THE MURRAY COUNTY COURTHOUSE *

Murray County had a temporary "courthouse" at Currie's mill until a frame building was purchased for courthouse purposes on 27 July 1875. This building was located on lot 9, block 2. The purchase price was $73. The building was moved to lots 9 and 10, block 7 on 6 February 1877.

On 13 September 1882, the board decided to erect a new building and install a vault for county records, the cost not to exceed $1,000. The total cost of this second courthouse, when completed, was $1,155.

After the county seat election in 1889, the records were temporarily housed in the upstairs offices of the State Bank building at Slayton. Rental costs were so high that a decision was made to build a courthouse. Plans for this third courthouse were drawn up and accepted on 30 August 1890. On December 15th of that year, Slayton Township presented bonds for $3,000 to aid in its construction. The building contract was let on 1 October 1891 for $22,300. The completed building was accepted 5 August 1892, when the board of county commissioners held its first meeting in it.

This third building served for 89 years. Eligible for preservation as an historic site, it was demolished - under protest - to make way for a modern building. ■

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* Excerpt from page 170 of Maxine Kayser Luehmann's *The Sun and the Moon: A History of Murray County* (Murray County Board of Commissioners, 1986).

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