

Josephine County Courthouse



1916 - 2016



THAT COURT HOUSE ONCE MORE.

The Josephine County Court House issue while only a local matter is attracting considerable attention and is the subject of much misrepresentation by the press throughout the State. The facts in the case appear to be that the people voted to have the county seat at Grant's Pass. This precinct of Grant's Pass includes quite a region of country and in the wisdom of the County Court they accepted Mr. Abraham's liberal proposition and ordered the county buildings to be erected on a lot donated by him. Mr. Jonathen Bourne, Jr., of Portland, has had an injunction served and the county is forced to defend its action. Messrs. Crockett, Payne and Platter, the judge and commissioners, did the very best thing they could for the county and are upheld by

the people. Judge Crockett was an old resident of Douglas county and a man of the strictest integrity. And Messrs. Payne and Platter are representative men, honorable and of good business qualifications. Mr. Bourne seems to be actuated by some ulterior object, as the following from the Grant's Pass Argus aptly states the issue:

Mr. Abraham has performed all his contracts and promises faithfully. A shout of approbation can be heard rising from the miners cabin, the farm, workshop and store, and spreading throughout the confines of Josephine county, saying to the County Judge and Commissioners "well done thou good and faithful servants of the people. We endorse your good work." The present location of the county buildings does not or would not materially affect the value of adjoining lands. If Josephine county is impoverished by expensive lawsuits; the blame will rest on Jonathan Bourne, Jr.; not the Commissioners.

* * *
We, of course, attribute Mr. Bourne's inattention to this place mainly to his rush of business in Portland, as his name is connected with the R. R. Co. as an attorney. We wish he would attend strictly to his railroad business and not harass and trouble our people in the erection of their own buildings. This is the first attention or aid they have ever received from Jonathan Bourne, Jr., and there is no telling what said attention will cost Josephine county.

Rogue River Review

August 14, 1885

— The Josephine county court house is fast assuming proportions. Its size is, main building, 35x60; wing, 18x20; height, 34, with truss roof, one-fourth pitch, with mansard angles.

The Eugene City Guard
August 7, 1886



Josephine County's first courthouse was built in 1886, on the same site as the present building. The total cost was \$2,400.00. The new jail at right center, rear, partly visible behind a tree cost taxpayers \$345.00.

Photograph Percy T. Booth collection

JOSEPHINE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The wildfire cry of "Gold!" spread through southern Oregon in 1851. Strike followed strike, until the rush to the newly discovered bonanza was as frantic as the earlier stampede to Sutter's Mill and the gold laden streams of northern California.

Gold fever numbed men's minds beyond reasonable thinking. Often, what had been loose attempts of law and order were thrust aside, leading to three Indian wars with a tribe declared to be more treacherous, determined, crafty, intelligent and cruel, than any other in the West's last frontier.

Officially, early government ethnologists named the small tribe of Rogue Valley Indians, Takelmas. But, from the earliest days of French trappers invading Oregon's new Southland, from jointly held French and British territory to the north, the French pelt hunters, with good cause, named the local natives "Les Coquins" or "The Rascals." The stream draining the beautiful valley, they called, "La Riviere Aux Coquins." "The River of the Rogues."

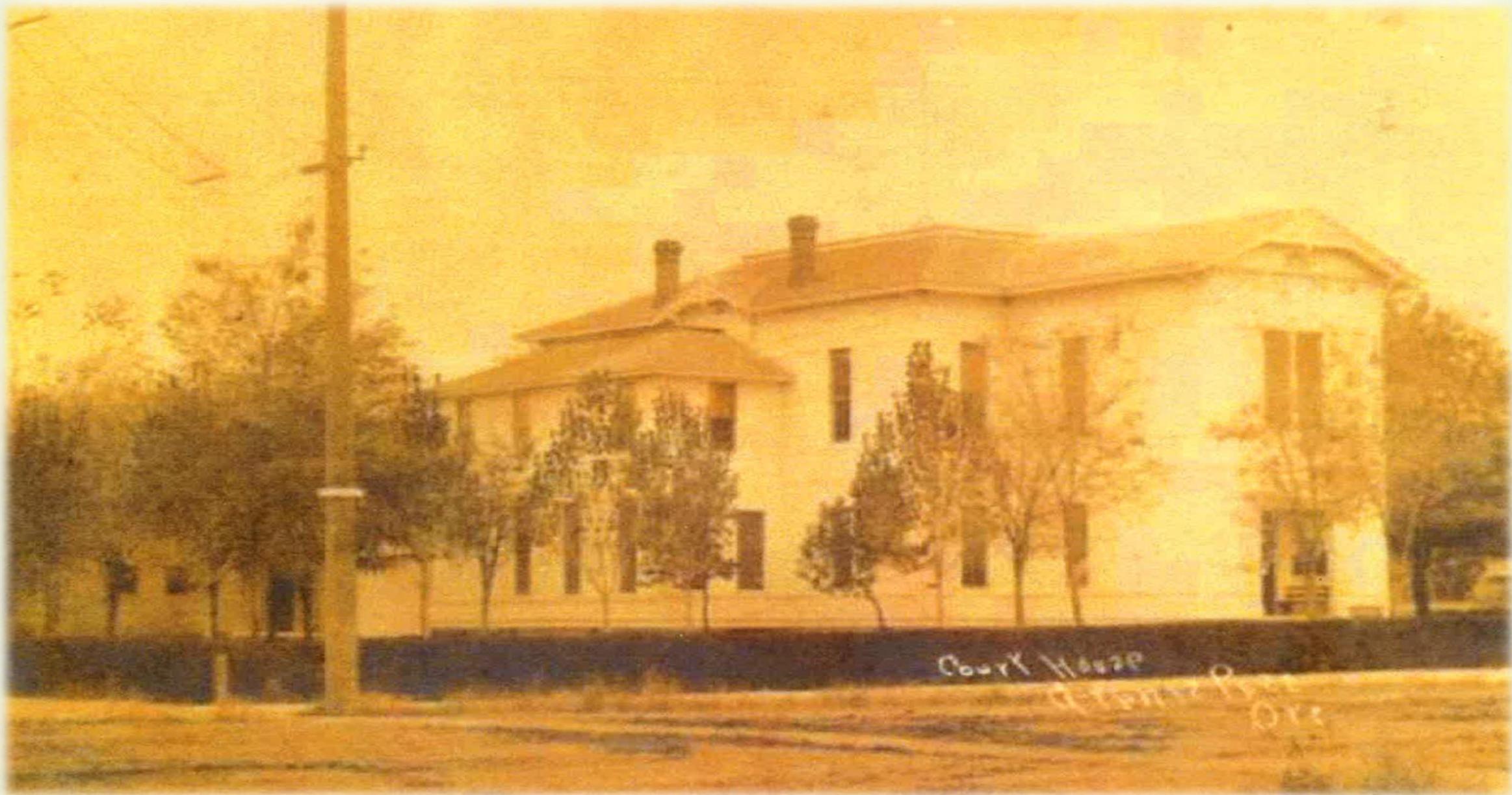
With new gold "diggings" springing up fungus-like along hundreds of creeks, there was immediate need for more government, law and order. Jackson County, with its county seat at Jacksonville, its huge territory extending to Douglas County in the north, the ocean to the west and California to the south, could not cope with the overflow of gold hungry miners and land-seeking settlers. On January 22, 1886, the western half of Jackson County was split off to form a new county, named Josephine, honoring Josephine Rollins, the fourteen year old daughter of Lloyd Rollins. In 1851, she and her father with a party of gold seekers bound for California, left the main group to prospect in a creek emptying into the Illinois River near the western foothills of Eight Dollar Mountain. Of Oregon's 36 counties it is the only one named for a woman. Josephine Creek also bears her name.

When the railroad reached the little valley, that now shelters Grants Pass, a new town mushroomed along its tracks. In June, 1885, an election was held to determine a new county seat. Kerbyville, Grants Pass and Wilderville were the contenders. Grants Pass was the victor with 116 votes more than its nearest challenger.

On April 9, 1886, a contract was let to G.W. Catching for \$2400.00 to build a new county courthouse. The building was to be two-stories high, 35X40 feet, and covered with shiplap. In addition, it was to have an 18X20 foot wing on the front, a truss roof and a brick, fireproof vault. At the same time, Henry Rogers was awarded a contract for a new jail, at a cost not to exceed \$345.00. Both buildings were completed September 17, 1886.

The large two-story brick with belfry, at the left side of the accompanying photo, is the new Central School, later named Washington. Josephine County's pioneer courthouse is viewed looking west from Sixth Street, in the same location as today's rambling marble structure.





Court House
1892





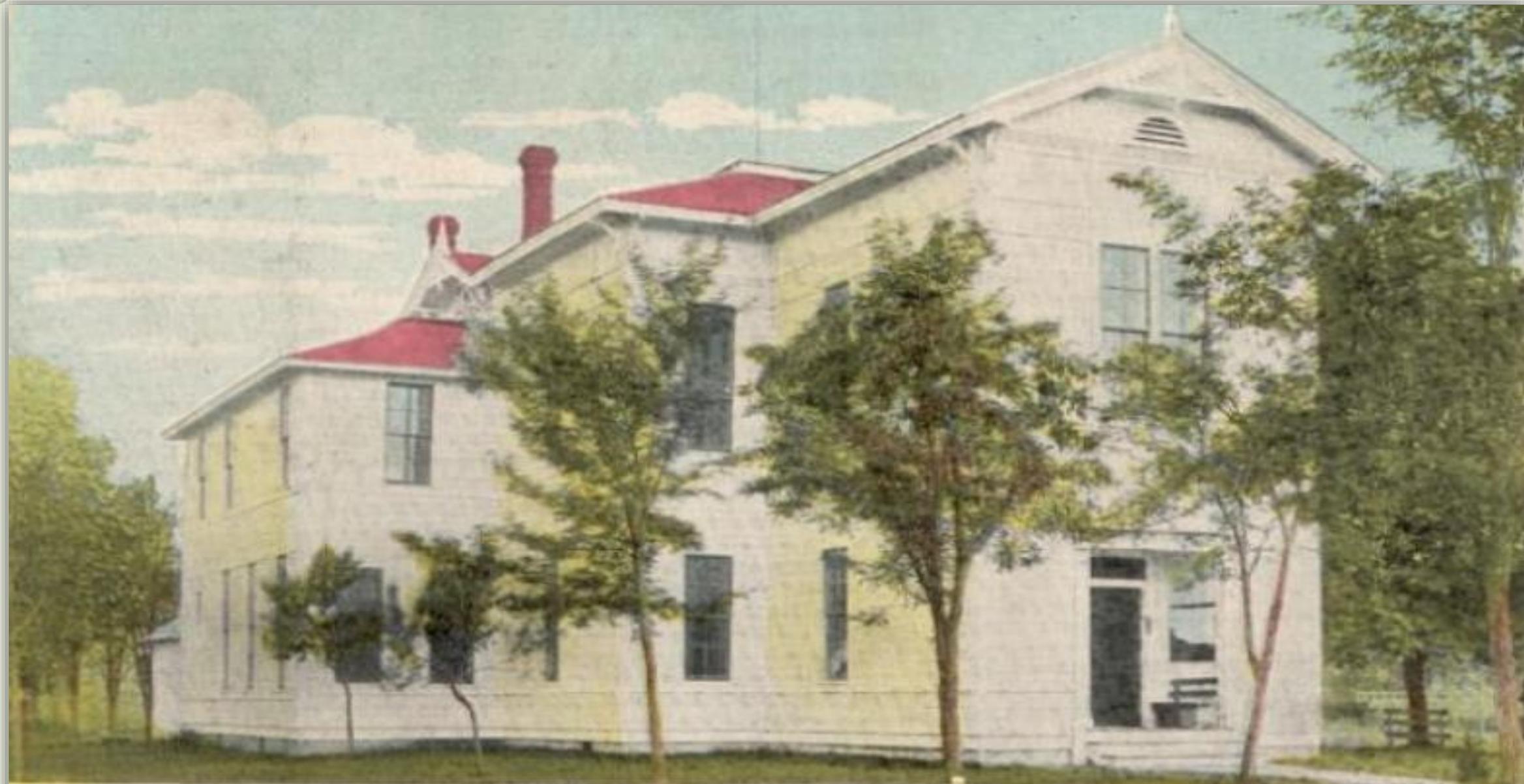
Fourth of July Parade



Do you
believe
Rapa's?

Court House, Grant's Pass, Ore.

402,054



Court House, Grant's Pass, Oregon



1886

6th Street & C Street

Rogue River Courier

DAILY EDITION

VOL. VI, No. 44

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1915.

WHOLE NUMBER 144.

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

Rogue River Courier

December 5, 1915

County Tax Levy is 14 Mills

COUNTY TAX LEVY IS 14 MILLS

**Court Cuts One Mill From
Estimates, Reducing the Tax
on Property by That Sum
Over Last Year's Levy**

The county court has lopped a mill from the proposed levy for the expenses of the coming year, making a total levy for county and state purposes of 14 instead of 15 mills, as had been anticipated. This will make a total levy against property within the city of Grants Pass of 37½ mills. Last year the total levy was 38½ mills. The total levy within the city includes the 16 mills levied by the city council, 14 by the county court, and 7½ by the school district. Upon property outside the city the levy will be the 14 mills of the county and state levy, a road tax of five mills, and whatever levy is made in the school district in which the property is located.

Included in the 14 mill levy made by the county court is that of one and 7-10 mills for the creation of a sinking fund for building a new court house. This levy, which was instituted last year, raises between \$17,000 and \$18,000 per year. A 2 and 4-5 mill levy for state purposes included will raise \$29,138.25.

Rogue River Courier

DAILY EDITION

VOL. VII., No. 16.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1916.

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph

Rogue River Courier

October 5, 1916

Bids to Be Considered by Commissioners

WILL ERECT NEW COURT HOUSE

**Bids to Be Considered by
Commissioners on Novem-
ber 2nd for the Construc-
tion of Josephine Capitol**

Bids for the construction of a new court house for Josephine county will be received by the county court on the 2nd day of November, and at 10 o'clock on that day the contract for the construction of the new capitol building will be awarded should the bids come within the requirements and the available fund.

About two years ago the county court adopted a plan for a new court house, the plan being submitted by E. E. McClaren, a Portland architect. At the same time a sinking fund was created toward the construction of the building, a levy of 1.9 mills being made in 1914 and a levy of 1.7 mills in 1915. The 1914 levy upon the county valuation raised \$21,000, while the 1915 levy added \$18,000 to the building fund. Another levy will be made in December, to produce approximately \$20,000 more, and as it will require the greater part of a year to complete and equip the building, the fourth levy, to complete the raising of the amount estimated as necessary for the building, will be made by the time it is needed.

The estimated cost of the new building is \$75,000. As considerable time will be required to remove the old building from the site and to excavate for the foundation of the new court house, it will be well along in the winter before active construction could make much progress. At the same time that bids are considered for the construction of the new court house bids will be received for the removal of the old one, as the new edifice will stand upon the site of the ancient wooden structure that has served the county for so many years.

The new court house will be of two stories and basement, 130x65 feet in dimensions, and of fireproof construction throughout, the materials to be reinforced concrete, steel, brick and terra cotta. The construction is expected to continue through the most of next summer, and will give employment to a large body of workmen.

PORTLAND FIRM GETS JOB

J. M. Dougan Company to Build
Grants Pass Courthouse.

GRANTS PASS, Or., Nov. 2.—(Special.)—The J. M. Dougan Company, of Portland, today received the contract for the construction of Josephine County's new Courthouse. The contract price for the building complete, except heating and plumbing is \$76,443. Eight firms offered bids, the second lowest bidder being A. J. Green, of Grants Pass, who was \$7 over the Dougan bid.

The contract for heating and plumbing will be awarded tomorrow. The lowest bid on this was that of Thomas Barr, of Salem, at \$6978.

The bid of P. W. Hershberger, Grants Pass, at \$815, for the removal of the old Courthouse from the site of the new one was accepted.

Work upon the new building will commence as soon as the details can be arranged. The architect is E. E. McClaren, of Portland.

Rogue River Courier

November 2, 1916

J.M. Dougan Company

River Courier

DAILY EDITION

88, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1916.

World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Lease

COURTHOUSE CONTRACT GOES TO PORTLAND FIRM

County Court Accepts Bid of J. M. Dougan & Co. for Construction of New Capitol Building, They Being the Lowest of Eight Bidders, the Cost of Building Without Heating and Plumbing Equipment to Be \$76,443

Josephine county's new court house is to be built by J. M. Dougan Company, of Portland, the bid of that firm having been accepted by the county court at its session this afternoon, the bid of the successful contestant being for \$76,443, or just \$7 under that of A. J. Green, of Grants Pass, the next lowest bidder upon the contract.

Eight firms offered bids for the work. The bid accepted includes the building complete, with terra cotta used in the place of brick for the exterior finish, but does not include the installation of heating and plumbing, which will be let in a separate contract.

The bidders and the figures submitted were as follows:

Tranchel-Parelius & Wayman—		
Brick		\$89,365.00
Geo. Isackson—		
Brick	\$76,564.00	
Terra Cotta	4,500.00	81,064.00
If plastering is omitted deduct	\$3,500.00	
J. M. Dougan Company—		
Brick	72,843.00	
Terra Cotta	3,600.00	76,443.00
If plastering is omitted deduct	\$3,380.00	
Bingham & Sheeley Company—		
Brick	73,410.00	
Terra Cotta	4,000.00	77,410.00
Plastering included.		
John Almeter—		
Brick		73,400.00
No plastering.		
Parker & Banfield—		
Brick	74,066.00	
Terra Cotta	4,184.00	78,250.00
If plastering is omitted deduct	\$3,276.00	
J. H. Tillman—		
Brick	71,460.00	
Terra Cotta	3,265.00	74,725.00
If awarded general contract, plaster	\$3,700.00	
If awarded general contract, heating	\$7,039.00	

A. J. Green—

Brick	69,000.00	
Terra Cotta	3,600.00	
Plaster	3,850.00	76,450.00

The firm of J. M. Dougan Company, to whom was awarded the contract, is known throughout the northwest, having built many of the larger public buildings. It is now engaged in the construction of the new federal building at Portland, and erected the Medford post office building. The Benson hotel of Portland is also one of its structures. The vote of the county court in the award was unanimous, and was with the approval of the committee from the taxpayers' league, invited in for conference.

P. W. Hershberger, of Grants Pass, was given the contract for the removal of the old court house from the grounds, his bid being \$815. Others bidders for this were Albert Anderson, at \$1,060, and J. A. Varner, at \$1,085.

For installation of the heating and plumbing there are four bidders, the lowest in combined bid being that of Thos. Barr, of Salem, who agrees to do the plumbing and heating installation for \$6,978. The next lowest bid was that of W. R. Rannie, at \$7,057.

On the plumbing alone the figures were \$3,300, by Barr; \$3,620, by Finnigan Brothers, and \$4,000, by Rannie.

For heating, Rannie bid \$3,057; Barr, \$3,678; Kendall Heating Company, of Portland, \$4,178; Finnigan Brothers, Portland, \$3,964. Some of the bidders also included figures upon an oil heater in addition, the figures ranging from \$1,450 to \$1,820.

