

Sent to Washington

OMB No. 1024-0028
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9-30-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

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 Morgan County Courthouse

and or common

2. Location

street & number 300 West State Street not for publication

city, town Jacksonville vicinity of

state Illinois code 012 county Morgan code 137

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
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<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 Board of Commissioners of Morgan County, Verne Bergschneider, Chairman

street & number 300 West State Street

city, town Jacksonville vicinity of state Illinois

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Morgan County Clerk and Recorder's Office

street & number 300 West State Street

city, town Jacksonville state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of historical landmarks in Morgan County has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date November 1973 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 type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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 Courthouse is a three-storied detached, limestone block example of an eclectic blend of the towered Italianate country villa with a French Second Empire style. The overall shape of the building is rectangular, and is built to cover an area of two-third of a city block, or an area of one hundred eighty feet nine inches by one hundred twenty feet six inches. Because of its location "off the square", a vertical emphasis was essential and the architect achieved this by means of a raised entry and corner placement of three asymmetrical towers. The Courthouse has undergone some alterations in its one hundred eighteen years of existence, but none have detracted from the basic integrity of the property.

The building faces south on West State Street, with a secondary entrance on the east side on North West Street. From the south, a grand rise of concrete stairs (originally stone) leads to a three-bay round-arched loggia contained between two asymmetrical towers - the west tower, lean and tall - the east tower, heavy and short. This loggia protects the entrances - the main entrance into a central hall, and a double (original) doored entrance into a staircase in the west tower. The smaller tower on the northeast corner is actually a chimney for the building's heating plant.

The building's vertical emphasis made it most appropriate for the commercial setting where real estate was at a premium.

The rusticated limestone blocks (quarried at Joliet and shipped to Jacksonville by rail) create a solid permanence to the structure. An extruded limestone belt, corner piers, paneled friezes and scroll-shaped cornice brackets intensify the feeling. The building "owes its monumental presence, however, to the profuse use of rusticated masonry and to the bold arch-topped dormers that break out of the mansards of the two front towers above their bracketed cornices," as Henry Russell-Hitchcock and William Seale noted in Courthouse, A Photographic Document. Fenestration is round-headed throughout with stone hoods. Some windows are single (with keystone), some have tracery, some are double, some are triple. Bulls-eye windows punctuate the basement and third floors. The roof line is a "modest", narrow mansard with a straight profile. This is interrupted on the east and west by a centrally located low gable, the cornices of which are decorated with brackets as are the cornices of each tower. Above the mansard profile the roof is relatively flat. The gabled, projecting bay wall on the east and west facade has three recessed two-story arches, heavily keystone.

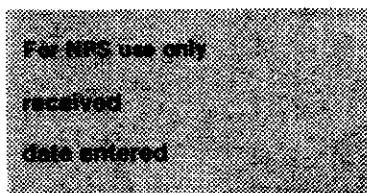
The roof was originally of polychromed slate, but broken tiles necessitated its repair. Since replacement cost was prohibitive, the County replaced the entire profile with asphalt shingles. This was done in the late 1950s or early 1960s. The platform for the statue of Justice was incorporated into the roof line at this time. Although several bulls-eye windows in the east tower and the front mansard were covered over at the time, this did not greatly detract from the architectural significance of the building. Also about this same time, the front steps were replaced with concrete and a handrail added. (Top two steps are original stone.)

Most of the roof cresting has been removed from the towers and dormers, and the flag pole atop the west tower has been replaced with a radio aerial. The huge double entry doors were first replaced in 1907 with lighter and more easily managed ones. These have again been replaced with glass and aluminum doors. The exterior was tuck-pointed, and a glaze of silicone applied in the early 1960s. The marble floors were removed in 1962 and replaced with floor tiles. Also gone is the iron fence which originally encircled the building.

(con't)

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Continuation sheet Morgan County Courthouse Item number 7 Page 2

Interiorly, a central hall divides the first floor of the Courthouse. Tall, recessed paneled doors with arched transoms lead to offices on either side of the corridor. Each office has a pressed tin ceiling and wooden flooring. These have basically remained unchanged. One notable addition has been a small self-service elevator installed in the 1960s.

A grand staircase on the east side of the building at its North West Street entrance leads to the second floor where the main courtroom is located. The two-story high ceiling of the courtroom is covered with a patterned pressed tin with a central rosette (the chandelier installed there in 1897 when they wired for electricity has been removed.) The courtroom was completely remodeled in 1926. The spectator gallery located on the south wall was removed at that time, and the Judge's Bench (originally located on the north wall) was relocated to the south wall. At the same time, the old spectator gallery staircase - located in the lower three levels of the bell tower and entered through the huge double doored entry under the front loggia - was locked off and the stairway has remained unused since that time. Plans for the 1926 remodeling of the courtroom have been located in the County Clerk's Office.

The remainder of the second floor is used for offices and chambers. The third floor is used primarily for document storage and is essentially unchanged in character from its original use. The basement has been divided through the years but not to the extent that it could not be restored to its original condition.

Two of the most interesting features of the building were the statue of Justice and the great bell.

The statue of Justice stood on a stone pedestal sixty-four feet above the front entrance on the south wall of the Courthouse. She was carved from one solid block of white pine by the firm of Campbell and Colby of Mystic Bridge, Massachusetts, and was shipped to Jacksonville in October of 1868.

According to an article from the newspaper, "The Mystic Pioneer", dated October 3, 1868: "The statue stands nine feet from the bottom of the pedestal which is one foot thick, leaving eight feet as the exact height of the fixture. The scales, two feet nine inches beam are held up before her in her left hand that she may the better see justice done. In her right had she grasps a naked sword four feet long. The figure is to be gilded and the scales silvered...."

First to go were the sword and scales - so she stood armless from that time (possibly as early as 1872) until she vanished from her perch atop the Courthouse sometime between 1903 and 1930. Where she is today remains a mystery.

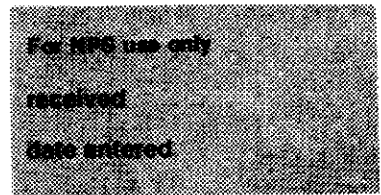
The bell at the Courthouse arrived in Jacksonville on June 18, 1869, by railroad flatcar. It was cast of copper and tin in the bell foundry of A. Fulton's Son & Co., No. 91 First Ave., Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. The Fulton Company was renowned for the bells cast at its foundry - especially for the fine quality of tone, said to be more nearly perfect than any other. This bell's tone is in the key of D natural.

The bell is massive - forty-two inches high, has a mouth of fifty-six inches, is three inches thick on the sides and weighs four thousand pounds. The bell is mounted on an iron frame which adds to its total weight of over five thousand pounds. The total cost for the bell - \$1,900.00.

(con't)

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Continuation sheet Morgan County Courthouse Item number 7 Page 3

The architect, Mr. Randall, had originally designed the bell to strike the hours of a clock that was to be built immediately above the bell. The four clock faces are still in evidence, but the clockwords were never installed.

The great bell is still in excellent condition, and is certainly a historic reminder of the excellence of workmanship of both the bell foundry and of the tower in which it rests.

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/
<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 Built 1868-1869
1868-1936 period of significance

Builder/Architect Gurdon P. Randall, architect
C. R. Underwood, builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Jacksonville owes its origin as a town to the placement of the Morgan County seat of government in 1825. In its history, three successive courthouses have served the people of Morgan County: the last, and present Courthouse, completed in November 1869, became, and continues to be, the repository for all the existing legal documents of Morgan County since its inception as a county in 1823. These documents not only include the career beginnings and law practices of several nationally prominent political personalities (four state governors, two presidential candidates, and one president) - they also record the history of a town and its prominent figures at a local, state, and national level. The Morgan County Courthouse is a three-story, detached, masonry (limestone) block example of an eclectic blend of the towered Italianate villa with the French Second Empire style. The vertical, asymmetrical emphasis of the structure makes it unique in its significance to its period and to its "off the square" setting. Its architect, Gurdon P. Randall, of Chicago, is nationally known for his schools, churches, and courthouses built primarily in the mid-western states. The Morgan County Courthouse is an excellent example of his work.

The property on which the present Morgan County Courthouse was built was originally part of that eighty acres sold by the United States government to Thomas Arnett on April 15, 1825 for \$1.25 per acre. He in turn donated twenty acres to the new county of Morgan, through its commissioners, to be sold as lots to provide revenue for the new courthouse and county jail. These twenty acres formed the northwest quadrant of the Original Plat of the Town of Jacksonville. Each lot in the plat measured one hundred eighty feet nine inches by sixty feet three inches. This plat was acknowledged and recorded on April 26, 1825.

These monies acquired through the sale of said lots (along with the northeast quadrant lots also owned by the Town through the donation of Isaac Dial), were used to raise the first Morgan County Courthouse in 1826. It was located on the northwest quadrant of the center square, and was a frame two-story building set on round blocks sawed from a round log. Total cost for the thirty by forty foot rectangular building was \$450.00. On December 6, 1827, this Courthouse burned to the ground, destroying all the records of the Court, including the original plat of the town.

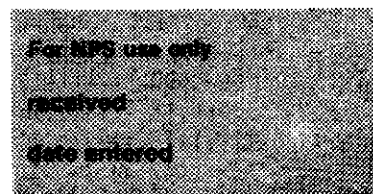
A second Courthouse was begun in 1829, located south of the first structure, on the southwest quadrant of the center square. The building was of brick, two stories high and measured fifty by forty feet - total cost \$4,000.00. This Courthouse served the County for the next thirty-eight years.

It was in this second Courthouse that Stephen A. Douglas made his first law agreement where he presided as a judge, and where he was nominated for Congress. John J. Hardin began his law career and was nominated to Congress here. Governor Joseph Duncan, Governor Thomas Ford, Abraham Lincoln and many other prominent figures helped create history with the walls of this Courthouse.

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Continuation sheet Morgan County Courthouse Item number 8 Page 2

By 1867, this "old Courthouse" was inadequate to fill the needs of the growing County, and in February of that year, 1867, by an act of the legislature, permission was given to pursue a plan to erect a new building. A "courthouse bond" was approved February 8, 1867 for the issuance of \$100,000.00 in bonds for the building of the new courthouse. In April, the Board voted to hire a professional architect to draw up specifications for a new building. For this job, they employed architect Gurdon P. Randall of Chicago.

By June 1867, Mr. Randall had submitted two plans - one, a courthouse erected on the public square with four entrances which would cost \$180,000.00; and two, a courthouse erected elsewhere with one main entrance having the same capacity, but which could be built for \$120,000.00. Because of a savings of \$60,000.00 (plus pressure from a group of citizens who wished to preserve the public square as a park) the Board voted to change the site for the new courthouse from the public square to another suitable piece of ground. The site decided upon by the County Board, or Court, was Lots #74 and #75 of the Original Plat of the Town of Jacksonville, two blocks west of the square.

In October 1867, bids were opened for the construction of the new Courthouse. The bids ranged from a high of \$179,237.00 by a Chicago firm, to the low, and accepted bid, of \$147,000.00 by Charles R. Underwood & Sons of Shelbyville, Illinois.

On May 12, 1868, the laying of the cornerstone took place with much ceremony, and General Murray McConnel was the main speaker of the day.

The construction continued through 1868 and into 1869.

In March of 1869, the old Courthouse on the square was ordered to be sold at auction before June of 1870. The Board reserved the shelving and seats for use in the new building. The iron door and frame and iron shutters of the fireproof offices were also kept for use in the new Courthouse.

By August 1869, even though the building was not completed, the Grand Jury and other rooms were used for the first time.

Court records were ordered to be moved beginning in October of 1869, and the old Courthouse was ordered to be abandoned by November 10th or 11th, 1869.

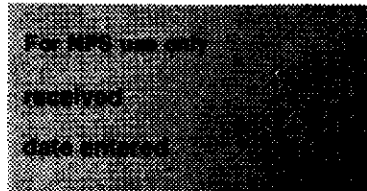
By the November deadline, the new Courthouse was declared to be the legal courthouse in and for the County of Morgan. The new "off the square" Courthouse had become the official repository for the historical documents of Morgan County. Eventually, the total cost of the building amounted to \$204,000.00. It is interesting to note that the first County Commissioners to occupy the new Courthouse were all newly elected in the November 1869 election.

Joining the "old" Courthouse records of Stephen A. Douglas, Governor Richard Yates, Sr., Abraham Lincoln, Governor Thomas Ford and Governor Joseph Duncan - the "new" Courthouse began its own list of important personalities: The Honorable Cyrus Epler, Judge of the 7th Circuit Court, who served for twenty-four years in that capacity from 1873 to 1899; Richard Yates, Jr., who began his practice of law here in 1884, and who was serving as Morgan County judge when he was elected governor of Illinois from 1901 - 1905; and William Jennings Bryan, who became the Democratic presidential candidate in 1896, 1900 and 1908. His Whipple Academy education and graduation from Illinois College in 1881 and the beginning of his law career in 1883 under the tutorage of William Brown and Edward P. Kir

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Continuation sheet Morgan County Courthouse Item number 8 Page 3

contributed greatly to his development. The influence of his teachers, his mentors and his professional associates during his twelve years in Jacksonville must have played a tremendous role in shaping his thoughts and philosophy as he developed his political career.

The Morgan County Courthouse is a most unique structure and is important from an architectural standpoint. As Henry-Russell Hitchcock relates: "In urban public architecture there are surprisingly few Second Empire or Neo-grec courthouses, the reason being that the clients (usually selectmen or county commissioners) were rustic characters who didn't like the idea of that wicked city Paris." The Morgan County Courthouse was singled out to be one of those illustrated in an essay by Henry-Russell Hitchcock and William Seale in the book, Courthouse, A Photographic Document. There are other Italianate/Second Empire courthouses in the State of Illinois, but it would be difficult to surpass the monumental presence of this one. The Montgomery County Courthouse, in Hillsboro, by comparison, probably comes closest in its design. Architect G. P. Randall designed both. The Montgomery County Courthouse is brick, however, and simply does not achieve the permanence and solidity of the Morgan County Courthouse. The only other known "stone with mansard" in Illinois was located at Freeport, in Stephenson County, and it was demolished in 1974.

The plans created by architect, G. P. Randall of Chicago, are lost to us at this time but the results of his design remain a tribute to his works. The October, 1884, issue of the Inland Architect and Builder gives the following account of Randall's life: "Architect Gurdon P. Randall....commenced his architectural studies in the offices of Asher Benjamin of Boston, and at the age of thirty removed to Chicago, where, during a term of 34 years, he had become perhaps more widely known throughout the West than any other architect. His work was especially in the line of school houses and churches and also court houses of which he built a large number, some in distant states...." Some of Randall's best-known buildings include St. Mary's Church (3rd), the Spaulding Building, and the Union Park Congregational Church, all in Chicago, and University Hall and Willard Hall at Northwestern University in Evanston.

The Courthouse has undergone minor exterior alterations - mostly since the turn of the century, and a certain amount of deterioration has taken place, especially on the stone on the south side, but essentially the building has retained its significant design. One has only to refer to our earliest photographs of the Courthouse to recognize that the basic structure is intact. Renovation and restoration of the interior could be instituted and much could be returned to its original condition.

The alterations previously discussed have not detracted from the significance of the property. It has retained its integrity throughout its one hundred eighteen years of existence and it is still with a feeling of awe that one climbs the stairway to enter its doors.

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Andreas, Lyter & Co. Atlas Map of Morgan County, Illinois. Davenport, Iowa: 1872-
Reproduction. Evansville, Indiana: Unigraphic, Inc., 1976
2. Donnelley, Loyd & Co. History of Morgan County, Illinois, Its Past and Present.
Chicago: Donnelley, Loyd, & Co., 1878 (con)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Jacksonville, Illinois

Quadrangle scale 1 : 24000

UTM References

A

116	731721510	41401171610
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

Zone	Easting	Northing

C

Zone	Easting	Northing

D

Zone	Easting	Northing

E

Zone	Easting	Northing

F

Zone	Easting	Northing

G

Zone	Easting	Northing

H

Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots #74 and #75 in the Original Plat of Jacksonville.

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 Jo Anne Beard

organization Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission date April 10, 1986

street & number 1505 West College Avenue telephone (217) 245-4363

city or town Jacksonville state Illinois

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 Director date 9-22-86

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**

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

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet Morgan County Courthouse Item number 9 Page 2

3. Eames, Charles M. Historic Morgan and Classic Jacksonville. Jacksonville, Illinois
The Daily Journal Steam Job Printing Office, 1885
4. Hutchison, Florence, Ed. Jacksonville, Il. Geneal Journal. Jacksonville:
Courthouse Edition
5. Jacksonville Journal Courier, Daily Journal, and Sentinel - Microfilm - Public Librar
Jacksonville, Illinois
6. Morgan County Commissioners - Minutes of the Board from 1827 - 1986. Morgan County
Clerk's Office, Morgan County Courthouse, Jacksonville
Illinois
7. Pare, Richard. Court House, A Photographic Document. New York: Horizon Press, 1978
8. Short, William F., D.D., Editor. Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of
Morgan County. Chicago: Munsell Publishing Company
1906



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. BOX 37127

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127

NOV 28 1986

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 16, 1986 and ending November 22, 1986. For further information call (202) 343-9552.

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

ARKANSAS, Columbia County, Magnolia vicinity, Ozmer House, US 82 by pass, Southern Arkansas University Farm (11/20/86)

CALIFORNIA, Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, Granada Shoppes and Studios, 672 S. Lafayette Park Pl. (11/20/86)

CONNECTICUT, Hartford County, Simsbury, Simsbury Bank and Trust Company Building, 760--762 Hopmeadow St. (11/20/86)

CONNECTICUT, New London County, Waterford, Eolia--Harkness Estate, Great Neck Rd. (11/20/86)

ILLINOIS, Champaign County, Urbana, Chemical Laboratory (University of Illinois Buildings by Nathan Clifford Ricker TR), 1305 W. Green St. (11/19/86)

ILLINOIS, Champaign County, Urbana, Metal Shop (University of Illinois Buildings by Nathan Clifford Ricker TR), 102 S. Burrill Ave. (11/19/86)

ILLINOIS, Champaign County, Urbana, Military Drill Hall and Men's Gymnasium (University of Illinois Buildings by Nathan Clifford Ricker TR), 1402--1406 W. Springfield (11/19/86)

ILLINOIS, Champaign County, Urbana, Natural History Building (University of Illinois Buildings by Nathan Clifford Ricker TR), 1301 W. Green St. (11/19/86)

ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago, Balaban & Katz Uptown Theatre, 4814--4816 N. Broadway (11/20/86)

ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago, Lincoln Park-South Pond Refectory, 2021 N. Stockton Dr. (11/20/86)

ILLINOIS, Livingston County, Pontiac, Livingston County Courthouse, 112 W. Madison (11/19/86)

ILLINOIS, Morgan County, Jacksonville, Ayers Bank Building, 200 W. State St. (11/20/86)

ILLINOIS, Morgan County, Jacksonville, Morgan County Courthouse, 300 W. State St. (11/19/86)

ILLINOIS, Sangamon County, Springfield, Central Springfield Historic District (Boundary Increase), Sixth St. from Capitol to Monroe St. (11/19/86)

IOWA, Black Hawk County, Cedar Falls, Rownd, C. A., Round Barn (Iowa Round Barns: The Sixty Year Experiment TR), 5102 S. Main (11/19/86)

