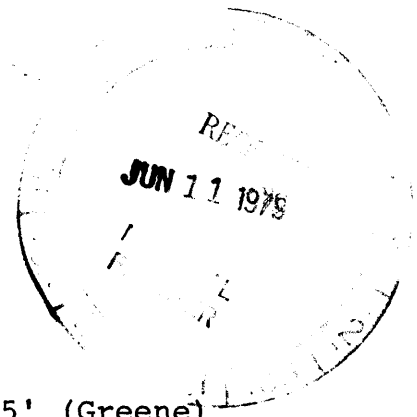


8. TIMES BUILDING/COURTHOUSE ANNEX
228 East Holmes Avenue

Madison County
James Record, Chairman
Madison County Commission
Madison County Courthouse
Huntsville, Alabama 35801



Lot 1, Block 6, Old Town; 150' (Holmes) X 75' (Greene)
16 537970 3843310

1926-28: R. H. Hunt and Company, Chattanooga, architects
Earl Cline, Birmingham, contractor
A. F. Hill, Huntsville, superintendent
Hutchens Company, Huntsville, mechanical contractor

DESCRIPTION

The Times building is a detached, brick and terra cotta structure located on a corner lot. It is composed of two parts, a terra cotta clad two-story base and a ten-story tower of beige brick and matching mortar that rises above one corner. There are identical, two-story, arched entrances flanked by stylized eagles facing each street at the base of the tower. The piers of the shaft extend unbroken from the base past the cornice and are decorated at the top with a column of chevrons. The massive corner piers are slightly projected and overlap the shaft, ending short of the cornice. The spandrels of cream colored terra cotta are recessed and decorated with raised geometric patterns. Larger panels of an expanded spandrel design terminate the top of each window bay. The spandrels of the base separate each bay into bands of four double hung windows above three large panes of plate glass and are decorated with swags and medallions embossed with "HDT" for the Huntsville Daily Times.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Times building was the second skyscraper of three erected in Huntsville during the building boom that began at the turn of the century and lasted until the Depression. It was designed by the Chattanooga architectural firm of R. H. Hunt and Company which also did the Terry Hutchens building and the Jewish Synagogue. It is a beautifully subtle design with its unbroken piers terminating in an elegant Art Deco inspired terra cotta cornice. The building is now owned by Madison county and houses both county and private offices.

SEP 22 1978