

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Chemeketa Lodge No. 1 Odd Fellows Buildings
other names/site number I.O.O.F. Temple
Grand Theater

2. Location

street & number 185-195 High Street NE N/A not for publication
city, town Salem N/A vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Marion code 047 zip code 97301

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

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

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] January 29, 1988
Signature of certifying official Date
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

[Signature] 4/8/88

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social; meeting hall
Recreation and Culture; theater
Commerce; business, specialty store
Transportation; road related
Domestic; hotel

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social; meeting hall
Recreation and Culture; theater
Commerce; specialty store
restaurant
Transportation; road related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian; Richardsonian Romanesque
Late 19th and early 20th Century Revivals;
Mediterranean

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone (basaltic)
walls stucco
roof Synthetics - vinyl
other Concrete

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) Buildings are located on the southwest corner of the intersection of High and Court Streets in downtown Salem and consist of four interconnected structures. Because the single-story features are technically appendages to the main block of 1900, they are not counted as separately contributing features. The historic motor stage terminal and hotel annex adjoining the main block on the south, however, is distinct by function and design, though its facade is sympathetically designed to complement the Odd Fellows Temple, and it is, therefore, counted as a contributing feature in its own right.

1. Odd Fellows Temple or Opera House, 1900, three stories.
2. Central Stage Terminal and Hotel, 1921, three stories, adjoining on the south.
3. Store and theater annex, 1900, one story, adjoining on the west.
4. Extension of rear annex, c. 1922, remodeled front, 1936, one story.

On the street or first floor level, the buildings were designed for commercial use including a theater, The Grand. The three-story Temple or Opera House second floor consisted of offices overlooking the streets and wrapped around the upper part of the theater. The third floor was devoted to lodge rooms. The 1900 annex at the rear was initially part of the theater with two small stores fronting Court Street. The 1921 hotel and bus depot addition to the south, fronting High Street, provided hotel rooms on the second floor connected to the adjoining offices in the original Opera House which were changed to hotel rooms. The third floor is but one room deep and expanded the space used for lodge purposes. The store fronting Court Street, at the rear property line, originally of frame construction, was replaced by a single story concrete building about 1922-1923, the front 12 feet of which were rebuilt in 1936 from a design by Frank Strubble.

Architects for the Temple or Opera House and the first annex, both of 1900, were Walter D. Pugh and John Gray of Salem. The contractors were Erixon & Van Patten. The architect for the terminal and hotel annex of 192 was Morris Whitehouse of Portland. Later revisions of these two buildings were by Frank H. Strubble, 1935-1937 and 1951, and James L. Payne, 1952. The theater space was redesigned by James DeYoung in 1935.

1. The Opera House or Odd Fellows Temple of 1900 was designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. Construction of walls is of stone and brick, with a cement facing on the upper floors. It is 80 feet on High Street, and 110 feet on Court Street.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

The one story brick addition, 24 ft. on Court, and 80 ft. across the west end was added that fall. The two buildings were on the edge of the Salem business area, across from the Marion County Court House to the east. A major external change was the removal of a frame tower after a record wet heavy snow of 2'7" pushed it off base, the night of January 31-February 1, 1937. There was extensive damage in the city, 15 buildings collapsed, and many canopies came down over sidewalks.

The Opera House foundation is of brick and rock, some rock from the property. The basement was expanded in 1937 and concrete floors added. From the first the building was heated by steam. The boilers used wood initially and now oil or gas.

Opera House street level walls and quoin pillars are of cut stone, smooth, or perhaps finished with concrete. The stone has been identified as basaltic andesite. Each facade is divided in thirds by a center projection which on High Street was the support of the frame tower now gone. The south third was a wall with two high windows at each end. The center is occupied by the deep Opera House or "Grand Theater" entrance with a bold round-arched portal, radiating voussoirs and archivolt. On the north toward the corner were store windows on either side of a deep entrance. On Court Street each store differs. On the east there was a narrow window near the corner and a blank wall beyond. Two stores filled the central third, each with a door on the east and window on the west. The west third was filled by a store with windows on each side of a deep entrance, and the stage entrance was beyond to the west.

On High Street an entrance replaced the south window which may be preserved as a transom. An office with entrance and window replaces the north high window. In 1961, the corner store walls were faced with used brick, and the window sill raised. Around the corner on Court Street the narrow window and blank wall was replaced by three long plate glass windows with the used brick trim. Only the corner stone was left intact with its inscription in a recess at sidewalk level. All store fronts were redesigned by Strubble in 1936.

Three canopies were added by the 1930's on High Street. One covered the new south entrance, a theater marquee extended to the edge of the sidewalk, and the third covered the corner store. In 1936, Strubble extended the canopy across the Hotel annex to the south on High, and the length of Court to the alley. This unified the design of the buildings. The canopy has been subject to change. It is at the transom bar level above the store windows below. The canopy cuts across the top of the broad theater arch. All transoms were new in 1936, glazed with

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

sheet prism glass. On High Street, four were added above the office next to the tower. On Court Street, the size varies from store to store.

The theater entrance has a tile floor that appears to be old. The original doors of the entrance led to both the theater and the upper floors. The present solid doors lead to the theater only and may be deeper set in the broad arch. All stores have matching unglazed tile floor entrances, patterned, with a border, Gladding McBean, Mosaic or U.S. Tile, from 1936. Bulkhead tiles under windows are from this date.

The Opera House second floor has a belt course above the plain stone top architrave of the lower floor. The window sills are part of the course which extends around both street front sides of the building and across the annex and added store on the alley. On High Street there are three pairs of double sash windows on each side, set in shallow Roman semi-circular arch openings, and nine on Court Street. In the center third on High Street are two shorter and wider double sash windows above a second short belt course. The walls of the second and third floors were finished with a concrete surface over brick in 1900.

The Opera House third floor windows repeat the pattern of the second with rectangular transoms rather than arches. Six transoms on Court Street have been filled with brick, covered with a uniform surface. All transoms have been painted over. In the projection over the Opera House entrance there are two low, single painted windows. Above, a panel provides a capstone to the lower windows and sills for two windows set in broad arches. They are now painted out. Again a belt course incorporating window sills runs across both facades, but is broken on either side of the windows over the theater entrance.

The Opera House roof is a low hipped truss structure with vinyl covering behind the plain parapet with its capstone rail and square panels set into the surface, one above each pair of windows. There is no parapet where the tower once stood over the theater entrance on High Street. Cornice, frieze and architrave are all plain. The tower removed in 1937 was frame, square, and finished with the concrete surface. A Roman semi-circular arch on each side had a solid projecting balcony with bowed ends. The balconies were supported by two plain moldings. At the base of each arch, a molded belt course ran around the corner pillar, from which the recessed arch rose to a keystone. The parapet had solid capped walls, and corner pillars with caps rose above a plain cornice to a height of 20' above the roof. The present building is 50' high.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

The Opera Theater interior is detailed in the original lease signed in September 1900. There was the "theatre" box office, managers office, . . . entrance, lobby, stage entrance, and dressing rooms adjoining the stage . . . also space beneath the stage other than the furnace room, the auditorium to be properly seated with folding opera chairs, except the gallery where substantial and suitable benches will be used." To be provided were "electroliers and lamps . . . also gas connections . . . foyer and boxes to be carpeted . . . also to be properly draped; all auditorium and stage wirings were "brought to the stage" to a south side "switch board." The stage was "to be fitted with the proper pin, rail, rope, drum, counter weights and guy rails for drop curtain, and a sufficient number of sheaves to be placed in the grid iron; . . ." October 16, 1900 it was announced that "To provide dressing and property rooms for the theatre an additional 24 x 80 feet will be erected adjoining the main building on the west..." (see below, 3. annex of 1900).

November 30, 1900, on the day of the Grand Opening, the lights were described in the Oregon Statesman beginning with the auditorium:

". . . when the lights were turned on last night, the beautiful room made a magnificent appearance. The ceiling is studded with 138 incandescent lights, composed of a center cluster of five, surrounded by a circle, about seven feet in diameter and containing thirty-six lights, with 97 more lamps distributed in regular order

over the remainder of the ceiling, the whole making a beautiful appearance. These as well as other lights are controlled from a large switch-board on the south side of the stage, the ceiling lights being controlled by three switches, and can be turned off or on in part or in whole. Under the balcony are two circles of twenty lights each, and the sidewalls each bear three 2 light brackets. The boxes are also well equipped with light. Thirty-six footlights shed their rays on the stage, while five borders of twenty lights each, above the stage make that portion of the opera house as light as the noonday sun. Omitted was the "arch over the grand entrance with 25 (lights); and a lantern on each side of the arch with three lights each."

The theater is spatially intact except for the top of the fly loft cut off in 1936 to provide an additional third story lodge hall. Also missing are the annex dressing rooms and storage. De Young in 1935 extended the balcony, and added a staircase with an art deco gilded railing. For several years after World War II, the stage was eliminated

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

for a wrestling arena. The stage has recently been rebuilt for a non-profit civic theater project, Salem Theater of Performing Arts (STOPA).

Store interiors have been modified to meet changing needs of lessors, but space is essentially the same. The corner store still has its 1936 metal ceiling "Colonial Design No. 5459 as shown in Berley Catalogue No. 27 or similar pattern." To the west are three smaller stores with lowered ceilings so that original features cannot be identified. The stage door on the west opens on a hall in need of restoration, with a battered frame for an inner door to the theater.

The Opera House second floor was a series of nine offices. Rooms and the inside hall are intact with original wainscotting, now painted. This area was last occupied as part of the hotel.

The Opera House third floor includes the original, almost sixty foot square Lodge Hall, on the center south side of the building. Its age is proved by the oldest Sanborn & Parris Insurance Map of the building.

This is the most important architectural area of the floor. Wainscotting and platforms on all four sides appear to be original, with the picture molding and two single entrances on the east side. Changes are the acoustic tile ceiling, double door entrances on the north wall, electric fixtures of the 1930's, 1962 theater chairs on three sides, and air conditioning units in windows on the south. Chairs for three of the four stations, one a side, are old, and were in the old Lodge Hall previous to 1900.

At first the western two thirds of the space on the north side of the building was a dining room or banquet hall, with an open kitchen, and on the west a regalia hall and toilet facilities. The eastern third was a library. Much of the library area has been incorporated into the banquet hall. Above the windows in the hall, high transoms have been filled in and painted. The kitchen area is being modernized. Changes appear to have been made in the regalia area where a high window with transom and trim survive.

When the top of the fly-loft to the theater was cut off in 1935, a new library area was created against the west wall. It is now used by the L.E.A., a Ladies Auxiliary. It has a false fireplace and mantel, and there is a fine pecan or fruit wood dance floor.

The rooms on the east side of the building have been so altered that the original plan is not obvious. There are interior storage rooms

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 6

next to the Lodge Hall, a waiting or anti-room to the Hall, and a display or museum room on the street side.

2. The Central Stage Terminal Building and Hotel Annex to the south is 40' x 110' on half of lot 2, built in 1921. Its Mediterranean style east facade with rounded arch windows on the second floor is compatible with the Opera House to the north. Of reinforced concrete and steel construction, it stands 46' high, with three stories on the front. The stores at street level were redesigned when the bus depot and the hotel lobby were abandoned, but it still reflects the original division into three. There is a deep tiled entrance across the front.

Second story windows, nine lights over one are double sashed, set in plain arches, two to the side, and three to the center. The third story has two pairs of windows inset on each side and three in the middle. They are double sash with six lights over one. The front roof is sloped toward the street, with projecting eaves and exposed rafters. Originally red tiled, it now has grey asphalt shingles. The upper surface of the facade is stucco, smooth to match the concrete surface of the Opera House. A brick gable on the south rises above the roof from a plain pillar, and the south stepped wall reveals the shallow depth of the third floor, following the gentle slope of the vinyl roof over the second floor to its 36' high edge. Cinder block additions on the back for storage are modern, as are fire escapes from both the Opera House and the Hotel annex.

The Hotel annex street level originally had a restaurant entrance on the south, a hotel bus depot entrance in the center, and another store entrance to the north. The interior included provision for other stores. The Hotel lobby and Bus Depot led to a loading area behind the whole building. There is currently a restaurant on the south, an office on the north, and the center is part of a storage area for the store across the alley. It has been a store. Ceilings have been lowered in the restaurant, and the store or office areas facing High Street. Only in the storage area at the back can the original terrazzo floor used throughout the first floor be seen, as well as the high ceiling and frieze.

The Hotel Second floor is unchanged except for paint and paper. There is a suite of rooms for the manager and an office across the High Street front. To the back runs a central hall off which are rooms with baths and closets for hotel accommodations, lit by skylights. This floor connects to the Opera House second floor or hotel rooms by a short flight of stairs, and also to the elevator.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

The Hotel third floor consists of two major rooms, with central closets, etc. in between, first used by the Odd Fellows for a billiard room and library, it now contains a social or game room for cards, and a billiard room.

The Hotel shared the Opera House elevator and stairs installed in 1921, and revised in 1937, when the Hotel lobby was removed from the street level.

3. The 1900 annex on Court Street is one story, with a flat roof. The facade matches the Opera House, with the lowest belt course extended across the front and quoin pillar. Originally two small stores, 12' x 27' on Court Street shared a common entrance. Behind the stores was a dressing room and property room area, 24' x 53'. The plaster on the Opera House wall has been removed for the present restaurant that occupies the whole building. Revealed is an entrance to the theater filled with brick, off a mezzanine is a spy hole to watch progress of performances on the stage.
4. The Store on the alley, 24' x 80' matches the annex in size. A concrete building replaced a frame pre-1900 false front store, ca. 1922/23. The front 12' was removed and rebuilt in 1936 with a central entrance and a quoin pillar on the ally corner. It shares a wall with the old annex, and the tile entrance matches that of the other stores.

The nominated area does not include the south half of Lot 2, adjoining the Stage Terminal and Hotel annex on the south. While the excluded portion of Lot 2 was acquired by Cheneketa Lodge No. 1 in 1869, subsequently it was sold off for construction of a garage. Still later, the half lot was repurchased by the Odd Fellows. The garage is no longer standing. The parcel is held as a separate tax lot and is used for parking.

Site. With modernization and automobiles, paving followed sidewalks with curbs. Power poles, once ubiquitous, have been placed underground down alleys. Traffic lights are all that are left, now part of one-way traffic. For awhile an inter-urban line from Portland to Eugene ran on High Street, and briefly the corner drug store was the depot.

The present Marion County Courthouse, on the opposite, or east side of High Street, was built in 1954. It occupies a full block, partially landscaped with lawn and trees. On the northeast corner a business building became the Senator Hotel, enlarged and changed. Now a County Office building, it is also a residential home for individuals of limited means. Street level stores remain. The half block to the north has one story brick stores built after 1900. To the west on Court are business buildings for two to two and a half blocks, unbroken by parking lots.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

The Salem Area Transit District has designated High Street, between Court and State Streets, the central bus transfer point in the downtown. A loading platform with waiting kiosks runs the length of the block. Busses arrive, wait for transfers and then all move on. Two lanes on the Court House side are on either side of the loading platform, and one the length of the block in front of the Odd Fellows buildings to the State Street corner. The corner store is a waiting room and the Cherriot office is in the Hotel annex. Resulting waves of foot traffic affects the use of the Odd Fellows' buildings and determines the character of lessors for stores and offices. This will change if plans to build a bus terminal east on Court Street or elsewhere materialize.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Social history
Transportation
Architecture

Period of Significance

1900-1936
1921-1928

Significant Dates

1900
1921

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Pugh, Walter D., and John Gray, 1900
Whitehouse, Morris Homans, 1921

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

The interconnected buildings at the southwest corner of the intersection of High and Court Streets in the heart of downtown Salem were erected over a period of years, beginning in 1900, for Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. They are primarily significant under Criterion A but are noteworthy locally under Criterion C.

The component buildings of the nominated property are: the three-story stuccoed brick Odd Fellows Temple and Opera House of 1900, a restrained reflection of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture which had reached the height of popularity 20 years earlier; a single-story retail store and theater annex of 1900 on the rear, or west face which was extended c. 1922 and remodeled in 1936; and a three-story, Mediterranean style motor stage terminal and hotel annex of reinforced concrete adjoining the south wall of the main block, erected in 1921.

Some primary character-defining features of the main block were effaced as a result of storm damage and remodeling. A square Richardsonian belfry of frame construction marked the central entrance bay fronting High Street before it was damaged and removed, and the bold, round-arched portal, with its radiating voussoirs and archivolt, was the theater entrance in a rusticated ground story facade, progressively remodeled. Architects of the main block and its rear annex were Walter D. Pugh and John Gray. Pugh, a Salem architect, several years earlier had designed the old City Hall, the preeminent example of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture in Salem. It no longer stands. The Opera House, or theater interior is intact only spatially. The flyloft is no longer extant, and remodeling of the 1930s and 1950s eliminated most original finish work and decorations. Retail and office spaces have been remodeled as well. The Odd Fellows' third story Lodge Hall, a large and well-proportioned room, is plainly finished with coved ceiling, picture rail and wainscoting. It is fully intact.

The Central Stage Terminal and Hotel Annex was designed by noted Portland architect Morris H. Whitehouse and is a locally distinctive example of commercial architecture in the Mediterranean style. The adjoining facade of the Temple and Hotel are compatible in formal organization, surface finish and by dint of the arcuated fenestration common to either design tradition.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Selected records of Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Record Book, Minutes or Proceedings (title varies) - 1852-1886; 1898-1921; 1937, 1939

Architectural Plans (1900 not found) 1921 with specifications, 1936 with specifications.

Abstract of Title (Union Abstract Co.) - 1921

See continuation sheet

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
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property less than 1 acre

UTM References

A

1	0
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4	9	7	1	7	0
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4	9	7	6	1	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is located in NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 27, Township 7S, Range 3W, Willamette Meridian, in Marion County, Oregon. It is comprised of Lot 1 and the north half of Lot 2, Block 21, original townsite of Salem. The 0.47-acre property measures 122.67 x 166.12 feet. It is otherwise described as Tax Lot 2400 at said location.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated area encompasses the entire parcel historically improved and occupied by Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, from 1900 onward.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title <u>David Duniway</u>	date <u>July 29, 1987</u>
organization <u>N/A</u>	telephone <u>(503)581-2338</u>
street & number <u>1365 John Street South</u>	state <u>Oregon</u> zip code <u>97302</u>
city or town <u>Salem</u>	

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1a

Each of the component buildings was developed by the Odd Fellows in the historic period ending in 1936, which year marked completion of historic improvements. Progressive development of the property is illustrative of a common practice of the period. Fraternal organizations secured a solid financial underpinning for their charitable services by leasing space for commercial purposes in their buildings. The building's position opposite the location of the Marion County Courthouse reflects the stature of fraternal groups at the turn of the century. The Odd Fellows Temple and associated hotel have long provided a visual backdrop for the Courthouse Square, one of the key parcels for civic buildings concentrated at the center of the town plat.

Notwithstanding its important contribution to the city's historic civic center, the property is primarily significant under Criterion A as the long-time headquarters of the state's "Mother Lodge" of Odd Fellowship. Chemeketa Lodge No. 1 was founded at Salem, Oregon Territory, in 1852. It was the first to be chartered in the Pacific Northwest. In the following, a statement concerning the contributions of fraternal organizations to communities in the American West during the Victorian period is provided as a context for evaluating the significance of the historic work of Chemeketa Lodge No.1. The latter included establishing a community cemetery and a public reading room; providing benefits to members and their survivors, and instituting new lodges.

Odd Fellowship was one of the first and most successful of over 200 fraternal orders founded in 19th Century America. Since 1900, Chemeketa Lodge's third floor hall and rooms have been home to Lodges of the Order in Oregon's capital. Commercial uses in lower floors not only provided income for support of the work of the Lodge, they influenced the development of Salem's central business district, its theatrical history, and its transportation system.

In Salem, as elsewhere, a high point of prosperity for fraternal organizations was reached in the late 1920s. By 1936, the year the last historic redesign of ground-story storefronts of the Odd Fellows Temple occurred, fraternal orders of all kinds were losing some of their former strength and influence to economic depression, institutionalized welfare programs, a more mobile population, and changing social values.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1b

Criterion A for the National Register is met by the Odd Fellows Buildings because they were built by the "Mother Lodge" of Odd Fellowship in the Pacific Northwest, and they represent the spread of fraternal orders throughout the nation in the 19th Century.

- a) Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, I.O.O.F., provided an extended family to its members, including (continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2

benefits for cost of illness and funerals and assistance to widows and orphans. National homes were built for their needs.

b) Training was provided in leadership and administration as members advanced through fraternal orders and degrees. Political figures who profited included U.S. Senators Benjamin F. Harding (1862-1865) and Charles McNary (1918-1944) as well as State Treasurer Edwin N. Cooke (1862-1870) and Governor Oswald West (1911-1915). Other members became leaders in their occupations and professions within city and state.

c) Community service including the founding of a cemetery for all and a public reading room or library, as well as relief to communities faced with major disasters.

Criterion C is met by the buildings as the Opera House is one of two surviving examples of the Richardsonian Romanesque style of business buildings in Downtown Salem. Although lacking its original tower, it is of interest because of the smooth cement surface of the upper two stories. It is the only example by Salem's architect, Walter D. Pugh, known to have survived in the downtown. The lodge hall is preserved, intact spatially and in many features and is still used by I.O.O.F. Lodges in Salem.

The business area of Downtown Salem has grown and changed around the buildings since World War II. This building is currently key point in the mass transportation system of the city, and its Grand Theatre is part of the current significant civic theater movement in this country.

The site on the southwest corner of Court and High Street was acquired in 1869 by Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, Odd Fellows. Lots 1 and 2, Block 21 of the second or 1850 plat of Salem, Oregon, are in the center of the U.S. Donation Land Claim of Dr. William H. & Chloe Willson. The claim was acquired by Dr. Willson as agent of the Oregon Institute in 1846, when the first plat of Salem was surveyed. With the establishment of U.S. Territorial Government, it would be recorded in 1848 in Oregon City. Dr. Willson was obligated to share proceeds of sales with the Institute, which became Willamette University, the oldest institution of its kind on the Pacific Coast of this country. The Institute was organized in 1842 as a school for children of Jason Lee's Willamette Methodist Mission and of American settlers. He had moved his headquarters to the Mill Creek to the north of Salem in 1840, and the Indian School to the east in 1841. Jason Lee and his Mission are part of the story of the Oregon Country, the Indians, the first American settlement and the Oregon Question. Those of his Mission who stayed after it was closed and settled around the Oregon Institute and what became Salem made Methodism a major factor in the Northwest. They influenced the choice of Salem as Territorial and then State Capital. In contrast, the founding of Odd Fellowship

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

bound together those who came to Salem, but were not part of Methodist society.

The 1850 plat included a stretch of five blocks between Court and State, east of High, dedicated as Willson Avenue, to be used for public purposes. There the Marion County Court House was built, across the street from the Odd Fellows property, and beyond, in 1875, the first State House or Capitol. Chemeketa Lodge bought the two lots to be used for an Odd Fellows Hall, and spasmodic attempts to raise needed construction funds were punctuated by five year leases for a rented hall shared with the other Lodges of the Order. Since the lots were across High Street from the public buildings, the Lodge was able to lease them for the Fashion Stables, with a carriage barn, and a horse barn, to John Minto. His son, W.J. Minto ran a successful business until most of the barns were destroyed by fire in 1898. This fire led to the decision of Chemeketa Lodge to build a Temple with leasable features such as a theater or Opera House, stores and offices.

The construction of the first contributing building, the Temple or Opera House as it was described can be traced in the minutes of Chemeketa Lodge. On March 14, 1900, the Committee on Building reported to the members that they "unanimously" favor plans by "Messrs Pugh & Gray, contemplating the erection of a 3-story brick and stone building 80 x 110 ft. on our lot corner High and Court Streets. . ." Rents derived of the Theater, corner room, smaller room, 4 office rooms, three smaller rooms, the three other Odd Fellows Lodges, and the Order of the Elks were estimated at \$2,940. This would more than pay for "Interest, Taxes, Insurance, Janitor, Wood and lights." The cost without an elevator was estimated to be \$34,600. Erixon and Van Patten submitted the lowest bid of \$27,923 which was accepted.

The corner stone was laid June 13, 1900 with due ceremony, recorded in detail in the Oregon Statesman, along with the text of speeches. The street level Opera House was the first part of the building ready for use. November 30, 1900 saw the opening with a performance of John Philip Souza's opera "El Capitan" by the Grau Opera Company. The headline in the Oregon Statesman recorded "Brilliant Social Successes. The Best People of the Capital City Enjoy an Evening of Rare Entertainment." The company, coming from Victoria, B.C., did not reach Salem until 6:30 p.m., but arrangements were such that the curtain went up "at 8:37 just minutes behind time." The next day, December 1st, the first matinee was the "Chimes of Normandy" and the second evening performance was "Little Tycoon," both with reduced prices. On Sunday, December 2nd, the Elks Lodge held services in the theater in honor of members dead in the Spanish American War. The contribution to the cultural life of the Capital city had begun.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

Chemeketa Lodge met the first time in its new Lodge Hall December 19, 1900. All those present are listed in the minutes. Olive Lodge No. 18 followed on December 22nd. The grand dedication was held February 26, 1901, and again proceedings and speeches were printed in the Oregon Statesman. Even a "Dedication Ode" was written by Mrs. L.R. Osborn and set to music by Prof. Z.M. Parvin.

The first office suites were rented March 1, 1901 to Dr. Grace Albright and March 16th to Dr. W.H. Byrd. The corner store was rented as a drug store to Fred Haas in July 1901, and was used as such for sixty years. Again the place of the building in the professional and economic life of the city was beginning. Other major renters or lessors are discussed under appropriate areas of subject significance.

The second contributing building, the Central Stage Terminal and Hotel, built in 1921, was the major annex to the Opera House. Plans are dated September 24, 1921, and the Central State Terminal & Hotel Company was incorporated September 10, 1921 by J.E. Lewis, L.R. Applegate and John H. Carson. By March 1922, the telephone was installed, and the Terminal and Hotel may have been open for business. By June 29, 1925, W.W. Chadwick was President and Richard Shepard of Eugene was Secretary and Treasurer of the Company. Chadwick moved the business across the street to the northwest corner of High and Court, and from then on Chemeketa Lodge had problems with the Hotel which remained the principle business upon which service industries depended.

Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, of Salem, Oregon, illustrates the history of Odd Fellowship since its institution as the "Mother Lodge" of the Oregon Territory, December 6, 1852. An initial charter intended for Oregon City was used to institute in 1847, Excelsior Lodge No. 1 in Honolulu, the Kingdom of Hawaii, the first on the Pacific Ocean. A charter to institute Lodges in California and Oregon was used to institute California Lodge No. 1 in San Francisco, September 21, 1849, the first on the Pacific Coast. Chemeketa Lodge No. 1 was the first in the Pacific Northwest, instituted: "In accordance with a Charter for a Subordinate Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows issued by the Grand Lodge of the US to Brothers E.M. Barnum, E.N. Cooke, B.F. Harding, A.J. Woodworth, and Joel Palmer on and by virtue of a Warrant from the Grand Sire of the Grand Lodge W.M. Moore, Dated August 16, 1852. Special Department Grand Sire E.M. Barnum proceeded to Institute at Salem, Marion County and Territory of Oregon a Subordinate Lodge of Odd Fellows - to be known and hailed as Chemeketa Lodge No. 1 I.O.O.F. "The first officers were Benjamin F. Harding, Noble Grand, E.N. Cooke, Vice-Grand, A.J. Woodworth as Secretary, Joel Palmer as Treasurer. Brothers appointed to Grand Offices for assisting in installations were J.A. Ripperton, Grand Warden, Samuel M. Black, Secretary, Luther Cary, Treasurer,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Vinyard, Guardian, and S.V. Miller, Marshall. Dues were set, and two members were admitted by card Brother Saml. M. May and A.W. Ferguson. Six men applied for membership. Albert Zieber was the first man admitted to membership in the Northwest, and was a member of the Lodge for 40 years, even though he lived in Portland and then Forest Grove.

Development of the Lodge and its community services can be traced in its minutes. Candidates for membership could be rejected by two black balls, and William Leveridge has the dubious honor of being the first, no matter how hard he tried. The first Constitution and By Laws were printed by February 1853, but no copy has yet been found. In March 1853, the Lodge was responsible for the funeral obsequies of Bro Samuel Thurston, first Territorial Delegate to Congress who died on his return home off Acapulco, Mexico. There he was first buried. The Territorial Legislature had his body brought to Oregon, and he was interred behind the Methodist Church on Ferry Street. The first travelling card was issued to Bro Wm. C. Bell, July 28 for six months.

The degree of Rebekah was first conferred on scarlet members and on five Sisters, wives of Odd Fellowship including Mrs. Samuel R. Thurston, August 18, 1853. It was the first step towards obtaining equal rites within the Order. It was not until May 17, 1895 that Rebekah Lodge No. 1 was chartered as a degree granting lodge expressly for the women of the Order.

The Lodge quickly outgrew its first Hall in the garret of the three story Rector building, and in October moved to the new Head-Quarters store building where they fitted up a second story Hall. Twelve members contributed \$110 toward this project. In two years they moved again, and then in 1860 they moved into the Joseph Holman building, where they stayed for thirty years. This building also served as Oregon's first State Capitol.

Meanwhile other Lodges were being installed in Portland and Oregon City, and in July 1854 the members attended as a body installation of a lodge at Takenah, now Albany. The Odd Fellows of the Territory qualified for a Grand Lodge, and on May 23, 1856, the Grand Lodge of Oregon was instituted in Oregon City, with E.M. Barnum as Grand Master. By 1899 there were 125 lodges in Oregon with a membership of 5,781. In addition there were 79 Rebekah Lodges, with a membership of 1,577 Brothers and 2,593 Sisters. The Brothers were in good standing in their own lodges. The total Brothers and Sisters active in Oregon Odd Fellowship in 1899 was 8,374. The next year Chemeketa Lodge would decide to build its new Temple for the Lodges of Salem, with two floors dedicated to the production of income for the support of the building and the work of the Lodge.

Benefits paid to members were a major attraction of the Odd Fellows Lodges, covering sickness, funerals, and the care of widows and orphans. The first

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

sick benefit of \$10 was paid Bro. E.C. Cown August 22, 1853. The next August, the Lodge paid \$66 to a Sister Bennett, the widow of an Odd Fellow. The first death among the membership was that of Bro. David C. Raymond, July 10, 1855. A year later the Lodge paid \$50 for the funeral expenses of Bro. Nathaniel McCartney in "Lynn" County, who died June 7, 1856 at the age of 37. By 1901, when the new temple was dedicated, it was reported that Odd Fellows spent \$1,690,000 a year in benefits. Also lodges contributed to the relief of sufferers from major disasters, fires and floods.

A cemetery was another concern. Chemeketa Lodge in April 1854 began to negotiate with the Masons to procure a site for a joint cemetery. They chose five acres on the road south from Salem, now Commercial Street, which they purchased in July for \$125 from the Rev. David Leslie. The land was platted January 1855, but in May the Masons withdrew from participation. In February 1860, an additional 12-1/2 acres was added. Originally the Odd Fellows Rural Cemetery, it is now known as the Pioneer Cemetery, and many famous people in Oregon and even National history are buried there, including the Hon. Samuel Thurston, whose remains were moved to the new Cemetery when it was dedicated by the Grand Lodge April 26, 1858.

New lodges were instituted from Chemeketa Lodge, in 1866, Anniversary Lodge No. 13. It would surrender its charter and return to the mother Lodge by 1890. In 1868, Olive Lodge No. 18 was instituted and would support the building of the Hall or Opera House in 1900. An important member at that time was Oswald West, champion of conservation of the beaches when he was later Governor. Olive Lodge would surrender its charter in 1905. In Chemeketa Lodge, a matching member who joined in 1900 was Charles L. McNary who would serve in Congress as minority leader of the Senate during the depression.

