

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

DRAFT

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Johnson County Courthouse
Other names/site number N/A
Name of related multiple property listing Historic County Facilities in Tennessee, ca. 1770-2025
(Remove "N/A" if property is part of a multiple property listing and add name)

2. Location

Street & Number: 222 W. Main Street
City or town: Mountain City State: Tennessee County: Johnson
Not For Publication: ☐ N/A Vicinity: ☐ N/A Zip: 37683

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

☐ national ☐ statewide ☐ local

Applicable National Register Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting Official:

Date

Title:

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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	
2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
3	4	objects
5	4	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/Courthouse

GOVERNMENT/Government Office

GOVERNMENT/Correctional Facility

RECREATION AND CULTURE/Monument/Marker

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/Courthouse

GOVERNMENT/Government Office

RECREATION AND CULTURE/Monument/Marker

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern Movement

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Brick; Concrete; Metal; Rubber

Narrative Description

The Johnson County Courthouse is located on a 0.82 acre lot in the middle of Mountain City, Tennessee. The 1958-1959 two-story Courthouse was built in the modern style and features character-defining features of its massing with a three-section façade of large decorative brick wall, center entrance and windows, and a concrete panelled wall surface with a modern clockface. Important interior features included the original tile floor, painted concrete walls, aluminum windows, and wood details, particularly in the main courtroom. The building had a rear addition constructed in 2006-2007. Also on the property is the contributing 1958-1959 County Jail and three monuments. There are also four non-contributing monuments. The property retains integrity.

Setting and Site Features

The Johnson County Courthouse occupies a 0.82-acre lot in the middle of the small town of Mountain City, Tennessee. The lot is flat with a grassy lawn oriented at the southwest side. A brick sidewalk is along the southwest edge. Two clusters of monuments and a flagpole are nearby. A brick path connects the sidewalk to a small brick area in front (southwest) of the courthouse. Two trees are on the lawn, one of which (the spruce tree) was originally planted when the courthouse was built.

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Immediately surrounding the courthouse is the community's commercial district, which is located along W. Main Street and the perpendicular S. Church Street. Most of the buildings are one and two-part commercial block buildings with brick exteriors, flat roofs, and little ornamentation. Beyond the immediately surrounding commercial district are residential neighborhoods. Most of the city's housing stock are single-family one and two-story homes built between 1870 and 1960. As typical of their age, the houses primarily include bungalows, minimal traditional homes, and manufactured homes. Larger homes are found along N. Church Street, including the ca. 1871 Italianate-style Butler House (NR Listed 4/11/1973).

Resource Descriptions

1. Johnson County Courthouse, 1958-1959, 2006 (Contributing Building)

The Johnson County Courthouse is a two-story with basement building constructed of concrete block. The majority of the building is covered with a red brick veneer set in running bond. As originally built in 1958-1959, the building's footprint was L-Shaped. A two-story addition in 2006-2007 filled in the inner portion, resulting in the current overall square footprint. Some windows were infilled/covered by the addition. The entire building has a flat, EPDM (rubber) membrane roof with metal coping. The roof was originally flat built-up asphalt. Windows and doors are original aluminum unless otherwise noted. The windows generally are vertically oriented columns of three or four horizontally-oriented lights. Each window generally is comprised of fixed panes except for the bottom row, which pivot. Windows have brick sills.

Exterior Description

Façade (South Elevation)

The façade is broken into three sections (Photos 1-2, 4). The west section is a red brick veneer. Most of the bricks are laid in Flemish bond, but the header bricks are either recessed or protruding on alternating rows, creating a character-defining pattern (Photo 3), all framed by running bond brick veneer. At the top of the wall is JOHNSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE set in metal letters. HVAC units on the roof are visible above. The roofline of the west section extends higher than the other sections.

The middle section is slightly recessed. The first level has the original entrance on the west side. The original entrance has double single-light doors, surrounded by seven large single-light windows.¹ The east side has four three-light windows with brick veneer below. The second level is entirely eight four-part windows with brick veneer below. Both levels are sheltered by flat awnings. Small flat lights are set in the awning's ceiling.

The east section is covered in white concrete panels. The middle section's first level awning continues across this section but is not enclosed, creating a trellis. In the center of the second level is a clock face consisting of simple black triangles for the 12, 3, 6, and 9 hour marks, and simple black rectangles for the remaining hours. The hands are simple black rectangles.

West Elevation

The west elevation is primarily defined by the fenestration pattern and a recession of the elevation in the middle. The recessed section has eleven window bays. The first level has three-light, horizontally oriented windows. The second level has four-light, horizontally oriented windows. The ends of the elevation are not recessed. The south section has paired windows on each level with light numbers as previously described for each level. The north section has no window openings. Mechanical equipment is also affixed to this elevation.

¹ Due to security, the original entrance is no longer used.

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North Elevation

The north elevation is defined by three sections. The east end and the middle section are part of the 2006-2007 addition. The east end is the current main entrance (described below). The middle section is covered by a red brick veneer. The west section, part of the original building, is also covered by a red brick veneer, which is slightly darker in color than the adjacent middle section. The west section has a slightly higher roofline. The first level has a metal door set into a recessed alcove. Flanking the door are two-light windows. The second level has three window bays. The center bay has four lights and flanking bays have paired four-light windows.

Northeast Entrance

The northeast entrance is the current main entrance to the courthouse. The entrance is a vestibule with large plate glass windows and double metal, single-light windows. The entrance is recessed below a curved one-story awning supported by three concrete, circular columns. A metal door leading to an emergency staircase is to the west of the main entrance. The entrance is slightly below grade, requiring a short concrete stair with metal handrail to provide access from the parking area. Low brick walls with concrete coping define the area below the awning, separating it from the sidewalk, except for a small section near the sidewalk that was designed to allow ADA compliant access from the sidewalk. On the second level, above the entrance, is a triple window, each with four lights.

East Elevation

The east elevation is broken into two sections. The south section is part of the original building and is covered in white concrete panels. The north section is part of the addition and is covered in red brick veneer. There are no openings on this elevation.

Interior Description

Unless otherwise noted, all interior walls are original, painted concrete block. Walls in the public corridor and restrooms have glazed brick wainscoting. Unless otherwise noted, all floors are original beige asphalt tile with flecks of lighter and darker colors.² Some floors have been covered with non-historic low-pile carpet or luxury vinyl plank (LVP) that mimics the appearance of wood. Restrooms have original ceramic tile floors. Floors in the addition are original vinyl tile. Ceilings vary and include drop acoustic ceiling panel (ACP) grids and higher plaster or drywall ceilings. Interior doors are generally wood. Window sills are generally concrete.

First Floor

The first-floor plan is generally laid out in a U-shaped. The original lobby is located at the southeast corner of the building. The south corridor extends from the lobby's west wall and turns near the building's west corner to become the west corridor. The south and west corridors are part of the original building. The east corridor extends from the north wall of the original lobby. The east corridor is part of the addition and

² The manufacturer of the tile floor has not been identified, but the pattern appears similar to the 'spatter' design of vinyl-asbestos or asphalt floors offered by the Armstrong Cork Company in 1958. For example, see the company's catalogs: *Armstrong Excelon Tile: The Low-Cost Plastic Floor with the Luxury Look* (Lancaster, PA: Armstrong Cork Company, 1958), accessed August 7, 2026, <https://archive.org/details/ArmstrongExcelonTile/page/n1/mode/2up>, and *Armstrong Asphalt Tile: The Low-Cost Floor with the Luxury Look* (Lancaster, PA: Armstrong Cork Company, 1958), accessed August 7, 2026, <https://archive.org/details/ArmstrongAsphaltTile1958/page/n1/mode/2up>.

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contains a lobby with security equipment, restrooms, elevator, and an emergency staircase. All ceilings in the addition are drop ACP, and all floors are vinyl tile or LVP (luxury vinyl plank).

The main staircase is located in the north corner of the original public lobby. It consists of a dogleg staircase with one landing. The treads have been covered with rubber non-slip pads. Hand rails consist of simple metal railing. The stairwell's walls are entirely covered by glazed brick which extend up the second level foyer.

Near the main entrance doors, on a section of wall that continues the exterior's red brick veneer covering, is a metal dedication plaque that notes the county courthouse and jail's construction in 1958-1959, lists the members of the Johnson County Court, the County Court Clerk, and the County Attorney at that time, the Building Committee (all members of the county court), the architect, and the general contractor.

The east wall of the lobby features permanently affixed display cabinets with photos and artifacts that flank the door to the Trustee's office. The Trustee's office has recently-installed LVP flooring.

The south and west corridors are generally double-loaded with offices for county officials, restrooms, and a small courtroom. The offices of county officials generally have non-historic floors (LVP or carpet), while the courtroom has been partially carpeted. The public viewing seats in the courtroom are permanently affixed wood and metal, stadium-style seats. County offices generally also have masonry and metal vaults. A Judge's office and the Mayor's Office Reception/Conference area is one notable example of an office that still retains the original tile flooring. The Mayor's Office has plaster walls with a wood chair rail.

Second Floor

The second floor is accessed via the main staircase in the public lobby, via elevator, or via the secondary staircase at the rear (north) corner of the building.

The main staircase opens into the second level foyer. On the north wall of the foyer are the double-leaf doors to the main courtroom. Additional county offices with vaults line the south wall of the foyer. These offices have recently installed low-pile carpet or LVP. The latter flooring has quickly broken and degraded. The vaults contain the original asphalt tile.

The main courtroom is the largest room in the building, designed so as to double as an auditorium for public events. Walls are covered with original two-section wood paneling. The lower section consists of wood in chevron patterns while the upper section has vertical wood planks of varying widths. The sections are divided by a wood chair rail. The north wall has seven symmetrically placed aluminum windows with marble sills. Vertical blinds are in each window.

Walkways have low-pile carpet which cover the original asphalt tile floor. The original floor is exposed at the seating area. Public viewing seats are permanently affixed wood and metal folding stadium-style seats, arranged in nine rows with a center and side aisles. The ceiling is plaster with a decorative flower-like texture finish. A low wood wall separates the public viewing area from the court area, which has LVP flooring. The jury box has low wood walls with the second level slightly elevated. The Judge's bench is also wood and elevated. The wall behind the judge has large wood panels flanked by plain walls and wood and metal doors (likely non-historic based on design) that provide access to court offices and the jury room.

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The east corridor extends from the north wall of the foyer. The east corridor is in the 2007 addition. It contains restrooms, access to the elevator and an emergency staircase. Also accessed from the east corridor are the court offices and jury room, which are located in the original section of the building. Court offices, including those for clerks and judges, and small restrooms are located on the west side of a corridor that extends from the rear (north) of the courtroom to the north side of the building, where an original secondary staircase is located. Like other offices throughout the courthouse, the offices typically have non-original low-pile carpet or LVP floor while the corridor and jury room retain the original tile.

The secondary staircase, located at the north corner of the building, is the only staircase that accesses all floors of the courthouse. It consists of a dogleg staircase with treads covered by non-slip rubber pads. The handrails are simple metal tubes.

Basement

The basement is accessed via the secondary staircase. The flight from the first floor to the basement has noticeably older non-slip rubber pads on the stair treads, indicating that the pads on other staircases were likely replaced recently.

The basement is comprised of an open space with mechanical and electrical equipment. The floor and walls are concrete. There are four small storage rooms along the south and east walls. The storage rooms have wood shelves.

2. Johnson County Jail (former), 1958-1959, 1987-1988 (Contributing Building)

The Johnson County Jail is a one-story concrete-block building covered in a red brick veneer with a flat rubber membrane roof. The building consists of the original section, located at the north end of the property adjacent to College Street. The south section of the building is a one-story addition constructed in 1987-1988. The addition matches the original in terms of construction materials, height, and general massing.

Exterior

South Elevation

At the southwest end of the elevation is a concrete porch sheltered by shed metal roof supported by four square wood columns. Within the porch are two wood entrance doors. Both have a small window. The porch is accessed via a concrete ramp with simple metal pipe handrail. A large HVAC unit is attached to the wall to the west side of the porch.

The east side of the elevation has one 15-light metal window with brick sill. There is a large horizontal area where windows have been covered but the brick sill is still evident.

East Elevation

The east elevation has a single metal entrance door, roughly centered on the elevation, which once led to a fenced-in prisoner exercise area (fence is non-extant). Immediately adjacent to the south is the visible seam of the south addition. Otherwise the elevation is unornamented, only featuring a few instances of lighter colored brick where openings appear to have been infilled.

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North Elevation

The north elevation has an asymmetrical pattern of window and doors; some of the windows have been infilled but all retain brick sills. From east to west are: a series of five windows that have been infilled; a single-leaf entrance door; two windows with metal bars; a single-leaf entrance door with two barred windows, sheltered by a flat porch with two circular supports; a paired casement window with bars; a window opening infilled with brick; and a narrow 4-light window.

West Elevation

The west elevation has five windows and an entrance door. This is the only elevation where no windows have been infilled. From north to south are: replacement double-hung 6/6 window; an original 15-light metal window; a single-leaf entrance door with a concrete porch sheltered by a flat roof supported by two circular supports; an original 15-light metal window; a replacement fixed single-light window with faux muntins simulating the appearance of 12 lights; and an original 15-light metal window. All windows have brick sills.

Interior

The interior of the jail is a labyrinth of corridors, cells, and former offices (see Floor Plans). Ceilings, walls, and floors in cell areas are concrete. Former office/living areas have a variety of finishes, most commonly carpet or tile on floors and drywall or wood paneling on the walls. Office areas generally have acoustic ceiling panels. The offices/living areas were generally located on the west side of the building.

3. World War II Memorial, 1950 (Contributing Object)

Stone monument with a smooth face, to which is affixed a metal plaque that lists the names of Johnson County servicemen who died during World War II. An additional metal plaque is below which added more names that were inadvertently left off of the first plaque. The memorial was donated by the Rotary Club.³

4. World War I Memorial, 1923 (Contributing Object)

Stone monument with a smooth face, to which is affixed a metal plaque that lists the names of Johnson County servicemen who died in World War I and the Spanish-American War. The top of the plaque features ornamentation with patriotic symbolism including an eagle and flags. The bottom of the plaque notes that this memorial was donated by the Mountain City Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1923.

5. Korean and Vietnam War Memorial, ca. 1970 (Contributing Object)

Granite monument with a smooth face and three metal plaques. The top plaque notes the names of people from Johnson County who died in the Korean War. A second plaque below includes names that were inadvertently left off the first plaque. Also noted is that the Korean War plaques were donated by the Johnson County American Legion Post No. 61. The bottom plaque notes the names of people from Johnson County who died in the Vietnam War. This plaque is noted as having been donated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6908 and the American Legion Post No. 61.

6. POW/MIA Memorial, 2013 (Non-Contributing Object)

This memorial consists of an empty metal chair and a placard with the POW/MIA symbol set on the ground in front of it. A memorial plaque stands on a pole next to the chair. The entire memorial is set on a concrete

³ "Rotary Club Plans Plaque for Memorial," *Johnson County Bulletin*, October 20, 1949.

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pad and surrounded by a metal chain supported by metal posts. The memorial is non-contributing due to insufficient age.⁴

7. Emergency and Rescue Squad Memorial, ca. 2000 (Non-Contributing Object)

Granite monument with a smooth face of text memorializing members of the Johnson County Emergency and Rescue Squad who died in the line of duty. The monument currently has four names as well as their life and service dates. The bottom half of the memorial is blank, thus allowing names to be added in the future. At the bottom of the memorial is a metal plaque noting that the monument was created by the Johnson County government and Town of Mountain /City. The memorial is non-contributing due to its age.

8. Law Enforcement Officer Memorial, 1996 (Non-Contributing Object)

Granite monument with a smooth face of text memorializing law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty. The monument currently has five names as well as their life dates. The bottom half of the memorial is blank, thus allowing names to be added in the future. At the bottom of the memorial is a metal plaque noting that the monument was created by the Johnson County government and Town of Mountain /City. The memorial is non-contributing due to its age.

9. Civil War Trails Interpretive Panel, ca. 1997 (Non-Contributing Object)

Interpretive Panel on two posts, which provides photos and written information about the Civil War in Taylorsville (former name of Mountain City). This panel is part of the statewide Tennessee Civil War Trails and as such used standardized design and colors, similar to other such panels throughout the state. The panel is non-contributing due to its age.

Integrity

The Johnson County Courthouse retains integrity. The property remains on its original location with a setting that is also the same as it was during the Period of Significance. Contributing resources overall retain their integrity of materials, design, and workmanship. The courthouse has experienced the application of some non-historic flooring materials, which have obscured view of the original floor but the original floor is still present. Other finishes on the walls and ceilings remain as they were. The courthouse has a non-historic addition, but that was constructed at the rear of the building, thus minimizing the overall impact to the original section. The jail had a front addition ca. 1985, which is outside of the Period of Significance. While this did change the physical design of the building, the jail can still be considered contributing under Criterion A because it retains enough features to contribute under Criterion A, as conveyed by its location, setting, overall form that was clearly built in the modernist style, and historic and physical association with the courthouse. Contributing memorials and monuments have experienced little change, remaining at their location in the courthouse lawn; some predate the courthouse and jail, but their present location reflects their placement as part of the 1958-1959 construction of the courthouse. The memorials and courthouse grounds retain association with their importance in local memory, as well as their materials, design, and workmanship. Thus they are easily able to be considered contributing under Criterion A.

⁴ The memorial was donated by the Rolling Thunder, Chapter Four from Tennessee, which is dedicated to remembering servicemen and women who are Missing in Action (MIA) or Prisoners of War (POW). Paula Walter, "'Missing Man' POW-MIA Display on Courthouse Lawn," *The Tomahawk*, October 23, 2013, 1.

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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:

N/A

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Government/Politics

Architecture

Social History

Period of Significance

1923-1976

Significant Dates

1959

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Kearfott, Clarence B. (architect)

Green, J.E. (builder)

Shaw and Shanks (architect for addition)

C&T Construction Company, Inc.
(contractor for addition)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Johnson County Courthouse and Jail are locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Government/Politics and Social History and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Since the modern-style courthouse was built in 1959, it has housed all of the important functions of the Johnson County government, including constitutionally required offices such as Register of Deeds and Trustee, as well as additional county services, such as county extension officer. The building has also housed the local courts, fulfilling a key role of local governments, which provide the basic foundation for modern life in Tennessee. Contributing to the property is the 1959 County jail, which housed people who were going through the legal process of trial in conjunction with the legal proceedings at the adjacent courthouse. The courthouse also played a role in providing space for local social activities, including memorialization, mass meetings, protest, and community events. The property's Period of Significance under Criterion A begins with in 1923, with the erection of the earliest extant monument. The Period of Significance is ongoing, given that the courthouse still fulfills its important role under Criterion A. For practical purposes, the Period of Significance ends in 1976 to match the 50-year guideline commonly used in the National Register program. The Period of Significance under Criterion C is 1959 for the year the courthouse and jail was originally completed. This property meets the registration requirements for Courthouses and Jails of the Historic County Facilities in Tennessee, ca. 1770-2025 Multiple Property Submission.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Johnson County is located at the northeastern-most tip of the state within the Appalachian mountain range. As such, the terrain is hilly and thickly covered by forest with numerous springs and streams. Indigenous peoples, including the Cherokees, Creeks, and Yuchis had long used the area as a hunting ground. European settlement began along Roan Creek around 1770, primarily by English, Scots-Irish, and Germans from Virginia and North Carolina. The area was once part of the State of North Carolina but became part of Tennessee when the state achieved statehood in 1796.⁵

Johnson County was created from a portion of Carter County on January 2, 1836, by the Tennessee General Assembly. There is some discrepancy as to where the first courts met. Some records state that the first courts were held at home of William Johnson, son of the late Thomas Johnson, for whom the county was reportedly named. Other sources stated that the first location was the Pleasant Grove Schoolhouse on Vaught Creek, followed by other sessions at the home of Colonel Green Moore. The county seat was established on land purchased from William P. Vaught and named Taylorsville. The city was incorporated in 1866. The community was renamed Mountain City in 1885.⁶

⁵ Jewell Hamm, "Johnson County," Tennessee Encyclopedia, October 8, 2017, accessed August 6, 2026, <https://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/johnson-county/>; "Goodspeed's History of Johnson County (1886)," Johnson County TNGenWeb, February 22, 2012, accessed August 6, 2026, <https://tngenweb.org/johnson/goodspeeds-history-of-johnson-county-1886/>.

⁶ John W. Carpenter and Michael Emrick, *Tennessee Courthouses: A Celebration of 200 Years of County Courthouses* (London, KY: John. W. Carpenter, Publisher, 1996), 92; Hamm, "Johnson County"; Sophie Crane and Paul Crane, *Tennessee Taproots: Courthouses of Tennessee*, Rev. Ed. (Franklin, TN: Hillsboro Press, 1996), 59; "Goodspeed's History of Johnson County (1886)"; John S. Riley, "Johnson Co. Will Dedicate Courthouse, Jail Saturday," *Bristol Herald Courier*, May 28, 1959.

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Though the county's terrain is hilly and mountainous, its major industry has been agriculture. Tobacco had long been the largest cash crop.⁷ In addition, Johnson County became known as the Green Bean Capital in the 1930s.⁸ As of 2025, the county is still considered to be rural with a population of about 18,700.⁹

The first courthouse was a two-story, brick, forty-foot square building, built in 1837. The first jail was built two years later and cost \$1,000 (see Figure 1). Besides holding the courts and county offices, the first courthouse was also used for church services until the Methodists were able to build a small brick church. The first courthouse was demolished in 1894 after being declared unsafe.¹⁰ A second jail was built ca. 1890. This jail was brick, two-story with a side-gabled roof (see figure 1)¹¹

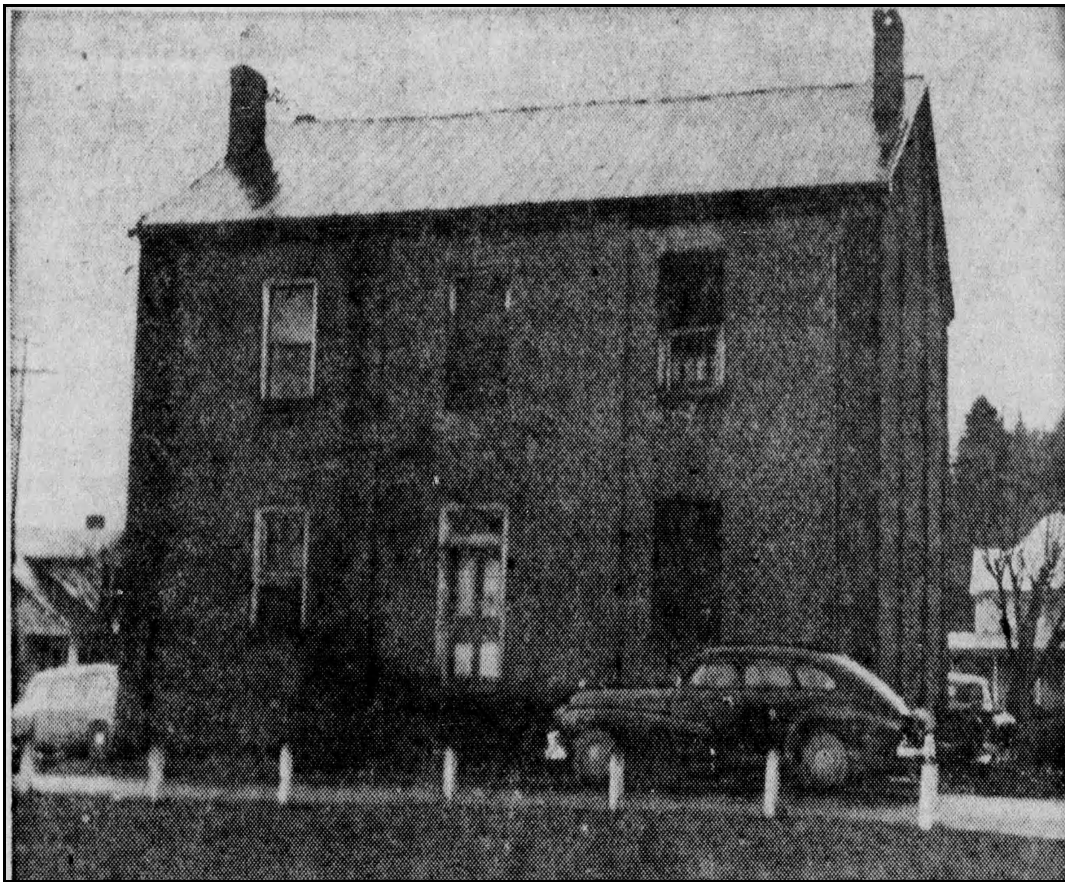


Figure 1: The 1890 Johnson County Jail. Courtesy of the Bristol Herald Courier, March 20, 1954.

⁷ Hamm, "Johnson County."

⁸ Crane and Crane, *Tennessee Taproots*, 59; "Mountain City "Bean Capital" of Nation," *Bristol Herald Courier*, April 6, 1952.

⁹ "Quick Facts: Johnson County, Tennessee," United States Census Bureau, July 1, 2025, accessed August 7, 2026, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/johnsoncountytennessee/PST045225>.

¹⁰ Sophie Crane and Paul Crane, *Tennessee's Troubled Roots* (Old Hickory, TN: Earle-Shields Publishers, 1979), 50; Crane and Crane, *Tennessee Taproots*, 59; Carpenter and Emrick, 92; "Goodspeed's History of Johnson County (1886)."

¹¹ "Four Prisoners Rescued as Johnson County Jail Burns," *The Greeneville Sun*, April 23, 1958.

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In 1894, the county's second courthouse was built (see Figure 2).¹² As shown by Sanborn maps, the 1894 courthouse and the ca. 1890 jail were located on the same parcel as the current courthouse and jail, in the same arrangement with the courthouse fronting W. Main Street and the jail located to its rear on the north end of the parcel (see Figure 3). The courthouse was two stories in the Romanesque Revival style. The building's major stylistic features included a cross-gable roof, brick belt courses, corbelled arches, multiple brick chimneys, a one-story porch, and a centered square cupola with a bell-shaped roof. Tall arched windows provided light into the second-floor courtroom. Like the first courthouse, the second courthouse was used for public uses beyond just government matters, such as civic organization meetings and political rallies.¹³



Figure 2: The Second Johnson County Courthouse, built in 1894. Courtesy of the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

¹² Crane and Crane, *Tennessee Taproots*, 59.

¹³ Carpenter and Emrick, 92; "Red Cross Adds Members," *Chattanooga Daily Times*, April 7, 1918; "Johnson Countians Flock to GOP Rally," *Johnson City Chronicle*, October 8, 1940; "Johnson to Reorganize Conservation Chapter," *Johnson City Press*, April 24, 1940; "Last Tobacco Tour Held," *Johnson City Press*, November 21, 1940; "Rev. Clinton Long at Mountain City Today," *Johnson City Press*, June 29, 1941; "Vets May Sign for Ag. Help," *The Tomahawk*, June 13, 1946; "GOP Nominee Accuses Gore of 'Tag Playing,'" *The Leaf-Chronicle*, October 7, 1952; "Johnson County Farmers to Hear Burley Discussion," *Elizabethton Star*, April 22, 1955.

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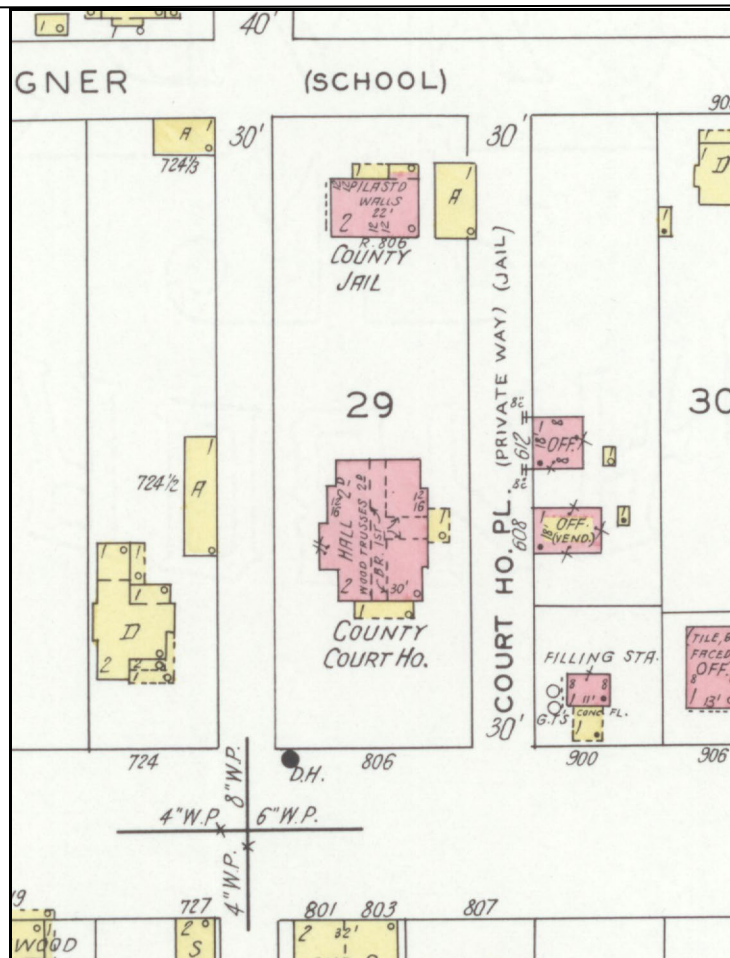


Figure 3: January 1941 Map showing the Johnson County Courthouse and the Johnson County Jail. Courtesy of Library of Congress and Sanborn Fire Insurance Company.

By the 1950s, local and regional newspapers were frequently commenting on the age of the courthouse and jail. Press articles remarked that grand juries since the late 1920s had recommended replacing the jail.¹⁴ Upon the news break of three prisoners escaping from the almost sixty-year-old jail, the local newspaper *The Tomahawk* remarked in 1954 that “Historic or not...something should be done.”¹⁵ Articles similarly remarked that although many modern buildings were being constructed in Mountain City, the courthouse lagged behind and was in need of renovation.¹⁶

The county jail burned in April 1958, destroying the interior and leaving only exterior walls.¹⁷ The fire was believed to have begun on the second level. Inmates were successfully evacuated and were transferred to the

¹⁴ “Four Prisoners Rescued as Johnson County Jail Burns,” *Greeneville Sun*, April 23, 1958.

¹⁵ “Jail in the News,” *The Tomahawk*, March 25, 1954.

¹⁶ “‘Bean Capital’ of Nation Becoming a Tourist Mecca,” *Bristol Herald Courier*, April 6, 1952.

¹⁷ “Johnson County Jailhouse Razed by Fire Last Night,” *Elizabethton Star*, April 23, 1958.

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Carter County Jail for holding in the interim.¹⁸ Local newspaper coverage noted that the county had no insurance on the building, but that estimates of the loss were impossible due to the age of the building. During discussions about replacing the jail, the county court decided that due to the age and condition of the 1894 courthouse, both buildings should be replaced at the same time.¹⁹

A building committee consisting of county court members H.B. McQueen (chairman), A.A. Dillon, O.D. Dotson, Dick Hawkins, and H.L. Mast.²⁰ The committee hired Clarence B. Kearfott, an architect from Bristol, Tennessee and Virginia. Kearfott designed a modernist building with an asymmetrical façade featuring a large veneer wall expanse of brick ornamentation, and a main entrance with large serial windows, and a modern-style clock face (see Figure 4 for a Drawing).²¹ The nominated courthouse and jail cost \$225,000.²² The general contractor was J.E. Green Co. Construction from Johnson City, Tennessee.²³

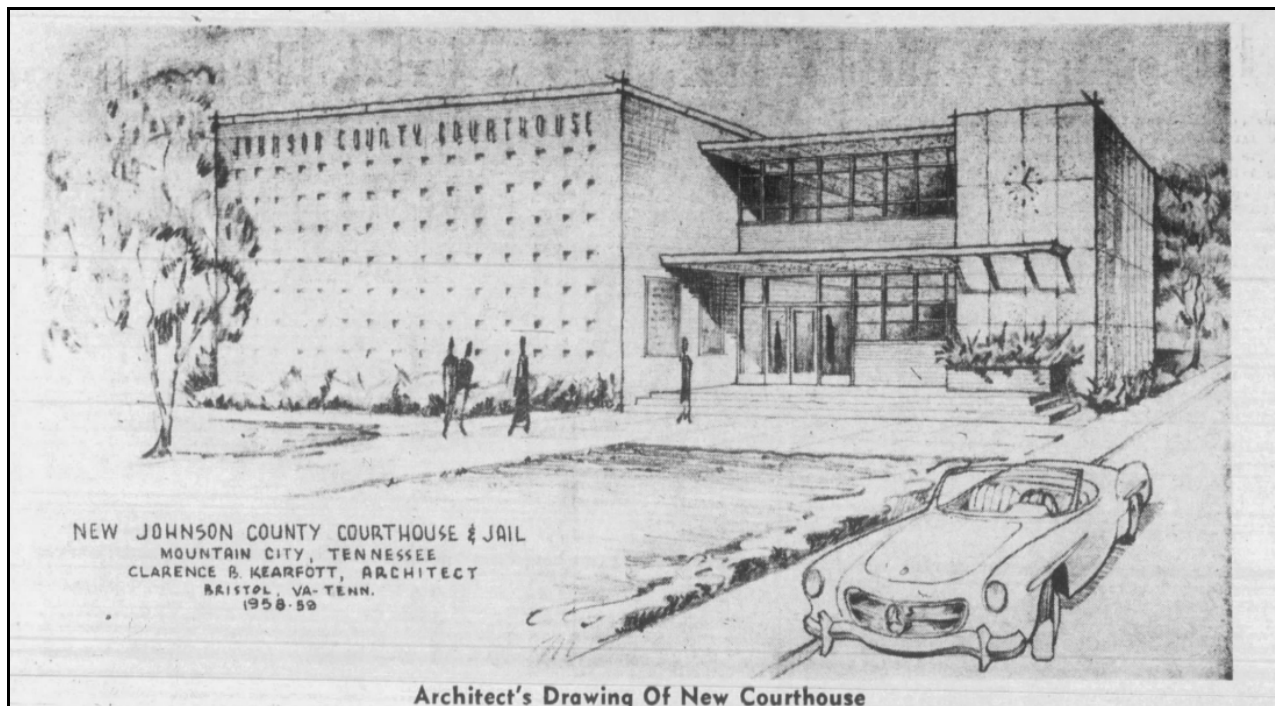


Figure 4: Drawing of the Proposed Johnson County Courthouse, 1958. Courtesy of the *Elizabethton Star*, October 5, 1958.

¹⁸ "Johnson County Jailhouse Razed by Fire Last Night," *Elizabethton Star*, April 23, 1958.

¹⁹ "Historic Johnson County Courthouse Being Razed," *Johnson City Press*, July 20, 1958; John S. Riley, "Johnson Co. Will Dedicate Courthouse, Jail Saturday," *Bristol Herald Courier*, May 28, 1959; "Throngs are Expected to Attend Dedication of New Court House," *The Tomahawk*, May 27, 1959.

²⁰ Dedication Plaque in the Johnson County Courthouse, 1959, Mountain City, Tennessee.

²¹ "Architects Drawing of New Courthouse," *Elizabethton Star*, October 5, 1958.

²² Crane and Crane, *Tennessee Taproots*, 59; Carpenter and Emrick, 92; "Johnson County Dedicates New Jail, Courthouse," *Elizabethton Star*, May 28, 1959.

²³ Dedication Plaque in Johnson County Courthouse, 1959; John S. Riley, "Johnson Co. Will Dedicate Courthouse, Jail Saturday," *Bristol Herald Courier*, May 28, 1959; "Johnson County Realizes Old Dream," *Elizabethton Star*, October 5, 1958. Note that several newspapers articles misspelled the name of the general contract as 'J.B. Green' but the correct company is still in existence and was confirmed as J.E. Green.

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Razing of the courthouse began in July 1958. County offices temporarily worked from the basement of the Grayson Hotel.²⁴ Construction of the new buildings began on October 1, 1958.²⁵ Like as before, the jail was a separate building, located approximately 100 feet behind (northeast) of the courthouse.²⁶ The original plans called for enough parking spaces for thirty-two cars.²⁷ The Johnson County Garden Club took on the task of landscaping the courthouse lawn.²⁸

The Johnson County Courthouse and County Jail were dedicated on Saturday May 30, 1959. Several elected officials attended, including Representative Carroll Reece who gave the principal address.²⁹ Local newspapers celebrated the event, remarking that the new courthouse was “ultramodern” and that “we no longer need to be embarrassed when visitors or home folk find occasion to do business at our county seat.”³⁰

At the time of the opening, the ground floor of the courthouse housed the public lobby with adjoining restrooms, the offices of the county clerk, Register of Deeds, county trustee (all with vaults), county agent, soil conservation office, welfare department offices, tax assessor, county chairman, and election commissioners. The lower courtroom was described in newspaper accounts as a hearing room that would seat fifty people. On the second floor was auditorium/large courtroom that could seat 200 people, the circuit court clerk with vault, clerk and master with vault, judges’ chambers, jury room, witness room, and a lawyers’ conference room.³¹ The local newspaper noted that this courthouse allowed all of these offices and services to be under one roof for the first time.³²

The Sheriff’s offices, both a public area and a private office, were located in the new one-story jail. Alos included were the jailor’s quarters, consisting of a living room, two bedrooms, kitchen, and bathroom. The jail could accommodate twenty male inmates, split between a ten-person dormitory and a ten-person day room. There was also a separate cell for women and one cell for juveniles.³³ According to a 1970 Jail Inspector’s Report, more inmates than allowed capacity were sometimes held.³⁴ In 1987-1988, the jail was expanded with an addition. While occasional overcrowding may have been a factor in the expansion, newspaper coverage indicates that the major reasoning was that the project would ensure the jail could be certified to house prisoners from neighboring counties for a fee.³⁵ Upon achieving certification in 1988, the Sheriff boasted that the revenue would allow the jail to “pay for itself in five years.”³⁶

²⁴ “Historic Johnson County Courthouse Being Razed,” *Johnson City Press*, July 20, 1958.

²⁵ “Johnson County Dedicates New Jail, Courthouse,” *Elizabethton Star*, May 28, 1959.

²⁶ “Johnson County Realizes Old Dream,” *Elizabethton Star*, October 5, 1958.

²⁷ “Johnson County Realizes Old Dream,” *Elizabethton Star*, October 5, 1958.

²⁸ Riley, “Johnson Co. Will Dedicate Courthouse, Jail Saturday,” *Bristol Herald Courier*, May 28, 1959.

²⁹ “Johnson County Dedicates New Jail, Courthouse,” *Elizabethton Star*, May 28, 1959.

³⁰ “Throngs are Expected to Attend Dedication of New Court House,” *The Tomahawk*, May 27, 1959.

³¹ “Johnson County Dedicates New Jail, Courthouse,” *Elizabethton Star*, May 28, 1959; “Johnson County Realizes Old Dream,” *Elizabethton Star*, October 5, 1958.

³² “Throngs are Expected to Attend Dedication of New Court House,” *The Tomahawk*, May 27, 1959.

³³ “Johnson County Dedicates New Jail, Courthouse,” *Elizabethton Star*, May 28, 1959; “Johnson County Realizes Old Dream,” *Elizabethton Star*, October 5, 1958.

³⁴ Crane and Crane, *Tennessee’s Troubled Roots*, 60.

³⁵ Lee Stalger, “County Commission Nixes Bus, Okays Jail Work,” *The Tomahawk*, April 22, 1987.

³⁶ “County Jail Receives Certification,” *The Tomahawk*, March 16, 1988.

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JOHNSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND JAIL were built in 1958-1959 at a cost of approximately \$225,000.00. The courthouse has offices for County Executive, County Clerk, County Trustee, County Register of Deeds, Soil Conservation Service, County Agent, County Election Commission, General Sessions Judge, Circuit Court Clerk and Clerk and Master and others.

Figure 5: Images of the Johnson County Courthouse (upper) and the Johnson County Jail, 1979. The jail image shows the original south elevation, which was later obscured by an addition. From *the Tomahawk*, March 14, 1979.

An addition to the courthouse was completed in 2007, which brought the courthouse's appearance to its current square footprint from its original L-shape. The addition was designed by Shaw and Shanks Architects from Johnson City, Tennessee. The contractor was C&T Construction Company Inc., also of Johnson City.³⁷ The addition \$1.2 million was done to make the courthouse accessible to people with mobility disabilities

³⁷ Dedication Plaque in Johnson County Courthouse.

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and bring the county into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) following a 2004 federal lawsuit that named twenty-five Tennessee courthouses for failure to comply with the act.³⁸ Part of the addition was funded using a \$40,000 federal grant from Rural Development within the U.S. Department of Agriculture.³⁹

Significance and Registration Requirements

The Johnson County Courthouse fulfilled a key role in local government, including housing the offices where people pay local taxes, register land sales, and the local courts to adjudicate crimes and assign sentences or resolve disputes. The adjacent jail is where people awaited trial or carried out sentences. Additionally, like many county courthouses, the Johnson County Courthouse housed additional services like the county extension service agent. As further detailed in the Historic County Facilities in Tennessee, ca. 1770-2025 Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), these functions fulfill a crucial aspect of life in Tennessee at the local level and meet the requirements for significance in the area of Government/Politics.

Like in many rural counties, the Johnson County Courthouse fulfilled a social role, providing space for political rallies, community programs, and public remembrance. As further elaborated in the associated MPDF, courthouse grounds were an important place of public remembrance. As the center of county government, the courthouse grounds gave legitimacy to expressions of grief and remembrance. The space of the courthouse grounds also allowed for annual public observances and memorial ceremonies. Monuments and memorials at the courthouse grounds thus are directly associated with local Social History commemoration.

The earliest memorials at the courthouse were installed in the early twentieth century prior to the current building. That first known monument was for Daniel Boone and was part of a historic trail established by the Daughters of the American Revolution between 1912-1915.⁴⁰ That monument was later destroyed.

The earliest extant monument is the 1923 state monument memorializing Johnson County servicemen who died in World War I and the Spanish-American War. The top of the plaque features ornamentation with patriotic symbolism including an eagle and flags. As was typical for county monuments, a local civic organization, The Mountain City Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, donated the monument

In 1950, the Rotary Club donated a memorial to memorialize people in Johnson County who died in World War II. Widows and mothers of men who died unveiled the monument before a crowd of approximately 1,000 people (a number that equaled roughly half of Mountain City's population at the time). The memorial consisted of a granite slab with a metal plaque that listed the names of the dead. The memorial was originally installed in front of the courthouse, with a circular path surrounding it, thus ensuring that any visitor to the

³⁸ Barbara A. Dunn, "Courthouse Expansion Slated for Completion After New Year," *The Tomahawk*, August 30, 2006; "Johnson Courthouse Part of Suit," *Johnson City Press*, August 22, 2004.

³⁹ "Grant for Johnson Courthouse Approved," *Johnson City Press*, May 25, 2005.

⁴⁰ Lynn Young, "Following the Footsteps of Daniel Boone," Daughters of the American Revolution, July 24, 2015, accessed August 6, 2026, <https://blog.dar.org/following-footsteps-daniel-boone>; "At Work on New Memorial," *Bristol Herald Courier*, February 2, 1950.

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courthouse would walk by it.⁴¹ When the nominated courthouse was built in 1958-59, the monuments were shifted slightly, but still within the courthouse lawn near Main Street, where they remain today. Additional monuments were added over the years to recognize servicemen from other wars, as well as those who never came home, as conveyed by the POW/MIA memorial. Annual services, such as Memorial Day observances and laying of wreaths on the monuments, indicate that the courthouse continues to be an important local place of public commemoration and remembrance.



Figure 6: Representative Newspaper Article Describing annual Memorial Day observances at the Johnson County Courthouse.
From the *Tomahawk*, May 29, 1996.

⁴¹ "Rotary Club Plans Plaque for Memorial," *Johnson County Bulletin*, October 20, 1949; "Johnson County War Memorial Dedicated," *Johnson County Bulletin*, May 11, 1950; Photo of Courthouse, *Bristol Herald Courier*, April 6, 1952.

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In addition to commemoration, the Johnson County Courthouse hosted numerous social events, including political rallies and speeches. During the 1966 campaign season, the Republican party arranged for a massive rally that included all of the party's candidates for local and congressional elections.⁴² Later that year, the Howard Baker, Jr. returned to speak and drum up voters' support, which ultimately contributed to his win for U.S. Senator.⁴³ A similar rally was held during the 1970 election season.⁴⁴ The congressional district's representative, James H. Quillen, similarly used the courthouse as a place to hold townhalls to hear from constituents, as did Lamar Alexander during his gubernatorial campaign.⁴⁵ One of Alexander's opponents, Dortch Oldham, similarly visited the courthouse and brought along musical accompaniment with the Sullivan Family gospel singers.⁴⁶ The local political parties also held numerous meetings at the courthouse, as well as receptions.⁴⁷

As Johnson County's economy was heavily based on agriculture, the courthouse was place where local farmers could learn new information from the county agent. For example, Farm Bureau meetings that brought together experts and local farmers to discuss farm-related issues, such as issues affecting tobacco producers.⁴⁸ The county agent also held educational events, such as a Farm Management School in 1960, which taught farmers why and how they should keep farm records. Part of the presentation included direction on adjusting or improving farm businesses to generate more income, an issue that faced many farmers in the twentieth century as farming became less profitable.⁴⁹ The county agent also held events specific to the dairy and cattle industries.⁵⁰ The courthouse was also used for 4-H shows and sales where children who raised farm animals could show off their accomplishments and earn money.⁵¹

The number of other events held at the courthouse are almost to numerus to mention. Other illustrative examples from the 1960s and 1970s including the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency's hunter safety courses; local schools holding regional spelling bees; meetings about forming a Civil Air Patrol squadron, and regular meetings of the Pleasant Valley Utility District Commissioners.⁵²

Architecturally, the Johnson County Courthouse is an important local example of modernism. The building embodies the tenets of modernism, especially as applied to courthouses, including blocky massing, flat roof, and a distinct lack of ornamentation. Instead, the building materials stand for themselves, and the combination of concrete and brick creates the courthouse's distinctive visual features, including its three-part

⁴² "Biggest Republican Rally Set for Saturday," *The Tomahawk*, June 22, 1966.

⁴³ "Baker Speaking," *The Tomahawk*, October 12, 1966.

⁴⁴ "Political Rally Set in Johnson County," *Elizabethton Star*, July 1, 1970.

⁴⁵ "Around Carter," *Elizabethton Star*, June 13, 1969; "Alexander's Open Door Session," *The Jackson Sun*, June 2, 1974.

⁴⁶ "At the Johnson County Courthouse," *The Tomahawk*, July 3, 1974.

⁴⁷ "Dems make Surprise Showing at County Meeting," *The Tomahawk*, March 29, 1972; "Johnson County GOP to Meet," *Johnson City Press*, February 18, 1970; Invitation to Reception for Robert J. Fisher, *The Tomahawk*, July 19, 1978; *The Tomahawk*, February 24, 1971;

⁴⁸ "Farm Bureau to Meet," *The Tomahawk*, October 8, 1969; Tom Fortune, "Tobacco Meeting," *The Tomahawk*, October 31, 1979.

⁴⁹ "Farm School on Management Set in Johnson," *Johnson City Press*, January 26, 1960.

⁵⁰ "Dairymen Invited to Meeting," *The Tomahawk*, December 13, 1972; "Good Pasture Program," *The Tomahawk*, January 4, 1978.

⁵¹ "4-H Pullet Show & Sale," *The Tomahawk*, July 26, 1978.

⁵² "Safety Course Will Be Taught," *The Tomahawk*, September 14, 1977; "Nancy Blevins Wins Spelling Bee," *The Tomahawk*, April 27, 1966; *The Tomahawk*, June 21, 1978; "CAP Officials Will Be Here Aug. 20th," *The Tomahawk*, August 1, 1979.

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façade with a distinctive brick pattern on the west side and concrete panels on the east side. In a nod to a traditional feature of courthouses, the facade included a clock face, but it followed the tenets of modernism in its simplicity with geometric marks to represent the hours and the hands rather than numeric numbers.

Small counties like Mountain City typically did not have many examples of modernism. Expressions of modernism were typically seen in banks, Thousand Series post offices, or schools. By the 1950s, Mountain City was witnessing the construction of a few new modern buildings, including the 1952 local electric system office for the Mountain Electric Cooperative (see Figure 7). The building had a flat roof and permastone exterior, an inexpensive finish that mimicked the appearance of stone. A major characteristic included the fenestration pattern with a series of multilight windows and large plate glass windows at the entrance (a feature also seen on the Johnson County Courthouse). Located at 604 S. Church Street, the building has been expanded and the windows have been replaced with a style that matches what was used on the courthouse.



Figure 7: Mountain Electric Cooperative Building, 1925. From the *Bristol Herald Courier*, April 6, 1952.

Located to the north of the courthouse is the 1962 Mountain City Post Office, another notable example of modernism which appears to follow the Thousand Series plans that characterized Postal Service buildings in the latter half of the twentieth century. The building includes a red brick veneer, a large façade expanse of plate glass windows, and geometric openings along a wall near the main entrance (see Figure 8).⁵³ The post office has little changed today, retaining its character-defining features.

⁵³ "Mountain City Sets Post Office Service," *Johnson City Press*, May 24, 1962.

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Figure 8: Mountain City Post Office, 1962. From *The Tomahawk*, June 27, 1962.

The Johnson County Courthouse stands out within this local context as a more high-style example of modernism, but still in a relatively simple expression that fits into the local context. The courthouse is much larger than the other examples, which naturally allows the building to stand out. Unlikely the other examples of the electric cooperative building and post office, the county courthouse utilized a variety of exterior finishes that contrasted with each other to stand out. The decorative brickwork on the façade is an important feature that is not replicated on any other building in town. While clearly on the unique side of modernism locally, the courthouse still fits within its local context through features such as its placement on the historic location of the county's courthouses and through its inclusion of features seen on the other examples, namely the large plate glass windows at the entrance and multilight windows, with the notable note that the local electric cooperative building at some point replaced their small-pane multilight windows with vertical bands of horizontally oriented four-light windows that match those used in the courthouse. The switch suggest that the courthouse's window design was seen as distinctive and thus worthy of imitation, a clear suggestion of local architectural significance.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

Newspapers

Bristol Herald Courier

Chattanooga Daily Times

Elizabethton Star

Greeneville Sun

Johnson City Press

Johnson County Bulletin

The Leaf Chronicle

The Tomahawk

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):		Primary location of additional data:	
☐	preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)	☒	State Historic Preservation Office
☐	previously listed in the National Register	☐	Other State agency
☐	previously determined eligible by the National Register	☐	Federal agency
☐	designated a National Historic Landmark	☐	Local government
☐	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	☐	University
☐	recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	☐	Other
☐	recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #	Name of repository:	
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A			

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.82 **USGS Quadrangle** Mountain City 214-NE

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: NAD1983

A. Latitude: 36.475288 Longitude: -81.806645

B. Latitude: 36.476161 Longitude: -81.806243

C. Latitude: 36.476061 Longitude: -81.805908

D. Latitude: 36.475188 Longitude: -81.806310

Verbal Boundary Description

The National Register boundaries correspond to the legal parcel boundaries of Johnson County parcel 041P D 008.00. The rectangular parcel is bounded by W. Main Street to the south, N. Murphy Street to the west, College Street to the north, and Court Street to the east. The boundary is depicted on the enclosed boundary map, and the coordinates noted above roughly correspond to the corners of the boundary.

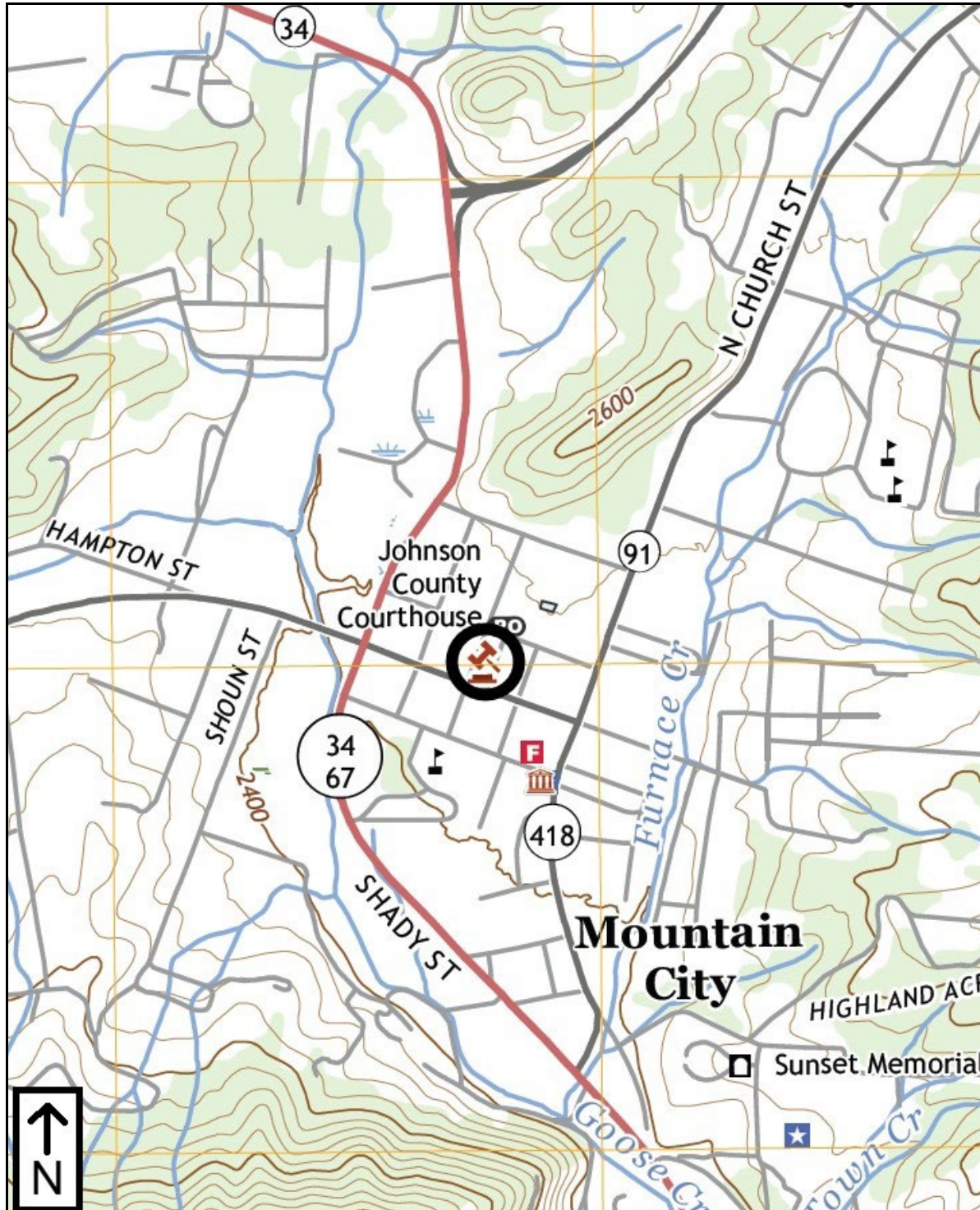
Boundary Justification

This is the historic and current legal parcel boundary of the property associated with the Johnson County Courthouse and County Jail. The boundaries completely enclose the historic resources and land associated with the property during the Period of Significance.

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Topographic Map

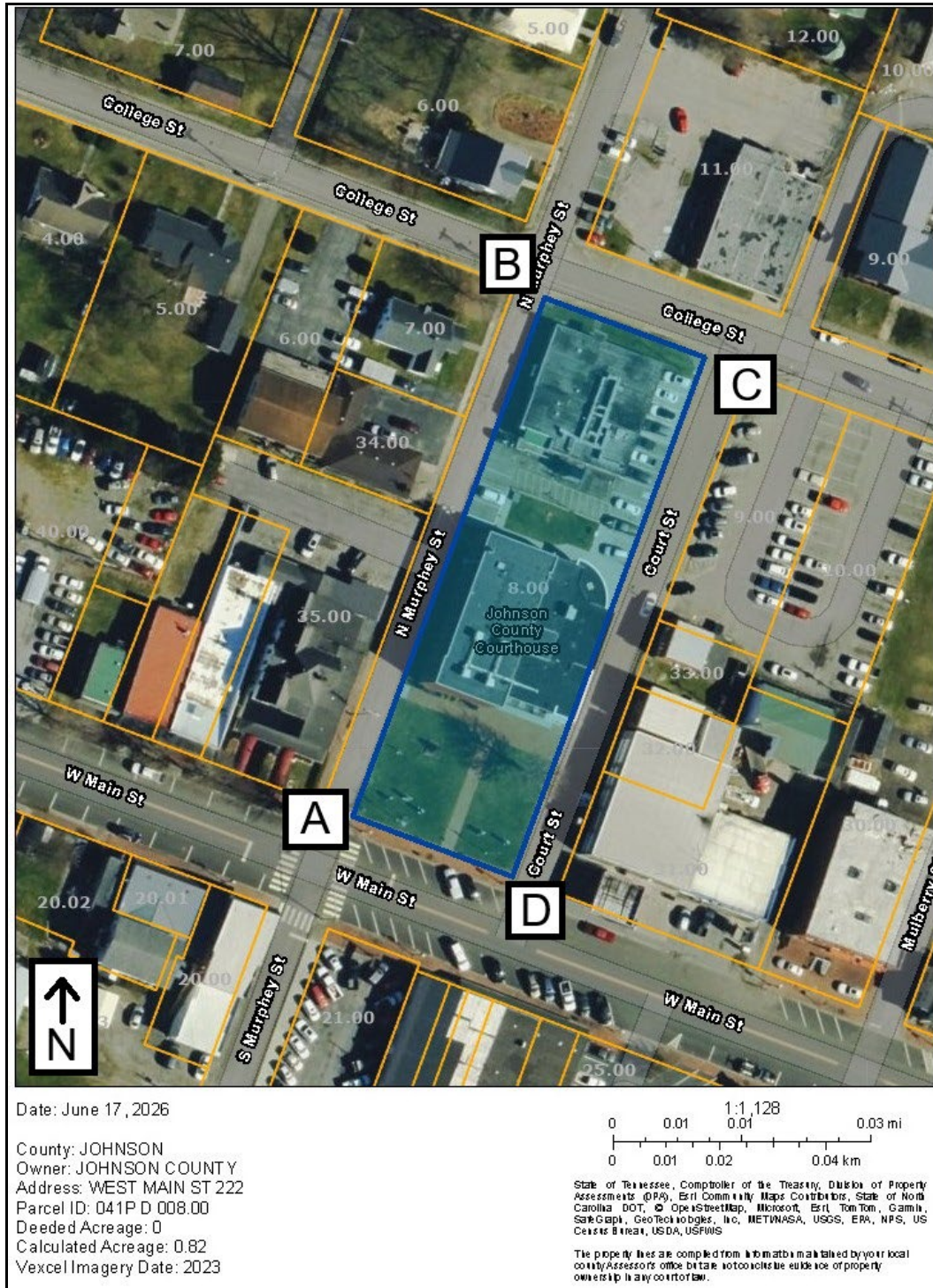


Topographic Map with the location of the Johnson County Courthouse marked and circled.
Courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey. Original map scale 1:24,000.

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Boundary Map



The National Register Boundary is depicted by the rectangular, shaded, and outlined parcel. Map is courtesy of the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury. The keyed corners correspond to the latitude/longitude coordinates noted previously

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11. Form Prepared By

Name	Dr. Rebecca Schmitt with research assistance from Kelley Reid		
Organization	Tennessee Historical Commission		
Street & Number	2941 Lebanon Pike	Date	August 2026
City or Town	Nashville	Telephone	615-818-4476
E-mail	Rebecca.Schmitt@tn.gov	State	TN Zip Code 37214

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Photographs** (refer to Tennessee Historical Commission National Register *Photo Policy* for submittal of digital images and prints. Photos should be submitted separately in a JPEG or TIFF format. Do not embed these photographs into the form)
- **Additional items:** (additional supporting documentation including historic photographs, historic maps, etc. can be included on a Continuation Sheet following the photographic log and sketch maps. They can also be embedded in the Section 7 or 8 narratives)

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Photo Log

Name of Property: Johnson County Courthouse

City or Vicinity: Mountain City

County: Johnson

State: Tennessee

Photographer: Rebecca Schmitt, Kelley Reid, and J. Ethan Holden

Date Photographed: November 14, 2025

Description of Photograph(s) and number, including description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 52. Johnson County Courthouse, oblique view of south and east elevations. Photographer facing north.
- 2 of 52. Johnson County Courthouse, south façade. Photographer facing northeast.
- 3 of 52. Brick detail on the south façade of the Johnson County Courthouse. Photographer facing northwest.
- 4 of 52. View of the Johnson County Courthouse (west and south elevations) and courthouse grounds with monuments. Photographer facing east.
- 5 of 52. Johnson County Courthouse, oblique view of south and west elevations. Photographer facing east.
- 6 of 52. Johnson County Courthouse, oblique view of north and west elevations. Photographer facing south.
- 7 of 52. Johnson County Courthouse north elevation. Photographer facing southwest.
- 8 of 52. Johnson County Courthouse, north elevation with focus on the 2006-2007 addition and current public entrance. Photographer facing southwest.
- 9 of 52. Johnson County Courthouse, oblique view of north and east elevations. Photographer facing west.
- 10 of 52. Flagpole, Law Enforcement Memorial, and Emergency and Rescue Squad Memorial in the courthouse grounds. Photographer facing north.
- 11 of 52. Flagpole, Korean and Vietnam War Memorial, World War I Memorial, World War II Memorial, and POW/MIA Memorial. Photographer facing north.

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National Park Service

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1770-2025

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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- 12 of 52. Civil War Trails Interpretive Panel. Photographer facing northwest.
- 13 of 52. Courthouse, First Level, Public Lobby Original Public Entrance. Photographer facing south.
- 14 of 52. Courthouse, First Level, view towards the main staircase. Photographer facing north.
- 15 of 52. Courthouse, First Level, Public Lobby. Photographer facing southeast.
- 16 of 52. Courthouse, First Level, Public Lobby with view towards the corridor. Photographer facing northwest.
- 17 of 52. Courthouse, First Level, West Corridor. Photographer facing north.
- 18 of 52. Courthouse, First Level, Courtroom/Hearing Room with view towards public viewing seats. Photographer facing south.
- 19 of 52. Courthouse, First Level, Courtroom/Hearing Room with view towards Judge's Bench. Photographer facing north.
- 20 of 52. Courthouse, First Level, West Corridor. Photographer facing northeast.
- 21 of 52. Courthouse, First Level, County Mayor's Office. Photographer facing southwest.
- 22 of 52. Courthouse, First Level, County Mayor's Conference Room with original flooring. Photographer facing east.
- 23 of 52. Courthouse, First Level in Addition with view towards current public entrance. Photographer facing northeast.
- 24 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level Foyer. Photographer facing southwest.
- 25 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level Courtroom, view towards the Judge's Bench. Photographer facing north.
- 26 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level Courtroom, view towards the Public Seating Area. Photographer facing south.
- 27 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level Courtroom, view towards the Judge's Bench. Photographer facing east.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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- 28 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Representative County Office with non-historic LVP Flooring. Photographer facing east.
- 29 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Representative County Office Vault Door. Photographer facing east.
- 30 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Representative County Office Vault. Photographer facing south.
- 31 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Representative County Office in Addition. Photographer facing east.
- 32 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Original exterior wall now within a county office in the Addition. Photographer facing southwest.
- 33 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Representative County Office Vault in Addition. Photographer facing northeast.
- 34 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level Addition Corridor with view towards the original section. Photographer facing southwest.
- 35 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level Addition Corridor with view towards emergency stair. Photographer facing northeast.
- 36 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Jury Room. Photographer facing northeast.
- 37 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Corridor in Judge's Offices Area. Photographer facing northeast.
- 38 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Representative Judge's Office. Photographer facing east.
- 39 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Representative Judge's Office. Photographer facing south.
- 40 of 52. Courthouse, Second Level, Secondary Staircase. Photographer facing northwest.
- 41 of 52. Courthouse, Basement with view of mechanical equipment. Photographer facing north.
- 42 of 52. Courthouse, Basement with view of representative storage space. Photographer facing northeast.
- 43 of 52. County Jail, South Elevation. Photographer facing northeast.
- 44 of 52. County Jail, East Elevation. Photographer facing northwest.

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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- 45 of 52. County Jail, oblique view of North and West elevations. Photographer facing south.
- 46 of 52. County Jail, oblique view of West and South Elevations, including main public entrances. Photographer facing east.
- 47 of 52. County Jail, Prisoners Conference Area. Photographer facing east.
- 48 of 52. County Jail, Representative Corridor. Photographer facing southwest.
- 49 of 52. County Jail, Representative Large Cell. Photographer facing southwest.
- 50 of 52. County Jail, Representative Cell Block. Photographer facing south.
- 51 of 52. County Jail, Representative Cell. Photographer facing northwest.
- 52 of 52. County Jail, Representative Office Area. Photographer facing southwest.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Johnson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Johnson County, Tennessee

County and State

Historic County Facilities in Tennessee, ca.

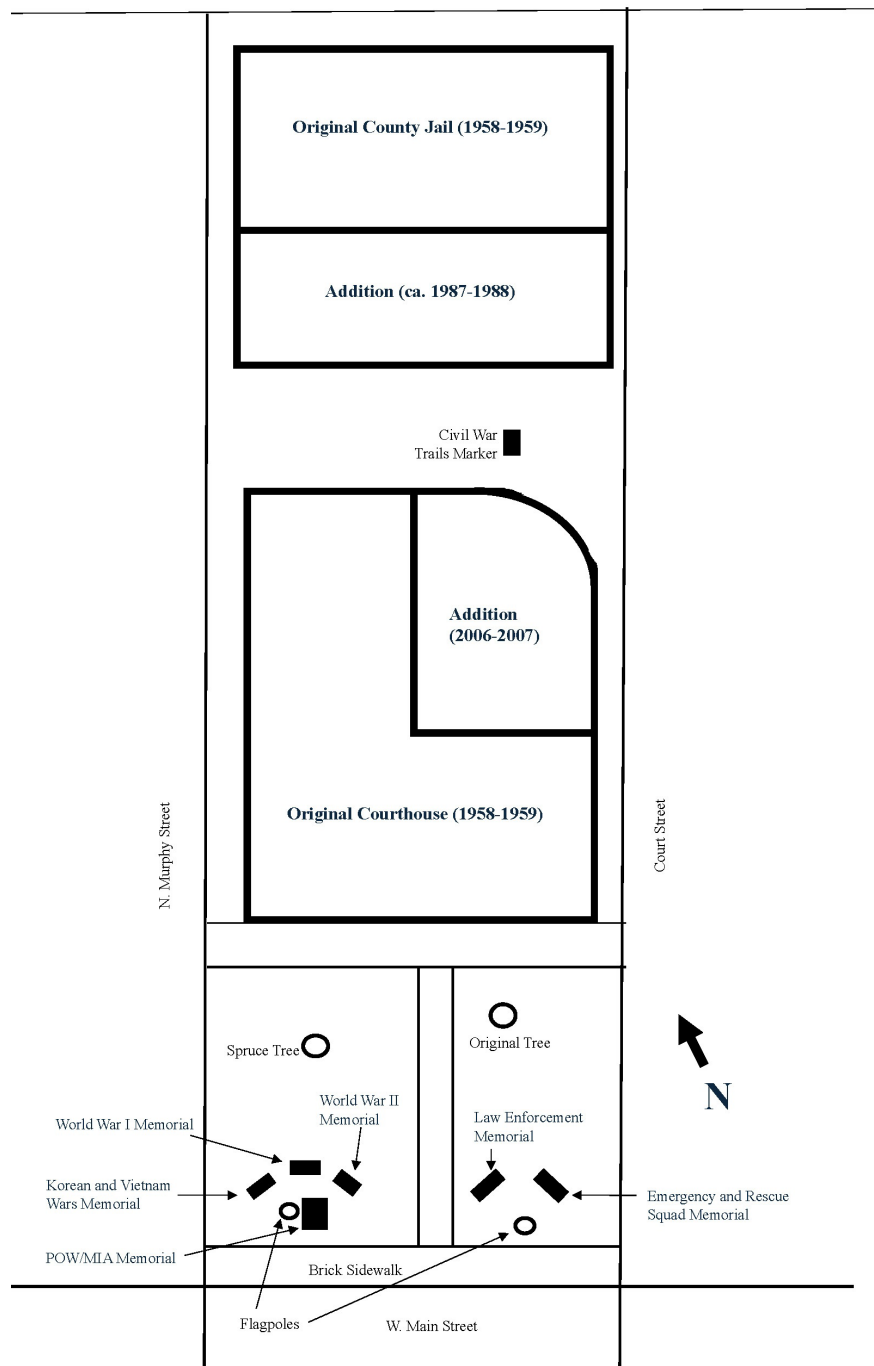
1770-2025

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Photos and PlansPage 33

Site Plan with Resources Labelled Not to Scale

College Street



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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Johnson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Johnson County, Tennessee

County and State

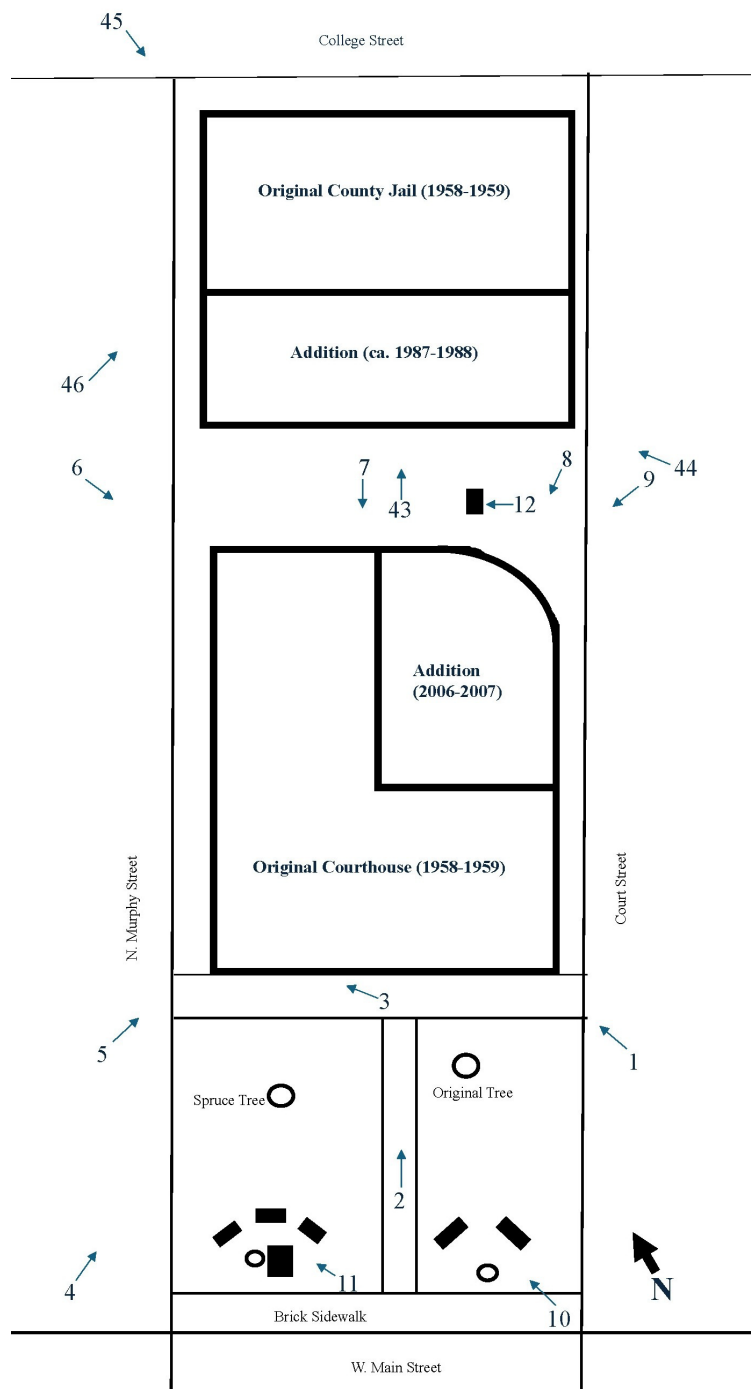
Historic County Facilities in Tennessee, ca.

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Photos and PlansPage 34

Site Plan with Photos Keyed Not to Scale



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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Johnson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Johnson County, Tennessee

County and State

Historic County Facilities in Tennessee, ca.

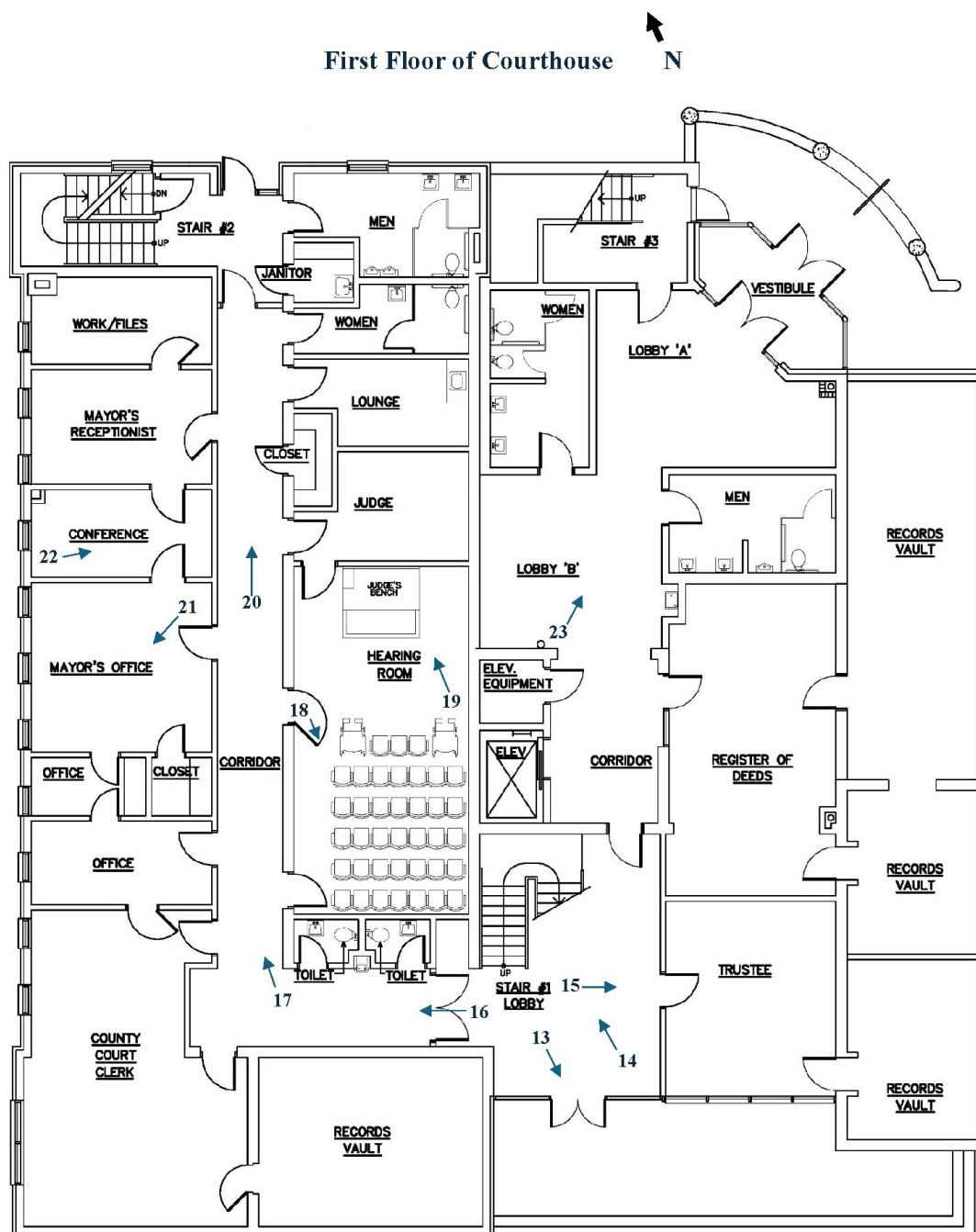
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Photos and PlansPage 35

Floor Plans

Not to Scale; all plans provided by Johnson County Government



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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Johnson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Johnson County, Tennessee

County and State

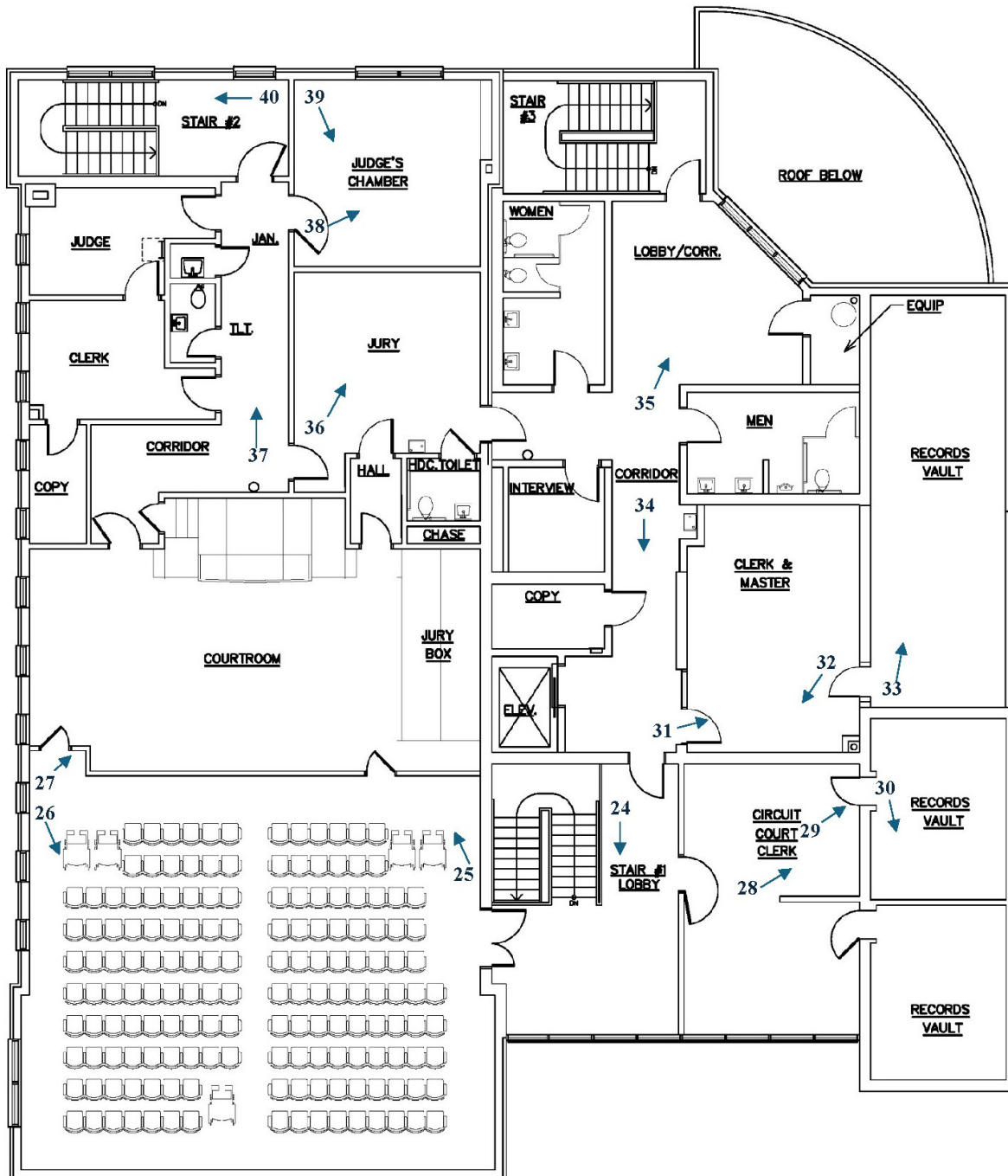
Historic County Facilities in Tennessee, ca.

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Photos and PlansPage 36

Second Floor of Courthouse N



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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Johnson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Johnson County, Tennessee

County and State

Historic County Facilities in Tennessee, ca.

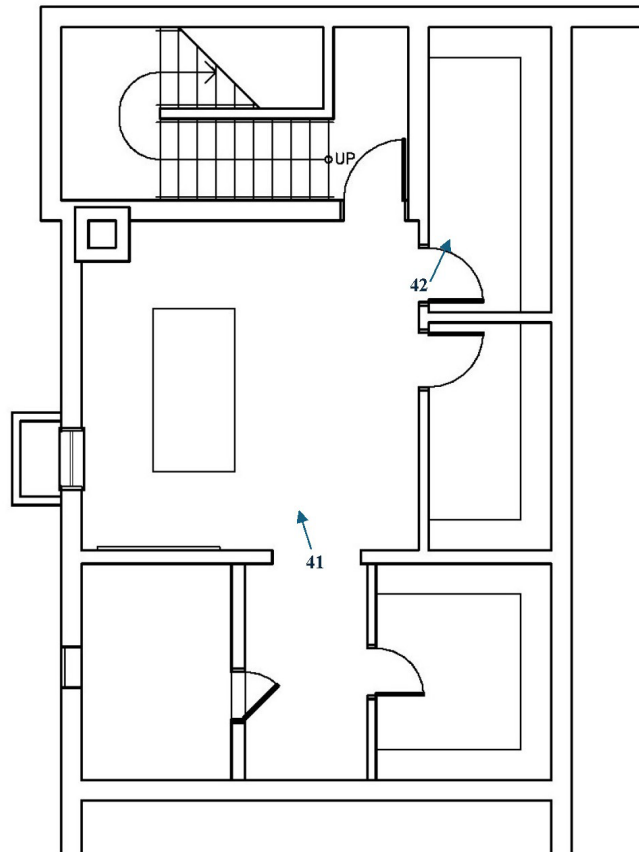
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Basement of Courthouse



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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Johnson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Johnson County, Tennessee

County and State

Historic County Facilities in Tennessee, ca.

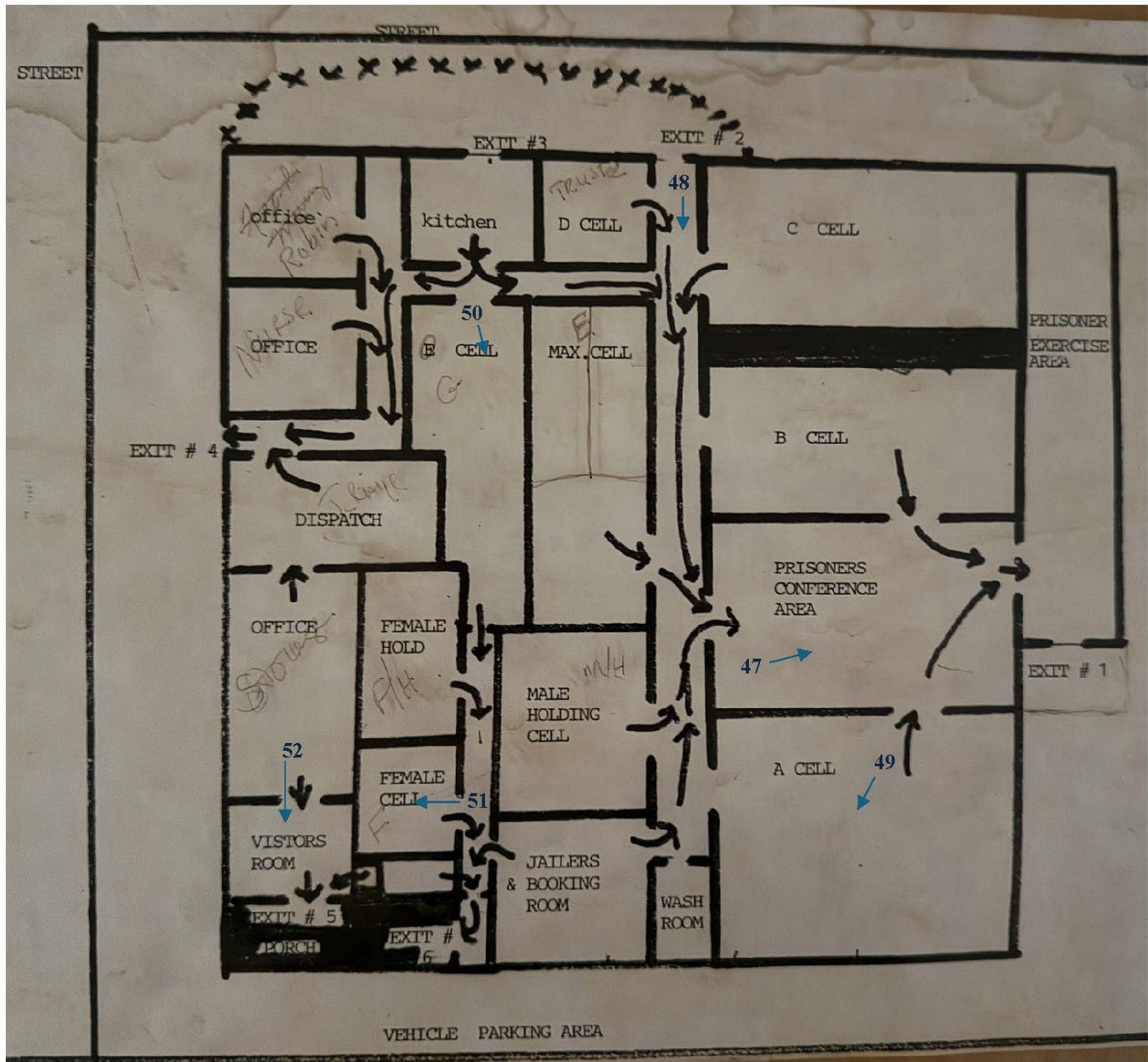
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Floorplan of County Jail

N



Property Owner(s):

(This information will not be submitted to the National Park Service, but will remain on file at the Tennessee Historical Commission)

Name	Johnson County Government c/o County Mayor Larry Potter		
Street & Number	222 W. Main Street	Telephone	423-727-9696
City or Town	Mountain City	State/Zip	TN/ 37683



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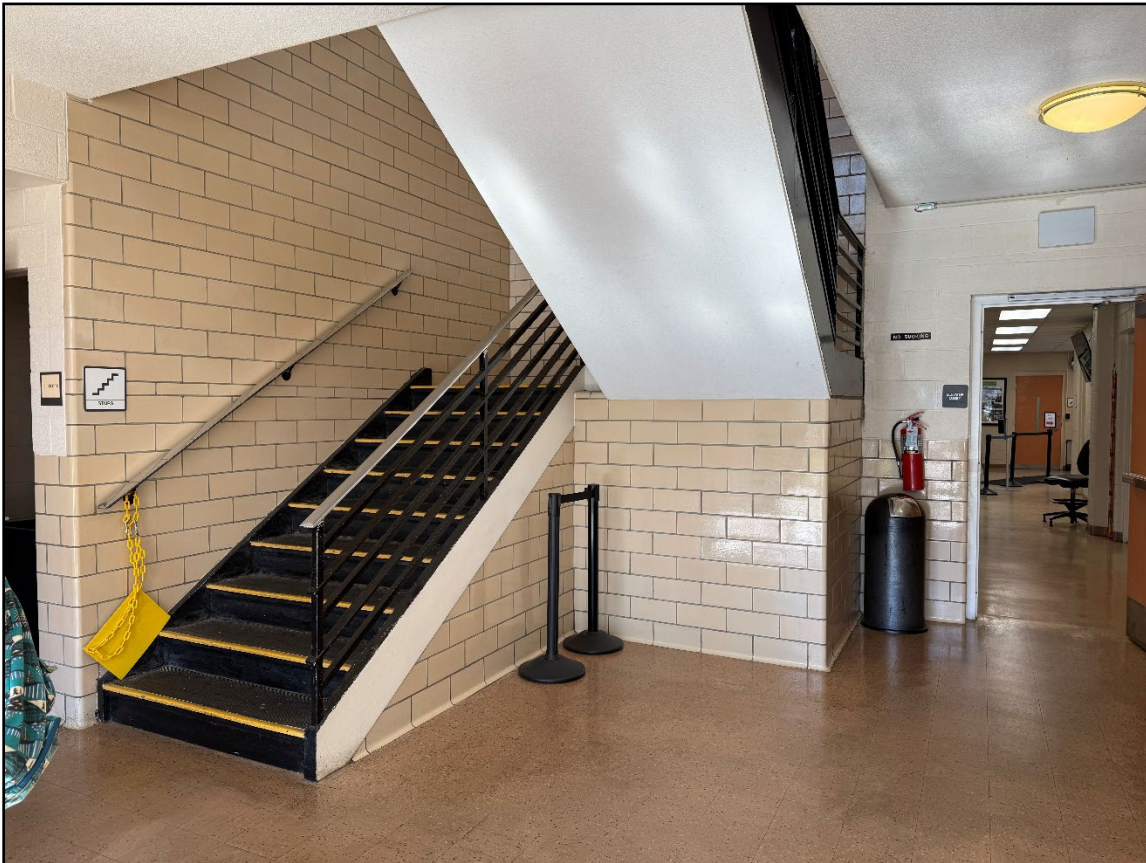
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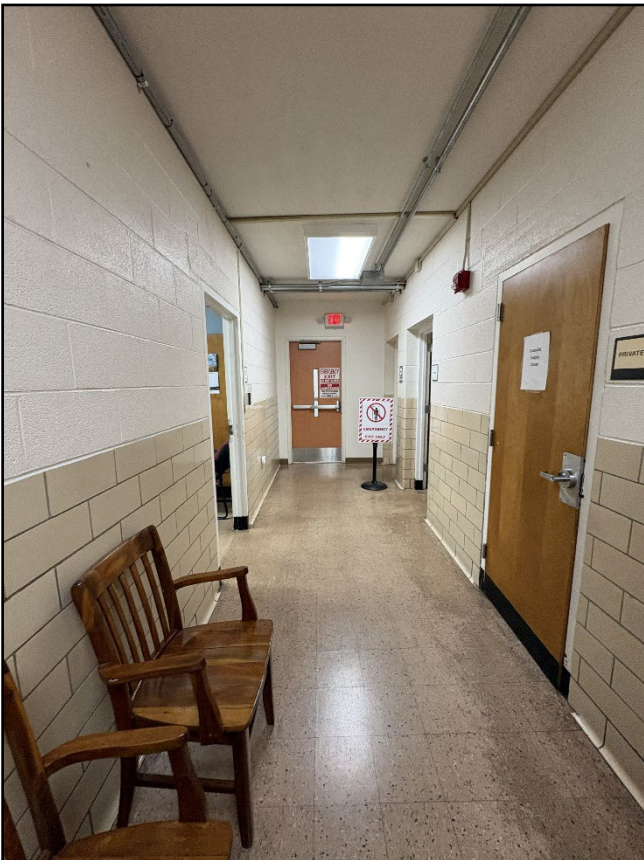
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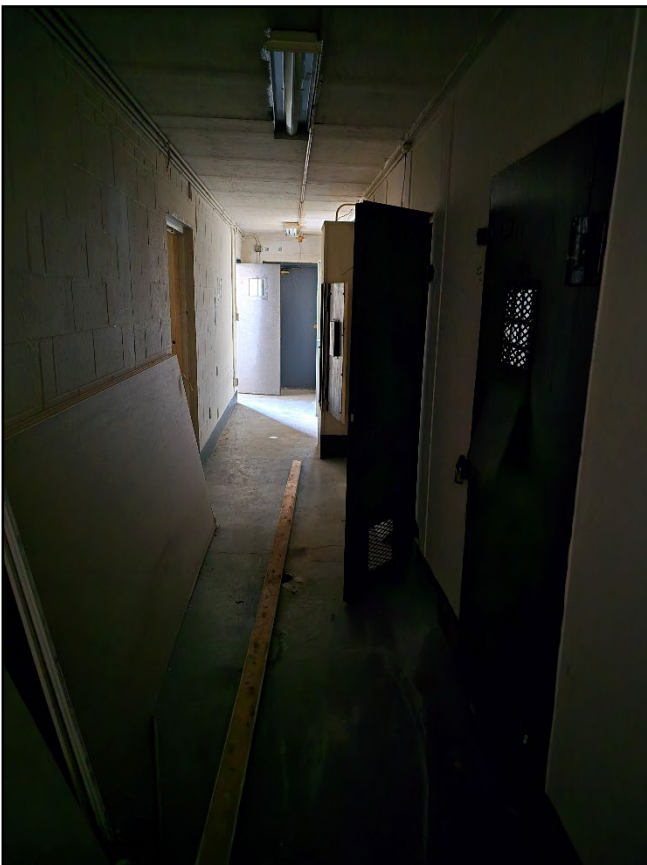
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