

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

JAN 27 1989

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Sensel, Henry, Building
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 3556-62 S.E. Hawthorne
city, town Portland
state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97214

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: [X] private, [] public-local, [] public-State, [] public-Federal
Category of Property: [X] building(s), [] district, [] site, [] structure, [] object
Number of Resources within Property: Contributing 1, Noncontributing buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total 1

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Resources of Eastside Portland

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. [] See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official: [Signature]
Date: January 23, 1989
Oregon State Historic Preservation office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. [] See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official
Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- [X] entered in the National Register.
[] See continuation sheet.
[] determined eligible for the National Register. [] See continuation sheet.
[] determined not eligible for the National Register.
[] removed from the National Register.
[] other, (explain:)

Entered in the National Register: [Signature] 3/8/89
Signature of the Keeper
Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE; Specialty Store

DOMESTIC; Multiple Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE; Specialty Store

COMMERCE/TRADE; Business

DOMESTIC; Multiple Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER; Commercial

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Wood

Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other Glass

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

On the northwest corner of the block, this building is in the middle of the Sunnyside commercial strip on Hawthorne Boulevard. Many other one and two-story structures line both sides of the street around this site.

This two-story building, built on a ground-level concrete foundation, is rectangular in plan and has a flat roof surrounded by a three-quarter parapet with broad overhanging eaves. The underside of the eave is decorated with scroll-cut rafters. Exterior walls are covered with bevelled shiplap and several types of windows. Predominant are one-over-one double-hung sash windows, but an assortment of casements abound as well. Pilaster-like cornerboards frame each elevation.

The front, or north, elevation of this building is symmetrical in design. The first floor has a central entry door that leads to a flight of stairs, and on either side are two large display windows with recessed entries. Above these store front windows run a line of three original eight-pane transom lights. The shop on the west side has canvas awnings concealing the transoms. Other ornamentation on the first level consists of recessed molded panels which surround the doors and windows, and a molded, continuous frieze separating the first floor from the second.

On the second level are two polygonal bays with one-over-one double-hung windows and molded panels projecting below. The hoods over these bays are presently covered with tin. Between these projecting bays, two one-over-one double-hung windows with architrave moldings pierce the wall.

The west elevation has an assortment of window groupings. Display windows, doors with transoms, and some casements are scattered over the surface. Two

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

projecting rectangular bays on the second level include a pair of one-over-one double-hung windows ornamented with pilaster cornerboards. The east elevation is exposed only at the second floor. This flat wall is broken by a single projecting rectangular bay toward the street end and three other one-over-one double-hung windows.

The back side (south) of this building includes a stairway to a recessed second story porch, as well as a number of shed-like attachments on the first level. The upper porch has square wood columns that support the roof, and the majority of the porch is enclosed by wooden lattice work. A gravel driveway occupies the rest of the lot in the back.

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The interior is arranged symmetrically around a long central hall. The first floor is occupied by two storefronts, each with a small storage room in the rear of the building. The eastern storefront has a recessed entry with few alterations. Finishwork, including picture molding and mopboards, have been retained. The floor in the main room has been carpeted; fir floors are still exposed in the storage room. The door to the western storefront has been replaced with a pair of aluminum doors, set flush with the facade. Built-in benches flank these doors. The wall area adjacent to and beneath the central stairs is clad with bevelled tongue-and-groove boards. A small storage loft has been constructed above the kitchen area in the storage room. Linoleum has been installed over the fir flooring in the kitchen area.

The staircase is enclosed at the first-floor level with panelled fir. The balustrade of turned balusters is opened at the second floor, terminating at newel posts with truncated pyramidal caps.

The second-floor has eleven rooms arranged around a rectangular lobby through which the stairwell penetrates. The south end of the lobby is partially lit by a large skylight; the hardware and interior walls of bevelled tongue-and-groove are intact. Two narrow hallways off the lobby permit access to the rear units.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

The rooms could be four apartments in suites, although each of the eleven rooms has direct access to the lobby or hallway. A bathroom, kitchen and back porch can be accessed through the eastern hallway. A doorway was added later at the juncture of the western hallway and the lobby to facilitate circulation to the rooms in the southwest corner of the building. These rooms are used as an apartment, whereas the other second floor rooms are used for commercial (office or retail) purposes.

Finishwork in the rooms includes mopboards, turned corner moldings, and picture molding at the door heads. Most original finishwork is intact. Some interior doors are the five-panel type; others have a single rectangular and a square light. All have wide top casings with architrave molding.

Projecting rectangular bays with panelled benches are located in each of the corner rooms. The apartment incorporates a toilet rooms and a bathroom with clawfoot tub and wallhung sink. This apartment's kitchen appears to be original with a sink unit dating from the 1930's. The floor is carpeted, however the mopboards with crown molding and chair rail are intact. Cupboards are clad with bevelled tongue-and-groove siding and include a dumbwaiter and two bins. The living room of the apartment has panelled wainscoting capped with a plate rail.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1909

Significant Dates
1909

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Henry Sensel building, constructed in 1909, is locally significant under criterion C as a well-preserved and rare example of an early wood commercial building. A number of buildings of this type once lined the early streetcar routes bisecting the neighborhoods of southeast Portland. Today only a handful remain, almost all of which have had extensive alterations. The subject building is one of three of this type which remains intact as built. The date of construction is based on tax assessor records and confirmed by city directories and Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. The builder and architect are unknown. The original owner, Henry Sensel, operated a grocery store and meat market in the first floor retail space for many years. Numerous other retailers, including a bakery and laundry, also occupied the ground floor. The upstairs was rented out as living space.

The greatest period of growth for the study area occurred between the years 1883 and 1910. Spurred by the completion of the transcontinental railroad to Portland, the opening of the bridges spanning the Willamette River, and the introduction of the streetcar, residential development accelerated and the open spaces of the east side were quickly subdivided. Real estate companies and streetcar line builders frequently worked hand in hand as developers.

The Sunnyside neighborhood, located just to the north of the subject building, was the first "streetcar-era" neighborhood on Portland's east side and its development included the establishment of the first neighborhood shopping district in the area. The development of the Hawthorne Boulevard commercial strip, of which the subject building is a part, came somewhat later. Most of the buildings here were constructed in the teens and twenties, and are more strongly associated with the automobile age.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

The development of neighborhood shopping districts followed the same pattern as others throughout the city. The earliest buildings were generally small wooden structures, often with a gabled roof and false front with cornice. The facades usually consisted of one or more storefronts with recessed entrances. Shop entries were flanked by large plate glass display windows, with transoms and sidelights common features. Entry to the second story was usually through a centrally placed door between the storefronts. Of the three buildings of this type in the study area all are considered potentially eligible for the National Register. In addition to the Sensel Building, the Knight building at 3300 S.E. Belmont, is also included in this submission.

The high attrition of early wood buildings was due primarily to the rapid growth of the area during the early decades of the 20th century and the corresponding replacement of older buildings with more substantial and sometimes larger structures.

The Sensel building is quite similar to the Knight building in overall form as well as the use of second story window bays and minor decorative features--even though it was built almost 20 years later. The Sensel building is distinguished from the third building generally in the amount and type of decorative features.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- . City of Portland Building Bureau microform and card files.
- . City of Portland Bureau of Planning, Portland Historic Resource Inventory, 1983.
- . Multnomah County Tax Assessor records, microform, and card files, Portland, 1980.
- . Polk, R. L. and Co., Portland City Directories, 1910, 1915, 1920.
- . Sanborn Insurance Map, 1935.
- . Ticor Title Company records, Portland, Oregon.

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than one acre Portland, Washington-Oregon 1:62500

UTM References

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Brookdale addition, Lot 1
W. 33' of Lot 2

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Taxlot lines

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title K. Zisman, J. Koler, J. Morrison, B. Grimala, A. Yost

organization Hawthorne Blvd. Business Association date August 15, 1988

street & number 615 S.E. Alder telephone (503) 234-4801

city or town Portland state Oregon zip code 97214



Lawthorne
Coffee
Merchant

EL MUNDO FOR WOMEN LTD.

CC

OPEN

1 3556-62 S.E. Hawthorne Sensel, Henry Building

2 Portland, Oregon, Multnomah County

3 Smith, Patrick

4 August, 1988

5 Roll S-23 # 26

6 Looking southwest at north elevation.

7 # 1 OF 4

Portland Eastside
MPS



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- 1 3556-62 Hawthorne Blvd - SENSAL, HENRY, BUILDING
- 2 Portland, Oregon, Multnomah County
- 3 Patrick Smith
- 4 August 1988
- 5 Roll S-35 #12
- 6 North elevation
- 7 # 2 OF 4

Sensal, Henry. Building
Portland Eastside MPS



- 1 3556-62 S.E. Hawthorne Sensel, Henry, Building
- 2 Portland, Oregon, Multnomah County
- 3 Smith, Patrick
- 4 August 1988
- 5 Roll S-23 #25
- 6 Looking southeast at north and west elevations
- 7 #3 or 4

Portland Eastside maps



1 3556-62 S.E. Hawthorne Sensel, Henry, Building

2 Portland, Oregon, Multnomah County

3 Jane Morrison

4 July 1988

5 Roll J-5 #18

6 Interior of main stairway

7 # 4 of 4

Portland Eastside
UMPS