Final consideration of the bids for the heating and plumbing has been postponed till morning.

Rogue River Courier
November 2, 1916
Courthouse Contract Goes to Portland

RANNIE GETS BIG COUNTY CONTRACT

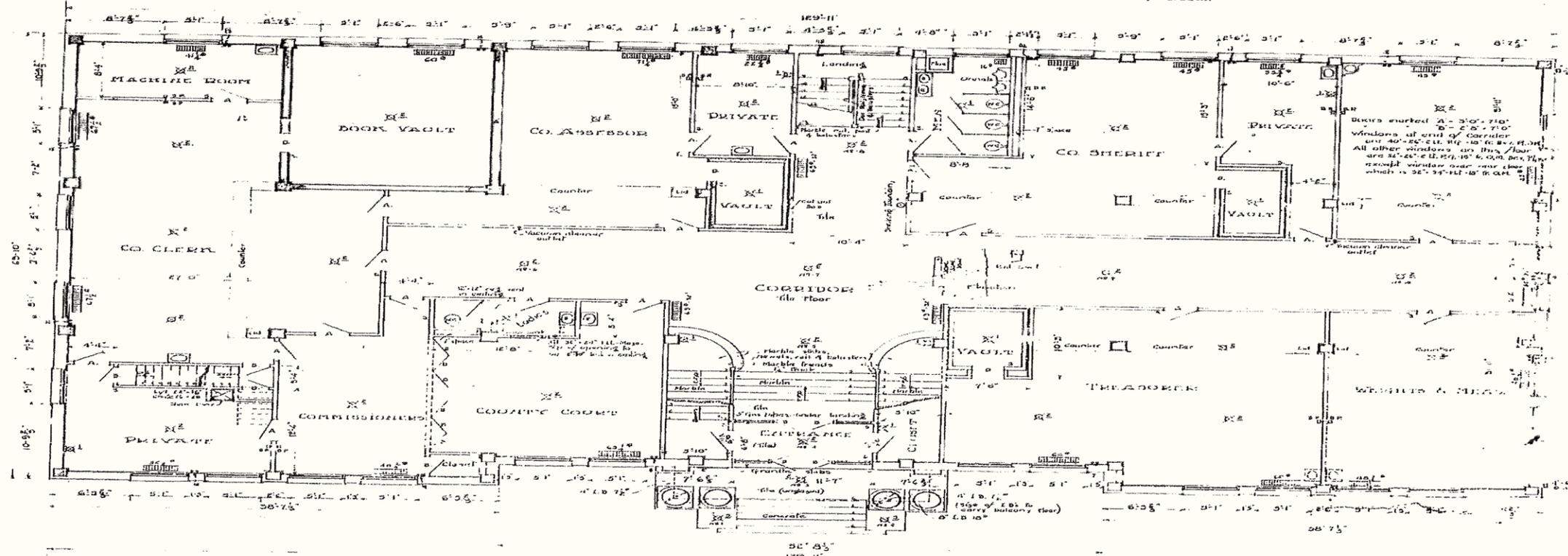
The county court has awarded the contract for the heating and plumbing of the new court house to W. R. Rannie, of this city. Mr. Rannie bid \$4,000 for the plumbing and \$3,057 for the installation of the heating plant, his combined bid amounting to \$7,057.

Rogue River Courier

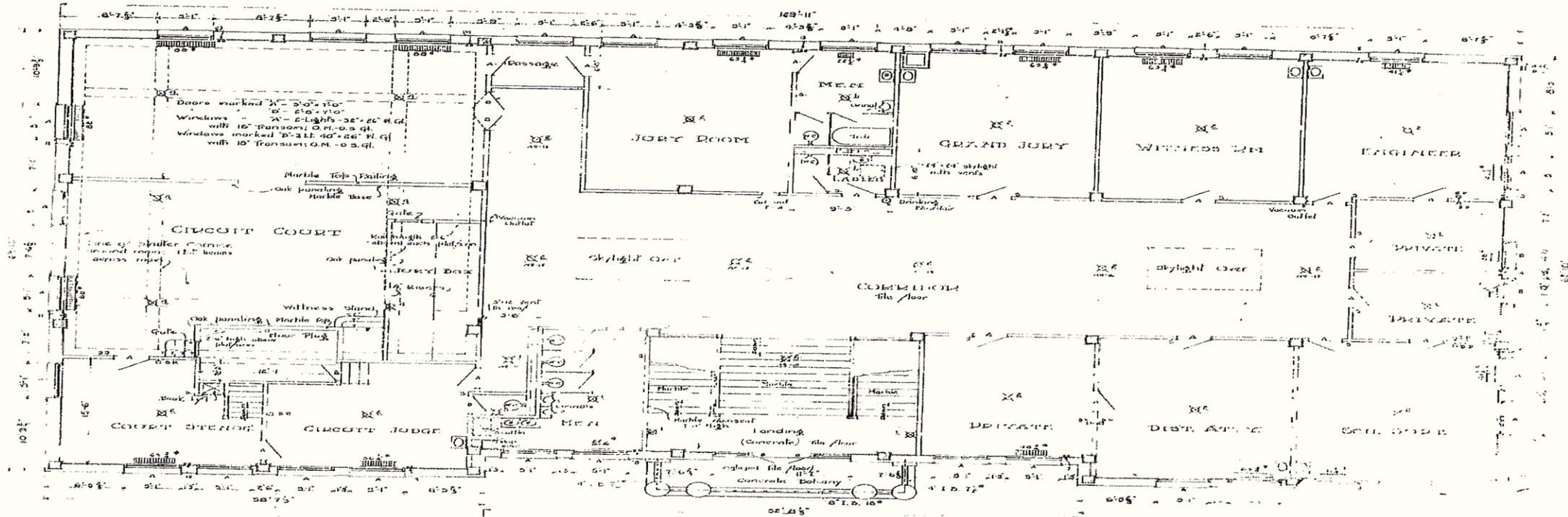
November 3, 1916

Rannie Gets Big County Contract

JOSEPHINE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 GRANTS PASS, OREGON.
 E. E. McCLARAM, ARCHITECT 525 LEX. EXC. BLDG., PORTLAND, ORE.



JOSEPHINE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 GRANTS PASS, OREGON.
 E. E. McCLARAN, ARCHITECT, 525 LEX. EXC. BLDG., PORTLAND, ORE.



