

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

For HCRS use only

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

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Carbondale City Hall; Carbondale Court House

JUN 4 REC'D

and/or common Carbondale Municipal Building

2. Location

street & number One North Main Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Carbondale

N/A vicinity of

congressional district 10th

state Pa.

code 42

county Lackawanna

code 069

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	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> 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 City of Carbondale, Pa., The Honorable Fred J. Mancuso, Mayor

street & number One North Main Street

city, town Carbondale

N/A vicinity of Scranton

state Pa. 18407

5. Location of Legal Description

(Book 161, page 536, map 45-77; lot bought March 7, 1893)

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Lackawanna County Courthouse

street & number 200 Adams Avenue

city, town Scranton

state Pa. 18509

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Pa. Inventory of Historic Places

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date January 28, 1982

federal state county local

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

William Penn Memorial Museum and Archives Building

city, town Box 1026, Harrisburg

state Pa. 17120

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
_____ excellent	_____ deteriorated	<u>X</u> unaltered	<u>X</u> original site	
<u>X</u> good	_____ ruins	_____ altered	_____ moved	date _____
_____ fair	_____ unexposed			N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

CARBONDALE CITY HALL is a detached, masonry (brick and Pennsylvania bluestone) building, in the Romanesque Revival style, composed of a tower, a three-story wing, and a two-story wing. No alterations have been made to the building, nor has its wholeness been impaired in any way: it appears today as it did when it was erected in 1892-1894.

THE TOWER: This massive, square, five-story, brick, corner tower rests on a slightly battered ashlar podium. The 8 vertical rectangular windows on the first and second stories (4/story) are topped by massive bluestone lintels. The 4 vertical rectangular windows on the third story are topped by Romanesque arches of bluestone with bluestone impost blocks. The windows on the fourth story are lancets, situated in a Romanesque blind arcade, supported by a slightly projecting pilaster of red brick with lighter red brick coins and bluestone capitals. The lancets (6 on the south and east sides, 3 on the north and west sides), which are flat arched and disposed in an alternating 2-1-1-2 rhythm, are not unlike those in the tower of Richardson's Allegheny Court House (Pittsburgh, PA, 1884-1888). The third and fourth stories and the fourth and fifth stories of the tower are separated by a continuous string course of bluestone. On the fifth story is the tower clock. The wall surfaces above the faces of the clock are filled with six levels of recessed coffering, supported by a secondary pilaster order. Below the recessed surfaces of the clock faces are two round-headed arches which rest at the level of the string course. Also below the clock faces--at the top of the fourth story and immediately below the string course--is, in each face of the tower, a decorative brick balcony. The tower is topped by a pyramidal roof that is pierced by four wooden dormers, each with two louvered windows, and surmounted by a copper globe.

THE THREE-STORY WING. The eastern face of the tower and the eastern face of the three-story wing constitute the facade of Carbondale City Hall. Like the tower, the three-story wing rests on a slightly battered ashlar podium. The dominant feature of this wing on the ground level is the massive, half-circle, primary entrance arch of bluestone with a spandrel of bluestone, which is surmounted by a balcony surrounded by a baluster in the form of a Romanesque arcade. This massive entrance arch, which is not unlike the entrance arch of Richardson's Crane Memorial Library (Quincy, MA, 1880-1883), is echoed in the facade by the secondary entrance arch at the north end of the facade on the ground level. The northern side of the primary entrance arch and both sides of the secondary entrance arch are flanked by rusticated stone turrets. The deeply carved foliate capitals and bases of these three bluestone turrets are the only area of carved decoration on the facade of the building. Like the primary entrance arch, the secondary entrance arch has a bluestone spandrel. The 6 paired vertical rectangular windows on the eastern face and the 5 vertical rectangular windows on the northern and western faces on the third-story of this wing are topped by bluestone Romanesque arches that rest on bluestone lintels, and are not unlike the paired windows on the second story of Richardson's Allegheny Court House. The impost blocks on the third story of this wing create the impression of a continuous string course which unites the third story of this wing and the tower. The Romanesque arches on this story repeat the round-headed arches on the ground floor of this wing. The roof of this wing contains, in its eastern face, a gable, the northern face of which is pierced by a dormer. Both this gable and this dormer are of brick and are outlined by a bluestone stepped gable which is topped with a metal band. In the gable are four interlocking vertical rectangular windows, topped with bluestone lintels; in the dormer is a single vertical rectangular window, topped with a bluestone lintel. Both the gable and the dormer are flanked by circular, engaged, decorative brick turrets, which by bluestone bands are visually and structurally connected to the string course which

(Continued on attached Continuation Sheet)

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Lackawanna County

Continuation sheet

CARBONDALE CITY HALL

Item number 7

Page 2

unifies the third story of this wing. These turrets are reminiscent of those on the tower of Richardson's Trinity Church (Boston, MA, 1872-1877). The turrets flanking the gable on this wing of Carbondale City Hall are topped with domed lead caps which echo the rounded corners of the pilasters on the fourth and fifth levels of the tower, and, therefore, help to unite the three-story wing and the tower. These turrets, as well as those flanking the dormer, have bases of rusticated bluestone. A rectangular chimney, reaching to the height of the center of the clock, rises above the roofline from a point near the peak of the roof on the eastern side of the three-story wing.

THE TWO-STORY WING. This wing of Carbondale City Hall was formerly an autonomous building: the brick Court House that was erected immediately following the fire on February 14, 1859, in which Carbondale's first Court House (a wooden building) was burned to the ground. When Truman I. Lacey designed the present-day City Hall, he incorporated the brick Court House that was situated on the lot where the present-day City Hall stands into his design for the present-day City Hall. In order to effect that integration, Lacey remodeled the interior and redesigned the roof of the brick Court House, without moving that building from its original site. The building designed and built by Lacey in 1892-1894 (present-day City Hall) is not, therefore, an amplification of the brick Court House that stood on the lot where Carbondale City Hall now stands. Rather, Lacey's Carbondale City Hall is a new building that incorporates, literally, the building that was situated on the lot where Carbondale City Hall now stands.

In structurally and aesthetically integrating this 1859 Court House into his design for Carbondale City Hall, Lacey did not find it necessary to redo the windows of the 1859 Court House that was situated on the site of his new building. The fenestration of this two-story wing of Carbondale City Hall is, therefore, that of the original 1859 building: 10 slender vertical rectangular windows on each story, topped with greystone lintels and scrolls. These windows are completely in harmony with the vertical rectangular windows that are found not only in the tower but also in the three-story wing of Carbondale City Hall. In order to effect a perfect integration of the 1859 Court House into his design for Carbondale City Hall, Lacey, however, did find it necessary to redesign the roof on the 1859 Court House, and created the roof on the two-story wing that exists today. This roof, which is raked at a steeper angle than the roof that was on the 1859 Court House, is pierced with three identical dormers (one each in the northern, western and southern faces of the roof) which, like the gable and the dormer in the three-story wing of Carbondale City Hall, are constructed of brick and topped by a stepped gable of bluestone which is surmounted by a metal band. Each dormer contains three interlocking vertical rectangular windows with Romanesque arches composed of five concentric courses of brick which rest on bluestone impost blocks. These windows, which are not unlike the triple interlocking Romanesque windows on the second story of Richardson's Allegheny Court House, are flanked by two vertical rectangular windows with bluestone lintels. The roof of this wing, like that of the three-story wing, is topped with a copper roof tree that terminates in fleur-de-lis like finials.

THE INTERIOR OF CARBONDALE CITY HALL. Like its exterior, the interior of Carbondale City Hall is grand: a large entrance hall with a gracious, double-ramped iron stairway leading to the second and third stories; 35 offices and salons, many with moulded tin ceilings, oak woodwork and hardwood floors.

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

Specific dates 1892-1894

Builder/Architect Truman I. Lacey, Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Designed by a locally significant architect, Truman I. Lacey, Carbondale City Hall is an excellent example of a Romanesque Revival building, a style of building not commonly found in northeastern Pennsylvania. As the city hall and courthouse, this structure has been and continues to be the most important public building in the City of Carbondale. From 1894 to the present, Carbondale City Hall has served as the seat of local government functions and as a community cultural center.

The two-story wing of Carbondale City Hall (see paragraph 4 of "Description") served a highly important function not only in the history of the city of Carbondale, but also in the history of northeastern Pennsylvania. From 1859 to 1894, it housed the executive and legislative branches of the city government. From 1859 to December 31, 1875, in addition, it housed one of the earliest judicial bodies established in northeastern Pennsylvania: the Carbondale City Court. This court, established by the city charter (approved March 15, 1851), was styled the recorder's court and was presided over by the president judge of the judicial district, sitting as recorder, assisted by the mayor and such of the aldermen as might be present. This court had concurrent jurisdiction with the county courts, except inoyer and terminer cases and in cases belonging to the orphan's court. Its jurisdiction extended at times over Fell, Carbondale, Blakely and Greenfield Townships. By the operation of the Constitution of 1873, the mayor's court was abolished on December 31, 1875. From 1894 to the present day, Lacey's 1892-1894 Carbondale City Hall has been the home of the executive and legislative branches of the city government. When the building was opened in 1894, its public rooms were occupied as follows: one large room for common council, one large room for select council, one very large room for a public hall, one room for poor department, one room for board of health, one room for board of assessors, one room for mayor's office, one room for city treasurer, one room for city controller, one room for city clerk, five rooms for jailor's family, three rooms for prisoners, four large vaults for the safety of the public records. The importance of Carbondale City Hall in the history of Carbondale and in the history of northeastern Pennsylvania is further underlined by the fact that various rooms in the building served, in the past, as the Carbondale Post Office, the Carbondale Public Library, Town Public Hall, and Town Concert Hall. In addition, the offices of leading business and professional men and women in the history of Carbondale and the offices of important local societies and clubs (the Lackawanna Club, the Lackawanna Medical Society) were, at one time, located in Carbondale City Hall. The architect who designed and supervised the construction of Carbondale City Hall, Truman I. Lacey, was born in West Auburn, PA, and died, in 1914, in Binghamton, NY. In 1872, he established in Binghamton the architectural firm of Truman I. Lacey & Son. The buildings designed and constructed by Truman I. Lacey & Son in the period 1872-1914 are among the most important buildings in northeastern Pennsylvania and in southeastern New York (Broome County). Some of the buildings designed and constructed by Truman I. Lacey & Son, in addition to Carbondale City Hall, are: Security Mutual Building, Press Building, Kilmer Building, Kalurah Temple, all in Binghamton, NY; Hotel American, Carbondale, PA; St. James' Church, Johnson City, NY.

9. Major Bibliographical Reference

Seward, William Foote. Binghamton and Broome County New York A History. Vol. III (New York and Chicago: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1924), p. 204: biographical sketch of Truman I. Lacey's son, Arthur Truman Lacey; contains information on Truman I. Lacey. Snyder, John J. "Pennsylvania's Architectural Heritage Representative Styles As Seen in Lancaster County," Pennsylvania Heritage, Volume VII, Number 2, Spring 1981, pp. 25-31.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property 1.49 acre
Quadrangle name Carbondale, Pa.

Quadrangle scale 1" = 2,000'

UTM References

A

1	8	4	5	8	0	2	0	4	6	0	2	2	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

Carbondale City Hall is located at the northwest corner of the intersection of Main Street and Sixth Avenue in Carbondale, PA. (See continuation sheet)

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

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title S. Robert Powell, President

organization Committee to Restore Carbondale City Hall date June 2, 1982

street & number Post Office Box 151

telephone 717-282-5197

city or town Carbondale

state Pa. 18407

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Larry E. Tise, State Historic Preservation Officer

date

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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

Carbondale City Hall; Carbondale Court House,
Continuation sheet Lackawanna County

Item number

10

Page

2

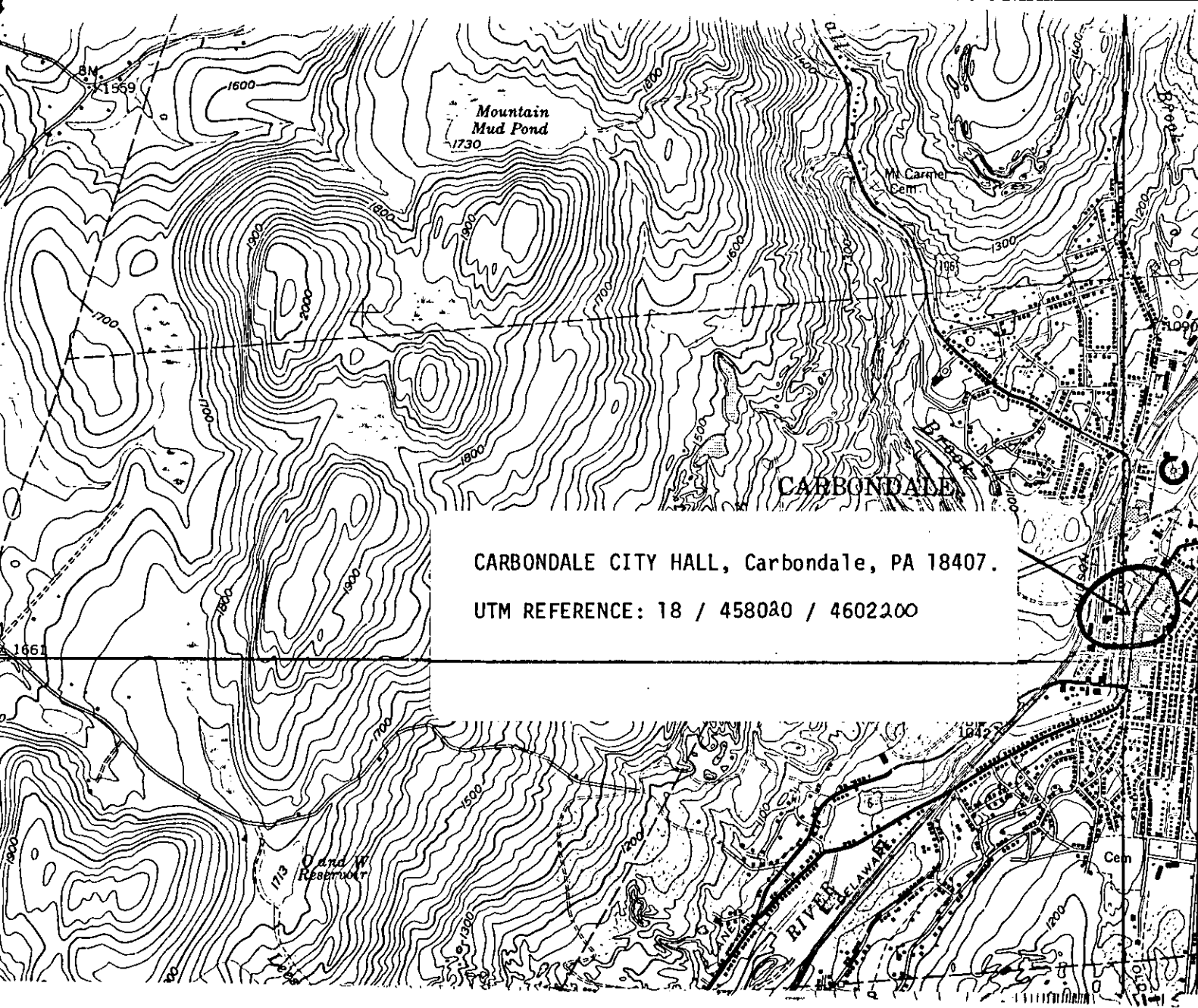
For NPS use only

received

date entered

Verbal Boundary Description:

Starting at a point at the intersection of 6th Ave. and the Lackawanna River moving east along the north side of 6th Ave. for 500 feet; then north along the west side of N.Main St. for 130 feet; then west for 500 feet to the east side of the River; then south along east side of the River for 130 feet to starting point.



CARBONDALE CITY HALL, Carbondale, PA 18407.

UTM REFERENCE: 18 / 4580A0 / 4602200

1604

35'

WAYMART 6.4 MI.
HONESDALE 15 MI.

6

106

4602

(WAYMART)
5967 III SW