NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

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 **Miami County Courthouse**

other names/site number 103-507-31109

2. Location

street & number Public Square N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town Peru N/A ☐ vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Miami code 107 zip code 46970

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.)

James C. Hess 1/30/2008

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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:) _____

Miami County Courthouse — Miami — IN
Name of Property — 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
33	1	objects
34	1	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)

19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: STONE: Granite
walls: STONE: Limestone
roof: SYNTHETICS: Rubber
other: METAL
GLASS

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

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.

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance
1908-1957

SignificantDates
N/A

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

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Lehman & Schmitt
McCormack, P.H.

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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.3 acres

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	578600	4511700
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 Joanne Raetz Stuttgen

organization _____ date 06-07-2007

street & number 579 E. Washington St. telephone 765/349-1537

city or town Martinsville state IN zip code 46151

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 Miami County Commissioners

street & number P.O.Box 184 telephone 765/ 472-3901

city or town Peru state IN zip code 46970-0184

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.

Materials, continued

OTHER: copper
OTHER: glass

The Miami County Courthouse stands in the heart of downtown Peru, Indiana. The county straddles a section of the Wabash River valley in north-central Indiana. The Mississinewa River conjoins the Wabash on the east edge of Peru. The entire city lies with a relatively flat bottomland area about 650 feet above sea level that is edged by land that rises abruptly to 700-780 feet above sea level within one mile, roughly parallel to the Wabash's course. When state officials and surveyors charted the course of the Wabash & Erie Canal in the 1820s, what would become Miami County was held by the Miami tribe. A series of treaties resulted in expulsion or assimilation for the Miami peoples, with principal chiefs retaining land reservations.

Terrain played a significant role in Peru's original plat, filed in 1829. Joseph Holman called his town Miamisport, and he laid out streets parallel and at right angles to the course of the Wabash. As a result, the typical orthogonal grid is skewed to the northwest. The courthouse is therefore not aligned with the cardinal points of the compass. For ease of reference, the main elevation, which truly faces southwest, will be named the west elevation; other sides of the building will be correspondingly renamed within this document. The courthouse square itself is a variation of the most common square, the type defined by streets intersecting at corners. The difference here is that the courthouse square is a "short block," with Court Street running only for one block on the east side of the square.

The immediate environment of the courthouse is commercial, with historic buildings comprising the majority of the structures that abut public sidewalks on the surrounding streets. Constructed from 1908-1910, the courthouse post-dates many commercial blocks around it, however, several are roughly contemporary or perhaps a decade or so younger than this stone governmental building.

The nominated property includes 35 resources. There is one contributing building. There are 33 contributing objects: one bell with stand; one "Little Lady Liberty" statue with limestone base and star-shaped limestone planter; one limestone retaining wall; eight limestone planter bases; 12 metal architectural lamps with limestone bases; six metal street lamps; one sculpture, "The Spirit of the American Doughboy," by Ernest M. Viquesney; one World War II Veterans memorial; one Miami County Navy Mothers Club 302 marker; and a metal flagpole. A Korea-Vietnam Veterans memorial is counted as one non-contributing object. The period of significance is 1908-1957.

EXTERIOR

Exterior walls of the courthouse are brick veneered with dressed Bedford limestone. The visible foundation material is smooth gray granite. The roof and floors are supported by steel I beams. Floors are poured concrete. (Interior materials are described later). The roof is flat and is not visible from the street; it is covered with recent rubber membrane roofing. The dome is covered in copper sheet metal. All exterior windows are anodized aluminum replacement units.

The courthouse is nearly cross-axial in its symmetry; variations between the simpler east portico and main entrance west portico keep the building from meeting strict application of the term. The west elevation is the primary public side of the building. It faces on to Broadway, historically, the main commercial street of the town. Today, Broadway remains the main north-south traffic artery of Peru as Indiana State Route 19.

The west elevation is symmetrical and includes a massive central portico. The architect treated the first floor as a base. Four deep-set rectangular window openings flank either side of the portico, the granite foundation serving as continuous sills, the bed molding / water table above serving as lintels. Walls are coursed rusticated stone with deeply channeled joints.

The portico projects forward, just enough so that the columns are truly free standing. Columns are paired, leaving a wide bay for the grade level main entrance, which is set flush with main wall plane. The massive plinths project forward to support the columns. The plinths are detailed like the first floor walls, except that each has a horizontal rectangular panel, with raised dressed stone frame and plain dressed inset panel. The panel "obscures" the coursed pattern of the walls, giving a more solid feel to the plinths. The top of the plinths correspond to and continue the bed molding / water table belt. Workers laid the massive, two story high unfluted columns in drum segments. They are Tuscan Order in style, with simplified Attic bases and Tuscan capitals. The plain entablature has stark architrave, frieze, and deep cornice. "MIAMI COUNTY COURTHOUSE" carved in Roman style typeface fills the frieze. A classical balustrade rests atop the cornice. It encloses a small rooftop area since it too projects forward from the main wall plane. The balustrade has a high stone base supporting urn-style balusters. Square plinths divide it to correspond with the column spacing below.

A massive broken pediment with raking cornice crowns the portico composition. The pediment and its supporting wall are flush to the main wall surface of the façade and so recede from columns below it. The wall surface is channeled stone, articulated by plain dressed pilasters that visually uphold the return cornice of the broken pediment. An oculus opening, centered on the wall, is formed by radiating voussoirs. Within it is a clock face, the clock is now inoperable. The pediment fronts a gabled section of the

building with stone cheek walls that continue toward the dome and terminates at its shallow drum.

The wall plane behind the portico houses the main entrance. Elevated only by a broad, shallow set of several steps, then a threshold step at the plane of the plinths, the main entrance opening is defined by rusticated stone and a flat arch lintel of channeled voussoirs. The doorway opening is larger than all other openings on this facade, emphasizing its central location. The keystone is "slipped;" set so that it indents below the underside of the flat arch. The entrance doors, originally paneled wood with a transom, have been replaced with aluminum framed double doors, narrow side lights, and a large transom area. A cornice segment on corbel blocks runs atop the flat arch, and above it the wall is punctured by a semi-circular transom window. Here the masonry channels deflect at radius lines with the perfect semi-circular inner arch and form voussoirs that define a broader stilted arch on the outside edge. Keystones project forward several inches. This arch style is consistent for all second floor openings. Between each set of paired columns, small semi-circular niches have the same arch treatment. The third floor of the portico is separated from the first by a plain dressed belt course. The central third floor opening has two aluminum windows set in a dressed, shouldered stone surround. Between each pair of columns, a single narrow window is set to align with each second floor niche.

The long wings on either side of the portico feature a subtle difference in treatment on the second and third floors. The walls are channeled, but, the units are stacked rather than coursed, emphasizing the unity of the second and third floors. Window openings align with the first floor windows are have the radiating voussoir arch treatment and plain jambs. There is a plain stone panel underneath the window sill. The windows themselves are aluminum units. Originally, these openings had paired wood casement windows with a single pane lunette transom. A dressed stone belt / sill divides the second and third floors. The third floor windows align with the second floor openings. Each is rectangular and the channeled masonry forms voussoirs for a flat arch over each. A subtle articulation of the façade, the plane of the window openings is a few inches back from the pilasters that unite the second and third floors. The dressed stone of the Tuscan Order pilasters contrasts with the rusticated wall surface behind them. The three pilasters flanking either side of the portico make four bays of fenestration on the second and third floors. Furthermore, the building's principal corners are of stacked, channeled rusticated stone. Capped with their own Tuscan capitals, the corners are in effect antae that frame the composition on each side of the building. The same entablature that runs atop the portico's columns wraps around the short sides of the portico and continues around the entire building. On the flanks, a short stone parapet completes the entablature.

The east elevation houses a secondary entrance to the courthouse. The treatment of this façade is highly similar to the west or main elevation. The portico offers the main difference. The portico on this elevation is supported by engaged dressed stone antae rather than true columns. Another nuance is that the central vertical bays of the portico do not recess to the wall plane of the wings as does the west entrance; instead, they project forward so that their walls are recessed only a foot or so behind the antae. The entrance itself is round arched and arranged like the west entrance. The second and third floors above the entrance house a story-and-a-half rectangular opening with aluminum framed window, illuminating the grand staircase inside. The window sill is a shallow cornice mold resting on corbels. The entablature, balustrade, and pedimented structure are the same as the west elevation. While the wings are largely identical to those of the west side, The third floor openings are different on this elevation. These openings are paired within each bay, with a dressed stone mullion separating the pair. Each narrow aluminum window has a transom bar creating a horizontal rectangular transom window over each unit. The final subtlety between the east and west facades is that the giant order pilasters are of stacked rustication on the east façade, rather than dressed stone.

The north and south elevations are identical. Window openings, pilasters, and other details match those of the west elevation. The corner antae are wider on these faces, more emphatically framing the side elevations. Each side is five bays across with a central entrance on the first floor. A short run of steps leads to the entrance, which has a simple cornice hood supported by corbels. The northeast corner of the roof has a square chimney.

The roofscape of the courthouse is dominated by the squat, four-sided square dome. The pedimented cross-gable structures of the east and west elevations meet at the central square stone-faced drum. The dome is framed in steel and decked with wood boards that are covered with copper sheeting. For the corners of the square dome, workers hammered the copper sheeting into quoins. In profile, the dome is semi-circular. A squat square lantern stands atop the dome. It too is covered in copper sheeting. Its short walls are paneled with vertical stiles dividing raised roundels.

INTERIOR

Throughout the building, floors are inlaid with buff, pink and red Tennessee marble; the exception is wood flooring in the two third floor courtrooms and law library. Base molding is white marble. On all three floors, walls in the central rotunda are faced with ashlar cut limestone block, ceilings are coffered, and limestone door surrounds (toilet, offices, courtrooms) featured eared corners and bracketed hoods. On all three floors, corridor walls and ceilings are painted plaster, door surrounds are unpainted wood with eared surface molding, and paired office doors are the original paneled wood with single lights and brass hardware.

The following description will begin with the first floor central hall and corridor and representative office, and then proceed to the second floor corridors and offices, third floor corridors and representative office, and conclude with the basement, and attic.

First Floor

Central Hall/Rotunda

The central hall is a three-story rotunda featuring walls of ashlar cut limestone block. Four two-story arches comprised of carved limestone keystones and stepped voussoirs are supported by eight limestone, fluted Doric columns on white marble pedestals. Columns have egg and dart molding on the capitals and support a bold frieze with additional egg and dart molding. Engaged pilasters of pieced limestone block are found at the wall intersections. On each floor, the rotunda is circled by a corridor; above, ceilings are coffered with cove molding. The second floor balcony is distinguished by balustrades of turned limestone balusters and square newels. The third floor balcony features three pairs of limestone Ionic columns and two balustrades of turned balusters and square newels. Above the third floor, the drum is decorated with coffered white plaster surrounding a round art glass skylight.

On the west end of the central hall is located the primary (front) entrance. Replacement doors are glass framed with aluminum. The vestibule is divided from the central hall by two square limestone columns. A white marble plaque on the south vestibule wall provides a 1910 directory to courthouse offices. The plaque on the north wall contains a record of persons and firms involved with the construction of the courthouse; the date of completion, December 31, 1910, is also recorded. At the southwest corner of the central hall, a wallboard partition has been added to form a women's handicapped-accessible toilet. At the northwest corner is located an original small office with plaster walls.

Directly in front of it is a makeshift corridor and employees' break room made by erecting plasterboard walls

The secondary (rear) entrance is located on the east end of the central hall. Inside the vestibule is the staircase to the second and third floors. The inner banister is filigreed cast iron with a wood hand rail. The stairwell's outer walls are faced with ashlar limestone block. At the southeast corner of the central hall, there is an original elevator shaft and a small office with plaster walls. At the northeast corner, a partition wall has been added to form a men's handicapped accessible toilet. An original small office is located on the outside wall of the courthouse.

North-South Corridor

The north-south corridor is 14 feet wide and contains nine original rooms and/or offices adapted into the current 12. Original walls are painted or papered plaster, with a few

covered by wood-look panel board. All later partition walls are covered with wood-look panel board. Door and transom windows, which retain their original hardware, and the interior room divider in the Office of Child Support Enforcement contain windows of pebbled glass. Several transom windows are etched with the name of the office. Marble office floors are covered with vinyl tiles or carpet. The surveyor's office in the northeast corner is notable for its steel counter and a private staircase leading to the original clerk's office on the second floor.

Second Floor

The second floor consists of six county office rooms, plus a number of vaults and accessory rooms. In every office, original plaster walls are covered with wood-look panel board. Marble floors are exposed, with the exception of the Office of Voter Registration, whose floor is covered with vinyl tile.

Items of note are the steel and brass book racks in the Office of the Recorder; the marble counters with brass cages in the offices of the Clerk, Auditor, and Treasurer; and the steel counters in the offices of the Recorder and Voter Registration. Two of the original brass doors are in storage in the attic. The bottom of the private staircase leading from the first floor surveyor's office to the second floor clerk's office and upward to the third floor court room has been blocked with a hollow-core door.

The elevator and a small mechanical room are located at the foot of the public stairs, in the northeast corner of the corridor surrounding the central atrium. In the southeast corner, an electrical panel is hidden behind a wood door. To its left is a women's toilet featuring marble walls and stall dividers. It was originally a men's toilet, as evidenced by remnants of urinals. Stall doors are wood.

The corridor on the west end of the open central atrium has been closed off with wall board partitions to form a storage area. In the southwest corner is a small office; a painted sign on the wood door identifies it as the former Office of the Board of Health. Inside, a short flight of stairs leads to the original stenographer's room illuminated by natural light from a large, multi-paned, arched replacement window.

Third Floor

The third floor consists of 17 rooms, including two original courtrooms, one small interview room, jury room, and several offices, private chambers, and private and public toilets. Office walls are painted plaster. Office floors are for the most part marble with carpet covering. Courtroom floors are wood with some portions covered by carpet.

Toilets have white marble walls, floors, and stall dividers. Public toilets have wood stall doors.

Several of the original antiqued brass light fixtures are found on the third floor: one six-light pendant each at the center end of the north and south corridors, one large, single globe fixture suspended from the ceiling in the east stairwell, and four six-light pendants in the Miami Superior Court room.

Circuit Court 1
Circuit Court 1 is the larger of the two court rooms. It has plaster walls and a white, ornamental coffered ceiling featuring square panels and relief work columns entwined with ribbon. Mounted to it are contemporary fluorescent lights. Four pairs of recessed, rectangular replacement windows with transoms are found in the east wall. Recessed panels in the west wall mirror the east wall's fenestration. A paneled wood wainscot surrounds the room.

In the west wall, a single paneled wood door leads to an office; a pair of large, similar doors provides access from the west corridor. In the north wall, east of the judge's bench, a paneled wood door leads to the rear private staircase leading from the first floor up through the second floor clerk's office. A pair of wood doors, each with a single light, opens to the corridor on the east side of the third floor rotunda balcony. All doors have surrounds with eared surface molding. The judge's mahogany bench and back drop is adorned with egg and dart molding, carved acanthus leaves, swags, and other classically-derived motifs. A burgundy velvet curtain drapes the back drop. A two-tiered jury box with brass foot rails is located along the front of the east wall. A wood rail with turned balusters and square newel posts with turned caps divides the room in half. In the rear public seating area are ten original wood benches, five on each side of a center aisle. Two large, decorative cast metal vent covers are inserted in the wainscot on the rear wall.

Superior Court
This smaller courtroom is similar to Circuit Court 1, with identical wainscot, doors and door surround, mahogany judge's bench and back drop. Differences include the rear wall of three recessed panels; retention of four original suspended brass light fixtures (supplemented by fluorescent lights); division rail with turned newel posts and finial-like turned caps; coffered ceiling whose design is highlighted by different paint colors; and public seating provided by eight oak benches, four on each side of a center aisle. The wood floor is covered with carpet. Two large, decorative cast metal vent covers are found in the wall near the ceiling above the judge's bench and in the wainscot on the rear wall. A paneled wood door leading to the judge's chamber is found in the rear wall to the left of the bench. A pair of wood doors, each with a single light, opens to the corridor on the east side of the third floor rotunda balcony.

Basement
The basement is a neat, clean warren of support walls and columns and rooms of different size. Walls and columns are variously brick, poured concrete, and hollow tile block. The floor is poured concrete, as is the ceiling. At the basement's center, directly beneath the central hall above, the floor has two elevations. The lower middle portion marks the site of the original boiler furnace. Beneath the north and south corridors, the basement is also at lower grade. The only significant alteration to the basement is two discontinued public toilets against the inner south wall. The toilets' marble floors, walls, and stall walls remain. Staircases on the courthouse's exterior east and west walls have been filled in.

Fourth Floor/Attic
The fourth floor attic is dominated by the huge skylight, set into an elevated platform made of tile block and poured concrete. A corridor rings the skylight. Inner exterior walls are brick. The dome is directly overhead, with structural support provided by interlacing steel rods. Aluminum framework for a removed dropped-panel ceiling crisscrosses the opening. The dome's inner walls are hollow tile brick. The floor is poured concrete.

There is no attic room above the north one-third of the building, but a room above the south one-third is reached by descending a short flight of stairs. The floor here has two grades. Storage shelves, cases, and various walls break up the space. Exposed riveted steel channels provide evidence of additional internal structural support. Near the center of the east wall, a flight of stairs descends to the clerk's office on the third floor. Ceiling headers and walls are painted with signage indicating the attic's former use as the Miami County Museum (c.1915-1996).

LAWN
The courthouse lawn is surrounded by a retaining wall of Bedford limestone. At the center of each of the four sides of the square, the wall is broken by a concrete sidewalk leading from the city sidewalk to the courthouse entrance. A pair of limestone planter bases topped with concrete urns flank the foot of the courthouse walk. Steps up to the courthouse doors are gray granite, with an occasional concrete replacement.

At each of the four corners of the square is a large limestone block on which is mounted a 1940s-era metal architectural lamp manufactured by Union Metal Manufacturing Company of Canton, Ohio. Two other blocks with lamps are at each of the four intersections of the courthouse and city sidewalks. Three street lamps of the same period are found at the curb along Broadway; one on Main Street near the corner of Broadway; and three more are found along the Fifth Street curb.

There are six commemorative monuments on the courthouse lawn. The following description begins with the bell at the southeast corner and proceeds west and then north to the sixth monument, a Korea-Vietnam war memorial.

The contributing bell, cast by the G. W. Coffin Company/ Buckeye Bell Foundry of Canton, Ohio, is dated 1860. It is mounted in a metal frame on a poured concrete base. The 900-lb bell is painted silver.

To the west is an 8-foot four-inch, 300-pound contributing figure of the Statue of Liberty made of pressed copper sheets over a wood frame. Placed by the Boy Scouts in 1951, it is mounted on a pedestal base made of pieced ashlar block, around which is a star-shaped planter with limestone walls. Paint of a verdigris color is peeling from "Little Lady Liberty." The flame on the torch is painted gold.

On the southwest corner of the lawn is a contributing engraved red granite slab on a gray granite base commemorating navy veterans. It was presented by the Miami County Navy Mothers Club 302. The year is unknown but is believed to be c.1945-50. Immediately to the north is a contributing metal flagpole placed in the 1950s.

Next is a contributing seven-foot statue, "The Spirit of the American Doughboy," produced by the artist, Ernest M. Viquesney, of Spencer, Indiana, and placed on November 11, 1930. The figure is affixed to a rusticated limestone boulder base on which is affixed a bronze plaque listing the World War I dead from Miami County. Made of copper and bronze plates over a copper frame, the figure depicts a World War I infantryman advancing through "No-Man's Land" through two stumps and a tangle of barbed wire. He holds a rifle in his right hand. His raised left hand holds a grenade. The statue is missing its rifle sling and exhibits some pitting and discoloration. The limestone base is streaked with verdigris. A metal plate identifies the artist as Viquesney and the place of production as Spencer.

Just north of the Doughboy is a contributing World War II monument consisting of a large gray granite slab with a bronze plaque listing Miami County soldiers who died in service. It is unknown when this monument was placed, but it is certainly within the period of significance, most likely c.1945-50.

Last is a non-contributing Korean-Vietnam War memorial consisting of a bronze plaque affixed to a large gray granite slab. Placed in 1986, the plaque lists the names of deceased Miami County serviceman.

Significant Person, continued
McCormack, P. H.
Schmitt, Theodore

The Miami County Courthouse is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. It is the most significant governmental building in the county, the core of Peru's historic commercial district, and one of two outstanding public examples of the Neoclassical style of architecture in the City of Peru. The other is the 1902 Carnegie Public Library (103-507-32048).

Brief History of Miami County and Peru

Miami County was established in 1834 by legislative act. Miamisport served as the county seat until 1835, when it was removed to Peru. The proximity of Peru to major transportation routes, including the Wabash River, Wabash and Erie Canal, and, by the 1850s, several railroads made it a choice location for manufacturers. Early industries included a foundry, distillery, brewery, woolen mill, and saw and planing mills. Hotels and other businesses catering to canal men and travelers appeared along the river, gradually expanding northward to surround the public square. By the late-nineteenth century, modern industries were established, including manufacturers of sewing machines, furniture, wheels, and baskets. By World War I, Peru became known for the production of automobile parts. And, from the 1880s through the 1930s, Peru was famed as the winter quarters for a number of the nation's largest circuses.[1]

History of the Miami County Courthouse

Nearly throughout its history, Peru has been centered around the courthouse and public square. Built 1908-1910, the existing Miami County Courthouse is the fourth to serve county residents. Following the removal of the county seat from Miamisport in 1835, a brick courthouse was ordered built in the center of the public square. Completed in early 1843, this courthouse was destroyed by fire on 16 March 1843. Subsequently, two temporary buildings were erected for use as a courthouse and recorder's office in 1844 and 1848, respectively. A third, "Norman castle" style courthouse was built 1856-58, with remodeling occurring in the 1870s.[2]

In the summer of 1905, a petition for a new courthouse was presented to the county commissioners. The county council agreed and appropriated the necessary funds and

[1] *Miami County Interim Report* (Indianapolis: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1998): 42-3.
[2] Arthur L. Bodurtha, ed. *History of Miami County, Indiana*, Vol. 1 (Chicago and New York: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1914): 100-01.

issued bonds. On 19 October 1905, Commissioners John David, James Bair, and Alfred Ramsey met to consider the plans submitted by various architects. On 18 December 1905, they selected those prepared by Lehman and Schmitt of Cleveland, Ohio. The auditor, Clarkson W. Macy, objected and filed a number of injunctions with the circuit court of neighboring Cass County in an effort to stop the project.

The Commissioners elected to proceed and entered into a contract for the demolition of the old courthouse and the purchase of the old Presbyterian Church for use as temporary quarters. On 5 July 1906, they contracted with P. H. McCormack and Company of Columbus, Indiana, for construction of the new courthouse. Completion was due within 26 months. Due to the injunctions, however, some delay was experienced. The cornerstone was laid 7 October 1908, and the building was completed 31 December 1910. The dedication was held 6 April 1911.[3]

Statistics compiled upon the completion of the new courthouse provide a glimpse of the immense quantity and variety of materials used in its construction. Some 2,500 cubic yards of concrete were used in the foundation, with another 110,000 square feet used in the 5-inch thick concrete floors. Three thousand cubic feet of gray granite from Concord, New Hampshire, comprise the building's base. Walls are constructed of 1,800,000 brick and faced with some of the ninety thousand cubic feet, or 300 car loads, of cut Bedford limestone found throughout the building. The pink, buff, and gray marble flooring totaling 18,000 square feet was shipped from Tennessee, and 6,000 square feet of white marble used in the toilets, base moldings, counters, and elsewhere were quarried in Georgia.[4]

A comparison of copies of the courthouse's original floor plans on file in the office of the Miami County surveyor with its current use reveal that few significant alterations have been made to the courthouse since its completion in 1910. On the first floor, for example, a large assembly room has been partitioned into the offices of Veteran's Service, Drainage Board, and Plan Commission. On the third floor, a women's toilet is now an office. In the basement, public toilets with an outside access were added c.1920; they have since been eliminated from use and the exterior access filled in. Cosmetic alterations include the covering of original plaster walls with wood-look panel board and the installation of dropped ceilings in the offices.

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[3] Bodurtha, 101-06. See also "Miami County Courthouse Deal," a long essay by C. W. Macy found in the Courthouse Miscellaneous file in the Miami County Museum.

[4] The original sheet ("compliments of Tim Ginney") with a photograph of the courthouse nearing completion taken in late 1910 can be found in the Courthouse Miscellaneous file at the Miami County Museum.

