

PORT TOWNSEND CITY HALL

540 Water Street
Block 44, Lots 6-8

Date of Construction: 1891-92

1887: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Landes, who owned the property, deeded it over to the City of Port Townsend when an \$85,000 bond was approved.

1888-1891: A one-story wooden building housed the Justice Court, Fire Hall and the “Calaboose.”

1891: Port Townsend citizens voted to construct a new city hall at this location. Construction was completed in February 1892: Made of local brick, three stories and a basement, the building housed municipal offices, the fire department, police court and the jail. The cost was \$30,000.

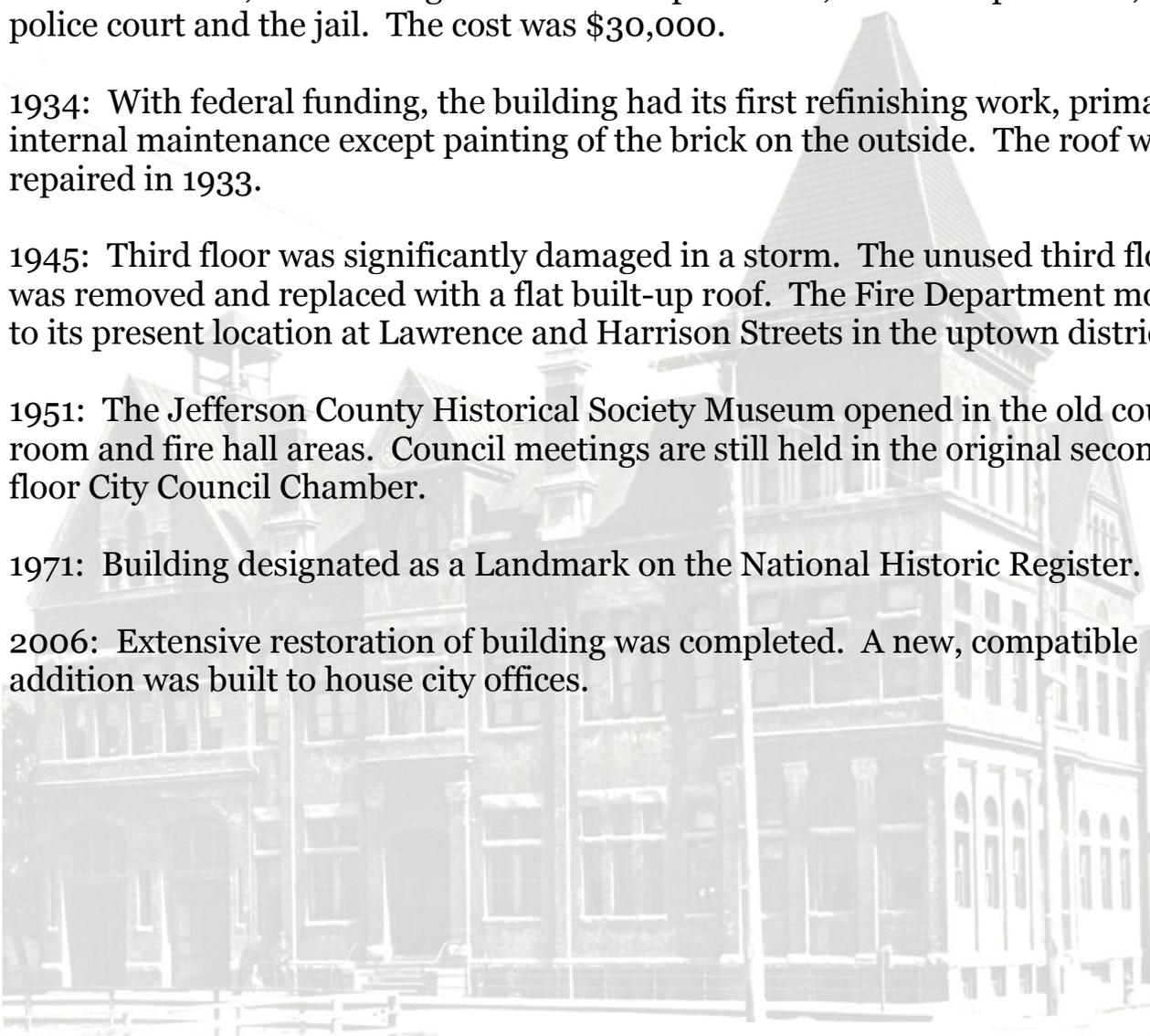
1934: With federal funding, the building had its first refinishing work, primarily internal maintenance except painting of the brick on the outside. The roof was repaired in 1933.

1945: Third floor was significantly damaged in a storm. The unused third floor was removed and replaced with a flat built-up roof. The Fire Department moved to its present location at Lawrence and Harrison Streets in the uptown district.

1951: The Jefferson County Historical Society Museum opened in the old court room and fire hall areas. Council meetings are still held in the original second floor City Council Chamber.

1971: Building designated as a Landmark on the National Historic Register.

2006: Extensive restoration of building was completed. A new, compatible addition was built to house city offices.



JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

540 WATER STREET
PORT TOWNSEND, WA 98368
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