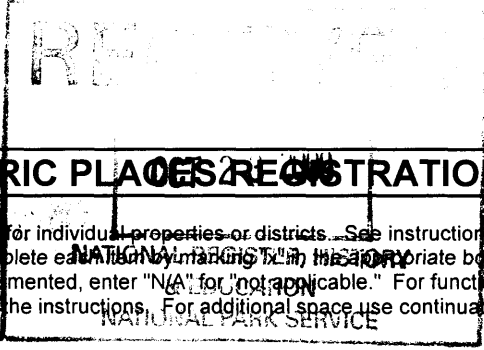


1389



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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 SPALDING COUNTY COURTHOUSE/SPALDING COUNTY JAIL
other names/site number Old Spalding County Courthouse

2. Location

street & number 232 East Broad St.
city, town Griffin (N/A) vicinity of
county Spalding **code** GA 255
state Georgia **code** GA **zip code** 30224

(N/A) not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property:

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	1	0
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	1	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A
Name of previous listing: N/A
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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 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 the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Richard Coates

10.20.00

Signature of certifying official

Date

W. Ray Luce, Deputy
State Historic Preservation Officer
and Director, Historic Preservation Division

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 or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson H. Beall

11-22-00

() determined eligible for the National Register

() determined not eligible for the National Register

() removed from the National Register

() other, explain:

() see continuation sheet

Jan

Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

GOVERNMENT/courthouse; correctional facility

Current Functions:

GOVERNMENT/government office

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate

Materials:

foundation	rock
walls	brick
roof	pressed metal
other	steel jail cells

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Spalding County Courthouse/Spalding County Jail is a two-story, painted-brick, antebellum building built in the Italianate style with a gabled roof and pedimented facades set on a rock foundation. There are early 20th-century brick additions from the 1914 conversion into a jail. The facades are pedimented with wide cornice boards and flat brackets outlining the pediments. There are a variety of window openings containing their original antebellum ornamentation including metal hood moldings and lintels. Some have egg-and-dart motifs, others acanthus leaves. The interior was converted in 1914 to be the county jail, hence its configuration. The first floor includes a central hall with rooms on either side. Original windows remain, while modern paneling covers the interior walls and the ceilings are lowered. The second floor has the former courtroom space with the two-level jailworks in the middle, surrounded by smaller rooms. Many of the original interior details remain including some doors and sidelights. Changes to the building have come in several stages. In the 1914 conversion from courthouse to jail, the original central tower was removed, and the one-story front and rear porches were added. The courtroom was then converted to include a jailworks from the Pauley Jail Works Company of St. Louis. This necessitated the removal of the central stair and the addition of a metal secured stair leading into the jail area. A new entrance was thus created on the second floor. The jailworks remain on the second floor in a two level configuration sometimes called a mezzanine. Two different metal stairs access the second level of jail cells, one on the east and one on the south sides. There are no outbuildings. The building rests on a corner lot near the railroad tracks in downtown Griffin, just outside the Griffin Commercial Historic District..

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): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE
POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance:

1860-1950

Significant Dates:

1860, 1914

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Hughes, Columbus
Demarest, David
Pauley Jail Works Co., St. Louis, Mo.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Spalding County Courthouse/Spalding County Jail is significant in architecture because it is a rare example of a surviving antebellum Georgia courthouse in the Italianate style. While many changes have taken place to the building, it still retains its massing, and many fine details in the brickwork and window detailing, and some on the interior. It is one of fifteen surviving antebellum Georgia courthouses, out of 132 counties existing in 1860, and it is a relatively rare example of the Italianate style of architecture which was not widespread in antebellum Georgia. It is also significant as a work of David Demarest (1811-1879) and Columbus Hughes (c.1825-1871). Demarest's work in Georgia has not been fully studied, but it is known that the New Jersey-born builder/ architect lived in several major Georgia cities and had significant commissions, among those, either as architect or builder: Greene County Courthouse (NR), William McKinley House (NR) near Milledgeville, Powell Building (NR) at the State Asylum near Milledgeville, the Chapel at Penfield (NR), and two buildings on the University of Georgia campus (NR). He appeared in the census in Athens and in Madison (1850), Atlanta (1860), and Savannah (1870), and was buried in Atlanta in 1879. No doubt other works he designed or built could be identified in those cities. While Demarest was the builder of this building, Columbus Hughes is identified as the architect. New York-born, he lived in Atlanta in 1860 and designed the former Atlanta City Hall/Courthouse (now gone) on the site of present State Capitol. His career has also not been fully studied. The building also is architecturally significant for the intact early 20th-century jailworks installed by a prominent company, the Pauley Jail Works Company of St. Louis, that supplied jailworks and often built whole jails for many Georgia counties.

The building is also significant in politics and government for serving as the first official county courthouse for Spalding County (created in 1854) from 1860 until 1914 when it was converted to a jail. When it was the county's only courthouse, the building was the scene for the recording of deeds, the paying of taxes, and the probation of estates, including wills and guardianships for orphans. Marriage licenses were issued here and many marriages performed in the building. The courthouse was also the scene for the Superior Court, the major court of record, as well as where the grand jury met. During the years when it was the county courthouse, it was thus the major focal point for the county. Although many changes have taken place to the building since it served as the courthouse especially on the interior, the exterior retains much of its overall form, materials, and details and remains easily recognizable as "the old county courthouse." After the building's conversion to a jail in 1914, there was an open house for the public. The newspaper described it as the "most modern jail in the state" and one that "looks more like a palatial residence than a place wherein to take care of prisoners." While a jail, the building housed prisoners as well as the jailor and his family. It served as the county's only jail well into modern times, from 1914 until 1984. The jail served men and women and had an isolation confinement area as well as a trap door for hanging. Although cosmetic changes have been made to the building since it served as a jail, including modern paneling and lowered ceilings, the overall interior arrangement, the second floor open space, and the inserted metal jailworks survive.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8--Statement of Significance

National Register Criteria

The Spalding County Courthouse/Spalding County Jail meets National Register Criterion A for its association with the broad patterns of our history because of its use as the county's only courthouse for sixty years, and then as the county's only jail for thirty-five more years during the historic period (seventy years in total). During this time it was the focal point for many county activities. The building meets National Register Criterion C because it retains many fine elements of the Italianate style in which it was built in 1860. These include the Italianate brackets and window details, as well as its overall form and massing and the fact that it is made out of brick. It is also the known work of two master builders/architects of the era, David Demarest and Columbus Hughes, whose other works reflect their skill and their ability to obtain major commissions in the late antebellum period.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance runs from 1860 when the building opened as the county's first courthouse until 1950, the end of the historic period, when it was operating as the county's only jail. It was in continuous operation as a county facility during those 90 years.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

There is only one contributing building within the nominated property, the courthouse/jail building.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

Spalding County was formed in 1851 from lands formerly in Pike, Henry, and Fayette counties. The act creating the county called for the Inferior Court to select and locate a site for the public buildings of the new county within the City of Griffin. Griffin, laid out by Lewis Lawrence Griffin, was originally chartered in 1843. The community was located on a proposed rail line which was to extend from Macon to the south in central Georgia to Chattanooga at the northern border of Georgia with Tennessee. A county jail was one of the first public structures built in the county. Several years later plans were made for the construction of a courthouse. The December 1858 minutes of the Inferior Court requested that the court ask the local senator and representatives for an appropriation from the state legislature for the year 1859 to aid in building a courthouse. Minutes from the May term of 1859 state that the county is "amply able and willing to be taxed" to build the structure and requested that

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8--Statement of Significance

plans proceed at once. The first courthouse for the county was constructed in 1859-1860 with "C. Hughs" as the architect of the building and "D. Demarest" as the builder.

Further research reveals these men to be Columbus Hughes, noted for his work in Atlanta, and David Demarest, noted for building and/or designing other important antebellum buildings and houses that have survived and are on the National Register. Columbus Hughes was born around 1825 in New York and was in Georgia in the 1850s. He designed and built the Fulton County Courthouse/Atlanta City Hall c. 1854 within the "town square" of antebellum Atlanta. It was torn down in 1884 to make way for the new Georgia State Capitol, and the new city and county facilities were shifted to another location. He was living in Atlanta in 1860 but in 1870 left Atlanta for California where he died in 1871.

