NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM



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1. Name of Property	
historic name: Faulkner County Courthouse	
other name/site number: N/A	
======================================	
street & number: 801 Locust Street	
nc	t for publication: N/A
city/town: Conway	vicinity: N/A
state: AR county: Faulkner code: AR	2 045 zip code: 72032
3. Classification	
Ownership of Property: <u>Public-local</u>	
Category of Property: <u>Building</u>	
Number of Resources within Property:	
Contributing Noncontributing	
Number of contributing resources previously listed Register: $\underline{\text{N/A}}$	l in the National
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A	

4. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the N of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify trequest for determination of eligibility standards for registering properties in Historic Places and meets the procedurate forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my oping does not meet the National Registersheet	National Historic Preservation Act that this X nomination ty meets the documentation the National Register of al and professional requirements inion, the property X meets
Signature of certifying official	10-10-95 Date
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program State or Federal agency and bureau	
In my opinion, the property meets Register criteria See continuation	does not meet the National on sheet.
Signature of commenting or other offic:	Date
5. National Park Service Certification	Entered in the Mational Register
other (explain):	Λ
	Signature of Keeper Date of Action
6. Function or Use	
Historic: GOVERNMENT	Sub: Courthouse
Current: GOVERNMENT	Sub: Courthouse

7. Descript	ption	
======== Architectu	ral Classification:	=======================================
Colonial Re Art Deco	Revival	
Other Desc	cription: N/A	
Materials:	: foundation <u>Brick/concrete</u> roof <u>Asphalt</u> walls <u>Brick/concrete</u> other <u>Brick chim</u>	ney
Describe pasheet.	present and historic physical appearance	_ See continuation

Summary

The Faulkner County Courthouse is a four-story, buff brick and reinforced concrete masonry courthouse building designed in a synthesis of the Colonial Revival and Art Deco styles. Its floor plan is "H"-shaped and symmetrical, with the front entrance located at the center of its eastern elevation. The building also contains a partial basement.

Elaboration

The Faulkner County Courthouse is a four-story, buff brick and reinforced concrete masonry courthouse building designed in a synthesis of the Colonial Revival and Art Deco styles. Its floor plan is "H"-shaped and symmetrical, with the front entrance located at the center of its eastern elevation. The built-up tar roof, and brick and reinforced concrete walls rest upon a continuous, reinforced concrete foundation, faced with brick. The building also contains a partial basement.

The eastern or front elevation is composed of the tall, central, four-story block symmetrically-flanked by the two projecting wings that form the "H"-shaped plan. The facade is symmetrically organized overall, with each of the projecting wings divided into three window bays on each floor and the central block divided into five principal bays, separated on the courtroom level by attached Classical pilasters (the jail space on the fourth story is divided into seven window bays). The windows on the projecting wings are uniformly six-over-six wood sash. The first floor windows on the central block are paired four-over-four wood windows, while the large arched windows lighting the courtroom on the second story are each formed by six sets of ten-pane casement windows set in two ascending rows of three each, and capped with an arched fourteen-pane fanlight window. The window openings in the fourth-story jail section are filled with metal security bars.

The northern and southern ends are virtually identical. The central projecting bay on each contains two first-story windows on the northern elevation and a double-leaf bay on the southern elevation; otherwise each central bay is fenestrated with two windows on each of the second and third storys, and the flanking wall sections are each fenestrated with three

windows per floor on all floors.

The western elevation is fenestrated in similar fashion to that opposite, the only exceptions being the use of casement windows on the first floor of the central block and the fact that the two large additions to the building -- the 1970's jail addition and the 1993 office addition -- are both attached here.

The significant exterior details include the Classical pilasters on the front; the tall, arched fanlight windows that light the courtroom on the eastern elevation and an interior hallway on the western elevation; the rustication pattern on the first story; and the corner quoins found throughout. Of particular note is the large Classical entrance entablature on the front elevation. It is supported upon attached pilasters and enframes a plaque that identifies the county judge, the county commissioner, the county attorneys and the architect, the Little Rock firm of Wittenberg and Deloney.

The interior is finished in the standard materials of the period: plaster walls, brown and cream tone ceramic tiles, and heavy plaster moldings in the courtroom itself.

The two large rear additions constitute the principal alterations to the building; however, it should be noted that only one is actually attached to the building, and that only by an enclosed glass walkway. The original 1936 building remains largely untouched and intact.

8. Statement of Significance
Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: <u>Locally</u> .
Applicable National Register Criteria:C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A
Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE
Period(s) of Significance: 1936
Significant Dates: 1936
Significant Person(s): N/A
Cultural Affiliation: N/A
Architect/Builder: Wittenberg and Delony
State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. See continuation sheet.

Criterion C, local significance

Summary

The Faulkner County Courthouse is locally significant by virtue of its status as the finest example in the county of this unusual combination of the Colonial Revival and Art Deco styles. Such details as the rusticated first floor, the corner quoins, the raised pilasters and the arched courtroom windows testify to the influence of the American Colonial, while the heavy, symmetrical overall massing and setback of the fourth story reflect the sway of the more recent Art Deco idiom.

Elaboration

The town of "Conway Station" was laid out and platted by Colonel Asa Peter Robinson, a Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad official who in 1871 was granted a section of land of his own choice by the railroad on which to build a town. By 1873 Conway became the Faulkner County seat and a prosperous railroad town (now served by the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad after the demise of the Little Rock and Ft. Smith Railroad) in the midst of rich farming country. It was incorporated on October 9, 1875, and quickly grew into a bustling city, primarily due to its being an important regional hub for the surrounding farmers. Conway served the regional agricultural community both as a transportation center for selling and conveying their crops to an international marketplace and as a mercantile outlet where local farmers could purchase various staples and commodities. Over time the Conway merchants adjusted to the seasonal nature of this form of commerce and built a thriving commercial center that continues to be economically vital. By the early twentieth century Conway also became an educational center in the state, being the host to both the Arkansas State Normal School (later the Arkansas State Teachers College, now the University of Central Arkansas) and Hendrix College.

Faulkner County, the state's sixty-ninth, was created on April 12, 1873, by Act Forty-four of the state's Nineteenth General Assembly. Conway Station, located on the Little Rock and Ft. Smith Railroad, was initially designated to be the temporary county seat; later, on September 19th, it was officially designated the permanent county seat, and Asa Robinson donated the plot of land for the courthouse upon which the courthouse has remained until this day. The first courthouse -- a handsome, Gothic Revival/Stick Style building -- served the county until 1893, when it was razed for the second building, a Romanesque Revival building. This remained until 1936, when it was replaced with the present structure.

The current Faulkner County Courthouse was designed by the Little Rock architectural firm of Wittenberg and Deloney in a style that combines design elements of the Colonial Revival with overall massing drawn from the Art Deco -- a nationally-popular style in 1930's, particularly for courthouses. The employment of the rusticated masonry on the first floor, the arched fanlight windows on the second story and the various Classical features clearly reflects the Colonial Revival, while the heavy, symmetrical massing and the setback of the upper story are signature elements of the Art Deco. Though this synthesis is not rare for such construction in Arkansas (the Conway County Courthouse in Morrilton, for example), it is not common for these styles to be so successfully blended into a single composition. The Classical elements compliment the heavy massing to create a resemblance to a Renaissance villa. As such the Faulkner County Courthouse remains the finest

example of such a synthesis in Conway, and is thus locally significant under Criterion C.
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Faulkner County Historical Society, Faulkner County, Its Land and People, Dolan, Doris B., Hattie Ann Kelso, Corinne H. Robinson, eds., (Conway, Arkansas: 1986).
Information provided by Rick Whitaker, Faulkner County Judge's Office, Conway, Arkansas; May, 1995.
See continuation sheet.
Previous documentation on file (NPS):
<pre>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 #</pre>
Primary Location of Additional Data:
<pre>X State historic preservation office Other state agency Federal agency Local government University Other Specify Repository:</pre>
10 Gramabias Data
10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property: Approximately 2.5
UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
A <u>15</u> <u>550800</u> <u>3882830</u> B <u>15</u> C <u>15</u> D <u>15</u>
See continuation sheet.
Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.
Beginning at the point where the northern side of Robinson Street intersects

Beginning at the point where the northern side of Robinson Street intersects with the western edge of Locust Street, proceed northerly along said edge to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel with the courthouse's northern elevation and located approximately 50 feet to the north thereof; thence proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel with the courthouse's western elevation; thence southerly along said line to its intersection with the northern edge of Robinson Street; thence proceed easterly along said line to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justif	ication: See continu	uation sheet.	
This boundary in resource.	includes all the property	y historically	associated with this
11. Form Prepar	ed By		
Name/Title:	Ken Story, NR/Survey Coo	rdinator	
Organization:	Arkansas Historic Preser	vation Program	Date: 09/19/95
Street & Number	: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323	Center St. Tele	phone: (501) 324-9880
City or Town:	Little Rock	State: AR	ZIP: <u>72201</u>

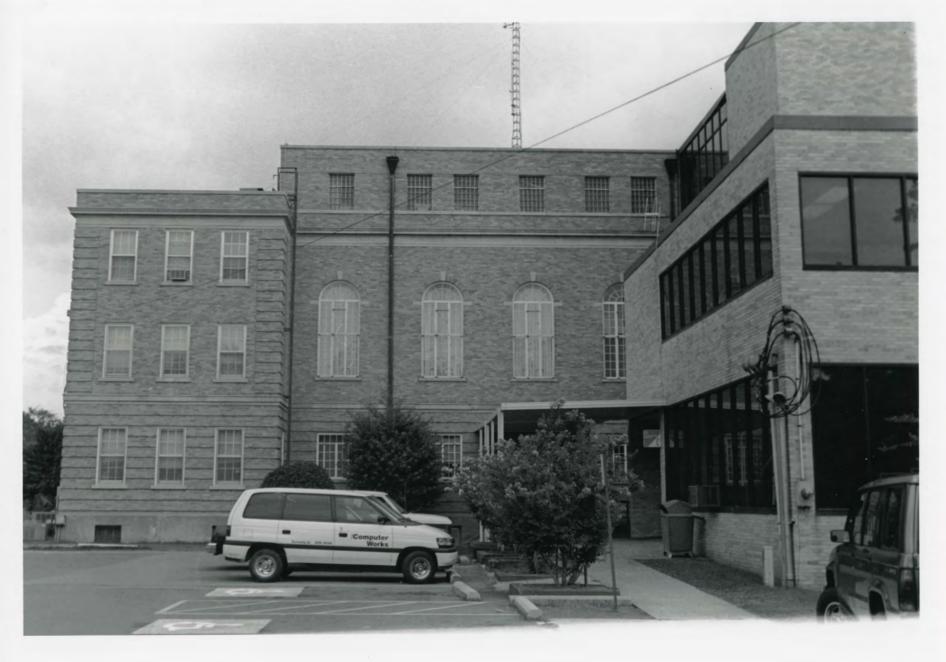
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION
PROPERTY Faulkner County Courthouse NAME:
MULTIPLE NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Faulkner
DATE RECEIVED: 10/20/95 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/31/9 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/16/95 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/04/9 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 95001381
NOMINATOR: STATE
REASONS FOR REVIEW:
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL:
COMMENT WAIVER: N
ACCEPTRETURNREJECT/(-27.95 DATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:
Entered in the National Register
DEGOM /GDTTTDT
RECOM./CRITERIA
REVIEWER DISCIPLINE
TELEPHONE DATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



FAULKNER CO. CH
CONWAY, FAULKWER CO., AR
PHOTO BY H. BARRY
8/95
NEC. ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW FROM EAST



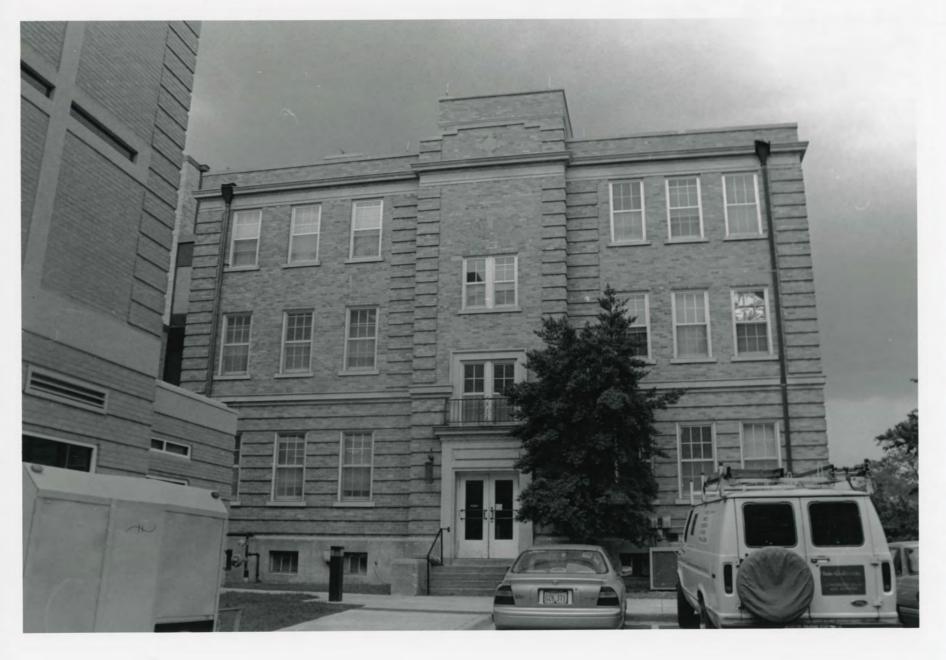
FRIERER CO. CH
CONWAY, FANLKNER CO., AR
PHOTO BY H. BARRY
8/95
NEC. ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW FROM WEST



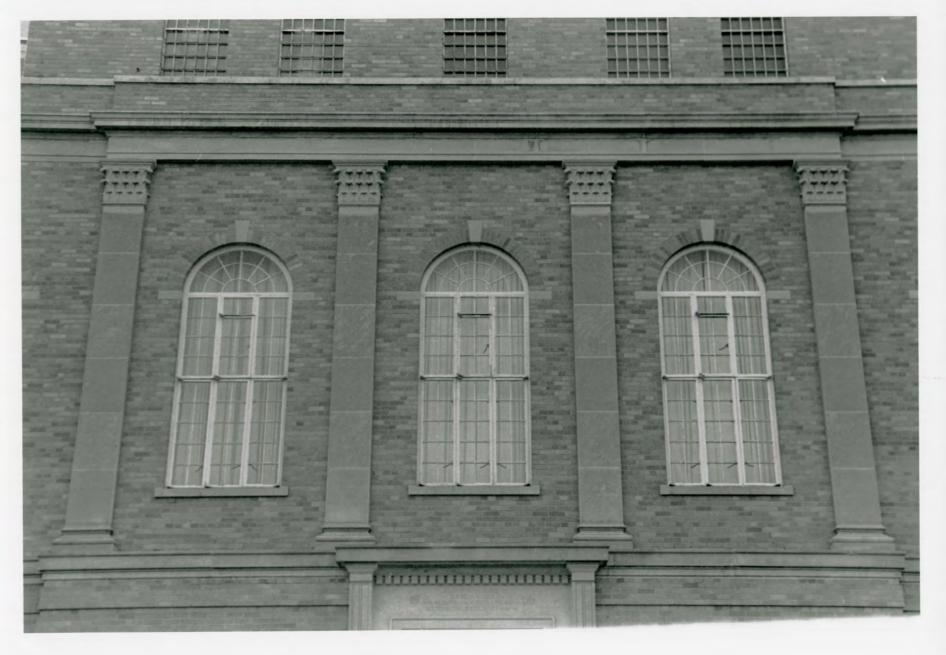
FALKNER CO. CH
CONWAY, FAULIENER CO., AR
PHOTO BY H. BARRY

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NEC. ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW FROM NORTH



FALLENER CO. CH
CONWAY, FALKNER CO., AR
PHOTO BY H. BARRY
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NEC. ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW From POUTH



FAULENER CO CH
CONWAY, FEVLENER CO, AR
PHOTO BY H. BARRY
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WINDOW DETSIN



FALKNER CO. CH
CONWAY, FAULKNER CO., AR
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ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVIS:

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

October 10, 1995

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United State Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250
Washington, D.C. 20002

RE: Walls Farm Barn and Corn Crib Tomberlin, Lonoke County

Faulkner County Courthouse Conway, Faulkner County

Pyeatte House Siloam Springs, Benton County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nominations of the above referenced properties. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford Slater

State Historic Preservation Officer

CBS:br

Enclosures

1500 Tower Building • 323 Center • Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 • Phone (501) 324-9880 Fax (501) 324-9154 A Division of the Department of Arkansas Heritage

