

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



County Linn
Ranking _____
Name
(Common) Courtney Block
(Historic) Courtney Block
Address 722 Main Street
Present Owner William J. & Patricia E. Purcell
Address 730 Main Street
Original Use retail and offices
Date of Construction 1891
Map Reference Number 83

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The Courtney Block is an Italianate style commercial building with a large bay on the right, a smaller one on the left and center bay containing stairs to the second floor. The building is stuccoed with piers dividing the bays. On the street level the bay on the right has an inset entry flanked by large single-light, aluminum frame store windows. The entry has been pulled in from the street and a metal post placed at the center. On the right the multi-light transom has been covered with corrugated iron, with a projecting glass sign at the center.

Originally the bay at the left featured a multi-light transom above store windows and a door on the side. Currently, wood pilasters support a decorated frieze and shingled roof, the transom is covered with vertical wood siding, the wall along the sidewalk is clad with brick and the windows and door have been replaced with single-light aluminum frame ones. The center bay contains a pair of wood doors and a fixed, wood frame, two-light transom.

The second floor was originally of unfinished brick and is separated from the ground level by a stuccoed spandrel. There is a one/one, double-hung window in a rounded arch in each bay on the left and two arched windows in the bay at the right. The brick is corbeled

(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
Courtney Block
722 Main Street
Map Reference Number: 83

below the frieze and there is a sheet metal cornice. The frieze contains circular decorations and "COURTNEY BLOCK" in raised letters. A pediment with the construction date and a cone-shaped finial have been removed. The brick side walls contain one/one, double-hung windows and chimneys with corbeled caps.

History

Dr. Joseph S. Courtney graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1886. He then came to Lebanon and started a medical practice, making house calls with a horse and buggy.

Dr. Courtney married Ida Susan Montague, the daughter of Charles Bruce Montague, who had a large mercantile store in Lebanon for many years and was mayor of the city.

A shortage of office space prompted Dr. Courtney to have a rick yard built in Lebanon, in order to secure the bricks for the buildings at 722 Main Street and 730 Main Street. Both of these buildings were built in the same year and were owned by Dr. Courtney. Ownership of the building remained in the Courtney family for 80 years.

Dolph Reeves operated a clothing store in the northernmost half of the building for many years. The building was originally occupied by a photo and printing shop on the north and a drug store and postoffice on the south, with offices above. Dr. Courtney had an office in the rear of this drug store which was one of the first before the turn of the century. Courtney shared a practice with Dr. J. A. Lamberson.

Sources Consulted

2. Correspondence with R. Courtney Webb, March 26, 1984.
2. "Lebanon As It Was 29 Years Ago," Lebanon Express, June 30, 1916.
3. Sanborn Insurance Map, Nov. 1, 1898.

COURTNEY BLOCK



WATER
ELECTRIC
HEATING
PLUMBING

WATER ELECTRIC HEATING PLUMBING

