

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	DEC 19 1975
DATE ENTERED	MAY 3 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
* * Old Wakulla County Courthouse
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Church Street

CITY, TOWN

Crawfordville

___ VICINITY OF

___NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

~~Sixth~~ 02

STATE

Florida

CODE

12

COUNTY

Wakulla

CODE

129

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED (storage)	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: storage

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Wakulla County

STREET & NUMBER
P.O. Box 337

CITY, TOWN

Crawfordville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Florida

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Wakulla County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Crawfordville

STATE

Florida

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
N/A

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 1948

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Wakulla County Courthouse is a simple wood frame building, square in plan and topped by a cross or intersecting gable roof of metal sheeting. A large octagonal cupola with pointed roof and louvered enclosure projects from the intersection of the roof gables. The main facade has a five-bay regular fenestration composed of a double door entry with transom flanked by two windows on either side. The second story repeats this fenestration with the main entry replaced by a single window. The flanking windows on the first story have been altered to contain a third window between the two. The first story windows are two over two double-hung sash and the second story windows are larger and composed of four over four double-hung sash. Each opening in the facade is capped by an elaborately molded drip cap. The building contains three similar facades with the fourth side containing an irregular fenestration. Interior brick flues pierce the gable ends on the east and the west. The gable ends have molded bargeboards and cornice returns of identical pattern with a single four over four double-hung sash.

The exterior fenestration reflects the interior plan of the structure. The first floor is divided in half by a central hall which runs east and west. On the north side are three rooms and on the south are three rooms and the stair. The stair ascends to the second story which is a single open hall. The interior is finished in beaded ceiling boards and simple trim.

The original contract for the building was very explicit about what was to be included in the construction:

The house to be built 40 feet square, with five rooms below, a hall eight feet wide, with three rooms on one side and two on the other side with a half hall eight feet wide between them - an open room overhead and forty feet square, well ventilated, two chimneys of good brick with two fireplaces to each chimney - a sufficient number of pillars of good brick - 12 feet between joints of first story, ten feet between joints of upper story. Twenty eight windows, twelve of them below and sixteen above. Windows to be 3 feet by 6 feet 4 lights to the window. Three double doors below with transoms over them. Good doors to each room . . . the entrance stairs in upper room to be nicely walled in with good door - 3 good columns of pillars through center of upper room - for support to roof to be covered with best pine or Cypress shingles - the whole edifice to be constructed of best heart pine with what is commonly called a hip roof. Every room to be ceiled with good ceiling boards both

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walls and overhead ceiling boards to be four inches wide
(County Commission Minutes, December 19, 1892).

The original intent of the County Commission seems to have been changed between the plan and the actual construction of the building. In the first place the building is not covered with a hip roof but with an intersecting gable roof. The plan does not mention the cupola. The second story hall never contained columns in the center for roof support. There were four chimneys and not two as specified.

The building remains nearly intact with the exception that a toilet and lavatory were added to the interior. As stated above the windows on the main facade were altered by the addition of a third window on either side of the entrance to form triple window units. The entrance on the west facade was enclosed with double two over two double hung sash. A mullet weathervane was originally on top of the cupola. It has since been removed. Two windows on the east facade were removed and the openings were closed. The major change in the status of the building is that it was moved from the center of Crawfordville to a site not more than 500 feet to the southwest.

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1892-93 BUILDER/ARCHITECT G. W. Tully & Thomas McGlynn

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Wakulla County Courthouse is a rare example of the very functional and simple public buildings constructed in Florida during the latter part of the nineteenth century. Of three existing wooden courthouses in the state, this one is the least altered. Many counties did not have the finances or the need for large, elaborate buildings and structures such as the Wakulla County Courthouse served the needs of the county residents. In fact it functioned as a courthouse longer than most others in the state.

The County Commission voted in 1892 to construct a wooden courthouse according to their specifications (County Commission Minutes, December 19, 1892). In 1893, G. W. Tully was asked to submit plans and specifications for the construction. His plans were accepted by the commission on August 7, 1893, and the contract awarded to the lowest bidders, G. W. Tully and Thomas McGlynn (County Commission Minutes, August 7, 1893). The building was completed in August, 1894, at a total cost of \$3,739.44 (County Commission Minutes, August 6, 1894). J. E. Pigot was awarded the contract for the seats which cost \$69.50 (County Commission Minutes, June 4, 1894).

Local tradition suggests that the mid-point of the central hall on the first floor served as the bench mark for all surveys in the town of Crawfordville. The point is indicated by mitered boards which converge on the central point. Additional credence is added to this tradition by the fact that the contractor, G. W. Tully, was a surveyor. However, there is no documentary evidence to support the tradition.

The building was moved in 1948 to a site approximately 500 feet southwest of its original location. The integrity of the structure has not been radically altered as a result of the move. The visual importance of the structure as a representative of late nineteenth century vernacular architecture was not reduced by the move. The building was located in a central location in Crawfordville serving as a focal point for the county both governmentally and socially. The fact that the building was moved a relatively short distance and remains in close contact with the present courthouse means that its pivotal character, while admittedly reduced to some extent, has been maintained as much as could be expected.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Morrison, Harry. Personal Interview (by Ella Jean Wehunt), June 26, 1975. Tallahassee, Florida.

Plat of Crawfordville. Clerk of the Circuit Court, Wakulla County Courthouse, Crawfordville, Florida. Plat Book I.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

16	752	6	50
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	

B

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	

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

see continuation sheet

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Robert Williams

Robert Williams

TITLE

Florida State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

12/10/75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Acting *[Signature]*

DATE

6/3/80

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles [Signature]

DATE

5-3-76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Roberts, B. K. Telephone Interview (by Ella Jean Wehunt), July 9, 1975, with Justice Roberts in Tallahassee, Florida.

Smith, Elizabeth F. Several telephone interviews (by Ella Jean Wehunt) and a letter undated, but written in either April or May of 1975. Mrs. Smith is the publisher of the Magnolia Monthly. Crawfordville, Florida.

Tully, G. W. Personal Interview (by Ella Jean Wehunt), July 24, 1975. Crawfordville, Florida.

Wakulla County. Board of Commissioners. Minute Book. Clerk of the Circuit Court, Wakulla County Courthouse, Crawfordville, Florida. Book I, pp. 30, 50, 53, 58, 62, 71, 75, 77, 81, 108, 110, 116, 121.

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Form Prepared By:

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- 2) Phillip A. Weindli, Historic Sites Specialist
Division of Archives, History and Records Mgmt.
Dept. of State, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida
September, 1975
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