

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 29 1976

DATE ENTERED

OCT 14 1976

**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

Monroe County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Clarendon

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05

COUNTY

Monroe

CODE

095

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
 - UNOCCUPIED
 - WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
 - YES: UNRESTRICTED
 - NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Monroe County (Tom Catlett, County Judge)

STREET & NUMBER

Monroe County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Clarendon

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Circuit Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Monroe County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Clarendon

STATE

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located in the historic town of Clarendon, Arkansas, the Monroe County Courthouse was constructed in 1911. It was designed by architect Charles L. Thompson of Little Rock, who designed many of the finest structures in Arkansas. Exhibiting a classical influence the brick structure follows symmetrical lines. The Monroe County Courthouse was constructed under the supervision of W. A. Prather and Company of Memphis, Tennessee, for \$118,000.

The rectangular-shaped structure is marked by four octagonal towers, one on each corner of the building. These corner towers are topped with cornical-shaped tile roofs. The truncated hip roof of the structure is also composed of tile and is marked by regularly spaced chimneys and dormers on all four elevations. All windows are double-hung multi-lite and feature cast-stone lugsills and keystones. Entries on the east and west elevations feature heavy oak-paneled double doors surrounded by sidelites and transom with triangular-shaped lites.

The facade (north elevation) is majestically marked by a large center tower which features clocks on all four elevations. Three, tall, slender windows, one above the other, are located on each elevation along with a band of cast stone beneath the clocks. The base of the classic-styled belfry is supported by paired decorative brackets. The belfry features four arched openings each flanked by small Doric-capital columns. The hip roof of the belfry is supported by brackets.

A classic portico of cast-stone blocks marks the facade entry. Doric-capital columns flank either side of the entrance to the portico. Above the portico entrance is an elliptical-shaped arch with returns. In the center of the arch is an elaborate crest.

Interiors of the Monroe County Courthouse are exceptionally elaborate in the usage of marble and tile. The lobby features marble wainscoting and colorfully patterned ceramic tile floors. Marble pilasters and columns are a frequent feature of the rich interior. Original light fixtures remain in most parts of the building.

Of special interest is the courtroom in the Monroe County Courthouse, located on the second floor. The original oak furniture remains in perfect condition in the courtroom. In the center of the courtroom ceiling is a large dome skylite which contains panels of richly colored stained glass.

The interiors have been minimally altered to accommodate the need for office space. No alterations have occurred to the exterior.

This architecturally interesting structure, designed by one of Arkansas' leading architects, remains in excellent condition. Resting on the Courthouse Square, the Monroe County Courthouse is a prominent landmark in the county.

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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The largest number of architecturally significant public buildings in Arkansas are the courthouses scattered over the state's seventy-five counties. A structural symbol of American Government, the county courthouse serves as the center of local political activity. Often the largest and most costly building in the county, the courthouse is almost always a source of pride to the citizens who financed and make use of its facilities.

Monroe, the twenty-second county, was created on November 2, 1829. It was formed out of Phillips and Arkansas Counties and named for President James Monroe. The temporary seat of justice was directed to be at the house of Thomas Maddox, and in January, 1830, an election was held to select commissioners who would choose a site for a courthouse. The commissioners selected a site on the farm of Joseph Jacobs and named it Lawrenceville. The county seat remained there until the spring of 1856 when, by vote of the people, the center of government was changed to Clarendon on the White River. The removal order on the county records was in October, 1857.

The present Monroe County Courthouse stands on the site of four previous courthouses. The first building on the site was a two-storey brick structure started late in 1859. Although near completion, work on the building was stopped during the Civil War. The Federal forces tore it down, loaded the bricks on transports and shipped them up the White River to De Valls Bluff to use in Federal fortifications there. The second courthouse on the square was a two-room frame building completed in the spring of 1866 to be used only until a more suitable structure could be erected. In 1872 a two-storey brick courthouse was constructed but burned to the ground on January 1, 1895. The citizens of Monroe County, in a mass meeting, decided to build a courthouse for the county and on January 9, 1895, received permission from the county court to do so. This structure was completed by June 3, 1895, at no cost to the county, but was torn down to make room for the present courthouse.

The present Monroe County Courthouse was erected in 1911. Architect Charles L. Thompson of Little Rock designed the plans for the building in 1910. The contract was let on January 25, 1911, to W. A. Prather and Company of Memphis, Tennessee for \$118,000.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A Survey of Arkansas Courthouse. Compiled by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of Arkansas. Mrs. W. G. McDonald, Chairperson, Historical Activities Committee. Arkansas Room, Little Rock Public Library.

English, Jo Claire (Research Historian, Monroe County Courthouse). Personal interview, April 21, 1976, Clarendon, Arkansas

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 5	6 5 4 4 2 0	3 8 4 0 0 4 5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Sandra Taylor, Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

June 8, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

300 West Markham

(501) 371-1639

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Little Rock

Arkansas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

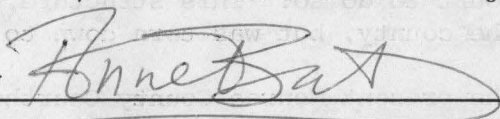
NATIONAL

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 Anne Bartley



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 6-8-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 10/14/76

ATTEST:

DATE 10/21/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

During the 1927 flood which destroyed much of the town, water was up to eighteen feet deep in some areas of Clarendon. Boats were rowed through the halls of the courthouse and hundred of persons sought refuge on the upper floors, awaiting rescue. Church services and other community activities were held in the courthouse while flood damage to the remainder of the town was being repaired.

Architecturally as well as historically significant, the Monroe County Courthouse is a large two-storey brick structure. Designed by prominent architect Charles L. Thompson, the structure is rectangular in plan with a symmetrical appearance. Four octagonal-shaped towers mark the corners of the building. The center of the facade is distinguished by a large tower topped by a belfry.

The interior of the Monroe County Courthouse is exceptionally noteworthy. The richness of marble and ceramic tile abounds. The second floor courtroom features a brilliantly colored dome skylite.

The Monroe County Courthouse is a significant historical structure both architecturally and as the center of politics and government in the county. Resting on its original site on the courthouse square, the Monroe County Courthouse is a historic landmark in Arkansas.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Lyle, Mrs. Bateman (President, Monroe County Historical Society). Personal interview, April 21, 1976, Clarendon, Arkansas.
Monroe County Sun, February 17, 1911.
Roberts, Mrs. John (Monroe County Circuit Clerk). Personal interview, April 21, 1976, Clarendon, Arkansas.

Property

Monroe County Courthouse

State

Arkansas

Working Number

6.29.76.3687

76000439

TECHNICAL

Photos 4
Maps 1

CONTROL

pl
OK *7.1.76*

HISTORIAN

accept
B. Grosvenor
7/7/76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept
3 Oldham
7/16/76

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

Nice building

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
W.R. Luce
10/6/76

BRANCH CHIEF

10.7.76
Hungt

KEEPER

[Signature]

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered

OCT 14 1976

Federal Register Entry

12-7-76

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



1. MONROE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

MONROE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

NORTH AND WEST ELEVATIONS, VIEWED FROM THE NORTHWEST

Sandra Taylor 4/76

10.14.76

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

AS3

4



2. MONROE County Courthouse

MONROE County, ARKANSAS

EAST AND SOUTH ELEVATIONS, VIEWED FROM THE SOUTHEAST

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Monroe County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Clarendon

___ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Monroe

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO April, 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

East and south elevations, viewed from the southeast

PHOTO NO.

2



4. MONROE County Courthouse
MONROE County, ARKANSAS
courtroom, note domed skylite

Sandra Taylor

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Monroe County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Clarendon

___ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Monroe

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO April, 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Courtroom, note domed skylite

PHOTO NO.

4

INT: 2983-75



3. Monroe County Courthouse
Monroe County, Arkansas

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

OCT 14 1976

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Monroe County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Clarendon

___ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Monroe

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO April, 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

Lobby, note marble column and ceramic tile floors

3

INT: 2983-75

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 29 1976

DATE ENTERED

OCT 14 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Monroe County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Clarendon

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Monroe

STATE

Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE United States Geological Survey

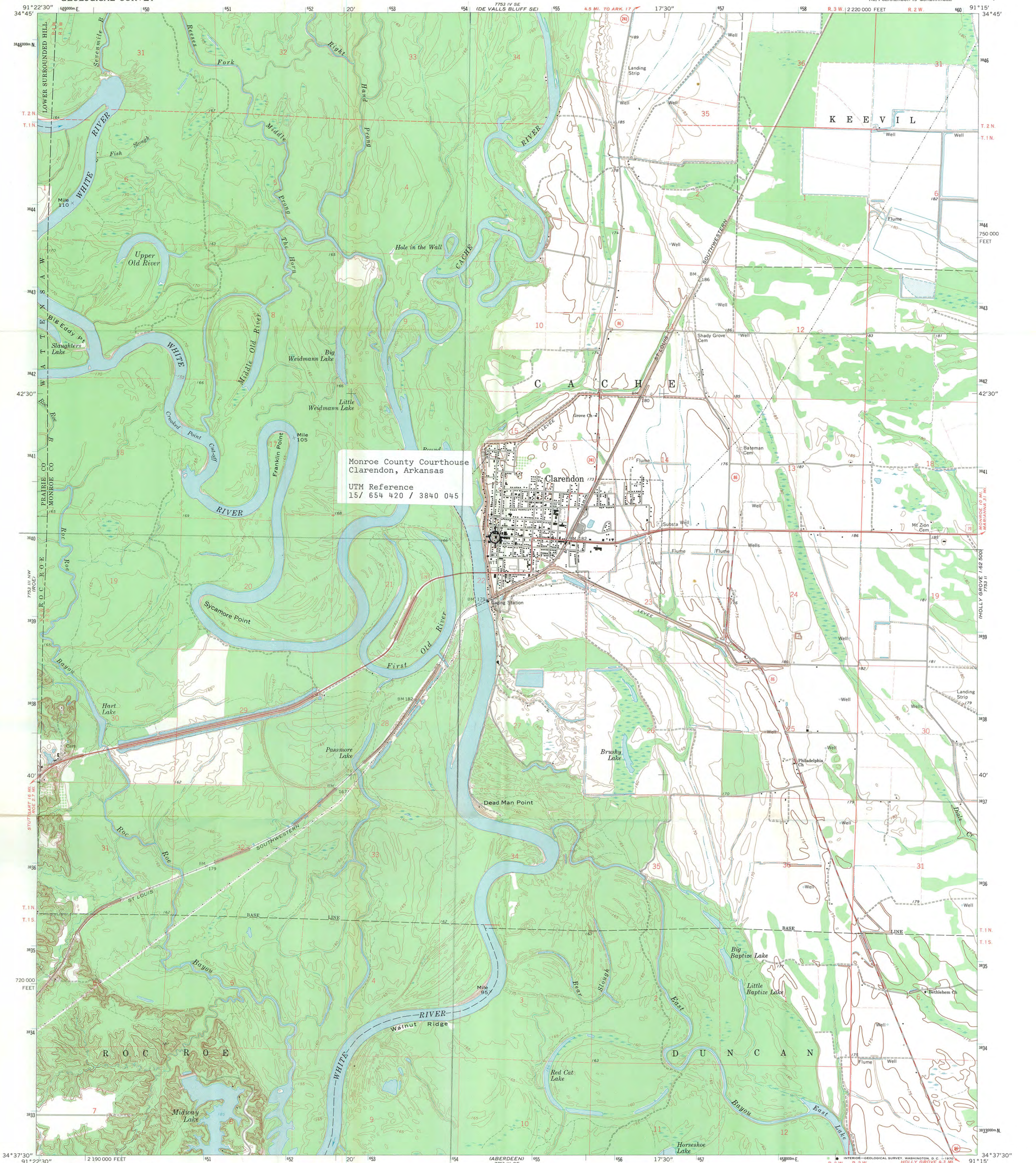
SCALE 1:24,000

DATE 1968

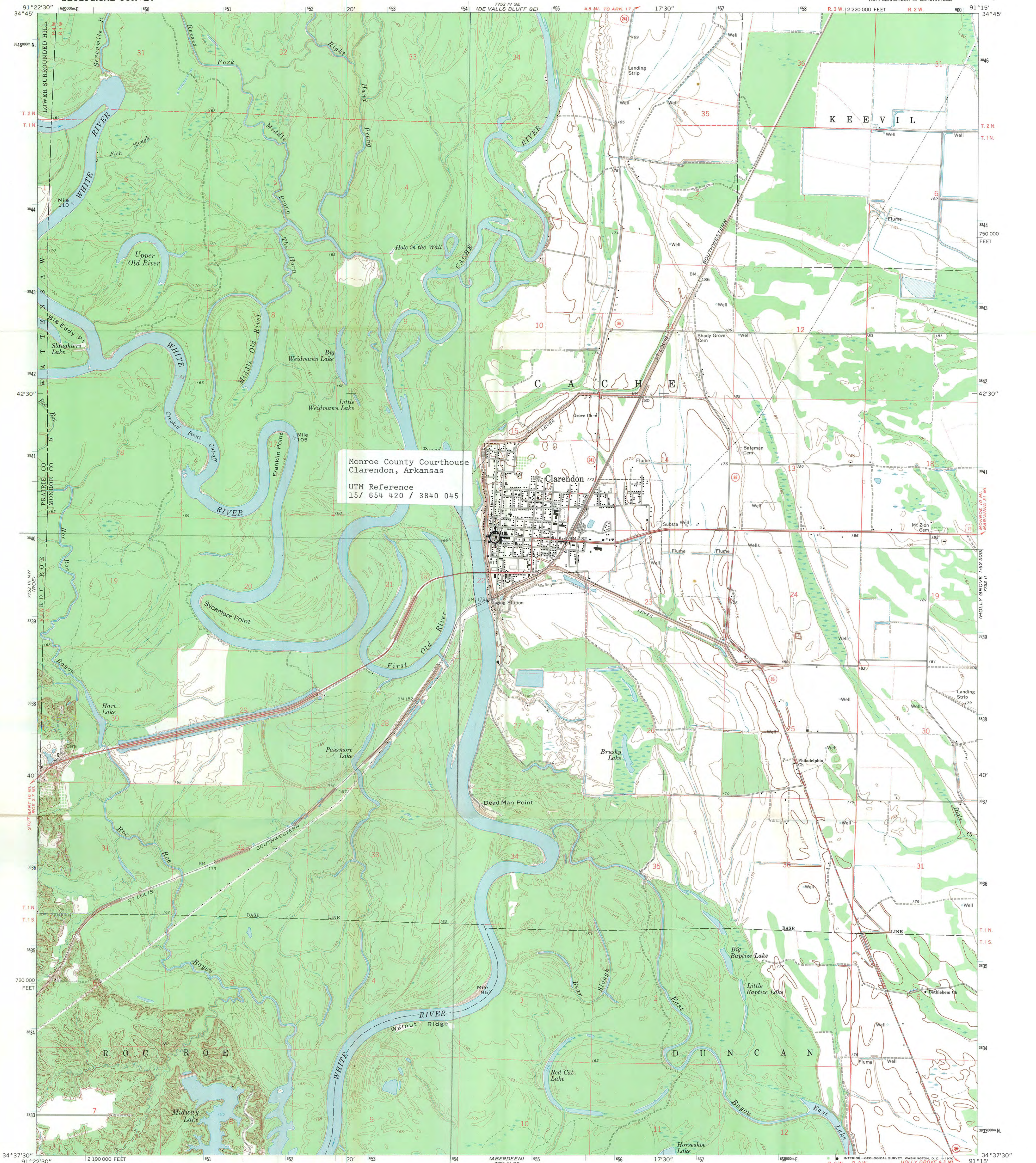
4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

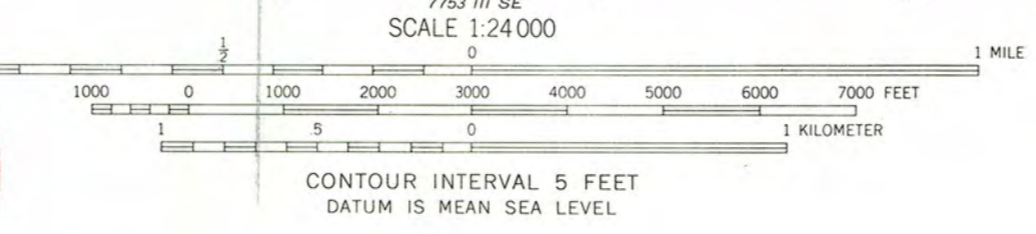
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



Monroe County Courthouse
Clarendon, Arkansas
UTM Reference
15/ 654 420 / 3840 045



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1966-67. Field checked 1968
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
U.S. Route ——— State Route ———

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

CLARENDON, ARK.
NE/4 CLARENDON 15' QUADRANGLE
N3437.5—W9115/7.5

1968
AMS 7753 III NE—SERIES V884

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered OCT 14 1976

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Allen, W. H., House	Spotville vicinity Columbia County
Mutual Aid Union Building	Rogers Benton County
Monroe County Courthouse	Clarendon Monroe County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan
Hon. Dale Bumpers
Hon. Ray Thornton
Hon. John P. Hammerschmidt
Hon. Bill Alexander
Regional Director, Southwest
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Ms. Anne Bartley
Acting Director
Department of Natural and
Cultural Heritage
The Old State House
300 West Markham
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

880 MMott/row 10/21/76

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 7/7/76
Reviewer: INITIALS: 86

NR DOE
OCT 14 1976

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: ~~Monroe~~ ¹ Monroe County Courthouse

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER: Courthouse Square
CITY, TOWN: Clarendon CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 1st
STATE: Arkansas 05 VICINITY OF COUNTY: Monroe code: 095

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline): FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):
NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST
SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR: Substantially intact-1
EXTERIOR: Substantially intact-2
ENVIRONS: Substantially intact-3
- unknown - 4
- unknown - 5
- unknown - 6
- not applicable - 7
- not applicable - 8
- Not applicable - 9

CONDITION - EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED
- Unexcavated
- UNALTERED
- ALTERED
- Reconstructed
- Excavated
- ORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED
- Unknown

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO
IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- courthouse

now- courthouse

SIGNIFICANCE:

- ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW/Gov't/politics
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)
- entertainment
- health
- recreation
- settlement
- socio/cultural
- urban & commun planning

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: 2 Chateausque and Beaux Arts Classical elements

architect/m. builder: Charles L. Thompson

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

W.A. Prather & Co.

3 →

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES: personal

(label role & appropriate date)

events

institutional

DATES: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1911 ✓

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE: (OF NOMINATION) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE: (to nearest tenth of an acre)

1.19

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

descriptive brick, 2 1/2 - 3 1/2 stories, modified ~~rectangle~~ gabled, truncated hipped roof, numerous interior chimneys, dormers, corner octagonal towers with polygonal roofs; tall north clock tower and ~~elaborate~~ ^{elaborate} portal framed by columns and with ~~stone columns~~ ^{elaborate} pediment with ~~elaborate crest~~ ^{elaborate crest}; elaborate interior decorated in marble and tile; ^{2nd floor courtroom with} original oak furniture and stained-glass skylight.

Chateausque and Beaux-Arts Classical elements.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

The eclectic ~~nature~~ ^{design} by noted architect Charles L. Thompson ~~for~~ for the Monroe County Courthouse includes elements of Chateausque and Beaux-Arts Classical styles and a tall tower which ^{may} reflect the influence of Lombard Romanesque ~~buildings~~ churches.