

PH0010189

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: ALABAMA	
COUNTY: GREENE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.3.01.0001	DATE 3/24/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Greene County Courthouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse Square

CITY OR TOWN:
Eutaw

STATE: Alabama CODE: 01 COUNTY: Greene CODE: 063

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade/Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

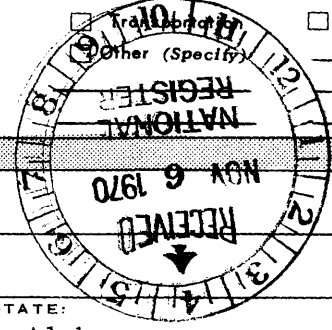
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Greene County Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
Eutaw

STATE: Alabama CODE: 01



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Greene County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse Square

CITY OR TOWN:
Eutaw

STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1935 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: D. C. CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:

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ENTRY NUMBER: 71.3.01.0001

DATE: 3/24/71

NOV 1 1970

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

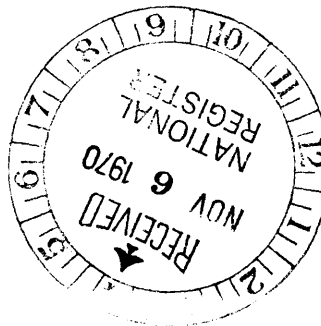
The Greene County Courthouse, a two-story brick and stucco structure, is situated in the middle of a central square and surrounded on three sides by three public buildings, two of which are also historic. The Probate Office was erected in 1856, and the Grand Jury Building in 1842. The County Library was not added until 1931.

The present building was constructed after the first county courthouse burned in 1868. Erected on the old foundations, the exact elevation and plan of the former courthouse were used with one exception--the new courthouse was constructed with bricks, not wood, and stuccoed on the outside.

This late (post bellum) Greek Revival building has a low-pitched hipped roof. The stark white walls are given interest by pilasters on the second floor. Brackets are affixed to the flat architrave above each shaft, supporting the deep cornice. Balconies of iron are situated above the four entrances to the building--one to each point of the compass. The courtroom, along with the judge's chambers, occupies the entire second story, and may be reached by an outside iron stairway leading to the east balcony.

This solidly-built structure, featuring eighteen-inch-thick walls and double-swung green shutters, is currently in good condition.

The Probate Office and Grand Jury Building, both two-story structures, are constructed of brick and stucco. Both buildings reflect the style of the courthouse.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1869

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

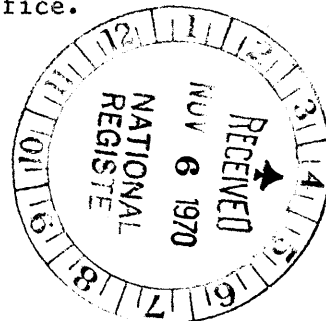
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Greene County Courthouse, erected in 1869, was "perhaps the last Greek Revival public building (constructed) in Alabama," according to Architect Clay Lancaster.

This structure is important primarily because it demonstrates the waning vitality of Greek Revival architecture in Alabama after 1865. In this last structure the Greek Revival has lost its strength: pilasters and cornices remain as the only distinguishing features of the style, and even the pilasters are reduced to little more than ineffectual frames around the upper windows; the cornice has become a thin horizontal projection at odds with the compactness of the building.

The present brick and stucco structure was built on the same foundation, following almost the same plan, as the earlier frame building which was burned shortly after the Civil War. There was little doubt that the fire was a deliberate act of arson perpetrated to destroy indictments brought against local citizens by the Reconstruction Government.

The frame building had been constructed in 1838 on land conveyed to the county by Asa White, a prosperous settler, after the county seat was moved from Erie to Eutaw. A central square was laid out for the courthouse, and lots around the square were sold to finance the building, a well-proportioned, two-story frame edifice.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lancaster, Clay. "Greek Revival Architecture in Alabama." Alabama Architect, January-February, 1968.
 Moseley, Franklin S., ed. Snedecor's 1855-56 Directory of Greene County Alabama. Eutaw, 1963 (reprint).
 Pickett, A. J. History of Alabama, 1851. Republished by Birmingham Book and Magazine Company. Birmingham, 1862.

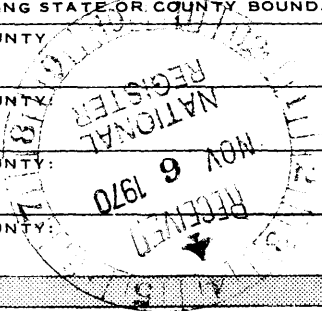
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"		32°	50'	28"
NE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"		87°	53'	13"
SE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				
SW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 square acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION: Alabama Historical Commission DATE: 10/21/70

STREET AND NUMBER:
305 South Lawrence Street

CITY OR TOWN: Montgomery STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Neil B. Howard, Jr.

Title State Liaison Officer

Date Nov. 3, 1970

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

MAR 24 1971

Date _____

ATTEST:

William J. Kurstjahn
 Keeper of The National Register

Date **FEB 12 1971**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS