

PH 007/277

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

STATE:	IOWA
COUNTY:	IDA
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAR 15 1974

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
IDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
401 Moorehead Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Ida Grove

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Sixth

STATE: Iowa CODE: 14 COUNTY: Ida CODE: 093

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Ida County

STREET AND NUMBER:
Ida County Courthouse - 401 Moorehead Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Ida Grove

STATE: Iowa CODE: 14

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Louie Dahms - Ida County Abstract Company

STREET AND NUMBER:
218 Main

CITY OR TOWN:
Ida Grove

STATE: Iowa CODE: 14

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

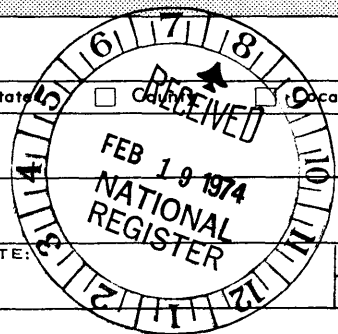
TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:



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STATE: IOWA
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

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

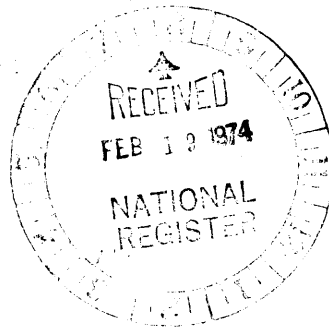
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ida County Courthouse is an imposing part-Gothic, part-Italianate two story brick building. Set among a picturesque arrangement of full grown trees atop a hill, the Courthouse still dominates the town of Ida Grove and the whole river valley surrounding it as well.

The plan of the Courthouse is irregular due to the use of pavilions and a large square tower. The tower as well as the rest of the hip roofed structure is adorned with decorative wood roof brackets and dentilation. The roof of the tower, however, is high pitched as with Gothic structures of an earlier time. Roof cresting atop the central portion of the hip roof is now missing. Otherwise, the Courthouse remains in its original condition. Tall slender windows, regularly spaced, are topped with simple but ornamental stone headings. Other horizontal stone elements appear in the window sills and at story levels.

On the interior, county offices flank the central hallway on the first floor. Jail cells (now used for storage) are found at the basement level and a courtroom on the second floor. Many of the original furnishings remain.

The Ida County Courthouse property occupies an entire city block.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Built in 1883**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The architectural significance of the Ida County Courthouse is perhaps its most readily apparent feature. The landscaping of the courthouse square is quite natural and refreshing, even unique in this crowded age. It is really more like a park than a formal courtyard.

The courthouse figures also in the politics of the region not only through the conduct of elections and daily government business, but in the county caucuses as well. Senator Harold Hughes started here as did Ed Campbell, a Republican member of the national legislature in an earlier era.

If sentiment is to be considered then that too must be entered here. We are a young territory, some of the last and most rapidly settled land in the nation. A few others came earlier, but the farmers who broke this land came with the railroad in the 1870's and 1880's; some of their great grandchildren are still on that same land. The first building they built when the town was established was a courthouse, and even as early as 1883 they had the foresight to build their new courthouse (the first one burned) large enough and sound enough to serve for at least ninety years. Local citizens take some measure of pride in knowing that as they go about their business in the Courthouse, that they share this heritage with their families before them. The records of five and six generations are found in this site.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Knauth, Otto, Des Moines Register, Fall, 1973.

Atlas of Ida County, Iowa, The Iowa Publishing Co., Davenport, 1906.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

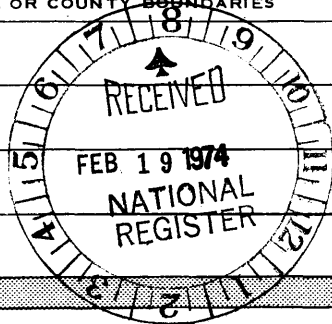
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	42	20	36
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	95	27	63
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"		28'	03"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			03" cm

15/296750
4690490
CL

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: About two (2) acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Isabella H. Smith, Vice President

ORGANIZATION: Ida County Historical Society DATE: October 15, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: Battle Creek STATE: Iowa CODE: 14

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Adrian D. Anderson

Title Historic Preservation Officer

Date 12 February, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest Allen Annally
Associate Director, Professional Services
MAR 15 1974

Date _____

ATTEST: Wm. Knauth
Keeper of the National Register
Date 3.14.74