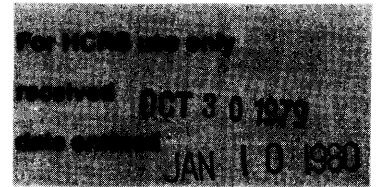


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bolivar Court Square Historic District

and/or common Same

2. Location TN 125 and U.S. 64

street & number Irregular pattern along Main Street, Water Street,
Warren Street and Market Street not for publication

city, town Bolivar vicinity of Sixth congressional district

state Tennessee code 047 county Hardeman code 069

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple ownership

street & number

city, town vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Hardeman County Courthouse

street & number Court Square

city, town Bolivar state Tennessee 38008

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historical and Architectural Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date November 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records Tennessee Historical Commission, 4721 Trousdale Drive

city, town Nashville state Tennessee 37219

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	except #38, which was moved ca 1827
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Bolivar is the county seat of Hardeman County, which is located in southwestern Tennessee. The Bolivar Court Square Historic District, which includes the court square and a small extension to the east, contains forty buildings and one structure (a monument); twenty eight buildings and the monument contribute to the significance of the district, and there are twelve other buildings. The district has commercial, government, religious, and residential buildings.

Buildings and structures contributing to the character of the district.

1. Sanderson's Bargain Center (119 North Main Street): ca. 1890, 1½ story brick commercial building, 4 bays separated by brick pilasters, ornate iron attic bents, brick cornice, first story modernized.
2. Western Auto Store (117 North Main Street): ca. 1890, 2 story brick commercial building, 3 bays, dentiled and modillioned cornice, brick hood molds, first story modernized.
3. Top Hat Restaurant - Kiddie Kassel (Main Street): ca. 1915, 1 story brick commercial building, 2 sections, facade stuccoed, first stories modernized.
4. Ben Franklin - Bolivar Drug Building (Main Street): ca. 1880, 2 story brick commercial building divided into 2 units, 3 bays each section, brick hood molds with brick keystones, brick quoins, brick dentiled cornice.
5. Wood and Miller Department Store (Main Street): ca. 1910, 2 story brick, 4 bays segmental lintels, remodeled ground story facade.
6. Rexall Drug - Sullivan's Supplies - Kahn Brothers Building (Main Street): 1878 cluster of 3 commercial buildings, 2 story brick, some Italianate details, paired brackets, brick hood molds with brick keystones, arched windows, 3 bays to each section.
7. Cates Jewelers - Purple Daisy (108-110 West Market Street): ca. 1890, 1 story brick commercial building, originally 3 sections, dentiled brick cornice, ornate iron attic vents, decorative lintels in right section, slightly modernized.
8. Ragon Building (101 West Market Street): 1878, 2 story brick with round-headed windows at 2nd story level, shaped parapet, round windows on east elevation.
9. Vaughan Building - Gifts and Things (103 West Market Street): ca. 1885, 2 story brick with round-headed windows with brick hood molds at 2nd story level, flat parapet, brick dentiled cornice, remodeled facade at ground floor level.
10. Jones Building -Sarah's Sewing Center (105 West Market Street): ca. 1885, 2 story brick with flat parapet, four segmental-arched windows at 2nd floor level, remodeled facade at ground floor level.
11. Waller Building - Bryant's Shoe Shop (107 West Market Street): ca. 1885, 2 story brick with 4 segmental-arched windows at 2nd floor level, flat parapet.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Tennessee General Assembly created Hardeman County on October 16, 1823, from a portion of neighboring Hardin County. The new county, named for Colonel Thomas Jones Hardeman, an early settler in the area, was organized in November 1823. The county court chose Hatchie Town, located one mile north of Bolivar on the Hatchie River, as the temporary county seat. The state legislature appointed four commissioners to select a permanent county town, and they chose Bolivar; William Ramsey and Ezekiel Polk donated fifty acres on April 22, 1824, for the new town, which was named for the Venezuelan independence leader Simon Bolivar. A committee was chosen by the county court to sell town lots and erect public buildings. Bolivar was incorporated in 1827.

Three courthouses have stood on the court square, and two of these still survive. The first, a log building erected in 1824, was moved to its present location on Market Street, where it was converted into the Joy-Hardaway House (No. 38) and later into the Old Courthouse Museum. Although not on its original site, it is the oldest building in the state which has served as a court house. A second courthouse, a brick building, was built in 1827 and destroyed in May 1864 when federal troops fired the town. The present courthouse (No.25) was built in 1868; the architectural firm of Willis, Sloan, and Trigg designed the building. Wings were added to the north and south elevations in 1955. The 1868 Hardeman County Courthouse is the seventh oldest in Tennessee and the first built in the state after the Civil War.

Twenty-two of the twenty-eight buildings and structures which contribute to the significance of the district are commercial or professional buildings; of this number thirteen are nineteenth-century buildings and the remaining nine were constructed between 1900 and 1915. This collection is a catalogue of styles of commercial buildings built in a southern county seat during the period 1852 to 1915; there is at least one building representing each of the seven decades. The stylistic transition moves from the sedately ornamented 1852 Coleman Building (No. 21; to the Victorian, three-section, effusively decorated commercial building at the corner of Market and Main Streets (No. 6) and the Ragon Building (No. 8), both of which were erected in 1878; to the relatively plainer, utilitarian buildings of the nineties, such as the 1890 building that houses Cates Jewelers and Purple Daisy (No.7). The twentieth century commercial buildings, are almost completely utilitarian and ornamentation is minimal. Some examples are the Miller and Wood Department Store (No.5), and the Barrett and Stevens Building (No. 16). One notable exception is the Bolivar Bank Building (No. 20) which has an excellent Neo-Classical facade.

The architecture of the courthouse and commercial buildings in the district illustrate the effect of the Civil War on the economy of Bolivar. The first building reconstructed after the war, and the most necessary, the courthouse, was completed in 1868. A few commercial buildings were erected in the 1870s, but the majority were not built until after the 1880s. Businesses either did not rebuild at once or occupied temporary quarters for many years. The economic upheaval is reflected in the chronology of the commercial architecture of this town.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Bolivar Bulletin Times, July 4, 1976.
- Civil War Centennial Commission Directory of Civil War Monuments and Memorials in Tennessee Nashville: Civil War Centennial Commission, 1963.
- Sophie and Paul Crane. Tennessee Taproots. Old Hickory Tennessee: Earle-Shields Publishers, c1976.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property 14
 Quadrangle name Bolivar East, Tennessee
 UMT References

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

A	1 6	3 1 9 4 2 0	3 9 0 3 1 4 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 6	3 1 9 0 6 0	3 9 0 2 9 5 0
E			
G			

B	1 6	3 1 9 4 1 0	3 9 0 2 9 4 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	1 6	3 1 9 0 7 0	3 9 0 3 1 6 0
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the Bolivar Court Square Historic District is shown as the red line on the accompanying Tax Assessment maps No. 70-0 and No. 79-B for Bolivar, Hardeman County, Tennessee; these are drawn at a scale of 100 feet to the inch. The boundary of the nominated district

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Hume Church, Architectural Historian
Robert E. Dalton, Director of Field Services

organization Tennessee Historical Commission date October 1979

street & number 4721 Trousdale Drive telephone (901) 741-2371

city or town Nashville state Tennessee 37220

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Stanger

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 10/26/79

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Arthur Conrad Osburn</u>	date <u>1-10-80</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u>Bill [unclear]</u>	date <u>1/2/80</u>
Chief of Registration	

