

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Jefferson County Courthouse

other names/site number The Old Courthouse; Madras City Hall

multiple property document N/A

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

2. Location

street & number 34 SE D Street

not for publication

city or town Madras

vicinity

state Oregon

code OR

county Jefferson

code 031

zip code 97741

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance: ___ national ___ statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A ___ B ___ C ___ D

Christine Cunas

7.24.15

Signature of certifying official/Title: Interim Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:)

Joe Edson & Beall

9.17.15

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson, Co. OR
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
<u>2</u>		buildings
		site
		structure
		object
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT: Courthouse

GOVERNMENT: Correctional facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/ NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:

Classical Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: BRICK

roof: SYNTHETIC

other: N/A

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson, Co. OR
County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

Summary Paragraph

The 1917 Jefferson County Courthouse, known locally as “the Old Courthouse,” is located in the central Oregon town of Madras, Jefferson County, at 34 SE D Street. The two-story, red-brick building has a largely rectangular footprint measuring roughly 42'x 62'. The brick exterior is laid in an English-bond pattern, with a header course alternating with a stretcher course at every sixth course. The Classical Revival decorative elements are somewhat restrained and are found mostly on the main facade. The brick quoins on the building corners, symmetrical fenestration pattern, stepped-parapet wall, and deeply-recessed arched entryway are the strongest decorative features. The interior is a 5,208 square-foot space consisting of two main floors and a raised partial basement. The first floor was remodeled sometime after 1961 for use as office space. The second floor housed the original courtroom and two offices to either side of the staircase and retains most of the original fabric from the building's construction. The contributing 1918 Jefferson County Jailhouse is located just 40' to the north (rear) of the Courthouse and functioned as a jail until 1961.¹ It is a simple, one-story building constructed of thick board-formed concrete walls with a vaulted concrete roof. Measuring only 20'x20', the building contains two jail cells, a wood stove, and a toilet.² Both the Courthouse and the contributing Jailhouse are in their original location and retain sufficient integrity of design, materials, and workmanship to convey their historic significance under Criterion A.

Narrative Description

Location and Setting

The city of Madras lies in a round valley on relatively level terrain that is characteristic of central Oregon. The community boasts a view of Mount Jefferson and the Cascades to the west and the rolling badlands to the east. The Courthouse faces south and is sited at the northwest corner of 6th and D Streets in the heart of downtown. The lot is rectangular and measures roughly 150' running north to south and 100' east to west, for a total of .35 acres. There is limited landscaping beyond the small lawn fronting the building at the south end of the lot. Two mature trees flank the sidewalk leading to the main entrance. City sidewalks run along the south and east lot lines.

Exterior Description

The generally rectangular brick building is oriented on a north-south axis, with the front facade facing south. The main facade is the most decorative, featuring brick quoins on the building corners, symmetrical fenestration pattern, stepped parapet wall, and deeply-recessed arched entryway. The secondary facades have fewer openings and are less decorative.

Front facade

The courthouse stands on a raised basement with concrete walls. The concrete walls were reinforced in 2014 and now project from the face of the main brick volume and are scored and rusticated to resemble stone. Above the foundation the main building mass is constructed of brick. The walls are three bricks thick and header courses are alternated with stretcher courses. Brick quoins embellish the corners of the building, while an intermediate cornice runs beneath the parapet wall on the south, east, and west facades. These details add texture and depth to an otherwise flat surface.

¹ Stephen Dow Beckham, *State of Oregon Inventory, Historic Sites and Buildings* “Jefferson County Jail,” (Salem, OR: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, 6 August 1976).

² Steve Janzen, Interview by author, 21 April 2014.

Jefferson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR

County and State

On the main (south) facade the central entryway is deeply recessed behind a brick arch with a cast-concrete keystone and flanked on either side by paired, one-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows with lamb's tongue detailing. The windows are separated by a wide wood mullions and display brick sills. The windows on the outer bays at the second level are vertically aligned with and repeat the design of the first floor windows, with the exception that the second-story windows are surmounted by diamond-paned transoms. Above the entry in the central bay is a tripartite window exhibiting the same double-hung windows and diamond-paned transom as the paired windows that flank it. All three window bays at the second level are connected by a brick sill course above a dentil course.

The building as a whole displays primarily horizontal lines that are further emphasized by an intermediate cornice with a soldier course and dentil course below that separates the second floor and the parapet above. The stepped-parapet wall adds a slight vertical emphasis to this main facade. This draws the eye to the center of the facade and breaks up the otherwise straight parapet. A wood sign painted to read "The Original Courthouse" is located at the center of the parapet and mounted over two cast-concrete panels that read, respectively, "Madras" and "1917 City Hall 1917." The parapet wall is finished with a concrete coping covered with sheet-metal flashing. Historically, the roofing material was tar-and-gravel, but it is presently covered with a synthetic membrane.³

A broad centrally-placed flight of six concrete stairs with a metal railing leads to the main entryway. A short accessibility ramp hugs the front facade under the east window and joins the stairs at the arched entryway. The recessed entry, behind the arched opening, includes a door with full-height glass flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a three-light transom. The ensemble is framed with anodized metal.

East and west facades.

The east and west facades are similar, with individually-placed, one-over-one-light, double-hung windows on the second and first floors. The second-floor windows display their original wood frame, one-over-one-light, double-hung windows with lamb's tongue detailing. The windows on the first floor have anodized-metal frames within their original openings.

North (rear) facade

At the north (rear) end of the building, a concrete vault addition that is 20' in length projects 8' from the rear wall. The vault's metal shed roof was replaced and extended over the raised, concrete stoop at the northeast corner of the building in 2014. Six concrete steps adjacent to the concrete vault lead to the concrete stoop and a flush metal door. At the center of this facade is an arched opening that is bricked-in. There are no other openings on this facade. There is no parapet on the rear facade, revealing the edge of the roofing.

Interior Description

The interior of the Jefferson County Courthouse includes a total of 5,208 square feet on two floors and an unfinished partial basement accessed by a split stair at the rear of the building. The first floor houses office space and is arranged around a central hall with men's and women's restrooms in the northeast corner of the building and records storage within a centered rear addition housing two historic vaults. It is unclear how much of the original floor plan is intact; however, the current room arrangement suggests that the original floorplan was substantially altered. Finishes in this space, where still present, are obscured by non-historic sheetrock walls; suspended ceiling tiles; low-pile carpet over the original wood floors; vinyl baseboard trim; and simple wood casings around the doors and other openings. The once-open staircase is now enclosed with non-historic sheetrock walls. The second floor housed the original courtroom and two offices to either side of the staircase and retains most of the original fabric from the building's construction. The unfinished partial basement has poured-concrete and brick walls with a concrete floor. The wood-framed walls and floor joists are exposed in this space.

³ Ibid.

Jefferson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR

County and State

First Floor

Entrance

Tucked into the recessed arch, the original door assemblage had a wood-frame door with a diamond-framed transom. It was replaced during the 1960s with a metal-framed door with sidelights and transoms. From the entry a double-loaded hallway splits the interior. The reception office to the left of the hallway (facing north) has a receptionist window facing into the hall. The hallway then branches off on either side of the central staircase and leads to the vault and the bathrooms in the northwest corner of the building.

Offices and Bathrooms

To the east of the hallways are three separate offices. On the west side is a small office in the southwest corner, in addition to the main office space mentioned above. The offices are closed off by standard hollow-core interior doors. The spaces are carpeted with the same low-pile carpeting as the main reception area. The men's and women's restrooms feature tiled floors, sheetrock walls, white porcelain fixtures, and metal dividers between the stalls.

Vaults

The vault addition contains two rooms divided by a wall. Each is accessed through iron doors on either side of the staircase. Inside the east vault, the exterior brick from the main north wall is exposed and painted white, and the space includes carpeted floors and exposed-concrete walls. The west vault room to the left of the staircase is carpeted and the concrete walls are covered with faux-wood paneling.

Second Floor Interiors

Courtroom

From the staircase landing, visitors move through a small vestibule before entering the main courtroom. The entrance to the courtroom is marked by double swinging doors, each with five horizontal panels. An operable transom above the doors allows for better light and air circulation into the hallway and staircase. Inside the courtroom, the original windows from the main, east, and west facades flood the space with natural light. Crown molding tops the windows and door surrounds. An aisle of equally-spaced, square-paneled, fir-clad columns divide the space between what was originally the judge's bench and the former audience seating on the west side of the room. All but the column on the west side of the room closest to the main window bay is original. A short wood railing between the columns on the east side separates the former judge's bench area from the rest of the courtroom. The original fir floors are covered in asphalt tiles, but are in the process of being removed. The walls are plaster over brick with a fir baseboard. The ceiling is sheetrock over the original lath-and-plaster finish.

Court Clerk Office and Judge's Chamber

Doors from the hallway and the courtroom open to the former Judge's Chambers located in the northeast corner of the second floor. The walls and ceiling exhibit the same materials as the courtroom, but the original fir floors are exposed. The former court clerk's office is in the northwest corner, and also retains the original wood floor; however, the Jefferson County Historical Society installed floral wallpaper and painted the trim mint green in the 1970s.

Contributing Outbuilding

The Jailhouse is located in the northeast corner of the lot, adjacent to W 6th Street. The building is constructed of board-formed poured concrete and measures roughly 20'x20'. It has a vaulted concrete roof and one iron door on the south (front) side. Two small square windows covered with iron shutters are located to the left of the main door. The interior houses two jail cells enclosed with round, painted-metal bars, each with two folding beds attached to one wall, one over the other. A stove is located in the southeast corner and toilet in the northeast corner. A sign above the door says, "Old County Jail, July 3, 1918." The only alteration to this

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

building is the gutter affixed to the exterior south wall and the removal of the tar-and-gravel that once covered the concrete roof.

Alterations and Additions

Few changes were made to the Courthouse during its first several decades. Alterations were made to the brick on the west facade after the fire escape extending from the center window of the second story was taken down, sometime during the later years that the county government occupied the building. The mortar below this window was replaced with concrete. Most changes were made during the period the building was used by the Oregon State University Extension Service beginning in 1961. Alterations included the installation of an accessibility ramp on the southeast corner of the building and replacement of the first-floor windows and the front door with metal frames. While these alterations detract somewhat from the historical character, the entrance is deeply recessed behind the arch and does not call undue attention to the alteration. The key-stoned arch framing the entryway provides more than enough character to make up for this loss. The entire first floor interior of the Courthouse was altered during this same period to accommodate office space.⁴ Alterations include reorientation of the floor plan and the installation of non-historic sheetrock walls, low-pile carpet, and vinyl and wood trim. However, the principal public space, the second floor courtroom, retains integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. It is believed that sometime after 1918 the water table around the foundation was removed. However, it is possible that this may have been done around the time the accessibility ramp was installed. This topic requires further research as this author could not find records or photographs to verify this transition.

Recent alterations completed in 2014 include the reinforcement of the foundation with 6' of new concrete, scored and rusticated to suggest stone block; removal of the foundation windows; installation of new flashing capping the parapet wall and original concrete cornice; and application of a synthetic membrane to replace the tar-and-gravel roofing. A replica of the wooden "Jefferson County Courthouse" plaque that once covered the cast-concrete panels, "Madras" and "1917 City Hall 1917," at the stepped parapet is placed on the same spot. The sign now reads, "The Original Courthouse." A wrought-iron fence was installed in July 2014. A new concrete retaining wall was constructed off the northwest corner of the building during the same month.

⁴ Jefferson County Historical Society, *History of Jefferson County, Oregon 1914-1983* (Portland: Taylor Publishing Co., 1984); The estimated date for the first floor exterior and interior alterations is based on an examination of the materials and the presumption that the OSU Extension Service likely required improved office space after assuming the lease in the 1960s.

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

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.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1917-1934

Significant Dates

1917, Date of Construction

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

NA

Architect/Builder

O.G. Brubaker, Architect

Guy Herman Wilson, Builder

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the building's construction by the city of Madras and use by the Jefferson County government in 1917 and ends in 1934 when the United States Resettlement Administration, a Depression-era aid program, began buying failed farms throughout the county after years of drought and economic hardship following the end of World War I. The Resettlement Administration's purchase of tens of thousands of acres signaled an important shift in governance and economics in the county as the agricultural land surrounding Madras transitioned from privately-owned family farms under county governance to public grazing lands under federal stewardship.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A

Jefferson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR

County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The 1917 Jefferson County Courthouse, known to locals as “the Old Courthouse,” is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Government. Following a contentious battle for the county seat the Courthouse was constructed as the Madras City Hall, but housed the county offices and court from 1917 until 1961 when the current courthouse was built a block away. The Jailhouse remained the only facility for holding prisoners during the same time. The Courthouse was constructed during a period of relative prosperity in Jefferson County and Madras specifically, which had grown steadily since the early-twentieth century with the establishment of dry-land farms throughout the area under the Homestead Act. Winning the county seat secured Madras’ position as the county’s economic and political center, encouraging further growth and development. Together, the Courthouse and contributing Jailhouse are symbols of the regional development of Jefferson County and Madras as the county seat. The period of significance begins with the building’s construction in 1917 and ends in 1934 when the United States Resettlement Administration, a Depression-era aid program, began buying failed farms throughout the county signaling an important shift in governance as the once profitable agricultural land surrounding Madras transferred from private ownership subject to county governance to public grazing lands under federal stewardship.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Settlement of Central Oregon⁵

The first recorded account of present-day Jefferson County’s “Grasslands” on central Oregon’s Deschutes-Umatilla Plateau by Peter Skene Ogden in 1826 described a savanna-like environment in which the soil was “remarkably rich and in some places the grass seven feet high.” Despite its potential for ranching and farming, the arid plain is punctuated by stretches of rocky soil and juniper and had been largely passed over by overland migrants heading to the lush Willamette River Valley along the Oregon Trail since 1843. Initial Euro-American settlement occurred later in the century when gold was discovered near Canyon City in 1862, which was followed by subsequent discoveries in the region. The rapid influx of miners led to armed conflicts with the area’s Native American inhabitants that episodically flared through 1868. Even before the conflicts had ended, cattle were brought into the Grassland and surrounding areas to fatten on the abundant perennial bunchgrasses growing thickly on the public domain lands. Later, large flocks of sheep were brought in to share, uneasily, the unregulated open rangeland. Euro-American settlers primarily from the Willamette Valley, but also from California, came in increasing numbers after the cessation of hostilities in 1868 and spread throughout central Oregon and the Grassland to areas with sufficient rainfall or ground water for farming and livestock husbandry.

Degradation of the land due to overgrazing and violent conflict between stockman for dwindling lands led to federal regulation of the open range in the late-nineteenth century. The increasing settlement of the Grassland by second-generation Oregon farmers through and then accelerating after 1900 signaled the end of the open range era, even as stock raising remained an important industry through the early-twentieth century. Over 700 homesteads claims were filed in Jefferson County before the termination of the homesteading laws. Overtime, generational settlement in the region prevailed, with families continually adding to their holdings. By 1920 virtually all reasonably arable lands in Jefferson County were patented.

Founding and Development of Madras, OR

Like many other small towns in central Oregon, Madras’ founding occurred late in the state’s settlement.⁶ In 1888, the first homestead was patented on the current site of the town of Madras; however, the majority of

⁵ This passage is excerpted and edited for length from: Janine McFarland, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Document “Settlement and Abandonment of the Crooked River National Grassland in Jefferson County, OR, 1868-1937” (Washington, DC: National Park Service, 2015), E-4 – E-8.

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

patents for lands now included in the Grassland were not obtained until after 1900 when settlers poured into the area.⁷ The area that now makes up the city of Madras was originally known as “Basin” because of its location in a bowl-like valley.⁸ It was this topography that made Madras suitable for dry-farming as the basin naturally collected water that could be drawn upon during the dry season.⁹ Madras began as a speculative venture of donation land claim owner and rancher John A. Palmehn. Palmehn was convinced of the need for a trade center for sheep and cattle ranchers in and around the Willow Creek Basin, and he filed a plat for a new town, known as “Palmain (presumably a misspelling of Palmehn), in July 1902. Over the next two years, several business-minded new arrivals bought lots and erected false-fronted wood-frame commercial buildings and modest, single-story dwellings.¹⁰ Similar to many rural communities in eastern Oregon, ranching, logging, and wheat farming were the primary industries driving the local economy.¹¹

Early in the town’s history, the establishment of homesteads in the outlying areas drove the local economy. Homesteading accelerated in the Grassland as settlement in Oregon was promoted locally and in the East. Advertisements in eastern newspapers, often placed by railroad companies, touted tillable land with abundant water and served by a rapidly developing transportation system.¹² The resulting swell of newcomers exceeded the ability of local establishments to house them. In Madras, a tent city sprang up on the north end of town in 1904. The settlers migrated from many places, including Austria, Denmark, England, Germany, Norway and Scotland. A homestead site location industry sprang up, helping newcomers find suitable parcels and assisting owners of existing homesteads acquire adjacent land). Without irrigation, homesteaders relied on dry-farming techniques, an innovative practice of extensive, one-crop agriculture that, in the Grassland, mostly meant wheat. By 1900 dry-land wheat was the dominant crop throughout most of the region east of the Cascades; approximately 65,000 acres were farmed, primarily for wheat but also for grass hay.¹³

The rapid settlement of the region at the turn of the century encouraged unbridled optimism for the future. The first issue of the weekly *Madras Pioneer*, published on August 25, 1904, assuredly announced the newspaper’s intention to assist in the up building of Madras and boasted of the town’s many advantages as a trading center: its proximity to the nearby Hay Creek sheep and cattle ranch empire to the east, to 800 Native American famers and stock growers living on the Warm Springs Reservation to the northwest, and to the stands of yellow and ponderosa pine covering the western slopes of the Ochoco Mountains to the southeast. Most importantly, according to the *Pioneer*, Madras was located on the proposed extension of the Columbia Southern Railroad, from Shaniko south to Prineville and Bend. Great expectations of Madras’ future prosperity as a railroad trading center, no doubt, encouraged John Palmehn to transfer his unsold lots to the Madras Townsite Company in late 1904 and 1905, and prompted vigorous real estate activity.¹⁴

To the disappointment of many, however, it was not until early 1911, one year after the town incorporated, that the first train steamed into Madras over James Hill’s Oregon Truck Railroad tracks. In mid-February that year, out-of-town celebrities and Madras residents greeted the train under a high-arched sign proclaiming Madras as the “Gateway to Central Oregon.”¹⁵ The arrival of Oregon Trunk Railroad, a feeder line for the larger interstate and transcontinental railroads, encouraged production for export to national and international

⁶ Gail E.H. Evans, National Register of Historic Places Nomination for the “Lueddemann, Max and Ollie, House” (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1996), Section 8, page 4.

