

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

DEC 29 1988

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Covington County Courthouse and Jail District  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 101 N. Court Square NA not for publication  
city, town Andalusia NA vicinity  
state Alabama code AL county Covington code 039 zip code 36420

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register NA

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 12-21-88  
Signature of certifying official Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Amy Schlagel 1/28/89  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government/CourthouseGovernment/Correctional facility

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government/CourthouseGovernment/Correctional facility

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Beaux ArtsItalianate

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation granitewalls granitebrickroof asphaltother tile

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DescriptionExterior

The Covington County Courthouse is located on the north side of Court Square in Andalusia. Designed by architect Frank Lockwood, it is an excellent example of the "Beaux Arts" school of architecture so influential in the design of public buildings in the early years of this century. The Courthouse is a rectangular structure of combed granite with a large number of neoclassical motifs and design elements and the high degree of detail typical of the style.

The approach to the Courthouse is by a set of granite and tile steps, flanked at the summit by a pair of cast iron lamp posts with multiple round globes. The front facade displays classical proportions and balance with six fluted Corinthian columns supporting a shallow bracketed pediment, at the center of which is an elaborate medallion. The triple-entry doors are flanked by Corinthian pilasters. Semicircular niches surmounted with fluted fans are outside of the pilasters.

On each side of the entryway are three sets of triple windows on each floor. Each set of windows on the upper floor has decorative molded sills, and between the upper and lower windows on each set are rectangular relieving panels. A full-length pilaster runs between each set of windows with twin pilasters at the corners.

This basic design is continued on the east and west facades with a bracketed cornice over the east and west entryways flanked by two Corinthian pilasters. The windows are narrower on the side facades with only two windows per set. The more recent addition retains the window pattern, but dispenses with the pilasters between banks of windows.

Interior

The interior space of the Courthouse is very impressive and well preserved. The main entrance leads one to an octagonal 2-story atrium surmounted by a dome with stained glass at its apex. The floor is white marble tile. The space is defined by a series

 See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

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of grey marble walls alternating with paired smooth grey marble columns with gold leaf terminals. The solid wall sections have angled pilasters at the corners. There is a wide "Y" - shaped staircase at the rear of the atrium with white marble treads and black wrought iron risers and balustrade. Flanking the staircase are a pair of square columns and pilasters. The staircase leads to a gallery around the second story of the atrium, from which offices open.

Covington County Jail

The jail was built in 1916. It has been in continued use as a jail since that time. The jail is an elevated two-story red brick structure of Italianate design. It is a "t"-shaped structure with an unusual mansard-like roofline achieved by placing a bracketed overhanging eave below the parapeted roofline. Paired stone brackets at the corners are balanced by dentils between. There is a small square porch with the same roofline adaptation. The primary entryway is on the porch with an off-center door and a balancing window. Contrasting brick quoins at the corners of the building and white and green tile panels provide significant visual interest.

Integrity:

The Covington County Courthouse has retained its integrity of location, design, and materials. The front facade is completely unchanged. Wings have been added to the rear, with the area between the wings subsequently enclosed, but the design and materials were true to the original, and both the east and west facades are completely consistent with the design of the primary front facade. A small number of windows on the east and west facades have been bricked up.

The interior integrity is excellent. None of the grace of the 2-story columned atrium has been changed. Original interior doorways and windows and uncovered white marble floors are just as they originally appeared.

The jail has also retained a high degree of integrity. Some additions have been made relevant to its continued use as a jail - fire escapes, coverings on windows, etc., but the structure remains essentially as it was built.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Politics/government

Period of Significance

1916-1938

Significant Dates

1916

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Lockwood, Frank  
Ausfeld, Fredrick

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

**CRITERION A: Politics/Government**

The Covington County Courthouse is significant as the seat of government of Covington County for nearly 70 years. It is one of the oldest extant Courthouses still in use in Southeast Alabama. The Jail, completed before the Courthouse, is still in active use, one of the oldest jails in continuous use in the state.

