

Oregon Historic Site Record

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME			
address:	2020 Main St Forest Grove, Washington County		historic name: Woods & Caples General Store
assoc addresses:		current/other names:	Grove Furniture Store
location descr:		block/lot/tax lot:	/ 02300
		twtnshp/rng/sect/qtr sect:	1N 3W 31 BB
PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS			
resource type:	Building	height (stories):	2.0
elig evaluation:	eligible/significant	total elig resources:	2
prim constr date:	c.1893	NR Status:	Individually Listed
	second date:	1913	date indiv listed:
		12/02/1985	
primary orig use:	Department Store		orig use comments:
second orig use:			
primary style:	Italianate		prim style comments:
secondary style:			sec style comments:
primary siding:	Brick:Other/Undefined		siding comments:
secondary siding:	Wood:Other/Undefined		
plan type:	Other Commercial/Public		architect:
			Unknown
			builder:
			Unknown
comments/notes:			
GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS			
Survey/Grouping Included In:		Type of Grouping	Date Listed
Forest Grove Downtown Historic District		Listed Historic District	2020
Forest Grove Original Town Plat Resurvey 2017		Survey & Inventory Project	2018
SHPO INFORMATION FOR THIS PROPERTY			
NR date listed:	12/02/1985	Special Assessment	106 Project(s):
ILS survey date:		Status	None
RLS survey date:	08/29/2017	Closed	Federal Tax Project(s):
		Term	None
		End Yr	
		1st	
		2001	
ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION			
(Includes expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings and alterations)			
Refer to scanned documents links.			
HISTORY			
(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period - preferably to the present)			
<p>The Thomas and Caples [Grove Furniture] Building is one of the best-preserved buildings in downtown Forest Grove. One of the many structures built in or around 1893, the building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1985. The building was first owned and occupied by merchants Arthur B. Thomas and John W. Caples. Thomas was born in 1848 in Iowa, his wife Mary was born in 1847 in Illinois. Caples was born in Ohio in 1840. Caples came to Oregon in 1850 and then worked as a merchant in Washington Territory. He married his wife Harriet [Glisan] in 1866 and came to Forest Grove in the spring of 1883. By 1905, the building housed Hoffman and Allen Company general merchandising store. A.G. Hoffman had bought out Allen's former partner Mr. Waltrous. (A Miles Waltrous [b. 1869 in Pennsylvania] shows up as a day laborer in the 1910 census. This may not be the Waltrous who partnered with Allen). Marion S. Allen was born in Iowa in 1862. He married Lulu in a second marriage for both of them and took in her two children. In February 1913 A.G. Hoffman bought out the entire interest of the store and changed the name of the business to A.G. Hoffman Co. Hoffman renovated the building after acquiring it outright and expanded its operation. Hoffman was born in 1859 in Colfax, Indiana. He attended public school in Indiana and Missouri. He attended college at Vapriso Normal and Purdue University. He taught school and worked at banks in Nebraska before turning to the mercantile business and stock raising. He moved to Forest Grove in 1904, whereupon he joined forces with Allen in the mercantile business. He built an eclectic Queen Anne/Craftsman style house at 1703 Main Street in 1905.</p>			
RESEARCH INFORMATION			
Title Records	Census Records	Property Tax Records	Local Histories
Sanborn Maps	Biographical Sources	SHPO Files	Interviews
Obituaries	Newspapers	State Archives	Historic Photographs
City Directories	Building Permits	State Library	
Local Library:		University Library:	
Historical Society:		Other Respository:	
Bibliography:			