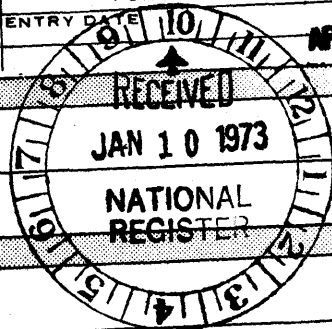


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Washington
 COUNTY: Jefferson
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: APR 24 1973



1. NAME
 COMMON: Jefferson County Courthouse
 AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER: Jefferson & Cass Streets
 CITY OR TOWN: Port Townsend
 STATE: Washington
 CODE: 53
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: #2 - Hon. Lloyd Meeds
 COUNTY: Jefferson
 CODE: 031

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME: Jefferson County
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: Port Townsend
 STATE: Washington
 CODE: 53

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Jefferson County Courthouse
 STREET AND NUMBER: Jefferson & Cass Streets
 CITY OR TOWN: Port Townsend
 STATE: Washington
 CODE: 53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE OF SURVEY: None
 Federal State County Local
 DATE OF SURVEY:
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN:
 STATE:
 CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Washington
 COUNTY: Jefferson
 ENTRY NUMBER: 24
 DATE: APR 24 1973
 FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

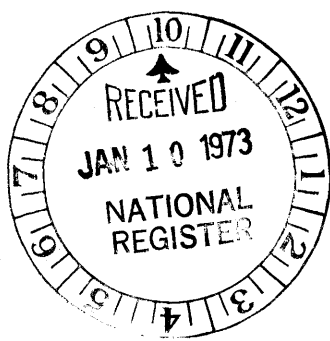
This structure is an example of Romanesque architecture, which was erected at the cost of \$125,000. It is built of satin-smooth red brick and grey stone.

One of the unique features of this building is the geometrically patterned quarry floors which were laid.

The courtroom on the third floor is massively decorated with handcarved solid oak paneling. Corridor walls throughout the building are accented with cedar wainscotting.

The clock in the tall brick and stone tower is a unique feature in itself, for it has been in service for seventy-six years, and is considered a mariner's landmark.

The tower which houses the clock and bell mechanism is 143 feet tall and is Romanesque in design.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6. SIGNIFICANCE

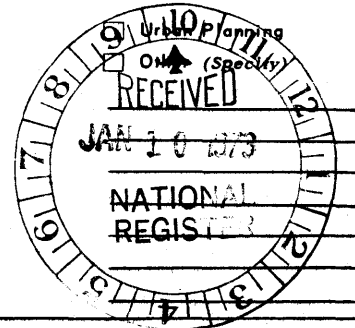
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1892

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

✓ The stately and impressive Jefferson County Courthouse in Port Townsend was built in 1892 and is now the oldest courthouse in the state. The brick building was built by contractor John Rigby and designed by W. A. Ritchie. Ritchie also designed the Spokane County Courthouse, utilizing a completely different style. The total cost of the building was approximately \$125,000. In 1964 the lower floor of the building was renovated. An elevator has also been installed.

The courthouse has a commodious formal courtroom, a wide staircase, and carved oak woodwork. A tall, steeple-like clocktower serves as a beacon, visible from any direction, including the sea, as one nears the city. The clock was shipped around Cape Horn to this community before the turn of the Century.

The building took two years to construct. Eleven stonecutters and twelve brick masons were utilized in the carving of stone and elaborate column capitols and the laying of 4,000,000 bricks shipped from St. Louis.

All county business is transacted here. The jail is housed on the ground floor of the building. Jefferson County was organized from Lewis County (one of the state's original eight counties) in 1852. A large portion of the county is in the Olympic National Park. The county fronts on both the Pacific Ocean and Puget Sound.

Port Townsend, the county seat, has a number of Victorian Buildings. The elegant courthouse, with its towers and fine detailed styling, blends beautifully with the character of the community.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Port Townsend Leader January 1, 1970
 The Port Townsend Leader February 5, 1970

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N48° 06' 44"	W122° 45' 59"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1.5**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



NO
FORM
CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Mrs. Gerald A. Hunt**

ORGANIZATION: **Jefferson County Historical Society** DATE: **2/11/70**

STREET AND NUMBER: **5th & Wilson**

CITY OR TOWN: **Port Townsend** STATE: **Washington** CODE: **53**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Charles H. Odegaard
 Charles H. Odegaard

Title: Director - Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission

Date: December 15, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/24/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 4/18/73