

# Hotel Elliott: Underwent renovations in the 2000s

Continued from Page B1

Floors originally featured shared bathrooms. However, rooms were equipped with large closets and shoe shine brushes. Furniture throughout the hotel was of dark wood, upholstered with the finest of leathers. A large phonograph entertained guests in a lounge on the second floor.

In 1928, Flora opened the Hotel Elliott Coffee Shop, where the hotel's wine bar is now located. Curiously, over the span of 14 years, the Hotel Elliott Coffee Shop changed ownership at least seven times.

One owner, Ernie Anderson, died suddenly at the age of 47. Another owner, Benny Dixon, forced the restaurant to close its doors for several months after his mysterious disappearance.

The coffee shop closed permanently in 1942. That same year, the property was purchased by Short as well as John and Margaret. Jeremiah, who suffered from heart disease, had reportedly died at an Exchange Street shop 13 years earlier.

To acquire the hotel, the Elliott family entered a sort of bidding war with John Osburn and Marshall Leathers, owners of both Gearhart Hotel and Hotel Astoria. Osburn and Leathers, dissatisfied with the outcome of the bidding, raised concern over the Elliott family not paying the hotel's back taxes on time — perhaps a last-



Photos by Jaime Lump

ABOVE: A marquee for the Hotel Elliott in downtown Astoria. LEFT: A streetside view of Hotel Elliott in Astoria.

ditch effort for the pair to acquire the property.

Nevertheless, the hotel remained in the hands of the Elliott family. A short time after the sale, Margaret suffered from multiple strokes, leaving her bedridden for seven years before her death in 1950.

For the next five decades, the Elliott and Short families called Hotel Elliott home. Family members slept in bedrooms on the top floor, while living

and cooking in the basement. Both John and Short worked long days. The 1940 census shows Short clocking in at 99 hours a week.

Yet somehow, in his spare time, Short was president of the Kiwanis and Astoria Chamber of Commerce. For multiple terms, he sat on the Astoria School Board. Elliott, who had served in the U.S. Army during World War I, was a member of the Vet-

erans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. In between these activities, he helped raise a daughter, Margaret Nadine, in the hotel with his wife, Ruby.

Hotel Elliott was also home to several Columbia River Bar Pilots. "The river pilots used to stay there because it was centrally located downtown where the restaurants were and only two and a half blocks to the pilots' office. The bar pilots had their

homes in Astoria, but the river pilots usually lived in Portland. They needed a place here in town to spend the night waiting for the next ship to pilot to Portland," Liisa Penner, archivist at the Clatsop County Historical Society, said.

In 1969, Short died from a heart attack. More than 1,000 condolence calls and notes flooded the hotel. His wife, Flora, suffered multiple heart attacks, one which, too, took her life the following year. John retired from the hotel at the age of 81

in 1973.

Ownership of Hotel Elliott has changed hands since then. As part of a larger vision of revitalizing downtown Astoria, the hotel underwent renovations in the 2000s. The project reflected the hotel's original intent of luxury, but it hasn't lost its roots.

Above a fireplace sits a 1920s photo of Jeremiah and Margaret by the original lobby desk. It's still used today, ready to check visitors into the historic Hotel Elliott.

**WANTED**  
Alder and Maple Saw Logs & Standing Timber  
Northwest Hardwoods • Longview, WA  
Contact: John Anderson • 360-269-2500

# theAstorian Classifieds

**Searching for Employees?**

**PLACE YOUR JOB POSTING HERE**

**Special Includes:**

- 2 Weeks in Print & Online
- Logo Included
- Facebook Boost
- Featured Advertising

Call theAstorian at 503-325-3211 or email: [classifieds@dailyastorian.com](mailto:classifieds@dailyastorian.com)

**GARAGE SALE SEASON IS HERE!**

**ONLY \$25 for 3 days**

**Call 800.781.3214 to advertise today!**  
[classifieds@dailyastorian.com](mailto:classifieds@dailyastorian.com)

**SELL YOUR VEHICLE HERE!**  
*If it Drives or Floats...*

**\$49.95**

**ADVERTISE TODAY**  
800.781.3214  
[classifieds@dailyastorian.com](mailto:classifieds@dailyastorian.com)  
If it doesn't sell in two weeks We will give you two weeks for FREE!

