



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

Significance Primary No. 2  
County Jackson  
Theme \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Scheffel's Antiques  
(Common) "Fisher Brothers' Store"  
(Historic) Fisher Brothers' Store  
Address 180 West California Street  
Jacksonville, Oregon 97530  
Present Owner Scheffel, Lucille  
P.O. Box 626  
Address Jacksonville, Oregon 97530  
Original Use Commercial  
Date of Construction 1874

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The existing Fisher Brothers' Store was rebuilt in 1874 and is an example of vernacular commercial Italianate. It is a one story, rectangular block of unpainted brick. In recent years an unpainted wood board and batten addition has been attached on the rear (north) of the original building. The architect and builder are unknown.

The front (south) facade is three bays consisting of two semi-circular arched windows and a square-headed doorway that has been cut into the corner of the building. The four course, slightly projecting bricks in the two window arches contain top lights divided into vertical panes. The west facade has three bays (more widely spaced than the front facade) consisting of a square-headed service door, a window, and the corner doorway.

The low pitched gable roof sloping to the east and west is hidden behind a parapet. The face of the parapet has a frieze of slightly projecting bricks, a dentil course of bricks set on edge, and finally, a series of projecting courses. The cornice on the west (side) elevation is similar; however, it follows an S-curve at the southwest corner and does not join with the cornice of the main facade.

The building is situated on the northeast corner of West California and North Oregon Streets, oriented toward California Street.

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

Please enclose map. Township 37 N S 2 W E Section 32, Block 2, part of lot 1.  
Account No. 5900 (32BA)  
15

(REPEAT)

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A concrete sidewalk abuts the building on the south and west; a gravel service alley runs behind (north of) the rear board and batten addition, and a similar one story brick structure adjoins Fisher Bros. Store on the east. The Fisher Brothers' property is void of vegetation.

Originally, Fisher Brothers' Store had an arched opening identical to the two display windows on the front (south) facade. This was altered before the turn of the century to accommodate the front entrance which cuts into the southwest corner at an angle. The outline of the former arched opening is visible in the brick. The two adjacent windows may have, at one time, been doorways, but today they are display windows above recessed brick panels. It appears that soon after construction of the present building it was painted a light color. Around the turn of the century the west (side) facade displayed hand painted advertisements. A canopy extended over the front (south) sidewalk and turned the southwest corner for one bay. A recent board and batten addition has been attached to the rear (north) side.

Fisher Brothers' Store is at present occupied by Scheffel's Antiques and maintained in good condition.

Early in 1852 soon after news of the gold discovery in Jacksonville spread to California, two packers from Yreka established the first trading post on the site of Fisher Brothers' Store. The tent of Kenny & Appler was stocked with a few tools, clothing, boots, "black strap" tobacco, and a liberal supply of whiskey - all the essential items for an infant gold mining camp. By early 1854 the store of Kenny & Appler reportedly carried one of the heaviest stocks in Jacksonville.

It appears that D.M. Kenny soon started having financial difficulties which no doubt became more severe after work was completed on the "new storehouse" in late 1856 or early 1857.<sup>3</sup> In 1858 Kenny joined in partnership with one of his debtors, James Hamlin, to whom he was committed to contribute "his skill and service as a salesman and clerk" in the business of "buying, selling and vending of all sorts of Goods, Wares and Merchandise."<sup>4</sup> Neither Kenny & Hamlin nor Charles Birdseye, who purchased the store and merchandise in late 1860,<sup>5</sup> seemed able to recover from their debts. By August 22, 1861, Charles Birdseye had agreed to relinquish title to the goods, wares and merchandise in the "old brick store" ("known as the Kenny & Hamlin store") to William H.S. Hyde (sheriff of Jacksonville), if his debts to Hamlin were not paid by "tomorrow morning."<sup>6</sup>

Birdseye was unable to meet such a demand, and in early 1862 Sheriff Hyde deeded the<sup>7</sup> "Old Kenny & Appler lot" and merchandise to A. Fisher and Brothers. The dry goods and general merchandise store of Fisher Brothers continued for many years in the "brick store" at the corner of California and Oregon Streets. An eighteen foot addition in the rear of their store had just been completed when fire broke out in the Eldorado Saloon directly across California Street from Fisher Brothers in April 1874. With voracious speed the flames jumped the street to the wood awning of Fisher Brothers and the adjacent store. Ironically, "the only brick destroyed was that one on the Northwest corner of Oregon and California streets occupied by Fisher. . . ." Damage from the fire must have been extensive. By the end of the same month the Oregon Sentinel reported: "Fisher and Linn are tearing down their sprung walls and building them anew."<sup>10</sup> In the fall of that year the building was given a fresh coat of paint.<sup>11</sup>

For brief periods in the 1870's Fisher joined in partnership with Morris Mensor, [?] Caro, and perhaps others. In 1888 fire originating directly across North Oregon Street (at the northwest corner of Oregon



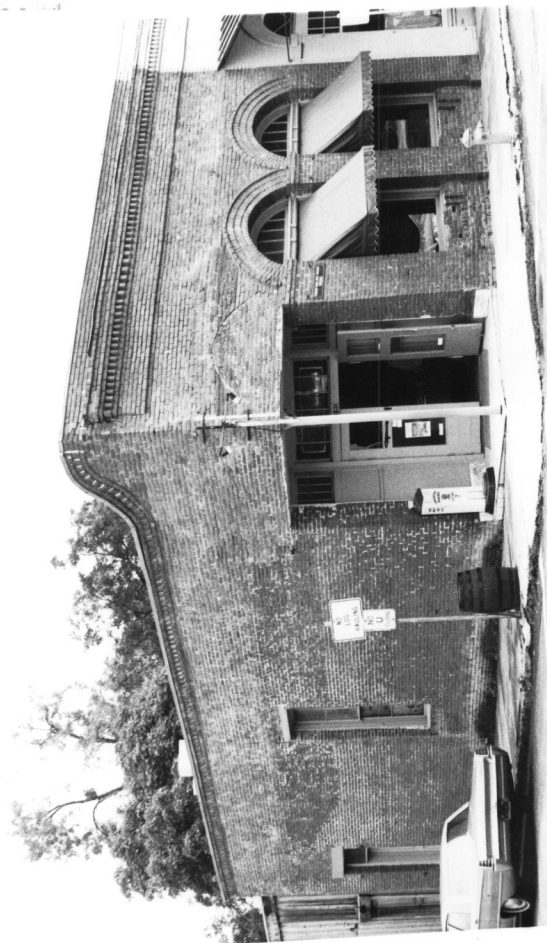
and California Streets) threatened Fisher Brothers' Store as it had fourteen years earlier; ". . .the roof of Fishers' store was on fire" on several occasions.<sup>14</sup> Fortunately, the fire was contained; thus it is the 1874 edifice that remains standing in 1979.

The building continued to be used as a general merchandise store into the early 1890's.<sup>15</sup> Late in that decade, and after the turn of the century, the structure was occupied by the Marble Arch Saloon, presumably named after the "Marble Works" building directly across North Oregon Street and/or because of the marble tiles that were placed in the recessed entryway at roughly the same time.

#### FOOTNOTES

1. Walling, A. G., History of Southern Oregon, Comprising Jackson Josephine, Douglas, Curry and Coos Counties, Portland, Oregon, The Publishing House of A. G. Walling, 1884, p. 360.
2. Ibid., p. 360.
3. Jackson County Deeds, May 30, 1857. (Christopher Owens)
4. Ibid., April 22, 1858. (Christopher Owens)
5. Ibid., November 20, 1860. (Christopher Owens)
6. Ibid., August 22, 1861. (Christopher Owens)
7. Ibid., February 13, 1862. (Christopher Owens)
8. The Oregon Intelligencer, June 20, 1863  
The Oregon Sentinel, July 25, 1868.
9. Ibid., April 18, 1874.
10. Ibid., April 25, 1874.
11. Ibid., September 12, 1874.
12. Jackson County Deeds, May 2, 1874. (Christopher Owens)
13. The Oregon Sentinel, November 21, 1874. (advertisement)
14. The Democratic Times, September 13, 1888.
15. Jacksonville, Sanborn Map and Publishing Co., 1892.

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) Fisher Bros. Gen. Merchandise Store  
 (Historic) (same); Marble Corner Saloon  
 Address 180 West California  
Jacksonville, Oregon  
 Present Owner \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Original Use Commercial  
 Date of Construction 1856

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The Fisher Brothers General Merchandise Store is a one story, brick building which stands at the northeast corner of West California and Oregon Streets in Jacksonville. This building has a recessed corner entry located on the southwest corner of the building. Two window bays are located in the south (front) elevation. The building has a low brick facade on its front elevation at the roof level. For the past ten years this building has been occupied by Scheffel's Antiques.

This site was the first location of a trading tent in Jacksonville. Merchants located at this corner in 1854. This building was later known as the Marble Corner Saloon.

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

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

For a photograph of this building see picture #19 in the HABS files taken 2-5 August 1971 by Jack E. Boucher. This collection is on file in the Southern Oregon Historical Museum, Jacksonville, Oregon.

continue on back if necessary

Recorded by Stephen Dow Beckham Date 27 Aug. 1976

For Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

Sources Consulted:

Please enclose map Township 37<sup>S</sup> N E Section 32 W

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

more info in 1979  
 Jacksonville survey  
 p. 15 vol. 1