

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97001407

Date Listed: 11/21/97

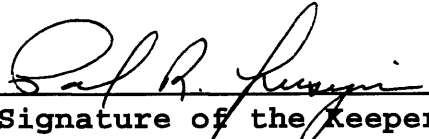
Chehalis Downtown Historic District
Property Name

Lewis
County

WA
State

Chehalis MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

11/21/97
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Significance:

The following text is added to address the issue of noncontributing resources:

Contributing buildings in the district are more than 50 years old, were built within the period of significance, and retain their integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Noncontributing buildings are either built after 1930, or have been significantly altered through the removal or covering of historic architectural features that would allow them to contribute to the architectural character of the area.

This information was confirmed with L. McCroskey, WA SHPO office.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Paul R. Ferguson
Signature of the Keeper

11/21/97
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Classification:
The correct category for the nomination is: *district*.
The resource count is revised to read: *24 contributing buildings*.
[Previously listed resources are not counted.]

Functions:
The following subfunctions are added: *Domestic-hotel, multiple dwelling; Commerce-business, department store, specialty store; recreation/culture-theater*.

Description:
20th-Century Revivals is added under architectural classification.

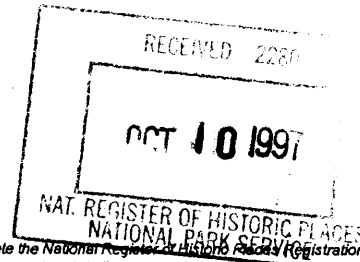
Geographical data:
The acreage is revised to read: *approximately 10 acres*.

This information was confirmed with L. McCroskey, WA SHPO office.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1407

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Chehalis Downtown Historic District
other names/site number Third Civic Center of Chehalis

2. Location

street & number N. Market Boulevard; NW Pacific Avenue, Front Way, Cascade not for publication
city or town Chehalis vicinity
state Washington code WA county Lewis code 041 zip code 98532

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 7.28.97
Signature of certifying official Date
David M. Hansen, Acting State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
___ See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register. ___ See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

[Signature] 11/21/97

[Signature] Signature of Keeper Date of Action

Property Name Chehalis Downtown Historic District

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5. Classification

| Ownership of Property | Category of Property | No. of Resources within Property | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | contributing | noncontributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input type="checkbox"/> district | <u>26</u> | <u>11</u> buildings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State | <input type="checkbox"/> site | _____ | _____ sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal | <input type="checkbox"/> structure | _____ | _____ structures |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> object | _____ | _____ objects |
| | | <u>26</u> | <u>11</u> Total |

Name of related multiple property listing:
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic Resources of Chehalis

No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:

2

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

domestic
commerce
recreation
culture

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

domestic
commerce
recreation
culture

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th Century Commercial Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation Concrete
 walls brick
stucco
 roof composition
 other terra cotta
copper

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Property Name Chehalis Downtown Historic District

County and State Lewis Co., WA

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture

Commerce

Entertainment

1891-1930

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

n/a

Architect/Builder

n/a

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Specify repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approx. 20

UTM References

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|---------|---|---|----------|---|---|---|------|---------|---|---|----------|---|---|
| 1 | / | / | / | / | / | / | / | 3 | / | / | / | / | / | / | / |
| | Zone | Easting | | | Northing | | | | Zone | Easting | | | Northing | | |
| 2 | / | / | / | / | / | / | / | 4 | / | / | / | / | / | / | / |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennifer Watson, intern; Lauren McCroskey; Lewis County Historical Society
 organization City of Chehalis date July 1997
 street & number c/o Community Services 1321 South Market telephone (360) 748-0271
 city or town _____ state WA zip code 98532

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____
 street & number _____ telephone _____
 city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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Name of Property Chehalis Downtown District

County and State Lewis County, WA

General Setting:

The city of Chehalis is located in southwestern Washington in the valleys of the Chehalis and Newaukum rivers. It is ninety-four miles south of the City of Seattle and ninety-one miles north of the City of Portland. As it was during the turn of the century, Chehalis still remains a convenient midway stopping point between the two major cities. It is along the double track route of the three one-time-great transcontinental railroad systems: the Northern Pacific, Union Pacific, and the Great Northern.

Architectural Character:

The style which best characterizes the Chehalis Downtown District is nineteenth-century commercial, with Classical Revival and Mission Revival supplementing. The buildings are constructed mainly of brick and concrete walls with brick and stone veneers, and occasional cement detailing. The number of stories varies throughout from one to six; building footprints consume from one to four plats.

One unusual aspect of this district is that the buildings fronting on the western side of Market Boulevard also front on the eastern side of Northwest Pacific Avenue, therefore each building has entrances on each street. While most of the businesses carry through the entire length of the buildings, there are some buildings that are divided to create one business for each street entrance.

Integrity:

The current integrity of the Chehalis Downtown District is much like most small historic downtowns in Washington State. "Modernization" has taken its toll on the awnings and original windows, but the overall integrity of the area remains intact. The historic form and outline of the buildings is clearly discernible as are the window openings and belt courses. Remains of painted advertisements on exterior brick walls abound for products such as Levi Strauss and the names of original owners and dates of construction remain on the front of buildings.

Historic and Current Condition of the Properties:

A description of individual properties in the Chehalis Downtown District, with numbers matching the accompanying map and photographs, follows. The historic business names are in capitals, when known.

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Name of Property Chehalis Downtown District

County and State Lewis County, WA

The descriptions of the buildings are arranged in the following order: beginning on the southwest side of Market Boulevard running southeast, incorporating one property on Cascade Avenue before continuing on the Northeast side of Market Boulevard, running Northwest down to, and ending on, one property on Front Way.

Description of Properties:

The majority of the buildings are in the nineteenth-century commercial, many are sheltered by metal awnings or canopies of a non-historic character and have transom windows that have been covered with plywood. It should be assumed this is the integrity of each building unless otherwise noted.

Market Boulevard: southwest side

- | | | |
|--|------|------------------|
| 1) 575-571 N. Market Boulevard Wanda's Kitchen/The Bible House | | Non-Contributing |
| 2) 563 N. Market Boulevard Cascade Stationary | | Non-Contributing |
| 3) 553-555 N. Market Boulevard The Office Tavern/The Bonn Hairstyling | 1900 | Contributing |

This building is a single story, nineteenth-century commercial style, and appears to have been altered circa 1910s. It shares both of its fire walls with the neighboring buildings, one building which is contributing and the other non-contributing. The nominated property is faced with raked brick with tiles set into a design of diamonds forming a horizontal row of nine diamonds just above the awning and beneath the cornice. The flat roof line has a shed, standing seam, metal roof at the front of the building, and a plain cornice framed by piers. Between the decorative row of tiles and the awning is two window sections, each with thirty panes-- three horizontal and ten vertical rows. The rear entrance on Northwest Pacific is also intact with a plain facade of window-- above the doors are four windows of six lights each. The entrance consists of recessed doors framed by windows of six lights.

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4) 551 N. Market Boulevard 1894 Contributing
Red Cross

Unlike its neighbor at 553, this nineteenth-century commercial style building is two story. This building's second story has a plain facade with four double-hung sash windows. Stucco covers the original brick, but the roof line is intact as are the window openings. A recent fire (July 11, 1997) caused a loss of all windows, however, the building remains a contributing resource.

5) 545 N. Market Boulevard 1889 Contributing
WASHINGTON HOTEL/ Phyl's Furniture

According to the April 26, 1889 edition of the Chehalis Bee Nuggett, the Washington Hotel a four-story, nineteenth century commercial building, was opened by Mr. Berry and Mr. Loomis. The building shares fire walls with its neighbors, and its siding is stucco over the original brick. Four piers divide the facade into three sections, with rows of windows aligned three horizontally and two vertically. The window openings are semi-elliptical, double-hung three-part; the middle row consists of two double-hung two-part sash, with rock-faced sills. The upper story of the rear facade, facing Northwest Pacific Avenue, is clad with original pressed metal in a brick pattern. A side entrance, on Market Boulevard, to the current business is a glass door with the lettering from the original business still intact, "Washington Hotel." Sinks from the hotel are still in place in the upstairs. The north side of the building still has remnants of painted advertisements on the exterior brick wall. As of this writing, a fire on July 11, 1997, caused damage to windows, however, the building remains a contributing resource.

6) 539 N. Market Boulevard 1900 Contributing
Cupid's Helper

This two-story building of common bond brick has a flat parapet roofline. It has a decorated cornice with five paired brackets, between which are two circular designs. The upper story windows are four across, eight-by-eight double hung and this building shares a fire wall with its neighbors. The rear facade on Northwest Pacific has a row of four windows in the upper story, double-hung sash with sixteen panes each. The lower story has a row of three windows, again double-hung sash. The upper sections have eight panes each, the lower sections each have one pane. A recessed door atop five stairs

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Name of Property Chehalis Downtown District
County and State Lewis County, WA

is at the southwest end of the building. On the southwest end of the building, at the roof line, is a gabled dormer sided in wood and without a window.

7) 535 N. Market Boulevard 1918 Contributing
Fechtner's Jewelry Shop

This building is related to number ^B~~six~~. It is a single-story structure with common bond brick and a flat parapet roofline. This business has been in operation, in Chehalis, since 1903.

8) 531 N. Market Boulevard 1918 Contributing
C & R Sports World

This building is related to number seven. It is a single-story building with common bond brick and a flat parapet roof line.

9) 525 N. Market Boulevard 1900 Contributing
Brunswig's Shoe Shop

This building is single-story with a plain facade faced in stucco over common bond brick. This is one of the few district buildings retaining its transom windows, a row of eleven. Its roof line is flat.

10) 523-521 N. Market Boulevard 1926 Contributing
Market Street Pub

This building is single-story building with a plain facade of common bond brick. The roof line is flat and capped by a plain cornice. Transom windows are covered by an awning, but still visible from the interior. The building has retained its original skylight which provides natural light inside the building. Inside is one of two bars remaining in Chehalis that were shipped around the horn, from Massachusetts around South America, then up the North American west coast. Originally this building was a Buster Brown Shoe Store with an adjoining Model Shoe Repair shop. The front of the building still has the two separate entrances.

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Name of Property Chehalis Downtown District

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11) 515-505 N. Market Boulevard 1898 Non-Contributing
COMMERCIAL BLOCK Artistic Floral/Schwartz Men's Wear (closed)

This commercial block originally housed three separate businesses: the Commercial State Bank later became Burnett Brother's Jewelry then Dugaw's Jewelry; Marr's Drugstore became Garrison Drugstore; Hy Mandle's Men's Clothing store was bought by Nate Schwartz in 1928. In 1965 the Schwartz family bought the building to expand their business. In 1980 the newspaper reported that the new owners had, ". . . taken the old building and given it an appealing facelift that preserves the vintage look yet has the modern touch." The brick work was redone, stripping decorative elements yet retaining the original window openings. Schwartz Men's Wear, one of the oldest continuously operating clothing stores in the Pacific Northwest, closed in 1995.

12) 473 N. Market Boulevard Non-Contributing
Wells Fargo Bank

This is a modern single-story building of ashlar stone siding with groups of single-pane, double-height windows, ten in all.

13) 465 N. Market Boulevard 1927 Contributing
J.J.'s Consignments/MOORE'S MENS STORE

This single-story building was originally built for Mr. Moore, who operated the store until the early 1990s. The front facade is stucco over original common bond brick. It has a flat roof line with a shed of standing seam metal on the front and rear facades. It has a plain cornice with brackets framed by piers on the front and rear facades. On the Market Boulevard side the transom windows are clear without an awning or canopy to detract from the facade, and the front door is recessed with display cases on either side. The Northwest Pacific Avenue side's transom windows have been covered.

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Name of Property Chehalis Downtown District

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14) 463-455 N. Market Boulevard 1920 Contributing
ELKS LODGE/Waldock's Ace Hardware/SW Washington Martial Arts Academy (upstairs)/
SW Washington Dance Center (upstairs)

This four-story commercial brick building with a slightly stepped parapet is in the Renaissance Revival style. A prominent cornice of modillions and dentils divides the third and fourth stories. The fourth story has six-over-six windows with key stones headed by a plain cornice, beyond which is the slightly stepped parapet. At the third story, six-over-six double hung sash windows are set in flat arches with keystones. The second story windows, four-lights over a pair of casement windows, have arches above them with the initials of the order set in them, B. P. O. E. which have been filled in but are still discernible. The first floor display which has been altered, housed Puget Sound Power and Light starting in 1925 followed by Berryhill's Variety Store and subsequently Waldock's Ace. The prominence of this building is a graphic example of the important role lodges played in this community.

15) 453 N. Market Boulevard/450 NW Pacific 1930 Non-contributing/Contributing
Edward D. Jones Investments/ vacant

This building has been split in half (rather than side by side), providing space for two businesses which have entrances on different streets. Edward D. Jones has an entrance on Market Boulevard and is non-contributing due to a 1989 remodel. The vacant space located on Northwest Pacific Avenue (directly behind Edward D. Jones) is contributing with good integrity. It is single story faced with plain brick; transom windows are still intact, uncovered, and framed between piers.

16) 443 N. Market Boulevard Non-Contributing
Security State Bank drive-up teller

17) 437 N. Market Boulevard ca. 1925 Contributing
Pacific Rehabilitation and Sports Med Bldg/J.C. PENNY

This building is two-story with a flat parapet and a plain cornice above the second story windows. The majority of the brick work is common bond with decorative sections between the parapet and cornice above both the second story windows and the remodeled first floor. The second story windows are a row of four double-hung, paired sash windows.

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18) 433-429 N. Market Boulevard
vacant/ADVOCATE PRINTING

1920

Contributing

Square tile and brick covers this two-story building with a flat roof line. The roof line has shed slants at the front and rear facades, framed by piers. The front facade, on Market Boulevard, has a plain cornice with four sets of two brackets, and a row of three pivoting windows centered between the sets of brackets. Between the windows and the awning is a horizontal row of white wooden framing around tiles. The first story has a central, recessed doorway for the three businesses currently occupying the building. The display windows are in their original copper casements. The rear facade has three four-light, sash windows with mullion on the second story. The first story has a door on the northwest end of the building and a wall of three windows, eight panes, six panes, eight panes. Advocate Printing, which is still in operation today, has been in business since 1895.

