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NATIONAL REGISTER

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Astoria Elks Building  
other names/site number Astoria B.P.O.E. Lodge No. 180 Building

2. Location

street & number 453 Eleventh Street N/A not for publication  
city, town Astoria N/A vicinity  
state Oregon code OR county Clatsop code 007 zip code 97103

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.  
Signature of certifying official [Signature] Date April 15, 1990  
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.  
Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:  
 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:) \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

[Signature] 6/1/90

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social: Meeting hall  
Commerce/Trade: Specialty stores  
Education: Library

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social: Meeting hall

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals:  
Beaux Arts Classicism  
American Renaissance

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete/pier  
walls concrete with brick veneer  
roof asphalt, built-up  
other windows: glass

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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The Astoria Lodge No. 180, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is located on two lots on the N.W. corner of 11th and Exchange Streets in downtown Astoria, Oregon. The square, three-story, concrete structure has three exposed elevations and shares a firewall with the Astoria City Hall to the north. To its west is the parking lot and structure for the Astor Library and Veterans Memorial. To the N.W. stands the Waldorf Hotel.

Completed in 1923, it was designed in an American Renaissance motif. Two elevations use a variegated brick veneer, broken into bays with pilasters and topped by terra cotta and crimped wrought iron. One elevation is without a veneer and is devoid of bays and ornamentation. The ground floor was designed for commercial purposes, while the upper two floors were given over to uses by the lodge. The building remains in very good condition, and has limited most of its alteration to the social room and exterior entry.

The lodge is entered on the east side. Originally, the main entry passed through the N.E. corner of the building. Above the former entry, in terra cotta bas-relief, is the Elk's order emblem. A pair of antlers embrace the face of a clock whose hands are pointing to eleven o'clock. This is a visible reminder of the "Eleven O'Clock Toast," which reads in part: "Wherever an Elk may roam, whatever his lot may be, when this hour falls upon the dial of night the great heart of Elkdom swells and throbs....Living or dead, an Elk is never forgotten, never forsaken." "B.P.O.E." is inscribed in semi-circle above the emblem. The emblem is visually supported by four engaged columns of composite order, two on either side of the former entry, resting on a granite faced base. The terra cotta pilasters form the border of two sidelights. The sidelights, transom window and double door entry were all covered by wrought iron grillwork. The entry was altered in 1975. The doors and transom were removed. A single pane of glass stretches across the doorway. Both sidelights were replaced, one with a single pane of glass, the other with a wood panel. The step was filled in with new granite facing. Within that bay, directly above the entry, a parapet wall reaches above and behind a third story cornice. A terra cotta crest with construction date is mounted on a smooth stucco finish.

The east elevation is divided into six bays, all virtually identical from the second story up. The first floor varies only slightly. The entry bay is, of course, the most ornate. All other bays contain plate glass windows with transoms above and a band of marble below. Brick pilasters, dividing the bays, rest on a granite base. A vestibule is tucked under the central bay. Originally there were two freestanding brick veneer columns supporting the central bay, while also defining the entry to the vestibule. Now, a plate glass window has been extended to the northern column, making it flush with the facade. Marble beneath the window was replaced with stucco. The current entry to the Elks lodge is through this vestibule. Changes to this space occurred when the main entrance was moved.

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A band of terra cotta divides the first and second floors. The band includes capitals or lower pilasters and bases for upper and wider pilasters. A fluted string course ties the lower bays together, while alternating balustrade and panel tie together the upper bays. Each second story bay is composed of three windows with transoms above. The two side windows are smaller, more vertical, and have projected openings. The center window is fixed. On the third floor the windows are of a similar configuration; however, these windows are one-over-one double hung. Second and third story windows are divided by panels of variegated brick, offset by red brick in a diamond pattern.

The entablature is restrained in its use of terra cotta. A small, stone string course ties the brackets and capitals together. Diamond shaped tiles alternate with the brackets. The cornice is of crimped, galvanized iron with sanded paint for texture. Leaf-like antefix, also of crimped, galvanized iron, decorate the roof edge.

Like the east elevation, the north elevation also has six bays. It continues the rhythm and ornamentation begun on the front, with few alterations. Three bays and part of a fourth are devoid of windows on the third floor. One bay is windowless on the second floor. All bays are as originally planned. One bay serves as the back of an interior fireplace. Other bays back the podium area of the third floor lodge room. All such bays use panels of variegated brick, again offset by red brick in criss-cross or diamond pattern.

The east elevation is the more damaged of the two main elevations. While not severe, parts of the antefix, flat terra cotta panels and fluted string course have loosened and fallen from the side.

The back, or west elevation, is the most simple of all. It was merely a concrete facade with several unadorned steel sashed windows punched into it. Two openings were added in 1950. All windows are now aluminum sash.

As stated earlier, the first floor was designed primarily for commercial use. All but the lobby was completely open. Currently, the western one-third is occupied by the Astoria Printing Company. A wall encloses that commercial space. With the exception of a vault area and secretarial office, the space remains unchanged.

The focus of the first floor is not on the stark commercial area but on the ornate lobby. It was entered originally through a vestibule on the building's N.E. corner. The vestibule contains recessed terra cotta fountains on either side. The fountains are oval shaped in both plan and elevation. Stylized dolphin heads served as fountainheads. Fluted wood pilasters stand on either side and support a wood cornice. Wrought iron grillwork covered the interior doors and sidelight, as was done on the exterior. The grillwork, doors and sidelights were removed and replaced by a sliding glass door during the entry remodeling. The vestibule is now used as a display area. An elevator was added just south of the vestibule.

Marble flows from the vestibule floor into the lobby. There, a marble staircase with a curtain step rises beneath a coffered ceiling to the second floor. The rail is of hard wood, while the newel posts and supports are of cast and wrought iron. Like the baseboard, the wall string is of marble. Panelled wood wainscoting wraps around the lobby and follows the stairs upward. A women's restroom was accessed from the first landing; however, it was moved to the second floor in 1974, and the original room is now used as storage space.

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The second floor underwent extensive remodeling in 1950, but retains some remnants of its original character. In its original state, the floor had a library, secretary's room, social room, billiard room, dining room, kitchen, bar, handball court and locker room. The one-and-a-half story handball court was reduced to a single story billiard room. The locker room was removed. A bar is located where the billiard room once stood. The library was reduced by half to accommodate a bandstand for the social room. The secretary's room is now a women's restroom. With the exception of the handball court and locker room, all spaces were defined by columns and beams. The columns and beams were always square, and had either a wood finish or painted ornamental plaster. All of the columns in the social room and bar area have been boxed in and painted white. The 13-foot ceiling was lowered to 8 feet and recessed lights replaced the chandeliers. A fire-place to the side was refaced with stone. The columns and ceiling remain intact in the dining area and former bar; however, the ornamental plaster has been retouched and the original plaster walls have been covered in simulated wood panelling.

Unlike the second floor, the third floor remains virtually untouched by alteration. The 70 foot by 55 foot lodge hall occupies two-thirds of the floor space. A private hall with five bachelor rooms lie east of the lodge hall. These rooms, each complete with a private bathroom, were for use in lodging of out-of-town Elk members. Two ante rooms and one preparation room lie to the north. A former committee room in the S.E. corner is now a furnace room. Ventilation for the furnace is provided by a vent which has replaced a third-story exterior window.

The lodge room is the most important space within the Elks building. It is the spiritual center of Elkdom. Secretive rituals, which are based on religious and patriotic principles, permeate their ceremonies. Full descriptions of lodge room functions are unavailable. To reveal any such confidential matters, an Elk would have to break a solemn oath taken during his initiation. In doing so, he would call upon himself the pain of wandering "through the world forsaken .....pointed out as berift of decency and manhood, unfit to hold communion with true and upright men."

The room is complete with all its original furnishings and has had no architectural alterations. Generally, it is a large, rectangular, open space with a 23-foot high vaulted ceiling. Entry is from the north and exit is from the south through doors at each corner. A balcony, for orchestra or visitors, bows outward between and above the doors. A single row of raised pews line the back and side walls. Each row is broken in the center by a large chair. The main podium area, however, is at the front, along the south wall. An altar stands in the middle of the room.

Raised on a platform, the podium area is clearly the focal point of this room. A frieze with triglyphs and pastel green floral metopes stretches across the width of the room. Sixteen-foot, non-structural, stippled plaster columns with deep green marbled bases, golden shafts and multi-colored marbleized capitals wrap around the corners to either side of the space and draw the eye toward the Chair of Fidelity and the podium itself. Like all the other room furnishings, they are made of walnut. Standing against a purple curtained backdrop, the throne-like chair has a high back and two adjoining seats. A clock with hands pointing to eleven o'clock is built-in to the top, and an authentic elk's head is mounted above. The chair is reserved for the

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Exalted Ruler and visiting dignitaries. It is flanked by desks for the Secretary and Treasurer. Exit doors, framed in wood with pediments, stand to each side of the space.

An empty chair for departed brethren stands in front of the podium. Trustees sit perpendicular to the Exalted Ruler in long chairs to the west of the podium. The Esquire and candidates for membership sit in a similar chair directly across from the Trustees. The Chaplain, who leads the brethren in psalms and prayer, sits next to the Trustees.

Four wall mounted, continuously backlit stained glass tablets are used in the room. Two, with figures, are mounted in front, framed in wood and crowned by segmental pediments. The glass design is similar to that used in the Elks National Memorial building in Chicago, Illinois, which was completed in July of 1926. The "four cardinal virtues" of charity, justice, brotherly love and fidelity are depicted in this memorial to departed brothers. Beneath a figure representing justice, are the words "The faults of our brothers we write upon the sands, their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory." The other two tablets are mounted in the first bay on each side of the hall. At the end of each year, names of those Elks who have died are included on the plaque.

The east wall has four bays, each divided by pilasters and connected by relieving arches. The wall is covered by caen stone, but uses wood to highlight detailing. Stained glass windows, each with the initials "BPOE" are framed by the arches. A flat arched beam covered by gold rosettes and pale green plaster surrounds, springs up from the pilasters and reaches across the ceiling. At their base are two long benches which sit on a low platform. The benches are divided by the Chair of Brotherly Love, a seat reserved for the Esteemed Lecturing Knight.

The west wall is similar to the east wall, but there is no use of stained glass. The Chair of Justice, used by the Esteemed Loyal Knight, divides the set of benches. Wrought iron grillwork is hidden by the benches and used for cold air ducts.

Two entry doors with wood frames and pediments pierce the back wall. Between them, on a low platform, stand a row of benches with the Chair of Charity in the center. This chair is reserved for the Esteemed Leading Knight, and is flanked by special chairs for "Elk of the Year" and "Elk of the Month." The Tiler, who examines admission cards, and the Inner Guard, who prevents "eavesdroppers" from joining the meetings, have chairs next to the N.E. door.

Divided into three bays, the wall is covered by caen stone.\* A balcony sweeps across the wall, bowing outward from the central bay, which is twice the width of the others. Made of plaster, the fluted balustrade bulges at its base. The rail is made of wood. Pilasters from the lodge floor transform into three dimensional columns projecting just above the balustrade. Semi-circular and elliptical arches alternate from one column to the next. Both the column capitals and the brackets supporting the balcony are marbled in multi-color.

The ceiling deserves special note for its use of warm air vents. The vents are disguised by four, 10-foot square, web-like, plaster grills each subtly painted and centered on a bay. Air ducts are housed in a mechanical space above the false ceiling. That mechanical space rises above the exterior cornice and can be seen from street level. When the first heating system was installed, it reportedly managed every gradation of temperature so desired. And, the ventilation system was able to completely change the lodge room air every four minutes without creating a draft. The heating and ventilation systems were altered in the 1940's.

And, finally, the Elks building does have a basement. It is used as a rifle range, a bowling alley and for storage space.

*\*finish*

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Social History

Period of Significance

1923

1923-1940

Significant Dates

1923

1937

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Charles T. Diamond, architect

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

**INTRODUCTION**

The Astoria Elks Lodge at Eleventh and Exchange Streets in Astoria, Oregon was built in 1923 from plans provided by Charles T. Diamond, who was resident architect for the Portland firm of Tourtellotte and Hummel during construction of the John Jacob Astor Hotel, 1922-1926. The Elks Lodge is one of four fraternal lodge buildings built in Astoria just after the 1922 fire which destroyed much of the downtown. The Elks, Masonic, Odd Fellows and Eagles lodges were all built in 1923. The Odd Fellows Building also was designed by C. T. Diamond.

BPOE Lodge No. 180 was chartered in Astoria in 1890. It holds the second oldest charter in the state. The present lodge was built on the foundation of an earlier lodge of 1910 that was destroyed in the fire of 1922. The building is the most splendid of the order's historic lodge buildings on the northern Oregon coast. It meets National Register Criterion C as a noteworthy example of Beaux Arts architecture possessing a large unaltered lodge hall with ornamental plaster work which is unmatched locally in scope and quality. The property also is locally significant under Criterion A as the historic headquarters site of a fraternal society which played a vital social role in assimilating hundreds of Scandinavian immigrants between 1890 and 1920 and which continued its activities in the public spirit through the Depression era. Beginning in 1937, the building for a time housed Astoria's public library.

The three story concrete building with penthouse and basement has a square footprint and presents two 90-foot street elevations on the south and west. On the east it shares a firewall with the Astoria Savings Bank building, now occupied as Astoria City Hall. Together, the adjoining buildings form a compatible ensemble rooted in Beaux Arts Classicism. The Elks Building reflects the lingering influence of the Chicago School in its commercial ground story, fully glazed with plate glass between structural bays, the continuous strip pilasters marking the bays of upper stories, and the three-part Chicago School windows. The street elevations are faced with buff colored pressed brick with contrasting geometric patterning in spandrel panels and blind bays. The trim is creme colored terra cotta. The building is crowned by a stylized bracketed

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Personal interview with Everett "Rosebud" Marriott, past secretary of Astoria Lodge No. 180, B.P.O.E., August 16, 1989.

Personal interview with Bob Gray, former Exalted Ruler, Astoria Lodge No. 180, B.P.O.E., September 10, 1989.

The Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Institutions: Fraternal Organizations:  
Alvin J. Schmidt, Greenwood Press, 1980, pages 3-20; 101-105.

The Daily Astorian, March 18, 1975.

The Daily Astorian, January 22, 1925.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 0.21 acres Astoria, Oregon-Washington 1:24000

**UTM References**

A 

1	0
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4	3	5	8	8	0
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5	1	1	5	0	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone Easting Northing

D 

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See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated area is located in SE $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 8, Township 8N, Range 9W, Willamette Meridian in Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon. It is legally described as Lots 5 and 6, Block 44, McClure's Addition to the Plat of Astoria and is otherwise identified at Tax Lot 2000 at said location.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated area encompasses the entire urban tax lot historically occupied by the Astoria Elks Building (B.P.O.E. Lodge No. 180).

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title John E. Goodenberger & Bonnie Oathes  
organization North Coast Landmarks Consultants date September 30, 1989  
street & number 1320 Franklin Avenue, Suite F telephone (503) 325-0209  
city or town Astoria state Oregon zip code 97103

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cornice having an intact cresting of acroteria. The original entrance to upper stories in the easternmost bay on the Eleventh Street facade is marked by a classical terra cotta surround with sidelights and an arcuated crest displaying the emblem, name and lodge number of the fraternal order which built the building and occupied the lodge hall and other upstairs rooms.

The stairhall entrance was altered as a window in 1975, but the finely finished vestibule and lobby is essentially intact at the building's northeast corner. The second story, originally containing a library, secretary's office, social room, billiards room, dining room, kitchen, and handball court, was remodeled extensively in 1950. The third story, housing the 70 x 55-foot lodge hall, various antechambers and bachelors' quarters, is unaltered. The main hall, with its marbled, non-structural plaster columns and ceremonial platform, is lavishly decorated with an assortment of plaster finishes by the skilled local interior painters Juopo and Mogenson.

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The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks No. 180 was chartered in Astoria, Oregon, in 1890. It is the second oldest Elks charter in Oregon. A lodge building was constructed on the corner of Eleventh and Exchange Streets in 1910, but the building was burned to the ground in 1922. A second building was constructed on the foundation of the former lodge in 1923. That lodge building remains today and is the oldest lodge building in the Elk's NW District, and has one of the few intact lodge rooms in the United States. Designed in an American Renaissance motif, it was and remains today a fine example of craftsmanship, particularly in its use of ornamental plaster. In 1989, the structure was listed as a historic landmark by the city of Astoria and received the second highest ranking of any building in town. The Elks and their lodge building have been an integral part of the community. Not only have they sponsored cultural and patriotic events and helped the needy, the organization has helped Americanize hundreds of immigrants and given social prestige to common men in a small town.

Fraternal organizations were a natural development in American society. When French statesman and author, Alexis de Tocqueville visited the United States in 1831, he referred to America as a nation of joiners, saying, "Americans of all ages, all conditions, and all dispositions constantly form associations.....Whenever at the head of some new undertaking you see the government in France, or a man of rank in England, in the United States you will be sure to find an association." And he was right. Americans embraced the idea of fraternal benevolent societies as if they were their own (such groups can be traced back at least to ancient Greece). By 1927, it is estimated that there were 800 different fraternal organizations in the U.S. Most were formed in the late 1800's and early 1900's.

One reason that fraternal societies became so prolific at this time was the role they played in socially integrating millions of immigrants. Fraternal orders offered fellowship in a socially isolated environment. At work the immigrants were forced to learn a new language, but in fraternal lodges they could interact with their own in their native tongues. Lodge meetings made the newcomers feel at home. As the members participated in their lodge sessions, they slowly learned some of the democratic processes of their newly adopted country by seeing them practiced in their fraternal society's meetings. They soon learned and appreciated the value of free speech and the expression of opinions without fear of reprisal. Having learned and internalized these American values, the immigrant became a better intergrated citizen, and much credit belongs to the fraternal societies.

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As a seaport town, Astoria was a microcosm of these very events which occurred all over America as the nation experienced an influx of immigrants between 1880 and 1920, and many created and joined fraternal organizations. The Astoria Elks, for instance, had its share of immigrants, many of whom later became Exalted Rulers. Men such as Frank Franciscovich, Royal Karinen, E.L. Paldanius and Carl Hellberg all fit this description.

The importance, in a town the size of Astoria, of belonging to an organization like the Elks cannot be overemphasized. It gave both immigrants and long-time residents a sense of importance and social acceptance. Belonging to the Elks meant knowledge of signs, passwords and secrets that nonmembers did not possess. It gave the common man a chance to some day have the title of "knight." It also meant immediate association with leaders of the community. A brief glance at past Exalted Rulers reveals the names of such men as Herman Wise, postmaster, and later, mayor of Astoria; Dan Thiel, state senator; Charles Fulton, U.S. senator; and Albin W. Norblad, Sr., governor of Oregon.

Public service also brought pride to Elk members. In addition to minstrel shows, they sponsored plays, such as "A Night in Bohemia," a circus, and special thematic dinners. They are, perhaps, best remembered by Astoria children who grew up attending their annual Christmas parties. The most memorable incident, of course, was after the fire of 1922, which leveled the commercial district in the midst of the holiday season. A Christmas tree was raised and a party held amongst the ruins. Even Santa Claus joined in the festivities.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America began as a fellowship of singers and actors who first met in an alehouse in New York City on November 15, 1867. The members called themselves the "Jolly Corks," a name derived from a "cork trick" played on newcomers to the group. Charles Algernon Sidney Vivian, a recent immigrant from London, who first introduced the cork trick, soon became the leader of this loosely organized, yet growing, group. Strict enforcement of a law by the city police superintendent, which forbade drinking in saloons on Sundays, led Vivian to organize a genuine social club. Every member was required to pay for refreshments, which were purchased on Saturday, stored, and then consumed on Sundays at a private location.

On February, 16, 1868, the "Corks" resolved to become a benevolent order. A committee was appointed to select a name and draft a constitution. Suggested names included "Buffaloes," "Bears," "Beavers" and "Foxes." The name "Elks" was chosen after the committee toured the Barnum's Museum on Broadway. In addition to this animal's grace and beauty, the elk was appealing because it attacks no other species, but will fight if attacked.

The first constitution, adopted in March of 1868, contained fifteen articles and bylaws. The preamble stated that the order was formed to "promote, protect and enhance the welfare and happiness" of its members.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in Astoria began as early as December 22, 1890. Interested men gathered in the local Odd Fellows Hall to organize a charter for the above institution. It was during these early meetings that the name Quinlin Lodge was adopted, in honor of Dr. Simeon Quinlin, Grand Exalted Ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America. (The practice of naming lodges for a person was abolished by the Grand Lodge in 1910 and lodges thereby were designated by their town name and lodge number).

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Dr. Quinlin, of Chicago, Illinois, and representatives from Portland, Oregon's lodge No. 142 attended at least one such meeting to assist in the development of this new charter. Three days after the initial meeting, twelve officers were elected and installed on the evening of December 25, 1890. John Fox, president of Astoria Iron Works, was elected Exalted Ruler. He is the only man nationally to have served five consecutive terms.

The Astoria charter was received on May 20, 1891, with twenty-eight charter members. It was the second charter in Oregon and one hundred and eightieth nationally. Portland's Lodge No. 142 was established one year prior to Astoria's lodge. The Elks are the third oldest surviving fraternal organization in Astoria. Both the Masonic Temple lodge, established in 1854, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, chartered in 1883, are older. The Fraternal Order of Eagles was established in 1899, and the Loyal Order of Moose in 1910. None of these organizations are housed in their original structures today.

In 1904, the Astoria Elks appointed a building committee to explore an appropriate lodge site. Two lots on the N.W. corner of Eleventh and Exchange Streets in Astoria were purchased shortly thereafter. By 1907, local Elk members subscribed to "Building Bonds" as a means to finance the forthcoming building project. Construction began in March of 1910. Its cornerstone was laid in August of that year by the Grand Exalted Ruler. The building was completed on February 1st of the following year and dedicated on May 13, 1911.

While not yet paid for, the Elks building was consumed by flames during the disastrous fire, which obliterated Astoria's downtown district, on December 8, 1922. The building was a total loss; only a jagged shell remained. While plans for a new building were being drawn up, the Elks met in the only available hall, August Erickson's famed saloon and bordello, The Louvre, located in Astoria's red light district. They later moved to temporary quarters in the Y.M.C.A.

Charles T. Diamond was hired as architect for the new building. While he lived in Astoria only a few years, his work is now regarded as some of the finest in the area. He was resident architect under the Portland firm of Tourtellotte & Hummel, for the Hotel Astoria (National Register Nomination listing, 1984). And, he designed the Astoria Victory Monument (National Register Nomination listing, 1984), which contains Astoria's first public restrooms. Finally, he designed the new Independent Order of Odd Fellows building, replacing that which was lost in the 1922 fire.

John J. Juopo and John L. Mogenson were contracted as interior painters. John Juopo was born in Himanka, Finland, in 1879. He moved to New York in 1899, where he was hired a painter for the 1901 World's Fair in Buffalo, New York. In 1910 he moved to Astoria, then later moved to Portland for further training in art and architecture. He returned to Astoria in 1923 where he remained until his death in 1970. John Juopo is noted locally for his fine ornamental painting on the mezzanine of the Hotel Astoria, the meeting hall of the Masonic Temple lodge and the interior of the Astoria Savings Bank (now the Astoria City Hall). In 1936 John J. Juopo was elected president of the Oregon Council of International Society of Master Painters and Decorators.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 5

While John Juopo did the detailed, artistic painting, John L. Mogenson was responsible for general painting of both the interior and exterior of the Elks lodge building. John Leroy Mogenson was born in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, October 13, 1886. He came to Eugene as a young boy and completed his public school education there. He and his wife, Anna, moved to Astoria in 1916. He painted the exteriors of many prominent structures, including three National Register properties: the Elmore Cannery, 1966; the Kinney Cannery, 1989; and the old Astoria City Hall, 1984.

Built upon the foundation of the former lodge, the quarter-million dollar temple was said to be the largest and most magnificent Elks lodge building in the state, outside of Portland's (the Portland Lodge No. 142 was listed on the National Register in 1979 and was used as a lodge until the late 1930's. It presently serves as a health club and office building). Astoria's lodge also proved to have the highest fire rating of any building in Oregon.

In addition to serving Elks as a lodge, the building has supported the community throughout its history. In 1937 the public library was housed on the first floor. Later, the American Red Cross took over that space for its office. It is now used for rummage sales and bi-weekly bingo. The upper lodge room is used for high school proms, public balls and the annual Christmas festival, Santa Lucia.

**STATUS OF REMAINING FRATERNAL LODGES IN ASTORIA, OREGON****Masonic Temple Lodge No. 183**

Constructed in 1923, it was designed by local industrial architect and engineer, Robert Rennselaer Bartlett, who also designed his own home which was listed on the National Register in 1986. Again, the interior work was done by Juopo & Mogenson. The imposing lodge building is in excellent condition and underwent exterior restoration work in 1980.

**Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Beaver Lodge No. 35**

Constructed in 1923, it was designed by Charles T. Diamond. The structure is in good condition but has undergone a good deal of alteration.

**Fraternal Order of Eagles, Aerie No. 2189**

Constructed in 1923, its designer is unknown. This stark building has undergone extensive remodeling.

**Loyal Order of Moose, Lodge No. 408**

Constructed in 1945, its designer is also unknown. A jumbled structure, the building has been remodeled several times.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number PHOTOS Page 1

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Astoria Lodge No.180, B.P.O.E.\*  
Astoria, Clatsop County  
September, 1989  
Photographer: John E. Goodenberger  
Location of negative: Astoria Lodge No.180, B.P.O.E.  
453 11th Street  
Astoria, Oregon 97103

\*Unless otherwise noted, this information is the same for all photographs.

1 of 18 South and east elevations, looking N.W.

2 of 18 East elevation, looking west.

3 of 18 Detail of east elevation, original building entry.

4 of 18 Detail of east elevation, terra cotta above former entry.

5 of 18 Detail of east elevation, cornice.

6 of 18 South and east elevations, looking north.

7 of 18 Detail of south elevation, brick work.

8 of 18 Detail of south elevation, terra cotta.

9 of 18 West and south elevations, looking N.E.

10 of 18 West elevation, looking east.

11 of 18 Interior, 1st floor lobby, stair detail.

12 of 18 Interior, dining room, painted relief column.

13 of 18 Interior, lodge room, looking south.

14 of 18 Interior, lodge room, looking north.

15 of 18 Interior, lodge room, balcony detail.

16 of 18 Interior, lodge room, entablature detail.

17 of 18 Interior, lodge room, light fixture.

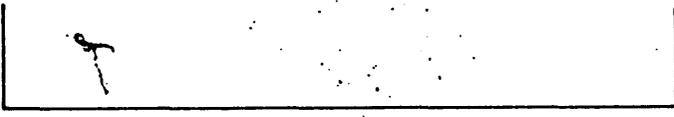
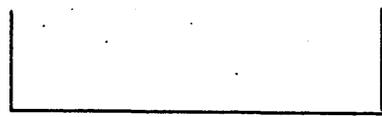
18 of 18 Interior, lodge room, stained glass tablet.

20

PROPERTY  
OF THE  
CLATSOP COUNTY  
ASSESSORS OFFICE

SE 1/4 SW 1/4 Sec  
CLATSOP

See Map 8



ST.

DUANE (JEFFERSON ST.)

4  
5

1 1700	2	3 1800	4 1900
44			
8	7	6 2000	5

1 100	2	3	4	5	6	7
64						
14	13	12 400	11	10	9	8

1 1700	2 1800
66	
8 2200	7 2100

ST.

EXCHANGE (ASTOR ST.)

4  
100  
200  
5

ST.

1 2100	2 2200	3	4
45			
8 2500	7 2400	6 2300	5

ST.

1 500	2	3 600	4 700	5 800	6 900	7
MC CLURE 65						
14 1600	13 1500	12 1400	11 1300	10 1200	9 1100	8 1000

1 2300	2
67	
8 2600	7

AVE.

FRANKLIN (COURT ST.)

4  
900  
1000

(CASS ST.)

1 5300	2	3	4
71			
8	7	6	5

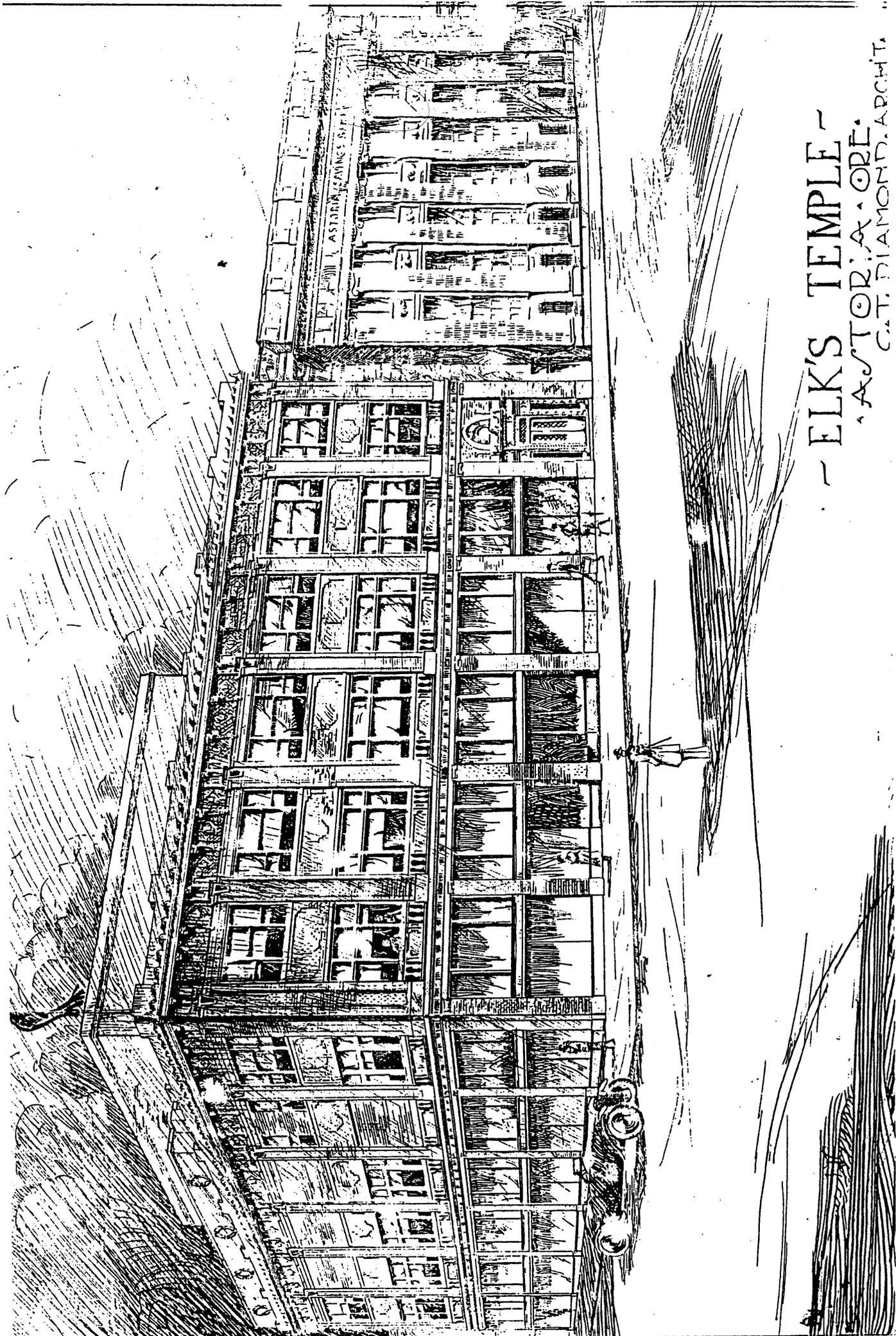
GENEVIVE ST.)

1 4200	2 4300	3	4 4400	5	6	7 4500
70						
8 5400	7 5100	6	5 5000	4	3	2 4600

(HAMILTON ST.)

1 2700	2 2700
72	
8 3100	7

1-0



ELK'S TEMPLE  
ASTORIA, ORE.  
C. T. DIAMOND, ARCHT.

1923