

VLR-6/21/77 NRHP-1/26/78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED --  
DATE ENTERED JAN 26 1978

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

Grayson County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

NE corner of U. 9. Routes 21/221 and 58 (Main Street)  
in the town of Independence.

CITY, TOWN

Independence

VICINITY OF

Ninth {William C. Wampler}

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY

Grayson

CODE

077

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE -	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

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

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Independence

VICINITY OF

Virginia

STATE

24348

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Grayson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Independence

Virginia

STATE

24368

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

STATE

# DESCRIPTION

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

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Grayson County Courthouse at Independence is a square, two-and-a-half-story brick structure built in 1908 by E. L. Robbins from the designs of Frank P. Milburn and Company, architects. All of the facades of the hip-roofed structure except the northern one are marked by central pavilions. That on the south front is suggested by the central Flemish gable and is emphasized by the two chimneys flanking the gable and by the heavy corbeled brackets supporting the termini of the cornice, which breaks at either side of the gable. There is an entrance door sheltered by an unremarkable porch with square brick piers and topped by a wrought-iron balustrade. The second-floor wall is pierced by double label-molded, round-headed windows, while segmental-headed windows flank the pavilion.

The east and west facades have more prominent, slightly projecting pavilions with brick corner quoins above the belt course and more elaborate Flemish gables. The latter are composed of more elements than the south gable and have triple round-headed windows in them rather than the small circular louvre found in the south gable. Like the latter, however, they are flanked by two tall chimneys and are emphasized by a break in the cornice on either side of the chimneys. The east and west facades are alike in that both have four round-headed windows in the second floor of the pavilion with a single round-headed window to either side of the projection and both have a segmental-headed window to either side on the first floor. However, there is an entrance in the west facade, sheltered by a porch similar to that on the south, while the east side is weakly treated with two segmental-arched windows in the pavilion.

The north front is unornamented, but has a projecting open porch with an enclosed porch chamber above it.

The corners of the building are marked by octagonal towers with octagonal, conical roofs. These towers are varied in their fenestration but are visually united with the main block by the encircling water table, belt course, and cornice. The southwest tower was once another stage higher and accommodated a clock, but it was reduced to the height of the other towers in the 1920s. In the same tower is a marble tablet recording the date of the erection of the building and the names of the architect and the contractor.

The plan of the courthouse is a simple one. A passage runs north-south through the center of the building and intersects with another passage entering from the west front. The rest of the first floor is divided into small offices; spiral metal stairs ascend in the southwest and southeast towers. A large courtroom occupies most of the second floor.

There is no significant interior decoration in the building, and apparently there never was any. The interior walls of the first-floor corridors are now treated with rough-cast stucco.

Noteworthy appurtenances include the Confederate monument, the twentieth-century cannon, and the reproduced stocks on the south lawn, as well as the original wrought-iron fence, with its hollow, square newels, which encircles the square.



# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Miles, Pat. "Grayson Citizens Oppose Changing of Courthouse," Galax Gazette, April 16, 1970.

Poole, Munsey. "Odds and Ends from Now and Then," Galax Gazette, April 21, 1970; April 28, 1970; May 5, 1970.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 7	4, 8, 64, 2, 0	4, 0, 5, 2, 8, 2, 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

June 1977

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

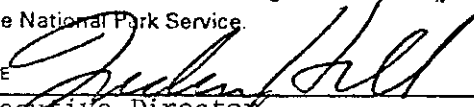
NATIONAL

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE



TITLE

Tucker Hill, Executive Director  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

JUN 21 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Virginia Landmarks Register

DATE

JAN 26 1978

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

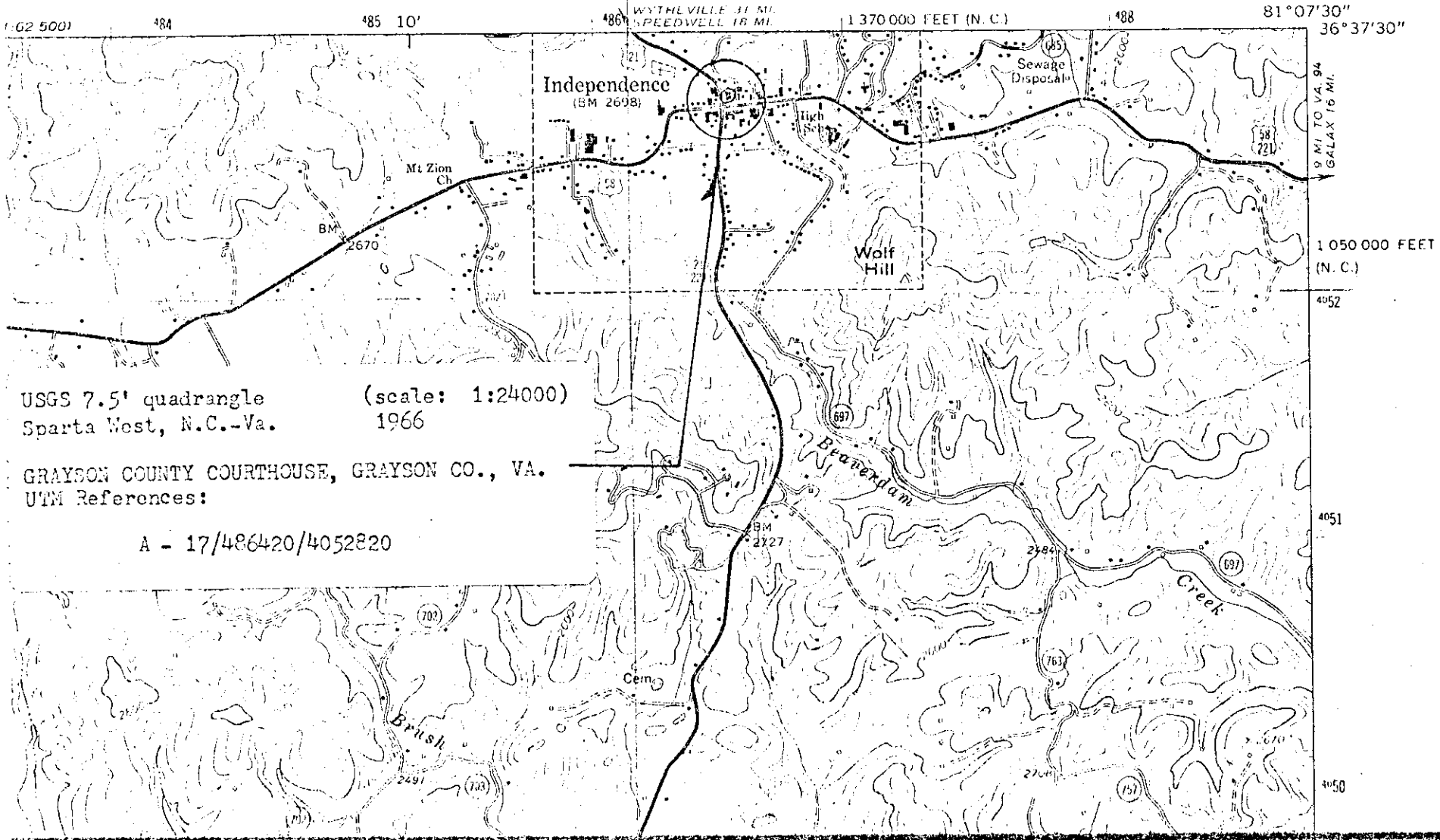
JAN 26 1978

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places

SPARTA WEST QUADRANGLE  
NORTH CAROLINA-VIRGINIA  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SW/4 INDEPENDENCE 15' QUADRANGLE

4757 II  
(INDEPENDENCE)  
1:62,500



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale: 1:24000)  
Sparta West, N.C.-Va. 1966

GRAYSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE, GRAYSON CO., VA.  
UTM References:

A - 17/486420/4052820