

PH036229x

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 29 1976

DATE ENTERED OCT 18 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

* HISTORIC Franklin County Courthouse, Southern District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER AR
Highway 22

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

Arkansas

CODE
05

COUNTY

Franklin

CODE
047

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

___ COMMERCIAL

___ EDUCATIONAL

___ ENTERTAINMENT

☒ GOVERNMENT

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ MILITARY

___ MUSEUM

___ PARK

___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ RELIGIOUS

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Franklin County (Nick Gilsinger, County Judge)

STREET & NUMBER

Franklin County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Franklin County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

STATE

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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 Franklin County Courthouse at Charleston was designed by architect Frank W. Gibb of Little Rock. Constructed in 1923, this two-and-one-half storey brick building is of simple lines with little ornamentation.

The courthouse has a basic rectangular form and rests on a full basement. Except for the cast stone water table, the red brick walls are continuous from the ground level to the roofline. Brick pilasters, each with a cast stone "T-shape" pattern at the top, divide the wall surface into a series of bays, five on the north and south elevations and three on the east and west elevations. A metal cornice surrounds the building just below the actual roofline.

All windows are paired and set in wooden frames with cast stone lug-sills. The upper sash of each window has nine lights, while each lower sash has a single large light. Basement windows are also double-hung but have six lights per sash. Horizontal panels of cast stone are set between each pair of first-and second-storey windows.

The main entry, recessed in the center bay of the north elevation, is marked by brick pilasters with cast stone heads supporting a flat arch with keystone. Secondary entries are flush with the wall surface on the east and west elevations. The double doors on the west have a geometrical pattern in the upper portion, narrow side-lights, and a wide multi-light transom above.

Second-storey fan windows are located on the east and west elevations, and on the center bays of the north and south elevations. The upper end windows on the north and south elevations have multi-light rectangular transoms.

Though the interior of the building has been thoroughly renovated, the exterior has remained basically unaltered. Several window openings have been bricked, but no structural changes have been made. The courthouse remains in good condition on its original site, a tree-shaded corner in the Charleston business district.

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 1923

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Frank W. Gibb

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The largest number of architecturally significant buildings in Arkansas are the courthouses located in the state's seventy-five counties. The county courthouses serve as the focal point of local political activity, and are often the most architecturally significant structures in their area.

Franklin County, spanning the Arkansas River in the western part of the state, is one of ten Arkansas counties to have two county seats. Named for Benjamin Franklin, the county was created from Crawford County on December 19, 1837. The first permanent county seat was located at Ozark, which lies north of the Arkansas River. Almost fifty years later, on March 14, 1885, a second county seat was established at Charleston to serve the southern part of the county.

In 1923 a prominent Little Rock architect, Frank W. Gibb, was hired to design a new courthouse for Franklin County's southern district. The Charleston courthouse, built by contractor E. W. Jenkins, is a simple rectangular structure of red brick. Pilasters divide the walls into a series of bays. Window treatment, with fan windows around a part of the second storey, is in harmony with the simple style of the flat-roofed building.

Located on its original site in the principal business district, the Franklin County Courthouse at Charleston is an architectural landmark in this west Arkansas community.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A Survey of Arkansas Courthouses. Compiled by the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of Arkansas. Mrs. W. G. McDonald, Chairwoman, Historical Activities Committee. Arkansas Room, Little Rock Public Library.
Works Progress Administration. Franklin County, c. 1940. Place file, Archives, Arkansas History Commission.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 5	4 0 5 7 6 0	39 06 5 0 6 7 2 1 0	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

Dianna Kirk, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE

June 8, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

300 West Markham

TELEPHONE

(501) 371-1639

CITY OR TOWN

Little Rock,

STATE

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 June 8, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Acting
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

76000407

Property Franklin County Courthouse, Southern District

State Arkansas Working Number 6.29.76.3681

TECHNICAL

Photos 3

Maps 1

Nothing appears incorrect 10.8.76

CONTROL

OK 7.1.76

HISTORIAN

accept

F. Grosvenor

7/7/76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept

S. Olchan

7/16/76

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

minimal statement of significance

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept

W. R. Luce

10/6/76

BRANCH CHIEF

Hunt

10.7.76

KEEPER

Wm

10/14/76

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered OCT 18 1976

Federal Register Entry 12-7-76

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 29 1976

DATE ENTERED

OCT 18 1976

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Franklin County Courthouse, Southern District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Charleston

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Franklin

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO.

North facade and west elevation, viewed from the northwest

1



Franklin Co. Courthouse, S. Dist.

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 29 1976

OCT 18 1976

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Franklin County Courthouse, Southern District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Franklin

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO

1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO.

South (rear) and east elevations, viewed from the southeast

2



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 29 1976

DATE ENTERED OCT 18 1976

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Franklin County Courthouse, Southern District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Charleston

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Franklin

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO.

West elevation, viewed from the west

3

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 18 1976

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Franklin County Courthouse, Southern District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Charleston

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Franklin

STATE Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE USGS, Charleston Quadrangle

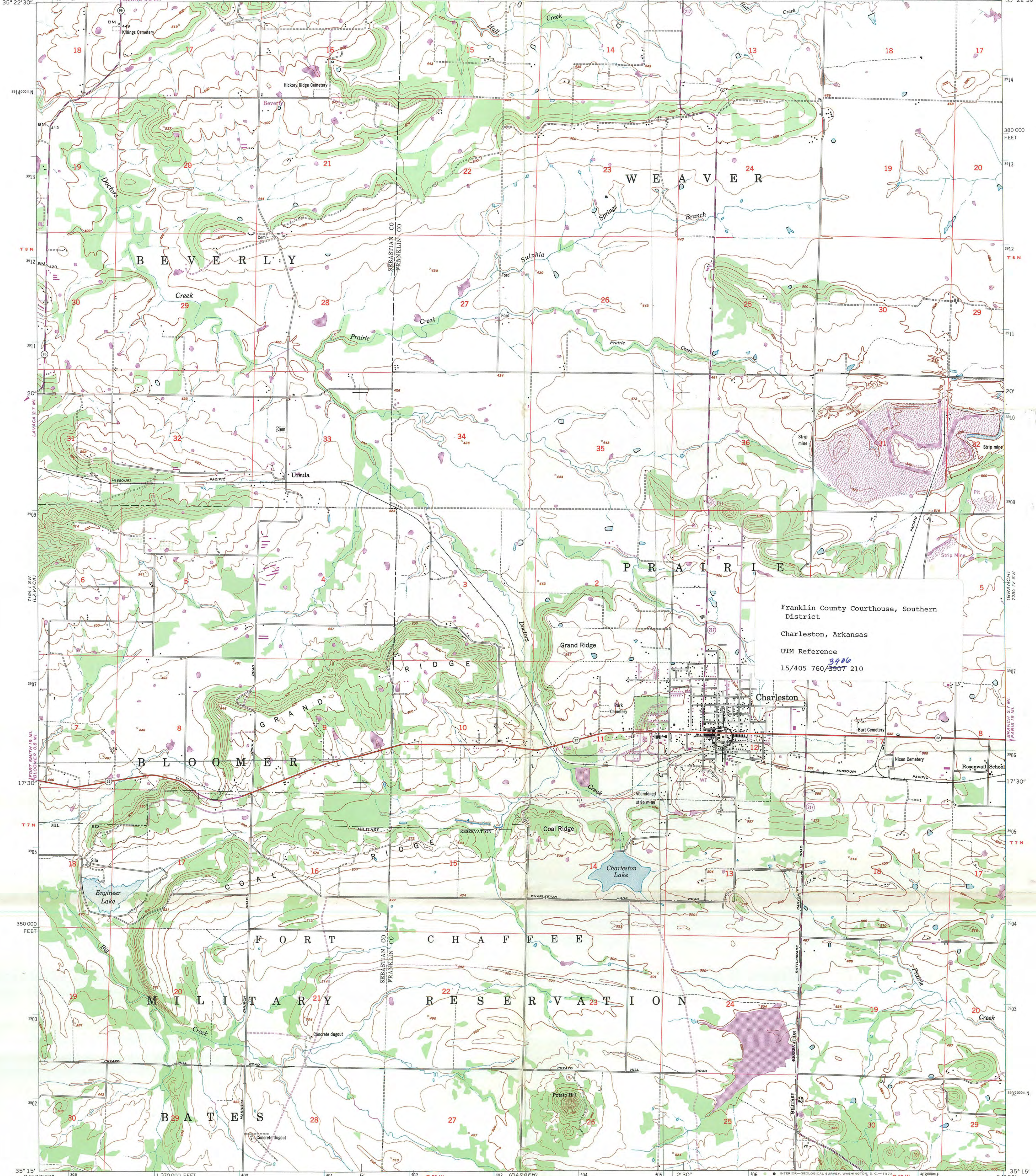
SCALE 1:24000

DATE 1946

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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



Franklin County Courthouse, Southern District
Charleston, Arkansas
UTM Reference
15/405 760/3907 210

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **ARKANSAS**

Date Entered **OCT 18 1976**

Name

Location

Franklin County Courthouse, Southern District	Charleston Franklin County
--	---------------------------------------

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan
Hon. Dale Bumpers
Hon. John P. Hammerschmidt

Regional Director, Southwest Region

880 Mott 10/22/76

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

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 7/7/76
 Reviewer: INITIALS: 36
 NR DOE OCT 18 1976

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Franklin County Courthouse, Southern District

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER AR 22

CITY/TOWN Charleston

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 3rd

STATE Arkansas 05

VICINITY OF

COUNTY code
 Franklin 047

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	EXTERIOR	ENVIRONS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-3
<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 4	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 5	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 6
<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 7	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable - 9
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not intact	<input type="checkbox"/> Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0	

CONDITION -	EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	<input type="checkbox"/> Reconstructed	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexcavated	<input type="checkbox"/> Excavated		

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:

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

Claims

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

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Second Renaissance Revival elements

architect/m.builder: Frank W. Gibbs

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

E. W. Jenkins

NAMES:

personal

(label role
&
appropriate date)

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1923

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 - .9

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

description Brick, 2 1/2 stories over high basement, rectangular, recessed center entrance framed by brick pilasters with cast stone bosses, double-door entrance with large transom and narrow side lights, entrance; paired rectangular windows on 1st and 2nd stories, some 2nd-story windows with metal cornice some semi-circular fanlight; some windows have been bricked up; interior thoroughly renovated. Second Renaissance Revival elements.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

The Franklin County Courthouse is a Architectural landmark in the principal business district of Charleston.