

# History

Established on January 19, 1829, Macon County was named after Nathaniel Macon, a colonel during the Revolution and later a Representative and U.S. Senator in Congress from North Carolina. He was the only member of the U.S. Congress to be re-elected to a second term. He died in 1827, and his death was a significant loss to the state. He was an advocate of state sovereignty and an adherent of the doctrines of the "Old Republicans." He died at home in Warren County, North Carolina on June 2, 1837.

On Tuesday, December 23, 1828 a petition was presented to the Illinois General Assembly in Vandalia asking for the establishment of the County of Macon. The petition Act was passed on January 19, 1829 and signed into law by Governor Ninian Edwards. The General Assembly named three commissioners of Macon County: John Fleming, Jesse Rhodes, and Estlin Whitten. They met at the house of James Ward and determined that the seat of the new County would be named Decatur. Decatur is named after naval hero Commodore Stephen Decatur, who gained national prominence from his naval service in wars against France, Tripoli, and Britain. He died from injuries received in a duel in 1820. The first elections and court proceedings for Macon County were also held at the James Ward house until permanent structures could be built. The first court proceedings in the first court house at Decatur (in the area known today as Lincoln Square) were held on June 7, 1830.

Both the site of the Ward house and Lincoln Square are marked with monuments today. The Ward monument is located at the corner of South Franklin Street and Mt. Gilead Road adjacent to Mt. Gilead Cemetery. There is a statue of Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln Square at the intersection of Main Street and Main Street in downtown Decatur.

Originally Macon County was a very large county consisting of 1414 square miles of land area. It was formed out of territory that was a part of the original Shelby County. It included most of what are now DeWitt and Clark Counties and about half of Monroe County. Today Macon County contains only about 577 square miles of land. There are also 17 Townships within Macon County.

Today Macon County's road system consists of 158 miles of U.S. and State Highways, 241 miles of County Highways, and 1,267 miles of Township and Municipal roads and streets. There are no navigable waterways and Lake Decatur provides recreation and a water source for the area. Railroad service is provided by three major carriers and one short line.

<http://www.history.navy.mil/hios/decatur.htm>

ROAD NAME	LOCATION	ROAD NAME	LOCATION	ROAD NAME	LOCATION	ROAD NAME	LOCATION	ROAD NAME	LOCATION	ROAD NAME	LOCATION	ROAD NAME	LOCATION	ROAD NAME	LOCATION	ROAD NAME	LOCATION	ROAD NAME	LOCATION
ALSBURY RD	6-2	CENTER ST	E-4	CITY HWY 34	E-7	CITY HWY 38	E-7	CITY HWY 38	E-7	CITY HWY 38	E-7	CITY HWY 38	E-7	CITY HWY 38	E-7	CITY HWY 38	E-7	CITY HWY 38	E-7
ANGLE CROSSING RD	E-8	CERTIFIED RD	D-8	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4
APOLLO RD	E-7	CHRISTMAS TREE RD	D-8	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4
APPELLE RD	E-2	CHURCH RD	D-8	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4	CITY HWY 36	E-4
ARCHERY CLUB RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARCHERY CLUB RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
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ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
ARGENTA RD	E-2	CITY HWY 1	E-6	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5	CITY HWY 37	E-5
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