

ADDED MARCH 30, 1973

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Illinois	
COUNTY: Hancock	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER:	DATE:

1. NAME

COMMON: Carthage Jail 20th Congressional District

AND/OR HISTORIC: Congressman: Paul Findley

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Corner of Walnut and North Fayette Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Carthage

STATE: Illinois CODE: 17 COUNTY: Hancock CODE: 267

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons)

STREET AND NUMBER: 47 East South Temple Street

CITY OR TOWN: Salt Lake City STATE: Utah CODE: 49

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Church of Christ of Latter-day Saints Law Department

STREET AND NUMBER: 336 South 3rd East Street

CITY OR TOWN: Salt Lake City STATE: Utah CODE: 49

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: | | Federal | | State | | County | | Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> restored	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present appearance is much the same as originally, except for normal restoration and maintenance over the years.

Carthage, Hancock County, Illinois, is located in the extreme western part of the state, on U.S. Highway 136 between Hamilton and Macomb. The "Old Jail" is located near the western edge of the business district in the northwestern part of town.

The jail, built in 1839-40, of red limestone, measures about 27 x 38 feet in size. The limestone was quarried about 4 miles northeast of the building. It is a two-story building, with a small attic and two chimneys above the roof. The rafters of the roof are of oak and the shingles that covered the building were of split walnut. The doors are of walnut and the floors are oak.

The building contains seven rooms, besides the hallways and a small attic. On the 1st floor is the living room for the jailer and his family, the debtor's room, a small kitchen added to the building, and the family's dining room. The 2nd floor contains two barred cells, the jailer's bedroom, besides the hall and a narrow staircase to the attic. It was in the jailer's bedroom that Joseph Smith, 1st President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and his brother, Hyrum, were assassinated on June 27, 1844.

The building had belonged to Mr. and Mrs. James M. Browning for many years, then in 1903, after the death of her husband, Mrs. Browning sold the jail property to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The deed was executed November 4, 1903. The jail lot occupies about 1/4 of a city block. Carthage Jail was the first historic site to be purchased by the Church, having to do with early historical events of the Church.

Form 10-310a
(July 1967)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Illinois	
COUNTY	
Hancock	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

RE-STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There are two very important reasons why the Carthage Jail should be added to the National Register of Historic Places.

1. The Mormons, centered in Nauvoo, had an extremely important influence on the history of the State of Illinois. The fact that they were a religious group, in no way detracts from the reality of their political and economic power in early Illinois history. It was this power which led non-Mormon groups in western Illinois to eventually drive them from the state. The social significance of such a rise, struggle, and decline is quite evident. The fact remains that during the period of the late 1830's and early 1840's the Mormons represented one of the major cohesive social forces in the State of Illinois.

2. The City of Nauvoo, the center of Mormon power and settlement, was added to the National Register of Historic Places as an historic district in 1959. We feel that addition of the Carthage Jail to the National Register would be a logical extension of the recognition already afforded to Nauvoo and its history. The Carthage Jail figures intimately in the story of the ultimate decline and exodus from Illinois of the Mormons.

Taken together, the above arguments construct a strong case for the inclusion of the Carthage Jail on the National Register of Historic Places.

William G. Farrar
March 1, 1973
Benton, Illinois 62812

II. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

built in 1835

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On June 27, 1844, Joseph Smith, the 1st President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and his brother, Hyrum, were assassinated while confined in the county jail at Carthage, Hancock County, Illinois. They had been accused of certain false charges against the state of Illinois. They gave themselves up, and had gone to Carthage, the county seat, to appear in court. At the request of the governor of Illinois, Thomas Ford, they awaited their appearance in court in the jail, instead of at the hotel, for better protection against the mobs that had been trying to kill the Smiths for some time. Joseph Smith, and his brother Hyrum, were staying in the jailor's bedroom on the second floor of the building, along with two friends, Dr. Willard Richards and John Taylor, when a mob stormed into the building, in the late afternoon of June 27th. Hyrum Smith was shot first, then Joseph Smith was shot as he was trying to get out of the window. It was all over in a matter of minutes. The mob fled and when the news reached the Mormon people, they were all very saddened to learn of the loss of their great leader and his brother. At the time of his death, Joseph Smith was 38 years old, and his brother, Hyrum, was 44.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Burton, Alma P. Mormon Trail from Vermont to Utah. Salt Lake City, Utah, Deseret Book Company, 1966.

McRae, Joseph. Historic Carthage Jail. Carthage, Illinois, 1946.

McRae, Joseph. Story of the Old Carthage Jail. Carthage, Illinois, 1938.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 8

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Linda Haslam, Researcher

ORGANIZATION: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints DATE: June 3, 1971
Office of the Church Historian

STREET AND NUMBER: 47 East South Temple Street

CITY OR TOWN: Salt Lake City STATE: Utah CODE: 49

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION
<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>Title: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ <i>Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</i></p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ <i>Keeper of The National Register</i></p> <p>Date: _____</p>

SURVEY USE ONLY

- Archaeology
- Architecture
- History

N.R.

Illinois Historic Sites Survey Inventory

1. Name of Site:

Common Carthage Jail

2. Location:

Street and Number

Walnut & North Fayette

City or Town

Carthage

County

Hancock

Township

Section

Range

Section

3. Classification:

Category (check one)

District

Building

Site

Structure

Integrity (check one)

Altered

Unaltered

Position (check one)

Moved Original site

4. Ownership:

Public

Private

Status

Occupied

Unoccupied

Preservation work in progress

Access to the public

Yes

Restricted

Unrestricted

No

Present Use (check one or more)

Agricultural

Commercial

Educational

Entertainment

Government

Industrial

Military

Museum

Park

Private Residence

Religious

Scientific

Transportation

Other (specify)

5. Owner of Property:

Owner's Name

Phone Number

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Street and Number

47 East South Temple Street

City or Town

Salt Lake City

State

Utah

County

Zip Code

low area with state & national figures

Description:

Condition:

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruined

Is there a program of preservation underway? Yes No
If yes, give a brief description of the program: **Slight exterior remodeling**

Historical Themes: Check one or more of the following:

- Archeological Site
 - Archeological Site
 - French Influence
 - Illinois Frontier
 - Illinois Early
 - Illinois Middle
 - Illinois Late
 - Joseph Smith - Hiram Smith - 1844
- Time-Columnar: 1500-1700, 1700-1800, 1800-1850, 1850-1900, 1900-Present, (Give names and dates)

Specific date: 1839-40

Area of Significance (check one or more):

- Biological (prehistoric)
- Geological (historic)
- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Art
- Commerce
- Communication
- Conservation
- Education
- Engineering
- Industry
- Invention
- Landscape architecture
- Literature
- Military
- Music
- Politics
- Religion
- Science
- Sculpture
- Social
- Theater
- Transport
- Urban Pl.
- Other (specify)

Area of Significance of significance: (include all names and dates)
Use additional sheets if necessary

Form prepared by:

Name and Title:

Date:

Organization:

Project and Number:

Project Name:

Project Number:

The source of the survey is often found. It is necessary to search for references in local files.

Fill in the following information, please list according to the following example any references. No title for words forms are being completed. In a bibliography, please use the Survey's name.

The present physical appearance is pretty much the same as the original only the building has been restored and maintained through the years.

Carthage, Hancock County, Illinois, is located in the extreme western part of the state, on U. S. Highway 136 between Hamilton and Macomb. Once there, a sign on the highway near the east edge of the business district of Carthage indicated the location of the "Old Jail", in the northwestern part of town.

The jail was built in 1839-40, out of red limestone, and is about 27 x 38 feet in size. The limestone was taken from a quarry about 4 miles northeast of the building. The foundation is 3 feet deep and 3 feet thick. It is a 2-story building, with a small attic and 2 chimneys above the roof. The rafters of the roof are of oak and the shingles that covered the building were of split walnut. The doors are of walnut and the floors are oak.

The building contains 7 rooms, besides the hallways and a small attic. On the 1st floor is the living room for the jailer and his family, the debtor's room, a small kitchen added to the building, and the family's dining room, besides the hall and stairs up to the 2nd floor, which contains 2 barred cells and the jailer's bedroom, besides the hall and a narrow staircase to the attic. It was in the jailer's bedroom that Joseph Smith, 1st President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and his brother Hyrum, were assassinated on June 27, 1844.

The building had belonged to Mr. and Mrs. James M. Browning for many years, then in 1903, after the death of her husband, Mrs. Browning wold the jail property to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The deed was executed November 4, 1903. The jail lot occupies about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a city block. Carthage Jail was the first historic site to be purchased by the Church, having to do with early historic events of the church. The old jail building, while all its parts remain, has been slightly remodeled exteriorly.

On June 27, 1844, Joseph Smith, the 1st President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and his brother, Hyrum were assassinated while confined in the county jail at Carthage, Hancock County, Illinois. They had been accused of certain false charges against the state of Illinois. They gave themselves up, and had gone to Carthage, the county seat, to appear in Court. At the request of the governor of Illinois, Thomas Ford, they awaited their appearance in court in the jail, instead of at the hotel, for better protection against the mobs that had been trying to kill the Smith for some time. Joseph Smith, and his brother Hyrum, were staying in the jailor's bedroom on the second floor of the building, along with 2 friends, Dr. Willard Richards and John Taylor, when a mob stormed into the buildin, in the late afternoon of June 27th. Hyrum Smith was shot first, then Joseph Smith was shot as he was trying to get out of the window. It was all over in a matter of minutes. The mob fled and when the news reached the Mormon people, they were all very saddened to learn of the loss of their great leader, and his brother. At the time of his death, Joseph Smith was 38½ years old, and his brother, Hyrum, was 44.



Illinois Historic Sites Survey Inventory

SURVEY USE ONLY

- Archeology
- Architecture
- History

1. Name of Site:

Common Carthage Jail

2. Location:

Street and Number
Walnut & North Fayette
City or Town Zip Code
Carthage
County
Hancock

Township Section
Range Section

3. Classification:

Category (check one)

- District Building
- Site Structure

Integrity (check one)

- Altered Unaltered

Position (check one)

- Moved Original site

4. Ownership:

- Public
- Private

Status

- Occupied Preservation work in progress
- Unoccupied

Access to the public

- Yes Restricted Unrestricted No

Present Use (check one or more)

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Museum
- Park
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Scientific
- Transportation
- Other (specify)

5. Owner of Property:

Owner's Name

Phone Number

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Street and Number

47 East South Temple Street
City or Town

Salt Lake City
State

County

Zip Code

Utah

C. Description

Condition

Excellent Fair Poor Very Poor Detached Exposed

Is there a program of preservation under way? Yes No
If Yes give a brief description and an attached sheet. **Slight exterior remodeling**

D. Historical Themes. Check one or more of the following:

- Archeological Site (Pre-Columbian)
- Archeological Site (Post-Columbian 1675-1780)
- French Influence (1675-1780)
- Illinois Frontier (1780-1818)
- Illinois Early (1818-1850)
- Illinois Middle (1850-1900)
- Illinois Late (1900-Present)
- Joseph Smith - Hiram Smith - 1844** (Give names and dates)

Specific date **1839-40**

Area of Significance (check one or more)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Growth | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (Historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |

Brief statement of significance. (include all names and dates)
Additional checks if necessary

Form prepared by:

Name and Title: _____ Date: _____

Organization: _____

Project and Subject: _____

Map Index: _____

Map Numbers: _____

The codes of the Survey are often found it necessary to search for references for particular site.

Filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example any references that have been used or are being compiled. If a bibliography is compiled, it should be clearly labeled the Survey Form.

Survey Form: _____ New York, Alfred W. Koopf, Inc., 1964.

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On June 27, 1844, Joseph Smith, the 1st President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and his brother, Hyrum were assassinated while confined in the county jail at Carthage, Hancock County, Illinois. They had been accused of certain false charges against the state of Illinois. They gave themselves up, and had gone to Carthage, the county seat, to appear in Court. At the request of the governor of Illinois, Thomas Ford, they awaited their appearance in court in the jail, instead of at the hotel, for better protection against the mobs that had been trying to kill the Smith for some time. Joseph Smith, and his brother Hyrum, were staying in the jailor's bedroom on the second floor of the building, along with 2 friends, Dr. Willard Richards and John Taylor, when a mob stormed into the buildin, in the late afternoon of June 27th. Hyrum Smith was shot first, then Joseph Smith was shot as he was trying to get out of the window. It was all over in a matter of minutes. The mob fled and when the news reached the Mormon people, they were all very saddened to learn of the loss of their great leader, and his brother. At the time of his death, Joseph Smith was 38½ years old, and his brother, Hyrum, was 44.