Statement of Significance

organized to lure the Northern Pacific to Budd Inlet. However, it was Tacoma that was finally selected. In 1878, Olympians completed their own narrow gauge spur railroad to the mainline of the Northern Pacific at Tenino, some 15 miles to the south of the city. The line terminated at the west end of the west side bridge. Olympia did not have a mainline railroad until the 1890s and did not have a downtown railroad station until 1916.[17]

An 1879 bird's eye view drawing of the city shows that by that period the areas around 4th, 5th, Legion and Capitol Way were well developed and housing reached southward to the capitol grounds. Wharves had been built on the northern tip of the city and wooden bridges reached across the inlet to both east and west Olympia. Maple trees lined city streets which featured primarily false-front wooden commercial store fronts and small, frame houses.[18]

THE LATE 19TH CENTURY

A devastating fire leveled many of the early wooden buildings in the downtown in 1882 and many owners were determined to rebuild in brick. By mid the 1880s, substantial stucco-clad, brick buildings--Woodruff Block (1887) (#12), Chambers Block (1886) (#50), Mottman Building (1884) (#18), and Olympia Hardware (1884) (#16) -- anchored crossroads of the city at 4th and Main. These buildings reflected the Victorian Age, replete with varied decoration and ornate cornices. The Chambers and Olympia Hardware buildings were built with cast iron store fronts supporting broad windows to gain interior light and provide showcases for retail goods.

An important force in the development and building of the city was the continual fight for Olympia to retain the title of territorial and state capital. A number of other cities including Vancouver, North Yakima, and Tacoma tried through legislative and other means to wrest the capital away from Olympia. As a result, Olympia citizens were constantly obliged to make improvements and provide perquisites for visiting legislators to prove that they indeed wanted the capital for their city. Often this took the form of civic improvements and other amenities. Especially important was the provision of good lodging and transportation for the legislators as well as ample food and beverage locations.[19]

By 1889, when statehood was imminent, Olympians had instituted a number of improvements including a streetcar line, water system, and gas street lights. A new water reservoir was built and the sidewalks were replanked. Concrete sidewalks were being installed by 1908. By 1910, the streets were being bricked or macadamed.[20]

In the winter of 1890 the first two horse-drawn street cars were on the initial stretch of track on Main Street [Now Capitol Way] between 4th and 13th Streets. Eventually electrified street car service extended to both the east and west sides of the city. This transportation improvement facilitated the growth of new residential areas whose residents depended on downtown for services.[21]

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[17] Miller, William Winlock, Jr., "The Olympia Narrow Gauge Railroad," Washington Historical Quarterly, pp. 243-250.

[18] Glover, E. S., "The Bird's-Eye View of the City of Olympia," A. L. Bancroft & Co., Lithographers, San Francisco, 1879.

[19] Beardsley, Arthur, "Early Efforts to Locate the Capital of Washington Territory," Pacific Northwest Quarterly, July, 1941, vol. 32, pp. -287. And Beardsley, Arthur, "Later Attempts to Relocate the Capital of Washington," Pacific Northwest Quarterly, October, 1941, vol. 32, pp. 401-447.

[20] "Casco Company Erects Many Buildings," Daily Olympian, April 26, 1928, p. 2.

[21] Newell, Gordon R. Rogues, Buffoons & Statesmen. Seattle, WA: Hangman Press, 1975. pp. 132-133

Statement of Significance

The early 1890s were generally a prosperous period for the city. Lumber processing was becoming an important industry as the logs from nearby forests were brought to the waterfront where sawyers at the Springer Mill and other processors transformed the logs into dimensional lumber. One residential building remains within the district from this era-- the Angelus Hotel on Columbia Street (#4).

In 1889, confirmed by a vote in 1890, Olympia was selected was the capital of the new State of Washington. Governmental offices were still housed in the 1850s era wooden capitol building south of the city. An effort in 1893 to build a more permanent structure failed because of difficult state economic times. As a result many downtown buildings were locations of the offices of state officials. The Supreme Court met in several locations around Olympia including on the second story of the Talcott Store and in the McKenny Block at what is now the southwest corner of 4th and Capitol Way. In 1899, Governor John Rogers leased three floors of the McKenny Block.[22]

By the early 1890's more downtown buildings had been built including the Richardson Romanesque-style Thurston County Courthouse (#84). The building was acquired by the state in 1901 for the capitol building and enlarged in 1903 with an east wing to accommodate the legislative chambers. From that date until 1928, the building housed the state government. This move of the capitol to the center of downtown was an important event to spur rebuilding of downtown wooden storefronts into more modern brick, stucco and concrete business blocks. The location of the capitol in downtown also created economic and civic vitality during this period.

In the 1890s, Sylvester Park (#68), the town square which fronts the old Capitol (originally the Thurston County Courthouse), was landscaped with a Victorian gazebo, fish pond and clam shell walkways. The square which was part of the original plat of Olympia from 1850 reflected the New England origins of the town's founder, Edmund Sylvester. It has served as a gathering place for civic and ceremonial functions throughout its long history. When the Courthouse was purchased by the state in 1901 as the capitol, the city donated the park to the state, which still retains ownership of the square. Over the years many visiting state dignitaries including Theodore Roosevelt, William Jennings Bryant William Taft and Franklin Roosevelt spoke to crowds in the park.[23]

New business buildings also went up along Capitol Way in the 1890s, many of which were constructed of sandstone or with sandstone detailing to complement the Thurston County Courthouse building. After the sale of the 1890s courthouse, county government remained in downtown when a new Tenino sandstone courthouse was built at the present site of the State Theater at the northeast corner of 4th and Washington in 1901.

The desire of Olympians to transform and promote their city was especially evident during this period. In 1894 the first of a long series of dredging and filling efforts was undertaken to expand the land mass of the city and to create a deep water port. The early 1890s efforts were directed in the 4th Street and west side areas but the most extensive fill took place in 1910-1911. Known as the Carlyon Fill after its organizer and promoter, mayor and state legislator P. H. Carlyon, it changed the shape of Olympia by adding some 29 blocks of land. The effort dredged two million cubic yards of mud from Budd Inlet and deposited the spoil deposited near the original downtown peninsula, creating new land. The cost was $250,000 and all but $58,000 was paid for by townspeople. The fill provided industrial sites for the prospering mill industry north of downtown. The new land created on West 4th Avenue supplanted earlier wooden causeways and docks. On the east side, downtown was finally joined to what was historically called Swantown where there were formerly wooden bridges and wharfs.[24] (See attached map.)

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[22] "Supreme Court Had Many Homes Before Big Temple of Justice, Daily Olympian, April 15, 1941, pg. 15

[23] Stevenson, Shanna, Olympiana, Historical Vignettes of Olympia, State Capitol Museum, 1982.

[24] Stevenson, Shanna, Superior Shipping Service--A History of the Port of Olympia, Port of Olympia, Olympia, 1982.

Historic Property *Angelus Hotel*

Inventory Report for *204 West 4th Olympia, Thurston, 98501*

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit | **Other**

Commerce

Date Of Construction: 1900
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 The Hotel was built ca. 1900 by George White and has had a variety of owners throughout the years. The structure is one of the few hotels that has been in continuous use since it was constructed for that purpose. It was purchased in 1909 by Daniel Munro and longtime proprietor Edwin Wright purchased the building in 1913. M. E. George operated a grocery in the building.

Description of Physical Appearance This is a rectangular, three-story wood frame structure of utilitarian design. The flat roof is tarred and has a prominent cornice; the walls are clad with stucco, which is covered on the front (south) and east facades by asbestos shingles. Spanning the front facade of the first story are eight storefront bays with stucco columns, multi-paned plate glass windows with wooden frame, and wooden doors with large glass panes. A central double door leads to the stairway to the upper floors. The original transoms remain largely intact under asbestos shingling. The upper stories are lit by rows of paired double-hung sash with one-over-one lights and newer storm windows, and a door on each floor leads to the fire stairs on the east wall.

Major Bibliographic References Pioneer Title Company Records.

PHOTOS



View of SE corner
taken 10/16/1985
Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.): 25-17
Comments:

Historic Property *Angelus Hotel*
Inventory Report for *204 West 4th Olympia, Thurston, 98501*

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Angelus Hotel
Common Name: (#34-671)
Property Address: 204 West 4th Olympia, Thurston, 98501
Comments: OLYMPIA

Field Site No.: 902
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:** 507470 **Northing:** 5209960

Tax No./Parcel No.
78507300700

Plat/Block/Lot
Sylvester L7 Blk 73

Supplemental Map(s)
City of Olympia Planning Department

Acreage
.17

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson **Date Recorded:** 7/1/1997 **Survey Name:** OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: Interlock Properties
Owner Address: 204 - 4th Avenue W
City/State/Zip: Olympia, WA 98501

Classification: Building
Resource Status Survey/Inventory
Comments

Within a District? Yes
Local Register

Contributing?

National Register Nomination: 0
Local District:
National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name: OLYMPIA DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Domestic - Hotel
Current Use: Domestic - Multiple Family House

Plan: Rectangle **No. of Stories:** 2

Structural System: Concrete - Block

Changes to plan: Slight
Changes to original cladding: Intact
Changes to windows: Moderate
Changes to interior: Moderate
Changes to other:
Other (specify):

Cladding Shingle - Concrete/Asbestos
Stucco
Foundation Concrete - Poured

Style Commercial
Form/Type

Roof Material Asphalt / Compostion - Rolled
Roof Type Unknown

Marygrace Goddu

From: Helle, Benjamin <benjamin.helle@sos.wa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 11:09 AM
To: Marygrace Goddu
Subject: RE: Angelus Hotel

External Email Alert!
This email originated from a source outside of the City's network. Use caution before clicking on links or opening attachments.

M,
The best are with the WSHS – although I might have a contemporary shot if that helps…



1.

Title: [Angelus Hotel building]

Catalog Id: C1950.1301.22.14

Creation Date: Apr. 6, 1937

Description: Photograph of the Angelus Hotel building in Olympia, WA, Thurston County. It is a large three-story structure with its longer side along Fourth Avenue. Fixed awnings stretch along the longr side. A sign over an entryway reads Angelus Hotel, and a painted sign on the building reading Rooms and Apartments. On the ground floor are businesses, including Heye Brothers groceries. Automobiles are parked along the street, and one is proceeding westwards on Fourth Avenue. A light pole, a trolley pole, and a stop sign are in the foreground. (Note: the trolley tracks

were taken up before this photograph was snapped, but some trolley poles remained in place, with one still (2016) in existence.)

Add to my list



2.

Title: [M.E. George Groceries]

Catalog Id: 2010.149.26.1

Creator: Robert Esterly

Creation Date: ca. 1914

Description: Photograph of the M.E.George grocery store and the building housing it, the Angelus Hotel building, 202 W 4th, Olympia, WA, Thurston County. It is a 2 1/2 story clapboard building with a tall false front. Sashed windows are at second level and the middle of the third level. At street level is a storefront with a corner entryway. To the right of the

entryway is a wide, open, bay with sliding door. Bales of hay are stacked in front of the bay. Painted on the storefront window are the words "M.E. George/Groceries/Flour and Feed." Another sign hung on the wall reads M.E. George Grocer. A third large sign is painted on the side of the building, reading M.E George, Grocers Flour and Feed/Olympic Flour/As Good as Can be Made!. Four men are standing in front of the building. From left to right: A young man with no hat, hair parted in the middle, wearing a long smock; A man in overalls and a cap; a man in overcoat with no hat, and a man in overalls with hands in pockets. To the right of the bay entryway is a grocer's cart being pulled by a team of two horses. Painted on the side of the awning over the cart are the words M.E. George/Cor 4th & Columbia Phone 86/Olympic [Flour]. The horses are just starting to turn onto the street. To the right of the grocer's is another commercial building, Fred Levee's Cycle Shop (catalogued as item 2010.149.14.1). An automobile is parked in front of that store. Down the street in the other direction are several more commercial buildings, with a few shadowy figures walking along the paved sidewalk. Robert Esterly, photographer

Benjamin Helle
Washington State Archives ~ Olympia
Archives and Records Management Division

From: Marygrace Goddu [mailto:mgoddu@ci.olympia.wa.us]
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2019 10:49 AM
To: Helle, Benjamin <benjamin.helle@sos.wa.gov>
Subject: Angelus Hotel

Go any good pics of the Angeles over there?

Marygrace L. Goddu
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Arts, Cultures & Heritage Coordinator
City of Olympia
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Emails are public records, potentially eligible for release.

Community Planning & Development
Olympia