# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Registe	r of Historic	Places	Registrati	on	Form	è
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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. 1. Name of Property NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Historic name: Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Other names/site number: Name of related multiple property listing: (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing 2. Location Street & number: N/A County: McDonough IL City or town: Macomb State: Not For Publication: Vicinity: 3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this **x** nomination \_\_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property 🗶 meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: local national \_statewide Applicable National Register Criteria: X A Signature of certifying official/Title: State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. Signature of commenting official: Date Title: State or Federal agency/bureau

or Tribal Government

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District
Name of Property

McDonough, IL
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification
I hereby certify that this property is:
ventered in the National Register
determined eligible for the National Register
determined not eligible for the National Register
removed from the National Register
other (explain:)
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
5. Classification
Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)
Private:
Public – Local x
Public – State
Public – Federal
Category of Property
(Check only one box.)
Building(s)
District
Site
Structure
Object

McDonough, IL Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District County and State Name of Property **Number of Resources within Property** (Do not include previously listed resources in the count) Noncontributing Contributing buildings 65 18 sites \_\_\_1 structures objects 18 Total 66 Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_3 6. Function or Use **Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions.) DOMESTIC/single dwelling COMMERCE/financial COMMERCE/business COMMERCE/professional COMMERCE/specialty store COMMERCE/department store COMMERCE/restaurant SOCIAL/meeting hall GOVERNMENT/city hall GOVERNMENT/courthouse RELIGION/religious facility RECREATION AND CULTURE/Theater RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument/marker RECREATION AND CULTURE/music facility HEALTH CARE/clinic LANDSCAPE/parking lot LANDSCAPE/park TRANSPORTATION/rail-related TRANSPORTATION/road-related

#### **Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Aluminum Stucco Wood

comb Courthouse Square Historic District	McDonough, IL
ne of Property	County and State
DOMESTIC/single dwelling	
COMMERCE/financial	
COMMERCE/business	
COMMERCE/professional	
COMMERCE/specialty store	
COMMERCE/restaurant	
GOVERNMENT/city hall	
GOVERNMENT/courthouse	
RELIGION/religious facility	
RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument/marker	
LANDSCAPE/parking lot	
LANDSCAPE/park	
TRANSPORTATION/rail-related	
7. Description	
7. Description Architectural Classification	
7. Description	
7. Description Architectural Classification	
7. Description  Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)	
7. Description  Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)  Italianate	
7. Description  Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)  Italianate Second Empire	
7. Description  Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)  Italianate Second Empire Romanesque	
7. Description  Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)  Italianate Second Empire Romanesque Queen Anne	
7. Description  Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)  Italianate Second Empire Romanesque Queen Anne Stick/Eastlake	
7. Description  Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)  Italianate Second Empire Romanesque Queen Anne Stick/Eastlake Classical Revival Colonial Revival	
7. Description  Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)  Italianate Second Empire Romanesque Queen Anne Stick/Eastlake Classical Revival Colonial Revival Craftsman	
7. Description  Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)  Italianate Second Empire Romanesque Queen Anne Stick/Eastlake Classical Revival Colonial Revival	

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District
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## **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

# **Summary Paragraph**

The Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District is located in the county seat and largest city in McDonough County. With a population of almost 20,000, the city of Macomb is home to Western Illinois University and plays a prominent role in west-central Illinois. The Courthouse Square, with its architecturally significant 1872 courthouse and its surrounding streets of intact late-19<sup>th</sup> to early-20<sup>th</sup> century Commercial Blocks, marks the center of the region. The traditional home of government and commerce, downtown Macomb has remained vital despite shifting business and shopping patterns across America. The oldest buildings are now over 150 years old, some with post-World War II storefront alterations that have gained significance in their own right. With the exception of a large bank at the south end of the square, the other block faces are historically intact. There are 89 properties in the district, including 83 buildings, two vacant lots, three parking lots, and one park. All but four of the buildings were originally constructed prior to 1960.

#### **Narrative Description**

Macomb is a city of 19,288 people located in McDonough County in west-central Illinois. Directly 57 miles west of Peoria, 54 miles northeast of Quincy, and 40 miles east of the Mississippi River, it is the center of a larger rural trading area in a county with a 2010 population of 32,612 (US census). When it was chosen as the seat of McDonough County in 1830, it was a small settlement among a handful of others scattered throughout the county. The ensuing decades witnessed the growth of Macomb as a center of commercial and government activity for the county, bringing new people, businesses, and institutions into the city, all of the anchored around its courthouse square. Today the largest employer in the city is Western Illinois University, located about two miles west of downtown. The university's students account for half the city's population. The largest single employer downtown is the McDonough county offices. City Hall, the Macomb Public Library, and the Post Office are the other downtown governmental employers. Two banks, small retail shops, business services, a few restaurants, and other commercial uses provide a small but constant daily pedestrian traffic.

The original plat for downtown Macomb was recorded in 1831, with minor alterations made in a

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Name of Property

subsequent plat surveyed in 1834. An orthogonal grid street pattern of roughly square blocks was used. The Courthouse Square was set in between the north/south streets of Lafayette and Randolph, but mid-block, breaking the continuity of Jackson Street. There are four pedestrian passageways that cut through the mid-blocks at the east and west corners of North Side Square and South Side Square. The east/west and north/south directional system for the city radiates out from the courthouse square. Building lots are generally long and narrow, with a narrow street frontage, particularly on those lots facing the square. They are rectilinear but not all the same size. Sidewalks run parallel to the streets, and a row of diagonal parking is positioned around each side of the square. The courthouse building itself is set in the middle of a small grassy lawn. Surrounding downtown streets are lined with mostly brick, two- to three-story Commercial Blocks, densely packed with shared party walls. Ground-level storefronts contain retail stores, restaurants, or business services. Upper floors have business or sometimes residential uses.

Amtrak railroad tracks run along the north edge of downtown at a slightly southwest angle, separating the business district from a residential neighborhood immediately north. Passenger trains stop twice a day in each direction, providing service to Chicago and Quincy, with a few stops in between. In 1865 the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Line had consolidated with the earlier Northern Cross Line that had been completed in 1856. Immediately south of the train station across Calhoun Street is the historic Chandler Park, dating from 1879 when the property was assembled and existing commercial structures on the site were demolished.

The Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District covers six full and four partial city blocks, and encompasses 30.25 acres. The district is generally bounded by the railroad tracks on the north, North and South Campbell on the east, E. Washington and West Washington on the south, S. McArthur Street and the alley east of it on the west. A local historic district was designated in 2009 with a similar but slightly larger boundary.

The district contains 89 properties with 83 buildings, the majority of which are commercial structures. Of these, 50 are Two-Part Commercial Blocks, 13 are One-Part Commercial Blocks, four are Freestanding buildings, and three were originally built as Garages. The remaining five include a Temple Front- and an Arcaded Block-type commercial structure, a multi-story office building, a former livery, and a gas station. There are eight non-commercial buildings in the survey area which include the Courthouse, the Amtrak train station, and one church. Five buildings originally served residential functions including the Lamoine Hotel, and four houses of which one is now City Hall, one is a house museum owned by the McDonough County Historic Preservation Society, one contains business uses, and only one is still a single-family home. Of the 83 buildings, 65 are historic structures that contribute to the character of the historic district. Chandler Park, located north of the courthouse square, is also contributing to the district, which brings the total number of contributing properties to 66.

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Name of Property MACOMB COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT--INVENTORY NR Construction Other District Style/Type Details Abb Street # Direction Street Date Date Rating [CHANDLER Park 1878-9 PARK] 1913 120 Ε CALHOUN STREET Craftsman Stick Style 1887 S lC Oueen Anne 100 CAMPBELL STREET Vacant Lot 101-111 E CARROLL STREET One-Part 2001 NC 113-117 E STREET CARROLL Commercial Block 1898 (123) c. 1925 Two-Part 121-123 E STREET C CARROLL (121);Commercial 1950s (121-Block 123 storefronts) 1928 Two-Part 127 STREET E CARROLL Commercial Block Parking Lot STREET 215 Е CARROLL 1895 2002-4 231 E CARROLL STREET Church -Carpenter Gothic c. 1905 C Colonial 233 E CARROLL STREET Revival One-Part c. 1920 C 110 W CARROLL STREET Commercial Block 1918 1891 Livery--No W STREET 119 CARROLL Style Parking Lot 125 W STREET CARROLL Courthouse--1889-90 1871-1872 COURTHOUSE SQUARE C 001 Second Empire 1932 C Two-Part Italianate 1857 001-005 EAST SIDE Commercial SQUARE Block 1936-7 C Two Part Art Deco 007-009 EAST SIDE Commercial SQUARE Block 1897 c. 1950 C Two-Part Queen 011-013 EAST SIDE (storefronts) Commercial Anne SQUARE Block С Two-Part 1897 Oueen EAST SIDE 015 Commercial Anne SQUARE Block NC Two-Part Queen 1897 c. 1955 017 EAST SIDE

McDonough, IL

County and State Name of Property MACOMB COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT-INVENTORY NR Construction Other Details Abb District Style/Type Street # Direction Street Date Date Rating (storefront Anne **SQUARE** Commercial Block and sheath) 1872; 1950s 1877 C Two-Part Italianate 019-023 EAST SIDE (storefronts) SQUARE Commercial Block 1881 1892 C Two-Part Italianate 025-029 EAST SIDE Commercial SQUARE Block Classical 1892 1950s Two-Part 031 EAST SIDE Revival (storefront) Commercial SQUARE Block C Two-Part Oueen 1904 033-035 EAST SIDE Commercial Anne SQUARE Block STREET One-Part 1907 IC. Romanesq 211 E **JACKSON** Commercial ue/Queen Block Anne c. 1960 One-Part 1923 215 lΕ JACKSON STREET NC Commercial Block 1929 Freestanding 1927 **JACKSON** 221 E STREET Commercial 1919 2002 Colonial STREET C 232 E **JACKSON** Revival Gas Station Art c. 1927 E STREET C 233 **JACKSON** Moderne One-Part pre-1886 110 W **JACKSON** STREET C Commercial Block Two-Part 1924 STREET C 112 W JACKSON Commercial Block 1987 STREET NC Freestanding post-1976 113-123 W JACKSON Commercial 1894-5 Two-Part STREET C 114-116 W **JACKSON** Commercial Block c. 1905 1915/1925 Garage 125-133 W **JACKSON** STREET 1924/c. 1872/1874 Two-Part Italianate 118-128 N LAFAYETTE STREET 1945 Commercial Block 1899 1879 LAFAYETTE Two-Part Italianate 130-132 N STREET C Commercial Block 1895 Two-Part Classical STREET C

LAFAYETTE

202-208 N

McDonough, IL

County and State Name of Property MACOMB COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT--INVENTORY NR Construction Other Details Abb District Style/Type Street # Direction Street Date Date Rating Revival Commercial Block 1938 One Part STREET C 212 LAFAYETTE Commercial Block 1962 Freestanding NC 214 LAFAYETTE STREET Commercial Two-Part 1883 Italianate 118-120 S STREET LAFAYETTE Commercial Block 1929 Two-Part STREET 121-123 S LAFAYETTE Commercial Block 1931 One-Part 124 LAFAYETTE STREET Commercial Block 1929 Two-Part STREET C 127-133 S LAFAYETTE Commercial Block Two-Part 1927 130 LAFAYETTE STREET Commercial Block 1954 One-Part 135 LAFAYETTE STREET C Commercial Block Two-Part 1954 141 S LAFAYETTE STREET Commercial Block STREET C One-Part 1915 **MCARTHUR** 117 Commercial Block c. 1940 Garage/One 119-121 S MCARTHUR STREET C Part Commercial Block c. 1950 S STREET C One-Part 123 MCARTHUR Commercial Block

Two-Part

Two-Part

Two-Part

Block

Block

Commercial

Commercial

C

NC

C

NORTH SIDE

NORTH SIDE

NORTH SIDE

**SQUARE** 

SQUARE

100-102

104-106

108-110

Italianate

1871

Richardson 1857/1866

1857 / 1871

1881 / 1992

1902-3/c.

# Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District Name of Property

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MACOMB COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT--INVENTORY NR Other Construction District Style/Type Details Abb Street # Direction Street Date Date Rating 1930-40 Commercial ian SOUARE (storefront) Block Romanesq ue 1950s C Two-Part Italianate 1870 NORTH SIDE 114 Commercial (storefront) SQUARE Block 1883-1884 C Two Part Classical 116-118 NORTH SIDE Commercial Revival SQUARE Block 1960s Two-Part 1857 / 1860 NC NORTH SIDE 120-122 (storefronts Commercial SQUARE Block and sheath) c. 2000 1868/1870 NC Two-Part 124-134 NORTH SIDE Commercial SQUARE Block (altered) 1917 (119-21) 1931-1946 Temple Front Classical RANDOLPH STREET 119-123 N (123)Revival 2005 STREET NC Two-Part 1896 125 RANDOLPH N Commercial Block (altered) STREET C Two-Part Oueen 1896 127-135 N RANDOLPH Commercial Anne Block 1950s STREET C Two-Part 1891-2 N RANDOLPH 134 (storefronts) Commercial Block Classical 1927 STREET C 201 RANDOLPH Revival 1920s Two-Part Queen c. 1900 STREET C RANDOLPH 215-217 N Commercial Anne/Tudo r Revival Block Two-Part 1891-2 STREET NC 219 RANDOLPH Commercial Block (altered) c. 1940 STREET NC One-Part 223 N RANDOLPH Commercial Block 1930s-40s STREET C Two-Part Queen 1895 119-125 S RANDOLPH (storefront Anne Commercial configuratio Block ns) 1894 STREET C One-Part 127 S RANDOLPH

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Name of F		COMB COURT	HOUSE SO	QUARE HI	STORIC DIST	RICTINV	VENTORY	
Street #	Direction	Street	Abb	NR District Rating	Style/Type	Details	Construction Date	Other Date
					Commercial Block			
129	S	RANDOLPH	STREET	С	One-Part Commercial Block		1901	
131-137	S	RANDOLPH	STREET	NC	Two-Part Commercial Block		1898	1950s (storefront and canopy)
101		SOUTH SIDE SQUARE		С	Two-Part Commercial Block		1930	-
103-105		SOUTH SIDE SQUARE		NC	Two-Part Commercial Block		1894	1915
107-109		SOUTH SIDE SQUARE		С	Two-Part Commercial Block	Italianate	1878	-
111-115		SOUTH SIDE SQUARE		С	Two-Part Commercial Block	Italianate	1872	1950s (111 storefront)
117		SOUTH SIDE SQUARE		С	Two-Part Commercial Block	Italianate	1861	1950s (storefront)
119-121		SOUTH SIDE SQUARE		-	Vacant Lot		<b>*</b>	-
123-135		SOUTH SIDE SQUARE		NC	Arcaded Block (altered)		1875-1913	1991
110-112	E	WASHINGTON	STREET	С	Garage/One Part Commercial Block		c. 1915	
214	Е	WASHINGTON	STREET	C	Freestanding Commercial		1956	-
220	Е	WASHINGTON	STREET	NC	Office BuildingNo Style		1966	-
100	W	WASHINGTON	STREET	-	Parking Lot			
132	W	WASHINGTON	STREET	C	Queen Anne		c. 1895	100 TO
002-004		WEST SIDE SQUARE		С	Two-Part Commercial Block		1927	-
006-008		WEST SIDE SQUARE		С	Two-Part Commercial Block	Romanesq ue / Classical	1903 / 1912	-

