

## Fabricating Radius Top Windows



Located in Kendall County, Illinois and originally built in 1864, the Kendall County Historic Courthouse was listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings on November 12, 1998. The Italianate architecture of this structure is enhanced by the narrow and tall windows with half round tops and distinctive patterns in the muntin bars. Kendall County has been working in several phases to renovate the windows.

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### Fixed Twin Windows

Located on the second story of the building, the fixed twin windows are located in a section of the building that juts out below the square belvedere which provides light into the building. These windows cannot be opened, but boast a half round top that provides interest and is integral to the Italiante style.

These impressive windows are roughly 56" wide by 140" in height!

This area of three windows is flanked on both sides by two single hung batwing windows. This balance in appearance is a typical feature in Italiante design.



The twin windows outside of their frame. With an impressive 12" jamb depth, the windows themselves are 1-3/4" thick and fabricated from White Pine.

## Single Hung Batwing Window





View of the completed unit with the muntin pattern duplicated from the original windows. These are single hung windows and the bottom pane raises and lowers to provide ventilation.

The fixed upper sash has a unique muntin pattern in the half round top to match the existing windows in what we called a batwing pattern. The lower sash is about 50" tall in the window that is approximately 160" in height.

The tall, narrow windows are an easily distinguishable feature of Italianate architecture. Many windows are also rounded at the top, which is a noticeable feature on this courthouse. The ornamentation varies in this style and the batwing muntin pattern lends an air of wealth and prestige. The Italianate style was prevalent in the mid-19th century and at its peak of popularity when the Kendall County Courthouse was constructed.



The batwing pattern is matched by the glass manufacturer from our CAD drawing files. A template was sent to ensure the patterns would match exactly.



With the glass is installed into the frame, it is time to add the muntin pieces. The spacers in the insulated glass mimic the batwing and the pieces need to fit precisely against the frame.





The two pieces that make up the batwing are fabricated separately and interlock for stability and to ensure the proper placement with the spacers and frame.



### Placing the Glass into the Frame

Several aspects of these windows contributed to the amount of weight of the sash: the size, the fact that insulated glass was used, as well as the thickness of the window.

We used a fork truck to lift (with lots of hands available just in case!) the glass and place it into each frame.





*For additional images of this project, check out our Project Profile:*  
[Kendall County Historic Courthouse](#)

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## Other Product Offerings

### [Storm Doors](#)



## Storm Windows



Traditional Storm Window



Traditional Screen Window



Combination Storm/Screen

Our standard is to fabricate storm windows and storm doors from Northern White Pine, but we also use Mahogany for additional weatherability and durability. The beauty of wood is in its versatility: you can stain the door to enhance the grain or paint to match your trim or house color.



## Historic Fire House Transformation

If you would like to see more of our work, you can check out the historic doors for a fire station.

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3. Send an email with measurement information (width x height) and the type(s) of storm window you would like quoted to [info@adamsarch.com](mailto:info@adamsarch.com)



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