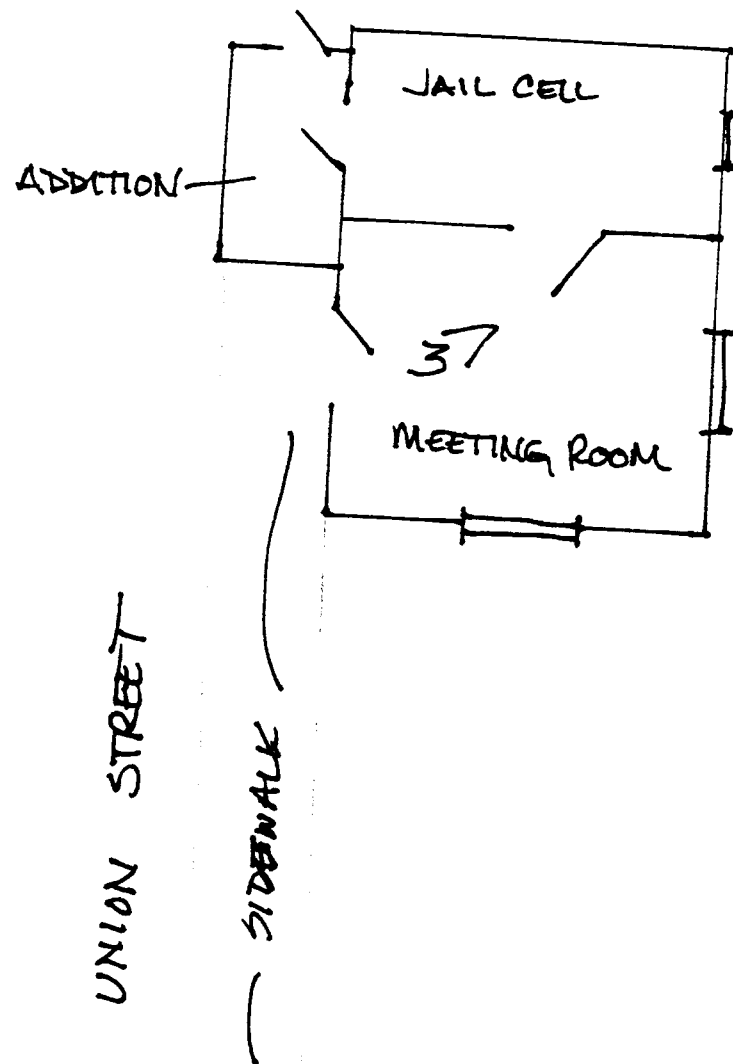
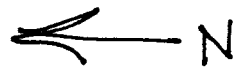
Photo 2 of 3: Rear facade
 Camera looking West

Photo 3 of 3: Jail Cell Door, interior
 Camera looking SE

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FRIENDLY CITY BLDG & JAIL
State Route 2
Friendly, WV
Tyler County

SITE PLAN, FLOOR PLAN
AND PHOTO VIEWS



STATE ROUTE 2 / ORCHARD ST.

FRIENDLY CITY BUILDING
AND JAIL
TYLER COUNTY, WV

TAX MAP

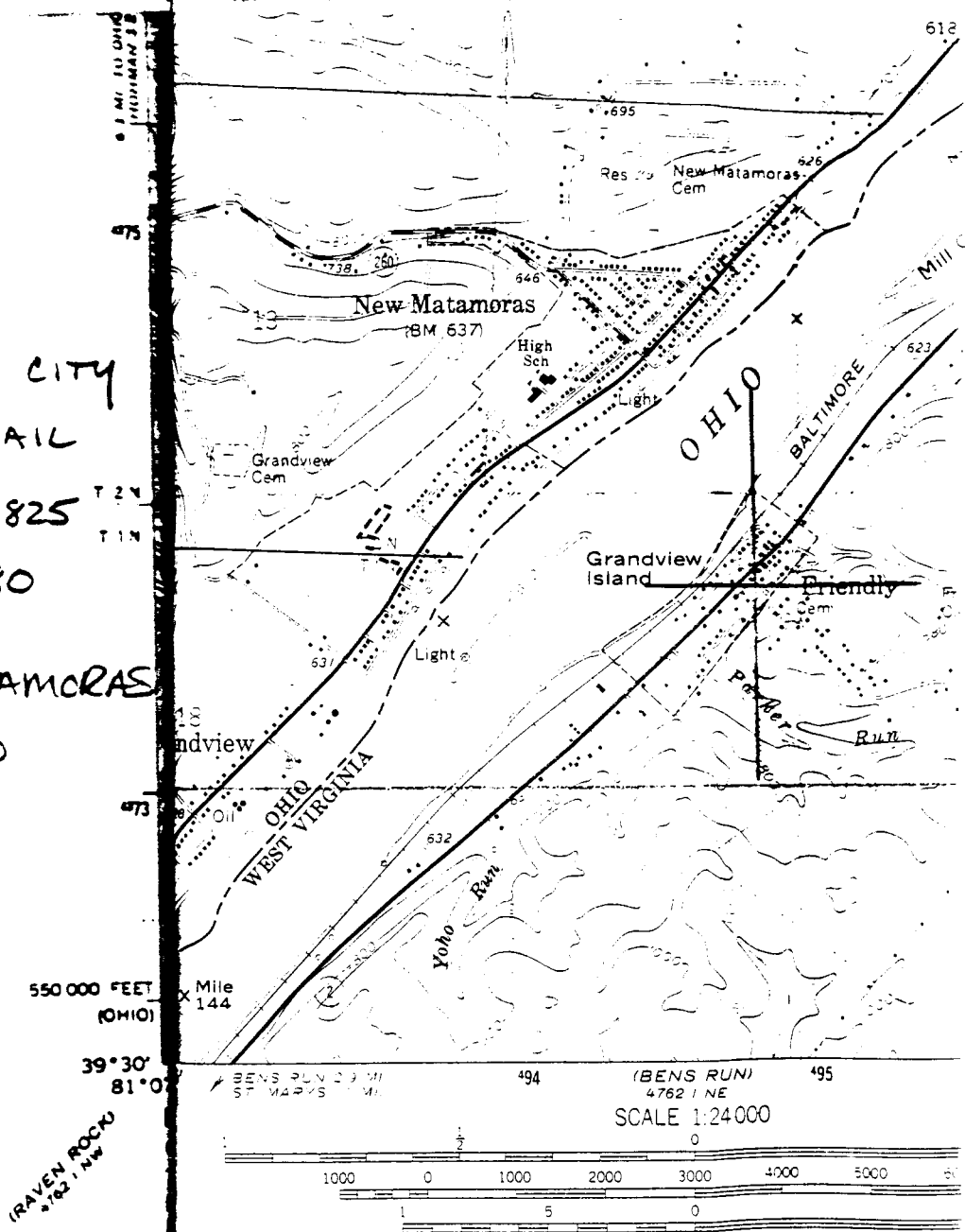


FRIENDLY CITY
BUDG + JAIL

17 494 825

4373680

NEW MATAMORAS
QUAD



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C.
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE