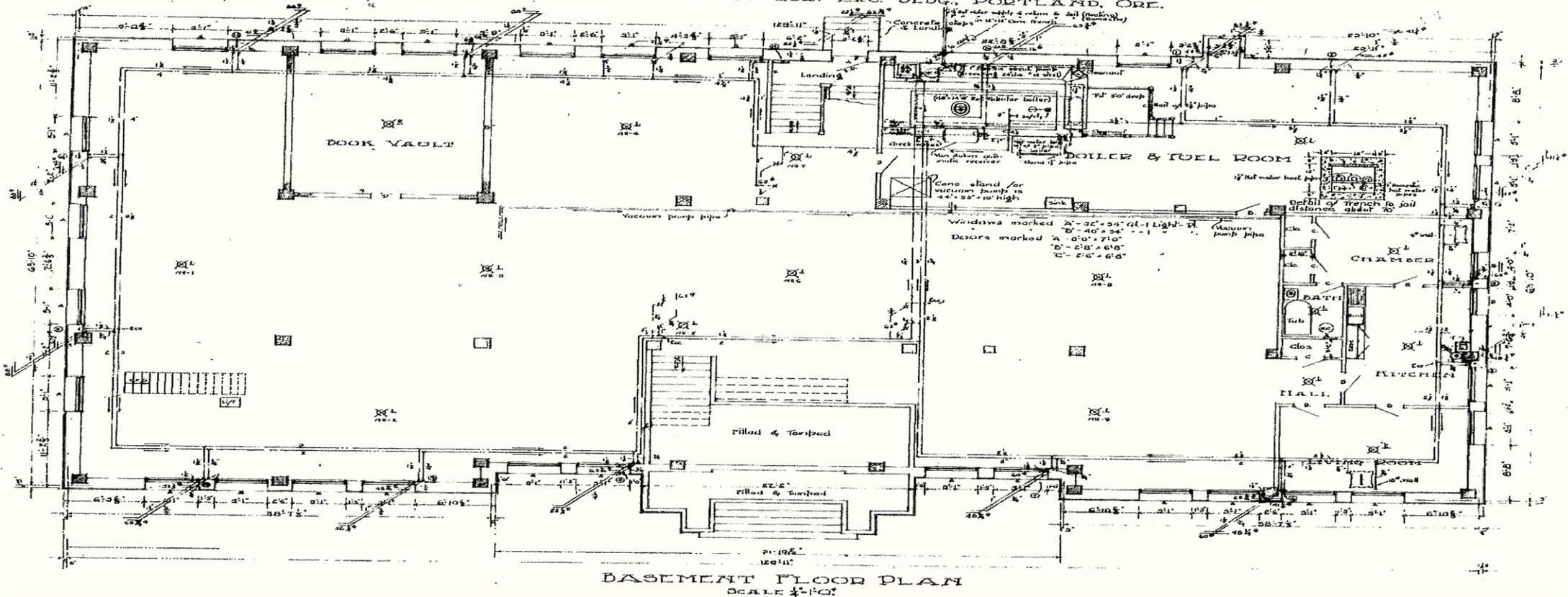
SECOND FLOOR PLAN.
 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

E. E. McClaran, Architect

1916

Second Floor Plan

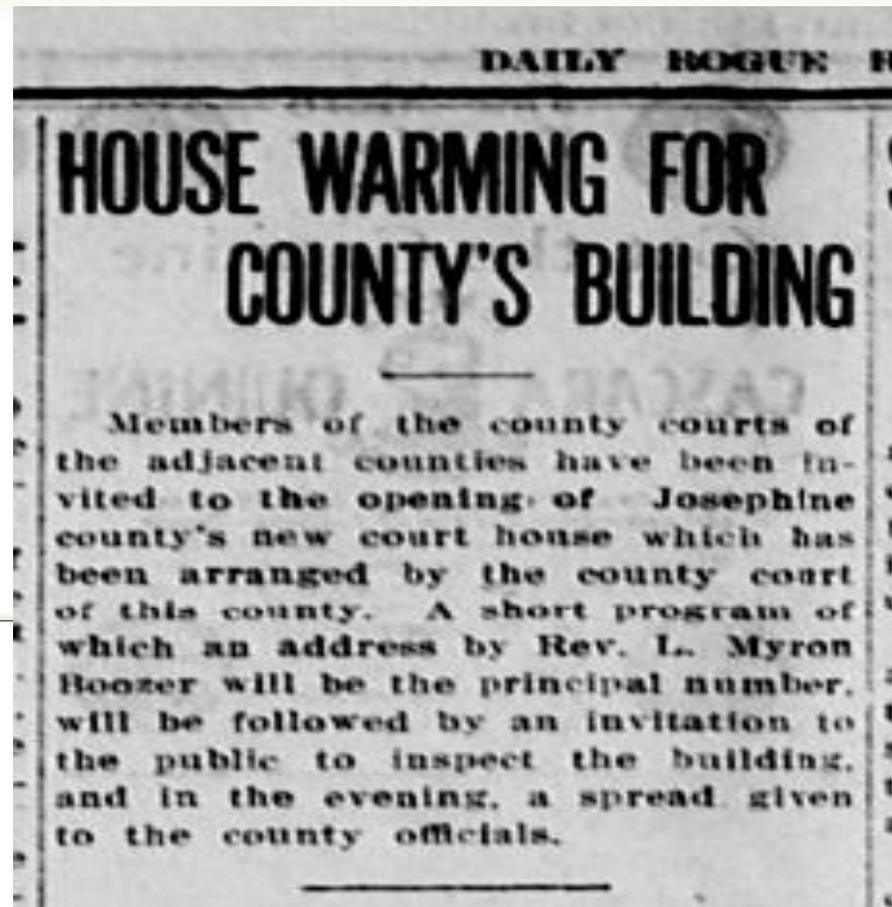
JOSEPHINE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
GRANTS PASS OREGON,
E. E. McCLARAN, ARCHITECT 325 LBR. EXC. BLDG., PORTLAND, ORE.



E. E. McClaran, Architect

1916

Basement Floor Plan



Rogue River Courier

December 2, 1917

House Warming for County's Building

COUNTY'S NEW HOME IS DEDICATED TODAY

The dedication of Josephine county's new \$100,000 court house took place this afternoon with a large number of local citizens and a goodly sprinkling of visitors from neighboring counties in attendance.