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1. Ingram Estate
c/o Miss Elizabeth Ingram
The Columns
303 West McNeal Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
2. Ingram Estate
c/o Miss Elizabeth Ingram
The Columns
303 West McNeal Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
3. Mrs. Fred Dacus
Highway 64 West
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
4. Polk/Chapleau Estate
Polk/Chapleau Plantation
Hickory Valley, Tennessee 38042
and
Mr. Edward Anderson
231 Bills Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
5. Mr. J. M. Cohn
1822 Queens Way
Atlanta, Georgia 30341
6. Mrs. Alsey B. Young
313 West Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
and
Mrs. J. Walter McDonnell
1 Cherokee
Chickasaw Gardens
Memphis, Tennessee 38111
and
Mrs. Adolphus R. Kahn
330 Bills Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
7. Mr. Bob Cates
108 West Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
and
Mrs. Y. E. Tedesco
7243 Gen. Haig Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70124
8. Mrs. Mae Tate
416 South Union Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
9. Mr. Paul Vaughan
614 West Neely Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
10. Mrs. Jimmy Neely
212 East Jackson Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
11. Mr. Travis Bryant
1020 Lake Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
12. Mr. Mont Jones
309 West Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
13. Hardeman County Savings Bank
123 West Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
14. Hardeman County Savings Bank
123 West Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
15. Hardeman County Savings Bank
123 West Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008

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- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>16. James and Barrett Stevens
119 South Main Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>17. Mrs. Wilbur Doyle
705 Neely Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>18. Allen Sexton
orange Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>19. Bank of Bolivar
100 East Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>20. Bank of Bolivar
100 East Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>21. Ms. Eloise Reynolds
705 North Jones Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
and
Bank of Bolivar
100 East Main Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>22. Mr. J. H. Brooks
520 South Union Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>23. Mr. J. H. Brooks
520 South Union Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>24. Baker Manufacturing
127 West Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> | <p>25.
and</p> <p>26. County Executive
Hardeman County Courthouse
Court Square
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>27. Denton and Cary, Attorneys
Warren Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>28. Judge Dewey C. Whinton
116 Warren Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>29. Mrs. Allen M. Prewitt
516 North Main Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
and
Dr. and Mrs. W. E. Lawrence
824 Butler Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>30. Mr. Don Shackelford
218 Mecklinburg Drive
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>31. Mr. Don Shackelford
218 Mecklinburg Drive
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>32. Ingram Estate
c/o Ms. Elizabeth Ingram
303 West McNeal Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> <p>33. Mr. Paul Nelms
515 South Union Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008</p> |
|---|--|

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34. Mr. Paul Nelms
515 South Union Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
35. Judge Dewey C. Whitenton
116 Warren Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
36. Bolivar Presbyterian Church
East Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
37. Bolivar Presbyterian Church
East Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
38. County Executive
Hardeman County Courthouse
Court Square
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
39. Mrs. Austin A. Baker, Sr.
East Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
40. Mr. Joe Meeks
206 East Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008
41. United State Post Office
118 East Market Street
Bolivar, Tennessee 38008

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12. Moore Building - Bryant's Shoe Shop (109 West Market Street): ca. 1900, 2 story brick with flat parapet, 3 windows at 2nd floor level.
13. Vacant Building (111 West Market Street): ca. 1900, 1 story brick with flat parapet, remodeled facade.
16. Barrett and Stevens Building (117 South Main): ca. 1911, 2 story brick with 3 segmental-arched windows at 2nd story level, flat parapet.
17. Doyle Building (115 South Main): ca. 1915, 2 story brick with flat parapet, 1 pair of windows at 2nd story level.
20. Bank of Bolivar (100 East Market Street): ca. 1907, Neo-classical facade with 4 pilasters supporting pediment with eagle in tympanum, 2 story brick.
21. Coleman Building - Bubba's Restaurant - Bank of Bolivar (102-104 East Market Street): ca. 1852, 2 story brick with round-headed windows with hood molds and keystones at 2nd story level, remodeled facade at ground story level.
22. Brooks Auto Service (108 East Market Street): ca. 1880, 2 story brick with round-headed windows, flat parapet.
24. Blaylock Livery Stable (104 East Market Street): ca. 1900, 1 story frame building with board-and-batten siding, built as a livery stable, remodeled facade.
25. Hardeman County Courthouse (Court Square): 1868, 2 story brick with pedimented portico above arcaded, rusticated ground story, brick pilasters define bays, cupola with 4 clock faces surmounts building, 2 recent 2 story wings.
26. Confederate Monument (Courthouse lawn): 1873.
28. Whitenton Law Office Building (111 Warren Street): ca. 1870, 2 story brick stepped parapet, brick dentiled cornice.
29. Bolivar Record Shop/W. E. Lawrence Building (116 Warren Street): ca. 1900, 2 story brick, stepped parapet with corbelled brick cornice.
32. Bank of Bolivar-Danny's Barber Shop (100 Warren Street): ca. 1887, 1 story brick with parapet and corbelled brick cornice, iron columns once used as Bank of Bolivar Building.

