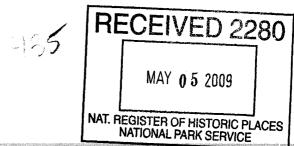
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM



1. Na	me of Prope	erty						II OE HVIO	E
histori	c name	Switzerla	and County	Courthouse	}				
other	name/site r	number	and to control to the control of the						
2. Lo	cation								
street	& town	212 Was	gt Main Stro	^^*			NA	not fo	r publication
city or	town	Vevay						NA	vicinity
state _	Indiana	code	<u>IN</u>	county	Switzerland	code 155	zip code	<u>47043</u>	<u>3-</u> 1180
3. Sta	ite/Federal /	4gency Cer	rtification						
	request for of Historic Place property 12 me pationally 15 Signature of ce	r determination ces and meets dees in does not meets dees in does not statewide deets deets dees not dees not deet deets deets deet dees not deet deet deet deet deet deet deet de	n of eligibility me the procedural not meet the Nat locally. (Se l/Title	eets the documen and professional tional Register cri se continuation sh	ervation Act, as ametation standards for requirements set for teria. I recommend neet for additional control ational Register cri	r registering proforth in 36 CFR In that this proper comments.)	perties in the Neart 60. In my orty be considered by the considere	lational Reppinion, the	egister e ant
	Signature of ce	ertifying official	I/Title		Date				
hereby d	determined eligil National Regis	Service Ceroperty is: ational Register thinuation sheet ble for the ster intinuation sheet eligible for the ster. The National	rtification	Sign	nature of the Keeper	holus		Date	of Action

Switzerland County Courtnouse		Switzerland County, IN			
5. Classification Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)			
		Contributing	Noncontributing	g	
private	\boxtimes building(s)	4	0	buildings	
⊠ public-local	☐ district	0	0	sites	
public-State	☐ site	0	0	structures	
public-Federal	structure	3	8	objects	
	object o	7	8	Total	
N/A		0			
	-	in the National F	ting resources previ Register	ously listed	
6. Function or Use Historic Function (Enter only categories from instructions)		Current Function (Enter only categories from instructions)			
GOVERNMENT: courthouse		GOVERNMENT: courthouse			
7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter only categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter only cate	egories from instructions)		
Mid-19 th Century: Greek Revival		foundation _	STONE: limestone		
		walls	BRICK		
		roof	SYNTHETICS: rubber		
		other	METAL: copper		

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

8. Statement of Significance Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)			
☑ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Government/Politics Architecture			
☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.				
☑ 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.	Period of Significance 1864-1958			
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates			
Property is:	1864, c. 1875, 1921			
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.				
☐ B removed from its original location.	Significant Person (only if Criterion B selected)			
C a birthplace or grave.	NA College A A SSI Leading			
D a cemetery.	NA NA			
☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	·			
☐ F a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder (use last names first for individuals)			
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance	Dubach, David			
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)	⊠See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8			
9. Major Bibliographical References Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more confi				
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:			
 □ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested □ previously listed in the National Register □ previously determined eligible by the National Register □ designated a National Historic Landmark □ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey 	 State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository: 			
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	⊠ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9			

10. G	eographica	il Data			
Acreag	e of Property	2 acres			
	eferences Iditional bounda	aries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	USGS	Topographic ⁽	Quad name _Vevay South, IN-KY
1 <u>16</u> Zone	667804 Easting	4290266 Northing	2 Zone	Easting	Northing
3 Zone	Easting	Northing	4 Zone	Easting	Northing
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)					

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

11. Form Prepared By	⊠See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10			
name/title Beth Sullebarger				
organization Sullebarger Associates	date			
street & number 1080 Morse Avenue	telephone (513) 772-1088			
city or town Cincinnati	state <u>OH</u> zip code <u>45246</u>			
email address sullebarger@fuse.net				
Additional Documentation				

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner name/title Switzerland County, Indiana	
street & number 212 W. Main Street	telephone (812) 427-3302
city or town <u>Vevay</u>	state <u>IN</u> zip code <u>47043</u>
email address (if available)	

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7

Page 1

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

Setting

The Switzerland County Courthouse is located in the center of a two-acre public square at 212 West Main Street in downtown Vevay, Indiana, a small town on the Ohio River in the southeast corner of the state. Located near the center of town about two blocks from the river, the square is bounded on the south by West Main Street, on the east by Liberty Street, on the west by Main Cross Street and on the north by Pike Street. The courthouse stands on the west end of the central business district and functions as a transition from commercial uses to residential buildings. A historic wrought iron fence encloses the green lawn. The blocks surrounding the courthouse are occupied on the south by mostly twentieth-century, one- and two-story brick and frame commercial buildings; on the east by the former Phoenix Hotel—a large 3-story, Italianate brick building—the Phoenix Hotel Carriage House, and a recent one-story concrete-block commercial building; on the west by a wood-frame, five-bay dwelling, a brick Italianate house and the Baptist Church, and on the north; by a small residence and the recently built Sheriff's Office and Detention and Communications Facility.

Courthouse Exterior

Built in 1862-64, the courthouse is a three-story Greek Revival-style building of red brick with limestone and white-painted wood trim (photo 1). Rectangular in plan, the building is five bays wide and nine bays deep, approximately 52 feet by 96 feet. The upper floor is double-height. The front of the building is dramatized by a tall pedimented tetrastyle portico supported by a triple-arched and rusticated stone base. The fluted stone columns of the portico have Corinthian capitals and Attic bases, and support a full entablature with a denticulated cornice and pediment. A heavy cast-iron balustrade fills the openings between columns.

The brick masonry walls, which rise from a limestone base and water table, are laid in a variation of common bond, with seven courses of stretchers alternating with single courses of headers. A stone stringcourse divides the first and second floors, and a denticulated entablature caps the walls. The hipped roof is pierced by six interior chimneys. A tall metal-roofed dome rises from the center. The dome rests on a cylindrical drum articulated with Corinthian pilasters and full entablature. Louvered openings with projecting lintels fill each bay. The ribbed copper-clad dome features a projecting clockface on all four sides, each hooded by a segmental arched pediment, and a cupola on top. Capped by a ball and weather vane, the cupola has tall round-arched windows divided by simple pilasters.

The portico form is echoed in the center of the other three sides as a slightly projecting element (photos 2, 3 and 5). The tall upper-story window bays in the side elevations are divided by brick pilasters with Doric-style stone capitals and bases. On the first floor, tall pilaster-like plinths for the Doric pilasters above divide the bays. The windows on the first floor have flat stone lintels and sills and six-over-six wood double-hung sashes; the upper windows are crowned by heavy pedimented hoods and nine-over-nine sashes. The hoods are in the

¹ The courthouse and square actually face southeast; the cardinal directions are used for ease of description.

² Switzerland County, Indiana, Commissioners' Record, Book D, p. 28.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7

Page 2

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

form of richly carved scroll consoles supporting a projecting cornice. The lintel underneath the cornice section has a raised relief ribbon motif. The cornice itself is enriched with a water leaf molding and crowned by an anthemion flanked by scrolls. The front entrance is approached by three stone steps, which have been painted and feature new brass handrails (photos 1 and 9). The porch walls are faced with cement plaster and molded to resemble stone. Two simple painted wood benches stand on the front porch. The front doorway features a fanlight over double four-paneled wood doors, which have been refinished and have glass in the top two panels.

There are two small bronze plaques on the front wall of the courthouse, one on each side of the entrance. The plaque on the left reads, "The Dungeon," A stop on the Underground Railroad bringing slaves to Freedom, 1862-1864, Commemorated 1976, Vevay, Indiana. This memorial placed in honor of descendents of the Rayls and Pickett Families in the Bicentennial year of 1976. (Italics added) The plaque on the right contains a tribute to Paul W. Ogle (1907-1989), owner of the Ogle Haus Inn and local philanthropist who provided for the restoration of the courthouse and other civic-minded projects.

There is a recent (2004-05) two-story office addition on the rear, connected to the old courthouse by a metaland-glass hyphen (photo 5). The addition echoes the original building in its materials and design but with more modest proportions, details and finishes. Like the old building, it is five bays by nine bays, but oriented in a perpendicular position. The center three bays on the north elevation are grouped to simulate a portico framing the central entrance with double paneled doors and large fanlight. The first and second floors are equal in height, and the windows all have six-over-six double-hung aluminum sashes.

Courthouse Interior

One enters the old courthouse through double doors into a vestibule, with a restroom and stair on both sides. A large brass chandelier of recent vintage lights the vestibule. Through another set of double doors and sidelights, one proceeds into a long hallway that extends through the center of the building (photo 10). Toward the rear of the hall, a wood stairway with turned balusters leads to the second floor. On each side of the hallway are three offices and two smaller vault rooms for record storage (See first floor plan, fig. 3). The hallway and offices have high heavily molded baseboards but no cornice moldings. On a portion of the west wall of the hallway, a chair rail and a second molding about 30 inches above it have been added in a recent renovation. The ceilings throughout are dropped gypsum board ceilings, which are set back at the windows (photo 11). The hallway ceiling has a single molded coffer in the center with gilded egg-and-dart moldings. The interior four-panel solid wood doors are framed by flat Greek Revival-style surrounds with a slight pediment. All of the windows retain folding paneled wood shutters except the four vault rooms, which have iron folding shutters (photo 13). The floor in the vestibule and hallway is covered with vinyl tile, while the floors in the offices are carpeted.

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7

Page 3

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

The vault rooms were designed to be fireproof, with brick vaults below and above, twenty-inch-thick walls, and flagstone floors. In addition to the above-mentioned iron folding shutters at the windows, the vaults were also equipped with double iron doors (photo 12). The walls of the vault rooms are lined with shelves, and the floors are now covered with carpet. The basement, which is accessed by an enclosed wood stair in the hallway near the rear, has exposed rubble stone walls with arched openings and a dirt floor. (See basement plan, fig. 2.) The floor above is supported by wood joists 14"-high and 2 1/2"-thick.

Most of the second floor is devoted to the double-height courtroom, which features a podium at the north end for the judge's stand and a balcony at the south end (See second floor plan, fig. 4, and photos 14 and 15.). A shallow hall across the front contains stairways to the courtroom balcony, access to the gallery of the portico through a window/door in the center, and entry to the courtroom through double paneled wood doors. Behind the courtroom there are two floors with a back stair and two rooms per floor for use by the judge and juries. All the windows and doors in the courtroom have Greek Revival-style eared surrounds. Behind the judge's stand a wall projection is articulated by an archway flanked by a pair of engaged columns and pilasters. On either side is a single doorway with a solid four-panel wood door. A recently installed jury box connects with the podium in front of the judge's stand. The jury box, which contains 14 moveable chairs, is enclosed on the rear and sides by a balustrade and partially enclosed on the front by a U-shaped solid paneled wood railing.

The balcony has a solid railing punctuated by simple piers alternating with raised panels. A heavy plaster entablature joins the ceiling, which features plaster moldings and a single large molded coffer in the center. The room is lighted by pendant lamps with white opaque glass shades, and the windows have louvered folding interior shutters. The walls are painted a golden yellow and all the trim is painted white. The wooden floor has been covered with gray carpet, as have the plain white-painted wooden benches. Described as "pews" in the original specifications, the benches have sides with raised panels and scrolled armrests. There is a speaking tube attached to the west wall near the front, apparently quite common by 1870.³

The new two-story addition is aligned with the original courthouse on a central corridor, which is punctuated by a two-story circular atrium in the center. On the first floor, the central corridor continues through the new addition to a north entrance and a cross corridor accesses offices for the clerk on the east and recorder on the west. On the second floor, the T-shaped corridor accesses a jury room, judge's chambers on the east and offices for the probate judge and prosecutor on the west. The basement level includes rooms for the genealogy records, storage, a meeting room with kitchenette, janitor's closet, and mechanical equipment room. Finishes in the new addition consist of painted gypsum-board walls, vinyl tile floors in the corridors and wall-to-wall carpet in the offices and vinyl base throughout.

³ Paul Kenneth Goeldner, *Temples of Justice: Nineteenth Century County Courthouses in the Midwest and Texas*, Diss. Columbia University 1970 (Ann Arbor, MI: University Microfilms, Inc., 1971), p. 32.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7

Page 4

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

Additional buildings and objects

In addition to the courthouse there are three contributing buildings, three contributing objects, and eight non-contributing objects on the courthouse square.

Jail, ca. 1875 (contributing)

At the north corner of the square stands a small two-story former jail building (photo 8) with thick, coursed ashlar stone walls and a hipped roof. Rectangular in plan, it has a single steel entrance door on the south side, and holds approximately six cells. It was apparently built by 1876 because it is described in an account of that year. "The jail was built of blue limestone, from the Bennington quarries. The exterior of this stone is of a gray color and the quality excellent." A brick sheriff's residence was added to the south and east sides soon after, as shown on the 1883 atlas, but removed in a 2004-05 renovation.

Hexagonal brick privy (contributing)

At the northwest corner of the square, stands a hexagonal brick privy (photo 4) with a standing-seam metal roof and louvered ventilator at the peak, and six doors each with a transom. While its date of construction is unknown, it was certainly built in the mid-nineteenth century and originally stood behind the old courthouse. The privy appears to retain four of its original four-panel doors; two doors have been replaced with doors with four horizontal panels. The privy was apparently altered when it was moved in a recent renovation; it now has a single interior space with a concrete slab floor.

Bandstand (contributing)

To the southeast of the courthouse, there stands a wood-frame circular bandstand with a wood deck and railing, concrete block footings and steps, and low-pitched conical asphalt-shingle roof (photo 6). Erected in 1921, the band stand is in fair condition.

Landscape features

A handsome, ornamental cast-iron fence (contributing) was installed around the square in the 1880s. There are seven war memorials and related objects (two contributing and five non-contributing) on the courthouse square. In front of the courthouse stands a gray granite monument with rough edges and a bronze plaque, which reads, "In Memory of the Sons & Daughters of Switzerland County who served in the World War, 1917-1918." (See photo 1.) This monument was dedicated in 1926 and is considered contributing. At the southeast corner of the square, there is a World War II-vintage gun and carriage from the Rock Island Arsenal, dated 1942 (photo 6), also considered contributing.

⁴ Atlas of Switzerland and Ohio Counties, Indiana. (Philadelphia: D. J. Lake & Co., 1883).

NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7

Page 5

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

In the southwest corner of the square is an ensemble including a polished gray granite triptych dedicated to Switzerland County men who lost their lives in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Operation Iraqi Freedom (photo 7). In front of the triptych monument is a flagpole and a triangular paved area flanked by two gray granite benches. This grouping was installed in the 1970s after the Vietnam War. Just to the left stands a POW monument in the form of a polished black granite speaker's podium with a slight bas relief of a profile of a male soldier with the words, "You are not forgotten." This monument was installed circa 1992. This entire grouping of five landscape elements—two monuments, two benches and flagpole—is considered non-contributing.

Flanking the walk inside the entry gate are two irregularly shaped meteorites that fell in the Indian Creek area of the county (photo 1). One of the meteorites measures about three feet by three feet; while the other is about three feet by two feet. They have been located on the courthouse square for at least fifty years but are considered non-contributing.

A small white statue of an angel, approximately two-feet-high, stands by a flower bed to the right of the courthouse entrance. The statue was placed on the grounds in memory of Gerri Furnish, deputy county recorder, who passed away in 2004. The date of the statue itself is unknown; it is considered non-contributing.

Alterations

Since its construction the courthouse has been subject to several alterations, but it remains largely intact. The building was originally painted white, as reflected in the contract specifications.⁵ In 1874, the courthouse was painted "two good coats from top of cornice to the lower water table including window frames sash caps and sills. The colour (sic) to be near the same as the one now on the Building or was when first put on). The iron railing in front of Portico and stone caps to sills in lower story to be painted stone coular (sic) by Alfred Stow.⁶ The building's exterior was painted "battleship gray" in 1941.⁷ Several historic photographs show it painted (figs. 7-9). Despite historical evidence that the building was painted since its construction, the building was sandblasted in the early 1970s to expose the brick.

The building was originally heated by six fireplaces, and there is a report of two cast-iron heating stoves which once flanked the aisle in the middle of the courtroom; these were removed at an unknown date. In 1919, the commissioners ordered the installation of a heating and water system, which was evidently designed by the

⁵ Commissioners' Record, Book D, p. 48.

⁶ Alfred Stow, Contract to paint outside of Court House Bond, filed April 4, 1874. Switzerland County Historical Society, Vevay, Indiana.

⁷ Commissioners' Record, Book 2, p. 57.

⁸ Schmid. A. Allan. "Creative Destruction along the Ohio," May 18-22, 2002. https://www.msu.edu/user/schmid/ohio.htm.

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7

Page 6

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

Cincinnati firm of Samuel Hannaford & Sons. The toilets and a heating system were upgraded again in 1941. A 1991 renovation included interior painting, carpet, and new HVAC systems which involved installing the dropped gypsum-board ceilings. An elevator was proposed at that time but not installed.

The 2004-5 renovation by American Consulting, Inc. of Indianapolis included repairs to and refinishing of the existing building and adding a new addition on the rear. Exterior work included a new rubber membrane roof, repair of the cupola, and tuck pointing. On the interior, the work consisted of repainting walls and trim, installing new carpet, and adding a new chandelier in the vestibule and a jury box in the courtroom, possibly in place of the aforementioned stoves. With construction of the new addition, the hexagonal privy was relocated to the northwest corner of the courthouse square, a 1940s concrete-block garage was removed, and a new parking lot was added at the north end of the square. The addition, connected to the old building by a largely transparent two-story hyphen, provided an elevator for handicapped access. The one-story brick-faced Sheriff's Office across Pike Street was built at the same time.

Several other buildings that once existed on the square have since vanished. In addition to the original 1815 courthouse, there were two one-story brick houses built for use as offices in 1843. Each 18-feet-wide by 34-feet-long and containing two rooms, these two brick buildings were removed at an unknown date. A brick Sheriff's residence shown adjoining the jail on an 1883 map (fig. 11) was removed in the 2004-05 renovation.¹¹

⁹ Commissioners' Record, Book S, p 246, April 14, 1919. Samuel Hannaford & Sons Account Book, Cincinnati Historical Society.

¹⁰ Commissioners' Record, Book 2, p 14, 57.

¹¹ Bond, Joseph Peelman for Building Offices, March 10, 1843, Switzerland County Historical Society.

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 7

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

Statement of Significance

Built in 1862-64, the Switzerland County Courthouse is a well-preserved example of a Greek Revival-style county courthouse with a Roman Classical influence. It was constructed during the courthouse-building boom that swept across the state of Indiana in the mid- to late-nineteenth century. Its size, style, and quality of construction speak to the aspirations and growth of Switzerland County during this period, and it therefore meets National Register Criterion A in the area of Government and Politics for its significance to local Switzerland County history. Vevay's courthouse continues as a strong architectural statement of its importance to the community. 12 Under Criterion C, it is an excellent example of its type in setting and architectural stylistic influences. It also reflects the work of an important designer-builder, David Dubach, who was born in Vevay and raised in Madison, Indiana. Dubach's training through apprenticeships and reliance on popular pattern books of the day, such as Asher Benjamin's American Builder's Companion, reflect the design process at the transition between builders and professionally trained architects. 13 The related outbuildings, particularly the hexagonal privy and stone jail, further contribute to the significance of the courthouse.

History of Vevay and Switzerland County

Vevay is a rural county seat in Jefferson Township, Switzerland County, Indiana, along the Ohio River, about 55 miles west of Cincinnati. Vevay was founded in 1802 by Swiss immigrants who named it after the Swiss city of Vevey. These new settlers were intent on cultivating grapes and producing wine, resulting in the first commercial winery in the United States. Vevay was laid out in "town lots" by John Francis Dufour in the fall of 1813, and his plat was recorded on November 12 of that year (fig. 5). Dufour was a Swiss native who had explored the Ohio riverfront in early as 1796 and purchased 2560 acres at Vevay. He first settled in Kentucky but in 1809 he moved to Vevay, which was then part of Jefferson County. He and his family were Vevay's leading landowners and wealthiest clan in the early-nineteenth century. John Francis was appointed County Assessor and County Surveyor by Thomas Posey, then governor of the Indiana Territory in 1812. Soon after, he led a petition that resulted in the creation of a new county and designation of Vevay as the county seat in 1814. It was natural that the new county was named Switzerland County after its settlers' homeland and Dufour was elected its first clerk and recorder. 14

During the early nineteenth century, the local economy was based primarily on agriculture and river transport. In the 1840s, southeast Indiana became a center for hay production, spurred by improvements to the hay press, which was used to press hay into bales, making it easy to transport. Patented in 1843 by Samuel Hewitt (who was a Mormon), the Mormon Beater Hay Press was a three-story, animal-driven machine that created

¹² Paul K. Goeldner, Temples of Justice: Nineteenth Century County Courthouses in the Midwest and Texas, Diss. Columbia University, 1970. (Ann Arbor, MI: University Microfilms, Inc., 1971), p. 31.

Goeldner, p. 128.

¹⁴ Julie LeClerc Knox, *The Dufour Saga: 1796-1942*. Self-published, 1942, p. 43

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 8

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

400-500 pound bales using a pulley system and screw. Local farmers, especially in Switzerland and Dearborn counties, focused on production of hay as a cash crop and shipped thousands of hay bales down the Ohio River to southern markets, particularly New Orleans, where hay sold for twice the price it would fetch in Indiana. The hay boom also generated ancillary businesses, including merchants who sold press rope, press oil, and hoops to bind bales and local blacksmiths who produced hay press irons and foundries, the massive internal screw. It also fed the owners of flat and steamboats transported the product south.

By the late 1840s, a leading Vevay merchant and farmer Ulysses Schenck was shipping so much hay throughout the Ohio and Mississippi River valleys he became known as the "Hay King." In the early 1850s, the railroad at Madison, Indiana, made it easier to ship inland to markets in Indianapolis, Noblesville, and Shelbyville. In 1859, Schenck established a new steamboat company, the Cincinnati-New Orleans Express Line, which flourished until river traffic was interrupted by the Civil War. Even so, the robustness of Vevay's economy is reflected in the founding of the First National Bank of Vevay in 1864, with U.P. Schenck as president.

The hay-based economy thrived until the late 1870s, after which the price dropped. Smaller portable baling machinery, which could bale hay in the field, opened markets to more remote locations. River transport became less important as roads improved and more railroads were built. In addition, farming practices had depleted the soil in Switzerland County. By the time Vevay became a city in 1877, it had evolved into "a quaint old town, nestling at the foot of lofty mountains, in the midst of vineyards and gardens of beautiful flowers." Bypassed by railroads and highways, it has remained a small community; the population was 1,735 at the 2000 census. Today Vevay is an attraction on the Ohio River Scenic Byway.

History of the Switzerland County Courthouse

In his 1813 plat, Dufour had already provided two acres for a public square, but the transfer of the current property by John Francis and his brother Daniel to the county was not recorded until August 1822. The first Switzerland County Courthouse was built in 1815 by John Tandy of Gallatin County, Kentucky. When this two-story brick building, 32-feet-wide by 36-feet-deep, had become too small, two additional buildings were added to the square in 1843 by Joseph Peelman to house the offices of the clerk, auditor, and recorder.

Two decades later, a new larger courthouse was evidently required. In 1862 the commissioners in Vevay visited several courthouses in the area to decide what they wanted to build. They most admired the design of the Jefferson County Courthouse (fig. 6) in Madison, which was designed by David Dubach and built in 1853-54. The Madison courthouse, which still stands, has an lonic tetrastyle portico with a rusticated and arched lower floor. Pediments appear on the other three sides of the building. The windows are long, and those on the street sides are capped with slightly projecting stone lintels supported by corbels. The building is surmounted by a dome on a high drum and capped by an octagonal cupola. The dome houses a four-faced clock installed by Israel Fowler, a Madison clock-maker.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 9

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

Matthew Temperly, who in 1853 had served as superintendent for the Madison courthouse, brought Dubach's drawings to Vevay. A contract was let September 22, 1862, for said courthouse is to be erected in accordance with the plans and specifications drawn and made by Temperly and Woodfield of Madison Indiana, to be completed by December 31, 1863. The final sentence of these specifications directs that "all things not herein specified are to be like the Court House in the City of Madison." According to the contract, the plans were further modified by John F. Doan of Vevay. The cost was anticipated as \$26,548.50. 15

Dubach most likely never saw the Switzerland County Courthouse, but he nevertheless deserves the credit for the design. Vevay's courthouse might have been exactly like Madison's except that Temperly and his partner Woodfield lost the bid for the construction contract. It went instead to John Haly, a resident of Frankfort, Kentucky, and a prominent contractor in that state. Haly followed the Dubach drawings but made some minor changes. In December 1862, he proposed that the portico's brick columns with iron bases and caps specified in the original contract be changed to "Indiana Granate" and that Corinthian caps be substituted for lonic at an additional cost of \$1200. Today, the roof of the 1853-55 Jefferson County Courthouse is decidedly steeper than that of the Switzerland County Courthouse. In February 1859, a fire damaged the Jefferson County Courthouse. The commissioners gave Matthew Temperly the contract to rebuild the courthouse and it was reoccupied in September, 1859. As part of the reconstruction, Temperly installed a steep pitched roof on the Jefferson County structure, changing the design from that shown on the original Jefferson County drawings that he later used for the Vevay project. Another difference is that the rusticated stone base is limited to the portico in the Vevay example, while it spans the entire first floor in the Madison prototype.

The provision in the building of fireproof vaults for record-keeping reflected that fire was a major concern in the mid-nineteenth century. Like other buildings of the period, courthouses were heated with wood or coal-burning stoves, lit with liquid-fuel lamps, and furnished with wooden furniture and fixtures, but they also held vast amounts of paper. Every county commissioner either had experience with fires in public buildings or knew someone who had. A serious fire could destroy records—property records, tax records, criminal records—that were essential to government.

As the courthouse neared completion in 1864, the commissioners contracted with Israel Fowler, the Madison clockmaker, "to make and construct a good and correct timepiece to be put in the cupalo (sic) of the courthouse, at a cost of \$1,000. The clock was "to be made and constructed like the clock in the cupola of the Court House at Madison, Indiana..." At about the same time a bell was purchased from G. W. Coffin of Cincinnati for \$800.00 and installed with the clock. The courthouse was finally finished in 1864 for a total cost of \$29,745.20

¹⁵Commissioners' Record, Book D, p. 28-49, Fall Vacation 1862.

¹⁶ Jefferson County Commissioners Minutes, February 23, 1859, and September 14, 1859. transcript in collection of Historic Madison, Inc. A historic "pre-fire" photo on page 15 of *Images of Madison* shows the original low-pitched roof.

¹⁷ The old low pitch rafters are visible in the attic. Also, the drum/dome/cupola were raised so that they would rise above the new steep roof pitch. This also is evident in the attic. Information provided by Link Ludington.

¹⁸ Contract between Israel Fowler and Switzerland County Commissioners, March 10, 1864.

¹⁹ Commissioners' Record, Book D, p. 253.

²⁰ Commissioners' Record, Book D, p. 411, states that Haly appeared before the commissioners on October 8, 1864 and that the commissioners "understood that said courthouse is fully completed" and accepted the building for use.

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 10

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

David Dubach (1826-1897)

Dubach was a successful builder who designed some notable structures throughout the Midwest. However, *The Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri* identifies him exclusively as a manufacturer, who briefly studied architecture. He was very successful as a businessman, based mostly in Hannibal, MO, who owned several milling, lumber and brick manufacturing companies. While John Dilts identifies Dubach as the architect of the Jefferson and Switzerland county courthouses in his photographic catalog, *The Magnificent 92: Indiana Courthouses*, Paul K. Goeldner more accurately refers to him as a builder in his comprehensive dissertation, *Temples of Justice: Nineteenth Century County Courthouses in the Midwest and Texas.*²¹

David Dubach was born January 15, 1826 in Indiana and died December 10, 1897, in Hannibal, Missouri. His parents, John Aaron and Maria Catherine Von Gunten Dubach, were both natives of Switzerland. Catherine was born in the canton of Neuchatel in 1800, and John Aaron was born in the canton of Berne in 1794. They emigrated in May 1821, with an infant son and John's parents, to a colony of 170 people on the Red River in Canada. In 1823, they moved south and tried their hand at farming near St. Louis, Missouri. In November 1824, they settled in Vevay, Indiana. However, the federal census indicates they had moved to Lancaster Township, just outside Madison, by 1830 and the *Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri* states that "David Dubach spent his boyhood and early manhood in Madison, Indiana."²²

In 1841, at 15 he was apprenticed to the carpenter's trade. "Madison was to Indiana in the nineteenth century what Columbus is to the twentieth century—an architectural oasis." Madison had a large number of finely proportioned and well-detailed Georgian, Federal and Classical Revival public buildings and residences. At 26 (1852), he spent a year or so "studying architecture in Philadelphia." In 1853, he designed the courthouse at Madison at age 27. On December 12, 1855, he married Emmaline Wells Bennett (1828-1896), one of seven children of Albert Bennett and Mary Salisbury Bennett, who were natives of Vermont. She was also a descendent of Captain Jonathan Salisbury of Swansea, MA, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, who commanded the sloop, "Industry."

After completion of the courthouse, Dubach's career was very diverse, but primarily focused on milling and building materials. In 1856 he moved to Davenport, Iowa, where he worked at a flour mill for about 18 months. In 1858, he moved to Hannibal, where he built a planing mill and operated a lumber business and brick yard. That business was disrupted in 1862 by the Civil War, but he later revived it and made tobacco boxes. He had two partners at this time, Robert Coffman and Robert Pindell, both of whom he bought out and continued on alone.

²¹ John Dilts, *The Magnificent* 92 (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1999), p. 84 and 162. Goeldner, p 85.

²³ David R. Hermansen, "Indiana County Courthouses of the Nineteenth Century." Muncie, IN: Ball State University Faculty Lecture Series, Feb. 1968, p. 8.

²² U.S. Federal Census, 1830, Indiana, Jefferson County, p. 110. Howard Louis Conard, *Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri*, II. (New York, Louisville, St. Louis: The Southern History Co., 1901), pp. 322-325.

(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior **National Park Service**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 11

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

Dubach's political allegiance was to the Republican Party, and during the Civil War he served as captain of Company "E" of the Fifty-Third regiment of the East Missouri Militia. He was not a member of any church, but he attended Presbyterian services with his wife, who was a member. He is described as "a true-hearted, kindly and charitable man."

OMB No. 1024-0018

In 1866, in business with his brother Frederick L. Dubach, he erected the Magnolia Flour Mill, which he sold two years later. In 1875, he and S. M. Carter built the Empire Flour Mill, which was afterward operated by the Hannibal Flour Milling Company. After closing for some years, this mill was reopened in 1891 with Dubach as president, a position he held until his death in 1897. He also became a large stockholder and president of the Dells Lumber Co. of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, which owned large tracts of pineland, from which timber was cut. When Dubach sold the lumber vard and planing mill there in 1890, he was known as one of the oldest white pine lumber manufacturers on the Mississippi.

His other business ventures included building the Park Hotel at Hannibal in partnership with his brother Frederick and J.B. Price. The hotel was destroyed by fire in 1881. Dubach's personal residence in Hannibal, built around 1871, is an eclectic Italianate Villa with a tower and mansard roof (fig. 13). It currently serves as a bed-and-breakfast inn, known as The Dubach Inn. In 1879 he designed a fine Italianate dwelling for his brother Frederick Dubach as a rental property (fig. 14). No other designs are known.

David Dubach and his wife had two children. Frederic Bennett Dubach was born in 1857 in Davenport, Iowa. He was a graduate of Yale College in 1878, and married Emma Temple Chandler of St. Louis in 1897. Frederick succeeded his father as president of the Dells Lumber Company and became president of the F. B. Dubach Lumber Company of Dubach, Louisiana, and secretary of the Barr-Dubach Lumber Company of Kansas City. He also had interests in lumber yards at Chanute and St. Charles, Kansas. The other child was a daughter, Jeannie May Dubach, born in 1861. In 1897, she married Carolus Frederick von Mollenkott Fette, founder of the Fette Orchard in Hannibal. Their house remained in the Dubach-Fette family for over 100 years.

Regional Context: Indiana County Courthouses of the Nineteenth Century

David R. Hermansen's lecture, "Indiana County Courthouses of the Nineteenth Century," provides a context for understanding the Switzerland County Courthouse. As he reports, a sort of courthouse building frenzy existed in Indiana in the nineteenth century: "Of the ninety-two counties in Indiana, all built at least two and as many as five, courthouses in a span of less than ninety years."24 Most of the courthouses that survive today were built in the second half of the nineteenth century, many in the 1880s and 1890s. They reflect the increased settlement and growing sophistication of these Midwestern towns. While most early courthouses were simple log or frame buildings, the later courthouses used nationally popular architectural styles to create powerful political, social, and architectural symbols to define the county.

²⁴ Hermansen, p. 1.

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 12

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

The Switzerland County Courthouse reflects the predominant trends in siting and style for its building type and its time and place. The setting of the courthouse on a square is typical of Indiana, as it is in parts of the Midwest. According to Price, most typically the courthouse was erected on a new site, where it served as the nucleus of the county seat, which became the largest town and trade center in the county. Land for the public square or even for the whole town was often donated by a single landowner (sometimes a member of the site commission), who thus improved the location of his remaining property."²⁵ This was certainly the case with John Francis Dufour's provision of Vevay's public square.

The Switzerland County Courthouse is set on a square defined by streets intersecting at the corners. This type of square, known as the "Shelbyville Square," takes it name from an early example at Shelbyville, Tennessee, which was laid out in 1810, just three years before the square at Vevay.²⁶ The Shelbyville square quickly became the most frequent county-seat plan in new counties in most states. It is the predominant model in Indiana; 79 of the state's 92 counties, or 86 percent, have a courthouse square of this type. Others have the Philadelphia/ Lancaster square type, which is biaxial, with streets that end at the sides of the square, a hybrid of the two types, or no square at all.

According to Hermansen, Indiana retains one of the finest collections of historic county courthouses in the Midwest. They reflect three predominant styles: the Greek Revival and other classically inspired motifs were popular in the 1840s and 1850s; Eclectic design, drawing upon the Renaissance, Mannerist, Baroque, and Second Empire styles, was popular in the 1880s...; and Richardsonian Romanesque became quite popular in the 1880s and 1890s." Hermansen's lecture focuses more on describing individual buildings than analyzing the significance of these styles, but certainly the shift in stylistic expressions also implies a shift in emphasis on different cultural values.

"Many of the pre-Civil War courthouses were temple-like in appearance because they were based on Greek precedents. Never less than two stories, they usually had a cupola to increase their height. Towers are a design element common to almost all post-Civil War courthouse styles and assured the dominance of the courthouse in the skyline of almost every county seat. These towers were the logical location for town clocks which regulated the life of the entire community as they struck the hours." Courthouse architecture often responded to the symmetry of the square with facades and entrances on all four sides, or at least on two opposite sides.²⁷

²⁵ Edward T. Price, "The Central Courthouse Square in the American County Seat," *Geographical Review*, 58, No. 1 (Jan. 1968), p. 37.

²⁶ Price, p. 49.

²⁷ Price, p. 55.

(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 13

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

The Greek Revival style

Greek Revival was the dominant style of American architecture from 1830 to 1850 and flourished in areas that were settled during those decades. A growing interest in classical architecture had taken hold in the U.S. and Western Europe at the end of the eighteenth century. Based initially on Roman models, the focus shifted to Greece in response to an increasing knowledge of the Greek roots of Roman architecture revealed by archeological investigations in the early nineteenth century and because of American sympathy for Greece's war for independence from the Turks (1821-1830).

The Greek Revival style was spread by carpenter's guides and pattern books, the most influential of which were written by Asher Benjamin (The Practical House Carpenter; The American Builders' Companion) and Minard Lafever (The Modern Builder's Guide: the Beauties of Modern Architecture). In addition to these guides for carpenter-builders, there were growing number of trained architects in America, some educated abroad, who designed high-style buildings in the fashionable Grecian mode. Among the most prominent were Benjamin Latrobe and his pupils Robert Mills and William Strickland; Strickland's own pupils Thomas U. Walter and Gideon Shryock; Ithiel Town, Alexander Jackson Davis (early work), John Haviland, Alexander Parris and Isaiah Rogers.28

The Greek Revival in America began and ended with public buildings in Philadelphia, which was the nation's leading metropolis in the early years of the republic. The first building in the United States to incorporate a Greek order was the Bank of Pennsylvania, designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe in 1798. This had a Greek lonic portico on front and rear as well as a low dome over the central banking hall. The dome was a Roman form, and so was eliminated as taste moved to a stricter archeological interpretation of ancient Greek architecture, illustrated by Strickland's Bank of the United States, designed in 1818, and by Walter's design in 1833 of Girard College in 1833 considered "one of the finest monuments of Greek Revival then built in the western world.29

The most obvious elements of the Greek Revival style were based on Greek temples—the pedimented portico and the Greek orders of architecture—Doric, Ionic and Corinthian columns and entablatures. Porches, usually with four columns, typically were placed on only the front facade and functioned as entry porches, but they also appeared on both front and back and sometimes on all four sides. The entablatures were typically plain. However, by no means did all the Greek Revivalists follow Strickland in rejecting the dome and slavishly copying specific Greek models. According to Marcus Whiffen, "Some of the best Greek Revival buildings were domed: for example the North Carolina State Capitol at Raleigh designed by the important firm of Town and Davis, and (as originally built) the Boston Customs House by Ammi B. Young.³⁰

²⁸ Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2002), p 184.

²⁹ Hermansen, p. 21.

³⁰ Marcus Whiffen, *American Architecture since 1780: A Guide to the Styles* (1969, rpt. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1992), p. 41.

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 14

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

The dominance of the Greek Revival style during the decades from 1830 to 1850 is evident in Indiana. The capital city of Indianapolis, settled in1820, was a town of considerable architectural importance. Within little more than a decade, a national competition was held for the design of a capitol building, and attracted entries from architects as distinguished as Robert Mills and William Strickland. The winning design by Town and Davis combined a Greek temple-type building with a central dome. Although the architects did not consider it one of their best, the resulting building was much admired when it was built in 1832-35.³¹

Indiana has a compelling collection of classically inspired courthouses which began to appear in the southern part of the state beginning in 1845 with the Ohio County Courthouse at Rising Sun, the oldest Greek Revival Courthouse in Indiana to be continuously occupied. One of the most finely proportioned and detailed Greek Revival examples in Indiana is the Orange County Courthouse at Paoli (1847-1850), by an unknown designer. While it "does not skimp on correctness of detail or proportion" of its Doric portico, the Paoli courthouse features a square cupola topped by a bell-shaped roof. Numerous other Indiana county courthouses were built in variations of the Greek Revival mode, including several by John Elder at Frankfort, Columbus, Rushville, and Connersville (all demolished). Rushville, and Connersville (all demolished).

In fact, of the many surviving Greek Revival courthouses in the Midwest, no two appear to be identical even in their original condition. This illustrates the freedom with which architects and builders adapted the Greek models. An instructive example is the St. Joseph County Courthouse at South Bend (1853-55) by John Mills Van Osdel, one of the first architects to practice in the Midwest. "Its portico has six very slim fluted columns with caps which are more Egyptian than Greek. The pitch of the pediment is very low and omits the modillion cornice of the horizontal. The mass of the building is of cut limestone with segmental arched openings at the second floor. A baroque tower dominates the composition in which each of the elements of Greek Revival massing has been retained but redesigned."³⁴

Madison, the county seat of Jefferson County, was a center of architectural sophistication in the mid-nineteenth century, represented by many handsome brick houses in the Greek Revival style with prominent porches and cornices. Francis Costigan, Madison's most skillful architect at the time, designed the lavish James Lanier Mansion (1844), a very high-style Greek Revival residence, and Matthew Temperly also designed many homes there. Architect George Kyle designed the Lawrenceburg courthouse as well as many houses in Vevay. While David Dubach was not a formally-trained architect, he certainly had exposure to current architectural trends in the region as well as Philadelphia, as exemplified in the Jefferson County Courthouse at Madison, which is also domed.

³¹ Talbot Hamlin, *Greek Revival Architecture in America* (London, 1944; rpt. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1964) p. 299.

³² Goeldner, p. 140.

³³ Hermansen p. 20.

³⁴ Goeldner, pp. 127, 147

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 15

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

Contributing resources

The Switzerland County Courthouse property has seven contributing resources: four buildings—the Courthouse (1862-64), the two-story stone jail (c. 1874), the hexagonal brick privy (mid-nineteenth century), and the bandstand (1921)—and three contributing objects—the iron fence (late 1880s), World War I memorial (1926) and the World War II-vintage gun and carriage (1942). There are eight non-contributing objects: two war memorials, two stone benches, a flagpole, two meteorites and an angel statue.

All of the contributing features substantially retain their historic integrity. The integrity of setting is reinforced by the intact historic buildings that surround the public square. The courthouse building itself has undergone changes throughout its history, but the most significant components remain. Interior alterations reflect the necessity to adapt the courthouse as the county grew and building technology evolved. The hexagonal privy has been altered on the interior and two doors have been replaced, but it remains a rare example of a public privy. The jail has lost the addition of a sheriff's residence, but what remains is relatively rare. The band stand is in fair condition, but still represents a significant contribution of the community to civic life. The iron fence remains in its original location and is intact, except for some new openings and removal of the front gates. Together the contributing resources create a significant ensemble of public buildings in Switzerland County.

Jail, ca. 1875 (contributing)

The small two-story stone jail (photo 8), built ca. 1875, is a simple vernacular building that is representative of its building type, although it is more modest than the nine Indiana county jails already listed in the National Register in Grant, Hendricks, Jefferson, Kosciusko, Montgomery, Porter, Steuben, Tipton and Vermillion counties. The Switzerland County example, like most of the National Register-listed jails, was built in the third quarter of the nineteenth century. It also compares in material and style; its rough stone masonry is reminiscent of Richardsonian Romanesque, which was the preferred style for this building type at the time. Although it has lost its attached sheriff's residence, which is seen in six of the nine listed examples, the Switzerland County jail still retains the integrity of its original design.

Hexagonal brick privy (contributing)

Like the jail, the hexagonal brick privy (photo 4) is a rare surviving example of its building type. Sanitary waste disposal, a problem intensified at places of public gathering, had no solution better than deep pit privies until the latter part of the nineteenth century. The notion that a courthouse should provide public restrooms probably started with the multi-compartment hexagonal and octagonal privies conveniently located near the center of community activity. While water closets were available in the 1870s, they did not become standard

(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 16

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

equipment until the 1890s. When water closets were installed indoors, public access was limited, a situation which would have distressed rural voters if it were not corrected. According to Goeldner, only a few Midwestern courthouses retain their privies, thus Switzerland County's example is an unusual exception.³⁵

Band stand (contributing)

The circular bandstand (photo 6) was erected in 1921 by the Vevay Brass Band Association at their own expense for the purpose of holding weekly band concerts. It is in fair condition. The Vevay bandstand is representative of the Golden Age (1880-1925) of the American professional concert band, a time during when wind bands were the most popular form of public entertainment. Bandmasters and musicians such as the legendary United States Marine Band director John Philip Sousa were celebrities of the day, and performances by bands such as Gilmore's Band, the U.S. Marine Band, and the Sousa Band attracted thousands.

Landscape features

The handsome, ornamental cast-iron fence (contributing) around the square was installed in the 1880s. During World War I, it was the subject of some controversy as to whether it should be donated to the war effort. Protests by women's clubs and civic groups prevented that outcome, and the fence still stands on the site. It was restored in the 2004-05 renovation and is in excellent condition.

Of the seven war memorials and war-related objects, two—the World War I monument and the World War II gun and carriage—are of sufficient age and design quality to be considered as contributing to the historical association and feeling of the courthouse square. The remaining five objects—triptych memorial, two benches, POW podium and flagpole— are considered non-contributing.

The two meteorites and the angel statue are also considered non-contributing because they are outside the period of significance.

³⁵ Goeldner, p 56-58.

(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior **National Park Service**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 17

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

Summary of Significance

The Switzerland County Courthouse, with its contributing buildings, represents the progress of Switzerland County from its settlement into the modern period and the development of civic life in Vevay and Switzerland County. The Switzerland County Courthouse is an excellent example of Greek Revival architecture combined with earlier Roman classical elements that reflects both Midwestern and national trends in civic buildings in the mid-nineteenth century. As the work of an Indiana-born designer-builder David Dubach, who was exposed to Greek-Revival designs through his apprenticeships in Madison, Indiana, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, both important centers of sophistication in architecture at the time, it also reflects the design process at the transition between builders guided by current fashions, pattern books and professionally trained architects. Vevay's courthouse continues as a strong architectural statement of its importance to the community.³⁶ The courthouse complex, with its contributing monuments, is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C and is significant at the statewide level.

³⁶ Goeldner, p. 31.

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 18

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

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NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10

Page 19

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

Verbal Boundary Description

The property is a city block defined by Main Street on the south, Main Cross Street on the west, Pike Street on the north, and Liberty Street on the east. It occupies the original courthouse square, as delineated in the original plat of Vevay, Sec. 14 Township 2 Range 3 West of the Cincinnati District, recorded in Deed Book B, Page 313, August 13, 1822.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries are the historical boundaries of the property. The courthouse square retains historical integrity as the center of the county government.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Additional Documentation

Page 20

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

List of Photographs

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana Beth Sullebarger November 25, 2008 Digital photographs

- 1. Front elevation, looking north
- 2. West elevation, looking east
- 3. North and west elevations, looking southeast
- 4. West elevation, hexagonal privy in foreground, looking east
- 5. East elevation, looking west
- 6. East elevation, gun and bandstand in foreground, looking northwest
- 7. War memorials, Baptist church in background, looking northwest
- 8. Former county jail, looking north
- 9. Front doorway detail, looking north
- 10. First floor, hall, looking south
- 11. First floor, office, looking southwest
- 12. Iron door detail, looking south
- 13. Iron shutters detail, looking west
- 14. Second floor, Court room, looking north
- 15. Second floor, Court room, looking south

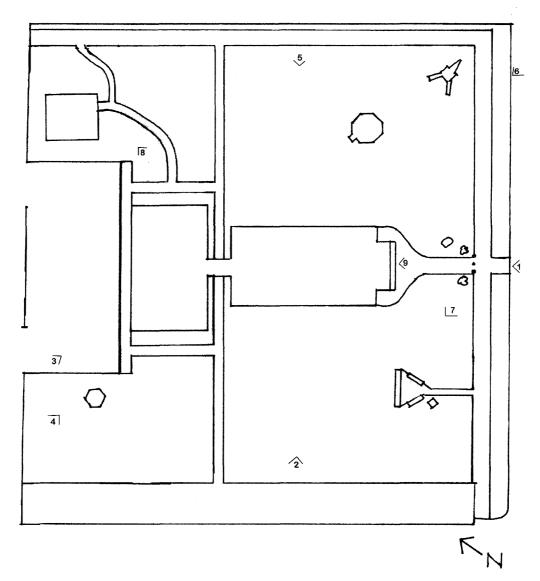
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Additional Documentation

Page 21

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

Key to Exterior Photographs



NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Additional Documentation

Page 22

Switzerland County Courthouse Switzerland County, Indiana

List of figures

- 1. Sketch map
- 2. Basement plan
- 3. First floor plan
- 4. Second floor plan
- 5. Plat of Vevay, Indiana, showing public square, by John Francis Dufour, recorded November 9, 1813
- 6. Jefferson County Courthouse, Madison, Indiana
- 7. Post card view, ca. 1910
- 8. Photograph, ca. 1920
- 9. Post card view, ca. 1940
- 10. Plan of Vevay, Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Indiana, 1876.
- 11. Plan of Vevay, showing courthouse, jail and sheriff's house, Atlas of Switzerland and Ohio Counties, Indiana, 1883
- 12. Elevation for a Courthouse, pl. 58, Asher Benjamin, *The American Builder's Companion*, 1827 edition
- 13. Former David Dubach residence, Hannibal, Missouri
- 14. Former Frederick Dubach rental property, Hannibal, Missouri

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 23

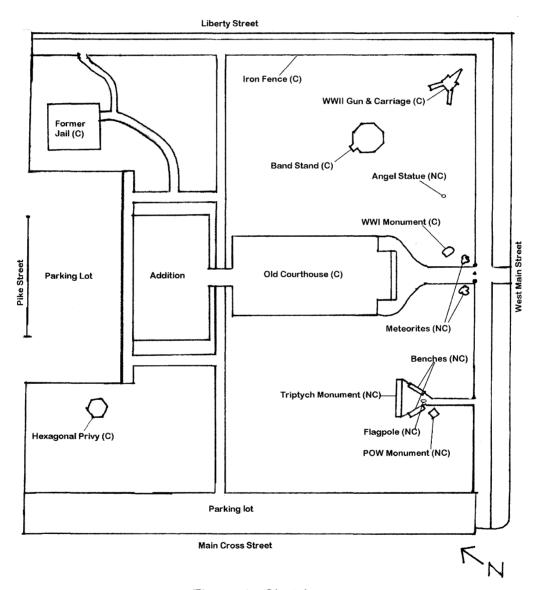


Figure 1: Sketch map Approximate scale: 1 inch = 70 feet

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 24

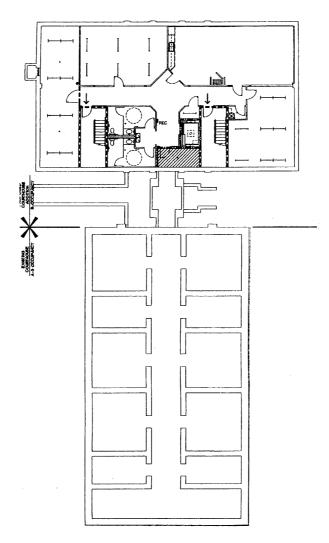


Figure #2: Plan of basement

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 25

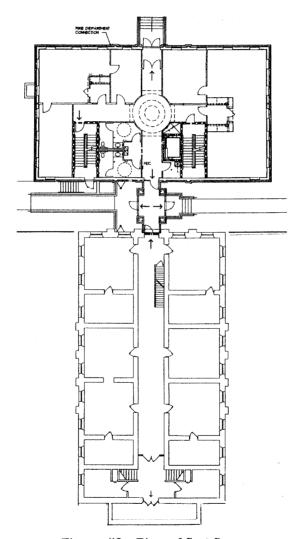


Figure #3: Plan of first floor

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 26

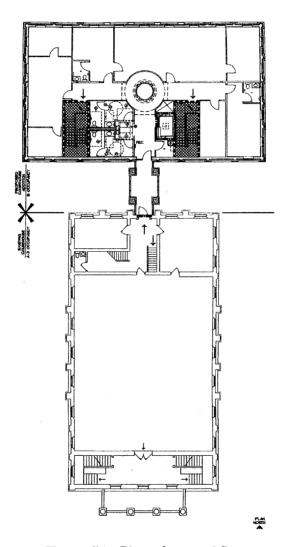


Figure #4: Plan of second floor

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 27

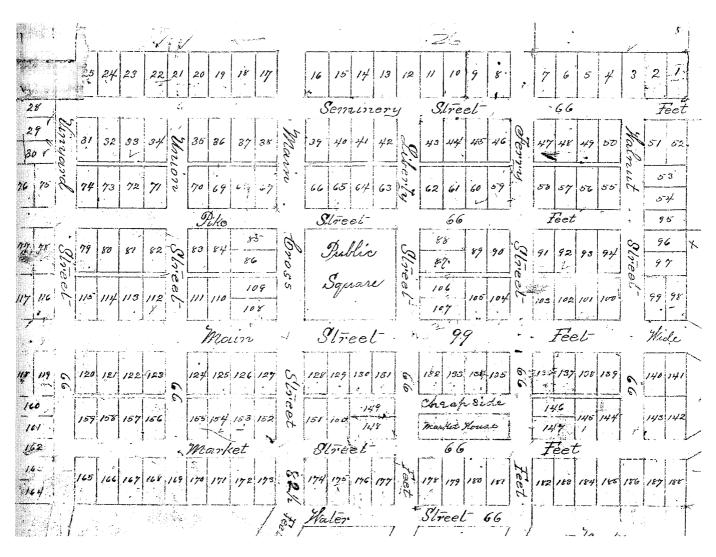


Figure #5: Plat of Vevay, Indiana, showing public square, by John Francis Dufour, recorded November 9, 1813

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 28



Figure 6. Jefferson County Courthouse, Madison, Indiana

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 29



Figure 7: Post card view, ca. 1910 Switzerland County Historical Society

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 30



Figure 8: Photograph, ca. 1920 Switzerland County Historical Society

OMB No. 1024-0018

(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 31



Figure 9 Post card view, ca. 1940 Switzerland County Historical Society

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90) OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 32

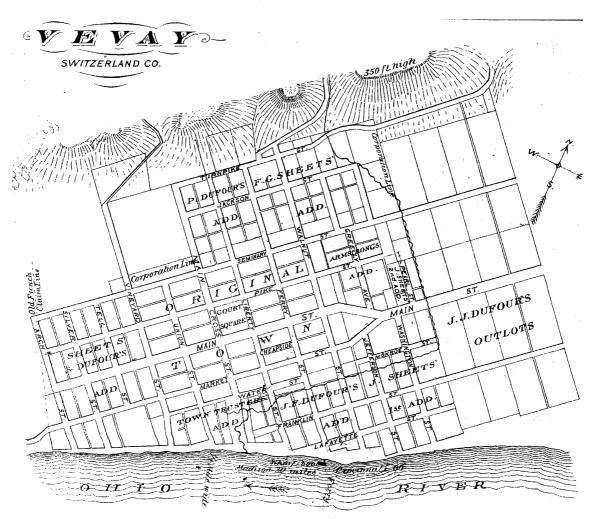


Figure 10: Plan of Vevay, Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Indiana, 1876.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 33

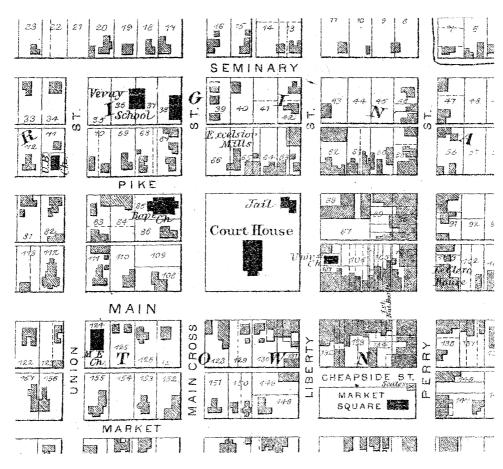


Figure 11: Plan of Vevay, showing courthouse, jail and sheriff's house Atlas of Switzerland and Ohio Counties, Indiana, 1883

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 34

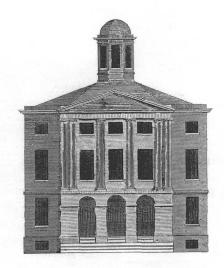


Figure 12: Elevation for a Courthouse, pl. 58, Asher Benjamin, *The American Builder's Companion*, 1827 edition

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 35



Figure 13. Former David Dubach residence, Hannibal, Missouri (now Dubach Inn)



Figure 14. Former Frederick Dubach rental property, Hannibal, Missouri Designed by David Dubach