

To D.C.
10/2/85
OMB No. 1024-0018
Expires 10-31-87
For NPS use only

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received
date entered

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

1. Name

historic TAZEWELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE

and or common

2. Location

street & number Court Street, between Capitol and Fourth Streets not for publication

city, town Pekin vicinity of

state Illinois code 012 county Tazewell code 179

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Tazewell County Board

street & number 3rd Floor McKenzie Building

city, town Pekin vicinity of state Illinois

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Tazewell County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Pekin state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Illinois Historic Structure Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
Ill. Dep. of Conservation, 1973

date federal state county local

depository for survey records Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

city, town Springfield state Illinois

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Tazewell County Courthouse occupies the center of Courthouse Block, in the center of the original town of Pekin. This site was previously occupied by a smaller courthouse, built in 1848 at a cost of approximately \$8,000, located closer to Capitol Street (Photo 3, 20, 21). The present structure, measuring approximately 91 x 164 feet with three floors above grade and basement, was built to meet the growing needs of the County for office and record storage space at a cost of \$212,964. Most of the materials used in its construction; limestone, brick and wood, were from local sources.

The present Courthouse (Photos 1, 2, 10, 11) was designed as a formal, symmetrical composition both in plan and in elevation. Each side of this massive, limestone-clad building has been articulated vertically into three parts; base, shaft and capital, as well as being divided into three parts in plan by use of a projected central bay.

The "base" of the first story is slightly elevated above grade, with a central entrance repeated on each facade, and deeply-set semi-circular arched windows. The entrances each pass through deep, coffered vaults under bracketed and festooned segmental arched pediments. Sculpture of an eagle-rampant, clutching a shield with the capital letter T, surmounts each pediment. The horizontal joints of the stone wall surface have been deeply incised, and this detail flows into the window openings along the lines of the voussoir of the arches. (Photo 13) A ramp has been added to the Fourth Street entrance.

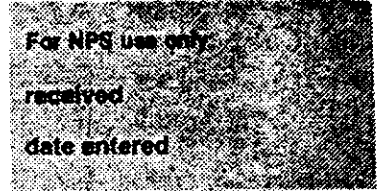
The second and third stories, or "shaft" of the facade, feature two different designs for the central bays. On the narrow ends of the building, this bay takes the form of a tetrastyle (4 column) pavilion. The wider facades' bay also is a columned pavilion, but has been extended to five bays, with half-columns at each end attached to piers, between which this colonnade is recessed (in antis). All columns are of a simplified Tuscan Order having a smooth shaft with entasis approx. $6\frac{1}{2}$ times the diameter in height, Attic base, and a simple capital with a small ornament at each quarter of the necking (between astragal and echinus). The remaining wall surface, where not penetrated by square-linteled window openings aligned in vertical pairs with recessed spandrel stonework (single and double width openings), takes the form of wide piers (or anta of the wider pavilion) decorated solely by a shallow relief design at the top, similar to a banner or swag.

The upper portion of the building, or " capital ", is a continuation of the Order found in the pavilions, with a simply molded architrave, smooth frieze with a single bezant (disc) above each column and pier, a projecting cornice with block modillion, and a balustrade with modestly decorated pedestals at each building corner.

The four entrances lead into a central lobby with skylit atrium (Photos 6, 12, 14). The materials used on this and also the upper lobbies include gray marble floors in a herringbone block pattern with black marble borders, white marble wainscot with black marble base and wood cap, and cream-colored plaster above. The walls are further decorated by white marble pilasters with plaster capitals of a modified Corinthian style (egg and dart). These pilasters are located under the ends of ceiling beams and wall cornice which give the ceiling a coffered appearance. Along the ceiling of each coffer, small-scale plaster moldings of dentils, egg and dart, and bead and reel design have been accentuated by use of color, which are repeated on the pilaster capitals. On this floor, as well as on the second and third floors, original bracket and ceiling

United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet Tazewell County Courthouse Item number 7 Page 2

opal glass and bronze light fixtures provide most of the general illumination.

The atrium, extending through the second and third floors, is surrounded by white marble balustrades which follow the rounded-corner rectangular openings. The inside surface of the openings is decorated with marble, stepping back to the ceiling beams with their plaster moldings and bezant (disc) ornament. Crowning the atrium is a rectangular, shallow-vaulted skylight. Its green and opal glass is divided into squares and subdivided further on their diagonals with the supporting metalwork. (Photos 7, 8, 9, 12, 15) Access to upper floors is made by twin marble staircases on each side of the Court Street entrance (Photo 16), with balusters matching those around the atrium. An elevator provides access as well, but its open sky-lit shaft and cage elevator have been remodeled for fire safety.

Original plans indicate the following departments, or offices, were to be housed in the Courthouse (counter-clockwise from NW corner of plans): First Floor - Sheriff, Commissioner of Highways, Public Treasurer, G.A.R. Historical Museum, Superintendent of Schools (with examination room); Second Floor - Circuit Clerk (and vaults), Surveyor, Board of Supervisors, County Clerk (and vaults), County Court Office; Third Floor - Circuit Court (major courtroom), Law Library, Court Reporter, Jury Rooms (including one sleeping room), Coroner, Master in Chancery (2), States Attorney, Grand Jury (courtroom), Witness rooms (both men's and women's with separate toilets).

Original plans (available at the Courthouse) also indicate the provision of a central vacuum cleaning system, which was reported to be inadequate and abandoned. Its fittings are still visible in the public areas.

Offices have been remodeled with ceilings lowered and new finishes for energy and comfort, but their lobby entrances have not been altered, leaving the original character of the public areas intact. The major courtroom on the third floor has also been maintained in its original size and with its woodwork and light fixtures intact. Its original painted frieze above the segmental arched pediment of the judges bench has also been maintained (Photos 17, 18, 19).

Beyond the addition of a ramp for handicapped access, the only change to the exterior has been the replacement of deteriorated wood windows in the early 1970's with new aluminum vertical pivot, single-sash units. The original design indicated the use of double-hung type sash, with the upper sash on the third floor to have crossed muntins.

This nomination contains one contributing building and no non-contributing resources.

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

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
built, 1914	Deal and Ginzel, Architects Lincoln, Illinois L.M. Deal, Supt. English Brothers, Contractors Champaign, Illinois W. Crowley, Supt.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Tazewell County Courthouse is one of at least three Illinois courthouses designed by the architectural firm of Deal and Ginzel, including Moultrie County, Sullivan, in 1904, and Logan County, Lincoln, in 1903. The design and construction of these buildings indicates the strong influence of both principals of the Firm. The qualities of academic classicism evident in the plans and exterior design undoubtedly stem from Roland F. Ginzel's years of study at the University of Illinois in Architecture, from 1895 thru 1899. This school boasted a well-stocked library and fostered the ideas of the Ecole des Beaux Arts as models for the students to follow. Ginzel brought to the Firm, between 1890 and 1900, his exposure to these ideals, and was responsible for much of the design work of their buildings. He was licensed by examination in 1916, at the age of 41, and remained in practice only six more years.

His partner, John M. Deal, was one of the many practicing designer/builders who were grandfathered in under the Illinois Architectural Registration Act of 1897. A cabinet-maker by trade, he was accustomed to working out the details of a building as the construction progressed, and brought his extensive practical knowledge to the partnership. He remained in practice longer, with Ginzel until 1910, and under his own name until 1948. (His son, Joe, was also a registered Architect, who built houses as a "resident" Architect.) Together, this Lincoln, Illinois firm was responsible for many types of buildings in the midwest, mostly in Central Illinois as were their county courthouses.

As was prevalent during the first two decades of the 1900's, many courthouses were judged to be inadequate or unsafe, or just deteriorated beyond repair. At least twenty new courthouses were built during this period for counties throughout Illinois. Of these, the works of Deal and Ginzel are noteworthy for their Beaux Arts qualities, and the Tazewell County Courthouse especially for its break with the then-current trend for modeling such buildings as smaller scale versions of state or the Federal Capitol with cruciform plans and elaborate towers or domes.

This building does relate to the Firm's earlier works, with its symmetrical plan, three-part elevations, and restrained use of classical proportion and details. This design shows both richness of classical detail, in its exterior articulation, but also a more simplified use of Orders and ornamentation. It does not lack the massiveness of overall exterior appearance, nor the rich interior finishes demanded of any public building.

The hiring of this Firm for this project was not by competition, but probably based, as was the case on many such projects of this time, on the selection of a Committee from the County who were instructed to visit several nearby counties and report back. No doubt, the Tazewell County committee was already familiar with the new Logan County courthouse, and it represented the quality of the work of the Architects, well.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet Tazewell County Courthouse Item number 8

Page 2

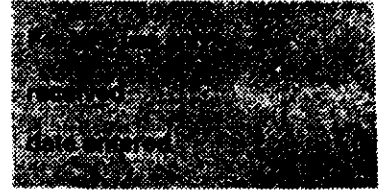
Tazewell County shared a problem with other counties during this period; it had grown to the extent that several of its functions had been housed in other buildings, and they, too, had been outgrown. In this case, the Courthouse Block was occupied by not only the original Courthouse, but also a separate jail (which remained) and a detached office building which fronted on Elizabeth Street. Like several of these others, the solution selected was to tear down and build one unified, grand structure to house both the courts and the County offices. Typical for this period, the decision to proceed was made by public referendum.

Despite the loss of the original courthouse, which had its share of Illinois history with the legal and oratorical practices of Lincoln, Douglas, and other prominent persons, this present structure shares in the history of Illinois, and Tazewell County's growth at the turn of the Century. Its design owes much to the great "White City" expositions of Chicago and St. Louis, and the education of the Public, as it owes to the academic education of its designers in the principles of Beaux Arts. Elements of its design can be seen in earlier works, especially those for the Federal government, such as the Philadelphia Mint of 1898 by the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, James Knox Taylor (who was responsible for the Pekin Federal Building of 1906, across from this Courthouse). Its combination of projected narrow and recessed wide pavilions on the second and third floors can be found in Spencer Roberts' Municipal Building for Trenton, New Jersey of 1908-10. It, too, features symmetrical facades with horizontal emphasis of the first floor stonework, but reserves its grandest space for its courtroom, where the Tazewell design features its in the public's area, in the form of a beautiful, skylit atrium.

The Tazewell County Courthouse stands alone as the best and grandest public example of the Beaux Arts principles in Tazewell County, and the best example of such work by this small Illinois architectural firm. It serves as the focal point for downtown Pekin, and its historic neighbors: the Federal Building (Old Post Office), National Register; Pekin Theater, 1928, National Register; and Arcade Building, 1904. These fine structures shared in and reflect the prosperity and growth of this Illinois River city of Pekin.

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**National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet Tazewell County Courthouse

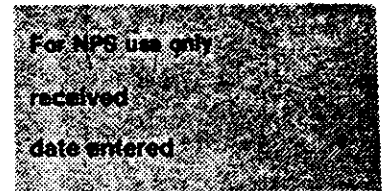
Item number 9

Page 2

- a. History of Tazewell County, IL, 1879, Charles C. Chapman & Co., Chicago
- b. Pekin Centenary (1849-1949), Pekin Association of Commerce, Centenary Committee
- c. Pekin Sesquicentennial History (1824-1974), Pekin Chamber of Commerce, 1974
- d. Historical Souvenir to Commemorate the Dedication of the New Tazewell County Courthouse at the County-Seat, Pekin, Illinois, Wednesday, June 21st, 1916, William H. Bates, Pekin. Attached as appendix to 1916 Pekin City Directory, also by Bates.
- e. Tazewell County Courthouse (original construction drawings), 1914, Deal & Grinzel Architects, Lincoln, Illinois, prints from linen originals - held at the Courthouse.
- f. Tazewell County Courthouse and Surrounding Historic Area, self-guided tour brochure, 1985, The Committee for Historic Preservation of Pekin (CHIPP).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

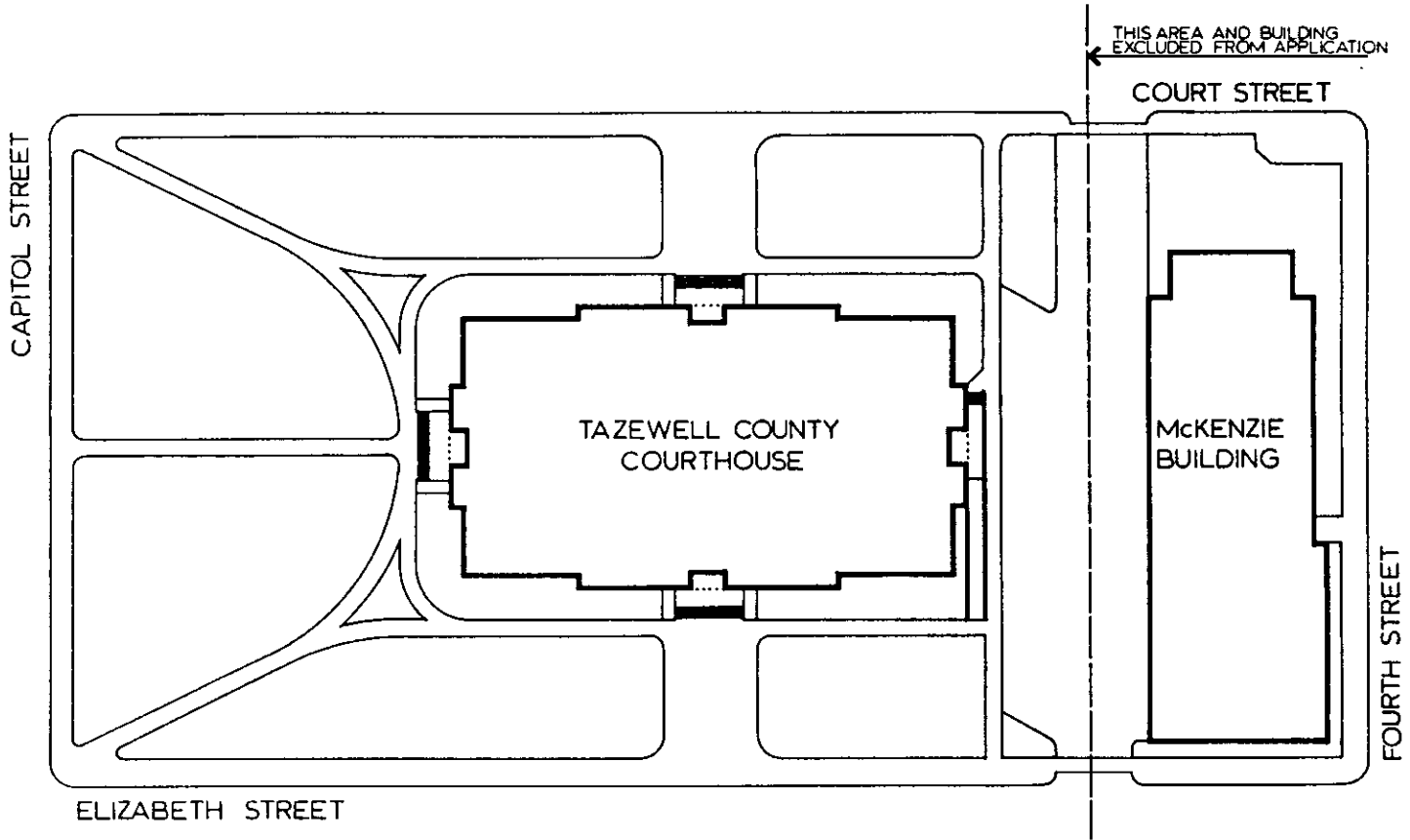
**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet Tazewell County Courthouse Item number 9

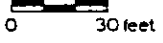
Page 3

- g. Inventory of the County Archives of Illinois, No. 70, Moultrie County (Sullivan),
The Illinois Historical Records Survey Project, April 1941, W.P.A.
- h. Historic Courthouses in Illinois, Lucy Miller Sturges, 1964, The National
Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Illinois
- i. Court House, a Photographic Document, edited by Richard Pare, 1978, Joseph E.
Seagram & Sons, Inc.
- j. The Federal Presence, Lois Craig and the staff of the Federal Architecture
Project, 1978, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- k. information from a National Register Application for an historic district in
downtown Lincoln, Illinois, received from Charles Kirchner, Illinois Department
of Commerce and Community Affairs



NORTH

SITE PLAN



TAZEWELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
PEKIN, ILLINOIS

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.47 +

Quadrangle name Pekin, IL

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 65 in the original town of Pekin, except for the portion extending 80 feet from the Fourth Street property line between Court and Elizabeth Streets on which the McKenzie Building is located. (See attached Site Plan)

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 Leslie H. Kenyon/Larry D. Davis - Architects

organization Kenyon and Associates, Architects date August 8, 1985

street & number 735 N. Knoxville Avenue telephone (309) 674-7121

city or town Peoria state Illinois 61602

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title Acting Director date 9-25-85

For NPS 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



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. BOX 37127

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127

IN REPLY REFER TO:

NOV 22 1985

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 beginning November 10, 1985 and ending November 16, 1985. For further information call (202) 343-9552.

