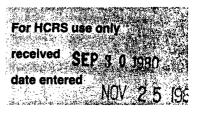
United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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Sargent County Courthouse, Forman (1910)

The Sargent County Courthouse is an economy version of the Foster and Pierce County Courthouses. Buff brown walls rise above a brown brick basement to horizontal metal cornices and then a parapet wall on all sides. The center pavilion of the front facade is virtually identical to the Foster County Courthouse, except that simple Doric columns and pilasters support the frieze and pediment, and there is no stained glass in the second floor opening. A stubby metal dome over a brick and wooden octagonal tower has three windows per side and a crown and ball finial. Rectangular windows throughout have sandstone sills and second floor windows have sandstone heads. The area between windows of the first and second floors is embellished with rectangular and lozengeshaped corbeling. Original windows have been replaced with aluminum sashes.

The interior has been altered significantly in details but not in spaces. A dropped ceiling of acoustical tile has been installed in the courtroom and only a county seal mural remains over the judge's station; the room may never have had murals or other stenciling. The rotunda area is very simple in detail compared to other courthouses, although murals and other painted details may have been painted over. The skylight of geometric stained glass is naturally illuminated. Pink terrazzo and pink marble floors remain on the first floor and the main entry area. Lighting fixtures have been replaced throughout the building, except for the rotunda area.

Dickey County Courthouse, Ellendale, (1910)

The trend toward conformity to classical elements illustrated in the symetrical balance in window treatment in the Sargent County Courthouse became full-blown in the next four courthouses: Dickey, Richland, Pembina and Grand Forks counties. The Dickey County Courthouse is nearly identical in exterior detail to the Traill County Courthouse, except that the Dickey County Courthouse has paired columns on the tall dome tower and single dentiled pilasters between second story windows. Constructed of dark brown brick and white limestone cornices and trim, the building features a belvedere finial with belcast roof and a front facade door surround with bracketed arched hood. Fluted Corinthian columns are flanked by plain brick pilasters with limestone cartouches engraved "AD" and "1010." Arched windows in the dome tower have been sealed with plywood and the original main entrance doors have been replaced with aluminum doors, but otherwise the building retains complete exterior integrity.

The interior has brown-gray terrazzo and marble floors, marble stairs and first-floor wainscoting, and brass stair railings. The rotunda is less exuberant in ornament than most Beuchner and Orth courthouses, but contains the usual skylight, murals, and wall stenciling. The courtroom has a coffered ceiling, a mural behind the judge's station, and original oak woodwork. Two offices have been altered by paneling of walls, but murals in two offices and most original light fixtures remain intact.