

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: 89000115 Date Listed: 3/8/89

Olympic Cereal Mill Multnomah Oregon
Property Name County State

Portland Eastside 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.

for Druce J. Noble, Jr.
Signature of the Keeper

3/8/89
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

The nomination includes a claim for criterion C and architecture is discussed and justified in the nomination narrative. However, architecture should be added to the nomination as an area of **significance** to accompany the claim for criterion C. These amendments to the official record were discussed over the telephone with Elizabeth Potter of the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office on March 8, 1989.

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

0115

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

JAN 27 1989

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Olympic Cereal Mill other names/site number B & O Warehouse

2. Location

street & number 107 S.E. Washington not for publication city, town Portland vicinity state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97214

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes sub-rows for Contributing and Noncontributing resources.

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Resources of Eastside Portland

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official Oregon State Historic Preservation Office State or Federal agency and bureau January 23, 1989 Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official Date State or Federal agency and bureau

5. 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 the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE; Processing

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE; Warehouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER; Industrial

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Concrete

roof Asphalt

other Glass

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

Located off the main railroad track in the Central Eastside Industrial District, the B & O warehouse soars above the surrounding structures. This building occupies an entire block in the industrial district and is bounded by the tracks to the west.

The B & O warehouse is constructed of reinforced concrete, resting on a concrete foundation with a full basement. The building has a number of levels; the southern two-thirds of the structure is two stories in height, but on the northern side the building rises seven floors. These two elements of the building are further divided and have multiple roof levels. The structure is covered by a flat roof with a full parapet. The primary window types are four-over-four double-hung sash set in groups, and six-over-six double-hung sash set alone.

The original entry is on the southeast corner; a wood door with a single pane of glass and a transom window above is located on the south elevation. Four elevated loading docks are in the center; all have new doors. The windows on this side have been replaced with aluminum frame windows. On the west elevation, four old elevated loading docks are extant, and all have the original doors which consist of wooden double doors divided into two panels each with diagonal bracing. Within the panels is diagonally applied tongue-and-groove. The north elevation on the first floor is broken only by two loading docks, and three other docks are located on the east elevation.

The additional five stories on the northern end have no windows on the third and fourth floors, but windows are located above. The exterior surface on these floors has a number of recessed bays created by raised concrete pilasters that

See continuation sheet

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

run from the third floor to the seventh. Several horizontal bands further divide the surface. This treatment is seen on three of the four elevations. This building dominates the industrial district's skyline because of its massing, creating a strong visual landmark.

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The configuration of the interior of the building is essentially as constructed. Some of the bins located on several floors have been removed to allow future storage space for the current occupant. Walls and ceilings are intact. Floors are as built, although sections of flooring on the first and second floors, which are subject to lift-truck traffic, have been overlaid with plywood.

The first floor retains the original office spaces on either corner of the south side of the building. Some partitions have been constructed within the portion of the southwest office originally designated as the mens lunch, coat and locker rooms.

Due to its original function, flooring is absent between the third and fourth floors. The upper floors are occasionally used for warehousing purposes, however, many spaces are in their original configuration and hold milling equipment.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Industry

Period of Significance
1920-1938

Significant Dates
1920

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Hurley-Mason

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Olympic Cereal Mill, constructed in 1920 by the Hurley-Mason Company, is an industrial landmark on Portland's east side. In 1950, the subject building was acquired by the Baggage and Omnibus Company, a transportation business, which was located across the street at the southeast corner of 2nd and Washington. The use of the name "B. & O. Warehouse" began as a way to identify the subject building as separate from the 2nd and Washington building. The Olympic Cereal Mill is significant under criterion A for its association with the Portland Flouring Mills and General Mills which played a pivotal role in establishing Portland as the principal west coast port for the shipment of flour products. Secondly, the building is significant under criterion C as a well-preserved example of a relatively early, reinforced concrete industrial building. The date of construction has been confirmed by building permit records and tax assessor information.

The Portland Flouring Mill was incorporated in 1883 by William Ladd, a prominent Portland businessman. It was originally located in Albina, to the north of the subject study area. This mill grew to become the largest of its kind on the west coast by the turn-of-the-century. Grain was Oregon's primary export through the 1880s and ranked second only to lumber through the remainder of the historic period. In 1914 Portland Flour expanded to the present site, taking over existing buildings for its Olympic Mill operation. These buildings were subsequently razed to make way for the subject building nine years later.

In 1918, Portland Flour was purchased by Max Houser, former president of the Port of Portland. Within two years Houser became the largest grain exporter in the world, and established Portland's pre-eminence as the primary four shipping port on the west coast. During this time Houser constructed the subject

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

property. Houser's success was short-lived and by the end of 1920 he had lost 15 million dollars in the market. The mill was purchased by Sperry Four, a subsidiary of General Mills, in 1923. A specialty cereal milling operation, the subject building became known to many locals as the home of Wheaties and Bisquick.

The mill is the largest building of its type in the study area. The most distinctive element is the tower which rises 118' above grade creating a strong vertical emphasis. The form and mass of the mill and the materials used in construction reflect both the building's function as well as the latest technology of the day. Concrete not only promoted speed of construction but also had the high loading capacity necessary to endure the heavy weight of stored grains and flour. While brick has a bearing capacity of 3000 psi, concrete can sustain loads over 6000 psi. The grain was stored vertically for ease of loading and also to aid in the milling process. In addition, the tower housed the tall, gravity air-filtering devices necessary to control the explosive dust problem.

Today the building remains a prominent visual reminder of the important place which food-related industry has held in the development of the study area's wholesale and warehouse district.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- . City of Portland Building Bureau microform and card files.
- . City of Portland Bureau of Planning, Portland Historic Resource Inventory, 1983.
- . Multnomah County Tax Assessor records, microform, and card files, Portland, 1980.
- . Sanborn Insurance Map, 1935.
- . The Oregonian, June 12, 1932. Sec 1, p.15
 " " July 21, 1934. p.1
 " " June 10, 1939. p.1
 " " April 21, 1940. Sec 1, p.16
- . The Oregon Daily Journal, July 7, 1941. p.1

See continuation sheet

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 Less than one acre Portland, Washington-Oregon 1:62500

UTM References

A 1,0 5,2,6 3,5,0 5,0 4,0 4,5,0
 Zone Easting Northing

C _____

B _____
 Zone Easting Northing

D _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

East Portland addition, Lot 1-8, Block 42

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Taxlot lines

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title K. Zisman, J. Koler, J. Morrison, B. Grimala, A. Yost
 organization Hawthorne Blvd. Business Association date August 15, 1988
 street & number 615 S.E. Alder telephone (503) 234-4801
 city or town Portland state Oregon zip code 97214

**United States Department of the Interior
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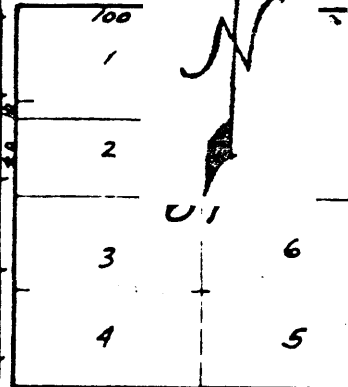
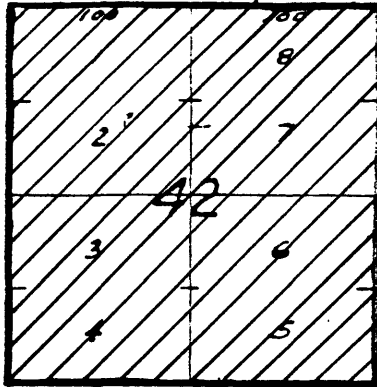
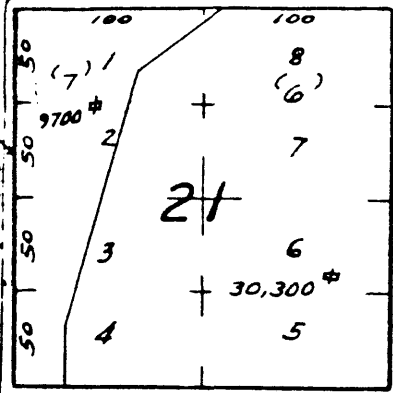
**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 2

. Vertical File, Oregon Historical Society Collection, Portland, Oregon.

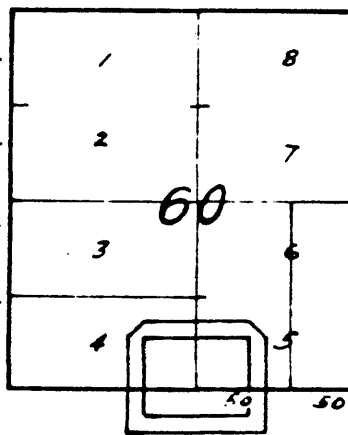
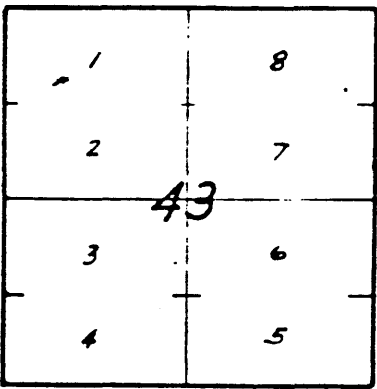
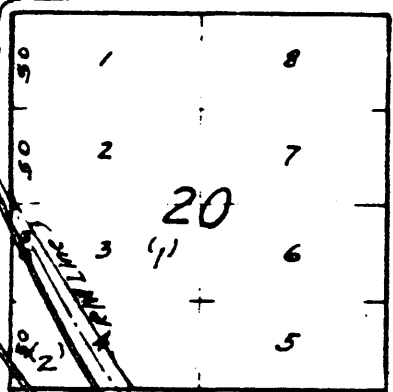
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STARK



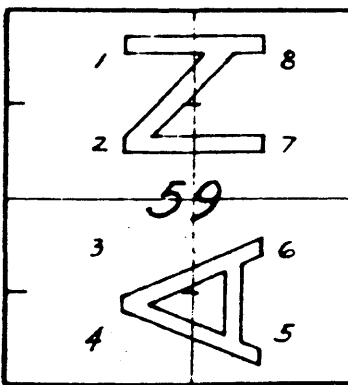
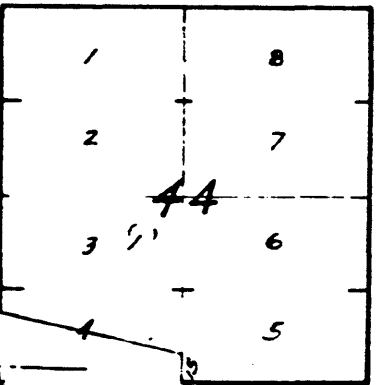
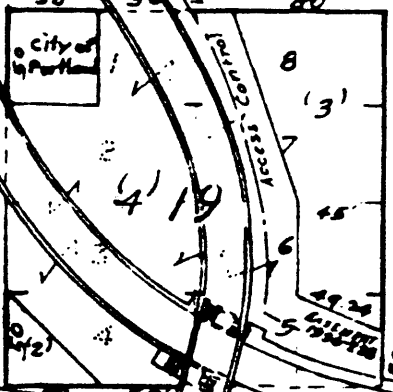
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WASHINGTON



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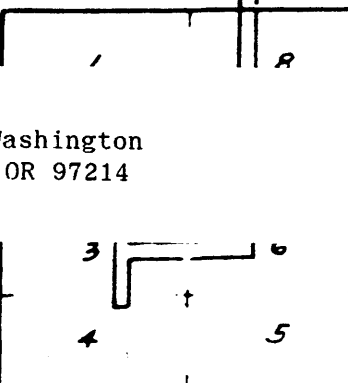
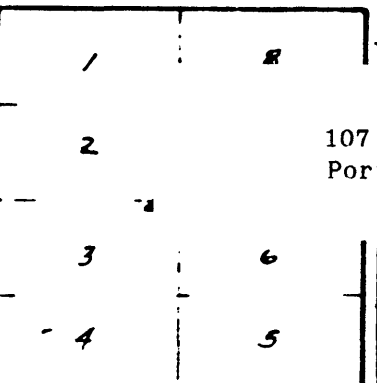
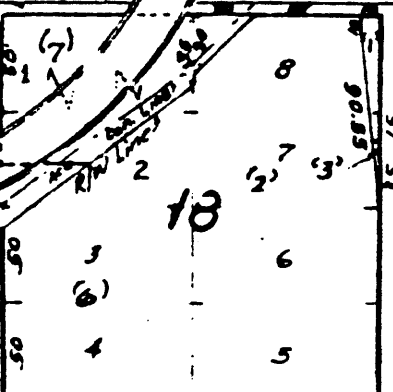
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S. E.

MORRISON

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107 S.E. Washington
Portland, OR 97214