

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received FEB 12 1986  
date entered MAR 13 1986

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Chattahoochee County Jail

and or common same

2. Location

street & number Mt. Olive and Boyd Streets n/a not for publication

city, town Cusseta n/a vicinity of

state Georgia code 013 county Chattahoochee code 053

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Chattahoochee County Commission, William Miller, Chairman

street & number P.O. Box 217

city, town Cusseta n/a vicinity of state GA

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Chattahoochee County Courthouse

city, town Cusseta state GA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Structures Field Survey: Chattahoochee County, Georgia has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1976  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta state GA

---

## 7. Description

---

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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 Chattahoochee County Jail is a two-story, square, brick, fireproof structure with an original metal roof. The exterior shows evidence of Romanesque influence in its arched window and door openings, and the extended second story of the central bay. The first floor contains a hall, stairs and prison cells. Unlike many jails of the era, it does not contain a residence suite for the jailer/sheriff and his family. Nor was there ever a kitchen associated with the jail. On the second floor it retains its original, pre-fabricated iron jail cells made by the Pauly Jail Company and patented in 1874. It has a steel and concrete interior with the second floor being poured concrete over corrugated steel vaulting. The walls are plaster over brick. Original hardware, including a large plate lock on the outside door, steel plate doors, and iron bars on the windows, is still in place. The jail rests on a small, flat lot that drops steeply to the rear. There are no outbuildings. Nearby is the Cusseta Baptist church, a private residence, a county equipment barn, and the new county courthouse. Other than some minor repairs to the brick, there are no known changes to the structure.

# 8. 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 checked="" 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**      1902                                      **Builder/Architect**      Pauly Jail Company

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Chattahoochee County Jail is significant in architecture as a good example of a building built to be a county jail in a small county seat. Its brick construction, compact massing, simple detailing, and allusions to medieval architectural styles are all characteristic of the many county jails built at the turn of the century in Georgia. It is different in that unlike many other jails of the late 19th and early 20th Centuries in Georgia, this jail did not incorporate room for the jailer's (or sheriff's) living quarters, or for a kitchen in the facility. It is also significant as a work designed and produced solely by the Pauly Jail Company of St. Louis, Missouri, one of two firms which supplied most of the jailworks in the state, and often contracted for an entire building. In politics and government and law the structure is significant as the second county jail, and the first of fireproof construction, which from 1902 until 1975 was the county's only jail. It was one of many similar county jails built during a period of penal reform at the turn of the century in Georgia.

These areas of significance support property eligiblitiy under National Register Criteria A and C.

HISTORIC NARRATIVE

The Chattahoochee County Jail rests on property that was purchased by the county government in 1854, just after the county was created. The area had been opened for settlement in 1827, and after twenty five years the population was great enough to petititon for a new county. Thus Chattahoochee County was created, necessitating its own courthouse and jail. A wooden jail was completed on this lot by July 20, 1855. Mr. A. Bryan was paid for this structure. This jail remained in use until the new one was completed in 1902.

On June 14, 1902, the county contracted with the Pauly Jail and Manufacturing Company of St. Louis, Missouri to construct a new brick structure for \$5,000. The new jail was needed due to occasional overcrowding, the need for a fireproof structure, and due to the general trend toward more humane penal facilities. Until the new State Penitentiary was built and opened in 1911, there was no place to house prisoners above the county level. Thus the county jail was a very important penal institution. This jail served as the county's only jail until a new facility was built in 1975 within the new county courthouse.

The old jail is now being considered for adaptive use as a museum and historical records repository.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Mahan, Joseph B., Jr. "Chattahoochee County Jail." Historic Property Information Form, January 28, 1985. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Cusseta, GA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	7	0	9	4	4	0	3	5	7	6	4	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property is City Lot Number 67. It is all that is associated with the jail and is marked on the enclosed map.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian

organization Historic Preservation Section  
Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources date January 2, 1986

street & number 270 Washington Street S.W. telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta state Georgia

## 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 Elizabeth A. Lyon  
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date 1/22/86

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

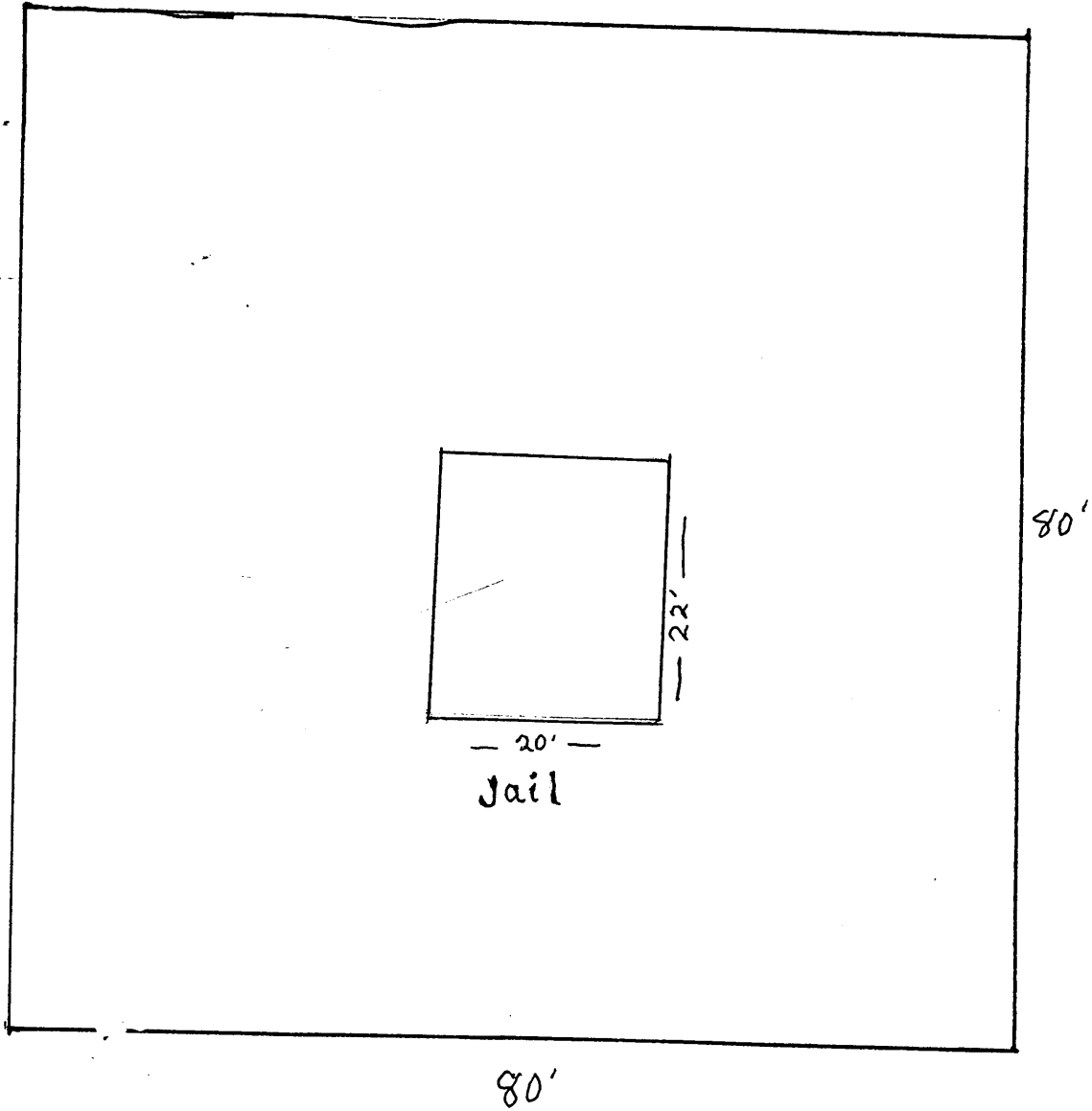
for Ellen Byer Keiper of the National Register Entered in the National Register date 3/13/86

