

D.C.  
9/28/90

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Patton Block Building  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 88 & 90 Public Square  not for publication  
city, town Monmouth  vicinity  
state Illinois code IL county Warren code 187 zip code 61462

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register None

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  See continuation sheet.

John A. Surine 9-25-90  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

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

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade -- specialty store

Social -- clubhouse

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade -- Specialty store

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Commercial

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Cast Iron

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Patton Block Building is a three-story store and office building located in the northwest quadrant of the Public Square, Monmouth, Warren County, Illinois. The building is constructed of locally made common red brick and has a slightly pitched roof. The building stands 48' feet high and the frontage is 50 feet, and 80 feet deep. The lot size is 50'x90' and it stands on its original location. The Patton Block Building stands at the end of a row of commercial buildings, to the east are two structures, a small building circa 1895 and the Claycomb Building built in 1855. To the east, across an alley, stands the Warren County Courthouse which was erected in 1894. The County Jail, circa 1886, is located to the north east adjacent to the courthouse. To the north stands City Hall which was constructed in 1915.

The first floor of the building is divided into two store fronts with a stairway to the second story between the store entrances. The shop windows retain the original cast iron columns which are decorated with various flower patterns.

Originally the first floor consisted of two storefronts. The two entrances flanked the center stair to the 2nd floor, and each shop had a large plateglass window. During the early 20th century two theaters occupied the first floor, the Arrow on the east side, and the Ada on the west side. The storefronts were extensively altered to accommodate these businesses. Around 1917 the east side was returned to its original configuration. The west side was probably changed to its present appearance sometime after 1938. Today the building appears very similar to its original design.

The second and third floors, or office floors, are each ordered by a line of seven one over one double hung windows with a limestone sill. Some of the top lights of these windows contain the original art glass, the second floor being rectangular and the third floor arched. The floors are divided by a limestone string course. The roof line is decorated with stamped cast iron cornice. "Patton Block 1891" is displayed in the center.

The west facade has a fire escape. The first floor level has a set of doors (no longer used for access) located at the southern end, a rear entrance door on the northern end with 4 exterior windows. Seven windows are located on the second story level and six windows on the third story level. A fire escape door is located on the third story. Brick corbelling at the cornice line finishes the flat roof.

The rear, or north, facade has three entrances, two leading to the store at 88 Public Square, and a set of double doors leading to 90 Public Square. A loading dock is present here. Two windows are located on the first story level. Five windows are located on the second level and four on the third story level.

The condition of the brick, limestone and cast iron is good. The only cosmetic change is the storefront window at 88 Public Square. The window alteration consists of the replacement of the plate glass with wood paneling and small inset windows which could easily be restored to its original state. The cast iron work was supplied by Frost Manufacturing of Galesburg, Illinois. Some of the original stained glass windows are intact.

See continuation sheet

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These windows are unique in that no other commercial building in Monmouth has been known to have used stained glass in its construction.

The interior of the first floor of the building is simply arranged with two store spaces extending the full depth of the building, except for the rear sections which have been partitioned off as separate office space. Drop ceilings have been installed with original stamped metal ceilings still intact above. The floors have been carpeted, with the original oak flooring still in excellent condition underneath. Ceiling height is 14 feet.

An exterior stairway leads to the second floor. The original set of double doors made of wood and glass are at a landing halfway up the stairs. The upper stairs open to a hallway which runs the depth of the building. At the rear of the building is a curving staircase which leads to the third floor. The hallway divides the building into two sections. The east side contains 4 adjoining rooms joined by pocket doors (still functional). To the rear of this floor is a small rest room and a hallway which leads to a stair case that exits to the alleyway. All offices have doors which lead to the central hall. During the early 1980's a cooking school was located on this floor. The remaining decor is from that time. It resembles a "street scene" with false facades of buildings attached to the walls. All flooring and decorative woodwork is pine. All balustrades and newel posts are intact on the staircases. The ceiling height is 14 feet.

A curving staircase leads to the 3rd floor. Originally there were two double hung windows located on the north wall. Only one remains. To the right (west) of the landing is a small room on the north side. On the west side are two cloak rooms. The original coat hooks and gas/electric light fixtures are intact. A large meeting room is located to the south. A projection room is located on the north side of this room. This meeting room connects to a smaller meeting room to the east. It is connected by a single door at the southern end of the room and a set of double swinging doors at the northern end. The east meeting room contains original ceiling fans and electric lighting fixtures. A set of double mirrored doors leads to a small meeting room to the north. A closet is located on the west side of this room. Ceiling heights are 14 feet.