⁷ McFarland, E-16.

⁸ Steve Lent, *Images of America: Madras* (Charleston, South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing, 2012), 7.

⁹ Many Hands, *Jefferson County Reminiscences* (Portland: Binford and Mort., 1957).

¹⁰ Excerpted and edited for length from: Evans, Section 8, pages 4-5.

¹¹ Tonsfeldt, Ward & Paul G. Claeysens.

¹² Excerpted and edited for length from: McFarland, E-16.

¹³ *Ibid*; Dry-farming is the application of specific techniques and practices for “the profitable production of useful crops, without irrigation, on lands that receive annually a rainfall of 20 inches or less. The practices of dry-farming were directed toward effective use of scarce water. These practices included management of soil moisture during the growing season by such practices as soil mulching, subsoil plowing, crop selection, summer fallow farming, and crop treatment. The Dry-Farming Movement of the late 1800’s and the continuing efforts of homesteaders to adapt to the reality of coaxing crops from dry soil played an important role in the settling of the Grassland and the further transformation of its environment.

¹⁴ Excerpted and edited for length from: Evans, Section 3, pages 1-4; Section 8, pages 4-5, 9.

¹⁵ Excerpted and edited for length from: Evans, Section 8, page 5.

Jefferson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR

County and State

markets. This feat of linear infrastructure encouraged the further conversion of remaining grazing land and inactive pastures to cropland. Nationally, farm prices were high and rose proportionally more than non-farm prices from the late 1890s to the early 1920s. The Grassland farmers benefitted from these high prices and were able to purchase equipment and land, often mortgaging their holdings in pursuit of mechanization to increase productivity, while enjoying a comparatively high level of prosperity.¹⁶

Economic growth fed the development of Madras. Between 1913 and 1928, the city of Madras transitioned from primarily wood-framed buildings to more substantial brick commercial buildings. Before the construction of the Courthouse, the only brick building shown on the 1913 Sanborn Fire Insurance map was the Madras State Bank across the street and to the south of the Courthouse, yet-to-be-constructed. By 1913 the city had both running water and electric light. In 1917, Madras was described in the local directory as “an important trading center and one of the largest wool shipping stations in Central Oregon,” boasting a union high school and graded schools, churches, flour mill, weekly newspaper, hotels, and banks. The 1921 directory acknowledged the continued importance of the ranching industry, but noted that wheat and other grains had become the “principal commodities produced.” By 1928, when the town was again surveyed by the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company several brick buildings had been constructed since 1913, including the Madras Union High School, the Fischer hotel (later, the Bellamy hotel), the Lounge Hall (the Oddfellows lodge), the Hobson Hotel, and the drug store. The transition to more substantial brick construction reflected the community’s prosperity compared to much smaller towns, such as Culver and Metolius. Throughout the teens and 1920s, the city maintained a population of about 350 persons, making it the largest city in the county.¹⁷ Madras’ growth and during the early nineteenth century was an important factor in the town’s successful bid for the county seat in 1916.

Establishment of Jefferson County

In 1914, Madras was the largest incorporated town in Crook County, with a surrounding community of other small towns and family farms large enough to support its own county government. The campaign for county division built through the spring, and during the fall general elections of that same year the decision to create Jefferson County was put to vote. The measure won the majority with 1000 voters in favor and only 208 against based on an argument for more local, efficient, and less expensive government. A similar initiative to establish Deschutes County failed. After a brief court challenge, Governor Oswald West issued a proclamation establishing Oregon’s newest county on December 12, 1914. A final procedural challenge to the establishment of the new county was settled by the State Supreme Court in March 1915.¹⁸

The first task of the newly created county was to select a temporary seat until elections could be held to officially select a permanent home at the next regular election. The competition between the county’s three main cities (Madras, Culver, and Metolius) for county seat created intense animosity, most notably between Madras and Culver as each sought both the prestige and the expected economic boost of hosting the county seat. Each city submitted a brief proposal to the county court concerning accommodations they would offer the county, in order to secure their position. Madras made the case that they were the largest incorporated town with the best schools, businesses, and infrastructure. The community even boasted about having the only

¹⁶ Excerpted and edited for length from: McFarland, E-17.

¹⁷ Sanborn Map Company, *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*, Madras, Oregon, 1913 and 1928; Woodbeck’s Directory of Deschutes, Crook, and Jefferson Counties, “Madras” 1917; Polk’s Jefferson County Directory, “Madras” 1921; Bureau of Municipal Research and Service, “Population of Oregon Cities, Counties and Metropolitan Areas 1850 to 1957 (Eugene: University of Oregon, April 1958).

¹⁸ Many Hands; *Madras Pioneer*, “County Division Now Topic for Discussion” (Madras, OR: 2 April 1914); *Madras Pioneer*, “XXXX County Division Campaign” 9 April 1914; *Madras Pioneer*, “County Division and Lower Taxes” 23 April 1914; *Madras Pioneer*, “County Division Takes New Life” 30 July 1914; *Madras Pioneer*, “The Figures on County Division” 20 August 1914; *Madras Pioneer*, “County Division Up to Voters” 3 September 1914; *Madras Pioneer*, “Court Orders Proposed New Counties on Ballot” 10 September 1914; *Madras Pioneer*, “Cost Comparison Favors Division” 24 September 1914; *Madras Pioneer*, “Three Hearty Cheers for Jefferson County” 5 November 1914; *Madras Pioneer*, “Jefferson County Injunction Dissolved” 17 December 1914; *Deschutes Valley Tribune*, “Jefferson County is Upheld” (Culver, OR: 4 March 1915); *Deschutes Valley Tribune*, “Proclamation: In the County Court of Jefferson County, State of Oregon” 7 January 1915.

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

barber shop and telephone office, and that the town was nearer to the geographical center of the county. They offered the county a 40'x70', two-story, brick or concrete building to be finished by September 1, 1915, with offices, vaults, courtroom and jail, valued at \$9,000." Local boosters even filed a check for \$1,000 to the court as a show of good faith. Despite the community's best efforts, the commissioners voted a draw six times over several days before selecting Culver. Construction of a new courthouse in Culver began almost immediately in March. The newly appointed officers moved in even as the building was being finished in April. The county took official possession of the building in December 1915.¹⁹

Immediate issues facing the new county government included the details of separating from Crook County, including dividing tax receipts and property, which was not settled until July 1915, purchasing needed supplies, building a jailhouse, and hiring necessary staff. Gratifyingly, early estimates of the county's finances did indeed show that the new government was more cost effective and taxes were lower. Regular county court business included approving the construction of roads and other infrastructure, land-use issues, and settling civic and criminal court cases, as well as overseeing the Sheriff's Office and the administrative functions of the County Clerk's office, responsible for issuing licenses, recording mining claims, and maintaining property ownership records, among other duties.²⁰

The Jefferson County Courthouse in Madras

The location of the county seat in Culver was temporary, and the issue was again revisited during the fall 1916 general election after the question was put on the ballot through a petition effort spearheaded by the citizens of Madras and enthusiastically supported by the *Madras Pioneer*. At the November election, the majority of the county's population, mostly centered in Madras, voted for Madras as the county seat. The campaign for the county seat had been contentious, and Culver unsuccessfully challenged the election on procedural grounds in court.²¹ While Culver fought to keep the county seat, the citizens of Madras were anxious to set up the county government in their community. Accounts of how the county seat was moved to Madras vary, but it was reported in the January 5, 1917, edition of the *Bend Bulletin* that on New Years' Day a group of 75 men from Madras with horse teams and 25 automobiles went to Culver and forcibly removed most of the county records and furniture by 10:30 in the morning.²² Further accounts in the Culver and Madras paper offered their own version of events, with the Culver paper describing an unruly mob breaking into the courthouse to remove the county's records and property. In contrast, an account written in 1957 by former Madras Mayor Howard W. Turner describes a much more orderly transfer.²³

Despite the ongoing controversy regarding the circumstances of the transfer of the county seat, or perhaps because of it, the city of Madras moved quickly to establish a permanent home for the county government. The January 18, 1917, edition of the *Madras Pioneer* noted that at the recently concluded court session the need for "permanent quarters for county officers" was addressed before continuing the discussion to the next session for further consideration.²⁴ The need for a new building and jail in Madras was acute. In April 1917 a county grand jury investigation found county offices housed in buildings throughout town, with some described as "firetraps of the worst kind," and that records were stored in various locations, including a local bank vault and a baker's oven. The wood-frame city jail was found to be "very filthy," and it was recommended that the former county jail in Culver be used to house prisoners.²⁵ By February, it was apparent that city and county

¹⁹ Many Hands; *Madras Pioneer*, "Madras Metolius and Culver Offer Temporary Buildings" 31 December 1914; *Madras Pioneer*, "Temporary County Seat at Culver" 31 December 1914; *Deschutes Valley Tribune*, "New Courthouse" 4 March 1915; *Deschutes Valley Tribune*, "Officers Move In" 29 April 1915. *Deschutes Valley Tribune*, "Court House" 2 December 1915.

