

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Second Yadkin County Jail
other names/site number Charles Bruce Davis Museum of Art, History, and Science

2. Location

street & number 241 East Hemlock St., junction of E. Hemlock/Van Buren St. not for publication n/a
city, town Yadkinville n/a vicinity
state North Carolina code NC county Yadkin code 197 zip code 27855

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
☒ private	☒ building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
☐ public-local	☐ district	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
☐ public-State	☐ site		sites
☐ public-Federal	☐ structure		structures
	☐ object		objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. ☐ See continuation sheet.

William S. Smith, Jr.
Signature of certifying official

6-2-88
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government--correctional facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Work in Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Utilitarian Vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls brick

roof asphalt

other metal

concrete

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The second Yadkin County Jail, now being restored as the Charles Bruce Davis Museum of Art and History, is located at the corner of East Hemlock and Van Buren streets two blocks north of the Yadkin County Library and near the County Courthouse. Built ca. 1892 after the original county jail was destroyed by fire, this one-story hip-roofed brick building measuring 22 feet by 36 feet served as the Yadkin County Jail until 1928, when it was replaced by a much larger two-story brick jail. At that time its interior was converted into apartments.

In 1976 the jail, a small two-story concrete block outbuilding behind it, and the small town lot on which they stand were acquired by the family of the late Charles Bruce Davis and given to the Yadkin County Historical Society. The intensive stabilization and restoration of the jail began soon after acquisition by the Historical Society, and has basically been completed. All that remains to be done is to wire and plumb the building for use as a museum.

The second Yadkin County Jail is a rectangular, two-room building, two bays wide and four bays deep. The original front is the west end, although the south elevation became the front with the addition of a door to this elevation when the building was converted to apartments. The west front contains the original front door opening (the door is a replacement), and one window (now infilled with brick). There are four symmetrically placed windows on the north elevation, two windows and one door (originally a window) on the south elevation, and no openings on the east elevation. Except for the west window, which will be reopened at a later date, the other window openings contain the original, reconditioned and rebuilt two-over-two sash windows and segmental-arched openings. The four inch brick walls, laid in common one-to-five American bond, rise from a narrow water table.

The jail restoration was accomplished through the diligent efforts of the Yadkin County Historical Society and the Yadkinville Junior Historians, and has respected the architectural integrity of the building. The major work was the removal of structural elements added in the 1928 apartment conversion, and the repair and replacement of original, deteriorated building materials. A cement block addition was removed from the south elevation. The west door of the two added doors on this side (both cut into original window openings in 1928), was restored to its original configuration as a window. The other door was left as an entrance to the room which will eventually serve as an exhibit area. The old roof was removed, about 25% of the deteriorated wooden rafters replaced, and a new asphalt shingle roof installed.

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The original two-room floorplan remains unaltered. The two unequal-sized rooms are divided by a plastered brick wall running north-south. The larger east room served as the "bull pen" where maximum security prisoners were kept. In the center was a cage which held these prisoners, while the less dangerous prisoners were allowed to roam the corridor outside the "bull pen."¹ The cage is no longer there but the outline of its original location is visible in the concrete floor.

The west room was the office, and was separated from the east cell room by a metal door, now removed. The metal threshold remains. Along the north wall of the office were two cells measuring approximately ten feet by ten feet, with hinged metal doors. Only one remains, but the location of the other is known and hopefully can be retrieved. The interior wall dividing these cells was removed to create a bathroom when the building was converted to apartments, and the west window infilled at this time.

Restoration work on the interior has accomplished the following projects. The original ribbed sheet metal "accordion" ceiling has been cleaned and painted. The wooden flooring which covered the original concrete floor was torn up and discarded. Window sashes and jambs were reconditioned and in some cases rebuilt from original woodwork found in the block outbuilding. The interior plaster walls were patched and repainted, leaving approximately 85% of the original plaster intact.

This nomination includes one outbuilding, a two-story concrete block storage building dating from the 1930s. It has been reroofed and is presently used for storage for the Historical Society. It is noncontributing. Also said to have been on the property was a stockade fence composed of wooden panels, approximately eight feet high, built on two sides of the jail. No documentary or physical evidence remains to substantiate this fence.²

(This physical description is taken from the description prepared by Kirk Mohny for the Yadkin County Survey, from The Heritage of Yadkin County, 1981, from a presentation by Frances Casstevens to a Board of Directors meeting of the Charles Bruce Davis Museum of Art, History, and Science on August 30, 1987, from interviews with Al Hudson and Lloyd Pardue who have worked on the restoration, and from the unpublished notes of M.R. Dunnagan.)

Statement of Significance
Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

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

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1892-1928

Significant Dates

ca. 1892

1928

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The second Yadkin County Jail, 241 East Hemlock Street, Yadkinville, a one-story brick building of vernacular design built around 1892, served as the Yadkin County jail until 1928, and is now under restoration as the Charles Bruce Davis Museum of Art, History and Science. As the only county government building surviving from Yadkin County's first half century, it is eligible for the Register under Criterion A in the area of Politics/Government. As a well-preserved example of a county jail, a property type now quite endangered throughout North Carolina's county seats, it is eligible under Criterion C.

Historical Background

At the time that Yadkinville was established as the county seat of Yadkin County, in the 1850-1851 session of the North Carolina General Assembly, this area was sparsely settled. In order to establish the county seat, the "County Court" bought fifty acres of land from a local landowner, Robert Mackie, and laid out a grid system with the courthouse located in the center of this grid on a plot 300 feet square. In 1853 the county sold a total of 26 half-acre lots within a two block radius of the courthouse square to private owners, but retained lot number 63 for the location of the first county jail.³

The first jail, one block northeast of the courthouse, on the corner of Main and Van Buren streets, was a two-story brick building with living quarters for the jailer and his family on the first floor and jail cells on the second. This jail burned. Little documentary evidence remains to provide a date for the actual construction and burning of this jail. According to the 1950 recollections of M. R. Dunnagan, whose family lived one lot over from the jail at the time of the fire, the first jail burned in 1894 or 1895, but the fire was apparently earlier, since county records prove conclusively that the new jail was built in 1892.⁴

The second Yadkin County Jail, the building nominated here, was built two blocks north of the original jail on land that the county bought from Thomas L. Tulbert in 1892. Also in 1892, specific references to the building of a new

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jail appear in the June through September "Minutes of the Yadkin County Commissioners." A special tax was levied for the "purpose of building a jail," out of which J. J. Wallace was paid over \$1000 in installments for work done on the jail. On September 27, 1892 the commissioners authorized a \$2750 payment to the Pauley Jail Building and Manufacturing Company of St. Louis, Missouri for "cells and jail fixtures."⁵

Although the iron jail cells shipped from St. Louis are gone, the metal "accordion" ceiling, perhaps also ordered from this same company, is still in place. It supports a layer of concrete which creates a fireproof ceiling system. Since the old jail had just burned, this would have been of utmost priority to the county. The 1890s are the first decade during which these fireproof metal and concrete ceilings are known to have been used in North Carolina. Other early examples in the state are other county government buildings, such as the new Hanover County Courthouse, built in 1891. Such ceilings were beginning to be used in Register of Deeds offices, for obvious reasons.⁶

Since the second Yadkin County Jail included no living quarters for the jailor, the jailor's house was located just west of the jail. The second jail continued in use until 1928, when a third, larger jail was built. At that time the second jail was converted to apartments by adding a concrete block addition to the south elevation and converting two original windows in this elevation to doors.⁷ In 1976 the property was donated to the Yadkin County Historical Society. It is now being returned to its original size and layout to be used as a museum.⁸

Historical Contexts

Politics/Government

Because of its remote location from either the railroad in Surry County or the river crossings, Yadkinville did not experience sustained development until the late 1880s and 1890s. By 1896 Branson's Business Directory listed six merchants in town. Its role as a county seat of justice assured it a certain measure of importance.⁹ It was during this period of growth that the second Yadkin County Jail was built.

The original grid system of Yadkinville remains, but very few of the houses and commercial buildings of the late nineteenth century have survived with any degree of integrity. With the demolition of the original courthouse in 1958, the only remaining government building from the first half-century of Yadkin County's history is the second Yadkin County Jail.

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Architecture

The second Yadkin County Jail was identified as being architecturally significant during the 1986 comprehensive inventory of Yadkin County by architectural historian Kirk Mohny, and was placed on the Study List for nomination to the National Register. According of Mohny's inventory report, the jail is one of a handful of nineteenth century non-residential buildings surviving in the county.¹⁰ Although the jail is utilitarian in design, it is of architectural interest because it is representative of a property type, the county jail, found in dwindling numbers throughout North Carolina's county seats. Built for a sparsely populated county, its one-story form represents one of the smallest types of jails. Its brick construction and segmental-arched windows are characteristic of commercial and public buildings in Yadkin County during the nineteenth century. Its original concrete floor and metal ceiling represent state-of-the-art fireproof construction, a new trend in public buildings in North Carolina.

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Footnotes

1. Frances Casstevens, ed. The Heritage of Yadkin County. Published by the Yadkinville Historical Society. (Winston-Salem: Hunter Publishing Company, Inc., 1981), pp. 188-189.
2. Macon Rush Dunnagan, "Yadkin County: Early Memories," May 1950, p. 1. (Copy in nomination file, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office).
3. William E. Rutledge Jr., An Illustrated History of Yadkin County, 1850-1980. (Yadkinville, N.C., 1981), p. 53.
4. Dunnagan, "Yadkin County," p. 1.
5. Minutes of the Yadkin County Commissioners, June 7-September 27, 1892, pp. 321-334.
6. Interview with Peter Sandbeck, architectural historian, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office.
7. Deed Book 31, page 66. Office of the Register of Deeds, Yadkin County Courthouse, Yadkinville.
8. Deed Book 117, page 89. Office of the Register of Deeds, Yadkin County Courthouse, Yadkinville.
9. Kirk F. Mohny, "A Survey of Yadkin County Architecture," conducted in 1986 for the Yadkin County Historical Society and the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, p. 49.
10. Mohny, p. 50.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

☒ See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A

1	1	7
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5	3	0	9	0	0
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3	9	9	8	8	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is outlined in red on the enclosed Yadkinville Tax Map, Parcel 5817 (17) 8406. It is the entire parcel belonging to the Yadkin County Historical Society. The trapezoidal-shaped lot measures 133.4' x 169.8' x 65.2' x 150.6'.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property constitutes the entire lot historically associated with the second Yadkin County Jail.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janine B. Cutchin

organization consultant date January 24, 1988

street & number 1028 West End Boulevard telephone (919) 724-3077

city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27101

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Bibliographical References

Brumfield, Lewis, ed. Historical Architecture of Yadkin County, North Carolina.
Winston-Salem: Winston Printing Company, 1987.

Dunnagan, M.R. "Yadkin County: Early Memories, May 1950." Unpublished notes
obtained from the Yadkin County Historical Society. Xerox copy is in State
Historic Preservation Office file.

Interview with Frances Casstevens, November 5, 1987.

Interview with Al Hudson, November 2, 1987.

Interview with Lloyd Pardue, November 9, 1987.

Interview with Peter Sandbeck, staff, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office.
Interview with Aric D. Wilhelm, October 29, 1987.

Mohney, Kirk. "A Survey of Yadkin County Architecture." Inventory done for the
Yadkin County Historical Society and the North Carolina Department of Archives
and History, 1986.

Records of the Yadkin County Register of Deeds Office.

Records of the Yadkin County Courthouse.

Rutledge, William E. Jr. An Illustrated History of Yadkin County, 1850-1980.
Yadkinville, 1981.

Yadkinville Historical Society. The Heritage of Yadkin County. Edited by
Frances Casstevens. Winston-Salem: Hunter Publishing Company, Inc., 1981.

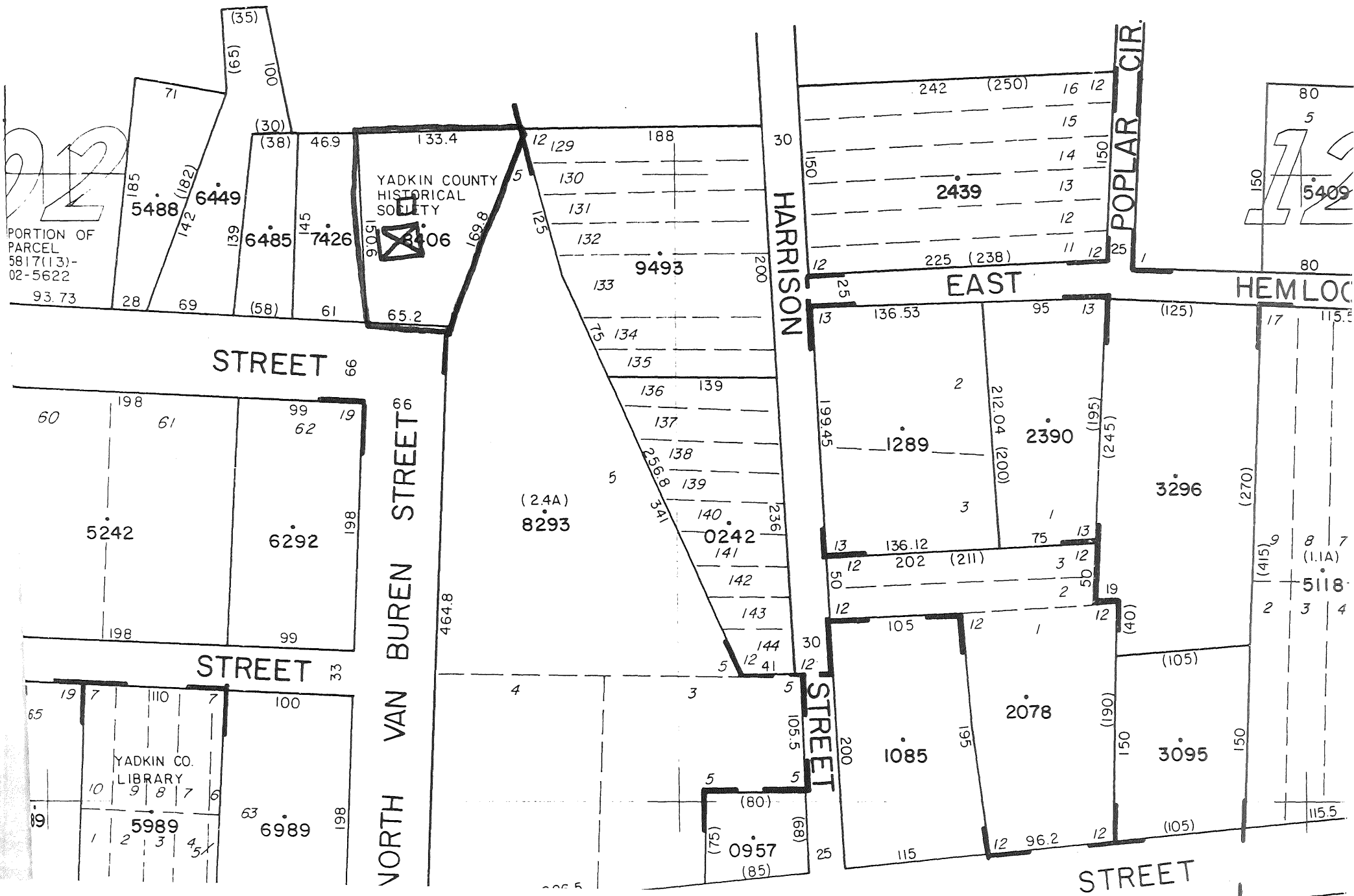
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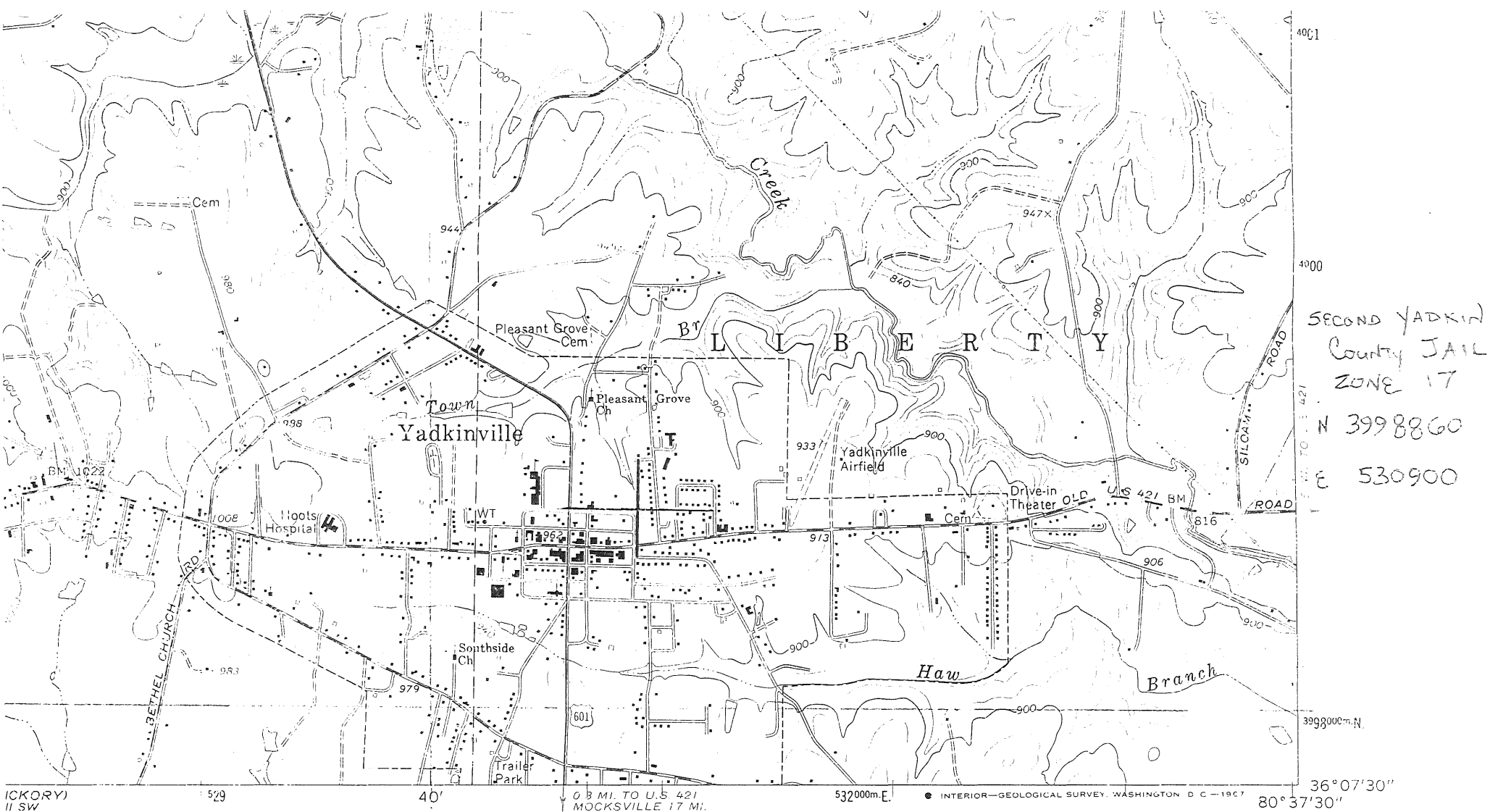
Photographs
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The following information is the same for all photographs:

second . Yadkin County Jail
Charles Bruce Davis Museum of Art, History and Science
241 E. Hemlock Street
Yadkinville, Yadkin County, N.C.
Janine B. Cutchin, photographer
November 2, 1987
negatives at North Carolina Division of Archives and History

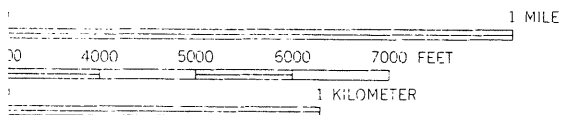
- #1 South elevation, from NW
- #2 North elevation, from SW
- #3 West elevation (original front), from E
- #4 Southeast corner of building, showing water table
- #5 Interior. Larger room on east side, known as the "Bullpen," from SE toward present front door.
- #6 Interior. East room ("Bullpen") showing plastered brick partition wall between east and west rooms
- #7 Interior. Office area in west room, from N. Two holding cells with one remaining hinged metal door.





SECOND YADKIN
County JAIL
ZONE 17
N 3998860
E 530900

(ICKORY)
11 SW
24000



Vertical 20 FEET
Horizontal 4000, 5000, 6000, 7000 FEET



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
U.S. Route State Route

(FARMINGTON)
4856 11 SE

YADKINVILLE, N. C.
N3607.5—W8037 5/7.5

1966

AMS 4856 11 NW—SERIES V842

NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

