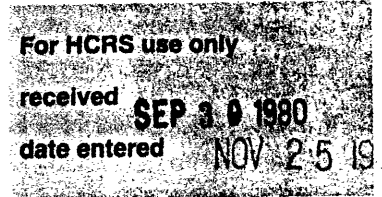


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McHenry County Courthouse, Towner (1907)

The McHenry County Courthouse is an economy version of the Traill County Courthouse plan. The building is constructed of buff brown brick over a concrete basement, with a white limestone water line at the first floor level. Paired sandstone columns support an entablature and pediment at the front facade pavilion, and the simple rectangular bay treatment of this pavilion is undistinguished except for an art glass transom on the second floor. Other windows throughout the building are rectangular with sandstone sills. Paired and single pilasters with Corinthian capitols meet the pressed metal frieze and cornices. A stubby metal-covered dome with antefixae around the lower perimeter sits atop a short tower with alternating double and single rectangular windows. The interior of the courthouse is simple but retains virtually complete integrity, including original woodwork and furniture in the courtroom and tellers cages in the Auditor and Register of Deeds offices.

LaMoure County Courthouse, LaMoure (1907-09)

Planned in 1907 and completed two years later, the LaMoure Courthouse features arched window heads on the first floor and a highly-detailed dome. First floor windows are hooded with a corbeled arch surround with exaggerated keystone; second floor windows are lentiled between single pilasters. The front facade features paired Corinthian columns behind which are paired stone pilasters, and a two-story entrance surround with ornate hood. Original leaded glass, woodwork, and hardware remain in the front entrance. The tall octagonal dome tower includes paired columns at each angle supporting a dentiled entablature and then a recessed pediment. Keystone-arched, double-hung windows pierce each wall of the tower. The metal-covered dome has a bull's-eye window on each vault plane, exaggerated ribbing, and a ball finial. Exterior materials are brown brick over a concrete-finished basement; columns and window arches are sandstone.

Except for wall paneling in two offices, the interior retains original features and materials. Front entrance, stairwell, and ground floor hallways gave a gray marble wainscoting. A mural decorates the area immediately above the window on the second floor landing, and another mural exists in one room of the Auditor's office. The courtroom contains extensive stenciling on walls just below a deeply coffered and highly enriched ceiling. Wainscoting in the courtroom is an applied oilpaper painted to resemble the brown marble pilasters of the rotunda.

Pierce County Courthouse, Rugby (1908)

A foundation of chocolate brown stone sets off the lighter brown brick walls, which rise to a metal cornice and pediment on each elevation. The tall dome combines elements of

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earlier courthouses, including paired stone columns at each angle, an exaggerated entablature, bull's-eye apertures at the cardinal points, and a belvedere finial. The front facade has single columns flanked by brick pilasters with stylized lamp motif medallions near the cornice. The metal frieze includes "Pax" on the left end and "Lux" on the right end, in addition to the usual county courthouse identification. The front entrance surround is of limestone with rosettes and a keystone at the center of the low arch. The upper portion of this opening contains original glass and framing, but the ground floor level has been altered to aluminum sashes and doors. Original ornate metal light standards remain on either side of the front entrance.

The distinguishing feature of the interior is the fine dark red marble wainscoting and pink marble rotunda pilasters. The rotunda skylight remains intact and is illuminated by natural light from above, and the rotunda is especially rich in stencil wall treatments and fine murals. The courtroom has been altered by installation of acoustical tile in the recesses of the coffered ceiling, but otherwise retains its fine woodwork, furnishings, light fixtures, and mural. Two rooms in the basement and first floor have been altered by installation of wooden partition walls.

A jail/sheriff's residence to the southeast of the courthouse is a two-story, hip-roofed structure with hipped dormers on all four roof slopes. Built of the same brown brick as the courthouse over a concrete foundation, the building features brick-columned porches on the south and west sides, decorative corbeling above the second story windows, and dentiled metal cornices on the main roof and the dormer roofs. A monumental polygonal brick chimney rises on the east side of the building.

Foster County Courthouse, Carrington (1909)

Like the Pierce County Courthouse, this building combines single columns, flanking brick pilasters, and a simple arched entry surrounded on the front facade. This building is more modest in detail, with a brown brick basement and a more stately dome rising above an octagonal brick tower. The tower has round windows below pediments in the four cardinal directions and rectangular windows on the intermediate surfaces. Bull's-eye apertures pierce the cardinal points of the dome itself, which is topped with a crown and ball finial. Rectangular windows throughout the building have keystone flat arches on the first floor and simple stone lentils between single brick pilasters on the second floor. The front facade retains its original metal surround treatment in the central bay, and also the original stained glass window on the second floor. The interior features a gray-brown marble wainscoting in the front entry and a courtroom with richly decorated coffered ceiling and wall stenciling.

A sheriff's residence/jail building to the north of the courthouse is a two-story brick structure with hipped roof and a hipped roof dormer on the north side. The building features dentiled metal cornices on the main roof line and on porches on the north and east side. A monumental octagonal brick smokestack rises on the west side of the building. A single-story addition on the south side houses jail cells.