The Jefferson County Courthouse

The first county seat (administrative center) of Jefferson County was Culver, Oregon. As such, the first Jefferson County Courthouse was this building in Culver, used starting in April of 1915. Then, voters in the November 1916 election established Madras as the permanent seat of county government, but The City of Culver filed an injunction to block the results of the 1916 election in protest over the change. District Judge Duffy denied Culver's injunction and the courthouse records were moved to Madras, the new county seat.

Originally constructed in 1917 to be the Madras City Hall, city government and county offices and court shared this space for years until the County purchased it. The court was located here until 1961. It is now privately owned and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2015.
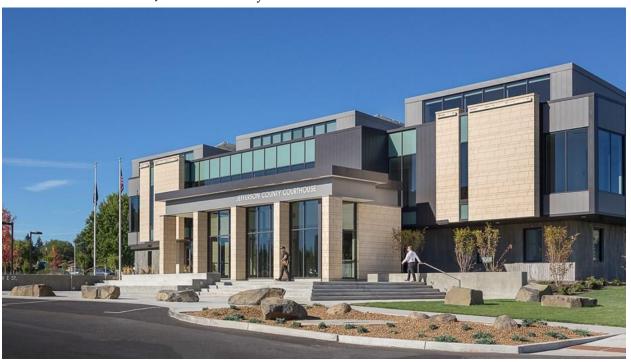Copyright University of Oregon

In 1961, the County moved into a new 20,000 square foot courthouse. However, this building was located in Willow Creek's floodway and presented structural deficiencies soon after it was completed. When structural engineers in 2008 deemed the building likely to fail in a large seismic event, the state legislature

made plans to build a new courthouse.

The Oregon Legislature established The Oregon Courthouse Capital Construction Improvement Fund in 2013, and the first courthouse built using these funds was completed in Jefferson County in 2016 on land donated by the City of Madras.

Current Location of the Jefferson County Circuit Court:

Skansa USA

This new courthouse is conveniently located adjacent to Madras City Hall and Police Station. It's surrounded by Friendship Park and has ample parking. The building is 35,000 square feet with three courtrooms and jury rooms, and the building also accommodates judges' chambers, court administrators and District Attorney's offices.

Address:
Jefferson County
Courthouse
129 SW E Street
Madras, Oregon 97741