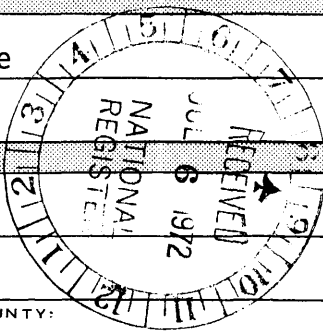


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

2/5/3
11/13

STATE: KENTUCKY	
COUNTY: SCOTT	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER SEP 28 1972	DATE



1. NAME

COMMON: **Scott County Court House**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Same**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **East Main & Broadway**

CITY OR TOWN: **Georgetown**

STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21** COUNTY: **Scott** CODE: **209**

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) _____ _____ _____
		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____	<input type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Scott County Fiscal Court**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Scott County Courthouse**

CITY OR TOWN: **Georgetown** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Scott County Court House - Order Book A**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Main & Broadway**

CITY OR TOWN: **Georgetown** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Survey Of Historic Building & Sites In Kentucky**

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Kentucky Heritage Commission**

STREET AND NUMBER: **401 Wapping Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Frankfort** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: _____

COUNTY: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: **SEP 28 1972**

DATE: _____

7. DESCRIPTION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

CONDITION

(Check One)

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Scott County Court House was designed in the height of the brief Second Empire Style in the United States, with the design having been submitted in 1876 and the construction begun in 1877. Designed by Pittsburgh architect Thomas Boyd, known to have designed a number of public buildings in the Central United States, the structure is one of the few buildings of the Second Empire or General Grant style to survive in this area and in the country. Built of a light colored brick and trimmed ostentatiously with window molds, cornices, superimposed orders, pilasters of both brick and stone or concrete and a mansard tower, the building had deteriorated both inside and out until the recent renovation was undertaken. Its brick was of a dark maroon color, the result of nearly a hundred years accumulation of coal soot and highway dirt. The interior tile floors had accumulated considerable filth, and the exceedingly high ceilings had become sources of expense in providing heat. The large circuit courtroom on the second floor had ceased to serve the period of large gatherings in court and had thus become acoustically impossible.

The renovation which was undertaken in late 1971 included the tearing out of much of the ornamental plaster in order to lighten the load borne by the load bearing walls and to provide for the addition of a third story between the floor and ceiling of the ornate courtroom. Office space was realigned and new wall and floor coverings installed. A sand blasting, reworking of the windows and restoration of the Victorian entrance was taking place as this nomination was being written.

Work should be completed in July and offices reoccupied in August, 1972. A rededication of the structure is planned for that time.

Renovation architect has been James A. Ross of Lexington. Cost of the work will be approximately \$350,000. A city-county citizens' committee recommended that this be done after surveying comparative costs and advantages of reconstructing or remodeling.

The addition of the third story and the realignment of office and hall space will provide an increase of 38% in useable space. Existing floor area prior to the renovation consisted of 13,870 square feet. The renewed court house will provide 19,146 square feet useable space.

Thus the high ceilings and spacious halls of the Victorian era will serve the late twentieth century by providing room for additional rooms and an additional level of working area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

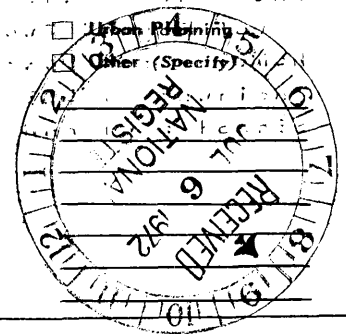
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1877

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input 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 Scott County Courthouse is significant in at least two ways 1. because of its relatively rare architectural period and 2. because it was here that the trials for the various persons charged with murder and conspiracy to murder Kentucky's Governor William Goebel took place.

This is the fourth courthouse to occupy the site set aside by Elijah Craig when Scott County Court met for its first session in September, 1792. The third courthouse burned in October, 1876. Competition for design was announced by a special committee which specified a top figure of \$25,000. However, Thomas Boyd with a design the cost of which was estimated at \$33,000 convinced the committee and the court that this plan more nearly met the needs of the county. Boyd won the competition and was hired as supervising architect. Bids were opened in February, 1877 with contractors from Pennsylvania, Cincinnati, North Carolina, and several parts of Kentucky entering bids ranging from \$33,540 to \$46,000. Isaac Graveson of Cincinnati was hired at \$34,600. By the time the structure was furnished, the sum had risen to \$50,000.

The design follows the motif of the Second Empire, which became popular in France with the reign of Napoleon III and which came to the United States with the presidency of U.S. Grant. Apparently influenced by structures in his home state, the most notable of which was Philadelphia City Hall, Boyd brought the style to Kentucky. The style employs the mansard roof with a curb around the top of the visible slopes and roof dormers in several shapes, pilasters, quoins, statuary on the roof, cornices, brackets, classically detailed chimneys and arched windows. Interior plaster, much of which was removed in order to allow the walls to bear a third story (1971) followed the classical and Greek Revival themes of egg and dart and bead and reel. Of the design, Russell V. Keune (AIA) director of field services of the National Trust wrote, "The Scott County Court House is a richly ornamented example of late nineteenth century public architecture. we certainly feel it should be considered a prime candidate for preservation." James D. VanTrump of the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation wrote that the structure was "a very pleasant and charming example of the type." (see continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. "Tale Of An Upstart" unpublished manuscript by Ann B. Bevins, the story of the 1899 election and 1900 murder of William Goebel.
2. "Caleb Powers Unsuccessful In Plea before Scott Jury," Ann Bevins, The Lexington Leader (Copy in Bevins Scrapbook, Scott County Public Library.)
3. Correspondence from James B. VanTrump, Pittsburg History and Landmarks Foundation, September 23, 1970; from Russell V. Keune of National Trust For Historic Preservation, March 8, 1971 in possession of Ann B. Bevins, Georgetown, Kentucky

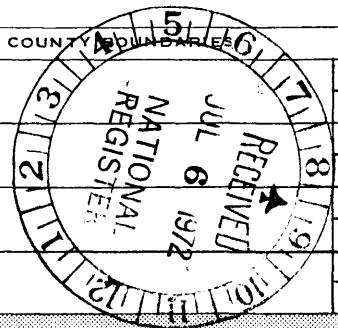
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		84° 33' 34"	38° 12' 37"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



10/7/72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Ann Bolton Bevins, Scott County Representative For The
 ORGANIZATION Kentucky Heritage Commission and Scott DATE 3/15/72
County Historical Society
 STREET AND NUMBER:
Route # 4 - Lexington Pike
 CITY OR TOWN: Lexington, STATE Kentucky, CODE 21

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 [Signature]

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

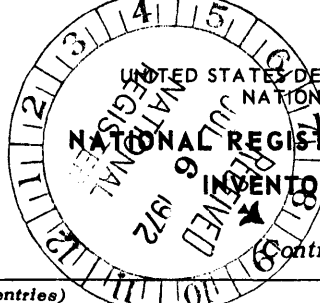
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 9/28/72

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 8.27.72



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Kentucky	
COUNTY Scott	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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#8 Statement Of Significance

Boyd, according to Industries and Wealth of Pittsburg and Environs New York (1890) had since 1864 designed and supervised the erection of banks, courthouses, churches, hotels and dwellings throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois, Colorado, Georgia, North and South Carolina, California and New York. The Biographical Dictionary Of American Architects calls him "one of the leading architects of the city during the late nineteenth century."

✓ The structure became a focal point in Kentucky history when the trials for the various persons charged with conspiracy to murder William Goebel took place between 1900 and 1906. Circuit Judge James Edwards Cantrill had the trials moved from Frankfort to the prestigious circuit court room in his home town, Georgetown. Journalist and author Irvin Cobb, first became famous while covering these trials ✓

William Goebel, who had by all appearances ^{been} defeated in his 1899 bid for the governorship of Kentucky by William S. Taylor, was in the process of contesting the election. Taylor had been sworn in, and the pro-Democrat legislature was busy surveying the contest with Goebel pushing to have Taylor's election nullified on the basis of "illegal votes." The Republicans, supporting the Taylor contention, had brought in trainloads of mountain men to "lobby" for their cause and camp on the Frankfort Capitol Grounds. When it appeared that the Taylor election would be overthrown by the contest committee, on the morning of January 30, while approaching the Capitol (Old State House) William Goebel was shot. He lay for three days before dying, and on January 30 the legislature declared him legally elected governor. Goebel died on February 3, with his lieutenant governor, J.C.W. Beckham succeeding him.

Various persons were charged with conspiracy. The shot having come from the office of Secretary Of State Caleb Powers resulted in Powers implication, though he was not in town that day. Henry Youtsey who worked in a nearby state office was also charged, as were several of the mountain men, including Jim Howard, considered by most historians to have been the most likely person to have fired the shot. Some twenty persons were charged with the various aspects of the crime and conspiracy. The most exciting of the trial to take place in Scott County Courthouse were the three trials of Caleb Powers. Young, handsome, polished and eloquent, the Secretary of State won the hearts of the young women of the town, who visited him in jail and brought him treats. His most dramatic appeal for clemency took place before a crowded court room in 1903 when he recalled that "for over three long years... been forced to lie in the jails of this state, classed as a murderer and denounced as an assassin." However, the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
KENTUCKY	
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(Number all entries)

Democratic jury found him guilty. That verdict being overthrown, he again stood trial at LaGrange and was found not guilty by a vote of 10 to 2. In 1910 Powers ran for Congress from his home district (Barbourville) and was elected in answer to his plea to his Eleventh District constituents to "keep me in Congress at least as long as the Democrats kept me in jail."

Batteries of attorneys were on hand to assist both the prosecution and defense. A number of these gentlemen had associated together as soldiers of the Confederacy including Basil Duke, lobbying for the L&N Railroad and considered a part of the Taylor lobby, and Judge Cantrill, as well as W.C.P. Breckinridge, attorney for Powers.

#9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE (Cont'd)

4. Industries and Wealth of Pittsburgh and Environs New York (New York:1890) p. 127 concerning Thomas Boyd, Architect.
5. Scott County Order Book L, pages 297 --479 (1876-1878)

