

REF# 7400625

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Ohio
COUNTY:	Summit
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	10/15/74

1. NAME

COMMON:
Summit County Courthouse and Annex

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
209 South High Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Akron

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
14 - John Seiberling

STATE: Ohio CODE: 039 COUNTY: Summit CODE: 153

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ _____
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Summit County Commissioners

STREET AND NUMBER:
217 South High Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Akron

STATE: Ohio CODE: 44308 CODE: 039

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Summit County Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
72 South High Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Akron

STATE: Ohio CODE: 039

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:	Ohio
COUNTY:	Summit
ENTRY NUMBER	
DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

384-16

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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

This is a large steel, concrete and sandstone-faced structure in the Second Renaissance Revival style. It consists of three main stories above a high basement. The west entrance facing High Street is approached by a great flight of steps. In the 1960's the lower ranks of steps were eliminated and the approach was terraced, as the west is no longer the main entrance. The annex building, facing east and constructed in identical style and materials, was completed sixteen years after the main building. The two are linked by two bridges at the second and third levels. The main story of both units consists of rusticated arches. The windows of the upper two stories are framed in vertical ranks between flat piers. The entablature, cornice and horizontal parapet are characteristic of the simpler interpretations of the Renaissance Revival style. The main building has a high hipped roof, and the annex a flat one.

On the interior, the east and west entrance halls lead to a central lobby three stories high surrounded by balconies. The various offices, services and courtrooms are arranged along corridors from the lobby space. Several of the offices have been considerably adapted for modern use with partitions, new lighting and so on. But the majority of the rooms retain the heavy walnut and oak woodwork and decorative elements of a rather sombre version of the Italian Renaissance style. The interiors of both buildings have the dignity characteristic of the public buildings of the period, in marked contrast to the relatively inhospitable interiors of the new city-county building immediately to the south.

Present long-range county planning calls for the restoration of the main building, and the demolition of the annex in about five years.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1908

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Summit County Courthouse and Annex are excellent examples of the Second Renaissance Revival style. The courthouse was designed by one of Cleveland's premier architects of the period, J. Milton Dyer. The buildings are important elements in the new urban planning of central Akron, and they still serve much of their original functions well.

The plans for the main building were prepared in 1905. The building replaced an earlier courthouse on the same site. The contract went to George W. Carmichael & Co. at a bid of \$238,250. The building was completed and occupied in January, 1908.

The architect J. Milton Dyer (1870-1957) was active in Cleveland from about 1898 to 1914. He had studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, longer than most American students. Among his important works are the Cleveland City Hall (National Register), the Cleveland Athletic Club, the Coast Guard Station, and the U.S. Subtreasury Building in San Francisco.

The Summit County Courthouse is a clear example of the Italian Renaissance-inspired influence of McKim, Mead and White and Richard Hunt. The fact that the Annex was designed in the identical style and form a dozen years later shows the persistence and importance of the idiom.

Flanked by the new city-county building on the south and an open park on the north, the courthouse is the central element in a long-range projected government center.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Karl H. Grismer, Akron and Summit County (Akron, n.d.), 351-352
Plain Dealer Sunday Magazine, Nov. 14, 1965, 22-23, 40-41.

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				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	41 °	04'	46 "
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

EASTING: 456560 NORTHING: 4547600

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Two acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Eric Johannesen, Preservationist**

ORGANIZATION: **Western Reserve Historical Society** DATE: **February 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER: **10825 East Boulevard**

CITY OR TOWN: **Cleveland** STATE: **Ohio** CODE: **039**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE		Ohio
COUNTY		Summit
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Summit County Courthouse and Annex
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
209 South High Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Akron

STATE: <u>Ohio</u>	CODE <u>039</u>	COUNTY: <u>Summit</u>	CODE <u>153</u>
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3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Eric Johannesen

DATE OF PHOTO: February 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Western Reserve Historical Society

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
Third floor lobby, showing balcony around central court.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON Summit County Courthouse and Annex	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
2. LOCATION		
STATE Ohio	COUNTY Summit	TOWN Akron
STREET AND NUMBER 209 South High Street		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT C. Pongracz III	DATE January 1974	NEGATIVE FILED AT Summit County Sheriff's Office
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Main facade of Courthouse, looking East.

Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

GPO 932-009

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Ohio	
COUNTY Summit	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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1. NAME			
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STREET AND NUMBER: 209 South High Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Akron			
STATE: Ohio	CODE 039	COUNTY: Summit	CODE 153
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Eric Johannesen			
DATE OF PHOTO: February 1974			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Western Reserve Historical Society			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
South and east elevations of courthouse and Annex, looking Northwest. Courthouse on left, Annex on the right.			

STATE Ohio	
COUNTY Summit	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

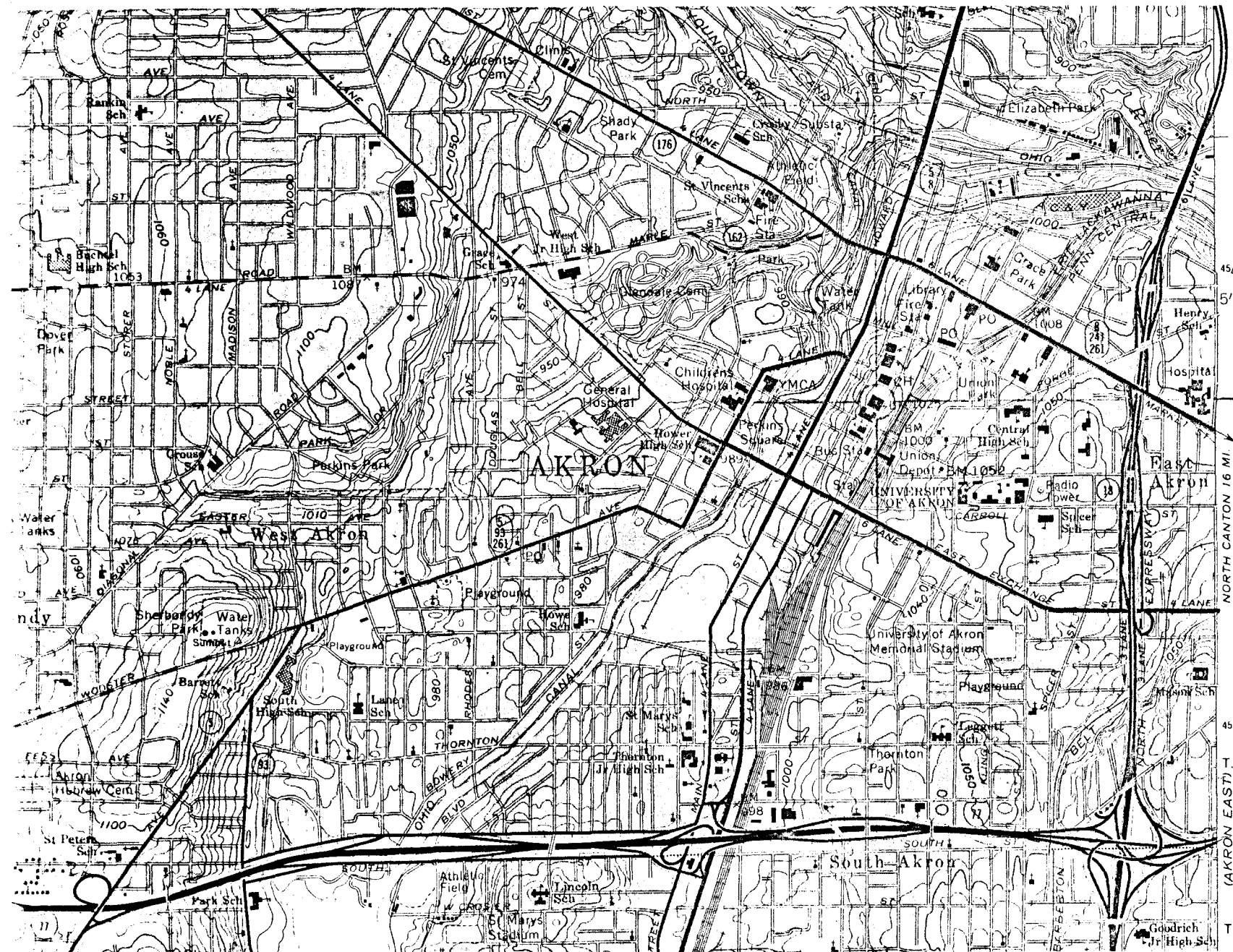
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Summit County Courthouse and Annex			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 209 South High Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Akron			
STATE: Ohio	CODE 039	COUNTY: Summit	CODE 153
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. Akron West Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1967			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS		This map shows the building to the north of the courthouse labeled C H. If this means "courthouse," the map is in error.	
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



Summit County
Courthouse
and Annex

41° 04' 46"

81° 31' 04"

NORTH CANTON 16 MI.

4546

(AKRON EAST) T. 1 N.
4766 III SW

YOUNGSTOWN 40 MI.

80s 18

T. 1 N.

XXXXX
8727

October 25, 1974

Board of Summit County Commissioners
217 South High Street
Akron, Ohio 44308

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to inform you that the Summit County Courthouse and Annex, 209 South High Street, Akron, has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior.

The nomination was made in connection with a state plan to identify and document prehistoric and historic places in Ohio which qualify for National Register status under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. All nominations are approved by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board.

Enclosed is a brochure explaining the purposes and goals of the National Register of Historic Places.

Congratulations for recognizing the importance of, and the need for, the careful and sensible preservation of Ohio's landmarks. Your farsightedness will surely serve as an example to other individuals and organizations in this state.

Sincerely,

Judith Kitchen
Architectural Historian and Administrator
Historic Preservation Office

JK:dal
enclosure

Ohio Historic Preservation Office

National Register of Historic Places File Checklist

The following materials are contained in this file of the National Register form for:

Name: Summit County Courthouse & Annex

County: Summit

Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form

Multiple Property Nomination form

Photograph(s)

Photograph(s) (copies)

USGS map(s)

USGS map(s) (copies)

Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)

Correspondence

Other news clips