Cascade Avenue

19) 75 Cascade Avenue
San Juan Arms Apartments

ca. 1920

Contributing

This building is a Craftsman style building, with a triangular plan. It is built on a hillside with the south side of the building three-story and the north side of the building two-story. Originally owned by Arthur St. John, of St. John's garage (see number 21). There is an under-ground tunnel for a common heating plant connecting this building to the old St. John's garage on Market Boulevard.

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Name of Property Chehalis Downtown District

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Market Boulevard: northeast side

20) 440-448 N. Market Boulevard

1917-1920

Contributing

ST. HELEN'S INN

St. Helen's Inn Restaurant & Lounge & Apartments/LaMondaine Beauty Salon/Guiding Star/ vacant

This Chicago style building, currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places, is the tallest in Chehalis and is clearly visible from Interstate-5. This six-story, triangular shaped hotel was designed by architect C. E. Troutman to be built in sections. The only feature which lacks unity is in the first story fenestration. The first section has rows of small glass panes set over the display windows. The second section, built in 1918, has windows set in arches. On the upper floors the fenestration is predominantly eight-over-one, double-hung sash windows set in flat arches. There are also smaller eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows. The arches are more ornate on the front, Market Boulevard frontage, than on the rear of the building, Cascade Avenue frontage. Two rows of short coursing, between the fourth and fifth floors, frame a brick tapestry design. A decorative cornice lines the roof edge of the building. The only recent intrusion is the metal awning preventing visibility of the row of ceramic tiles embossed with the initial of the firm above the display windows. The upstairs residences were converted to apartments a number of years ago. (The opening date of the hotel's original wooden structure was May, 1891; this part of the hotel was eventually moved up the street two blocks north and become the Sticklin Apts. It was destroyed by fire in November, 1978).

21) 452-456 N. Market Boulevard

1914

Contributing

ST. HELEN'S THEATER/ ST. JOHN'S GARAGE

Linda's Fashions/Party Papers/upstairs-Transformations-Hypnotherapist/Chiropractic Medicine & Acupuncture

The present, ornate facade reflects the period after which the building was converted into a theater, not the period of Arthur St. John's Ford Garage. The most dominant feature is the red tile shed roof, recessed in the plane of the building. It is supported by decorative brackets. Beneath is a brick tapestry design, which uses symmetrically arranged tiles for accent; this design is followed by a row of header courses. The fenestration, three-over-one double-hung sash windows, are set in arches with a circular pattern above them. At one time, four small rectangular windows set in flat arches divided the dominant fenestration. The first floor is a modern display area covered with metal awning. The garage was converted into a theater in 1924 and operated for twenty-six years. This building adds greatly to the architectural texture of the Chehalis Market Boulevard streetscape.

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Name of Property Downtown District, Chehalis

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22) 460-466 N. Market Boulevard 1910 Contributing
BUSH BUILDING/CHEHALIS BEE-NUGGET/POST OFFICE
Jerry's Clock Shop/Rejos General Mercantile/Allied Hearing Aid Specialist

This building was originally built by Dan Bush. It has housed the Chehalis Bee-Nugget, the Post Office, a well known photographer in Chehalis named Stanton H. Price, and a Works Progress Administration art gallery. This is a two-story brick structure with a flat roof. A plain cornice with five sets of two brackets finishes the roof line, and below the cornice is a row of four two-part, double-hung windows of twelve-over-one panes. There is a row of dentils below the windows and directly above the awning. The first floor has been remodeled and shares a continuous facade with number 21. A section of the upstairs interior also connects with number 21 with whom it shares a fire wall. The building has interior lighting through original skylights.

23) 470 N. Market Boulevard 1919 Contributing
Rejo's Discount Grocery

This two-story building of brick under stucco has a flat parapet roofline. The second story has a row of four double-hung sash windows surrounded by continuous label moldings between the four windows. The first floor remodel has been done as a continuation of #20. The date of construction is painted and centered under the peak of the parapet. This building replaced a wooden structure from the turn of the century.

24) 476 N. Market Boulevard 1920 Contributing
Sister's Fabric

This ~~two~~^{one}-story building is faced in common bond brick. It has a flat roof line and a decorated cornice with small brackets.

25) 478 N. Market Boulevard 1923 Non-Contributing
Vacant

This building is a two-story structure of stucco over brick. Nothing of the original facade is visible.

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Name of Property Chehalis Downtown District

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26) 486-492 N. Market Boulevard

1891

Contributing

IMPROVEMENT BLOCK

Bartel's Department Store/Red Dawg Brew Pub

This building is a two-story brick commercial building constructed in 1890-1891. Modifications have been made in both the interior and exterior, but the structure retains integrity in the basic elements of its original form. It was constructed by D. W. Gray, a local builder, for a total cost of \$14,000. The original construction had a turret surmounting a recessed, arched entrance of rusticated stone. Round-topped arches framed the double-hung sash windows of the second-story. After the earthquake of 1949, the tower and recessed entrance, as well as a parapet, dentils, chimneys and matching pinnacles on the southwestern and northwestern elevations, were removed. While removal of the turret and a number of decorative elements altered the original exterior appearance of this building, the structure retains considerable integrity in the basic features of its original design. It should also be noted that loss of architectural detail does not diminish the historical importance of the building, since its significance lies chiefly in its associative qualities, rather than in its architectural merit. The changes made to the building are only two years short of the fifty-year guideline for eligibility. The Improvement Block is the oldest commercial building in downtown Chehalis. There are no extant structures from the first two city ventures, since most were constructed of wood and largely destroyed by fires in 1892. The earliest commercial structure at Market and Boistfort, the city's third downtown, was the First National Bank Building (1889), which was razed in 1949. The larger side (486) housed Proffitt's Department Store for many years followed by a People's store, then a Coast-to-Coast Hardware Store. The smaller side (492) housed Gem Drug Store, Doane's Drugstore, then Dugaw's Jewelry Store.

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Name of Property Downtown District, Chehalis

County and State Lewis County, WA

27) 506-514 N. Market Boulevard 1892 Contributing
COLUMBUS BLOCK / Market Square
H.C. Coffman, Insurance/Billie's Designer Fabrics/Sweet Inspirations Restaurant

Located on the corner of Market Boulevard and Boistfort, this two-story brick building retains much of its early appearance. It can best be described as utilitarian commercial. Alterations have included removal of architectural details and a modernized store front. The major alteration to the building was the removal of the parapet. The embellishment below the parapet still remains. It consists of several corbel bands wrapping around the building. It appears from a photograph published in the Chehalis Bee-Nugget Historical Souvenir Edition of May 14, 1915, that dentils were present as architectural features; however the dentils have been removed. In the same photograph the windows were one-over-one sash in the upper story; those windows have been replaced with six-over-one pane windows. The owners of the specialty shop, Sweet Inspirations, have done partial restoration of the front of their store which reveals the old fenestration of small pane glass. The display windows have panels with appropriate moldings, and the doorway is wood with a glass insert. Originally the building housed H. C. Coffman's real estate agency, rental, and insurance firms.

28) 516-520 N. Market Boulevard 1904 Contributing
Upstairs Apartments/Book 'N Brush/D&J Wholesale Meats

This is a two-story brick building with a corbel cornice. Beneath the cornice is a pattern of masonry design and incorporated at the center is a plaque which gives the date of construction, 1904, and the name of the building, "H & N Block." Directly below is corbel work which extends across the front. Dominant features are the pilasters which bisect, and therefore divide, the other embellishments. Originally the pilasters were directly above the entrance. Centered on the front of the building "Hartman and Nathan" was painted on the brickwork directly above the second story windows. The first floor of the building has been altered. On the northern side of the building are the remains of an advertisement for Levi Strauss overalls. Hartman and Nathan began their business in 1890 and moved into this building in 1904. In 1919 Hartman was killed in an auto accident and his widow sold his share to Nuce Nathan who ran the business from then on. Nathan died in 1949. The store's manager subsequently bought the business and ran it for seven years, closing on December 31, 1956. The original business was what could have been called an old fashion general store (or mini-department store). Eventually it became strictly clothing, at first both men's and women's, but finally just women's.

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29) 534 N. Market Boulevard
Lewis County Blue Shield

1904

Contributing

This one-story common bond raked brick building has a raised parapet roof line with a bracketed cornice below. Adjoining this building was the Rush Building, a two-story brick building with Italianate influences. All that remains of the Rush Building is one of the iron piers that was once a part of the shared fire wall between the two buildings. The Rush Building was 50 X 112 feet and built for \$15,000 in 1909. It is now a parking lot.

30) 536 N. Market Boulevard
Lewis County Blue Shield

Non-contributing

31) 542 N. Market Boulevard
Lewis County Blue Shield

Non-contributing

32) 548 N. Market Boulevard
Lewis County Blue Shield

Non-contributing

33) 550 N. Market Boulevard
Yergen & Meyer LLD

Non-contributing

34) 556-558 N. Market Boulevard
CHEHALIS THEATER

1923

Contributing

This two-story Beaux Arts building has a flat roof line and is sided with gray granite. The date of construction is carved in the stone, above a row of four plain arches. This building was reconverted into a theater in 1996 and began showing movies again.

