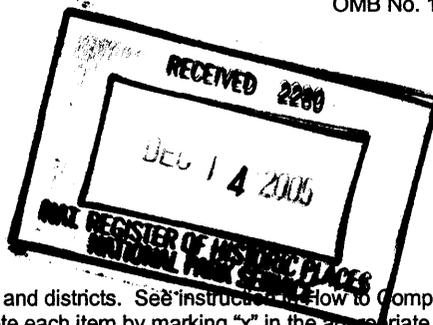


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions below 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 an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classifications, 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 First National Bank of Hood River
other names/site number Carousel Museum

2. Location

street & number 304 Oak Street not for publication
city or town Hood River vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Hood River code 027 zip code 97031

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally.
James Hamrick 13 Dec 2005
Signature of certifying official/Title - Deputy SHPO Date
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
Action
 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):
Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper 1-26-06 Date of

First National Bank of Hood River
Name of Property

Hood River County, Oregon
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many as apply)

Category of Property
(check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

- private
- public - local
- public - state
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
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)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE: Financial Institution (Bank)
SOCIAL: Civic (Meeting Hall)

COMMERCE: Specialty Store
RECREATION AND CULTURE: Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th AND 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:
American Renaissance

foundation: STONE: Basalt
 walls: BRICK: Common Bond
 roof: ASPHALT: Shingle
 Other: TERRA COTTA

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

See continuation sheets.

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SUMMARY

The First National Bank of Hood River, completed in 1910, was designed by the well-known Portland architectural firm of Whidden and Lewis with elements influenced by the American Renaissance style. The building measures 50' by 100' and encompasses a full tax lot. The two story building is constructed of brick and has a basement level on the east façade that houses retail spaces. The bank has a decorative, classically detailed terra-cotta cornice, brackets, large openings with tripartite windows, and a basalt foundation. The ground floor historically was used for banking purposes and the upper floor designed for use by the Hood River Commercial Club. In good condition, the building is currently being rehabilitated.

SETTING

Located on the northwest corner of Third and Oak streets, the First National Bank of Hood River is located on a prominent corner in the commercial center of downtown Hood River. The main façade fronts South Oak Street across the street from the Butler Bank, a National Register of Historic Places property. Another prominent historic commercial building, the Heilbronner Building, is north of the First National Bank and a new commercial building with a plaza (currently under construction) is west of the building. Built on a hill that slopes down to the north toward the Columbia River's south bank, the building is flush with the public right-of-way on the south and east.

EXTERIOR

The First National Bank, a rectangular brick building, is two stories high with a partial above ground basement on the east along Third Street. Measuring 50' (east-west) x 100' (north-south), the building has a shallow gable roof concealed by an eight-foot high brick parapet finished with narrow band of cement coping. The majority of the roof is covered with composition shingles; the drainage areas at the corners are protected by built-up roofing. A three-foot high chimney, finished with stucco, projects from the center of the west parapet wall. A skylight, covered with a metal cap, is on the southwest portion of the pitched roof; another skylight near the roof's northwest corner is currently being used for the shaft for some of the mechanical systems.

Below the brick parapet on the south and east facades, an ornate glazed terra cotta cornice projects about 20 inches from the surface of the building. The cornice is decorated with elongated brackets with block capitals and classical fluted shafts finished with inset pine cones and leaf at the base. The large brackets align with raised brick pilasters that separate the major bays. A series of five smaller scrolled brackets are between the larger supports along the paneled frieze. The soffit is decorated with a series of recessed panels.

The building has 14-inch thick, red brick walls laid in a common bond pattern. A neighboring building abuts the north facade of the structure; the two buildings share a party wall. The 18-inch thick brick wall on the west facade is covered with stucco and was once a party wall with the neighboring building that was demolished in the early 1960s.

The upper story of the south and east facades have equally spaced bays separated by raised pilasters with large tripartite windows filling the bays. The recessed windows are comprised of three large, one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows; the central window (5'7") is wider than the flanking windows (3'2"). The windows

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are capped with brick lintels laid in a soldier course pattern. A stringcourse between the first and second stories is decorated with brick panels edged with a raised brick soldier course.

The northern three bays on the first story and the basement level of the east façade were altered in the 1945 when the bank was remodeled. At that time, Roman brick was added around the first floor windows and the basement level storefront. The first floor windows were replaced at this time with tripartite plate glass windows with the lower sash divided into four rectangular panels. A terra cotta stringcourse extends around the south and part of the east facades separating the first story from the basement level. The basement level is exposed on the east elevation and has several windows and door openings. The windows on the northernmost basement storefronts have been replaced with fixed sash wood windows of various sizes. The basalt foundation walls are exposed on the south end of the east façade and are laid in a random rubble pattern.

The main double doors are located in the western most bay on the south façade and are in a recessed entry finished with a marble veneer. The original pedimented entrance was located in the central bay but was enclosed around between 1937 and 1945 when the bank was remodeled. The inset doorway has double aluminum doors and enters into a foyer that is 7' wide x 10' long. There are a second set of aluminum double doors and an 8' ramp that slopes down to the main floor of the building (ADA accessible).

The west side of the bank building is void of details since another building (demolished) once shared this facade. In 1964, a drive-through teller window was added to the west façade, and an ATM was later installed on the same wall. Currently, ATM and drive-through window are being removed in conjunction with the new public plaza being constructed immediately to the west. The plaza (20' x 100') extends the entire length of the bank building; a door at the north end of the west façade of the bank building will open onto the new plaza.

A large copper and stained glass clock was placed on the southeast corner of the bank building in the 1920s, displaying the words "First National Bank" in white letters inset in decorative green glass. The massive clock, approximately six feet tall and featuring a chime, is most likely manufactured by McClintock. The clock originally was wound by a master clock in the interior of the building. The clock was restored in early 2000.

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

First Floor

The main entrance doors on the south facade open into a foyer. An 8' sloped ramp flanked by two low walls with handrails leads into the gift shop area of the current tenant, the International Museum of Carousel Art. A small bathroom and a janitorial closet are west of the ramp. An exit door is on the west wall and leads out to the plaza currently under construction. Interior partition walls east of the entrance ramp open into the main room of the museum, a large open, clear span area. Windows line the south and east walls of this main room. The ceiling was altered in the remodels over the years and currently has acoustic ceiling tiles with panel fluorescent lights. The walls are made of plaster partially covered with painted wallpaper. The floors are have a plywood subfloor covered with tile and carpet. The original fir floors are intact under the plywood in the original banking area.

The bank vault, in the northwest corner of the first floor, has large detailed door. The east side of the vault contains a caged room that was used for the bank branches cash storage. A room east of the vault has a glass wall and doorway on the south wall that is currently used for the carousel carving room for the museum. A small stair in the southwest corner of the room accesses the second floor and down to the basement level where the bank had

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a break room. A 15' x 30' bank vault was added to the first level which was constructed with a ceiling about three feet lower than the room's ceiling.

Second Floor

Between 1937 and 1945, the use of the second floor was abandoned. The upper story was originally designed and used as a meeting hall and offices for the Hood River Commercial Club. The use of the upstairs was abandoned between 1937 and 1945 when a series of trusses were installed as supports when the columns were removed from the first floor in favor of an open floorplan. At this same time, the partition walls, floors and bathrooms were removed from the second floor. The original tripartite double-hung wood sash windows are still intact along the south and east elevations. The windows are separated by raised pilasters that are finished at the top with arches. These arches meet the ceiling beams that extend east-west across the lath and plaster ceiling (in poor condition). The original tongue and groove floors are intact.

Basement-Retail Level

Originally, the basement's east exposure had four retail spaces; two on the south half under the bank with 8'6" ceiling heights and two on the north half with much taller ceilings. When the bank was remodeled in the 1940 and 1960s, the ceiling height of two north retail spaces was lowered to 8' to expand the first floor to encompass the entire building's footprint.

Retail Space #1: The southern-most retail space has a front east exposure 7' below the ground with sidewalk stairwell for access. The basalt foundation along the south and west interior walls is exposed and the east wall is brick. The ceiling is covered with sheetrock and the timber beams and columns are exposed. Eight inch tongue and groove clear fir covers the floor and the room is lit by recessed lighting. There are two doors exiting the rear of the space, one facing west and one north. The north facing door appears to be original but the wood in-fills have been replaced with glass. The west door enters into the bank's old storage area and boiler room. The storage area has a drop ceiling and a cement floor on grade. The south wall contains the buildings electrical panels mounted on a concrete foundation poured in front of the exposed basalt foundation (south wall). The west wall has exposed basalt foundation as well. A small 2' wide stairway leads to the first level storage area behind the bathroom.

The northwest end of the southern retail space has an original sliding fire door that hangs from a rolling track. The door is 4' wide and 7' tall. The top left side of the door has a pulley with a rope connecting to the door to a counter weight.

Boiler Room: The boiler room has a cement floor, 3' below the grade of the retail space. There is extensive piping, valves, and plumbing around the boiler. The ceiling is 11' high and is covered with plaster. The west wall is the exposed basalt foundation and the other three walls are brick. A narrow hallway is along the east wall of the boiler room directly behind the second retail space. A storage room is west of the hallway before entering the bathroom hallway. The north facing door out of the retail space on the most south side of the basement enters into a second retail space, the south middle space.

Retail Space #2: The second retail space has a sheetrock ceiling with exposed timber beams and posts. The east wall has the original door that has a glass upper panel and a wood lower panel. Two original double-hung windows flank the door on both sides and a steel header beam supports the brick wall above. The floor is made of

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8" clear tongue and groove fir flooring. The east and north walls are brick; a 16" high portion of the basalt foundation is exposed on the north wall.

An original door in the south wall opens into the next retail space to the south. A second original door on the south wall opens into a small hallway that has an original door accessing a small restroom that is 4' x 4' square. The restroom has the original toilet. The fir floor is raised 6" above the basement floor to accommodate plumbing. The sink has been removed, and the walls and ceiling are plaster. The west wall of this retail space in the south half of the building has two original doors with hardware. The north door enters into a storage closet and the south door enters into a small 6' x 9' storage room with a fir floor. A doorway on the north wall opens into a third retail space.

Retail Space #3: The third retail space from the south is 25' (north-south) x 22' (east-west). The ceiling is covered with acoustic tiles most likely over the original lath and plaster. The floor is clear fir with a slate tiled step in the northeast corner, which serves as the entrance door landing. The retail door on the east wall appears original and the remaining wall on the east exposure is 3' high brick with two clear single pane windows. A steel beam acts as a header allowing the entire east wall to be of glass and wood mullions. The south brick wall divides the basement level in half; the brick wall is on a 16" high rock foundation. The west wall with no opening is covered with painted sheetrock. The north wall is the original wall separating the north two retail spaces. The west end of the wall has a glass door opening into an exit hallway.

Retail Space #4: The southern portion of the northern-most retail space is currently used as an exit hallway. The north side of the hallway is comprised of a door and two windows lead into the retail space. The hallway has sheet rock walls, a clear fir floor, and acoustic ceiling tiles. The east end of the hall exits to the Third Street sidewalk.

This 18' x 22' space was converted into a lunch room during the 1960's remodel and subsequently rehabilitated into a retail space. The north brick wall adjoins the First National Bank of Hood River. The floor is clear fir and the ceiling is painted acoustic tiles. The west wall has a stairway that leads to the sub-basement. The south side A small hallway is on the south end of the west wall and leads to a vault with a steel door. The vault has an outer locking combination door with another set of interior double steel key-locking doors. The inside of the vault has concrete walls, ceiling, and floor. The vault is currently used for museum file storage.

The east wall has two windows at the top 2' of the wall. The hallway between the third and fourth retail spaces extends to the west and passes a room on the south which is used by a massage therapist. The hallway ends at the men's and women's restrooms. Both restrooms have the period doors, tile floors, a sink, toilet and shower. Two other therapy rooms are located in this area. These rooms have sheetrock walls and ceilings except for the south walls of both rooms which are brick.

Sub-Basement

The sub-basement, 50' x 50', encompasses the north half of the building footprint. The door accessing the sub-basement is on the east façade in the northern most storefront. Stairs lead down into two rooms. The north room has a concrete vault with a steel combination outer door and a keyed second set of double doors. The southern room has a raised 2' floor with only 4'9" head room. This room has a concrete floor. The south and west walls are basalt, and the north and east walls are brick.

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Attic

The attic is accessed through a hatch in the second floor ceiling and has a wooden ladder which leads to a wood hinged door on the floor of the attic. The attic has 8" x 10" timber trusses spanning the 50' building width. The trusses are pitched to the center and a walled in skylight is in the building's south west end pitch facing west. The roof is supported by 2" x 10" joists and 1"x 6" diagonal sub-roof. The east pitched roof has another ladder and a small roof hatch. The attic has a wall extending east and west separating the building in half. There is a door in the middle of the wall connecting the two sides of the attic. The north half of the attic also has a walled off skylight to the second level at in the northwest corner. This skylight shaft is being used for the old air conditioning ductwork.

ALTERATIONS

Remodel: 1937-1946

The First National Bank was remodeled in 1937 and in 1945-46 when the First National Bank of Portland took over ownership of the building. These alteration were compiled from newspaper articles and architectural plans. The following are some of the major alterations:

Exterior

- Changed main entrance from center of south façade to the west end of the south façade. Bricked in original entrance and added window to original door opening. Added marble veneer around entrance to the west that previously accessed the second floor.
- Removed first story windows and replaced the glass with plate glass and sash divisions on the lower portion of the window.
- Altered the northern storefronts on the east façade when the interior mezzanine was removed; installed new windows and added Roman brick to some of the area around the storefronts.

Interior-First Floor

- Removed interior support columns on first floor in banking lobby and removed mezzanine to add to the banking work space.
- Removed interior rooms such as offices, cashier cages, and restrooms to open up lobby.
- Furred out ceiling and tiled floor.
- Modified entrance by adding ramp from entrance into lobby.

Interior-Second Floor

- Added trusses to second story to support removal of first floor columns. Removed auxiliary rooms. Unusable space currently because of truss systems.

Interior-Basement Retail Spaces

- Remodel northern retail spaces into useable spaces after removal of mezzanine. These included a lunch room, vault and storage areas.

Remodel: Post-1964 Alterations

- Added drive-through teller windows to west side in 1964. Added parking lot to west side of building.
- Added ATM machine to west side in the 1990s.

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Rehabilitation Plans

- Create an entry and lobby on the northern end of the east façade along Third Street to access the second floor of the building (see attached elevations and plans). The new façade will be compatible with the original elevation configuration and will only impact the non-historic fabric of the building constructed during the 1945/46 remodel. The Hood River Landmarks Review Board approved the rehabilitation design in the spring 2005. The work on the east side is in process (November 2005). The interior atrium space will share a stair/elevator corridor with the neighboring Heilbronner Building, a National Register Building (on the north wall of the First National Bank). These two buildings share a common party wall on the north side of the First National Bank Building.
- Future plans include restoring the original central entrance on the south façade, reconstructing the interior bank columns on the main floor, removing the drop ceiling on the original bank, and removing the truss system on the upper floor so the second floor could be used once again.
- Remove drive-through teller on west side and widen door on north end of the same facade. Currently in process (November 2005). This door accesses the plaza associated with the new building to the west.

First National Bank of Hood River
Name of Property

Hood River County, OR
County and State

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).

- 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.
- 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.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE
SOCIAL HISTORY
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1910-1937

Significant Dates
1910
1937

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 of age or achieved significance Within the past 50 years

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Whidden & Lewis, architects
J.M. Wright & L.M. Bentley, contractors

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite books, articles, and other sources used in preparing the form on one or more continuation sheets) See continuation sheets

- Previous documentation on file (NPS):
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36CFR67) 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 Buildings Survey
 - recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

- Primary location of additional data:
- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Hood River County Historical Museum

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The First National Bank of Hood River, erected in 1910, meets National Register Criteria "A" for its historic association with the secondary developmental period in downtown Hood River when the fruit, timber, and tourism industries rapidly grew, and the downtown took on a new "modern" appearance. The officers and directors of the First National Bank of Hood River were prominent business people, active in the development of the Northwest and Hood River. The First National Bank of Hood River played a pivotal role in the history of Hood River.

Established in 1904 by members of the Stanley-Smith Lumber Co., the financial institution was the second bank organized in Hood River to serve the growing population; the First National Bank was built at the height of a building boom in downtown Hood River that occurred between 1904 and 1914. The bank was the only financial institution in Hood River that did not close during the Great Depression and played an important role in the early growth and stability of Hood River.

The Stanley-Smith Lumber Company established strong ties with some of Portland's leading business people, securing financial backing in order to start a new bank in Hood River. Investors recognized the opportunity as fledgling industries in the Hood River Valley brought new businesses and people into the Columbia River community; the population tripled between 1900 and 1905. The bank not only served the town's banking needs but also housed the Hood River Commercial Club, an organization formed to promote the business affairs of the community, and better the physical and commercial aspects of the local merchants.

The second floor of the bank was designed specifically for the needs of the Commercial Club and included an assembly hall, offices, women's and men's lounges, and game rooms. The hall held 300 people, and served as a place for business people to plan for and promote new businesses in the region, as well as hold social functions. Organized around 1905, the Commercial Club promoted Hood River until about 1926 when the club was reorganized into the Chamber of Commerce.

The First National Bank also meets National Register Criteria "C" as a good local example of an American Renaissance style building with classical details designed by the prominent Portland firm of Whidden and Lewis. This simplified version of the style displays salient characteristics in its high parapet, classical terra cotta cornice with large brackets, brick construction, symmetrical façade, and bands of tripartite windows. The First National Bank of Hood River, the only building in Hood River known to be designed by Whidden and Lewis, symbolizes the lasting influence that the two architects had on the architectural landscape of Oregon's larger cities and smaller communities. The firm popularized the use of the classical revival styles on the West Coast in the 1890s; the longevity of the style is an attribute to the skill and timeliness of their architectural designs.

The First National Bank of Hood River derives its local significance from these areas of Commerce and Architecture. The period of significance extends from 1910, the date of construction, to 1937, the date when the bank was sold to the First National Bank of Portland, a "chain" bank. The end date also signifies the start of modifications to the interior and exterior of the bank building. The First National Bank of Hood River is in excellent condition, and is a contributing building in the locally designated Downtown Hood River Historic District.

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HISTORIC CONTEXT: DEVELOPMENT OF HOOD RIVER

Mary and National Coe were the first permanent Euro-American settlers in Hood River, claiming a 319.92-acre donation land claim in 1854. The Coe home served as the community center, courthouse, church, funeral parlor, and post office. Dependent on the Columbia River for transportation, Hood River developed slowly until 1882 when the O.W.R.&N Co. Railway was completed through the Columbia River Gorge along the south side of the river. The railroad connected the small river community with other towns in the region and eventually the country. Platted in 1881 in anticipation of the coming of the railroad, the town grew around the railroad depot. The railroad ushered in a new period of growth as the town's population more than tripled from 201 people in 1890 to 622 residents by 1900.

Incorporated in 1895, the population continued to grow as the fertile lands of the Hood River Valley were gradually cleared and cultivated. The completion of the Mt. Hood Railroad from Hood River south 20 miles to Parkdale in 1910 further improved transportation from the interior of the fertile Hood River Valley to the City of Hood River; the commercial and industrial center of the region.

New commercial buildings in downtown were constructed in the first decades of the twentieth century as the fruit, timber, and tourism industry developed at a rapid rate. The 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition in Portland further promoted the fruit industry and scenic beauty of Hood River as excursion trains brought hundreds of fair goers to and from Hood River; many of these visitors later purchased land in the region. The Hood River Commercial Club was organized at this time publishing brochures touting attributes of the community. The 1907 slight financial recession also caused an influx of people into the Hood River Valley as investors from the East Coast moved to Hood River, bought farms, cleared land and planted orchards. By 1908, the Hood River region separated from Wasco County and became Hood River County; a testament to the prosperity of the area. The population grew from 622 people in 1900 to about 3000 by 1910.

Between 1901 and 1914, half of the commercial buildings that currently exist in downtown (approximately 40) were constructed. These brick buildings represent the second building phase in the town's history as brick buildings slowly began replacing small wooden structures. The public library, fruit warehouses, fraternal lodges, commercial establishments, a new train depot, and banking facilities were erected during this period of rapid growth. The First National Bank of Hood River was constructed at the height of this secondary building boom on an intersection that became known as the "Banking Corner."

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF HOOD RIVER

F.S. Stanley and his brother-in-law Robert Smith of the Stanley-Smith Lumber Company organized the First National Bank of Hood River in 1904. Only one bank was in operation in Hood River prior to that time, the Butler Banking Company (organized in 1900). Stanley and Smith moved their mill and logging operations from La Grande, Oregon to Mt. Defiance west of Hood River area in 1904. The company originally operated a lumber business in Chippawa Falls, Wisconsin before moving to Eastern Oregon.

After relocating to Hood River, the entrepreneurs decided to start a bank in the community and attracted the interest of prominent Portland investors including J.C. Ainsworth, President of the United States National Bank; J.P. O'Brien, President of the OWR & N Company; W.H. Kennedy, Chief Engineer of the Union Pacific

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Railroad; F.W. Mulkey, U.S. Senator from Oregon; and members of the Stanley-Smith Lumber Company. The organizers sold 200 shares of stock to these investors at \$120 a share and started with a working capital of \$2,500 and a \$5,000 reserve. The Stanley-Smith Lumber Company held the majority of the stock, 110 shares.

The new First National Bank of Hood River opened on June 1, 1904 in a building located between First and Second streets on Oak Street. F.S. Stanley made the first deposit in the new bank to cashier E.O. Blanchar. Directors on the board were President Robert Smith of Portland and the Stanley-Smith Lumber Co.; F.S. Smith of the Stanley-Smith Company; W.H. Kennedy; Capt. J.C. Ainsworth; and E.L. Smith, State Senator and resident of Hood River.

In 1905, the bank moved to an office located in the new E.L. Smith Building on the southeast corner of Third and Oak streets. Smith was the president of the bank at that time. The bank maintained their offices in the Smith Building until the bank constructed their own facility in 1910 on the opposite corner (northwest) of Third and Oak streets. The bank purchased Lot 8, Block "C" of the First Addition West from The Hood River Company on March 26, 1909 for a sum of \$10,000 plus a \$4,000 mortgage paid to J.H. Middleton (Deed Bk. 2, p. 356), the former owner of the property. The site for the new bank was then occupied by a wooden building housing the store of J.M. Parry and Company. By 1910, with the exception of F.S. Stanley, the bank board was composed of all Hood River business people.

The bank's board of directors hired the prominent Portland architectural firm of Whidden and Lewis to design the new First National Bank of Hood River; local architect Robert Bartlett supervised the construction. Plans for the classically detailed building were completed in July 1909, and specified a 50' by 100' brick building with terra cotta trim. The first floor housed the bank facilities complete with a centralized public lobby, cashier cages along the east wall, offices for the employees, men's and women's restrooms, a fire-proof vault, and a large work space. Stairs along the north end of the banking area led up to the mezzanine with several additional offices and workrooms. Several retail stores and bank storage areas were located in the basement level and the upper floor was designed specifically for the Commercial Club of Hood River for their meeting hall and office space.

The Commercial Club of Hood River (predecessor to the Chamber of Commerce) signed a lease agreement with the bank in June 1909 to use the second floor. The lease was signed before Whidden and Lewis finalized the plans. The lease stipulated that the Commercial Club would pay \$100 a month for the use of the space (*Hood River Glacier*, 17 June 1909). The plans for the club called for a meeting room large enough to hold 300 people, a men and women's reception room, director's room, card and billiard's room, and small private party rooms.

Contractors J.M. Wright and L.M. Bentley completed the new First National Bank in September 1910 for a cost of about \$40,000. On 21 September 1910, the Commercial Club directors held an open house from 2-10 pm to promote their new quarters and to increase membership (*Hood River News*, 28 September 1910). The subsequent weeks newspaper touts the event as one of the most successful with hundreds in attendance and an increase in membership to nearly 500. The local paper describes the new Commercial Club headquarters:

A private stairway from the street leads to them, opening into a spacious hall. In the front of the building are the men's lounging room, 25' by 15', and also a large room that has been assigned to the Women's Club. Both apartments are handsomely furnished with leather-covered mission furniture, velvet carpets and velvet window hangings, with walls and ceilings tinted to harmonize with the furnishings, the prevailing color of which is brown.

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The First National Bank also opened their doors in late September 1910 and was touted as the:

... best structure in the City and a credit to towns of much larger populations..... The architectural beauty of the building makes it a double credit being useful and at the same time an ornament to the City. The materials used in the building are of the best and it is substantial as well as handsome. The exterior is of pressed brick decorated with stone and terra cotta work. The windows throughout are plate glass and the trimmings throughout the building are modern and creditable. The building is practically filled and the tenants are the Commercial Club, The Glacier (newspaper), Dean & Shaw, The Epping, Brydle Company, the Club Barber Shop, Dr. E.D. Kanaga, Allen & McCrea, and Derby & Wilbur (Hood River Glacier, 22 September 1910).

Hood River residents took pride in their new bank building and their town during this time of rapid growth. The economy remained stable until about 1914 when the growing conflict in Europe and lack of strong domestic markets, created a depression in the Hood River Valley. The banking industry also suffered as a result of the depressed real estate, timber, and building industries. By 1916, the surplus fund of the bank had been depleted to absorb the loss from loans but the bank remained solvent. WWI stymied investors, dampening the banking industry in Hood River and throughout the country.

The end of the WWI improved the economy and by 1920, the bank's surplus account rose as assets topped one million. The 1920s brought prosperity to the region. The automobile industry spurred on new development in Hood River as gas and service stations, and car dealerships were constructed in downtown. This era brought on the third major developmental phase in Hood River. Businesses continued to prosper until the stock market crash of 1929 ushering in the Great Depression of the 1930s. During this period, the Chamber of Commerce was established and took over the role of promoting the community. The upper level of the bank ceased to be used.

Despite the Depression, the First National Bank of Hood River remained solvent and continued to serve the community of Hood River. In 1932, the only other bank in operation in Hood River, the Butler Bank, closed its doors in February 1932. Shortly afterward, talks began about merging the First National and Butler Bank to help out the community and one another. The two banks; however, could not come up with an agreement. The February 11, 1932 edition of the *Hood River Glacier* newspaper discusses the immediate attitude of the community upon hearing of the Butler Bank closure and on the financial condition of the First National Bank:

The closing of one of our banks would not have attracted the attention of the casual observer except for the small groups gathering here and there to discuss the probable effect. The fact that no one was seemingly excited and not run on the remaining bank, the First National Bank, was even discussed shows beyond question the quality of our citizenry. We have discussed the situation since closing of the other bank with the senior officers of the First National who have been outspoken in their appreciation of the calm attitude of the citizens. It was deemed advisable in protecting the interests of the First National depositors to fortify the bank with unusually large cash reserves, but there have been no evidence of actual need of these additional funds.

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The First National Bank was the only bank that remained open in the Hood River Valley throughout the Depression. In 1937; however, First National Bank of Portland purchased the bank, passing from local to a national "chain" ownership.

ACQUISITION AND ALTERATIONS BY THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PORTLAND

In January 1937, the First National Bank of Portland took over controlling interest of the First National Bank of Hood River. The Portland bank purchased the assets of the Hood River facility including the bank building on February 23, 1937 (Bk. 26, p. 7) for \$10.00. E. O. Blanchar, President, and S.J. Moore signed the deed on behalf of the First National Bank of Hood River. The First National Bank of Portland opened its 36th national branch in the Hood River bank building in February 1937; Giannini-Transamerica Group controlled the First National Bank of Portland. The First National Bank of Portland was organized in the 1860s by a group of Portland investors and was the oldest bank in Oregon.

All of the employees of the Hood River bank were retained after the transfer; E.O. Blanchar became the manager of the bank. Blanchar speaking of the merger shortly after the transaction took place stated in the February 12, 1937 *Hood River News* that:

The opening of a branch here by the First National Bank of Portland is definitely a step forward financially for Hood River.....The Hood River territory will be more adequately served by the added facilities of the state wide banking service and \$93,000,000 resources of the First National Bank of Portland.

By April 1937, plans were underway to remodel the First National Bank building. At that time, changes were made to the interior of the bank "so as to provide for more efficient and rapid service for clients, and the old director's room and adjoining offices are to be eliminated" (*Hood River News*, April 2, 1937). The paper stated that the director's room and many of the interior offices were removed, and the manager's office moved to a location along the east wall instead of the south wall.

In 1945, the First National Bank of Portland hired Portland architect Kund Roald to remodel the interior and exterior of the building (Roald later designed the Hood River County Courthouse). It appears that the main doors on the south façade were removed and moved to the secondary entrance on the same façade that originally led to the second story. The interior columns of the bank lobby were removed, ceiling furred and tiled, and the bank workspace expanded to the north wall of the building. A series of large trusses were added to the former Commercial Club's space on the second story for support; the upper floor was no longer used. The north end retail spaces on the east façade were also modified. Roman brick was added around the new storefronts and the windows the mezzanine level and ground floor were replaced with new plate glass windows that fit into the existing opening. It appears that some of these changes were completed until the early 1950s.

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RECENT HISTORY

The First National Bank of Portland (later the First Bank of Oregon) remained the only bank in the Hood River Valley until 1953 when the Commercial Bank of Hillsboro opened a branch in Hood River. Portland architect Harry A. Herzog designed the drive-through teller in 1964 that was added to the west side of the building. A bank parking lot was also added to the west side of the building.

The First National Bank continued to serve the community until the 1970's, when the bank merged with several other banks to become the First Interstate Bank. In 1996, Wells Fargo bought First Interstate, on July 23, 1998; Wells Fargo Bank sold the bank building to the Historic Carousel's Inc. (Hood River County Deed #983549). Bradford W.S. Perron purchased the former bank building in March 31, 1999 from Historic Carousel's Inc. Perron is the current owner of the property, and is in the process of rehabilitating the building.

ARCHITECTS: WHIDDEN AND LEWIS AND THE PERIOD REVIVAL STYLES

Formed in 1889 by William M. Whidden and Ion Lewis, the firm of Whidden and Lewis designed some of the most notable residential and commercial buildings in Portland. Both men were born in Massachusetts and attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology, studying architecture. Whidden began his architectural career with the nationally known firm of McKim, Mead, & White in New York City and came to Portland with Charles F. McKim in the winter of 1881-1882 to work on the construction of the Portland Hotel and other projects commissioned by Henry Villard of the Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1884, Villard's empire started to collapse, thus putting a halt to the Portland Hotel project, already in progress. Whidden stayed in the Northwest to supervise the construction of the Tacoma Hotel and then returned to the East in 1884 forming his own firm with MIT friend and McKim, Mead, & White co-worker, William E. Chamberlain.

In 1888, Whidden dissolved his partnership with Chamberlain and returned to Portland after a group of Portlanders raised enough capital to complete the Portland Hotel. A year later, Whidden received the contract to design an inn on Mt. Hood, Cloud Cap Inn. The inn was completed in 1889 and financed by Portland banker William Ladd, and C.E.S. Wood, a Portland attorney, poet, and writer. That same year, Ion Lewis, a MIT classmate, came to visit Whidden in Portland, and formed the partnership of Whidden and Lewis. The firm became Portland's most successful and sought after architectural firms, and is credited with bringing the popular Colonial Revival style to the Northwest; the hallmark style of the firm's mentors McKim, Mead, and White.

"The Colonial Revival style can trace its beginnings to the Centennial International Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876. American's interest in its Colonial past was celebrated at the Exhibition, with reconstruction of historic interiors showing the life and time of the founders" (Hawkins and Willingham, p. 214). McKim, Mead, & White popularized the emerging style on the East Coast in many of their residences in the 1880s and 1890s. Colonial Revival residences started appearing in Oregon in the early 1890s, many the early works of Whidden and Lewis. Many commercial and public buildings were also designed in the American Renaissance style; a style that grew from and built upon the Colonial Revival tradition.

Whidden and Lewis designed many of Portland most significant building including the Portland City Hall, 1895; Failing Building, 1897; Corbett Building, 1907; Arlington Club, 1909; Imperial Hotel, 1910; Wilcox Building, 1911; and the Multnomah County Courthouse, 1914 (Ritz, p. 416). Ion Lewis was appointed Director of

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Architecture for the 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition, and the firm designed many of the fair buildings. The firm designed over 40 residences in the popular Shingle, Richardsonian, and Colonial Revival styles for some of Portland's most important community leaders. The firm dominated the architectural community from the early 1890s to the 1910s until younger architects began receiving commissions such as Albert E. Doyle, a former employee of Whidden and Lewis.

Whidden and Lewis continued their practice for many years until William Whidden retired in 1920 (died 1929). Lewis, a founding member of the Oregon Chapter of the AIA, continued the business under the name of Whidden and Lewis until his death in 1933. The firm of Whidden and Lewis left a lasting mark on the architectural landscape of early Portland in both commercial and residential designs.

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 - 10 August 1910. Commercial Club Fitting Up New Home."
 - 31 August 1910. "Building Operations Big Greater Expected in 1911."
 - 14 September 1910. "Club Rooms Opened with Big Meeting."
 - 21 September 1910. Open House To-Day at Commercial Club Rooms.
 - 28 September 1910. Commercial Club's Housewarming Success."
 - 1 January 1937. "First National is in Giannini Group."
 - 15 January 1937. "First National is in Fine Condition."
 - 12 February 1937. "Portland Bank to Open Branch Here."
 - 12 March 1937. "First National to Offer Credit Loans."
 - 2 April 1937. "First National is Being Remodeled."
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First National Bank of Hood River
Name of Property

Hood River County, Oregon
County and State

NPS Form 10-900-a

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

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National Park Service**

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Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. City of Hood River, Oregon, 1916, 1928.

Whidden and Lewis. "First National Bank Building, Hood River, Ore., Whidden and Lewis Architects, Portland, Ore." Plans dated 1 July 1909. Property of current owner, Brad Perron, Hood River, Oregon.

First National Bank of Hood River
Name of Property

Hood River County, Oregon
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre (5000 sq. ft. lot)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 10 615790 5062600
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____

4 _____

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bradford Perron and Sally Donovan, Historic Preservationist

organization Historic Carousels, Inc. date 6-30-05

street & number PO Box 797 telephone 541-387-3879

city or town Hood River state OR zip code 97031

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

name Bradford W.S. Perron, Historic Carousels, Inc

street & number PO Box 797 telephone 541-387-3879

city or town Hood River state OR zip code 97031

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

First National Bank of Hood River
Name of Property

Hood River County, Oregon
County and State

NPS Form 10-900-a

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

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National Park Service

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area includes all of Lot 8 in Block "C" of the First Addition West to Hood River, Hood River County, Oregon, otherwise known as the east 50' of Tax Lot 11700, map No. 3n 10E 25CD.

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary includes the entire 50' x 100' lot that is historically associated with the First National Bank of Hood River building.

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Photographic Log First National Bank of Hood River Building, 304 Oak Street, Hood River, Hood River County, Oregon

Slides

12 current images

Photographs

Historic Name: First National Bank of Hood River

Address: 304 Oak Street, Hood River, Hood River County, OR

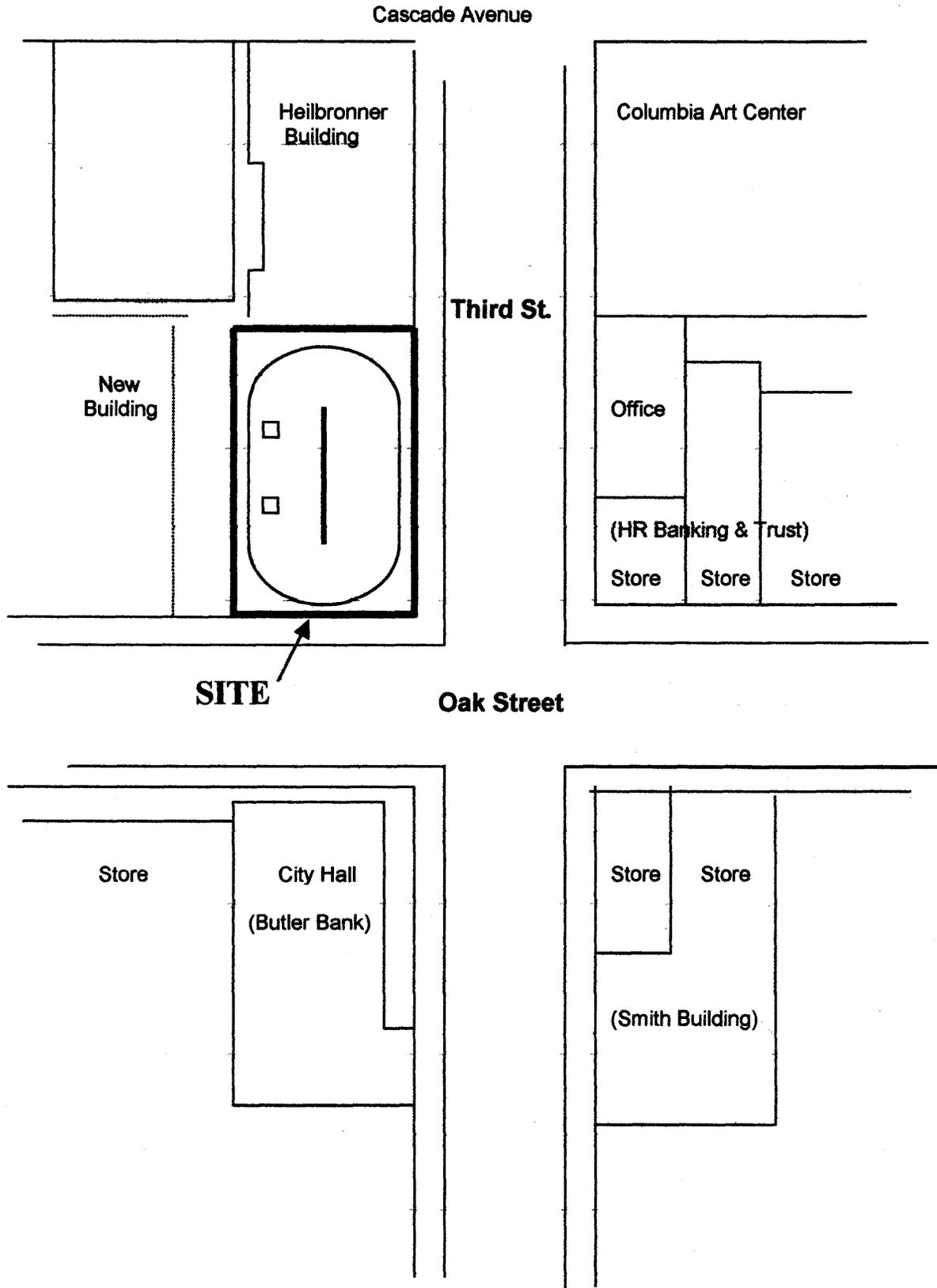
Photographer: Sally Donovan, Donovan and Associates, Hood River, OR

Photograph Date: June 2005

Negative Location: Bradford Perron, Hood River, OR

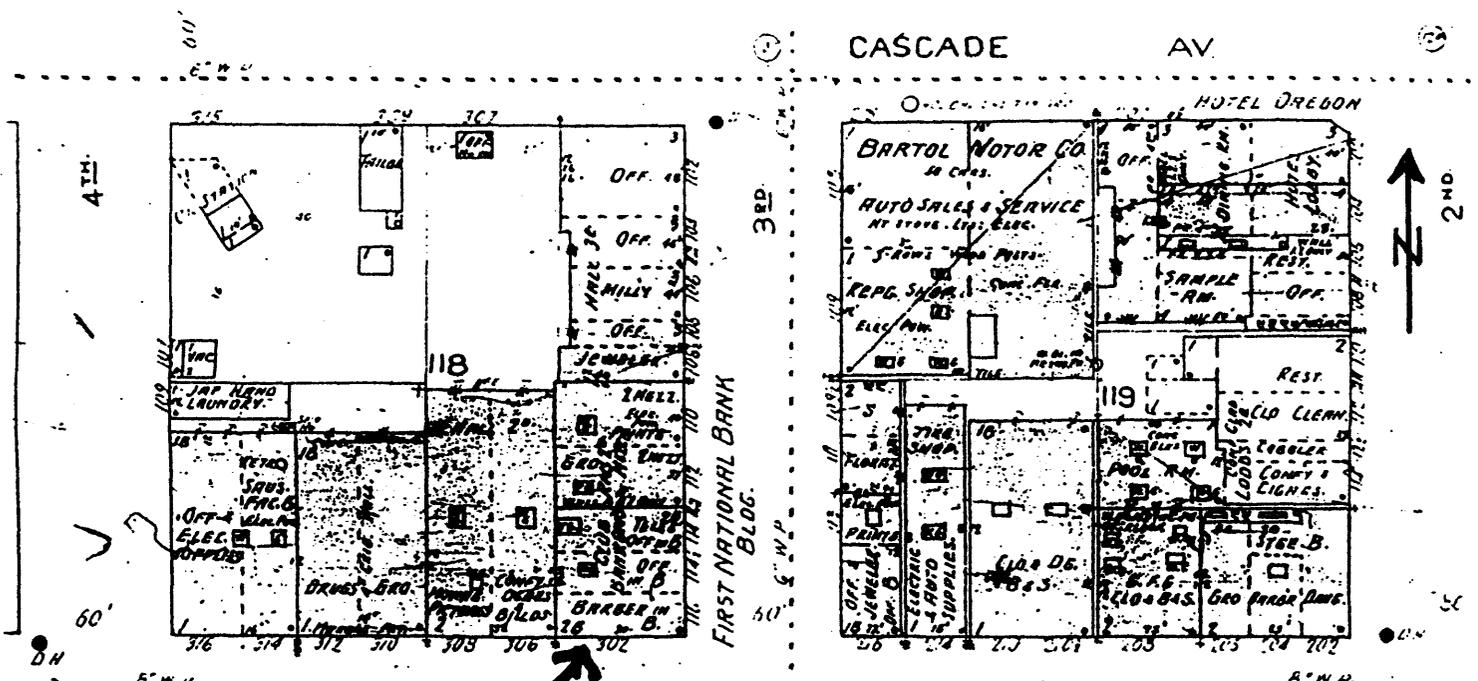
Photograph No:	Description:
1 of 12	South and East facades, looking NW
2 of 12	South façade, looking N
3 of 12	West and South facades, looking NE
4 of 12	East façade, looking SW
5 of 12	Detail cornice and brackets, looking NW
6 of 12	Detail clock, looking W
7 of 12	1 st Floor interior, looking N
8 of 12	2 nd Floor interior, looking SE
9 of 12	Interior basement retail, looking SE
10 of 12	Interior basement retail, looking N
11 of 12	Interior sub-basement north half, looking W
12 of 12	Interior sub-basement south half, looking S

First National Bank Site Plan



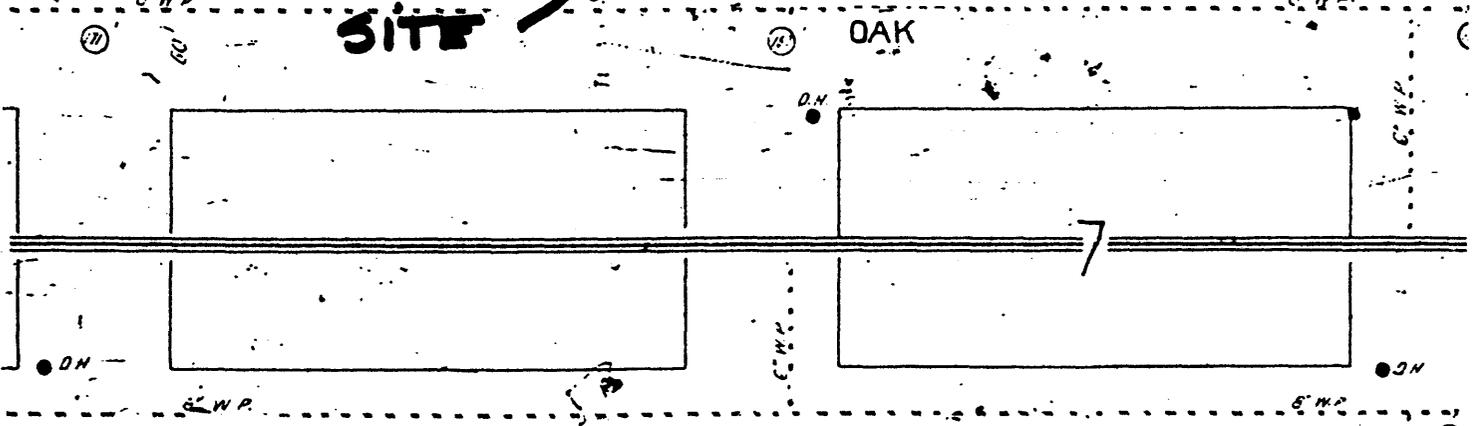
CASCADE AV

AV

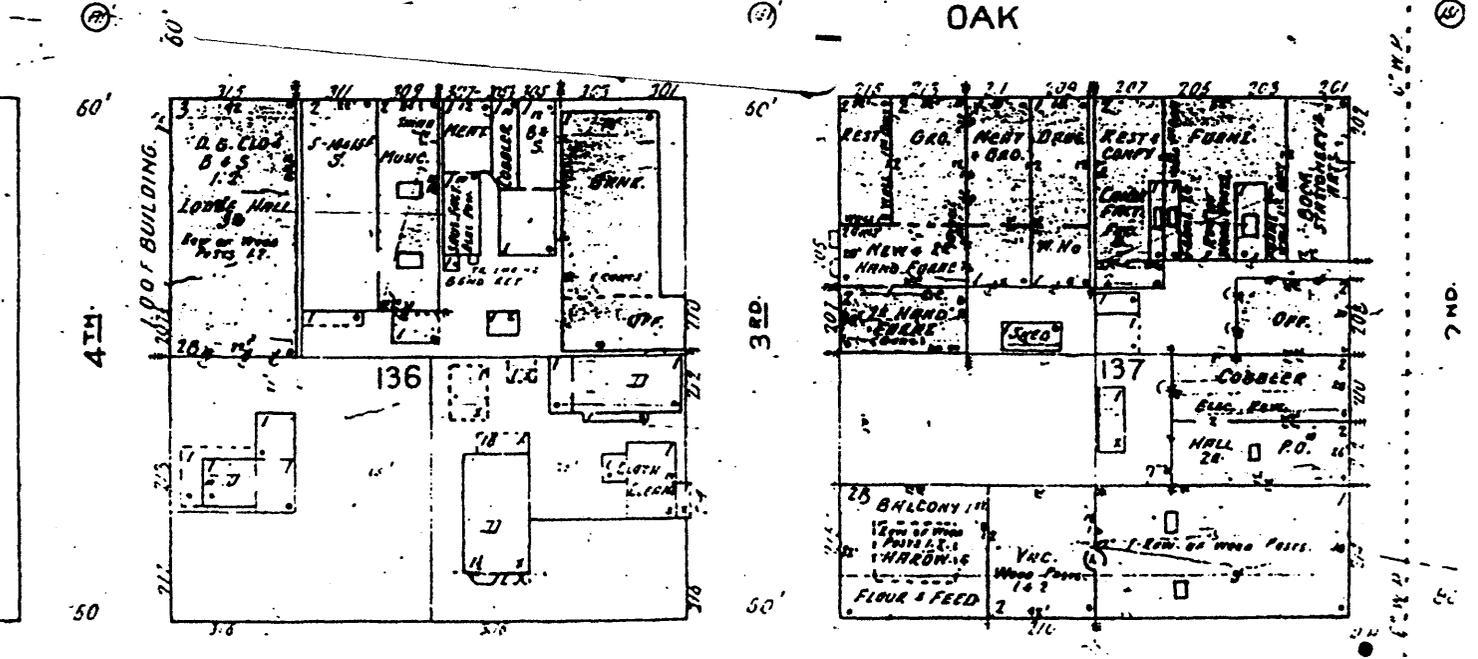


SITE

OAK



OAK



STATE

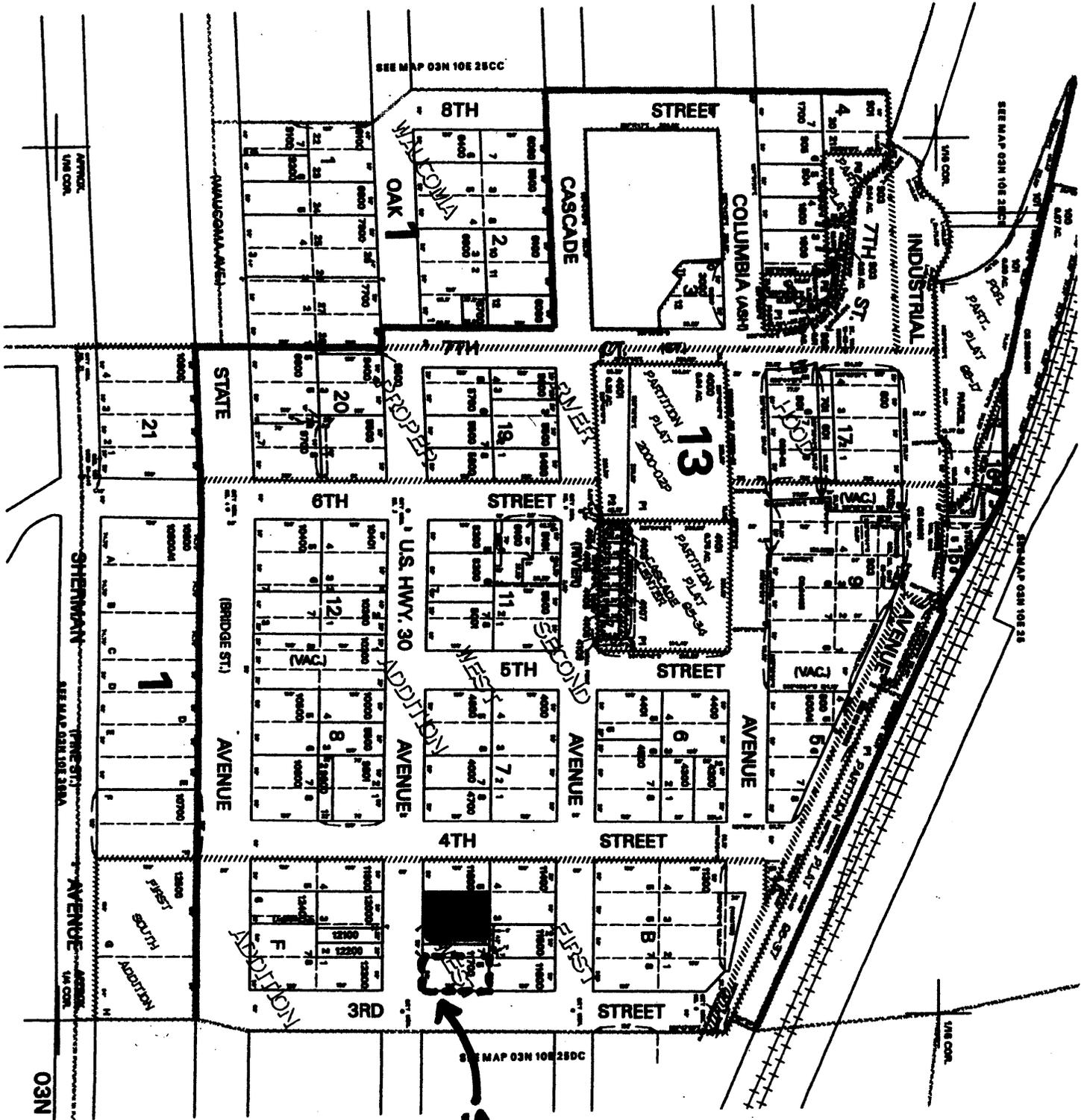
THIS MAP WAS PREPARED FOR
ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY

HOOD RIVER COUNTY
1-1-82

03N 10E 25CD



- CANCELLED IN
- 200 THRU
- 400
- 500A2
- 500A3
- 500A4
- 500
- 600
- 700
- 702
- 800
- 801
- 900 THRU
- 1000 THRU
- 1004
- 1200 THRU
- 1600
- 2000 THRU
- 2000
- 3000 THRU
- 3000
- 4000
- 4002
- 4004
- 6000
- 6000 THRU
- 7000
- 7000
- 8000 THRU
- 8000
- 9000
- 10000
- 10000
- 11000



FEB 1 1 2003

LOT

SITE

03N 10E 25CD

APPROX.
1/4 IN. COA.

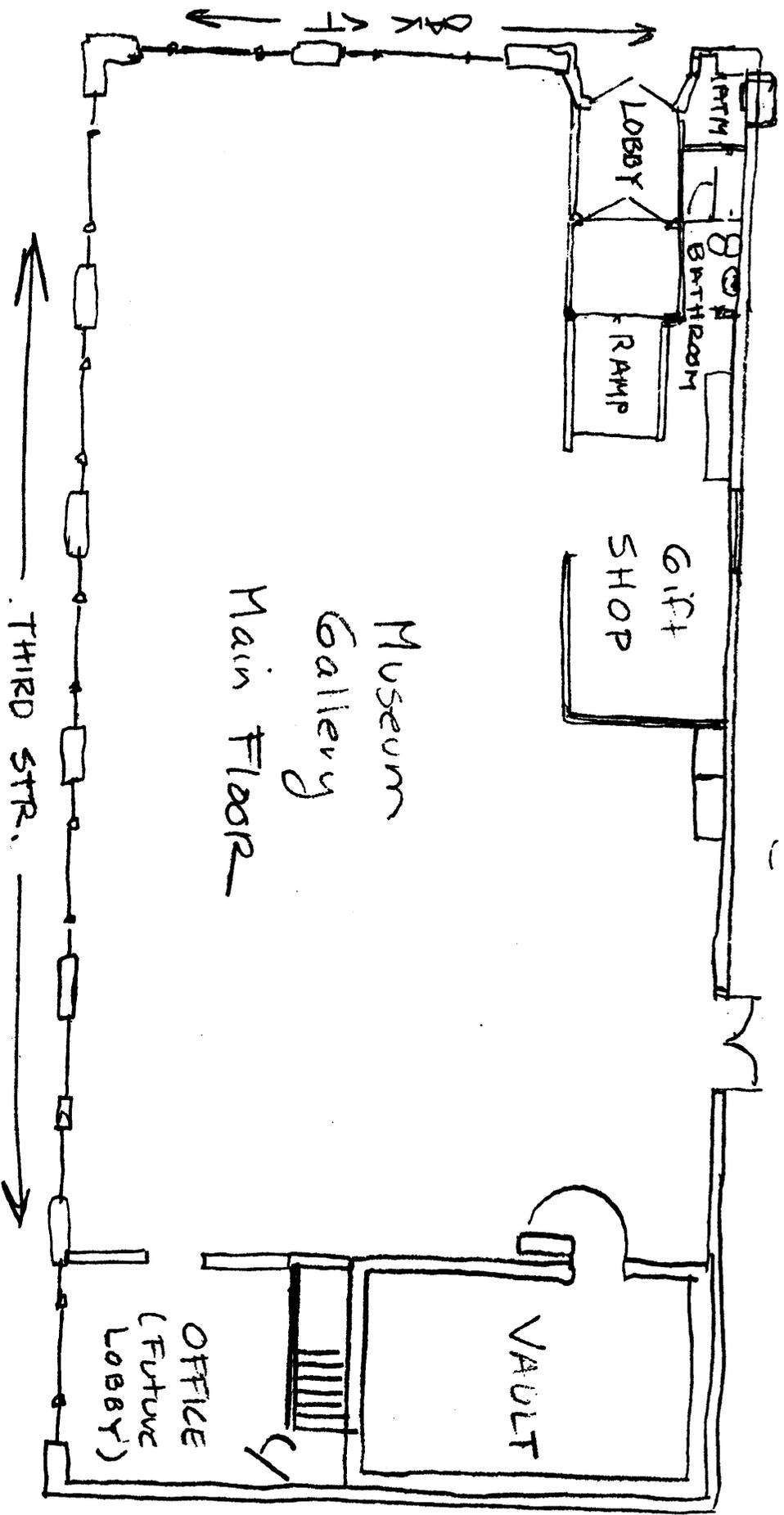
SHERMAN AVENUE
SEE MAP 03N 10E 25CD

AVENUE
1/4 IN. COA.

REVISION: J0
02/11/03

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
304 OAK
BASEMENT LEVEL

→ NORTH



PLAZA

Museum
Gallery
Main Floor

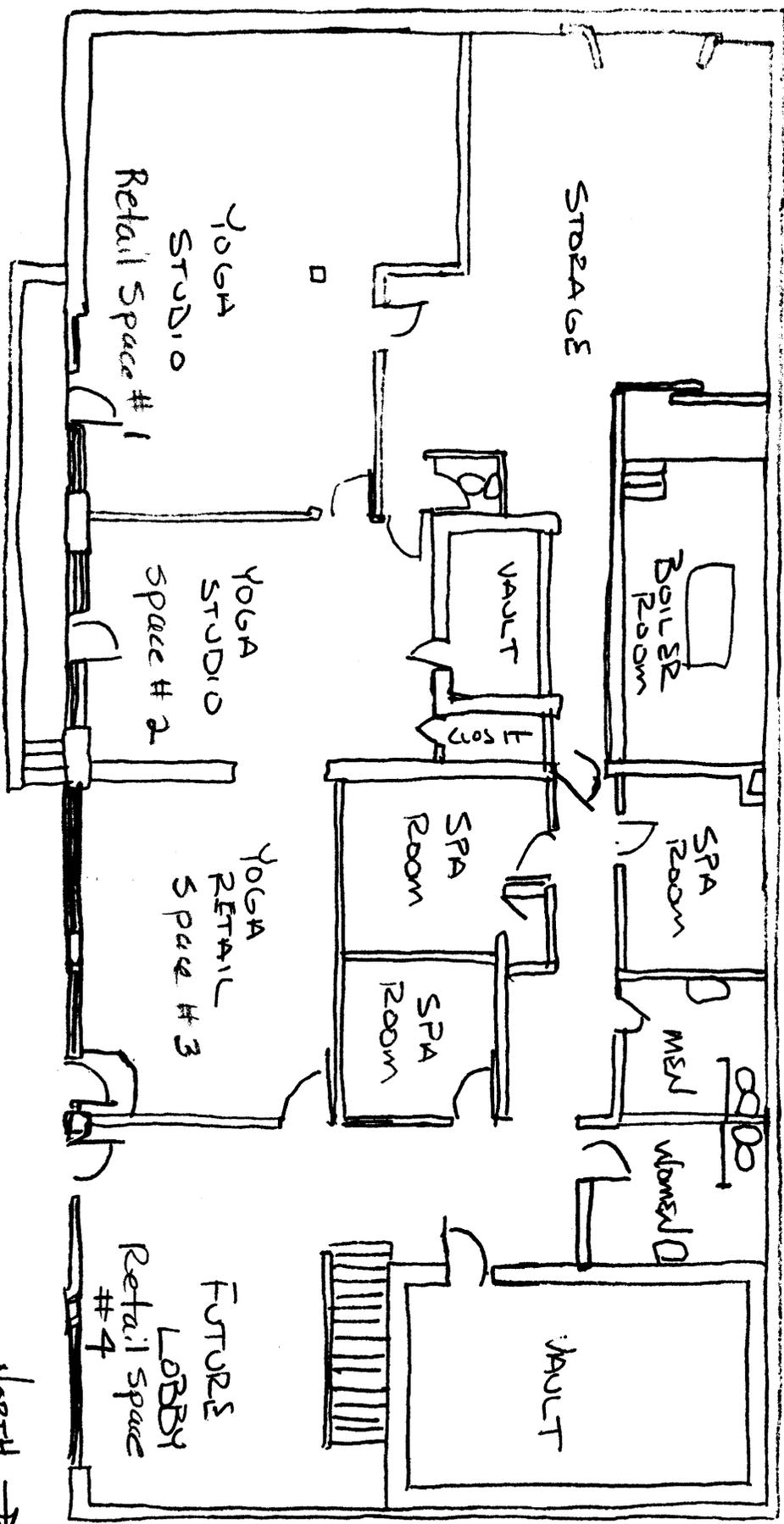
VAULT

OFFICE
(Future
Lobby)

THIRD STR.

DARK

OAK ST →



←

3rd STREET →

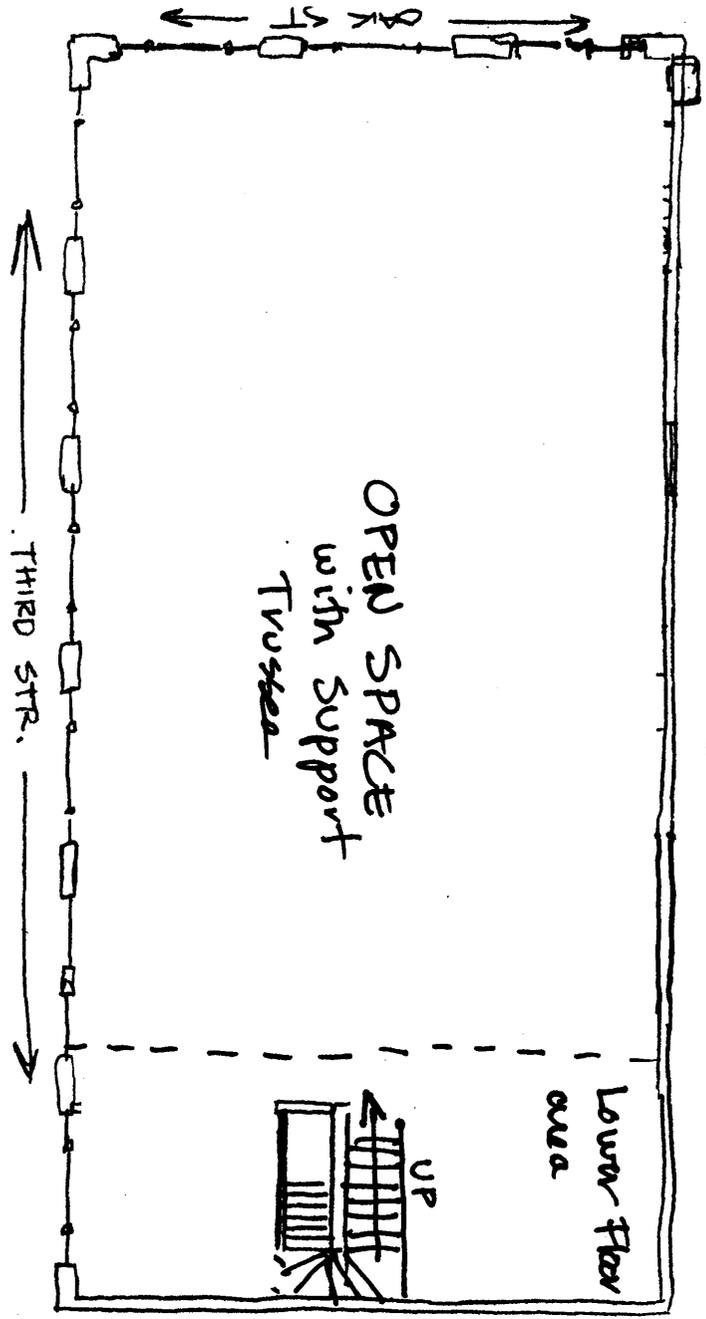
→

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
 304 OAK ST
 BASEMENT LEVEL

NORTH →

First National Bank Second Floor (EXISTING)

→ NORTH
PLAZA



South Election
July 1909

Whidden & Lewis

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BLDG.
HOOD RIVER OREGON
W. S. WHIDDEN & LEWIS, ARCHITECTS,
701 COMMERCIAL BLDG. PORTLAND OREG.
JULY 1909

