

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM

County **CLACKAMAS**

Note: For properties 35 years old and newer, starred (*) sections are the only required fields.

*Street Address: 707-709 MAIN STREET			*City: Oregon City		
USGS Quad Name: Oregon City		UTM or GPS Latitude:		Longitude:	
Township: 2S	Range: 2E	Section: 31	Block/Lot: 6/3	Tax Lot #: 22E31AB05200	
*Date of Construction: 1907		Historic Name: Masonic Building		Historic Use or Function: Masonic Lodge/Retail Shops	
Group or Ensemble Name: N/A		*Current Name or Use: Masonic Lodge/Willamette Falls Television		Associated Archaeological Site: Unknown	
Style(s): Commercial with Egyptian influence			Plan Type/Shape: Rectangular		
Foundation Material: Concrete		Structural Framing: Concrete		Number of Stories: 4	
Roof Type/Material: Flat/rolled		Window Type/Material: Fixed metal display (1st); 1:1 dh wood (2 & 3); 16:1 woo			
Exterior Surface Materials - Primary: Concrete		Secondary: Stone		Decorative: Tile	
Exterior Alterations or Additions/ Approximate Date(s):		Decorative cornice above 4th floor windows and pilaster capitals removed; wrought iron ornamentation in arched entry removed; storefronts remodeled (dates unknown)			
Integrity: Good		Preliminary National Register Findings <input type="checkbox"/> National Register Listed			
Condition: Good		Potentially Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/> Individually (and/or) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> As a contributing resource in a district			
Local Ranking:		Not Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/> In current state <input type="checkbox"/> Irretrievable loss of integrity <input type="checkbox"/> Not historic			

Description of Physical and/or Landscape Features:

This is a large, imposing building in the center of downtown Oregon City. The front façade (east) is highly decorated with a series of geometric patterns, of vague Egyptian derivation, scored into the surface of the building. Pilasters (plain on the 2nd floor, fluted on 3rd and 4th) at the corners and on the front of the building provide further decoration and serve to divide the building into three bays, with the central bay equal to the size of the north and south bays together. The building has a parapet wall, the central portion is curvilinear, capped with a simple coping. Directly below the curved portion is "Multnomah Lodge No. 1, A.F. & A.M." and the lodge symbol incised into the wall surface. The date 1907 (building constructed) is located below the parapet on the south front; the date of 1846 (the date the lodge was founded) is below the parapet on the north front. The entrance to the upper floors is set off with a rusticated stone archway. Storefronts have been altered, although transoms remain over the north storefront.

Statement of Significance: (use additional sheets if necessary)

This building is significant architecturally and as the first Masonic Lodge in Oregon and the oldest lodge west of the Mississippi River. Its height and width make it one of the largest, most visible commercial buildings on Main Street. Although there have been some alterations, it retains a high degree of historic integrity and should be considered eligible as a contributing resource in a historic district. According to research conducted for the 1983 survey, the lodge was formed after an advertisement was placed in the first issue of the Oregon City Spectator in February 1846. A total of seven masons, led by Joseph Hull, P.G. Stewart, and William P. Dougherty, signed a petition to the Grand Lodge of Missouri for a charter for a lodge in Oregon City, to be known as Multnomah Lodge No. 1. The charter was granted in 1846, although the document was not sent until 1848. In 1848, the Masons met in the second floor of a log store near the falls. In 1850, Captain Ainsworth was elected the first Worshipful Master in Oregon. The lodge met in various places until constructing their first lodge hall on the southwest corner of Main and 6th Street. They vacated this building when the new building was completed in 1908. (Their earlier building collapsed in 1935 when the lot to the south of it was being excavated for a new building - see survey form for 527 Main.) The Masons used the 3rd floor of the building as the lodge hall and rent the spaces on second and fourth as offices and the storefronts on the ground level for retail use. Various businesses have occupied the first floor space, including W.R. Runyan, a watchmaker and jeweler (1912); Bannon & Co. Department Store and Alex Sheirman, a tailor (1916); Simon's Ready to Wear (1936-1947); Portland General Electric (1941-1947); Oregon City Photo Shop and Oregon City Printing and Stationery Co. (1953).

Researcher/Organization: Michelle L. Dennis			Date Recorded: May 2000		
Survey Form Page 1	Photo Roll #: 2	Frame #(s): 11	Local Designation #:	SHPO #:	

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM

County CLACKAMAS

Note: For properties 35 years old and newer, starred (*) sections are the only required fields.

*Street Address: 707-709 MAIN STREET		*City: Oregon City	
Architect and/or Builder: Unknown		Owner Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed	
Addition or Subdivision Name: Oregon City Original Plat		Owner Name: Multnomah Lodge #1, AF and AM	
Area(s) of Significance: Commerce; Social		Address: 707 Main St.	
Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> District		City, State, Zip: Oregon City, OR 97045	
		Phone:	

Documentation		
Research Sources: <input type="checkbox"/> Abstract of Title <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary Index <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories <input type="checkbox"/> Census Records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Encyclopedias <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers	<input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives <input type="checkbox"/> State Library <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Interviews <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs	Local Library (specify Oregon City Public Library University Library (specify UO/OSU Historical Society (specify Clackamas Co. Historical Society Other (specify):

Bibliographic References:

Clackamas County and Oregon City Directory. Oregon City, OR: Sohns & Woodbeck, 1917.

Clackamas County Historical Society and Museum history files and historic photographs.

Directory of Oregon City. Portland, OR: Pacific Directory Service, 1941.

Directory of Clackamas County. Portland, OR: Pacific Directory Service, 1948.

Gardner, Wilmer (compiler). Old Oregon City. Oregon City, OR: Clackamas County Historical Society, 1987.

Historic Oregon City. 1957 (n.p.)

Oregon City Enterprise [daily and weekly] (various dates).

Oregon City Library files.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps, 1892, 1911, 1925.

"Telephone History in Oregon City." Pacific Northwest Bell, 1976.

The City of Oregon City's 1983 Historic Survey of Downtown Oregon City (individual property files).

Webber, Bert and Margie. Oregon City (By Way of the Barlow Road) At the End of the National Historic Oregon Trail. Medford, OR: Webb Research Group, 1993.

Wiederhold, Kathleen M. Exploring Oregon's Historic Courthouses. Corvallis, OR: Oregon State University Press, 1998.

Researcher/Organization: Michelle L. Dennis		Date Recorded: May 2000	
Survey Form Page 3	Photo Roll #: 3	Frame #(s): 16	Local Designation #:
		SHPO #:	

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
 HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM

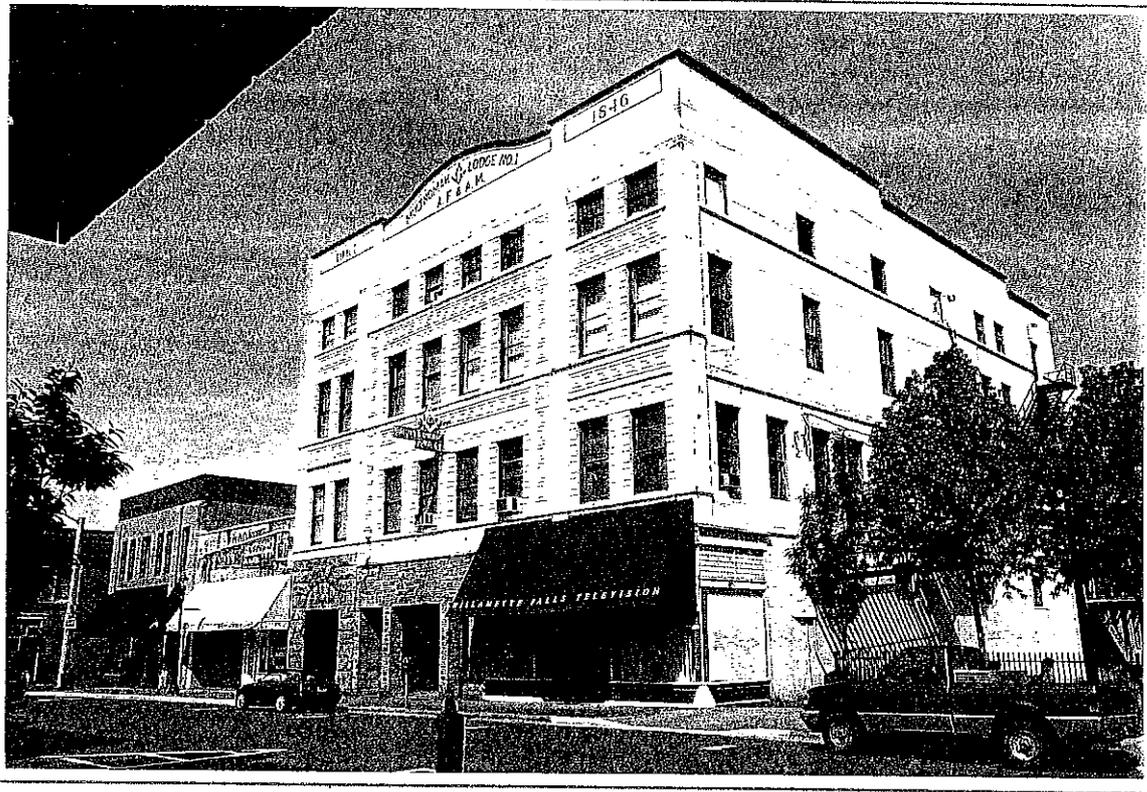
County **CLACKAMAS**

Note: For properties 35 years old and newer, starred (*) sections are the only required fields.

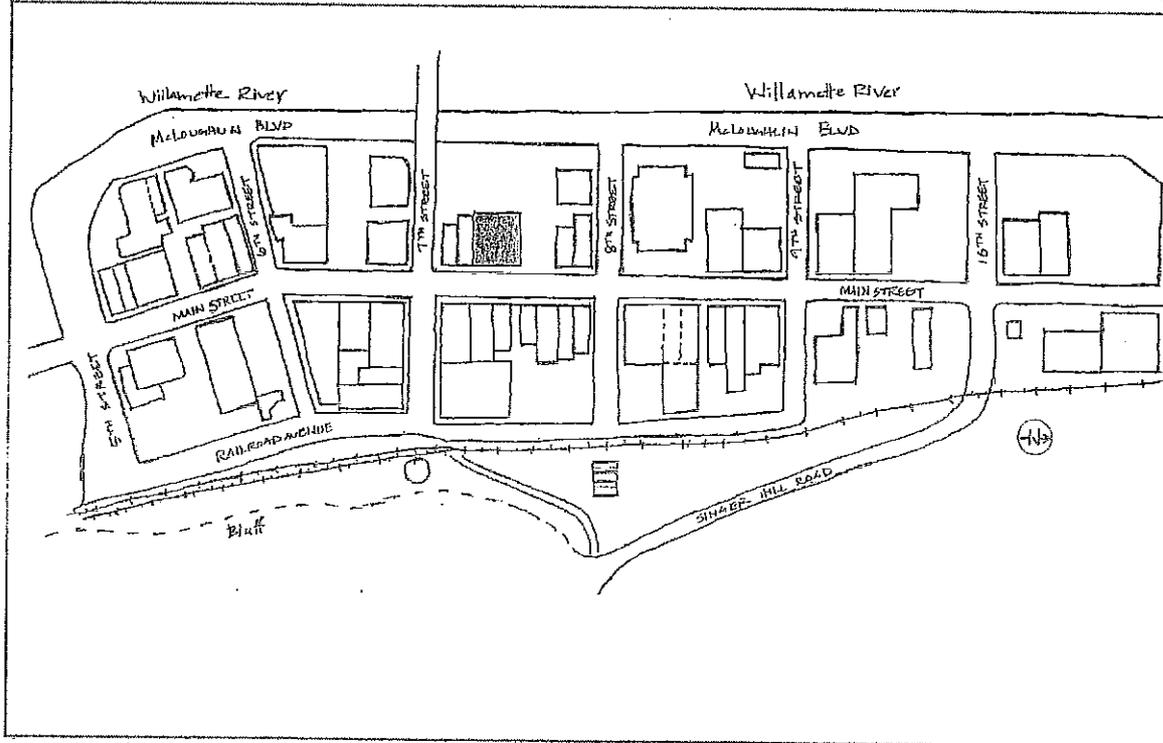
*Street Address: **707-709 MAIN STREET**

*City: **Oregon City**

Photo:



Map:



Researcher/Organization: Michelle L. Dennis		Date Recorded: May 2000	
Survey Form Page 2	Photo Roll #: 3	Frame #(s): 16 16	Local Designation #:
		SHPO #:	