A reading room or library for Chemeketa Lodge had been started by November 1854 when seventy-five dollars was made available for periodicals. April 21, 1856 rules for the Government of the Reading room were adopted and Brother Chester N. Terry became first Librarian. With the establishment of a second Lodge, the Odd Fellows Library Association was organized and later reorganized. It was supported by the Lodges of the order, and in 1901 there "were nearly 3,000 volumes of the choicest literature in the English language". There was no Public Library in Salem, and it was used by the families of Association members, often to broaden the limited education offered by schools in the community before High Schools were established. The only other libraries in Salem were the Masonic Library, also available through membership, and the Willamette University Library used by faculty & students. It would be years before the Odd Fellows Library would be closed and its collection dispersed to Willamette University, the Salem Public Library or sold.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Members of Chemeketa and the other lodges of Salem included many political, social & economic figures beginning with Oregon's first lodge:

Senator Benjamin F. Harding (1823-1899), the first Noble Grand, was an Oregon Trail pioneer of 1849. A lawyer and a farmer, he served the Territory as United States Attorney, a member of the Territorial Legislature and Secretary of the Territory, and then as United States Senator (1862-1865). His home, located at 1043 High ST. S.E. in Salem, is on the National Register.

Edwin N. Cooke (1810-1879), first Vice-Grand, was a pioneer of 1851. He financed two Cooke's Hotels, was involved in a series of mercantile establishments, served as second State Treasurer (1862-1870) and as President of the People's Transportation Company, which operated boats on the Willamette River. He was investor in various enterprises including the iron works at Lake Oswego.

To list the important members of the Chemeketa Lodge would be redundant. Officers served only for half of a year, and the names of Noble Grands without analysis of their careers would be meaningless. For example, the occupation of the men involved with the 1900 Temple and Opera House demonstrate the variety of membership: Tilman Ford, lawyer; A. N. Moores, manager of the Capital Lumbering Company; Thomas O. Barker, former member of Boise & Barker, an investment house; Martin L. Chamberlin, Clerk of the State Land Board; James W. Young, contractor and builder; G.G. Gans, former guard at the Penitentiary; and three engineers, Thomas King of the Penitentiary, William L. West of the Electric Light Company, and A.L. Brown of the Salem Water Company.

Odd Fellowship as a social agency was important in nineteenth and early twentieth century America. It was a leader among the over 200 fraternal secret societies instituted in this country. Originating in eighteenth century England among urbanized industrial workers who felt the need of an extended family as they moved from job to job, city to city, it reflected but contrasted with the aristocratic English Masonry. The first lodges were independent or self-constituting, and secessions as well as development of differing fraternal practices were frequent. In 1809 came the formation of the Manchester Unity of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in England. In the United States, Washington Lodge No.1 was organized April 26, 1819. From it grew other lodges, the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and the Grand Lodge of the United States (1825) taking in other Lodges self-constituted in Boston, New York and Philadelphia. "Friendship, Love and Truth" are the three symbolic links of Odd Fellowship.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

In 1900, when Salem's Chemeketa Lodge No. 1 Temple and Opera House was built, the order as it had developed was characterized by Thoe. A Ross in The History & Manual of Odd Fellowship:

"It exists in response to the cravings of the soul for a domain of brotherhood, a fraternity wherein sweet and congenial companionships and mutual offices of kindness and regard would soften the asperities of life and remove the evils of prejudice, bigotry and intolerance. An order that teaches a higher ideal of life, that gives men a new faith in virtue, charity and love, assuredly deserves a considerate study by all those who are interested in the welfare of the human race. As a means to an end, it has become one of the most powerful weapons in the war upon ignorance, vice and the host of evils that beset man at every step in his earthly career.

It does not seek a veiled origin in the misty shrouds of the past...Antiquity bears with it no passport of truth or goodness..."

By 1900, when Chemeketa Lodge No 1 built its Temple, Odd Fellows claimed a membership equaling that of Masonry in the United States. There were 11,579 Lodges and 839,608 active members in 1899, plus 178,148 Sisters in the 4,808 Rebekah Lodges.

As a secret ritualistic society with standards of membership, Odd Fellowship influenced the development of the code that underlay Victorian morals and ideals. Lodges did not tolerate alcohol or gambling, and members joined the Temperance movement and then Prohibition. Unity was established through the Grand Lodges and the making of laws of operation. The beneficial aspect has been discussed above under the description of Chemeketa Lodge. They were facilitated by the issuances of membership cards to members who travelled or moved on seeking other jobs & opportunities. In time, the Lodge to which a member belonged in good standing paid for the benefits for brothers who were cared for by other Lodges.

Odd Fellowship played with the concept of insurance, but by the 1890's was ready to reject its use. Insurance was the basis of many of the new orders founded after the Civil War, but they found themselves faced with economic problems, when the number of new memberships were inadequate to pay for the policies of older members as they died. The fraternal experience must have led to Mutual Insurance companies and eventually Social Security, Medicare and other tax-financed health and welfare programs.

Fraternal orders have been overshadowed in the complexity of the twentieth century. New organizations and concepts replaced the old. Their libraries were forgotten with the development of tax supported public libraries

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 9

stimulated by Andrew Carnegie's great gift of buildings to community after community. Other public needs not met by the fraternal orders were financed through public memberships and then tax support. Housing needs and recreation for the young & active produced the YMCA, and the YWCA. With the depression, tax supported recreational facilities developed within park systems, often extending the schools into the community. Non-fraternal, but selective in membership, were the men's service clubs or luncheon organizations, and women's clubs, both of whom were able to champion new local public concerns, and eventually address national and international problems. Chambers of Commerce concerned with business, and other organizations devoted to special issues and political solutions challenged those concerned. Specialized single interest organizations, like photography clubs of the 1890's, developed more and more specialized organizations in fields like gardening, art, history and science. Meanwhile, much of society has become spectator oriented through radio ,movies, television and the expansion of amateur and professional sports, fairs and commercialized events.

Current members of the Odd Fellows still come from many walks of life representing the brotherhood of man. With their financial resources, Odd Fellowship can survive and meet the challenge of the complexity of the present and the future. The Chemeketa Lodge buildings well deserve recognition as historically and symbolically significant of the traditions of the fraternity and its place in Salem, Oregon and the Nation.

The architecture of the buildings represents work of several notable architects.

1. The 1900 Opera House (the first contributing building) is a late example of Richardson Romanesque Style. The smoothed masonry surface of the first floor, is visible only above the canopy. The rounded arches on the second floor, the arched entrance to the theater and the two arches on the third floor are still intact, but the tower with its arches did not survive the damage done by the 1937 snow storm. The smooth concrete or stucco surface of the upper floors is unusual. Pugh & Gray, the architect and builder, consisted of the team of Walter D. Pugh and John Gray. Pugh was a well known architect who designed many buildings in Salem and in the State of Oregon. The only surviving part of the original plans, a rendering of the east facade, published in the newspapers, is signed by him. John Gray was essentially a contractor/builder and he bid unsuccessfully on this project. Pugh (1863-1942) has major buildings already listed on the National Register, including the 1889 Queen Anne Style Bush-Breyman and Bush-Brey Blocks with a 1915 annex to the latter, and the 1896 brick Thomas Kay Woolen Mill, all in Salem. John Gray was one of the contractors for construction of the latter building. Pugh also designed Salem's Romanesque City Hall of 1894-1895 (now gone) and a series of buildings at various state institutions. These state

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

buildings include the Administration and various other buildings at Fairview State Hospital (1908), the dining room and execution hall at the Penitentiary, both in Salem, and the power station and industrial building at the Oregon State Training School for Boys, now the Penitentiary Annex (1902).

2) The 1921 Central Stage Terminal and Hotel (the second contributing building), was designed by Morris Homans Whitehouse (1867-1944). His significance to Oregon architecture has been traced by George McMath in his nomination of the 705 Davis Street Apartments to the National Register. In summary, Whitehouse was born in Portland, graduated from MIT in 1906, and entered into several partnerships. This building is from 1920-1928 when he had no business partner. The Mediterranean style with its arches over windows on the second floor is compatible in design with the original Opera House with which it is interconnected. The front or eastern portion of the roof was originally covered with Gladding, McBean Co.'s Medium Cordova roofing tile. This is now replaced with asphalt shingles which are not the original red color.

3) The 1900 annex was also designed by Pugh and Gray, but because it was only one floor, much has been lost, except for the quoin pillar and the interior evidence of the relation to the theater.

4) The store on the alley front 12' rebuilt in 1936, was designed by Frank Howard Strubble (1889-1970). Strubble was born in Iowa. He had three years architectural work in college, had been a draftsman in the State Highway department and practiced in Corvallis (1914-1917), Klamath Falls (1917), Salem (1918, 1921-62) and Medford (1920-21). In redesigning the store front, he reproduced the quoin pillar from the 1900 buildings and he tied the buildings together with a common canopy. He also had all store entrances and bulkheads tiled with the same patterns of tile. He is also responsible for other interior remodelling jobs on the four buildings.

5) The interior theatre remodelling of 1935 was designed by James De Young (1885-1968). He is responsible for the art-deco staircase and the balcony. His career is traced in full in the National Register nomination of Portland's New Heathman Hotel. His firm of De Young & Rolad were the supervising architects in the construction of Portland's Paramount Theater (designed by George L. Rapp of Rapp & Rapp, Chicago, foremost firm in the design of theaters in the 1920's) This work led to design of a number of smaller theaters in Oregon and Washington by De Young.

6) Labor problems developed on May 3, 1900 when the sub-contractor for the excavation work found himself faced with a strike. The 17 shovelers stopped work at noon, asking for an increase of 25 cents per day from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per day. The request was denied unless the men would do more work each day.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

The company continued excavation by building a "trap" and loading wagons using an ordinary road scraper, saving both time and wages. Fred Erixon was the contractor for the 1921 and various 1930's jobs.

Commerce or the downtown of Salem first developed around Ferry and Commercial street corners, where the road from the docks crossed the north-south road from Portland to California and its gold mines. Business grew north on Commercial and up State street towards the government buildings and Willamette University. In 1869, the building of the Reed Opera House at Court & Liberty drew business in that direction. Service businesses on the edges grew up on the blocks east and north, limiting the China town that occupied State Street between Liberty and High. The Fashion Stables on the new Odd Fellows property was an example of such a service business. When replaced by the Odd Fellows with the Opera House Buildings, business was drawn away from Commercial Street and State towards the Court House and the State House beyond, and the City Hall, a block north. This placed the Chemeketa Lodge in a strategic position in the center of all this development. When Chemeketa Lodge planned its new building, \$2,940 in rentals were projected against \$2,100 in expenses. By 1903, rentals exceeded the original estimates and with other investments, the Chemeketa Lodge was building the capital to finance the Central Stage Terminal in 1921 and the various changes during the depression of the 1930's helped Salem economically during hard times.

Renters are identified in the annual reports of the trustees which list income outside of memberships. R.L. Polk City Directories, published from time to time provide an analysis of occupations & businesses. Outside of the theater, longest rented was the Drug store on the corner for 60 years, convenient to government employees and the buses. The store changed owners and name, but with two gaps. service was maintained: Fred Hass (1901-1905), Opera House Drug (1908-1911), C.M. Marvin (1911-1921?), C. Henry Weisor Opera House Pharmacy (1924-1935), Wiles Drug Store (1936-1958). In 1927 rental dropped from \$170 per month to \$150 and in 1936 to \$112.50. For 11 years, Ted Morrison, realtor occupied the corner (1962-1973) and since 1978 it has been the waiting room for the Cherriots Bus System of the Salem Area Mass Transit District.

Other street level stores in the Opera House are smaller, and some of the rentals have lasted for years. D. H. Mosher was a tailor from 1908-1942, V.E. Kuhn had a shoe repair business from 1920-1956. Some types of rentals have persisted, like the barber shop and jewelry store. The rebuilt store on the alley was long occupied by Roen's Typewriter from 1938 on.

The second floor of the Opera House proved to be more of a problem. At first with Doctors like Dr. W. H. Byrd and Dr. J. N. Smither (1901-1913) it seemed

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

stable, but it become more and more difficult to rent as offices. With the high turnover, a list of renters would be long.

The building of the Central Stage Terminal and Hotel is part of the transportation story, but involved was the addition of a restaurant and a staple and fancy grocery. Since the closing of the Hotel, the restaurant has been revived, and another has opened in the old theater annex on Court St.

Transportation has played an great part in the history of the Chemeketa Lodge Buildings. An interurban electric railroad was built down High Street and at first the drug store served as a ticket office, until the Hubbard or Oregon Building at High & State was completed in 1912. The Oregon Electric ran from Portland to Eugene and there were 18 trains a day. With the growth of automotive traffic and inter-city bus service, the Lodge built the Central Stage Terminal and Hotel, adding an elevator to the older Opera House and changing the second floor into an addition to the hotel. Buses from surrounding communities and larger cities drove down the alley to the west and received and discharged passengers at the back. The company which leased the facility for \$650, sub-leased to auxiliary businesses; a barber shop, a coffee shop and a cigar shop. In 1928, W.W. Chadwick, President of the Central Stage Terminal and Hotel Company took over the business building across the street at the Northeast corner of High and Court and turned it into the Senator Hotel, with a terminal for Greyhound buses. At this point the Odd Fellows got into trouble in their choice of managers and eventually the first floor lobby was closed. The hotel survived on the second floor and in the end furnished homes to men often in need of work. The manager charged low rents, but was paid commissions for their services in harvesting crops, etc. The end for the hotel came with disorders and murder. It is now unused, except for an office.

With the establishment of the Salem Area Mass Transit District, a street terminal was developed on High Street between the Opera House & Annex and the County Court House. This means that during the working day, buses arrive every half-hour, and a great number of people transfer from one to another. The resulting foot traffic is heavy and between buses there are many people waiting on the sidewalks, in the restaurants and in the waiting room. This inhibits the present use of the Odd Fellows building on the upper floors during the day because of the problem of getting in and out, and to some extent, the nature of people who tend to be attracted to a public transit facility.

An off street terminal has ben planned, and if it is built, this situation may change. At present Lodge meetings and theater performances have no problem, but extended bus service at the present location evenings could present a problem.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

Recreation and Culture has deep roots in Odd Fellowship with the development of reading rooms or libraries. The Salem lodges jointly provided one of the few community libraries through library membership. It served as an opportunity for educational growth and development before the founding of the High School and the Public Libraries. Although the library is gone, interest in culture is still potential within the lodges of Salem.

Theater has been provided to the community through the Opera House. It filled a void created by the closing of the second floor Reed Opera House, which for thirty years previously had been Salem's major theater and auditorium. The new Opera House at street level in the Odd Fellows building soon competed with the advent of small moving picture theaters in store buildings. First the Opera House was leased 11 years (1900-1910) by John F. Cordray of Portland, manager of the Marquam Grand theatre. He supplied Salem with traveling shows of all kinds, beginning with the three light operas that opened the theater. In December, 1900, there were three plays and "Herman the Great" the magician. Herman inspired A.C. Gilbert, a Salem lad, to greatness as a magician, educator, inventor and manufacturer of toys. From 1911 to 1916, F. L. Waters held the lease and in October, 1911, he installed a moving picture apparatus. He scheduled four reel movies on dates when there were no dramatic productions. Some months he brought as many as five plays to Salem, to which vaudeville attractions were added.

T.G. Bligh took over the lease through 1920, at which point the Grand Theatre assumed the lease, closing after 1959. During the depression, children's matinees with talent shows took place on Saturdays. Zollie Volchok founded a Mickey Mouse club at the Elsinore theater, two blocks down the street. Then, in the 1930's, Zollie moved to the Grand Theatre and organized Zollie's Gang. His talent show inspired vocations and avocations of many Salem children. Zollie went on to a career in theaters, promoting live entertainment in the Northwest, with a base in Seattle.

In the 1970's the stage was removed to create an arena for professional wrestling. In the 1980's the stage was restored for STOPA, the Salem Theater of Performing Arts, a civic non-profit enterprise that gathers strength with the backing of Chemeketa lodge. The space is still intact.

FINAL SUMMARY

This statement of significance has attempted to demonstrate:

- 1) The historic background of the site in relation to the Jason Lee Methodist Mission which founded Salem and Oregon's capital which places it in a metropolitan center of growing significance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

- 2) The story of the building of the 1900 Opera House, the Central Stage Terminal, the two major structures as well as the two stores.
- 3) The place of Chemeketa Lodge No. 1 in Odd Fellowship as the "Mother Lodge" in the Northwest.
- 4) The leadership of Odd Fellowship in the development of 19th Century fraternal societies in the United States.
- 5) The architecture has been described as well as the contributions of the architects and their careers.
- 6) The specific uses of the building have been analyzed and the place of the buildings in the history of downtown Salem has been discussed, rentals of stores and offices, the city and inter-city transportation center, and the recreational and cultural aspects of the library and theater.

From all this has been demonstrated the local significance of the Odd Fellow buildings; their worth, being substantially intact; local, state and regional aspects of their history and their national import.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

Records of Chemeketa Lodge No. 1 (continued)

Trustees. Annual reports, 1899-1920, 1924-1946 (1921-23 not found)
Treasurer. Ledger 1937, p..267 (re: removal of tower)
Olive Lodge No. 18. Minutes, 1887-1905.

Public records:

Corporation Department, Act of Incorporation, Chemeketa Lodge No. 1,
February 21, 1858, and Central Stage Terminal and Hotel Co.
September 10, 1921, and Annual Report, June 29, 1925 (Oregon State
Archives).
Salem Public Works, Department, Index to building permits, 187 High
Street NE, 1951-1986 (earlier records missing).
Oregon Secretary of State. Plan files, Fairview Home, McLaren School,
and Penitentiary buildings by Walter D. Pugh. (Oregon State
Archives)
Architect Examiners, Oregon State Board. File 53 James W. De Young
File 137, Frank H. Strubble.
Transportation Department, Historic Preservation Office;
Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places;
Walter D. Pugh, architect; Thomas Kay Woolen Mill Buildings
Bush-Breyman Block (in preparer's files: Bush-Brey
Block)
Morris Homans Whitehouse: 705 Davis Street Apartments
James W. De Young: New Heathman Hotel
Paramount Theatre

Newspapers, contemporary items:

Oregon Statesman: (see Chemeketa items in index, 1853-1866)
March 1900-Feb. 1901, includes: Mar. 16, 1900 . . . Temple . . .
to be constructed May 4, 1900 Went on Strike . . .
June 15, 1900 - An impressive ceremony/Cornerstone of the New
Odd Fellows' Temple Laid . . .
Sept. 28, 1900 Theatre leased . . .
Oct. 16, 1900 New Odd Fellows Temple . . . nearing
Completion . . .
Nov. 16, 1900 Salem's new Opera House will be thrown open . .
Nov. 28, 1900 Salem's new Theatre . . . initial performance .
Nov. 30, 1900 A brilliant Event opening . . . the Grand Opera
House this evening . . .
Jan. 1, 1901 p. 49 The New I.O.O.F. Temple . . .
Feb. 26, 1901 To Dedicate Their Hall Odd Fellows . . .
Ceremony . . .
Feb. 28, 1901. The Temple Dedicated . . . (includes Dr. W.T.
Williamson's Address (Past Grand Master of the Grand
Lodge I.O.O.F. of Oregon).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 3

Newspapers, contemporary items (continued):

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 4

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 5

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Additional observations are based on 60 years experience in organizational life in Minnesota, San Francisco area, Washington, D.C., and Salem, OR 41 years of that time have been spent in Salem. In addition much of the last ten years has been spent searching Salem newspapers for historical data. The growth and complexity of life and organizations of all types is obvious from study and experience with changing tastes and desires.