

6-6-73

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Tennessee	
COUNTY:	Knox	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	APR 24 1973	

1. NAME

COMMON:
Knox County Courthouse (Representative John J. Duncan)

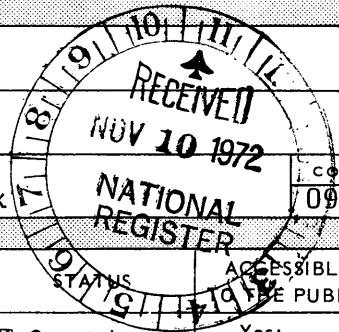
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Avenue and Gay Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Knoxville

STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47 COUNTY: Knox CODE: 093



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Knox County

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Knoxville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Knox County Register's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Knoxville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

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:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Tennessee

COUNTY: Knox

ENTRY NUMBER: APR 24 1973

DATE: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

7-3.
 The Knox County Courthouse, which, with its additions covers a city block, is an imposing building. Built in 1885, the structure would be hard to describe stylistically with such diverse elements as a "colonial" tower and Gothic details.

The building is two and a half stories with a raised basement and a central clock tower. Originally it consisted of the central core flanked by two wings each having six windows to a floor and a pedimented roof on the front facade. Brick string courses separate the windows which are arched on the wings and straight-topped on the tower. A quatrefoil pattern decorates the balcony and porch.

Wings on both sides and to the rear have been added, and the interior altered, although there are suggestions of some of the original woodwork and iron railings.

Several monuments have been placed in the yard which fronts Main Street.



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) 1885

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

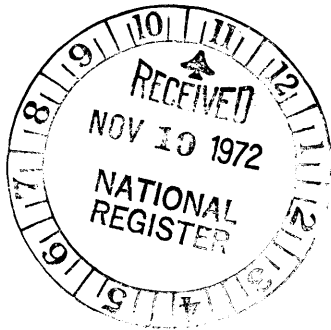
- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <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 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 Knox County Courthouse is not a great building architecturally; it is, however, an interesting example of a provincial structure designed by a local firm which attempted to meet the standards for governmental buildings of the late nineteenth century. The imposing size alone has made it a landmark in the area.

According to a plaque in the courthouse, it was built in 1885 by the Knoxville firm of Stephenson and Getaz. The firm, which was established in 1880 by C. F. Stephenson and David Getaz, manufactured hardwood mantels and all kinds of interior wood finishes. It is said to have become the largest producer of its kind in the southeast. Research did not uncover any indication that either man was an architect.

The Courthouse is an important building in the downtown Knoxville area.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Knoxville, Tennessee. The Engelhardt Series: American Cities, Vol. XXV, 1891.

McClung Historical Collection, Knoxville-Knox County Public Library.

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
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NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

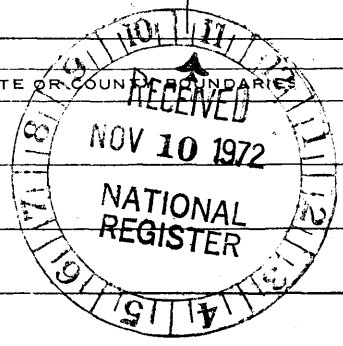
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Ellen Beasley

ORGANIZATION: Tennessee Historical Commission DATE: 11/2/72

STREET AND NUMBER: 403 7th Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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: Michael J. Smith

Title: Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission

Date: 11/3/72

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/24/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 4/13/92