

MP 2348

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



1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Erath Memorial Arch
Other name/site number: Monuments and Buildings of the Texas Centennial
Name of related multiple property listing: NA

2. Location

Street & number: North Erath Avenue at West Washington Street
City or town: Stephenville State: Texas County: Erath
Not for publication: Vicinity: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 Wolfe State Historic Preservation Officer Date 3/6/18
Signature of certifying official / Title
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: _____

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

4/19/2018
Date of Action

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

<input type="checkbox"/>	Private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - Federal

Category of Property

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
2	0	objects
2	0	total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: Recreation and Culture: Monument

Current Functions: Recreation and Culture: Monument

7. Description

Architectural Classification: NO STYLE

Principal Exterior Materials: Stone, Concrete

Narrative Description (see continuation sheet 6)

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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: F (Commemorative Properties); B (Moved Properties)

Areas of Significance: Social History

Period of Significance: 1936

Significant Dates: 1936

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

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

Architect/Builder: Head, Carrel Vernon (C.V.), architect

Narrative Statement of Significance (see continuation sheets 7 through 9)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (see continuation sheet 10)

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 (*Texas Historical Commission, Austin*)
- Other state agency (*Texas State Library and Archives*)
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

Coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: NA

1. Latitude: 32.218909° Longitude: -98.205812°

Verbal Boundary Description: The property consists of two stone gates and the ground upon which they sit, each plot measuring approximately 18 feet by 6 feet, within the city right-of-way on opposite sides of North Erath Street, just north of the intersection with West Washington Street.

Boundary Justification: The nomination includes all property associated with the monument since its relocation in 1963. Prior to the move, each gate was a few feet away from the present location, positioned parallel to Washington street.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Gregory Smith, National Register Coordinator
Organization: Texas Historical Commission
Street & number: P.O. Box 12276
City or Town: Austin State: TX Zip Code: 78711-2276
Email: gregs@thc.texas.gov
Telephone: 512-463-6013
Date: November 16, 2017

Additional Documentation

Maps (see continuation sheets 11-12)

Additional items (see continuation sheets 13-14)

Photographs (see continuation sheets 5 and 15-19)

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.

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Photograph Log

Erath Memorial Arch
Stephenville, Erath County, Texas
Photographed by Gregory Smith, November 2017

Photo 1
Erath Memorial Arch from across Washington Street
Facing north

Photo 2
Erath Memorial Arch from center of N. Erath Avenue
Facing south

Photo 3
East Gate, facing northeast

Photo 4
Erath Memorial Arch from sidewalk
Facing west

Photo 5
East gate, detail of flat arch
Facing east

Photo 6
East gate, detail of tall pier with sconce
Facing northeast

Photo 7
East gate, detail of arch
Facing northwest

Photo 8
East arch, dedication plate
Facing west

Photo 9
West gate
Facing east

Photo 10
West gate
Facing southeast

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Description

Despite its historic name, the 1936 Erath Memorial Arch in Stephenville, Texas, is not an arch but a 2-part stone gate, flanking North Erath Avenue at its intersection with West Washington Street on the west side of downtown. Each 17-foot-tall gate features three vertical piers, two measuring 12-feet-tall and spanned by an arch over a walk-through opening, and a towering pier connected to the center pier by a flat lintel topped by a gently-sloping wall, over a concrete bench. The foundations and structural core are reinforced concrete, but each gate is finished with rough-cut limestone set in irregular courses, with concrete caps and coping. Both feature the original curved-arm metal sconce lights on the tall piers. Under the sconce on east pier is a brass State of Texas dedication plaque, with biographical information of county namesake George Erath, identification of the designer and builder, and year of construction. Originally set parallel to Washington Street, in 1963 the gates were moved to widen and improve Erath Avenue, and in doing so were also moved a few feet back from Washington and rotated approximately 70 degrees north, away from center. Despite this move, the monument retains a very good degree of integrity.

Stephenville is in the center of Erath County, Texas, where the North Central Texas Grand Prairie meets the Western Cross Timbers. Set along a bend in the Bosque River, the city is 68 miles southwest of Fort on generally flat terrain with an elevation of 1,273 feet.¹ The Erath Memorial Arch is on a gently-sloping site just west of the Stephenville Commercial Historic, and about one-tenth of a mile southwest of the Erath County Courthouse. The gates are located on opposite side of North Erath Avenue, at the northwest and northeast corners of its intersection of West Washington Street (U.S. Business Route 377), a primary thoroughfare in Stephenville that connects the central business district to Tarleton State University to the west. The immediate neighborhood includes a mix of residential and non-residential properties. Originally set parallel to Washington Street, in 1963 the gates were moved to widen Erath Street, and in doing so were also moved a few feet back from Washington Street to allow for a sidewalk, and rotated approximately 70 degrees north, away from center. Despite this move, the memorial retains a very good degree of integrity.

The Erath Memorial Arch is technically not an arch but is a two-part street gate, resembling gateways to residential subdivisions and private streets built across the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The two gate structures (counted as two contributing objects) are identical to one another, with three vertical piers, two measuring 12-feet-tall and spanned by an arch over a walk-through opening, and a towering 17-foot-tall pier connected to the center pier by a flat lintel topped by a gently-sloping wall, over a concrete bench. The foundations and structural core are reinforced concrete, but each gate is finished with rough-cut limestone set in irregular courses, with concrete caps and coping. The mortar is finished with bead joints. Both gates feature the original curved-arm metal sconce lights on the tall piers. Under the sconce on east gate is a brass State of Texas dedication plaque, with biographical information of county namesake George Erath, identification of the designer and builder, and year of construction.

Both halves of the gate are the same height, and the tops are level with each other, but due to the sloping grade of the site (the west side of the street is slightly higher than the east), the foundation of the west gate structure is buried deeper, placing the concrete bench a few inches from the ground and rendering it impractical as place to sit.² Each gate section is set on a reinforced concrete foundation, with footed piers set three feet below grade on the east side (four feet on the west side). As designed, the exposed piers extend a foot above grade. The footprint of each pier, continuing from the foundation towards the top of the monument, is a 12-point square cruciform, but the top of each pier is square in plan and finished with a concrete cap. Some of the non-structural concrete is spalling, but the monument in is good condition overall.

¹ Mary Saltarelli, *Stephenville Commercial Historic District*, draft National Register nomination, 2017.

² Remarkably, this was case when the gate was first constructed in its original location, leaving one to wonder why the site was not graded level prior to construction, nor the gate design modified to account for the difference in elevation.

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Statement of Significance

The Erath Memorial Arch on the west side of Stephenville, Texas, was designed by local architect Carrel Vernon (C.V.) Head, and constructed by stone mason Arthur Maxwell to commemorate the county's namesake, George Bernard Erath (1813-1891), a surveyor, Texas Ranger, soldier at the battle of San Jacinto, and state legislator. The property consists of two identical rustic stone and concrete structures that demarcate North Erath Avenue at its intersection with West Washington Street. Despite its historic name, the property is not an arch but a 2-part stone gate, similar in form to numerous late 19th and early 20th century gates that mark entrances to residential subdivisions and private streets across the U.S. The property is nominated to the National Register at the state level of significance as part of the multiple property submission *Monuments and Buildings of the Texas Centennial*, under Criterion A in the area of Social History as the product of the concerted statewide effort to commemorate historic persons and events important to Texas history. The property meets Criteria Consideration F (Commemorative Properties) because it is significant not for its association with George Erath, but as a structure that reveals the manner in which the State of Texas and its citizens celebrated the Texas Centennial in the 1930s. The property also meets Criteria Consideration B (Moved Properties) because the relocation of the monument in 1963 did not result in a change in its function as the gateway to Erath Street, nor its prominence as place marker. Given that the resource had no functional role other than to demarcate a street and convey information, it still retains the ability to do so in its current location. The period of significance is 1936, the year of construction.

George Bernard Erath (1813-1891)

The Erath Memorial Arch is dedicated to George Bernard Erath, namesake of the county in which it is located. Erath was born in Vienna, Austria, studied English and Spanish at Vienna Polytechnic Institute, and came to the United States in 1832, briefly living in Cincinnati. The following year, Erath moved to Texas and became a surveyor in Tenoxtitlán in Robertson's colony (present-day Burleson County). In 1836, he enlisted for service in the Texas Revolution, fought at the battle of San Jacinto, and resumed surveying in the newly-formed Republic of Texas. Settling in Milam County, he became captain of the county minute company, and in 1843-45, he represented his district in the Texas House of Representatives as a proponent of annexation by the United States. He was elected to the first state legislature, but soon returned to surveying and laid out the cities of Waco and Stephenville. He was first elected to the state Senate in 1857, serving until his resignation in 1861 to sit on a two-person committee to arbitrate disagreements between reservation Indians and the state. During the Civil War, Erath raised a company for the Fifteenth Texas Infantry regiment but soon returned to his home at Waco due to illness. In 1864, Governor Murrah appointed Erath to command a regiment in the Second Frontier District. Erath returned to the Senate for one term in 1874. In 1886, Erath dictated his memoirs to his daughter Lucy, which were not published until 1923. He died in 1891.³

