NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in 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 **Lewis County Courthouse**

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 351 NW North Street ☐ not for publication

city or town Chehalis ☐ vicinity

state Washington code WA county Lewis code 041 zip code 98532

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _X_ 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 _X_ 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 _X_ local

Applicable National Register Criteria

_X_ A ___ B _X_ C ___ D

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date: 6.30.14

WASHINGTON SHPO
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:)

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action: 8.18.14

LEWIS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Name of Property

LEWIS COUNTY, WA
County and State

5. Classification

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

	private
X	public - Local
	public - State
	public - Federal

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

X	building(s)
	district
	site
	structure
	object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1		**Total**

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT: Courthouse
GOVERNMENT: Correctional Facility
GOVERNMENT: Government Office

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT: Government Office

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY
REVIVALS: Beaux Arts

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE
walls: BRICK, STONE
roof: SYNTHETIC: Rubber
other: STONE: Granite; METAL: Bronze, Aluminum

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

The Lewis County Courthouse is a four-story, flat-roofed, Beaux Arts style building. It is located at 351 Northwest North Street on City Block 18 of Barrett's Addition to the City of Chehalis. The block is 100x200 feet; the building is 90x162 feet. The courthouse is bordered by Main Street on its South side, Chehalis Avenue on its West, North Street to the North, and Pacific Avenue to the East. Originally surrounded by a mix of residential and commercial properties, the courthouse is now surrounded by other county buildings.

Courthouse Exterior

It has a concrete shell, reinforced with steel and is a Class AA structure. Supported by a concrete foundation and piers on which the structural members rest, the outside foundation walls double as walls for the basement level.

All exterior stairs are centered to the building's face and flanked by cast sandstone posts and curving walls. Granite stairs lead up to the main entrances on the north and south sides of the building, and down to the basement entrances on the east and west sides. There are 8 steps to the Main St door, 13 steps to the North St door, 7 steps into the basement from Chehalis Ave, and 10 steps into the basement from Pacific Ave. North and south entrances still have the original massive bronze doors. East and west entrances have been replaced with aluminum-frame doors. The east entrance to the basement has been modified for ADA accessibility with a ramp and power openers on both interior and exterior doors. The roof is flat concrete, originally built up with coal tar and gravel to provide weather tightness. The current roof is a single-ply membrane EPDM roof over insulation. It contains a skylight well that provides light leading to the central staircase on the first floor.

The classical exterior is finished in brick and stone: sandstone. There are four stories, including a daylight basement and three upper floors, with a mezzanine located between the second and third floors of the north side of the building. Pilasters (shaped after the Doric order), cornices, parapet, triglyphs, and rusticated base made of pinkish-grey cast stone. The fourth, or attic story is concealed behind a windowless parapet. A window, or "light well" is hidden behind the parapet to allow some natural light into the jail, but also to prevent escape. Sandstone portrait busts in bas relief of Meriwether Lewis and George Washington are on the east and west sides of the building, respectively. On the north and south sides of the building are inscriptions in Roman lettering: COVRT HOVSE OF THE COVNTY OF LEWIS ERECTED BY THE PEOPLE AND DEDICATED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF JVSTICE, and LET VS RAISE A STANDARD TO WHICH THE WISE AND HONEST CAN REPAIR. GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The original windows have been replaced with insulated, aluminum-frame, double-pane windows. A total of 79 windows were changed.[1] There are cast stone balustrades, pediments, and sills. Basement level windows are contained in window wells allowing natural light to be extensively utilized.

1 "Courthouse Receiving New Windows," The Daily Chronicle, April 3, 1971.

Courthouse Interior

Each floor of the interior has 14,670 square feet, except the top, which is 10,656 square feet, and the mezzanine floor, which is 2500 square feet. Interior walls are plastering over terra cotta or gypsum stone, with California stucco in the corridors. A sculpted panel of Meriwether Lewis adorns the courthouse corridor. The original mahogany trim is still in place and is carved to duplicate the plaster features. The mahogany benches formerly in the court galleries are now used as waiting benches in the lobby. The flooring in the basement, in the first and second floor public corridors, and in the main stairway is terrazzo with brass divider strips. The pilasters, egg and dart moldings, dentils, window pediments, modillions, finials, and triglyphs used on the exterior are duplicated on interior first and second floors: in halls and rooms, including the second floor courtrooms, and is still present today. The first floor features high ceilings and detailed moldings. The current paint scheme was designed to highlight these details and used period colors. Interior stairs are as follows: 16 steps to the first landing, 16 more steps to the second floor, 30 steps to the jail on the third floor, and two sets of steps to the basement from the first floor. Main stairway in the building's center has a low ceiling between a set of stairs going up and a set going down that features bas relief rosettes. The stairs to the second floor are lit by the previously mentioned skylight.

Original Floor Plans

Included in the **basement** were quarters for the Agricultural and Horticultural County Agent, Fair Commission, Superintendent of Schools, Fire Warden, County Nurse (Health Dept.), and Game Commission. **Basement** also contained the Records Storage Vault, the Sheriff's Vault (which included an illicit liquor vault), a boiler room, and a storage area for coal. It also held a Blueprint Room for the Engineer, and locker rooms.

On the **first floor**: were offices for the Engineer, Auditor, the County Commissioners, the Treasurer, and the Assessor. There were men's and women's restrooms, a north and south vestibule, and a large public lobby which included a telephone booth for information. The **second floor** housed two courtrooms—one 36x50 feet, the other 46x70 feet—each with attached Judges Chambers, the Sheriff's Office, the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, two attorney rooms, and the County Clerk's office. There were also men's and women's restrooms.

The **mezzanine level** was attached to the second floor by interior stairwells and contained space for Court Bailiffs, Jury Rooms for the two courtrooms, a Sheriff's Deputies Room, and the Law Library. The windowless **third floor (attic)** was designed to house the jail. It could be accessed by stairways or by a basement elevator that led directly to the jail. The main cell room was 40x50 feet. The jail equipment used had the most modern features in safety, convenience, and sanitation at the time. There was an operating room, Doctor's Office and Lab, Matron and Jailers quarters, a kitchen, and a Jury Sleeping Room with areas for male and female jurors. Provided were separate cells for men, women, juveniles, and the insane. There was also a solitary confinement cell and a bullpen.

Courthouse Alterations

In 1953, construction began north of the courthouse on an annex designed by Wohleb & Wohleb &

Associates[2]. Dedicated November 19, 1954[3], the Health Department and County Extension Office moved there from the courthouse basement to allow other county offices space to expand.

Through the years, Community Development and Planning, Sheriff's Detectives, Assessors Mapping and Appraisers, Parks and Community Services, Facilities Maintenance, Emergency Management, and Central Dispatch have all been housed in the basement. Currently, Risk Management and Human Resources, Fiscal Services, the WSU Extension Office, and Weed Control are located on the basement level. The Records Vault remains virtually unchanged.

The courtroom on the second floor was used for various local magistrates until 1961, when the room was remodeled to house the newly designated District Court and its Clerk. In 1967, the county bricked up four windows on the western face of the building in an effort to drown out train noise.[4]

On September 29, 1973, an arson fire caused over $100,000 damage to the Superior courtroom.[5]

In 1975, Lewis County was granted a second Superior Court Judge position and all District Court functions moved to the Health Building.

In 1977, a second Annex, designed by James H. Hubenthal[6], was completed south of the courthouse. The Lewis County Extension Service, Weed Control, the Public Works Department all moved out of the courthouse. The Prosecuting Attorney and staff shared the third floor with District Court. The Sheriff's office was on the top floor. A skybridge between the buildings allowed transport of prisoners from the jail to the annex, and for easy movement of officials among offices.[7] In the courthouse, Superior Court expanded to allow for jury rooms attached to the courtrooms, and the law library moved to the mezzanine. This helped the building get into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The west end room originally used for District Court was split in the mid-1960s. The front area became a second superior courtroom, and the rear third served as district court until 1977 when the court moved to the annex. This project restored the courtroom to its original size.[8]

In 1986, the county constructed a new jail next to the Law & Justice Center on Chehalis Avenue. At that time, the third floor became home to the Printing Office, functions of the Sheriff's Office—D.A.R.E., the Drug Task Force, Evidence Storage—and storage for the Clerk's Office.

