Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

COUNTY:

STATE:

McDONOUGH

ILLINOIS

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١.	NAME	militaria di Primaria. <u>La comina di A</u>		<u> </u>					
	COMMON: McDonough Count	ty Courthou	ıse						
	McDonough County Courthouse								
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2.	LOCATION								
	STREET AND NUMBER: Public Square								
	CITY OR TOWN:								
	Macomb								
	STATE		CODE	COUNTY:	Donough		CODI	E	
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	Agricultural X Government Park [] Transportation [] Comments								
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Interior floors are marble and slate tiles supported by wrought iron beams and corrugated metal arches (a very early use of this system). Stairs and landings are all cast iron.

It is proposed by the County Board to restore the mansard roof, chimneys, etc, to the original condition, thereby gaining the use of the entire third floor (presently unused). Extensive interior remodelling is proposed to make the building usable for another half century. Exterior work will restore the building to its 1871 condition.

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PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ole and Known) 1869-	1871	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	□ Political	
☐ Prehistoric	X Engineering	☐ Religion/Phi-	[] Other (Specify)
□X Historic	Industry	losophy	
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	Londscape	[] Sculpture	
□X Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	[] Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	[] Transportation	
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The renovation of the building will: (1) ensure its usability as a courts building for at least another half century (2) provide a concrete link with the past for citizens of McDonough County and the people of this state (3) save an outstanding example of early courthouse design in the prairie states as well as a strong specimen of the Second Empire Revival style, and (4) provide an impetus to the City of Macomb to revise outdated traffic patterns on the square and thereby restore some dignity to the pedestrian, and to make visible the commitment of government to the upgrading of an otherwise deteriorating central business district.

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		llinois										
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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE ILLINOIS					
COUNTY					
McDONOUGH	:				
FOR NPS USE ONLY					
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE				

(Continuation Sheet)

•	Nim	her	all	entries)	
1	14 (111)			CHALLEDS!	

9. (continued)

"New Court House," in Macomb Journal, 6 August 1869.
"Corner Stone Laying," in Macomb Journal, 20 August 1869.
"To Roof the Court House," in Macomb Journal, 2 May 1889.
"Minutes of the Board of Supervisors, McDonough County,
Illinois," 10 July 1889 and subsequent. (Payments for new roof on court house.)

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE

ILLINOIS

Date Entered

OCT 3 0 1972

Name

Location

McDonough County Courthouse

Macomb McDonough County

COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION

Also Notified

Hon. Charles H. Percy

Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson, III

Hon. Paul Findley

ILL	INOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INV	ENTORY	SURVEY USE	ONLY
1.	Name of Site:		Archeology Architecture	20075
	Common McDonough County Court	thouse	History	AUU 10.
_			- Andrews in the second	
2.	Location:			
•	Street and Number Towns Public Square	hip	Section	
	City or Town Zip Code Macomb	Range	1/4 Section	
	County McDonough			
3.	Classification:		·	
	Category (check one)	Integrity	(check one)	
	District Building Site Structure	X Altere		
	EN DITTE SOUTHOURS	Position	(check one)	
		∭Moved	* Original	Site
4.	Ownership:	Status (c	heck one)	
	Private X Public	Occupi Unoccu		
	Access to Public			
	_Yes _XRestricted _Unro	estricted	_ No	
	Present Use (check one or mor	e)		
	Commercial Mil Educational Mus Entertainment Par		Trans Other	tious tific portation (specify)
5.	Ownership of Property:			
<u>.</u> .	McDonough County Board of Supe Street and Number McDonough County Courthouse	ne Number ervisors		
s	City or Town			
		nty	Zip Cod	le
6.	Illinois McDescription:	onough	•	
	Condition			•
	_ Excellent _xGood _Fair	_ Deter	iorated _ Ruins	_ Unexposed
	Is there a program of preserv	ation under	rway? Yes No	
7.	Historical Themes: (check or	e or more	of the following)	
	Archeological Site Archeological Site French Influence		(pre-Columbia (post-Columbia (1673-1780)	
	Illinois Frontier		(1780-1818)	
	Illinois Early		(1818-1850)	
	Illinois Middle		(1850-1900) (1900-Present	t)
	Illinois Late		(Give names a	

The site of the building is in the center of a well-proportioned public square.

Originally, the building, completed in 1871, had a mansard roof with vari-colored slate, cast-iron cresting, dormer windown, fully embellished chimneys with cast iron caps, etc. In 1880, this was removed entirely, and the present wood and timber hip roof with brick gables was installed. The lower stories are brick walls with limestone quoins (all presently painted).

Interior floors are marble and slate tiles supported by wrought iron beams and corrugated metal arches (a very eraly use of this system). Stairs and landings are all cast iron.

It is proposed by the County Board to restore the mansard roof, chimneys, etc, to the original condition, thereby gaining the use of the entire third floor ((presently unused). Extensive interior remodelling is proposed to make the building usable for another half century. Exterior work will restore the building to its 1871 condition.

Elijah E Myers, the architect for the Courthouse, moved from Springfield, Illinois, to Detroit, Michigan, in 1871 where he established what must have been one of the largest practices in the U. S. forthe period, doing five State Capitols, innumerating Couthouses and public buildings in many foreign countries he designed mahy other courthouses in Illinois but only one earlier that the McDonough County Courthouse building (in Macoupin County).

The Second Empire style was short-lived and good examples in this country are fast disappearing. There is no doubt that this Courthouse will be destroyed if the renovations proposed are not carried out.

The significance of the building lies in the exuberance of its embellishments (theperiod is rightly called "The Age of Elegance"), the monumentality of its interior spaces and the strength of its composition and setting in what only 35 years earlier had been a village square containing a log cabin Courthouse in the middle of theunbroken prairie.

The renovation of the building will: (1) ensure its usability as a courts building for at least another half centry (2) provide a concrete link with the past for citizens of McDonough County and the people of this tate (3) save an outstanding example of early courthouse design in the prairie states as well: as strong specimen of the Second Empire Revival style, and (4) provide an impetus to the City of Macomb to revise outdated traffic patterns on the square and thereby some dignity to the pedestrian, and to make visible the commitment of government of the upgrading of an otherwise deteriorating central business district.

8. Specific Date: 1869-1871

Areas of Significance (check one	oremore of the following)
x Aboriginal (historic)	Literature
Aboriginal (prehistoric)	Military
Agriculture	Music
Agriculture	Political
Architecture	Religion
Art	Science
Commerce	Sculpture
Communication	Social/Humanitarian
Conservation	
Education	Theater
X Engineering	x Urban Planning
Industry	Transportation
Invention	Other (Specify)
Landscape Architecture	
Brief statement of significance	: (include all names and dates)
Was additional sheets if necessi	

9. Form prepared by:

Name and Title: Wm. B. Cone	y. Architect	Date: 12/8/	/71
Hame and Living			
Organization: Wm. B. Coney	& Associates		
Street and Number: 1231/2 Sou	th Side Square		
City or Town: Macomb	County: McDonough	Zip Code:	61455
City of Town: Macomb	0042.03 110002042		
Phone Number:			

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for freferences 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 diduct from the Survey 's task.

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Clarke, S. J., History of McDobough County, Illinois, Springfield, Illinois, 1878, pp.247-253

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"Description of the McDonough County Court House to be Erected in the City of Macomb," in Macomb Journal, 27 Nov 1868.

