Page County Court House

2. LOCATION

116 S. Court Street
City or Town: Luray (Seventh District Congressman James Kenneth Robinson)
State: Virginia
Code: 51

3. CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category (Check One)</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Accessible to the Public</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Public</td>
<td>In Process</td>
<td>Yes: Restricted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Private</td>
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<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td>Both</td>
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</table>

Present Use: (Check One or More as Appropriate)
- Agricultural
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Religious
- Educational
- Medical
- Religious
- Scientific

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Owner's Name: Page County
Street and Number: Page County Court House
City or Town: Luray
State: Virginia
Code: 51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Page County Court House
Street and Number: Page County Court House
City or Town: Luray
State: Virginia
Code: 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

Title or Survey: Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
Date of Survey: 1958
Federal: Yes
State: No
County: No
Local: Yes

Library of Congress

Entry Number: 51

State: Virginia
Code: 51
Page County Court House, dramatically set on a hill overlooking Luray is an example of the arcaded-type court house which traces its form back to the English Renaissance town hall. The influence of the architecture of Thomas Jefferson is also present in this type of court house.

The two-story four-bay court house with three-bay, one-story wings added to the north and south is five-bays deep. The four-bays of the pedimented gable facade open onto a ground floor arcade with rounded arches. The wings have similar arcades, all of which are treated with rounded arches, keystones and a two-course corbelled spring line. The Tuscan pediment contains a semi-circular window with radiating muntins. A Tuscan entablature extends along three sides of the main structure with short returns on the west end. Both wings have Tuscan pedimented gables. A cupola with coupled pilasters and four pedimented gables is set on the front edge of the roof ridge. Brick walls are finely laid in Flemish bond on the facade and are painted white. There are two chimneys in the side walls of the main block, and a chimney with corbelled caps in the end of each wing. The wooden double-hung windows in the facade have nine-over-six sashes; there are larger wooden double-hung windows on the side and rear walls which contain large six-over-six sashcs. In the center of the facade on the first floor a pair of double doors opens into the court room. A door leading to offices opens in each wing in the bay nearest the main block. The large court room retains little original trim. There is a balcony in the east and a balustrade separates the bench from the room in the west end.
The Page County Court House is one of a significant group of Virginia court houses whose design was directly inspired by the work of Thomas Jefferson. Its lot was donated to the county late in 1832, and advertisements for its construction, not to exceed $6,000 were circulated immediately. The contract was awarded to Malcolm Crawford and William B. Philips, who later slightly altered the plans to allow for a "cheap and suitable steeple" to house the bell given by Enos McKay. The building was completed in 1833.

Both Crawford and Philips had worked under Thomas Jefferson at the University of Virginia. Jefferson's dignified Roman Revival style had a strong influence on these two men and many of his other workmen, and this influence is apparent in Virginia's collection of Roman Revival court houses of which Page County's is a prominent member. Philips was also responsible for the court houses of Madison and Greene Counties, and probably that of Caroline County. Both the Madison and Caroline Court Houses are architecturally similar to the Page Court House. After coming to Charlottesville in 1819, Philips lived in Albemarle County and was active in designing buildings in the Piedmont until his death in 1861.

Not only is Page County Court House important as an example of Jeffersonian architecture with similarities to the University pavilions, it carries on the early Virginia tradition of the arcade in public buildings. This is seen in the Capitol in Williamsburg, and such early court houses as those of Hanover and Richmond counties. The particular type of arcade found at Page is also closely related to the English Renaissance town hall, as in Blandford, Dorset, England.

G.H.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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<th>LATITUDE</th>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than ten acres

11. FORM PREPARED BY

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [ ] State [X] Local [ ]

Name: J.A. Fishburne, Director
Title: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Date: January 16, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(TYPE all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME
COMMON: Page County Court House
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
116 S. Court Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Luray
STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: 51
CODE: 139

3. MAP REFERENCE
SOURCE:
U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 quadrangle Luray, Virginia
SCALE: 1:24000
DATE: 1965

4. REQUIREMENTS
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(TYPE all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME
COMMON: Page County Court House
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
116 S. Court Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Luray
STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: 51
CODE: 139

3. PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
DATE OF PHOTO: 1972
NEGATIVE FILED AT:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Richmond, Virginia

4. IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View from the east.