In 1806 a market house was built here. The building was burned by Union forces on December 3, 1863, during the Civil War. The steeple was added in 1866 and the building was replaced by a larger one in 1938. The building is now the Charles Town Visitors Center and United States Post Office.

In 1862, John Brown, a radical abolitionist, led a raid on the federal armory at Harpers Ferry. Brown hoped to start a guerrilla war against slavery. The raid was a failure, and Brown and several of his men were captured. The trials of the raiders, including Brown, were held in Charles Town. The courthouse and the county jail were used as trial sites.

The raid, the trials of the raiders, and the resulting loss of life brought Charles Town into the national limelight. The town was an insurgent center in the Civil War, and its citizens suffered the consequence of total inaction.

The museum houses artifacts which represent life in Jefferson County. The museum is number 9 in the brochure. The Charles Town Visitors Center is located at 101 East Washington Street.

In October 1863, Union troops under General Ulysses S. Grant conquered the Shenandoah Valley. The town supported the Confederacy, and its citizens joined the Confederate States of America.

During the Civil War, Charles Town was in Union hands. The town was occupied by Union forces for several years. After the war, the town was returned to Confederate hands.

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Charles Town, West Virginia, as an Indian trading post in 1772, and was incorporated as a town in 1798 and as a city in 1896. Today it is a community of approximately 6,500 located 20 miles north of Martinsburg and 70 miles southwest of Washington, D.C. It is known as the Gateway to the Antietam battlefield, a National Battlefield.

This street is in the oldest section of Charles Town. Some of the original homes were occupied by soldiers during the Civil War. The present sanctuary was completed in 1874. The current main entrance was added in 1923.