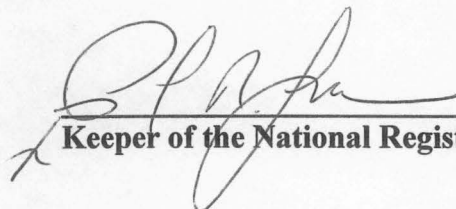




United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

The attached property, Crittenden County Courthouse, in Crittenden County, Arkansas, reference number 77000251, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper of the National Register on 08/03/1977, as evidenced by the FEDERAL REGISTER/WEEKLY LIST notice of Tuesday, February 7, 1978, Vol. 43, No. 26, page 5169. The attached nomination form is a copy of the original documentation provided to the Keeper at the time of listing.


Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

9/12/2006
Date

18-06-W100-33

NR

8-3-77

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

DATE ENTERED 070018

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Crittenden County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

85 Jackson Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Marion

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Arkansas

VICINITY OF

CODE

05

COUNTY

Crittenden

CODE

035

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

Residents of Crittenden County c/o County Judge

STREET & NUMBER

85 Jackson Street

CITY, TOWN

Marion

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Crittenden County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Marion

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

Constructed in 1910-11, the Crittenden County Courthouse at Marion is a two-storey, nine-bay, symmetrical building featuring south (facade) and north elevations that were built to be identical. The present courthouse replaced the 1873 structure, which burned in 1908. The Chamberlain and Company architectural firm of Fort Worth, Texas; designed the Crittenden County Courthouse, and it was built at a total cost of \$99,740.

A two-storey, five-bay portico embellishes both the south and north elevations. Six unfluted Ionic columns span both storeys of the porticos. The frieze of each portico contains the inscription, "Obedience to the law is liberty," in bold black letters. Wide steps with seven risers lead to the porticos. Both these elevations have double glass doors with transom leading into the front and rear halls. Above the south entrance doors has been added a seal of the State of Arkansas. The ceilings of the porticos are pressed tin.

The east and west elevations of the courthouse comprise seven bays. The central three bays project slightly. Each of the protruding three bays is bordered by white stuccoed bands, like the stuccoed bands which mark each corner of the building.

Simple molding and plain modillions enhance the cornice of the flat roof. A large copper-colored dome rests on a raised angular platform in the center of the roof. The base of the cylindrical dome has a band of rectangular windows and air vents near its top. The roof of the dome has an octagonal urn with finial.

Inconsistent replacement of panes has resulted in both one-over-one and two-over-two sash windows in uniform fenestration. The double windows are separated by a wide mullion but share a common lintel and casement. A pair of first-floor windows on the east elevation have been infilled with brick. Originally the uniform placement and style of windows enhanced the symmetry of the structure.

The Crittenden County Courthouse sits on the courthouse square. The square contains many large trees and a well-manicured lawn, and it provides a very picturesque setting for this impressive building.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
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

1910-11

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Chamberlain and Company

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.

The Territorial Legislature established Crittenden County and named it after Robert Crittenden in October 1825. Crittenden was the first Territorial Secretary and the first acting governor of Arkansas Territory. Crittenden County was formed from parts of Phillips County.

Greenock served as the first county seat until 1827, but no courthouse was constructed there. In 1827 Marion became the county seat and a frame courthouse was erected. A cyclone destroyed the first courthouse several years later and in 1873 a two-storey brick courthouse was constructed in Marion. A fire in 1909 razed the 1873 building.

The present Crittenden County Courthouse in Marion was designed by the Chamberlain architectural firm of Fort Worth, Texas, in 1910-11 at a cost of \$99,740.

The Crittenden County Courthouse is a two-storey, 9-bay, brick, Greek Revival building that features identical south (facade) and north elevations. Six Ionic capitals support the porticos, and both of the friezes contain the adage "Obedience to the law is liberty, " in bold black lettering.

Simple molding on the cornice and plain modillions decorate the entablature of the roofline. A large, copper-colored dome rests on a raised, angular platform on top of the flat roof.

The east and west elevations are five-bays wide, each with a three-bay, protruding, central pavilion. Both are identical except that two of the first-storey windows on the east elevation have been infilled with bricks.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

The interior of the courthouse was extensively remodeled in 1945 and 1955. Lowered ceilings, paneled walls, carpeted floors, and a remodeled courtroom are the results. In the front entrance-hall, the original tile floor remains as one of the few interior architectural elements of interest. Although the interior of the courthouse has a modernized appearance, the exterior has not been altered, nor has it received any additions. The Crittenden County Courthouse sits on an attractive tree-shaded lot on the court square of the old City of Marion; it is a handsome local landmark that is both architecturally and historically significant to Crittenden County.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Cornerstone, Crittenden County Courthouse.
County Courthouse Survey. On file at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.
Crittenden County Court Records. J, P.360 and K., pp 12-19, 23.
A Survey of Courthouses in Arkansas. Compiled by the National Society
Colonial Dames of America in the State of Arkansas. Mrs. W. G. McDonald,
Chairperson, Historical Activities Committee. Arkansas Room. Little
Rock Public Library.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 755240 3901400
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION Donna DuVall, Historian DATE December 14, 1976
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
STREET & NUMBER Suite 500, Continental Building TELEPHONE 501-371-2763
CITY OR TOWN Little Rock, STATE Arkansas

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL STATE LOCAL X

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 12-14-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

This Is Arkansas, Arkansas Association of County Judges, Inc.,
(Little Rock: 1976), p. 93.

W.P.A. Place file, Crittenden County. On file at Arkansas History
Commission.

Missing Core Documentation

Property Name

Crittenden County Courthouse

County, State

Crittenden, Arkansas

Reference Number

77000251

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

☒ Nomination Form (original missing, photocopy from SHPO)

☐ Photographs

☐ USGS Map

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

CRITTENDEN COUNTY COURTHOUSE
CRITTENDEN CO. AR

Working No. _____

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

Date Due: _____

Action: _____ ACCEPT 8-3-77

_____ RETURN

_____ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
----------	---------------------------------	----------------------	-------------

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

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

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____

Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Courthouse
Marion
Crittenden Co.

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

FEB 4 1977

DATE ENTERED

AUG 3 1977

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Crittenden County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Marion

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Crittenden

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Bob Dunn

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.

view of south elevation

1

INT: 2983-75



Courthouse
Marion
Crittenden Co.

#2

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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RECEIVED FEB 4 1977

DATE ENTERED AUG 3 1977

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Crittenden County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Marion

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Crittenden

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

View of north elevation

PHOTO NO.

2

INT: 2983-75



Courthouse
Crittenden Co.
Marion

3 Southeast elevation

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 FEB 4 1977

DATE ENTERED AUG 3 1977

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Crittenden County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Marion

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Crittenden

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

View of southeast elevation

PHOTO NO.

3

INT: 2983-75



Courthouse
Marion
Crittenden Co.
#4

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 FEB 4 1977

DATE ENTERED AUG 8 1977

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Crittenden County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Marion

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Crittenden

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Bob Dunn

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.

View of west elevation.

4

INT: 2983-75

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 4 1977
DATE ENTERED	AUG 3 1977

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Crittenden County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Marion

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Crittenden

STATE

Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE United States Geological Survey

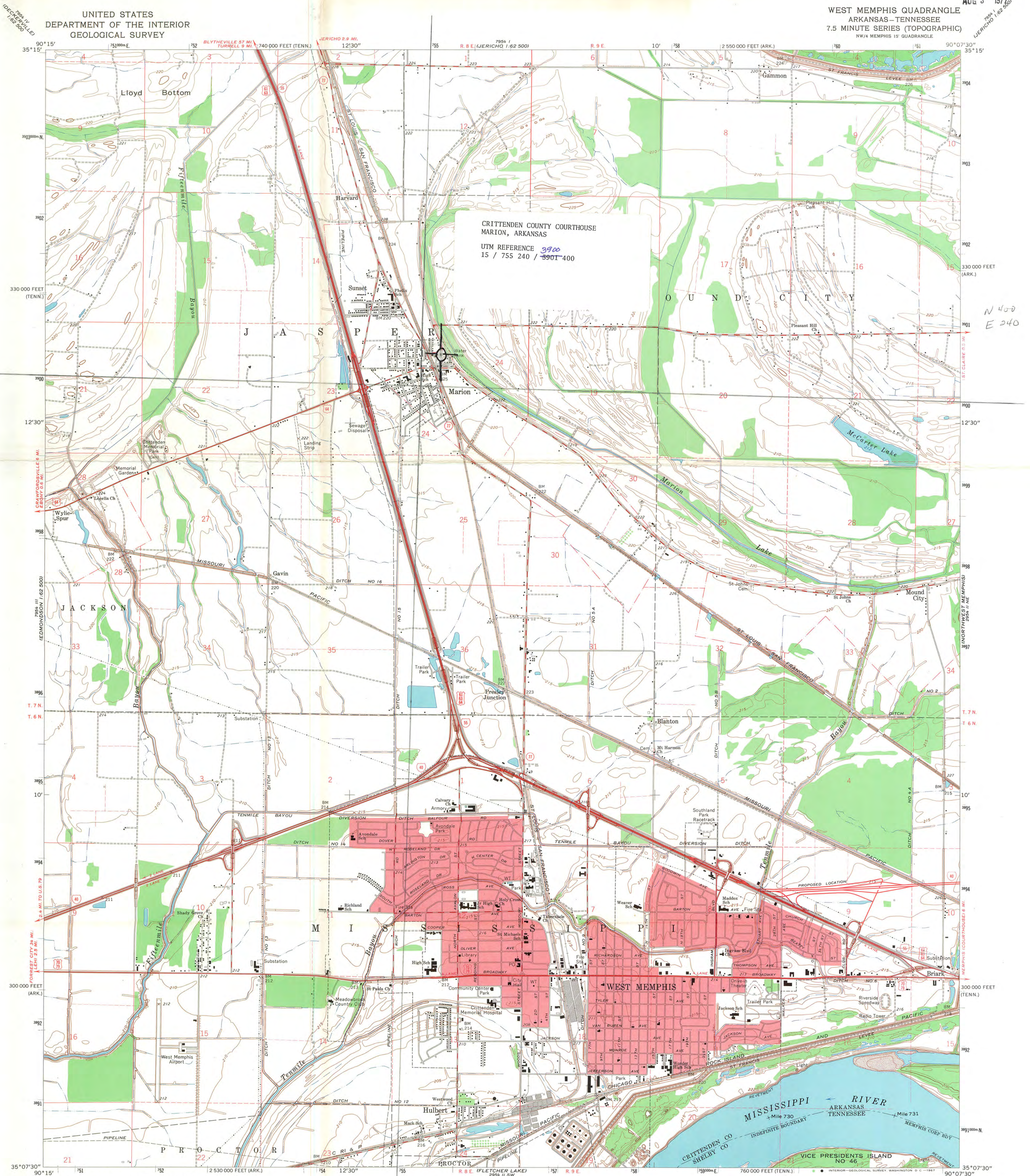
SCALE 1: 24,000

DATE 1966

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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

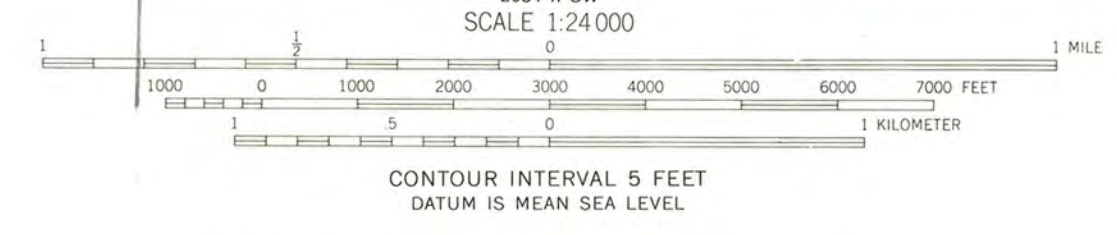


CRITTENDEN COUNTY COURTHOUSE
MARION, ARKANSAS
UTM REFERENCE 3900
15 / 755 240 / 3901 400

N 400
E 240

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1963. Field checked 1966
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Arkansas coordinate system,
north zone, and Tennessee coordinate system
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
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

UTM GRID AND 1966 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLO. 80225 OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242,
TENNESSEE DIVISION OF GEOLOGY, NASHVILLE, TENN. 37219,
ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARK. 72201,
AND MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION, VICKSBURG, MISS. 39181.
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



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

WEST MEMPHIS, ARK.-TENN.
NW/4 MEMPHIS 15' QUADRANGLE
N3507.5-W9007.5/7.5

1966
AMS 2954 II NW-SERIES V884



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Suite 500, Continental Building, Main and Markham
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 Telephone: (501) 371-2763



November 12, 1976

The Honorable Jack Brawley
Crittenden County Judge
Crittenden County Courthouse
Marion, Arkansas

Re: Crittenden County Courthouse
Crittenden County

Dear Judge Brawley:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is preparing a National Register nomination for the Crittenden County Courthouse which will be presented to the Arkansas State Review Committee at their December meeting. If approved, the nomination will be submitted to the National Register office in Washington for final consideration.

The National Register of Historic Places is a listing of historic sites, buildings, objects and districts from all across the country that are worthy of preservation.

Entry in the National Register is an honor which places no obligation on a private owner. It does, however, provide protection through comment by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation from federally financed, assisted or licensed projects that might affect a National Register property.

If you have any questions concerning the program or your property's nomination, please contact Donna DuVall of our staff.

Enclosed are two copies of this letter. Please complete the form below, sign and return the original to our office. The copy is for your files. We would appreciate receiving any comments you might have concerning the nomination of this property. If we do not hear from you within 30 days, your approval will be assumed.

Sincerely,

Barbara Woodard

Barbara Woodard, Deputy Director
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

BW:emf

I approve of the above property being nominated
to the National Register of Historic Places.

Yes

No

Comments:

12-11-76
(date)

Jack Brawley
(signature)