

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received

date entered

1. Name

historic Marshall County Court House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 117 West Jefferson Street N/A not for publication

city, town Plymouth N/A vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Marshall code 099

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<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 Marshall County Commissioners

street & number 112 West Jefferson St.

city, town Plymouth N/A vicinity of state Indiana 46365

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Marshall County Recorder's Office

street & number County Building
112 W. Jefferson St.

city, town Plymouth state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes ☒ no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent

☒ good

☐ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Marshall County Courthouse, unlike most courthouses in the state, is not located in the business district of Plymouth, but is sited on a large square surrounded mostly by residences. The brick and limestone building was completed in 1872, according to the designs of G. P. Randall of Chicago. Its interesting combination of the Italian Villa and Renaissance Revival styles is very similar to that of the Elkhart County Courthouse, designed at about the same time by Barrows and Garnsey, also of Chicago.

The two-story courthouse is rectangular in plan, with a rock-faced limestone foundation, brick walls, hipped roof, and central bell tower. Grand, pedimented pavilions mark the main entrances on the longer east and west sides. These central pavilions are approached by broad stairs, leading up to the rusticated limestone ground floor. A double-door entrance is flanked by a double-hung window on each side, all set into segmentally-arched openings. Resting on the limestone ground floor are four stone Corinthian columns, which support the pediment. Behind the columns, the brick wall surface is pierced by three, round-arched windows, with stone hood molds.

Flanking the central entrance pavilion, the rest of the ground floor is of brick, with segmentally-arched windows set into stone surrounds with keystones. The corners are marked by vermiculated quoins. A heavy molded stone belt course separates the ground floor from the second story. This story features round-arched windows, like those behind the central pavilion. Second story windows at the south end of the building are shorter and feature stained glass. Corner quoins at this level are smooth dressed stone.

A frieze and cornice with modillions outline the roof edge. Above the lead-coated copper roof is the bell tower. Resting on a pedestal base, the tower features two columns supporting a pediment with three, round-arched, louvered openings on each side. A mansard roof topped with a spire displays a clock on each face, completing the ensemble.

The ends of the building feature paired openings in a slightly projecting, pedimented central bay, with single openings on each side. Openings are similar to those already described.

Several remodelings have taken place since 1872. In 1913-14, \$45,000 was appropriated for the fitting of several new rooms, installation of a steam heating plant, installation of Vermont white marble in the halls and entrances, and tiling of floors. In 1964-65, \$22,620 was spent on the repair of outside steps, roof repairs, and replacement of deteriorating roof cornices. In 1968, the original entrance doors were replaced with modern steel and glass doors.

In 1974, additional courtrooms were created, and some offices were improved. The original copper roof was replaced in 1981.

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 1870–1872

Builder/Architect G. P. Randall, Chicago, Illinois

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Marshall County Courthouse is significant as a good example of 19th century eclecticism, and as the seat of County government for over 110 years.

The present courthouse is the third to be constructed for Marshall County. Construction was begun in August, 1870, and completed in 1872. The building was designed by G. P. Randall, of Chicago; contractors were Epperson and Favorite, of Lafayette, Indiana. It is very similar in appearance to the Elkhart County Courthouse, designed by another Chicago architect at about the same time, effectively combining the Italianate and Renaissance styles.

Unlike most Indiana courthouses, the Marshall County Courthouse is sited away from the center of downtown, in a primarily residential area. Although most County offices are now located in another building, this building still houses the Circuit, Superior, and County Courts, and the Circuit Court Clerk's office.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Hermansen, David, Book of Indiana Courthouses. Muncie, Indiana. Ball State University

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approx. 1½ acres

Quadrangle name Plymouth

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6
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5	5	7	6	3	0
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4	5	7	6	9	3	0
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Zone

Easting

Northing

B

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Zone

Easting

Northing

C

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification One city block named Court House Square. The block measures 254' East & West x 252' North & South. Bounded on North by Madison St., on the South by Jefferson St., on the East by Center St., and on the West by Walnut St., in the Original Plat of the City of Plymouth

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Harriet J. Scheetz, Marshall County Auditor
Judy Hite, Deputy Auditor

organization County Building date May 13, 1982

street & number 112 West Jefferson St. telephone 219/935-8505

city or town Plymouth state Indiana

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 Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

date 5-16-83

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

PLYMOUTH

Marshall County Courthouse
Plymouth, Indiana
UTM Reference: 16/557630/4576930