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35) 564-570 N. Market Boulevard 1910 Contributing
Mug Tree Restaurant/General Nutrition Center/Paperbacks Plus

This one-story Beaux Arts building with a flat roof line. It is sided in gray granite with four Doric pilasters each topped with carved urn-shaped finials. The plain cornice and frieze of this building complements the theater located next door.

Front Way

36) 599 Front Way 1912 Contributing
BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD DEPOT/Lewis County Museum

This building was built with a rectangular plan running parallel to the tracks. The majority of the roof is a medium pitch gable with parapet ends. These parapets slope upward from flat pedestals to a semi-circular detail over the ridge with corbel and some decorative brickwork. At one end of the building is an open porch supported by six piers, three to a side, with two engaged to the building. There is a stone base course with a stone belt course a few feet above it, both of which are continuous along all of the walls interrupted only by doorways. The windows rest on the belt course, and they are generally double-hung with a fixed transom. Stenciled around all sides of the porch support piers are the words, "DO NOT SPIT." This building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

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Name of Property Chehalis Downtown Historic District

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The Chehalis Downtown Historic District represents the culmination of three separate commercial development periods within the downtown core and comprises an intact collection of properties which reflect period architectural values and historical associations with the community's status as an important timber hub and freight exchange stop between south Puget Sound and Portland, Oregon.

The city of Chehalis is dedicated to historic preservation and to educating people about its important role in Washington state and Lewis County history. It already contains two designated historic districts. The Pennsylvania Avenue District and Hillside District are both listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The downtown area of Chehalis is located in the northeastern part of town and includes North Market Boulevard, Northwest Pacific Avenue, Northeast Cascade Avenue, Northeast Boistfort, Front Way, and Northeast Division. North Market Boulevard has a 25 mile-per-hour speed limit on its one-way street and stopping when any one of the many crosswalks are occupied is mandatory. It has a small town feel, with flowers and benches on the corners of the crosswalks and which are maintained regularly by city crews. The buildings in the downtown district are used for commerce, recreation, and culture, as well as residential.

The downtown area consists mainly of nineteenth-century, commercial style buildings constructed between 1890 and 1927. Within the district are two properties already individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places: the St. Helens Inn and the Lewis County Museum. Between these two buildings, along Market Boulevard, is the heart of the proposed Historic Downtown District. The street is lined with buildings of one to six-stories constructed during a period of major growth for the city. Statistics for 1890 show the population to be 1,309; by 1930 it had grown to 4,907.

The current downtown area is a third civic center of the city. (The original was located on West Main Street because of its proximity to the railroads which provided transportation and communication to and with the nearby areas and connected major cities such as Portland and Seattle, and also provided available real estate.) Elizabeth Barrett Saunders (nicknamed Eliza), the owner of the land, had platted three blocks from her Donation Land Claim of three hundred twenty acres (her share after divorcing

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her first husband). These three blocks allowed for growth in this fledgling town. Buildings were constructed around 1870 and among them was the first Lewis County Courthouse.

The second city center had shifted down West Main Street, from the original area, to the corner of Chehalis Avenue and West Main Street. "Eliza" platted more land this time; five parcels between 1881 and 1883. By 1891 the area had prospered and the new center included the city's first opera house (the Tynan Opera House), and the Barrett Block housing a bank and hotel. In 1892 two fires destroyed the second city center. The first fire burned one block of buildings and the second fire, only two months later, destroyed four blocks including thirty buildings. As the majority of the buildings were of wood construction the fires were difficult to contain; arson was suspected.

The third city center was built up along Market Boulevard where new buildings had just been completed a couple of years before the fires of 1892. In 1889 the first important commercial structure was built on Market Boulevard, the First National Bank. Other buildings quickly followed the community's leading bank. In 1891 the Chehalis Improvement Company constructed the first of two buildings, the Improvement Block. In 1892 the Columbus Block was completed in celebration of Christopher Columbus landing in the Americas four hundred years earlier. Soon after, construction of a fourth retail office structure, the Commercial Block, established an impressive modern building. Today the Columbus Block is called Market Square. All buildings remain except the original bank building which was razed in 1949. It is still the site of a bank, Wells Fargo. Between 1890 and 1894, the Chehalis Land and Timber Company, with financing from the first National Bank, constructed the St. Helens Hotel on Market at Cascade Avenue. (The proximity and visibility of Mt. St. Helens, fifty miles to the southeast, had long since been a source of civic pride.) In short, three years before the fires, Chehalis banking and real estate interests were already embarked on a major development project outside the traditional business corridor of Main Street.

The motives behind this effort to reshape the commercial geography of Chehalis seemed clear to the local journalist who characterized the activities of the Chehalis Improvement Company as an attempt by prominent citizens to insure a solid appearance for the town, as well as a profitable investment for themselves. The undertaking may also have been represented as an attempt, by civic boosters, to reduce Eliza Barrett Saunders' future role in urban growth by establishing a downtown outside of her

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control. The fires of 1892 contributed to the success of the effort to build a new business district by signaling dramatically and decisively Main Street's loss of preeminence.

New commercial buildings continued to be erected on Chehalis Avenue, Main Street and Market Boulevard, but the civic prominence of Market Boulevard was unchallenged after the 1890s. The "main" street of 20th-century Chehalis- Market Boulevard- was permanently established with the construction of two significant structures: a new civic center (1910)--consisting of the city hall and public library--was located at the southern end of the business district, on Market and Park and Cascade; then anchoring the northern end (at Market and Front Street), the Northern Pacific Railroad built its new depot in 1912 .

The commercial buildings of downtown Chehalis served both the demands of industry and the needs of residents. They housed a range of business activities including retail and general merchandise stores, professional offices, banks, hotels, restaurants and entertainment facilities, such as the St. Helen's and Chehalis theaters. Between 1890 and 1920, the most common building form in downtown Chehalis was the so-called, two-part commercial block, constructed of brick with relatively little exterior ornamentation. Most had two stories, although three-, four-, and even six-story blocks existed. The two-part distinction reflected the division of interior space between a street level story used for retail stores (or a bank lobby, for example) and upper level stories devoted to offices (or hotel rooms, perhaps)--an extremely flexible design that could accommodate a variety of commercial purposes. One-part commercial blocks were found both in and beyond the downtown core, often functioning as markets, laundries, and corner businesses.

There was great pride in any modernization that took place with the addition of each new building. Whenever a business owner updated his building or stock it was duly noted in the local paper. In 1912 a journalist for the Chehalis Bee-Nugget began an article with, "It would seem from present indications that Chehalis businessmen are not letting the grass grow under their feet in the line of improvements." The modern carbon-arc street lights suspended from wires, hand adjusted from poles in the 1890s to the constant repaving of the streets; wooden plats in 1904, brick by 1915, and finally cement by the 1930s are all examples of the city keeping up with the times. Public transportation is another example of urbanization. In 1909 street cars were introduced to the city. The route ran between Centralia and Chehalis and totaled fourteen miles of track. The cars left every half hour during the day, every hour at night until the "owl" trip was made. The cost was twenty-five cents for fourteen miles or one-and-

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Name of Property Chehalis Downtown Historic District

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eleven fourteenths of a cent per mile. One section of the track ran along northwest Pacific Avenue. The service ended in 1929 when it was replaced by buses. In 1943 the City of Centralia gave 155 tons of trolley car tracks to Uncle Sam to do their part for the wartime effort. Ten years later Chehalis also tore up their tracks and took them up to Coal Creek.

Between 1850 and 1950 the economy of Chehalis was closely linked to three industries: timber and wood products, agriculture and food processing, and minerals. All three fed the continuous growth of the city during this time.

The original building materials used in the downtown area (before the fires) was wood; later brick was used. The wood products industry manufactured furniture and the fabrication of pre-cut houses supplied two major American distributors of factory-built catalog houses--the Gordon-Vantine Company of Davenport Iowa and the Montgomery Ward Company.

The Chehalis Brick and Tile was established in 1902 and manufactured common brick, sewer and drain tile, and facing brick for southwest Washington and the Olympic Peninsula markets. It closed in October, 1988.

Although the third Chehalis industry has not contributed to the building industry, its presence is well known in the mint industry. I.P. Callison & Sons has been making peppermint and spearmint oil since 1900. They have been in Chehalis, a mere two blocks from the Lewis County Museum, since 1931. This industry's minty smell has been perfuming the air around downtown ever since.

The district is occupied by retail shops, professional offices, upper-story apartments, restaurants, and pubs. After 6pm the street is kept alive with people dining at the restaurants and socializing at the local pubs. Chehalis, Washington is one of the state's most active historic preservation advocates. The closeness of the community is evident by observing the residents greeting each other as they pass on the streets. The city continues to maintain its small town atmosphere and charm.

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UTM Coordinates:

- 1) 10 / 502230 / 5167890
- 2) 10 / 502290 / 5167940
- 3) 10 / 502520 / 5176800
- 4) 10 / 502520 / 5167630
- 5) 10 / 502420 / 5167640
- 6) 10 / 502260 / 5167730

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

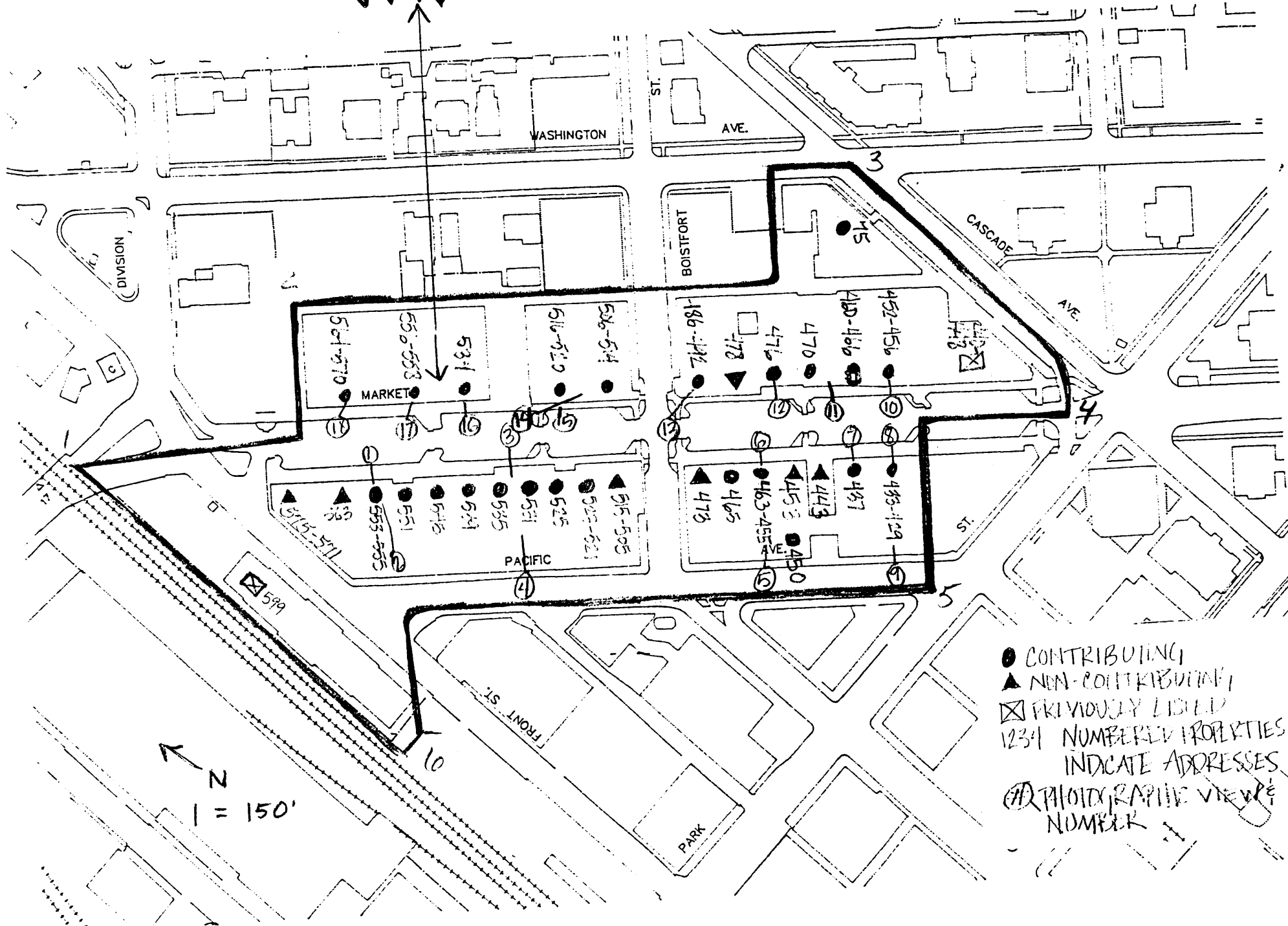
The district is a rough rectangular unit bound by the UTM coordinate points identified on the attached sketch map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

These boundaries are based upon a cohesive commercial area which constitutes the most intact commercial district with the greatest number of contributing properties. Historic boundaries would have included N.W. Chehalis Avenue, N.W. Pacific Avenue, and N.W. Cascade Avenue to the intersections of W. Street. Unfortunately there were too many non-contributing properties between W. Main Street and Market Boulevard to form a cohesive historic district. Market Boulevard is the heart of the downtown district. These boundaries were drawn to include Market Boulevard and three properties just off Market Boulevard with strong integrity standards.

Chehalis, Lewis Co., WA

5364
5424
5484
5504



- CONTRIBUTING
- ▲ NON-CONTRIBUTING
- ⊠ PREVIOUSLY LISTED
- 1234 NUMBERED PROPERTIES INDICATE ADDRESSES
- ⑩ PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEW POINT NUMBER

Chehalis Downtown Historic District, Lewis Co., WA