TURNER, OREGON

HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT

JILL A. CHAPPEL

HERITAGE RESEARCH ASSOCIATES REPORT NO. 202
TURNER, OREGON
HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT

by
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Report to
City of Turner
7250 Third Street
Turner, Oregon 97392

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1997 Garden Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97403

June 16, 1997
Heritage Research Associates Report No. 202
PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following document presents a historic context statement for the City of Turner, Oregon and is meant to be used as a planning tool for the City's historic preservation efforts. This study was funded in part by a grant from the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Preparation of this report was carried out under the terms of a Professional Services Contract between the City of Turner and Heritage Research Associates, Inc. (HRA) of Eugene, Oregon. Charles F. Spies, City Administrator, was the City of Turner's representative for this contract while Jill A. Chappel, Staff Historic Preservation Specialist, served as Principal Investigator for HRA. All portions of this project were written by Jill A. Chappel. Background research for this report was undertaken with the assistance of the following members of the Turner Historical Society: Maria Mitchell, Pat Whitfield, Lori Dahlberg, Wanda Wendt, Doreen Fowler, Albert Jensen, and Chuck Spies. Special thanks goes to these individuals and the other members of the Historical Society for their enthusiasm and dedication to preserving Turner's heritage.
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Section I

HISTORIC CONTEXT DEFINITION

The following historic context statement is developed for the City of Turner in partial fulfillment of historic preservation requirements stated in the City of Turner Comprehensive Plan (Turner 1993). The drafting of a historic context statement sets the stage for identifying, evaluating, and protecting significant historic resources within Turner’s Urban Growth Boundary and provides a broad blueprint for all historic preservation activities undertaken in the future. The information contained in this document will aid planning efforts and decision making in regard to historic resources as the City is faced with future development and/or expansion.

HISTORIC CONTEXT THEME

The primary theme of this study focuses on the historical development of the City of Turner, Oregon and addresses the historic resources (buildings, structures, sites, and objects) likely to be found within the incorporated portions of the city. Turner is a small, rural, residential community with a population just over 1,300 that began as an agricultural shipping and grain milling center upon the arrival of the railroad. The City of Turner presently is comprised of the original portion of the town, platted in 1871 by city founder Henry L. Turner, and eight platted additions dating from 1911 through 1969. In the last several years, Turner has become a bedroom community of Salem, which lies eight miles to the northwest. Development in Turner has been largely held at bay due to the lack of a city-wide sewer system. On March 11, 1997, an election was held in the City on the sewer issue which resulted in the unanimous vote to connect residences and businesses in Turner to a municipal sewer. This decision will undoubtedly bring about an increase in development within the city limits and the immediate environs.

Although neither commercial nor industrial buildings dating from the historic period survive, a number of early single-family dwellings, ecclesiastical resources, a fraternal lodge, resources relating to the automobile, and many historic sites represent the visible and tangible aspect of Turner’s heritage.

To make the study more manageable, the principal theme of the historical development of Turner is broken down into smaller thematic units. The Oregon Statewide Inventory Historic/Cultural themes list is the basis for the thematic
categories and chronological periods utilized in this study. These categories and periods are established by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the National Park Service. The broad themes characterizing the City of Turner's development and architectural and historical features include the following: (1) Settlement, (2) Transportation, (3) Agriculture, (4) Industry & Manufacturing, (5) Commerce & Urban Development, and (6) Culture.

**SPATIAL BOUNDARY/PLACE**

The City of Turner is situated in a narrow valley between the Salem Hills and Waldo Hills at the confluence of Mill Creek and Battle Creek in the south-southwest portion of Marion County, the heart of the Willamette Valley. Mill Creek, which originates in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains to the east, flows through the center of town and on into Salem. South of Turner the land opens up to form a rich, fertile plain dissected by a number of intermittent streams. Some of these streams have been developed into canals for agricultural use.

The spatial boundary for this study is determined by the City of Turner and encompasses approximately 950 acres, the entire area within Turner's Urban Growth Boundary. This boundary includes the original 1871 plat of Turner, all subsequent additions to this plat, and annexed portions to the north, east, and south (Figure 1).

The city is primarily single-family residential; however, multi-family residences exist. The Turner Retirement Homes provide apartment-style and cottage living for a small retirement community. There are two distinct commercial areas: (1) the "downtown" area between Third, First, Boise, and Elgin streets and (2) a linear commercial strip along Third Street north of Delaney Road.

**TEMPORAL BOUNDARY: 1843-1950**

The temporal boundary established for the City of Turner historic context begins with the first Euroamerican settlement of the area incorporated by the City's Urban Growth Boundary. This study terminates in 1950, the beginning of a new period established by an economic and agricultural transition brought about after World War II. This was a time in Turner's history marked by a reliance on the lumber milling and manufacturing industry and the beginning of the demise of Turner's commercial district due to an increasing dependence on Salem for consumer needs as well as employment. The timeframe of this study correlates with the chronological periods established by SHPO and correlates well with the events significant to the development of Turner.
Figure 1. City of Turner Urban Growth Boundary, the historic context study area.
Section II

HISTORIC CONTEXT DESCRIPTION

The historic context for the City of Turner is described principally through a historic overview that highlights the key events that led to the general development of the community within the temporal boundaries of the study. From this historic overview, predictive modeling can be used to identify the type of historic properties likely to exist today within the spatial boundaries of the study. Historic properties are categorized and discussed by "resource type," a generic class of related historic properties (e.g. bridge, church, meeting hall). The distribution of resource types is then analyzed, and an estimate of how many exist today is given. An actual in-field survey, conducted as a follow-up to this study, will confirm or refute the presence of certain resource types currently present in Turner. To conclude the context description, specific criteria for evaluating historic properties is presented in connection with a discussion addressing significance, integrity, and condition of Turner's historic resources.

HISTORIC OVERVIEW OF THE CITY OF TURNER

The area now known as the City of Turner was the former territory of the Kalapuya Indians, who occupied permanent villages during the damp winter months and ephemeral encampments other times of the year. A number of bands of Kalapuya were scattered throughout the Willamette Valley and south into the Umpqua River basin. According to the ethnographic literature, the band that lived in the Turner vicinity was the Santiam Kalapuya, a group whose seven main villages were dispersed throughout present day Marion County and parts of Linn County as far south as Albany (Zenk 1976, 1990; Beckham 1976). Contact with white fur trappers from the 1810s through the 1830s, however, introduced devastating European diseases to the Indians. The native population was dramatically decreased by the 1840s, and few Kalapuya remained in the area when the hoards of overland emigrants arrived in the Willamette Valley and Marion County. Treaties between the U.S. Government and the Indians of the Willamette Valley were ratified in 1855, and the following year, all surviving Kalapuya were deported to the newly formed Grand Ronde Reservation in the Coast Range (Kappler 1904:657-60, 665-69).

Exploration and fur trapping campaigns occurred throughout the Willamette Valley between 1812 and 1846 by both British (Northwest and Hudson's Bay Company)
companies) and American (Pacific Fur Company) interests. Records of their travels, however, do not survive for the period between 1814 and the mid-1820s. The brigades of the 1820s and 1830s kept largely to the Willamette River and the west side tributaries as the fur trappers made their way south to the Umpqua and Rogue River drainages (Work 1923).

Though the beaver population in the Willamette Valley had largely been exterminated by the mid-1820s, brigades destined for trapping the Umpqua country passed through Marion County annually from 1825 until the early 1840s (Hussey 1967:35). However, there are no existing records that indicate whether the brigades explored the immediate Turner vicinity or sought beaver in Mill Creek or Battle Creek.

Overland Migration and Settlement (1843-1870)

As early as 1821, fur trappers had established permanent "camps" and homes in what is today northern Marion County, and by 1830, retirees from the Hudson's Bay Company had begun farming these settlements (Hussey 1967:33; Gibson 1985:130). The Methodist missionaries, led by Jason and Daniel Lee, brought as many as 70 settlers into the Oregon country (specifically Marion County)1 during their tenure in the Willamette Valley during the 1830s (Carey 1971:296). The mission movement in Oregon and the colonization efforts promoted by the missionaries were contributing factors that pushed for immigration to the Far West. On a return trip east in 1838, Rev. Jason Lee stopped in Peoria, Illinois to lecture about the Oregon country and in the process piqued the interest of over a half-dozen young men determined to reap the riches of the first salmon packing business in the Northwest (Lavender 1985:331). Though only four completed the journey in 1839-40, the "Peoria Party" was the first overland migration of settlers to Oregon.

During the late 1830s, Americans, especially in the Middle West, were experiencing the effects of a national economic depression. Outbreaks of disease in the bottom lands of the Mississippi, Missouri, and other Midwestern rivers caused people to look toward Oregon for a healthier environment. The fact that the Oregon country was in a tenuous state of governorship between Britain and the U.S. brought out many patriots who thought an act of settlement in Oregon by Americans would eventually push out the British. The mere availability of thousands of acres of previously untilled land was reason enough for some to make the journey.

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1The Lees only brought a handful of people with them overland to help establish the mission. The missionaries' reinforcements came later by sea in 1836 and again in 1837 (Carey 1971:291).
Why did the pioneers do it? Why did they spend so prodigiously of effort, cash, and comfort to obtain material things they could have found nearer home? Free land alone does not explain the fever; for one thing, the land was not free by the time a man had paid the price of reaching it. Part of its magnetism, rather, was as old as the things that pulled at . . . a hundred other toilers along the trail—a vision not of dollars alone but of something they could scarcely fashion into words, something which their nerve ends assured them existed somewhere out toward the Western Sea . . . . What matters is not whether fulfillment was attainable in reality, but rather that at long last in the world's sad, torn history an appreciable part of mankind thought it might be. That was both the torment and the freedom—to go and look (Lavender 1985:348-49).

The Great Migration of 1843 brought more than 800 people over the Oregon Trail, a number that multiplied on a yearly basis. Parties normally left for the four- to six-month journey from the Missouri trailhead during the spring after the snow melt, and, consequently, did not arrive in Oregon until the fall. Families often settled for the winter at Fort Vancouver on the Columbia River before continuing their trek down the Willamette Valley.

Since Oregon was not officially ruled by any government at the onset of emigration but was in joint proprietorship with both the U.S. and Great Britain, land was procured by means of either preemption or claiming an unoccupied parcel. A Provisional Government was formed in 1843 to lay out certain necessary laws that would protect citizens' rights. This resulted in, among other things, adopting a land law allowing "free males, over the age of eighteen, who would be entitled to vote if of lawful age, and widows" 640 acres each (Oregon 1853:77-78).

Land continued to be allocated in this manner until the Oregon Territorial Government was organized in 1848. In one of the greatest colonizing efforts in U.S. history, Congress passed the Donation Land Act in 1850 granting 320-acre parcels in the Oregon Territory to single men who:

(1) were white, including "American half-breed Indians;"

(2) were eighteen years of age by the following December first;

(3) were either residents of the territory or about to become such by the cutoff date;

(4) had cultivated their claims and lived upon them for four years; and

(5) were either United States citizens or about to file their intentions to become such by December 1, 1851 (Head 1971:20).
Married men would be granted 640 acres, half of which was held by their wives. The law further allowed settlers already in residence in Oregon to make a claim on the land they currently occupied. This section of the act was specifically meant to "reward" those who, by settling in Oregon early on, had displayed patriotism in helping the U.S. acquire possession of the territory over Britain.

Land in the Turner vicinity was taken up under the provisional land law as early as 1843. The first family to settle in the Turner area was Daniel and Elizabeth Delaney and their sons William, James, Daniel (Jr.), David, and George (Steeves 1927:13-15; GLO n.d.). The Delaneys were originally from Tennessee, the owners of a good-sized plantation and a number of slaves. Elizabeth Delaney was sickly, and Daniel felt that the change in climate would cure her infirmity. Oregon held numerous opportunities for his sons as well, so the family joined the spring 1843 wagon train headed by Dr. Marcus Whitman and arrived to stake their Turner claim six months later. David and George took up land claims adjacent to their parents to the south and southwest of the present City of Turner. The elder Daniel was killed during a robbery at home in 1864 just three months after receiving title to the family's donation claim farm (GLO n.d.; Marion County 1985[1]:62; Steeves 1927:19).

