

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Clatskanie IOOF Hall

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 75 South Nehalem Street

city or town Clatskanie

state Oregon code OR county Columbia code 009 zip code 97016

☐ not for publication

☐ vicinity

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide X local

Signature of certifying official [Signature] Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 1/12/12

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____

Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper [Signature: John Edison H. Beall]

Date of Action 3-7-12

Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Name of Property

Columbia Co., Oregon

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | private |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - Local |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - State |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - Federal |

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | building(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | object |

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
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

None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Theater

GOVERNMENT: Post Office

COMMERCE / TRADE: Professional

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT / NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY

MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: BRICK

CONCRETE

roof: ASPHALT

other: N/A

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Clatskanie IOOF Hall is located on South Nehalem Street, the primary commercial street which intersects with US Route 30 in the center of Clatskanie, Oregon, a town of approximately 1,800 people in Northwest Oregon. The former lodge hall of the local chapter of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), the building sits on the hillside above the main commercial district, overlooking the Clatskanie River. The 14,000 square foot two-story building of reinforced concrete with a brick façade was built in 1926 and was designed by prominent Portland architect Ernst Kroner. Stylistically, the building is an eclectic two-part commercial design, three bays across. The remaining facades are board-formed unpainted concrete. Most of the interior finishes and many of the architectural elements and walls have been removed, but the building retains the original separation of space between the theater and retail space on the first floor and the offices and gathering space on the second. At the time it was constructed, the IOOF Hall was the most architecturally impressive structure in Clatskanie, and it quickly became the center of the town's life. The ground floor contained a theater showing movies and staging live performances, as well as the town Post Office. On the second floor were five professional offices, the Odd Fellows meeting rooms, a kitchen and dining room, and the lodge hall/ballroom.

Narrative Description

The IOOF Hall is a two-story reinforced concrete building with partial basement located at the south end of what historically has been the "main street" of Clatskanie. Completed on New Year's Eve of 1926, the hall was designed in the Late 19th & EARLY 20th Century AMERICAN movements - Commercial Style of architecture.

Setting

The IOOF Hall is located in the City of Clatskanie, Columbia County, Oregon. Columbia County is located in the northwest section of Oregon and its namesake is the Columbia River which roughly forms its northern and eastern borders. It is a mountainous region that is a largely rural. The City of Clatskanie is a small town located in northern Columbia County in the Clatskanie River Valley. The Clatskanie River snakes through the center of town and the river empties into the Columbia River at the Clatskanie/Beaver Slough approximately four miles downstream from the town's center. In the heart of Clatskanie, the Columbia River Highway (US Route 30) runs east-west through the town, and late-twentieth century small-scale commercial resources line the highway. The heart of town is Nehalem Street, Clatskanie's main street, which runs north-south. Beyond Nehalem Street to both the north and south are residential homes, to the northwest across the river is a lumber mill, and to the east are more small-scale commercial resources. The IOOF Hall is located on Nehalem Street, which is lined with early-twentieth century commercial and ecclesiastical buildings. These are typically small-scale one-story buildings in a mix of wood-frame and concrete construction.

Site

The building is located on an interior rectangular parcel facing southwest onto Nehalem Street. The parcel is 101 feet southwest to northeast, and 76.41 feet northwest to southeast. The parcel is flat and slopes approximately 10 percent down toward the northwest along the street. The building is built to the lot line at the street and has a narrow concrete walkway at the two sides. The rear essentially abuts the property line with a gap of approximately 1 foot. The northwest wall is set about 8 feet back from the property line. There are no character-defining landscape features.

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Structure

The building is two-stories with a partial basement, and is constructed with reinforced concrete with wood framing support. It is rectangular in shape measuring 66 feet from northwest to southeast and 100 feet southwest to northeast. The building has a concrete support wall at the basement and first floor levels running the length of the building, off-center 26 feet from the north. Heavy-timber joists and beams provide horizontal framing. Additional vertical support at the store is provided by wood posts.

Exterior

The hall is two stories with a single brick-faced facade toward the street. The remaining facades are board-formed unpainted concrete. Stylistically, the building is an eclectic two-part commercial design, three bays across.

The primary facade faces southwest onto Nehalem Street. It is clad in combed tan brick in stretcher bond with tan-colored mortar. The facade is organized in a generally symmetrical fashion into three bays. The center bay features a pronounced entry 18 feet across. It is distinguished by a center arched recessed opening flanked by arched vertical side windows with a painted concrete sill. The windows have metal mullions in wood frame with prism glass. The recessed opening leads to a single panel door flanked by wood side lights and panels with a single window transom with metal mullions, wood frame, and prism glass. The arches here are accented with decorative header and stacked course brick work. Above the entry is a cementitious plaster panel reading "IOOF" in black painted letters. At the second floor are three grouped windows. The bay to the north is a traditional storefront with a center recessed doorway flanked by metal-framed storefronts on a concrete bulkhead. Spanning across the storefront is a transom of prism glass. At the second floor are two pairs of windows. The south bay is the one-time theater entry. This too was recessed, defined by Tuscan columns supporting three arched openings leading to what originally had been sets of paired full-glass wood doors in wood frames. Again at the second floor are two pairs of windows. All second floor windows are one-over-one double-hung wood sash in wood frame. Tying the second floor, above the second floor windows, is a painted concrete frieze. The parapet centrally steps down with painted coping. The roof is sloped down rear to front and has a wood deck covered with rolled asphalt, enclosed by a parapet wall.

Interior

The much of the interior features, finishes, and walls have been removed; however, the building retains the historic division of space. The south two-thirds of the first floor houses a theater which originally had 400 seats and a 14 foot stage. In keeping with small town theaters of its day, the interior was functional with minimal ornamentation. The stage, main entry stair, floor, and walls have been removed in this space revealing the concrete walls, ceiling structure, and dirt floor. The north portion of the first floor is devoted to a retail space with 26 foot storefront which served as Clatskanie's Post Office from 1927 into the 1960's. The current arrangement reflects the alterations made to convert this space into a flower shop after the Post Office was relocated. A mezzanine constructed in the last several years is located in the northeast corner. The stair to the second floor is included in this same area.

The second floor was primarily devoted to the IOOF spaces including ballroom/lodge hall, social rooms, and kitchen. Facing the street were five offices, mostly two-room suites, which were leased to tenants including an attorney, dentist, naturopath, and justice of the peace. Today, the second floor is largely a single open space with the exception of a recently-constructed wood-frame structure in the northwest corner of the building and original walls sheathed in chipboard in the southwest corner. The original maple dance floor has been retained. Like the theater, the concrete walls and roof structure are exposed in this area.

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Alterations

In the late 1980's the lodge and the theater closed, and beginning in the 1990's the property changed ownership several times. During those years maintenance was neglected and poorly conceived interior alterations were undertaken. One of the owners removed the theater stage and sloping concrete floor down to the dirt, together with the bathrooms and other partitions, in an effort to address a water intrusion problem. The ticket booth and front doors were removed, and the ceiling plaster was stripped to expose the structural beams. The front stairway was removed, and the second floor was stripped of features including ceilings and most partitions. The retail space remains unchanged since its 1960's conversion from a Post Office to flower shop when its floor plan was modified and bathrooms and a false ceiling were added. While the majority of the original openings are intact, several small windows in the concrete side walls have had their sashes removed and the openings filled with concrete. The windows surrounding the main entry were severely damaged, and the second story double-hung windows were removed. The original theatre entrance and wall were removed by the previous owner, and the openings are currently covered with plywood.

In spite of neglect and interior alterations, the IOOF Hall retains its imposing presence on Nehalem Street and its central place in Clatskanie's history. The building's street facing brick facade has remained essentially unchanged since its 1926 construction. The retail space's 26 foot storefront with windows and entrance door are original. The interior retains significant original features including the maple ballroom floor, back stairs, and heavy second floor car-decking sub-flooring. The boards sheathing the roof are stained with concrete from their original use as concrete forms for the building's walls. Importantly, the large old growth fir structural beams supporting the roof and second floor provide free span support, without internal columns, to retain the original open feel of the ballroom and theater spaces. The missing windows on the second floor main-façade were replaced with new windows matching the original drawings and examples still on site, and the damaged main entry windows were replaced in-kind. As needed, individual panes of glass were repaired or replaced in-kind throughout the building.

Rehabilitation

The current owner, the Clatskanie Foundation, has developed a master plan to return the building to very close to its original floor plan and function. It will be utilized as a local community center and incorporate the original uses of theater, offices, ballroom, social rooms, and retail space. Current plans call for the City of Clatskanie to occupy the office spaces and the Clatskanie Arts Commission to use the theater as its home venue.

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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.

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.)

ENTERTAINMENT / RECREATION

Period of Significance

1926 - 1962

Significant Dates

1926, Date of Construction

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Ernst Kroner, Architect

Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance begins when the Clatskanie IOOF Hall was built in 1926. The building served as the social and entertainment center for the community from its opening on New Year's Eve 1926 through the mid-twentieth century. The period of significance for the Clatskanie IOOF halls ends in 1962 when a combination of highway improvements, decline in the organizational life of the community, societal changes, such as the rise of television as the preferred form of evening entertainment, and competition by theaters in nearby larger communities drew people away from events held at the hall. The 50-year guideline was chosen because the building continued to house a theater, community gatherings, and retail spaces and professional offices for several more decades after 1962.

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Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Constructed in 1926 the Clatskanie IOOF Hall was built as the town's first large concrete building, and remains the most imposing structure in town. The building is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion A, Social History and Recreation. The construction of the new highway in 1918 and the booming economy of the 1920s made Clatskanie more connected and prosperous than any other time in its previous 75-year history. It is at this opportune time that Clatskanie's IOOF Lodge decided to build a grand building to be designed by noted Portland architect Ernst Krone. Krone previously completed the design for the Portland IOOF Grand Lodge two years earlier, and was responsible for a number of institutional buildings. Immediately upon its opening, the building became the community's social and cultural center. With the movie theater and Post Office on the first floor, and dental and law offices, meeting spaces, and the lodge hall itself on the second, the IOOF Hall soon became the community gathering place. The building retained the distinction throughout its period of significance. Whether it was to attend a vaudeville show in 1927, watch the first local "talkie" in 1930, meet to organize Oregon's first People's Utility District in 1940, attend a war bond benefit dance in 1945, participate in a Grange or Kiwanis meeting, pick up the mail, or consult a lawyer, the IOOF Hall was central to life in Clatskanie. Here one accomplished life's business, was entertained, and ran into friends. The period of significance begins in 1926 when the Clatskanie IOOF Hall was constructed and ends in at the 50-year guideline 1962 when the importance of the hall faded as more residents traveled outside the town for entertainment and professional services, and interest in social organizations such as IOOF began to wane. The building continued to house a theater, community gatherings, and retail spaces and professional offices for several more decades.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

From its founding in the mid-nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century, Clatskanie was a relatively isolated rural town and its social life revolved around local organizations. The Clatskanie IOOF Hall was built by one of these social organizations during the economic optimism of the 1920's and soon after a new highway connected the town to the outside world in 1918. The IOOF Hall was the first, and by far the most grand, of five fire-resistant concrete and/or masonry commercial structures built in the late 1920's.

During the mid-twentieth century period, the IOOF hall was the venue for a continuous round of organizational activities, dances, dinners, parties, and gatherings of up to 400 persons. The retail space on the northern side of the ground floor was the home of the Clatskanie Post Office throughout the building's period of significance. The theater was the venue for vaudeville shows, boxing matches, silent movies¹ and then "talkies" shown six days a week from 1927 until 1962. The upstairs professional offices housed a lawyer, dentist, naturopath, and justice of the peace. The Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion met in the building for many years until they finally built their own buildings. All of these uses provided income to the Lodge and made the Clatskanie IOOF Hall central to the community's daily life.

As the twentieth century progressed, new members were less drawn to small town fraternal organizations. Improvements to Highway 30, which began in the mid-1950's and continued into the 1960's, made outings to

¹ The Clatskanie Chief, Feb. 18, 1927, April 15, 1927. Much of the historical information about the Odd Fellows in Clatskanie was gleaned from the Clatskanie Chief, the town's weekly newspaper published continuously since 1891. As such it is limited to "newsworthy" events. When the Clatskanie IOOF Lodge disbanded in the late 1980's its assets and remaining three members were absorbed by the Astoria Lodge, and when that lodge disbanded, by Seaside. In the process all Clatskanie records were lost as confirmed by the Seaside Lodge and the Portland Grand Lodge. Membership rolls, meeting minutes, budgets, and records of I.O.O.F philanthropic activities and the building the Clatskanie IOOF Hall would have provided further interesting background.

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theaters and other entertainment events in larger towns much easier, eroding the Avalon Theatre's audience. The theater finally closed shortly before the Clatskanie IOOF Lodge dwindled to three members and then disbanded in the late 1980's. Only a floral shop, occupying the retail space, continued to draw community members to the building into the 1990's.

Even though the IOOF Hall has lost many interior features, its exterior remains virtually unchanged. Further, the building remains Clatskanie's single most impressive historical commercial structure and was at the center of community life throughout much of the twentieth century. It is therefore worthy of preservation.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Early History of Clatskanie

Clatskanie was founded along the banks of the river in the winter of 1852-53, with the arrival of thirteen pioneer families. They filed donation land claims, logged and farmed the land, and fished the rivers. Some left in the first year or two, unfit for or unhappy with the rigorous life, but more came. Within the first decade they had established a school. By the late 1870's, they had deepened, widened, and channelized the Clatskanie River to allow sternwheeler riverboats to paddle up the approximately four miles from the Columbia. These boats were the only means of transportation to the outside world, other than rough trails for horses and oxen. The boats brought supplies, merchandise, mail, and passengers, and carried out the forest, fish, and farm products that have been the lifeblood of the local economy throughout its history.

By 1890 Clatskanie had become the market town for the surrounding rural area including the Nehalem Valley in the Coast Range to the south. Stores had sprung up along Clatskanie's main street, made of planks placed on pilings driven into the marshy valley floor. The first generation of commercial buildings was all wood, most with flat front facades. In 1891 the City of Clatskanie was incorporated with approximately 700 inhabitants. The population would not grow significantly until a new pulp and paper mill was built nearby in the 1960's.

Until the mid-twentieth century, local residents were isolated from the outside world because of the rigors of travel. While the railroad came through in 1898 and the first slow, curvy highway in 1918, travel remained time-consuming and inconvenient. For the first century of its existence, Clatskanie's residents created a strong social network by forming organizations, and entertained themselves with a continuous schedule of meetings, dinners, dances, programs, contests, community benefit projects, and musical and theatrical productions.

History of the International Order of Odd Fellows

The Clatskanie IOOF Lodge was built at a time when fraternal organizations were becoming increasingly popular in Oregon and across the United States. The roots of the building's history lie in the history of the Odd Fellows. The Odd Fellow's came about in eighteenth-century England. The name for the organization in England was The Patriotic Order. It was a benevolent fraternal organization based on performing altruistic and charitable acts and was commonly known as the Odd Fellows.

In eighteenth century England, it was odd to find people organized for the purpose of giving aid to those in need and pursuing projects for the benefit of all mankind. Those who belonged to such an organization were called "Odd Fellows"².

In America, Thomas Wildey was the founder of the Odd Fellowship of North America. A native Englander, Wildey was raised in an Odd Fellows orphanage where he experienced the fellowship's charity first hand. When he came to America in 1817 he sought to continue the brotherhood in Baltimore where he had settled. "On April 26,

² "We are Odd Fellows & Rebekahs", <http://www.ioof.org/>.

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1819 Wildey and four other men formed the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in North America, dedicating the order to achieving philanthropic goals.³ The organization grew rapidly and in 1861, just over forty years after its establishment in America, membership exceeded 200,000 members in 42 states.

The first IOOF Lodge in Oregon was established on August 16, 1852 in the Salem area. "By late 1852, a large enough group had settled in and around Salem to organize the Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, Oregon's first lodge and the first order in the Pacific Northwest. This "mother lodge" furthered the objectives of all other lodges in the U.S. by offering aid and assistance to its members in a time of need."⁴

During the late 1800's and early 1900's, as Odd Fellows continued to increase in popularity, several lodges were created in Oregon. In 1924, the Grand Sovereign Lodge of Oregon was built in Portland, also designed by architect Ernst Kroner. In 1925, there were over 25,000 Odd Fellows in the state of Oregon. An article in the *Oregonian* in 1925 featuring the Odd Fellows convention in Portland discussed the popularity of the IOOF from its founding in the United States.

And these were the original sources of the order in America. From them has spread, and so naturally as to warrant belief that a real demand existed, the great national order of this day. Scores of fraternal orders have since been organized, and of these several have attained huge memberships and important fields of fraternal activity, but Odd Fellowship has suffered not at all from this amiable competition. It is still among the foremost, still convinced of its mission, still working for the expression in fact of the symbolism of the three mystic links - friendship, love, and truth.⁵

The IOOF Clatskanie Lodge No. 160 organized in a period that was one of rapid growth for the Odd Fellows generally. From 1850 through the 1920's the IOOF organization played an integral part in the Euro-American frontier, and as such its membership included white Anglo Protestant men who were the pioneer entrepreneurs, craftsman, and farmers found in these rural communities. One factor contributing to the fraternal organization's popularity was the support it brought to men, especially following World War I when the government had few programs to aid the common man. Additionally, Odd Fellows across the county were strong wartime contributors and advocates, so when veterans returned home membership grew. The Odd Fellows tradition of founding orphanages and homes for the aged and a philosophy that supported philanthropy contributed to their popularity. Finally, social and community life, a fundamental element of Odd Fellows tradition, was increasingly important in 1920's culture and grew in importance as leisure time expanded in the twenties. The culture of the 1920's was greatly influenced by America's wartime experience. The community as a whole sought a return to normalcy, and sought membership in a number of organizations.

In the 1920's in America's began to earn more money and to have more time for leisure due to the mechanization of industry. Sacrifices during the Great War and the shortage of raw materials and manufactured goods gave way to the desire to overcome these issues. Consumer appetites were driven by the return of tens of thousands of American troops, many of whom had never before set foot outside their own towns or neighborhoods. These former soldiers had discovered an outside world offering an incredible array of foods and consumer goods. Another factor was the advance of technology at work and at home that created increasing amounts of free time. Collectively, these forces allowed American's more leisure time. The Odd Fellows provided a virtuous way of filling this newly increasing free time.

The popularity of this organization in Oregon is reflected in the large numbers of extant IOOF halls. Seventy-one are included in the State Historic Preservation Office/Oregon Historic Sites Database. IOOF organizations especially appealed to the residents of small towns. Research on the development of IOOF lodges in the United States and

³ "Thomas Wildey: Founder of the North American Odd Fellowship", <http://www.ioof.org/thomaswildey.html>.

⁴ "Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, Oddfellows IOOF", <http://www.salemhistory.net/culture/oddfellows.html>.

⁵ "Odd Fellows Open 101st Convention" *The Oregonian*, September 19, 1925 p. 8.

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Canada shows that between 1911 and 1931 more lodges were located in small towns like Clatskanie than in large cities.⁶

Clatskanie Odd Fellows Build the IOOF Hall

In 1908 The *Clatskanie Chief*⁷ listed the meeting times of fourteen local organizations, among them Clatskanie Lodge No. 160 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), and its sister organization, LaFrance Rebekah Lodge. Its members formed the middle class backbone of the community, including farmers, loggers, laborers, teachers, the owners, operators, and employees of small businesses. By the 1920's, the IOOF and Rebekahs had grown to be the town's largest fraternal/philanthropic organizations. In March of 1925 98 Odd Fellows and "Odd Fellow prospects" gathered in the jointly-used "local lodge room where a teacher spoke about the ideals of the Lodge - faith, hope, charity, friendship, love and truth."⁸

With their ranks growing, and feeling the booming economy of the mid-1920's, the Clatskanie IOOF made plans to build their own lodge hall which would be the town's first large concrete building. It was constructed under a new city ordinance requiring all new commercial buildings to be built of concrete, stucco, or brick to lessen the danger of fires that had damaged the commercial districts of other northwest Oregon communities, including Astoria and Rainier on either side of Clatskanie. To design the building, the Clatskanie Odd Fellows hired Ernst Kroner, a prominent Portland architect who had recently designed the IOOF Grand Lodge in Portland. His drawings and specifications for the Clatskanie I.O.O.F Hall were discovered 80 years later in the archives of the Oregon Historical Society in Portland. With a loan of \$2,500 from a member of the Lodge, John Erickson, and another loan of \$10,000 from Benefit Savings & Loan Association of Portland, construction began in 1926. The completed building included club rooms and a banquet hall/ballroom which could be rented to other clubs and organizations as a source of revenue. Further income could be derived from renting out the retail space to the Post Office, and the offices and theater to other tenants.

On New Year's Eve of 1926 the building was complete and ready for a community dance to welcome in the year 1927. More dances and an installation ceremony for IOOF and Rebekah officers continued in celebration of the new hall.⁹ In early February, the Federal Post Office Inspector from Seattle visited Clatskanie to oversee the final touches on the new quarters for the Post Office on the new building's north-side street-level storefront. Clatskanie Postmaster Easterday was given instructions to move into the new quarters "just as soon as they can be gotten ready."¹⁰ That occurred on Monday, February 21, 1927. According to a census taken later in 1927 there were 368 Clatskanie Post Office box holders. The grand opening of the "Peoples Theatre" in the new building was celebrated that spring with vaudeville shows, the latest silent movies, and boxing matches. At the grand opening of the theater, Clatskanie Mayor W.T. Evenson spoke and "asked that the people of Clatskanie [to] patronize Mr. Langlois in his efforts to bring good, clean amusement here."¹¹

Ernst Kroner, Architect of the Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Ernst Kroner was a logical choice as architect of the first major non-wood building to be built in Clatskanie since he had been the architect for Oregon's IOOF Grand Lodge in Portland, completed just two years earlier. He was a practicing architect in Portland for nearly half a century.

Ernest Kroner was born in Goeppingen, Germany on March 29, 1866, and attended school in Germany at the Royal Gymnasium and the Polytechnikum. As a young man Kroner moved to the United States to settle initially

⁶ George Emery and J.C. Herbert Emery. *A Young Man's Benefit. The independent Order of the Odd Fellows and Sickness Insurance in the U.S. and Canada, 1860-1929*. Montreal, 1999. p 45.

⁷ *The Clatskanie Chief*, Oct. 23, 1908.

⁸ *The Clatskanie Chief*, March 27, 1925.

⁹ *The Clatskanie Chief*, Jan. 7, 1927, Jan. 21, 1927.

¹⁰ *The Clatskanie Chief*, Feb. 4, 1927.

¹¹ *The Clatskanie Chief*, Feb. 18, 1927, Feb. 25, 1927, April 15, 1927.

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with family in La Crosse, Wisconsin. He worked in his uncle's hardware store for three years and then went out to explore the United States via an old Diamond Joe liner bound for New Orleans in 1884. For the next five years he traveled across the country working as a draftsman or in construction. Finally in 1889 he settled permanently in Portland, Oregon. He quickly became involved in Portland politics and was appointed the secretary of the police commission. By 1896 he was ready to return to his architectural trade. His last return to politics was to serve as local manager of Progressive Party candidate Robert La Follette's Presidential campaign in 1924.

Kroner started his architectural practice in 1900 and would continue until his retirement in 1950. He had one short partnership with Charles W. Henn in 1911. Kroner's best known work is the Odd Fellows Building (1924) located in Portland, which was listed on the National Register in 1980. His work included various school buildings, libraries, banks, and office buildings around Oregon. His design style was eclectic ranging from Commercial to various twentieth-century revival styles. The 1984 Portland Historical Resources Inventory lists, in addition to the 1924 Portland IOOF Grand Lodge, thirteen Kroner buildings including Sacred Heart School (1911), Blessed Sacrament School (1922), Sellwood Theater (1922), and Rose City Park Presbyterian Church (1922). Kroner's professional affiliations included his membership with the Portland Architectural Club, and service on the State Board of Architect Examiners from 1931 through 1935. Personally, he was active in German Organizations in the Portland area. He passed away on November 8, 1955 and was interred at Portland Memorial.¹²

IOOF Hall and the Development of Downtown Clatskanie

The IOOF Hall played a fundamental role in defining downtown Clatskanie. When built, the two-story structure was the tallest building in Clatskanie. It was also the first concrete building completed in the small community. Typical buildings in the downtown were one story with some having two stories, and all were small in scale and generally two bays wide. Because of the many local timber mills, milled lumber was easy to acquire and inexpensive, and subsequently the buildings were constructed of wood. Most were vernacular flat-front buildings with clapboard siding. In contrast, the IOOF Hall was designed to announce to the outside world coming through on the new highway that Clatskanie had arrived.

The 1926 IOOF Hall was a precursor to a burst of construction activity along Nehalem Street that even today defines the downtown. It was the first of five noteworthy "permanent" concrete or masonry commercial-style structures lining a three block stretch of Nehalem Street, all of which survive. In a town with a population of approximately 800 this was a major building boom. The IOOF Hall was the first, the largest, and the most impressive of these buildings to be constructed, and was the only multipurpose building of the group. The 1927 Medical Building (now apartments) is an architecturally plain two-story brick building which housed the local hospital. The 1927 Bryant Motor Company Building is a simple reinforced-concrete structure which housed an automobile showroom and repair garage. The 1928 Bank Building is a one-story high ceilinged brick structure designed in the Neo-Classical style, and the 1929 J.C. Penney (now hardware) Store is also of reinforced-concrete design.

The architect of the new IOOF Hall, Ernst Kroner, was so convinced that the IOOF Hall was the granddame building of Clatskanie that he spoke to the Clatskanie Business Men's club on March 2, 1927, and urged them to "demand" a new bridge over the Clatskanie River from the state highway department. "She [Clatskanie] should demand and get not only a bridge, but a bridge that is a work of art," since it would be the gateway to the community, said Mr. Kroner. He predicted that "the Pacific Northwest would see the greatest growth in the world's history in the next ten years" and said that Clatskanie would share bountifully in the growth. He urged the town to advertise itself as a "seaport town." Clatskanie's potential as a "seaport" was demonstrated, according to the town's newspaper, by the arrival of 80,000 feet of lumber by barge into downtown Clatskanie for the new medical building being built a block north of the IOOF Hall.

¹² Richard Ellison Ritz, *Architects of Oregon*. (Portland, OR: Lair Hill Publishing) P 234-235 and May 14, 1933 Fred Lockley, "Impressions of the Journal Man" Oregon Journal.

Clatskanie IOOF Hall

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As the first major investment in modern construction, the IOOF Hall established the standard by which other buildings were measured. Its form, concrete commercial style built to the lot line with ground floor retail, would be repeated with few variations. Its architect offered a notable resume with Oregon Grand Lodge in Portland. The building featured modern technology for the new theatre and modern design, and relatively opulent standards when compared to the simple wood buildings extant in the town. The success of the IOOF Hall certainly produced imitators and in so doing created what is now downtown Clatskanie. While there were imitators of the commercial form, it is important to note that none of these later buildings surpassed the grandeur of the IOOF Hall.

In Clatskanie there is only one other fraternal building. The Masonic Lodge is located just two blocks south of the IOOF Hall at 87 SE 2nd Street. The two-story vernacular wood-frame building with wood clapboard siding was completed in the late 1920's. Unlike the IOOF Hall, it does not have any commercial space or any public rooms. It is also a smaller building located on a secondary street, as opposed to the IOOF Hall which is located on the main street of Clatskanie. The Masonic Lodge does not compare to the IOOF Hall in style or overall function as a community center.

IOOF Hall's Role in Community Life

Beginning in 1926 and for the next half century, meetings, dances, movies, vaudeville shows and other activities were held in the IOOF facilities upstairs and the theater downstairs. Professional offices upstairs were leased to a dentist, naturopath, attorney, and justice of the peace. Throughout the building's period of historical significance, the state driver's license examiner used one of the building's offices on a monthly basis. Most of the town's other organizations and special interest groups, including the Royal Neighbors of America, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Masons and Eastern Star (until their own building was constructed in 1934), the Clatskanie Grange, Kiwanis Club, the American Legion and Auxiliary, the Clatskanie Baseball Club, the Columbia County Cow Testing Association, the Clatskanie Farm Bureau, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Clatskanie Volunteer Firemen, and the Columbia County Fur Breeders Association all used the hall for dances, dinners, parties, meetings, programs and lectures.

While Kroner's predictions about the growth and prosperity of Clatskanie failed to materialize, the grand building he constructed was the scene of events that reflected the history of the community during the mid-20th century that were small-scale manifestations of what was happening in the larger world. In the midst of the Great Depression, the hall was used for registrations for Federal Emergency Relief Administration work.¹³ In January of 1935, the community celebrated the New Year with a "President's Ball" at the IOOF Hall in honor of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Seventy percent of the proceeds went to a local fund to combat infantile paralysis, while the remaining 30 percent was sent to the Warm Springs Foundation.¹⁴ The hall continued to host fundraising events for "polio" through the 1940's and 1950's. In January and February of 1940 public hearings of the Oregon Hydroelectric Commission were held at the hall to discuss the proposed formation of the Clatskanie People's Utility District, which would become the first operating Public Utility District in the state of Oregon.¹⁵ Continuing through the World War II years, war bond drives were held in conjunction with the showings of movies.¹⁶ Dances and farewell parties were held for military personnel stationed at the nearby Beaver Army Storage Point.¹⁷ During the flood of 1948, the women of the town served meals at the IOOF Hall for the volunteers fighting the flood. In the 1950's, the hall was the scene of Clatskanie Farm Bureau meetings to discuss problems with the "rust" that had infected the soil of the area's dikeland farms and was ruining the peppermint crop that was a cornerstone of the local economy.¹⁸ While it was originally designed for silent movies, the theatre was remodeled in 1930, 1933,

¹³ *The Clatskanie Chief*, May 4, 1934.

¹⁴ *The Clatskanie Chief*, Jan. 25, 1935.

¹⁵ *The Clatskanie Chief*, Jan. 12, 1940, Feb. 9, 1940.

¹⁶ *The Clatskanie Chief*, June 1, 1945.

¹⁷ *The Clatskanie Chief*, Oct. 26, 1945.

¹⁸ *The Clatskanie Chief*, March 24, 1950, July 14, 1950.

Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Name of Property

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and 1940 to accommodate advances in the motion picture industry. In 1934 the name of the People's Theatre was changed to the Avalon Theatre, and that remained its name until it finally closed in late 1987.

During the mid-1950's, the theater was feeling the loss of an audience because of the proliferation of television sets in local homes. A larger than usual Avalon Theatre advertisement in late 1955 took a direct shot at the enemy: "if you are tired of Squintin', Squattin' and Squawkin', looking at four walls and a picture the size of a keyhole, you'll thoroughly enjoy 'To Catch a Thief' - and remember no 'Network Difficulty.' If you don't think this is one of the best pictures you have ever seen - we'll refund your admission."¹⁹

Despite these efforts, by 1962, the end of the building's period of significance, the importance of the IOOF Hall in the daily life of Clatskanie was fading; although it still housed a theatre, local gatherings, and retail space for several decades more. A series of improvements to Highway 30 began in the mid-1950's which made travel to theaters and cultural events in Longview, Astoria, and Portland far easier and faster. Television sets were becoming increasingly common in the homes of area residents, which gave the movie theater serious competition. Interest in social organizations was waning, and eventually led to the demise of IOOF in Clatskanie. By 1962, the theatre was only opened on weekends, and it was reported in the local paper that membership in the IOOF was in decline. Improved roads encouraged people to leave town for dental or law services. In the mid 1960s the Post Office moved to a new stand-alone building. Schools, restaurants, and other newer and more comfortable venues competed for the public gatherings once held in the hall. All these factors led to a gradual, but steady decline in the number of local citizens that used the IOOF Hall. Its central place in the community was greatly diminished, and it gradually fell into disrepair by the early 1990s.

Conclusion

The 1926 Clatskanie IOOF Hall was the town's first large concrete building, and remains the most architecturally notable building in the city. Home to the post office, retail space, the theatre, the local chapter of the IOOF, and many other activities the building was the center of social life and entertainment in Clatskanie for many decades. The decline of the building as the center of the community began gradually at the close of WWII and accelerated through to the end of the period of significance in 1962 when improved highway access, declining popularity of fraternal organizations, among other trends, drew local residents to other gathering places and entertainment venues.

¹⁹ *The Clatskanie Chief*, Dec. 23, 1955.

Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Name of Property

Columbia Co., Oregon

County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Capitol's Who's Who for Oregon 1936-1937. Portland, OR: Capitol Publishing Company, 1936.

Clatskanie Chief, (Clatskanie, OR) various articles dating from 1926-1962.

Davis, Ellis. *Davis New Commercial Encyclopedia, The Pacific Northwest: Washington Oregon and Idaho*. Seattle, WA: Ellis A. Davis Publishing, 1909.

Emery, George and J.C. Herbert Emery. *A Young Man's Benefit. The independent Order of the Odd Fellows and Sickness Insurance in the U.S. and Canada, 1860-1929*. Montreal, 1999.

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Oregon Journal (Portland, OR). "Who's Who Among the Architects", October 1, 1925.

Oregon Journal (Portland, OR). "Ernst Kroner". November 11, 1955. p. 6

Oregon Sunday Journal (Portland, OR). "Kroner Defends His Loyalty at Attacks of Department Head", April, 1917 p10.

The Oregonian (Portland, OR). "Kroner Rites Set Saturday". November 11, 1935. p 31.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Clatskanie, Oregon 1911, 1921, 1943, 1950.

Ritz, Richard Ellison. *Architects of Oregon: A Biographical Dictionary of Architects Deceased-19* * and 20th Centuries*. Portland, OR: Lair Hill Publishing, 2002.

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 Buildings Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☐ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☒ Other

Name of repository: Archives of the Clatskanie Chief

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): None

Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Name of Property

Columbia Co., Oregon

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 10 484238 5105583
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated property includes the entirety of Tax Lot No. 2700, Clatskanie, Columbia Co., OR

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated area includes the entirety of the tax lot historically associated with the Clatskanie IOOF Hall throughout its period of significance.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David Hicks / Board Member

organization Clatskanie Foundation

date July 27, 2011

street & number 75174 Conyers Creek Road

telephone (503) 728-2056

city or town Clatskanie

state OR

zip code 97016

e-mail andghicks@hotmail.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.) The following 1st and 2nd floor plans reflect the existing interior layout.

Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Name of Property

Columbia Co., Oregon

County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Clatskanie IOOF Hall

City or Vicinity: Clatskanie

County: Columbia **State:** OR

Photographer: Dave Hicks
75174 Conyers Creek Rd., Clatskanie, OR 97016

Date Photographed: Various Dates, see description below

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Photo 1 of 9: OR_ColumbiaCounty_ClatskanieIOOFHall_0001
West elevation after façade restoration, taken March 23, 2010

Photo 2 of 9: OR_ColumbiaCounty_ClatskanieIOOFHall_0002
South Elevation looking west, taken June 19, 2011

Photo 3 of 9: OR_ColumbiaCounty_ClatskanieIOOFHall_0003
East elevation looking north, taken June 19, 2011

Photo 4 of 9: OR_ColumbiaCounty_ClatskanieIOOFHall_0004
Theater space looking west, taken April 27, 2011

Photo 5 of 9: OR_ColumbiaCounty_ClatskanieIOOFHall_0005
Theater stage area looking south, taken April 27, 2011

Photo 6 of 9: OR_ColumbiaCounty_ClatskanieIOOFHall_0006
Retail space storefront looking west, taken April 27, 2011

Photo 7 of 9: OR_ColumbiaCounty_ClatskanieIOOFHall_0007
Retail space looking east, taken April 27, 2011

Photo 8 of 9: OR_ColumbiaCounty_ClatskanieIOOFHall_0008
Ballroom area looking west, taken April 27, 2011

Photo 9 of 9: OR_ColumbiaCounty_ClatskanieIOOFHall_0009
Ballroom area looking east, taken April 27, 2011

Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Name of Property

Columbia Co., Oregon

County and State

Property Owner: (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Clatskanie Foundation

street & number 75174 Conyers Creek Road

telephone (503) 728-2056

city or town Clatskanie

state OR

zip code 97016

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 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Name of Property

Columbia Co., OR

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N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 18

Documents

- Figure 1: General Location Map
Figure 2: Tax Lot Map
Figure 3: Floor Plan, 2 sheets.
Figure 4: Front Elevation Drawing, 1926
Figure 5: Photo of Clatskanie I.O.O.F Hall before restoration, 2007
Figure 6: Period Advertisements, 3 pages

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Name of Property

Columbia Co., OR

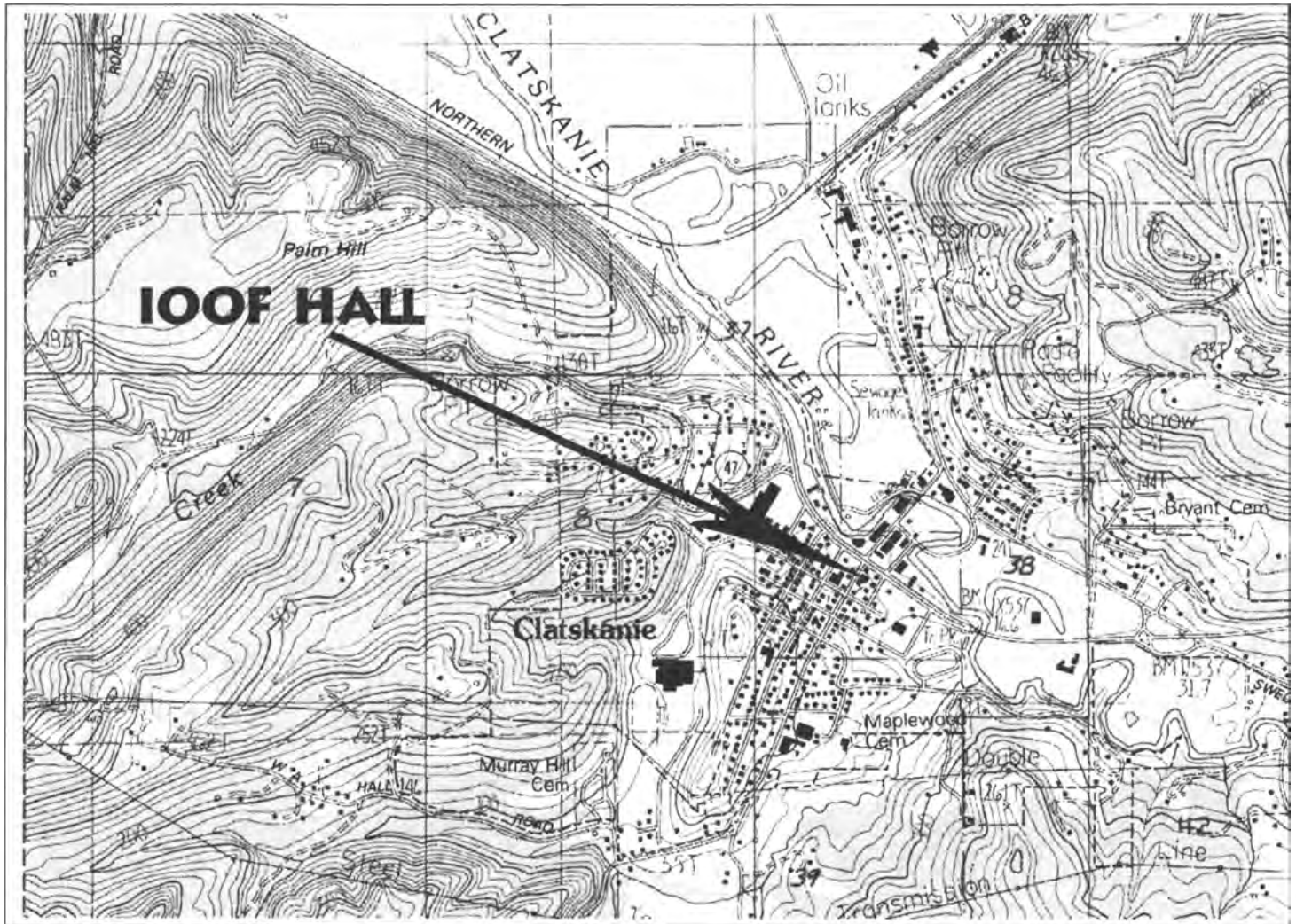
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 19

Figure 1: General Location Map



20

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Name of Property

Columbia Co., OR

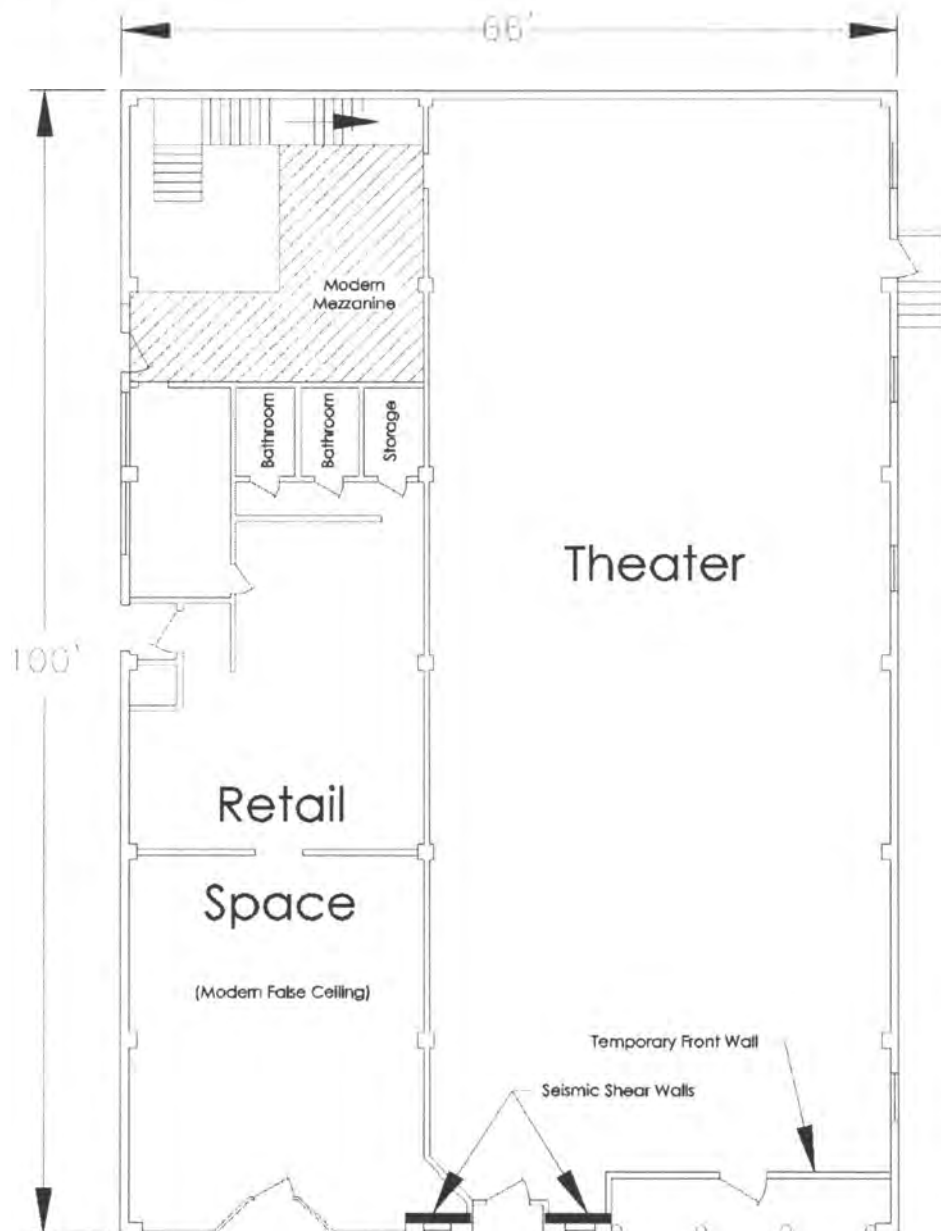
County and State

N/A

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Figure 3: Floor Plan, First Floor



IOOF Building Clatskanie, Oregon

First Floor Plan
(Existing)

United States Department of the Interior
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Clatskanie IOOF Hall

Name of Property

Columbia Co., OR

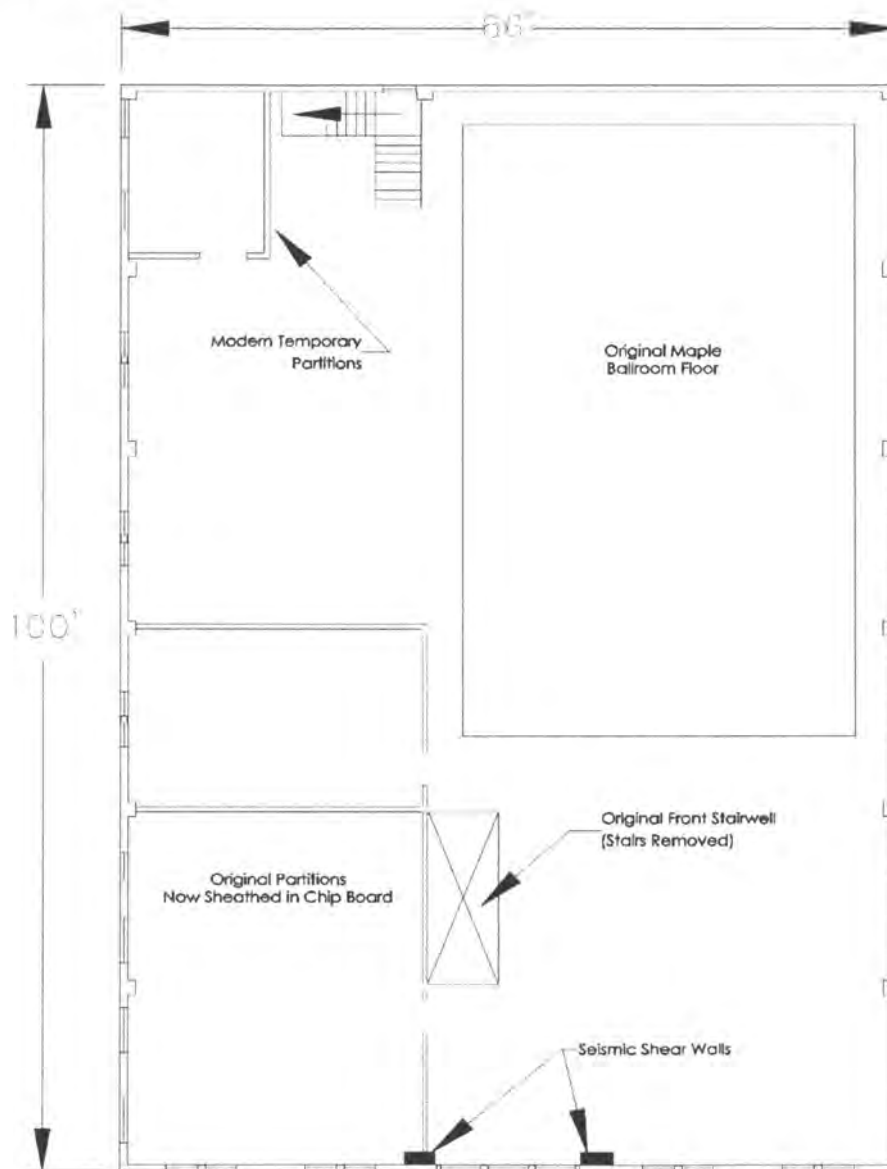
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Figure 3: Floor Plan, Second Floor



IOOF Building Clatskanie, Oregon

Second Floor Plan
(Existing)

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N/A

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Figure 4: Front Elevation Drawing, 1926



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N/A

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Figure 5: Photo of Clatskanie I.O.O.F Hall in 2007 before façade restoration



Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 25

Figure 6: Period Advertisements, Original full page ad in the February 18, 1927 *Clatskanie Chief* promising "Five Big Acts of Vaudeville" and a Jules Verne movie for the grand opening of the Peoples Theatre in the new "Odd Fellow Temple"

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Figure 6: Period Advertisements

Left: July 4, 1930 advertisement for the Peoples Theatre's conversion to talkies

Right: November 8, 1940 Clatskanie Chief ad inviting the public to an Armistice Day dance at the Odd Fellow Hall before the American Legion had a building of its own

PEOPLES THEATRE
Talking Pictures were Big
Success!

Thursday and Friday

Tarzan Serial
WILD WEST FEATURE and COMEDY

SATURDAY One Day Only

Fox Feature
With Short Subjects

SUNDAY and MONDAY

R. K. O.
Very Good

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY

Paramount Lasky

Drop Suggestions in Mail Box in Lobby
Local Talent Will Play from Time to Time

CHILDREN 10c; ADULTS 35c

**American
Legion**

**DUG-OUT &
DANCE**

Odd Fellow Hall, Clatskanie
Armistice, Monday Night. 7:30 p. m.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Clatskanie IOOF Hall
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Figure 6: Period Advertisements

Left: The renamed Avalon Theatre invites everyone to buy a war bond and see a free movie in celebration of D-Day in this June 1, 1945 Clatskanie Chief ad

Right: This December 23, 1955 Clatskanie Chief ad shows that the Avalon Theatre was already experiencing competition from television by inviting all who "are tired of Squintin', Squattin' and Squawkin', looking at four walls and a picture the size of a keyhole" to come see *To Catch a Thief* where there will be no "Network Difficulty"

AVALON BOND PREMIERE SHOW
THURSDAY JUNE 14TH
Buy a Bond — See a Big Show FREE!

FRIDAY - SATURDAY
A Knockout Double Fun - Double Feature Bill
Pat O'Brien - Carole Landis - George Murphy
"HAVING A WONDERFUL CRIME"
Plus Laurel & Hardy at the Pool Best
"NOTHING BUT TROUBLE"

One Day Only — SUNDAY — One Day Only
Walt Disney's Newest Technicolor Full Length Cartoon
Wonder Feature:
"THE THREE CABALLEROS"
SPECIAL: FURY IN THE PACIFIC — Thrills From the
War Front Presented by Your Navy!
Added: "I WON'T PLAY" — Prize Winning Short!

6 Days MONDAY to FRIDAY Inclusive 5 Days
Dorothy McGuire - James Dunn - Joan Blondell - Peggy
Ann Garner - Ted Donaldson - Lloyd Nolan
"A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN"
A Faithful Picturization of the Betty Smith Novel That
All America has Taken to its Heart!
Plus:
14 OF YOUR HOLLYWOOD FAVORITES
In the most fun-packed, music and
laughter-filled 19 minutes of entertainment
ever to flash across the screen...
In a salute to the
MIGHTY 7th WAR LOAN DRIVE

**ALL-STAR
BOND
RALLY**

FREE MOVIE DAY
JUNE 6TH
Buy a Bond of any denomination at this Theatre
and receive a FREE TICKET!

D-DAY
Help Speed Total
Victory and com-
memorate one of the
greatest facts in the
history of America's
fighting men! Buy on
Saturday June 6th!

Your Bond or Receipt Purchased From Any Issuing
Agency Dated June 6th is Your Ticket of Admission.
Bonds on Sale at the Avalon Theatre All Day June 6th!

AVALON *theatre*
CLATSKANIE, OREGON

NOW HEAR THIS!
We did not spend Im-
portant Money on this
Ad just to look at it ourselves. We want You to
SEE IT and READ IT

We are very proud of "To Catch a Thief," because it is our Christmas Offering to you—
so that you may enjoy a day of real happiness; if you are tired of Squintin', Squattin'
and Squawkin', looking at four walls and a picture the size of a keyhole; you'll thor-
oughly enjoy "To Catch a Thief" — And remember no "Network Difficulty." If you
don't think this is one of the best pictures you have ever seen—we'll refund your admission.

Sun.-Mon.-Tues. - Dec. 25-26-27
Merry Christmas to Everyone
Christmas Day Shows at 5 - 7:15 - 9:30 Monday and Tuesday at 7:00 & 9:15

CARY GRANT **GRACE KELLY**
—after more than seven— —out for more than three—

A web of romance
and suspense that
spins you from delight
to danger—then spirals
to an explosive climax
...in fabulous Monte Carlo!

ALFRED
HITCHCOCK'S
**TO
CATCH
A
THIEF**

VISTAVISION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Clatskanie IOOF Hall
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OREGON, Columbia

DATE RECEIVED: 1/20/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/21/12
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/07/12 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/07/12
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12000078

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 3.7.12 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.



I.O.O.F.

Clatskanie 100F Hall
Clatskanie, Columbia Co., OR
Photo 1 of 9

<Email> 77980101 7/27/2011 Hicks



Clatskanie 100F Hall
Clatskanie, Columbia Co., OR
Photo 2 of 9

<BW South. ele> 77900101 7/27/2011 Hick
004



Clatskanie 100F Hall
Clatskanie, Columbia Co., OR
Photo 3 of 9

<BU East elev> 77900101 7/27/2011 Hiss
009



Clatskanie 100F Hall
Clatskanie, Columbia Co., OR
Photo 4 of 9

007
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create...> 77900101 7/27/2011 Hicks



Clatskanie 100F Hall
Clatskanie, Columbia Co., OR
Photo 5 of 9



Clatskanie 100F Hall
Clatskanie, Columbia Co., OR
Photo 6 of 9

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Clatskanie 100 F Hall
Clatskanie, Columbia Co., OR
Photo 7 of 9

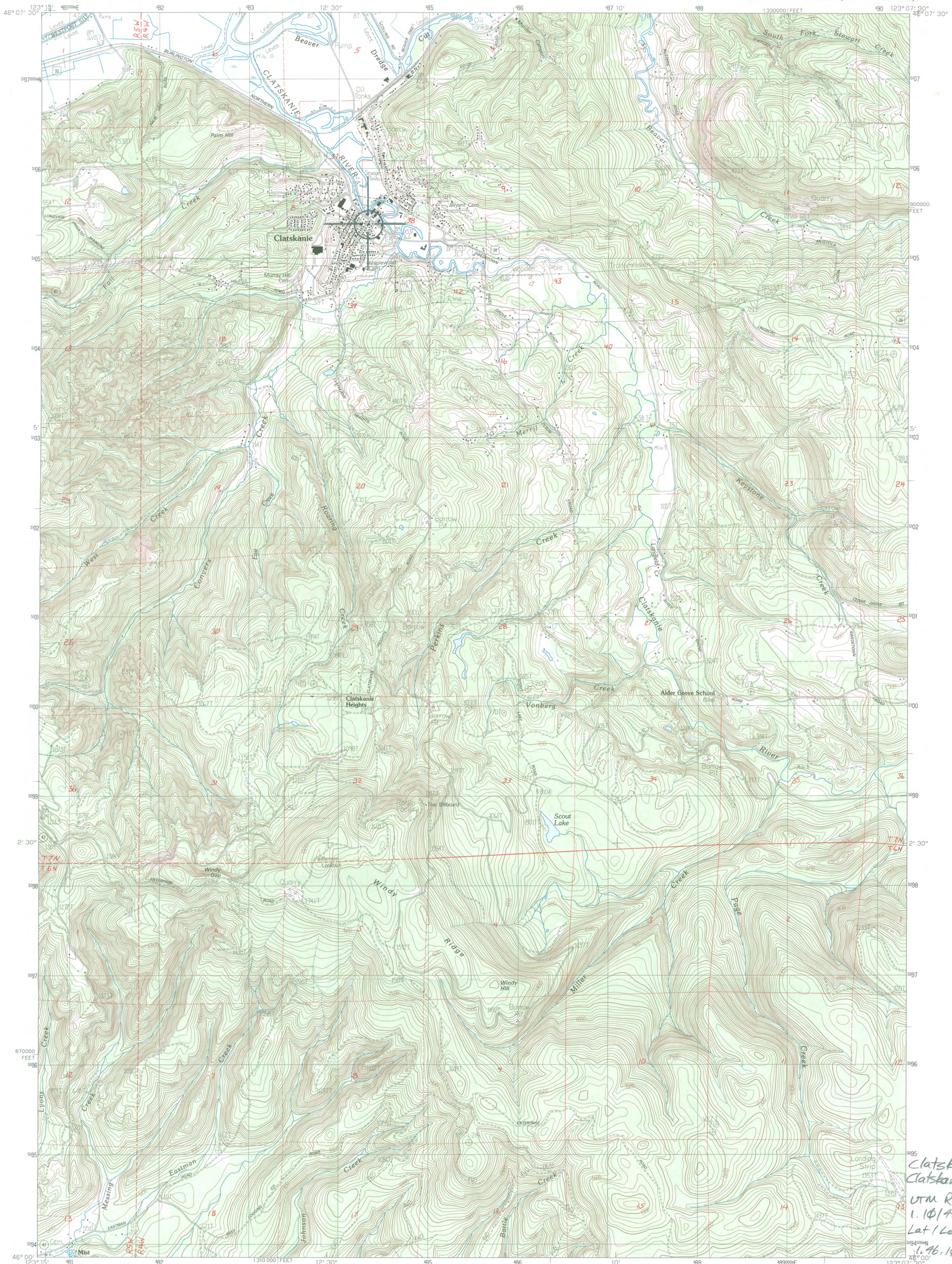
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Clatskanie 100F Hall
Clatskanie, Columbia Co., OR
Photo 8 of 9

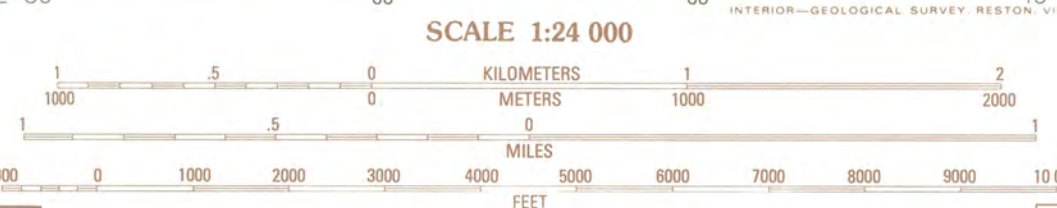


Clatskanie 100F Hall
Clatskanie, Columbia Co., OR
Photo 9 of 9



PRODUCED BY THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
CONTROL BY USGS, NOS/NOAA
COMPILED FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN 1986
FIELD CHECKED 1981. MAP EDITED 1985
PROJECTION LAMBERT CONFORMAL CONIC
GRID: 1000-METER UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR ZONE 10
10,000-FOOT STATE GRID TICS OREGON, NORTH ZONE
UTM GRID DECLINATION 0°08' WEST
1980 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION 20' EAST
VERTICAL DATUM NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
HORIZONTAL DATUM 1927 NORTH AMERICAN DATUM
To place on the predicted North American Datum of 1983,
move the projection lines as shown by dashed corner ticks
(23 meters north 95 meters east)
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of any
Federal and State Reservations shown on this map

PROVISIONAL MAP
Produced from original
manuscript drawings. Infor-
mation shown as of date of
field check.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 FOOT
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST FOOT
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048



1	2	3	1. Nassa Point
4	5	2. Oak Point	
6	7	3. Coal Creek	
		4. Marshland	
		5. Delma	
		6. Birkenfeld	
		7. Pittsburg	
		8. Baker Point	

ROAD LEGEND
Improved Road
Unimproved Road
Trail
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

CLATSKANIE, OREG.
PROVISIONAL EDITION 1985

Clatskanie 100F Hall
Clatskanie, Columbia Co, OR
UTM Reference (NAD83)
1. 10P1489238/51P5583
Lat / Long Reference
46.46, 123.203934



Clatskanie Foundation
P.O. Box 243
Clatskanie, OR 97016

September 25, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

The Clatskanie Foundation, a private, non-profit 501(c)3 Oregon corporation, was founded in 1998 with the mission of encouraging economic growth and enhancing the quality of life in Clatskanie, a small, close-knit rural community in Northwest Oregon. Since its establishment, the Foundation has received about \$1 million in bequests and donations. It has awarded approximately \$90,000 in scholarships and is managing funds to sustain those scholarship programs. Additionally, through community contributions, the Foundation has granted about \$30,000 to Clatskanie's annual "Heritage Days" celebration, and supported various local programs and activities including an award-winning youth chess program, outdoor school, youth sports, and cultural events.

In 2006, the Clatskanie Foundation received a \$500,000 bequest from C. Keith Birkenfeld, the great-grandson of local pioneers, which specified that the money be used for a "bricks and mortar" project. After much deliberation and long negotiations with the building's owner, the all-volunteer board of the Clatskanie Foundation used the money to acquire and begin the restoration of the I.O.O.F. Hall - the most prominent and architecturally-significant commercial building in town.

Constructed in 1926, the almost 14,000 square foot building housed the post office, theater, ballroom, lodge rooms and professional offices. Throughout the mid-20th century, it served as the cultural and civic center of Clatskanie and the surrounding rural area, but in recent decades it had fallen into disuse and disrepair. Instead of the centerpiece of Clatskanie's historic downtown, it had become an eyesore. With the funds from the Birkenfeld bequest, the Foundation acquired the building, restored the historic facade to its original beauty and grandeur, and is in the process of planning the restoration of the interior. The Clatskanie Historical Society museum has recently moved into a portion of the building.

Inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places will recognize the historic significance of the I.O.O.F. Hall as the most important structure in the community's downtown district, and will assist the Clatskanie Foundation in its quest to continue the restoration and preservation of the building. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard N. Larsen, president
Clatskanie Foundation



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Parks and Recreation Department

State Historic Preservation Office
725 Summer St NE, Ste C
Salem, OR 97301-1266
(503) 986-0671
Fax (503) 986-0793
www.oregonheritage.org



January 12, 2012

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
USDOI National Park Service - Cultural Resources
1201 "Eye" Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nomination

Dear Ms. Shull:

At the recommendation of the Oregon State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation, I hereby nominate the following historic property to the National Register of Historic Places:

CLATSKANIE IOOF HALL
95 S NEHALEM ST
CLATSKANIE, COLUMBIA COUNTY

We appreciate your consideration of this nomination. If questions arise, please contact Ian Johnson, National Register & Survey Coordinator, at (503) 986-0678.

Sincerely,

Roger Roper
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Encl.