

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 4 1986
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Weyerhaeuser Office Building

and/or common Everett Chamber of Commerce Building

2. Location

street & number 1710 W. Marine View Dr. not for publication

city, town Everett vicinity of

state Washington code 053 county Snohomish code 061

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name Everett Chamber of Commerce

street & number 1710 W. Marine View Dr.

city, town Everett vicinity of state Washington 98201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Snohomish County Courthouse

street & number 3001 Rockefeller

city, town Everett state Washington 98201

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

1) Snohomish County Cultural Resource Inventory
title 2) Washington State Inventory of Cultural Resources **has this property been determined eligible?** yes no
 1) September 1985
date 2) February 1986 federal state county local

depository for survey records 1) Snohomish County Planning Department
2) Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

city, town 1) County Administration Building, Everett Washington 98201
2) 111 W. 21st Ave., KL-11, Olympia state Washington 98504

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date 1938 and 1984
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Weyerhaeuser Office Building is a one-and-a-half story balloon frame building located near the Port of Everett about a mile north of the downtown area. The building, which has been moved twice since it was constructed in 1923, is built on an L-shape plan with a cross gable roof and reflects an English Gothic cottage design. The structure rests on a concrete foundation and is sheathed in a remarkable variety of decorative wood sidings and wood ornament. Although the property is removed from its original waterfront location, the building still reflects the intention of its builders to be a showcase of Pacific Northwest wood building products, principally hemlock and fir.

The office building is composed of two intersecting gable roofed wings, arranged in an L-plan. The principal (southeast) elevation is dominated by the gable end of the southeast-northwest roof, with a one story gabled entry porch and flat roof bay (with bracketed cornice) projecting from the juncture of the two wings. The southwest and northeast side elevations are dominated by the gable ends of the dominant northeast-southwest roof. The rear (northwest) elevation features a one story shed roof appendage which is anchored at both ends by engaged polygonal turrets which serve to unite the appendage with the main body of the building. A one story sheltered entry porch projects off the shed appendage. The Tudor arched rear entry is accessed by a recently installed ramp.

Although the plan and massing of the building are relatively simple, the exterior fir siding reflects a complex pattern of types and textures. Above the foundation is a broad unadorned band surmounted by a band of vertical boards ornamented with decorative piercing and a scrolled lower edge. Above that, an arcaded dentil course separates the foundation skirting from the first story. The first story is sheathed with broad bevelled horizontal siding in which the lower edge of each board is beaded. An elaborate belt course separates the first and second stories and is composed of a modified egg-and-dart band, a plain band, and dentilled band. Above the belt course, the upper story is sided with alternating narrow and wide vertical boards which have a scalloped lower edge. The gable ends are decorated with vertical boards with decorative piercing and applied ornament. This pattern of ornamental siding is repeated on all four elevations.

The eaves of the gabled roofs are decorated with vergeboards with a scrolled lower edge and a pendant at the apex. The roofs of the building are sheathed in cedar shingles laid in distinct bands of six courses. The lower edge of each band is slightly higher than the upper edge, creating a pattern of shadows and textures. A brick chimney rises through the south slope of the front gable.

Fenestration on the office building is varied and features four distinctive window patterns. The banded rectangular windows on the ground floor have an upper light of six panes with lead comes and a lower light with twelve panes set in lead comes. The windows are banded in groups of two to five, with each window separated by a mullion. On the upper floors, six-over-nine semicircular windows are grouped in bands of four to seven windows, with each window separated by a turned mullion. A third type of window is a narrow embrasured casement window with diamond shaped leaded panes located on the first story beside the entry porch and on the turrets. The final type of window arrangement consists of wide, shallow, hinged clerestory windows divided vertically into four leaded panes located on the rear facade above the shed appendage and in the upper level of the turrets. Finally, a three-sided bay window at the junction of the principal facade and the northeast elevation includes a central fixed light of plate glass.

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The one story gabled entry porch which projects from the facade has Tudor arched openings and is supported by decorative posts. The ceiling of the porch is beamed. A flight of six concrete steps (installed after relocation) leads from the ground to the porch. The porch shelters the double leaf entry door which has leaded glass panels and is set in a Tudor arched opening framed with leaded sidelights and transom. The gable roof of the porch features the same shingle pattern, vergeboards, and gable end siding as that of the main gables.