A 1990 project to steam-clean and restore the exterior masonry; also to repair the steps was expected to take about two months.[9] In 1993, the second floor of the courthouse was renovated to add a third courtroom and a Court Administrator's Office.

Between 1995 and 2003, the historic courthouse received $3 million in upgrades in a massive project

2 Doug Carey, e-mail to Andy Skinner, April 3, 2014.

3 "48-year-old building crowded, officials say," *The Daily Chronicle*, February 23, 1974.

4 Bill Dugovich, "Lack of windows ires judge," *The Daily Chronicle*, May 4, 1985.

5 *The Daily Chronicle*, December 29, 1973.

6 James H. Hubenthal, A.I.A., 1976 Architectural Plans.

7 "Courthouse Addition Close to Completion," *The Daily Chronicle*, April 22, 1978.

8 "Courtroom expanding," *The Daily Chronicle*, April 26, 1985.

9 "Courthouse gets bath," *The Chronicle*, June 6, 1990.

that eventually consolidated all the courts, the jail, the Sheriff's office and the Prosecutor's office into the 1977 Annex.[10] All of the county administration offices consolidated into the historic courthouse. The courthouse's interior offices were remodeled and a new public elevator installed, its exterior façade was cleaned and restored, and the skybridge was removed in 2002 returning the building to its historic exterior specifications.[11]

The courthouse itself had its antiquated electrical service replaced, and new heating and ventilation systems installed.[12] It was also wired for computer networking. No master plans exist for this project due to its many phases that seemed to grow from each other; what began as a simple paint job snowballed. Plans dated 1992 were drawn by James H. Hubenthal who also designed the 1977 annex. The process began in 1995 with County Treasurer Rose Bowman and a citizen committee who wanted to put in better lighting and to cover the interior's mustard-yellow paint. That goal turned into a full-blown renovation.[13] A Courthouse Refurbishment Committee researched historically accurate paint colors and lighting fixtures. They also visited vintage courthouses for ideas. They repainted interior public spaces to accentuate the ornate architectural flourishes, and "to accent the neoclassical architecture of the hallways and courtrooms."[14]

In 1995, a portion of the third floor was renovated for a new Dispatch Center, and E911 equipment. At this time, Central Dispatch was moved from the basement. Also in 1995, the county initiated a project to restore the historical aspects of the public interior spaces, including repainting to highlight architectural details and installing period lighting in the corridors.

In 2003, the county completed a major renovation that gave the courthouse its current layout. The Assessor's Office and all commissioners' offices relocated to the Second Floor and replaced the space vacated by the Superior Court and County Clerk. The Superior Courtroom became a public hearings room for the County Commissioners. The Auditor's Office was expanded to occupy the spaces left by the Assessors and Commissioners. The WSU Extension moved back to the basement where the Department of General Administration also located. The sky bridge was removed, and the Annex was renamed The Law and Justice Center.

Since 2003, the only changes to the layout of the building were additional space allocated on the third floor for Central Dispatch, and the creation of an office for the Central Services Director.

In 2007, the county launched a project to restore the exterior of the building to original specifications. Cast sandstone was replaced on the south façade to repair the stone removed to attach the sky bridge and the window sills on the west end Second Floor. At the same time, the county repaired existing cast stone features to correct decades of weather damage, and repointed the brick fields.[15] This project also installed period lighting at the entrances that was shown on the original plans but never installed.

In 2009, the ridge cap was repaired and repainted, and the exterior elevator shaft repaired and sealed.

10 Brian Mittge, "County approves courthouse renovation, earthquake repair," *The Chronicle*, December 17, 2002.

11 "Renovation on historic courthouse underway," *The Chronicle*, April 25, 2001.

12 "Courthouse renovation helps public," *The Chronicle*, March 4, 2002.

13 Brian Mittge, "Courthouse renovation officially ends," *The Chronicle*, March 4, 2003.

14 "Courthouse gets fresh, old look for sesquicentennial celebration," *The Chronicle*, November 11, 1995.

15 "Lewis County Courthouse Restored," *The Chronicle*, April 26, 2007.

LEWIS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Name of Property

LEWIS COUNTY, WA
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.)

- [x] 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.
- [x] 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.)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1927 - 1954

Significant Dates

1927
1954

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Griffin, Jack DeForest (Architect)
Erickson, S. Christian (Builder: First Unit)
Settergren Bros. (Builder: Second Unit)

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

The Lewis County Courthouse in Chehalis, Washington is historically significant under Criteria A, as a property that is directly associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of the growth, development and industry of Lewis County. The building is also significant under Criteria C, as a good example of its type and as a building that represents the work of a master architect, Jack deForest Griffin.

From 1927 until 1977, the nominated building held district and superior courts, as well as all county functions. Notable for the permanence of its construction, the nominated building was the first major expenditure by the county for a courthouse building. Previous court and commissioner sessions were held in private homes, simple wooden frame buildings, and/or re-purposed structures. The period of significance begins with the year the courthouse was dedicated, 1927, and extends to 1954 the year the Health Department moved to a new across the street symbolizing the beginning of a slow shift in the functions of the building.

Construction of the Lewis County Courthouse began in 1925 and was completed in 1927. The total cost for the building, $425,000, was allocated without a bond, tax increase or debt. Instead a special fund was created by "the slight shaving of road district and other levies over a two-year period." Two separate general contracts were paid to construct the building in two units. The first unit, built by S. Christian Erickson of Tacoma, laid the foundations, built the basement, and provided the concrete and shell of the building. The second unit, which completed the courthouse, was contracted to Settergren Brothers of Portland, Oregon.

Early Lewis County History

At the December 1845 birth of Lewis County, the county seat was wherever the justices of the peace decided to hold court."[xvi] This lack of defined seat caused considerable grief considering the original area included a vast swath of land stretching to all land west of the Cowlitz River and north to 54 degrees, 40 minutes longitudinal line. Thirteen counties would eventually be carved from Lewis County, known by some as the "*Mother of All Counties*." The counties included Pacific in 1851, Thurston, King, Jefferson, Pierce, and Island counties followed in 1852. Then between 1854 and 1857, Clallam, Chehalis (renamed Grays Harbor), Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Whatcom, Swamish (renamed Mason), and Skamania counties were formed. Finally, in 1857, Slaughter (renamed Kitsap) County was carved from King County.[xvii]

Sidney S. Ford Home

Early on, the first county meetings were held at the home of Sidney Smith Ford on Ford's Prairie. Records indicated that that the site was used as such for a commissioner session on October 4, 1847.[xviii] Ford and his family had arrived in 1846 and built a two-story home on a 640-acre Donation Land Claim northwest of where the Skookumchuck and Chehalis Rivers meet. Ford was one of the county's first justices of the peace. He and his sons spoke several Indian dialects and served as

xvi David Wilma, "Lewis County—Thumbnail History; HistoryLink File #7449," *History Link*. September 1, 2005, 2007,2008. http://www.historylink.org (accessed July 20, 2013)

xvii Sandra A. Crowell, The Land Called Lewis (Chehalis: Panesko Publishing, 2007), 37-39.

xviii Tove Hodge, *The Sidney S. Ford Family,* (Rochester: Gorham Printing, 1942, 1995), 83.

Indian Agents during Governor Isaac Stevens' Indian Wars of 1855-1856. [xix]

John R. Jackson Home

The first court held north of the Columbia River[xx] was at John Jackson's cabin in 1850.[xxi] Federal Judge William R. Strong of Oregon presided over the selection of grand and petit jurors in October of 1851 and the County Commissioners also met there. [xxii] [xxiii] For several years, court activities alternated between the Ford and Jackson homes.

John Robinson Jackson had arrived in the Lewis River Valley area in 1845, a year before Britain ceded Lewis County to the United States. He became the first landowner in what became Washington Territory, eventually owning over 2,200 acres. After building a log cabin on his claim located 12 miles north of Cowlitz landing and marrying Matilda Koontz, a widow with four sons, the Jackson home served as a way station of sorts for early travelers. Before they were generals, Ulysses S. Grant, George McClellan, and Phillip Sheridan all stayed with the Jacksons.[xxiv] The community also gathered there for weddings, celebrations, and repair/trade shops for farm implements.[xxv] Before the Cowlitz Convention, settlers met at Jackson's cabin "to plan an official plea" to Congress for dividing the massive Oregon Territory.[xxvi]

The earliest minutes of county commissioner sessions complained of the distance and deplorable travel conditions to the meetings; as the men either walked or rode horseback, tempers frequently flared when locations were discussed. Ford's Prairie northwest of future Centralia was too remote for Cowlitz Prairie and Drew's Prairie travelers; Jackson Prairie required Puget Sound delegates to cross the Skookumchuck River and slog through muddy Saundersville. When he learned the 1851 commissioners' hearings would be held at Jackson Prairie instead of the nearby Borst home, Sidney Ford refused to attend, and was fined $10 for contempt. Thurston County was created on January 12, 1852 in part to alleviate some of the transportation problems, as well as the courthouse rivalry.[xxvii]

Other Court Locations

Some sources note that court was held at Simon Plamondon's cabin at Cowlitz Landing.[xxviii] Other reports state that John Moore home at Newaukum Prairie served as a courthouse for several sessions. At least one formal record does exist of a meeting on December 1, 1858 at John Moore's home.

Claquato Courthouse

Seeking to end the continued movement of the court location, the territorial legislature passed a bill allocating funds for a permanent home for county in 1862. The site chosen was Claquato, a community that was begun in 1853 by Lewis Hawkins Davis. Davis had filed a 640-acre Donation

xix Dan Bush, "Interesting History of Early Courthouses in Lewis County, Including Pioneer Political Moves," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget,* June 17, 1927, pg 2.

xx "Pioneer Building to be Preserved," *The Chronicle,* February 26, 1936.

xxi "From Jackson Prairie Days to '27 a Long Step." *Lewis County Advocate,* June 17, 1927, pg 4.

xxii "The Jackson Prairie Courthouse Where Federal Court Convened in 1851," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 17, 1927, pg 5.

xxiii Dan Bush, "Interesting History of Early Courthouses in Lewis County, Including Pioneer Political Moves," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget,* June 17, 1927, pg 2.

xxiv Crowell, 19-20.

xxv "Pioneer Building to be Preserved," *The Chronicle,* February 26, 1936.

xxvi Crowell, 40

xxvii "Early Area Had Courthouse Fight," *The Daily Chronicle,* October 10, 1966.

xxviii David Wilma, "Lewis County—Thumbnail History; HistoryLink File #7449," *History Link*. September 1, 2005, 2007, 2008. http://www.historylink.org (accessed July 20, 2013)

Land Claim which encompassed a prominent hill among the rather flat bottom river lands of the central county area. He named the community, Claquato, which means “high place” or “hill” in the Chehalis Indian Language. After building a log home, he set aside land for a church and a cemetery. Davis donated the first run of lumber from his new mill to build the Claquato Church in 1858. Soon, when the military roads were first built through Lewis County, they traversed near Claquato and Davis connected the development with roads from his home to Saundersville, Ford’s Prairie, Napavine, and over Newaukum Hill.[xxix]

The territorial legislature passed a bill on January 23, 1862, stating that if Davis donated a tract of land 160 x 250 square feet and erected a courthouse, the county seat would be located at Claquato. With lumber cut from Davis’ mill, village carpenter John D. Clinger built the two-story Claquato Courthouse a short distance north of the church. It was completed in time to hold a “Sanitation Ball” to raise funds for the Union Civil War effort on July 4, 1862. While never used for district court, county business was transacted here until 1874 when the county seat moved yet again, this time to Chehalis. After the county moved out, the former courthouse building was used as a school, a Grange hall, and as a cheese factory, before it was demolished in 1888.[xxx]

Chehalis’ First Courthouse

Spurring the move was the coming of the railroad. The Northern Pacific RR had laid tracks through Chehalis instead of Claquato, and the new town of Chehalis boomed. Once the Northern Pacific Railroad bypassed Claquato, it seemed sensible to move the county seat as well. In 1872, a committee to petition the territorial legislature was formed to canvas the county for signatures. 90% of citizens signed their plea to move the county seat to Chehalis.[xxxi] On the last day of the session, November 11, 1873, the territorial legislature made Chehalis the Lewis County seat. However, a provision had been inserted into the bill that the stated that the county would only pay $1,000 toward building a new courthouse. To make up the difference needed to construct a building, several private citizens including Noah Bosworth, George J. Hogue, John Dobson, J.T Newland, and William West had to sign a bond promising to pay any additional costs. Quickly the committee bought and cleared an acre of land for future use as a county courthouse site, and in spring of 1874, a contract for construction of a new courthouse building was awarded to W.H. Taylor & Sons of Olympia.

The new two-story Chehalis courthouse was finished in June of 1874. Measuring 30 x 46 square feet, the upstairs held the courtroom, and the downstairs contained public offices. The building cost $3000, requiring each of the bondsmen to pay $400 toward the deficit unpaid by the county. On July 4th, the courthouse was dedicated with a public celebration featuring speeches and games. That evening, the courthouse held a ball costing $2.50 per couple. The military band from Fort Vancouver provided the music. On August 1, 1874, the county commissioners moved all of the documents and functions of the county seat to Chehalis.[xxxii]

This courthouse was used until approximately 1897 when county business outgrew the location. The frame building was sold and moved to the corner of Market and West streets, but burned down years later.[xxxiii]

xxix Crowell, “Lewis Hawkins Davis and Claquato,”45.

xxx Dan Bush, “Interesting History of Early Courthouses in Lewis County, Including Pioneer Political Moves,” *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget,* June 17, 1927, pg 2.

xxxi Julie McDonald Zander, *Chapters of Life in 1915 Chehalis—The Chehalis Bee-Nugget Historical Edition,* (Chehalis: Chapters of Life, 2011), 43.

xxxii Ibid.

xxxiii Ibid.

Barrett Block Courthouse

The next location of the courthouse was the Barrett Block, built in 1891 by one of Chehalis' early pioneer families, Eliza Saunders. The three story tall brick building with spires on two corners, was one of the most prominent buildings in the community at the time. The upper two floors originally held the Grand Central Hotel; while the ground floor housed a variety of stores, a bank, and a saloon. The county purchased the building for $6,500 dollars and used it as a courthouse until 1927.[xxxiv] [xxxv]

However, complaints about the Barrett Block's suitability as a courthouse dominated the newspapers from the time they moved in. By the 1920s, it had already been in public use for over 30 years and accounts note that it was dirty, dusty, and falling apart. The stairways creaked and the structure was inherently unsafe.[xxxvi] Also of particular concern were the jail facilities. Between 1908 and 1927, in separate instances and using different methods, numerous prisoners successfully escaped from the jail.[xxxvii] Overcrowded conditions in 1908 led to construction of additional cells.[xxxviii] However, a carpenters error led to a six-prisoner escape on March 25, 1908. The *Chehalis Bee-Nugget* reported on overcrowding (with 18 inmates) and lack of separation among prisoners where "Hardened criminals" mingled with "younger men of more tender conscience."[xxxix]

By the late teens the County Commissioners began to look at ways to build a new courthouse and started to set aside money for the construction of a grand new courthouse which would meet the needs of the county for the next 100 years.

