

**Historic
Resource
Inventory**
CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON



0-028-00223

223-225 S.W. Ash Street

Portland, Block 32

QUARTER SECTION MAP #: 2929.5

Downtown Community Association

ORIGINAL NAME: Bickel Building

OTHER NAMES: Wachsmuth Building

ORIGINAL FUNCTION: Office

OTHER FUNCTIONS: Retail, Restaurant

DATE BUILT: 1892

STYLE: Italianate

ORIGINAL OWNER: Bickel, Frederick

OTHER OWNERS: Wachsmuth, L.A., Bickel, Frederick Estate, Korte, Mr. and Mrs.,
Newman, Tony

TAX ASSESSOR'S ACCOUNT #: R-66770-4620

ZONING: C1ZS

DESIGNATION: National Register, Landmark

HISTORIC DISTRICT: Skidmore/Old Town

SPECIAL FEATURES AND MATERIALS:

Brick walls. Wood trim. Wood floor structure and partitions. Pressed metal trim at cornice line includes brackets and finials.

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SPECIAL F/M - ORIGINAL REMOVED:
Original wooden storefronts.

SPECIAL F/M - SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION:
Non-descript brick structure at west end of block built between 1908 and 1926.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Government, Commerce, in association with Frederick Bickel, Architecture

Government: This building housed the Portland City Council until 1894. Portland's first telephone exchange was located in this building.

Commerce, in association with Frederick Bickel: Bickel was born in Germany in 1832, and moved to this country with his parents in 1846. He apprenticed to a confectioner in St. Louis for four years, and later worked for Frank Dekum. The two men arrived in Portland via California in 1853 and together established the first confectionery store in the city. In 1856 Bickel started the first soda manufacturing in Portland. He invested in real estate, built several buildings, and engaged in the storage business. He was active in the Turn Verein and German Aid Society.

Architecture: Classified of primary significance to district.

OLD ADDRESS: 249 Ash Street, 23-25 Second Street

MAJOR ALTERATIONS: 1916/59101/Emil Schacht

1971/464371/Norman and Stanich

1971/467631/Jo. A. Rudd

1977/511189/Allen, McMath, Hawkins

1977/507470/Don Ryers

Present owner as of Jan 1983: Oregon Oyster Company, Inc.
MAILING ADDRESS: 208 S.W. Ankeny Street, Portland 97204

Special Property Tax Assessment

Negative: 511-1, 510-20A

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Gaston, Joseph, PORTLAND, OREGON: ITS HISTORY AND BUILDERS (Chicago, 1911).

Hawkins, William, THE GRAND ERA OF CAST-IRON ARCHITECTURE IN PORTLAND (Portland, 1976).

OREGONIAN, Jan. 19, 1892; April 21, 1961; March 1, 1964.

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City of Portland Buildings Bureau microform and card files.

Multnomah County Tax Assessor records, microform, automated data files, and card files (Portland, 1980).

Vaughan, Thomas and McMath, George, A CENTURY OF PORTLAND ARCHITECTURE, (Portland, 1967).

PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD OF PORTLAND AND VICINITY (Chicago, 1903).

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