When the government cadastral surveyors moved through the Turner area, they encountered a landscape of "oak and fir openings" historically maintained as such by the Kalapuya Indians' occasional burning of the prairie (Ives and Freeman 1851-52; Towle 1979; Figure 2). Within one mile of the present city limits of Turner were six families of settlers by 1852: the Mattes to the north, the Blantons to the east, the Frazers to the southeast, the Cannons to the south, the Delaneys to the southwest, and the Herrens to the northwest. The main road south from Salem ran along the east side of Mill Creek and through the west side of Turner. This road closely followed present-day 5th Street. The portion of 5th Street between Turner's City Park and Mill Creek may well be a remnant of the original 1850s road.

The present corporate limits of the City of Turner cover portions of four donation land claims: (1) the George W. and Julia Taylor DLC at the north end of town, (2) the Charles and Harriet Riches DLC which included the area where Franzen Reservoir is now located and the portion of town between Delaney Road and Fir Street, (3) a small section of the Isaac and Mary Blanton DLC where Turner Elementary School and the Tabernacle are located, and (4) the Lewis and Mary Cannon DLC comprising the original commercial, industrial, and early residential parts of town from Delaney Road south. The Riches family, who settled in Turner in 1855, are the

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2One of these slaves, a young woman by the name of Rachel Belden, traveled overland with them to Oregon. This woman was purportedly the "first negro woman brought to Marion County, Oregon" and apparently was set free at the end of the Civil War (Steeves 1927:14).
Figure 2. Cadastral survey plat of the Turner vicinity in T8S, R2W (Ives and Freeman 1851-52; black dot shows the approximate location of the present City of Turner).
only original settlement family who remained in the Turner area throughout the historic period.

The Euroamerican settlers of the 1840s and 1850s in the Turner area relied upon one another for social needs and spiritual inspiration to help them cope with the isolation of a new territory. As early as 1849, settlers in the Turner vicinity were visited by Reverend Ezra Fisher, one of Oregon's pioneer Baptist missionaries, on his circuit rides through Marion County. Talk of establishing a church meeting house to serve the farming community became reality by August 1850 when the Shiloh Baptist Church was organized (Fisher 1916:286-87). A small log building was soon constructed, and Reverend Fisher accepted the assignment to preach to the rural congregation in 1852:

[I] hastened to the place of my appointment twelve miles up Mill creek through one of the most delightful prairies and surrounded by one of the most picturesque sceneries in North America, if not in the world. In this valley, about two and a half miles from the North Fork of the Santiam and six miles east from the Willamette, is a log school house, about 20 by 22 feet, where the Shiloh church meet to worship... The church consists of 12 members, and pays $100 for the preached work one Sabbath each month. Their position is good. The members of the church, although a few, are among the most substantial citizens and sustain a Sabbath school, yet are surrounded by Methodist, Campbellites, Anti-missionary Baptists and unbelievers (Fisher 1916:463).

Reverend Fisher, an obviously staunch Baptist, was instrumental in the development of the church in Turner. He continued to visit the congregation through 1855 even after Shiloh Church was taken over by Reverend William M. Davis, a native of Indiana, in 1853 (Fisher 1918:351-72, 1919:133). The Baptists remained active in Turner for over 50 years.

The need for a child's formal education beyond what could be taught on the family farm was also important to early Turner settlers. The first school to officially provide this outlet for education was established in 1857 on the William and Elizabeth Baker homestead north of Turner (Riches 1933:62). The Baker School solely served the community for four years before another school was built southeast of Turner on the Witzel farm.

Farming and stock raising were the principal occupations of settlement-era families in the Turner vicinity. Cattle and sheep were both grazed on the lush prairies of the Willamette Valley, and wool was a greatly prized commodity for the settlers. By 1850 small water-powered mills (saw, grist, and carding and spinning operations) were being erected to serve local farmers' needs. Soon after, the Willamette Manufacturing Company woolen mills in Salem devised a plan to divert water from the North Santiam River at the site of present day Stayton. A canal was constructed
to connect the river with Mill Creek in 1856 to transport water to the Salem mills, the same Mill Creek that runs through the present site of Turner (Carey 1971:661; Siegmund-Jones 1955:24-25).

The most popular farm crops planted in the Willamette Valley during the early settlement period were spring and winter wheat, potatoes, oats, peas, and beans as well as apples, pears, and peaches (Gibson 1985:142-43). Much experimentation in agriculture took place during this time, and resident farmers quickly discovered what crops were best suited to the climate and soils of the region. Wheat and oats in particular proved to be the most productive in the Turner area. The great success of wheat farming led Henry L. Turner and his son-in-law Amos Davis to erect a flour mill during the early 1860s on Turner's donation land claim just east of Turner at the present site of Aumsville. Henry L. and Judith (Sharp) Turner, their sons George and Louis and daughter Cornelia (Turner) Davis, arrived in Oregon during 1852. Turner had already made a name for himself as an expert millwright shortly after settling in the Willamette Valley. During the early 1850s, he partnered with William McKinney in constructing a grist mill at the site of Scio in northern Linn County which marked the beginning of that town (Steeves 1927:141-42; McArthur 1974:652). McKinney abandoned the Scio business in 1860 and relocated his family to the Turner area. Henry Turner and his family followed the McKinney's north a few years later, built another flour mill, and established the town of Aumsville (McArthur 1974:29).

With the advent of milling facilities and increasing agricultural production as more settlers took up land claims and began farming in the area, the U.S. Department of Agriculture requested that an Agricultural Board be organized in Marion County in 1864 to report on production and exports of crops (Newsom 1972:131). Henry Turner, already well known for his success in the area's milling industry, was appointed to the Board's Committee on Agriculture, Fields, and Orchards. As a result of prosperous farming and a burgeoning market for flour and produce, many of the donation land claimants in the Turner area were financially able to make the necessary improvements on their land claims and were thus granted title to their farms between 1859 and 1866.

**Railroads and Industrial Growth (1871-1883)**

The California and Oregon Railroad Company, incorporated in 1865, was the first organization to develop a rail line from Portland to California in the second half of the 19th century (Southern Pacific 1955:26). The endeavor, called the Shasta Route project, made possible the link between the Willamette Valley and markets to the south. The route was somewhat disputed as to whether it should travel down the west side of the Willamette River or the east side. Two rival groups were formed under the
auspices of the Oregon Central Railroad Company, one favoring west side building, led by Joseph Gaston of Portland, and the other, the east side, headed by Simon Elliott of California (Winther 1950:259). Elliott formed a partnership with Ben Holladay, a prominent stagecoach baron, and the "East Side Company" was reorganized in 1870 as the Oregon and California Railroad Company. Holladay persuaded the West Siders to merge with the O&C Railroad and thus proceeded to open the railroad route from Portland south. The tracks reached Turner in 1871. A station was planned by the railroad company to be erected at the present location of the City of Turner. This station, however, was erroneously built several miles to the south of the O&C's officially designated location:

When the railroad was built through this part of the state the officials shipped a load of construction material to the present site of Turner, with instructions to build a station and warehouse to be known as Marion. A man in charge of the shipment unloaded it at the wrong place and built a station six miles farther south which was called Marion and is in the present location of the station of that name. When the railroad officials discovered the material had been sent to the wrong place they sent a new consignment to the place originally intended to be called Marion, and after building a station named it Turner, for Henry L. Turner, a well-known pioneer resident of this vicinity (McArthur 1974:743).

Henry Turner, so honored, took advantage of the opportunity to record a town plat at the site of the rail station on March 9, 1871 (Marion County n.d.[1]:9). The original plat (Figure 3) contained 18 blocks (10 on the east side of the railroad depot grounds and eight on the west side), east-west running streets identified as A through G (north to south), and north-south running streets as 1st through 5th (east to west).

The town rapidly expanded with the railroad, and mills and grain warehouses sprang up along the depot grounds in the first few years of Turner's founding. An open mill race was constructed through town between two meanders of Mill Creek from the southeast end of town along F Street, north along 2nd Street, west along D Street, and north along 3rd Street. The mill race turned to the northwest at B Street and emptied back into Mill Creek. A small commercial district also developed along 3rd Street parallel to the railroad, and a new school was constructed in town during

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3After much financial turmoil, the Southern Pacific Company acquired the floundering O&C Railroad in 1887 as construction pushed through California.

4Henry Turner died not long after the town was platted and is buried in the Twin Oaks Cemetery on Witzel Road northeast of Turner.
Figure 3. Original plat of Turner, 1871.
1871⁵ (Riches 1933:62). A mercantile store known as McKinney, Son & Darby was founded by William and Edwin E. McKinney in partnership with William H.H. Darby (Steeves 1927:142). William McKinney had earlier established a store with Darby in nearby Aumsville during the 1860s prior to setting up business in Turner. This establishment was followed by the opening of a drugstore, a blacksmith, and a shoemaker's shop.

By 1878 Turner's population had reached 70. A flour mill and two large granaries were the dominant industrial features of the town⁶ (Black 1942:49). Two more plats were added to Turner in 1878: Western Addition, including six blocks along 5th and 6th streets from Mill Creek south, and Turner Addition north of Mill Creek, west of the railroad tracks, and south of old Battle Creek Road, now known as Delaney Road (Marion County n.d.[1]:59).

Donation claim lands surrounding Turner continued to be patented during the 1870s, but the majority of the original DLC families in the Turner area had already sold their holdings by 1878 (Williams 1878; Figure 4). Interestingly, few of Turner's original settlement families of the 1840s and 1850s remained in the area for more than one generation.

Churches were also established shortly after the founding of Turner. The Baptists, already with a long history in the area, erected Turner's first house of worship, the Union Baptist Church, during 1877 (Riches 1933:64). The building also served the Presbyterian, Methodist, and United Brethren denominations until these respective church structures were constructed.

The decade of the 1870s through the early 1880s was a time for development of the first fraternal organizations in Turner as well. The International Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F. Fidelity Lodge No. 30) was organized in 1872 followed by the Masons (A.F.&A.M. Pearl Lodge No. 66) in 1875 (Riches 1933:65). These two groups set the foundation for the organization of other fraternal movements in Turner during the Progressive Era.

⁵Though extremely altered, this building still stands on the northeast corner of 2nd and Elgin streets and is used as a dwelling.

⁶Sarah Steeves notes in her biographical work on Marion County Pioneers that a "Mr. Cockerline, of Turner Mills" purchased mill burrs for a grist operation in Turner from William McKinney "about 1872" (Steeves 1927:141). Well known Oregon historian Leslie Scott has written that "William Reid came to the Willamette Valley in 1874 from Dundee, Scotland and built a flour mill at Turner" (Scott 1919:147). This is the same William Reid who later went on to organize banks in both Salem and Portland.
Figure 4. Land ownership surrounding the town of Turner, 1878 (Williams 1878).
The Progressive Era (1884-1913)

Near the end of the 19th century the nation moved into a political period instigated by the Republican party focused on "protecting morality and pursuing progress" (Worster 1994:22; Mowry 1958). In Turner, this "Progressive Era" marked a 30-year period when the community acted against social and moral ills through local government and the church. It was an important time for developing commercial, political, and social aspects of Turner's community. The year 1885 denoted a key point in the history of religious institutions in Turner—the date of the establishment of the annual Oregon State Camp Meeting of Disciples of Christ. Supported by the Oregon Christian Missionary Convention, the Christian camp meeting was formerly held in Rickreall and Dallas in Polk County during the 1870s but was terminated in 1877 pending more formal organization (Dornhecker 1985:1). The Missionary Convention decided to revive the camp meeting, and chose Turner as the permanent location for the camp grounds. The Judith Turner family donated acreage on the bank of Mill Creek at the southeast edge of town, and the construction of shelters commenced:

The camp-ground is the gift of Sister [Judith] Turner, and is located in a beautiful grove of oak, fir and pine, on the bank of Mill creek, about one-quarter a mile from the village. The surface is covered with fine gravel so that it is never dusty or muddy. There is something like five acres of land, inclosed [sic] by a good fence, opening upon the public road by two large gates.

There has not yet been any permanent building erected for the meetings, but an arbor covered with lumber and fir boughs and seated for probably 800 people. A suitable building will probably be erected before the meeting next year. A few lumber houses have been built in a line on the south side of the grounds, for the convenience of families camping on the grounds. But the main body of campers occupy cloth tents, and make themselves very comfortable and happy during their stay on the grounds (Dornhecker 1985:3).

After Judith Turner died, George, Louis, and Cornelia, signed an agreement with the Oregon State Board (Oregon Christian Missionary Convention) to hold the state Christian Church convention at Turner for a period of 99 years (Sidwell and Sidwell 1971). The family had an imposing 110-foot by 160-foot tabernacle erected in 1891 on the camp meeting grounds to house the convention and as a tribute to their parents (Figure 5). The state meeting has been held every summer on the grounds at Turner and continues as a tradition today.

Expanding agricultural production helped Turner grow during the 1880s and 1890s (Figure 6). The Turner Surprise Grange was formed in 1889 and became known as "one of the oldest and [most] influential in the state" (Riches 1933:65). Between 1896 and 1902 the number of farmers in Turner listed in the city directories jumped from
Figure 5. Turner Memorial Tabernacle, erected by the Turner family, shortly after it was constructed in 1891 (OrHi Neg. 39024).

Figure 6. Sketch of Turner, c. 1880s, showing commercial and industrial development along the Oregon & California Railroad (OrHi Neg. 44305).
13 to 62 (Polk 1896, 1902). The railroad regularly shipped out grain, flour, hops, and produce from the surrounding farms around the town, and Turner’s warehouses were full. Wheat remained the staple crop, but other crops were being grown experimentally. Hops were an important agricultural product to Turner farmers until the early 1900s and were the primary crop of the Cook, Hunsaker, and Dickinson families who lived south of town (Polk 1891, 1893; Williams 1878). Hamilton Riches, son of early Turner area residents Charles and Harriet Riches, was involved in fruit growing during 1891, an industry that was to expand greatly in the following decades. Livestock raising and dealing was a notable business for some rural residents, including Edwin and John McKinney, who also managed one of Turner’s early grain warehouses.

Turner had grown to a population of 300 by 1891. Among the businesses that sprang up along 3rd Street paralleling the railroad were a blacksmith shop, two hardware shops, a drug store, three dry goods stores, and a saloon. Elsewhere in town were Parker Brothers livery stable, a wagonry, two booteries, two barbers, Dettweiler’s meat market, two boarding houses, and the Exchange Hotel. The Oregon Milling Company flour mill and grain warehouse, the McKinney warehouse and grain elevator, and the Turner (Red) Star flour mill were located along the east side of the railroad tracks. Turner also supported four churches by 1891 (Baptist, Christian, Methodist, and Presbyterian), and a public school. The Odd Fellows and Masons were joined by the Rebekahs in 1900 (Riches 1933:65). Both Western Union telegraph and the Wells Fargo stage line served the community.

During the 1890s Turner was advertised in the Marion County directories as possessing all the amenities of a market center with upstanding religious, scholastic, and service-oriented institutions:

This town is located on the main line of the Southern Pacific Company, eight miles south of Salem . . . Two flour mills utilize the power of Mill Creek, which flows through Turner. The place also contains Baptist, Christian, Methodist and Presbyterian churches, a good hotel, a commodious opera house, a well drilled brass band, a grain warehouse and a thoroughly equipped school. The Masons and the Odd Fellows are represented here by lodges . . . Iron ore abounds in the vicinity but is not as yet developed. The land here, bordering on the foothills of Waldo hills on the east and Salem hills on the west, is a rich loam and very productive. Daily stages to Aumsville, Stayton and Mehama. Express, Wells Fargo & Co. telegraph, Western Union. Mail daily (Polk 1893).

Of interest during this period of busy rail transport, the Southern Pacific Railroad employed six Japanese men as laborers who resided in Turner during 1900 according to census records. None had been in the country more than a few years, all were single, and the six were 18 to 19 years old. Their tenure in Turner obviously was not long-lasting, since they are not listed in the 1910 census.
Though the railroad depot served as the post office for townspeople during Turner’s early days, the area’s rural residents were required to journey into town for their mail. Roads were not in the best condition before the early 1900s, and a trip into Turner was an all-day affair. Marion County was on the cutting edge of creating rural postal routes for farmers, and the state’s first Rural Free Delivery was initiated in Turner in 1897 (Sidwell and Sidwell 1971; Stayton Mail 1/19/1922). Three separate routes were laid out and traveled by Turner’s R.F.D. carriers Fred Gunning, George Judd, and Philip Pearson. Route 1, Box 1 was located at the Daniel Delaney, Sr. home.

The community’s "well drilled brass band" was none other than the Turner Coronet Band. The band was most active during the 1890s and furnished entertainment for a number of social and political events, including picnics and parades, throughout Marion County (Turner Coronet Band 1890-97). The group built their own octagon band stand for public playing in Turner on the west side of the mill race between C and D streets which stood until the early 1900s. The structure was later moved to the south end of 3rd Street where Burkland Lumber Company is situated.

By the turn of the century, Turner’s population had hit 400. In addition to flour mills and grain warehouses, the community offered three hostelries (the Exchange Hotel, the White House Hotel, and Isaac Small’s boarding house), three dry goods and general merchandise stores (Ransom & Son, Wittschen’s, Shank’s), a hardware store and tin shop (Henry Earl’s), a drug store (Cornelius’s), a combination restaurant and notions shop (Matteson & Matteson), a confectionery (Underwood’s), a meat market (Dettweiler Brothers), a livery stable (McFarlane’s Exchange), two blacksmith shops (Neal Brothers and John Murphy’s), a number of carpenters (Milo and Ezra Knight, Gilbert Loftiss, Samuel Cocker, and Alexander and Jesse Potter), a shoemaker, dressmakers (including Alice Riches), and two physicians (Dr. John Ransom and Dr. William M. Smith) (Polk 1896, 1902; Figure 7). George Turner sold real estate. The town even had a resident county surveyor, B.B. Herrick. Turner had taken on a tidy village appearance.

The City of Turner was incorporated in 1905, and publicly-funded civic improvements were planned. The first city council meeting was held on June 3 with John Watson presiding as mayor, Frank Robertson, city recorder, and councilmen B.B. Herrick, Edward Martin, Dr. John Ransom, and Isaac Small (Turner 1905:1). The council’s first order of business was to set up a number of committees to manage the city: ways and means, licenses, streets and sidewalks, fire protection, finance, and nuisances. James Edmund Mathias was appointed Turner’s first city marshal and street commissioner. Within the first year of Turner’s incorporation, the city council recognized the dire need for city improvements but had no tax base from which to draw to finance the work: "certain sidewalks were in a dangerous and bad condition . . . [but] owing to the depleted condition of the treasury nothing in the line of street
Figure 7. Sanborn fire insurance map of Turner showing core development of the town in 1898.
work could be done at this time" (Turner 1905:3). Therefore, actions were taken to establish a poll tax of $3.00 per citizen for road work.

Six ordinances were passed by city council during 1905, five of which were put into effect by the end of June. The first two ordinances introduced were "to abate a nuisance [sic]" and "to regulate hauling and draying within corporate limits." These were followed by the unlawful jumping onto trains and the licensing of businesses and sale of liquor. According to city council minutes, applications for saloon licenses were requested by J.H. Gantenbein, M.V. Stutesman, and J.W. Merrifield in November 1905.8 Ordinances in 1906 were focused on providing sidewalks, improving streets, and levying taxes for the city treasury.

Turner continued to grow between 1907 and 1913. Lewis Turner and his sister Cornelia Davis recorded a new plat, "East Addition to Turner, Oregon," in 1911 consisting of three blocks between C and D street east of 1st Street. Henry Earl's hardware and Oliver Cornelius's drug store, both well established in the early 1890s, were successful businesses. Milo Knight built a sawmill which expanded his long-standing carpentry and contracting business. The Turner State Bank was founded in 1910, and a number of new businesses sprang up including the Bones Brothers blacksmith and farm implement shop, Edward Martin's general store, the Robertson & Read general store, the Jeans & Wagner meat market, and the Hotel Baker (Figures 8 and 9).

Changes also took place in the ownership and management of Turner's flour mills and grain warehouses during the early 1900s. The Robertson brothers ceased operating the Red Star Mill, and the Turner Flouring Mills (formerly owned by John Hallinan's Oregon Milling Company) were taken over by Balfour Guthrie & Company by 1911 (Polk 1907, 1911). The Interior Warehouse Company, an affiliate of Balfour Guthrie, took command of Turner's grain storage by 1911.

Agriculture and stock raising were at an all-time peak between 1902 and 1911 (Table 1). Two poultry farmers were listed in the 1902 directory, and the first

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8It is not known if any of these individuals were awarded liquor licenses or actually set up business in Turner. If they did, their operations were short-lived since none of them are listed in the 1910 census. The establishment of saloons did not seem to be a favorable venture in Turner, considering the number of church-related properties built in the town early on and the pious nature of the community. Ina Riches notes in her 1933 manuscript on the history of Turner: "Perhaps it would be news to the people of Turner that the city once had a saloon, but it soon passed out of existence" (Riches 1933:66). The 1907 city directory notes that John Watkins owned a saloon during that year, but this business was not listed in the 1911 directory.
Figure 8. Hotel Baker (formerly the Exchange Hotel) on the southeast corner of 3rd and D streets during the 1910s. The Turner Coronet Band's bandstand is shown in its second location at the far right (OrHi Neg. 18559).

Figure 9. Turner's commercial district and mill race along 3rd Street, 1910s (OrHi Neg. 18555).
advertised dairy is noted in 1907. The Portland Pure Milk & Cream Company constructed a cream separating plant in Turner by 1911.

A move to install telephone service and an electric power plant was underway by early 1911. Electricity was provided by the Turner Light & Power Company’s plant installed in the Turner Flouring Mills, and lights were ordered by city council to be erected along certain streets (Turner 1911:92-96, 104; Figure 10). Street improvements continued through the early 1910s, including bridge-building over Mill Creek. By the end of the Progressive Era, Turner had begun to plan for a citywide water distribution system, a topic that would be the focus of city council for the next 30 years.

Table 1. Agricultural pursuits listed in county directories 1891-1940 (Turner, Oregon).

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⁹Although lumber sawyers were listed in the 1891 and 1893 directories, an actual saw mill was not. The first instance a saw mill is noted in the directory is in 1907.
The Motor Age (1914-1940)

The Motor Age was a period in Turner's history that made a tremendous impact on the social and economic development of the community. Both the dairy and lumber industries boomed. Agriculture had expanded to include a burgeoning fruit industry as well as the growing of prunes, oats, and potatoes (Oregon 1914:224-25). The grain mills continued to process flour to be shipped out by rail. The flax industry came into maturity during this time period and became the focus of industrial endeavors in Turner. Sixty-one ordinances were passed into law by city council between 1914 and 1940, the majority being passed during the mid-1910s. A city-wide water system was installed, and efforts to improve sanitation within the city limits were undertaken. A new high school and public library/museum/art gallery were constructed as well as a boys home which later became the Turner Memorial Home for retired Christians. Town citizens established a number of fraternal and social organizations, including a community club. Churches in town expanded. The Turner family, in their lifelong pursuit to provide for the city's Christian congregation, financed the construction of a new Christian Church. As automobiles became popular, auto dealerships and service stations made their appearance in town. The automobile
also was partly responsible for the dramatic changes to the urban landscape of Turner which began to take place at the end of the Motor Age.

Businesses in Turner continued to grow during the Motor Age. By 1915, a number of new businesses were established. Albers Brothers Milling Company took over the old E.E. McKinney flour mill and elevator, and Turner Lumber Company was established (Polk 1915). Turner State Bank president Robert D. Gray purchased the Turner Flouring Mills and the Turner Light & Power Company from Balfour Guthrie & Company and reorganized as R.D. Gray & Company in 1915. Gray then established the Oregon Grain Company in 1917. This mill was first operated by Henry Thiessen and William McCaleb, then by Lee Thiessen in 1930. The Albers Mill was eventually purchased by Oregon Grain Company in 1923 (Turner 1923:158).

W.A. Martin took over the lumber mill by 1917 and operated the business until about 1936 as Martin Lumber Company (1917-27) and the Turner Lumber & Manufacturing Company (1928-36). Clarence Miller, Turner’s mayor in 1924, operated Miller Lumber Company from 1921 through 1924.

