

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: 603-611 MAIN STREET			*City: Oregon City		
USGS Quad Name: Oregon City		UTM or GPS Latitude:		Longitude:	
Township: 2S	Range: 2E	Section: 31	Block/Lot: 5/3,4	Tax Lot #: 22E31AB07500	
*Date of Construction: c.1860/c.1872		Historic Name: Myers_Bank of Oregon City-Enterprise Buildin		Historic Use or Function: General Store	
Group or Ensemble Name: N/A		*Current Name or Use: Retail shops/Professional offices		Associated Archaeological Site: Unknwown	
Style(s): Commercial (altered)			Plan Type/Shape: Irregular		
Foundation Material: Concrete		Structural Framing: Stone; brick		Number of Stories: 2	
Roof Type/Material: Flat/rolled		Window Type/Material: Fixed single display (1st); metal sash awning (2nd)			
Exterior Surface Materials - Primary Stucco		Secondary:		Decorative: Brick	
Exterior Alterations or Additions/ Approximate Date(s):		The building has been substantially altered over time with repeated remodeling efforts; original storefronts and all windows altered; cornice removed.			
Integrity: Poor		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 type="checkbox"/> In current state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irretrievable loss of integrity <input type="checkbox"/> Not historic			

Description of Physical and/or Landscape Features:

This two-story building is basically rectangular in shape with a small one-story addition (c.1910) on the southwest corner. It has been substantially altered over time with the replacement of all windows, "modernization" of storefronts, addition of decorative elements, removal of original decorative elements. Currently, the storefronts have recessed entrances surrounded by modern brick veneer; windows are modern fixed pane display windows. Pilasters, which are flush with the wall surface except for the caps, are located along the front of the building at the street level. Some of the second floor windows have metal railings creating pairs of windows. A secondary cornice between the first and second floors wraps around the south end of the building where it is accented by a faux rusticated stone veneer and the date "1864." The building faces east and sits on the northwest corner of 6th and Main. Due to the substantial alterations, the building is not eligible as a contributing resource in a historic district.

Statement of Significance: (use additional sheets if necessary)

This building is perhaps the oldest standing commercial building in downtown Oregon City. The building, which today is a two-story structure with a single, cohesive façade, was originally built in three sections. The original portion of the building was a one-story, stone building which existed in 1866 and most likely was constructed earlier. According to ads in the Oregon City Enterprise in 1866, Joseph Ralston's store was located at 6th and Main, at the "old rock store." Information presented in the 1983 survey was in error in stating that John Myers' store and the courthouse were located at this site. Early newspaper accounts indicate that Myers Cash Store was located "under the Courthouse" but the courthouse was in a building on the SE corner of 5th and Main. There is no evidence that the courthouse was ever located at this site. Ralston moved to Linn County in 1871. The exchange of property is muddled, but apparently Myers purchased a portion of lot 3, which included Ralston's store, in 1871 and added a second story. In 1872, Myers and S.J. Cason purchased all of lot 3 from Ralston. It was probably at this point that the rest of the building, which is a two-story brick structure, was constructed. Although the building was tied together by a common cornice line, photos from as late as the 1890s show the building still treated as separate storefronts, with the southernmost and central bays each being three windows wide, and the north bay having four windows on the second floor. The Bank of Oregon City opened its doors in the oldest portion (southernmost bay) in 1881, at which time the front façade had a smooth, regular-coursed stone face on the ground level and was stuccoed on the upper level below the cornice line. The 2nd floor windows had bold cornice moldings. The center and north portions of the building were left as brick for several years, although painted different colors to distinguish the two businesses located in these bays. The Oregon City Enterprise was located in this building from 1884 until 1919; the Bank of Oregon City was located here until being purchased by the U.S. National Bank in 1931. Other businesses located here include McKittrick's Oregon City Shoe Store (as evidence by 1896 photos), the Martin Five & Dime Store and Barlow's Grocery in 1916, and numerous retail stores since the 1920s. The second floor provided (still does) professional office space.

Researcher/Organization: Michelle L. Dennis			Date Recorded: May 2000		
Survey Form Page 1	Photo Roll #: 2	Frame #(s): 16	Local Designation #:	SHPO #:	

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*Street Address: **603-611 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: Richard Wallace
Area(s) of Significance: Commerce	Address: 734 SW 53rd Ave.
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: Portland, OR 97219 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:

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 #: 1	Frame #(s): 7	Local Designation #:	SHPO #:

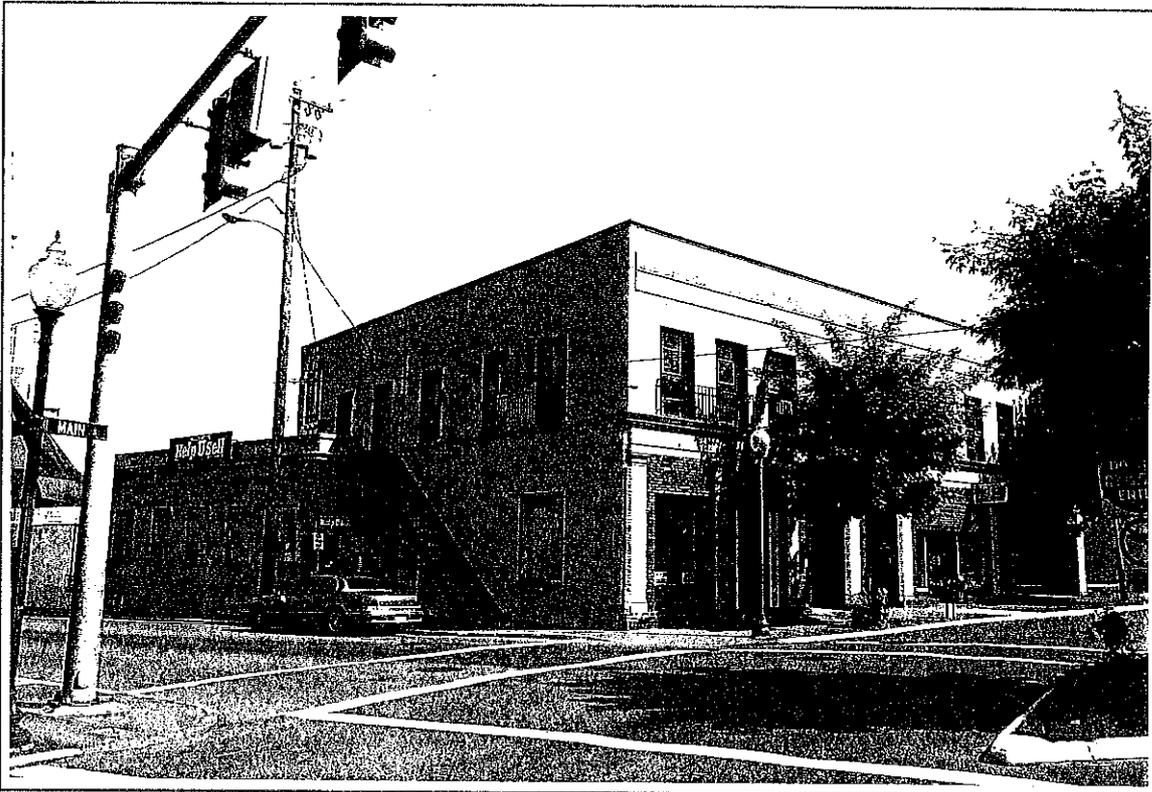
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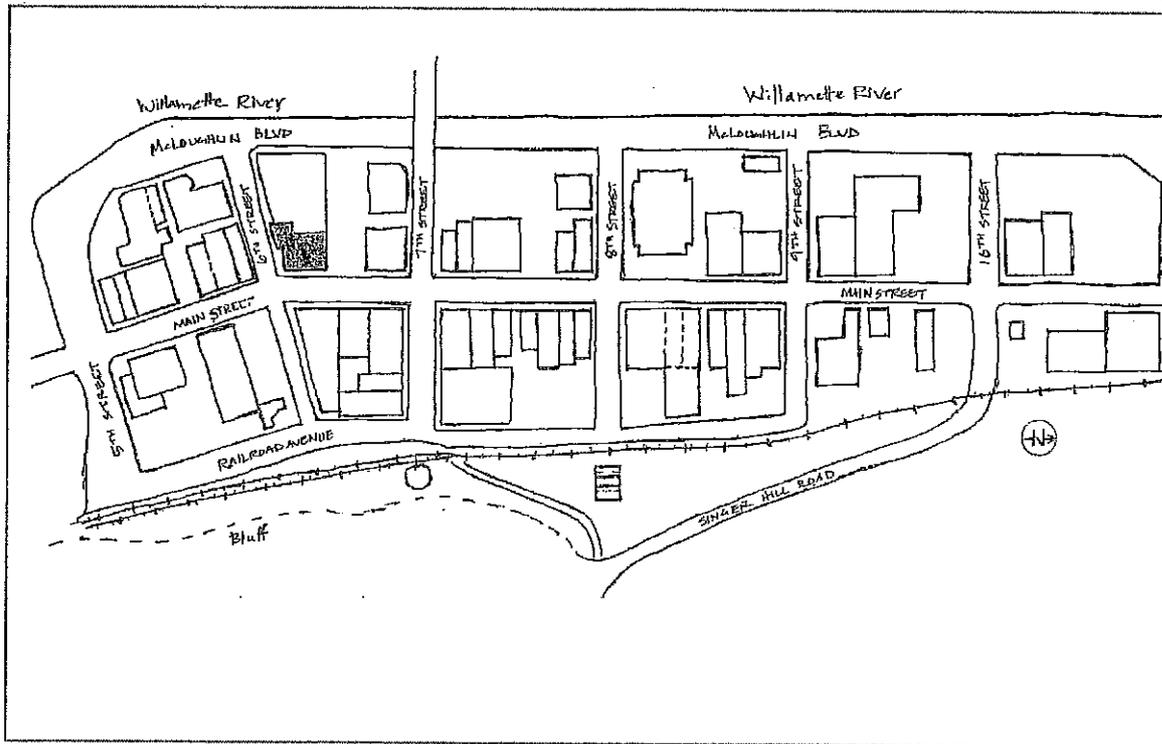
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Photo:



Map:



Researcher/Organization: Michelle L. Dennis	Date Recorded: May 2000			
Survey Form Page 2	Photo Roll #: 1	Frame #(s): 25	Local Designation #:	SHPO #: