

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Terre Haute City Hall

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:
Historic Resources of Downtown Terre Haute

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 17 Harding Avenue

City or town: Terre Haute State: IN County: Vigo

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

x A ___ B x C ___ D

<p>Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>Date</p>
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<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>Signature of commenting official:</p>	<p>Date</p>
<p>Title :</p>	<p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT/City Hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT/City Hall

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT/Stripped Classicism

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: STONE/Limestone

STONE/Marble

roof: SYNTHETICS/Rubber

other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Terre Haute City Hall is located in Vigo, County, Indiana. The building sits at the west edge of the Downtown Terre Haute Multiple Resource Area. The three-story structure is faced with Indiana limestone and its exterior shape evokes a ziggurat form. The building is an excellent example of the Stripped Classicism style, although it contains some Art Deco elements. City offices have occupied the building since its completion in 1937.

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Narrative Description

The Terre Haute City Hall, at 17 Harding Avenue, sits in the center of a narrow parcel of land. A parking lot covers the north end of the parcel, and a lawn with a noncontributing monument is south of the building. The property nominated is between a concrete parking lot on the west and on the east, a greenspace with sidewalks and monuments leading to the 1888 Vigo County Courthouse, listed on the National Register in 1983. The green space was created between the two governmental buildings when that section of Harding Avenue was vacated in 1973.

City Hall sits on a site encompassing a small lawn with a sidewalk and pathways leading to a memorial to the south, and a concrete parking deck to the north, deeded specifically as City Hall. The parking lot to the west is deeded to the Terre Haute Redevelopment Commission, and Vigo County owns the civic plaza, the former Harding Avenue, to the east. The site is considered contributing, based on its location as set out by the Kessler plan, described in the statement of significance. The noncontributing object is a six-foot tall, stainless-steel "Ribbon of Hope," a symbol to victims of crime and their families that they have the support of their community.¹ It was recently placed on the site.

A high degree of historic integrity remains in the style and massing of the building as well as on the interior of the building, visible in finishes and the layout of the plan. The City Hall building is an excellent example of the Stripped Classicism style, although the building's shape reflects elements of the Art Deco style. The two-story rectangular base is topped by a recessed third story with a further recessed penthouse above, forming a stylized geometric appearance evocative of a ziggurat often used in the Art Deco style.

The austere elevations are symmetrical and exude horizontality. Double-hung windows are arranged in vertical bays with limestone spandrels between floors. The windows were replaced circa 1990 and most of the top panes are fitted with insulating panels, obscuring the light. The original windows were steel, divided-light casement units with marble panels above and below.

The building is of concrete construction with Indiana limestone cladding. The façade faces east and is organized with a two-story central entry, flanked by five windows bays. Five concrete steps lead to the building, flanked by limestone-clad side walls. Two original art-deco bronze decorative lamps sit on the sidewalls. The entry is composed of aluminum storefront style doors with a stationary panel in the center on the first level. Above, sits a row of three steel windows with eight divided lights and a top row of three, green marble panels with steel muntins. The highest extent of the entry bay has a series of three double-hung windows (front elevation visible in photos 1 and 2).

The walls flanking the entry bay are arranged symmetrically. Window openings are aligned from the basement to the second floor. Each flanking wall has a series of four windows separated by

¹ "Vigil Shows Crime Victims They Are Not Alone,"
https://www.tribstar.com/news/local_news/vigil-shows-crime-victims-they-are-not-alone/article_6c0a6755-4d04-5433-9bcd-c1ee41090a83.html accessed 5/2/2019.

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spandrel panels decorated with a simple, linear design. Windows at the outer edges are set between shallow pilasters. A band of narrow block with incised horizontal lines separates the parapet from the windows and extends around the perimeter of the building and is repeated at the top of the parapet. The parapet is decorated with inset squares above the block side panels and bronze letters reading "CITY HALL" sit above the entry bay. The narrow band of limestone with incised lines is repeated at the top of the parapet, with metal coping above. A flagpole sits on the second-floor roof.

The stepped-back third-floor façade and penthouse are barely visible from the street. The third-floor facade five double-hung windows. The penthouse above has three hexagonal port-hole openings with steel divided lights.

The north and south elevations have a series of eleven double-hung openings, separated by limestone panels, running from the basement to the first and second levels. Some of the basement openings have been infilled with limestone; the others contain small double-hung window units.

The third floor is at two planes on the north and south elevations. The first, toward the east end of the building has a series of four double-hung windows, and the second, at the west end, steps back and also has four double-hung windows. The penthouse steps further back from the third-floor east end, and extends to the rear of the building. The penthouse north and south walls have two hexagonal windows with steel divided lights. On the south elevation a limestone-clad garage with two single-bay aluminum garage doors sits at grade. On the north elevation, a concrete accessibility ramp leads to a portico at the rear of the building. A stair leads to the west facing patio and an entrance slopes to the basement-level garage.

On the west elevation, the two levels of garage are visible. The basement level garage extends along the middle of the building. Six, small, double-hung windows on the basement-level garage lead to a flush, metal egress door and two double-hung windows on the grade-level garage. At the first-floor level, beginning at the north end, are two double-hung windows, followed by a full-light anodized bronze entry door with side-light and transom, followed by two double-hung windows, two bays limestone infill openings (located behind the judge's bench), followed by two more double-hung windows. A metal canopy covers the patio. The second floor has twelve double-hung windows. The third floor has two infilled (with limestone) window openings in the center flanked by two double-hung windows on each side. A limestone chimney is visible at the southwest corner of the building.

The front doors open to a one and ½ story vestibule. The space has a terrazzo floor and polychrome marble walls. A metal, Art Deco style railing adorns each wall, and original light fixture remains.

The overall floor plans are arranged around a large, square room that sits at the west end of the building in the center of the plan. The main circulation area sits east of the large room, including a stairwell on the south side and elevator shafts on the north side. The first and second floor plans are arranged with hallways on three sides and offices along the exterior walls of the

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building. The third-floor plan has the same large room and circulation areas, but the hall runs only along the east end with smaller rooms on the north and south ends.

The hallways and main stairwells retain a high degree of historic features, including the white, green and black terrazzo floors and marble wainscoting. Several original wood doors remain; Although the interior entrance doors to various agencies have been replaced with full-light doors (photos 7, 11, 12).

Along the main (east) hall on the first floor, beams form large coffers on the ceiling, which are ornamented with gold leaf, art deco-style palmette leaves. The side hallways have marble wainscoting with painted plaster walls and ceilings. An area along the south side of the east hallway is of drywall construction where new bathrooms were constructed in 2004.

The courtroom occupies the large space at the center of the first floor and retains the most original finishes and features. The room has wood wainscoting and plaster walls. The coffered ceiling has green tiles with a geometric design and the ribs are ornamented with gold leaf and stylized palmette leaves. A wood, half wall separates the trial and gallery area. The original wood judge's bench sits at the center of the west wall, with later additions for the witness stand and scribes' benches. Five rows of original wood bench seating sit in the gallery section. The trial area is carpeted and the same carpet runs along the center aisle of the gallery. The original linoleum tile is visible at the edges of the courtroom.

Offices along the perimeter of the first floor display a variety of levels of remodeling. Rooms on the first floor largely follow the original plans, although their function has changed and many have more recent finishes.

The original mayor's suite of offices in the northeast corner follows the original plan, including three offices and a private restroom. New finishes, such as wallpaper and carpet, were installed circa 2004. Two of the offices are occupied by the city court judge and one by the human relations commission.

The original city clerk's office is located beyond the judge's office, and has expanded into all offices to the west, along the north elevation. Original features remaining include the wood counter, vault, and restrooms and finishes in the back hall. Changes to the plan include the creation of a large opening between the city clerk's office and the office to the east, removal of the former women's cell, although a remaining bulkhead indicates where the cell was located. New finishes include paint and carpet throughout and dropped ceilings in the former judge's offices.

The south side of the first floor originally held offices for the police force. In 2004, the former police sergeant's office (south of the entry bay) was enclosed and now houses the Mayor's office. New public restrooms were constructed in the former Public Space and Police toilet. The wall between the captains' offices was removed for the mayor's staff offices, visible by a remaining bulkhead. The front wall of the chief of detective's office was removed for the mayor's reception room. Detective's assembly space was subdivided into offices and support

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spaces. The former Bertillon Room has new finishes for a conference room and the former darkroom has been remodeled into a restroom.

The non-public section of the building, at the southwest corner of the first floor, includes a stairwell, running from the basement to the second floor, the original men's holding cell, and access to the grade-level garage. The original finishes remain, including linoleum floors and glazed block walls. The grade-level garage is located beyond the holding cell.

The original second floor plan is unavailable; however, the current layout gives clues to the original. The hallways retain original finishes: terrazzo floors, marble wainscoting, and many wood doors (photos 11, 14). Finishes in the individual office have been updated over the years, and drop ceilings have been installed in some of the rooms (photos 13-15, 19).

The large room in the center, along the west wall, currently houses the engineering office. Although the room is not as large as the courtroom below, the location of the vault in the southeast corner of the room (photo 17) indicates that this was the original size of the room. Offices to the west of the vault have been subdivided. The restrooms remain in their original location, between the engineering office and the circulation area.

The engineering department offices continue along the north portion of the second floor. Formerly large offices have been subdivided and many of the offices have circa 1970s wood paneling and dropped ceilings (photo 19). An original vault remains in the office at the northeast corner of the building.

Offices along the east wall also appear in their original configuration. In the sewage billing offices, an original vault remains. A door at the center of the hallway leads to the former entry of the former controller's office and another office, as evidenced by the remaining transoms. This area has an original linoleum floor. Connections between offices are through wood doors.

The Legal Department is located at the southeast corner of the second floor. An original vault remains. The reception area was made larger by removing a wall, evidenced by a remaining bulkhead,

The controller's offices are along the south wall of the second floor. Another original vault remains and walls were reconfigured to accommodate changing uses. An office in the center formerly held the city health department. A former restroom and small specimen pass-through remain, as well as pipes for a former sink.

The southwest corner of the second floor has a private circulation area, former kitchenette, restroom and storage area. Original linoleum tile remains on the floor.

The large room on the third floor was originally designed for the City Council chambers, and smaller rooms on the north and south ends provided smaller meeting spaces. The council chambers were reconfigured in 1962 for the sewage billing department, currently the Department of Redevelopment. Floor to ceiling walls were installed at the perimeter of the room. In 1984,

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additional partial height walls were built in the center of the room (photo 24). The ceiling throughout retains its original coffered detail. New walls were carefully placed along the beams so as not to interfere with the coffering. A wood half wall with a swinging gate, separates the public and private areas of the space. Windows on the third floor are approximately half the height of those on the first and second floors because of the second story roof structure.

The area at the southeast corner of the third floor was remodeled in 2004. A curved, glass-block wall extends from the stairway entrance (photo 22). A drywall section extends to the south wall, enclosing part of the hall. Beyond, original paired wood doors lead to an office.

The penthouse level is accessed by a winding stair (photo 27). The former radio room has a built-in seat along the east wall and much of the radio equipment remains in the room (photo 28). A small utility and rest room remain at the southwest corner of the room. The remainder of the penthouse level is configured as an attic/ventilation space, along the north and west sides of the radio room.

The basement sits at three elevations. The boiler/mechanical room and two offices to the east sit at the lowest elevation. The remaining basement sits one floor level below the first floor, half visible from the exterior. The garage entrance at the southwest end of the building sits at grade.

The basement plan has evolved from the original 1937 to accommodate changes in the police force from 1937-2004. The boiler/mechanical room was reduced in size to create additional offices. The former men's toilet, north of the central stair was remodeled to include shower facilities for female officers. The storage and repair garage was subdivided to create training and record storage rooms along the north wall, additional areas were created for a maintenance shop and clerk storage. The former long entry into the phone room has become a hall. Leading to a new hall made from space at the far north walls of the former arsenal and shooting range. An additional hall was created by bisecting the shooting range. This new hall leads to the IT training and storage rooms, carved out of the former police assembly room and gymnasium. At the southeast corner, locker room, police showers and toilets remain in their original configuration, save for the removal of lockers. The police surgeon and humane officer rooms were reconfigured into a Radio Room and Crime Lab at an unknown date.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1937-1962

Significant Dates

Significant Person (last name, first name)
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder (last name, first name)

Miller & Yeager
Jungclaus & Co.

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Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance, 1937-1962, reflects the development of City Hall from construction to reaching its full utility in 1962. During this time period, changes were made to the building in order to fulfill the expanding technology needs of the city's police force. The period culminates with the construction of an elevator, making the third floor accessible to the general public.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Terre Haute's City Hall is significant under criterion A and C. The building reflects broad trends in Politics and Government; the process of building and maintaining a structure to meet the changing needs of local governmental agencies, and the establishment of New Deal programs to counteract the effects of the Great Depression. The Terre Haute City Hall is also an excellent example of Stripped Classicism, a style prevalent in late 1930's PWA structures. The building illustrates the work of the firms of architects Miller & Yeager and contractors Jungclaus & Co.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Settlement began in Terre Haute in 1816 and was incorporated as a city in 1852. As noted in the Historic Resources of Downtown Terre Haute, Indiana National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, rapid expansion occurred after the Terre Haute and Indianapolis Railroad was constructed through the city in 1853, creating an industrial boom. The fantastic rate of development over the next several decades created a purely commercial district along Wabash and the pattern of development continued until the 1930s when the Depression helped bring an end to Terre Haute's golden age.²

² Alan Goebes, "Historic Resources of Downton Terre Haute, Indiana," National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, 1983, p. 2-3.

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The earliest town hall had been constructed prior to 1852. Circa 1870, a new city hall was built on the 100 block of South 4th Street. By 1917, the mayor championed to replace the almost 50-year-old structure with a new city hall, noting that the old one was dingy and decrying the lack of space to store the city's equipment.³

In 1936 Congress appropriated \$58,000,000 for building projects in 433 cities, and Terre Haute applied for funding. The city carefully considered the swath of projects in which to apply the funds awarded by the PWA, including sewer projects and retaining walls and bridges for the Wabash River. Citizens supported the building of a new city hall, citing additional benefits of the project as providing a new short-wave radio system for police calls and jobs for the various building trades of the city. The application submitted to the state director for PWA allotments requested \$314,000. The local architectural firm of Miller & Yeager were hired to develop plans for the structure.

Although the total cost of the building was requested from the PWA, the final allotment amounted to approximately 45% of the funds needed. The city issued bonds to raise their share of the costs. While in the throes of the Depression, funding became an issue throughout the project. Adding to the costs was the proposal to purchase a new site for city hall, rather than tearing down the old structure and rebuilding on the existing site. Efforts to locate the new city hall on a lot west of the Vigo County Courthouse were spearheaded by the Banks of the Wabash Association, a group of merchants and civic boosters who organized in 1923 with the purpose of beautifying the city in adherence to the Kessler Plan⁴.

Landscape architect, George Kessler prepared a plan of beautification for the city in 1921. Part of Kessler's plan included a civic plaza surrounding the county courthouse at the corner of First and Ohio Streets, including space for new civic buildings. The civic plaza was intended to create a gateway into the city for those traveling from the west over the Wabash River bridge. In the early twentieth century, the area between the river and the courthouse held a large junkyard and small stores. Kessler's plan was not fully realized until 1973 when Harding Avenue was closed and the area between City Hall and the Vigo County Courthouse was transformed into a green space with a fountain and sidewalks.⁵

Despite the controversy over selection of the site, progress on the new building continued. Contractor bids were opened in late December, 1935 and the Indianapolis firm of Jungclaus and Co. came in the lowest at \$236,154 and was awarded the contract a few days later. William P. Jungclaus, emigrated from Germany in the early 1870s. In 1875, he opened a building contractor

³ C.C. Oakley, *Greater Terre Haute and Vigo County, Vol. 1*, Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1908, p. 92, 114. *Saturday Spectator*, "Mayor Favors New City Hall," 12/1/1917, p. 9.

⁴ *Saturday Spectator*, "Bonds Involved in Vicious Circle; Controllers Bond May Affect City Hall Issue," 10/26/1935, p. 4. *Saturday Spectator*, "The Banks of the Wabash Association Beautifies West Approach to City," 10/16/1954, p. 1.

⁵ *Saturday Spectator*, "Wave of Approval for Second St. Site Rises, Council Will Consider Purchase Tonight," 1/25/1936, p. 3-4. 1911 Sanborn Map. TH Tribute, "Terre Haute-Vigo Parking Proposal Action Taken," 6/7/1973, p. 1.

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firm in Indianapolis. In 1935, the firm passed from William P.'s son, Henry to his grandson, Fred. The firm remains in business as of 2019 under the name Jungclaus-Campbell.⁶

The corner stone was laid on August 22, 1936. The masonic lodge laid the stone, and ceremonial assistants included Warren Miller of Miller & Yeager architects, Mayor Sam Beecher, and Virginia Jenckes, congresswoman from Terre Haute who was instrumental in securing the Federal funds for the building.⁷

Conflict arose over the large costs of furnishings and fixtures and the Terre Haute Civic Association argued against the necessity of an elevator, especially since the only function of the third floor was for City Council meetings. An elevator was finally installed in 1962 after the sewage billing department was moved to the third floor. Open House finally took place on April 28, 1938.⁸

The needs of offices and departments in city hall constantly changed, as evidenced by the changes in floor plans. Although the penthouse radio room was considered state of the art in the late 1930s, the system was upgraded to FM frequency from AM.⁹ In 1969, the radio room and shift captain's office were moved to the basement.¹⁰

The space needs to support the scientific investigation of crime created changes in the layout of city hall. An office along the south wall of the first floor was reserved as the Bertillon (sic) Room on the original plan. The Bertillon method of criminal identification began in the late 19th century, employing photographs, now known as mugshots, and a set of measurements of the human body to identify repeat offenders. A French criminologist, Alphonse Bertillon, developed the technique, based on the science of anthropometry, producing a detailed description of the person's body. A darkroom off the Bertillon room, added the capacity for developing the photographs. As the scientific methods of criminal investigation evolved, a new crime lab was constructed in the former humane office in the basement of city hall, indicated by a door with the crime lab emblem as well as a remaining plumbing installation.¹¹

⁶ Jacob Piatt Dunn, *Indianapolis and Indianans, Vol. IV*, Chicago: The American Historical Society, 1911, p. 1711-1712. Greta E. Shankle, "William P. Jungclaus Company," article in *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, David Bodenhamer and Robert G. Barrows, eds., Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1994, p. 1430.

⁷ Saturday Spectator, "Indianapolis Bidder Low on City Hall, Council Defers Appropriation Until Dec. 27," 12/14/1935, p. 3. *Indianapolis News*, "Corner Stone of City Hall Laid at Terre Haute," 8/24/1936, p. 8.

⁸ Terre Haute Tribune, "City Hall Elevator Contract Awarded; To Cost \$27,223," 2/20/1962, p. 11. Saturday Spectator, "City Hall Painting Finished, Open House Scheduled for April 28," 4/23/1938, p. 3.

⁹ TH Tribune, "Rush Work on City Hall's FM," 5/25/1948, p. 6.

¹⁰ TH Tribune, "Guarantee Roofing to Remodel Room at City Hall," 8/19/1969, p. 9.

¹¹ "Bertillon System of Criminal Identification," National Association of Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund Museum Newsletter, November, 2011, accessed online 12/15/2018 at <http://www.nleomf.org/museum/news/newsletters/online-insider/november-2011/bertillon-system-criminal-identification.html> .

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The Terre Haute City Hall reflects social programs developed during the 1930s. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Public Works Administration (PWA) were created in the 1930s to relieve the economic burden of the Great Depression. WPA programs provided construction jobs to local laborers and much-needed funds for infrastructure and public buildings. The programs were celebrated locally as indicated by the Indiana Democratic Chairman's comments at the dedication of the Spencer, Indiana Post Office:

"We are fortunate in both the United States and Indiana to enjoy the benevolent protection of governments which have administered humanely and sensibly and always in the best interests of the greatest number of people."¹²

Miller & Yeager

By the time architects Miller & Yeager designed the Terre Haute City Hall in 1935, the firm had been in existence since 1910. Originally opened by McMillan "Mac" Houston Johnson, Jr. in Brazil, Indiana, Warren D. Miller (1887-1970), a recent graduate of the architecture program at the University of Pennsylvania, joined the firm in 1911. In 1912, Johnson & Miller established a second office in Terre Haute, and the Brazil office closed in 1915. Warren's brother, Ewing H. Miller, also studied architecture at the University of Pennsylvania, joined the firm in 1919. After the 1923 deaths of Mac Johnson and Ewing Miller, Ralph O. Yeager joined the firm. Yeager was a classmate of Ewing Miller at the University of Pennsylvania. The firm did business under the name Johnson, Miller, Miller & Yeager for several years (1924-1929), and then changed the name to Miller & Yeager (1930-1945).¹³

Miller & Yeager's work in Terre Haute encompassed a variety of styles; The 1925 Rea Park Clubhouse (NPS 100001065) is in the Mediterranean Revival style, the 1927 façade remodel of the Citizens' Trust Company/Sycamore Building (NPS 83000156) is Neo-classical, and the Terre Haute Post Office and Federal Building (NPS 84003813) is Art Deco.

Stripped Classicism (1925-1940)

Stripped Classicism is characterized by symmetrical, rectilinear compositions, occasional use of setbacks to achieve vertical masses, an emphasis on geometric form, and strips of straight-headed windows with spandrel panels. The style grew out of the Beaux Arts movement. Classicism had remained the official style of choice for Federal buildings long after it was first adopted in 1901. The tandem influence of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition and Federal policy affected cities and counties in their selections for public building designs. However, tastes and declining budgets tempered the ornate tendencies of Beaux-Arts architecture by the interwar period. Also, the influence of Art Deco and Art Moderne styles favored simplification and abstraction of Classical design motifs.

¹² *Indianapolis Star*, "Bays Dedicates Spencer Post Office," 6/16/1939, p. 5.

¹³ Drawings and Documents Archive Ball State University Johnson & Miller Architectural Records 1910-1984 DADA 024

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Miller & Yeager's design for the 1939 Fine Arts Building (167-628-21177) for Indiana State University is the closest in style to City Hall. The Art Moderne building has the same linear style as City Hall, and Miller & Yeager used the same style of steel casement windows. However, the Fine Arts building has a higher degree of ornamentation, especially the fluted pilasters along the building.

The architecture of City Hall more closely resembles what has become known as PWA Stripped Classicism, a style found on many PWA buildings. These austere buildings reflect the austere times as well as the utility of the structures. The Terre Haute City Hall is the only example of Stripped Classicism in the city.

Developmental History/Additional historic context information

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

“Bertillon System of Criminal Identification,” National Association of Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund Museum Newsletter, November, 2011, accessed online 12/15/2018 at <http://www.nleomf.org/museum/news/newsletters/online-insider/november-2011/bertillon-system-criminal-identification.html> .

Drawings and Documents Archive Ball State University Johnson & Miller Architectural Records 1910-1984 DADA 024

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Indianapolis News, “Corner Stone of City Hall Laid at Terre Haute,” 8/24/1936, p. 8.

Indianapolis Star, “Bays Dedicates Spencer Post Office,” 6/16/1939, p. 5.

Terre Haute Saturday Spectator

“Bonds Involved in Vicious Circle; Controllers Bond May Affect City Hall Issue,” 10/26/1935, p. 4.

“The Banks of the Wabash Association Beautifies West Approach to City,” 10/16/1954, p. 1.

“City Hall Painting Finished, Open House Scheduled for April 28,” 4/23/1938, p. 3.

“Mayor Favors New City Hall,” 12/1/1917, p. 9.

Terre Haute City Hall
Name of Property

Vigo County, IN
County and State

“Wave of Approval for Second St. Site Rises, Council Will Consider Purchase Tonight,”
1/25/1936, p. 3-4.
“Indianapolis Bidder Low on City Hall, Council Defers Appropriation Until Dec. 27,”
12/14/1935, p. 3

Terre Haute Tribute

“City Hall Elevator Contract Awarded; To Cost \$27,223,” 2/20/1962, p. 11.
“Guarantee Roofing to Remodel Room at City Hall,” 8/19/1969, p. 9.
“Rush Work on City Hall’s FM,” 5/25/1948, p. 6.
“Terre Haute-Vigo Parking Proposal Action Taken,” 6/7/1973, p. 1.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 167-628-21191

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.3

Terre Haute City Hall
Name of Property

Vigo County, IN
County and State

Use the UTM system

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 16 | Easting: 464241 | Northing: 4368577 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Begin at the northeast corner of 1st and Ohio Streets. Proceed 149 feet in an easterly direction to a point of origin. Turn north and proceed 382 feet to the north lot line of 17 Harding Avenue. Turn east and proceed 149 feet to the northeast corner of the property line of 17 Harding Avenue. Turn south and proceed 382 feet to the southeast corner of the property line. Turn west and proceed 149 feet to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the site delineated by George Kessler for a new public building and encompasses the City Hall building.

Terre Haute City Hall
Name of Property

Vigo County, IN
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Rose Wernicke
organization: Independent History Consultant
street & number: 447 W 91st Street
city or town: Indianapolis state: IN zip code: 46260
e-mail rdwernicke@yahoo.com
telephone: 317-372-3625
date: 6/24/2019

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Terre Haute City Hall
Name of Property

Vigo County, IN
County and State

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Terre Haute City Hall

City or Vicinity: Terre Haute

County: Harrison

State: Indiana

Photographer: Rose Wernicke

Date Photographed: July 13, 2018, January 15, 2019

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 35 Camera facing southwest at City Hall façade.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0001

2 of 35 Camera facing northeast at the west and south elevations.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0002

3 of 35 Camera facing southeast at the north and west elevations.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0003

4 of 35 Camera facing southwest at exterior lamp.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0004

5 of 35 Camera facing north at Ribbon of Hope monument.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0005

6 of 35 Camera facing northeast at foyer.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0006

7 of 35 Camera facing southwest at main hall, first floor.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0007

8 of 35 Camera facing northeast at courtroom.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0008

Terre Haute City Hall

Name of Property

Vigo County, IN
County and State

9 of 35 Camera facing northwest at former Bertillon room.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0009

10 of 35 Camera facing east at the men's holding cell.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0010

11 of 35 Camera facing west at second floor main hall.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0011

12 of 35 Camera facing south at east hall, second floor.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0012

13 of 35 Camera facing northeast at Engineering Office.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0013

14 of 35 Camera facing south, depicting updated finishes.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0014

15 of 35 Camera facing south at bulkhead from former wall.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0015

16 of 35 Camera facing northwest at second floor stair hall.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0016

17 of 35 Camera facing west at original vault (typ.) in Engineering Office.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0017

18 of 35 Camera facing east at private stair hall, second floor.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0018

19 of 35 Camera facing southeast at typical 1970s office finishes and dropped ceiling.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0019

20 of 35 Camera facing east at evidence of original office plan, doorways with remaining transom.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0020

21 of 35 Camera facing north at entry hall to former City Council Chambers, third floor.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0021

22 of 35 Camera facing northwest at main hall, third floor.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0022

23 of 35 Camera facing northwest at third floor conference room.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0023

Terre Haute City Hall
Name of Property

Vigo County, IN
County and State

24 of 35 Camera facing northwest at full and partial height walls, third floor.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0024

25 of 35 Camera facing northeast at typical third floor office.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0025

26 of 35 camera facing southeast at third floor stair hall.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0026

27 of 35 Camera facing southwest at Penthouse-level stair hall.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0027

28 of 35 Camera facing northeast at former radio room, Penthouse.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0028

29 of 35 Camera facing northeast at grade-level garage.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0029

30 of 35 Camera facing south at basement hall.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0030

31 of 35 Camera facing north at basement stair hall.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0031

32 of 35 Camera facing west at former shooting range, basement.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0032

33 of 35 Camera facing southwest at I.T. Training Room, basement.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0033

34 of 35 Camera facing southwest at former locker room, basement.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0034

35 of 35 Camera facing northwest at typical wood door, basement.
IN_VIGO_TERREHAUTECITYHALL0035

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).




Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Site Plan
not to scale



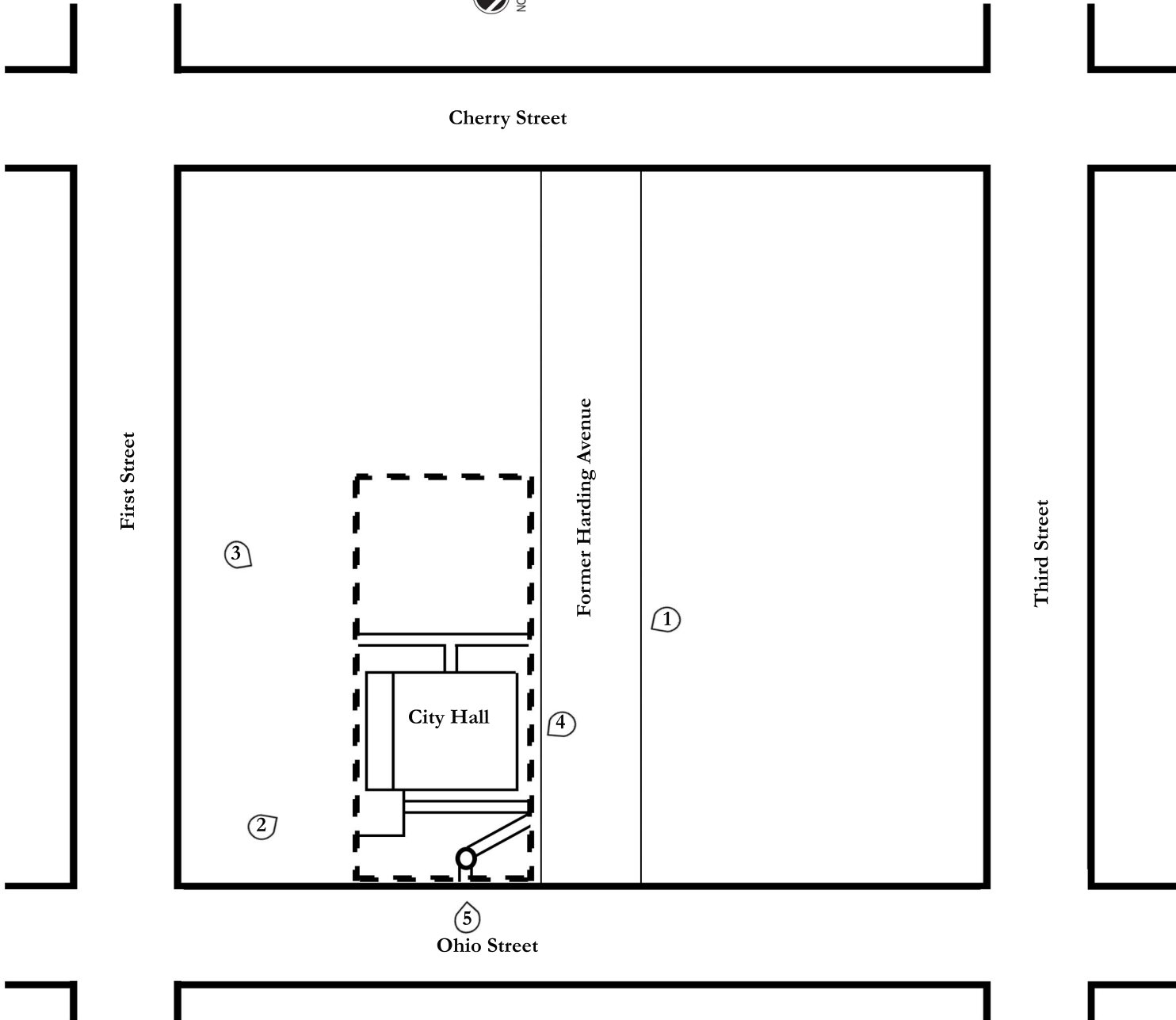
Terre Haute City Hall
17 Harding Avenue
Terre Haute, Vigo County, IN

LEGEND:

-  Boundary
-  Ribbon of Hope
-  Photo Number & Shot Angle

Resources:

- Site - contributing
- City Hall building - contributing
- Ribbon of Hope - noncontributing







First Floor Plan

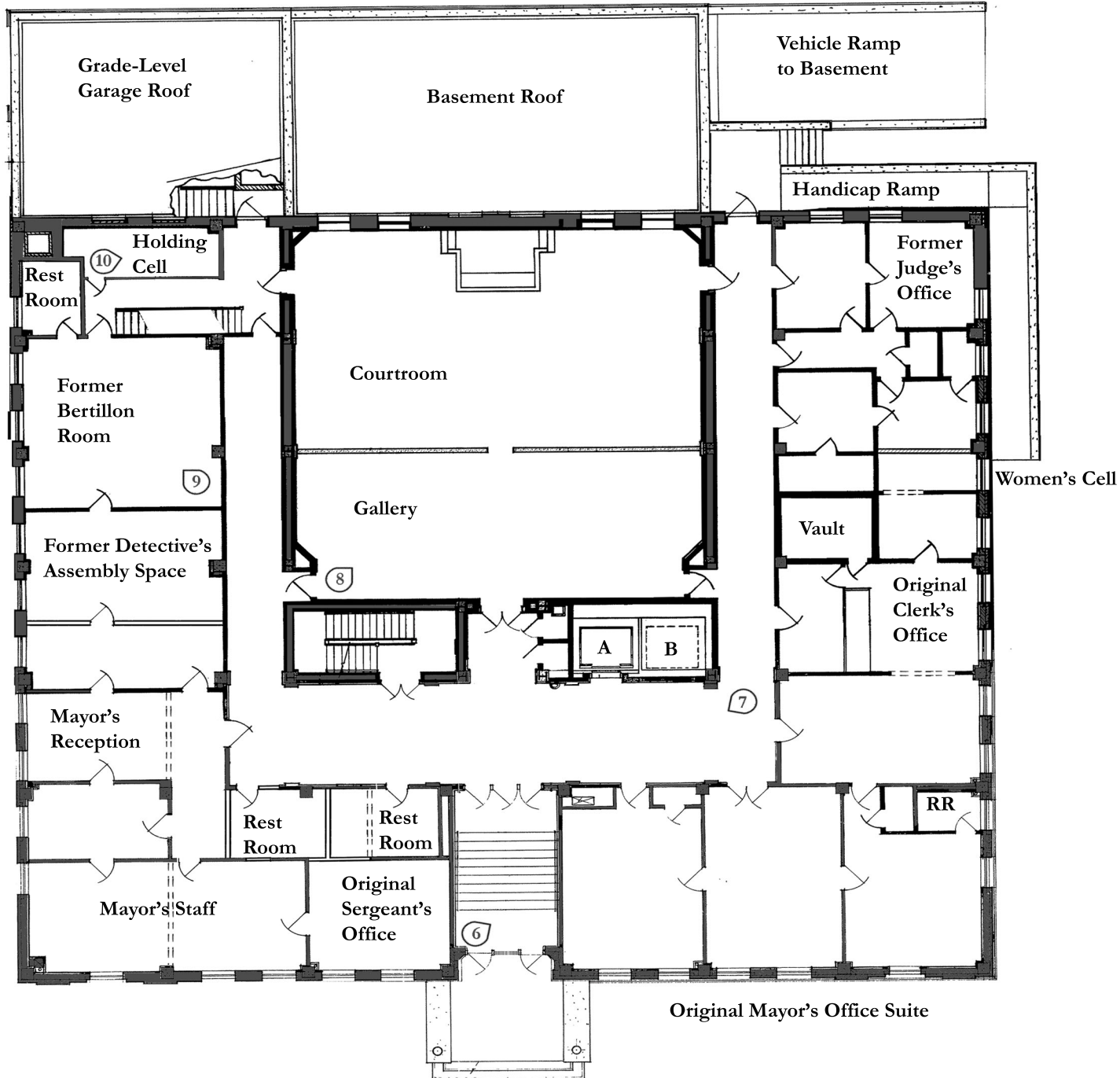
not to scale



Terre Haute City Hall
 17 Harding Avenue
 Terre Haute, Vigo County, IN

LEGEND:

-  Original Wall
-  New Wall
-  Location of Former Wall
- A** Elevator
- B** Unused Elevator Shaft
- X** Photo Number & Shot Angle
-  Wood Half Wall



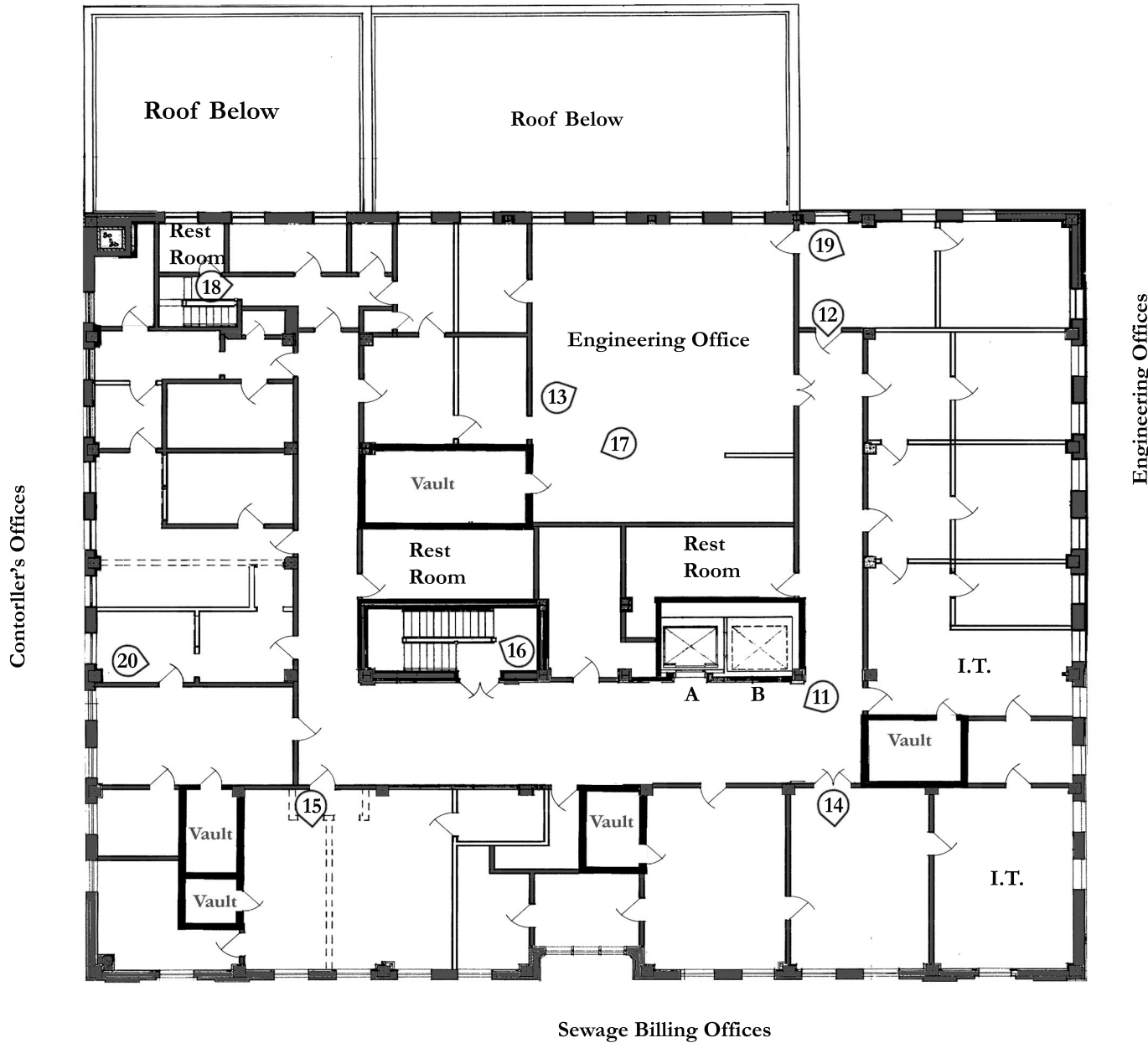
Second Floor Plan
not to scale



Terre Haute City Hall
17 Harding Avenue
Terre Haute, Vigo County, IN

LEGEND:

- Original Wall
- New Wall
- Location of Former Wall
- A Elevator
- B Unused Elevator Shaft
- Photo Number & Shot Angle









Third Floor Plan

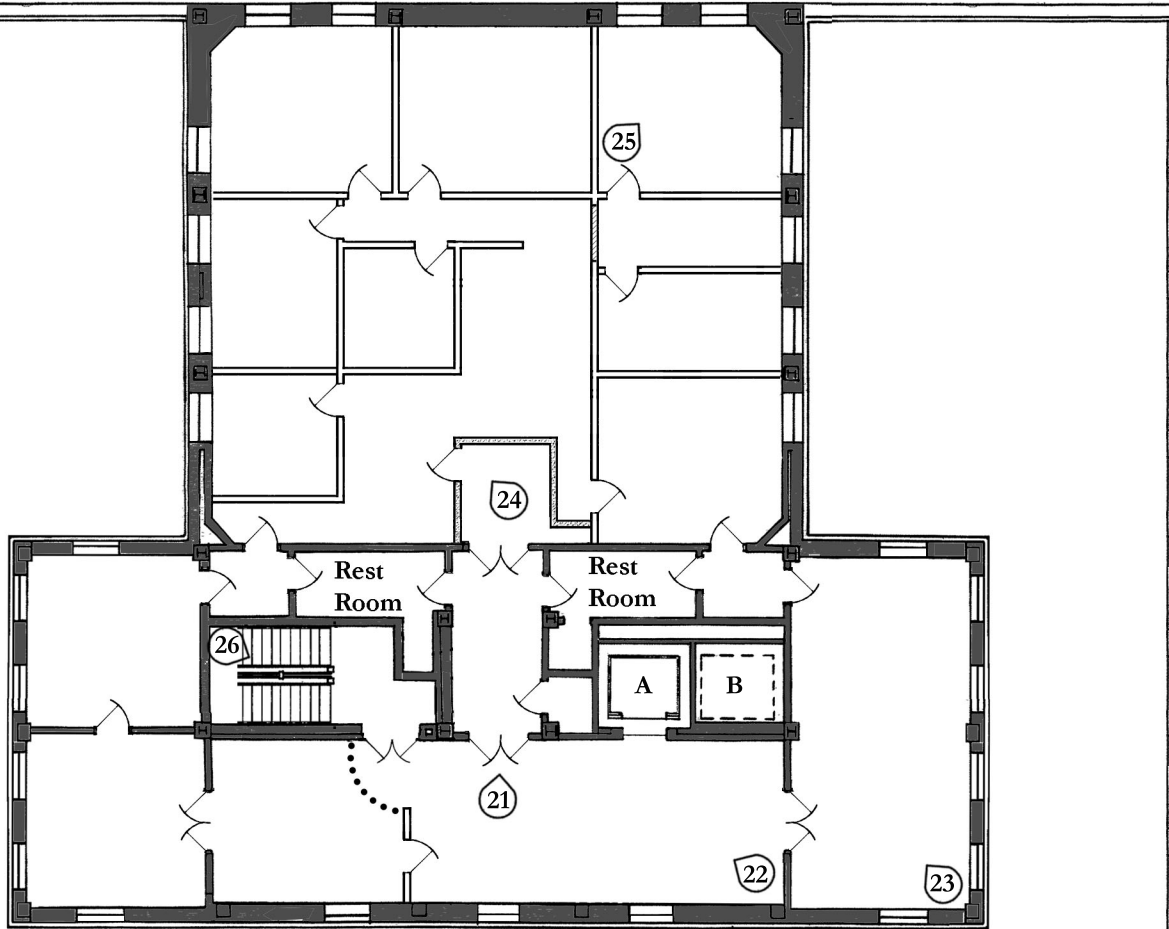
not to scale



Terre Haute City Hall
17 Harding Avenue
Terre Haute, Vigo County, IN

LEGEND:

-  Original Wall
-  New Wall
-  Location of Former Wall
-  Bulkhead
-  Glass Block Wall
- A Elevator
- B Unused Elevator Shaft
- X Photo Number & Shot Angle
-  Wood Half Wall



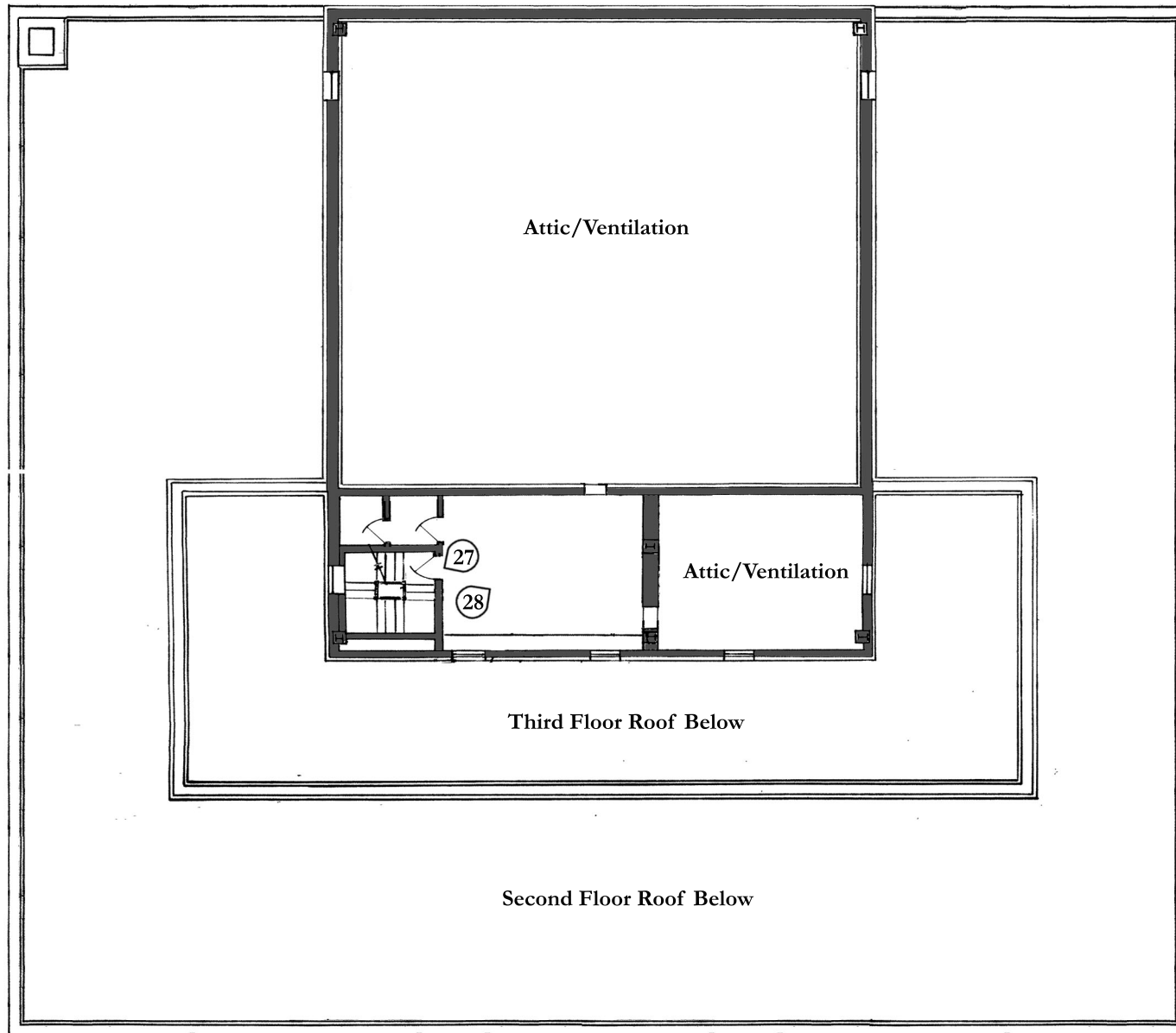
Second Floor Roof Below

Terre Haute City Hall
17 Harding Avenue
Terre Haute, Vigo County, IN

Penthouse Plan
not to scale



LEGEND:
Original Wall
Photo Number & Shot Angle






Basement Plan

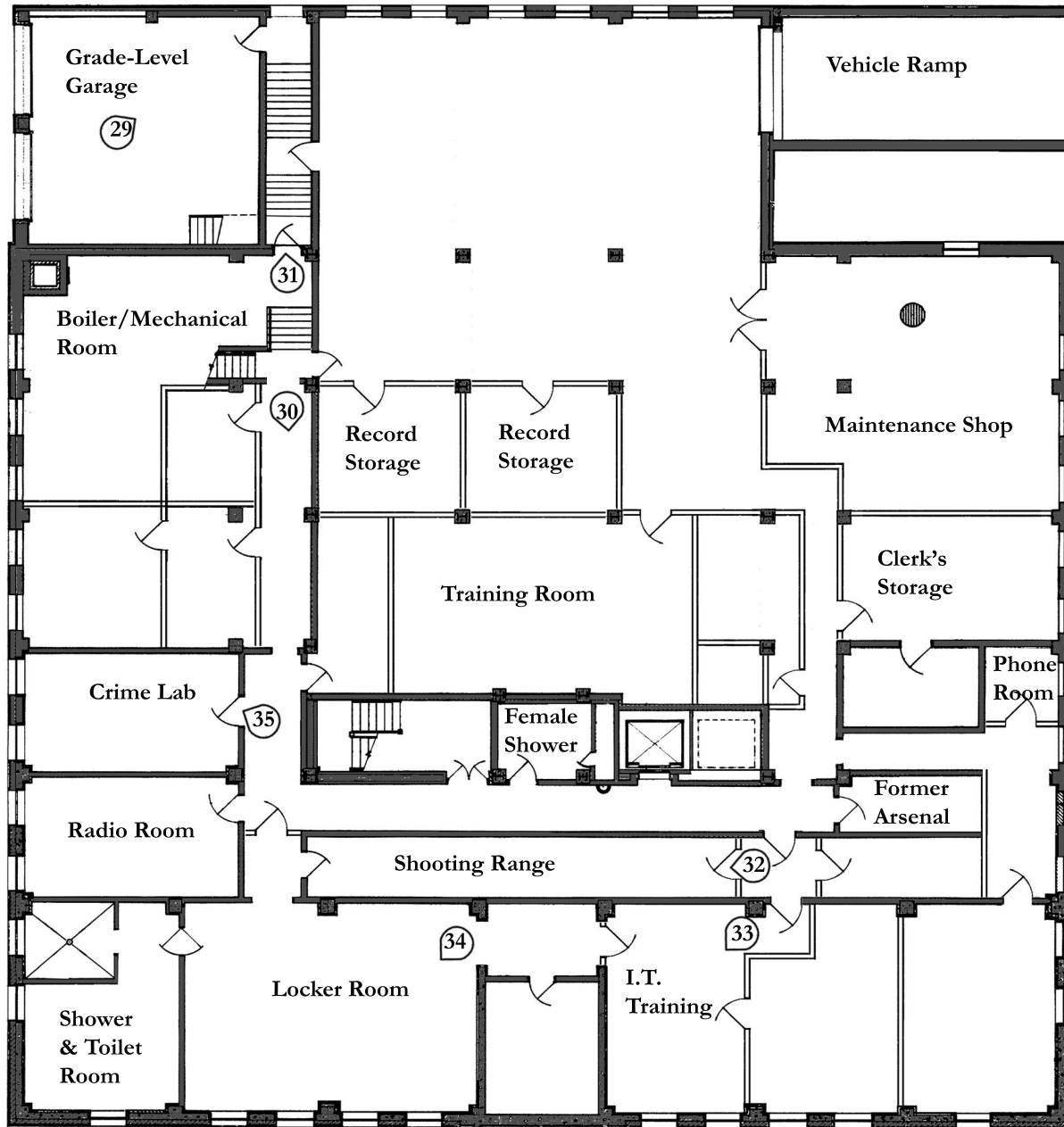
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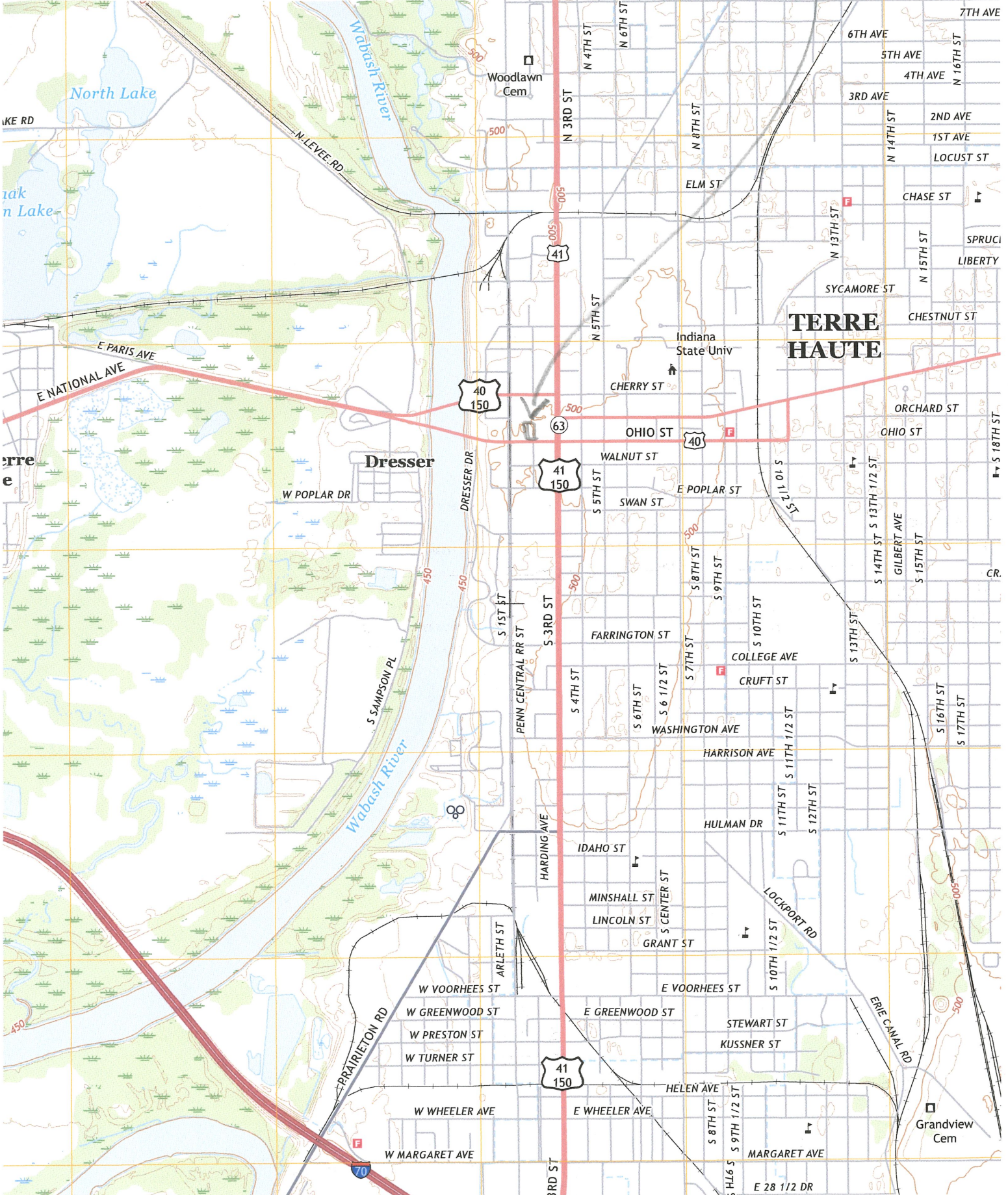
Terre Haute City Hall
17 Harding Avenue
Terre Haute, Vigo County, IN

LEGEND:

-  Original Wall
-  New Wall
- A Elevator
- B Unused Elevator Shaft
-  Photo Number & Shot Angle



TERRE HAUTE CITY HALL, VIGO CO., IN
NAD 83 UTM = 16 464241 4368577





Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0001



Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0002



Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0003



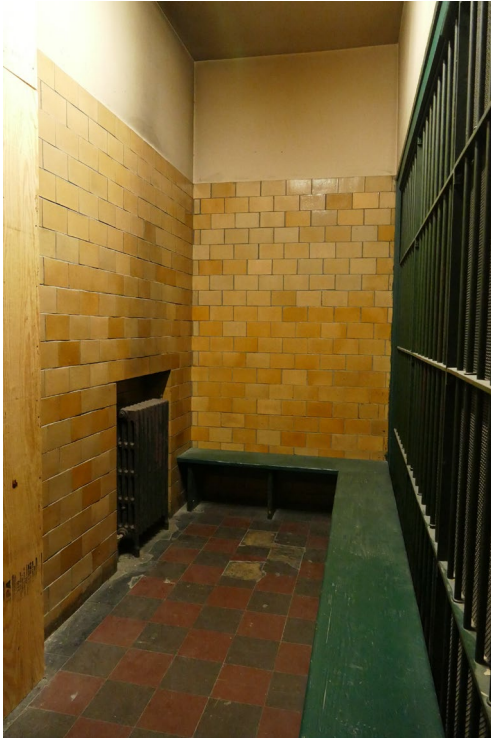
Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0005



Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0007



Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0008



Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0010



Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0012



Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0015



Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0016



Terre Haute City Hall, Vigo County photo 0035