Melvin Miller operated a confectionery, cigar, and barber shop on 3rd Street during the 1910s through the early 1920s. Miller sold his business to Donald and Leland Riches who reopened the confectionery as Riches Brothers in 1923 (Turner Tribune 11/29/1923). The old Cornelius Drug Store changed hands in the mid-1920s when Earl Prather purchased the business. By the mid-1920s, Turner was locally advertised as a modern productive agricultural and industrial center with all the necessary places of business and moral civic establishments:

One of the most beautiful spots in all the world is in the Willamette Valley and Turner is in the center of this favored region, eight miles south of Salem, on the Southern Pacific railroad. Here the summers are almost perfect, with no excessive heat, with cool nights and but few thunderstorms. In fact, lightning and thunder are a rarity. The winters are mild. There is one flour mill and one saw mill, two flax mills, one bank, grain warehouses, a cream receiving station, fruit warehouse, good schools and churches. Turner owns its own water works and is lighted by electric lights. Land surrounding Turner is of a rich loam adapted to general farming. During the past few years the fruit industry has developed to a large extent. Of special interest is the fact that Turner is the center of the flax growing area of the State of Oregon (Polk 1924:395).

The flax industry boomed during the mid-1910s. Marion County was said to be the center of flax fiber production in the Pacific Coast, and Turner was one of the

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10 According to city directories, Oregon Grain Company was later referred to as Turner Flour Mills in the 1920s until about 1932 when the business closed (Polk 1930, 1932).
principal flax growing areas in the county (Marion County 1920:37). Flax fiber was grown south of Turner near Jefferson as early as 1876 but did not become a popular venture until the 1910s (Lee 1956:38-39; Benninghoff 1958:5). The Oregon Flax Fiber Company, based out of Salem, established their first plant in 1915 on the grounds of the state prison in Salem, utilizing inmate labor. By 1916, the company was operating a mill in Turner which employed nine people. Five years later, Turner had two flax mills and a retting and scouting plant where Burkland Lumber Company is presently located (Sanborn 1921). The flax industry in Turner continued to be important through the 1930s.

Livestock raising continued to be an important business in the Turner community during the Motor Age. By 1935 there were 47 dairies listed in the directory for the Turner area. The Portland-Damascus Milk Company opened a cream station by 1917 on 3rd Street at the west end of C Street. This receiving station served the local dairy community at least through 1930. Another creamery was opened in town during 1926 (Turner 1926:194). Turner fell into the top ranked dairy district in the U.S., according to the Salem Chamber of Commerce: "Within a radius of 30 miles of Salem, Oregon, there has been produced and developed more world record Jersey cows than in any district in the U.S." (Chamber 1938:27). In 1938, local sheep raisers Eddie and Henry Ahrens whose farm was located north of Turner first organized the Marion County Lamb and Wool Show which was held annually in Turner for nearly 40 years (Sidwell and Sidwell 1971).

As the automobile made its appearance in Turner, businesses sprang up to accommodate this new mode of travel. Martin Nicely was the first garage owner in town, operating his business by 1915 (Polk 1915). Between 1918 and 1920, Emir Ball and his brother Cordell (Lee) Ball opened Ball Brothers Garage on the corner of 2nd and C streets. Competing with them a few blocks to the northwest were Archie and James Bones who operated Bones Brothers Garage and Blacksmiths located in the old Murphy blacksmith shop on the corner of B and 3rd streets. Archie Bones also sold autos. Bones Brothers expanded in 1922 when the old shop was demolished to make way for a modern filling station, display room, and garage (Turner Tribune 5/18/1922).

Ball Brothers Garage was a two-story affair with a dance hall on the second floor. The hall met the needs of the community by providing a common space for dances and concerts during the 1920s. They sold Ford autos in 1921, later switching to Chevrolets by 1928 when they built a new garage one block south of their original place of business (Turner Tribune 8/18/1921, 1/26/1928). Ball Brothers continues to be in the service station business today on the corner of Denver and 2nd Street.

By the mid-1930s, Turner supported four auto repair garage/service stations: Ball Brothers, Neal Dow's service station, Fay Webb's station, and Joe Whitehead's
garage (Polk 1935). Martin Showers opened his garage by 1938 along with Matlock & Williams. Forest Bouchie opened a Texaco station by 1940. Bouchie, Webb, Showers, and Ball Brothers were the only stations operating in Turner during 1940. Today Turner’s service station heritage is represented only by Ball Brothers and a small station built by Albert Jensen in 1949 on the southwest corner of 2nd and Chicago (Albert Jensen, personal communication, 1997).

City-wide street paving began in 1916 and continued through the 1920s down the main thoroughfares through town. The old wooden bridges crossing the mill race and Mill Creek began being replaced in the 1920s with attractive concrete structures (Turner Tribune 9/20/1928, 12/20/1928). Improvements along 3rd Street included giving the mill race channel itself a face-lift by adding a concrete curb and apron and installing wooden flower boxes on the curb (Figure 11).

Figure 11. City improvements to the mill race during the Motor Age included concrete curbs, flower boxes, and the replacement of wooden bridges with concrete spans (photo reproduced from "Centennial Memories" booklet, 1971).
The Sanborn fire insurance maps for Turner show little development of the town's commercial district between 1898 and 1921 (Figure 12). Many of the commercial enterprises were already established by the turn of the century, but infill of business blocks in the city did take place during the early 1900s. Along the 3rd Street commercial corridor the addition of a confectionery, bank, and meat market filled the east side of the block between B and C streets. James Lyle opened a new hardware and furniture store on the north side of C Street on the alley between 2nd and 3rd which remained in business from 1915 through 1924.

One of the single most important events in the history of Turner's urban evolution was the development of a water system. Municipal water development was an agenda item in nearly every city council meeting between December 1913 and February 1916 and was again featured regularly beginning in 1939 when the need arose for updating the system. The first water development for Turner was instigated by the Turner Electric Light & Power Company when it applied for a permit to install a water works for the city using Green Spring 1½ miles west of town as the water source (Turner 1914:145; Stannard 1914). On June 17, 1914 the contract for developing the water system was let to Keeler Brothers of Denver, Colorado (Turner 1914:178). In 1916 a special committee on the water system was formed by city council to record meter readings and collect revenue from users (Turner 1916:264). George W. Moore was appointed the city's first water system commissioner.

This early system served the community for 25 years before it became apparent to city council that the system was wearing out and desperately needed upgrading (Turner 1939:294). In 1940, the council introduced an ordinance "to provide for improvement of the water system of the City of Turner; to provide a proper source of water; to extend, replace and repair the water distribution system; to secure necessary rights-of-way; [and] to purchase necessary supplies and materials" (Turner 1940:20). A $3,000 bond measure was passed which paid for some of the cost of the project. The federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) supplied the manpower to install the new water line that tapped into Salem's line running from the North Santiam River into Franzen Reservoir\(^\text{11}\) located on the hill in east Turner, through Turner, and on into Salem (Albert Jensen, personal communication, 1997; Turner 1940:5-11). An agreement was signed with the Salem Water Commission in January 1941, and Turner's old water works were sold for $360 to Fred Mitchell (Turner 1941:27-31).

\(^{11}\)This reservoir was built in 1935 for the City of Salem. The City of Turner, however, still relied on the Green Spring development for their water.
Figure 12. Sanborn fire insurance map of Turner, 1921, showing Motor Age development in the downtown core area of the city.
A crusade toward public health and bettering the sanitation efforts of the city took place as early as 1919 and continued to be a topic of discussion for city council during the 1920s and 1930s. By order of the city marshal, public quarantine notices were required to be posted if any member of a household was inflicted with a contagious disease (Turner 1920:103). A motion was made during the city council meeting of January 13, 1919 "that no one be allowed to throw slop of any kind in the streets of the City of Turner" (Turner 1919:87). By the early 1920s open toilets and privies within the city limits were required to be replaced by septic systems, and it became unlawful to pollute the environs of the city. Under city ordinance number 70, the regulation of construction and maintenance of "privies, cesspools, water closets, and septic tanks," city law prohibited "any stagnant or impure water or any unsound, putrid or unwholesome substance or any waste or refuse matter . . . to be or remain in such condition as to cause or create a noisome or offensive smell or atmosphere, or thereby to become or create, or cause a public or private nuisance" (Turner 1923:161). Persons violating the ordinance "shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor . . . [and] shall be punished by a fine of not less than five or more than twenty five dollars."

This anti-pollution sentiment continued to be strong in the community during the 1930s. Public clean-up days were designated annually from the 1920s through the end of the 1930s and the editor of the Tribune let it be known that the City of Turner was no dumping ground for garbage:

It is the object of many of the residents of this community of homes to make it a desirable [sic] place in which to live. It can be made such if the right kind of cooperative spirit is used. It will not be a place that will attract visitors if we plant roses in one end of town and dump garbage in the other. From reports it seems that this has been done. Along one block on the main street and around both garages are roses and other flowers which should add to the attractiveness of the town.

On a road leading out of the city to the south there is a garbage dump and most of it in the city limits. This matter should be looked into and if it is continued some means should be devised to put a stop to it. Such practices are blotches on the record of the town and a menace to the public health. Those living within the limits of Turner have the privilege of having their accumulation of trash hauled away once a year and those living on the outside have no business hauling trash into town and dumping it. Let us all work together to make Turner a desireable [sic] place in which to live (Turner Tribune 1/9/1930).

To help put a stop to this unlawful dumping in town, the city of Turner purchased property in 1939 for a public garbage dumping ground "to make Turner a better, cleaner town" (Turner 1939:288).

The inclusion of women in city government began in 1916 when Mrs. S.O. Baker was elected to city council and Ida Lister took over as city recorder (Sidwell and
Sidwell 1971; Turner 1916). Other women city council members included Mrs. H.A. Thiesen in 1921-24, Mrs. W.A. Martin in 1921, and Mrs. L.M. Small in 1924-29. Hallie Endicott served as Turner's first woman mayor in 1940.

The number of Turner's community service organizations grew during the 1920s. The city had seven established lodges: A.F.&A.M. Pearl Lodge No. 66, A.F.&A.M. Order of Eastern Star—Victoria Chapter No. 76, I.O.O.F. Fidelity Lodge No. 36, Ideal Rebekah Lodge No. 223, the W.O.W. Yew Log Camp No. 363, Knights of the Maccabees—Turner Tent No. 42, and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen—Turner Homestead No. 2733. In addition to these fraternal organizations, the Turner Community Club was founded in November 1929 under the presidency of C.A. Bear and vice-presidency of Arthur Edwards for the purpose of banding together the residents of Turner:

to bring the people together under a common body, where there could be a fellowship enjoyed, that would bind the hearts of the people to a love of all man-kind. It hoped to furnish a clean type of entertainment where families could all come and enjoy themselves at a very little expense. There is also a desire to develop talent among the young people and renew the use of talent among the older generation, by giving invitations, to take part in the programs given (Riches 1933:66-69).

The Club met regularly to discuss civic improvements and to offer a source of musical and theatrical entertainment for the residents of Turner.

In addition to these community organizations, the Turner Memorial Home for Boys was established in 1928 and provided its services until 1933. In 1934 the building housing the Boys Home, situated at the east end of town near the school, was taken over by the Turner Memorial Home, founded by Reverend Ellmore Gilstrap and Dr. H.C. Epley. Turner Memorial Home was created by a trust established by Cornelia Davis for aged needy people and retired ministers. The organization was supported by the Davis Estate as well as private contributions (Polk 1938:712; Sidwell and Sidwell 1971). The complex included the former boys home house, a dairy barn, and seven cottages constructed near the Tabernacle on Eden Lane and Eden Circle. During the 1930s and 1940s, the Home was self-sufficient with the help from a small farm on the grounds that Reverend Gilstrap oversaw. Gardens, fruit trees, and dairy cows provided produce and milk for Home residents (Pat Whitfield, personal communication, 1997).

During the Depression Turner lost nearly all of its industrial enterprises, and many institutions and services were closed. Oregon Grain Company, the last of Turner's famous grist mills, ceased operating in 1931-32. Turner State Bank shut its doors in 1933-34, the same time Western Union service ended in town. Turner Lumber & Manufacturing Company ended its long relationship with the community by 1936. The town's newspaper, The Turner Tribune, printed its last news in 1938.
The Turner Power & Light Company ceased to be a locally owned and operated business when it was taken over by Portland General Electric in 1939 (Turner 1939:296). By the time the nation entered World War II, Turner was struggling to retain its identity as a milling and rural commercial center.

Only one business seemed to see through the difficult times of national economic depression. David Skirvin opened Turner Feed Mills in 1933, but the ephemeral company was sold twice within the half-dozen years it remained open (Polk 1932, 1934, 1936, 1938, 1940). Leo and Frank Weddle made a go of the business from 1935 until about 1937 selling "Poultry, Dairy & Molassized Alfalfa Meal" and offering "Custom Grinding & Mixing" (Polk 1936). The Weddles sold to Clifton Dunlap and Wright Ellis who ran the business during 1938-39. By 1940, however, the feed mills had closed.

World War II and the Post-War Era (1941-1950)

On December 8, 1941 city council met during a special emergency session once the word was out about the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor. A proclamation was adopted for the citizens of Turner in response to national security (Turner 1941:41):

The necessity of Citizens of Turner to organize to protect life and property as result of a declared War between the United States and Japan. It is proclaimed that an emergency exists. The Mayor and Common Council of the town of Turner assumes extraordinary powers to enforce regulations for the preservation of life and property. The Citizens of Turner are asked to cooperate fully.

J.S. McKinney, mayor
Forest E. Bouchie, council
Albert Jensen, council
Bert Peebles, council
Charles Standley, Jr., council

Three days later city council passed an ordinance "relating to National Defense, providing for observance of blackouts or other restrictions imposed by civil authorities" (Turner 1941:42). One of these "other restrictions" included making the sale of fireworks during the war unlawful.

The war itself had little effect on Turner. A number of the town's residents were away in the service, but Turner made no other direct contributions to the war effort. Agricultural production in the Turner area, particularly the growing of flax and the processing of the fiber, increased somewhat during the war since oversees trade was temporarily discontinued.
Though the flour and feed mills had ceased operating by the time the nation was involved in war, the lumber industry survived. The single most prominent business in Turner after the Depression was Burkland Lumber Company, established by Bradley, Carl, and Donald Burkland during the early 1940s in the midst of World War II. The family first constructed a sawmill then later erected a planing mill and waste burner in 1947 on the south side of Mill Creek between the railroad tracks and 3rd Street (Turner 1947:95; Pat Whitfield, personal communication, 1997). Burkland Lumber eventually expanded to the south after the planer mill burned in the early 1960s. By the early 1970s, the company was focusing entirely on processed lumber and other types of wood products.

Burkland Lumber Company purchased much of the industrial and commercial property along the railroad tracks and 3rd Street south of Mill Creek in the 1970s and 1980s. The company filled in the mill race in stages over a period of 25 years and the commercial blocks leveled to make way for new development that never materialized. Turner was on its way to becoming a company town until the lumber industry ran into troubled times during the 1980s. The Burkland family no longer resides in Turner, but the mill is still operating at a reduced level. Though the expansion of the lumber company was responsible for transforming Turner’s early commercial and industrial landscape to what is viewed today, the family also recently contributed to the community’s urban landscape by constructing the Burkland Swimming Pool and donating land for a city park on Boise Street between 2nd and 3rd.

The City of Turner was transformed after World War II, both economically and in a physical sense. The oldest of Turner’s buildings had become dilapidated and vacant. This spurred discussion during a city council meeting in 1944 regarding the condemnation proceedings against neglected and run-down buildings. An ordinance was passed "for the prevention of dangerous buildings and structures, defining the same, providing for punishment for maintaining the same, providing for the abatement and removal thereof, and charging the cost of removal or abatement against the property, and declaring an emergency" (Turner 1944:59). The ordinance may have been in part responsible for some demolition of Turner’s historic commercial and residential buildings. However, the ruling was appealed three years later. The ordinance does seem to have been enforced during the years it was on the books, though. City council minutes note in 1945 that the city requested "Mr. Snyder to remove the old building on the corner of 3rd and C" and requested "[Mr.] Robertson to remove the fire-damaged portion of the Odd Fellows Hall on the northeast corner of 3rd and C" (Turner 1945:78).

Many of the original commercial buildings along 3rd Street were still standing during the early 1970s, including Henry Earl’s hardware warehouse (though the hardware store itself was gone), Riches Confectionery, the Cornelius/Prather Drug
Burkland Street market, to nation. Addition (1946) on the east side of Turner (Market) Road north of Delaney (Battle Creek) Road to Garden of Eden Road, Turner Heights (1947) between Mill Creek and Delaney Road east of 2nd Street, and Bower Addition (1948) between the railroad and Turner Road north of Delaney Road. At the extreme north end of town were platted Webb Addition in 1959 and Val View Addition in 1969. A city park was developed in the mid-1960s by the short-lived Turner Improvement Association at the north end of 5th Street between the railroad tracks and Mill Creek.

As Turner moved through the 1950s and 1960s, the city's increasing closeness to Salem transformed the former rural Turner into a bedroom community of Salem. More and more Turner residents were commuting the few miles to work in Salem, and Turner's importance as a commercial and market center fell by the wayside.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES LIKELY TO BE FOUND

No historic resources survey and inventory work has ever been conducted specifically for the City of Turner. In 1976 the State Historic Preservation Office completed the Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings, but no historic resources within the city limits of Turner were identified during that project. No buildings, structures, objects, or sites in Turner are presently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Since a historic preservation ordinance is not in place, the city does not have a local landmarks registry program.

One cultural resources survey was conducted recently for a Marion County bridge replacement project along Delaney Road at Mill Creek just west of the Turner city limits (Toepel et al. 1995). No historic or archaeological resources were located as a result of this work. However, ethnographic studies have shown that the Turner vicinity was within the territory of the Santiam band of the Kalapuya, and prehistoric archaeological sites have been identified elsewhere along Mill Creek (Minor and Toepel 1995; O'Neill 1992; Tomkins 1962-64). Other Native American prehistoric sites may exist within the city limits of Turner.
Historic Resource Types

Industry, agriculture, commercial development, and residential development are the key themes in the historical development of Turner. Unfortunately, none of the major industrial and agricultural features—the flour, flax, and saw mills, grain warehouses and elevators, creameries, electric power plant, mill race, Southern Pacific Railroad depot—currently still stand in town. Few commercial resources exist, and of the six ecclesiastical institutions that once served the community (the early Shiloh Church, the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Christian churches, and the Tabernacle), only the Presbyterian Church and the Turner Memorial Tabernacle remain. Earlier Turner schools have been replaced, though the old high school still stands. The original Turner Memorial Home has been transformed beyond recognition, and the Turner Retirement Homes have expanded into an area where some of Turner's oldest residences once stood.

The Historic Context Themes presented in this study are characterized by certain resource types found within the city limits of Turner. Many of these individual resource types, specifically those pertaining to commercial and urban development and cultural historic context topics, exemplify more than one broad historic theme. Representative resource types for the City of Turner study area potentially include the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Automobile dealer</th>
<th>Mill/flax (site)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridge</td>
<td>Mill/flour (site)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church</td>
<td>Mill/lumber (site)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church/parsonage</td>
<td>Mill related/millrace (site)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church related/camp meeting ground</td>
<td>Mill related/tailrace (site)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church/tabernacle</td>
<td>Natural feature/stream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club</td>
<td>Rail related/depot grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy related/electric substation (site)</td>
<td>Railroad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm site</td>
<td>Retirement home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garage [Auto storage or parking]</td>
<td>Residence (single-family)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas station-Service station</td>
<td>Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional housing</td>
<td>School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Site/archaeological</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting hall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The building trend in Turner historically was based primarily on the vernacular tradition, as exemplified by a number of late-19th century and early 20th-century dwellings which comprise the majority of the remaining historic buildings in town. Conventional architectural styles are represented, however, particularly those popular after the turn of the century (bungalow, 20th century revival styles, modern
commercial, and minimal tract). Wood-frame construction was the most common method employed historically for residential, commercial, and ecclesiastical buildings, although poured concrete and hollow-tile masonry were also used in the construction of buildings from the 1920s on.

The following discussion presents a description of the various resource types that may be encountered during a historic buildings and sites survey of the City of Turner. These resource types are discussed as they relate to the historic themes identified during background research and the development of the historic overview for this context statement.

Settlement/Culture: 19th Century Architecture

Although the present incorporated area of Turner is comprised of portions of four 19th-century donation land claims, no visual cultural remnants of these early agricultural settlements are located within the historic context study area. However, there are a number of pre-1900 houses still standing in the City of Turner that are likely attributed to the Progressive Era of town development. The majority of these dwellings represent vernacular building traditions based on the builder’s perception of certain stylistic notions of the time, trends grounded in Classic Revival, Gothic Revival, and Italianate precedents. Most of the 19th century buildings in Turner could be classified as vernacular with only slight inferences to the common styles of the period.

The railroad through Turner created an exchange of fashion trends and a direct market with major manufacturing centers. It was one factor in determining stylistic criteria for popular domestic architecture in the 19th century. The Queen Anne and Stick styles both disseminated rapidly in part due to the availability of industrially produced structural, cladding, and finish materials through railroad transportation.

It is known through research of county directories that a number of carpenters lived in Turner during the 1890s, indicating that the need for builders was great during this time. These individuals, including Alexander and Jesse Potter, Milo, Ezra, and Samuel Knight, Samuel Crocker, John Welty, and Gilbert Loftiss, are likely responsible for much of the building that took place in Turner at that time (Table 2).

Culture: 20th Century Architecture

The success of agriculture in the area, particularly the flax industry, caused Turner’s population to grow incrementally during the early 20th century. Turner’s business district also catered to the crowds that came to town every summer for the annual camp meeting and Christian convention held at the Tabernacle. Construction
steadily kept up with the population, and there were many carpenters and house builders in town listed in the census records and county directories (Table 2).

Construction may have been given a boost once Milo Knight opened his saw mill in Turner by 1907, and house patterns were likely available through this business. While architectural expression remained consistent with the preceding decade, new styles began coming into fashion. As the English Arts and Crafts movement arrived in the United States, a new architectural idiom using natural materials, hand craftsmanship, and vernacular expression was born. Architecture thus conveyed an entirely new design and continued on its way from garish Victorian styles to a more organic language. The most popular styles arising from this movement were the Bungalow and the Craftsman.

As the nation proceeded into the periods of the Great Depression and World War II, yet another architectural statement rose to popularity. By the 1920s, historic period cottages, offshoots of the Bungalow style, were in fashion. By the mid-1930s, revival styles such as the Norman Farmhouse style brought to the U.S. by Americans who served in rural France (particularly Normandy) during World War I were quite favored. Photos of these modest French houses also were published during the 1920s, and local architects and builders created their own interpretations based on what they saw in magazines.

The Minimal Tract style, the dominant style during and after World War II, first appeared by the mid-1930s and was the continuum of the Bungalow’s evolution. The style reflected economic frugality and traditional form, though with restrained ornamentation.

Transportation & Communication

Turner’s existence as a market center was directly related to the construction of the Oregon & California (Southern Pacific) Railroad through the area in 1871. Thus the theme of Transportation & Communication is key to the initial historical development of the city. Unfortunately, few historic resources dating to the early railroad period exist today that can be classified under this historic theme. The route of the railroad still remains, and though neither passenger nor freight trains stop in Turner, both pass through the city on the original O&C/SP rail corridor. The Turner depot, as the primarily transportation and communication center of town, has long since disappeared, yet the depot grounds shown on the original 1871 town plat are essentially intact today.
Table 2. Carpenters and builders serving Turner and vicinity, 1890-1940.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decade/Name</th>
<th>Known Active Years</th>
<th>Specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Welty</td>
<td>1891-1893</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Potter</td>
<td>1891-1908</td>
<td>house building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milo Knight</td>
<td>1891-1924</td>
<td>house building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ezra Knight</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Knight</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Crocker</td>
<td>1891-1896</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilbert Loftis(s)</td>
<td>1896</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Potter</td>
<td>1896</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Loftis[s]</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>house building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Lake</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>general</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Harris</td>
<td>1900-1921</td>
<td>house and barn building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis Barzee</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>house building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.P. Carey</td>
<td>1907</td>
<td>architect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Alexander Potter)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Milo Knight)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Durfie</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>house building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Porter</td>
<td>1910-1920</td>
<td>general and house building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Hohl</td>
<td>1910-1917</td>
<td>house and barn building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everett Dake</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erastus Cornell</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>house and barn building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Cornell</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>house and barn building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Cornell</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>house and barn building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.R. Besse</td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Milo Knight)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(William Harris)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Mason</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Harris</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>house building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marion Porter</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>carpentry contractor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Foulk</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph McKinney</td>
<td>1926-1938</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Robinson</td>
<td>1926-1935</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Milo Knight)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(William Harris)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Frank Porter)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12William Harris’s son George was a civil engineer for Turner in 1910.
Motor Age historic resources, however, do still exist in Turner. The Ball Brothers Garage and auto dealership remains as one of Turner's few commercial historic resources. Albert Jensen's service station, built in 1949 on the southwest corner of 2nd and Chicago streets, is not quite 50 years of age (the standard age limit of historic properties according to the National Register of Historic Places) but deserves attention for its architecture, integrity, and association with a prominent local individual.

Since Mill Creek randomly meanders through Turner, bridges were a necessity in town historically. Today few historic bridges exist. One in particular, at the southeast edge of town on Mill Creek Road near the Tabernacle, is one of the few lasting examples of 1920s' bridge construction in Turner.

Resources related specifically to Communication are gone in Turner. The buildings housing the Turner Telephone Company, the Turner Tribune newspaper office, and early post offices no longer stand.

Agriculture/Industry & Manufacturing

Although the railroad provided the link to outside markets for Turner, agriculture, the milling industry, and the manufacturing of flour and flax products are what historically caused the City of Turner to grow architecturally and develop economically. The city is still surrounded by farm land and open space, and the visual connection between the city and its outlying farms is still quite evident. Many of the early farms are still intact, and though the principal crop grown in the area has changed
from the historically traditional (wheat, oats, flax, and produce) to grass seed, the setting conveys the area's agricultural roots.

Within the city limits of Turner, resources exemplifying the themes of Agriculture and Industry & Manufacturing are no longer as visible as they were during the historic period. The grain warehouses and elevators, mill buildings, and the mill and tail races that once existed along the railroad tracks north of Burkland Lumber Company are now gone, but historic photographs give a sense of what Turner's industrial area once looked like.

When the dairy industry became prominent during the 1910s through 1930s, facilities were constructed in Turner for cream and milk processing. The building presently housing Turner's City Hall was once part of one of these historic-period dairy operations. Other related resources may exist elsewhere in the city.

Commerce & Urban Development

The commercial district of Turner has largely been demolished with changes in property ownership over the past 20 years. Beginning in the mid-1940s, Burkland Lumber Company eventually purchased the commercial lots along 3rd Street, Turner's principal "main street" during the historic period. As commercial buildings fell vacant and into disrepair, they were removed one by one. Few of the lots were redeveloped at the time. The mill race which once was channeled along the streets of Turner from the southeast edge of the main downtown to the northwest was filled in and paved over. The result is a loss of sense of place for Turner residents. Historic photographs from the early 1900s of 3rd Street portray the central business district as park-like in appearance with a flowing water feature spanned by attractive wooden and concrete bridges and fronting a row of small commercial buildings. Only images remain to remind the community of this once thriving district along 3rd Street.

During the 1940s and 1950s, a few small stores and restaurants sprang up along the main transportation corridors of the city that still stand today (north 3rd Street/Turner Road and in the downtown district). Further investigations into some of these establishments, particularly downtown, may reveal that one or two may be earlier buildings that have been remodeled (Chicago Street Station restaurant may be one of these).

Urban Development in Turner is primarily illustrated by resources that also represent the broad historical theme of Culture. Certain aspects of the development of Turner's residential neighborhoods, church properties, and schools can be comprehended through the examination of the extant domestic and civic historic resources found in the city.
Culture: Education

In researching the history of the City of Turner, it became clear that education was a significant theme in the development of the community. The Turner school system has a long and well-documented history. The first school serving the area's farming district was established as early as 1857, and an educational facility has always been in operation within the city limits since Turner was platted in 1871. Two of the city's schools are still standing in town, although one has been converted to a dwelling. The 1922 Turner High School (presently Turner Elementary School) is the fifth facility to serve the community. The school grounds from earlier facilities are still present in southeast Turner.

Culture: Fraternal Movements, Social/Humanitarian

Social institutions were a vital aspect of the community during the development of the City of Turner. Fraternal organizations provided social networks and companionship for many citizens of Turner. The Turner community organized a number of fraternal groups from the time the town was established through the 1910s. These included the Masons, the Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World, Yeomen, Maccabees, and Rebekahs. One of Turner's oldest surviving buildings is the Masonic Hall, located on the northwest corner of 4th and Chicago streets. Situated on the west side of the railroad tracks, the two-story, wood-frame hall sits in its original location and is the last historic architectural remnant of the city's fraternal organizations.

The Turner Community Club was organized in 1929 to band together the residents of Turner and to provide a social outlet through musical and theatrical programs.

Culture: Religion

Religion was of paramount importance to this community, particularly to the founders of the City of Turner—the Turner family. History reveals that the citizens of Turner held the church with utmost respect and virtue. The founding of four denominational protestant churches during the late 19th century attests to the piouousness of Turner's population.

The Disciples of Christ camp meeting ground and the Turner Memorial Tabernacle are perhaps the most outstanding representations of the historic theme of Religion existing in Turner, if not in the state (Figures 13 and 14). The Presbyterian Church (later known as the Assembly of God Church) and its adjacent parsonage is the last remaining ecclesiastical resource of the four churches once standing in Turner. The Turner Memorial Home, originally established as the Turner Memorial Home for Boys
Figure 13. Later view of the Tabernacle after the Columbus Day storm of 1962 destroyed the east tower (OrHi Coll. 1066-A).

Figure 14. Cottages constructed to house camp meeting participants. These are located behind (to the southwest of) the Tabernacle (OrHi Coll. 1066-A).
in 1928, was converted to a facility for retired ministers and elderly and needy Christians during the mid-1930s by the Turner family. Today, known as Turner Retirement Homes, the facility includes the original 1928 house (now fully enclosed in an expansion of the building that took place during the mid-1970s) and a number of houses and cottages situated on the south side of Mill Creek east of 1st Street and near the Tabernacle.

**Culture: Literature/Fine Arts**

The Turner Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery was erected between 1930 and 1935 just west of the Turner High School. It is now part of Turner Retirement Homes.

The Turner Coronet Band once performed in an octagon bandstand situated on the west side of the mill race between Chicago and Denver streets during the 1890s. The bandstand no longer stands, but its former site is notable.

**Historic Resource Distribution**

The location of possible historic resources tied to specific chronological and historical themes can be predicted using the historic overview section of this context statement. Important periods of development and the characteristic thematic categories have been laid out. Field testing (i.e., survey and inventory) of the predictive model presented in this study will confirm the quantity of historic resources associated with important themes still standing in the City of Turner.

Beyond the boundaries of the original 1871 plat of Turner lie three other platted additions dating to 1878 (Turner Addition and Western Addition) and 1911 (East Addition). The majority of the 19th-century and early 20th-century architectural resources, primarily single-family residences, are likely located within the original platted town area and these additions. Other early outlying farmhouses may also exist outside of the boundaries of old Turner and may be surrounded by more modern development. Three other additions were recorded just after World War II in 1946, 1947, and 1948. Presumably, the majority of residences in these areas (all on the north end of Turner) should date to the Post-War era. Industrial and commercial uses of property in north Turner probably date to this period as well.

**Transportation & Communication** resources are likely to be found along the main travel corridors of town: Turner Road, Delaney Road, 3rd Street, Chicago Street, 2nd Street, and Denver Street/Mill Creek Road. The railroad corridor and Mill Creek are also areas in town that will likely yield historic resources related to this theme.
Downtown Turner will be the center for any historic resources relating to the theme of \textit{Commerce \& Urban Development}. Later 20th century commercial development (1930s-1950s) also took place in the north portion of Turner along Turner Road. Commercial resources dating to the late historic period should be found in this section of town as well.

The undeveloped portions of Turner that remain within the corporate limits of the city may yield historic resources related to \textit{Agriculture}, especially cultivated or grazed fields and other historic landscape features. Barns and dairy facilities may still be visible within this transition area between urban and rural Turner that surrounds the central business district and main residential neighborhoods.

Historic resources representing the theme of \textit{Industry \& Manufacturing} will probably only date to the later historic period and are likely to be located at the outskirts of town. However, Turner’s early industrial heritage that formerly fronted 3rd Street may still remain in the form of archaeological deposits. Local informants indicate that the mill race along 3rd Street and at least one bridge crossing this waterway lie buried but intact (Albert Jensen and Pat Whitfield, personal communication, 1997). The archaeological remains of Turner’s flour mills and early saw mills may also exist in the industrial area of town along the east side of the railroad tracks between Mill Creek and Elgin Street. Both the Red Star Flour Mill and the Martin Lumber Mill were located along the railroad tracks and mill race approximately one-quarter mile northwest of the main downtown industrial area. This would put both mills near Grim Drive and east of 5th Street.

Historic resources representing the broad theme of \textit{Culture} occur throughout the city and were traditionally incorporated within the main residential and commercial sections of town (within the original 1871 town plat and the two 1878 additions to the west). Schools were established in the southeastern corner of the city between School Avenue and Mill Creek. Turner’s religious institutions were concentrated to the east of 3rd Street in the early residential area in the central part of town. Fraternal halls were erected along 3rd Street and 4th Street facing the railroad tracks. The Turner Public Library was located near the school yard.

\textbf{Quantity of Historic Resources}

The quantity of historic resources and how common particular resource types were historically versus today can yield information about the rate at which a resource type is diminishing. This data can then be used to set priorities for preservation efforts. Some types of resources were abundant historically but are now rare. In the City of Turner, these resource types include mills, 19th century architecture (both
residential and commercial), early 20th century commercial architecture, church properties, schools, bridges, and early service stations. Other resource types were rare in Turner historically, such as automobile dealerships, meeting halls, and clubs. Still other resource types were abundant historically and continue to be present today, such as 20th century residential architecture.

In general, the majority of historic resource types that have been identified during this historic context study of the City of Turner are rare. Many of the historic resources remaining in Turner exist in a fragile environment of development pressure within the city. With the coming of a new sewer system, this development pressure will weigh heavily on the remaining vestiges of Turner's architectural history. Historic preservation efforts in the city should focus on the most endangered resources immediately, but also set the stage for the identification and treatment of all historic resources within the city limits.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Upon completing an inventory of historic resources in Turner, each property will be assessed for historical significance and architectural integrity. The evaluation process involves weighing individual resources against the historical broad themes presented in the historic context statement and identifying specific resources that illustrate the historical trends that shaped the City of Turner. The evaluation section of this study can be integrated into a local preservation ordinance to aid in the future identification, assessment, designation, and treatment of historic properties. The data outlined in this evaluation section also can facilitate decision-making pertaining to plans for commercial revitalization or residential rehabilitation.

Significance

The evaluation criteria used for this study were compiled from several examples of evaluation criteria successfully used in other municipalities in the state (see Appendix A). Examples of evaluation criteria were examined and specific criteria chosen that best suited the special conditions of Turner. Other context-specific criteria were developed to supplement that which was borrowed.

The basis for the evaluation criteria closely follows the criteria used for the National Register of Historic Places, although modified to address historic and architectural contexts of Turner. The National Register criteria serve as an accepted model for the assessment and evaluation of historic resources and is endorsed by SHPO. The criteria of the National Register pertains to historic resources (districts,
sites, buildings, structures, and objects) that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

A) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

B) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

C) that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Integrity and Condition

Resources are also evaluated on the basis of integrity, or the intactness of historic form and original construction materials. Accordingly, resources that display a high percentage of original elements and materials are ranked high. Alterations, both historic and contemporary, are examined as to their compatibility. Most historic alterations (for example, changes to exterior siding or windows, shed additions, or reconstructed porches) are reasonably compatible, whereby most contemporary additions are viewed as incompatible mainly because of the materials used in the alteration.

After significance and integrity are assessed, buildings and sites\(^\text{13}\) are evaluated and ranked under the specified criteria for their association with the historic context of the City of Turner. The rankings represent SHPO's system for classifying contributing status in historic districts and are based on a resource's ability to clearly convey its period of development. The ranking system is divided into six categories:

\(^{13}\)The significance and integrity evaluation of historical archaeological sites involves a thorough understanding of archaeological methods and the ability to interpret the cultural data extracted from such sites. Significance is based on the ability of a site to address important research questions relating to the historical development of the City of Turner. Since archaeological programs are generally not incorporated into city planning by nature of their specialization and the expertise required to manage such programs, the evaluation of historical archaeological sites within the City of Turner is not discussed in this Historic Context Statement. Nevertheless, the City should be aware of the potential for archaeological resources in their community.
Primary/Contributing: a property which dates from the primary, or oldest period of development represented in the City of Turner. This primary period in Turner’s history spans from the initial settlement of the area by non-Indians through the period of railroad construction and early industrial growth (1843-1883).

Secondary/Contributing: a property which dates from a subsequent phase of development in the City of Turner’s historic period of significance. The secondary period of significance for Turner is identified as the period spanning from the Progressive Era through the first half of the Motor Age up to the Depression (1884-1930).

Tertiary/Contributing: a property which dates from Turner’s third phase of development, roughly from the Depression through the end of World War II and into the Post-War Era (1931-1950).

Historic/Non-Contributing (in current condition): a property which dates from the City’s historic period of significance but has been altered or remodeled in such a way that it currently does not convey the historic period. Properties in this category have the potential to be reclassified to "Contributing" status if the incongruous alterations are reversed through rehabilitation or restoration.

Compatible/Non-Historic/Non-Contributing: a property which is compatible with the building traditions of the City of Turner (consistent in scale, materials of construction, etc.) but which post-dates the historic period of significance.

Non-Compatible/Non-Contributing: a property which is so substantially altered that its historic character is irretrievable, or a property which is non-historic development that does not conform to the traditional scale, materials, or placement of buildings within the City of Turner.

Significance and integrity must be dealt with individually before a final assessment ranking can take place. A resource may be of high significance historically but altered to such a degree that integrity is lost. This situation would cause the ranking to be lowered. If a resource possesses strong historical associations and high architectural merit, its ranking would be high. Condition is different from integrity in that it addresses the state of repair of a resource rather than the state of unaltered completeness or wholeness of the resource. Condition of a historic property must be carefully considered. For practical reasons, preservation of a historic resource in poor condition could be seen as a low priority.
An important note to this study should be kept in mind by the City of Turner: the survey and inventory process is an ongoing activity that requires revision on a routine basis. It is highly likely that resources will shift from one ranking category to another as time passes. A primary-ranked resource may be destroyed by fire or undergo alterations in the future that would diminish its integrity. Depending on this degree of alteration, a resource’s ranking would lower. Conversely, if a resource is considered contributing at the time of initial survey, and new research efforts find that it is notable for historical associations, or, in the case of a building or structure, if restoration takes place in the future, the ranking might be raised to secondary. In addition, as resources within the study area reach 50 years of age, they should be surveyed, ranked, and added to the City of Turner inventory and SHPO historic resources data base.
Section III

GOALS AND PRIORITIES

The goals outlined in this historic context statement can direct the City of Turner to possible ways in which it can preserve and protect significant historic resources. Although deciding which resources to be preserved for future generations is largely based on a resource’s level of historical significance, a balance must be found in weighing significance against other factors affecting them.

IDENTIFYING OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

A historic context study helps develop a realistic approach to historic preservation planning. Economic constraints, in particular, can make preserving historic resources a challenge. Public support for or opposition against preservation can make or break historic preservation efforts. Thus, a strong public backing of historic preservation is a necessity.

The City of Turner should begin gathering support for preservation by identifying stakeholders, those in the community (or those outside the community with an interest in Turner) who stand to benefit from preserving Turner’s historic resources. This group includes, but certainly is not limited to, Turner Historical Society members, the City of Turner staff (including the Mayor), the Turner Retirement Homes administration and residents, the property managers of Turner Memorial Tabernacle, the Cascade School District administration, business owners, residents and property owners, Marion County Planning, the Marion County Historical Society, Linn County Planning, Oregon Historical Society, and SHPO (Table 3). As other stakeholders are identified through time they will be added to this list.

Threats to preservation in Turner include both direct and indirect threats, including public apathy, political opposition, lack of funds, redevelopment of property, and new development. Few Turner residents attended the first public hearing on historic preservation efforts in the city that was held on May 22, 1997 even though it was widely advertised before the actual meeting. This may be an indicator of public apathy and will mean that the City and its preservation advocates will have to work to garner support for historic preservation projects.
The opportunities for preservation within the City of Turner are numerous. The City is fortunate to have both an interested staff who cares about Turner’s historic resources and an enthusiastic local historical society. Historic preservation projects can be accomplished through local political support and the availability of both public and private funds, including SHPO matching grants and private contributions.

Table 3. Partial list of potential stakeholders in support of historic preservation efforts in Turner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turner Historical Society</td>
<td>(contact: Maria Mitchell, president)</td>
<td>743-2064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Turner</td>
<td>(contact: Chuck Spies, City Administrator; Steve Littrell, Mayor)</td>
<td>743-2155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turner Retirement Homes</td>
<td>(contact: Jerry Carter, administrator)</td>
<td>743-2490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon Christian Convention</td>
<td>(contact: Beverly Fraley, administrator)</td>
<td>743-2101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cascade School District/Turner Elementary School</td>
<td>(contact: Mick Rusk, principal)</td>
<td>743-2104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marion County Planning Division</td>
<td>285 Church St. NE, Rm. 160, Salem, 97301-3670</td>
<td>588-5038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linn County Planning &amp; Building</td>
<td>P.O. Box 100, Albany, 97321</td>
<td>967-3816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Historic Preservation Office</td>
<td>1115 Commercial St. NE, Salem, 97310-1001</td>
<td>378-5001x260</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Preservation efforts within the city can also be assisted through the donation of historical materials and photographs by local businesses and community members. Community members can make a valuable contribution of their memories of historic Turner by participating in an on-going oral history program. Seeking public input can help uncover additional information, can aid in disseminating historical information, and can build historic preservation constituencies.

The City of Turner understands that citizen involvement is key to all phases of the planning process. The City’s Comprehensive Plan fully encourages the interaction of Turner area residents in land use and community development matters (Turner 1993:1-5). The preservation effort needs to be community-based and community-oriented and should not necessarily be limited to the Urban Growth Boundary or city
limits of Turner. The outlying rural area and its residents should be included in Turner's historic preservation program. Turner's preservation program should be a regular agenda item of city council meetings. Communication with the public on historic preservation can be facilitated through posted notices, mailings, the newspaper, community-sponsored preservation events, newsletters, and publications.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The City of Turner's broad mission in establishing a historic preservation program is preserving and protecting the community's significant historic resources. A number of specific goals and objectives in working toward this mission can take place concurrently:

GOAL: Educate the community on historic preservation.

Objectives --establish a heritage education curriculum within the Cascade School District and Turner Elementary School; --offer workshops such as "Rehab Oregon Right" and other education programs. Historic Preservation League of Oregon can lend advice and help organize workshops; --hold public programs using speakers and educational videos.

GOAL: Provide public protection for historic resources.

Objectives --draft a historic context statement for the City of Turner; --draft and activate a historic preservation ordinance; --begin the National Register of Historic Places nomination process for priority historic resources.

GOAL: Establish a survey and inventory program and begin compiling a City of Turner Historic Resources Inventory.

Objectives --prioritize areas of the City to be surveyed; --conduct these surveys; --evaluate the significance of inventoried resources.

GOAL: Locate and secure funding for local preservation efforts (surveys, National Register nominations, rehabilitation and restoration work).
Objectives

GOAL: Objectives
--budget for certain types of historic preservation projects (survey and inventory, for example) using City funds;
--approach foundations and others with grant funds available for historic preservation projects;
--solicit donations and funding from the list of stakeholders when appropriate.

GOAL: Maintain and strengthen the City’s overall historic preservation program as part of long-term planning efforts.

Objectives
--update historic context statement on a regular basis;
--update the City's Historic Resources Inventory on a regular basis;
--continue the effort to raise the consciousness of Turner residents and business owners on historic preservation in the community through on-going education programs and keeping the Turner Historical Society alive.

STRATEGIES

Identifying strategies which will allow the City of Turner to accomplish objectives toward meeting the goal of preserving historic resources for future generations will greatly facilitate historic preservation efforts conducted by the City and the community. Several strategies have been identified by SHPO to give municipalities and interested parties a direction in which to place their energies and efforts toward preservation:

Networking--An interested citizen, member of city staff, or other preservation-minded individual could attend a conference (such as the Governor’s Conference held locally by HPLO or the National Trust for Historic Preservation's annual conference) to exchange new ideas and connect with others with similar preservation-related problems and solutions.

Partnerships--Partnerships can be made between property owners, business organizations, City officials, and Turner Historical Society to work together to identify and register historic properties.

Piggybacking--This strategy involves the distribution of historical facts and preservation programs through publications. Preservation-related materials and information such as Technical Preservation Briefs, National Register Bulletins, educational information, and details on economic benefits can be obtained from SHPO and the Historic Preservation League of Oregon (HPLO).
Volunteers/Interns--The City of Turner can solicit volunteers and student interns from the Cascade School District, Oregon State University (departments of History, Anthropology, Resource Recreation Management), University of Oregon (departments of History, Folklore, Leisure Studies, Architecture, and the Historic Preservation Program), and Chemeketa, Linn-Benton, and Lane community colleges for special preservation-related projects. These volunteers can help conduct surveys, National Register nominations, or other projects such as walking tours, interpretive displays, and oral histories.

Grants--The City of Turner can use planning and clerical staff time to match a SHPO grant for survey and inventory of historic properties. Grants are also available through a number of foundations, including the Fred Meyer Memorial Trust.

Repackaging--The Historic Overview section of this context statement could be repackaged by the City, the Turner Historical Society, or another interested party and published, either through local means or through other associated historical groups (Marion County Historical Society, Oregon Historical Society). This publication could be used as a fundraising tool.

Leveraging--Supportive local businesses and citizens can lend resources (time and/or money) to help ensure a favorable result from the preservation efforts of others in the community. Leveraging can also be obtained through the use of matching grant funds.

Mentoring--The City and the Turner Historical Society can help connect new historic property owners with those who have already rehabilitated or restored their properties.

Modeling--This strategy calls for registering and rehabilitating several key properties in order to demonstrate the value of the process to others in the city.

PRIORITIES

Installing a city sewer system will undoubtedly result in city-wide development pressures. This in turn will bring about dramatic changes to the integrity of the community’s existing historic resources. Historic preservation efforts in the city need to be prioritized to minimize the potential damage or destruction to historic resources that may be approaching. The following steps toward preserving Turner's historic resources should be considered:

1. **Pass an ordinance specific to local historic preservation and integrate it into the City of Turner Comprehensive Plan.** At present, the City Administrator and
City Council are reviewing a Historic Preservation Overlay-District for Turner. This planning measure will be put into effect soon.

2. **Solicit members to voluntarily staff a Local Landmarks Commission.** Members can represent the local business community, property owners, and historical society members. Members can also be solicited from outside of the community who have a background in architecture, engineering, real estate, marketing, or historic preservation. At present, the City of Turner is soliciting Commission members from the Turner Historical Society. Additional seats can be filled through announcing positions in the local city newsletter, local newspaper (*Statesman*), and posting notices around town.

3. **Establish a Local Landmarks registry overseen by the Local Landmarks Commission.** This can be placed in a computer data base format. Paper copies of individual inventory forms for historic resources can be kept on file at City Hall.

4. **Identify key significant properties to be placed on the Local Landmarks register and the National Register of Historic Places and begin the registration process.** Elisabeth Potter, SHPO National Register Coordinator in Salem, can be contacted to provide guidance and information regarding the National Register nomination process. A few of Turner’s more significant resources were noted during the research phase of this project that deserve immediate attention:

   Turner Memorial Tabernacle and Camp Meeting Grounds  
   Masonic Hall  
   Ball Brothers Garage and Dance Hall (old)  
   Ball Brothers Garage (current)

A number of residences in the downtown portion of Turner may also meet the significance criteria developed during this study.

5. **Procure funding for a historic resources survey and inventory of the downtown portion of the City of Turner, including the original plat of Turner, Western Addition, Turner Addition, East Addition, and the Turner Tabernacle property.** Partial funding can be provided for in the City budget. Additional funding can be received through SHPO’s matching grant program. Other funding can be sought through foundations, private donations, or other means outlined in the strategies listed above.
6. **Evaluate inventoried properties for Local Landmark and National Register significance.** The evaluation criteria established as part of this historic context study should be used.

7. **Establish a long-term program for registering historic properties that meet the criteria of the National Register.** Encourage public participation in the nomination process, especially historic property owners.

8. **Continue the survey/inventory and evaluation process for other parts of the City.** Continue to apply for SHPO matching grants for this work.

9. **Establish a historic preservation tourism and development program** through: (a) the construction of heritage markers for significant buildings and sites, (b) developing a walking tour of historic buildings and sites, (c) selling pamphlets and booklets on the history of Turner to raise funds for future preservation projects.

10. **Establish a heritage education program** at Turner Elementary School and other Cascade School District educational facilities. The school district’s administration and faculty can help set up a curriculum with help from SHPO, HPLO, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Offer other local educational events (during National Historic Preservation Week in May, for instance) to heighten historic preservation awareness in the community.

    Although education is listed last on the priority list for preservation efforts in Turner, by no means is this action unimportant. Educating the public is a continuous effort and should go hand-in-hand with any preservation project that the City of Turner may undertake.
Section IV

INTEGRATION

This final section of the historic context statement attempts to coordinate with planning efforts undertaken by other government agencies (Marion County, state, and federal agencies) and local organizations. It is useful to understand what other groups envision in their historic preservation planning so the City of Turner’s efforts do not duplicate planning measures already in effect.

CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER PLANS

No federal government property exists within the Urban Growth Boundary of Turner. Marion County, however, owns certain highway bridges within the city limits that are in the process of being upgraded and/or replaced. When a maintenance project involves a potentially historic bridge structure, the County coordinates with the Cultural Resources team at the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and with SHPO. ODOT prepared a state inventory of historic bridges in 1985 that is in the process of being updated (James Norman, ODOT, personal communication, 1997). The current inventory can be used as a general reference, but inventories, by nature, continuously evolve through time. Certain bridges that were not deemed significant 10 years ago may be significant today and thus should be added to the existing inventory.

The Oregon Christian Convention, owner of the Turner Memorial Tabernacle, has recently drafted a five-year management plan for the grounds and buildings. To date, a maintenance crew has taken care of the repair and upkeep of the property. The organization’s long-range planning committee hired a consultant to compile the document but has not yet implemented the plan. Their planning efforts include investigating the process of National Register listing for the Tabernacle and coordinating historic preservation efforts with the City and the local historical society.

The Turner Retirement Homes administration is currently in the process of creating a master plan for the facility and have organized a long-range planning committee to oversee the project. In the past, maintenance and development has been overseen by the Homes’s Property & Development Committee. Although a full-time maintenance staff has been employed for years, new construction, repairs and alterations, and major maintenance projects have been contracted out on an as-needed
basis. The administration recognizes the need for a comprehensive plan and hopes to have one in effect by the end of September 1997.

CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER CONTEXTS

Two historic context statements have been written that overlap geographically and thematically with the City of Turner Historic Context Statement. In 1989, a statewide agricultural development context was drafted which identified survey and research needs, preservation activities, and goals and priorities for the treatment of historic agricultural resources throughout the state (Speulda 1989). Marion County also had a historic context written which recommended survey and research needs and a number of historic preservation goals and priorities (Koler and Morrison 1990). Some of the recommendations outlined in these studies are suggested recommendations for the City of Turner (see Appendix B).

Historic context work in Linn County, just to the south of Turner, has been undertaken for the Brownsville area only, and a full countywide study has not been completed to date (Gallagher 1990). Linn County does have a substantial inventory, however, and is presently completing a thematic inventory and National Register multiple property nomination for barns (Mary Gallagher, personal communication, 1997). The City of Turner can turn to these preservation planning efforts for ideas about what other types of preservation activities have been accomplished to date and where the City’s plans fit in with county and state preservation programs.

FUTURE RELATED STUDIES

Historic preservation in any community is an on-going process. The goals, priorities, and strategies listed in this historic context will change with time and as preservation sets new courses. Updating this context on a routine basis should be one of the long-term objectives in the City’s overall preservation planning effort.

This historic context study has identified a number of key events and resource types that contributed to the historical development of the City of Turner. The study is meant to be a general overview, and certain historic themes and resource types deserve more intensive study. Of utmost importance to the social development of Turner was the development of churches and church associated properties. An ecclesiastical thematic study of Turner would include a number of these properties, from the Tabernacle and camp meeting grounds to the sites of former church buildings to housing for clergy.
Another thematic study could involve a more in-depth investigation of Turner's long milling history, even though none of the mill structures are still standing. Many of the sites of these mills, however, are still vacant and could be interpreted through a signage program using replicated historic photographs and written historical information.

There has been a move to document the history of the Turner School District by some members of the Turner Historical Society. This should continue and perhaps be extended to involve the school's past and present students, faculty, and administration.

The countryside surrounding Turner was and still is an integral part of the landscape history of the community. A study of the relationship between the rural residents and those living in town could be beneficial to the preservation effort of the City, especially in light of future development pressures as the City's population expands. This project would fit in well with some of the goals and priorities listed in the state agricultural development context statement. Both the City and Marion County would benefit from a proactive joint-effort in inventorying and evaluating significant historic resources in the rural areas just outside of Turner's Urban Growth Boundary.
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APPENDIX A

City of Turner Evaluation Criteria
CITY OF TURNER
HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY EVALUATION CRITERIA

ADDRESS: ________________________________  INVENTORY NUMBER: ________

MAP/TAX LOT #: __________________________ TOTAL SCORE: ________ FINAL RANKING: P S T NC

Numerical ranking:
0 = Does not meet this criterium
1 = Low merit under this criterium
2 = Some merit under this criterium
3 = Average merit under this criterium
4 = High merit under this criterium
5 = Very high merit under this criterium

CRITERIA:

1. Association with a significant local, state, or national historical event

2. Association with persons who have made a significant contribution to local, state, or national history

3. Unique architectural merit: representative of a specific period or style of architecture; method of construction; unusual design or use of building materials/craftsmanship; represents the work of an architect or builder influential to local community or known statewide or nationally

4. Unique historic landscape: presence of original plantings, grounds

5. Rarity: the only or one of few surviving buildings, structures, objects, sites

   rare = 5  some remaining = 3  many remaining = 0

6. Antiquity

   historic period:          ranking:
   1843-70                  5
   1871-83                  4
   1884-1913                3
   1914-40                  2
   1941-50                  1

LEVEL OF INTEGRITY:

HIGH MEDIUM LOW
(virtually intact = 10) (minor modifications = 5) (major modifications = 0)

LANDMARK STATUS:

Evaluator: __________________________ Date: __________________________

Ranking:  (P) Primary/contributing  31-40
           (S) Secondary/contributing  21-30
           (T) Tertiary/contributing  11-20
           (NC) Non-Contributing  0-10
APPENDIX B

Treatment Plans of Related Historic Context Statements:

Marion County (1990)
Oregon Agricultural Development (1989)
TREATMENT

SURVEY AND RESEARCH NEEDS

1. Complete windshield survey in 8-1E sections 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36; 9-2W sections 1-22, 25; all of 9-1W & 1-4E; all of 10s].

2. Complete intensive level survey and inventory for all unincorporated portions.

3. Conduct intensive level survey and inventory of rural historic landscapes throughout unincorporated county.

4. Complete countywide survey and inventory of archaeological resources.

5. Prepare comprehensive Context Statements for broad themes of Agriculture and Commerce/Industry.
GOALS AND PRIORITIES

1. Adopt regulatory measures which provide for designation and protection of resources (including archaeological resources). Minimum protective measures should include creation of a Landmarks Commission with authority to designate landmarks, review alteration and demolition requests for landmarks, and recommend policies for documentation and relocation of properties which cannot be preserved on site.

2. Develop interpretative and educational programs which encourage appreciation of local history, the goals and objectives of preservation and how to rehabilitate in a compatible manner. Encourage public education and interpretation through production of brochures, signage of significant properties, video tapes for classroom use, and workshops for property owners on appropriate rehabilitation techniques. Devote one issue per year of County newsletter to preservation issues. Develop traveling exhibit illustrating findings of the current project as well as future projects. These types of activities are equally important, if not more important, than the regulatory aspects of an effective preservation program.

3. Upon adoption of a program, all significant properties including districts and conservation districts should be considered for designation.

4. Apply for Certified Local Government (CLG) status. (The County may qualify once it has developed appropriate designation and protection policies and procedures). The CLG program is administered by the State Historic Preservation Office and makes available funds which can be used for staff support, financing basic preservation projects such as survey and inventory, and special projects such as development of interpretive materials.

5. Continue to solicit grant monies to carry out survey and inventory work, to complete historic context statements for specific themes, to implement educational and interpretive programs, and to assist in designation of resources.

6. Update survey information on a regular basis by systematically reviewing inventory data with field checks on the status of resources. Such information will assist in analyzing changes in condition between the initial documentation and subsequent updates, and will assist in refining strategies for protection.

7. Incorporate all new or updated information into a computerized data base file. Consistency with SHPO system will expedite review and compliance procedures mandated by state and federal law, as well as National Register of Historic Places nomination review.

8. Support the use of federal tax credits for rehabilitation of income producing National Register properties.

9. Encourage property owners of National Register listed buildings to consider making application for the Oregon Special Assessment Program which allows owners to freeze property taxes for a fifteen year period.

10. Investigate tax abatement or other financial incentives to encourage and assist property owners to preserve and protect their buildings.

11. Distribute information on incentives/benefits of preservation to all property owners of inventoried properties on an annual basis.

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12. Provide planners and other compliance reviewers with information on inventoried properties for use in planning and review procedures for both private and public projects, including but not limited to, EFU special conditions related to historic buildings.
Goals and Priorities:

Survey & Grants:
1) Continue to solicit and sponsor survey and inventory projects which include as part of their research methodology the identification and documentation of agricultural properties.
2) Solicit agricultural historic contexts in topics such as: farming, horticulture, livestock raising, or barns, multi-unit farms, irrigation, ethnic groups, and floriculture.
3) Encourage surveys associated with research needs which would augment the research findings allowing for the in-field verification of predictive strategies.
4) Update survey information on completed counties, by systematically reviewing county-wide survey data with field checks on the status of primary resources. Additional information would thus aid in understanding the integrity threshold of resources and the range of variability of condition between when recorded and when reviewed.
5) Incorporate all new or updated information into the computerized SHPO data base file.

Certified Local Government (CLG):
1) Encourage projects that identify, evaluate, register, and protect significant agricultural resources.
2) Guide CLG's in survey activities relative to the agricultural context.

National Register:
1) Give high priority to listing agricultural properties identified as multi-unit farms to the National Register.
2) Solicit the submission of agricultural property nominations from the prioritized lists, developed from more specific historic contexts.

Review and Compliance:
1) Provide land managers and compliance reviewers with copy of Agriculture Historic Context for use in planning and review procedures.

Planning:
1) Prioritize the agriculturally-oriented resources in with the SHPO work program area to be considered for annual funding, and work items.

Investment Tax Credits:
1) Support the use of federal tax credits for certified rehabilitation of work performed on income-producing agricultural buildings. To date, only one agricultural property has applied for the rehabilitation tax credit.
Special Assessment Program:
1) Continue to offer property tax abatements to owners of agricultural properties listed in the National Register.
2) Out of the 78 listings, 38 are currently under special assessment. Mail information to the 40 property owners defining the benefits of the special assessment program.

Education:
1) Encourage site interpretation.
2) Utilize public speaking engagements, slides, booklets, reports and exhibitions to promote education.
3) Undertake joint projects with state and local museums.