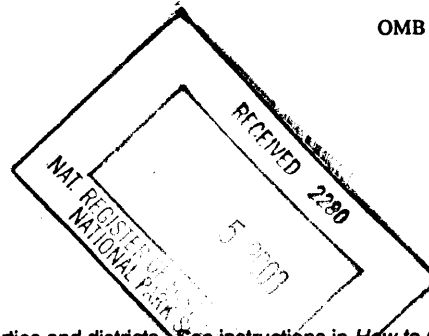


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



861

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

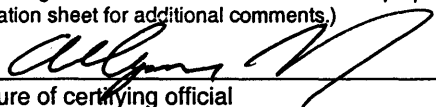
historic name **T.G. Richards & Company Store**
other names/site number **Whatcom County Courthouse, James B. Steadman Post No. 24, Akers Taxidermy**

2. Location

street & number **1308 E Street** not for publication **N/A**
city or town **Bellingham** vicinity **N/A**
state **Washington** code **WA** county **Whatcom** code **073**
zip code **98225**

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally statewide ___ locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official

7-11-03
Date

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
State or Federal agency and bureau

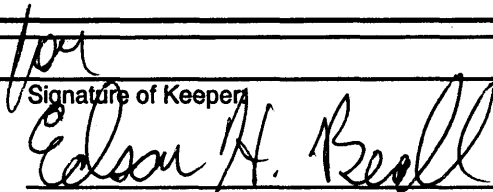
In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.
(___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I, hereby certify that this property is:
___ entered in the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____


Signature of Keeper Date of Action:
Edson H. Beall **8/28/03**

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

CAT/sub:

- COMMERCE/warehouse and business
- GOVERNMENT/Courthouse
- SOCIAL/meeting hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

CAT/sub:

- WORK IN PROGRESS
- RECREATION & CULTURE/Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

- LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY
- REVIVAL/Classical Revival elements

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation Stone, Brick
- roof Metal (tin)
- walls Brick
- other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Politics & Government

Social History

Period of Significance

1858 - 1922

Significant Dates

1858-1863 Store/warehouse

1863-1888 Courthouse

ca1900-1922 G.A.R. Meeting Hall

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # **WA-39-W-3**
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:
Whatcom Museum of History and Art

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .06

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 **10** 5378300 5400120
 Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

SUPPLEMENTAL MAP OF WHATCOM LOT 12 BLK 5-TOG WI VAC 20FT CENTER STREET ABTG AS VAC ORD 7280-TOG WI R/W ESMT OVER N 10FT OF LOT 5 DESC AF 947913-TOG WI R/W ESMT OVER 10FT OF LOT 4.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property encompasses the entire urban tax lot that is occupied by the T. G. Richards Company Store.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title **Michael Sullivan/Principal; Spencer Howard/Associate**
 organization **Artifacts Consulting, Inc.** date **March 19, 2003**
 street & number **1109 A Street Suite 1** telephone **253.572.4599**
 city or town **Tacoma** state **WA** zip code **98402**

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name **Akers Family Revocable Trust, Carl L-Audrey M Akers TR**

street & number **2574 Woodcliff Lane** telephone **360.734.4458**

city or town **Bellingham** state **WA** zip code **98226-2786**

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7

Page 1 of 8

T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Narrative Description:

Built at the onset of the Fraser River gold rush in 1858 for San Francisco merchant Thomas G. Richards and partners, this utilitarian commercial building exhibited both strong classical revival elements and practical elements such as cast iron door and window shutters indicative of the widespread unrest following the recent 1855-56 Indian Wars waged along the Pacific Northwest. James Alexander reportedly constructed the building at a cost of \$8,000 in gold.

Over the course of the next 140-plus years, the building served the community as a general store, post office, county courthouse, meeting hall and church. Raising the grade of E Street in 1888 brought the street level up to the second floor height. Back filling the sides after the 1950s effectively entombed the first floor. This dramatically changed the building's presence, the approach to the building, its fenestration, and the relation between the building interior to the outside as the entries and windows were in-filled and a new entry inserted into a former second floor window. Over the years, interior partitioning shifted according to changes in building usage. A gable roof added between 1893 and 1905, and the subsequent post 1905 pediment addition, dramatically altered the building's visual form while accentuating existing classical revival elements. The building exterior was stuccoed in the early 1900s. Then the stucco removed from the primary facade in the 1960s.

Today the former Richards Building retains a significant portion of its original brick, reportedly imported from Philadelphia around the horn and brought up to Bellingham from San Francisco on the *Amethyst*. Decorative exterior elements remain largely intact with some intact interior elements. The original double-hung wood sash, glazing and casings are also largely intact although painted shut. The building's original location affords testimony as to the early development of the city out onto the tide flats and the changing waterfront. The building overall is in fair to poor condition, bearing the cumulative effects of early repeated exposures to high tides, the change in street level and back fill along the building's exterior walls, the 1949 earth quake, climate and general wear incurred over the past 140 plus years.

The building sits amidst an industrial and warehouse section of Bellingham on land formerly comprising the city center of Whatcom prior to its consolidation with Sehome, Bellingham and Fairhaven in 1904 to form the city of Bellingham. The building is 50' deep with a 25' wide front and back; occupying a corner lot formerly at the end of the block on the tide flats. Streets were initially platted with numbered streets laid nearly parallel to Bellingham Bay. Consequently the building is offset nearly 45-degrees west of north placing the primary public facade along E street on the northwest. The secondary side facade originally fronting Thirteenth Street (renamed Holly Street in 1904) faces southwest toward the bay. There is a private yard in back and storage facilities of adjacent properties close against both sides of the building.

Designed as both a warehouse and store, the two-story brick masonry building originally featured a flat roof with a decorative entablature on the primary facade. Three tall double-door entries at street level on the primary facade provided access to the first floor with three rectangular windows directly above into the second story. The rear facade exhibited a similar composition with the exception of having only one doorway on the first story with

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7

Page 2 of 8

**T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

windows in place of the two flanking doors. By 1893 the side facade facing the bay also featured windows into both stories with an entry to the second story via an exterior wood stairway from the boardwalk. The northeast facade facing away from the bay remained blank in anticipation of future development.

Built on a tide flat, the constant ebb and flow of the tide across Bellingham Bay saturated and pulled at the mortar between the bricks of the four wythe brick foundation set on stone footings. This constant erosion, combined with occasional logs washing up and bumping against the foundation after escaping during high tide from the saw mill just down the waterfront, prompted construction of a stone break water wall in 1874 to prevent further damage to the foundation walls and undercutting of the stone footings. Beneath the building along its middle length between the foundation walls, 16" diameter cedar posts on stone footings carried an 8"x12" beam supporting the floor joists. The tall foundation walls necessary to elude high tide provided a large crawl space for ventilation beneath the building between the first floor and the tide flat. Repairs were made to the first floor to address sagging in 1877.

The raising of the grade on E Street in 1888 brought grade level up to between the first and second stories along the street front with grade on the southwest and northeast facades remaining below the first story. Not until after the 1950s did back filling to either side of the building effectively cover the foundation and first story exterior walls and by default convert the first floor into a daylight basement.

Exterior walls consist of the original load bearing sand-struck brick laid up in a Common bond with headers every sixth course, although varying slightly at the transition between the first and second stories. The end walls are four wythe thick while the sidewalls step in to a three wythe depth. Brick color is overall light, ranging from yellowish-orange to reddish-orange. Sizes tend toward 8" to 8½" lengths, 2½" to 2¾" widths, and 2¼" heights. Texture is smooth with fine sand on the faces and wavy, undulating tops and bottoms. Cross sections of the brick exhibit large blackish to dark-orange in color clay type particles dispersed throughout the brick. Mortar is soft lime-containing, light gray, with fine light sand and coarse dark sand. Mortar joints, both bed and head, are generally ½" wide, though some are slightly smaller. The original tooling is no longer evident. Openings in the walls for doorways and windows on the primary and rear facade feature jack arches with metal lintels consisting of three 2½"x½" metal plates. Openings on the southwest facade are identical with the exception that they lack jack arches and metal plates.

A simple brick entablature with Classical Revival elements finishes the primary northwest facade. A raised brick frieze projecting approximately 1" from the wall face forms the lower portion of this entablature. Dentils a single brick in width and spaced a brick width apart extend out over the frieze. Above these projects a brick cornice. The parapet in turn continues above the cornice, ultimately extending above the height of the adjacent sidewall and southeast end wall parapets.

During the early 1900s (between 1905 and 1934), the exterior walls including the upper portions of the entablature received a hard, Portland cement containing stucco. Several coats of paint over the stucco followed in later years. At this time, efforts were also made to partially integrate the gable end of a new roof added between 1888 and 1905

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7

Page 3 of 8

**T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

into the overall Classical Revival style of the primary facade. To this end, wood frame bracketed eaves were built up to either side of the gable end on top of the existing brick parapet and entablature. They featured vertical bead board backing with two pairs of wood brackets on each side supporting a simple soffit and raking cornice. Extending the eaves up around the gable end formed a pediment from the previously plain gable end.

A tapered wood post added in the early 1960s topped with a wood ball and having chamfered corners runs through the peak down to the ledge of the brick cornice.

In 1962 through 1963, the stucco was removed from the primary façade using chisels and sand blasting. The joints were then re-pointed and a water repellent applied over the entire facade. Subsequent mortar repairs employed a hard, Portland cement containing gray mortar with dark aggregate. Joints in these repair areas were finished flush with the face, the mortar overlapping slightly onto the brick faces. On the other three facades, portions are now both deteriorated and missing. The stucco ranges from 1/8" to 1/4" in depth. From 1962 to 1963, the stucco on the side and rear walls was patched and painted brick red.

Framing for the first floor originally consisted of 2"x12" joists on 16" centers supported at either end on the brick ledge formed where the foundation walls stepped in one wythe and by the central beam carried on the cedar posts. The second floor framing consisted of 3"x14" fire cut joists on 16" centers set in pockets in the sidewalls.

Efforts to stabilize the building became necessary in light of added lateral pressure and water drainage through the sidewalls caused by the back fill, as well as the 1949 Earthquake. These actions consisted of the removal of the interior basement floor framing and lower portion of the northeast wall, pouring of a concrete slab over gravel fill, and replacing the wall section with a reinforced concrete wall. The wall is now exposed on the building interior and faced on the exterior with modern hard red brick similar in dimensions to the original brick and laid with mortar joints similar in width to the original joints.

Metal chimneys having 4"x8" flues are integrated into the building's exterior sidewalls; originally three on the northeast side on 6' centers, and a fourth on the southwest side. They projected above the parapet. By 1893, they had been replaced by brick chimneys ending with a slight corbelled band around the top with metal flues projecting slightly above. In 1950, a large metal extension projected from the chimney on the southwest side; this no longer remains. Only two chimneys on the northeast wall and the one on the southwest wall remain. A third contemporary metal chimney projects through the central portion of the gable roof's northeast slope.

Windows originally consisted of three 3:3 vertical lites into the second floor of the primary facade above the doorways, and, on the rear facade, two into the first floor flanking the doorway with three directly above into the second floor. These windows featured double-hung wood sash with slender muntins, wood jambs and trim. Windows on the primary northwest facade featured sandstone lug sills. In contrast, the windows on the rear facade featured rowlock brick sills. The front and rear windows featured cast iron shutters. Pins on the shutters were set into wrought iron eyes worked into spikes set between the brick in the walls.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7

Page 4 of 8

**T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

On the southwest facade, 2:2 vertical lite windows which were added when the building functioned as a court house provided day lighting into both the first (two) and second (one) stories with a third smaller window between the two first story windows. The sash of these windows matched those on the end walls in materials and configuration with the exception of the small first story window. However, they featured wood sills with simple wood casings.

Following the 1888 E street re-grade, the only change made to the windows was the conversion of the northeast window on the primary facade into a doorway. It was not until the years between 1939 and 1950 that basement windows along the southwest facade were gradually in-filled and stuccoed over. Then the upper portions of these windows were later re-opened to provide day lighting. During this same period, the main floor windows on the southwest facade were extended downward and the former doorway re-opened. These extended portions beneath the window and the lower portion of the doorway were then in-filled again and stuccoed over. Metal grilles now cover the upper portions of the basement windows.

A gabled skylight originally projected above the roof plane on the flat roof. Hinged planes on either side could be lifted for ventilation with a wrought iron adjuster, since removed, that extended down to the second floor.

Today, the remaining two windows on the primary facade and the two lower windows and a partial upper window on the rear facade retain their original components and configuration.

Roof framing consisted of 3"x10" ceiling joists on 16" centers with galvanized flat seam tin roofing comprising the original flat roof. These joists rested on a brick ledge formed where the three wythe sidewalls stepped in and the two wythe parapet began. The brick parapet with stone cap (removed when the gable roof was added) wrapped around the roof perimeter. Between 1888 and 1905, a gable roof was added that ended flush with the outer face of the parapet on all facades. Simple rough sawn wood trusses resting on top of the brick parapet carried the roof, which was sheathed in wood shingles with a ridge cap. The gable ends featured horizontal V-groove siding. During the early 1900s, a pediment was built-up on the primary facade on top of the existing brick entablature (see *Exterior Wall Description*). A louvered vent in the southeast gable end provided ventilation. This was later replaced with a contemporary aluminum window.

A scupper on the primary facade's west end originally led to an exterior metal downspout attached to the masonry and extending down through the boardwalk. This was removed with the installation of the gable roof.

Initially the main public access to the building was from E Street through three tall double-door entries on the northwest facade. The four wythe depth of the building's end walls afforded space for exterior ten panel cast iron shutters on each entry with paneled wood interior doors having glass lites and a lower recessed wood panel and kick plate. Although flanked by windows, the single double-door entry on the rear facade matched the configuration of the front entries. Pins on the cast iron shutters hooked into eyes in wrought iron spikes embedded in the masonry. Each entry featured a sandstone lug sill.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7

Page 5 of 8

T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The side entry to the building provided access from the southwest into the second floor. An exterior direct flight of wood stairs parallel to the building with open risers, a wood railing and a large open rectangular stair head led to the second floor from the boardwalk. Simple wood casings matching those used around the southwest facade's windows framed the doorway and transom. This remained the only access to the second floor until after 1903 when the building was purchased by the G. A. R. for use as a hall.

The re-grading of E Street in 1888—covering the main entries to the first floor on the northwest facade—necessitated a new main entry, consequently prompting conversion of the northeastern most window on the primary facade into a new doorway. Wood casings similar to those found around the southwest facade's windows framed this new entry. The entry featured a transom over a paneled door having two upper glass lites. A direct flight of wood frame stairs parallel to the facade with open risers and a wood railing led from the boardwalk to this entry. Vertical board skirting covered the stair head framing.

