

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NCRS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Daviess County Courthouse

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Public Square not for publication

city, town Gallatin vicinity of congressional district #6 - Hon. E. Thomas Coleman

state Missouri code 061 county Daviess code 025

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name Daviess County Court

street & number Public Square

city, town Gallatin vicinity of state Missouri 64640

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds, Daviess County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Gallatin state Missouri 64640

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title 1. A Historic Inventory of Daviess Co has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date Fall, 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Program, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176

city, town Jefferson City state Missouri 65102

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

DAVISS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 6

Page 1

2. Missouri State Historical Survey
1980
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City

state

Missouri 65102

Item number 9

Page 1

3. Interview with Mrs. Earl Binney, Gallatin, MO October 16, 1979.
4. Williams, Walter, A History of Northwest Missouri. (New York: The Lewis Publishing Co.), 1915.

Item number 11

Page 1

2. James M. Denny, Section Chief, Nominations-Survey
and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City

July 3, 1980
314/751-4096

Missouri 65102

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The third Daviess County Courthouse was constructed in 1907-1908 by M.T. Lewman of Louisville, Kentucky. P.H. Weathers was the architect.¹

The Courthouse is a Second Renaissance Revival Design. The plan of the building is irregular on the exterior with a cross design on the interior. The interior cross is eighty-five (85) feet from exterior doorway to exterior doorway. There are four exterior doors, one on each facade of the building. Cross stairways at the north and south entrances lead to the second floor and a double wide staircase at the east entrance leads to the second and third floors.

There is not a full basement under the structure, but a quarter basement at the northwest corner contains the heating plant.

All facades are symmetrical and are organized around the protruding bay containing the entrance. There is a large smooth broken segmental pediment above each entrance. There are dentils worked into the cornice and the returns of the pediment. The center is dominated by an urn statue. Above this arch at the second and third floor levels the windows are recessed as are two Greek Ionic columns with smooth shafts. This entire design is topped by a pediment with returns. This design is repeated at all four entrance facades.

The exterior walls are of smooth stone with the exception of a string course at the second floor which is designed of rough stone. At the south entrance door there is a U.S.G.S. survey marker which was installed in 1920 that proclaims the spot to be 931 feet above sea level.

The entire structure is topped with a low cross-gable roof with a wooden clock tower in the center. There is a clock in each facade. There are double Doric columns at each corner of the tower supporting a deep fascia board and cornice overhang. Each clock is surrounded by an ornamentation with a shell design at the top. There are open louvered shutters in the sides which allow the clock bell to be heard throughout the city. The windows on all four facades of the tower are divided into small triangular shaped areas by muntins. The tower is finished in a bell shape with a rounded finial top.

The interior of the building is finished in oak woodwork with marble wainscoting and terrazzo floors. The stairways have turned wood balustrades. The transoms above the doors are elliptical.

The only alterations on the building have been the installation of the four new entrance doors on the facades of the first floor.² This was done in the early 1970's.

FOOTNOTES

1. Daviess County Centennial Edition. Gallatin Publishing Co.; Lew Harrison Carlson Publisher, 1937.
2. Interview with the County Court, Daviess County, Missouri, May 20, 1980.

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/		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

Specific dates 1906/1908 **Builder/Architect** P.H. Weathers/Architect; M.T. Lewman/Builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Daviess County Courthouse is significant as a fine example of a Second Renaissance Revival style public building in Northwest Missouri, and as the seat of government for Daviess County for over 70 years.

The first County Court of Daviess County met at the residence of Elisha B. Creekmore in 1838. By 1843, a \$6,000 Court House was completed. It was probably 40' x 40' but no record exists of its exact dimensions.¹

A single story, two-room structure was built about 1858, just east of the present day Court House. There were no vaults and the records were kept in desks. This structure was a source of public complaint but bonds to build a new structure were not passed until 1905.²

In April, 1906, the architect P.H. Weathers submitted the winning design for a new Court House. M.T. Lewman of Louisville, Kentucky won the construction contract while J.W. Alexander served as construction superintendent and M.E. Pangburn was the accountant on the project. The cost of the structure was \$75,000.

The foundation of the building was poured in April, 1907. The cornerstone was laid on May 24, 1907, and formal acceptance of the building by the County Court was May 31, 1908. The Masonic Lodge of Gallatin conducted a formal dedication of the structure on October 5, 1908.³

The Building Committee was composed of A.M. Dockery, Boyd Dudley, J.W. Meade, C.M. Harrison and D.L. Robertson. The County Court that let the contract was composed of R. McGabey, William J. Gromer and Donald Blackburn while the County Court that accepted the structure was composed of G.A. McWilliams, William J. Gomer and J.P. Tarwater.

The Daviess County Courthouse, which has served the people of Daviess County for over 70 years, typifies classically-inspired monumental courthouse architecture in northwest Missouri.

FOOTNOTES

1. Interview with Mrs. Earl Binney, Gallatin, MO October 16, 1979.
2. Walter Williams, A History of Northwest Missouri. (New York: The Lewis Publishing Co.), 1915.
3. Daviess County Centennial Edition, Gallatin Publishing Co., Lew Harrison Carlison Publisher, 1937.

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Daviess County Centennial Edition. Gallatin Publishing Co.: Lew Harrison Carlison Publisher, 1937.
2. Interview with County Court, Daviess County, Missouri, May 20, 1980.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name "Gallatin, Mo."

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References

A

1	5	4	1	7	7	6	10	4	1	1	8	5	8	7
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property occupies the public square and is roughly two-hundred and fifty (250) feet by two-hundred and fifty (250) feet square in size. This tract of land is located in the Quarter of Section twenty (20); Township fifty-nine (59) North and Range twenty-seven (27) West.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. Thomas W. Carneal, Associate Professor of History

organization Northwest Missouri State University date May 30, 1980

street & number 306 Colden Hall telephone 816/582-7141 (ext. 1289)

city or town Maryville state Missouri 64468

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Director, Department of Natural Resources and
title State Historic Preservation Officer

date

For HCBS use only

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

date

Member of the National Register

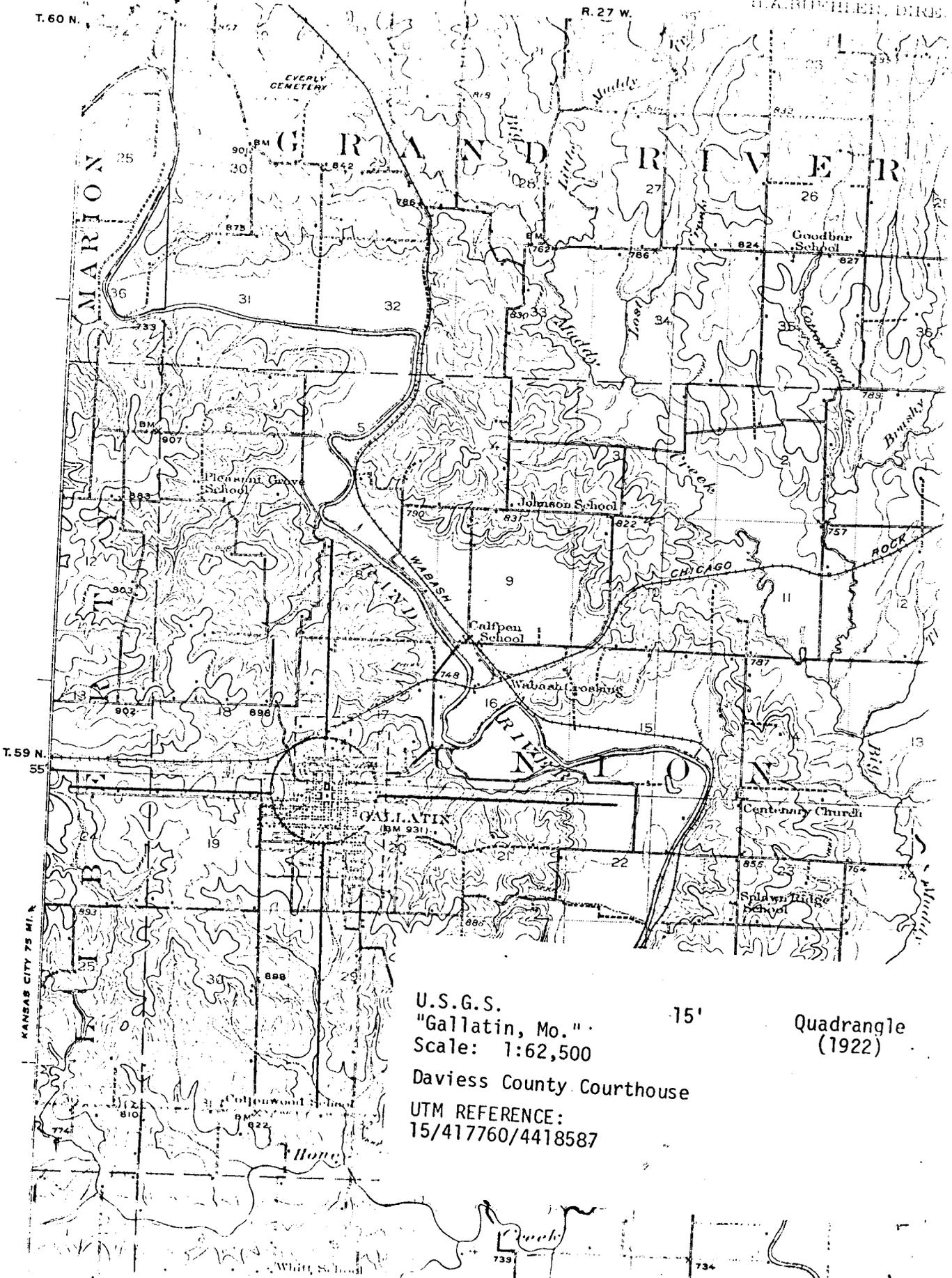
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

T. 28 W.
T. 60 N.

R. 27 W.



U.S.G.S. 15' Quadrangle
 "Gallatin, Mo." (1922)
 Scale: 1:62,500
 Daviess County Courthouse
 UTM REFERENCE:
 15/417760/4418587

DAVLESS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

COUNTY:

LOCATION:

OWNER:
ADDRESS:

DATE APPROVED BY A.C.:

DATE SENT TO D.C.:

DATE OF REC. IN D.C.:

DATE PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE AWARDED CERTIFICATE
(AND PRESENTOR):

DATE FILE REVIEWED:

Davless

Public Square

Davless County Court

Public Square

July 25, 1980

September 11, 1980

September 17, 1980

November 14, 1980

Given to Joy Stevenson July 12, 1983
Presented:

Daviess County Courthouse
Public Square
Gallatin, Daviess, Missouri
Tom Carneal May 20, 1980
Carneal's Office, 306 Colden Hall
Northwest Missouri State University
Maryville, MO 64468
Northeast
1 of 10



Daviess County Courthouse
Public Square

Callatin, Daviess, Missouri

Tom Carneal May 20, 1980

Carneal's Office, 306 Colden Hall

Northwest Missouri State University

Maryville, MO 64468

East

2 of 10



Daviess County Courthouse
Public Square
Gallatin, Daviess, Missouri
Tom Carneal May 20, 1980
Carneal's Office, 306 Colden Hall
Northwest Missouri State University
Maryville, MO 64468
South
3 of 10



Daviess County Courthouse
Public Square
Gallatin, Daviess, Missouri
Tom Carneal May 20, 1980
Carneal's Office, 306 Colden Hall
Northwest Missouri State University
Maryville, MO 64468
West
4 of 10



Daviess County Courthouse
Public Square
Gallatin, Daviess, Missouri
Tom Carneal
Carneal's Office, 306 Colden Hall
Northwest Missouri State University
Maryville, MO 64468
North
5 of 10



Daviess County Courthouse
Public Square
Gallatin, Daviess, Missouri
Tom Carneal May 20, 1980
Carneal's Office, 306 Colden Hall
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Maryville, MO 64468
South
6 of 10



Daviess County Courthouse
Public Square

Gallatin, Daviess, Missouri
Tom Carneal May 20, 1980
Carneal's Office, 306 Colden Hall
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South

7 of 10



Daviess County Courthouse
Public Square
Gallatin, Daviess, Missouri
Tom Carneal May 20, 1980
Carneal's Office, 306 Colden Hall
Northwest Missouri State University
Maryville, MO 64468
Interior
8 of 10



Davless County Courthouse
Public Square
Gallatin, Davless, Missouri
Tom Carneal May 20, 1980
Carneal's Office, 306 Colden Hall
Northwest Missouri State University
Maryville, MO 64468
Interior
9 of 10



DON'T LOAF-SET
ON STAIRS

Daviess County Courthouse
Public Square
Gallatin, Daviess, Missouri
Tom Carneal May 20, 1980
Carneal's Office, 306 Colden Hall
Northwest Missouri State University
Maryville, MO 64468
Interior
10 of 10

