

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Oregon
COUNTY: Lane
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JAN 17 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Smeede Hotel

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Baker's Hotel

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
767 Willamette Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Eugene

STATE: **Oregon** CODE: **97401**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Oregon Fourth Congressional District

REPRESENTATIVE: **John Dellenback**

COUNTY: **Lane** CODE: **039**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment			<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Eugene Renewal Agency

STREET AND NUMBER:
72 West Broadway - Suite 200

CITY OR TOWN:
Eugene

STATE: **Oregon** CODE: **97401**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Lane County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Lane County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
Eugene

STATE: **Oregon** CODE: **97401**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

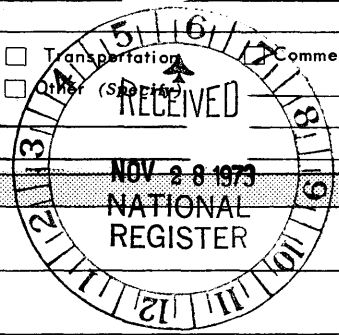
DATE OF SURVEY: **1970**

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Parks and Recreation Section

STREET AND NUMBER:
State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Salem

STATE: **Oregon** CODE: **97310**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Oregon	
COUNTY	
Lane	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 17 1974

(Number all entries)

Smeede Hotel

5. Location (Continued)

The Smeede Hotel is located in T. 17 S., R. 3 W., of the Willamette Meridian, Lane County, Oregon. It is situated in Lot 6 in Block 8 of Skinner's Donation to Lane County.



7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Smeede Hotel, constructed in 1884-1885, is the oldest surviving brick hotel in Lane County. Situated in downtown Eugene, near the City Park Blocks and the Lane County Court House, the Smeede Hotel has remained in continual usage since its erection. George H. Park, a local builder-contractor, who had built many homes and businesses in the Eugene area, supervised the construction of the hotel for Charles Baker, a local businessman. Work on the hotel began in July of 1884. An article in the Oregon State Journal, July 26, 1884, described the anticipated results. "Contract has been let to G.H. Park for the building of a three story brick hotel for C. Baker, on his lot adjoining the postoffice. The building will be 52 feet front and 65 feet deep and three stories high. The ground floor will contain dining room, 23 X 45; bar room, 20 X 23; commercial room, 22 X 25; and a store room for rent, 22 X 40; kitchen, 16 X 24; laundry, 10 X 13; pastry room 10 X 12. The partition between office and dining room will be constructed so as to be taken away, so the dining room can be made 23 X 65. The second floor will contain ladies parlor, 16 X 25, and 15 large bed rooms. The third floor will contain 16 large bedrooms. There will be no dark rooms. The rooms will be well ventilated with a large transom over the door. The halls running through the building are all large. The stairs leading to the different floors are all wide and of easy ascent. The building will be all hard finished throughout and all the woodwork will be grained in imitation of various woods. The building and furniture will cost about \$12,000."

The hotel is rectangular in plan. Fenestration is regular with double-hung sash windows, two lights over two. The windows of the five-bay facade have round arch heads with radiating brick voussoirs and corbelled hoods. Those of the side elevations have elliptic brick arch heads. Brick flues projecting above the side walls are intact.

Charles Baker sold the hotel before its completion in March 1885 to Stephen Smeede for \$12,000. Smeede retained the name Baker's Hotel until 1892, when he revamped the exterior and changed the name to the Hotel Eugene. In 1895 he again altered the structure; this time changing the name to Hotel Smeede.

Smeede's 1892 alterations were confined to the facade. He stuccoed the exterior and added cast iron corner pilasters and an elaborate metal cornice with a dentil course and bracketted pediment over the central bay.

Between 1895 and 1902 the building was extended to the rear, or through to the east side of the block. The second and third stories of the side elevations are still exposed. The ground floor facade has been modified slightly. The dining rooms and lobby spaces of the ground story are unchanged, however. The second and third floor plans, including the ladies' parlor, are unchanged except that a 10 X 20 floor opening, which carried light from the roof skylight down two stories, has been sealed. Window trim, doors, and door frames, baseboards, and the rail and spindles of the open staircase are intact. During the early 1900s, a sheet metal canopy was suspended over the front entrance. The hotel's original name, Baker's Hotel, is still imbedded in bronze in the front sidewalk.

The hotel remained under Smeede family ownership until 1971, when the Eugene Renewal Agency purchased the property. The aim of the Renewal Agency is to develop properties within project boundaries which have become non-productive or could have a much greater productivity. The agency's plan for the Smeede Hotel is to retain the integrity of the exterior but to adapt the interior into office space.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1885

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Representing some of the best early Italianate commercial architecture in the upper Willamette Valley, the Smeede Hotel is the oldest surviving brick masonry hotel in Lane County. At the end of the nineteenth century Eugene's Willamette Street, on which the Smeede Hotel is situated, was a bustling commercial center which included the most sophisticated buildings in the county. Today, few of the old facades remain intact, and only the Smeede Hotel retains its historic face.

The Smeede Hotel is associated with the ultimate in social life and culture of an earlier day. The hotel catered to the upper-class visitors to Eugene and the wealthy local citizen by providing ornate furnishings and facilities, exotic and expensive menus, and elaborate banquets. A 1902 banquet, which honored H.B. Miller, consul to Niu Chwang, China, featured on the menu Toké Points on half shell, Consommé with Cretons, Tenderloin Salmon Maitre D'Hotel, Saratoga Chips, Fillets of Beef En Champignous, Potato Croquettes, Roman Punch, Roast Duck with Jelly, Petits Pois, Lobster En Mayonaise, English Plum Pudding, Hard and Brandy Sauce, Neapolitan Cake, Angel Cake, Pineapple Ice Cream, Assorted Fruits, Nuts, Edam Cheese, and Café Noir. One distinguished guest of the hotel was William Jennings Bryan, who stayed overnight while on his 1896 Presidential campaign swing through Oregon.

Many local businesses around the turn of the century gave the hotel as a geographic reference point for street location on their invoice statements, letterheads, and business cards. As the years progressed, the Smeede Hotel diminished in commercial productivity but remained a city landmark. As more of the early Willamette Street structures were removed, the hotel's historical significance to the local citizens increased. Today it is a valuable last link between the hey day of old Eugene City and the present.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Eugene City Guard, April 11, 1885, p. 5.
Morning Register Anniversary Edition, Eugene, (1904), 46.
Oregon State Journal, "The Three Storey Brick Hotel," July 26, 1884, p.5.
Walling, A.G., Illustrated History of Lane County (Portland: author, 1884), 441.

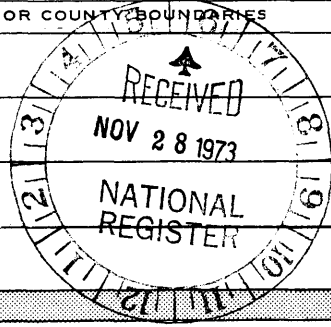
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		44° 03' 06"	123° 05' 29"	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .131 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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49-700
4877400
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Based on material prepared by Glenn Mason, Director, Lane County
Paul B. Hartwig, Assistant Park Historian Pioneer Historical Museum
 ORGANIZATION DATE
Oregon State Highway Division October 1973
 STREET AND NUMBER:
State Highway Building
 CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE Oregon CODE 41

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:
 National State Local
 Name: George M. Baldwin
 Title Director of Transportation
 Date 11/20/73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
W. R. ...
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date 1/17/74
 ATTEST:
Paul B. Hartwig
 Actg. Keeper of The National Register
 Date Jan. 14, 1974