By 1934, concrete steps and the existing entry vestibule replaced the wood stairs described above. A non-structural arched entry now leads into the vestibule. The vestibule features wood flooring and a vertical bead board wainscot, base and molding with plaster above, all of which originally comprised interior components of the building until the vestibule extended into the interior floor plan placing these elements on the exterior. The two paneled stained wood door leads to the interior. The upper panel is glass. Removal of the stucco from the primary facade in 1962 through 1963 left a blind transom above the decorative arch over the vestibule entry.

Following the 1888 re-grade, the double-door entries on the primary facade were initially left open with their inner doors closed, then boarded over shortly after 1905 leaving an open areaway between the top of the former entries and the boardwalk. Since the grade level of E Street ended approximately 3' below the transition between the first and second stories, this left the upper approximately 2' of the doorways exposed. In the 1930s, a concrete addition extended the basement's northwest wall out approximately 7'. At this time, the middle doorway was blocked-in with concrete and the upper portion of the northeasternmost doorway was removed to receive the main entry's new concrete stairs. Concrete bridged the gap between the concrete sidewalk and the openings within the former doorways.

Today these exposed upper portions of the former door openings feature rough 2x6 window framing with 7/8" vertical metal pipe on 6 1/2" centers. The southwesternmost window pane behind the bars is clear glass which has been painted with blue paint and contains a hole for a vent. There is brick below the framing.

The side entry following the 1888 re-grade remained serviceable up until between 1903 and 1905 when the wood framing of the former stair was entirely removed and access to the door was no longer possible. During the years between 1939 and 1950, the doorway was in-filled and stuccoed over. Then the upper portion was re-opened to provide a window.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7

Page 6 of 8

**T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

The rear entry, although below grade, continued to provide access to the basement. An open stairway led down from grade to this entry. Following the regrade of E Street, this was the only access to the basement until the interior stairway was added circa 1905. Contemporary solid panel composite doors and contemporary hardware replaced the original doors, casings and hardware.

Little documentation or physical evidence exists to indicate the building's original interior configuration. Although constructed for the purpose of a warehouse and store with two floors, the building over the course of these initial years of its lifespan has been host to a variety of uses. Each in turn adjusted the interior layout to suit its usage needs and program.

The raising of E Street's grade also profoundly affected the building interior, turning the first floor into a daylight basement and the second floor into the main floor. This altered the approach to the building since the main entries on E Street were covered, the side entry on the southwest facade although serviceable up to circa 1905 was eventually in-filled, and the rear entry although functional was left partially below grade.

Records indicate that as early as 1875 (though the court offices moved in twelve years earlier), non-bearing wood frame partitioning finished with a vertical board wainscot and plaster above divided the floors into offices for the Whatcom County Courthouse. The first floor contained the court lobby on the southeast end (approximately 20'x25') with the long rectangular volumes of the treasurer's office on the southwest side and the jail on the northeast side (each approximately 11'x21'). The courtroom occupied the second floor. The only access between these floors was the exterior stairway on the building's southwest side. By 1905, the G. A. R. added an interior stairway along the building's southwest wall for access from the main floor to the basement. In order to add the stairway, several of the main floor joists were cut.

By 1934, a vestibule (approximately 6'x6') added to the main entry extended into the main floor. A doorway opened off the southwest side of the vestibule into a rectangular hallway of similar width that extended along the building's northwest side. At the southwest end of the hallway, separate doors led to the approximately 22'-11"x40' meeting hall and an enclosed stairway down to the basement. As of 1934, a new maple floor was installed in the main hall area. The door between the hallway and the main hall was a six panel wood door. A janitor's supply space enclosed above the stairway was accessed from the main hall by a short vertical board door above the wainscot.

The layout of the basement as of 1934 remained largely unchanged since the building's function as a county courthouse. Exceptions to this were the addition of a partition wall between the former jail and treasurer's room, a new doorway between the former court lobby and the jail, and an approximately 7' wide space along the northwest facade added beneath the sidewalk along E Street. This new space contained two bathrooms at the southwest end, each having a separate doorway within the original double-door opening and sidewalk lites above for natural lighting. A fuel room occupied the northeast two-thirds of this added volume with a fuel hole in the sidewalk above. The door between the former court lobby and the former treasurer's office consisted of a paneled door

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7

Page 7 of 8

**T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

having four upper glass lites with two recessed wood panels below. Between the former court lobby and the former jail the door consisted of a wood panel door having two upper vertical panels with short lower panels. During the building's use by the W. R. C. and the G. A. R., the basement functioned in part as a kitchen and dining area.

Today, wood stud partitions finished with sheet rock divide the main floor into a narrow rectangular volume along the building's northwest end the door from the vestibule shifted to the southeast side. The remainder of the floor contains multiple smaller volumes subdivided by sheetrock sheathed wood stud partitions. Ceiling height is approximately 10' at the southeast, tapering to approximately 9' at the northwest end.

Along the northwest facade, the space formerly comprising the hallway features plywood floor with hardwood flooring from the 1930s exposed in the remainder of the space. The wood wainscot evident in the 1934 HABS drawings remains in areas along the northwest side and northwest end of the southwest wall. The ceiling over the portion of the interior having the plywood flooring consists of plaster on expanded metal lath over wood lath. Above the hardwood floor portion the ceiling is both sheetrock with plaster on wood lath remaining in places.

The basement consists of a single, open volume with an approximately 12' ceiling height. The northwest end of the space beneath the sidewalk contains a single bathroom on the southwest side and a dark room in the former fuel storage area. The basement features exposed brick masonry walls and exposed sections of reinforced concrete along the northeast wall with a concrete slab floor with modern composite ceiling tiles. Contemporary shelving lines the walls.

The gable roof addition built between 1888 and 1905 provided attic space above the main floor. During the 1960s, this was developed through the addition of a stairway to the attic. In order to accommodate the stair, one of the main floor ceiling joists was cut and the stairway run between the two flanking ceiling joists. During the 1980s and over the next twenty years, the attic was partitioned into three separate rooms. These wood stud walls are sheathed in particle board and sheet rock. The two rooms on the southeast end and central portion are used by local bands for jam sessions. The relatively unaltered northwest room features exposed roof framing, original flat roof and parapet walls.

Recorded furnishings consisted of cabinets installed in the in-filled windows along the southwest wall on the first floor. During the building's use as a meeting hall, a cabinet was placed on the partition wall between the former jail and court lobby in the basement. Wood benches and platforms were also added along the northeast, southeast, and southwest walls of the main floor.

No record was located of original fixtures. By 1934, a simple utilitarian exterior light on the front of building extended out from the middle of the gable end. An electrical drop ran to the outer wall on the northwest facade, and at one point entered through the southwestern most window. Today the electrical drop and metal conduit are mounted on the southwest facade. The exterior light, although rewired, remains in use.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7

Page 8 of 8

**T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

The site originally featured a wood boardwalk on pilings along the northwest, southwest and southeast facades with a wood railing along the southwest side. Raising the grade of E Street prompted removal of the boardwalk along the southwest facade. A wire mesh fence added along E Street protected pedestrians from the sharp drop in grade off the southeast side of E Street. By 1939, a concrete sidewalk with a fuel hole and sidewalk lights fronted the building with the wood boardwalk to either side. Today this concrete remains; however, the boardwalk is gone.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 1 of 7

**T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Narrative Statement of Significance:

The Richards Building is the earliest built and oldest standing example of brick masonry construction in Washington State, dating from 1858. Regionally significant under criteria "A" and "C" the respective periods of significance supporting these criteria are the Richard Building's 1858 date of construction and the period from 1858 to 1922 during which time the building's use as a store/warehouse, court house and meeting hall contributed to regionally significant commercial, social and governmental activities.

As an example of territorial era construction, it reflects the hopes for permanence that were essentials in building a future State in the period when most settlers were still arriving by wagon over the Oregon Trail. It remains as perhaps the only structure that can be called a product of the Fraser River gold rush of 1858. According to Lummi drummer, Tom Edwards, the broad area surrounding the building's site including parts of the former city of Whatcom, is sacred ground to local Native American Tribes representing an important place in their cultural heritage. The natural low-lying tidelands at the mouth of Whatcom Creek would have been a rich fishing camp during salmon runs and no doubt were highly valued in a culture that placed great spiritual importance on the gifts of nature.

The building also dates from the unsettled period of the Indian wars that followed the Federal treaty-making of Isaac Stevens in 1854-55. The small brick building served as the Whatcom County Courthouse and jail for a quarter of a century in the late 1800's and was documented in 1934 by the Depression era Historic American Building Survey in that effort to record our country's most significant historic sites. The modest sized structure retains virtually all of its original material and design elements, and although altered in appearance somewhat by the modified surroundings, remains at its original location as a landmark in every sense of the word.

In 1857, the Hudson Bay Company had shipped 800 ounces of gold to the San Francisco mint, and once word leaked out, the obsessive migration was on. In the spring and summer of 1858, the frontier settlement of Whatcom on Bellingham Bay experienced a frenzied surge in population that came with the monomania of a gold rush. Thousands of gold seekers, estimated at 23,000 by sea primarily from California and 8,000 by land largely from the eastern Washington Colville gold fields, poured into the town on their way to Canada's Fraser River and the gold fields that had been discovered along its upper banks. Beginning at Whatcom, a trail was cut through the dense fir and cedar forests that thrived at the base of the rugged Fraser River canyon, and optimistic promoters billed the gateway town as "the next San Francisco." Mercantile interests were quick to take advantage of the miners' business, noting the fortunes that had been made by provisioners during the California gold rush just a few years prior. In fact, many of the prospectors rushing into Whatcom on their way to the Fraser goldfields were veterans of the California rush, most of them Americans or the opportunist mix of nationalities that made up the Forty-niners -- Australians, Chinese and hard rock coal miners from England, Wales and central Europe.

Among the very first entrepreneurs to move from San Francisco Bay to the future city of Bellingham was the partnership of Thomas G. Richards and Company, intent on establishing a commercial base at Whatcom. This organization consisted of Thomas G. and Charles E. Richards, brothers; and John G. Hyatt, all of San Francisco.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 2 of 7

T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Whatcom County tax roles from 1857 record the Richards brothers as owners of property valued at \$10,000, a considerable fortune in territorial days and a clear indication that this group was among the first wave to arrive. Thomas Richards apparently brought the majority of capital to the new business in Whatcom, although he never came north. Charles was the junior partner in the deal, and manager of the store. John Hyatt was a clerk for them and had a stake in the business as well.

The land on which their "brick warehouse" was built lay on the tide flats where Whatcom Creek met the sea at the foot of the hills overlooking Bellingham Bay, Fort Bellingham and the pioneering Roeder-Peabody sawmill, Whatcom County's first industrial enterprise. Alonzo M. Poe was the original surveyor of the property, which was part of Russell V. Peabody's donation land claim, the partner of Henry Roeder in the sawmill venture.

On July 5, 1858 the deed selling "*lot number twelve in block five... having a front on E and Centre Street*" was recorded, the payment being the sum of \$600 to Mr. Peabody. About this time, the company bought the middle plot of land between Centre and D streets, where they built a wood framed store building from which to sell goods while the brick structure was being constructed. It was here that Hyatt became the town of Whatcom's 2nd postmaster, and "*provided a hundred boxes, at private expense, for the accommodation of the public.*" He continued in this position until January 1, 1860. The post office was later transferred to the Richards Building, where it remained until January, 1873.

The July 24, 1858 issue of *The Northern Light* newspaper published the first account of the construction of the brick building. It was noted that a load of bricks had arrived for the Richards partnership from San Francisco, and that they "*are clearing ground for the erection of a two story brick store and banking house.*" The publisher of the newspaper must have been in a good spot to observe the progress of this task, as *The Northern Light* was headquartered directly across the street from the new store. From a note in Howard Buswell's papers found at the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies, it is likely that the person who actually built the store was a man by the name of James Alexander, better known later for his exploits on Whidbey Island.

In the July 31st edition of the paper, it was reported that the "*two story brick building of T.G. Richards & Co., commenced a week ago, is progressing finely. The walls have gone up some six or eight feet, and have received the joist for the first floor. The iron shutters and doors are on the ground, so that no delay will be occasioned in carrying the edifice forward to speedy completion.*"

On August 28, 1858 *The Northern Light* further recorded: "*Nearly Finished – The fine two story fire-proof brick building of T.G. Richards & Company on E Street is so far completed as to require only a few finishing touches to render it fit for occupancy, and will be inaugurated by the reception of a stock of groceries and provisions in a few days.*"

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 3 of 7

T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The ad which the company ran in that same issue read:

*"T.G. Richards & Company
Having completed their new fire-proof
Brick Warehouse, are now prepared to carry on a
Storage and Commission Business.
Cash advances made on consignments and goods stored in our warehouse."*

These first accounts refer to the building as a "warehouse" and not altogether as a store. Richards and Hyatt continued the mercantile business in the wood framed building until the lack of customers made it unprofitable to continue at two locations. The greater value during the gold rush was realized in providing secure port-side storage for goods headed to the gold fields and for probable gold returning. The bricks used were reported to have been made in the brickyards of Philadelphia, and shipped as ballast around South America to San Francisco. The entire building is said to have cost the company \$8000 in gold to construct. Its sturdy brick form was the first masonry building constructed on Puget Sound and a distinct symbol of permanence amid the hasty wooden gold rush town of Whatcom before the Civil War.

Without a doubt, the Richards Building was constructed before the Steilacoom brick jail or the McCaw & Rogers store in that town. The Steilacoom "Puget Sound Herald" references the construction of the jail in late 1858, and the store in the spring of 1859. Although there are references to brick masonry used as a building material prior to 1858 in the Puget Sound region, its application seems limited to chimneys and foundations. A thorough survey of public records and archival depositories uncovered no documented evidence of any brick masonry building constructed prior to the Richards Building. Certainly no earlier brick building exists on its original site in Washington presently.

The boom in Whatcom went bust almost as soon as it had begun and the architectural gesture in brick became a dead end investment for its original builders. British Columbia Governor Douglass decreed that all miners headed to the Fraser River must stop in Victoria on Vancouver Island and pay for a permit before being allowed into the Canadian gold fields. This left Whatcom out of the path to the gold fields, and the stream of gold seekers quickly faded away. In the words of newspaper editor William Bausman as he left for San Francisco in the fall of 1858, "*Whatcom has gone in, and the (Northern) Light has gone out*" and "*Nearly all the best buildings were taken down and carried to Victoria, leaving the two story brick, built by Richards and Hyatt, standing as the solitary monument of departed grandeur.*" Whereas during the boom lots were expensive and hard to obtain, after the miners faded away it is said the owners had problems even giving them away!

Charles E. Richards and John G. Hyatt continued business in the building until 1861. There were many transactions recorded during this time, dealing with selling fractions of shares of ownership in the building and business back and forth. The tangle of confusing transactions suggests that given the shortage of gold and currency, property shares became the daily barter among the residents of Whatcom. As an example, on January 12, 1859, Charles sold to John the "*one half part of the one-third part of the lot and buildings*" for the sum of \$1000.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 4 of 7

**T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

During this time, Richards and Hyatt both married Native American women from the local tribes. Charles wed a Nooksack woman named Annie, and had one, if not two children. John married Emma, a Lummi girl, and had a son, John G. Hyatt Jr.

C.C. Finkbonner was also connected to the enterprise during this time. He is listed in *The Northern Light* as a competing merchant across the street from the Richards building, although it is also possible that he came to Whatcom as a clerk for Richards and Hyatt, as Roth's "*History of Whatcom County*" suggests. Edward Watson, an associate of William Bausman who came north with him to start *The Northern Light*, remained in Whatcom and worked for Richards and Hyatt for a time. It is a certainty that during the time he was stationed at Fort Bellingham, George Pickett had occasion to visit the building, as his home is still located just up the street.

In the 1860 census, the merchants were enumerated as follows:

Name	Age	Profession	Value of Real Estate	Personal Property	State Born
Hyatt, John G.	32	Merchant	\$12,500	\$12,500	Ohio
Richards, CE	28	Merchant			Virginia
Watson, Ed	21	Clerk			Michigan

Mr. Richards was the majority owner in 1861 when the partnership seems to have dissolved, with John Hyatt selling his share of the building to Richards for \$2000, and his share of the merchandise inside it for \$3000. Richards continued the store operation along with a venture into coal mining when he bought the old Morrison Donation Claim with Seth Doty. The pair spent \$40,000 trying to make it profitable, although the attempt was unsuccessful. The small settlement of Unionville, with a wharf, store house and coal chutes, owes its short existence to this venture. Charles also bought sheep and cattle as well. He is mentioned in Henry Roeder's diary when the two met up on their way to the gold fields in the north, both bringing meat on the hoof to hungry miners.

On May 6, 1863, with the Civil War raging in the east, the county government purchased the brick building for use as a courthouse. Prior to the purchase, the first and second courthouses were log buildings considered shabby and undignified even in their day. The move gave Whatcom County the first brick courthouse in Washington Territory, a distinction that lasted until the coming of the railroad in the 1870's. Being short on cash, the county issued warrants worth \$2000 to Richards as payment for the brick building. Being short on cash himself, he in turn sold them to William Moody for between 20 to 40 cents on the dollar. In Sheriff James Kavanaugh's diary from that time, he records August 28th as being the date that "*C.E. Richards has sold the remains of everything in his store.*" On that day, Richards also wrote out a power of attorney to Kavanaugh to handle his coal-mining claim in Unionville. It appears that he left the area, with Kavanaugh and C. Finkboner remaining to handle his affairs. His wife and child(ren) were left behind to fend for themselves, Annie (his wife) later being noted in Phoebe Judson's "*A Pioneer's Search for an Ideal Home*" as the only Indian she knew of to commit suicide in this area. Her children were raised in the Nooksack village near Lynden, and, after church-sponsored college in Boston, her son Jack Richards became a noted industrialist in the East.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 5 of 7

**T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Of John Hyatt's fate, it is known that he took part in the territorial government starting in May, 1861. County records also show John Hyatt as a witness in May 1863 on a deed concerning Charles Richards in Whatcom County, but after that he disappeared, perhaps drawn back to the conflict in the east. Whatever the case, his family was left in Whatcom County, an all-too frequent occurrence during that time. His wife, Emma, later married James H. Taylor, the hardy pioneer who helped build the schooner "General Harney" on the shores of Bellingham Bay, and settled down on a farm in Marietta. The Taylor family still has descendants in this area.

John Jr. lived out his life on the farm in Marietta, and took care of his mother in her later years. Emma was buried in the Lummi Tribal cemetery, as she was likely an upper-class member of the tribe. Her son lived until 1934, when he died on October 15 at the home of his half sister in Bellingham. He was cremated; an internment place is not known. He was a member of the Spiritualist church at that time; if there are any records to be found from that group, more might be known of his activities in later life.

During its years of service as the seat of county government, the building provided offices for the county treasurer and assessor as well as serving as the county jail. Henry Roeder, Edward Eldridge, and many other founders of the community frequented the building. Roth's "History of Whatcom County" lists many officials who held positions with the county government and who would have occupied offices in the courthouse. During a period of economic recession, the courthouse was described as being "*now full of goods seized on attachment and on orders of execution.*" Elections were held with the courthouse as a polling place, and a perusal of the pages of Roth's book reveals many heated political campaigns and discussions. The building also sheltered commercial interests, one being a drug store run by Dr. A.W. Thornton. *The Bellingham Bay Mail*, begun in 1873 by James Powers, was published in a corner of the building. In a later interview, Powers recalled that "*I would work an occasional prisoner on the press.*" The jail was located on the bottom floor, and had held such local scalawags as "Dirty Dan" Harris, imprisoned for killing a man in a brawl. It appears that in 1875, the building underwent some repairs, and the floors were then partitioned into various offices. In February of 1877, repairs were made to the lower floor, and in January 1879, the county commissioners decided to build a separate jail to alleviate overcrowding in the brick building. About 1888, the building was pronounced unsafe for further county business, and governmental offices were moved to the opera house.

A new courthouse at G and Ellsworth streets was finished in 1890, bringing to an end a quarter of a century's use of the brick building as Whatcom County seat. About this time, the tide flats area surrounding the building was partially filled in and the streets running up the hill were graded to a regular incline. The grade change brought the level of E Street up to the second floor of the building and a new entry was configured out of the northeastern-most upper window. The upper section of the old ground floor doors were exposed at sidewalk level, and access to the former first floor was provided through the back (southeast) doorway. A pitched gable roof was also framed in timber over the original flat roof.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8

Page 6 of 7

T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The brick building stood mostly vacant until about 1895 when it was leased (purchased in 1903) to the Grand Army of the Republic, a Civil War veteran's organization that also included the Women's Auxiliary (W. R. C.). Its members included such illustrious citizens as J.J. Edens and Ellery Rogers, and included veterans from many different Northern states. By that time, the building was already recognized for its historical associations to the territorial era, Washington having become a State in 1889; and was seen as an appropriate home for the fraternal organization. For the next 30 years, the little hall housed the memories of Civil War soldiers growing older, telling and retelling their stories of war and glory until there were too few to meet.

The James B. Steadman Post #24 of the Grand Army of the Republic occupied the building until 1922, when it was sold to Jasper M. Riddle, a local road and sidewalk construction contractor. Many sidewalks in Bellingham still bear his name etched into the concrete poured long ago. Mr. Riddle gave the building to a lodge named the "Junior Order of American Mechanics," whose members were not junior in age and had little to do with mechanics. The organization had its lodge meeting room in the upstairs (street level) floor, where Mr. Riddle's grandson Bill Brooks remembers it smelling like "cigar smoke and spittoons." The lower floor was used as a dining room for the occasional meal that followed the meetings.

Then in 1934, during the initial years of Depression era federal employment programs, the Survey of Historic American Buildings selected the structure for documentation as an important historical place. It was the first building selected in the North Puget Sound region, and is enrolled with the survey number HABS WA-39-W-3.

Later, the Jehovah's Witness church held services in the building, and continued to use it through the 1940's and early 1950's.

The more current history of the building, and the key for its eventual preservation, began with Carl and Nicki Akers purchasing the building in 1955 from the church group. Through the years, the Akers Taxidermy shop was a familiar icon to Whatcom County sportsmen. After the business outgrew the building, the Akers rented it out to a woodworking shop and several pottery studios. In 1969, the counterculture newspaper *Northwest Passage* began publication in the building, beckoning back to the *Bellingham Bay Mail* newspaper launched from the building in 1873. During the Vietnam war era, Bellingham was a terminal for the underground railroad assisting young men evading the draft by going into Canada. The newspaper and artists operating out of the building were directly involved in the anti-war effort and the address became associated with alternative political activities and counterculture enterprises. The building also was used as a retail and outdoor equipment rental shop named Base Camp until that company outgrew it and built a log building just to the west.

Carl and Nicki succeeded in getting the building listed with the Washington State Historical Register. The Akers family has expressed their intention to turn the building over to public or non-profit ownership (specifically the Whatcom County Historical Society) so it may be restored and preserved. In 2001, the Territorial Courthouse Taskforce was formed to develop recommendations for the eventual preservation of the building. Some sort of interpretive display will be included in the restoration, to chronicle the early history of Whatcom and the various uses the building has seen through the years.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8

Page 7 of 7

**T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

As the history of the Pacific Northwest moves into the 21st century, it seems clearer than ever that authentic fragments of material history from before the Civil War are almost completely lost. Few buildings exist and fewer still remain within meaningful context. The Richards Building connects with a period of Indian wars, gold rushes and the unsettled marine boundary between Canada and the United States. It dates from before the Civil War, the arrival of the transcontinental railroad and the emergence of cities on Puget Sound. It was the first brick masonry building to be erected in Washington Territory and the oldest standing brick building in the State today. It was recognized as historic almost 70 years ago when the Historic American Building Survey documented it in 1934. Although the ground around it has been altered, its material integrity is substantially intact, and as an architectural narrative of the events it has participated in over 145 years, its story is clear and articulate. The City of Bellingham's redevelopment plans for the "Old Town" area recognize the building as a rare and unique part of the city's heritage and include an expressed effort to preserve the building for future generations.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9

Page 1 of 2

T. G. RICHARDS & COMPANY STORE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9

Page 2 of 2

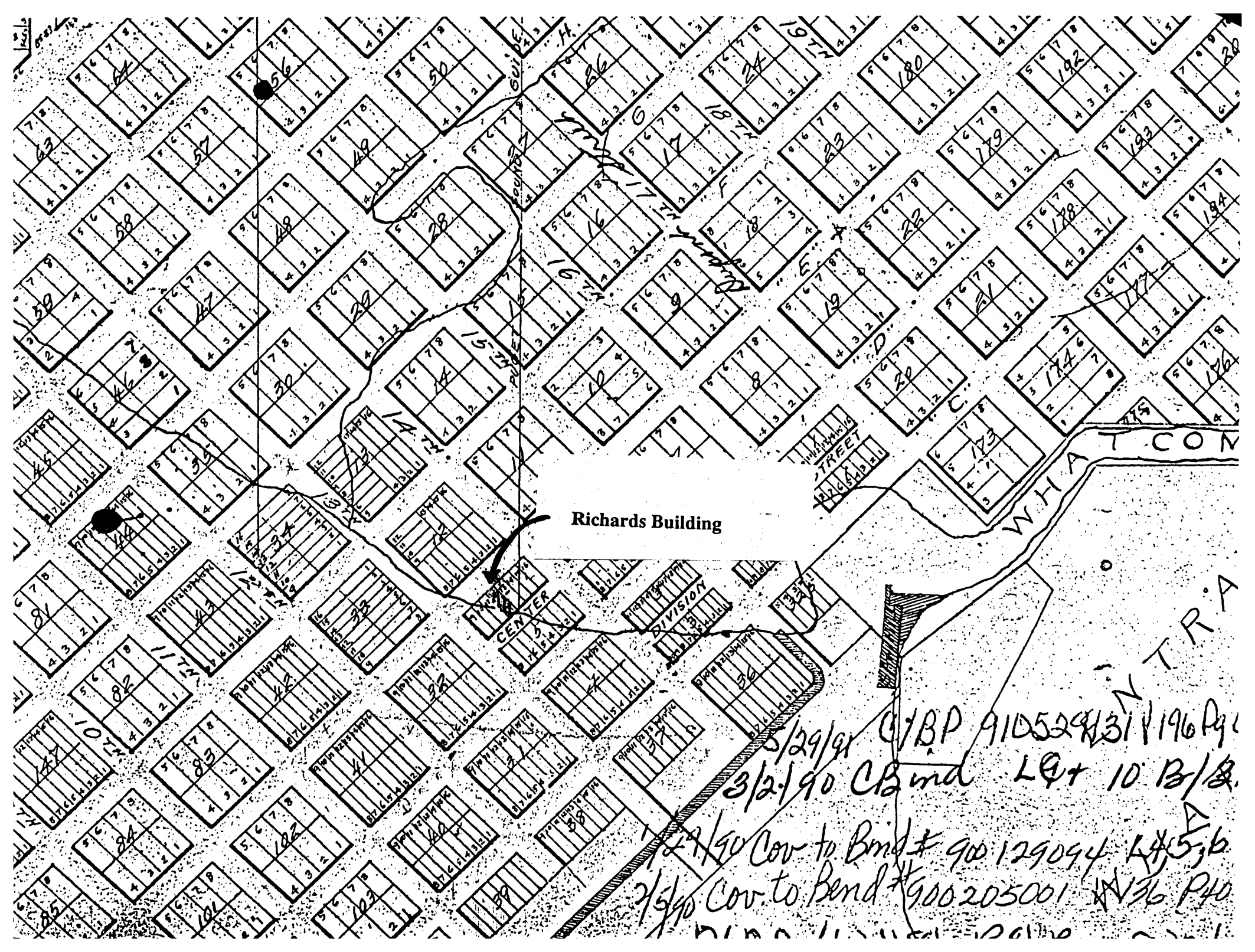
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WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

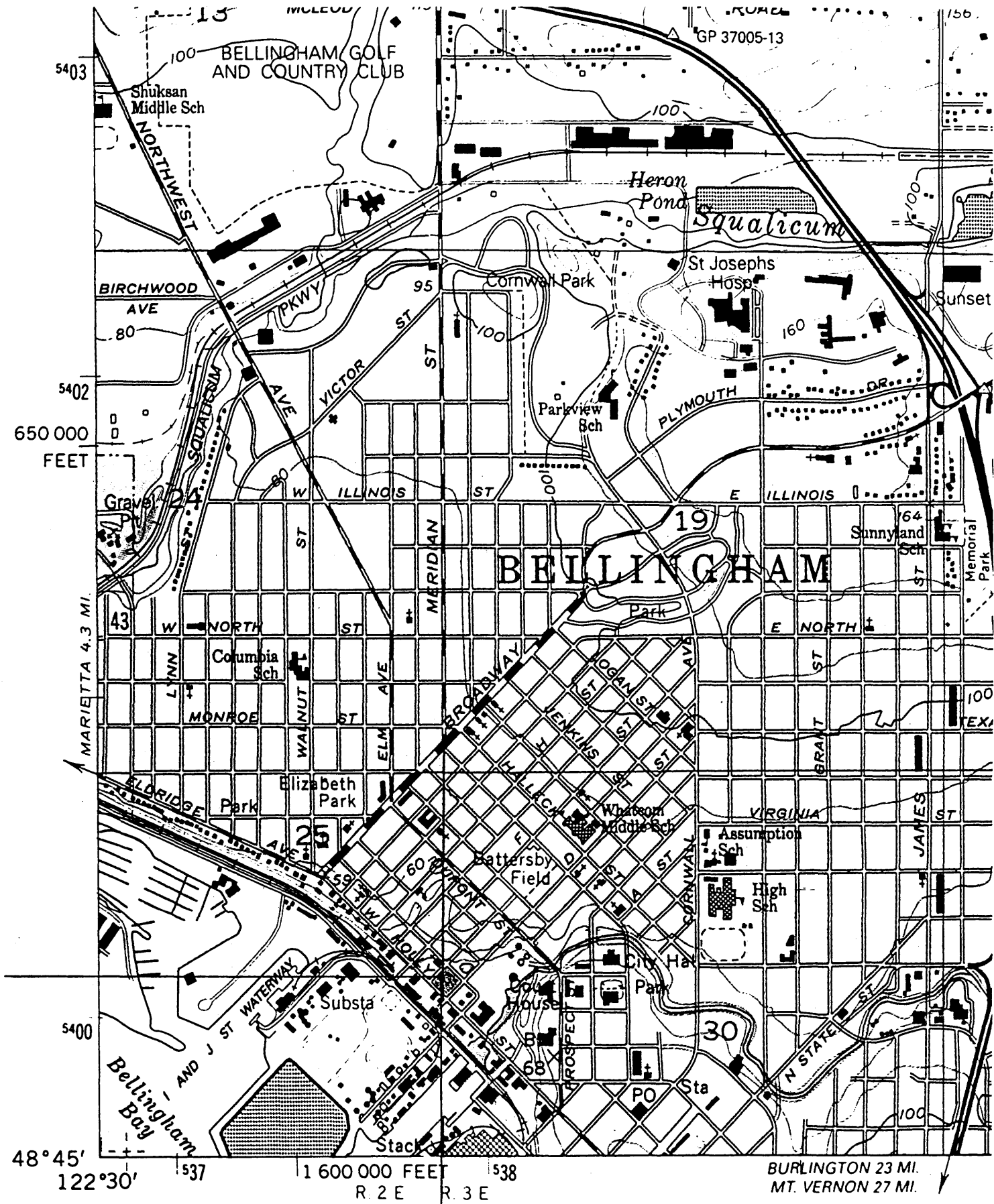
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Whatcom County Historical Society members Matthew Aamot, Jim and Renee Doidge, Wes Gannaway, and Neill Mullen.





RICHARDS BUILDING
 1308 E STREET
 BELLINGHAM, WHATCOM, WA
 ZONE 10
 N 5400120
 E 5378300

STATE ✓ Washington	COUNTY Whatcom	TOWN OR VICINITY Bellingham	65 2p
INDEX NUMBER WASH. 37-BEL 1-	MONUMENT 1106 - E Street	OLD COURT HOUSE BUILDING	
REPRESENTED IN NEGATIVE FILE	H.A.B.S. SURVEY NO. 39-W-3	History: Built in 1858, by John G. Hyatt & Charles E. Richards.	
PUBLISHED PHOTOGRAPHS			
PUBLISHED DRAWINGS		Description: Brick walls, pitch roof, 1 story and basement, frame floors and roof. Brick from Philadelphia, via Cape Horn and	
*** 0-5320	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY		

thence from San Francisco.

First brick building built in Washington Territory.

District Officer.

Paul Richardson, Northern Life Tower, Seattle, Wash.
March, 1934.

SIZE OF 2 NEGS. 2 1/4" x 3 1/4"

OLD COURT
HOUSE BUILDING

BELLINGHAM,

WASHINGTON

ERECTED - BETWEEN 1840-1860

ARCHITECT - UNKNOWN

BUILDER - UNKNOWN

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

MEASURED: 1954

DRAWN: 1954

MEASUREMENTS CHECKED:



DRAWINGS APPROVED:

DRAWINGS APPROVED:

ACCEPTED FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS:

Jamieson Parker
W. L. H. Hunt

DISTRICT OFFICER:

CHIEF ARCHITECT:

DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
JAMIESON PARKER, DIST. OFFR.
807 SPAULDING BUILDING
PORTLAND, OREGON
FIELD PARTY:
W.J. MEYER, P.C. STANTON

SURVEY NO.

39-W-5

6 SHEETS

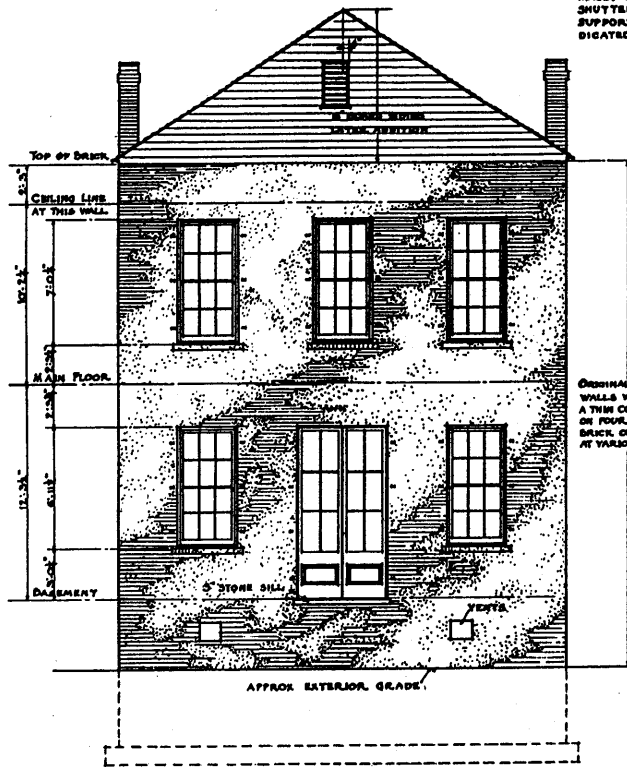
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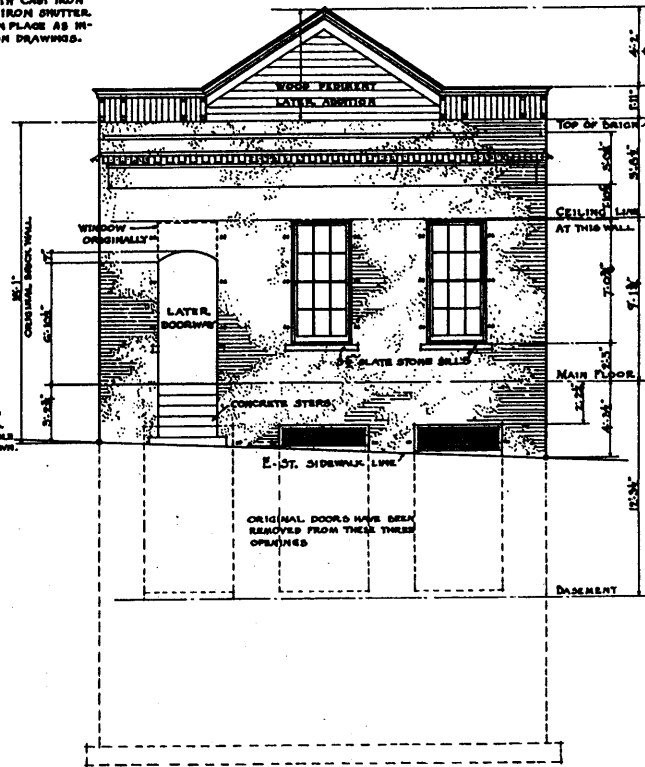
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NOTE:
 ALL EXTERIOR OPENINGS WERE ORIGINALLY PROTECTED WITH CAST IRON SHUTTERS. WROUGHT IRON SHUTTER SUPPORTS ARE STILL IN PLACE AS INDICATED ON ELEVATION DRAWINGS.



· SOUTHEAST · ELEVATION ·

SCALE 1/4 INCH = 1 FT.



· NORTHWEST · ELEVATION ·

SCALE 1/4 INCH = 1 FT.



SCALE 0 1 2 3 4 METERS



SCALE 0 5 10 FEET

WILL J. MEYER - DEL.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS
 BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE

· OLD COURT HOUSE BUILDING ·
 · 1106 E. STREET · BELLINGHAM ·

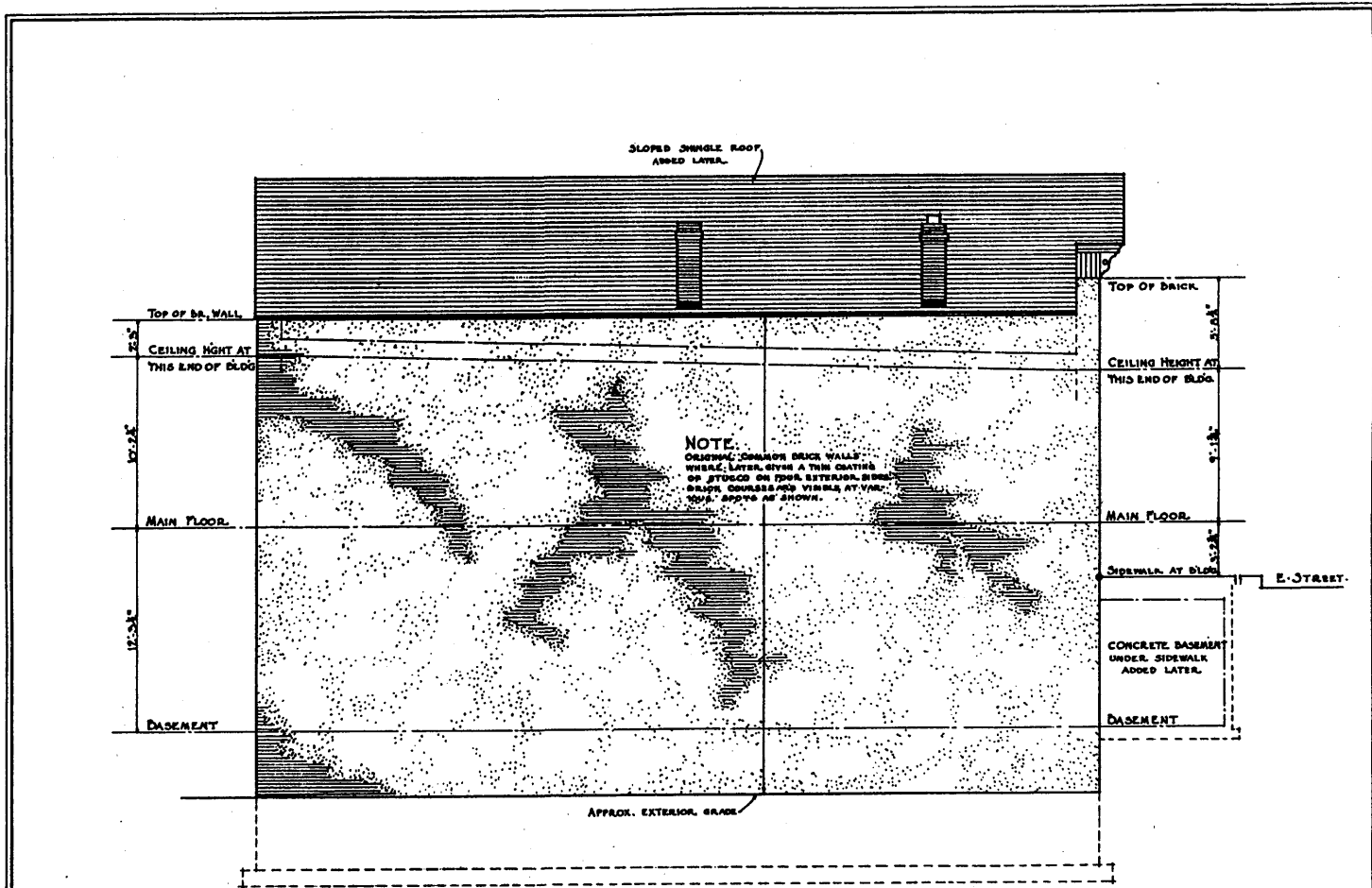
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HISTORIC AMERICAN
 BUILDINGS SURVEY
 SHEET 3 OF 6 SHEETS

INDEX NO.

· WHATCOM · COUNTY · WASHINGTON ·



NORTHEAST ELEVATION

SCALE 1/4 INCH = 1 FT.