1927 Lewis County Courthouse

Chehalis was booming by the 1920s. The population had jumped from 1,775 at the turn of the century to 4,507 by 1910. A new brick train depot had recently replaced the original wooden structure, and several new schools had been constructed to house the growing student population.[xl] New homes filled the surrounding hills of the downtown and brick buildings began to replace the old wooden false front structures in the downtown core.

Construction of the Lewis County Courthouse began in 1925. Built in two phases and taking two years to build, the final construction cost was $425,000. The building was dedicated without a bond issue, tax increase or debt. County Commissioners L.A. Stahl, Henry Rayton, B.H. Stacy were quite proud of the fact that they had created a special construction fund by "the slight shaving of road district and other levies over a two-year period."[xli]

Two separate general contracts were commissioned for the two units of construction. The first unit, built by S. Christian Erickson of Tacoma, laid the foundations, built the basement, and provided the concrete and shell of the building[xlii]. The second unit which completed the courthouse was contracted to Settergren Brothers of Portland, Oregon[xliii]. The project overseen by A.J. Rousch of Seattle[xliv].

xxxiv Zander, *Chapters of Life,* 32.

xxxv Ibid.

xxxvi "In Dedication of Lewis County's New Courthouse," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget,* June 17, 1927, front pg.

xxxvii "A Daring Attempt at General Jail Break is Stopped by the Jailer," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 3, 1927, front pg.

xxxviii "County Jail is Overcrowded," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, February 21, 1908.

xxxix "County Jail Is Overcrowded," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, February 21, 1908.

xl Zander, *Images of America—Chehalis*, 74.

xli "In Dedication of Lewis County's New Courthouse," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget,* June 17, 1927, front pg.

xlii "S.C. Erickson of Tacoma, Former Chehalis Citizen, Builds the First Unit," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 17, 1927, pg 5.

xliii "Settergren Bros. Make a Good Record Completing The County Courthouse," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 17, 1927, pg 2.

The June 17, 1927 issue of the *Chehalis Bee-Nugget* was devoted almost entirely to Lewis County's brand-new courthouse. The front page article made much of its necessity, its construction, and the intention of all involved for the courthouse to house all the county offices for at least the next 100 years.

The Chehalis Bee-Nugget reported that a half-holiday was planned as county mayors and other officials were scheduled to speak at the afternoon festivities. The public was invited to an open house hosted by county officials and a concert by Lewis County Pomona Grange band. The Boy Scout drum and bugle corps introduced the raising of the flag, followed by a general program of speeches. Chehalis played Hoquiam in a Timber League baseball game, and the evening ended with a dance in the courthouse auditorium.[xlv]

One of the highlights of the courthouse was the jail facilities, built by the Pauly Jail Building Company.[xlvi] The 1927 courthouse facilities had cells for prisoners of serious versus lesser offenses, and cells for juveniles separate from adults. The former jail had one room for women, while the new jail maintained an entire department for women.

The 1927 courthouse also featured spaces built specifically for the needs of the county offices and their occupants. The room in the Barrett Block courthouse used by the Auditor was a former saloon, and the Treasurer was ensconced in a room built as a bank.[xlvii] The architect's floor plans for the 1927 building detail the many rooms and areas made available for the current county offices and for further expansion.

To design 1927's courthouse building, Lewis County hired local architect Jack DeForest Griffin. Born in California on January 7, 1892, DeForest moved to Seattle and joined architectural firm Hewitt-Lea-Funck after graduating from the University of Santa Clara in 1912. In 1916, Griffin formed a partnership with Irwyn Hill and Arnott Woodroofe of Tacoma. When Woodroofe left the firm and moved to Spokane in 1918, architect Ernest T. Mock joined the firm.

Under the name Hill, Mock, & Griffin the firm blossomed. Projects included the Tacoma Can Company (1919); the Charles W. Rhodes House (1919); Roosevelt Elementary School (1921); Temple Beth Israel (1922); the Mueller-Harkins Motor Co. (1924); and Fife Civic Auditorium (1924).

Hill and Mock worked in Tacoma, while Griffin moved to Chehalis to open a satellite office (date unknown). In 1924, Griffin formally left the partnership and opened his own Chehalis-based firm, quickly becoming Lewis County's most prominent architect. He designed many of the area's most important buildings including the St. Helens Theatre (1924); the Moose Lodge (1926); Boone Mortuary (1928); Junior High School (1927); Cascade School (1927); all in Chehalis. Outside of Chehalis projects included the Fairhart Building (1924) in Morton; the Eagles Lodge (1926) in Centralia; Catholic Church (1924) in South Bend; a gymnasium for the Boisfort School District (1924); and St. Rose Catholic School (1927) in Longview. He gained notoriety throughout the Pacific Northwest however with his design for the Lewis County Courthouse (1927).

Seemingly with his career at its highest point, in 1928, Griffin sold his firm to former WSU instructor

xliv "New Courthouse Is Built With Future Developments in Prospect," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 17, 1927, pg 6.

xlv "Lewis County Dedicates New $425,000 Courthouse Today," *The Lewis County Advocate*, June 17, 1927, front pg.

xlvi "Jail Equipment Contract To Pauly Jail Building Company, St. Louis, Mo.," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 17, 1927, pg 8.

xlvii Dan Bush, "Interesting History of Early Courthouses in Lewis County, Including Pioneer Political Moves," *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget,* June 17, 1927, pg 2.

Fred G. Rounds, and moved to Hollywood. Reportedly he had designing a home there for his cousin, actress Bebe Daniels, and while working on the project had gaining a large number of additional commissions. The local Chehalis newspaper reported that Griffin had around one million dollars of business on the boards in California by the end of 1929.

Many of Griffin's designs show a strong influence of Spanish Colonial Revival and the Mission Revival Style, most likely as a result of his architectural education in Southern California. His designs also show influences of Beaux Arts and Italian Renaissance Revival architecture, all popular styles in the 1920s. Griffin passed away in Los Angeles, California on April 2, 1951 at the age of 59.

Griffin designed the Lewis County Courthouse in the Beaux Arts architectural style, and the building serves as one of the best example of the style in the state. The Beaux Arts style, named for the premier French school of architecture, the *Ecole des Beaux-Arts*, was introduced to the United States by American architects who attended the prestigious school in the late nineteenth-century. The style was most often seen in places where turn-of-the-century wealth was concentrated, major urban centers and resort communities. The popularity of this style was advanced by the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. With its grandiose treatment of classic architectural forms, the Beaux Arts style was seen as an ideal expression of both corporate wealth and civic pride. Buildings of this style are both formal and monumental with abundant and opulent decorative details. The style was especially suited for public buildings designed to deliver a strong symbolic message, such as libraries, museums, court houses, and train stations. Introduced in the late 1880s to holds on into the late 1920s. Privately owned Beaux Arts style mansions are rare in the Pacific Northwest, instead the style was mainly utilized on public and/or institutional buildings.

The Beaux Arts style uses formal symmetry, Italian Renaissance form, and classical Greek and Roman decorative elements like columns, pediments and balustrades to create a grand and imposing architectural statement. Exterior decorative details include may include quoins, balconies, terraces, porches, and porticoes as well as ornamental windows and grand entrances. This style also featured lavish interiors including pilasters, arched openings, elaborate chandeliers, coffered ceilings, or marble fireplaces. The Lewis County Courthouse, completed in 1927, boasts many details of the style and serves as a late example.

1927 Architect/Builders/Contractors Information[xlviii]

Site: ($16,700) Bought from the Methodist Church (A.E. Judd Company, Chehalis, WA)
First Unit: ($70,610) foundation, concrete, and shell of building (S.C. Erickson, Tacoma, WA, General Contract)
Second Unit: ($197,009.79) Settergren Bros., Portland, OR, General Contract
Bronze Doors: ($4000) Schilling Evertz, Bellingham, WA
Heating & Ventilating: ($17,413) Rushlight-Hastorf-Lord, Portland, OR
Linoleum: ($5,349) S.C. Scott, Tacoma, WA
Elevator: ($3890) Otis Elevator Company, Seattle, WA
Vault Doors: ($1575) Paul C. Giesy Co., Chehalis, WA
Electrical: ($5946.77) Chehalis Electric Co., Chehalis, WA
Plumbing: ($11,663.53) Stacey Plumbing & Sanitary Engineering Co., Tacoma, WA
Jail Equipment: ($32,589) Pauly Jail Building Co., St. Louis, MO
Furniture: ($7115) L.A. Vimont, Chehalis, WA; The Bookstore, Olympia, WA

xlviii Dan W. Bush, "Cost of New Courthouse, Site, Furnishings, etc.---" June 17, 1927.

Steel Vault Equipment: ($10,248.80) L.A. Vimont, Chehalis, WA; The Bookstore, Olympia, WA
Venetian Blinds: ($1822.78) John W. Graham & Co., Spokane, WA
Architect Fees, and Supervision of Construction Complete: ($23,000) Jack D. Griffin—Architect, Chehalis, WA; A.J. Rousch—Supervision, Seattle, WA
Concrete Sidewalks: ($998.50) Layton Bros., Chehalis, WA
Sculpted panel of Meriwether Lewis in courthouse corridor: James A. Wehn, Seattle, WA[xlix]
Hardware: Power & Williams, Chehalis, WA[l]
Plastering Specifications: Western Wallboard Co., Seattle, WA[li]
Architectural Cut Cast Stone: Pacific Stone Co., Seattle, WA[lii]
Stucco in Corridors & Courtroom: California Stucco Company, Seattle, WA[liii]
Millwork: Puget Sound Manufacturing Co., Tacoma, WA[liv]

9. Major Bibliographical References

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xlix “Meriwether Lewis Panel in Courthouse Corridor Beautiful Work of Art,” *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 17, 1927, 3.

l “Local Hardware Company Furnishes Large Amount Of Courthouse Materials,” *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 17, 1927, 3.

li ADVERTISEMENT, *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 17, 1927, 5.

lii ADVERTISEMENT, *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 17, 1927, 5.

liii “Corridor Walls of the Courthouse Beautified by Use of California Stucco,” *The Chehalis Bee-Nugget*, June 17, 1927, 8.

liv ADVERTISEMENT, The Lewis County Advocate, June 17, 1927.

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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 # _____
____recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

____State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
__X__Local government
____University
__X__Other
Name of repository: Lewis County Museum

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References ____NAD 1927 or ____NAD 1983

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	Zone	Easting	Northing	3	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	Zone	Easting	Northing	4	Zone	Easting	Northing

LEWIS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Name of Property

LEWIS COUNTY, WA
County and State

Or Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	**46.66181** Latitude	**-122.9697** Longitude	3	Latitude	Longitude
2	Latitude	Longitude	4	Latitude	Longitude

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

The Lewis County Courthouse is located in Section 32, Township 14N, Range 02W, BLK 18 BARRETTS ADD in Lewis County, Washington. It is otherwise identified as Lewis County Parcel #003767000000.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the nominated property includes the entire legal parcel associated with the Lewis County Courthouse. The building itself encompasses 90'x162' square feet of the block.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Andy Skinner/Executive Director; Heather Beaird/LCHS Board Secretary
organization Lewis County Historical Society date May 2014
street & number 599 W. Front Street telephone (360) 748-0831
city or town Chehalis state WA zip code 98532
e-mail director@lewiscountymuseum.org; heather_beaird@yahoo.com;

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

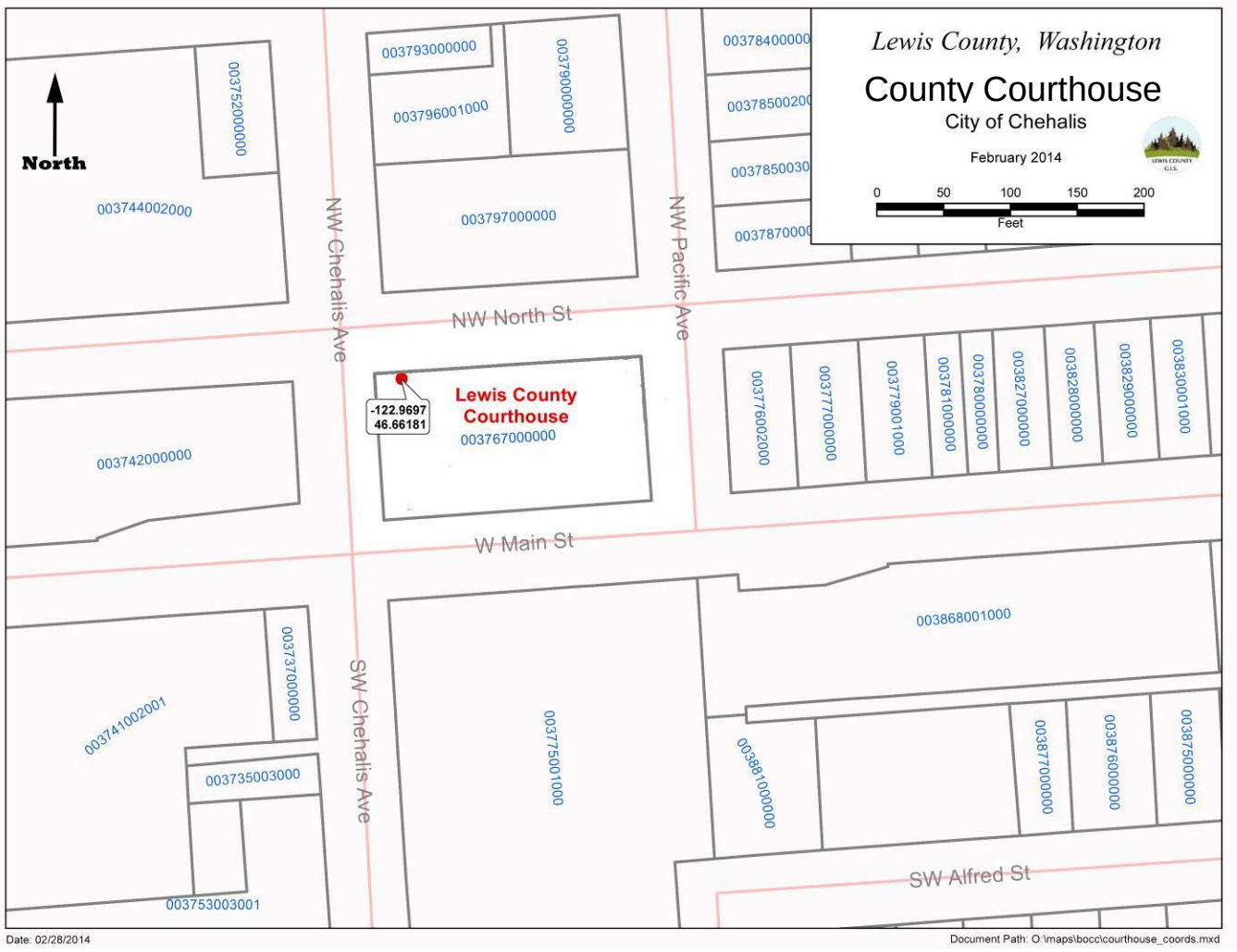
- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

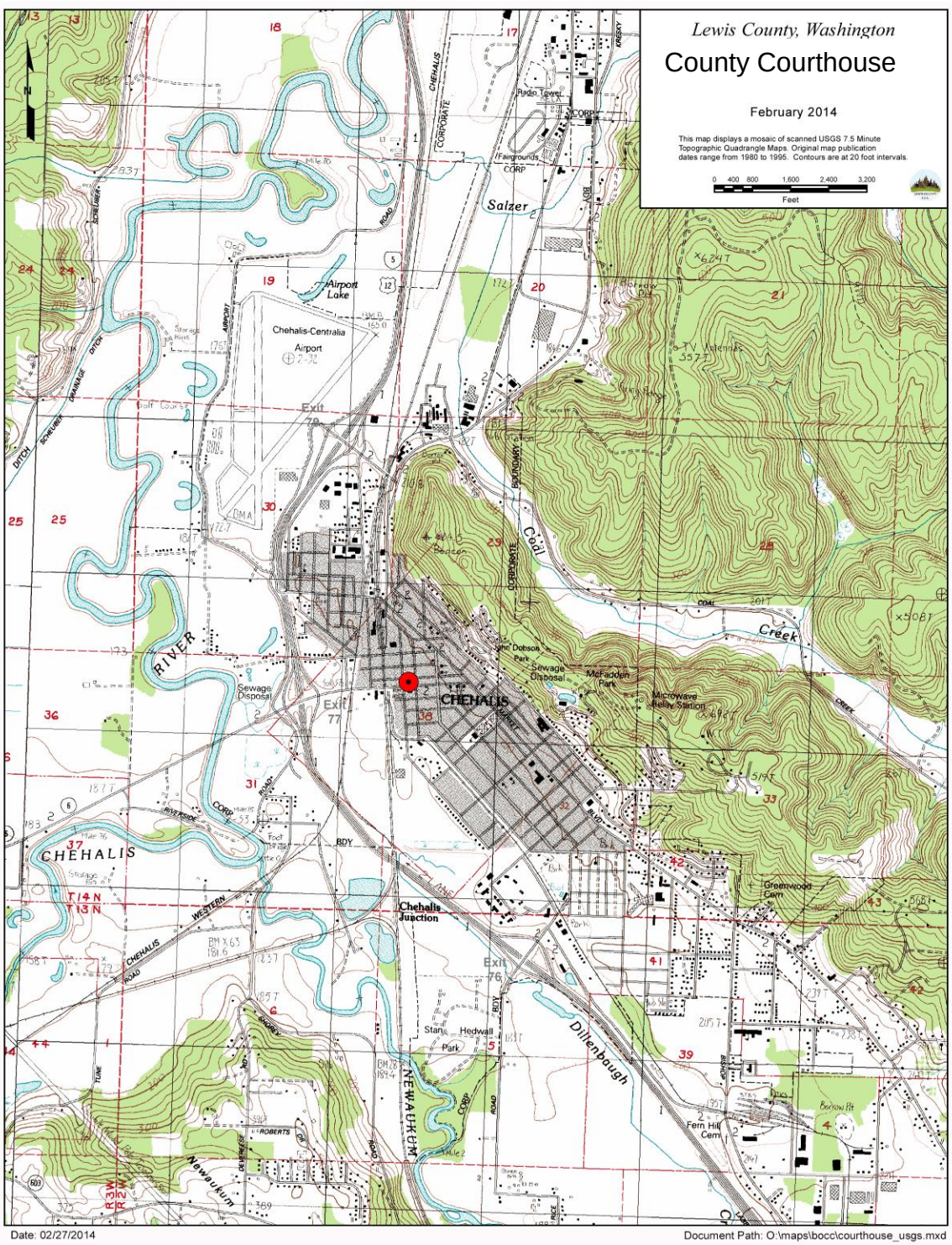
- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

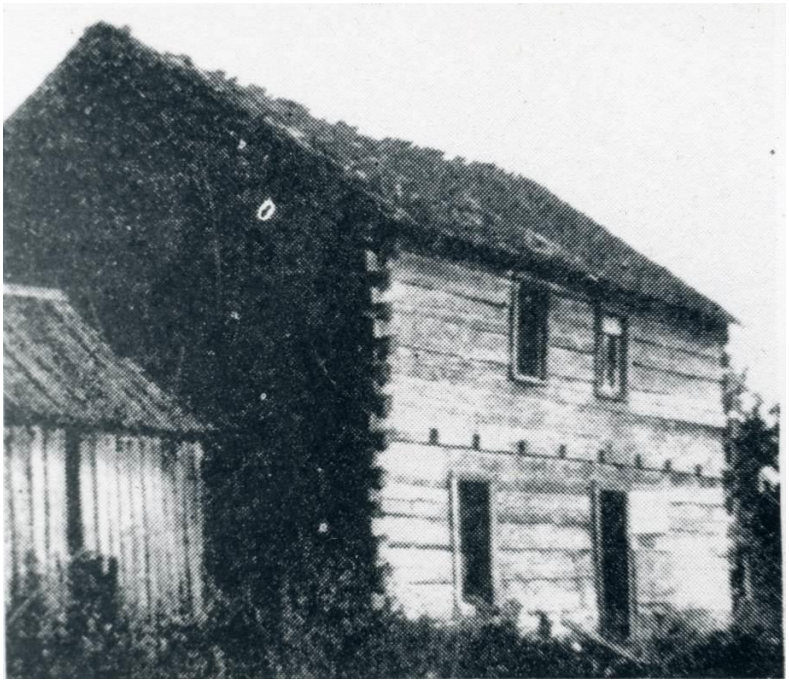
2014 Chehalis, Washington Lewis County Public Works GIS Pictometry- View of Lewis County Courthouse



Lewis County Public Works GIS Mapping Indicating Parcel (#003767000000) of Courthouse with Latitude and Longitude Coordinates



2014 Lewis County Public Works GIS Topographic Quadrangle Map
(Township 14N, Range 2W, Section 32)



Sidney Ford Territorial and County Courthouse
Built 1847 – Picture Taken Unknown Date
Location specifically unknown but located in Northwest Centralia: Highland Prairie
(Lewis County Historical Museum – Chehalis, WA P-4220)

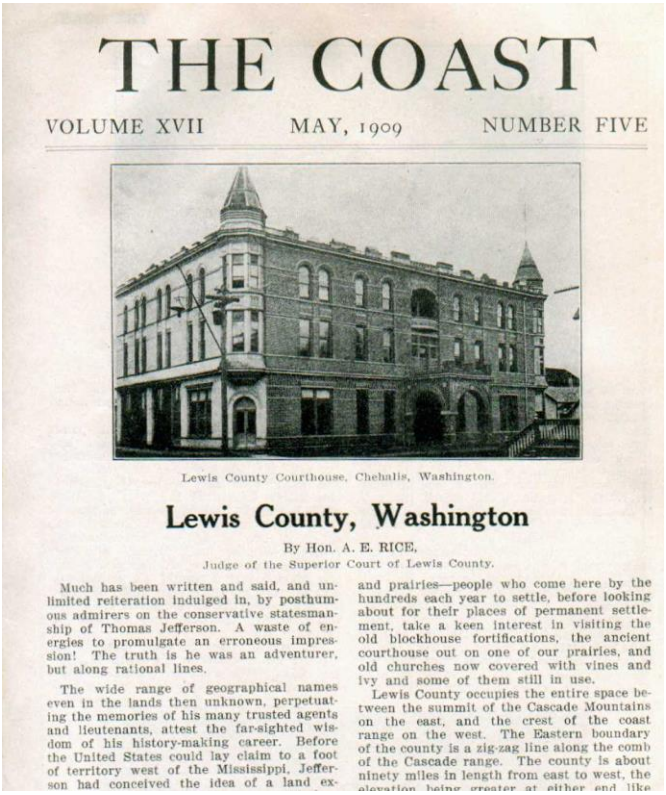
Sidney Ford Territorial and County Courthouse
Built 1847 – Picture Taken Unknown Date
Location specifically unknown but located in Northwest Centralia: Highland Prairie
(Colored Postcard)

John R. Jackson Territorial and County Courthouse
Built 1844 – Picture Taken Unknown Date
4275 Jackson Hwy. Chehalis, WA
(Lewis County Historical Museum – Chehalis, WA P-2715)

Claquato County Courthouse
Built 1862 – Picture Taken Prior to 1874
Located 3 miles west of Chehalis on Water St.
(Lewis County Historical Museum – Chehalis, WA P-1382)

Chehalis County Courthouse
Built 1874 – Picture Taken Unknown Date
Corner North & State Street
(Lewis County Historical Museum – Chehalis, WA P-9604)

Barrett Building Courthouse
Built 1870
(Colored postcard)



THE COAST

VOLUME XVII MAY, 1909 NUMBER FIVE

Lewis County Courthouse, Chehalis, Washington.

Lewis County, Washington

By Hon. A. E. RICE,
Judge of the Superior Court of Lewis County.

Much has been written and said, and unlimited reiteration indulged in, by posthumous admirers on the conservative statesmanship of Thomas Jefferson. A waste of energies to promulgate an erroneous impression! The truth is he was an adventurer, but along rational lines.

The wide range of geographical names even in the lands then unknown, perpetuating the memories of his many trusted agents and lieutenants, attest the far-sighted wisdom of his history-making career. Before the United States could lay claim to a foot of territory west of the Mississippi, Jefferson had conceived the idea of a land ex-

and prairies—people who come here by the hundreds each year to settle, before looking about for their places of permanent settlement, take a keen interest in visiting the old blockhouse fortifications, the ancient courthouse out on one of our prairies, and old churches now covered with vines and ivy and some of them still in use.

Lewis County occupies the entire space between the summit of the Cascade Mountains on the east, and the crest of the coast range on the west. The Eastern boundary of the county is a zig-zag line along the comb of the Cascade range. The county is about ninety miles in length from east to west, the

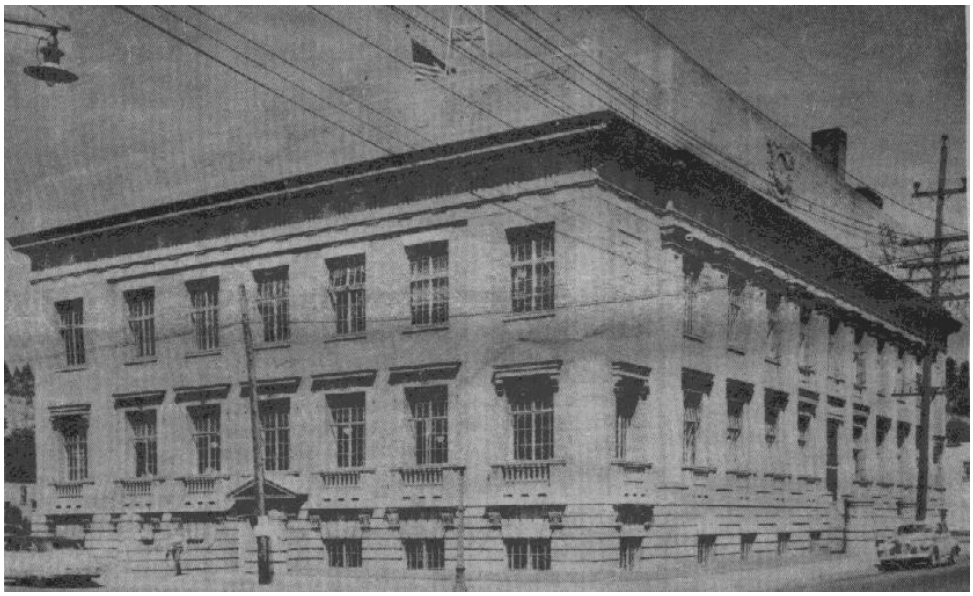
Barrett Building Courthouse
(The Coast Magazine – May 1909)

June 1927 Celebration of Completion of Current Courthouse
(Lewis County Historical Museum – Chehalis, WA P-16227)

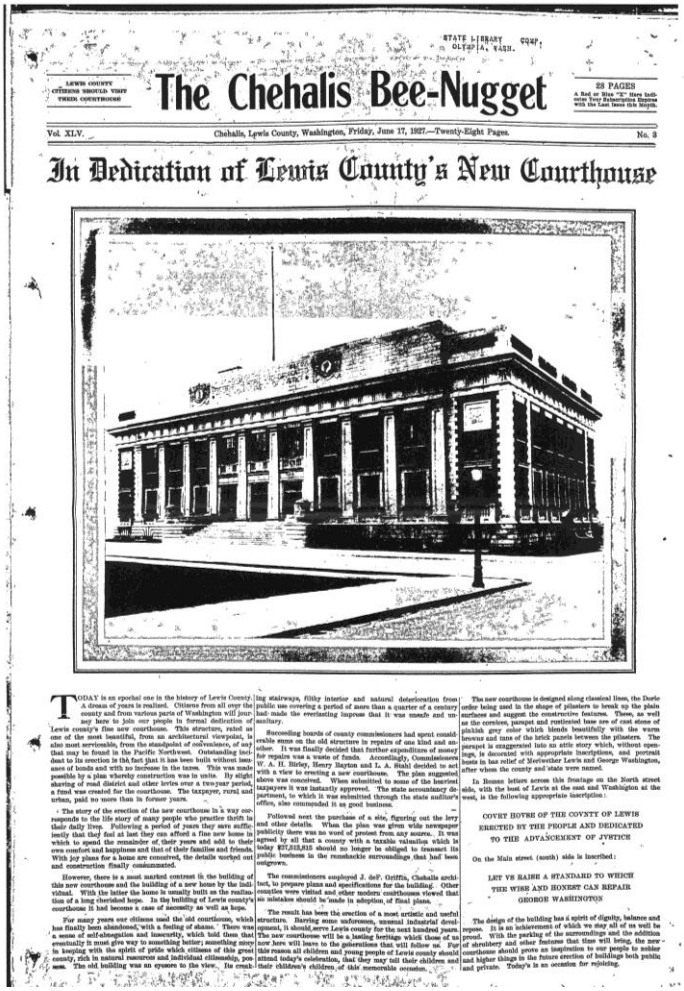
Current Lewis County Courthouse, Circa 1930
(Lewis County Historical Museum – Chehalis, WA Postcard PC-2300)

LEWIS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Name of Property

LEWIS COUNTY, WA
County and State



Current Lewis County Courthouse NE Corner looking west, c.1950
(DAHP Files, electronic version only)



STATE LIBRARY COMP.
OLYMPIA, WASH.

LEWIS COUNTY CITIZENS SHOULD VISIT THEIR COURTHOUSE

The Chehalis Bee-Nugget

28 PAGES
A Red or Blue "X" Here Indicates Your Subscription Expires with the Last Issue this Month.

Vol. XLV. Chehalis, Lewis County, Washington, Friday, June 17, 1927.—Twenty-Eight Pages. No. 3

In Dedication of Lewis County's New Courthouse

TODAY is an epochal one in the history of Lewis County. A dream of years is realized. Citizens from all over the county and from various parts of Washington will journey here to join our people in formal dedication of Lewis county's fine new courthouse. This structure, rated as one of the most beautiful, from an architectural viewpoint, is also most serviceable, from the standpoint of convenience, of any that may be found in the Pacific Northwest. Outstanding incident to its erection is the fact that it has been built without issuance of bonds and with no increase in the taxes. This was made possible by a plan whereby construction was in units. By slight shaving of road district and other levies over a two-year period, a fund was created for the courthouse. The taxpayer, rural and urban, paid no more than in former years.

The story of the erection of the new courthouse is a way corresponds to the life story of many people who practice thrift in their daily lives. Following a period of years they save sufficiently that they feel at last they can afford a fine new home in which to spend the remainder of their years and add to their own comfort and happiness and that of their families and friends. With joy plans for a home are conceived, the details worked out and construction finally consummated.

However, there is a most marked contrast in the building of this new courthouse and the building of a new home by the individual. With the latter the home is usually built as the realization of a long cherished hope. In the building of Lewis county's courthouse it had become a case of necessity as well as hope.

For many years our citizens used the old courthouse, which has finally been abandoned, with a feeling of shame. There was a sense of self-abnegation and insecurity, which told them that eventually it must give way to something better; something more in keeping with the spirit of pride which citizens of this great county, rich in natural resources and individual citizenship, possess. The old building was an eyesore to the view. Its creaking stairways, filthy interior and natural deterioration from public use covering a period of more than a quarter of a century had made the everlasting impress that it was unsafe and unsanitary.

Succeeding boards of county commissioners had spent considerable sums on the old structure in repairs of one kind and another. It was finally decided that further expenditure of money for repairs was a waste of funds. Accordingly, Commissioners W. A. H. Birley, Henry Bayton and L. A. Stahl decided to act with a view to erecting a new courthouse. The plan suggested above was conceived. When submitted to some of the heaviest taxpayers it was instantly approved. The state accountancy department, to which it was submitted through the state auditor's office, also commended it as good business.

Followed next the purchase of a site, figuring out the levy and other details. When the plan was given wide newspaper publicity there was no word of protest from any source. It was agreed by all that a county with a taxable valuation which is today $27,513,815 should no longer be obliged to transact its public business in the remshackle surroundings that had been outgrown.

The commissioners employed J. deF. Griffin, Chehalis architect, to prepare plans and specifications for the building. Other counties were visited and other modern courthouses viewed that no mistakes should be made in adoption of final plans.

The result has been the erection of a most artistic and useful structure. Barring some unforeseen, unusual industrial development, it should serve Lewis county for the next hundred years. The new courthouse will be a lasting heritage which those of us now here will leave to the generations that will follow us. For this reason all children and young people of Lewis county should attend today's celebration, that they may tell their children and their children's children of this memorable occasion.

The new courthouse is designed along classical lines, the Doric order being used in the shape of pilasters to break up the plain surfaces and suggest the constructive features. These, as well as the cornices, parapet and rusticated base are of cast stone of pinkish grey color which blends beautifully with the warm browns and tans of the brick panels between the pilasters. The parapet is exaggerated into an attic story which, without openings, is decorated with appropriate inscriptions, and portrait busts in bas relief of Meriwether Lewis and George Washington, after whom the county and state were named.

In Roman letters across this frontage on the North street side, with the best of Lewis at the east and Washington at the west, is the following appropriate inscription:

COVER HOVER OF THE COVNTY OF LEWIS
ERECTED BY THE PEOPLE AND DEDICATED
TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF JVSTICE

On the Main street (south) side is inscribed:

LET VS RAISE A STANDARD TO WHICH
THE WISE AND HONEST CAN REPAIR
GEORGE WASHINGTON

The design of the building has a spirit of dignity, balance and repose. It is an achievement of which we may all of us well be proud. With the parking of the surroundings and the addition of shrubbery and other features that time will bring, the new courthouse should prove an inspiration to our people to nobler and higher things in the future erection of buildings both public and private. Today's is an occasion for rejoicing.

Dedication
(Chehalis Bee-Nugget – June 17, 1927)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Photo Log:

The following information is the same for all photos:

Name of Property: Lewis County Historic Courthouse
City: Chehalis
County: Lewis County
State: Washington
Location: 351 NW North Street, Chehalis, Lewis County, Washington, 98532
Name of Photographer: Steven (Andy) Skinner
Photograph Date: February 27th, 2014 & March 1st, 2014

Photograph format: TIFF format, 300 DPI
Digital photographic prints (per National Register Photo Policy): HP Premium Plus Photo Paper

Photograph 1	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_001** Eastern elevation of the Courthouse
Photograph 2	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_002** Northern elevation of the Courthouse
Photograph 3	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_003** Western elevation of the Courthouse
Photograph 4	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_004** Southern elevation of the Courthouse
Photograph 5	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_005** Sign at southwest corner of Courthouse
Photograph 6	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_006** Northern elevation with wording and bas relief medallions of George Washington and Meriwether Lewis
Photograph 7	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_007** Southern elevation with George Washington quote and bas relief medallions of G. Washington and Meriwether Lewis
Photograph 8	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_008** Window location of former Skybridge on the southern elevation of Courthouse
Photograph 9	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_009** Southeast corner of Courthouse with relief scuplture
Photograph 10	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_010** Basement hallway looking west
Photograph 11	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_011** Center stairway in main public atrium
Photograph 12	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_012** First floor of offices of current Auditor and CPA with original “Auditor” and “Commissioners” signs above the door.
Photograph 13	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_013** North entrance way of first floor
Photograph 14	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_014** Main second half of stairway to the second floor

Photograph 15	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_015** Second floor current offices of Budget Dept. looking west
Photograph 16	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_016** Doorway view of current Budget Dept. with original “Sheriff” sign above the door.
Photograph 17	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_017** Current use as the Lewis County Commissioner’s Hearing Room from the main Courtroom as designed in 1927.
Photograph 18	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_018** Current use as the Lewis County Commissioner’s panel from the original design as the Judge’s bench
Photograph 19	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_019** Current use as the Lewis County Commissioner’s Meeting room from the original design of the Judge’s Chambers
Photograph 20	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_020** Third floor jail with doors to original design of the vault, women’s jail, and matron’s quarters
Photograph 21	**LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_021** Third floor jail with door to original “insane cell”.

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_001
NE Corner looking west

LEWIS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Name of Property

LEWIS COUNTY, WA
County and State

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_002
SE Corner looking north

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_003
West facade

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_004
South (Main Entry) Facade

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_005
Window sill detail

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_006
Cornice Detail – south facade

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_007
Cornice Detail – north facade

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_008
Detail – south façade (former sky bridge entry point)

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_009
Facade Detail – SE corner

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_010
Basement Hallway looking west

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_011
Central Stairwell

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_012
First Floor Offices

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_013
North Entry detail

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_014
Main stair looking up to second floor

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_015
Second floor offices

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_016
Second floor office door detail

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_017
County Commissioner Hearing Room

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_018
Detail of former judge bench area

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_019
Former Judge chambers – now meeting room

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_020
Third Floor jail doors

LewisCounty_HistoricCourthouse_021
Third Floor Jail – Solitary Confinement Cell

LEWIS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Name of Property

LEWIS COUNTY, WA
County and State

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

name Lewis County

street & number 351 NW North Street telephone (360) 740-1120

city or town Chehalis state WA zip code 98532

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 18 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.

COVRT HOVSE OF THE COVNTY OF LEWIS
ERECTED BY THE PEOPLE AND DEDICATED
TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF JVSTICE
NORTH ST
HALIS AVE

LEWIS COUNTY
COURT HOUSE
DEDICATED 1927

LEWIS COUNTY
HISTORIC
COURT HOUSE
DEDICATED 1927

COVRT HOVSE OF THE COVNTY OF LEWIS
ERECTED BY THE PEOPLE AND DEDICATED
TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF JVSTICE

LET US RAISE A STANDARD TO WHICH
THE WISE AND HONEST CAN REPAIR
GEORGE WASHINGTON
LEWIS
WASHINGTON

EXIT

STAIRS

AUDITOR
LEWIS COUNTY
AUDITOR
LICENSING
• VEHICLE
• BOAT
• MARRIAGE
ELECTIONS
• VOTER REGISTRATION
• ABSENTEE BALLOTS
RECORDING
• LEGAL
• LAND RECORDS
8AM – 4:30PM
104
AUTO LICENSING
ELECTIONS
VOTER REGISTRATION
Auditor's Office
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
ONLY
COMMISSIONERS
116
PRIVATE
Financial Services
LARRY E. GROVE, CPA
Chief Accountant

EXIT

210
LEWIS COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

COVRT
202
PRIVATE
EMPLOYEES ONLY
EXIT
209
BUDGET
DEPARTMENT

SHERIFF
209
BUDGET
DEPARTMENT

EXIT
EXIT
EMERGENCY EXIT ONLY

LEE GROSE
CHAIRMAN
EDNA J. FUND
COMMISSIONER
BILL SCHULTE
COMMISSIONER