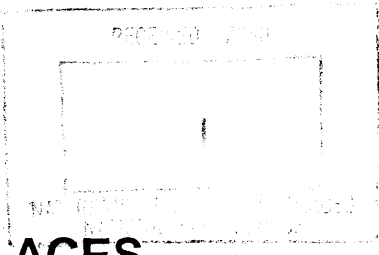


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Centralia Downtown Historic District

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: City of Centralia commercial district, roughly bounded by Center Street to the North, the Burlington Northern Railroad right-of-way to the east, Walnut Street to the south, and Pearl Street to the west.

not for publication: n/a

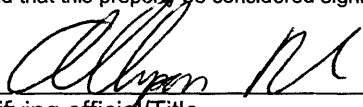
vicinity:

city/town: Centralia

state: Washington code: WA county: Lewis code: 041 zip code: 98531

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 _____ Date 2/4/03

Signature of certifying official/Title _____
Date _____

State or Federal agency or bureau _____

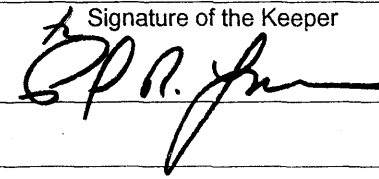
In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register _____ see continuation sheet	<p>Signature of the Keeper </p>	<p>Date of Action <u>8/12/03</u></p>
_____ determined eligible for the National Register _____ see continuation sheet		
_____ determined not eligible for the National Register _____ see continuation sheet		
_____ removed from the National Register _____ see continuation sheet		
_____ other (explain)		

03000164

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Centralia Downtown Historic District

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: City of Centralia commercial district, roughly bounded by Center Street to the North, the Burlington Northern Railroad right-of-way to the east, Walnut Street to the south, and Pearl Street to the west.

not for publication: n/a

vicinity:

city/town: Centralia

state: Washington code: WA county: Lewis code: 041 zip code: 98531

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

2/4/03

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

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

6/5/03

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

U.S. Postal Service (for postal contributing facility)

4. 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
see continuation sheet
- removed from the National Register
see continuation sheet
- other (explain)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6/12/03

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: choose one: private; public-local; public-state; public-Federal

Category of Property: Choose one: District

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 4

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic U.S. Post Offices in Washington MPS

Centralia Armistice Day, 1919, MPS

Number of Resources within Property		
Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>59</u>	<u>21</u>	building(s)
	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>63</u>	<u>21</u>	Total

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

COMERCE/TRADE: business

Current Function:

COMMERCE/TRADE: business

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements:
Commercial Style

MATERIALS:

foundation: Concrete

walls: Brick, clapboard, vinyl

roof: Composite

other:

Narrative Description:

The Centralia Downtown Historic District is a contiguous collection of commercial buildings that comprise the heart of the City of Centralia, Washington. Mostly composed of brick Commercial style buildings, the central business district has been the apex of community life for this southwest Washington town since it was platted in 1875. Most of the original buildings constructed during the historic period are still extant, and continue to convey Centralia's economic and social history. The historic district covers approximately fifteen square blocks. It is roughly bordered by Center Street to the north, Walnut Street to the south, the Burlington Northern Railroad right-of-way to the east and Silver Street to the west. These boundaries encompass the core of Centralia's commercial district.

The buildings within these boundaries comprise a distinct commercial district, but are also architecturally unified. Most existing buildings were constructed during the first two decades of the twentieth century, and many share attributes of scale, materials, and design. Typically, buildings are one- to two-story brick commercial blocks with concrete foundations. Ground-floor storefronts are occupied by small businesses while upper floors serve as offices or hotels. Buildings are set flush against the sidewalk, side by side, providing an inviting pedestrian environment. Many buildings feature unifying details, including stepped parapets, ornamental cornices, patterned brickwork, and capped pilasters. During the early twentieth century, predominant businesses included saloons, hotels, banks, and theaters. A handful of public buildings contribute to the district, including the railroad depot, a Carnegie library, and a Depression-era post office. In addition, fraternal organizations and social services, including the Elks, the Masons, and the Salvation Army, contributed to the built environment by erecting meeting halls and citadels. The George Washington Park, one of the few public open spaces within the district, was set aside as a public square by George Washington, Centralia's founder and benefactor, when the second edition of his town was platted in 1881. Together, this rich tapestry of businesses and services, clustered within a confined space and surrounded by residential neighborhoods, offered local residents and business owners, as well as merchants and laborers, a variety of employment opportunities and recreational activities.

Despite the relative consistency among building types, architectural details vary from building to building. Late 19th century buildings are characterized by the use of brick and sandstone. By the early 20th century, the "Chicago School" style had influenced building shape, massing, and décor incorporating simple rectangular shapes and low relief terra cotta ornamentation. Distinctive details range from Roman arched windows, to steel framed Art Moderne government buildings, to undecorated single-story brick storefronts. Indeed, it is the juxtaposition of building types within a relatively cohesive built environment that defines Centralia's historic business district. *See Continuation sheets.*

8. Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance:

Criterion A: Commerce; Social History; Labor.

Criterion C: Architecture.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Period(s) of Significance: 1888-1953

Significant Person(s):

Significant Dates: 1888, 1919

Architect/Builder: Joseph Wohleb; Bebb & Gould;

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Robert Reamer

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Centralia Downtown Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria A and C. The district is eligible under Criterion A (areas of significance: Commerce; Social History; Labor) for its association with the broad patterns of history that led to the founding, growth, and development of Centralia. The district is also eligible under Criterion C (area of significance: Architecture) for its broad inventory of brick commercial buildings, including examples by prominent Northwest architects Joseph Wohleb, Robert Reamer and the architectural firm of Bebb & Gould. The Downtown Centralia Historic District retains a high level of physical integrity that conveys its historic significance as Centralia's commercial center and transportation center (Centralia was known as "Hub City") of southwest Washington. The period of significance extends from 1888, the date of the earliest standing structure, until the end of the fifty year cutoff defined by the National Register (1953).

The City of Centralia was a center of economic and social activity in southwest Washington. Centralia's early industries were tied directly to the region's natural resources and the availability of railroads to ship these resources to market. These industries attracted seasonal workers who provided a market for goods, services, lodging, and entertainment. Centralia's downtown historic district is also significant as an extremely rare example of a Washington town founded and platted by an African American. The town's founder, George Washington, was the son of a former slave. Furthermore, the city of Centralia is significant for its association with American labor history as the site of violent tensions between local American Legion members and representatives of the Industrial Workers of the World, or "Wobblies." On November 11, 1919, an American Legion parade turned violent when four legionnaires were fatally shot. That night, in retaliation, suspected gunman Wesley Everest was murdered.

A relative lack of modern development contributed to the preservation of Centralia's downtown and resulted in a minimum of alterations to much of its historic building inventory. In general, most alterations are limited to storefront renovations, including covered transom windows and replacement doors and windows. The buildings within the historic district are architecturally unified and represent local growth and development. Most contributing buildings within the district were constructed between 1900 and 1930, but range from as early as 1888 (Dumon Building) to 1950 (Daily Chronicle Building). Some of the unifying architectural features include scale, which is typically one to two stories; building materials, which typically consist of buff or red brick facades with sandstone detailing; and design, as mixed-use commercial buildings. The majority of the district's buildings historically featured a commercial storefront on the first story, with offices and hotels occupying upper floors. Typical building details include stepped parapets, ornamental cornices, decorative patterned brickwork, and capped pilasters. In addition to the shared attributes, many buildings exhibit unique design details. During the late 19th century, buildings are characterized by commercial vernacular design and the use of brick and sandstone. By the early 20th century, the "Chicago School" style had influenced building shape, massing, and style. Finally, the mid-20th century saw the development of Art Deco and Art Moderne buildings within Centralia's downtown. Centralia's downtown historic district is an excellent example a local commercial center that catered to nearby agricultural and natural resource based industries, and as such it embodies distinctive characteristics from that period of significance.

*See Continuation sheets.***9. Major Bibliographic References**

See Continuation Sheets.

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 # _____**Primary Location of Additional Data:** State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University of Washington Other -- Specify Repository:

Historical Research Associates, Seattle, WA

Lewis County Historical Museum, Chehalis, WA

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 25

UTM References (Zone 10)

Data Point	Northing	Easting	Data Point	Northing	Easting
1	503398	5173484	15	503680	5173624
2	503491	5173457	16	503720	5173613
3	503571	5173728	17	503683	5173491
4	503525	5173735	18	503654	5173499
5	503540	5173787	19	503651	5173490
6	503631	5173760	20	503643	5173492
7	503656	5173849	21	503591	5173319
8	503707	5173834	22	503603	5173316
9	503695	5173796	23	503580	5173236
10	503733	5173785	24	503524	5173252
11	503721	5173746	25	503515	5173219
12	503719	5173747	26	503476	5173231
13	503686	5173632	27	503491	5173283
14	503683	5173633	28	503351	5173323

Verbal Boundary Description

The Centralia Downtown Historic District covers approximately fifteen square blocks. It is roughly bordered by Center Street to the north, Walnut Street to the south, the Burlington Northern Railroad right-of-way to the east and Pearl Street to the west.

Boundary Justification

These boundaries encompass the core of Centralia's commercial district. The buildings within these boundaries comprise a distinct commercial district, but are also architecturally unified. Most existing buildings were constructed during the twentieth century, and many share attributes of scale, materials, and design. The irregular boundary reflects efforts to exclude vacant or non-contributing parcels on the periphery of the district.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: **Connie Walker Gray, Jill Schnaiberg, Patrick O'Bannon**
organization: **Historical Research Associates, Inc.** date: **November 13, 2002**
street & number: **119 Pine Street, Suite 301** telephone: **206-343-0226**
city or town: **Seattle** state: **WA** zip code: **98101**

Additional Documentation

Continuation Sheets
Sections 7 and 8

Maps

- USGS Quad Map – Regional (8.5 x 11)
- USGS Quad Map – Detail (8.5 x 11)
- Community Map (8.5 x 11)
- Identification Map (8.5 x 11)
- Contributing vs. Non-Contributing Properties Map (8.5 x 11)
- USGS Topo Map (full size)

List of Property Owners

Slides

Photographs

Photo #	Building Name & ID	Address	View
1	Overall District		West of Tower Ave.
2	Overall District		North of Tower Ave.
3	Overall District		North of Tower Ave.
4	U.S. Post Office	214 W. Locust	Southwest
5	City Hall	118 W. Maple	Southwest
6	Elk's Lodge	201 S. Pearl	South
7	Centralia Masonic Lodge	218 N. Pearl	Southeast
8	Daily Chronicle	321 N. Pearl	Southwest
9	Railroad Depot	210 Railroad St.	Northeast
10	Centralia Public Library and George Washington Park	110 and 120 S. Silver	West
11	Premier Service Station	202 S. Tower	Southeast
12	Fox Theater	123 S. Tower	Northwest
13	Scuitto-Rector Building	116-120 S. Tower	East
14	Matz Building	101-103 S. Tower	Southwest
15	Field & Lease Building	101-105 N. Tower	West
16	Zimmer Block	203 N. Tower	Northwest
17	Union Loan & Trust	305 N. Tower	Northwest
18	Farmers & Merchants Bank	325 and 327 N. Tower	West
19	Fowler Building	401 N. Tower	Northwest
20	Flewelling Building	402 N. Tower	Northeast

All Photographs Taken By Connie Walker Gray, May 2002

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 1 Centralia Downtown Historic District, Lewis County, WA

Section 7, continued.

Four resources within the district boundaries are currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. They are the Centralia Union Depot (210 Railroad Avenue), the Centralia Main Post Office (214 W. Locust), the Olympic Club Saloon (112 N. Tower) and "The Sentinel," a sculpture commemorating the four legionnaires killed in Centralia's 1919 Armistice Day Riot. These buildings exhibit characteristics that are consistent with the remainder of the district, but sufficiently distinctive to warrant their individual National Register status.

Contributing resources within the historic district were developed or constructed during the period of significance (1888-1953). The period of significance begins with the town's platting by local historic figure George Washington and terminates in 1953, the fifty-year cut-off date for National Register eligibility. Properties must retain sufficient physical integrity of location, materials, design, setting, workmanship, feeling and/or association to convey their historic significance. To warrant inclusion in the historic district, building modifications must not compromise original scale, massing, orientation to the street, or building materials. Some alterations to the original design are acceptable, particularly when they fall within the realm of expected modification to a commercial property. These include, but are not limited to, storefront features that have been updated or replaced with modern (usually aluminum) materials; covered transom windows; interior modifications, and limited window replacements. As a rule, acceptable modifications generally must be limited to the storefront facades and must not alter the footprint or massing of the building. If modifications to a historical resource did not meet these guidelines, the resources was designated historic non-contributing.

The City of Centralia Downtown Historic District is composed of 88 historic resources including the previously listed 4 National Register properties and six vacant properties. Of the 88 historic resources, 67 (76%) of the properties are contributing resources, and 21 (24%) are non-contributing (either historic or non-historic). Modern (post-1953) buildings and buildings whose modifications compromised the buildings' original size, scale, or location, were evaluated as non-contributing resources. There are no examples of contributing buildings constructed outside the period of significance. Vacant properties or parking lots account for nine parcels within the historic district. Typically, surface parking lots, car dealerships, modern bank buildings, or open space have replaced historic buildings that are no longer extant.

Total # of Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources	Historic Contributing	Historic Non-Contributing	Non-Historic Non-contributing	Vacant
88	67	14	7	9

Building construction dates and descriptions were derived from Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps (1881, 1888, 1891, 1909, 1924, and 1948), Lewis County Assessor's Office, "Design Guidelines: Central Business District, Centralia, Washington" as developed by the Main Street Association (1987)¹, Lewis County Historical Museum archives, Polk City Directories, and City of Centralia archives. When it was impossible to determine the exact date of construction, researchers triangulated the available data to derive a "circa" date. When data was available, architects and builders were identified through City of Centralia Historic Preservation Commission and Lewis County Historical Society archives. Cultural data for each building was derived from Sanborn maps, City Directories, and archival material on file at the Lewis County Historical Society. The following table summarizes properties identified in the Centralia Downtown Historic District. This is followed by a list of Individual Property Descriptions, which summarize prominent characteristics of individual buildings within the historic district. First, properties west of Tower Avenue are listed (north to south). Next, odd-numbered properties on Tower Avenue are listed south to north. Finally, even-numbered properties on Tower Avenue are listed south to north. Refer to the Centralia Downtown Historic District maps for clarification.

¹ Main Street Association. "Design Guidelines: Central Business District," Centralia, Washington, 1987.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Centralia Downtown Historic District, Lewis County, WA

Historic District Properties (numerical by identification number)

ID #	Address	Historic Name	Rank	Built Date
1	321 N PEARL ST	Daily Chronicle	Hist. Contributing	c. 1950
2	118 W MAPLE ST	City Hall	Hist. Contributing	1921
3	117 W MAGNOLIA	Lewis and Clark Hotel	Hist. Contributing	1927
4	218 N PEARL ST	Centralia Masonic Lodge	Hist. Contributing	1923
5	0 N PEARL ST	Parking	Vacant	---
6	117 W PINE ST	Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Building	Hist. Contributing	1928-29
7	118 W PINE ST	Seattle's First National Bank (a) ²	Non-Hist. Non-contributing	c. 1960
8	114 N PEARL ST	Pease Brothers' Auto Accessories	Non-Hist. Non-contributing	c. 1955
9	110 N PEARL ST	West Coast Savings and Loan	Non-Hist. Non-contributing	1963
10	107 W MAIN ST	White and Gable Stationary	Hist. Contributing	c. 1900
11	109 W MAIN ST	Logger's Pub	Hist. Contributing	c. 1905
12	113 W MAIN ST	American Legion/Oddfellow's	Hist. Contributing	1907
13	100 S PEARL ST	Seattle's First National Bank (b)	Non-Hist. Non-contributing	c. 1980
14	110 S SILVER ST	George Washington Park	Hist. Contributing	1881
15	120 S SILVER ST	Centralia Timberland Library	Hist. Non-Contributing	1913
16	120 S SILVER ST	Washington Park Bandstand	Hist. Contributing	1922
17	120 S SILVER ST	"The Sentinel"	Hist. Contributing	1924
18	214 W LOCUST ST	U.S. Post Office	Hist. Contributing	1937
19	208 W LOCUST ST	Fissell's Mortuary	Hist. Contributing	1928
20	201 S PEARL ST	Elk's Lodge	Hist. Contributing	1919
21	212 S PEARL ST	Montgomery Ward	Non-Hist. Non-contributing	c. 1975
22	225 S TOWER AVE	Hut Café	Hist. Contributing	c. 1940
23	223 S TOWER AVE	Weigant Building	Hist. Contributing	c. 1920
24	217-221 S TOWER AVE	Eagle's Hall	Hist. Contributing	1926
25	209 S TOWER AVE	Staeger Furniture	Hist. Contributing	c. 1920
26	201 S TOWER AVE	Dipola Building	Non-Hist. Non-contributing	c. 1955
27	123 S TOWER AVE	Fox Theater	Hist. Contributing	1929
28	115-117 S TOWER AVE	Buitt Building	Hist. Contributing	1910
29	113 S TOWER AVE	Slusher's Coin	Hist. Contributing	c. 1925
30	111 S TOWER AVE	Centralia and Chehalis Gas Co.	Hist. Contributing	c. 1913
31	109 S TOWER AVE	Pittsburgh Paint Shop	Hist. Contributing	c. 1910
32	105 -107 S TOWER AVE	C.O. Gingrich Building	Hist. Non-Contributing	c. 1912

² Two buildings were constructed for Seattle's First National Bank. They are distinguished by (a) and (b).

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Centralia Downtown Historic District, Lewis County, WA

33	101 -103 S TOWER AVE	Matz Building	Hist. Non-Contributing	1890
34	101 -105 N TOWER AVE	Field and Lease Building	Hist. Contributing	1897
35	107 N TOWER AVE	Field-Robinson Building	Hist. Contributing	1892
37	109 N TOWER AVE	Caldwell Building	Hist. Contributing	1892
36	111 N TOWER AVE	Grand Theater	Hist. Contributing	1902
38	117 N TOWER AVE	Unknown	Hist. Non-Contributing	c. 1920
39	119 N TOWER AVE	Unknown	Hist. Non-Contributing	c. 1920
40	0 N TOWER AVE	Parking	Vacant	
41	121 -123 N TOWER AVE	Stahl Building	Hist. Contributing	c. 1920
42	203 N TOWER AVE	Zimmer Block	Hist. Contributing	1909
43	207 N TOWER AVE	Harms Building	Hist. Contributing	1909
44	209 N TOWER AVE	Lindberg Building	Hist. Non-Contributing	c. 1910
45	211 N TOWER AVE	Salewsky's Jewelry	Hist. Contributing	c. 1924
46	211 N TOWER AVE	Salewsky's Jewelry Street Clock	Hist. Contributing	c. 1945
47	215 N TOWER AVE	Park	Vacant	
48	217 N TOWER AVE	Hackett Building	Hist. Contributing	c. 1911
49	219 -221 N TOWER AVE	Profitt Building	Hist. Contributing	c. 1926
50	305 N TOWER AVE	Union Loan and Trust	Hist. Contributing	1907
51	307 N TOWER AVE	Unknown	Hist. Contributing	1907
52	309 -313 N TOWER AVE	Peerless Hotel	Hist. Contributing	c. 1905
53	315 N TOWER AVE	Forsyth Building	Hist. Contributing	c. 1920
54	0 N TOWER AVE	Parking	Vacant	
55	325 N TOWER AVE	George Wells Confectioners	Hist. Contributing	c. 1910
56	327 N TOWER AVE	Farmer's and Merchant's Bank	Hist. Contributing	1913
57	401 N TOWER AVE	Fowler Building	Hist. Contributing	1912
58	403 N TOWER AVE	D. T. Mossman	Hist. Contributing	1906
59	405 N TOWER AVE	Field Building	Hist. Contributing	c. 1910
60	409 N TOWER AVE	Curtis' Barber Shop, et al.	Hist. Non-Contributing	c. 1909
61	413 N TOWER AVE	Centralia Home Investment Co.	Hist. Non-Contributing	c. 1910
62	415 -419 N TOWER AVE	Liberty Theater	Hist. Contributing	1915
63	216 S TOWER AVE	Sears and Roswell Feed Store	Hist. Contributing	c. 1920
64	214 S TOWER AVE	Thorbeck's	Hist. Contributing	c. 1920
65	212 S TOWER AVE	Bower's Garage	Hist. Contributing	c. 1920
66	202 S TOWER AVE	Premier Service Station	Hist. Contributing	c. 1920
67	116-120 S TOWER AVE	Scuitto-Rector Building	Hist. Contributing	1928
68	112 -114 S TOWER AVE	McCleary Building	Hist. Contributing	1928
69	110 S TOWER AVE	Breckenridge	Hist. Contributing	c. 1915
70	108 S TOWER AVE	Cunningham Law Office	Non-Hist. Non-Contributing	ca. 1970

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Centralia Downtown Historic District, Lewis County, WA

71	0 N TOWER AVE	Parking	Vacant	
72	102 N TOWER AVE	Nyholm's	Hist. Contributing	1928
73	104 -106 N TOWER AVE	Palace Market/Carsten's Meat Company	Hist. Non-Contributing	1910
74	108 N TOWER AVE	Wilkens and Miller Billiards	Hist. Contributing	c. 1910
75	110 -112 N TOWER AVE	Olympic Club	Hist. Contributing	1892
76	114 -116 N TOWER AVE	Robinson Block/Hotel Oxford	Hist. Contributing	1913
77	118 N TOWER AVE	William Hoss Building	Hist. Non-Contributing	1909
78	0 N TOWER AVE	Parking	Vacant	
79	202 -204 N TOWER AVE	Dumon Building	Hist. Non-Contributing	c. 1888
80	208 N TOWER AVE	J. C. Penny	Hist. Contributing	c. 1915
81	212 -214 N TOWER AVE	Hoss Building	Hist. Contributing	c. 1910
82	216 -218 N TOWER AVE	Howell Hotel	Hist. Contributing	c. 1910
83	220 N TOWER AVE	Galvin Compass Rose	Hist. Contributing	c. 1918
84	220 N TOWER AVE	Dale Hotel	Hist. Contributing	c. 1910
85	302 N TOWER AVE	National Bank	Hist. Contributing	c. 1940
86	310 N TOWER AVE	Bronson Motor Company	Hist. Non-Contributing	c. 1910
87	314 N TOWER AVE	Centralia Chronicle Building	Hist. Contributing	c. 1910
88	318 N TOWER AVE	Cannon Apartments	Hist. Non-Contributing	c. 1910
89	322 -328 N TOWER AVE	Wilson Hotel	Hist. Contributing	1914
90	402 N TOWER AVE	Flewelling Building	Hist. Contributing	c. 1920
91	404 N TOWER AVE	Ding Electric Co.	Hist. Non-Contributing	c. 1900
92	408 N TOWER AVE	Bailey Brothers Building	Hist. Contributing	1910
93	412 N TOWER AVE	Armantrout Barber	Hist. Contributing	c. 1910
94	N/A	Parking	Vacant	
95	N/A	Parking	Vacant	
96	N/A	Parking	Vacant	
97	210 RAILROAD	Union Depot	Hist. Contributing	1912

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 5 Centralia Downtown Historic District, Lewis County, WA

Individual Property Descriptions

321 N. Pearl **Historic Name: Daily Chronicle** **Built: ca. 1950**
MP M-13 CENTRALIA LOTS 18 THRU 22 BLOCK 3 CENTRALIA INVESTMENT CO'S PLAT OF CENTRAL
ADDITION TO CENTRALIA 8-14-2W
Legal: 002019001000
Style: Art Deco **Architect/Builder: C. Faithful (architect)**
Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 1**
Description: Constructed ca. 1950 and designed in the late Art Deco style by architect C. Faithful, this two-story building has a concrete foundation, buff brick siding, and flat roof. The building features a recessed corner entryway with rounded cement panel centered on the second story. Fenestration includes original metal multi-pane pivotal windows and multi-pane fixed sash.
Cultural Data: This building was constructed to accommodate the local newspaper, *Centralia Daily Chronicle*. It is a good example of late Art Deco design, with minimum adornment and simple lines.

118 W. Maple **Historic Name: City Hall** **Built: 1921**
MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOTS 6, 7 & 8 BLOCK 4 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000077001000
Style: Mission Revival **Architect/Builder: Joseph Wohleb (architect)**
Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 2**
Description: Constructed in 1921, designed by Pacific Northwest architect Joseph Wohleb, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Mission Revival styling is concrete construction with red brick siding and a concrete foundation. The main entrance on the north façade has been reconstructed using original and complimentary new materials. The wooden double doors feature single-pane sidelights and multi-pane transom windows. A reproduction pediment with keystone and recessed panels tops the entrance. Fenestration includes multiple-light pivoted and double-hung sash. Centered below each first story window is a flush decorative painted stucco panel. These panels are repeated along the cornice area under the eaves with short-long-short pattern. Original windows have been replaced with vinyl sash. The shed roof cornice has tiled roofing supported by decorative knee braces. The roofline is interrupted by a parapet on the west side with stuccoed panels and recessed building name and date plates. The four corners of the building end in a squared column-cap projection with red tile roofing and decorative geometrical design. Period lanterns and patterned and colored brick decorate the façade. This building has seen few modifications since its construction.
Cultural Data: The site that City Hall now stands on was originally the second city jail, which is associated with the Armistice Day Riot of 1919 when a prisoner named Westley Everest was abducted from the jail and hanged. This building is also a good example of architect Joseph Wohleb's design.

117 W. Magnolia **Historic Name: Lewis and Clark Hotel** **Built: 1927**
MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOTS 9 & 10 BLOCK 4 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000079000000
Style: Commercial **Architect/Builder: Robert Reamer (architect)**
Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 3**
Description: Constructed in 1927 and financed locally, the eight-story Lewis and Clark Hotel is the tallest building in Centralia's historic downtown. The eight-story tower fronts the intersection of Pearl and Magnolia. The easternmost section of the building is only five stories tall and the northernmost section of the building is a ground story storefront, which supports an open terrace. This four-part commercial block with Commercial style is steel-frame construction with a concrete foundation, buff brick façade, and a flat roof. The storefront has been significantly altered with modern materials

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and transom windows have been covered. Wood windows are one-over-one double-paned sash with patterned brick surrounds. The building has a classic tripartite scheme with a single-story base, a five-story shaft, and a two-story cap. Building details include dark patterned brickwork, an overhanging cornice, and decorated cap windows surrounds. The entry remains intact, and the main lobby of the hotel was designed in a Spanish motif and includes decorative pillars and cast iron chandeliers.

Cultural Data: The Lewis and Clark Hotel was designed by Robert Reamer, who was best known for designing the Old Faithful Lodge in Yellowstone Park. The Lewis and Clark Hotel opened its doors to the public in 1927, and was constructed at a cost between \$300,000 and \$325,000. When it was built, the hotel had 100 guest rooms, and 65 of them had private baths. The hotel had a variety of amenities, including a formal dining room, a ballroom, a restaurant and a lounge. Given Centralia's location at the halfway point between Portland and Seattle, the Lewis and Clark Hotel was well known and well used. It was also located within walking distance of the train depot. The hotel was originally owned by the Lewis and Clark Hotel Corporation. In 1942, ownership transferred into local hands, when it was purchased by Will H. Oliver, Claude J. Oliver, and Captain Elroy McCaw. Ownership changed hands many times during the 1950s and 1960s. In 1973, the building was purchased by the Conner Construction Company of Seattle, who oversaw the renovation of the hotel to a federally subsidized 54-unit elderly housing facility.

218 N. Pearl**Historic Name: Centralia Masonic Lodge****Built: 1923****MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 6 BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W****Legal: 000056000000****Style: Classical Revival****Builder: W.E. Farr****Architect: Dennis Nichols****Classification: Historic Contributing****Site ID #: 4**

Description: Constructed in 1923, this three-story, two-part Vertical Block with Classical Revival styling is timber beam and column construction and has a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The main entryway is recessed with double wood and glass paneled doors. Two Doric columns supporting a recessed panel lintel frame a smaller entrance on the west facade. The recessed double wood and glass doors have a vertical multi-pane transom window. The main entryway on the north facade has a classical temple design with four concrete Doric columns supporting a projection off the second story. This projection has turned spindle railing and accentuates a large double-arched sash with a fanned upper sash. Fenestration includes large original wood fixed-pane sash with multi-pane transom windows on the first story, six-over-one double-hung sash set in pairs on the second story with semi-circular arch with brick inlay, and six-over-six double-hung sash set in pairs with lugsill on the third story. The first and second stories are separated by a wide projecting belt course. Capped pilasters frame the second and third story paired window sets. Pilaster caps meet in a molded stringcourse. Above this course runs a band of brick accentuated by a solid circular medallion. A projecting cornice with plain entablature follows, and the roofline is met with unadorned brick. The exposed brick work on the facades of the building are faced with "Washington Brick Lime" and "Sewer Pipe Company" brick. "Joseph's Coat" finish was added to the brick to give it the slightly variegated shades of color.

Cultural Data: This building was dedicated as the new home of the Centralia Masonic Lodge No. 63 on April 7, 1923. This building housed retail space on the first floor, offices and a social hall on the second floor, with the third floor reserved for lodge purposes. Designed by the architect Dennis Nichols of Vancouver, Washington, the project was taken over by W.E. Farr after construction began due to the sudden death of Nichols.

0 N. Pearl Street**MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOTS 7 & 8 BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W****Legal: 000058002000****Classification: Vacant****Site ID #: 5**

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117 W. Pine Historic Name: Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Building Built: 1928-29
MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOTS 9 & 10 BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000060001000

Style: Art Deco Architect/Builder: Bebb and Gould (architect)

Classification: Historic Contributing Site ID #: 6

Description: Constructed ca. 1930, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Art Deco styling has a concrete foundation, tan and brown glazed tile block siding. The recessed double door entryway has a nine-pane transom. Fenestration includes metal six-over-six and six-over-three double-hung vertical pane sash contained in vertical recessed bays. Vertical bands patterned with chevrons define the space between the first and second story window openings, and between the second story openings and the roofline.

Cultural Data: This building was built to accommodate the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. It was constructed at the beginning of the Great Depression. It is characterized by its severe lines and overall simplicity.

118 W. Pine Historic Name: Seattle's First National Bank Built: ca. 1960
MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 6 & N2 OF LOT 7 BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000032000000

Style: Modern Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Non-Historic Non-Contributing Site ID #: 7

Description: Constructed ca. 1960, this single story building is metal construction with modern metal and stone siding. The building features fixed metal sash windows and a flat roof.

Cultural Data: According to City Directories, this building was occupied by Seattle's First National Bank as early as 1960. This is a good example of a circa 1960 modern style bank building. This is one of the many buildings and parking lots that replaced historic buildings on Pearl Avenue. No additional cultural data is available at this time.

114 N. Pearl Historic Name: Pease Brother's Auto Accessories Built: ca. 1955
MP N-13 CENTRALIA S2 OF LOT 7 BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000033000000

Style: Modern Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Non-Historic Non-Contributing Site ID #: 8

Description: Constructed ca. 1955, this single-story brick building has a concrete foundation and brick siding. The storefront and windows have been replaced with modern metal materials.

Cultural Data: According to City Directories, this building was first occupied in 1955 by Pease Brother's Auto Accessories. By the mid-1960s, ownership changed to Centralia Automotive. This is one of the many buildings and parking lots that replaced historic buildings on Pearl Avenue. No additional cultural data is available at this time.

110 N. Pearl Historic Name: West Cost Savings and Loan Built: 1963
MP N-14 CENTRALIA ALL LOT 8, WEST 55' OF LOT 9 & WEST 55' OF LOT 10 BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S
ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000034000000

Style: Modern/International Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Non-Historic Non-Contributing Site ID #: 9

Description: Constructed in 1963, this single story steel frame construction building has smoked glass curtain walls divided by metal piers with a projecting metal canopy and a flat roof. There is a circular exterior vault projecting from the south façade that is sided with stone and largely covered with ivy.

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Cultural Data: According to City Directories, this building was occupied by West Coast Savings and Loan as early as 1965. This is one of the many buildings and parking lots that replaced historic buildings on Pearl Avenue. No additional cultural data is available at this time.

107 W. Main **Historic Name: White and Gable Stationary** **Built: ca. 1900**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA WEST 25' OF LOT 1 & A TRACT 25'X30' IN SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 2
BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 24-2

Style: Classical Revival Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 10

Description: Constructed ca.1900, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is brick construction and has stucco-covered brick siding and a concrete foundation. The storefront has been rebuilt with modern (metal and aluminum) materials. A metal marquee projects from the structure. The transom window area remains intact but covered. Other features include metal one-over-one double sash with plain lintels and decorative lintel end caps. Pilasters separate the two window bays with the end pilasters continuing down to the first story. The original metal cornice is decorated with dentils, stylized brackets, scrolled and decorative end projections.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn fire insurance maps, the building was used as a post office in 1901, as a billiards hall and barber shop in 1909, and as a books and stationary store in 1924. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia.

109 W. Main **Historic Name: Loggers Pub** **Built: ca. 1905**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA WEST 25' OF LOT 1 & A TRACT 25'X30' IN SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 2
BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000024000000

Style: Classical Revival Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 11

Description: Constructed ca.1905, this two-story, one part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is brick construction and has a concrete foundation and stucco-covered brick siding. The storefront has been rebuilt with new materials. A metal marquee projects from the structure. The transom window area remains intact, but covered. Other features include metal replacement one-over-one double sash with plain lintel and decorative lintel end caps. Pilasters separate the two window bays with the end pilasters continuing down to the first story. The original metal cornice is decorated with dentils, stylized brackets, scrolled and decorative end projections.

Cultural Data: The Logger's Pub was one of several taverns in Centralia during the early 20th century. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a period of economic growth.

113 W. Main **Historic Name: American Legion, Oddfellows** **Built: 1907**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA EAST 65' OF LOT 9, EAST 65' OF LOT 10 BLOCK 2 EXCEPT 1ST FLOOR
WASHINGTON ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000035000000

Style: Commercial Builder/Architect: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 12

Description: Constructed in 1907, this two-story, two-part commercial block is steel frame construction, and has a concrete foundation and stucco-covered brick siding. The storefront has been rebuilt with modern (metal and aluminum) materials and a metal marquee projects from the building. A belt course separates the first and second stories. Original

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second-story windows have been replaced with sliding aluminum sash. The second-story façade features pilasters on the upper facade.

Cultural Data: This building originally housed American Legion and Oddfellows offices, and provided space for their meetings. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

100 S. Pearl **Historic Name:** Seattle's First National Bank **Built:** ca. 1980

MP N-14 CENTRALIA - LOTS 6 7, 8, 9, 10 BLOCK 1, WASHINGTON ADDITION, 8-14N-2W

Legal: 000014002000

Style: Modern/Shed style **Architect/Builder:** Unknown

Classification: Non-Historic Non-Contributing

Site ID #: 13

Description: Constructed ca. 1980, this two-story brick construction building has a buff brick base and plate glass windows on the ground story. The dominant feature is the large overhanging stepped metal roof supported by rectangular buff brick pillars. The stepped roof contains a series of clerestory windows that allow natural light to enter the building.

Cultural Data: According to City Directories, this building was constructed for Seattle's First National Bank in 1980. This is one of the many buildings and parking lots that replaced historic buildings on Pearl Avenue. Although constructed outside the period of significance, this is an excellent example of a modern bank building. No additional cultural data is available at this time.

110 S. Silver **Name:** Centralia Timberland Library **Built:** 1913

MP M-13 CENTRALIA SOUTH 37' LESS EAST 10' OF LOT 7 BLOCK 14 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000188000000

Style: Romanesque **Architect/Builder:** Unknown

Classification: Historic Non-contributing

Site ID #: 14

Description: Constructed in 1913 with funds commissioned by the Andrew Carnegie Foundation, this two-story Romanesque style building is brick construction with a concrete foundation and a red brick façade. Building details include multiple-paned sash, which appear to be original wood, transom windows, and cornice. The building was highly modified in 1978, which altered the footprint and façade.

Cultural Data: The Centralia Timberland Library was financed by the Andrew Carnegie Foundation in 1913. Along with the construction of the Railroad Depot, this building symbolized the growth and emerging prosperity of Centralia in the early decades of the 20th century. By the 1970s, this building needed significant repairs, and a federal grant secured in 1978 financed a renovation project.

120 S. Silver **Name:** George Washington Park **Built:** 1881

MP M-14 CENTRALIA CITY PARK BLOCK WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000874001001

Style: N/A **Architect/Builder:** Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 15

Description: The property is bounded on the north and south by Main and Locust Streets, and on the east and west by Silver and Pearl Streets, respectively. The landscaped grounds include Centralia's Carnegie Endowment Library, The Sentinel, a statue listed on the state and federal historic registers, and a bandstand consistent with turn of the century style.

Cultural Data: This 2-acre park was designated as Centralia's principal public space when the town site was platted in 1881. Located within the park is the Washington Park Bandstand and "The Sentinel" monument.

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120 S. Silver **Name: Washington Park Bandstand** **Built: 1922**

MP M-14 CENTRALIA CITY PARK BLOCK WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000874001001

Style: N/A **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 16**

Description: The Bandstand is located in Centralia's Washington Park, adjacent to the Centralia Public Library and "The Sentinel" Statue. It is hexagonal-shaped with a concrete foundation and a wood frame roof. The sides of the bandstand are open.

Cultural Data: Erected in 1922, this is one of Washington state's few remaining bandstands. Originally, it was a frequent public gathering place for Centralia residents and is still used by Centralia residents.

120 S. Silver **Name: "The Sentinel"** **Built: 1924**

MP M-14 CENTRALIA CITY PARK BLOCK WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000874001001

Style: N/A **Designer: Alonzo Victor Lewis**

Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 17**

Description: "The Sentinel" is located at the center of Centralia's Washington Park. The memorial stands about twenty feet high and includes a large bronze soldier in a World War I uniform atop a stone base. The memorial includes a bronze cast likeness of the four American Legionnaires killed in the Centralia Massacre. A brief description of the Centralia Massacre and patriotic quotations are inscribed on the memorial.

Cultural Data: "The Sentinel" was erected in memory of the four American Legionnaires killed in the "Centralia Massacre" on Armistice Day, 1919. It is the only monument erected to memorialize this event. The statue was designed by Alonzo Victor Lewis, whose bronze sculptures are found throughout the Northwest.

214 W. Locust **Historic Name: U.S. Post Office** **Built: 1937**

MP M-14 CENTRALIA LOTS 5 & 6 BLOCK 18 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W Legal: 000213000000

Style: Art Moderne **Architect/Builder: Louis A. Simon (architect)**

Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 18**

Description: Constructed in 1937, this single-story, Art Moderne-style building is steel frame construction with red brick siding and a concrete foundation. The five-bay front façade is flat and symmetrical, defined by granite steps and landing. Tenino sandstone was used for window and door surrounds. Fenestration consists of original metal double-hung sash with multiple panes. The front façade features four original metal windows, two on either side of the entrance. The center two and the entrance are topped by decorated sandstone spandrels depicting a locomotive, an ocean steamer, and an airplane.

Cultural Data: Associated with the New Deal building programs, this building is Centralia's only federally constructed post office. Inside is a mural titled "Industries of Lewis County" by Washington artist Kenneth Callahan, commissioned by the Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) in 1938.

208 W. Locust **Historic Name: Fissell's Mortuary** **Built: 1928**

MP M-14 CENTRALIA WEST 56' OF LOTS 3 & 4 BLOCK 18 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000211000000

Style: Mediterranean **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 19**

Description: Constructed in 1928, this two-story, two-part commercial block with traces of Mediterranean elements, is brick construction on a concrete foundation with a red brick façade. The original first story entrance and window openings on the north facade have been filled with brick and stucco. The second story features original wood eight-over-one

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double-hung sash in window openings with arched stone headers, end caps, and cut away edges. The parapet roofline centers the main façade, which is in relief to the two surrounding bays. The cornice decor is raised, and alternating panels span the building.

Cultural Data: The building represents a style characteristic of the 1920's, a time of economic diversification, and contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia.

201 S. Pearl **Historic Name:** Elk's Lodge **Built:** 1919
MP M-14 CENTRALIA EAST 84' OF LOTS 3 & 4 BLOCK 18 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000212000000

Style: Mission Revival **Architect/Builder:** Joseph H. Wohleb (architect)

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 20

Description: Constructed in 1919 by renowned Northwest architect Joseph H. Wohleb, the Centralia Elks lodge reflects the Mission-Revival style. This three-story, two-part commercial block has a concrete foundation, is sided with concrete block, and has a red tile roof. The prominent feature of the front (north) façade is an ornate portico, which has eight posts defining each window bay and the main entrance. Posts feature recessed concrete patterning and relief decoration on the cap area. Recessed panels on either side of the entry showcase a sunburst motif. Projecting shed roofs supported by stylized braces protect the window and entrance bays. A relief circle and bulls-eye motif runs below these eaves. This portico has been closed-in with display windowpanes without damage or alteration to the original design or configuration. The main structure's façade consists of smooth painted concrete walls with inlay brick patterning. The roofline is accentuated by alternating recessed panels above a projecting cornice with stylized brackets extending around the building. The second and third story replacement metal three-over-three fixed pane window openings remain intact.

Cultural Data: The building housed Centralia Lodge No. 1083 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks from 1920 until 1986 when it was sold and redeveloped as the Centralia Square Antique Mall complex.

212 S. Pearl **Historic Name:** Montgomery Ward and Company **Built:** ca. 1975
MP M-14 CENTRALIA LOTS 5 & 6 BLOCK 13 WASHINGTON' ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000178000000

Style: Modern **Architect/Builder:** Unknown

Classification: Non-Historic Non-Contributing

Site ID #: 21

Description: Constructed ca. 1975, this single-story building is metal construction with modern metal and plastic siding and a flat roof. A plastic and metal projection defines the entrance.

Cultural Data: This is one of the many buildings and parking lots that replaced historic buildings on Pearl Avenue. No additional cultural data is available at this time.

225 S. Tower **Historic Name:** Hut Café **Built:** ca. 1940
MP M-14 CENTRALIA SOUTH 30' OF LOT 1 BLOCK 13 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000173000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder:** Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 22

Description: Constructed ca. 1940, this single story building is brick construction has a concrete foundation, cinder block siding and a flat composition roof. The building features fixed metal windows, a projecting metal canopy, and a decorative, road side-style sign. There are entrances on the east and south facades of the building.

Cultural Data: According to 1948 Sanborn maps, this building was used as a restaurant. Polk City Directories show that in 1942, the building housed a restaurant owned by a Mrs. Ruth Halgren. By the mid-1950s, the restaurant was called Hut

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Café. By the mid-1960s, it was called Hong Cong Café. Sometime in the 1980s, it became Lee's Café. The building is a good example of a 1940s commercial building.

223 S. Tower Historic Name: Weigant Building Built: ca. 1920
MP M-14 CENTRALIA NORTH 35' OF SOUTH 65' OF LOT 1 BLOCK 13 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000174000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 23

Description: Constructed ca.1920, this two-story commercial block has a concrete foundation and brick siding. The front (east) façade has been covered with concrete during the modern period. The storefront has been highly modified with modern, aluminum sash and a recessed entrance. The second story features five window openings, with three one-over-one aluminum double-hung sash flanked by two-over-two openings. Windows appear to be replacement metal sash. Building details include a parapet roof and a patterned brick header.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps, this building was originally the Salvation Army Citadel, housing a prominent local organization.

217-221 S. Tower Historic Name: Eagle's Hall Built: 1926
MP M-14 CENTRALIA NORTH 15' OF LOT 1 & ALL OF LOT 2 BLOCK 13 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000175000000

Style: Classical Revival Architect/Builder: J. D deForest Griffin (architect)

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 24

Description: Constructed in 1926, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is heavy timber construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. Storefronts are original with brick patterned kick plates, wood trim, recessed entry, display windows, and wood doors. The storefront facade is divided into four equal sections, bisected by a recessed entry to the second story. Pilasters frame these sections, each with a three-part transom window. The second story façade features original one-over-one double-hung sash on the north and west sides of the building, and three-part sash on the east side, most of which appear to be replacement metal. The main façade windows have lugsills and decorative semi-circular pediments with patterned brick surrounds, keystones, and pendants. An ornate window on the main facade has a stylized entablature with pilasters in a classical motif. This is topped with a recessed archway with keystone and inset with a sunburst relief. A frieze with a recessed course lies just below the cornice, which features an alternating relief and recessed panel. The cornice is centered by a decorative, projecting scrolled medallion.

Cultural Data: Historically, this building housed the Centralia Aerie No. 512, Fraternal Order of Eagles, established on October 26, 1903. The Eagles were a prominent fraternal organization in Centralia during the first decades of the 20th Century.

209 S. Tower Historic Name: Staeger Furniture Building Built: ca. 1920
MP M-14 CENTRALIA SOUTH 62' OF LOT 3 BLOCK 13 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000176000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 25

Description: Constructed ca.1920, this two-story, two-part commercial block has a concrete foundation and buff brick siding. The front (east) façade has been significantly modified, with modern aluminum sash and door, covered or removed transom windows, and applied aluminum or wood board siding. The building is topped by a patterned brick cornice.

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Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, a furniture warehouse business (Staeger) occupied this building in 1948. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia.

201 S. Tower **Historic Name: Dipola Building** **Built: ca. 1955**
MP M-14 CENTRALIA NORTH 18' OF LOT 3 & ALL LOT 4 BLOCK 13 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000177000000

Style: Modern **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Non-Historic Non-Contributing

Site ID #: 26

Description: Constructed ca. 1955, this two story building is brick construction with a concrete foundation. It features stone, wood, and brick siding, fixed metal windows, and an overhanging roof.

Cultural Data: No cultural data for this building is available at this time.

123 S. Tower **Historic Name: Fox Theater** **Built: 1929**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA LOT 1 & SOUTH 7' OF LOT 2 BLOCK 1 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000001000000

Style: Art Deco **Builder/Architect: Frank Wynkoop (architect)**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 27

Description: Constructed in 1929, this three-story, two-part commercial block with Art Deco styling is heavy timber construction with a concrete foundation and buff brick siding. The commercial storefront has been modified with aluminum sash and doors, but the north façade retains portions of the original storefront with multiple-paned wood sash. The Tower Avenue façade features a row of double sash windows behind the neon marquee that dates to the 1950s. One-over-one double-hung sash are found along the mezzanine level. Building details include low relief geometrical designs and a brick tapestry design along the building rim. A stylized stepped parapet projection (that originally had another stacked level on top) crowns the building.

Cultural Data: The three-level theater was built in 1930 in the heart of the City by Fox West Coast Theaters at a cost of \$200,000. On opening night, September 5, 1930, patrons entered an 'ultra-modern' golden toned palace to view the Pacific Coast premier of Buster Keaton in "Dough Boys." Plush carpets on curved stairs, a lounge room, 1200 leather loge seats, a full sized pipe organ, custom lighting fixtures and a state-of-the-art stage equipped with the largest 'Magnascope' screen and highest quality Western Electric sound system on the west coast greeted those who passed through its marbled entry to purchase their 50 and 75 cent tickets. Its oversized plated doors were a technological wonder at the time. The Fox Theater was remodeled in 1982. The interior was partitioned into a three-screen cinema with soundproofing, air conditioning, and high-back lounge chairs. Many of the customized features of the 1930s were removed or covered with walls and drapes, but the original Tiffany & Company ceiling lights remain in place. The theater closed in 1998.

115-117 S. Tower **Historic Name: Buitt Building** **Built: ca. 1910**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA SOUTH 35' LESS 7' OF LOT 2 BLOCK 1 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000003000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 28

Description: Constructed ca. 1910, this two-story, one part commercial block is brick construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefront has been significantly altered with modern aluminum sash and door, metal marquee, and transom openings covered with wood board. Three second-story window openings have been replaced with

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sliding aluminum sash. Brick pilasters define the north and south corners of the second-story façade, and patterned brickwork suggests a cornice.

Cultural Data: According to Polk City Directories and Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, this building originally was occupied by a variety of businesses, including: Henderson's Jewelry/Optician; Ward's Harness and Saddles; Steflunson's Boot and Shoe Repair. Throughout its existence, this buildings has offered retail and office space to a wide variety of businesses and services.

113 S. Tower Historic Name: Slusher's Coin Built: ca. 1923
MP N-14 CENTRALIA NORTH 25' OF LOT 2 BLOCK 1 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000002000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 29

Description: Constructed ca.1925, this single-story commercial block is brick construction on a concrete foundation, and is sided with stucco. The storefront has been altered to accommodate changing uses. The storefront opening has large display windows and a recessed entry with a wood frame, glass pane door, single pane sidelights, and an oversized projecting marquee. Building details include smooth stucco styling with simple recessed panel design and an eleven-pane transom window.

Cultural Data: Cultural data for this building is very limited. According to 1924 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, this building was occupied by a plumbing service and restaurant. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

111 S. Tower Historic Name: Centralia and Chehalis Gas Company Built: ca. 1910
MAP N-14 CENTRALIA S2 OF LOT 3 BLOCK 1 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000005000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 30

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this single-story commercial block is brick construction with a concrete foundation. Original brick siding on the front (west) façade has been covered with pale green Carrera glass along the top border and applied stonework along the lower border. The building has been altered to accommodate changing uses. The storefront has large aluminum display windows and entrance with a projecting marquee. Despite major modifications, this building contributes to the overall physical context of the historic district, which warrants its inclusion as a contributing resource.

Cultural Data: According to Polk City Directories, this building was occupied by Centralia and Chehalis Gas Company in 1912. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

109 S. Tower Historic Name: Pittsburgh Paint Store Built: ca. 1928
MP N-14 CENTRALIA N2 OF LOT 3 & SOUTH 6" OF LOT 4 BLOCK 1 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-

2W Legal: 000004000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 31

Description: Constructed ca.1928, this single-story, one part commercial block is brick construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefront has been significantly modified with modern aluminum sash and door, applied stone façade, and projecting metal marquee. Wood or aluminum board covers the transom openings. There are no window openings on the second story. Brick pilasters define the north and south corners of the second-story façade, and a stepped parapet with contrasting brick trim crowns the building.

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Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and Polk City Directories, this building was occupied by Pittsburgh Paint Store and Pete's Barber Shop in 1912; by 1924, it was occupied by a tailor and a paint and wallpaper store. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

105-107 S. Tower **Historic Name: C.O. Gingrich Building** **Built: ca. 1912**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA SOUTH 25' OF NORTH 25'6" OF LOT 4 BLOCK 1 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000007000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Non-contributing

Site ID #: 32

Description: Constructed ca.1912, this single-story, one part commercial block is brick construction with a concrete foundation. Wood and aluminum siding obscure the original brick siding. The storefront features modern aluminum fixed pane sash, recessed aluminum doors, a full facade aluminum marquee. Although constructed during the historic period, this building has been significantly altered and no longer retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its historic significance.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, this building was occupied by a clothes shop, a bakery and offices in 1924; by 1948, it was occupied by a restaurant and offices. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

101-103 S. Tower **Historic Name: Matz Building, Lewis County Bank** **Built: 1890**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA LOT 5 & NORTH 6" OF LOT 4 BLOCK 1 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000008000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Charles Gilchrist (builder)**

Classification: Historic Non-contributing

Site ID #: 33

Description: Constructed in 1890, this two-story, two-part commercial block is concrete block construction with a concrete foundation and brick siding. The storefronts have been altered and feature concrete, wood, and aluminum doors, sash, and siding. Replacement metal windows include pivoted sash on the second story and fixed pane sash on the first story. All brick ornamentation fell off the façade during in the 1949 earthquake, and subsequently, the surface was stuccoed. Although constructed during the historic period, this building has been significantly altered and no longer retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its historic significance.

Cultural Data: This building, the Lewis County State Bank, built by Charles Gilchrist, was the first brick block building to be constructed in Centralia. Built by Charles Gilchrist at a cost of \$18,000, the building passed hands and was occupied by the United States National Bank. The bank area was on the ground floor, occupying the north-east corner. Retail space on Main Street and one on Tower had such tenants as a hardware store, drug store, cigar and tobacco shop, an architect and lawyer. The upper floors were used as offices for a dentist and other professionals. The ornate siding was destroyed in the 1949 earthquake.

101-105 N. Tower **Historic Name: Field and Lease Building** **Built: 1897**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA - E 95' LOT 1 & S 35' LOT 2 EX WLY 25' SLY 30' BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDN, 8-14N-2W
Legal: 000023001000

Style: Romanesque Revival **Architect/Builder: Richard V. Gough (architect)**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 34

Description: Constructed in 1897, this two-story two-part commercial block building with Romanesque Revival styling is heavy timber construction with a concrete foundation. It is sided with Tenino sandstone. The two northeast storefronts retain original marble kickplates, sidepanels, tiled entries, and wood framed recessed display windows. Although many of

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the windows have been replaced, the transom windows are still intact with some panes painted out. A metal marquee with decorative pressed tin design, projects from the building.

Cultural Data: This building originally housed the Field and Lease Bank, established in 1903. The bank was run by two prominent local businessmen, John Field and J.E. Lease. The president, John A. Field, was an Illinois native who relocated to Centralia in 1888. Originally operating a wholesale flour, feed, and grocery business, his fortune grew, and he ultimately began a prominent bank with J.E. Lease. Lease, the cashier, arrived in Centralia in 1889 from Pennsylvania, and originally was superintendent of city and county schools. Together, Field and Lease erected the stone building during hard economic times in 1903. This building had a variety of tenants, including a lawyer, a drug store, a barber, and the Postal Telegraph Company.

107 N. Tower

Historic Name: Field-Robinson Building

Built: 1892

MP N-14 CENTRALIA NORTH 25' OF LOT 2 BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000025000000

Style: Victorian

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 35

Description: Constructed in 1892, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Victorian styling has a concrete foundation and brick siding covered with stucco. The storefronts have been modified with recessed entrances, modern aluminum sash and doors, and projecting marquees. Transom openings are intact. The second story features two pairs of two-over-two double-hung bay windows crowned by a shingled roof. Windows appear to be original wood. The building is crowned by a decorative pressed tin cornice above a recessed brick course.

Cultural Data: Joseph Robinson, a prominent early Centralia businessman had the building constructed in 1892 for \$10,000. The Masonic Lodge headquarters was located in the building's office space on the second floor and the lower floor was rented out to retail operations: the most prominent of these was the Auldridge store. Although Polk City Directories do not show tenants under the title, "Field-Robinson Building," the 1912 directories indicate that Mrs. Meinken's Millinery was located at 107 N. Tower, and Auldridge Dry Goods was located at 109 N. Tower. These business types were confirmed in 1924 Sanborn maps. This building is among the first group of brick commercial buildings constructed in downtown Centralia.

109 N. Tower

Historic Name: Caldwell Building

Built: 1892

MP N-14 CENTRALIA N2 OF LOT 3 BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000027000000

Style: Victorian

Architect/Builder: Lawrence Bar (builder)

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 36

Description: Constructed in 1892, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Victorian styling is brick and sandstone block construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The first story transom window area has been covered by a shingled shed roof projection and the original storefront has been recessed and rebuilt with aluminum, brick, and vertical board. Second story fenestration is defined by one-over-one double-hung sash bay windows decorated with bullet hole banding and stylized entablature with sloping roof centered by a keystone. Both original wood and replacement metal windows are found on this building. Additional details include an elaborate pressed metal cornice with decorative brackets and crowned with balls on either end (one is still intact on the north side) and a projecting decorative pressed tin building date plate.

Cultural Data: This building was erected by Germany-born Lawrence Bar. Bar operated one of the most prominent mercantile houses in Centralia. He was known as one of the most influential men in Centralia during the early 20th century. This building is among the first group of brick commercial buildings constructed in downtown Centralia.

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111 N Tower Historic Name: Grand Theater Built: 1902

MP N-14 CENTRALIA S2 OF LOT 3 BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000028000000

Style: Victorian Architect/Builder: Lawrence Bar (builder)

Classification: Historic Contributing Site ID #: 37

Description: Built in 1902 by Lawrence Bar, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Victorian styling has a concrete foundation and buff brick siding. The storefront has been modified with covered transom windows, recessed entrance, aluminum sash, and new brick and concrete siding. The upper facade features one-over-one double-hung sash with lugsills, brick arches, and decorative brick quoins surrounding the window area. The building is crowned by a decorative pressed tin cornice above a recessed brick course. A projecting arched building plate composed of pressed tin once sat in the center of the building.

Cultural Data: Lawrence Bar and his son, William L. Bar, owned a clothing and shoe store. The store closed by 1914, when the Grand Theater opened in the building. The Grand Theater was reputed for showing silent films and as a hiding place for bootleg liquor. The theater closed its doors in 1930.

117 N. Tower Avenue Historic Name: Unknown Built: ca. 1920

MP N-13 CENTRALIA S2 OF LOT 4 BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000022001000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Non-Contributing Site ID #: 38

Description: Constructed ca. 1920, this single-story commercial building is brick construction with a concrete foundation. Original building materials have been covered or replaced. The storefront features aluminum plate glass windows and door, and the transoms and cornice area has been covered with corrugated metal siding. There is a projecting metal canopy above the storefront. Although constructed during the historic period, this building has been significantly altered and no longer retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its historic significance.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Maps, this building was occupied by a clothing store in 1924.

119 N. Tower Avenue Historic Name: Unknown Built: ca. 1920

MP N-13 CENTRALIA N2 OF LOT 4 BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000029000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Non-Contributing Site ID #: 39

Description: Constructed ca. 1920, this single-story commercial building is brick construction with a concrete foundation. Original building materials have been covered or replaced. The storefront features aluminum plate glass windows and door, and the transoms and cornice area has been covered with corrugated metal siding. There is a projecting metal canopy above the storefront. Murals depicting scenes from Centralia's history are painted on the north wall of the building. Although constructed during the historic period, this building has been significantly altered and no longer retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its historic significance.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Maps, this building was occupied by a fruit and meat vendor in 1924.

0 North Tower Avenue

MP N-13 CENTRALIA SOUTH 25' OF LOT 5 BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000031001000

Classification: Vacant

Site ID #: 40

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121 - 123 N. Tower **Historic Name: Stahl Building** **Built: ca. 1920**

MP N-13 CENTRALIA NORTH 35' OF LOT 5 BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000031000000

Style: Classical Revival **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 41

Description: Constructed ca.1920, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is heavy timber construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The west first story façade is defined by three storefront openings that have been modified with non-original materials. North side façade storefronts retain many original features including visible transom windows. The second story façade features paired one-over-one double-hung sash that appear to be original wood. An elaborate metal cornice with dentils and decorative brackets crowns the building.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, this building was occupied by a bar and drug store in 1924. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

203 N. Tower **Historic Name: Zimmer Block** **Built: 1909**

MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 1 BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000048000000

Style: Classical Revival **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 42

Description: Constructed in 1909, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is heavy timber construction with a concrete foundation and buff brick siding. The first story storefront has been rebuilt with aluminum bulkheads, panels, and sash. A plain metal/aluminum marquee projects from the building and the transom windows have been covered with wood panels, but are still intact. The arched second story windows feature radiating voussoirs with keystones. The original wood sash have been replaced with one-over-one aluminum sash. The windows are connected at the sill line by a continuous cement belt. An elaborate metal cornice with dentils and decorative brackets crowns the building.

Cultural Data: According to 1912 city directories, a variety of professional services occupied this building, including Potter and Merrill architects, a dentist, Gordon Insurance, a printer, a photographer, and at least five doctors and dentists. According to Sanborn maps, the building also housed a hardware store in 1909 and 1924, and a jeweler in 1924. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

207 N. Tower **Historic Name: Harms Building** **Built: 1909**

MP N-13 CENTRALIA S2 OF LOT 2 LESS NORTH 6" BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000051000000

Style: Classical Revival **Architect/Builder: Frank Harms (builder)**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 43

Description: Constructed in 1909 by lumberman Frank Harms, this one-story, one part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is heavy timber construction on a concrete foundation with red brick siding. The storefront has been rebuilt with aluminum and Carrera glass siding during the modern period. A metal marquee projects from the structure. Modern wood paneling covers the transom windows, and a dentillated belt course runs above the transom window area and meets with the Zimmer Block Building. An elaborate metal cornice with dentils and decorative brackets crowns the building.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 city directories, this building was occupied by a variety of businesses, including Crystal Baths, one of two bathhouses in Centralia. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

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209 N. Tower

Historic Name: Lindberg Bldg

Built: ca. 1910

MP N-13 CENTRALIA N2 OF LOT 2 & 6" ON NORTH SIDE OF S2 OF LOT 2 BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S
ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000049000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Non-Contributing

Site ID #: 44

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this two-story, one part commercial block has a concrete foundation and was originally sided with red brick, subsequently replaced with modern materials. The storefront has been highly modified with recessed entrance, projecting marquee, and aluminum sash, door, and kickplates. The transom windows have been covered. The second story has four modern one-over-one aluminum sash. The entire second story façade, including the window openings, has been covered by modern siding. Small vents cover original window openings. Five capped pilasters separate the original window openings. This building has been significantly altered and retains little of its original physical character.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building was occupied by a restaurant in 1909 and a dime store in 1924.

211 N. Tower

Name: Salewsky's Jewelry

Built: ca. 1924

MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 3 & SOUTH 6" OF EAST 60' OF LOT 4 BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION
8-14-2W

Legal: 000052000000

Style: Mission Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 45

Description: Constructed ca.1925, this single-story, one part commercial block with Mission Revival styling is brick construction on a concrete foundation with a red brick façade and a sloping red tiled roof interrupted by a stylized stepped parapet centered along the roofline and end piers. The storefront has been altered and rebuilt with aluminum sash and white rock veneer. A metal marquee projects from the building and the transom windows have been covered. The upper façade is brick, which has been patterned, colored, recessed, and recently painted.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building was occupied by a variety store in 1924. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

211 N. Tower

Name: Salewsky's Jewelry Street Clock

Built: ca. 1945

Legal: N/A

Style: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 46

Description: Salewsky's Jewelry Street Clock is metal clock that stands on Tower Avenue in front Salewsky's Jewelry building. The clock has a square base, a simple geometric design, and a fluted column rests on the base and is capped with a capital. The capital has a bracket which the clock case is secured into. The clock face has the proprietor's name Ben Salewsky in the center surrounded by Arabic numbers. On top of the clock case is metal scroll work surrounding a plaque which reads "Salewsky's". The entire clock is constructed of metal, and the movement is weighted.

Cultural Data: The street clock stands on Tower Avenue in front of the establishment of Salewsky's Jewelry. When the present owner purchased the business in 1945, the transaction included a stipulation that transferred ownership of the street clock. However, the original clock was destroyed by a runaway truck at the time of the sale, rendering the real estate transaction invalid. To compensate the new owner, the existing clock was purchased and installed in 1945.

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215 North Tower Avenue

MP N-13 CENTRALIA S2 OF LOT 4 LESS 6" OF EAST 60' BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000054000000

Classification: Vacant

Site ID #: 47

217 N. Tower

Historic Name: Hackett Building

Built: ca. 1911

MP N-13 CENTRALIA N2 OF LOT 4 BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000053000000

Style: Chicago School

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 48

Description: Constructed ca.1911, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Chicago School elements is red brick construction with a concrete foundation and a brick façade. The storefront has been rebuilt with modern materials and the transom window area has been covered over with metal siding. The second story façade features a decorative upper facade window area, which is recessed and framed with patterned brick. The original wood windows have eight-over-one double-hung sash with eaves, vertical muntins, and eight-pane sidelights. A building name plaque is centered above the windows and the cornice has been removed.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building was occupied by a drug store in 1924. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

219 - 221 N. Tower

Historic Name: Profitt Building

Built: ca. 1926

MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 5 BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000055000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 49

Description: Constructed ca.1926, this three-story, two-part commercial block is framed by reinforced concrete with a concrete foundation and buff brick siding. The storefront has been rebuilt and covered over with new (metal) materials. The arched metal two-over-one fixed pane sash featured on the second story (or mezzanine) are symmetrically arranged on each facade with two large windows framing two smaller ones. Capped pilasters extending from the first story columns separate the large and small windows. The third story features metal ten-over-one double-hung sash, which sit on a wide belt course that wraps around the building. The cornice has a simple projecting lip with patterned brickwork at its base and along the headers of the third story windows, between which are grouped round tiles.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building was listed as the "Profitt Building" in 1948. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

305 N. Tower

Historic Name: Union Loan and Trust Building

Built: 1907

MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 1 BLOCK 4 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000067000000

Style: Classical Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 50

Description: Constructed in 1907, this three-story, two-part vertical block with Classical Revival styling is heavy timber construction with a concrete foundation and brick siding, finished with Tenino sandstone. The first story storefront has been enlarged with picture window sash, which replaced the original ornate columned entrance. First story windows on the south side feature five semi-circular window shapes, which have been painted out, and an eight-paned opening above the south entrance. The multiple-paned transom windows have been painted. Second and third-story openings are covered, but retain original eight-over-one double-hung sash. The third story windows have headers with radiating voussoirs with

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center and side keystones and a belt course runs along the sill line of the second story windows. Another stringcourse runs between the cornice and third story window surrounds. The metal cornice has a dentillated entablature. Fourteen capped pilasters run from the base of the building to the second story frieze course.

Cultural Data: This building was constructed in 1907 for Union Loan & Trust Company for about \$75,000. In 1909, the *Centralia Daily Chronicle* called this building, "by far the most handsome and costly building between Tacoma and the Columbia River." The Union Loan & Trust Company occupied the south half of the building with offices on the first and second floors. The financial institution was run by leading businessmen, F.B. Hubard, President and F.T. McNitt, Vice President, and was one of the leading financial institutions in the area in the 1900s. Walk in vaults are still intact on the first and second floors. The remainder of the second floor was occupied by other professional offices. Other notable occupants of the building were the *Centralia Daily Chronicle* and Eagles Lodge #1083. The newspaper occupied the basement area which extends under the sidewalk. Access was once available to the basement from the street, but was built up and covered over after continued flood damage from the China Creek. The third floor was occupied by the Elks Lodge. The lodge dedicated the new hall on July 24 and 25, 1908 after the expenditure of \$6,000 for interior design. This floor remains virtually intact and boasts a pool room, ballroom with stenciled walls, and lounge with a massive timber, brick, and leaded fireplace which is still in working condition. This fireplace sits atop the line of placement for the first and second story vaults. The Elks occupied this site until 1922, when the new Pearl and Locust lodge was built. The building was purchased in the 30s by the Gisler McNiven Furniture Company and turned into a retail store. The McHugh Family purchased the store and building in the 1970's and opened Ken Schoenfeld Furniture. In early 1995 Schoenfeld's closed and Isaacson's opened.

307 N. Tower**Historic Name: Unknown****Built: 1907****MP N-13 CENTRALIA S2 OF LOT 2 BLOCK 4 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W****Legal: 000069000000****Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown****Classification: Historic Contributing****Site ID #: 51**

Description: Constructed in 1907, this single-story building shares identical building construction and design detail with 305 N. Tower.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building was occupied by a furniture store in 1909 and a clothing store in 1924. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

309-313 N. Tower**Historic Name: Peerless Hotel****Built: ca. 1905****MP N-13 CENTRALIA N2 LOT 2 BLOCK 4 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W****Legal: 000068000000****Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown****Classification: Historic Contributing****Site ID #: 52**

Description: Constructed ca. 1905, this two-story, two-part commercial block is brick construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefront has been rebuilt with new materials and a metal marquee projects from the building. Eight-sectioned transom windows are intact, and a four-panel and brick relief pattern defines the area transom windows. Second story openings are wide, metal eight-over-one double-hung sash with a semi-circular arch over the sash. The arch is closed in by a straight course of brick at the base, spanning the window openings. Three round tiles accent the space between the four arches. The keystones align with the base of a cornice area, and the original projecting cornice has been removed. A stepped parapet roofline has relief course work. A belt course projects from the upper windowsill line.

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Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, the ground floor of this building has been occupied by a variety of businesses, including an office and print shop in 1909, Hunter and Son's Grocery and Meats in 1912, and a grocery and restaurant in 1924. The top floor was a hotel.

315 N. Tower **Historic Name: Forsyth Building** **Built: ca. 1920**
MP N-13 CENTRALIA NORTH 25' OF SOUTH 50' OF LOT 3 BLOCK 4 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000071000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 53

Description: Constructed ca.1920, this single-story, one part commercial block is brick construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefront has been rebuilt, and a metal marquee projects from the building. The upper façade features simple brick styling with alternating brick and relief sandstone block pilasters.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building was occupied by a confectioner in 1924. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

0 North Tower Avenue
MP N-13 NORTH 10' LOT 3, ALL LOT 4 & SOUTH 5' LOT 5 BLOCK 4 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000074001000

Classification: Vacant

Site ID #: 54

325 N. Tower **Historic Name: George Wells Confectioners** **Built: ca. 1910**
MP N-13 CENTRALIA SOUTHERLY 29' OF NORTHERLY 55' LOT 5 BLOCK 4 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000075000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 55

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this single-story, one part commercial block is brick construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefront was rebuilt in the 1950s with brightly colored glass blocks and modern neon sign. The seven-pane transom windows are exposed, but painted. The building features a plain brick false front facade and a simple parapet roofline.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building was occupied by a barber and George Wells, confectioner in 1912, and by a florist in 1924. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

327 N. Tower **Historic Name: Farmer's and Merchant's Bank; Yeager Building** **Built: 1913**
MP N-13 CENTRALIA NORTH 26' OF LOT 5 BLOCK 4 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000076000000

Style: Beaux-Arts **Architect/Builder: "Deacon" Glover (architect)**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 56

Description: Conducted in 1913 with Beaux-Arts styling, this building is reinforced concrete construction with a concrete foundation, and is sided with terracotta tile blocks and buff brick. It features an elaborate entrance: a large two-story Roman arch inset with narrow vertical casement windows. This configuration is repeated in two arches along the north façade. The primary (east) façade and arch is topped by a scrolled keystone and framed by inset terracotta blocks.

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East and north façade arches are supported by a projecting cornice decorated with bands in the egg and dart motif and supported by three consoles. Between the consoles are two garlands. The primary façade arch is defined by an inset terracotta clock that rests on the window cornice. The first story windows openings are three-over-three fixed sash arranged with large centered panes and smaller sidelight panes. A three-part transom window echoes the predominant window styling and over the main entrance, and has extended round muntins and cross hatch decoration. The second story windows are original wood two-over-two and one-over-one double-hung sash. The north facade is faced with tan brick, decorated with recessed brick panels under and above each window opening, sectioned by four pilasters. The decorative tin cornice is features large corner caps and alternating recessed panels. The east and northeast section of the cornice has a raised belt course/cornice above a band of dentillation. The remainder of the frieze board has alternating raised and recessed entablature.

Cultural Data: The building was constructed to accommodate Farmers' and Merchant's Bank in 1913. The building has been occupied by several businesses, including a bank, bakery, telephone company office, chamber of commerce, and now a printing shop. The upstairs was once used as office space, but has now been converted into apartments.

401 N. Tower**Historic Name: Fowler Building****Built: 1912****MP N-13 CENTRALIA AN UNPLOTED PARCEL ADJACENT SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 10 & LOT 10 BLOCK 4 HANSON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W****Legal: 001973000000****Style: Classical Revival****Architect/Builder: Unknown****Classification: Historic Contributing****Site ID #: 57**

Description: Constructed in 1912, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is brick construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The first story pilasters define the front façade, which has three store entrances. A brick belt course runs above the transom windows, which are intact under vertical wood panels. Fenestration includes large fixed pane sash on the first story and one-over-one double-hung sash on the second story. The original second story windows were paired and each paired section was framed with a vertical white brick course with caps and panel under the sill. The battlement style roofline sits above a projecting cornice. In 1999, the windows and portions of the roofline were altered, but reflect the original period of construction.

Cultural Data: In 1912, the building was known as the Fowler block. In 1934, Dr. Dale O. Nugent moved and consolidated his hospital and clinic in the second floor office space of this building. The building came to be known as Dr. Nugent's Hospital. The hospital and clinic remained there until his death, when hospital and clinic operations were headed by Edward O. Taylor. The hospital closed in 1940. First floor office space continues to be rented to various firms and smaller retail tenants, while the upper story consists of apartments. In spite of the many tenants, the building retains the original floor plan of Dr. Nugent's Hospital.

403 N. Tower**Historic Name: D.T. Mossman Building****Built: 1906****MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 9 BLOCK 4 HANSON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W****Legal: 001972000000****Style: Commercial Vernacular****Architect/Builder: Unknown****Classification: Historic Contributing****Site ID #: 58**

Description: Constructed in 1906, this two-story, two-part commercial block is brick construction with a concrete block foundation and brick siding. The storefront had to be rebuilt in 1986 due to an auto accident that destroyed the storefront. It has been replaced with wood frame sash and concrete blocks along the kickplate. The multiple pane transom window features a frieze band accentuated by projecting beam cap above and concrete course along the bottom. Second story windows feature replacement metal one-over-one double-hung sash with concrete sill and stacked sandstone block header.

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Side pilasters framing the building are stacked with large sandstone blocks on the first story changing to smaller block at the upper facade. The cornice has a plain entablature and is capped with rounded end caps.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building was occupied by D.T. Mossman Confectioners in 1912. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

405 N. Tower **Historic Name: Field Building** **Built: ca. 1910**

MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 8 BLOCK 4 HANSON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 001971000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing Site ID #: 59

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this single-story, one part commercial block is brick construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefront configuration is original with plain concrete kickplates, large display windows, recessed entry, and wood door with transom. The transom window area is intact with seven-pane sash and a metal marquee projects from the structure. Façade ornamentation includes a brick patterned band in a battlement like frieze below a stepped parapet roofline. The building name and date plaque is centered below the arch of the parapet. A northern sandstone block pilaster runs the entire height of the building.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building was occupied by Elite Café in 1912 and used as a gaming room in 1924. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

409 N. Tower **Historic Name: Curtis' Barber Shop; Basset Cigars and Tobacco; Briggs Clothing; Ronés and Johnson Confectioners** **Built: ca. 1909**

MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOTS 6 & 7 BLOCK 4 HANSON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 001969001000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Non-contributing Site ID #: 60

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this single-story building sits on a concrete foundation and is sided with horizontal wood planks. The pitched roof is obscured by a false front. Original windows have been replaced by modern aluminum sash, and a large porch supported by six slender pillars, accessed by a modern concrete ramp, spans the front façade. Although constructed during the historic period, this building has been significantly altered and no longer retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its historic significance.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building has been occupied by a variety of businesses and services, including a bicycle repair shop in 1909 and Curtis' Barber Shop, Basset Cigars and Tobacco, Briggs Clothing, and Ronés and Johnson Confectioners in 1912.

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413 N. Tower **Historic Name: Centralia Home Investment Company** **Built: ca. 1910**

MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOTS 4 & 5 BLOCK 4 HANSON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 001967001000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Non-contributing

Site ID #: 61

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this single-story commercial block is brick construction with a concrete foundation. Original brick siding has been covered with modern horizontal wood planks. The storefront has been modernized with a recessed entrance and fixed aluminum sash. Although constructed during the historic period, this building has been significantly altered and no longer retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its historic significance.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps and 1912 Polk Directories, this building was occupied by the Centralia Home Investment Company in 1912, and "fancy work" in 1924.

415-419 N. Tower **Historic Name: Liberty Theater** **Built: 1915**

MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOTS 1, 2 & 3 BLOCK 4 HANSON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 001966000000

Style: Mediterranean **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 62

Description: Constructed in 1915, this two-story, two-part commercial block with traces of Mediterranean styling is brick construction with a concrete foundation and buff brick siding. The storefront or theater lobby window openings and doors have been covered with modern materials, but transom openings remain intact. Wedge-capped pilasters frame the first story main façade. The second story features tower-like sections on the north and south ends along the main (east) façade, each with a parapet roofline. Centered on these towers are garland and pendants decorations framed by brick tapestry. Arched windows have an ornate colored brick design and fixed pane sash with sidelights, and lower sills project like a balcony. Between these towers is a sloping roof supported by ornate paired brackets, decorated with molding and bands of rosettes. This roofline is centered over the second story windows, which are framed by projecting sills. A band of decorative brick runs between the upper and lower facade.

Cultural Data: The Liberty Theater was built at the cost of \$75,000 by local businessmen, Mr. Smith, Mr. Fitzgerald, and Mr. Field. The Liberty Theater provided a stage for Vaudeville and early silent and "talking" movies. This was considered the best theater house in town, and could hold 1,000 people at its peak. The Liberty Theater was built during a time of community growth, which can be seen in the application of architectural details and ornamentation.

216 S. Tower **Historic Name: Sears and Roswell Feed Store** **Built: ca. 1920**

MP N-14 CENTRALIA NORTH 46' OF LOT 2 ONE HALF BLOCK 5 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000095000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 63

Description: Constructed ca.1920, this single-story, one part commercial block is heavy timber construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefronts have been altered to accommodate changing building uses. Storefronts feature brick kickplates, four-pane transom openings on the south side, and fourteen transom openings on the north side. The stepped parapet roofline features brick ornamentation.

Cultural Data: Historically, this building housed Sears and Roswell Feed Store and later, Mt. St. Helens Glassworks. Both were prominent local businesses.

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214 S. Tower **Historic Name: Thorbeck's** **Built: ca. 1920**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA VACATED ALLEY IN ONE HALF BLOCK 5 & SOUTH 27.3' OF LOT 3 ONE HALF BLOCK 5 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000097000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 64

Description: Constructed ca.1920, this single-story, one part commercial block has a concrete foundation and brick siding. The front (west) façade has been resurfaced with painted concrete. The storefront has been altered significantly with aluminum sash and door, and the transom openings have been covered or replaced. A stepped parapet roof crowns the building.

Cultural Data: According to Polk City Directories and Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, this building (with the address 212-214 S. Tower) was occupied by a flour, feed and grain warehouse in 1924, and by an auto-oriented business in 1948. No additional cultural data is available at this time.

212 S. Tower **Name: Bower's Garage** **Built: ca. 1920**
MP CENTRALIA N-14 NORTH 52 3/4' OF LOT 3 & SOUTH 19' OF 4 BLOCK 1/2 FIVE WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000096000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 65

Description: Constructed ca.1920, this two-story, two-part commercial block is wood construction with a concrete foundation and brick siding. The storefront door and sash are aluminum and have been modified. The second story façade features eight-over-one double-hung sash with lugsill and recessed arched pediment. Windows appear to be original wood. Pilasters frame three building facade sections. The undecorated cornice is brick.

Cultural Data: According to Polk City Directories and Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, this building (with the address 212-214 S. Tower) was occupied by a flour, feed and grain warehouse in 1924, and by an auto-oriented business in 1948. No additional cultural data is available at this time.

202 S. Tower **Historic Name: Premier Service Station, Old Radiator Shop** **Built: ca. 1920**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA LOT 4 LESS SOUTH 19' ONE HALF BLOCK 5 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000098000000

Style: Spanish Eclectic **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 66

Description: Constructed ca.1920, this single-story, one part commercial block with Spanish Eclectic styling is brick construction with a concrete foundation and a stucco facade. This building features metal multi-pane fixed sash windows and wood frame doors. The smooth stucco surface is interrupted by paired battered buttress-like projections, which surround elevated planter areas. A stepped parapet accentuates the main entrance and is decorated with raised pseudo shield-and-sword ornamentation. A skirting of red tile projects as a cornice and is supported by decorative paired knee braces.

Cultural Data: This building, constructed as a service station, is one of Centralia's first auto-oriented buildings. It is prominently located at the southwest corner of Tower and Main Street. Its Spanish Eclectic styling (with Art Deco lines) is typical of the 1920s.

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116 – 120 S. Tower **Historic Name: Scuitto-Rector Building** **Built: 1928**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA WEST 90' OF LOT 1 & WEST 90' S2 OF LOT 2 ONE HALF BLOCK 1
WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000016000000

Style: Classical Revival **Architect/Builder: Richard V. Gough (architect)**

Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 67**

Description: Constructed in 1928, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is heavy timber construction with a concrete foundation and buff and red brick siding. The building retains its original storefronts with three recessed entries, each with tile entry and wood framed doors. The bulkheads are decorated with patterned green ceramic tiles. Transom windows are separated into four areas with single panes and six-pane sash. The second story replacement metal windows feature eight-over-one double-hung sash and single pane fixed sash. A stepped parapet, punctuated by a nameplate, crowns the building. Pilasters emphasize the main section flanked by narrower end bays. Colored and patterned brick provide additional building decoration.

Cultural Data: This building contributes to the second wave of Tower Avenue development and is typical of the "Chicago Style" influence that emerged in Centralia in the early 20th century. According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, this building was occupied by a department store in 1948.

112-114 S. Tower **Historic Name: McCleary Building** **Built: 1928**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA WEST 90' N2 LOT 2 ONE HALF BLOCK 1 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W
Legal: 000017000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 68**

Description: Constructed in 1928, this single-story, one part commercial block is brick construction on a concrete foundation with buff and red brick siding. An original storefront opening with tiled kickplates and two transom windows (one with five panels, one with 14) comprise the west façade. The upper facade features colored patterned brick with a stepped parapet. A decorative marquee projects from the building.

Cultural Data: This building is typical of brick vernacular construction and design during the 1920s. It contributed to Centralia's overall streetscape and economic activity. No additional cultural data is available at this time.

110 S. Tower **Historic Name: Breckenridge** **Built: ca. 1915**
MP N-14 CENTRALIA NORTH 17.5' OF S2 OF LOT 3 LESS STREET ONE HALF BLOCK 1
WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000019000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 69**

Description: Constructed ca.1915, this single-story, one part commercial block is brick construction with a concrete foundation and brick siding. The storefront features a recessed original storefront opening, large display windows, decorative kickplates, and a projecting marquee decorated with rosette ornamentation. A triple-pane window area is framed by rosette ornamentation. The false front parapet features plain trim.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and Polk City Directories, this building was occupied by a furniture store in 1924 and a restaurant in 1948. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

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108 S. Tower Historic Name: Cunningham Law Offices Built: ca. 1970
MP N-14 CENTRALIA N2 LOT 3 LESS STREET ONE HALF BLOCK 1 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000018000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Non-historic Non-contributing

Site ID #: 70

Description: This single-story brick construction building has a concrete foundation and a flat roof with a projecting wood-shingle overhanging Mansard roof. The building is set back from the sidewalk. The front façade is faced with brick with a recessed entrance and no window openings. North façade windows are aluminum sash.

Cultural Data: An early occupant of this building was the Cunningham Law Offices. No available cultural data is available at this time.

0 North Tower Avenue
MP N-14 CENTRALIA LOTS 4 & 5 LESS STREET ONE HALF BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000022001000

Classification: Vacant

Site ID #: 71

102 N. Tower Historic Name: Nyholm's Built: 1928
MP N-14 CENTRALIA SOUTH 45' OF LOT 1 LESS RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000039000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 72

Description: Constructed in 1928, this two-story commercial building has a concrete foundation, red brick siding, and a parapet roof. The first story commercial storefront has been significantly altered from its original style, with fixed replacement metal single-pane aluminum sash. The transom windows have been covered. Second story fenestration is minimal, with very small openings with fixed metal four-paned sash.

Cultural Data: This building contributes to Centralia's overall streetscape and has been occupied by a variety of business and services since its construction.

104 - 106 N. Tower Historic Name: Palace Market/Carsten's Meat Company Built: 1910
MP N-14 CENTRALIA NORTH 15' OF LOT 1 & SOUTH 10' OF LOT 2 ONE HALF BLOCK 2 LESS RIGHT OF WAY WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000040000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Non-contributing

Site ID #: 73

Description: Constructed in 1910, this single-story commercial building has a concrete foundation and brick siding that has been covered with concrete. The first story commercial storefront, with fixed single-pane aluminum sash, has been altered from its original style. The transom windows have been covered. A projecting marquee spans the front (west) façade of this building and the building directly south (102 N. Tower). Although constructed during the historic period, this building has been significantly altered and no longer retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its historic significance.

Cultural Data: This building was a prominent meat market during the early 20th century. Carsten's Meat Packing Company made Centralia the distribution point for meat products in Southwestern Washington.

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108 N. Tower **Historic Name: Wilkens and Miller Billiards** **Built: ca. 1910**

MP N-14 CENTRALIA CENTRAL 20' OF LOT 2 EXCEPT RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF BLOCK 2

WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000041000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 74

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this single-story commercial building has a concrete foundation and painted clinker brick siding. The first story commercial storefront has been altered from its original style, with fixed single-pane aluminum sash. The transom windows have been covered. A projecting marquee spans the front (west) façade.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and Polk City Directories, this building was occupied by Wilkens and Miller Billiards and Pool Hall from as early as 1912. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

110 - 112 N. Tower **Historic Name: Olympic Club** **Built: 1890**

MP N-14 CENTRALIA S2 OF LOT 3 LESS RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S
ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000044000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 75

Description: Constructed in 1890 (and rebuilt in 1908 after a fire), this single-story one part commercial block has a concrete foundation and is sided with red clinker brick. The storefront features heavy wood doors with leaded and beveled glass panes and brass hardware, decorative wood and lighted skirting along the entryway roofline, marble kickplates, and elaborate tiled floors. The roofline features a wide cornice with dentils and is punctuated by a centered, projecting concrete nameplate. The transom window area consists of multiple leaded colored glass panes. The arched entablature has a recessed sunburst design. Many interior features have been preserved.

Cultural Data: The building was damaged in 1908 by a fire. Following the fire, the Olympic Club was remodeled to include its existing poolroom, bar, cafe, barber shop, and card room. During prohibition years, the Olympic Club remained open and served bootleg liquor, which was stored in false bottom pickle barrels in a secret basement. The building was restored in 1999.

114-116 N. Tower **Historic Name: Robinson Block, Hotel Oxford** **Built: 1913**

MP N-14 CENTRALIA N2 OF LOT 3 & S2 OF LOT 4 LESS RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF BLOCK 2
WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000043000000

Style: Classical Revival **Architect/Builder: Robinson Brothers (builder)**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 76

Description: Constructed in 1913, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is concrete construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefronts have been rebuilt with new brick and aluminum and the transom windows have been covered over with aluminum siding. The second story façade features metal replacement one-over-one double-hung sash with radiating headers and sills. The window area is framed by nine pilasters with a concrete cap and base, and sits on a recessed brick course. An elaborate metal cornice with dentils and decorative brackets crowns the building. The original sign is still extant.

Cultural Data: Known as the Robinson Block and Hotel Oxford, this building was constructed by the Robinson Brothers, who also completed the Wilson Hotel. The Hotel Oxford occupied the second floor with retail and tavern on the

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first floor. This building also housed a brothel, patronized by local loggers. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

118 N. Tower **Historic Name: William Hoss Building** **Built: 1909**

MP N-14 CENTRALIA N2 OF LOT 4 & PT RR R/W LY ELY OF N2 LOT 4 ONE HALF BLOCK 2
WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000045000000

Style: Classical Revival Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Non-contributing

Site ID #: 77

Description: Constructed in 1909, this two-story, one part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is on a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The first story storefront has been rebuilt in a Mexican theme with applied patterned concrete siding, recessed entrance, and curved window openings surrounded by brick trim. The second story façade remains in tact with four one-over-one aluminum sash, radiating voussoirs, and keystones. The windows are connected at the sill line by a continuous cement belt. A curved parapet roofline crowns the building, and has been sided with the same applied concrete pattern as the first story. Although constructed during the historic period, this building has been significantly altered and no longer retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its historic significance.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and Polk City Directories, this building was occupied by Centralia Baths in 1912, which was used by local loggers who patronized Centralia businesses.

0 North Tower Avenue

MP N-14 CENTRALIA LOT 5 LESS RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF BLOCK 2 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000047001000

Classification: Vacant

Site ID #: 78

202 - 204 N. Tower **Historic Name: Dumon Building** **Built: ca. 1888**

MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 1 LESS EAST 18' RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S
ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000061000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Non-contributing

Site ID #: 79

Description: Constructed ca. 1888, this two-story, two-part commercial block has a concrete foundation and was originally sided with brick (now covered with wood). The storefront has been highly modified with recessed entrance and aluminum sash, door, and kickplates. The transom windows have been covered. The second story has four modern one-over-one aluminum sash. The entire second story façade has been covered by modern wood siding. This building has been significantly altered and retains little of its original physical character.

Cultural Data: Constructed ca. 1888, this is one of the oldest buildings in downtown Centralia. According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and Polk City Directories, this building housed a hardware store known as the House of Keys in 1912. It continued to be used as a hardware store through the 1940s.

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208 N. Tower

Historic Name: J.C. Penny

Built: ca. 1915

MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 2 LESS NORTH 8" & LESS RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF BLOCK 3

WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000062000000

Style: Classical Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 80

Description: Constructed ca.1915, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is steel frame construction with a concrete foundation and buff brick siding. The storefront has been rebuilt with aluminum sash and tiles, and the transom window area has been covered. The second story façade features four one-over-one window bays with one-over-one sidelights, lugsills and projecting muntins. They sash appear to be original wood. The bays are separated by five pilasters that extend beyond the cornice line. The cornice has been removed, but a recessed brick course lies in its place.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn maps, J.C. Penny occupied the ground floor retail space. A local newspaper, the Centralia Tribune, occupied offices on the second floor until 1936. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

212-214 N. Tower

Historic Name: Hoss Building

Built: ca. 1910

MP N-13 CENTRALIA NORTH 8" OF LOT 2 & SOUTH 57' OF LOT 3 LESS RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF BLOCK 3 WASHINGTON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000063000000

Style: Classical Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 81

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is heavy timber construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefronts have been rebuilt with new materials. The second story façade features four-over-one double-hung sash with lugsills and patterned brick course running the full length of the facade along the window header line. Windows appear to be wood and original. The simple projecting cement cornice is topped by a plain brick facing. A building name plaque is centered above the windows and a belt course below the sills is of plain concrete.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and Polk City Directories, early occupants of this building included a restaurant and butcher. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

216-218 N. Tower

Historic Name: Howell Hotel

Built: ca. 1910

MP N-13 CENTRALIA - N 3' LOT 3, LOT 4 EX R/W BLOCK 1/2 3 WASHINGTON ADDN, 8-14N-2W

Legal: 000065001000

Style: Classical Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 82

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is steel frame construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefronts have been rebuilt with new materials, but the transom window area remains intact. The second story façade features four-over-one double-hung sash with a patterned brick course running the full length of the facade along the window header line. Window sash appear to be wood and original. The roofline features a decorative cornice with dentillation, three corbel projections with scrolled head, and four sets of paired tile insets. Two raised brick panels lie between the projecting cornice and window header line.

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Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and Polk City Directories, this building was occupied by the Howell Hotel as early as the 1940s. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

220 N. Tower Historic Name: Galvin Compass Rose Built: ca. 1918

Legal: N/A

Style: N/A Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing Site ID #: 83

Description: The Galvin Compass Rose is a sidewalk terrazzo mosaic in a compass design in front of 220 N. Tower. Mosaic materials include tile, gravel, and composite. The design features a compass indicating North, South, East, West, Northeast, Southeast, Northwest, Southwest, North/Northeast, East/Northeast, North/Northwest, West/Northwest, South/Southeast, East/Southeast, South/Southwest, West/Southwest. The compass, measures approximately 58 inches in diameter, is enclosed by a square, which measures approximately 80 inches square. In the center of the compass reads "Galvin" twice, readable from the north or south.

Cultural Data: According to local residents, the Compass Rose was installed by a Dr. Galvin, who ran a medical office at 220 N. Tower during the early 20th century. The compass rose is thought to have been installed ca. 1918.

220 N. Tower Historic Name: Dale Hotel Built: ca. 1910

Section 08 Township 14 Range 2W MP N-13 CENTRALIA - Lot 5 & Wly RR R/W adj to Lot 5 1/2 Block 3

Washington Add. 8-14-2W

Legal: 000066001000

Style: Classical Revival Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing Site ID #: 84

Description: Constructed ca. 1910, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is brick construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. The storefront has been rebuilt with modern materials but the transom windows remain under aluminum siding. The second story façade features original wood one-over-one double-hung sash with simple recessed lugsill. The projecting cornice has decorative brackets alternating with colored brick sections. There are diamond shaped tile insets below the cornice area.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and Polk City Directories, this building was occupied by the Dale Hotel as early as 1924. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth.

302 N. Tower Historic Name: National Bank Built: 1933

MP N-13 CENTRALIA WEST 70' OF LOTS 1 & 2 ONE HALF BLOCK 4 WOODHAM'S SUBDIVISION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000080001000

Style: Art Deco Architect/Builder: Unknown

Classification: Historic Contributing Site ID #: 85

Description: Constructed in 1933, this single-story, one part commercial block with Art Deco styling is heavy timber construction with a concrete foundation. Fenestration includes multiple-paned glass block windows on the south side and modern single-pane sash. Windows have been altered from their original appearance to accommodate retail use. The recessed main entrance on the west façade is surrounded by a terra cotta molded trim design and topped by a twelve-paned fixed transom window. Decorative terra cotta tile columns frame the doorway and extend to the base of the cornice area. The upper facade or cornice area has a terra cotta tile course running above the window line followed by a wide band of brick, which is defined by four terra cotta rosettes. The terra cotta tile course is repeated along the roofline.

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Cultural Data: This 1933 Art Deco building is one of the few found in the historic commercial district. It was originally built as a National Bank of Commerce structure and remained a bank into the 1960s, when a new facility was built.

310 N. Tower **Historic Name: Bronson Motor Company** **Built: ca. 1910**
MP N-13 CENTRALIA EAST 32' WEST 102' LOTS 1 & 2 ALL LOTS 3, 4 & 5 EXCEPT RIGHT OF WAY 1/2
BLOCK 4 WOODHAM'S SUB 8-14-2W

Legal: 000080002000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Non-contributing **Site ID #: 86**

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this two-story, one part commercial block sits on a concrete foundation. Reinforced concrete panels are found on the façade, marquee, and archway. Vertical board and aluminum sash obscure its original features and brick façade. Ten feet have been added to the second story during the modern period. Although constructed during the historic period, this building has been significantly altered and no longer retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its historic significance.

Cultural Data: According to local sources, an early occupant of this building was the Bronson Motor Company.

314 N. Tower **Historic Name: Centralia Chronicle Building** **Built: ca. 1910**
MP N-13 CENTRALIA LOT 6 & SOUTH 5' OF LOT 7 LESS RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF BLOCK 4
WOODHAM'S SUBDIVISION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000082000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Contributing **Site ID #: 87**

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this single-story building is brick construction with a concrete foundation and painted wire-cut brick siding. The storefront has been modified, but retains historic characteristics. Transom windows remain intact. The building is crowned by stepped parapet roof, the surface of which has been painted with a locally significant mural.

Cultural Data: According to local residents, one of the early occupants of this building was the *Daily Chronicle*. This building contributes to the overall streetscape of Centralia and was built during a time of economic growth. Additional cultural data is not available at this time.

318 N. Tower **Historic Name: Cannon Apartments** **Built: ca. 1910**
MAP N-13 CENTRALIA N 20' OF LOT 7, ALL OF LOT 8 & S 20' LOT 9 LESS RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF
BLOCK 4 WOODHAM'S SUB 8-14-2W

Legal: 000083000000

Style: Commercial Vernacular **Architect/Builder: Unknown**

Classification: Historic Non-contributing **Site ID #: 88**

Description: Constructed ca.1910, this two-story, two-part commercial block has a concrete foundation and is sided with horizontal wood over red brick. The storefront has been significantly altered with aluminum sash and door, and a projecting marquee. The second story has four pairs of two-over-two aluminum sash and one small four-over-one opening asymmetrically placed. All window openings are decorated with shutters. Although constructed during the historic period, this building has been significantly altered and no longer retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its historic significance.

Cultural Data: According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and Polk City Directories, this building was occupied by a florist and beauty parlor in 1924. According to local residents, this building was originally called the Cannon Apartments.

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322 - 328 N. Tower **Historic Name: Wilson Hotel** **Built: 1914**
MP N-13 CENTRALIA NORTH 5' OF LOT 9 & ALL LOTS 10, 11 & 12 LESS RIGHT OF WAY ONE HALF
BLOCK 4 WOODHAM'S SUBDIVISION 8-14-2W

Legal: 000084000000

Style: Chicago Style **Builder/Architect: Robinson Brothers (builder)**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 89

Description: Constructed in 1914, this three-story, two-part Chicago Style building has a concrete foundation, timber beam and column construction, and buff brick siding. Many original building features have been retained. The first story storefront features original transom windows and projecting marquee. Second and third story openings are fitted with paired replacement metal one-over-one double-hung sash. Pilasters separate the window bays. An elaborate metal cornice with dentils and decorative brackets crowns the building.

Cultural Data: The Wilson Hotel is named after proprietor C.R. Wilson and was constructed by the Robinson Brothers of Centralia. It was one of many hotels in downtown Centralia that accommodated travelers. The hotel was built at a cost of \$50,000. The City of Centralia purchased this building in 2001.

402 N. Tower **Historic Name: Flewelling Building** **Built: ca. 1920**
MP N-13 CENTRALIA PART NE4 NE4 LYING SOUTHERLY OF LOT 9 BLOCK 5 HANSON'S ADDITION 8-14-2W

Legal: 003542000000

Style: Classical Revival **Builder/Architect: Joseph Mirschler (architect)**

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 90

Description: Constructed ca.1920, this two-story, two-part commercial block with Classical Revival styling is brick construction with a concrete foundation and red brick siding. Storefront display windows are original wood sash and are decorated with a semi-circular arch with multi panes with radiating voussiors of brick and center keystone. The recessed main entrance is located at the building's southwest corner and has a center door with sidelights, transom, and flat roof extension supported by ornate brackets. The second story façade features metal six-over-one double-hung sash and fixed pane sash. The second story windows on the south facade are framed by a projecting entablature supported by five engaged Doric columns supported by brick bases. Above the first story window entablature runs a band with a brick tapestry design. The asymmetrical configuration along the west façade reportedly is due to an unrealized plan to extend the building north along Tower Avenue.

Cultural Data: The building is locally significant because of its association with the owner of the Victory Coal Mining Company, Abraham L. Flewelling. The building was designed by the French architect who designed Flewelling's home. This building was occupied by the Victory Coal Mining Company office. In addition, a weigh station for coal trucks was located on site; scales were in the alley at the rear of the building. Various tenants occupied the other office and retail space. The office space was converted to apartments, while the retail space was used by a variety of businesses. The building is a striking landmark because of it's unusual architectural style. The building's asymmetrical appearance reportedly is a result of unrealized plans to expand north along Tower Avenue.

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No Address

Legal: 039119000000

Classification: Vacant

Site ID #: 95

No Address

Legal: 039120000000

Classification: Vacant

Site ID #: 96

210 Railroad Avenue

Name: Union Depot

Built: 1912

MP N-14 CENTRALIA LEASE #500710 PT WLY RR R/W LY ELY OF LOT 4 1/2 BLK 2 WASHINGTON ADD
8-14-2W

Legal: 039124000000

Style: Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals Builder/Architect: Rounds-Hursen Company (builder)

Classification: Historic Contributing

Site ID #: 97

Description: Constructed in 1912, this building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. According to the NR nomination, the depot is a long, narrow structure that measures about 364 feet by 40 feet. The structure rests on a concrete foundation with a Tenino sandstone base course, is constructed of pressed red brick walls, and is sheltered by a massive hipped and gabled roof with flared, overhanging eaves. The tile roof is nearly identical to the original tiles. Windows have been replaced with metal and vinyl sash in the same style as the original windows.

Cultural Data: Constructed in 1912 by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, the Depot also was used by the Great Northern Railroad and the Oregon-Washington Railroad. The Depot was pivotal to Centralia's transportation and role as "Hub City." Constructed at a cost of \$100,000, the Union Depot was considered one of the prominent rail terminals in the region.

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Historical Development

The Centralia Commercial Historic District is located along Tower Avenue and Pearl Street between Walnut and Center Streets in Centralia, Lewis County, in southwest Washington. Centralia is situated near the confluence of the Skookumchuck and Chehalis rivers, in a region characterized by low hills interspersed with major rivers and valleys that give way to mountains in the eastern portion of the county. For hundreds of years, Indian tribes made their homes along the banks of these rivers. The Cowlitz and the Chehalis tribes relied on the salmon that inhabited these waterways as a primary source of food. Traveling by canoe, these tribes made temporary camps in the spring and summer where they fished and foraged for roots and herbs for winter food supplies.¹ It was these very same rivers that drew George Washington, the founder of Centralia, to establish his home here. Born in 1817 in Virginia, Washington's father was a slave and his mother of English descent. Soon after his birth, his father was sold to a new owner and later a white couple – the Cochran's – adopted George. As a grown man, Washington and his family headed west in 1850. Racial restrictions in Missouri and Illinois drove him further west toward Oregon, where he hoped "to find a place in the world, if there was any, where a Negro would be treated like a man." Joined by the Cochran's, Washington's search for a home ended when he reached the spot where the Skookumchuck joins the Chehalis River in the fall of 1852.²

Recognizing the site's potential for development, Washington cleared and planted twelve acres of land.³ He was the fourth settler in the region.⁴ Due to a law passed by the Oregon legislature making the settlement of blacks and mulattoes in the territory illegal, Washington arranged for Cochran to file on the land to protect it for him. Later the Cochran's filed a donation claim for 640 acres.⁵ Together, the Cochran's and Washington raised cattle and operated an inn and a river ferry.⁶ The Cochran's eventually deeded their 640 acres to Washington, in exchange for \$3,200. Later, Washington added 63 acres adjoining his land to the south.⁷

In 1872, the Northern Pacific Railroad crossed the Oregon Territory as workers extended the line to Tacoma. Realizing that the railroad would bring more settlers to the area, Washington "began to dream of planning and building a small town."⁸ On January 8, 1875 Washington appeared before the territorial auditor and filed his intention of laying out

¹ Nix, Alma and John Nix, eds. *The History of Lewis County Washington*. Chehalis, Washington: Lewis County Historical Society, 1985, pp. 17-20.

² City of Centralia Web Site, viewed on May 1, 2002 at: <http://www.centralia.com/history.htm>

³ Lentz, Flo and Janet Blair Porter. "Phase II – 1989, Historic Resources Survey & Inventory, City of Centralia, Washington." Prepared for the City of Centralia and State of Washington Department of Community Development, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, August 1989, p. 10.

⁴ Centralia Community Development Program. *History of Centralia*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Community Development Program, 1955, p. 16.

⁵ Lentz, Flo and Janet Blair Porter. "Phase II – 1989, Historic Resources Survey & Inventory, City of Centralia, Washington." Prepared for the City of Centralia and State of Washington Department of Community Development, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, August 1989, p. 10.

⁶ City of Centralia Web Site, viewed on May 1, 2002 at: <http://www.centralia.com/history.htm>

⁷ Lentz, Flo and Janet Blair Porter. "Phase II – 1989, Historic Resources Survey & Inventory, City of Centralia, Washington." Prepared for the City of Centralia and State of Washington Department of Community Development, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, August 1989, p. 11.

⁸ Ibid. 1989, p. 11.

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a new town.⁹ He dubbed the town "Centerville," explaining, "It's a central point between the north and south terminals of the railroad at Kalama and Tacoma."¹⁰

Washington and his family planned the town to grow around the three businesses already established: Wingards, Crosbys, and the Pioneer house.¹¹ The layout of the town consisted of four square blocks platted into lots measuring 60 feet by 120 feet. The original plat began at the intersection of Pearl Street and Pine Street, extended east to Diamond Street, south to Locust Street, west to Pearl Street, and north to Pine Street. China Creek – referred to as "China Ditch" in the downtown area – runs through a portion of this area. The creek is a local tributary that drains to the Chehalis River, and is located north of Main Street and south of Center Street. Washington sold these lots for \$10 each, making the purchasers agree to erect a building on the property with a value of at least \$100. Later, to make the town more attractive to prospective buyers, Washington doubled the size of the lots. Quickly, Washington's dream town began to materialize. By 1876 Centerville's population grew to 50. In 1881, Washington filed the plat to his first addition. Two years later, in 1883, the town's name was changed to Centralia, due to the fact that another town in Eastern Washington was also called Centerville. Centralia continued to grow rapidly over the next several decades.¹²

Early Industries

Centralia lies at the confluence of the Skookumchuck and Chehalis rivers and covers one of the prettiest level townsites in Western Washington.... Surrounding the city is a growing and thriving farming country of rich and fertile bottom lands, some of which is prairie most of which was once densely covered with majestic and towering trees. Large tracts of timber cover hills and valleys leading out in all directions, especially up the streams and toward the mountains. The chief maintenance of the people is lumbering and accompanying industries. Dairying and farming come next.¹³

Centralia's early industries were directly tied to the abundance of the region's natural resources and the availability of railroads to ship these resources to market. Furthermore, Centralia's dependence on extractive industries required seasonal laborers who patronized Centralia's businesses, and encouraged the expansion of Centralia's downtown. Construction of the Northern Pacific line had begun at Kalama in 1870, and by 1880 it had reached its northern terminus at the port of Tacoma. Three years later, Centralia had a full-fledged depot – the only one between Kalama and Tacoma. Over the next several decades train service in the region expanded rapidly, and by 1910, the Great Northern, Northern

⁹ City of Centralia Web Site, viewed on May 1, 2002 at: <http://www.centralia.com/history.htm>

¹⁰ Centralia Community Development Program. *History of Centralia*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Community Development Program, 1955, p. 30.

¹¹ Soon after the railroad reached Centerville (Centralia), Issac Wingard built a one-story frame structure that served as a residence, store, and hotel. In 1873 Wingard was appointed postmaster and the post office was located in the front part of the building. Also in 1873, Clem Crosby established a store to the south of Wingard's building. One year later, Joseph Young built the Pioneer House diagonally across from the Wingard building. These three buildings were clustered around the present intersection of Main Street and Tower Avenue. From Centralia Community Development Program. *History of Centralia*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Community Development Program, 1955, pp. 28-29.

¹² Centralia Community Development Program. *History of Centralia*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Community Development Program, 1955, pp. 30-32; City of Centralia Web Site, viewed on May 1, 2002 at: <http://www.centralia.com/history.htm>

¹³ "Centralia, Washington," *The Coast: The Pioneer Monthly of Washington*, Vol. 13, No. 4, April 1907, p. 243.

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Pacific, Union Pacific, and others had lines that all passed through Centralia, which was dubbed the "Hub City" and referred to as "the great railroad center of Southwestern Washington."¹⁴

With a vast network of railroad lines stemming from its downtown, Centralia was able to market its products to the rest of the Puget Sound region and beyond. Perhaps the greatest resource in the area was the timber that lay directly around the city. "The timber resources of Chehalis County are estimated to embrace over 8,580,000 feet, and consist of fir, cedar, hemlock and spruce trees in many instances being found of great height and gigantic size," boasted an article in a pioneer publication. "At Centralia," it continued, "is a lumber exchange through which most of the manufacturers dispose of their product."¹⁵ In fact, by the 1880s, Centralia had ten mills, seven of which manufactured lumber, and several shingle mills.¹⁶

One of the largest timber companies in the region was the Eastern Railway and Lumber Company of Centralia. Organized in 1903, it was a major industrial landmark for nearly forty years, until a fire destroyed it in 1939. During its heyday it was one of the largest mill operations in the state.¹⁷ The company's original location was by the Ballard and Bond mill, on the east side of the Northern Pacific railroad tracks near the end of Third Street. In 1903 F.B. Hubbard purchased the plant. After enlarging its operations and renaming it, the company became Centralia's largest employer, with more than 500 men on its payroll at one time. In 1909, a local newspaper expressed great optimism over the future of the company:

When a city with Centralia's facilities for transportation to the markets of this world, backed by such enterprising concerns as the Eastern Railway & Lumber Company, and other citizens and worthy corporations, can show the natural and yet partially undeveloped resources, there can be put one future; and that future has been anticipated by this corporation, and the best interests of all are conserved by them.¹⁸

The Eastern firm also acquired the H.H. Martin Lumber Company, renaming it the Western Mill. For a short time, both plants combined their railway and logging operations, providing jobs to approximately 1,000 men.¹⁹

While the timber industry provided employment for many men, jobs in logging were often seasonal, especially for those who worked in the logging camps in the woods. The Eastern, for example, had camps at Kopiah and Mendota. When loggers were finished with their work at a particular camp, or were on a break, they often headed into the nearest town for rest, food, and recreation. The influx of seasonal workers directly impacted the development of Centralia's downtown by providing a market for goods, services, lodging, and entertainment. Examining the city's downtown district in the late-nineteenth century and early-twentieth century, there is evidence of a variety of businesses that catered to loggers, other seasonal workers, and those who passed through on the trains. Sanborn Company Fire Insurance Maps from the 1880s and 1890s, for example, depict a number of hotels and lodgings, restaurants, and "Gentleman's Halls" scattered

¹⁴ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 85-88; Nix, Alma and John Nix, eds. *The History of Lewis County Washington*. Chehalis, Washington: Lewis County Historical Society, 1985, pp. 18-19; "Centralia, The Hub City of Southwestern Washington," Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition Number of the *Centralia Daily Chronicle*, June 1, 1909.

¹⁵ "Centralia, Washington," *The Coast: Pioneer Monthly of Washington*, Vol. 13, No. 4, April 1907, p. 244.

¹⁶ Nix, Alma and John Nix, eds. *The History of Lewis County Washington*. Chehalis, Washington: Lewis County Historical Society, 1985, p. 9.

¹⁷ "Eastern Railway, Lumber Firm Was Once Biggest," October 10, 1966, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

¹⁸ "Eastern Railway & Lumber Company," Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition Number of the *Centralia Daily Chronicle*, June 1, 1909.

¹⁹ "Eastern Railway, Lumber Firm Was Once Biggest," October 10, 1966, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

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throughout downtown Centralia.²⁰ A map from 1901 shows a "Billiards Society Hall," as well. Other sources discuss the numerous hotels, public bathhouses, taverns, bars, and brothels. Tower Avenue was the most prominent location for these facilities; the street was lined with 35 saloons in the late 1890s.²¹ "When I grew up the 100-block of North Tower Avenue was almost all pool halls and saloons," recalled Mary Lucille Swanson, a long-time resident of Centralia. "You just didn't walk on that side of the street."²²

Several of these buildings still stand in Centralia's downtown. Located one block from the train depot at 116 North Tower, for example, is the Robinson Block and Hotel Oxford. Constructed in 1913 by the Robinson Brothers, it was built as a bordello to "service the loggers who came in from the woods." The Olympic Club, located at 112 North Tower, was, upon its completion in 1908, "billed as the finest saloon between Seattle and Portland." Another popular spot was the Liberty Theater Building, located on the corner of North Tower Avenue and Center Street. Built between 1912 and 1915, the theater provided vaudeville entertainment, as well as early silent movies and was lauded as "a perfect gem for a city the size of Centralia."²³

Coal mining was another of Centralia's early industries that depended on the railroad. Coal croppings known to be in the area had never received much attention because of the belief that they were of poor quality, the abundance of wood for fuel, and the lack of a railroad to transport the coal.²⁴ Coal was discovered in the region in 1878, but not until 1906 did the first commercial mine open in the region. Operated by the Wilson Coal Company, the mine was located at Kopiah, nine miles east of Centralia. Other mines followed at Mendota and Tono. At the peak of production there were approximately 34 mines operating in the Centralia-Chehalis area; a series of smaller mines also existed that delivered directly to customers. By 1920, the coal mining boom was mostly over, due in large part to the opening of other coal fields in the Pacific Northwest, such as at Roslyn. Several mines remained in operation, but Centralia's era of coal mining had effectively ended.²⁵

The rich, productive soil of the valley made farming a productive enterprise for many Centralia residents, and markets began to appear in Centralia's downtown that sold local crops. In the early years, settlers planted crops in the newly cleared forest lands around town, in many cases simply planting around the stumps. Crops included wheat, oats, hops, hay, and potatoes. A fruit industry emerged, with apples, pears, prunes, cherries, and berries planted in the region.²⁶ In 1911, the Pacific Fruit & Produce Company broke ground for a new building on Tower Avenue between Walnut and Plum streets to distribute produce from the area. An article from this period noted, "the shipment of Centralia potatoes has been surprisingly large."²⁷

²⁰ Sanborn Company Maps from 1881, 1888, and 1891 show multiple hotels in downtown Centralia, including the Centralia Hotel, Agnews Hotel, Arlington Hotel, Washington Hotel, Opera Hotel, and Bucknell Hotel.

²¹ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 40-43.

²² "Cows dwelled in hotel during financial panic," *The Daily Chronicle*, July 3, 1986, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

²³ Written Communications Class, "Looking Back: A Historical Project of Centralia College." Centralia, Washington: Centralia College, 1994, Lewis County Historical Museum Files; "Many New Buildings Rise," circa 1912-1915, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

²⁴ N.B. Kelsey, "History of Its Discovery," from manuscript *Coal Mines*, no date, Lewis County Historical Museum Files, p. 1.

²⁵ "Old mining towns gone, but coal still big business," *The Daily Chronicle*, July 1976, p. E-9, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

²⁶ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, p. 36.

²⁷ "Another Business Block Under Construction," March 1, 1911, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

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The dairy industry also flourished.²⁸ "Grazing in the logged-off lands and upon the prairies supports large number of cattle which supply a number of butter and cheese factories and a large milk condensing plant with milk and cream," explained a pioneer publication.²⁹ Hog production—and associated butchers and markets to sell meat—was another industry found in Centralia in the late-nineteenth century whose presence was reflected in the physical composition of the city's downtown. One town resident described a barn on West Main Street, where hog slaughtering occurred in the 1880s. "Well, for some years there was quite a market for hog production, and both in Centralia and what was later Chehalis, there had to be a slaughtering center," Mr. Townsend recalled. "There were probably thousands of hogs killed and dressed out in one end of that barn. There was a large yard, all fenced in on the north and west sides of it."³⁰

In addition to timber, mining, and agriculture, Centralia also had several factories in its early years. The Centralia Furniture Manufacturing Company, for example, moved to town when the Board of Trade presented them with a site and a building. The furniture company had the latest carving machinery and appliances. Their products were in high demand, and in 1891 they found it difficult to match production to demand. Local businessmen also started the Centralia Brass and Iron Foundry, the only company west of Chicago that manufactured shelf hardware. The foundry also served the needs of local mills. The American Pump Manufacturing Company manufactured a double action force pump used in every state in the Union. Running at full capacity, the company turned out 100 pumps a week.

Brick making was another important local industry. The presence of significant local supplies of clay for brick making is reflected in the abundance of brick buildings in Centralia's downtown. Circa 1900, Centralia had two brickyards: Wheeler & Wallace and Aikens & Wingard. Previously, cities in the Pacific Northwest had received building bricks shipped from St. Louis. The Northern Pacific Railroad; however, considered bricks from the Centralia area to be of sufficient quality that they were willing to pay a premium price for them.³¹ Some of the bricks produced were used locally. In 1909, for example, the Frye & Bruhn Company broke ground on a two-story brick building on Tower Avenue "next to the Home Bakery & Café," which was located at 122 N. Tower.³² The bricks for the building were ordered from the Centralia Alliance Brick & Tile Company, who ran a brickyard southwest of town. Local bricks were also used to build a high school for Centralia in 1906. Another brick manufacturing plant in operation during this period was the West Coast Brick & Tile Co., Inc. In 1907 a pioneer publication reported that when completed the facility would have "a daily capacity for 50,000 brick," and employ over forty men.³³

Cycles of Boom and Bust: 1880-1910

With its growing logging, farming, and mining industries, Centralia's population expanded rapidly in the 1880s. By 1884, the city boasted a population of 200, and in 1889, the year Washington gained statehood, the City of Centralia was incorporated with a population of 700. Centralia continued to grow in the 1890s. In 1890, 3,000 people lived in

²⁸ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, p. 36; "Farming, Dairying and Fruit Raising in our Fertile Valleys," Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition Number of *The Centralia Daily Chronicle*, June 1, 1909.

²⁹ "Centralia, Washington," *The Coast: Pioneer Monthly of Washington*, Vol. 13, No. 4, April 1907, p. 244.

³⁰ "Barn Center of Early Industry," *The Daily Chronicle*, October 10, 1966, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

³¹ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, p. 35; Nix, Alma and John Nix, eds. *The History of Lewis County Washington*. Chehalis, Washington: Lewis County Historical Society, 1985, p. 9.

³² "Frye & Bruhn Start to Build," *The Daily Chronicle*, March 19, 1909, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

³³ "Centralia, Washington," *The Coast: Pioneer Monthly of Washington*, Vol. 13, No. 4, April 1907, p. 246.

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Centralia, and just two years later the population reached 5,000.³⁴ The success of local industries was reflected in the wave of new construction in Centralia's downtown. Recalling these booming times, the local newspaper wrote:

The town was full of railroaders every night. They spent their money freely. Centralia experienced a boom. Everything looked bright. Brick blocks were erected. The real estate man thrived. New additions were platted and taken into the city, and there were those who believed that the state capital would be located here. A street car line was built and operated. A daily newspaper was published.³⁵

Another newspaper reporter commented on the flourishing building industry in Centralia. The writer "counted 107 buildings in various stages of construction, from the erection of the frame to the completion of the carpenter's and mason's work, ready for the finishing touches of the painter."³⁶ Sanborn Company maps from this period show a well-developed downtown with a variety of business such as drug stores, mills, grocers, cobblers, bakers, barber shops, hardware stores, and feed stores.

As Centralia grew, the city turned its attention to expanding and developing its infrastructure. The 1890s witnessed a number of civic improvements, many of which were evidenced in the city's downtown. The installation of electric street lights, for example, transformed the look and feel of the downtown district. In 1891, as noted above, workers completed a stream train that ran along the entire length of Tower Avenue and a Main Street branch that ran to the Skookumchuck River. Centralia received its first telephone exchange from the Sunset Telephone Company of Seattle in 1891, and by 1894 there were six telephones in the city. Several buildings were also constructed during this period. In the early 1890s work began on the Hotel Centralia. The building was designed to incorporate such innovations as electric lights and an elevator. Several churches and school buildings were also built during this period. In 1890, Centralia's north end school was completed. That same year Centralia's Salvation Army and St. Mary's Catholic Church were constructed. In 1895, a Seventh Day Adventist Church was built at West Main and Oak streets.³⁷

Centralia's growth was interrupted in the mid-1890s by the Panic of 1893. Centralia experienced bank failures and businesses collapsed. As a result, many building and expansion projects were never finished; the Hotel Centralia stood for years with only its basement completed. Prior to the panic, Centralia's population had reached 5,000, but by 1893 it dropped to 1,200. Town founder George Washington offered food and clothing to help those who stayed survive the depression.³⁸

By the turn of the century, however, Centralia was thriving again. The town's population rebounded. In 1900 Centralia's population had risen to 1,600 residents, and that figure steadily increased over the next several years.³⁹ "Centralia is now enjoying a period of growth and development," explained one pioneer publication. "In addition to the many and large private improvements, public improvements are being made."⁴⁰ In fact, during the first decade of the new

³⁴ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 34-35.

³⁵ "Centralia, The Hub City of Southwestern Washington," Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition Number of the *Centralia Daily Chronicle*, June 1, 1909.

³⁶ "Depicted in library book 1889-90 - Twin Cities building boom," *The Daily Chronicle*, September 21, 1979, p. W-4, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

³⁷ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 36-38; Nix, Alma and John Nix, eds. *The History of Lewis County Washington*. Chehalis, Washington: Lewis County Historical Society, 1985, pp. 9-10.

³⁸ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, p. 39.

³⁹ *Ibid.* 1977, p. 39.

⁴⁰ "Centralia, Washington," *The Coast: Pioneer Monthly of Washington*, Vol. 13, No. 4, April 1907, p. 250.

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century, local leaders made many significant improvements to the city, including the downtown section. One of the main problems facing the city was that Tower Avenue, the main business street, was usually covered in four to five inches of mud. In 1902 workers laid gravel on the street, and in 1908 a portion of it and Main Street were paved with brick. The city also had a pressing need for a sewage system, and in 1907 construction of a city sewage system was begun. Telephone service improved during this period. In 1908 the Pacific Telephone Company planned to construct a new system to install a thousand phones. No longer would new customers have to wait until a person with a telephone died before they could have one. In a boon to local transportation needs, an electric railway between Centralia and Chehalis was completed by 1910. In 1908 city officials replaced Centralia's volunteer fire department with a paid one.⁴¹

During this period Centralia's downtown business section expanded, with several new construction projects occurring. In 1900, the corner of Magnolia Street and Tower Avenue had been considered too far north from the business section to be developed. But by 1907, that same corner, now occupied by The Union Loan and Trust Company,⁴² was the heart of the business section. The Field-Lease Bank was also established, making a total of three banks in town. New building projects in the business section included: the Odd Fellows Building, the Hope Block, the Salzer Block, the Andrew Block, and the Koch Block. Beyond the fire limits, several frame buildings were erected, including the Knox Building and the Richards Building.⁴³ "By 1910 the future of Centralia was promising, with its shingle and sawmills, its coal fields, and its farming, dairying, and fruit growing lands," explained the authors of *Centralia's First Century 1845-1955*. "It was the only city between Tacoma and Portland with paved streets and a sewage system. Centralia had an electric railway and improved fire department, lighting service, telephone service, postal service, and a tremendous growth in the business and residential areas."⁴⁴

Expansion and Development: 1910-1930

Centralia's growth and expansion continued into the next decade. By 1910 the city had reached a population of 7,311, and by 1920 Centralia had 7,549 residents. This growth in population was accompanied by a building boom. In 1912 Centralia saw the completion of three new important buildings: the Carnegie Library in George Washington Park⁴⁵, the Union Depot⁴⁶, and the Dumon Building, which came to house the post office. The city celebrated these events with a

⁴¹ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 40-43.

⁴² The Union Loan and Trust, which was designed and built in 1907, was occupied by what was regarded as one of the leading financial institutions in the area in the early 1900s. The bank itself occupied the south half of the building, with professional offices located on the second floor. The basement was occupied by *The Daily Chronicle* newspaper. The third floor was occupied by the Elks Club prior to building their structure in 1920. From "A Walking Tour: Centralia Central Business District," Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

⁴³ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 40-43.

⁴⁴ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 42-43.

⁴⁵ George Washington, Centralia's founder, set aside one block of his claim in 1881, designating it "Public Square." This was to be used by residents of Centralia for recreation and use of public buildings. Also known as "City Park," the land now houses the 1912 Carnegie Library as well as "The Sentinel" monument commemorating the four American Legionnaires killed in the Centralia Massacre of November 11, 1919. The park also features a bandstand, which was built in the early 20th century and which is one of the few remaining bandstands in the state. From "A Walking Tour: Centralia Central Business District," Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

⁴⁶ Centralia's first depot was built in 1880 and sat on the northeast corner of Main and Railroad Avenue. This small wood framed building was built by the Northern Pacific Railroad and was followed by a larger wood building in 1905 known as "Noah's Ark," due

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week-long "Hub City Festival." That same year a high school was also built, and in 1914 the Wilson Hotel was constructed on the corner of North Tower Avenue and Maple Street.⁴⁷

Heavy lumber investments and a slump in the timber market brought bank failures to Centralia in 1914. Following bank closures, the two remaining banks were the Field & Lease⁴⁸ (Matz Building) and the Farmer's & Merchants (Yeager Building). A third bank opened in 1920.⁴⁹

In 1919 labor trouble escalated into violence in Centralia. In the period leading up to World War I, the entire country, including the Pacific Northwest, experienced considerable labor unrest and occasional violence. One of the most radical labor unions was the Industrial Workers of the World – the I.W.W. or "Wobblies." Founded in 1905, the I.W.W. reached its peak prior to the war; thereafter its influence faded, except in the lumber camps and among the migrant workers of the Pacific Northwest. In the lumber industry, where working and living conditions were notoriously bad, it proved easy for the I.W.W. to gain followers.⁵⁰

Situated in the heart of lumber country, tensions ran high in Centralia between workers agitating for change and industrial leaders and patriotic groups. On November 11, 1919, members of the newly formed American Legion staged a parade to celebrate the first anniversary of the end of World War I. The parade route wound past Wobbly Hall, where some marchers broke ranks and charged toward the building. Shots were heard. It is still unclear who fired first, but in a matter of seconds four legionnaires were fatally wounded. That night vigilantes terrorized Wobbly prisoners held in the Centralia jail and seized Wesley Everest, a U.S. Army veteran, and hanged him from the Mellen Street Bridge. After a celebrated trial, a court convicted eight Wobblies of second-degree murder and sentenced them to lengthy prison terms. No one was ever charged with the murder of Everest.⁵¹ While the Roderick Hotel where the Union Hall was located is no longer standing, memorial markers for both the Wobblies and legionnaires are located at George Washington Park.⁵² The four legionnaires are further commemorated by the "The Sentinel" statue, also located in George Washington Park, which features a 20-foot high bronze soldier in a World War I uniform. The monument is by Alonzo Victor Lewis, a famed sculptor whose works in bronze can be found in many public places throughout the Northwest.⁵³

The next decade proceeded relatively smoothly in Centralia. The 1920s saw a good deal of construction in Centralia's downtown. Sanborn Company Maps from this period reveal a thriving downtown. Some of the businesses existing in 1924 include: garages, machine shops, gaming halls, athletic club and gymnasium, bicycle, toys, and sporting

to its architectural design. This depot was located at Railroad and Third Avenue. The third and final depot, which stands today, was constructed of brick in 1912. From "A Walking Tour: Centralia Central Business District," Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

⁴⁷ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 39, 44-46; "Old buildings are hallmarks of Centralia," *The Daily Chronicle*, July 3, 1986, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

⁴⁸ The Field & Lease Building was constructed in 1897 and is located at the corner of North Tower Avenue and Main Street. When Frank Field died, his estate sold the building to Howard Caldwell, who operated a drug store on the corner for many years, through the 40s, 50s, and 60s. It was known as Young Drug Co. when Caldwell purchased the corner drug store in 1942. Caldwell purchased the entire building in 1963, and Olympic Properties acquired it in 1972. From "Old Building Gets Plenty of Use," *The Daily Chronicle*, 1985, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

⁴⁹ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 44-46.

⁵⁰ Lentz, Flo and Janet Blair Porter. "Phase II – 1989, Historic Resources Survey & Inventory, City of Centralia, Washington." Prepared for the City of Centralia and State of Washington Department of Community Development, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, August 1989, p. 15.

⁵¹ Schwantes, Carlos Arnaldo. *The Pacific Northwest: An Interpretive History*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1996, pp. 360-361; Lentz, Flo and Janet Blair Porter. "Phase II – 1989, Historic Resources Survey & Inventory, City of Centralia, Washington." Prepared for the City of Centralia and State of Washington Department of Community Development, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, August 1989, p. 16.

⁵² City of Centralia Web Site, viewed on May 1, 2002 at: <http://www.centralia.com/history.htm>

⁵³ "Old buildings are hallmarks of Centralia," *The Daily Chronicle*, July 3, 1986, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

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goods shop, banks, bakeries, lodgings, movies, soft drinks and gaming, music, theaters, and churches. In 1920 the Elks Lodge was built at the corner of North Pearl and Locust streets. Designed by noted Washington architect Joseph Wohleb, the building was used as an Elks Lodge until 1986, when it was converted into an antique mall.⁵⁴ In 1923 City Hall – also designed by Wohleb – was completed, and that same year Centralia's Masonic Building was erected.⁵⁵ In 1925 the state's first junior college was built in Centralia. In 1927, the Lewis and Clark Hotel, designed by Robert Reamer, opened its doors. The hotel had 100 guest rooms, 65 with private baths. The following year work started on the Fox Theater and the Presbyterian Church. Agricultural interests expanded with a growing strawberry and egg and poultry industries.⁵⁶ In 1928-29, the architecture firm Bebb and Gould designed the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Building for the Pacific Telephone Company at the cost of a million dollars.

Indeed, the growth and expansion associated with this period attracted notable architects to Centralia, including Joseph H. Wohleb, Bebb & Gould, and Robert Reamer. Connecticut-born Joseph H. Wohleb was a prolific architect, despite his lack of training in design (his formal education ended at the 9th grade). He moved to Olympia, Washington in 1911 at the age of 24 where he practiced architecture until his death on June 11, 1958. He joined the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in 1924, and later served as vice-president of the Washington State Chapter. He also helped organize the Southwest Washington Chapter of the AIA in 1954. In addition to the Elk's Lodge and City Hall, which were designed relatively early in his career, Wohleb designed a number of distinctive buildings, including: the Mason County Courthouse; Thurston County Courthouse; Elk's Lodges in Bremerton and Olympia; the Lincoln, Washington, and Garfield grade schools in Olympia; the Rhineland Brewery in Seattle; the Olympia Brewery in Olympia; the Capitol Theater in Olympia, and several residences.⁵⁷

The Seattle architecture firm of Bebb and Gould, who designed Centralia's Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Building, was highly regarded during the early 20th century. In addition to the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Building, English-born Charles H. Bebb and New York City-born Carl F. Gould designed many buildings in northwest Washington. These include the Frye Hotel, the Seattle Athletic Club, the Stander Hotel, the Hoge Building, the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital, and the Everett Public Library. They were retained as the architects for the University of Washington, built several of the school's buildings, and contributed to the Campus Master Plan. Bebb & Gould also prepared the Western Washington University Campus Plan. The Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Building in Centralia was designed at the height of the firm's success and is one of a series of similar designed buildings which the firm completed for the company.⁵⁸

The Lewis and Clark Hotel in Centralia was designed by Robert Chambers Reamer, who is best known for designing the Old Faithful Inn in Yellowstone Park. Reamer's architectural career was spawned in 1873, at the age of 13, when he worked for an architect in Detroit. Reamer, who was born in Oberlin, Ohio got his real break in the late 1890s

⁵⁴ "A Walking Tour: Centralia Central Business District," Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

⁵⁵ This building was dedicated as the new home of the Centralia Masonic Lodge No. 63 on April 7, 1923. Designed by architect Dennis Nichols of Vancouver, WA, the project was taken over by W.E. Farr after construction began due to the sudden death of Nichols. From "A Walking Tour: Centralia Central Business District," Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

⁵⁶ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 43-46; Lentz, Flo and Janet Blair Porter. "Phase II – 1989, Historic Resources Survey & Inventory, City of Centralia, Washington." Prepared for the City of Centralia and State of Washington Department of Community Development, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, August 1989, p. 16; Written Communications Class, "Looking Back: A Historical Project of Centralia College." Centralia, Washington: Centralia College, 1994, Lewis County Historical Museum Files; "Many New Buildings Rise," circa 1912-1915, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

⁵⁷ University of Washington's Architect's Reference File. Accession Name: "Wohleb, Joseph H./Wohleb & Wohleb." On file at University of Washington, Manuscripts, Special Collection, and University Archives Library.

⁵⁸ University of Washington's Architect's Reference File. Accession Name: "Bebb Charles Herbert/Bebb & Mendel." On file at University of Washington, Manuscripts, Special Collection, and University Archives Library.

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when he was invited to become the architect for Yellowstone. Designed in 1903, the Old Faithful Inn is one of his best known buildings, and influenced National Park Services buildings for decades to come. Reamer's first major work in the Puget Sound area was the Skinner Building (also known as the Fifth Avenue Theater) in Seattle. His firm also designed the Seattle Times Building, the Meany Hotel in Seattle, the Mount Baker Theater in Bellingham, and the Fox Theater in Spokane. The Lewis and Clark Hotel was designed at the height of his career, just a few years before he designed the Meany Hotel in Seattle's University District. The Lewis and Clark Hotel opened its doors to the public in 1927, and was constructed at a cost between \$300,000 and \$325,000. When it was built, the hotel had 100 guest rooms, and 65 of them had private baths. The hotel had a variety of luxury amenities, including a formal dining room, a ballroom, a restaurant and a lounge.⁵⁹

Decline and Recovery: 1930-1950

Then in 1929, the stock market crashed, and the Great Depression followed. During the decade of the 1930s, Centralia's population declined from 8,058 residents in 1930 to 7,414 in 1940.⁶⁰ Under the Works Progress Administration (WPA) 80 men were put to work in Centralia on a variety of projects. WPA workers were assigned to work on city playgrounds and address river control. They improved fairgrounds, Borst Park, the city's airfield, the library, the City Park, and streets and dikes.⁶¹

Compounding the problems of the Depression, Centralia experienced a major flood in December 1933. Above average rainfall caused the Skookumchuck River to overflow its banks in two places. One torrent rushed down Tower Avenue into the business section as far as Maple Street, following China Ditch into the Chehalis River. The other wave flowed down J Street, flooding substantial portions of the west and northwest sections of town. The force of the current lifted many bridges across China Ditch from their foundations and forced residents to rely on boats and canoes to travel around town.⁶²

Two days after the flood, the city engineer started a survey for a dike on the south bank of the Skookumchuck River. In 1935 and 1936, there was further flood damage from water traveling down the old mill race near J Street. In 1938 the Skookumchuck dike was completed for approximately \$800, using a combination of WPA and city funds.⁶³

In the late 1930s, several large building projects, some in the city's downtown, provided unemployment relief for Centralia's residents. These included construction of a concrete viaduct over the railroad tracks, a high school gym, and the addition of center strip paving to 25 blocks in the south end.⁶⁴ In 1937 the U.S. Post Office building was constructed in Centralia at the corner of South Silver and Locust streets. The WPA commissioned Pacific Northwest artist Kenneth Callahan to paint a wall mural in the building's interior, which depicts Centralia's early agricultural and logging heritage.⁶⁵

But the most significant relief for Centralia's economy came with the outbreak of World War II. Soldiers from California, Nevada, and Utah arrived to participate in training and maneuvers in the Chehalis-Centralia and Grand Mound

⁵⁹ University of Washington's Architect's Reference File. Accession Name: "Reamer, Robert C." On file at University of Washington, Manuscripts, Special Collection, and University Archives Library.

⁶⁰ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, p. 39.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 43-53.

⁶² *Ibid.*, pp. 47-48.

⁶³ *Ibid.*, p. 48.

⁶⁴ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 43-53.

⁶⁵ "A Walking Tour: Centralia Central Business District," Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

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areas.⁶⁶ Also during the war five local coal mines operated year-round and oil companies conducted exploratory work around Centralia, continuing these efforts until 1955. Among the manufacturing firms in existence at the end of the war were: I.L. Linscott's Manufacturing Company, which produced curtain rods, tent poles, broom handles, and other items; the Southwest Washington Livestock Marketing Association; the Churchill Glove Factory, which produced loggers' gloves; and Plywood Products, which had made wooden wheelbarrows during the war and then converted to toy manufacturing.⁶⁷

During the late 1940s, Centralia's economy enjoyed a period of recovery. On April 13, 1949, however, a severe earthquake rattled the town, inflicting damage on people and property. Property damage ran between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000, and several downtown buildings were impacted by the event. The Matz Building, located on the southeast corner of Main Street and Tower Avenue, partially collapsed, killing one resident. Other buildings also suffered damage in the earthquake. Centralia's Washington School was too badly damaged to use again, and many churches and other large buildings had plaster cracks and toppled chimneys. In fact, almost every chimney in the city fell down during the quake. Following the earthquake, Centralia began repairing and rebuilding damaged properties, including the construction of two new schools.⁶⁸

Despite the setback caused by the earthquake, Centralia continued to expand. By 1950 the city's population had risen to 8,657 residents. The city's major industries remained lumbering, agriculture, and railroading.⁶⁹ Within the lumber industry the emphasis had shifted to manufacturing plywood. Centralia Plywood, launched in 1948 as Sylvan Products Inc., was one of Lewis County's leading industries by the 1960s, with more than 200 employees.⁷⁰ Also during the 1950s, Centralia's Pearl Street underwent several changes. At Pearl and Maple the new Chronicle Building housed a high speed press with additional modern machinery. On North Pearl, a glove factory was constructed, and near it the Centralia Dairy was built. In 1954 Weyerhaeuser moved into its new building in the 500 block of North Pearl.⁷¹

Modern Era: 1960- 2002

While agriculture and timber remain important to Centralia's economy, over the last forty years logging in the area has declined. Mill closures and layoffs occurred throughout the county in the 1980s. During this same period, Centralia witnessed the growth of a new industry with the construction of a coal-operated power plant outside the city. In December 1951, the Department of the Interior examined the Hanaford Valley coal fields north of Centralia and found that they contained an estimated 1.75 billion tons of sub-bituminous coal. In 1967, Pacific Power and Light of Portland and Washington Water Power of Spokane, who had acquired the coal fields in 1957, announced plans to build a steam-electric plant. Construction began in 1968, and in 1971 the first of the plant's two generators entered service. The second

⁶⁶ Lentz, Flo and Janet Blair Porter. "Phase II - 1989, Historic Resources Survey & Inventory, City of Centralia, Washington." Prepared for the City of Centralia and State of Washington Department of Community Development, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, August 1989, p. 18.

⁶⁷ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 47-53.

⁶⁸ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, p. 51.

⁶⁹ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 39, 47-53.

⁷⁰ "Centralia Plywood Major Producer Now," *The Daily Chronicle*, October 10, 1966, p. A-17, Lewis County Historical Museum Files.

⁷¹ Citizens of Centralia. *Centralia's First Century, 1845-1955*. Centralia, Washington: Centralia Chamber of Commerce, 1977, pp. 47-53.

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generator was ready in 1972.⁷² Today, the Centralia Power Plant is the county's second largest employer, providing approximately 670 jobs in 2000.⁷³

Recreation has also received more emphasis during this period, as evidenced in the expansion and development of Borst Park, located west of the downtown. The park's facilities have been expanded by the addition of baseball diamonds, racquetball courts, and an indoor swimming pool. According to resident Dan Duffy, the park is a destination for people throughout the region.⁷⁴

Centralia's downtown did undergo changes during this period. In the early 1970s, approximately ten to twelve historic buildings were demolished to make way for a citywide parking project. During the period many storefront were also modified with "modern" period materials including permastone, metal and stucco. Recently, downtown Centralia's sidewalks and streets underwent renovation. This project did not, however, impact any buildings or alter traffic patterns.⁷⁵

⁷² Nix, Alma and John Nix, eds. *The History of Lewis County Washington*. Chehalis, Washington: Lewis County Historical Society, 1985, pp. 15-16.

⁷³ Bordman, Brook, Dennis D. Haislip, Steve Oliver, and Amy Roden. "Cutting Through the Smoke of the Centralia Power Plant," 1997, viewed on May 30, 2002, at: <http://www.olywa.net/flyinv/cpp/about.html>; "Measure to Keep Steam Plant Running Passes to Governor's Office," February 29, 2000, viewed on May 30, 2002, at: <http://www.src.wa.gov/news/pr/2000/sweckerpr022900.htm>; Phone Interview with Dan Duffy, conducted by Jill Schnaiberg, May 30, 2002.

⁷⁴ Phone Interview with Dan Duffy, conducted by Jill Schnaiberg, May 30, 2002.

⁷⁵ Phone Interview with Dan Duffy, conducted by Jill Schnaiberg, May 30, 2002.

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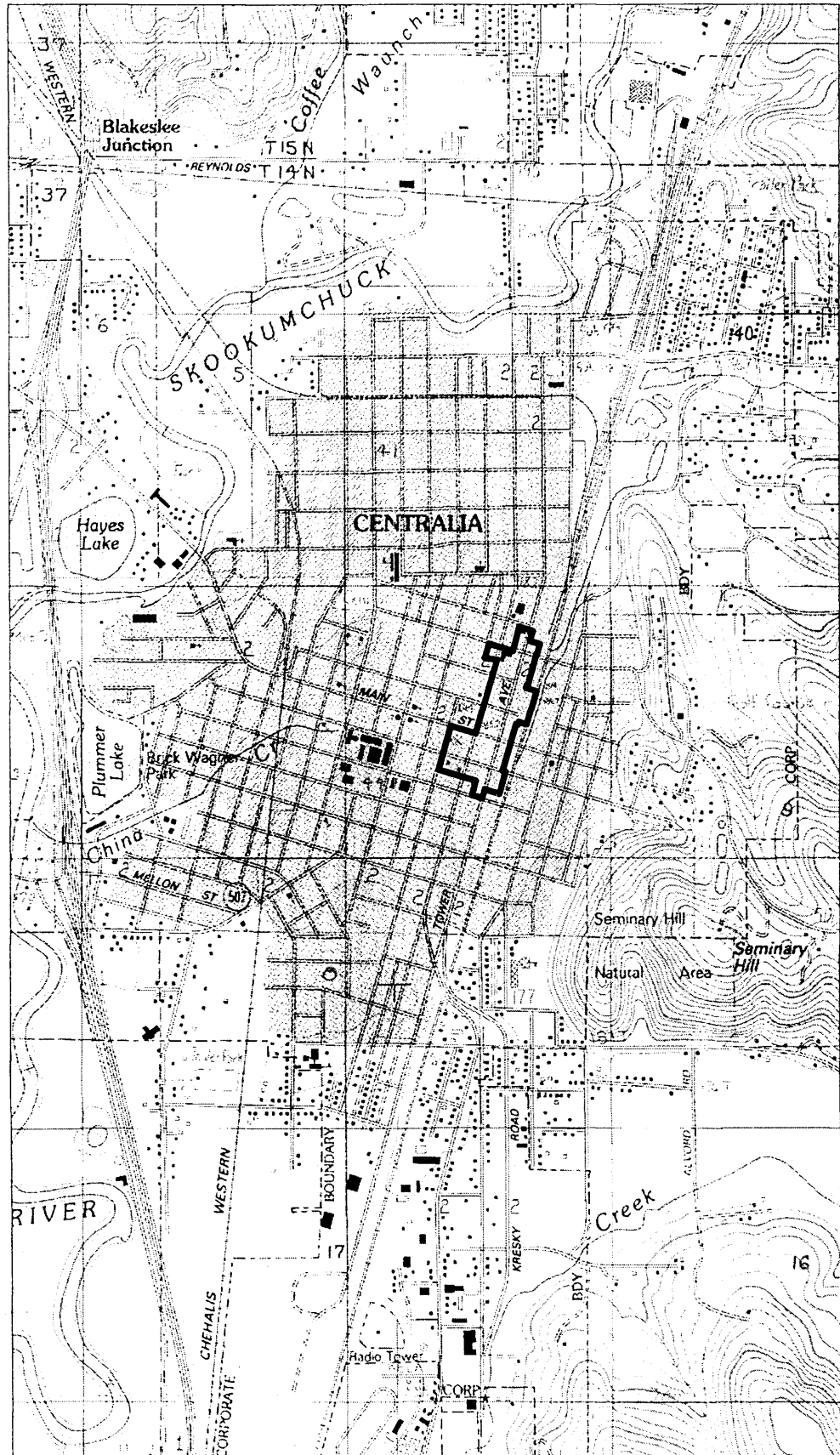
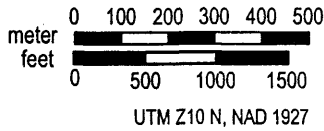
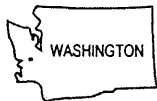
Woodbridge, Sally B. and Roger Montgomery. *A Guide to Architecture in Washington State*. University of Washington Press, Seattle, Washington, 1980.

Centralia Downtown Historic District

Regional Map

———— District Boundary

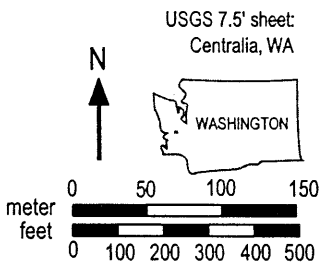
USGS 7.5' sheet
Centralia, WA



Centralia Downtown Historic District

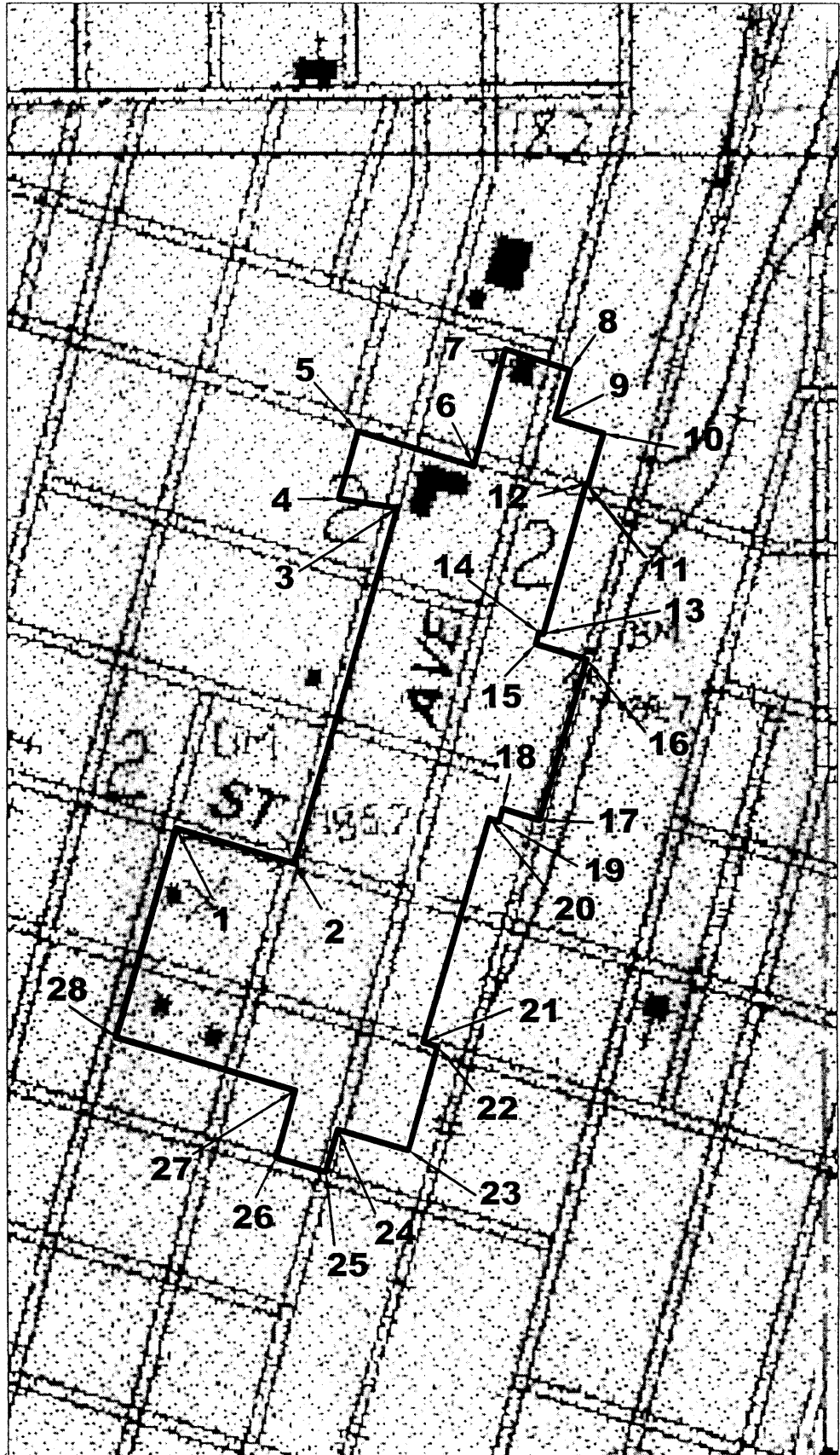
Detail View

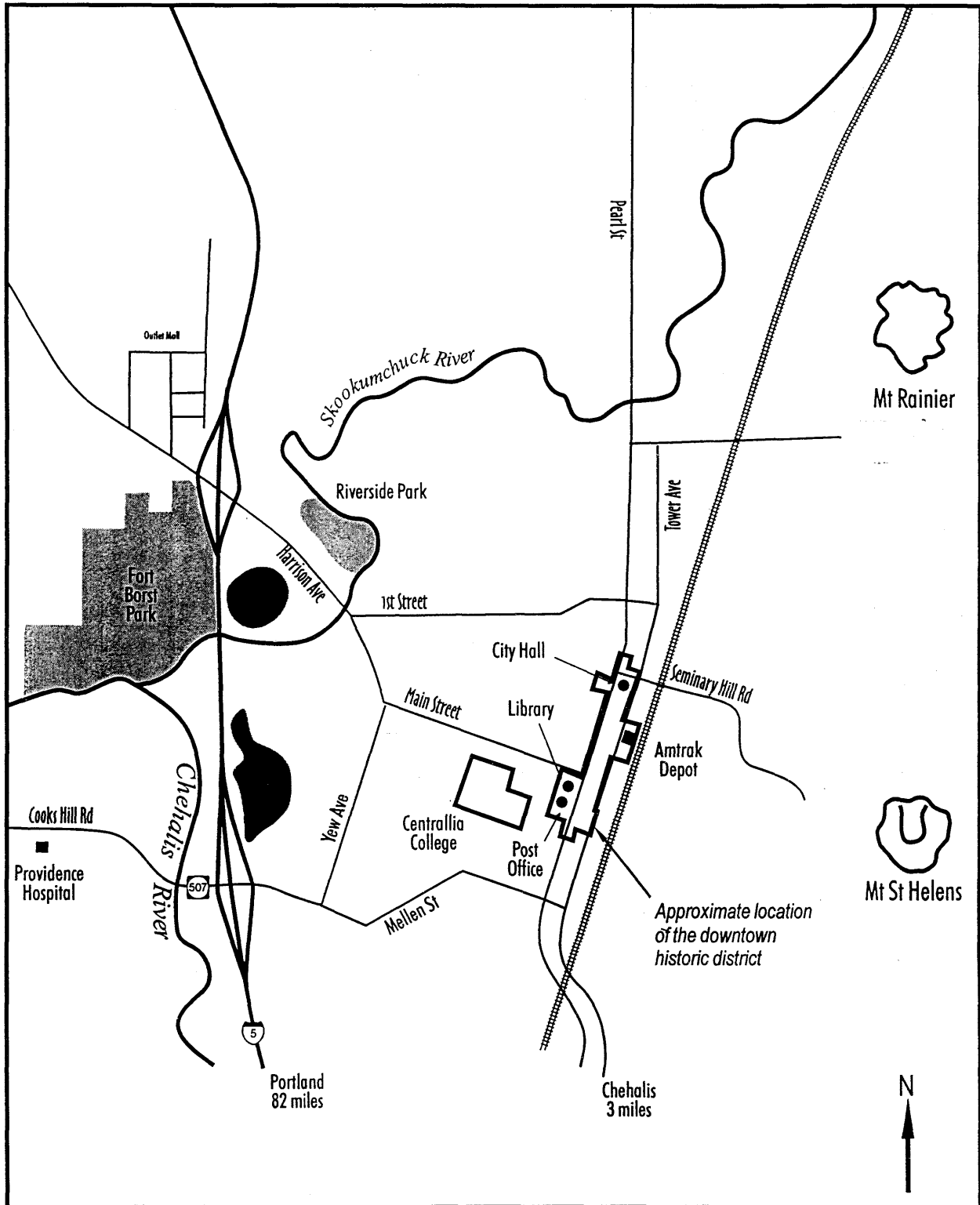
———— District Boundary



UTM Grid Coordinates
Zone 10 N, NAD 1927

Corner	Easting	Northing
1	503398.6	5173484.6
2	503491.3	5173457.5
3	503571.9	5173728.7
4	503525.8	5173735.6
5	503540.9	5173787.0
6	503631.8	5173760.7
7	503656.5	5173849.9
8	503707.1	5173834.0
9	503695.8	5173796.9
10	503733.7	5173785.6
11	503721.5	5173746.3
12	503719.7	5173747.1
13	503686.4	5173632.7
14	503683.0	5173633.7
15	503680.4	5173624.9
16	503720.5	5173613.4
17	503683.3	5173491.1
18	503654.3	5173499.6
19	503651.6	5173490.0
20	503643.8	5173492.4
21	503591.9	5173319.9
22	503603.2	5173316.8
23	503580.1	5173236.9
24	503524.6	5173252.9
25	503515.4	5173219.9
26	503476.8	5173231.1
27	503491.6	5173283.2
28	503351.8	5173323.9

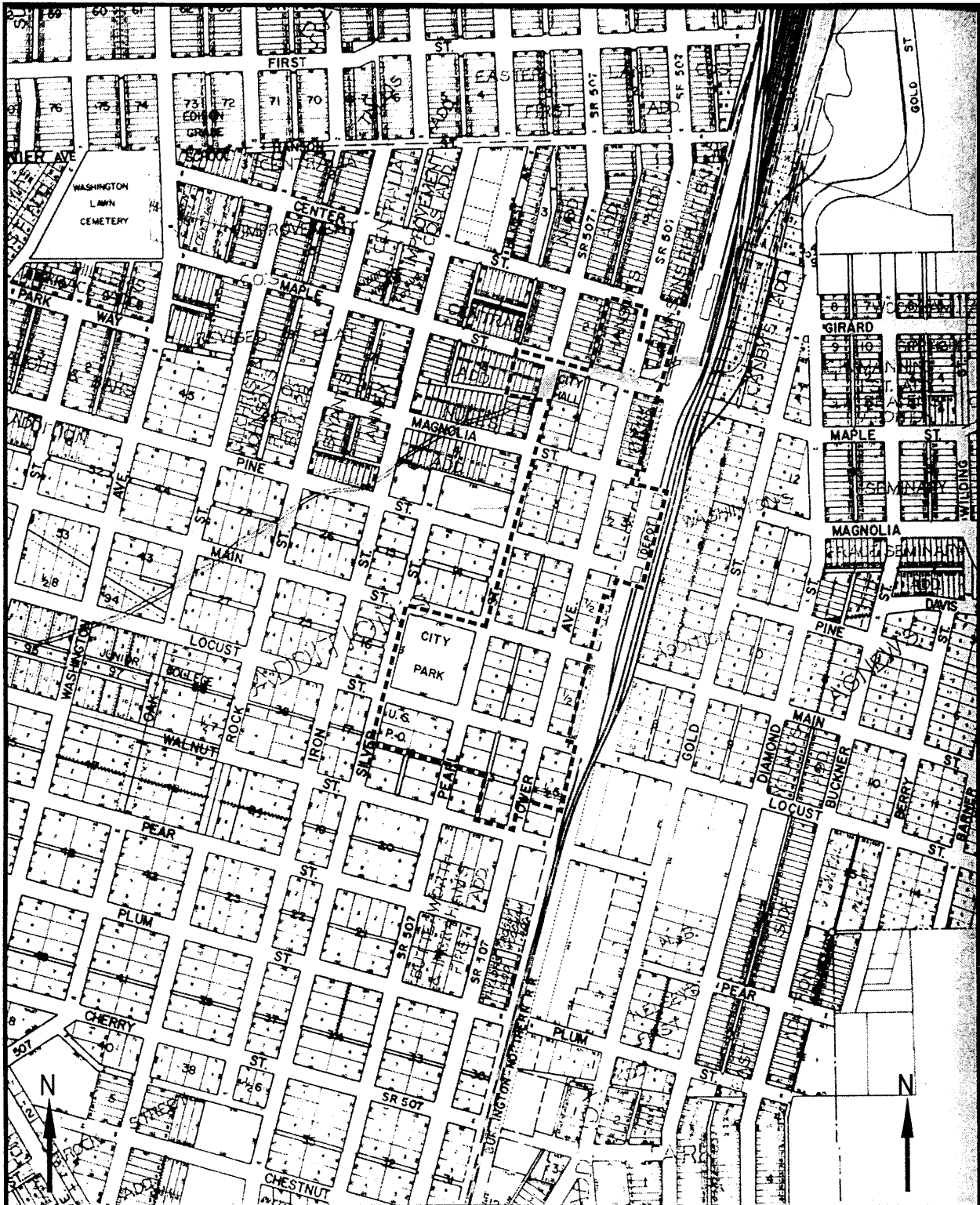




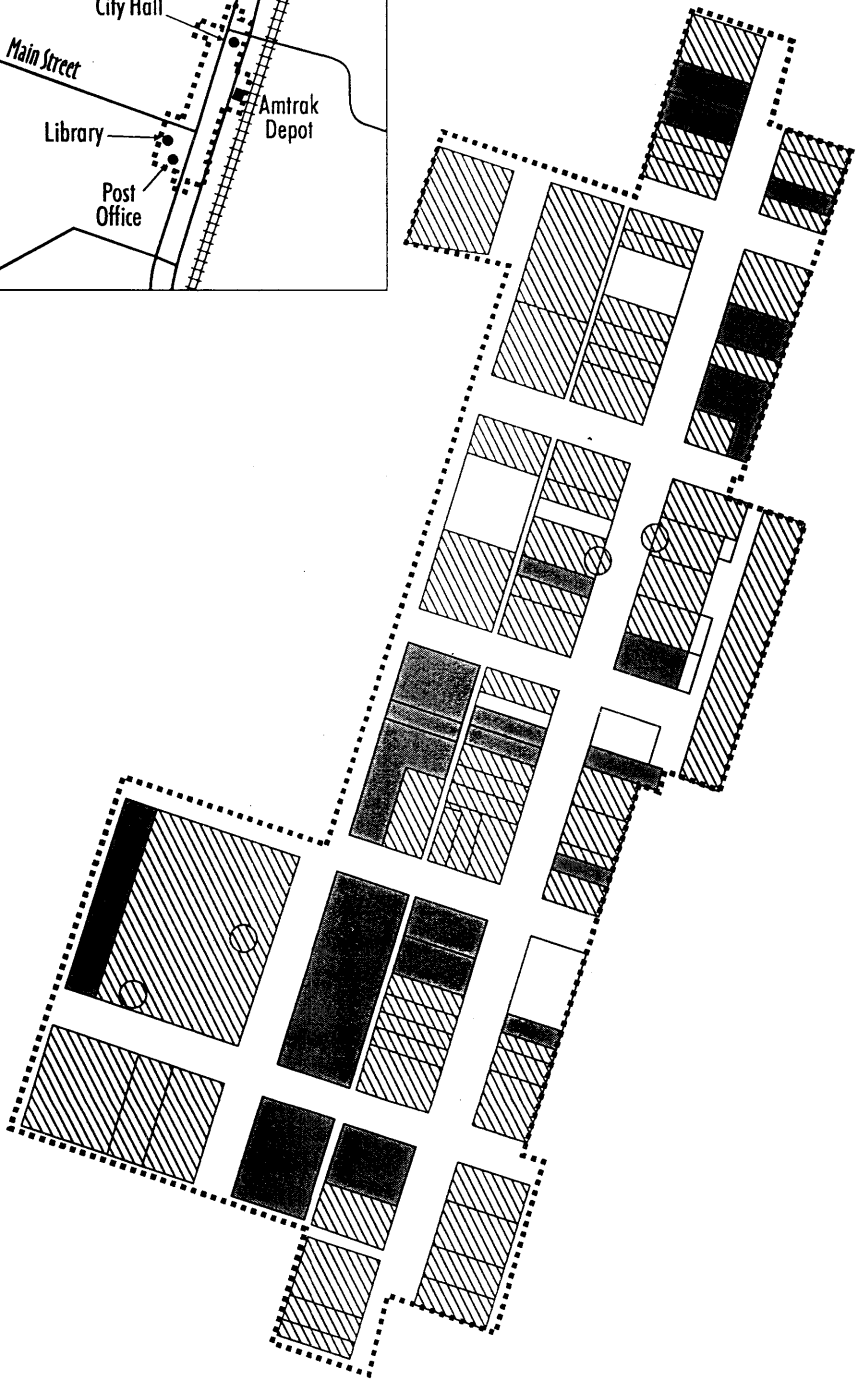
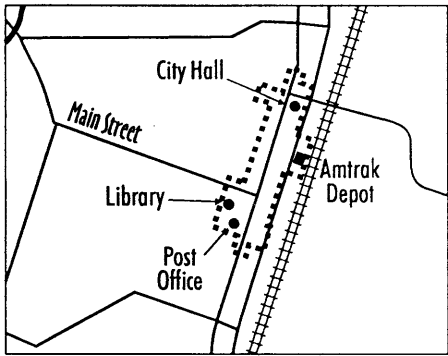
Centralia Downtown Historic District

Community Map




source: www.centralia.com/transport.htm

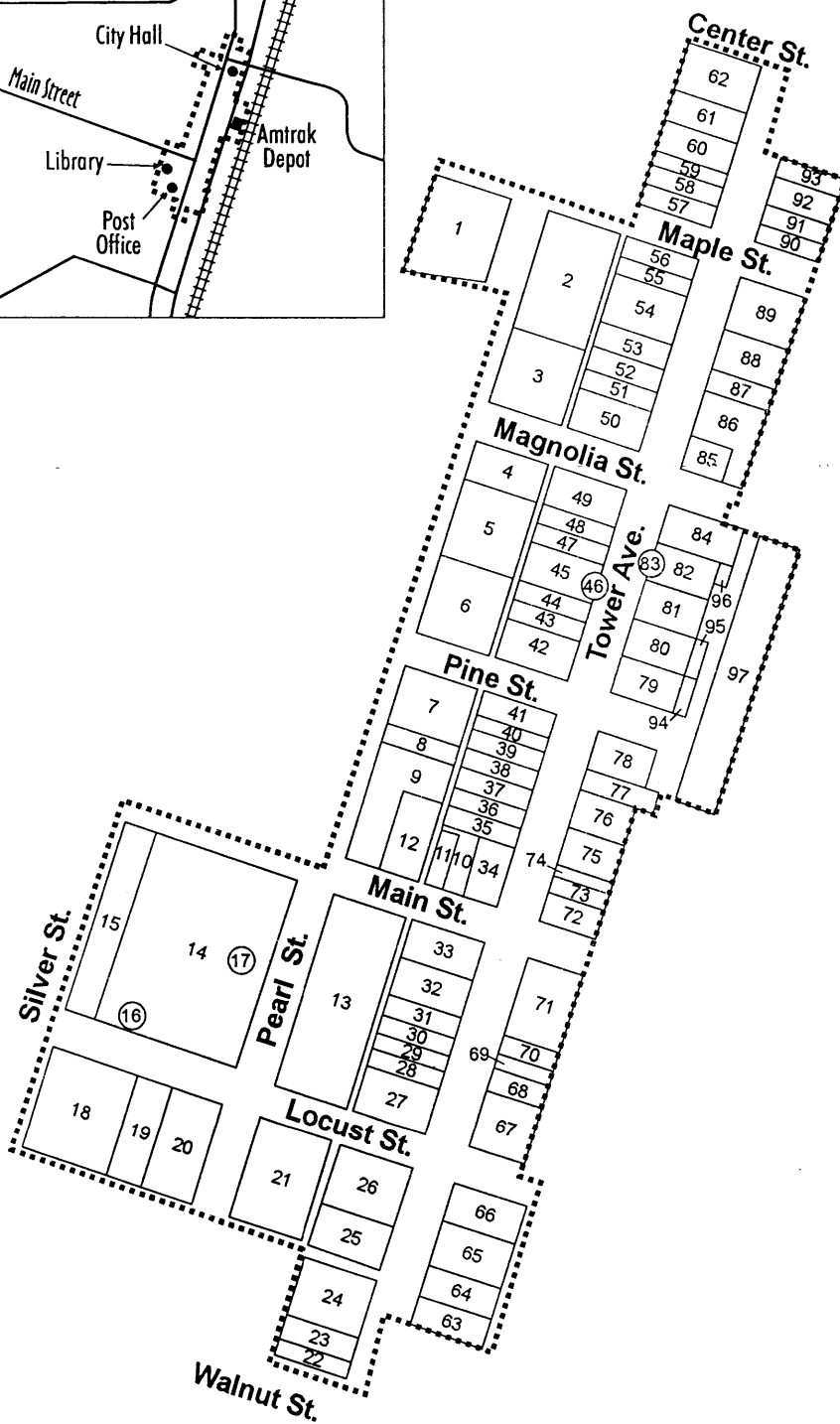
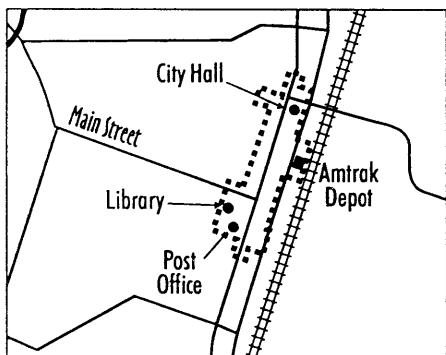


**Centralia Downtown
Historic District**
Plat Map



**Centralia Downtown
Historic District**
Contributing Resources

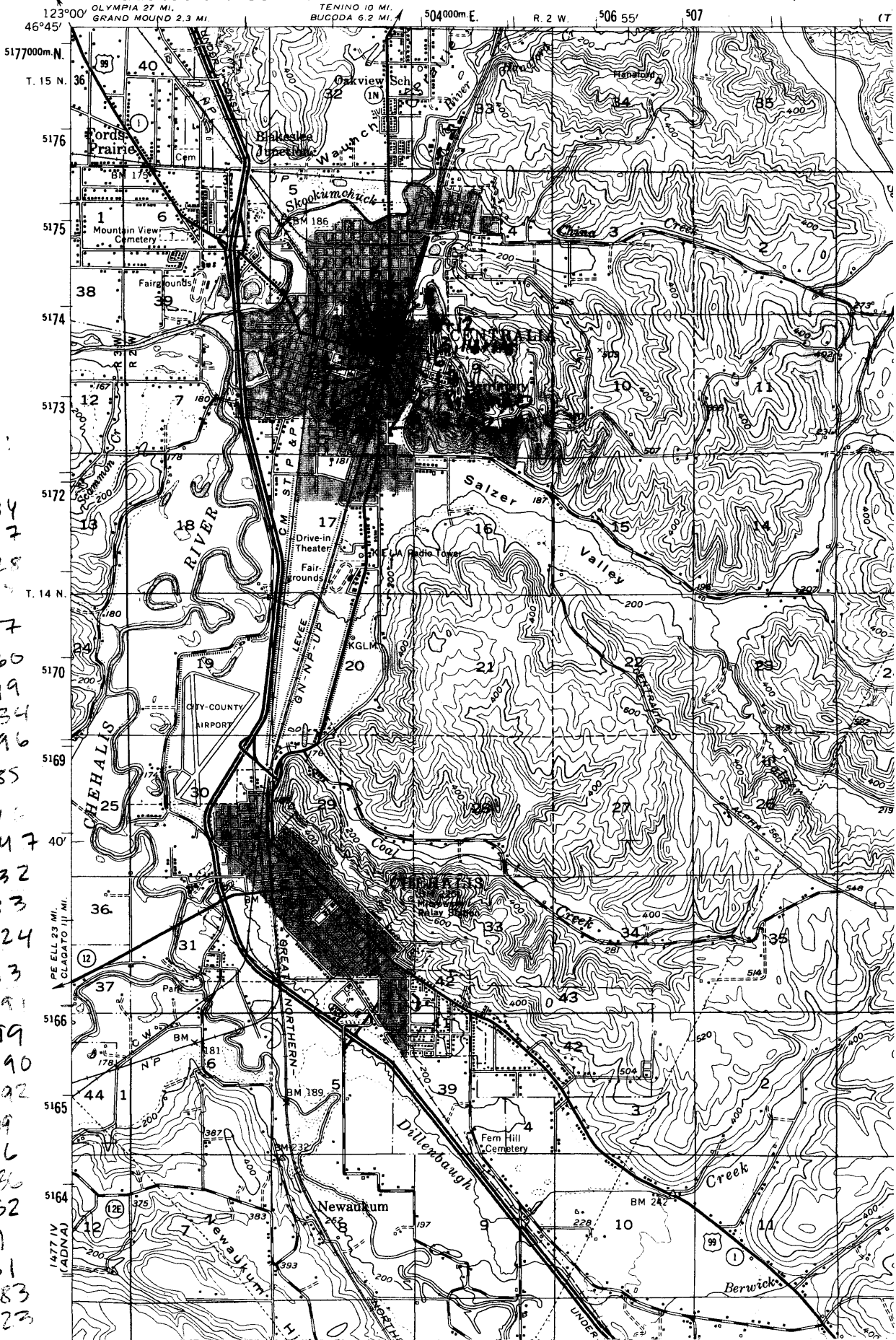
Property Status	
	Contributing Property
	Non-contributing Property
	Vacant Property



**Centralia Downtown
Historic District**
Identification Map

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
W. A. GALBR
SHELDON L. GLOVER, SUPERVISOR



CENTRALIA DOWNTOWN
HISTORIC DISTRICT

ZONE 10

UTM GRID COORDINATES:

	NORTHING	EASTING
1	503398	5173484
2	503491	5173457
3	503571	5173728
1	503525	5173733
5	503540	5173757
2	503631	5173760
2	503656	5173849
3	503707	5173834
1	503695	5173796
2	503733	5173785
	503721	5173711
2	503719	5173747
3	503686	5173632
	503683	5173633
	503680	5173624
	503720	5173613
	503683	5173491
	503654	5173499
	50365	5173490
2	503643	5173492
1	503591	5173319
2	503603	5173316
3	503585	5173296
1	503524	5173252
5	503515	5173219
6	503476	5173231
7	503491	5173283
5	50335	5173323