NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

FINAL

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name **Fayette County Courthouse**

other names/site number 041-131-261277

2. Location

street & number 401 Central Avenue N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town Connersville N/A ☐ vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Fayette code 131 zip code 47331

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 36CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date 4-26-06

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
☐ 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:)		

Fayette County Courthouse
Name of Property

Fayette
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
- ☒ public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☒ building
- ☐ district
- ☐ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: Courthouse

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: Courthouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: STONE: Limestone
walls: BRICK; STONE: Granite
roof: ASPHALT
other: CONCRETE

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Fayette County Courthouse
Name of Property

Fayette IN
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contriibution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)
Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1890-1956

Significant Dates
1890

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Elder, John
Kaufmann, W.S.

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository:

Fayette County Courthouse
Name of Property

Fayette IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	659560	4389330
2			
3			
4			

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul C. Diebold

organization DNR / Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology date 03/21/2006

street & number 402 W. Washington Street Room W274 telephone 317/232-1646

city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46204

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Fayette County Commissioners

street & number 401 Central Avenue telephone

city or town Connersville state IN zip code 47331

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Section 7- Description

The Fayette County Courthouse is a two-and-a-half story red brick structure. The original 1849 Greek Revival structure is actually contained within the walls the present courthouse. In 1890, the commissioners radically altered the 1840s building, by having contractors remove the portico, making large additions, and then sheathing the entire building in new running bond brick. There is a small addition on the north side of the building, dating from the 1960s. In 2004-2005, the commissioners built a large addition behind the 1840s/1890 structure.

A deep lawn separates the main façade from Central Avenue, breaking the rhythm of dense storefronts along Connersville's primary historic commercial corridor. Key elements like lintels and sills are red granite. The foundation is rock-faced, coursed limestone with a dressed stone water table. Generally, basement windows align with openings above. This façade has a circular corner tower at the south end, a roughly centered broad gable, and an offset wing which extends to the north, terminated by a chamfered corner with polygonal spire. The corner tower has three windows on the first two stories, each with rock-faced granite sills and lintels. The over sized lintels are roughly one foot high. Windows are one-over-one anodized aluminum windows. The second floor window openings are similar but have a stone belt course of appropriate matching width connecting the sills and lintels. The second floor windows also have blind relieving arches of red stone with an inside radius matching the window sash width. The resulting blind tympanums are brick. The circular walls rise above the second floor windows to a stone corbel table of alternately flush and slightly projecting stones, capped with a rudimentary egg-and-dart molding and then a dressed stone belt. Three stone-framed clocks point east, north and south above the stone belt. Each circular clock with metal Roman numeral dial over glass face is set in a stone oculus of rock-faced granite with blocks extending down to form "tassels" on either side. The short final tower stage has a stone base of two courses, one wide, one narrow, row of blocks. Eight small round arched openings with large scale rock-faced voussiors line the perimeter. A painted metal cornice molding tops the tower walls. In recent years, a ribbed metal hemispherical dome capped the tower. This was a replacement from c.1960. In 2005, workers reinstalled the original tower roof form, a steep conical spire. New sheet metal roofing covers the spire.

One bay of the main part of the building separates the tower from the projecting gabled section. This section has one window on each of its two stories. The projecting gabled section has five bays: two standard windows on each principal story flanking a widely spaced center bay. The

first floor windows are typical aluminum units. The small, high set centered opening has steel (historic) steel shutters and rock-faced sill and lintel. The second floor windows are similar to those on the tower second level, however, the massive arches are of multi-coursed gauged brick and the extrados of the arches of the flanking window pairs touch, visually linking them. Several windows had metal fittings to accommodate window unit air conditioners, and the transoms of the second floor windows are blank. The window AC units were removed as part of the recent rehabilitation of the building, but anodized aluminum windows remain in place. The transoms are now open to the interior. The stone lintel belt like that on the tower links the upper openings; also, the sill for the second floor windows is an egg-and-dart continuous molding with dressed lip on top. A horizontal dressed stone tablet set high between the belt courses and centered on the second floor is inscribed "FAYETTE CO. / COURT· HOUSE". Shouldering either side of the second floor area of the gabled projection are two cylindrical bartizans with round stone corbels and conical caps. The rock-faced second floor lintel course extends around the flanking bartizans, as does a dressed stone cornice belt and a flat dressed stone belt toward the top. This same cornice belt defines the parapeted gable end. A pseudo-Palladian window group is centered just above the dressed belt. These sash are wooden double hung units. Continuous sills and lintels of rock-faced stone embrace a larger central window and flanking smaller sash, atop the lintel, a blind brick arch, like the second floor arches, spans. A triangle filled with square rock-faced stones, with an egg-and-dart projecting molding below, marks the gable apex. The gable wall edges are finished with flat dressed stones; the gable wall projects beyond the gable roof and forms a parapet. There is a stone hour-glass like finial atop the gable.

Moving to the next section brings visitors to the original main entrance. A one-and-a-half story tall broad round arch of massive rock-faced granite stones forms the arch, which houses a pair of aluminum frame and glass modern doors with a plain half-round transom above. The right haunch of the arch is battered, and the intrados of the arch has a beaded edge on the voussiors. The left haunch of the arch gracefully "dissolves" into the corner formed by the projecting gabled section. A standard window is north of the entrance on the first floor. Above it, a window like the others on the second floor gabled section aligns. Two narrow sash divided by a stone mullion center over the entrance arch, the pair share a continuous typical lintel, but this grouping lacks the blind arch. The same narrow metal cornice runs atop this section. In about 1960, county officials simplified the massing of the building by removing massive brick wall dormers with fractable gables from this section and the south wall. In 2005, the commissioners

ordered the replication of these wall dormers. The main roof is steeply pitched hip roof, originally clad in slate, now, covered in slate-look asphalt shingle.

The corner bay is transitional to the north elevation. The chamfered corner has one bay on each story, with identical window treatment to the entrance section. The north face of the corner is blank, but the continuous sill and lintel courses band across it. By the end of Second World War, the county commissioners had long outgrown the 1890 courthouse. In about 1950, the commissioners funded an addition which today obscures the rear half of the north elevation. This plain, flat-roofed brick addition tucks into the corner formed by the polygonal end bay and projects about one and one-half feet from the plane of the north face of the polygonal end bay. It is five bays across, with the first four bays regularly spaced, but the westernmost bay standing apart from the other four. All one-over-one windows with stone sills and double-soldier course flat arch lintels align from first floor to second floor. Vents puncture the wall under the third and fifth bays of the second floor. A simple, narrow mental cornice sits on top of the brick walls. The mass of the historic courthouse rises above the addition. Before the addition, this wall probably closely resembled the south wall. Relieving arches from the second floor windows on the inside chamfer of the polygonal end bay, and of one bay on the flat section, be seen over the flat roof of the c.1950 addition.

The south elevation of the courthouse includes a three bay section that links to the circular corner tower. It has three bays with the window treatment similar to the front gable section. This section too has a large fractable gable wall dormer atop the roof; it was reinstalled in 2005.

In 2004-2005, the Fayette County Commissioners planned and built a substantial addition to the rear of the courthouse. The addition is steel-framed, hip roofed, and sided with brick and limestone to emulate the architecture of the 1890 courthouse. The addition has three levels: a raised basement, typically with short windows that align with those above, a primary level and a second story. On the north side, the 2005 addition begins at the end wall of the 1950s addition. This section of the addition projects forward of the 1950s section about one foot. Here the addition has a broad gable front section that mimics the gable on the main elevation, with rock-faced stone arched paired entries on the first floor, and four windows on the second floor. Stairs and a handicap access ramp lead to the doors. The second floor windows are spaced so that three in a row are to the west, with a stone plaque reading "FAYETTE / COUNTY / GOVERNMENT / CENTER" separating the last window to the east from the others. Each second floor window has a continuous stone lintel and multi-coursed brick round arch above it. Windows on the

addition give the impression of being one-over-one style units. The stone work is all limestone, rather than the granite of the front, and the corner bartizans are square in section rather than cylindrical. The gable end has a pseudo-Palladian window with stone lintel and blind brick arch. The gable apex has stone checkerboard work.

Following the flank of the gable on its west side, the addition forms an outward projecting corner, then, a larger section to the south projects significantly forward (to the west). The level of detail on these walls, and on the rest of the addition, is much more restrained. Walls are brick, with a limestone at the second floor sill height and a continuous belt / lintel course at the second floor as well. The "bumped out" corner section has its own hip roof, tying into the addition's north gable. There are three windows on the west face and one on the north face of the corner section.

The section to the south of the corner projection is flat-roofed. This section reads a separate mass that has a primary elevation around on the south side of the courthouse. The walls visible from the west includes four bays of windows, with the bay to the north having paired long narrow windows offset ½ story downward to light an internal stairway. The primary face of this block of the addition has a tripartite façade facing south, then, an intermediate section connects to the old 1890 courthouse. The three part section has three bays, then a center section that stands about 4-5' higher, with four bays. The four second floor windows are taller "triple hung" units. The next section steps back down in height, and has two bays.

Just to the east, beyond the three-part section, is a connector section. This area has a flat roof and is set back from the plane of the three-part section by about three feet. This area has few windows, all of which are concentrated at the corner towards the 1890 courthouse. The connector itself is set forward in massing from the old 1890 courthouse's rear wall by about six feet.

The interior of the old section of the Fayette County Courthouse retains many of its historic features, both from the 1840s and from the 1890 rebuilding. Industrial tile floors, plaster walls, oak moldings, and gray marble wainscoting are common throughout the pre-1945 portion of the building. From the main entrance, visitors reach a double loaded corridor on the first floor, running north and south nearly the width of the building. A suite of offices run across the front of the building, corresponding to the projecting front gabled section. This suite of offices is located inside the former arched base level of the 1840s courthouse. On the interior corridor

wall, this area has marble wainscoting capped by a simple stained chair rail, and a series of small double hung wood clerk's windows with black marble ledges. The west wall of the corridor has doorways leading into a suite of interior offices. Doors into work areas are tall openings with paneled doors and one-pane transoms, all framed with oak moldings. The lintel pieces consist of a standard piece of trim molding, capped by an ogee-edged frieze board with a row of small raised disks. Most windows are trimmed this way as well.

There are similar staircases at either north or south end of the corridor, reached by passing through a broad plaster segmental arch. The north stair has a short, broad run of steps parallel to the short hall leading to the front door, with the end railed curved outward in plan. This leads quickly to an intermediate landing, then the stairs turn 90° west and continue up to the second floor. The south stair simply rises up to a landing, turns to the north, and reaches the second floor corridor, protected by a similarly detailed railing. Both oak stairs have closed stringer panels with bead-and-reel molding at the bottom rail and a single row of rivet-like beads on the top rail of the stringer. The balustrade is structured by a grid of square profile inverted "L" braces that frame three squat bobbin-turned pegs each. The deep molded handrail links to hearty square newels with flat, turned caps.

The second floor has the main county courtroom extending the width of the front gabled projection. To the south, the tower room and a small antechamber are the circuit court judge's office; north of the main courtroom a small suite of offices extends to a corridor. The c.1950 addition has plain office rooms across the north side of the building. More linear office rooms string along the south wall of the second floor. The interior rooms were the core of the 1840s building and consist of small meeting rooms.

The main courtroom was altered in 1962. Contractors lowered the ceiling height with a suspended grid acoustical tile system; installed furring strips and mounted dark masonite wood paneling on the walls, reconfigured seating and the judges' bench placement, and carpeted the floors. Intervening frame walls sealed off part of the courtroom to create a hallway; however, in 2005, those walls and suspended ceilings were removed to reveal the original size and form of the courtroom. At this point, portions of the original wall surface are exposed, enough to show that the space was finished with faux stone finish and period colors, and that at a later date, ornate Late Victorian stencil work was added over the imitation block. An 1849 article describes an imitation granite block finish on the courtroom walls. Above the suspended ceiling, the plaster ceiling is visible and retains cove – cornice moldings and a series of plaster ceiling medallions,

evidently marking locations of gaslight fixtures. In the course of removing the dated paneling and suspended ceiling finishes, workers discovered murals that had been painted over on the ceiling. A mural restoration artist is evaluating the ceiling and wall art. Medallions uncovered so far include a Neo-classical female representation of Agriculture on the east end of the ceiling. She is surrounded by a sheaf of wheat, a beehive, a plow, and mill wheel. The Circuit Court Judge's Office, in the circular tower, retains the typical oak moldings, high baseboards with molded cap, and wood doors with single light transoms. Other offices retain slate mantelpieces, oak woodwork, and built-in storage cabinets.

Offices added as part of the 1960s addition are along the north perimeter of the second floor. The original wall of the courthouse was obscured with drywall and made into one side wall of a narrow corridor along the south edge of the addition. Current work in 2005-6 has uncovered the original brick wall of the courthouse, including the corbel end of a circular bartizan. This wall will be left exposed to give visitors a sense of orientation to the original building.

Toward the center of the second floor, a series of small meeting rooms extends back to the rear wall of the old courthouse. Many of these rooms still have Greek Revival style painted architrave moldings and pre-Civil War era paneled doors. A larger rear center room retains woodwork and wainscoting, perhaps from several 19th century remodelings. The original plan of the 1849 courthouse included a series of vertically stacked vault areas, located toward the center of the building. These spaces were long ago made into short connecting halls, however, restoration work on the building revealed that these spaces were created with wood centering and sheathing coated in an early form of concrete.

The interior of the addition contains additional modern office space around its perimeter and meeting rooms in the center. The new north entrance leads to a wide corridor with shallow arched openings at either end, similar to the main corridor of the historic building. Woodwork was clearly inspired by the oak woodwork in the historic building, but, is simplified. Corridors also have chair rails and baseboards. Walls and ceilings are drywall. Typical office spaces have simpler finishes.

Section 8 - Statement of Significance

The Fayette County Courthouse meets National Register Criteria A & C. As the county government building from 1849 to the present, the courthouse has had an integral role in the development and image of the Connersville community. With updating and remodeling through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the building continued to serve the county. The period of significance begins in 1890, the date from which the courthouse has physical integrity, and extends to 1956. Architecturally, the courthouse has significance due as one of the best examples of Romanesque Revival architecture in the county. The courthouse was among the most important commissions for noted Richmond architect W.S. Kaufman.

William and John Conner are among the most important early figures in the settlement of Central and Eastern Indiana. Both worked among both Euro-American and Native American villages along Indiana's waterways during the early 19th century. Both also secured land holdings for themselves as part of their bargains. While William Conner concentrated in Hamilton County, John Conner recognized the strategic location of the Whitewater Valley. John Conner had a trading post and mill on the banks of the Whitewater, and in 1813, he filed a plat for Connersville. Six years later, John was serving in the Indiana Senate, when the Indiana General Assembly passed an act to separate Fayette County from Franklin County.

Conner's site was well-placed for water transportation, and adequate major roads, like the Brookville Pike or National Road were within 10 miles or so north and south, once those routes were completed by the 1830s. In 1818, two years after Congress granted Indiana statehood, the Indiana General Assembly passed an act establishing Fayette County. Shortly over a year later, Connersville was chosen as the county seat. In November of 1819, the county commissioners funded construction of a small two story brick courthouse on the designated public square.

The small village gradually developed, centering its economy on milling and subsequent trading. The Internal Improvements Act of 1836 created great hope within Connersville. In addition to the Wabash & Erie Canal, with this act, state financing was to help build a canal down the Whitewater River, linking several burgeoning towns in Indiana with the Cincinnati area. The Whitewater Canal reach town in 1845, giving Connersville's mills access to the Ohio River. The Whitewater Canal Company built its headquarters in Connersville, adding to the wealth of the community beyond the trading and shipping associated with the canal.

By 1847, the Fayette County Courthouse was inadequate to the needs of the county. The commissioners voted to build a new courthouse on the square. The commissioner records state that materials, fit and trim were to be of the finest available, as quoted from the June 1847 minutes "All the wood work generally throughout the building is to be executed in the best manner – modern finish and such compare favorable with the best work of the kind of the country". It housed both the courts, offices, the jail and the sheriff's living quarters. The commissioners hired contractor John Elder of Indianapolis to design a two-story, brick Greek Revival style courthouse. The courthouse was built in 1849 for $20,000 and when finished was considered one of the finest in the state. Elder's design had a portico raised on an arched base, with shorter two story wings to either side.

By the 1880s, Connersville had become an industrial center, with wagon works, carriage makers, and furniture factories. The canal had closed, but rail connections easily surpassed canal traffic. The needs of the courthouse were once again inadequate. In 1881, the commissioners hired Issac Hodgson to design a large new county sheriff's house and jail on a site just across 4th Street. This created free space that could be converted into additional courtrooms and offices.

This effort would not sustain the courthouse into the twentieth century. Nine years later, the commissioners voted to completely remodel the courthouse. The footprint of the building was enlarged slightly and the exterior was completely re-bricked and restyled from the Greek mode. The architect was W.S. Kaufman of Richmond, IN and the contractors were The Downs, Ready and Company of Indianapolis. For the sum of $19,700, both were awarded the contracts in July 1890. Kaufman was also made the agent to supervise the project. This was a major remodeling. The architect's plans called for the portico to be stripped off, the tower removed, and all vestiges of Greek Revival appearance to be obscured. The contract also included the ornate oak woodwork, marble floors, stairways and the real treasure- the courtroom ceiling fresco. The main courtroom windows visible in views of the Greek Revival building and the room itself remained, with interior alterations.

Kaufman was experienced at public buildings. Kaufman began his career as a carpenter in Cambridge City, Indiana. He studied drafting in Indianapolis and began professionally drafting in Indianapolis and later, in New Castle. In the early 1880s, the Indiana General Assembly funded a massive project that lured Kaufman to Richmond. The Eastern Indiana Hospital for the

Insane just west of Richmond was designed by Edwin Ketcham, but Kaufman secured the position of superintending architect in 1884 (Tomlan, p. 108). Kaufman was known for his public school designs. Successful design contracts for Lindley and Parry Halls at Earlham College in Richmond in 1887 launched Kaufman's career as an educational building specialist. Most of his high school buildings were similar in exterior design to the remodeled Fayette County Courthouse. A Kaufman rendering published in the 1904 *Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction* (p. 473) for a model high school shows an offset tower and asymmetrically placed gables. Kaufman used the pseudo-Palladian arch seen in the front gable of the courthouse in several other designs. Another large superintending job for Kaufman came in 1890, when the Wayne County Commissioners hired Cincinnati architect James McLaughlin to design a new courthouse (Tomlan, p. 128).

Kaufman and John Hasecoster, both among the leading architects of Richmond at the time, produced designs inspired by the Wayne County Courthouse (Tomlan, pp. 129-130). Kaufman's Garfield School in Richmond, 1894, has similar massing. The Fayette County Courthouse, 1890, is perhaps another example of influence of the design, although the two courthouses in adjacent counties were exactly contemporary. As superintending architect, Kaufman would have had access to the Wayne County plans well before construction, as well as the skills to emulate them. Perhaps, in a way, Connersville upstaged Richmond, since the Fayette courthouse would have been complete before the Richmond structure. Such friendly competition was typical in the 19th century among Indiana's county seats (generally, see Hermansen). The overall massing, as well as the front gable of the Fayette County example, recalls the Wayne County design. The original steeply gabled wall dormers, now missing from the Fayette County Courthouse, would make the two even closer in appearance. Perhaps as a nod to his competitor, John Hasecoster used a design similar to the Fayette County Courthouse for the Morrison-Reeves Library in Richmond in 1893. Like the courthouse, for this commission, Hasecoster was working around a previous Greek Revival structure that required substantial remodeling (see attached rendering).

Artisans have been documented for the interior work at the Fayette County Courthouse. A Mr. Jacob Stahle (city unknown at this time) was contracted to paint a fresco on the large ceiling and adjoining hallways of the circuit court. He was paid $975.00 for the job and it remains in excellent condition. It was uncovered in the current remodel even though it was mentioned to have existed in the 1962 renovation of the courtroom.

Also uncovered in the current renovation is an art style of faux granite block. It was specified in the 1849 construction to be on the walls of the courtroom and still exists in good condition along with the ornate cornice trim. It was found to have been created by Amon Johnson (city unknown at this time).

The courthouse has enough integrity to be eligible, despite the additions. The additions are placed so that the front and side elevations of the building remain distinct from them. Although the additions have added much square footage to the building, they have also resulted in several benefits to the historic building. Foremost, as part of the project, the original dormer windows were restored to the roofline, as was the straight-sided spire to the corner tower. The additions have also reduced the workload of the building, so that the historic courtroom no longer needs to have paneled partition walls and could be fully restored in plan and finish.

With additions in the 1960s, and various remodelings, the Fayette County Courthouse has served as the seat of justice for the county for over 100 years. With the recent additions and rehabilitation of the 1890 building, Fayette County residents will no doubt be served by the courthouse for many decades to come.

Section 9 – Bibliography

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Section 10 – Geographical Data – Verbal Boundary Description

For ease of reference, Central Avenue is assumed to be a true north-south street.
Bounded by the west curb line of Central Avenue, the north curb of W. 4th Street, a north-south line 30' (thirty feet) west of the west wall of the courthouse addition, and an east-west line 30' (thirty feet) north of the northernmost wall of the courthouse addition, in Connersville, Fayette County, Indiana.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the historic resource and its additions.

Photographs
The following information is the same for all photographs:

Photographer: Paul C. Diebold
Date of Photos: February 14, 2006
Location of negatives: CD on file at DHPA and with NPS
Photo number, description of view

Fayette County Courthouse, Fayette County, IN

1. Front and South elevations, additions to left, looking north.
2. Detail, East (front) gable, entry, replicated wall dormer, looking west.
3. Detail of entry arch, East (front), looking west.
4. North side, showing faceted corner and 1960s addition, 2005 addition to right center, looking west.
5. North and west sides of addition, looking east.
6. Interior, first floor main transverse hall, looking northeast.
7. Interior, south stairs, looking west.
8. Interior, main courtroom, looking west.
9. Interior, ceiling, main courtroom, looking southeast.
10. Interior, judge's chamber (tower room), looking southeast.
11. Interior, offices, 2nd floor, looking north.
12. Interior, rear room, 2nd floor, Greek Revival moldings with 1880s(?) wainscot, looking north.
13. Interior, original exterior wall in 1960s addition area, looking toward windows in room shown in photo 11, looking southeast.
14. Interior, 2005 addition, entry hall off of north entrance, looking southwest.
15. Exterior, 2005 addition to right, historic courthouse to left, looking southeast.

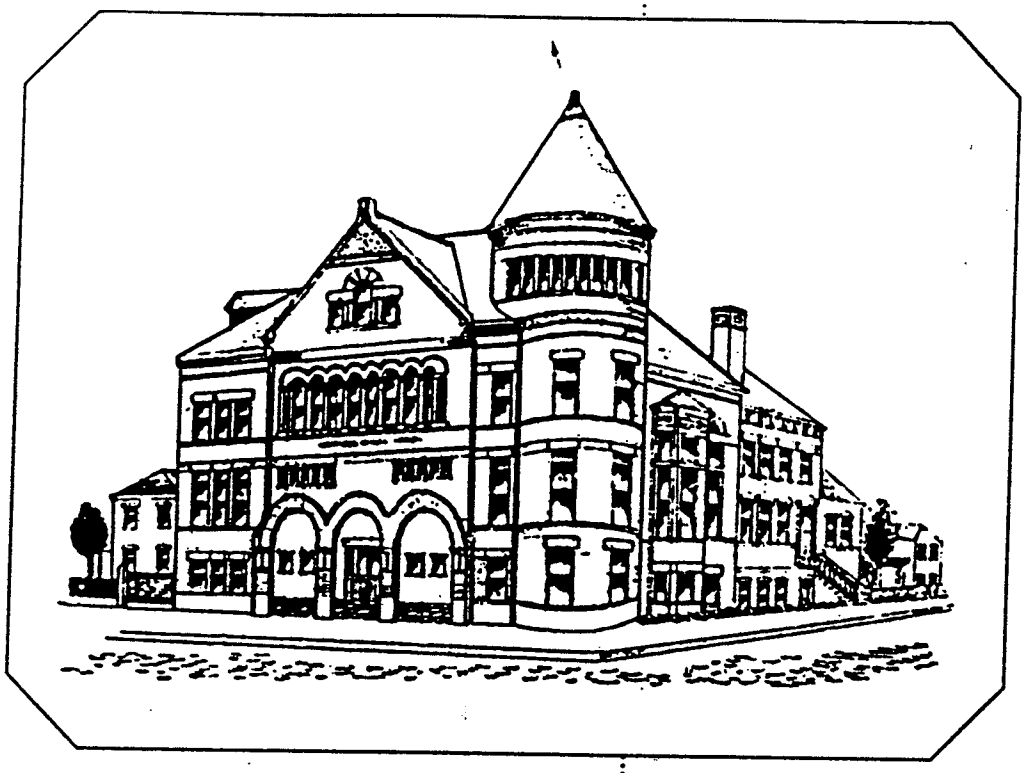
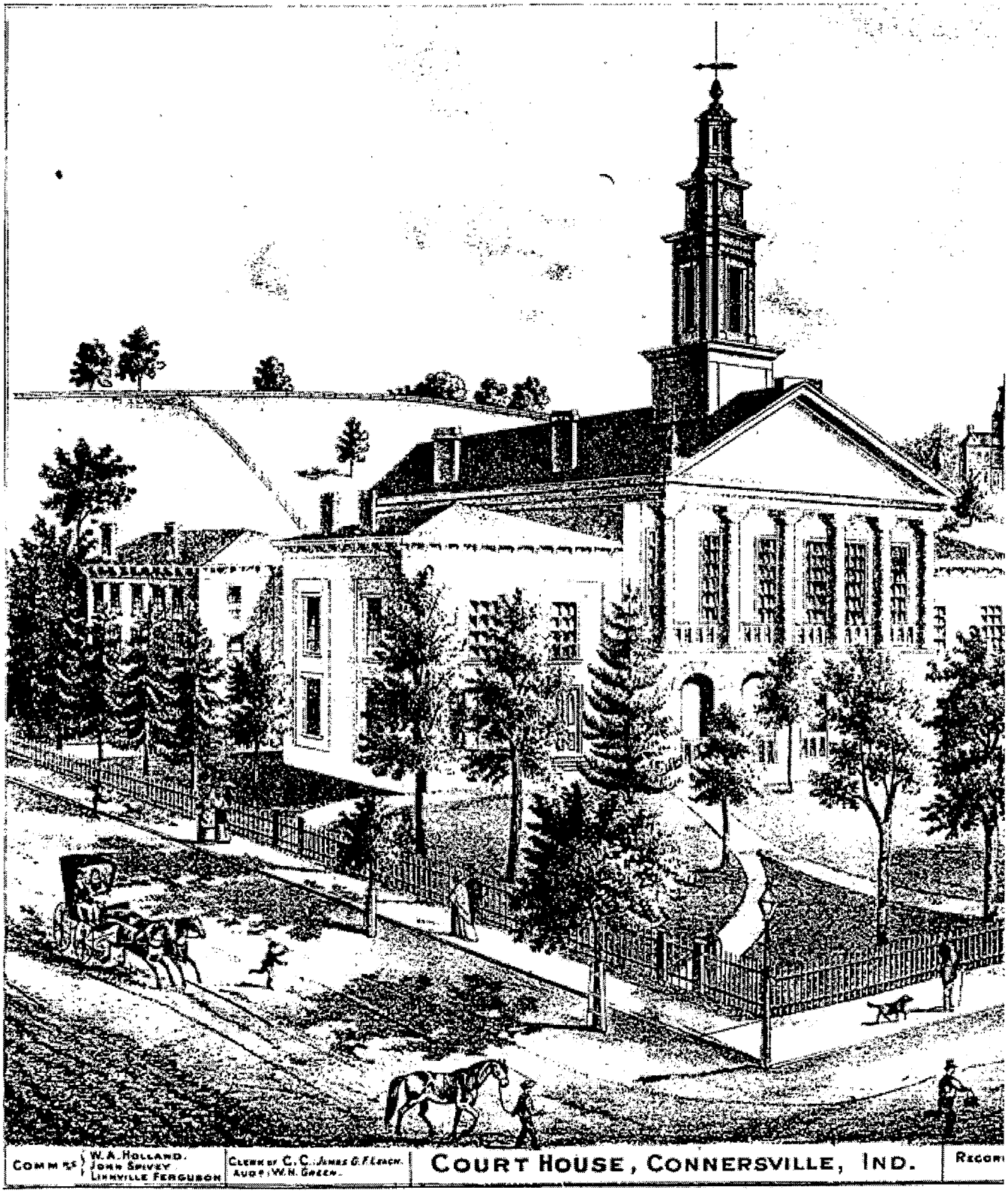


