

ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

PROPERTY NAME Elks Building and Theater		YHF 198	
LOCATION 117 East Gurley		CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH	
CITY/TOWN/VICINITY Prescott	COUNTY Yavapai		
OWNER Donald Head and Philip Toci			
OWNER'S ADDRESS 117 East Gurley Prescott, AZ 86301			
FORM COMPLETED BY Yavapai Heritage Foundation			
ADDRESS P.O. Box 61 Prescott, AZ 86302			
PHOTO BY M. Marietti	DATE 1977		
VIEW Front facade and side from NE			
PRESENT USE Commercial	ACREAGE		
STYLE OR CULTURAL PERIOD Commercial			
SIGNIFICANT DATES Built 1904			

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The Elks Building is a three-story masonry structure of symmetrical massing. Measuring about 95 feet in width by 125 feet in depth, the floor plan has been divided, since its construction, into two sections of approximately equal volume. The front portion is divided into rental spaces of various sizes; the rear portion is a theater. On the exterior, few eclectic features were employed. Instead, paired windows and colossal-order pilasters were juxtaposed to create a stark, structural effect. Bands of contrasting masonry above and below the windows accentuate the horizontal thrust.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Since its completion in 1905, the Elks Building has been a positive contribution to the community of Prescott. As a commercial structure, the building has complemented the adjacent commercial district; architecturally, it stands as a forerunner of twentieth-century commercial styles; and socially, the structure has provided a setting for one of the town's most active fraternal organizations. Yet it is principally for its theater that the Elks Building is recognized to be of historic value. Through the first quarter of this century the theater was used for a wide variety of events: minstrel shows, balls, high school plays, graduation ceremonies, and serious theater. As movies became popular, they were also presented, and it is for this function

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

A portion of the westerly 100' of Lots 2, 4, 6, 8, & 10 of Block 15
Prescott Original Townsite

that the theater is now principally used. The structure is in good condition and, although some remodeling has occurred both to the interior and the exterior, the original integrity of the design is intact and could be recovered.