

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**DATA SHEET**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 30 1975
DATE ENTERED	NOV 20 1975

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Boon Brick Store

AND/OR COMMON

Karr's Tavern

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

888 Liberty Street NE

\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Salem

\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Oregon

CODE  
41

COUNTY  
Marion

CODE  
047

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Iain More & Lawrence D. Salmony

STREET & NUMBER

888 Liberty Street NE

CITY, TOWN

Salem

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Oregon

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Marion County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE

Oregon

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

DATE

1971 & 1975

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Parks and Recreation Branch, State Highway Building

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE

Oregon 97310

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Boon Brick Store has served as a tavern, a dry goods store, a warehouse, and a general store and possibly the first State Treasury. "Judge Boon . . . contracted for the erection of a two story brick store 25 by 80 feet, adjoining his present store" in May of 1860. The completed structure had two long blank tapered walls, and a squat store front facing west detailed in a vernacular interpretation of the Italianate style. The east facing back had three double casement windows upstairs similar to the front but with little ornament in the surrounding masonry. The original arrangement of the lower level was never recorded and is now changed.

The structural system of the Boon Brick Store consists of masonry bearing walls three courses thick resting on a continuous subterranean stone wall. The first floor flooring (now replaced) was supported by the still remaining joist and single girder system. On the second floor two by six tongue and groove flooring is supported by a single span joist system including original bridging. The roof is supported by a simple shallow truss.

The front facade was very carefully plastered to form delicate moldings and brackets. The upper windows are double three light casement type which open inward. On the exterior in the front, heavy cast shutters with ingenious locking devices are hinged outward. In the back similar styled barricades are fabricated out of thick steel and strap. The lower portion of the front facade, although altered, is compatible with the other portions. The north wall is mostly blind but contains one upstairs door and corresponding staircase. It is on this exterior wall above the stair treads, that many possibly including Herbert H. Hoover and Charles McNary, carved deep initials into the soft brick.

At present the interiors have been stripped to the raw structure. The upstairs ceiling was possibly paneled, the lower ceiling was lath and plaster. One by four strips laid vertically in the brick wall possibly supported a separate interior wall system. The exterior walls have been replastered and painted. A semicircular arch has been recently placed in the middle of the north wall to allow more light to penetrate the dark interior.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Boon Brick Store is a rare survivor in Oregon architecturally and is a monument of the unique, very early territorial history which occurred on that site. The original owner, John D. Boon, came to Oregon in 1845 as a Methodist Missionary and settled within the Methodist Mission in Salem. He later was important as an incorporator of Willamette University and a promoter of both the Pacific Telegraph Company and the Oregon-California Railroad, was elected Territorial Treasurer in 1853 and was the first State Treasurer. This connection and the possible use of the brick store as a Treasury Office makes this building the oldest building associated with state government in Oregon.

Architecturally, the building is one of few remaining early commercial structures and has an early and interesting Italianate facade. It is intriguing to note that the door panel moldings and window muntin detail are similar to the John D. Boon house, which once sat near the Brick Store and is presently listed in the National Register. Although severely altered on one side, the Brick Store retains a nearly complete and original structural system and complete and original upper story windows including casements, glass, iron shutters, frames, and interior moldings. The original brick end facades were finely plastered at an early date. Although replastering has resulted in a loss of clarity, these elevations are unusually intact.

The site and the surrounding block has been called among others the Mission Mill, the Mill Property, Mill Island, and Boon's Island. The Methodist Mission established a sawmill and grist mill in 1841, and this mill continued in use. Later on the Willamette Woolen Mill also existed on this site. The Mission Mill Boarding House, "other houses" sheds, gardens, and orchards also are reported to have occupied this area. John B. McLane purchased the property in the fall of 1846. He ran the mill, built a small slab house on the same claim, and set out 200 fruit trees around the Mill Boarding House. John D. Boon jumped claim and built "a blacksmith shop and a coal shop" near the bridge. He also constructed a "dwelling house, a store house, the Island House, and the Brick Store." He purchased "The Empire House" (a store he operated in 1849), which must have been built by one of the two previous partnerships. This whole affair resulted in a massive lawsuit that was not settled until 1868. The Boon Brick Store is the only surviving early structure marking the disputed site.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Oregon Statesman, May 8, 1860; May 22, 1860.

Statesman, Salem, Oregon, September 15, 1971; December 29, 1973, July 29, 1973.

(continued)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .057 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 0	4 9, 7 1 4, 8, 0	4, 9 7, 7 0 2 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mr. Gregg Olson, State Historic Preservation Office Staff

ORGANIZATION

State Highway Division - Parks & Recreation

DATE

August 25, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

State Highway Building

TELEPHONE

(503) 378-6118

CITY OR TOWN

Salem

STATE

Oregon 97310

# 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*David G. Tolbot*

TITLE Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE Sept. 19, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Acting

*Don J. Rogers*

DATE 11/20/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST *Charles Affinity*

DATE 11-14-75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Acting*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED	SEP 11 1975
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

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BOON BRICK STORE

9. Major Bibliographical References (cont.)

Oregon Daily Journal, July 16, 1944.

Lang, History of the Willamette Valley.

Scott, History of the Oregon Country.

Gutke, Chronical of Willamette.