

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED FEB 14 1979
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**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

Madison County Jail

AND/OR COMMON

Old Madison County Jail

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

234 East Fulton Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Canton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

__ VICINITY OF

Third

STATE

Mississippi

CODE

28

COUNTY

Madison

CODE

89

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Madison County Historical Society, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

234 East Fulton Street

CITY, TOWN

Canton

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Mississippi 39046

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Chancery Clerk
Madison County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Court Square

CITY, TOWN

Canton

STATE

Mississippi 39046

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Survey of Historic Sites

DATE

July 9, 1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Jackson

STATE

Mississippi 39205

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at 234 East Fulton Street in Canton, Mississippi, the Old Madison County Jail is a two-story brick structure erected 1870-71. While the massive appearance of the entire building suggests strength, permanence, and security, the front (or north) section is decidedly less forbidding than the rear since the front section was planned to house the jailer and his family and as such offers an interesting architectural contrast to the ominous cell block behind. The residence is five bays wide by four bays deep, with walls laid in five-course common bond, with double string courses, a stuccoed water table, and a parapet to mask the low-pitched hip roof. The central-entrance double-leaf door on the north elevation is sheltered by a modern single-bay Colonial Revival porch and is flanked by double-hung two-over-two windows trimmed with stone lintels and sills. A one-story wing containing dining room, kitchen, and bath was added to the east elevation of the residence ca. 1900. Except for its all-stretcher veneer, the addition is carefully matched to the existing structure. Interior trim of the 1870-71 residence is quite simple and almost wholly intact. Door and window frames are unmolded with corner blocks, mantels are designed with chamfered pilasters supporting frieze and shelf, and the single-run staircase located in the center passage is fitted with unpretentious turned newel and balusters. There is no ornamental plasterwork. Doors have four ogee-molded panels except in the room that served as jailer's office and prisoner-receiving room, where iron-sheathed doors are used. Clearly expressing its function, the cell block to the rear of the residence is designed with thick piers visually reinforced with quoins and corbel course, and barred windows placed high in each bay. The brick walls are laid in English bond for added strength. Access to the cell-block interior is through an iron-sheathed door leading from the jailer's office and then through double iron doors into a large bull pen. Originally, cave-like cells lined the east wall on both first and balcony levels. Three of these remain intact, the others having been removed to make way for larger, more efficient steel cages with a lever-locking system bearing a patent date of 1916. Originally the cell block was heated by a single wood-burning fireplace on the south wall of the bull pen. Later, heat was supplied by a stove, and later still by gas-fired heaters.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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

1870-71

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

C. W. Oates

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Madison County Jail, at 234 East Fulton Street in the county seat of Canton, Mississippi, is among the most outstanding and best preserved nineteenth-century penal facilities extant in Mississippi. In addition to the integral place it had in local government, the jail is significant as an example of post-Civil War architecture, exhibiting both domestic and institutional characteristics of the period. Middle-class taste in residential interiors of the 1870s is well reflected in the jailer's quarters, which occupy the front section of the building, while the cell block to the rear illustrates both the nineteenth-century concern for prisoner penance, in its solitary confinements, and later "improvements" to the penal system brought by twentieth-century technology in the form of machine-made and -operated steel cages installed ca. 1920. Present-day standards for prisoner confinement, which prompted the closing of the jail in 1969, represent a third phase of penal history coeval with the jail. The jail was constructed 1870-71 by Valentine Warner under the supervision of architect C. W. Oates at a cost of \$25,000 (Mrs. Sam Latimer, treasurer, Madison County Historical Society, interviewed by William C. Allen, architectural historian, at Canton, Miss., Nov. 14, 1978). None of the few changes the jail has undergone since its construction mars its overall architectural integrity. Ca. 1900 a wing containing a kitchen was added, presumably to replace an earlier detached kitchen, and the cell block was altered to accommodate steel cages ca. 1920. The changes will remain as part of the overall interpretation of the site by the present owners, the Madison County Historical Society, which acquired the property in 1974. Restoration of the building is being planned.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allen, William, C., architectural historian. Inspection of Old Madison County Jail, Canton, Miss., Nov. 14, 1978.

Latimer, Elwyn S., treasurer, Madison County Historical Society. Interviewed by William C. Allen, architectural historian, at Canton, Miss., Nov. 14, 1978.

Madison Co., Miss. Chancery Clerk. Deed Books U:76, 120:38, 137:83.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 1.25 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Canton, Miss.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 5 | 7, 7, 8 | 5, 7, 5 | 3, 6, 1, 1, 8, 0, 0

B | | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | |

D | | |

E | | |

F | | |

G | | |

H | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the south side of Fulton Street at the NW corner of the Old Cemetery lot, then south 214', then west 245', then north 214', then east 245', to point of beginning.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William C. Allen, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Private consultant

December 7, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1115 Quinn Street

601-353-5309

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Jackson

Mississippi 39202

12 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 89-665), 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

Elmer A. Williams

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

February 9, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 ATTEST: *Charles A. Adams*
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 3 28 79

DATE 3/27/79