



NOMINATION FOR LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION

DICKINSON, NORTH DAKOTA

Historic Name of Property (if applicable): Stark County Courthouse

Address of Property: 51 3rd Street East

Historic Address of Property (if different from above): _____

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Property Owner(s) Name and Address:

Name: Stark County

Address: 51 3rd Street East

City or town Dickinson State ND Zip Code 58601

Phone number 701-456-7630 (County Auditor)

2. Nomination Prepared By (if different from above):

Name: Danielle Stuckle, Museum Director, Dickinson Museum Center

Address: 188 Museum Drive East

City or town Dickinson State ND Zip Code 58601

Phone number (H) _____ (W) 701-456-6225

Date Prepared January 14, 2009

Signature _____

3. Successive Nominations: Has all or any part of the property been the subject of another nomination for a Local Landmark designation of the city of Dickinson within the last five years?

X No _____ Yes

If yes, state the date of the formal hearing; the reason, if known, of the unsuccessful nomination; and a statement explaining the reasons why the city of Dickinson should reconsider the nomination at this time.



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II. CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION

Check the space before each condition that is met by the building, structure or site for which landmark designation is sought. Briefly explain in the space provided below how the landmark meets each condition that is checked. Attach any relevant documentation, evidence, or any supplemental explanation if necessary.

1. Historic Significance:

The proposed landmark...

has a strong association with a historic person, organization, business, or a notable historic event.

As the county courthouse, this building has a profound and significant connection to local history.

is associated with an *antiquated use* due to technological or social advances.

is *a monument to, or cemetery of*, a historic person or persons.

2. Architectural Significance:

The proposed landmark...

is identified as the work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose work has been influential.

exemplifies elements of design, detail, material, or craftsmanship of exceptional quality, and has had little or no alteration to its original construction.

The Art Deco style courthouse has incredible integrity, especially on the exterior of the building. Interior alterations have been done to update mechanical systems and provide for modern office technology. The courthouse was designed by architect William F. Kurke and built by the S.W. Jonason Company. The exterior of the building is faced with buff colored Hebron brick and limestone. Terrazzo floors can be seen throughout the main interior and stairways, as well as yellow Kasota stone, Cardiff Green marble, black walnut, birch, and bronze fittings.

is an established or familiar visual feature of Dickinson due to its unique location or its singular physical characteristics.

The courthouse not only is one of the larger buildings in the community, but the surrounding property also has a large footprint. The landscaping includes several old trees, and groomed lawn and flower beds. There are no other buildings on that particular city block. These factors contribute to the courthouse serving as a significant landmark in the downtown area.



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III. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

1. Describe the proposed Local Landmark: In the space provide below (use additional sheets if needed), provide a description of the property that indicates the historic use and the current use of the structure.

The courthouse property was established in 1884, when Dickinson was named the county seat of Stark County. The original structure, built in 1886, was replaced by the current structure in 1936. It has always been utilized by the county government as the county courthouse, and continues to serve that purpose today. It is one of two Art Deco courthouses in Southwest North Dakota. The architect, William Kurke also designed the Dickinson High School, which is now used as the Junior High School.

2. Architectural Classification and Materials

Describe the architectural style, if known; the architect or contractor for the original construction. Include information about whether the building was ever relocated, and if there have been any major renovations; to either the interior or the exterior. Include the dates of any major renovations.

The Art Deco style courthouse was designed by architect William F. Kurke and built by the S.W. Jonason Company. The main portion of the building is three stores flanked by one story wings on the east and west sides. The exterior of the building is faced with buff colored Hebron brick and limestone. The support structure of the building is steel and concrete, with a flat roof. Terrazzo floors can be seen throughout the main interior and stairways, as well as yellow Kasota stone, Cardiff Green marble, black walnut, birch, and bronze fittings. The courthouse has incredible integrity, especially on the exterior of the building. Windows and doors were replaced in 1979. Interior alterations have been done to update mechanical systems and provide for modern office technology. Additional dates and details of specific renovations are not known. The building has never been moved or relocated.

3. Boundary Description

Describe (briefly) the property, including all man-made and natural resources to be included in designation. Attach a map that specifies the boundary of the property and the locations of all contributing and non-contributing features.

See attached survey map.

IV. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cite any books, articles, or other sources used in preparing this form. Continue on additional sheets if necessary.

Cultural Research and Management, Inc. *Cultural Resources Investigation of Portions of Dickinson, ND*. 1983.

Cole, Janell Cole, Ed., *Centennial Roundup: A History of Dickinson, North Dakota*. Richardton, ND: Assumption Abbey Press, 1982.

Froelich, Patricia, et. al. Eds. *People and Places: A walking tour of the original plat prepared for the Dickinson Centennial celebration*. 1982.

Stark County Historical Society, Eds. *Stark County Heritage and Destiny*. Bismarck, ND: Taylor Publishing Co. 1978.