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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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 Meacham Hotel

other names/site number Marlin Hotel, Melody Mountain Camp

2. Location

street & number Main Street not for publication city or town Meacham vicinity state Oregon code OR county Umatilla code 059 zip code 97859

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official / Deputy SHPO

June 20, 2001 Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office 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 of Keeper

Date of Action

8/6/02

Meacham Hotel
Name of Property

Umatilla County, Oregon
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)
 private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)
 building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Inn, Hotel
Commerce Restaurant

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Hotel
Recreation Camps/retreats

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: other (folk, transitional)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation wood, stone, concrete
walls wood
roof wood, shingle, aluminum
other

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection 7 Page 1 Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon**SUMMARY PARAGRAPH:**

The Meacham or Marlin Hotel is a two story, 4,350 sq. ft. building built in 1899. The structure is a wood frame, cedar droplap siding, metal roof building on a foundation of hand-hewn beams, rocks and pilings. The structure has a gable roof and is designed in a "T" shape with a porch running the complete west face of the front along Main Street. The porches and top-most gable have some wood scrollwork to suggest early attempts at Victorian influence on an otherwise functional, utilitarian structure. The hotel itself is situated on Block 1 of the original town of Meacham, facing west, on the east side of Main Street, Union Pacific Railroad and The Oregon Trail (now Highway 30), which lay north to south. Behind the hotel, the landscape slopes down to Meacham Creek, then slopes up adjacent to Umatilla National Forest land.

SETTING:

The Meacham Hotel is located on the east side of Highway 30, the Union Pacific Railroad and the original Main Street of Meacham. The surrounding buildings - another hotel, a train depot and large log eating house - have all either burned down or have been destroyed over 70 years ago. The hotel sits on what is left of two town blocks, designed to be on the corner of Main and Jarvis Street. Jarvis Street was never officially opened and the town was never developed to include the 72 lots and park on a central square as planned. The land lies in a low spot surrounded by a sloping terrain on the north, east and west sides, with an outlet to the south, which Meacham Creek and the railroad follow. The Creek flows north behind the hotel approximately 400 feet to the east. The area behind the hotel (east) running to the south is a natural meadow basin with a stream running through. It has a small deer & elk population as well as waterfowl (i.e. king fishers, heron, ducks, osprey, hawks and eagles). Highway 30, the Union Pacific Railroad and Main Street all run parallel to each other 200 feet away, suggesting the strategic placement of the hotel and the role it played in the commercial activity of Meacham's past.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES:**A. Basic Shape & Dimensions, Number of Stories –**

The hotel is two story with a modified third floor storage/loft. The shape of the building is a "T". The portion running north/south contains the dining room portion with kitchen downstairs and bedrooms upstairs. The east/west portion includes the lobby, bedrooms and remaining upstairs rooms. The first floor is 2,650 sq. ft. running 63' x 42'. The second floor is 1,700 sq. ft. and its' total dimensions are 63' x 35'. The building is built on a slope so that the front entrance is at ground level while the back end facing east is approx. 3 feet above the ground.

B. Basic Structural Details:

The perimeter wall foundations are 12x12 treated beams, resting on concrete pads and pier block. There is a post and beam system underneath with a crawl space two feet in front (west) sloping downward to three feet in the back (east) of the building. The foundation needs replacement and is putting the building at risk at this time. The sub-floor is 1x12 planks resting on 4x10 joists, with 2x10 floor joists and double layer 1x8 wood flooring on top. The walls are framed and have 1 x 10 interior wallboards and exterior cedar droplap siding. The original plans have never been found so the actual design of the back (east) of the hotel is vague. There is exterior siding on the walls in the back stairway entrance and storage landing suggesting the stairway was an addition at a later date and this portion was at one time exposed. The roofing material was wood shingle which has been 95% covered with metal roofing due to severe snow in winter months. The only portion not covered is a portion over the kitchen at the north end of the hotel.

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Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon

C. Exterior Features:

The hotel's main feature is the rising gable over the front main entrance. It has Victorian scrollwork. The fascia board and molding on cornices leans towards Greek revival style. The hotel's porches running along the entire front (west) side include 6x6 support posts that have scrollwork brackets on each side. All but two are original. The windows on the west main floor are one-over-one double hung wood sash while the north/south end walls are one-over-one single hung wood sash windows. The hotel has an icehouse in the back, now attached and accessible down a pantry hall off the kitchen. The icehouse is insulated with sawdust from the old mills that were here and coal gravel from the railroad. A large block ice window is located in the west wall to pass ice in from a wagon outside. The room is approximately 12' x 20' with a large one foot thick insulated door. The porch off the kitchen that accessed the well and icehouse was enclosed in the 1960's and has a single door entrance that goes outside to the well and concrete landing. The well house is a four-post shiplap box with roof and door for a rope and bucket. It sits on a large poured concrete landing that runs from the north dining room window to the kitchen door and is approximately 12' x 20'. The east side of the hotel has a long porch with two back door entrances. The support posts do not have scrollwork brackets like those found in front. The porch stands three feet off the ground and is 40' long. This porch was enclosed in the 1960's to add a game room and storage. The front of the hotel facing Main Street has two poured concrete sidewalks leading from Main Street to the porches. One leading to an outdoor entrance to the dining room has the words "Dining Room" inscribed into the concrete on the street end; the other sidewalk leads to the Hotel porch and has "Hotel" inscribed on the Main Street end.

D. Interior Characteristics and Features

Spatial Organization:

The entrance on the west front porch opens into the first floor lobby. It is a well-lit 21' x 27' room with 12' ceilings. There are two sets of one-over-one double hung wood sash windows – a set on both sides of the front door and a single hung on the south wall. The north wall has two large double doors opening into the dining room. Life witness accounts say that the north quarter of this room used to be a downstairs bedroom and that a support post in the room was the corner of the enclosed walls. The dining room door was a single door entrance for hotel guests. The east wall, north of the back hall doorway has a built in original arch and alcove-type opening into the back office room. Accounts of witnesses tell that this back room was use as a hot bath room for guests. The far southeast corner holds the stairwell and banister rail to access the second floor. A brick chimney, encased in wood and covered with wallpaper, was used with a parlor stove in the lobby; it was torn out in the 1980's for fire safety reasons. The back hallway leads to an exit door to the 40' back porch. Halfway down, two rooms are accessed with doors on either side, both rooms being 14' x 11'. The south room has a one-over-one single hung sash window opening to a southern exposure, while the north room (old hot bath room) has an east window opening onto the back porch. The dining room is a large 36' x 18' room with beams and a 12' vaulted ceiling. Large beams create six evenly proportioned areas on the ceiling. The room has an exterior door to the front porch and Main Street access.

Three other doors give lobby access, a washroom door and kitchen door. There is a four foot long serving window for food service on the east wall next to the swinging kitchen door. The door, which is original, has an oval stained glass frame and window. The dining room has two sets of double hung sash windows facing out to Main Street on the west wall and one one-over-one single hung sash window on the north wall. The kitchen work area has been enlarged through the years and was originally an 18' x 14' kitchen with a back porch door on the north wall out to the well and icehouse. The south wall has a doorway leading to the washroom where a small 4' x 4' water closet and sink were added when plumbing arrived. (Plumbing was maintained and provided to the hotel by the Union Pacific Railroad in the early 20's until the UPRR shut down the well in the 1970's.)

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Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon

Accounts of using a pitcher hand pump in the kitchen dates back to the early 20's. The washroom was a multi-purpose room used by guests and staff alike. There is an exit door to the back porch on the east wall and on the north side a door going up a stairwell to the second floor – a housekeeping and staff stairway. This room is of odd shape (14' x 14') because of alterations.

The upstairs has eight bedrooms and two baths. The hotel east to west side, has one long 35' hallway with three bedrooms on the south side and a downstairs access door. The north wall has two bedroom doors, bathroom and adjoining hallway running north to south over dining room below. Life accounts have said that the two bathrooms were once one bedroom before indoor plumbing. This room would not have had a window. All other rooms upstairs have windows. The two west end bedrooms look out over the front porch and each has double hung one-over-one sash windows. All other rooms upstairs contain single hung windows. The north south hallway includes three sections: a twelve-foot portion on the south, a sixteen-foot portion on the north, and a four-foot portion connecting the two. The first hall has a bathroom door access on the east side and a front bedroom door access on the west side. The hall turns and leads to a doorway to downstairs. This stairway provided staff access and includes a storage landing and attic space lit by a gabled window over the storage landing. The hallway on the second floor also leads to two more rooms with a doorway seven feet down the hall that closed off the two rooms for a possible suite or staff quarters. This portioned the rooms off from the rest of the hotel and shared a chimney from downstairs so both rooms contained parlor stoves. The chimney allowed a stovepipe from the dining room to come up through the floor and connect out the roof.

Principle Finishes and Subsequent Changes:

The Meacham Hotel was left abandoned in 1951. Until 1965, when restoration began, it was subject to vandalism and disrepair. All windows were broken out, wiring and plumbing stripped. Most wallpaper was water damaged or torn off. The doors were split with hatchets for kindling and fires were burned in the upstairs bathroom tubs. Though the structural components are all original, there are no principle finishes left on the interior of the building except one room. It only contains the last wallpaper before the hotel was abandoned. The walls are 1 x 10 boards with muslin nailed on with tacks. Most of this is still intact with the wallboard, sheetrock or paper placed over it. The exterior of the hotel was originally a dark mustard brown stain color. It was painted white later (approximately 1938-1940) and given black trim on all windows. The current paint is all white. There are no decorative wood moldings or trim inside that is original to the building. Any such trim would have been stripped when the building was abandoned. We have no way of knowing what might have been inside to replace. Under the dining room woodwork paint on the doorway to the washroom was found a sign painted in scrollwork "WASHROOM" on the first layer. The wainscoting in the dining room is still intact, but has eight to ten layers of paint. The double door wood cook stove in the kitchen (no longer in use) and two claw foot tubs upstairs are all that was left intact in the building.

A summary of changes to the hotel include:

- A.) Back porch enclosed in 1965
- B.) North kitchen porch to ice house enclosed 1965
- C.) Front lobby, northwest corner bedroom walls torn out to make larger room – pre 1950
- D.) Enclosed back stairway – pre 1950
- E.) Chimney removed – 1980's

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Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon

Proposed Restoration:

The hotel needs immediate assistance to ensure its' survival. The following items have been prioritized to undergo restoration.

1. Foundation – The proposed plan is to draw water away from the foundation to reduce frost heaves and settling by putting in drain rock and perforated pipe around a poured foundation footing along the perimeter of the hotel. A laid block foundation on a poured footing would make a level resting place for the building. Some beams need replacing and new pilings should be set at recommended intervals. Blueprints have been drawn and estimates given.
2. New roof material – The roofing metal needs to be replaced at this time. The shingles underneath need to come off and a sub-roof put on. A fire resistant shake looking tile that meets fire safety codes is available as a replacement material.
3. Repainting – The structure needs to be stripped, sanded smooth, patched, filled and repainted.
4. Rebuilt porches – The building has settled since the last leveling in 1965. The porches are pulling away from the building and need repair.

These are immediate needs, and plans at this time. Further phases include interior renovation to period style, better insulation, central heat, reproduction thermal windows and doors, updated bath facilities with a handicap bath/shower and stool, etc.

Historic Meacham Hotel & Retreat Center, Inc. was started as a non-profit corporation in October of 1998. It is a recognized 501 (c 3) corporation by The U.S. Internal Revenue Service. The purpose of the corporation is to restore, protect and see the hotel used by the surrounding community. Currently, a youth and retreat organization uses the facility. It is used year – round by youth groups, service groups, public schools, adult clubs, etc.

Outbuildings

Buildings in the nominated parcel include a woodshed, tool shed, and shop. None of these resources are contributing to the nomination, as they did not exist during the majority of the period of significance and they do not retain a sufficient degree of integrity.

Meacham Hotel
Name of Property

Umatilla County, Oregon
County and State

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation
Architecture

Period of Significance

1899 - 1951

Significant Dates

1899 date built
1923 President Harding visits
1951 closed doors

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.

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

"Meacham A Wide spot On The Oregon Trail" Betty Booth Stewart 1996 Crossroads Books

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
- Name of repository: _____

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Section 8 Page 1

Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon

INTRODUCTION:

The Meacham Hotel has stood as a landmark for travelers by train, horse, buggy, and automobile since 1899. Built by Benjamin Marlin, an entrepreneur of the time, the hotel was placed on the corner of Main Street as a new town boomed. The Hotel has seen Meacham change from 3,000 people to less than 100 in the past 100 years. It has played an active role in the development of the railroad, serving guests that were passengers on the Union Pacific Railroad. Other guests included engineers, building and construction foremen for the railroad. The hotel also accommodated highway developers for the first paved roads in the 1920's.

The Hotel stands near the site of the Oregon Trail, where commemorative wagon trains pass by annually. Ezra Meeker himself passed through, stopping in Meacham to mark the trail. President Harding stopped to commemorate the trail, speaking to several thousand gathered in the meadows behind the hotel in 1923. The military utilized the services of the hotel during WWI when a contingent of soldiers stood on guard at Meacham to protect the railroad, trestles and tunnels from sabotage.

Over the span of 100 years, the hotel and its history tells the story of the westward movement, the coming of the railroad, the ending of privatization/toll roads and the beginning of our state highway system. For all these reasons, the Meacham Hotel strongly qualifies under criterion A for its role in transportation. The unique style of the hotel construction is an example of design and function. For its time, the hotel was an extravagant building for its location. It was a Victorian style structure with scrollwork in an isolated, heavy snow, high elevation area, surrounded by a railroad, stockyard and two sawmills. The hybrid style blending variations of Victorian, Greek revival cornices and steep pitched roofs for snow, make it uniquely qualified as an example of local period architecture under Criterion C.

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

The history of the Meacham Hotel is not complete without an understanding of the site on which it stands. The site itself plays significantly in the relationship between the hotel and the people who worked and stayed there. The area had long been known as Lee's Encampment where travelers could rest, graze and water stock in the large meadow at the summit before heading down either side of the Blue Mountains. In 1862, two brothers, Harvey and Alfred Meacham established a toll road and supply station in the meadow known as Lee's Encampment. Tolls on the road were 40 cents for pack animals, 50 cents for footmen and \$1.00 for horsemen. In 1865, with profits made, the Meacham brothers built a log hotel, store and barn called "Meacham Station". The Umatilla & Boise Line of the Concord Stages passed through and stopped at Meacham, a regular stop as advertised in posters and newspapers of 1864. Stage coaches, pack trains, freight and covered wagons all needed supplies, food and shelter. The Meacham Station supplied all these as a main stop on the mountain summit. Between 1868 & 1869, the Meacham brothers closed out business due to the death of Harvey by a falling tree and the appointment of Alfred as superintendent of Indian affairs in Oregon.

The coming of the railroad in 1882 opened a new chapter in the life of the little stage town. The Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company (OR&N) began construction through the Blue Mountains from the west in 1882. Meacham became one of the many construction camps filled with workers and equipment to connect a line from Boise to Portland. Between 1,700 and 2,500 men camped in Meacham, including a Chinese camp separate from the other workers. The mail began to be delivered daily and the railroad requested a post office be built. By 1884 the railroad line was completed. Some workers stayed on to work cutting cordwood, others at a local sawmill that made railroad ties. Some of the Chinese stayed on to cook or do laundry.

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Section 8 Page 2

Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon

A lull hit the town as the railroad workers dispersed until J.C. Arnold proposed a land venture in Meacham. Land sales, which began in 1890, created an opportunity for development in the area. Mr. Arnold and a Mr. Jarvis invested in 40 acres and drew up 72 town lots and a park. At this time, along with two sawmills and the post office, there were other establishments including a school, railroad depot and a railroad eating house, and an old hotel south of what would become the location of the new Meacham Hotel. The railroad eating house, known as Grandma Munra's, was designed of logs in a gothic medieval structure with a large boardwalk extending out to the tracks where passengers disembarked. The establishment earned a reputation as "The Delmonico of the Blue Mountains." The establishment built in 1895, three years before the Meacham Hotel, was destroyed by fire in 1902. The Marlin or Meacham Hotel is the only structure left standing today that served railroad passengers from this era.

History of The Meacham Hotel:

Mr. Benjamin Marlin purchased one of the town lots in 1882 and over time acquired all the lots in four blocks on the east side of the railroad. He purchased the old hotel for \$660.00. He then built the new hotel on a corner of Main Street closest to the tracks. By the turn of the century, the "old" hotel, the new "Marlin" or Meacham Hotel, and the railroad eating house operated by Grandma Munra, provided rooms and meals to railroad passengers, travelers, sheep and cattlemen, employees of the railroad, and vacationers. A steady stream of visitors and workmen kept the Meacham Hotel busy. The dining room became busier with the destruction by fire in 1902 of the railroad eating house. Personal accounts tell us that a boardwalk extended down from the depot to the front porch of the hotel dining room. During busy times of the year, thirty to thirty-five people were served meals three times a day. The train crews ate there and a telegram would be sent ahead to let the hotel know when and how many meals to serve.

The Marlin's themselves were important to the community. They owned a considerable amount of property and both hotels. The Meacham Hotel was a center for news and social interaction locally and regionally. Many travelers with horse and buggy would stay the night and have supper and breakfast before finishing a trip over the mountains. With the coming of the highway in 1923, the hotel saw an increase in trade with the crews and foremen that stayed and ate in the hotel during the highway construction. To commemorate this new highway that stretched across the Old Oregon Trail route, President Warren Harding scheduled a stop with his Presidential railroad car in Meacham. The July 3, 1923 day festivities included a parade, pageant, luncheon, and speech by the President. Several thousand came by horse, buggy and train to camp at Meacham. Local Indians set up tipi villages and the area saw the largest celebration in its history. The hotel boarded many important dignitaries that came for the festivities. After the completion of the highway, the hotel business began to decline. Several restaurants opened on the highway and took the travel and truck trade away from the hotel. The reduced time it now took to travel the mountain diminished the overnight stay customers. The hotel remained open to crews and lodgers until 1951 when it closed its doors. The role that the Meacham Hotel has had in the development of the railroad is one of supporting its workers and passengers. The Hotel sustained its livelihood by the services it provided. Its closure came only when its services were no longer needed due to changing times and climate of the transportation industry and its progressive development.

The life span of the hotel has transcended the conditions of the times and has remained intact to serve another generation in the field of hospitality that is not affected by transportation issue. Yet today, through further research, life-accounts and historical documentation, much can be learned about the impact it had on the development of the railroad, highways and communities that are vital in eastern Oregon. It is a piece in a larger puzzle that has its well-deserved place among buildings that have supported change and growth in the history of our nation.

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Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon

The hotel today is maintained and preserved by the Thornburg family who have owned and operated a youth camp and retreat facility since 1965. The recent founding of "Historic Meacham Hotel & Retreat Center" has been to further develop interest and support in preserving and protecting the hotel for the enjoyment and use of future generations.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT:

In the region of eastern Oregon, the only examples of architecture left that compare to the Meacham Hotel are in the surrounding towns of Pendleton and LaGrande. There are homes built in the same period that contain elements of architecture like the hotel but none with the combination and uniqueness that the hotel represents. This is due in part to the location of the hotel. The hotel structure is missing some of the more elaborate features found in Victorian homes in town because of the harsh winter weather and the "no frills" environment on the mountain. The scrollwork on the porch posts and highest gable peak out front suggest something special about the building in contrast to other buildings in town. We have some photo records of buildings in town, mainly the log eating house, depot and water tower. None had the style of the hotel.

The importance of the style in this case is that it is the only existing structure left from the turn of the century in the Meacham area. There are several old cabins that have flat sides and dovetail joints, but all structures of sawn board siding and double hung windows are gone except the Denson store built in 1915. Its style is quite different from the hotel. The fact that there are no buildings left with which to compare the hotel is significant enough to recognize it as a unique structure that should be preserved and protected under Criterion C.

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Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon

Documentation on the Meacham Hotel is small, almost non-existent. Mrs. Stewarts' book, "A Wide Spot On The Oregon Trail", 1996 is the only book published solely on Meacham, and the only book to have a chapter on the hotel.

There are references to the hotel in other books and a few photos. Some of those photos have been included in the report submitted last May 2001.

Below are references used from Mrs. Stewart's book as resources. Other writers, references and personal accounts from interviews that pertain to the hotel are also Included.

- 1.) Purchase of property, 1898, all lots in 4 blocks on east side of tracks the site of the Hotel construction: Warranty Deed, Book 25, pp 419 -421, Umatilla County.
- 2.) Accounts of Hotel operation in 1910's, Memoirs of Elsie Booth, pp 23-25
- 3.) Photo of Meacham Hotel c 1900 -"From Trails To Rails, The Post Offices, Stage Stop and Wagon Roads of Union County, Oregon" Irene Barklow 1987, P 22 courtesy of Union County Museum Society and LaGrande Public Library
- 4.) Reference to hotel where dinner was served and people spent the summer, references to the visit of President Harding for 4 of July celebration to commemorate The Oregon trail and completion of highway in 1923; "Way Back When", Mildred Searcey 1972 pp 184-189.
- 5.) References to 3 hotels in Meacham; "Old" Hotel, Marlin or Meacham Hotel built in 1895; Katherine Munra's Eating House built in 1895. "All had no shortage of customers..." (photo of Meacham Hotel, 1910). Pioneer Trails: Umatilla County Historical Society Journal Vol.24, No.1, Spring 2000, p 25
- 6.) Passengers waiting for train with Meacham Hotel in background, 1910, Rae W. Dudley photo, "Umatilla County: A Backward Glance" Umatilla County Historical Society, 1980 p 132
- 7.) Meacham Hotel account of posse/ manhunt for murders of Umatilla County Sheriff, Til Taylor. Posse brought suspects to Hotel and had dinner. Lynching almost occurred outside. "A Wide Spot On The Oregon Trail" Betty Booth Stewart, 1996, p 140.

Oral History Records

- 1.) Betty Storie Dockweiler: Grandfather Deter A. Dockweiler worked with hotel/property owner Earl Gillanders as a carpenter for 20 to 30 years 1920's to 1950's. Accounts remembering Mr. Gillanders and hotel. Her great-grandparents homesteaded in Meacham and her great-grandfather, Jack Dockweiler is buried in the Meacham Cemetery. She is retired and lives in Pendleton,OR.
- 2.) Russell & Kate Edmonds: Lived in the hotel in 1958, managed the Skyline Restaurant and Tavern on the highway across the tracks. They account renting the hotel when vacant to live in and almost freezing to death trying to stay warm. They moved to a cabin in the middle of winter and left at the end of 1958 to go to Portland.
- 3.) Roxie Quick: Lived in a house above the hotel on the hill, other side of the creek during the 1950's. The house is on the property, now abandoned. Remembers the hotel boarded up and vacant. Accounts life with brother and sister on property, the cattle that were on the grazing land, sheep and shepherders, cabins, walking to the store, etc. Lives in the Portland, Oregon area.
- 4.) Penny, Bev and Diann Kent: daughters of Bruce and Mildred Kent. Accounts of hotel and town. Father Bruce worked at Emigrant State Park nearby in 1953-54. Accounts of hotel and manager Bill Morgan before closing, a ski lodge and 1-room schoolhouse. Now live in Idaho and Washington State.

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Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon

- 5.) Bruno (now deceased) & Lora Mae Falk: Bruno lived in Meacham from 1917 with his brothers. His accounts of Meacham include railroad work, a small passenger plane that crashed going under power lines on the hill east of the hotel on the property. He remembered the hotel having a small patronage and people renting it out as a residence until the late 1950's. He remembers the sawmill and logging, split cordwood stacked to load on train cars to go to the Willamette Valley.
- 6.) Percy Folsom: Lived in "Folsom Cabin" on property across bridge. Grandson lives in Pasco, Washington, and has come to see his grandfather's cabin on occasion. Donated picture of back of hotel taken by grandfather from cabin. Percy sold cabin and lot to Earl Gillanders in the late 1950s when he retired as a shepherd from Cunningham Sheep Company.

Meacham Hotel
Name of Property

Umatilla County, Oregon
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	11	389110	5040135	3		
2				4		

Verbal Boundary Description Lots 7, 8 & 9 of Block 1 of the original plat of the town of Meacham, Umatilla County, Oregon.

Boundary Justification The nominated area which consists of three lots within block 1 of the original town site of Meacham contains the one historic contributing building and three non-contributing buildings.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lon L. Thornburg
organization Historic Meacham Hotel & Retreat Center Inc date 11/26/00
street & number P.O. Box 35, In Town telephone 541 983-2233
city or town Meacham state OR zip code 97859

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

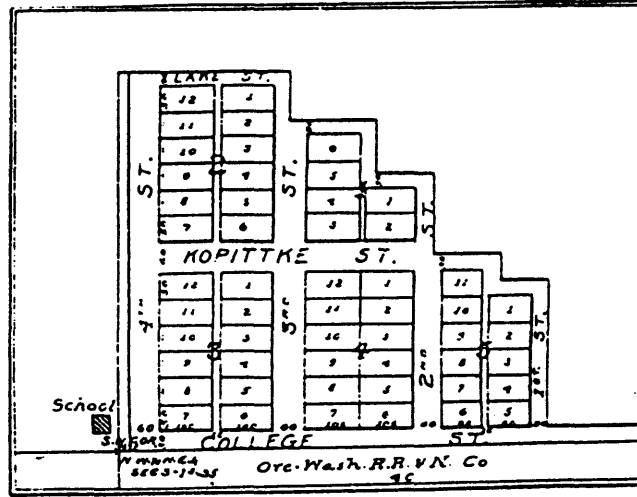
name Herschel Thornburg
street & number P.O. Box 434 telephone 503 538-2262
city or town Newberg state OR zip code 97132

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

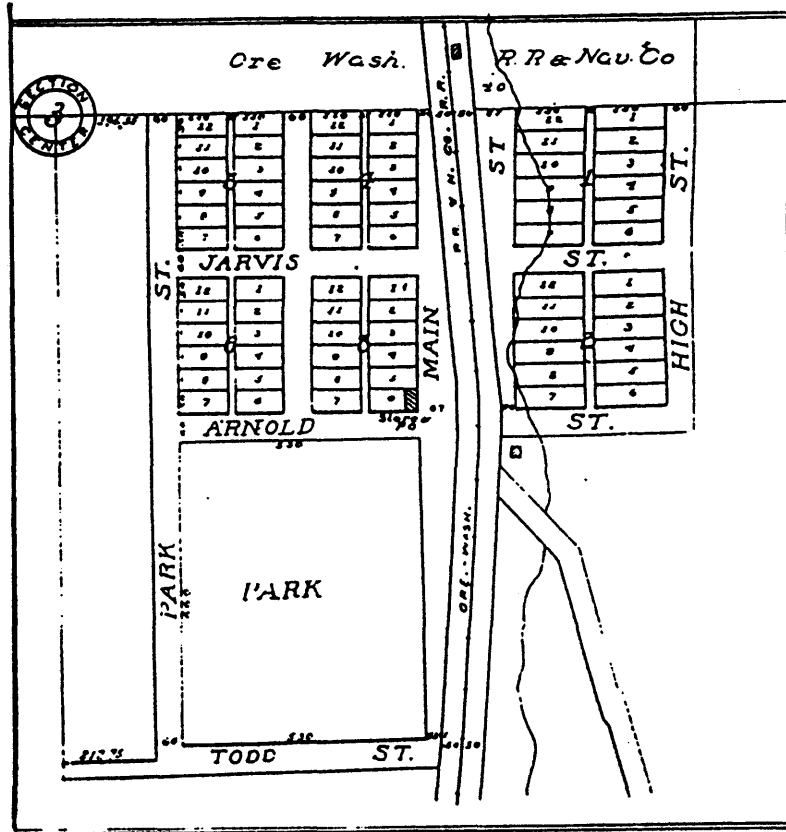
ETNA

TWP. 1 S., RGE. 35 E.



MEACHAM

TWP. 1 S., RGE. 35 E.



From Plat Map Umatilla Co.

R.35 E.W.M.

IS 35 03DB

MEACHAM

Aerial Photo No. NZ-7P-6

Y

NO. 33

STREET

U. P. R. R.

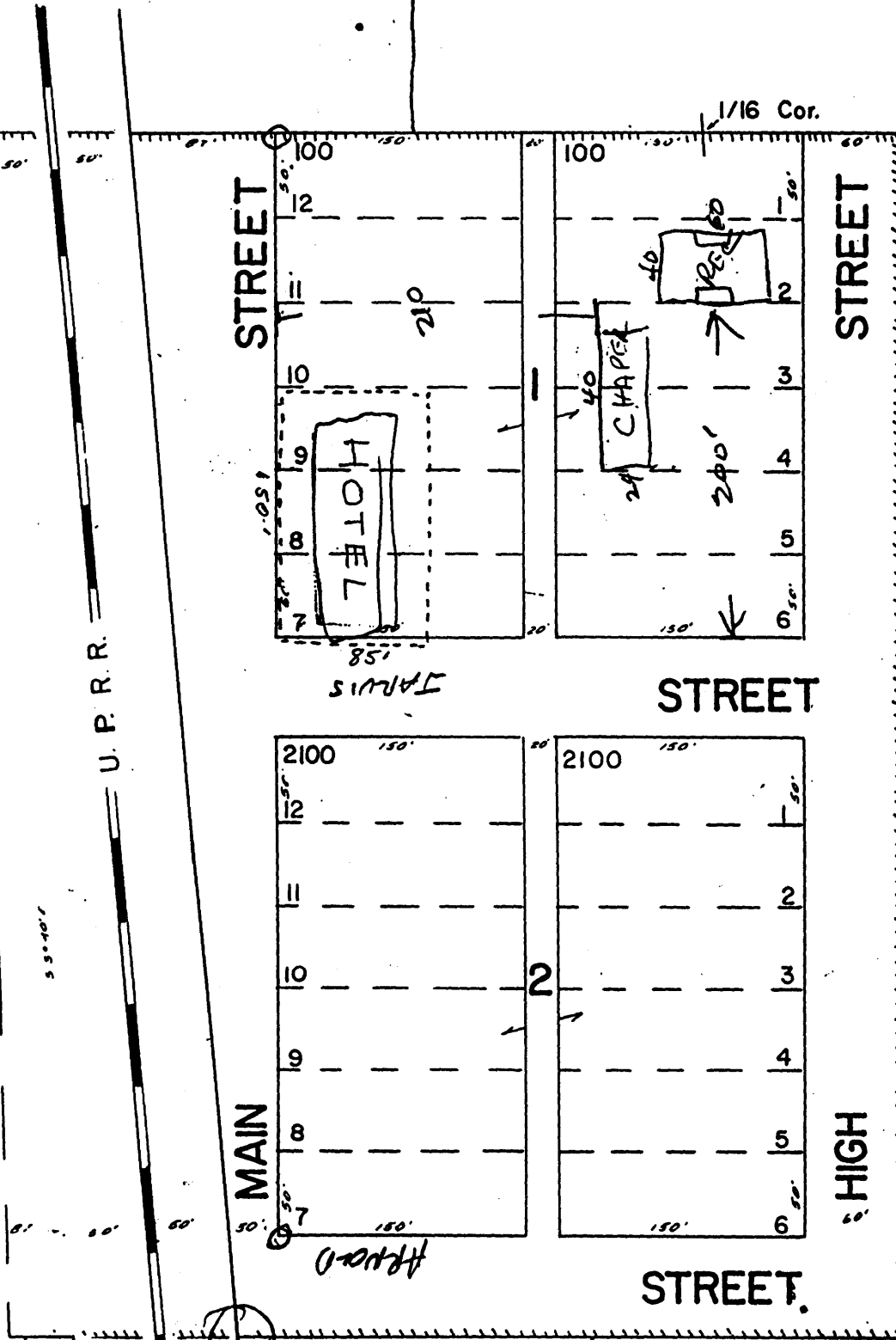
MAIN

MAIN

STREET

HIGH

STREET



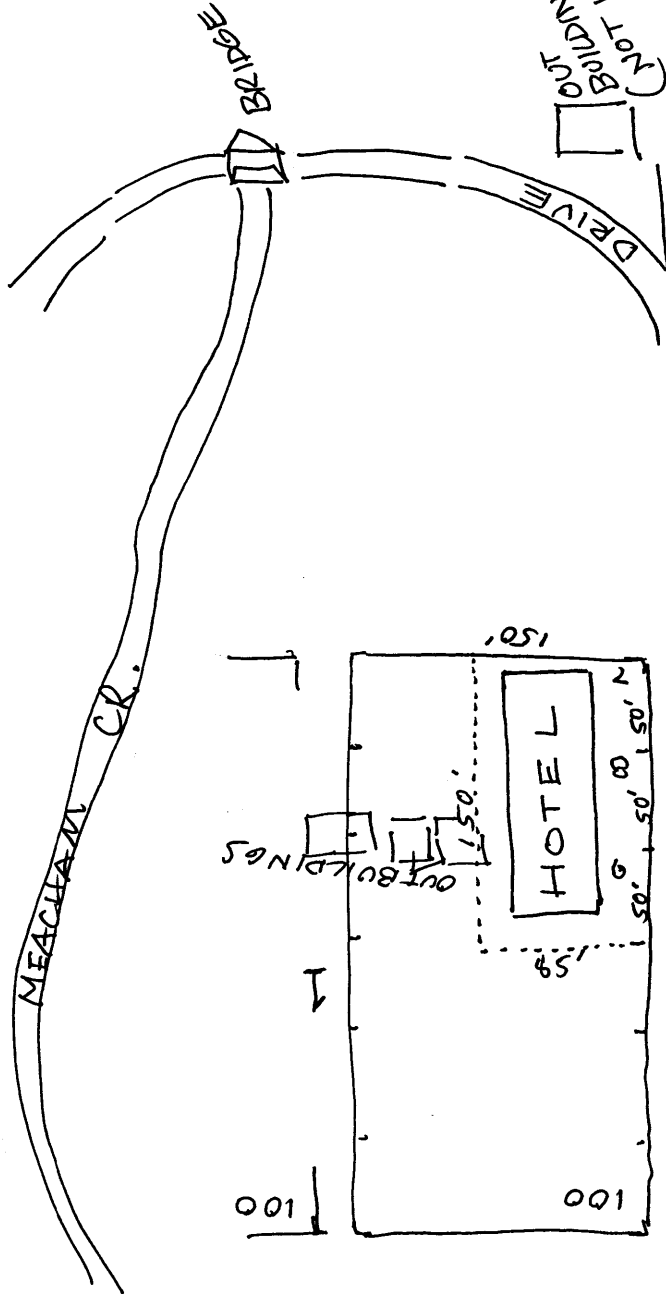
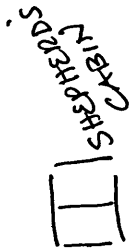
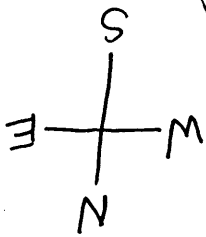
CANCELLED
TL 1600
1700
1800

See Map IS 35

2200
0.42 Ac.

2300

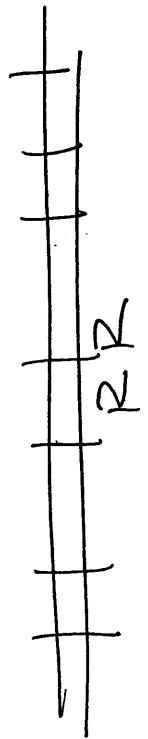
2800



SITE MAP
MEACHAM HOTEL

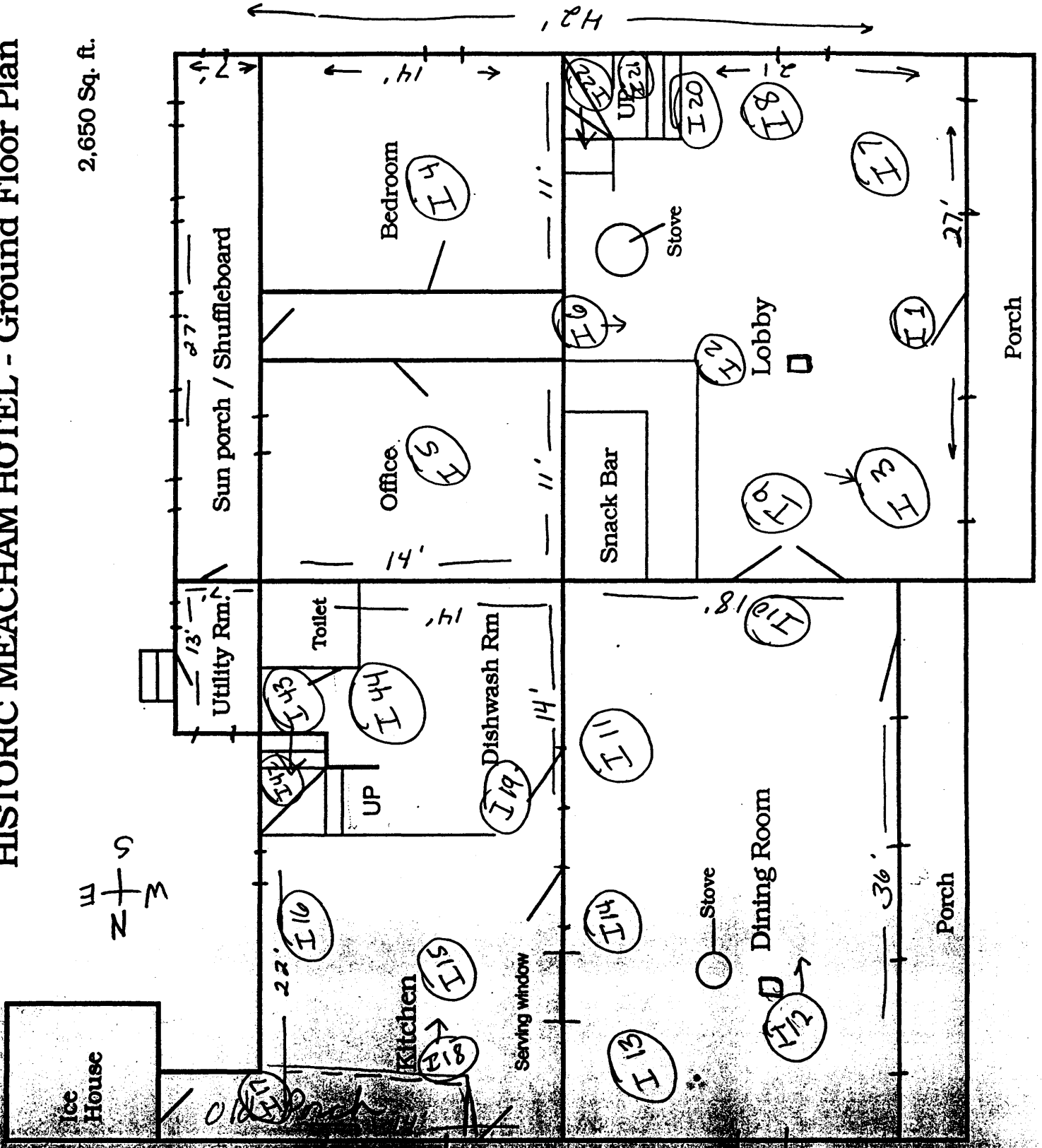
JAN, 2002

SITE BOUNDARY 150' x 85'
ON BLOCK 1, T.L. 00100



HISTORIC MEACHAM HOTEL - Ground Floor Plan

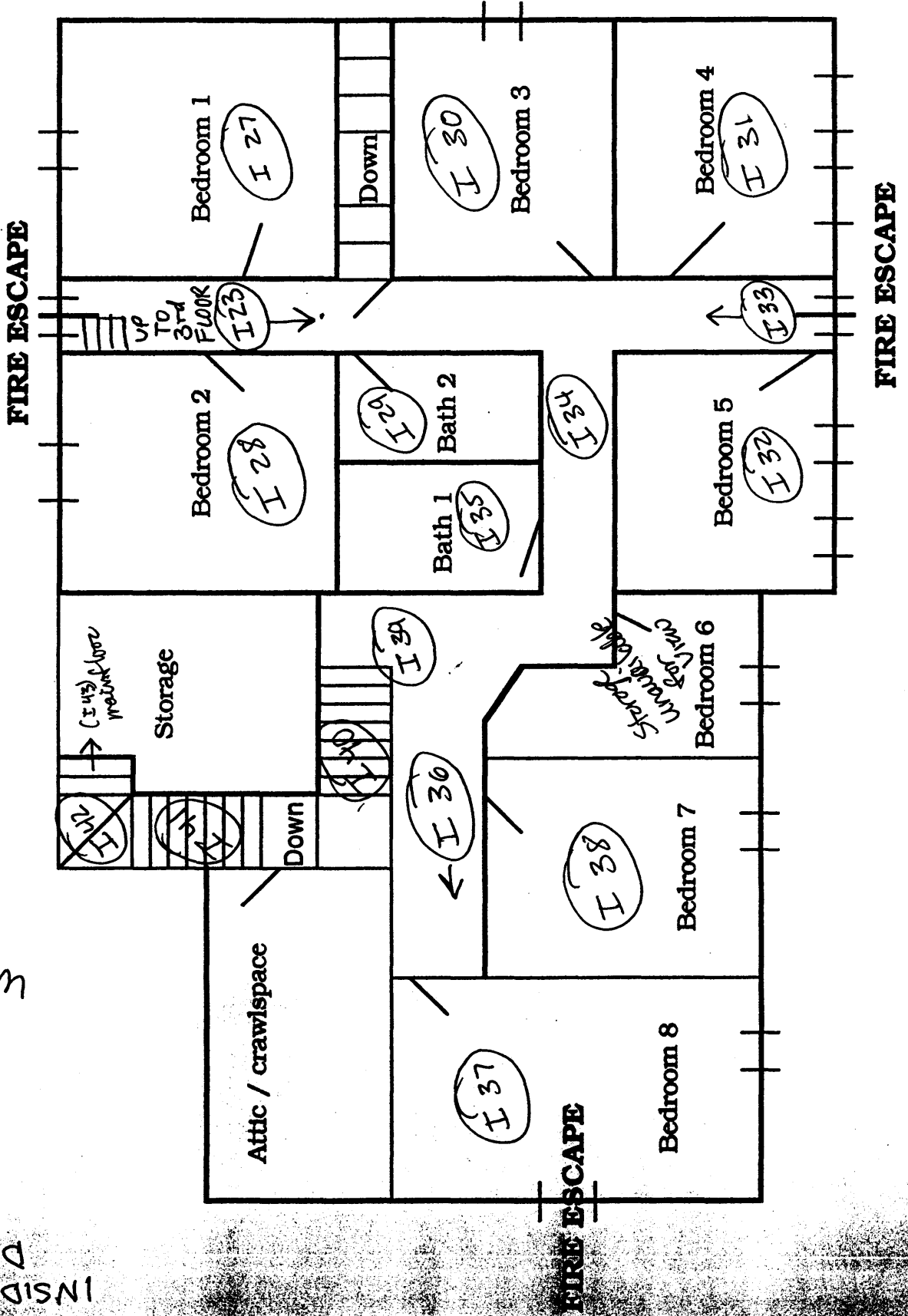
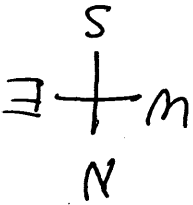
2,650 Sq. ft.



HISTORIC MEACHAM HOTEL - Second Floor Plan

1700 Sq. ft.

INSIDE SUDF
DIAGRAM



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Photographs Page 1

Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon

The following information applies to all of the photographs:

Historic Name: Meacham Hotel
Location: Meacham, Umatilla County, Oregon
Photographer: Lon Thornburg
Date Taken: March 2002
Negatives: Oregon SHPO

- Photo # 1 of 20: Exterior front façade (close-up from the southwest)
- Photo #2 of 20: Exterior front façade (southwest corner)
- Photo #3 of 20: Exterior front façade (northwest corner)
- Photo #4 of 20: Exterior rear façade (northeast corner)
- Photo #5 of 20: Exterior rear façade (southeast corner)
- Photo #6 of 20: Exterior – additions on northeast corner
- Photo #7 of 20: Close-up of porch bracket detail
- Photo #8 of 20: Close-up of gable end decorative detailing
- Photo #9 of 20: Lobby – view #1 (front door)
- Photo #10 of 20: Lobby – view #2 (old stove and stairs to second floor)
- Photo #11 of 20: Lobby – view #3 (front door, entrance to dining room, corner of bar)
- Photo #12 of 20: Lobby – view #4 (bar)
- Photo #13 of 20: Dining room (looking south back toward the lobby)
- Photo #14 of 20: Dining room (looking north)
- Photo #15 of 20: Kitchen – view #1
- Photo #16 of 20: Kitchen – view #2
- Photo #17 of 20: Kitchen – old wood cookstove
- Photo #18 of 20: Upstairs hallway

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Photographs Page 2

Meacham Hotel, Umatilla County, Oregon

Photo #19 of 20: One of the bedrooms

Photo #20 of 20: Bathroom with early fixtures