

STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY  
OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
State Historic Preservation Office  
Oregon State Parks, Salem, OR 97310

Significance Primary No. 34

County Jackson

Theme \_\_\_\_\_

The Old Curiosity Shop

Name State Liquor Store

(Common) "Anderson & Glenn General Mdse"

(Historic) Anderson & Glenn General Mdse

Address 125 West California Street

Jacksonville, Oregon 97530

Smith, Donald E. et al

Present Owner c/o Reavis W.F./Jacqueline, Agt

P.O. Box 805

Address Jacksonville, Oregon 97530

Original Use Commercial

Date of Construction c. 1858



Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The Anderson and Glenn General Merchandise Store is a one story, rectangular brick structure painted dark red. The building was erected around 1858 by an unknown builder and architect. The style is an example of vernacular commercial Italianate.

The north, West California Street, facade is three bays wide: two, two-over-two fixed sash display windows flank a central doorway. All bays are square-headed. Slightly squat, semicircular arches spring from the capitals of piers that project slightly from the plane of the wall. All three tympanums are infilled with brick and recessed from the wall plane. Above the single-leaf glazed central door, there is a transom light divided into three unequal parts. Side lights have single glazed lights.

The roof is a low pitched gable sloping to the east and west from the ridge and hidden by a parapet. The entablature, which is returned into the face, consists of a wide frieze band and two tiers of dentils: the lower consists of bricks set diagonally on edge and the upper has alternating projecting and receding bricks. The frieze and two dentil courses are separated by slightly projecting courses of varying widths, and all are capped by a parapet of several courses

continue on back if necessary

Recorded by Gail E.H. Evans

Date November 1979

Photographed by Gail E.H. Evans

Sources consulted (continue on back if necessary):

Please refer to footnotes

(repeat)

Please enclose map. Township 37 S 2 W Section 32, Block 7, part of lot 3&7.  
Account No. 10600 (32BA)  
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laid flush with the wall surface.

The Anderson & Glenn Store is situated in mid-block on the south side of West California Street. Both east and west walls are shared by adjoining two story brick buildings. The cement sidewalk extends from the building foundation to the street curb. To the rear of the store a long, one story shed roof addition of corrugated tin extends southward. And still further south is a small detached, wooden storage building.

Originally, each bay was presumably a doorway with iron shutters. A canopy supported by iron brackets extended over the sidewalk from the front facade. The rear of the store had a one story addition, probably of wood. Early photographs indicate the building was originally unpainted.

The Anderson & Glenn Store at present houses a gift/novelty shop and the state liquor store. It is maintained in good condition.

John Anderson was undoubtedly one of Jacksonville's first merchants to sell supplies to the pioneering fortune seekers.<sup>1</sup> An advertisement written by Anderson in an 1857 newspaper thanks the community for their patronage during the previous six years, and although he must have overstated the store's antiquity by a year or so, the ad nevertheless indicates the business' early beginnings in the town. John Anderson's "fire proof brick store" survived two of Jacksonville's most destructive fires; thus the walls of the existing building date back to about 1858.<sup>3</sup>

Prior to construction of the present brick edifice, John Anderson owned a "Store House"<sup>4</sup> probably at the location of the present building as early as 1855. His earliest retail store, however, was located near the heart of the town's original commercial<sup>5</sup> center, first on the southeast corner of Oregon and Main Streets, (later the site of the Franco American Hotel) then for a short period on the northeast corner of the same block on the ground floor of the McCully Building.<sup>6</sup>

By early 1859 Anderson had joined in partnership with James Glenn, a large land owner in Jacksonville, treasurer of the town when it was first incorporated in 1860,<sup>8</sup> and third wealthiest citizen by 1868. Together they removed their stock of goods to "their new fire proof<sup>9</sup> brick store on California Street" (the present building) in 1859.

Although Anderson retained ownership of the building until 1877, several co-proprietors succeeded Anderson & Glenn in the general merchandising business. During the mid 1860's<sup>10</sup> the firm of "Bradbury and Wade" operated their business in the building, and two years later "Glenn, Drum and Martin" moved into the brick store.<sup>11</sup> Alexander Martin appears to have been almost a silent partner since on many occasions his name is not mentioned in connection with the business.<sup>12</sup> James Glenn apparently continued alone in the general merchandise business until the early 1870's<sup>13</sup> when "J.B. White and Alex Martin succeeded James T. Glenn at the same location."<sup>14</sup>

In the spring of 1873 White and Martin's store was the backdrop for a personal dispute that was newsworthy enough to receive space in Portland's Morning Oregonian: "In front of White & Martin's store H. Ish and J.D. Fay had<sup>15</sup> a tussle with Fay shooting a pistol and wounding Ish in the neck."

Unlike many brick structures in Jacksonville that advertised their "fire proof" qualities but that "burned like tinder" when put to the test, this one story brick seems to have endured two major fires that occurred just ten years apart and that together destroyed nearly

the entire block between South Third and South Oregon Streets. The first, in 1874, originated in the Eldorado Saloon on the southeast corner of California and Oregon and consumed the wood frame buildings between the Saloon and "the brick building of White & Martin" that checked the flames' eastward advance.<sup>16</sup> Then, in 1884, the New State Saloon, only two doors east of this brick edifice, fell prey to the work of a "spiteful incendiary,"<sup>17</sup> and the ensuing conflagration involved all the buildings around Anderson's one story brick building which by then had been sold to Louis Solomon and was known as the "post office store." The flames were not long in reaching P.J. Ryan's store, adjoining Solomon's on the west. Then it was discovered that "unknown, the flames had entered Solomon's through the openings in the cellar and set afire the large amount of goods stored there. While the roof was long in falling in, a great fire raged inside soon after the blaze first entered. . . The iron doors were therefore kept closed and the flames allowed to spend their forces inside."<sup>18</sup> The brick walls apparently remained intact, and five months later the interior of the "Post Office store was nearly ready for occupancy."<sup>19</sup>

For relatively short periods between White & Martin's occupancy of the building and Louis Solomon's purchase of it from Elizebeth Anderson in 1877,<sup>20</sup> at least two other businesses occupied the building: Reames Brothers<sup>21</sup> followed by Newman Fisher. Fisher was assisted by Ernest Caro, "in charge of yard goods," and Mrs. Brentano, "whose taste and proficiency were well known to the ladies of the valley."<sup>22</sup>

The original Anderson & Glenn brick store, continued to be used as a general merchandise store at least until the turn of the century.<sup>23</sup>

#### FOOTNOTES

1. Walling, A. G., History of Southern Oregon Comprising Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry and Coos Counties, Portland, Oregon, Publishing House of A. G. Walling, 1884, p. 365.
2. Jacksonville Herald, October 3, 1857. (Marshall Lango)
3. Ibid., January 22, 1859. (Marshall Lango)
4. Jackson County Deeds, August 4, 1855. (Christopher Owens)
5. Photographs, "Jacksonville Looking East," c. 1855. (Southern Oregon Historical Society)  
Kuchel and Dressel, "Jacksonville, Jackson County Oregon, Oregon T.erritory," 1856.
6. Photographs, "Jacksonville Looking East," c. 1858. (Southern Oregon Historical Society)
7. Town of Jacksonville, Board of Trustees Minutes, March 5, 1861; March 1, 1861; March 3, 1863; Ms. 916, Oregon Historical Society. (Christopher Owens)
8. Jacksonville Reveille Weekly, July 4, 1868. (Christopher Owens)
9. The Jacksonville Herald, January 22, 1859. (Marshall Lango)
10. The Oregon Sentinel, September 1, 1866.
11. Ibid., September 1, 1866.
12. The Jacksonville Reveille Weekly, January 4, 1868. (Christopher Owens)  
The Oregon Sentinel, July 25, 1868. (Marshall Lango)
13. Ibid., August 21, 1869, ("Glenn, Drum & Martin - firm dissolved") (Marshall Lango)
14. The Democratic Review, November 18, 1871. (Marshall Lango)  
Ibid., June 1, 1872. (Christopher Owens)

15. The Morning Oregonian, March 15, 1873.
16. The Oregon Sentinel, April 18, 1874.
17. The Democratic Times, January 4, 1884.
18. Ibid., January 4, 1884.
19. Ibid., May 2, 1884.
20. Jackson County Deeds, September 19, 1877. (Christopher Owens)
21. The Democratic Times, September 21, 1876. (Marshall Lango)
22. The Oregon Sentinel, May 2, 1877.
23. Ibid., May 9, 1877.
23. Jacksonville, Sanborn Map and Publishing Co., 1892, 1898.



STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY  
 HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS  
 State Historic Preservation Office  
 Oregon State Parks, Salem 97310

County Jackson  
 Theme 6-D, 10-A  
 Name  
 (Common) The Old Curiosity Shop  
 (Historic) Anderson & Glenn Gen. Merchandise  
 Address 125 W. California  
s. side of W. California  
Jacksonville, Oregon  
 Present Owner \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original Use Commercial  
 Date of Construction 1856

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The Anderson & Glenn General Merchandise Store is a one story, brick building which is situated on the south side of West California between Oregon and Third streets in Jacksonville, Oregon. This building has three bays on its north (front) elevation. The windows and entry have been altered but the basic design of the structure remains. The center bay is the entry. A low facade of projecting bricks is located at the roof level.

This building once housed the Anderson & Glenn General Merchandise Store. In 1884 this building became the post office.

For more information on the architecture and history of this structure see the forthcoming publication:

Ross, Marion and Christopher Owens. "An Area Study of Jacksonville, Oregon: The Commercial District and the Churches and Courthouse."

For a photograph of this structure see picture #6 in the HABS files taken 2-5 August 1971 by Jack E. Boucher. These collections are on file in the Southern Oregon Historical Society Museum, Jacksonville, Oregon. continue on back if necessary

Recorded by Stephen Dow Beckham Date 28 August 1976

For Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

Sources Consulted:

Enclose map Township 37<sup>S</sup> 20<sup>W</sup> Section 32

Historic Jacksonville Oregon. n.p.: U.S. National Bank, [1976].

*see p. 74 Vol. 1 Jacksonville Survey 1979*