



The History Of The Ocean County Jail (Sheriff's House)



Prisoners were led through the dining room to be fingerprinted

Only two detention rooms existed in the Sheriff's House from 1923 until 1986

★ Only a steel and wooden door separated the detention rooms from the family bedrooms

Timeline of Architectural Styles
The prominent styles of architecture as the building evolved through the years

Timeline of Construction
Shows the various builds or stages of construction



First Floor Plan

Second Floor Plan

Elevations

P.P. Elkinton Architect and Engineer - 1923

Prisoners were led through the Dining Room to be fingerprinted

Only two Detention Rooms existed in the Jail (Sheriff's House) from 1923 until 1986. Detention Rooms were across the hall from the family and children's bedrooms



Watson and Henry Associates (Historic Structures Report) - 1992

1851 - 1857
Original Construction
(First Sheriff Joseph Parker)

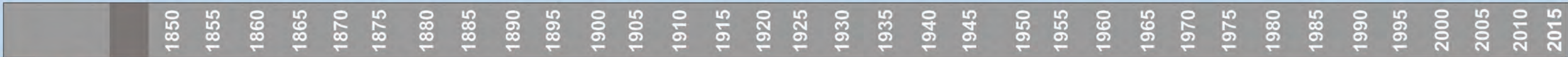
1851 - 1923
Federal Revival

1857 - 1923
Kitchen Addition

1923 - 1939
Colonial Revival Renovation

1923 - Present
20th Century Colonial Revival

1923 - 1985
Office Adaptation



Timeline of Functional Usage
The various uses the county has made of the building

Timeline of Notable Events
Which roots the building in Ocean County History

1850 Prior to European settlement the land was inhabited by Lenape indigenous Americans

1850 On February 15th Monmouth County is separated and Ocean County is formed by an act of NJ State legislation

1851 Architect, Robert Aiken, designs the Sheriff's house for Ocean County

1857 The kitchen addition was built out of wood (size 13ft.x19 ft.) with a shed attached

1860 Sheriff Charles Wardell started compiling prison records, these showed the annual cost of prison upkeep to the county was about \$1000/year for an average of 12 prisoners/year

1861 - 1865 American Civil War

1851 - 1939 Jail & Residence

Notes of Interest :

- 1860 -The population of Ocean County was 11,176 persons with accommodations for 12 prisoners or .0011% of the population.
- 2016 -The population of Ocean County was 586,310 persons with accommodations for 684 prisoners or .0012% of the population.
- The ratio of prisoner to population is basically unchanged in 167 years.

1914 - 1919 World War I

1923 A new jail was built (currently demolished) northeast of the sheriff's house with 24 new jail cells

1926 Undersheriff Brown and his family, the last family to reside in the sheriff's house, move in

1939 The end of the buildings usage as a sheriff's residence and prisoner detention facility; the living quarters were altered to become office space

1941 - 1945 World War II

1939 - 1986 Office Space

1961 Expansion to the 1923 jail, which is attached to the Ocean County Jail (Sheriff's House)

1981 The Ocean County Jail (Sheriff's House) was placed on both the Nj State Register of Historic Places and The National Register of Historic Places

1985 1923 building extension of the jail is demolished. This allowed for the building of the new Ocean County Justice Complex built in 1985

1986 Building was vacated

1986 - Present Building Vacated

2018 Building is demolished because it was condemned by the township as a life and safety hazard. The original building was in a high security area

The Ocean County Jail (Sheriff's House) is an example of the incarceration method which physically blended the Sheriff's residence with the county's detention facilities within one building

Detention cells in close proximity to childrens bedrooms

Prisoners were led through the family dining room for fingerprinting

The Sheriff was on duty around the clock

The running of the Jail was a family affair

The Sheriff's wife cooked all prisoners' meals