

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 29 1977
DATE ENTERED *Amending previous application 10/25/79*

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Dallas County Courthouse
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Town Square, 8th and Main Streets NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN
Adel VICINITY OF Fifth CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
STATE
Iowa CODE COUNTY Dallas CODE

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Dallas County (courthouse/square); State of Iowa (8th St.), City of Adel (9th,
STREET & NUMBER Court and Main Streets)
CITY, TOWN Adel, Iowa STATE Iowa
MAYOR - TOWN OF ADEL - ADEL, IOWA
VICINITY OF

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Dallas County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
8th and Main Streets
CITY, TOWN Adel, STATE Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
National Register
DATE
26 November 1973 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS National Register of Historic Places; Iowa Division of Historic Preservation
CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Dallas County Courthouse is situated on the public square of Adel, dominating the commercial district which surrounds it. The square itself is framed by brick pavement, laid in 1896. One section of it, which is Iowa Highway 169, was scheduled for repaving in concrete. Local interest, and a financial contribution from the Adel City Council resulted in a compromise with Iowa's Department of Transportation, which will take the unusual step of laying a concrete base for the street, and then will relay the brick, thus preserving the visual character of the courthouse square.

The courthouse was built in 1902, of Bedford gray limestone. The structure has three stages, a massive rectangle dominated by a three-stage clock tower. Round, conical-roofed towers are found on each corner of the hipped-roof wings which flank the central block. Windows throughout are plate glass in sash, some curved, with transoms on those of the second and third stories. Each stage is set off by stringcourses and the parapetted, narrow denticular cornice.

Each side of the courthouse features a central, projecting pavilion, crowned with stepped gables. Pedimented wall dormers are found, and finials are used in profusion.

The entrance pavilion is a four-stage composition, each stage separated by a full entablature, on a dressed ashlar base. The lower stage features a large semi-circular arch, framed by truncated, panelled Corinthian pilasters on pedestals. In the second stage is a tryptich window framed by paired Corinthian pilasters, also on pedestals. The third stage begins with a balcony with turned balusters, the ends of which form the springpoint for small flying buttresses. The second-stage triple window is repeated here; above is an arcaded tabernacle with Ionic pilasters framed by consoles. The whole is capped with a statue of Blind Justice.

The clock tower consists of two square stages and a round, domed upper stage. Noteworthy features are broken, segmental pediments of the first stage, and the triangular pediments, lacking full returns, above.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1902

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Proudfoot and Bird, Des Moines

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This form is intended to supersede the previous 10-300, which nominated the Dallas County Courthouse and the surrounding green space, to the National Register in 1973. The purpose of the renomination is to effect an enlargement of the boundaries of the area included on the National Register, to encompass the segments of brick pavement which surround the courthouse square. The original nomination did not take into account the visual contribution made by the pavement to the overall sense of time and place which characterizes this midwestern town square. Besides enhancing the historical environment of the courthouse, the deep red brick repeats the color of the building's roof, thus becoming a part of the overall composition.

The brick pavement is actually older than the courthouse, having been laid six years before construction of this building in 1902. As much as for practical reasons, the brick streets were a public relations gesture on the part of the town, to demonstrate the progressive nature of its people and the town's importance as the county seat.

The significance of the courthouse itself was established with its listing in the National Register in 1973. It was designed by the firm of Proudfoot and Bird, Des Moines architects of statewide impact during the decades 1880-1920. Stylistically it is clearly derivative of the Chateausque, with its high, hipped roof, conical-roofed turrets, and wall dormers enlivened by a profusion of decorative detail.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Article on the construction of the Dallas County Courthouse, published in Dallas County News, October 6, 1965, by Mike Youngman, School of Architecture, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.
 Wood, R.F. History of Dallas County, Iowa. Chicago: S.J. Clarke, 1906.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 1
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,5	41,50,2,8	4,60,70,6,7	B	1,5	41,50,2,8	4,60,70,5,5
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,5	41,50,1,7	4,60,70,5,5	D	1,5	41,50,1,7	4,60,70,6,7
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

City block bounded by and including the relevant portions of the following streets: Court Street on the north, Main Street on the south, 9th Street on the west, and 8th Street (Iowa 169) on the east. *These portions are adjacent to the Courthouse square and include the intersections of the streets.*
Brannan 10.25.79 to Bureau SITPO 5128

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION	DATE
Division of Historic Preservation	
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
26 East Market Street	
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Iowa City	Iowa 52240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Adrian H. Anderson

TITLE

Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

11/14/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Carol Shull

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

10-25-79

ATTEST:

William H. Brannan

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

10-25-79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER