

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Date listed 11-21-12

NRIS No. 12000964

Oregon SHPO

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Wallowa County Chieftain Building

other names/site number Old Chieftain Building


### 2. Location

street & number 106 NW First Street  not for publication

city or town Enterprise  vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Wallowa code 063 zip code 97828

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this X nomination      request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.  
In my opinion, the property X meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:  
     national      statewide X local  
  
Signature of certifying official Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date 10.1.12  
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property      meets      does not meet the National Register criteria.  
Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:  
     entered in the National Register      determined eligible for the National Register  
     determined not eligible for the National Register      removed from the National Register  
     other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

Wallowa County Chieftain Building  
Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise,  
1888-1956

None

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Business, newspaper

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT / NOT IN USE

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY  
AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:  
Commercial Style

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE  
walls: STONE, Bowlby (Volcanic)  
roof: METAL  
other: N/A

Wallowa County Chieftain Building

Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR

County and State

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

Completed in the first half of January 1916, the Wallowa County Chieftain Building occupies portions of lots 1 and 2, Block 6 of the original town plat of Enterprise within the downtown business district, near the city center. Also known as the "Old Chieftain Building, the resource fronts onto NW First Street, and stands approximately 590 feet northwest of the Wallowa County Courthouse, which is located at the intersection of Main and River Streets. The building is a one-part commercial block in dressed, local stone known as Bowlby stone, a locally-quarried volcanic tuff stone used to construct many of the early commercial structures in the city. The front (east) side sits 14.5 feet off the parking curb on NW First Street. An asphalt alley extends along the south side of the building. The rear of a building fronting on W. North Street is within a few inches of the west (rear) elevation of the Chieftain Building. The north wall of the building adjoins the neighboring building. The building is characterized by its stone walls, centered entry door flanked by windows on the east (front) elevation, and flat roof with parapet. The building has a single-story concrete-block addition to its north elevation, filling the 10 feet that originally separated this building from the next to the north. The addition is set back 22.5 feet from the principal (east) elevation. The original parapet is present, topped with an approximately 2-foot tall, standing-seam steel extension with steel coping. The interior includes ten rooms on the main floor, two in the addition, and a partial basement beneath the west (rear) portion of the original building. Some original wood trim remains; however, most surfaces were replaced during a remodel in the 1970s. Despite the presence of some modern elements, the historic fabric and appearance of the building are readily apparent.

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### Narrative Description

#### Exterior

The Old Chieftain Building is a roughly rectangular building, approximately 50 feet (north-south) along the west side of NW First Street, and extending approximately 80-feet deep into the block. All visible walls, with the exception of the set-back face of the north addition (which is concrete block), is coursed blocks of Bowlby stone, a gray-brown, volcanic tuff stone. Windows on the building are vinyl sashes set into the original window openings, with a single exception on the south side of the east (front) elevation, where two individual windows were combined to form a single, large opening. All windows retain their original concrete lintels and sills and wood trim; however, the original rusticated finish on the lintels was removed during the historic period. The lintels over the altered window on the front elevation remain intact; however, the rest of this window is altered. The building sits on a poured-concrete foundation with partial subterranean basement, and has a flat roof with stone parapet, two courses higher on the front elevation than on the side. A modern, standing-seam metal parapet is set on the top of the parapet, extending the parapet approximately 2-feet. The height difference between the stone parapet on the front elevation and that on the side elevation is maintained, though raised overall. Alterations to the roof, parapet, and windows were made during a 1970s remodel.

The east (front) elevation features the centered primary entrance, recessed into the wall approximately 5 feet. A modern steel-and-glass entry door is mounted near the front of the recess, with the original doorway in its original position, approximately 5-feet deep within the recessed entry, creating a small entry room. The walls of this small entry room are clad with stucco above a beaded tongue-and-groove wainscot. The door is a glazed wood door with wood surround, molded head cap, fillet, and undecorated head casing. To the north of the doorway are two vinyl-sash windows with operable lower sashes set into the original wood-framed openings. The windows are approximately 5-feet tall, 3 ½ –feet wide, and approximately 8-inches deep from the face of the wall. To the south of the doorway is a large, paired, fixed aluminum window set into a wood

Wallowa County Chieftain Building

Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR

County and State

frame. The window is set lower on the wall than the original two windows, which have been removed, along with their surrounds and sills. The lintels are intact with vertical board over an added header between the lintels and the upper edge of the window. A modern gutter is attached across the upper course of the stone parapet, with a downspout descending along the south edge of the elevation. On the wall above the main entry door are six vertically mounted boards that are intended to hold a business sign. To the north of the original edge of the east (front) elevation is the set-back concrete block addition. The addition continues the standing-seam steel parapet and coping. The east wall of the addition has a pair of steel doors with a poured-concrete loading area leading to the street side. The north elevation of the original massing of the building is visible between the street and the east wall of the addition, and has no windows or doors. The stone on this wall is primarily rubble instead of coursed stone.

The south (side) elevation continues the coursed-stone walls and stone parapet topped with standing-seam steel parapet extension and coping seen on the east elevation. This elevation, which faces into an alley, features six windows and two doors. The two vinyl windows on the east match those seen on the north side of the east (front) elevation in dimension and trim treatment. To the west of these are two windows, each approximately 10-feet, 9-inches wide, and approximately 1-foot shorter than those at the east. These windows have vinyl-slider windows fitted into the original window openings, and retain their wood trim and concrete sills and lintels, which, due to the size of the span, are heavier than those elsewhere. To the west of these windows is a pair of steel doors with heavy concrete lintel. Although not evident from the exterior, these doors are bricked closed from the inside. To the west of these are two windows, matching the largest on this elevation in height, and each measuring approximately 7-feet, 2-inches in width. These windows also retain the original dimensions, retain original wood trim and concrete sills and lintels, and are fitted with vinyl slider windows. At the west end of this elevation is an entry door with concrete lintel. This elevation is also spanned across the parapet with a modern gutter, drained by four evenly-spaced downspouts.

The rear (southern) portion of the east elevation of a building fronting on W. North Street is within a few inches of the west (rear) elevation. The north wall of the building adjoins the neighboring building to the north. The west and north elevations of the original building still retain their original window openings, but these are not visible from the exterior.

## **Interior**

The interior of the Old Chieftain Building is divided into ten rooms. The original office, subsequently a meeting room, occupies the northeast corner of the original massing of the building. The room is accessed through a door on its south wall, which is immediately north of the principal entrance off of NW First Street. This room is characterized by wide tongue-and-groove wall treatment, the presence of the two windows (corresponding to those on the east (front) elevation, to the north of the principal entrance) on its east wall, and by the brick fireplace on the west wall. The wood wall cladding rises to the height of the top of the door surround, and is composed of vertical, molded-joint tongue-and-groove boards with a plain board cap and concave molding strip. The walls are clad with drywall from the top of the wood paneling to the ceiling. The fireplace is located near the center of the west wall, and is composed of painted brick. There is no mantel. The room is lit by hanging fluorescent lighting, and all electrical conduit and outlets are mounted on the wall surface.

To the south of the original office is the "new reception room," which was framed and enclosed as a part of a 1970s remodel, and occupies the southeast corner of the building. The room has a suspended, acoustic-tile ceiling, descending to below the tops of the original window openings. Wall surfaces in this room are laminate press board, installed in the 1970s. The laminate covers the walls up to the suspended ceiling. The windows include two vinyl-sash windows on the south wall, corresponding on the exterior to the easternmost windows on the south elevation, and the large, paired steel windows. The room has a molded-wood baseboard. Window trim is simple board jambs with no molding surrounds., Electrical conduit and outlets are mounted on the wall surface.

Wallowa County Chieftain Building

Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR

County and State

To the west of the new reception room is the original pressroom. This room is characterized by the modern low-pile blue berber carpet, plaster walls, and large windows corresponding to those on the exterior, south elevation, to the east of the double doors leading into the alley. Although the windows themselves have been replaced with vinyl sliders with a center fixed pane, the interior window trim is intact with simple board side casings, aprons, and stools, and head casings with cap molding and fillets. Portions of the east and south walls have simple board wainscoting. The south wall is finished with plaster over the load-bearing Bowlby stone. The room is lit by suspended fluorescent lighting and has electrical conduit and outlets mounted on the wall surface and ceiling. An office space was framed into this room, extending from the north wall. On the north wall of the original pressroom, at the west end, is a doorway (cut from an original window) into the new pressroom, which occupies the north addition.

To the west of the original press room is the job room, which is, like the press room, characterized by the two large, three-part vinyl windows on the south wall. These windows retain their interior trim, which matches those found in the pressroom. Baseboards in this room are simple board with no molding. This room is lit by suspended fluorescent lights, and has electrical conduit and outlets mounted to the wall surface and ceiling. The wall between the original press room and the job room is a poured-concrete, load-bearing wall. The room has had three small rooms framed out of the north side, including an office at the west, another office in the center, and at the east, a small storage room. Both offices have raised floors; the storage room has a vinyl-clad floor, level with the floor of the job room. A utility sink is located in the northeast corner of the job room, adjacent to the storage room door. At the west end of this room is a small landing with a door on the south wall corresponding to the westernmost door on the exterior, south elevation. From the landing, one can access the job room to the east and a stair that descends toward the north, into the basement. The door to the stairwell landing (no hall) is on the west wall in the SW corner of the job room. The outer door is on the south exterior wall, directly opposite the descending stairs. At the very back (west) of the room, in an area north of the stairwell wall, is the only window on the western side of the building (painted over but still containing glass and original molding).

The northern addition houses the "new" press room, within which is a bathroom. The new press room is characterized by a poured-concrete floor and concrete block walls at the north, east, and west. The original north exterior wall of the main massing of the building are evident, though painted. Windows that were once on the north wall, which now forms the dividing wall between the original portion of the building and the north addition, have been removed and enclosed from the south with drywall. The room has no exterior windows, and has only the paired exterior steel doors on the east wall, corresponding to the loading doors on the recessed north addition, east elevation, visible from the exterior. The new press room has a bathroom that was added ca. 2000, framed off of the south wall of the room, just to the west of the door between the old and new pressrooms.

The basement is located below the job room, and contains six rooms, all framed out and sheathed subsequent to the original construction. As originally constructed, the basement had only a large, open room and a small bathroom near the center of the east wall. The basement now includes a large open area along the south wall, the bathroom, a furnace room in the northwest corner, a camera room to the west of the bathroom, and, in the northeast corner, a darkroom and photo processing room divided by staggered walls intended to reduce light infiltration. The camera room, dark room, and photo processing room are all accessed through a door near the center of the basement, to the east of the door to the furnace room. A large heating oil tank is also located in the basement, at the southwest corner, beneath the stair. The basement has concrete-block walls (at some point installed to either replace or provide additional structural support to the original concrete foundation walls) and poured-concrete floor, no decorative trim, and various heating and water pipes suspended from the ceiling, which is supported by steel tube columns spanned by wood beams.

Wallowa County Chieftain Building  
Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

COMMUNICATIONS

**Period of Significance**

1916-1956, Date of operation

**Significant Dates**

1916, Date of construction

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Oberg, John, Builder

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance spans the period from 1916 when the building was constructed until 1956, which corresponds to the end of the period of significance defined in the MPD, *Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise, Oregon, 1888-1956*. The significance of the building spans three historic contexts defined in the MPD: the *Railroad, Automobile, and the Timber Boom, 1908-1928*; *The Decline, Depression, and WWII, 1929-1945*; and *the Post World War II Boom, 1946-1956*.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)** N/A

Wallowa County Chieftain Building

Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR

County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The 1916 Wallowa County Chieftain Building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for its local significance under Criterion A, Commerce and Communications, as the business headquarters and place of publication of the *Wallowa County Chieftain*, the most widely read regional newspaper in Wallowa County throughout the first half of the twentieth century. First known as the *Wallowa Chieftain* in 1884, then becoming the *Wallowa County Chieftain*, the *Enterprise Record Chieftain*, the *Enterprise Chieftain*, and finally the *Wallowa County Chieftain* again; the paper is without dispute the most influential source of communication for Wallowa County between the construction of the Chieftain Building in 1916 and 1956, the end of the period of significance for the Multiple Property Document (MPD) "Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise, 1888-1956." The Chieftain Building meets the registration requirements established in the MPD for one-part block commercial buildings.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Throughout its history, the *Wallowa County Chieftain* newspaper, and the many names under which it has been known, was a profoundly important and influential source of news and opinion in Enterprise and rural Wallowa County. Demonstrating a strong association with the historic context presented in the MPD, the building is eligible for listing under the document under Criterion A, Commerce, for its historic association with the development of downtown Enterprise and under Communication for the role the paper and its editors played in the collection and dissemination of information across the community. Constructed in 1916 in downtown Enterprise during the MPD's period of significance; exhibiting the character-defining features of a one-part-block commercial building; and possessing a strong association with the growth and development of the community, the building meets the general and specific registration requirements set forth in the MPD for one-part commercial buildings.

*The Chieftain* was founded 1884 in the fledgling community of Joseph, then a part of Union County, in the northeastern portion of Oregon. Its first few years were largely consumed with the fight over the selection of a county seat for the new Wallowa County, which was separated from Union County in 1887. During that time, the paper promoted Joseph as the permanent county seat, having been selected as the interim seat when the county was formed. In 1888, the seat was established at the new community of Enterprise, and within a few years, the Chieftain relocated there. After passing through numerous owners and publishers, in 1911, George Cheney became the owner, editor, and publisher of the paper, a position he would hold for the next 30 years. Cheney wasted little time in incorporating ideas that made a fine newspaper even better, immediately focusing on local history in new features.<sup>1</sup>

The early-twentieth century was a period of rapid economic expansion in Enterprise due to the arrival of the railroad in 1908, booming agriculture production, and the expected opening of a large sawmill to be operated by the Eastern Oregon Lumber Company in 1915, leading to the rapid expansion of downtown. Riding the wave of prosperity, on July 22, 1915 Cheney announced plans to move the business to his property at 106 NW First Street in downtown Enterprise. The paper's new home would be a single-story rectangular building constructed of Bowlby stone, a locally available volcanic tuff stone characteristic of the buildings constructed during this time. The building was specifically designed to meet the needs of the business, and included office space and areas to print the weekly paper. The contractor, John Oberg, began construction in autumn of 1915, but completion was delayed due to snow. Subsequently, it was not until January 1916 that the printing equipment was moved into the building.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ibid 27-86, 88, 187.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid 88-93; Sally Donovan, "Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise, 1888-1956" Multiple Property Document (Salem: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, June 2011), 88, 91-93; Enoch R Bowlby Building, Oregon State Historic Site Form (Salem: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, June 2011), 3.

Wallowa County Chieftain Building

Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR

County and State

From its new permanent location, the *Wallowa County Chieftain* became an important long-running business in downtown Enterprise and continued to be a key source of local news and opinion. During his influential 30 years as editor and publisher, Cheney reported and commented on many locally important events, including the temporary local fuel shortage in 1917, the 1918 smallpox epidemic, a devastating fire that brought about the total loss of the Eastern Oregon Lumber Company sawmill, the economic downturn following WWI, and the subsequent Great Depression. A consistent booster, Cheney's news and editorials were upbeat and supportive of the community. With war looming, Cheney sold the paper, then named the *Enterprise Chieftain*, in 1941 and the building in 1943 to Gwen Coffin, who brought an honest, but not necessarily popular, form of journalism. Under Coffin's leadership the paper often reported on controversial issues, offering a platform for debate and discussion. However, Coffin did not shy away from making his own opinions known. His thorough reporting and commentary on legalized gambling in Wallowa County attracted the attention of state regulators who ended the practice. Sharply criticized for publicizing the issue, Coffin remained unapologetic for this and his many other controversial positions through his tenure ending in 1972.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (if appropriate)

### **Founding the *Wallowa County Chieftain*<sup>3</sup>**

The *Wallowa County Chieftain* was founded in 1884 during a meeting of friends in the store of Frank D. McCully, the "Father of Wallowa County," and who very likely, could claim the title of father of the *Chieftain* as well. Frank D. McCully is most well known for establishing the town of Joseph, Oregon. Born in Salem, Oregon June 2, 1859 he attended Willamette University and started out in business at age 15. He arrived in the Wallowa Valley with a large herd of cattle in 1879. Deciding to go into the mercantile business, McCully established the town of Joseph on property he owned and opened the first store in town in 1880. In addition to organizing the *Chieftain*, he established the first bank, flour mill, electric company, water system, and was elected State Representative for Union County in 1886, immediately introducing a bill to create Wallowa County. McCully also was instrumental in bringing the railroad and first highways to Wallowa County. He died at home in Joseph after a long ailment on March 13, 1939.

Describing the circumstances of the paper's founding, local historian and author of the centennial history of the *Chieftain*, Lloyd Coffman, noted, "Fortuitously or by design (probably the latter ) one of the men in attendance, S.A. Heckethorn, volunteered the information that he had prior experience in the newspaper field and would be willing to tackle the project."<sup>4</sup> History seems to show that the ambitious Mr. McCully foresaw the benefits of having a weekly publication not only to advertise his goods, but also a forum to further his own agenda. McCully donated the property within the town he created to build the newspaper building and loaned the necessary funds to start the enterprise, which was running only one year after the dedication of the town of Joseph.<sup>5</sup>

Like most small town papers of its time, the *Chieftain* reported national news as well the day-to-day happenings in the local and outlying areas. Nature had made the northeastern corner of Oregon very remote. The *Chieftain*, as the first means of advertisement, mass communication, and connection with the outside world, became very influential. Opinions on the important subjects of 1886, and of personal interest to the McCullys, such as toll roads and county division, were freely printed and knitted together the scattered residents of the yet unformed Wallowa County. The paper provided a forum for McCully to accomplish his main goals: separating the northeast corner of Oregon as its own county, making Joseph the new county's seat, and securing a seat in the State Legislature for himself, all of which he did by Feb. 11, 1887. Without the

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<sup>3</sup> The context presented in this document draws heavily from *5200 Thursdays in the Wallowas* by Lloyd Coffman. Written in 1984 for the centennial of the Wallowa County Chieftain, the volume is a comprehensive history of the paper. Any un-cited material has been drawn from this source.

<sup>4</sup> Coffman, 4.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.



Wallowa County Chieftain Building

Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR

County and State

paper to promote McCully's points of view, the reporting of local politics might have been handled by those outside the community, and the outcome of these debates could have been quite different.

In December 1886, Heckethorn sold his holdings and left the area. Frank D. McCully, who had been instrumental in both the founding of Wallowa County and in organizing the business interests that led to the founding of the *Chieftain*, purchased Heckethorne's holdings. The *Chieftain* appeared later that month, now published by the Chieftain Publishing Company, almost certainly owned by McCully, with Harley F. Burleigh serving as the editor. Meanwhile, McCully, now a representative in the Oregon state legislature, introduced a bill to effect the formation of the new county, which was duly passed in February 1887, with Joseph as the interim county seat of the new Wallowa County. After only three months as editor, Burleigh was succeeded as editor by F.M. McCully, first cousin of Frank D. McCully and, since his arrival in Joseph in 1885, principal of Joseph Public School.<sup>6</sup>

Throughout 1887, as debate over the permanent location of the seat of Wallowa County took place ahead of the election to decide it scheduled for June 1888, the *Chieftain* led the push for permanent selection of Joseph. During this time, a proposed city at Bennett Flat provided the main challenge to Joseph for nomination as the county seat. A plat was filed for a city to be built there called Franklin, renamed Wallowa City in June 1887, and in November, renamed again, this time called Enterprise. On June 14, 1888, supported by a campaign funded by a large milling company that had located there, Enterprise edged Joseph to win the county seat. The *Chieftain* continued on in Joseph for five more years, though with steadily declining readership, and was eclipsed as the leading newspaper in the county by the *Aurora*, based in Enterprise. Apparently without intentional coordination, in 1893, the *Aurora* moved to Joseph and the *Chieftain*, by then under the ownership of a Mr. E. Deurselen, moved to Enterprise. Settled in its new home, the *Chieftain* soon recovered its position as the leading newspaper in Wallowa County. Under the leadership of many different editors and publishers, the paper spent the next 18 years printing the news from six different Enterprise locations.<sup>7</sup> In 1908, after passing through numerous hands, the *Chieftain* was merged with a competing paper called the *News Record*, renamed the *Record Chieftain*, and soon became a twice-weekly paper.<sup>8</sup>

### **The Legacy of George Cheney, Owner Editor, and the Construction of the Chieftain Building**

In 1911, the paper was bought by George Cheney, who became the twelfth editor and publisher since its founding less than 30 years before. Cheney is attributed with opening the second era of the *Chieftain*, one characterized by the stability of Cheney's 30-year ownership and his brand of booster journalism. George Cheney acquired the local paper shortly after arriving in Wallowa County in late 1911. In his own words he told the *Enterprise Record Chieftain* how he had fallen in love with the beautiful Wallowa Valley and its "gem" city Enterprise. He, his wife, and three children arrived from Kansas City, where he had been an editor for Associated Press. Cheney had a long list of credentials. His 20 years of prior experience included work for the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* and the Chicago City Press Association.

After acquiring the local paper, Cheney introduced new features focusing on the local community. Cheney's interest in history was directly responsible for several new features he introduced. On March 6, 1913 Cheney ran a column called "All Around Wallowa County," which featured a large photograph with a caption that captured some aspect of ordinary or extraordinary life in Wallowa County. It ran for more than eight years. Another column entitled "Fifteen Years Ago in Wallowa County," a feature that continues under different titles, debuted May 21<sup>st</sup> 1914 in the first "Commemorative Addition" in an effort to document the history of Wallowa County up to that time. A community booster, Cheney was deeply dedicated to the town of Enterprise and was involved with promoting the town. He is credited by Coffman with attracting the Eastern Oregon Lumber Company (EOLC) sawmill to the community.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Lloyd W. Coffman, *5200 Thursdays in the Wallows* (Enterprise: Wallowa County Chieftain, 1984), 2-22.

<sup>7</sup> Coffman, 187.

<sup>8</sup> Coffman, 106, 125, 147-148, 168.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid*, 88, 91-93.

Wallowa County Chieftain Building

Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR

County and State

Cheney came to Enterprise and launched the re-invigorated *Chieftain* at a fortuitous time. Enterprise had expanded quickly the first several years of the twentieth century becoming a prosperous small community. The arrival of the railroad in 1908 and subsequent construction of a depot and warehouses opened new markets to an already successful and growing agriculture industry. Over the next several years, a number of new buildings were constructed, including the impressive Richardsonian Romanesque Wallowa County Courthouse and other well-designed and -constructed buildings along Main Street and the parallel streets of Greenwood and North. During the same period, the People's Theater opened, as did the City Library. Reflecting the town's prosperity, town officials constructed new community amenities, such as sidewalks, fire hydrants, and a new water system. In June 1914, the (EOLC) announced plans to open a mill in the community. The sawmill was completed in 1915, and became an economic driver in the community. The population soared, creating a downtown building boom in 1916.<sup>10</sup>

Cheney anticipated the coming economic boost the expected EOLC mill would provide, and on July 22, 1915 he announced in the *Chieftain* a plan to move the business to a location he already owned on 106 NW First Street. Although more buildings were being constructed of brick and other materials in downtown, Cheney's plans called for a single-story Bowlby-stone structure customized to the needs of the *Chieftain*. The structure was designed as a simple expression of the Commercial Style in the one-part commercial block form, which is the most common building type in downtown Enterprise, with 29 buildings classified in the MPD under this subtype. Buildings of this type constructed between 1902 and 1916 are usually built of Bowlby stone, and are generally the most intact of the different building types, but, like the Chieftain Building, also tend to have little ornamentation.

Quarried on the land once owned by Enoch and Lulu Bowlby, the Bowlby stone is classified as a consolidated volcanic ash, or tuff, and is found locally in northeast Oregon. The lightweight gray stone is similar in weight to wood, and when wet, can be easily cut with a saw. Left to dry, the stone becomes a hard, "fireproof" building material used for the construction of houses, commercial buildings, and foundations. Stone was hauled from the Bowlby property in the area of Swamp Creek for a cost of \$1 for a 4x4x8 cord. The stone was the signature building material in Enterprise through the early-twentieth century, and boosters advertised Enterprise as the "Stone City." Many of the early buildings in the commercial district of Enterprise were constructed of Bowlby stone including the Wallowa County Courthouse (1909-10), among others. John Oberg, the same stone mason who constructed the city library a few years earlier in brick, was contracted to build the newspaper's new home with Bowlby Stone. Many years later, the material's qualities were tested. In 1950 a three alarm fire destroyed the first single-story brick building, constructed in 1887. The only fortunate part of this event was that the adjoining two-story building, built in 1899, was constructed of the native Bowlby stone and so served as a firewall. If not for this material the entire block would have been lost, as it was four businesses were completely destroyed.<sup>11</sup>

As reported in the paper, the new Chieftain Building was "a joy with its abundance of room, its flood of daylight and its numerous electric lights for the hours after sundown."<sup>12</sup> Throughout the process, the *Chieftain* chronicled its own building activity. A September 16, 1915 article energetically explained that "its new quarters will have the most complete, best arranged and best lighted printing shop found in any small town of the northwest."<sup>13</sup> The paper explained that the thick Bowlby-stone walls, at 18 to 22-inches, and double windows and doors would maintain the necessary warmth to keep its machinery running well. Also important, the paper was proud to have 37 windows,<sup>14</sup> keeping them high (5 feet 3 inches) above the floor to accommodate the

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<sup>10</sup> Donovan, 11-14.

<sup>11</sup> Enoch R Bowlby Building, 3; *Enterprise Record Chieftain*, "Changes Coming on Cross St. (Enterprise), 22 July 1915; *Enterprise Record Chieftain*, Work Begins on New Stone Record Chieftain Building" (Enterprise) 16 September 1915; Sally Donovan, "Enoch R Bowlby Building" (Salem: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, 2009), 3.

<sup>12</sup> Coffman, 97.

<sup>13</sup> *Enterprise Record Chieftain*, Enterprise: 16 September 1915.

<sup>14</sup> This number likely includes the individual panes of glass, not the number of window openings.

Wallowa County Chieftain Building

Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR

County and State

type cases placed against the wall under them, and installing ribbed glass to diffuse the light across the room.<sup>15</sup>

After construction delays due to snow, the new building was finally completed and the equipment installed in early 1916. The January 1916 edition of the *Record Chieftain* went on to describe how the heavy equipment would be moved by sled over the very snow that had slowed completion of the building. The press rooms were built over a concrete foundation and overlaid with matched boards to accommodate the extreme weight of the linotype, large press, and folding machines. The job plant would be in the back room, above the basement where a storage area and the heating plant would be located. To complete the floor plan two more rooms would occupy the north side, one for job stock, with shelving from floor to ceiling, and the other for the paper on which the *Chieftain* was printed. The rooms were made large enough to hold great enough quantities of stock to grant wholesale purchasing power. This same article eagerly invited hundreds to come and inspect the new building and enjoy a community room that would “offer every convenience in the way of furniture, stationary, heat and light . . .” as a place for meetings and visitors just looking for “a comfortable room in which to sit down, and rest and read the papers.”<sup>16</sup> For businesses and patrons alike, the building boasted two of the first single-party telephones in town. The *Chieftain* building would also do away with overhead shafts to drive the equipment. In the new building, each machine had its own motor, or if sharing a motor, the transmission equipment was located in the basement, leaving the ceiling unobstructed.<sup>17</sup>

Cheney would operate from this location for nearly three decades printing many historically significant stories such as the temporary local fuel shortage in 1917 and the onset of the post WWI-era depression. He chronicled Wallowa County’s economic woes and its painful recovery over the years. When in 1917 county growth came to a grinding halt, the ever optimistic editor updated the press equipment with a new linotype machine of the “latest, largest most efficient model . . . the greatest step forward ever taken in the plant.”<sup>18</sup> Cheney’s newspaper may have even saved lives when, in 1918, smallpox and influenza reached epidemic proportions in the county. The *Chieftain* reported from October 1918 to January 1919 the ban of all socializing and closures of businesses that did not comply. Sickness killed more U.S. citizens in a few months than had died in World War I during the previous two years. Although local deaths from sickness were never counted, few obituaries listed influenza or smallpox as a cause of death, suggesting that the paper’s efforts were successful.

Cheney’s style of writing was ever positive and encouraging, even in the face of the devastating news. When the EOLC had burned to the ground leaving hundreds out of work, Cheney continued to look for good economic news, even as he chronicled the event’s effects on the people of Wallowa County. Through the 1920s through 1940s, Cheney continued with his upbeat editorials, ever hopeful for complete recovery from the depression that had plagued the county for 20 years. On January 2, 1941 he called the passing year one of quiet prosperity. With war looming again, Cheney turned 70 and sold his paper, now named *Enterprise Chieftain*, on October 10, 1941, and then the *Chieftain* Building as well in 1943, to Gwen Coffin, an attorney from Illinois. George Cheney’s tenure as the editor and publisher of the *Enterprise Chieftain* is summed up in his May 30, 1935 editorial: “A good weekly newspaper . . . holds the lifestory of its community. Births, marriages, deaths, fires, accidents, new buildings, social, church and school activities are all set down simply and truthfully, forming a marvelous picture of the coming and going of the people of the countryside. Nothing from Washington and Congress, nothing of high finance, nothing from overseas and distant lands; just home news for home folks. But what else on Earth is so vital to them?” After losing a bid for the Democratic nomination for state representative in 1942, Cheney moved to Seattle, where he passed away on March 29, 1962 at the age of 90 years old. The new owner and editor of the paper, Gwen Coffin, eulogized him as “one

<sup>15</sup> *Enterprise Record Chieftain*, *Enterprise*: December 1915.

<sup>16</sup> *Enterprise Record Chieftain*, *Enterprise*: January 1916.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid*; *Enterprise Record Chieftain*, “Record Chieftain Moves Next Week” (*Enterprise*) 6 January 1916; *Enterprise Record Chieftain*, “Will Rush Moving of Printing Plant” (*Enterprise*) 13 January 1916; *Enterprise Record Chieftain*, “Record Chieftain Moves to New Shop” (*Enterprise*) 20 January, 1916.

<sup>18</sup> Coffman, 106.

Wallowa County Chieftain Building  
Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR  
County and State

of Oregon's greatest weekly newspaper editors" who "was honest and conscientious to the core," and that, "probably no man has had a more profound influence on Wallowa County's history than George Cheney."<sup>19</sup>

### **The Legacy of Gwen Coffin, owner and editor**

As the new editor and publisher of the *Chieftain*, Gwen Coffin would continue on with a differing style, but with the same belief in the importance of the small-town publication. Coffin changed the paper's name back to *The Wallowa County Chieftain*, beginning the third era in the newspaper's history. Coffin came to the small town of Enterprise from Downers Grove, Illinois with no journalistic experience. A practicing attorney in the Springfield, Illinois law firm founded by Abraham Lincoln, Coffin was a well-educated man. He held a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin and a Doctor of Law from the University of Colorado. He had taught in high schools in Illinois and South Dakota, and had been Assistant Professor of Law at two Chicago law schools. Gwen Coffin would eventually be inducted into the Oregon Newspaper Press Association Hall of Fame shortly before his death.

Coffin enjoyed editorials as much as Cheney had. Early on he mirrored Cheney's positive journalism. In January 21, 1943 he stated, "The unity and strength of small communities depends upon the measure of support [small weekly newspapers] receive."<sup>20</sup> Throughout the war years, he kept his thumb on the pulse of small-town society with lengthy editorials, often on controversial issues. He also continued Cheney's support for the local community. In 1943 pictures of service men and women, and letters from local soldiers were printed each week. The county celebrated with the rest of America on August 14, 1945. Coffin ran the largest banner headline in *Chieftain* history, "WAR IS OVER" in 2-inch block letters. A year later, in July 1946, he applauded the Joseph Chamber of Commerce, supporting their efforts in promoting a three-day celebration July 26<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup> called Chief Joseph Days, which is now a respected annual rodeo celebration. The event was to coincide with the dedication of the new Joseph airport and to address accusations that the county lacked community spirit and organized entertainment.

Under Coffin's tenure there was often bitter debate in the newspaper. Sometimes community discussions went on for months, including the controversies over legalized gambling in Wallowa County, parking meters, and the bitter debate over the 1969 school levy. There was a positive result of the many conflicts between friends and neighbors during Coffin's era. The *Chieftain* became the county's most popular forum for debate, with Coffin giving equal space to both sides of any issue. Many saw the paper as their opportunity to be heard.

Of the many controversies Coffin addressed, the debate over legalized gambling in the County was perhaps the most divisive. On September 12, 1946 Coffin declared that the operation of slot machines was a violation of the state's gambling laws. Despite his opposition, in February 1948, the paper reported "strong local sentiment" in favor of gambling under the banner headline "Gambling Games Win Approval in County." By September 1948 the *Chieftain* estimated that approximately 5 percent of the County's income came from slot machines that year. As authorities continued to ignore state laws, the *Chieftain* continued to print stories that highlighted the state's reluctance to enforce the law. No action was taken until a story ran in January 1950 that read "City to Purchase Fire Truck from Slot Machine Receipts." The *Portland Journal* ran the story as the "headline of the week" and sent a reporter to investigate. With widespread regional publicity, the state could no longer overlook the infractions, and after arrests and confiscations, local-government-sanctioned gambling came to an end. In response, *Chieftain* subscriptions were cancelled and advertising removed. Coffin restated his editorial policy in the paper: "The *Chieftain* [will never] refrain from publishing any news . . . on the basis of whether the published material would result in more or less revenue to this organization."<sup>21</sup>

This kind of honest, if not popular, journalism defined Gwen Coffin's almost 30-year tenure at the *Wallowa County Chieftain*. Before retiring and turning the paper over to his son-in-law Donald Swart in 1972, Coffin

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<sup>19</sup> Coffman, 125.

<sup>20</sup> *Wallowa County Chieftain*, Enterprise: 21 January 1943.

<sup>21</sup> Coffman, 147-148.

Wallowa County Chieftain Building

Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR

County and State

summed up his tenure. On December 16, 1971 his column read: "We have experienced criticisms, frustrations, disappointments, failures and heartaches, but we have also known the joy of sharing the hopes and achievements of thousands of people whom we have met along the way. To the best of our knowledge we never asked ourselves whether a particular stand would be popular or would bring in subscribers and advertisers. What we felt like saying, we said, and the chips fell where they chose. We were not infallible. Sometimes we were wrong. But we did not straddle the fence or try to please everyone." Coffin would be heralded as one of the finest editors the paper ever had. Despite the constant controversy generated by the *Chieftain*, subscriptions grew from 1,200 to over 3,300, while the county population had actually decreased by nearly 10 percent in the same time period - representing the highest subscription to population ratio of any publication in Oregon.<sup>22</sup>

### End of an Era

On January 6, 1972, Donald Swart Sr. became the fifteenth editor and third owner of the *Wallowa County Chieftain* and its namesake building. Under the leadership of Swart, the awkward and time-consuming job of printing the paper with linotype machines came to an end in 1972. Swart began printing the paper by producing a single copy in Enterprise and then driving it the 62 miles to La Grande to print the necessary copies on a rotary press there. After years of traversing treacherous roads every Wednesday without fail, Swart decided in July 1978 to invest in a letter press from Kingman, Arizona, hauled "home" by longtime friend JD Nobles on a flatbed semi-truck trailer. The first two days of operation were outdoors next to the office while the new press room was built up around it. The cement-block addition had a concrete floor, and was constructed on the north side of the building, expanding the original building 10 feet to the north. The new entrance was recessed 22.5 feet with and had 6-foot double doors to accommodate the truck delivering the giant rolls of newsprint. By September 1978, the *Chieftain* was once again a completely self-contained operation.<sup>23</sup>

The new press room was not the only improvement Swart made. For 66 years few alterations had been made to the Chieftain Building. Having already worked for the *Chieftain* the previous 12 years, Swart was bursting with ideas. He walled off a 16-foot area at the front entrance to create a reception area and to block the view of the operation from the public. He brought the publication into the modern age by constructing a computer room. Walled offices created private work spaces, and a basement darkroom made it possible for the *Chieftain* to develop and print photos. The basement bathroom was expanded to include a sink and counter, and the coal stoker furnace was replaced with an oil furnace. Outside, the windows were replaced, and a new tin roof supported by a trestle frame was laid over the existing surface to channel runoff towards the alley. A blue tin parapet was attached to hide the trestles, and matching tin was added to cover the crumbling window ledges. Blue paint was also used to accent and protect the lintels, and a 7-inch concrete sill was poured at the foundation to protect the lower Bowlby stones.<sup>24</sup> All of Swart's improvements were completed in the first six years of his ownership, between 1972 and 1978.

On March 22, 2000, under the last independent owner and editor, Richard Swart, Swart Sr.'s son, the final copy of the *Wallowa County Chieftain* was printed in the Chieftain Building. The printing operation was moved to Pendleton by East Oregonian Publishing Company, which had bought the paper March 1, 2000. The building continued to be the local office until 2007 when the East Oregonian Publishing Company ended an era in the history of the 123 year-old publication, deciding that it would be better to move the operation to a newer facility rather than to remodel the Chieftain Building.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Coffman, 168.

<sup>23</sup> Rick Swart, "Ex-Chieftain Publisher Reflects on Relics of Printing Business" (Enterprise: Wallowa County Chieftain), 11 May 2000

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

<sup>25</sup> Elaine Dickenson, "Wallowa County Newspaper Sold" (Enterprise: Wallowa County Chieftain), 13 August 1998.

Wallowa County Chieftain Building

Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR

County and State

## Legacy

The first newspaper in Wallowa County, the *Wallowa County Chieftain* was printed twice a month on Thursday from its founding in 1884 through the present without missing a single issue. In 2007, the paper left its longtime home on First Street. Now owned by the East Oregonian Publishing Company, the *Wallowa County Chieftain* continues to be a popular source of information for Wallowa County and subscribers across the region. While it is no longer family- or locally owned, reporters in Enterprise gather the news daily and transmit their stories for publication via the internet to be printed in Pendleton. During its many years, the paper established itself as the most influential source of news and opinion in Wallowa County through the end of the period of significance in 1956. Past issues continue to serve as primary source material for published histories of Wallowa County.

## Registration Requirements

The Wallowa County Chieftain Building meets the registration requirements for listing in the National Register of Historic Places outlined in the Multiple Property Document (MPD) *Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise, 1888-1956*. The building is locally significant under Criterion A, Commerce and Communication. Below is a discussion of the general and specific registration requirements set forth in the MPD, Section F-1; Commercial Buildings; subtype One-Part Block

### Description of Commercial Building Property Type

#### *General Registration Requirements*

To be eligible for listing under the commercial property type a building must: a) be located within the geographic area defined in Section G of the MPD; b) have been originally used for a commercial purpose or converted into such use during the historic period; and c) have been build between 1888 and 1956. The Chieftain meets all the general registration requirements. The building is located in downtown Enterprise on NE First Street; was constructed to house a newspaper publishing business; and was built in 1916, within the period of significance.

#### *Specific Registration Requirements*

To be eligible for listing, a commercial building must express the character-defining features of the type outlined in the registration requirements in Section F-1 of the MPD, and must retain sufficient integrity to convey the buildings historic association. The Chieftain Building meets these requirements.

Built in 1916, during the historic context *Railroad, Automobiles, and Timber Boom: 1908-1928*, the Chieftain Building is noted in the document as a good example of a purpose-built one-part block Bowlby-stone commercial building. Exhibiting the characteristics of the type, the building is a single-story rectangular stone volume. While currently clad with metal coping, the simple and unadorned parapet is still present, and the flat roof structure has not been altered. As specified in the registration requirements, the concrete-block addition on the north elevation is subordinate to the historic building. The addition is set back from the main façade and is smaller than the original building. The abutting commercial building to the north further reduces the visual impact of the addition. The original centered and recessed entryway is intact, although the transom is boarded. As noted in the MPD, the Chieftain Building did not require large display windows because of its use as an office for the paper. The building retains its original window openings, but the original double-hung wood windows have been replaced with vinyl sashes. While the southern-most window openings on the main façade were enlarged to a single opening, the original building still generally maintains the historic symmetrical design.

### Evaluation of Significance

Wallowa County Chieftain Building  
Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR  
County and State

*Criterion A*

To be eligible for listing in the MPD under Criterion A, Commerce, described in Section F-1, Significance, a building must be associated with one of the historic contexts described in Section E of the document. The nominated resource meets this requirement. The Chieftain Building is significant at the local level for its long association with Enterprise's early-twentieth-century building boom and subsequent Depression-era economic downturn and postwar recovery, as noted in the historic contexts in Section E of the MPD. Spanning three historic contexts from 1916 to 1956, the Chieftain Building served an essential community function as the home of the County's first and most widely read newspaper through the end of the period of significance in 1956. The property is also locally significant in the area of Communication. Reporting on issues of regional importance, the paper covered major news events, community gatherings, and local interest stories, and it provided the paper's editors a powerful platform to shape the community discussion on a variety of issues. Because of the long and influential history of the newspaper and the *Chieftain's* inseparable association with the nominated building, the Wallowa County Chieftain Building is locally significant under the MPD under Criterion A, Commerce and Communication.

Wallowa County Chieftain Building  
Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR  
County and State

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Coffman, Lloyd W. *5200 Thursdays in the Wallowas*. Enterprise: Wallowa County Chieftain, 1984.

Donovan, Sally. "Enoch R Bowlby Building." Salem: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, 2009.

Dickenson, Elaine. "Wallowa County Newspaper Sold." Enterprise: Wallowa County Chieftain, 13 August 1998.

*Enterprise Record Chieftain*. "Changes coming on Cross St." Enterprise, 22 July 1915.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Record Chieftain Moves to New Shop." Enterprise, 20 January 1916.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Record Chieftain Moves Next Week." Enterprise, 6 January 1916.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Will Rush Moving of Printing Plant." Enterprise, 13 January 1916.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Work Begins on New Stone Record Chieftain Building." Enterprise, 16 September 1915.

Swart, Donald. Personal interview by author. 24 February 2012.

Swart, Rick. "Ex-Chieftain Publisher Reflects on Relics of Printing Business." Enterprise: Wallowa County Chieftain, 11 May 2000.

Wallowa County Museum Board. *The History of Wallowa County Oregon*. Joseph, OR: Wallowa County Museum Board, 1983.

Wallowa County Courthouse. Assessor's and Clerk's Office. Enterprise, OR.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A



Wallowa County Chieftain Building  
Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR  
County and State

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### 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property** Less than one  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>11</u> Zone	<u>4781598</u> Easting	<u>5030319</u> Northing	3	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing
2	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing	4	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing

#### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated area includes the entirety of the tax described as Block 6, South 50 Feet of Lot 1 and the East 20 feet of the S 50 Feet of Lot 2, in the plat of the Original Town of Enterprise, Tax Lot Number 1100 in Township 2S, Range 44E, Section 2.

#### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated area includes the entirety of the tax lot historically associated with the building since it was completed in 1916.

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### 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Wendy Falk, edited by Oregon SHPO Staff

organization N/A date February 20, 2012

street & number 66495 Repplinger Lane telephone (503) 426-5706

city or town Enterprise state OR zip code 97828

e-mail windyacresranch@eoni.com

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### Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Wallowa County Chieftain Building  
Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR  
County and State

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**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

**Name of Property:** Wallowa County Chieftain Building  
**City or Vicinity:** Enterprise  
**County:** Wallowa **State:** Oregon  
**Photographer:** Wendy Falk  
**Date Photographed:** February 2012

**Description of Photograph(s) and number:**

- Photo 1 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0001)  
East facade, looking west
- Photo 2 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0002)  
North facade, right, and east façade, left, looking southwest
- Photo 3 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0003)  
South facade, left, and east façade, right, looking northwest
- Photo 4 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0004)  
East facade entry detail, looking west
- Photo 5 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0005)  
New Reception Area, looking southeast
- Photo 6 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0006)  
Original Pressroom (foreground) and Job Room (background) from the New Reception Area, looking west.
- Photo 7 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0007)  
Community Room, looking northwest
- Photo 8 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0008)  
Job Room, looking east from west stairs
- Photo 9 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0009)  
New Press Room, looking south to the original outer wall of the Wallowa County Chieftain Building
- Photo 10 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0010)  
Upstairs landing and stairs to the basement, looking south
- Photo 11 of 11: (OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0011)  
Basement, looking west along north wall