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	MA	COMB COURT	HOUSE S	QUARE H	STORIC DIS	TRICT-IN	VENTORY	
Street # Di	irection	Street	Abb	NR District Rating	Style/Type	Details	Construction Date	Other Date
			1			Revival		
010-018		WEST SIDE SQUARE		C	Two-Part Commercial Block	Art Moderne	1881 / 1898	1950s (storefronts)
020		WEST SIDE SQUARE		С	Two-Part Commercial Block		1881	-
022		WEST SIDE SQUARE		NC	Two-Part Commercial Block		1886	1959 (sheath); 1950s (storefront)
024-026		WEST SIDE SQUARE		С	Two-Part Commercial Block		1940	1993
028		WEST SIDE SQUARE		C	Two-Part Commercial Block		1854-55	-
030		WEST SIDE SQUARE		NC	Two-Part Commercial Block		1854-56	1920s
032		WEST SIDE SQUARE		NC	Two Part Commercial Block		1875	-
034		WEST SIDE SQUARE		С	Two-Part Commercial Block	Queen Anne	1895	-

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District

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8. Sta	iten	nent of Significance
	'x" i	e National Register Criteria in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register
Х	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.
х	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.
		onsiderations in all the boxes that apply.)
	A.	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
	В.	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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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۸.	reas of Significance	
	nter categories from instructions.)	
(E	Commerce	
_	Architecture	
_	Politics/Government	
\ <del></del>	Community Planning and Development	
	Law	
	Law	
	erion of Significance	
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	1834-1959 <b>Ignificant Dates</b> 1834  1871	
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- Si	1834-1959 <b>Ignificant Dates</b> 1834  1871	
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- Si	gnificant Dates 1834 1871  Ignificant Person	
- Si	gnificant Dates 1834 1871  Ignificant Person	
- Si	gnificant Dates 1834 1871  Ignificant Person	

Architect/Builder

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District is locally significant in the areas of community planning, architecture, commerce, law, and politics/government. The proposed district meets Criterion C as a rare example of the Harrisonburg Square, a type of courthouse square design which features north-south streets bordering the east and west sides of the center square that continue past the square, as well as a single east-west street (Jackson Street), which intersects the center of the east and west sides of the square. A relatively small number of courthouse squares in Illinois were laid out in the Harrisonburg Plan—among the 14 counties that are fully within the Illinois Military Tract, Macomb is one of two that feature courthouse squares laid out in the Harrisonburg Plan, and is the best preserved example of this courthouse square type in the Military Tract.

The proposed district also meets Criterion C as an intact collection of commercial and government buildings representing a variety of architectural styles from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The district's commercial structures range from simple brick commercial blocks with restrained detailing dating from the 1850s and 1860s, to more elaborately ornamented Italianate, Classical Revival and Queen Anne-style blocks dating from the 1870s to the early 1900s and representing the city's most robust period of growth. The district contains a substantial number of 1920s and 1930s commercial buildings, many of which were constructed to house department and chain stores that were making inroads into small town Main Streets throughout the country. Also of interest are the many sleek mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century storefronts, installed in an effort to modernize the 19<sup>th</sup> century commercial blocks and attract customers lured away by commercial development along highways east and west of the square.

The Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District meets Criterion A as a physical representation of the city of Macomb's evolution as the governmental and commercial center of McDonough County. The impressive 1870s courthouse set in the center of the square is a powerful reminder of the city's role within the county, and the historic buildings that ring the square represent the city's commercial evolution through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.

The period of significance for the district spans from 1834 to 1959. The year 1834 marks the date of approval of the town plan, including the courthouse square; 1959 marks the end of the postwar effort to modernize Macomb's square and surrounding commercial district.

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Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

#### THE DESIGN OF THE COURTHOUSE SQUARE IN MACOMB

The proposed Macomb Courthouse Square historic district meets Criterion C, community planning, as a rare and intact example of a Harrisonburg plan in western Illinois. The courthouse square is a familiar feature in many county seats in Illinois and across the Midwest. In cities and towns that contain them, these squares created a central hub around which commercial, governmental, institutional and social activities coalesced. Macomb's courthouse square, with its impressive central courthouse building surrounded by commercial blocks dating from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to the current decade, is an uncommon iteration of the courthouse square within the region known as the Military Tract in western Illinois.

The development of courthouse squares in the United States can likely be traced back to planned town squares in medieval Germany and Poland, as well as 17th- and 18th century English and Irish town squares, both of which featured a town hall centered within an open block.1 Although many early towns in New England featured town greens, these spaces were generally not surrounded by business structures as the central courthouse square was, and were usually faced by a church or meetinghouse. Many of the earliest courthouse squares located in Pennsylvania were probably based on William Penn's 1682 plan for Philadelphia. This plan called for a centrally located square (the most prominent of five squares in the city). The square was cut out of the corners of four adjoining blocks, with streets intersecting the square at the center of its sides. Penn intended this "Centre Square" to act as the heart of the city's government and business dealings, a role that the square never fully acquired.<sup>2</sup> In his article "The Central Courthouse Square in the American County Seat," geographer Edward T. Price calls this type of square the "Philadelphia Square." Although no structure was built in the center of the square until the 19th century, an early plan did include a large building within the square center, most likely a city hall building. Philadelphia's current city hall was constructed within Centre Square in 1872.

Other counties in Pennsylvania adopted center courthouse squares inspired by Penn's Philadelphia plan. Lancaster's courthouse square was laid out in 1729, and the courthouse was completed in the center of the square a decade later. Price's "Lancaster Square" type is taken from Lancaster's courthouse square design, which mimics the Philadelphia Square, but features a courthouse within its center. The Lancaster Square pattern was spread south and west from Pennsylvania in the late 18<sup>th</sup>- and early 19<sup>th</sup>-centuries, as residents of the settled in new areas. Both Philadelphia and Lancaster squares are found in Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois, and Ohio.

Within Illinois, most central courthouse squares tend to follow the Shelbyville plan, named by Price after the prototype in Shelbyville, Tennessee. This type of square simply uses a block within a grid as the center square, with the surrounding street intersecting at the corners of the

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Sounty and State square. Price describes the Shelbyville plan as a variant of the block plan, in which the former features a center courthouse building and the latter does not. The 1810s and 1820s witnessed the proliferation of the Shelbyville plan in the Southeast and Midwest, with some of the earliest examples dating from 1810-1812 in Tennessee. The plan spread from there northwest, to Indiana and Illinois, and had crossed the Mississippi River into Iowa and Missouri by the 1840s. According to Price, "the Shelbyville square quickly became the most frequent county-seat plan in new counties in most states" that adopted courthouse square plans.

The plan exhibited in Macomb's courthouse square is a type of courthouse square design classified by Price as the Harrisonburg Square. The Harrisonburg Square plan is a combination of the Lancaster and Shelbyville plans.<sup>6</sup> In the Harrisonburg plan, the a pair of streets bordering each side of the center square continue through past the square, while the street running in a perpendicular direction intersects these through-streets and dead-ends in the centers of two sides of the square. According to Price, the Harrisonburg Square pattern occurs "in many other states, but with low frequency." The only exception is in northern Georgia, where Harrisonburg-type squares were built in many small towns in the 1830s.<sup>7</sup>

The choice of the Harrisonburg plan for Macomb's courthouse square may have originated with one of the town's early residents and officials, James M. Campbell. A native of Frankfort, Kentucky, Campbell was responsible in his role as county clerk for overseeing the laying out of the county seat. According to local historian John E. Hallwas, Campbell modeled the plan on his birthplace, which was originally laid out with a Harrisonburg-type square. Considering that so many Kentucky natives flocked to Macomb in its early years that one resident commented that "it was a Kentucky town," Campbell's homage to its capitol reflected the character of the nascent McDonough County seat.<sup>8</sup>

Within the Illinois Military Tract, 11 of the 14 county seats exhibit some kind of recognizable square. Of these squares, four-Quincy (Adams County), Galesburg (Knox County), Rushville (Schuyler County), and Monmouth (Warren County)—can be categorized as either Block Squares or Philadelphia Squares. The courthouses within these county seats were either constructed at a corner of the square, or on separate blocks away from the square. Four of the 11 squares were originally based on the Shelbyville Square; of these four, three--Lewistown (Fulton County); Carthage (Hancock County); and Pittsfield (Pike County)—are intact. Based on historic photographs, it appears that Peoria (Peoria County) originally had a Shelbyville-type courthouse square, but subsequent development has obscured the original plan. Aledo, the county seat of Mercer County, features a courthouse square laid out identically to a Shelbyville plan, but the square is not surrounded by commercial buildings—the central business district developed northwest of the square, along College Avenue. The remaining two county seats that exhibit courthouse squares —Macomb and Toulon (Stark County)—are both based on the Harrisonburg Plan. Toulon's square appears to have been planned as a modified version of the typical Harrisonburg Square; while three of the four sides of the square were reserved for commercial use, the south side of the square is residential, with an alley standing in for the street intersecting the square. Of these two examples of the Harrisonburg Square, Macomb's square is more representative of the type, and retains more integrity.

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# ARCHITECTURE IN THE MACOMB COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Macomb Courthouse Square District also meets Criterion C as an intact collection of commercial and government buildings representing a variety of architectural styles from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The blocks around the Macomb's courthouse square contain the oldest commercial buildings in the city, with architectural styles and types dating from every decade beginning in the 1850s through the 1950s. Of the 83 total structures within the district, only four buildings or 6% have been built since 1960. Seventy-nine buildings were built in the period of historic significance (from 1850-1959), of which 77% (65) can be considered contributing to the character of a potential historic district. The 18 non-contributing structures include the four that were built since 1960 as well as fourteen historic structures that have been so altered that their historic character is no longer discernible.

Three buildings in the historic district already have individual landmark designation – three are on the National Register of Historic Places and one is a local landmark. The McDonough County Courthouse was listed on the National Register in 1972, and the Lamoine Hotel was listed in 2010.. A notable preservation effort was the restoration of the William S. Bailey House at 100 South Campbell Street, undertaken by the newly-formed McDonough County Historic Preservation Society in 1982. The Bailey House is the most

There are seven buildings in the historic district on either the Illinois Historic Structures Survey (IHSS) or the Illinois Historic Landmarks Survey (IHLS):

Chandler Block, 130-132 N. Lafayette, 1879, IHSS (HD), IHLS Cotrell, Durr, Hoskinson Building, 111-115 South Side Square, 1872, IHSS (HD) Macomb Post Office, 205 S. Randolph, 1914, IHSS (P) Randolph House, 1-5 East Side Square, 1857, IHSS (HD), IHLS Twyman Block, 202-208 N. Lafayette, 1895, IHSS (HD) Union Block, 127-135 N. Randolph, 1896, IHSS (HD) Union National Bank, 119-121 N. Randolph, 1917, IHSS (HD)

#### MC DONOUGH COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The impressive 1871 Second Empire McDonough County Courthouse is the centerpiece of Macomb's historic downtown square. The principal façade of this 2 ½ story brick building with stone corner quoins terminates the vista from west Jackson Street. The building has a classical entry portico with paired, fluted, Corinthian column and historic double entry doors on all four entrances. Historic window openings have elaborate segmental and triangular hoods and there is a heavy cornice with acanthus brackets and paneled frieze. A commanding center clock tower with cupola rises above its hipped roof (a replacement from 1889). Architect Elijah Myers was a well-known designer of government buildings including three state capitols in Michigan, Colorado, and Texas. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972, the courthouse was restored in 1978-1979 and it remains in use, anchoring and energizing Macomb's downtown

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business district. The four sides of the courthouse square are densely lined with historic commercial structures.

#### COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

As would be expected in the central business district of a city, the majority of buildings in the Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District (75 or 90%) are commercial buildings. The commercial building, as a distinct architectural form, did not develop until the 19th century, even though trading centers and market halls have been around since antiquity. From the end of the 19th century until the age of the automobile, most commercial buildings in the United States looked alike, although there might have been slight regional differences. Commercial buildings were typically joined by side party walls, with the commercial business on the first floor and offices or residences above. This type of commercial building almost always fits on its entire lot and is built to the sidewalk.

There is limited scholarly work that classifies the various types of commercial buildings that have been constructed in American business districts in the last 150 years. In The Buildings of Main Street, one of the few sources, Richard Longstreth has developed a classification system for historic commercial structures built within compact business districts prior to the 1950s. His system uses building mass as the primary determining factor. He classifies most commercial structures under four stories tall as either One- or Two-Part Commercial Blocks regardless of apparent architectural stylistic elements. The distinction between the two classifications is in whether there is a strong horizontal cornice, stringcourse, or other architectural feature that visually divides the facade into one or two stacked horizontal bands. A One-Part Commercial Block is almost always one story, while a Two-Part Commercial Block may be two or more stories tall. Most historic commercial buildings fall into one or the other of these two classifications. Generally these types were built before 1950, but occasionally a contemporary commercial structure may be built on an infill parcel on a traditional commercial street. Whether or not they share party walls with the adjacent building, generally only the front of a Commercial Block has any architectural detailing. The building is located at the front lot line, along a public sidewalk, and has display windows facing that sidewalk. There are usually no display windows, public entrances, or architectural treatment on the side facades, although occasionally a larger Commercial Block, located on a corner, may have part or the entire side facade treated similarly to the front. In Macomb all four sides of the Courthouse Square, as well as many of the surrounding downtown streets are lined with commercial blocks.

The first floor of a historic commercial block characteristically has a storefront whose configuration follows a three-part system of bulkhead at the base, display window, and transom above. Historic display windows are often flush or recessed, with single panes and some sort of subdivision. Entry doors are usually centrally placed, off-center, or at the corner and can be either flush or recessed. Historic storefront materials are generally limited to wood or metal, with supporting columns and piers. Decorative storefront elements include molded cornices, column capitals, brackets, canopies, ceramic tile entries, and fascia boards. Over the years storefronts are often remodeled due to changes in architectural fashion, marketing, and technology. In Downtown Macomb many storefronts were remodeled after World War II in the late 1940s-1950s. When a commercial building has more than one story, the entry door to the upper stories

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of the building is also integrated into the design of the storefront. The upper stories of a commercial building usually reflect some high-style elements, notably found at the cornice, in window treatments, or as applied ornament.

In Downtown Macomb the Courthouse Square is lined with unbroken rows of Two-Part Commercial Blocks. The oldest commercial buildings in the downtown survey area, dating from the 1850s and 1860s, can be found on the north, south, and west sides of the square. With the courthouse itself dating from 1872, and many of the remaining sides built in the 1870s through the 1890s, there is a distinctly late-19<sup>th</sup> century character to the square. The commercial buildings are generally brick, two or three stories tall, and exhibit Italianate or Queen Anne architectural styling on the upper floors. Three historic facades from the mid-century modern period reiterate the window/wall rhythm of a traditional urban street frontage, while a few less successful post-war re-modelings covered historic masonry fronts with windowless aluminum paneling. The more recent 1990 rebuilding of the Citizens Bank facade on the south square stays within a traditional architectural treatment. On the streets leading away from the courthouse can be found smaller, One-Part Commercial Blocks and some Freestanding Commercial. Here too, are the four houses in the survey area of which one has been converted to commercial use, one to City Hall, and one is a house museum. Also off the square is a hotel, a church, a gas station, and the train station.

#### TWO-PART COMMERCIAL BLOCK

The Two-Part Commercial Block is probably the most common type of commercial building in America. Found principally in small and moderate-sized communities between the 1850s and 1950s, the building is always a two- to four-story building characterized by a horizontal division into two clearly separated zones. These zones reflect differences of use on the interior, with the ground-floor level possessing public places such as a store or lobby and the upper stories having the more private spaces of the building, including offices, living spaces, or a meeting hall. The upper stories often reflect domestic high-style architecture in ornamentation.

Fifty Two-Part Commercial Blocks are found in the Macomb Courthouse Square historic District and were built over a 100-year period from as early as 1854 through 1954. Most however were built before 1930, with the greatest number in the decade of the 1890s (15 examples). Other decades well represented by this type include the 1850s (six examples), the 1870s (eight examples), the 1880s (six examples), and the 1920s (six examples). Of the 50, there are 38 contributing and twelve non-contributing. The most architecturally significant examples are discussed below.

One of the oldest buildings on the square is the Garrett Block at 28-30 West Side Square. The south section of the building (28 West Side Square) has retained more integrity than the north (30 West Side Square). The building is simple in design, with three evenly spaced window openings on both the second and third floors with stone lintels and sills. Although the storefront has been modernized, the upper floors have not been altered much since its original construction with the exception of replacement windows in a historic configuration. For a few years right after its construction by Loven Garrett and J.M. Campbell, it was used for entertainment, and later was the location of Stinson Pharmacy.

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Four of the architecturally significant Two-Part Commercial Blocks in Downtown Macomb were built within the next two decades and feature elements of the Italianate style. Italianate-style commercial buildings are characterized by a projecting cornice with paired brackets and tall, arched upper-story windows, frequently with window hoods. The oldest of these is the Randolph House, built as a hotel in 1857 by William H. Randolph. On a double lot at 1-5 East Side Square, the brick building is fortunate to retain its original metal cornice with paired brackets, a characteristic Italianate feature. Windows on the second and third floors have round arched tops and some of the historic upper, four-over-four, wood, double-hung sash remain in place. Window openings on the third floor are boarded up. The north storefront retains its historic cast iron columns from the 1880s, having been built in place of the original entry portico which was removed in 1882. The south storefront has non-historic materials although its business displays the historic name, "Randolph House." Despite these alterations, the Randolph House was included in the Illinois Historic Structures Survey and the Illinois Historic Landmark Survey, and retains enough integrity to portray its historic significance in the early development of Macomb.

Two Italianate Two-Part Commercial Blocks important in the history of Downtown Macomb are the Macomb Opera House at 118-128 N. Lafayette, and the Chandler Block next door at 130-132 N. Lafayette, both built by C.V. Chandler. The first building to go up was the Macomb Opera House in 1872-1874 at the northwest corner of West Jackson and North Lafayette. This two-story brick building has recessed window bays with round-arched window openings, brick corbelled window hoods and the historic 2/1 double-hung sash. The original third story, along with the elaborate cornice, has been removed. Of the six storefronts stretching up Lafayette, the only original one is at 128, with a center entry flanked by cast iron columns and display windows, topped with a metal storefront cornice and dentils. A movie theater was added to the building in 1924 using the 124 N. Lafayette storefront for its entrance. It was given an Art Moderne stylistic treatment of simple brick piers with an "Illinois" sign above. The storefronts at 118, 120, and 122 are noteworthy for their 1940s character with recessed entry and faceted display bays trimmed with a structural glass bulkhead and surround.

The second of these two buildings to go up was the Chandler Block in 1879, adjacent and just north of the Macomb Opera House at the southwest corner of Lafayette and Carroll streets. The *Macomb Daily Journal* offices moved in as soon as it was finished. Italianate windows have round-arched brick hoods with keystones. A third floor was added in 1899 for the Knights of Pythias, and with it, an impressive metal cornice with single brackets and a corner triangular pediment topping the offset corner. (Third floor windows are now boarded up). Rare for commercial blocks this old, the south storefront retains its square, cast iron columns with elaborate capitals and its metal storefront cornice with brackets. This building was included in the Illinois Historic Structures Survey with a rating of HD (contributing to a historic district).

From the decade of the 1880s are two Two-Part Commercial Blocks that bridge the Italianate and Classical Revival styles. At 118-120 S. Lafayette is the former Macomb City Hall designed by W. O. Thomas and built in 1883. Particularly notable is the metal cornice with paired brackets and offset corner topped with a pediment. Window bays are slightly recessed with corbelling at the tops. Segmental-arched window openings with classical window hoods and a continuous

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stone sill show classical influence. The two original storefronts are now occupied by a single tenant with a non-historic design.

Also from the 1880s is the classically-inspired Venable Block/Odd Fellows at 116-118 North Side Square. The west end was constructed by William, John, and James Venable in 1883, and the east end by the Odd Fellows lodge a year later, with the Knights of Pythias in the third floor hall. This brick block is symmetrically arranged around a slightly projecting center bay topped with a pediment. The bracketed metal cornice is intact on the west section of the building but unfortunately missing from the east section. Tall, round-arched window openings with brick hoods and keystones are regularly spaced across the second and third floors, although there are replacement sash. Interesting brickwork by James Butterfield outlines the three bays of the upper floors. Both storefronts were modified in the 1950s with a structural glass bulkhead and deeply recessed center entry with faceted display windows, an historic alteration now considered architecturally significant in its own right. The west storefront still retains its terrazzo flooring from the same period.

Another Two-Part Commercial Block with Classical Revival features is the Twyman Block at 202-208 N. Lafayette Street. Built in 1895 this two-story brick building has classical, pedimented window hoods over double-hung sash. The metal cornice has paired brackets. Particularly noteworthy are the four storefronts, all with original configurations and features including cast iron columns, display windows and transoms, and recessed entries. In 1896 the building became home to the McDonough Normal and Scientific College (later known as the Western Illinois Normal School and Business Institute.) This building was included in the Illinois Historic Structures Survey with a rating of HD (contributing to a historic district).

Three distinguished Queen Anne-style Two-Part Commercial Blocks are found within the historic district. The Queen Anne style is characterized by asymmetry and irregularity in form, with a variety of surface materials and textures. In commercial buildings, the style is usually evidenced by applied stylistic ornament, corner towers, and projecting bay windows on the upper floors. The Taylor Block at 119-125 S. Randolph is a two-story brick corner building with exuberant Free Classic ornament from the Queen Anne period. There is an elaborate metal cornice with modillions and rows of rosettes. It is accented by a center pediment and nameplate facing Randolph, as well as an oriel window with another pediment and nameplate over the north corner entry. Double-hung windows are separated by paired Corinthian pilasters on piers, also with rosettes. There are three storefronts all with a configuration dating from the 1940s, although with non-historic brick bulkheads and replacement doors.

Reflective of the asymmetrical whimsy that distinguishes the Queen Anne style is the Union Block at 127-135 N. Randolph. Built in 1896 by Willis Holmes for Albert Eads, this two-story brick building has a prominent round corner tower with conical roof and finial, and two round oriels with wood paneling along the west façade. The round-arched second floor window openings have stone lintels and connecting brick stringcourse. Above that is brick corbelling topped with a brick cornice with modillions. Of the three storefronts, 127 is a particularly elegant 1950s modernization with aluminum display windows and black structural glass in the transom. The other two storefronts are not historic, but the narrow entrance to the second floor is original.

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This building was included in the Illinois Historic Structures Survey with a rating of HD (contributing to a historic district.)

The third Queen Anne-style Two-Part Commercial Block in the historic district is at 33-35 East Side Square. Built in 1906 as the Lawrence & Bolles Block, this two-story building features matching hexagonal oriels with metal cornices, and brick corbelling at the cornice level. Between the oriels is a single, round-arch topped window. Neither storefront is historic, but the one to the north is particularly incompatible with the historic character of the building.

Two-Part Commercial Blocks from the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century are a mixture of styles. Those from the 1920s reflect historic revival styles that became popular choices after the end of the Victorian era, while those beginning in the 1930s used styles from the modern period without historic reference.

The Two-Part Commercial Block at 127 E. Carroll Street was built in 1928 as the Bacon Building. Its first tenant was department store Montgomery Ward & Co. The upper floors of this brick building have a Flemish-inspired, crenellated parapet. There are three, three-part window bays separated by brick piers, and each topped by an arched stone lintel. There are two non-historic storefronts, a triple one on Carroll Street housing DJ's Steak House, and another smaller one at 128 N. Randolph that is boarded up.

The 1930s and beyond brought a new modernism and simplicity to architecture, including the few new commercial blocks that were being built at 101 South Side Square and 7-9 East Side Square, or those that were a complete remodeling of an older structure as at 10-18 West Side Square. Among the modern styles used were Art Deco and Art Moderne.

The original Haney Drug Store at 101 South Side Square was built in 1930 by Claud Smith on a small corner parcel at South Lafayette. This simple, stripped-down Two-part Commercial Block is a very well-preserved example of the period, with its wire-cut brick exterior displaying decorative crosshatch panels and stepped parapet. It retains its historic wood double-hung sash and second-story entry on the west elevation. The single storefront has the original center recessed entry configuration, the original tile bulkhead with decorative vents, tile floor, and prism glass transom.

In 1936 part of the Randolph House was demolished to build a new store for Woolworth's department store. This Two-Part stone Commercial Block in the Art Deco style is composed with projecting end bays with a single window, and a middle section with a row of three double-hung sash. The end bays feature stone flutes above the windows while the three center windows are separated by stylized stone pilasters. The historic 1/1 double hung windows are intact as are the two storefronts. Each has its original configuration, hexagonal floor tiles with decorative "W" logo, marble bulkhead, original display windows, and wood paneling and transoms around original wood entry doors.

In the 1950s, the 1898 Vose Block at 10 West Side Square and the 1881 Elks Building at 12-18 West Side Square were combined and remodeled with a complete, post-WWII stone veneer

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façade. Although historic photos show an interesting Italianate façade that was lost, the 1950s restyling has become architecturally important in its own right. The stone façade has square panels and the whole upper floor is framed with recessed channels which also mark the second floor entry. Metal sash have rounded frames. The two storefronts also date from the 1950s with 12-16 having shallow-angled display windows around a center entry with terrazzo bulkhead, a single center support column, and a sunburst pattern on the terrazzo floor. The smaller storefront at 18 West Side Square has one asymmetrical, angled display window, aluminum display windows, and a terrazzo floor. The bulkhead has been stuccoed and there is a replacement door.

The architectural integrity of Two-Part Commercial Blocks is generally evaluated by the degree to which the upper floors retain their original historic character. As part of the 1950s modernization program that spread across downtown Macomb, the upper floors of many historic buildings were sheathed in aluminum with bold, oversized signage attached directly to the facade. This type of aluminum sheathing as displayed, for example at 17 East Side Square and 22 West Side Square, is considered a non-compatible alteration and thus these structures are considered non-contributing to the character of the historic district. Original historic materials and configurations may exist beneath this sheathing, which was discovered at 25-29 East Side Square, revealing historic windows, masonry façade, and ghost signage. If sheathing is removed in the future, and reveals historic fenestration and ornament beneath, these structures could be reclassified as contributing and thus eligible for tax incentive programs.

The other major design change to Commercial Blocks from the 1950s was the modernization of storefronts. Common were deeply recessed tiled entries, and aluminum-framed, faceted or curving display bays. Storefronts such as these have been recognized elsewhere as having achieved architectural significance in their own right, and for that reason are deserving of preservation.

## ONE-PART COMMERCIAL BLOCK

The One-Part Commercial Block is a smaller version of the typical 19<sup>th</sup> century commercial building. Usually one-story but sometimes two, the defining characteristic of a One-Part Commercial Block is whether the facade can be read as a single design element, with no projecting cornice or other strong horizontal design element dividing the first floor from the upper floors. Unfortunately historic One-Part Commercial Blocks can lack a great degree of integrity if they have been altered, since it is common to change the storefront details, configuration, and display windows of retail commercial structures. When commercial structures are two or more stories, an older historic character is often still evident on the upper floors. However when the building is only one story, changing the first-floor storefront means substantially altering the entire front facade. With increased automobile use by the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the One-Part Commercial block evolved into a strip of economically built storefronts with a parking lot at the front, known as the Strip Mall.

Although Macomb's oldest One-Part Commercial Block dates from 1886, its newest, from 2001, shows that this urban commercial type can still be inserted into a traditional urban streetscape.

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Thirteen commercial buildings in the Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District have been classified as One-Part Commercial Blocks. Of these, ten are contributing and three are non-contributing to the historic character of the downtown.

The One-Part Commercial Block at 211 E. Jackson Street is an unusual early 20<sup>th</sup> century example of this type, with a charming round-arch entry. Built in 1907 for the Loan Office of Dr. T. H. Downing, the style is difficult to identify. The curving and symmetrical front parapet with its recessed round-arch entry portico suggests Romanesque influences, while the irregular hipped roofline visible behind the parapet is reminiscent of Queen Anne massing. The two doorways, also round-arched, with a round stained glass window above, are outlined in glazed white brick and originally served two separate storefronts. There are two large display window bays on either side of the entry, with replacement glass.

#### TEMPLE FRONT

Temple Front is the name given to a commercial type whose façade is composed like that of a Greek or Roman Temple. These buildings are generally two or three stories high, with full-height columns or engaged pilasters, frequently topped by a pediment. Among commercial buildings, this type is most frequently used for banks built in the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was also popular for public and institutional buildings.

The Union National Bank Building, at 119-121 N. Randolph is an excellent example of a Temple Front bank building. The original 1917 stone building has double-height, fluted, round, engaged columns on either side of the entry, flanked by paired square pilasters with quoins, all with Corinthian capitals. They support an ornate pediment with modillions, dentils, and egg-and-dart ornament. The words, "Union National Bank" are incised in the entablature. The glassed entry is also double-height, with acanthus trim and oversized scrolled keystones. There is a smaller cornice just above the door. The two-story addition next door at 123 N. Randolph was put up between 1931 and 1946, but appears to have been altered since then with stucco cladding and replacement windows in the original openings. This building was included in the Illinois Historic Structures Survey with a rating of HD (contributing to a historic district.)

#### **FREESTANDING**

The automobile caused a dramatic change in commercial building types found in America's small commercial centers. Many of the commercial buildings constructed in mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and later are called Freestanding. They are typically situated on larger parcels, not adjacent to any other buildings, and with parking in front, on the sides, or even surrounding the whole building. Entrances are oriented in a way to accommodate the automobile passenger rather than the pedestrian walking across a front sidewalk. There are four buildings in the Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District that have been classified as Freestanding but only two are contributing, having been built in 1927 and 1956.

#### OTHER COMMERCIAL BUILDING TYPES

There are two other commercial buildings in the historic district that do not fit these categories. One is the Arcaded Block at 123-135 South Side Square that is a 1991 remodeling of a group of

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historic structures, and the other is the Office Building at 220 E. Washington, built in 1966. Both are rated non-contributing. In addition there are three parking lots and two vacant lots in the district.

#### TRANSPORTATION-RELATED BUILDINGS

As a 19<sup>th</sup>-century town, Macomb's early growth was dependent upon the railroad, with its first service opening in 1856 between Galesburg and Quincy, Illinois. The tracks cut east/west, just a few blocks north of the Courthouse Square. Consolidated in 1865 as the Chicago Burlington & Quincy Railroad, that company built the existing depot (now Amtrak) at 120 E. Calhoun Street. The fifth train depot in Macomb, it was designed by W. T. Krausch and built in 1913, replacing a 34-year-old wooden depot. The one-story brick building with a hipped roof is Craftsman in style, displaying the overhanging eaves and exposed rafter tails that are one of its characterizing features. The centered south-side projecting entry bay has its historic double doors and round lanterns. The long facades of the station have regularly spaced window openings with vertical rows of recessed brick panels between each sash, and a heavy stone continuous lintel.

Stables and liveries were also constructed downtown in the later 19<sup>th</sup> century to house live animals and vehicles used in early transit. Today only one building of this type remains -- the Applegate Livery & Feed Stable at 119 W. Carroll Street. It was built sometime before 1886 with a large front addition in 1891. Most of the existing facade dates from 1918 and is now bricked in. Despite major alterations, the building has been rated contributing.

#### **AUTOMOBILE**

With the growing popularity of the automobile and a major road-building campaign in the 1920s, building types serving automobile traffic and sales, such as the commercial garage, the gasoline station, and the automobile showroom, emerged along America's expanding network of roads and highways. The historic Gasoline Station is a building type that began to appear on roads and highways in the U.S. in the 1920s. It was a small-scale retail building, designed to sell gasoline and other automobile-related products, while sometimes featuring side garage bays to house auto repair services. Set upon a lot with space for driving in and out, the gas station had gas pumps at the front that led from storage tanks found below, sometimes with canopies for sheltered drive-in services. Some of the major early 20<sup>th</sup> century gasoline companies, created look-alike retail gasoline outlets in which logos, color schemes, signage, and building architecture contributed to a corporate identity.

The only gas station in the historic district is the charming c. 1927 Standard Oil station at 233 E. Jackson Street, now used as an automobile service center. The building was erected to replace an earlier Standard Oil station that was torn down to make room for the Lamoine Hotel. The red and clinker brick exterior with broad terra cotta stringcourses refers to the streamlined styling of Art Moderne. The logo, "Standard Oil Products" in terra cotta, is embedded into the parapet wall of the front façade. There are historic double hung windows on the east elevation. This type of quaint gas station from the early years of motoring is disappearing rapidly.

The commercial garage is a building type in use throughout cities for automobile storage and repair. The early to mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century garage is a one-story, rectangular structure with no internal

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columns. The exterior, load-bearing masonry walls support a series of steel roof trusses (often Bowstring) topped by a compass roof with a shallow, curved pitch. There are entry doors for vehicles at one or both ends. In some cases there may be skylights of some type or a monitor atop the roof to provide more natural light and ventilation. Besides gasoline stations, automobile-related businesses, such as dealerships, had similar treatments on their front facades. Often the showroom and repair spaces were combined under one roof. There are three garage buildings in the historic district dating from c.1905 through c. 1940, all of them contributing.

#### **PUBLIC BUILDINGS**

**Macomb City Hall** 

Although the life of traditional downtowns is based largely on its businesses and commercial architecture, governmental and institutional buildings designed in fashionable high-styles are important landmarks. The McDonough County Courthouse is the most prominent and architecturally significant public building in downtown Macomb. But within the Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District, the Macomb City Hall is also an architecturally significant structure.

The Macomb City Hall at 232 E. Jackson was originally a gracious Colonial Revival home built in 1919 just east of the Courthouse Square by Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Bacon. After their deaths in 1939 it became a clinic, the USO, a community building, and then in 1952 City Hall which it remains to this day. It was renovated, expanded, and re-dedicated in 2002.

The original building was designed in the Colonial Revival style, which borrows its architectural language from classical antecedents. With its patriotic associations with early American 18<sup>th</sup> century homes it became the most popular historic revival style in the country between the two world wars. The Bacon house displayed the basic symmetricality of the Colonial Revival style with its center entry, hipped roof, and three hipped roof dormers. There are pilasters and a shallow round-arched pediment above what was originally the main entry door, (main entry to City Hall was moved around the corner into a new addition). Segmental arched window openings have replacement windows in a non-historic configuration. With its several additions this building no longer has a residential appearance.

#### RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE

There are few residential buildings found in the historic district -- just the Lamoine Hotel and four single family houses. Among the four, only one remains in use as a single family house. The Dr. Joseph Bacon House is discussed above in its current function as Macomb's City Hall, the William S. Bailey House is a museum, and one other house is now used for a commercial business. All of these are contributing to the district.

#### Lamoine Hotel

The Classical Revival style was used for the five-story Lamoine Hotel, built in 1927 with bond proceeds funded by the citizens of Macomb. The restrained styling of the principal façade is punctuated by a classical entry portico with foliate capitals and metal balcony railing. There is a projecting cornice that includes a center pediment with stone bracket and urn. The first floor is

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faced with ashlar stone and there are stone quoins on the upper floors of the brick building. The stone display windows feature incised ornament and the historic 8/1 wood windows remain in place. This handsome and well-preserved hotel building was individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010.

#### William S. Bailey House

The Bailey House at 100 South Campbell Street is among the finest residential structures remaining in Macomb's downtown. The house, built for prosperous merchant and Union National Bank co-founder William S. Bailey in 1887, features decorative trusses under the gable peaks of the roofline, front and south side porches with spindlework, and a full-height polygonal south side bay. The McDonough County Historic Preservation Society was initially organized in 1982 for the purpose of restoring the house, which was donated to them by owner, J. W. Collins. The main floor of the house currently serves as a house museum and a community meeting space.

## **RELIGIOUS ARCHITECTURE**

It is common to find the city's major historic churches on larger sites just outside the commercial core. That is the case in Downtown Macomb with the St. George Episcopal Church at 231 East Carroll Street built in 1895 in the Carpenter Gothic style. The original wood building on a rusticated stone foundation (to the east) was built as a simple rectangle, with a front-facing gable and prominent Gothic-arched window. A large addition and new center entry from 2002-2004 dominate the street view.

#### **Chandler Park**

One park is within the Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District streetscape—Chandler Park, which covers a full block between East Calhoun, North Randolph, East Carroll and North Lafayette, and Citizens Plaza at the southwest corner of East Washington and South Randolph. Chandler Park is a historic park created by C. V. Chandler who purchased an entire city block in 1878, demolished all the existing buildings and opened the park the following year. The land was deeded to the city of Macomb in 1893. The overall layout of the park with its brick walkways creating an X pattern is a historic design introduced in 1898. Several important historic monuments dot the site, including the Civil War Monument from 1899 at the west side of the park, the 1812 Memorial Monument at the east end, the Chandler Memorial Gate from 1929 at the north end, the VFW Memorial from 1957 at the south end, and the cannon in the center of the park. This park is a significant feature of the Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District and is notable for retaining both its historic configuration and a good collection of monuments.

# COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL DEVELOPMENT IN MACOMB'S COURTHOUSE SQUARE

The Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District meets Criterion A as a physical representation of the city of Macomb's evolution as the governmental and commercial center of McDonough County. After its selection as the county seat in 1830, Macomb became a magnet for business

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and industry, providing much-needed goods and services for the growing number of farms in the county. The courthouse square, first platted in 1831 and revised in 1834, formed the nucleus of this development, and remains the heart of Macomb's central business district. The impressive 1870s courthouse set in the center of the square is a powerful reminder of the city's role within the county, and the historic buildings that ring the square represent the city's commercial evolution through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.

# EARLY SETTLEMENT AND THE MAKING OF MACOMB

Macomb's courthouse square and downtown, and the development of the entire city, is indelibly linked to the development of McDonough County, of which Macomb is the county seat. Like much of what is now Western Illinois, McDonough County can trace its origins to the Illinois Military Tract, a swath of land between the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers that was set aside by the federal government as bounty land for volunteer soldiers who fought against the British in the War of 1812. Congress created several tracts from the western territories (including Illinois, Michigan, Arkansas, and, later, Missouri) in May of 1812. The land in the Illinois Military Tract was surveyed in 1815-16, and parcels of 160 acres were offered to the soldiers or their heirs. Most veterans chose not to use this gift of land as an opportunity to settle in such a remote area, and instead sold their lots to speculators. These owners soon came up against settlers who were squatting on the land, and many properties throughout the county were the subject of bitter legal battles for years after their initial offering.

The Military Tract became a part of the state of Illinois upon its creation in 1818, and by the mid-1820s, most of the tract had been divided into counties. The boundaries of McDonough County were established in 1826, but because it did not have the population required by the state legislature for legal organization as a separate county, "...it was attached to the county of Schuyler, for judicial, election and recording purposes." Not until June of 1830 did the county have the requisite number of residents to allow for this official recognition. The county remained sparsely populated in its early years, unlike neighboring counties in the Military Tract that were situated along one of the two major rivers.

Among the first permanent residents of what would become Macomb was a minister from Kentucky named John Baker, who had purchased a 160-acre parcel about five miles south what would become Macomb, making his way to the county in 1829. Baker was not the earliest settler to reach central McDonough County—fellow Kentuckian Elias McFadden had come to the area with his family the previous year—but Baker was the first to settle within what would become the town proper. According to historian John Hallwas, Baker was "a squatter," having built, along with fellow new-comer Oliver Rice "a double log cabin in the center of the county" on land he did not own. Rice soon moved on, but Baker and his family stayed, becoming, in essence, the first citizens of Macomb. Upon the first meeting of the county's inaugural Board of Commissioners in December of 1830, it was resolved that Baker's cabin be used as a temporary "seat of justice," and the small settlement that had just begun there—originally called Washington—was declared the county seat. The town's name was soon changed to Macomb, in honor of General Alexander Macomb, who fought along with Commodore Thomas Macdonough in the Battle of Plattsburgh. In addition to recognizing the tie between county seat and county, naming the town after a hero of the War of 1812 also acknowledged the community's beginnings

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as part of the Military Tract. 13

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The selection of Macomb as the county seat of McDonough County seems to mirror the process of other counties in Illinois. The National Register Nomination for the Carthage Courthouse Square Historic District (which is also located within Illinois Military Tract) states that

The widely accepted maxim in fledgling counties with widely dispersed settlements was that the fairest and most efficient method of selecting a county seat was to discover a point as close to the center of the county as was practical. Among the considerations in determining the location were geographical center, location of principal established towns, locations of established roads, and political pressure of influential landowners. <sup>14</sup>

This was certainly true of the selection of Macomb, which is located in the center of McDonough County, where Emmet, Macomb, Chalmers and Scotland Townships meet. It is difficult to determine whether Macomb would have thrived as it did had it not been chosen as the county seat. John Hallwas points out that, in addition to Macomb, there were five major settlements and three villages that were created in McDonough County in the years surrounding its creation. Although two of these settlements did survive into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the other three disappeared before the Civil War; the three villages, all dating from the 1830s, were essentially gone by the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Only Macomb continued to grow and thrive, and its designation as county seat (in which its central location was a determining factor) was likely the primary reason for its success. <sup>16</sup>

The first inhabitants of Macomb were, like Baker and McFadden, overwhelmingly from the state of Kentucky, although some also came from Tennessee, Virginia, and other places south and east. James M. Campbell, one of the most important of Macomb's early leaders, was among the many native Kentuckians in the town. Born in Frankfort in 1803, he moved with his family to Illinois at the age of five, but returned to his home town to matriculate at Frankfort Seminary. He came to Macomb in 1831, having been appointed Circuit Court Clerk for McDonough County. Campbell settled in a cabin close to Baker's and opened Macomb's first store. Campbell, who as Clerk was responsible for the layout of the new county seat, modeled the first plat for the town of Macomb on Frankfort, creating a central courthouse square based on the Harrisonburg pattern. The first plat, which was surveyed in 1831, did not live up to expectations, and had to be re-surveyed in 1834. The plat was approved in March of 1834, and was recorded as "Plat No. 2" in the county Recorder of Deeds.

The first decade in Macomb was spent in essentially creating a town from prairie land. Among the first projects completed after Macomb's assignment as the seat of McDonough County was the construction of its first courthouse. A simple log structure, the courthouse sat at the northeast corner of the square, approximately at the current site of the Century 21 office on North Randolph Street. The county soon outgrew this first, rather rudimentary, structure, and a brick building was erected in the center of the square in 1834.<sup>19</sup>

At the same time, James Campbell supervised the building and maintaining of several major

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roads leading from Macomb to Carthage to the west, Monmouth to the north, and Burlington to the northwest. In the years before the coming of the railroad, these roads were the only link Macomb retained to the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, and to the outside world.<sup>20</sup> In 1831, the first post office in the county was established in Macomb, with Campbell acting as its first post-master.<sup>21</sup>

#### Early Businesses and Industries in Macomb

As soon as it was established as the county seat, Macomb began to attract enterprising businessmen who wanted to take advantage of what they hoped to be a burgeoning commercial market in the new town. James Campbell's store, located just south of John Baker's home, was the first in the town. The store was enthusiastically described by S. J. Clarke in his 1878 history of the county:

In 1831 a considerable increase to the inhabitants of the town was made. In the spring of this year James M. Campbell erected the first store building in the county, about sixty feet south of the residence of John Baker. The building was of hewn logs, covered with boards, with a puncheon floor. It was in size 18x18. The stock contained in that store was a wonder to behold! A conglomeration of dry goods, boots and shoes, hats and caps, hardware, iron, nails, queensware, groceries, and the inevitable barrel of whisky, occupying a prominent place, and quite handy to the thirsty customers of the store.<sup>22</sup>

Three other stores opened the same year as Campbell's. The first, owned by Moses Hinton (Henton) and L. H. Robinson [listed as G. E. Robinson in 1878 History], was built "on the northeast corner of the square, to be used for general trade." The second was owned by James Clarke, who had recently moved from his home just southwest of Macomb into the town proper. Clarke's double log house, located on a corner of West Jackson Street and West Side Square, was also the first tavern in town. In addition to serving meals and drinks, taverns like the one owned by Clarke also acted as hotels, charging a modest rate for rooms above the tavern space. John Baker, along with a Methodist preacher named Samuel Bogart, also opened dry goods store on the square.

Along with James Campbell, several other early businessmen exerted a great deal of influence over the development of the community in its first decades. William W. Bailey came to Macomb from Kentucky in 1833, and opened a dry goods store along the north side of the square. Bailey served in the Illinois legislature in the 1840s, and his two sons, William S. and George Bailey, were also prominent businessmen in town. N. P. Tinsley, who was originally from the same county in Kentucky as the William Bailey family, came to Macomb in 1836 and built a two-story frame store on the north side of the square a year later. In addition to his retail enterprise, Tinsley also opened a pork packing plant and a grist mill in town. Both pork packing and milling were two of the main industries in Macomb in the mid-19<sup>th</sup>-century. Both pork packing and

Two of the town's most successful early real estate developers, William H. Randolph and Charles Chandler, also came to Macomb in the early 1830s. Randolph was from Ohio, and opened a grocery soon after his arrival. Randolph was active in local and state government—he was elected sheriff in 1838 and served two terms in the Illinois House of Representatives in the

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1840s. He also served as Circuit Court Clerk from 1848 to 1856. Randolph is probably best known as the owner of the Randolph House, an impressive hotel that still stands (although much altered from its original appearance) at the southeast corner of the square. A staunch Republican, Randolph hosted Abraham Lincoln at the hotel during his visits to Macomb in 1858. Other well-known guests of the hotel included Senator Lyman Trumbull, and Illinois governors Richard Yates, Richard Oglesby, and John Palmer. Charles Chandler, father of C. V. Chandler, came to Macomb in 1834, and was also a successful real estate developer who made his fortune on lands sold after the arrival of the railroad in 1855. Chandler organized the First National Bank of Macomb in the years after the Civil War, and acted as president until his death in 1878. Like Randolph, Chandler was also active in politics, serving as county coroner, school commissioner, city alderman, and mayor.

Through the 1840s and early 1850s, Macomb's courthouse square and business district, although continually growing, remained a collection of relatively modest wooden structures housing typical small-town businesses—dry goods stores, shoe and clothing stores, drug stores, groceries, offices, and taverns. Early resident John Hampton recalled that, in the mid-1840s, ". . .less than half the building space around the public square was built upon. The most thickly settled part was from West Jackson Street north to the Journal office corner. The buildings in the business part of town were mostly little wooden affairs, many of them a small single room occupied by a doctor or lawyer as an office." By 1850, the number of residents in town was around 700 people, accounting for about 10% of the county's total population. However, the building of the railroad just five years later would spell the beginning of the end of Macomb as a town where the businesses were "little wooden affairs," transforming face of the square and business district.

#### The Railroad Comes to Macomb

As with so many other communities across Illinois and the United States, the advent of the railroad was one of the most important catalysts to the growth and development of Macomb in the mid-to-late-1800s. Not surprisingly, James Campbell took the lead in the effort to secure the railroad in Macomb, convincing the public to purchase railroad stock. Local boosters like *McDonough Independent* editor George W. Smith began lobbying as early as 1851 for the railroad, tirelessly writing articles in support of a rail line through town. The railroad that finally chose to make its way through Macomb was the Northern Cross line between Galesburg and Quincy, Illinois. The portion of the route between Macomb and Quincy was completed by the fall of 1855, with the full route following by January of 1856. Macomb's depot was also completed in 1856, and was located west of the square. The Northern Cross Line was consolidated with the Chicago Burlington and Quincy Railroad in July of 1865.<sup>33</sup>

With the completion of this line, Macomb was now connected to Quincy, Burlington, Peoria, and Chicago. Expectation of the railroad had attracted new residents to the Macomb, and the population of the town doubled between 1850 and 1855, to around 1400 residents. Taking into consideration this rapid growth, the citizens of Macomb made the decision to incorporate as a city in 1856, with the first local elections held in November of that year. The new railroad not only spurred growth within existing towns like Macomb, it also led to the creation of new communities that quickly grew up along the new route. One of these, called Bardolph, was actually developed by Charles Chandler and William H. Randolph. 35

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With the newly-acquired ease of transporting people and goods, Macomb's business district, and the entire city, was rapidly expanding and evolving. New businesses were established, and new buildings constructed within Macomb's downtown. Beginning on the west and north sides of the square, the modest one-story frame structures that had constituted the bulk of Macomb's commercial building stock were replaced with impressive two- and three-story brick blocks. It is likely that the first brick commercial structure was built on the square some time in the 1850s. According to the 1878 *History of McDonough County* "W. & H. Ervin built the first brick store. Lawson, Parrott & Co. built the first three-story brick building on the site of the First National Bank building [32 West Side Square]. Campbell & Garrett the third, the one now occupied by Loven Garrett as a grocery store." The last of these buildings mentioned, the Garrett Block (pictured above, at 28-30 West Side Square), is the oldest commercial building still standing on the square. Built between 1854 and 1856, the three-story block has been altered, but retains its essential integrity. The south section of the building (28 West Side Square, shown at right) has undergone substantial renovations.

A number of other brick buildings were constructed along the north and west sides of the square in the late 1850s, and are still extant. The most impressive is the Randolph House, a massive hotel building at the southeast corner of the square (1-5 East Side Square). Built by William H. Randolph in 1857, the hotel had, according to Hallwas, ". . . a level of elegance almost unheard of in western Illinois. An attendant met guests at the curb and took their team to a nearby livery stable. Uniformed bellboys carried luggage and ran errands. A splendid omnibus, pulled by two beautiful black horses, took guests to and from the depot." The hotel's most famous guest was Abraham Lincoln, who stayed there on his visit to Macomb in 1858. After Lincoln's assassination, his room was kept as a shrine. Other buildings dating from the 1850s include 120 North Side Square, built by Charles Ray in 1857, and two buildings built by Nathaniel P. Tinsley in 1857—a two-story commercial block at 106 South Side Square, and a three-story commercial block at 108 North Side Square. Both buildings have been extensively altered.

Macomb continued to expand through the 1860s, even as the lives of its citizens were deeply affected by the Civil War. According to the *Macomb Journal*, over a quarter of McDonough County's voting population enlisted to fight in the war.<sup>38</sup> Divisions between Republicans and Democrats in Macomb during the war ran deep, with the town's two major newspapers voicing the parties' conflicting ideologies on a daily basis. The *Macomb Eagle*, the town's Democratic newspaper, published screeds against Lincoln, while the Republican *Macomb Journal* criticized the anti-war Democrats, calling them traitors. The most notorious example of the bitter effects of the political and ideological in-fighting among the two parties in the county was the murder of William H. Randolph, who was shot by a draft evader and his brother in Blandinsville. The brothers were eventually brought to trial, but were acquitted.<sup>39</sup> The bitterness between Democrats and Republicans in Macomb and McDonough County persisted in the years following the war.

Despite these lingering political tensions, Macomb continued to grow, and its businessmen continued to build around the square. The city's population, which stood at 1,834 in 1860, was at 2.748 at the end of the decade.<sup>40</sup> In 1865, Charles Chandler organized the first national bank in

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the city, the First National Bank of Macomb, with a capital stock of \$50,000, which helped to encourage further development in town. Among the commercial buildings constructed around the square in the 1860s, four are still standing—the William S. Bailey Block at 122 North Side Square (1860), the three-story Goram & Cottrell Block at 117 South Side Square (1861), the east section of the Tinsley Block at 110 North Side Square (1866), and the Bailey Block at 130-134 North Side Square (1868—now part of the Mid-America Bank Building). Of these four, the Goram & Cottrell Block retains the most architectural integrity.

# MACOMB PROSPERS IN THE LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

The New Courthouse Building

At the end of the 1860s, Macomb undertook its most ambitious building project to date—the construction of its third courthouse. Architect Elijah E. Meyers of Springfield, who was well-known for his impressive designs of courthouse buildings in Colorado, Michigan, and Texas, was selected to design the new structure. Stock brick from Quincy was used for the interior of the structure, and the exterior was covered with more expensive red pressed brick, which was likely also from Quincy.<sup>41</sup>

The cornerstone for the courthouse was laid with much fanfare in August of 1869, and the building was completed three years later, in 1872. The 1878 *History of McDonough County* rightly held up the new courthouse building as among the finest public buildings in the west. It "stands in the centre of a public square, and can be seen from every high eminence in the county. The building is of red brick with limestone trimmings, and is fire-proof throughout. From its dome a view of the surrounding county is had as far as the eye can reach."

The construction of the new courthouse ushered in a period of robust development along the square and throughout Macomb's business district, which continued essentially from the 1870s through the 1890s. Through these decades, the population of the city continued to rise steadily, from 2,748 residents in 1870, to 3,273 in 1880, and just over 4,000 in 1890. The strengthening and expanding of Macomb's manufacturing interests, along with a series of civic improvements, went hand in hand with commercial growth through the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Industry and Manufacturing** 

Although industry and manufacturing had been present in Macomb since the 1830s, the decades after the Civil War saw already-established manufacturers flourishing and expanding their existing operations, and new companies forming. Most of these companies were located outside of the business district. Among the most successful industries in Macomb, as well as in other parts of McDonough County, were those associated with the making of clay products. Enterprising men had attempted to take advantage of the rich clay deposits surrounding the city as early as the 1830s, but the first successful manufacturers of brick and clay tile did not appear until around 1870. In addition to the Chase Brothers brick yard, which was established northwest of the city in the late 1860s, a slew of potteries and tile & sewer pipe companies formed in or near Macomb in the 1870s, 1880s, and 1890s. Among the most successful were the Macomb Pottery Company, the Buckeye Pottery Plant, the Macomb Tile & Sewer Pipe Company, and the Frost Sewer Pipe Company.

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The Macomb Pottery Company formed through a partnership with W. W. Eddy, C. V. Chandler, Jessie H. Cumming, and Archibald and William Fisher around 1880, and was housed in a large plant on Lafayette Street just north of the railroad. The Buckeye Pottery Plant opened in 1882 on Carroll Street a quarter mile west of the square, and employed over 20 workers producing "pottery of superior quality which was made not only from clay found within McDonough County, but from clay shipped in from Nebraska, Iowa, and other western states." The following year, the Macomb Tile & Sewer Pipe Company was founded, with backing from, among others, George W. Bailey. A brick building over 200 feet long was constructed three-quarters of a mile west of the square to house the operation, which employed over 60 men. Samuel Frost, who was secretary of the company, went on to organize a second tile company under his own name in 1893 at East Pierce Street. The companies were consolidated by Walter S. Dickey of Kansas City in 1904 into the Macomb Sewer Pipe Company. By the end of the decade, the company employed over 200 men, used clay from its own mines, which was shipped via private railway line, and operated coal shafts in Colchester.

Other prosperous areas of manufacturing in Macomb during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century were more typical to small cities and towns across the state. Most of these industries revolved around the manufacture and maintenance of wagons, carriages, and farm implements, reflecting Macomb's position as a community surrounded by farms. By 1893, there were seven blacksmiths, three livery stables, six wagon makers and dealers, four harness makers, and nine horse dealers listed in Macomb's business directory. 47 Macomb Wagon Works, located at Campbell and Calhoun and organized in 1882, was among the larger wagon works in the city. The buildings associated with the works no longer stand. 48 Livery stables were also scattered along the streets surrounding the square—one, opened by A. T. Applegate in the 1880s, still stands along the south side of Carroll Street, west of the square. Archibald Fisher's iron foundry, which had been in operation under his former partner Thomas Wiley since the mid-1850s, produced, among other things, castings for agricultural machinery and fencing. The company's most successful products were casts for school desks, which were used all over the country. The company continued to expand in the years following the Civil War, and employed 30 men by 1880. When the original building located north of the tracks on Campbell Street burned to the ground in 1874, Fisher built a new, larger building on the same site.<sup>49</sup>

Another common industry found in 19<sup>th</sup>-century farming communities that continued to prosper in Macomb was the grist mill. Nathaniel P. Tinsley built one of the first mills, called the North Mill, in Macomb in the 1850s. He sold the mill in 1881 to David Scott, who expanded the operation to keep up with increasing demand. By 1896, Macomb had three flour mills located in or near the city. <sup>50</sup>

**Civic Improvements** 

The late 19<sup>th</sup> century saw a number of civic improvements that enhanced the quality of life for Macomb's current residents and helped to provide some basic infrastructure to ensure future growth. The earliest of these improvements was the construction of the city gas works in October of 1874. The facility was destroyed by fire in 1880, and rebuilt that same year. The 1890s Sanborn maps show the gas works located along Campbell south of Carroll Street. The

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city police department was organized in 1874. Macomb's first volunteer fire department, the Salamander Hook and Ladder Company, was organized in 1883, and was soon after officially designated as a city department.<sup>51</sup> The city's first water works was built in 1893, and a program of paving the streets with brick began in 1896.<sup>52</sup>

The city also embarked upon a program of constructing several new public buildings during this period. Brick schoolhouses went up in the First Ward (1886) and Third Ward (1896).<sup>53</sup> In 1883, the Macomb City Hall, a two-story brick block with Classical Revival detailing, went up at the southwest corner of the square. In addition to housing the offices for the city government and a council room, the building also acted as headquarters for the city fire department from 1884 to 1897 and for its first public library.<sup>54</sup> The building still stands today within the proposed historic district.

Macomb's first park had its origins in the largesse of its most powerful businessman and civil leader, C. V. Chandler. In 1878, Chandler amassed all of the lots on the commercial block bounded by Randolph, Lafayette, Carroll, and Calhoun Streets with the intention of creating a city park on the land. The first building on the block was demolished later that year, and by 1879, the park was open to the public. Chandler deeded the park to the City of Macomb in 1893. The park has been improved several times over the years—brick paths crisscrossing the block were added in 1898, and a brick gateway was built along the northern edge of the park in 1929. Several monuments also grace the park, including one honoring local Civil War veterans that was erected by Chandler using funds from his military pension.

# Commercial Building in Late 19th-Century Macomb

Macomb's business district flourished during the period from 1870 to 1900. Many of the finest commercial blocks that were ever built along its court house square went up during this period, and many are still standing. Within the storefronts and offices of these new structures were housed an ever-widening variety of businesses. Some were the kind common to every city and town in the 19th century. As business directories from the 1870s and 1890s attest, groceries, dry goods stores, and drug stores could be found in abundance within the business district, as could clothing stores, dress makers, hat makers, and tailors. Physicians and surgeons, dentists, insurance agents, and real estate agents occupied the offices on the upper floors of Macomb's commercial blocks. At least partially due to its role as county seat, Macomb's business district also housed a large number of lawyers, justices of the peace, and notaries public. Among the most famous men to practice law in Macomb was Lawrence Y. Sherman, who was elected city attorney in 1885 and county judge in 1886. Sherman entered politics in 1896 upon his election to the Illinois House of Representatives, and became a Unites States Senator in the 1910s. Sherman is best known in Macomb for using his influence while in the state legislature to secure the city as the site for the Western Illinois Normal School (now Western Illinois University) in 1900.55

A comparison of the two directories also illustrates the expansion of Macomb's commercial and business district through that 15-year period. For example, horse dealers in the city increased from two to nine between 1878 and 1893; boarding houses from five to 12; dress and cloak makers from six to 17; drug stores from five to eight; livery and feed stables from three to six.

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The directories also show the changing types of commerce within the business district in this period. Ice cream parlors first made their appearance in the 1893 directory, listing four in operation in the city. Only four restaurants were listed in the 1878 directory; by 1893, there were 11.

The solidity of the rows of masonry blocks lining the streets around and near the courthouse square belied the fluidity of the businesses they housed. Merchants moved from building to building as their business expanded or contracted, or moved from an old building to a new building, sometimes just a few doors down. New stores and businesses were established, and others went out of business or moved away from the town. This constant flow of businesses into, out of, and between buildings within the business district continued into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

C. V. Chandler and the Bailey Brothers

Among the many successful businessmen and real estate developers in Macomb during this period, three men—C. V. Chandler, and brothers George and William Bailey—have their names attached to the origin of more buildings standing along the square than any others. Both Chandler and the Bailey brothers were born into successful pioneer families, and continued their legacy of shaping Macomb.

C. V. Chandler was born in Macomb in 1843, the son of local developer and banker Charles Chandler. After serving in the Civil War, Chandler came back to Macomb and began working as a teller at his father's private bank (which later became First National Bank). Chandler also began amassing real estate in town-at one point, he owned eight brick blocks within the business district. Among the buildings that Chandler constructed in downtown, the Macomb Opera House and the Chandler Block, both on the east side of N. Lafayette Street just north of the square, are the most impressive. The Opera House, completed in 1872, was hailed as "the most beautiful and well arranged hall in the West" by Macomb Journal when it opened. The opera house was located on the upper floors of the building, and features scenic painting designed by Chicago artist T. B. Harrison, and Joe Sosman.<sup>56</sup> Upon the death of his father in 1878, Chandler took over as president of the First National Bank, and continued to act as a leader of the community, as well as one of its most powerful and wealthy businessmen, into the 20th century. He was an investor in many of Macomb's most profitable companies, including Macomb Pottery; he served as city treasurer and alderman, and as treasurer of the Western Illinois State Normal School. In 1900, he was elected to the Illinois legislature and served one term. Chandler was also a member of a myriad of local civic organizations. Among his most noted contributions to the city was Chandler Park.<sup>57</sup>

William S. and George W. Bailey, like Chandler, came from one of Macomb's original power families—their father, William W. Bailey, was among the earliest merchants in Macomb. William succeeded his father in his dry goods business in 1860, and George took over after William. George Bailey, like Chandler, was also a banker—he was one of the original stockholders of Macomb Loan and Building association, and became its director. He was also one of the original investors in the Macomb Tile and Sewer Pipe Company. The Baileys were among the primary holders of real estate in Macomb's commercial center, along with Chandler. Six

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separate blocks that were built by the Baileys from the late 1860s through the early 1890s still stand along the square—122 North Side Square (1860); 130-134 North Side Square (1868, built with William Wetherhold); 124-128 North Side Square (1870); 21-23 East Side Square (1872); 19 East Side Square (1877); and 134 North Randolph Street (1891-2)

#### The 1870s

Some of the finest brick commercial blocks in Macomb went up along its courthouse square between 1870 and 1879. The most celebrated of these was Chandler's Opera House building, at 118-124 North Lafayette. The building was designed by local builder William O. Thomas, and completed in 1872. Born in Ohio, Thomas came to Macomb in 1855 and worked as a carpenter, eventually becoming one of the most well-regarded builders in the area. Among his other works were the Fourth Ward School and the County Alms House. <sup>59</sup> Chandler extended the building north in 1874. Chandler's second impressive commercial building along that block of North Lafayette was constructed in 1879. Located at the southwest corner of Lafayette and Carroll, the Chandler Block housed the offices of the *Macomb Daily Journal*. A third story was added to the building in 1899, and served as a meeting hall for the Knights of Pythias.

Other handsome 1870s commercial blocks include the Venable Block at 114 North Side Square, completed in 1870, and the Keefer Block at 100-102 North Side Square, completed in 1871. Both George W. Keefer and John Venable were successful merchants in Macomb. Venable, who specialized in the sale of woolen goods, gave over his business to his sons a few years after opening his store in the new building; Keefer, who had established a partnership with his brother John in the mid-1860s, died in 1879.

### The 1880s

Construction in the business district continued at a brisk pace through the 1880s. During this decade, several fraternal orders constructed buildings along the square. Fraternal organizations and other societies began to proliferate in Macomb in the years after the Civil War, and were a cornerstone of social life for many of its citizens. The 1878 Macomb Business Directory listed 11 such societies, including four Masonic groups, two Odd Fellows chapters, and four miscellaneous groups, including the Good Samaritan Temperance Society and the Macomb Literary Society. Two buildings constructed specifically for these organizations remain in the business district. The first, the Masonic Temple building at 29 East Side Square, was built in 1881. The three-story brick Odd-Fellows Hall at 118 North Side Square was completed in 1884, adjoining the Venable Block to the west. The design of the two buildings together reads as a single, Classical Revival-style structure. Two other buildings in the district later became associated with specific fraternal organizations, although they were not originally built for them. The Elks moved into the building constructed by C. V. Chandler at 12-18 West Side Square in 1908. The four-story brick building known as the Masonic Temple Building (Masonic Lodge #17), at 131-137 S. Randolph Street, was originally built as an office block by James Gamage in 1898. Although the Masons did occasionally meet in the building, it was not officially taken as a lodge until the mid-1930s.<sup>61</sup>

## The 1890s

The 1890s saw a surge of commercial construction in Macomb, particularly along the east side

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of the square, where development and construction of new buildings had lagged slightly behind the north, south, and east sides. More buildings still standing within Macomb's business district were built during this decade than in any other in its history, and many of these are located along East Side Square, North Randolph Street, and South Randolph Street. Among the most impressive of the commercial blocks dating from this period is the Taylor Block at 119-125 S. Randolph Street. Built in 1895, the exterior of the building is a confection of Queen Anne-style ornament constrained within the rigid massing of a commercial block.

Another handsome Queen Anne block, built the year after the Taylor block at the southeast corner of North Randolph Street and Carroll Street, is the Union Block. The block was built for Albert Eads, one of Macomb's most prominent citizens in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Born in Knoxville, Illinois in 1842, Eads enlisted to fight when the Civil War broke out, and was wounded and taken prisoner before being released in 1865. Eads came to Macomb in 1868 and married Mary C. Tinsley, the daughter of N. P. Tinsley that same year. After operating a dry goods store and managing a nearby farm, he took the position of book-keeper for the Union National Bank in 1876. Eads later became president of the bank.<sup>62</sup>

The Twyman Block, located on the other side of the business district at the northwest corner of North Lafayette and Carroll Streets, was built in 1895 for the wife of early local merchant and businessman H. C. Twyman. Mrs. Twyman was also the sister of C. V. Chandler. The year after its construction, it became home to the McDonough Normal and Scientific College (later known as the Western Illinois Normal School and Business Institute). Incorporated in 1867, the college moved into the Twyman block after the old college building was condemned. 63

Several church buildings were also constructed in Macomb during this decade, one of which is located in the district. Saint George Episcopal Church was organized in 1895, and the newlyformed congregation built a frame church building in the Carpenter Gothic style along the south side of East Carroll Street that same year. Archibald Fisher, one of the founding members of the new church, donated most of the funds needed to construct the new building. The building was modeled on St. Paul's Episcopal Church in North Andover, Massachusetts designed by the firm of Tilden & Rotch. Local attorney and resident Helen Tunnicliff had photographed the church on a visit to Massachusetts, and persuaded the congregation to mimic the design. 64

## MACOMB ENTERS THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

If the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century were ones of commercial construction within Macomb's business district, the first two decades of the 20th century were ones marked by the building up of institutions and government. Although commercial buildings did continue to rise within the city's commercial core, many were more modest than their 19th-century neighbors. The Lawrence & Bolles Block, a handsome Two-Part Commercial Block, at 33-35 East Side Square, is one of a handful of stylish exceptions. Built in 1904, the building's paired second-story window bays and corbelled brick cornice are notable details that still remain on this late Queen Anne design. In general, however, the impressive structures remaining in and around the square from this time period are not commercial blocks, but ones that reflect the importance of government and institutions to improve the lives of the citizens of Macomb.

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The opening of the Western Illinois State Normal School in 1902 was among the most important events in Macomb's history, and ushered in a more progressive influence to the town that would grow with the school. Macomb's civic leaders lobbied hard to have the school brought to Macomb through a fraught process of bidding against neighboring towns like Quincy and Rushville. With the help of Lawrence Sherman, the Illinois legislator and Macomb resident who had drafted the bill for the new normal school, Macomb won the bid. Construction began on the first building on the campus, located on the site of a former brickyard north and west of town, in December of 1900. Classes began in 1902. Although student population did not lead to substantial growth in Macomb during the its early years—the first class consisted of fewer than 250 students and a dozen faculty and staff members—the school would have a greater and greater impact on Macomb's development through the 20th century as the student body and campus expanded.65

Another educational facility that opened within Macomb's downtown in the early years of the 20th century was the new public library building, located south of the proposed historic district boundaries. The city's first library had been formed in 1881, and was placed within one of the commercial blocks along the south side of the square before moving to the City Hall building in 1884. In 1903, a local committee submitted an application to receive funds for a new library from Andrew Carnegie. Between 1886 and 1919, the industrialist and philanthropist donated over \$40 million to build nearly 1,700 public libraries in towns across the United States.<sup>66</sup> The committee received \$15,000 from the Carnegie foundation, and construction began soon after. The Classical Revival-style brick building opened to the public in October of 1904. Although relatively few citizens within Macomb visited the library in its first years, the library was patronized by students at the nearby normal school, and by 1915, boasted a collection of nearly 11,000 volumes.<sup>67</sup> The building remains the home of Macomb's public library to this day, having expanded into the Holmes building, a modest one-story commercial block just to the north.

In 1913, the city replaced its decades-old frame railway depot with a handsome new brick structure, located at the northern edge of the proposed district. With more and more passengers stopping in the city, the depot was the first building in Macomb that visitors saw, and was therefore the "official entrance to the community." The Craftsman design of the building was surprisingly modern for a small city like Macomb, and presented a forward-looking face to the city.

Two years later, another impressive public building went up within Macomb's business district, just outside of the boundaries of the district. In response to a local movement led by Albert Eads, Macomb was appropriated approximately \$70,000 by the U. S. Government for the construction of a new post office building in 1910. After some delay, postmaster W. H. Hainline received notice to advertise for bids from local contractors in November of 1913. The design for the building came from the office of the supervising architect of the treasury—initial drawings, which called for "a great deal of ornamental plaster work" were later revised with more subdued ornamentation.<sup>69</sup> Eads laid the first brick for the building in September of 1914 in a ceremony which drew, according to the Macomb Daily Journal, more than 2,000 people, illustrating the importance of the new structure for the community. 70 The imposing Classical Revival building was opened in 1915 and continues to house the city's post office.

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As the library and post office indicate, the Classical Revival style remained a popular architectural style for the design of public and institutional buildings into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The grand scale, symmetry, and classical ornament all lent a sense of formality and importance to these buildings, and, in the case of public buildings, connected citizens to American ideals inspired by Ancient Greece and Rome. For these same reasons, the style was also often used when designing financial institutions in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. A fine example of this was the new building constructed for the Union Bank in 1917. The Union Bank was among Macomb's longest operating financial institutions. Founded in 1871 by a group of local businessmen and farmers, the bank first operated out of a two-story brick building at the northeast corner of the square. Its first president was William S. Bailey, and its first chairman of the board, N. P. Tinsley. The bank moved across the corner to the eastern end of the Bailey Block in 1880, and remained there until 1917, when the new Temple-Front structure was built on its original site. Among the handsomest buildings from this period on the square, the building is now home to Century 21. Union National Bank merged with Mid-American Bank in the late 1990s.

The first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in Macomb also ushered in the formation of the city's first hospitals. In 19<sup>th</sup>-century Macomb, physicians and surgeons operated independently out of small offices in buildings along the square. Not until 1900 was the first hospital constructed in Macomb. The circumstances surrounding the founding of the hospital were unusual. As surgeon-in-chief Dr. S. C. Stremmel relayed it:

On December 22, 1899, Mrs. Marietta Phelps fell and broker her arm at the elbow. I was called to administer to her relief. The injury was of such a nature that I could not give her much encouragement as to the ultimate result. During one of my visits I suggested to her that she donate money enough to build a hospital. She treated the proposition as a joke, and suggested I might be crazy. Later, however, she considered the subject seriously and decided to donate \$10,200, provided I would take responsibility of building and maintaining the hospital and allow her to spend the remaining days of her life there.

Phelps and Stremmel drew up an agreement, and the hospital was constructed along the north side of East Carroll Street. The original building contained 12 rooms and accommodations for 18 patients. In 1906, Dr. Stremmel put forth funds to expand the hospital to 19 rooms, capable of caring for 30 patients. The hospital drew patients from neighboring counties, and remained open until 1966. The building was demolished in 1975.<sup>71</sup>

A second hospital building was opened in 1902 by Dr. Joseph B. Bacon in 1902. This hospital was located along South Johnson Street, and housed a nursing school after 1913. The hospital operated until 1967, and was torn down six years later. Dr. Bacon was among the most respected physicians in Macomb in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Born in nearby Tennessee, Illinois, in 1854, Bacon taught medicine in Chicago and practiced in Germany and Austria before settling in Macomb in 1885. In 1919, Bacon built a fine brick Colonial Revival residence on the north side of East Jackson Street, surrounded by lush gardens. Bacon and his wife remained in the house the remainder of their lives. After their deaths it was converted into a clinic, and in 1952 became

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the new Macomb City Hall. 72

In addition to these fine hospitals, a clinic opened along the south side of the square in 1915. The clinic was housed in an 1890s commercial block, which was renovated to accommodate its needs—the storefront level of the façade was completely reworked, and the interior gutted and reconfigured to provide private examination rooms and waiting rooms, as well as space for x-ray and laboratory equipment. Physicians who were partners in the clinic included Joseph B. Holmes, W. M. Hartman, and J. W. Hermetet. Dr. S. C. Stremmel also had an office there. The clinic remained in the building until the mid-1950s, when it moved to another building within the business district. <sup>73</sup>

## MACOMB IN THE INTER-WAR PERIOD

The period between 1920 and the start of World War II was a time of continued change for Macomb and other communities like it throughout the United States. The population within the city continued to rise, and skyrocketing enrollment at the Western Illinois State Teachers College (previously Western Illinois Normal School) exerted an ever-increasing economic, social, and cultural impact over the city.

Innovations that had been introduced in the previous decades began to have a real effect on the lives of Macomb's citizens. The first automobiles had been introduced into Macomb in the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and their increasing popularity began to impact business within the city. Livery stables and carriage manufacturers were replaced with garages, gas stations, and car dealerships, which proliferated in the 1910s and 1920s, and 1930s. Many buildings originally associated with automobiles that are still standing within the business district have since been converted to another use—the Ford Garage, first opened in 1905 and expanded to include the N. J. Heckman Chevrolet dealership in 1925, has since been converted into retail space.<sup>74</sup> The one exception is the Standard Oil service station at 233 East Jackson Street. Built in the mid-1920s, the modest brick structure is currently used as a garage, and retains its original signage.

The first movie houses had also opened in the 1900s and 1910s, and many continued operations through the 1920s, 30s, and 40s. The Dreamland Theatre was the first movie theater to open in Macomb, in 1907. The theater was placed within a 1850s Commercial Block at 30 West Side Square. Renamed the Grand Theatre around 1910, the theater continued to operate through 1930. The Gem Theatre opened at 107 South Side Square in 1910; the theater later became the Tokyo Theatre in the early 1920s, and the operated as the Royal Theatre from about 1924 to 1940. In response to the growing demand for movies in Macomb, Chandler Hall, part of the Chandler Opera House Block along North Lafayette Street, was converted into a movie theater in 1912. The theater was renovated, and re-opened in 1919 as the Illinois Theatre. Renovated again in the 1920s and 1930s, the Illinois Theatre remained Macomb's principal movie house through much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. 75 The last theatre to open within Macomb's business district was the Lamoine Theatre, at the southwest corner of South Randolph and East Washington Streets, just outside the boundaries of the district. Opened in 1935, the theatre was housed in a building that was originally a carriage shop. The theatre was re-named the Lark Theatre in the 1950s, and continued operation until the mid 1980s. The building was demolished, and is now the site of a park.

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Restaurants, common along the square in much smaller numbers since the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century, also multiplied rapidly within the business district in the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century. In the 1920s alone, the number of restaurants in Macomb doubled. Most were located within existing storefronts; others, like the Maid-Rite Sandwich shop along East Jackson Street, were free-standing affairs. Although the Maid-Rite in Macomb was never officially a franchise of the well-known Maid Rite company, it was essentially identical to other franchised Maid-Rite restaurants, serving the same food in the same simple wood building that still stands (now vacant) just east of the square. To

After two decades of steady but staid commercial growth, commercial building in Macomb surged once again in the 1920s, with over a dozen new buildings constructed within the business district between 1920 and 1929. The Thrasher Building, at 2-4 West Side Square, is a typical example of what was built during this decade—the building's almost austere façade is very in keeping with the more restrained commercial designs of the 1910s and 1920s. Built for J. W. Thrasher, the block contained his hardware store through the 1930s, and later housed the Brenner Furniture Company. Along the east side of South Lafayette Street, a row of simple two-story brick blocks that appear nearly identical were actually built by four separate owners during the same period in 1929. These buildings were also characteristic of the kinds of commercial structures appearing in Macomb during the 1920s.

While locally owned businesses were still the majority in and around the square, the number of department stores and chain stores began to appear and proliferate in Macomb's business district in the years before World War II. Among the first was the A. T. Stewart Department Store, which first appeared at 33 East Side Square in 1910. Kroger's Grocery, a chain that began in Cincinnati in the 1880s moved into the storefront at 9 East Side Square in the early 1920s before relocating to a larger space at 132-134 North Side Square, where it remained until the early 1940s. Montgomery Ward opened in a brick block at 127 East Carroll Street in 1928. J. J. Newberry, a hugely popular five-and-dime chain, first came to Macomb in 1932, opening a store at 128-130 North Side Square. The company quickly expanded into the two storefronts west of their first store, and in the late 1940s, took over all of what was originally the Bailey Block along the east end of North Side Square. Kline's Department Store opened in the new Zahren Building at the northwest corner of South Lafayette and Washington in the late 1927, and moved to a building on the east side of the square by 1940.<sup>78</sup>

A handful of these chain stores were located within purpose-built structures. F. W. Woolworth, perhaps the most famous five-and-dime chain in the country, initially opened in the south storefront of the Randall Hotel in 1920. In 1936, the company tore down the north half of the Randolph House, putting in its place an Art Deco gem that still retains its original second-story façade and storefronts. The store moved once more, in the early 1950s, into 25-29 East Side Square, replacing Kline's Department Store. The second purpose-built department store building—for J. C. Penny—was completed in 1940 and was the last building to be constructed on the square.<sup>79</sup>

From the turn of the 20th century, Macomb had positioned itself as the center of McDonough

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County commerce. With the completion of the Hotel Macomb (later Lamoine Hotel) in 1927, Macomb's place as the cultural and social center for the county, as well as its commercial hub, was cemented. Dissatisfied with the quality of their existing hotels, the residents of Macomb, under the leadership of Andrew L. Hainline, began a campaign to build a modern hotel building that would better represent the city. Citizens purchased stock in the project, and by 1926, enough money had been raised to begin construction on the hotel at the northeast corner of Randolph and Carroll Streets. Just before the hotel opened in 1927, the name was changed to the Lamoine Hotel. The elegant five-story brick structure featured a well-appointed lobby and main dining room, as well as a barber shop, soda foundation and telegraph office. While a definite asset to

the city in practical terms, the hotel was also one of the first development projects that drew the

entire community in Macomb together, and was a source of pride for years to come.80

## DOWNTOWN MACOMB AFTER WORLD WAR II

The years following World War II in Macomb were years of great residential expansion. New subdivisions sprang up along the edges of the city, pushing development outward. Commercial development continued to spread east and west from the center business district along Route 136. Within the original business district, however, new commercial construction was all but non-existent.

That said, older commercial blocks were remodeled extensively in the post-war years, and many buildings still retain elements of their 1950s re-designs. The most common changes occurred to the storefronts, but the upper floors of many buildings were also sheathed in aluminum, which was then used as a kind of blank canvas for bold, oversized signage. This technique allowed for instant modernization without having to rebuild. Although many of these sheaths have since been removed to reveal the historic fenestration and ornament beneath, some still remain. Many of the storefronts that date from this post-war period are architecturally notable, with deeply recessed entries and severely faceted or curving display bays.

With the exception of the demolition of buildings along the outskirts of the square and a handful of renovations—the most striking being the 1990s renovation of several buildings along east end of south side square for Citizen Bank—Macomb's business district, and particularly its central square, still retains its essential historic character, with buildings from the 1850s through the 1920s making up the majority of the building stock. The buildings within the district represent its development and evolution from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century through the post-war era.

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- <sup>1</sup> Edward T. Price, "The Central Courthouse Square in the American County Seat," in *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture*, ed. Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1986), p. 125.
- <sup>2</sup> Tuomi J. Forrest, "William Penn: Visionary Proprietor," Paper published on the University of Virginia's American Studies website, <a href="http://xroads.virginia.edu/~cap/penn/pnplan.html">http://xroads.virginia.edu/~cap/penn/pnplan.html</a> (last accessed November 19, 2012).

<sup>3</sup>Price, p. 130.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid, p. 133.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid, p. 135.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid, p. 133; 137.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid, p. 137.

- <sup>8</sup> John E. Hallwas, Macomb: A Pictorial History. St. Louis, MO: G. Bradley Publishing, Inc., 1990, p.12-13
- <sup>9</sup>William Vipond Pooley, "The Settlement of Illinois from 1830 to 1850," Thesis submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, University of Wisconsin, 1905, p. 397-398.
- <sup>10</sup>History of McDonough County, Illinois, Springfield, IL: Continental Historical Co., 1885, p. 201

<sup>11</sup>Hallwas, p.10.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid, p. 1050.

<sup>13</sup> Hallwas, p. 10.

- <sup>14</sup>"Carthage Courthouse Square Historic District," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (designated June 20, 1986), Section 8 Page 1.
- <sup>15</sup>History of McDonough County, Illinois (1885), p. 1049.

<sup>16</sup>Hallwas, p. 16.

- <sup>17</sup>Ibid, p. 13; History of McDonough County (1885), pp. 204-5.
- <sup>18</sup> S. J. Clarke, History of McDonough County, Illinois. Springfield, IL: D. W. Lusk, State Printer & Binder, 1878, p. 609.

<sup>19</sup> Hallwas, p. 18.

<sup>20</sup>Ibid, p. 12.

<sup>21</sup>History of McDonough County, Illinois (1885), p. 95.

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<sup>23</sup> Ibid.	
<sup>24</sup> Ibid, p. 608.	
<sup>25</sup> Hallwas, p. 13.	
<sup>26</sup> George W. Shadwick, Jr., History of McDonough County, Illinois: A Record of Eve McDonough County's History, Moline, IL: Desaulniers and Company, 1968	nts and Personalities in , p. 42.
<sup>27</sup> Hallwas, p. 23.	
<sup>28</sup> Ibid.	
<sup>29</sup> Alexander McLean, <i>History of McDonough County, Illinois</i> [published with <i>History</i> Chicago, IL: Munsell Publishing Co., 1907, p. 765.	ical Encyclopedia of Illinois],
<sup>30</sup> History of McDonough County, Illinois (1885), pp. 1134-5.	
<sup>31</sup> Macomb Daily Journal, January 10, 1913, quoted in Hallwas, p. 23.	
<sup>32</sup> Hallwas, p. 34; Shadwich, p. 44.	
<sup>33</sup> Hallwas, p. 34.	
<sup>34</sup> Ibid, p. 35.	
<sup>35</sup> Ibid, p. 34.	
<sup>36</sup> Clarke, p. 610.	
<sup>37</sup> Hallwas, p. 38.	
<sup>38</sup> Ibid, p. 40.	
<sup>39</sup> Ibid, pp. 44 & 46.	
<sup>40</sup> Ibid, p. 50.	
<sup>41</sup> Macomb Daily Journal, September 17, 1869, p. 2; Minutes for the McDonough Co September 18, 1869 and September 23, 1869 [in the collection of the Wester	ounty Board of Supervisors, rn Illinois University Archives].
<sup>42</sup> Clarke, p. 612.	
<sup>43</sup> Hallwas, p. 71.	
<sup>44</sup> Shadwick, p. 126.	
<sup>45</sup> Ibid.	
<sup>46</sup> McLean, p. 764	
<sup>47</sup> Shadwick, pp. 139-149.	

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<sup>48</sup>History of McDonough County, Illinois (1885), p. 1100.

<sup>49</sup>McClean, p. 764.

<sup>50</sup>Shadwick, p. 143; History of McDonough County, Illinois (1885), p. 1097.

<sup>51</sup>Hallwas, p. 74.

<sup>52</sup>Ibid, p. 94.

<sup>53</sup>Ibid, p. 44.

<sup>54</sup> City Library Has Moved to Its New Quarters, "Macomb Daily Journal, June 3, 1884, p. 4.

<sup>55</sup> Hallwas, p. 97.

<sup>56</sup>Macomb Daily Journal, April 17, 1873, p. 3.

<sup>57</sup>McClean, pp.845-846.

<sup>58</sup>History of McDonough County, Illinois (1885), p. 1058.

<sup>59</sup>Hallwas, p. 78.

<sup>60</sup>History of McDonough County, Illinois (1885), p. 1143; Clarke, p. 622.

<sup>61</sup>Hallwas, p. 93.

<sup>62</sup>History of McDonough County, Illinois (1885), p. 1094.

<sup>63</sup>Hallwas, p. 77.

<sup>64</sup>Ibid, p. 92; Macomb Daily Journal, April 19, 1895; Vertical File, "Helen Honor Tunnicliff Catterall," Information on St. George's Church written by Titus Karlowitz August 19, 1996 [file in collection of Western Illinois University Archives]

<sup>65</sup>Hallwas, p. 106; Victor Hicken, *The Purple and the Gold*, Macomb, IL: Western Illinois University Foundation, pp. 11-13.

<sup>66</sup>Bateman, Vol, 2, p. 699; National Parks Service, "Teaching with Historic Places" lesson plan (http://www.nps.gov/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lessons/50carnegie/50facts3.htm)

<sup>67</sup>Hallwas, p. 105; Macomb Daily Journal, August 18, 1915, p. 5.

<sup>68</sup>Hallwas, p. 111.

69 Macomb Daily Journal, June 6, 1914, p. 4.

<sup>70</sup>Macomb Daily Journal, October 15, 1914, p. 5.

<sup>71</sup>Bateman, Vol. 2, pp. 759-760; Hallwas, p. 108.