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36. Bolivar Presbyterian Church (East Market Street): 1853, 2 story brick, hipped roof with cupola, entrance flanked by paired pilasters crowned by pedimented gable.
38. Old Hardeman County Courthouse - Joy-Hardaway House (East Market Street): ca. 1824, 2 story frame with weatherboard siding, brick exterior gable and chimneys, entrance with head and side lights, used as first courthouse, moved from court square to present location ca. 1867.
39. Joy-Baker House (East Market Street): ca. 1850, Greek Revival style, Ionic portico, paired cornice brackets, frame with weatherboard siding, entrance with side lights.

Buildings detracting from the integrity of the district.

14. The Wash House (Lafayette Street): ca. 1970, 1 story steel frame covered with corrugated aluminum, coin-operated laundry.
15. Hardeman County Farm Bureau Building (114 South Main Street): ca. 1950, 1 story brick commercial building.
18. Volunteer Vending Corporation Building (113 South Main Street): 2 story commercial building with brick facade, drastically remodeled. ca. 1960.
19. Bank of Bolivar (100 East Market Street): ca. 1950, 2 story commercial building attached to No. 58.
23. Brooks Auto Service (106 East Market Street): ca. 1935, 1 story garage.
27. First Baptist Church (Warren Street): 1922, 3 story, church converted into law offices, polychrome brick, drastically altered.
30. Dollar General Store (Warren Street): ca. 1870, 1 story brick, radically altered.
31. B and B Loan Company (Warren Street): ca. 1930, 1 story brick.
33. McNess Products (East Market Street): ca. 1930, small 1 story brick.
34. Evelyn's Beauty Shop (East Market Street): ca. 1940, 1 story brick.

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35. Farmers Home Administration (Water Street): 1965, 1 story concrete block with brick facade.
37. Presbyterian Center (East Market Street): 1939, 1½ story brick, used as church fellowship hall.
40. Meeks House (206 East Market Street): ca. 1880, 1½ story brick with porte cochere, drastically remodeled ca. 1930.
41. Bolivar Post Office (118 East Market Street): 1940, 1 story brick veneer, symmetrical, topped with cupola. Retains it original 1940 interior.

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The Confederate monument (No. 26), which stands just south of the courthouse, was erected by the citizens of Hardeman County in 1867 to commemorate their Confederate dead. This is reputed to be the oldest monument of this type in the state. That it was erected barely two years after the surrender at Appomattox Courthouse--a financially difficult time for many Tennesseans--attests to the intensity of the spirit that led to its creation.

The district contains one church and residence which contribute to the significance of the area. Bolivar Presbyterian Church (No. 36) was constructed in 1853. This antebellum church is the oldest in Bolivar and one of the oldest in West Tennessee. Although more than 125 years old, it largely retains its original appearance and was recently repointed using lime mortar. The Joy-Baker House (No.39) is one of a number of pre-Civil War residences in Bolivar; it is, however, the only such building in the district. Except for some Colonial Revival trim, the building has changed very little since it was constructed ca. 1850.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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The Goodspeed Histories of Fayette and Hardeman Counties of Tennessee. Columbia, Tennessee: Woodward & Stinson Printing Co., 1973 (originally published in 1887).

Information provided by James T. Stevens, Jr. and Ms. Faye Tennyson Davidson, Hardeman County historians, both of Bolivar.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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was drawn to include the contributing properties in and around the court square and to exclude intrusive buildings. The district is predominately commercial, and adjacent areas outside of the boundary have a mixture of intrusive residential and commercial buildings.