STATE, County, Vicinity, Property, Address, (Date Listed)

CALIFORNIA, El Dorado County, Placerville, Hattie (Gold Bug), Priest & Silver Pine Mines and Stampmill, 2501 Bedford Ave. (11/15/85)

CONNECTICUT, New Haven County, Guilford, Eliot, Jared, House, 88 Old Chaffinch Island Rd. (11/14/85)

ILLINOIS, Adams County, Quincy, Quincy East End Historic District, Roughly bounded by Hampshire, 24th, State, and 12th Sts. (11/14/85)

ILLINOIS, Clay County, Xenia, Paine House, Rt. 1, Box 19 A (11/14/85)

ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago, Gage Group—Ascher, Keith, & Gage Buildings, 18--30 S. Michigan Ave. (11/14/85)

ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago, Smith, J. P., Shoe Company Plant, 671--699 N. Sangamon Ave., and 901--921 W. Huron St. (11/14/85)

ILLINOIS, Jackson County, Carbondale, Reef House, 411 S. Poplar St. (11/14/85)

ILLINOIS, McLean County, Bloomington, Cox, George H., House, 701 E. Grove St. (11/14/85)

ILLINOIS, Ogle County, Mt. Morris, Hitt, Samuel M., House, 7782 IL 64 W. (11/14/85)

ILLINOIS, Tazewell County, Pekin, Tazewell County Courthouse, Court St. between Capitol & Fourth Sts. (11/14/85)

IOWA, Scott County, Davenport, Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Freight House (Davenport MRA), 102 S. Ripley St. (11/14/85)

KENTUCKY, Bracken County, Snag Creek Site (15BK2) (11/14/85)

KENTUCKY, Bracken County, Turtle Creek Site (15BK13) (11/14/85)

KENTUCKY, Carlisle County, Marshall Site (15-CE-27) (11/14/85)

KENTUCKY, Carlisle County, Turk Site (15 CE 6) (11/14/85)

KENTUCKY, Clark County, Indian Fort Earthworks (15CK7) (11/14/85)

KENTUCKY, Kenton County, Covington, Emery Row, 810--828 Scott Blvd. (11/14/85)

KENTUCKY, Logan County, Page Site (15L01) (11/14/85)

MARYLAND, Baltimore (Independent City), Baltimore, Young Men's & Young Women's Hebrew Association Building, 305--311 W. Monument St. (11/14/85)

NORTH DAKOTA, Ramsey County, Devils Lake, Bangs--Wineman Block, 402--408 Fourth St. (11/14/85)

NORTH DAKOTA, Richland County, Mooreton vicinity, Bagg Bonanza Farm District, Off ND 13 on Section Rd. (11/14/85)

NORTH DAKOTA, Traill County, Mayville, Delchar Theater, 20 W. Main St. (11/14/85)

NORTH DAKOTA, Traill County, Mayville, Goose River Bank, 45 Main St. E. (11/14/85)

NORTH DAKOTA, Traill County, Mayville, Lura Building, 29 W. Main St. (11/14/85)

ILLINOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INVENTORY

1. Name of Site:

Common Tazewell County Court House
Historic

2.. Location:

<u>Street and Number</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>Section</u>
SE cor., Capitol and Court	24N	2
<u>City or Town</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>1/4 Section</u>
Pekin	5W	NE
<u>County</u> TAZEWELL		

3. Classification:

Category (check one)	Integrity (check one)
() District (X) Building	() Altered (X) Unaltered
() Site () Structure	() Moved (X) Original Site

4. Ownership:

() Private	(X) Occupied
(X) Public	() Unoccupied
	() Preservation work in progress

Access to Public

() Yes () Restricted () Unrestricted (X) No

Present Use (check one or more)

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

5. Ownership of Property:

<u>Owner's Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
<u>Street and Number</u>	
<u>City or Town</u>	
<u>State</u>	<u>County</u> <u>Zip Code</u>

6. Description:

(X) Excellent () Good () Fair () Deteriorated () Ruins () Unexposed

Is there a program of preservation underway? () Yes (X) No

GOVERNMENT

7. Historical Themes : (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Pre-Columbian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Post-Columbian to 1673) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French Influence | (1673-1780) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Frontier | (1780-1818) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Early | (1818-1850) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Middle | (1850-1900) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illinois Late | (1900-present) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Famous People | (give names & dates) |

8. Specific Date: 1916, completed

Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)

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

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates) Use additional sheets if necessary.

Seat of Tazewell Co's government since 1916

9. Form prepared by:

Name and Title: KEITH A. SCULLE Date: June 1975
ILLINOIS HISTORIC LANDMARKS SURVEY
 Organization: 1005 DEVONSHIRE Phone: _____
Champaign, Illinois 61820
 Street and number: _____
 City or Town: _____ County: _____ Zip Code _____

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for references for a particular site. When filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly deduct from the Survey's task.

Bibliography

Robertson, Robert, Of Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.

Centenary Committee. The Pekin Association of Commerce.
The Pekin Centenary, 1849-1949. Pekin, 1949, p. 121.

