

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

Site Information

Site Address

1545 NE Evans St. (1330 NE Cowls St)

Owner at Time of Survey

McMinnville School District #40

Map/Tax Lot

R4416CC01590

Current Zoning

R-2

Special Tax Assessment

No

Downtown Historic District

No

Subdivision Name

Block

Lot

Lot Size

Quadrant

16.60 acres NE

Site Number

2.34a-2.36a

Aerial Number

J-9

Resource Classification

A

Resource Number

251

Historic Significance

Primary Resource #26

Historic Information

Date of Construction

1912-13

Early Additions/ Remodels

Builder/Architect

Ernst Kroner

Historic Name

McMinnville Junior High

Original Use

Junior High School

Common Name

Present Use

Elementary School

Condition of Structure

Excellent

Comments (at time of Survey)

Building Type

Public

Outbuildings

None

Building Style

Symmetrical Block

Stories

2

Porch

Basement

Roof Style

Low Hip

Roof Type

Moved

Demolished

Year/Date

Permit Number(s)

12-36-94, 6-67-95,
98B0263, 98B0504,
99B0356,

Additions/ Alterations

Int'r/Ext'r Rem'l, Foundation

Resource Information

Recorded By

James K. Baird

Date

8-1980

Sources

Ernst Krowner - Plans For McMinnville Junior High - Oregon Historic Society, McM News Reporter 2/19/1909, Telephone Reg 3/26/1915

Historic Resource Survey
City of McMinnville
Yamhill County, Oregon

Statement of historical significance and description of property:

A251

1330 NE Cows St.

Adams Elementary School is a symmetrical central block building with wings protruding (one classroom length) north and south from the west-facing main façade. A single hip roof of very low pitch covers the near rectangular plan including wings. The interior is a traditional public school layout. The ground floor (daylight basement) is of concrete construction which continues several feet above grade to form molded windowsills, pilaster pedestals, and the water table. Above this the brick (buff-colored laid in runner American bond) façade rises two stories, unbroken, to a vertical laid architrave of the same brick. Above a brick frieze is inlaid with dark brown brick in a diamond-within-rectangle pattern which repeats several times between the paired saw cut brackets supporting the wide boxed cornice. The brackets occur only at the building corners and above each of the six wide and understated pilasters (also of yellow brick). Each pilaster is capped by a modernistic (Art Nouveau) keyed capital of molded concrete.

The five bays of the central block each have a large segmental arch headed window (eight light except the central bay which is 15-light) lighting the second story and stairwell. Similar windows with flat heads light the first story.

The classroom wings are lighted by triple hung windows in groups of five. The rear elevation has continuous rows of triple hung windows for each floor. The north elevation has a single eight-light arched window over the side entrance door with its hip-roofed hood supported by consoles. This door has sidelights. The main entrance door does not.

Additions to the south and southeast corner cover this portion of the original school. These additions carry no elements of the original design.

The front entrance canopy (flat roof on square concrete engaged columns) may be a simplification of the original intent. The axial walkway leading to the double front doors (metal replacements) has a large western Red Cedar on each side. Other landscaping is lawn.

According to local tradition, this was Oregon's first Junior High School. Kroner also designed the Lincoln High School for McMinnville (now demolished) and McMinnville's Carnegie Library. Plans for all three are on file at the Oregon Historical Society.

Notes:

Center front 2nd story window has been altered. A photo titled "The only Junior High in the U.S. at McMinnville" shows no canopy over the front entrance (west side).

Source: Telephone Reg. 3/26/1915

School Board purchased 3 blocks along east side of B Street, just north of city limits (4 acres).

Source: McMinnville News Reporter 2/19/1909

Historic Resource No. A251



Photo July 2001



Original 1983 Survey Photos