Erath Memorial Arch

The Erath Memorial Arch is unique among the 45 Texas Centennial projects classified as "monuments," as the only one in the form of a gateway to a street, and the only one finished with a rough-cut and unfinished stone veneer. Funding for the monument was pursued by the Stephenville Chamber of Commerce with a committee composed of Mrs. J.S. Nutt, president of the Twentieth Century Club, Mrs. B.J. Trewitt of the Business and Professional Women's Club, and Mrs. H.A. (Sallie) Mothershead, a "member of both clubs and spokesman for the committee" that travelled to Austin to petition the Centennial appropriation committee in October 1935. The petition "bore the signatures of the presidents of all the federated civic clubs of the city and was supported by letters from the county commissioners,

³ *Handbook of Texas Online*, Thomas W. Cutrer, "Erath, George Bernard," accessed December 13, 2017, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fer01>.

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Mayor Henry Clark, and a number of businessmen.”⁴ The monument was funded for \$1,000, leaving the decisions regarding the monument’s design and location to be decided by local citizens.⁵

By the following spring, a plan to make the monument in the form of a gateway arch was proposed to the state. Local architect Carrel Vernon (C.V.) Head was selected to design the monument, for which he was paid \$50.⁶ His plans, drawn on a single blueprint, reveal an option to build a monument twice as big as the completed project, by pairing identical gates and connecting them with a third bench seat at the taller end of each structure. His “double style” option was most likely rejected due to cost.⁷

Members of the Texas Commission of Control’s three-member Advisory Board of Historians did not unanimously endorse the proposal to erect a memorial arch in Stephenville. In March 1936, J. Frank Dobie expressed his opposition in a letter to Louis Kemp:

I am opposed to building a “very ornate arch” in memory of George B. Erath. He was not an ornate man, and ornateness at Stephenville would be out of place anyhow. If the Commission and Board of Control would leave the designing of some of these memorials to the sculptors who are to execute them, I believe they would be more expressive and in better taste - provided Coppini is not the sculptor.⁸

Despite Dobie’s misgivings, the project moved forward at breakneck speed (in comparison with the pace of many Centennial projects), ensuring that the Erath monument would actually be completed during the Centennial year. On May 25, the Board of Control voted to award the contract to Arthur Maxwell, in the amount of \$938.85. The chief of the Centennial Division reported that the local Centennial Committee in Stephenville and the project architect advocated for the awarding of the contract to Maxwell, noting that due to the location of Stephenville and the small size of the memorial, it was difficult to obtain other bids. The contract was formally approved on June 5, and groundbreaking at the project site took place on June 8.⁹ Maxwell worked at the site with up to half a dozen laborers, striving to complete the project within the 40-day contract period. The monument was completed ahead of schedule during the first week of July.¹⁰ Despite the support of various civic groups and local government, there is no record of a formal monument dedication ceremony.

⁴ “Erath County Given Money for Marker.” *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, October 25, 1935. Sallie Mothershead was the 12th president of the 20th Century Club, and was instrumental in establishing the local public library, the city’s first museum, and the local Chamber of Commerce. “Sallie Mothershead: Widow, Mother Who Pioneered Local Establishments,” *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, March 11, 2017.

⁵ The city council assured the Twentieth Century Club that the monument would be part of an overall beatification effort for Erath Avenue, but Sanborn maps indicate that the street remained unpaved and impassible as late as 1949. A July 1936 article in the local paper specified that the street would be improved “in the near future,” and the project would include the building of a bridge “across the ravine,” as well as street grading. “Geo. B. Erath Monument Completed By Maxwell Before End of Contract,” *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, July 10, 1936.

⁶ “Memorial Designer is Happy in Retirement,” *Stephenville Star*, January 7, 1982.

⁷ See plans on page 14. “Details, elevations, and sections for Erath Arches, 1936.” Texas State Library and Archives (Austin, Texas), Blueprints and Drawings Collection, Box 821-89.

