NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

511

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIV.
NATIONAL PARK SERV.

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 marking "x" in 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 Clarke County Courthouse and Confederate Monument

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Archusa Street at head of Main Street N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town Quitman N/A ☐ vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Clarke code 23 zip code 39355

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'Pool April 14, 1994
Signature of certifying official/Title 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:) _____

for Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

Entered in the National Register 5.20.94
Date of Action

Clarke County Courthouse
Name of Property

Clarke 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	2	buildings
		sites
		structures
1	1	objects
2	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Historic Resources in Clarke County, Mississippi

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
Government/courthouse

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
Government/courthouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
foundation brick
walls brick
other:
roof composition shingle
other stone (columns and trim)

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.)

- [X] **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.
- [X] **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.
- [X] **F** a commemorative property.
  (Confederate monument)
- [ ] **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Social History

Period of Significance

1911-1913

Significant Dates

1911, 1912-1913

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect: Krouse, Penn J. of Meridian
Builders: Hancock and McArthur

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Name of repository:

_____

Clarke County Courthouse
Name of Property

Clarke County, Mississippi
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	336890	3545950
2			
3			
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 December 17, 1993

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 Clarke County Board of Supervisors

street & number P. O. Box 616 telephone (601) 776-3567

city or town Quitman state MS zip code 39355

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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7. Description

The three story Neo-Classical Clarke County Courthouse in Quitman was built in 1912-1913. It was designed by P.J. Krause and constructed by Hancock and McArthur. The present Neo-Classical Revival style courthouse was renovated and wings added to the north and south facades in 1969-70. The building is located on Archusa Street at the head of Main Street and faces west toward the small downtown business district and the railroad.

The Clarke County Courthouse is built of red brick with tan brick used to accentuate certain architectural features. The courthouse also has decorative stone and stucco trim. The original building has a three part facade consisting of a dominant projecting central block with recessed hip-roofed wings on either side. The projecting center block is dominated by a recessed five bay colonnade of two-story, unfluted Roman Ionic columns surmounted by a denticulated modillion cornice. This cornice continues on the wings but without the modillions. There is a full width second story balcony that retains its original cast iron railing. The original pressed metal ceiling of the colonnade is also intact. Atop the center block is a tall tan brick parapet decorated with alternating pilasters and rectangular stucco panels. Located in the tan brick frieze is a long rectangular stone band engraved with the words "Clarke County Court House." Between the frieze and the tan brick architrave is a double course band of red brick. Decorating each end wall of the center block just below the entablature, are large cast stone eagles, with outspread wings, perched on cartouches. The fenestration of the first story of the central block is composed of four one-over-one, double-hung-sash double windows arranged symmetrically around a double leaf, half-glass door with a transom. On each of the end walls facing onto the colonnade is a rectangular stuccoed panel where windows were previously located. On the second story are five large rectangular stuccoed panels marking the location of the original courtroom windows which were removed during the renovations of 1969-70. The end walls of the second story are lit by one-over-one, double-hung windows. The third story has five, eight-light fixed sash windows along the facade and a single one-over-one, double-hung window on each end wall. The third story windows are hidden from view from the street by the entablature.

The two end blocks of the original building are three full stories and have a single triple window on each story. These windows are composed of one-over-one double-hung sash. The windows on the

first and second story of the end blocks are given architectural emphasis by being outlined with a frame of tan brick and separated by a rectangular stucco panel. The third story windows are flanked by square panels of stucco outlined with tan brick.

The two flat-roofed, one-story tan brick wings added to the north and south ends of the building in 1969-70 are small in scale and do not detract from the original building.

The interior of the first floor of the building is arranged along a transverse north-south hallway running the length of the building. Opening into this hall is a small entrance hall entered from the main (west) entrance. The corners where the entrance hall meets the transverse hall are chamfered. In these chamfers are entrances to the offices at either side of the entrance hall. The hallways contain their original baseboards and chair rail. Original interior doors with their surrounds and (now inoperable) transoms also remain. The yellow linoleum floors appear to date from the 1969-70 alterations as do the dropped celotex ceilings. At each end of the transverse hall original staircases with metal balustrades and wooden hand rails lead up to the third floor. The windows which originally opened into the stairwells were taken out probably in the alterations of 1969-70 and the openings walled up. The windows were probably the same type as the one-over-one, double-hung sash triple windows seen elsewhere on the building. The remainder of the first floor contains offices which appear to retain most of their original trim but have had new ceilings and floor coverings installed.

The second floor contains the courtroom and related spaces as well as storage rooms which were probably originally used as offices. All of these spaces contain their original trim. The courtroom occupies its original space but has had alterations. Two witness rooms with a vestibule in between were added to the north end of the courtroom in 1969-70. The walls and windows of the courtroom were covered with gray plywood paneling at this time. Apparently the location of the jury box in the center of the room is original, as it appears in other courtroom designs by this same architect. The location of the judge's bench also appears to be original. The furnishings of the room seem to date from the 1969-70 alterations.

The third floor is apparently used only for storage now, but retains its original appearance. The courtroom balcony was converted to house the mechanical system in 1969-70. The original tin ceiling is still visible in this area, however.

Overall, the architectural integrity of the building is quite good with much of the original interior and exterior detailing remaining.

Also located on the nominated property are two county office buildings. A gable roofed, concrete block structure dating from circa 1980 and a hipped roof brick building dating to circa 1925 which was remodeled in 1951 for county offices. These buildings, which are located behind the courthouse, are nonhistoric and noncontributing.

Located on the lawn in front of the Courthouse is a contributing Confederate Monument dedicated on October 24, 1911. This monument consists of a stone statue of a Confederate soldier standing in a "lookout" posture, atop a tall obelisk-like stone pedestal embellished with carvings and inscriptions. Also on the front lawn is a later, noncontributing monument to military veterans of later wars. It consists of an inscribed stone tablet and a flagstaff.

8. Significance

The Clarke County Courthouse, built in 1912-1913, is a locally important work of early twentieth century Neo-Classical Revival architecture, and is a well-executed and well-maintained example of the Neo-Classical Revival county courthouses built in Mississippi between about 1901 and 1930. It is the only notable example of Neo-Classical Revival architecture in the town of Quitman and is the principal architectural landmark of Clarke County. This building is the fourth seat of government for Clarke County citizens. The first courthouse was located in "Old Quitman" about one and one-half miles southeast of the present county seat. In 1864, the building was sacked and burned by General Sherman. The county seat was then moved to Enterprise. In 1880 a new courthouse was constructed in Quitman that housed government offices until 1912.

The Neo-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 Neo-Classical Revival design, with the remainder displaying a loosely classical eclecticism. About 20 Neo-Classical Revival courthouses of this period still stand and retain a relatively good degree of integrity.

The Clarke County Courthouse is a locally notable example of the Neo-Classical Revival civic architecture of Mississippi during the first two decades of the twentieth century and retains a relatively good 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 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 twin Jones County courthouses at Laurel and Ellisville (circa 1909), the Kemper County courthouse at DeKalb (circa 1913), and the Lauderdale County courthouse in 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 1911, shortly before the present courthouse was constructed. The monument is locally significant for its association with the Confederate Memorial movement, which was an important social movement throughout the South from the 1870s 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 Clarke County Courthouse is one of the more conventional 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.

9. Bibliographical References

Confederate Veteran's Magazine. V. 20, 1912, p. 511.

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

Site visit, December 15, 1993, by Todd Sanders, Architectural Historian, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson.

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

Sanborn Insurance Maps of Quitman, Mississippi (1930, 1951), Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Microfilm

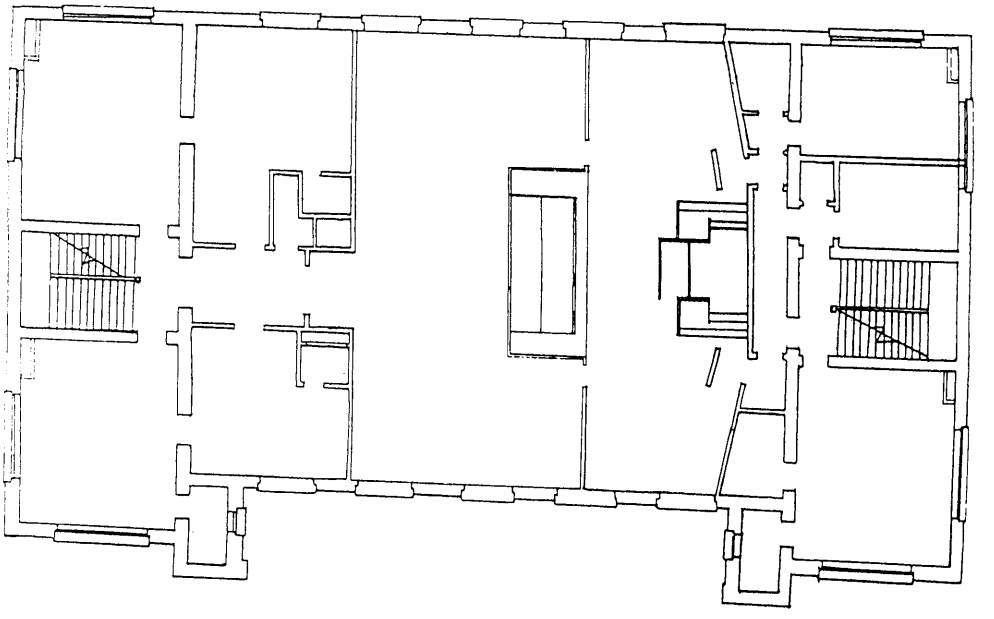
10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

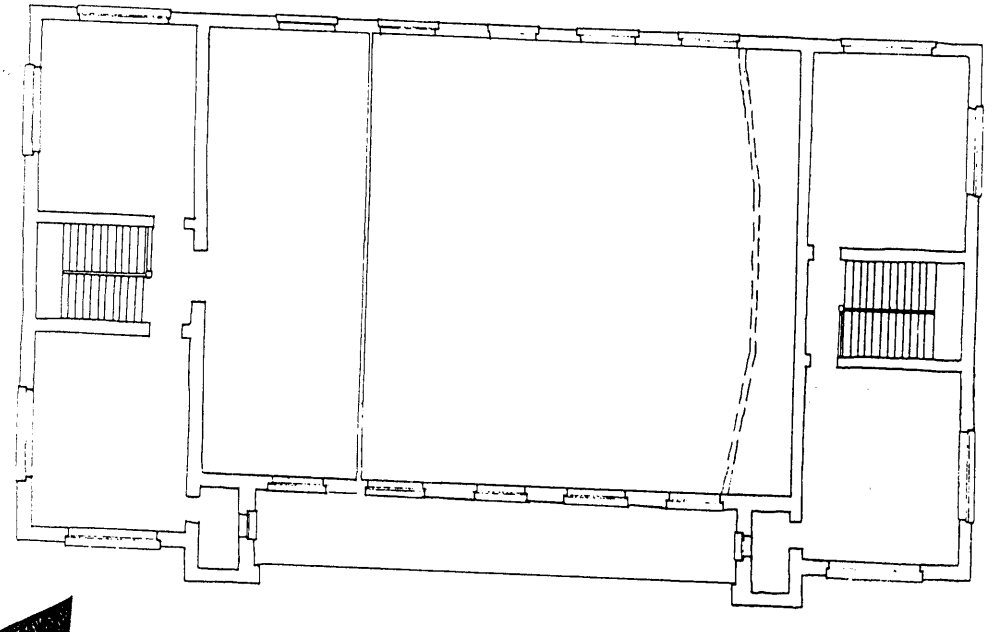
Clarke County Courthouse, Block 19, Parcel 1, as shown on Map 099-020 of the City of Quitman, Clarke County.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Clarke County Courthouse.



SECOND STORY



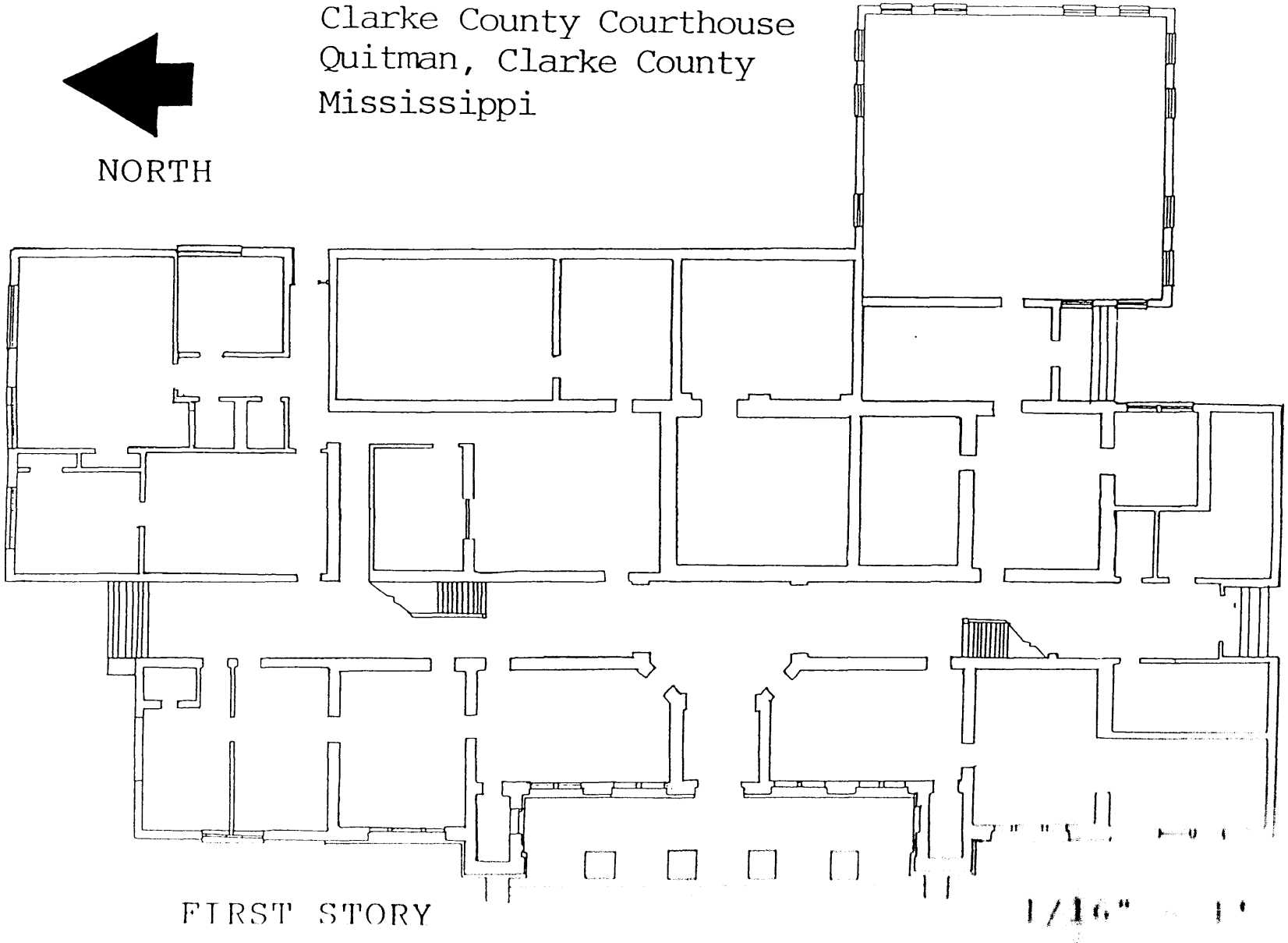
NORTH

THIRD STORY

1/16" = 1'

