

CITY OF GRESHAM



**UPDATED INVENTORY
OF
HISTORIC AND CULTURAL
LANDMARKS**

PART 1

Researched and Compiled by

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Historic Resources Intern

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Urban Design and Planning

City of Gresham

1333 NW Eastman Parkway

Gresham, OR 97030

This report is dedicated to Sally Donovan, 1956 – 2016.

A champion for historic preservation, Sally worked as a consultant for the City of Gresham's Historic Resources Subcommittee and led Gresham's first local historic landmarks inventory in 1987. This report updates many of the properties she first identified and researched.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This report is an updated inventory of local historic landmarks that the City of Gresham has deemed significant to the physical and cultural development of Gresham. Many of these properties were first inventoried and listed as local historic landmarks in 1987. Over the years, more properties have been added to the city's local historic landmarks list. In 1993, there was a brief update on the history of these properties, but that update lacked thorough documentation and references. Some local landmark properties have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places and others have been removed from local landmark status. With the documentation records existing in several reports in differing times and being nearly thirty years old, a consolidated update was warranted.

This update involved four phases:

- Site visits to rerecord each property
- An updated architectural description
- A fact-checked and revised historic description
- Updated site forms.

SITE VISITATION

Each property was visited and re-recorded by Historic Resources Intern David-Paul B. Hedberg in 2016. Most properties were recorded from the public right-of-way and did not involve any recording of the interior of the properties. In general, photographs documented the overall condition and visible architectural features. Detailed field notes were also taken. For properties not viable from the public right-of-way, staff in the City of Gresham's Urban Design and Planning Department sent letters to corresponding property owners requesting access. Many owners responded and granted the intern access to photograph the sites. A few, however, did not reply and the updated inventory is limited to only what the intern could photograph and note from the right-of-way.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTIONS

After visiting and photographing each property, the intern began to craft narrative descriptions of each property's architectural features. In many cases, this description simply elaborated details first observed in the 1987 inventory. However, with the passage of time, a few of these properties have undergone various renovations and design remodels. The updated architectural descriptions will note any differences between the 2016 observations and the 1987 recording. Some of the changes are minor and are reversible, while others are major

renovations that potentially affect the home's historic architectural integrity. In general, the architectural descriptions listed in the 1987 inventory were very accurate and detailed. The updates simply bring this information into a narrative form, noting any deterioration or rejuvenation and differentiate between historic and recent alterations.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTIONS

Each property is associated with a figure or event that was significant to the development of Gresham's physical and cultural fabric. However, the 1987 inventory poorly documented the cultural and social history with little description into the significance of figures associated with each property. When possible, the intern used secondary literature to construct a narrative description for notable persons. However, most of the properties were documented in unsubstantiated anecdotes that researching and developing individual biographical sketches was necessary. The historic narratives are the most substantial new contribution to this update.

Attempting to feature a fuller representation of historical figures, the intern also incorporated the histories of significant women associated with many of these properties. With few records, this was a challenge but was successful in many instances. Thus, some of the properties will have multiple owners listed.

Significant persons were researched mainly using newspaper searches, various historic literatures, county deed records, census records, and other archival materials. In some instances, fact checking refuted earlier claims from the 1987 inventory, especially regarding the construction dates and original owners. In most cases, this update greatly expands and corroborates the findings of the 1987 inventory. Updated with more detail, each property has a direct narrative description for the owner(s) and/or events that make the property significant to Gresham.

UPDATED FORMS

Thirty-six property forms attached as appendices appear in this report. The updated forms contain new pictures, property statistics retrieved from Multnomah County Recorder's Office records, updated Architectural and Historic Descriptions, a site-specific bibliography, and other supporting evidence. The 2016 forms also note potential discrepancies between the 1987 and 1993 inventories. Unless otherwise noted in the form, the intern corroborated each date and name in multiple historic documents. Dates and names that were unclear or not verifiable were listed so explicitly in the hope that they might be corrected by future historians.

LIMITATIONS

According to the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office's Historic Sites Database, as of 2016, there are 913 historic properties in the City of Gresham. Of these, only 36 properties are considered local historic landmarks. This report only updates the 36 properties that are listed as local historic landmarks. The report does not make any updates to other historic properties in the city. It also does not assume that these other historic properties not listed as Gresham Historic Landmarks are not significant; they just have not yet been recognized formally by the city.

Historic properties are ever changing and so is the historic significance. Thus, this update should not be the last. It is quite feasible that the city will need to update this inventory decades from now. For the sake of posterity, these forms attempt to give future historians enough relevant information to reinterpret the history if necessary.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are given to help ensure that the preservation of historic properties and interest in the city's history remain relevant to new generations and audiences in Gresham.

- Send the updated forms to the Oregon SHPO so they can be updated in the Oregon Historic Sites Database.
- Incorporate the inventory updates into social media: these might include a regular historic property blog post, Instagram "photo a historic home" contest, or digital newsletter.
- Use the inventory data in a digital history interpretation app, like CLIO or Next Exit History
- Offer a series of historic landmark walking tours or interpretive content.
- Collaborate with local teachers and offer them tools to integrate local history into their classrooms.
- Most properties represent immigrants to Gresham, but they all tend to focus on mainly male Euro-Americans. Future listings should incorporate the city's other immigrant and minority communities to better reflect the city's history as a whole. This by far is the best way to make historic preservation relevant to larger audiences.
- Use the attached "Individual statements of significance" as a way to quickly summarize each property.
- Develop an online gallery that lists each property on the city's webpage and provides a clear description of the Gresham Historic Landmarks selection process

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL LANDMARKS LIST

Class 1 Landmarks

<u>No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>National Register</u>
1	17111 NE Sandy	Zimmerman House	100	Institutional	Yes
2	410 N. Main	Carnegie Library	95	Institutional	Yes
3	1304 E. Powell	William Gedamke House	90	Commercial	Yes
4	722 NE 162 nd	The Louise Home	90	Institutional	Yes
5	1420 SE Roberts	Anderson House	85	Residential	Yes
6	3680 SW Towle	Heiney House	85	Residential	No
7	765 SW Walters Rd.	Olson, Charles & Fae House		Residential	Yes
8	938 SE Roberts	Bernard Witter Residence	85	Residential	No
9	330 W. Powell	W. Gresham Grade School	80	Institutional	No
10	140 SE Roberts	Rev. Thompson Resid.	80	Residential	No
11	1325 W. Powell	J. R. Elkhorn Ranch	75	Residential	No
12	2415 SE Ambleside	Ambleside/Stout House	90	Residential	No
13	43 NW Ava	W. K. Hamilton Residence	70	Residential	No
14	307 NE Kelly	Emmett Kelly Property	75	Residential	No
15	1229 W. Powell	Dr. Hughes Residence	65	Residential	Yes
16	1265 SE Roberts	Judge Stapleton House	80	Residential	No
17	3655 SE Powell	William Peterson Residence	80	Residential	No
18	611 NW Wallula	Fred Honey House	75	Residential	No
19	31 NW 11 th	Arthur Fieldhouse Home	80	Residential	No
20	53 NW 12 th	Frederick Fieldhouse Home	80	Residential	No
21	54 NW 12 th	Aldrich/Bliss House	80	Residential	No
22	1801 NE 201 st	Lowitt Estate	70	Residential	No
23	2202 SW Pleasant View	Giese House & Orchard	50	Residential	No
24	720 NW Division	VanDoninck House		Residential	No
25	42 NW Wilson Ave.	Moen House		Residential	No
26	2075 Palmblad	Ott House		Residential	Yes
27	1322 SE 282 nd	Hamlin Johnson House		Residential	Yes

Class 2 Landmarks

<u>No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>National Register</u>
28	103 W. Powell	US Post Office	85	Institutional	No
29	122 N. Main	Duane C. Ely Building	75	Commercial	No
30	58 W. Powell	Gresham Masonic Lodge #152	75	Institutional	No
31	19720 SE Stark	11-Mile marker	75	Object	No
32	23500 SE Stark	13-Mile Marker	75	Object	No
33	25700 SE Stark	14-Mile Marker	75	Object	No
34	I-84 & NE 169 th	Pioneer Grave	75	Object	No
35	-----	Satellite Restaurant Sign	70	Object	No
36	101-117 N. Main	Congdon Building	60	Commercial	No

INDIVIDUAL STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

#1 Jacob Zimmerman House, 17111 SE Sandy Blvd. Gresham, OR 97230

As older home in the area, the Zimmerman House has history all the way back to the time of pioneer resettlement in Oregon Territory. In 1869, Jacob Zimmerman, an immigrant from Germany, purchased a 320-acre donation land claim here and built this house in 1874. One of the first pioneer families in the Gresham/Fairview area, Zimmerman family continually lived in this home until 1992. Now a museum, the home continues to tell the Zimmerman's story.

#2 Carnegie Library, 410 N. Main Ave. Gresham, OR 97030

This is Gresham's first public library. Before the Carnegie foundation donated the funds to build it in 1913, local residents had to travel all the way to Portland to visit a library. Gresham citizens led a coordinated effort to bring a library to the city, and this building represents their hard work.

#3 William Gedamke Home, 1304 E. Powell Blvd. Gresham, OR 97030

This is a mail order home. In about 1900, William Gedamke, a Gresham farmer, purchased the plans for the home in *The Cottage Souvenir No. 2*. He logged the area and used the timber to build the home.

#4 The Louise Home, 722 NE 162nd Ave. Gresham, OR 97230

The Louise Home represents a time in U.S. society when governments did not offer social services. The home, designed in 1925 by Architect Carl H. Walworth, once part of an extensive seventeen-acre farm and wooded campus for unwed mothers, which private philanthropists and religious organizations funded.

#5 Emanuel Anderson House, 1420 SE Roberts Ave. Gresham, OR 97080

This home represents the lives of two important Gresham residents. Local Gresham builder Charles E. Witter built the Queen Anne style home in 1906. Emanuel Anderson, a leader in the Gresham Saron Lutheran Church and Emanuel Hospital in Portland, lived here.

#6 Hannah and Frank Heiney House, 3680 SW Towle Rd. Gresham, OR 97080

A woman with extensive land holdings, Hannah (Rilla) Heiney owned this home, which her family built in 1910. Hannah's husband Franklin owned and operated a Sawmill on Butler Creek with his brothers. The Heiney family was regularly in the local news, often entangled in controversy.

#7 Charles & Fae Olsen House, 765 NW Walters Rd. Gresham, OR 97080

This is one couple's dream home. Charles and Fae Olsen designed this home through correspondence while Charles was overseas during World War II. When he returned, the couple built their modern dream home using locally milled lumber and careful resourcefulness. Along the way, they kept meticulous records and receipts, which allows a snapshot into their dream and how they created it.

#8 Bernard Emil Witter House, 938 SE Roberts Ave. Gresham, OR 97080

This home is associated with Bernard Witter, a German immigrant and early settler of Gresham. In the early days of Gresham, Witter and his sons were some of Gresham's most prolific homebuilders.

#9 West Gresham Grade School, 330 W. Powell Blvd. Gresham, OR 97030

Built in 1923, West Gresham Grade School marked a significant switch from dispersed one-room schoolhouses to a centralized consolidated school district. The School symbolizes the community's growth from a farming community to a city.

#10 Rev. Dr. Alfred Thompson House, 140 SE Roberts Ave. Gresham, OR 97080

This 1908 home is associated with Rev. Dr. Alfred Thompson, a pastor in the Gresham Methodist Church. The Rev. Thompson not only helped build secure the land for the 1908 Linneman Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, but he financed the church and his retirement through selling lots on a large piece of property called Thompson's Addition.

#11 John F. Roberts Elk Horn Ranch, 1325 W Powell Blvd. Gresham, OR 97030

This is one of Gresham's oldest homes and it stayed in the same family for generations. John F. Roberts, a young Oregon Trail child, built part of this home in 1868. The home is associated with his descendants too, members of the Roberts, Hodge, and Powers families.

#12 Alfred Stout House and Ambleside Drive, Gresham, OR 97080

This home represents the influence of urban transportation in Gresham. Alfred J. Stout, a local farmer, built this home here in 1902. Just a few years later, Stout clashed with the Springwater interurban line for cutting through his farm. By the 1920s, Stout moved away and the area became vacation homes and gardens for elite Portland families that commuted out on the Springwater line.

#13 William King Hamilton Residence, 43 NW Ava Ave. Gresham, OR 97030

An Irish immigrant carpenter named William King Hamilton built this house in 1922. One of the first houses in the neighborhood, the home is of a high quality craftsmanship often seen in the work of early immigrant carpenters in Gresham. At the same time, homes like this were attainable and affordable for workers like Hamilton.

#14 Emmett H Kelly House, 307 NE Kelly Ave. Gresham, OR 97080

Emmett H. Kelly built this home, one of the first in the Zenith Addition, in 1913. The son of Oregon Trail pioneers, he held a variety of jobs in Gresham, but his most successful was real-estate development and homebuilding.

#15 Dr. Herbert H. Hughes House, 1229 W Powell Blvd. Gresham, OR 97030

Dr. Hubert H. Hughes lived in this home from 1922 to 1964. He was a respected physician and long time mayor of Gresham most noted for helping the city grow to meet the need of returning veterans after World War II.

#16 Judge George W. Stapleton House, 1265 SE Roberts Ave. Gresham, OR 97080

This 1913 home represents the life of Judge George W. Stapleton, an important leader who to lived in Gresham but worked in Portland. A Multnomah County Circuit Judge and former Gresham Mayor, George W. Stapleton was involved with many civic institutions in Gresham and the county.

#17 William Peterson House, 3655 SE Powell Valley Rd. Gresham, OR 97030

The William Peterson House, built in 1909, represents rural life just outside the city and the development of Gresham's berry growing and processing industry. A founding member of the Gresham Fruit Growers Association, Peterson helped make the city the "raspberry capital of the word."

#18 William Fred Honey Home, 611 NW Wallula Ave. Gresham, OR 97030

Constructed in 1906, the William Frederick Honey House is one of the first large homes in the Northwest Neighborhood. The Honey family moved to Gresham from North Dakota and their home embodies the booming real-estate market of the 1900s that attracted farmers to live in the city.

#19 Arthur Fieldhouse Home, 31 NW 11th St. Gresham, OR 97030

This home was constructed by Arthur Fieldhouse and his family in 1905. Local builders, merchants, and real-estate developers, the Fieldhouse family built many of the homes in Gresham, particularly in Regner's Addition.

#20 Frederick W. Fieldhouse Home, 53 NW 12th St. Gresham, OR 97030

This home was constructed by the Frederick Fieldhouse and his family in 1915. Local builders, merchants, and real-estate developers, the Fieldhouse family built many of the homes in Gresham; three are local landmarks located in Regner's Addition.

#21 Bertrand F. Aldrich House, 54 NW 12th St. Gresham, OR 97030

This 1910 home is associated with two important figures, Bertrand F. Aldrich, an educated lawyer from Michigan, and John and Josephine Bliss, a farming family. It was built during a estate boom when many investors built homes for retiring farmers moving into the city.

#22 Joseph Cyril Lowitt Estate, 1801 NE 201st, Gresham, OR 97024

Built in 1921, this home and parcel are associated with Joseph Cyril and Ruth Lowitt, who owned the largest rabbit farm in the state of Oregon.

#23 Percy Giese Home & Orchard, 2202 SW Pleasant View Dr. Gresham, OR 97080

Built in 1894, this and farm are associated with Percy Giese, who was the owner and operator of the oldest hazelnut nursery in Oregon. Giese specialized growing the trees, which he sold to many growers across the Northwest. He helped shape one of the regions most profitable farming industries.

#24 Theodore Van Doninck House, 720 NW Division St. Gresham, OR 97030

This 1936 home is associated with Theodore “Ted” Van Doninck, a Dutch immigrant and owner of downtown Gresham’s City Bakery as well as a large potato farm. Van Doninck also served in multiple civic groups like the Odd Fellows and Eagles and was an avid outdoor recreationalist.

#25 George Moen House, 42 NW Wilson Ave. Gresham, OR 97030

This home is associated with George Moen, a city councilman, chief of the Gresham Fire Department, and successful agricultural implement business owner. George and his wife Hazel Moen built their home in 1937 in the midst of the Great Depression and kept meticulous records of the construction

#26 David and Marianne Ott House, 2075 SE Palmlad Rd. Gresham, OR 97080

Renowned architect John W. Storrs designed the David and Marianne Ott House, which was completed in 1952. One of Storrs’ earliest known residential designs, the home is a fine example of his now famous Northwest Regional Style.

#27 Hamlin Johnson House, 1322 SE 282nd Gresham, OR 9780

Charles Hunter Hamlin built this unique Gothic Revival home in 1888. Hamlin was the engineer on the first steamship to navigate up the Willamette River through the Willamette Falls Locks in 1878. The Reverend Jonas Johnson, a leader in Gresham’s Swedish immigrant farm community, purchased the home in 1903.

#28 United States Post Office, 103 W Powell Boulevard, Gresham, OR 97030

The Gresham post office represents federal investment projects of the Great Depression era. At the same time, the building represents the local work of Gresham residents that influenced the overall design, funding, and location.

#29 Duane C. Ely Building, 112 N Main Ave. Gresham, OR 97030

Built in 1915, the Duane C. Ely Building was an early version of the supermarket or shopping center. Located downtown, Gresham shoppers had a series of independently owned businesses that offered the full range of goods.

#30 Gresham Masonic Loge #152, 58 W. Powell Boulevard, Gresham, OR 97030

Built in 1931, the Gresham Masonic Lodge #152 relates to the activities and leadership of many significant individuals in the city. Many of the community's leaders were Masons, and conversations that physically shaped the growth of the community occurred inside these walls.

#31 11-Mile Marker, 19720 SE Stark Street, Gresham, OR 972333

Located 11 miles from the east bank of the Willamette River, and set in 1854, the 11-mile marker relates to the formation of Baseline Road. Now called Stark Street, one of the earliest roads in the area, is the baseline for all land surveys in Oregon.

#32 13-Mile Marker, 23500 SE Stark Street, Gresham, OR 97030

Located 13 miles from the east bank of the Willamette River, and set in 1854, the 13-mile marker relates to the formation of Baseline Road. Now called Stark Street, one of the earliest roads in the area, is the baseline for all land surveys in Oregon.

#33 14-Mile Marker, 25700 SE Stark Street, Gresham, OR 97030

Located 14 miles from the east bank of the Willamette River, and set in 1854, the 14-mile marker relates to the formation of Baseline Road. Now called Stark Street, one of the earliest roads in the area, is the baseline for all land surveys in Oregon.

#34 Pioneer Grave, I-84 ROW and NE 169th across from Wilkes School

This stone formerly marked the grave of a nameless eleven-year-old girl who died in 1849, one day before her family completed their journey overland on the Oregon Trail. The boulder dates to 1953, and Children of the American Revolution helped relocate and install a plaque on the marker in 1989 during the widening of I-84.

#35 Satellite Restaurant Sign, Removed and in Storage

The Satellite Restaurant Sign was a unique landmark to Gresham and the Rockwood area since its construction in 1958. Its futuristic design reflects the 1950s fascination with space and is a direct symbol of the Space Race between the Soviet Union and the United States

#36 William H. Congdon Hotel, 101 N. Main, Gresham OR, 97030

William Congdon built this "fireproof" hotel in 1911. The Congdon Hotel was a critical building to the growth of Gresham's downtown commercial district and an important place for both visitors and community members to stay, meet, and socialize.

APPENDIX: UPDATED INVENTORY FORMS

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Jacob Zimmerman House**

Address: **17111 NE Sandy Blvd.**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1n** Range: **3E** Section: **19**

¼: **SW ¼ of the SE ¼** Zip Code: **97230**

Tax Lot: **31** Addition: Block:

Assessor: **R943190470**



Jacob Zimmerman House looking north at south façade.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Residence** Height (stories): **2**

Total # eligible resources: **2**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Listed**

Primary construction date: **1874**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date: **1899**

Primary use: **Residence**

Use comments: **Good condition**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Queen Ann**

Style comments: **Eastlake tradition**

Secondary style: **Classical Revival**

Primary siding: **Beveled shiplap**

Siding comments: **Corner lapped**

Secondary siding: **Wood shingle**

Plan type: **"T" shaped**

Architect:

Builder: **James S. Love/ Jacob Zimmerman**

Notes: Brick Dairy has collapsed and is such poor condition that it lacks historic integrity.

However, the dairy ruins might have archaeological potential.

Narrative quoted from National Register form. Minor edits are included in this report.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

As older home in the area, the Zimmerman House has history all the way back to the time of pioneer resettlement in Oregon Territory. In 1869, Jacob Zimmerman, an immigrant from Germany, purchased a 320-acre donation land claim here and built this house in 1874. One of the first pioneer families in the Gresham/Fairview area, Zimmerman family continually lived in this home until 1992. Now a museum, the home continues to tell the Zimmerman's story.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Quoted from the National Registry Form:

Gresham Historic Landmark #1
Jacob Zimmerman House

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

The Zimmerman House is located on a tract of 98.10 acres bisected by Sandy Boulevard (Old Columbia River Highway) in rural east Multnomah County, Oregon. The nominated area of 1.5 acres encompasses the house and its outbuildings, the remnants of fruit and nut orchards, and a flower garden planted in the historic period.

The Jacob Zimmerman House is a two-story farmhouse with one story kitchen wing, originally constructed in 1878 in the Classic Revival style. Altered substantially in 1899, the house today primarily reflects its Queen Anne/Eastlake-style modifications. Apart from the 1899 alterations, the house retains its original integrity and finishes. The nominated parcel includes a woodshed, "brick dairy" and garage, of which the former two are contributing buildings. The garage does not relate to the historic period of significance, but is nonetheless compatible with the ensemble.

The house is essentially L-shaped in plan with a single-story kitchen wing on the east side. The main two-story volume presents gable ends to the south (front) and west elevations. As originally constructed, the building consisted only of a two-story rectangular volume (north/south orientation) with an attached one-story wing to the east. Cornice moldings over windows, beveled wooden "quoins," classicized square porch columns, wide raking cornice and boxed eaves are typical Classic Revival features present on the 1878 building.

In 1899, the house was enlarged by a local carpenter, Jack Brown, to reflect a Queen Anne/Eastlake profile. Changes included the substantial expansion of the exterior porches, in the Eastlake style, an extension of the east wing, the addition of a west wing, the addition of a slanted bay projection on the south elevation, the addition of a cedar shingle covering on the upper south elevation gable end, the alteration of east wing windows, the addition of a "flower house" on the east wing extension, plus the addition of jigsawed, scroll-cut boards beneath selected window sills.

The Eastlake-style ornament on the Zimmerman House is particularly notable. The elaborate foliated sawn balustrade on the upper porch shown in a c. 1890 photograph, appears to have been the inspiration for the 1899 upper balustrade, although changes in supports and spacing suggest that the existing balustrade may have been copied from the one seen in the photograph. Parenthetically, there is also reason to suspect that the sawn balustrade in the 1890 photo was not original, as its design was not in character with the house's original Classical Revival decorative motifs.

A slightly flared shingled skirt appears below the upper balustrade, and shelters the frieze below, which consists of an applied band of scallop-edged boards over identical bays consisting of opposing rectangular panels with a pierced, stylized foliate design, between which appears a succession of reel ornaments. These features are supported by a plain horizontal board, below which appears a sawtooth frieze. Porch supports are 6-inch turned posts embellished with sawn scroll brackets and a circular applied ornament. There is no lower porch balustrade. Bargeboards on the south and west elevations are equally elaborate, consisting of various applied and pierced boards, with sunburst bead and reel patterns. Notable are the star cutouts on the west, and quarter moon cutouts on the south elevation. Most windows are one-over-one double-hung sash set into wooden frames. Several windows have original operable shutters.

The four exterior doors have colored and frosted glass panes. Three have ornamental screen

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

doors painted black. The main entrance door is oak and has a large ornate brass doorbell. Colored glass side lights and transom frame the doorway.

The "brick dairy" (c. 1890s) [also known as the Buttery Building] measures 14' x 25', and is of frame construction with brick veneer. It has two windows with six-over-six, double-hung sash. George Zimmerman made cheese and butter in this building. There is one interior chimney with corbel cap. Boston ivy has overtaken the building and has damaged the brick veneer facing. **As of 5/26/16, the Dairy has collapsed. The current owner (2016) of the buildings, the East County Historical Organization (ECHO) is considering plans for the demolition of this building.**

The double garage which was built c. 1920 from salvaged drop siding and other available materials may or may not be significant on its own, but blends in with the cluster of outbuildings that remain of the Zimmerman farm. The grounds in Jacob Zimmerman's period at the farm (1870-1887) appear to have consisted of a meadow type lawn, which probably contained native plants such as Queen Anne's Lace, Foxglove, Columbine, Ox Eye Daisy, Chickory, etc. This area was probably cut with a scythe.

In George Zimmerman's time the yard was transformed to a more manicured state, containing Wisteria, English Laurel, and Roses of all types. The front garden was enclosed by a picket fence, which was replaced by a woven wire fence in later years. George had a concrete walkway and steps installed which led to the mailbox on Sandy Road (Sandy Blvd.). On the banks near the steps English ivy grew. Along the walkway are roses of varying types planted by different members of the family. Earlier, the flower beds probably contained an equal balance of annuals and perennials. Now the area lining the walkway is planted exclusively in perennials. Although overgrown, this area supplies color throughout the growing season. A partial list is as follows: Lavender, Heather, Iris (several types) Day Lilies, Columbine, Ribbon Grass, Sweet William, Sedum, Sweet Rocket, Tansy Mint, Vinca Minor, Arabis, Lunaria and Sweet Pea. Shrubbery includes Holly Boxwood, Privet, Japanese Quince, Snowball, Lilac, Forsythia and Ruby Hawthorn.

The orchard has two areas with apples, prunes, plums, nuts and cherries behind and East of the house; pears on the West. A few apple, prune and plum trees survive. Some of the apple varieties are Yellow Bellflower, Striped Astrachan and Gravenstein. Nuts are English Walnuts. The owner does not recall any plums, save the existing yellow plum. The Black Republican and Royal Anne Cherry trees are both gone, but Miss Zimmerman replaced the Royal Anne in 1960. The pear orchard is not included in the nominated area, but is worthy of mention. There are 24 pear trees, the varieties being Bartlett, Winter Nellis, Vicar of Wakefield, Rust and Pound Pear. This pear orchard is unusually large and contains unusual varieties.

The remaining fruit trees, with the exception of the Royal Anne Cherry, are or are near 100 years old and still bear heavily. These pear trees are not to be confused with the ones planted by the log cabin. The original water system was gravity flow from a spring up near the railroad tracks that lie south of the farm. The house now shares a well with a nearby neighbor.

The 100 cow capacity dairy barn built c.1888-93 was burned by vandals in 1976. An earlier horse barn was also lost to fire during a period when the farm was rented out.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The house was built by Jacob Zimmerman, a German immigrant and pioneer who acquired 320 acres of land in the Blue Lake region of the county in 1870, having previously farmed in various sections of the state since 1851. Jacob Zimmerman caused the construction of the Classic Revival farmhouse in 1878 and later rented the property to his son George in 1881. George Zimmerman enlarged the farm and conducted a successful dairy business until his death in 1915, the end of the historic period. His daughter Isobel Zimmerman was born in the house and continued to reside there. The house contains a plentitude of historic family furnishings and decorative arts.

The site on which the Zimmerman House is located is significant, because it was near the Chinookan village of Nech-co-kee. By the time Lewis and Clark visited the Blue Lake region, most of the Native American population had been decimated by smallpox. There were still significant numbers of the Native Americans to give Lewis and Clark a good idea just how prosperous life in the Columbia River area had been previous to discovery by white men. Nineteenth century agricultural cultivation turned up numerous artifacts, many of which were found by the Zimmerman's. During the latter part of the 1800s the Zimmerman's provided a home for Indian John, who was the last Chinook speaking Indian from the Blue Lake area who remembered Lewis and Clark's visit and how the Indians of the area had lived along the Columbia River.

Indian John lived in the original building on the site, a log cabin constructed c.1870. It is in deteriorated condition and is not included in the nomination.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

Bibliography:

- Chilton, W.R., eds., *Gresham, Stories of our Past: Book I, From Campground to City* [Gresham, Ore.: Davis and Fox Printing, 1996].
- Chilton, W.R., eds., *Gresham, Stories of our Past: Book II, Before and After the World Wars* [Gresham, Ore.: Davis and Fox Printing, 1996].
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- City of Gresham, *Updates to Gresham Historic Properties Jacob Zimmerman House*, [1993].

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

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Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



Jacob Zimmerman House, looking north from NE Sandy.

City of Gresham

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Jacob Zimmerman House, looking northwest from parking area.



Zimmerman House, South Façade c. 1890 before remodel.
Image included in NR form from Isobel Zimmerman.

City of Gresham

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Zimmerman House, south façade c. 1905, showing remodeling of 1905. Image included in NR form from Isobel Zimmerman.



View of collapsed dairy barn, looking north from parking area.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Carnegie Library**

Current/ Other names: **Gresham Library**
Gresham Historical Society

Address: **410 N. Main Avenue**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **10**

¼: **SW ¼ of the NW ¼** Zip Code: **97030**

Tax Lot: **1 & 6** Addition: **Mt. Hood** Block: **4**

Assessor: **R586400730**



Gresham Carnegie Library looking east from N. Main Ave.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Library	Height (stories): 1	Total # eligible resources: 1
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant	NR status: Listed	City Landmark Status: Listed
Primary construction date: 1912 - 1913	Use comments: Excellent condition	
Secondary construction date:	Style comments:	
Primary use: Library	Siding comments:	
Secondary use: Museum	Builder: Carnegie Foundation	
Primary style: Tudor		
Secondary style: Tudor Revival		
Primary siding: Brick		
Secondary siding: Half Timbering		
Plan type: Rectangular		
Architect: Folger Johnson		

Notes: **Narratives quoted from 2000 National Register Nomination Form, with minor edits.**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is Gresham's first public library. Before the Carnegie foundation donated the funds to build it in 1913, local residents had to travel all the way to Portland to visit a library. Gresham citizens led a coordinated effort to bring a library to the city, and this building represents their hard work.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Gresham Carnegie Library is located at the intersection of N. Main Avenue and NE 4th Streets in the historic downtown commercial district. The Gresham Historical Society currently uses the building. Overall, the structure is in excellent condition. The building is set back ten feet

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

from the sidewalk and features two birch trees and numerous shrubs which landscape the lot. Because this structure is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the architectural and historic descriptions are quoted below.

From the National Register Nomination:

The building has a low pitched gable roof with a hipped bay and is covered with wood shingles. The roof has a galvanized iron ridge and gutters. There was one chimney toward the rear of the building on the east side, which has now been capped. The exterior of the building is marked by distinctive decorative brick work and false half timbering. The end gables include carved oak brackets and leaded glass bay windows distinguished by symbolic medallions. All of the wood on the exterior of the building is red which compliments the brickwork nicely and the overall feel of the building is that of an English Tudor building of the finest example from the Tudor Revival period (1890-1920).

North Elevation

The north elevation of the exterior of the library is distinguished primarily by the concave bay window wall. This includes seven separate rectangular panes of leaded glass each of which are topped by a distinctive medallion. Framing the window panes are red timbers. On the west and eastern sides of the bay windows there is false half timbering with decorative brickwork laid in between. Below the bay windows there are eleven rectangular panels of decorative brickwork framed by red timbers. This brickwork is placed in a herringbone pattern. Above the bay windows there are eleven square panels of decorative brickwork also framed by red timbering. There is an alternating pattern in the center of the square panels. The center shape alternates from a diamond shape to the square shape all across the top of the bay windows. Seven of the panels both above and below the bay windows arch outward at the same angle as the window wall. On either end of this decorative brickwork where the gable hangs over the lower part of the building, is a decorative carved cornice. Above the bay windows and the decorative brickwork panels is the roof gable. The gable juts out above the lower part of the building in the Tudor style. Stucco is framed by red timbers, and there are two small windows providing ventilation to the attic space located at the center of the gable.

The northeastern part of the building, where the women's restroom was originally located, marks the rest of the north elevation. It is a shorter elevation than the larger reading room. This elevation is distinguished by three separate rectangular window panes framed by red timbers. On either side of the window panes there is a rectangular panel of decorative brickwork also framed by red timbers. Below the window panes are five rectangular panels of decorative brickwork of the same size and type that run underneath the bay windows of this elevation. Above the window panes the roof line hangs down at a low pitch. Below the lower panels of decorative brickwork lies the brick foundation marked by a few arch shaped window openings framed with red timber. These openings provide ventilation to the basement.

East Elevation

The eastern elevation of the library is primarily distinguished by the bay window wall in the center of this elevation located in the Story Hour Room. There are five rectangular panes of

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

glass topped by five square panes with medallions at the center. Below the bay windows are five rectangular panels of decorative brick. Along either side of the bay window wall is another rectangular pane of glass framed by red timbering and two long rectangular panels of decorative brickwork. The top of the pane of glass is another panel of decorative brickwork of the same size and scale as the square panes of glass with medallions at the center. Below the pane of glass is a panel of brickwork of the same type that run underneath the bay window, with two small rectangular shaped panels of decorative brickwork on either side. Running along the brick foundation of the building are five small rectangular windows horizontal in orientation, providing light to the basement of the building. There is a hipped gable above the bay window wall, which is covered with shingles. A window has been located at the center of this gable and is set back deep inside the gable. Although it is square in shape it almost appears like an eyebrow dormer. Set back from this gable is the capped chimney and then the rest of the shingled roof. The north part of the eastern elevation is what was originally the women's restroom of the library. This part of the building is set back from the Story Hour room by one rectangular panel of decorative brickwork running perpendicularly to this part of the building. There are two large rectangular windowpanes, with two rectangular panels of brickwork framed by red timbering of the same size on either side of these windows. Below the windows are four smaller rectangular panels of decorative brickwork of the same type and size that run below the bay window wall of the Story Hour room.

The south part of the eastern elevation mirrors the north part of this elevation. There are also two large rectangular windows framed on either side by the same type of decorative brickwork panels. Four smaller rectangular panels of brickwork run below these windows as well. This part of the building is set back from the Story Hour room by two long rectangular panels of decorative brickwork running perpendicular to this part of the building. The stairs to the basement run below the southeastern part of the building. There is an iron gate at the top of the stairs. The brickwork along the foundation gives way to exposed concrete as the stairs descend to the basement level. There is a small red door at the outside entrance to the basement.

South Elevation

The main portion of the south elevation exactly mirrors the north elevation. The south eastern corner of this elevation is the entrance to the original librarian's office. The entrance is a red wooden door in the Tudor style, with ironwork running horizontally across it. There is an iron lantern above the door. There is a small square window directly above the door, and two rectangular windows on either side. There is a panel of decorative brickwork on the west side of the window and door and another panel of the same size on the east side of the window and door. There are two smaller rectangular panels of decorative brickwork on either side of the door underneath the windows. These panels are of the same size and type as those running underneath the bay windows. The two original brick steps leading to the door can be seen underneath the concrete wheelchair ramp, which leads to the parking lot. There are also two large bushes on either side of the door. There is an iron railing running alongside the wheelchair ramp as well as the additional two concrete stairs leading from the sidewalk to this ramp.

West Elevation

The west elevation is the front of the library building, which faces Main Street. The center of the

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building is a Tudor Arch, which frames the front entrance into the vestibule of the building. Above this arch is a gable, which overhangs the entrance in the Tudor style. This gable consists of red timbers with stucco panels. There are two iron lanterns on either side of the door. The door is a light oak, with a rectangular shape. There is window above the door with four unique decorative arch patterns inlaid. The lanterns are set in the center of a rectangular panel of decorative brickwork. Underneath this panel is another square panel of decorative brickwork framed by red timbering. There are five brick steps with iron handrails on either side leading up to a landing and the entrance of the building.

On either side of the vestibule entrance there is a rectangular window allowing light into the closets on either side of the vestibule. This window and the wall is perpendicular to the rest of the building. Above the window are two panels of decorative brick framed by red timber.

On either side of the window are long rows of single bricks stacked on top of each other. Below the window are two square panels of decorative brick framed by red timber. On either side of the main entrance is the window wall. There are five larger rectangular windows with a smaller square window containing a symbolic leaded glass medallion. These windows are of the same type and scale as those used in the bay window walls of the north and south elevations. Above the windows are 5 square panels of decorative brickwork of the same type and design as used on the north and south elevations above the bay windows. On either side of the windows there is a long rectangular panel of decorative brickwork in a herringbone design. It runs the length of the rectangular window and the square window on top. Above this rectangular brick panel is another square decorative brick panel, adding to the five square panels above the windows. Below the windows are seven smaller rectangular decorative brick panels of the same type and style that run below the bay windows on the south and north elevations. At each corner of the building where the roof meets the building there is a decorative cornice carved out of wood.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The Gresham Carnegie Library meets National Register criterion "A" because the property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the history of Gresham.

In 1903, a dedicated group of Gresham residents, realizing the need to provide reading materials for the local area, took advantage of a county tax for public libraries. People in Gresham could obtain library cards through the postmaster, but they had to travel to Portland to check out or return books.

This problem was overcome when funds were gathered locally and a back room over the post office was furnished with a stove, table, hanging lamp and six wooden chairs. A load of firewood was provided by a patron. The first fifty books were donated by Iona McColl, the postmaster, and other books were brought from the Portland Public Library. The public flocked to the reading room during the three evenings a week it was open. Various "custodians" as librarians were called then volunteered their time. By the end of 1904, annual circulation had reached 567 volumes.

In 1906, a library association was formed in Gresham; Mrs. Alida Culy became the first permanent custodian, receiving a handsome salary of one dollar a week. By 1907, the library

City of Gresham

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had grown so much that new quarters were found in the lower part of a building on Powell Valley Road. Open hours were extended to each afternoon and evening. The Gresham Town Council passed an ordinance, providing \$5 a month for the rent, and the Portland Library Association offered to pay the custodian-librarian. By 1908, the library collection had grown to 400 volumes.

The need for a larger building led citizens to investigate a report that the Andrew Carnegie Foundation was providing Oregon communities with funds for libraries. Donations from the community made possible the purchase of this property at the corner of North Main Avenue and Fourth Street for \$ 1,900.

Meanwhile, the Library Association of Portland had extended its influence to all libraries in Multnomah County. The combination of support from Gresham and Portland soon convinced the Carnegie Foundation to build a library in Gresham. In 1913, at a cost of \$11,568.15, the building was completed. Furniture and equipment cost an additional \$1,756.85.

The Gresham Branch Library building was designed by architect Folger Johnson. The building has been acclaimed as one of the finest examples of Tudor architecture and is considered outstanding in beauty and adaptability. Marion D. Ross, professor of History of Architecture, at the University of Oregon, has cited this library as being one of the finest examples of this form in the area. The decorative arrangement of bricks in the exterior walls is unique. Added to the decor of the building are the famous colophon windows which are made of glass and lead.

Architect: Johnson, Parker, and Wallwork

Folger Johnson was born on July 4, 1882 in Columbus, Georgia to Walter and Florence Johnson. After completing high school, Johnson went on to college and received his Bachelor of Science degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Johnson then moved to New York and continued his education, receiving a bachelor's degree in architecture from Columbia University. In 1908, he went to Paris, France to study architecture at the Ecoles des Beaux Arts. He returned to the United States in 1910 and worked in New York and Florida before moving out to the West Coast where he entered into practice with Jamieson Parker, and Carl Wallwork. The new State Board of Architect Examiners granted him his architectural license in 1919.

Johnson was active in civic affairs while practicing architecture in Portland. He served on the Portland Planning Commission, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Portland Art Commission. He was appointed the State Director of the Federal Housing Administration in 1940, replacing Jamieson Parker. Johnson retired from the post in 1950 and retired from the firm Johnson and Parker in 1965. Johnson died at the age of 88 in 1970 leaving his second wife Shelby Payne Johnson, and a son, Folger Johnson, Jr.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews |

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

- Obituaries Newspapers State Archives Historic Photographs
City Directories Building Permits State Library

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

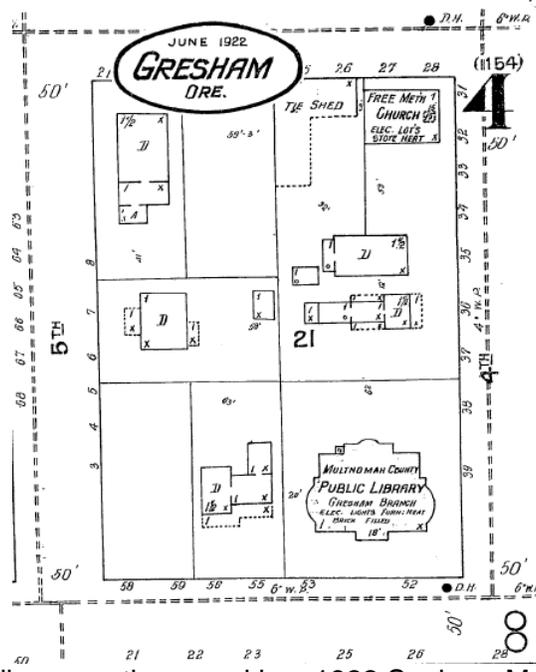
Bibliography:

- Bobinski, George, *Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development* [Chicago, Ill.: American Library Association, 1969].
- Chilton, W.R., eds., *Gresham, Stories of our Past: Book II, Before and After the World Wars* [Gresham, Ore.: Davis and Fox Printing, 1996].
- City of Gresham, *Inventory of Historic and Cultural Landmarks and Historic Context Statement*, adopted 1988; amended 1990.
- City of Gresham, *Inventory of Historic Properties* Carnegie Library, [1986].
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- Fitzgerald, Kim, *Gresham Carnegie Library: National Register Nomination* [Salem, Ore.: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, 2000].
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Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Library on the parcel in a 1922 Sanborn Map.



West (main) façade of Carnegie Library viewed from N. Main Avenue.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



South façade of Carnegie Library viewed from NE 4th Street.



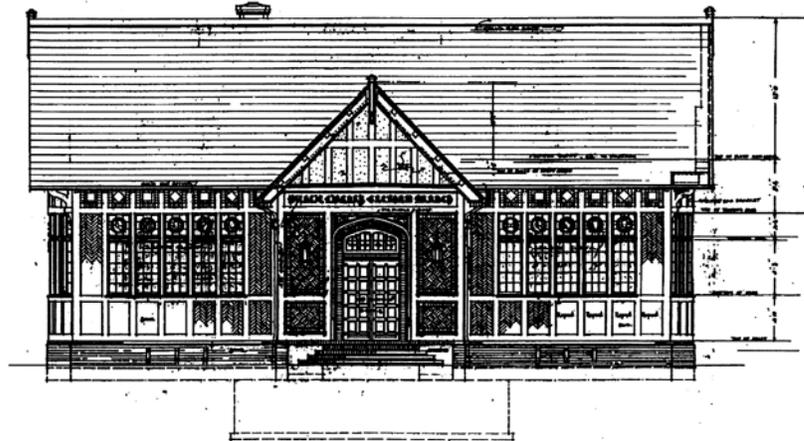
Gresham Carnegie Library west (main) façade, courtesy of Gresham Historical Society.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

CONTRACTOR TO VERIFY ALL
DIMENSIONS AT BUILDING

③



- WEST - ELEVATION -
1/8" = 1'-0"

JOB - NO 54 DATE - SEPT. 6 1912. REVISED	PUBLIC LIBRARY - GRESHAM BRANCH GRESHAM OREGON	JOHNSON & MAYER ARCHITECTS 715 - FELLING BLDG. PORTLAND
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West elevation of Gresham Carnegie Library, Johnson and Mayer Architects, Sept. 6, 1912.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **William Gedamke House**

Current/ Other names: **Family Memorial
Mortuary**

Address: **1304 E. Powell Boulevard**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **10**

$\frac{1}{4}$: **NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$** Zip Code: **97030**

Tax Lot: **14** Addition: **Shoemakers** Block: **1**

Assessor: **R768000050**



William Gedamke House looking southwest from E Powell.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Residence** Height (stories): **2**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Listed**

Primary construction date: **c. 1900**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Use comments: **Excellent condition**

Secondary use: **Commercial**

Primary style: **Queen Anne**

Style comments: **Based on George Barber's
Plan #21 in Cottage Souvenir #2**

Secondary style: **Kit House**

Primary siding: **Shiplap**

Siding comments:

Secondary siding: **Fishscale Shingle**

Plan type: **Cross "L"**

Architect: **George Barker**

Builder: **William Gedamke**

Notes: **Narratives quoted from National Register Nomination Form.**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is a mail-order home. In about 1900, William Gedamke, a Gresham farmer, purchased the plans for the home in *The Cottage Souvenir No. 2*. He logged the area and used the timber to build the home.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The William Gedamke House is located on the south side of E. Powell Boulevard between SE Vista Avenue and SE Cleveland Avenue along a busy commercial street. The home stands as one of the only original buildings in the street and is surrounded by parking lots and modern commercial warehouses. Because the home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the narratives are quoted below.

