



## Tippecanoe County Courthouse

This is the third courthouse to stand in the city square since Tippecanoe County was formed in 1826. When it was decided to build a new courthouse, the citizens of the county said that they wanted it to be “of permanent and durable character”. They presented 45 pages of instructions for the builders to insure that it was a structure they would be proud of for years to come and it has certainly met these expectations. The building was completed in December of 1884.

The shape is a cross that measures 150 feet and the building stands 212 feet from the ground to the top of the dome. There are over 100 columns on its exterior and the walnut doors leading to the interior weigh 500 pounds each. There are sculptures on top of the dome, four underneath the faces of the clock, and groups of figures on the north/south and east/west pediments. The original cost of the building was around \$500,000. It was renovated in the 1990s at a cost of over \$15 million. It has now served the community well for over 100 years and will continue to do so for years to come.

The building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. A self-guided tour booklet is available and group tours during regular working Courthouse hours can be arranged through the Lafayette-West Lafayette Convention & Visitors Bureau.

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