David Demarest was born in New Jersey in 1811 and died in Atlanta in 1879 and is buried in the city's Oakland Cemetery with other members of his family. His career in Georgia is first documented with buildings in Athens and in Madison, and he appears in both towns in the 1850 Census. Records show he was in Madison, Morgan County, in the 1840s. He designed the Greene County Courthouse in nearby Greensboro in 1849. It survives and is on the National Register. By the 1860 Census he is living in Atlanta, and in 1870 he is in Savannah where he worked for a few years. In Atlanta City Directories he is shown as a "carpenter," "contractor," and "builder." Other surviving works include the Chapel at old Mercer at Penfield, Greene County, c. 1846 (NR), the William McKinley House in Baldwin County, c. 1858-1859 (NR), the Central Building (Powell Building) at the State Lunatic Asylum out from Milledgeville c. 1856-1858 (NR), and in Athens, the Rock House (Lumpkin House) (NR), as well as others. No doubt new research indexes and newly discovered sources could provide more information on this very versatile 19th-century architect/builder.

On July 5, 1859, the Inferior Court ordered the county treasurer to pay C. Hughs \$50 for elevations, plans, and specifications for the building. Fifty posters were ordered printed to notify contractors that sealed proposals would be received. The minutes note that on August 20, 1859, D. Demarest was determined to be the lowest bidder at \$12,000. On September 11, 1860, D. Demarest reported that the contract was complete and a final payment was ordered after an inspection of the new courthouse.

This building served as the Spalding County Courthouse from 1860 until 1911.

In 1868 a recommendation was made to sell a portion of the tract to the east of the courthouse and to use the proceeds for the construction of an iron fence around the site and the planting of shade trees. In August 1869 a wooden fence was recommended instead of iron. From a historic photograph it appears a combination was built. No fence survives today. A photograph, believed to date from the late-19th century, shows a fence with square wood columns and round pipe railing. Young deciduous trees are planted in a row in front of the fence with two trees situated in the side yard. A later photograph of the structure from a postcard dates from the early 20th century. The building, sporting a vibrant Victorian-era paint scheme on the tower, is surrounded by a fence with

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8--Statement of Significance

iron pickets across the front and iron mesh along the side yard. The shade trees in the earlier photograph have matured and from their weeping habit appear to be elm trees.

Sanborn Maps from 1890 and 1895 show that the structure was built of brick with a gabled metal roof and a frame cupola. In 1900 a detached brick jail was added to the rear of the lot. The jail, also of brick, contained three stories and was connected to the courthouse by a frame bridge.

The structure served as the county courthouse until the early 1900s. Dissatisfaction with the structure resulted in a bond election on August 1910 which called for \$80,000 to build, equip, and furnish a new courthouse; \$20,000 to improve the common jail; and \$50,000 for road improvements. This proposal was defeated. A second election held in November 1910 resulted in an overwhelming vote (1,318 in favor versus 6 against) to issue \$80,000 in bonds to build a new courthouse. It appears that the issue of the jail and road improvements had been deleted from the ballot. The second courthouse for Spalding County was built at the corner of East Solomon and Sixth Streets in 1911, a few blocks south of the original courthouse structure. The new building was used as the Spalding County Courthouse until it burned in 1981.

Following the construction of the new courthouse, jail improvements were again discussed in 1913. On July 15, 1913, a newspaper article noted that plans for a new county jail had been submitted by Frederick Ausfeld, an architect from Birmingham, Alabama. The old courthouse was to be converted into a modern jail at a cost of \$28,000 to be raised by direct levy. The then existing jail was considered "too small and as otherwise was unsatisfactory confinement." It was stated that several grand juries had recommended that "the old courthouse be converted into a jail. This was before the erection of the new courthouse which is a lasting monument to the progress and prosperity of the county of Spalding."

Initial bids for the work, which were in excess of the budgeted amount, were rejected. The architect revised the plans and on November 5, 1913, the newspaper announced that a local firm had been awarded the jail building contract and a contract for the cells had been given to a foreign concern. At the regular monthly meeting of the county commissioners held at the courthouse on Tuesday, November 4, 1913, the contract for the erection of the new jail was awarded to Gresham Manufacturing Company, a local firm and the lowest bidder for \$14,990. A contract for the cell and steel work was let to the Pauley Jail Works, described as the foreign firm, and also the lowest bidder at \$13,508. The Pauley Jail Works Company, known for their construction of whole jails as well as just the cellblocks, was located in St. Louis, Missouri. They provided jailworks for many of Georgia's 19th- and early 20th-century jails.

On July 17, 1914, an article appeared in the Griffin Daily News and Sun, which stated the following: "Spalding County's historical old courthouse has been converted into a splendid new jail building - beautiful in architectural design and modern in every particular. It looks more like a palatial residence than a place wherein to take care of prisoners." Changes to the structure are also confirmed on

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Sanborn maps from 1915. This map shows that one-story brick porches with metal roofs were added to the front and rear of the structure and the frame cupola was removed. The rear porch included a room at the southwest corner of the building which functioned as the kitchen. The one-story brick entrance addition at the southeast side of the structure is also noted. Additional notes state that the building is heated by steam and contains lights and electricity. The second floor is constructed of steel and concrete. The location of iron doors on the second floor is also noted. The former jail at the rear of the property had become convict quarters and the frame bridge had been removed. The converted jail and former jail appear the same on Sanborn maps in 1925.

The former jail was eventually demolished and a brick office building was constructed on its site. The property, containing the original courthouse and office building, are still in the ownership of Spalding County. Only the original courthouse portion of the property is being nominated. The original courthouse was used as the Spalding County Jail and Spalding County's Sheriff's Department until those offices were moved to a new location in 1984. Since that time, the building has been used for various county offices.

The building was the subject of a reuse study in 1985-1986 funded by several grants. It is still owned by Spalding County. It is hoped that it can be rehabilitated and become a county/city museum and archives facility.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Jaeger and Associates and Jack Pyburn Associates. A Reuse Plan for the Original Spalding County Courthouse (undated, c. 1985-1986).

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued
date issued:
- 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 #

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

A) Zone 16 Easting 755220 Northing 3682120

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is the parcel drawn on the enclosed tax map/plat that is 150 feet by 140 feet and runs to the edge of the rear parking lot but does not include the Veterans Services Building. The boundary is marked on the enclosed tax map/plat map.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property is all the county property directly associated with this building.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth Street
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** October 18, 2000

Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable) (X) not applicable

name/title
organization
street and number
city or town **state** **zip code**
telephone

- consultant**
- regional development center preservation planner**
- other:**

(HPD form version 02-24-97)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

Name of Property: Spalding County Courthouse/Spalding County Jail
City or Vicinity: Griffin
County: Spalding
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: January, 1999

Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 17: East facade with new courthouse in far left background; photographer facing southwest.
- 2 of 17: East facade from parking lot; photographer facing west.
- 3 of 17: East and north facades from East Broad Street; photographer facing southwest.
- 4 of 17: West facade from parking lot; photographer facing east.
- 5 of 17: West facade, detail of windows with jail cells, as well as front (north) jail porch addition; photographer facing east.
- 6 of 17: West and south facades with Veterans Services Building (off the nominated parcel) at rear of courthouse/jail; photographer facing northeast.
- 7 of 17: South and east facades with Veteran Services Building an far left (off the nominated parcel); photographer facing northwest.
- 8 of 17: Interior, first floor, entered from the north (front) entrance; photographer facing south.
- 9 of 17: Interior, first floor, original window in room immediately to right of front entrance as one enters; photographer facing west.
- 10 of 17: Interior, first floor, metal stairs leading to jail floors, stairs in southeast corner of first floor; photographer facing west.
- 11 of 17: Interior, second floor looking into locked stair area where stairs come up from first floor; photographer facing northwest.
- 12 of 17: Interior, second floor, same locked stair area; photographer facing southwest.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

13 of 17: Interior, second floor, cell 6 on northeast corner of building above the front entrance; photographer facing east/southeast.

14 of 17: Interior, second floor stairs looking up at mezzanine level at east side of the cellblock; photographer facing north.

15 of 17: Interior, second floor , interior of cellblock C (same as cellblock A on mezzanine level); photographer facing north.

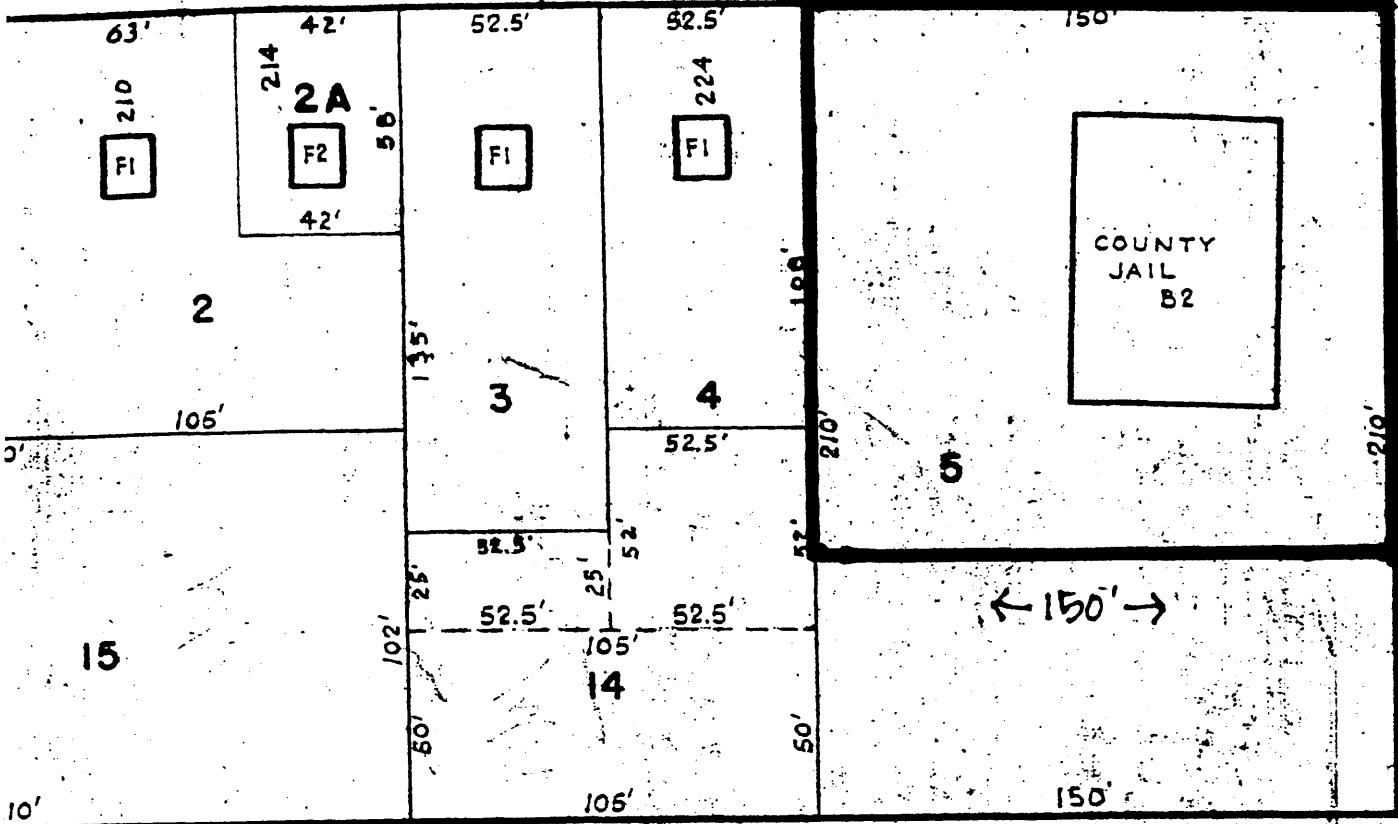
16 of 17: Interior, second floor, looking into interior of cell in cell block C with stairway to mezzanine at the rear; photographer facing east.

17 of 17: Interior, second floor, closeup of box for lockdown of cellblock area; photographer facing northeast.

