

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **OCT 2 1979**

JAN 11 1980

DATE ENTERED

**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

Clinch County Jail

AND/OR COMMON

"Old Jail"

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Court Square

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Homerville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Eighth - Billy Evans

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY

Clinch

CODE

065

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

___PRIVATE

___UNOCCUPIED

___COMMERCIAL

___PARK

___STRUCTURE

___BOTH

___WORK IN PROGRESS

___EDUCATIONAL

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

___RELIGIOUS

___OBJECT

___IN PROCESS

___YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___BEING CONSIDERED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

___NO

___MILITARY

___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Noah C. Williams, Chairman, Clinch County Board of Commissioners

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 363

CITY, TOWN

Homerville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia 31634

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Superior Court

STREET & NUMBER

Clinch County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Homerville

STATE

Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

An Inventory of Historical Sites in the Southeast Georgia Area

DATE

Summer, 1976

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Southeast Georgia Area Planning & Development Commission

CITY, TOWN

Waycross

STATE

Georgia

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

The Clinch County Jail is a two-story, brick, 35'x32' rectangular building with a hipped roof covered with asbestos shingles. There is a single, outside brick chimney located in the center of the southwest or back wall. The first-floor windows feature segmented arches with radiating voussours. The second-floor windows feature Italianate arches, except for two in the tower, which have flat arch lintels.

The interior has walls of smooth plaster and features a detailed ceiling of pressed tin in the hall and upstairs offices. The floors are of concrete, the upper ones being supported by vaulted iron work.

Alterations since 1927 include replacement of rear-wing, full-length windows with the present ones and installation of glass doorways on the first floor. Also, the stairway was added, and, at the same time, a wall on the first floor was removed to create a large open area, not common to buildings of the period. The jail cells have also been removed.

Boundary Justification: Due to the fact that the county owns the entire block, which includes the courthouse, the boundaries of this property were established as the immediate area around the jail, as shown on the accompanying sketch map.

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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Constructed 1893-94 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Manly Jail Works/Thomas F. Lockwood

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Clinch County Jail is significant in architecture and local history. In architecture, it is significant because of its fireproof construction, using both a Georgia architect as well as a Georgia jail works. In local history, it is significant to Homerville and Clinch County because it was the county jail for a period of thirty-three years and has been a community center in the past fifty years, after being adapted by the Homerville Woman's Club.

The Clinch County Jail was authorized for construction after an earlier wooden jail, built in 1872, was deemed insufficient for the county's penal needs. The county commissioners then let a contract in 1893 to Manly Iron Jail Works of Dalton, Ga., noted jail builders. Thomas Firth Lockwood (1868-1920), of Columbus, Ga., was the architect for the building, which was completed in the summer of 1894 at a cost of \$3,175.

The facility served as the county jail from 1894 until 1927, when the county's needs again made it obsolete. The Homerville Woman's Club saved it from destruction and received a long-term lease on the building. They disposed of the iron jail cells and grates. R.W. Sweat was the contractor in charge of the work at that time. Bonds were issued, many of which were purchased by husbands of club members, but the ensuing Depression allowed many of the bonds to go unclaimed. In 1936, the club hired Marvin Turner, a Works Progress Administration architect then doing renovations to the county courthouse, to also do some further work on the old jail.

Since being saved from demolition by the club in 1927, the building has been used as a voting-precinct location; a U.S.O. Center for service personnel stationed nearby; the town library; the Board of Education annex; Lion's Club; a place to hold bridal showers, wedding and other receptions; and for family and class reunions. The club often finances its projects by catering special dinners and parties there.

The jail is architecturally significant for the use of fireproof construction techniques, and a Georgia architect and jail works in construction. Thomas Firth Lockwood was a New Jersey native who came with his brother Frank to Columbus, Ga., to practice architecture. Many of his works exist in

[continued]

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Huxford, Folks. History of Clinch County, Georgia (1916)
 Whitfield County Commission. Official History of Whitfield County, Georgia (1936)
 Telfair, Nancy. History of Columbus, Georgia: 1828-1928 (1929)

[continued]

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Homerville East, Ga.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,7 3,3,30 9 0 3,4,3,4,8,3,0
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary is marked with a heavy black line on the accompanying sketch map.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ed Trammell, student intern; Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Preservation Sec., Ga. Dept. of Natural Resources

DATE

June 1979

STREET & NUMBER

270 Washington St., S.W.

TELEPHONE

(404) 656-2840

CITY OR TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia 30334

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

Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

9/18/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

W. C. O. Shull
 W. C. O. Shull

DATE

1-11-80

ATTEST:

W. J. B. B. B.
 W. J. B. B. B.
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

1/3/80

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	OCT 2 1979
DATE ENTERED	JAN 11 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Columbus, including the First Presbyterian Church (rebuilt after an 1891 fire), the St. Luke Methodist Church, and other religious and civic buildings in that community.

The Manly Iron Jail Works was a well-known firm specializing in jail cells and convict cages who placed the "jail" into jails all over the South. The firm still operates in Dalton as Manly Steel Works, producing carpet machinery and jails.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **OCT 2 1979**

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Personal inspection by Ed Trammell and Richard Cloues, February, 1979.
Clinch County, Ga., Deed Book F, pp. 323-24, and Block A, Map No. 1.
Jones, Chris. "Structural and Site Survey Form," January 20, 1978.
Obituary of Thomas F. Lockwood, The Columbus Enquirer-Sun, April 8, 1920.
Interview with Polly Boggess, director, Crown Gardens and Archives, January,
1979, concerning Manly Iron and Jail Works
Telephone interview, June, 1979, with Mrs. Janet Merritt of Homerville, Ga.,
by Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr.

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

AMENDMENT

CLINCH COUNTY JAIL, HOMERVILLE, CLINCH COUNTY, GEORGIA

Significance

The Clinch County Jail is significant in architectural history because it was built in 1893-4 as a fireproof building. By fireproof, it is meant that it was constructed with brick, concrete and iron as opposed to wood and was thus not supposed to catch fire. Earlier buildings surviving from the antebellum period were extreme fire hazards. For example, some of the historic buildings at the University of Georgia still retain sawdust within their walls causing problems with twentieth century fire codes.

Efforts to make buildings fireproof began during the antebellum period with the construction of the Fireproof Building in Charleston, South Carolina, between 1822-1826 to house state records. This is reputed to be the nation's first building of fireproof construction. Many communities were not as advanced as Charleston.

As late as 1872, the former Clinch County Jail was constructed of wood. It was the burning of this structure that led the way for the current, nominated property. It had taken many decades for most governments to begin thinking in terms of fireproof construction for their courthouses and jails. When the building boom of the 1880's and 1890's began, fireproof construction was the order of the day. It is most visible in the monumental courthouses that remain from that era. Although many Georgia counties still retain their jails as well, they are less visible and more likely to have been superceded, forgotten or destroyed.

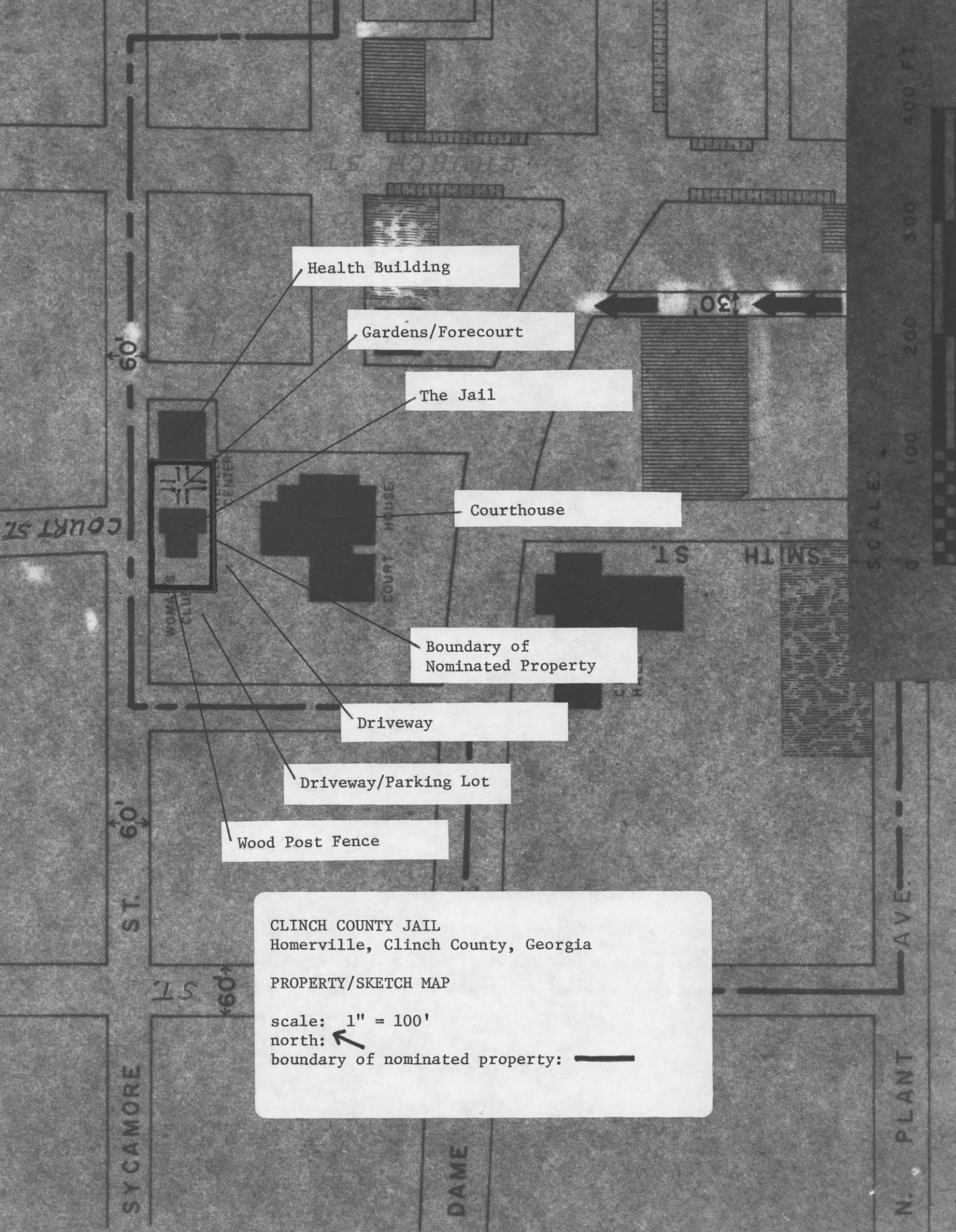
Materials remaining within this structure that would have made it fireproof are its brick exterior, its concrete floors and vaulted iron work to support the upper floors.

Prepared By

Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Natural Resources
270 Washington Street, S. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404/656-2840

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon
Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

December 28, 1979
Date



Health Building

Gardens/Forecourt

The Jail

Courthouse

Boundary of Nominated Property

Driveway

Driveway/Parking Lot

Wood Post Fence

CLINCH COUNTY JAIL
 Homerville, Clinch County, Georgia
 PROPERTY/SKETCH MAP
 scale: 1" = 100'
 north: ↖
 boundary of nominated property: —

SCALE 0 100 200 300 400 FT

60'

60'

60'

SYCAMORE ST.

75

60'

DAME

N. PLANT AVE.

COURT ST.

WOMAN'S CLUB

WOMEN'S CENTER

COURT HOUSE

ST.

SMITH

ST.