

**Historic Property  
Inventory Report for**

Karshner Building

at 124 S Meridian, Puyallup, WA 98371

**LOCATION SECTION**

Field Site No. 37

OAHP No.

Historic Name: Karshner Building

Common Name:

Property Address: 124 S Meridian, Puyallup, WA 98371

Comments:

County Pierce Township/Range/EW T20R04na Section 28 1/4 Sec 1/4 1/4 Sec 28 Quadrangle PUYALLUP

UTM Reference

Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point

Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com

Sequence: 1 Easting: 553590

Northing: 5226453

Tax No./Parcel No.

Plat/Block/Lot

Supplemental Map(s)

Acreage

2960000170

-.1

**IDENTIFICATION SECTION**

Survey Name: Puyallup Downtown Survey

Field Recorder: Sonja Sokol Fürész

Date Recorded: 7/5/2007

Owner's Name: Kerry & Sharon Yanasak

Owner Address:

City/State/Zip:

Classification: Building

Resource Status

Comments

Within a District? No

Local Register

Pierce County Register

Contributing?

National Register Nomination:

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

**DESCRIPTION SECTION**

Historic Use: Commerce/Trade - Business

Current Use: Commerce/Trade - Specialty Store

Plan: Rectangle

No. of Stories: 2

Structural System: Clay Tile

Changes to plan: Intact

Changes to interior: Unknown

Style

Form/Type

Changes to original cladding:

Changes to other:

Changes to windows:

Other (specify):



View of primary E & S façades

taken

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments:

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Cladding

Foundation

Roof Material

Roof Type

Flat with Parapet

**NARRATIVE SECTION**

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1915

Architect:

Builder:

Engineer:

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: Yes

Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local): Yes - Local

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local): Yes

**Statement of  
Significance**

Puyallup developed quickly as an agricultural market town along the Puyallup River beginning in the 1850s, with further development of the downtown core resulting from the introduction of rail transit in the 1880s, and continuing through the mid-20th century. The city's commercial buildings were constructed primarily along Meridian Street and Pioneer, Main, and Stewart Avenues, while industrial buildings were situated along the Northern Pacific Railroad line. The surrounding blocks are primarily residential, composed of houses, churches, schools, and civic properties that were constructed during this period. Many of the city's earliest buildings remain in the downtown area illustrate Puyallup's heritage.

The Karshner Building was constructed for Warner Karshner, a prominent Puyallup citizen and doctor. Karshner's accomplishments include acting as the city's Health Officer, serving as a Washington State Senator, and establishing the Karshner Museum in honor of his son Paul, who died of polio at age 17.

In 1942, Karshner sold the building to Streetar H. Beall.

The building is part of the commercial core and is listed in the Pierce County Register.

**Description of  
Physical  
Appearance**

This two-story brick building is sited on a corner, with a corner entrance a storefront system along both east and south facades. Metal storefronts are non-original. Second-story fenestration consists of paired, one-over-one double-hung wood windows, with brick sills and soldiered headers in contrasting brown brick. The parapet is crenellated. Pierce Co. Building Index notes the second story was added in 1923.

**Major  
Bibliographic  
References**

Crook, Catherine. Historic Building Inventory. City of Puyallup Planning Division. August 26, 2005.

Ezra Meeker Historical Society and Meeker Museum.

Pierce County Assessor-Treasurer, electronic Property Information Profile (e-PIP). <http://www.piercecountywa.org/pc/abtus/ourorg/at/at.htm>.

Pierce County Buildings Index. <http://search.tacomapubliclibrary.org/buildings/>.

Price, Lori and Ruth Anderson. Puyallup: A Pioneer Paradise. Making of America series. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2002.

Puyallup Public Library, History Room Collection.



View of S façade & upper portion W taken

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments:

View of taken

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments:

View of taken

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments:

View of taken

Photography Neg. No (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments: