

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name Old McDonald County Jail

Other names/site number Old County Jail; McDonald County Jail

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

## 2. Location

Street & number 200 E. Third Street

|     |                     |
|-----|---------------------|
| N/A | not for publication |
|-----|---------------------|

City or town Pineville

|     |          |
|-----|----------|
| N/A | vicinity |
|-----|----------|

State Missouri Code MO County McDonald Code 119 Zip code 64856

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:  A  B  C  D

 Deputy MO SHPO 6/2/2020  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register

other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Old McDonald County Jail  
Name of Property

McDonald County, Missouri  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

|                                     |                  |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | private          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | public - Local   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | public - State   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | public - Federal |

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | building(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | district    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | site        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | structure   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | object      |

| Contributing | Noncontributing |              |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1            | 0               | buildings    |
| 0            | 0               | sites        |
| 0            | 0               | structures   |
| 0            | 0               | objects      |
| 1            | 0               | <b>Total</b> |

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT: correctional facility

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: storage of county documents

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Early 20<sup>th</sup> century jail

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: STONE

roof: ASPHALT

other: \_\_\_\_\_

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES**

Old McDonald County Jail  
Name of Property

McDonald County, Missouri  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Areas of Significance**

Politics/Government  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1904-1969  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Wolf, Fred  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- \_\_\_ Other State agency
- \_\_\_ Federal agency
- \_\_\_ Local government
- \_\_\_ University
- \_\_\_ Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

Old McDonald County Jail  
Name of Property

McDonald County, Missouri  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than 1 acre

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 36.593207 -94.382897 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

\_\_\_\_\_ NAD 1927 or \_\_\_\_\_ NAD 1983

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (On continuation sheet)

**Boundary Justification** (On continuation sheet)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Old McDonald County Jail Committee: Paul Lewis, Gene Hall, Lynn Tatum, Kathy Underwood, Jacob Morris, Missouri SHPO

organization McDonald County Historical Society date September 6,2019

street & number 305 Harmon telephone 417 223-3593

city or town Pineville state MO 64856

e-mail Tatum2@olemac.net

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:**
  - A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
  - A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Photographs**
- **Owner Name and Contact Information**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Old McDonald County Jail

McDonald County, Missouri

Name of Property

County and State

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

## Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## Photo Log:

Name of Property: Old McDonald County Jail

City or Vicinity: Pineville

County: McDonald State: MO

Photographer: Lynn Tatum

Date

Photographed: 07-02-2017 Verified 8-20-2019 by Kathy Underwood

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 24 Exterior: South side, camera facing north
- 2 of 24 Exterior: Southeast side, camera facing northwest
- 3 of 24 Exterior: South side windows, camera facing north
- 4 of 24 Exterior: Northeast corner, camera facing south
- 5 of 24 Exterior: West side of building, front door open, camera facing northeast
- 6 of 24 Exterior: West side window to right of front door, camera facing northeast
- 7 of 24 Exterior: Front door, camera facing east
- 8 of 24 Exterior: Front door open, camera facing southwest
- 9 of 24 Exterior: West window up close, camera facing northwest
- 10 of 24 Exterior: West window & space between post office & extension office, camera facing south
- 11 of 24 Exterior: Grassy space between extension office and post office, camera facing east
- 12 of 24 Interior: Door to women's cell, camera facing south
- 13 of 24 Interior: At entry foyer, camera facing east
- 14 of 24 Interior: At entry foyer, camera facing south
- 15 of 24 Interior: At entry foyer, camera facing north
- 16 of 24 Interior: At entry foyer, camera facing west
- 17 of 24 Interior: Table, camera facing south
- 18 of 24 Interior: Cement bench corner, camera facing northeast
- 19 of 24 Interior: Sink, camera facing southwest
- 20 of 24 Interior: Stairs, camera facing east
- 21 of 24 Interior: Loft over iron cells, camera facing south
- 22 of 24 Interior: Doors to the two iron cells, camera facing south
- 23 of 24 Interior: One of two cell doors, camera facing southeast
- 24 of 24 Exterior: Old sheriff's office, camera facing northeast

Old McDonald County Jail

Name of Property

McDonald County, Missouri

County and State

**Figure Log:**

Include figures on continuation pages at the end of the nomination.

Figure 1: Context map

Figure 2: Site map

Figure 3: Photo map

Figure 4: First floor plan

Figure 5: Location of Old McDonald County Jail on Town Plat Map

Figure 6: 1906 photo of Old McDonald County Jail

Figure 7: 1934 photo of Old McDonald County Jail.

Figure 8: Jail Lot Description

Figure 9: 1904 Contract with Pauly Jail Company for two pre-fabricated jail cells

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

|  |
|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

**Summary:**

The Old McDonald County Jail located at 200 E. Third Street, Pineville, Missouri was constructed in 1904. This one story stone block building is the oldest extant jail to be constructed in McDonald County. It replaced a rudimentary log building that was accessed only from the roof and burned in 1888. This stone jail served as the county's only jail until 1992, when a replacement was constructed 3 blocks north. It currently houses archival records from various McDonald County governmental offices. The Old McDonald County Jail retains overall historic integrity. The building remains easily identifiable as a historic jail, retaining its stone construction walls, exterior steel door, double barred windows, steel gate to the holding area, original steel cells and bunks, and historic floorplan and spaces. Alterations include replacement of the original hipped roof with a flat roof c. 1950, and was later a side gable roof. Buildings built near the jail building have an impact on the originally open setting. Although the lot the jail grounds were more open during the period of significance, they contained minimal designed landscape, and the landscape was not an integral part of its function, which was enclosure of prisoners. Symbolically, the exterior still conveys a sense of a secure enclosure designed to deter criminal activity and attempts at escape, through the imposing thick rusticated masonry exterior walls, and small barred windows.

**Setting:**

The Old McDonald County Jail is located southeast of the old courthouse on the north 1/2 of Block 51, lots 1 and 2 in Pineville, Missouri (Figures 1&2). These lots, south and east of the public square, were set aside by the county for the location of the jail at an unknown date sometime around 1850.<sup>1</sup> The jail shares this location with a concrete block building that fronts Harmon Street and is just west of the Old Jail. (Figure 2 & Photo 24). That building was originally built for the Sheriff's Office in the 1977 but presently houses the University of Missouri County Extension Office. The Old Jail is separated from the Post Office building (on an adjoining parcel) to the south by a narrow unpaved grassy area. A gravel drive oriented north-south is located to the east of the jail building. A narrow concrete walkway extends the entire length of the west elevation of the building. Otherwise the lot is unpaved and covered in grass. To the west and north there are commercial buildings. The buildings to the north are located on what was formerly 4<sup>th</sup> street, which was abandoned on this block at some point in the past (Figures 2 & 5). The building to the south of the Post Office was used as the Sheriff's House from 1906 to the mid-1970s. The Sheriff's House was purchased and

<sup>1</sup> McDonald and Newton County Sections of: *Goodspeed's Lawrence, Barry, Newton and McDonald Counties History*, (Goodspeed Publishing Co, 1888), 31; J. A. Sturges, *Illustrated History of McDonald County, Missouri*, (Pineville, MO, 1897), 69.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

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|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

rehabilitated by the McDonald County Historical Society in 2014 and is used for their office, conference room, research and archives. The surrounding neighborhood to the south and east is residential.

Directly west of the Old McDonald County Jail stands the former sheriff's office. It is a single story rectangular utilitarian building constructed of concrete block in 1977, this building currently features a west-facing commercial-style brick storefront. A non-historic green-metal roofed shed awning supported by four rectangular columns extends the entire length of the storefront, and provides shade and weather protection for the Harmon street sidewalk. It currently houses the University of Missouri County Extension Office.

**Exterior:**

The Old McDonald County Jail is a one story rectangular building measuring approximately 24' by 38'. The walls are 18 inch wide, unfinished, evenly coursed, rough-cut stone block walls enclosing a concrete slab floor. The current asphalt shingled side-gable roof was installed in 1990 just a few years before the building ceased functioning as a jail.<sup>2</sup> It has a moderate overhang with boxed eaves, and the gable ends are clad in white painted T1-11 plywood siding with a triangular gable vent at the peak. The original roof was a hip roof covered in metal. (Photos 1-4, Figures 6 & 7)

The primary elevation faces west. (Photos 5-9) On this elevation a single gray painted metal door is offset to the north (Photos 5, 7-8), and a single window balances it to the south. (Photos 6, 9-10) The door features a single viewing opening covered with expanded metal. Above the door is a small transom window with bars constructed from rebar. This door was installed sometime after 1934, since an image from that date depicts a wooden 6-panel door with a 2 light transom. (Figure 7) The door's current opening appears to be the same dimensions as the 1934 image. Windows throughout the jail have a similar design. They are rectangular and contain tubular bars set directly into the masonry. A second set of bars are installed on the inside edge of the windows as well. (Photo 9). A non-historic awning framed in modern dimensional lumber, topped by translucent green corrugated plastic, has been installed over the entry. (Photo 5). The west end of this awning terminates just below the eave overhang of the former Sheriff's office building. The buildings are unconnected except for a length of single D profile gutter that hangs below the southern edge of the awning.

The north and south elevations are the same, masonry walls with three bays of single rectangular windows. (Photos 1-3) On both elevations, the westernmost window is set at a lower height than the other two, which are identical to one another. On the south

<sup>2</sup> McDonald County, *McDonald County Commissioners Court Records*, Book FF, 30.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

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|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

elevation the easternmost window has been infilled with CMU block. Modern unfinished aluminum framed storm windows cover the window openings.

The exterior of the east elevation is devoid of fenestration. (Photos 2,4)

**Interior:**

The interior of the McDonald County Jail has an overall utilitarian feel, and retains elements from when it served as the jail. Walls and ceiling are predominately painted plaster, the floor is concrete, and finishes and detailing are Spartan and unadorned. The interior plan is defined primarily by a concrete wall separating an entrance area from the holding area. (Figures 4-5) As initially constructed, upon entry, the first space encountered was designed as the sheriff's office, and extended the full width of the building, with a window at each end. At some later point during the period of significance, a women's cell was installed just to the south of the jail entrance. This cell is accessed by a single swinging steel door containing a small single window with tubular bars. (Photo12)

The main holding area is accessed from a door in the center of the concrete division wall. This door is constructed of flat plate lattice with riveted intersections. A small barred foyer provides added security. (Photos 14-16) Two steel jail cell units, dating from original construction, (Figure 9) are located near the southeast corner, slightly offset from the south wall a sufficient amount to allow for a staircase access to the roof of the cells.<sup>3</sup> (Photos 17, 21-24) The cell bars are of riveted lattice construction and the doors open by sliding. A cell space above the steel cells appears to be informally designed and is primarily defined by hog wire agricultural panels painted white. The remainder of the space in the holding area is generally open.

On June 8, 1945 the county courts awarded Henry Clark \$4,200 to remodel the county jail.<sup>4</sup> Shortly after, a new flat roof was installed. When Lou Keeling became sheriff in 1980, the jail had a dirt floor, was heated with an old wood stove and had no air conditioning.<sup>5</sup> It was during his tenure 1980-1992 that the concrete floor, bench and rectangular table were installed in the holding area as well as new plumbing (Photos 18-19).

**Integrity:**

<sup>3</sup> James Reed, *A Unique, Little History of McDonald County*, Volumes 1883-1906 (Powell, MO, Self-Published, 2012-2018), 1904 Book, Pineville Items, #26.

<sup>4</sup> McDonald County, *McDonald County Commissioners Court Records*, Book U, 243.

<sup>5</sup> Lou Keeling, Interview by Phyllis Chancellor and Lynn Tatum, September 12, 2017, McDonald County Historical Society Oral History archives.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

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|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

The Old McDonald County Jail is located in its original location. The exterior appears generally as it did in 1992 when it was decommissioned. The imposing thick rustic stone walls, barred windows, and secure steel door convey the impression of a building designed to securely hold prisoners. The interior retains the spaces, features, and finishes characteristic of a jail of this period, including the cells and the utilitarian, unadorned finishes. A concrete floor was added c. 1980, after the period of significance but while the building was still in use as a jail. The Old McDonald County Jail has integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling, and is located just east of the old Sheriff's Office. Some aspects of the setting are retained, with a grassy area surrounding the building to the east and south. The north and west have later buildings constructed nearby that are near, but do not touch the nominated building. The most notable changes from the period of significance are the alteration of the roof from flat to gabled, and loss of aspects of the viewscape, but these are less impactful for a building that derives significance more from interior spaces.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

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|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

**Summary:**

The Old McDonald County Jail is located one block southeast of the public square in Pineville, Missouri and is locally significant under Criteria A, POLITICS/GOVERNMENT. The jail served a significant public safety and law enforcement role in McDonald County from 1904, when construction was completed, until 1992 when a new jail was erected three blocks north. The Jail was the only detention facility in McDonald County from 1904 to 1992. The period of significance extends from 1904, to 1969, the traditional 50 year cutoff for significance. The Old McDonald County Jail remains easily identifiable as a historic jail, retaining its stone construction walls, exterior steel door, double barred windows, steel gate to the holding area, original steel cells and bunks, and historic floorplan and spaces.

It was the only county detention center while in operation and when completed was described as “the best in Southwest Missouri.”<sup>6</sup> It replaced a log jail located on this same site that was burned by escaping prisoners in 1888.<sup>7</sup> By the end of the 19th century, this Ozark County in the extreme southwestern part of Missouri had become the target of thieves and gangs due to its rural wooded environment and western boundary with Indian Territory. Frontier law enforcement mentality was evident as mobs had hung at least two men before they were given a trial.<sup>8</sup> Between 1888 and 1904, the county had no jail.

The building of the jail was a major step forward by the county and was highly significant in the pursuit of their law enforcement goals. It was in service for over 8 decades during the 20th century. However, the county population doubled during those 88 years and the Old Jail became extremely overcrowded and lacked proper accommodations for women. In 1985 a survey by the National Institute for Corrections indicated that it did not meet federal prison standards and recommended that it be closed.<sup>9</sup>

The nominated boundary generally follows the property line of the parcel, except the western boundary ends at the east end of the Sheriff’s Office, which was built after the period of significance.

**Formation of McDonald County:**

<sup>6</sup> Reed, *A Unique, Little History*, 1904 Book, Pineville Items, #27.

<sup>7</sup> Sturges, *Illustrated History*, 163.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, 102.

<sup>9</sup> *McDonald County Commissioners Court Records*, Book EE, 792.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

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|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

The area of Missouri that is now McDonald County was originally part of Greene County when Missouri became a state on 1821. Later it became part of Newton County but in 1849, by an act of the legislature, it became McDonald County, named after a Revolutionary War Lieutenant named McDonald. Originally the area was home to the Osage Native American Indians. White settlers first came to the area in 1830, mostly from Appalachia; drawn to the land quite similar to their own, quite hilly, yet with plenty of fresh water, timber, and wild game.<sup>10</sup> The first responsibility for the new McDonald County citizens was to decide on a county seat. Two communities fought for this honor. Rutledge, a town in the western area of the new county, won the county seat election by a very small margin. However, Maryville (later named Pineville) citizens would not agree to this selection and set up their own county government.<sup>11</sup> For next 8 years, both of these rival towns had county governmental systems and officers. This arrangement of competing county governments was contentious, leading to heated arguments ending in a brawl at a local saloon in which three men were killed. At that time, the state stepped in, ordering that the county seat be established in the town closest to the geographic center of the county.

Maryville was easily that choice. The name was changed to Pineville because there was another Maryville in the state.<sup>12</sup>

### McDonald County Government and Law Enforcement:

When Pineville became the county seat the log jail in Rutledge was moved to Pineville and was in service as the county jail until it burned down in 1888.<sup>13</sup> The original Pineville Town plat includes a public square, block 41, for a courthouse and the north ½ of block 51 for the jail.<sup>14</sup> (Figure 5) A brick courthouse was completed in 1861 but was burned down by bushwhackers in 1863.<sup>15</sup>

The county experienced lawlessness during this time. The new two and a half story brick courthouse was not completed until 1871 due to the Civil War. From 1861-1865 no court was held and no sheriff was elected.<sup>16</sup> The southern border of the county is not only the Missouri border to Arkansas and but also the Mason Dixon Line. During the Civil war both union and confederate armies “crossed and crisscrossed the town and county until people were afraid to move and food was very scarce.”<sup>17</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Sturges, *Illustrated History*, 11-16.

<sup>11</sup> Joe Taylor, *1849-1949 100 Years of History and Progress in McDonald County*, (Noel, MO, McDonald County Centennial Book Committee, 1949), 22.

<sup>12</sup> Sturges, *Illustrated History*, 70.

<sup>13</sup> *Goodspeed's History*, 1888, 31.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*; Sturges, *Illustrated History*, 72.

<sup>15</sup> *Goodspeed's History*, 1888, 69.

<sup>16</sup> Missouri Sheriffs' Association, *Preserving the Past, Protecting the Future, a History of Missouri Sheriffs*, (Jefferson City, MO, 2014), 146-147.

<sup>17</sup> Jean Helm, *Pineville Early Days*, (Pineville, MO, 1996), 21.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

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|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

The sheriffs serving in the three decades after the war had their share of problems besides the bushwhackers. Between 1874 and 1900 there were at least two hangings by mobs (Grubbs and Canada Bill) and several murders such as Doc Chenoweth, Wick Lane, Harrell, Bill Judy, Claude Morgan, Jack Tillotson and George Smith.<sup>18</sup> The Law and Order Brotherhood, a group of 400 citizens in the county, provided what law and order existed in these early days.<sup>19</sup>

Gangs and thieves took advantage of the easy escape offered by the wooded, rural environment of the county and wilderness areas to the west. The Bill Doolin gang robbed the Southwest City Bank in 1894 only to have a real shoot out with several citizens there. One member of the gang and one citizen died in the foray but several citizens were badly wounded.<sup>20</sup> The people were generally upstanding but liquor was easily accessible from stills hidden in the hills and was involved in several murders.<sup>21</sup>

A most interesting and bold robbery occurred at the Pineville Bank in 1897 by a trio of robbers, one of them a woman named Cora Hubbard. All three were eventually caught and two of them, including Cora, were sentenced to 12 years in the penitentiary.<sup>22</sup>

### The First Jail:

Prior to the construction of the 1904 stone jail, the only county jail was the log jail brought to Pineville in 1850 from Rutledge. It was located on the "jail lot" or north ½ of Block 51 in the town of Pineville. The log structure was in need of frequent repairs.<sup>23</sup> The Commissioners recorded repairing it several times: Nov. 1869, May 1871, May 1879, and in March 1880.<sup>24</sup> It was a one room jail with access only from the top. This provided little security, allowing vigilante activities to occur quite often. For example: a mob of 1885 broke the lock to the trap door to the dungeon, lowered the ladder, seized a prisoner named Grubbs, and took him to the edge of town and hung him.<sup>25</sup> In 1888 Mr. Bird and his two sons, held there for stealing chickens, burned it to the ground during an escape.<sup>26</sup> The county was struggling with funding and could not afford to build and maintain a jail. Therefore, until 1904, county prisoners were transported to and

<sup>18</sup> Sturges, *Illustrated History*, 102-200.

<sup>19</sup> Missouri Sheriffs' Association, *Preserving the Past*, 146-147.

<sup>20</sup> Larry C. Bradley, *McDonald County, Missouri, a Pictorial Interpretation*, (Noel, MO: McDonald County Press, 1972), 7; Sturges, *Illustrated History*, 86.

<sup>21</sup> Frankie Meyer, *Bushwhackers, Visions, and Star-Crossed Lovers*, (Joplin, MO, Carlin Ridge Publishing Company, 2009), 119; Sturges, *Illustrated History*, 102-200.

<sup>22</sup> Bradley, *Pictorial Interpretation*, 9-11.

<sup>23</sup> *Goodspeed's History*, 1888, 31.

<sup>24</sup> *McDonald County Commissioners Court Records*.

<sup>25</sup> Bradley, *Pictorial Interpretation*, 6.

<sup>26</sup> Sturges, *Illustrated History*, 163-166.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

|   |
|---|
| Old McDonald County Jail                      |
| Name of Property<br>McDonald County, Missouri |
| County and State<br>N/A                       |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable)      |

boarded in the closest jail which was the Newton County Jail in Neosho, about 10 miles north of Pineville.

**The 1904 McDonald County Jail:**

The county sought approval from the voters to spend \$4,000 for a jail in a November 1898 election but it failed to pass.<sup>27</sup> Therefore the county continued to take prisoners to Neosho. On June 6, 1902 one hundred citizens signed a petition for building a new jail and presented that petition to the County Court. This petition recommended that bonds be issued for a sum of \$3,000 and that the assessment on real estate be increased by 5 cents for the purpose of supporting county expenses.<sup>28</sup> That proposal was placed on the ballot in November of 1902 and it passed. In September of 1903 funds were allotted and construction began on a new jail.<sup>29</sup> In 1903 the jail was under construction and it was completed in July of 1904.<sup>30</sup>

Costs for the 1904 Jail were as follows:<sup>31</sup>

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Cement              | 86.38    |
| Doors and Windows   | 175.50   |
| Roof and plaster    | 300.00   |
| Materials and Labor | 161.15   |
| Well                | 186.00   |
| Cells               | 1200.00  |
| Cells               | 937.00   |
| Water closets       | 100.00   |
| Total               | 3,146.03 |

The editor of the Pineville Herald reported on July 29, 1904: "Walker Woodard, a young man in Center Township was the first to be incarcerated in our new jail. He was landed therein Friday evening to await the serious charge of maiming cattle by cutting off their tails. If guilty, he should have his liberty "cut off" for some time."<sup>32</sup>

This Old McDonald County Jail was in use as a jail from 1904 until 1992. Eighteen McDonald County Sheriffs saw the expanded use which ultimately made the Old Jail

<sup>27</sup> *McDonald County Commissioners Court Records*, Book H, 67.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, Book I, 88-89.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*, Book I, 300.

<sup>30</sup> Reed, *A Unique, Little History*, 1904 Volume Pineville Item #27.

<sup>31</sup> *McDonald County Commissioners Court Records*. Book I, 300-472.

<sup>32</sup> Reed, *A Unique, Little History*, 1904 Pineville Item #34.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

|  |
|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

dramatically overcrowded.<sup>33</sup> Designed for 11 prisoners, it had 18-22 per month by 1980.<sup>34</sup> The population of the county had doubled between 1880 and 1926.<sup>35</sup> Crimes of those placed in the jail varied from stealing livestock, robbery, assault, embezzling, murder, carrying a concealed weapon, domestic assault and breaking the local liquor laws.<sup>36</sup>

The jail had alterations that were approved June 8, 1945. Henry Clark was awarded \$4,200 for this purpose. It is not known definitively just what those alteration were.<sup>37</sup> However, soon after that time a leak prone flat roof was installed. Also, sometime in 1977, the building just west of the jail, sitting on the North ½ of block 51, was built by the county as an office for the County Sheriff, as reported recently by Zella Mae Collie, wife of the Sheriff at that time.<sup>38</sup> This building was constructed in this location because the County owned the property, and was in convenient proximity to the jail. During the four years when Sheriff Clyde Gideon (1976-1980) was serving, the two room office had an extensive addition, expanding office space and adding a kitchen and bathroom according to local historian and McDonald County Recorder, Kenny Underwood.<sup>39</sup> In 1991 that building was serving as the Pineville City Hall but is now occupied by the University of Missouri County Extension Services. (Photo 24). This building is excluded from the nominated boundary because it was built after the period of significance.

When Lou Keeling took office in 1980 the jail was still heated with a wood stove.<sup>40</sup> He reported that soon after, the National Institute of Corrections submitted a survey done on the jail and recommended that the jail be closed due to overcrowding. In 1991 the Sheriff reported that the jail (which was originally designed to hold 11 prisoners), was now "holding 24 and that 4 more were boarded at the Newton County Jail in Neosho and that the average boarding fee for prisoners over the last 4 years was one thousand dollars a month."<sup>41</sup> According to Keeling, a jail study committee was working during this time, studying the situation and the newspaper editor was also bringing attention to these issues in this editorials.

In 1991 a proposal was placed on the ballot to build a new jail at a location 3 blocks north of the Old Jail. This was passed by the voters on the first attempt and the new

<sup>33</sup> Missouri Sheriffs' Association, *Preserving the Past*, 146-7.

<sup>34</sup> Keeling, Lou. Interview by Phyllis Chancellor and Lynn Tatum, 2017.

<sup>35</sup> *Goodspeed's History*, 1888, 1; Gayle Foster and Karen Utter-Jennings, *A Look at the Past, McDonald County, Missouri*, (Pineville, MO, McDonald County Historical Society, 2013), 3.

<sup>36</sup> Reed, *A Unique, Little History*, 1904-1908; Keeling, Lou. Interview by Phyllis Chancellor and Lynn Tatum, 2017.

<sup>37</sup> *McDonald County Commissioners Court Records*, Book U, 243.

<sup>38</sup> Zella Mae Collie, Interview by Phyllis Chancellor, 2017.

<sup>39</sup> Kenny Underwood, Interview by Lynn Tatum and Kathy Underwood, 2019.

<sup>40</sup> Lou Keeling, Interview by Phyllis Chancellor and Lynn Tatum, 2017.

<sup>41</sup> *McDonald County Commissioners Court Records*, Book DD, 619.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

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|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

jail was constructed and completed in 1992. Sheriff Lou Keeling reported that on the last day of his tenure in December of 1992 he escorted prisoners to the new jail.<sup>42</sup>

The Old McDonald County Jail stands today as a monument to nearly a century of law enforcement history in McDonald County, a rural county in the Ozark hills in southwest Missouri. It continues to convey integrity related to its original purpose. It is a significant representation of the history of law enforcement in this county and is the oldest extant detention center for McDonald County. When constructed, it was considered a modern facility, and it continued in uninterrupted service, until increased population and changes in standards for criminal justice facilities rendered it obsolete. It remains the most authentic physical representation of this period in the county.

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<sup>42</sup> Lou Keeling, Interview by Phyllis Chancellor and Lynn Tatum, 2017.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 11

|  |
|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

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Section number 9 Page 12

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|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 13

|  |
|--|
| McDonald County Jail                     |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

**Verbal Boundary Description:**

The Old McDonald County Jail is located ½ block south and east of the Pineville square. It is listed as the North ½ of Lots 1 & 2, Blk 51 Original Town of Pineville. The boundary is in the current parcel, recorded as 09-8.0-34-002-017-015.000, except for the portion occupied by the 1977 sheriff's office to the west, which was constructed later. See Figure 2.

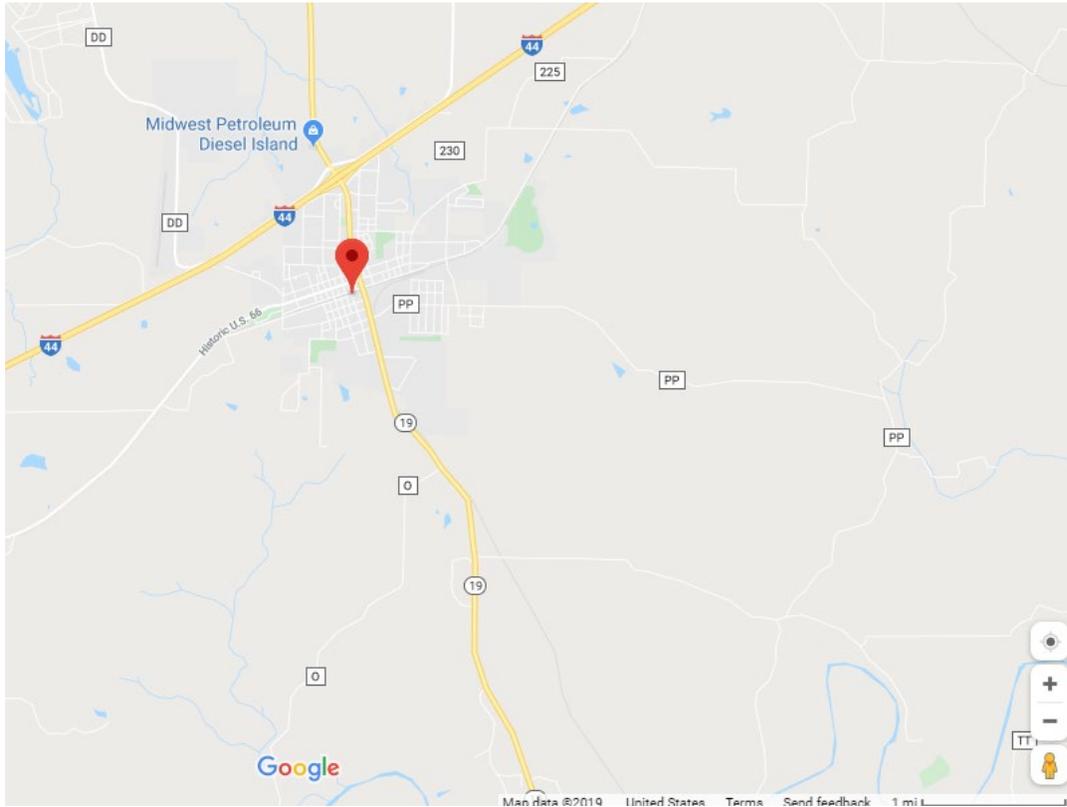
**Boundary Justification:**

The boundary for the jail is a portion of the north half of lot 51 of the original plat of Pineville. This location was the site for the previous jail as well. At some unrecorded point, the county made minor changes to the property lines, and the block was re-platted, shifting the southern boundary of the lot to the north. The area adjusted in the parcel boundary adjustment was historically unutilized open space, with no known constructed features. In consideration to the replatting of the originally platted lots over time, the current boundaries capture the relevant historic features of the historic jail site to the extent they are retained, including all the undeveloped grassy area that has been conserved of the original lot.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 14

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|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| -----                                    |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| -----                                    |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| -----                                    |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

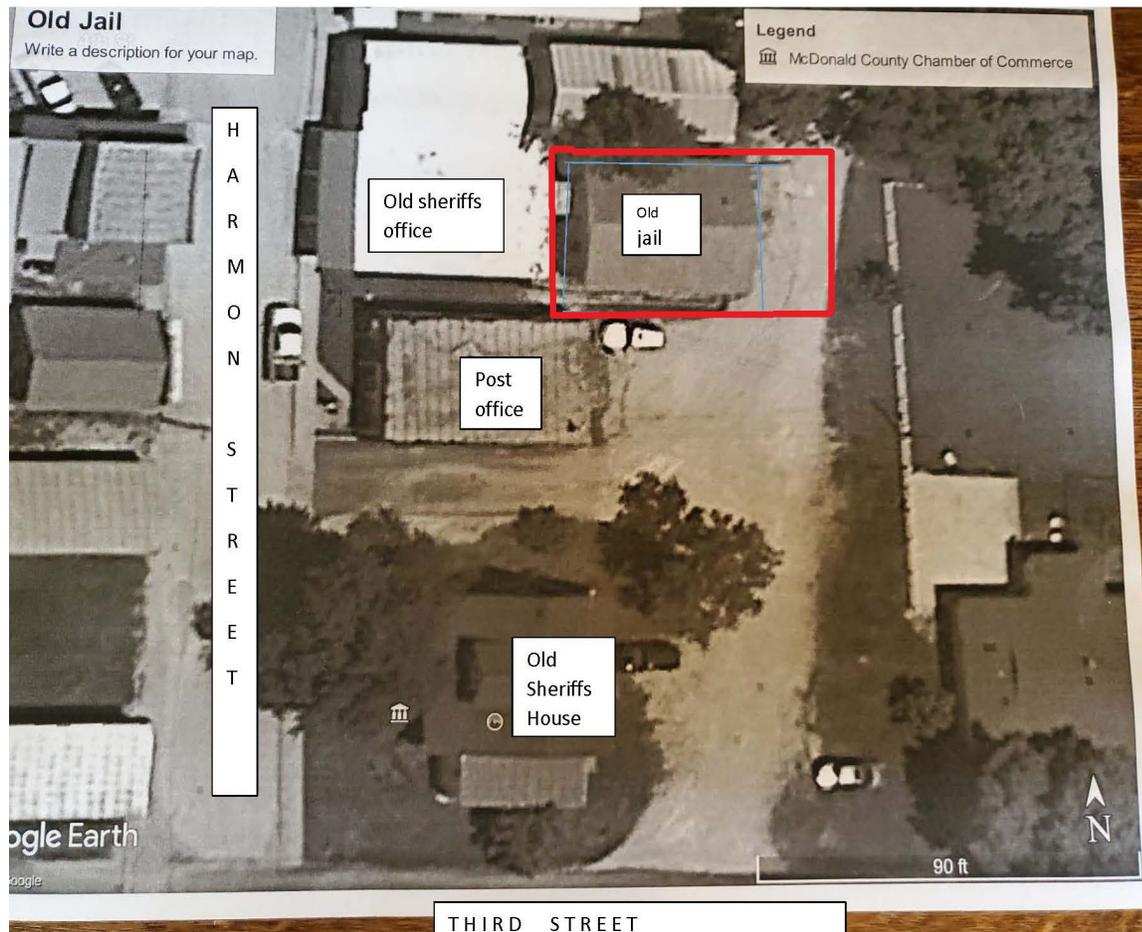


**Figure 1.** Context Map. *Source:* Google Maps 2019. Lat 36.593207, Lon -94.382897

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 15

|  |
|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

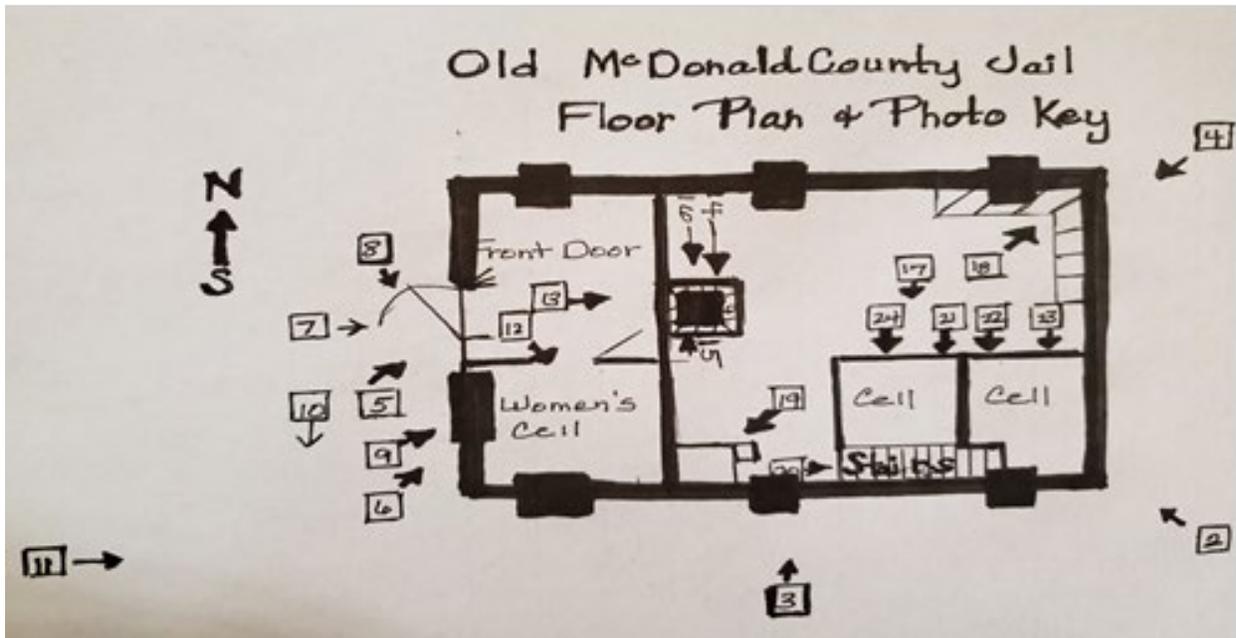


**Figure 2.** Site Map. The boundary lines are the lot boundaries, except for the western boundary, which extends to the building to the west. Source: Google Maps 2019. Lat 38.060965, Lon -91.404455. Boundary in red.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 16

|  |
|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |



**Figure 3.** Photo Log. Note that photo 1 was taken from the south, but distance precluded it from being captured in the diagram. It was taken from approximately the same direction as photo 3. *Source:* Created by Lynn Tatum.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 17

|  |
|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

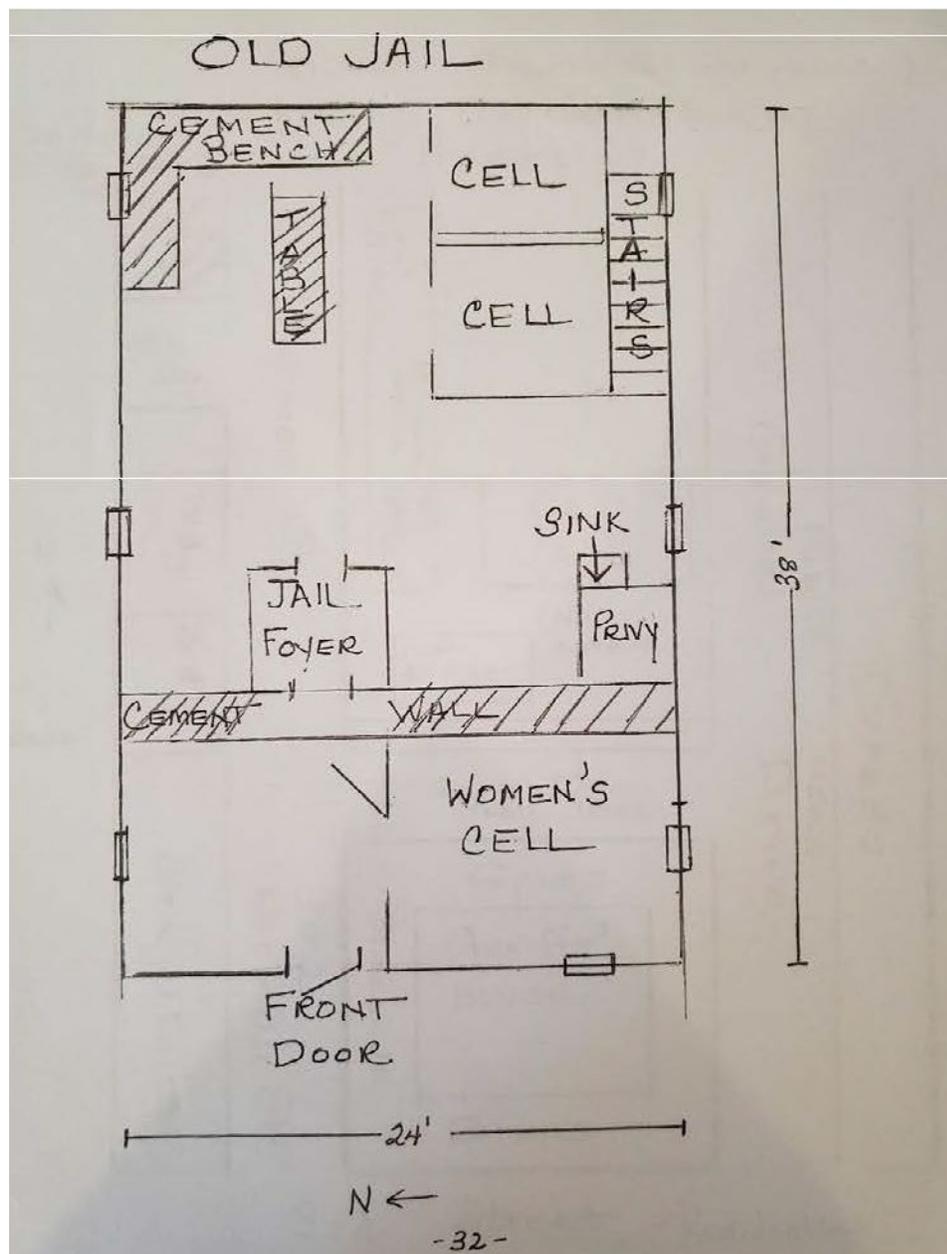


Figure 4. First Floor Plan. Source: McDonald County Historical Society Archives.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 18

|  |
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| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

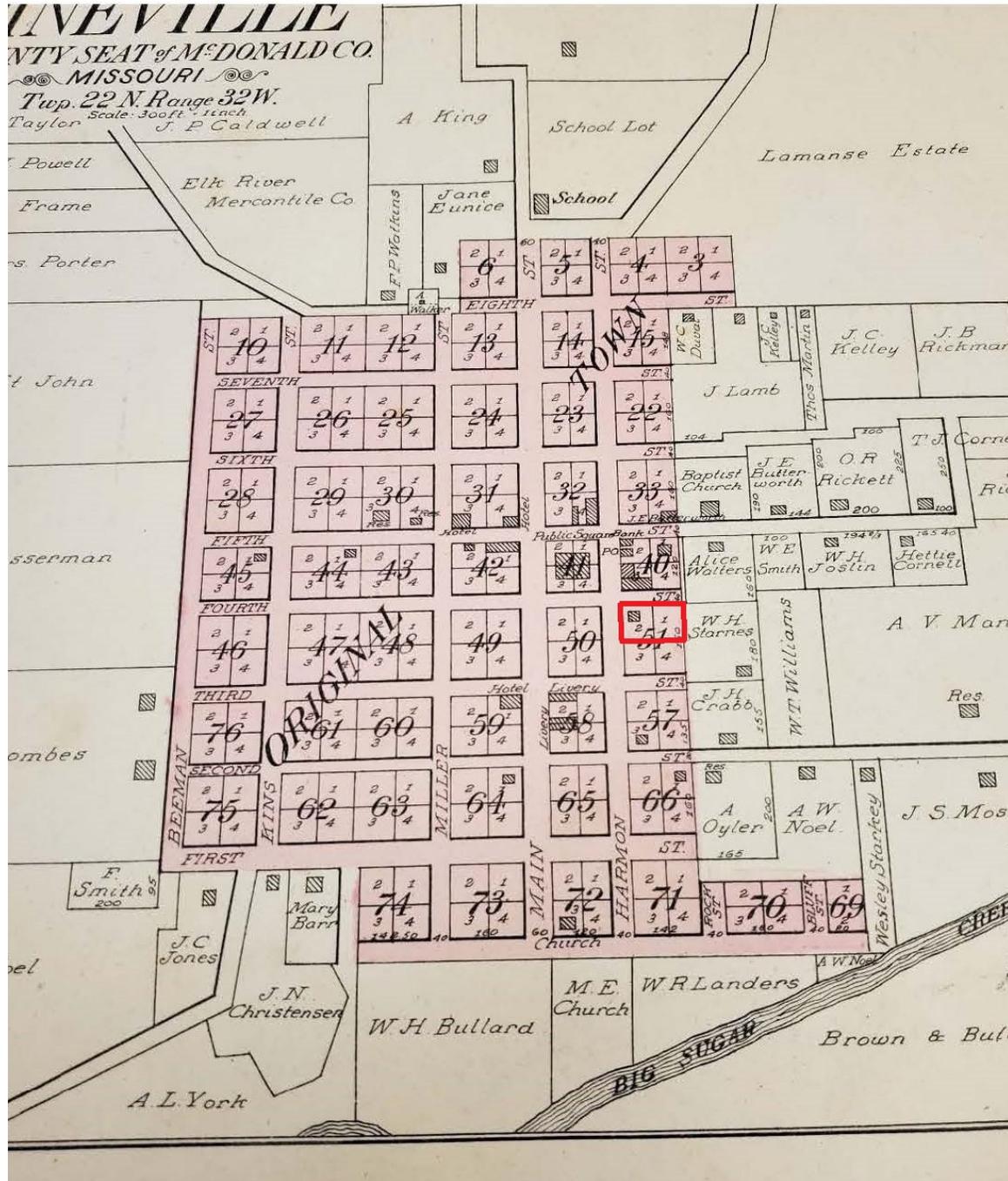
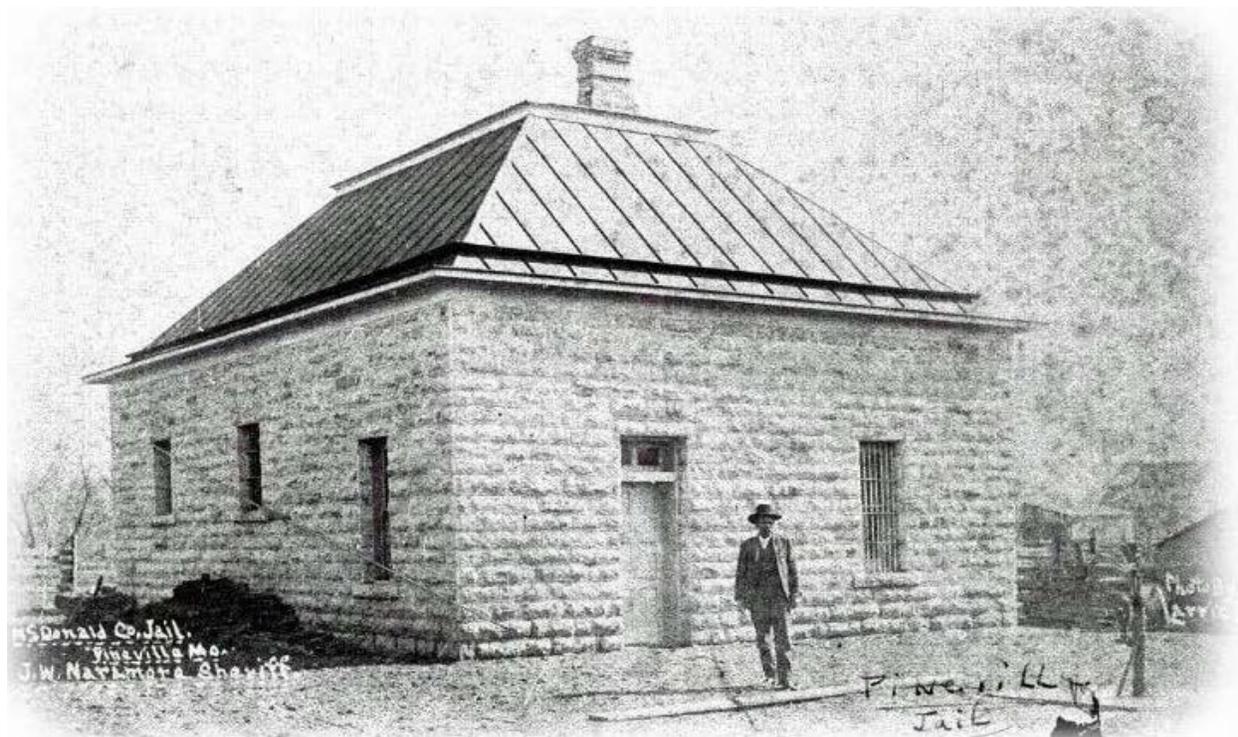


Figure 5. Location of Old McDonald County Jail on Town Plat Map. North ½ Block 51 (outlined in red). Source: McDonald County Historical Society Archives.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 19

|  |
|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |



**Figure 6.** 1906 photo of Old McDonald County Jail. Sheriff J. W. Naramore in foreground. View facing southeast. *Source:* McDonald County Historical Society Photo Archives.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 20

|  |
|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |



**Figure 7.** 1934 photo of Old McDonald County Jail. View facing east. *Source:* McDonald County Historical Society Photo Archives.

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 Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 21

|  |
|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

**McDONALD COUNTY, MO.**

| COUNTY NUMBER        | MISSOURI UNIFORM PARCEL NUMBER |      |         |          |          |                 | BRIEF LEG |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|------|---------|----------|----------|-----------------|-----------|
|                      | TWP                            | AREA | SEC.    | 1/4 SEC. | BLK. NO. | PARCEL NO.      |           |
| 01915                | 098                            | 314  | 012     | 0117     | 15       |                 |           |
| ACCOUNT NUMBER       |                                |      | DIST.   | DIST.    | DIST.    | CITY            |           |
| 13553-001            |                                |      | R1      |          |          |                 |           |
| LOT SIZE             |                                |      | ACREAGE |          |          |                 |           |
| 80' x 142'           |                                |      | C       | D        |          |                 |           |
| OWNERS NAME          |                                |      |         |          |          | MAILING ADDRESS |           |
| McDonald County Jail |                                |      |         |          |          | Pineville Mo.   |           |
|                      |                                |      |         |          |          |                 |           |
|                      |                                |      |         |          |          |                 |           |
|                      |                                |      |         |          |          | 34-22-32        |           |

*lots*  
 LOTS 1 & 2 BLK 51  
 ORIG. TOWN OF PINEVILLE

| Quantity - Type - Desc.   | FF | -DEPTH | Unit Price | D.F. | ±A.F. | Adj. Front Foot Price | Value |          |
|---|----|--------|------------|------|-------|-----------------------|-------|----------|
| NOTES JAIL LOT 1+2 BLK N. 1/2 BLK 51<br>40 FT. ST. For City Hall<br>Post office st lot 3+4 + 12 FT. |    |        |            |      |       |                       |       | PROPER   |
| 1-28-91 -<br>GAS Finance #251.21 LAND Pleading + Div<br>#60.03 Anderson mo.<br>#1300 -91            |    |        |            |      |       |                       |       | BUILDING |
|   |    |        |            |      |       |                       |       | AGRICUL  |
|   |    |        |            |      |       |                       |       | AC       |
|   |    |        |            |      |       |                       |       | AC       |
|   |    |        |            |      |       |                       |       | AC       |
|   |    |        |            |      |       |                       |       | AC       |
|   |    |        |            |      |       |                       |       | AC       |

Figure 8. Jail lot description. Source: McDonald County Assessor's Office.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 22

|  |
|--|
| Old McDonald County Jail                 |
| Name of Property                         |
| McDonald County, Missouri                |
| County and State                         |
| N/A                                      |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

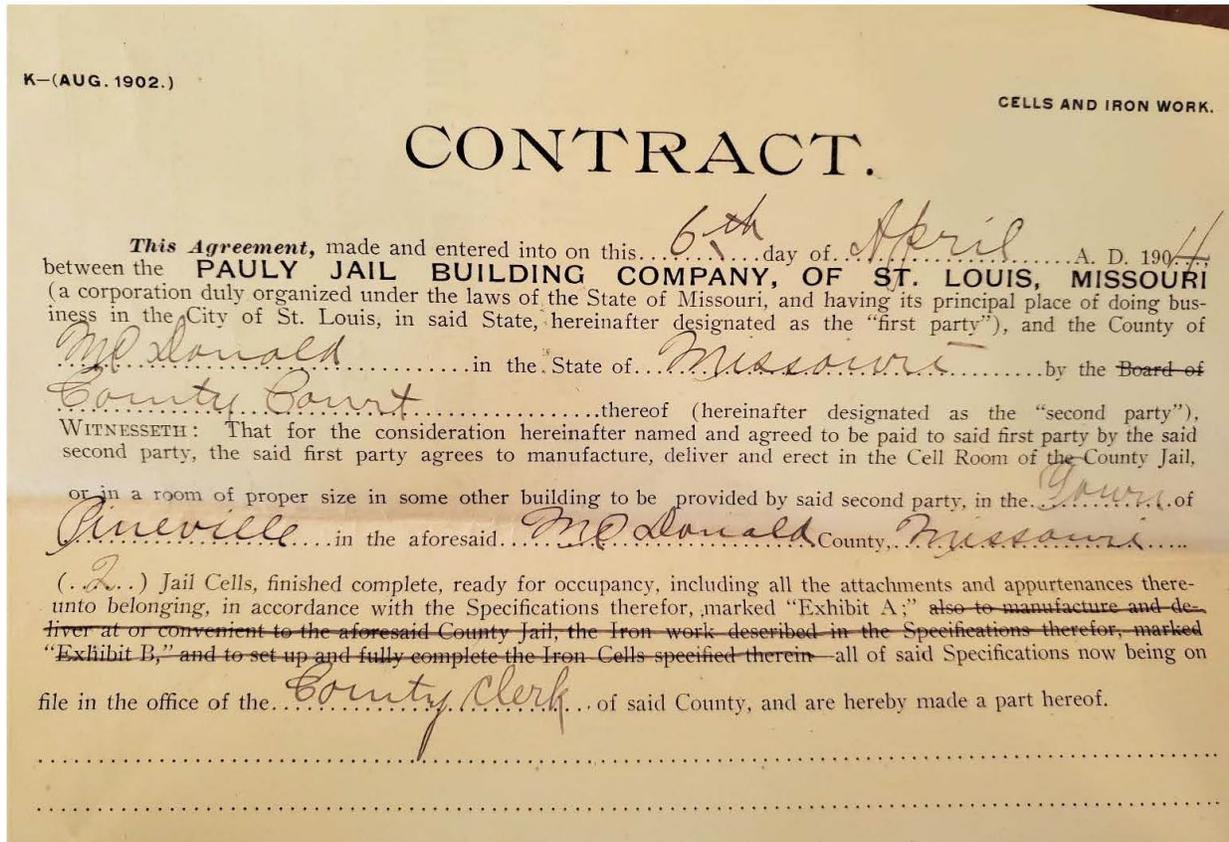


Figure 9. 1904 Contract with Pauly Jail Company for two pre-fabricated jail cells.























703





thru A 1963











GENERAL PROBATE RECORDS & INDEX  
D  
E  
F  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY













Stack of yellowed documents or papers.

Two large, thick books with gold-tooled spines.

Row of books on a shelf:

- WILL RECORD
- WILL RECORD
- WILL RECORD
- WILL RECORD
- INDEX TO PROBATE RECORDS
- INDEX TO PROBATE RECORDS
- GENERAL PROBATE REGISTERS & INDICES
- GENERAL PROBATE REGISTERS & INDICES
- GENERAL PROBATE REGISTERS & INDICES

Labels on the bottom of the books: 1, 2, 3, 4, A, B, C, D, E, F. McDowell County, N.C.

Bottom shelf containing various items, possibly more books or documents.



Chamber of Commerce  
Community Center

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
Extension  
McDONALD COUNTY  
SOIL & WATER  
SERVICES  
Sustainable Agriculture

UNITED STATES  
POST OFFICE  
PINEVILLE, MO.

