

Historic Property Columbia Building
Inventory Report for 210 East 4th Avenue Olympia, Thurston, 98501

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Columbia Building Field Site No.: 715
Common Name: (#34-686) OAHP No.:
Property Address: 210 East 4th Avenue Olympia, Thurston, 98501
Comments: OLYMPIA

County Township/Range/EW Section 1/4 Sec 1/4 1/4 Sec Quadrangle
T18R02W 14 SW TUMWATER

UTM Reference
Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com
Sequence: 0 Easting: 507730 Northing: 5209960

Tax No./Parcel No. Plat/Block/Lot
78502300700 Sylvester L7 Blk 23 E45F

Supplemental Map(s) Acreage
City of Olympia Planning Department .12

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson Date Recorded: 10/16/1985 Survey Name: OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: George R. Walsh Owner Address: PO Box 3599 City/State/Zip: Lacey, WA 98503

Classification: Building Resource Status: Survey/Inventory Comments:

Within a District? Yes

Contributing?

National Register Nomination: 0

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name: OLYMPIA DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Commerce/Trade - Business

Current Use: Commerce/Trade - Business

Plan: Rectangle No. of Stories: 2

Structural System: Concrete - Block

Changes to plan: Intact

Changes to interior: Moderate

Changes to original cladding: Intact

Changes to other:

Changes to windows: Extensive

Other (specify):

Cladding Concrete

Foundation Concrete - Poured

Terra Cotta

Style Commercial

Form/Type

Roof Material Asphalt / Composition - Rolled

Roof Type Unknown

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit Architecture/Landscape Architecture Commerce	Other	Date Of Construction: <u>1914</u> Architect: Builder: Engineer:
--	--------------	--

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No
Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local): No
Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance The Columbia Building was constructed in 1914 by P. M. Troy and Fred Stocking, prominent local businessmen. Although the first floor facade has been altered, the ornate terra cotta cornice marks it as one of downtown's historic resources. The structure recognizes the buildings it replaced. The original Columbia Hall was Olympia's City Hall built in 1869 at this location. Named in honor of the pride of the Olympia Fire Department, its Columbia Fire Engine, the hall was built by Rabbeson and Clark. The building was completed November 26, 1869 and was dedicated by a ball and supper. The ground floor rooms were occupied by the fire department, city offices and city council chambers. The floor above was used as a ballroom, theater, and opera house. The building burned completely in 1914 but was a city landmark with its belltower and height, visible in many early photographs.

Description of Physical Appearance This is a rectangular, two-story structure with a flat roof. The ornate terra cotta cladding of the front (south) facade and the front portion of the east wall (facing on the alley) includes a prominent molded cornice with a frieze of recessed panels and rosettes, recessed panels between the second-story windows, a molded storefront cornice, projecting keystones above the storefronts, and an ornate surround framing the central entry doors. The recessed double doors have a transom with a metal grille, flanked by brackets supporting an arched, pedimented hood inscribed "COLUMBIA," which is topped by another keystone. The rest of the ground floor terra cotta has been removed, as have the original storefronts with their ornate metal canopies. The facade has been stuccoed, and the storefronts have plate glass windows and glass doors with aluminum frames; their transoms are covered over. However, the original window with its tripartite transom remains at the front of the east wall. The wall also features a row of original tripartite windows with similar transoms. The second story of both facades has single and paired double-hung sash with one-over-one lights.

Major Bibliographic References Newell, Gordon, Rogues, Buffoons, and Statesmen, Superior Publishing, Seattle, 1975.
Stevenson, Shanna, Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater: A Pictorial History, Donning, 1985.

PHOTOS



View of south facade
taken 10/16/1985
Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):
25-32A
Comments: