ADDRESS: 6 N. Tillamook St.
OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: Multnomah

HIST. NAME: YMCA
COMMON NAME: Billy Webb Lodge #1050
ADDRESS: 6 N Tillamook
CITY: Portland, OR 97227
OWNER: Elks Lodge #1050
6 N Tillamook; Portland, OR 97227
T/R/S: T1N R1E S27
MAP NO.: 2830 TAX LOT: 7000
ADDITION: Albina
BLOCK: 32 LOT: 20
TAX ACCOUNT NUMBER: R-00961-2180

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1927
ORIGINAL USE: YMCA
PRESENT USE: Elks Lodge
ARCHITECT:
BUILDER:
THEME: Social Programs
STYLE: Colonial
OLD ADDRESS:
BLDG.X STRUC. DIST. SITE. OBJ.
QUAD: Portland

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: rectangular, symmetrical
NUMBER OF STORIES: one
FOUNDATION MATERIALS: concrete
BASEMENT (Y/N): yes
ROOF FORM & MATERIALS: side-facing gable composition
WALL/FRAME: wood frame
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: 6/6, 6/9, and 9/9 wood frame, double hung; gabled dormers with round-arched 6/6 lights, some boarded over; transoms over doors
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: wood shingles, painted; horizontal siding in gable ends
DECORATIVE FEATURES: one exterior brick chimney, painted; no eaves, wide frieze trim of horizontal siding; gable dormers flanking gabled entryway with arched opening and keystone, small columns and entablature, paneled pilasters, small returns on entry gable; concrete steps with iron railing.

CONDITION: GOOD FAIR X POOR MOVED (DATE)

EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS (DATED):

NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: streets trees, rock garden on narrow, sloping bank
ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES:

KNOWN ARCHEOLOGICAL FEATURES:

(Duplicate)
SHPO# 62971
OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM

NAME: Billy Webb Elks Lodge
ADDRESS: 6 N Tillamook
Portland, OR 97227

T\R\S: T1N R1E S27
MAP NO.: 2830  TAX LOT: 7000
QUADRANGLE: Portland

SETTING: building faces north on southwest corner of N Tillamook and N Williams Streets, both busy streets, N Williams is one-way; mixed area of commercial and residential.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: (Historical and/or architectural importance, dates, events, persons, contexts)
The Northeast branch of the "Colored Young Women's Christian Association" (YWCA) was established in a portable structure on the corner of Williams and Tillamook in 1921. Five years later, work was begun on a new building on this site funded primarily by a gift of $12,000 from Mrs. E.S. Collins, a white woman active in the YWCA. An effort was made by white citizens to deny a building permit for the new YWCA and the protest was taken to city council. The city attorney denied the request, saying that the city had no right to refuse to issue a building permit simply because it was for a Black organization. Local Black organizations raised $1,300 to furnish the building.
The Williams Avenue YWCA was managed by African American women and became a community center. Many social and political clubs utilized the facility for their meetings. The building had a gymnasium and auditorium with a stage, kitchen, office, lounge, and locker rooms for both boys and girls. The YWCA had clubs for grade and high school girls. There were classes in Spanish, sewing, hat making, Bible studies, musical programs, dancing, games, exhibits featuring Black artists, and activities celebrating Negro History Week. The Portland NAACP met here for many years and its office was located in the basement of the structure.
After the Vanport Flood of 1948, Essie L. Mcguire, Executive Director of the Williams Avenue YWCA wrote: "People began to come almost at once to the Williams Avenue YWCA an with the help of volunteers from the community and food and equipment from the Red Cross, we served about 515 meals a day to people who were living in the homes of friends or who had been taken in by members of the community, or who were sleeping in one of the three churches in the community...Four members of our staff lost everything they had."
The YWCA was connected to the African American USO during World War II.

SOURCES: Multnomah County Tax Assessor records; Polk City Directories; The Advocate; Oregonian; Oregon Journal; "Building a Foundation", Kimberly Moreland, Portland Planning Bureau; "A Peculiar Paradise", Elizabeth McLagen; NAACP publications.
RECORDED BY: Marianne Kadas for Bosco-Milligan Foundation

DATE: August 1995

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: 6291
OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM

NAME: Billy Webb Elks Lodge
ADDRESS: 6 N Tillamook
Portland, OR 97227

T\R\S: T1N S1E R27
MAP NO.: 2839 TAX LOT: 7000
QUADRANGLE: Portland

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TOWN MAP
STREET
TILLAMOOK

SHEP ROOF

6 N TILLAMOOK

PLEASE PLACE HERE

PLEASE SEE VICINITY
Map E Number 55

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GRAPHIC & PHOTO RESOURCES: Bosco-Milligan Foundation

SHPO INVENTORY NO. 6291