Clarke County Courthouse
Quitman, Clarke County, Mississippi

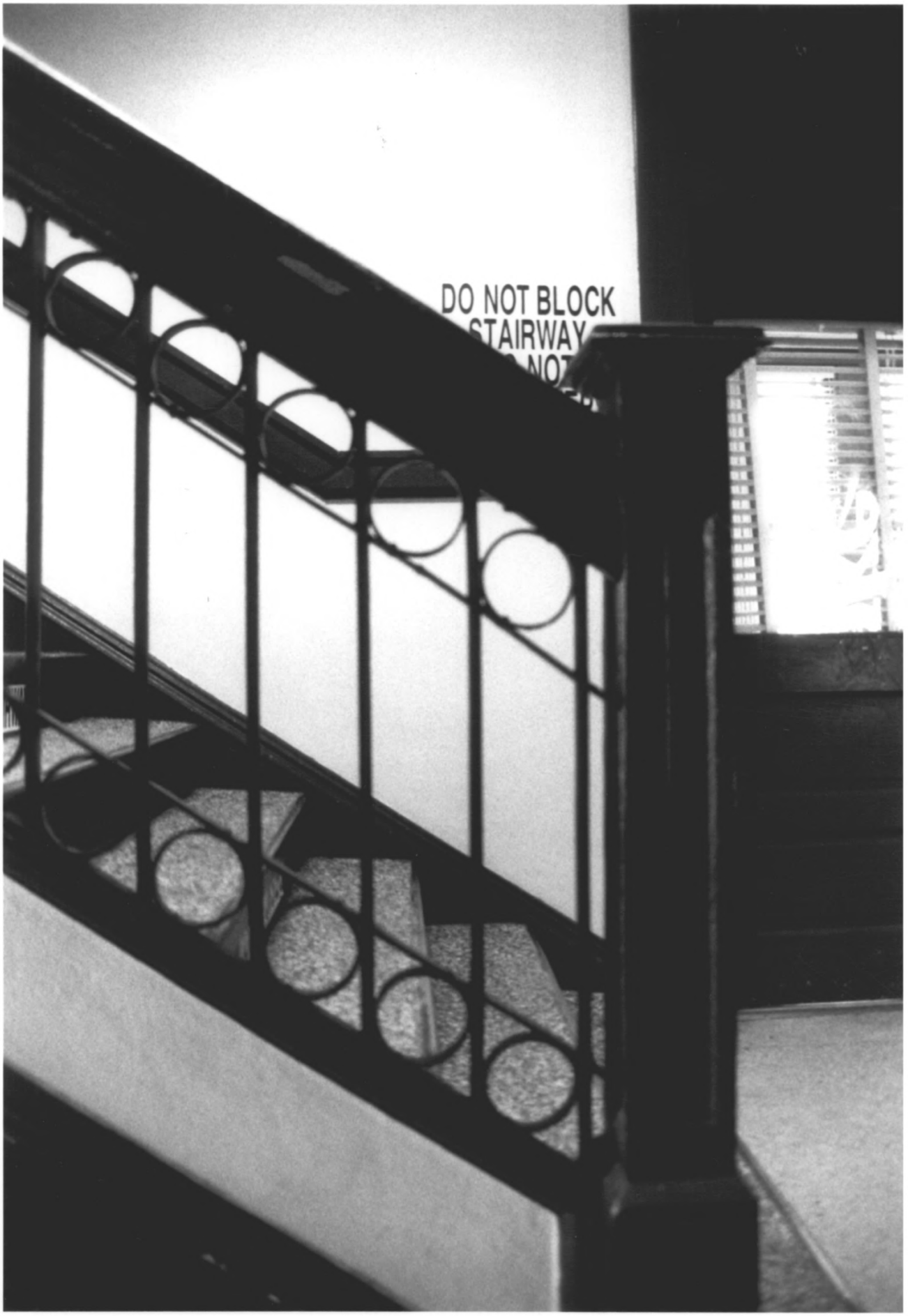
Clarke County Courthouse
Quitman, Clarke County
Mississippi



Clarke County Courthouse
Quitman, Clarke County, MS
Todd Sanders
December 1993
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Facade, view to East
Photo 1 of 3

Support Your
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Clarke County Courthouse
Quitman, Clarke County, MS
Todd Sanders
December 1993
Facade and South elevation, view to Northeast
Photo 2 of 3


DO NOT BLOCK
STAIRWAY

Clarke County Courthouse
Quitman, Clarke County, MS
Todd Sanders
December 1993
South staircase, view to West
Photo 3 of 3