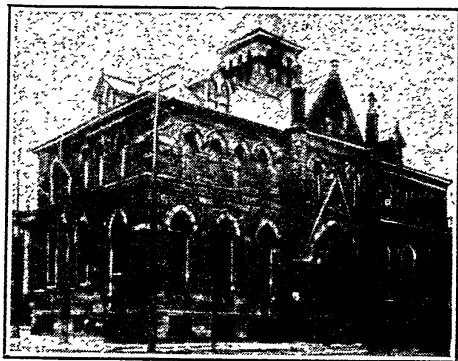


COURT HOUSE WITH HISTORY NOW COMING DOWN IN CAMDEN



OLD CAMDEN COURT HOUSE AND JAIL

Which is being torn down to make way for the plaza that will surround the new county building that cost \$700,000 and which is one of the most imposing of the kind in this section of the country.

Within a few weeks the court house at Broadway and Federal streets, Camden, will have disappeared. Work of demolishing the structure has already begun to make way for the plaza that is to surround the new \$700,000 structure.

Old residents still talk about the sandstone building now doomed to destruction because of the manner in which successive Boards of Freeholders changed the plans. It was the second court house to be erected in Camden, the first having been built in 1852 at a cost of \$40,970.79. This structure was razed about two years ago. Freeholder John H. Jones, in 1878, began a movement for the erection of a more commodious building. In 1881 the board decided to build an up-to-date sandstone building to contain court rooms, county offices and the county jail. The cost was to be \$80,000,

to be raised in two annual tax levies. The commission was composed of Freeholders Edward S. King, John Day, Morris Hollock, Joseph Thackera and Thomas McDowell. In 1883 the building was completed, but there were additional expenses that made the cost finally amount to \$129,762.18. At the time it was one of the most complete jails in the State. There was a change in the Freeholders and the interior of the structure was torn out and converted into a court house exclusively. The first court was held in May, 1885. Within a year there was another change of mind and the building was reconverted into a jail. It remained as such up until the past two weeks, when the prisoners were transferred to the new building.

In this building many murderers were executed, including Theodore Lambert, Robert Hill, Francesco Abbato, William Moulton, John Hill, Samuel Vanstavern, Paul Woodward and Lafayette Gruff.