The exterior of the building has been treated with a medium gray stain on all wood surfaces. The roof shingles are vermilion in color as are the scrolled edges of the vergeboards. All window sashes and downspouts are painted a verdegris green, a color repeated on some of the decorative elements of the vergeboards. White has been used to highlight ovate elements in the string course moldings and window heads. Ocher has been used to highlight additional details. The color scheme is similar to the scheme used when the building was first constructed.

The interior of the building is devoted to offices and public reception areas. Immediately inside through the leaded glass entry door is a foyer which has a beamed ceiling, wood wainscoting, and Tudor arches. On either side of the foyer are front parlors (one of which has a Tudor arched fireplace). The rest of the first floor interior is divided between glass enclosed offices to the right of the entry and a large dining hall to the left. Throughout the first floor interior, the cornices and door and window frames are ornamented with heavily molded hemlock trim. The floor has been carpeted in recent years, a lowered acoustical tile ceiling had been installed, and florescent lights replace the original fixtures. The upstairs has not been restored and features a linoleum floor and acoustical ceiling.

When the building was moved for the first time in 1938, historic photographs indicate that the building was jacked up and barged to its new location completely intact. The same careful moving process was followed again in 1984 when the building was barged to its present location. The only new materials on the exterior are the concrete foundation, the concrete steps leading to the front entry, and the access ramp built against the rear facade. The interior had been altered prior to the recent move and subsequent work has attempted to restore the interior to the original design. The current location, sited about a half mile north of the original location, maintains the character of an industrial, waterfront location. The building is surrounded by a lawn and parking lot and borders the expansive port facility.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Date of construction: 1923

Specific dates	period of significance: 1923-1936	Builder/Architect	Carl F. Gould
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Weyerhaeuser Office Building is historically significant for its role as the Everett headquarters of the influential and precedent setting Weyerhaeuser Timber Company. Although the company's historic mill buildings have been destroyed or disfigured, the office building remains as the primary structure associated with the most important industrial firm in the city. Built in 1923 and designed by prominent Seattle architect Carl Gould, the building is an architecturally significant example of an English Gothic cottage ornamented with a variety of decorative sidings intended to showcase the Pacific Northwest wood products of the firm.

Historical Background

Precursor to the present Weyerhaeuser Company, the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company was a major influence in the forest products industry both regionally and nationally. The decision of the company to locate in the Pacific Northwest and particularly its decision to build mills in Everett have had major impacts on the history of the city and the Puget Sound region. To place the company's impact in perspective, a brief history of Everett follows.

The Founding of Everett: Founded in 1892 as a planned industrial community, Everett's future seemed to be assured. Plans for its development were drawn by a consortium of industrialists and financiers from the East and Old Northwest. Drawing upon their combined experience, members of the consortium developed a detailed timetable for the orderly development of their new city. Although the townsite was adjacent to prodigious stands of timber, and while the exploitations of this resource figured prominently in their development plans, consortium members were anxious to avoid creating a single industry mill town. Many of the investors, experienced lumbermen, were acutely aware of the boom and bust economy which dominated the forest products industry. To provide the requisite diversified industrial base and protect the returns on their investments, several different industries were developed. These included a nail works, a shipyard, a paper mill, a smelter and a railroad reaching 30 miles into the Cascade mountains to tap the Monte Cristo mining district. As a commitment to full development of this industrial base, no commercial or residential lots were to be sold in the townsite until these industries were well under construction. The final element in the equation was the location of the townsite itself. Consortium members were confident that James J. Hill's Great Northern transcontinental railroad would locate its western terminus in Everett and that he would station a fleet of trans-Pacific steamships there also. Well underway by 1893, these grand plans were dashed by the depression of that year. By 1894, the boom days of Everett were history and the city spent the next several years desperately trying to hang on.

The Weyerhaeuser Company in Everett: By 1900, Everett began to emerge from the financial gloom, but recovery came at the price of the very circumstance that the founders had so assiduously sought to avoid: dominated by James J. Hill and his railroad, Everett was a one-industry town based on the production and shipment of forest products. The city's economy was a barometer which registered every disturbance in the lumber industry. Entering this situation in 1900 was Frederick T. Weyerhaeuser, an enormously wealthy

9. Major Bibliographical References

Clark, Norman H., Mill Town, University of Washington Press, Seattle, 1970.
Everett Herald, November 24, 1923.

History of Skagit and Snohomish Counties, Washington, Interstate Publishing Co., 1906.
Whitfield, William, History of Snohomish County, Washington, Pioneer Historical Publishing Company, Chicago, 1926.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Everett

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	0	5	5	8	7	1	0	5	3	1	5	8	7	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

E

Zone				Easting				Northing						

F

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H

Zone				Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification A parcel of tax lot 182905-3-008-0008 described as follows: a square parcel of 100 yards on a side bounded on its south side by 17th Street and on its east side by Marine View Drive. This parcel includes the building and a surrounding area sufficient to its visual bulk. The nominated property can be described (cont.)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code

state	n/a	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Brent Lambert, Preservation Planner

organization Snohomish County Planning Department date August 29, 1985

street & number County Administration Building telephone 206/259-9313, ext. 2211

city or town Everett state Washington 98201

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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 *[Signature]*

title DSUPD date 3.24.84

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 5-14-86

[Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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St. Paul, Minnesota, lumberman and neighbor of James Hill. Hill needed freight revenues from the Northwest for his railroad and convinced Weyerhaeuser to establish himself on the Pacific Coast. Such an arrangement would provide an endless source of lumber freight revenues.

Weyerhaeuser liked what he saw and, on January 3, 1900, purchased 900,000 acres of forest land from the Northern Pacific Railroad (also under Hill's control) for \$5.4 million. From the very outset, Weyerhaeuser's regional influence was notable. Prior to the Weyerhaeuser purchase, timberlands had been unmarketable for as little as \$1.90 an acre; optimism fueled by Weyerhaeuser's agreement to purchase at \$6 an acre soon drove prices up to \$10 an acre and more throughout Washington and Oregon.

To manage this vast domain, the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company was formed in 1900 with principal offices in Tacoma. The company spent its first dozen years in the Pacific Northwest learning the regional market and industry techniques. However, it was only a matter of time before the company began milling lumber from its own logs rather than simply selling those logs to existing mills. In keeping with the company's conservative approach, it choose to learn the Northwest lumber milling industry by operating a pilot sawmill prior to making the major capital investment necessary to build a mill of the magnitude the company planned. After careful consideration, the company in 1902 purchased a dilapidated Everett mill and its associated logging equipment and timber reserves.

The company's experience with this initial mill indicated its commitment to a long term presence in the industry. After completely reequipping the mill, the company produced 28 million board feet of lumber in 1902, and increased production to nearly 40 million by 1906. In 1907, management of the mill was assumed by William Boner who further modernized and improved the efficiency of the mill. By 1914, the Everett mill produced just under 80 million board feet of the highest quality timber. This represented a doubling of the mill's capacity in just seven years and provided a text book example for other Everett mills in efficiency and modernization. It also established the mill as a fundamental component of the city's economy and job market.

By 1914, the company felt it had learned enough about the regional market to enter into full scale milling operations. Encouraged by its experiences in the Everett mill and by the anticipated completion of the Panama Canal (and a consequent entry into Eastern and Southern markets) the company determined to build a major new installation in Everett incorporating the most modern technology available. One of the most dramatic innovations at Mill B, as the new facility was known, was the decision to run the entire plant by electricity. Prior to this, virtually all sawmills were run by steam power. While fuel for the boilers was no problem, the requirement for a continuous supply of fresh water did influence mill siting decisions. Also, electric motors were more efficient and less expensive to maintain than steam engines. But the single greatest benefit from electrification of the mill was the increase in production. When it began operations on April 29, 1915, Mill B had a capacity of 400,000 board feet per eight hour shift, far outdistancing the nearest steam powered competitor. Moreover, records would soon indicate that lumber could be produced in the new mill at the rate of one dollar per thousand board feet less than at the older mill (then known as Mill A).

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The Weyerhaeuser Office Building: In keeping with its position as an industry leader and reflecting its commitment to Everett as a site for a large percentage of its milling operations in the Northwest, the company erected a lavish new office adjacent to Mill A in 1926. Designed in a Gothic cottage style by regionally prominent architect Carl Gould, the building served as the headquarters for company operations in the Everett area and as the office of company manager Boner. In addition, it was designed from the outset to serve as a study in the potential uses of Northwest woods and the building was constructed entirely of local materials, principally fir and hemlock. In its finish, too, the building demonstrated the use of local materials. The roof was covered with cedar shingles which had been stained in two colors by a special process developed by a local firm. Hemlock woodwork on the interior was enamelled (an innovative treatment at the time) and the fir walls were stained to a driftwood grey. The building served the company for many years as an eloquent testimonial to Weyerhaeuser's primacy in the region and to the usefulness and beauty of regional woods.

The useful life of Mill A finally came to an end in 1936 and, two years later, the company barged the office building intact around the peninsula upon which Everett is built and re-sited it at Mill B on the Snohomish River. There it continued to serve the company until 1983 when the company donated the structure to the Everett Chamber of Commerce. At that time, the building was barged again down the Snohomish River and re-sited in Everett's port area not far from its original location.

The historical significance of the office building lies in its close association with an important period of growth and innovation for the Weyerhaeuser Company. It was here that the company's innovative manager William H. Boner had his office and where many of the policy and planning decisions of the company were made. Because the mills themselves have been destroyed or disfigured, the office building is the best representative of this period of Everett history.

Carl Gould

In addition to its association with the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company, the office building is also significant as an example of the work of Seattle architect Carl Gould. Born in New York in 1873, Gould graduated from Harvard University in 1898 and spent the next four years studying at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. Upon his return to America, Gould began to practice in New York City and subsequently became associated with the firm of George Post in designing the Wisconsin State Capitol at Madison and then with the firm of Daniel Burnham working on the plan for San Francisco. In 1914, Gould formed a partnership in Seattle with Charles Bebb. Mr. Gould founded the department of architecture at the University of Washington in Seattle and served as department head from 1914 to 1928. An authority on the Gothic style, Gould designed 18 buildings on the university campus, many in the Gothic idiom, including Suzzallo Library. Among other projects credited to Gould are the buildings at the Hiram Chittenden Locks in Seattle, several structures on the campus of Western Washington University in Bellingham, the Everett Public Library and General Hospital Nurses' Home in Everett, the Maritime Hospital in Seattle, the Seattle Art Museum, and telephone company buildings in Tacoma, Bremerton, Longview, Yakima, and Olympia.

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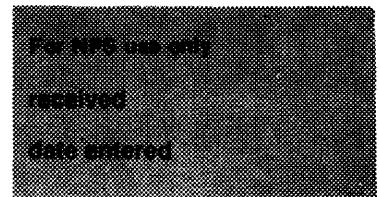
Criteria Exception: Moved Property

The Weyerhaeuser Office Building was built in 1923 and moved twice since that time. The first move was made in 1938 when the company wanted to relocate the building closer to its major operations at Mill B, located north of Mill A around the peninsula. The move was documented at the time with photographs, and the process involved barging the building intact to its new location. The move had a minimal effect on the original character or condition of the building. The second move in 1984 was undertaken to save the building from demolition. At that time, the company gave the building to the Everett Chamber of Commerce who secured a site for it in the port area, near the waterfront industrial district where the building was originally located. Again the building was barged intact to its new location and, aside from a new concrete foundation, concrete porch steps, and handicapped access ramp on the rear, the building reflects its historic character and condition. The new site of the building approximates the original location, although now it is severed from the industrial buildings that it originally served.

Because the office building is so closely associated with the development of the Weyerhaeuser Company and the lumber industry in the region and because other structures of close association (including Mills A and B) have been destroyed or altered, the office building meets the criteria of the National Register. It is the single best preserved and most significant structure associated with the history of Weyerhaeuser in Everett. Architecturally, too, the building meets National Register criteria. Although the move placed the building in a setting somewhat different than the original, the building has retained extraordinary exterior integrity and good interior integrity. The building is a unique resource in Everett, a fanciful interpretation of the Gothic cottage style adapted to the wood products of the Northwest by a regionally distinguished architect. It is clearly the best surviving example of its type and period in the city.

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VBD continued: thusly: Beginning at the northwest corner of the intersection of 17th Street and Marine View Drive, proceed north along Marine View Drive 100 yards; proceed west 100 yards; proceed south 100 yards until 17th Street; proceed east along 17th Street until point of beginning.