

Previous Renovations

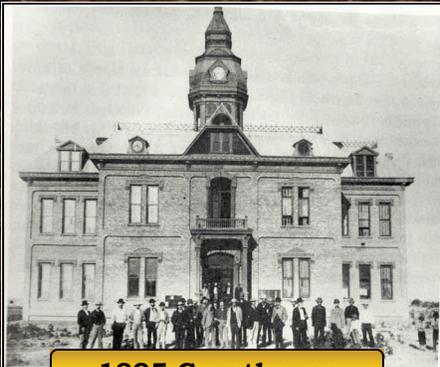
July 1, 1905 Arizona Blade and Florence Tribune

J.M Bernal has completed the painting of the courthouse. The building was given two coats of paint and a close inspection shows that the work has been well done. The bright and finished appearance demonstrates that Mr. Bernal is a conscientious workman, even on a county contract and understands his business. He was assisted in the painting by Ygnacio Moreno. It is seldom that a mistake is made when county contracts are given to local people and the Board of Supervisors have certainly not erred in this instance.



Dec 11, 1915 article from the Arizona Blade Tribune: "Supervisors To Remodel Court House For Vaults"

Mr. Kibby, of the firm of Lescher & Kibby, of Phoenix, was before the board with status to remodel the front of the court house to accommodate the proposed new vaults to be erected. The plan contemplates the extension of the south wall of the main front flush with the south wing and the extension of the north wall of the main front flush with the north wing, doing away with the L in the north and south sides of the building and making the building square. This plan met with the approval of the board and the architect was instructed to go ahead and perfect the place. Fire proof vaults will be built inside the extensions. The alterations in the building and the vaults will cost the county between \$4500 and \$5000.



1895 Courthouse

Oct 7, 1916 paragraph from the Arizona Blade Tribune:

"Snell & Boring are putting the finishing touches on the court house this week. The finishing was delayed by the non-arrival of the vault doors which have now been put in place. A hardwood floor is being laid in the room formerly used by the clerk of the court. This room will be used as a county law library."



1916 Steel Vault Door

Previous Renovations



1930's Courthouse

1975 - The third addition to the 1891 Pinal County second courthouse was constructed and spans the entire length of the north side of the building.

1982 - The fourth addition was completed on the southeast side of the courthouse. The building, which had 15,000 square feet when first constructed is now 24,000 square feet.

2002 - The first construction grant to repair the courthouse was secured from the State Park Heritage Fund. This grant of nearly \$100,000 and matching funds from Pinal County was used to repair the clock tower.

2005 - The clock tower restoration was completed and the Brick Paver Project began.

2007 - The roof repairs began.



Citizens Rescued the Courthouse Clock Tower in 1952

The 1891 Second Pinal County Courthouse Clock Tower was repaired with help from a grant from the Arizona State Parks Historic Preservation Heritage Fund, the Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation and the Questers of Saddlebrooke.

The tower is the most distinct feature of this building, which stands as a symbol of Florence.

But did you know that were it not for persistent citizens in the 1950s, there might not be a clock tower for people to enjoy today?

In September 1952 *The Florence Blade-Tribune* reported the supervisors had contracted with a Tucson construction company to remove the tower as part of a remodeling project for the building. Lamar Cotton Construction Co. had bid \$860 to remove the tower. An architect determined the building's framework had been weakened by the weight of the tower and repair costs would be excessive.

But when two citizens' petitions opposing the removal were filed with the board, removal work was stopped. Eventually, the issue of the sagging tower was resolved by jacking up the building from the basement, and adding lumber supports in the tower attic. This 'temporary' measure worked for more than 50 years until the fall of 2005, when stabilization work was completed. Cost of the repair project in 2005 totaled nearly \$280,000, considerably more than the original bid to remove it in 1952. However, many believe the money was well spent.



2005 Courthouse