

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PHO 697354

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 14 1979
DATE ENTERED	MAR 12 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

NAME

HISTORIC Starkey-McCully Block

AND/OR COMMON

Starkey Block

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

223-233 Commercial Street, N.E.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Salem

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Second

STATE

Oregon

CODE
41

COUNTY
Marion

CODE
047

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME (See continuation sheet)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Marion County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Salem

Oregon STATE

97301

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

DATE 1971 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS State Historic Preservation Office

CITY, TOWN

Salem

Oregon STATE

97310

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

In its original form, the Starkey-McCully Block (1867) was a two-story brick masonry structure, rectangular in plan, measuring 80 by 120 feet. The building presented its major frontage along Commercial Street, immediately north of Court Street, in the heart of the capital city's historic business district. It appears to have been among the first commercial buildings in Salem in which architectural cast iron was used to provide larger areas for ground story openings and display windows. The organization of its unpainted brick facade consisted of an impressive, if unrelieved expanse of trabeated second story openings with flat-arched cast-iron cornices on consoles and seventeen ground story bays framed with cast-iron pilasters and arches. A cast-iron cornice on brackets, or consoles, matching the style of the window hoods, was bolted to the front below a shallow parapet. Judging from an historic view, which shows clearly the side, or Court Street elevation, second story openings were fitted with casement windows. The ground story arcade, manufactured by the Oregon Iron Works of Portland, was formed of conventional, highly embellished elements, including wide, rusticated outer corner pilasters with vermiculated panels, typical pilasters with a serpentine foliate motif within a continuous, round-arched molded panel, segmental arches with molded spandrels and central bosses, and a connecting cornice carried by modillions. Capitals of each pilaster were in bold relief and were based on the Corinthian Order. A cast-iron pineapple motif in bas-relief was used above outer corner pilasters and those pilasters marking the division of stores. Originally, a wooden canopy supported by chamfered posts sheltered the southerly two store fronts (seven bays) and wrapped around the side elevation several feet.

Today, it is the northerly three of the five stores (ten bays-70 feet) which the Starkey Block originally housed which are recognizable, which retain elements of the cast-iron arcade, and which are the subject of the nomination. The southerly 50 feet of the building are believed incorporated into a radical remodeling of ca. 1920. As for what remains of the Starkey-McCully Block, there has been marked attrition, but the facade is believed capable of restoration, and, in fact, restoration is being contemplated by the current owners. Seven pilasters of the ground story arcade would have to be reduplicated, as would the upper cornice and all window cornices. An historic view suggests that revamping of ground story shop fronts had occurred as early as 1937, as had the loss of window hoods and upper cornice. Second story openings--with double-hung window sash since ca. 1915, at least, are intact, however, in the northerly holding (four bays), 233 Commercial Street. The second story openings of 223 Commercial Street (six bays) have been superficially filled, or blinded, with decorator panels, and a new wooden cornice added to the parapet. Current facade treatment which tends to accentuate the dual holdings within what remains of the Starkey Block ultimately may be redressed through paint treatment and reduplication of details in order to make a continuous ten-bay facade.

Inside, the single space created of two former stores at 223 Commercial Street has been comprehensively remodeled, but original finish work could be discovered under current surface material. The ground story space of 233 Commercial Street is distinctive for its original pressed metal ceiling. Upstairs at the latter address is an array of paneled finish work unchanged since the space was converted to a Forester's

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1. 223 Commercial Street, N.E.
William L. Fletcher & others

c/o Robert M. Fletcher, Trustee
834 SW Westwood Drive

Portland, OR 97201

2. 233 Commercial Street, N.E.
Robert & Nancy Gormsen

233 Commercial Street, N.E.

Salem, OR 97301

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Hall shortly after 1917. The area is to be refurbished for rental purposes with strict preservation of existing woodwork and layout. Access to the second story is gained from Commercial Street by a common stairhall between the two holdings. A similar stairway once existed between 233 Commercial Street and the southerly two stores.

The northerly holding, 233 Commercial Street, was expanded by two gable-roofed single story rear additions extending to the alley sometime before 1915. The southerly holding, 223 Commercial Street, was more recently enlarged by a two-story concrete block rear addition.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1867 BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The substantial, two-story brick masonry commercial block erected for Salem businessmen John L. Starkey, David McCully and William Anderson in 1867 originally extended 120 feet along the west side of Commercial Street--the capital city's historic thoroughfare paralleling the Willamette River. Today, only the northerly 70 feet of the block remains in recognizable form, but the reduced resource is nonetheless significant because, so far as is known, its arcaded ground story front is the oldest architectural cast iron manufactured in Oregon in situ anywhere in the state.

In Oregon, the first iron produced from locally-mined ore came from the blast furnace south of Portland which commenced operation as the Oswego Iron Company in 1867. Between 1854, which marked the first use of architectural iron in Portland commercial structures, and the advent of the Oswego Iron Company, the planning of iron-fronted buildings in Portland, Oregon City and Salem depended upon San Francisco foundries. By 1867, however, four Portland foundries were busily meeting increasing demands for architectural iron. Among these was the Oregon Iron Works, which manufactured the ground story front and second story cornice and window cornices for the Starkey-McCully Block in Salem. The Oregon Iron Works had been established in Portland in 1863. Interestingly, shortly after the project for Messrs. Starkey, McCully and Anderson was completed, a foundry and iron works was organized in Salem. The latter began operation as the Salem Iron Works in 1868.

Owing to massive waterfront clearances in Portland before and after the Second World War and to the general trend of redevelopment in the 1960s and early 1970s, there has been severe attrition of the once extensive array of iron-fronted commercial buildings dating from the late 19th century in the older communities of the Willamette Valley. The Starkey-McCully Block not only has the oldest-known Oregon-made cast-iron architectural elements still in place, it is second oldest of a half dozen brick buildings ante-dating 1870 now standing in Salem.*

the

As originally designed, business block which John L. Starkey built in association with David McCully and William Anderson consisted of five stores, with furnished rooms for a hotel-like operation on the second floor. So far, only two of the first occupants have been identified. These were Nicklin & Company, a general store selling groceries, dress goods, and hardware; and Mrs. Snyder's millinery shop. By 1894, there were two groceries in the southerly two stores partially financed by William Anderson. In May of that year, one of the grocers--Gilbert, Patterson and Co.--had a serious fire which damaged neighboring establishments and gives us a picture of the occupancy of the block. In the northerly three stores which are the subject of this nomination, were to be found E.S. Lamport's harness shop, established in the building as early as 1878; Charles G. Given

* Buildings of similar vintage presently standing in Salem's central business district are the Ladd and Bush Bank (1868), the J.K. Gill Building (1868) and Reed Opera House (1869). Waller Hall (1867) was the first permanent structure on the Willamette University Campus. Boon's Brick Store (1860) is located on the northern perimeter of the commercial core. The Dearborn Building on Commercial Street was built sometime between 1868 and 1870.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Marion County Deeds and Union Title Company deeds and abstracts.
 American Daily Unionist, Salem, April 21 & 29, 1868; Dec. 16, 1868.
 Oregon Daily Statesman, May 25, 1894 (Big Damage by Fire).
 Salem City Directories (R. L. Polk, etc.) 1886-1975.
 Interview with Frederick S. Lamport, May 15, 1978.
 Hawkins, William John III, The Grand Era of Cast-Iron Architecture in Portland (Portland: Binfords and Mort, 1976.) Oregon Iron Works, page 16.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one.
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1 0	4 9 6 9 5 0	4 9 7 6 3 0 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The south 28½' of Lot 3, and the north 42.66' of Lot 4, Block 49, original plat Salem, Marion County, Oregon.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE David C. Duniway

ORGANIZATION _____ DATE May 17, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 1365 John Street, S. TELEPHONE (503) 581-2338

CITY OR TOWN Salem STATE Oregon 97302

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE David C. Duniway

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE February 2, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 3/12/79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION Bill Lebovich KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER March 6, 1979

ATTEST: Bill Lebovich KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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boot and shoe maker, and Charles W. Hellenbrand's restaurant, which had been in the building since 1889.

A record of occupancy can be traced in the Salem City Directories beginning in 1886, when street numbers were first assigned. E. S. Lamport continued in business in the south part of the double store, now numbered 223 Commercial, from 1878 to his death in 1912. Later occupants included Watt Shipp and Co., sporting goods (1913-1915) Quackenbush Auto Supplies (1921), F. W. Pettyjohn & Company, automobiles (1924), the Nash Furniture Company (1928-1945), Coast to Coast Stores, hardware (1947-1949), and Valley Furniture Company (1951-1956). The southerly two stores of the nominated portion were thrown together as a single interior in 1964. This space is now occupied by the S & H, or Sperry & Hutchinson Green Stamp store. The store now numbered 233 Commercial and partially financed by David McCully was occupied from 1889 through 1893 by Charles W. Hellenbrand's Restaurant; J. W. Thomas, general merchandise (1893), Ben Forstner & Co., dry goods and clothing (1891-1896), Stephen C. Stone, physician and druggist (1902), Claude S. Belle, confectioneries (1907-1913), Peetz Furniture and Glenn L. Adams, wall paper and prints (1915), Fletcher and Byrd, dealers in paints, oils, seeds, feed, etc. (1917-1924), Jacob A. Rise Co., harness & shoes (1926-1934), Coast to Coast Stores, hardware (1945-1955), and Norris Paint and Varnish Company (1964-1975). The current owner of the northerly store is the occupant--Nancy Gormsen Interiors.

The upper floor of the block had been designed as a hotel, and by 1894, it had been rented as apartments and shops. In 1891, Mrs. Frank Cooper had ladies furnishing goods over Lamport's store, and other early occupants were E. A. Hogan, merchant tailor; N.D. Jones, house and sign painter; and Charles W. Northcutt and Henry Brown, lathers. In 1893 Thomas J. Whittier offered furnished rooms, and in 1896 Mrs. S. Burkholder had the Salem Lodging House--"open at all hours; rooms by day, week or month, single or en suite." The latter enterprise continued at least through 1905 under this title, and through 1917 as the Salem Rooming House. In 1917, the space over the north store (233 Commercial Street) was rented to Hill Printing Company, Bechtel and James, and J. B. Renwick, real estate. By 1921, this upstairs space had been remodeled as a meeting hall for the Foresters of America, Sherwood Forest No. 19. From 1928 through 1934, it was occupied by the United Sign Company, and in 1938 through 1942 it was converted to the Star Apartments. From 1945 through 1951 there were up to four renters including Dr. George P. Hoffman and the shoe merchant, Arthur L. Rise.

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The Starkey-McCully Block represents the transition which occurred in the 1850s and 1860s from wood frame construction for commercial buildings to brick masonry which was less susceptible to fire. By the introduction of doorways in the common wall at the second story level, the block was expanded by 16 bays at the north end in 1889, and the whole was known for a time as the Lamport Block. Today, only the southerly six bays of the 1889 construction remain adjacent to the north wall of the Starkey-McCully Block. The remnant is not included in the nomination.

It is believed that by ca. 1920, some portion of the southernmost fifty feet of the Starkey Block, which originally extended as far south as Court Street, was incorporated into the two-story building with buff-colored pressed brick facing and Commercial-Style second story windows at the NW corner of Court and Commercial. Nothing of the 1867 building is evident at this corner in any event, and, therefore, the existing structure is excluded from the nomination.

The use of the second floor of the Starkey-McCully Block for rooming house purposes stemmed from the need of business people for lodgings close to their places of work in the downtown. The eventual development of the Foresters Hall above the northernmost shop of the nominated structure was part of the growth of the fraternal orders. The Foresters provided not only a clubhouse but insurance protection for the members' families as well.

What remains of Starkey's Block is a rare visual reminder of the city's first substantial development along Commercial Street. The variety and turn-over of ventures which occupied the building are typical of other properties on the street, and it is clear that the clustering of trades is a pattern which developed early. For example, in the Starkey Block it is possible to see a continuum in the harness shop and sporting goods, automotive and hardware stores. The restaurant tradition extends to two of the stores. Shoes and clothing are related, as are furniture, paints, and the current S & H Green Stamp and the interior decorating business. The upstairs provided a social and business function which was ended in the 1950s as the building codes required a landing on the stairs and the public grew more accustomed to elevators. At least two of the businesses relocated within the building, and, in the case of Coast to Coast Hardware, relocation within the structure occurred a second time. One business, Watt Shipp & Co., was sold by the owners to manager, William Everet Anderson, who in turn, eventually sold to his manager. The successor to the original business concern is still operating successfully as Anderson's Sporting Goods at a location elsewhere in the downtown core.

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David McCully was born in Sussex Vale, New Brunswick in 1814. He migrated with his family to Ohio in 1822. In 1844, he moved to Iowa, where in 1848, he first entered into a general merchandise business with his brother, Asa McCully. In 1849 the brothers sold their store and joined the rush to the California gold fields with John L., Sam, and Amos Starkey. They each returned to Iowa with \$5,000 and David, Asa McCully and J. L. Starkey joined in partnership. In 1852, the partners came to Oregon with other relatives, and David McCully started the first store and kept the post office at Harrisburg, Lane County. In 1858, McCully moved to Salem and entered into partnership with J. L. Starkey in a general store on the present site of the Ladd and Bush Bank.

In 1855 David McCully had obtained an interest in the James Clinton, one of the early steam boats on the Willamette. In 1862 he was one of the stockholders in the formation of the Peoples Transportation Company which obtained a monopoly of the River transportation. He served as president. In 1871 the Peoples Transportation Company was sold to Ben Holladay, who was building the Oregon and California Railroad.

By 1867 David McCully began his second Salem store at 233 Commercial Street in the building newly erected in cooperation with J. L. Starkey. It was here that McCully and his brother, Asa, operated the "Centennial Store", a grocery. In 1878 Asa sold his interest to David's son-in-law, Andrew N. Gilbert, and, in 1884, David sold his interest to Sebastian C. Adams, who published a "Synchronological Chart of History" which was the first major visual aid for the teaching of history. (Adams, incidentally, also was first president of what is now Linfield College, and minister to the Christian Church in Salem) As "Gilbert and Adams", the firm was to be restyled "Gilbert and Patterson" by 1886.