SCALE 0 1 2 3 4 METERS

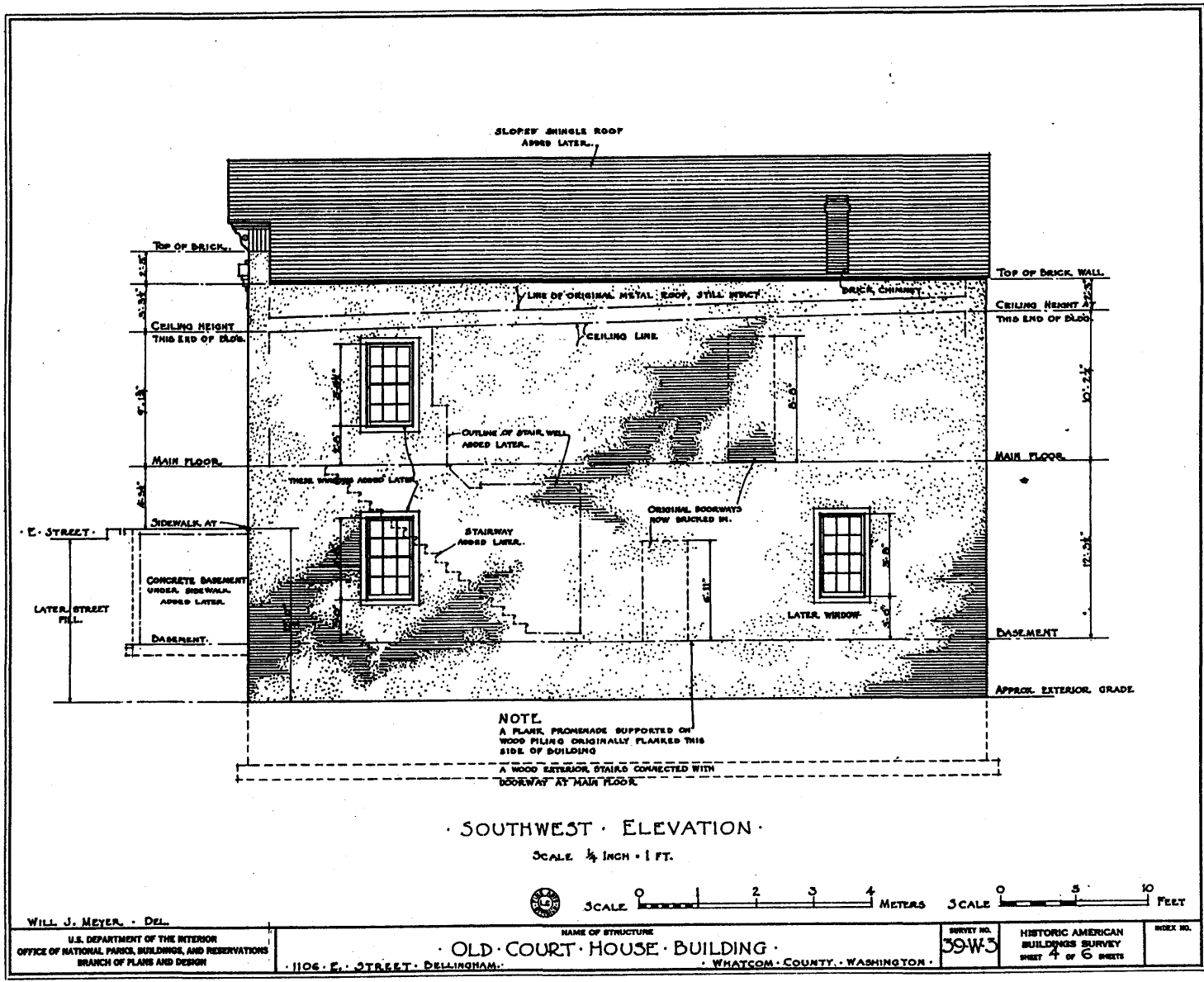
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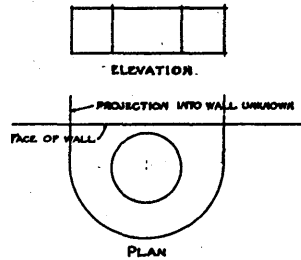
WILL J. MEYER, DEL.
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 OFFICE OF NATIONAL PARKS, BUILDINGS, AND RESERVATIONS
 BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
 OLD COURT HOUSE BUILDING
 1106 E. STREET BELLINGHAM WHATCOM COUNTY WASHINGTON

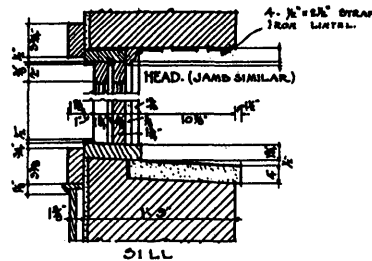
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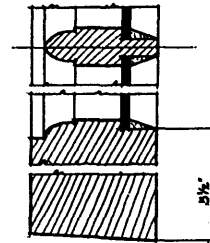




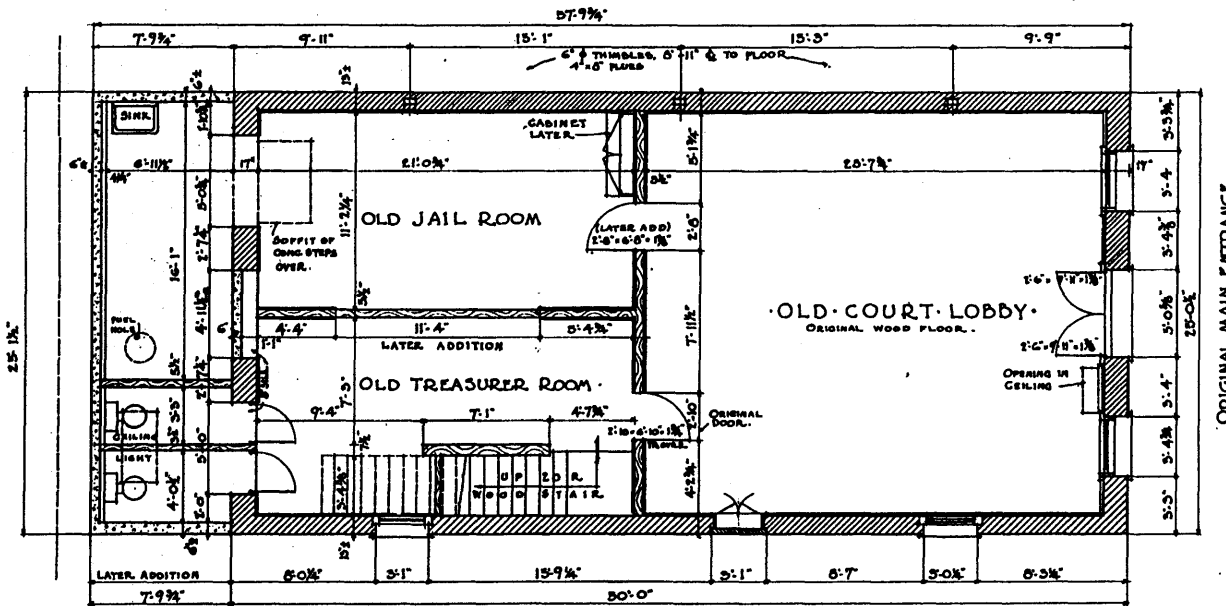
F-3 DETAIL SHUTTER SUPPORTS



DETAIL OF ORIGINAL WINDOWS
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"



F-3 DETAIL OF JAMB



KEY TO MATERIALS

- CONCRETE
- STUD PARTITION
- STONE
- BRICK

F.C. STANTON - DEL.

BASEMENT PLAN

SCALE 1/4" = 1 FT.
ORIGINALLY THE MAIN FLOOR.



SCALE 0 5 10 METERS

SCALE 0 1 2 3 INCHES

SCALE 0 2 FEET

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BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

1106 E. STREET - BELLINGHAM

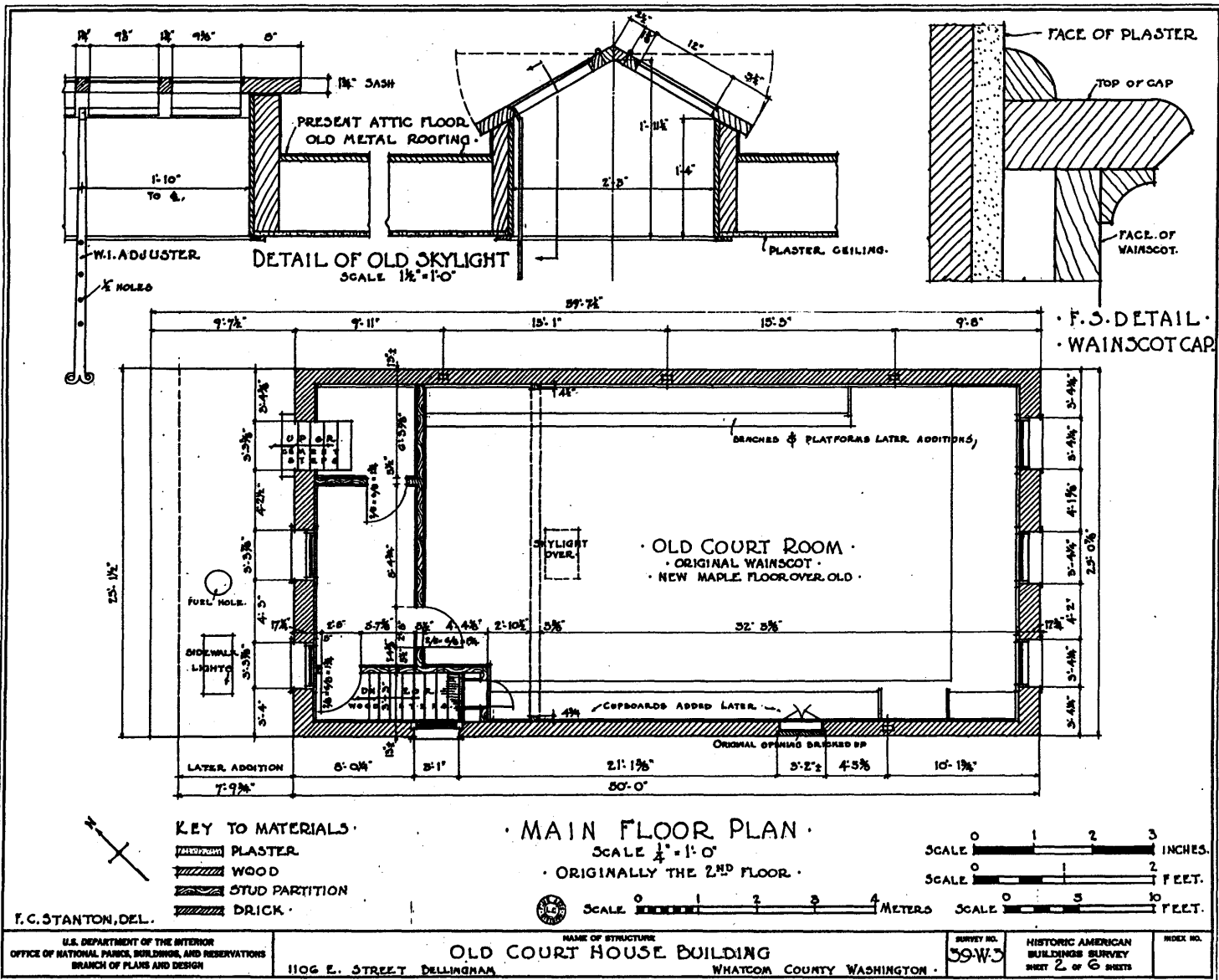
NAME OF STRUCTURE
OLD COURT HOUSE BUILDING

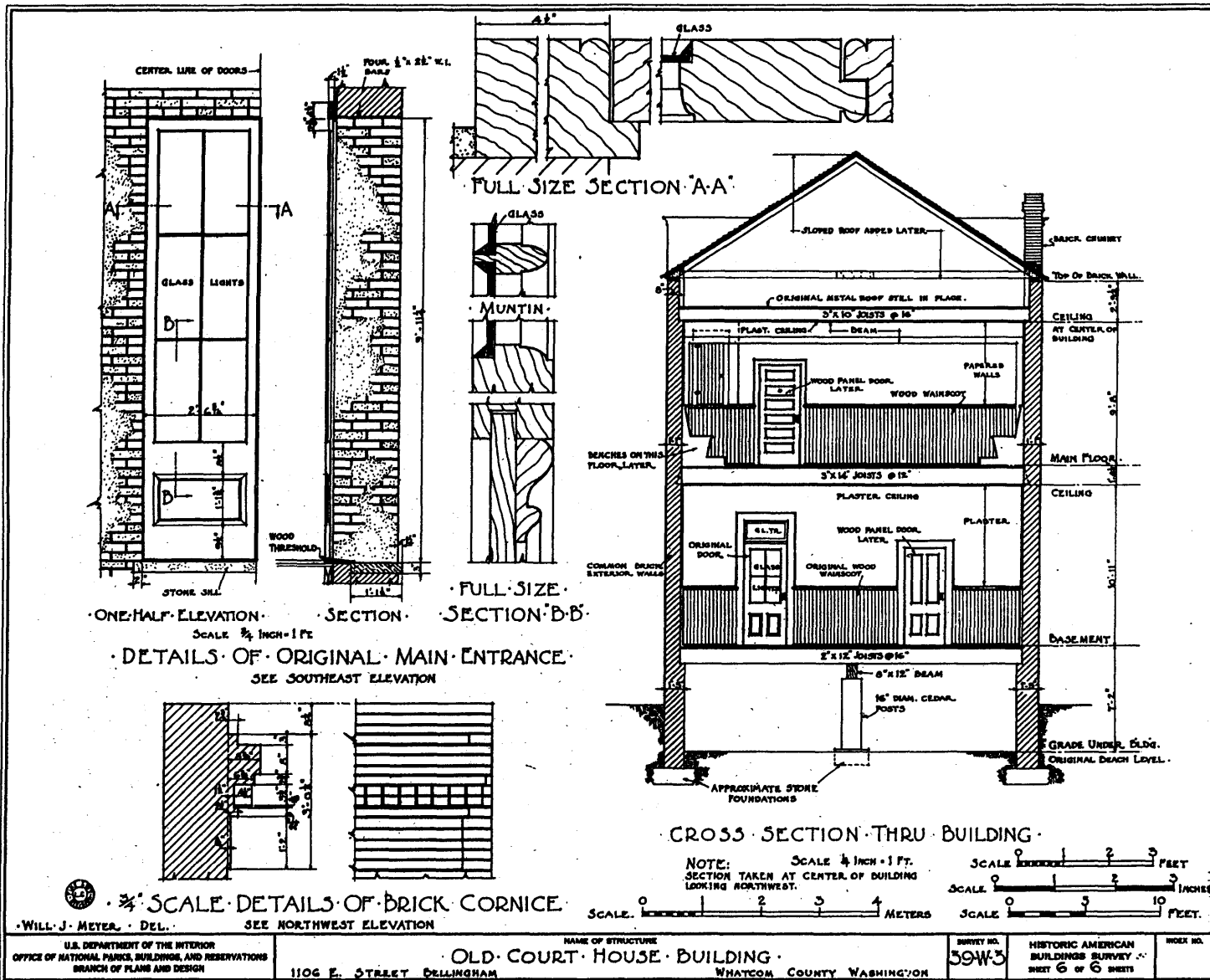
WHATCOM COUNTY WASHINGTON

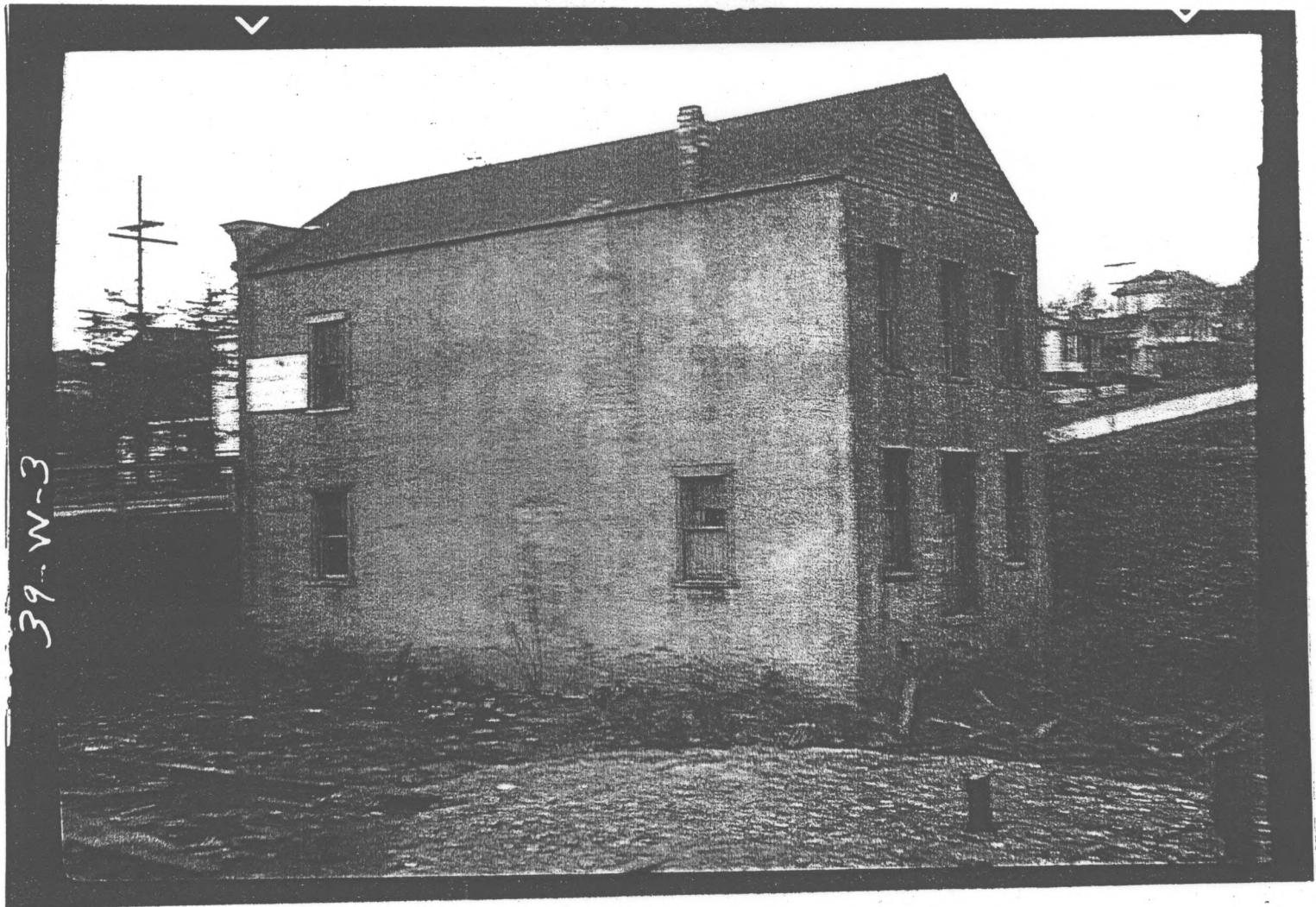
SURVEY NO.
39W-3

HISTORIC AMERICAN
BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 1 OF 6 SHEETS

INDEX NO.



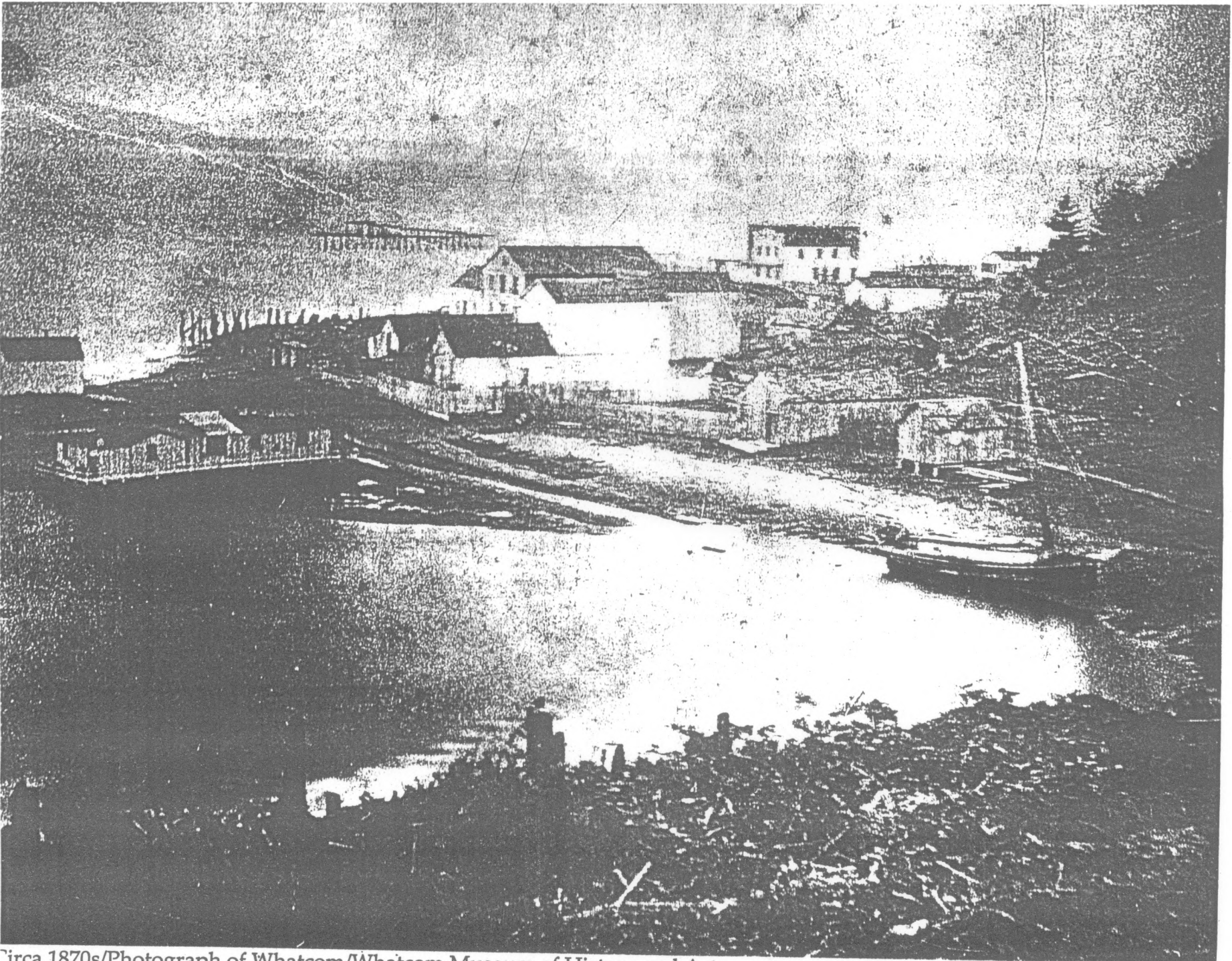




Historic American Buildings Survey/Southwest facade/Library of Congress



Circa 1870s/Earliest known photograph of Whatcom/Whatcom Museum of History and Art



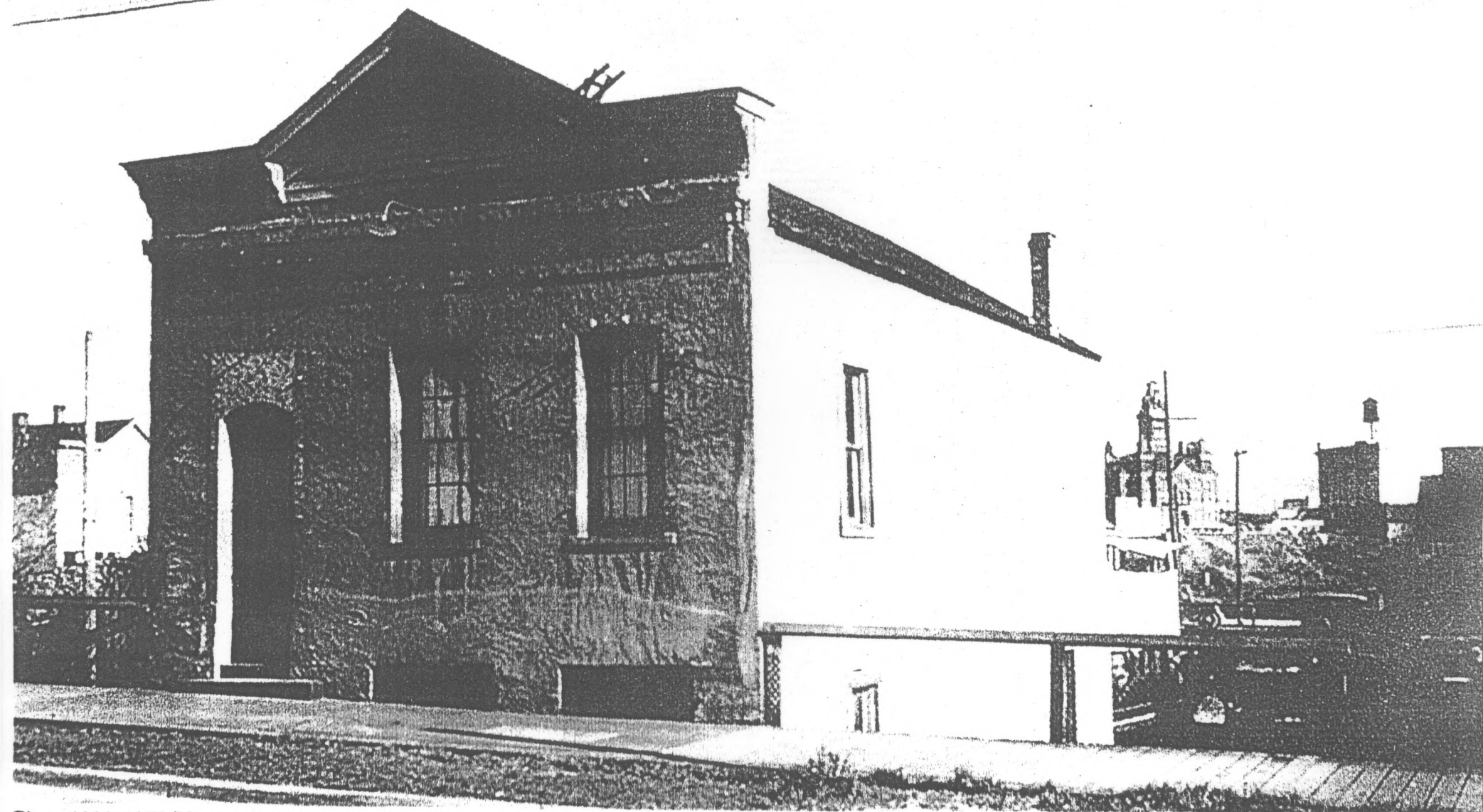
Circa 1870s/Photograph of Whatcom/Whatcom Museum of History and Art



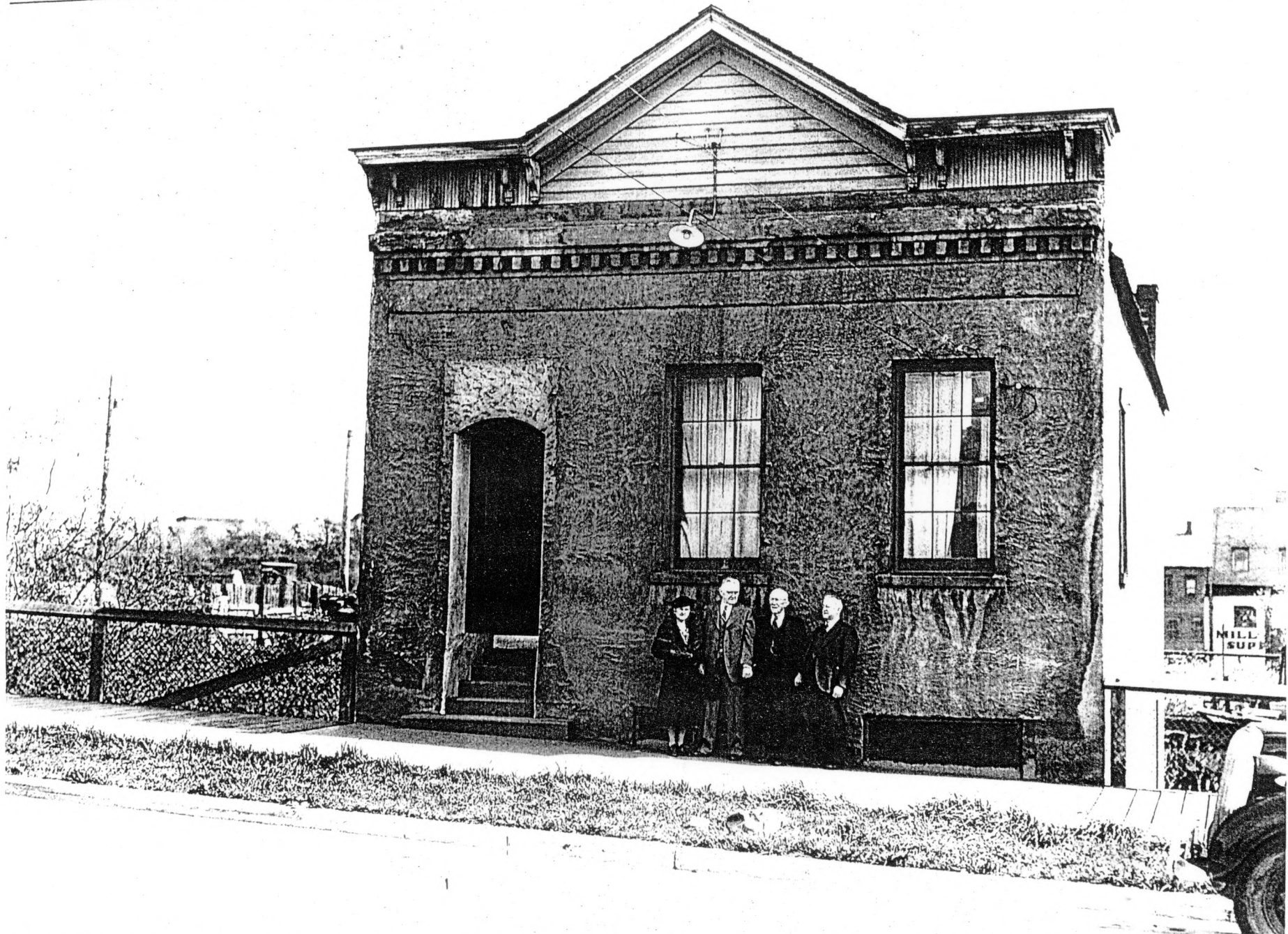
circa 1953/View of Bellingham/Whatcom Museum of History and Art