⁸ J. Frank Dobie to Louis Kemp, March 30, 1936. Foik Papers, Catholic Archives of Texas (Austin).

⁹ *Minutes of the Texas State Board of Control, Centennial Division*, May 16, 1935; June 5, 1936. Texas State Board of Control records. Archives and Information Services Division, Texas State Library and Archives Commission; “Maxwell Gets Contract for Erath Marker” *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, June 12, 1936.

¹⁰ “Geo. B. Erath Monument Completed By Maxwell Before End of Contract,” *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, July 10, 1936.

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Relatively little is known about monument architect Carrel Vernon Head (1897-1992). He was born near the Clairette community in southern Erath County and attended Tarleton State College in Stephenville, but it is not known whether he obtained a degree in architecture elsewhere. He served in the navy during World War I, and never married. By 1928, he lived in Slaton (Lubbock County), and collaborated with Amarillo architect E.F. Rittenberry on a fire station in that city.¹¹ In 1930 he received a U.S. patent (1,765,154) for an "Indoor or Laboratory Garden" and returned to Stephenville by 1935.¹² He worked as a consulting architect with prominent architect Wyatt Hedrick on numerous west Texas projects beginning in the late 1930s, including the First National Bank of Midland (1938), the Denver City School (1939), the Sundown High School (1947), and Levelland High School (1948).¹³ Only one building in Stephenville is credited to Head (Central Ward School, 1935), but he may have worked with Hedrick on local projects such as the Terrell Hospital (1936), the Stephenville Recreation Center (1938), the American Legion Community Center (1939), and numerous postwar projects at Tarleton State College.¹⁴

Historian C. Richard King identified the location of the memorial at Erath Street as "the site where Erath's logcabin (sic) once stood," but this has not been verified through any other known sources.¹⁵ He also described the circumstances under which the monument was moved. In 1955, three citizens identified as "O. Byrd, Denver Whisenant, and Mrs. Albert Graves" requested that city council move to "open" Erath Avenue, but the following March, Mrs. Whisenant objected to a proposal to remove the memorial. The 1949 Sanborn map identifies North Erath Avenue as "unpaved" and "impassible." In December 1963, the manager of the Piggly Wiggly grocery store offered on behalf of the company to pay for the relocation of the monument to the entrance of the city park. In February 1963, the city council voted to approve the widening and paving of Erath Avenue, and Piggly Wiggly paid \$500 towards the relocation of the monument to its present location.¹⁶

The Erath Memorial Arch was designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 2009.

¹¹ "Slaton Asks Estimates On Fire Station," *Lubbock Morning Avalanche*, August 24, 1928.

¹² "Vernon Head Puts Over Invention That Promises To Bring Fancy Reward," *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, July 24, 1931; "Building Construction," *U.S. Patent Office Gazette*, June 17, 1930, pp. 1089-90.
<https://hdl.handle.net/2027/wu.89048465140?urlappend=%3Bseq=1203>

¹³ "Bids Called on New Eight-Story Office Building in Midland," *Odessa American*, April 18, 1938; "School Goes Up in Denver City," *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*, September 24, 1939; "Lubbock Firms Get Sundown Contracts," *Lubbock Evening Journal*, May 8, 1947; "Let Contract July 29 on New Levelland High School," *Amarillo Daily News*, July 9, 1948;

¹⁴ "Another WPA Project is in Need of Men," *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, December 20, 1935.

¹⁵ C. Richard King. "Stephenville Streets," (unpublished), Vertical Files, Special Collections Room, Dick Smith Library, Tarleton State University, Stephenville, Texas.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Bibliography

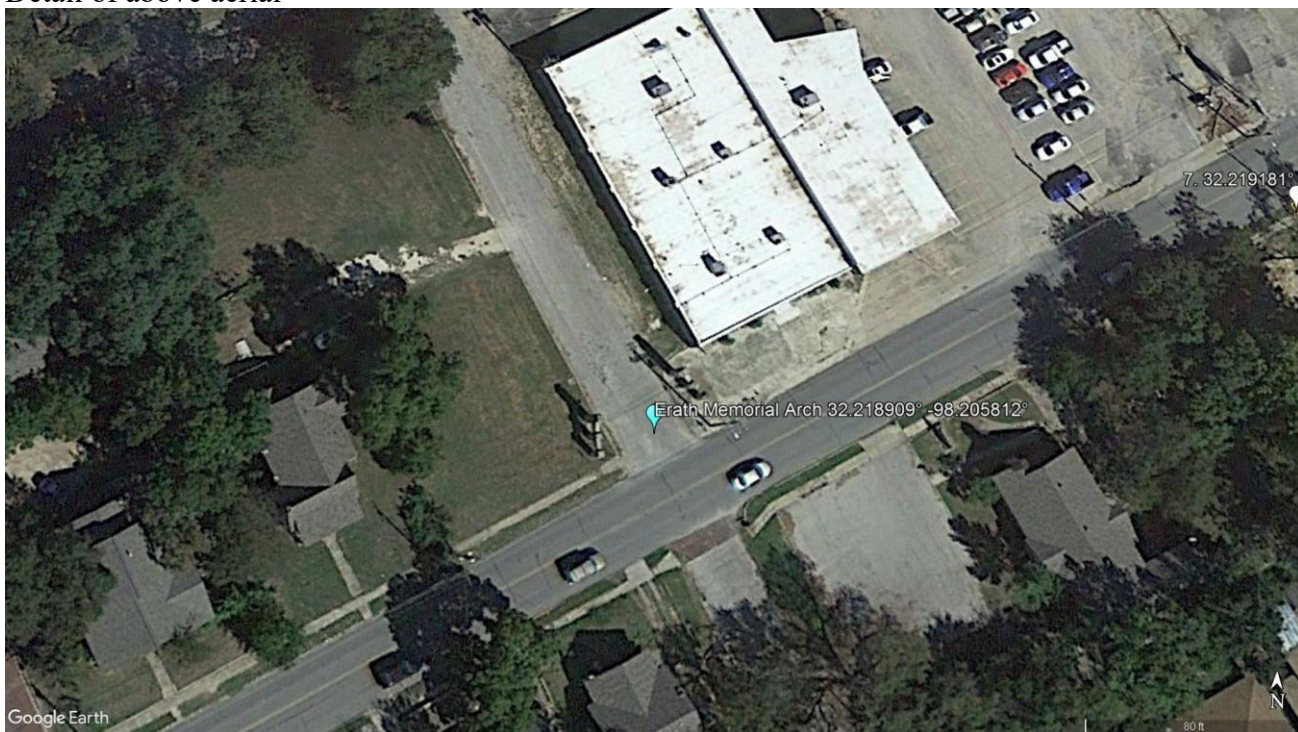
- “An Inventory of the Blueprints and Drawings Collection at the Texas State Archives, 1854-1984,” undated, bulk 1936-1938, <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/tslac/90027/tsl-90027.html>. Accessed October 13, 2017.
- “Another WPA Project is in Need of Men,” *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, December 20, 1935.
- “Details, elevations, and sections for Erath Arches, 1936.” Texas State Library and Archives (Austin, Texas), Blueprints and Drawings Collection, Box 821-89.
- Dobie, J. Frank, letter to Louis Kemp, March 30, 1936. Foik Papers, Catholic Archives of Texas (Austin).
- “Erath County Given Money for Marker.” *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, October 25, 1935.
- “Geo. B. Erath Monument Completed By Maxwell Before End of Contract,” *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, July 10, 1936.
- Handbook of Texas Online*, Thomas W. Cutrer, "Erath, George Bernard," accessed December 13, 2017, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fer01>.
- King, C. Richard. “Stephenville Streets,” (unpublished), Vertical Files, Special Collections Room, Dick Smith Library, Tarleton State University, Stephenville, Texas.
- “Memorial Designer is Happy in Retirement,” *Stephenville Star*, January 7, 1982.
- Minutes of the Texas State Board of Control, Centennial Division*, May 16, 1935; June 5, 1936. Texas State Board of Control records. Archives and Information Services Division, Texas State Library and Archives Commission; “Maxwell Gets Contract for Erath Marker” *Stephenville Empire-Tribune*, June 12, 1936.
- Monuments Erected by the State of Texas to Commemorate the Centenary of Texas Independence*, Commission of Control, 1938.

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Erath Memorial Arch (Stephenville Downtown Historic District shaded in yellow to the east).
Google Earth, accessed December 12, 2017



Detail of above aerial



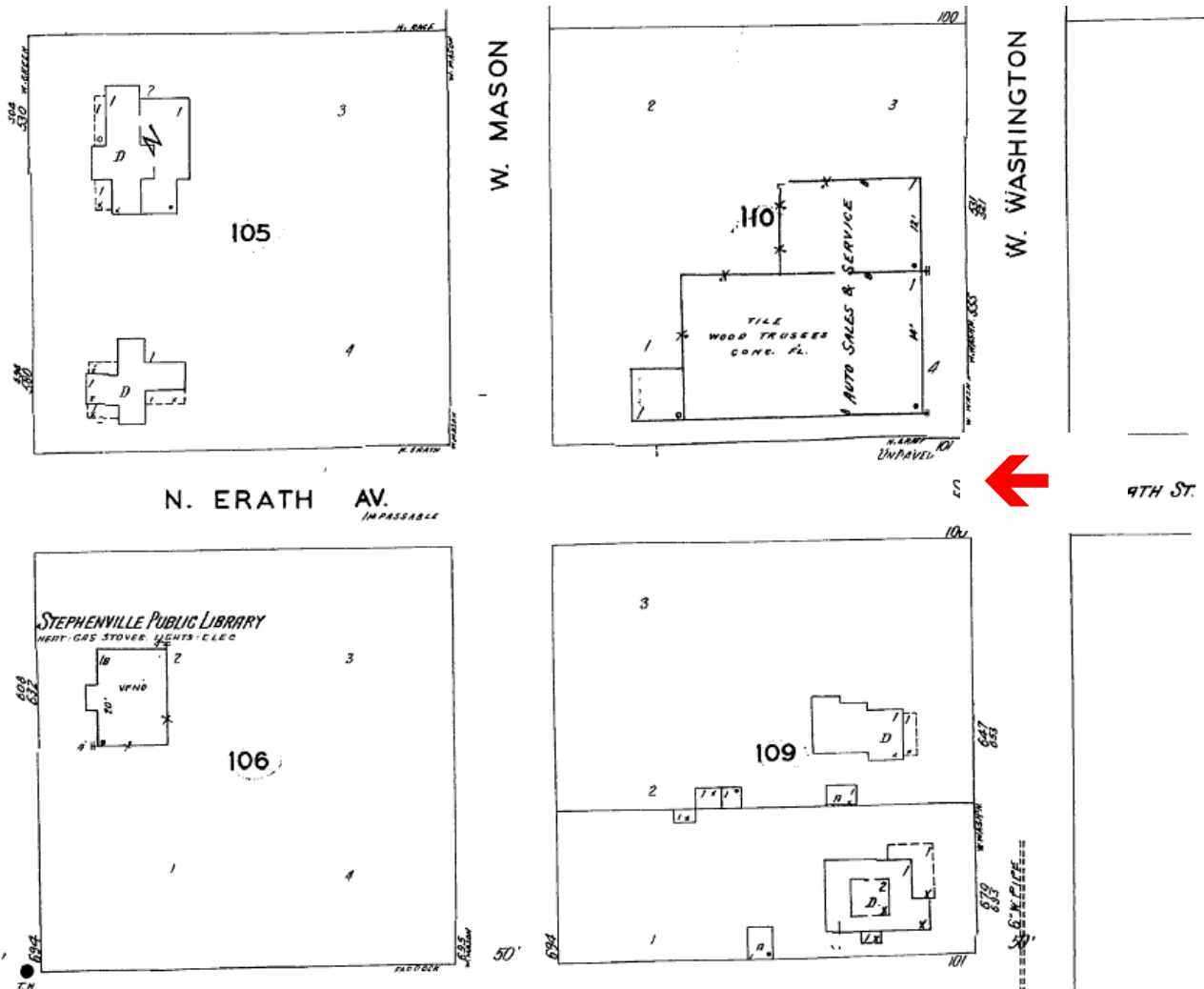
Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (1930, corrected to 1949).

<http://sanborn.umi.com.ezproxy.lib.utexas.edu/>, accessed December 13, 2017

Location of monument indicated by arrow.

While this map doesn't show the footprint of the monument at the northeast and northwest corners of Erath and Washington, it indicates that in the late 1940s, Erath Avenue was still "unpaved" near the intersection with Washington Street, and "impassible" north of Mason.



Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Erath Memorial Arch, shortly after completion

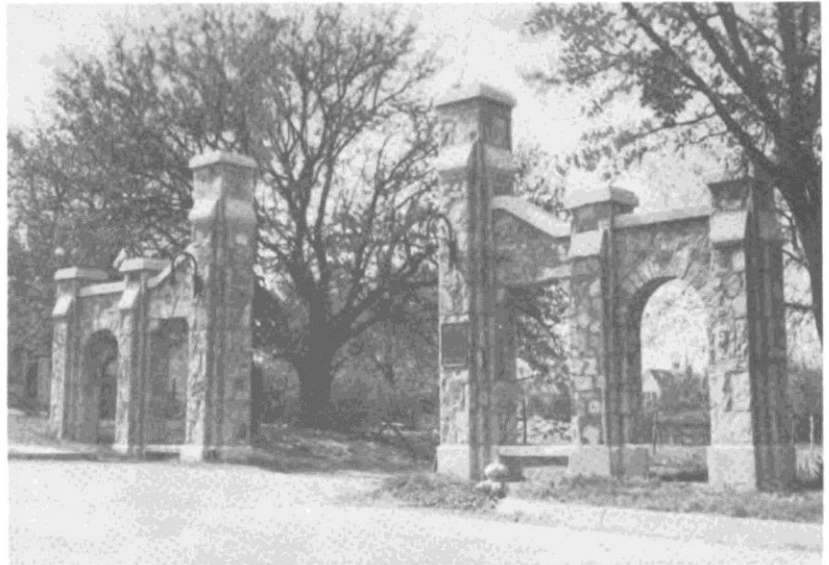
Source: *Monuments Erected by the State of Texas to Commemorate the Centenary of Texas Independence*, Commission of Control (1938), page 103.

ERATH MEMORIAL ARCH
STEPHENVILLE

IN MEMORY OF
GEORGE BERNHARD ERATH

PROTECTOR OF THE TEXAS FRONTIER. HERO OF SAN JACINTO. MAJOR IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY. MEMBER OF THE TEXAS CONGRESS AND LEGISLATURE. BORN AT VIENNA, AUSTRIA JANUARY 1, 1813. DIED AT WACO, TEXAS MAY 13, 1891. ERATH COUNTY WAS NAMED IN HIS HONOR.

HE SOUGHT IN TEXAS FREEDOM FROM TYRANNY. IN RETURN, HE CONTRIBUTED, THROUGH LIFE-LONG SERVICE, TO THE PROGRESS OF THE STATE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENLIGHTENED PEOPLE.



The Commission allocated \$1,000 for the erection of the arch at the Washington Street entrance to the thoroughfare in Stephenville named in honor of George Bernhard Erath. A short biography is inscribed on a bronze plaque attached to the memorial. C. V. Head, architect, designed the arch of native field stone.

Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Photo 1 - Erath Memorial Arch from across Washington Street, facing north



Photo 2 - Erath Memorial Arch from center of N. Erath Avenue, facing south



Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Photo 3 - East Gate, facing northeast



Photo 4 - Erath Memorial Arch from sidewalk, facing west



Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Photo 5 - East gate, detail of flat arch, facing east



Photo 6 - East gate, detail of tall pier with sconce, facing northeast

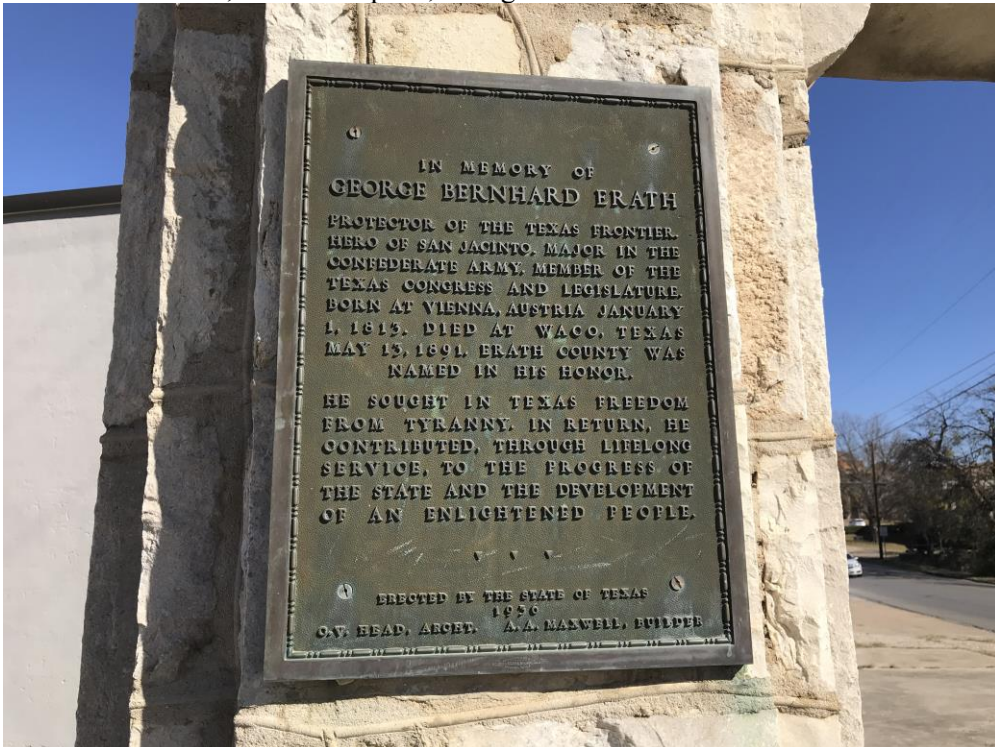


Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Photo 7 - East gate, detail of arch, facing northwest



Photo 8 - East arch, dedication plate, facing west



Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

Photo 9 - West gate, facing east



Photo 10 - West gate, facing southeast



-end-





STOP

WASHINGTON



SEATH ARCHES
The Seath Arches were constructed in 1928 by the Seath family as a monument to their family and the city of Seath. The arches are made of limestone and are a landmark in the city. The arches are located on the corner of Seath and Main streets in Seath, Texas. The arches are a popular landmark and are often visited by tourists. The arches are a symbol of the city's history and are a reminder of the Seath family's contribution to the city.



N. KENDRICK

NO PARKING
IN FRONT OF
BUSINESS
ESTABLISHMENTS
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
MON - FRI







IN MEMORY OF
GEORGE BERNHARD ERATH

PROTECTOR OF THE TEXAS FRONTIER,
HERO OF SAN JACINTO, MAJOR IN THE
CONFEDERATE ARMY, MEMBER OF THE
TEXAS CONGRESS AND LEGISLATURE,
BORN AT VIENNA, AUSTRIA JANUARY
1, 1813, DIED AT WACO, TEXAS
MAY 13, 1891. ERATH COUNTY WAS
NAMED IN HIS HONOR.

HE SOUGHT IN TEXAS FREEDOM
FROM TYRANNY. IN RETURN, HE
CONTRIBUTED, THROUGH LIFELONG
SERVICE, TO THE PROGRESS OF
THE STATE AND THE DEVELOPMENT
OF AN ENLIGHTENED PEOPLE.

ERECTED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS
1956
C. V. BEAD, ARCHT. A. A. MAXWELL, BUILDER



FIRST
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
450 W. Tarleton
Welcome
←



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Erath Memorial Arch

Multiple Name: Monuments and Buildings of the Texas Centennial MPS

State & County: TEXAS, Erath

Date Received: 3/9/2018 Date of Pending List: 4/2/2018 Date of 16th Day: 4/17/2018 Date of 45th Day: 4/23/2018 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: MP100002348

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 4/19/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The Erath Memorial Arch is of statewide significance under National Register Criterion A in the area of Social History. Built in 1936 following designs by local architect C. V. Head, the reinforced-concrete and limestone monument represented a unique project of the Texas Centennial program. The only "gateway" design completed, the substantial memorial arch gates represented one of the Centennial program's "monument project" property types. The minor relocation of the two gateways, although altering their orientation and prominence to the street slightly, did not impact their ability to convey their historic character as substantial commemorative works of the 1930's Centennial program. The object meets the Registration Requirements set out in the MPS cover.

Recommendation/ Criteria Accept NR Criterion A

Reviewer Paul Lusignan

Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229

Date 4/19/2018

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

real places telling real stories



TO: Paul Lusignan
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

From: Mark Wolfe, SHPO
Texas Historical Commission

RE: Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas

DATE: March 7, 2018

The following materials are submitted:

X	Original National Register of Historic Places form on disk. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the National Register of Historic Places nomination for the <i>Erath Memorial Arch, Stephenville, Erath County, Texas</i> .
	Resubmitted nomination
X	Original NRHP signature page signed by the Texas SHPO
	Multiple Property Documentation form on disk
	Resubmitted form
	Original MPDF signature page signed by the Texas SHPO
X	CD with TIFF photograph files, KMZ files, and nomination PDF
	Correspondence

COMMENTS:

- SHPO requests substantive review (cover letter from SHPO attached)
- The enclosed owner objections (do) (do not) constitute a majority of property owners
- Other:

