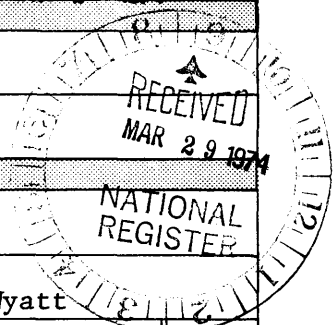


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Oregon
COUNTY: Clatsop
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE MAY 2 1974



1. NAME

COMMON: Astoria Column

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Coxcomb Hill

CITY OR TOWN: Astoria

STATE: Oregon

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First - Wendell Wyatt

COUNTY: Clatsop

CODE: 41

CODE: 007

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>Monument</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: City of Astoria

STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 300

CITY OR TOWN: Astoria

STATE: Oregon

CODE: 41

Oregon 97103

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clatsop County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Astoria

STATE: Oregon

CODE: 41

Oregon 97103

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Parks and Recreation Branch

STREET AND NUMBER: Oregon State Highway Division

CITY OR TOWN: Salem

STATE: Oregon

CODE: 41

Oregon 97310

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Oregon

COUNTY: Clatsop

ENTRY NUMBER: 87A

DATE: MAY 2 1974

FOR NPS USE ONLY

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1926

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Astoria is the site of the first settlement by white man in the Oregon Country. It is situated on the south bank of the Columbia, twelve miles from the river mouth. Founded in 1811 as a fur post by representatives of John Jacob Astor and the Pacific Fur Company, Astoria was designated by U. S. Customs an official port of entry in 1849, shortly after Oregon achieved status as a Territory. The first overland immigrants had arrived in 1844-1845, and from the middle of the 19th century Astoria's growth as a fishing port and packing center was steady.

The Astoria Column was erected in John Jacob Astor Park, on Coxcomb Hill, the highest point in the vicinity, in 1926. It was built by the Great Northern Railway Company, through the generosity of Vincent Astor of New York, to commemorate three epochal events in the history of the Oregon Country. It marked the location at the mouth of the Columbia of the discovery of the river by Robert Gray in 1792; the western terminus of the Lewis and Clark expedition in 1805; and the establishment of Fort Astoria by John Jacob Astor in 1811. It was one of a series of monuments located along the Great Northern Railway to commemorate outstanding events in the settling of the West. The expenditure of corporate funds on such enterprises was somewhat characteristic of the era. The column not only symbolizes the historic events, it is the highest expression in monumental form in Oregon of the earnest, patriotic boosterism of the 1920s.

Towering above Astoria on a promontory that commands a panoramic vista of the ocean, the Columbia River bar, Young's Bay and the surrounding coastal terrain, the column is supposed to have been inspired by the column erected in Rome by Emperor Trajan in 114 A.D. It was designed in contemporary materials by Electus Litchfield, New York architect, and decorated in sgraffito in the traditional format, a spiral frieze, by Italian artist Attilio Pusterla.

Several years after the dedication of the monument, which took place on July 22, 1926, Ralph Budd, president of the Great Northern Railway wrote a personal summary of the conception and building of the column at the request of a member of the Portland Press Club. Following are two excerpts.

"I knew of the reverence in which Mr. Vincent Astor held his great-grandfather, and of the interest he had in the latter's commercial activities in the West. It was, therefore, natural and easy for me to arouse sympathetic cooperation of Vincent Astor in the project I had in mind."

"Ordinarily it was my idea merely to erect a very fine base for a large flag staff, which would carry a correspondingly large American flag.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dark, Russell, "Landmark in Astoria Threatened," Oregonian (March 5, 1972), Sec.3, 10
 "Some Considerations of the Astoria Column," scholarly paper presented to Northern Pacific Coast Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians on November 3, 1973, by Leonard B. Kimbrell, Department of Art History, Portland State University. Professor Kimbrell's paper is to be published eventually.
 Corning, Howard McKinley, ed., Dictionary of Oregon History (Portland: Binford and Mort, 1956), 12-13.

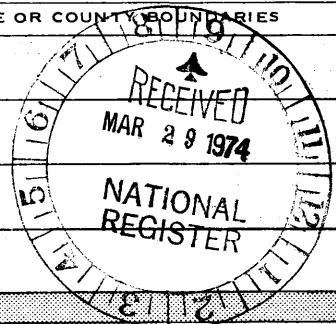
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	46°	10'	53"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	123°	48'	59"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"			
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



10/4369
 511433
 HF
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Information based upon material supplied by Leonard B. Kimbrell (see bibliographic references above)

ORGANIZATION: Paul B. Hartwig, Assistant Park Historian
 Oregon State Highway Division

DATE: March 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: Oregon State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon 97301 CODE: 41

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: David G. Stalder

Title: State Parks Superintendent

Date: March 18, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AR Mortensen
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 5/8/74

ATTEST:

Wm. H. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5-2-74