

107930

WASHINGTON

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

1. Name

historic Cumberland County Courthouse

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Court House Square not for publication

city, town Toledo vicinity of congressional district 22

state Illinois code 012 county Cumberland code 035

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 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	Public Acquisition	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 Board of Supervisors

street & number Cumberland County Courthouse

city, town Toledo vicinity of state Illinois

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Assessor's Office

street & number Cumberland County Courthouse

city, town Toledo state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

1. Illinois Historic Landmarks Survey
2. Illinois Historic Structures
has this property been determined eligible? yes no

1. April, 1973
2. October, 1973
 federal state county local

depository for survey records Illinois Department of Conservation

city, town Springfield state Illinois

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Built between September 13, 1887 and May 11, 1888, the present courthouse was erected by S. S. Goehring and L. L. Pierson from plans and specifications provided by McDonald Brothers of Louisville, Kentucky. The contractors stipulated the cost of \$17,700 did not include the 200,000 bricks and 214 square yards of sand to be donated by the citizens of Toledo.

The courthouse has _____ round-headed windows on the south side and an arched entranceway under the tower or cupola on both the east and west entrances. Oranamentation includes Italian Renaissance columns, balustrades, cornices, balcony above the entrance, and bracketed windows which combine with the gabled roof to give it a balanced and pleasant appearance.

The two obvious modifications include the 1920s addition of a small attached building on the southside (it served as an entrance to the newly excavated basement and housed a coal conveyor) and the glass entrance doors on the east and west sides which replaced the older wooden doors in 1966. Both of the changes are minor and do not destroy the architectural integrity nor the historical significance of the building.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1887

Builder/Architect S.S. Goehring and L.L. Pierson/
McDonald Brothers

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Cumberland County Courthouse, located in Toledo, is politically significant as the center of governmental activity for 94 continuous years in the same building, 1887-1981, and 125 years on the same site, 1856-1981. From the time the county was formed in 1843 until a referendum was held in 1855 the seat of justice was in Greenup. Dating back to 1834 the village of Greenup was the oldest and most populous site in the county and was advantageously located on the National Road. The 1855 vote favored relocating the courthouse in Prairie City, a new town laid out in June, 1854, near the geographical center of the county. A building was constructed on the town square by Bennett Beals and Wiley Ross for \$10,500. This structure was destroyed by fire on November 4, 1885. The name Prairie City was changed to Toledo in 1881.

Greenup residents, still unhappy over losing the county seat, saw an opportunity to regain the prize and petitioned for another referendum regarding the courthouse location. That vote, held in November, 1886, reaffirmed Toledo as the continuing site. A contract was subsequently let for building the present structure. Thus, the new courthouse, completed on May 11, 1888 for \$17,700, still stands on the same site today and continues to serve Cumberland County's residents, not because Toledo is the largest town, but because is equally accessible to all parts of the county.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Counties of Cumberland, Jasper and Richmond (Chicago, F.A. Battey and Company, 1884).
Society of Dames Historic Survey, 1964

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property one acre

Quadrangle name Toledo

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The public square in the original town of Prairie City, now the village of Toledo, situated in the County of Cumberland and the State of Illinois.

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	1. John C. Eichacker	date	January 12, 1981
	2. W. Scott Everhart, Abstracts and Insurance		
organization	1. Historical Administration Major		
	2. Abstracts and Insurance	date	January 12, 1981
street & number	1. Dept. of History, Eastern Illinois University	telephone	217-581-3310
	2. 730 Courthouse Square		217-849-2671
city or town	1. Charleston, Illinois 61920	state	
	2. Toledo, Illinois 62468		

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

David Perry
title Director, Department of Conservation date 4/9/81

For HCRS use only	I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
	date
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	