

STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY
OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
State Historic Preservation Office
Oregon State Parks, Salem, OR 97310



County Linn
Ranking _____
Name
(Common) Mayer Building
(Historic) Mayer Building
Address 748 Main Street
Present Owner Herman and Bernice Koenig
Address 748 Main Street
Original Use Offices and Commercial Space
Date of Construction c. 1915
Map Reference Number 87

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The Mayer Building is two stories tall with brick walls, a flat roof and rectangular floor plan. The bottom half of the east facade has white glazed terra cotta framing the storefront and the entry on the north side. The original storefront has been replaced with one using large display windows and a low rough stone clad wall. The large transoms once contained many small lights but they have been closed.

The second floor is unaltered with two paired one/one light, double-hung windows in the center and a wider one/one light window on each side, all with glazed terra cotta surrounds and cornices.

At the parapet there is a slightly projected cornice featuring modillions and small raised circular decorations across the frieze.

History

The Mayer Building was owned by Joel C. Mayer, Steve Bach and Samuel Garland, individuals who also played major roles in the city's political and banking history. Garland became a state senator and Mayer president of the Bank of Lebanon and the Mountain States Power Company.

(continued)

Recorded by Heritage Investment Corporation, 813 SW Alder, Portland, OR 97204 (228-0272)
Allen, McMath-Hawkins, Architects, 213 SW Ash, Portland, OR 97204 (228-5154)

Initials _____ Date _____

Sources consulted: see attached.

Continuation Sheet 1 of 1
Mayer Building
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T. C. Turner Co. was the first store to occupy the ground floor. In March of 1920 J.C. Penny opened their first dry goods store in Lebanon at this location. L. L. Hurst moved here from Albany to be the first manager.

The most notable occupant of the second floor offices was Harvey White, a Justice of the Peace, who remained for 50 years. The second floor also contained a large hall which was used for formal dances and regularly drew people up from Eugene by train. The Elks Lodge took over the dance hall until 1949 when they built their own building on Park Street.

Sources Consulted

1. Historic photos from the Photography Emporium.
2. Interview with Frank Grove and Clay Nichols, May 12, 1984.
3. "J.C. Penny's Announces Opening," Lebanon Express. March 24, 1920.
4. Sanborn Insurance Map, 1913-46.



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