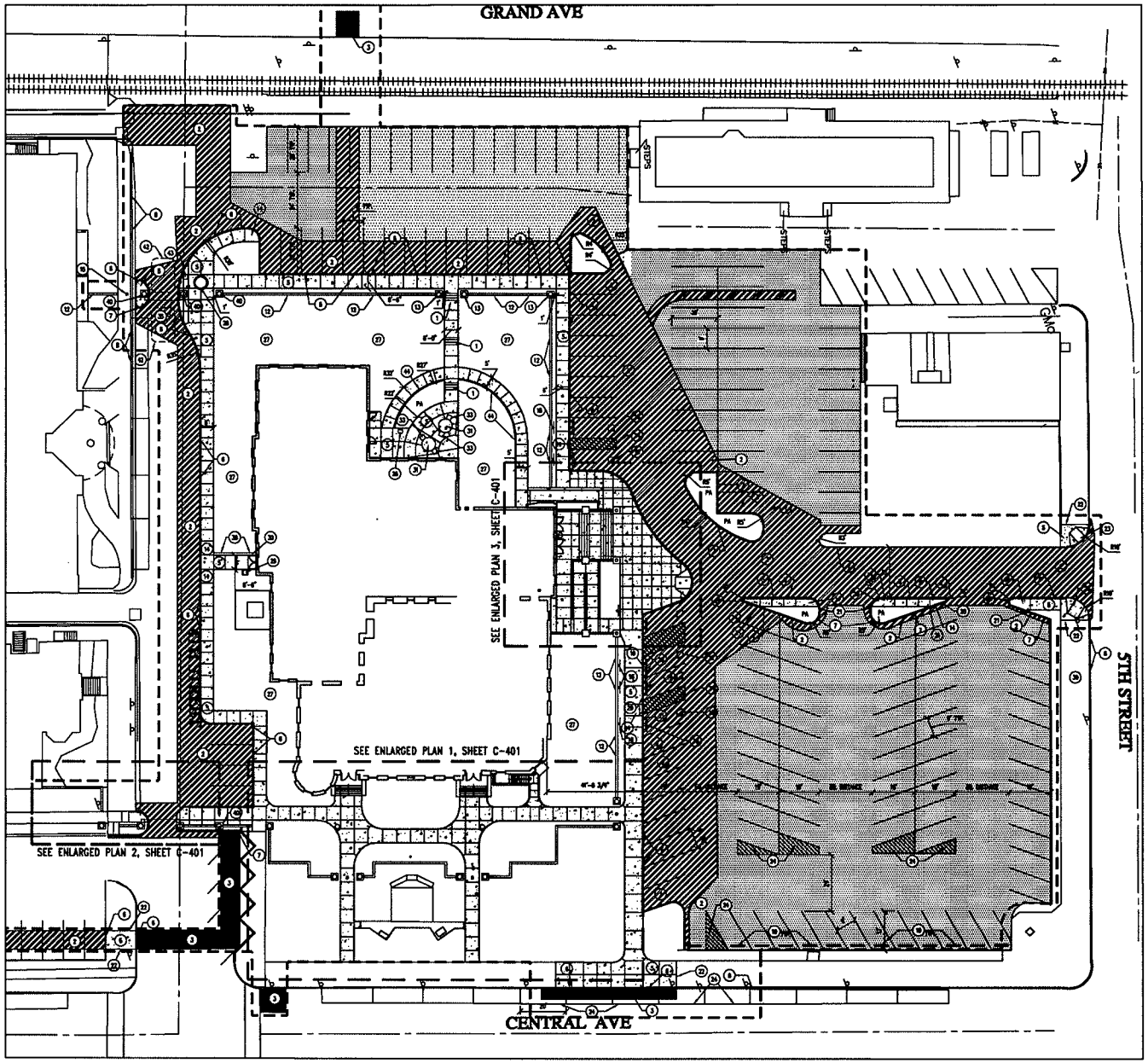
FIG. 12.2

Morrisson-Reeves Library, Sixth and North A Streets, enlarged 1893–94. Although constrained by site limitations, architect John A. Hasecoster transformed the existing library, with its elegant, attenuated proportions, into a more massive building whose style echoed that of the new county courthouse.

SOURCE: *RICHMOND EVENING ITEM*, 21 MAY 1896.

TOMLAN P. 130


COMM'RS W. A. HOLLAND. JOHN SPIVEY LINNVILLE FERGUSON
CLERK OF C. C. JAMES G. F. LEACH.
AUD'R W. H. GREEN.
COURT HOUSE, CONNERSVILLE, IND.



LAYOUT NOTES:

1. CONCRETE STAIR WITH HANDRAIL, SEE DETAIL 3, SHEET C-303
2. STANDARD ASPHALT PAVING, SEE DETAIL 1, SHEET C-301
3. HEAVY DUTY ASPHALT PAVING, SEE DETAIL 4, SHEET C-301
4. HEAVY DUTY CONCRETE PAVING, SEE DETAIL 2, SHEET C-301
5. STANDARD CONCRETE PAVING, SEE DETAIL 3, SHEET C-301
6. INTEGRAL CURB AND WALK, SEE DETAIL 6, SHEET C-301
7. STAND UP CURB, SEE DETAIL 5, SHEET C-301
8. EXISTING CURB TO REMAIN
9. DECORATIVE PIER, SEE DETAIL 3, SHEET C-303
10. PIER SECTION WITH LIGHT POLE, SEE DETAIL 8, C-303
11. DOWEL NEW CURB TO EXISTING
12. SECURITY WALL, SEE DETAIL 1 &A, SHEET C-303, ALTERNATE #9
13. SECURITY WALL END TREATMENT, 3' HT, SEE DETAIL 7, SHEET C-303, ALTERNATE #9
14. SIDEWALK RAMP 1:12 MAX, SEE DETAIL 7, SHEET C-301
15. REMOVABLE BOLLARD, SEE SPECIFICATIONS, ALTERNATE #9
16. RAMP HANDRAIL, SEE DETAIL 1, SHEET C-302
17. ACCESSIBLE RAMP, SEE GRADING PLAN
18. ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES SEE DETAIL 10-12, SHEET C-301
19. PARKING BUMPERS, SEE DETAIL 9, SHEET C-301
20. FLUSH CURB CONNTION
21. TAPER CURB TO GRADE OVER 2'
22. DOWEL NEW SIDEWALK TO EXISTING
23. SIDEWALK RAMP SEE DETAIL 8, SHEET C-301
24. PAVEMENT STRIPING, SEE SPECIFICATIONS
25. EXISTING WAR MEMORIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE PANELS
26. LITTER RECEPTACLE, SEE SPECIFICATIONS
27. LAWN AREA, SEE SPECIFICATIONS
28. RELOCATED COMMEMORATIVE STONE
29. PLANTER WALL, SEE DETAIL 1, SHEET C-304
30. GUARDRAIL, SEE DETAIL 10, SHEET C-301
31. TABLE, SEE DETAIL 13, SHEET C-301 AND SPECIFICATIONS
32. CONCRETE WALL SECTION, SEE DETAIL 10, SHEET C-301
33. 24" BENCH, SEE DETAIL 13, SHEET C-301 AND SPECIFICATIONS
34. BIKE RACK, SEE SPECIFICATIONS
35. AUTOMATIC GATE, SEE DETAILS 6 &7 AND SPECIFICATIONS
36. EXISTING FLAGPOLE TO REMAIN
37. WATER BARRIER @ EXISTING WALL, SEE DETAIL 14, C-301
38. C.I.P. CONCRETE WALL, SEE DETAIL 4, SHEET C-302
39. EXISTING CONCRETE PAVEMENT
40. SECURITY WALL END TREATMENT 3' HT. SEE DETAIL 8, SHEET C-303, ALTERNATE #9
41. TUBULAR STEEL GATES, SEE DETAIL
42. VEHICLE DETECTION LOOP, SEE SPECS
43. AUTOMATIC GATE PEDESTAL, SEE SPECS. REF. ALT #9 FOR TIE-IN TO SECURITY SYSTEM
44. CURB RAMP, SEE DETAIL 7, C-301

GENERAL NOTES:

1. ALL RAMP SHALL BE 5'-0" UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
2. REFERENCE C-301 FOR GENERAL LAYOUT PLAN NOTES.
3. NOT ALL NOTES MAY APPLY TO THIS SHEET.

LEGEND:

- STANDARD ASPHALT PAVEMENT, SEE DETAIL 1, SHEET C-301
- STANDARD CONCRETE PAVEMENT, SEE DETAIL 3, SHEET C-301
- ROW PAVEMENT, SEE DETAIL 4, SHEET C-301
- CONTROL JOINT
- EXPANSION JOINT
- ASPHALT SEAL COAT, SEE SPECS

1 LAYOUT PLAN
1" = 20'

SCHMIDT ASSOCIATES
Wil-Fre Mar Building
120 West Vermont Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204-3126
317-263-8226
Fax: 317-263-0224

Project No. 2002-048
Project Date DECEMBER 15, 2003
Produced CEC
Revision Date

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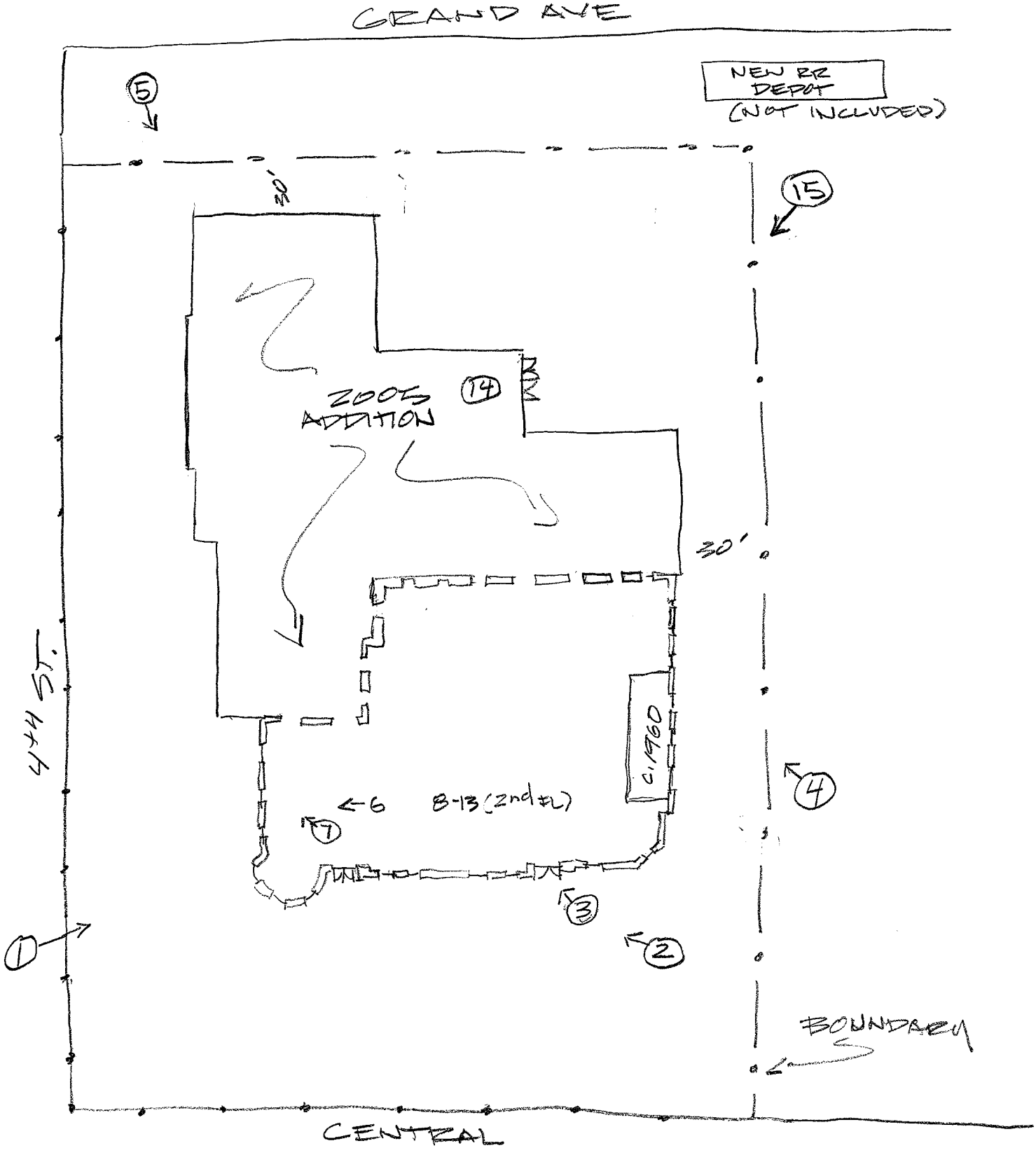
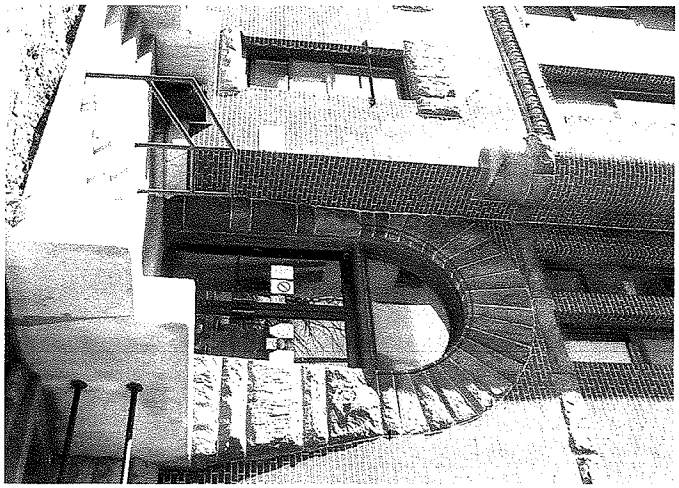
Fayette County Courthouse Additions and Renovations Redesign

SITE LAYOUT PLAN

C-102



FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE FAYETTE CO.



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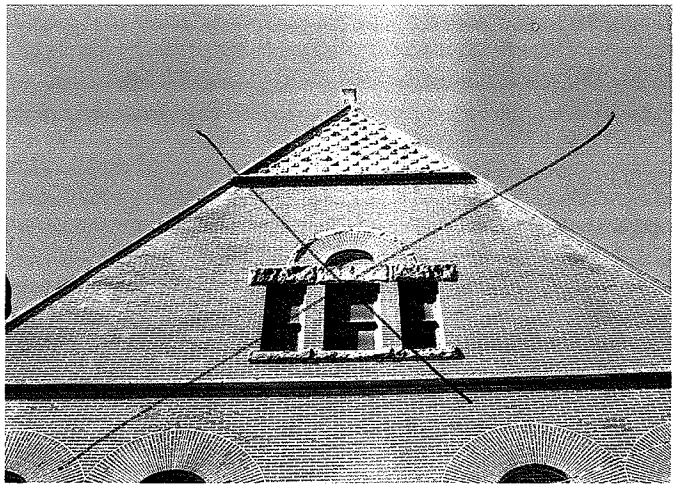

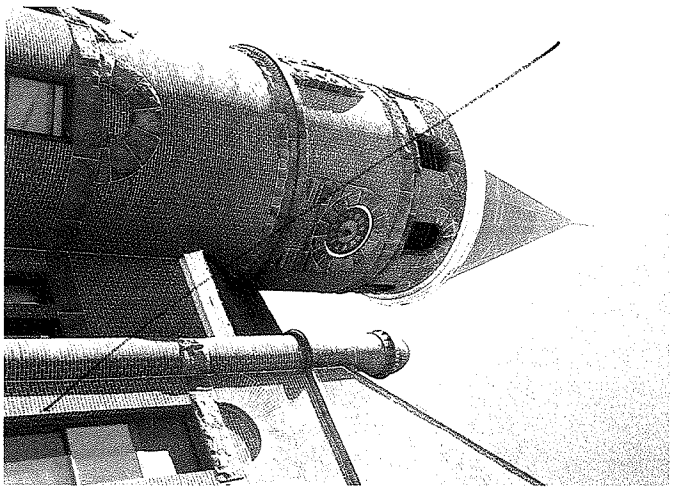

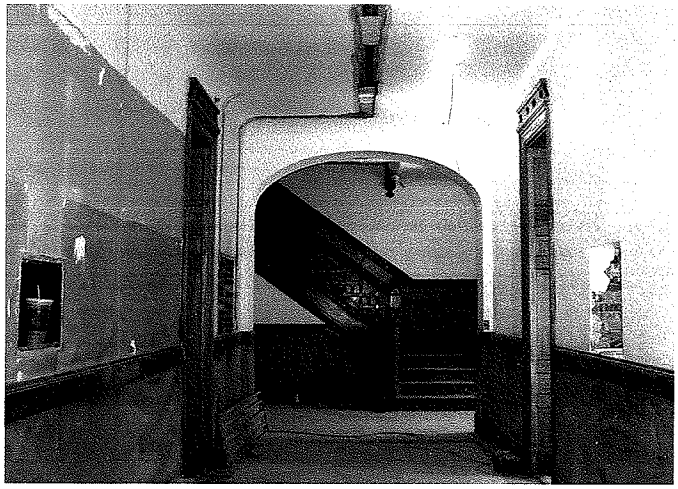

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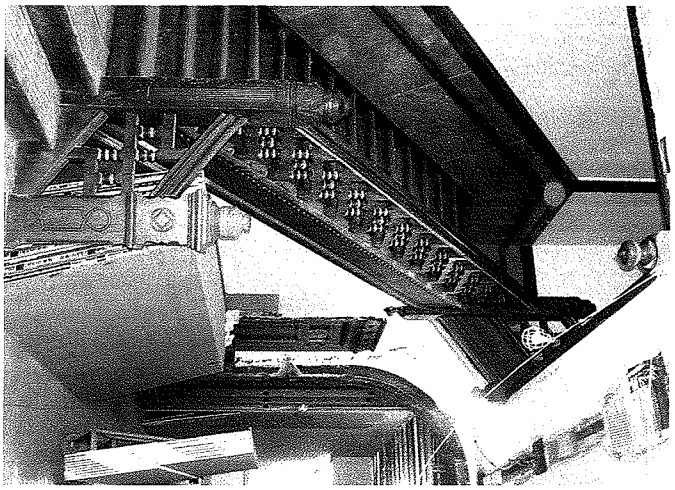

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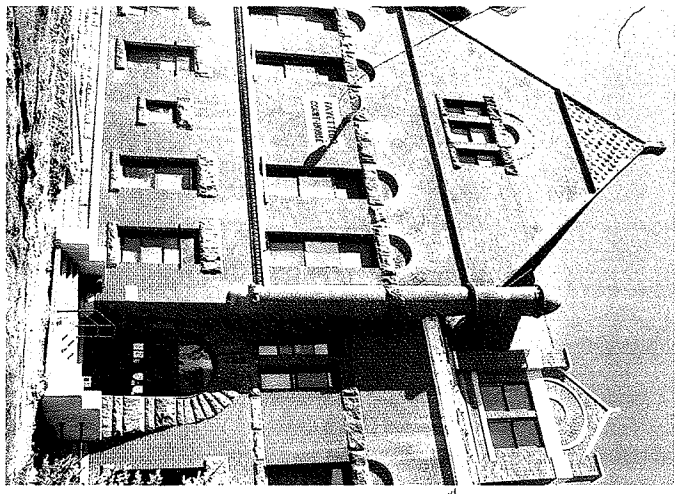

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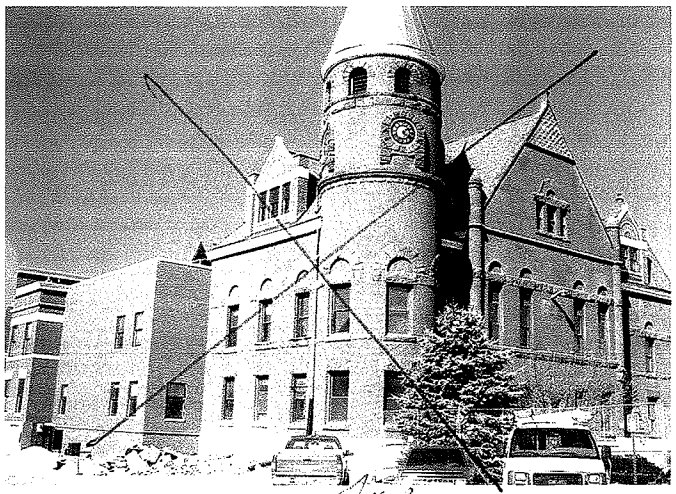

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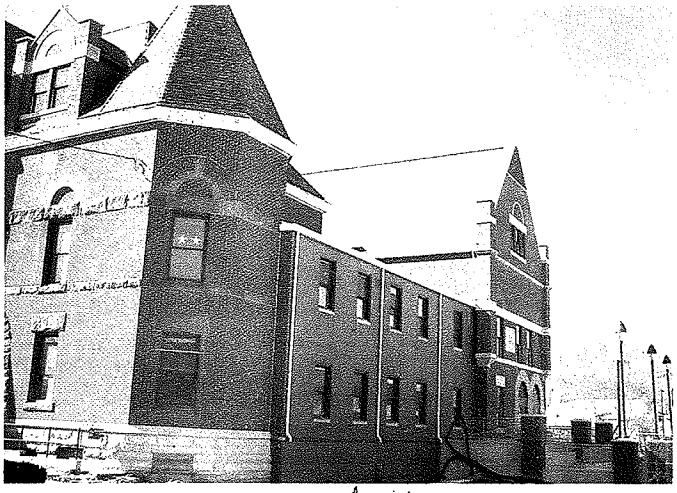

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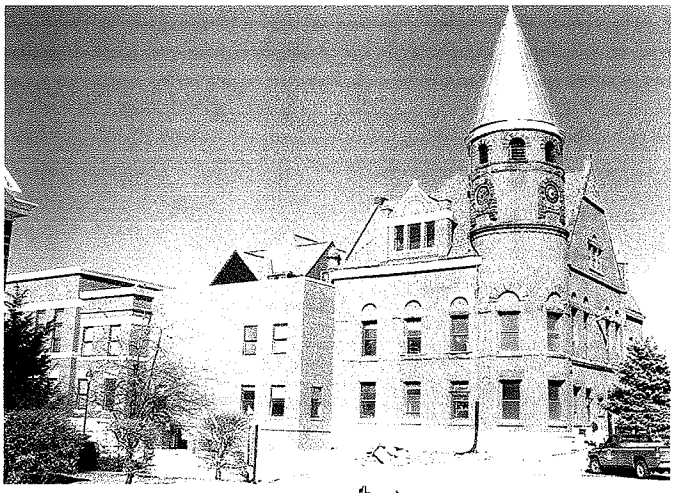

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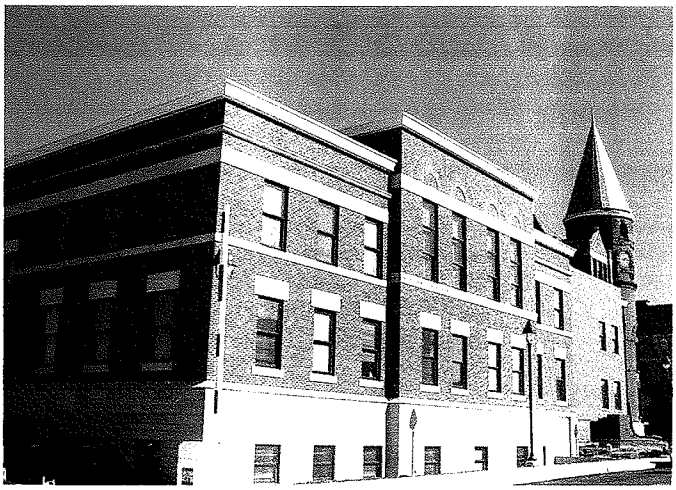

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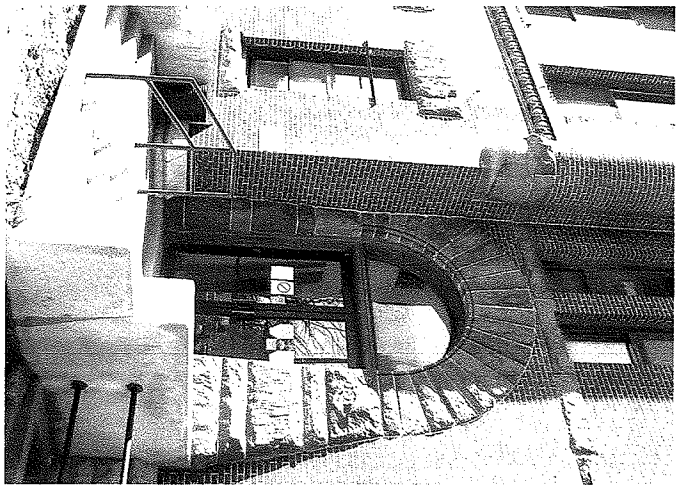

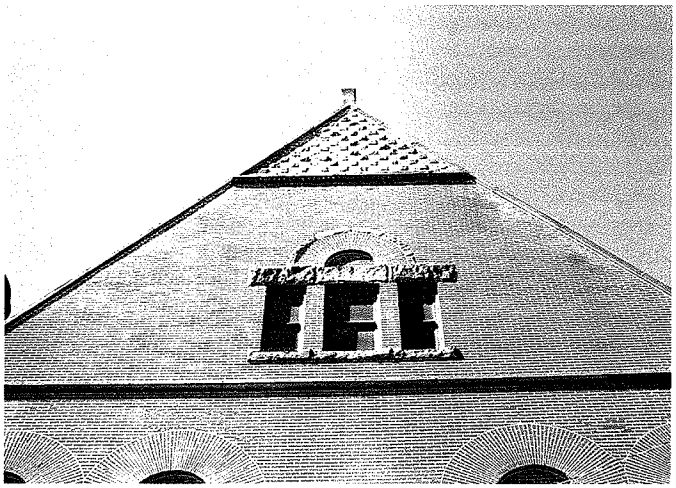
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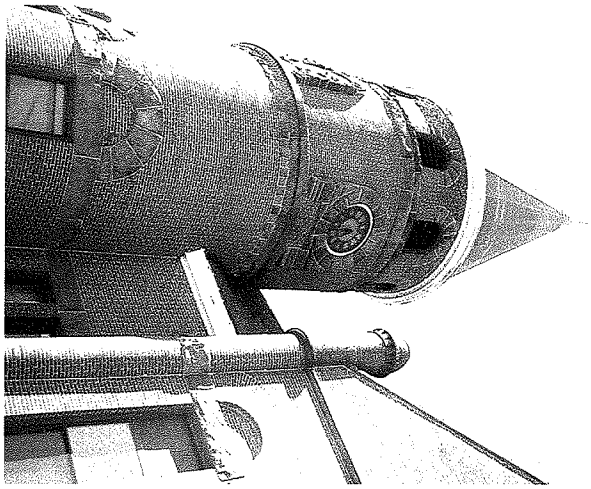

