NPS Form 10-900
(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received MAY 14 1984
date entered JUN 14 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic: Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company

and/or common: Bonded Warehouse

2. Location

street & number: ~~Lot 300 between 3rd and 4th on Astoria Waterfront (Water Street)~~ ~~N/A~~ not for publication

city, town: Astoria ~~N/A~~ vicinity of: First Congressional District

state: Oregon code: 41 county: Clatsop code: 007

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	X unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	N/A in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	X other: Warehouse

4. Owner of Property

name: Pat Lavis/Rod Grider/Joe Bruneau

street & number: PO Box 834

city, town: Astoria ~~N/A~~ vicinity of state: Oregon 97103

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Clatsop County Courthouse

street & number: 749 Commercial Street

city, town: Astoria state: Oregon 97103

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title: State of Oregon Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes X no

date: May 11, 1976 ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records: State Historic Preservation OFfice
525 Trade Street SE

city, town: Salem state: Oregon 97310

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	_X_ unaltered	_X_ original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date N/A
_X_ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company Building is a 50-foot wide by 105-foot long, two floor plus basement, rectangular, masonry warehouse building constructed in 1892 on the Columbia River, in Astoria, Oregon. The stone foundations and basement walls rest below the water line. The first floor is structurally designed to support 3,000 tons (1,200 pounds per square foot).

The property is located on a 75' x 135' lot adjacent to a warehouse building to the east, and pilings from destroyed buildings once owned by the Company on the west. A section of the Burlington Northern Railroad is directly to the south.

The general interior construction consists of heavy old-growth Douglas fir timber posts, girders, beams and floor decking. The 50-foot width is divided into three structural bays of 16'9" each, and the 105-foot length is divided into six bays of 17'6" each. The floor joists are supported at the exterior walls on steel railroad rails that are embedded into the brick walls.

The foundation materials vary from basalt stone block footings to basalt and granite foundation and basement walls of approximately 36" thick. The walls above the stone foundation are brick laid in common bond, 18" thick from first to second floor, and 12" thick from second floor to the top of the roof parapet. The window openings are arched brick at the heads with granite sills. The central entry doorway has a granite keystone over the opening, and a granite sill. The exterior brick surfaces were cemented over for weatherproofing.

The facade of the main entry has a tin cornice forming an overhang over the doors and windows. The exterior wood framed windows are covered with heavy steel security shutters, the exterior wood sliding doors are covered with heavy sheet metal. The original roof is tin and has been covered with numerous layers of asphalt rolled roofing.

All exterior materials, including doors and window, are original. All interior materials are original except several temporary partitions which were added, and a small balcony that was added between the first and second floors at the northeast corner of the building. These additions can easily be removed to restore the entire interior to the original condition.

The site was deeded by the United States Government on July 17, 1868, and by the State of Oregon on September 21, 1876. (State Record Book H, p. 323, recorded September 29, 1876). All legal recordings of this site and building, 1868 to present, are on file. These recordings show the ups and downs of the salmon canning industry on the Columbia River of which this building was a major part.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	X industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates 1892 **Builder/Architect** R. Carruthers, Contractor

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Astoria Wharf and Warehouse Company Building is significant to Astoria and to the state as the only stone and brick pre-1900 warehouse building sited on any waterfront property in the state. Additionally, it is the only surviving mansonry building in Astoria whose foundations are below the Columbia River waterline. Also importantly associated with the salmon canning industry in Astoria, we feel that the building meets eligibility criteria "a" and "c."

Although salmon packing had begun as early as 1829 in Oregon, the first canning of the fish did not occur until 1866 at Eagle Cliff in the Columbia's north bank. The first cannery on the south bank was located at Westport and was constructed in 1869. Further expansion increased until there were 13 by 1874, including ones in Astoria. Full scale commercial production of salmon flourished in the late 1880s and 1890s, the period of the Astoria Wharf and Warehouse Company's significance.

The Astoria Wharf and Warehouse Company started the construction of this warehouse building on the Columbia River in the spring of 1892 and occupied it in late December, 1892, during the peak of the salmon production years. Its primary purpose was the storage of tin plate and accessories used for the manufacture of tin cans to serve the early salmon canning industry of the area. This building served an adjacent can manufacturing and can storage complex that provided tin cans for the then thriving salmon industry. Seven different can companies occupied the building during the 1892-1949 period. Since it was constructed, it has survived three major fires that destroyed most surrounding buildings. Due to its heavy timber and mansonry construction, it was commonly known as the "Bonded Warehouse." Its thick masonry exterior walls, its heavy metal covered wall openings and the fact that the building is the only building on the Astoria waterfront that has foundations and basement walls resting below the Columbia River waterline, explains its fire resistive durability. It is also significant, as reported on December 14, 1892, in the Daily Morning Astorian newspaper, that the brick in the exterior walls were the first locally fired brick and were produced by May & Thair in their kilns on the Lewis & Clark River, Clatsop County, Oregon, and that three blue bricks from China were placed above the granite keystone of the arch over the central doorway and a sample of brick from San Francisco, $45 per thousand, was placed in the building to compare with the local brick quality. The granite keystone over the central doorway was quarried at the Chinook Quarry in this area and was relocated from the old Custom House in east Astoria, which was built in 1852, and was the first Federal building built west of the Rocky Mountains. It can be assumed that the granite door and window sills came from the same Custom House, as it was dismantled or demolished. The granite in the basement walls resemble "Rainbow Granite" currently quarried in Morton, Minnesota by the Cold Springs Granite Company, or it could be granite ballast disposed of by early sailing ships from foreign, or other ports. Only this masonry warehouse building survives to illustrate this early tin-can industry on the lower Columbia River.

9. Major Bibliographical References

No author listed, "New Bonded Warehouse," December 12, 1892, The Daily Morning Astorian. Micro-film and original newspaper available at the Astoria Public Library, Astoria, Oregon.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .54 acres

Quadrangle name ~~Astoria, Oregon~~ - Washington **Quadrangle scale** 1:24000

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	10	435335	5115495
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification 75' x 315' lot described by Clatsop County Records as Lot 300, Block 3, McClures Addition to Astoria, NE¼ SE¼ Section 7, Township 8N, Range 9W, W.M., County of Clatsop, State of Oregon. The property is bounded on the north, east, and west by the Columbia River and on the south by Burlington N.W. Railroad right-of-way

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	None	code	county		code
state	None	code	county		code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Rod Grider		
organization	Private Owners	date	September 22, 1983
street & number	PO Box 834	telephone	(503) 325-7945
city or town	Astoria	state	Oregon 97103

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer **date** April 17, 1984

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the National Register

Delores Byers **date** 6-14-84

for **Keeper of the National Register**

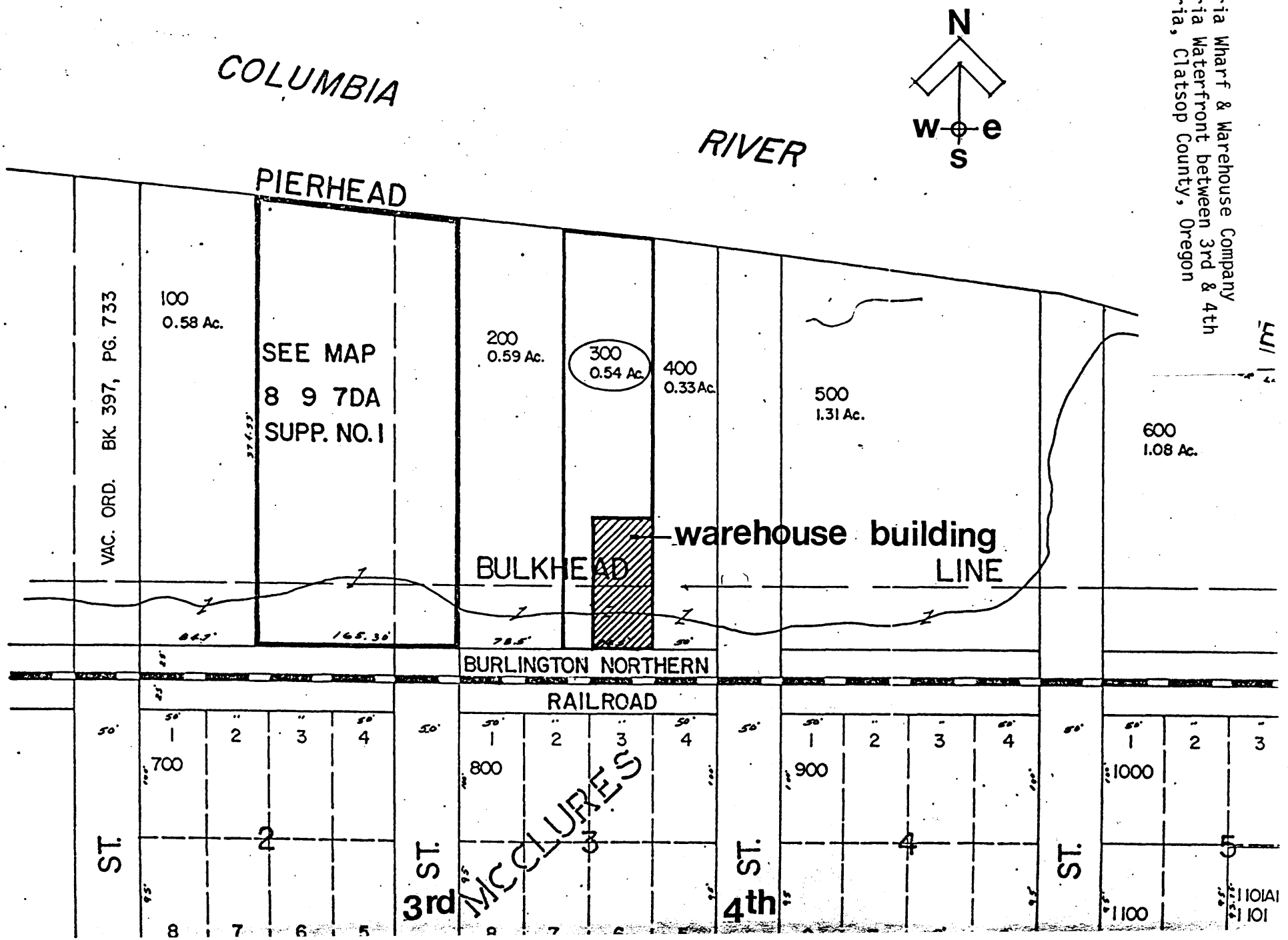
Attest: **date**

Chief of Registration

NE 1/4 SE 1/4 Sec. 7 T. 8 N. R. 9 W. W. M.

1" = 100'

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon



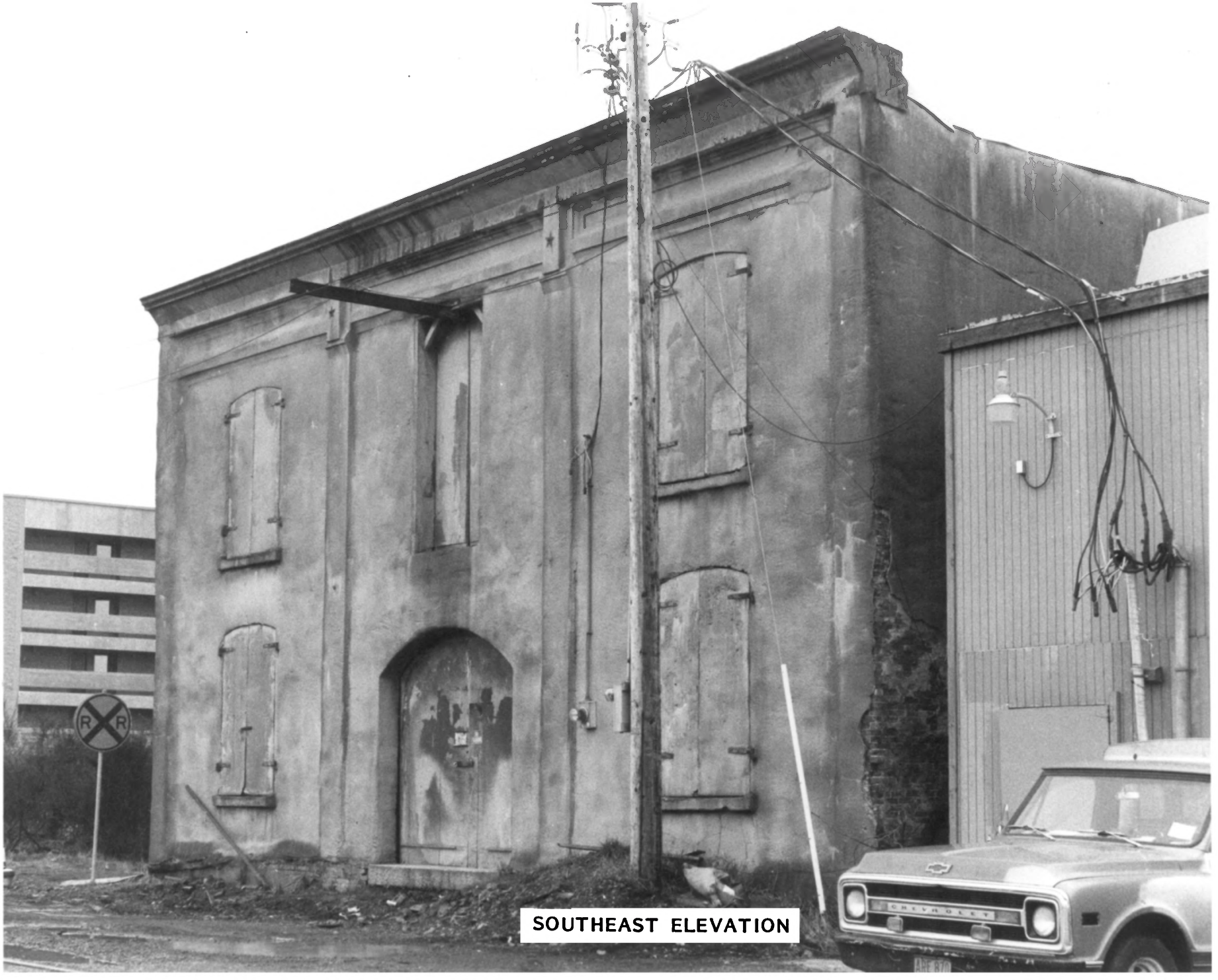
PHOTO

J. H. BRATT, Astoria, Or.

Copy of 1894 interior photograph taken from south to north. Note the '3000 TUNS' painted on the post to the left, indicating the weight of tin plate stored on the first floor.

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th.
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
1 of 10

Interior photo, c. 1894
Neg: Rod Grider, PO Box 834
Astoria, OR 97103



SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
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Southeast elevation, 1984
Neg: Rod Grider, PO Box 834
Astoria, OR 97103

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
3 of 10

Southwest elevation, 1984
Neg: Rod Grider, PO Box 834
Astoria, OR 97103

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Compnay
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
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Northwest elevation, 1984
Neg: Rod Grider, PO Box 834
Astoria, OR 97103

NORTH ELEVATION

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
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North elevation, 1984
Neg: Rod Grider, PO Box 834
Astoria, OR 97103

SOUTH DETAIL

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
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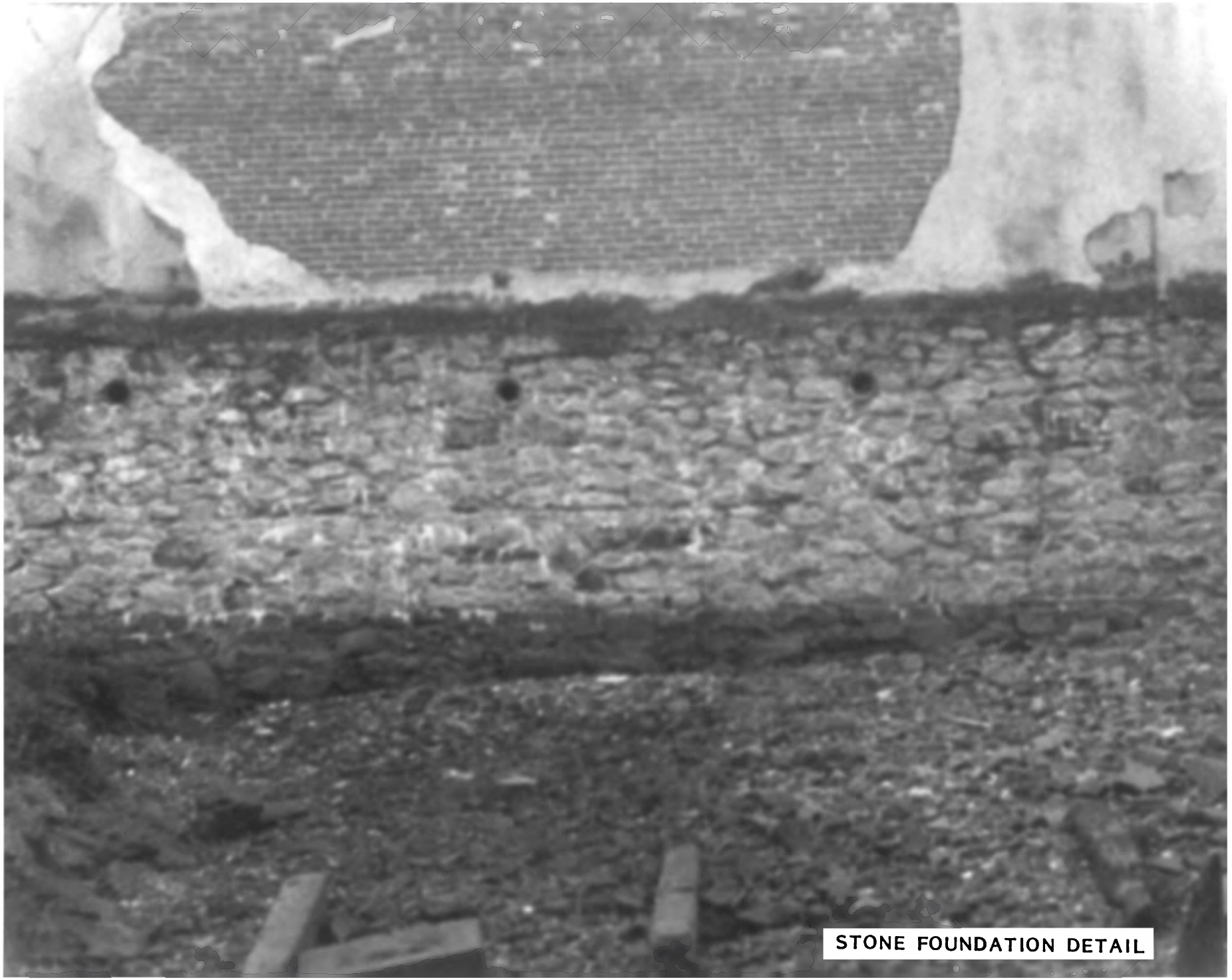
South elevation detail, 1984
Neg: Rod Grider, PO Box 834
Astoria, OR 97103



STONE FOUNDATION DETAIL

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
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Stone foundation detail, 1984
Neg: Rod Grider, PO Box 834
Astoria, OR 97103

SOUTH INTERIOR
FROM NORTH

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
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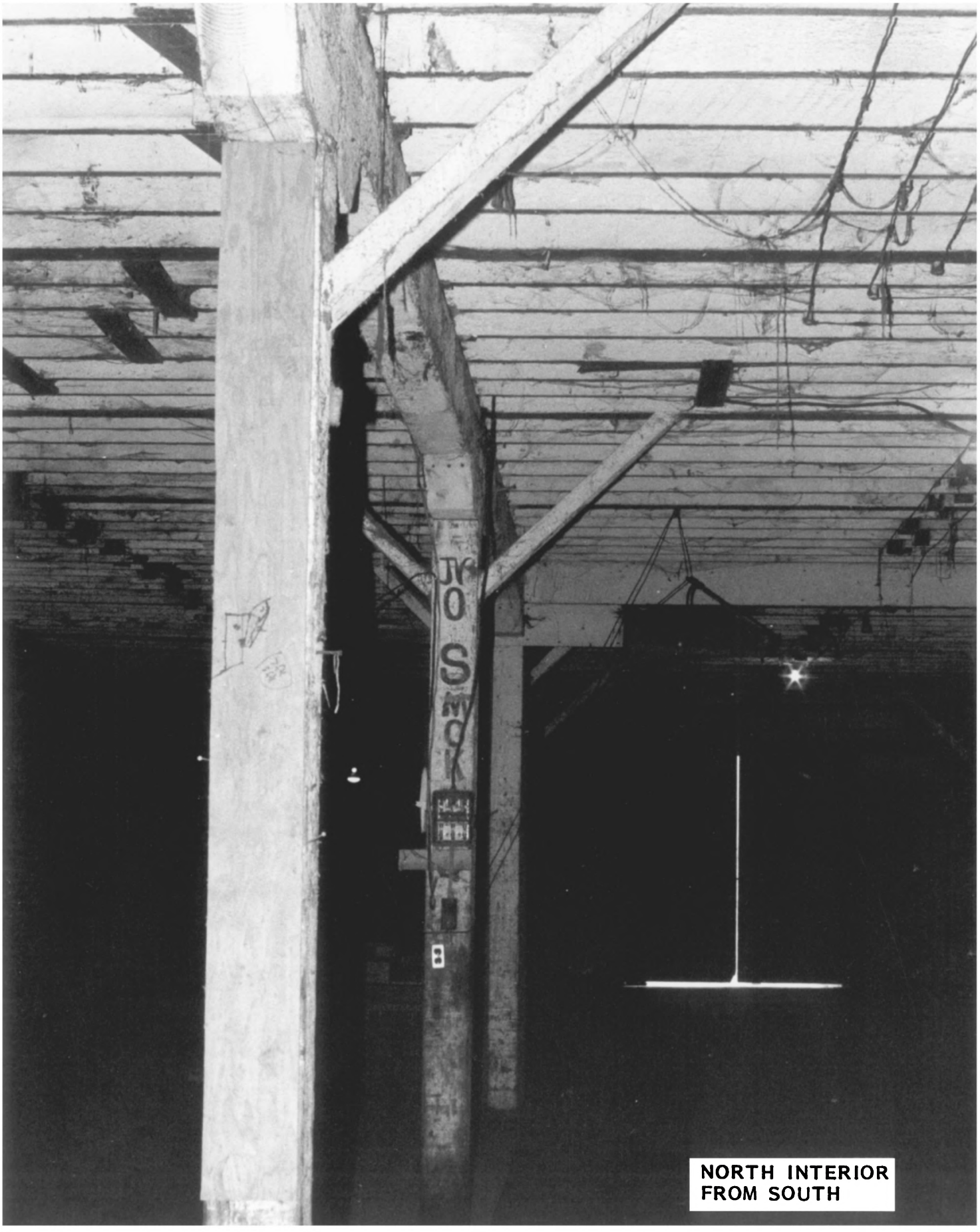
Interior from the north, 1984
Neg: Rod Grider, PO Box 834
Astoria, OR 97103


NORTH INTERIOR
FROM SOUTH

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
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Interior from the south, 1984
Neg: Rod Grider, PO Box 834
Astoria, OR 97103

INTERIOR CONSTRUCTION DETAIL

Astoria Wharf & Warehouse Company
Astoria Waterfront between 3rd & 4th
Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon
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Interior construction detail, 1984
Neg: Rod Grider, PO Box 834
Astoria, OR 97103