

PH0013923

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia
COUNTY: Wilkes
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JUN 5 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
The Old Jail

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
103 Court Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
Georgia

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
10th - Robert G. Stephens, Jr.

CODE COUNTY: CODE
13 Wilkes 317

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	as a
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>vacant - to</u>	<u>Town-house</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<u>be restored</u>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Nita R. Edwards

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 2 Box 162

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
Georgia

CODE
13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
Georgia

CODE
13

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State Local

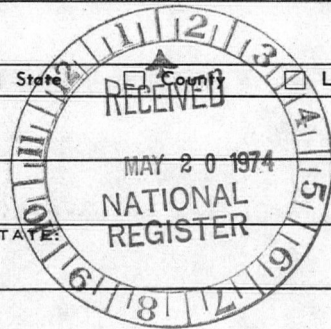
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
Georgia

CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Georgia

COUNTY: Wilkes

ENTRY NUMBER: JUN 5 1974

DATE: JUN 5 1974

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Wilkes County Jail is one of the most unusually designed structures of its kind in Georgia. It was designed in a Romanesque style and built under the direction of the McDonald Brothers Jail Building Company of Louisville, Kentucky.

Constructed of red brick in common bond, the jail is basically a two story with basement, square, hipped roof structure with a belt coursing of rough stone. The front facade in design follows the covered stairway, under which is a post and lintel stone-faced doorway. Brick designs including flat gauged apertures between each column, indented square brick patterns, and a brick, dentilled cornice along the stepped and gabled rooflines help to make up this elaborate design. A series of small round head arches form a pattern across the gabled portion of the roof. The six-over-six windows have flat gauged brick work above each window. These windows have been slightly altered to make the opening smaller.

Originally the interior had eight cell blocks with four on each floor. Each cell was divided and floored by eight by ten blocks of Indiana limestone. The method of heating was a system of moat-like ducts on the interior periphery of the structure and in an L-shape through the center of the four room plan. Theoretically the limestone would absorb and transmit the heat upward through the floor.

Over the course of years the jail has been altered to suit various functions: wood flooring was placed over the limestone flooring, rooms petitioned, an interior stair was built, then later removed. Many of the limestone blocks that were removed from the jail are on a rear lot.

Recently the jail was acquired by a preservation-minded individual who plans to restore it for adaptive use as a townhouse.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1891

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Wilkes County Jail, built in 1891, is designed in the Romanesque style by the McDonald Brothers Jail Building Company of Louisville, Kentucky, with a heating system that was both innovative and experimental. The building was used as a jail house for less than twenty years, then as a house, and later as an apartment-restaurant. Presently plans are being made for its adaptive use as a town house.

The Old Jail, as it is commonly referred to, was built to meet a need for a better jail, a need that had been discussed in the Grand Jury minutes since the 1870's. The new jail, the contract of which was awarded to McDonald Brothers Jail Building Company on January 22, 1891, for a total cost of \$8,250, was built on the site that the county had owned since 1821. The McDonald Brothers Jail Building Company was very well known for its jail and public building designs in the South and Mid-West during the last twenty years of the nineteenth century.

Three of the McDonald brothers, Harry, Kenneth and Donald McDonald, formed the McDonald Brothers Company in 1883, which continued at least until 1891. Although the Louisville city directory lists them all as architects, Harry was also president of the Louisville Bottle and Extract Manufacturing Company and president of the McDonald Brothers Building Company; Kenneth was the secretary of the jail company and Donald was the general manager. Both Harry and Donald attended the engineering school of Washington College.

The McDonald Brothers' design for the jail was the Romanesque style that was popular during the late nineteenth century. This style is evidenced in the solidarity and strength exhibited in the square brick pillars, the shadow-box plaque and dentil designs and the rough stone banding. The jail's exterior design was up-to-the-minute stylistically, but the heating system design more closely approached that of an experiment perhaps even being a forerunner of the duct or forced air method of heating. A fire was to be built outside, with the hot air drawn in through a system of moat-like tunnels formed by large limestone blocks. In theory, the warm air was apparently expected to be conducted upwards in the ducts and transmitted to the cells through the porous limestone walls and floor. This system, however, did not function as expected and was a major reason that the jail was used for such a short period.

In the Superior Court Minutes of May 1892, the Grand Jury expressed its great satisfaction with the new jail. They also praised its cleanliness and

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 5 1974

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (continued)

comfort in comparison with the old jail. They recommended the building of a fence and the installation of blinds at the windows. However, in their pre-
sentments that were published in the Wilkes County Chronicle on June 4, 1895,
the Wilkes County Commissioners announced that they would accept bids on a
contract for a new heating system for the jail. With the change in heating
systems, the old jail appears to have limped along until it was abandoned in
favor of a newer jail which was built between 1910 and 1911.

The McDonald Brothers-built jail was apparently vacant and deteriorating
from the turn of the century until the early 1930's. The rundown building
changed ownership several times during the 1930's and the 1940's. The ground
floor at one time was operated as the Royal Cafe, while the upper floor was
made into an apartment during this period. The present owner plans to remodel
the interior, reconstruct a fence, and use the structure as a town house.

9. Bibliographical References (continued)

181875, annotated in 1934, by Hunter McDonald, Nashville, Tennessee, pp. 151, 156, 14,
414, 418-9, 422-5.
Willingham, Robert Marion, Jr., We Have This Heritage, Wilkes Publishing Com-
pany, 1969.



PROPERTY <i>The Old Jail</i>		STATE <i>Ga.</i>	Wilkes 74000706
WORKING NUMBER <i>5.20.74.831</i>			
TECH REVIEW		PHOTOS <u><i>5</i></u>	
		MAPS <u><i>2</i></u>	
CONTROL REVIEW			<i>OK</i> <i>cm</i> <i>5.24</i> <i>74</i>
HISTORIAN	<i>NICE!</i>		<i>Accept</i> <i>w. r. line</i> <i>5/24/74</i>
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN	<i>Interesting -</i>		<i>Accept</i> <i>J. Thorman</i> <i>5/24/74</i>
ARCHEOLOGIST			
REVIEW UNIT CHIEF	<i>Interesting bldg.</i>		<i>Accept</i> <i>Cole</i> <i>5/29/74</i>
BRANCH CHIEF			
KEEPER			<i>Accept</i> <i>Herring</i> <i>for Muntz</i> <i>5-31-74</i>

National Register Write-up <u><i>July 11, 1974</i></u>	Send-back _____
Federal Register entry <u><i>July 2, 1974</i></u>	Re-submit _____
Entered	JUN 5 1974



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 5 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: The Old Jail

AND/OR HISTORIC: The Old Jail

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

103 Court Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Washington

STATE:

Georgia

CODE

1373

COUNTY:

Wilkes

CODE

317

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Glen Weber The News Reporter Weekly Newspaper

DATE OF PHOTO: April 5, 1973

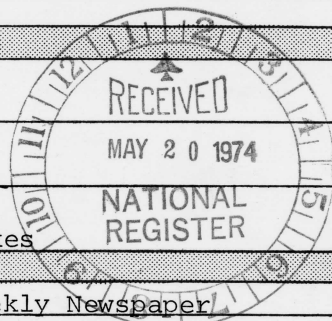
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Mrs. Nita R. Edwards Rt. 2, Box 162 Washington, Georgia

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Right and back view of The Old Jail
View shows the two stories of The Old Jail, and part of
the basement. Northeast to West





NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	Georgia	
COUNTY	Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	JUN 5 1974	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

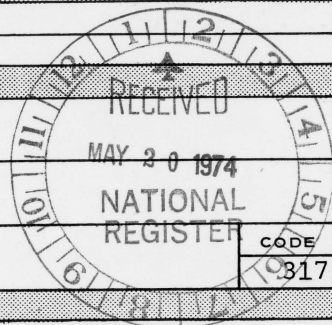
1. NAME

COMMON: The Old Jail
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Old Jail

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
103 Court Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE: Georgia

CODE COUNTY: CODE
31373 Wilkes 317



3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Glen Weber The News Reporter Weekly Newspaper
DATE OF PHOTO: April 5, 1973
NEGATIVE FILED AT:
Mrs. Nita R. Edwards Rt. 2, Box 162 Washington, Georgia

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
Left side of The Old Jail
View of stairway to top floor
West to East View



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	5 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: The Old Jail

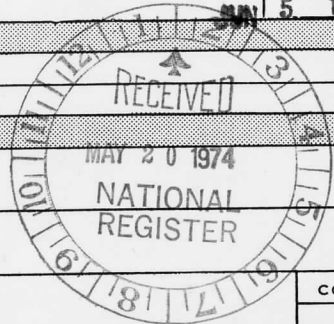
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Old Jail

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
103 Court Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: Georgia	CODE 13.73	COUNTY: Wilkes	CODE 317
-------------------	---------------	-------------------	-------------



3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Glen Weber The News Reporter Weekly Newspaper

DATE OF PHOTO: April 5, 1973

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Mrs. Nita R. Edwards Rt. 2 Bos 162 Washington, Ga.

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Front and side view of The Old Jail
Showing the entrance and stairway to top floor on outside
of the building, West to North East.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	Georgia	
COUNTY	Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		JUN 5 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

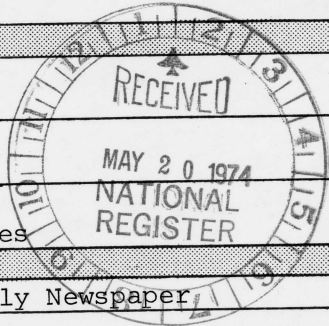
COMMON: The Old Jail
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Old Jail

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
103 Court Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: Georgia	CODE 30133	COUNTY: Wilkes	CODE 317
-------------------	---------------	-------------------	-------------



3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Glen Weber The News Reporter Weekly Newspaper

DATE OF PHOTO: April 5, 1973

NEGATIVE FILED AT:
Mrs. Nita R. Edwards Rt. 2 Box 162 Washington, Georgia

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Front View of the Old Jail
Showing the complete building
Taken from South -- looking North



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUN 5 1974	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: The Old Jail

AND/OR HISTORIC: The Old Jail

2. LOCATION

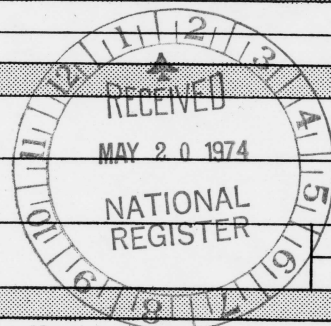
STREET AND NUMBER:
103 Court Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
Georgia

CODE COUNTY:
313 Wilkes

CODE
317



3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Glen Weber The News Reporter Weekly Newspaper

DATE OF PHOTO: April 5, 1973

NEGATIVE FILED AT:
Mrs. Nita R. Edwards Rt. 2 Box 162 Washington, Georgia

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
Front View of The Old Jail
West to East

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 5 1974	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: The Old Jail

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

103 Court Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Washington

STATE:

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY:

Wilkes

CODE

317

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

Georgia Highway Department Map

SCALE: 1 mile = 1/2 inch

DATE: 1969

4. REQUIREMENTS

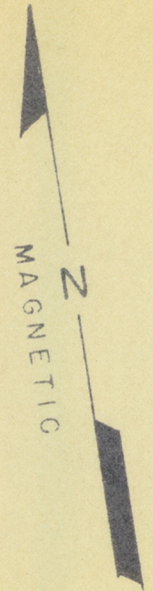
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

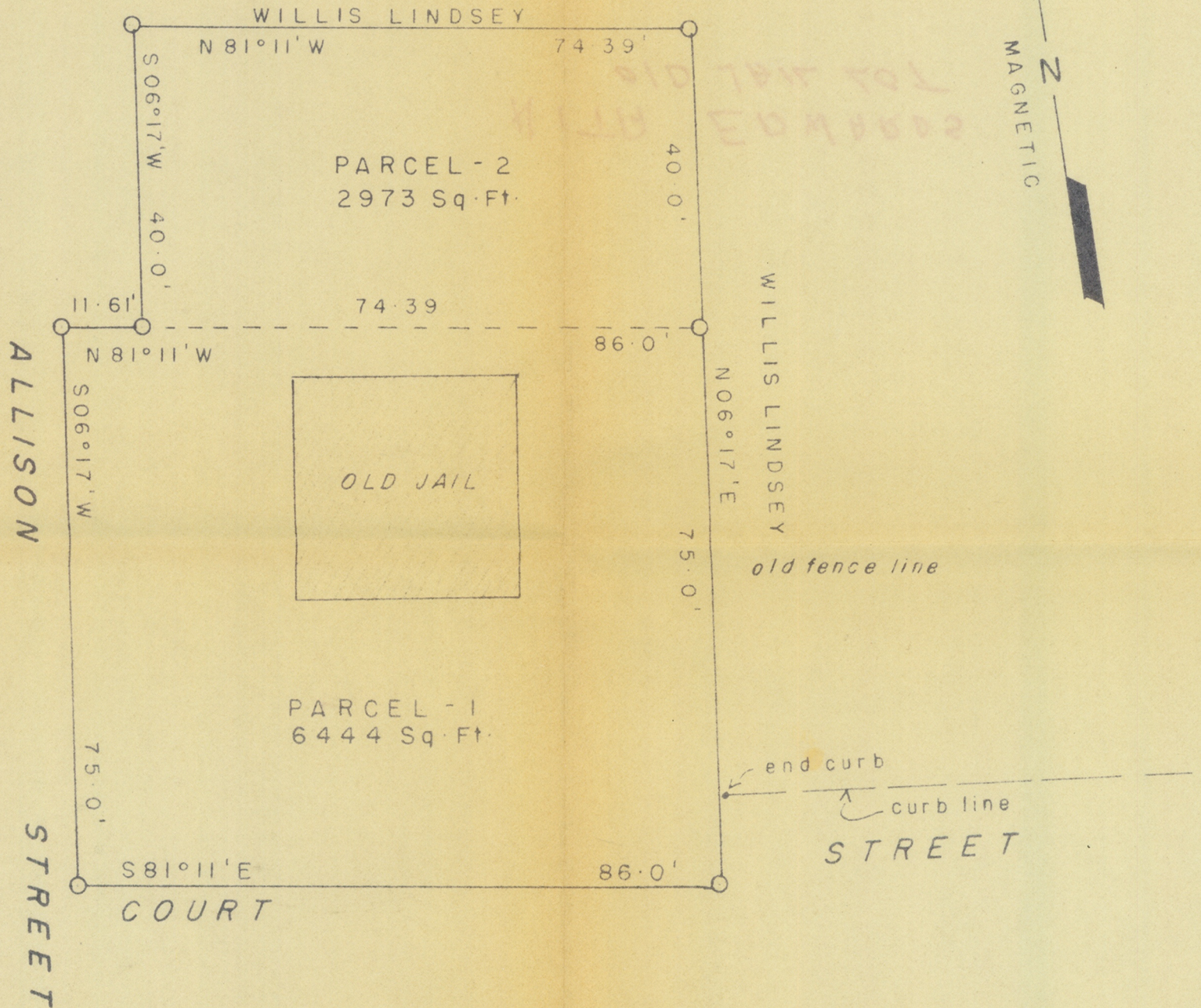
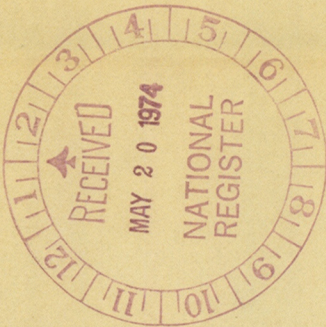


SURVEY NOTES

- 1. Rel. error of closure - 1 / 5000
- 2. Dwg. no. A4736
- 3. Street boundaries indeterminate.



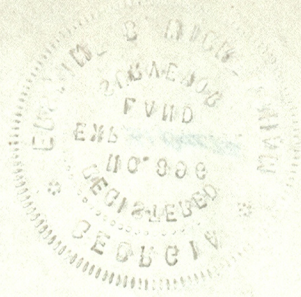
164th MILITIA DISTRICT



ERSKINE B. WICKERSHAM
SURVEYOR
WASHINGTON, GA.



NITA EDWARDS
OLD JAIL LOT
WASHINGTON, GEORGIA
SCALE, 1 INCH = 20 FT. — 27 MCH. 1973



WASHINGTON
MAY 10 1900
RECEIVED

WASHINGTON
MAY 10 1900
RECEIVED

2166E1

AT 1120

HITA EDWARDS
OLD JAIL LOT

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUN 5 1974	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: the Old Jail
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Old Jail

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
103 Court Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

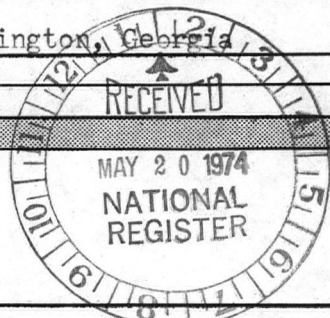
STATE: Georgia	CODE 13	COUNTY: Wilkes	CODE 317
-------------------	------------	-------------------	-------------

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: Erskine B. Wickersham Surveyor Washington, Georgia
SCALE: 1 in. equals 20 ft.
DATE: 27 March 1973

4. REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
 2. North arrow.
 3. Latitude and longitude reference.





Joe B. Tanner
COMMISSIONER

Charles M. Parrish, III
DIVISION DIRECTOR

Department of Natural Resources

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH
270 WASHINGTON ST., S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-5160

May 13, 1974

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Enclosed is the National Register nomination form for the Old Jail in Washington, Georgia. We are proposing this site as one of the grant-in-aid applicants for FY 1975 and would appreciate your giving this nomination high priority in your review process.

Sincerely,

Carole A. Summers
Coordinator
Historic Sites Survey

a

cas

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE GEORGIA

Date Entered JUN 5 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
The Old Jail	Washington Wilkes County

Also Notified

Hon. Herman E. Talmadge
Hon. Sam Nunn
Hon. Robert G. Stephens, Jr.

Regional Director, Southeast
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Joe D. Tanner, Commissioner
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
710 Trinity-Washington Building
270 Washington Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

PR MMOTT: p1 7 6/10/74