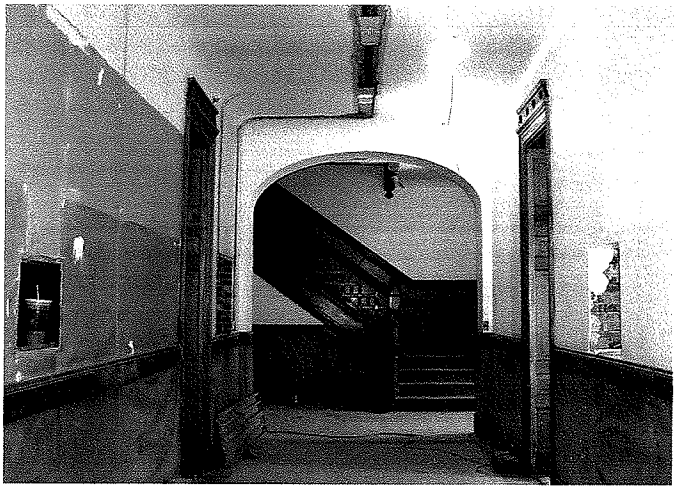

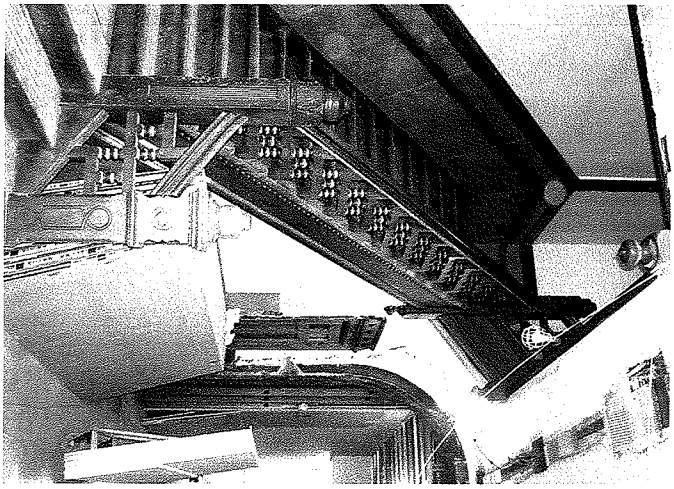

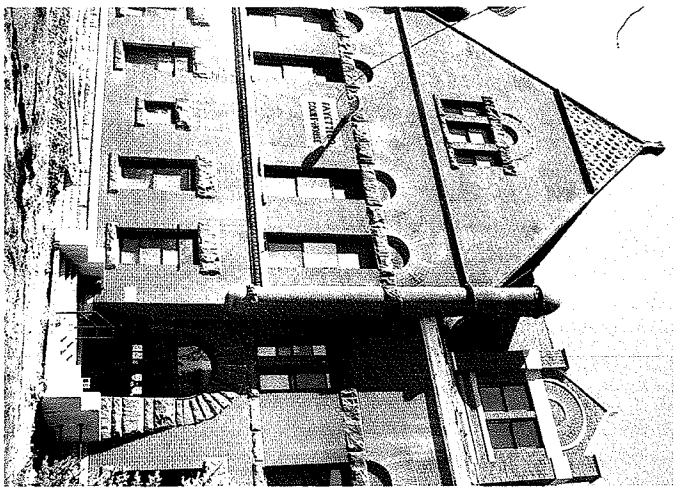

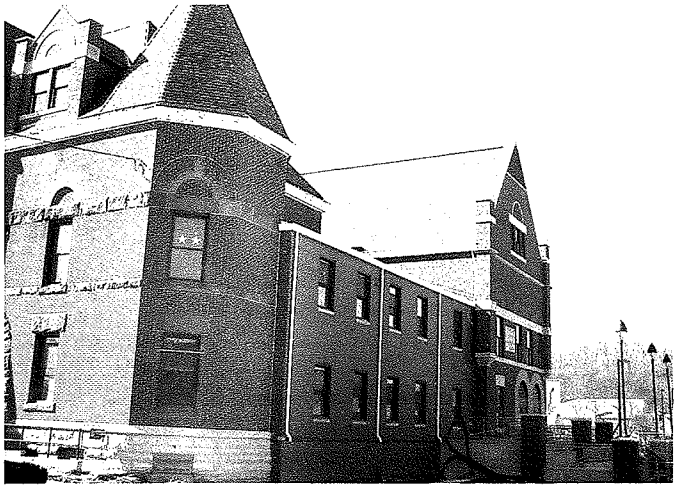

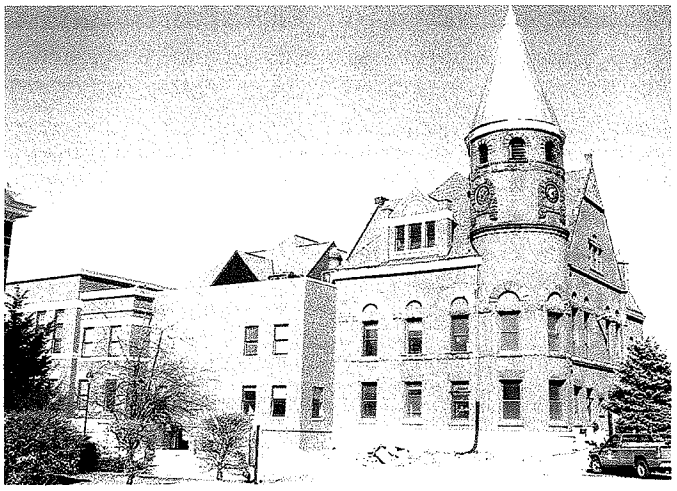

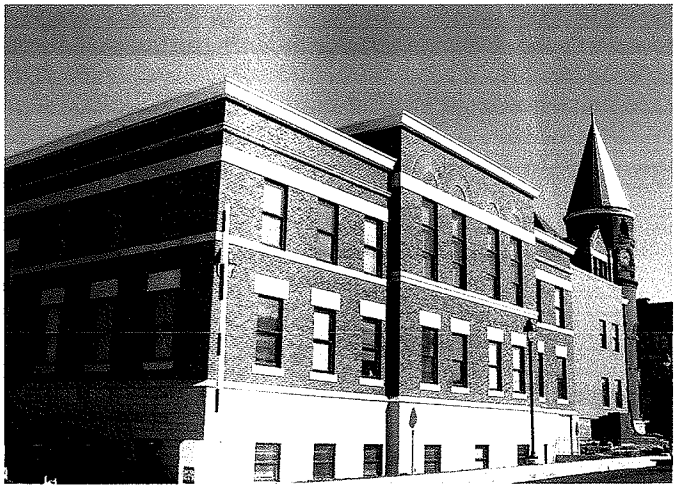

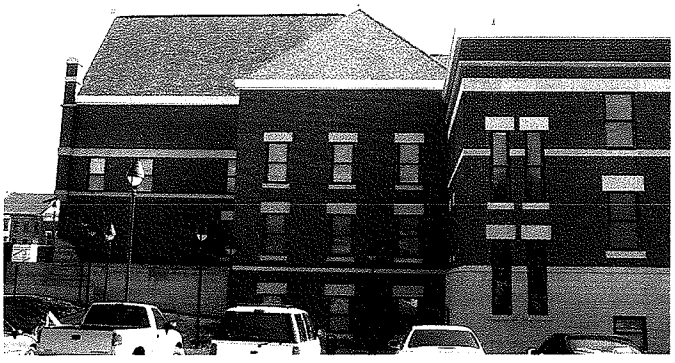

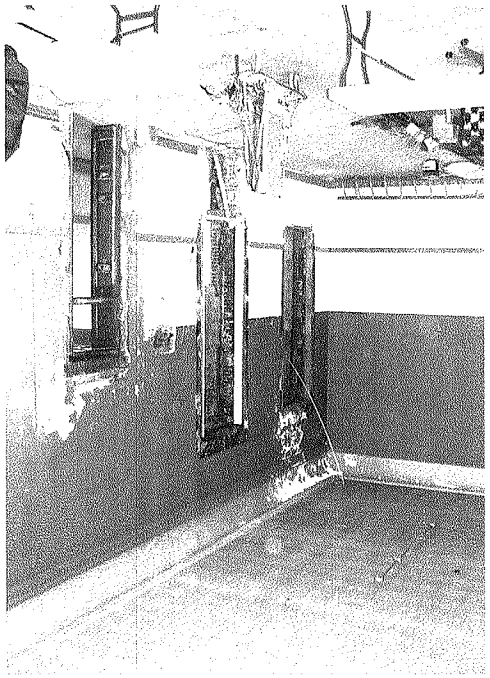

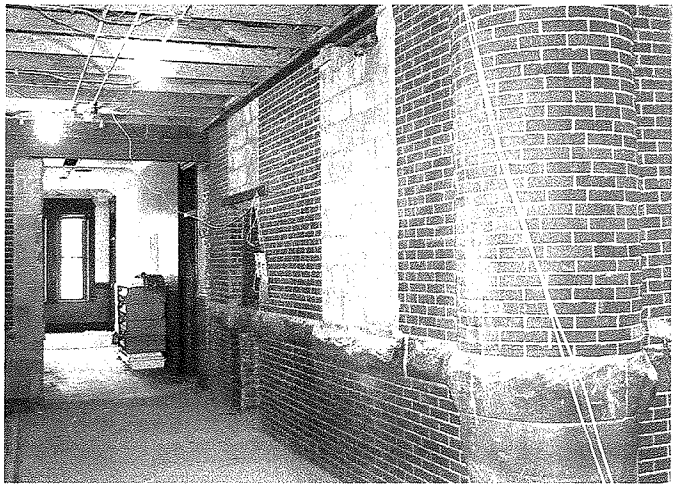

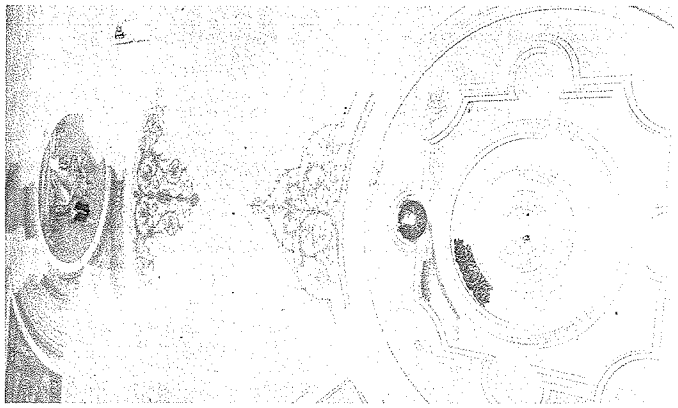

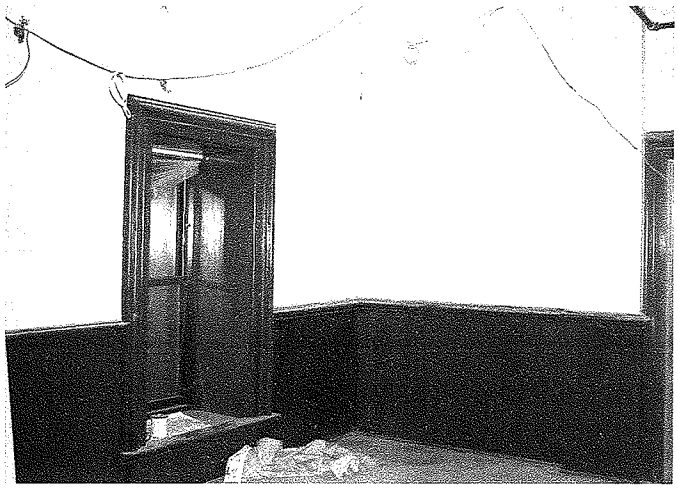

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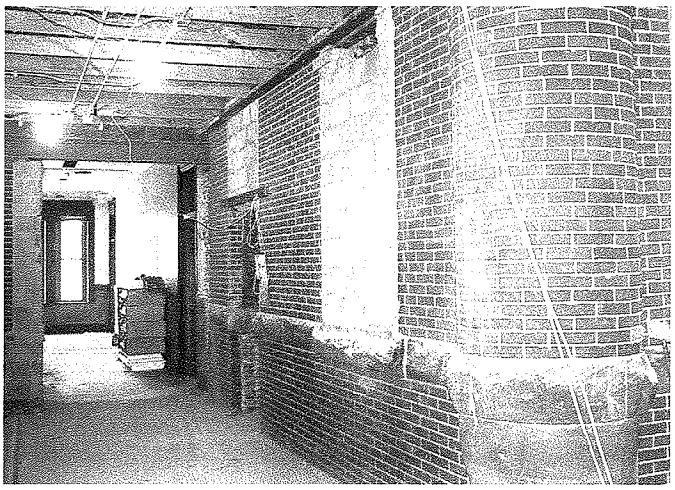

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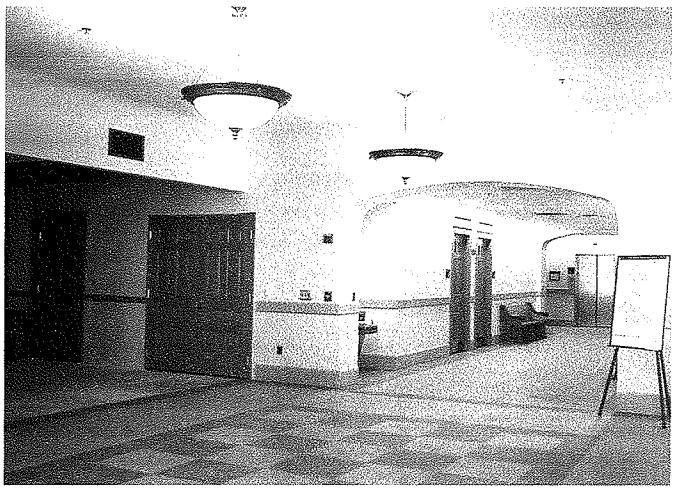

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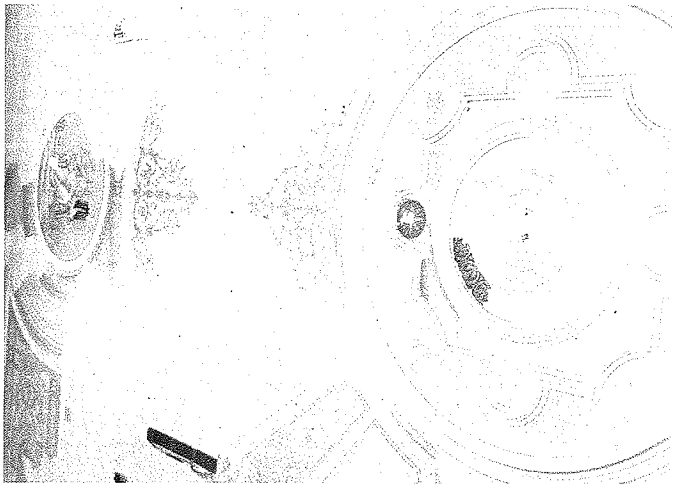

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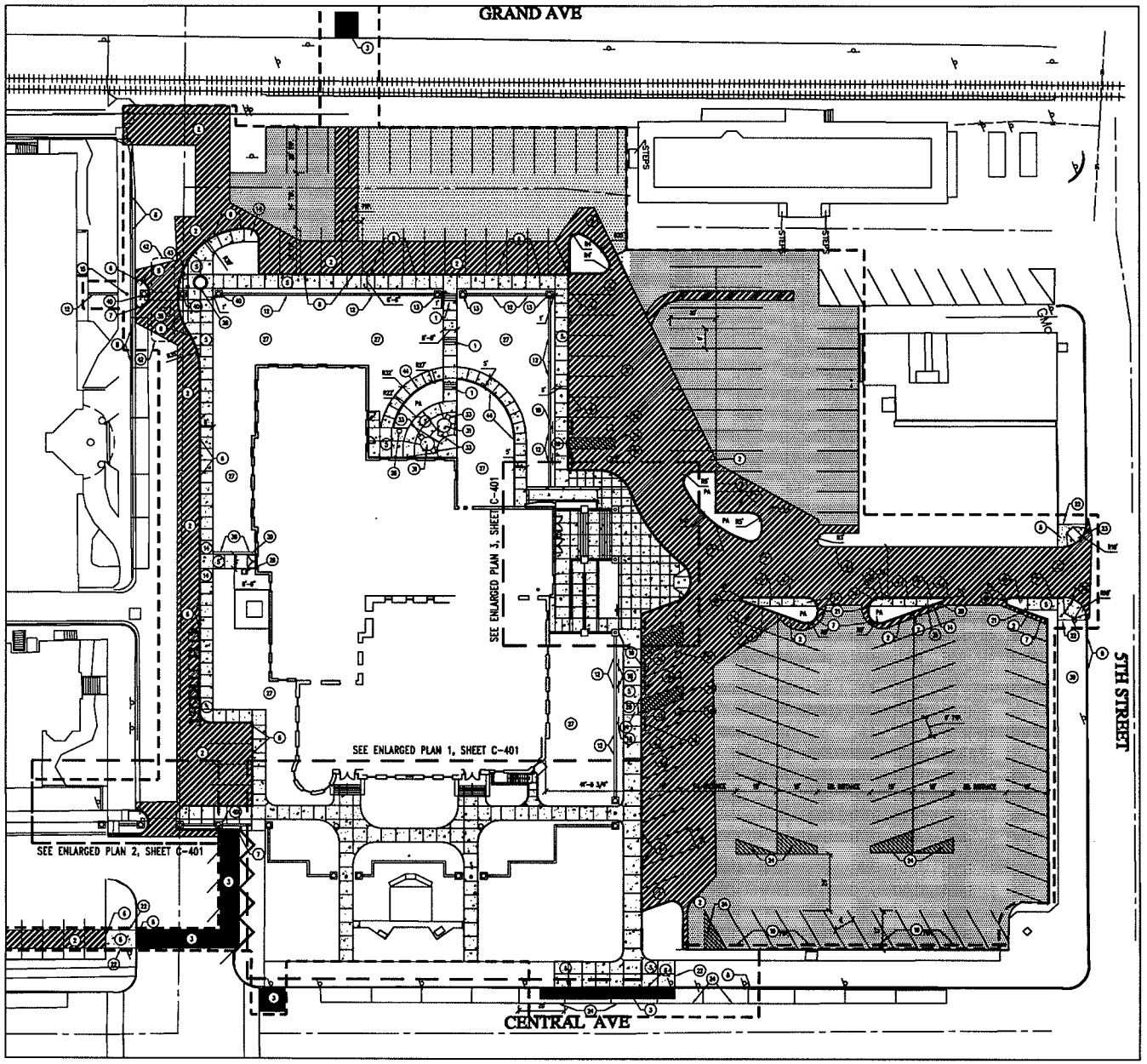
B 8



LAYOUT NOTES:

1. CONCRETE STAIR WITH HANDRAIL, SEE DETAIL 3, SHEET C-303
2. STANDARD ASPHALT PAVING, SEE DETAIL 1, SHEET C-301
3. RIGHT-OF-WAY PAVING, SEE DETAIL 4, SHEET C-301
4. HEAVY DUTY CONCRETE PAVING, SEE DETAIL 2, SHEET C-301
5. STANDARD CONCRETE PAVING, SEE DETAIL 3, SHEET C-301
6. INTEGRAL CURB AND WALK, SEE DETAIL 5, SHEET C-301
7. STAND UP CURB, SEE DETAIL 5, SHEET C-301
8. EXISTING CURB TO REMAIN
9. DECORATIVE PIER, SEE DETAIL 3, SHEET C-303
10. PIER SECTION WITH LIGHT POLE, SEE DETAIL 6, C-303
11. CURB, NEW CURB TO EXISTING
12. SECURITY WALL, SEE DETAIL 1 &A, SHEET C-303, ALTERNATE #10
13. SECURITY WALL END TREATMENT, 3' HT, SEE DETAIL 7, SHEET C-303, ALTERNATE #10
14. SIDEWALK RAMP 1:12 MAX, SEE DETAIL 7, SHEET C-301
15. REMOVABLE BOLLARD, SEE SPECIFICATIONS, ALTERNATE #10
16. RAMP HANDRAIL, SEE DETAIL 1, SHEET C-302
17. ACCESSIBLE RAMP, SEE GRADING PLAN
18. ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES SEE DETAIL 10-12, SHEET C-301
19. PARKING BUMPERS, SEE DETAIL 8, SHEET C-301
20. FLUSH CURB CONDITION
21. TAPER CURB TO GRADE OVER 2'
22. CURB, NEW SIDEWALK TO EXISTING
23. SIDEWALK RAMP SEE DETAIL 8, SHEET C-301
24. PAVEMENT STRIPING, SEE SPECIFICATIONS
25. EXISTING WAR MEMORIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE PANELS
26. LITTER RECEPTACLE, SEE SPECIFICATIONS
27. LAWN AREA, SEE SPECIFICATIONS
28. RELOCATED COMMEMORATIVE STONE
29. PLANTER WALL, SEE DETAIL 1, SHEET C-304
30. HANDRAIL, SEE DETAIL 10, SHEET C-301
31. TABLE, SEE DETAIL 13, SHEET C-301 AND SPECIFICATIONS
32. CONCRETE WALL SECTION, SEE DETAIL 15, SHEET C-301
33. 24" BENCH, SEE DETAIL 13, SHEET C-301 AND SPECIFICATIONS
34. BIKE RACK, SEE SPECIFICATIONS
35. AUTOMATIC GATE, SEE DETAILS 6 &7 AND SPECIFICATIONS
36. EXISTING FLAGPOLE TO REMAIN
37. WATER BARRIER @ EXISTING WALL, SEE DETAIL 14, C-301
38. C.I.P. CONCRETE WALL, SEE DETAIL 4, SHEET C-302
39. EXISTING CONCRETE PAVEMENT
40. SECURITY WALL END TREATMENT 8' HT, SEE DETAIL 9, SHEET C-303, ALTERNATE #10
41. TUBULAR STEEL GATES, SEE DETAIL
42. VEHICLE DETECTION LOOP, SEE SPECS
43. AUTOMATIC GATE PEDESTAL, SEE SPECS. REF. ALT #8 FOR TIE-IN TO SECURITY SYSTEM
44. CURB EDGE, SEE DETAIL 7, C-301

GENERAL NOTES:

1. ALL RAMP SHALL BE 5'-0" UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
2. REFERENCE C-001 FOR GENERAL LAYOUT PLAN NOTES.
3. NOT ALL NOTES MAY APPLY TO THIS SHEET.

LEGEND:

- STANDARD ASPHALT PAVEMENT, SEE DETAIL 1, SHEET C-301
- STANDARD CONCRETE PAVEMENT, SEE DETAIL 3, SHEET C-301
- RCP PAVEMENT, SEE DETAIL 4, SHEET C-301
- CONTROL JOINT
- EXPANSION JOINT
- ASPHALT SEAL COAT, SEE SPECS

1 LAYOUT PLAN
1" = 20'

SCHMIDT ASSOCIATES
Wul-Fru-Mar Building
320 East Vermont Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2126
317-263-8326
Fax: 317-263-6324

Project No. 2002-048
Project Date DECEMBER 15, 2003
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Revision Date

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Fayette County Courthouse Additions and Renovations Redesign

SITE LAYOUT PLAN

C-102