<sup>72</sup>Ibid, p. 109 & 171; Plaque located on east wall of building.

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<sup>73</sup>McDonough County Historical Society Newsletter. Volume 30, Number 1, Winter 2011, pp. 8-9.

<sup>74</sup>Hallwas, p. 152.

<sup>75</sup>Ibid, p. 129; Macomb City Directories.

<sup>76</sup>Ibid, p. 153.

<sup>77</sup>Marty Fischer, interview with former owner.

<sup>78</sup>Macomb City Directories.

<sup>79</sup>Macomb City Directories; *Macomb Daily Journal*, various articles.

<sup>80</sup>Hallwas, p. 144.

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<ul><li>(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)</li><li>1. Latitude: 40.460895</li><li>2. Latitude: 40.461988</li></ul>	Longitude: -90.673224  Longitude: -90.668591		

United States Department of the Interior Na NE

National Park Service / National Register NPS Form 10-900		tration Form 1024-0018
Macomb Courthouse Square His	toric District	McDonough, IL
Name of Property		County and State
Or		
UTM References Datum (indicated on USG)	C man):	
Datum (indicated on OSG)	5 map).	
NAD 1927 or	NAD 1983	
1. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
Verbal Boundary Descriptio	n (Describe the bot	oundaries of the property.)
railroad line, the boundary rust Street to Calhoun Street; east side of Randolph Street; sout south along Campbell Street. Street; north along McArthur west of the building at 114-1 Carroll Streets; west the a powest Carroll Street; north to the street.	ns east along the tr along Calhoun Street th to Carroll Street to Washington Street Street to Jackson 116 West Jackson int just west of a s Carroll Street; east nt just north of the	Street intersects with the tracks for the Amtrak tracks to Randolph Street; south along Randolph reet to a point east of the buildings along the east et; east along Carroll Street to Campbell Street; reet; west along Washington Street to McArthur Street, east along Jackson Street to a point just Street, north to the alley between Jackson and southwest corner addition to the building at 119 to a point just west of the building at 110 West e building at 214 North Lafayette Street; east to
Boundary Justification (Exp	lain why the bound	daries were selected.)
		en to include all of the courthouse square and as areas surrounding the square as possible, while

much of the historic business and commercial areas surrounding the square as possible, while eliminating many of the large parking lots that are located along the eastern, western and southern edges of the central business district.

11. Form Prepared By	
name/title: Victoria Granacki and Lara Ramsey	
organization: Granacki Historic Consultants	
street & number: 1105 West Chicago Avenue, Suite 201	_
city or town: Chicago state: IL zip code: 60642	
e-mail vicki@historicpreservationchicago.com	

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District

Name of Property

city or town: <u>Chicago</u> state: <u>IL</u> zip code: <u>60642</u> e-mail vicki@historicpreservationchicago.com

telephone: 312-421-1131

date: November 21, 2012

McDonough, IL
County and State

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

## **Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District

City or Vicinity: Macomb

County: McDonough State: IL

Photographer: Lara Ramsey & Dennis Danowski

Date Photographed: January 7, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

# Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District Name of Property

McDonough, IL
County and State

Photo 1 of 30

East elevation of McDonough County Courthouse and North Side Square, facing northwest.

Photo 2 of 30

Intersection of South Side Square and East Side Square/South Randolph Street, facing southeast.

Photo 3 of 30

South Side Square, facing southwest.

Photo 4 of 30

South Side Square, facing southeast.

Photo 5 of 30

South and west elevations of McDonough County Courthouse and North side Square, facing north/northeast.

Photo 6 of 30

West Side Square north of Jackson Street, facing northwest.

Photo 7 of 30

West Side Square south of Jackson Street, facing northwest.

Photo 8 of 30

West Side Square south of Jackson Street, facing southwest.

Photo 9 of 30

North side of East Washington Street, facing northeast.

Photo 10 of 30

West side of South Lafayette Street, facing northwest.

Photo 11 of 30

East side of South Lafayette Street, facing southeast.

Photo 12 of 30

East side of South McArthur Street, facing northeast.

Photo 13 of 30

North side of West Jackson Street, facing northeast.

Photo 14 of 30

North Side Square, facing northeast.

## Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District

Name of Property

Photo 15 of 30

West side of North Lafayette Street south of Carroll Street, facing northwest.

McDonough, IL

County and State

Photo 16 of 30

West side of North Lafayette Street north of Carroll Street, facing northwest.

Photo 17 of 30

South side of East Carroll Street, facing east/southeast.

Photo 18 of 30

East side of North Randolph Street, facing northeast.

Photo 19 of 30

East side of North Randolph Street, facing northeast.

Photo 20 of 30

North Side Square, looking north/northeast.

Photo 21 of 30

East Side Square north of Jackson Street, facing northeast.

Photo 22 of 30

East Side Square south of Jackson Street, facing northeast.

Photo 23 of 30

East Side Square south of Jackson Street, facing east.

Photo 24 of 30

East side of South Randolph Street, facing southeast.

Photo 25 of 30

East side of South Randolph Street, facing northeast.

Photo 26 of 30

East Jackson Street west of Campbell Street, facing west.

Photo 27 of 30

West side of South Campbell Street, facing southwest.

Photo 28 of 30

East side of North Randolph Street, facing northeast.

Photo 29 of 30

Campbell Park, facing northwest.

Macomb Courthouse	Square	Historic	District	

Name of Property

Photo 30 of 30

Macomb Railroad Depot, facing northeast.

McDonough, IL County and State

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 to amend existing 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.460 et seg.)

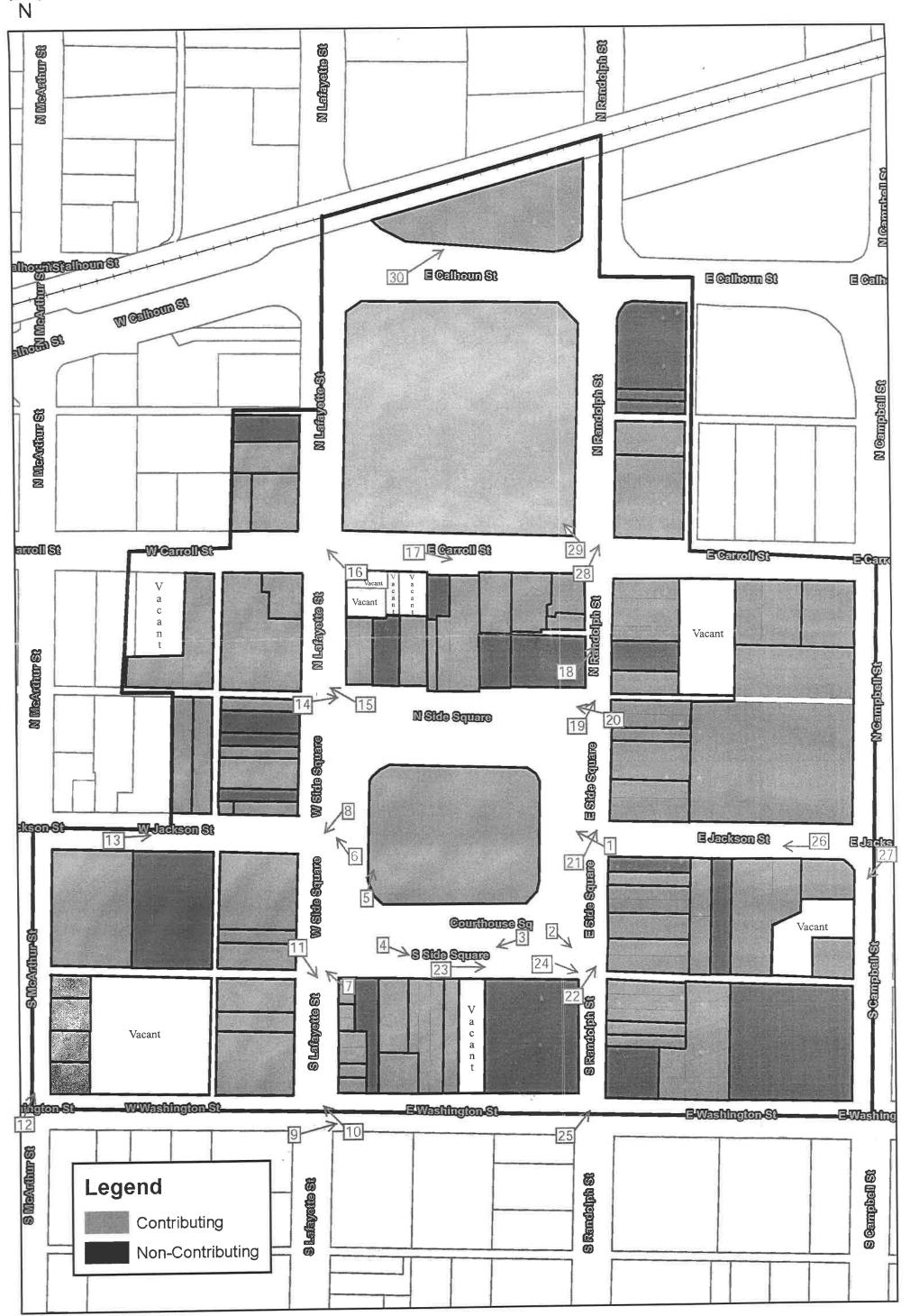
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



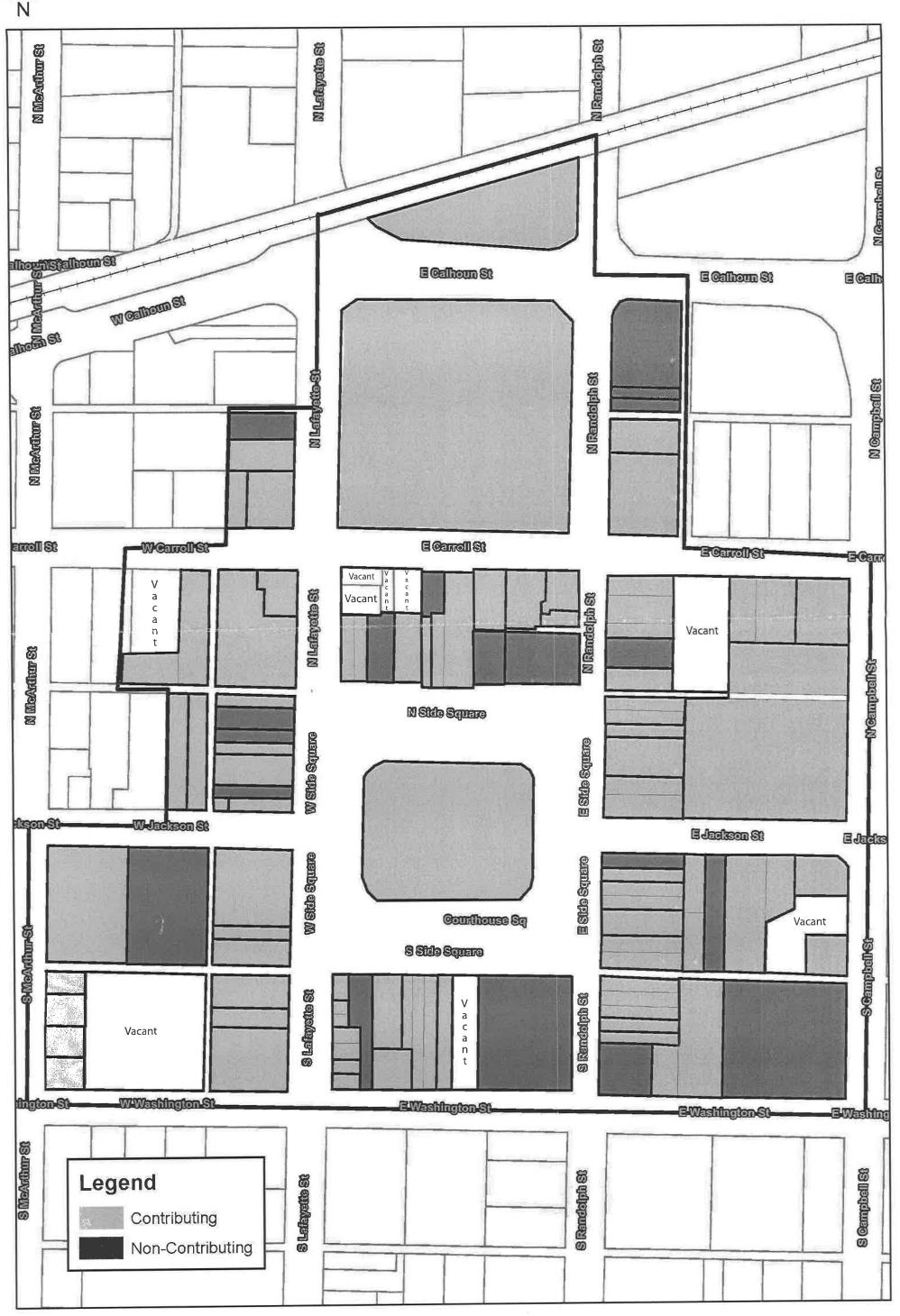
Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough County, Illinois Latitude/Longitude

- 1. 40.460895°, -90.673224° 2. 40.461988°, -90.668591° 3. 40.457606°, -90.673281° 4. 40.457560°, -90.668704°









Mecomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough County, 2L Photo 1 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 2 of 30

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Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District Mc Donough Co., IL Photo 4 of 30

Madre Mccomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co. , IL Photo 6 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District Mc Donough County, 1L Photo 7 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co. , IL Photo 8 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 9 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District Mc Donough Co., IL Photo 10 of 30

Mocomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co. , IL Photo 11 of 30

Mocomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., 1 Photo 12 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 13 of 30

Mocomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 14 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 15 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Squere Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 16 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 17 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District Photo 18 of 30 McDonough Co., IL

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District Mc Donough County, IL Photo 19 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 20 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Squere Historic District Mc Donough Co., IL Photo 21 of 30

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Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 24 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District Mc Donough Co., IL Photo 25 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co. , IL Photo 20 of 30

Mecomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co. , IL Photo 27 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 28 of 30

Macomb Courthouse Square Historic District Mc Donough Co. > 1L Photo 29 of 36

Macamb Courthouse Square Historic District McDonough Co., IL Photo 30 of 30

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION
PROPERTY Macomb Courthouse Square historic District NAME:
MULTIPLE NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, McDonough
DATE RECEIVED: 4/05/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/26/13 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/13/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/22/13 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000295
REASONS FOR REVIEW:
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N
COMMENT WAIVER: N  ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5.22.13 DATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:
Entered in The National Register of Historic Places
RECOM./CRITERIA
REVIEWERDISCIPLINE
TELEPHONEDATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N
If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.