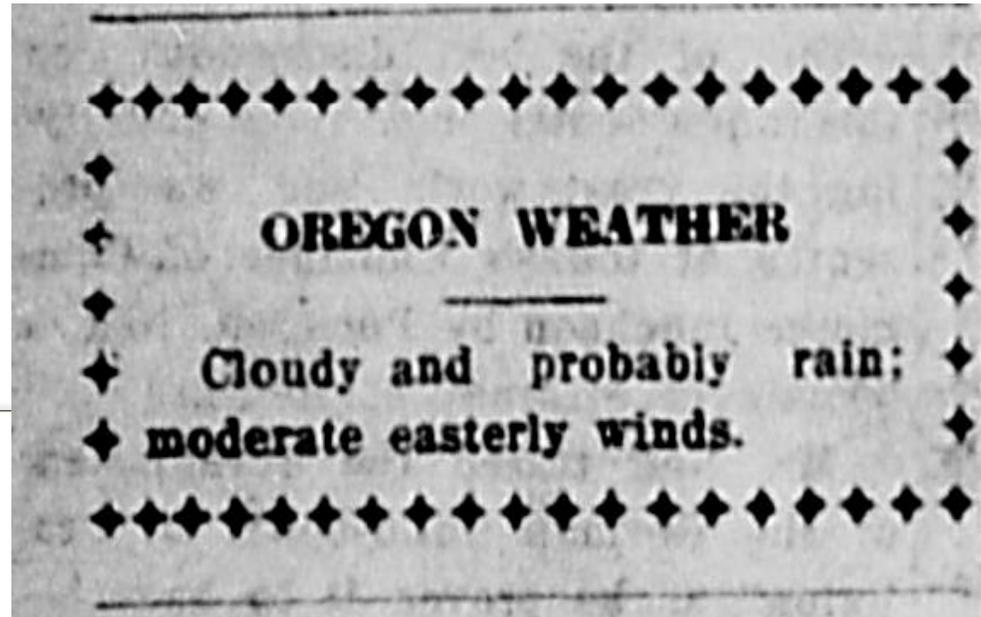
For several hours the guests wandered through the building, inspecting room after room, each finished in the best that marble and oak could accomplish. The general opinion heard was that the county had a home of which it could be proud for years to come.

Rev. J. Myron Boozer made the principal talk of the day. He reviewed the history of the county from its formation to the present day, and pointed out the new building as epitomizing the advancement, material and social, which the county had experienced.

Rogue River Courier

December 3, 1917

County's New Home is Dedicated



Rogue River Courier
Local weather day of dedication
December 3, 1917

INTERESTING FACTS CONCERNING THE COUNTY'S EARLY HISTORY RECALLED BY NEW COURTHOUSE

There were some interesting facts brought out in the splendid talk by Rev. L. Myron Boozer at the dedication of the new court house yesterday which brought up memories of the old days to some of the elder of his hearers.

Josephine county was created by an act of the legislature in 1856. The first county seat was at Waldo, but two or three years later it was moved to Kerbyville where it remained until the spring of 1886, when it was moved to Grants Pass.

The year before, an act was passed by the legislature cutting off a slice from the western part of Jackson county and adding it to Josephine. The block on which the court house was built was donated to the people by Jonathan Bourne Jr., and the old building was erected from materials donated and labor furnished free by patriotic citizens. The first county offices, after moving to Grants Pass were in the southwestern part of the town in a section then called "Jerusalem."

Rogue River Courier

December 4, 1917

Interesting Facts

JOSEPHINE COUNTY

1918

COURTHOUSE





*Josephine County Court House,
Grants Pass, Ore.*

1426 - CART - RA





The Daily Courier

1919



WANTIS PASS, OREGON.

COURT HOUSE PAID FOR IN FULL

3-5-1919

The county treasurer has called in for payment all of the outstanding courthouse warrants and in consequence, the new courthouse, which was built at a cost of \$197,822.28, is at last paid for. In addition to the cost of the building, the sum of \$1,922.49 was paid as interest, making a total cost of \$199,744.75.

The new courthouse, which is of Class A type, is one of the best in the state, and was designed by E. B. McClaran, of Portland, Oregon, the main contractors being J. M. Longan Company, of Port and, Oreg., and W. R. Rannie, of this city.

County Clerk F. L. Coburn has furnished the observer with itemized statement of the costs of the various items of the above building, which is as follows:

J. M. Dougal, general contract	\$ 82,229.66
W. R. Rannie, plumbing and heating	7,446.52
E. B. McClaran, architect fees	5,007.20
M. J. Walsh Co., electrical fixtures	4,450.90
Kilham Stationary & Printing Co., furnitur	3,366.20
Bushon & Company, steel fixtures	2,678.87
Nicolai-Nemach Co., benches	638.71
Western Blind & Screen Co., blinds	553.16
Cork Floor Products Co., linoleum	579.50
P. W. Hershberger, moving old building	578.50
F. O. Wilcox, labor	75.50
H. C. Hall, furnitur	50.00
Fred. Medhart Co., lockers	43.34
E. L. Coburn, freight and drayage on lockers and blinds, \$35.30, putting up blinds, \$15	49.30
Oregon Cement, Sewer Pipe & Tile Co., pipe	

HISTORICAL DATA - CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

COURTHOUSE - Alteration & Addition

Architect: Roald, Schmeer & Harrington
Portland, Oregon

Contractor: Todd Building Co.
Roseburg, Oregon

<u>Construction Costs</u> -----	\$ 449,007.58
<u>Architect Fees</u> -----	<u>28,777.10</u>
TOTAL	\$ 477,784.68

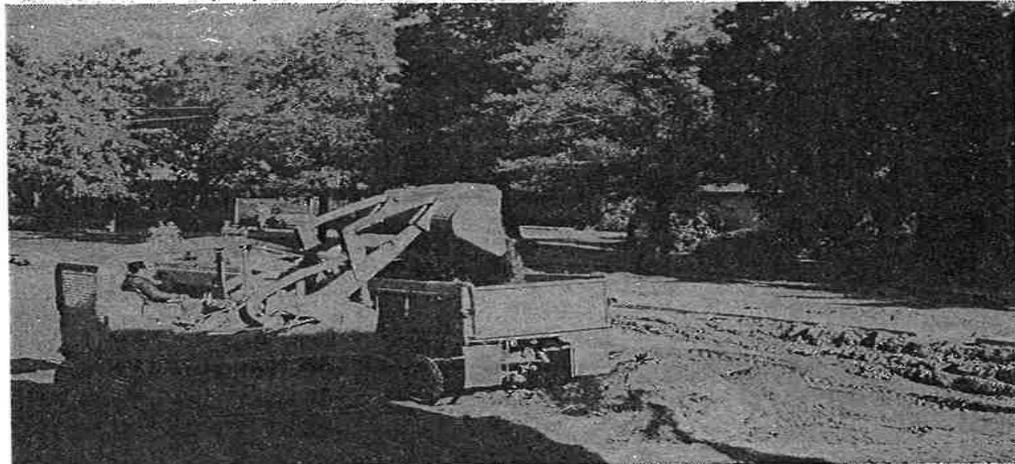
Completed September 1961

Courthouse Addition
September 1961
Capital Investments

Courthouse Addition Construction Begins

*Miller
Geo Co*

ly Burke



DOZER LOADER DUMPS first dirt in
ck in construction of lower floor of Law
forcement and Courts Addition Building.

oking from
ward corne
of pr sent cour-
"B" and Fifth

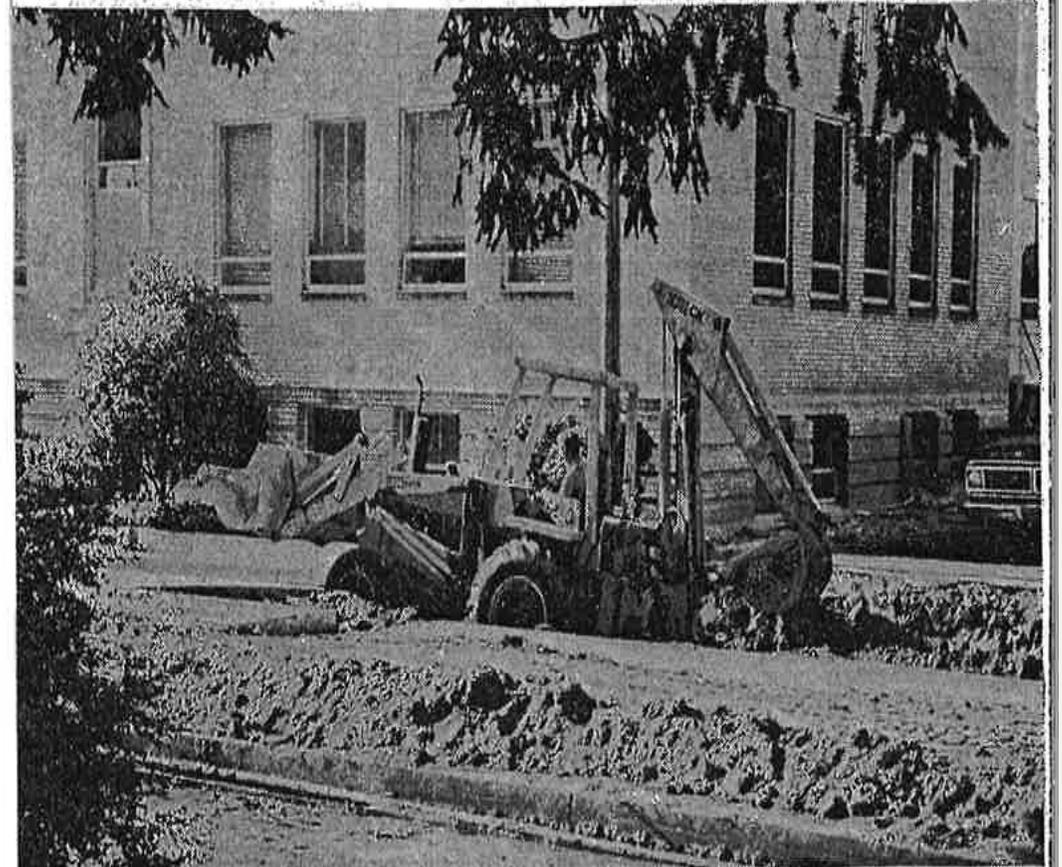


PILING UP SOFT dirt for loading into
cks. This early morning scene shows

nearly the whole rear of present courthouse,
stretching from "B" to "C" streets.

A ROOF TOP VIEW of the corner of "B"
d Fifth streets, both of which will become
osed to all but pedestrian traffic with the

completion of the new \$3.5 million court house
addition.



The Daily Courier

The Daily Courier

1961



Courthouse Remodeling About Done

9-8-1961
The long session of Josephine County Courthouse expansion and remodeling is about over.

For more than a year, courthouse employes have shouted to make themselves heard over the noise of construction workers' jackhammers and just plain hammers in the hands of carpenters.

They have worked with nothing better than a hanging canvas or similar temporary partition between them and the great outdoors.

They have been jammed into cramped quarters, with two people working in less than the space one should have; and, perhaps the most annoying of all, they have breathed air sometimes thick with the dust of construction and at other times sharp and stinging and irritating with the fumes of paint.

But all that is almost over. Departments which have been in temporary quarters in or out of the courthouse will start moving back into remodeled and expanded quarters next Monday — or into quarters in one of the new wings of the courthouse, as the case may be — if they have not done so already.

County officials hope such moving can be completed by Sept. 22.

Meanwhile, other changes are taking place, too. For instance, the main entrance of the courthouse, closed officially to normal use some months ago, is open and in use again.

That alone, with the reopening of interior hallways closed during the construction period, or parts of it, means the elimination of long walks, such as north to the B St. entrance from offices opening on the central part of the building, then around through the alley behind the building and into the clerk's office from an alley door, or vice versa.

With the basic wing-adding and main building remodeling scheduled for completion, probably next week, the only major item still to be done will be the roofing, although there will be some minor items still to be installed or replaced.

The entire project, which included new air conditioning throughout the old building as well as in the new wings, was contracted to Todd Building Co. of Roseburg at a basic contract price of \$402,240.

Like many such projects, however, there have been many things added, such as remodeling and refinishing of the circuit court room, plus other change orders, for things no one thought of before the contract was let, with the result that the Todd contract has been boosted to a total of \$449,007.

One "change order," for instance, which included the courtroom work, as well as other items, cost the county \$12,398, another more than \$15,000.

There was other cost either directly or indirectly connected with the project, but not included in the \$449,007 paid, or to be paid, so far, to the Todd company.

This included removing the big old locust trees whose roots were damaging sidewalks and curbs, replacing of the latter two installations, application of more than 200 cubic yards of topsoil for the lawn and shrubbery, landscaping, soil preparation and lawn seeding.

The planting of new trees and shrubbery is still to be done under a separate contract to be let this fall, with the work probably to be completed this winter or next spring.

Another item, the paving of the alley behind the courthouse, is to be started soon.

