

Survey of Historic and Cultural Resources
City of Medford, Oregon
Downtown Commerical Area, Phase I, 1993-94
[Jackson County 029]

Historic Name: **Moore Annex-Pottenger Bldg**

Location: **123 MAIN ST W**

City: **Medford, Oregon 97501**

Owner: **United Brotherhood Trustees**

MailAdd **Hamlin, Richard/Barbara**

123 Main Street W

MEDFORD, OR 97501

Addition: **Original Town Plat of Medford**

Block: **45** Lot: **13-14** Taxlot: **3400**

T/R/S **371W30BC** Acct# **10369692**

Quadrangle: **Medford [15min]**

Common: **Carpenter's Hall**

Date of Construction: **c1905-6**

Original Use: **Domestic:Hotel**

Present Use: **Commerce:Tavern**

Architect:

Builder:

Style: **Am. Mov:Chi. School**

Resource Type: **Building**

Theme: **Culture:20th C. Arch**

Condition: **Good**

Plan: **Rectangular**

Foundation: **Brick**

Roof Form: **Flat, single slope**

Wall Construction: **Brick**

Primary Window: **Fixed metal sash [1st], 1/1 wood sash dbl hung with single light transom above [2nd]**

Exterior Surface:

Stucco

Decorative Features: **Pilasters frame central entry stair, painted wall graphic at NE corner**

Other:

No. of Stories **2.0**

Basement: **No**

Roof Material: **Asphalt;Hot Mop**

Stuct. Frame: **Masonry;Brick**

Alterations/Additions: **Facade modernized pre-1935, brick veneer storefront [c.1960s?], various window**

Landscape Features: **None. Small parking area to rear**

Associated Structures: **None**

Setting:

Mid-block, facing north, at alleyway onto W Main Street in core commercial area of downtown

Sources

Clay, "Medford Walk" notes, JCVD 76:478, MMT 6-June-1941.

Photo Roll: **7** Frame[s]: **04**

Date Recorded: **06/13/94**

Medford Planning Map Code: **CC**

Medford Planning Overlay: **CB** Zoning: **C-C**

Ranking: **Secondary**

Recorded By: **George Kramer, M.S., HP** Ashland, Oregon

Medford Survey ID **69.0**

SHPO NO: 2495

Survey of Historic and Cultural Resources
City of Medford, Oregon
Downtown Commercial Area, Phase I, 1993-94

MFRNO: 69

371W30BC 3400

HISTORIC NAME: MOORE ANNEX-POTTENGER BUILDING

123 MAIN ST W

Construction of this two-story, brick, building, reportedly occurred in 1905-1906 and was originally used as an addition to the Moore Hotel, an early lodging facility that was located immediately to the east.

T.H. Moore constructed this two story building. . .as a part of his hotel development. Sleeping rooms were located on the second floor and connected to the hotel by a skybridge.¹

By 1910 the subject building was serving as the site of P.A. Hussey's Cash Store according to city directories. That year Moore sold the building to Frank M. Amy and T.E. Pottenger, apparently local investors, for \$24,000.² By 1930, the building was apparently known as "Castle Hall" and in use as a union hall on the upper story. The building was acquired during this period by L.A. Banks, a notorious local figure connected with the so-called "Jackson County Rebellion." Banks opened the offices of his *Daily News* in the building after substantial remodeling.³ It may be at this time that the original brick detailing and stepped parapets of the exterior were removed and the present modernistic exterior was established. Clearly by 1935, according to historic photographs the exterior had assumed essentially its present appearance.⁴

Following Banks' arrest and conviction for the murder of Constable George Prescott, and later his bankruptcy, the building apparently reverted to the earlier owners. Tenants during the mid-1930s included the Jackson county Chamber of Commerce, in the eastern storefront, and the Oyster Loaf, a cafe and lunch counter, in the western half of the building.

In 1941 W.E. Thomas, of the Thomas family who had developed the adjacent building [MFRNO 67], purchased the property.

The building is a two story brick structure . . .the ground floor, occupied by the Baldwin Piano Shoppe and the Carl Y. Tengwald real estate agency. . .The second floor is a lodge hall, now vacant.⁵

¹ L. Scott Clay, "Medford Walk," unpublished research on various downtown Medford buildings, p. 3.

² JCD 76:478, dated 31-January-1910.

³ For a detailed discussion on the Jackson County Rebellion and the Good Government Congress period see Jeffrey Max LaLande, *It Can't Happen Here in Oregon: The Jackson County Rebellion 1932-1933 and its 1890s-1920 Background*, (unpublished Ph.D dissertation, University of Oregon), June 1992 or George Kramer, *Root-Banks House NR Nomination*, 1-December-1993.

⁴ See SOHS Collection Neg. 14313, W.E. Thomas Collection.

⁵ "Pottenger Bldg. On West Main St. Sold to Thomas," *Medford Mail Tribune*, 6-June-1941, 1:7.

conveying that period and accurately relate the associations which make the bearing significant.

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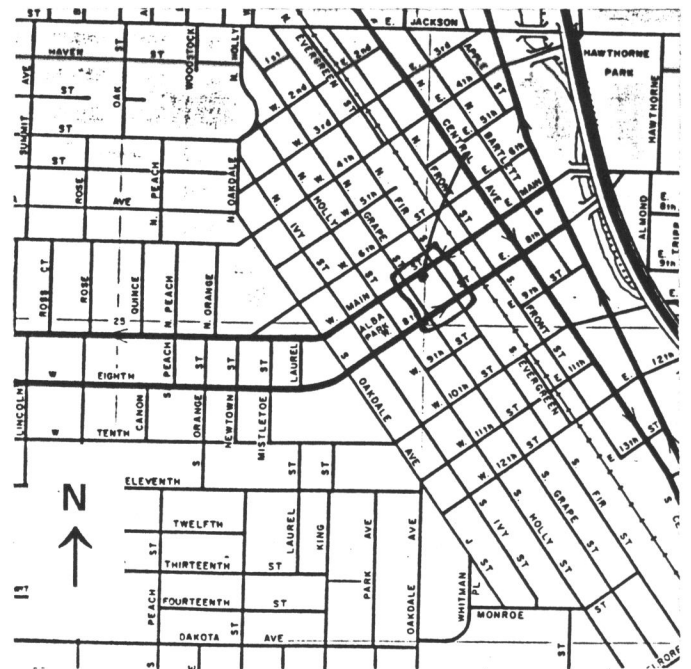
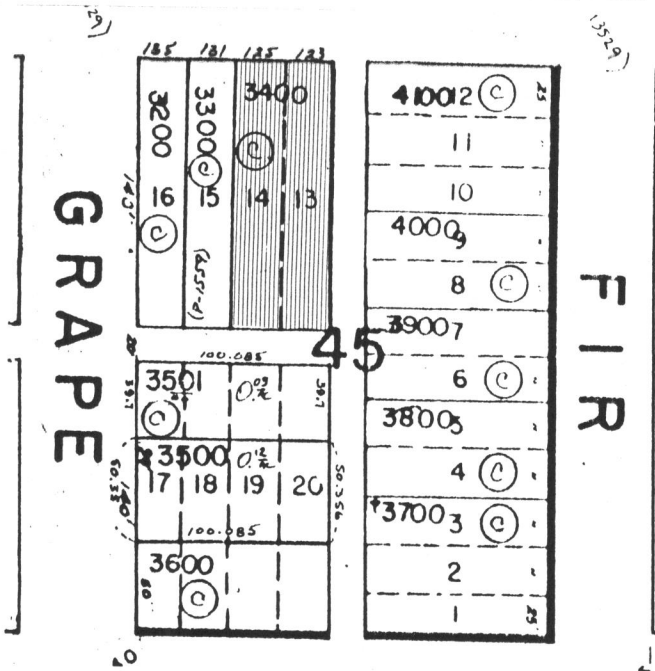
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Common: **Carpenter's Hall**
 Date of Construction: **c1905-6**



Photo Roll: 7

Frame: 4



GRAPHIC SOURCES: Jackson Cty Assessor Plat, annotated location map

Ranking: **Secondary**

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