

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

106

Item number 1, 2, 4, 6, & 10

Page 1

INDIVIDUAL DATA SHEET

General Description

Code: CO-006

Congressional District: Fourth

✓ Name: Columbia County Jail  
✓ Address: Calhoun & Jefferson Streets,  
Magnolia, Arkansas  
✓ County: Columbia

Current Owner: Judge R. W. "Bob" Henderson  
Columbia County Judge  
Address: Columbia County Courthouse  
Magnolia, Arkansas 72110

Architectural Information

Architectural Firm: Thompson & Harding

Date of Construction: ca. 1920

Stylistic Influence: Second Renaissance Revival

Original Use: Jail

Present Use: Jail

Geographical Information

UTM Reference: 15 477500/36805 40

Acreage: Less than one

Verbal Boundary Description: Original Survey of Magnolia  
Block U, lots 193-194

Condition

\_\_\_\_ Excellent  
x \_\_\_\_ Good  
\_\_\_\_ Fair

\_\_\_\_ Deteriorated  
\_\_\_\_ Ruins  
\_\_\_\_ Unexposed

x \_\_\_\_ Unaltered  
\_\_\_\_ Altered

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Item number 7 & 8

Page 2

Code: CO-006

(Columbia County Jail, Magnolia, AR)

Physical Description

The Italian Renaissance was clearly the inspiration for this genteel jail in Magnolia. The light cream-colored brick with which it is faced, the simple cubic massing, the low hipped terra-cotta roof which caps the two-story structure and the elegant arcade of the portico with slender columns supporting round arches all contribute to the Renaissance flavor. Above the stone molding which forms a stringcourse atop the second story windows appear carved stone ornaments above each window in a cartouche motif with carved shell below. The slender stone columns have capitals carved in delicate volutes and acanthus motifs. Dragon-like gargoyles appear at corners of the projecting portico and decorative metal lanterns overhang all four corners of the structure. The symmetrically arranged casement windows give no hint that this is a jail.

Statement of Significance

The Columbia County Jail, with its distinctive appearance reminiscent of the Italian Renaissance, was built ca. 1920. A graceful portico arcade features slender columns between the three round arches. Of particular interest are carved stone ornaments which appear above each window. Gargoyles are found at the corners of the portico and decorative metal lanterns overhang all four corners of the building. Utilized as a jail from its construction to the present, the Columbia County Jail appears as a landmark structure in the business district of Magnolia, Arkansas. Although a public building, the Columbia County Jail displays a uniqueness of design and air of distinction.

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Page 1 of 15

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Thompson, Charles L., Design Collection Thematic Resources  
State Arkansas Ashley Co & others

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Dean House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

2. Pugh House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

3. Walker House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

4. Domestic Science Building

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

5. Columbia County Jail

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Attest

6. Jackson Hall

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

7. Bank of Waldo

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

8. Coca-Cola Building

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

9. First National Bank of  
Morriton

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

10. Fordyce Home Accident  
Insurance Company

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Columbia County Jail (Thompson, Charles L., Design  
Collection TR)  
Columbia County  
ARKANSAS

Working No. 11/9/82-3026  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84  
Date Due: 12/9/82-12/24/82  
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 12/22/82  
☐ RETURN  
Entered in the ☐ National Register ☐ REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below  
☐ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership          | Status     | Present Use |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------|
|          | Public Acquisition | Accessible |             |

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

| Condition                          | Check one                             | Check one                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> original site    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good      | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair      | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
☐ dates  
☐ boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- \_\_\_\_\_ summary paragraph
- \_\_\_\_\_ completeness
- \_\_\_\_\_ clarity
- \_\_\_\_\_ applicable criteria
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of areas checked
- \_\_\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource
- \_\_\_\_\_ context
- \_\_\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of exception
- \_\_\_\_\_ other

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

USGS References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Form Prepared By

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Other

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet





STRUCTURES IN ARKANSAS REPRESENTED BY THE  
CHARLES L. THOMPSON DESIGN COLLECTION -  
A THEMATIC GROUP

Code Number: (CO-006) (Jail)

Calhoun and Jefferson, Magnolia, Arkansas

Photographed by: Greg Hursley

March, 1982

Negative on file at AHPP

Viewed from the East



T. 16 S.

TEXARKANA 52 MI.  
WALDO 5 MI.

17°30"  
T. 17 S.

3683

3682

SPRINGHILL, LA 25 MI.  
2.9 MI. TO ARK 364

220 000  
FEET

3680

