

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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✓ Pittsburg County Courthouse

Location: McAlester, Oklahoma 40, Pittsburg County 121

Owner: Pittsburg County

Description: Condition: excellent, unaltered, original site

The Pittsburg County Courthouse is a large, U-shaped building of dark red brick, and stone. It has a raised basement which has a rusticated facade of rough-cut granite blocks. The main entranceway is deeply recessed between the two side wings of the building. The entranceway's facade has three stone archways framed by fluted, Ionic columns. The three arched doorways are raised above ground level and are approached by a wide flight of concrete stairs. The columns support an entablature and an ornamental, balustraded balcony. The first floor windows have arched tops. The second floor windows are very tall and narrow, with fixed toplights and small, ornamental stone balconies on those on the outer (street-side) facades of the courthouse. The structure has a projecting stone cornice. The date "1926" is inscribed on a small stone pediment above the central facade. The tympanums of the doorways are ornamented with a carved, shell design. The building exhibits an overall style which is quite reminiscent of the Second Renaissance Revival.

Significance: 1926; Builders/architects: Unknown/Layton, Hicks, and Forsyth

The Pittsburg County Courthouse is significant because of its unique architectural styling and for its vital role in the political life of the community. This courthouse is one of the most urban designs among the courthouses of Oklahoma. Its simplified Second Renaissance Revival styling blends harmoniously with the neighboring buildings of the downtown business district of McAlester. Its U-shaped floor plan is the only such design used in an Oklahoma courthouse. The architects of this structure included Solomon Andrew Layton and Jewell Hicks, two prominent Oklahoma architects who also contributed to the design of the State Capitol Building. The Pittsburg County Courthouse is a fine example of the collaborative skills of Layton, Hicks, and Forsyth.

Acreage: Approx. 1 acre

Quadrangle: 1:24,000/7.5 minute

Verbal Boundary Description: Lot 5, Block 319 of the original townsite of McAlester

UTM: 15 247285 3868920