

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0682659

FOR NPS USE ONLY
 RECEIVED **AUG 22 1978**
 DATE ENTERED **DEC 8 1978**

**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
Clark County Jail
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
215 East 5th Street — NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Neillsville VICINITY OF **7th**
STATE CODE COUNTY CODE
Wisconsin **55** **Clark** **019**

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 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
County of Clark
STREET & NUMBER
517 Court Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Neillsville VICINITY OF **Wisconsin** **54456**

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **Registry of Deeds, Clark County Courthouse**
STREET & NUMBER
517 Court Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Neillsville **Wisconsin** **54456**

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places
DATE
1977 — FEDERAL STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS **State Historical Society of Wisconsin**
CITY, TOWN STATE
Madison **Wisconsin** **53706**

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Clark County Jail is a public building of imposing aspect, in the Romanesque Revival style, sited at the cresting of compound slopes rising from the north and west to street frontage at the southeast corner of the courthouse square. The principal mass of the building is rectangular, 45 feet by 60 feet, approximately 50 feet in height to the apex of the main hipped roof. All foundation work is of stone, heavily mortared; walling is of fire brick, faced with buff brick laid in common bond. The water table course, string courses framing the second story and the tower caps, all window sills, and some lintels, are of Bedford limestone. Bedford also appears as decorative arch moldings above the three porch openings and the second story center-front window, and as the name and date panels in the porch parapet.

The main facade, facing south, features a slightly raised main story reached by a three-railed, four-riser poured concrete exterior stairway and a three-bay masonry entry/shelter porch (the original steps were of wood). Behind and above the porch appears a central two-story parapet gable. Flanking are two towers; that on the southwest corner of the building, the larger and principal, is of five stories, square in plan at its base and first story, but bearing at the outer (southwest) corner from the second to fifth stories a cylindrical bartizan, corbelled at its base and capped with a slightly enlarged and corbelled crenellated parapet; the southeast tower, of three stories, is hexagonal in section, also terminating in a crenellated parapet.

In the west wall, in its own shallow gabled surround, is the entrance to the sheriff's office; above the first story appears a shallowly profiled two-story gable and a smaller dormer of similar design intersecting the hip of the main roof. The east wall, with an increased exposure of the foundation due to the descending grade slope northward, presents a four-story wing including the exposed "English" basement, with a side entry porch which leads to an interior landing with short stair flights down to the basement and up into the kitchen of the sheriff's living quarters.

The north end of the jail building is a thirty-foot long polygonal apse extending almost the entire width of the building. At the second and third floor levels is the main cell block, isolated on a thirty-foot high exposed foundation wall and sloping grade.

Originally heated by steam conduit from the courthouse, the jail was provided later with its own steam plant in the basement of a one-story garage addition to accommodate vehicles of the sheriff's department. The garage is on the west side of the building, connected at the basement and first floor levels at the northwest corner. This part of the building is of no significance to the nomination. The original Edison Three-Wire Incandescent Lighting System remains in service, adapted as needed to meet code. Plumbing improvements, introduced in the course of time, enter and exit at the north end of the building, through the foundation under the cell block proper.

The Clark County Jail, in company with others of its kind of the period, is a dual purpose building, providing substantial residential quarters for the sheriff and his family at the front or south half of the structure in the first and second stories and the basement immediately below this section and, at the rear or north portion, the main cell block, separated detention facilities for women and juveniles, and provision for numerous special functions and services, so that in general the detention section might be said to be a full-service, self-contained unit.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

The sheriff's quarters include a central entry hall of two stories, with an open staircase ascending in two flights with landing to an expanded hallway at the second level. First floor functions are served by a parlor with fireplace, a sitting room, dining room, and kitchen; the second floor features five bedrooms and full bath. In-house access is provided at the first floor level to the rear portion of the building.

Principal access to the jail section is by the public entrance on the west side leading to the sheriff's office; and to the detention unit for women and juveniles, equipped with pierced iron plate cell modules salvaged from the earlier (1882) sheriff's residence and jail block on the same site, razed for construction of the present jail.¹ The main cell block is equipped with modular units of tempered iron strapping web, riveted at the interstices,² with the whole enclosed in iron plate lined concrete floor, walls, and ceiling. Cells are equipped with a ventilated commode closet and cold water tap, and with two fold-up woven hammocks. Detention service facilities include a full bath, a dispensary or "hospital" at the first floor level and, in the basement, a walk-in refrigerator supplied with natural block ice via an outside access loading port, a vegetable room, and a laundry-ironing room. (Metal tubs have replaced the original wooden tubs.) Interior vertical features are a clothes chute and a dumbwaiter. One section of the basement has an overhead array of shallow segmental brickwork arches with iron banding at the springings.

Secondary access on the east side of the building, via the "English" basement side entry porch, is essentially private as the back door to the sheriff's quarters through the kitchen; otherwise, only closely restricted access by this entry serves necessary service and supply functions.

¹ The Book of the Years, p. B-25; and records of the County Clerk's Office.

² Manufactured, under Patent of June 6, 1876, by P. J. Pauly & Bros., St. Louis, (Identification plate mounted on cell wall).

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1897 ¹

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Stoltze & Schick, LaCrosse (archit.)²
J.G. Wagner Co., Milwaukee (builder)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Clark County Jail, built in 1897, is significant as the sole pre-1900 public building of noteworthy architecture remaining in Clark County. Its history of eighty years of public service in law enforcement is significant.

The Jail, together with its parent, the old Clark County Courthouse which has been razed and replaced during the past few years by a contemporary structure, through their central location, commanding siting, and imposing architecture, long served the County of Clerk and the City of Neillsville as public landmarks of local government and service. The Clark County Jail alone remains to preserve this tradition.

About mid-April 1978, the Clark County Board of Supervisors resolved to lease the jail building to the Clark County Historical Society, Inc., for use as a county museum of fine arts. To implement the development of the building for this purpose, the Marguerite Listeman Foundation, whose directorate is centered in the city of Neillsville, has pledged \$5,000 per year for five years, with the initial installment payable as start-up money as soon as agreement and lease papers become effective.

The Clark County Historical Society, Inc., having been founded and chartered expressly for this above purpose in 1965, has been acquiring over the past years modest funding support as well as an appreciable collection of pieces and works in the decorative and fine arts fields. The Society now feels that its efforts have borne fruit and that nomination of the Clark County Jail and its acceptance into the National Register of Historic Places will further encourage and cement county-wide support and the successful accomplishment of its purpose.

1 Clark County Archives, and Perry Carrington Associates.

2 Gustave Stoltze, and Hugo Schick, Architects and Building Superintendents, with offices in Rooms 18 & 19, Batavia Bank Bldg., La Crosse, Wisconsin. The building contractor, J. G. Wagner Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, received contract for low bid of \$15,122, in competition with 25 other bidders.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Curtiss-Wedge, Franklyn, 1918, History of Clark County (Wisconsin), Chicago, pp 75-76

The Book of Years, 1953, Clark County (Wisconsin) Centennial Corporation,
William H. Yenni, General Chairman, 94 pp., illus.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.0

QUADRANGLE NAME Neillsville, Wis., 1953

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 6,9,1 1,2,5 4,9 3,6 7,2,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Southeast corner of Courthouse Square, bordered on the south by East 5th Street, on the west by open space to the courthouse, on the north by open space downslope to East 6th Street, and on the east by a little-used extension of State Street. Parcel is Lot 50, Block 6, O'Neill's Addition.

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

John W. Winn, Local Preservation Coordinator, Historic Preservation Division

ORGANIZATION

DATE

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

April 10, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

816 State Street

608/262-9616

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Madison

Wisconsin 53706

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Richard Benney

TITLE

Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

8/8/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

12.8.78

ATTEST:

Charles Abbeney
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Russ B. Franklin
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

12/4/78