

**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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name Perry County Courthouse

Other names/site number N/A

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

## 2. Location

Street & number 15 West Sainte Marie Street N/A not for publication

City or town Perryville N/A vicinity

State Missouri Code MO County Perry Code 157 Zip code 63775

## 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 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:  A  B  C  D

Toni M. Prawl 03/28/2016  
Signature of certifying official/Title Toni M. Prawl, Ph.D., Deputy SHPO Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

Perry County Courthouse  
Name of Property

Perry County, Missouri  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
1		buildings
		sites
	1	structures
3	2	objects
4	3	<b>Total</b>

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT/Courthouse

GOVERNMENT/Courthouse

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian/ Romanesque Revival

foundation: Limestone

walls: Brick

roof: Asphalt Shingle

other: Concrete

Iron

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES**

Perry County Courthouse  
Name of Property

Perry County, Missouri  
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 contribution 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES**

**Areas of Significance**

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1904-1965

**Significant Dates**

1904

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Gaddis, John W.

Caldwell & Drake

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

**Perry County Historical Research Library**

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

Perry County Courthouse  
Name of Property

Perry County, Missouri  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 1.2 acres

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 37.72532 -89.86305 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

\_\_\_\_\_ NAD 1927 or \_\_\_\_\_ NAD 1983

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (On continuation sheet)

**Boundary Justification** (On continuation sheet)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Trish Erzfeld (Perry County) and Rachel Barnhart (Missouri State Historic Preservation Office)

organization Perry County date August 2015; Oct. 2015; March 2016

street & number 321 N. Main Street, Ste. 2 telephone (573) 547-4242; (573) 522-2473

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Photographs**
- **Owner Name and Contact Information**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Perry County Courthouse

Name of Property

Perry County, Missouri

County and State

## Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## Photo Log:

Name of Property: Perry County Courthouse

City or Vicinity: Perryville

County: Perry State: Missouri

Photographer: Trish Erzfeld

Date

Photographed: May 2015, October 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 19:** Camera pointing west at east elevation of courthouse
- 2 of 19:** Camera pointing south at north elevation of courthouse; Civil War monument visible
- 3 of 19:** Camera pointing south at exterior porch with native limestone of brush-hammered face and wash and galvanized iron balusters
- 4 of 19:** Camera pointing west at foundation of native limestone
- 5 of 19:** Camera pointing up at north exterior porch ceiling showing original tin
- 6 of 19:** Camera pointing east at original newel post located on the main floor of the courthouse
- 7 of 19:** Camera pointing west at floor tile on the main floor of the courthouse
- 8 of 19:** Camera pointing west at original vault doors in Recorder of Deeds office
- 9 of 19:** Camera pointing southeast at original moldings on the main floor of the courthouse
- 10 of 19:** Camera pointing east and down through the second story light well to the main floor of the courthouse
- 11 of 19:** Camera pointing west and up from the second floor to the dome inside the courthouse rotunda
- 12 of 19:** Camera pointing east from attic windows to merchants located on the square
- 13 of 19:** Camera pointing northeast from clock and bell tower
- 14 of 19:** Camera pointing southwest at original bell in tower of the courthouse
- 15 of 19:** Camera pointing up into the cupula of the tower
- 16 of 19:** Camera pointing up into the tower showing two of the four clock faces and the timing mechanics
- 17 of 19:** Camera pointing east at west elevation of courthouse
- 18 of 19:** Camera pointing north at south elevation of courthouse
- 19 of 19:** Camera pointing south at north elevation of courthouse; Perry County War Memorial visible

## Figure Log:

Include figures on continuation pages at the end of the nomination.

**Figure 1.** Site plan with contributing (C) and non-contributing (NC) resources noted. The square is bounded by West Sainte Marie Street on the north, Main Street on the east, West St. Joseph Street on the south, and North Jackson Street on the west.

**Figure 2.** Missouri territory in 1819 (left) and Missouri at statehood in 1821 (right).

**Figure 3.** Perry County, Missouri, and incorporated Perryville highlighted in red.

**Figure 4.** Contextual map of Perryville, Missouri. Location of courthouse marked with a star.

**Figure 5.** 1983 charts showing Missouri county seats configured in the Shelbyville square plan.

Perry County Courthouse

Name of Property

Perry County, Missouri

County and State

**Figure 6.** 1904 Perry County Courthouse Plans by J.W. Gaddis, South Elevation.

**Figure 7.** 1904 Perry County Courthouse Plans by J.W. Gaddis, Detail Sheet No. 1, Exterior Work.

**Figure 8.** 1904 Perry County Courthouse Plans by J.W. Gaddis, First Floor Layout.

**Figure 9.** 1977 Perry County Courthouse Plans by Southeast Missouri Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission, First Floor Layout.

**Figure 10.** 1977 Perry County Courthouse Plans by Southeast Missouri Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission, Second Floor Layout.

**Figure 11.** 1992 Perry County Courthouse Plans by Ross & Baruzzini, Inc., First Floor Layout. These plans accurately convey the current interior layout.

**Figure 12.** 1992 Perry County Courthouse Plans by Ross & Baruzzini, Inc., Second Floor Layout. These plans accurately convey the current interior layout.

**Figure 13.** Perry County region in 1857.

**Figure 14.** The second Perry County Courthouse, constructed in 1859, is visible in this photograph dated June 1901. The foundation of the nominated courthouse is also visible.

**Figure 15.** Laying the cornerstone of the Perry County Courthouse, 1904

**Figure 16.** Laying the cornerstone of the Perry County Courthouse, June 1904.

**Figure 17.** The 1904 Perry County Courthouse next to the 1859 courthouse in the central square of Perryville.

**Figure 18.** 1911 Sanborn map of downtown Perryville.

**Figure 19.** 1915 Plat Map of Perryville.

**Figure 20.** Photo key.

**Figure 21.** Photograph showing north and east elevations of the courthouse. Jim Froemsdorf memorial (NC object) visible in foreground, Union Soldier monument (C object) visible in background.

**Figure 22.** Photograph showing west lawn and elevation of the courthouse. King's Highway marker (C object) visible in foreground, Capt. Raymond Littge memorial (C object) visible in background.

**Figure 23.** Photograph showing west bay of north elevation of courthouse.

**Figure 24.** Modern gazebo at the southeast corner of the courthouse square.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property Perry County, Missouri
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**Summary**

The Perry County Courthouse, located at 15 West Sainte Marie Street in Perryville, Perry County, Missouri was designed in 1904 by architect John W. Gaddis and constructed by Caldwell & Drake. The two-and-one-half story red brick Romanesque Revival style courthouse sits at the center of a one-block raised grass lawn public square within the historic commercial downtown of Perryville. Concrete pedestrian paths lead from the public sidewalk that bounds the square to a centered entrance on each elevation. A non-contributing wood gazebo sits at the southeast corner of the square, and several stone memorials dot the north quadrants of the lawn. In total, there is one contributing building (the courthouse), and three contributing objects: a King's Highway granite marker (1917), a Civil War Union Soldier monument (1923), and a memorial stone to Captain Raymond Littge of the United States Air Force (mid-20<sup>th</sup> century). There is one non-contributing structure (gazebo) and two non-contributing objects, a Perry County War memorial and a memorial stone to Jim Froemsdorf of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. All non-contributing resources were constructed within the past fifty years. The rectangular courthouse has a native limestone foundation and a hipped roof with a centered cross-gable wing on each elevation. The entrance on each elevation is sheltered by a portico supported with Tuscan columns. A prominent bell and clock tower rises from the center of the roof. The first two floors have tall rectangular multi-light windows with flat arch lintel moldings. The upper half-story has Roman arched windows set within the central cross-gables. The wider north and south elevations have a gabled dormer on each side of the cross-gable. Two Roman arched windows are set within each dormer. The eaves of the gables and dormers are clad with asbestos shingles. The courthouse's exterior design remains largely unchanged. Historic balustrades denoting second-floor balconies, set on top of each first-floor portico, have been removed. The first floor interior layout was altered in 1966 and 1977 to create additional rooms and update plumbing, heating, and air conditioning. An elevator was installed in 1987. The Perry County Courthouse retains integrity of design, materials, location, setting, feeling, and association, and conveys local significance in the areas of Architecture and Politics/Government.

**Elaboration**

Setting:

Perry County, Missouri is located in the southeastern area of the state, with the Mississippi River forming the county's eastern border and the border between Missouri and Illinois (Figure 3). Ste. Genevieve County is to the north, St. Francois and Madison Counties are to the west, and Bollinger and Cape Girardeau Counties are to the south. The Perry County Courthouse is located in the historic commercial downtown area of Perryville, the county seat. Perryville is centrally

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

located in Perry County and in 2014 had a population of approximately 8,400.<sup>1</sup> State Highway 61 is about .4 miles to the east and Interstate Highway 55 is about 2 miles to the west (Figure 4).

The Perry County Courthouse sits at the center of a 1.2-acre green lawn, forming a public square that rises slightly above the surrounding streetscape. The courthouse and the lawn are within the National Register boundary. Historic one-part and two-part commercial block buildings are on the streets surrounding the square. The public square (230 feet long on each side) is bound by West Sainte Marie Street to the north, Main Street to the east, West St. Joseph Street to the south, and Jackson Street to the west (Figure 1). Concrete public sidewalks, streetlamps, and diagonal parking spots line the perimeter of the square. On each side of the square, a set of concrete steps and a concrete pedestrian path extend from the sidewalk to the entrance on each elevation (Photo 1). Deciduous trees dot the lawn on the south, east and west sides of the courthouse, while the north edge of the lawn is landscaped with a continuous row of deciduous trees. The north lawn of the courthouse has several memorial objects typically seen in courthouse square settings. These are described as follows.

**King’s Highway (El Camino Real) Marker, 1917 - contributing object**

*Figures 1, 22*

This red granite marker faces northwest and was erected in 1917 in the northwest quadrant of the public square by the Missouri Daughters of the American Revolution. This approximately 5-foot-tall marker notes the location of the former King’s Highway, also known as El Camino Real, which ran through Perryville on a route from New Madrid, Missouri, to St. Louis.

**Capt. Raymond Littge Memorial, mid-20<sup>th</sup> century – contributing object**

*Figures 1, 22*

This seven-foot-tall rectangular smooth granite memorial faces northwest and is located south of the King’s Highway Marker in the northwest quadrant of the public square. It memorializes Captain Raymond Littge of the United States Air Force, who died in service in 1949. It is estimated to have been placed on the square in the mid-twentieth century.

**Perry County War Memorial – non-contributing object**

*Photograph 19; Figure 1*

This memorial faces north and is located to the east of the Littge memorial in the northwest quadrant of the public square. It features five smooth granite markers ranging from 10 to 15 feet tall, all set on a concrete patio with two flagpoles and two granite benches. The memorial is dedicated to citizens of Perry County who died in service during WWI, WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Due to its recent construction, the memorial is classified as a non-contributing object.

<sup>1</sup> “QuickFacts Perryville city, Missouri,” United States Census Bureau, accessed March 24, 2016, <http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/PST045215/2957116>.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property Perry County, Missouri
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**Union Soldier Monument, 1923 – contributing object**

*Photograph 2; Figure 1, 21*

This ten-foot-tall granite monument faces north as is located in front of the north entrance to the courthouse. The base of the monument features text dedicating it in memory of Perry County's Union soldiers of the Civil War; a sculpture of a Union soldier sits on top of the monument. It was placed on the square in 1923 by the Sons of Veterans and Auxiliary.

**Jim Froemsdorf Memorial, c. 1986 – non-contributing object**

*Figures 1, 21*

This red granite marker faces north and is placed in the northeast quadrant of the public square. The rough-cut edges of the marker frame its smooth front which features text dedicating it in recognition of Jim Froemsdorf of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, who died in service in 1985. It is estimated to have been placed on the courthouse lawn in the late 1980s and thus is classified as non-contributing.

**Wood gazebo – non-contributing structure**

*Figures 1, 24*

This non-contributing octagonal wood gazebo is of recent construction and is located at the southeast corner of the courthouse square on a concrete base.

**Perry County Courthouse, 1904 – contributing building**

The Romanesque Revival style Perry County Courthouse is a dignified two-and-one-half story red brick building with a rectangular footprint, a full basement, and a central clock and bell tower that rises from a hipped roof (Figure 6-7). The north and south elevations, at about 92 feet in length, are slightly longer than the 65-foot-long east and west elevations. The courthouse has a native limestone foundation with bush-hammered facing and red brick walls that are two wythes thick on the elevations and three wythes thick on the tower (Photo 4). All elevations are symmetrical and feature a slightly projecting two-story centered cross-gable with a one-story portico with Tuscan columns that shelters the entrance (Figure 6). The interior roofs of the porticos are clad with historic tin panels (Photo 5). All entrances remain open except for the south entrance, which was sealed in 1992 to accommodate interior alterations (Photo 18).

The central tower is square-shaped with a pyramidal roof (Photo 1, 15). Each side of the tower features paired 1/1 windows with a limestone lintel course topped with a Roman-arched opening with a wood balustrade and prominent central keystone. The corners of the tower are articulated with rectangular brick posts that terminate with pyramid-shaped finals clad with aluminum. The pyramidal roof of the belfry features an aluminum-clad projecting gable on each side. The peaks are topped with delicate finials, and under the eave of each gable is an operating clock face with Roman numerals. The windows of the tower were installed in 1973, and the clock faces, purchased from I.T. Verdin, were replaced in 1985. Once clad with galvanized iron, the belfry

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property Perry County, Missouri
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

was re-clad with aluminum in 2005. The large galvanized finial that once topped the belfry and the original bell are still stored inside the tower (Photo 14).

North Elevation:

The north elevation of the Perry County Courthouse functions as the primary façade, and as further indication, the lawn in front of the elevation has been decorated with various memorials (Photo 19). The symmetrical façade is divided into five bays. The outermost and central bays extend slightly forward. The basement level is partially visible, and window openings are filled with glass block. A stone water table tops the basement level. From left to right, the first and fifth bays each have two tall rectangular windows with four lights on the first and second stories. The second and fourth bays have one window on the first and second stories. The windows feature a continuous stone sill course with brick dentils, and individual flat-arched painted stone lintels (Figure 23). The central (third) bay is characterized by a two-story cross gable. Modern, aluminum paired doors with aluminum and glass sidelights and transom comprise the entrance. A one-story, flat-roof portico set on four limestone piers shelters the entrance. Stone lattice knee-walls topped with stone balustrades bridge the space between the piers (Photo 3). Each pier is topped with a stone Tuscan column. The roof of the portico on each elevation was once enclosed with decorative iron knee-walls to form a balcony; this feature has since been removed on all of them. The second story of the third bay has three windows with a shared flat-arch stone window hood. The upper half-story features three Roman-arched windows with a stone lintel and sill course. The gable cornice is articulated with metal coping and a metal finial. The eave is clad with asbestos fishscale shingles. The upper half-story of the outer (first and fifth) bays feature a projecting gabled dormer. Each dormer contains two Roman-arched windows with stone lintel and sill courses. The gable of each dormer features metal coping, a metal finial, and asbestos shingles, mimicking the central cross-gable on a smaller scale.

East Elevation:

The east and west elevations are shorter than the north and south elevations (Photo 1). A modern accessibility ramp wraps the southeast corner of the building. The east elevation has three bays. The outer bays contain two windows on the first and second stories. The central cross-gabled bay projects slightly forward. The entrance is comprised of paired aluminum and glass doors with glass sidelights and transoms. The portico on the east and west entrances are also slightly smaller than those on the north and south entrances. The flat-roofed portico is set on two stone piers topped with stone Tuscan columns. The entrance is flanked by single windows on the first story. The second story of the central bay features a set of paired windows with a shared stone flat-arched window hood over the entrance, flanked by single windows. The upper half story has two Roman-arched windows; these are modern replacements from the 1990s. The gable cornice is articulated with metal coping and a metal finial, and the gable eave is clad with asbestos shingles.

South Elevation:

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The design, cladding and fenestration of the south elevation is identical to the north (Photo 18, Figure 2). The primary difference is that the entrance on the south elevation was closed in the 1990s to accommodate interior alterations. The modern paired aluminum and glass doors, transoms, and sidelights are still visible. A brick chimney rises from the building between the fourth and fifth (from left to right) bays. An accessibility ramp is located at the southeast corner of the building. The ramp leads to an entrance in the basement of the building.

West Elevation:

The west elevation is identical to the east elevation (Photo 17). The cornerstone is visible at the northwest corner of the building.

Interior:

The courthouse interior can be accessed via entrances on the north, east, and west elevations. An accessibility ramp on the south elevation leads to a basement entrance. Corridors from the north, east, and west first-floor entrances lead to the center of the building and meet under a twelve-foot square light well (Figures 8-12, Photos 9-11). The interior floors are historic green and white hexagonal tiles, and the plaster walls are painted white (Photo 7). Several historic decorative plaster moldings from the Decorators Supply Company in Chicago are extant throughout (Photo 9). Historic stairs with an original newel post leading up to the second floor and down to the basement are located within the vestibule of the east entrance (Photo 6). An elevator, located just beyond the stairs, was installed in 1987. The layout of the first floor was altered in 1992 to accommodate additional offices (see Figure 11). The southeast quadrant of the first floor contains the Office of the Circuit Clerk. Inside this office hangs an original clock bought for the building when it was furnished in 1904. The first floor also contains the Office of the Associate Circuit Court, private judge's chambers, a private client consultation room, and file storage space. The southwest quadrant of the first floor houses the courtroom, and the northwest section contains the Office of the Recorder of Deeds. The Recorder of Deeds office has a walk-in steel vault that houses county, military, land, and marriage records (Photo 8). Another historic set of stairs is located in the north entrance vestibule.

The basement of the courthouse contains public men's and women's restrooms in the eastern section. The rest of the basement is divided into rooms which once housed various offices but are now used primarily for file storage. The courthouse foundation is visible in a 21' by 13' vault used for storing private records. In the early 1960s the heating system for the courthouse was converted from coal to a boiler. In the late 1960s, air conditioning and electric heating was installed.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property Perry County, Missouri
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The southeast section of the second floor contains the Office of the County Public Administrator a library (Figures 10,12). The second floor also has a courtroom and public seating space in the central corridor around the light well (Photos 10-11). This courtroom has served as the primary courtroom since the courthouse was constructed. The upper half-story contains the courthouse attic and bell and clock tower (Photos 12-13). The unfinished attic is used for storage, including that of the original clock works and the metal finial that crowned the tower. A set of wooden stairs leads up into the tower. The platform where the bell was once installed is extant; the bell itself is stored in the attic. A ladder is used to access the belfry that houses the clock works, replaced in 1985 (Photo 16).

Integrity:

The Perry County Courthouse retains integrity and conveys significance in the areas of architecture and politics. The historic setting and location of the courthouse is intact; it remains in the center of a one-block public square. The square is flanked on all sides by historic one- and two-story commercial block buildings; this communicates the historic feeling of a courthouse square within a small-town business district. Memorial objects have been installed on the north side of the lawn throughout the twentieth century, as is common in courthouse square settings. Three of these objects (a red granite King's Highway marker, a Civil War Union Soldier monument, and a granite memorial to Captain Littge of the United States Air Force) are contributing resources, as they were built during the period of significance and underscore the courthouse's significance as a political symbol. A modern gazebo built at the southeast corner of the square is a non-contributing structure that does not detract from the historic setting because it is comparatively small in size. The Perry County War Memorial and the Jim Froemsdorf memorial on the north lawn of the square are also non-contributing because they are less than fifty years old. Their presence on the square is in keeping with the traditional use of courthouse squares to memorialize persons and events important to the community. The historic exterior design of the courthouse is largely maintained and there are no exterior additions. The windows and entrance doors have been replaced, but these alterations are compatible with the historic design and do not negate integrity. The interior layout has also been altered to accommodate modern HVAC and accessibility needs as the court system and county duties expanded. The current layout does not differ extremely from the historic layout, and the interior still conveys the political significance of the building. Historic workmanship is evident in the Romanesque Revival style traits of the building as a whole. Integrity of association is extremely strong; the Perry County Courthouse has served as the building from which the local government has operated since 1904.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**Summary**

The Perry County Courthouse, located at 15 West Sainte Marie Street in Perryville, Perry County, Missouri, is significant at the local level under Criterion A for its role as the primary center of politics and government within the county, and under Criterion C in the area of architecture. The two-and-one-half story red brick Romanesque Revival-style courthouse was built in 1904 in the center of a courthouse square in Perryville, the county seat. Since its construction, the Perry County Courthouse has served as the base from which the functions and services of the county's local government and judicial system have been carried out. It is the oldest existing symbol of political power and law in Perry County. Perry County was legally formed on November 16, 1820 and Perryville (located in the central area of the county) was developed as the county seat in 1822. Throughout its continued use as a center of local government, the courthouse has contained courtrooms, judge's chambers, fireproof vaults for storing county records, and offices in which local officials can carry out assigned duties. The courthouse interior's layout was somewhat altered in 1987 to enhance accessibility, and again in 1992 to accommodate an office expansion for the growth of the county court system. Designed by architect J.W. Gaddis, the nominated courthouse is prominently situated at the center of a public square within the historic commercial business district of Perryville and is a significant local example of the Romanesque Revival style. Its red brick walls, heavy limestone foundation, cross-gables articulated with metal coping and decorative finials, entrance porticos with Tuscan columns, Roman-arched window openings, and prominent central bell and clock tower express the characteristics of the Romanesque Revival style. The National Register boundary includes the courthouse and the 230' by 230' square in which it is located. Five memorial objects are located on the north side of the square's lawn. Three of these (a King's Highway marker, a Union Soldier monument, and a memorial to an Air Force pilot) are contributing objects, designed and placed on the courthouse lawn within the period of significance. They support the significance of the Perry County Courthouse as a center of local government and a symbol of democracy. They also reflect the shared cultural perception of the courthouse square as a place of community in which historical events are memorialized. The other two memorial objects are less than fifty years old and thus are non-contributing; there is also non-historic wood gazebo in the southeast corner of the square that is a non-contributing structure. The period of significance of the Perry County Courthouse begins in 1904 with the building's construction and ends in 1965, the 50-year closing date in which activities begun historically continue to be important, but no more specific date to end the historic period can be defined. The Perry County Courthouse retains integrity and aptly communicates its political and architectural significance.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**Elaboration**

*Historical Background and Political Significance*

Early accounts of white settlement in the Perry County area describe pioneers arriving in 1794 from Pennsylvania and Kentucky.<sup>2</sup> On November 16, 1820, almost thirty years after this early wave of white settlers arrived, Perry County, Missouri, was legally formed by the legislature.<sup>3</sup> The county was named after Oliver Hazard Perry, a United States naval commander recognized for his service in the War of 1812. When Missouri became a state on August 10, 1821, Perry County was one of twenty-five recognized counties.<sup>4</sup> (Figure 2). Missouri's first state constitution implemented rules regarding counties; justices of the peace had to be appointed, a sheriff and coroner had to be elected, and an "inferior tribunal," also known as a county court, had to be established.<sup>5</sup> The county courts were legally authorized to transact county business, appoint minor county officials, and implement probate matters; thus, they operated as administrative arms of the state.<sup>6</sup>

Perry County's county court was organized on May 21, 1821, in the log cabin of settler Bede Moore, located about 2.5 miles north of modern-day Perryville.<sup>7</sup> Within Moore's cabin, three judges of the court were assigned: Louis Cissell, D.L. Caldwell, and Samuel Anderson. Cornelius N. Slattery was designated the first clerk of the court, Robert T. Brown was the first sheriff, and Joseph Tucker was the appointed assessor.<sup>8</sup> The men created three townships, named Bois Brule, Brazeau, and Cinque Homme.<sup>9</sup> Missouri's first state constitution also created a supreme court and assigned jurisdiction over civil and criminal cases to circuit courts.<sup>10</sup> The circuit court of Perry County was organized on June 4, 1821.<sup>11</sup> The court's first case occurred that year, in which Judge Barnabas Burnes charged James Parker with passing counterfeit bank notes.<sup>12</sup>

County commissioners, which included Sheriff Brown, Assessor Tucker, and a settler named Thomas Riney, were tasked with locating a county seat.<sup>13</sup> In 1822, the commissioners chose a

<sup>2</sup> *A Modern Eden: A History of Perry County, Missouri* (Perryville, Missouri: Republican Print, 1895), 2.

<sup>3</sup> David W. Eaton, *How Missouri Counties, Towns and Streams Were Named* (Columbia, Missouri: The State Historical Society, 1916), 338; Robert Sidney Douglass, *History of Southeast Missouri* (Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1912), 170.

<sup>4</sup> Marian Ohman, *A History of Missouri's Counties, County Seats, and Courthouse Squares* (Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri-Columbia Extension Division, 1983), 5.

<sup>5</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri's Counties*, 6.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid*, 6.

<sup>7</sup> Douglass, *History of Southeast Missouri*, 170.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid*, 170.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid*, 170.

<sup>10</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri's Counties*, 6.

<sup>11</sup> Douglass, *History of Southeast Missouri*, 170.

<sup>12</sup> Perry County Circuit Court Records, *State vs. James Parker*, 1821. Case file No. 1.

<sup>13</sup> Douglass, *History of Southeast Missouri*, 170, 270.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

centrally-located, 51-acre tract of land donated by Bernard Layton.<sup>14</sup> While the donation of land was certainly a factor in the commissioners' decision, the land was also centrally located within Perry County, and a centrally-located county seat was a stipulation within the 1820 legislative act that enabled the creation of the county (Figure 13).<sup>15</sup> The commissioners named the newly-chosen county seat Perryville.

Perryville was surveyed and platted by William McLane, and fifty-three town lots were sold at public auction to encourage settlement and to raise the funds for the construction of a courthouse.<sup>16</sup> As is common when a county seat is established in a newly-formed location (rather than integrated into an existing village) Perryville was platted into a grid plan with a one-block central square reserved for a courthouse.<sup>17</sup> A log jail was erected on the courthouse square immediately, designating the physical space as a center of law.<sup>18</sup> The courts had to meet in rented rooms until Perry County's first courthouse was built in August of 1826.<sup>19</sup> The courthouse, constructed by Thomas Hayden, was a two-story log building and cost \$1,486.25 to erect.<sup>20</sup> Now from an established public building, the appointed Perry County officials and courts could exert control over local matters, enforce the law, and provide a framework for citizens to engage in legal procedures.

The concept of a county was brought to the American colonies by English settlers, as exhibited in the division of the Virginia colony in 1634 into six counties.<sup>21</sup> Especially in the middle and southern colonies, Colonial-era settlers accepted the establishment of counties as a viable form of government particularly well-suited for rural areas with scattered populations. The 1803 Louisiana Purchase by the United States opened up a large western frontier for settlement. As American pioneer families (predominantly from Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia) and European immigrants made their way into the frontier, the county government was implemented as a way to subdivide land into defined political and geographical units.<sup>22</sup> Cultural geographer Milton Newton argues that the white pioneer settlers of the frontier derived a sense of security and control through the establishment of a county government, which was typically comprised of fellow prominent white male settlers.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Ibid, 270.

<sup>15</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri's Counties*, 19.

<sup>16</sup> Douglass, *History of Southeast Missouri*, 270.

<sup>17</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri's Counties*, 28.

<sup>18</sup> Douglass, *History of Southeast Missouri*, 170.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid, 170; *A Modern Eden*, 4.

<sup>20</sup> Marian M. Ohman, *Encyclopedia of Missouri Courthouses* (Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri-Columbia Extension Division, 1981), np.

<sup>21</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri's Counties*, 1.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid, 1-2.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid, 12.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The formation of Perry County reflects these historical events of frontier settlement and the implementation of county government as a way to apply order to both the geographic composition of the land and to the lives of the multitude of arriving settlers. In 1830, four years after the construction of Perry County's first courthouse, the county population was recorded as 3,349.<sup>24</sup> In the following decade, waves of French Catholic and German Lutheran immigrants settled in Perry County, increasing the population to 5,769 in 1840.<sup>25</sup> In 1860, the population had risen to 9,128<sup>26</sup>; it can be inferred that, in response to the increasing arrival of settlers, Perry County's local officials and courts had an increasing number of responsibilities to the public and legal decisions to make. By 1859, a new, larger courthouse was needed.

Perry County's second courthouse was constructed in the public square in 1859 for \$8,000, under the supervision of John R. Layton (Figure 14).<sup>27</sup> The new brick courthouse was a two-story rectangular temple-front building with a gabled roof, tall rectangular windows, and brick pilasters rising up to a dentiled pediment.<sup>28</sup> By this time, one- and two-story commercial businesses were located on the opposite side of the streets bounding the courthouse square; these businesses faced inward towards the courthouse, reinforcing its visual prominence. During the Civil War, through which Perryville suffered considerably less damage than neighboring counties, the town had a population of about 300 and had sixty businesses, including banks, hotels, general stores, and mills.<sup>29</sup> Perryville's population increased to over 500 by 1870 and to 754 in 1880.<sup>30</sup>

As the city grew, Perry County's local government and court system served the citizens in various ways, including deciding criminal cases, issuing important documentation, and settling civil disputes. In 1863, John May was found guilty of treason for having "taken up arms and levied war against the provisional government of Missouri."<sup>31</sup> The county issued Civil War discharge certificates in 1865; these records are currently housed in the nominated courthouse. In 1867, Charles A. Weber, as the Judge of Probate for Perry County, issued land patents.<sup>32</sup> In 1870, the county courts ordered compensation for labor on the Sabbath day, payable to John Christian Shrader for cutting wheat and to Frederic Ditrich for hauling hay.<sup>33</sup> Litigation, issuance of land patents, war discharge certificates, and orders for compensation are just a few examples of the powers bestowed to the county government and judicial system to govern the citizens of Perry County.

<sup>24</sup> *A Modern Eden*, 3.

<sup>25</sup> Carlene Rauh, *St. Mary's of the Barrens Historic District*, National Register of Historic Places nomination (Missouri State Historic Preservation Office, 1993), 7-3; *A Modern Eden*, 3.

<sup>26</sup> *A Modern Eden*, 3.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid*, 4.

<sup>28</sup> Ohman, *Encyclopedia of Missouri Courthouses*, np.

<sup>29</sup> Douglass, *History of Southeast Missouri*, 270.

<sup>30</sup> "City History," City of Perryville, accessed January 7, 2015, <http://www.cityofperryville.com/index.aspx?nid=429>

<sup>31</sup> Perry County Circuit Court Records, *State vs. John May*, 1863. Case file No. 1,846.

<sup>32</sup> Perry County Circuit Court Records, Land Patent Certificates, 1867.

<sup>33</sup> Perry County Circuit Court Records, Bill of Labor document, 1870.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property Perry County, Missouri
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Between 1860 and 1900, the population of Perry County increased by slightly more than 6,000 residents, bringing the total population up to 15,134.<sup>34</sup> Grand jury reports in 1900 indicated that the 1859 courthouse was beyond repair.<sup>35</sup> It can be reasonably assumed that the county government was in need of a larger building from which to operate. Within the latter half of the 1800s, courthouse plans in general grew larger, reflecting the need for specific rooms to accommodate the growing list of defined county officials fulfilling the expanding duties of county government.<sup>36</sup> In September 1903, Perry County voters approved a \$30,000 bond issue to finance the construction of a new courthouse to replace the 1859 courthouse.<sup>37</sup> The county solicited architectural proposals, and eventually chose the design of J.W. Gaddis, an architect from Vincennes, Indiana.<sup>38</sup> Caldwell & Drake of Columbus, Indiana, were hired to construct the new building. Construction began promptly in February of 1904. On June 4, 1904, many citizens of Perry County attended the laying of the courthouse cornerstone (Figures 15-16). The governing officials and courts of Perry County moved into the new courthouse on November 17, 1904. The total cost of the red brick Romanesque Revival-style building was \$31,819.00.<sup>39</sup> The 1859 courthouse stood in the shadow of the new landmark for a short time; by 1911, it was demolished (Figures 17-18). The courthouse's location within a public square at the center of the commercial downtown ensured it a prominent status in Perryville's built environment (Figure 19). This visual and symbolic prominence has been maintained in the 111 years since the courthouse was constructed. It has continually served as the center of Perry County's government and court system since 1904, and due to its location, size, function, and high style, has continued to be a significant architectural example in Perryville's built environment.

Government officials that have worked in the Perry County Courthouse throughout the twentieth century include county court judges, probate judges, county and circuit clerks, magistrates, sheriffs, assessors, treasurers, collectors of revenue, auditors, coroners, surveyors, recorders of deeds, superintendents of schools, county health nurses, highway engineers, and prosecuting attorneys.<sup>40</sup> In the twentieth century, Missouri county courts evolved into administrative and supervisory legal bodies, and came to be classified under terms like "county board of commissioners" or "county board of supervisors."<sup>41</sup> As a political unit of the state, Perry County Courthouse officials provided citizens with various services, including law enforcement, construction and maintenance of roads, health and welfare services, the recording and retention of legal documents, and fulfilled judicial functions through the court system. Since 1904, Perry County's citizens have visited the nominated courthouse to request, receive, and engage in these

<sup>34</sup> *A Modern Eden*, 3.

<sup>35</sup> Why the 1859 courthouse was "beyond repair" is unknown; Ohman, *Encyclopedia of Missouri Courthouses*, np.

<sup>36</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri's Counties*, 44.

<sup>37</sup> Ohman, *Encyclopedia of Missouri Courthouses*, np.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid*, np.

<sup>39</sup> *Ibid*, np.

<sup>40</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri's Counties*, 14, 44.

<sup>41</sup> *Ibid*, 13.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

services and functions, making the courthouse the most important symbol of the political system in the county.

Within commonly shared spaces such as a courthouse square, it is typical for citizens to erect memorials that pay tribute to various aspects of history important to the community. The act of designating a memorial on ground that is charged with political symbolism is a reflection of the political significance of the courthouse itself. On the Perry County Courthouse square, there are three historical monuments that contribute to the political significance of the courthouse. The oldest is a red granite marker erected in 1917 by the Missouri Daughters of the American Revolution to mark the location of the King's Highway, a route that traveled from New Madrid, Missouri, through Perryville and onward to St. Louis. The next is a 1923 Union Soldier monument, placed on the courthouse grounds by the Sons of Veterans and Auxiliary. The third contributing object is a tall granite marker placed in the mid-twentieth century that memorializes Captain Raymond Littge of the United States Air Force, who died in service in 1949. Littge was born in Perry County in 1923.<sup>42</sup> Within the past fifty years, citizens of Perry County have continued to interpret the courthouse grounds as a shared space in which to commemorate history, as additional memorials have been placed on the grounds.

*Architectural Significance*

When the Perry County Courthouse was constructed in 1904, the Romanesque Revival style was well-represented in the aesthetic designs of large buildings (commonly churches, rail terminals, courthouses, and libraries) across the country.<sup>43</sup> The Romanesque Revival style gained favor in the United States in the late Victorian era. Influenced by the architecture of the Romans, the style employed semi-circular round arched openings, rough-cut masonry, flat lintels, a steeply-pitched hipped roof, cross gables, decorative roof coping and finials, and a tall cylindrical or pyramidal tower.<sup>44</sup> The combination of these characteristics imparted a sense of massiveness that architects found appropriate for public buildings. In particular, the designs of architect Henry Hobson Richardson initiated the spread of the style in the United States. Richardson's 1884 design for the Allegheny County Courthouse in Pennsylvania is credited with inspiring similar Romanesque designs for courthouses across the nation.<sup>45</sup>

In Missouri, the Romanesque Revival style was particularly popular from the 1890s into the first decade of the 1900s.<sup>46</sup> From 1889 to 1906, Romanesque Revival-style features were used in

<sup>42</sup> "Raymond H. Littge," Veteran Tributes, last modified 2010, accessed January 11, 2016, <http://veterantributes.org/TributeDetail.php?recordID=659>.

<sup>43</sup> Cyril M. Harris, *American Architecture: An Illustrated Encyclopedia* (New York City: W.W. Norton & Company, 1998), 276.

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid*, 276-277.

<sup>45</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri's Counties*, 72.

<sup>46</sup> Ohman, *Encyclopedia of Missouri Courthouses*, 1.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

seventeen of the thirty-three Missouri county courthouses built in that time frame.<sup>47</sup> When Perry County Courthouse architect J.W. Gaddis designed the building in 1904, his use of the Romanesque Revival style for the courthouse was a reflection of the nation's perception of the style as appropriate for public buildings. Gaddis' work as an architect focused mainly on the planning and design of courthouses and public buildings.<sup>48</sup> After graduating from the Illinois School of Architecture, Gaddis moved to Vincennes, Indiana and established a practice. His practice was located within a bank, which he designed in the central area of Vincennes. The 1904 courthouse in Perry County, Missouri, is one of the earlier courthouse commissions of Gaddis' career. In 1891, Gaddis designed a courthouse with a tall clock tower in Wayne County, Illinois.<sup>49</sup> In 1898, Gaddis then designed a Richardsonian Romanesque red brick courthouse, also with an imposing clock tower, in Crawford County, Illinois.<sup>50</sup> His 1904 design for the Perry County Courthouse in Missouri imparted a more restrained example of Romanesque Revival. One year later, in 1905, Gaddis had strayed from the Romanesque Revival style and designed a Neo-classical Revival style Putnam County Courthouse in Greencastle, Indiana; in 1906, he designed another Classical Revival style courthouse for Huntington County, Indiana.<sup>51</sup> Gaddis' 1912 Clay County Courthouse in Brazil, Indiana, located less than 100 miles from Vincennes, solidified his local reputation as a distinguished architect.<sup>52</sup>

The two-and-one-half story red brick and rough-faced limestone Perry County Courthouse communicated the Romanesque Revival style in its steeply-pitched cross-gables, Roman-arched windows, decorative metal coping and finials, flat limestone lintels, and tall pyramid-roofed clock and bell tower. The majority of the exterior architectural features of the Perry County Courthouse have been retained. When first constructed, the flat-roofed portico on each elevation was topped with a balcony with a galvanized iron balustrade. The north and south balcony balustrades featured a pediment with a stamped metal swag motif. The balconies were removed in the late twentieth century; the porticoes remain. The eaves of the prominent cross-gables on each elevation and the dormer windows on the north and south elevations also featured a stamped metal cartouche with floral embellishments. These were also removed in the twentieth

<sup>47</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri's Counties*, 77.

<sup>48</sup> Christa Logue, "In memory of J.W. Gaddis of Vincennes, architect of Clay County's Courthouse," *The Brazil Times*, August 21, 2014, accessed January 7, 2016, <http://www.thebraziltimes.com/story/2111668.html>.

<sup>49</sup> County Courthouses," Clay County Indiana, last modified 2005, accessed January 7 2016, <http://www.claycountyin.gov/index.pl?id=4158;isa=Category;op=show>.

<sup>50</sup> The prominent clock tower on the Crawford County, Illinois Courthouse was removed in 1949. County Courthouses," Clay County Indiana, last modified 2005, accessed January 7 2016, <http://www.claycountyin.gov/index.pl?id=4158;isa=Category;op=show>.

<sup>51</sup> "County Courthouses," Clay County Indiana, last modified 2005, accessed January 7 2016, <http://www.claycountyin.gov/index.pl?id=4158;isa=Category;op=show>; Christa Logue, "In memory of J.W. Gaddis of Vincennes, architect of Clay County's Courthouse," *The Brazil Times*, August 21, 2014, accessed January 7, 2016, <http://www.thebraziltimes.com/story/2111668.html>.

<sup>52</sup> Christa Logue, "In memory of J.W. Gaddis of Vincennes, architect of Clay County's Courthouse," *The Brazil Times*, August 21, 2014, accessed January 7, 2016, <http://www.thebraziltimes.com/story/2111668.html>.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

century. However, the primary characteristics that embody the Romanesque Revival style are still present in the building, and no other building in Perryville better represents the style.

The architectural significance of the Perry County Courthouse is enhanced by its setting and planned location in the center of a courthouse square. Since Perryville was developed as the county seat, county commissioners platted the town with the knowledge that a county courthouse would be located there. It was very common in Missouri for county seats to be platted using a grid-based courthouse square configuration.<sup>53</sup> This arrangement put the courthouse, as the grandest building in the county, on at least one full city block, surrounded by streets lined with the town's major commercial businesses, enclosing the block on all sides.<sup>54</sup> Courthouse historian Marian Ohman further classifies the courthouse square design into several sub-types; the most popular of these in Missouri is the "Shelbyville" square, derived from an example of the design identified in Shelbyville, Tennessee in 1810.<sup>55</sup> Perryville was platted in the Shelbyville square design, with a central 230' by 230' square centered within a grid, with commercial buildings on the lots of the streets surrounding the square facing inward towards the courthouse. The Shelbyville square is documented as having been established in 57 of the 114 county seats from the 1820s through 1861.<sup>56</sup> (Figure 5). The courthouse square plan can be seen as a particularly effective design for governmental buildings, such as county courthouses, because it creates a cloistered, intimate space that can be accentuated with grass, trees, benches, bandstands or gazebos, and memorials. The pleasing, park-like setting of the courthouse square nurtures the sense of a common ground shared among citizens, thus reflecting the most basic ideals of a democracy.<sup>57</sup>

### **Conclusion**

The 111-year-old Perry County Courthouse in Perryville, Missouri, is locally significant under Criterion A as the continual seat of county government since 1904. The courthouse is also significant under Criterion C for architecture; the building is an excellent local example of a Romanesque Revival-style courthouse. Situated in the center of a public square in Perryville's historic commercial business district, the Perry County Courthouse is a prominent local landmark. The exterior design of the building has seen minimal alterations. The interior layout has been renovated in the twentieth century to accommodate the expanding county court system, yet still retains many historic architectural features including plaster moldings and wooden stairs. The physical files still retained inside the courthouse give an example of the array of services and operations that have occurred within the walls of the Perry County Courthouse. These include written records of associate and circuit court proceedings, probate records, land records,

<sup>53</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri Counties*, 30.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid*, 29.

<sup>55</sup> *Ibid*, 29, 33.

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid*, 33.

<sup>57</sup> Ohman, *History of Missouri's Counties*, 39.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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naturalization applications and records, marriage licenses, military service records, election filings, coroner's records, and public school records. Today, the courthouse square continues to serve as a public gathering space for various occasions, including political rallies, military funerals, election night results, and Labor Day and Memorial Day ceremonies.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 16

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property Perry County, Missouri
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 17

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property Perry County, Missouri
County and State N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 18

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**Verbal Boundary Description:**

Beginning at SE corner of Jackson Street & Ste. Maries Street, thence E 230 degrees X S. 230 degrees X W 230 degrees X N 230 degrees to point of beginning.

**Boundary Justification:**

The boundary includes the courthouse and the public square historically associated with the property.



Dashed line indicates National Register boundary.

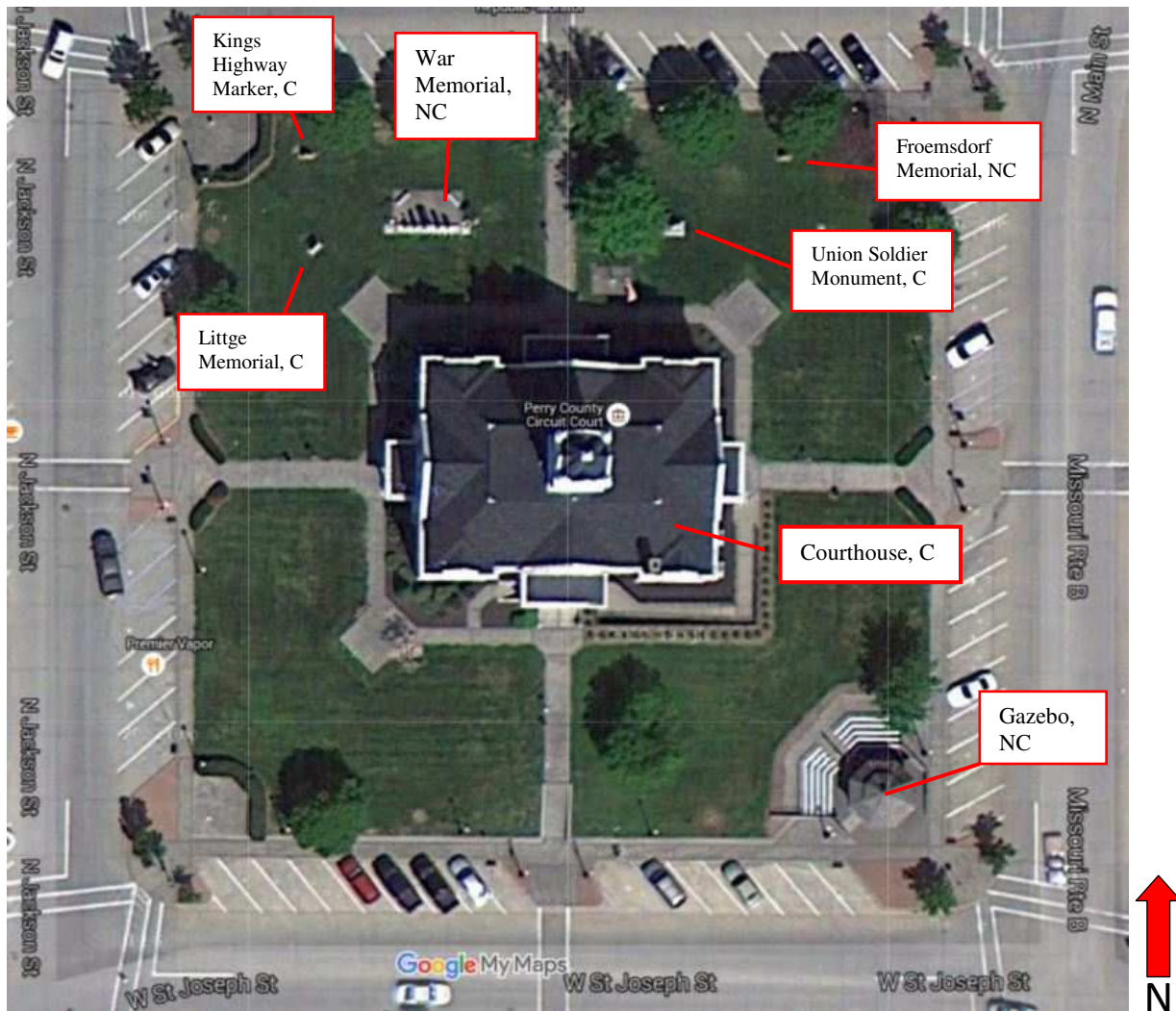
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 19

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 1. Site plan with contributing (C) and non-contributing (NC) resources noted. The square is bounded by West Sainte Marie Street on the north, Main Street on the east, West St. Joseph Street on the south, and North Jackson Street on the west.

Source: Google Maps. Last modified 2016. Accessed January 11, 2016, image modified by author. <https://www.google.com/maps>.

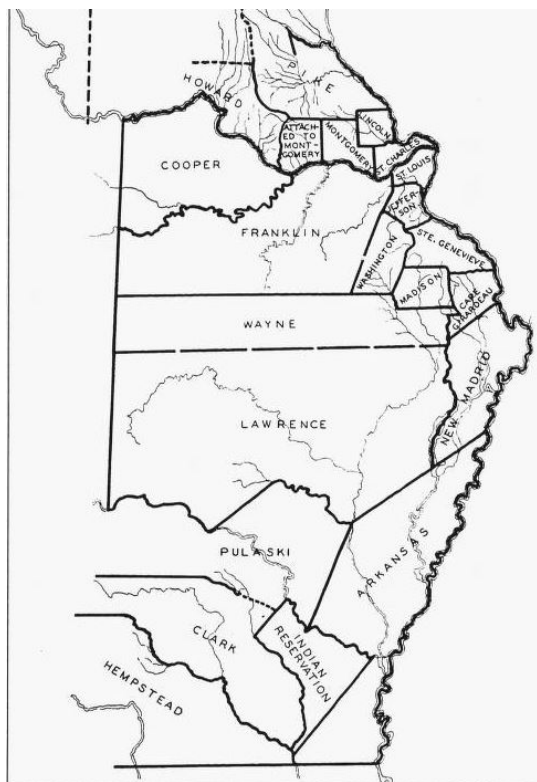


National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

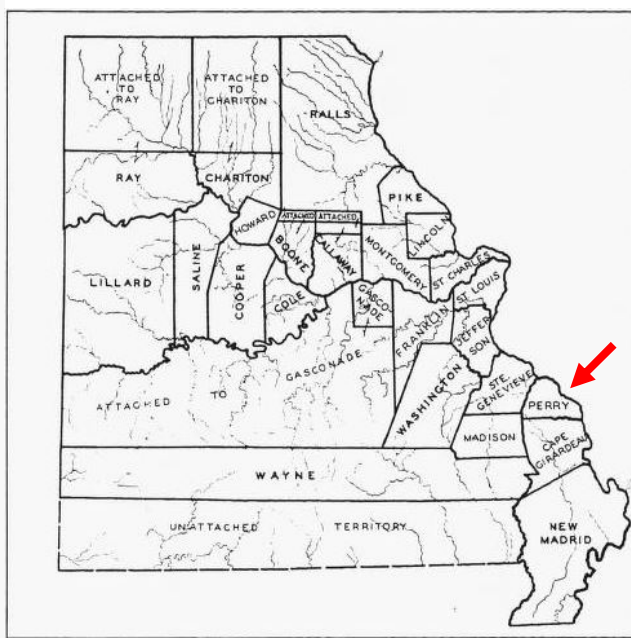
Section number Figures Page 20

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 2. Missouri territory in 1819 (left) and Missouri at statehood in 1821 (right). Source: Marian Ohman, *A History of Missouri's Counties, County Seats, and Courthouse Squares* (Columbia: University of Missouri-Columbia Extension Division, 1983), 5.



1-4. Territory of Missouri, 1819.



1-5. Missouri at statehood, 1821.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 21

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 3. Perry County, Missouri, and incorporated Perryville highlighted in red.  
Source: Arkyan [User]. "Perry County Missouri Incorporated and Unincorporated areas."  
Wikimedia Commons. Last modified October 24, 2007. Accessed December 15, 2015.  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Perry\\_County\\_Missouri\\_Incorporated\\_and\\_Unincorporated\\_areas\\_Perryville\\_Highlighted.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Perry_County_Missouri_Incorporated_and_Unincorporated_areas_Perryville_Highlighted.svg)

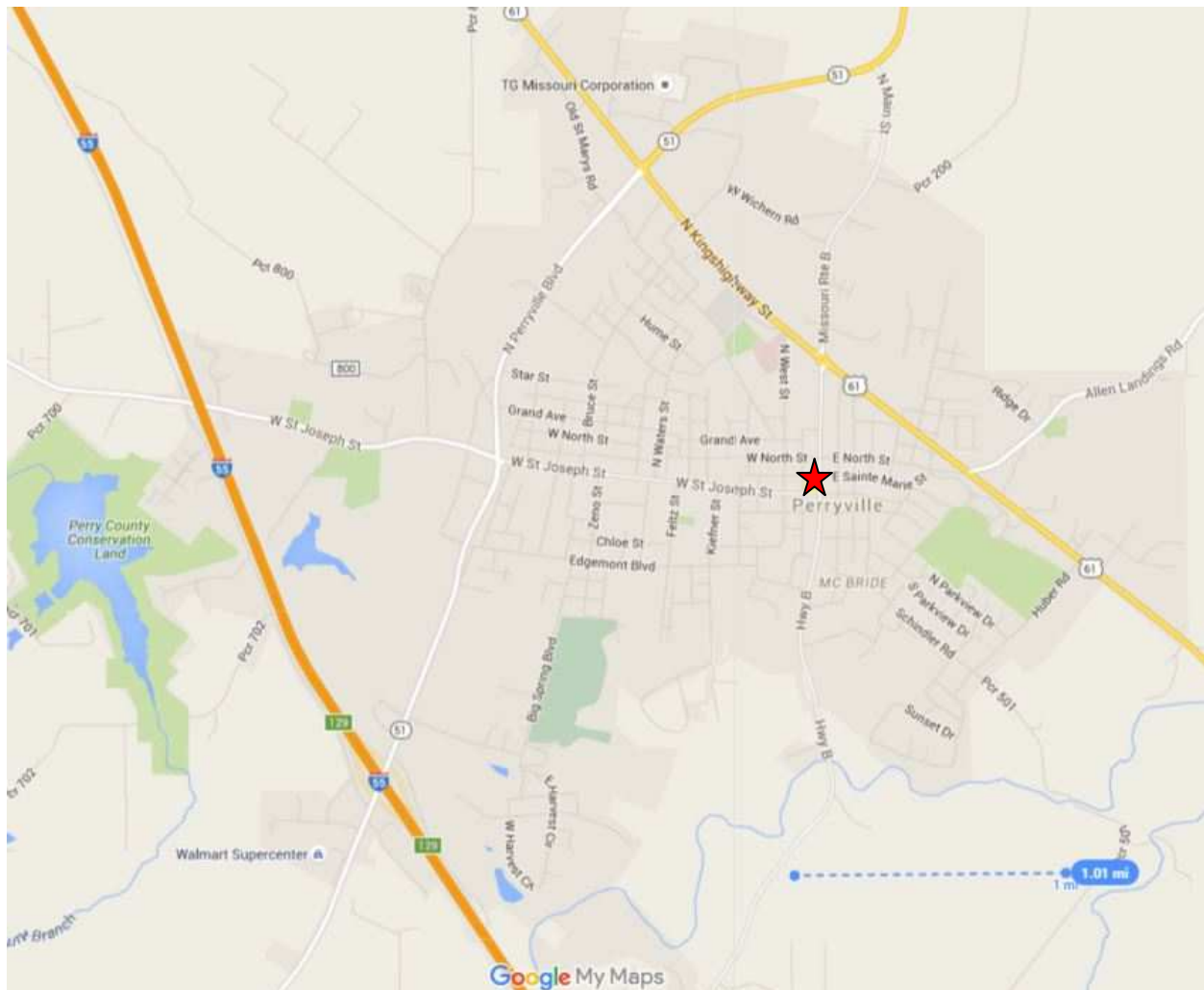


National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 22

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 4. Contextual map of Perryville, Missouri. Location of courthouse marked with a star. Source: Google Maps. Last modified 2016. Accessed January 11, 2016, image modified by author. <https://www.google.com/maps>.

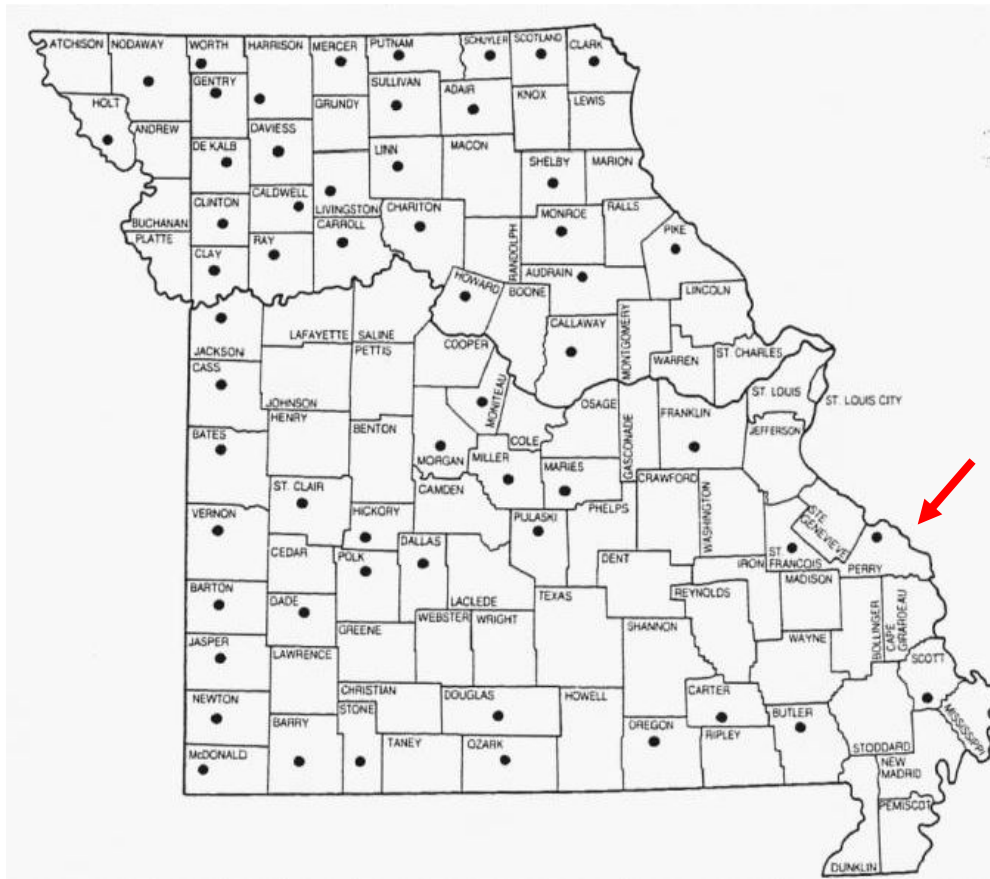


National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 23

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 5. 1983 charts showing Missouri county seats configured in the Shelbyville square plan.  
Source: Marian Ohman, *A History of Missouri's Counties, County Seats, and Courthouse Squares* (Columbia: University of Missouri-Columbia Extension Division, 1983), 33.



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 24

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 6. 1904 Perry County Courthouse Plans by J.W. Gaddis, South Elevation. Source: Perry County Courthouse archives.

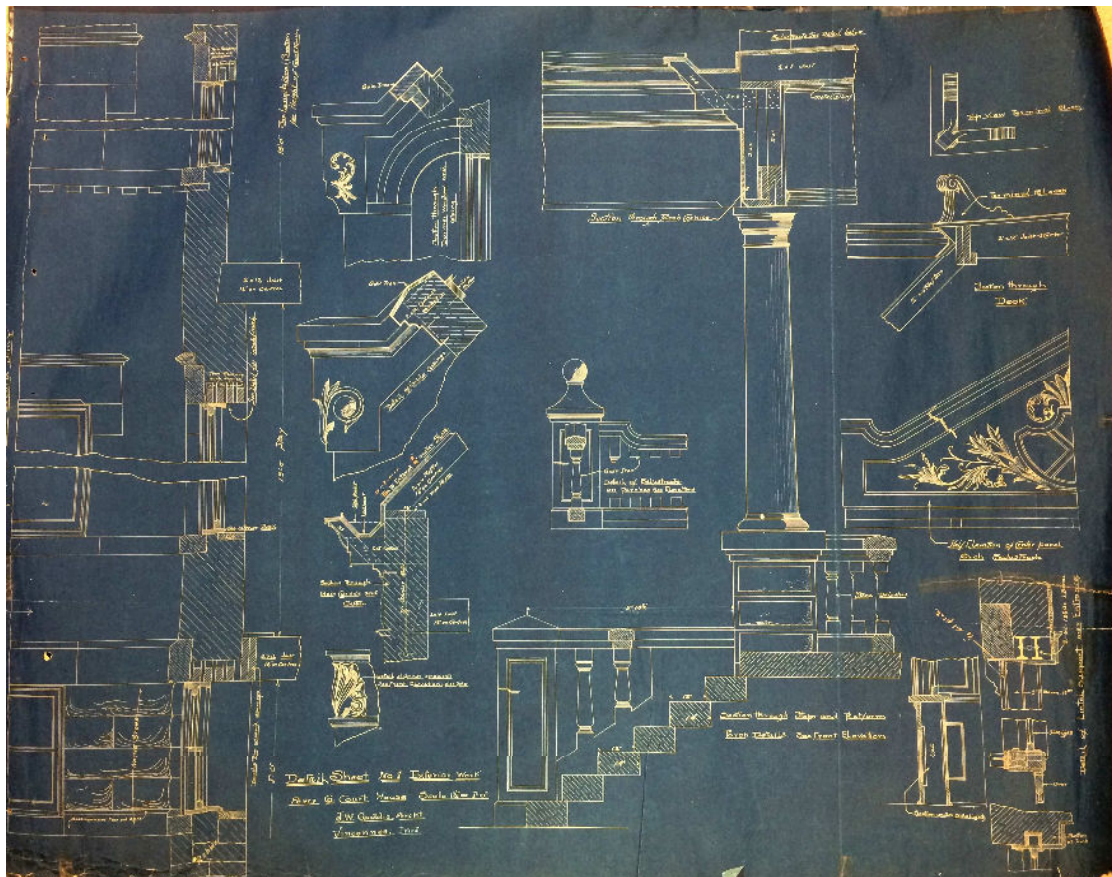


National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 25

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 7. 1904 Perry County Courthouse Plans by J.W. Gaddis, Detail Sheet No. 1, Exterior Work. Source: Perry County Courthouse archives.



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 26

Perry County Courthouse

Name of Property

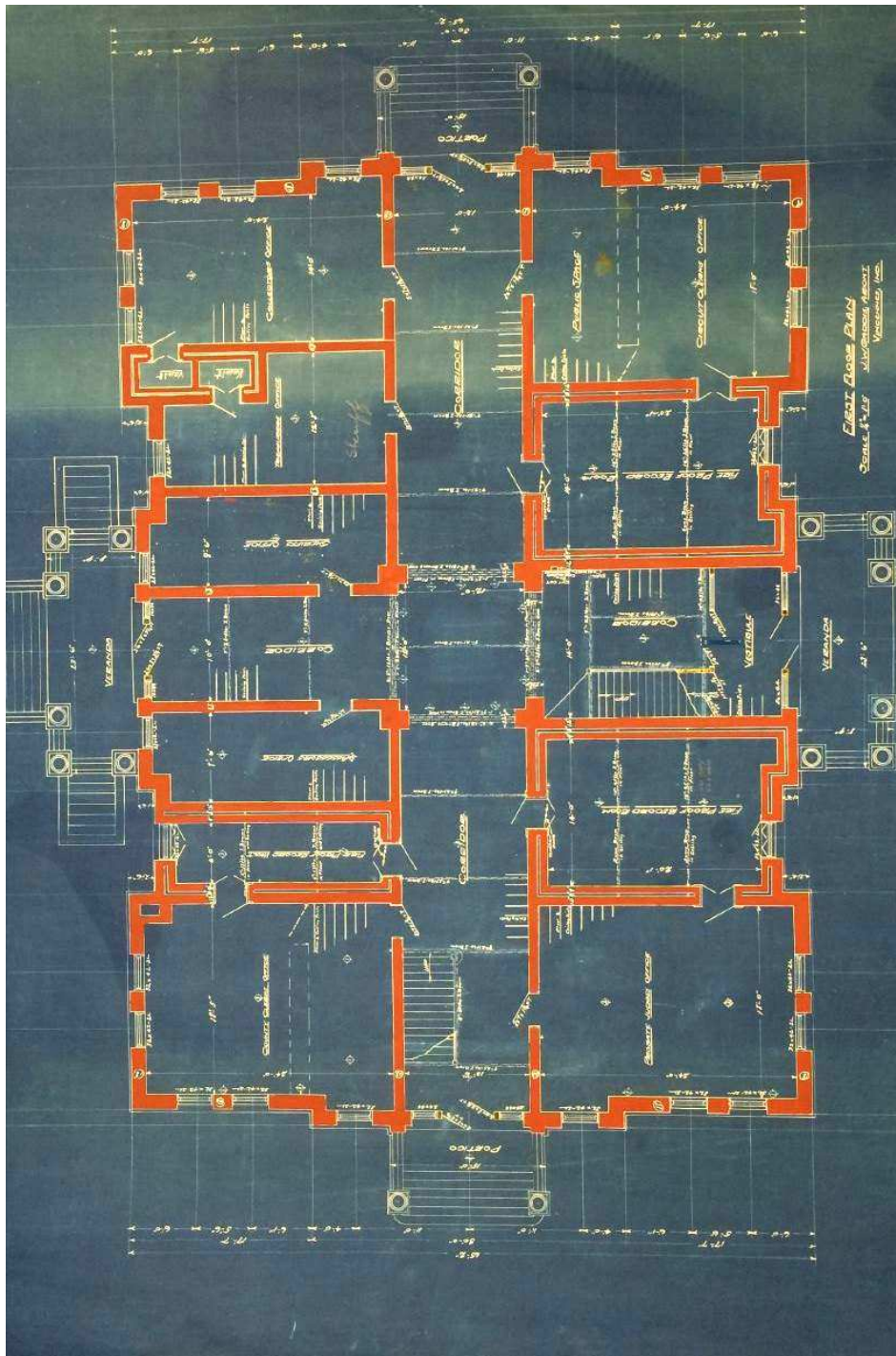
Perry County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 8. 1904 Perry County Courthouse Plans by J.W. Gaddis, First Floor Layout. Source: Perry County Courthouse archives. ←North



