city, town

Little Rock

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

received MAR | 9 | 1984 date entered

state Arkansas

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depository for survey	y records Arka	nsas H	istoric Preserva	ation Program	

7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY

The Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company stands on the south side of Military Road near the center of Marion, Arkansas. Built in 1919, the building has served as headquarters for five different financial institutions during the six decades of its history, and today remains one of Marion's most prominent landmarks. It is also significant architecturally as the finest local example of the Neo-Classical Revival style and for its eloquent use of fine materials.

ELABORATION

The front (north) facade of the Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company possesses the bilaterial symmetry and monumentality characteristic of the Neo-Classical Revival. Clad in white-painted limestone, the facade is flanked by two fluted Doric columns and matching pilasters which support a portico spanning the width of the facade. The heavy architrave which originally bore the legend "Crittenden County Bank & Trust Co." is surmounted by an ornamental balustrade. The facade of the portico is faced with rusticated limestone and contains two large openings. On the right, at the top of a flight of limestone steps, is the main entrance with a single wooden door, glazed with one large light, and flanked by side lights. Two fixed transoms with side lights are found above. The left-handed opening is similiarly treated, except that a three-foot limestone panel forms the sill of the central casement windows.

The east and west facades are, by contrast, quite plain. Clad in red brick, the use of stone is limited to the sills of the high windows which line the main banking room and the smaller windows to the rear. The rear facade is similar in design to the east and west facades except for a masonry chimney flue and a small wood-frame shed which protects a staircase to the basement.

The interior consists of the main banking room, a rear office, restroom, partial basement, and an unfinished room on the second floor. The main banking room is entered directly from the front door and occupies the entire front two-thirds of the building. Divided into a banking lobby and a tellers' area by the original marble tellers' row, the main banking room is characterized by fine materials and dignified Classical detailing. The lobby section features pink marble flooring with a black marble border and base. White marble wainscotting extends to the sills of the high double-hung windows with transoms which extend along both the east and west walls. White plaster walls with restrained Corinthian pilasters extend to the high plaster ceiling, with its exposed plaster-encased beams. Around the ceiling runs a plaster cornice with egg and dart moulding. The three original ceiling chandeliers have been replaced with flourescent light fixtures.

The white marble tellers' row features the original bronze cages and plaques identifying each window's function. Black marble inserts are set flush with the wood surface of the tellers' counter tops. At the north end, the tellers' row gives way to a low marble rail and translucent glass partition which originally defined the President's and Vice-President's offices. The flooring in this area is linoleum, with a wood base. A

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gas space heater is suspended from the ceiling, apparently replacing the original radiators which have been removed. To the rear of the building are two vaults, the restroom and a private office. Stairs afford access to the basement, containing the original boiler, and to an unfinished room on the second floor.

8. Significance

Specific dates	Largos afortemano	invention Builder/Architect		other (specify)
X 1800-1899	X commerce communications	exploration/settlements	nt philosophy politics/government	theater transportation
1700-1799	art	engineering	music	humanitarian
1600-1699	X architecture	education	military	social/
1500-1599	agriculture	economics	literature	sculpture
1400-1499		conservation	law	science
Period prehistoric	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric	community planning	landscape architecture	religion

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY

The Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company, representing the finest local example of the Neo-Classical Revival style, has for over sixty years been a prominent landmark in Marion, Arkansas. Constructed in 1919, it was originally the home of the county's oldest bank. It is architecturally significant because of its elegant detailing and use of fine materials:

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Over the years the building has served as the headquarters for some five different banking institutions. In 1919 the Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company, founded c. 1905 and the oldest bank in the county, moved into its new building located on Military Road in the center of Marion. Under the direction of President Louis Barton, the bank had branches in Crawfordsville and Earle and advertised total deposits in excess of \$1 million. By 1924 the bank had failed, however, and was acquired by the new Crittenden County Bank. This institution was short-lived though; in 1926 it was declared insolvent and the building was sold to the Bank of Crittenden County. In 1929 it also went under. The building was then sold to the Bank of Marion, which maintained headquarters there until 1938 when it too failed. The new Citizens Bank acquired the building in 1940 where they were to remain until the construction of their present headquarters in 1956. Since that time the building has been occupied by a variety of office and commercial tenants, although it is presently vacant.

The building's architecture is characterized by the symmetrical front facade and Doric detailing which are typical of the Neo-Classical Revival style. Inside, the main banking room is elegantly understated in its use of marble floors, wainscotting and tellers' cages, all of which are washed by natural light from the tall side windows. The total ambience is that of serenity and quiet strength. While modest in size, the building's scale achieved a certain monumentality which seems in keeping with its long history as headquarters for the town's principal financial institutions.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10.	Geographic	al Data	o getite origina		
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	per of the National Register				
Attes	st: f of Registration			date	

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National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Continuation sheet

Item number

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Page

1

- Crittenden County Chancery Court, "In the Matter of the Crittenden County Bank", no. 3316, February 5, 1926.
- Crittenden County Courthouse, Bank Commissioner's Deed, Charles McGee to Crittenden County Bank, April 3, 1924.
- Crittenden County Courthouse, Commissioner's Deed, Grover S. Jernigan to Citizens Bank, October 21, 1940.
- Crittenden County Courthouse, Quitclaim Deed, Mrs. Elizabeth Beck Lawrie and Donald J. Lawrie to Bank of Marion, November 26, 1929.
- Crittenden County Courthouse, Warranty Deed, Mary Smith Barton to Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company, March 25, 1919.
- Fogelman, Mrs. J. F., Interview with James F. Williamson, Marion, Arkansas, June 19, 1980.
- Hoskins, Mrs. Mary L., Interview with James F. Williamson, Marion, Arkansas, June 23, 1980.
- Weeks, A. A., "Historical Record and Survey of Crittenden County, Arkansas, Earle, Arkansas, 1919.
- Weedman, Mrs. George, Interview with James F. Williamson, Marion, Arkansas, June 19, 1980.

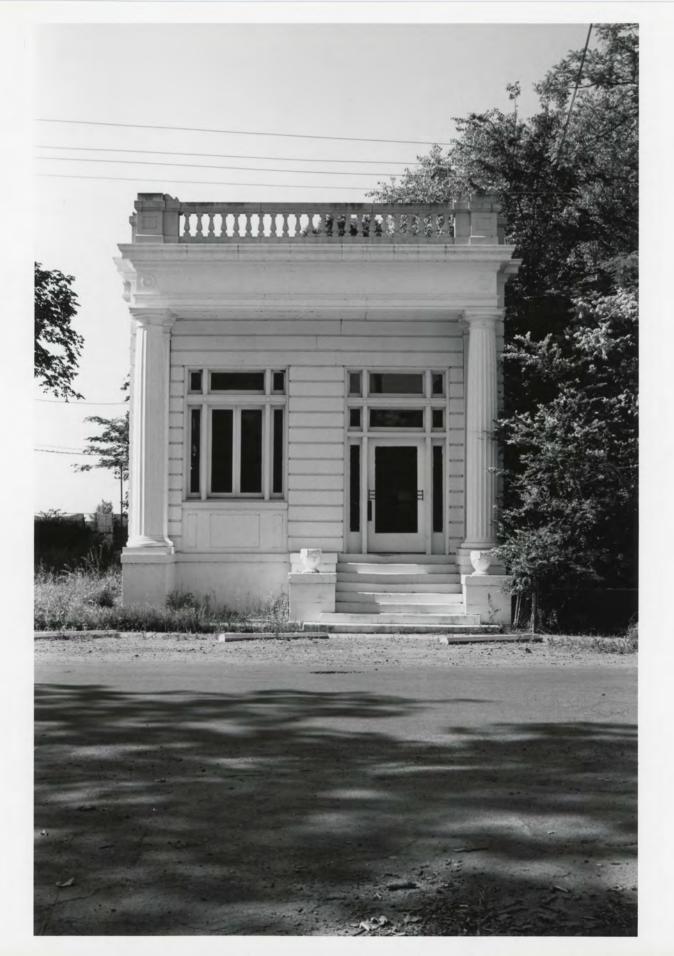
WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Crittenden County Bar	nk and Trust Company			
Crittenden County			19	
ARKANSAS			Working No. MAR 198	4
			Fed. Reg. Date: 2 5.8-5. Date Due: 4/19/84-5	13/84
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owner objection appeal			Federal Agency:	and and determined
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1. Name				MIM Remedia
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6. Representation in Existin	g Surveys			
Has this property been deter		□ no		
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fair	unexposed			
Describe the present and ori	ginal (if known) physical appear	rance		
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summary paragraph completeness				
clarity				
alterations/integrity	Phone;			
dates				
boundary selection				