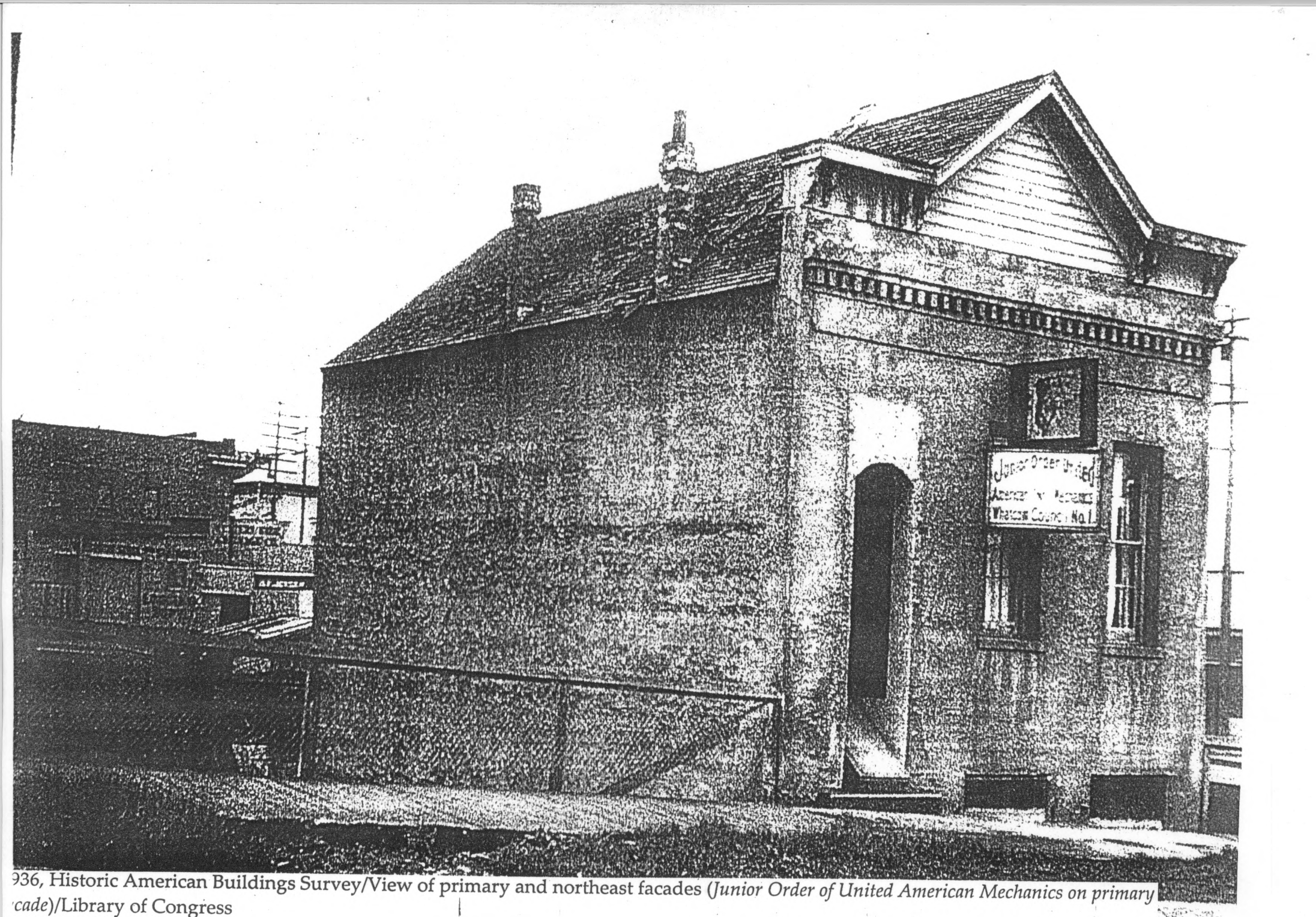
Circa 1970/Aerial view of downtown Bellingham/Whatcom Museum of History and Art



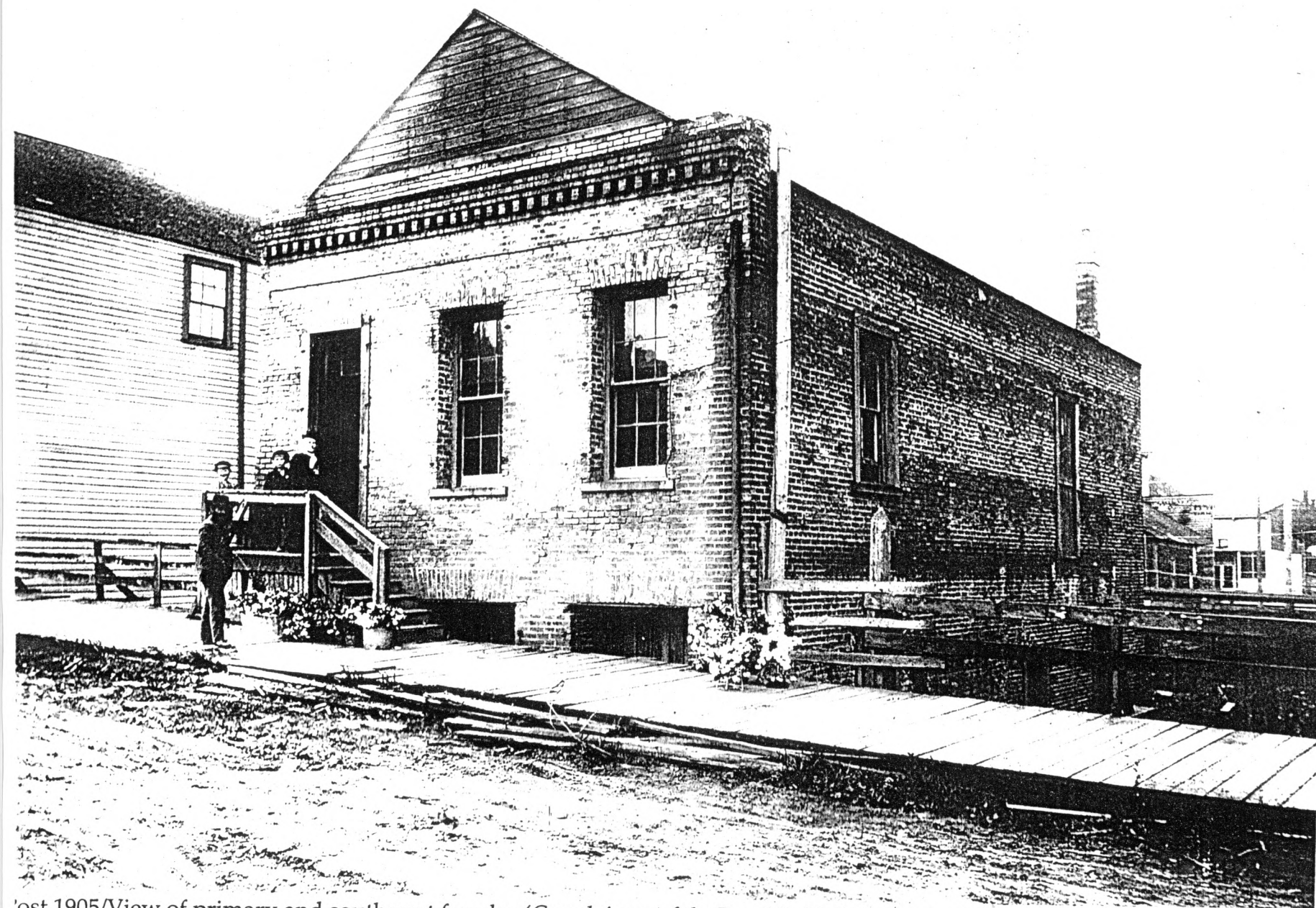
Circa 1939-1950/View of primary and southwest facades
Center for Pacific Northwest Studies/P. R. Jeffcott Collection



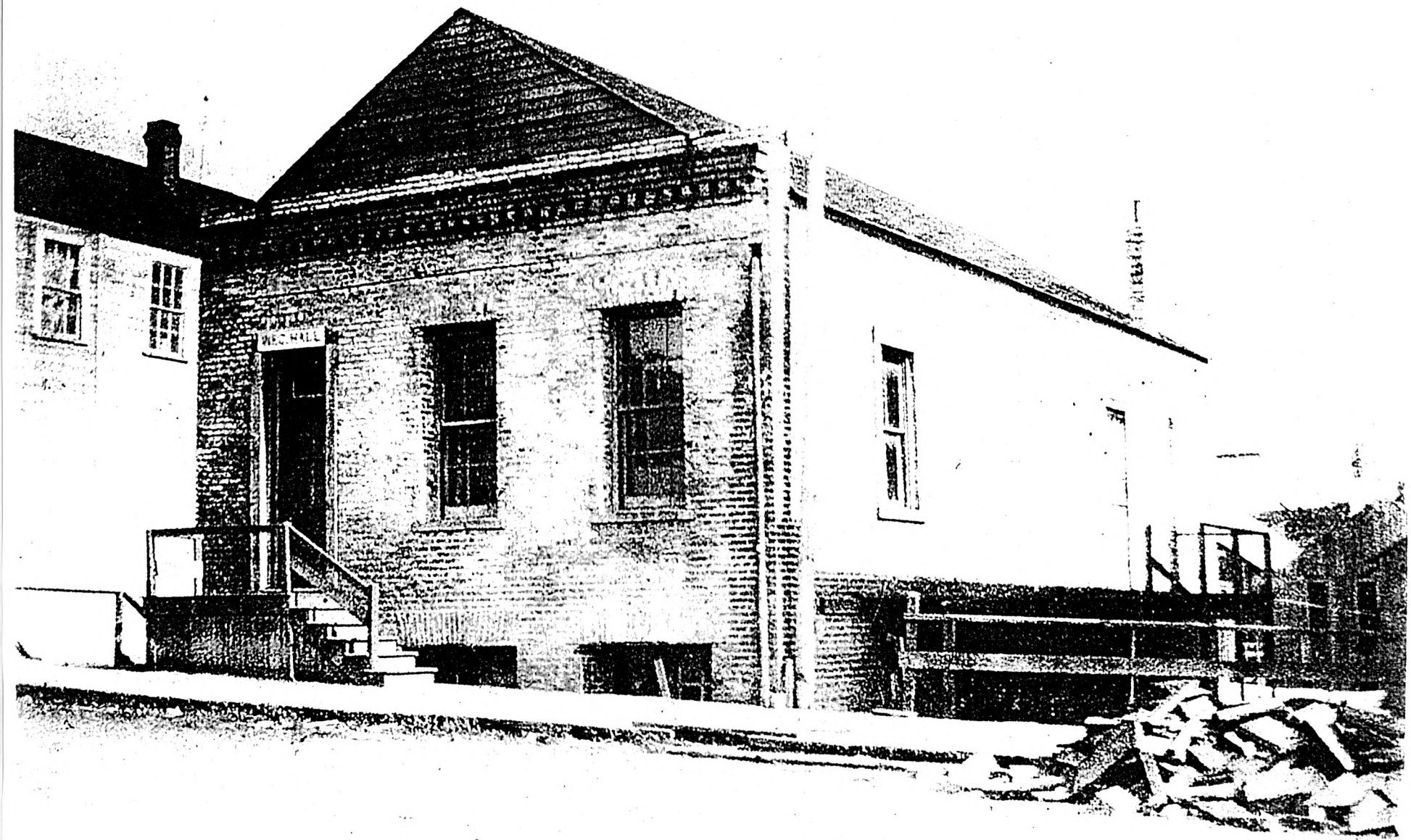
April 30, 1939/View of primary facade ("Pioneers Gather at First Court House" Mrs. Hallie Lysle Campbell, D. W. McArthur, Hugh Eldridge, Victor Roeder, building still home to Junior Order of United American Mechanics)/Whatcom Museum of History and Art



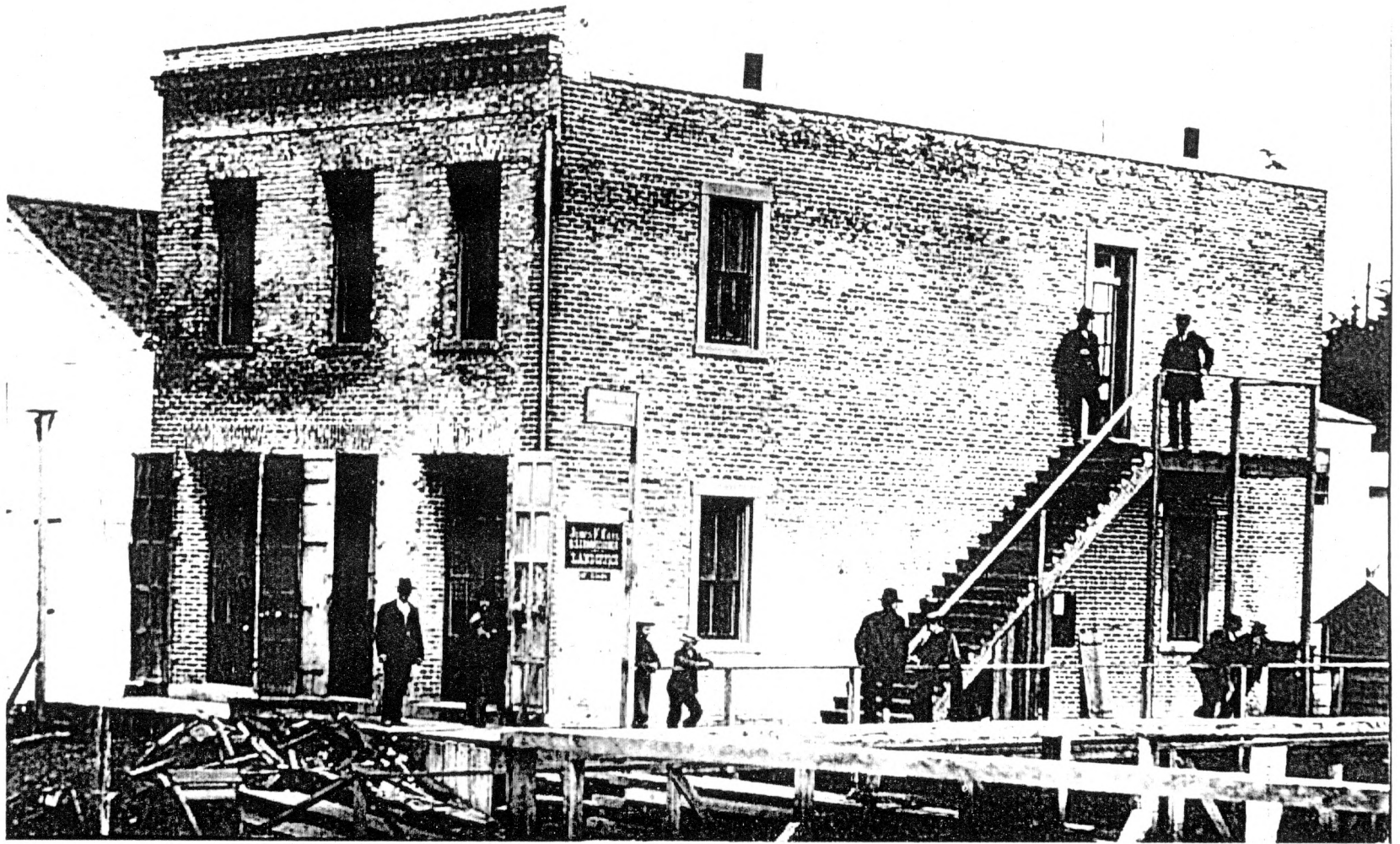
936, Historic American Buildings Survey/View of primary and northeast facades (*Junior Order of United American Mechanics on primary facade*)/Library of Congress



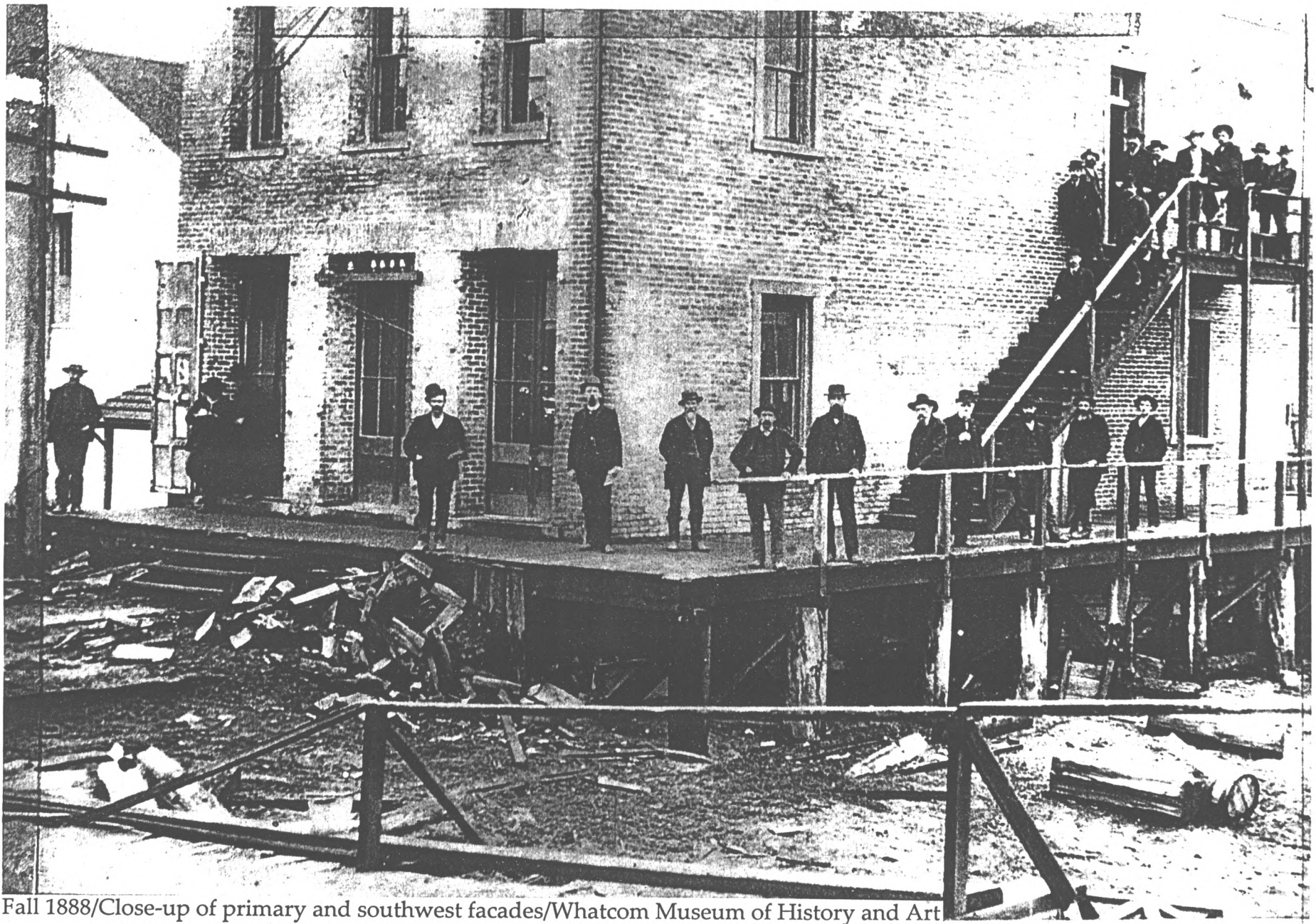
Post 1905/View of primary and southwest facades (*Grand Army of the Republic Hall sign above the door, Civil War veteran's organization*)
Whatcom Museum of History and Art



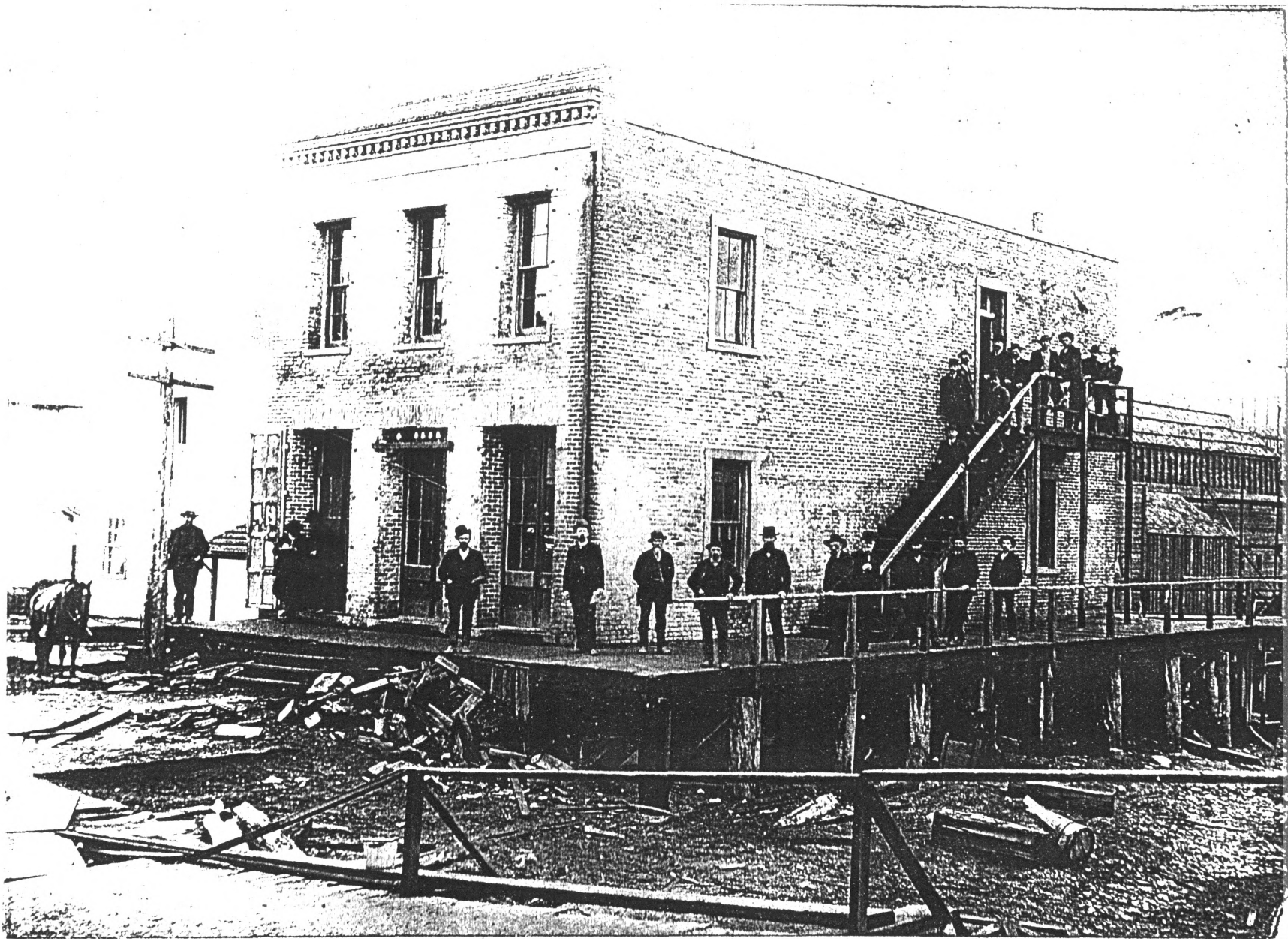
ca 1893-1905/View of primary and southwest facades (*Women's Relief Corps sign above the door, E Street re-graded*)
enter for Pacific Northwest Studies



Circa 1880s/View of primary and southwest facades/Center for Pacific Northwest Studies



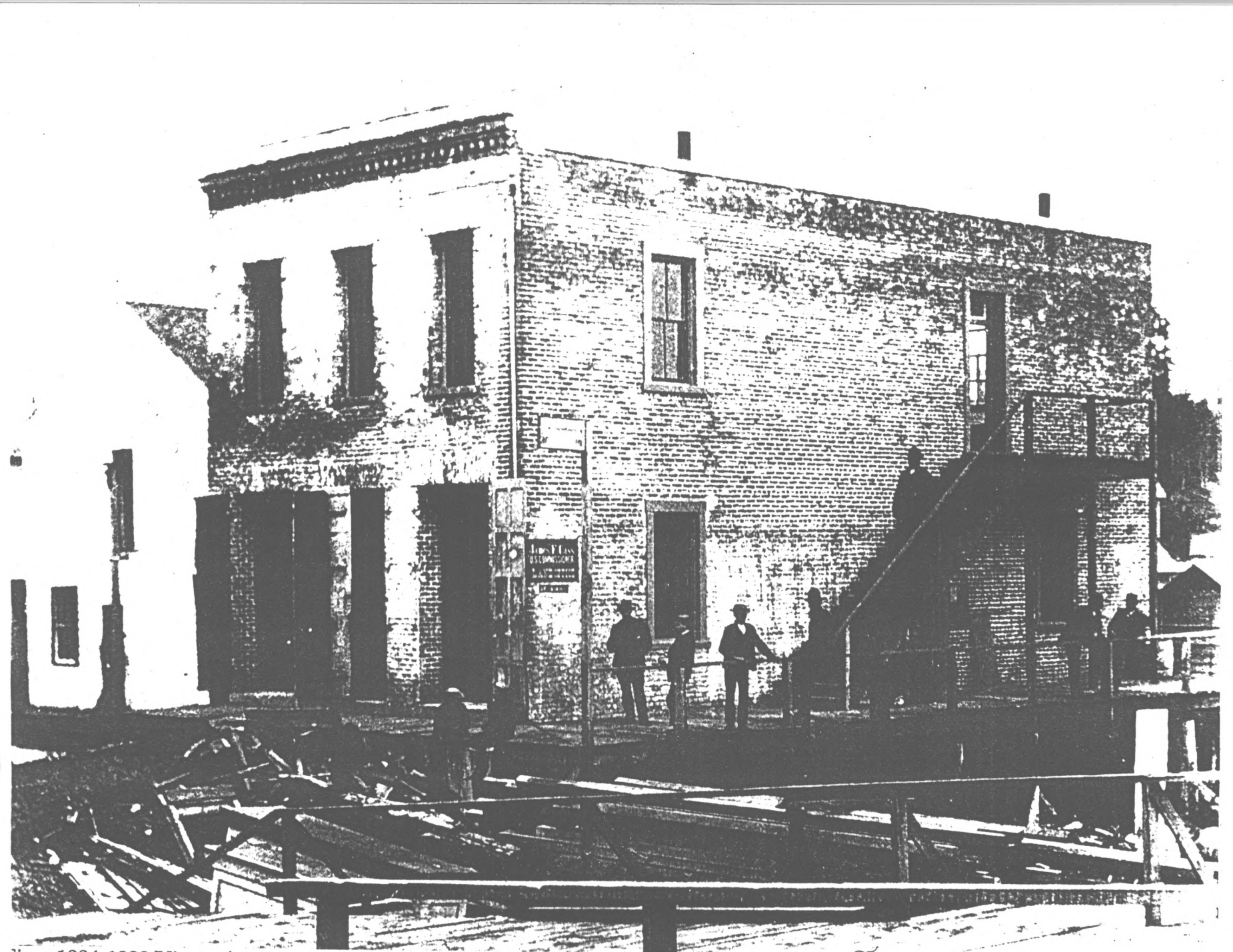
Fall 1888/Close-up of primary and southwest facades/Whatcom Museum of History and Art



Boyd

Court House — Whatcombs

Fall 1888, William F. Boyd photographer/View of primary and southwest facades Cor. Second and Columbia Sta.
Center for Pacific Northwest Studies/Howard Buswell Collection



Circa 1884-1888/View of primary and southwest facades (*James F. Cass elected commissioner in 1884, sign on post*)/
Vhatcom Museum of History and Art



circa 1884/View looking north (building in background) at rear facade/Whatcom Museum of History and Art



Circa 1880-1888/View looking south at primary facade/Center for Pacific Northwest Studies