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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
LAWRENCE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
AND/OR COMMON

**USE THIS COPY
FOR DUPLICATING**

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Court Street

CITY, TOWN
New Castle

STATE
Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF
25th

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
25th

CODE
42

COUNTY
Lawrence

CODE
073

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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Lawrence County

STREET & NUMBER
Court Street

CITY, TOWN
New Castle

STATE
Pennsylvania 16101

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
Lawrence County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Court Street

CITY, TOWN
New Castle

STATE
Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE
1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN
Harrisburg,

STATE
Pennsylvania

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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 Lawrence County Courthouse is located on a small rise at the intersection of Court Street and County Line Street. The original courthouse is a two story Greek Revival structure with a six Ionic column portico and cupola and was built in 1850-55. This original section is six bays by three bays with the windows set between full two story flat pilasters. The windows were originally 12 over 12 with shutters but have been altered to 2 over 2 or 1 over 1. Heavy dentils line the cornice and pediment. The dome located behind the front pediment was removed in 1951 when it was found to be structurally unsound.

There have been three additions made to the courthouse. In 1885-6 a two story wing was added to the south elevation even with the front facade. This addition as the later two were made using similar building materials and style. In circa 1914 an addition was added to the rear of the south facade, it was latter extended in 1939. The third addition was made in 1943-44 to the north facade opposite the 1939 addition. This gives the courthouse a T-shaped floor plan. In 1947 a small addition was made between the 1885-6 and the 1914-36 additions. Although altered by numerous additions, the Lawrence County Courthouse retains its Greek Revival character and style.

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/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 1850-52, 1885-6, 1914&39, 1943-44, 1947 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Lawrence became a county on March 20, 1849 from parts of Mercer and Beaver Counties. The smallest county in western Pennsylvania with an area of 367 square miles it is located on the Pennsylvania and Ohio border. This land area located around the confluence of three rivers, the Shenango, Mahoning and Beaver was named for the famous U.S. Navy captain, Captain James Lawrence.

First settlement in the area began circa 1798 following early Indian troubles and some attempts at missionary work. New Castle, the county seat, is situated in the geographical center of the county. New Castle was laid out on fifty acres in 1802 by John C. Stewart and named after his home in New Castle, Delaware. In 1825 it was incorporated and became the county seat in 1849. New Castle became an important center of county operations and a trade center. The canals between Pittsburgh and Erie and Youngstown, Ohio passed through New Castle.

Following some competition for land to be used as the courthouse site, the county commissioners selected a 300' by 140' lot. A contract for construction was let in August, 1850 to James M. Craig and William Hamilton for \$12,004.00. Work on the courthouse began in the Fall of 1850 and was completed in 1852. The plans for the courthouse were changed during its construction to include a portico with fluted columns bringing the total cost to about \$32,000.00.

The original courthouse was a two story stone structure six bays by four bays with a square tower and cupola. A six Ionic column portico ran the total length of the front entrance. Full height pilasters are located between the windows on the sides and rear facades. Windows were twelve over twelve. The original courthouse has been enlarged by three major additions, in 1885, 1914, and 1944. The cupola was found to be structurally unsound and was removed in 1951.

Abstract: The Lawrence County Courthouse is a fine example of a Greek Revival public structure. Although altered from the original it still maintains its classical elegance. As the center for county governmental services it has political and governmental significance for Lawrence County.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Durant, S. W. *History of Lawrence County, Pennsylvania*. Philadelphia: L. H. Evert, Company 1877, p. 31.

Hazen, Aaron L. *20th Century History of New Castle and Lawrence County*. Chicago: Richmond-Arnold Publishing Company, 1908.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .92

UTM REFERENCES

A

17	555560	4538580
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Starting at a point fifteen feet behind the NE corner of the Courthouse then south 162 feet to a point 25 feet behind the SE corner of the Courthouse then 250 feet west to the east side of Court Street then east along the east side of Court Street to starting point.

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

Susan M. Zacher

ORGANIZATION

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1026

TELEPHONE

(717-787-4363)

CITY OR TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

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

Ed Weintraub

TITLE

Ed Weintraub

DATE

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

6-21-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