²⁰ *Deschutes Valley Tribune*, "County Court Session" 15 April 1915; *Deschutes Valley Tribune*, "Within the Estimates" 15 April 1915; *Deschutes Valley Tribune*, "Lower Taxes" 2 December 1915; *Deschutes Valley Tribune*, various issues 1915 and 1916.

²¹ *Madras Pioneer*, "A final Word" 26 October 1916; *Madras Pioneer*, "Proclamation of Governor Withycombe Declares Madras Permanent Seat of Jefferson County" 4 January 1917.

²² Ed Jackson, "Madras Hauls Away County Courthouse" (*Bend Bulletin*: Bend, OR, 5 January 1917).

²³ Howard A. Turner, "Madras" in Many Hands, *Jefferson County Reminiscences* (Portland: Binford and Mort., 1957), 136-137; *Madras Pioneer*, "Proclamation of Governor Withycombe Declares Madras Permanent Seat of Jefferson County" 4 January 1917.

²⁴ *Madras Pioneer*, "County Court Proceedings" 18 January 1917.

²⁵ *Madras Pioneer*, "Findings of the Grand Jury" 19 April 1917.

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

officials had already begun discussing sharing space. The *Madras Pioneer* reported that the City Council had “discussed at length the advisability of enlarging the proposed City Hall with the view of offering it to the county court as temporary quarters for the various county offices.” No decision was made, but a committee was appointed to study the question and taxpayers were encouraged to attend.²⁶

In March, the citizens of Madras overwhelmingly approved a \$5,000 bond for a new city hall, later shared with the county government.²⁷ Local oral tradition holds that previously the city hall was a wood-frame building on the same lot as the future Courthouse.²⁸ The following April the city published a front page call for bids for the “erection of a city hall in conformation with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the City Recorder.”²⁹ Designed by O. G. Brubaker from Bend, the plans called for a two-story building measuring 40’x60’ with a 40’x40’ basement with eight offices on the ground floor with a hall and double stair to the second floor that would house a court room measuring 22’x40’ feet, a jury room, attorney’s room, judge’s room, and two offices. A large piazza was planned for the rear of the building.³⁰ The building would be located at the northwest corner of D and 6th Streets, a half block east of downtown. Little is known of Brubaker who previously practiced in Portland where he advertised his business, O.G. Brubaker & Company, as “Architects and Designers of all classes of buildings in any locality. Distinctive houses a specialty.” Later in 1915 and 1916 he advertised himself as a building contractor before moving to Bend, OR.³¹ Guy Herman Wilson won the contract to construct the new building with a \$5,250 bid.³² Wilson also built the three-story brick Tudor Revival style Amateur Athletic Club in Bend, listed in the National Register in 1983.³³

The construction of the Jefferson County Courthouse represented a major investment for the citizens of Madras, and demonstrated the community’s pride in their accomplishments and hope for a prosperous future. Commenting on local interest in the project, the *Madras Pioneer* observed “the vote was larger than usual showing that Madras is not asleep and is up in the running for a larger and better city.”³⁴ That sentiment is evident in the design. While not a styled building, the Courthouse’s design reflects the rural character of Jefferson County with its restrained decorations, while still embracing the optimism inherent in classical design. The revival of classical styles in America can be traced to the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, drawing on Greek and Roman precedents to create balanced, symmetrical, and restrained designs. The thoughtful incorporation of Classical Revival decoration, including brick quoins on the building corners, decorative sill course under the second-story windows, union jack transoms, stepped parapet wall, and the deeply-recessed arched entryway lends the building an attractive, dignified appearance appropriate for the seat of city and county government, while capturing the optimism of early-twentieth century Madras.

Housed together in the same building, the city and county governments coordinated closely as they shared both the building and the associated costs. Even as the last finishing details were completed, in August 1917 county officials began moving their offices and records into the new Madras City Hall, described as “their new future home.” The City Hall was “thoroughly modern, with commodious office rooms,” and the paper noted in the very same article that “Jefferson County now has a splendid court house,” and that the contractor could “truly point with pride to the new City Hall.”³⁵ The new building housed the offices of the County Assessor, Sheriff, Surveyor, Treasurer, and the County Library on the first floor, with the Circuit Court, District Attorney, Judge’s office, and the office of the City Recorder on the second floor. The City Council held their first meeting

²⁶ *Madras Pioneer*, “City Hall to be Enlarged” 15 February 2017.

²⁷ *Madras Pioneer*, “Madras Votes Bonds for New City Hall” 29 March 1917.

²⁸ Steve Janzen, personal communication by phone, 20 July 2015; Further research to determine if this building was indeed used as City Hall and for how long is needed.

²⁹ *Madras Pioneer*, “Call for Bids” 19 April 1917.

³⁰ *Madras Pioneer*, “New City Hall Plans” 26 April 1917.

³¹ Richard Ellison Ritz, *Architects of Oregon* (Portland, OR: Lair Hill Publishing, 2002), 56.

³² Bend Bulletin, 10 May 1917.

³³ Keith Clark and Michael Hall, National Register Nomination for the “Bend Amateur Athletic Club Gymnasium” (Washington DC: National Park Service, 1983).

³⁴ *Madras Pioneer*, “Madras Votes Bonds for New City Hall” 29 March 1917.

³⁵ *Madras Pioneer*, “County Officials in New Home” 23 August 1917.

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

in the building several days later in September.³⁶ The city and county worked together to install a septic tank and two lavatories, arranging for the county to contract for their construction and then to sell the improvements at cost to the city in 1918.³⁷ While the issue of adequate office space and records storage was addressed by the move, the need for a county jail in Madras was not. In late 1917, the county entered into an agreement with the city of Madras to allow the city to use the yet-to-be-built county jail. Bids for the construction of a concrete jailhouse on the grounds of City Hall and the removal of the jail cells at the former county jail in Culver and reinstallation in the Madras facility were accepted in April 1918, and the Jailhouse was completed later in July of the same year.³⁸ Generally, the Jailhouse housed local drunks who caused public disturbances, but on occasion held individuals accused of more serious offenses until they could be tried in court.

In 1919, the city and county formalized their shared occupancy of the Madras City Hall and Jefferson County Courthouse, signing a lease for \$60 a month, allowing for the county to use the Council Chambers for public meetings if not in use by the city. Under the two-year agreement, the county also assumed responsibility for building maintenance.³⁹ Although the city and county did share the building, available records and contemporary newspaper accounts suggest that the county was the main user of the building, and local oral history indicates that the city continued to use the earlier wood-frame City Hall.⁴⁰ Overtime the building became more closely associated with the county government and was increasingly referred to as the "Courthouse," instead of City Hall. The county continued to lease the Courthouse until 1925 when the County purchased the building outright for \$6,000.⁴¹ By 1928, the concrete vault had been added to the Courthouse to store public records, and the Courthouse shared its lot with a small fire house, auto garage, and the 1917 Jailhouse. The library was relocated across the street, and the former wood-frame City Hall sat at the corner of D Street.⁴² Throughout the early-twentieth century, Madras remained, by far, the largest community in the County. In 1928, Madras offered a comparatively wide variety of public retail services, including banks, hotels, and specialty stores, hosted three churches and the regional high school, and served as the County government center.⁴³ Much of which was constructed during the 1920s following the establishment of the county seat in Madras.

Resettlement Administration and the Central Oregon Land Utilization Project⁴⁴

The decades of the 1920s and 1930s proved to be disastrous for central Oregon's wheat industry as periodic drought struck the region decreasing production and ruining agricultural lands. Intensive farming and ranching damaged the land further by stripping the native grasses and exposing the sandy silt loam over the lava rock to erosion by wind and water. As a reflection of these deteriorating conditions, dust storms occurred with some comparing the conditions to the Dust Bowl. The worst dust storm occurred in 1933 when crops were, according to reports, blown out of the ground. The situation was worsened by deteriorating economic conditions. High agricultural prices prevailed from the late-nineteenth century through the 1920s due to the disruption of the European agricultural production during and after WWI that boosted demand for exported US agricultural products. Grassland farmers increased production, buying new machinery and land on credit in response to price signals and, for a period, reaped profits. However, the war's end brought the emergence of competitors in Europe and elsewhere resulting in sharply falling prices.

³⁶ *Madras Pioneer*, "Council in New City Hall" 13 September 1917.

³⁷ *Madras Pioneer* "Adjourned Session of Jefferson County Court Convened Saturday" 29 November 1917.

³⁸ *Madras Pioneer*, "County Court Proceedings" 13 December 1917; County of Jefferson, County Court Minutes, 1918, vol 1, page 338, "In the Matter of Bids" 4 April 1918.

³⁹ Jefferson County, "Lease for City Hall" (Madras, OR: 1 January 1919).

⁴⁰ Steve Janzen, personal communication by phone, 20 July 2015.

