

# MEIGS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

DECATUR, TENNESSEE



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Renovated Courthouse



Historic Photograph of the Courthouse

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The existing courthouse, built in 1904 and on the national register of historical places, had become inadequate to meet the growing needs of the county government and was in need of restoration work and upgrades to meet ADA. **AWAM** was retained to perform a survey of the county's existing justice center facilities and interviewed all the county officials to develop a comprehensive report.

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The County decided to retain and restore the old courthouse and build an addition to support current and future space needs. The courthouse sits in the center of town and is a vital piece of the governmental and economic activity on and around the public square. Restoration was designed around National Register of Historic Places guidelines while accommodating current codes and technology.



Courtroom



Rear Facade



Main Stairwell

A glazed connector and outdoor plaza join the old and new while providing an appropriate separation. The site accommodates a new landscape wall that transitions from street level into the addition and more parking. Four large 100 year old maple trees were saved to maintain the small town character of the public square. The addition houses county offices, commission meeting room, toilets, elevator and surge space.

The addition blends historically with the courthouse by using traditional architecture and was positioned to the rear of the old courthouse so the original main entry under the clock tower remained the most prominent place on the public square. A new elevator connects all three floors. Exterior brick and interior woodwork were restored to original condition or replicated. The 8,465 sf renovation and 6,595 sf addition to the historic courthouse was completed in 2004 at a total construction cost of \$2,739,000, or \$109/sf.



Commission Room



Administrative Space