8. Significance	78 217 A T 2 A 17 A 1	12(0)		
Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below				
Specific dates Builder/Architect Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)				
summary paragraph completeness clarity applicable criteria		d Trust Company		Crittende Ontbende ARICANS
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9. Major Bibliographical References				
10. Geographical Data				
Acreage of nominated property Quadrangle name				
UTM References				
Verbal boundary description and justification				2 Location
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11. Form Prepared By				
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification The evaluated significance of this property within the state is			varagar9 ti	t. Owner,
national state local				
State Historic Preservation Officer signature	on C)			
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☐ Maps ☐ Photographs ☐ Other				
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to	507,63	is known physical appear	feniolio bae in se rega	the extended the
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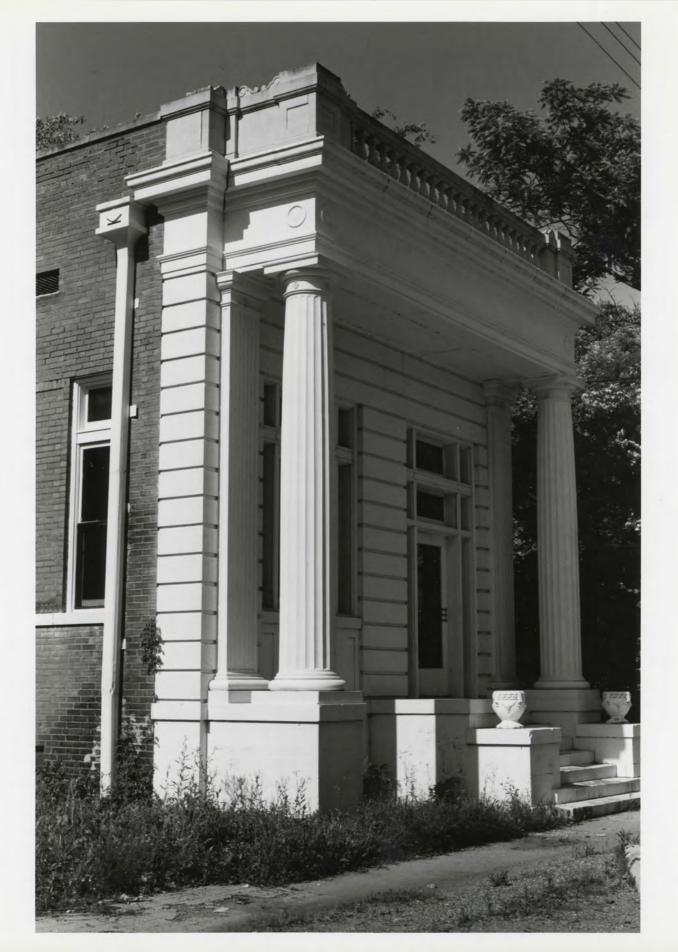


CRITTENDEN COUNTY BANK & TRUST CO. BLDG. MARION, ARKANSAS Crittenden County Photographer: James F. Williamson, Jr. 2004 Lincoln American Tower

Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Date of Photograph: June, 1980

Description of view: North (front) facade from Military Road



CRITTENDEN COUNTY BANK & TRUST CO. BLDG. MARION, ARKANSAS CRITTENDEN COUNTY

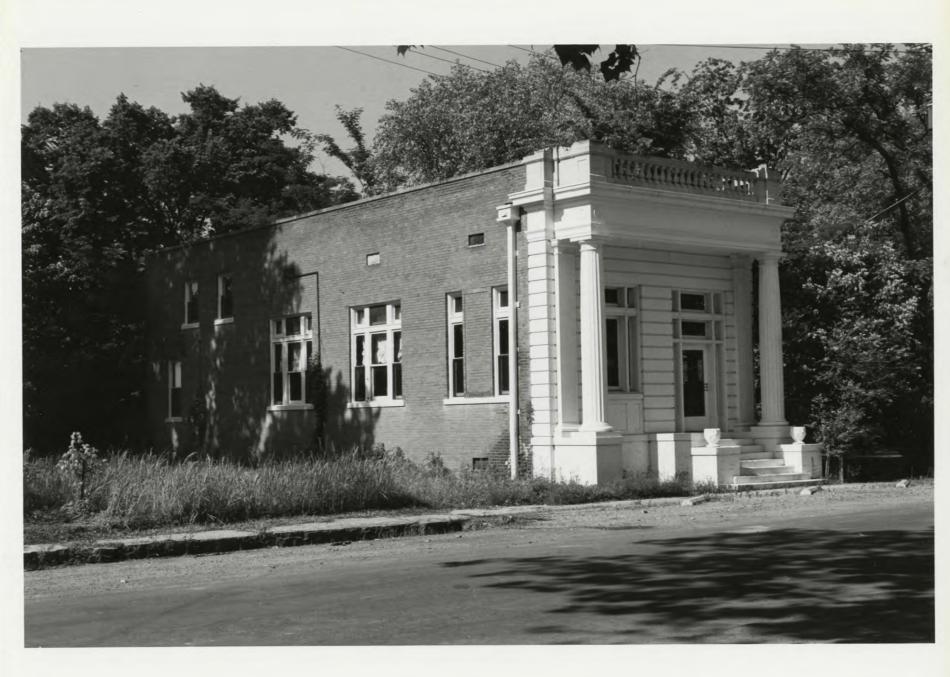
Photographer: James F. Williamson, Jr.

2004 Lincoln American Tower

Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Date of Photograph: June, 1980
Description of View: Detail of northeast

corner



CRITTENDEN COUNTY BANK & TRUST CO. BLDG. Crittenden County Marion, Arkansas Photographer: James F. Williamson, Jr. 2004 Lincoln American Tower Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Date of Photograph: June, 1980
Description of View: North and East facades,

viewed from Military Rd.

ARRANSAS HISTURIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM 500 CONTINENTAL BUILDING MAIN & MARKHAM TITLE ROCK, AR 72201



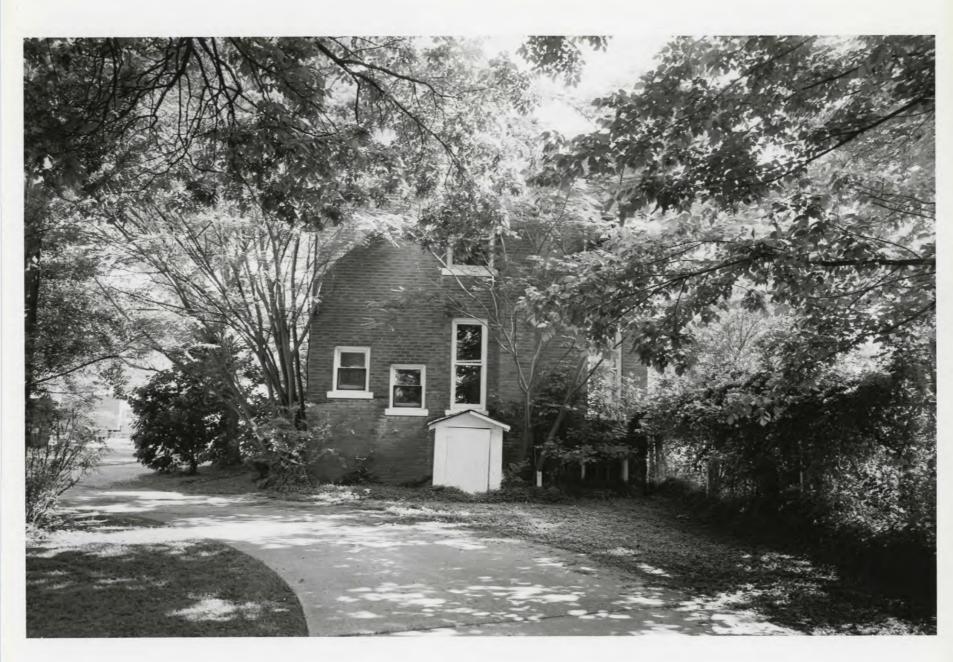
#4

CRITTENDEN COUNTY BANK & TRUST CO. BLDG. MARION, ARKANSAS CRITTENDEN CO. Photographer: James F. Williamson, Jr.

2004 Lincoln American Tower Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Date of Photograph: June, 1980

Description of View: North and West facades, viewed from Military Rd.



CRITTENDEN COUNTY BANK & TRUST COMPANY BLDG. MARION, ARKANSAS Crittenden County Photographer: James F. Williamson, Jr. 2004 Lincoln American Tower Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Date of Photograph: June, 1980
Description of View: South (rear) facade



CRITTENDEN COUNTY BANK & TRUST COMPANY BLDG. MARION, ARKANSAS Crittenden County #6
Photographer: James F. Williamson, Jr.
2004 Lincoln American Tower

Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Date of Photograph: June, 1980

Description of View: Interior of Main Banking

Room, view looking south

from main entrance.

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGE 500 CONTINENTAL BUILDING MARKHAM TITLE ROCK, AR 72201



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

March 14, 1984

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 "L" Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Re: Crittenden County Bank & Trust Co.

Military Road Marion, AR

Crittenden County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination for the Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Wilson Stiles

State Historic Preservation Officer

WS/AJ/ss

Enclosure/s