**eomedia group**  
The most valuable and respected source of local news, advertising and information for our communities.  
[www.eomediagroup.com](http://www.eomediagroup.com)

**251 Boats for Sale**

10 ft kayak for sale. With car rack and PFD and paddle. Will accept best offer. 503-325-2899

**617 For Rent**

ART STUDIO FOR RENT 12 X 12 OPEN CONCEPT \$225 PER MONTH 503-325-4442 - Astoria Art Loft

**618 Wanted to Rent**

Low-income senior looking for room to rent in Seaside. 503-200-7650

**A small town newspaper with a global outlook**

**theAstorian**  
[www.dailyastorian.com](http://www.dailyastorian.com)

Have you seen our **FEATURED ADS?** Only viewable on our website, [www.dailyastorian.com](http://www.dailyastorian.com). Call 503-325-3211 for more information!

**651 Help Wanted**

**JEWELL SCHOOL Vacancy Notice Middle School Language Arts/Humanities Teacher**  
For more information, please visit our website: [www.jewell.k12.or.us](http://www.jewell.k12.or.us). Please email your application materials to [allycec@jewellk12.org](mailto:allycec@jewellk12.org)

**Tax Preparer** — Immediate opening for a full-time, year around Tax Preparer for individuals in an Accounting office. Corporate/Partnership tax return & Bookkeeping experience helpful. Call (503) 738-9543 for an interview or Send resume' to PO Box 54, Seaside, OR 97138

**Bookkeeper** - Immediate opening for a full-time Bookkeeper in a full service Accounting office, G/L, P/R, knowledge of computers useful, Corporate and/or Individual tax capability helpful. Call (503) 738-9543 for an interview or Send resume' to PO Box 54, Seaside, OR 97138

**JEWELL SCHOOL Vacancy Notice 1.0 FTE PK-12 School Counselor**  
For more information, please visit our website: [www.jewell.k12.or.us](http://www.jewell.k12.or.us) and click the Employment Tab Please email your application materials to [allycec@jewellk12.org](mailto:allycec@jewellk12.org)

Want to place a classified ad but unsure how? Call 503-325-3211 and let us help you!

**theAstorian**  
**Customer Service Hotline**  
**800-781-3214**

8AM - 5PM or leave a message anytime or e-mail us: [circulation@dailyastorian.com](mailto:circulation@dailyastorian.com)

**Please call if:**

- You would like to order a subscription
- Your don't receive your paper Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
- Your paper is damaged
- You have a problem with a news rack
- You are going on vacation
- You have questions about your subscription

**theAstorian**  
News +++ Information +++ News +++ Information +++ News +++ Information +++ News  
We're your newspaper

**7-22 CRYPTOQUIP**

NMDJ XYGADKDJOHS VOFMJ  
TYHTAY VDCY OI D NHVDS OU  
NDJYK - UCOOSF? "UMY'U DJ  
JMY YSX HI MYK KHTY."  
**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** BEING THAT THE ROVING ROBBER CONSIDERED ONE OF HIS ACTIVITIES OFFENSIVE, THE BANDIT BANNED IT.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals I

**7-23 CRYPTOQUIP**

VGRSZ OCXQL O GONU AHRLRS  
VDGGXF FJX SXQGB XAGU  
WIDOZ QWRAH JRW CNDOLJ:  
"LJD JXONWD FJR WIDNDN."  
**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** WHAT DECLARATION MIGHT PEOPLE MAKE IF A WOMAN IS WATER-SKIING? "SHE'S AT THE END OF HER ROPE."  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals L