

Additional Research on Historical Downtown Square 222 Capitol Way N

- This building is currently not listed on a heritage register.
- The site has two historical markers for being the location of first Masonic meeting place of Olympia Lodge No. 1 (1852), and the first Washington Territorial meeting (1854).
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps show the property's use as follows:
 - 1884 – Young House (boarding house) & grocery store
 - 1908 – Lodgings & restaurant
 - 1924 – Vacant
 - 1951 – Auto sales & liquor store
- The Thurston County Assessor lists the construction date for the property as 1947.
- *Polk's City Directories* indicate that the current building served as a car showroom from 1946 to 1988. After a brief period of vacancy, it was converted for mixed retail use.

Current Aerial Image of Area



Figure 1: Aerial Imagery Courtesy of City of Olympia Online Mapping

Polk's Directories on Southeast Corner of Capitol Way (Main St) & Olympia Avenue (2nd Ave)

- 1890 = Advertisement for **Young's Hotel** (does not contain an address)
- 1906 = New England Hotel @ 202 Main St
- 1915-16 = New England Hotel @ Main, corner of 2nd
= Allen Weir (fire insurance) @ Main SE corner 2nd
- 1919 to 1939 = *No mention of address*
- 1941 = Wolf Pontiac Co @ 218 Capitol Way
- 1943 = *218 Capitol Way listed as vacant*
- 1946** = **Frank K Thorp Motors** @ 222 Capitol Way
= *218 Capitol Way listed as vacant*
- 1947 to 1949 = Frank K Thorp Motors @ 222 Capitol Way
= State Liquor Control Board @ 214 Capitol Way
= F. A. Holmes Auto Financing @ 218 Capitol Way
- 1951 to 1953** = **Derringer Motors (auto dlrs)** @ 222 Capitol Way
= Liquor Store @ 214 Capitol Way
= Pacific Finance Loans @ 218 Capitol Way
- 1954 to 1958** = **F & G Lincoln Mercury** @ 222 Capitol Way
- 1960 to 1963** = **Brewington Motors Volkswagen** @ 222 Capitol Way
- 1965** = **Evergreen Dodge** @ 222 Capitol Way
= *Brewington Motors @ 3000 Pacific Ave*
- 1967 to 1968** = **Whitney Dodge** @ 222 Capitol Way
- 1969** = **Hoover Dodge** @ 222 Capitol Way
- 1970 to 1975** = **Fred Bippert Dodge Inc** @ 222 Capitol Way
- 1976 to 1977** = **Olympia Auto Center** @ 222 Capitol Way
= *214 Capitol Way listed as vacant*
- 1978 to 1980** = **Olympia Auto Center** @ 222 Capitol Way
= Olympia Auto Center, additional space @ 214 Capitol Way
- 1981 to 1985** = **Olympia Dodge Co** @ 222 Capitol Way
= Olympia Auto Center, additional space @ 214 Capitol Way
- 1986** = **Rainier Dodge** @ 222 Capitol Way
= Olympia Auto Center, additional space @ 214 Capitol Way

- 1987-88 = Rainier Dodge @ 222 Capitol Way
= Rainier Dodge (used car lot) @ 214 Capitol Way
- 1989 = 222 Capitol Way listed as ***vacant***
= Diamond Park @ 214 Capitol Way
- 1990 = 222 Capitol Way listed as ***mixed retail*** (Looks Beauty Shop, Jay Bloom Floors, Bon Ton Fashion, Accents [gift shop], Cool Rain Kites, Heath's Flowerland, Contempo Portrait World)

1855 U.S. Coast Survey Map



Figure 2: Map Image Courtesy of Washington State Archives

1884 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

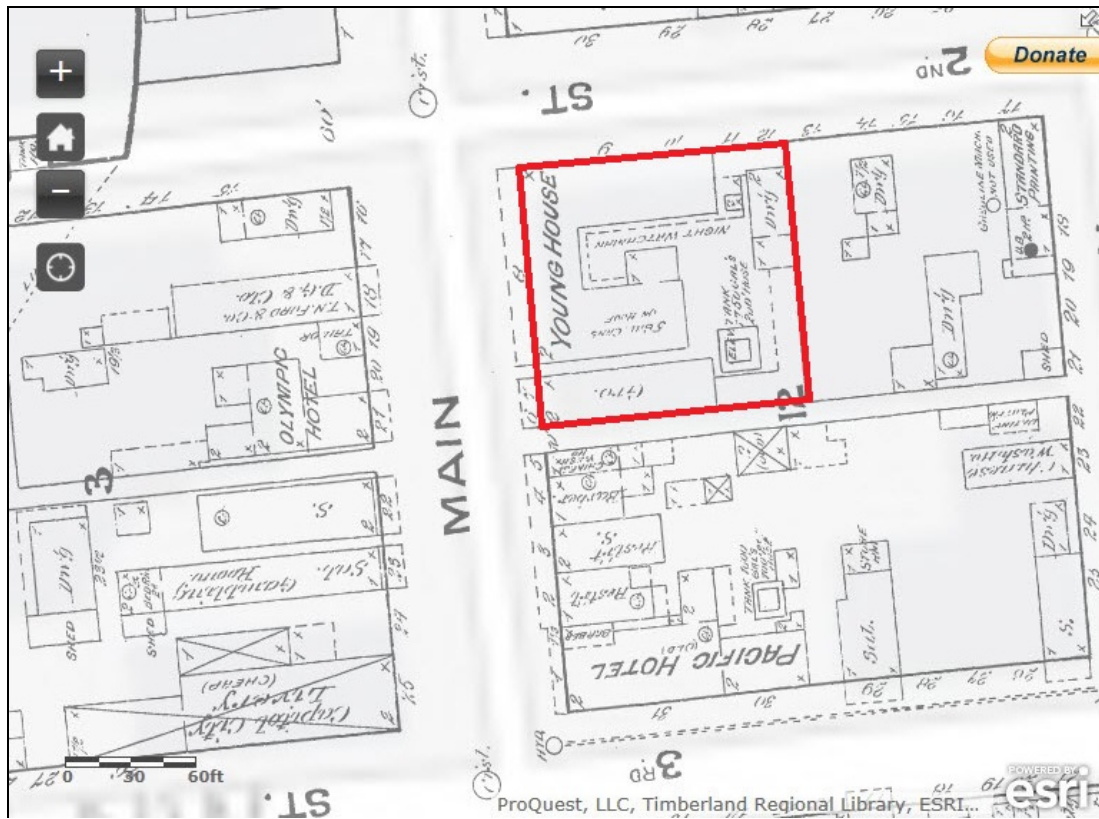


Figure 3: Digital Map Courtesy of Olympia Historical Society & Bigelow House Museum

1908 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

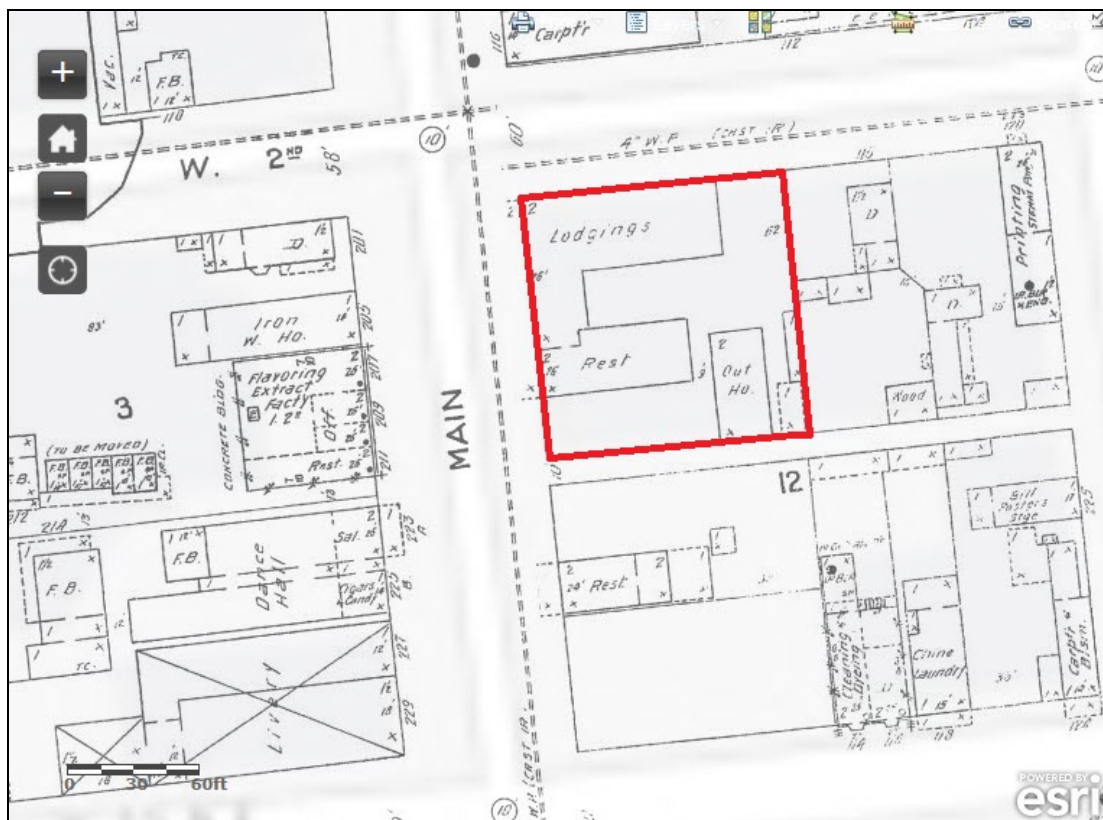


Figure 4: Digital Map Courtesy of Olympia Historical Society & Bigelow House Museum

1924 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

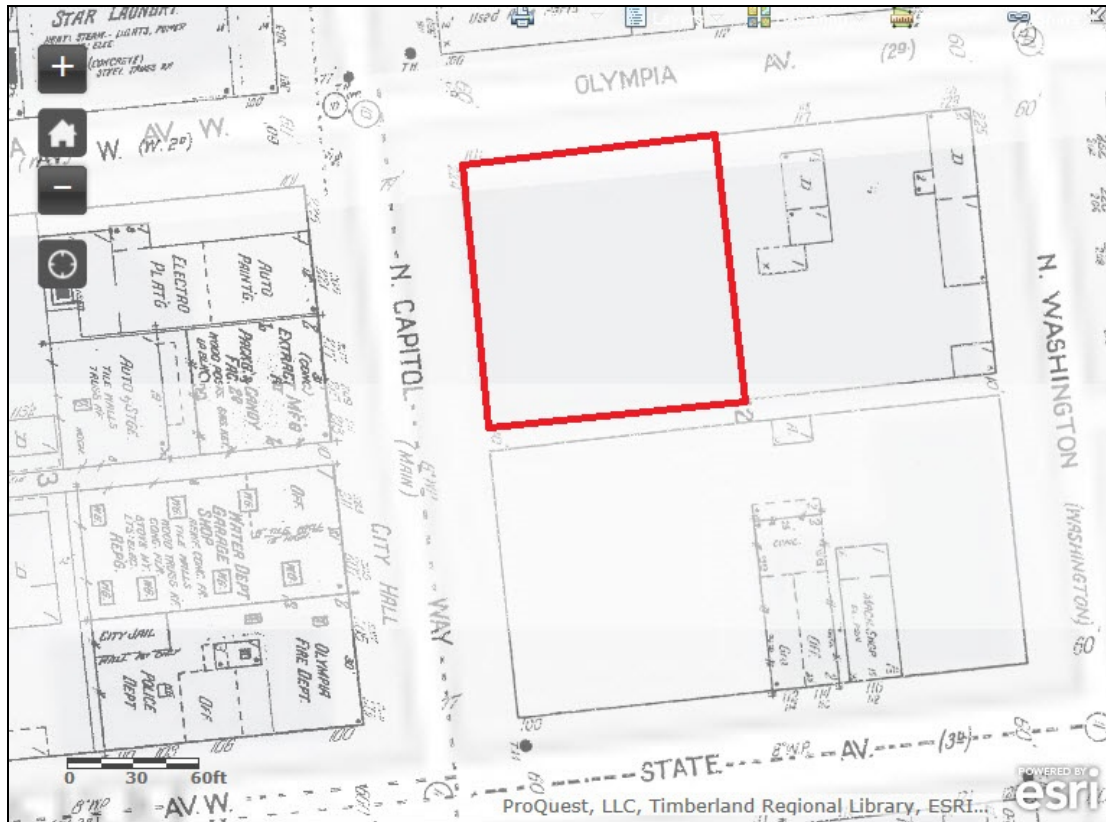


Figure 5: Figure 2: Digital Map Courtesy of Olympia Historical Society & Bigelow House Museum

1951 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Update

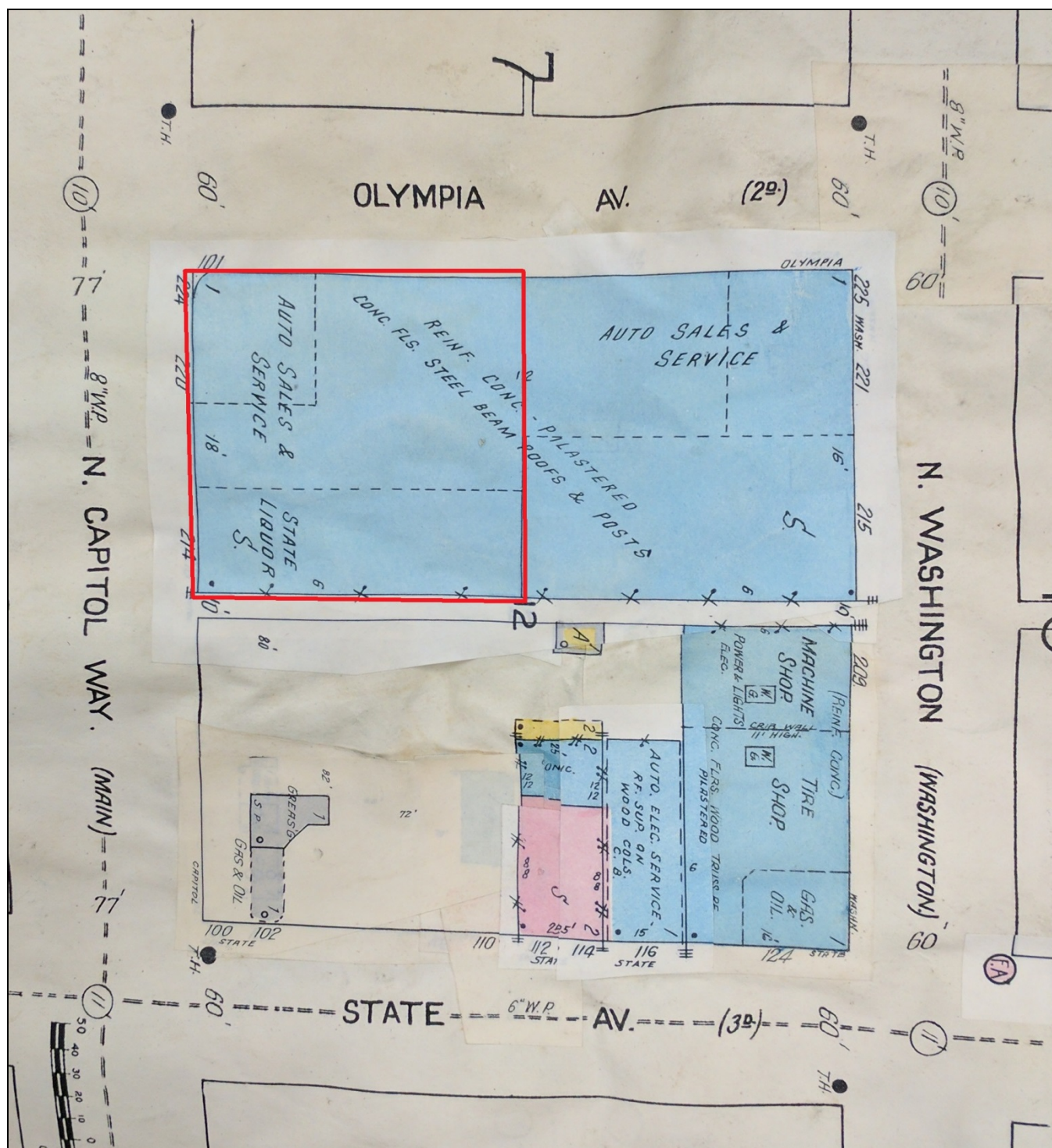


Figure 6: Atlas Image Courtesy of City of Olympia

Other Historical Images



Figure 7: Looking South on Lower Main Street, Olympia, 1902. Photo courtesy of the Washington State Historical Society (Asahel Curtis Collection)



Figure 8: Gold Bar Restaurant about 1900, photograph by W.A. Van Epps, courtesy of Washington State Historical Society. Note features of lodging house on left as seen on Figure 7.



Figure 9: ca. 1955 Photograph, Courtesy of the Washington State Archive (Parish Collection)



Figure 10: ca. 1955 Photograph, Courtesy of the Washington State Archive (Parish Collection)

OLYMPIA CITY DIRECTORY.

70

YOUNG'S+HOTEL,

OLYMPIA, - - - WASH.

POPULAR in every sense of the word.

YOUNG'S HOTEL

Is known as a home from home for guests.

YOUNG'S HOTEL

Is patronized by all visitors to Olympia who study comfort.

YOUNG'S HOTEL

Is where every one will tell you to go, who wishes you to enjoy your visit.

Conducted on the European Plan.

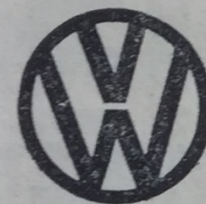
CHARGES VERY MODERATE.

FREE COACH

From All Boats and Trains on arrival

E. T. YOUNG, Proprietor.

Figure 11: Ad from 1890 Polk Directory



Brewington

Motors

Volkswagen

*Sales
and
Service*

PHONES:

**Fleetwood
7-3976**

and

**Fleetwood
7-7201**

222 N.
Capitol Way

Figure 12: Ad from 1961 Polk Directory

Historic Property Thorp Motors
Inventory Report for 222 North Capitol Way Olympia, Thurston, 98501

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Thorp Motors Field Site No.: 745
 Common Name: (#34-761) OAHP No.:
 Property Address: 222 North Capitol Way Olympia, Thurston, 98501
 Comments: OLYMPIA

County Township/Range/EW Section 1/4 Sec 1/4 1/4 Sec Quadrangle
 Thurston T18R02W 14 SW TUMWATER

UTM Reference

Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com
 Sequence: 0 Easting: 507600 Northing: 5210110

Tax No./Parcel No. Plat/Block/Lot
78501200100 Sylvester L1 & L2 Blk 12

Supplemental Map(s) Acreage
City of Olympia Planning Department .33

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson Date Recorded: 10/23/1985 Survey Name: OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: Owner Address: City/State/Zip:
Charles A McSwain c/o c/o 2101 4th Avenue E #102 Olympia, WA 98506
Cycle Real Estate

Classification: Building Resource Status Comments

Within a District? No Survey/Inventory

Contributing?

National Register Nomination: 0

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Commerce/Trade - Business

Current Use: Commerce/Trade - Business

Plan: Rectangle No. of Stories: 1

Structural System: Concrete - Poured

Changes to plan: Intact

Changes to interior: Slight

Changes to original cladding: Intact

Changes to other:

Changes to windows: Slight

Other (specify):

Cladding Concrete
Stucco

Foundation Concrete - Poured

Style Art Deco - Streamlined Moderne

Form/Type

Roof Material Asphalt / Composition - Rolled

Roof Type Unknown

Historic Property Thorp Motors

Inventory Report for 222 North Capitol Way Olympia, Thurston, 98501

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1945

Architect:

Builder:

Engineer:

Commerce

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places:

No

Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local):

No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

**Statement of
Significance**

The building was built in 1945 by Fred Holmes as an auto dealership for lease to Frank K. Thorp Motors, a Packard Agency.

**Description of
Physical
Appearance**

This is a square, one-story, flat-roofed structure of concrete clad with stucco, built in simplified Art Moderne style. It is square in plan, while the northwest front corner is rounded. The front (west) facade has a row of large plate glass windows which light the showroom, and two glass entry doors. The north facade has similar large plate glass windows and entry doors, and a tall garage door at the center of the facade leads to the service garage. The walls are ornamented with a narrow recessed band just above the windows, and two similar bands just below the roof. The building has been extensively renovated as a "mini-mall" complex.

**Major
Bibliographic
References**

Interview with Mrs. Frank K. Thorp.

PHOTOS



View of NW corner

taken 10/23/1985

Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):

28-15

Comments:

Historic Property *First Legislative Meeting*
Inventory Report for *214 North Capitol Way Olympia, Thurston, 98501*

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: First Legislative Meeting
Common Name: Site Marker (#34-680)
Property Address: 214 North Capitol Way Olympia, Thurston, 98501
Comments: OLYMPIA

Field Site No.: 711
OAHP No.:

County	Township/Range/EW	Section	1/4 Sec	1/4 1/4 Sec	Quadrangle
Thurston	<u>T18R02W</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>SW</u>		<u>TUMWATER</u>

UTM Reference

Zone: 10 **Spatial Type:** Point **Acquisition Code:** TopoZone.com
Sequence: 0 **Easting:** 507580 **Northing:** 52101100

Tax No./Parcel No. **Plat/Block/Lot**
City of Right of Way adjacent to Lot 1 & 2 Blk 2 Sylvester

Supplemental Map(s) **Acreage**
City of Olympia Planning Department

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson **Date Recorded:** 10/16/1985 **Survey Name:** OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: City of Olympia **Owner Address:** 8th & Plum **City/State/Zip:** Olympia, WA 98501

Classification: Site **Resource Status** **Comments**

Within a District? No **Survey/Inventory**

Contributing?

National Register Nomination: 0

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Recreation and Culture - Monument/Marker

Current Use: Recreation and Culture - Monument/Marker

Plan: Unknown **No. of Stories:**

Structural System: Unknown

Changes to plan: Unknown

Changes to original cladding: Unknown

Changes to windows: Unknown

Changes to interior: Unknown

Changes to other:

Other (specify):

Cladding

Style

Roof Material

Foundation

Form/Type

Roof Type

Historic Property *First Legislative Meeting*
Inventory Report for *214 North Capitol Way Olympia, Thurston, 98501*

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1912

Politics/Government/Law

Architect:

Builder:

Engineer:

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No

Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local): No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

**Statement of
Significance**

This bronze plaque marks the site of the first legislative meeting site in Washington, later known as the Gold Bar Restaurant. Originally a part of Oregon Territory, the Washington Territory was created March 2, 1853 by President Millard Fillmore, just as he was leaving office. His successor President Franklin Pierce appointed Isaac Stevens to be the first Territorial Governor or Washington who arrived in Olympia in November, 1853. Stevens first set about setting up a territorial government and called an election of a legislative assembly. The day after his arrival Stevens announced that the first legislature was to meet in February, 1854. Stevens selected Olympia as the legislative meeting site because the impetus for a separate territory had come from the area. Olympia was also the largest settlement on Puget Sound, boasted the only newspaper in the Territory and the Puget Sound customs house. Upon hearing of the call for the legislature, thus making Olympia the temporary capital, Edmund Sylvester, who had founded and platted the town, added a second story to his building at the site. The building was the location of John Goldsbury Parker Jr. and Henry V. Colter express office and general store, originally only one story. Sylvester added a second story to the 28' x 64' structure and added an outside stairway to the upper floor. Here the 27 members of the first legislative body of Washington met to formulate the initial government of the Territory. The legislature moved to the Masonic Temple for the following session in 1855 when Olympia was named the permanent Territorial Capital. The building was later known as the Gold Bar Restaurant and fell into disrepair. Razed in 1911, the site was marked in 1912 by the Washington State Historical Society. Wood from the building was used to build two models of the structure which served as the first Capitol Building. One is on display at the State Capitol Museum and the other at the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

**Description of
Physical
Appearance**

The inscription reads. "On this lot stood the building where Gov. Isaac I. Stevens, the first Territorial Governor convened the first Territorial Legislature of Washington February 28th 1854. Marked by the Washington State Historical Society and Friends on the 59th anniversary of Governor Stevens Arrival in Olympia. November 25th 1912.

**Major
Bibliographic
References**

Nicandri, David and Valley, Derek, Olympia Wins: Washington's Capital Controversies, State Capitol Museum, 1980.
 Stevenson, Shanna, Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater: A Pictorial History. Donning 1985.

PHOTOS



View of general

taken 10/16/1985

Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):
 25-25A

Comments:

Historic Property *First Masonic Meeting*
Inventory Report for *100 Block East Olympia Street Olympia, Thurston, 98501*

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: First Masonic Meeting
Common Name: Site Marker (#34-681)
Property Address: 100 Block East Olympia Street Olympia, Thurston, 98501
Comments: OLYMPIA

Field Site No.: 819
OAHP No.:

County **Township/Range/EW** **Section** **1/4 Sec** **1/4 1/4 Sec** **Quadrangle**
 Thurston T18R02W 14 SW TUMWATER

UTM Reference

Zone: 10 **Spatial Type:** Point **Acquisition Code:** TopoZone.com
Sequence: 0 **Easting:** 507600 **Northing:** 5210130

Tax No./Parcel No. **Plat/Block/Lot**
City Right of Way Adjacent to Blk 2 Sylvester

Supplemental Map(s) **Acreage**
City of Olympia Planning Department

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson **Date Recorded:** 10/16/1985 **Survey Name:** OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: **Owner Address:** **City/State/Zip:**
City of Olympia 8th & Plum Olympia, WA 98501

Classification: Object **Resource Status** **Comments**

Within a District? No Survey/Inventory

Contributing?

National Register Nomination: 0

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Recreation and Culture - Museum
Current Use: Recreation and Culture - Monument/Marker

Plan: Unknown **No. of Stories:**

Structural System: Unknown

Changes to plan: Unknown

Changes to original cladding: Unknown

Changes to windows: Unknown

Changes to interior: Unknown

Changes to other:

Other (specify):

Cladding

Style

Roof Material

Foundation

Form/Type

Roof Type

Historic Property *First Masonic Meeting*

Inventory Report for *100 Block East Olympia Street Olympia, Thurston, 98501*

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1852

Architect:

Builder:

Engineer:

Social Movements/Organizations

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No

Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local): No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

**Statement of
Significance**

The Masons were an influential group in early Olympia and Washington life. this marker is at the site of the first meeting place of that group in Olympia. the Olympia Lodge No 1., F. & A.M. is the oldest organization in Washington having the distinction of being formed in 1852 and was the first assemblage of Masons north of the Columbia River and west of the Rocky Mountains. An Oregon Territorial group had formed in 1848. A group of Olympia and petitioned the Grand Lodge of Oregon for a dispensation for Olympia Lodge. The seven men are among the most prominent in early Olympia area history--Thornton F. McElroy; M. T. Simmons, leader of the first party to permanently settle on Puget Sound at Tumwater; N. Delin, Smith Hays, and Ira Ward, all early day lumber mill operators; and A. K. Skidmore. Other first members were F. A. Clark and C. H. Hale. The dispensation for their charter was given on November 25, 1852--at this time Olympia was still a part of Oregon Territory. The charter was granted on June 13, 1853 to Olympia Lodge No. 5. (Later changed to Lodge No. 1 when Washington became a Territory.) The first meetings were held in a two-story building on Second Street on the south side, the same block where the first legislature met. This was a temporary site and plans were immediately made to build a permanent hall. This building was financed by T. F. McElroy, M. T. Simmons, Edmund Sylvester (who donated lots from his plat of Olympia for the structure) and C. Etheridge who built the hall. Built in 1853, the Hall was used for many uses including a Legislative Meeting Site and school and was located at the southeast corner of Capitol Way and 8th. This original structure was razed in 1911 and a new one built which was also torn down in the 1960s. The marker reads, "Original meeting place, Olympia Lodge No. 1 F. & A. M. Dec. 11, 1852. Laid by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Washington Dec. 10, A. L. 5927, Robert A Wilson, Grand Master. "

**Description of
Physical
Appearance**

**Major
Bibliographic
References**

Blankenship, George E., comp. History of Olympia Lodge No. 1, F. & A.M., Olympia, Washington, 1852-1935. n.p., n.d.

"A Brief History of Olympia Lodge No. 1 F. & A.M., Olympia, Washington, 1852-1952." n.d., n.p.

PHOTOS



View of general

taken 10/16/1985

Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):
25-26A

Comments: