

NR 6-12-76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

Cleburne County Courthouse

CEC...

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Heber Springs

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Arkansas

CODE
05

Seco...
COUNTY

Cleburne

CODE
023

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Cleburne County (J. D. Kennedy, County Judge)

STREET & NUMBER

Cleburne County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Heber Springs

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Circuit Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Cleburne County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Heber Springs

STATE

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" 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 Cleburne County Courthouse in Heber Springs, Arkansas, is a two-storey brick structure of Jeffersonian Revival style. Constructed in 1914, the building was designed by architect Clyde A. Ferrell and contracted by A. M. Byrnes. The building contains 188,734 cubic feet and was built at a cost of \$65,000.

The Cleburne County Courthouse is a well-balanced structure featuring a recessed center bay. The facade and rear elevation are identical in appearance. The center bay of the flat-roofed building is marked by an octagonal-shaped dome with arched, louvered air vents. The frieze of the dome is marked by a band of wood which follows the arched shape of the air vents. The dome also features a dentiled cornice. An octagonal-shaped roof of imbricated wood shingles is surmounted by an octagonal-shaped cupola.

Extending around the entire building at the frieze line is a tiered band of bricks. A dentiled cornice also extends around the building. The four corners of each of the two projecting bays are marked by brick quoins.

Characteristic of the Jeffersonian style, the windows are straight topped. First-floor windows feature cast-stone lugsills and lintels, while windows at the second-storey level have lugsills but no lintels.

The central feature of the facade is a two-storey, pedimented portico. Supported by four large Doric-capital columns, the pediment of the portico features a dentiled cornice and a centered circular window in a grid pattern. The three-bay-wide portico lends an effect of weight and massiveness to the building.

The north and south elevations of the building feature a projecting bay which contains at the first-floor level a double door, above which is located a semi-circular stilted fanlite and, at the second-storey level, a double window.

Noteworthy details of the interior include patterned ceramic floor tiles, marble wainscoting, stamped metal ceilings in ornamental patterns and marble stairways with decorative iron railings.

Some interior office spaces have undergone remodelling and partitioning for changing office needs. In 1975 the windows were modernized and the dome and portico pediment painted in contrasting brown and white.

The Cleburne County Courthouse regally commands a position in the center of Heber Springs. In good condition, the building is one of the more architecturally significant courthouses in Arkansas.

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/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 1914

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Clyde A. Ferrell

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The largest number of architecturally significant public buildings in Arkansas are the courthouses scattered over the state's seventy-five 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.

Cleburne County consists of 619.3 square miles. It was created February 20, 1883, the seventy-fifth county to be formed in the state. The county was named for General Patrick R. Cleburne, who entered the Confederate Army in 1861 as Colonel of the First Arkansas Infantry and attained the rank of Major General.

The history of Cleburne County and Heber Springs, the county seat, runs parallel to a considerable extent to the biography of Max Frauenthal. Frauenthal served as an apprentice in the furrier trade in Germany before immigrating to New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1851. He served as a Colonel in the Confederate Army of North Virginia before settling in Conway County and then Faulkner County, Arkansas, in 1871. He established himself as a cotton planter and evolved into a wealthy merchant.

In 1880, Frauenthal, along with ten other men, purchased 7,000 acres of land in Van Buren County. Frauenthal invested more than half of the \$10,000 paid the original owner.

Frauenthal planned and laid out a town called Sugar Loaf, beginning in 1883. Also in 1883 he began gathering support for the formation of a new county. In the same year that Cleburne County was formed from land in Van Buren and Boone Counties, Frauenthal donated a frame building to be used as the county courthouse. At the same time he donated a jail and the land on which the jail and courthouse stood.

In 1910 the name of Sugar Loaf changed to Heber, then finally to Heber Springs. Heber Springs was named after Heber Jones, son of John F. Jones, the owner of Spring Park in the downtown area of the city. The original name, Sugar Loaf, was inspired by the proximity of nearby Sugar Loaf Mountain, which is capped by a striking rectangular mass of stone.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE one

In 1914 under a bond issue, money was provided for construction of a new county courthouse and two bridges. The old courthouse was moved across the street and made into a hotel where it stood for several years before being destroyed by fire. The 1914 courthouse was completed at a cost of \$65,000 and stands as the most impressive building in the county.

The Cleburne County Courthouse is a two-storey structure of Jeffersonian Revival style. It is a well-balanced, rectangular structure featuring a recessed center bay. The facade and rear elevation are identical in appearance. These two elevations are each marked by a massive two-storey portico supported by four large Doric-capital columns. The pediments of the portico feature dentiled cornices.

The center bay of the flat-roofed building is marked by a octagonal-shaped dome with cupola. The roof of the dome is of imbricated wood shingles.

Noteworthy interior details include patterned ceramic floor tiles, marble wainscoting and stairways and stamped metal ceilings.

Architecturally the Cleburne County Courthouse is a significant historical structure. Located on a square in the center of town, the courthouse is still very much a social center as well as a political and governmental center in the community. Many of Cleburne County's historic structures were destroyed by a series of tornadoes in the first two decades of the twentieth century. Remarkably, the courthouse has survived the storms, and this fact only increases the historical value and significance of the Cleburne County Courthouse.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A Survey of Arkansas Courthouses. Compiled by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of Arkansas, Mrs. W. G. McDonald, Chairperson, Historical Activities Committee. Arkansas Room, Little Rock Public Library.

Chastain, Huey H., President of Cleburne County Historical Society. Personal Interview, January 14, 1976, Heber Springs, Arkansas.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre
UTM REFERENCES

A | 15 | 5817 | 81110 | 309 | 217 | 71210 |
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C | | | | | | | | |

B | | | | | | | | |
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE

Sandra Taylor, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE

3-9-76

STREET & NUMBER

300 West Markham

TELEPHONE

501-371-1639

CITY OR TOWN

Little Rock

STATE

Arkansas

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

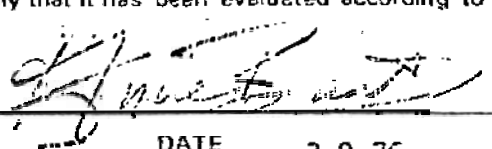
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL x

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-685), 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



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3-9-76

NPS USE ONLY

HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

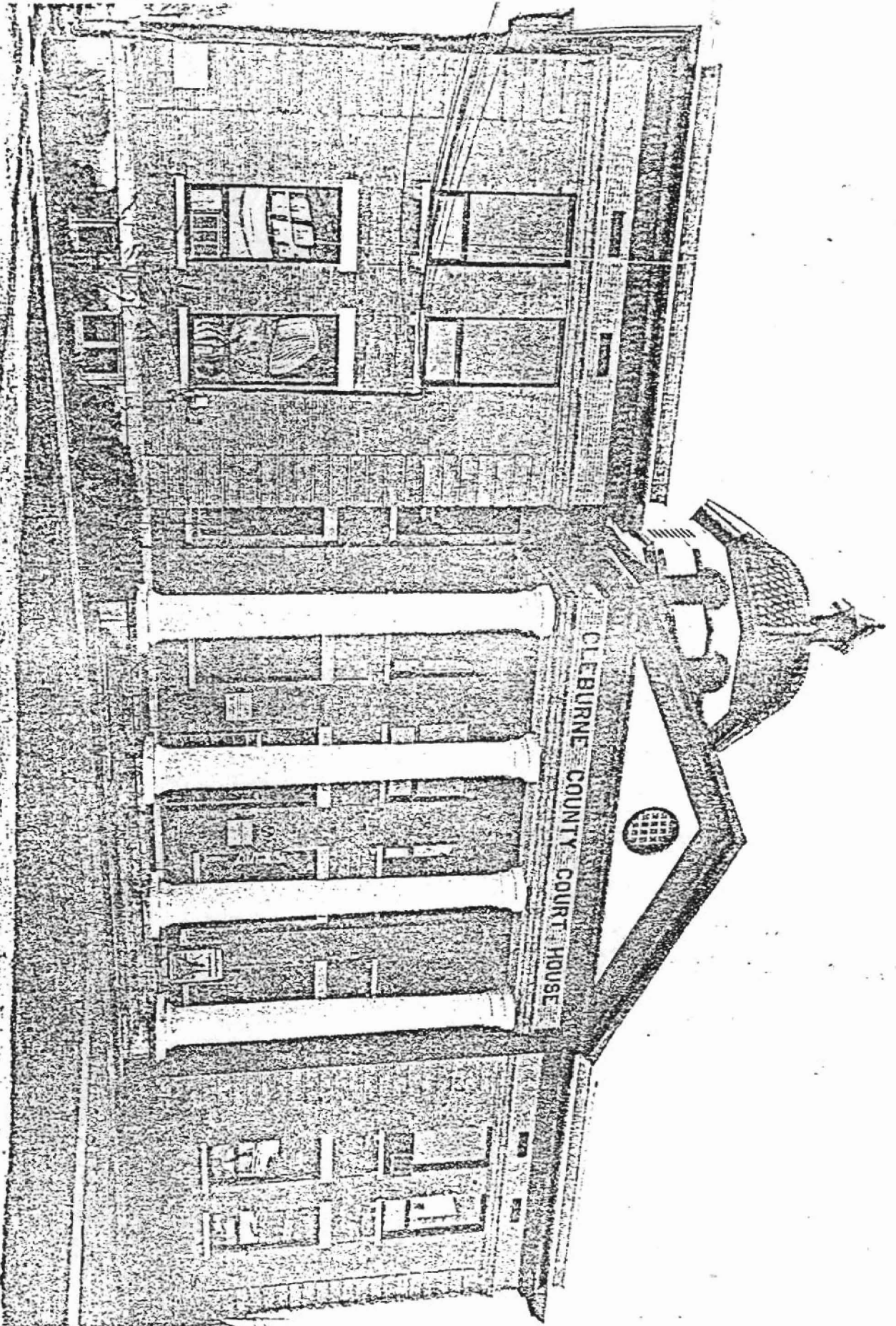
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



CLEBURNE COUNTY COURT HOUSE