



ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY FORM

Name of Structure: Gilmer County Courthouse

Location: Courthouse Square, Ellijay, Ga. 30540

Cost: Unknown Date of Construction: 1898

Architect/builder: Unknown Contractor: Unknown

Subsequent architects: 1934 - became the courthouse

Acreage : 2 acres  
TAX MAP/PARCEL NUMBERS  
E2 - 51

DESCRIPTION:

Style: Neo-Classical

Facade Material: Brick/Stone foundation

Condition:  Excellent  Good  Fair

*see appendix for corrected boundary*

UTM NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone 16/E730530/N3841910

Boundary: The entire city block upon which the courthouse sits on the NE corner. Two buildings share the block, both of which are non-historic. The nearest to the courthouse is health dept. and the other is a jail.

This is a two story Corinthian tetrastyle building. The columns are fluted, the entablature is plain and the pediment features an oculus in the center. A balcony is over the segmentally arched entrance and is framed by engaged Corinthian columns. Windows are segmentally arched on both floors. The cornice is composed of five rows of raised brick set at an angle. The building is constructed close to the street, so steps go up each end of the porch rather than the traditional flight up the front.

Because it was built for a hotel, the foyer still resembles a hotel lobby complete with fireplace. A wide wooden staircase leads to the second floor. The courtroom is on the first floor, which is most unusual in Georgia. It was once the old hotel dining room. Small panes of stained glass - green, violet, red, blue, and yellow edge each top window pane. Behind the judge's bench is a framed copy of the Ten Commandments and a framed picture of George Washington. The walls are plaster with dark brown wainscoting.

THEMATIC NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION - GEORGIA COURTHOUSES

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY FORM GILMER COUNTY COURTHOUSE



SIGNIFICANCE:

This is an adapted structure. It was the Old Hyatt Hotel that opened on June 23, 1898, modified in 1934 into the courthouse. It is the only adaptive structure in use as a courthouse in Georgia.

Its site on the town square has insured its economic importance, for businesses prospered because of their proximity to this building.



GILMER COUNTY COURTHOUSE

MAILING ADDRESS:

Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners  
Gilmer County Courthouse  
Courthouse Square  
Ellijay, Georgia 30540



COURTROOM

SEP 18 1980