

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

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OCT 11 1994

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by entering the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Jones County Courthouse and Confederate Monument at Ellisville

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Block bounded by Court, Holly, Calhoun and Ivy ☒ Not for publication  
Streets

city or town Ellisville ☒ Vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Jones code 67 zip code 39437

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination  
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of  
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  
☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. P. Paul  
Signature of certifying official/Title

October 6, 1994  
Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the  
National Register  
☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.
- ☐ removed from the National  
Register.
- ☐ other. (explain:)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

Entered in the  
National Register

Date of Action

11.10.94

Jones County Courthouse at Ellisville  
Name of Property

Jones County, Mississippi  
County and State

### 5. Classification

#### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private  
☒ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

#### Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

#### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

1 buildings  
sites  
structures  
3 objects  
4 0 Total

#### Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

#### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

### 6. Function or Use

#### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Government/courthouse

Recreation and Culture/monument/marker

#### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Government/courthouse

Recreation and Culture/monument/marker

### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

#### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls brick

roof unknown

other terra cotta

#### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☒ **F** a commemorative property.  
(Confederate Monument)
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey  
# \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering  
Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Social History

Politics/Government

### Period of Significance

1908 - 1944

### Significant Dates

1908

1912

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Architect: Krouse, Penn Jeffries

Builder: Norris and Gardner

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Jones County Courthouse at Ellisville  
Name of Property

Jones County, Mississippi  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.50 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	291745	3498450
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2			

3			
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4			

☐ See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Todd Sanders, Architectural Historian

organization Mississippi Department of Archives and History date June 23, 1994

street & number P.O. Box 571 telephone (601) 359-6940

city or town Jackson state MS zip code 39205

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Jones County Board of Supervisors

street & number P.O. Box 1468 telephone (601) 428 - 3134

city or town Laurel state MS zip code 39440

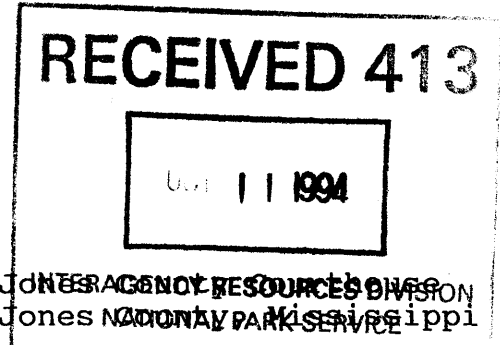
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1



Situated in the center of the block bounded by Court, Holly, Calhoun and Ivy Streets, the two story Classical Revival Jones County Courthouse in Ellisville serves as the judicial seat of the First District of Jones County. The monumental building was designed in 1908 by Penn Jeffries Krouse and constructed by Norris and Gardner. Krouse was also the architect for the courthouse in Laurel. The Laurel courthouse, which serves as the judicial seat of the Second District of Jones County, was designed as a twin to the Ellisville Courthouse.

The Ellisville courthouse is built of beige brick with stone columns and glazed white terra cotta trim. The building is square in shape with a low hipped roof hidden by a parapet. The main (west) facade is dominated by a partially recessed tetrastyle portico of two-story, unfluted Roman Ionic columns. There is a balcony across the width of the portico which retains its original cast iron railing. Located in the tympanum of the pediment is a cartouche, surrounded by lavish terra cotta foliage, containing the date "1908", the year of the building's construction. A single anthemion crowns the peak of the pediment. An elaborate entablature encircles the building. In the frieze above the portico are the words "County Court House." On each side where the portico joins the building are two overlapping brick pilasters with terra cotta capitals decorated with anthemion.

The centrally located main entrance is composed of a half-glass, double-leaf door with transom crowned by a flat arch made of glazed white terra cotta. The keystone of the arch is decorated with acanthus leaves and resembles a console. The entrance is flanked by one-over-one, double-hung wooden-sash windows with the same sort of white terra cotta flat arches as the door. A stone belt course located below the windows serves as a sill for these and the other first floor windows. There is also a single window on each side wall opening onto the portico. Flanking the portico are two windows like those under the portico. The second floor configuration is identical to that of the first floor except that the windows and door (to the second floor balcony) are more elaborately detailed with glazed white terra cotta pediments supported on consoles. Above the second floor windows of the portico are small transom-like windows which light the attic space. Located between the first and second floor windows are decorative sculpted plaques of glazed white terra cotta. Defining the corners of the building are brick pilasters with terra cotta capitals decorated with anthemion.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Jones County Courthouse  
Jones County, Mississippi

The side (southern and northern) elevations are virtually identical, each dominated by a centered distyle-in-antis portico of two-story, unfluted, Roman Ionic columns. The portico is framed by brick pilasters with terra cotta capitals. There are two one-over-one, double-hung windows flanking a double-leaf door on each story of the portico. A balcony with original cast iron balustrade divides each portico at second floor level. The windows on the second floor under the portico have transoms while the door has a double transom. The fenestration outside the portico consists of three one-over-one, double-hung windows to each side of the portico. Each outer window is framed by brick pilasters with terra cotta capitals. The second story windows at each end, framed by the pilasters, are decorated with white glazed terra cotta flat arches rather than the pediments seen on the other second story windows. Located between the first and second floor windows are decorative sculpted plaques of glazed white terra cotta.

The rear (eastern) elevation consists of seven windows on each floor with the outermost windows of each floor being framed by brick pilasters. The three center windows of the second floor are one-over-one, double-hung windows with transoms. The window located to each side of these three windows is crowned with a white glazed terra cotta pediment resting on consoles. The window unit second from the northeastern corner is a one-over-one, double-hung, double window instead of the single one-over-one, double-hung windows seen elsewhere throughout the building. The windows on the first floor and the end windows on the second floor are crowned with white glazed terra cotta flat arches.

The courthouse interior is remarkably well preserved. The first floor of the almost square building is arranged around a T-shaped hallway. The main (west) entrance opens into the stem of the T-shape and is flanked by a run of the double staircase. The arms of the T-shaped corridor lead from the side entrances. The stairs consist of marble treads and risers and have a decorative iron balustrade and square paneled newel posts. The steps rest on an iron I-beam decorated with rosettes. The hallway has its original terrazzo floor, marble wainscoting and baseboards, and a wooden chair rail. Original doors and door surrounds survive throughout most of the interior. The remainder of the first floor is divided into offices. Much of the original office furniture is still in use.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Jones County Courthouse  
Jones County, Mississippi

The second floor contains the courtroom and related spaces as well as additional office space. The courtroom occupies the center of the second floor and is the largest space in the building. The room is roughly fan-shaped and is entered from the stair landing on the western end. The room opens onto balconies on the northern and southern exterior porticos. The eastern end of the room is arranged as a sort of transept and is lit by three large one-over-one, double-hung windows with transoms. This space contains the original judge's bench. The courtroom is remarkably well preserved, retaining not only original architectural features but also original furnishings, audience seating and wall sconces. The only alterations to this space are the addition of a dropped acoustical tile ceiling, vinyl floor tile and jury box enclosure. The original curving balcony wall, with its decorative plaster details in a floral garland design, is still visible below the dropped ceiling.

On the lawn in front of the Courthouse is a Confederate Monument which is considered a contributing element. This monument consists of a marble statue of a Confederate soldier standing at attention atop a low pedestal which has a cannon ball located at each of the four corners. This composition sits atop a square tempietto of four Tuscan columns on a stepped granite base. Located on the base of the monument centered within the columns of the Tempietto is a large granite planter. This monument was dedicated June 3, 1912, by the United Daughters of the Confederacy (Save Outdoor Sculpture survey questionnaire for the Ellisville Confederate Monument).

Also located on the courthouse grounds, to each side of the west portico, are two small concrete drinking fountains which are thought to have been installed in the 1930s, although the date is not confirmed. Artifacts of the era of racial segregation, these fountains recently became objects of controversy for being separately inscribed "white" and "colored". In order to avert the controversy while also preserving the fountains as artifacts, the county has covered up the inscriptions with bronze plaques containing the words "Jones County Courthouse 1908". Although these fountains are very minor elements of the landscaping of the courthouse grounds, they are identified as contributing elements.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Jones County Courthouse  
Jones County, Mississippi