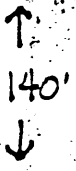
EAST BROAD

BROAD

BOUNDARY



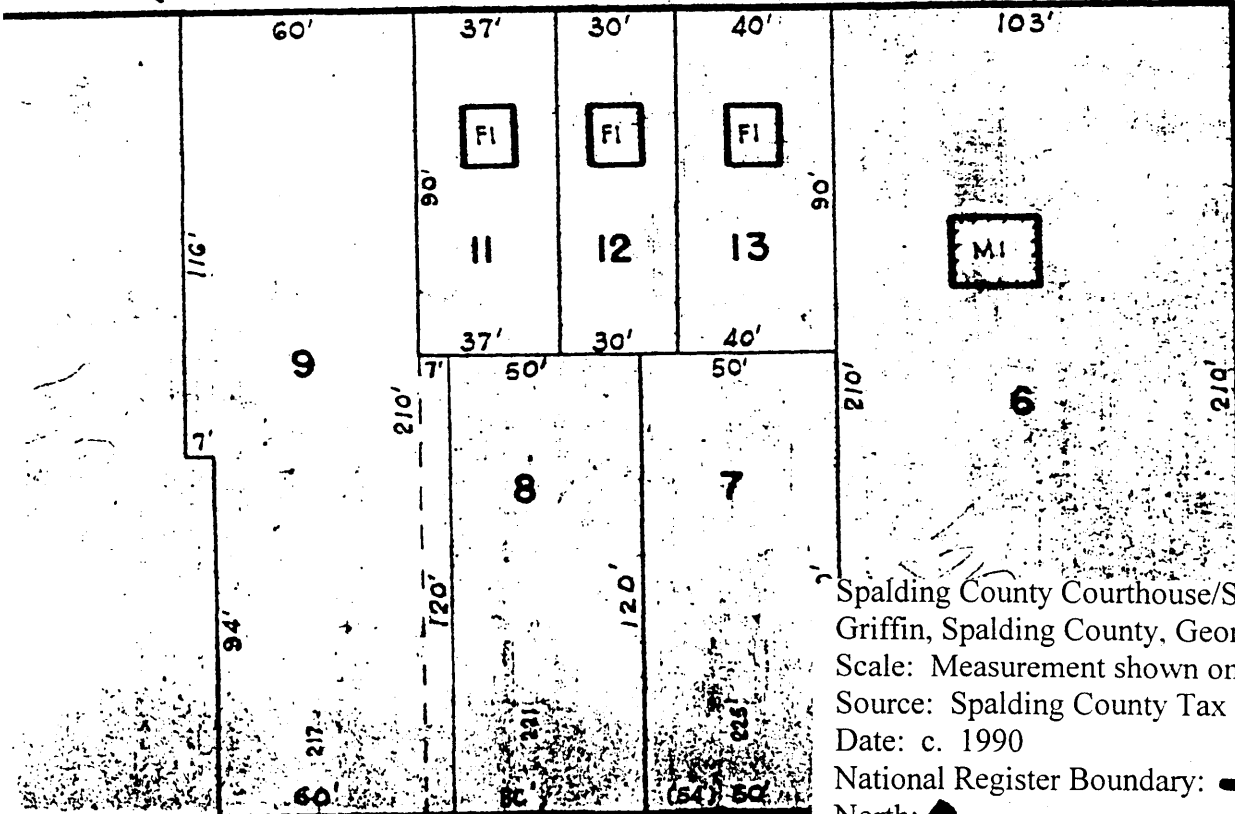
STREET





35

SLATON

FIFTH



TH

Spalding County Courthouse/Spalding County Jail
 Griffin, Spalding County, Georgia
 Scale: Measurement shown on map
 Source: Spalding County Tax Assessor's Office
 Date: c. 1990
 National Register Boundary: 
 North: 

Spalding County Courthouse/Spalding County Jail
Griffin, Spalding County, Georgia

Scale: Not to scale

Source: Drawn by unknown architect, c. 1990

First Floor Plan

North: ←

NORTH FIFTH STREET

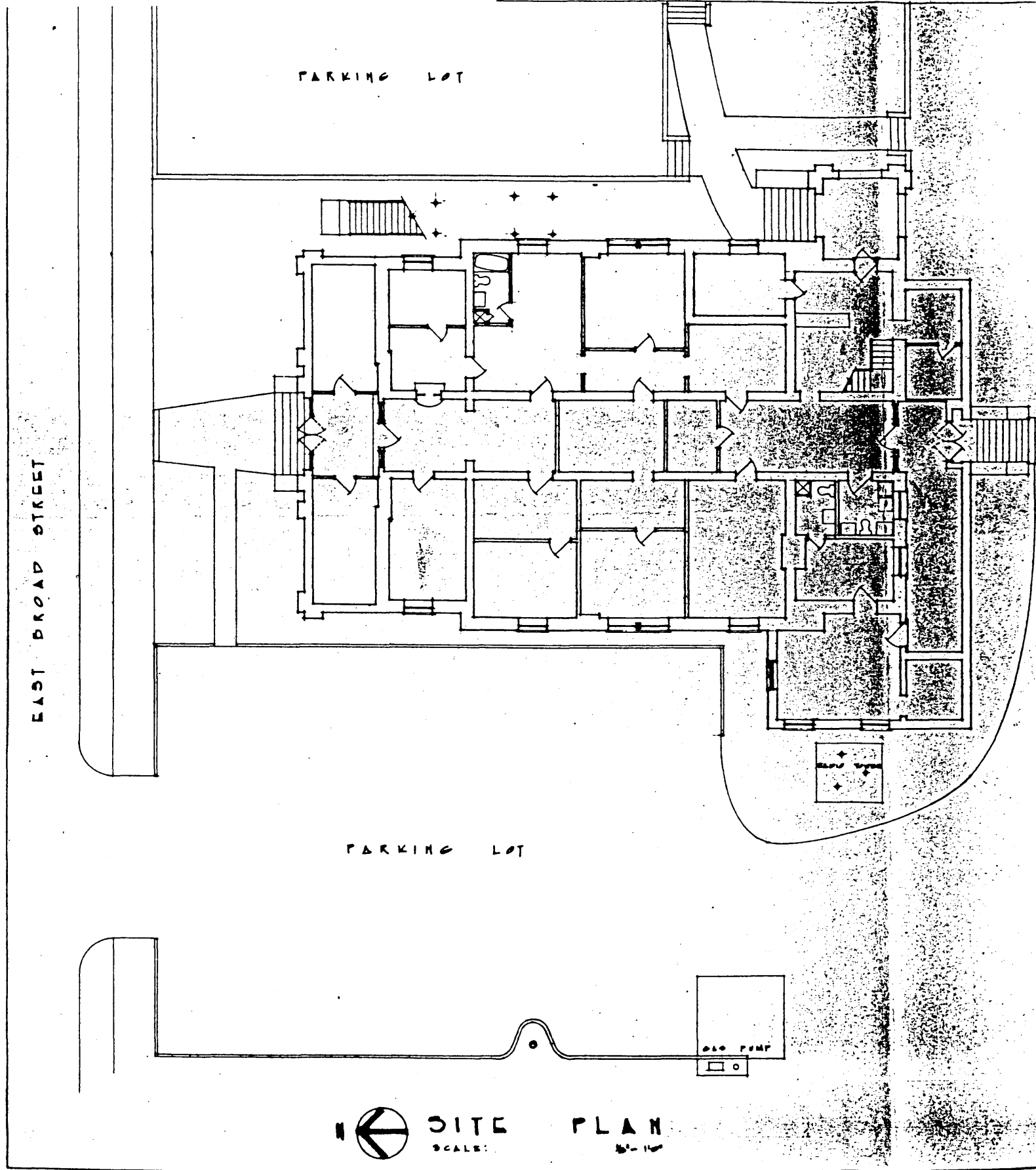
PARKING LOT

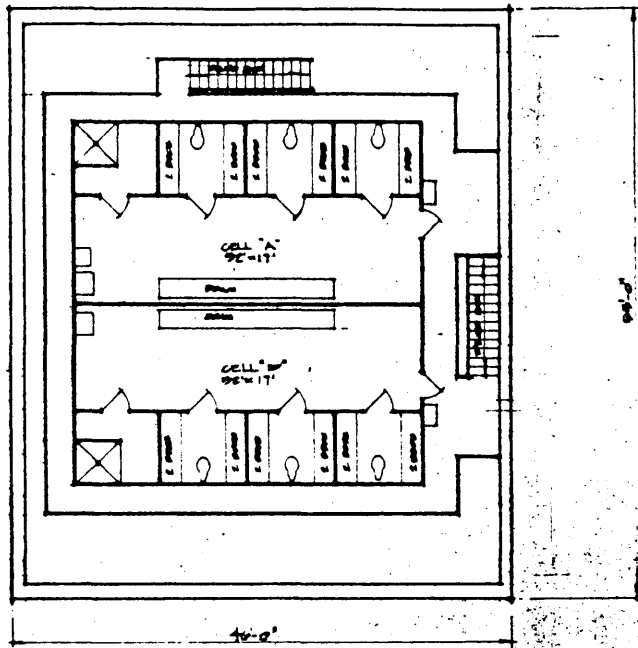
EAST BROAD STREET

PARKING LOT

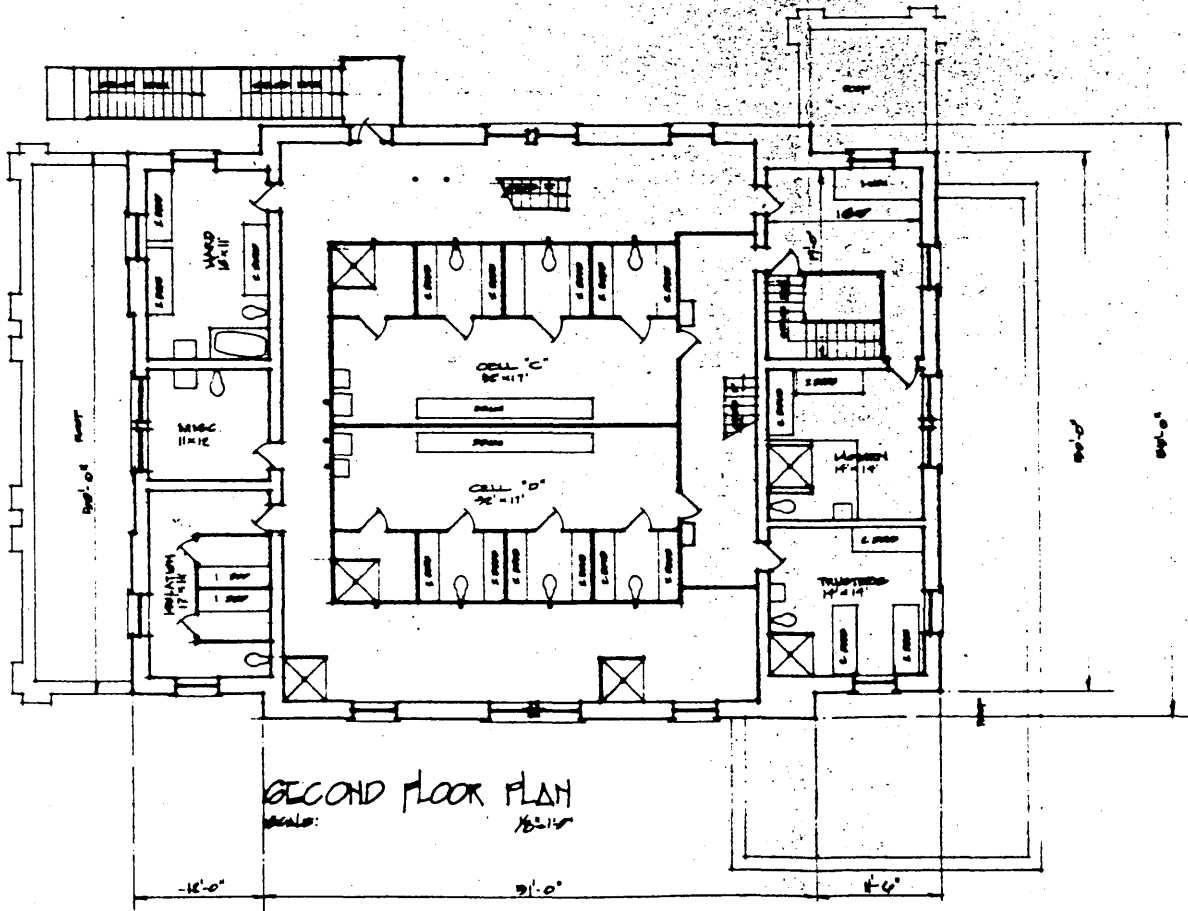
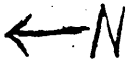
PUMP

← SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"





MEZZANINE LEVEL CELL BLOCK
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



SECOND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

Spalding County Courthouse/Spalding County Jail
Griffin, Spalding County, Georgia
Scale: Not to scale
Source: Drawn by unknown architect, c. 1990
Second Floor Plan/Mezzanine Floor Plan
North: ←