

Who We Are

Friends of the Madison County Courthouse

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Madison County Historic Preservation Commission

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Our Funding Partners

Jeffris Family Foundation
University of Wisconsin-Madison Historic Preservation



Greater Madison County Community Foundation

Iowa Dept Cultural Affairs HRDP Grant; this project is supported in part by the SHSI HRDP

The Friends of the Madison County Courthouse were awarded a \$50,000 Historic Resource Development Program (HRDP) grant from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs in July, 2020. The group also received \$10,600 in 2020 from the Greater Madison County Community Foundation.

Help Us Meet the Challenge

In addition, the Jeffris Family Foundation (www.jeffrisfoundation.org/) has provided the community with a challenge: JFF pledges \$330,000 if \$660,000 is raised from donations by June, 2022.

We need your help to meet this challenge.



To contribute, mail your tax deductible contribution to:

MCHPC, P.O. Box 152,
Winterset, Iowa 50273

Use your phone's camera app to scan the QR code or Visit: madisoncountyhistory.com

Click the Legacy in Stone tile; Click Challenge Grant Pledge to print a form.



1846



1875

Fire destroys courthouse on Oct. 2, 1875



1877

Second courthouse on square completed

1970

Original wooden windows replaced with aluminum

1975

Slate roof replaced with asphalt shingles

2004

OPN completes concepts for renovation

2010

Madison County Courthouse Preservation Fund established

Phase 2:

Interior dome restoration

Phase 3:

Exterior dome investigation

2014

Phase 5:
Gable & roof repair

1868

First limestone courthouse built in square



1876

Construction on new courthouse begins

1955

Cupola replica placed on tower to conceal chimneys

1973

Service Ramp installed

1976

Added to National Register of Historic Places



2012

Phase 4:
Exterior Dome Restoration



2020



Madison County Courthouse Restoration Project

We Protect What We Prize

Why is it important to Restore the Courthouse?

Since 1876 the Madison County Courthouse has fulfilled its purpose as a beautiful public space dedicated to serving the common good through the court system, county government, and as a public meeting space. As an architectural metaphor, the Courthouse is unparalleled. The local limestone from which it was hewn speaks of the strength and endurance of our community. The four classical porticos, which face north, south, east, and west, remind us of the courage, integrity, perseverance, and justice on which pioneers built their dream of a just society.

Restoring the beauty of our Courthouse will pay respect for its contributions to the common good and to the position it retains as a beacon of justice. It will encourage a sense of pride by raising public awareness of the legacy contained within its limestone walls. In addition, it will stand as a shared community achievement because the restoration will be accomplished through public/private partnerships.

Elements of Restoration

Site

Lack of ADA Accessibility
Brick Pavers are in Poor Condition

Exterior Limestone Masonry Walls

Deterioration

Exterior Windows

Wooden Infill Panels and Sealant Joints are Failing
Inefficient Aluminium Windows

Soffit, Sheet Metal Details

Damaged by Weather/Rain Exposure



Damaged Soffit, Sheet Metal

Deterioration at
Limestone Masonry

Infill Panels at Windows;
Lack of Weather Barrier

New
Accessible
Entry Ramps