

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

### 1 Name of Property

historic name Quincy Public Hall

other names/site number Quincy City Hall; Quincy Community Building

### 2 Location

street & number Missouri Highway 83 [n/a] not for publication

city or town Quincy [n/a] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Hickory code 085 zip code 65735

### 3 State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally.  
(See continuation sheet for additional comments .)

*Claire F. Blackwell* *2 March 1995*  
Signature of certifying official/Title Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy SHPO Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  
(See continuation sheet for additional comments .)

Signature of certifying official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4 National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register  
See continuation sheet .
- determined eligible for the  
National Register  
See continuation sheet .
- determined not eligible for the  
National Register.
- removed from the  
National Register
- other, explain  
See continuation sheet .

Signature of the Keeper

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**5 Classification**

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	1	0	buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	0	0	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0	structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0	objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

**6 Function or Use**

**Historic Function**  
SOCIAL/meeting hall  
EDUCATION/school  
RELIGION/religious facility

**Current Functions**  
SOCIAL/meeting hall

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
No style

**Materials**  
foundation concrete  
walls weatherboard  
roof asphalt  
other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8 Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

**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**

Property is:

**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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

Social History

**Periods of Significance**

1916-1945

**Significant Dates**

1916

**Significant Person(s)**

n/a

**Cultural Affiliation**

n/a

**Architect/Builder**

unknown/Brent, Romeo V.; and Baldwin, L.W.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9 Major Bibliographic References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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

#

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local Government

University

Other:

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property less than one acre

**UTM References**

A. Zone	Easting	Northing	B. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	458610	4206670			
C. Zone	Easting	Northing	D. Zone	Easting	Northing

[ ] See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title see continuation sheet  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FOP for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FOP.)

name Quincy Reunion Group--Carolyn J. Suyderhoud, Secretary/Treasurer  
street & number Route 1, Box 126 telephone 417/282-5072  
city or town Osceola state MO zip code 65774

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1

Quincy Public Hall  
Hickory County, MO

**Summary:** The Quincy Public Hall, located on Missouri Highway 83 in Quincy, Hickory County, stands on its original foundation, overlooking the remnant of a once prosperous small rural hamlet. Completed in 1917, the hall is a one-story frame building with dimensions of forty-five feet by twenty-six feet by fourteen feet in height to the eaves of the roof. The roof is a high gable with asphalt shingles. The foundation is made of native flat rock, bound together with gravel and cement. Heavy native timbers were used for floor joists. The walls are weatherboard. Four windows provide light on either side of the building, with one in the front of the belfry loft. All windows are double hung, four-over-four lights with shaped lentils and plain sills. A one door entrance, with a plain wooden door is set in the west end of the building. The concrete porch is sheltered by a belfry, which is in turn supported by hand hewn wooden posts. The only significant change to the exterior of the hall occurred in 1950, when the belfry was shortened; the overall design and form of the building has not been substantially altered and the building still retains sufficient integrity to reflect its role as the social focus of the small hamlet.

**Narrative:** The interior of the hall was finished with tongue and groove sheathing. A chimney flue was constructed in the center of the building for use of a wood burning stove. The floor is of wide boards from native lumber. A raised platform was built in the east end of the hall for a piano, pulpit stand, and seating. Old fashioned church pews filled the remaining space. Kerosene lamps placed on the walls were originally used for lighting. White paint has always been used for preserving both the exterior and interior of the Quincy Hall.

Today, the exterior appearance of the hall has changed very little from the original. About 1950, the upper portion of the belfry was removed due to deterioration; no photographs have been located which show the building before this alteration, but the form, plan, and design of the building have not otherwise been seriously affected. Storm windows and a storm door were installed in the 1970s. A wheel chair ramp and hand rails were added in 1990 at the front entrance.

More renovation has been done on the interior of the building. Wallboard covers the original sheathing; however, the original decorative tin ceiling remains intact. Another chimney was constructed at the southwest corner of the building, and a concrete pad placed on the floor to accommodate a large wood/coal heating system in 1927.

Electricity came to the area about 1946. Six drop lights were installed with ceiling fans added at a later date. A concrete walk extends toward Highway 83 with a flag pole adjacent to it. A residence is located to the south of the Hall, an open field to the east, a street and vacant lots to the north, and old mercantile buildings, the post office, business buildings, and residences are across Highway 83 to the west. Many years ago, a hitching rack for horses, made of heavy chain supported by posts, extended alongside the Hall on the north side.