The elevator—the building's third—appears to date to the late 1960s. The original Otis elevator installed in 1910 ceased to work within the first year. Until the entire system was replaced in the early 1940s, the car was stuck midway in the boarded up shaft, with the motor and gears rusting in the basement.[5]

Between 1995-2001, more than three million dollars was spent on courthouse restoration and upgrades. The leaky skylight was repaired in 1995, followed in 1996-97 by replacement of all of the original windows with aluminum-clad wood windows; installation of a new HVAC system; complete rewiring; cleaning of the exterior limestone walls with an acid solution; and the removal of the county museum from the fourth floor. In 2000, the master clock was refurbished (it is inoperable today), and the county commissioners debated whether to remove or repair the leaky dome. They opted to restore, and in 2001, the Tradesmen Group of Dublin, Ohio, completed the project.[6]

Despite the confinements of limited space, the Miami County Courthouse continues to serve the needs of county government after nearly 100 years in use. A county jail and county annex building housing law enforcement is located across Court Street. In the near future, a third floor will be added to the annex to house a third court, at which time it is expected that the clerk's office will relocate out of the courthouse.

Courthouse Lawn and Monuments

The courthouse is located on a grassy public lawn elevated above the surrounding blocks. During the great 1913 flood, it was the only building in town that was not submerged. As a result, many evacuees lived here until they were able to return to their homes.[7]

Decorative and functional elements of Bedford limestone include the surrounding retaining wall, 12 lamp post bases, and eight planter bases.

Twelve architectural lamp posts and six street lamps manufactured by the Union Metal Manufacturing Company of Canton, OH, are believed to date to the 1940s. A linen

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[5] Problems with the original elevator began before the building's dedication on 6 April 1911. See Peru Daily Chronicle, 13 and 16 February 1911. See also The Peru republican, 31 January 1941 and Peru Tribune, 6 March 1967.

[6] *Peru Tribune*, "Courthouse skylight repairs approved," 11 October 1995; "Indianapolis firm to fix courthouse," 7 May 1996; "County will seek $3.3 million loan for courthouse," 23 July 1996; "Renovation begins with bath," 21 August 1996; "$1 million tabbed for courthouse," 20 November 1996; "Courthouse project completion set for June," 18 March 1997; "Making time," 13 July 2000; "A new perspective," 26 February 2001; "With a very steady foot . . . ", 26 July 2001.

[7] "Jacob Kantzer Recalls How Dispute Over Clock Delayed Construction on Miami County Courthouse," no date. Newspaper clipping in "Courthouse—Older Courthouses" file at Miami County Museum.

postcard postmarked 1929 shows entirely different lamps. Established in 1906, the firm's original product was fluted steel porch columns. A year later, it added lighting standards. By World War I, they were its dominant product. The company supplied over 4400 cities and towns across the U.S. with their first electric lighting poles. It is believed that Peru's lamps were installed in the 1920s.[8]

The 900-lb. bell was cast in 1860 by the G. W. Coffin Company/Buckeye Bell Foundry of Cincinnati, Ohio. It is believed to be the same bell that arrived in Peru in March 1860 for hanging in the old courthouse.[9]

On 6 May 1951, the Miami County Boy Scouts placed the miniature Statue of Liberty in memory of fallen victims. The ceremony included a parade and a dedication speech by Governor Henry F. Schricker. The base of stacked limestone blocks was made by Peru contractor Arthur Doran. Presumably, he also built the star-shaped planter. [10]

Peru's Lady Liberty is one of at least 200 replica figures placed throughout the United States by Boy Scouts from 1949-51. The projects was launched by Jack Whitaker, Scout Commissioner of the Kansas City, Missouri, area council, who was struck with the idea when he read about the erection of a Statue of Liberty made of concrete and chicken wire in Spirit Lake, Iowa. Friedley, Voshardt and Company of Chicago produced the original statue for Whitaker for $3,500, and sold copies made from sheets of stamped copper on a wood form for $300 apiece. At Whitaker's suggestion, Boy Scouts across the country, such as those in Peru, began collecting funds, buying statues, and putting them up. Identification, restoration and replacement of the original "Little Lady Libertys" has escalated since 9/11. Indiana has six surviving Little Lady Libertys in Dupont, Gary, Madison, Peru, Plymouth, and South Bend.[11]

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[8] See http://www.unionmetal.com/history/index.asp. Union Metal's historical archive contains records of many of our installations throughout the 1900s.

[9] "New Bell," Miami County Sentinel, 8 March 1860. The bell was used to sound public alarms. During the Civil War, it was used to call volunteers to arms and to proclaim Union successes on the battlefield. Upon the death of prominent citizens, it tolled the number of years of their lives. Following World War I< the bell traveled throughout the county. See "YMCA Campaign," no date [c.1917]. Newspaper clipping in Court House—Older Courthouses" file at Miami County Museum.

[10] "35th birthday for county's own lady," *Peru Tribune*, 2 July 1986; "Boy Scouts Statue of Liberty" and "Monuments honor fallen veterans," no date; both are newspaper clippings in the "Courthouse Lawn and Monuments" file at the Miami County Museum. Also, "Statue of Liberty to be Erected on Courthouse Lawn," *Peru Republican*, 9 March 1951, and "Miss Liberty," *Indianapolis Star Magazine*, 29 June 1952. (The article appears to have been omitted when the magazine was microfilmed; only the cover photo can be found on film at the Indiana State library.) A state-by-state list of Lady Liberty's is found at http://troop101.thescouts.com/liberty/.

[11] Glory-June Greiff, *Remembrance, Faith, and Fancy* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 2005): 138, 153, 194, 195, 225.

The Miami County Navy Mother 302 marker, thought to have been erected between c.1945-50, honors Miami County serviceman in the United States Navy and their families. The Navy Mother's Clubs of America was founded by Mrs. Emma Jones in 1930 in Harlington, Texas. The club's mission was "to promote a program of educational, welfare and social interest between the parents of Navy men and women and to extend benevolent relief to needy members, those dependent upon or related thereto, or to such other persons as to the Club may seem desirable. . . . [and] "to encourage contentment, efficiency, patriotism and pride among the men and women serving in the United States Navy." Nothing is known about Miami County Club 302. The national organization remains in existence.[12] Immediately to the north of the Navy Mothers marker is a metal flagpole erected in the 1950s.

Sponsored by the Legion Women's Auxiliary and dedicated with fitting pomp and ceremony on 11 November 1930[13], Miami County's "The Spirit of the American Doughboy" statue by sculptor Erenst M. "Dick" Viquesney (1876-1946) of Spencer, Indiana, is one of many known copies mass produced and erected throughout the United States during the 1920s and 1930s. Eleven such statues are known in Indiana.[14] The son of French immigrant stone sculptors, Viquesney produced the original sculpture in 1921 in Americus, Georgia, as a designer in a monument company. It was his dream to create "the only perfectly equipped and historically correct example of what the United States infantry soldier was, and stood for." In 1922, a suit for copyright infringement by another sculptor appears to have led Viquesney to sell production rights to a partner and return to Spencer. By 1926, he had reacquired the rights to the Doughboy and began mass producing them at his Spencer studio. The figure, made from sheets of copper or bronze over a copper frame, sold for $1,000; a base was extra.

Viquesney's Doughboy was immensely popular. One-hundred thirty-four authenticated statues have been found in 38 states, with 25 near-identical copies by other artists also having been identified. Indiana Doughboys are found in Attica, Evansville, Fort Wayne, Greencastle, Hartford City, Hobart, Muncie, New Castle, Peru, Spencer, and Winchester. In addition, the statue inspired countless miniatures produced in Viquesney's studio, including pot metal lamps and statuettes, candlesticks, and plaques, as well as plaster statuettes.[15]

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[12] A brief history of the national organization and a sister local organization, the Toledo Navy Mother's Club #190, can be found at http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/cac/ms0732.html.

[13] "'Doughboy' Statue is Dedicated with Fitting Ceremony," *Peru Daily Tribune*, 12 November 1930.

[14] The locations are Attica, Evansville, Fort Wayne, Greencastle, Hartford City, Hobart, Muncie, New Castle, Peru, Spencer, and Winchester. Greiff, 16, 98, 113, 122, 132, 148, 195, 206, 215, 216, 250-51.

[15] Information about Viquesney and his Doughboy derived from wikipedia.com; Karen Gardner's, "The History Behind the Doughboy" (1991) at http://www.emmitsburg.net/archive_list/articles/history/stories/doughboy.htm; and http://doughboy_lamp.tripod.com/earlspages/.

It is unknown when the World War II Veterans Memorial was placed, but it is certainly within the period of significance, most likely c.1945-50.

The non-contributing Korea-Vietnam Veterans Memorial, made by Caldwell Monument Company of Kokomo, was dedicated on Memorial Day, 26 May 1986.[16]

Architecture

The Miami County Courthouse is one of two outstanding examples of Neoclassical-inspired architecture in the City of Peru. The other is the Peru Public Library, a Carnegie building erected in 1902, located two blocks east.

By the turn of the twentieth century, the Neoclassical style emerged as a dominant force in American architecture. This revival in classical models is attributed to the Worlds Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893. The Exposition's planners mandated a classical theme, and many of the best-known architects of the day designed dramatic colonnaded buildings arranged around a central court. The exposition was widely photographed, reported, and attended, and soon these Neoclassical models became the latest architectural fashion throughout the country.[17]

The style shows a concern for historical correctness of detail but not of overall execution or scale. Neoclassical buildings tend to be meticulously detailed and of massive scale, and as such are perfectly suited to grand public buildings of great civic importance. Architectural Neoclassicism prevailed into the 1930s, most notably in large public and commercial buildings and skyscrapers. Characteristics of the style include the use of classical elements such as a columned portico, pilasters, keystones, pedimented openings, and dentils along heavy cornices.[18]

A number of Neoclassical courthouses still grace Indiana's county seats. Besides the Miami County Courthouse, representative examples include those in Hendricks County (Danville), Huntington County (Huntington), and Putnam County (Greencastle). See photos on next page.

[16] "Rain doesn't stop honoring of war dead," *Peru Tribune*, 27 May 1986.
[17] Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996): 342-43.
[18] *Miami County Interim Report*, xxx.

Sources from the Italian Renaissance were one inspiration to early 20th century architects' return to classicism. Lehman and Schmitt's design for the Miami County Courthouse clearly draws inspiration from Italian Renaissance palaces like Palazzo del Te (1535). Similar interest in Italian Renaissance sources influenced other works by the firm.

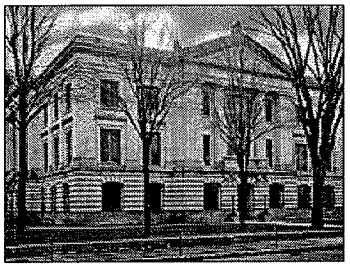

Photo 1 Hendricks County Courthouse, Danville, IN

Designed by Clarence Martindale and built 1912-14, the three-story Hendricks County Courthouse is clad in ashlar Bedford limestone. First floor exterior walls are rusticated limestone. A soaring pedimented entrance features Doric columns between the second and third stories and massive corner pilasters. Above the entrance is a limestone hood with turned balusters and supporting brackets. All windows and exterior entrance doors are replacements. There is no dome. The interior boasts a rotunda with paired marble Doric columns, a dentiled encircling entablature, cast iron staircase and balcony balustrade, mosaic tile floors, coffered ceilings, and an art glass skylight. In the Treasurer's office is a marble, brass, and beveled teller's cage.[19]

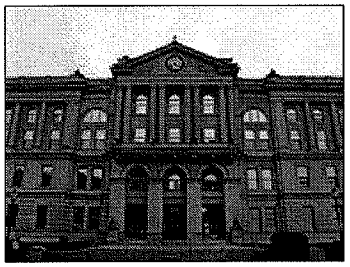

Photo 2 Huntington County Courthouse, Huntington, IN

Built 1904-06, the four-story, rectilinear plan Huntington County Courthouse, designed by John W. Gaddis of Vincennes, features a ribbed copper dome on a round drum pierced with rectangular windows. The dome is topped by a cupola and finial. Exterior walls are ashlar limestone. First and second story windows are rectangular. Recessed third story windows are arched, separated by round Corinthian pilasters. Each of the four entrances is located in a central portico topped by a projecting pediment with decorative entablature. The pediment is supported by four pairs of Doric columns, which in turn are supported by a bracketed hood over the arcade entrance. The interior is distinguished by a spacious central rotunda, mosaic tile floors, marble columns and wainscoting.[20]

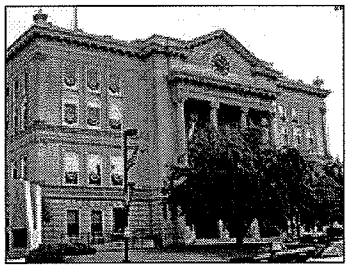

Photo 3 Putnam County Courthouse, Greencastle, IN

Gaddis also designed the Putnam County Courthouse in Greencastle, built 1903-05. The four-story, square plan building features exterior first floor walls of rusticated limestone and upper walls of ashlar block. The first and second stories are separated by a bold drip mold. Windows are one-over-one double hung sash. The main entrance is through a full-height portico, featuring a dentiled pediment

[19] *The Magnificent 92 Indiana Courthouses*, 70-1.
[20] *The Magnificent 92 Indiana Courthouses*, 76-77.

with ornamental carving and a large clock face, supported by four Corinthian columns. An oval oculus is found in the third story above the entrance. Although it is not seen from the outside, a glass dome highlights the interior.[21]

Lehman and Schmitt

Israel Lehman (1859-1914) and Theodore Schmitt (1860-1935) formed a partnership in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1885. The firm designed many important public and institutional buildings, as well as private residences, commercial buildings, stores, and warehouses. Cleveland was home to the greatest number of their works, with other buildings erected in Canton, Lakewood, Northfield, and Sandusky, Ohio; Towanda, Pennsylvania; Lexington, Kentucky; and Peru, Indiana. (See attachment provided by Robert Keiser of the Cleveland Landmarks Commission.) After Lehman's death, Schmitt continued the firm as Lehman-Schmitt Company until his own death in 1935.

Israel Lehman was born in St. Joseph, Missouri, and moved to Cleveland with his father in 1862. He was educated in the Cleveland public schools and entered an architect's office at the age of 14. He worked as a draftsman for Cuyahoga County before serving as a draftsman in the office of George H. Smith from 1880-84. It was here that he and Schmitt met.

Theodore Schmitt was born in Cleveland. His father served as marshal and later, from 1862-92, superintendent of police. Educated in the public schools, Schmitt received his architectural training in Hannover, Germany, and attended military school at Mannheim before returning to Cleveland and working as an assistant in the office of George H. Smith, from 1881-84.

Theodore Schmitt made a number of visits to Peru during the construction of the Miami County Courthouse and also attended its dedication in April 1911. His personal interest in the building's construction may indicate that he was responsible for the drawings.[22]

For a list of buildings attributed to Lehman and Schmitt, see Attachment 1. Of these, two Neoclassical-Beaux-Arts style courthouses exist. See photos on next page. Photographs of select other buildings—both existing and demolished—appear in Attachment 2.

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[21] *The Magnificent 92 Indiana Courthouses*, 140-41.

[22] Summary of the lives, careers, and works of Lehman and Schmitt provided by Robert Keiser, Cleveland Landmarks Commission, email to author, 5 July 2007. This summary is included with this nomination. See also Mary Peal-Schofield, *Architecture of Cleveland* (Pittsburgh: Ober Park Associates, Inc., 1976): 5.

The Cuyahoga County Courthouse in Cleveland (1909-12) is a massive, three-story granite building. The elongated façade has a central pavilion with an Ionic colonnade that extends over two stories, echoing the façade with engaged columns flanking the entrance pavilion. The building has a rusticated base and a roof with decorative balustrade. Statues adorning the cornices depict figures associated with the development of English and American law.

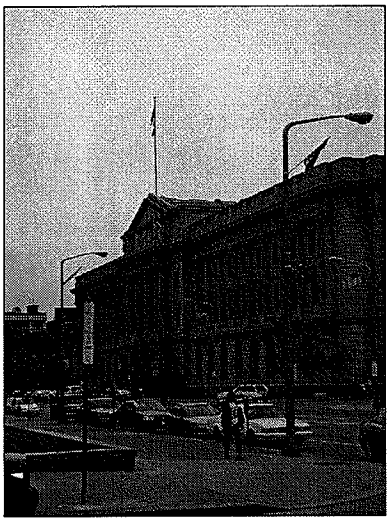

Photo 4 Cuyahoga County Courthouse, Cleveland, OH

The interior features marble inlaid floors, marble walls, a central rotunda; columns, consoles and statuary; coffered ceilings; a staircase with cast iron grillwork supporting the handrails; and an abundance of natural woodwork. The courthouse houses dozens of courtrooms, judges' chambers, and offices.

The Cuyahoga County Courthouse is one of several buildings comprising the Group Plan of 1903 designed by Daniel Burnham, John M. CarrΠre and Arnold R. Brunner. Inspired by the 1893 Columbian Exposition and influenced by the City Beautiful movement, this plan was an early example of urban planning and harmonious architecture, with classical buildings of a similar scale, identical masonry, and similar cornice height forming a coordinated group. Though it was the second building completed, the Courthouse was the first designed according to the plan. Its interior was designed by Charles Schweinforth of Cleveland.[23]

Designed and built ten years before the Miami County Courthouse, the Bradford County Courthouse is a cruciform plan, four-story building with exterior walls of native sandstone. The main entrance is through a full height double portico; the portico's second floor features three large arched windows and two small hooded windows separated by pilasters, and a carved pediment featuring olive branches and an anthemion. Atop the courthouse is an octagonal drum with 32 narrow arcaded windows. The

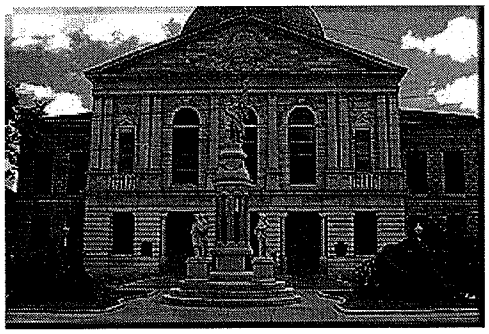

Photo 5 Bradford County Courthouse, Tonawonda, PA

[23] http://planning.city.cleveland.oh.us/landmark/listDetail.php?identity=67; http://www.bluffton.edu/~sullivanm/ohio/cleveland/courthouse/courthouse.html; http://cleveland.about.com/od/architectureandbuildings/ig/Cuyahoga-County-Courthouse/Courthouse---Courtroom.htm. Also, Robert, Keiser, telephone interview with author, 5 July 2007.

interior space reflects a Beaux-Art influence in which monumental effects are achieved in a relatively small building; important elements include a central rotunda; marble floors, columns, consoles and statuary; coffered ceilings; two staircases with cast iron grillwork supporting the handrails; and an abundance of natural oak woodwork. Listed on the National Register in 1987, the courthouse retains a high degree of functional and architectural integrity.

P. H. McCormack and Company

On 5 July 1906, the Miami County Commissioners contracted with P. H. McCormack and Company of Columbus, Indiana, for the construction of the new courthouse. "It was the good fortune of Miami county to have P. H. McCormack, a peer among master workmen, secure the contract for building the new courthouse. "There is no man in the country more capable and thoroughly acquainted with the elements of massive structures than Mr. McCormack," extolled *The Peru Tribune* a week before the laying of the cornerstone.[24]

Born in Limerick, Ireland, in 1842, McCormack settled in Nashville, Tennessee with his parents when he was six years old. There he apprenticed with stone cutters, becoming a master at age 17. He was employed in the construction department of the United States government and engaged in bridge building. The firm for which he was employed transferred its field of operations to Indiana in 1867 and built the bridge over the Ohio River connecting Jeffersonville with Louisville. Upon the completion of this bridge, McCormack entered into business for himself. In 1871, he settled in Columbus, where he became a contractor of prominence. Among his first and most important projects was the Bartholomew County Courthouse. So respected was he that he served two terms as representative in the state legislature and several terms as mayor of Columbus.

McCormack erected many public buildings in states throughout the Mississippi Valley, with most being built in Indiana. Among those attributed to the firm are the following:

Bartholomew County Courthouse, Columbus (1870-74)
Hendricks County Courthouse, Danville (1912-14)[25]
Montgomery County Courthouse, Crawfordsville (1875-76)
Madison County Courthouse, Anderson (1882-85, demolished)
Daviess County Courthouse, Washington (1879, destroyed by fire)
Rush County Courthouse, Rushville (1896-98)

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[24] "P. H. McCormack," *The Peru Republican*, 2 October 1908. Unless noted otherwise, all information about McCormack derives from this article.

[25] Will Counts and John Dilts, *The Magnificent 92 Indiana Courthouses* (Bloomington, IN: Rose Bud Press, 1991): 70.

Rose Polytechnic Institute, Terre Haute
Insane Asylum, Logansport
State Library Building, Bloomington
Jefferson County Prison, Jeffersonville
St. Benedict's Church, Terre Haute
Huntington County Courthouse, Huntington (1904-06)
Elkhart County Courthouse, Goshen (remodel, 1904-06)
Federal Building, Peru (1911-12; demolished)[26]
Pennsylvania Railroad Depot, Fort Wayne[27]
possibly federal building, Wabash[28]
possibly courthouse in Auburn (1911-1914)[29]
Johnson County Jail, Franklin[30]
courthouse at Ann Arbor, Michigan (demolished? or at least replaced)
courthouse at Nashville, Indiana (1873-74)
courthouse at Clarksville, Tennessee
Southern Indiana Hospital for the Insane, Evansville
St. Denis Hotel, Columbus (of which he was owner)
"at least 20 bridges in Johnson and Bartholomew Counties" c.1871-1890

The firm of P. H. McCormack and Company consisted of two members: McCormack and John E. Redmond, also of Columbus. Redmond was a skilled carpenter who began working with McCormack about 1873. The firm was also known as McCormack and Sweeney and McCormack and Son. P. H. McCormack's son is Patrick McCormack.[31]

Summary

The Miami County Courthouse is an outstanding example of Italian Renaissance Revival architecture. Designed by the Cleveland architectural firm of Lehman and Schmitt and constructed between 1906-1910 by P. H. McCormack, a notable contractor from Columbus, Indiana, it has served as the center of county government for nearly 100 years. It is also the center of historic downtown Peru, a north-central Indiana city with a long and rich history in commerce and industry and as the wintering grounds for a number of

[26] *Peru Daily Chronicle*, 10 February 1911. No longer extant, this building was located at the corner of Broadway and Sixth Street.
[27] Ibid.
[28] Ibid. The article notes that McCormack was in the process of preparing an estimate for this building.
[29] Ibid. The article notes that McCormack was in the process of preparing an estimate for this building.
[30] Biographical Record of Bartholomew County, Indiana. (Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen, 1904): page(s) unknown). This is also the source for all listed projects that follow.
[31] Jim Cooper has run across McCormack and Sweeney and Patrick McCormack while doing research on bridges in the Bartholomew County commissioners' records of the late 1870s. McCormack was involved with erecting both sub- and superstructures. Email to the author, 23 May 2007.

America's largest circuses. For these reasons, the Miami County Commissioners, Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, are seeking its inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

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Note: All websites were accessed on 24 September 2007, with the exception of one last accessed on the date in parenthesis. Where vague, website subjects are in brackets.

http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/cac/ms0732.html [Navy Mothers Clubs of America]

http://www.bluffton.edu/~sullivanm/ohio/cleveland/courthouse/courthouse.html [Cuyahoga County Courthouse]

http://cleveland.about.com/od/architectureandbuildings/ig/Cuyahoga-County-Courthouse/Courthouse---Courtroom.htm

http://doughboy_lamp.tripod.com/earlspages/

http://explorepahistory.com/attraction.php?id=7020 [Bradford County Courthouse]

Gardner, Karen. "The History Behind the Doughboy."
http://www.emmitsburg.net/archive
[25 May 2007]

Lehman and Schmitt entry in *The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History* at
http://planning.city.cleveland.oh.us/landmark/listDetail.php?identity=67

http://troop101.thescouts.com/liberty/ [Lady Liberty]

http://www.unionmetal.com/history/index.asp [street lamps]

wikipedia.com [Doughboy, Lady Liberty]

Verbal Boundary Description

Public Square, original plat, Peru, Indiana, defined by the north curb of Main Street, west curb of Court Street, south curb of Fifth Street, and east curb of Broadway Street.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Miami County Courthouse.