⁴¹ "Warranty Deed Document—City of Madras and County of Jefferson." Jefferson County, 1925.

⁴² Sanborn Map Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps Madras, 1928; Steve Janzen, personal communication by phone, 20 July 2015.

⁴³ Generalization based on examination of several resources, including: Sanborn Map Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Madras, 1914 and 1928; Bureau of Municipal Research and Service, "Population of Oregon Cities, Counties and Metropolitan Areas;" Woodbeck's Directory of Deschutes Crook, and Jefferson Counties, "Madras" 1917; Polk's Jefferson County Directory, "Madras" 1921.

⁴⁴ Unless otherwise noted, this passage is excerpted and edited for length from: Janine McFarland, "Settlement and Abandonment of the Crooked River National Grassland in Jefferson County, OR, 1868-1937."

Jefferson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR

County and State

The drop in prices for agricultural products in a shrinking market and falling Grassland production led to economic crisis whose effects were intensified by the Great Depression. In parts of the Northwest the Depression actually started a few years earlier than the October 1929 stock market collapse. Farm income in the Grassland fell to levels where subsistence needs, servicing of mortgage debt, and tax payments often could not be met, and many began losing their family farms. Census data for the years 1920-1940 document a 40 percent decline of farms in Jefferson County from 572 to 227. Comparative figures for wheat yields and stock numbers show a steady decline in this same period. By 1934, fewer than 50 of the nearly 700 original homestead applicants remained in Jefferson County. In Madras, the population dropped 21 percent, reflecting the hardships in the surrounding farmland the community served. Some Jefferson County residents petitioned the Roosevelt administration for assistance, and that assistance arrived in the form of the Resettlement Administration.⁴⁵

In April 1935, the Resettlement Administration, a federal relief program, was established by Executive Order 7027 to initiate, fund, and administer federal relief projects. These projects were to address three major concerns in the United States during the Depression Era: resettlement of destitute or low-income families from rural and urban areas; instigation of programs involving environmental restoration; and loans for purchasing farm lands and equipment by farmers, tenant farmers, croppers, or farm laborers. The Resettlement Administration worked with State agricultural colleges and State and county officials to identify major problem areas where the federal government purchased thousands of uneconomic farms, retired them from intensive cultivation, and helped farm families find new opportunities in other places, and subsequently transfer the land to its most suitable use.

The primary focus of the Resettlement Administration was the Dust Bowl lands of the Great Plains, but its activities were not limited to the Plains. Three project areas were identified in the northwest, two involved scattered settlers in forested land along the Oregon coast and northeast Washington. The project in the Grassland, formally known as the "Central Oregon Land Utilization Project" (COLUP), was the only northwest project which addressed the plight of dry-land farmers. Government aid under the Resettlement Administration in Jefferson County reverted thousands of acres of former agricultural land to federal rangeland because of economic distress and environmental deterioration. Between 1935 and 1938 the Resettlement Administration purchased marginal and abandoned cropland in Jefferson County and also took over unreserved public domain and land that had been withdrawn for the purpose of developing power sites. An accomplishment report summarized the work accomplished by the Resettlement Administration:

Of the Jefferson County acreage purchased by the Resettlement Administration, 40,000 acres was abandoned cropland, most of which was homesteaded between the late 1890s and 1915. After buying the worn-out farms, the project helped 49 owner/families relocate to better agricultural areas, providing them with rehabilitation loans and guidance for resettlement. The project returned the depleted land to its natural state, razing 123 homestead complexes, 230 miles of fencing, and the entire town of Lamonta. The land was reseeded with crested wheatgrass, and the cultivation of crops was discontinued. Water development and new fencing prepared the acreage for federally-controlled cattle grazing.

The Resettlement Administration itself was controversial nationally. It was opposed by some as socialistic, and the underlying philosophy proved quite unwelcome in areas where crop farmers had been fairly successful in the immediate past and where they intended to become successful again. Massive land retirement, especially if followed by government ownership, proved intensely unpopular and politically unworkable. The Central Oregon Land Utilization Program was also controversial. Although some of the remaining homesteaders apparently welcomed the chance to sell their land and get out, others wished to stay. The efforts of the Resettlement Administration were seen by some as too aggressive, including the threat of eminent domain. The appraised values for the properties were thought by some to be too low; others objected that reports and evaluations prepared by the Resettlement Administration were inaccurate and biased, or feared the impact of

⁴⁵ Bureau of Municipal Research and Service, "Population of Oregon Cities, Counties and Metropolitan Areas."

Jefferson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR

County and State

loss tax revenue on their community. In Jefferson County, the Resettlement Administration found themselves unable to gain County cooperation, and that lack of cooperation extended to foiling the federal government's attempts to purchase Grassland properties that the county had obtained in lieu of taxes. Despite opposition, a drier climate and a challenging economy convinced many to sell their family farms. Today, the federally-administered Crooked River Grassland includes an extensive patchwork of grazing lands surrounding Madras.

The hard times were briefly eased in 1942 when the U.S. Army constructed an airbase to train aircrews for service with Boeing B-17 "Flying Fortress" bombers during WWII, boosting the population from 402 to 1,800 in two months. But the war-time boom was short lived. A new period in the county's history began in May 1946 when irrigation water arrived in the Madras area from the Wickup Reservoir, a Bureau of Reclamation project, which signaled a new and distinct period of development in the region driven by irrigated farming. Irrigation allowed for a greater variety of crops to be produced than could ever be considered for dry-land farming, and the predictable supply of water greatly eased the impact of periodic drought, thereby providing a degree of certainty for the area's farmers that was previously unknown.⁴⁶

The 1917 Courthouse was leased to the Oregon State University Extension Service when a new courthouse was constructed in 1961. Its function then changed again, and the building became the home of the Jefferson County Museum in 1974 and remained so until 2013.⁴⁷ In September of 2013, Jefferson County declared the Old Courthouse as surplus, stating that the building was unsafe and would be expensive to repair. Shortly after, Steve Jansen purchased the property to save it from demolition in December 2013.⁴⁸

Conclusion

The massive retirement of agricultural lands for use as federally-managed range lands was a stark reversal of the growth trends of the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. The growth of the county was fueled by successful dryland farming, and that economic driver led the citizens of Madras to confidently proclaim their growing community the "Gateway to Central Oregon," pursue the county seat, and to construct a modest, but well-built and attractive courthouse that was a physical embodiment of the community's success and expectations for the future. Winning the Jefferson County seat was a major accomplishment for the city of Madras, and was a turning point in the development of the city. Since this period, Madras has remained the most populous city within the county, serving as the county's government and economic center. The Courthouse and its contributing Jailhouse are one of the last remaining physical links to the early period in Madras' history, and are the only government buildings from this time. By virtue of its size and design, the Courthouse is the most prominent building in the community. The first bank was the only other brick building predating the Courthouse, and it burned down in 1951.⁴⁹ More than mere survivors, both the Courthouse and Jailhouse retain their essential character-defining features, despite alterations over the buildings' many decades of use. The Old Courthouse is a physical expression of Madras as the center of Jefferson County's government and represents an important period in the community's past.

⁴⁶ Excerpted and edited for length from: Evans, Section 8, page 9.

⁴⁷ Jefferson County Historical Society, *History of Jefferson County, Oregon 1914-1983* (Portland: Taylor Publishing Co., 1984).

⁴⁸ Scott Hammers, "Renovations Underway at Historic Madras Courthouse," *Bend Bulletin*, 22 March 2014, accessed April 10, 2014, <http://www.bendbulletin.com/localstate/1901515-151/renovations-underway-at-historic-madras-courthouse>.

⁴⁹ Jefferson County Historical Society, *History of Jefferson County, Oregon 1914-1983*.

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Bibliographical Note:

The passages describing the establishment of Jefferson County, founding of Madras, and the construction and use of the Jefferson County Courthouse are primarily based on contemporary newspaper articles. Minutes of City Council meetings and county court proceedings, among other records, are substantially incomplete or were unavailable at the time this document was written. The discussion presented here uses a variety of resources to construct the most plausible narrative; however, future research may provide additional insights into this chapter of Jefferson County's history.

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Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

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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 # _____
- 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(ies): _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: N/A
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>44.633851</u>	<u>-121.128849</u>	3	<u></u>	<u></u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	<u></u>	<u></u>	4	<u></u>	<u></u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated property incorporates the entirety Tax Lots 5, 6 & 7, Block 20 of the Plat of Palmain, Jefferson County, Oregon. Otherwise identified as Tax lot11-13-12BB-3100.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the .35 acre nominated property is delineated by the legally recorded lot lines, which have encompassed the significant resources since their construction and through the period of significance.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lindsey Stallard, edited by Oregon SHPO Staff date April 17, 2014
organization telephone (503) 956-6301
street & number 611 NW Van Buren Ave. Apt. 1 email lindsey.stallard@gmail.com
city or town Corvallis state OR zip code 97330

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Regional Location Map**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Tax Lot Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Jefferson County Courthouse
City or Vicinity: Madras
County: Jefferson **State:** OR
Photographer: Jason Allen and Mike Gushard, Oregon SHPO
Date Photographed: January 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- Photo 1 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0001)
South facade, looking north
- Photo 2 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0002)
South facade (right) and west facade (left), looking northeast
- Photo 3 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0003)
West facade (right) and north facade (left), looking southeast
- Photo 4 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0004)
North facade (right) and east facade (left), looking southwest
- Photo 5 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0005)
East facade (right) and south facade (left), looking northwest
- Photo 6 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0006)
Jailhouse building, south facade (right) and west facade (left), looking northeast
- Photo 7 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0007)
Interior central hall, first floor, looking north
- Photo 8 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0008)
Conference room, northeast corner, first floor, looking northeast from door
- Photo 9 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0009)
Vault door, east vault, first floor, looking north
- Photo 10 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0010)
Stair landing, second floor, looking west to office space
- Photo 11 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0011)
Courtroom, second floor, looking southwest
- Photo 12 of 14:** (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0012)
Courtroom, second floor, looking southeast

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR
County and State

Photos Continued

Photo 13 of 14: (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0013)
Courtroom, second floor, looking north to stair through double entry doors

Photo 14 of 14: (OR_JeffersonCounty_JeffersonCountyCourthouse_0014)
Basement, east side, looking north

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 21

List of Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.)

- Figure 1:** General Location Map.
- Figure 2:** Specific Location Map.
- Figure 3:** Tax map for lots 5, 6, and 7, Block 20 of the Plat of Palmain, Jefferson County, Oregon.
- Figure 4:** Sketch map of 34 SE D Street, Jefferson County Courthouse.
- Figure 5:** Basement Plan for 34 SE D Street, Jefferson County Courthouse.
- Figure 6:** First Floor Plan for 34 SE D Street, Jefferson County Courthouse.
- Figure 7:** Second Floor Plan for 34 SE D Street, Jefferson County Courthouse.
- Figure 8:** Sanborn Insurance map, 1914.
- Figure 9:** Sanborn Insurance map, 1923.
- Figure 10:** Historic photo of Jefferson County Courthouse, c. 1918.
- Figure 11:** 2013 photo of the Jefferson County Courthouse before foundation was re-enforced.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property
Jefferson Co., OR
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 22

Figure 1: General Location Map, Jefferson County Courthouse, Jefferson County, Madras, OR,
Latitude 44.633851; Longitude -121.128849.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property
Jefferson Co., OR
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 23

Figure 2: Specific Location Map, Jefferson County Courthouse, Jefferson County, Madras, OR,
Latitude 44.633851; Longitude -121.128849.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property
Jefferson Co., OR
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 24

Figure 3: Tax map for lots 5, 6, and 7, Block 20 of the Plat of Palmain , Jefferson County, Oregon. The square denotes the nominated location.



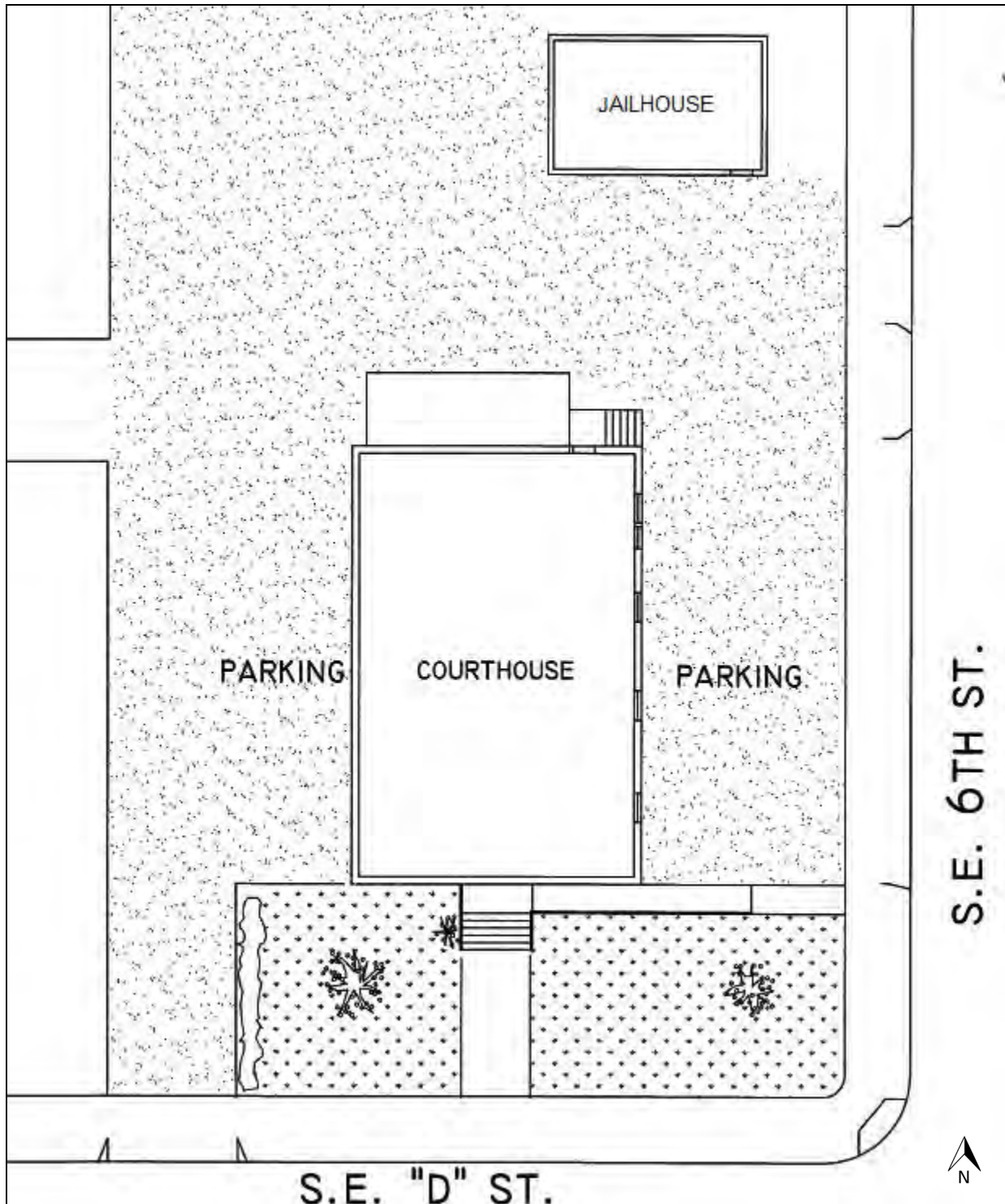
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property
Jefferson Co., OR
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 25

Figure 4: Sketch map of 34 SE D Street Jefferson County Courthouse. Not-to-scale.



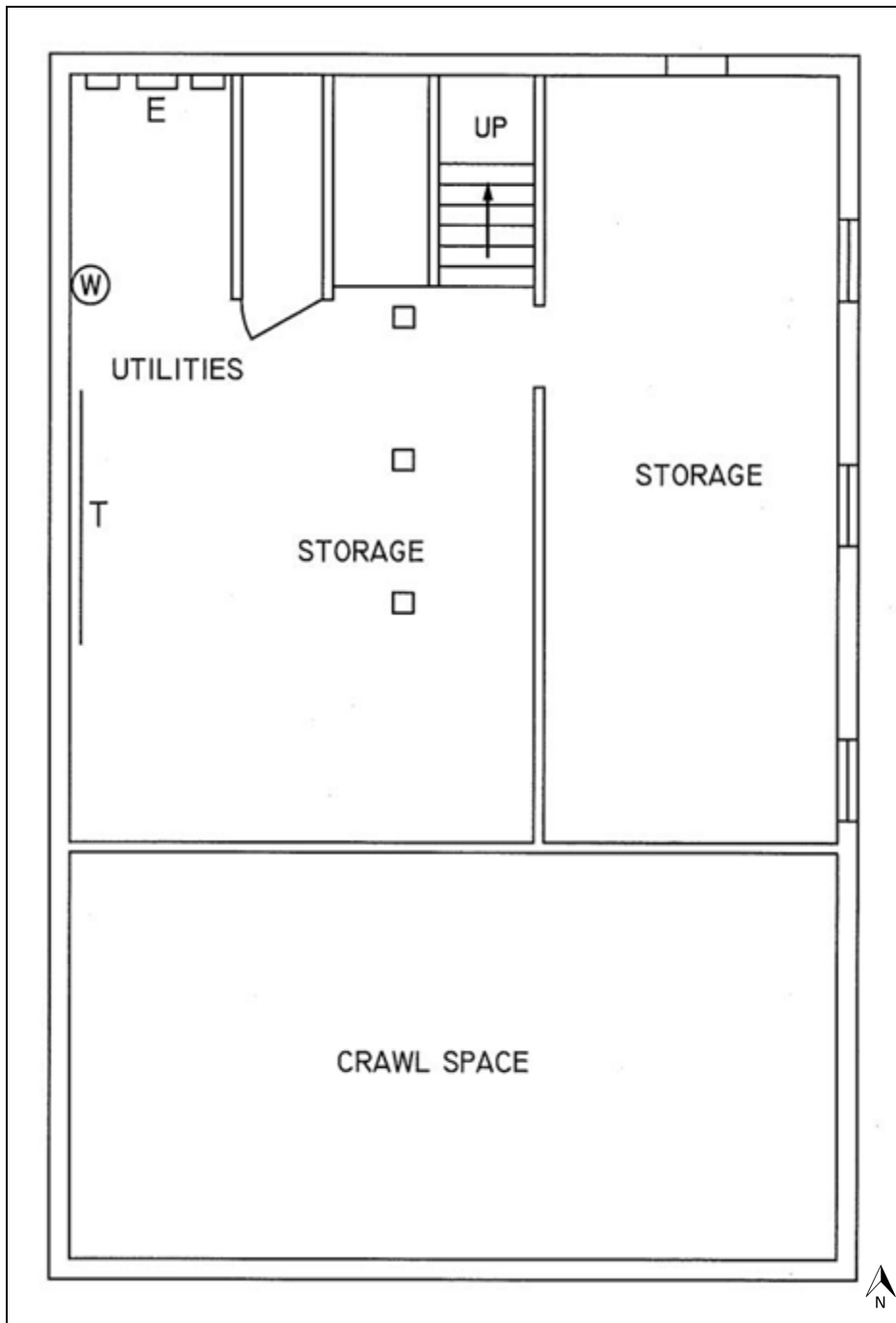
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property
Jefferson Co., OR
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 26

Figure 5: Basement Plan for 34 SE D Street, Jefferson County Courthouse. Not-to-scale.



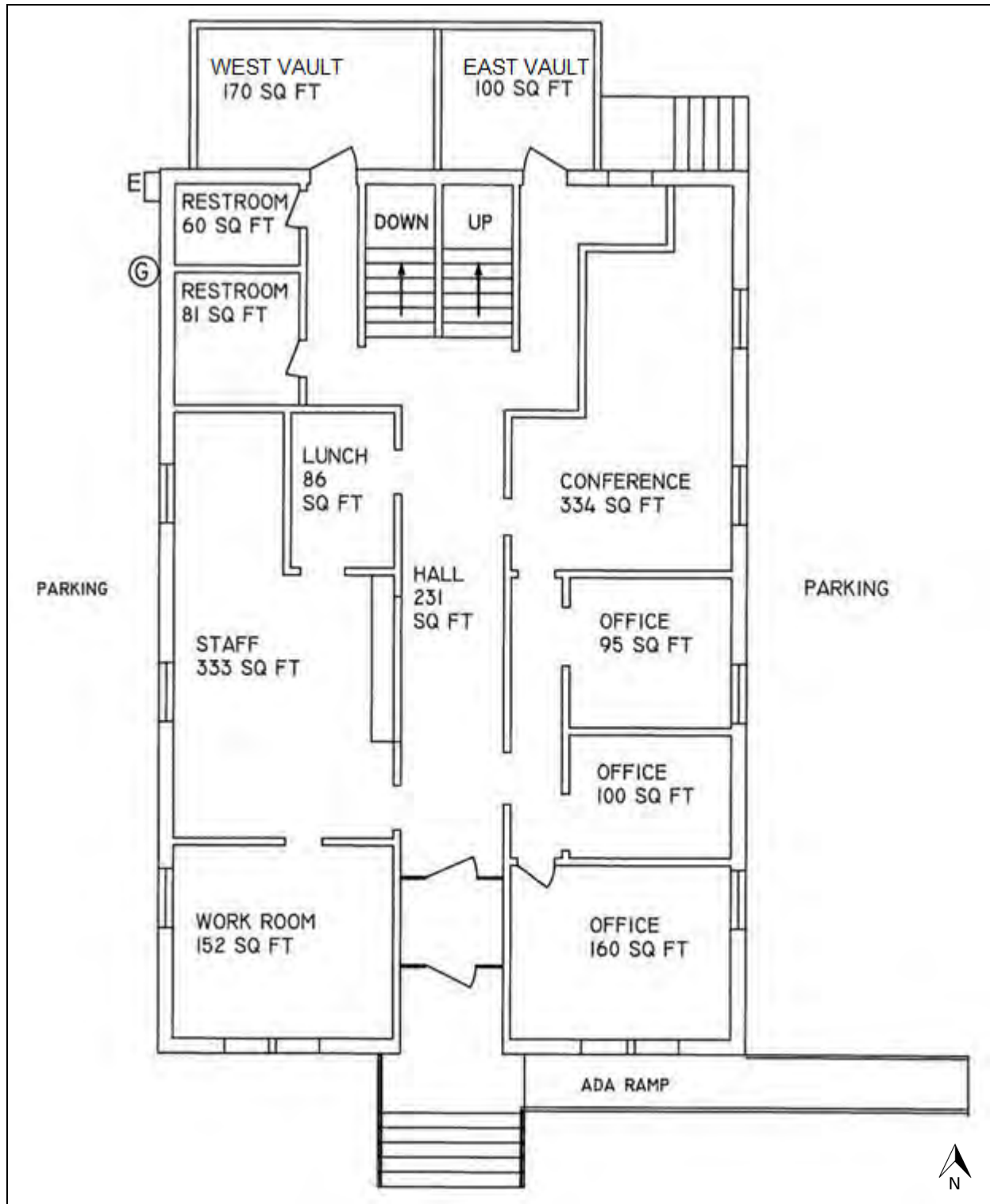
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property
Jefferson Co., OR
County and State
N/A
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Section number Additional Documentation Page 27

Figure 6: First Floor Plan for 34 SE D Street, Jefferson County Courthouse. Not-to-scale.



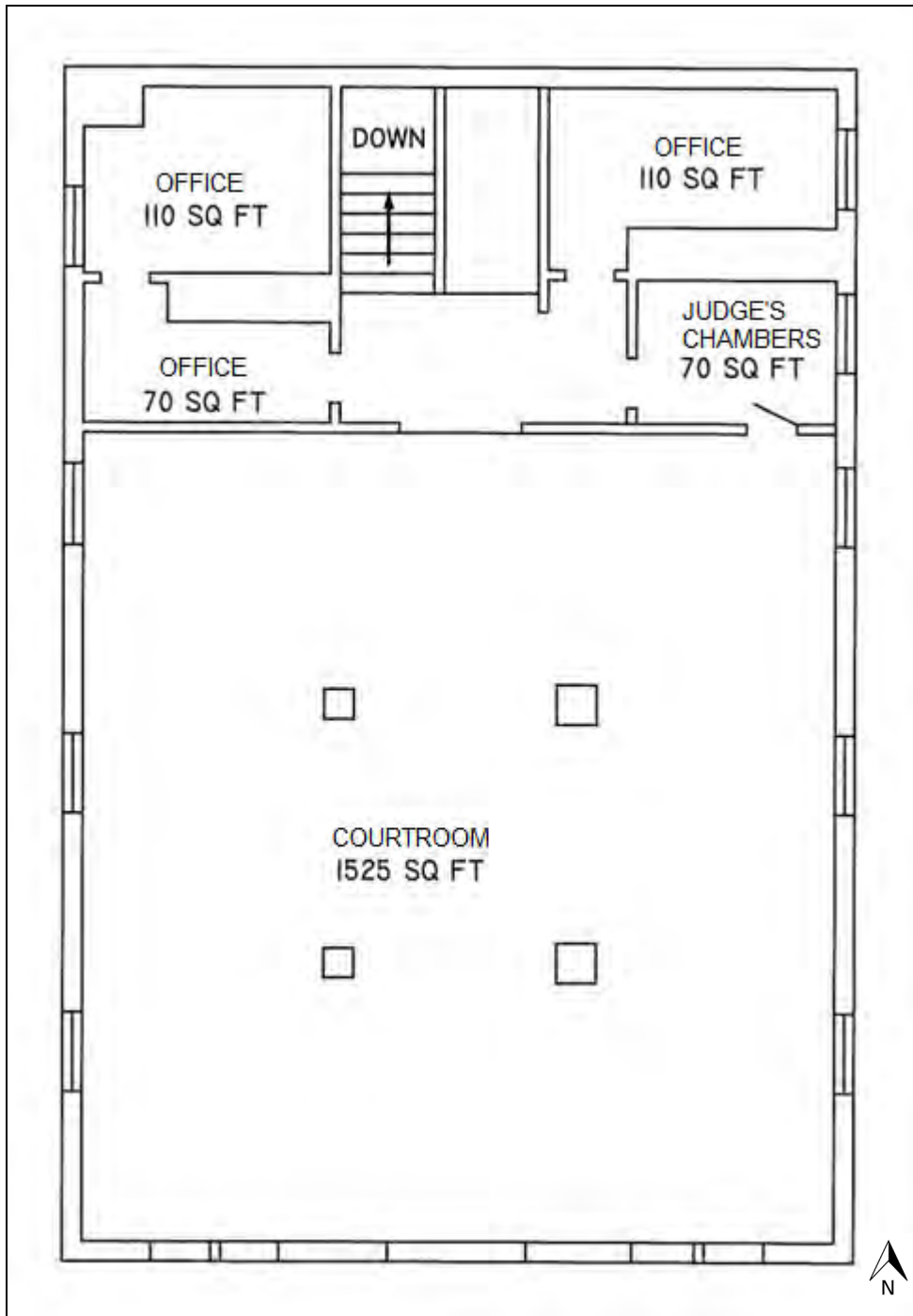
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property
Jefferson Co., OR
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 28

Figure 7: Second Floor Plan for 34 SE D Street, Jefferson County Courthouse. Not-to-scale.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson County Courthouse
Name of Property
Jefferson Co., OR
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 29

Figure 8: Sanborn Insurance map, 1913. The square denotes the location of the Courthouse.

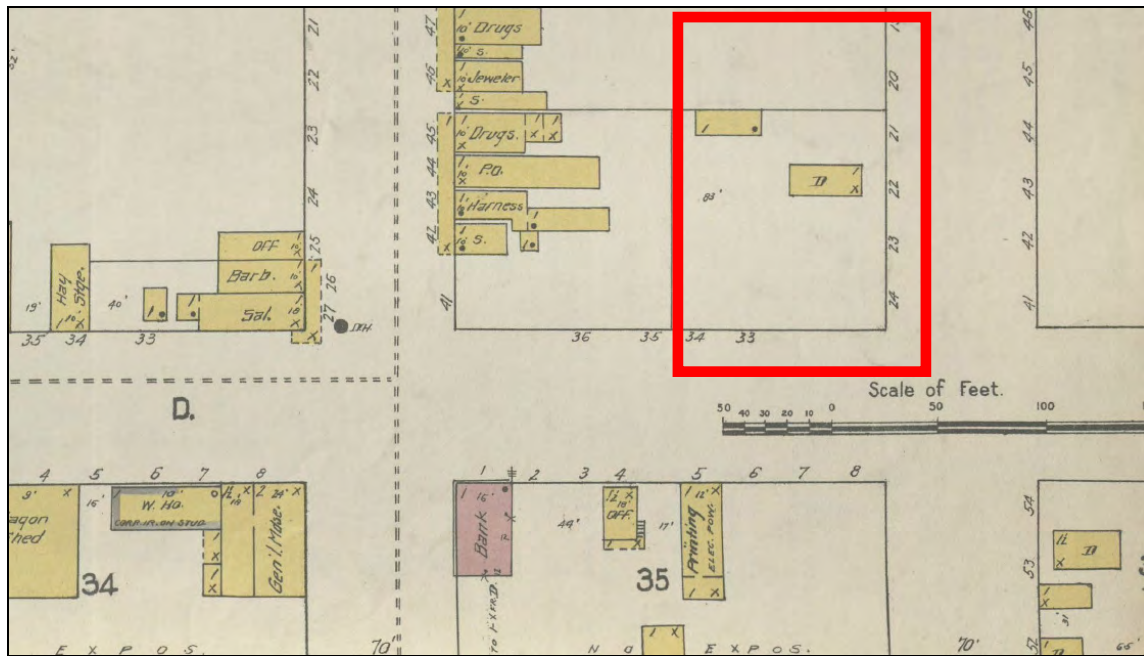
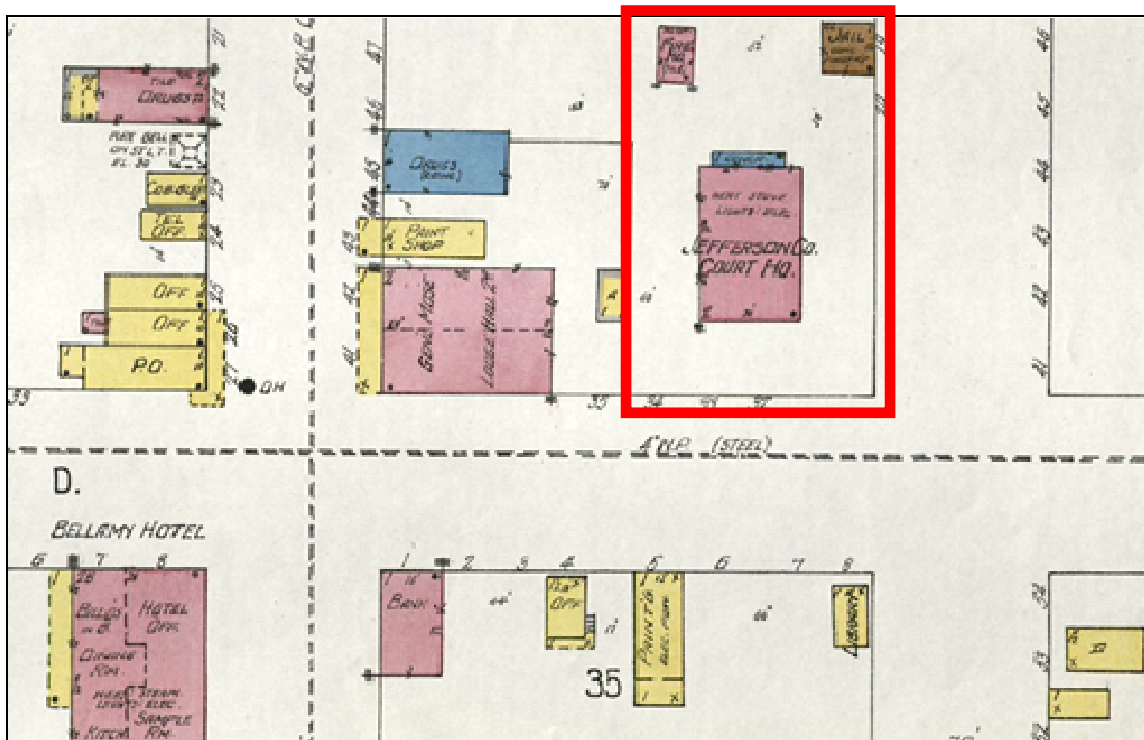


Figure 9: Sanborn Insurance map, 1928. The square denotes the location of the Courthouse.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson County Courthouse

Name of Property

Jefferson Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 30

Figure 10: Historic photo of Jefferson County Courthouse, c. 1918. Courtesy of the *Bend Bulletin*. Scott Hammer, "Renovations Underway at Historic Madras Courthouse", *Bend Bulletin*, 22 March 2014, accessed 10 April 2014 <<http://www.bendbulletin.com/localstate/1901515-151/renovations-underway-at-historic-madras-courthouse>>

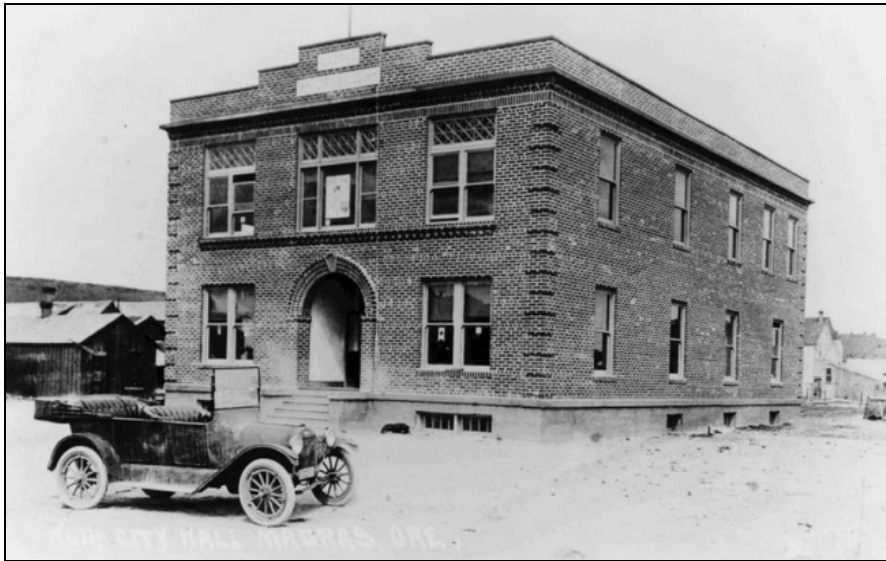


Figure 11: 2013 photo of the Jefferson County Courthouse before foundation was re-enforced. Courtesy of the *Bend Bulletin*. Scott Hammer, "Renovations Underway at Historic Madras Courthouse", *Bend Bulletin*, 22 March 2014, accessed 10 April 2014, <<http://www.bendbulletin.com/localstate/1901515-151/renovations-underway-at-historic-madras-courthouse>>



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Jefferson County Courthouse

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OREGON, Jefferson

DATE RECEIVED: 8/07/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/28/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/14/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/22/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000614

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9.17.15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Parks and Recreation Department

State Historic Preservation Office

725 Summer St NE Ste C

Salem, OR 97301-1266

Phone (503) 986-0690

Fax (503) 986-0793

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July 24, 2015

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Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service



J. Paul Loether
National Register of Historic Places
USDOI National Park Service - Cultural Resources
1201 Eye Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nomination

Dear Mr. Loether:

At the recommendation of the Oregon State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation, I hereby nominate the following historic property to the National Register of Historic Places:

JEFFERSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
34 SE D ST
MADRAS, JEFFERSON COUNTY

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination listed above to the National Register of Historic Places. In consideration of the needs of the property owner, our office asks for expedited review of the nomination.

We appreciate your consideration of this nomination. If questions arise, please contact Ian Johnson, National Register & Survey Coordinator, at (503) 986-0678.

Sincerely,

Christine Curran
Interim Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Encl.