**CRITERION C: Architecture**

The Covington County Courthouse is an excellent example of early twentieth-century "Beaux Arts" movement in design of public buildings. The combed granite construction is liberally ornamented with decorative molding, Corinthian columns, and decorative medallions.

The County Jail is Italianate in design and rich in detail. The unusual choice of style makes it very unique among county jails.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Bryan, Gus J. and Ruby R. Covington County History 1821-1976. New York: Opp Historical Society, 1985.

Deed Books, Various. Probate Court, Covington County, Alabama.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 2

UTM References

A 

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3	4	6	3	7	4	0
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Zone      Easting      Northing

B 

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Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

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D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the intersection of the West right of way of North Cotton Street and the North right of way of Troy Street, proceed North 307 feet, West 80 feet, South 37 feet, West 338 feet, South 98 feet, East 234 feet, South 160 feet, and East 184 feet to point of beginning. See property outlined in red on accompanying sketch map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Martha A. Conner/Planning Consultant; Steven M. Kay/reviewer, AL Historical Com.  
 organization Ewing-Conner Associates date January 28, 1988  
 street & number 311 N. Alice Street, Suite 204 telephone 205 793-7695  
 city or town Dothan state Alabama zip code 36303

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   8   Page   1  

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Historical Summary:

This structure is the fifth Courthouse in the history of Covington County. The first three were of wood, and destroyed by fire. The fourth, a brick structure in the center of Court Square was very quickly outgrown in the boom that the railroad brought to Andalusia in 1899. The rapid expansion in land sales, population, and administrative complexity of a county emerging into the twentieth century simply required more services than the 1896 brick structure could accommodate.

Construction on the Courthouse began in 1914 and was completed in 1916. The Courthouse has been in continual use since that date with very little alteration throughout the period. A rear addition was done with a high degree of sympathy for the original design - it doesn't pretend to be part of the original, but carries on the design and materials so faithfully as to blend quite well with the original structure.

The jail, built at almost exactly the same time, has served the County and the Courthouse well. The two structures have a common history that encompasses the history of the city of Andalusia and Covington County from the first awakenings of industrialism and growth beyond a subsistence farm economy to the present.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

photo-  
Section number graphs Page 1

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PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION FOR COVINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND JAIL

\* Note - The following information is applicable to all Photographs

2. Andalusia, Alabama
5. Original negative at Alabama Historical Commission

1. Covington County Courthouse
3. Martha A. Conner
4. October 1987
6. Looking North
7. Photo 1

1. Covington County Courthouse
3. Martha A. Conner
4. October 1987
6. Looking Northwest
7. Photo 2

1. Covington County Courthouse
3. Martha A. Conner
4. April 1988
6. Interior - Staircase from main floor
7. Photo 3

1. Covington County Courthouse
3. Mary Mason Shell
4. October 1988
6. Interior - skylight in dome
7. Photo 4

1. Covington County Courthouse
3. Mary Mason Shell
4. October 1988
6. Interior - light fixture and molding in dome
7. Photo 5

1. Covington County Jail
3. Martha A. Conner
4. October 1987
6. Looking North
7. Photo 6

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number photo-  
graphs Page 2

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1. Covington County Jail
3. Martha A. Conner
4. April 1988
6. Looking Northeast at main entry
7. Photo 7

1. Covington County Jail
3. Martha A. Conner
4. April 1988
6. Looking East
7. Photo 8

1. Covington County Jail
3. Martha A. Conner
4. April 1988
6. Looking east, side and rear
7. Photo 9

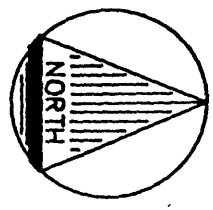
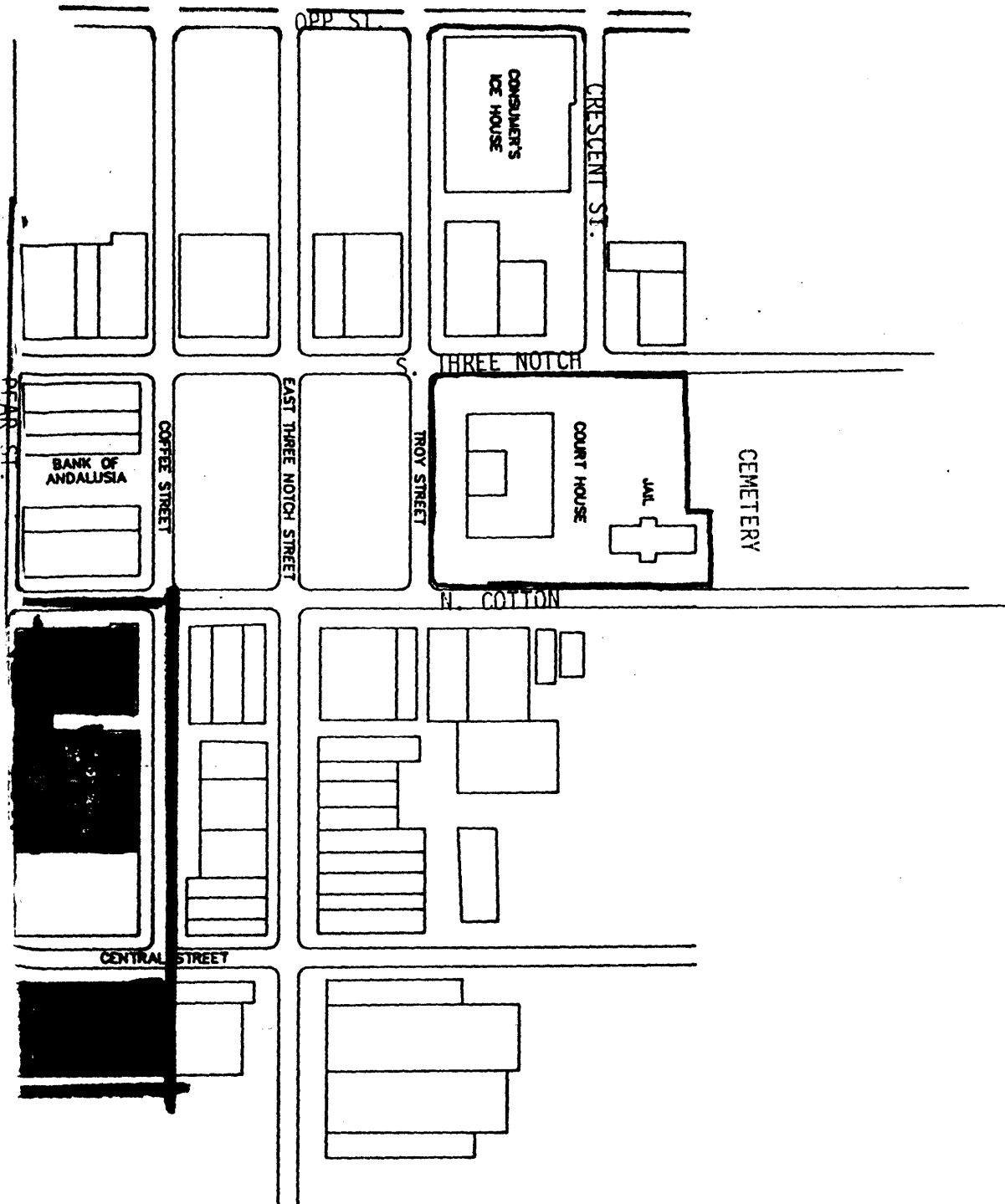
1. Covington County Jail
3. Martha A. Conner
4. April 1988
6. Interior - Mosaic floors and cast-iron radiator in waiting room
7. Photo 10

1. Covington County Jail
3. Martha A. Conner
4. April 1988
6. Interior - Cast-iron bars in stairwell
7. Photo 11

1. Covington County Jail
3. Martha A. Conner
4. April 1988
6. Interior - Skylight over stairwell
7. Photo 12



CITY OF ANDALUSIA  
 HISTORICAL RESOURCES  
 COVINGTON COUNTY, ALABAMA



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