

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: 610 MAIN STREET			*City: Oregon City		
USGS Quad Name: Oregon City		UTM or GPS Latitude:		Longitude:	
Township: 2S	Range: 2E	Section: 31	Block/Lot: 25/3,4	Tax Lot #: 22E31AB06800	
*Date of Construction: 1929/1950s		Historic Name: Stevens Building		Historic Use or Function: JC Penney Store	
Group or Ensemble Name: N/A		*Current Name or Use: Oregon City Furniture		Associated Archaeological Site: Unknown	
Style(s): Modern Commercial			Plan Type/Shape: Irregular		
Foundation Material: Concrete		Structural Framing: Concrete		Number of Stories: 1	
Roof Type/Material: Flat/rolled		Window Type/Material: Fixed metal display			
Exterior Surface Materials - Primary: Brick		Secondary:		Decorative: Stone veneer	
Exterior Alterations or Additions/ Approximate Date(s):		Remodeled after 1950 fire; storefronts and side elevation alterations date to that time; transoms removed, decorative brickwork at cornice levels removed			
Integrity: Fair		Preliminary National Register Findings <input type="checkbox"/> National Register Listed			
Condition: Good		Potentially Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/> Individually (and/or) <input type="checkbox"/> As a contributing resource in a district			
Local Ranking:		Not Eligible: <input checked="" 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 one-story building is relatively large and wedge-shaped to fit the tax lot on which it sits. The storefront on Main Street has been altered to accommodate a single business (currently Oregon City Furniture Company); there is also a side entrance on the south. The storefronts are typical of 1950s and 1960s storefronts with wide expanses of glass. The bulkheads, which were originally covered with tile, are now covered with a stone veneer (possibly synthetic). Above the windows is a flat wall surface, devoid of ornamentation (except for a contemporary awning). On the southwest corner of the building is a polygonal pilaster, a carryover from the original configuration. The exterior brick has been painted and a mural is located on the south elevation. Because the building sits on a slope, the south windows are graduated to accommodate the slope. The building at the rear, which originally housed other businesses, now serves as the warehouse for the furniture store. The building faces west.

Statement of Significance: (use additional sheets if necessary)

The Stevens Building was built in 1929 as a "modern" structure designed to house retail businesses. On July 26, 1929, the JC Penney store relocated to this building (the portion then numbered as 612-614) and remained here at least until the fire in 1950, when it was relocated following the fire so that the building could be rehabilitated. The 1953 directory lists the store back at this site. Also located in this building in 1929 were the Neal, Mc and Rose Jewelry store (at 610) and Joe Swartz's clothing store (located at 608). In 1941, Bill West's Fountain occupied the storefront at 608, a spot he returned to even after the fire (it appears in 1957 photos at this site). In 1947, Frank Robinson's Jewlery Store had replaced the earlier one at 610. The building originally had four bays and three storefronts (the JC Penney portion was double the size of the other two) on the main façade and a secondary storefront on the south elevation (the Sears Store was located at this side entrance in the late 1950s). Large transoms were located above the display windows, which had canvas awnings. Above the transoms was decorative brickwork along a beltcourse with simple brick "panels" (possibly intended for signage) between the beltcourse and a brick cornice of an alternating pattern below the edge of the parapet. The parapet was topped with what appears to have been a metal coping. Transom windows were also located above the display windows on the south side (front bay). The fire gutted the building leaving not much more than a shell from which the structure was rebuilt in a more "modern" design with a flat, smooth brick wall above the display windows. Although the building has been altered since its 1950s rehabilitation, if restored to its appearance following that rehabilitation, it might be considered eligible as a contributing resource in a historic district - if the period of significance included the dates of rehabilitation.

Researcher/Organization: Michelle L. Dennis			Date Recorded: May 2000		
Survey Form Page 1	Photo Roll #: 3	Frame #(s): 15	Local Designation #:	SHPO #:	

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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: Rick A. and Victoria McDonald	
Area(s) of Significance: Commerce		Address: 610 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 (specif UO/OSU Historical Society (specify Clackamas Co. Historical Society Other (specify):

Bibliographic References: <u>Clackamas County and Oregon City Directory.</u> Oregon City, OR: Sohns & Woodbeck, 1917. Clackamas County Historical Society and Museum history files and historic photographs. <u>Directory of Oregon City.</u> Portland, OR: Pacific Directory Service, 1941. <u>Directory of Clackamas County.</u> Portland, OR: Pacific Directory Service, 1948. Gardner, Wilmer (compiler). <u>Old Oregon City.</u> Oregon City, OR: Clackamas County Historical Society, 1987. <u>Historic Oregon City.</u> 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. <u>Oregon City (By Way of the Barlow Road) At the End of the National Historic Oregon Trail.</u> Medford, OR: Webb Research Group, 1993. Wiederhold, Kathleen M. <u>Exploring Oregon's Historic Courthouses.</u> Corvallis, OR: Oregon State University Press, 1998.

Researcher/Organization: Michelle L. Dennis	Date Recorded: May 2000			
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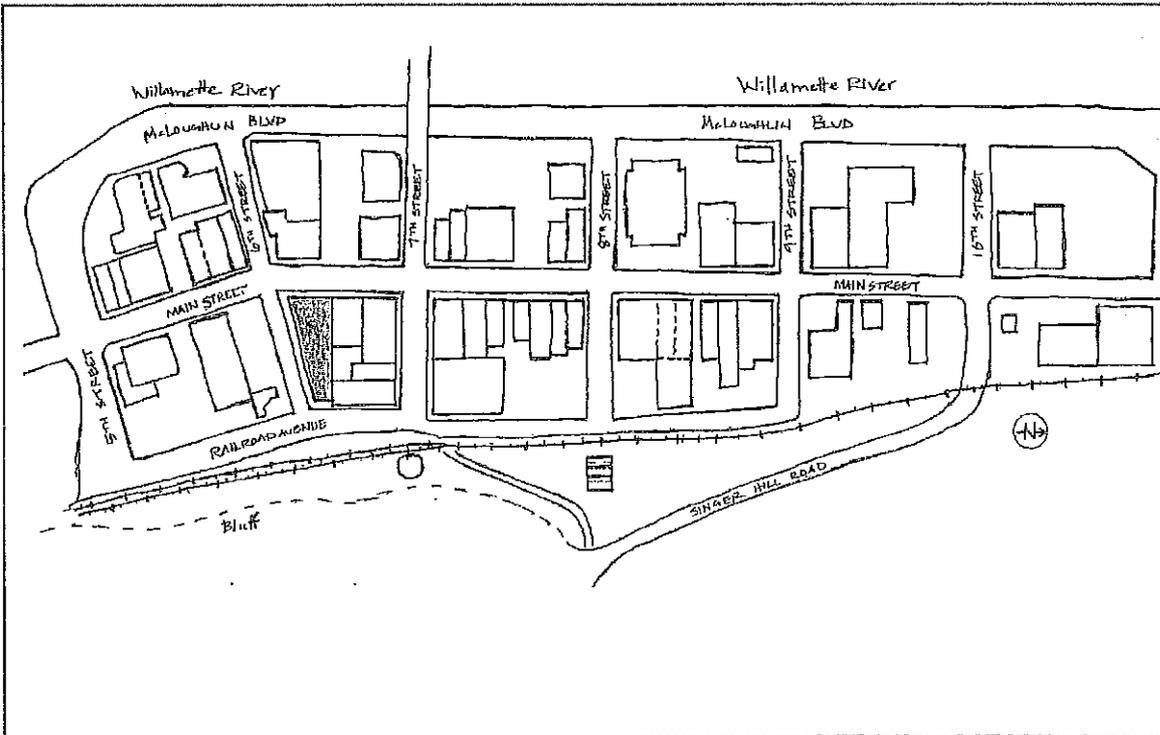
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Photo:



Map:



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