One observer commented: "It's costing a lot of money, but it



"DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE
OF JOSEPHINE COUNTY"

ALTERATIONS - ADDITIONS
1961

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE - ORVAL J. MILLARD

SHERIFF - LOYD LEWIS

TREASURER - ALICE DAVIDSON

JUSTICE OF PEACE - LOUIS L. RAFFERTY

CLERK - BEN W. COUTANT

ASSESSOR - DONALD E. JONES

SURVEYOR - RICHARD L. TEMPLIN, JR.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY - L. A. ASCHENBRENNER

COUNTY COURT

RAYMOND A. LATHROP - JUDGE

BRUCE E. DAVIDSON - COMMISSIONER

LOUIS D. RINGUETTE - COMMISSIONER

CONTRACTOR - TODD BUILDING COMPANY

ARCHITECTS - ROALD SCHMIDT & HARRINGTON



3



Courthouse Addition Big Project of 1974

The Daily Courier
1974

Refined planning touches were still being offered on the new Law Enforcement and Courts Assition Building by department heads — whose home it will eventually be while confetti was being swept from the courthouse halls beginning the brand new year of 1974.

Preliminary drawings of the proposed three-story addition had been presented to commissioners by architects Patterson, Langford and Stewart in November, 1973, following a series of meetings with city and county officials.

Other meetings and changes continued right up to the announcement on July 1st that bid openings had been postponed on the estimated \$2.5 million building for nearly two weeks because no firm bids had been received by the architects.

However, Lawson Construction, Inc., Portland, was the lowest bidder of four base bids opened on July 15. The surprise came when the low bid of \$3,536,146 for general

construction, plus jail and food services came to \$636,146 more than \$2.9 million budgeted for the project.

A huddle between commissioners and Lawson resulted in a slight compromise to a lower figure without having to re-offer the project to bid. Commissioners passed a 1974-75 supplemental budget to take up the slack between the \$2.9 million and the adjusted low bid.

Now that the actual building is well under way, with ground breaking kicked off on Sept. 12, Allen Lawson, president of Lawson Construction, said completion target date is February of 1976.

The building will culminate a long sought and much needed expansion on the drawing boards since early 1969.

An original, more expansive plan for a courthouse addition sparked an unsuccessful recall election against then Commissioner Ken Jackson. Though the recall move failed, it resulted in the scrapping of Jackson's more ambitious courthouse addition. While the present building is going on, there has been speculation that if Jackson's plan had been adopted, the addition, nearly three times the size of the present one, could have been built then for less than the same number of dollars the present one is costing.

The launching of the present structure began with the formation of a four-man Jail and Police Building Subcommittee of the county planning commission on Sept. 2, 1971. Committee Chairman Gordon Burns, Frank Ault Jr., C. Mel Hays and Bob Loveless developed a report and recommendations for a jail and police building. Their

study, following the present plans fairly closely, was completed on January 10, 1973.

The complex, designed to replace the old jail segment behind the courthouse, is three stories with a below ground level floor matching the present courthouse.

It will extend from the rear of the courthouse west to 5th street, closing it off to auto traffic between B and C

streets. B Street will also be a pedestrian mall between 5th and 6th streets.

In addition to the district and municipal court (doubling as commission chambers) the building will house a communication center for both city police and sheriff's department plus dormitory and recreation facilities for both.

Included is a ramp going down below the street level

about six feet behind the present courthouse from which to load and unload prisoners and witnesses.

Plans also call for jail facilities with a maximum capacity of 76 inmates; men, women and juveniles.

Despite some initial problems with water seepage necessitating heavy pumping, Dave Bassett, building director, said construction now on schedule.

Building Booms in '76

By WALLY BURKE
Of the Courier Staff

Construction of the new courthouse addition, originally called the "Law Enforcement and Courts Addition Building", overshadowed most of the other building in Josephine County in the past few years.

The three-story complex, designed to provide jail facilities for 76 men, women and juveniles, communications and operational facilities for both sheriff's department and city police, plus an added courtroom and district attorney's offices, had a base bid price tag of \$3,430,857.

With the addition of kitchen, jail and communication equipment, furniture and two city-required parking lots, plus landscaping, the total price tag came to \$4,087,440.

Covered parking, including brick walls for security of law enforcement vehicles, total 23 spaces — three of them for county commissioners' cars. Price tag for these was \$59,800, but this figure was included in the base building contract.

Another big county con-

struction project, begun early in 1975, now completed, is Josephine General Hospital's emergency-outpatient facility. Total cost of this first-phase construction and remodeling program which includes a mechanical tunnel (to carry power lines, etc.) and plant, plus the expansion and remodeling of several ancillary departments was \$2,073,678. The project covered 30,264 square feet.

Within more recent months is the completion and near completion of three high schools in the county. One of these is in Illinois Valley, carrying a total price tag of \$2,554,775.

The other two high schools, North Valley in the Merlin area, and Hidden Valley, near Murphy, come in for a total of \$6,048,470 construction costs.

In 1974, an expansion program for the main county library was completed. This is a wing at the northwest corner of the building which nearly doubled the library's capacity. The expansion construction, slowed for a period in early 1974 by strikes, was completed at a cost of about \$200,000.

Other library additions, still in the planning stage, are replacement of the Wolf Creek branch, expansion of the Illinois Valley branch and upgrading of the Williams branch.

Hard on the heels of the courts addition construction came the plans and continual letting of contracts for expansion, remodeling and refurbishing of the old courthouse. This includes adding the unfinished north and south wings and revamping some of the departments to best use the space made available with the moving of the district attorney's offices and the road department.

This work is an on-going process expected to cost nearly \$200,000. It includes an additional Circuit Court and other facilities to handle the county's continual increasing population.

Another general remodeling project is also going on in the county's A Street Building, housing the health department, mental health program, watermaster and public clinics. A low bid of \$67,500 was accepted on the A Street remodeling and the same contractor came in with a low bid of \$8,500 for alterations modeling on the county office building in Cave Junction.

county offices, including the planning department, parks and building and safety department, occupy office space in the new Grants Pass City Hall. The city hall, a 16,855-square-foot brick structure at A and Sixth streets, was completed last year. It carried a price tag of \$824,701.

Another city project, put into operation in 1975, was the City Sewage Treatment Plant. It cost the city \$4,191,117.

The new state office building on Sixth Street, also built in 1975-76, houses the State Welfare departments and some of the county volunteer services. It is leased by the state, contains 18,000 square feet and cost \$330,000 to

One the con-
ruct oje ed to
give a boost to the unty
employment picture, the
Redwood Sewer. Wit low

project, including sewer lines and treatment plant, North American Contractors, Inc., of Portland, were notified just

The Daily Courier

1977



Justice Building Addition

1974







JOSEPHINE COUNTY

1916

COURTHOUSE







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JOSEPHINE COUNTY

1916

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