

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 13 1980
DATE ENTERED OCT 10 1980

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 Colquitt County Jail

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 126 First Avenue, Southeast

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Moultrie

___ VICINITY OF

Second - Dawson Mathis

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Georgia

13

Colquitt

071

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Jail

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. B.G. Fallin
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

STREET & NUMBER

Colquitt County Courthouse, Main Street and Central Avenue

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Moultrie

___ VICINITY OF

Georgia 31768

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Superior Court

STREET & NUMBER

Colquitt County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Moultrie

Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historic Resource Survey, Colquitt County

DATE

February, 1980

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Southwest Georgia APDC

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Camilla

Georgia

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Colquitt County Jail, one of the few examples of Gothic Revival architecture in Moultrie, is a three story building on a raised basement with a tower. Built on a cross-T plan, it is constructed of concrete and steel, and is dressed in oriental brick (stretcher bond), with trim in Georgia granite. The third story and tower are topped off by a battlemented parapet with crenelated turrets on each corner.

The jail, which has overall dimensions of 54' - 1" x 56' - 7", is eight bays wide, and four bays deep. The first floor and tower openings have round arches of brick, while the second and third floors have flat lintels of Georgia granite.

Entrance to the interior is reached through a front and side door located in the forwardmost (north) pavilion. The first floor, which was originally living quarters for the sheriff or jailer, has six rooms, a kitchen and bath. The building extends to the south on this floor to provide for kitchen space, which has been expanded to the east within the past fifteen years.

The second floor is reached through a steel door which leads up the stairs to the main area of incarceration. Bull pens are located on the east and west sides, each containing four cells. Additional cells are located in the north and south pavilions. Although the third floor was designed identically to the second, it was not completed until much later, and then without individual cells. The third floor contains the death cell from which sentenced criminals can be hung. The floor drops out from under the feet of the person who has been sentenced, and the body is taken down from the second floor.

The tower, which is locally known as the "Buzzard's Roost" contains two cells for solitary confinement. All windows and cells throughout the building are enclosed with "five-ply, tool proof steel." The thickness of the walls on the first floor are seventeen inches and those on the upper floors are thirteen inches.

The only alterations to the original design have been the addition of more kitchen space, previously mentioned, and the bricking in of the windows half-way up on both the second and third floors. An exterior steel stairway was erected in the 1970s which leads to the ground from the third floor. The building has been painted white in recent years.

The Colquitt County Jail is set on a corner lot at the intersection of First Avenue, Southeast and Second Street, Southeast. It is surrounded by a period iron fence on the north and east sides, and is adjacent to the county agriculture building to the south. Located one block from the square, it is in the Central Business District of Moultrie, Georgia.

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 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	1915	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Southern Structural Steel Co. San Antonio, Texas, Architect and Builder, Frank Holcombe, Superintendent
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Colquitt County Jail is among the most impressive buildings in Moultrie and is one of the county's few examples of Gothic Revival architecture. This is the first jail of its kind to be nominated to the National Register in Georgia. The Colquitt County Jail was built by the authority of the county commissioners and was considered "one of the handsomest and best equipped in the state." Its significance lies both in its extraordinary architecture (by Southwest Georgia standards), and its continual use as a jail by the county government.

According to the History of Colquitt County, by W. A. Covington, the second brick building constructed in Colquitt County was the old jail, built in 1892. This building set directly south, behind the present jail, and was taken down in 1953 to make way for the Colquitt Agriculture Building.

The present jail was delivered to the county commissioners on August 14, 1915 by Frank Holcombe, superintendent of the construction. The jail was designed and built by the Southern Structural Steel Company of San Antonio, Texas. The building was particularly handsome because of its pleasing combination of oriental brick, with the foundation, window trim, string courses and capstones in Georgia granite. Although the building is now painted white, the integrity of the architecture has not been compromised.

The cost of the jail was about \$28,000 which was taken out of the county's general funds. What made the jail particularly momentous were its facilities. "The building is electric lighted and steam-heated and equipped with baths, both shower and tub, and sanitary in the fullest meaning of the word. The cells are enclosed with the best five-ply, tool proof steel and the latest and best locking devices, the kind used in the largest prisons in the country."

Separate cells were provided for "the separation of the sexes of both races." Special cells were available for boys and sick prisoners, and the tower was originally intended for incarceration of the insane. The first floor was designed as living quarters for the sheriff or jailer, and has been used as such up until the last decade.

The county governments in Georgia are the local legislative and judicial authorities in the State. The county jail, which is an essential part of a county government's system, represents the enforcement of the law in each county, and is necessary in many cases to carry out the sentence of a criminal. The jail

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Covington, W. A., History of Colquitt County (Atlanta: Foote and Davis Co., 1937).
- The Daily Observer, Moultrie, Georgia, August 14, 1915
- The Moultrie Observer, Moultrie, Georgia, July 25, 1965, June 26, 1976.
- Southern Structural Steel Co., Blueprint of original floorplan, Plan No. 1224-A (Sheriff's Office, Moultrie, Georgia)

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .5165 (22,500 square ft.)

UTM REFERENCES Moultrie, Georgia Quadrangle

Scale: 1:24,000

A 1,7 2,3,4,4,0,0 3,4,5,2,5,4,0
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary is all that is owned by the owner that is considered the jail lot and is marked on the enclosed Colquitt County, Georgia Tax Map Number M-23 as parcel 71 on Block D.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

Historic Preservation Section Contact:
Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr.

NAME / TITLE

Erick D. Montgomery/Historic Preservation Planner

ORGANIZATION

Southwest Georgia APDC

DATE

March 28, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 346

TELEPHONE

912-336-5616

CITY OR TOWN

Camilla

STATE

Georgia

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

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

TITLE Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 8/1/80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

W. Ray Luce

DATE 10/10/80

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *W. Ray Luce*

DATE 10/6/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

Significance

in Colquitt County has served exclusively in that capacity since its construction in 1915.

Although new jail facilities have been desired by the county commissioners for some time, if funds are found to build new facilities there is a possibility that the present jail will be turned over to the Colquitt County Historical Society. Preservation of the building is supported by both county officials and private citizens.

The significance of the Colquitt County Jail lies both in its architecture, and its use by the county government as a jail. The jail is a major landmark in Moultrie, and this part of the State as well as being a symbol of law and order for Colquitt County.

This jail is architecturally significant because it is an unusual version of the early twentieth century interest in Gothic Revival Architecture. The elements of the style that can be seen in the jail are the parapetted walls with crenalated turrets on each corner, the tower like that of an ancient castle, and the round arches over many of the windows. This style was seen during this era more often in collegiate buildings such as the Ford Buildings at Berry College near Rome, Georgia, and some office buildings such as the Healey Building in Atlanta. The early nineteenth century had witnessed a similar interest in the Gothic Revival style resulting in Georgia in buildings such as the old jail in Greensboro and the Old State Capitol Building in Milledgeville. The earlier nineteenth century movement and the early twentieth century movement do not appear to be directly related in Georgia.