

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



1013

# 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 Electric Light Works Building  
Other names/site number Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co. Building, Columbia Power & Light Substation

### 2. Location

street & number 111 North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue n/a not for publication  
city or town Walla Walla n/a vicinity  
State Washington code WA county Walla Walla code 071 zip code 99362

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide  locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]  
Signature of certifying official/Title

11-10-11  
Date

WASHINGTON 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 certifying official/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
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]  
Signature of the Keeper

1-4-12  
Date of Action

Edson W. Beall

**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**

(Do not incl. previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Non-Contributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	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**

N/A

**6. Functions or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY/energy facility

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/theater

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century

American Movement

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

roof METAL

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

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ELECTRIC LIGHT WORKS BUILDING  
WALLA WALLA COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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## NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

### Setting

Built in 1890 with a large addition from 1910, the Electric Light Works Building is a good example of industrial architecture from the late 19th and early 20th century. The building is located at 111 North 6th Avenue, just west of downtown Walla Walla, Washington. The former gas works buildings and associated auxiliary structures to the south were demolished in 1972; a contemporary, two-story maintenance building now occupies the lot to the south. Adjacent to the north is a narrow empty lot and a modern electrical substation beyond. Railroad tracks are extant within the street paving along North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, extending north and south of the building. Rose Street, to the south, is a main thoroughfare into downtown. Sumach Street, to the north, stretches east from North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and has historically been a residential corridor, characterized by modest, single-family wood frame houses. Oriented lengthwise east to west on a flat rectangular parcel between Rose and Sumach streets, the main (east) entrance faces North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This former industrial building had been vacant for at least 40 years prior to 2011, when it was purchased by a local group and transformed into a community performing arts theater.

### Building Exterior

The Electric Light Works Building (rectangular in shape, measuring approximately 102' x 53') is constructed of unreinforced brick masonry walls with a mixed foundation (mostly poured concrete, with brick and concrete block portions). The building was constructed in two phases with the original portion completed in 1890 and the second (east addition) portion completed in 1910. The 1890 portion is a single story yet has a multi-story volume. The 1910 addition has two full stories plus an upper mezzanine around the second floor. Character-defining features include exposed red brick masonry walls (on the exterior and sections of the interior), tall open spaces, wood framed windows, and simple massing. The exterior is in fair to good condition. The east facade is primary and serves as the front of the building. The south, west and north facades are secondary, facing an empty lot to the west and active power utility properties to the north and south.

### Foundation

The foundation for the 1890 portion, which has an extensive and full height basement, is a combination of poured concrete and brick. At the west end, there are two concrete block in-filled openings at the basement level, believed to be former doorways. The 1910 addition also has a poured concrete foundation but instead of a basement, there is only a minimal crawlspace, accessible through a floor hatch at the west end of the first floor's main space.

### Exterior Walls

This unreinforced red brick masonry building is comprised of two main sections, the (original) 1890 portion and an addition from 1910 on the east end. The 1890 portion is a single floor with a multi-story volume under a front gable roof. The 1910 addition has two full floors with a gallery above the second floor. The 1910 addition is somewhat smaller in footprint, matching the width of the original portion and extending the rectangular plan further towards the east, with the end bays projecting even further. The 1910 addition is capped by a flat roof, which is partially surrounded by parapets. There was once a boiler room addition to the west which has been previously removed. Brick pilasters highlight the bay divisions along the north and south elevations. Ornamentation is limited to brick quoins and roofline decorative brickwork, both located on the east facade of the 1910 addition and wrapping the

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corners to the north and south. Three large ceramic insulators project from the upper extent of the 1910 addition's north facade. Window sills are formed with rowlock bricks. Window arches are formed by soldier course or rowlock bricks, depending on the size of the window opening.

The exterior brickwork is generally in fair to good condition. There are multiple small metal protrusions, including hooks, in various places. Some window sill headers are broken, as are some of the corbelled capitals of the pilasters. Along the south facade of the 1890 portion is a small area of severe deterioration, where mortar has been completely eroded away and the brick courses are collapsing. Most of the exterior walls retain exposed, unpainted brick. Small areas of the exterior brick walls have been previously painted. The portion of the 1910 addition's west facade which rises above the 1890 portion is partially clad with the same contemporary green corrugated metal roofing sheets used on the gable roof. In 1948, interior renovations cut four additional window openings through solid brick exterior walls on the first floor level of the north and east facades of 1910 addition. On the west elevation, there are two concrete block in-filled openings at the basement level and two larger brick infill areas at the main floor level. In 2011, three single door openings were cut in the west (rear) elevation, at the main floor and added balcony levels, to accommodate emergency exits as part of the building's adaptive reuse. Temporary, removable wooden fire escapes have been added to the west (rear) in 2011 to meet emergency exiting needs from the balcony. A wooden ADA ramp has also been added to the north (side) in 2011 for universal access requirements. Along with the new ADA ramp, a 1948 window opening has been converted to a single doorway at the top of the ADA ramp; an adjacent 1890 window opening, formerly converted to a doorway in 1948, is under restoration to the original window configuration.

*Roof*  
According to the 1905 Sanborn Fire Insurance map, the gable roof had a rectangular vent house centered along the ridgeline and the roofing is presumed to have been tin. Today, the gable roof has at least two layers of old corrugated metal roofing, with an added top layer of recent (within the last 10 years) metal corrugated roofing. The vent was removed at some time in the past. The 1910 addition's flat concrete roof features low brick parapets with concrete coping on the north and south reaches, rising to corbelled, castellated brick parapets at the northeast and southeast corners. The east wall has no parapet in the center portion; the west wall has no parapet at all. Two types of ceramic insulators punctuate the flat roof in a central east-west line of six and a west edge north-south line of six. A wooden hatch provides access to the flat roof. Built-up asphalt, which is cracked and in poor condition, covers the concrete roof deck.

*Windows*  
Original windows on the 1890 portion are six 12-over-12 wood sash set in segmental brick arch openings in the north facade. One of the 12-over-12 sash was altered in 1948, with a glazed three panel door replacing the lower sash. There are twelve square, wood framed, single-lite fixed clerestory windows in the south facade, with six in the westernmost bays (1890 portion) and six in the east (1910) addition. The latter have at least one circular hole in each pane but are otherwise intact. The clerestory windows on the 1890 portion have been previously covered by plywood on the exterior.

The 1910 addition originally had ten one-over-one, double hung, wood sash windows - five in the south facade, four in the east facade, one in the north - all above the first floor level. All of the south sashes retain historic latches and hardware but counterweight ropes are missing or cut. One pane is cracked and several stools are deteriorated. Three

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of the four one-over-one sash windows in the east facade either have broken or missing glass. At the second floor level, there are two-lite arched panels on either side of the central arched casement doors. At the gallery level, there is a multi-lite ribbon window across the central bay; all the glass is missing from this ribbon window. One-over-one wood sash windows were added in 1948 to the 1910 addition, specifically one in the east elevation and three in the north elevation, all at the first floor level, for the added offices. An interior window was also added at that time between the 1910 addition and the 1890 portion, allowing for visual connection between the new Operator's Office and the "Machine Room" (formerly called the Electric Light Works or Electric Transformer House). Plywood covers the only first floor window (1948) on the east elevation. Added exterior metal grilles cover north facade first floor sashes, and almost every door and window on the east facade. The one-over-one sash window in the north end of the east facade had been boarded over in the past but was restored to operation in 2011, for box office use.

### *Doors*

The 1910 addition has arched casement doors at the gallery level in the central bay. The central sliding doors in this same facade also contain multi-lite fixed glazing in the upper two-thirds, with two operable single, three-panel doors at the ground floor level. The massive sliding doors operate on tracks located inside the entryway. In 1948, the north facade of the 1910 addition received an exterior door (three panel with glazing) for the new office spaces. This door was removed in 2011 in order to restore the window opening to a 12-over-12 sash. A 1948 window opening in the north facade became a doorway in 2011 as required for universal (ADA) building access. A wooden ADA ramp has also been added to the north facade, leading from grade up to the elevated doorway. As mentioned under Exterior Walls, several single doorways have been introduced to the west (rear) wall in 2011 as required for emergency egress. Two interior doorways were cut through the wall dividing the 1890 and 1910 portions, to accommodate new circulation patterns.

### **Interior**

#### *Floor Plan*

The original building had a west end utilitarian room, initially serving as storage and later as a boiler room. Unlike the main building portion, this west end room had no basement below it. It was separated from the main building by a solid wall, broken only by one internal doorway. This western room was removed in the past, presumably after 1950 and before the current owners took possession of the property.

All flooring is poured concrete, including the second floor and gallery of the 1910 addition. All walls except the office spaces feature exposed brick; the office spaces have painted plaster over brick. The ceilings in the office spaces were finished with contemporary acoustic tiles, removed in 2011 to expose the plaster ceiling above.

Two small office spaces were created in 1948 from former feeder regulator vaults along the north side of the first floor in the 1910 addition. As part of that 1948 renovation, plans called for three new brick interior partition walls and two doors, one for each new space, to separate the new north side offices (former feeder regulator vaults) from the main space. A brick interior partition wall was removed between the two northeastern vaults, to make a larger interior space for the Superintendent's Office. One fixed interior window was added between the Operator's Office and 1890 portion by cutting through the brick bearing wall.

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As part of the adaptive reuse in 2011, the main space of the 1910 addition became the new theater lobby, and dressing rooms and restrooms were added to the second floor. The 1890 portion transformed to an auditorium, with a small stage added at the west end and rows of fixed seating throughout the rest of the floor. A balcony level of seating was added along the north, east and south walls. Brick walls remain exposed and untreated. Curtains have been hung at the north side windows to provide darkness during performances. A lighting and control booth was added at an existing concrete extension of the 1910 mezzanine level.

### *Stairs*

The second floor and gallery levels of the 1910 addition were historically only accessible via a metal half-turn stair from the second floor. This stair dates from 1939, when it replaced a vertical metal ship's ladder. The stair is located in the southeast quadrant of the 1910 addition's footprint. As-built sectional drawings indicate additional ship's ladders which do not currently exist. In 2011, metal framed stairs were added in the northwest and southwest corners of the 1910 addition, leading from the first floor up to the second. From the second floor, another metal framed stair now leads up to the mezzanine and control booth level. All of the new stairs feature wire mesh panels instead of balustrades, metal pipe handrails, and concrete treads, continuing the industrial feel of the building.

### *Small Features*

Pipe railings surround the gallery level of the 1910 addition. The east doors (lower and upper floors) retain original doorknobs.

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.)

- X 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.
X 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.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE
INDUSTRY

Period of Significance

1890-1910

Significant Dates

1890, 1910

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Osterman, Henry (architect)

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.) 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 Engineering Record#

Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Blank lines for repository name

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## **NARRATIVE STATEMENT of SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Electric Light Works building is historically significant for the city of Walla Walla as well as for the region of southeast Washington and northeast Oregon. The Electric Light Works is eligible individually at the local level for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, for association with the development of Walla Walla during the late 19th century as well as the evolution of regional power utilities and the rise of hydroelectric power. The building is also eligible under Criterion C, as an excellent example of late 19th and early 20th century industrial architecture, and as a structure that represents the work of regionally renowned architect, Henry Osterman, Sr.

Built as an electric plant in 1890 adjacent to pre-existing gas manufacturing buildings (demolished in 1972), the building represents the last remaining piece of the former Walla Walla Gas Company complex. This company pioneered the production and distribution of gas and later electric power to streetlights, businesses, and residences in Walla Walla. Successors to the gas company expanded operations, growing into a regional power provider and eventually forming an intercity rail transportation network. The nominated building played a major role in this growth and development as a substation for power distribution. The period of significance begins in 1890 with the construction of the electric plant and ends in 1910, when the substation addition was completed.

## **Historical Development of Walla Walla**

Walla Walla is one of the earliest Euro-American settlements in present-day Washington State. Few buildings remain from the era of the town's incorporation, but the Electric Light Works is one of the city's oldest extant buildings and is a valuable resource for understanding how Walla Walla and the surrounding region developed in the 19th century.

Washington Territory was created in 1853. The new territorial legislature created Walla Walla County in 1854 which stretched from the crest of the Cascade Mountains to the crest of the Rocky Mountains, stretching across the present states of Washington, Idaho and Montana. The capital of Walla Walla County is a city by the same name. In 1855 an Indian council was held on the banks of Mill Creek, at the present site of the City of Walla Walla, to purchase land from the Indians. All of the land in this area was acquired from the Cayuse and Walla Walla Indian tribes by the U.S. Government in a treaty signed on June 9, 1855, in Walla Walla, and ratified on March 8, 1859, by President James Buchanan. However the Yakimas, Cayuses and Walla Walla tribes were dissatisfied with the treaties and war followed, during which settlement was not allowed. Missionaries, former French-Canadian employees of the Hudson Bay Company trading post at Wallula, and soldiers at Fort Walla Walla were the primary European and American occupants of the area prior to 1859, with more settlers arriving after the Indian hostilities ended in circa 1860.



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The town of Walla Walla was originally laid out by County Surveyor H. H. Case in 1859, as a one-quarter mile square with its eastern side centered on the point where Main Street crossed Mill Creek (at roughly the point where it does now).<sup>1</sup> The city formally incorporated in 1862. According to federal legislation regarding townsites on public lands, passed on March 2, 1867, a maximum of 2,560 acres could be subdivided from public lands and used for a townsite.<sup>2</sup> The City of Walla Walla received such a land gift (known as a Trustee Townsite) from the U. S. Government, issued on July 20, 1869, by the District Land Office (Vancouver, Washington Territory) and comprising 80 acres. Main Street originally followed the old Nez Perce Indian Trail; consequently, the streets leading off of Main were at right angles to it, and were not in a north-south orientation. This was corrected as the city expanded eastward, giving Walla Walla its peculiar street pattern with the three-street intersection at Palouse, Boyer and Main Streets.

Additional parcels were annexed from time to time to the original plat, usually bearing the name of the land owner of record at the time the additions were made. The location of the original gas works on the northwest corner of Sixth and Rose Streets is in the original plat (Section 20) for the City of Walla Walla.<sup>3</sup> The balance of the block, including the Electric Light Works, is in Section 19 - immediately to the west of the original city boundary. The first owner of the current Electric Light Works lot after the U. S. Government was Edmund H. Barron.<sup>4</sup>

Upon incorporation, the city held its first election in 1862. That same year gold was discovered in Idaho and Walla Walla became a major supply point for gold seekers, with several thousand pack animals in constant use.<sup>5</sup> Reportedly fifty buildings were constructed that summer and 30 more were in process. Wells Fargo opened an express office and the Mullen Road to Fort Benton on the Missouri River was completed. Twelve years later, in 1874, the town had grown and prospered enough to have street lights fueled by coal oil. Walla Walla, with a population of 3,588 in 1880, was at the time larger than Seattle.

## Walla Walla Gas Company & Successors

The Walla Walla Gas Company and all its successors played a vital role in the early development of the city. Besides fueling light and power for the community, the company and its successors quickly expanded their service range, supplying power to southeast Washington and northeast Oregon. The company also eventually powered various

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<sup>1</sup> Frank T. Gilbert, *Historic Sketches of Walla Walla, Whitman, Columbia and Garfield Counties, Washington Territory, and Umatilla County, Oregon* (Portland, Oregon: A. G. Walling, 1882), 209.

<sup>2</sup> C. Albert White, *A History of the Rectangular Survey System, vol 2* (Washington, DC: U. S. Department of the Interior, 1983), 140.

<sup>3</sup> Filed in Book A of Plats, Page 1, in 1867.

<sup>4</sup> Barron filed a patent for conveyance of public lands regarding this property in the District Land Office, Vancouver, Washington Territory, recorded July 20, 1869.

<sup>5</sup> Gilbert, 302.

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forms of electric rail transportation. The company's use of ever-more-modern technology and equipment, coupled with the involvement of some of Walla Walla's most influential citizens, led to the company's success. The local power company soon attracted the attentions of larger companies and thereby became a part of an expanding web of power, technology and management, not unlike the national dominance of the railroads at that time.

The Walla Walla Gas Company was formed in 1881, at which time Walla Walla's street lights became fueled by gas made from pitch pine until coal could be obtained.<sup>6</sup> In 1888 the Walla Walla City Council granted a franchise to C. E. Burroughs to establish and maintain an electric plant. The sale of the Walla Walla Gas Company to the Walla Walla Gas and Electric Company (WWGEC) on December 7, 1889, was for a stated amount of \$10. This deed included buildings, engines, machinery and appurtenances, gas pipes and mains, lamp posts and a franchise to lay pipe in City of Walla Walla. This document was signed by C. E. Burrows, Secretary, and E. B. Whitman, Vice President, of the WWGEC. Henry Wadsworth served as president of the company.

"Judge" E. B. Whitman, vice president of the WWGEC, had lived in Walla Walla since 1859 and devoted a great deal of his time to public affairs in the development of this new community. He signed the petition asking that Walla Walla be established as a town. Whitman served as Walla Walla's first mayor in 1862 (plus four more terms), was a clerk for School District #1 for 14 years and Justice of the Peace for 3 years.<sup>7</sup> He also owned a merchandising business and a livery stable and worked as a Wells Fargo agent before owning an insurance and real estate business.<sup>8</sup> Today he is recognized and honored as one of Walla Walla's primary founders.

In 1890, the WWGEC constructed the rear portion of the nominated building and installed a 100 horsepower Ball tandem-compound steam engine for driving one or more dynamos. In 1892, they installed a Pelton water wheel on Mill Creek, five miles east of town, to drive a 100 kilowatt, 133 cycle single-phase generator of the old Thompson-Houston type. This generator delivered power at 2,000 volts directly over a single circuit line to Walla Walla. There it was fed into a similar generator, operating as a synchronous motor connected to a line shaft to which were belted the several dynamos furnishing current for the arc and incandescent lighting of the town. The steam plant in town acted as an auxiliary electricity source because the Mill Creek facility had no storage capacity and the creek had very low flow in summer months. By 1900, the community was complaining about lack of capacity of this system, estimated at 350 horsepower.<sup>9</sup> The company soon enlarged the steam plant but usage was expanding faster than capacity.

<sup>6</sup> Gilbert, 319.

<sup>7</sup> Gilbert, 301.

<sup>8</sup> Robert Bennett, *A Town Built To Be A City, 1900 - 1919* (Walla Walla: Pioneer Press, 1980), 63.

<sup>9</sup> John Dierdorff, *How Edison's Lamp Helped Light the West, The Story of Pacific Power and Light and its Pioneer Forebears* (Pacific Power and Light, 1971), 21.

