



National Register Nomination Reviews

Staff Presentation
January 27, 2020



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Innovation. Collaboration. Practical Solutions.



About National Register Nomination Reviews

The Historic Landmarks Commission is responsible for making a recommendation to the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation. The recommendation is neither a land use or a final decision. Commissioners are asked to disclose potential conflicts of interest.

Procedure for National Register Reviews:

- Staff presentation
- Public comment
- Commission discussion and recommendation

Commission letter to be sent to State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation by February 17. State Advisory Committee to meet in Portland on February 27-28; Commission testimony is invited.

The National Register Listing Process

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of historic resources. The listing process is intended to evaluate the historic significance and physical integrity of nominated resources. The Historic Landmarks Commission provides comments to the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation. Comments are encouraged to address:

- *Integrity*
- *Description*
- *Significance and context*
- *Facts and sources*
- *Supporting materials*

Although Oregon law requires local governments to apply demolition protections to National Register resources, these regulations are not considered in the federal listing process.

Multiple Property Documentation (MPD)

An MPD is an umbrella National Register document intended to make resources significantly associated within a defined area of history eligible for listing. MPDs elevate and affirm the importance of groupings of resources that may otherwise be overlooked for listing in the National Register.

An MPD does not itself list properties in the National Register, but provides context statements and registration requirements for future nominations.

Other MPDs include *Willamette River Bridges*, *The City Beautiful Movement and Civic Planning*, and *Middle Class Apartment Buildings in East Portland*.

Components of an MPD

MPDs differ from typical National Register nominations in that they address historic significance and physical integrity broadly to capture entire groups of resources. An MPD includes the following sections:

- Historic contexts (including period of significance)
- Associated property types (including registration requirements)
- Identification methods (including summaries of any previous surveys)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form

This form is used for documenting property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (formerly 16B). Complete each item by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-100-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

New Submission Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

African American Resources in Portland, Oregon, from 1865 to 1973

B. Associated Historic Contexts

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

I. Settlement Patterns
II. Business and Employment
III. Journalism
IV. Entertainment and Recreation
V. Benevolent and Fraternal Societies
VI. Religion and Worship
VII. Civil Rights

C. Form Prepared by

Catherine Galbraith with Caitlyn Ewers, Kerrie Franey,
name/title Matthew Davis, and Brandon Spencer-Hartle date December 11, 2019
organization Bosco-Milligan Foundation/Architectural
Heritage Center and City of Portland telephone 503-823-4641
street & number 1900 SW 4th Avenue #7100 email brandon.spencer@portlandoregon.gov
city or town Portland state OR zip code 97201

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation.

(_____. See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature and title of certifying official: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date _____
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government
I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

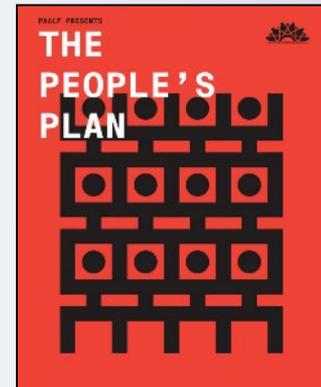
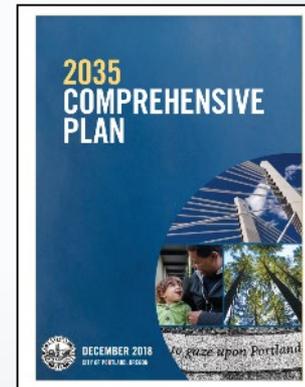
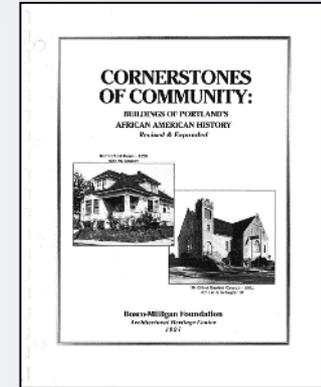
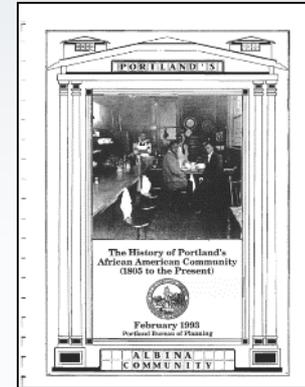
Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

MPD: African American Resources

Local efforts to document and celebrate African American historic places have been ongoing since the 1980s. These include:

- 1984 Portland Historic Resource Inventory
- 1993 *The History of Portland's African American Community*
- 1998 *Cornerstones of Community*
- Various publications and research articles
- National Register nominations for Van Vleet House, Rutherford House, Rinehart Building, and Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church

Portland's *2035 Comprehensive Plan* and the Portland African American Leadership Forum (PAALF) *People's Plan* prioritize advancing equity in City historic preservation efforts.



MPD: African American Resources

The MPD was initiated in 2017 using Certified Local Government grant dollars. The Architectural Heritage Center was contracted to develop the first draft of the MPD.

The MPD was first submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office in 2018. After several rounds of revisions, a final version was submitted in late 2019.

In addition to Cathy Galbraith, Valerie Campbell Connerly, Kimberly Moreland, Dr. Darrell Millner Ph.D., Milo Reed, Holly Chamberlain, Matthew Davis, Caitlyn Ewers, and Kerrie Franey assisted with research, writing, and editing the MPD.

Other African American Resources MPDs:

- Los Angeles, California
- Baltimore, Maryland
- Manhattan, Kansas
- Alexandria, Virginia
- Prince George's County, Maryland
- Helena, Montana
- Wichita, Kansas
- Winston-Salem, North Carolina
- Rosenwald Schools
- Pennsylvania (statewide)

Section E: Historic Contexts

The MPD period of significance spans from 1865-1973 and encompasses the current city boundary. The context statements are organized progressively as follows:

- Historical Background
- Context I: Settlement Patterns
- Context II: Business
- Context III: Journalism
- Context IV: Entertainment and Recreation
- Context V: Benevolent and Fraternal Societies
- Context VI: Religion and Worship
- Context VII: Civil Rights

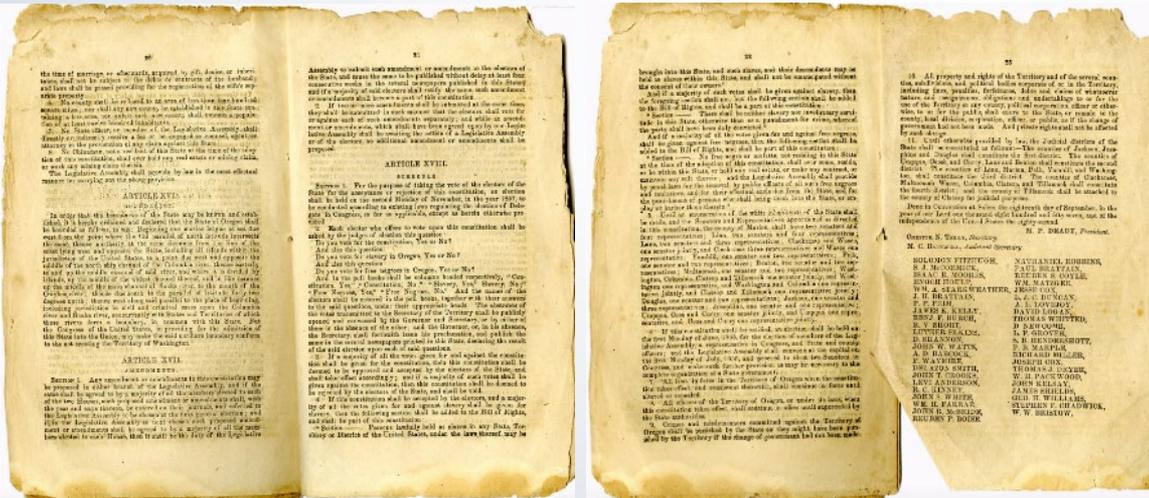
Historical Background



Marcus Lopus, the first unambiguously documented Black person to reach present-day Oregon.

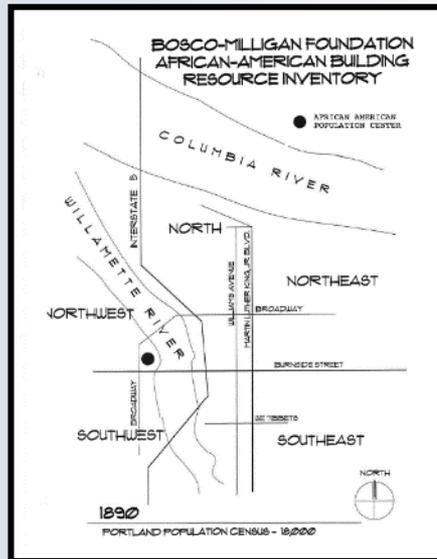


York: Terra Incognita is located at Lewis & Clark College and honors York's contribution to the expedition.

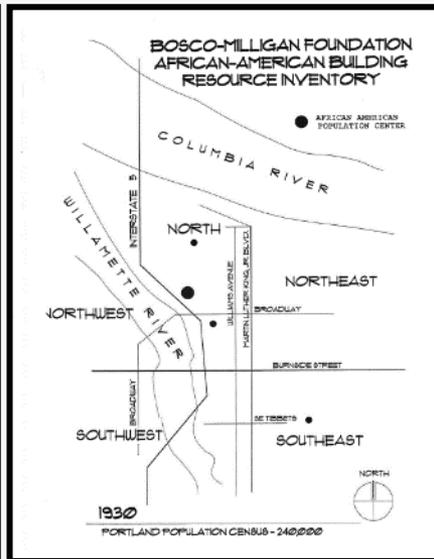


Article XVIII from Oregon's Constitution outlining slavery and exclusion laws.

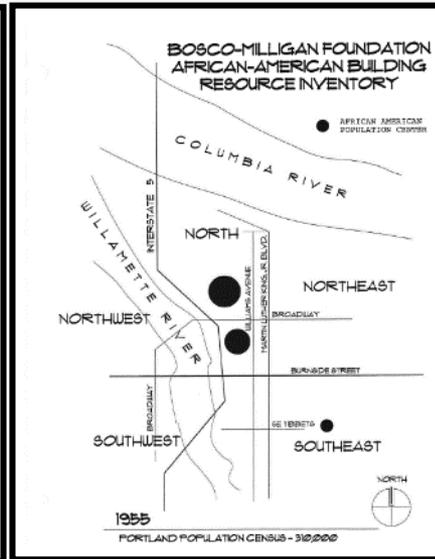
Context I: Settlement Patterns



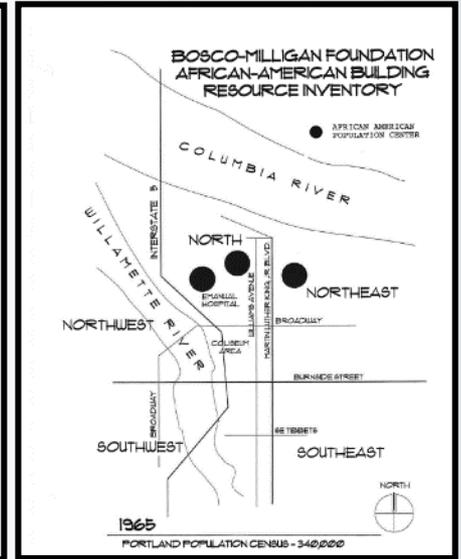
1890



1930

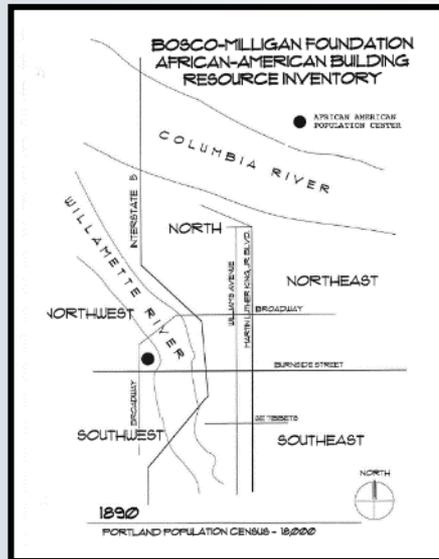


1955

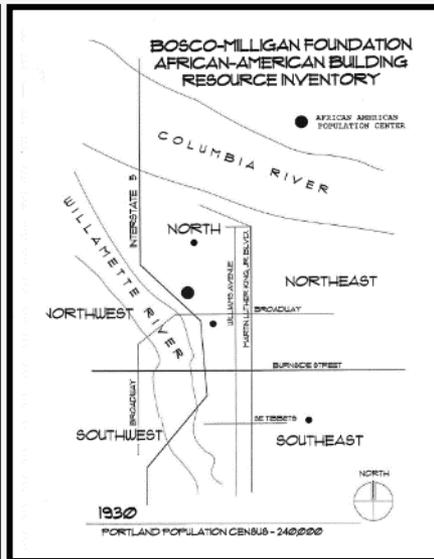


1965

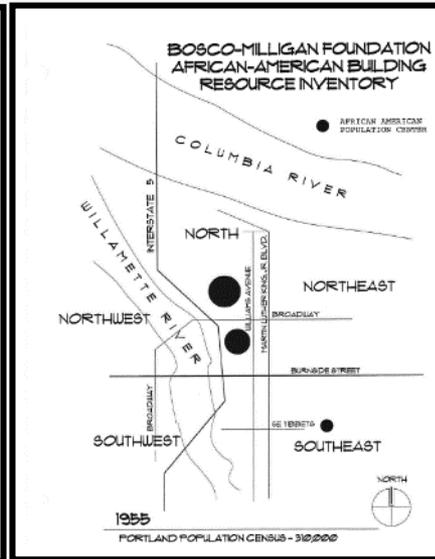
Context I: Settlement Patterns



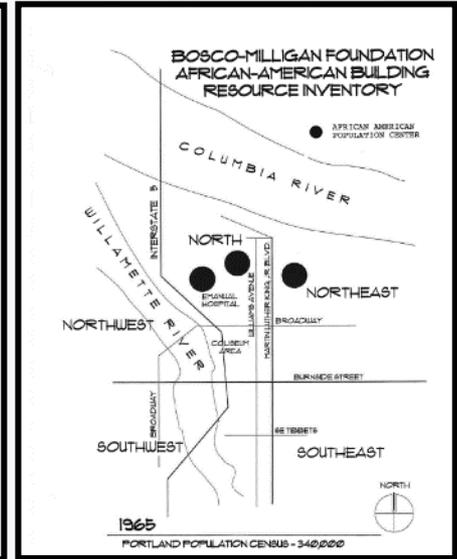
1890



1930



1955



1965

Context II: Business



An early photo of the Golden West Hotel.



The Golden West Hotel at 707 NW Everett today.



The soda fountain at the Golden West Hotel.

Context II: Business



Williams Avenue was the heart of the African American business community after World War II.



Dean's Barber Shop and Beauty Salon (215 NE Hancock St.)



The Rinehart Building at 3037-3041 N Williams was added to the National Register in 2013 and housed the popular Cleo-Lilliann Social Club from 1968 to 2001.

Context III: Journalism



Context III: Journalism



William Hilliard was the first African American writer hired by *The Oregonian* in 1953. Hilliard advocated for better representation of people of color in the mainstream press and eventually served as editor of *The Oregonian*.



The Skanner, an African American newspaper founded in 1975 at 2337 N Williams, continues publication today.

Context IV: Entertainment and Recreation



Dude Ranch owners Charles "Pat" Patterson (center) and Sherman "Cowboy" Pickett (left) with Louis Armstrong.



The Dude Ranch operated at 240 N Broadway in the 1940s. Popular with both White and Black patrons, the Dude Ranch attracted local and nationally-known entertainers.

Context IV: Entertainment and Recreation



The Crystal Ballroom, formerly known as Cotillion Hall, at 406 SW 14th IN 1918 and today. The Crystal Ballroom was added to the National Register in 1979, although the nomination makes no mention of African American patronage at the venue.

Context V: Benevolent and Fraternal Societies



A group of women outside the YWCA.



The Williams Avenue YWCA (currently known as the Billy Webb Elks Lodge) was built in 1926 to serve Portland’s African American community as a recreation center and gathering space.

Context VI: Religion and Worship



One of the first broadcasts by African Americans on Portland radio was a service at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in 1927, complete with a sermon and choral performance.



The 1921 Mt Olivet Baptist Church at 1734 NE 1st Ave is thought to be the oldest extant religious facility built for the African American community.

Context VII: Civil Rights



The 1910s and 1920s home of E.D. and Beatrice Cannady is significantly associated within multiple contexts, including Civil Rights.

Context VII: Civil Rights



Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2016 for its local role in the Civil Rights Movement.



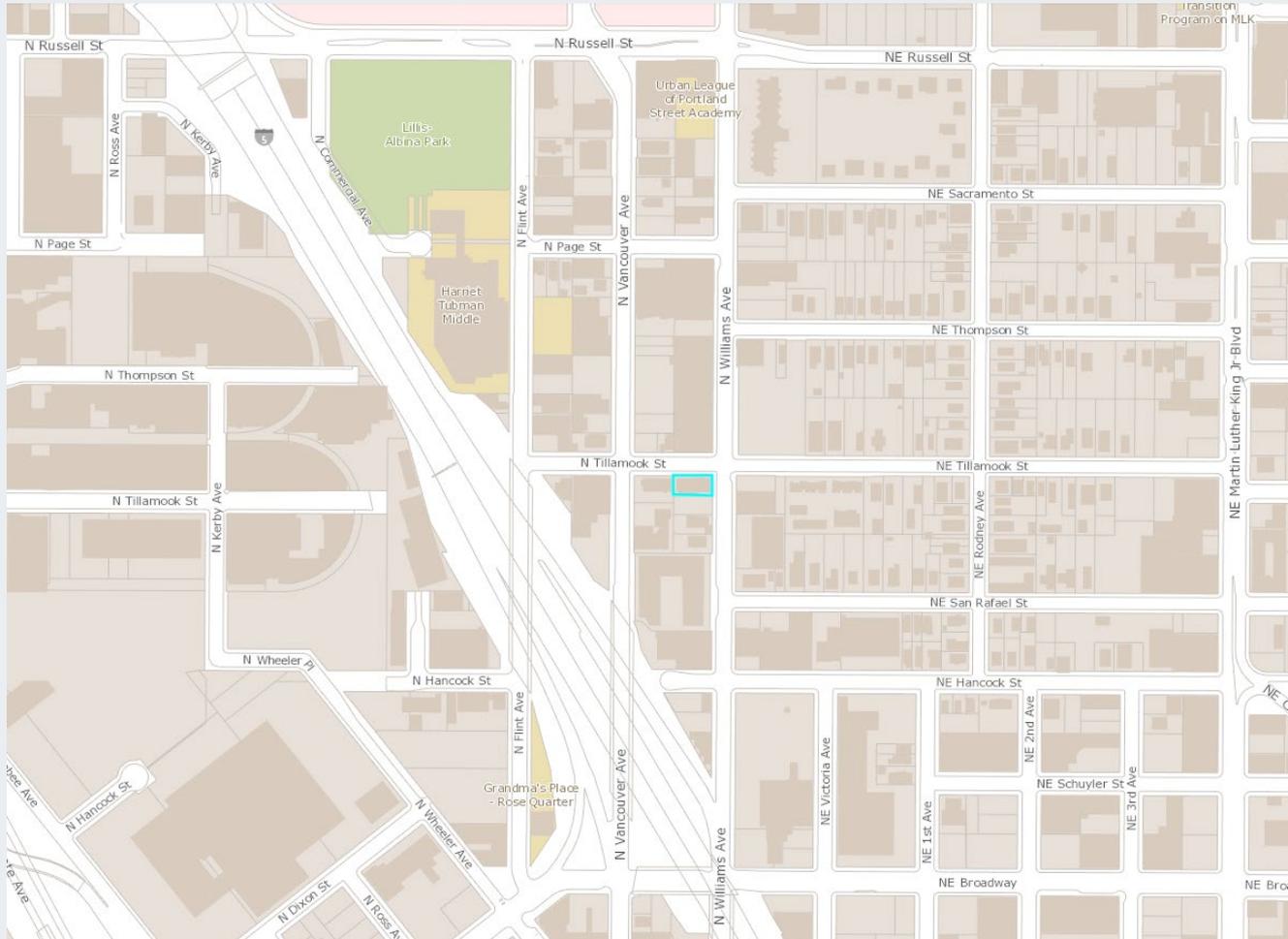
When Martin Luther King, Jr. visited Portland, he spoke to the Albina Ministerial Alliance at Vancouver Ave. First Baptist Church.

Section F: Associated Property Types

The MPD provides considerations and registration requirements for properties that may be listed under the MPD. The specific property types identified and described are:

- Residences
- Commercial and professional buildings
- Entertainment venues
- Religious facilities
- Civic and social organization buildings
- Sites (non-archaeological)
- Sites (archaeological)
- Objects
- Districts

Billy Webb Elks Lodge



6 N Tillamook St

Billy Webb Elks Lodge

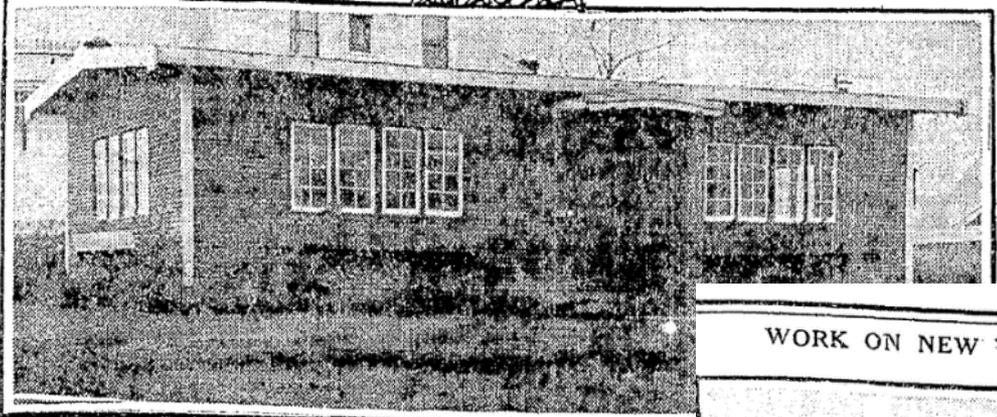
The Billy Webb Elks Lodge (Williams Avenue YWCA) is being individually nominated to the National Register as a *civic and social organization building* significantly associated with several MPD contexts, including *benevolent and fraternal societies*. Taken together, the umbrella MPD and Billy Webb Elks Lodge nomination is considered a National Register Multiple Property Submission.

Raymond Burell III assembled archival materials in advance of formal preparation of the nomination.



North façade along N Tillamook Street

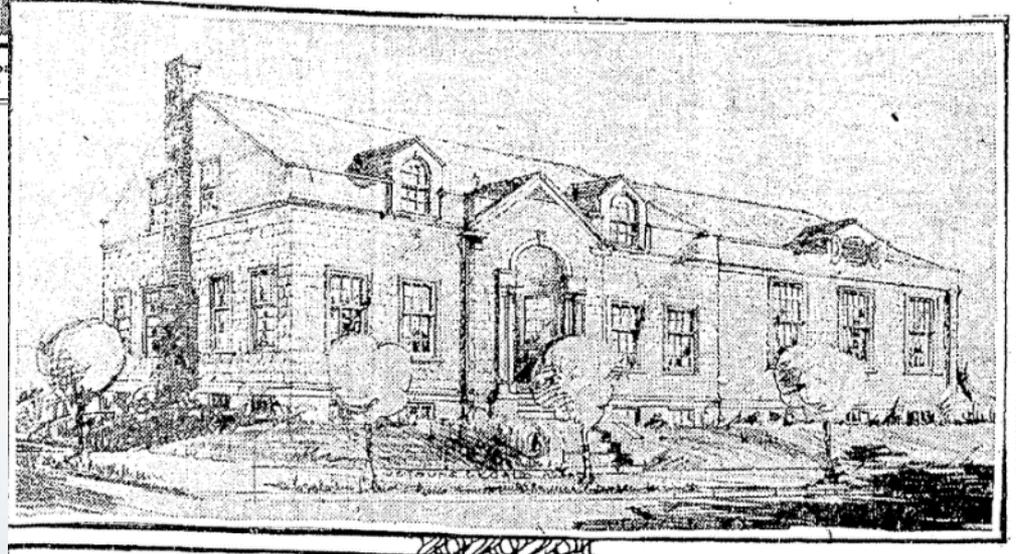
Billy Webb Elks Lodge



Above—Sketch of new building for association department, DeYoung & Rosing which housed the branch since October, 1921, now

THE SUNDAY OREGONIAN, PORTLAND, OREGON

WORK ON NEW WILLIAMS AVENUE Y. W. C. A. BRANCH BEGINS



1926 *Oregonian* Article Clipping showing portable and current building

Billy Webb Elks Lodge



Images from USO period (1942-1947)

Billy Webb Elks Lodge

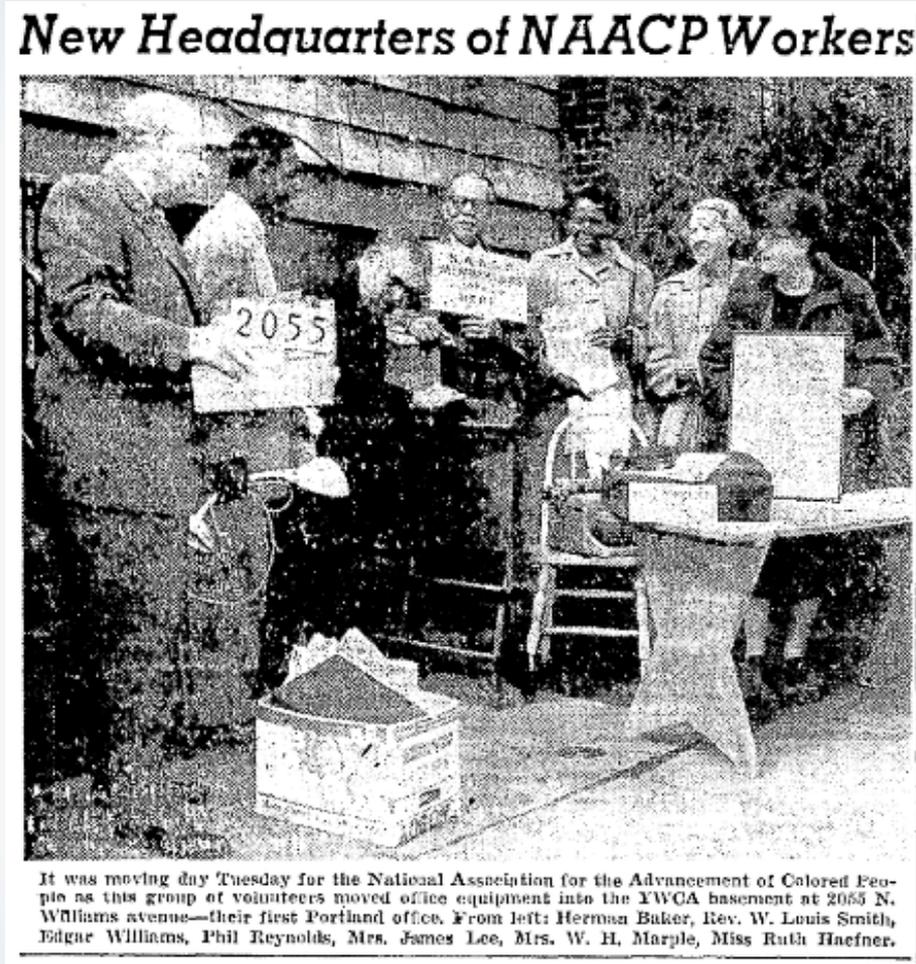


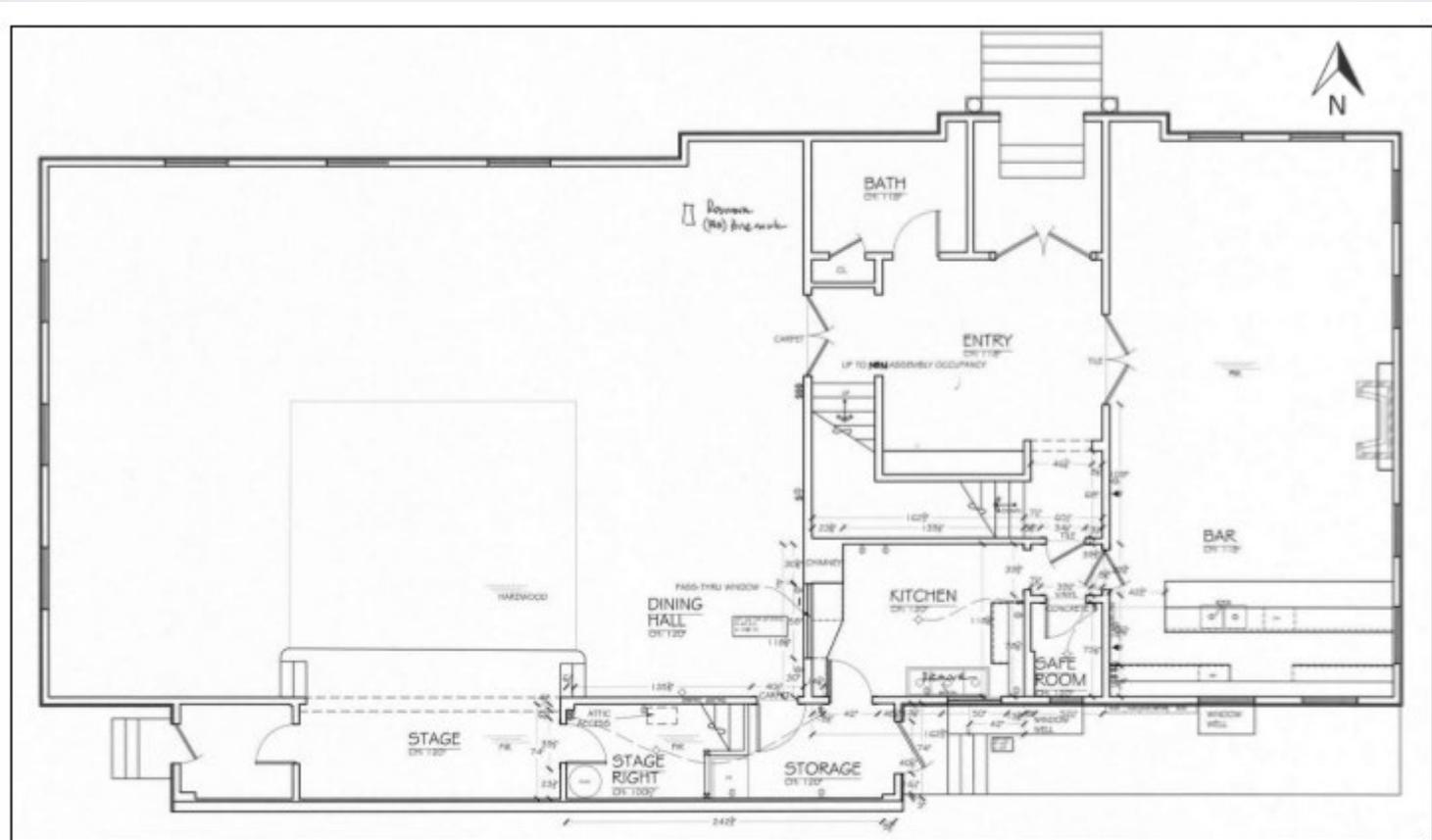
Image from beginning of NAACP occupancy (1956-1964)

Billy Webb Elks Lodge



Main Entrance (North Façade)

Billy Webb Elks Lodge



First Floor Plan

Billy Webb Elks Lodge



Dining Hall and Stage Today

Billy Webb Elks Lodge



Bar and Lounge

Billy Webb Elks Lodge



Pre-1943 photo