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration \_\_\_\_\_

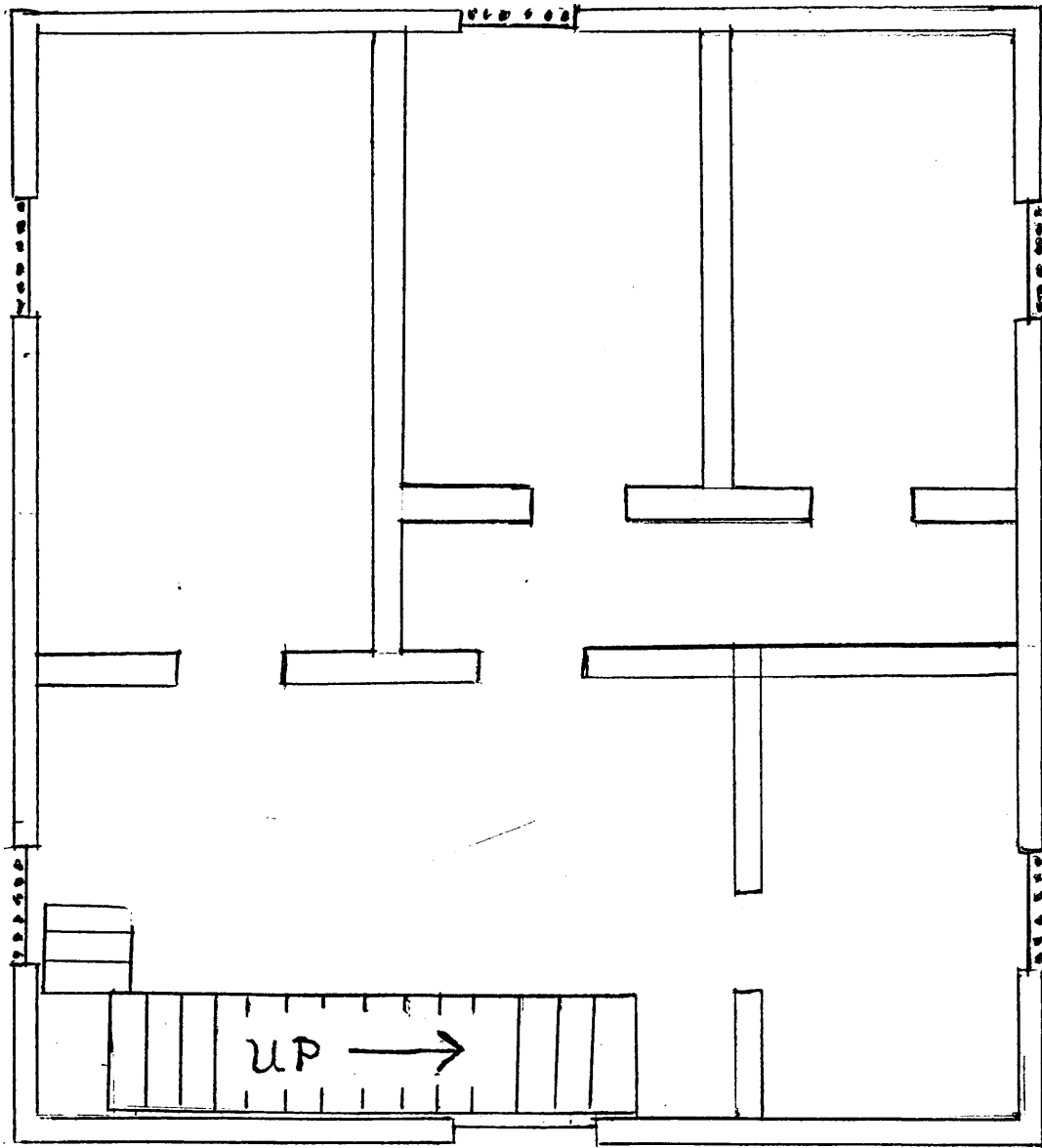
Sketch Map

Chattahoochee County Jail  
Cusseta, Chattahoochee County, Georgia  
Scale: 1" = 15' approximately  
Source: Drawn by Joseph B. Mahan, Jr., based  
on Plat Book I. p. 117, Superior Court,  
Chattahoochee County Courthouse  
Date: 1985  
Key: The plat consists of the nominated  
property and is marked accordingly.



Cusseta Town Lot 67

Joseph B. Mahan  
January, 1985



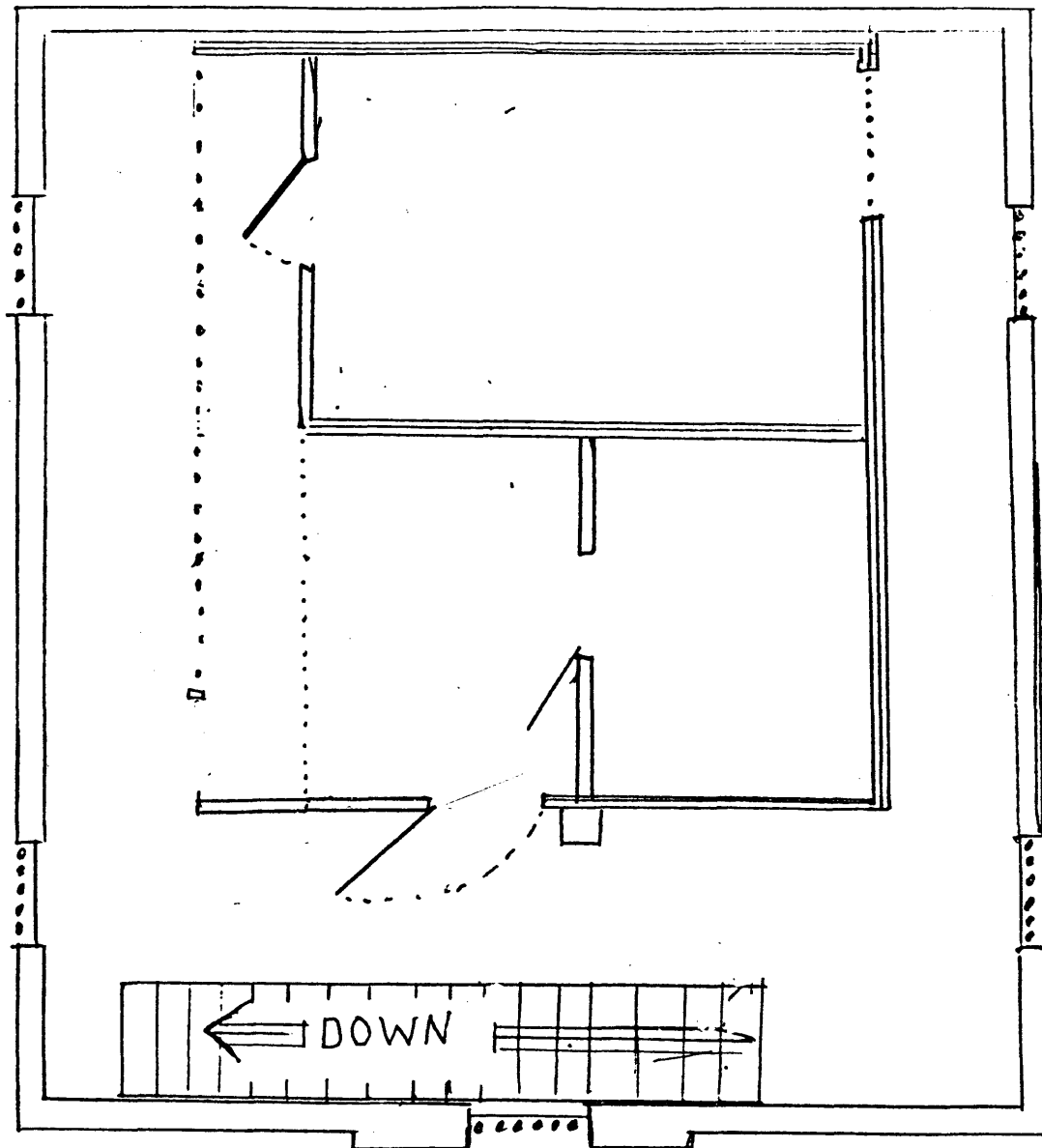
Floor Plan

Chattahoochee County Jail  
 Cusseta, Chattahoochee County, Georgia  
 Scale: Not to scale  
 Source: Drawn by Joseph B. Mahan, Jr.  
 Date: 1985  
 Key: First Floor Plan

# Chattahoochee County Jail

First Floor Plan

Joseph B. Mahan  
 January, 1988



Floor Plan

Chattahoochee County Jail  
 Cusseta, Chattahoochee County, Georgia  
 Scale: Not to scale  
 Source: Drawn by Joseph B. Mahan, Jr.  
 Date: 1985  
 Key: Second Floor Plan

# Chattahoochee County Jail

Second Floor Plan

Joe Mahan