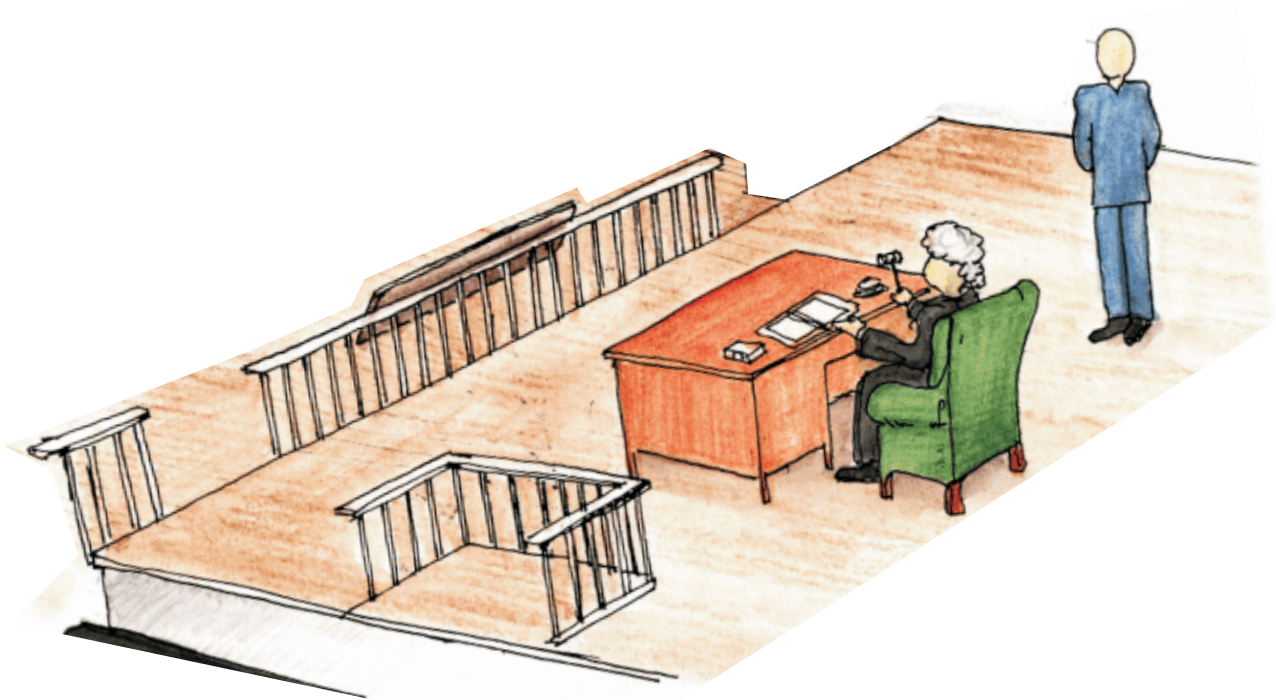
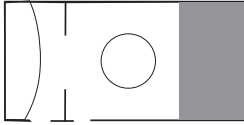


## 5.0 Cultural History Gallery

# *Judicial System*



**Sponsorship  
Required:**

**\$20,000**

One of the most historic and prized national icons, the birthplace of the modern judicial system of the Cayman Islands, is the Old Court House. Here, in the upper floor quarters, the judicial system is authentically interpreted in the original raised judges' platform railed off from the rest of the room. Video productions capture historic events such as a trial relating to the most famous maritime event in the Cayman Islands, the Wreck of the Ten Sail, an important international fishing dispute, and a slave court hearing involving the famous Long Celia. These intriguing stories are dramatically re-told for current and future generations of Caymanians and visitors in an interactive sound and light programme.

Among very few remaining 19th century structures, the Old Court House has served as town jail, parliamentary centre and even hall for Sunday worship and civic dances, but it is most widely known for its use as the first formal Court House of the Cayman Islands. This role was so entrenched in local history and culture that the exterior stairs of the building gave rise to the saying, "walking the thirteen steps," meaning being taken to court. The buildings' two major restoration initiatives have placed much emphasis on preserving its historic authenticity, the 1990 works attracting an award from the American Express Preservation Awards Program for the Caribbean. Plans are now afoot for possible declaration as a national heritage site.



**NATIONAL  
MUSEUM**

*Caymanian, Exactly*