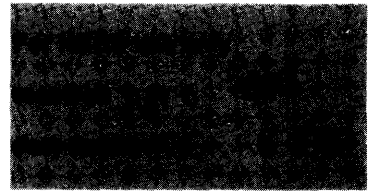


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**



**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Jefferson County Courthouse

and/or common \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number 200 Centennial Ave. \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Boulder \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district #1

state Montana code 30 county Jefferson code 043

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Jefferson County

street & number Jefferson County Courthouse

city, town Boulder \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Montana

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jefferson County Courthouse

street & number Clerk and Recorder's Office

city, town Boulder \_\_\_\_\_ state Montana

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title NONE has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

---

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The stately two and one-half story red brick structure stand in what might be called a courthouse square. Notable are the sandstone quoins at the corners of the building and the sandstone foundation extending approximately four feet above the ground. The main entry is on the south. It is a large semi-circular arch of sandstone with an elongated keystone. It is situated in a tall square tower culminating in four gables and is capped by an octagonal spire. A clock in the front gable of the tower was long ago removed. The building has a quasi-mansard roof with numerous dormer windows. Turrets with conical spires are found on the north or rear facade. The courthouse address on Centennial is actually the rear entrance, the main entry is on 3rd.

The first floor windows are two-light double hung windows with a stone lintel and sill. The second floor windows have a stringer course of stone at the sill line and are topped with semi-circular arches of brick. Smaller arches of brick are repeated beneath the cornice of the roof.

The interior remains basically the same as when the building was erected, with hardwood floors, a hardwood wainscoting and ornate door jambs. The tall interior doors have rectangular transom lights. An ornately carved newel post and delicately turned balustrade form the stair case to the second floor. The walls are plastered. Today acoustical tile covers the ceilings of the offices.

The first floor houses office of the Clerk and Recorder, Attorney and Treasurer. The second floor contains the courtroom and judge's office.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1889 **Builder/Architect** J.S. MacKenzie/Paulsen & McConnell

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Jefferson County Courthouse stands today much as it did when built in 1889. The building is significant due to its fine architectural design and construction techniques as well as its association with John Paulsen, noted architect of many of Montana's finer public buildings.

In the spring of 1883 an election was held which moved the Jefferson County seat from Radersburg to Boulder, where it was housed in an existing building. A debate ensued on whether to fix up the older structure or build a new one. A new courthouse was approved and the plans and specifications for the new structure were prepared by Paulsen and McConnell, architects, of Helena, Montana on July 11, 1888, according to the county records. Work began immediately and the building was completed in February of 1889. The general contractor for the building was J.S. MacKenzie. Various subcontracts were let for different aspects of the building such as for the brick (the major exterior material) and the stone for the foundation.

John Paulsen was a German born and trained architect who moved to Montana in 1887 where he practiced for ten years until his death in 1897. Particularly outstanding Paulsen buildings include the Broadwater Hotel and Natatorium, Montana Club and High School in Helena (all now razed). Serving as the State Architect from 1895-97, Paulsen drew the plans and specifications for the Boulder River School for the Deaf and Blind, four buildings at the agricultural school in Bozeman and the Main Hall at the State Normal School in Dillon, among others. Paulsen employed native organic materials in his eclectic designs, avoiding veneers while creating richly textured, skillfully ornamented structures. The Jefferson County Courthouse is a fine example of Paulsen's grand yet finely integrated concept in the design of public buildings.

The Jefferson County Courthouse has had a long and colorful history serving the numerous mining camps in the area of Elkhorn, Comet, Jefferson City, Wickes, and Basin. Jefferson County was created in 1865, making it of the original eight counties in the Territory of Montana. The courthouse is one of the earliest county courthouses still in use today.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Helena Independent Record, April 1, 1897

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1 **UTM NOT VERIFIED** Quadrangle name Boulder Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

A	1 2	4 1 3 5 5 0	5 1 2 0 6 5 0	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The block is bounded by Centennial on the north and 3rd on the wouth, with Monroe on the west and Washington on the east. Block 20 of the Original Townsite of Boulder.  
T. 6N. R. 4W. Sec. 29 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	None	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title John N. DeHaas, Jr.

organization Architect date 1977

street & number 1021 S. Tracy telephone 406-449-4584

city or town Bozeman state Montana

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

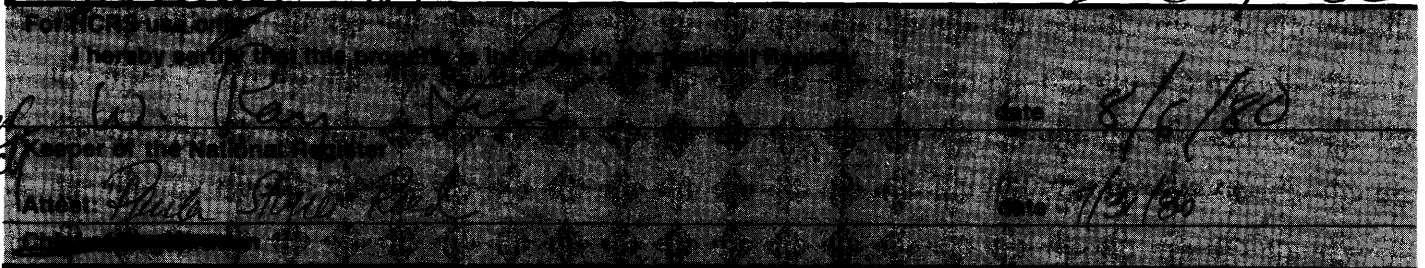
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

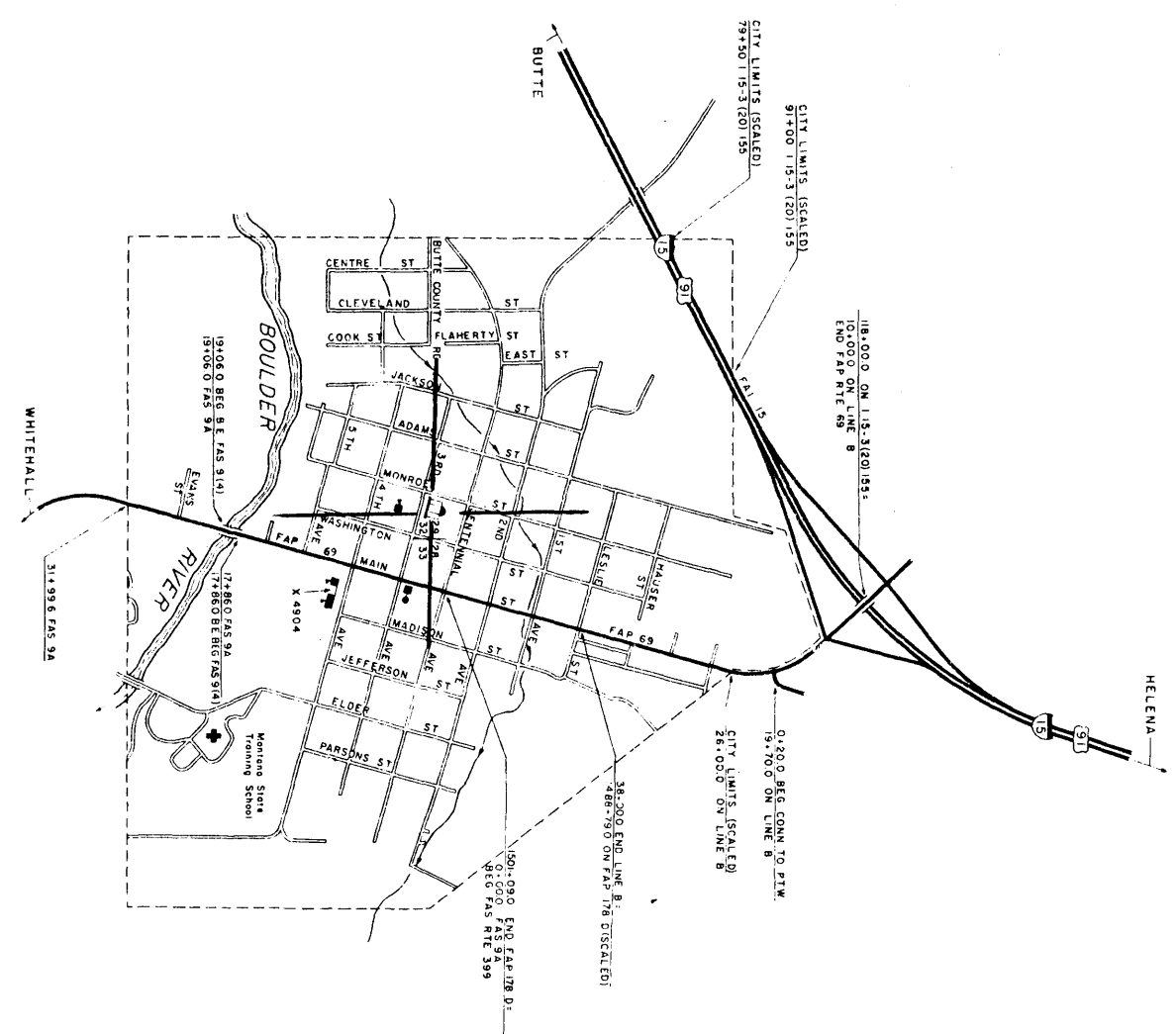
State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature]

title Victoria SAPO date 5-29-80

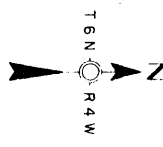


State of Montana map available for sale  
 east of the Montana Department  
 of Highway - Helena, Montana 59601

1954 USGS BASE



- LEGEND**
- Corporate Boundary Line
  - Central Business District
  - Non-existent Dedicated Street
  - Railroad and Station
  - Elevation
  - X 5000
  - Court House
  - Post Office
  - Hospital
  - Elementary School
  - High School
- FEDERAL AID HIGHWAY SYSTEMS**
- FAI Federal Aid Interstate System
  - FAP Federal Aid Primary System
  - FAS Federal Aid Secondary System
  - Interstate Highway Route Marker
  - U.S. Highway Route Marker
  - State Highway Route Marker
  - Other Highway Route Marker
  - Projected Road
  - Graded and Drained Road
  - Gravel Road
  - Paved Road
  - Divided Road - Traffic Flow



CITY PLAT  
**BOULDER**  
 JEFFERSON COUNTY  
 MONTANA  
 1970 CENSUS 1342

JUN 5 1980  
 AUG 6 1980

800  
 0 800 1600  
 SCALE IN FEET  
 REVISED DEC 31, 1976