From the National Register Nomination:

**Gresham Historic Landmark #3
William Gedamke House**

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

From Multnomah County deed records, it's known that the William Gedamke residence was built between 1891 and 1901, and most probably about 1900. It is a two-story Queen Anne style dwelling of frame construction with a ground plan measuring roughly 25 x 40 feet. Beginning in 1985, the house was rehabilitated for commercial use as a flower and gift shop. Before that time, the building was continuously maintained as a single-family residence.

The Gedamke House is one of the very few remaining examples of the Queen Anne style in Gresham. Many of the early buildings surrounding the property were summer cottages built in the 1920s for Portlanders who spent leisure hours on the Columbia River or, later, at Timberline Lodge in the Mt. Hood recreational area. Most of the surrounding bungalows have been, or are destined to be, removed to make room for commercial buildings.

The house was framed of native fir thought to have been cleared from the land upon which the house stands. Framing consists of rough-cut 2 x 4-inch rafters and studs. Exterior elevations are surfaced with shiplap on the first floor and the rear of the second floor. Patterned shingles of alternating scalloped and straight-butt courses cover the second story on front and side elevations.

The house has an L-shaped plan and a gable roof. A hip-roofed volume is interposed between the intersecting rectangular volumes, and the front porch occupies the angle between the two legs of the ell. In addition to variegated siding marking the division between stories, those exterior features which mark the house as a vernacular version of the Queen Anne style are shaped vergeboards, window frames with architrave moldings and sill aprons, elongated, double-hung window sash with colored border lights, and fancy jigsaw brackets and pendant ornament on jetties overhanging ground-story beveled window bays.

Whereas the Gedamke House appears to be a simplified version of pattern-maker George F. Barber's Design No. 21 from *The Cottage Souvenir No. 2*, it represents a common type which has come to be identified in recent studies of vernacular architecture as the "Tri-gabled Ell." The Gedamke House does not have the elaborate Eastlake-style porch of Barber's design, but it is distinguished by beveled corner window bays and a fine central brick chimney which has a base shaft-capital composition decoratively articulated with a crowning course of vertically laid stretchers set at an angle. The front bed chamber in the second story is lighted by an octagonal window in the east elevation.

Interior stud walls are constructed of lath and smooth-finished plaster. The floors are of fir while door and window frames, stair banister and other trim, such as baseboards and picture molding, are of cedar. Interior trim is characterized by beaded moldings and decorative corner blocks.

In the recent adaptation from residential to commercial use after 1985, certain modifications were carried out. Additional space was gained on the second story by enclosing a rear porch. Shiplap siding of the original exterior was used to enclose the new space. A second bathroom was added to the ground story by enclosing a rear porch area. A railing was added to the front porch in compliance with safety regulations, and for similar reasons, two-inch blocks were used to raise the height of the interior stair banister. To gain interior circulation space, pocket doors were removed from dining room and parlor entrances and stored on the premises. Certain doorways were widened to meet fire and life safety regulations.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

The house was patterned after a builder's plan book design. Specifically, it is thought to have been patterned after Design No. 21 of an 1891 publication, *The Cottage Souvenir No. 2: A Repository of Artistic Cottage Architecture and Miscellaneous Designs* by George F. Barber of Knoxville, Tennessee. Barber's plan books were widely circulated as mail order catalogs, and a number of houses from his books have been documented in Oregon. Such houses represent the ultimate stage in development of steam power technology for mass production of plans and building parts.

The Gresham area was settled beginning in the late 1840s and initially was known as Camp Ground. In the 1880s local residents petitioned the federal government for establishment of a post office. To influence the postmaster general, who was former Union Army general Walter Quinton Gresham, area residents changed the name of the settlement to Gresham. The post office was duly established in 1884. The townsite was situated on the Donation Land Claim of J. H. Lambert, on a parcel of 157 acres sold to William Coyle in 1845. William Gedamke purchased land at auction from Coyle's estate on September 1, 1882. His land was heavily timbered and was acquired for \$5,000.00. Shortly after his purchase, Gedamke sold slightly over 5 acres to Samuel Metzger for \$50.00. Metzger operated a mercantile in Gresham and was the father of several children that became prominent citizens in the area. Gedamke, whose recorded occupation was general farmer and stockman, cleared all but a few acres of the land, built his home, and sold the property to his wife for \$1.00. After the death of Lucinda, title passed through other members of the family before being sold to Mary Shoemaker, who subdivided the holding in 1921. The subdivision is currently known as Shoemaker Addition.

George F. Barber was one of the country's most successful purveyors of domestic architectural plans of the 19th Century. His designs were widely circulated by the mail order method of architectural practice. Barber had learned the building trade and design from books purchased by mail order. His catalog designs were accompanied by price lists and order forms. Barber's first catalog, *The Cottage Souvenir*, contained 18 drawings of houses in wood, brick and stone, ranging in price from \$900 to \$8,000. It was printed in 1887. It was a simple presentation, printed on card stock with a piece of yarn used as the binding. The second catalog (No. 2) was much larger in size and more diverse in content. It contained 50 designs for houses and cottages and other designs for barns, a church, a chapel, two stores, and two summer pavilions. Barber sold as many as 20,000 sets of plans by advertising in popular literary and women's magazines.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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Gresham Historic Landmark #3
William Gedamke House

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

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Miller, George R., *Gresham* [Charleston S.C.: Arcadia, 2011].

U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



West façade of William Gedamke House viewed from E. Powell Boulevard.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



East façade of William Gedamke House viewed from parking lot.



East and south façade of William Gedamke House viewed from parking lot.

City of Gresham

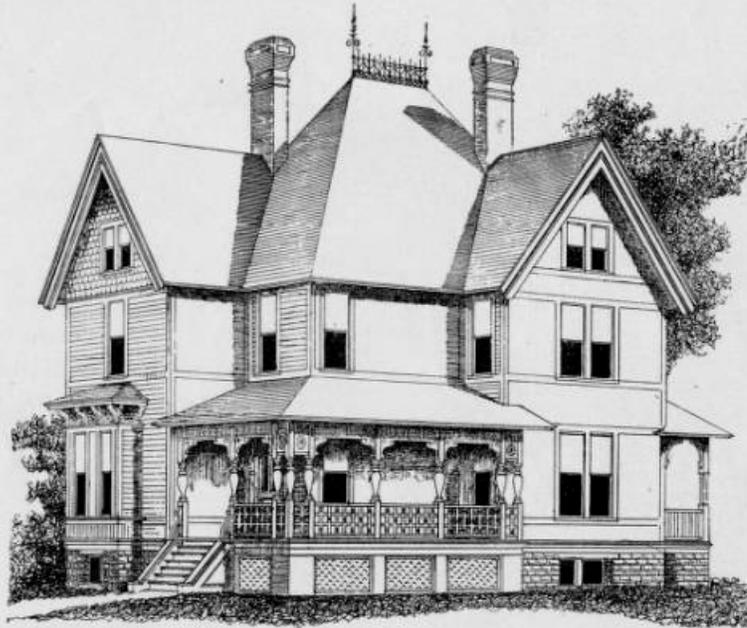
Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



North façade of William Gedamke House viewed from E. Powell Boulevard.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



PERSPECTIVE VIEW.

DESIGN No. 21.

Cost to build, as per description, \$2,700.

NOTES.

As it is intended in this design to get the most house for the least money, it has been necessary to make both the inside and outside comparatively plain. Yet there is a neatness about it that renders it a very attractive cottage. The plan is similar to that shown on page 30, but larger and contains more rooms. The front hall opens into three rooms from the front and the back hall into three from the rear. The kitchen, back stairs, pantry, cellar way, rear hall and entrance are very conveniently arranged.

The second story is similar to the first, and has a bath room off from servant's room and is entered from back hall. Folding doors can be used in place of grates if desired.

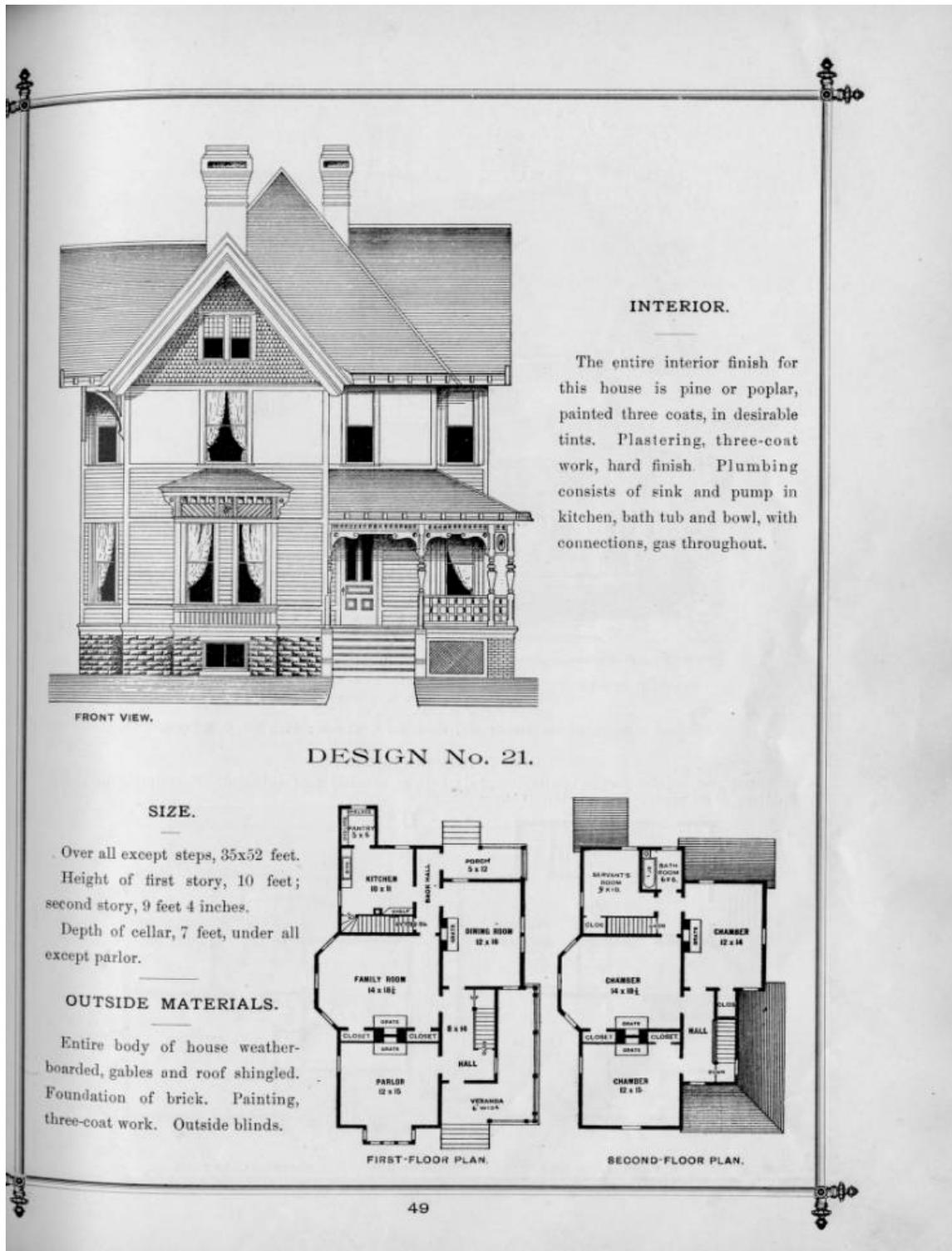
This plan can be enlarged, reduced or changed to front in any direction.

(See page 10.)

George Barber's Design No. 21 from *The Cottage Souvenir No. 2: A Repository of Artistic Cottage Architecture and Miscellaneous Designs*.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



George Barber's Design No. 21 from *The Cottage Souvenir No. 2: A Repository of Artistic Cottage Architecture and Miscellaneous Designs*.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **The Louise Home,
Hospital, and Residence Hall**

Current/ Other names: **Albertina Kerr
Lisa C. Gibson Center**

Address: **722 NE 162nd Avenue**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1n** Range: **3E** Section: **31**

¼: **SW ¼ of the NW ¼** Zip Code: **97230**

Tax Lot: **36** Addition: **Beaver Acres**
Block:

Assessor: **R061800870**



The Louise Home viewed from NE 162nd Avenue.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Home/ Hospital**

Height (stories): **2**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Listed**

Primary construction date: **1912**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date: **1945**

Primary use: **Home/ Hospital**

Use comments: **Excellent condition**

Secondary use: **Children's Home**

Primary style: **Georgian Revival**

Style comments:

Secondary style:

Primary siding: **Brick**

Siding comments:

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **"U" Shaped**

Architect: **Carl H. Wallwork**

Builder:

Notes: **Narratives quoted from National Register Nomination Form.**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Louise Home represents a time in U.S. society when governments did not offer social services. The home, designed in 1925 by Architect Carl H. Walworth, once part of an extensive seventeen-acre farm and wooded campus for unwed mothers, which private philanthropists and religious organizations funded.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Louise Home is located east of NE 162nd Avenue on the edge of Gresham. The home is

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

situated on the original seventeen-acre Albertina Kerr campus. The campus is surrounded by residential neighborhoods, but once consisted of a large farm that supported the hospital and home. An extensive stand of Douglas fir trees has also been well-preserved and shade the entire campus. Because the home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the narratives are quoted below. Several minor updates have been added.

From the National Register Nomination:

The plan of the Hospital and Residence Hall is a modified "U" or "V" shape, with the legs, or wings, at 45° angles to the main portion. The wings are about 25 feet wide and 45 feet long and the main portion is about 30 feet wide and 74 feet long. The building has a full basement, two floors and an attic and partial third floor. The basement foundation is of concrete construction and the main and second floors have solid brick exterior walls with wood framed and plaster interior walls. The attic and partial third floor is wood framed with plaster walls and segmental-arched dormers and a long shed dormer on the rear. The hipped roof is covered with composition shingles. The major brick outside end chimney with corbeled cap rises above the roofline at the outer end of the north wing to vent the boiler and kitchen range. The living room fireplace chimney rises above the rear slope of the south wing roof.

Exterior elevations faced with Flemish bond brick are formally composed, having regular fenestration in upper and lower stories. Generous window openings are unframed and fitted with six-over-six, double-hung sash. A continuous string course divides the stories at the second story window sill line. In the main block, lower story window openings are headed by blind relieving arches accented by keystones and impost blocks. The principal, west-facing facade, approached by a semi-circular driveway, is organized into three bays on either side of a central projecting entrance pavilion which is two stories in height and is terminated by a pediment above the full classical entablature which encompasses the entire main block. The pediment with its modillioned raking cornice is embellished with plaster relief ornament in the tympanum. The ornament consists of garlands and an escutcheon bearing the initials of the Pacific Protective Society. The entrance is gained through a recessed porch framed by a classical portico with segmental-arched pediment supported by two round Tuscan columns. Brick quoining at the corners of the main block and entrance pavilion are rusticated.

Interior spaces are arranged with a recreation room in the basement of the main block and heating plant and storage in the basement of the north wing. On the main floor, the central circulation hall separates the living room, or common room from the matron's suite and other staff quarters. The large dining hall and original kitchen space are contained in the north wing; original receiving rooms in the south. The second story, laid out on a double-loaded central corridor plan throughout, was originally allocated to hospital wards in the wings and treatment rooms in the main block. In the main block, a partial third story was utilized as a convalescent ward.

Except for a small brick-faced kitchen extension measuring 12 feet wide and 20 feet long added to the end of the north wing in 1945, the building is essentially unchanged on the exterior. About the only change to the interior original walls was to open two doors, one each side of the fireplace in the livingroom to provide access to residence areas when the building was changed from a hospital use to a residence for emotionally and behaviorally disturbed girls. Also, for this change, the sliding doors to the entry hall were closed and a non-bearing partition was placed in

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

front of the sliding doors and another non-bearing partition was placed to separate the main stairs and living room from the public entrance.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The history of the institution on NE 162nd Avenue outlying Portland's easterly city limits opened in 1912 when St. Elisabeth's Home for wayward girls acquired nine acres at the site. The enterprise of the Episcopal Sisters was eventually sold to the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society, which moved to the site in 1915. The Society transferred to this place the title of its own home for wayward girls which it had operated in Portland since 1908. Thus, the Louise Home was a carry-over name which applied to the institution's campus as a whole.

Today, the oldest building on the campus is the Juvenile Hospital, later named Kathrynne Carlson Residence Hall, which was designed in 1925 and completed and opened for use in 1927. Two and a half stories in height and taking the shape of a modified V, it was designed by Portland architect Carl H. Wallwork, who had earlier (1921) designed the Albertina Kerr Nursery in association with Folger Johnson and Jamieson Parker. The Albertina Kerr Nursery has been listed in the National Register.

The hospital's finely-detailed exterior elevations are well preserved. While the building is locally noteworthy as an example of institutional architecture of the 1920s in an appropriately traditional style, it meets National Register Criterion A, primarily, as the discretely-sited flagship of the Louise Home campus. Specifically, it represents an historic continuum of social services fulfilled by private philanthropy where public facilities were lacking. Like the Multnomah County Poor Farm and more precisely comparable institutions elsewhere in the state, such as the Children's Farm Home near Corvallis, the Louise Home was situated on the outskirts of the city where undeveloped acreage was affordable and such land could provide a healthful environment, contribute to the subsistence of the institution and remove the clients from unwholesome distractions of city life.

No safe haven or institution for unwed mothers existed in Portland before 1908. With characteristic Christian vision and pragmatic approach, humanitarian William G. MacLaren sought to provide asylum in establishing the Louise Home. The plethora of pregnancies among "wayward girls" which accompanied the greater than normal population increase in Portland in the early years of the 20th Century was recognized as a root cause of related societal problems by the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society, founded by MacLaren, and the Portland Police Bureau. MacLaren's objective in arousing public concern for indigent and unfortunate persons was reinforced by the work of Alexander Kerr, Dr. Wynne Watts, and others. The specialized medical care required by unwed mothers who had venereal diseases could not be given readily in regular hospitals before the advent of penicillin and other "wonder drugs" in the 1940s. Delivery rooms to accommodate the mothers were thus provided at the Louise Home. The Louise Home was opened in 1908 at 373 Cable Street in Portland and operated there until moving to the present site in 1915. The evolution from need to solution spanned the years from 1908-1927, and in these years St. Elisabeth's House, Albertina Kerr Nursery, and the Louise Home all aided the unwed mother population. The year 1927 was the completion date of the Louise Home Juvenile Hospital, a culminating development which provided the latest in clinical services and an attractive home-like residence for the girls during their time of waiting and recuperation.

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Following the founding of the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society by W. G. MacLaren, the Albertina Kerr Nursery was established by Alexander Kerr for the purpose of providing care for infants, usually orphans and children of unwed mothers, while the Louise Home was a residence for pregnant girls, of whom some needed treatment for venereal disease. Inevitably, administration of the separate but related institutions was meshed. Laundry and sewing services and food production for both agencies were centered at the Louise Home in rural Multnomah County. The "farm" provided meat, poultry, dairy products, vegetables and fruit. The Louise Home also had a cannery to process food.

Formal education and useful occupations were integral parts of the daily routine for residents of the Louise Home. In earlier days, when a resident's stay was six months or so, there was training or work to be done in the gardens, cannery, laundry, sewing rooms, dairy, or general running of the institution. Domestic science and commercial arts skills were practiced by the young women, as were secretarial skills such as typing. While regular classroom education always was a part of the program provided by the Louise Home, the Wynne Watts School was established in 1933 as one of the first publicly assisted special schools in the state. The school's specially-designed facility was opened for use on the Louise Home campus in 1938. The curriculum extended through high school grades. The school on campus was initiated in part, because it was not thought fitting for pregnant girls to be among other teenagers in the public schools.

The broader significance of the Louise Home and its sister institution founded at the inspiration of W. G. MacLaren in the early years of the 20th Century is that they set a standard for treatment of pregnant teenagers, their infants, and behaviorally disturbed youth elsewhere in the state and region.

In 2016, Scott Edwards Architecture won the Grand Award at the annual Golden Nugget Awards for their redesign and forthcoming remodel of the building. After design review with the City of Gresham, the building's modern addition will blend old and new styles with a completely new addition that features an interior light well to allow people to interact with the old building's façade.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



West and south façade of Louise Home from NE 162nd Avenue.

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West and North façade of Louise Home from NE 162nd Avenue.



West and north façade pictured in 1930.
Image from Albertina Ker center and used in National Register Nomination.

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Register Nomination.



Mockup of the new building's integration to the original structure.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Emanuel and Christina Anderson House**

Current/ Other names: **Witter Residence**

Address: **1420 SE Roberts Avenue**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **15**

¼: **SE ¼ of the NE ¼** Zip Code: **97080**

Tax Lot: **30** Addition: **Cedar Creek Park**
Block: **2**

Assessor: **R144301580**



West and north façade of Anderson House from Creek Pl.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Residence** Height (stories): **2**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **c. 1906**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Queen Anne**

Secondary style:

Primary siding: **Shiplap**

Secondary siding: **Fishscale Shingle**

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect:

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments: **Excellent condition**

Style comments:

Siding comments:

Builder: **Charles E. Witter**

Notes: **Narratives quoted from National Register Nomination Form.**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This home represents the lives of two important Gresham residents. Local Gresham builder Charles E. Witter built the Queen Anne style home in 1906. Emanuel Anderson, a leader in the Gresham Saron Lutheran Church and Emanuel Hospital in Portland, lived here.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Anderson House is located on the south side of SE Roberts Avenue between SE Maple Loop and SE Creek Place. The home stands as one of the oldest buildings by parking lots and in a residential neighborhood dominated by Craftsman style bungalows. Because the home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the National Register narratives are quoted below.

City of Gresham

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From the National Register Nomination:

Sited on a flat lot, the house faces north with an expansive front yard buffered from SE Roberts Avenue and SE Maple Loop by shrubs and smaller deciduous trees. Two mature black walnut trees, dating from the historic period, are in the front (north) yard. A sidewalk extends along the edge of SE Roberts Avenue and another sidewalk parallels SE Maple Loop. Deciduous trees interspersed with shrubs have been placed in the parking strip on the north side of the sidewalk; the vegetation screens the sidewalk from the street. A brick landing in a keyhole pattern is at the foot of the front stairs. A brick walkway from the west side deck leads to the driveway.

A concrete driveway decorated with brick extends east from SE Maple Loop to a carport attached to the back (south) of the house. The carport has double wooden doors that simulate historic garage doors. Originally, the driveway was located along the east side of the house and was accessed from SE Roberts Avenue; a portion of the eastern side of the lot was subdivided and sold in the early 1990s. Currently, a dense arborvitae hedge screens the Anderson House from the newer dwelling on the east. A wood fence and shrubs screen the property from the residence on the south.

Flowering shrubs and plants including rhododendrons, roses, and ferns are around the perimeter of the house. Plantings also frame the south and north side of the driveway, and some of the evergreen shrubs have sculpted forms. The remainder of the well-maintained yard is landscaped with perimeter plantings.

A shed and gazebo are located in the yard, but due to their insubstantial size neither is counted as a resource.

Exterior

The one-and one-half-story Anderson House is asymmetrical in plan and measures approximately 20 feet (east-west) and 54 feet (north-south). A carport and den addition was added in the 1960s to the back (south) elevation and a newer deck built on the west side of the house.

The house has a cross gable roof covered with architectural composition asphalt shingles. A small recessed porch on the upper story of the west elevation has a decorative spindlework frieze, tapered chamfered pilasters with an "X" pattern carved in the wood, and a hip roof. In 1916 the front gable was extended to enclose this small porch. A shed roof dormer has been added to the west side of the roof.

Projecting eaves embellished with a dentil fascia molding extend over the face of the building. The gable ends are decorated with king-post stickwork, and wide bands of staggered and hexagonal cut-wood shingles. Paired one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows punctuate the gable ends. The bottom of the gables flare slightly over the lower story's cut-away-bay windows. Jigsaw brackets with turned drop pendants at the corners decorate the bays on the west and north elevations. The front (north) bay has colored glass in the upper sashes. The remainder of the one-over-one, double-hung wood sash windows are surrounded by wood trim. Some of the original windows on the secondary elevations have been replaced with alternate window types. The original siding on the majority of the house consists of vertical drop wood

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siding finished with wide corner boards and a watertable. The second story of the rear ell is covered with wood shingles, and fire retardant shingles on the lower story. This portion of the house has smaller double-hung windows topped with a cap molding. A picture window and tall brick exterior chimney have been added to the east side of the house. Fire retardant shingles also cover the bottom portion of the west elevation bay. The house has a concrete foundation.

A one-story shed roof addition was made to the rear of the house in the 1960s and a lower carport added to the shed roof extension. A deck with a turned balustrade has been added to the west elevation. This deck wraps around to the front porch. The recessed front porch has an original chamfered tapered pilaster that has a carved "X" in the wood. A turned porch post has been added to the northwest corner of the porch. Jigsaw brackets decorate the corners of the porch. Fluted trim boards, a wide projecting cornice molding with a dentil molding, and a multi pane transom decorate the entrance. The original beaded ceiling is intact. A newer paneled door replaced the original door. New wooden stairs lead to the brick landing and the front yard.

Historic Alterations

- Extended the pitch on the west side of the north gable to partially enclose small upper porch; 1916.

Alterations

- Exterior chimney added to the east elevation (ca. 1960).
- Shed roof carport and den built on the rear (south) elevation (ca. 1960).
- Fire retardant shingles and some newer windows added to rear portion of building (ca. 1960s).
- New front door and gutters (early 1990s).
- A deck and turned railing added to the west and part of north elevation (early 1993).
- Crown molding added to living room and dining room (early 1990s).
- Some windows replaced on the rear addition (early 1990s) and crown moldings added to some windows.
- Kitchen remodeled and downstairs bath and utility room added (early 1990s).
- Restored original ceiling heights in the house (early 1990s).

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The Emanuel Anderson House meets National Register Criterion B for its association with Emanuel Anderson, a prominent Gresham community leader who moved to the newly incorporated city during a time of rapid growth. Anderson was active in the Gresham Saron Lutheran Church, was one of the founders and board members of the Bank of Gresham, and was instrumental in the development of Emanuel Hospital in Portland, serving as a board member from 1909 until 1926. Many of these family members benefited from Anderson's keen business sense as he helped relatives establish commercial enterprises in the area.

Sketch of Emanuel Andersen's Life

Emanuel and Christina Anderson built their SE Roberts Avenue residence circa 1906 after visiting family members in the area. Born on August 1, 1855 in Sweden, Emanuel came to the United States in 1869 and settled in Buckland, Missouri, where he married Christina Kjersti

City of Gresham

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Onsdorff on February 21, 1875. The couple settled on a section of land, established a successful turkey and pig farming business, and began raising their six children.

The three Anderson sons moved to the West Coast in 1902, 1904, and 1905, leaving their parents on their family farm in Missouri. Sons Edward and Carl Anderson became builders, constructing many commercial structures in Portland, and Julius became a professional photographer settling in Vancouver, Washington. Emanuel and Christina had three daughters. One daughter was married to a minister who was working at a Lutheran college, another daughter was living in Portland, and their youngest daughter was still at home.

According to Ariene Henshaw, granddaughter of the Andersons, the family bought six acres in 1906 on SE Roberts Avenue and hired builder Charles Emil Witter to construct a house on the site. The property was approximately one and a half miles south of Gresham's business district along SE Roberts Avenue. The Andersons' new house faced north on a flat lot and was set back from the street. The back of the property was adjacent to the Oregon Water and Power Company Railway commuter and freight railroad line that connected Gresham with Portland and beyond. This offered a convenient mode of transportation. Gresham grew during this period: the town of Gresham was incorporated in 1904; the first paper was established the same year; the telephone company organized, Grange Fair started, a brick yard began producing in 1906; and the electric company was founded in 1908.

A religious man, Emanuel was devoted to the Lutheran Church and the betterment of people's lives. The family were members of the Saron Lutheran Church located east of Gresham near the intersection of Powell and Barnes Roads (the congregation later moved closer to town and currently is known as the Trinity Lutheran Church).

In 1909, Anderson became involved as a benefactor and advocate of Emanuel Hospital, a well-known Lutheran institution in Portland. He served as a hospital board member until 1926. Upon his death, the Gresham Outlook newspaper reported, "the upbuilding of this institution (Emanuel Hospital), of which Portland is justly proud, has been one of the fond projects which filled the life of Mr. Anderson." According to Anderson family lore, Emanuel Hospital was named after Emanuel Anderson. Anderson also helped establish the Bank of Gresham in 1910 and for many years served as a board member of the bank.

Builder

Bernard Emil Witter was born in Saxon, Germany on May 26, 1845. He came to the United States with his parents when he was four years old. Bernard was naturalized on October 18, 1866, in Columbus Ohio. He married Barbara Katherine Schoepfel in Cincinnati two years later. They had four children that survived to adulthood: Louise Susan, Charles George, Ida May and Arthur Bernard. In 1888 Bernard moved his family to Oregon after his son Charles visited cousins in the area and sent favorable reports back to his father. Bernard purchased a 105-acre farm one mile south of Gresham. Here they set about building their family home and farm buildings in preparation for a farming venture. The cousins who had encouraged them to come to Oregon were the Stones (of Fairview) and the Jacob Zimmermans. The Zimmermans built the home at 179th and Sandy (also on the National Register of Historic Places). Bernard Emil Witter's family home was built in about 1890 and is located at 938 SE Roberts. It is presumed that he did most of the building with the help of his sons.

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Bernard's son Charles Emil Witter became known as a carpenter and built several houses in the area, and throughout Gresham. Bernard's other son, Arthur, became known as the farmer in the family and inherited the 105-acre farm after his father's death. Over time, Charlie built homes on this land. The Arthur B. Witter house, was built by Charlie in 1914 on part of the original 105-acre farmland. It is located at 909 SE Roberts, across from the original Bernard Witter family home.

The Witters built, and lived in, many homes in the immediate area. Charles Witter's house is located at 1102 SE Roberts Avenue, and was finished in 1921. Members of the Witter family lived in three homes built around the intersection of 9th and Roberts. It is believed that Charlie built these homes as well. Only recently did Charlie's son, Clarence, have to move from one of these homes due to old age.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



North and west façade of Anderson house from corner of SE Roberts.

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West façade of Anderson House from Creek Pl.



West and north façade of Anderson House from corner of Creek Pl. and Roberts Ave.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Heiney House**

Current/ Other names: **Forest Springs
Bed and Breakfast**

Address: **3680 SW Towle Ave.**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **21**

¼: **NW ¼ of the NW ¼** Zip Code: **97080**

Tax Lot: **300** Addition: Block:

Assessor: **R340834**



Heiney house looking east up the walkway from SW Towle.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Residence** Height (stories): **1 1/2**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Not Listed**

Primary construction date: **c.1908**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Use comments: **Substantial alterations to
N and E façades**

Secondary use: **Bed & Breakfast**

Style comments: **Orig. form notes**

Primary style: **Craftsman**

English Cottage (incorrect)

Secondary style: **Stick**

Siding comments: **Similar Clapboard used
on additions**

Primary siding: **Clapboard**

Secondary siding: **Coursed Shake**

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect:

Builder: **Frank Heiney**

Notes: **Exterior: Double gambrel front porch with decorative stickwork. Sits on threeknee braced columns and concrete footings.**

Alterations: Shed roof dormer added to south façade. Second story addition has extensively altered the north and east rooflines.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A woman with extensive land holdings, Hannah (Rilla) Heiney owned this home, which her family built in 1910. Hannah's husband Franklin owned and operated a Sawmill on Butler Creek with his brothers. The Heiney family was regularly in the local news, often entangled in controversy.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Heiney House is a 1908 Craftsman home set up on a steep hillside and is set back approximately 100 ft. from the northeast corner of Towle Avenue and Butler Road. Butler Road and Butler Creek are directly south and downhill of the home. A long gravel road grade affords access to the property and is located 190 ft. north of a carriage pullout, mailbox, and water-well.

**Gresham Historic Landmark #6
Hannah and Frank Heiney House**

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Access to the parcel by car requires passing through a locked gate and driving past a remodeled guard/ carriage house to a graveled pad area for 4-5 cars at the northeast corner of the home. The home's historic entry is the west (main) façade, and is accessed by a narrow footpath from Towle Avenue, where there appears to be a pullout and smaller parking area. The footpath takes you up past numerous large and potentially historic rhododendrons, boxwoods, spruces and cedars, to reach the front entrance. A tool shed sits directly east of the home and is clad in the original shakes from the historic barn, which was located further east uphill. There are several historic rock wall alignments and old foundations on the parcel as well. A steep roofed front gabled playhouse sits uphill to the northeast of the house. The home is the only structure considered a city Historic Landmark.

The Heiney house is a square plan Craftsman home with a simple hipped roof covered in composition shingles. It is clad clapboard siding and has coursed shake siding on the west (main) façade's original gabled roof dormer. The home's decorative diamond leaded glass windows are all intact, as well two large plate glass bay windows on the west and south façades. Many of the original double-hung 1/1 wooden sash windows remain on the main floor, but the second story displays significant alterations to original fenestration.

The most prominent feature is the unique double gambrel-roofed porch, which covers the main entry and is offset on the southwest corner of the home. The porch features decorative stickwork and centered louvered vents on the pediments. Decorative knee braces and square posts support the porch, which rests on pyramidal poured concrete footings. The main entrance faces south, and stairs on the west and east sides of the porch create the feeling of an open breezeway. The main entry has original hardware and features a large, single-paneled beveled-glass door, with two diamond leaded-glass sidelights.

Additionally, the south façade contains a three-section bay window with original 1/1 double-hung wooden sash windows framing a center cottage window with a decorative diamond leaded-glass upper sash. The second story alteration of a three-window, shed-roof dormer is clad in clapboards. The eastern half of the south façade is currently undergoing removal of vinyl siding to return to clapboards.

The east and north facades display significant alterations in the form of a second story addition, with hipped and shed wall dormers. These alterations significantly alter the historic roofline. However, the south and west facades have little to no visibility from the street.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

According to county deed records, this house was first owned by (Rilla) Hannah Heiney, née Davis, wife of Frank (Franklin) Heiney. The two married in Vancouver, Washington on June 2, 1901. Hannah, at 20 years old, was much younger than her husband, who was 41 years old. Deed records also indicate that Hannah purchased several large parcels of land in the south Gresham area in 1904 – 1906. Hannah bought the parcel from A. C. and R. N. Gibbs on April 11, 1906. Frank, who worked as a carpenter and mill owner with his brothers, may have constructed the home in 1908.

For a woman in her early twenties, Hannah's extensive land holdings were very rare for the time. It is unclear why she, and not her husband, is on the deed transfers. One probable explanation is that Frank wanted to distance himself and his wife from his family.

City of Gresham

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Joseph and Rachael Heiney (Frank's parents) emigrated from Kansas to Oregon in 1874 and homesteaded on a 177-acre tract in East County. They had 11 children, 8 of which survived to adulthood—Frank being the oldest and born in Indiana in about 1860. In addition to farming, Frank and his brother Richard owned and operated a sawmill near his eventual home along Butler Creek. From time to time, they employed their younger brothers Ross, Arthur, and Albert at the mill. Little is known about the mill beyond its approximate location.

Frank's younger brothers Arthur and Albert lived with their parents on the family homestead. In 1903, they sued their father Joseph for \$3,750 in damages after he set fire to a large, dead tree on the property, which subsequently grew into a several-acre brush fire. Rachael helped move the neighbors' livestock to safety, but Albert and Arthur claimed that the fire damaged the farmland that they leased from their father. Joseph published an open letter in *The Oregonian* clarifying his side of the story. While he agreed that he had leased the farmland to his sons, he had also allowed the boys to live in his home rent-free. Joseph further claimed that the controversy started because the brothers had disrespected their mother's cooking and homemaking by bringing in a Mrs. Hanavan to cook and clean. Mrs. Hanavan then sued Joseph for quarreling and defamation of character. The suits continued as Joseph fought his sons up to the State Supreme Court, which ruled in Joseph's favor to evict his sons. During the case, the boys assaulted their father and the sheriff subsequently arrested them on separate assault charges. This somewhat high-profile drama was all occurring just as Frank and Hannah were trying to purchase more timberland for the mill and to build their home.

The family appeared in the news once again in 1909 when Lena Heiney, wife of Frank's brother Ross, committed a gruesome murder of their adopted infant child with a sledgehammer. After the horrendous act, she left a suicide note and walked a mile and a half down from their home on Pleasant Valley Road towards Linneman Station. Walking along the road she waited until a car approached and at the last moment jumped in front of the moving vehicle and was killed instantly. Ross, who was working at Frank's mill, returned home to find his murdered child and wife's note. According to *The Oregonian*, Lena, daughter of pioneer A.C. Gibbs, had long suffered from "an unbalanced condition" and the horrible tragedy was the result of "an attack of dementia."

Given the Heiney family reputation at the time, it makes sense why there is little information on Franklin and Hannah. They likely tried their best to stay out of the news and remained focused on the mill. A picture of Joseph and Rachael Heiney visiting the home demonstrates that they were on speaking terms with the elders, as the distinctive diamond leaded-glass sidelight and mantel are still present in the home today. However, little information indicates how Frank and Hannah got along with the siblings. The Gresham Historical Society owns a piece of the Heiney Bros. Sawmill stationery and a business card, but neither includes the address of the mill or the home. Frank died in 1940, Hannah began selling houseplants and succulents at local farmers' cooperative stands. At that time, Richard and Hannah are listed on the Metsker's map as owning the property west of the home across Butler Creek, while Hannah remained as the sole owner of the house. She lived to be 105 years old and died in 1986.

While a comprehensive chain of title has not been completed for Hannah's landholdings, this method is likely the only way to ascertain the full history of the home and the location of the sawmill. Nonetheless, with documentation of initial deed transfer of the home property, the house certainly relates to the Heiney Brothers' sawmill, and more importantly stands as a rare example of a young woman owning large acreage in early twentieth century Gresham.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
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Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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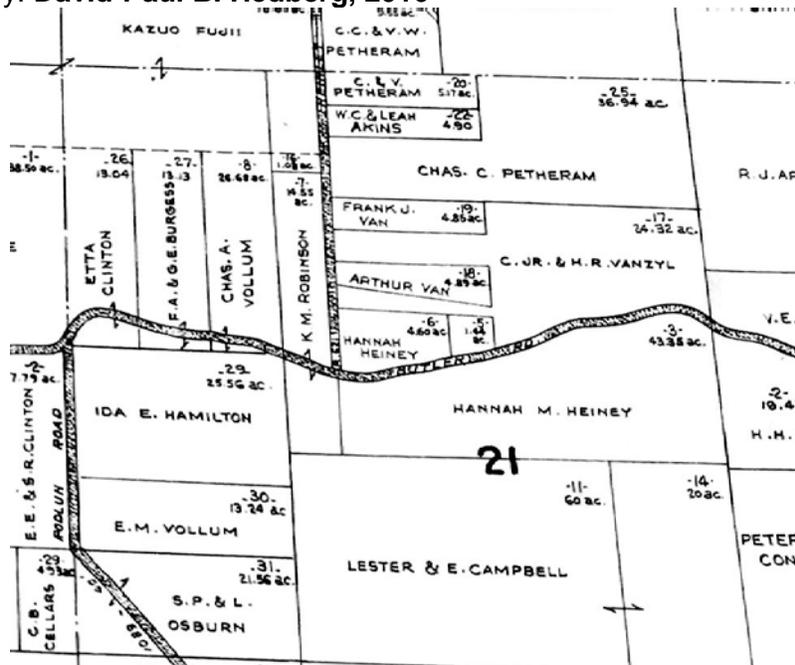
City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

United States Census, Year 1930; Census Place: Gresham, Multnomah, Oregon; Roll: 1955; Page: 1A; Enumeration District: 0247; Image: 465.0; FHL microfilm: 2341689.

United States Census, Year: 1940; Census Place: South Gresham, Multnomah, Oregon; Roll: T627_3377; Page: 1B; Enumeration District: 26-35.

Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



1927 Metsker Map showing only Hannah Heiney as the landowner.



Gresham Historic Landmark #6
Hannah and Frank Heiney House

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

Heiney House west (main) façade looking east from Towel Road.



Heiney House west (main) façade approaching east up the stair entry.



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Heiney House close up of double gambrel porch and stickwork.



Heiney House south façade with shed roof dormer.



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Looking south across W. Powell Blvd at the north (main) elevation.



Rebuilt Shed behind the Heiney House.



Joseph and Rachael Heiney pictured in the front room of the Heiney House. Note the leaded glass sidelight, which is still in use by the current owners

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

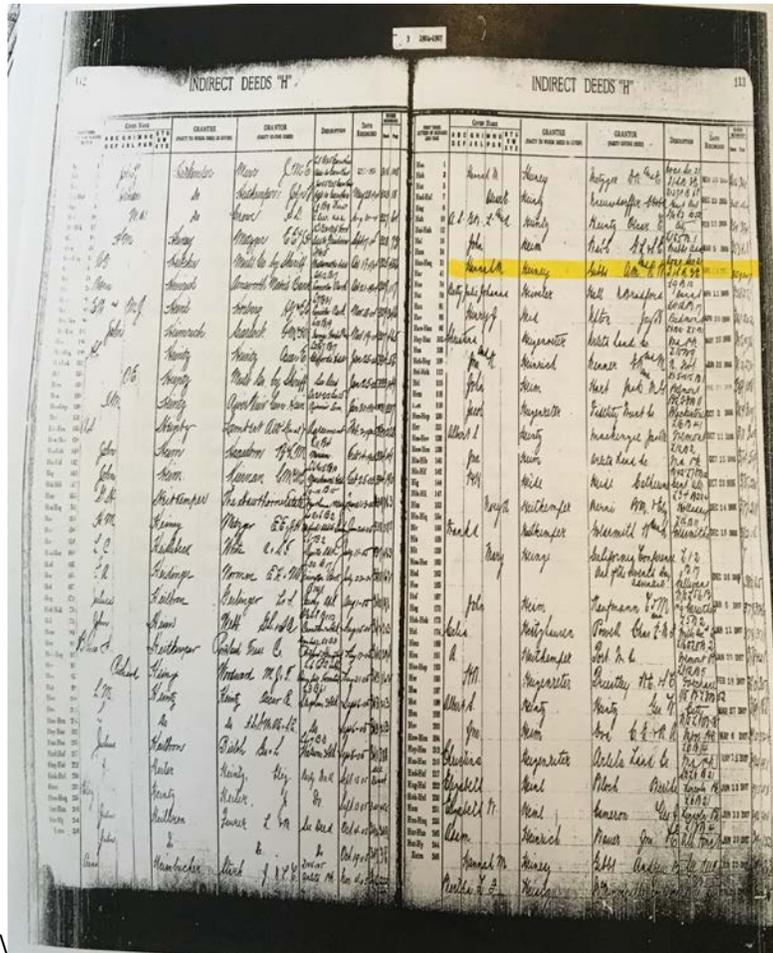
(used with permission of Gary Robinson).



Heiney Sawmill, c. 1912 near Butler and Towle Roads. Image courtesy of Gresham Historical Society.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



1904 – 1907 Multnomah County Deed Index lists several properties held by Hannah Heiney.

Page	Grantor	Grantee	Deed No.	Date	Value
1					
3	Hannah M.	Heiney	Heitzger B. C. and Co.	Nov 26 1906	\$16 360
5					
7	Deed Co.	Heiney	Kreunertoffler B. H. & Co.	DEC 23 1906	\$18 460
8					
10	A. L. & L. & Co.	Heiney	Heiney Oscar G.	FEB 13 1906	\$54 370
12					
16	John	Heim	Heim S. L. & Co.	MAR 5 1906	\$53 60
24					
31	Hannah M.	Heiney	Heiney Oscar G.	NOV 26 1906	\$59 207
41					
74	Betty Julie Johanne	Heiney	Hall Bradford	APR 11 1906	\$58 25
78					
81					

Gresham Historic Landmark #6
Hannah and Frank Heiney House

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Charles and Fae Olson House**

Address: **765 NW Walters Road**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **10**

¼: **SW ¼ of the SW ¼** Zip Code: **97080**

Tax Lot: **4400** Addition: Tax Map: **026**

Assessor: **R993102030**



North façade of Olson House from Walters Road.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Residence** Height (stories): **3**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **c. 1946**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Contemporary Modern**

Secondary style: **Flat-roofed**

Primary siding: **Seriated Shake**

Secondary siding: **Board and Batten**

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect: **Charles Olson**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments: **Good condition**

Style comments:

Siding comments:

Builder: **Charles Olson**

Notes: **Narratives quoted from National Register Nomination Form.**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is one couple's dream home. Charles and Fae Olsen designed this home through correspondence while Charles was over seas during World War II. When he returned, the couple built their modern dream home using locally milled lumber and careful resourcefulness. Along the way, they kept meticulous records and receipts, which allows us a snapshot into their dream and how they created it.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Because the home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the narratives are quoted below with minor editing.

From the National Register Nomination:

City of Gresham

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The Charles and Fae Olson house was designed by resident Charles Olson while he served overseas during World War II, and built by him in the years after the war. The front of the house, which overlooks the city of Gresham, features a strong horizontal roofline twenty feet above the ground and appears to be two-story but is single story over a daylight basement. A large sunken living room with a massive fireplace and exposed beamed ceiling dominate the middle of the form. This center portion has a butterfly roof, and aggressive indirect lighting above a sixteen-foot wide window.

Exterior

The north-front facade is sixty feet across not including porches. The eave extends five feet out in the front and at the corners is reduced to just the structure. Under these open roofs are corner windows accessible on the outside by porches. The porch on the west has no exterior access, and the front porch on the east facade is accessed by the main door. The use of glass is lavish for the period, and the large expanses of striated shakes are broken up by a section of very wide vertical boards without battens. The lower portion appears to be brick and glass, but the brick at the corners are a veneer and the brick in the middle is infill. Brick curvilinear planters flank the front walk and stairs to the front door.

The east-side exterior is short and has less glass in response to the strong east wind in the winter. The kitchen window with glass block below is typical for the date. The porch is protected by an overhang similar to the front, which is distinctive compared to the surrounding short eaves. Two sets of two traditional sash windows, with horizontal proportions are separated by a large section of glass block all set in a wall of board-and-batten. A two-story section with no windows, and a garage door below, finishes the design.

The west elevation, which has more glass and height, was built beside a small ravine. The corner window continues down the wall, and the end window is unusual for lower ventilating panels. The hillside is retained by a broken brick curvilinear wall and planter.

The remaining exterior wraps around a courtyard or patio area, with the hillside completing the enclosure. There is more glass facing this area, which is protected from the east wind. A circular planter in the middle of the patio contains a native dogwood tree. From the perspective of the patio, the house forms to the east and north have aggressive overhangs. The back wing, to the east, has two windows whose panes have the proportions of a horizontal brick, in a wall of board-and-batten siding. An original lowered eating area to the north of the patio is paved in brick, enclosed in glass, and features a barbecue on the back side of the fireplace mass. Looking west from the patio is another corner window. The upper room to the south has a wide overhang and porch, which looms over the patio and the horizontal window below.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The Charles and Fae Olson Residence was proposed for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its contribution to the understanding of the post-World War II housing boom. The residence encapsulates the trend of the World War II Veteran returning from service to build his own house, which he designed during the war. The Olsons' preserved wartime correspondence reveals how the husband-and-wife team exchanged ideas and drawings of their "dream house." Following the many frustrating years of waiting, they purchased property and built, while they lived in, the new house. This large house is a collage of

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

contemporary architectural thought gleaned by the designers from exhibitions, magazines, and books. The construction was accomplished largely by Charles, with help from his children, with materials logged from the site, salvaged from the Vanport flood, and purchased locally from Montgomery Ward. It was designed and built by a schoolteacher, and it is a study in economy, overcoming the problems of cost in post war Contemporary Modern housing.

Charles H. Olson was born in 1908 in Linwood, a small town on the Utah/Wyoming border, where his father clerked at a store. The family homesteaded a small protected plot near Manilla Utah where they attempted to make a living farming. Charles grew up there in a hand-hewn log house with a clay roof built by his father. This house fit the "ranch-house" criteria and it was always described as such. The family moved to Evanston, Wyoming in 1926 in favor of their children's education. Charles' father was involved there in a failed chicken business.

Charles went to high school in Evanston but he also started a machinist apprenticeship. He boarded and took night classes while working for the Union Pacific railroad in Cheyenne, Wyoming and graduated from Cheyenne High School in 1932. He enlisted in the Wyoming National Guard in 1931 to play trumpet in the army band. He attended classes at the University of Utah in the fall of 1932, graduated from the ROTC in 1936, and received his Bachelor's degree in Music there in 1939. Charles played trumpet in a jazz band that toured the Midwest in 1933. His interest in jazz and the railroad pass he held from working as a machinist got him to Chicago where he attended the Worlds Fair. Charles Olson taught math for Gresham Union High School starting in 1946. This subject took less outside time than a band instructor, leaving more time to work on the house. He was head of the math department at Centennial High School after 1959. After the house construction was under control he worked in the summers for Tektronix as a machinist and he pioneered the job of machinist in the Physics department at Reed College. In his later years he was best known as a ski instructor.

Fae Cottam was born in Provo Utah in 1916. Her father taught botany at Brigham Young University until the early 1930's when he was asked to leave because he taught evolution. The family moved to Salt Lake City where Fae attended East High School. They lived in a remarkably small 1929 house where the five children focused on grades and education. Fae majored in art while attending the University of Utah where her father was teaching. She later switched majors and graduated in psychology. Charles took every available job while he worked his way through college and was working as a model for a drawing class when he met Fae.

Charles and Fae married in 1938 and had two children born during the war in 1941 and 1943. Charles was an officer, eventually holding the rank of captain, and was transferred from fort to fort during the war with Fae attempting to follow him with the children. Their need for housing was a constant subject when they wrote letters while apart all through the war. They were in a schematic phase of the house design in late November and early December 1944 when the relevant letters were written. On November 25, 1944 Charles wrote in a letter, "I have been trying to work out our dreamhouse again today." Fae was living with her parents, and Charles was on a ship anchored "somewhere in the Pacific." Fae guessed which day he wrote each letter and wrote that date on the envelope. It is clear that they had been in this process for some time. Charles and Fae never had a government-backed loan, but they were totally involved with the excitement of planning a "dream house."

The Olson Residence was found eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as an imposing example of a contemporary/modern-style dream house

City of Gresham

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designed by the veteran and his wife during World War II, and hand-built for their own family following the War. The house is unusual in having supporting documentation in the form of letters that establish the designer's thoughts that led to the creation. These letters definitely link the design to specific dates during the war and to the architectural ideas of the time. The design is directly influenced, just before it is commenced, by the important book *Tomorrow's House*, and the building documents the difficulties of building in 1946. Although the style and size were a common dream, they are unusual because neither fits the economics of the post war housing and banking industries. The structure only exists because Charles and his family built it themselves; the processes used to bring the dream into reality were often singular and always resourceful. The unique design is good architecture: it inspires, conforms to its site, and accommodated its original occupants for sixty years. The structure is stable, and remains intact, in the setting in which it sprung.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**

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Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



East and south façade from upper driveway off Walters Road.



North façade of Olson House from Walters Road.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



North façade from lower driveway off Walters Road.

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Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Bernard Emil Witter Residence**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **938 SE Roberts Avenue**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **15**

¼: **NW ¼ of the NE ¼** Zip Code: **97080**

Tax Lot: **4700** Addition: Block:



Looking east at the west (main) façade.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Building** Height (stories): **2**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1896**

Secondary construction date: **1906 and 1925**

Primary use: **Residence/dwelling**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Cross-gabled farm house**

Secondary style: **Colonial Revival**

Primary siding: **Horizontal board**

Secondary siding: **Saw tooth shingle**

Plan type: **Cross**

Architect:

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Not Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments:

Style comments:

Siding comments:

Builder: **Bernard E. Witter**

Notes: Roof: **Cross Gable composition shingle**

Windows: Lead glass, tri-panel front bay, and 1 over 1 double-hung wood,

Wrap around porch with Tuscan columns and masonry footings

Alterations: wrap-around porch added in 1925 and Bay window in 1906.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This home is associated with Bernard Witter, a German immigrant and early settler of Gresham. In the early days of Gresham, Witter and his sons were some of Gresham's most prolific homebuilders.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Bernard E. Witter residence is located on 938 SE Roberts Avenue, a residential neighborhood, and sits on a half-acre corner lot bounded by SE 9th Street to the north and SE Roberts Avenue to the west. The west elevation (front) of the house faces SE Roberts is set back about fifty feet from the street. The property features a well-landscaped yard, complete with a long brick path from the sidewalk to the front porch though a large lawn bordered by an evergreen hedge running north south along the sidewalk on Roberts. Several large form coniferous and deciduous trees and well-established shrubbery throughout the parcel. Two

Gresham Historic Landmark #8

Bernard Emil Witter Residence

City of Gresham

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smaller outbuildings are situated to the north of the house in the dense plantings.

The home is a cross-gabled colonial revival farmhouse built in 1892 and is in excellent condition. The home features a composition-singled roof and is clad in wooden shake and saw tooth shingles on the west (front) second story façade. Original fenestration maintains its integrity and features double hung 1 over 1 wooden windows, twin front doors, and several decorative leaded glass windows with a tri-panel bay window on the north elevation's second story gable. The home also features decorative corniced window heads, corner boards, plain panels, and frieze boards.

Two of the home's distinctive features are historic alterations. The west (front) façade features a large three-panel bay window, which was added by the Witter's in 1906 and the distinctive large wrap-around porch with Tuscan columns, masonry footings and railing was added in 1906 or 1925. The original brick chimneys have also been replaced with metal stovepipe, and a large wood deck was added to the east (back) elevation in 1987.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

Bernard E. Witter and his sons built the family home in 1896. Bernard Emil Witter was born in Saxon, Germany on May 26, 1845 and immigrated to the United States when he was four years old. In 1868, he married Barbara Katherine Schoepfel in Cincinnati, Ohio. Bernard worked as a furniture manufacturer in Ohio and after receiving favorable reports from his cousins (Clyde Stone and Jacob Zimmerman), he moved his family to Oregon in 1888. He purchased the current property, which originally included 105 acres on both sides of Johnson Creek, building his home outbuildings to operate a farm. According to his descendants, Bernard enjoyed Oregon and took up fishing for the remainder of his life. He died on February 21, 1936 and was interned at Lincoln Memorial Park.

Bernard and Barbara had four children that lived to adulthood: Louis Susan, Charles George, Ida May, and Arthur Bernard. Charles continued his father's work in carpentry and became an accomplished builder of many homes in Gresham (including several on the registry). He is reported to have built a series of homes at the intersection of SE 9th and SE Roberts. He built the Anderson House in 1906 (1420 SE Roberts), a home for his brother Arthur Bernard across the street from the family home (909 SE Roberts) in 1914, and his own home (1102 SE Roberts) in 1921. Arthur Bernard took over the family farm after his father's death and inherited the 105-acre farm.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



Looking east across SE Roberts.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Looking southeast though dense plantings.



Looking east at the west façade.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



938 SW Roberts as it looked in 1998.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **West Gresham Grade School**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **330 W. Powell**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **9**

¼: **NE ¼ of the SE ¼** Zip Code: **97030**

Tax Lot: **200 & 300** Addition: Block:

Assessor: **R993090280**



Looking south at north façade on W. Powell Blvd.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Building** Height (stories): **1**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1923**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **School**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Beaux Arts**

Secondary style:

Primary siding: **Concrete/Stucco**

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **angular**

Architect: **Fredrick Manson White**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Not Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments:

Style comments:

Siding comments:

Builder:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1923, West Gresham Grade School marked a significant switch from dispersed one-room schoolhouses to a consolidated school district. The School symbolizes the community's growth from a farming community to a city.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The West Gresham Grade School is situated on the south side of W. Powell Boulevard. The property is bounded by SW Walters Drive to the east and the Springwater Trail to the south. The western side of the school opens to a large grassy field and a playground is situated behind the school's south side. The primary (north) elevation is set back approximately 30 feet from the sidewalk and features a long circular driveway with parking on either (west and east) end. A very larger Big Leaf Maple (*Acer macrophyllum*) stands in the center of the semi-circular planning strip and likely predates the school. Other plantings include a cedar, various shrubs, and a grove of firs to the south.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

The one story school is constructed of hollow tile and concrete stucco in the Beaux Arts style. The building is covered with a partial flat and hipped gabled roof. Formerly covered in Spanish metal tile, the roofing materials have been replaced with composition shingles. The primary elevation features ionic columns, three bays of French doors, each with semi circular transom windows, and decorative balustrades in the parapet. Two eyebrow dormers accentuate the roofline on either side of the entrance. Fenestration consists primarily of three light windows arranged in series of five for each classroom. Six classrooms face the primary elevation. Many of the windows appear to have been replaced over time. The east elevation consists of similar fenestration, but metal awnings have been added.

Despite alterations to the original windows and alterations to the roof materials, the schools distinctive exterior maintains a high degree of integrity.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

According to the *Gresham Outlook* of December 14th, 1923, the school was “One of the most attractive school buildings in the country, and is a credit to the district...The outward appearance is exceedingly pleasing and the interior arrangement is marked for beauty and convenience.” Henry Metzger owned a large farm south of present day Powell Blvd and donated several parcels to churches, cemeteries, and the land for the school. A one-room schoolhouse was first constructed on the site in 1874. A second school was constructed on the site in c. 1900, reportedly a three-story structure with indoor plumbing. The current (third) school on the site was built in 1923 by the Stockton brothers for \$65,000.

Claude Stockton began a successful construction business in Gresham in c. 1910, and built many buildings and homes in the city. Claude's brothers, Loda and Elvis, worked for the family business as carpenters, brick masons, and cement finishers. It is highly likely that much of the school's stucco and tile construction was done by Loda and Elvis.

The school was designed by Portland architect Frederick Manson White. White, a full partner in the McCaw, Martin, and White firm, designed many distinctive schools and commercial buildings throughout Oregon. The school is one of his later projects marking his transition to his independent practice. The school is designed with elements of the Beaux Arts, a European neoclassical architectural tradition emerging out of France in the 1870s. Although popular in the U.S. from the 1880s until the late 1960s, the style gained wide appeal among American architects after the First World War. The schools design, then, both reflects this added post WWI emphasis on Beaux Arts and reflects Whites own year of training at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in 1888.

The school also represents a significant period in Gresham's growth as a city. Before the construction of the school, the regions educational infrastructure consisted of dispersed rural one-room schoolhouses. As Gresham grew in population, it transitioned from one of the many small farming communities into a central city. With better-built roads and a burgeoning urban community, school officials saw the need for a larger and more centralized system to save time and money. West Gresham Grade School consolidated several schools under the auspices of the central Gresham Grade District #4. While some rural community members resisted losing their local control in their one-room schoolhouses, consolidation brought major savings in infrastructure and faculty. The school therefore, represents an important chapter in the city's

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

growth, as well as the larger national trend toward centralized and consolidated school districts and campus facilities.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Looking south across W. Powell Blvd at the north (main) elevation.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Looking west from the north east corner of the property.



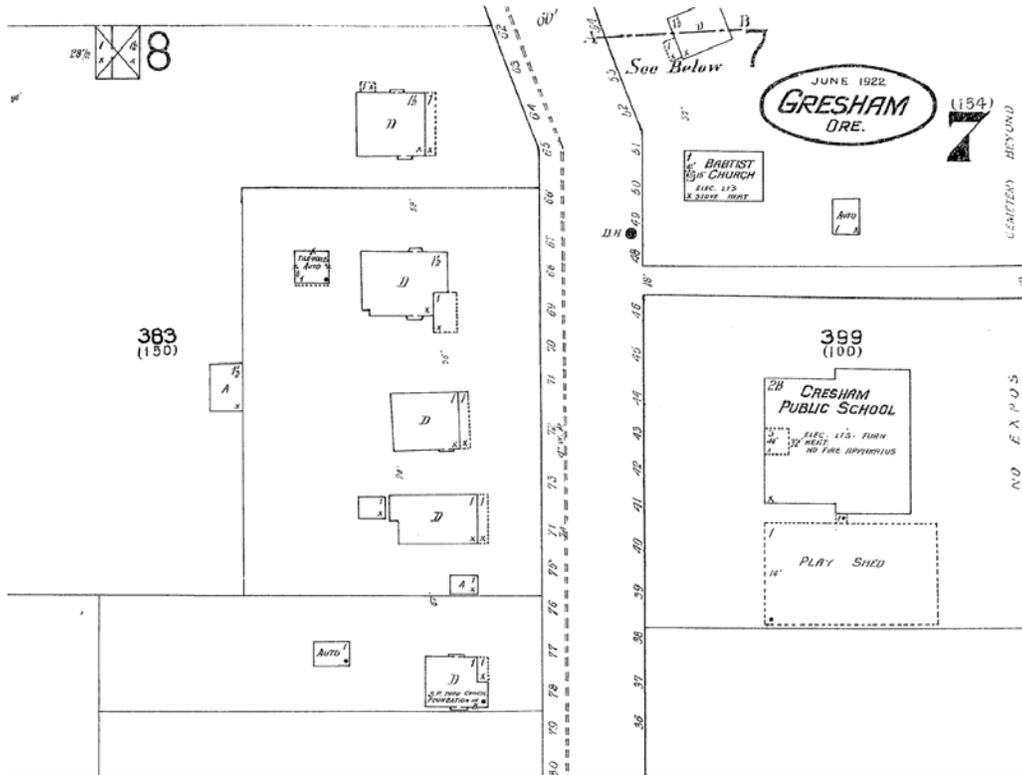
Looking southwest at the east elevation.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Entire 1945 eighth grade class photographed in front of W. Gresham Grade School



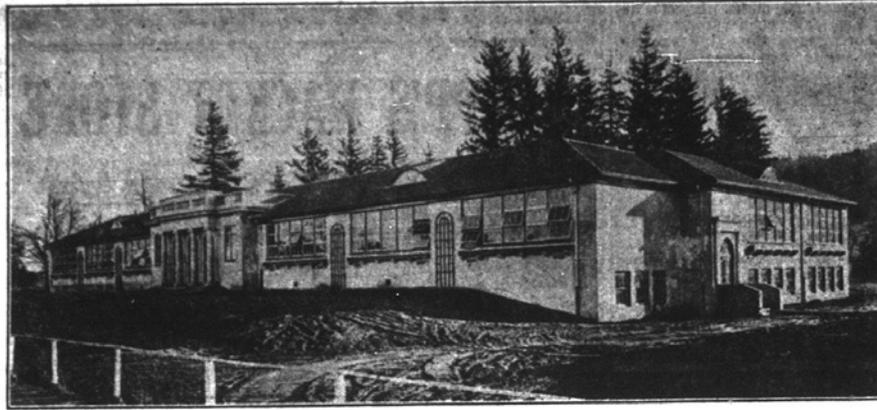
Former (Second school) on the parcel also faced W. Powell, 1922 Sanborn Map.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

18

GRESHAM OUTLOOK, HOLIDAY NUMB



NEW GRADE SCHOOL IS COMPLETED AND OCCUPIED

GRESHAM'S NEW GRADE SCHOOL IS A MODEL IN PLAN AND CONSTRUCTION

The beautiful new grade school building of Gresham District No. 4 is now finished and in use, including the splendid auditorium, which was recently used for the first time. It is one of the most attractive school buildings in the county and is a credit to the district and to those who have had to do with the planning and carrying out of the work. The outward appearance is exceedingly pleasing and the interior arrangement is marked for beauty and convenience. Great care has been taken to secure the best possible system of heating and ventilating and the sanitary conditions are all that could be desired.

The building is of hollow tile construction and is finished on the outside with white stucco. The portion of the roof facing the street is of Spanish metal tile, the remainder of sheet metal.

A feature of the building which will be greatly appreciated by parents of small children is the ease with which it can be emptied in case of fire, though for all practical purposes it is fire proof. Besides the broad main entrance there are eight means of entrance or exit. All these doors are equipped with panic locks which will open from the inside if pressed against. Each corridor is provided with a reel of hose, one of 50 feet and two of 75 feet each.

When the plans for the new building were first undertaken early last spring it was hoped to build a 12-room school, but on account of the strong increase in the price of building material it was found necessary to change to a 10-room plan. Rooms may be added later in pairs, extending

the wings to the south, until there are 18 on the main floor, each of the standard size, 26 by 30, including the wardrobes. Besides these ten class rooms there are lavatories, principal's office and reception room, teachers' rest room with kitchenette, girls' rest room closets and the auditorium on the main floor. The rough work has been done in two other rooms under the west end of the building where the ground slopes away, in anticipation of the time when additional class rooms will be needed. These are standard size and well lighted. In addition to this is the boys' lunch room in the new basement. A part of the old basement is being utilized as a play room for the children of the first, second and third grades. This space is about 80 by 40 feet in size. Opening from this is the fan room for controlling the heating and ventilating of the auditorium. The auditorium may be heated separately from the class rooms. The furnace room is fire proof and is separated from the rest of the basement by concrete walls or metal doors. Furnace and boilers are covered with heavy coatings of asbestos. An automatic pumping device in the furnace pit will take care of any water which may get in, either by the condensation of steam or by seeping through the walls. Two motor driven fans in the attic control the ventilating in the building with the exception of the auditorium.

The building, which is 234 feet long, fronts on Powell street. It covers the old basement and extends to the west onto the property recently purchased by the school district. Six class rooms face the street. In the

center is the main entrance with its graceful supporting pillars and the wide vestibule. The principal's room is on one side of this vestibule and the teachers' room on the other. The main corridor is 10 feet wide and runs the entire length of the building. The present extension of the wings is 95.5 feet from the front of the building. In each wing are two class rooms opening from corridors extending from the main corridors to the back of the wings.

The auditorium presents one of the finest features of the new building, being particularly adapted for community gatherings, for which purpose it is expected it will be used. The floor space is 40 by 72 feet. At the rear of the room are two rows of bleacher seats, increasing the width of the room 10 feet. The seating capacity where opera chairs are used is 500 and it is expected that many more than that number can be easily seated when the small chairs of the children are made use of. A stage 33 feet six inches by 16 feet, with ample ante rooms, extends along the south side of the room. Lighting, heating and ventilating of this room separate from the rest of the building have been provided for. This has been thoroughly tried out with most satisfactory results. Fresh air from the outside is warmed and forced into the room, while the stale air of the room is drawn out. The arrangement is such that the large room can be warmed and filled with pure air in 10 minutes and there is no disagreeable noise from the fans. The acoustics are said to be perfect.

F. Manson White of Portland was the architect and C. E. Stockton of Gresham the contractor. Mr. Stockton's bid, which covered everything in the building excepting plumbing and heating, was \$47,500. Fox & Co. of Portland handled the plumbing and heating under a separate contract of

Gresham Outlook article on West Gresham Grade School opening, 1923.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Rev. Thompson Residence**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **140 SE Roberts**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **10**

¼: **NE ¼ of the SW ¼** Zip Code: **97080**

Tax Lot: **6 & 7** Addition: **Thompsons**
Block: **4**

Assessor: **R83180930**



Looking east/northeast at west façade on SE Roberts Rd.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Building** Height (stories): **2**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1908**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Secondary use: **Private Hospital/ Nursing Home**

Primary style: **Prairie**

Secondary style: **Stick**

Primary siding: **Clapboard**

Secondary siding: **Half timbering in gable ends**

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect:

Total # eligible resources: **2**

NR status: **Not Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments: **Original form notes home built in 1905. Newspapers show construction did not start until 1908**

Style comments:

Siding comments:

Builder: **Jake Metzger**

Notes: **Roof: Multi Gable, composition shingle.**

Windows: 1/1 double-hung wooden sash.

Exterior: Large porch sits on two-color decorative brick coursing.

Landscape: Most of the conifers noted in 1987 have been removed.

Alterations: A small second-story balcony and a garage have been added.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This 1908 home is associated with Rev. Dr. Alfred Thompson, a pastor in the Gresham Methodist Church. The Rev. Thompson not only helped build secure the land for the 1908 Linneman Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, but he financed the church and his retirement through selling lots on a large piece of property called Thompson's Addition.

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City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Reverend Thompson residence is sits on the NE corner of SW 2nd Street and SE Roberts Ave. The main (east) elevation faces west to SE Roberts and is set back approximately fifty feet from the street. The home is situated on a gentle rising knoll and is in a residential area bordering the downtown commercial district.

The two-story Prairie School-style home features a multiple gable construction. Along the main elevation, a single small gabled dormer is sandwiched between the two main front gables. Decorative features include false half-timbering and stickwork on the gable pediments as well as decorative roof beam ends protruding though the bargeboards. The home is clad in horizontal clapboards and features a composition shingle roof. Most of the exterior features maintain a high degree of integrity including the dominate double-hung 1-over-1 wooden sash windows as well as Queen Anne gable attic windows, single-pane entry sidelights, and a four-light Craftsman front door.

The home has undergone two alternations that affect the overall integrity. A second story deck and side entrance/egress were added at some before the initial 1987 survey. The detached garage has undergone major renovation to imitate the architectural style of the main building. The historic plantings, large spruce and pines, have been removed. In 2012, the home was purchased and underwent an extensive remodel that maintained the integrity of much of the home's interior features.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

Alfred Thompson and his wife Elizabeth A. Thompson emigrated from England to Pennsylvania in 1881. Alfred attended seminary in Colebrook, Pennsylvania and received his initial assignment at the First Methodist church in Emmett, Idaho. He later served at a parish in Dayton, Washington, and in 1901, he transferred to Trinity Methodist Church in East Portland. Educated at several Methodist Universities, Dr. Thompson held the titles of Doctor of Divinity, Master of Arts, and Doctor of Philosophy. He studied at Northwestern University, University of Puget Sound, and Portland University (before it was University of Portland). It is unclear which degree he obtained from Portland University, but it was likely a Master of Arts as this was the most commonly awarded degree at that particular institution. The degree required "a literary calling of three years, sustained moral character, and a \$10 fee to the library fund." Portland University, financed largely by real estate sales in the nearby University Park neighborhood of Portland, struggled to survive during the time Thompson attended. A series of financial panics throughout the late nineteenth century kept home sales low and investments uncertain, and by 1900, the university had defaulted on its bond and was forced to close. This real estate failure likely shaped his future endeavors.

A very popular minister, Dr. Thompson pastored churches in Portland, Lebanon, Sellwood, and finally, Gresham. Each time the bishop reassigned Thompson, parishioners protested for his return.

Reverend Dr. Alfred Thompson, already a well-respected pastor throughout the Northwest, 2

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

arrived to lead the Gresham Methodist Episcopal Church in 1905. *The Morning Oregonian* characterized him as “a clear, independent reasoned and vigorous speaker.” One of Thompson’s first priorities was to construct a new church. Portland’s real estate market was booming because of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition. Even in Gresham, homes were in high demand. As pastor in Gresham, Dr. Thompson also used his real estate knowledge to help the congregation secure a parcel and construct a new church free of debt. In 1907, he and the church trustees dedicated the new Linneman Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church to a packed congregation. Community members had donated \$4,500 for the construction and Mrs. E. Linnemann made the largest donation in memory of her husband. A beautiful organ and art glass windows were noted features of the church.

In 1908, continuing to see potential in real estate and the growing demand for residential developments, Dr. Thompson purchased a large piece of property just east of Roberts Drive and south of the new Methodist Church from George W. Kennedy for four thousand dollars. Here, Thompson had his family home built for about three thousand dollars the same year. He subdivided the remaining property and sold lots to other homebuilders in Thompsons Addition to the city of Gresham.

In mid-September of 1908, Rev. Thompson announced he would retire. However, he continued to reside at his home and frequently performed weddings and funerals, and occasionally preached at the nearby Linnemann Methodist Church. He and his wife raised their three sons in the home: Ernest B. Thompson, Frederick F. Thompson, later a physician and mayor of The Dalles, and Wilbur Hines Thompson, who also became a physician. The Rev. Dr. Thompson had learned important lessons in real estate witnessing the failure of Portland University, but he still felt confident that his real estate investments could help the community. A significant figure in Gresham history, the home also represents a successful investment in the boom-and-bust cycle of the early twentieth century real estate market.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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- Chilton, W.R., eds., *Gresham, Stories of our Past: Book II, Before and After the World Wars* [Gresham, Ore.: Davis and Fox Printing, 1996].

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Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

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Morning Oregonian, "Rev. Alfred Thompson to Retire," Sept. 10, 1908, p.5.

Morning Oregonian, "Brisk Building in Gresham," Sept. 20, 1908, p. 8.

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Sunday Oregonian, "Dr. Alfred Thompson goes to Gresham," Nov. 15, 1905, p. 9.

Sunday Oregonian, "Gresham Couple Celebrate Golden Anniversary," July 26, 1931, p. 15.

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Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**

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Reverend Alfred Thompson's Residence, looking east from SE Roberts Drive.



Reverend Thompson's Residence, view is to the east.

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Reverend Thompson's Residence, rock in yard incorrectly states "established 1905."



Reverend Thompson's Residence, view of southwest corner of home.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

Official Board

Pastor, Rev. A. Thompson, Ph. D.
 H. L. St. Clair
 SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERVISOR, H. L. St. Clair
 PRESIDENT EPISCOPAL LEAGUE, Mrs. L. C. St. Clair
 PRESIDENT LADIES AID SOCIETY, Mrs. E. A. Thompson



REV. A. THOMPSON, PH. D.

TRUSTEES

O. E. Neal H. L. St. Clair T. E. Boudin
 Mrs. E. Hinesmann Mrs. Julia Begner

STEWARDS

Mrs. B. W. Finney Mrs. F. Hinesmann Mrs. Julia Begner
 Mrs. Clara Anderson Mrs. Mary H. Witt Miss Aloha Galy
 Mrs. A. M. Gould Mrs. L. C. St. Clair Mrs. A. G. Pullin
 J. Neal Mrs. J. C. Allen

DEDICATION

Sunday, May 19, 1907,

OF THE



Linnemann Memorial
Methodist Episcopal Church, Gresham, Ore.

Rev. A. Thompson, Ph.D., Pastor.

Reverend Thompson pictured in the 1907 dedication bulletin for the Linnemann Memorial Church.

Gresham Couple Celebrate Golden Anniversary.

Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Thompson
Residents of City 26 Years.

GRESHAM, Or., July 25.—(Special.) —Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Thompson, for the last 26 years residents of Gresham, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary here July 18. The occasion slipped the memory of their many friends and was not celebrated until a week later, when honor was paid them by the congregation of the Methodist Episcopal church and others.

Dr. and Mrs. Thompson are both natives of England, coming to America in 1881, soon after their marriage. They settled in Colebrook, Pa., and there Dr. Thompson became a pastor. He came west a year or two later and obtained an assignment at Emmett, Idaho, where he was instrumental in building the First Methodist church.

He has served numerous pastorates in Oregon, including Portland. They first came to Gresham in 1905 and Dr. Thompson served as pastor here for three years, when he retired and established a home.

Three sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, all now living. Frederick F. Thompson is a practicing physician at The Dalles, where he also holds the office of mayor. Wilbur Hines Thompson, also a physician, lives at Elgin.

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Alfred and Elizabeth Thompson celebrate their 50th anniversary,
Sunday Oregonian, July 26, 1931, p. 15.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **John Roberts Elkhorn Ranch**

Current/ Other names: **Elkhorn Ranch**

Address: **1325 W Powell Blvd.**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **9**

¼: **SE ¼ of the NW ¼** Zip Code: **97030**

Tax Lot: **11600** Addition: Block:

Assessor: **R993090500**



J.R. Elkhorn Ranch looking N across W Powell Blvd.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Residence** Height (stories): **1 1/2**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1868**

Secondary construction date: **1887 – 1890s**

Primary use: **Residence**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Queen Anne**

Secondary style: **Spindlework**

Primary siding: **Simple drop**

Secondary siding: **Fishscale and diamond shingles**

Plan type: **L Shaped**

Architect: **Vernacular**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Not Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments: **Poor condition,
Fallen into disrepair**

Style comments:

Siding comments: **Vinyl siding added in
1982, much of original
detail lost**

Builder: **John F. Roberts**

Notes: **Roof: Cross gabled roof with flared porch and front gabled roof dormer covered in composition shingle.**

Windows: 1/1 and 4/4 double-hung wooden sash, double cutaway bay.

Exterior: Diamond and fishscale shingles on pediment, beaded spindlework on porch and gable ends, turned columns, trim overhangs, corner brackets.

Landscape: Overgrown, large rhododendrons and camellias, two large Ponderosa Pines on SW corner.

Alterations: Original simple drop siding covered with vinyl in 1982, original checkerboard porch, baluster replaced with square 1x1 dowel, multiple doors on front entry.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is one of Gresham's oldest homes and it stayed in the same family for generations. John F. Roberts, a young Oregon Trail child, built part of this home in 1868. The home is associated

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City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

with his descendants too, members of the Roberts, Hodge, and Powers families.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The John F. Roberts Elkhorn Ranch faces south on the north side of W. Powell Blvd. The home is set back 20 feet from the sidewalk on a large lot with an alley bordering west of the property. Several large English hollies, camellias, and rhododendrons landscape the property, which is quite overgrown. Additionally, two large Ponderosa Pines line the alley way and lead to an old front gabled composite barn and shed.

The home is an "L" shaped Queen Anne home consisting of a cross gabled roof, corresponding cross gabled roof dormer, and a flared dropped porch with a composition shingle roof. The west façade tapers to a hipped roof, and the north (back) façade appears to have several hipped roofline alterations, covering what might have been a back porch. Windows are a mix of double-hung 1/1 and 4/4 wooden sash. The front gabled end of the south (main) façade features a double cutaway bay window with corresponding decorative corner brackets, but the central cottage window has lots its upper leaded glass pane.

The home is currently clad in vinyl siding which appears to cover the historic simple drop siding. The pediments are clad in a layering of diamond and fishscale shingle. The home features decorative spindlework on the gable ends as well as accented trim overhangs which correspond to the turned and jigsaw spindlework on the front porch frieze board. Historic photos indicate that the baluster corresponded to the frieze board, which has now been replaced with simple square wooden dowels. The home sits on post and pier boulders, many of which are slumping, especially on the front porch. The home is in poor condition. However, as the oldest home recorded in Gresham, many of the original details could be restored.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

This home is associated with a much larger 160-acre property purchased by John F. Roberts in 1868. John F. Roberts, the son of Stephen Roberts, traveled overland on the Oregon Trail with his father when he was only five years old (1851 – 1852). The City of Gresham named Roberts Avenue after John's father Stephen Roberts (born in 1824). The Roberts were one of the first families to settle in the Gresham area. When John purchased his parcel, bounded by what are now Powell Blvd., Division St., Wallula Ave., and Birdsdale Ave., he built a small bachelor's cabin. While living in the cabin, John would travel into the Methodist campground (one of the founding elements of Gresham) to socialize and hear sermons. At these camp meetings, he met Ruth Wilson, whom he married in 1872.

For newlyweds John and Ruth, it quickly became apparent that John's small cabin was not large enough. John began building a larger house, which over the years he came to call the Elkhorn Ranch. It is very likely that the new home incorporated the original cabin. However, it remains unclear how much of the home is an addition to the original 1868 cabin. John expanded the home to eleven rooms and reportedly added a second story sometime in the 1890s.

Ruth and John raised five children in the home and their daughter Effie continued to live in the 2

City of Gresham

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home with her husband Frank C. Hodge. Their son John K. Hodge and daughter D. June Powers Jones both grew up in the home and attended Gresham High School in the 1930s and 1940s.

While the home is significant given the association to one of the city's pioneer families, it is also important to note that the property stayed in the family for so many generations. In other words, the home is associated with multiple generations of significant individuals. Over the years, the home built on a 160-acre farm now fronts a busy commercial street and dense housing on all sides. The home stands as an important anchor to the early days of the area as a rural farming community and Methodist camp. The fact that the family has such a long association with the same place brings added significance, because in essence, the home represents the history of the city in a microcosm.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



John F. Roberts Elkhorn Ranch looking northwest at the southeast corner of the home.

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John F. Roberts Elkhorn Ranch looking north at the south (main) façade.



John F. Roberts Elkhorn Ranch looking northeast at the southwest corner of the home.

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John F. Roberts Elkhorn Ranch looking north from south side of Powell Boulevard.



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John F. Roberts Elkhorn Ranch c. 1890, image courtesy of Gresham Historical Society.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Stout House**

Current/ Other names: **Ambleside House**

Address: **2415 SE Ambleside**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **14**

¼: **NW ¼ of the SW ¼** Zip Code: **97080**

Tax Lot: **168** Addition: Block:

Assessor: **R993141680**



Schacht/Stout house, looking south from Ambleside Drive

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Building** Height (stories): **2**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1902**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Secondary use: **Studio**

Primary style: **Colonial Revival**

Secondary style: **Prairie**

Primary siding: **Beveled Drop**

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **Pyramidal**

Architect: **Vernacular**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Not Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments: **Only Updated Stout House; Three other historic properties and a designed landscape located up the drive that are not on the Historic Landmarks list**

Style comments: **Orig. form notes Queen Ann**

Builder: **Alfred J. Stout**

Notes: **Roof: Pyramidal hipped-gable with flaring eaves and composition shingle.**

Windows: 6/1 double-hung wooden sashes.

Exterior: Cross hipped front porch with front gable eyebrow offset from main elevation and sits on Tuscan columns and rests on wooden footings.

Landscape: Birch trees line Ambleside drive, Hogan Cedars and Japanese maple along Johnson Creek recognized as significant trees by City of Gresham.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This home represents the influence of urban transportation in Gresham. Alfred J. Stout, a local farmer, built this home here in 1902. Just a few years later, Stout clashed with the Springwater interurban line for cutting through his farm. By the 1920s, Stout moved away and the area became vacation homes and gardens for elite Portland families that commuted out on the Springwater line.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Schacht/Stout residence sits approximately 450 feet directly south of the intersection of SW Gresham Historic Landmark #12 Stout House and Ambleside Drive

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Ambleside Drive and SE Hogan Road. The main (north) facade faces onto a private drive connected to SE Ambleside Drive. The parcel is bordered to the west by Johnson Creek and contains numerous water features—flumes, ponds, and spillways—connected to Johnson Creek. The parcel features a linear grove of European Birch along Ambleside Drive. Additionally, groves of Hogan Cedars and Japanese Maples are noted as Significant Trees by the City of Gresham.

The Hogan Cedars at Ambleside, in particular, carry significant cultural heritage and are the official tree of the city. The landscape is significant as a historic designed landscape. The two-story Colonial Revival home is designed in a square plan and hipped gable construction. The home is clad in double beveled drop siding with original six-over-one double-hung wooden sash windows. The home also features decorative corner boards, frieze boards, eave modillions, and window board casings. Composite shingles cover a flared hipped roof with flared hipped dormers on the north, west, and east façade, with the north façade featuring a second story dormer balcony.

The north façade features an off centered hipped porch, which partially wraps around the west east façade. The porch contains a side gabled pediment dormer that corresponds to the off-centered main doorway. Two fifteen-over-one windows are located on either sides of the doorway. The porch is supported by wooden Tuscan columns that rest on beveled wooden pedestals. Both the front porch and the upper story dormer balcony feature wooden guardrails with corresponding square balusters and balustrades. The east façade contains a square bay window with corresponding six-over-one double-hung wooden sash windows.

The south façade has been alerted by enclosing the full-width hipped gabled porch—likely, used as a summer kitchen. Additionally, a large, three-bay single pitch carport has been added to the porch. A single gabled seven-bay garage is located directly south east of the home and is a non-contributing resource.

There are two additional properties with associated features in the Ambleside track. The Crawford/Allesina House (2830 SE Ambleside Drive) and the Rodgers/Cox House (2825 SE Ambleside Drive), which were referenced but not fully recorded as separate landmark properties in the 1987 documentation. Therefore, these additional properties will not be fully included in the update but are referenced for context only.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

In 1899, Alfred J. Stout purchased a 3.24-acre farm parcel for \$1,000 from R.R. Curry, RL. Durham (trustee), and W.M. Beers and his wife (unnamed). According to the 1910, census Stout ran his own successful farming operation, and continued to obtain additional property (he sold Emanuel Anderson the property at 1420 SE Roberts in 1906 for \$2,200). In 1902, he built the home along Johnson creek and married Grace A. McKerrow of Orient, Oregon.

During the construction of Stout's home, The Oregon Water Power & Railway Company (OWPRC) began obtaining easements for its proposed interurban electric rail line from Portland to Estacada. Later it was known as the Springwater Division Line when Portland Railway Light and Power Company bought out the former firm. The railway easement crossed Stout's property and in 1902, he and other adjacent property owners took OWPRC to court challenging both the easement and claiming damages to water rights and other injuries. During the trial, the jury

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Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

traveled in carriages two and one half hours from the county courthouse to view Stout's property. Eventually, the jury awarded Stout \$759 in damages but affirmed OWPRC's easement. The Stout's sold the property and moved to a larger farm in 1912. By 1920, they had moved to Portland where Alfred worked as a millworker.

The very electric line that Alfred Stout had protested for affecting his farm soon brought the elite Portland establishment class into the area. In the early 1920s E.G. Crawford, the vice president of the United State National Bank and former mayor of Vancouver Washington acquired the property and formed the Ambleside Corporation. Crawford's associates, included: George Rodgers, of the Portland based insurance firm Rogers, Gibson, & Clark, Louis G. Clarke of the Woodward-Clark drug company, and Charles S. Russell, of the Russell-Dant timber holding company. All four men were of the establishment business class of Portland and were frequently cited in the "society" column of *The Oregonian*.

The Crawford's Ambleside development converted the marshy area along Johnson Creek into extensive gardens and summer retreat homes for wealthy Portlanders. They hired landscape architect Arthur Underhill to design an extensive garden over the 20-acre parcel. Ed Shelton worked as the Ambleside garden superintendent and maintained the plots to a high standard, reportedly growing all plants from seed. The birch lined driveway and groves maple and Hogan cedar were all likely maintained, and possibly planted, by Shelton. Flower lined paths, bridges, knolls, and water features attracted early home and garden writers to the property and their stories are featured in the *The Sunday Oregonian* of the era. Sadly, Mr. Crawford passed away in 1923 just one year after the Ambleside gardens were completed.

Creating an early suburban vacationland, the prominent homes and gardens attracted a few other investors. For example, Oregon Governor Charles Martin purchased a home on the Ambleside tract for his son. The Hirsch Investment Company acquired the entire Ambleside interests after the stock market crash of 1929, and the properties changed hands several times after. In 1986, residents formed the Ambleside Water Association to manage the private water system. As of 2016, Metro owns the parcel and is planning to conduct a stream restoration, which will affect the historic homes and associated landscape features.

Only three of the summer homes remain, as well as the earlier Stout House. Archaeological Investigations Northwest recommended the property, including the Stout House, the Rogers/Cox House, the Crawford/Allesina House, and the gardens and associated landscape features as eligible for the National Register of Historic places under criterion A for their association to the Country Place Era movement and under Criterion C as an example of a professionally designed cultural landscape. The property stands as an example to the early regional planning embodied in the Olmstead Brothers City Beautiful Movement, which inspired Crawford in his vision for the Ambleside retreat. Additionally, the property also speaks to the shift in land use from working-class family farm home to urban summer homes and gardens.

As of 2016, this property, under the ownership of the Metro Regional Government, is slated to be returned to its natural state. The buildings not included on the Historic and Cultural Landmarks List are expected to be deconstructed while Metro is trying to find an appropriate location for the re-location of the Stout House.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

Title Records Census Records Property Tax Records Local Histories

Gresham Historic Landmark #12
Stout House and Ambleside Drive

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- Sanborn Maps Biographical Sources SHPO Files Interviews
 Obituaries Newspapers State Archives Historic Photographs
 City Directories Building Permits State Library

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



North (main) façade Stout House and entrance to Ambleside Drive.

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Looking west/northwest down birch lined Ambleside Drive with Stout House.



Stout House looking at north and east facades.

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Hogan Cedars in the Ambleside gardens c. 1930, photograph courtesy of Genavie Thomas.



Meandering Ambleside Drive and gardens c. 1930, photograph courtesy of Genavie Thomas.

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Entrance to Ambleside Drive with birch trees, c. 1930, photograph courtesy of Genavie Thomas.

Gresham Historic Landmark #12
Stout House and Ambleside Drive

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Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **W. K. Hamilton House**

Current/ Other names: **Ava House**

Address: **43 NW Ava Avenue**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **9**

¼: **SE ¼ of the NE ¼** Zip Code: **97030**

Tax Lot: **3** Addition: **Kirkland** Block: **2**

Assessor: **R454800240**



W.K. Hamilton house, looking west from Ava Avenue.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Residence** Height (stories): **1 1/2**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Not Listed**

Primary construction date: **1922**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Use comments:

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Colonial Bungalow**

Style comments:

Secondary style: **Bungalow**

Primary siding: **Clapboard**

Siding comments:

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect:

Builder: **W.K. Hamilton**

Notes: **Roof: Side gable with jerkinhead gable ends, cornice returns, round eyebrow roof dormers (front), gabled eyebrow roof dormer (back), covered in composition shingle.**

Windows: 9/1 and 1/1 double hung wooden sash, 4 panel plate windows, decorative eyebrow dormers.

Exterior: Full-length front porch with Tuscan columns with obscured footings, 1 x 2 baluster railing.

Alterations: Hipped roof addition in back of property, wrought-iron railing on front steps, aluminum storm windows.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An Irish immigrant carpenter named William King Hamilton built this house in 1922. One of the first houses in the neighborhood, the home is of a high quality craftsmanship often seen in the work of early immigrant carpenters in Gresham. At the same time, homes like this were attainable and affordable for workers like Hamilton.

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ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The W.K. Hamilton residence is situated in a residential neighborhood bordering a commercial strip. The home faces east onto NW Ava Avenue and is set back approx. 20 feet from the sidewalk. A well-manicured lawn and shrubs surround the house, which also features a detached garage and shed of a style similar to the home. The property is bordered to the south by the parking lot for Trinity Lutheran Church.

The home is a side gabled bungalow with jerkinhead gable ends, cornice returns, two eyebrow roof dormers in the front, and a single eyebrow dormer in the back, all covered in composition shingle. The home is clad in clapboard siding and features both 1/1 and 9/1 double-hung wooden sash windows, with large decorative four panel plate glass windows on the east (main) façade. The second-story windows are covered in aluminum storm windows; this represents only a minor alteration to the original fenestration.

The east (main) façade features the two distinctive rounded roof eyebrow dormers. Four Tuscan columns rest on footings obscured by the wrap-around lattice, which covers a full-length porch that leads to a fifteen-pane glass door. W.K Hamilton built a long baluster from simple 2 x 1 spindles with occasional footings. A minor alteration is the wrought iron rail affixed to a wooden staircase of five steps.

The south façade's noteworthy feature is the dark brick 'H' set into the pyramidal chimney, perhaps in reference to the home's builder, W.K. Hamilton. The north façade features a windowless rectangular wall extension and exhibits the hipped roof wing addition, which, according to the 1987 inventory, was constructed in 1947 or 1960. Overall, the home is in excellent condition and despite the addition and alterations, has good integrity.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

While many of Gresham's homes represent the lives of wealthy elite or established pioneer families, this home is associated with a working-class immigrant. William King Hamilton, or W.K. Hamilton, owned and operated a carpentry and craftsman firm in Gresham. Census records indicate that William and his wife Jennie came from Ireland, to New York in 1910. Although it is unknown how or why they came to Oregon, William had become a naturalized citizen in Portland by 1918, where he worked as a carpenter. Operating his own construction firm, Hamilton advertised in the *Gresham Outlook*, and made a living building homes in both Portland and Gresham. In addition to his carpentry business, William also participated actively in the Gresham Masonic Lodge and the Order of the Eastern Star.

Hamilton built the home in 1922 on Ava Avenue just as the Kirkland Addition began to develop—it was one of the earliest homes in this addition. An article in the *Gresham Outlook* praised Hamilton's construction noting, "the house has all of the modern built-in features and is modern in every way." In particular, the article praised Hamilton for the built-in bookcases and fireplace in the living room. The article included many prominent homes of the more well-to-do, with Hamilton's home being one of the few working-class homes.

The Hamiltons only lived in the home for a short number of years. Jennie Hamilton died in 1926 and William sold the house to Kurt and Edna Johnson the same year. Later the Giese family

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owned the home.

Hamilton's home is one of the first homes in the neighborhood and contributed to the establishment of the neighborhood's character. Additionally, the builder's craftsmanship and pride also reflect a much larger pattern of immigrant craftsmen who built many of the city's residences. In this regard, it stands as a working-class builder's masterpiece that was both attainable and stylistically noteworthy in its time.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



William King Hamilton House looking west at the east (main) façade.

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W.K. Hamilton House looking southwest at the northeast corner of the home.



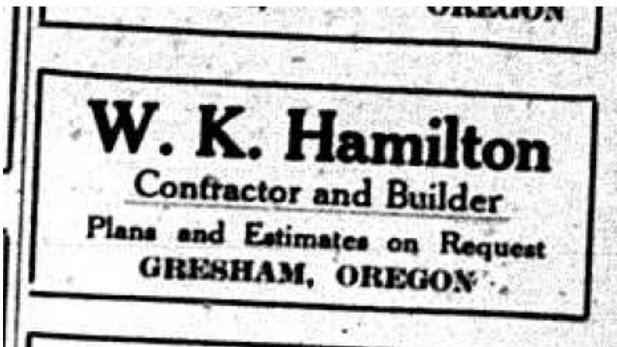
W. K. Hamilton House looking northwest at the south side and garage.

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W. K. Hamilton House looking northwest at the southeast corner.



Typical add for W.K. Hamilton from *Gresham Outlook*.
Gresham

The new W. K. Hamilton home on Ava avenue in Kirkland addition is one of the recently built homes. It has six rooms and a bath. The large living room and dining room have hardwood floors. A large fireplace and built-in bookcases add to the appearance of the living room. The house has all of the modern built-in features and is modern in every way. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton are now occupying their new home. Mr. Hamilton did the carpenter work himself.

Article on the home in the *Outlook*, Oct. 27, 1922. p. 1.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Emmett H. Kelly House**

Current/ Other names: **Free Spirit Skin Care Center / Freeman Property (time of original inventory)**

Address: **307 NE Kelly Avenue**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **10**

¼: **SE ¼ of the NW ¼** Zip Code: **97080**

Tax Lot: **5 & 6** Addition: **Zenith Block: 16**

Assessor: **R93640280**



Emmett Kelly House looking SW from NE Kelly Ave.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Residence** Height (stories): **1 1/2**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Not Listed**

Primary construction date: **1913**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Use comments: **Excellent condition**

Secondary use: **Business**

Primary style: **Craftsman**

Style comments:

Secondary style: **Bungalow**

Primary siding: **Staggered wood shingle**

Siding comments:

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect:

Builder: **Emmett Kelly**

Notes: **Roof: Side gable with long inset shed roof gables, covered in composition shingle.**

Windows: 9/1 double-hung wooden sash (main floor) 6/6 double-hung wooden sash (dormers).

Exterior: Coursed wooden shingles of alternating sizes, exposed rafter ends, decorative bargeboards triangular knee braces, paired square porch columns.

Landscape: Open lot to the west, large Douglas fir and pines along street to the south.

Alterations: Windows have either been restored or replaced with inserts.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Emmett H. Kelly built this home, one of the first in the Zenith Addition, in 1913. The son of Oregon Trail pioneers, he held a variety of jobs in Gresham, but his most successful was real-estate development and home building.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Gresham Historic Landmark #14
Emmett Horatio Kelly House

City of Gresham

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The Freeman property is a one and one half story residence situated in a mixed residential commercial neighborhood. The property is situated on a corner lot bounded by NE Kelly Avenue and NE 3rd Street. The Gresham Center for the Arts Plaza is located directly to the south and a vacant lot and alleyway are directly behind the Freeman property. The property features several medium sized Douglas firs and White Pines along NE 3rd Street; a well-manicured lawn and several camellias and rhododendrons.

The home is a craftsman side gabled bungalow with two inset shed roof dormers, which run along the east (main) and west (rear) facades. The east dormer contains seven 9/1 double hung wooden sash windows while the west dormer contains only five. The long low pitched roof features an internal chimney and is covered in composition shingle. The entire home is clad in coursed wooden shingles of alternating size. Additionally, the home features decorative triangular knee braces, exposed rafter ends, and decorative bargeboards.

The east (main) façade features a large full-length porch with a side stairway entry to the south side. Pairs of large square columns support the porch roof. The main entry doorway is centered on the porch and features a multi-paneled beveled door with a pair of fourteen pain side light windows.

The south and north façade mirror each other in many ways. Both feature the decorative knee braces and bargeboards. Both have a rectangular protruding wall extensions, although the north façade contains much smaller four pain windows while the south contains three sets of 4/4 double hung wooden sash windows. The west (rear) façade has a shed roof extension over the back porch, likely a later alteration. Overall, the home is in excellent condition and despite the addition and alterations, has good integrity.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

This home is one of the first residences in the city's Zenith Addition and represents a booming period in home construction in early twentieth century Gresham.

Emmett H. Kelly owned and built this home from on the lot from 1911 – 1913. Kelly, the son of Gresham pioneer Gilmer Kelly (of the family named for Kelly Creek and Kelly Butte) was born in 1859 on his father's donation land claim east of Gresham in Powell Valley. Emmett worked a variety of jobs; first as a bolter (metal sifter), a sawyer (mill operator), a mill manager, and later, he served as the City Marshal. However, Emmett's most successful enterprise was real estate.

Real estate developers converted acres of farmland into neighborhood as the City of Gresham blossomed in the early twentieth century. In this venture, Emmett collaborated with Albion B. Elliott and Armin C. Wilton to form the Independent Land Company of Gresham, itself an early real estate developer. One of their more successful ventures was purchasing a five-acre tract just east of downtown Gresham from Multnomah County Sheriff R.L. Stevens in 1908. Kelly and his partners subsequently surveyed, platted roads, and divided the land into lots as the Zenith Addition to Gresham in 1909. Kelly Avenue is likely named for Emmett.

As the Independent Land Company's Secretary, Emmett retained lots 5 and 6 for his own. In 1911, the *Gresham Outlook* noted, "one year ago there was not a house in the Zenith Addition. Now there are five dwellings and one more being started. The finest of these is being built by

City of Gresham

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Emmett Kelly for himself.” The article went on to call the home “entirely modern” and “one of the most costly bungalows in town.” A subsequent 1913 article in the *Gresham Outlook* pictured a nearly vacant Kelly Avenue with only a few houses, one of which was Emmett’s, decorated in Christmas regalia—perhaps as a sales promotion for the Independent Land Company’s Zenith Addition.

Records indicate that Emmett was widowed in the in the 1890s but married his second wife Lucile L. Kelly in 1910. In 1911, their first daughter Vernon L. Kelly was born in a tent behind the home, which was still under construction. Emmett died in 1929 and is buried in the Gresham Pioneer Cemetery.

The home was a flagship home in what was once one of the newest additions to the city. Additionally, the home represents the second and third generation of the Kelly family’s contributions to the development of East County and Gresham.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

Bibliography:

Chilton, W.R., eds., *Gresham, Stories of our Past: Book I, From Campground to City* [Gresham, Ore.: Davis and Fox Printing, 1996].

Chilton, W.R., eds., *Gresham, Stories of our Past: Book II, Before and After the World Wars* [Gresham, Ore.: Davis and Fox Printing, 1996].

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Gresham Historical Society, *A Pictorial History of East Multnomah County* [Portland, Ore.: Pediment Publishing, 1998].

Gresham Outlook, “Many New Houses Built During Year,” Dec. 1, 1911, p.1.

Gresham Outlook, “Christmas Number” Dec. 16, 1913, p.5.

Neville, H.L. “Zenith Addition to the town of Gresham (official survey plat)” [Portland: Multnomah County Recorder’s Office, 1909].

Multnomah County Recorder, “Deed Record from R.L. Stevens to Emmett Kelly, Albion B. Eliot, and Armic C. Wilton” Dec. 29, 1908, Book 446, Page 83, Deed Records of Multnomah County in the State of Oregon.

Miller, George R., *Gresham* [Charleston S.C.: Arcadia, 2011].

U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

United States Census, Year: 1880, (NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the

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Emmett Horatio Kelly House

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Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C., Census Place: *Powells Valley, Multnomah, Oregon*; Roll: *1082*; Family History Film: *1255082*; Page: *167A*; Enumeration District: *089*; Image: *0673*.

United States Census, Year: 1910, (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C. Census Place: *Hurlburt, Multnomah, Oregon*; Roll: *T624_1288*; Page: *9B*; Enumeration District: *0119*; FHL microfilm: *1375301*.

United States Census, Year: 1920 ,(NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C., Census Place: *Gresham, Multnomah, Oregon*; Roll: *T625_1503*; Page: *7A*; Enumeration District: *198*; Image: *878*.

Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



Emmett Kelly House, southeast corner looking northwest from the corner of NE 3rd and NE Kelly.

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Emmett Kelly House, east (main) façade looking west from NE Kelly Ave.



Emmett Kelly House, east (main) façade looking southwest from NE Kelly Ave.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Emmett Kelly House, south façade looking north from NE 3rd Street.



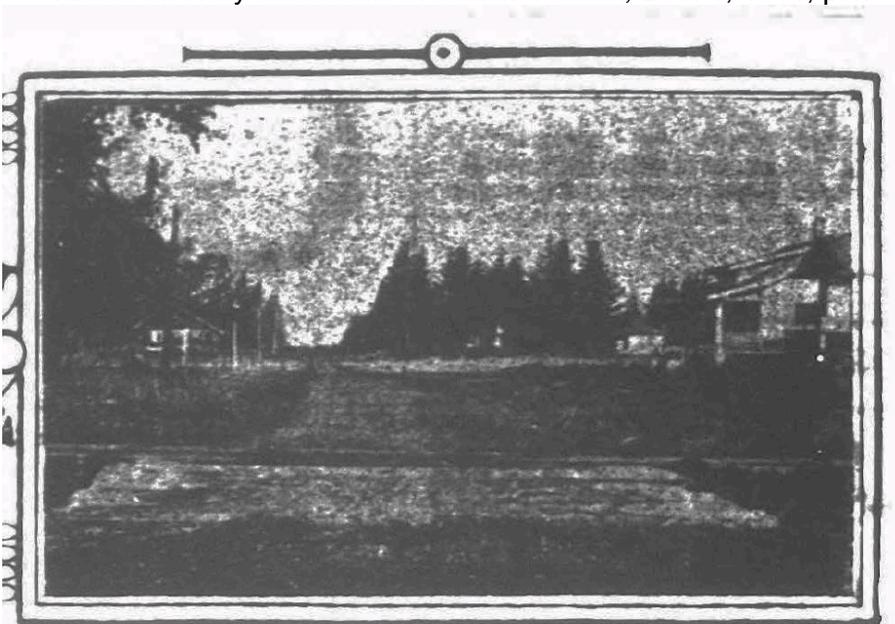
Emmett Kelly House, south façade looking north from NE 3rd Street.

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A year ago there was not a house in Zenith addition. Now there are five dwellings and one more being started. The finest of these is being built by Emmet Kelly for himself. It is a story and a half bungalow entirely modern and will be one of the most costly bungalows in town.

Article on Kelly's house in *Gresham Outlook*, Dec. 1, 1911, p.1.



View of Kelly avenue, in Zenith addition looking north from Powell street. In the picture at the right are seen the residences of L. F. Bates and Ray Todd. Farther away on the right is the cottage of W. E. Wood, occupied by Stephen Webber, and residence of A. J. W. Brown, surrounded by firs. On the left is the beautiful bungalow built and occupied by Emmett Kelly. Nearer by is the house of Roy Kern.

Article on Kelly's house in *Gresham Outlook*, Dec. 16, 1913, p.5.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That The Independent Land Company of Gresham, Multnomah County, State of Oregon, a corporation duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Oregon, with its principal office and place of business at Gresham, within the County of Multnomah and State of Oregon, hereinafter called the dedicator, has caused to be surveyed and subdivided into lots, blocks and streets and alleys all the following described real property, situate in the County of Multnomah and State of Oregon, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit :

Beginning in the east line of the James Powell Donation Land Claim, 1013 and 72-100 feet north of the southeast corner of said Donation Land Claim; thence north 969.23 feet, thence west 1765.50, thence south 1256.50 feet, thence east 254 feet, thence south 523.90 feet to the center of the Powell Valley Road; thence west in center of said road 55 feet; thence south 214.71 feet to the south line of said Donation Land Claim; thence east 1125.12 feet to the southwest corner of Metzgers Tract; thence north 201.10 feet to the northwest corner of said Metzgers Tract; thence east 218.75 feet; thence north 812.62 feet; thence east 214.50 feet; to the place of beginning, containing five acres, and being part of the James Powell Donation Land Claim, in Section 10, Township 1 South, Range 3 East, situate in Multnomah County, State of Oregon, save and except the three following parcels thereof, to-wit : Beginning in the east line of the James Powell Donation Land Claim, 1736.385 feet north of the southeast corner of said Donation Land Claim; thence north 246.73 feet, thence west 882.75 feet, thence south 246.73 feet, thence east 882.75 feet to beginning, containing five acres; also the following tract deeded to Mrs. E. H. Arthur by Stephen Roberts, to-wit : Beginning at the northwest corner of said first described tract; thence running east 882.75 feet, thence south 495.46 feet, thence west 882.75 feet, thence north 495.46 feet to beginning, containing ten acres; also the following tract deeded to A. Kötzman : Beginning in center of Powell Valley Road 1503.35 feet west and 217.25 feet north of the southeast corner of the James Powell Donation Land Claim; thence north 523.90 feet, thence east 108 feet, thence south 523.60 feet to the center of the road, thence westerly 108 feet to beginning, containing 1.21 acres. All of the above described real property, situate in Multnomah County, Oregon, as shown more particularly by that certain deed dated the 29th day of December, 1908, from R. L. Stevens, Sheriff of Multnomah County, Oregon, to Emmett H. Kelly, Albion B. Elliott and Armin C. Whilon, and recorded in book 446, page 85, Deed Records of Multnomah County, State of Oregon. Saving and excepting therefrom a tract of land beginning in the center line of the Powell Valley Road, at a point 217.35 feet north and 1828.35 feet west of the southeast corner of said James Powell Donation Land Claim; thence south 219.35 feet to the south line of said claim; thence east tracing said line 1125.12 feet to the southeast corner of the Metzger tract; thence north 201.10 feet to the center line of the Powell Valley road; thence westerly tracing the center line of said road to the place of beginning.

And the said dedicator does hereby acknowledge and declare, and does hereby make, establish and declare the annexed map and plat of said above described real property as subdivided, and that the said tract of land has been and is named "Zenith Addition" to the Town of Gresham, Multnomah County, State of Oregon.

That the said lots, blocks, and alleys, streets of said tract are of the sizes and dimensions and are situated as shown upon the said map and plat.

That the said dedicator does hereby dedicate to the use of the public forever all of the streets and alleys of said "Zenith Addition" as shown upon said map and plat thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said The Independent Land Company of Gresham, Oregon, a corporation aforesaid, in accordance with a resolution of its Board of Directors duly and regularly adopted, has caused these presents to be signed by its President and Secretary, and its corporate seal herunto affixed, this 28th day of April, A. D. 1909.

Signed and executed in the presence of us as witnesses :
 Albion B. Elliott.
 J. A. Strowbridge.
 STATE OF OREGON,
 County of Multnomah) ss.

THE INDEPENDENT LAND COMPANY
 By Armin C. Whilon President.
 THE INDEPENDENT LAND COMPANY
 By Emmett H. Kelly Secretary.
 (CORP. SEAL OF THE IND. LAND CO.)

THIS CERTIFIES that on this 28th day of April A. D. 1909, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county and state aforesaid, personally appeared the within named Armin C. Whilon, as President, and Emmett H. Kelly, as Secretary, of the within named The Independent Land Company, a corporation, with its principal office and place of business at Gresham, Oregon, they being known to me to be such officers and the identical persons described in and who executed the within instrument for and in behalf of said corporation aforesaid, being known to me to be the identical corporation described in, and for and in whose behalf the within instrument was executed.

And the said Armin C. Whilon, as President, and Emmett H. Kelly, as Secretary, of said corporation, then and there acknowledged to me that they did as such officers execute the within named instrument as and for the act and deed of said The Independent Land Company of Gresham, Oregon, a corporation, and that they affixed the corporate seal of said corporation to the within instrument under and by authority in them vested by the said Board of Directors of said corporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal on this day in this certificate first above written.

J. A. Strowbridge
 Notary Public in and for the State of Oregon.
 SURVEYORS CERTIFICATE.

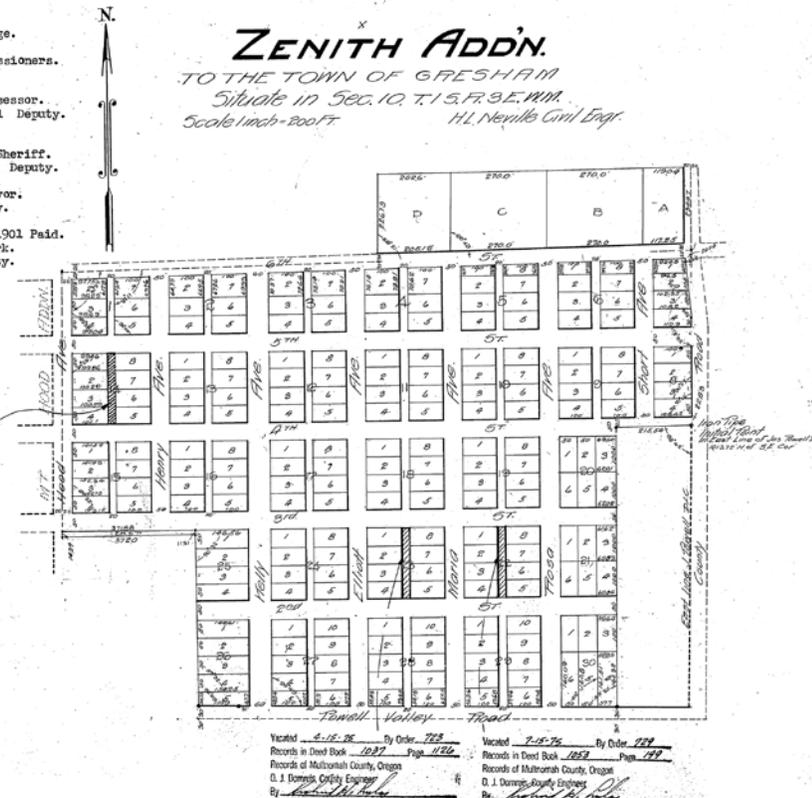
STATE OF OREGON,
 County of Multnomah) ss.

I, H. L. Neville, being first duly sworn, depose and say that I have correctly surveyed the land embraced in the annexed plat of Zenith Addition to the Town of Gresham, Oregon; that I have correctly surveyed the same into Blocks, Lots, Tracts, Avenues, Streets, Alleys, and have marked the same with proper monuments; that I have planted an iron pipe 1" x 30" at the southeast corner of the tract the initial point of such survey as delineated and set forth on said plat; said initial point is located in the east line of the James Powell D.L.C., 1013.72 feet north of the southeast corner of said D.L.C. in Section 10, T. 1 S. R. 3 E. of W.M., in Multnomah County.

H. L. Neville Surveyor.
 Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for the State of Oregon, this 28 day of April 1909 A. D.
 Edward D. Barrett
 Notary Public for Oregon.

Approved Apr. 30, 1909.
 (Co. Court Seal.) W. L. Lightner
 F. O. Barnes Commissioners.
 Attest : F. S. Fields Clerk.
 Approved April 30th, 1909. B. D. Sigler Assessor.
 By L. H. Maxwell Deputy.
 Taxes from 1901 to 1908 inclusive are "Paid".
 R. L. Stevens Sheriff.
 S. B. Martin Deputy.
 Approved April 30, 1909.
 Philo Holbrook County Surveyor.
 By H. L. Chandler Deputy.
 All taxes due Multnomah County from 1888 to 1901 Paid.
 F. S. Fields County Clerk.
 By F. G. Wilde Deputy.
 Received for Record April 30, 1909,
 at 1:08 P. M.

ZENITH ADDN.
 TO THE TOWN OF GRESHAM
 Situate in Sec. 10, T. 1 S. R. 3 E. W.M.
 Scale 1 inch = 200 FT.
 H. L. Neville Civil Engr.



Recorded 5-1-79 By Order 647
 Records in Deed Book 222 Page 1114
 Records of Multnomah County Oregon
 By Richard H. Kelly
 Deputy Director of Public Works

Recorded 4-15-09 By Order 723
 Records in Deed Book 1087 Page 1120
 Records of Multnomah County, Oregon
 By J. J. Dennis County Engineer
 By Richard H. Kelly

Recorded 7-15-76 By Order 729
 Records in Deed Book 1052 Page 1122
 Records of Multnomah County, Oregon
 By J. J. Dennis County Engineer
 By Richard H. Kelly

Full text of the 1909 survey and deed record for Independent Land Company's Zenith Addition.

Gresham Historic Landmark #14
 Emmett Horatio Kelly House

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Dr. Hughes Residence**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **1229 W Powell Boulevard**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **9**

¼: **SW ¼ of the NE ¼** Zip Code: **97030**

Tax Lot: **4** Addition: **Wallula Heights**
Block: **3**

Assessor: **R876800830**



South façade of Dr. Hughes residence from W. Powell.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Residence	Height (stories): 1 1/2	Total # eligible resources: 3
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant		NR status: Listed
Primary construction date: 1922		City Landmark Status: Listed
Secondary construction date:		
Primary use: Residence		Use comments: Good condition
Secondary use:		
Primary style: Colonial Bungalow		Style comments:
Secondary style:		
Primary siding: Coursed Shingle		Siding comments:
Secondary siding:		
Plan type: Rectangular		
Architect:		Builder:

Notes: **Narratives quoted from National Register Nomination Form.**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Dr. Hubert H. Hughes lived in this home from 1922 to 1964. He was a respected physician and long time mayor of Gresham most noted for helping the city grow to meet the need of returning veterans after World War II.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Because the home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the narratives are quoted below.

From the National Register Nomination:

Gresham Historic Landmark #15
Dr. Hughes Residence

City of Gresham

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Located west of downtown Gresham, the Dr. Hughes House is in a residential neighborhood on an 89 ft. by 188 ft. lot at the corner of NW Wallula Street and W. Powell Boulevard. Set back from W. Powell Boulevard approximately 60 ft., the house has an expansive, open lawn in the front that is surrounded by a picket fence (constructed 1997) on the south and west sides. A newer curvilinear brick pathway leads up to the front entry. Mature rhododendrons, dating from the historic period, line the perimeter of the house on the south and east elevations. A large hydrangea is planted directly in front of the window on the east elevation and a massive magnolia tree is on the west elevation outside the dining room and breakfast nook windows. A grape arbor with mature vines, connects the west side entrance and the garage. A chain link dog pen is located on the east side of the garage (built 1998).

The east side yard has a mature maple and rhododendron that are directly south of the greenhouse. A large maple tree is between the greenhouse and the garage. Filbert bushes are directly north of the greenhouse. Arborvitae, Indian Ash, mature camellia, fir, and rhododendrons line the back (north) property line. Roses and arborvitae line the street along NW Wallula Street north of the driveway; a mature Indian Ash is east of this line of arborvitae. A rose garden, dating from the historic period, is intact directly east of the house. A concrete bird bath is south of the rose garden. Much of the landscape features date from the historic period.

Exterior

The Herbert H. Hughes House is square in plan and measures approximately 36 ft. by 38 ft. Although a more vernacular example, the house has characteristics of the Colonial style in its form and design details. Built in 1922, the house is one and one-half stories high with a moderately pitched side facing gable covered with asphalt composition shingles (re-roofed in 1999). Two brick chimneys cap the roof: the front elevation chimney is wide and constructed of brick with a raked finish and the rear chimney is a smaller brick chimney. The front slope of the roof is broken by two eyebrow dormer windows decorated with fanlight wooden windows. The house has a wide bargeboard and slightly overhanging eaves supported by exposed rafter tails and curved brackets.

Wood shingles applied in a ribbon coursing (alternating rows of wide and narrow reveals) cover the house. The majority of the windows are multi-pane wood casement windows grouped together forming banks of multi-pane windows; a few of the windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash windows. The front windows were altered at an unknown date to a single pane of glass (this alteration most likely occurred in the 1940s or 1950s). The windows, however, retain the original window opening size and have the original trim boards intact. French doors have been added to the west gable end on the upper story.

The decorative front entrance has an arched porch roof supported by large, wooden Doric columns. The columns terminate at an elevated semi-circular concrete porch that has brick edging. The wide, multi-pane front door has decorative Federal Style surrounds that include a broken pediment above the entry with a center torch-like carving. The center of the pediment is decorated with a carved garland and lion's head. Metal lantern-type lights flank the door and pediment.

The west side entrance is sheltered by a grape arbor. The grape arbor is constructed of 4 in. by

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

4 in. posts braced with horizontal members. The grapes form a roof over the arbor that connects the house to the garage. French doors on the main floor on the east elevation open to a concrete patio that is trimmed with brick. The house rests on a concrete foundation.

Garage (Historic Contributing Feature)

The garage was built in the same style as the house and dates from the historic period. The two car structure, measuring 18 ft. by 20 ft., has a side facing gable roof, an eyebrow dormer with fanlight window, overhanging eaves with curved brackets and exposed rafter tails, ribbon coursed wood shingle siding, and a concrete foundation. A large garage door (not original) is on the west elevation and pedestrian door is on the south side. The south side five-panel door was installed in 1998; the door was in storage in the garage. Four wood casement windows are on the east elevation. A shed storage addition enclosed with lattice was added to the north elevation.

Greenhouse (Historic Contributing Feature)

The greenhouse, northeast of the house, is divided into two sections: the glass greenhouse and the attached potting shed. The potting shed, on the north side, has a gable roof, dirt floor, plywood walls, and a concrete block wall. The windows are single pane casements with the original hardware intact. Tables line the east and west walls of the shed. A door on the south side leads to the glass portion of the greenhouse. The roof is composed of slanted panes of glass that terminates at the concrete block foundation walls. An interior pulley system for venting the building is still intact at the peak (interior) of the greenhouse. The greenhouse was once heated by steam heat piped from the basement of the house.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The Dr. Hughes house, erected in 1922, met the National Register of Historic Places Criteria B for its association with Dr. Herbert Hughes and Criteria C for its contribution as a landmark to the City of Gresham. The home is located on Powell Valley Road, which was the first road constructed into the central Gresham area. The first town site constructed within the area that later became the City of Gresham, consisted of four buildings at the intersection of Main and Powell in the late 1800's. Powell Valley Road was a key corridor during the town's development as many residences and prominent buildings were constructed, such as a grade school, post office, church. The Dr. Hughes house is characteristic of the size and scale of many of the bungalows constructed during the era; yet the massive Doric columns, and arched entry porch give it a distinctive facade.

Dr. Hughes was a prominent physician and long-time mayor of Gresham, Oregon. Dr. Hughes began his practice in 1912 and continued his work into the late 1950s. He had innovative approaches to medicine and had a natural enjoyment of people that endeared him to everyone. His tireless travels throughout the Gresham region during his long career made him a legend in the community.

Dr. Hughes had a special concern for children, and was the first one to help with emergencies at local schools. He counseled children in need and found ways to support those in trouble. For many years he served as the official city doctor. Hughes' interest and concern in people,

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

combined with his administrative abilities made him an ideal mayor for the City of Gresham. His tenure spanned the period between 1940 and 1956; pre- and post World War II. After the World War II ended, Dr. Hughes quickly rallied to the swelling number new families moving into the Gresham area. He knew that Gresham could not remain a slumbering, agricultural community, for he understood that Gresham was becoming a place for families who commuted to industrial and service jobs in the nearby metropolitan City of Portland.

With his people and administrative skills, he led the City of Gresham to a position where the community responded to its new role in an orderly and measured way. The City Council and the voters supported a long string of changes and bond measures that laid foundations for future growth while providing a convenient and safe environment for all the new post war families moving in. Few leaders could have accomplished what Dr. Hughes did in such a smooth fashion. Dr. Hughes lived in the family house that he erected from 1922 until the time of his death in 1964 at the age of 81 (he only moved from the house for a couple of years during his brief marriage).

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
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Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

Bibliography:

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Chung, Sharon and Dave Lindstrom, *National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form: Dr. Herbert H. Hughes House* [Salem, Ore.: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, 2000].

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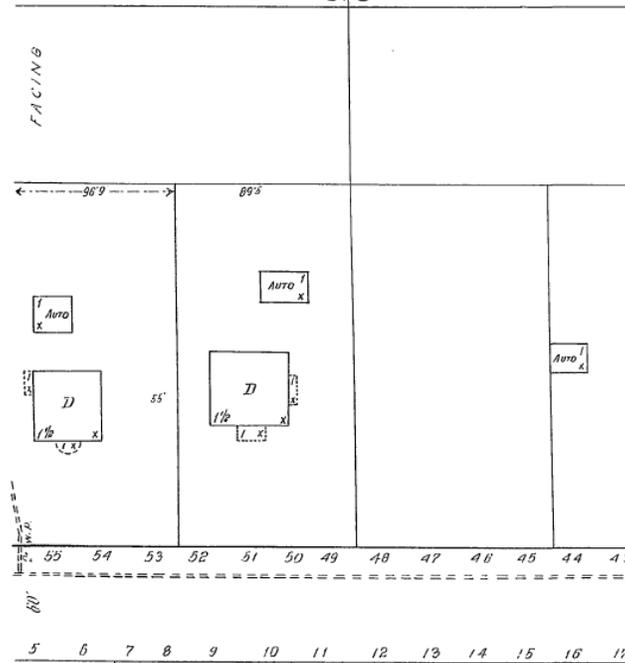
Miller, George R., *Gresham* [Charleston S.C.: Arcadia, 2011].

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City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**



A 1922 Sanborn Map shows the Dr. Hughes House in the lower left.



South façade from the corner of Wallula Street and W. Powell Boulevard.

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North and west façade of house from Wallula Street.



South façade from southeast corner of the property.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Judge Stapleton House**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **1265 SE Roberts Avenue**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **15**

¼: **NW ¼ of the NE ¼** Zip Code: **97080**

Tax Lot: **3** Addition: **Stapleton Woods**
Block:

Assessor: **R993151020**



Judge Stapleton House looking south from SE Roberts

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Residence** Height (stories): **1 1/2**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Not Listed**

Primary construction date: **1913**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Use comments: **Excellent condition**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Craftsman**

Style comments:

Secondary style: **Bungalow**

Primary siding: **Clapboard**

Siding comments: **Orig. form notes cedar weatherboard**

Secondary siding: **Coursed shingle**

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect: **Zeller and Stokes**

Builder: **Alfred Hammar and W.S. Robinson**

Notes: **Roof: Cross gable with front roof gable; covered in composition shingle.**
Windows: 1/1 double-hung wooden sash (main floor) 6/1 double-hung wooden sash.
Exterior: Clad in clapboards, decorative knee braces, exposed rafter tails, king posts, square wood piers and brackets on porch, corniced window heads, bargeboards carved at ends.
Landscape: Well-landscaped yard containing the following trees deemed significant to the city of Gresham: Red Japanese Maple, Deodar Cedar, Camperdown Elm, and Giant Sequoia.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This 1913 home represents the life of Judge George W. Stapleton, an important leader who to lived in Gresham but worked in Portland. A Multnomah County Circuit Judge and former Gresham Mayor, George W. Stapleton was involved with many civic institutions in Gresham and the county.

Gresham Historic Landmark #16
Judge George W. Stapleton House

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ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Judge Stapleton House is located in the midst of a residential neighborhood and is set back 50 feet south of SE Roberts Avenue. The home stands central to the circular SE Stapleton Loop, which is a more modern residential development. The home is well-landscaped with many small shrubs and ferns, several Significant Trees to the city of Gresham: Red Japanese Maple, Deodar Cedar, Camperdown Elm, and Giant Sequoia.

The home is a cross-gabled craftsman covered in composition shingles with a large, front gabled roof dormer on the east (main) façade. Two chimneys, one internal and one external (main), are constructed of red fired brick. Clapboard siding clads the home and fenestration consists of 1/1 and 6/1 double-hung wooden sash windows and a centered beveled door covered by a full length porch. Decorative features include: exposed rafter tails, carved bargeboards, triangular knee bracing, gable kingposts, and corniced window heads.

The east (main) façade consists of a center concrete stairway with brick footings for the stairs and porch. A partial wraparound porch features vertical louvered latticing and decorative pier-like baluster spindles. The porch is supported by square columns with embellished capitals and knee braces. A centered front-gabled roof dormer with kingposts is clad in cedar shingles, contains four 6/1 wooden sash windows, and features similar knee bracing, exposed rafter ends, window cornices, and carved bargeboards.

North façade's side-gabled roofline is accentuated by an alternate side-gabled roof plane on the porch. A small, single window wall extension is covered in a simple shed roof. The west end of the north façade transitions to a cross gabled roof. The west (rear) façade consists of several 1/1 windows and an offset rear doorway, with a simple shed roof covering the basement entry. The south façade represents some minor alterations, which include a large, post and pier porch with French doors. A detached two-bay garage is deigned in a similar style but is much newer. The original garage has been removed. Overall, the home is in excellent condition and retains a high degree of integrity.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

George W. Stapleton was born in Iowa in 1863 and emigrated to Idaho with his family one year later. His family moved to Oregon in 1871, and after a brief stint in Klickitat County, Washington, the family obtained a farm in Polk County, Oregon. George studied law at Pacific University and was admitted to the Oregon bar 1886 and the Washington bar in 1887. His first legal practice was in Goldendale, Washington where he also served as mayor for one term. He then moved to Vancouver where he joined his brother-in-law's practice and served three terms as Vancouver's mayor. In 1898, he moved to Portland and became a partner in the law firm Coovert & Moody, where he specialized in corporate law. He represented many large corporate firms in the city including the wealthy timber firm of Benson and Yeon.

As a successful partner at Coovert & Moody, George moved his family to Gresham in 1913 and commuted to his practice in Portland via the Springwater Division Line and by automobile—both of which were very rare for the time. Stapleton hired the firm Zeller & Stokes to design his family home with Carpenter W.S Robinson and Mason Alfred Hammer leading the construction—it cost \$25,000 to build the home. The *Gresham Outlook* proclaimed Stapleton's home “the finest and costliest of anything in the building line outside of Portland.”

Gresham Historic Landmark #16
Judge George W. Stapleton House

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Stapleton became involved with local Gresham life very quickly. The voters elected him Mayor of Gresham from 1915 – 1917. He was involved in the local school board, serving as chairman from 1915 – 1921. Later, the High school named the athletic field in his honor. He also was a frequent judge and board member of the Multnomah County Fair. Additionally, Stapleton participated fraternal organizations such as the Masons, the Elks, the Al Kader Temple, and the Eastern Star. In 1917, he was elected Captain of the local army veterans Home Guard, and in 1921 assisted in obtaining famine relief for China.

George's wife Louise Sisson also played a significant role in the Gresham community. A member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, she was president of the Portia Club (a society of women married to attorneys). She regularly hosted fundraisers at the home for the Red Cross, the Portland Women's Club, and other local charitable organizations.

In 1917, George resigned his position as Mayor of Gresham when Oregon Governor James Withycombe appointed him Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge, a position he held for three terms until his death in 1925. George's biographic sketch noted his mild temper, penchant for leniency, and a fair and just enforcement of the law. Even as a county judge George Stapleton, continued to be active in Gresham and east-county life.

Because of his regular commute, he was a staunch proponent of road and rail expansion and gave a dedication speech at the completion of the Eagle Creek Campground on the Historic Columbia River Highway. He was an avid auto camper and enjoyed Gresham's proximity to the recreational opportunities near Mt. Hood. Funding for roads was one of his chief projects outside his life as a jurist. The home not only represents the life of a significant family in the city, but one that relied on a regular interurban commute.

For all his service, George Stapleton's biographic sketch in the Oregon Bar's History noted, "There is no better nor more popularly known judge in the county than Judge Stapleton."

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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|--|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Library: **Multnomah County Public Library, Gresham Branch**

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Gresham Historic Landmark #16
Judge George W. Stapleton House

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Judge Stapleton House looking south from SE Roberts Ave.



Rebuilt garage mimics the style of the Judge Stapleton House, view to the South.

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Southwest corner of Judge Stapleton House looking northeast.



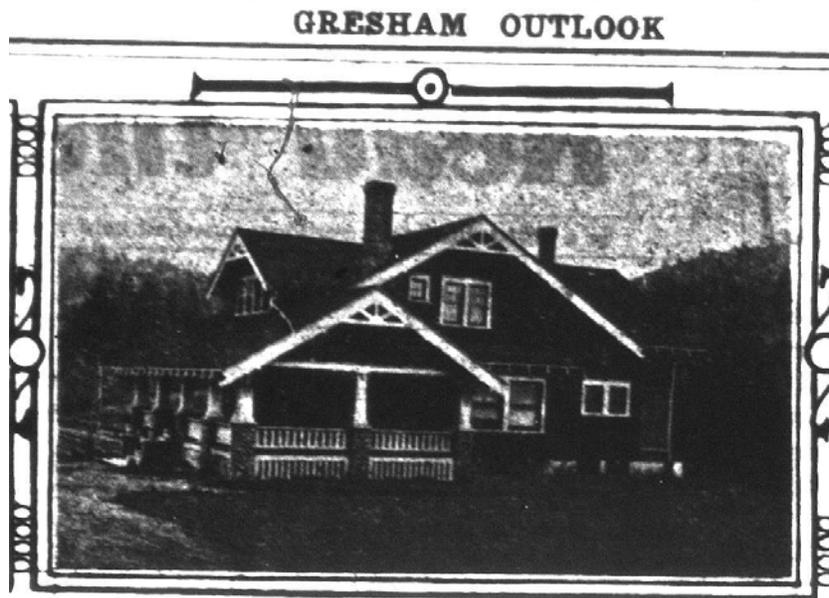
North façade of Judge Stapleton house looking south from SE Roberts.

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Large trees in front of Judge Stapleton House looking south along SE Roberts.



Stapleton's home featured in the Christmas Edition *Gresham Outlook*, Dec 16, 1913.

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Judge George W. Stapleton, c. 1910, from *History of the Bench and Bar of Oregon*.