NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90 OMB No. 1024-0018
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service
REGISTRATION FORM This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual propartitional properties and propartitional properties and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.
1. Name of Property
historic name Lake County Courthouse
other names/site number Old Lake County Courthouse/LA2123
2. Location
street & number 315 West Main Street N/A not for publication
citv or town Tavares N/A vicinitv
state
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
□ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of □ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant □ nationally □ statewide ⊠ locally. □ See continuation sheet for additional comments.) □ mationally □ statewide ⊠ locally. □ See continuation sheet for additional comments.) □ Signature of certifying official/Title □ In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. I comments.) □ for ida State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources □ In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. (□ See continuation sheet for additional comments.) □ In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. (□ See continuation sheet for additional comments.) □ Signature of certifying official/Title □ Date □ State or Federal agency and bureau
4. National Park Service Certification
I hereby certify that the property is: Date of Action I hereby certify that the property is: Date of Action I hereby certify that the property is: Date of Action I hereby certify that the property is: Date of Action I hereby certify that the property is: Date of Action I hereby certify that the property is: Date of Action I determined eligible for the National Register I determined not eligible for the National Register I see continuation sheet. See continuation sheet. I removed from the National Register. I other, (explain)

Lake, Florida 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 any previously listed resources in the count)		
☐ private ⊠ public-local	⊠ buildings □ district	Contributing	Noncontribu	ting
public-State	☐ site ☐ structure ☐ object	11	0	buildings
		0	0	sites
		0	0	structures
		1	0	objects
		2	0	total
Name of related multiple property listings (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register		
N/A		0		
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		
GOVERNMENT/county courthouse RECREATION & CULTURE/monument		GOVERNMENT/county administration building		
		RECREATION & CULTURE/museum		
		RECREATION & CULT	<u>FURE/monument</u>	
			······································	······································
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from instructions)		
LATE 19 TH & 20 TH CENTURY R	EVIVALS/neo-classical	foundation CONC	CRETE	
		walls <u>BRICK</u>		
	<u></u>	SANDSTON		
		roof <u>ASBESTOS</u>		-
		other <u>CONCRETI</u>		
		<u> </u>		

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

8. Statement of Significance

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.) Previous documentation on file (NPS): Primary location of additional data:

preliminary determination of individual listing (36
CFR 36) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National
Register
designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded	by Historic Am	erican Build	dings Survey
#			

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING

Period of Significance

1926-1947

Significant Dates

1923 1926

Significant Person

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Macdonough, Alan J.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency Federal agency Local government

University Other

Name of Repository

#

1937

N/A

Lake, Florida County and State

Lake County Courthouse	Lake, Florida
Name of Property	County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property Less than one acre	
UTM References (Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)	
1 7 4 2 8 6 5 0 3 1 8 6 0 5 0 Zone Easting Northing 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	3 Zone Easting Northing 4 D See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Gary V. Goodwin, Historic Preservation Planner	·
organization Bureau of Historic Preservation	date August, 1998
street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street	telephone (850) 487-2333
citv or town <u>Tallahassee</u>	state <u>Florida</u> zip code <u>32399-0250</u>
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	·
Марѕ	
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the p	property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties havi	ing large acreage or numerous resources.
Photographs	
Representative black and white photographs of the	property.
Additional items (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	
name	
street & number	telephone

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 amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

_ state

_ zip code

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

citv or town

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 1

LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

SUMMARY

The Lake County Courthouse, located at 315 West Main Street in the City of Tavares, Lake County, Florida, is a five-story Neo-Classical Revival style, brick building that includes a basement. The Courthouse, which occupies the southeast corner of St. Clair Abrams and Main streets, was constructed between 1923 and 1926, and is an excellent example of Neo-Classical Revival style architecture. The building rests on a masonry foundation, and the roof is flat with parapet. The site includes two contributing resources: the 1923-26 courthouse and a commemorative flag-base monument which was erected in 1937. This building served as the County's main courthouse until 1976, and continues to serve an important role in County government as an administrative office. A portion of the building houses the Lake County Historical Museum.

SETTING

The Lake County Courthouse is located on a parcel of less than one acre in downtown Tavares. The property is bordered on the north by Main Street and on the south by Ruby Street, with St. Clair Abrams Street on the west and the new, round, Lake County Courthouse building to the east. The Lake County Tax Collectors/Appraisers Office Building is to the rear (south). Although the surrounding area has been subject to redevelopment in recent years, it remains the commercial and business center of the community. Likewise, the County Courthouse retains the basic integrity of its downtown government center setting.

DESCRIPTION

Built between 1923 and 1926, the Lake County Courthouse is a five-story Neo-Classical Revival Style, rectangular brick building. The first story is distinguished by horizontal bands of sandstone laid out in wide belt courses punctuated by rectangular windows and recessed arched entrances (Photo #1). Fenestration is regular and symmetrically organized. Accentuated cornice work separates the first from the second and third stories. The brick exterior of the second and third stories is laid out in running courses. The fourth story appears as a clerestory above the third story and is separated from the third story by an ornamental belt course. The fifth story is separated from the fourth story by ornate cornice work with dentils, and appears as a half-story below the roofline. The brick in the fourth and fifth stories is also laid out in running courses. The roofline has a stepped parapet on all four sides around the flat roof.

The main (north) elevation is distinguished by a triple-arcade entry with quoins around the arched openings. The principal window type is double-hung 12/12 sash windows with soldier-coursed brick moldings punctuated with quoins on the sides and crenelated lintels. Centered over the arcade entrance, spanning the second and third stories, is a recessed porch with a row of eight round, formed concrete, fluted Ionic columns atop square brick piers connected by a concrete balustrade (Photo #2). Third-story windows within the porch

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2

LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

are 8/8 sash windows.

The east elevation is similar to the main elevation. A single arched entrance appears in the first story. Access to the building is via a raised porch entry and double entry doors. Similar second and third stories with a recessed porch appear at this elevation, but with only four columns. Third-story windows within the porch are eight-light casement windows with fanlights (Photo #3). The west elevation is very similar to the east elevation. A single arched, raised porch entrance, and a four column recessed porch are at the second and third stories.

The rear (south) elevation is distinguished from the other three sides of the building by the absence of prominent arched entrances. Windows in the first floor mimic the arcaded entrance on the north elevation. Windows in the second and third stories have hood moldings. A full-height elevator tower and one-story power plant addition, which are ancillary to the building, were added in the 1960s (Photo #4).

Interior

The first floor of the courthouse contains a central lobby area surrounded by small offices, and the grand stairway (south side) that leads to the upper floors (Photos #5 & 6). The open lobby area of the first floor, displays restored original plaster ceilings, cornices, and trim (Photo #7). The second floor is the mezzanine surrounded by offices (Photos #8 & 9). Originally, the third floor contained the offices of the County Court and now it accommodates the offices of the Planning Department. The staircase leading to the third floor reflects the tile work and detail similar to the grand staircase (Photo #10). The fourth floor originally contained the court room and holding cells, and now temporary offices of the Human Resources Department are located there. A private staircase connects this floor with the fifth floor, which formerly contained the sheriff's quarters and jail, and is now used as offices.

A significant feature of the courthouse's interior is its original tile lobby and mezzanine floors. Floor material is one-inch by two-inch basket weave sandstone tiles which are interspersed diagonally at approximately two-foot intervals with two-inch square decorative tiles in eight different patterns (Photo #11). The decorative tiles are of the same sandstone with pattern accents in green, terra cotta, rust, and black. The flooring is surrounded by a "braided" border of the same one-inch by two-inch tiles. Both the basket weave and braid designs are reminiscent of late Roman and early Medieval Celtic patterns (Photo #12). The decorative tiles bear some resemblance to simple Celtic and Coptic designs.

Ceramic wall tiles comprise the dado in the first-floor lobby. Muted natural shades of gray, green, terra cotta, and rust run in courses above a black mopboard. The colors are typical of the Arts and Crafts movement. Heavy octagonal ceramic-tile clad concrete columns support the mezzanine floor above the lobby. Broad bands of decorative ceiling moldings encircle the lobby, staircase, and mezzanine areas. Some original light fixtures

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LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

are among the new fixtures of similar design located throughout the courthouse. An ornamental cast masonry wall clock graces the mezzanine area (Photo #13). The courthouse basement is a storage area.

Alterations

In the 1960s, the five-story exterior elevator was added to the south elevation of the building, and in the 1970s, two exterior spiral staircases were also added. At the same time, while "modernizing" the building, and attempting to be more energy efficient, the interior of the first (lobby) floor and second (mezzanine) floor, originally an open area, were reduced by dropped ceilings which enclosed ductwork. The renovation filled in the rotunda that existed at the second floor and filled in the two story courtroom at the fourth floor level. A decorative latticework brick facade/sunscreen, added in 1964, was stripped away from the building in 1987-88, as the deteriorated concrete blocks of the sunscreen were crumbling and considered hazardous. By 1989, a restoration project was underway and rotting windows on the north, east, and west sides of the building were replaced.

Historic restoration involved restoring all major public spaces in the building back to original condition and design of the 1920s historic courthouse. This included the reopening of the rotunda space at the second floor and restoring finishes, and restoring columns in the public entry areas of the first floor. The grand stairway, which goes to the second and third floors, as well as the waiting areas on those floors, were restored to their original configuration. Interior exit stairs were constructed to compensate for the removal of the exterior stairs, and a second elevator was installed on the interior of the building. A new roof with additional insulation was added, exterior walls were tuck pointed and sealed, and removed cornice and stone work was replaced. Light fixtures, compatible with the building were installed on the exterior and interior of the building.

Semi-Centennial Flag Pole Base

In 1937, to commemorate Lake County's fiftieth anniversary a monumental flag pole was constructed on the Courthouse lawn (Photos #1-2). It has a rectangular base formed from rocks sent from native states and countries of past and present residents of Lake County and holds three flag poles. During the building restoration, the parking lot in the front (east) of the building was removed and the area was returned to "green space" with walkways around the monument.

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Section number PHOTOS Page 1

LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

- 1. Lake County Courthouse, 315 W Main Street
- 2. Tavares, Lake County, Florida
- 3. Unknown
- 4. Spring, 1997
- 5. Unknown
- 6. Main (north) elevation, showing monument and green-space, camera facing south
- 7. Photo #1 of 13

Items 1-5 are the same for the following photograph:

- 6. North elevation, showing fenestration, recessed porch, cornice and parapet, camera facing southwest
- 7. Photo #2 of 13

Items 1 & 2 are the same:

- 3. Christopher A. Elliott
- 4. September, 1994
- 5. Kissimmee, Florida
- 6. East elevation, showing entrance and recessed porch, camera facing west
- 7. Photo #3 of 13

Items 1-5 are the same for the following photograph:

- 6. East and south elevations, showing elevator tower addition, camera facing northwest
- 7. Photo #4 of 13

Items 1 & 2 are the same:

- 3. Unknown
- 4. Spring, 1997
- 5. Unknown
- 6. First floor central lobby area, camera facing west
- 7. Photo #5 of 13

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Section number PHOTOS Page 2

LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

Items 1-5 are the same for the following photographs:

- 6. First floor central lobby area, camera facing east
- 7. Photo #6 of 13
- 6. First floor central lobby area, showing ceiling, cornices and trim
- 7. Photo #7 of 13
- 6. Second floor mezzanine, showing ceiling, cornices decorative railing and trim, camera facing east
- 7. Photo #8 of 13
- 6. Second floor mezzanine, showing tile work, columns, and staircase, camera facing southeast
- 7. Photo #9 of 13
- 6. Staircase leading to third floor, camera facing east
- 7. Photo #10 of 13

Items 1 & 2 are the same for the following photograph:

- 3. Christopher A. Elliott
- 4. September, 1994
- 5. Kissimmee, Florida
- 6. Original tile floor
- 7. Photo #11 of 13

Items 1-5 are the same for the following photographs:

- 6. Original tile floor
- 7. Photo #12 of 13
- 6. Ornamental cast masonry wall clock
- 7. Photo #13 of 13

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LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

SUMMARY

The Lake County Courthouse, was constructed between 1923 and 1926, and was Lake County's second courthouse. Originally erected during Florida's real estate boom era, it is significant on the local level under Criterion A in the areas of Community Planning/Development, and Politics/Government for its association with the establishment of Lake County. The courthouse is also significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as it is one of the few examples of the Neo-Classical Revival style in Lake County. The courthouse embodies the classical tradition in courthouse design. Its proportions are symmetrical and monumental. Because of its design, mass, and historical associations, the county courthouse is among the most significant buildings in Lake County. Furthermore, it was designed by Alan J. Macdonough, a prominent Lake County architect.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Lake County

Lake County was created in 1887 from parts of Orange and Sumter counties. In February 1887, an organizational meeting was held by area citizens who met at Fort Mason on the northern shore of Lake Eustis. Under the leadership of Major Alexander St. Clair Abrams and others from Tavares, it was decided to create a new county. In May 1887, a bill was introduced in the Florida Legislature by Senator J. M. Lee and was assisted in its passage through the Legislature by the Hon. H. H. Duncan. On May 27, 1887, the bill was signed into law by Governor Edward A. Perry and Lake County came into existence on July 27, 1887. The county was named "Lake" for its 1400 lakes by H. H. Duncan who was appointed by Governor Perry to be Clerk of the Circuit Court. The new county was comprised of 1,128 square miles and 72,920 acres. Tavares, the county seat, lies between lakes Dora, Eustis, and Harris, which are connected by the Dora Canal and Dead River. Before the formation of Lake County, Leesburg had served as the Sumter County seat until 1882, when the county seat was moved back to Sumterville.

In 1880, Major Alexander St. Clair Abrams had bought two tracts of land on the north shore of Lake Dora. Abrams laid out the town of Tavares, naming the streets after friends and family, and had it surveyed, with the plat registered in 1882. According to a study conducted in the 1930s, the first building in the town was the commissary for the sawmill which Abrams had moved on rollers from Lake Joanna, just east of Eustis. By 1885, Tavares had a number of boarding houses, a dozen stores, two saloons, a newspaper office, and the threestory Peninsula Hotel. Abrams reportedly had also financed in part, twenty-five miles of railroad which connected Tavares with the growing network of railroads in Central Florida.

Earlier access to northern markets had been by way of steamboats that came up the Ocklawaha River to

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

Lake Eustis from the St. Johns River at Lake Monroe. By 1880, however, the St. Johns and Lake Eustis Railroad opened Eustis and the county to freight and passenger traffic, and an expanded network of Central Florida railroads was complete by 1890.

Perhaps what helped to tip the scale in Tavares' favor in becoming the county seat was the fact that part of Tavares' offer was Major Abrams' promise to build a courthouse. On April 9, 1888, however, a fire destroyed Major Abrams' investments in Tavares. Sparks which flew from an engine of the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railroad as it departed for Sanford touched off the fire which destroyed the business portion of town. Abrams could only make good his promise of a courthouse with the financial backing of Frank Jones and Charles A. Sinclair. On November 5, 1889, Frank and Martha S. Jones and Charles A. and Emma J. Sinclair delivered to the Board of Lake County Commissioners a warranty deed for Lots H, K, and O of Block 5, Town of Tavares, located at the southwest corner of Main Street and Texas Avenue. The county paid the Jones's and Sinclairs the sum of \$10.00 for the property.

The crushing freezes of the winter of 1894-95 and 1899 stalled the county's and Florida's growth, as discouraged citrus growers and settlers fled the state. After the freezes of the 1890s, the citrus industry in Lake County showed a remarkable rebound. In 1895-96, the county had produced only 147,000 boxes of citrus. By 1922, the county was producing 13,000,000 boxes annually. At the same time, the Good Roads Movement spread across the United States, and the number of hard-surfaced roads in Lake and the adjoining counties increased between 1912 and 1916, making travel to adjoining counties and the east coast easier. Between 1916 and 1918, the Dixie Highway was built through the county, further easing travel and assisting in the county's development and growth in population. The county's population in 1920 was 12,744, a 34% increase over 1910. The county attributed its growth rate to its hospitality and the prospects for a good return on investment in the county. As in the rest of Florida, these and other internal improvements led to the real estate boom of the 1920s.

In 1937, Lake County celebrated its 50th anniversary and it was decided to mark the event with the erection on the north side of the courthouse of a commemorative triple flag pole base.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

In 1923, the Lake County Chamber of Commerce told the readers of its promotional brochures that the county was erecting a modern county building at Tavares, "as the present building, regardless of many additions is inadequate to handle the business of the fast growing county." At a County Commission meeting August 3, 1922, the Board decided to build the new courthouse and on September 4, 1922, issued county bonds for construction: \$250,000 for 30 years at 5% per annum. Bids were let and by January 23, 1923, the Board was reviewing the plans by architects Trimble and Alan J. Macdonough. That March, C. C. Hanner was selected as contractor for the building.

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LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

The cornerstone for the courthouse was dedicated on May 24, 1923. All apparently did not go as well as hoped, and construction of the courthouse was delayed. The County Commission meeting of January 1, 1924, lists Alan J. Macdonough as supervising architect and W. C. Spiker as consulting engineer and architect; C. C. Hanner, contractor, was terminated for failure to furnish sufficient workmen to complete the courthouse construction. Advertisements for bids to complete the construction were let, including the possibility of the new contractor considering incorporating the use of material from the old courthouse in the new "as far as same can be used." No further mention is made regarding the replacement contractor. The building was dedicated on November 13, 1924. An address was given by Judge J. C. B. Koone, presiding officer of the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, to the grand jury of the November term. On April 20, 1925, the Board accepted Alan J. Macdonough's work as completed.

With completion of the new courthouse, the first Lake County courthouse building was renamed the Pioneer Building and moved around to Texas Avenue, facing west. In 1973 it was determined that the 1923-26 courthouse was too small. The Pioneer Building was razed in January 1975 and Texas Avenue was closed to make room for a new round courthouse.

Semi-Centennial Flag Pole Base

On March 5, 1937, a triple flag pole base was dedicated on the north side of the courthouse on what was then a green space. The base was constructed of fifty-seven rocks sent from the native states and countries of past and present residents of Lake County who had participated in "its fifty years of outstanding history." The plan for the base was worked out through the Lake County Chamber of Commerce and Board of Lake County Commissioners.

The center flag pole was designed to carry the American flag, with shorter poles on the east and west for the Florida State flag and the Lake County flag. The flag-raising ceremony was led by General Vivian A. Collins, Adjutant General of the State of Florida, with the flag, secured by the Tavares Post of the American Legion, presented to the county by County Commissioner H. K. Stokes of Clermont. The flag pole base was designed by Arthur Williams, a Tavares architect. The stones were marked and placed by H. J. Kennell of Connecticut and Tavares and Herman Lund of Astatula.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Neo-Classical Revival Style

The Neo-Classical Revival Style was popularized by a revival of interest in classical models dating from the World Colombian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. A classical theme, as mandated by the exposition's

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

planners led to the design of dramatic colonnaded buildings arranged around a central court. The Neo-Classical style gained popularity through dissemination in photographs, reporting, and attendance at the exposition.

Constructed on a monumental scale, the style is based on the Greek and Roman architectural orders. It borrows full-height columns from the earlier Neoclassical style but does not apply their use according to historically accurate detailing. The most common application is in Neoclassical entry porches. In general, characteristics include a colossal pedimented portico supported by colossal columns, usually of the Ionic order, on a full-height porch; a symmetrical front facade; large single light windows; and an attic story.

Alan J. Macdonough

Alan J. Macdonough was a Charter Member of the Florida Board of Architects (License #22), which was established November 2, 1915. Macdonough then resided on Broadway in Kissimmee, Florida. He was born November 1, 1883, at Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, the son of Edward A. and Margaret Quay Macdonough. He was educated in Pennsylvania schools and the Drexel Institute of Philadelphia, where he studied engineering.

After college, Macdonough joined the Morgan Engineering Co. at Alliance, Ohio, and later was with the Masslin Bridge Co. in Ohio, and the American Bridge Co., Ambridge, Pennsylvania, and Canton, Ohio. Macdonough came to Kissimmee, Florida, in 1910, and engaged in engineering and architectural work for two years before moving to Lakeland. Macdonough married Lillian E. Porter, July 11, 1912, in Kissimmee.

In 1920, the Macdonoughs settled in Eustis. Alan J. Macdonough then designed over one hundred buildings, including most of the important buildings in Lake County for several years: the County Courthouse in Tavares; the Eustis City Hall; the Eustis Theater building; Clermont High School; Leesburg Masonic Temple; Eustis Grade School; the Woman's Club of Eustis (NR 1991); the Alice B. McClelland Memorial Bandshell in Eustis (NR 1994); and residences, including those of Glenn C. Hyde, H.G. Gamble, O.K. Cole, and R.D. Keene in Eustis.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Lake County Courthouse, designed by Alan J. Macdonough, is one of the most distinctive structures in Lake County and Tavares. It is significant as one of the few examples of the Neo-Classical Revival Style in the county. Its magnificent two-story lobby and mezzanine areas with their detailed braided, woven, and decorative tiled floors, ornate ceiling moldings, and muted earth-toned ceramic dado-work is distinct in this

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LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

Florida courthouse.

The courthouse represents numerous years of history to the citizens of Lake County. Like several other buildings designed by Alan Macdonough, the county courthouse incorporates many of the standard features which are typical of the Neo-Classical architectural style. The most notable features of the courthouse are the colossal Ionic columns, pilasters, keystone arched windows, and parapet. This building is a fine example of the application of such features to a building. These features make it one of the most distinctive buildings in Tavares, Lake County, and the state.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 1

LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

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LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

Verbal Boundary Description

The Lake County Courthouse is located in Block 5, Town of Tavares, as recorded in Lake County Deed book 7, Pages 406-410. The property is generally bound on the West by St. Clair Abrams Street, Ruby Street on the South, the new Lake County Courthouse on the East, and Main Street on the North.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries for the Lake County Courthouse include all property historically associated with the county courthouse complex.





0 = Photograph #/Direction

LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"



THIRD FLOOR PLAN SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0" **•**

LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida



FOURTH FLOOR PLAN SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida



LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE Tavares, Lake County, Florida

FIFTH FLOOR PLAN SCALE: 1/8"=1'-0"
