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

County: Linn

Ranking: 

Name (Common): Northwest Telephone Building
(Historic): Linn County Telephone Building

Address: 60 West Grant Street

Present Owner: Northwest Telephone Systems, Inc.
Address: 60 West Grant Street

Original Use: telephone company offices and switchboard

Date of Construction: 1946

Map Reference Number: 123

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The Linn County Telephone Building is typical of the Moderne style with its rounded stucco walls and glass block windows. The entry is offset to the east side of the north elevation and features piers on each side, and a rounded awning with metal trim. The original entry which had glass block side lights and transom has been replaced with double aluminum frame glass doors. There are two large single-light windows to the west of the entry, another one to the east and at each corner a tall, thin window of glass block. There are insized lines at the parapet and another below the windows defining the base.

In 1954, 1960 and 1970 additions were constructed at the rear of the building to house dialing and service equipment.

History:

The Linn County Telephone Company was owned by George S. and Ethel Bauman and provided services in Lebanon, Sweet Home, Brownsville and Cascadia. They transferred their switchboards, offices and service department to this new building with switchover ceremonies held at midnight, Aug 9, 1946. Mayor Peter T. Tweed severed connections with the earlier office on Sherman Street and set the new switchboard in operation.

Recorded by Heritage Investment Corporation, 813 SW Alder, Portland, OR 97204 (228-0272)
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Initials: Date:

Sources consulted:
1. Questionnaire from Lee McCoy, April 10, 1984.