Wallowa County Chieftain Building  
Name of Property

Wallowa Co., OR  
County and State

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**Property Owner:** (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

---

name Mike and Wendy Falk  
street & number 66495 Repplinger Lane telephone (541) 426-5706  
city or town Enterprise state OR zip code 97828

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Wallowa County Chieftain Building
Name of Property
Wallowa Co., OR
County and State
Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise, 1888-1956
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 20

### Documents:

- Figure 1: General Vicinity Map
- Figure 2: Site and Tax Lot Map
- Figure 3: Floor Plans, two sheets
- Figure 4: Historic Photo, Wallowa County Chieftain Building under construction, Autumn 1915, Chieftain Files, Enterprise, OR.
- Figure 5: Historic Photo, Wallowa County Chieftain Building under construction, January 1916, Chieftain Files, Enterprise, OR.
- Figure 6: Historic Photo, Wallowa County Chieftain Building, c. 1959

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Documents Page 21

Wallowa County Chieftain Building
Name of Property Wallowa Co., OR
County and State Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise, 1888-1956
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 1: General Vicinity Map, location of property marked with black arrow.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Wallowa County Chieftain Building

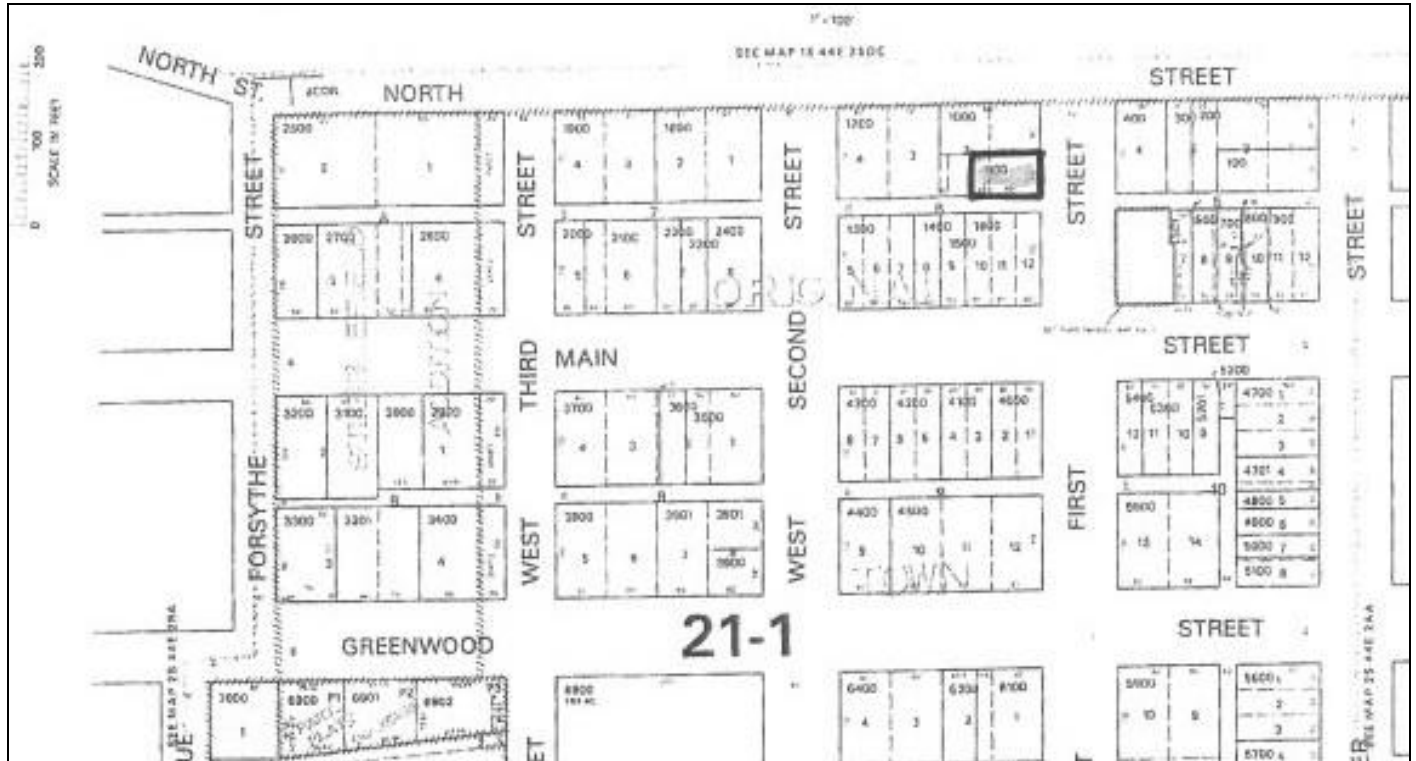
Name of Property  
Wallowa Co., OR

County and State  
Historic Resources of Downtown  
Enterprise, 1888-1956

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 22

Figure 2: Site and Tax Lot Map, building location marked with black line



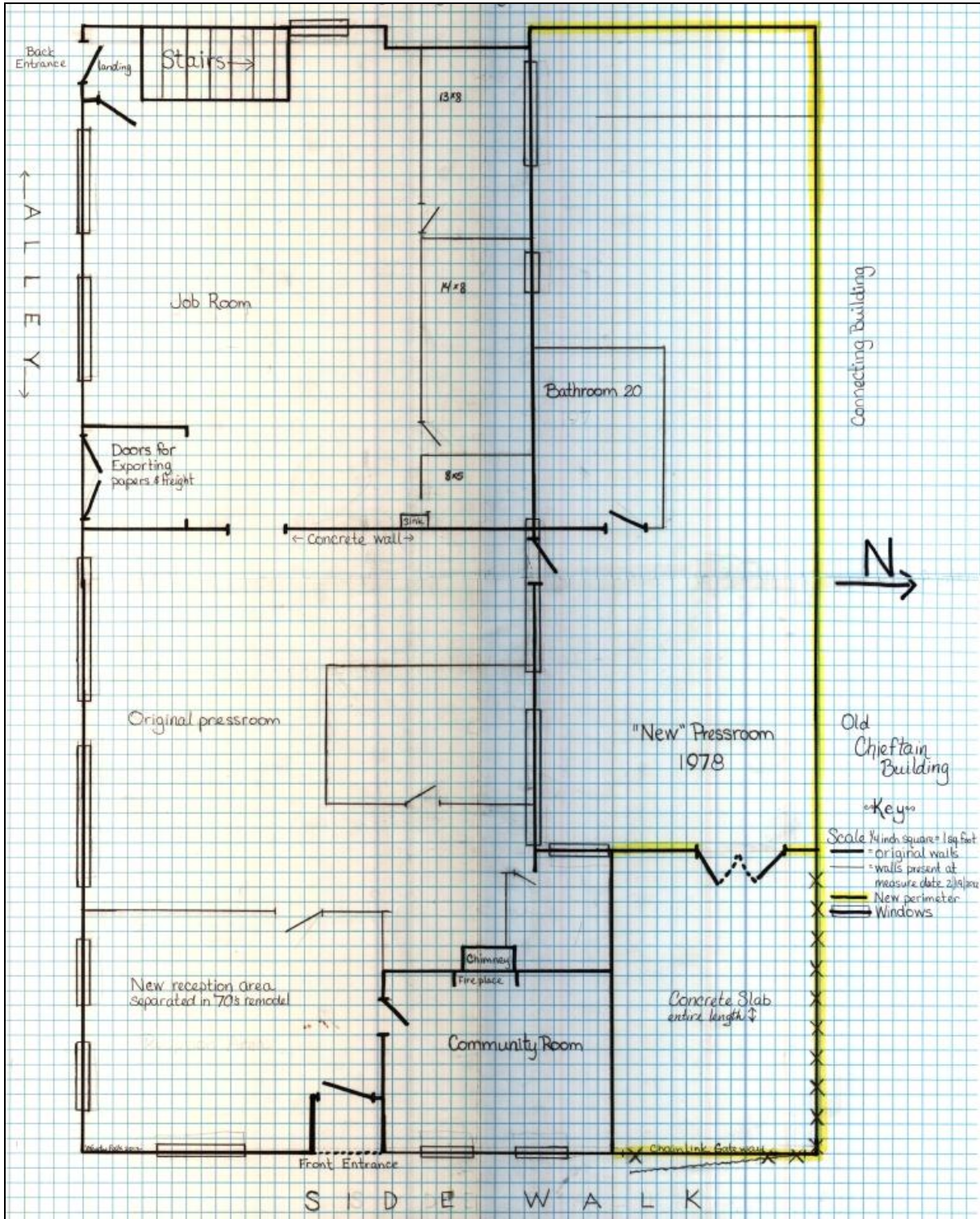
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Documents Page 23

Wallowa County Chieftain Building
Name of Property
Wallowa Co., OR
County and State
Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise, 1888-1956
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 3: Floor Plans, two sheets, not to scale



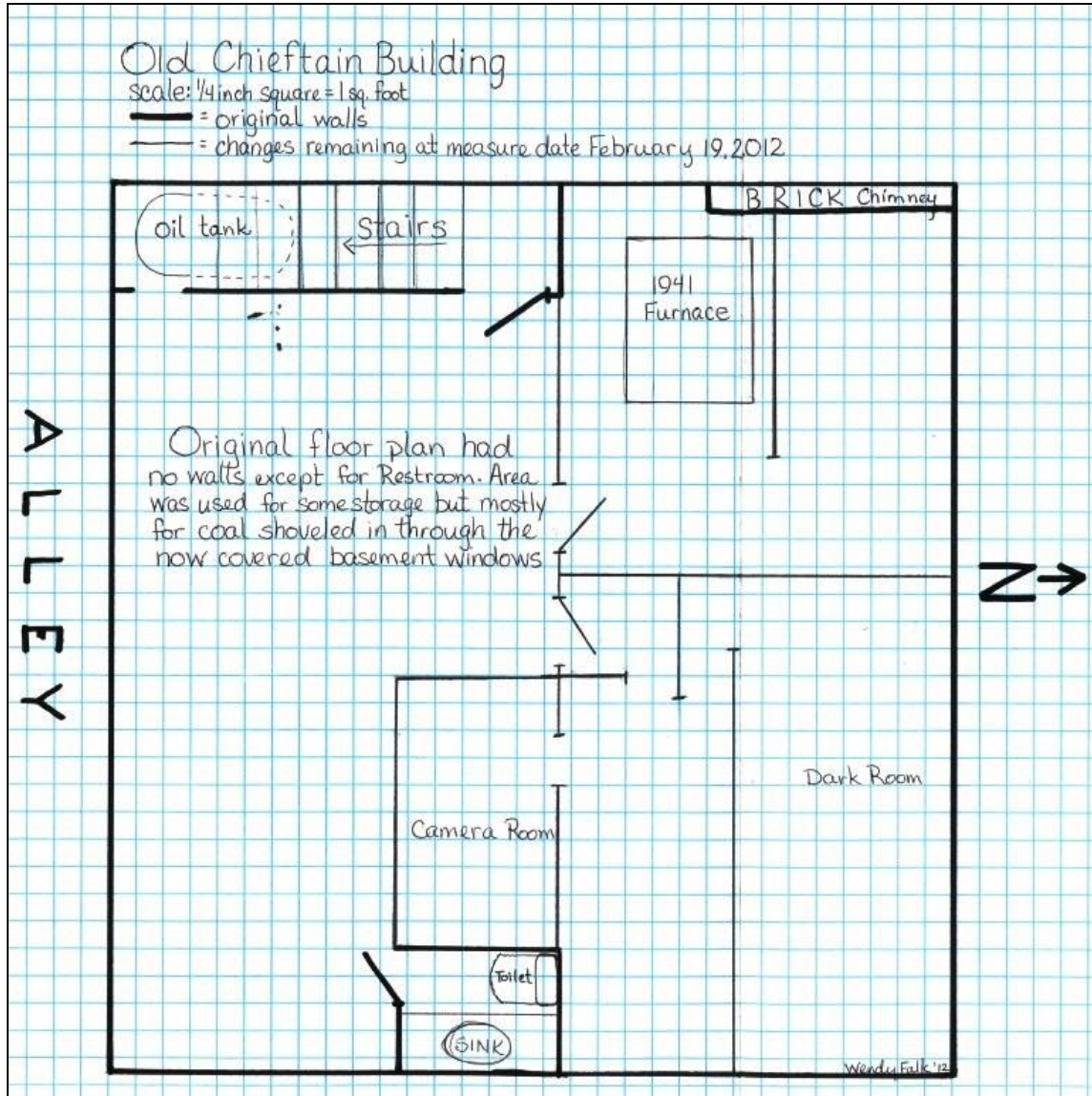
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Documents Page 24

Wallowa County Chieftain Building
Name of Property
Wallowa Co., OR
County and State
Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise, 1888-1956
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 3: Floor Plans, two sheets, not to scale





United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Documents Page 25

<b>Wallowa County Chieftain Building</b>
Name of Property <b>Wallowa Co., OR</b>
County and State <b>Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise, 1888-1956</b>
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 4: Historic Photo, Wallowa County Chieftain Building under construction, Autumn 1915, Chieftain Files, Enterprise, OR.



Figure 5: Historic Photo, Wallowa County Chieftain Building under construction, January 1916, Chieftain Files, Enterprise, OR.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Documents Page 26

Wallowa County Chieftain Building
Name of Property
Wallowa Co., OR
County and State
Historic Resources of Downtown Enterprise, 1888-1956
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 6: Historic Photo, Wallowa County Chieftain Building, c. 1959



**Wallowa County Chieftain Building**  
Enterprise, Wallowa County, OR  
National Register Photos



Photo 1 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0001  
East facade, looking west



Photo 2 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0002  
North facade, right, and east facade, left, looking southwest

**Wallowa County Chieftain Building**

Enterprise, Wallowa County, OR

National Register Photos



Photo 3 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0003  
South facade, left, and east façade, right, looking northwest



Photo 4 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0004  
East facade entry detail looking wes

**Wallowa County Chieftain Building**

Enterprise, Wallowa County, OR

National Register Photos



Photo 5 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0005  
New Reception Area, looking southeast



Photo 6 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0006  
Original Pressroom (foreground) and Job Room (background) from the New Reception Area, looking west.

**Wallowa County Chieftain Building**  
Enterprise, Wallowa County, OR  
National Register Photos



Photo 7 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0007  
Community Room, looking northwest



Photo 8 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0008  
Job Room, looking east from west stairs

**Wallowa County Chieftain Building**

Enterprise, Wallowa County, OR

National Register Photos



Photo 9 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0009  
New Press Room, looking south to the original outer wall of the Wallowa County Chieftain Building



Photo 10 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0010  
Upstairs landing and stairs to the basement, looking north

**Wallowa County Chieftain Building**

Enterprise, Wallowa County, OR

National Register Photos



Photo 11 of 11: OR\_WallowaCounty\_WallowaCoChieftainBuilding\_0011  
Basement, looking west along south wall