

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED FEB 19 1975
DATE ENTERED MAY 12 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Steuben County Court House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Public Square

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Angola

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th

STATE

Indiana

CODE

018

COUNTY

Steuben

CODE

151

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
 - PRIVATE
 - BOTH
 - IN PROCESS
 - BEING CONSIDERED
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
 - UNOCCUPIED
 - WORK IN PROGRESS
 - YES: RESTRICTED
 - YES: UNRESTRICTED
 - NO
- ACCESSIBLE**

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Steuben County

STREET & NUMBER

Public Square

CITY, TOWN

Angola

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Indiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Steuben County Courthouse, Commissioners Record Vol. 5, pg. 290

STREET & NUMBER

Public Square

CITY, TOWN

Angola

STATE

Indiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__ FEDERAL __ STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in ~~1867-1868~~, the Steuben County Courthouse is a two-story brick structure that generally reflects a New England influence. It illustrates a transitional phase between Greek Revival and Italianate architecture. The proportions and roof line are clearly derived from the Greek Revival while the decoration reflects a combination of Romanesque and Italianate.

The main facade of the building is the gable end facing the square and in this case the columns that would appear in a Greek Revival style building are represented by low relief pilasters joined at the top with semicircular arches. This pilaster and arch pattern is also used on the sides of the courthouse. The voids are filled with very tall (12 over 12 - three wide) windows on the second floor and a small simple (six over six) sash windows on the first. An unimposing double central door is located in the center void and is topped by a small balcony with an iron railing.

The gable end has a small sectioned circular window surrounded by a circle of relief brick work. The line of the gable roof is also emphasized by a line of relief running parallel to the gables. This creates a pair of interesting triangular shaped patterns in the gable end.

The eaves are graced by wildly spaced paired and carved brackets and the roof is topped by a octagonal cupola with a square base, captains walk, and dome.

The Steuben County Courthouse is constructed of brick made at nearby Lake James by Holms and Miles of LaPorte, Indiana with Hiram A. Wakefield as the superintendent of construction. The foundation is field stone and the roof is still the original tile.

The interior has been altered to some extent to accommodate the changing role of the courthouse. An unobtrusive addition was put on the back in 1937. This structure is in good condition and continues to serve its original purpose.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES June 1868

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Steuben County Courthouse is in its development as an important functional structure housing the offices essential to the operation of Steuben County and as a well executed example of courthouse architecture.

In Indiana, courthouses become community centers for many reasons. Nearly everyone has some reason for coming to the courthouse -- if only to pay taxes. Because of the emphasis on county politics in Indiana it also becomes a center for political activity. This highly visible courthouse, like many others, has become a building that is familiar to the entire community. The Steuben County Courthouse has been serving this purpose for over a century.

It is not only the age of the Steuben County Courthouse that makes it significant, but also its architectural interest. Obviously based on a Greek temple format the detailing such as the paned, paired brackets and rounded arches over the voids bring an Italianate or Romanesque flavor to the building. Its simple, uncluttered look, especially exemplified by the first floor windows and door have made people notice its Federal characteristics. It is at least partly because of these fine architectural features that the Steuben County Courthouse has become a landmark in Angola.

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LBR
SC/11/14

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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RECEIVED FEB 19 1975

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

NAME

HISTORIC

Steuben County Court House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Angola

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Steuben

STATE

Indiana

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE Supplementary Material, locating Court House

SCALE 1" = 50'

DATE July 30, 1974

REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

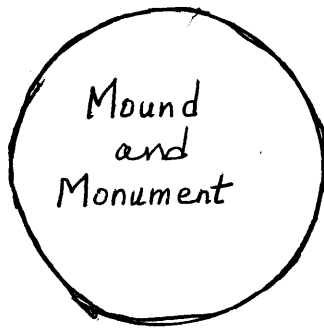
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

Angola, Indiana
Steuben County, Indiana

Public Square and
Court House *etc*
(not to scale)

N. Wayne St.
DID #27

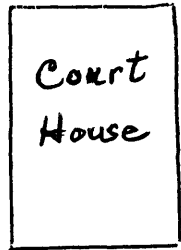
Public Square



W. Maumee St.
U.S. #20

E. Maumee St.
U.S. #20

I-69 ←



S. Wayne St.
DID #27

E. Gale St.