The Jones County Courthouse at Ellisville is significant both for its architecture (Criterion C) and for politics and government (Criterion A), and the Confederate Monument located on the grounds is significant in the area of social history (Criterion A). Built in 1908, the Courthouse is a locally important work of early twentieth century Classical Revival architecture, and is a well-executed and well-maintained example of the Classical Revival county courthouses built in Mississippi between about 1901 and 1920. It is the only notable example of Classical Revival architecture in Ellisville and is the town's principal architectural landmark. In addition to its architectural significance, the courthouse is significant in the area of politics and government for being the seat of justice for the First Judicial District of Jones County from the building's completion in 1908. The period of significance for the Jones County Courthouse at Ellisville extends from 1908, the year the building was completed, to 1944, which is fifty years previous to the preparation of this nomination. The Ellisville Confederate Monument, erected in 1912, is significant for its association with the Confederate Memorial Movement and is a well-executed and well-maintained example of this phenomena that occurred throughout the South in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The Classical Revival style, in several variations, was by far the dominant architectural fashion for public buildings in Mississippi during the first two decades of the twentieth century. Although some important public buildings were built in the Victorian Romanesque style as late as 1902, by the time the New State Capitol was built in 1903, the preference for Classical public buildings had swept the state. Of 35 county courthouses built between 1903 and 1920, 30 were of Classical Revival design, with the remainder displaying a loosely classical eclecticism. About 20 Classical Revival courthouses of this period still stand and retain a relatively high degree of integrity.

The Jones County Courthouse at Ellisville is a locally notable example of the Classical Revival civic architecture of Mississippi during the first decade of the twentieth century and retains a high degree of architectural integrity.

This courthouse was designed by Penn Jeffries Krouse of Meridian, Mississippi. Krouse began his architectural career in Meridian around the turn of the century and practiced until his death in April 1944. He was a prolific architect designing many buildings not only in Meridian and elsewhere in Mississippi but throughout the entire



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Jones County Courthouse  
Jones County, Mississippi

South. He designed many public, commercial, church and school buildings as well as many private residences. Other courthouses in Mississippi for which he is known to have been the architect include the Jones County Courthouse (Second District) at Laurel (circa 1908, NR district 1987), the Kemper County Courthouse at DeKalb (circa 1913), the Clarke County Courthouse at Quitman (1912-1913, NR 1994) and the Lauderdale County Courthouse at Meridian (for which he was responsible both for the original design as built in 1904 and for its extensive remodeling some thirty years later in 1937-39).

The Confederate Monument, located on the lawn in front of the courthouse, has been a prominent part of the civic landscape associated with the courthouse since it was erected in 1912, four years after the construction of the courthouse itself. The monument is locally significant for its association with the Confederate Memorial movement, which was an important social movement throughout the South from the 1870's until the first World War and was a major factor in the development of the dominant regional mythos and sense of regional identity in the South during that period. The most widespread physical manifestations of this movement were the monuments that were erected on courthouse grounds, in public parks, and in cemeteries throughout the Southern states. Some of these monuments were important works of art in their own right, but most are fairly conventional or stock sculptural pieces that are more important for their historical associations than for their artistic merit. The monument at the Jones County Courthouse at Ellisville is one of the more artistic type.

Though widespread, these monuments are not as ubiquitous as is sometimes thought. Many of Mississippi's Confederate monuments, and most of the oldest ones (from about 1870 to 1900) are located in cemeteries. Public monuments to the soldiers of the Confederacy, mostly dating from about 1900 to 1917, stand on the grounds of about 27 out of 92 active county courthouses in Mississippi (some of which were moved there from other locations), and at 3 former courthouses or courthouse sites. About 12 other county seats have Confederate monuments prominently placed in public squares, street medians, intersections, or parks, as do several other communities that are not county seats. Other monuments stand on the grounds of the Old State Capitol in Jackson and the University of Mississippi at Oxford. Only about 43 county seats in Mississippi, less than half of the total, have prominent public Confederate monuments apart from those in cemeteries.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Jones County Courthouse  
Jones County, Mississippi

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**9 - BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Historic Resources Inventory Files. Historic Preservation Division,  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

Mississippi Landmark Files, Historic Preservation Division,  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

Site visit, February 17, 1991, by Todd Sanders, Architectural  
Historian, Mississippi Department of Archives and History,  
Jackson.

Save Outdoor Sculpture Survey Questionnaire for the Ellisville  
Confederate Monument, Ellisville, Mississippi. Form completed  
by Bill Thames, May 29, 1993.

**10 - GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

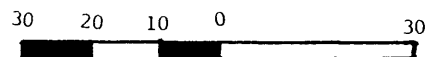
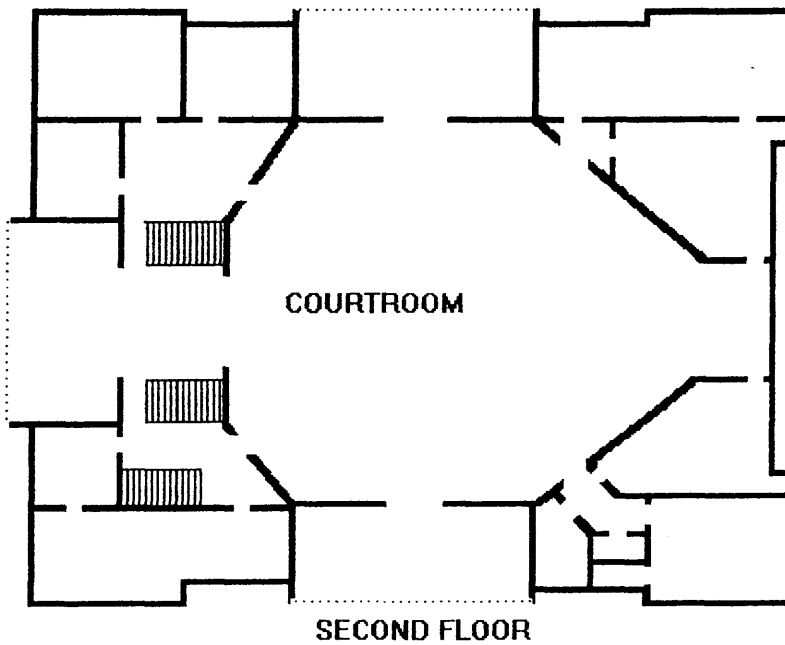
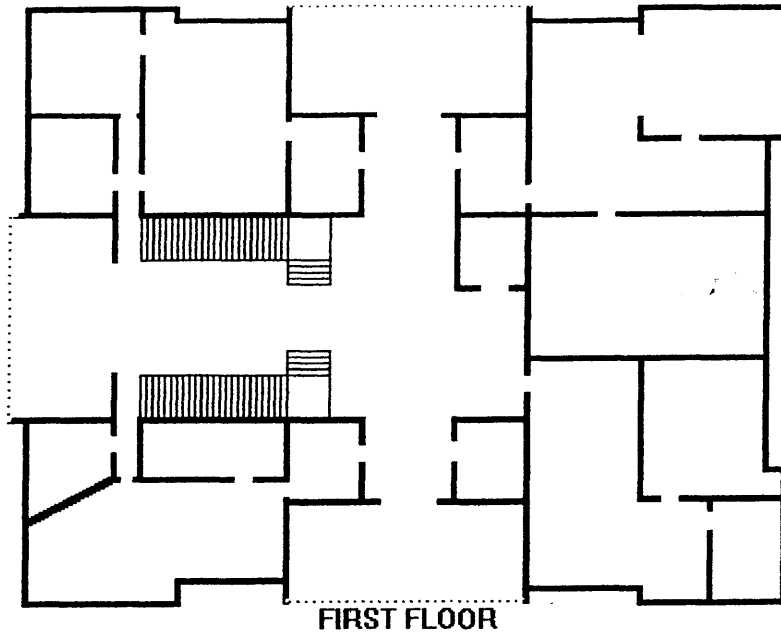
**Verbal Boundary Description**

Jones County Courthouse (First District), all of Block 21 as shown in  
the Follette Survey of the Town of Ellisville, Jones County.

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically  
associated with the Jones County Courthouse which is located at the  
center of a courthouse square that occupies a full block.

JONES COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
ELLISVILLE, JONES COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI





Jones County Courthouse

Ellisville, Jones County, MS

Todd Sanders

February 1994

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Facade, View to Southeast

Photo 1 of 6



Jones County Courthouse  
Ellisville, Jones County, MS

Todd Sanders

February 1994

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Southwest elevation, view to Northeast

Photo 2 of 6







Jones County Courthouse  
Ellisville, Jones County, MS  
Todd Sanders

February, 1994

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Stairhall, view to Northwest

Photo 3 of 6



Jones County Courthouse  
Ellisville, Jones County, MS  
Todd Sanders

February 1994

Mississippi Department of Archives and History  
Courtroom, view to Northwest

Photo 4 of 6



Jones County Courthouse  
Ellisville, Jones County, MS

Todd Sanders

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Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Judges Bench, Courtroom, view to Southeast

Photo 5 of 6



Jones County Courthouse  
Ellisville, Jones County, MS

Todd Sanders

February 1994

Mississippi Department of Archives and History  
Confederate Monument, view to Southwest

Photo 6 of 6