All third floor rooms on the north side of the building have suffered from water damage. The roof has recently been replaced with asphalt shingles. Originally it was tar paper, and now the building is secure from the elements. All pine floors and decorative wood work remain in good condition. In recent years separate gas furnaces have been placed in the first floor stores. The chimney flues have been run up through the center of the east and west rooms. There are two gas furnaces on the second floor. The original heating for the building was from a common boiler which serviced the three buildings on the block.

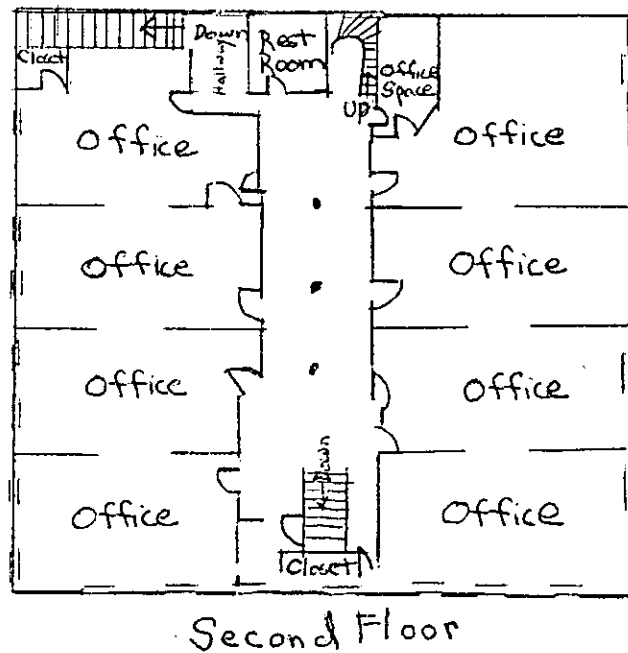
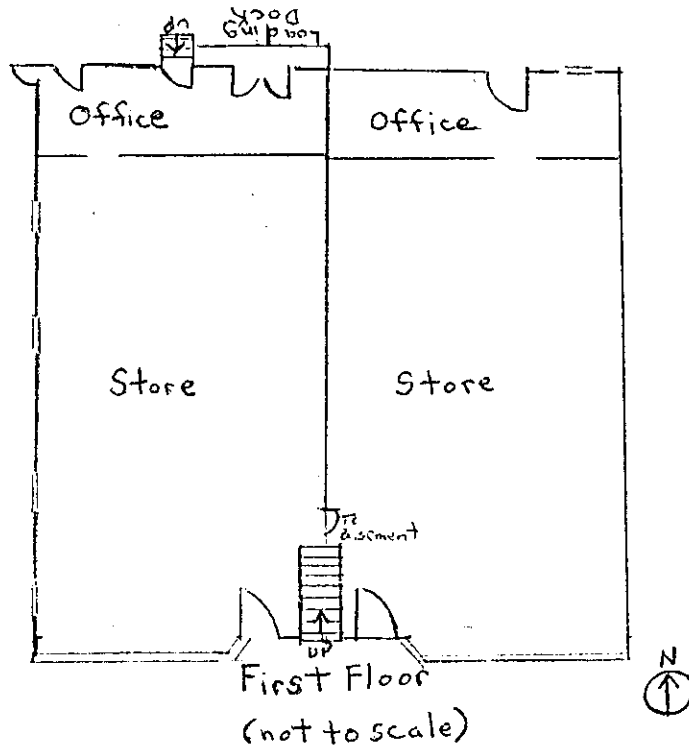
The basement is in very good condition and the stone foundation is visible here. The east wall is made of brick and is a common wall with the adjacent building. Originally the floor was dirt, but now it is made of poured concrete. There are two brick walled tunnels (about 6 feet high and 3 feet wide) leading to the north; these tunnels could have been connected to the livery stable which once stood on Archer Avenue and Main Street.

The integrity of the building is very good. Structurally, the building is basically sound.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

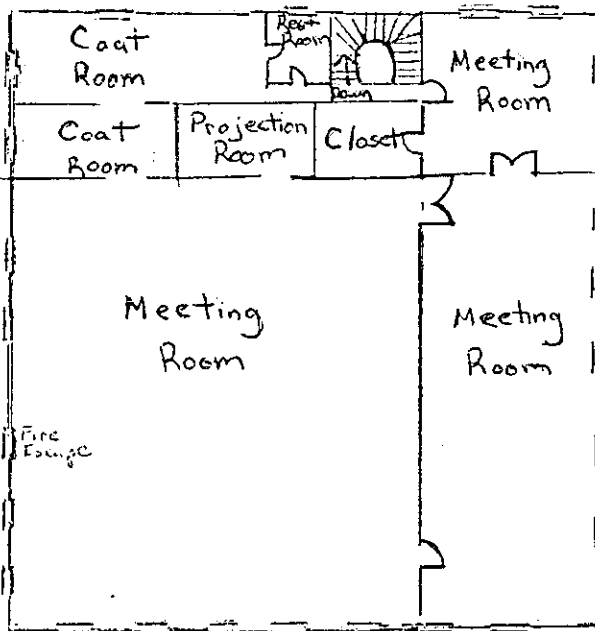
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Third Floor (N)

(Not to scale)

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1891  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1891  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

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

Significant Person

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

Architect/Builder

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

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Patton Block Building meets Criterion C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It is a locally significant representative example of late 19th century commercial building design.

The commercial development of the Public Square in Monmouth had begun in the 1840's. The first building at 88 Public Square was a small wooden two story shop with an awning over the wood plank walk. The former Warren County Courthouse was located just south of the present courthouse and small shops, similar to the 88 Public Square building, occupied the adjacent area to the north.<sup>1</sup>

The present building was built by Robert S. Patton (1837-1910). Mr. Patton was a well respected member of the community. He was born in Adams County, Ohio and came to Warren County in 1859 settling in Hale Township, he moved to Monmouth in 1880. He was elected to the office of Warren County Treasurer and Collector in 1879 and served in that capacity for many years, he also served on the city council and was a trustee of the Warren County Library.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. Patton purchased the property in April of 1891 and broke ground on May 1st. The building was completed in December of that year. The total cost of construction was \$15,000.00. The year 1891 was a very prosperous time for building construction in Monmouth. It was reported that 80 new homes, three business blocks, several offices, two churches, some minor shops and two factories were built that year. The brick paving of the Public Square was completed shortly thereafter in 1892.<sup>3</sup>

Throughout its history the building served as a place to conduct business and leisure activities in the community. The Patton Block Building was used for retail stores, office space and housed entertainment facilities for the community. Early (1891-1910) tenants of the building included various grocers, a bakery, numerous merchants and two "moving picture houses" (at different times) on the first and third floors; a physician, attorneys, an architect, a photographer, artists, realators, dress makers, insurance agents and the Jeffersonian social club on the second floor. The third floor was used by the Patriotic Order Sons of America in the early 1890's, Browns Business College in 1898, The Military Tract Bindery from 1903 to 1908 and various other social clubs after that time such as; Monmouth Aerie of Eagles, Rebekah Lodge No. 22, Modern Woodsman Lodge, Annex and Tuxedo Clubs.<sup>4</sup>

The most interesting community social function of the building was that of the "moving picture houses" which were located there. In December of 1909 one of Monmouths early moving picture houses, the "La Grande" theatre, opened at 90 Public Square. In 1910

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Patton Block Building

Mrs. William Osborne purchased the motion picture house and renamed it the "Arrow". The motion picture industry was becoming very popular at this time and Mrs. Osborne also operated 4 other movie theatres in town.<sup>5</sup> A 1910 Monmouth High School year book features an ad which states: "Visit the Arrow Theatre for strictly high class pictures."<sup>6</sup> Later during the 1930's the Ada Theatre was located at 88 Public Square. The Ada began business on the third floor and later moved to the west room on the first floor.<sup>7</sup> The city directory from 1936 featured an ad which states: "Ada Theatre - The Little House with the Big Pictures".<sup>8</sup> This slogan was also present on the marquee.<sup>8</sup> The Ada Theatre operated until 1938 when the Rivoli Theatre opened at 219 South Main Street. Since that time the Rivoli has been the only operating movie theatre in Monmouth.<sup>9</sup>

Late 19th century commercial architecture design developed with the prosperity of communities. The early shops, often single story, were replaced with much larger- three to four story- structures as communities grew. People in towns wanted their commercial buildings to look urban. Many times this was accomplished through the design of a buildings facade. During this time, most commercial buildings were designed to be seen from the front. With relatively few exceptions, these buildings were not conceived as freestanding objects. From the exterior, it is the facade that gives commercial architecture its distinctive qualities and distinguishes one building from the next. Side walls were often party walls, shared with or secured to those of the adjacent structure. When facing alleys or service walks, the side walls stood free; however, they were almost always treated in a utilitarian manner. Rear walls were similarly rendered. The interior arrangement of space in these commercial buildings was designed to provide open space that could be subdivided by tenants according to their special needs. Interior decoration also varied depending on the use of the building and the community in which it was built.<sup>10</sup>

The Patton Block Building is one of the most intact late 19th century commercial buildings in Monmouth. The exterior of the building is intact with the only change being in the window and door remodeling at 88 Public Square. The interior floor plan has not been altered. The interior woodwork, hardware, many of the original stained glass windows, light fixtures and ceiling fans remain intact. Much of the woodwork remains in its original state with only the rooms on the east side of the second floor having been painted. The quality of the interior detailing in this building has not been found in the other neighboring commercial structures. The stained glass windows are excellent examples of the craftsmanship of the era. The Patton Block Building is the only commercial building known to have had stained glass windows in the city. All other windows also retain their original casements and many contain the original glass. A survey of the Public Square verifies that the Patton Block has the best integrity.

The Public Square business district has suffered from many fires over the years. These fires occurred in the years 1868, 1871, 1952 and 1974. The Hardin building, located at 59 Public Square, dates from 1865 but had extensive interior and first floor facade remodeling during the 1930's. The Claycomb Building, located at 96 Public Square, dates from 1850 and has had extensive interior and first floor facade changes. The Madden Block Building located on the northeast quadrant of the Public Square dates from the 1870's. All the shop fronts and interiors have been altered with little remaining of the second story interior floor plan. Built in 1846 the Thompson Block, located at 72 Public Square, is the oldest remaining structure on the Public Square. The interiors have been extensively altered and nothing remains from the original floor plan.

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet**

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ENDNOTES

1. Jeff Rankin, Born of the Praire p.5
2. Victor Moffet, Review Atlas, May 17, 1940
3. IBD
4. Monmouth City Directories 1893-1937
5. Ralph Eckley, Review Atlas, 1982
6. Monmouth High School 1910 Yearbook "The Maroon and Gold"
7. Conversation with Mr. James Brown
8. Monmouth City Directory 1936
9. Ralph Eckley, Review Atlas, 1977
10. Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street, 1987



**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Longstreth, Richard, The Buildings of Main Street Preservation Press 1987  
Monmouth High School 1910 yearbook, "The Maroon and Gold"  
Rankin, Jeff, Born of the Praire, Kellogg Printing Co., Monmouth, Illinois, 1981  
Monmouth City Directories, 1893 thru 1937  
Commercial Club, "Maple City" a promotional book of Monmouth 1911  
H.F. Kett and Co., The Past and Present of Warren County 1877, Chicago, Illinois  
Sanborn Insurance Maps - 1895, 1898, 1927, 1913 and 1924  
Various news articles from the Review Atlas, Monmouth, Illinois

See continuation sheet

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre

**UTM References**

A 15 697990 4531540  
Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The East Twenty-four (24) feet of the West Forty (40) Feet of the South Half of Lot Two (2) and Twenty-six and Sixty-six Hundredths (26.66) feet off of the East side of said Lot Two (2) except the Norht Seventy (70) feet therof, which said North Seventy (70) Feet was heretofore conveyed by Harry P. Hazle to the City of Monmouth, all in Block 10 (10) of the Old Town Plat of the City of Monmouth, situated in the County of Warren and State of Illinois, also, generally known as the Patton Block  See continuation sheet or Building.

**Boundary Justification**

This is the property historically associated with the Patton Block.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Carla Kanthak  
organization Monmouth Preservationists, Incorporated date July 29, 1990  
street & number 416 East Broadway telephone 309/ 734-3654  
city or town Monmouth state Illinois zip code 61462

The Director of the National Park Service is pleased to inform you that the following properties have been entered in the National Register of Historic Places. For further information call 202/343-9542.

WEEKLY LIST OF LISTED PROPERTIES  
10/29/90 THROUGH 11/02/90

NOV 09 1990

KEY: Property Name, Multiple Name, Address/Boundary, City,  
Vicinity, Certification Date, Reference Number, NHL status

#### ALASKA

Bethel Borough-Census Area  
First Mission House  
291 Third Ave.  
Bethel 10/30/90 90001551

#### ILLINOIS

Cook County  
Oak Lawn School  
9526 S. Cook Ave.  
Oak Lawn 11/02/90 90001725

#### Kendall County

Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
304 S. Center Ave.  
Piano 11/02/90 90001724

#### La Salle County

Ransom Water Tower  
Plumb St. between Cartier & Columbus  
Ransom 11/02/90 90001723

#### Lee County

Whitney, Col. Nathan, House  
1620 Whitney Rd.  
Franklin Grove vicinity 11/02/90 90001726

#### Warren County

Pattin Block Building  
88 & 90 Public Square  
Hammouth 11/02/90 90001727

#### LOUISIANA

Lincoln Parish  
Ruston State Bank  
107 N. Trenton St.  
Ruston 11/02/90 90001730

#### LOUISIANA

Richland Parish  
Rhynes, Nonnie Roark, Memorial Library  
206 S. Louisa St.  
Rayville 11/02/90 90001736

#### MARYLAND

#### Somerset County

Rock Creek Methodist Episcopal Church  
Deal Island Rd. NE of Scotts Cove  
Chance 11/02/90 90001718  
St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church and Joshua Thomas Chapel  
Deal Island Rd. N of jct. with Tangier Rd.  
Deal Island 11/01/90 90001550  
St. Peter's Methodist Episcopal Church  
Jct. of Old Crisfield-Marion Rd. & Heart's Ease Rd.  
Hopewell vicinity 11/02/90 90001721

#### MASSACHUSETTS

#### Worcester County

First Methodist Church  
75 Walnut St.  
Clinton 11/02/90 90001720

#### MICHIGAN

#### Ingham County

St. Mary Cathedral  
229 Seymour St.  
Lansing 11/02/90 90001716

#### NEW JERSEY

#### Burlington County

Wills, Jacob, House  
Evesham Township MPS  
Brick Rd., W of Evans Rd.  
Marlton 11/01/90 89002296

#### OREGON

#### Hood River County

Shaw--Dumble House  
318 Ninth St.  
Hood River 10/30/90 90001501

#### TENNESSEE

Davidson County  
Dozier Farm  
8451 River Rd. Pike  
Nashville vicinity 11/01/90 90001580

#### TEXAS

#### Lubbock County

Tubbs--Carlisle House  
602 Fulton Ave.  
Lubbock 11/02/90 90001719

#### WASHINGTON

#### Yakima County

Buckeye Ranch House  
10881 WA 410  
Naches vicinity 11/02/90 90001735

Multiple Resource Areas are identified by MRA  
Multiple Property Submissions are identified by MPS  
Thematic Resources are identified by TR  
NHL designates a National Historic Landmark

The following actions have been taken on the following properties:

KEY: Property Name, Multiple Name, Address/Boundary, City,  
Vicinity, Reference Number, NHL status, Requested Action, Decision Date

#### KENTUCKY

#### Jefferson County

Kennedy--Hunsinger Farm  
Jefferson County MRA  
4354 Taylorsville Rd.  
Jefferson town vicinity 83002585  
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION 11/01/90

The following properties were also entered in the National Register but were excluded from a previous notice:

KEY: Property Name, Multiple Name, Address/Boundary, City,  
Vicinity, Reference Number, NHL status

#### MINNESOTA

#### Cass County

Battle Point (21CR12)  
6 mi. W of Co. Hwy. 8 on Leech Lake, Chippewa NF  
Cass Lake vicinity 8/17/90 90001144

#### MISSOURI

#### Shannon County

Mvers Ferry Archeological District  
Address Restricted  
Rector vicinity 10/25/90 90001541

#### NEW MEXICO

#### Lincoln County

Mesa Ranger Station Site  
Lincoln Phase Sites in the Sierra Blanca Region NPS  
Address Restricted  
Nogal vicinity 10/22/90 90001533  
Nogal Mesa Kiva Site  
Lincoln Phase Sites in the Sierra Blanca Region NPS  
Address Restricted  
Nogal vicinity 10/22/90 90001532  
Nogal Mesa Site  
Lincoln Phase Sites in the Sierra Blanca Region NPS  
Address Restricted  
Nogal vicinity 10/22/90 90001531

#### SOUTH CAROLINA

#### Charleston County

Lighthouse Point Shell Ring (38CM12)  
Late Archaic--Early Woodland Period Shell Rings of South Carolina NPS  
Address Restricted  
Charleston vicinity 10/14/90 90001505