

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: CLATSOP

HIST. NAME: Astoria City Hall
COMMON NAME: Clatsop County
Heritage Museum
ADDRESS: 1618 Exchange

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1905
ORIGINAL USE: city hall
PRESENT USE: museum, office

CITY: Astoria, 97103
OWNER: Clatsop County Historical Soc.

ARCHITECT: Emil Schacht
BUILDER: Ferguson & Houston
THEME: government
STYLE: neo-classic

T/R/S: T8N/R9W/S8
MAP NO.: 80908 DB TAX LOT: 1480

ADDITION: Shively's Astoria
BLOCK: 120 LOT: 5, 6 QUAD: Astoria

xBLDG STRUC DIST SITE OBJ

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: rectangular NO. OF STORIES: two
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: masonry BASEMENT: yes
ROOF FORM & MATERIALS: truncated/slate
WALL CONSTRUCTION: nailed wood frame STRUCTURAL FRAME: nailed wd frm
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: 1/1 double hung in wood frame
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: horizontal wood clapboard
DECORATIVE FEATURES: wooden portico at each major entrance
OTHER: false balconies; projecting cornice; fluted pilasters

CLASSIFICATION: primary

STRUCTURAL STATUS: xGOOD FAIR POOR MOVED (DATE)

HISTORICAL INTEGRITY: slightly altered

EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: staircases to major entries have been rebuilt, the north entry is now handicapped accessible, the west entry has a broader base; two or three window openings reduced on the east, and part of building attached to neighboring armory in WWII

NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: flower beds at base of building

ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES: none

KNOWN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES: none

SETTING: east side of 16th, between Duane and Exchange; virtually free standing; parking to north

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: On June 17, 1904, architect Emil Schacht filed the plans and specifications for this building and on July 16, 1904, these plans were approved by the members of the public property committee of the city council. Bids for building the proposed new city hall were opened at 10 o'clock on the morning of August 8, 1904. The firm of Ferguson & Houston won the contract, submitting a bid of \$30,953. This building, which was erected on the site of the Fort Astoria cemetery, was dedicated with lavish ceremony July 4, 1905. In addition to required offices for city employees, the second floor contained a public library room and the basement housed the city jail. This structure served as Astoria's city hall until March, 1939. During World War II the building was used as a USO facility for white military personnel. This property was placed on the National Register

of Historic Places September 7, 1984, and now serves as the home of the Clatsop County Historical Society and the Clatsop County Heritage Museum.

SOURCES: Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; Astoria Daily Budget, June 17, 1904, July 16, 1904, August 8, 1904, July 3, 1905; Evening Astorian-Budget, April 1, 1939, July 24, 1941; State Historic Preservation Office (letter)

NEGATIVE NO: R6 N4

RECORDED BY: NCLC

DATE: 12/20/89

6/14/90

SHPO INVENTORY NO.:

60

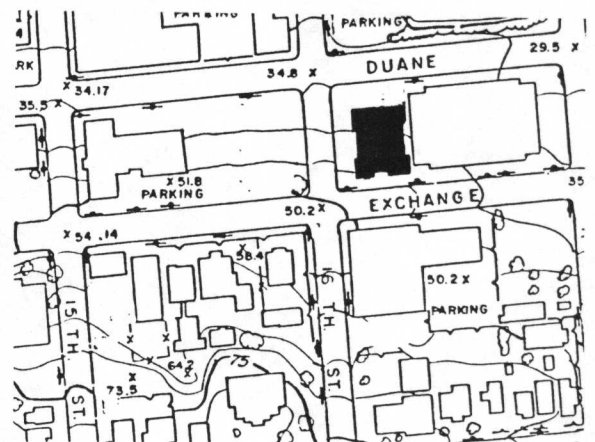
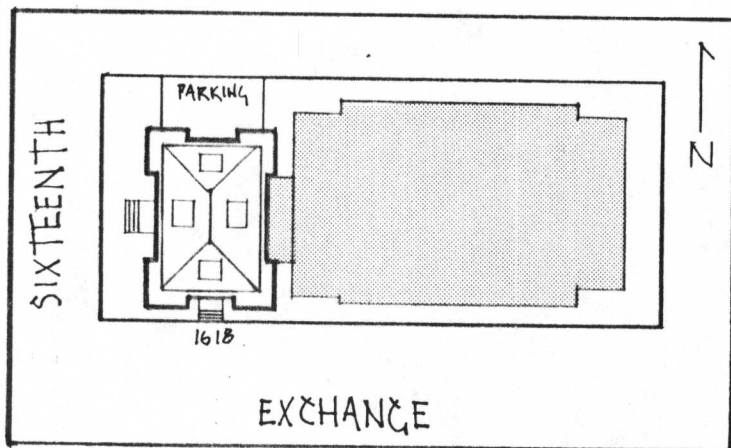
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HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: CLATSOP

PROPERTY: Heritage Museum
ADDRESS: 1618 Exchange
TAX I.D.: 51541a

T/R/S: T8N/R9W/S8
MAP NO.: 80908 DB
QUAD.: Astoria



NEGATIVE NO.: R6 N4



TOPOG. DATE: 1967

GRAPHIC & PHOTO SOURCES: N.C.L.C.; CITY OF ASTORIA, ENGINEERING DEPT.
S.H.P.O. INVENTORY NO.:



County Clatsop
Theme 8-D, 10-A
Name
(Common) Columbia River Maritime Museum
(Historic) Astoria City Hall
Address 1618 Exchange Street
Astoria, Ore.
Present Owner Columbia River Maritime Museum
(Address) Astoria, Ore.
Original Use City Hall
Date of Construction 1904-05

Physical

historical significance:

The Columbia River Maritime Museum, housed in the former Astoria City Hall since 1962, has converted a Colonial Style building into its museum until its new quarters are completed in 1976. The Astoria City Hall, dedicated on July 4, 1905, is a two and one-half story, wood frame building of square shape. It has a hipped roof and a dressed stone foundation. The exterior is narrow clapboard siding. The windows are one-over-one in wide surrounds which, on the first floor, have large entablatures and brackets as part of the surrounds. The entrances on the south and west elevations are surmounted by a broken pediment in which is mounted an urn. The broken pediments are supported by columns.

This building, which also once housed the Astoria Public Library, was USO headquarters during World War II, serving army, navy, and coast guard personnel.

The building is located on the northeast corner of 16th and Exchange Streets.

Continue back if necessary

Recorded by Stephen Dow Beckham Date 11 May 1976 Sources Consulted:

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

Gault, Vera Whitney. Walking Tour of Astoria, Oregon. Astoria, Ore.: Clatsop County

Please enclose map Township 9 S Range 9 E Section 8

Historical Society, 1975, Item 65.