



ILLINOIS COURTHOUSES

THE HISTORY

Beginning with Adams County and ending with Woodford County, this heirloom-quality book presents hundreds of nostalgic images of the noble buildings that serve as the dwelling places for Illinois' 102 county governments.



AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY



DENNIS WEISER, AUTHOR

PUBLISHED BY THE
ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS AND
COMMISSIONERS

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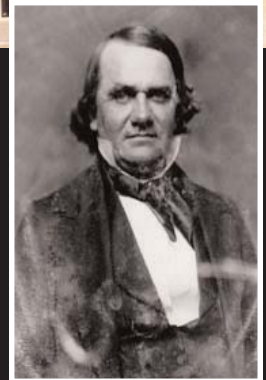
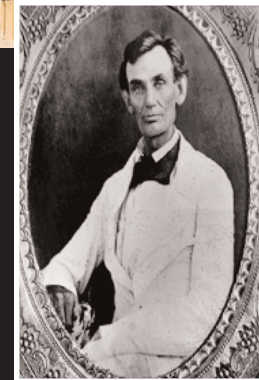
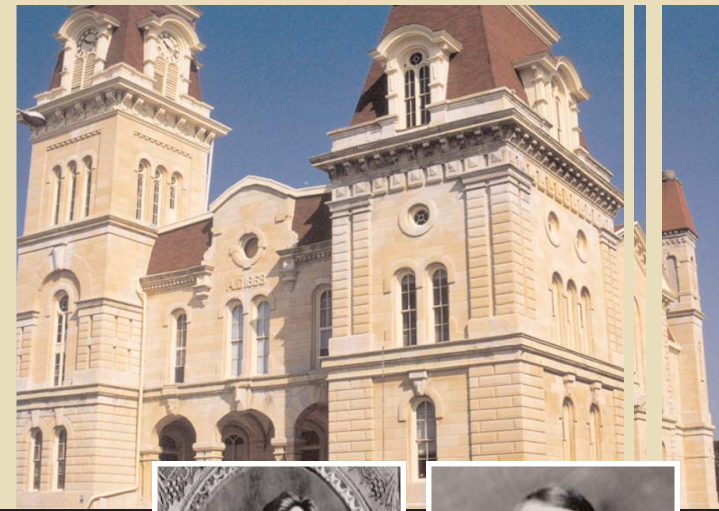
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ILLINOIS COURTHOUSES: AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY

Courthouses are part of American life – symbols of justice and independence. Similar to family heirlooms, these architectural treasures convey the spirit and leadership of the citizenry that built them.



THE COURTHOUSE

A courthouse is “the center, the focus, the hub; sitting looming in the center of the county’s circumference like a single cloud in its ring of horizon, laying its vast shadow to the utmost rim of horizon; musing, brooding, symbolic and ponderable, tall as cloud, solid as rock, dominating all: protector of the weak, judicate and curb of the passions and lusts, repository and guardian of the aspirations and the hopes.”

AMERICAN NOVELIST WILLIAM FAULKNER
1951, REQUIEM FOR A NUN

THE BOOK

In *Illinois Courthouses: An Illustrated History*, photojournalist Dennis Weiser has skillfully woven this original material into a compelling narrative, creating a truly phenomenal oral and photographic history of the courthouses in Illinois.

“This handsomely illustrated volume is both an entertaining, colorful history of Illinois’s county courthouses and a valuable reference work. Especially noteworthy are accounts of the earliest structures, including one with a dirt floor, another with noisy, odiferous hogs occupying the crawl space beneath it, another which collapsed during construction (killing nine people), and still another which was supposed to be fireproof but burned to the ground. Also of special interest are the courthouses on the old Eighth Judicial Circuit, which Abraham Lincoln and his fellow attorneys traversed for many years.”

DR. MICHAEL A. BURLINGAME
RENOWNED LINCOLN SCHOLAR AND PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, UIS