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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS **TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Skidmore/Old Town Historic District was once the center of commerce and entertainment in Portland and contains the city's largest remaining collection of mid to late 19th century business buildings. The district is an area of approximately 20 blocks centered on Burnside Street and bordered by the Willamette River on the east. The district is known throughout the United States for its Italianate architecture. The wooden cornices, masonry bearing walls, and the use of architectural cast iron in the street level facades once typified the streets of Portland and are well represented in the present Skidmore/Old Town Historic District. The focal point and source of the district name is the Skidmore Fountain built in 1888 and donated to the city by Stephen G. Skidmore.

The Skidmore Fountain was conceived and executed by Olin J. Warner, a sculptor of national reputation. It consists of an ornate bronze basin eight feet in diameter held aloft by an ionic shaft and two bronze caryatids of classical form and drapery. An octagonal granite pool 20 feet in diameter collects the splashing water from above and lion heads below spout small streams of water into the four horse and dog troughs. Metal drinking cups hung below the pool until the first years of the twentieth century when they were removed in the interest of public safety.

The New Market Theater, located about 100 feet southwest of the fountain, was built by pioneer seaman and merchant Alexander Ankeny in 1872. W. W. Piper, Oregon's first professional architect, designed the three-story brick building in the North Italian mode of the <u>Renaissance Revival</u>. The handsome structure housed an arcaded street level public market, a small restaurant and Portland's grandest theater between 1872 and 1884. The building retains its original east and west facades except for six cornice urns which have been removed and an 1884 remodeling of the theater's east entrances. The interior of the first level is restorable but the theater is now used for automobile parking and has been severely altered.

The New Market Alley Building was constructed soon after 1872 and housed the city council in 1879. This small two-story masonry building covered the alley entrance on the south side of the New Market Theater. The two arches on the street level allowed access to the alley, one for incoming and one for outgoing wagons. The building was constructed in the Italianate style although it shares the same cornice with the neighboring High Victorian Italianate Poppleton Building to the south.

The Poppleton Building, probably constructed in 1873, is composed of cast iron pilasters and thresholds, plastered brick, and wooden windows and cornice detail. This corner building now houses a modern specialty shop and has been altered structurally to allow access between the three original divisions.

The New Market Annex abuts both the Poppleton Building and the New Market Theater, and is considered the city's best example of <u>Richardsonian Romanesque</u> Architecture. The Annex was built in 1889 and, as originally, supports mixed

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Portland's Skidmore/Old Town Historic District incorporates several valuable cultural assets for the city, the state, and the nation. Architecturally, the district includes the Italianate, the High Victorian Italianate, the Renaissance Revival, the Richardsonian Romanesque, and the Sullivanesque styles. The use of cast iron to express architectural style is extensive throughout the district. Several structures from this district stand out as among the finest on the west coast. The New Market Theater, designed by W. W. Piper, is a fine example of the North Italian Mode of the Renaissance Revival style, the Blagen Block is used by Marcus Whiffen in his <u>American Architecture Since 1780</u> as a prime example of High Victorian Italianate, and the Skidmore Fountain designed and executed by Olin J. Warner, was considered one of the more excellent fountains in the country when it was constructed in 1888.

By the early 1850s, Portland became the primary community in Oregon. Two factors contributed to its primacy. International shippers discovered that the Willamette River was unnavigable for oceangoing vessels beyond Portland during most of the year, leading to the decline of the upstream rival communities of Milwaukie and Oregon City. In 1852, the completion of the Portland and Tualatin Valley Plank Road (or the "Great Plank Road" as it was locally called), by which agricultural products could be more easily transported from the rich Tualatin Valley, firmly established Portland as the primary shipping point in Oregon. These two factors hastened the development of industry in Portland, which by 1850 included a tannery, a steam powered sawmill, and various commercial enterprises.

Portland had grown to a population of 821 residents by 1860, and evidences of permanent settlement were more apparent by that time. Several brick buildings were constructed near the waterfront, suggesting that Portland was becoming a more permanent commercial city. Of these buildings, the Hallock and McMillan Building and the Delschneider Building remain within the Skidmore/Old Town Historic District. By the late 1860s, Portland was beginning to gain national recognition for its development. Samuel Bowles, editor of the Springfield Republican and editorial mouthpiece for Jay Cooke's Northern Pacific Railroad, remarked in 1869:

"Oregonians, have builded what they have got more slowly and more wisely than the Californians; they have . . . less to unlearn; and they seem sure, not of organizing the first state on the Pacific Coast, indeed, but of a steadily prosperous healthy and moral one--they are in the way to be the New England of the Pacific Coast."

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baird, Joseph A., Jr., "New Market Block and Theater: Photograph--Data Book Report" <u>Historic American Building Survey</u>, June: 1964.

Johansen, Dorothy O. and Gates, Charles M., Empire of the Columbia: A History of the Pacific Northwest, New York: 1957.

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The Portland Skidmore/Old Town Historic District is primarily significant for its collection of late 19th Century architecture. In addition, the district contains a number of post-1900 buildings which also contribute to the architectural traditions of the immediate area. This statement will place the 20th Century buildings within district boundaries in the context of the overall development of the city and, thus, more clearly establish their contributing status.

Boosterism in the prosperous city of Portland at the turn of the century led to the creation of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition of 1905. The exposition received national attention and attracted large amounts of investment capital to the city after it closed. Increased developmental interests resulting from the healthy economic climate encouraged construction of many commercial and residential buildings in Portland.

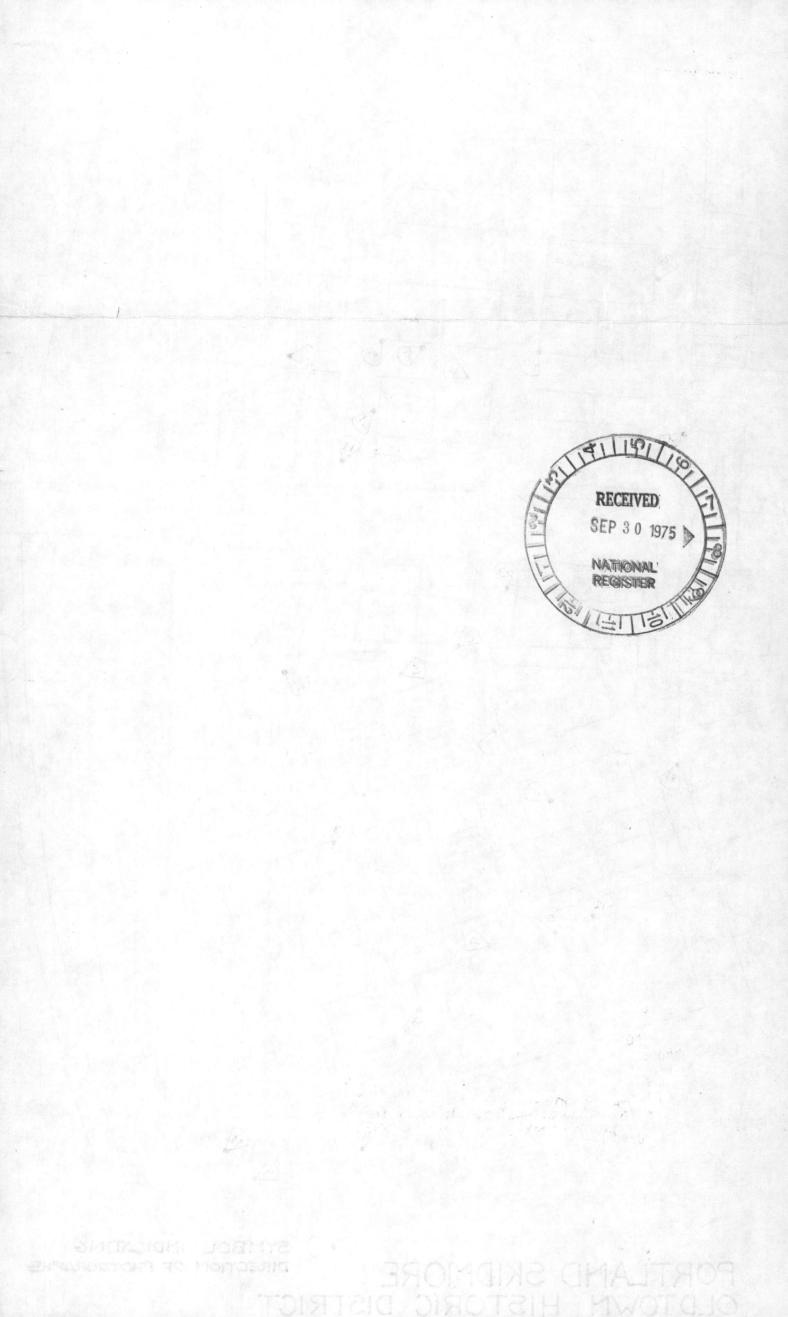
Most of the new commercial development occurred west of the Yamhill and Skidmore/Old Town Historic Districts. To the north and east of the new commercial core, numerous three to five story buildings were constructed, most often as residential hotels with commercial storefronts at the ground level. Most of these buildings were constructed in brick and most displayed a modicum of historic detailing on their elevations.

A number of these 20th Century buildings were constructed within the boundaries of the Skidmore/Old Town Historic District. Most are still standing, and most were given conservative compatible rankings in the original rankings in the original National Register nomination document. Only one 20th Century building, the George Lawrence Building (1902), was given a secondary ranking in the documentation, primarily due to its association with the leading Portland architectural firm of Whidden & Lewis. The George Lawrence leather goods manufacturing firm is among the city's significant historic businesses, however. Today, all these buildings are considered of secondary significance.

A small number of buildings ante-dating the First World War are within the district boundaries, and are considered compatible, having been constructed in materials, scale, and design similar to their earlier 20th Century neighbors. The 1930 end date for the period of 20th Century significance corresponds to the general cessation of commercial development in the city in advance of the Depresssion.



PORTLAND SKIDMORE DIRECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS



State Oregon	Working Number 9.30.75.1755	REF# 75001597
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WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)

boundary selection

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REF # 75001597

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

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8. Significance

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Specific dates Builder/Architect Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph
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9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

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Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

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State Historic Preservation Officer signature

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13. Other

Maps
 Photographs
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Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _

William B. 1 bate 7 Signed. Phone:

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



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PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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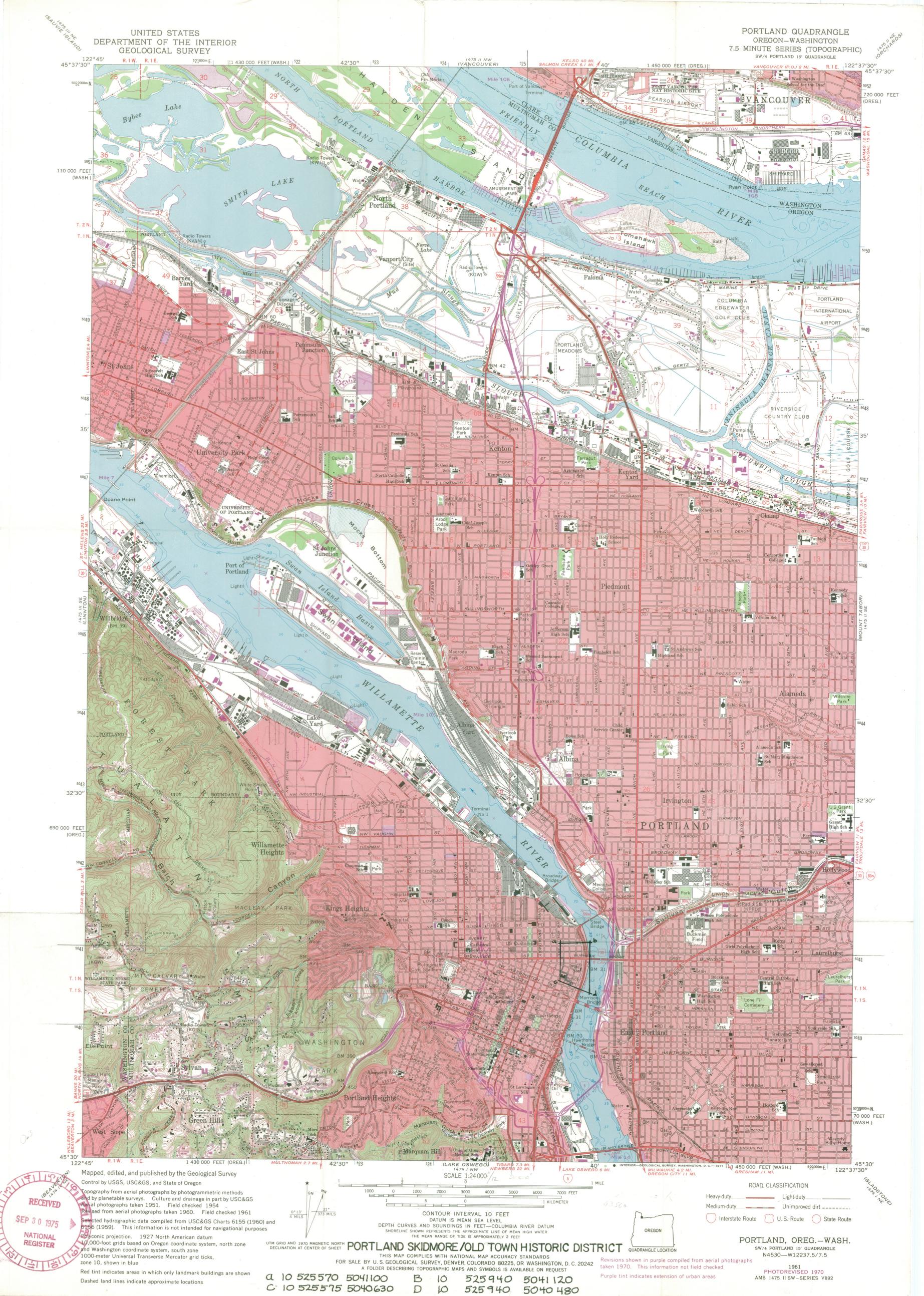
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 10-74)

> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

FOR NPS USE	ONLY					
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

HISTORIC AND/OR COMMON	Portland SE	idmore/01d Town Hi	storic District	
LOCATION CITY, TOWN	Portland	VICINITY OF	соимту Multnomah	state Oregon
MAP REFER				
SOURCE	U.S.G.S. 7.	5 Minutes Series (topographic)	
SCALE	1:24000	DATE 1961 (ph	iotorevised 1970)	

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- **3. UTM REFERENCES**



ROBERT W. STRAUB GOVERNOR

OREGON STATE HIGHWAY DIVISION

HIGHWAY BUILDING CERTIFIED AIR MAIL

SALEM, OREGON

97310

September 19, 1975

F. B. KLABOE Administrator of Highways

> Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper The National Register of Historic Places Department of the Interior National Park Service 18th and C Streets, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240



Attention: Mr. Charles Herrington, Chief of Registration

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

On the recommendation of the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation, I wish to nominate the following properties to the National Register of Historic Places.

Those properties marked by an asterisk are properties which were returned to us for more information.

- 1. Portland Skidmore/Old Town Historic District, Portland, Multnomah County.
- 2. Boon Brick Store, Salem, Marion County.
- 3. Lithia Park, Ashland, Jackson County.
- 4. Waller Hall, Salem, Marion County.
- *5. Rock Creek Methodist Church, Rock Creek, Clackamas County.
- Baber (Granville H.) House, Albany, Linn County. *6.
- *7. Vonder Ahe (Fred) House and Summer Kitchen, Molalla, Clackamas.
- Government Hill, Siletz, Lincoln County. *8.
- King (Isaac) House and Barn, Philomath, Benton County. *9.

A DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Dr. William J. Murtagh Page 2 September 19, 1975

*10. Minthorn (Dr. Henry John) House, Newberg, Yamhill County.

*11. Fletcher (Francis) House, Dayton, Yamhill County.

Current owners of the properties are aware of the nominations. The appropriate forms bearing my signature are enclosed.

Very truly yours, David G. Talbot

State Historic Preservation Officer

DGT:dtm Enclosures

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE OREGON

Date Entered DEC 6 1975

Name

Location

Portland Skidnore/Old Town Historic District

Portland Multnomah County

Also Notified

Hon. Mark O. Hatfield Hon. Bob Packwood Hon. Robert B. Duncan

PR

Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region

MMott 12/12/75

State Historic Preservation Officer Mr. David G. Valbot State Parks Superintendent 300 State Highway Building Salem, Oregon 97310

INT: 2950-75

FORM No. 722-QUITCLAIM DEED-Corporation.

Chi.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that THE D. P. THOMPSON COMPANY

and existing under the laws of the State of OREGON , hereinafter called grantor, for the consideration hereinafter stated, does hereby remise, release and quitclaim unto NEW MARKET COMPANY hereinafter called despite

and unto grantee's heirs, successors and assigns, all of the grantor's right, title and interest in that certain real property with the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or appertaining, situated in the County of Multnomah, State of Oregon, described as follows, to-wit:

> Lots 1, 2, 7 and 8, and that part lying between the north boundary of Lots 1 and 8 and Ankeny Street, in Block 33, City of Portland, Oregon.

> > (IF SPACE INSUFFICIENT, CONTINUE DESCRIPTION ON REVERSE SIDE)

To Have and to Hold the same unto the said grantee and grantee's heirs, successors and assigns forever. The true and actual consideration paid for this transfer, stated in terms of dollars, is \$350,000.00 ©However, the actual consideration consists of or includes other property or value given or promised which is part of the consideration (indicate which).®

In construing this deed the singular includes the plural as the circumstances may require.

Done by order of the grantor's board of directors, with its corporate seal attached, this ______ day of ______ December______, 19.76.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

THOMPSON COMPANY lalit Keresident

STATE OF OREGON, County of Multnomah) ss: Personally appeared James C. Maletis and	December =7 1976
Personally appeared James C. Maletis and	Robert S. Stone
who, being duly sworn, each for himself and not one for the other, a	did say that the former is the

secretary of The D. P. Thompson Company, a corporation, and that the seal affixed to the foregoing instrument is the corporate seal of said corporation and that said instrument was signed and sealed in behalf of said corporation by authority of its board of directors; and each of them acknowledged said instrument to be its voluntary act and deed.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Before	me: (Junici) Strinson	
		•
	Notary Public for Oregon Tomenher 30, 1979.	•

NOTE-The sentence between the symbols (), if not applicable, shauld be deleted. See Chapter 462, Oregon Laws 1967, as amended by the 1967 Special Session.

QUITCLAIM DEED		STATE OF OREGON,
CORPORATION THE D. P. THOMPSON COMPA	(DON'T USE THIS	County of
TO NEW MARKET COMPANY	SPACE: RESERVED FOR RECORDING LABEL IN COUN- TIES WHERE USED.)	in book on page Record of Deeds of said County. Witness my hand and seal o County affixed.

Sec. Mar

NEW MARKET COMPANY 117 S.W. Taylor Portland, Oregon 97204 222-5891

January 11, 1977

Mr. David G. Talbot State Historic Preservation Officer 525 Trade Street S.E. Salem, Oregon 97310

RE: NEW MARKET BUILDING 50 S.W. Second Avenue Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Mr. Talbot:

We request the New Market Building, located in Portland's Skidmore/Old Town Historic District, be certified as a historic structure for purposes of the Federal Tax Reform Act of 1976.

Sincerely,

NEW MARKET COMPANY

Robert S. Bobosky Controller

RSB; jdf

cc: James C. Maletis





Department of Transportation STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Parks and Recreation Branch 525 TRADE STREET S.E., SALEM, OREGON 97310

January 19, 1977

880

Mr. Jerry L. Rogers Acting Chief, OAHP National Park Service 18th and C Sts. NW Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Rogers:

RE: Certification of Historic Structures

The following information regarding an his toric structure in Oregon is forwarded:

1.	Name of owner:	New Market Company Attn: Robert S. Bobosky, Controller 117 SW Taylor Portland, OR 97204
2.	Structure:	New Market Building 50 SW Second Avenue Portland, OR 97204
3.	District:	Portland Skidmore/Old Town Historic District (National Register, Dec. 6, 1975)
4.	Photographs:	Xerox copies of current views are attached.
5.	Description:	The three-story Italianate New Market building was built in 1872 as an arcaded public market on the ground floor and theater on second and third. The theater was completed in 1875 and removed in 1887, at which time the upper floors were con- verted into warehouse space. The building retains this configuration today. An ex- tensive adaptive rehabilitation project is proposed. Details are available in our request for design review of Sept. 23, 1976 and Phase I project initiating letter (41-74- 00028-07) of Oct. 27, 1976.

Jerry L. Rogers January 19, 1977 Page 2

6. Significance:

We regard the New Market to be among the most significant architectural monuments in the state. It is classified as a building of primary architectural significance by the Portland Historical Landmarks Commission and is protected by ordinance there. Further, the building is certified for Special Property Tax Assessment under Oregon's tax law for historic properties.

7. Owner's Request: A letter of request bearing the signature of Robert S. Bobosky, Controller, New Market Company, is forwarded herewith, together with a deed identifying the New Market Company as owner of the property.

I recommend that the New Market be certified as an historic structure for purposes of the Tax Reform Act of 1976.

Very truly yours, Talbot G.

State Historic Preservation Officer

DP:ko

Enc.

cc: Robert S. Bobosky James C. Maletis

New market Company TAX REFORM ACT roperty Nec'd 1/27/97 tate OREGON Working Number ECHNICAL 47-Sto Festor CONTROL Photos 41 50 S.W. Second Ave Maps Poetland, Drecon 97204 HISTORIAN Accept w.R.line 1-27-77 ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN Impressive accept Louch 1.27.77 ARCHEOLOGIST OTHER HAER Inventory _____ Review **REVIEW UNIT CHIEF** Accipi 1-27-77 HIEF Very good KEEPER bailding and very important to the divition. Humps pullenty ional Register Write-up ____ Send-back _____ The second s Entered _____ eral Register Entry Re-submit _____ INT:2106-74

H34-830

Mr. Robert S. Bobosky Controller New Market Company 117 Southwest Taylor Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Mr. Bobosky:

This letter is to confirm that the New Market Company, listed in the National Register of Historic Places within the boundaries of the Portland Skidmore/Old Town Historic District, is certified as a historic structure for purposes of the Tax Reform Act of 1976.

Please be advised however, that to qualify for the tax benefits under this act, rehabilitation of a certified historic structure must qualify as a "certified rehabilitation." A certified rehabilitation is defined as a rehabilitation certified by the Secretary of the Interior as being consistent with the historic character of such property or district. We are presently developing standards for such "certified rehabilitation" and we will advise you when they are available. In the meantime, we are enclosing a copy of our draft standards for rehabilitation and also our draft "Guidelines for Rehabilitating Old Buildings" prepared by the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation.

We appreciate your interest in the new tax benefits for historic preservation.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Murtagh Resper of the National Register

Enclosures

cc: Mr. David G. Talbot Oregon SHPO

bcc: Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region 001 Reading File 880-mott FNP: BURNS: sle: 2-2-77

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN 880



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H34-880

FEB 8 1977

MULTNOMAL

Property: New Market Company

Address: 50 S. W. Second Avenue Portland, Oregon 97204

The National Park Service has determined that the property listed above is of historic significance to the following district:

Skidmore/Old Town Historic District

If subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, this property qualifies as a "certified historic structure" for purposes of the Tax Reform Act of 1976.

Obtaining certified historic structure status is the first step in qualifying for tax deductions under section 2124 of the Tax Reform Act. The incentives detailed in subsections 2124(a) and 2124(b) apply only to structures which have either undergone or are about to undergo rehabilitation which the Secretary of the Interior can find certifiable. The Secretary's Standards for Rehabilitation and guidelines for rehabilitating historic buildings are enclosed for your information.

Also enclosed is a draft Application for Certified Rehabilitation (subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget) which should be completed and mailed to your State Historic Preservation Officer when requesting certification. Instructions for filling out the application are on the form itself. Specific questions concerning documentation required to certify rehabilitation work should be addressed to your State Historic Preservation Officer or to the Chief, Technical Preservation Services Division, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Sincerely, yours.

Keeper of the National Register



Enclosures

additional super



Department of Transportation STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Parks and Recreation Division 525 TRADE STREET S.E., SALEM, OREGON 97310

May 1, 1985

Carol D. Shull Keeper of the National Register National Park Service PO Box 37127 Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find supplemental information on the Portland Skidmore/Old Town Historic District nomination.

The Continuation Sheet, Item 8, page 3, is offered to more firmly establish the contributing status of buildings within the district which ante-date 1900. In addition, we request that "1900-" be checked under "Period" on the first page of Item 8.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please phone me at (503) 373-7694, if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

ames Hamurk

James M. Hamrick Preservation Specialist

JMH:sqh Enclosure

cc: Paul W. Alley, WRO

Reed 5-15-85

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A NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET 3
(I) NAME as it appears on federal register: (2) (2) OTHER NAMES: (3) date of entry: (4) county code:
Portland Skidmore/Old Town Historic District
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NAMES give role & date Architects included W.W. Piper (New Market Theater-1872); Warren H. Williams (OR Marine Bldg1886); Whidden & Lewis (Packer Scott Bldg 1890) EVENTS:

INSTITUTIONAL:

SNATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP

Commercial district, includes 20 significant 19th-century buildings, predominantly of masonry construction, many with cast-iron ornamentation, representing a variety of High Victorian styles; notable are the Skidmore Fountain (1888) designed by Olin Warner, the Renaissance Revival New Market Theater (1872), and the Victorian Italianate style Blagen Block (1888). Site of city's original 19th century development, as OR's leading city; one of the West Coast's most impressive commercial districts, incorporates one of the nation's largest collections of cast iron buildings. (5) Roughly bounded by Harbor Dr. Everett, 3RD, and Oak Sts.

<u>Portland Skidmore / Old Town Historic District 7500159</u> (Resource Name) <u>Multromak</u> (County) (State)	27 <u>5116188</u> (Date form completed) (Completed by)
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Locator Card

JAN. 1986