



Kendall County Historic Courthouse
110 West Madison Street Yorkville IL 60560 (630) 553-4025

For 134 years, the Kendall County Historic Courthouse was the center of civic activities for the residents of the county. Completed in 1864, the courthouse witnessed events that shaped the country, as well as those occasions that marked the lives of individuals. Young men left the courthouse steps to fight and die for their country, farmers and suffragettes marched on the building to protest injustices. Inside its walls, marriages began and ended, diseases were fought, and disputes were settled.

The Kendall County Historic Courthouse is a Victorian Italianate structure designed by architect O.S. Kinnie. Construction on the brick and limestone building began in 1862 on a bluff overlooking the Fox River. When completed, the original courthouse boasted a two-story cupola that made the grand structure four and one-half stories tall.

In 1887, fire struck the courthouse. At the time, Yorkville did not have a fire department and railroad water cars arrived from Aurora too late to fight the blaze. The fire gutted the building and left only the walls standing. Architect Henry Hebard redesigned the interior of the courthouse, and a one-story domed capital crowned the building. In 1920, the dome was removed due to persistent leaking problems.

In 1958, population growth led to an expansion of the courthouse by placing wings on the east and west sides of the building. The building remained in use until 1998 when a new courthouse was built. The courthouse then sat vacant until a significant restoration took place in 2000-01. As part of the restoration, a replica of the original cupola was placed back on the building and the historic courtroom was restored.

Today, the Kendall County Historic Courthouse is again a source of pride for county residents. The building and its historic courtroom are open to the public. Conference rooms and the historic courtroom are available to be reserved. The building is home to the Forest Preserve District and Regional Office of Education. The Forest Preserve District runs The Laws of Nature Center on the main floor of the courthouse, which is open to public.

The Historic Courthouse has three rooms available for reservations:

East Wing Conference Room - This room is located on the main floor of the Historic Courthouse and is approximately 70'x20' (1400 square feet). The East Wing Conference Room is a versatile room that can accommodate meetings, presentations, and other gatherings. This room is equipped with a projection screen and is adjacent to the kitchen, which is equipped with a refrigerator, microwave and coffee maker. Restrooms are located across the main hallway. Capacity 70. Chairs (70) and tables (7-30"x96") are available.

Upper Conference Room - This room is located on the third floor of the Historic Courthouse and is approximately 22'x26' (572 square feet). The Upper Conference Room can accommodate meetings and other small gatherings. A sink is located in the room and restrooms are located nearby. Capacity 16. Chairs (16) and tables (2-30"x60" and 6-30"x55") are available.

Historic Courtroom - The courtroom is located on the third floor and has been restored to its historic condition. The seating in the courtroom is fixed in place. The Historic Courtroom could be utilized for functions such as presentations, plays, weddings, etc. The Upper Conference Room is available for use with rental of the Historic Courtroom. Food and drink are not allowed in the Historic Courtroom. An elevator and stairway serve the Historic Courtroom. Capacity 130.

Reservation Fees:	Conference Rooms Hourly Rate	Historic Courtroom Hourly Rate
County Resident	\$20	\$40
Non-County Resident	\$30	\$60

A \$100.00 security deposit is required for all rentals.

Group Insurance Requirements

Family events, picnics and reunions do not require a Certificate of Insurance.

Businesses, churches, scouts, and school groups are among the groups required to supply a Certificate of Insurance.

Certificates must be provided no later than 14 days before the event.

The box on the certificate titled "Certificate Holder" will list:

**Kendall County Forest Preserve District
110 W. Madison St.
Yorkville, IL 60560**

The Description box will state:

**The Kendall County Forest Preserve District is an additional insured
as their interest may appear.**

Insurance Limit Required: **\$1,000,000**



Kendall County Historic Courthouse Rules and Regulations

Rooms are available from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Historic Courthouse users are responsible for the clean up of all trash and decorations from sections of the building and grounds that are used.

The Historic Stairs are absolutely off-limits to any use.

Please return tables and chairs to their original locations.

Alcohol is strictly prohibited in the Historic Courthouse or on the grounds.

The Historic Courthouse is a smoke-free building.

Animals are not allowed in the building except to accompany physically disabled persons.

Food and beverages are not allowed in the Historic Courtroom, but are allowed in the East Wing and Upper conference rooms. Please remove all food & drinks when you leave.

Nails, tacks, staples, and tape are not allowed to secure items to any part of the Historic Courthouse.

Care should be taken not to damage any part of the building or the furniture in the building.

No candles are allowed in the Historic Courthouse.

Fireworks, confetti, and rice throwing are prohibited in the courthouse and on the grounds. Birdseed throwing is allowed on the grounds.

A 72 hour notice is required on all cancellations in order to receive a full refund. The security deposit check is returned after the event as long as no damages are found.

Additional courthouse parking is available in the lot on the southwest corner of Main and Madison.