

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Oregon
COUNTY:	Multnomah
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	OCT 15 1974

1. NAME

COMMON: (Oregon Pioneer Savings Landmark Building)

AND/OR HISTORIC: First National Bank

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 401 SW 5th Avenue Representative Edith Green

CITY OR TOWN: Portland CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Oregon Third Congressional District

STATE: Oregon CODE: 41 COUNTY: Multnomah CODE: 051

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Oregon Pioneer Savings and Loan Association

STREET AND NUMBER: 401 SW 5th Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Portland STATE: Oregon CODE: 41

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Multnomah County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Portland STATE: Oregon CODE: 41

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

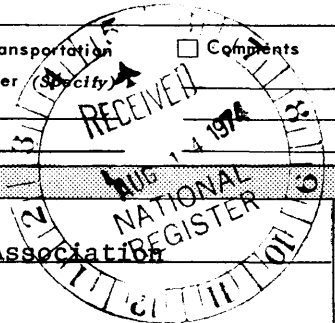
DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Parks and Recreation Section

STREET AND NUMBER: Oregon State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon CODE: 41

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Oregon

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

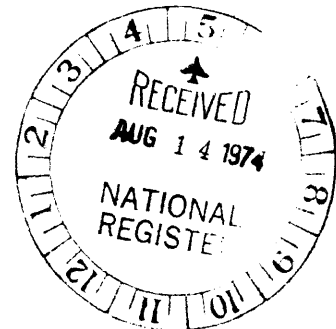
Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old First National Bank Building, now the Oregon Pioneer Savings Landmark Building, on the south-west corner of SW 5th Avenue and Stark Street in downtown Portland, was designed by the Boston firm of architect Coolidge and Shattuck and is considered by many to be the finest example of Neo-Classical bank architecture on the West Coast. Construction was completed in 1916 at a cost of \$400,000.

The ground plan of the building is square, measuring 100 x 100 feet. There are two storeys and a basement. The order of the facade is Greek Doric, and bears strong resemblance in over-all design and detail to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC, with which it is contemporary. The overall massing is a simple block with a pediment carried on four columns set in the 5th Avenue side and an entablature and cornice with anthemion and lion masks atop four piers set in the Stark Street side. A finely carved frieze of fretwork triglyphs and decorated metopes surrounds the top of the main block beneath a simple cornice. A small attic storey set back from the cornice sits atop the flat roof, much like that on the Lincoln Memorial. It houses a skylight and is decorated with sharply carved garland swags, also similar to the Lincoln Memorial. The exterior, like the Lincoln Memorial, is of Colorado Yule marble, which is extremely hard and fine-grained.

The lower floor of the interior was remodeled in 1961, and though appropriate in its simplicity to the character of the building, is not original. At this time the broad stairway to the second floor, which was originally the main banking chamber, was removed. The grandly heroic upper chamber happily survives. Flanked on either side by Ionic columns, it has a Botticini marble floor (now carpeted) and is illuminated by a broad glass roof.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1916

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The First National Bank of Oregon, originally the First National Bank of Portland, was the first chartered national bank west of the Rocky Mountains, receiving a Federal charter in September of 1865, with a capital stock of \$100,000. At that time the population of Portland was 6,100. By the time of the First World War, Portland had grown to over 250,000, bank deposits to \$16 million, and the increase in business made a new building necessary. Two lots were acquired at 5th Avenue at the SW corner of Stark Street, and Abbot Low Mills, president of the bank, contracted an old chum from college days at Harvard, Charles A. Coolidge, to design the building. The result, by Coolidge and Shattuck of Boston, is the building which stands today.

It is often noted that the building, now known as the Oregon Pioneer Savings Landmark Building, bears strong resemblance in form and detail to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC. A relationship may be more than coincidental. The then-fashionable Neo-Classical revival, led by McKim, Mead and White, Henry Bacon and John Russell Pope, Bacon, designer of the Lincoln Memorial in 1913, was based in Boston as were Coolidge and Shattuck. Furthermore both Charles Coolidge and Charles McKim at one time worked for Henry Hobson Richardson, and William Whidden worked for McKim, Mead and White before Henry Bacon worked for Whidden. Whidden, incidentally, with Ion Lewis, designed the Portland City Hall.

The old First National Bank building appeared to be doomed after the bank moved to a new 40-storey tower in 1972 and was unable to find a buyer for its former headquarters. The Portland City Council temporarily designated the structure as an historic landmark for a six-month period ending in June, after which demolition was to be authorized as requested by the bank. Just after the expiration of this grace period, the building was bought by the Oregon Pioneer Savings and Loan Association for half the asking price of \$700,000. Oregon Pioneer was founded in 1959 with a capital stock of \$358,000, and by 1972 the rapidly growing \$33 million institution was in need of new headquarters. They renamed the building the Oregon Pioneer Savings Landmark Building, undertook a program of cleaning and refinishing, and made minor changes such as addition of a bronze plate with their own name under the pediment. Oregon Pioneer Savings has expressed their intent to preserve and maintain this extremely fine example of the Neo-Classical architecture in its original condition.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Barker, Burt Brown, "90 Years of Progress in Oregon," First National Bank Statement, July-August, 1955, pp. 9-12.

Huxtable, Ada Louise, "Portland's 1st National Accused of Architectural Double Whammy," Oregonian, July 2, 1972, Forum section, p. 2.

McMath, George and Vaughan, Thomas, A Century of Portland Architecture, (Portland; Oregon Historical Society, 1967) p. 143.
(Continued)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

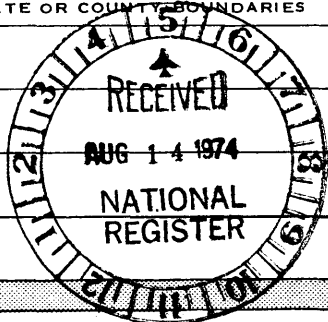
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES												
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE												
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds								
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	45	°	31	'	15	"	122	°	40	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"											
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"											
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"											

32

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: c. 1/4 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Paul Hartwig, Park Historian, and D. W. Powers III, Temporary Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Oregon State Highway Division DATE: August 1, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem 97310 STATE: Oregon CODE: 41

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

David G. Falkner
Name

Title State Parks Superintendent

Date August 7, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. R. Winters
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 10/15/74

ATTEST:
W. H. ...
Keeper of The National Register

Date 10.11.74

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE		Oregon	
COUNTY		Multnomah	
FOR NPS USE ONLY			
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE	
		OCT 15 1974	

(Number all entries)

OREGON PIONEER SAVINGS LANDMARK BUILDING (CONTINUED)

2. Location

The Oregon Pioneer Savings Landmark Building is in the NW 1/4 Sec. 3, T. 1S., R. 1E., of the Willamette Meridian, Multnomah County, Oregon, City of Portland, original platt, Block 175, Lots 1 & 2, Assessors Map 3029.5.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Oregon Journal, "S & L Buys Landmark Bank Building," July 26, 1972, p. 1.

