

PH 0041432

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Arizona
COUNTY:	Maricopa
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	OCT 29 1974

N 3701320
E 578040

1. NAME

COMMON:
Arizona State Capitol Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Statehouse

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1700 West Washington

CITY OR TOWN:
Phoenix

STATE: **Arizona** CODE: **04** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: **1** COUNTY: **Maricopa** CODE: **013**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

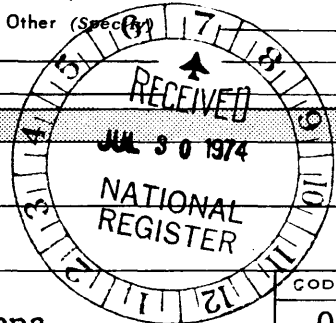
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
State of Arizona

STREET AND NUMBER:
1700 West Washington

CITY OR TOWN:
Phoenix

STATE: **Arizona** CODE: **04**



STATE: Arizona

COUNTY: Maricopa

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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Maricopa County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
111 South Third Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Phoenix

STATE: **Arizona** CODE: **04**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Survey of Buildings of Architectural Significance

DATE OF SURVEY: **1969** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
College of Architecture

STREET AND NUMBER:
Arizona State University

CITY OR TOWN:
Tempe

STATE: **Arizona** CODE: **04**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The capitol design is Ionic in the contemporary "Federal Style" of Greek classicism. Originally, the building had been intended as a copy of the national capitol, but insufficient funds caused sharp reduction in size. The dome, rather than matching the size of the main dome in Washington, is one which was originally expected to cap the Arizona House of Representatives.

The building is four stories high and has a partial basement, primarily used for storage. The fourth floor is also now used for storage. The first floor houses numerous offices as well as the 44' rotunda reception area.

The second floor was planned as an executive center, with the governor's two rooms in the NE corner measuring a total of 22' x 55' with the auditor's 18' x 20' office across the hall. In the SE corner, the Secretary of State occupied two rooms, also 22' x 55', with an adjoining 18' x 20' vault. Across the hall was the 20' x 54' library. In the north center the treasurer was assigned to an 18' x 24' office with an adjoining 7' x 8' vault. The Attorney-General's office across the hall was 19' x 22'. The remaining space on the second floor was used for various other offices of the state.

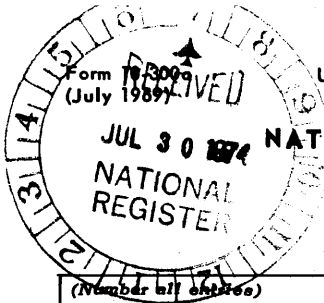
The third, or legislative, floor was 20 feet high, with 36' x 38' chambers for the two branches. Each chamber had a gallery under which were committee and cloak rooms. A room for the press was reserved between the chambers. The 20' x 30' supreme court room, flanked by two 18' x 22' retiring rooms, occupied the east front of the third floor.

The well hole on the second and third floors was 22' in diameter and topped by a 16' skylight.

The ground floor is constructed of an excellent quality granite from the Salt River Mountains 10 miles SW of Phoenix. The walls of the upper stories are of tufa, a porous stone composed of volcanic detritus quarried near Kirland, Yavapai County, almost 100 miles north of Phoenix.

The foundation, which rests on a broken stone and cement base two feet deep and six feet wide, extends eight feet below the ground and is of malapai rock from Camelback Mountain. The cornice and the roof were of iron and tin. The building was constructed entirely of Arizona products, with the exception of the steel beams in the floors and the oak used in doors and

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Arizona State Capitol, continued (#7. Description) #1

window casings. Twenty to thirty workmen were employed on the building and about ten at the quarries.

Because it was intended to make the building nearly fireproof, the basement floor was of cement, and the upper floors were of lumber laid on cement poured in expanded metal over steel beams. The stairways were of iron.

The original plan had called for a massive granite exterior stairway to the second floor, but this has been consistently rejected because of the excessive cost.

Nine thousand square feet of ornamental tile paved the corridors, the baseboards of which were marble. The ceilings were also ornamented. The interior wood finishing was of oak.

The Capitol building has, in the past, had the problem of termites, requiring thorough extermination. In 1957, termites and corrosion had caused deterioration to the point that a snake entered the auditor's office through an outside wall.

The dome is topped by a metal statue of a winged female whose original name and artist are unknown. She is usually referred to as a winged victory and carries in her right hand the torch of liberty and the victory wreath in her left. The figure is 16 feet tall and was designed as a weather vane, but since prevailing winds caused her to face the rear of the building, she was bolted down to face the front after having served as a weather vane for over fifty years.

The growth of the state has been expressed in the expansion of state business with the result that additions to the capitol have been made from time to time. The first such addition was built in 1918 and extended west from the center of the capitol. The west wing addition was completed in 1939 and parallels the original building to form a letter H. In 1957, new legislative wings were constructed, and the former legislative rooms of the capitol were partially converted into offices.

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Arizona State Capitol, continued. (#7. Description) #2

Presently in construction is a tower office building to the rear (west) of the Rotunda Building. When this is completed, some of the departments of government now occupying the Rotunda will be moved to the tower.

Only the Rotunda Building is to be nominated to the National Register.

It is expected that the restoration of the Rotunda Building will begin before the end of 1974 and be completed in approximately 3 years.



9. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1889 to present**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The first territorial capitol was located at Fort Whipple in Chino Valley, but a few months later, in April of 1864, it was moved to Prescott. As in many territories, the location of the capitol was a matter of much political controversy, and the northern site had been chosen because of the presence of Confederate sympathizers in the Tucson area. However, in these early years, the southern part of the territory had the larger population and was able in 1867 to secure the removal of the capitol to Tucson. In 1877 another political skirmish resulted in the return of the capitol to Prescott.

In 1889, when the capitol became permanently established in Phoenix, the territorial offices and legislature were housed in the municipal buildings, but the growth of the city and the increase in territorial business demanded the construction of adequate facilities. The legislature, therefore, immediately voted to obtain a site for a permanent capitol, with the stipulation that the land must be donated and must comprise at least 10 acres. Five tracts were offered, and the present location, donated by M. E. Collins and M. H. Sherman, was selected in June of 1889. The land was then being used for alfalfa.

A bond issue of \$100,000 for the construction of the building was authorized by the territorial legislature in 1897 but since this was clearly insufficient, an additional sum was voted by the next legislature. The cost of the building was \$135,774.29. Completed in the fall of 1900, it was dedicated 25 February 1901, almost the anniversary of Arizona's birth as a territory (24 February 1863).

The plans for the building were drawn by James Riley Gordon, a San Antonio architect, and called for a much larger and more elaborate building than the one which was finally constructed. There was some expectation that the building might be expanded

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(Attached)

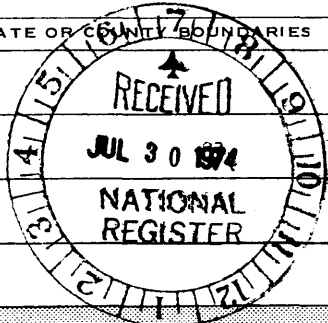
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		33	26	53
NE	° ' "	° ' "		112	5	47
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Two

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Dorothy Hall
Marjorie Wilson, Historian / Historic Sites Preservation Off.

ORGANIZATION: Arizona State Parks Board DATE: July 26, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: 1688 West Adams

CITY OR TOWN: Phoenix STATE: Arizona CODE: 04

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Dennis McCarthy
 Title: State Historic Preservation Officer
 Date: July 26, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/29/74

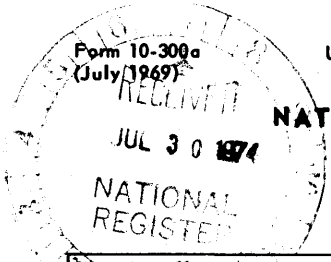
ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10.22.74

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Arizona State Capitol, continued. (#8. Significance) #1

later to follow the original plan, but the expense proved prohibitive. Contractor for the building was Thomas Lovell of Denton, Texas.

Ground was broken for the capitol building in March of 1899, and the cornerstone would have been laid in July, but the special building commission decided against it because of the additional expense. It is believed to be the only state capitol without a cornerstone.

When the constitutional convention of 1910 failed to use the entire sum appropriated for its deliberations, George W. P. Hunt, president of that body, suggested that Arizona artist Lon Megargee be commissioned to paint 14 Arizona scenes. The 4 x 7 paintings were first exhibited at the Pan-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco in 1915 and were then placed on display in the capitol for about thirty years. Placed in storage for nearly fifteen years, the paintings were restored in 1962 and hung in the new wings.

The contents of the lower floor of the capitol suffered much damage from the big Cave Creek flood of August 1921. The flood, which arrived suddenly and with great force, covered the ground floor with a foot of mud and water. The flood waters also carried in great numbers of red ants, which made life interesting for the clean up crew.

In March of 1923, Governor Hunt, just returned from one of his many world tours, had a double row of Italian cypress trees planted in front of the building. Hunt, who had been much impressed with the Taj Mahal, intended eventually to have a fountain and lagoon between the rows, but this was never carried out. The trees were removed when construction was begun on the new legislative wings in 1957. The new wings were occupied in March, 1960.

The elaborate tile floor in the rotunda, depicting the great seal of Arizona, was dedicated in March of 1923 with a dance to celebrate the occasion.

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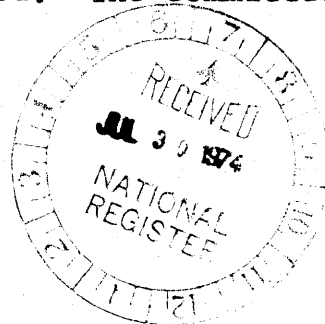
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Arizona State Capitol Building, continued. (#8. Significance) #2

In 1957, Frank Lloyd Wright submitted plans for a new capitol building which would be built in Papago Park, but this plan was rejected for a number of reasons. In the first place, the consensus was that the park should be reserved for recreational use. Secondly, the Wright plan would have left most of the departments of government at the old site--a most inefficient arrangement. And finally, the distance of Papago Park from the metropolitan center as well as from the other state buildings appeared to be excessively inconvenient.

Rapid increase in the population of Arizona and resultant continuing expansion of state government has required the construction of several new state office buildings. These face onto Adams and Jefferson Street; and Washington Street, between these two, will eventually span the area to form a Capitol Mall extending to the east toward the metropolitan area of Phoenix.

A restoration is planned for the Rotunda Building, and the Legislature has appropriated \$1 million for this accomplishment. A steering committee has been selected. The committee has met several times.



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