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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND O'RIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located in Mountain View, Arkansas, the Stone County Courthouse was constructed in 1922. Architect C. A. Ferrell designed the building which was contracted by C. M. Leird.

The two-and-one-half-storey structure features an inset center bay flanked by projecting wings. The irregular roofline is composed of hip components and is supported by exposed rafter ends.

Constructed of native stone, the building is symmetrically balanced. With the exception of the facade, windows in the building are double-hung, six-over-one. The windows on the second storey of the recessed center bay are narrow with square six-lite transoms. All windows feature stone lugsills.

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The facade is marked by the inset center bay, which itself is comprised of six "sub-bays." The double entry is covered by a one-storey portico with hip roof and dentiled cornice, the portico roof supported by two square stone posts. A gabled dormer with a wide overhang extends from the roof in the middle of the central recessed bay. Three small windows with four lites each span the width of the dormer. Stone chinneys rise from the inner slopes of the roofs on the projecting wings.

The east and west elevations are marked by two-storey projections each of which contain a double door at the first storey level and paired windows at the second storey.

The rear (north) elevation also contains an inset center bay flanked by projecting wings. In the center of the inset bay is a one-storey hip roof projection.

The interiors have been altered to accommodate changing office needs. Other alterations include the modernization of double-entry doors on the facade and east and west elevations and the replacement of window lites in second-storey windows in the center bay.

In good condition, the Stone County Courthouse is a good representation of the native stone architecture found in northern Arkansas.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The largest number of architecturally significant public buildings in Arkansas are the courthouses scattered over the state's seventy-five counties. A structural symbol of American government, the county courthouse serves as the center of local political activity. Often the largest and most costly building in the county, the courthouse is almost always a source of pride to the citizens who financed and make use of its facilities.

Six hundred and eleven square miles in size, Stone County was created by an act of the Arkansas General Assembly of April 21, 1873. The name of the county was derived from its rugged and timbered land. Stone County is a prime example of Arkansas' folk culture and is for this reason a large tourist attraction. Mountain View was incorporated in 1890 as the first and only county seat. The courthouse square is the scene of many of Stone County's folk music activities for which the county is known.

Constructed in 1922, the Stone County Courthouse is a two-and-one-half storey structure. The building is representative of the local use of natural materials. The building is symmetrical, featuring an inset center bay flanked by projecting bays. The irregular moofline is composed of hip components and is supported by exposed rafter ends.

Architecturally, the Stone County Courthouse is a significant representative of the style found frequently in northern Arkansas. It is one of Stone County's most impressive structures. As the center of government and politics in Stone County, the building is a significant historical structure.

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