

**Historic Resources Survey
City of McMinnville
Yamhill County, Oregon**

Site Information

Site Address

900 SW Baker St.

Owner at Time of Survey

Linfield College

Map/Tax Lot

R4420DD00400

Current Zoning

R-4PD

Special Tax Assessment

No

Downtown Historic District

No

Subdivision Name

Block

Lot

Lot Size

Quadrant

SW

Site Number

23.2

Aerial Number

J-13

Resource Classification

A

Resource Number

554

Historic Significance

Historic Information

Date of Construction

1883

Early Additions/ Remodels

structural rehab 1944

Builder/Architect

J. Krumbein/Prof. W.S. White/P. Belluschi (rehab)

Historic Name

McMinnville Baptist College

Original Use

Educational, Residential/Admin.

Common Name

Pioneer Hall

Present Use

Educational, Residential

Condition of Structure

Excellent

Comments (at time of Survey)

Building Type

Outbuildings

None

Building Style

Italianate

Stories

3

Porch

Basement

Roof Style

Hip

Roof Type

Moved

Demolished

Year/Date

Permit Number(s)

96B0357, 98B0178, 08B0450

Additions/ Alterations

Interior Remodel, Alteration of Porch, Interior Remodel

Resource Information

Recorded By

Elizabeth Shellin Atly

Date

1-7-1984

Sources

See Narrative for Source Information

Historic Resource Survey
City of McMinnville
Yamhill County, Oregon

Statement of historical significance and description of property:

A554

Completed in 1883 as the second home of McMinnville Baptist Church, later Linfield College, Pioneer Hall is on the National Register of Historic Places and also on the State of Oregon Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings. It has served the college with few exterior alterations since that time and is now undergoing a restoration that includes installation of the eight-foot tall oak entry doors and replication of the original porch ornament that was removed over time. Early photographs are being used to substantiate the correctness of the detail. The building underwent a structural rehabilitation in 1946, described by Prof. Jonas Jonassen as follows:

The builders cut holes in the roof and ceiling and dropped upright steel pillars through them to support the new construction. At each floor level, they installed substantial horizontal bracing. With all its heavy timbers and steel skeleton weighing seventy-two tons, Pioneer is a new building within its ancient walls. (In Kenneth Homes' Linfield's Hundred Years, p. 59.)

Functioning alternately and often simultaneously in roles of administration, residence, instruction, drama, religion, dining hall, and social organization center, Pioneer Hall remained the hub of student activities until completion of Riley Hall in 1956.

Prominently sited atop the south banks of the Cozine Creek on land donated to the college by Samuel Cozine, this building, the largest in Yamhill County, has a Greek cross plan and rises over a basalt basement story to four total stories plus central lantern. Italianate villa features include tall one over one regularly spaced windows with different window headers and hood moulding at each story, hipped roof with bracket-supported wide eaves, and pediments over each of three facades (triangular over east and west, arched over north façade). Bays are defined by relief brick piers with corner detailing suggesting arcading. Foliated ornament suggestive of Composite capital detailing tops each pilaster. A prominent brick belt course separates first and second stories, and a sandstone belt course divides basalt foundation story from brick structure above.

For further documentation of Pioneer Hall, see National Register and State Inventory forms.

Inventory Sources Consulted:

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form State of Oregon Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings – Holmes, Kenneth J. Linfield's Hundred Years (1956).

Jonasson, Jonas. Bricks Without Straw (1938).

Building rehab plans, Cozine Hall, Linfield College.

Historic Resource No. A554



Photo November 2000



Original 1983 Survey Photo