# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAY 6 1987 date entered 1 2 9 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Type all entries	s—compiete appiicai	Die sections		
1. Nam	ne			
historic	N/A		of contributing reso of non-contributing	
and/or common	Silverton C	ommercial Historic D	istrict	
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	$\cdot$ High and Oa	k Streets on the Nor	y bounded by Silver ( th, First Street on A	Creek on the West, I/A not for publication
city, town	Silverton	nd Lewis and Water S N <del>/A_</del> vicinity of	treets on the South.  Fifth Congressiona	ıl District
state	Oregon	code 41 count	-	code 047
3. Clas	sification			
Category  X district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public privateX both Public Acquisition N/A in process N/A being considere	yes: restricted	entertainment government	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
<b>4.</b> Own	er of Prop	erty		
name	Multiple own	nerships; see propen	rty descriptions, Sec	tion 7
street & number	N/A			
city, town	N/A	vicinity of	state	
5. Loca	ation of Le	gal Descript	ion	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc.	Marion Count	ty Courthouse	
street & number		100 High Str	reet	
city, town		Salem	state	Oregon 97301
	resentatio	n in Existing	Surveys	
	wide Inventory of ric Properties		property been determined eli	igible? yes _X_ no
date 1986			federal _X_ stat	e county local
depository for su	ırvey records	State Historic Pre	servation Office, 52	5 Trade Street SE
city, town		Salem	state	Oregon 97310

#### 7. Description

Condition  — excellent — deteriorated  X good  — ruins  — fair — unexposed	Check one unalteredX_ altered	Check one _X_ original site moved date	N/A
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Silverton is located 14 miles east of Salem, the capital city, in Marion County, Oregon. Its setting is fertile farmland on the eastern margin of the Willamette Valley, near the foothills of the Cascade mountain range.

The proposed historic district is approximately seven acres in area and encompasses 49 separately-held tax lots.\* Thirty-six historic buildings remain in the industrial and commercial core of Silverton. They represent predominantly Commercial and Italianate styles. The historic period of significance represented is 1870 to 1936. Larger-scale, two story buildings anchor the corners of major intersections in the district. Single-story buildings fill the spaces between. The Wolf Building (#13) has a cast iron and pressed metal front; the Masonic Lodge (#22) has geometric patterned exterior brick on upper stories. The primary construction material within the district is brick, but there are two examples remaining of the wood frame construction which characterized Silverton's downtown in early years.

One of the topographical elements having the greatest impact on the historic district is Silver Creek. The Silverton area is primarily drained by Silver Creek on the south, and to a lesser degree by Abiqua Creek on the north. These two creeks (part of the Willamette Basin) empty into the Pudding River (a subbasin), which is tributary to the Willamette River. The creeks are lined with trees and provide a network of wetlands and open spaces. Silver Creek is responsible for the fertile alluvial soil which underlines the downtown area, as well as the external vistas from various locations within downtown. View corridors include the Main Street bridge over Silver Creek and South Water Street. Topographical features which define external vistas looking east from downtown are the Cascade Mountains in the distance and the Silverton Hills in the foreground.

Internal vistas include the view of uninterrupted storefronts on the southeast side of Main Street, as well as those on the northwest side of North Water Street.

Streets in the commercial area of Silverton have a 60-foot right-of-way. Paving is asphalt, with concrete sidewalks. Streets are one-way, and parking is metered two-hour. Columnar hornbeam trees are planted along the streets. Street lights are sodium (high pressure). Overhead wires provide electrical, telephone and cablevision service.

The proposed historic district is located just slightly south of the center of the present city limits, in Section 35, Township 6 South, Range 1 West. The northwest corner of the Silverton Lockers building (resource 49), however, is in Section 34. The district is located within the original town plat, except for the properties on the west side of North and South Water Streets, which are in an addition known as French's Acre.

The city grid system is skewed somewhat from a true north/south axis, since all the east/west streets are laid at right angles to Water Street, which follows the axis of the creek. The district boundaries have been drawn to include Silverton's early commercial district, on North Water, Oak, North and South First, and Main Streets. The South Water Street portion is included in the nomination because it contains buildings that either served the commercial district (City Hall, #36), or were built to utilize the water power that was the basis for the city's beginning (Fischer Flour Mill's Office, #35, Hubbs' Sash and Door Factory, #37, and the Hosmer Building, #40). The buildings to the northeast of #5 and to the southwest of #33 were excluded from the nomination because they did not make strong edges, being later additions not contributing to the historic nature of the district.

<sup>\*</sup>Please see break-down, page 2.

MAY 6 1987

## **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number7	Page2	

Of 44 buildings, 27 are contributing resources (five primary and 22 secondary). In addition, nine other buildings are classified historic non-contributing, which means that they would be eligible for an upgrade to contributing status if they were appropriately rehabilitated. Seven buildings are compatible, although too recent in date to be considered contributing resources. Only one of the resources is both non-compatible and non-contributing. There are five vacant lots all told which, being neutral, are not tallied in the contributing-non-contributing break-down.

The oldest buildings in the district date from about 1870. The period of significance extends from that time to 1936. The district is commercial in nature. Many of the buildings are of brick construction and replaced earlier wood buildings that were destroyed by fires. Historically, bricks were supplied by George Desart's brickworks, which was located in the Silverton environs.

Recent losses within the district include that of a Secondary Significant building (inventory #7) demolished to make way for an outdoor bank teller and parking lot, and loss of another building (inventory #12) to fire early in 1986. A feasibility study for remodelling City Hall and replacing the Police Station was completed in June, 1986, but implementation is not expected for several years.

The building classification system used to rank the buildings is as follows:

PRIMARY SIGNIFICANT. Buildings in this classification range in date from 1870 to 1899 and reflect primarily the Italianate style. The cutoff date for this period coincides with a major fire which destroyed most of the buildings on the south side of East Main Street in 1900.

SECONDARY SIGNIFICANT. Buildings in this classification were built between 1900 and 1936. These buildings represent the immense period of expansion that took place in the early 1900s until the time of the Depression. The single most predominant style of this period is the Commercial style.

HISTORIC NON-CONTRIBUTING. Buildings in this classification were built during the Primary or Secondary periods of development but have been altered by misguided improvements. If the misguided improvements were reversed, these buildings could qualify for reclassification as Primary or Secondary Significant.

COMPATIBLE NON-CONTRIBUTING. Buildings in this classification were built generally in the 1940s but are compatible in terms of scale, design and building traditions of the district.

NON-COMPATIBLE, NON-CONTRIBUTING. Buildings in this classification are not only non-historic, they are incompatible with the architectural character of the district.

VACANT. Properties in this classification are unimproved.

MAY 6 per

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_3

BUILDING NAME:

1

Historic: n/a

Present: Palace Theater

ADDRESS: 110-114 N. Water Street, Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Alfred Adams c/o U.S. National Bank Trust Dept., 321 SW 6th, Portland OR 97204

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W ADDITION: North Silverton

YEAR BUILT: 1936 STYLE: Art Deco TAX LOT: 00281 LOT:15 & 28

ALTERATIONS: Minor USE: Movie theater

DESCRIPTION: The Palace Theater complex is irregular in plan with one and two story portions. Constructed in concrete, the main mass is oriented diagonally to the southwest corner. Its facade is articulated by a large scaled chevron pattern relief divided by vertical elements. A three part stepped parapet adds further rhythm to an otherwise modest upper facade. Triangular one story wings extend to either side in a simplified continuation of the striated diagonal pattern. Each of these wings has a soffit made of metal and large aluminum framed windows. A metal marquis hangs from the main mass supported by wires attached to the upper facade.

The Palace Theater complex has historically been the site of theaters and opera houses since 1905 when Edward S. Porter and L.J. Adams constructed a wood frame building. This previous building ran the length of the block facing Water Street with store fronts lining both Water and Oak Streets. The theater was located more to the northern end, although accessed from Oak Street. Mr. Porter sold the property to Adams in 1910 and the Adams family has since maintained it.

Louis J. Adams, later a State Senator, came to Silverton in 1884 from Ohio. Initially working as a book keeper for the Oregon Milling Company he worked up the ranks to manage the mill, then kept the books of Coolidge and McClaine. By 1902 he had passed the bar examination for practicing law, but continued to work for Coolidge & McClaine as the Assistant Cashier. With time he established his law practice and managed the Opera House.

He sold the operation to his son, Alfred L. Adams in 1925 who continued to maintain the movie house.

A fire in April of 1935, razed the entire Opera House block with losses estimated at \$100,000. Several other buildings, east on Oak Street were destroyed, as well. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Adams, living in an apartment on the second floor, escaped the fire from a window. Within the year the new Palace Theater was constructed, this time made of concrete.

MAY 6

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_4

2. BUILDING NAME:

Historical: n/a

Present: The Homeseekers Agency

ADDRESS: 203 Oak Street, Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Alfred Adams c/o U.S. National Bank Trust Department

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W ADDITION: North Silverton

TAX LOT: 00281 LOT:15 & 28

YEAR BUILT: 1936

ALTERATIONS: Minor

STYLES: Moderne

USE: apartments & commercial

DESCRIPTION: This two story commercial building is associated with the Palace theater directly to the south. Constructed in concrete with an exterior surfacing of stucco, its facade is rather starkly detailed. The facade is composed asymmetrically with the store front and the fenestrations of the above apartment off-centered with the apartment entry to the south. A horizontal striated band backing the upper windows adds the only embellishment to the facade.

Constructed in association with the neighboring Palace Theater after a fire razed the previous Opera House, it has continued in the ownership of the same family.

3 BUILDING NAME:

Historic: Silverton Bakery

Present: Ron's Relics

ADDRESS: 207-209 Oak Street, Silverton Or 97381

OWNER: Ronald Pruiett 207 Oak Street, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W

TAX LOT: 00297

ADDITION: N.Silverton

LOT:15 & 16

YEAR BUILT: 1914

ALTERATIONS: Moderate

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial

USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: This one story building is rectangular in plan with a flat roof. Measuring two bays wide, its facade is comprised of two commercial spaces, each with its own recessed entry flanked by fixed aluminum windows. Surface materials below the lengthwise metal awning consist of a black glazed tile walls with pilasters covered by a red brick veneer. A textured stucco covers the upper portion of the facade with a corbelled detailed cornice found at the parapet. Transom lights retain most of their integrity with only a few replaced panes of glass. A concrete block addition was constructed in 1974 and appears at the back wall of the older structure.

MAY 6

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	5	

The former Silverton Bakery was constructed for Henry Schmidbauer in 1914. The Silverton Appeal reported, "The building will be in two divisions – one 15 feet wide, the other 20. The material to be used will be concrete, with a veneering of brick, covered with asbestos roofing. This will be the most nearly fire proof structure in the city. Herbert Roe has been engaged to superintend the work." (Silverton Appeal, December 19, 1913). Schmidbauer appeared to have been very conscious of modernizing his baking operation having earlier installed a bread mixing machine in his previous building. In this later building the machinery was located in a series of attachments at the back of the building (north). Within a few years Schmidbauer sold the business to E.H. Knoll in1919 (Silverton Appeal, November, 1920), although the building was actually sold to J.L. and Josie Stalker in 1920. Much more recently the building has housed a series of restaurants.

4 BUILDING NAME: Historic: J.C. Penny's

Present: Cascade Gymnastics Academy

ADDRESS: 211 Oak Street, Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Paul H. & Karen J. Kuebrich PO Box 557, Albany OR 97321

CLASSIFICATION: Compatible Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W TAX LOT: 00304
ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 15,16,27,28
YEAR BUILT: ca. 1942-52 ALTERATIONS: Minor
STYLE: Moderne USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: Cascade Gymnastics Academy is a two story rectangular shaped building with a symmetrical three bay front. Its roof is flat covered with built up roofing material. The walls are constructed of poured concrete with an exterior coating of stucco. The most prominant ornnamental feature is the horizontal striated bands which delineate the second floor windows. These upper floor fenestrations are three-light casements grouped in threes. Otherwise, the upper portion of the facade is without detailing. A retractable cloth awning shelters the recessed store front. The building has not been drastically altered, its storefront windows have been updated with aluminum frames and the doors replaced.

Cascade Oymnastics Academy was the second home of the J.C. Penny store. Constructed in 1942 to the house the national chain, it was actually leased by the company from a series of local owners. J.C. Penny's was previously located at 107 Water Street, presently known as Fish's Bakery. Penny's maintained the business until 1985, when the Silverton operation was closed.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_6

5 BUILDING NAME:

Historic: n/a

Present: J & R Consignment

ADDRESS: 213 Oak Street, Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Paul H. & Karen J. Kuebrich PO Box 557. Albany OR 97321

CLASSIFICATION: Compatible Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W ADDITION: North Silverton YEAR BUILT: c. 1950's STYLE: Commercial TAX LOT: 00304 LOT:15,16,27,28 ALTERATIONS: Minor USE: commercial

DESCRIPTION: This small one story attachment of the old J.C. Penny store is simple and devoid of detailing. Constructed of concrete it is shaped in a rectangular plan with an exterior coating of stucco. Its facade is comprised of one wooden, three-part bay flanked by two doors.

6 BUILDING NAME:

Historic: Inman Building

Present: LaDonna's Beauty Center/Joe Realty

ADDRESS: 110-112 First Street, Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: LeRoy C. & Margaret J. Meyers, Route 1, Box 784, Molalla OR 97038

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BCO 61W TAX LOT: 00231 ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: Fr Lot 12

YEAR BUILT: 1925 ALTERATIONS: Minor; floor addition

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The former Inman Building is a three story building constructed of concrete. It measures  $45 \times 56$  feet with a wall height of 34 feet. The wood frame roof is flat with built up roofing. Sited on the southeast corner of First and Oak Streets, the main facade (west) is composed in basically two bays with the southern most subdivided by a door providing access to the upper stories. Primary window types include wood sash, eight-over-one double hung on the second and third floors and single aluminum framed windows on the ground level. Transom lights have been infilled.

Originally only two stories, this edifice was completed in 1925 for L.E. Inman. Mr. Inman had a plumbing business which occupied the first floor with apartments found on the second floor. Complications in constructing the building occurred when the concrete and excavation men attempted to dig a basement. Loyd Moser discovered that the former occupant of the site, A.G. Steelhammer, a pioneer blacksmith, had at some point poured a mixture of concrete, horseshoes, and gravel to cover the original dirt floor of his 1866 blacksmith shop (Silverton Appeal, March 20, 1925).

5

MAY

#### 6

### **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_7\_\_ Page \_\_\_7\_\_

7 ADDRESS: 216 Oak Street, Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: First Interstate Bank, 217 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Non-Compatible Non Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC61W TAX LOT: 00038

ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 13

YEAR BUILT: 1986 USE: Drive-in Bank/parking lot

DESCRIPTION: A circa 1920's building was recently demolished to make way for the present drive-in bank and parking lot associated with the adjacent First Interstate Bank.

8 BUILDING NAME: Historic: unknown

Present: n/a

ADDRESS: 214 Oak Street

OWNER: Olwyn K. Davis MD, PC, 214 Oak St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Compatible Non-contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35 BC061W TAX LOT: 00249

ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 13

YEAR BUILT: ca. 1960 ALTERATIONS: Minor

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial USE: Office

DESCRIPTION: This physician's office is a one story rectangular shaped building, measuring three bays wide. Constructed of concrete block, the facade is faced with a brick veneer with a recessed entry supported by two structural pipes. The upper facade is ornamented with three square motifs fashioned in brick.

Dr. Olwyn K. Davies has owned this building since 1972.

9 ADDRESS: 212 Oak Street, Silverton OR 97381 OWNER: Fred Parkinson, 210 Oak St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Vacant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35 BC061W TAX LOT: 00256

ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 13

USE: Parking lot

#### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_\_8

10

BUILDING NAME:

Historic:

Present: Fred's Silverton Pharmacy

ADDRESS: 210 Oak Street, Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Fred Parkinson

STYLE: Commercial

210 Oak Street, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Compatible Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BCO 61W ADDITION: North Silverton YEAR BUILT: 1948

TAX LOT: 9129070

LOT: 13 & 14

ALTERATIONS: addition: ca. 1950; alt.: 1962

USE: Drug Store

DESCRIPTION: Composed in a rectangular plan this one story building is constructed of concrete block with an exterior finish of stucco. Varied detailing along the upper store front suggests that this building once housed two separate businesses; the east portion is ornamented by a diagonal hatching while the west is plain. The lower front is recessed the full length of the facade and is fenestrated along the east end with a length long base of brick veneer. The east adjacent parking lot is associated with the drug store.

The west half of this building was constructed in 1948 by the Ames family and was originally leased and used for a recreation center. In the early 1950's the east half of the building was added and housed a drug store. Mr. Parkinson, currently the legislator for this region, took over the pharmacy operation in 1955, later expanding it in 1962. At the time of the expansion the central wall of the two spaces was removed and the entire building was remodelled.

11 **BUILDING NAME:**  Historic: Silverton Service Station

Present: n/a

ADDRESS: 110 - 114 Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Loren Rolle, 120 SW 5th, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Historic Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W TAX LOT: 00277

ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 14

YEAR BUILT: c.1925 **ALTERATIONS: Extensive** 

STYLE: Commercial USE: Vacant

DESCRIPTION: The former Silverton Service Station is a two story building constructed of concrete with a brick veneer. Sited at the southeast corner of Water and Main Streets the rectangular planned building had a one and two story section. The one story section housed a service garage and a business along Water Street, while the two story section was apartments on the second floor with commercial on the first. The ground level features an unusual elliptically shaped awning; the wall is infilled with a storefront that was originally only concrete piers. A second floor was added to the service station fairly early. The primary window types of these upper sections are wood sash one-over-one double hung, the ground level composed of aluminum framed single lights.

5

## **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	9

Isaac D. Worden purchased this property in May, 1922 and within several years this former service station was constructed. A recent fire has done fairly extensive damage to the building and it is unknown whether owner plans to rehabilitate it.

12 ADDRESS: 108-110 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Loren Rolie et al,

120 5th St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Vacant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W TAX LOT: 00274

ADDITION: North Silverton

LOT: 14 USE: vacant

13 BUILDING NAME:

Historic: Wolf Building

Present: Hande Hardware

ADDRESS: 201 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Sharon and William McAllister, 201 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Primary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W

TAX LOT: 00001

ADDITION: North Silverton

LOT: 1

YEAR BUILT: 1891

ALTERATIONS: Minor

STYLE: Queen Anne Commercial

**USE:** Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The Wolf Building is one of the finest early examples of architecture in Silverton. It maintains a high level of its original cast iron detailing with most removed pieces stored within the building. The two story brick building is constructed on a rock foundation with a basement. Its main front is composed in a series of six narrow bays with two recessed entries. A bay sub grouping is reflected in the bracketed, stepped three-part parapet. Its center section displays "18 Wolf 91". The facade is significant as a documented pressed metal and cast iron building front produced by the Mesker Brothers manufactory in St. Louis, Missouri.\*

Fenestrations of the second floor are one-over-one, double-hung wood sash. Pilasters with a recessed panel make up the surrounds of these south facing windows. The west facing windows feature a stepped head mould adorned with an "x" motif. Mezzanine windows are aligned with the transom lights of the main facade. A side and back entry remain in tact with most of their original hardware. A few of the original iron shutters are found on the back fenestrations.

Adolf Wolf had this building constructed in 1891, designed by local designer, Starret. The original drawings of the architect remain in the posession of the current owner, Mr. McCallister.

<sup>\*</sup>It is reported that 21 Mesker Brothers building fronts were erected in Oregon between 1885 and 1896. The Wolf Building's patterns are similar to those used on the Slater Building in La Grande, which also was built in 1891.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section nun	nber _	71	Page	10
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Mr. Wolf entered the general merchandise trade upon his arrival to Silverton in 1884. Mr. Wolf had spent most of the previous twenty years in Oregon in the town of Independence. There he had been instrumental in bringing the railroad through the community and also served in several civic capacities. He also served the city of Silverton as mayor and city councilman.

Alterations made by Mr. Wolf included adding a new cash system in 1895 that was celebrated with a "grand ball... The spacious store had been tastefully decorated and draped with bunting, all the counters and goods having been removed. The top of the office at the rear of the hall was trasformed into an orchestra...the large show windows at the front of the building were filled with exotic plants and palms." (Marion County Recorder, January 11, 1895) Mr. Wolf sold the hardware store in 1899 and he and son developed a very successful hop business growing, buying, selling and exporting hops (Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley, Oregon, 1903).

James Craig purchased the business from the Wolf family and operated it until his death in 1913. Ames acquired the deed from the Craig estate and received quite good coverage in the Silverton Appeal, "Building will be remodeled and fitted as a modern Hardware store....Mr. Ames intends to make extensive changes in the interior and place it in a suitable condition. The front windows will be changed around, the building will be rewired and a hot water plant put in the basement." (February 12, 1913)

14 BUILDING NAME: Historic: Brooks and Steelhammer Pharmacy

Present: Town House Cafe

ADDRESS: 203 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Loren Rolie et al., 120 SW 5th, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Historic Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35CB061W TAX LOT: 00006

ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 1

YEAR BUILT: c. 1903 ALTERATIONS: Extensive STYLE: Commercial USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The Town House Cafe was for many years a pharmacy. This two story brick building could be considered Significant with the removal and reconstruction of the original storefront. Its upper facade retains the original detailing, although very early "modernized" with a coating of concrete. It is divided into two bays with a stair entry placed within the smaller of the two bays. The robust brick relief work is composed of pilasters creating a verticality and corbelled brick patterns found at the cornice. Windows of the second floor are vertically scaled with one-over-one double hung sash with a single light transom. Two of these windows have been infilled.

The ground level has been drastically altered by a veneer of brick which extends across the east adjacent building which houses a part of the Towne House Cafe, as well.

MAY 6

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section n	number	7	Page	11

Brooks and Steelhammer Rexall Drug had its beginning as early as 1884. Mr. Brooks purchased the operation circa 1898. The building was apparently in part owned by J.G. Smith and in some accounts id referred to as the Smith Block. G.W. Steelhammer, one of the sons of pioneer blacksmith A.G. Steelhammer, entered Brooks business as an apprentice and finally bought out the older man in 1913. (Silverton Appeal, November, 1913). The business retained the names of both for some time.

Harry V. Carson started working for Steelhammer in 1912 and purchased the building and operation from the Steelhammers in 1947. His son, Harry Carson, entered the profession near this time and continued operating the business until circa 1970.

15 BUILDING NAME:

Historic:

Present: Towne House Cafe

ADDRESS: 207 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Loren Rolle, et al, 120 SW 5th, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Historic Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W

ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 1

YEAR BUILT: c. 1904 ALTERATIONS: Extensive

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: This one story one story attachment to the Towne House Cafe is "L" shaped in plan in part wrapping around the old Brooks and Steelhammer Pharmacy. The building is constructed of brick and has been severely altered although the corbelled brick cornice is in tact. The otherwise modest facade, composed in one bay, has been veneered with brick on the store front. Large aluminum windows have replaced with earlier window type. T1-11 covers the transom lights. Access is from a recessed entry at the wet end of the facade.

TAX LOT: 00006

This building appears to have been built in conjunction with the Smith Block circa 1904. It initially house a dry goods and grocery story, and by 1915 a confectionery.

16 BUILDING NAME:

Historic: Valley Meat Market

Present:

ADDRESS: 209 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Larry and Sandra Burkehart, 4257 Cascade Hwy., SE Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Historic Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W TAX LOT: 00014

ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 1

YEAR BUILT: after 1922 ALTERATIONS: Moderate

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial USE: Commercial

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#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	12
			. ~9~	

DESCRIPTION: This one story building is constructed of brick and concrete with its main facade (south) consisting of brick. Very modest in detailing, its parapet features castellation. The one bay facade is symmetrically composed, with a recessed central entry. The stor front has been partially convered with T1-11 including the trasom lights. Windows are single panes with aluminum.

This site has historically been occupied by meat markets since the turn-of-the-century, Bock's Meat Market housed in a wood frame building. Valley Packing Company puchased the property from Henry Bock in 1923 and erected this one story brick building the following year. The new meat market was called Valley Meat Market. The building was sold to Winnifred Ames in 1944 and more recently M.S. Hobblitt has owned the building and now the Burkeharts.

17 ADDRESS: 211 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381 OWNER: Fred Parkinson, 210 Oak St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Vacant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W TAX LOT: 00018

ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 2

YEAR BUILT: n/a
STYLE: n/a
USE: Parking lot

YAY 6

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 13

18 BUILDING NAME:

HISTORIC: unknown

PRESENT: Silverton Art & Frame

ADDRESS: 213 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: First Interstate Bank, 217 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Historic Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W TAX LOT: 00031

ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 2

YEAR BUILT: c. 1922 ALTERATIONS: Moderate

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: Silverton Art & Frame is a one story brick building that has been long associated with the adjacent bank building. Constructed of a buff color brick with a stucco base, its materials echo the neighboring bank building. One wide bay is segmented by vertical panels with a horizontal band of windows. The exterior is otherwise quite simple and unadorned. Freight access is available from the west facade.

19 BUILDING NAME:

HISTORIC: Coolidge & McClaine Bank

PRESENT: First Interstate Bank

ADDRESS: 217 E. Main St.; Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: First Interstate Bank, 217 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W TAX LOT: 00031

ADDITION: North Silverton LOT: 2

YEAR BUILT: 1922 ALTERATIONS: Minor

STYLE: Commercial USE: Bank

DESCRIPTION: The former Coolidge and McClaine Bank was the second building constructed for the oldest banking institution in Silverton. Composed of "white" colored brick (common bond) with a concrete base, its plan is rectangular. Its roof is flat hidden by a parapet with the roofline delineated by a cornice. The main elevation (south) is composed in three bays, the adjacent facade (east) is comprised of seven. Brick pilasters upon a painted concrete base having capitals with capitals adorned by disks articulate these bays. The wood windows have single fixed panes with fixed transoms. Several of the bays have been infilled to meet the more current needs of the bank. The entry bay has both its transom and lower portion filled and fitted with double doors.

Constructed by the early Silverton banking institution, Coolidge and McClaine, this edifice represents the third building that housed the first bank of Silverton. Adolph F. McClaine and Alfred Coolidge began their operation in 1880 in a wood frame building slightly west of the

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#### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section	number	7	Page	14
			3-	

present bank. Initially formed as a partnership, the company incorporated in 1890 and by 1893 their success allowed for a more substantial building at the present site. The pride of this addition was reflected in the local paper, "from the hard-wood wainscoat to the frescoed ceiling the interior is flawless" (Marion County Recorder, Oct. 26, 1894). Again, the advantages success were exercized in 1922, when this last building was constructed at a cost of about \$30,000.

Mr. McClaine and Mr. Coolidge were key members of the early commercial community of Silverton. Coolidge, as well as maintaining a donation land claim, is fondly remembered for relocating his general merchandising business from nearby Milford in 1855, moving it over a period of four months, maintaining his business the entire route. Besides maintaining the banking operation, he served as Marion County Commissioner for two terms, promoted the Silverton Electric light Company, rebuilt the local gristmill and invested heavily in local properties and businesses. Despite these claims to local notoriety he is well-remembered for being very informal and keeping a bottle of brandy in his bank office. McClaine actually did not stay in Silverton for long, going on to other banking ventures in Washington State, all the while maintaining his position on the Coolidge and McClaine Board of Directors. McClaine and Coolidge finally separated their interests in 1925, when the bank became known as Ai Coolidge & Company.

20

**BUILDING NAME:** 

HISTORIC: Hande Building

PRESENT: Bill Duncan's Home Furnishings

TAX LOT: 37388

ADDRESS: 108 N. First Street; Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Rose Stiff, PO Box 175, Silverton, OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W

LOT: 12

ADDITION: North Silverton

YEAR BUILT: 1936 ALTERATIONS: Minor STYLE: Art Deco USE: Furniture Store

DESCRIPTION: The former Hande Building is a two story concrete building and is rectangular in plan. Its wood framed roof is flat behind a parapet. Oriented west, the facade is composed in three bays articulated by broad pilasters. These pilasters lend a vertical element to an otherwise horizontal composition. Fenestrations include broad fixed windows on the ground level and eight-over-one, double-hung sash loosely grouped in twos on the second level. An opening on the south wall connects the adjacent building.

Early photographs illustrate the name Hande Building at the cornice, the exact connection with Hande is not known. The current property owner maintains that the building was constructed to accompdate the growth of the adjacent furniture store in 1936. It has housed the Stiff Furniture Store and is now operated under Bill Duncan's name.

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## **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	r <u> </u>	Page	15
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21

**BUILDING NAME:** 

HISTORIC: Wray's Furniture/Stiff's Furniture

PRESENT: Bill Duncan's Home Furnishings

ADDRESS: 301 N. First St., Silverton

OWNER: Rose Stiff, P.O. Box 175, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W ADDITION: North Silverton YEAR BUILT: c. 1902 STYLE: Commercial TAX LOT: 00041 LOT: 3 & 12 ALTERATIONS:

USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The former Wray's Furniture Building is a two story, wood framed building with a rectangular plan. The current configuration of four bays on the south elevation and five on the west with a corner entry was the result of an early remodeling undertaken in the 1910's or '20's. Its original orientation was towards the south with two doors and a few small fenestrations on the west elevation.

The Silverton Appeal advertised the "new furniture store opposite the bank" in 1902. Wray's Furniture and Hardware stores may have been actually owned by Coolidge & McClain, deed records indicating that F.E. Wray did not actually acquire the title to the property until 1923. H.L. Stiff acquired the property in that same year. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of 1903 indicates that the building was originally divided into two spaces with jewelry and furniture on the west side and hardware, stoves and buggies on the first and second floors of the east side. By 1906 the whole building had been transformed into one large space with a staircase found at the north end (as it exists today). News accounts state H.L. Stiff in 1924 remodelled the building again allowing for more room. Most likely the mezzanine was enclosed at this time.

Longtime owner, Herbert L. Stiff, never actually lived in Silverton, this being one of several furniture stores that he owned in the Willamette Valley. He began in the furniture store business in 1911 with his father in Salem. By 1914 they had opened another branch in Albany and the Silverton operation in 1923. Robert Duncan acted as the manager of the furniture store and later incorporated the business with Mr. Stiff. The operation continues under family management under the proprietorship of Bill Duncan.

22

**BUILDING NAME:** 

HISTORIC: Silverton Masonic Building

PRESENT:

ADDRESS: 101-110 S. First St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Harland Anderson, P.O. Box 196, Silverton OR 97831

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35CB061W ADDITION: South Silverton

YEAR BUILT: 1915 STYLE: Commercial TAX LOT: 00041

LOT NO.: 3

ALTERATIONS: Minor
USE: Commercial & Offices

#### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number	7	Page	_16
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DESCRIPTION: The Mesonic Building is a four story brick building, which is rectangular in plan. The main facade (west ) is composed in three asymmetrical bays, the north comprised of one. Light colored brick pilasters further articulate this composition with the fourth floor placed within the architrave. The meeting space situated on the third and fourth floors is detected by the small narrow lights and brick panels of the fourth floor. The recessed entry is found within the central bay accessed through a round arched opening with a key stone bearing the masonic insignia; flanking pilaster detailing is adorned by maltese cross motifs. The flat roof is found behind the parapet which is ornamented with a light colored brick with a contrasting red brick cross motif and running sawtooth pattern.

The primary window types are one-over-one double hung sash on the second floor, the third replace by aluminum sliding windows with transoms, the fourth aluminum, as well. These were originally one-over-one double hung sash with the fourth floor featuring triangular shaped panes.

The Charter of Silverton Lodge Number 45 was granted June 24, 1868 with a initial membership of fifteen. This eary membership was housed in about three buildings before constructing this lodge at First and Main Streets. They initially met "over the W.H. Lewis wagon shop located on the banks of Silver Creek at the intersection of Water and Lewis Streets" (The First Century of Masonry). A second building was constructed along the south side of Main Street at the present location of 206 Main Street (The Goldworks). Remaining in the building for over thirty years, the masons began to search for a suitable lot for building a new lodge in 1910 after having sold their former meeting space. A final decision was not made until 1914, when a building committee was organized, which later evolved into the Silverton Masonic Building Association. Actual plans were displayed by May, 1914 and the masons moved into their new facility in 1915.

23

BUILDING NAME:

Historic: Silverton Auto

Present: Goodwill

ADDRESS: 109 S. First St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Goodwill Industries, 109 S. First St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35CB061W

TAX LOT: 00235

ADDITION: Silverton South

LOT: 12

YEAR BUILT: 1922

ALTERATIONS: minor

STYLE: Commercial

**USE:** Commercial

DESCRIPTION: Constructed of concrete block (Wonder Block), the former office of Silverton Auto is one story and rectangular in plan with a concrete foundation. The flat roof is framed in wood covered by composition roofing.

#### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number _	Pag	e17_
------------------	-----	------

The main (west) facade is composed in three bays, further articulated by a castellated parapet. A central, double door entry is flanked by wood framed single lites. The adjacent bays are wood framed with single panes.

Recent news articles maintain that the building was originally constructed in 1922 to house the Silverton Post Office, although fire insurance maps indicate that it actually was added in conjunction to the south neighboring building used for "office sales" (Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1922). It has continued to house a number of businesses "parts of the building were used for Hoff Bros. appliances. Western Auto. Montgomery Ward (Silverton Appeal, 1981). Goodwill Industries purchased the building in 1956 and has continued to maintain their operation at this location.

24 **BUILDING NAME:**  Historic: Silverton Auto Company

Present: Harry Hagedorn Glass and Radiator

TAX LOT: 002131

ADDRESS: 303 S. Lewis St.

OWNER: Harry Hagedorn, 303 S. First, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR NO. 35CB061W

ADDITION: South Silverton

LOT: 12

YEAR BUILT: 1913 ALTERATIONS: Minor **USE:** Commercial STYLE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The former Silverton Auto(Company) is a one story building framed in wood with a pressed metal sheathing duplicating the appearance of rustic concrete block. Sited at the northeast corner of Lewis and First Streets, its entry is oriented towards the southwest corner. The west elevation maintains most of its early metal sheathing, although detectable patching would indicate some alteration in windows and doorways. Sheathing on the south is partially replaced by corregated metal with a overhead garage door found near the back. A metal molded cornice remains in good condition at the parapet of the west elevation.

This property was sold to Thomas J. and Emma M.Davis in April of 1913 and shortly thereafter the Silverton Auto Company opened having "on hand a large supply of gasoline, oil, etc.. Expert repairing by competent workmen." (Silverton Appeal, August 1913). Sanborn Maps indicate that the north adjacent building was added for Office Sales by 1922 (Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1922.) Family members, Gaylord C. & Elsie Davis acquired the deed to the property in 1946 and the title was transfered to Valley Farmers Coop Oil Assn. the following year.

Passing through several other owners, most recently the Hagedorn family has owned the building since 1961. The family has maintained a glass and radiator shop

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Page	18
----------------	------	----

25

BUILDING NAME:

Historic: 100F Lodge

Present: The Littlest Flea Antiques

ADDRESS: 100 S. First St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Silver Lodge No. 21, 100 S. First St. Silverton, OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR NO. 35B061W TAX LOT: 00231
ADDITION: South Silverton LOT: 2 & 13

YEAR BUILT: ca. 1915 ALTERATIONS: Minor

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial USE: Mixed

DESCRIPTION: Constructed for the Odd Fellows organization, this three story building is composed of concrete with a brick veneer on the first floor and solid brick on the upper two floors. The plan is rectangular and is attached to the back of the earlier Odd Fellows Building. The roof is flat having a parapet, which is stepped on the west elevation. A recessed panel is centered in the parapet adorned with the Odd Fellows linked chain symbol.

The main elevation (east) is composed in three bays, the upper floors articulated from the first floor by a large panel detail framing the upper floor windows. These upper story windows are wood sash, double-hung with eight-over-one lights. A fire escape ascends from an upper floor fenestration down the side of the neighboring Odd Fellows Lodge.

Constructed circa 1916 by the Odd Fellows this building provided extra space needed by the fraternal organization. Drawings find that the upper two floors were occupied by the Odd Fellows: a reception room found on the second floor and a banquet room on the third (Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1922).

26

BUILDING NAME:

Historic: Odd Fellows Lodge

Present: Under the Rainbow

ADDRESS: 218 Main St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Silver Lodge #21, 100F, 106 S. First, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Primary Significant

ASSESSOR NO.: 35CB061W TAX LOT: 00035
ADDITION: South Silverton LOT: Fr. Lots 2 & 13
YEAR BUILT: 1868/1901 ALTERATIONS: Minor

STYLE: 19th Century Commercial USE: Mixed

DESCRIPTION: The Odd Fellows Lodge is two story brick building with a rectangular plan. The roof is framed in wood and sheathed with composition. A parapet is found on both Main and First Streets. The Main Street elevation is three bays wide with panels found in the cornice. These panels are separated by engaged pilasters appearing only at the cornice. The Odd Fellows linked chain motif adorns the center panel. A running frieze continues unbroken on the east elevation and is segmented by the pilasters of the north elevation.

6

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	19

The main elevation (north) is painted brick, the upper floor detailing remains unchanged. The upper floor fenestrations are vertically scaled, one-over-one double-hung wood sash with brick sills. Alterations to the ground floor include replacement of the store front windows with fixed aluminum panes and metal double doors and most ground floor openings of the east elevation are infilled with brick.

A fire in 1900 destroyed an extensive portion of the original brick building leaving only the exterior walls. This earlier building was notably the first brick building constructed in Silverton. John Davenport and J. M. Brown apparently contracted the services of George DeSart from the firm Potter and Sales to construct the building in 1868. The commercial enterprise of Davenport, Wolfard & Company operated in the building until 1873, (the firm consisted of J.C. Davenport, Earhard Wolfard, and J.C. Brown), then selling to Coolidge & McClaine (History of Silverton Country, p.229), while the Odd Fellows owned the second floor.

Old photographs indicate that two buildings, at least two differing facades were found at this location. The Oregon Statesman reported that damage to Coolidge – McClaine Building was \$8,000 and IOOF and Paraphenalia was estimated at \$2,000 further distinguishing these two buildings.

Work began upon the new building almost immediately. The Silverton Appeal reported, "Work on the inside of the Coolidge and McClaine building is being pushed as fast as our best mechanics can work and Mr. Bentson, Silverton's new merchant will soon have the shelves loaded with goods." (1901). B.R. Brentson reportedly helped lay the brick and P.W. Potter supplied the front doors and windows. Coolidge and McClaine deeded the second floor to the Odd Fellows in 1905. The ground level space housed numerous enterprises initially including Mr. Bentson's operation which he later moved to the neighboring building. Later businesses included a general store, furniture store (Director Department Store #3, circa 1925) and more recently Weiby's, a shoe and men's clothing store (1970–1982).

An attachment was added circa 1915 by the Odd Fellows to the south (refer to No. 25).

27 BUILDING NAME: Historic: Knights of Pythias

Present: Klothes Konnection

ADDRESS: 216 E. Main St., Silverton, OR 97831

OWNER: Jean Wahlster, 216 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97831

CLASSIFICATION: Primary Significant

ASSESSOR NO. 35CB061W TAX LOT: 00031
ADDITION: South Silverton LOT: Fr. Lot 2
YEAR BUILT: ca. 1870 ALTERATIONS: Minor

STYLE: 19th Century Commercial

6

MAY 6 1987

## **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	20

DESCRIPTION: The Klothes Konnection, formerly housing The Knights of Pythias, is a two story brick building covered by stucco. The building is rectangular in plan, measuring 75' x 25'. The built up roof is flat with a wood frame. A modest panel relief spans the parapet with a lower panel surrounding the three second floor windows. These second floor fenestrations maintain their original wood sash four-over-four double-hung windows except for the center opening which has been infilled.

The store front of the building was originally composed in wood, it now consists of a stucco material with aluminum windows. The main elevation (north) is symmetrically composed in three bays. The first floor has been altered.

Local lore maintains that this building was constructed a year after the original Odd Fellows Lodge was built in 1868. One of the earliest owners of this building was Trenton R. Hibbard, a farmer from the neighboring countryside, who came to Silverton in 1874 to establish a general mercantile store (Portrait and Biographical Record, p. 425). Mr. Hibbard, as well as a mercantilist, was the first mayor of Silverton. Whether he operated his business from this building is uncertain, although by 1878 a book store was known to exist in the building as recorded in a deed from Hibbard to Alvah Brown.

The building was again conveyed by Hibbard in 1883 to Louis Ames. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps indicate that the first floor housed a furniture and undertaking business and by 1892 only a furniture enterprise. Ames may have had a hand in this enterprise acknowledging his chair factory located on South Water Street.

C.F. DeGuire, a jeweler, acquired the property in 1891 and his ownership of the property fairly closely coincides with the years that he maintained a jewelry store (C.F. DeGuire & Son) in Silverton. The year that De Guire acquired the building, the second floor was deeded to Home Lodge No. 35, Knights of Pythias for \$1,000. A part of this agreement included "the perpetual use of a flight of stairs within a case, on the eastern side of the building and reaching from the front line or side walk to the top of the landing twenty four and two" (Deed record, Vol.47, Page 56). A grocery store was later housed in the building in the early 1900's (Sanborn Fire Insurance Map 1903, 1922).

28 BUILDING NAME: Historic: Toney's Eats

Present: Chan's Restaurant

ADDRESS: 212 E. Main St. Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Raymond & Ida Chan, 212 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Historic Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR NO. 35CB061W TAX LOT: 00026 ADDITION: South Silverton LOT: Fr. lot 2

YEAR BUILT: Historic Non-Contributing ALTERATIONS: Extensive

STYLE: Commercial

#### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section nur	nber _		Page	21
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DESCRIPTION: Chan's Restaurant is a one story building, rectangular in plan, with a flat, wood framed roof. The main facade (north) is symmetrically composed with three bays. Access is from the central entry through double doors with side lights. Fixed, aluminum windows replace the earlier adjacent fenestrations. Elements retained from the earlier design are found in the stucco covered engaged pilasters scored to resemble quoining. A long wide panel relief is found below the connice. More recently, an awning resembling a pagoda roof with shingles and exposed rafters has covered up the upper portions of the windows and the once apparent transom lights.

A fire in 1938 destroyed a significant portion of the earlier brick building and the present edifice replaced it. Historically this building has housed restaurants, first "Toney's Eats" was operated by the Toney family dating almost to time of the reconstruction, if not earlier. Raymond and Ida Chan acquired title to the property in 1960 and have operated a chinese restaurant.

29

Historic: Johnson Block BUILDING NAME:

Present: Coast to Coast/Fashion Casuals

ADDRESS: 208-210 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Gene R. & Lisa Oster et al., PO Box 66, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Compatible Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35CB061W

ADDITION: South Silverton

YEAR BUILT: 1955

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial

TAX LOT: 00016

LOT: 1, 2, 13 & 14

ALTERATIONS: Minor

**USE:** Commercial

DESCRIPTION: This one story commercial block is constructed of poured concrete and is rectangular in plan. It is composed in two storefronts, each varying in size and detailing. The east space is the larger of the two, having a fairly wide recessed entry with aluminum double doors and aluminum framed expansive panes of glass. The diminutive west commercial space, has a more narrow, yet deeper recessed entry with the aluminum double doors and scaled down windows with the transom section infilled. Pilesters divide the commercial block into two bays, their own definition made by scoring. A scored grid provides the detailing of both of the upper sections.

A fire in the early 1950's destroyed most of the earlier Lewis Johnson Block.

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_\_22

30

BUILDING NAME:

Historic:

Present: Coast to Coast

ADDRESS: 203 Lewis St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Gene Oster et al, PO Box 66, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Compatible Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35BC061W ADDITION: South Silverton YEAR BUILT: 1950's STYLE: Commercial TAX LOT: 00016 LOT: 1,2,3,14 ALTERATIONS: Minor USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: This two story building has historically connected with the business located on Main Sreet, as it is today.

31

**BUILDING NAME:** 

Historic: Lewis Johnson & Co.

Present: The Goldworks

ADDRESS: 206 E. Main St., Silverton OR 97138

OWNER: John & Jean Osborn, PO Box 822, Silverton OR 97

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35CB061W
ADDITION: South Silverton
YEAR BUILT: c. 1908
STYLE: Queen Anne Commercial

TAX LOT: 00012 LOT NO: Fr. lot 1 & 14 ALTERATIONS: Minor USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The Goldworks is a one story building constructed of brick. Rectangular in plan, it has a full basement and an unfinished attic. Its roof is flat, framed in wood with composition. The main facade (north) is composed in one bay, defined by engaged rusticated quoins. The fairly deep cornice is supported by scrolled brackets, grouped in threes at each end with alternating grouped smaller brackets and singular larger ones. A series of panels in relief form a freize spaced between the larger brackets.

A portion of the storefront fenestrations appear to be nearly original. The east space retains its wood sash frame with the panes in a smaller scale, more in keeping with the earlier appearance. A larger scale aluminum framing is used on the south space. Each retains a paneled kick plate at their base. The transom light remain in excellent condition with the small multi-lights surrounding the larger panes of glass. It is composed into two larger sections with a smaller central section.

The Goldworks Jewelers was formerly a drug store upon its appearence in Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps in 1915. Either constructed or moved to this site circa 1910, this building stands on the former site of a wood framed building that housed a drug store on the first floor and the Masonic Lodge on the second floor.

MAY

#### United States Department of the Interior **National Park Service**

#### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section	number	7	Page	23
			3-	

Dr. A.E. Wrightman purchased this lot in 1905 near the approximated time that the wood framed building was moved to the south facing lot on Lewis Street. It is conjectured that the present edifice was constructed shortly thereafter. Dr. Wrightman and Lewis Johnson were the proprietors of a pharmacy in this new building known as Lewis Johnson & Company. Early photographs indicate that further embellishment was found above the cornice, including finials at each end and ornate central pediment inscribed with Lewis Johnson & Co. within the panel. After several years the partnership was dissolved, Wrightman selling the operation to Johnson (1907). Mr. Johnson continued to operate a pharmacy in this building for almost twenty more years finally conveying title to D.E. Thompson in 1926.

32

**BUILDING NAME:** 

Historic: The Woolen Mills

Present: John's Menswear

ADDRESS: 204 Main St., Silverton Or 97381

OWNER: John M. Middlemiss, 218 S. Center St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35BC061W ADDITION: South Silverton

TAX LOT: 00009 LOT: Fr. lot 1 YEAR BUILT: ca. 1907 ALTERATIONS: Moderate

STYLE: Commercial **USE:** Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The former Woolen Mills is a two story brick building constructed in conjunction with the neighboring former Liberal Union. A small one story attachment of the neighboring building was adjoined next to and above it by this addition in approximately 1906 or 1907 according to Sanborn Fire Insurance records. Its scale is in some ways similar to the old Liberal Union, although somewhat less detailed. Composed in two asymmetrical bays at the base it is bisected by stairs accessing the the second floor of both buildings. The second story features three wood sash two-over-two double hung windows which are widely spaced across the upper facade. A sawtooth brick pattern continues the pattern used at the cornice of the Liberal Union and once was used along the small one story attachment.

The store front has been extensively remodelled, the exterior faced with a rough cut board and batten, the transom windows infilled. Remnants of a cast iron pilaster can be detected on the upper section of the store front. Most of these alterations occurred in 1960, especially to the interior space which had an embossed wall paper and early mercantile shelving that was in part eliminated.

The earlier wood framed building housed a grocery store in brief periods having books and stationery, as well as housing the post office. Hibbard and Riches Groceries was the most prominant business of this earlier building in the 19th century. Mr. Riches continued as post master until about 1907, near the time Mr. Hibbard sold the property to Austin E. Smith. Smiths appears to have leased the building to variety of businesses. The ground floor of this

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	24
Section	HUHBEL		I aye	

space was one of the early homes of the Gem Theater which ran lantern shows in the building as early as 1907. Later he reportedly made "extensive improvements on his Main Street brick building, occupied by the Woolen Mills store. The back end of the lower story has been taken down and moved ten feet further back, this giving ten feet more room for that establishment." (Silverton Appeal, August 1913). A pool hall was established by John Ludowitzke, Jr. and Will Graham on the second floor in that same year.

33

**BUILDING NAME:** 

Historic: Liberal Hall/Wolfard & Co.

Present: Main Street Stationers

ADDRESS: 200 Main St., Silverton 97381

OWNER: Joseph J. Davis et al, PO Box 35, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Primary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35CB061W

ADDITION: South Silverton

YEAR BUILT: ca. 1885

STYLE: 19th Century Commercial

TAX LOT: 00001

LOT NO: Fr. Lots 1 & 14

ALTERATIONS: Minor

**USE:** Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The former Liberal Hall is a two story brick building. It is rectangular in plan with a foundation constructed of stone and concrete. Its roof is flat, framed in wood covered by composition. Sited at the southeast corner of Water and Main Streets, its facade is oriented north. The main elevation is composed in three bays, the ground floor entry accessed from the most western bay through recessed double doors. A new cloth awing covers most of the lower portion of the storefront. Fenestrations on the second floor consist of three, three-over-three double hung wood sash windows which feature a brick segmental arch, surround, and sill. A brick detail surrounds these three windows.

Previous to the construction of this brick building, a wood framed mercantile operation originally moved from Milford by Coolidge, existed at this site. Erhart Wolfard and his son, John Wolfard, operated a general merchandise shop. In 1880, the wood framed building was moved and the brick building was built sometime after this, appearing in 1887 photographs. John Wolfard continued to operate a significant and prosperous enterprise from this location for a number of years.

Besides maintaining a commercial operation on the first floor, a progressive and radical group of citizens maintained the upper floor as a meeting place for free thinkers. Spurred by Samuel P. Putnam, whom came to speak in June 1887, ten men incorporated the Silverton Liberal Union joining together to purchase and manage Liberal Hall. This organization composed of "Henry Allen, T.D. Allen, W. Foshay, J.T. Cox, Wm. M. Cline, L. Schmidler, E. Wolford, H.D. Mount, Louis Ames, and T. W. Davenport" (Oregon Historical Quarterly, Summer 1986, p. 167.) formed the nucleus of Silverton's liberal thinkers.

MAY

5

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	25

The dissipating momentum of these earlier organizers was supplanted by a newer energetic group in 1895. Nellie Olds of McMinnville and Pearl Geer of Silverton were joined by John and Minnie Hosmer of Tillamook, all members of the Oregon State Secular union and dedicated themselves to organizing the Liberal University of Oregon. Silverton seculars offered the use of Liberal Hall to house the university and in 1897, the institution opened with twenty students in Silverton's Liberal Hall. Coursework for the university was divided into seven departments: kindergarten, preparatory, commercial, academic, normal, law, and collegiate. By the end of the spring the student body had outgrown the building and classes were moved across the street to a neighboring building.

The group found immediate dissension and difficulty due to diverse philosophies among the secular thinkers. Although they wished to "prove to the world that people can be educated, cultured, and progressive without dogmas"... and to ..... "hasten the elimination of Christian dogmatism from the established educational institutions" personal and philosphical infighting compromised these high ideals. The addition of eastern free thinker, Thaddeus Wakeman, to the staff induced further dissension between the key members. One of the major issues in contention being the advocacy of free love. The Hosmers, probably the most significant force of the group wished for "the betterment of mankind... [advocating] purity, freedom of thought, progress, honesty, and abstention from tobacco and liquor" and found the others views out of line. The Hosmers finally withdrew from the membership in 1901 and by 1903 the university attempted to move to Kansas City, never really successfully reorganizing.

34 E

BUILDING NAME:

Historic: J. Wolfard & Co. Annex

Present: Feeling Good

ADDRESS: 103-105 Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Joseph J. Davis et al, PO Box 35, Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Historic Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35CB061W

ADDITION: South Silverton

YEAR BUILT: 1913

TAX LOT: 00001

LOT NO: Fr. lots 1 & 14

ALTERATIONS: Extensive

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The Annex of the H. Wolfard store is a one story brick building measuring 45  $\times$  67 with eighteen feet ceilings and a full basement. The main facade (west) is divided into to two bays with two adjacent businesses at present. Original detailing is evident near the cornice in the sawtooth brick motif that was borrowed from the much earlier Wolfard building and the later eastern attachment. Surface alterations to the store front have been extensive including clapboard siding, wood framed windows with multi-lights, recessed wood framed doors, and a metal awning.

Wolfard's Annex was boasted in 1913 to be a "new and handsome grocery store.....This addition to the dry goods department is up—to—date in every respect, and is of sufficient length and width to allow this well known and long established firm to handle constantly increasing business..." (Silverton Journal, October 3, 1913).

#### MAY 6 93

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_\_26

35 BUILDING NAME:

Historic: Fischer Flour Mill Office

Present: Police Station

ADDRESS: 400 S. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: City of Silverton, 306 S. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Signficant

ASSESSOR MAP NO .:

TAX LOT: 47004

ADDITION: n/a

LOT: n/a

YEAR BUILT: 1918

ALTERATIONS: Minor

STYLE:

**USE: Police Station** 

DESCRIPTION: This rectangular concrete block building has 1090 square feet on the first floor and rests upon a concrete foundation with a full basement. It has a flat, wood frame roof. Windows on the east and west sides of the building are wood, one-over-one double-hung. The north side of the building is fenestrated by a door and a triple pane fixed window. A brick chimney is also found on the west side. A decorative dental moulding is found below the cornice.

In 1900 the Fischer Flour Mill bought Oregon Milling Company holdings on South Water Street. They expanded the operation and in 1918 built this concrete block building for their office, replacing the wood frame building previously used. The Fischer Mill clerk tended the grounds around the office, which were well-known for their colorful array of annuals and perennials. In 1931, after the collapse of the mill, a group of six to seven businessmen pooled funds and bought the mill property, deeding it the City of Silverton for \$1.00. The buildings were rented to a cannery for a time. In 1952, the City of Silverton placed the Police Station in the old office and has maintained it since that year.

36 BUILDING NAME:

Historic: Silverton City Hall

Present: Silverton City Hall

ADDRESS: 306 S. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: City of Silverton, 306 S. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Signficant

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35BC061W TAX LOT: 47004
ADDITION: French's Acre LOT: n/a

YEAR BUILT: 1925 ALTERATIONS: Minor

STYLE: Half Modern style USE: City Hall

DESCRIPTION: Silverton City Hall has an irregular plan. The exterior walls are reinforced concrete, with wood frame interior walls, floor, and roof structure. The original building is classical in proportions with wings to the north and south. Its center mass is pierced by a recessed central entry with classic columns. The entry is accented by panelled, boxed corner trim and has a transom with multiple lights found above the door. Windows are wood, double-hung, with plain slip sills. A curved pediment with urns is centered above the entry on the cornice and

MAY 6

## **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Coation	numbor	7	Page	27
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reads "City Hall". Garage doors punctuate both the north wing and south addition. The original two story building measured 55 feet by 44.5 feet, a two story addition (20 ft. by 50 ft.) was added on the south side of the building. It has been constructed with similar detailing. A wood carport appears on the north side of the building

Original plans for City Hall were drawn by C. H. Rullman, City Engineer, in 1925. Local contractors Thornley-Jones-Jennings-Bailey were awarded the contract. The site was formerly the location of the City Water Works and in 1892 that of the City Electric Light Works.

37 BUILDING NAME:

Historic: Hubbs Door and Sash/F.W. Pettyjohn & Co.

Present: Earl Hartman Chevrolet

ADDRESS: 210 S. Water St., Silverton, OR 97381

OWNER: Earl C. Hartman, Jr., 319 Monitor Rd., Silverton, OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35BC061W

TAX LOT: 47047

ADDITION: French's Acre

LOT: n/a

YEAR BUILT: 1921-22

ALTERATIONS: Minor

STYLE: 20th Century Commerical

**USE:** Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The former door and sash factory is irregular in plan, due to the configuration of the adjacent creek. It is a one-story brick building with a day light basement oriented towards Silver Creek. It has a flat, wood frame composition roof. The main elevation (east) is composed in nine bays (130 feet of street frontage), two of these are garage doors. Windows are wood, single frame fixed with rectangular transoms. Bay eight is the main entrance, with four tall, narrow doors. A stucco head mould is found over the bays, as well as a double row of decorative brick banding at the cornice. An old sign advertising "Super Chevrolet Service" still exists. The north and south side walls have stucco over the brick at the parapet.

Historically, industrial buildings have been sited at this location drawing power from Silver Creek at a dam site slightly north of the mill. A small wood frame building was built on this location as early as 1856 as a carding mill. Numerous additions were made to the building and in 1885 it became a planing mill, a use it retained until the late 1920's.

From about 1890 to 1905 the property was occupied by Ames Brothers Chair Factory. In 1906 the Ames Brothers still owned the property, but were now using it for a sash and door factory. In 1912 Willis M. Hubbs and W.C. Andrews formed a partnership and leased the mill from Louis Ames. After three years, Hubbs took over Andrew's interest in the partnership. He continued leasing from Ames until 1920 when he purchased the property.

By 1922 Hubbs had built the 6200 square foot building which stands today. The lower level housed the mill intending the to lease the street level space. In 1925 the street was leased to the F.W. Pettyjohn Company, which sold "Chevrolet, Oldsmobile, and Rickenbacker" cars. The building has continued to sell or service Chevrolets for the past sixty one years.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	28

38

**BUILDING NAME:** 

Historic:

Present: Shell Service Station

ADDRESS: 206 S. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Earl C. Hartman, Jr., 319 Monitor Rd., Silverton, OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Compatible Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35B061W

TAX LOT: 47051

ADDITION: French's Acre

LOT: n/a

YEAR BUILT: 1946

ALTERATIONS: None

STYLE: Commercial

USE: Gas & Service Station

DESCRIPTION: The building is composed of two spaces, the lube room, 21'x24', which abuts the south neighboring building and the station office, 12'x12', to the north of the lube room. A rectangular canopy extends east 18 feet from the station office. The buildings sit on reinforced concrete foundations. Exterior walls and interior partitions are metal frame. The roof is flat and is constructed of steel.

Previous to this existing building a showroom for Hubb's Planing Mill was housed at the site until it was moved (in 1922) to the lower floor of what is now Earl Hartman's Chevrolet.

39 ADDRESS: n/a

OWNER: Loren P. Rolie, 120 5th St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Vacant

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35B061W TAX LOT: 47062

ADDITION: French's Acre LOT: n/a

YEAR BUILT: n/a ALTERATIONS: n/a

STYLE: n/a USE: Vacant

DESCRIPTION: Dr. Blackerby, pioneer Silverton dentist, built a two story building on this site about 1900. He used the upstairs for his office and rented the rest of the building. The building over the years housed a succession of dentists, plumbers, real estate brokers, and lawyers until is was scrapped for lumber in 1960.

#### MAY 6 P

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_\_\_29

40 BUILDING NAME: Historic: Hosmer Building

Present: Key Title and Escrow

ADDRESS: 104-108 S. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Roger Gracey, 317 Adams St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Historic Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35CB061W TAX LOT: 47065

ADDITION: French's Acre LOT: n/a

YEAR BUILT: 1901 ALTERATIONS: Extensive

STYLE: Commercial USE: Multi-use

DESCRIPTION: The former Hosmer Building is rectangular in plan, built on a concrete foundation. The walls and shed roof are wood frame. The main facade (east) has been drastically altered by an exterior surfacing of stucco and a decorative wood fascia at the parapet. Windows are wood sash, one-over-one double hung. Horizontal wood siding has been added at the store front and wooden shutters to the second story windows. Windows on the south side have been replaced with aluminum windows. Alterations occurred prior to 1965.

This building is significant because of its association with J. Earl Hosmer, who was one of the founders of the Liberal University in Silverton and one-time editor of the Silverton Appeal. In 1901, when Hosmer was at odds with fellow leaders of the Liberal University, he sold his interest in the University to Pearl Geer for \$1,200, presumably so Hosmer could leave Silverton and go to California. Hosmer actually had no intention of leaving Silverton, but instead bought the Silverton Appeal, constructed this building, and began publishing negative editorials about his old friends. In 1902 Hosmer had his last laugh when Liberal University moved to Kansas, as he chortled that the university was moving, "to the land of cyclones and blizzards" (Silverton Appeal, Nov. 15, 1902)

Covering many progressive and sometimes controversial issues, Mr. Hosmer increased the Appeal's subscription rate by 100%. Probably his most controversial campaign was against "the Western Menace" (1913), Catholicism in the nation as well as the neighboring community of Mt. Angel. His less controversial messages lighted upon hygiene, diet, education, agriculture, and home building, many of which were ideals he also promoted at the Liberal University.

Hosmer printed the paper using water power from the creek to power an electric motor. A later date finds part of the Silverton Appeal in the neighboring People's Bank Building. Hosmer later went into Real Estate maintaining an office in his building.

In later years (1923) the main floor of the building housed "Reo Lunch", with 6.F. Brizer as proprietor, in the 1950's part of the main floor housed a cafe and a cleaners in the other.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	 Page	30

41 BUILDING NAME: Historic: Ames Building/People's Bank

Present: Larson-Flynn Insurance Building

ADDRESS: 100 S. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Gene Oster et al., 100 S. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP NO.: 35CB061W TAX LOT:47071
ADDITION: French's Acre LOT: n/a

YEAR BUILT: 1905 ALTERATIONS: Interior: 1914

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial USE: Office Space

DESCRIPTION: The former Peoples Bank has a five-sided plan, with the entry oriented towards the corner, cut at a 45 degree angle. The brick building sits on a concrete foundation above a full basement, and is covered by a flat, wood frame, composition roof. A decorative brick corbelling motif is found below the cornice. A corbelling detail also frames the windows of the second floor. In 1905 this building was constructed for the People's Bank, the second of two banks in Silverton. Among those local people responsible for organizing this new bank included: Ed Porter, C.F. DeGuire and John Hicks. Dedrick and Hughes from Salem built the bank, using horses and pulleys to lift the loads of bricks for placement. E.M. Olivotti of Mount Angel remodelled the interior extensively in 1914.

In 1917 the People's Bank was chartered under the name "First National Bank" and continued operation until 1930, when it went broke, at which time the Coolidge and McClaine Bank took over its operation.

Other business operated in the building included: the Silverton Apeal which was printed in the basement between 1932 and 1951, doctors and lawyers offices on the second floor, and in the 1950's, George W. Hubbs Insurance occupied the main floor. Insurance and real estate offices have been the primary types of businesses since that date.

42 BUILDING NAME:

Historic:

Present: Silver Falls Realty

ADDRESS: 101 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Clifford & Shirley Harris et al, 101 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35CB061W TAX LOT: 47077

ADDITION: French's Acre LOT: n/a

YEAR BUILT: c. 1904 ALTERATIONS: Minor STYLE: 19th Century Commercial USE: Commercial

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	31
Section	number		raye	<u>_</u>

DESCRIPTION: This building is rectangular in plan (nearly square) with a rock and concrete foundation and a full basement. The main facade (east) is brick, the sides and rear are stucco. The roof is flat, wood frame, built up. Upstairs windows are wood, double hung with voussoirs and continuous sills. Transom windows have translucent glass with decorative pattern. Storefronts and bulkheads have been altered.

Initially this building was a general merchandise store. In 1920 Elmer C. and Letitia A. Olsen bought the building and operated Olsen's Drugs at this site until 1961. It later housed Weisner's Radio and TV Repair until the current owner purchased it and established the present use in 1981.

Previous to the construction of the present brick building a number of the key figures in Silverton's history owned this parcel. This property has been owned by Ai Coolidge in 1883 and later Edna J. and James Brown all of whom were local donation land claimants and instrumental in the development of Silverton.

43

**BUILDING NAME:** 

Historic: Towne House Cafe

Present: Nickelodean Cafe

ADDRESS: 105 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Chuck's Sport Shop DBA, 227 Church St., Silverton, OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Non-Compatible Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W

TAX LOT: 47079

ADDITION: French's Acre

LOT:n/a

YEAR BUILT: 1961

ALTERATIONS:

STYLE: Modern Commercial

USE: Commercial

 $\hbox{\tt DESCRIPTION:} \ \ \hbox{\tt The Towne House Cafe was located in this building before moving to its Main}$ 

Street location.

44

BUILDING NAME:

Historic: J.C. Penney Building

Present: Fish's Bakery

ADDRESS: 107-111 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Richard & Celia Fish, 107 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W

TAX LOT: 47080

ADDITION: French's Acre YEAR BUILT: 1922

LOT: n/a ALTERATIONS:

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial

USE: Commercial

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	32
Journal	114111001		· uuu	

DESCRIPTION: This building has an irregular four-sided plan on a concrete foundation with a full basement constructed of concrete and rock. The main facade (east) is brick, while the other elevations are covered by stucco. It is divided into three bays, the narrow center one providing access to the upper floors. The facade is decorated by both primary and secondary cornices. The primary window types include wood sash, eight-over-one double hung with a brick sill and concrete lintel. The south store front is original, aluminum frames have replaced the original windows of the north space. Transom windows in both spaces are the original small leaded square panes.

Two dry goods stores occupied upon the completion of this brick building in 1922. The following year J.C. Penney came to Silverton and located in this building maintaining its space through leases. The national chain occupied the space until circa 1945, when it moved to its Oak Street location (Cascade Gymnastics). E.W. Garver then opened an automotive store which operated until 1955, when the building was purchased by Mr. Fish. Fish moved his bakery business from a building across Water Street and has since occupied the north half of this building.

<del>4</del>5

**BUILDING NAME:** 

Historic: Julius Alm Building

Present: Western Auto

ADDRESS: 119 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Ernest & Eleanor Hento, 416 Anderson Dr., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W

TAX LOT: 46680

ADDITION: French's Acre

LOT:

YEAR BUILT: 1908

ALTERATIONS:

STYLE: 20th Century Commercial

USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The Julius Alm Building is two stories with an irregular plan. Constructed of brick, the facade is composed in three symmetrical bays with a stepped parapet reflecting the lower composition. Its entry is centered and recessed with double doors. The adjacent store front bays exhibit the early wood frame and the kick plate with panelled detailing. Upper transom lights remain in nearly original condition, merely coated with paint leaving remnants of some early grocery signs. The interior space is completely open with the north wall pierced by an opening which has accommodated the expansion of Mr. Hento's operation.

Julius Alm advertised his establishment in an 1913 edition of the Silverton Appeal as "The Progressive Grocer and Gents Furnisher". Mr. Alm, a norwegian immigrant, came to Silverton in 1895 and initially employed by the Silverton merchant, John Wolfard. He soon opened his own operation in the Opera House finally building this brick building in 1908. Mr. Alm was a leading member of the Silverton community and later became the President of the First National Bank in Silverton.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_7 Page \_\_33

46

BUILDING NAME:

Historic: Hicks & Ames

Present: Western Auto

ADDRESS: 119 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Ernest & Eleanor Hento, 416 Anderson Dr., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Primary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP:35BC061W

TAX LOT: 46680

LOT:

ADDITION: French's Acre YEAR BUILT: 1885-1890

ALTERATIONS:

STYLE: 19th Century Commercial

USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: The former Hicks & Ames hardware store is a two story brick building with a rectangular plan. Constructed in two phases the facade is somewhat irregular, a variation in the color of the brick making these two sections very apparent. The south half was constructed in the late 1880's composed in three bays, while the north section has three asymmetrical bays. The scale of the upper floor windows remains consistent, both having vertically scaled one-over-one, double-hung sash with a flat arched head mould. A considerable amount of the early detailing remains in tact including the early store front windows with only several covered by plywood. Old photographs illustrate that a bracketed cornice existed on the south section, most likely removed upon the addition of the north half.

It is believed that the earliest section of this building was constructed in 1885 with the north section following circa 1905. John Hicks and Mr. Ames shared the proprietorship of a general merchandise store as early as 1895, as noted from a newspaper article recording a burglary of knives from their store. The article recorded the layout of the store as well as reporting that the stolen goods were discovered when the their mistakenly began vending his wares too near to Silverton. Weathering the abuse of vandals, the building remained in the hands of the Hicks family until about 1940, when it went into probate through the estate of Effie M. Hicks. The Ames brothers moved their hardware operation much earlier in 1913, upon the purchase of the Adolf Wolf business. More recently, the hardware store has been under the ownership of Ernest and Eleanor Hento, as a Western Auto Store. Alterations under Hento's ownership have included removing part of the wall separating this building from the neighboring Julius Alm Building (1969) expanding his operation into both buildings.

#### MAY

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	34
			. 494	

47

**BUILDING NAME:** 

Historic: Russell Bldg./Widness Bldg./Worden Bldg.

Present: My Place

ADDRESS: 203 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Lawrence & Marie Lanners, 1118 Florida Dr., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Primary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W TAX LOT: 46684 ADDITION: French's Acre LOT: 46684

YEAR BUILT: pre-1890 ALTERATIONS: Minor STYLE: Rural Vernacular USE: Commercial

DESCRIPTION: This two story wood frame building sits on a concrete foundation over a small dirt basement. The exterior is covered with horizontal shiplap siding. The composition roof is gabled with low pitched extending wings. The cornice is decorated with gable peak ornamentation, featuring a scalloped lower edge. Store front windows are wood frame fixed pane. Shutters cover two upper floor windows. Some alterations have been made to the store front, brick has been added to the base, and the transom windows have been covered by paint.

One of the first owners of this building was John Hick, a Silverton councilman, who was involved in the Hicks and Ames Hardware business. Indeed, the building housed two hardware stores (and general store), while Hicks owned it in 1890. In 1892, Lewis Cass Russell bought the building, He was a carpenter, who had travelled from his Michigan birthplace to Oregon via the Isthmus of Panama. He built several buildings in Salem. The "Russell Building" under his ownership housed a funiture store and upholstery shop. Mrs. L.C. Russell, a milliner, had her shop in the building from 1903 to 1906 and possibly later. In the 1920's the building was a pool and billiard hall under various proprietors. In 1925 it also housed the Rainbow Restaurant. That establishment hired M.S. Hendricksom to build a counter down the center of the space, providing a double row of seats for patrons. There is presently an elaborate mahogany back bar in My Place Tavern, which has been there since before 1942.

48

**BUILDING NAME:** 

Historic: Gem Theater

Present: Next to New

ADDRESS: 205 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: Lawrence & Marie Lanners, 1118 Florida Dr., Silverton OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Historic Non-Contributing

ASSESSOR MAP: 35BC061W TAX LOT: 46686

ADDITION: French's Acre LOT: n/a

YEAR BUILT: c. 1914 ALTERATIONS: Extensive

STYLE: Commercial USE: Commercial

#### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section	number	7	Page	35

DESCRIPTION: When this building was the 0em Theater, it had an arch center entry. This was replaced with two recessed store fronts composed of 2 x 3 rectangular windows sometime before 1975. This poured concrete building is wood frame in the rear. It sits on two concrete foundations over a dirt basement. It is one story with a flat, wood frame roof. An inset rectangular panel decorates the upper facade. A footing projects at the bottom of the side pilaster at a height of approximately one and one-half feet. The entire store front is recessed and angles back from the original facade.

This property was owned in the 1860's and 70's by Stephen Price, the husband of Polly Coon, who was responsible for having Silverton platted. The building was built in 1914 as the Gem movie theater, with two small shops fronting on the street. In the latter part of 1922, it was no longer being used as a theater, the Gem having moved into the Porter and Adams Opera House building with an entrance on Oak Street. In 1954 this building house Tucker and Morley Market.

49 **BUILDING NAME:**  Historic: Syring and Banks Grocery

TAX LOT: 46687

Present: Silverton Lockers

ADDRESS: 209 N. Water St., Silverton OR 97381

OWNER: G.L. and P.M. Geddes, 318 Monitor Rd., Silverton, OR 97381

CLASSIFICATION: Secondary Significant

ASSESSOR MAP: 34AD061W

ADDITION: French's Acre LOT: n/a

YEAR BUILT: 1916-22 **ALTERATIONS: Minor** STYLE: Commercial **USE:** Commercial

DESCRIPTION: This building is rectangular in plan, with brick wall and a flat, wood frame built up roof. It sits on a concrete foundation over an unfinished basement. The facade features a decorative cornice two and one-half feet below the roof line, under lined by widely spaced dentals, and supported by a pair of brackets at each end. Dentals also decorate the top of each pilaster. An irregularly shaped inset sits directly below the roof line at each end of the building face. Store front windows are single pane, wood framed with brick bulkheads below them. A metal canopy spans the front of the building.

The first commercial building on this site was a plumbing establishment in 1915. In 1922 the present building had been built. It was used originally as the Gem Garage, associated with the Gem Theater next door. It was divided later that year between a furniture store and a grocery. Syring and Banks grocery moved into the building in 1923 and in 1954 Budget Market was housed within the space.

#### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agricultureX architecture artX commerce communications		landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy politics/government	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1870-1936	Builder/Architect Ch	iefly anonymous	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Silverton Commercial Historic District is an area of approximately seven acres in which the unifying theme represented by 27 contributing buildings is the parallel development of commerce and water power in the small Willamette Valley farming and milling community over a 66-year period between 1870 and 1936.

The district meets National Register Criterion A and C in the context of local history as the place where the largest, best preserved and most noteworthy historic commercial buildings are concentrated. The district encompasses the original trading and industrial center which grew up at the juncture of Silver Creek and the main east-west route of trade (the nucleus subsequently expanded to the east along Main Street and north and south along Water Street). The bounds of the district are defined by Silver Creek on the west and areas of land use which differ distinctly in character and period of development. While the "sense of enclosure" in downtown Silverton is real, the Cascade Range foothills which are a backdrop on the east are, of course, external to the district.

Historic buildings in the district range in date from 1870 to 1936, but the majority post-date a fire of 1900 and thus offer a consistency of scale, style and building materials. Buildings are one and two stories in height and are of brick or concrete construction typically. A notable exception is the Wray Furniture Building of 1902, an intact, two-story vernacular wood frame building once typical of small town commercial centers in the Willamette Valley and less commonly seen. The Wolf Building of 1981 is noteworthy for its intact prefabricated pressed sheet metal and cast iron front manufactured in St. Louis by the Mesker Brothers Company.

The inital settlement on Silver Creek for the utilization of water power is a case study of one of the guiding reasons for geographic locations of towns in western Oregon. This district includes three buildings that were built specifically to utilize the water power provided by Silver Creek (the Fischer Flour Mill office, #35, Hubbs' Sash and Door Factory, #37, and the Hosmer Building, #40). Exploitation of the existing timber resource was a natural next step for Silverton, which became the Willamette Valley's largest lumber producer in the 1920s. Loggers from the Silverton Lumber Company and the Silverton Timber Company would come into town to drink and play pool at the tavern and pool hall in the Widness Building (#47). Silverton was also associated with railroad development in Oregon. The first spike of the narrow gauge line between St. Paul and Coburg was driven in Silverton. Railroad tracks were a feature of Water Street historically.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

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state	N/A	code	county	code	
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street & n	number 26 NW S	econd Avenue	tel	lephone (503) 243-1923	
city or to	wn Portlan	d	sta	ate Oregon 97209	
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#### AY 5

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	8	Page	2

Silverton is associated with the lives of two persons significant in local history: Homer Davenport, renowned political cartoonist, and June Drake, historian and photographer. The district nomination is not predicated on Criterion B, however, as there are no buildings in the district importantly associated with these figures. The young Homer Davenport worked as a clerk in J. Wolfard's store (#33), and was in partnership with George Cusiter (sometime between 1890 and 1906) in a general merchandise operation in what is now the Silver Falls Realty building (#42). June Drake was responsible for the accompanying photographic records of the district and was the best-known recorder of the scenic attributes of the wilderness area which became Silver Falls State Park, the largest holding in the state park system. Drake's studio was located in the district but is no longer standing.

#### Relationship with Silver Creek

Milford was the earliest center of population and industrial enterprise in Silverton envrions. It was located two miles up Silver Creek from the community of Silverton. It is reporteed that in 1846, a lumber mill was estalished at Milford by James "Silver" Smith and John Barger. Beauford Smith was operating a sawmill on Silver Creek as early as 1852 (as he was the son of James Smith, it may have been the same mill), and a flour mill was erected shortly afterward. Later, other enterprises were begun, but the town was soon overshadowed by Silverton, which developed two miles downstream. The buildings from Milford were moved to Silverton in 1855.

It is likely that even the name "Silverton" was derived from Silver Creek. There are two differing accounts as to its origin. Some say founder "Silver" Smith (originator of the creekside sawmill) brought a basket full of silver dollars into the pioneer village, which created such a stir that the present (continued)

MAY 6

## **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	8	Page	3
•••••			3-	

name was selected. Others repeat the legend of a horseback traveler who forded the creek, but whose silver fell from saddlebags into the stream bed. In any case, the name "Silverton" first appeared in print in The Statesman on September 1, 1855, in a notice of taxpayers of Marion County.

The May 11, 1894 issue of the Marion County Recorder carried an editorial which extolled the growth potential of Silverton, based on its proximity to Silver Creek. The editor claimed that "few streams in Oregon present better facilities for obtaining cheap power than does Silver Creek at this point... This fact ought to be urged by persons interested in Silverton's welfare for the surrounding country is capable of sustaining a large population and manufactories are bound to come sooner or later. Fruit canneries, Woolen Mills, Creameries, Evaporators, Electric Plants..."

True to prediction, Silverton's first electric power plant, operated by Percy Louis Barron, was established adjacent to the creek (on the site of the present City Hall) in approximately 1897.

The Fischer Flouring Mill bought out the Oregon Milling Company in 1930, which had been located on the site of the present City Hall parking lot. The mills consisted of a cereal, flour, and feed mill, and were powered by electricity produced by a dam which Hubbs' Sash and Door Factory had constructed in the early 1900's. A portion of the old dam may still be seen in the creekbed slightly north of the City Hall site.

The physical layout of Silverton owes its shape and axis to the existence of Silver Creek. The only streets named on the original plat were Water and Main Streets, Water Street running along the creek, and Main Street intersecting at a ninety degree angle to Water. A covered bridge crossed the creek at Main Street. It was replaced with a steel bridge in 1910. According to the 1890 Sanborn map, the majority of early Silverton businesses located on Water Street, backing on the creek. (Three of the buildings that located there for utilization of the water power are still in existence, and are included in the district.) The most desirable building location was the corner of Water and Main streets, near the bridge. The next wave of buildings extended up Main Street, with the Wolf Building anchoring the northeast corner of Water and Main. In the early days, there was a giant oak tree near the intersection of Main and First Streets, but in the 1890's the tree was cut down, probably indicating that even at that early date Main Street traffic was heavy enough to make the presence of such a tree a hindrance to smooth traffic flow.

Today the creek still serves as a point of reference in the town. It is the dividing line between East and West Main Street. Main Street is the main street because it is the only street in the downtown core that crosses the creek. Main Street serves as the divider between the north and south portions of the north/south streets.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	8	Page	4
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#### Utilization of Timber Resource

As has been previously mentioned, the first lumber mill built in the Silverton area was built in Milford in 1846, by James Smith and John Barger. His son Beauford Smith had a sawmill on the creek in 1852 (possibly the same one).

New sawmills were built in 1884 and 1900. The first large-scale mill, the 150,000 board feet Silverton Lumber Company, was established in 1910. Logging operations carried out by this company utilized wood burning steam donkeys, to haul logs from the woods to the mill.

In 1912, shortly after the establishment of the Silverton Lumber Company, the Silverton Timber Company came into being. This enterprise was to become Silverton's most flourishing industry in the thirty-year period between 1916 and 1946. From 1912 to 1916, the company hauled logs to Silverton by rail on specially constructed flat cars, for trans-shipment by Southern Pacific to the Willamette River near Milwaukie, where they were dumped and boomed. From the Milwaukie area the logs were sold to nearby mill operators. When this practice proved less than profitable, the company built their 250,000 board feet sawmill in Silverton.

With both of these mills in operation in 1923, Silverton was the largest lumber producing city in the Willamette Valley. The Silverton Lumber Company continued until 1926. The Silverton Timber Company closed in 1946, after it had logged off most of its holdings.

#### Extension of Rail Lines

Silverton's evolution from a small town supporting several small mills to the largest lumber producing city in the Willamette Valley would not have been possible without adequate rail transportation. The groundwork for this rail network began to be laid in the 1880's, when a narrow gauge railroad was built without the aid of the Federal Land Grant, to serve the areas missed by the large Oregon and California Railroad Company.

During 1877, a small group of farmers from Sheridan, Willamina, Perrydale, and Dallas were finding it impossible to compete with their counterparts along existing rail lines and waterways. They decided to take action, and incorporated the Dayton, Sheridan, and Grande Ronde Railroad Company. The company purchased rolling stock and metal fastenings and constructed 20 miles of narrow gauge trackage from Sheridan to Dayton on the Yamhill River. They intended to lay more track, but a San Francisco firm which had furnished construction materials foreclosed on them. A group of Scottish capitalists headed by William Reid took over the company and renamed it The Oregonian Railway Company, Ltd..

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Between 1878 and 1882 The Oregonian Railway Company, Ltd. laid 183 miles of narrow gauge track from St. Paul, through Silverton, and on to Coburg. The first spike of this line was driven at Silverton.

After 1886, The Oregonian Railway Company, Ltd. merged with the Southern Pacific Transportation Company. The new company converted the trackage to standard gauge and used it for feeder service to their own operations.

By the 1920's, twenty to thirty carloads of logs a day were coming in to Silverton from other parts of the Willamette Valley for processing at the Silver Falls Timber Company Mill. The Southern Pacific Depot employed a log scaler who was responsible for scaling all the logs that came in.

The other major Silverton industry to use the rail line was the Fischer Flour Mill. They constructed a feeder line from the mill up Water Street, tying in with the main line near the depot. They shipped cereal, flour, and feed on this line.

The railroad also supplied Silverton with passenger service until the 1930's. Southern Pacific Engine 1509, a Baldwin Locomotive manufactured in Philadelphia, left Silverton five times daily. Sunday service began in 1908.

#### Association with Homer Davenport

In 1860 the original Silverton plat was surveyed by Timothy W. Davenport, who was later to become an Oregon state legislator and the father of one of Silverton's most well-known (worldwide) citizens—Homer Davenport.

Homer Davenport was born on a farm near Silverton in 1867. As a young man he worked as a clerk in Wolfard's grocery store, on the corner of South Water and Main streets. From that humble beginning, he went on to become the world's highest paid cartoonist, receiving a salary of \$25,000 annually from newspaper magnate William Randolph Hearst.

Homer was noted for drawing cartoons that exposed political graft and cheating. His cartoons were a powerful force for political and industrial reform. In fact, Homer's political cartoons fueled an attempt to pass an anti-cartoon bill in the New York legislature. The bill was ultimately defeated.

Homer Davenport's cartoons had much to do with Theodore Roosevelt's election to the presidency of the United States.

Many political scientists regard Davenport's syndicated cartoon of Uncle Sam with his hand on Roosevelt's shoulder, with the caption, "He's good enough for me." as the greatest vote-getting cartoon of all time.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	8	Page	6

Theodore Roosevelt was not only Davenport's favorite presidential candidate, but was a personal friend of his as well. Other famous friends of Davenport included Mark Twain, Robert Louis Stevenson, William Cody (Buffalo Bill), Jim Corbett, and Jack Dempsey.

Besides being a cartoonist, Homer Davenport had wide and varied interests. He owned and exhibited the world's largest collection of rare and fancy fowl. His interest in birds led him to become the foremost consultant on pheasant propagation for every Game Commission in the United States. He also imported the first Arabian horses to come to America for breeding purposes.

In spite of his popularity and success, he retained a fondness for the town of Silverton where he had grown up. In 1910 he wrote "The Country Boy", the story of his boyhood years in Silverton.

Homer Davenport died at the young age of 45 of pneumonia He is buried in the Silverton Cemetery.

#### Association With June Drake

June Drake, photographer and historian, was born in Marquam on July 11, 1880. His family moved to Silverton when June was nine years old. His father was involved in Silverton community affairs, and became mayor of Silverton before 1911.

On June 1, 1904, June Drake and his brother Emery bought a photography business from long-time Silverton photographer William L. Jones. Emery moved to California four years later, but June continued his business in Silverton.

June was an excellent photographer. His pictures were noted for their clarity, artistic quality, and durability. Today the Oregon Historical Society has hundreds of pounds of June Drake's plate glass negatives. In 1959, he received a personal citation from the society.

June Drake and his photographs were instrumental in Silver Falls Park becoming one of Oregon's state parks. He was intrigued by the ten waterfalls of the area, and in the early 1900's would hire men to help him cut pathways to the waterfalls so that he could photograph them. His photographs of the falls were inspiring and he used them to begin making a case for the area to become a state park.

Drake convinced federal engineers Col. Thompson and U.S. Senate Minority Leader Charles McNary to hike the falls area with him and map potential boundaries for the park. Still, many people who were aquainted with the

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	8	Page	7
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proceedings necessary for state park designation discouraged him, saying that the property had too many owners for consolidation and that the amount of red tape involved would be prohibitive.

June Drake tackled the multiple ownership issue head on. He decided to merge the properties into one parcel by obtaining purchase options on each individual fragment. In the course of a few months he obtained options on 615 acres, and had convinced influential persons in Silverton and Salem to help him make the park a realty. Due to the persistence and hard work of June Drake, Charles E. Wilson (secretary of the Salem Chamber of Commerce), Leonard Underwood (of Portland), and others, the state pronounced the park a member of the state system on April 2, 1931, thirty years after Drake took his first photographs of the falls.

June Drake continued his photography business in Silverton until the 1950's, when he retired. He died in 1969 at the age of 88, and is buried in Silverton Cemetery.

### Representative of a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Some of the resources that comprise Silverton's historic commercial district may merit nomination to the National Register on their own merits, but the district as a whole has a cohesion that no single component would convey. That cohesion is partly due to the fact that 27 of the 44 buildings involved are either primary or secondary, with another 8 buildings being historic, although presently not contributing. Altogether, a total of 35 out of 44 buildings have historic potential. Even many of the buildings that have been altered have unencumbered upper facades, so that as one looks down any of the streets in the district one sees a distinct similarity to historic photographs.

The Silverton district offers a distinct sence of enclosure that no individual nomination could capture. The Hills enclose Silverton on the south and the east. That sense of enclosure offered by the natural setting is as impressive today as it was in the early days.

The commercial core of Silverton is still a viable, working community serving the needs of Silverton residents. Although nearby Salem offers some competition, Silverton has been able to retain the business mix vital to an effectively functioning commercial district. The grocery stores have moved to the fringes of town, but the other goods and services are all available downtown. The retention of this mix is so unusual that one University of Oregon professor has repeatedly brought classes on field trips to Silverton to study the workings of the commercial core.

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_9 Page \_\_1

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Down, Robert Horace. A History of the Silverton Country. 1926.

Richard Leonard Architecture and Planning. <u>City Hall Alternatives Study</u>. Portland; June, 1986.

Marion County Recorder.

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The Capital Journal (Salem).

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Oral interviews with Jeff Brekas. February 13, 1986, and July 30, 1986.

Oral interview with Lloyd Larson. July 15, 1986.

Oral interview with John Middlemiss. July 17, 1986.

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Evans, John W., National Register nomination form pertaining to the Slater Building, La Grande, Union County, Oregon, December 14, 1982. This nomination provides information on a documented example of a metal building front manufactured by the Mesker Brothers firm of St. Louis, Missouri. The Wolf Building in Silverton is another example.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	10	Page	2
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The district is located in Section 35, Township 6 South, Range 1 West, Willamette Meridian, in Marion County, Oregon, and is more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the Westerly quarter corner of Section 35, Township 6 South, Range 1 West, Marion County, Oregon; thence following the meander line of Silver Creek downstream and in a Northwesterly direction to the Northeast corner of the George Geddes property, being Silverton Lockers (Tax Lot 46687, Map Ref. 34AD061W); thence along the Northerly boundary of said property, North 62 degrees, 33 minutes East, approximately 160 feet to the Westerly boundary of North Water Street; thence running Southeast, approximately 50 feel along said right-of-way; thence running Northeasterly, approximately 200 feet along the Northerly boundary of the Palace Theater; thence Northwest, approximately 50 feet to the South right-of-way line of High Street; thence Northeasterly, approximately 70 feet, along said right-of-way; thence Southeasterly, parallel to the Westerly right-of-way of First Street, and being 56 feet away from said right-of-way; a distance of approximately 230 feet to the South right-of-way line of Oak Street; thence in a Northeasterly direction approximately 176 feet along the South right-of-way line of Oak Street; thence Southwesterly, running parallel to the East right-of-way line of North First Street, approximately 400 feet to the North right-of-way line of Lewis Street, also being the Southeast corner of the Hagedorn Glass Building (Tax Lot 002131, Map Ref. 35CB061W); thence Southwesterly, approximately 60 feet to the Northeast corner of the intersection of North First and Lewis Streets; thence Northwesterly along the Easterly right-of-way line of North First Street, approximately 80 feet; thence Southwesterly, approximately 150 feet, running parallel to the North right-of-way line of Lewis Street; thence Southeast, approximately 80 feet, running parallel to the West right-of-way line of North First Street, said point being on the North right-of-way line of Lewis Street; thence Southwesterly along the North right-of-way line of Lewis Street, aproximately 60 feet; thence Northwesterly, running parallel to the East right-of-way line of South Water Street; approximately 80 feet; thence Southwest, running parallel to the North right-of-way line of Lewis Street, approximately 35 feet; thence Southeast, running parallel to the East right-of-way line of South Water Street, approximately 35 feet; thence running Southwesterly parallel to the North line of Lewis Street, approximately 120 feet to the Westerly right-of-way of South Water Street; thence Southeasterly along said Westerly South Water Street right-of-way, approximately 630 feet to the Southeast corner of City Police Building (Old Fischer Flour Mill Office, Tax Lot 47004); thence Southwesterly, along the South side of City Police Building, approximately 180 feet to the meander line of Silver Creek; thence along said meander line in a Northwesterly direction, approximately 1150 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning, also being the quarter section corner located on the West line of Section 35, Township 6 South, Range 1 West of the Willamette Meridian, Marion County, Oregon.

