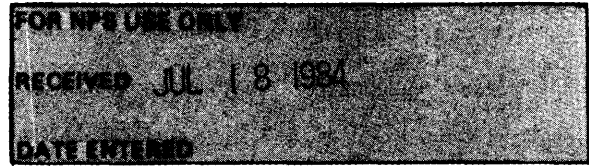


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER Various PAGE 31

✓ McClain County Courthouse

Location: Courthouse Square, Purcell, Oklahoma 40, McClain County 087

Owner: McClain County

Description: Condition: good, unaltered, original site

The McClain County Courthouse is a three-story, approximately square building constructed of red brick. A partial attic story constructed of shaped, reinforced concrete slabs houses the jail. Each side of the building has ornamentation consisting of a central facade of four pairs of fluted pilasters framing three window bays on the second and third floors. These pilasters support a stone cornice and frieze which extends only to the outermost pilasters. The frieze of the front facade is inscribed, "MCCLAIN COUNTY." The entranceways are centered on the ground level on each of the four sides of the building and are slightly recessed and framed with white stone slabs. A series of round, white medallions decorates the building above the windows of the ground floor. Windows are multi-paned. The courthouse has a flat roof.

Significance: 1928; Builder/architect: Cowen Brothers/Hawk and Parr

The McClain County Courthouse is significant because of the important role it has played in local government since its construction was completed in 1928. It also gains architectural significance from its unusual design which utilizes paired, fluted pilasters in centered facades. Such a use of classical architectural elements serves to enhance the otherwise functional appearance of this public building. The courthouse is a landmark and a vital center of activity in McClain County.

Acreage: Approx. 1 acre

Quadrangle: 1:24,000/7.5 minute

Verbal Boundary Description: Lots 5, 6, 7, and 8 of Block III of the original town of Purcell

UTM: 14 649540 3875535