IOWA, Plymouth County, LeMars, Tonsfeldt Round Barn (Iowa Round Barns: The Sixty Year Experiment TR), Plymouth County Fairgrounds (11/19/86)

IOWA, Wayne County, Allerton vicinity, Nelson Round Barn (Iowa Round Barns: The Sixty Year Experiment TR), CR J46 (11/19/86)

IOWA, Winneshek County, Burr Oak vicinity, Kinney Octagon Barn (Iowa Round Barns: The Sixty Year Experiment TR), Off US 52 (11/19/86)

KANSAS, Miami County, Osawatomie, Mills, William, House, 212 First St. (11/20/86)

KENTUCKY, Lincoln County, Stanford, Stanford Commercial District, Main St. from Somerset St. to Third St. (11/17/86)

*Morgan County
Court House*

Mrs. Maude Dewey Doan has written the following interesting account of the laying of the cornerstone of the 1868 court house.

Arrangements for the laying of the cornerstone of the new Court-house, which was located on the corners of State and West streets (northwest corner) on Tuesday, May 12, 1868, under the auspices of the Grand Masonic Lodge of the state. The citizens of the county were invited to hear and witness the laying of the cornerstone. This was under the care of Mr. John Trabue, who was county clerk at that time. "The ceremonies were preceded by a large parade, which formed at the Strawn Hall (corner Square and South Main) and after making a circuit of the Square, passed up College Avenue, west of Church St., north to State Street, and thence east to the new site.

"Ceremonies were opened with a prayer by the Grand Chaplain, after which there was singing and then the Chaplain announced that there were many articles and papers to be deposited under the cornerstone. This was done, followed by ceremonial Masonic services and then the grand orator, Col. J. M. Matheny delivered an address.

"Then followed an address to the citizens by General Murray McConnell, which was of great interest as it treated of the early history of Morgan County. It was interesting and highly amusing and loudly applauded by the audience, since the General was a noted wit. At the end of this address a benediction was pronounced by the Chaplain and the procession returned to the Strawn Hall to disband.

"This record enumerates a number of the articles, and so forth, placed in the cornerstone space. There were copies of the Jacksonville Sentinel (the predecessor of the Jacksonville Courier) several of them containing the early history of Morgan County, a copy of a Pennsylvania paper which gave the account of Washington's death; coins and paper monies of small amounts; lists of county and civic officers, public men, business cards of small citizens, papers of several large cities. Mention of schools, colleges, secret societies, noted men known locally and living in Jacksonville; one copy of the Sentinel, which was filled with important Morgan county matters of real interest to the public. There were some one hundred and fifty articles and papers placed beneath the cornerstone that day." ge

Appeared in: Jacksonville Journal

June 30, 1968

Morgan County Marks 100th Courthouse Anniversary



ILLINOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INVENTORY

MG-H-1

201421

1. Name of site:

Common Morgan County Courthouse
Historic

2. Location:

<u>Street and number</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>Section</u>
NW cor West & State Sts.	15N	20
<u>City or Town</u> <u>Zip Code</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>¼ Section</u>
Jacksonville	10W	NE
<u>County</u>		
Morgan		

3. Classification:

Category (check one)

() District (X) Building
() Site () Structure

Integrity (check one)

() Altered (X) Unaltered
() Moved (X) Original Site

4. Ownership

() Private
(X) Public

Status (check one)

(X) Occupied
() Unoccupied
(X) Preservation work in Progress

Access to Public

(X) Yes () Restricted (X) Unrestricted () 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

Owner's name

Street and number

Phone Number

City or Town

State

County

Zip Code

6. Description

Condition

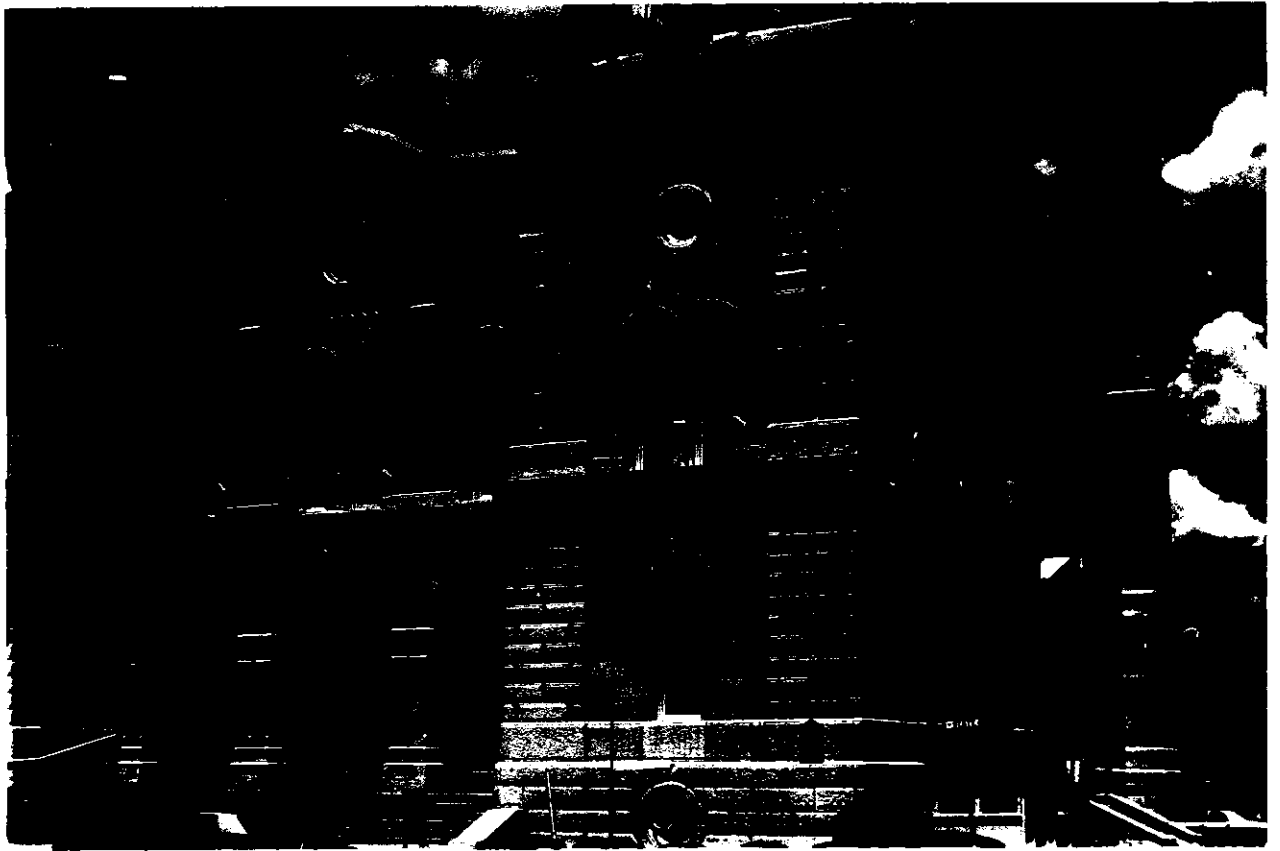
(X) Excellent () Good () Fair () Deteriorated () Ruins () Unexposed

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

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

() Archaeological Site	(Pre-Columbian)
() Archaeological Site	(Post-Columbian to 1673)
() French Influence	1673-1780)
() Illinois Frontier	(1780-1818)
() Illinois Early	(1818-1850)
(X) Illinois Middle	(1850-1900)
() Illinois Late	(1900-present)
() Famous People	(give names & dates

GOVERNMENT



8. Specific Date: 1868

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | |

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates.) Use additional sheets if necessary. Survey inventory. Architect: G.P. Randal of Chicago

9. Form prepared by:

Name and title: _____ Date: _____
Organization: _____
Street and number: _____
City or town: _____ County _____ Zip Code _____
Phone Number: _____

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.



FOUR
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]