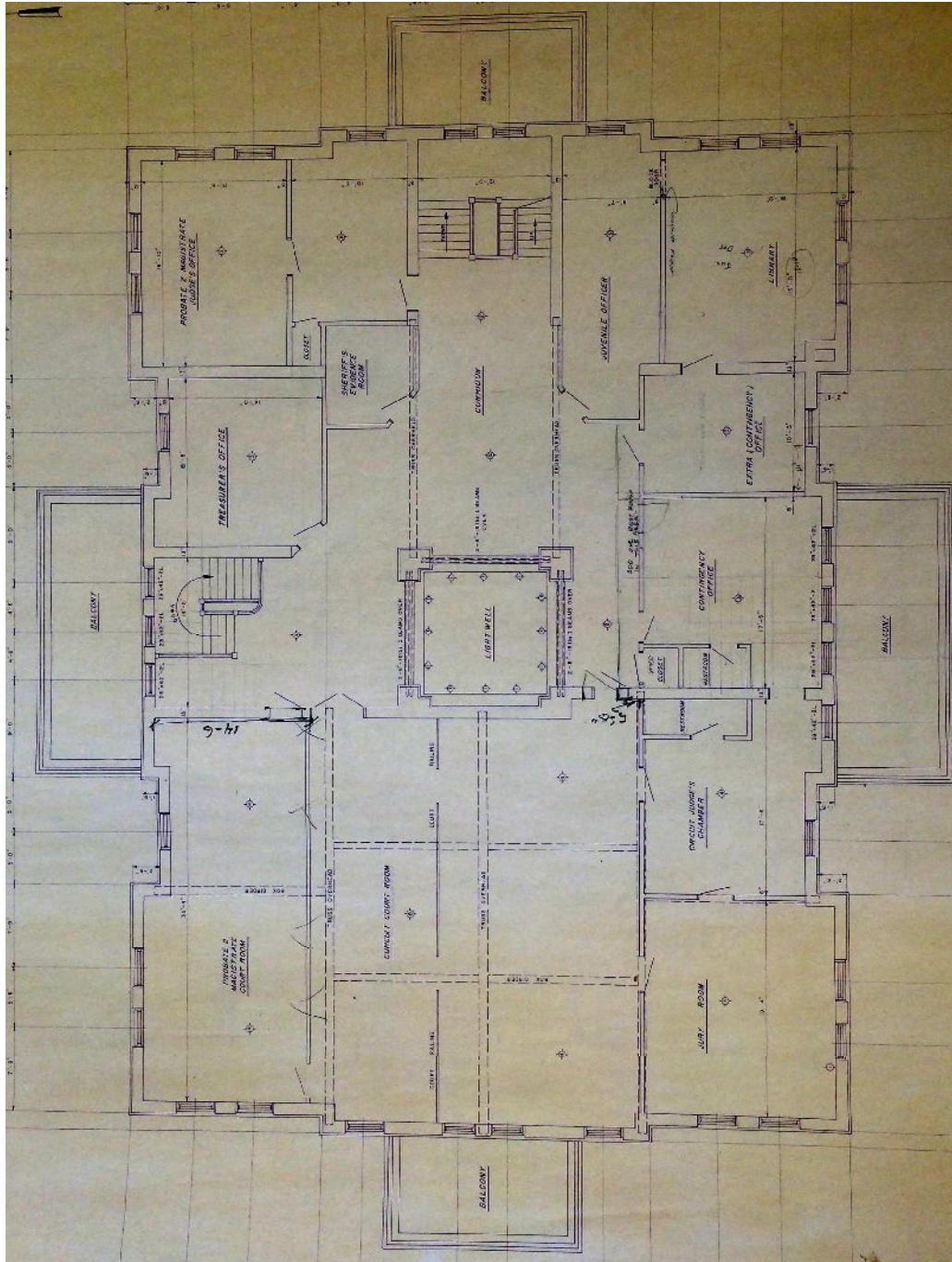


National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 28

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 10. 1977 Perry County Courthouse Plans by Southeast Missouri Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission, Second Floor Layout. Source: Perry County Courthouse archives. ← North



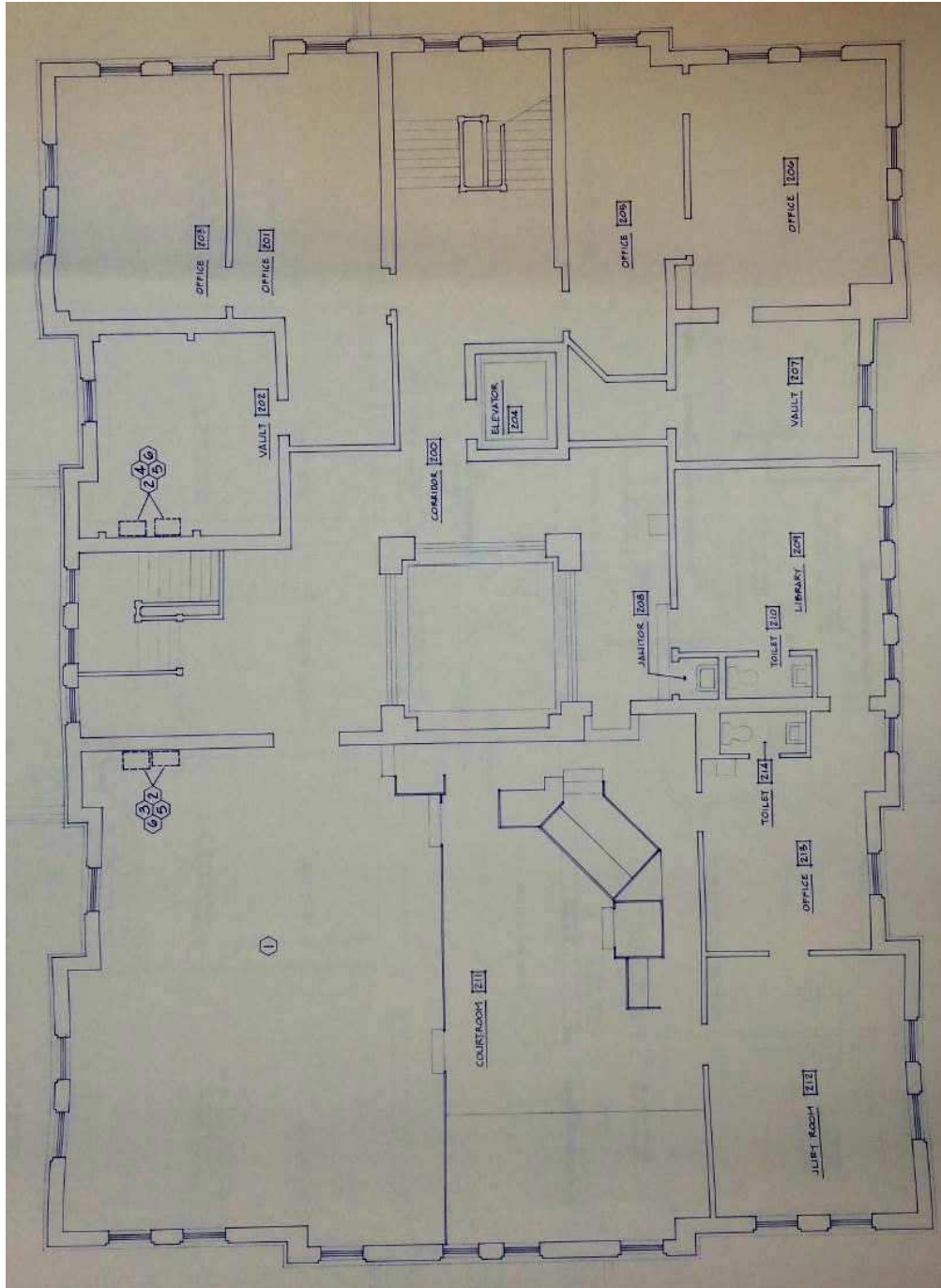


National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 30

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 12. 1992 Perry County Courthouse Plans by Ross & Baruzzini, Inc., Second Floor Layout. These plans accurately convey the current interior layout. Source: Perry County Courthouse archives. ← North



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 31

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 13. Perry County region in 1857. Source: *Mitchell's New Universal Atlas* (Philadelphia: Charles Desilver, 1857), page 33. Scanned in 2008 by John Osborne. Published online at: <http://hd.housedivided.dickinson.edu/node/27664?size=original>



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 32

Perry County Courthouse

Name of Property

Perry County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 14. The second Perry County Courthouse, constructed in 1859, is visible in this photograph dated June 1901. The foundation of the nominated courthouse is also visible. Source: Perry County Historical Society.

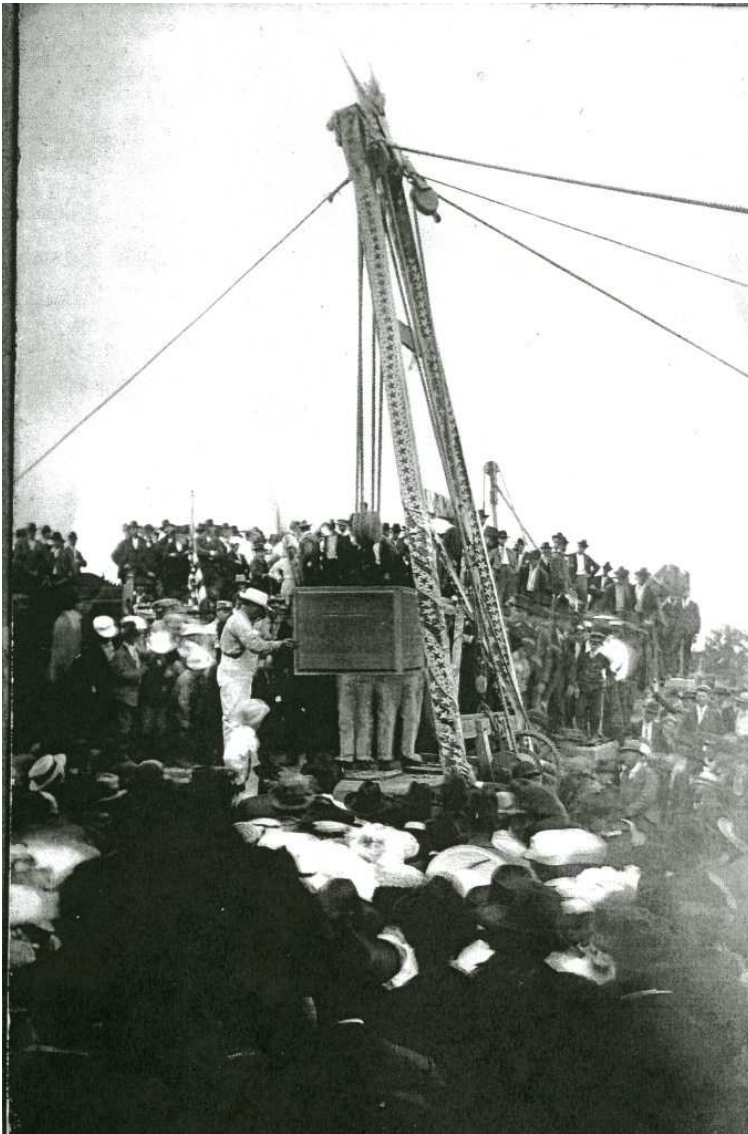


National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 33

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 15. Laying the cornerstone of the Perry County Courthouse, 1904. Source: Perry County Historical Society.



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 34

Perry County Courthouse

Name of Property

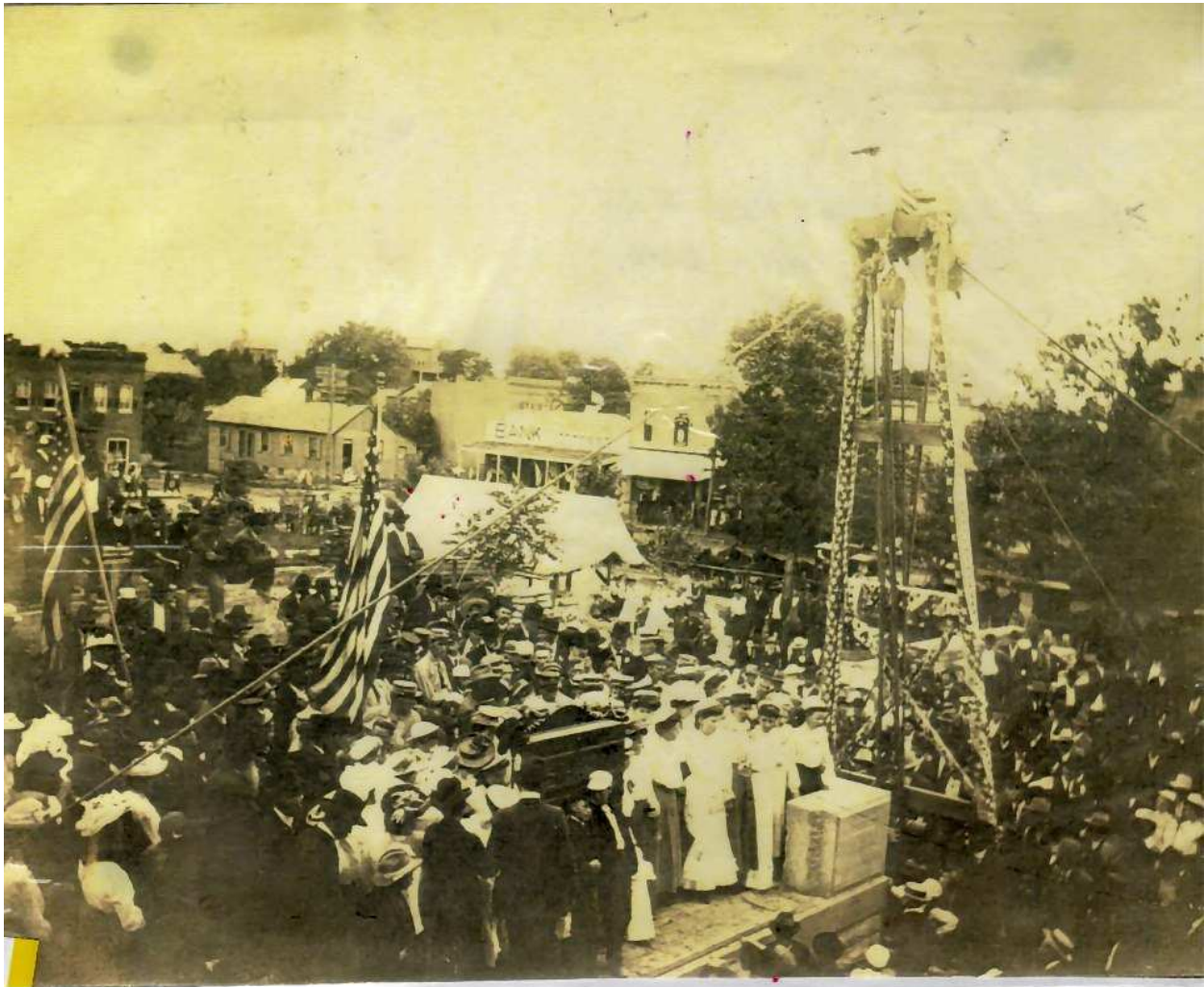
Perry County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 16. Laying the cornerstone of the Perry County Courthouse, June 1904. Source: Perry County Historical Society.



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 35

Perry County Courthouse

Name of Property

Perry County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 17. The 1904 Perry County Courthouse next to the 1859 courthouse in the central square of Perryville. Source: Perry County Historical Society.

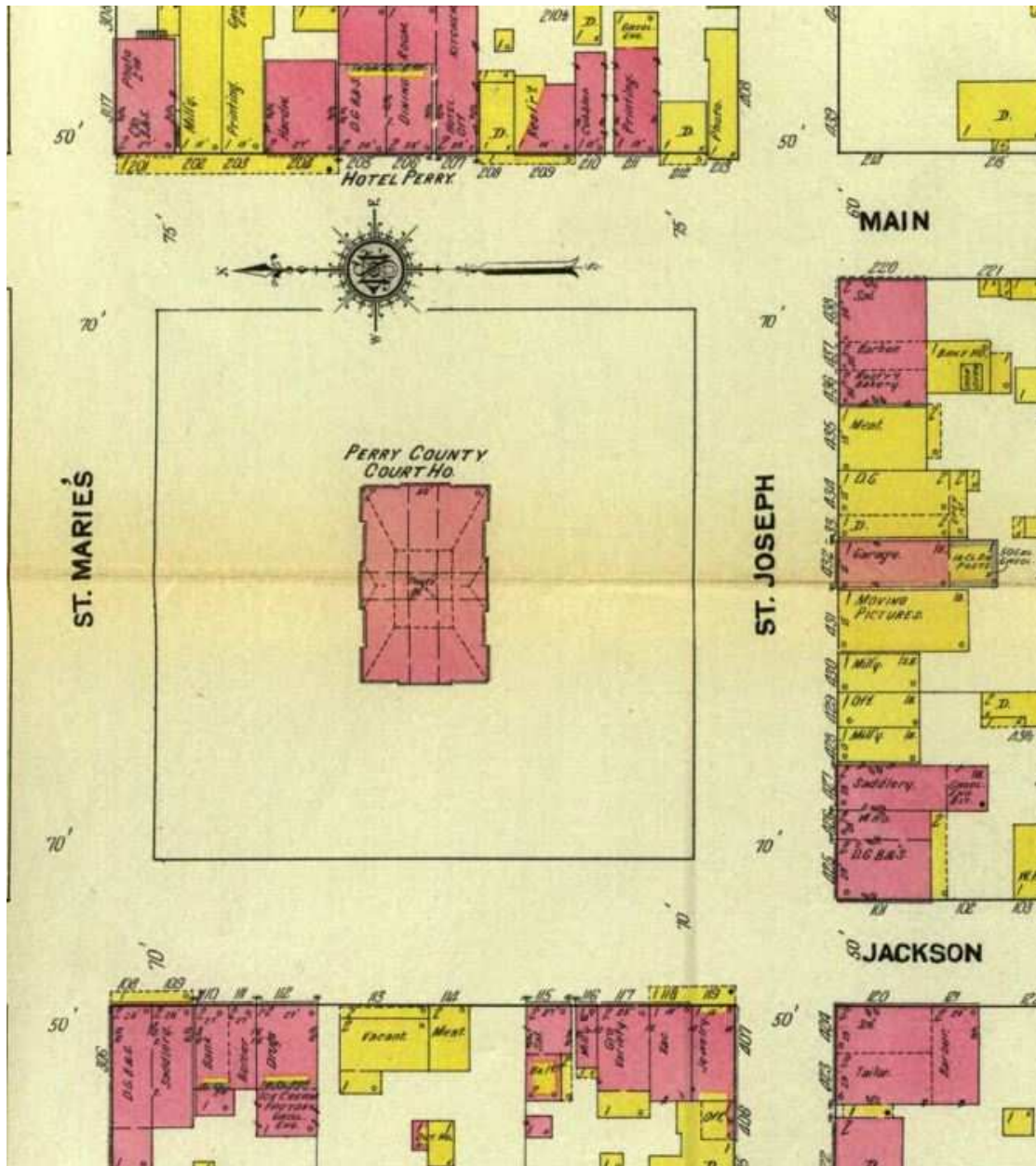


National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 36

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 18. 1911 Sanborn map of downtown Perryville. Source: University of Missouri Ellis Library, Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Collection.



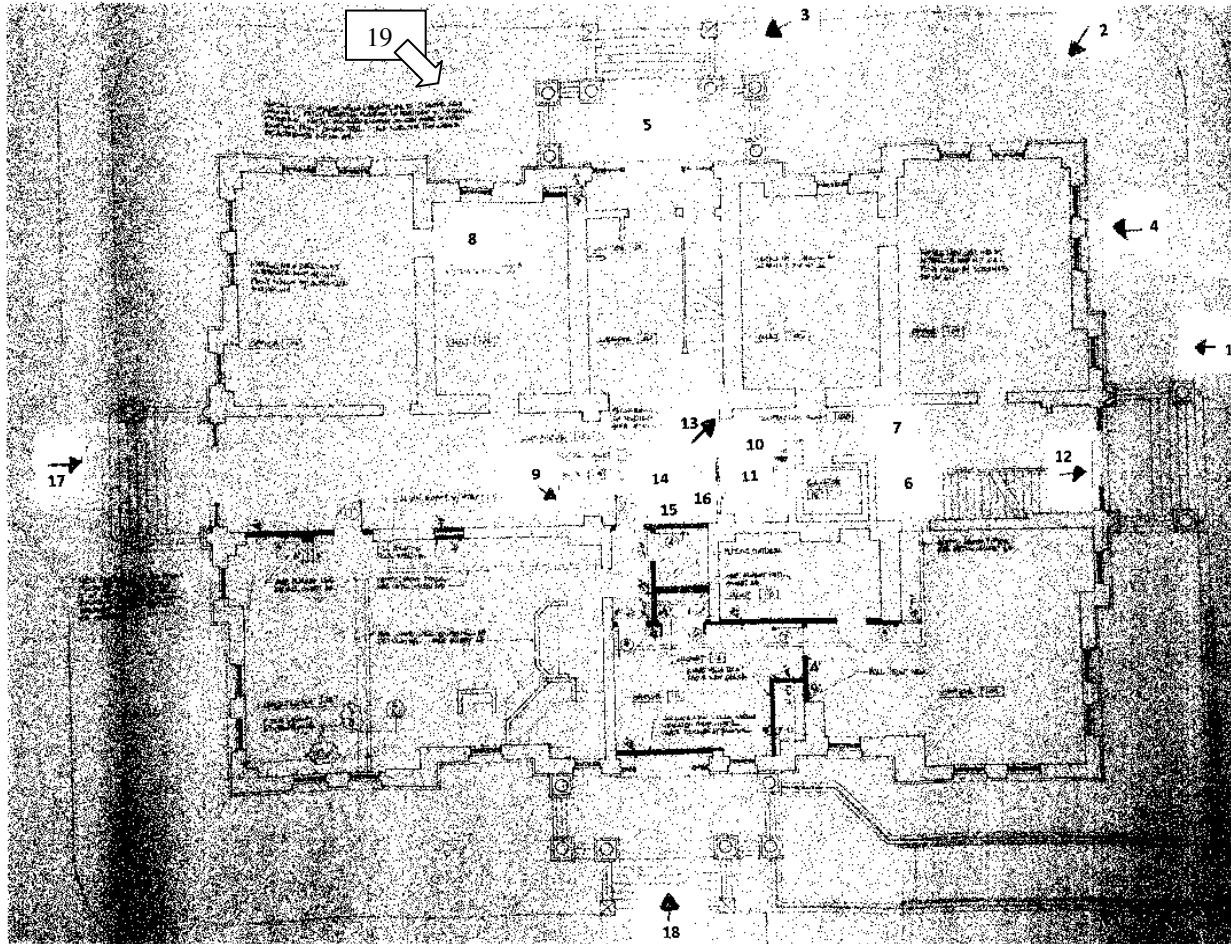


National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 38

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 20. Photo Key.



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 39

Perry County Courthouse

Name of Property

Perry County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 21. Photograph showing north and east elevations of the courthouse. Jim Froemsdorf memorial (NC object) visible in foreground, Union Soldier monument (C object) visible in background. Source: Trish Erzfeld, January 2016.



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 40

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 22. Photograph showing west lawn and elevation of the courthouse. King's Highway marker (C) visible in foreground, Capt. Raymond Littge memorial (C) visible in background. Source: Rachel Barnhart, March 2016.



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 41

Perry County Courthouse
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Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
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County and State
N/A
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 23. Photograph showing west bay of north elevation of courthouse. Source: Rachel Barnhart, March 2016.



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 42

Perry County Courthouse
Name of Property
Perry County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 24. Modern gazebo at the southeast corner of the courthouse square. Source: Trish Erzfeld, January 2016.





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