

SALEM PASSENGER STATION & FREIGHT DEPOT  
(Southern Pacific Railroad Depot)  
500 Thirteenth Street Southeast  
Salem  
Marion County  
Oregon

HABS OR-184  
OR-184

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
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## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

### SALEM PASSENGER STATION AND FREIGHT DEPOT (Southern Pacific Railroad Depot) HABS NO. OR-184

**Location:** 500 Thirteenth Street Southeast  
Salem  
Marion County  
Oregon

**Date of Construction:** 1918 (Passenger Station), 1889 (Freight Depot)

**Builder:** Southern Pacific Railway

**Present Owner:** Amtrak

**Present Use:** Railroad Station

**Significance:** The Salem Passenger Station and Freight Depot are significant as an execution of a standard Southern Pacific Railroad depot design in the early 1900s. The station is typical of depots of this era, but is architecturally unique within the Oregon context. Similar stations exist in Reno Nevada, Ogden Utah, and Oakland California. The station has been in continuous use as a rail station since its completion in 1918, and retains its original architectural and functional integrity. The Passenger Station is significant as a Neo-Classical depot with a number of outstanding design features, including some influenced by the Beaux Arts style. The Freight Depot is the salvaged baggage room of the 1889 station (also at this site), which was badly damaged by a fire during World War I and replaced by the current Passenger Station. This structure is significant for its age, for its association with early railroad development in Salem, and for its architectural style. Depot buildings of this vintage are becoming increasingly rare in Oregon, as are buildings of the Passenger Station era (early 1900s).

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