

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Fauquier County Jail

AND/OR COMMON

Old Fauquier County Jail (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

NW Corner of Fauquier County Courthouse Square

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Warrenton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

Seventh (J. Kenneth Robinson)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Fauquier

CODE

061

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

X PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

X MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

X UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

X YES RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Fauquier County c/o Chairman, Fauquier County Board of Supervisors

STREET & NUMBER

14 Main Street, P. O. Box 738

CITY, TOWN

Warrenton

VICINITY OF

STATE

Virginia 22186

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Fauquier County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Warrenton

STATE

Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (2) (See Continuation Sheet #1)

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

1958

X FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE
D.C.

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CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 6

PAGE 1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1969, 1976 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located just to the west of the county courthouse, in the heart of Warrenton, the Old Fauquier County Jail consists of two parallel structures joined by a high stone wall. The north structure is a two-story, brick building erected in 1808 as the county jail and converted in 1822 to serve as the jailer's residence. The single-pile building is set on a stone foundation and has walls laid in common bond with parapet gable ends. The facade is three bays with three doors on the first floor and three, six-over-six double-hung windows on the second. A window just to the left of the center door was bricked up in a recent renovation as was a first-floor window in the west end. The roof is covered with slate and has a box cornice and two interior end chimneys. On the east end is a two-story, single-bay 1824 addition containing a kitchen on the first floor.

The interior of the brick building has a center passage containing a very simple stair. A simple Greek Revival mantel is in the first-floor east room. Recent renovations in the west room and the two second-floor rooms have exposed heavy plank ceilings installed originally to secure the former cells against escape. In the jambs of the second-floor windows can be seen the sockets of the bars that originally were in the windows. The kitchen retains its large cooking fireplace.

The area between the two buildings is approximately fifteen feet deep and has doorways at either end secured by heavy batten doors and iron grills. The 1822 jail, the south structure, has approximately the same dimensions as the brick building but is set on a slightly lower grade. It too has a slate roof and parapet gable ends, but its walls are laid in coursed rubble fieldstone. The ceilings and walls of the building's four cell rooms were originally lined (in double thickness) with heavy planks, but only the first-floor west room retains its original appearance. The second floor is reached by a modern metal stair and the second-floor east room now contains a modern metal cellblock of three cells. The windows throughout are secured with iron grills. Behind the building is a jailyard surrounded by a stone wall almost as high as the eaves of the building.

The whole complex stands in generally good condition. Certain modernizations and modifications have taken place since the buildings came under the custodianship of the Fauquier Historical Society so that they can better function as a museum. All features previously mentioned are being retained, however.

CCL

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Warrenton's Old Fauquier County Jail survives as one of the state's most complete and interesting examples of early penal architecture. Included in the complex is the 1808 jail, converted in 1822 to the jailer's residence, and the 1822 stone jail with its walled jailyard. Located adjacent to the county courthouse, the picturesque grouping provides an excellent picture of conditions suffered by inmates of such county facilities over the past century and a half. While some modernization has taken place, sufficient early fabric remains to illustrate how early nineteenth-century jails were constructed and equipped.

Earlier jails in Warrenton served the county during the latter half of the eighteenth century and the first years of the following century. When the courthouse of 1791 was erected (on the site of the present courthouse), the jail of 1779 was repaired and outfitted with new stocks, a whipping post, and pillory. Despite the repairs, this structure proved to be inadequate within several years, so a new jail was ordered; it was to be built just to the west of the courthouse. The new structure was finished by October 24, 1808 when the following entry was recorded in the County Minute Book: "The Commissioners appointed by the Court to superintend the building of the jail reported to the Court that they have received the jail in ample order and that the keys are delivered to the Court and by the Court delivered to the sheriff."

The jail proved adequate for the county's needs until 1821, when a commission was appointed by the court to prepare plans for a new prison and to remodel the old structure. Plans, specifications, and an estimate of \$8000 were prepared by William Pattie, Sr. and Banj. / sic/ V. Larkin. No work was undertaken on the project until October 22, 1822 when the commissioners contracted with John Kemper to convert the old jail into a jailer's residence, to build a connecting stone jail with an enclosed area between the buildings, and to put up a wall around the yard behind the new jail. Two years later Kemper erected a two-story addition on the east end of the 1808 building, the lower story containing a kitchen for the jailer.

The complex continued to serve the county for nearly 150 years. Although a modern metal cellblock had been placed in the stone structure, it was apparent by the 1960s that a larger, more up-to-date facility was required. With the completion of the latest jail in 1964, the former structure was threatened with demolition; thus a group of interested citizens organized an effort to preserve the familiar old landmark. The group formed as the Fauquier Historical Society with the goal of saving and restoring the jail as a museum of county history. In 1975 the county Board of Supervisors granted the society full responsibility for maintaining the structure and operating the museum. The complex has undergone renovation since that time and plans are underway to upgrade the interior for exhibition purposes.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fauquier County Minute Book, 1806-1809, (October 24, 1808).
 Fauquier Historical Foundation, Inc. Old Jail Fauquier County Virginia. Pamphlet, n.d.
 McClary, Jane McIlvaine. "The Warrenton Jail." Spur of Virginia, Winter, 1971.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre - the building only

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 8	2 5 6 8 7 0	4 2 8 8 5 0 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

February 1977

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

804-786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE FEB 15 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

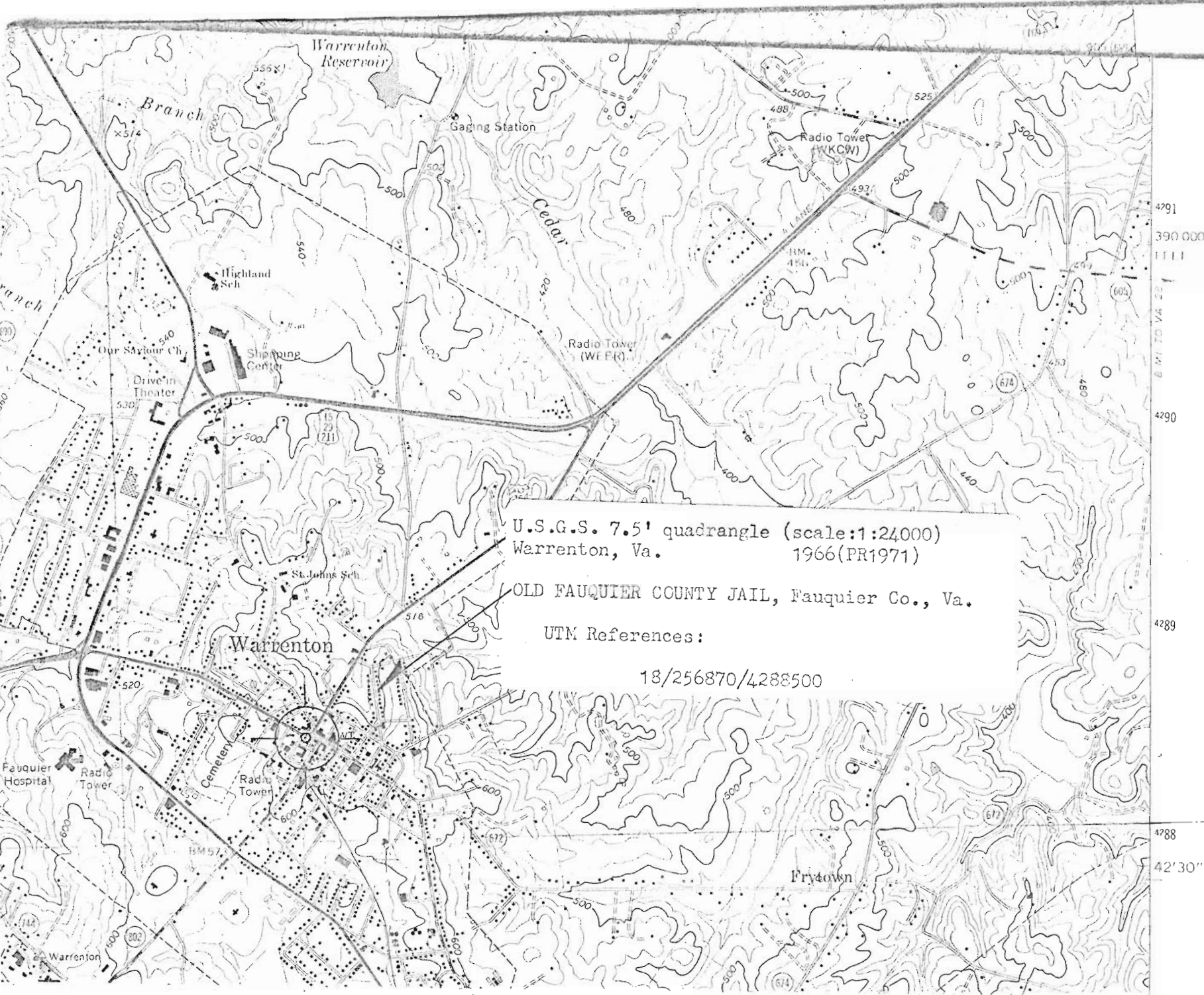
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



U.S.G.S. 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Warrenton, Va. 1966(PR1971)

OLD FAUQUIER COUNTY JAIL, Fauquier Co., Va.

UTM References:
18/256870/4288500

4291
390 000
1111
4290
4289
4288
42'30"