The setting of the Quincy Public Hall is in a rural area, easily accessible, about five miles from the head waters of Truman Lake.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 2

Quincy Public Hall  
Hickory County, MO

**Summary:** The Quincy Public Hall, Quincy, Hickory County, is significant under Criterion A in the area of social history as the center of the social, religious, educational, and civic structure of the hamlet of Quincy and the surrounding township from its completion in 1917. Although used mainly for religious purposes at first, including union services and funerals, the building also served a variety of school, social, and community functions. For most activities, the hall was the only location available in the rural agricultural service center and hamlet. For example, during World War I, the hall was the meeting place for patriotic aid societies, and, since 1917, the hall has been the polling place for Montgomery Township. From 1927 to 1932, the Quincy Public Hall became the educational center for higher learning in the Quincy area, housing grades nine and ten. Still later, during the Great Depression, it served as a mattress factory under a New Deal work relief program. Its present use is mainly social, and it continues to be the focal point of the township of Montgomery and the Quincy community. The period of significance extends to 1945, the arbitrary fifty year limit.

**Narrative:** The area the present community of Quincy was settled in the 1820s. The area was part of Benton County until Hickory County was formed from portions of Benton and Polk counties on February 14, 1845. The first post office established in the area was named Salem. In 1847, Salem was renamed Judy's Gap, in honor of early settler Samuel Judy, who operated a store south of the present location of Quincy. In 1850, Quincy was chosen as a permanent name for the post office.

In the 1840s, early settlement in what became Hickory County was discouraged by the widespread disruption of the Benton County Slicker War.<sup>1</sup> The turmoil, which began as the Turk-Jones feud, escalated to the point where the militia was brought in to quell it after two years. Although the militia was stationed in the county, the violence continued for a number of years afterwards. The feud extended from Warsaw in Benton County to Polk County, and a number of persons lost their lives before the violence ended. In 1850, five years after it was established, the population of Hickory County was only 2,329.

In the 1850s, the Butterfield Stage Line passed through Quincy. A hotel was established to serve travelers on the route; a historical marker stands on the location of the hotel, one block north of the Quincy Public Hall. Settlement was again disrupted by the Civil War. According to Campbell's Gazetteer, Hickory County "suffered much from the frequent raids of both armies, and at its close, presented rather a desolate aspect."<sup>2</sup> The Quincy community was bitterly divided over the war, and many southern sympathizers moved from the community, leaving the hamlet almost deserted. In 1860, prior to the beginning of the war, the population of the county was 4,705; five years after the war, in 1870, it had reached 6,452.

<sup>1</sup>Slickers were vigilantes, so named for their predilection for beating their victims with hickory withes, or slicks.

<sup>2</sup>R.A. Campbell, ed., Campbell's Gazetteer of Missouri (St. Louis: R.A. Campbell, 1874), p. 233.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

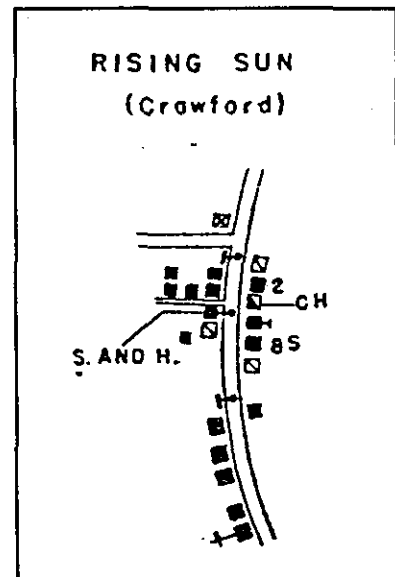
Section 8 Page 3

Quincy Public Hall  
Hickory County, MO

By 1874, Quincy contained a steam carding mill, a steam saw and grist mill, two stores, a Masonic hall, and a school. The Masonic hall housed the Hogle's Creek Lodge No. 279 A.F. & A.M, organized in October 1868. A Methodist church was constructed in 1881, but it burned six years later. By 1889, Quincy's businesses consisted of J.C. Kagle's and G.M. Nowell's general stores; J. Robertson's drug store; Ira Anerine's drug, harness, and grocery store; W.H. Morse's mill; and a carding and woolen factory operated by George Lomas. After the destruction of the Methodist church, the community had no church building, but services were held in the lower floor of the Masonic hall by the three congregations represented among the population, Methodist, Baptist, and Christian. In May 1916, a tornado destroyed the Masonic hall, although other buildings suffered little damage. The next month, the Hogle's Creek Lodge deeded the two lots where their hall had stood to the people of Quincy and transferred their lodge to Wheatland.

Quincy was never incorporated, and figures on its population are generally not available (according to the 1920 census, the combined population of Quincy and Montgomery Township was 646; in 1980, the population of Quincy was estimated at thirty). Historically, Quincy meets the definition of the unincorporated hamlet and exhibits most of its defining characteristics. According to Glenn Trewartha, with the exception of the farmstead, the unincorporated hamlet was "by far the most ubiquitous settlement type in the United States."<sup>3</sup> The majority of hamlets studied by Trewartha were commercial service units for the surrounding agricultural area, or "farmers' towns." Hamlets typically developed around a business or service unit. Businesses were the most common accretion units, with mills and general stores most often represented. The post office, which combined elements of both the business and service unit, was a frequent center for a hamlet. The post office may have been the major defining institution in Quincy's early history, but mills and general stores were also well represented.

Aside from businesses, churches and schools were the most common institutions located in hamlets; town halls were represented in about one-fourth of the hamlets studied by Trewartha, while social halls appeared in one-seventh of his sample. Quincy, during the course of its development, harbored these institutions at one time, although the church was most often combined with a social hall. A school was present as early as 1874. The linear form for hamlets predominated in Trewartha's study; 30 percent of those studied were along highways or clustered at the intersection of two roads, often with no



1 Representative hamlet of the linear type located at road intersections.  
Source: Trewartha, p. 68.

<sup>3</sup>Glenn T. Trewartha, "The Unincorporated Hamlet: One Element of the American Settlement Fabric," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 33 (March 1943): 74-75.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 4

**Quincy Public Hall  
Hickory County, MO**

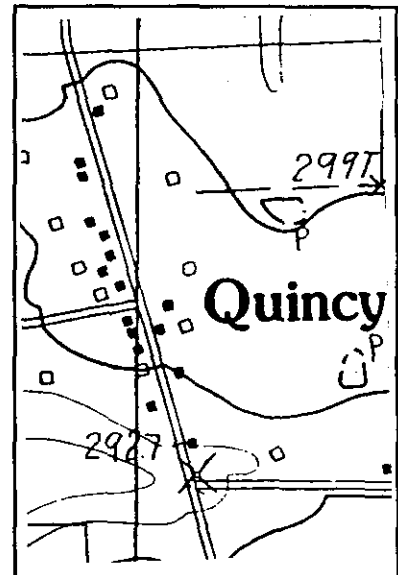
other street pattern<sup>4</sup> (see Figure 1), a form also displayed by Quincy (see Figure 2).

With the loss of the lodge, the entire community came together in the face of gathering war clouds of World War I and built a one-story frame building to be used for the needs of the community. Romeo V. Brent and L.W. Baldwin were the carpenters, assisted by members of the community. Gravel was hauled by team and wagon from nearby Hogle's Creek by Guy Bailey, just before he left for service in the army. Work on the Hall began in 1916 and was completed in the early part of 1917. According to the January 17, 1917 issue of The Index, a Hickory County news weekly, the "new Quincy City Hall was nearing completion." In March 1917, it was noted that "Elder Hanson is holding a meeting in Quincy," probably in the completed Hall, since no other buildings were available.

Completed just prior to United States entry into World War I, one of the first uses of the hall was as the meeting place for the Ladies' Aid, which apparently rolled bandages for the Red Cross in the building. The hall was also used as the polling place for Montgomery Township from its completion and still serves that function. The public hall continued to be used as a union church, although the members of the Christian Church were most numerous in Quincy. They continued to meet in the new building, as they had in the Masonic hall. The church was reorganized in 1917 with thirty-two members. Elders were John C. Allen, James R. Wilson, and John T. Cogle. Two of the outstanding pastors were Reverend A.T. Mahaney and Reverend E.T. Sechler. Regular services of the Christian Church ceased after the early 1930s.

In 1927, the Quincy School Board decided to take advantage of a new law, enacted in the Missouri State Legislature in 1923, which provided for the teaching of ninth and tenth grades where there were an eligible number of students and no other institutions of higher learning available. In June, after some preliminary work had been done, R.V. Brent, Board President, went to interview Merton C. Wheeler as a prospective teacher. Wheeler was "plowing with a 16 inch walking plow in ground too wet to work" when Brent arrived. Brent asked Wheeler two questions: could he have the required sixty hours of college credit by September 1, 1927, and would he be interested in the teaching job? Wheeler answered in the affirmative to both questions.

Approval was received for classes to be held in the Quincy Public Hall, as there was no other building available. Parents bought a seat and desk for



<sup>2</sup>Source: Quincy, Missouri, Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic), provisional edition, 1982.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid., pp. 39-67.



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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section 8 Page 5

**Quincy Public Hall  
Hickory County, MO**

each of their scholars at a cost of five dollars each. Textbooks cost about the same. Wheeler paid for lab and library equipment and for the new heating plant out of his salary of \$1200.00 per year. Parents helped to provide other necessities. A heavy curtain divided the Hall into separate classrooms. Twenty-five or more students attended the first year. Later, the junior year of high school was added and two teachers were employed. The school continued until 1932.

Wheeler went on to become Director of Industrial Education in the Missouri State Department of Education, retiring in 1970. In 1975, the former students held their first reunion at the Public Hall and, since that date, have met biannually. At the June 1994 meeting, the Quincy Reunion Group accepted the task of raising the necessary funds and assistance to repair the Quincy Public Hall.

Following the close of the high school, L.W. Baldwin, out of his limited resources, built new pews and a new pulpit stand for the Hall. In the midst of the Great Depression, about 1936, a government program was set up to use surplus cotton and other materials to make mattresses and comforters for needy families. Again, the Quincy Hall filled a need, as a factory of sorts was set up with Mrs. Mae McNabb in charge. Bales of cotton, twine, long needles, and a paddle were used to shape the materials into mattresses. It was dusty, hard work, but families were glad to do it in order to have better bedding. The project ended with the coming of World War II. One 89 year old lady still has one of the comforters which she made in 1937.

The Quincy Public Hall is now used mainly for social activities of various kinds, such as club meetings, 4-H meetings, and the annual meeting of the Mt. Zion Cemetery Association. It remains an important place in the daily lives of those living in Quincy and Montgomery Township.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9,10,11 Page 6

Quincy Public Hall  
Hickory County, MO

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

History of Hickory, Polk, Cedar, Dade and Barton Counties, Missouri. Chicago:  
Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1889.

The Index Newspaper. Hermitage, Missouri. 1916-1917.

Lay, James H; and Worth, George C. History of Benton County. Hannibal, MO:  
Winchell and Ebert Printing and Lithographing, 1876.

Trewartha, Glenn T. "The Unincorporated Hamlet: One Element of the American  
Settlement Fabric," Annals of the Association of American Geographers 33  
(March 1943): 32-81.

Wilson, F. Marion. Wilson's History of Hickory County, Missouri. Hermitage,  
MO: Wilson Brothers, 1907.

York, W.L.; and York, Eula. Forty Leven Stories 'Bout Forty Leven People.  
Cassville, MO: Litho Printers, 1976.

In addition, the following persons contributed their personal recollections:  
Irvin and LaJune Wheeler, Mabel Weaver, Kathryn Gilbert, Stanley  
Mitchell, Guy Bailey, H.H. Walker, and Margaret Nowell.

**10. Geographical Data**

Verbal Boundary Description: Lots 4 and 5, Massey's Survey, Quincy, Hickory  
County, Missouri.

Boundary Justification: The boundary of the nominated property includes those  
two lots which have been historically associated with the Quincy Public Hall.

**11. Form Prepared By**

1. Mrs. Kathryn Gilbert, Historian  
Quincy Reunion Organization  
P.O. Box 26  
Weaubleau, MO 65774  
417/428-3444  
October 1994  
First draft, items 1-11

2. Steven E. Mitchell  
National Register Coordinator  
Department of Natural Resources  
Division of State Parks  
Historic Preservation Program  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
314/751-7800  
January 18, 1995  
Editor, items 1-11

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Photographs Page 7

Quincy Public Hall  
Hickory County, MO

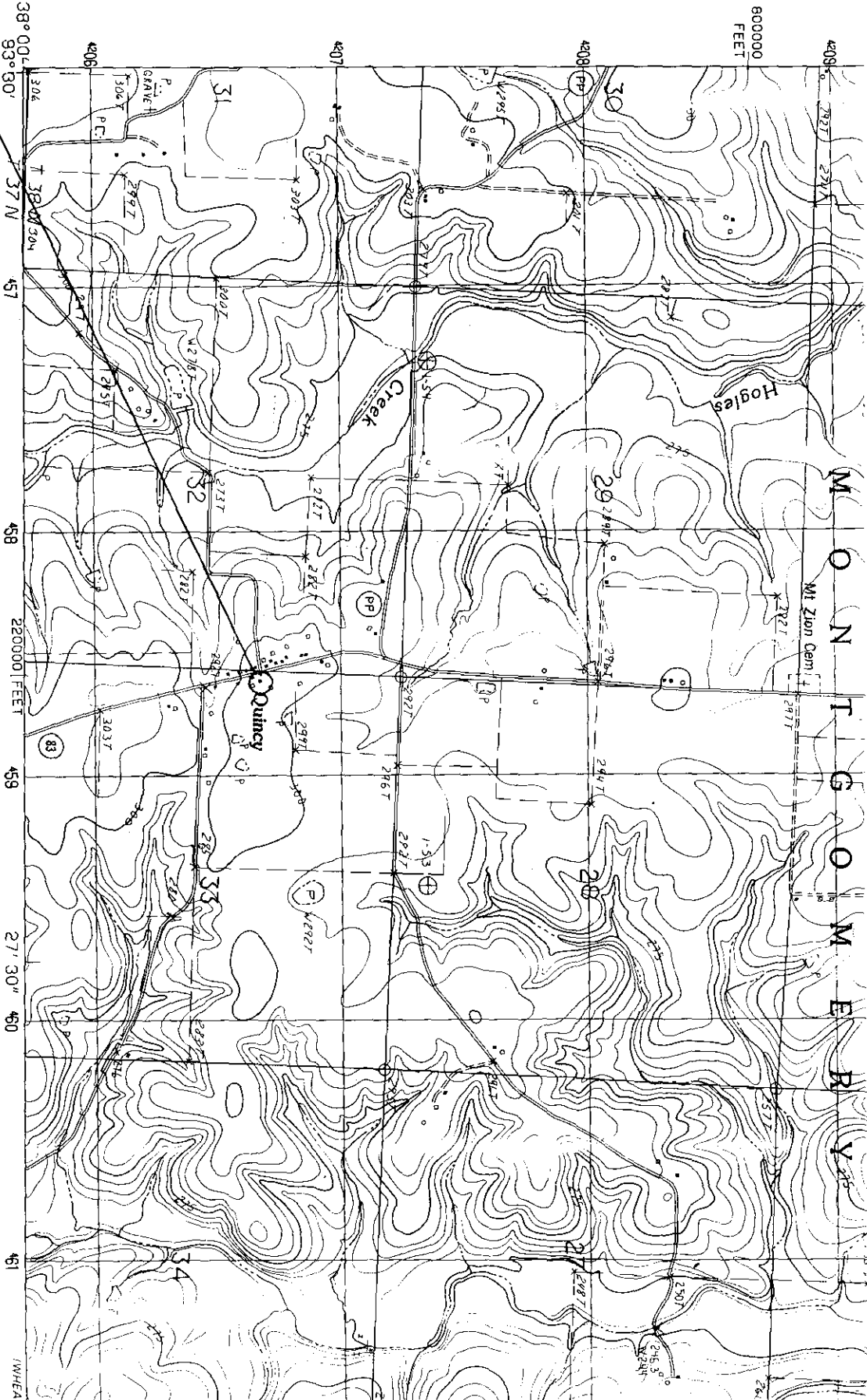
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The following information is the same for all photographs:

Quincy Public Hall  
Hickory County, MO  
Kathryn Gilbert  
October 1994  
Kathryn Gilbert, P.O. Box 26, Weaubleau, MO 65774-0026

1. view looking southeast
2. view looking southeast
3. view looking southwest
4. view looking north
5. interior of hall, looking southwest
6. view from front porch of hall, looking northwest

QUINCY PUBLIC HALL  
 HICKORY COUNTY, MO  
 15/458610/4206670

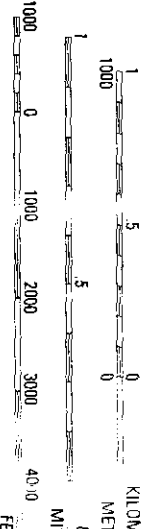
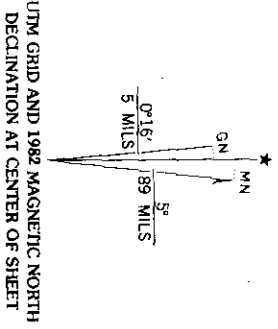


Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
 taken 1978. Field checked 1980. Map edited 1982  
 Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Missouri coordinate  
 system, central zone (transverse Mercator)  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15  
 1927 North American Datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983  
 move the projection lines 1 meter south and  
 17 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of  
 the National or State reservations shown on this map



SCALE

CONTOUR (INTE)

CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOW  
 OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOW

To convert meters to f  
 To convert feet to m

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER  
 AND BY THE DIVISION OF G

THIS MAP COMPLES WITH NATIO  
 AND BY THE DIVISION OF G















EXTRA  
PHOTOS