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On September 5, 1903, Walla Walla Gas & Electric was sold to Northwestern Gas & Electric Co. for \$10. Around that time, Northwestern began construction on a hydroelectric plant to provide power to Walla Walla and Pendleton, Oregon. Located on the south fork of the Walla Walla River, the plant took advantage of the river draining out of the Blue Mountains and dropping from an elevation of 5,500 feet. This hydroelectric plant was sited about 15 miles from Walla Walla and about 30 miles from Pendleton, so a high voltage (22,000 volt) transmission line was built.<sup>10</sup>

The hydroelectric plant was placed in operation on December 31, 1904. This greater source of power allowed the local utility the capacity to seek larger markets. In 1906, the Northwestern Gas & Electric Co. organized the Walla Walla Valley Traction Company to provide electric streetcar and interurban transportation to the city.

In September, 1909, the Northwestern Corporation purchased Northwestern Gas & Electric Co.. Less than a year later (in May, 1910), the Northwestern Corporation sold to Columbia Power & Light Co.. This sale also included the Lewiston Gas Plant and the transmission line right-of-way from the old Walla Walla Gas & Electric Plant. With an interest in expanding service and modernizing their facilities, the Columbia Power & Light Company took out a city permit on September 6, 1910, to build a "two story brick substation" onto the existing 1890 powerhouse. Columbia hired prominent local architect, Henry Osterman to design the addition. The estimated cost of the project was \$14,575 and Osterman's plans are dated July 21, 1910.<sup>11</sup>

Shortly before its completion, on September 29, 1910, Columbia Power & Light sold their holdings to Pacific Power & Light (PPL). The company brought new power lines from Walla Walla River's hydroelectric plant to the new substation. Four transformers had to be installed in order to step the voltage down for distribution to Walla Walla businesses and residences. By this time the company also had 12 miles of streetcar tracks and 14 miles of interurban lines running all the way to Freewater and Milton, Oregon, carrying 1,285,000 passengers annually.<sup>12</sup> In 1910, the PPL offices and depot were located in the Bachtold Building at Sixth and Main.

In 1925, rate disputes and law suits resulted in the lowering of electric rates by 15%. This local dispute echoed regional disputes between private and public power interests. In 1935, the *Walla Walla Union Bulletin* published an article about a telegram sent from the city commission and the Chamber of Commerce to the Security and Exchange Commission asking to keep PPL private.<sup>13</sup> They wanted no public utility district (PUD) in Walla Walla. PPL continued to own the Electric Light Works building, commonly known as the "powerhouse," until 1994, when PPL donated the building to the Port of Walla Walla.

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<sup>10</sup> Dierdorff, 129.

<sup>11</sup> Permit #867, City of Walla Walla building permits, Whitman College Archives.

<sup>12</sup> Dierdorff, 15.

<sup>13</sup> Dierdorff, 202.

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### Rise of Hydroelectric Power Plants in Washington State, 1880-1938

Early hydroelectric plants and their associated resources in Washington State, including the Electric Light Works Building, document the rapidly evolving technology of power generation in the early 20th century, as well as the corporations which arose to harness and distribute that power. The Electric Light Works Building in Walla Walla is a rare surviving resource associated with the early development and advances in hydroelectric power and the growth of regional electrical power systems in Washington, which led the country in these concerns.

Washington is located in one of the best regions of the country for hydroelectric potential given the steep elevation changes, abundant rainfall, and powerful rivers. According to historian Lisa Soderberg,

*“Important advances in the science and technology of electric generation and distribution during the late 19th century harnessed these formidable natural resources for the production of hydroelectric power. Indeed, an article in the Journal of Electricity of January 1926 reported that the State of Washington had more potential waterpower than any other state in the Union.<sup>14</sup> As a result, unlike most other areas of the country, the history of electric light and power development in Washington is largely the history of hydroelectric power systems.”<sup>15</sup>*

Between 1890 and 1938, the evolution of electrical supply systems is reflected in power plants from that period. According to Soderberg, California and Washington were early users of “*high capacity turbines and long, high voltage transmission systems. These pioneering applications resulted in part from the remote location of the water resources of the state. The enormous power potential could not be developed without the introduction of the turbine and economical long distance transmission.*”<sup>16</sup>

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the development of high efficiency turbines and high-voltage transmission systems resulted in the spread of large scale hydroelectric installations in Washington. Some Washington hydroelectric facilities, such as the Walla Walla River plant (1904), were pioneers in the use of significant engineering advances such as the Pelton water wheel and the Francis turbine. The nominated property had at least one Pelton water wheel and three Francis turbines associated with it. Power plants in Washington State were also early users, compared to other states, of long distance high voltage transmission systems. The nominated building represents this early use of high voltage transmission lines in Washington, receiving high voltage power from the hydroelectric plant 15 miles away.

<sup>14</sup> *National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation for Hydroelectric Power Plants in Washington State, 1890-1938*, prepared by Lisa Soderberg, July 1988.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

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These advances in hydroelectric power generation allowed for greater system efficiency and thus the spread of regional electrical systems. According to Soderberg, "Not surprisingly, the turbine and high voltage transmission innovations reflected in Washington's early plants became standard features of the regional electrical systems throughout the West after 1920."<sup>17</sup> Also, Washington's early hydroelectric power plants, such as the one which was tied into the nominated property, were the forerunners of massive federal hydroelectric projects of the 1930s.

Compared to regional electrical systems in the eastern U.S., which primarily supported lighting demands, the systems in the West supported broader uses. Washington's regional systems, including the system based in Walla Walla for southeast Washington, fueled industrial and agricultural demands for a dispersed population. Thus, hydroelectric power and regional electrical utilities such as PPL and its predecessors in Walla Walla were fundamental to the growth of communities as well as the economy. As Soderberg states, "More than simply satisfying an existing demand, the plants precipitated industrial and commercial growth."<sup>18</sup>

The size of Washington's regional electrical systems necessitated large scale organizations, both public and private, to manage power production and distribution. These utility companies, or power conglomerates, dominated hydroelectric production in the early 20th century and were among the largest and most important corporations in the state, on par with the railroad industry. These utility companies were also integrated with numerous local concerns, including dozens of private traction companies.<sup>19</sup> The Walla Walla Valley Traction Company, begun by the Northwestern Gas and Electric Company (previous owner of the nominated property) in 1906, is in keeping with this association of traction companies with regional power providers.

The history of this building and its multiple owners is largely the history of power in this region. Ironically, would-be competitors for Pacific Power and Light headquartered in Walla Walla, such as the Walla Walla Electric Co-op and Interstate Electric, apparently never generated power in the city. A micro electrical generating facility in Washtucna, Washington, which was intermittently powered by water flow over the nearby Little Palouse River falls, operated independently of any known utility company.

### Architectural Significance

The Electric Light Works Building is one of only three known extant examples in the state of a 19<sup>th</sup> century powerhouse which was built solely for power generation and/or distribution. Executed in red brick in an industrial vernacular style, the building received a substation addition in 1910, also of red brick. The 1890 portion of the building is a fine and highly intact representative of late 19<sup>th</sup> century industrial vernacular design, whereas the 1910

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<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

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addition represents late 19<sup>th</sup> & early 20<sup>th</sup> century American forms. The addition also highlights advances in electrical power generation and distribution, as well as the growth of the regional electrical system. The building retains a high level of integrity on the exterior as well as the interior.

Originally designed to house machinery and equipment for generating and distributing electricity, the 1890 portion of the Walla Walla Electric Light Works reflects industrial design of the time. Specifically, the open volume, lack of ornamentation, and simple massing were typical features of industrial buildings then. These features facilitated the operation of interior machinery and kept the construction costs to a minimum. The multi-light sash windows provided maximum use of natural daylight and ventilation. No interior partitions were needed. Character-defining features include the red brick walls, the front gable roof, corrugated metal roofing, and 12-over-12 wood sash windows.

Specifically designed as a substation to expand the capacity of the existing facility, the 1910 addition reflects its specialized function, technological advances, and the expanded role of the power utility in the region. The addition displays elements of the late 19<sup>th</sup> & early 20<sup>th</sup> century American forms, such as the brick quoins, projecting corner bays, castellated parapets, and massive arched opening. There are a greater variety of window types, including multi-light windows and one-over-one sashes, and a higher level of exterior ornamentation. The addition maintains a relatively open volume, although with more vertical division and interior partitioning than the 1890 portion. In the original design for the 1910 addition, there was markedly less fenestration than the 1890 portion, presumably indicating a greater reliance on artificial lighting or more automated operations. Technological advances in power generation are exhibited through the cluster of ceramic insulators on the roof and in the walls. Furthermore, feeder regulators each had a separate vault in the addition, with roll-up metal doors to separate them from the central open space. The addition maintains the materials used in the 1890 portion, namely wood framed windows and red brick walls, sills and headers.

### Architectural Comparisons

The 1890 Walla Walla Electric Light Works shares many characteristics with other electric generating and distributing facilities of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, but there are few examples of this resource type remaining in the state. The following examples represent the earliest known contemporaries for the nominated property and include the 1890 Cheney Electric Works, the 1898 Renton Substation, and the 1909 Washington Water Power Substation (Spokane).

The 1890 Cheney Electric Works in Cheney, Washington, is also located in eastern Washington, in Spokane County. The Cheney Electric Works is an example of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Gothic Revival style, as opposed to the industrial vernacular style of the Walla Walla Electric Light Works' original 1890 portion. Both buildings date from the same year, both have unreinforced brick envelopes, and both are located in small cities which were developing rapidly in

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the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. However, the Cheney building has more similarities with the 1910 addition of the nominated property. Comparing the two 1890 buildings reveal distinct differences with regard to style and function. The Cheney building has a flat roof with parapet, as opposed to a front gable, and small one-over-one sash windows, as opposed to large, 12-over-12 sashes. The Cheney building has a higher level of ornamentation than either portion of the Walla Walla building. This is seen in the shaped window crowns and the finely detailed corbelling at the cornice, as well as the slender vertical projections from the parapet. The blind round arch at the main doorway is reminiscent of the 1910 addition's entry, except the latter is executed on a much larger scale. Thus, the Cheney building's finer detailing and added ornament contrast with both the industrial vernacular and the simplified late 19<sup>th</sup> & early 20<sup>th</sup> century American ornament of the nominated property. With regard to use, the Cheney Electric Works never had the purely industrial function of Walla Walla's powerhouse. The former's power generation was limited to two dynamos in the basement, with a carpenter shop and storage on the first floor and tenements on the second. By 1916, the Cheney Electric Works no longer functioned as a power generator and was converted to new uses.<sup>20</sup>

The Renton Substation (Snoqualmie Falls Power Company) in Renton, Washington, was built in 1898 in the Italianate style. This unreinforced brick, three story building occupies a square footprint, capped by a pyramidal hip roof. Segmental brick headers support modest window openings. The original windows are single or paired two-over-two, wood framed sashes. The substation interior was designed as a single large room with heavy equipment resting on a concrete floor. Upper floors were added after the building no longer served as a substation, a function which ended by circa 1950. This building was erected by the Snoqualmie Falls Power Company to distribute power from their hydroelectric plant at Snoqualmie Falls to Seattle and Tacoma.

The Washington Water Power Substation in Spokane, built in 1909, is a contemporary comparison for the 1910 portion of the nominated property. Designed by Kirtland Cutter, the Spokane substation is similarly executed in red brick, but it has been categorized under the Romanesque Revival style. The unreinforced brick masonry walls are punctuated by multi-story, round arched, multi-light windows. The flat roof has a parapet, which steps up at the corners and highlights the projecting end bays, similar to the Electric Light Works' 1910 addition.

### Henry Osterman, Architect

The 1910 addition was designed by Henry Osterman, a local architect who left a large imprint on the town of Walla Walla between 1895 and 1927. A German immigrant, Osterman designs range from some of Walla Walla's most prominent civic buildings to a variety of residences, schools, commercial properties, and fraternal halls. Today his architectural legacy in southeast Washington continues to provide a cohesive sense of place.

<sup>20</sup> *Historic Property Inventory Form, Cheney Electric Works*, recorded by C. Luttrell, May 1990. Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia, WA.

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Born in 1862 near Essen, Germany, Osterman studied architecture in Dusseldorf.<sup>21</sup> He immigrated to the United States in 1889 with three of his brothers. All four men settled in Walla Walla and worked as carpenters while they learned English. Together, they built a house at 508 Lincoln Street in 1892-93. In 1896, Henry's brothers all returned to Germany. By that time, Osterman had begun designing buildings on the side and by 1899, he referred to himself as an architect, using his home address for his business.<sup>22</sup>

In 1902, Osterman married Miss (Lavinia) Geneva Cooney and moved his office into a downtown building in 1905. Early designs included the Odd Fellows Temple (circa 1905, demolished 1993; facade relocated to Heritage Park); the Sharpstein School (1898); the Walla Walla Public Library/Carnegie Center (1905); Green Park School (1905); Central Christian Church (1905-1906); City Hall (1908); the YMCA/IOOF (1907); the new (1911) Schwabacher/Gardner & Co. Department Store (later Bank of the West/American West Bank); the Osterman Guest House at 421 Lincoln Street; and the Walla Walla Fair Pavilion (1906).

In 1912, he took on a former employee, Victor E. Siebert, as a partner.<sup>23</sup> Siebert was a recent graduate from the Boston School of Technology. Together, the firm of Osterman & Siebert continued to dominate the local architectural scene. They designed the County Courthouse (circa 1915); the National Guard Armory (1921); the Liberty Theater (1917); and residence (circa 1900) at 223 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, all in Walla Walla. Outside of the city notable designs include Preston Hall (1913) in Waitsburg; and Dixie High School (1921) in Dixie.<sup>24</sup>

Many Osterman, and Osterman & Siebert, buildings continue to contribute to the built environment of southeast Washington State. However, some have been lost to demolition, including the old Walla Walla High School and Gymnasium, Walla Walla Central Fire Station (adjacent to City Hall), Jefferson School, and Prospect Point School (c. 1912).<sup>25</sup> Henry Osterman retired in 1927 and sold his residence at 508 Lincoln. Osterman passed away in Seattle in June, 1936. His son, Hugo William Osterman, as well as a grandson, also became architects. Hugo studied architecture at the University of Washington, graduating in 1926. He practiced in Seattle.

### Summary

Starting in 1890, the Electric Light Works and its multiple owners have been the literal and figurative power behind the development of Walla Walla, one of the oldest cities in the state. As the last extant piece of the Walla Walla Gas

<sup>21</sup> William Lyman, *History of Old Walla Walla County, vol II* (Chicago: S. J. Clark Publishing Co., 1918), 97.

<sup>22</sup> *National Register of Historic Places nomination, Henry Osterman House*, prepared by William Vollendorff, 1982.

<sup>23</sup> Lyman, 242.

<sup>24</sup> *National Register of Historic Places nomination, Preston Hall*, prepared by Sally Reynolds, 1992.

<sup>25</sup> *School Board Journal*, National School Boards Association, vol. 44 no. 6 (New York: June, 1912), 31.



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& Electric Company and subsequent iterations of the company, the building is an important reminder of the town's early development and later growth into the rural commercial and transportation hub of southeastern Washington. As the utility company changed hands and grew into a regional power provider, the building not only lit Walla Walla's streets and homes but propelled streetcars and interurban trains. Lastly, the Electric Light Works is a rare, intact example of late 19th century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century industrial architecture. It is also representative of the work of regionally renowned architect, Henry Osterman and boasts the typical design language he used for public buildings.

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**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of Property Less than one acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM References on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>11</u> Zone	<u>03</u> <u>95</u> <u>897</u> Easting	<u>510</u> <u>22</u> <u>38</u> Northing	3	<u>    </u> Zone	<u>    </u> <u>    </u> <u>    </u> Easting	<u>    </u> <u>    </u> <u>    </u> Northing
2	<u>    </u> Zone	<u>    </u> <u>    </u> <u>    </u> Easting	<u>    </u> <u>    </u> <u>    </u> Northing	4	<u>    </u> Zone	<u>    </u> <u>    </u> <u>    </u> Easting	<u>    </u> <u>    </u> <u>    </u> Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated property is located in Section 20 of Township 07, Range 36 in the City of Walla Walla Addition plat, Block E (24) in Walla Walla, Washington. It is otherwise known as Tax Parcel No. 360720772402.

**Boundary Justification**

Boundaries are based on the extent of the current tax parcel lot. See attached parcel map.

**11. Form Prepared By**name/title Mary Meeker (edits by Susan Johnson, Artifacts Consulting, Inc. & DAHP Staff)organization Power House Theater, LLC date August 30, 2011street & number 111 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave telephone (253) 572-4599city or town Walla Walla state WA zip code 99362**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**

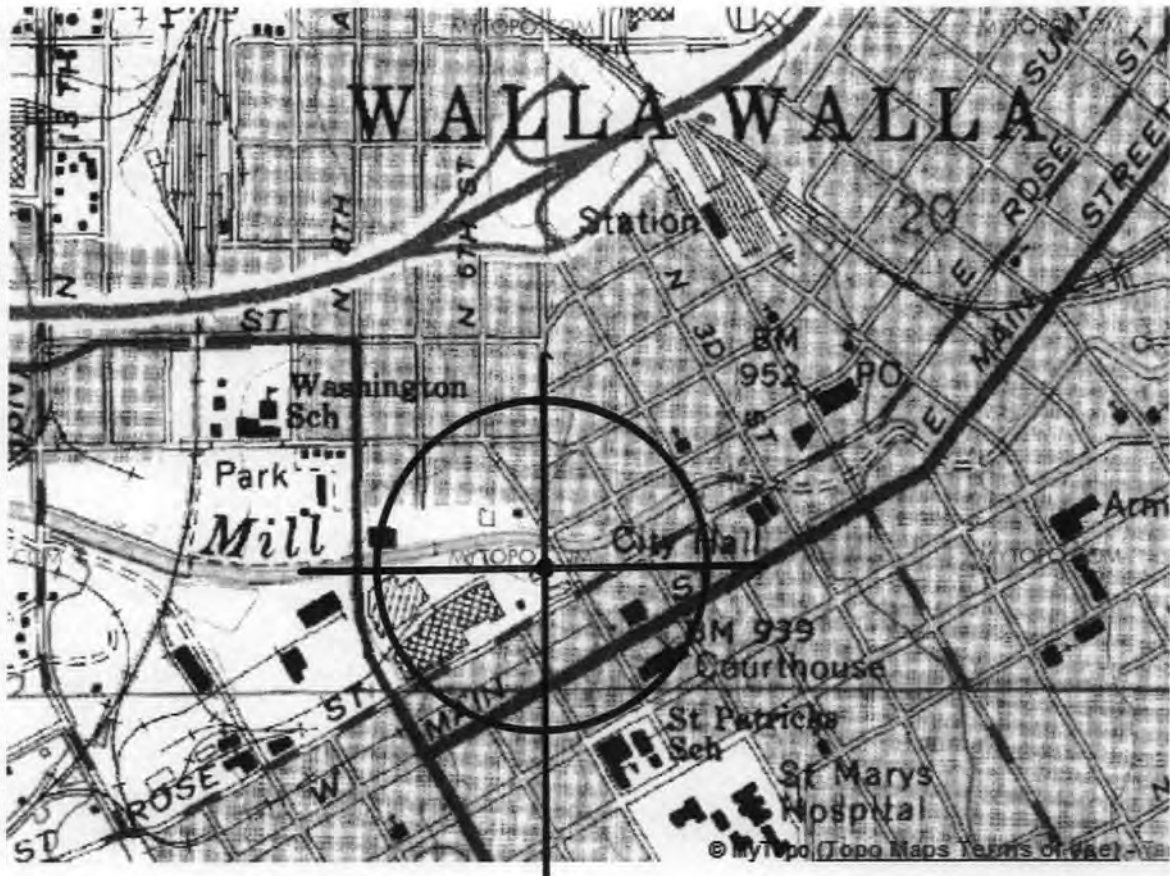
Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Property Owner** (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)name Power House Theatre, LLC (CO: Harry Hosey)street & number 111 North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue telephone (206) 909-8054city or town Walla Walla state Washington zip code 99362

## USGS Quad Map



### Electric Light Works Building

1) 11 3-95-897E      51-02-238N

*Walla Walla*  
SPK-COTTON-COPIED

National Register Nomination  
Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State



NOMINATED  
PROPERTY



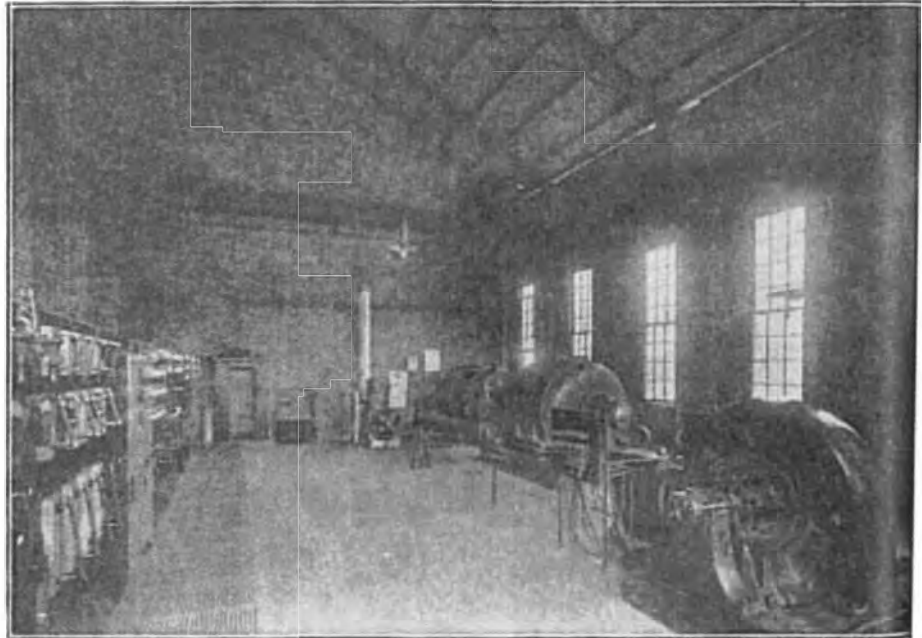
North

SITE MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF THE NOMINATED PROPERTY, OUTLINED WITH THE RED BOX

**National Register Nomination**  
Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

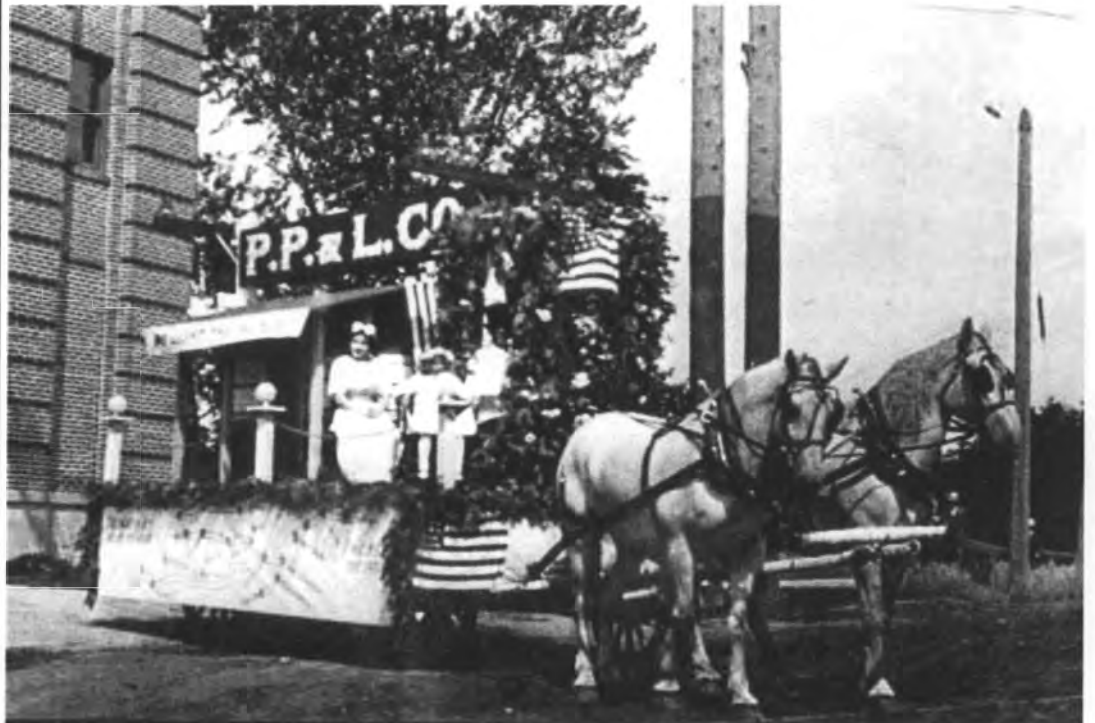
Historic Photographs & Maps

HP1: Circa 1910 view of interior of 1890 building portion, looking west (image courtesy of Up-To-The-Times Magazine, November 1910 issue)



INTERIOR VIEW OF POWER STATION NO. 2, SIXTH STREET, WALLA WALLA

HP2: Pacific Power & Light float parked at the northeast corner of building. Note the lack of first floor window, meaning this was taken between 1911 and 1948 (image courtesy of Pacific Power & Light Archives)



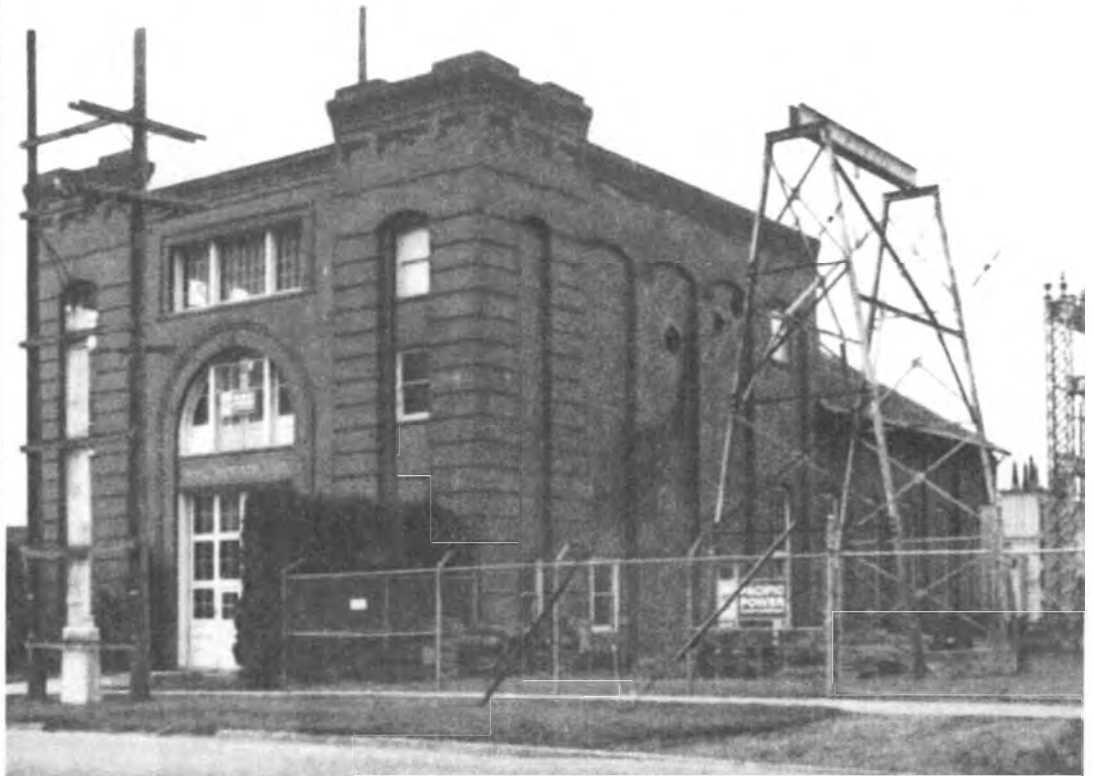
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111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

Historic Photographs & Maps

HP3: South and East Facades, 1978 (image courtesy of Washington Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation records)

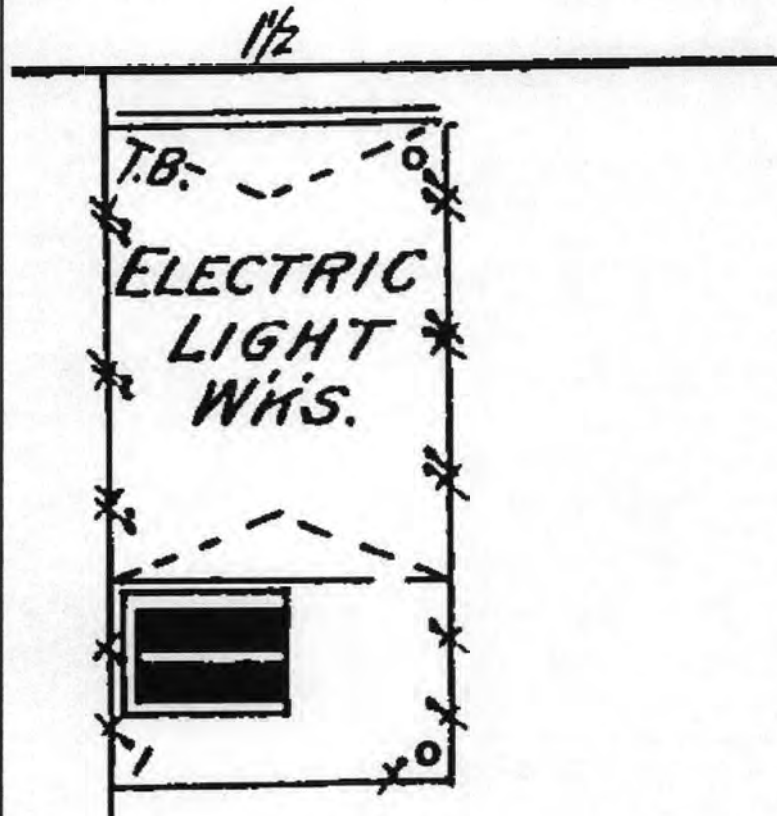


HP4: East and North Facades, 1978 (image courtesy of Washington Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation records)

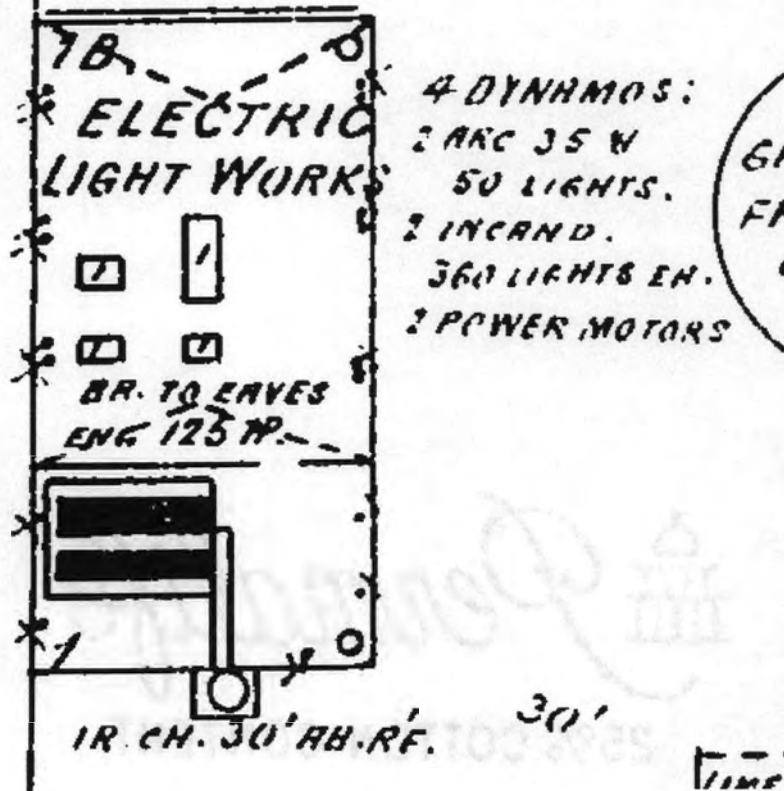




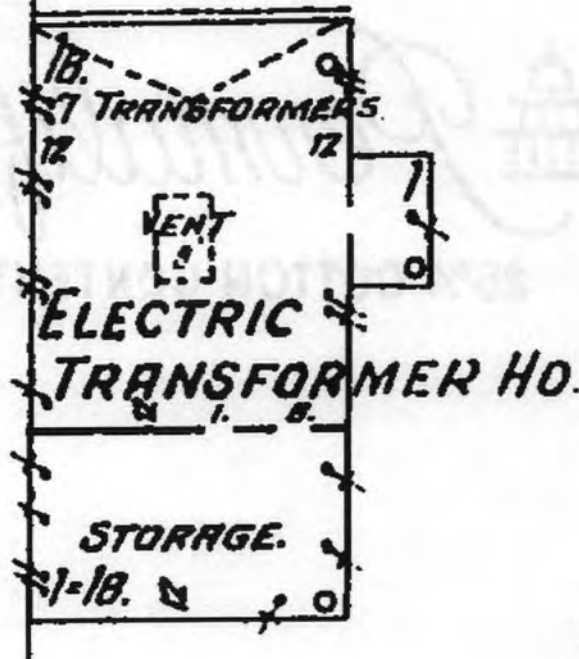
HP5: Sanborn Map detail,  
September 1890, Sheet 4  
(East is at the top of the  
image)



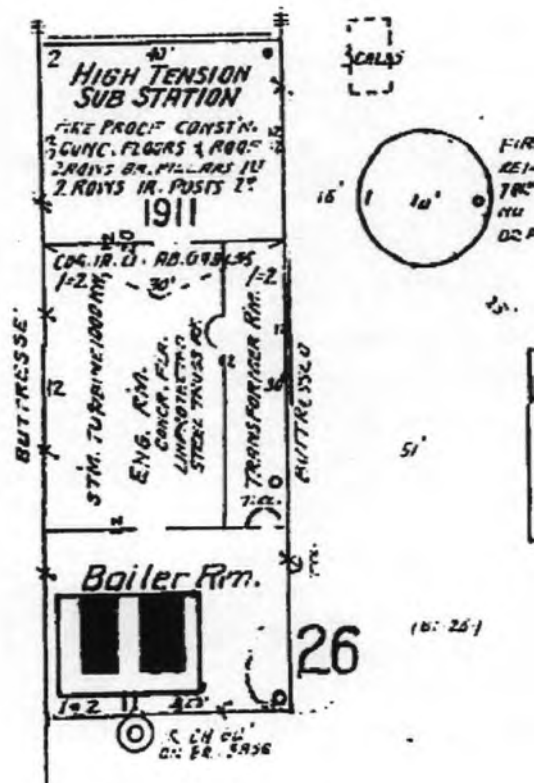
HP6: Sanborn Map detail,  
April 1894, Sheet 18 (East  
is at the top of the image)



HP7: Sanborn Map detail,  
 1905, Sheet 10 (East is at  
 the top of the image)



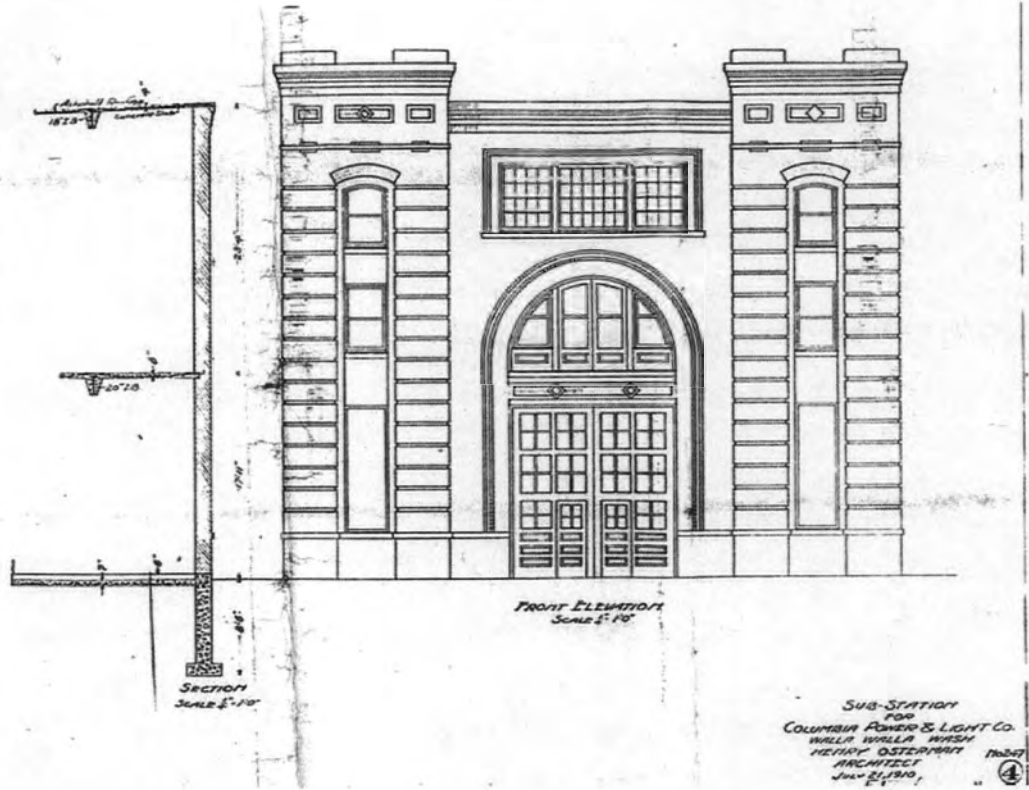
HP8: Sanborn Map detail,  
 1950 Update to 1905  
 map, Sheet 10 (East is at  
 the top of the image)



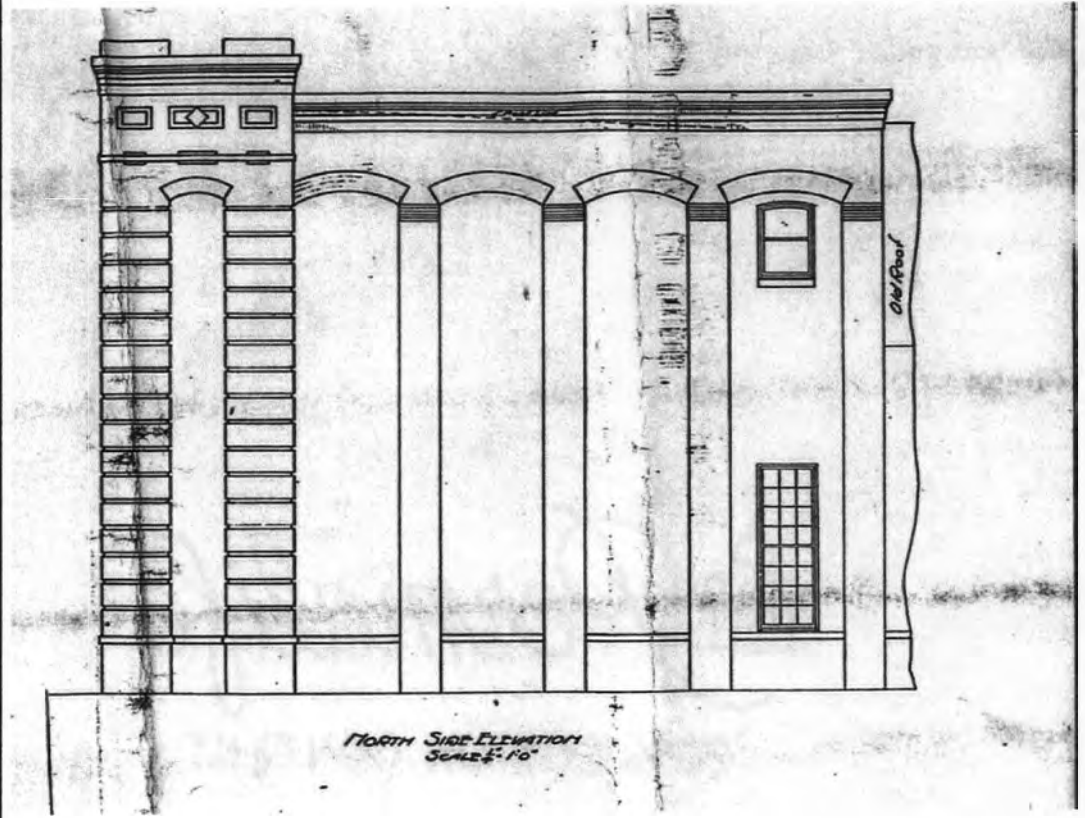
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HP9: July, 1910 East  
(Front) Elevation Drawing  
for "Sub-station for  
Columbia Power and Light  
Co., Walla Walla", Henry  
Osterman, Architect



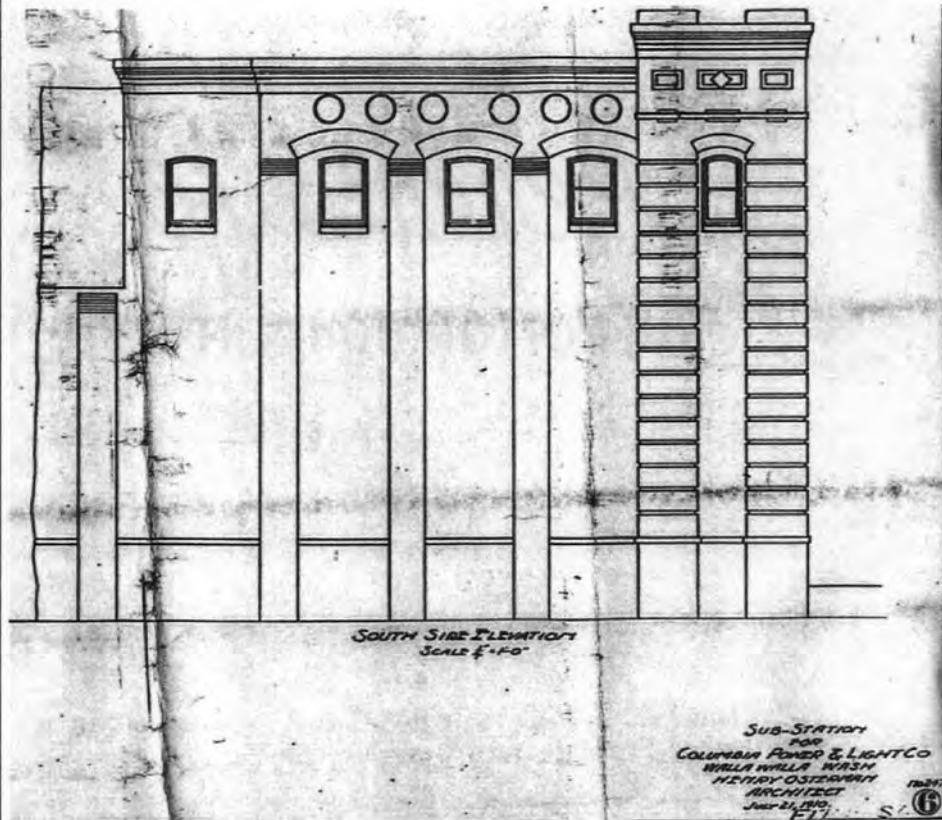
HP10: July, 1910 North  
Elevation Drawing for  
"Sub-station for Columbia  
Power and Light Co.,  
Walla Walla", Henry  
Osterman, Architect



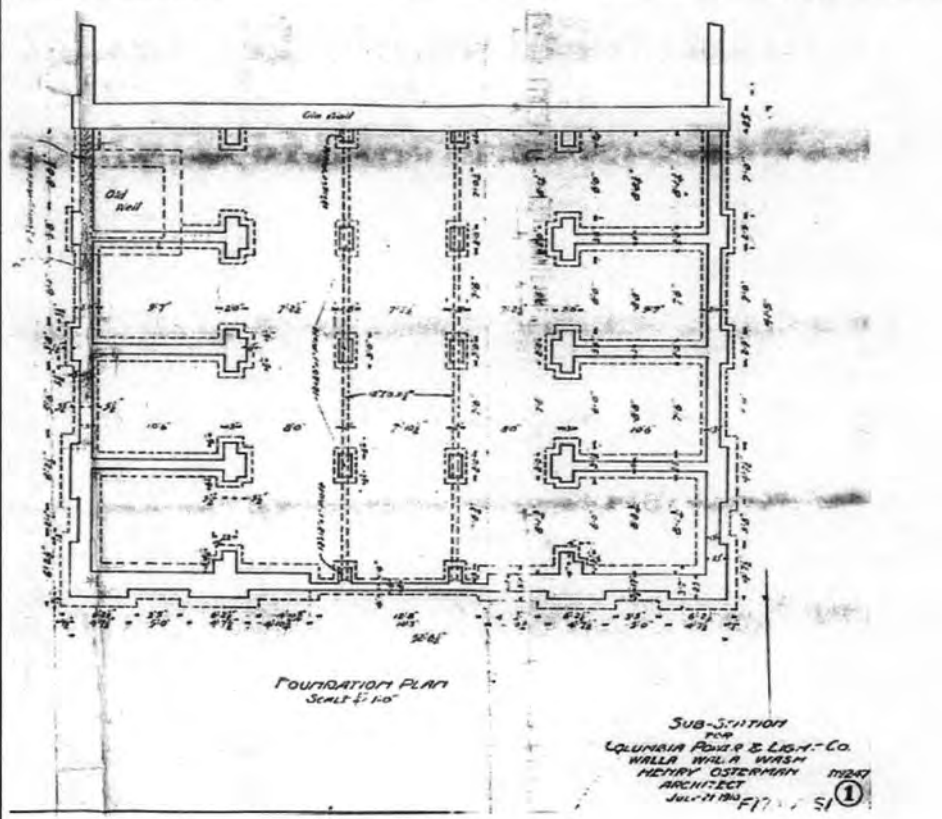
National Register Nomination  
Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
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Historic Photographs & Maps

HP11: July, 1910 South Elevation Drawing for "Sub-station for Columbia Power and Light Co., Walla Walla", Henry Osterman, Architect



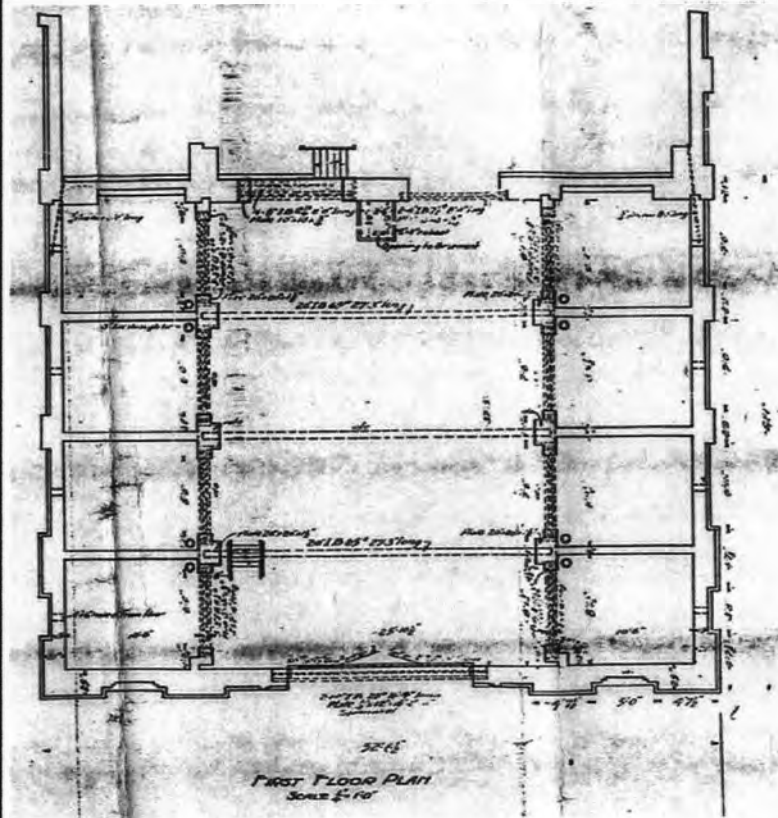
HP12: July, 1910 Foundation Plan for "Sub-station for Columbia Power and Light Co., Walla Walla", Henry Osterman, Architect



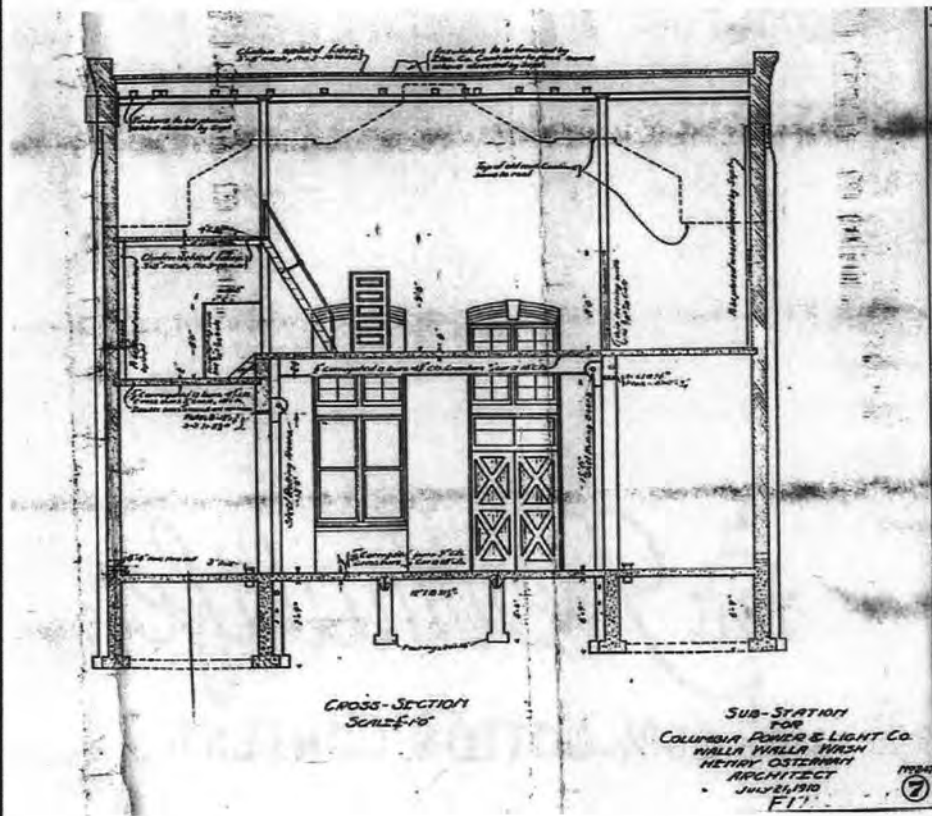
National Register Nomination  
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111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

Historic Photographs & Maps

HP13: July, 1910 First Floor Plan for "Sub-station for Columbia Power and Light Co., Walla Walla", Henry Osterman, Architect



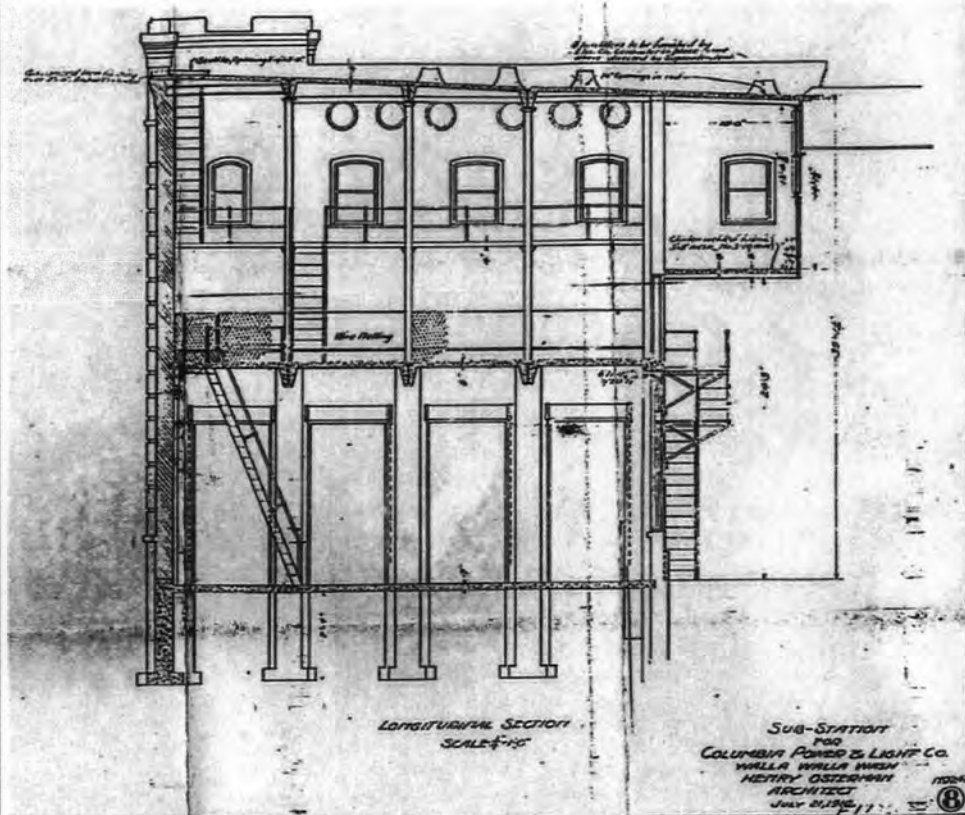
HP14: July, 1910 Cross Section (looking from addition towards 1890 building), Henry Osterman, Architect



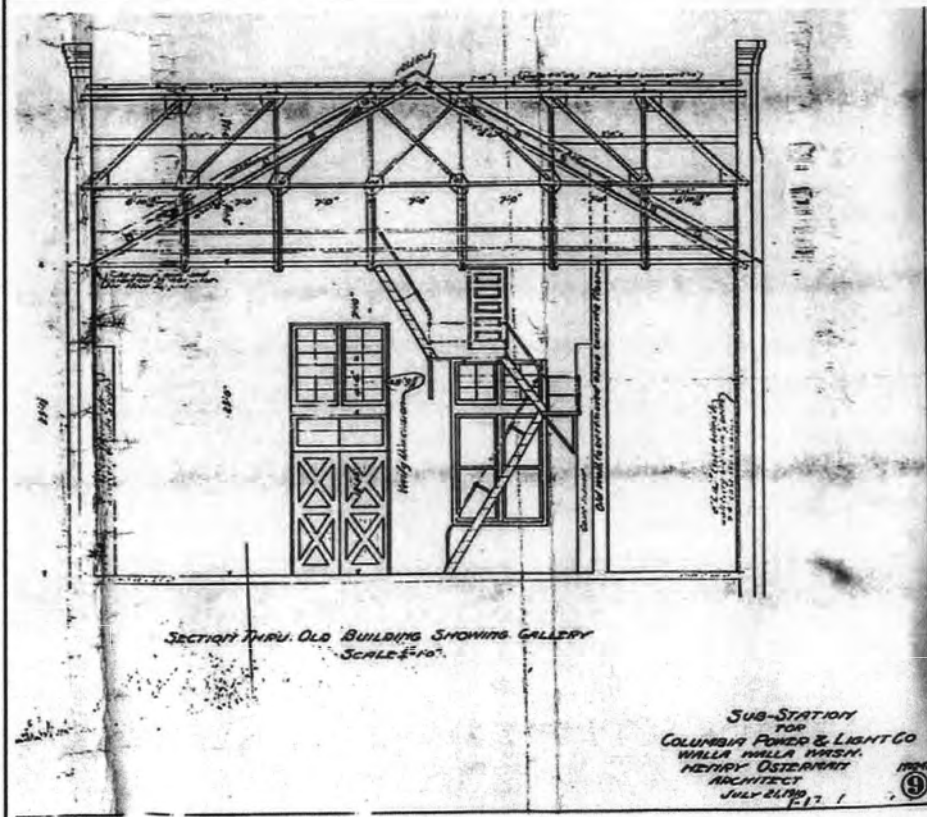
National Register Nomination  
Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

Historic Photographs & Maps

HP15: July, 1910  
Longitudinal Section,  
Henry Osterman,  
Architect



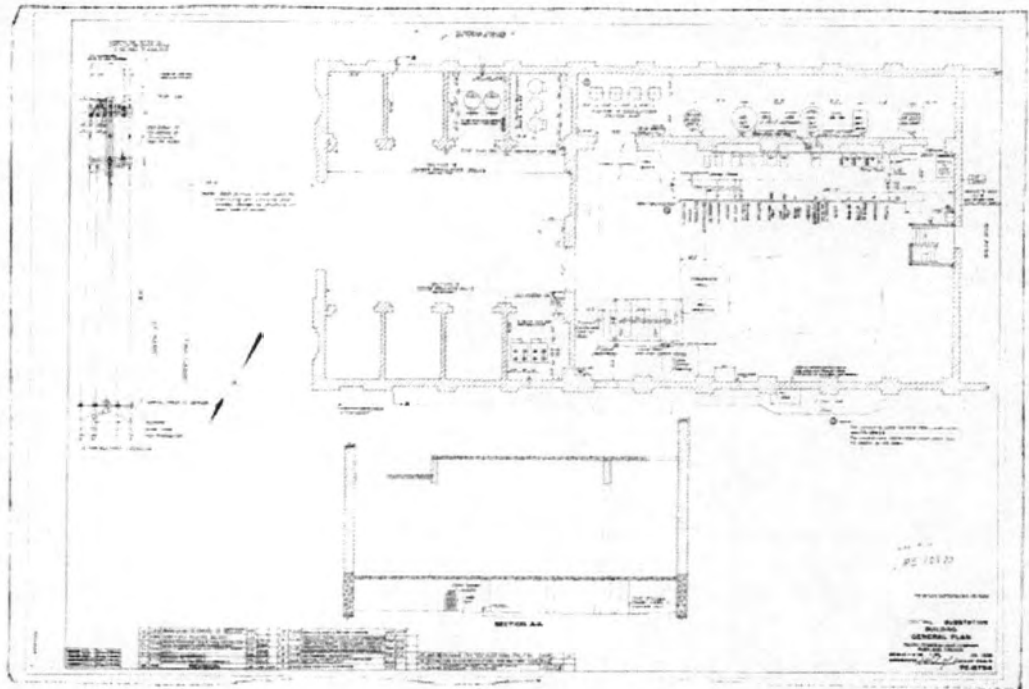
HP16: July, 1910 "Section  
Thru Old Building  
Showing Gallery," Henry  
Osterman, Architect



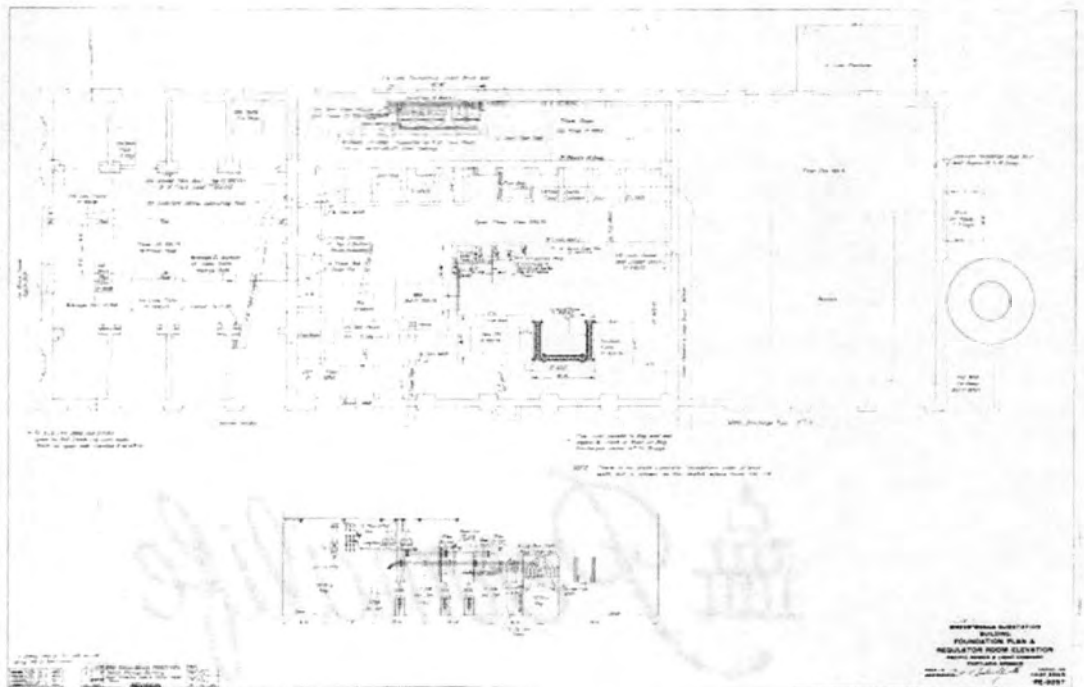
National Register Nomination  
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111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

Historic Photographs & Maps

HP17: 1928 General  
Plan, Central Substation  
Building Pacific Power &  
Light Co., with revisions  
through 1939  
(Note: east is at left)



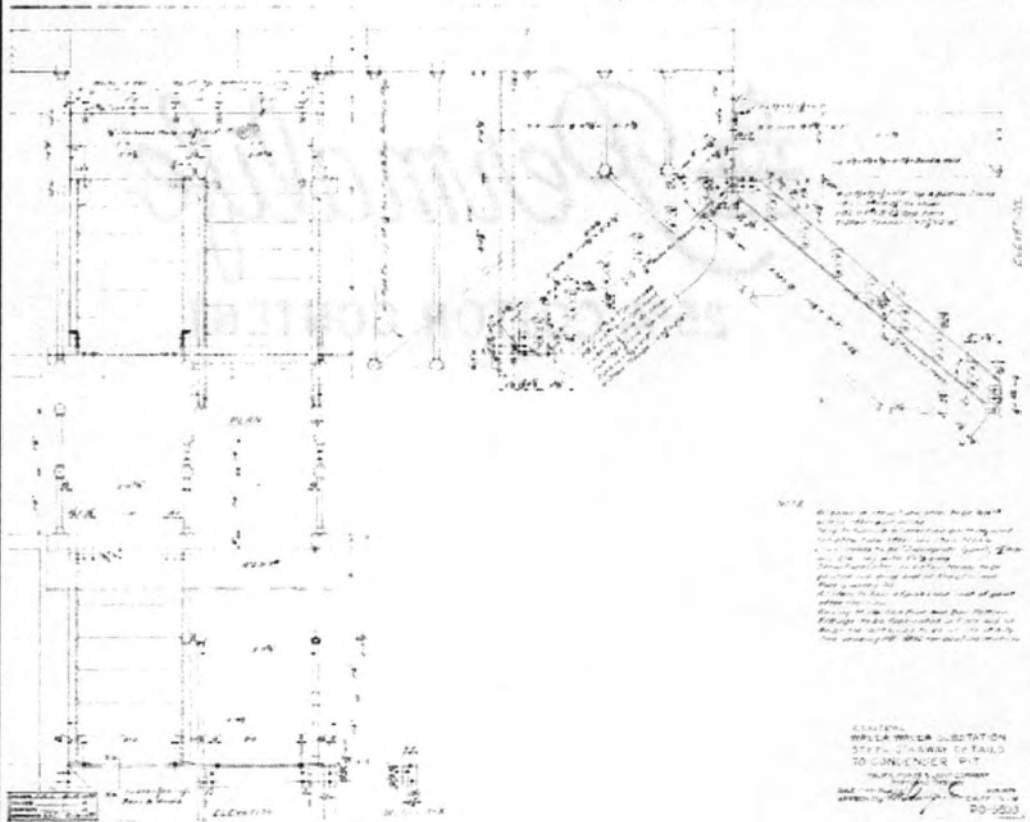
HP18: 1932 Foundation  
Plan & Regulator Room  
Elevation, Central  
Substation Building with  
revisions through 1939  
(Note: east is at left)



National Register Nomination  
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Historic Photographs & Maps

HP19: 1939 Steel  
Stairway Details to  
Condenser Pit, Central  
Substation



HP20: 1947 Operating  
Floor Plan, Central  
Substation Building (Note:  
east is at left)

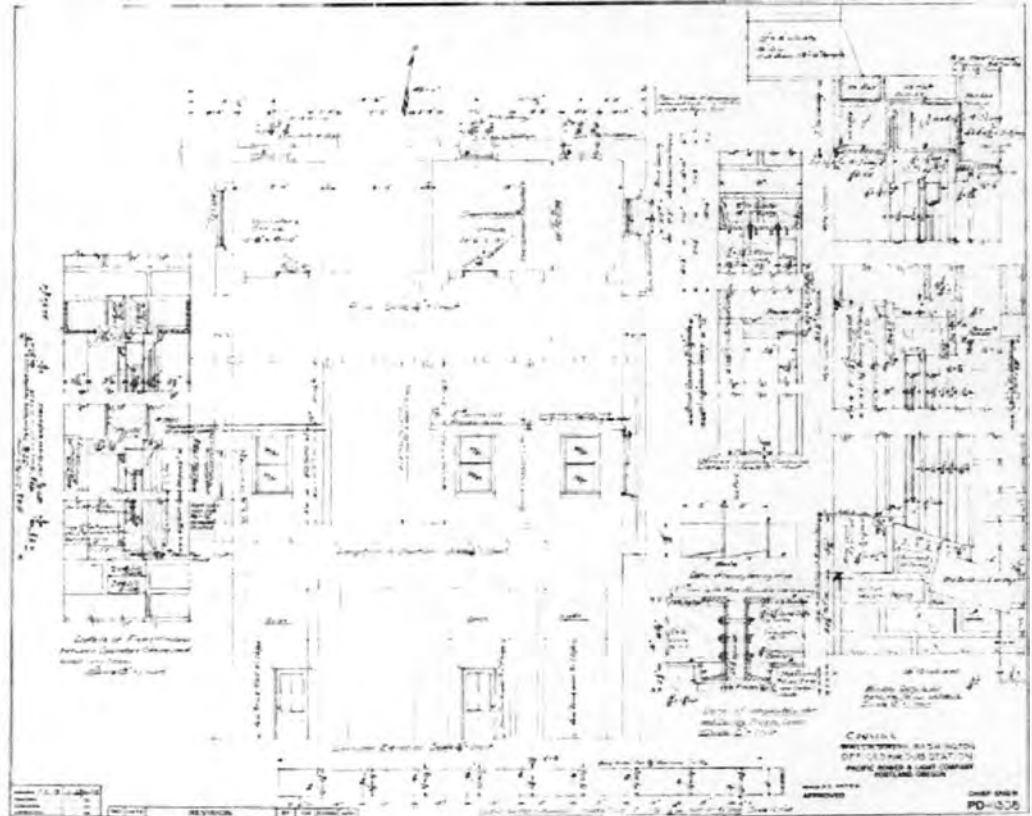




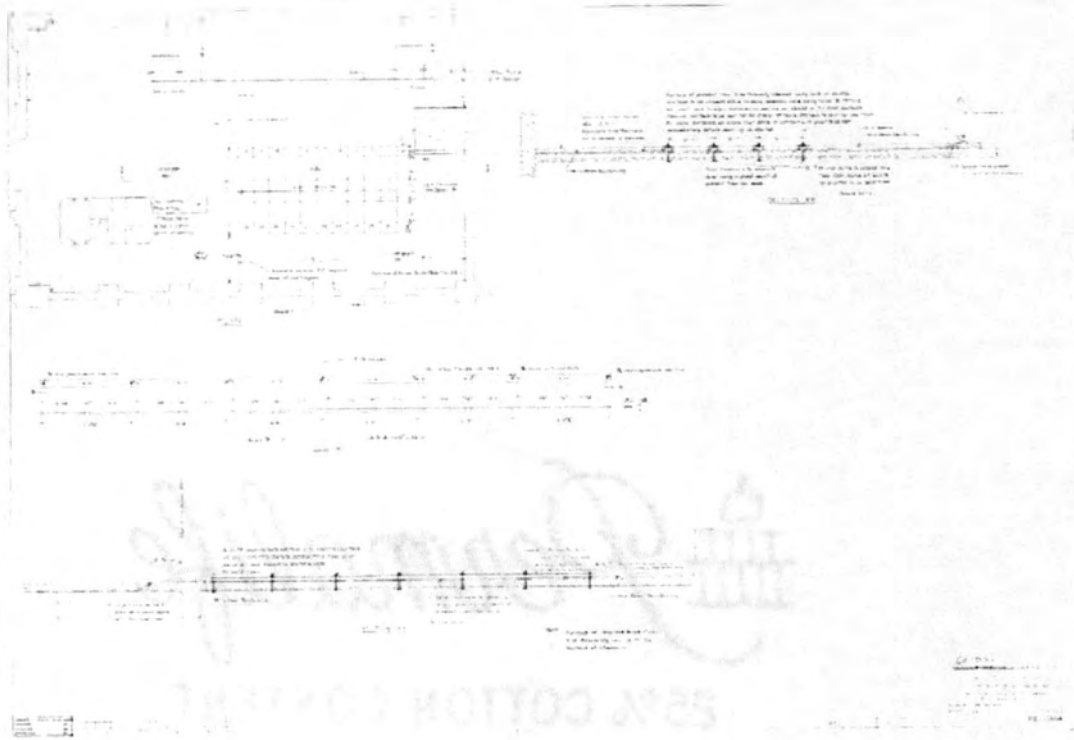
National Register Nomination  
Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

Historic Photographs & Maps

HP21: 1948 Offices  
for Substation, Central  
Substation



HP22: 1948 Floor  
Resurfacing Plan, 4KV  
Installation, Central  
Substation

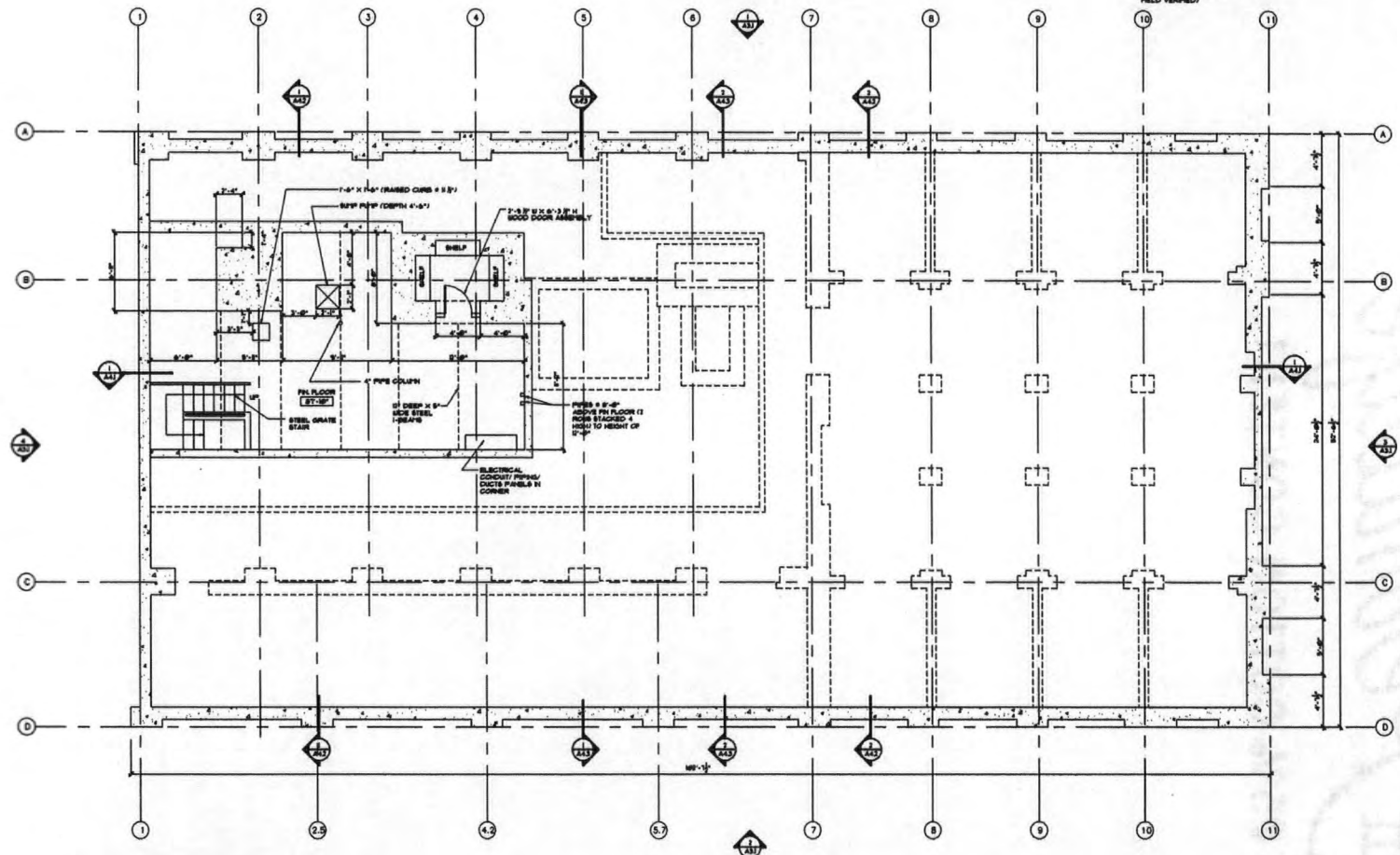


National Register Nomination  
 Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
 111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
 Walla Walla County, Washington State

# 2002 AS BUILT DRAWING A2.1

**MATERIAL LEGEND**

BRICK WALL	
CMU WALL	
CONC. WALL	
FOUNDATION BASED ON ORIGINAL DIMS (NOT FIELD VERIFIED)	



**FOUNDATION PLAN**  
 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

Project #: 023800  
 File #:  
 Revisions:

FOUNDATION FLOOR PLAN

A2.1

Existing Conditions

National Register Nomination  
 Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
 111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
 Walla Walla County, Washington State

Existing Conditions



COLLEEN SHAW VITVA VITVA  
 RENOVATION  
 POWER AND LIGHT

Project # 01000  
 File #  
 Date 0 10-20-01  
 Revision

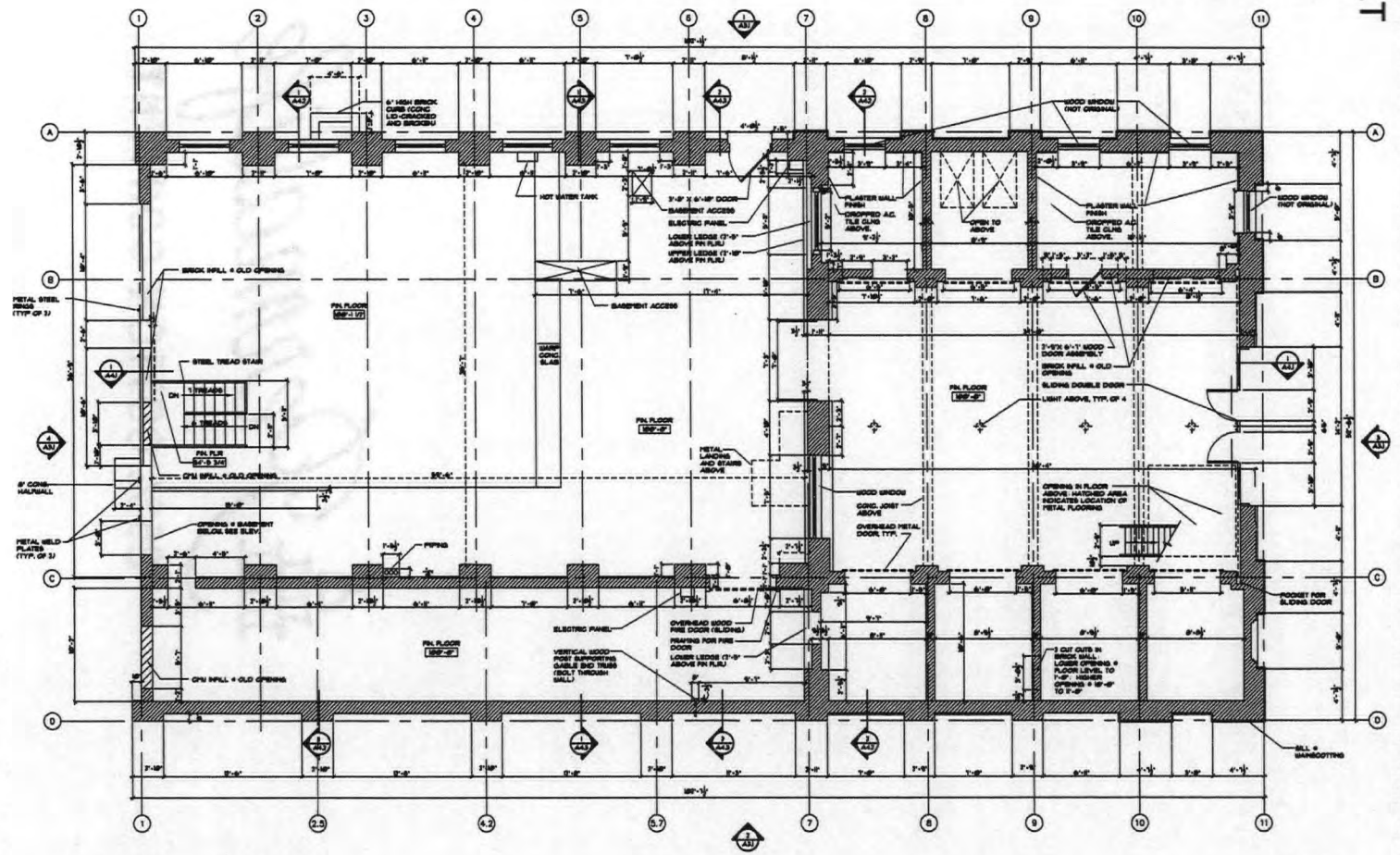
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

A2.2

2002 AS BUILT  
 DRAWING A2.2

MATERIAL LEGEND

BRICK WALL	
CMU WALL	
CONC. WALL	
WALL ABOVE	



1 FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
 A2.2 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



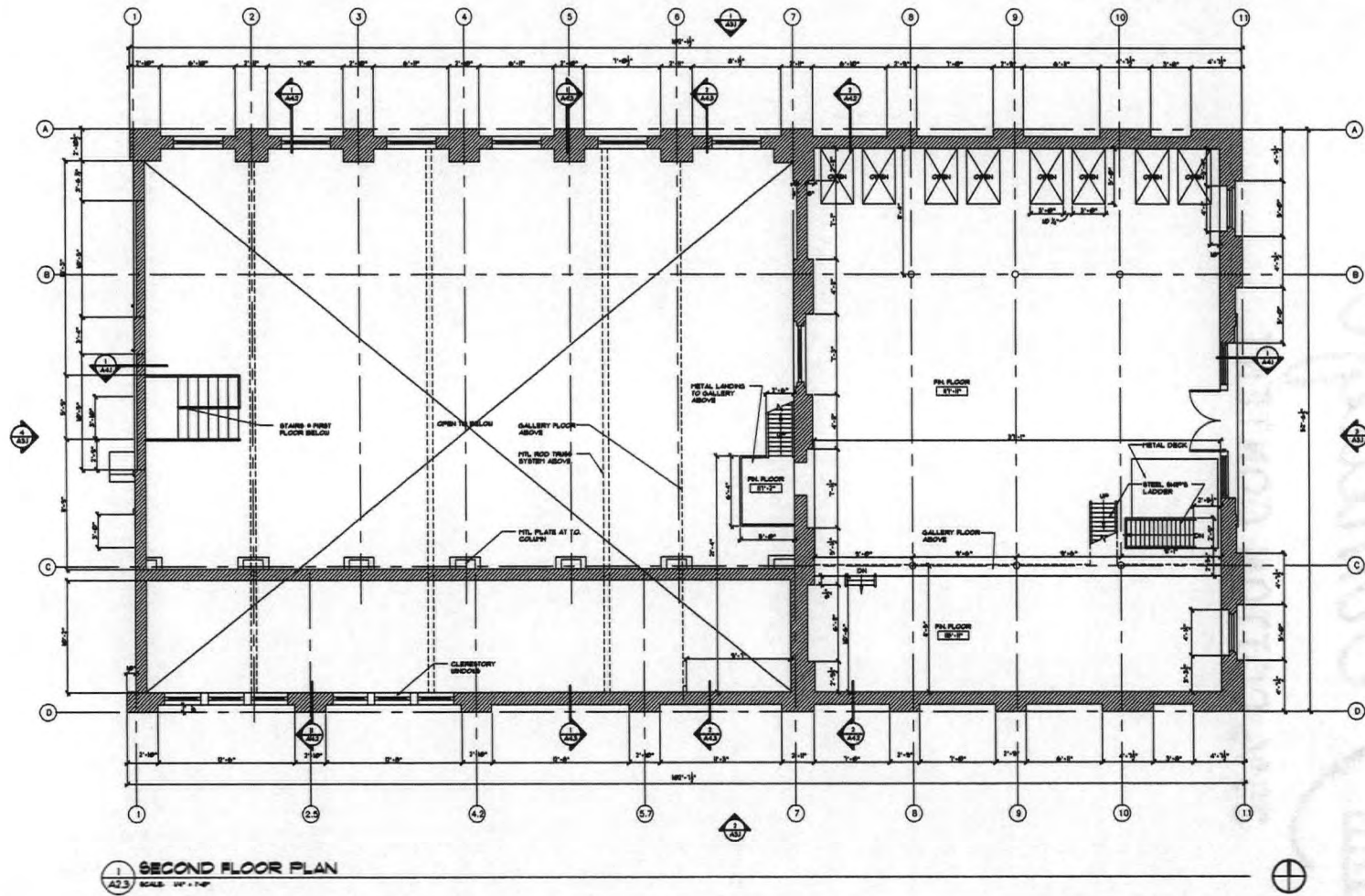
National Register Nomination  
 Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
 111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
 Walla Walla County, Washington State

Existing Conditions

# 2002 AS BUILT DRAWING A2.3

**MATERIAL LEGEND**

BRICK WALL	
OPEN WALL	
CONC. WALL	
WALL ABOVE	



**1 SECOND FLOOR PLAN**  
 A2.3 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

Project #: 023300  
 File #:  
 Revisions:

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

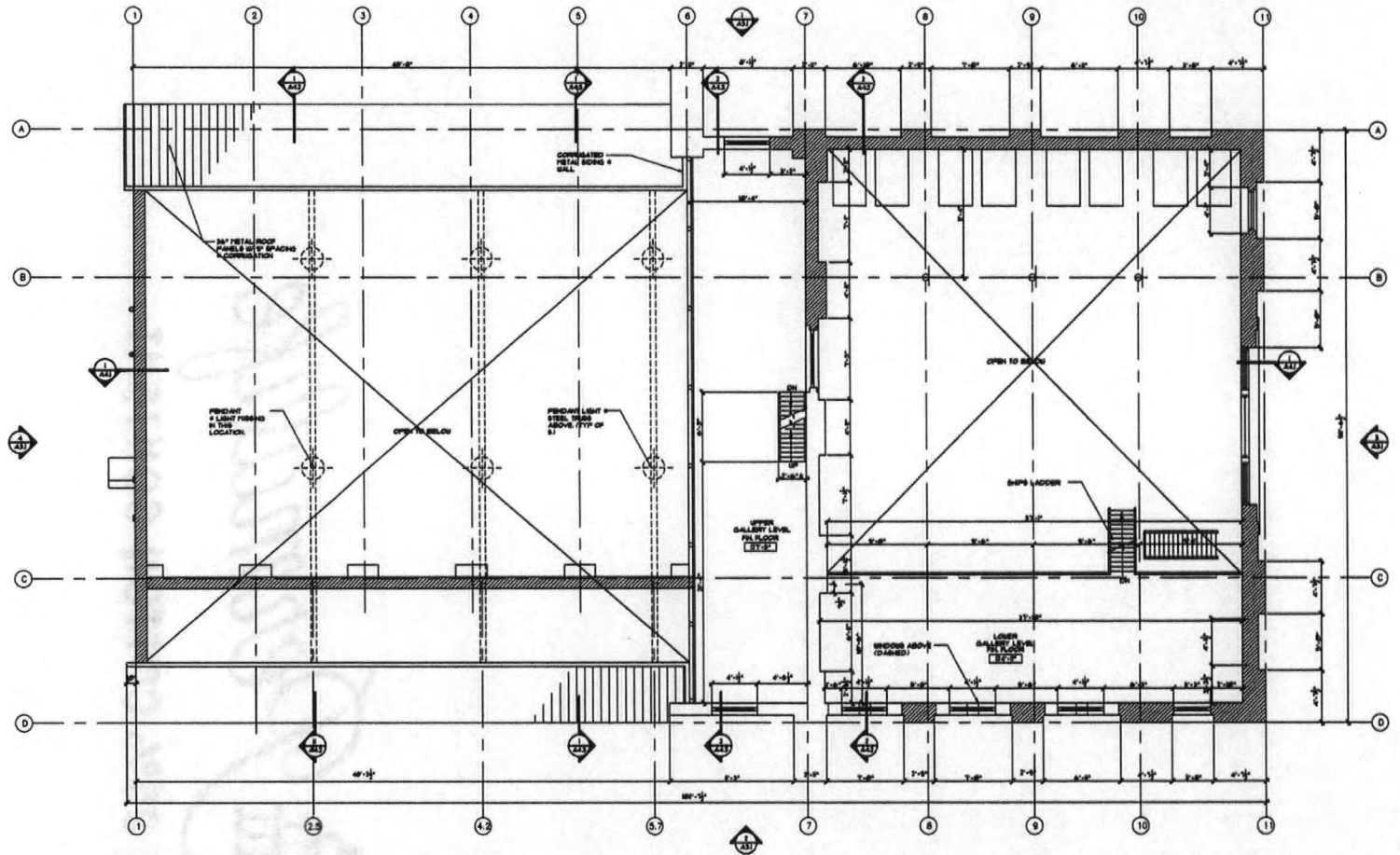
A2.3

National Register Nomination  
 Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
 111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
 Walla Walla County, Washington State

# 2002 AS BUILT DRAWING A2.4

**MATERIAL LEGEND**

BRICK WALL	
CFU WALL	
CONC. WALL	
WALL ABOVE	



**1 GALLERY FLOOR PLAN**  
 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

BRICK WALL  
 CFU WALL  
 CONC. WALL

Project #: 023300  
 File #:  
 Revisions:

GALLERY FLOOR PLAN

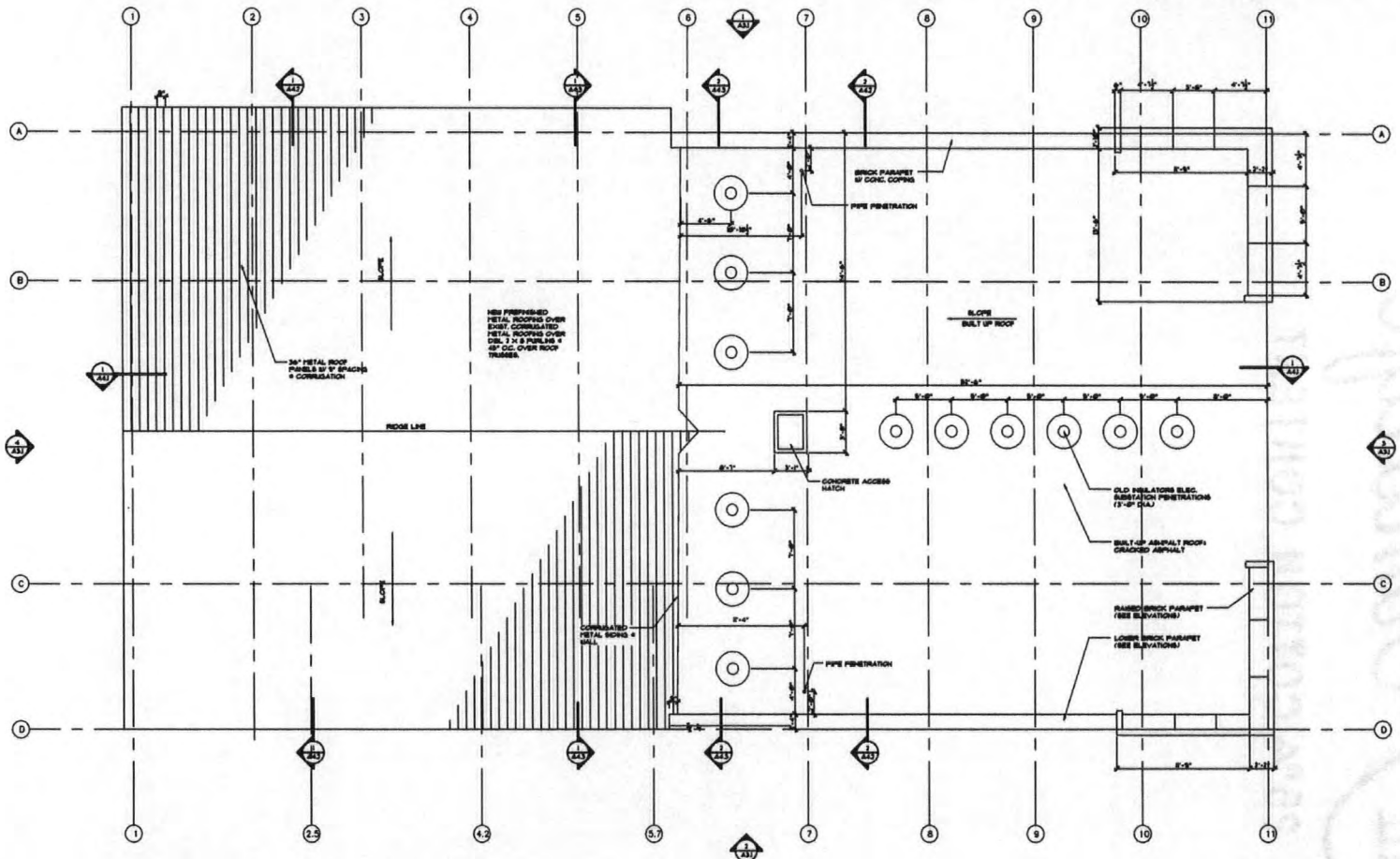
A2.4

Existing Conditions

# 2002 AS BUILT DRAWING A2.5

### MATERIAL LEGEND

BRICK WALL	
CMU WALL	
CONC. WALL	
WALL ABOVE	



1 ROOF PLAN  
 A2.5 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

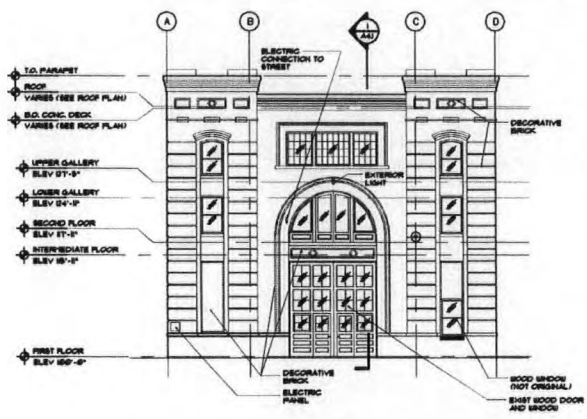
Project #: 03300  
 File #:  
 Revisions:

ROOF PLAN

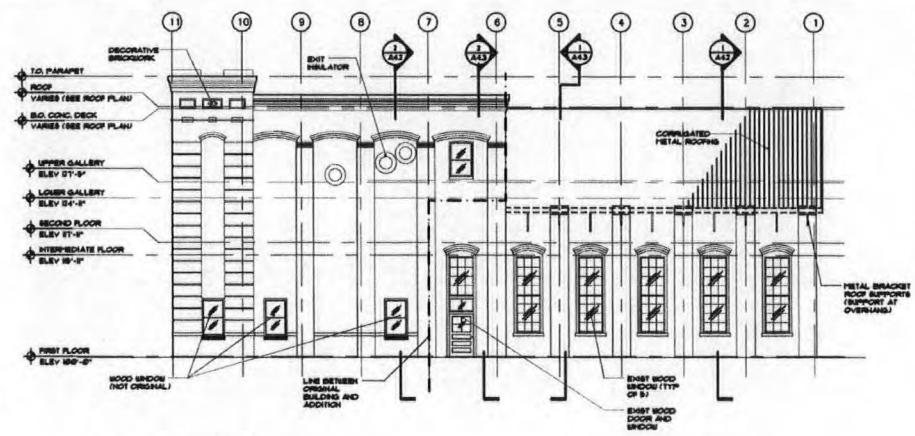
A2.5

# 2002 AS BUILT DRAWING A3.1

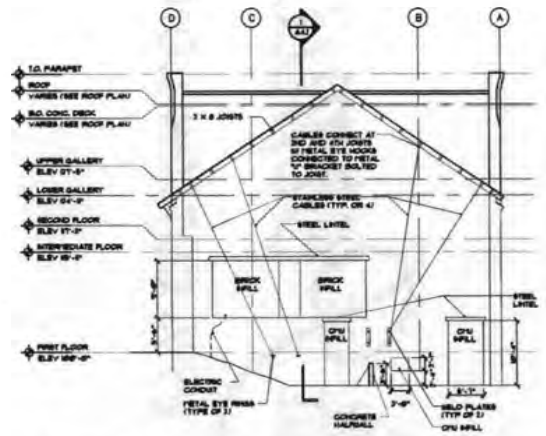
National Register Nomination  
 Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
 111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
 Walla Walla County, Washington State



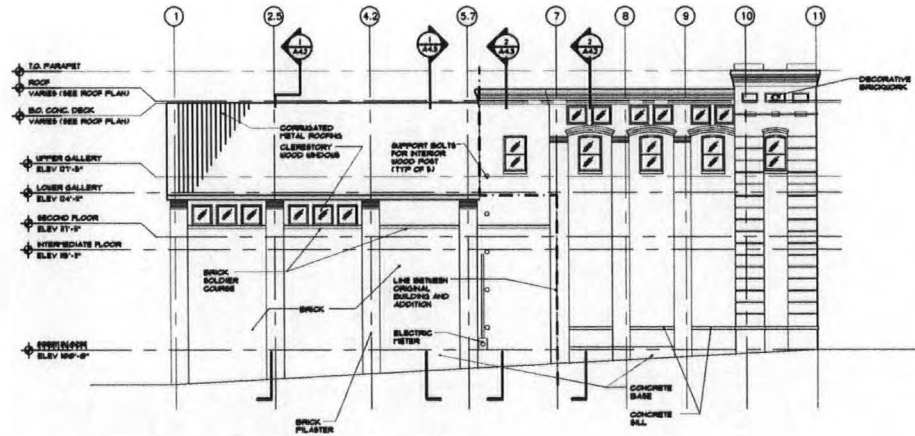
3 EAST ELEVATION  
 A3.1 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



2 NORTH ELEVATION  
 A3.1 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



4 WEST ELEVATION  
 A3.1 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



1 SOUTH ELEVATION  
 A3.1 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

ELEVATIONS

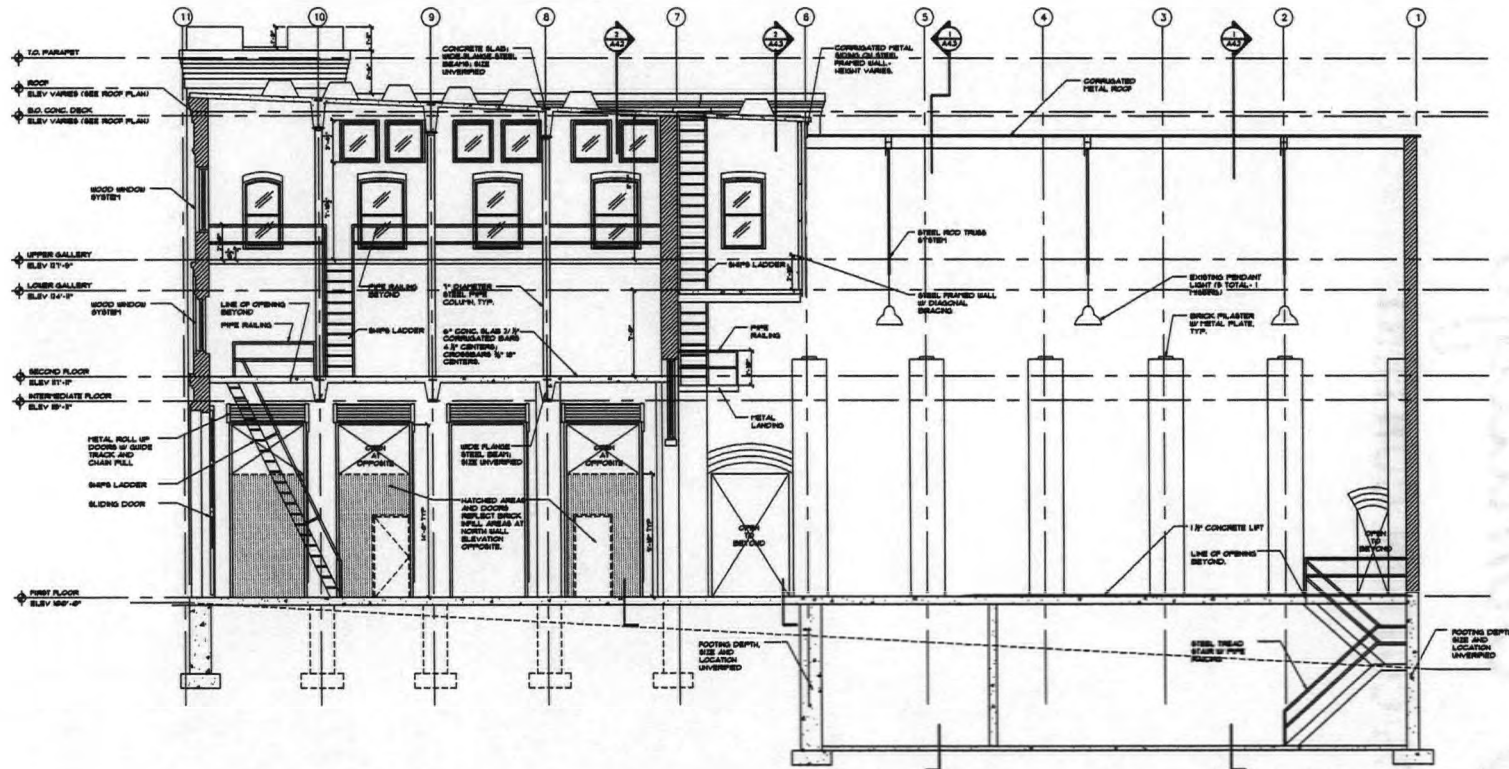
A3.1

Existing Conditions

2002 AS BUILT DRAWING A4.1

MATERIAL LEGEND

BRICK WALL	
CMU WALL	
CONC. WALL	
WALL ABOVE	



Project #: 0000  
 File #:  
 Revisions:

BUILDING SECTION

A4.1

1 SECTION LOOKING SOUTH  
 A4.1 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

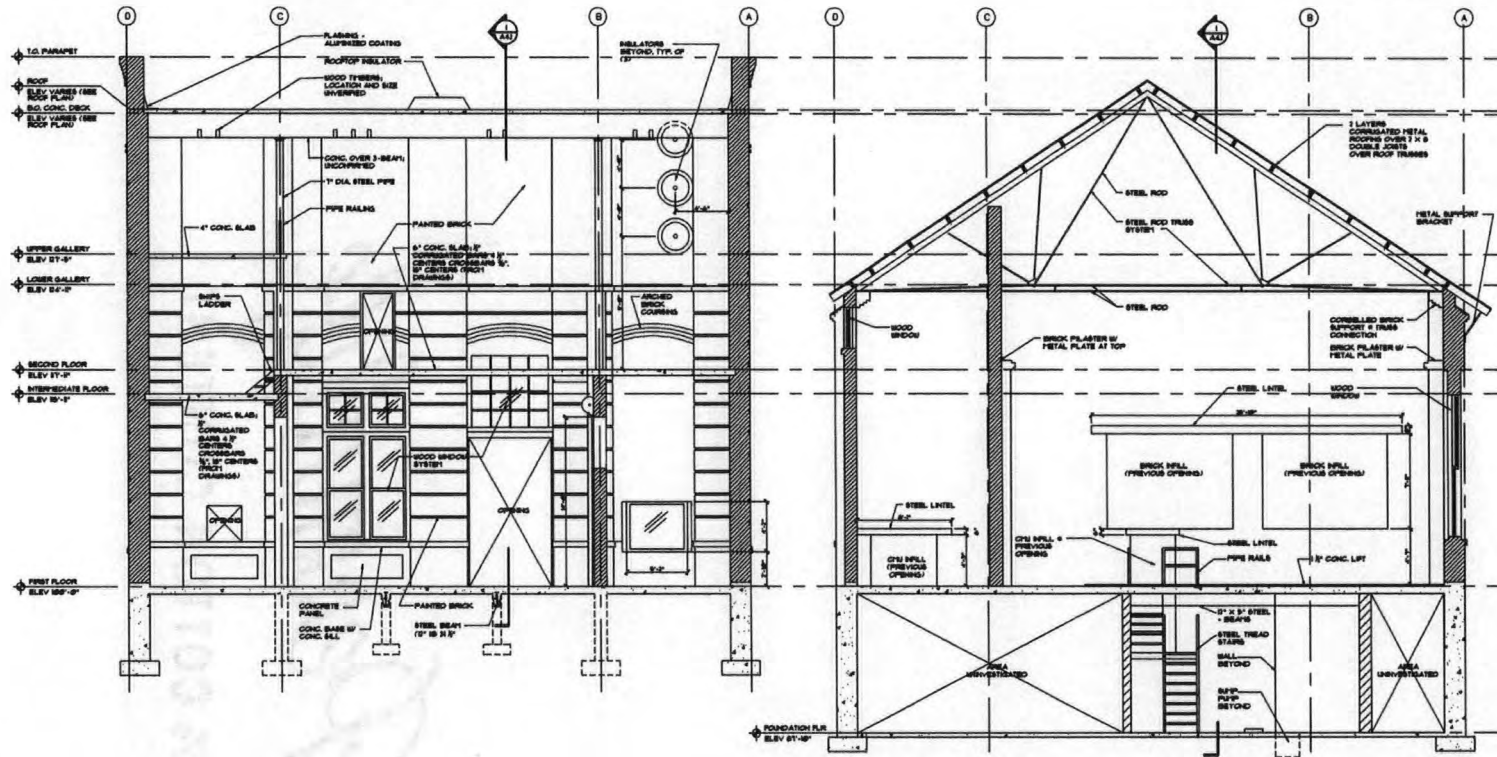
Existing Conditions



# 2002 AS BUILT DRAWING A4.2

## MATERIAL LEGEND

BRICK WALL	
CMU WALL	
CONC. WALL	
WALL ABOVE	



Project #: 02090  
 File #:  
 Revisions:

BUILDING SECTION

# A4.2

2 SECTION LOOKING WEST  
 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

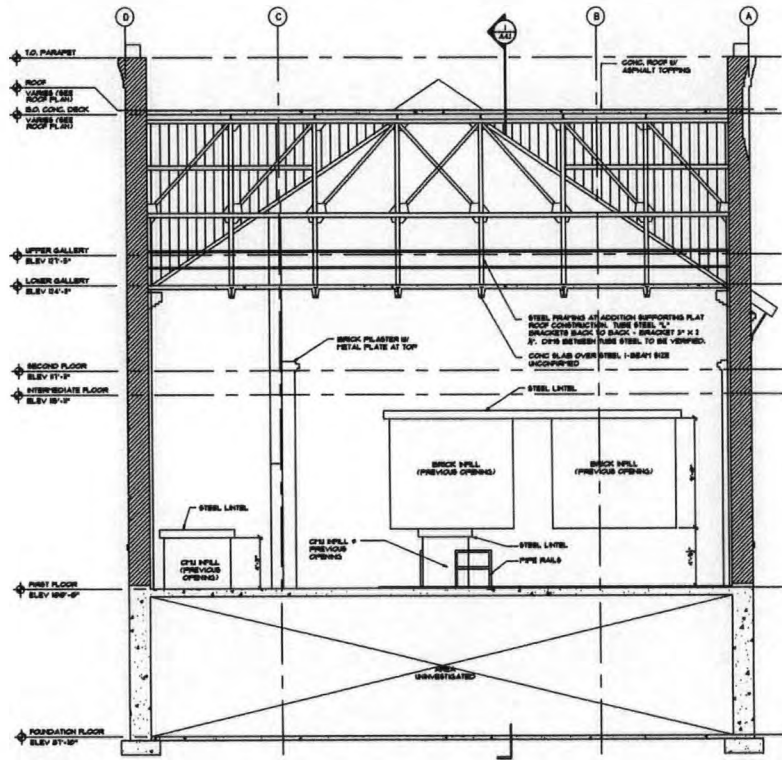
1 SECTION LOOKING WEST  
 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

National Register Nomination  
 Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
 111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
 Walla Walla County, Washington State

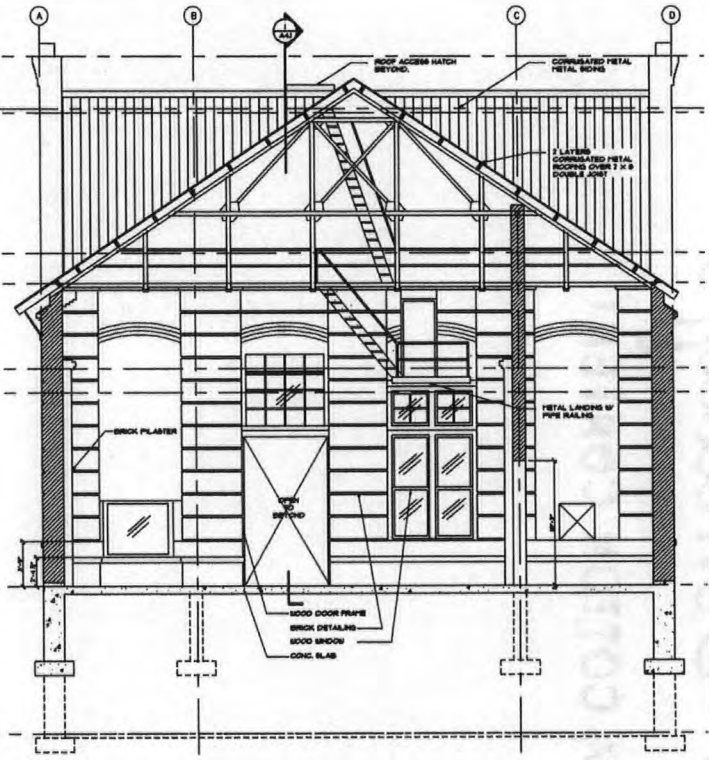
2002 AS BUILT DRAWING A4.3

**MATERIAL LEGEND**

BRICK WALL	
CMU WALL	
CONC. WALL	
WALL ABOVE	



2 SECTION LOOKING WEST  
 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



1 SECTION LOOKING EAST  
 SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

Project #: 2000  
 File #:  
 Revisions:

BUILDING SECTION

A4.3

Existing Conditions

**National Register Nomination**  
Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

Existing Conditions

1 of 10: East and north  
facades.

Photo by Mary Meeker

January, 2011



2 of 10: East and north  
facades.

Photo by Mary Meeker

January, 2011



**National Register Nomination**  
Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

Existing Conditions

3 of 10: West and south  
facades.

Photo by Mary Meeker

January, 2011



4 of 10: Detail of south  
and east facades.

Photo by Mary Meeker

January, 2011



**National Register Nomination**  
Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

Existing Conditions

5 of 10: Detail of north facade.

Photo by Katie Chase,  
Artifacts Consulting, Inc.

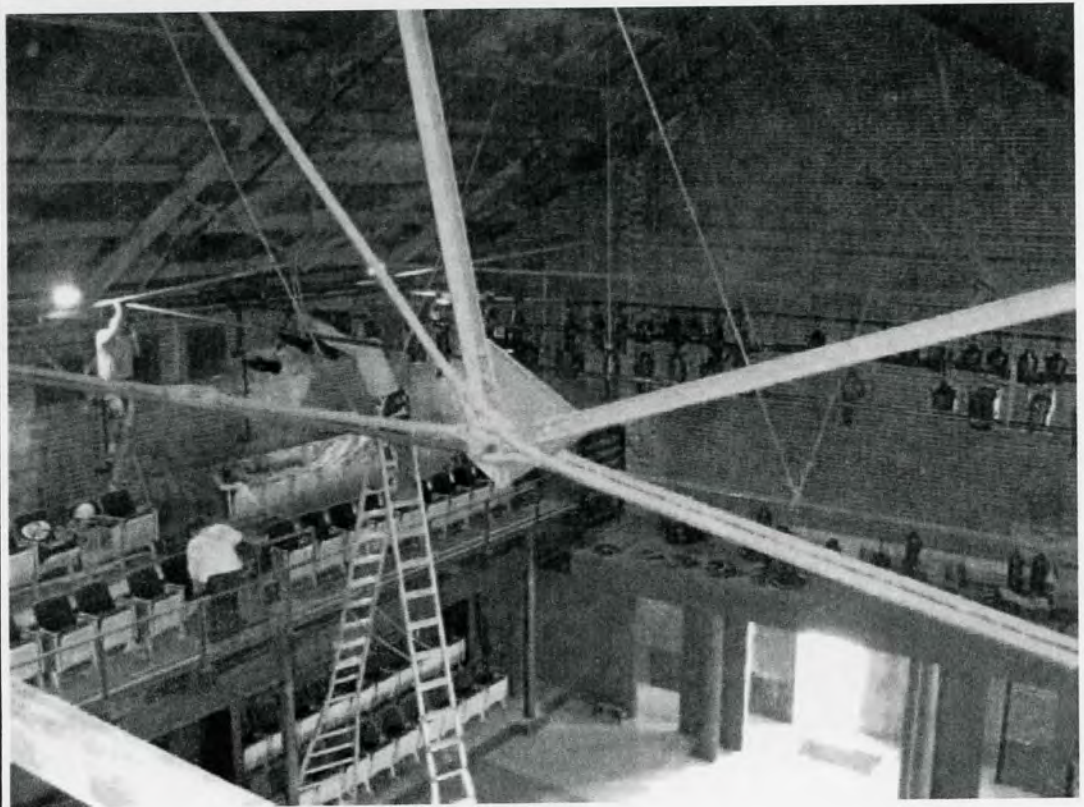
May, 2011



6 of 10: Interior of 1890 building, looking southwest.

Photo by Susan Johnson,  
Artifacts Consulting, Inc.

May, 2011



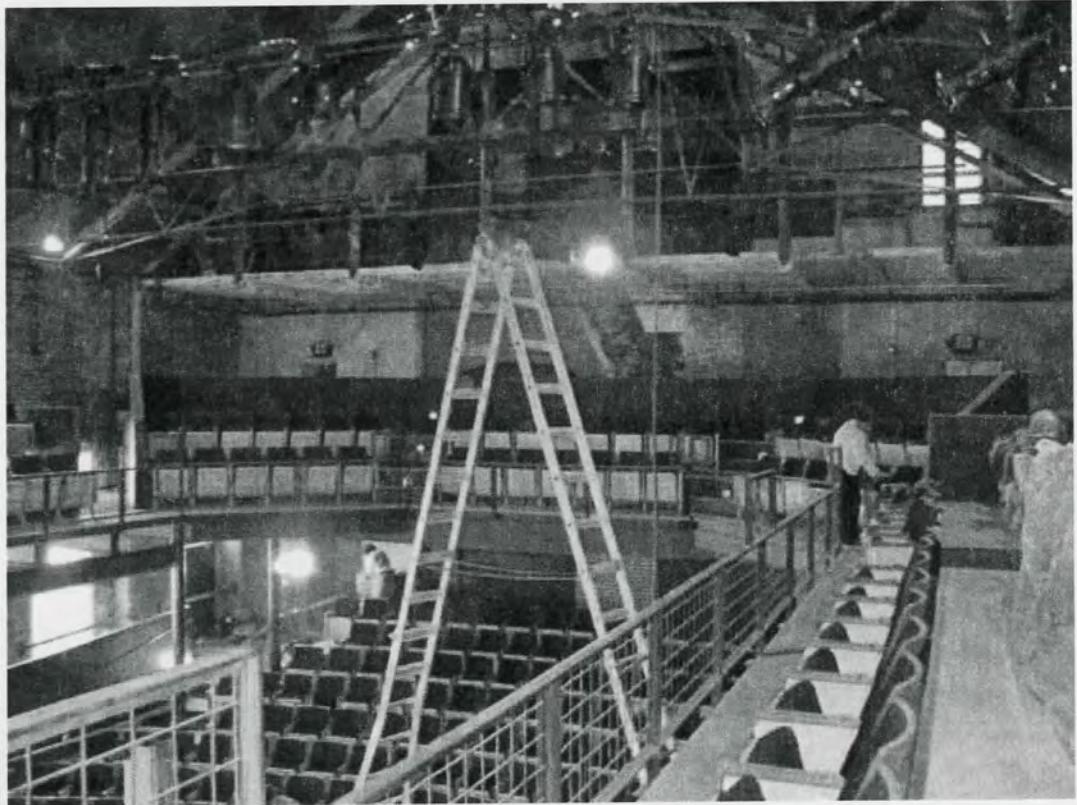
**National Register Nomination**  
Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

Existing Conditions

7 of 10: Interior of 1890 building, looking east.

Photo by Susan Johnson,  
Artifacts Consulting, Inc.

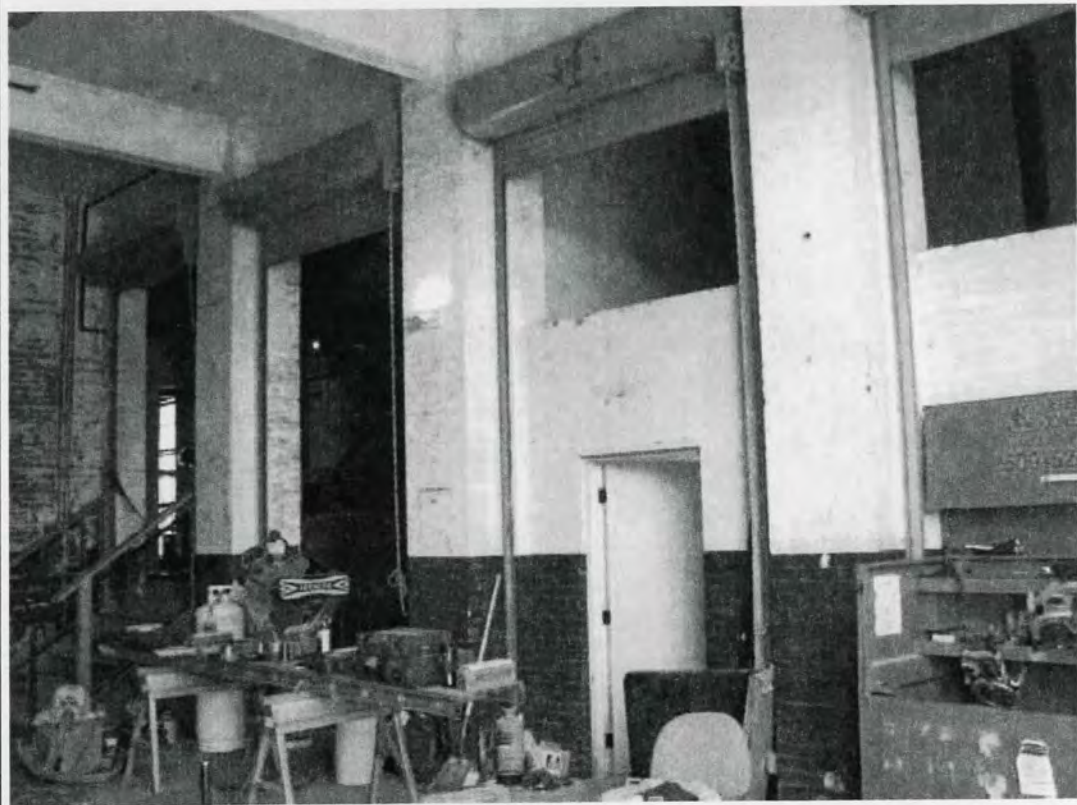
May, 2011



8 of 10: Interior of 1910 addition, looking northwest.

Photo by Susan Johnson,  
Artifacts Consulting, Inc.

May, 2011



**National Register Nomination**  
Walla Walla Gas & Electric Co.'s Electric Light Works  
111 North 6th Avenue, Walla Walla  
Walla Walla County, Washington State

Existing Conditions

9 of 10: Roof, looking northwest.

Photo by Susan Johnson,  
Artifacts Consulting, Inc.

May, 2011



10 of 10: Interior detail

Photo by Susan Johnson,  
Artifacts Consulting, Inc.

May, 2011



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Electric Light Works Building  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: WASHINGTON, Walla Walla

DATE RECEIVED: 11/25/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/16/11  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/03/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/10/12  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11001013

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 1.4.12 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.





Electric Light Works Building  
111 North 6th Avenue

Walla Walla, Walla Walla, WA

Photographer: Mary Meeker

January 2011

View: East and North facades

1 of 10



Electric Light Works Building  
111 North 6th Avenue  
Walla Walla, Walla Walla, WA  
Photographer: Mary Meeker  
January 2011  
View: East and North facades  
2 of 10



Electric Light Works Building  
111 North 6th Avenue  
Walla Walla, Walla Walla, WA  
Photographer: Mary Meeker  
January 2011  
View: West and South facades  
3 of 10



Electric Light Works Building  
111 North 6th Avenue  
Walla Walla, Walla Walla, WA  
Photographer: Mary Meeker  
January 2011  
View: Detail of South and  
East facades.  
4 of 10





Electric Light Works Building  
111 North 6th Avenue  
Walla Walla, Walla Walla, WA

Photographer: Katie Chase

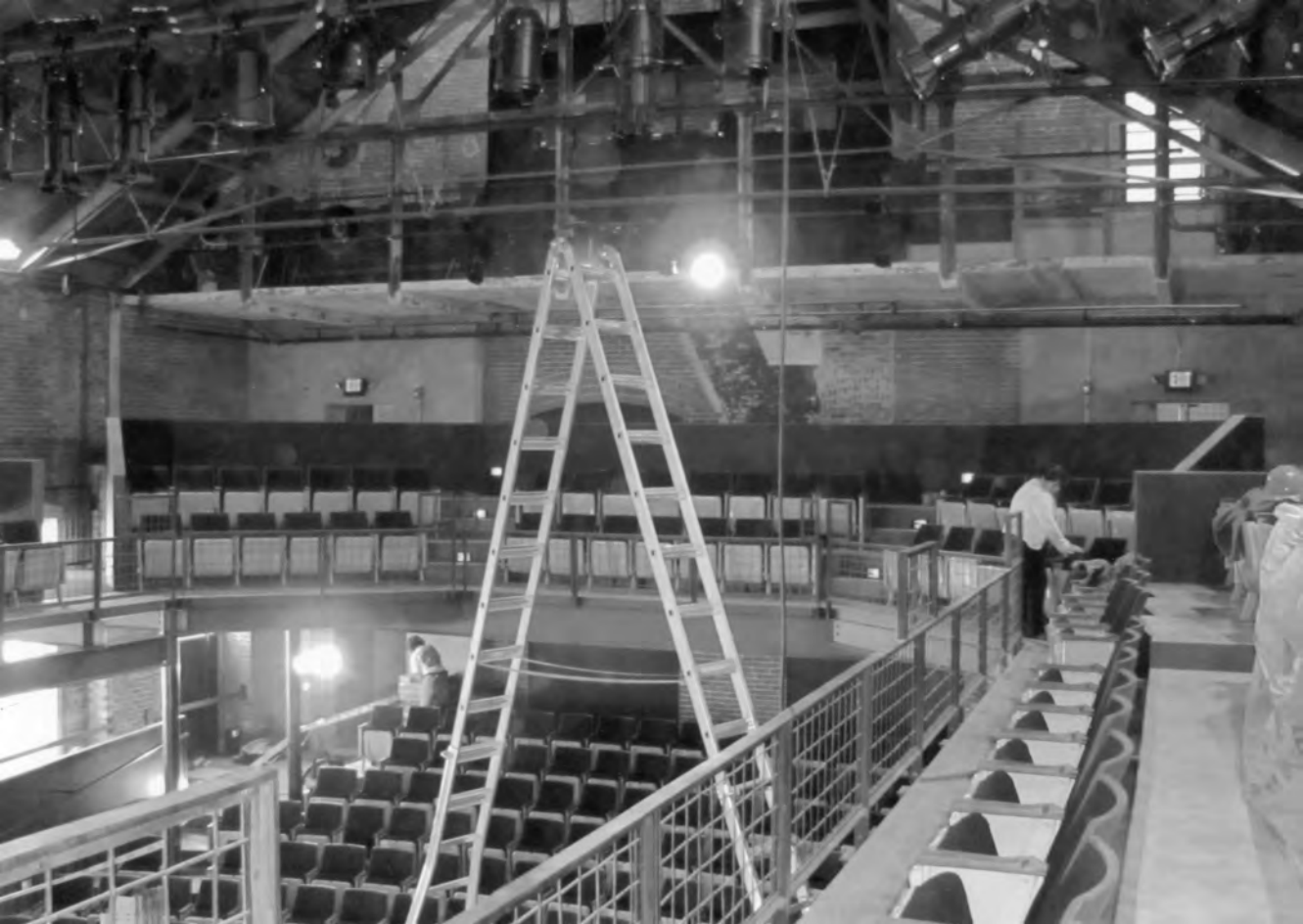
May 2011

View: Detail of North facade

5 of 10



Electric Light Works Building  
111 North 6th Avenue  
Walla Walla, Walla Walla, WA  
Photographer: Susan Johnson  
May 2011  
View: Interior of 1890  
building, looking  
southwest  
6 of 10



Electric Light Works Building  
111 North 6th Avenue  
Walla Walla, Walla Walla, WA  
Photographer: Susan Johnson  
May 2011  
View: Interior of 1990 building,  
looking East  
7 of 10



HITACHI

509-5

Electric Light Works Building  
111 North 6th Avenue  
Walla Walla, Walla Walla, WA  
Photographer: Susan Johnson  
May 2011

View: Interior of 1910 addition,  
looking Northwest  
8 of 10





Electric Light Works Building  
111 North 6th Avenue

Walla Walla, Walla Walla, WA

Photographer: Susan Johnson

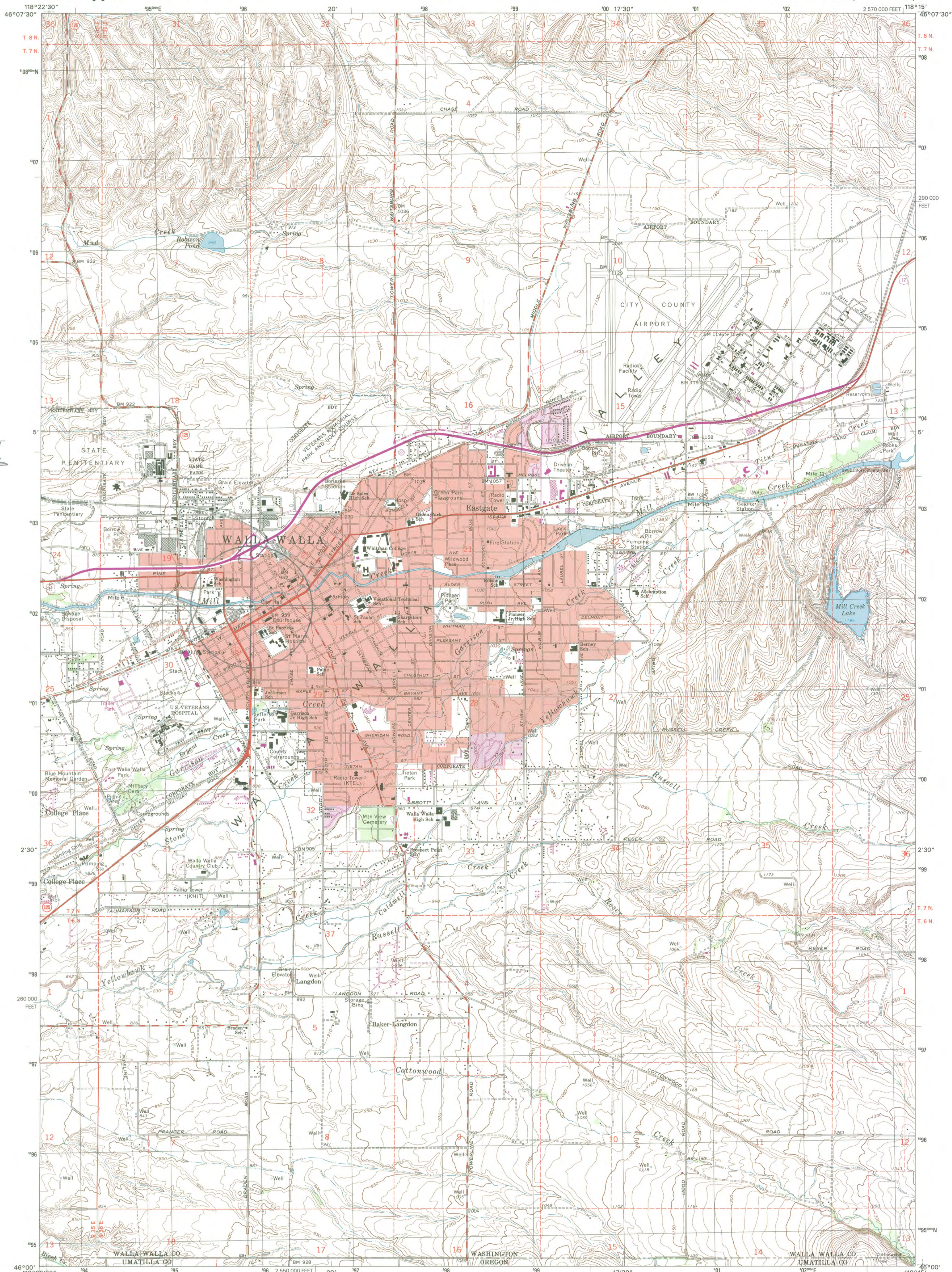
May 2011

View: Roof, looking Northwest

9 of 10

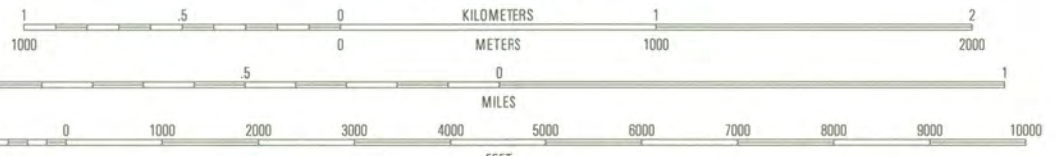


Electric Light Works Building  
111 North 6th Avenue  
Walla Walla, Walla Walla, WA  
Photographer: Susan Johnson  
May 2011  
View: Interior detail  
10 of 10



ELECTRIC LIGHT WORKS BLDG  
ZONE: 11  
3-95-897E  
51-02-238N

Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
Topography compiled 1964. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1976 and other sources. Photoinspected using imagery taken 1998; no major culture or drainage changes observed. Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 1966. Boundaries verified 2003.  
Information shown in purple may not meet USGS content standards and may conflict with previously mapped contours.  
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 11 10 000-foot ticks. Washington Coordinate System, south zone North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software.  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map.



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway	hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway	hard surface	Unimproved road
		Interstate Route
		U.S. Route
		State Route

ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLES

1	2	3	1 Hadley
			2 Valley Grove
4	5		3 Dixie
			4 College Place
			5 Bunker
			6 Milton-Freewater
6	7	8	7 Bowles Hill
			8 Peterson Ridge

WALLA WALLA, WA-OR  
1998

NIMA 2376 III SE-SERIES V891

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25886, DENVER, COLORADO 80225  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST





STATE OF WASHINGTON  
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
1063 S. Capitol Way, Suite 106 - Olympia, Washington 98501  
(Mailing Address) PO Box 48343 - Olympia, Washington 98504-8343  
(360) 586-3065 Fax Number (360) 586-3067

November 22, 2011

Paul Lusignan  
Keeper of the National Register  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" Street NW, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005

RE: **Washington State NR Nominations**

Dear Paul:

Please find enclosed new National Register Nomination forms for the:

- **Electric Light Works Building - Walla Walla County, WA**
- **Broadway Park Historic District - Whatcom County, WA**

Should you have any questions regarding these nominations please contact me anytime at (360) 586-3076. I look forward to hearing your final determination on these properties.

Sincerely,

**Michael Houser**

State Architectural Historian, DAHP  
360-586-3076  
E-Mail: [michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov](mailto:michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov)