

PH035078X

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	APR 27 1976
DATE ENTERED	AUG 13 1976

**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 AND/OR COMMON
 * * Franklin County Courthouse
 Same

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Central Ave. and First Street N.W. __NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Hampton CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE
Iowa VICINITY OF Third

CODE 19 COUNTY Franklin CODE 069

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

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Franklin County

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Hampton STATE Iowa

VICINITY OF

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Franklin County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Central Ave. and First Street N.W.

CITY, TOWN
Hampton STATE Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

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 Franklin County Courthouse is a massive red brick and limestone Romanesque Revival building measuring 102 x 76 feet, with a central tower rising 133 feet. Although essentially rectangular in plan, the structure displays a remarkable complexity, variety, and fineness in detailing. Set on a battered and rusticated high stone foundation, the two story brick building makes an extensive and effective use of structurally integrated stone ornament and decorative brickwork. The notable brick features include the machicolated cornice, the circular corner features of the four central pavilions and the clusters of circular chimneys. There is stone ornamentation at all the windows; at the first floor the rectangular windows have rusticated stone surrounds. The windows of the second floor and attic have stone circular and segmental arches. The finest stonework is to be found in the carved ornamentation of the pavilions' parapeted gables, and the stone south porch which is Richardsonian in its forcefulness and bulk. The roof is hipped and covered with slate colored asphalt shingles. Originally it was covered with slate.

The domed clock tower is also of Romanesque Revival style. It is framed in iron and covered with pressed metalwork. There are clock faces on each of the four sides and four classical figures stand at each corner of the tower. A fifth figure, Blind Justice, originally stood atop the dome.

The county offices on the first floor all open onto a central rotunda with an elegant marble floor. The county courtroom occupies the central portion of the second floor with judge's chambers, law library, jury room, and conference rooms surrounding. The interior is richly endowed with woodwork in the Romanesque Revival style surrounding the doors and windows and supporting arched ceilings.

The county plans to clean and restore the exterior and to replace the statue of Blind Justice. The interior is currently undergoing restoration and refurbishing and every effort is being made to preserve the historic and architectural integrity of the building.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 1891

BUILDER/ARCHITECT T.D. Allen

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is the third of Franklin County's three courthouses. Construction on the building began in 1890 and was completed in 1891. The architect was T.D. Allen of Minneapolis.

The primary significance of this structure is due to the architectural design which reflects some of the best features of the Romanesque Revival style popular in the late 19th century. This style is apparent in the general mass of the building, the forms used in the battering of some of the lower walls, and in the fenestrations and the ornamentation used. This ornamentation involves both the combining of the brick and stone in patterns and in the carved stone, especially at the north and south entrances.

Of secondary importance is the changing concept of county government during this period. The change from small simple utilitarian structures often of frame construction to more elaborate quarters is well reflected in the Franklin County Courthouse. The need for more space in order to lend greater dignity to the contained activities, and to illustrate the prosperity of the region can be seen as motives in the design and construction of the building.

The courthouse is located in the center of the business district of Hampton, and its location typifies midwest county seats of this era. This building adds grace and dignity to the surrounding area, and is a pioneer landmark in the county. The building is structurally sound and worthy of preservation as a historic place.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Goeldner, Paul K. "Temples of Justics", unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Columbia University, 1970.
 Miscellaneous reports, bills, letters, specifications, drawings and contract documents pertaining to the construction of the courthouse.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 5	4 8 2 9 0 0	4 7 3 1 9 0 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James C. Fox, President

ORGANIZATION

Franklin County Historical Society

DATE

10 Jan. 1976

STREET & NUMBER

R.R.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Hampton

STATE

Iowa

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 A. Anderson

TITLE

Director, Div. of Historic Preservation

DATE

4-22-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

8/13/76

Acting DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles A. Stange

DATE

8-13-76

Acting KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER