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DEDICATION OF THE MADISON COUNTY, INDIANA,
COURT HOUSE AT ANDERSON, INDIANA, 1 P.M.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1973.

*Dave Dennis
Paul Miller*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS A
REAL HONOR AND PRIVILEGE FOR ME TO BE HERE
WITH YOU TODAY. WHAT A GREAT OCCASION --
THE DEDICATION OF THIS SPLENDID NEW COURT
HOUSE BUILDING IN MADISON COUNTY, THE HEART
OF AMERICA'S HEARTLAND! IT IS A GREAT
OCCASION BECAUSE IT IS A MEANINGFUL
OCCASION. IT HAS TREMENDOUS SIGNIFICANCE
FOR ALL OF YOU HERE AND, INDEED, IT HAS
SIGNIFICANCE FOR ALL OF AMERICA.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU -- THIS
OFFICIAL DEDICATION OF THE FINE NEW BRICK
BUILDING YOU CALL YOUR COURT HOUSE? I
THINK I KNOW THE ANSWER. THIS BUILDING IS
A LOT MORE THAN JUST BRICK AND MORTAR.



-2-

This location of the court house that preceded it were the focal point for your ancestors that gave Madison County its character its traditions & heritage.

IT STANDS FOR SOMETHING. IT STANDS AT THE CENTER OF YOUR LIVES. YOUR LIVES REVOLVE AROUND THIS BUILDING AND THE CITY BUILDING ACROSS THE STREET BECAUSE THIS CITY BLOCK ^{today & it has in the past} CONSTITUTES A CIVIC, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL CENTER FOR ALL OF MADISON COUNTY.

YOU KEPT YOUR NEW COURT HOUSE TRADITIONAL -- A LOT OF BRICK AND NOT TOO MUCH GLASS AND METAL -- BECAUSE TRADITION IS IMPORTANT TO YOU. TRADITION SITS AT THE CORE OF YOUR LIVES. YOU HAVE FOUND ^{There is an inscription on the National Archives Bldg on the National Capitol "the past is the present"} THE BEST WAY TO DO THINGS, AND THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT TO KEEP IT.

YOU CAN BE PROUD OF THIS NEW BUILDING -- AND PROUD OF YOURSELVES, TOO. I THINK IT'S ^{you deserve special commemoration} WONDERFUL THAT THIS NEW COURT HOUSE IS ENTIRELY LOCALLY FUNDED.

NO FEDERAL MONEY. NO STATE MONEY.
YOU'RE PAYING FOR IT RIGHT OUT OF YOUR
POCKETS. THE SAME WITH THE CITY BUILDING.
MADISON COUNTY FOLKS ARE A GREAT EXAMPLE
OF THE PROUDEST TRADITION WE HAVE IN THIS
COUNTRY -- PEOPLE DOING THINGS FOR THEMSELVES.

AT THE SAME TIME, I'D LIKE TO
SAY YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY SINCE THAT DAY
IN SEPTEMBER OF 1823 WHEN THE FIRST
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET IN A PRIVATE
RESIDENCE IN PENDLETON AND HAD TO REMOVE
A BED FROM THE ROOM SO THEY'D HAVE ENOUGH
SPACE FOR THEIR MEETING. I JOIN WITH YOU
IN OBSERVING MADISON COUNTY'S 150th
ANNIVERSARY, AND I'M SURE YOU'RE ALL
LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR SESQUICENTENNIAL
PARADE.

*I just came
from Iowa
a community celebrating
its centennial. That
means we're younger
but we're proud of
our history!*



I MENTIONED EARLIER HOW PLEASED
I AM THAT YOUR NEW COURT HOUSE IS ENTIRELY
LOCALLY FINANCED. THAT CONTRASTS SO VERY
SHARPLY WITH THE MOVEMENT THAT ALL OF YOU
KNOW HAS BEEN GOING ON IN THIS COUNTRY
IN THE PAST, ^{4 decades,} -- THE UNINTERRUPTED FLOW OF
POWER AND DECISION-MAKING FROM THE STATES
AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO THE BUREAUCRATS
IN WASHINGTON. THERE HAS BEEN A
MUSHROOMING GROWTH IN FUNDS AND AUTHORITY ^{from Washington}
WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN AN OVERCENTRALIZATION
AND ^{bureaucracy in the} BUREAUCRATIZED FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

WORST OF ALL, MUCH OF THE POWER --
AND WITH IT THE INITIATIVE AND THE
CREATIVITY -- OF OUR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO ATROPHY. AND ALTHOUGH
THE FEDERAL ESTABLISHMENT WAS GROWING BY
LEAPS AND BOUNDS, IT WAS LARGELY FAILING

IN ITS ¹ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE SOME OF THE
NATION'S MOST PRESSING SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS -- HOUSING, WELFARE,
TRANSPORTATION, THE POLLUTION OF THE
ENVIRONMENT, AND THE DECAY OF OUR CITIES.

IN SHORT, THE GROWING
COMPLEXITIES OF THE WORLD'S FIRST ADVANCED
INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY HAVE MADE THE SOLUTIONS
OF PROBLEMS BY A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, FAR
REMOVED FROM THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE,
MORE AND MORE DIFFICULT.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT?

I AM CONVINCED THAT THE ANSWER
LIES IN REVERSING THE FLOW OF POWER AND
RESOURCES FROM WASHINGTON BACK TO THE
STATES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

I REFER TO THE CONCEPT OF "THE
NEW FEDERALISM" -- THE CREATING OF



new
A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN FEDERAL, STATE AND
In the decade of the 70s
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. ~~I~~ SAY WE SHOULD
PREPARE TO COPE WITH THE ONRUSHING
FUTURE THROUGH LOCAL PLANNING, LOCAL
SOLUTIONS, AND LOCAL ACTIONS.

WHY SHOULD WE BELIEVE THAT
WASHINGTON HAS A CORNER ON ALL THE
INTELLIGENCE AND WISDOM REQUIRED TO SOLVE
THE HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS
OF OUR CITIES? IMAGINE WHAT A RICH
HARVEST OF SOLUTIONS WE MIGHT REAP IF
DEDICATED YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN IN 100 CITIES
WERE SEEKING *new* ANSWERS TO THESE PROBLEMS
FOR THEIR OWN HOME TOWNS! AND TAILORING
THOSE SOLUTIONS TO THE INDIVIDUAL NEEDS
OF THEIR HOME TOWNS, *or standardized* INSTEAD OF ACCEPTING
ILL-FITTING PLANS FROM WASHINGTON.



FOR TOO LONG, LOCAL OFFICIALS
HAVE BEEN REQUIRED TO WAIT PASSIVELY
FOR WORD FROM WASHINGTON -- AND FOR THE
BUCK THAT IMBUED THAT WORD WITH WISDOM.
IS IT ANY WONDER THAT THE BRIGHT YOUNG
PEOPLE WHO MIGHT HAVE HELPED SAVE THEIR
CITIES HAVE SUFFERED THE FRUSTRATION AND
ALIENATION THAT GO WITH POWERLESSNESS?

AT THE SAME TIME, OUR PEOPLE,
WITNESSING THE IMPOTENCE OF THEIR LOCAL
OFFICIALS AND COMPARING IT WITH THE POWER
OF THE WASHINGTON BUREAUCRATS, LOST FAITH
IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND LOST INTEREST IN
THEIR TOWNS AND CITIES.

UNDER THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE
NEW FEDERALISM -- THE SPIRIT OF
MADISON COUNTY, IF YOU WILL -- THIS WILL
CHANGE.



INSTEAD OF ALIENATION, OUR PEOPLE
WILL EXPERIENCE THE ^{new} POWER THAT A REAL
SENSE OF PURPOSE GIVES.

INSTEAD OF THE MUCH-DISCUSSED
FEELING OF ROOTLESSNESS, THEY WILL
REDISCOVER THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND
PRIDE OF PLACE THAT WERE ONCE A PRIMARY
SOURCE OF AMERICA'S GREATNESS.

INSTEAD OF THE
"I-JUST-DON'T-WANT-TO-GET-INVOLVED"
PHILOSOPHY, OUR PEOPLE WILL FIND THEIR
INSTINCTS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION AND
OBLIGATION WHETTED BY THE FEELING THAT
THEY CAN INDEED EXERCISE SOME REAL,
EFFECTIVE CONTROL OVER THE FORCES THAT
SHAPE THEIR LIVES. *Local decision making.*

WE HAVE ENACTED GENERAL REVENUE
SHARING TO GIVE STATES AND

LOCAL COMMUNITIES MORE FINANCIAL MUSCLE.
BUT SOMETHING ELSE NEEDS TO BE PROVIDED
IF WE ARE TO REVITALIZE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
THE WAY IT SHOULD BE. WE SHOULD ALSO
ENACT SPECIAL REVENUE SHARING LEGISLATION
WHICH WOULD HELP BRING DECISION-MAKING
CLOSER TO HOME IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION,
LAW ENFORCEMENT, MANPOWER TRAINING AND
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT.

WE MUST DO MORE THAN SIMPLY
RETURN POWER AND REVENUE TO OUR CITIES
AND STATES. WE MUST ALSO INSURE THAT,
GIVEN THE POWER AND THE MONEY, THEY
DEVELOP THE LEADERSHIP AND THE
DECISION-MAKING MACHINERY TO USE THAT
POWER AND MONEY WISELY IN MANAGING CHANGE,
IN REACHING OUR GREAT GOALS.



WE MUST, AS I SAID EARLIER,
DEVELOP A TRUE AND WORKING PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AT ALL LEVELS IF WE
ARE TO SOLVE OUR MOST PRESSING SOCIAL
PROBLEMS.

YOUR MADISON COUNTY COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS -- WITH THE THREE MAYORS AND
THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ALL CENTERED IN
YOUR COURT HOUSE -- IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF
GOVERNMENT WORKING TOGETHER.

IF WE COULD GET EVEN A SEMBLANCE
OF THAT KIND OF GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
AT THE VARIOUS LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT IN
THIS COUNTRY -- FEDERAL, STATE AND
LOCAL -- WE COULD MAKE TREMENDOUS PROGRESS
IN THE SOLUTION OF OUR PROBLEMS.



I AM VERY PLEASED AS I LOOK ABOUT
HERE TODAY AT HOW MADISON COUNTY FOLKS
HAVE BEEN DOING IN MEETING THEIR NEEDS.
YOUR DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS ARE MOST
IMPRESSIVE, INCLUDING THIS NEW GOVERNMENT
CENTER, THE NEW CITY BUILDING, THE NEW
11-STORY OFFICE AND SAVINGS AND LOAN
BUILDING, AND THE NEW BANK BUILDING.
YOURS IS A COMMUNITY WHICH HAS CLEARLY
BEEN UPGRADING AND MODERNIZING ITSELF.


AS I SAID EARLIER, YOU HAVE COME
A LONG WAY SINCE THOSE DAYS IN 1823
WHEN THE FIRST SESSIONS OF COURT WERE HELD
AT WILLIAM M^CCARTNEY'S HOUSE IN PENDLETON.
AS YOU ALL KNOW, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
BUILT A COURT HOUSE AND JAIL AT PENDLETON
IN 1824 FOR THE CONDUCT OF INDIAN TRIALS.
THEN THAT BUILDING COLLAPSED AND THE



COURT MET IN 1825 AND '26 AT THE HOME OF
MOSES PEARSON IN PENDLETON.

AND THERE'S A MOST INTERESTING
STORY ABOUT HOW THE COUNTY SEAT WAS
RELOCATED FROM PENDLETON TO ANDERSON.
JOHN BERRY OFFERED TO DONATE 32 ACRES
FOR THE PURPOSE BUT IT TURNED OUT THE
PROPERTY WAS IN HAMILTON COUNTY INSTEAD
OF MADISON. THE PROPERTY HAD TO BE ANNEXED
TO MADISON SO THE DONATION COULD BE
ACCEPTED BY THE COMMISSIONERS.

TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT, THE
NEW COURT HOUSE WE ARE DEDICATING HERE
TODAY IS THE THIRD COURT HOUSE TO BE BUILT
ON THIS SITE. THE FIRST COURT HOUSE BUILT
ON THIS SPOT WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1837,
AND THE SECOND IN 1885.



TODAY WE DEDICATE THIS FINE NEW
BUILDING TO ITS FIRST USE. WE DEDICATE
IT IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE OF MADISON
COUNTY, AND WE STATE, MOST EMPHATICALLY,
THAT IT BELONGS TO THEM. WE DEDICATE IT
IN THE SPIRIT OF "DOING FOR OURSELVES,"
THE SPIRIT OF THE NEW FEDERALISM, AND --
I HOPE -- A NEW SPIRIT OF SOCIAL PROGRESS
IN AMERICA.

*And one final word - in 2 short years,
the United States will celebrate its' Bicentennial
200 yrs - the oldest government in the world today*

where the people control their govt & their destiny.

Therein maybe some disillusionment -

Churchill - Democracy is the worst form of govt

COMMISSIONERS PADDOCK, BAKER

AND ALFORD . . . WITH THE UNVEILING OF
THIS PLAQUE, THE MADISON COUNTY COURT
HOUSE IS HEREBY DEDICATED TO THE USE AND
ENJOYMENT OF THE CITIZENS OF MADISON
COUNTY.

*on the
history of
mankind, but
it's the best
that's ever been
known.*



*Franklin - What have you given
us a monarchy or a Republic
a Republic if you can keep.*

MADISON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER - FACT SHEET

The site for this building is a city block 215 feet square located in the center of the downtown shopping center in a city of 70,000 people and a former site of two previous County courthouses. The site is bounded on each side by wide city streets. Three of which have one way traffic. The site has a ten foot difference in grade elevations from the South-east corner to the North-west corner.

The program was to design a County Government Center to replace an earlier 20,000 square feet building built on the site 85 years ago. Provide 95,000 square feet of space for courtrooms and all other County offices and departments.

The contours of the site solve parking problems inexpensively. By utilizing the Northwest corner from Meridian Street one can enter the underground parking level at present street level and utilizing the entire site with one parking level under the building. The city block must also remain as a civic, political and social center of the City and County. For this reason, the street level space was designed primarily as a large exterior public plaza, much of it covered. The plaza contains a podium for political speeches, rallies and reviewing stands for public parades. The plaza contains garden walls, a fountain, trees and an area to display relics from the former courthouse buildings.

The basement contains the mechanical equipment room, the Sheriff and Coroners offices, dead storage room and 85 parking spaces.

The first floor is the smallest floor which will house the Treasurer, Council of Governments, Central records, Data Processing and the Auditors offices.

The second floor is larger and located there are the Clerk, Canteen, Recorder, Township Assessor, County Assessor, Planning Commission, Surveyor and Voters Registration offices.

The third floor is still larger and contains the Prosecuting Attorney, County Council, County Commissioners, Agriculture Agent, Board of Health and Welfare offices.

The fourth floor houses all courts and court related facilities. We have four large courtroom suits, each contains Judges chamber, conference room, jury room, detention and reporters room and general office space. This floor also has two hearing rooms, four court commissioners offices, baliff offices, court clerks filing area, probation officers and a law library.

The officials of Madison County attempted to replace the old brick traditional structure. For 25 years, however, the citizens were not willing to exchange the building for a new glass and steel modern structure. We chose the generous use of brick and minimum of glass and metal in hopes the citizens could better relate to its courthouse history. The building was started in May 1972.



SESSIONS OF MADISON COUNTY COURT

2 Bedroom Home.

*~~2 Bedroom~~ home removed bed
to hold court.*

1. First sessions of Court were held at William McCartney's house in Pendleton.

Sessions met there from first session of September ²³ 1823 until:

~~then moved~~

2. The Federal Government built a new court house and jail at Pendleton in April 8, 1824. *For Indian trials*

3. Upon collapse of the old building *at home* the Court met at the home of Moses Pearson in 1825-1826 in Pendleton.

4. John Berry proposed a donation of 32 acres for relocation of the County seat from Pendleton to Anderson. County was unable to accept ground in that it was in Hamilton County instead of Madison County. Ground was annexed to Madison County and donation was accepted by Commissioners.

5. Commissioners met at John Berry house (Chief Anderson's home which stood on site of present jail.). Berry's donation of land extended from 8th to 11th from Meridian St to the River. Samuel C. Woodworth and Norman Way, resurveyed the ground, since the first survey was imperfect.

6. First actual Court session in Anderson was held in home of Wm. Curtis @ 82 North Main Street. ((Curtis was a former resident of Pendleton who moved from Pendleton, when County seat was relocated.)).

7. First Court House built on East 8th east of Main Street between Main and Central about where the Lovett Building was (old Gas Company building) November 15, 1831.

8. Second Courthouse built in centre of present public square April 5, 1837 finished November 1, 1837.

9. Second Court house burned in 1880.

*James Watson 1852
Co Sheriff - short time
then*



10. Then court met at Westerfield Block on North Main Street.

11. Rehted Hannah & Boring Building which stood on the North side of the square.

12. Present court house started in 1882 finished 1885.

13. Present court house started in 1971 ^{32,000 sheet}

2nd on 1882 to level
Washed flat in front
moved in court.

1930's level on lawn

2nd on 1923
Fair Hall.



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REMARKS BY REP. GERALD R. FORD, R-MICH.
REPUBLICAN LEADER, U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AT THE DEDICATION OF THE
MADISON COUNTY, INDIANA, COURT HOUSE

AT ANDERSON, INDIANA
1 P.M. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1973

FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY

Ladies and gentlemen, it is a real honor and privilege for me to be here with you today. What a great occasion -- the dedication of this splendid new Court House building in Madison County, the heart of America's heartland! It is a great occasion because it is a meaningful occasion. It has tremendous significance for all of you here and, indeed, it has significance for all of America.

What does it mean to you -- this official dedication of the fine new brick building you call your court house? I think I know the answer. This building is a lot more than just brick and mortar. It stands for something. It stands at the center of your lives. Your lives revolve around this building and the city building across the street because this city block constitutes a civic, political and social center for all of Madison County.

You kept your new court house traditional -- a lot of brick and not too much glass and metal -- because tradition is important to you. Tradition sits at the core of your lives. You have found the best way to do things, and that's the way you want to keep it.

You can be proud of this new building -- and proud of yourselves, too. I think it's wonderful that this new court house is entirely locally funded. No federal money. No state money. You're paying for it right out of your own pockets. The same with the city building. Madison County folks are a great example of the proudest tradition we have in this country -- people doing things for themselves.

At the same time, I'd like to say you've come a long way since that day in September of 1823 when the first county commissioners met in a private residence in Pendleton and had to remove a bed from the room so they'd have enough space for their meeting. I join with you in observing Madison County's 150th anniversary, and I'm sure you're all looking forward to your sesquicentennial parade.

(more)

I mentioned earlier how pleased I am that your new court house is entirely locally financed. That contrasts so very sharply with the movement that all of you know has been going on in this country in the past -- the uninterrupted flow of power and decision-making from the states and local communities to the bureaucrats in Washington. There has been a mushrooming growth in funds and authority which have resulted in an overcentralized and bureaucratized Federal government.

Worst of all, much of the power -- and with it the initiative and the creativity -- of our local governments has been allowed to atrophy. And although the Federal establishment was growing by leaps and bounds, it was largely failing in its attempts to solve some of the nation's most pressing social and economic problems -- housing, welfare, transportation, the pollution of the environment, and the decay of our cities.

In short, the growing complexities of the world's first advanced industrial society have made the solutions of problems by a central government, far removed from the lives of the people, more and more difficult.

What to do about it?

I am convinced that the answer lies in reversing the flow of power and resources from Washington back to the states and local communities.

I refer to the concept of "The New Federalism" -- the creating of a partnership between Federal, State and local governments. I say we should prepare to cope with the onrushing future through local planning, local solutions, and local actions.

Why should we believe that Washington has a corner on all the intelligence and wisdom required to solve the housing and transportation problems of our cities? Imagine what a rich harvest of solutions we might reap if dedicated young men and women in 100 cities were seeking answers to these problems for their own home towns! And tailoring those solutions to the individual needs of their home towns, instead of accepting ill-fitting plans from Washington.

For too long, local officials have been required to wait passively for word from Washington -- and for the buck that imbued

(more)

that word with wisdom. Is it any wonder that the bright young people who might have helped save their cities have suffered the frustration and alienation that go with powerlessness?

At the same time, our people, witnessing the impotence of their local officials and comparing it with the power of the Washington bureaucrats, lost faith in local government and lost interest in their towns and cities.

Under the philosophy of the New Federalism -- the spirit of Madison County, if you will -- this will change.

Instead of alienation, our people will experience the power that a real sense of purpose gives.

Instead of the much-discussed feeling of rootlessness, they will rediscover the sense of community and pride of place that were once a primary source of America's greatness.

Instead of the "I-just-don't-want-to-get-involved" philosophy, our people will find their instincts for democratic action and obligation whetted by the feeling that they can indeed exercise some real, effective control over the forces that shape their lives.

We have enacted general revenue sharing to give states and local communities more financial muscle. But something else needs to be provided if we are to revitalize local government the way it should be. We should also enact special revenue sharing legislation which would help bring decision-making closer to home in the fields of education, law enforcement, manpower training and urban redevelopment.

We must do more than simply return power and revenue to our cities and states. We must also insure that, given the power and the money, they develop the leadership and the decision-making machinery to use that power and money wisely in managing change, in reaching our great goals.

We must, as I said earlier, develop a true and working partnership between government at all levels if we are to solve our most pressing social problems.

Your Madison County Council of Governments -- with the three mayors and the county commissioners all centered in your

(more)

court house -- is a good example of government working together.

If we could get even a semblance of that kind of governmental cooperation at the various levels of government in this country -- Federal, state and local -- we could make tremendous progress in the solution of our problems.

I am very pleased as I look about here today at how Madison County folks have been doing in meeting their needs. Your downtown mall is most impressive, with its new 11-story office and bank building and the new court house as the center. Yours is a community which has clearly been upgrading and modernizing itself.

As I said earlier, you have come a long way since those days in 1823 when the first sessions of court were held at William McCartney's house in Pendleton. As you all know, the Federal Government built a court house and jail at Pendleton in 1824 for the conduct of Indian trials. Then that building collapsed and the court met in 1825 and '26 at the home of Moses Pearson in Pendleton.

And there's a most interesting story about how the county seat was relocated from Pendleton to Anderson. John Berry offered to donate 32 acres for the purpose but it turned out the property was in Hamilton County instead of Madison. The property had to be annexed to Madison so the donation could be accepted by the commissioners.

To make a long story short, the new court house we are dedicating here today is the third court house to be built on this site. The first court house built on this spot was constructed in 1837, and the second in 1885.

Today we dedicate this fine new building to its first use. We dedicate it in the name of the people of Madison County, and we state, most emphatically, that it belongs to them. We dedicate it in the spirit of "doing for ourselves," the spirit of the New Federalism, and -- I hope -- a new spirit of social progress in America.

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As I said earlier, you have come a long way since those days in 1823 when the first sessions of court were held at William McCartney's house in Pendleton. As you all know, the Federal Government built a court house and jail at Pendleton in 1824 for the conduct of Indian trials. Then that building collapsed and the court met in 1825 and '26 at the home of Moses Pearson in Pendleton.

And there's a most interesting story about how the county seat was relocated from Pendleton to Anderson. John Berry offered to donate 32 acres for the purpose but it turned out the property was in Hamilton County instead of Madison. The property had to be annexed to Madison so the donation could be accepted by the commissioners.

To make a long story short, the new court house we are dedicating here today is the third court house to be built on this site. The first court house built on this spot was constructed in 1837, and the second in 1885.

Today we dedicate this fine new building to its first use. We dedicate it in the name of the people of Madison County, and we state, most emphatically, that it belongs to them. We dedicate it in the spirit of "doing for ourselves," the spirit of the New Federalism, and -- I hope -- a new spirit of social progress in America.

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