

**Historic Property** Martin Building  
**Inventory Report for** 113-119 East 5th Olympia, Thurston, 98501

---

**LOCATION SECTION**

---

**Historic Name:** Martin Building **Field Site No.:** 729  
**Common Name:** (#34-708) **OAHP No.:**  
**Property Address:** 113-119 East 5th Olympia, Thurston, 98501  
**Comments:** OLYMPIA/OLYWOMEN

**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:** 507670 **Northing:** 5209830

**Tax No./Parcel No.** **Plat/Block/Lot**  
78501500300 Sylvester's Plat/Block 15/Lots 3 and 4

**Supplemental Map(s)** **Acreage**  
City of Olympia Planning Department .33

**IDENTIFICATION SECTION**

---

**Field Recorder:** Shanna Stevenson **Date Recorded:** 7/1/1989 **Survey Name:** OLYMPIA

**Owner's Name:** Martin Bldg Assoc c/o Sandy Desner **Owner Address:** 112 9th Ave E #204 **City/State/Zip:** Olympia, WA 98501

**Classification:** Building **Resource Status** **Comments**  
Within a District? Yes Survey/Inventory

**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:** Two

**Structural System:** Brick

**Changes to plan:** Slight **Changes to interior:** Moderate  
**Changes to original cladding:** Slight **Changes to other:**  
**Changes to windows:** Moderate **Other (specify):**

**Cladding** Brick **Foundation** Concrete - Poured  
**Style** Commercial **Form/Type**  
**Roof Material** Asphalt / Compostion - Rolled **Roof Type** Unknown

**NARRATIVE SECTION**

<b>Study Unit</b> Commerce	<b>Other</b> Women's History	<b>Date Of Construction:</b> 1920
		<b>Architect:</b> Joseph Wohleb
		<b>Builder:</b>
		<b>Engineer:</b>

**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 in 1920 for James Martin, the Martin Building has housed some of Olympia's most renown businesses. The structure is a Joseph Wohleb design with his familiar uses of tile, this time inset into Chehalis brick. The building was home to the Thurston County Abstract Company, owned by Fred Stocking and other early businessmen. Also located here was the M. M. Morris ladies apparel store, the premier shop in the city at one time. The building has always had apartments on the second floor. The building originally had an ornate parapet which crumbled during the 1949 earthquake and was removed. The building was headquarters for the Minutewomen during World War I

**Description of Physical Appearance** The building is a square, two-story brick masonry structure with a flat roof. The walls of the east (front and north facades are topped by a molded metal cornice. ) The frieze and walls below are ornamented with geometric designs of inset tile, and below the second story windows is a wide stone belt course. Upper story windows are double-hung sash with multi-paned upper lights in groups of three. The ground floor has modern storefronts with plate glass windows and recessed entries. Some have kickplates of pigmented structural glass windows and recessed entries. Some have kickplates of pigmented structural glass and others have newer composition tile. At the northeast corner is a diagonal recessed entry. Centered on the east facade is a recessed entryway with a brick and tile-paved floor, leading to the entry door for the upper apartments. The door has leaded glass sidelights and a fanlight transom. The storefronts have multi-paned transom windows, some of which have smoked replacement glass. A flat metal canopy extends around the north and part of the east side of the building.

**Major Bibliographic References** Stevenson, Shanna, "Olympia Downtown Walking Tour," 1980.  
"Olympia," Lee Printing Company, Olympia, 1926.

**PHOTOS**



**View of** NE Corner  
**taken** 7/6/1989  
**Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):**  
31-3  
**Comments:**