

7-05-11029-33

NR 12-12-76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

RECEIVED NR LISTED 12-12-76
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Calhoun County Courthouse CA0005

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Hampton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05

COUNTY

Calhoun

CODE

013

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Calhoun County (Joe Fred McDonald, Circuit Clerk)

STREET & NUMBER

Calhoun County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Hampton

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Circuit Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Calhoun County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Hampton

STATE

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Calhoun County Courthouse in Hampton, Arkansas, is a two-story brick structure located on the courthouse square in the center of the county seat. Constructed in 1909, the building was designed by Frank W. Gibb of Little Rock and contracted by E. L. Koonce.

The building is constructed of brick with cut-stone trim and rests upon a foundation of rusticated brick. A cut-stone water table encircles the structure. The building is composed of a rectangular-shaped central wing flanked on all sides by a variety of projections. **All wings and projections are topped by hipped roofs of pressed tin.**

The facade is divided into three sections. The center of the facade is marked by double entry doors. These doors are surrounded by a cut stone archway and a semicircular transom. **Flanking either side of the entry on the first floor are arched double-hung windows, accentuated by cut-stone keystones and gauged brick.** Three second-story windows span the width of this center section of the facade. These windows are paired, rectangular in shape, and double-hung with transoms. A denticulated cornice runs around this center projection. **A gable dormer extends from the center of the roof of the central wing.** On the west corner of the facade stands a two-and-one-half story tower topped by a low-pitched hipped roof. This tower features an arched window with cut-stone keystone at the first floor levels on both the north and west elevation, paired slender double-hung windows on the second-story level and small double-hung windows on the two-and-one-half story level. Paired decorative brackets mark the cornice of the tower.

The most distinctive feature of the Calhoun County Courthouse is the clock tower, located on the northeast corner of the building. **As the other first floor windows on the facade, the windows at this level of the tower are arched with cut-stone keystones.** Paired decorative brackets mark the cornice of the clock tower. A pyramidal roofed cupola with paired arched openings contains the round four-faced clock.

The west elevation entry is marked by a two-story gabled bay with denticulated cornice. **Above the double entry doors at the second story level is a pair of double-hung windows with an arched transom.** Other windows on this elevation are rectangular, double-hung, and simple in design. **The entry on the east elevation is identical to that on the west.**

The south elevation features paired double-hung windows with small transoms over those on the second story. **A gabled dormer with denticulated cornice extends from the roof of this elevation and contains a pair of small multi-lite windows.** **On the south elevation is the only addition to the Calhoun County Courthouse.** A one-story brick wing, constructed in 1969, houses the county jail.

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In excellent condition, the Calhoun County Courthouse commands the center of the town of Hampton. **As the most architecturally significant structure in the county, the Calhoun County Courthouse is a local landmark.**

18 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
X:1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1909

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Frank W. Gibb

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The largest number of architecturally significant public buildings in Arkansas are the courthouses scattered over the state's 75 counties. A structural symbol of American government, the courthouse serves as the center of local political activity. Often the largest and most costly building in the county, the courthouse is almost always a source of pride to the citizens who financed and make use of its facilities.

Calhoun County was created December 6, 1850 and named for John C. Calhoun, a South Carolina statesman. The county is situated in the south central part of Arkansas. Triangular in shape, it encompasses 629 square miles. The county is primarily rural, with one of the smallest populations among Arkansas counties.

Hampton, the county seat of Calhoun County, was incorporated on January 27, 1853. After its incorporation, Hampton grew into an important trading post. During the Civil War business suffered severely, leaving the town practically deserted. Several destructive fires beginning in 1864 almost destroyed the town. In 1871 Hampton was re-incorporated and development began to take place.

Around the turn of the century it was decided that Calhoun County needed a new courthouse. Frank Gibb, an architect from Little Rock, was hired to design the building. An architect of excellent reputation, Gibb designed the Arkansas Building at the St. Louis Exposition and drew up the first act for construction of the Arkansas State Capitol. E. L. Koonce was employed as contractor of the construction.

Of brick construction the Calhoun County Courthouse is a two-story structure with a large corner clock tower. The building is basically devoid of ornamentation. Facade first floor windows feature arched windows with keystones. An arched opening of cut stone surrounds double entry doors. The hipped roofs of the central pavilion and adjacent wings are sheathed with pressed tin. The courthouse features a foundation of brick bands with a cut-stone water table encircling the structure. Found at the northeast corner of the courthouse is a three-and-one-half story square clock tower, capped by a pyramidal roofed cupola with a four-faced clock.

Architecturally as well as historically the Calhoun County Courthouse is the one of the most significant structures in the county. The

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courthouse rests on a square in the center of town and serves as a historic landmark to the county.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A Survey of Arkansas Courthouses. Compiled by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of Arkansas. Mrs. G. W. McDonald, Chairwoman, Historical Activities Committee. Arkansas Room, Little Rock Public Library. Little Rock Who's Who Publishers. Little Rock Who's Who. Little Rock: New Era Press, 1921.

Works Progress Administration. Calhoun County, c. 1940. Place file, Archives, Arkansas History Commission.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,5	5,4,9	0,2,0	3,7	1,0	8,1,0
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				

B						
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				

D						
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Sandra Taylor, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE

9-14-76

STREET & NUMBER

300 West Markham

TELEPHONE

501-371-1639

CITY OR TOWN

Little Rock

STATE

Arkansas

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Anne Bartley

Anne Bartley

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 9-14-76

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER