

**Historic Property**

**Inventory Report for 509 East 4th Olympia, Thurston, 98501**

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**LOCATION SECTION**

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Historic Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Field Site No.: 721  
Common Name: Olympia Automotive Supply (#34-697) OAHP No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Property Address: 509 East 4th Olympia, Thurston, 98501  
Comments: OLYMPIA

County \_\_\_\_\_ Township/Range/EW T18R02W Section 14 1/4 Sec SE 1/4 1/4 Sec \_\_\_\_\_ Quadrangle TUMWATER

UTM Reference  
Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com  
Sequence: 0 Easting: 508000 Northing: 5209960

Tax No./Parcel No. 78505400200 Plat/Block/Lot Sylvester L2 Blk 54

Supplemental Map(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Acreage .32  
City of Olympia Planning Department

**IDENTIFICATION SECTION**

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

Owner's Name: Deskoba Limited Ptns #1 Owner Address: 1112 4th Avenue E #204 City/State/Zip: Olympia, WA 98501

Classification: Building Resource Status \_\_\_\_\_ Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
Within a District? No Survey/Inventory

Contributing? \_\_\_\_\_

National Register Nomination: 0  
Local District: \_\_\_\_\_  
National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIPTION SECTION**

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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: Unknown  
Changes to original cladding: Intact Changes to other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Changes to windows: Slight Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Cladding Brick Foundation Concrete - Poured  
Concrete  
Stucco

Style Commercial Form/Type \_\_\_\_\_  
Roof Material Asphalt / Composition - Rolled Roof Type Unknown

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**NARRATIVE SECTION**

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1914

Commerce

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**

Built by the Casco Company, the building is another of the early twentieth century commercial styles so prevalent in Olympia. The building stands next to the site of one of Olympia's most glorious periods of history. The Olympia Opera House was built at Fourth and Cherry in 1890 by newspaperman John Miller Murphy at a cost of \$30, 000. The towered structure has a balustrade overlooking the water before downtown was filled by dredging. Designed under the direction of the Scientific American, the theater had a 1000 seat capacity, art glass doors, maroon plush seats, electric lights, and oak and redwood on the interior. During the next thirty years a variety of acts including John Philip Sousa, Mark Twain, the Barrymores, and minstrel shows played to large crowds. The theater met the wrecking ball in 1925.

**Description of Physical Appearance**

This is a rectangular, two-story structure with a flat roof. The brick front (north) facade is topped by a flat parapet with an arched central section, which has an inset stucco panel. Below the parapet is a central stucco panel, with wider flanking panels topped by projecting molded cornices. The facade has five bays separated by brick pilasters, with a band of stucco panels between the stories. The ground floor has a continuous stucco kickplate, a recessed central entry and flanking plate glass windows with multi-paned transoms of frosted glass. The central three transoms are covered by a sign panel. On the second story, each bay has a row of four fixed windows with six-over-six lights.

**Major Bibliographic References**

Pioneer Title Company Records.

Steven son, Shanna, Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater: A Pictorial History, Donning, 1985.

**PHOTOS**



View of north facade

taken 10/16/1985

Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):

26-10A

Comments: