

CITY OF GRESHAM



**UPDATED INVENTORY
OF
HISTORIC AND CULTURAL
LANDMARKS**

PART 2

Researched and Compiled by

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Historic Resources Intern

December 2016

Urban Design and Planning

City of Gresham

1333 NW Eastman Parkway

Gresham, OR 97030

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **William Peterson House**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **3655 SE Powell Valley Road**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **11**

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

Tax Lot: Addition: Block:

Assessor: **R239132**



Peterson House looking north from SE Powell Valley Rd.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

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

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1909**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Craftsman**

Secondary style:

Primary siding: **Clapboard**

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect:

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Not Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments: **Excellent condition**

Style comments: **Bungalow (1987 form)**

Siding comments:

Builder: **William Peterson**

Notes: **Roof: side gable with shed-roofed wall dormer, three front gabled porches, all covered in composition shingle.**

Windows: 1/1 double-hung wooden sash.

Exterior: Clad in clapboards, decorative triangular knee braces, exposed rafter ends, tapered square porch columns.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William Peterson House, built in 1909, represents rural life just outside the city as well as 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 world."

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The William Peterson home is situated on a large lot facing south and set back fifty feet from

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Powell Valley Road in a mixed rural and residential neighborhood. The home is bordered to the west by Gordon Russell Middle School and the east by a newer cul-de-sac development at SE Hacienda Circle. The grounds are very well manicured with numerous deciduous and coniferous trees as well as shrubs, flowers, arbors, and rock wall alignments.

The home is a side gabled Craftsman covered in composition shingles with two large, shed-roofed wall dormers on the south (main) and north (rear) façade. Clapboard siding clads the home and fenestration consists of 1/1 double-hung wooden sash windows, with a central beveled glass door. Both the front and side doors have side gabled porches supported by large tapered square columns resting on brick footings. Decorative features include exposed rafter tails and knee brackets.

The south (main) façade consists of a center wooden stairway, which leads to the front gabled porch. Two large, single-pane plate glass windows on either side of the porch are likely replacements. The east façade exhibits an exterior brick chimney covered in a concrete skim coat. The west façade exhibits a front gabled porch similar to the south façade, again with tapered square columns on brick footings and with exposed rafter ends. A small, single window wall extension is located on the northwest corner, also with a side gabled roof. Although access to the rear of the property was not possible, satellite images show the presence of a similar shed-roofed wall dormer on the north façade. A detached garage with a metal roof is located just north and east of the home and appears to be a non-contributing resource. Overall, the home is in excellent condition and retains a high degree of integrity.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

William Peterson, a Swedish immigrant, purchased 30 acres off Powell Valley Road in 1905 for \$5,685 cash. He lived in a small Victorian farmhouse while he built the current Craftsman home. According to census records, he and his wife Anna Peterson had four children, Reid, Reuben, Frieda, and Archie. William built the home reflecting his Swedish heritage; making the kitchen large and a central family gathering place while the living room was reserved for only special occasions. The Petersons grew raspberries, strawberries, and raised dairy cows. More than a simple berry-grower, William's involvement with farming extended into the larger community.

Around the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth century, local grange halls became important places for rural community-building and often represented populist political values, like farmers' cooperative unions and price stabilization espoused by leaders such as William Jennings Bryan. William Peterson mirrored this national trend by helping organize the Powell Valley Grange and school, serving as the clerk.

More significantly, William participated in the Powell Valley Development League, which aimed to organize the local fruit growers and form a transportation association. An outgrowth of this organization came in 1914 when William became one of the founding directors of the Gresham Fruit Growers Association, which began commercially canning raspberries that same year. Pooling their money and issuing stock certificates, the association purchased a large cannery and ran it as a successful cooperative. Cannery manager D.E. Towle praised the successful cooperative after its profits continued to rise: "We have found it less painful and more profitable to hang together." By the 1920s, largely because of William Peterson's leadership, Gresham

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had become the “Raspberry Capital of the World.”

After William Peterson’s death, David and Harry Hahn purchased the property in 1947. They sold 28 acres of the land for Gordon Russell Middle School.

The Peterson Home not only reflects the city’s ties to rural farm communities, but represents a significant development in cooperative farming and commercial berry processing. In turn, Peterson’s work gave Gresham a world-renowned reputation in the berry growing industry. Peterson, a Swedish immigrant, brought together his values of populist politics and capitalist ventures to establish a successful berry cooperative.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input checked="" 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 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**



William Peterson House looking North across Powell Valley Road.

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South (main) façade of William Peterson House looking north /northwest.



South (main) façade of William Peterson House looking north /northeast.

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West elevation of William Peterson House.

Fruitgrowers Report Assets.

According to the report of Secretary Karl Miller, submitted at the first annual meeting on Monday at the Gresham Grange hall, the assets of the Gresham Fruit Growers' Association are approximately \$16,840.29, and the liabilities are the same. The assets include the cannery building, 100x200 feet, built last year at a cost of \$4000, unsubscribed stock, installments, etc. It will cost \$2000 for machinery for the canning of fruit and \$1000 to provide for canning vegetables.

It was announced that a contract had been made with Fred Kaster, an experienced fruit cannery man, as process manager for the Gresham cannery for 1915. The old board of directors was re-elected: H. E. Davis, M. O. Nelson, F. A. Lehman, William Peterson and J. H. Sterling. There are now 850 shares of the stock taken, totalling \$8750, leaving 250 unsold shares, which will be disposed of for expense money.

Morning Oregonian on William Peterson and Gresham Fruit Growers Association, Jan 17, 1915.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **W. Fred Honey House**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **611 NW Wallula Avenue**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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

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

Tax Lot: **6** Addition: **Benvue Tr.** Block:

Assessor: **R070400260**



Fred Honey House looking west from NW Wallula 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: **1906**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Use comments: **Excellent condition**

Secondary use:

Extensive alterations

Primary style: **Arts and Crafts**

Style comments: **Wrap-around porch**

Secondary style:

added

Primary siding: **Wide Drop Board**

Siding comments: **Not original siding**

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **multi-rectangular**

Architect:

Builder: **Fred Fieldhouse & Jake Metzger**

Notes: **Roof: Hipped roof with two wings. Multiple offset hipped wall dormers, added hipped wrap-around front porch, all over covered in composition shingle.**

Windows: 8/1 double-hung vinyl sash, louvered decorative shutters, many large glass single panes.

Exterior: Clad in wide drop board, large block chimney in south wing. Brick veneer, wrap-around porch, tapered columns, baluster and concrete steps all added since 1987 inventory

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

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ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The William Fred Honey House is a Prairie style home built in 1906 in the Arts and Crafts tradition. The home is centered on a large, one-acre lot in the middle of Gresham's Northwest residential neighborhood. The home is set back sixty feet from NW Wallula and is accessed via a long, circular, private drive flanked by two cast iron columns and a locked gate (owners declined access to the parcel). The property is well-landscaped with mature Douglas Firs, with laurel and cedar hedges providing almost total privacy from the street. Numerous other shrubs, a Monkey Puzzle tree, and magnolias decorate the yard, which also features a tennis court and a large detached garage studio.

The home is a complex hipped roof with a main east-west trending wing, which faces the street and a north-south trending wing, which is affixed to the west. A side gabled wall extension on the north façade as well as several hipped wall dormers, roofed awnings, and a wraparound front porch are all covered in composition shingles. Although done in consideration of the home's style, the porch and covered awnings are recent additions. Other alterations include the cladding: the main floor brick veneer entry; fenestration: conversion to vinyl eight-over-one double-hung windows and decorative louvered shutters; and form: the stylistic addition of tapered columns, jig sawn baluster, and poured-form concrete porch and side entry.

The east (main) façade features an offset hipped wall dormer. On the main floor, a large, single-pane window is flanked by two smaller side lights, which are both offset from the centered main entry. The north elevation features a side gabled wall dormer, which meets the back wing to the west. The main floor north elevation also features a roofed awning over a side entry and a three-panel bay window with a tri-section hipped roof. The south elevation features an enclosed hipped roof wall extension (which may have been a former back entry) and what appears to be a small portico, which opens onto a circular parking area and driveway.

The home's alterations are substantial. As such, it remains unclear how these additions might affect the architectural integrity. Overall, the home is in excellent condition and its association to Fred Honey remains strong.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

Constructed in 1906, the William Fredrick Honey House is one of the first large homes in the city's Northwest Neighborhood. The home is a product of a housing boom in turn-of-the-century Gresham, in part led by Jake Metzger and Fred Fieldhouse. The Home's association with the Honey family also gives the property added significance to the city of Gresham.

In 1905, Gresham jeweler Fred Fieldhouse purchased 10 acres of land where the home now stands for \$1,750, and working with local builder Jake Metzger, had the home built for \$4,000. Fieldhouse subsequently sold the home to William Fredrick Honey in 1911. High demand and inexpensive land made Gresham a popular place to buy property at this time.

W. Fred Honey was born in Ontario, Canada in 1856. In the 1880's, he owned a mill, bank, and several other businesses in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana. Retiring from his capitalist ventures, Fred moved his family to Gresham in 1911. His brother George followed suit the next

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year and purchased a home built by Metzger and Fieldhouse one lot north. News of the Honey's arrival was covered in the *Gresham Outlook*: "The immense business conducted by these gentlemen (in North Dakota) has brought them ample reward and they come to seek a home where they can live less strenuous lives than the vigorous climate of North Dakota.... Let a few more aggregations come to Gresham and soon the fame of this district will begin to spread abroad." declared the paper in 1911. The arrival of the Honey's, with their wealth and capital excited Gresham's real estate prospectors, as they hoped more families like the Honey's would relocate to the city.

Fred's wife, Margaret K. Honey, served on the Gresham Library Board and became the secretary in 1913. Her service to the board began right as the new Carnegie Library was underway in 1913. The construction of the city's library had long been an important goal to make Gresham independent from distant Portland libraries.

Fred and Margaret's son John K. Honey grew up in Gresham and entered military service in 1917 during the First World War. According to the *Gresham Outlook*, he worked as "an excellent French and German linguist" in Europe.

Thus, the home is not simply associated with a prominent family but two significant builders and developers in Gresham: Jake Metzger and Fred Fieldhouse. The home embodies the booming real-estate market of the early 1900s and represents how Gresham attracted many transplants because of the proximity to city, farm, and affordable land.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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



Southeast corner of William Fred Honey House obscured from vegetation along NW Wallula Ave.

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Northeast corner of William Fred Honey house obscured by large Douglas Fir.



East (main) façade of William Fred Honey House obscured from NW Wallula Ave.

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Northeast corner of William Fred Honey House photographed by Kelly James for 1981 *Gresham Outlook*.

Gresham Property Sold.

W. F. Honey, a banker of North Dakota, has purchased the home and 10-acre field formerly belonging to F. W. Fieldhouse, at Gresham, for \$10,000. Mr. Honey will take possession of the property September 15. Mr. Honey recently bought a tract of land near Cherryville, on the Mount Hood automobile road. The price paid per acre for the Gresham land is a record price it is said.

Morning Oregonian, Aug. 13, 1911.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Arthur Fieldhouse Residence**

Current/ Other names: **The Lunceford Residence**

Address: **31 NW 11th Street**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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

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

Tax Lot: **9 & 10** Addition: **Regner's**
Block: **4**

Assessor: **R697900680**



A. Fieldhouse home looking northeast from NW 11th St.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

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

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1907**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Craftsman**

Secondary style: **Vernacular**

Primary siding: **Beveled drop**

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect:

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Not Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments: **Good condition**

Style comments: **Bungalow (1907 form)**

Siding comments:

Builder: **Arthur Fieldhouse**

Notes: **Roof: Simple hipped roof with flared eaves and front gabled porch; all over covered in composition shingle.**

Windows: 1/1 double-hung wooden sash and decorative diamond leaded glass attic light.

Exterior: Clad in narrow 3" clapboards, corner boards, 2 and 3 groupings of ionic columns, triangular knee braces, mock balustrade on attic window, "X" crossed balusters, ashlar faced concrete block.

Landscape: Four large big leafed maple trees along the street.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Gresham Historic Landmark #19

Arthur J. Fieldhouse Home (Lunceford Residence)

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The Arthur Fieldhouse residence is situated on a flat lot along NW 11th Street in a residential neighborhood and is set back ten feet from the tree lined street. The parcel has limited landscaping with four large Big Leaf Maples along 11th Street. A large asphalt parking pad extends to the north and west of the house.

The home is a Craftsman bungalow with a simple hipped-roof construction with flared eaves and a cross-gabled porch. The home is clad in narrow three-inch beveled drop siding and decorative corner boards. The home exhibits 1/1 double-hung wooden sash windows and a centered beveled eight-panel door. The home sits on an ashlar faced concrete block foundation.

The south (main) façade features an asymmetrical front-gabled porch, which rests on groupings of two and three ionic columns on battered footings. Decorative knee braces and a flared bargeboard accent the roofline. Two small, diamond leaded glass window lights and a miniature balustrade decorate the pediment, which also displays simple half-timbering. A square grid lattice covers the footings and a crisscrossing “X” baluster lines the porch. However, one section of the baluster has been removed to favor an added front set of steps. The original porch consisted only of side steps to the west of the porch. The remainder of the property is very simple, with the addition of a shed-style porch along the north (rear façade). The alterations have the potential to be reversed and the home has good overall integrity.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

This home is one of the first constructed in the Regner's Addition to Gresham and is associated with the Fieldhouse family, who were local builders, merchants, and real-estate developers. Their work was especially significant to the physical and cultural development of Gresham.

Arthur James Fieldhouse was born in Harperly Park, Durham, England in 1866. Arthur had three siblings: brother Frederick William, born in 1863, brother Alfred Henry, born 1864, and sister Marry Ellen, born 1869. John and Maria Harriett Fieldhouse were their parents. In 1869, the family immigrated to Annation, Wisconsin. In 1907, Arthur moved to Gresham following his brother Frederick, who had recently engaged in a real estate venture with Jake Metzger building the Fred Honey House.

The Fieldhouse brothers owned and operated a jewelry store; it is unclear if they were equal partners. Arthur also worked as a local stonemason and allegedly installed the ashlar stone facing on the foundation block. Both the Arthur Fieldhouse Home and the Fredrick Fieldhouse Home (and many other homes in Gresham) have distinctive ashlar stonework foundations installed by Arthur.

According to Multnomah County Deed records, Arthur purchased the lot for his home in the newly platted Regners Addition in 1907. The same year, he built the modest bungalow with hired help. Previous inventory data claims the home was built in 1905, but the Regner's Addition was completed in 1907 and no houses predate the platting. As one of the first homes in Regner's Addition, it helped inspire the design and construction of the entire neighborhood.

Arthur and his wife Martha Fieldhouse had two children, Guy (who later owned a Chevrolet dealership in Gresham) and Grace (who was killed by a street car in 1921). Arthur, Fred, and Guy all participated in the Gresham City Band, and Grace participated in Gresham High School Debate Team. Arthur also participated in the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen. At the

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age of 49, Arthur died of pernicious anemia. Martha continued to live in the home into the 1940s when she sold it to the Lunceford family.

This modest bungalow, when viewed in relation to the other two historic landmark homes nearby, represents the growth of an early suburban development in the city. More significantly, it represents the lives of some the merchant and working-class builders that both took pride in their own homes and built many others.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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

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Gresham Historic Landmark #19

Arthur J. Fieldhouse Home (Lunceford Residence)

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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: *Gresham, Multnomah, Oregon*; Roll: *T624_1288*; Page: *4A*; Enumeration District: *0117*; FHL microfilm: *1375301*.

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



Gresham Band: From left to right, Arthur Fieldhouse, Vern Chather, Dan Talbot, Dr. Bittner, Guy Fieldhouse, Harv Metzger, Fred Fieldhouse, Dr. Harry Ott (band leader), Guy Robertson, unknown, Charles Merrill, unknown, Alfred Stout, unknown, and O. T. Neal.—Picture courtesy of Hope Fieldhouse.

Fieldhouse family in the Gresham Band, from Mary Powell Mallet's *Courageous People*.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Arthur J. Fieldhouse Home (main) façade looking north northeast.



Arthur J. Fieldhouse Home (main) façade looking north.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Arthur J. Fieldhouse Home looking east down NE 11th and line of Big leaf maple trees.



Arthur J. Fieldhouse Home (main) façade close up of porch and sign with incorrect date.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Arthur J. Fieldhouse Home January 2016.



Arthur J. Fieldhouse Home, with left to right: Guy, Grace, Martha, and Arthur Fieldhouse shortly after the home was completed. Image from Jane Fieldhouse Truman.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

**RESIDENT OF GRESHAM
PASSES AWAY AT AGE OF 49.**



Arthur J. Fieldhouse.

GRESHAM, Or., Jan. 3.—(Special)—Arthur J. Fieldhouse, for the past eight years a resident of Gresham, died at his home here early Wednesday. The immediate cause of his death was pernicious anemia. Mr. Fieldhouse was born in Harperly Park, Durham, England, December 23, 1866. In 1869 his father, John Fieldhouse, and family came to the United States and settled in Annaton, Wis., where they lived for 17 years, moving to Montfort, in the same state, in 1886.

In 1907 they moved to Gresham. Last June Mr. Fieldhouse went back to Wisconsin in hopes of bettering his condition, but without avail. In February, 1888, Mr. Fieldhouse was married to Miss Martha Watson, of Annaton, Wis. Mr. Fieldhouse leaves to mourn his death his widow, a son, Guy, and daughter, Grace; his father; a brother, Fred Fieldhouse, and sister, Mrs. Nellie Gullickson, both of this city. He was a member of the Modern Woodmen and Oddfellows.

Arthur J. Fieldhouse's Obituary, *Oregonian*, Jan. 4, 1916.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

95559.

I, John A. Hurlburt, being first duly sworn, depose and say, That I have correctly surveyed and marked with proper monuments the land as represented in the above plat of "Regner's Addition", in the John P. Powell's D.L.C. in sections 3 and 10, T. 1 S. R. 3 E. Willamette Meridian, and that the initial point of said survey is on the line between the John P. Powell and James Powell Donation land claims, and is 1280 feet north of the southeast corner of the John P. Powell claim and 3321.1 feet north of the southwest corner of the James Powell claim, and it is 336.4 feet south and 920.95 feet east of the northwest corner of section 10, T. 1 S. R. 3 E. At said initial point I drove an iron rod 3/4 inch by 30 inches, 36 inches in the ground, from which an iron pipe 1 1/2 inches, the top 12 inches in ground, bears N. 70° W. 2 inches distant, and an iron pipe 3/4" x 30" driven 22" in the ground bears N. 27°-03' W. 43.98 feet distant. A locust tree 10 inches diameter bears N. 57°-15' E. and distant 32.4 feet to center of tree. A galvanized iron pipe 3/4" x 30" driven 36" in the ground, and in the claim line, bears north 730 feet, and an iron well pipe 1 1/4" x 3/4" is driven 39" deep in center of road- bears N. 70°-42' 1/2" W. 702.17 feet distant.

John A. Hurlburt.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of August A.D. 1907.
 (Co. Court Seal.) F. S. Fields, County Clerk
 Approved- Philo Holbrook Jr. By G. C. Rose Deputy.
 County Surveyor.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, Julia Regner and Joseph B. Regner her husband, do hereby declare the above plat to be the plat of Regner's Addition in Multnomah County, Oregon, situated in the John P. Powell's D.L.C. in sections 3 and 10, T. 1 S. R. 3 E. W.M., and we do hereby dedicate to the use of the public forever, as streets and public highways, all that are shown and dedicated as such thereon.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we the above named persons hereto set our hands and seals this 12th day of August A. D. 1907.

John A. Hurlburt.
 G. C. Rose.

Julia Regner
 Joseph B. Regner

STATE OF OREGON,)
) ss.
 County of Multnomah)

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this the 12th day of August A. D. 1907, before me the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared the within named Julia Regner and Joseph B. Regner, who are known to me to be the identical persons described in and who executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed the same freely and voluntarily.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Notarial Seal the day and year last above written.

(Notarial Seal.)

F. W. Prapp
 Notary Public for Oregon.

Approved Aug. — 1907. B. D. Sigler Assessor, by W. C. North Deputy.

Taxes from 1901 to 1906 inclusive are "Paid". R. L. Stevens Sheriff.
 S. B. Martin Deputy.

Taxes from 1898 to 1901 due Multnomah County "Paid".

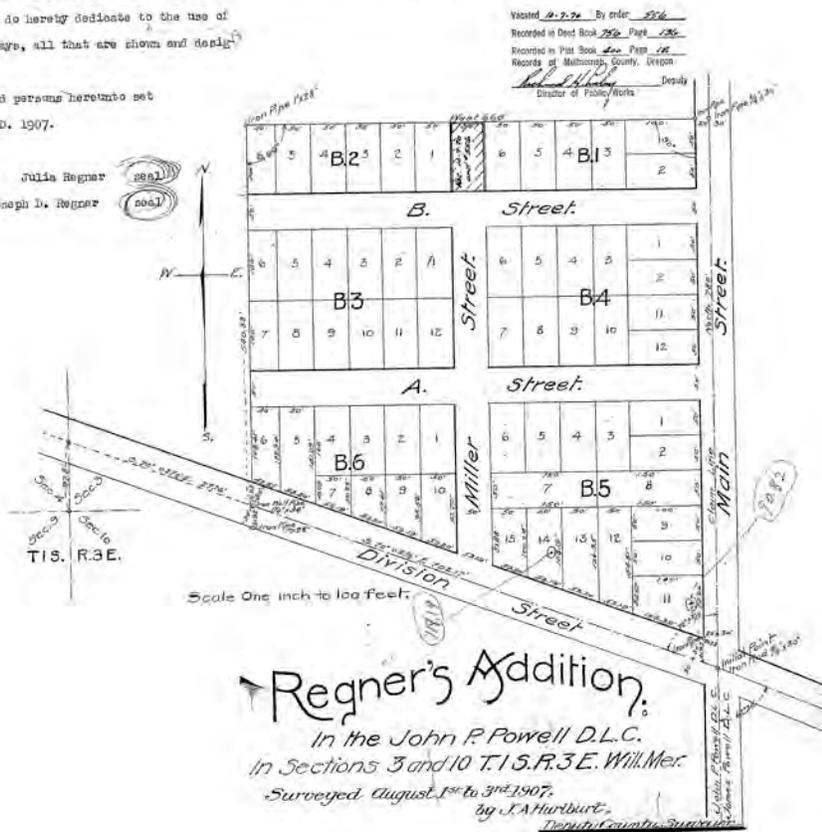
F. S. Fields County Clerk,
 By F. G. Wilde Deputy.

Approved

Lional R. Webster County Judge.
 F. O. Barpen County Comm.
 W. L. Lightner County Comm.

(Co. Court Seal.) Attest : F. S. Fields County Clerk.

Received for Record Aug. 13, 1907, at 11:16 A. M.



Partition Plat for Regner's Addition, 1907.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Frederick W. Fieldhouse
Eastman Home**

Current/ Other names: **Walker
Residence**

Address: **53 NW 12th Street**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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

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

Tax Lot: **5 & 6** Addition: **Regner's Block: 1**

Assessor: **R253450**



Walker Residence looking north from NW 12th St.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

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

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1915**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Residence**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Craftsman**

Secondary style: **Bungalow**

Primary siding: **Beveled drop**

Secondary siding: **Coursed alternating shingles**

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect:

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Not Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments: **Excellent condition**

Style comments: **Bungalow (1987 form)**

Siding comments: **Narrow weatherboard**

Builder: **Fieldhouse family**

Notes: **Windows: 1/1 double-hung wooden sash.**

Exterior: Clad in narrow 3" beveled drop siding, corniced window heads 2 and 3 groupings of square-in-peg columns, carved porch cross beam and bargeboards, embellished roof beams, exposed rafter tails, ashlar faced concrete block.

Landscape: Four Big Leaf Maple trees on the street, five Hogan Cedars along alleyway.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

The Frederick W. Fieldhouse property is situated on the north side of NW 12th street in a residential neighborhood. The home faces south and is setback ten feet from the tree-lined street with four Big Leaf Maples directly in front of the home. A primitive alleyway borders the property to the west, where five Hogan Cedars shield the side-yard. A large, grassy side-yard is to the east of the home with numerous shrubs and smaller form trees. A hipped-roof detached garage is located in the northeast corner of the property.

The home is a side-gabled Craftsman bungalow with a large, front-gabled roof dormer, a mid-level wraparound dropped-roof porch on the west and east façades, and a side-gabled back porch, all covered in composition shingles. The home features mainly 1/1 double-hung wooden sash windows and is clad in narrow three-inch beveled drop siding, with alternating sizes of coursed shingles on the front porch. The home sits on ashlar faced concrete block.

Overall, the home's decorative features include: carved bargeboards, exposed rafter tails, embellished roof beams, square columns with horizontal pegs, and corniced window heads. The south (main) façade features the front-gabled roof dormer with a shed window awning and three plate windows. An offset entryway features beveled glass and is flanked by two beveled leaded glass sidelights. A large cottage window is set in the center of the porch and is flanked by two smaller side windows. The large, full-length porch is supported by a carved cross-beam resting on a combination of two and three clustered square pillars with horizontal decorative pegs resting on footings battered with alternating sized coursed shingle. A simple, 1x1 square dowel baluster opens on the east side corresponding with the offset entry and stairway.

The east and west façade feature the embellished roof beams and wraparound shed-roof between the first and second floor with several 1/1 windows and smaller closet lights. The east façade features a leaded glass window and a front-gabled back entry on the northeast corner. The west façade features an external brick chimney flanked by two leaded glass windows. A three-sided bay window features a large single-plate glass window flanked by two 1/1 double wooden sash windows. Overall, the home is in excellent condition and displays only minor alterations and maintains great integrity.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

This is one of the earliest houses constructed in the Regner's Addition to Gresham. The home is associated with Fredrick William Fieldhouse and the Fieldhouse family, who were local builders, merchants, and real-estate developers. It is unclear if Fieldhouse ever lived in the home. As an investment property, it embodies the family's significant work building homes in Gresham.

Frederick (Fred) William Fieldhouse was born in Harperly Park, Durham, England in 1863. Fred had three siblings: brother Arthur James, born in 1866, brother Alfred Henry, born 1864, and sister Marry Ellen, born 1869. John and Maria Harriett Fieldhouse were their parents. In 1869, the family immigrated to Annation, Wisconsin. In 1905, Fred moved to Gresham and began buying land with his father John for real-estate investment. One of Fred's first real-estate ventures was in 1911 with Jake Metzger building the Fred Honey House on Wallula Ave., then outside the city limits.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

According to county deed records, Fred purchased lots 5 & 6 in the newly platted Regner's addition in 1907. Busy building investment properties on NW Wallula for several years, Fred did not develop the property on NW 12th Ave. until 1913, when his father John came to help. Fred's brother Arthur installed the decorative ashlar brickwork on the foundation, and his nephew Guy assisted in the home's construction. Records suggest it was a family affair.

It remains unclear when Fred sold the 12th Street home, as he had several other investment properties throughout the city. Fred continued to work in property development in Gresham and began building vacation homes on the Oregon Coast at Bar View and Manzanita. Eventually, Fred moved his aging father to one of his properties in Manzanita full-time, with Fred and his wife Louise living part-time in Gresham and Manzanita.

The Walker Family owned the home at the time of the 1987 inventory and it remains unclear of the association to the Eastman family.

The home represents the work of the Fieldhouse family; a very active family that built many homes in Gresham. The home also represents Gresham's profitable real-estate market at the turn of the twentieth century. Fred Fieldhouse built a small real-estate empire in Gresham that led to his comfortable retirement on the Oregon Coast.

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 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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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: Lunceford Residence*, [1993].

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

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- 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: *10A*; Enumeration District: *198*; Image: *884*.

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

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Gresham Band: From left to right, Arthur Fieldhouse, Vern Chather, Dan Talbot, Dr. Bittner, Guy Fieldhouse, Harv Metzger, Fred Fieldhouse, Dr. Harry Ott (band leader), Guy Robertson, unknown, Charles Merrill, unknown, Alfred Stout, unknown, and O. T. Neal.—Picture courtesy of Hope Fieldhouse.

Fieldhouse family in the Gresham Band, from Mary Powell Mallet's *Courageous People*.



Fredrick W. Fieldhouse Home looking north at the south (main) façade on NW 12th Street.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Fredrick W. Fieldhouse Home looking west at the east façade and large side yard.



Fredrick W. Fieldhouse Home looking west down NW 12th Street.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Alleyway, carriage house, and west façade of Fredrick W. Fieldhouse Home.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

95559.

I, John A. Hurlburt, being first duly sworn, depose and say, That I have correctly surveyed and marked with proper monuments the land as represented in the above plat of "Regner's Addition", in the John P. Powell's D.L.C. in sections 3 and 10, T. 1 S. R. 3 E. Willamette Meridian, and that the initial point of said survey is on the line between the John P. Powell and James Powell Donation land claims, and is 1280 feet north of the southeast corner of the John P. Powell claim and 3321.1 feet north of the southwest corner of the James Powell claim, and it is 336.4 feet south and 920.95 feet east of the northwest corner of section 10, T. 1 S. R. 3 E. At said initial point I drove an iron rod 3/4 inch by 30 inches, 36 inches in the ground, from which an iron pipe 1 1/2 inches, the top 12 inches in ground, bears N. 70° W. 2 inches distant, and an iron pipe 3/4" x 30" driven 28" in the ground bears N. 27°-03' W. 43.98 feet distant. A locust tree 10 inches diameter bears N. 67°-15' E. and distant 32.4 feet to center of tree. A galvanized iron pipe 3/4" x 30" driven 36" in the ground, and in the claim line, bears north 730 feet, and an iron well pipe 1 1/4" x 3/4" is driven 39" deep in center of road- bears N. 70°-42' 1/2" W. 702.17 feet distant.

John A. Hurlburt.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of August A.D. 1907.
 (Co. Court Seal.) F. S. Fields, County Clerk
 Approved- Philo Holbrook Jr. By G. C. Rose Deputy.
 County Surveyor.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, Julia Regner and Joseph B. Regner her husband, do hereby declare the above plat to be the plat of Regner's Addition in Multnomah County, Oregon, situated in the John P. Powell's D.L.C. in sections 3 and 10, T. 1 S. R. 3 E. W.M., and we do hereby dedicate to the use of the public forever, as streets and public highways, all that are shown and designated as such thereon.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we the above named persons hereunto set our hands and seals this 12th day of August A. D. 1907.

John A. Hurlburt.
 G. C. Rose.

Julia Regner
 Joseph B. Regner

STATE OF OREGON,)
) ss.
 County of Multnomah)

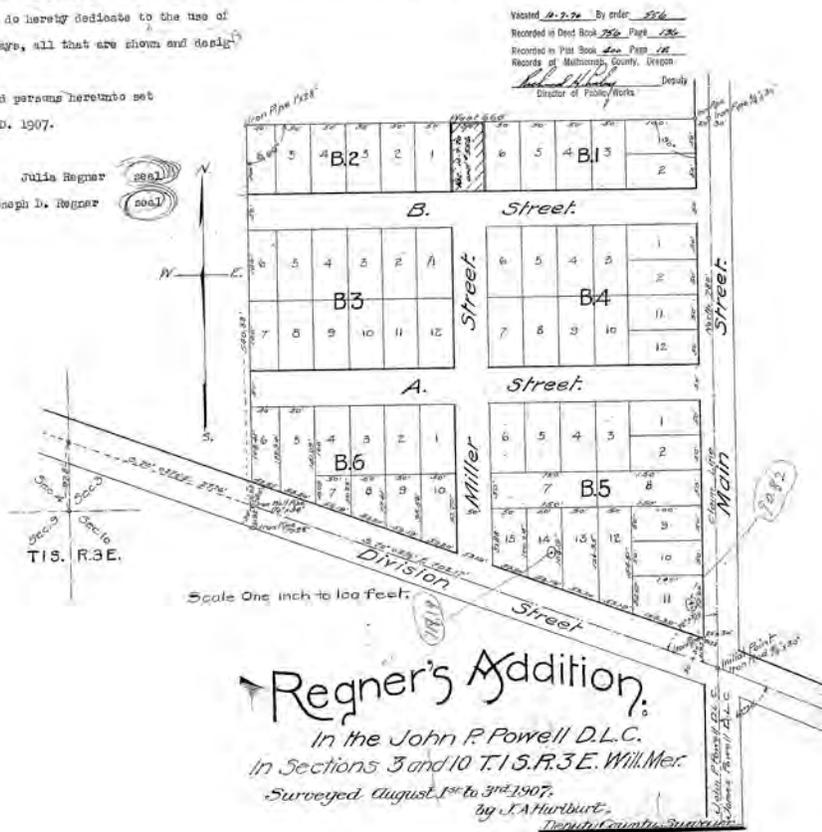
BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this the 12th day of August A. D. 1907, before me the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared the within named Julia Regner and Joseph D. Regner, who are known to me to be the identical persons described in and who executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed the same freely and voluntarily.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Notarial Seal the day and year last above written.
 F. W. Prang
 (Notarial Seal.) Notary Public for Oregon.

Approved Aug. — 1907. B. D. Sigler Assessor, by W. C. North Deputy.
 Taxes from 1901 to 1906 inclusive are "Paid". R. L. Stevens Sheriff.
 S. B. Martin Deputy.
 Taxes from 1898 to 1901 due Multnomah County "Paid".
 F. S. Fields County Clerk,
 By F. G. Wilde Deputy.

Approved
 Lionel R. Webster County Judge.
 F. O. Harpen County Comm.
 W. L. Lightner County Comm.
 (Co. Court Seal.) Attest : F. S. Fields County Clerk.

Received for Record Aug. 13, 1907, at 11:16 A. M.



City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

Partition Plat for Regner's Addition, 1907.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **John and Josephine Bliss House**

Current/ Other names: **Bliss/ Munch Residence; Aldrich/Bliss House**

Address: **54 NW 12th Street**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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

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

Tax Lot: **5 & 6** Addition: **Regner's Block:4**

Assessor: **R697900600**



Aldrich/ Bliss House looking southwest from NW 12th St.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Residence	Height (stories): 1 1/2	Total # eligible resources: 1
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant	NR status: Not Listed	City Landmark Status: Listed
Primary construction date: 1910		
Secondary construction date:		
Primary use: Residence	Use comments: Good condition	
Secondary use:		
Primary style: Craftsman	Style comments: Bungalow (1987 form)	
Secondary style: Bungalow		
Primary siding: Beveled drop	Siding comments: Narrow weatherboard	
Secondary siding: Coursed alternating shingles		
Plan type: Rectangular		
Architect:	Builder: Arthur Fieldhouse (Foundation)	

Notes: **Exterior: Clad in narrow 3" beveled drop siding, corner boards, square columns, knee braces, and ashlar faced concrete block.**
Landscape: Large big leaf maple trees along the street, three Hogan cedars along Miller Ave.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Aldrich/Bliss house is situated on the south side of NW 12th Street in a residential neighborhood. The home faces north and is setback ten feet from the tree-lined street with one big leaf maple directly in front of the home. Northwest Miller Avenue borders the property to the

Gresham Historic Landmark #21

Aldrich & Bliss Home

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

west where three Hogan cedars shield the side-yard. A large, grassy side-yard is to the east of the home. A front-gabled detached garage is located in the southwest corner of the property.

The home is a front-gabled Craftsman bungalow with a dropped shed-roof porch, a cantilevered, hipped-roofed back porch, and a front-gabled roof dormer; all covered in composition shingle. The home features 9/1 double-hung wooden sash windows and is clad in narrow, beveled drop siding and alternating sizes of coursed shingle. Decorative features include: knee braces, corner boards, and ashlar faced concrete block.

The north (main) façade exhibits the simple front-gabled roofline with two 9/1 windows on the second story. A dropped shed roof is supported by two square columns that rest on two coursed brick footings. A square-post baluster runs along the west and east sides, ending at two decorative coursed brick footings. A central stairway leads to the entry door, which is flanked on either side by three 9/1 windows.

The west façade features an external brick chimney and a front-gabled wall dormer and wall protrusion. The south façade exhibits a cantilevered, hipped-roof porch, which might have been an addition or later enclosure. The east façade is stylistically simple with no other noteworthy features. A front-gabled detached garage sits just south of the home and is a non-contributing resource. The home is in good condition with only minor alterations to the overall integrity.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

This home is one of the earliest constructed in the Regner's Addition to Gresham. An early bungalow in the neighborhood, the home represents the development of the city during a real-estate boom when many former farmers and new residents bought homes in the city. The home is associated with two important figures: Bertrand F. Aldrich, an educated lawyer from Michigan, and John and Josephine Bliss, a farming family.

Bertrand F. Aldrich (not Burton as noted in the original inventory) purchased the lot and home in circa 1910, perhaps as the developer. It is unclear if Aldrich ever lived in the home, but Arthur Fieldhouse likely installed the ashlar brickwork on the foundation as he did for so many homes in the neighborhood. Aldrich was born in East Douglas, Massachusetts in 1874. He studied law at the University of Michigan but never practiced in Oregon. Aldrich reportedly owned properties in several Northwest towns including Gresham. In 1920, he moved to Portland where he worked as a successful builder of homes, commercial stores, and garages. After his death in 1954, he bequeathed \$119,000 of his estate for a scholarship for engineering, law, and medical students at the University of Michigan. He also donated \$1,000 to the Shriners Hospital in Portland.

John and Josephine Bliss purchased the home from Aldrich in 1921. John Bliss was a Swiss immigrant arriving in the United States with his mother, father, and twelve siblings in 1871. The family moved from New York to Gresham in 1885. The Bliss family farm was located at the 12-mile corner of Baseline (Stark) Road. As a youth, John worked on his parent's farm and raised dairy cattle. In 1892, John married Josephine Engles and led a quiet life for the most part. In 1894, John and his brother Paul were in a bloody fight with Jacob Hossner over a cattle dispute. The publicized trial recounted both sides of the story. The court found John guilty of assault and he paid a \$35 fine.

In 1921, John and Josephine retired from farming, purchased the home from Bertrand Aldrich,
Gresham Historic Landmark #21
Aldrich & Bliss Home

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

and moved into Gresham. The Blisses loved the change of pace and John served on the City council in the 1930s. They used the home and the large, open lot to the east to host several family weddings, reunions, and memorial services. Josephine also led meetings of the Portland Fuchsia Society out of the home. In 1943, their three daughters, Mrs. Helen Camp, Mrs. Frances Stone, and Mrs. Gladys Stone all returned home to celebrate their parent's fiftieth wedding anniversary. John passed away in 1950.

A home first owned by an absentee developer and then sold to a retiring farm family, the Aldrich/Bliss House not only represents the booming housing industry of turn of century Gresham, but it reflects the changing social and economic patterns of the community. As the city began to grow, it afforded financial opportunities for real-estate development. At the same time, a growing city consumed increasing farm acreage, making farming less and less attractive for the local population. The Bliss family transitioned from farmers to urban residents representing a typical pattern at that time.

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 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**

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

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Aldrich / Bliss House looking southwest at the North (main) and East Facades.



Aldrich/ Bliss House North (main) façade, view to the south.

City of Gresham

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Aldrich/ Bliss House from the intersection of NW 12th and Miller Streets.



Aldrich/ Bliss House and garage, looking North along NW Miller Street.

City of Gresham

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BERTRAND F. ALDRICH

Funeral service for Bertrand F. Aldrich, 1801 S. E. Locust street, will be at 2:30 p. m. Thursday at Edward Holman & Son. Dr. Robert K. Russell will officiate.

Mr. Aldrich moved to Portland in 1920 and engaged in the building of homes, stores and garages. He was a member of Mt. Tabor Presbyterian church, Scottish Rite Mason and a member of Al Kader Temple.

He was born in East Douglas, Mass. Mr. Aldrich was educated in grade and high school there, then graduated from Hinman's Business college in Worcester, Mass. He continued studies at Boston university and University of Michigan. He was a member of the bar in Massachusetts, Michigan and Oregon.

The widow, Jeanette, survives.

Bertrand F. Aldrich's Obituary, *Oregonian*, Sept. 23, 1954, p. 15.



HOME AND LOT SALE EXTRAORDINARY

FRANKLIN HEIGHTS DISTRICT

Bertrand F. Aldrich and William B. Neels have purchased 80 lots on 56th, 57th and 58th avenues, between Powell Blvd. and Woodward st. Lots in this tract are offered from \$150 to \$400, and new, modern homes from \$3000 to \$4500. Above is one of the homes just completed. For information call

Mr. Aldrich, AT 8272

Mr. Neels, SU 4832

One of Aldrich's homebuilding advertisements, *Oregonian*, Nov. 22, 1936, p.3.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

Pair Celebrates Golden Wedding

The golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. John Bliss of Gresham was celebrated recently in their home at that city, according to word received Saturday. The couple was married December 31, 1892, in Portland and for the first 29 years of their wedded life they lived on a farm near Gresham.

Mr. Bliss retired from farming then and they have lived in the city of Gresham since. There are three daughters. They are Mrs. Helen Camp of Chelan, Wash., Mrs. Frances Stone of Fairview and Mrs. Gladys Turner of Portland.

Bliss 50th wedding anniversary, *Oregonian*, Jan. 25, 1943, p. 3.

City of Gresham

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Obituary

JOHN BLISS

The funeral of John Bliss, 87, Gresham, was held Wednesday in Nugent's chapel in G r e s h a m. Burial was in Lincoln Memorial Park cemetery. Mr. Bliss died Monday at his home after a long illness.

A native of Switzerland, Mr. Bliss had lived in the United States since his parents immigrated



in 1871. He moved to Oregon from his parents' New York state home in 1885. In 1892 he was married to Miss Josephine Engles who survives him.

They lived for many years on a farm at 12 mile corner on S. E. Stark street and moved to Gresham in 1922.

In addition to his widow, Mr. Bliss is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Gladys Turner and Mrs. Helen Iltz, both of Portland, and Mrs. Frances Stone of Fairview; a sister, Mrs. Mary Alderman, Vancouver; a brother Samuel J. Bliss, Gresham; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

John Bliss Obituary, *Oregonian*, April 28, 1950, p. 15.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Lowitt Estate**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **1801 NE 201st.**

Fairview, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1n** Range: **3E** Section: **29**

¼: **SE ¼ of the SE ¼** Zip Code: **97024**

Tax Lot: **24** Addition: Block:

Assessor: **R943290240**



Lowitt House looking southwest from inside the estate.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Multi Family Residence	Height (stories): 2	Total # eligible resources: 1
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant	NR status: Not Listed	City Landmark Status: Listed
Primary construction date: 1921	Use comments: Excellent condition	Style comments: Some alterations
Secondary construction date:	Siding comments:	Builder:
Primary use: Residence		
Secondary use: Office		
Primary style: Colonial Revival		
Secondary style:		
Primary siding: Clapboard		
Secondary siding:		
Plan type: Rectangular		
Architect:		

Notes: **Roof: Low pitched hipped-roof covered in composition shingle.**
Windows: 6/6 double-hung wooden sash.
Exterior: Clad in clapboards, two exterior chimneys, two large circular window rooms, louvered window shutters, pedimented portico with ionic columns.
Landscape: Surrounded by many large Douglas firs, boxwoods, and rhododendrons.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Lowitt house is situated within the larger 3.89 acre multi-residential Lowitt Estate. The estate is located west of NE 201st Avenue and just north of NE Halsey Street on the border of Gresham and Fairview. The estate is covered in many large form Douglas Fir trees, which shade a series of residential townhouses built in the 1980s. The Lowitt house is found by

Gresham Historic Landmark #22
Joseph Cyril Lowitt Estate

City of Gresham

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entering the guarded gate (entered with permission) and proceeding up the long driveway. Currently the home is used as the dining hall and main office for the Bible Students Retirement Center. A well-maintained landscape of ornamental shrubs, boxwoods, and rhododendrons help maintain the estate-like feel.

This 1921 colonial revival home features a central hipped-roof covered in composition shingle. The home is covered in clapboard siding and features two exterior brick chimneys on the north and east facades. Six-over-six double-hung wooden sash windows and corresponding louvered shutters are featured throughout with six-over-nine windows on the west façade circular two-story window bay. The home displays minor alterations most of which include the addition of aluminum storm windows and a connected causeway between the main house and the chapel, located just south of the home. These minor changes do not appear to affect the overall integrity, which remains good.

The west (main) façade features a centered front-gabled portico with corniced eave returns and a half-circle pediment light. The portico is supported by two large ionic columns that rest on a brick landing with steps with a wrought-iron rail. A six-over-six window door is flanked by six-panel sidelights. The east façade features a semicircular office addition. The west façade features a two-story semicircular room with eight bays of windows and an octagonal hipped-roof. A telescoping hipped-roof addition protrudes from the second story and is used as a kitchen. These additions are distinct from the main house and therefore, remain as non-contributing elements.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

This home and parcel are associated with Joseph Cyril and Ruth Lowitt, once owners of the largest rabbit farm in the state. The Lowitts moved from Portland to the Gresham/ Fairview area in the 1930s, representing the changing settlement patterns of the county as farms grew smaller and urban residents sought a mixed sub-rural lifestyle. The Lowitt family was not the original owner of the home.

Records of the previous owners of this house require further investigation. Survey records indicate that the parcel was formerly part of William Taylor's Donation Land Claim before Oregon statehood in 1859. Metsker maps show that an M. D. (or M. C.) Johnson owned a smaller 35-acre division of Taylor's claim in 1927 and ran a dairy. Following subsequent maps, the Lowitts' 1.9-acre sub division (Lot 28) finally appears in the 1940 version of the Metsker atlas. The atlas lists M.C. Johnson as owner for Lot 24, and Ed Matheson as the owner of Lot 25. After extensive sleuthing, the deed transfer records were not located in the county recorder's office.

The 1986 inventory form notes that the previous owner was "a woman married to a much younger man." Additionally, the form notes that the home dates to 1921 and that it was the site of lavish parties in the prohibition-era and that boxer Jack Dempsey attended one of these parties. However, with no sources cited and the difficulty in locating the original deed transfer, this information remains unsubstantiated.

Mr. Lowitt stated in the 1986 inventory that he lived in the home from 1928 to 1986. However, a story in the 1928 Oregonian indicated the couple still lived in Portland. According to the paper, Ruth had taken poison and was admitted to the hospital. Deed records confirm that Cyril had

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

purchased a home in the Hawthorne Park area in 1927. City directories indicate that he worked as an automotive parts salesman with a home and office in Portland's Sunnyside Neighborhood. City directories and census records from 1930, 1931, and 1938 indicate that Mr. Lowitt had moved his family to a home at 6216 N Mississippi Ave. Later he opened "Perfect Fit Mfg.", his own automotive upholstery manufacture on 1304 N Mississippi Ave. in Portland. The 1940 Metsker, the 1940 census, and a 1943 city directory all indicate that the Lowitts had moved to the home on 201st (formerly Birdsdale Ave) and Halsey. While it is possible the family owned multiple properties, this is unlikely given Cyril's occupation. The earliest the family likely lived at the estate is 1938 or 1939.

According to the 1986 inventory, Mr. Lowitt built extensive rabbit huts on the parcel in 1939. Mr. Lowitt's rabbit farm quickly took off, and while he continued to run his automotive parts business, he increasingly became involved with his new passion. In 1940, the rabbit farm had grown and Cyril hosed an educational rabbit farm open house. By 1945, Cyril had become the Oregon president of the American Rabbit and Cavy Breeders Association and regularly judged events all over the state. His operation, "Lowitt's Blueblood Rabbitry" boasted the best prices on skins and meat in the region. Mr. Lowitt indicated in 1986 that the farm caught fire in 1958 and he never replaced the huts. Mrs. Ruth Lowitt became very active in the local school PTA and regularly hosed private concerts at the home for the Delphian Assembly. According to county records, Cyril sold the property to the Bible Students Retirement Center in 1986.

One of the largest rabbit farms in the state, the home and property are significant to the City of Gresham because of the agricultural heritage. Further, the context to which the Lowitt's came to Gresham is also significant. Leaving Portland in the midst of the Great Depression, Mr. Lowitt continued to run his small business "Perfect Fit" auto upholstery; which is still in operation to this day. Gresham's mixed urban and rural character made running the business and rabbit farm possible.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

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

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Sunday Oregonian. "Lowitt Announces Another Increase," Sept. 8, 1945, p.7.

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

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Lowitt Estate north (main) and east facades, looking southwest.



Lowitt Estate north (main) façade looking south.

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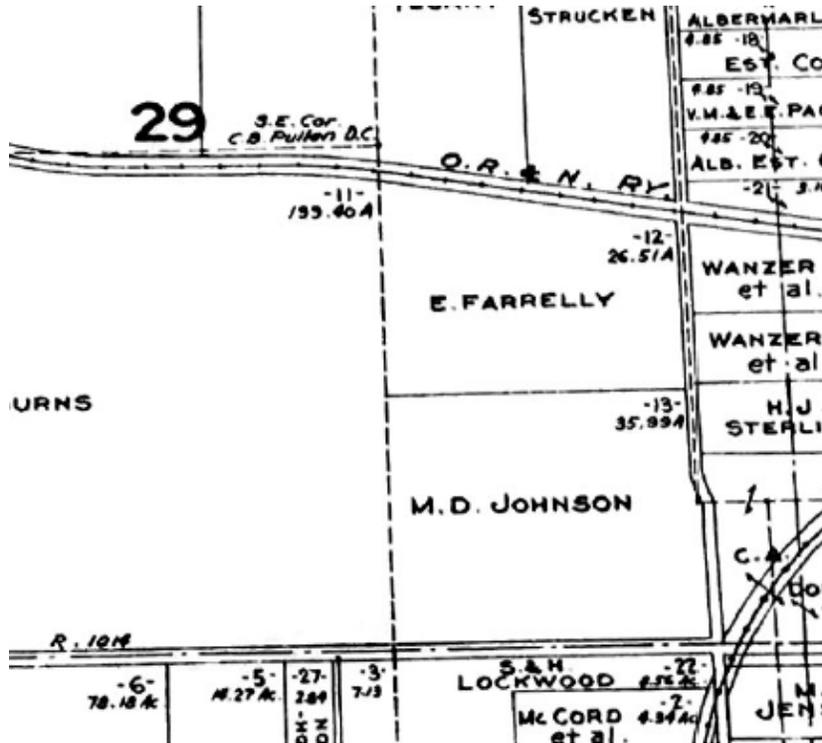
East façade of Lowitt Estate looking west.



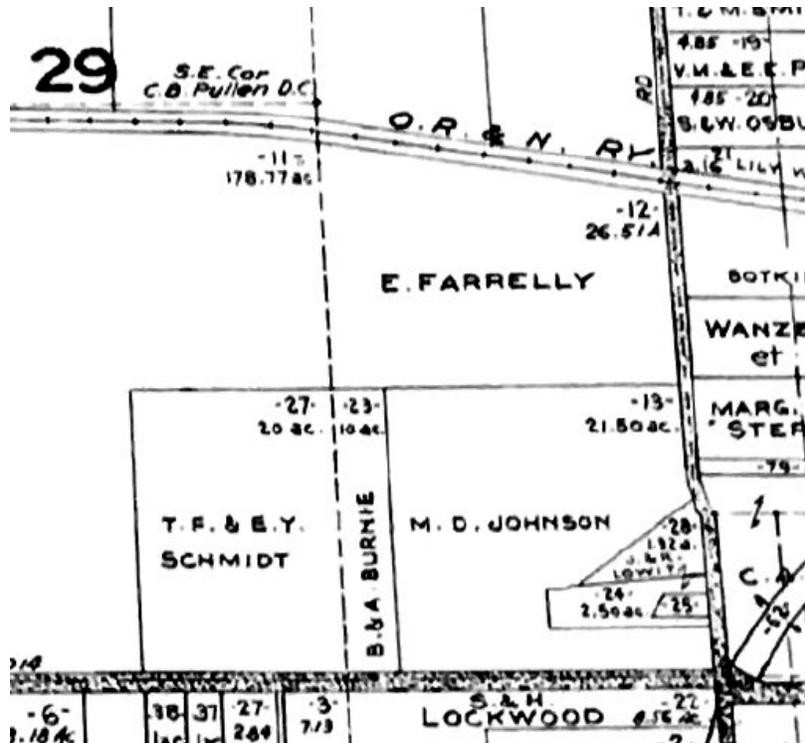
West façade of Lowitt Estate looking east.

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M.D. (or M.C.) Johnson's 35 acre parcel on the 1927 Metksler Atlas.



Lowitt's parcel appears on the 1940 Metksler Atlas as lot 28.

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Rabbits

LOWITT ANNOUNCES

ANOTHER INCREASE—RABBIT SKINS
Send skins to the buyer who pioneered high prices in Portland; voluntarily announces increased prices; consistently pays more and handles larger volume of skins than any other fur buyer in this territory. We recently announced a 10% increase—now announcing another increase.

We are New York certified fur graders, our grading is lenient and fair and accepted by eastern outlets without regrading.

If you are not butchering, send us your meat rabbits; we pay 24c a pound, white all sizes; 22c, colors.

LOWITT'S BLUEBLOOD RABBITRY
(Portland's Largest Rabbit Skin Buyers).
Birdsdale and Halsey sts. Gresham 5123.
606 SE Madison, Portland, EA 5135.
Express Shipments to Troutdale, Oregon.

Rabbit Show Sponsored—An educational rabbit show will be sponsored February 11 at Northeast Halsey street and Birdsdale avenue by the Oregon branch, American Rabbit and Cavy Breeders' association. The affair will start at 10:30 A. M.

Advertisements for Lowitt's Blue Blood Rabbitry. *Oregonian*, Sept. 8, 1945, p.7. and Feb. 4, 1940, p.15

Lowitt J Cyril (Ruth) pres Perfect Fit
Mfg Co h1304 Mississippi av
Wm (Sadie) v-pres Perfect Fit Mfg Co
h887 E 16th St

Lowitt J Cyril (Ruth) (Perfect Fit Mfg Co) h6216
N Mississippi av
Wm (Sadie) (Perfect Fit Mfg Co) h4513 NE
18th av

City directories indicating Lowitt family living in Portland, 1931 and 1937.

WOMAN TAKES POISON

**Mrs. Ruth Lowitt Said to Have
Slight Chance of Recovery.**

Mrs. Ruth Lowitt, 25, 885 East Alder street, was taken to the police emergency hospital early this morning suffering from the effects of poison, said by police and hospital attendants to have been taken with suicidal intent. Mrs. Lowitt later was removed to St. Vincent's hospital, where it was said she had little chance of recovery.

J. C. Lowitt, the husband, said that he found his wife unconscious when he went home soon after midnight.

Story on Ruth Lowitt showing family living in Portland, 1927.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Giese House, Workshop, Cellar, and Orchard**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **2202 SW Pleasant View Drive**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **17**

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

Tax Lot: **383** Addition: Block:

Assessor: **R993170400**



Giese house looking south, owner supplied photo.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

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

Total # eligible resources: **5**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Not Listed**

Primary construction date: **1894**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date: **1940s**

Primary use: **Residence**

Use comments: **Fair condition**

Secondary use: **Farm/ Orchard**

Primary style: **Queen Anne**

Style comments: **Major alterations**

Secondary style: **Vernacular Farmhouse**

Primary siding: **Wood Shakes/Asbestos**

Siding comments: **Total alteration**

Secondary siding: **Board and batten**

Plan type: **Cross T**

Architect:

Builder: **Percy Giese**

Notes: **Multiple roofline extensions covered in red composition shingle.**

Exterior: Clad in wide cedar shakes (or asbestos) and board and batten on gable ends, leaded glass, decorative eave returns.

Landscape mature rhododendron, cedar, dogwood, azalea, boxwoods, and magnolias.

The extensive hazelnut orchard is also significant and relates to the property's history and could be nominated for State Heritage Tree status.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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 region's most profitable farming industries.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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The Percy Giese Orchard is the one of the first commercial filbert orchards in Oregon. The orchard has been reduced from a ninety-acre orchard and nursery in the 1890s to a two and one-half-acre orchard today. The mature hazelnut trees have not been pruned in some time; however, they appear to date to at least when the orchard was still in operation. The parcel is situated on a gentle rising knoll on the east side of SW Pleasant View Drive and is surrounded by the much newer Filbert Hill, Binford Farms, and Hunter's Highland suburban housing developments. The home is set back two hundred feet from the road and is accessed by a long private drive, which leads to the farmhouse, workshop (collapsed), coop, and root cellar. The property features an extensive hazelnut orchard, with many historic hazelnut trees. Additionally, the home features extensive landscaping with mature rhododendron, cedar, holly, dogwood, azalea, boxwoods, and magnolias surrounding the house. The property owner declined permission to access the parcel. This update, therefore, is based on owner-supplied photos, aerial imagery, historical documents, and what was visible from the public right-of-way.

The home is a cross-gabled farmhouse originally built in the Queen Anne style in 1894; however, significant alterations have mostly eliminated the original details. A cross "t" gabled roof is covered in red composition asphalt shingles. Decorative carved eave returns appear to be one of the only remaining original architectural details. The central brick chimney has been removed. Currently, the home is clad in wide cedar shakes (or asbestos) with painted white boards and red battens on the gable ends. Originally, the home was clad drop siding. Original four-over-one and six-over-one double hung wooden sash windows remain, but much of the leaded glass transoms have been altered.

The home featured hipped-roofed corner porches on the home's northwest and northeast corners, but these have now been fully encased. On the north façade, a three panel bay window on the main floor and a square shed-roofed wall dormer were both altered. The east façade contains a walled-in, shed-roofed porch.

A historic front gabled root cellar is located directly southeast of the home. A front gabled barn/workshop is located directly south, and the side gabled coop/studio is south of the garage. On the far southeast corner, the historic cabin/workshop appears to have collapsed. The significant alterations compromise the historic architectural significance of the property. Arguably, the parcel's most significant feature, the hazelnut orchard, remains intact and could be eligible for state Heritage Tree designation and National Register nomination.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

This home and farm are associated with Percy Giese, who was the owner and operator of the oldest Hazelnut Nursery in Oregon. As one of the Pacific Northwest's pioneer hazelnut (filbert) growers, Percy Giese made significant contributions to the physical and cultural development of the city of Gresham by cultivating and distributing commercially viable hazelnut trees to orchardists throughout the Northwest. At his farm and workshop, Giese propagated pollenizers and popularized the ubiquitous "Barcelona," a varietal of hazelnut that made up much of the region's early orchards. Most of the region's orchards can trace their roots to Percy's farm.

Percy Giese was born in Portland, Oregon in 1853. His parents, originally German immigrants, had migrated from Louisville, Kentucky, arriving about a month before he was born. The family obtained a Donation Land Claim south of what later became Gresham in 1854. They cleared the land of dense fir and cedar, a process that took years. First, the family farmed hay, oats, and

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potatoes. Later they raised dairy cows and grew apples.

According to Christopher Flagg, who wrote a master's thesis on Giese's farm, "Percy Giese's interest and skill in horticulture may have developed as a result of his experiences growing up on his parents' farm." With the death of his parents and brother in the 1890s, Percy sold off some acreage, built the current farmhouse, and moved onto the farm in 1894. With the development of the interurban rail line at Linnemann Station in 1907, Percy again sold off several acres to the developers of Cedarville and Causey Suburban Acres. These land sales likely gave Percy the capital to start his hazelnut nursery sometime between 1906 and 1910.

Hazelnut orchards need two types of trees: high-yield, nut producing trees, which make up the bulk of the orchard, and a few pollenizers, which release their pollen in the winter. Percy made his business not in selling the nuts, but in selling growers their trees. His experimentation produced a perfect pairing of pollenizer and nut producing trees.

Having never received formal horticultural training, Percy was a self-taught plant propagator. He bred and grafted numerous varieties of hazelnut in his workshop, and his three-acre, square grid orchard represented about twenty different varieties. Some of his rarer varieties were Nottingham, Nonpareil, and Clackamas. He was tremendously successful at propagating Barcelona and further bred several new cultivars of that variety that had better nut yields and pollenization characteristics. He had a fierce competition with other Willamette Valley nut growers such as the Dorris family, who are credited with having the first commercial hazelnut orchard in the state. However, Percy was the first to grow the trees for distribution to other growers.

An avid participant in the Western Nut Growers Association, Percy was honored for his pioneering work with hazelnut propagation and his significant work in first developing pollenization in the Pacific Northwest. The hazelnut industry now makes up a significant part of Oregon's agricultural exports. The industry originated with several pioneering nut growers. The Dorris family in Eugene is one of the more well known, and A. A. Quarenburg in Vancouver, Washington was one of the other pioneer growers. However, Giese's farm predates the Dorris Ranch by decades, reflecting a more fluid transition from mixed woodland to cleared farm, and finally, commercial nursery. Although the Dorris family first started growing hazelnuts one year before Percy Giese, Giese had been farming longer and his experiments with tree propagation were unique, significant, and essential to the development of the hazelnut industry.

Giese's farm and particularly the orchard have remained intact over the years. Many of the trees still date to his tenure on the orchard, but they were pruned and restored in the 1970s and 1980s. These changes, though, do not threaten the overall integrity of a farm. Percy's orchard was experimental, constantly changing as he developed and sold new types of hazelnuts. For his association with one of the state's larger agricultural industries, the Giese farm represents the life of an individual who made a significant contribution to the community of Gresham and the region. The home, farm, and entire landscape embody Gresham's agricultural heritage and proximity to world markets in Portland.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

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| <input checked="" 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 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**

City of Gresham
Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Percy Giese House, looking southeast. Owner supplied photo.

City of Gresham

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Percy Giese House, looking south. Owner supplied photo.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Percy Giese on his Hazelnut Nursery and Orchard, C. 1935. Photo from Christopher Flagg's M.A. Thesis.



Percy Giese Home, 1905. Photo from Christopher Flagg's M.A. Thesis.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

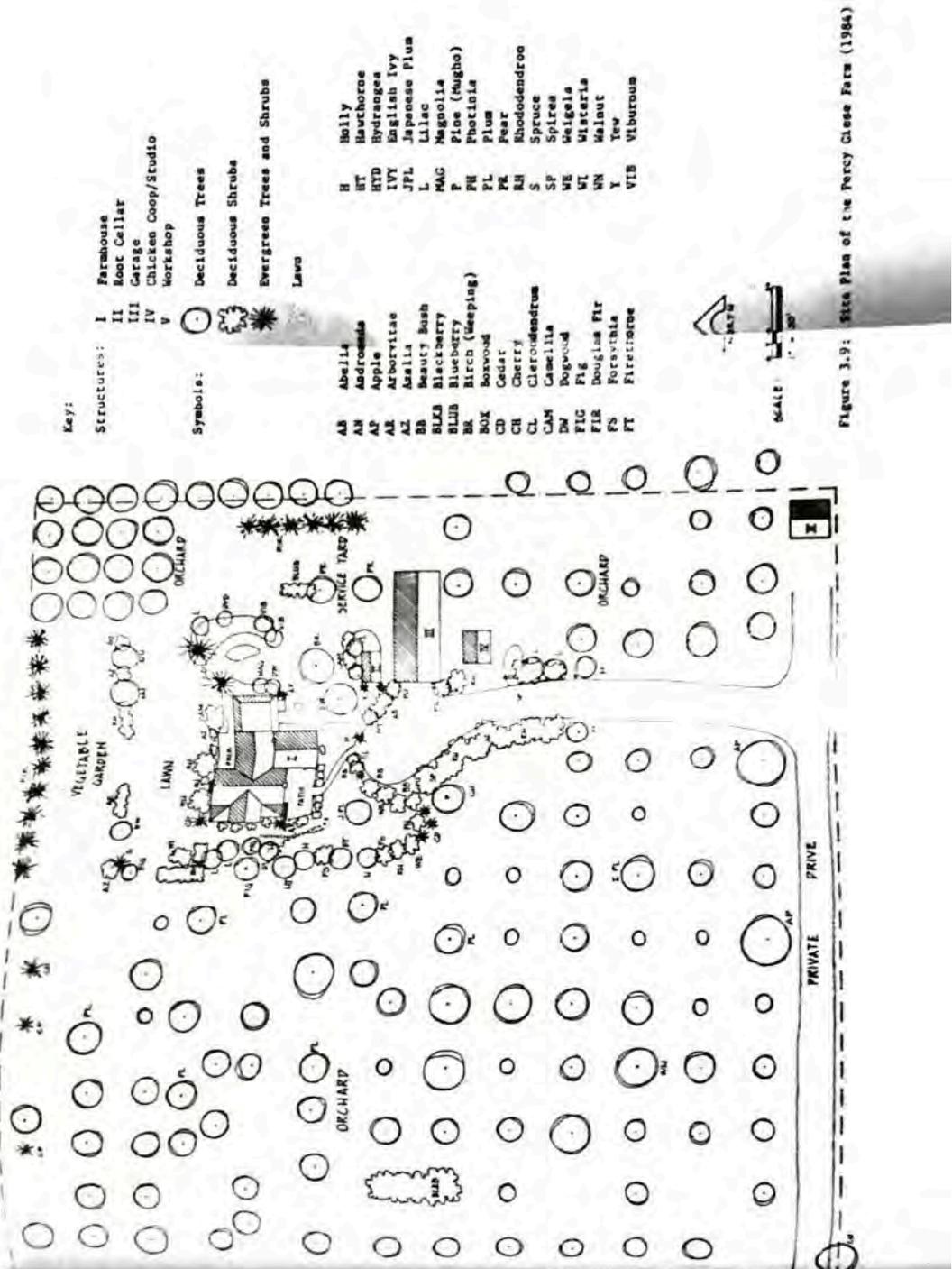


Figure 3.9: Site Plan of the Percy Giese Farm (1984)

Historic Landscape inventory of Percy Giese home and orchard, from Christopher Flagg's M.A. Thesis.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Van Doninck House**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **720 NW Division Street**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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

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

Tax Lot: Addition: **Cascade View** Block: **3**

Assessor: **R141401120**



Van Doninck house looking south from NW Division St.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Residence	Height (stories): 1 1/2	Total # eligible resources: 1
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant	NR status: Not Listed	City Landmark Status: Listed
Primary construction date: 1936	Use comments: Fair condition	
Secondary construction date: 1954	Style comments: Several new additions	
Primary use: Residence	Siding comments:	
Secondary use:		
Primary style: Arts and Crafts	Builder: Alex Marc Marnes	
Secondary style: English cottage		
Primary siding: Clapboard		
Secondary siding:		
Plan type: Cross T		
Architect:		

Notes: **Roof: Steep cross-gabled roof with multiple wings covered in composition shingle.**
Windows: 3/1 top-light divided double-hung wooden sash.
Exterior: Clad in clapboard siding, corniced eave returns.
Landscape: Large conifers to the east with a laurel hedge to the north and west.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Van Doninck house is situated on the south side of NW Division on the edge of a busy commercial and residential neighborhood. The home is set back 60 feet from the street and is shielded by a long laurel hedge that runs along Division Street. A concrete and brick lined driveway leads to the house. The property is surrounded by large Douglas firs and a dense

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

understory.

This English cottage home also resembles arts and crafts styling, featuring a steeply pitched cross-gabled roof with corniced eave returns covered in composition shingle. The numerous wings of the house are additions, with several representing more recent alterations. The home is clad in wooden clapboard siding and features 3/1 double-hung wooden sash windows with three pane rectangular dividers. Many of the larger cottage windows feature corresponding rectangular divided windows, however, many of these features are shielded by dark green canvas awnings.

The north (main) façade features a covered front-gabled entryway that is offset from the main front-gabled façade. The entryway features a decorative louvered attic vent. The 1987 form notes a semicircular decorative fan light above the door, but the canvas awning currently covers this area and thus, the feature's presence could not be confirmed. A large shed roofed wing on the east façade was noted in 1987, and this wing has been nearly doubled in size encompassing a second set of three tall narrow windows with three rectangular divided transoms.

The south and east facades have undergone extensive alterations with a one and one half story garage apartment, enclosed back porch, and causeway being added to the house. A second detached garage/shed has also been added. While the property appears to be in good condition, the alterations are significant. While the additions are reflective of the overall style, their scope detracts from the modesty of the 1930s English cottage style.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The home is associated with Theodore "Ted" and Eva Van Doninck, an important couple that participated in business and civic enterprises that significantly contributed to the development of Gresham. According to the 1920 census and a 1942 draft registration card, Theodore Van Doninck was born in 1886 in Antwerp, Belgium. He immigrated to the United States in 1910. In 1916, Theodore purchased a downtown Gresham bakery at 331 N. Main Avenue from Mustard and Specks. He renamed the business City Bakery and operated it from 1916 until 1939. However, the bakery operation was just the beginning of his enterprising interest in Gresham.

In 1920, Ted married Eva Hamlin, daughter of John and Annie Hamlin of Gresham. Just one year after their marriage, Ted was seriously injured when his motorcycle struck an automobile at Gresham and Baseline (Stark) Road. Witnesses noted that the impact hurled Ted ten or twelve feet from the car. It is unclear how long it took him to recover.

In 1934, Ted began a long career of civic service when he became president of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles during the dedication of the Gresham chapter's (2151) brand new aerie. Ted was also an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Elks. An avid outdoor enthusiast, Ted organized, and was president of the Gresham chapter of the Portland Winter Sports Association. As president in 1936, Ted organized a public lecture discussing the new winter recreational opportunities on Mt. Hood associated with the near completion of Timberline Lodge. Ted also helped organize a large picnic of 2,500 members of the All-Dakota Society for the annual state picnic, which came to Gresham in 1938.

Mr. Van Doninck's civic service extended beyond fraternal organizations to elected office.

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In 1935, Gresham voters elected Ted to a seat on City Council. The election was not a landslide as seven individuals ran for only three vacant seats—nonetheless, Ted obtained a strong plurality of votes. He won the seat again in 1936 and 1938. However, in 1938 he announced that he would not run again. For a period, he served as the Assistant Fire Chief for Gresham.

The Van Donincks moved into a brand new home, built by Portland builder Alex Marc Marnes, in 1936 as Ted transitioned careers. Ted sold the bakery in 1939 and left the council in 1940. The Gresham Historic Resources Subcommittee states that Ted collaborated with Gresham builder Don McGee in creating the Vanir Estates subdivision adjacent to Van Doninck's land. Ted also began raising potatoes on the 1-acre plot next to his home, which later blossomed into a successful potato business located on 190th and Powell. His operation also grew to include a storehouse in Troutdale. He also leased land and grew u-pick strawberries on 182nd and Division, which he advertised for in the *Oregonian*. Ted retired from farming in 1961 and passed away in 1968.

The Van Doninck home represents the life of an active and foundational member of the community. An immigrant to the United States, Mr. Van Doninck shaped the economic, civic, and cultural fabric of the Gresham community.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input checked="" 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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Morning Oregonian, "Gresham Voters Name City Slate," Oct. 31, 1935, p. 15.

Morning Oregonian, "Winter Sports Group to Dine at Gresham," Feb 24, 1936, p. 12.

Morning Oregonian, "All-Dakota Picnic Sunday August 7, Now Being Shaped," July 18, 1938, p. 4.

Morning Oregonian, "Only Five Running in Gresham Races," Oct. 17, 1938, p. 17.

Morning Oregonian, "Theodore Van Doninck (obituary)," Oct. 15, 1968, p. 6.

Sunday Oregonian, "Eagles," March 18, 1934 p. 8.

Sunday Oregonian, "Odd Fellows Set for Junior Fete," Sept. 22, 1935, p.4.

Sunday Oregonian, "Gresham Voters to go to Polls," Dec. 1, 1935, p.13.

Sunday Oregonian, "Gresham to Nominate Slate this Week," Sep. 27, 1936, p.8.

Sunday Oregonian, "U-Pick Strawberries," June 28, 1952 p. 8.

United States Census, Year: 1920; Census Place: Gresham, Multnomah, Oregon; Roll: T625_1503; Page: 10B; Enumeration District: 198; Image: 885.

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



Van Doninck House looking south from NW Division Street.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Looking south across NW Division Street at the north (main) façade of Van Doninck House.

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THEODORE VAN DONINCK

Funeral for Theodore (Ted) Van Doninck of 720 NW Division St., Gresham, will be at the Bateman Funeral Chapel in Gresham Tuesday at 2 p.m., with vault entombment at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

A former Gresham city councilman and assistant fire chief Mr. Van Doninck died Friday after a short illness. He was born in Belgium Dec. 10, 1886, and had been a resident of Gresham since 1916. He operated the City Bakery in Gresham until 1939 when he sold it and became a potato grower until retirement in 1961.

He was a charter member and first president of the Gresham Lodge of Eagles and a member of the Gresham Lodge of Elks.

He married Eva Hamlin in Portland, Oct. 9, 1920. She survives him, as does his brother, Ralph of Sarasota, Fla., and his sister, Mrs. Clementine DeWitte, Portland.

Theodore Van Doninck's obituary, *The Oregonian*, Oct. 15, 1968 p.6.

WINTER SPORTS GROUP TO DINE AT GRESHAM

GRESHAM, Feb. 23 (Special)—Prominent Portland winter sports enthusiasts will be guests of the chamber of commerce next Wednesday noon at a big dinner meeting.

Speakers will include Dr. Paul Dutton, president of the Portland Winter Sports association; Berger Underhill, first vice-president; Jack Meier and Robert Mount. They will discuss Mount Hood as a winter recreation center and explain the recent Timberline hotel development.

The meeting was arranged by Burten Walrad Jr., Gresham, director of the Portland Winter Sports association. President Theo Van Doninck will preside.

Theodore Van Doninck's role in winter recreation at Mount Hood, *The Oregonian*, Feb 24, 1936 p.12.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Moen House**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **42 NW Wilson Ave.**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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

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

Tax Lot: **3** Addition: **Walula Heights**
Block: **1**

Assessor: **876800110**



Moen house looking east from NW Wilson Ave.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Residence	Height (stories): 1 1/2	Total # eligible resources: 2
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant	NR status: Not Listed	City Landmark Status: Listed
Primary construction date: 1937	Use comments: Excellent condition;	
Secondary construction date:	Style comments: Significant alterations	
Primary use: Residence	Siding comments:	
Secondary use:		
Primary style: Norman Farmhouse	Builder: Arthur Moen	
Secondary style: Minimal traditional		
Primary siding: Cedar shake		
Secondary siding:		
Plan type: Rectangular		
Architect: Philip Delano Sluman		

Notes: **Roof: Steep side-gabled shallow eave roof with double front-gables covered in composition shingle.**
Windows: 6/1 double-hung wooden sash and 24 light front window.
Exterior: Clad in large cedar shakes, tapered chimney, garage is a contributing structure.
Landscape: Japanese maple, boxwoods, rhododendrons, and large maple.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Moen house is located in the Northwest residential neighborhood west of downtown. The
Gresham Historic Landmark #25
George Moen House

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

residence is situated on the east side of NW Wilson Avenue up a gentle rise with Powell Blvd to the south. The home features a well-manicured yard with Japanese maple, boxwoods, and rhododendrons in the front yard, with a large maple in the back yard. A long driveway on the south of the property runs east west and leads to a detached garage which is a contributing structure.

The home was built in 1937 in the Norman Farmhouse and Minimal Traditional styles popular in the latter half of the Great Depression. It features a steeply pitched, shallow eave, side-gabled roof with two offset front-gabled wall dormers on the west (main) façade. The home is clad in wide cedar shakes and features six-over-one double-hung wooden sash windows and a twenty-four light front window. A sixteen light front bay window with corresponding four-over-four windows was added in the year 2000. Overall, the home is in excellent condition. However, several major alterations affect the home's historic architectural integrity.

The west (main) façade entrance is surrounded with red brick and features a recessed door with an original mail slot and privacy door. However, the front gable entry has been extended to create a small entry porch. The porch, clad in modern weatherboards, with a decorative circular divided attic lite, embellished columns, a square spindled baluster, and side stair entrance, all deviate from the original minimal traditional design.

The north façade features an original tapered brick chimney. The addition of a shed-roofed dormer encompasses entire second story's east façade, which is clearly visible from the north and south facades. A front-gabled single car detached garage is located on the southeast corner of the property and is clad in matching cedar shake. Other than a newer overhead door, this garage maintains much of its original character. The alterations to the home's exterior, on the other hand, are rather extensive and detract from the home's significance as an example of Norman Farmhouse and minimal traditional designs.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

This home is associated with George Moen, a city councilman, Chief of the Gresham Fire Department, and owner of a successful agricultural implement business. His work in these three capacities directly shaped the development of the city of Gresham.

George was born in Canada in 1901 to Asbjorn and Gunhild Moen, both Norwegian immigrants. George moved to Gresham in 1927 and began working at the Hessel Implements, one of the larger businesses that supplied Gresham's farming community. In 1947, George left Hessel and started his own implement firm with Harold Barr.

George and his wife Hazel Moen built their home in 1937 just as Gresham and the nation were recovering from the Great Depression. They hired local architect Philip Delano Sluman to design the home, and George's brother Arthur to build it. They also received a Federal Housing Administration (FHA) loan to help complete the construction. This program was a first of its kind and later became part of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Moens kept meticulous records; they recorded every nail, board, and brick in their ledger book. The record keeping speaks to the Moens' frugality—a product of life in the Depression and a skill that became a hallmark of George's business and city council achievements.

City of Gresham

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In 1945, Gresham's voters elected Moen to city council. During George's tenure he funded street paving, new curbs, sidewalks, flood control measures on Johnson Creek, and purchasing land for a new city hall. He also helped establish a new fire code and a unified building code. These measures were incredibly important as the city was just beginning to enter an expansive period in the post-war housing boom.

George also served as the volunteer Chief of the Gresham Fire Department throughout the 1940s. Under his leadership, George called attention to the need for a rural fire district. Without a uniform fire code, the fire department charged for fire calls to properties outside the city. George led a long political fight to create a rural fire district and successfully extended fire service to residents outside the city.

The George Moen home represents the personal and civic life of one of Gresham's mid-twentieth century leaders. The home was attainable to the Moens because of early FHA loans, which also helped employ out of work contractors. The detailed records of home construction show the locally sourced materials and the overall costs. Moen's work in business, volunteerism with the fire department, and his accomplishments as a council member, all contributed to the character, physical infrastructure, and culture of Gresham.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <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 |
| <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 II, Before and After the World Wars* [Gresham, Ore.: Davis and Fox Printing, 1996].
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- City of Gresham, *Inventory of Historic Properties: George Moen House*, [1986].
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- Miller, George R., *Gresham* [Charleston S.C.: Arcadia, 2011].
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- Morning Oregonian*, "George Moen (obituary)," April 19, 1984, p. 41.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, *Gresham, Multnomah County, Oregon* [New York: Sanborn Co., 1922].
- U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

Gresham Historic Landmark #25
George Moen House

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

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



George Moen House, west (main) elevation looking east.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



George Moen House, southwest corner looking east.



George Moen House, west (main) elevation looking east.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



George Moen House, northwest corner looking southeast.

City of Gresham

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George Moen

Funeral for George Moen, owner of Moen Machinery Co. in Gresham, was Wednesday at the Bateman Funeral Chapel. Mr. Moen, 82, died Saturday at his Gresham home.

Born in Tofield, Alberta, Mr. Moen was raised by an uncle in Bellingham, Wash., where he attended school after the death of his mother. He moved to Gresham in the late 1920s and worked for Hessel Motor Co. from 1929 to 1947. He became a partner in the Moen & Barr Machinery Co. in 1947 and changed the name to Moen Machinery after becoming sole owner.

He retired in 1968.

He was a former member of the Gresham City Council, a former Gresham volunteer fireman, a member and past master of the Gresham Masonic Lodge, an associate guardian of Job's Daughters, and a member of the Order of Eastern Star, Scottish Rite, Shriners, Gresham Elks Lodge, 805 and the Men of Melody singing group.

Mr. Moen is survived by his wife, Hazel, to whom he was married 57 years; a son, Howard, of Gresham; a daughter, Marilyn Dirksen, of Portland; two brothers, Arthur, of Camrose, Alberta, and Ben, of Victoria, British Columbia; six sisters, Lorraine Berg, of Mead, Wash.; Mable Shrewsbury, of Santa Barbara, Calif.; Thelma Mackie, of New Westminster, British Columbia; Norma, of Langley, British Columbia, and Borghild Rolfstad and Margaret Knowles, both of White Rock, British Columbia; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Gresham. The family suggests memorial contributions to the Elks Children's Eye Clinic at Salem.

George Moen's obituary from *The Oregonian*, April, 19, 1984, p. 41.

City of Gresham

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Materials -

Mar 1-37	Nails - Nussels - Cash	4.66	
✓ 15-✓	Nails - ✓	1.25	
April 5-	Greenwood Lumber Co. Lumber	45.05	
✓ 7	J. Valberg - lumber to date	593.82	
	road - fuel base - on %	110.00	
10	Geo C Lewis - Wining in field	102.45	
7	Gresham Lumber yard.	13.87	
7-	L. F. Kiddle - Nails etc.	5.60	
	Ralph E. Robinson on %	41.05	611.75
April 17	Nails - Montg. Ward - Cash	4.48	
"	Built-in Soap dish	2.25	
✓ " 20	Green - sawing - Cover Cash	2.85	
20-	Columbia brick works - tile Cash	173	11.33
May 6-	J. F. Neal - % on plastering	100.00	
7	Nussel Sup. Co. paint + linoleum	70.43	
12-	Gresham Lumber yard.	10.51	
12	L. F. Kiddle -	3.20	
22	R. I. Davidson	72.00	
22-	J. F. Neal - plastering etc	100.00	
24	J. F. Neal - "	82.50	
29	John Valberg Ball Lumber.	269.75	708.39
June 5	Spear Co. Linoleum Cash	38.00	
12-	Plumbing fixtures	36.55	
July 7	sink + fittings + tub	36.00	
July 24	Window shades + Curtains	23.20	
Aug 12-	Mont - Ward Co - Hardware	2.25	
1	Ground - Troutdale Sand Co.	2.75	
	W. P. Persson - Lumber Parts	90	
	Geo Lewis - Electric	110.77	150.73

One page of George Moen's house ledger, the Moen estimated the home cost \$1,956. For a full copy see, Sally, Donovan's *Moen House National Register Nomination*.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Ott House**

Other Names: **David and Marianne Ott House**

Address: **2075 SE Palmlblad Road**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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

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

Tax Lot: **200** Addition: Tax Map:

Assessor: **R993140360**



East façade of Ott House from Palmlblad Road.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

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

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1952**

Secondary construction date: **1970s**

Primary use: **Residence**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Northwest Regional**

Secondary style:

Primary siding: **Vertical Board and Batten**

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect: **John Storrs**

Total # eligible resources: **2**

NR status: **Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments: **Good condition**

Style comments:

Siding comments:

Builder: **Darrel Walton**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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

From the National Register Nomination:

The David and Marianne Ott House, located at 2075 SE Palmlblad Road, is southeast of downtown Gresham, Multnomah County, Oregon in a semi-rural area. Completed in 1952, the

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Northwest Regional style house was erected along the eastern edge of the tax lot, and faces east along SE Palms Road. The house is on a 2.81-acre parcel with several auxiliary structures erected along the edges of the level site, allowing most of the property to be used for agricultural operations. The 1,668 square foot, single-story residence is a wood-framed structure with vaulted ceilings, and a post-and-beam framed floor over a crawl space. The house is sided with historic preservative-treated, but otherwise unfinished, horizontal fir boards and vertical battens installed on a 3'-0" grid pattern that aligns with the building's planning grid. Windows are wood framed utilizing the direct glazing method for the larger fixed units and operable sashes for smaller units. The residence has composition shingles on the sloped roof and a concrete foundation. The Ott house's interior walls are finished with natural hemlock siding, and painted gypsum board on the ceilings between exposed wood beams. Original hardware and light fixtures are extant. The entry and living room are located as central volumes on the east facade. The garage, utility room, and kitchen are on the south facade facing and accessing the site's utility structures. The private bedroom and bathing areas are on the north facade toward the privacy of the grove of trees. A 1970s addition was made to the original northwest corner of the house that included reusing the interior and exterior wood siding, and extending the ridgeline (the original walls and openings were retained). The front of the garage was later extended eastward 3'-0". That addition retained the original framing. An ancillary shop building (contributing) constructed in 1958, is semi-attached by a breezeway to the house off the rear south corner. There are various non-contributing structures on the acreage that are located on the south side of the site that support the agricultural use of the property. These include tractor sheds, a boathouse, and greenhouses. Well-known architect John Storrs designed the house that was one of his first projects in the Northwest, and his only residence known to occur in a rural location associated with an agricultural use.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The David and Marianne Ott House, completed in 1952, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the local level for its association with John W. Storrs, a master architect who practiced in Portland, Oregon, from 1949 until the late 1970s. The Ott House is significant, as it represents one of Storrs' earliest known residential designs in a unique location on a level, rural parcel, and as the only known example of a grid design that demonstrates his versatility and skill that led him to be one of the Northwest's leading architects. The Ott House reflects many of the main tenets of the Northwest Regional style, such as an unobtrusive presence on the site, the use of fine natural wood siding at the interior, and how the site is 'brought indoors' through careful space planning and use of glazing. The house additionally incorporates unique touches contributed by Storrs, including an elegant main living space within a modest-sized home, treated, but otherwise rustic and unfinished tongue-and-groove exterior siding with battens, and innovative lighting. Storrs was able to maintain his core beliefs of beauty, perfection, form, order, simplicity, and a sense of personal belonging in his work and adapt them to his changing architectural commissions.

The Ott House was a home that Storrs greatly valued as evidenced by his desire to revisit the property at various times until shortly before his death. Marianne Ott, the current owner, has lived in the home from the time it was constructed for her and her husband David. Since the original construction, there have been various site improvements, and utility structures added to support the farm business work and to maintain the property. Most of these are distinct from the

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house design. There have been relatively few changes to the house and its original construction or finishes. The necessary alterations were sensitive additions to the original house, which is intact within. The Ott residence is notably intact for its age, and retains significant historic integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input 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**

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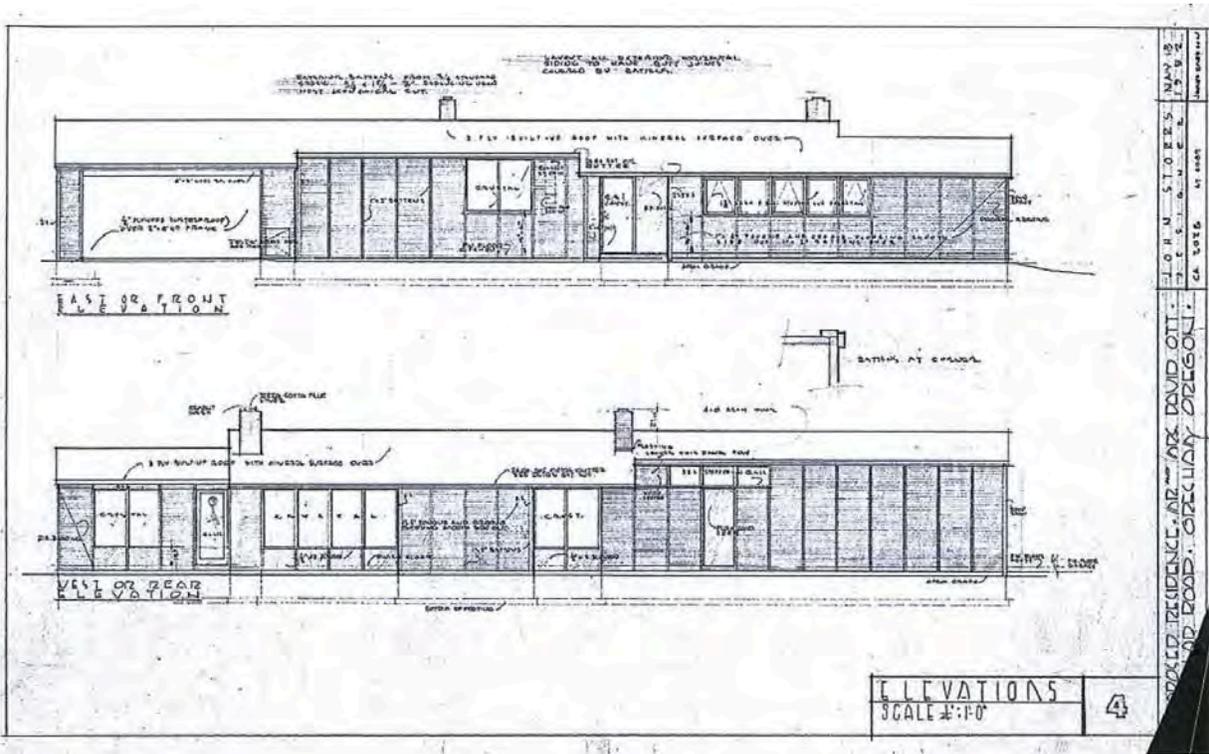
East façade from across Palmblad Road.



East façade from Palmblad Road.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Charles Hunter Hamlin House**

Current/ Other names: **Hamlin-Johnson House**

Address: **1322 SE 282nd Avenue**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **4E** Section: **18**

$\frac{1}{4}$: **NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$** Zip Code: **97080**

Tax Lot: **2200** Addition: Block:

Assessor: **R342086**



Hamlin-Johnson House looking east from SE 282nd Ave.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Residential Home	Height (stories): 1 1/2	Total # eligible resources: 1
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant		NR status: Listed
Primary construction date: 1888		City Landmark Status: Listed
Secondary construction date: 1903		Use comments: good condition
Primary use: Domestic		Style comments: Vernacular
Secondary use: Single Residence		Siding comments:
Primary style: Gothic Revival		Builder: Charles Hunter Hamlin
Secondary style: Late Victorian		
Primary siding: Weatherboard drop siding		
Secondary siding: Coarse aggregate		
Plan type: Rectangular/ Cross-gable		
Architect:		

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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

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quoted below.

From the National Register Nomination:

The Hamlin-Johnson House is a one-and-one-half-story building with a cross-gable roof with narrow eaves and a largely rectangular footprint (a hipped-roof utility room has been added at the northeast corner). The house is centrally located within the main portion of its 1.95-acre parcel and faces west overlooking 282nd Avenue, a suburban arterial. The wood-frame building is clad in drop siding with a wide reveal (channel rustic siding) with some shingle siding under the south-facing gable. The foundation is post-and-pier and the roof is clad in asphalt shingles. It is a ca. 1888 Gothic Revival house that was remodeled ca. 1903, adding Queen Anne features and details.

The most dominant feature of the house is the symmetry of the front façade, with its narrow, front-facing gable on the structure's side gable roof, and the full-width front porch with its turned balustrade and decorative spindle frieze and brackets. A Victorian-era door is centrally located under the front-facing gable, on the back wall of the front porch. Windows are primarily one-over-one-light, wood-frame, double-hung windows with simple surrounds and crown molding, placed individually and in pairs throughout the building. Additional character-defining features include two corbelled chimneys mounted on the east-west ridge of the house and a recessed porch within the single-story ell on the north side. The interior layout of the house includes a full-width living room across the front of the house, with a stairway to the second floor located on the back wall, followed by a formal dining room and a kitchen at the rear of the house. Three bedrooms, a bathroom, and auxiliary storage are located on the second floor. All interior detailing, including window and door surrounds and baseboards, is original. Major changes to the house include the addition of a bay window and later, a sun room, on the south side, the utility room, and the previously mentioned Queen Anne styling.

The parcel also includes two non-contributing resources: a twentieth-century barn or workshop and a small 1984 playhouse that repeats the materials of the house. Also present on the parcel are numerous mature trees, including remnants of a pear orchard.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

Charles H. Hamlin

The man reputed to have built the house that is the subject of this nomination, Charles H. Hamlin (1835-1915), was born in Ohio, and married Olive Laskey (1841-1907) in Dallas, Oregon in 1858. In the 1860 census, the Hamlins are still listed as part of Nathaniel Hamlin's household, but in 1870, they were noted as living in Milwaukie, Clackamas County. From 1873 to 1887, city directories indicate that Hamlin lived in East Portland, with occupations listed variously as ferry engineer, steamboat engineer, and a machinist for the Oregon & California Railroad.

Mr. Hamlin's most notable accomplishment was being an engineer on the first steamboat to go above Willamette Falls at Oregon City, which was reported in his obituary in the *Morning Oregonian*. Navigating a boat past the falls was not possible until the completion of the

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Willamette Falls Locks, which meant that there was no direct shipping route to Portland and beyond for Willamette Valley agricultural and other goods. The Willamette Falls Locks opened on January 1, 1873, and the towboat Maria Wilkins was the first vessel to use the locks. Marking the occasion, a journalist for the Oregonian noted, "On New Year's day a most important event transpired which is destined to produce a revolution in the commercial relations of the Wallamet [sic] Valley in the future. The event was the formal opening to the use of the State, of the Locks and Canal at the falls opposite Oregon City."

Many important dignitaries were invited to make the trip, which began at the Oregon Steamship Navigation Company's wharf. The entire event was covered in great detail by the press. Those named as engineers and pilots for the boat were one of the owners, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Geo. Marshall, and Capt. Chas. Kellogg at the helm. The newspaper coverage noted that a steamer, the *Annie Stewart*, was being custom-designed for this route, and would be finished in two months' time. The article concluded, "A new era in the navigation of the upper and lower Wallamet has at length dawned."

When Charles Hamlin moved to Powell's Valley/Gresham, he was 54 years old. Apparently retired from the railroad, Hamlin subsequently referred to himself as a farmer. In 1894, he owned eighty acres of agricultural land valued at \$720, and was taxed on \$300 worth of personal goods, including "household furniture, pleasure carriage, watch, etc." In 1895, he owned three cows and two horses; the value of taxable improvements on the property totaled \$403.25. Hamlin sold the southern portion of the property, including the house, in 1900 to Carl Norback. In the 1910 census, Hamlin was listed as living in the household of his son Ennis "Jud" and Susie Hamlin of Mountain View, Clark County, Washington. He was then 75 years old. His wife Olive had died three years earlier, perhaps prompting a move to his son's house. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hamlin are buried in the Lone Fir Cemetery in Portland.

Carl O. Norback

Carl O. Norback (1855-1911), a building contractor from Sweden, bought the house in 1900 from the Hamlins for \$1,400 for the 20-acre property. He, in turn, sold the house to Reverend Johnson in 1903 for \$3,000. Norback may have updated the house with the Queen Anne features and detailing present on the house today, before selling it in this relatively short time-frame.

Reverend Jonas Johnson

The property's next owners, Reverend Jonas Johnson (1863-1930) and his wife Selma (1874-1964), had ties to Gresham's history as a Swedish settlement and the role that the Scandinavian churches played in that settlement. Johnson bought the house in 1903 and in 1907, purchased another 25 acres north of the house. The first settlement of Swedish immigrants in Powell's Valley occurred with the immigration of the Palmquist family, who arrived ca. 1875. The largest numbers of Swedes came to Oregon in the 1880s and 1890s. Most were what is known as second-stage immigrants, meaning they were coming from other states in the U.S. (frequently Minnesota and Kansas). Many were drawn to Oregon due to the fertile farm land, but also no doubt because the landscape and available activities (fishing, hunting, etc.)

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was reminiscent of their native land. Many Swedish immigrants in Oregon found work in sawmills, but most were either dairy farmers or berry farmers. They also were among the earliest pear orchardists in the state. Religion was important to the Swedish immigrants, and one of the first things they built in their settlements was a church. In the Powell's Valley area there were three early Scandinavian churches: the Powell Valley Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant (1890), a.k.a. Powell Valley Church; the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Saron Congregation of Powell's Valley (1899), a.k.a. Trinity Lutheran; and the Hillsvie Evangelical Covenant (1917), a.k.a. Hillsvie Community Church.

Reverend Johnson, who had trained in the Midwest and West, was ordained to the ministry in the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant. He had been a traveling missionary in South Dakota, Nebraska, and the Pacific Northwest, through which he became familiar with the Powell Valley Church. When Johnson was hired by the Church as their second minister, he bought the southerly 20 acres of the Hamlins' original property, on which the house stands. In 1925, Jonas had a heart attack that left him lingering for four years and bedridden nine months before his death in 1930. The Johnson family owned the house for more than 60 years; Mrs. Johnson continued to live in the house after the Reverend died until her death at the age of 90 in 1964.

Summary

Charles Hamlin is credited with building the Hamlin-Johnson House and lived there from 1888 to 1900. According to descendant Louise Solis, he built many homes around the Gresham area, thereby contributing to its early development. Johnson was involved in the Swedish community in the area for 27 years. When he was not ministering to his flock, he was trying to make a go of farming. Collectively the two families lived in the house for over 70 years.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

- | | | | |
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| <input checked="" 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 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**

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Hamlin-Johnson House looking east across SE 282nd Ave. at the west (main) façade.



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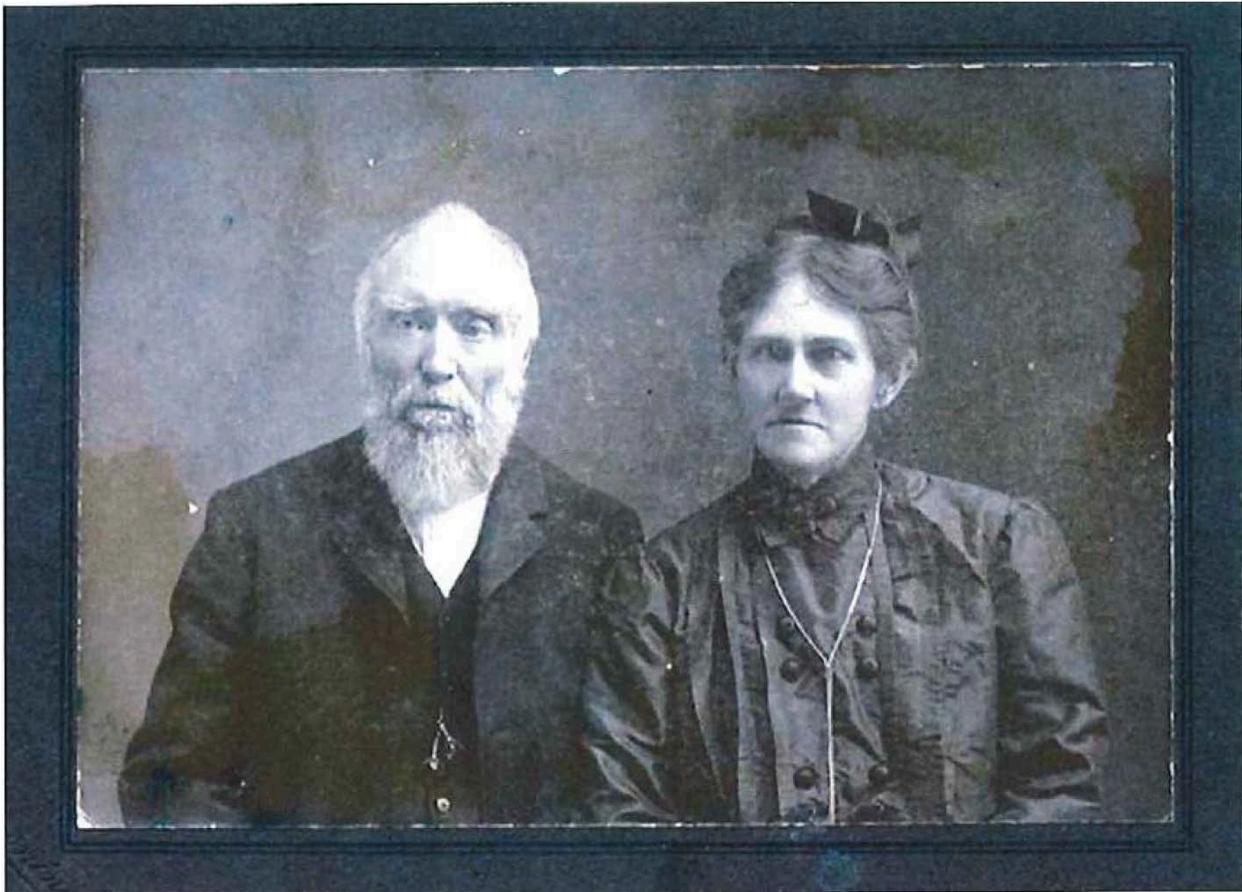
Hamlin-Johnson House looking east across SE 282nd Ave. at the west (main) façade.



Hamlin-Johnson House looking north across Lusted Road at the south façade.

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Portrait of Charles and Olive Hamlin. Image courtesy of Gresham Historical Society.

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**EARLY STEAMBOAT ENGINEER
AND PIONEER OF 1848 DIES.**



Charles Hunter Hamlin.

Charles Hunter Hamlin, pioneer of 1848, died at the home of his son, E. J. Hamlin, 13 Center, Wash., Monday, May 3, at the age of 80 years. He was born in Ohio January 29, 1835, and came to Oregon in 1848. He lived at Thirty-first and Holgate streets for many years. He was engineer on the first boat ever navigated above Oregon City falls.

He married Olive E. Laskey in 1858 and ten children were born to them, eight of whom survive. The children are: Mrs. Flora A. Neibauer, Gresham; Mrs. Winifred McIntyre, Brightwood, Or.; Mrs. Inez Heltschmidt, Portland; Mrs. Essie Harris, Orient, Or.; Mrs. Sylvia Ramsey, Scappoose; E. J. Hamlin, La Center; Mrs. Floy Eichenberger, Astoria, and Mrs. Fay Messenger, Astoria.

The body was brought to Portland and interred in Lone Fir Cemetery by the side of Mrs. Hamlin, who died in November, 1907.

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Charles Hamlin's Obituary, *Oregonian*, May 23, 1915.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **U.S. Post Office**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **103 W Powell Boulevard**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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

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

Tax Lot: **50** Addition: Block: **1A**

Assessor: **R993102350**



U.S. Post Office looking north from across W. Powell.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Civic Institution** Height (stories): **1**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1941**

Secondary construction date: **1961**

Primary use: **Post Office**

Secondary use:

Primary style: **Federal modern**

Secondary style: **International**

Primary siding: **Brick**

Secondary siding: **Sandstone**

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect: **Theodore Ballard White Administration**

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Not Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments: **Excellent condition**

Style comments: **west wing addition**

Siding comments:

Builder: **Works Progress**

Notes: **Exterior: Sandstone cornice caps, niches with eagle sculptures, brick, and wrought iron with stars.**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gresham Post Office is a federal Works Progress Administration project 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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The U.S. Post Office is located on the corner of W Powell Boulevard and NW Millar Avenue adjacent to the Downtown commercial district and a small residential neighborhood. The building has a larger parking lot to west and an even larger loading zone and parking area to the north. The landscaping is minimal with small shrubs and larger form street trees on surrounding

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the parcel.

The building is a modern international style featuring a flat roof. Constructed of yellow brick, the building features decorative sandstone cornice caps with five-point starts and recessed niches with carved eagles. Cast-iron lamps and railing flank either side of the entryway, which features eight-over-eight iron windows. The west wing of the building is an addition completed in 1991. The alterations remain distinct and therefore, do not alter the original building's integrity.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The Gresham post office represents the 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 and location. Thus, the building embodies significant contributions of local and national figures that have shaped the city's history. The following narrative is a summary of the United States Post Office's historic buildings survey for the Gresham building.

In the midst of the Great Depression, President Franklin D. Roosevelt placed new Post Office constructions under the Public Works Administration, one of his many New Deal era programs to employ out of work Americans. In 1937, Oregon State representative Nan Wood Honeyman announced that the federal government had provided funds for Gresham's new Post Office. Honeyman believed that the building "should not be shabby and unimpressive" Believing that the Post Office was a local representative of the federal government, Honeyman facilitated public involvement in the design noting, "it seems only proper that they receive a favorable impression of the government set up through their contract with the local federal representative."

In 1938, the Works Progress Administration purchased Belle Michel's property for \$4,000 and in 1939, the *Outlook* reported that Philadelphia Architect Theodore Ballard White won a \$1,000 prize for designing a standardized building for smaller Post Offices for this site. Selecting Ballard White's standard design for Gresham, the project was put on hold for years because of costly bids. With additional funding from the Roosevelt administration, the project began in January of 1941. On July 25th the *Outlook* reported the dedication of the Post Office. At the ceremony was Oregon Governor Charles E. Sprague; Gresham Mayor H.H. Hughes; U.S. Postmaster Ivan Swift; Gresham's first Mayor and oldest living postmaster, Lewis Shattuck; federal engineer William T. Pierce; and Nan Wood Honeyman, former Oregon Representative who had obtained the initial project funding and oversaw the public involvement and design.

The Gresham Post Office has a multifaceted significance. The building is an example of federal WPA investment in Gresham, which came at a critical time of need and marked a drastic shift in federal spending from the *laissez faire* position of the 1920s. It is an example of award winning architect Theodore Ballard White and his achievement in designing a small Post Office in the modern international style. The building also represents the direct leadership of Representative Nan Wood Honeyman, the first woman elected to congress in Oregon. Lastly, the building also represents the community itself, many of which came out to public meetings to select the design.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

Title Records Census Records Property Tax Records Local Histories

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
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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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- Form prepared by: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2016**

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U.S. Post Office, looking north across W. Powell Blvd at the south (main) façade.



Close up of U.S. Post Office, south (main) façade.

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U.S. Post Office, looking north at the southeast corner of the building.



U.S. Post Office, close up of the decorative eagles and stars.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Duane C. Ely Building**

Current/ Other names: **Blondie's Pizza**

Address: **112 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: **9 & 10** Addition: **Gresham**
Block: **1**



Duane Ely building looking southeast across N. Main Ave.

Assessor: **R344600190**

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Commercial Building** Height (stories): **1** Total # eligible resources: **1**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Not Listed**

Primary construction date: **1915**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date:

Use comments: **good condition**

Primary use: **Commercial**

Secondary use: **Commercial**

Primary style: **Vernacular**

Style comments:

Secondary style:

Primary siding: **Brick**

Siding comments:

Secondary siding: **Coarse aggregate**

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect:

Builder: **Duane C. Ely**

Notes: **Exterior: Yellow brick in with decorative courses of stretcher, header, sailor, soldier, and rowlock on west (main) façade and coarse aggregate**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Duane C. Ely building is located on the east side of N Main Ave. in the heart of Gresham's downtown district. The building is bounded by NE 2nd Street to the north and a large parking lot

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to the south. The building sits directly off the sidewalk and features several street trees in front.

The building is a simple single story flat-roofed vernacular storehouse. The building is constructed of concrete and yellow brick. The building's west (main) façade displays alternating courses of stretcher, header, sailor, soldier, and rowlock bricks to make a decorative fascia. The building has three entry bays, which feature recessed doorways flanked by plate glass windows. Each window has corresponding transoms. Glass globe lamps and cast-iron fixtures flank each window. The center of the main façade carries cast-iron lettering: "Duane C. Ely Bld." Three canvas awnings also shade the recessed entryways. The other sides of the building are finished in coarse gravel aggregate; likely a more modern alteration.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The Duane C. Ely Building, in the historic downtown of Gresham, housed several important businesses that were significant to the city's cultural and physical development.

Originally, pioneer merchant Lewis Shattuck owned the lot at Main and Second Street in downtown Gresham. In 1914, Shattuck sold his commercial property, home, and large farm to Duane C. Ely. Ely, an Oregon City based merchant. Ely was in the process of expanding his already successful twenty-seven year business in agricultural implement sales but choose not to open a Gresham branch. An advertisement from the *Oregon City Courier* noted that Ely was an agent for John Deere implements and Keystone Wire Fencing. Ely continued to operate his business in Oregon City and instead purchased several Gresham properties for rental investment income. He also owned the home at 343 N. Main Ave., as of 2016 housing Victorian House Antiques and Collectibles.

Ely completed construction of the commercial building in 1919 and quickly leased it to six businesses: Walrad Mercantile, L.L. Kidder Hardware;, and Hessel Machinery on the Main Avenue frontage. In the building's back (east) alley there was: McMurray Bros. Grocery, Walter Adrian's Motion Picture Theater, and C.E. Osburn's Auto Accessories. Local resident Dan Murphy remembers the three stores on Main Avenue remaining in business well past 1935.

Hessel's Farm Machinery embodies Gresham's change from a rural farming community to a suburban town. First owned by J.C. Hesse in 1908, William and John Hessel took over the business and moved into the Ely building. Still offering farmers implements and equipment, they also expanded into selling automobiles, specifically Willy's Overland cars. The shift to autos signaled the changing settlement patterns in Gresham, as did the firm's move to a highly visible store in the heart of the city's downtown. George Moen, whose home is also a Gresham historic landmark, worked for Hessel's from 1927 to 1947.

Kidder's Hardware also has an important story in the city's history. Originally owned by business partners Sterling and Johnson, the hardware store had opened in 1911. Following the Civil War, hardware stores had become a critical business in farming communities because so many farmers built their own homes and did all of their own maintenance and repairs. Most hardware stores sold much more than building supplies, they stocked all manner of "hard" goods (as opposed to soft, wet, and dry goods). Like most hardware stores of the era, Kidder's Hardware sold bicycles and toys. Supplied by various railroad wholesalers, the store sold Blue Bird

City of Gresham

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Bicycles, which also reflected the changing demographics of the city. A local institution, the Miller- Kidder Hardware store operated in the building until 1982.

Walrad's Mercantile operated in the city in the early 1900s. The father and son store was more commonly called the "Gresham Anchor Store" and sold dry goods, shoes, and groceries. Among other things, the store sold the popular "bath suit" in 1929. The store operated under the slogan "We Have the Goods to Suit You."

Combined with the neighboring businesses, Gresham shoppers essentially had a series of independently owned businesses that offered the full range of goods in just a few blocks. It was an early version of the supermarket or shopping center. Eventually each of the original businesses in the Ely building closed, but they all had impressive decades of operation. At the same time, the building reflects the common outside investment during Gresham's early real-estate boom. In both capacities, the building was an important commercial anchor to the downtown area.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <input checked="" 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 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**



Duane C. Ely Building looking east across Main Ave. at the west (main) façade.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Duane C. Ely Building close up of lettering on west (main) façade.



Duane C. Ely Building looking east across Main Ave. at the southwest corner.

City of Gresham

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Duane C. Ely Building with right to left: Hesse's Overland dealership, Kidders Hardware, and Walrad Mercantile, c. 1922. Image courtesy of Gresham Historical Society.



Frontage of Sterling and Kidder Hardware, Image courtesy of Gresham Historical Society.

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Burton Walrad, Sr. and Burton Walrad, Jr. in front of their storefront on N. Main Ave. Image courtesy of Gresham Historical Society.

Duane C. Ely
IMPLEMENT HOUSE
— AGENTS FOR —
**John Deere Line Plows, Buggies
and Harrows**

Which speak for themselves as to quality and neatness of make. This is recognized by machinery authorities to be the strongest line of farm machinery in the world.

Keystone Wire Fencing

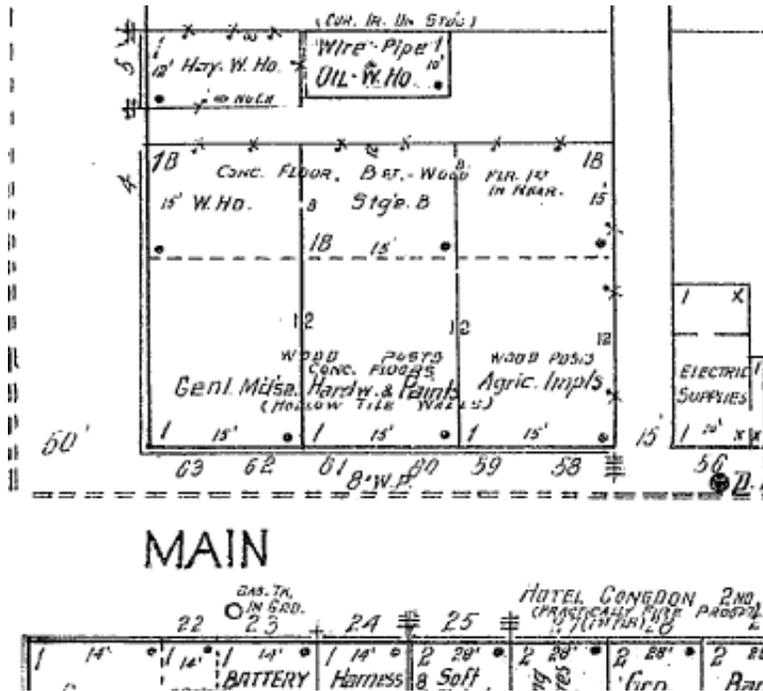
Which is fast taking place of the old rail fences, and it will not burn.
We give you the lowest possible price for which high grade goods can be bought. Get our prices before buying elsewhere for we save you money.

OREGON CITY, - - - - OREGON

Advertisement for Duane C. Ely's Implement House in the 1907 *Oregon City Courier*.

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A 1922 Sanborn Map shows the six commercial tenants in the Duane C. Ely Building.

Lewis Shattuck Sells Property.

Lewis Shattuck, a pioneer merchant at Gresham, has sold his property there including three lots at the corner of Main and Second streets and his residence, to Duane C. Ely, of Oregon City, who has been in the mercantile business in Oregon for 27 years. The sale includes Mr. Shattuck's store building, the stock and good will of his business. The terms of the sale have not been made public, but part of the consideration is a 70-acre farm near St. Helens, in Columbia County. This farm is in a high state of cultivation and well stocked. Mr. Shattuck has been in business in Gresham for a number of years.

Sale of Shattuck's property to Duane C. Ely, *Oregonian*, Nov. 30, 1919.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Masonic Lodge #152**

Current/ Other names: **City Park Church**

Address: **58 W. Powell Boulevard**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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

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

Tax Lot: **159** Addition: Block:

Assessor: **R993101590**



Masonic Lodge #152 looking southwest across W. Powell.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Commercial Building**
resources: **2**

Height (stories): **2**

Total # eligible

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Not Listed**

Primary construction date: **1931**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date:

Use comments: **good condition**

Primary use: **Fraternal Order**

Secondary use: **Commercial**

Primary style: **Vernacular**

Style comments:

Secondary style:

Primary siding: **Brick**

Siding comments:

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect:

Builder: **Steele and Davis**

Notes: **Decorative pentagon transom with keystone. Rug brick, brick pilasters with diamond ends, courses of soldier brick on the window lintels and sills, and banded brickwork and modillions on cornice.**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Gresham Masonic Lodge #152 is located in the south side of W. Powell Boulevard adjacent to the downtown historic district. The property sits on a small rise that overlooks Main City Park and Johnson Creek to the south. Directly facing the sidewalk on W. Powell, the building has no setback, but is bounded by two parking lots to the west and east. Landscaping is minimal with a

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

few parking lot tree plantings.

The building is a two story flat-roofed vernacular warehouse. Windows are primarily one-over-one wooden sash with the exception of a pentagon decorative second story window on the north (main) façade. Constructed of red rug brick, the building's window sills and lintels feature a single course of soldier bricks. The north façade features several additional distinct design components. The centered recessed main entry is flanked by tall brick pilasters with decorative cast iron diamond finishes. The decorative pentagon light features a central brick keystone. Banded brickwork and modillions style the cornice. Lastly, the building's cornerstone is etched with the following inscription: "Gresham Lodge #152 A.F. & A.M., Laid by Otto C. Hagmeier, M.W. Grandmaster, A.L. 5931 A.D. 1931." Overall, the property is in good condition and maintains a high degree of integrity.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The Gresham Masonic Lodge #152 is an institutional building that relates to the activities and leadership of many significant leaders in the city. The Freemasons are an international fraternal organization that has centuries of history. In a general sense, the Masons practice rituals of morality and ethics based on the ancient craft of stonemasonry. In the United States, many leaders and presidents have been members. Gresham is no exception, and many past members of this Masonic Lodge owned properties that are now city historic landmarks. Thus, the work of each individual establishes the significance of this building as an institution in the community.

Before Gresham's lodge, the older Fairview Masonic Lodge was the main institution for Masons in east Multnomah County and they had remained unwilling to sponsor a new lodge in Gresham. In 1908, William H. Congdon used his position at his hotel to hold informal Mason gatherings in Gresham and plan for the future. In 1912, the Gresham Lodge was formally recognized and Congdon became the first Master of the Gresham Lodge. Without a building, the Masons first held meetings in the Odd Fellows Hall, and later, the Regner building. Local Masons were frugal and obtained the lodge's furnishings by reusing old building materials and constructing it themselves.

Many of the city's early leaders were Masons. Past Masters included figures such as Orville Eastman (1914); Louis L. Kidder (1916); William Knight Hamilton (1920); William Metzger (1921) and many others whose names are associated with buildings and local place names.

It took from 1912 to 1930 to raise funds to build the lodge. With \$7,000 pledged to build a new lodge the group finally began seeking bids. The Portland based firm Steele and Davis won the bidding at \$9,984. Construction began April 10, 1931 as Grand Master Otto Hagmeier officiated the ceremonial laying of the building's cornerstone. The builders completed the lodge in June of 1931. Over the years, members continued to improve the building with the same frugality and innovation that had characterized the group in its earliest days.

Given the close knit community and the fact that so many of the city's civic and business leaders were Masons, it is likely that many conversations about the growth of the community occurred inside the walls of the Masonic Lodge #152. Thus, this building represents the lives of individuals that shaped Gresham's physical and cultural fabric.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

Gresham Historic Landmark #30
Masonic Lodge #152

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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 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**



The laying of the cornerstone in 1931, image courtesy of Gresham Masonic Lodge.

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Close up of the building's cornerstone.



Gresham Masonic Lodge #152, looking southwest across W. Powell Blvd. at the northeast corner.

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East side of Gresham Masonic Lodge, looking west.



West side of Gresham Masonic Lodge looking east.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **11-Mile Marker**

Current/ Other names: **Stark Market**

Address: **19720 SE Stark Street**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **5**

¼: **NE ¼ of the NE ¼** Zip Code: **97233**

Tax Lot: **41** Addition: **West Ruby** Block: **1**

Assessor: **R993050880**



11-Mile Marker looking west down SE Stark.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Geographic marker**
resources: **1**

Height (stories): **N/A**

Total # eligible

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

NR status: **Not Listed**

Primary construction date: **1854**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Secondary construction date:

Primary use: **Geographic marker**

Use comments: **good condition**

Secondary use: **N/A**

Primary style: **Obelisk**

Style comments:

Secondary style: **Pyramidal**

Primary siding: **Carved Basalt**

Siding comments:

Secondary siding:

Plan type: **Rectangular**

Architect: **William Ives**

Builder:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The 11-mile marker is located in the northeast corner of 19720 SE Stark, currently a convenience store. The marker is just south of the sidewalk on the south side of SE Stark in front of a chain link fence. The basalt stone is carved in a square pyramidal form and inscribed with "P11" to indicate its placement eleven miles down Baseline Road (SE Stark St.) from the east bank of the Willamette River.

City of Gresham

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HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

These stone mile markers relate to the Willamette Meridian, and the Willamette Baseline, albeit in an indirect way. All land in Oregon and Washington is based on a grid established by these two lines. In 1851, Surveyor General John Preston set the intersection of the baseline and meridian in Portland's west hills. Surveyor William Ives conducted the survey for the baseline. A road opened along the baseline in 1854, running between the Sandy River and downtown Portland. Baseline Road was later renamed Stark Street.

The origin of the markers remains somewhat mysterious. They do not directly relate to the creation of the road itself, which Clackamas County residents requested in 1854. Multnomah County was carved out of Clackamas and Washington counties the same year. Someone installed the markers later. According to a 1958 article in the *Oregon Journal*, the markers simply note the distance from the Stark Street Bridge on the Sandy River to the east bank of the Willamette River, where travelers could cross the Stark Ferry into Portland.

Each marker is engraved with a "P" for Portland and the number of miles from the east bank of the river. Over the years, many have been stolen or vandalized. The three in Gresham are recognized as landmarks, and several in Portland are also local landmarks there. The stones relate to a time in the past when the area had few roads. In the horse-and-buggy era, these mileposts helped travelers estimate their arrivals. Thus, the markers relate to the formation of one of the earliest roads in the area, Baseline Road. This road, in turn, relates to the larger project of land surveys in the entire region.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <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 |
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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**

Bibliography:

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- Atwood, Kay, *Chaining Oregon: Surveying the Public Lands of the Pacific Northwest* [Newark, Oh.: McDonald and Woodward, 2008].
- 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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Horner, Howard, "Marking the Miles of History," *Portland Tribune*, Sept. 29, 2009, accessed Oct. 7, 2016 from: <http://portlandtribune.com/component/content/article?id=55939>

Lesowski, Lynda, "History Buffs Get Point of Stark Obelisks," *The Oregonian*, March 19, 1987 p. 10.

Mallett, Mary Powell, *Courageous People* [Portland, Ore.: Del Brumble, 1972] 121 – 123.

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

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



Close up, 11-Mile Marker, showing weatherizing and minor damage.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **13-Mile Marker**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **23500 SE Stark Street**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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

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

Tax Lot: **1** Addition: **Red Oak Square**
Block: **2**

Assessor: **R993032100**



13-Mile Marker looking south from SE Stark.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Geographic marker	Height (stories): N/A	Total # eligible resources: 1
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant		NR status: Not Listed
Primary construction date: 1854		City Landmark Status: Listed
Secondary construction date:		
Primary use: Geographic marker		Use comments: good condition
Secondary use: N/A		
Primary style: Obelisk		Style comments:
Secondary style: Pyramidal		
Primary siding: Carved Basalt		Siding comments:
Secondary siding:		
Plan type: Rectangular		
Architect: William Ives		Builder:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The 13-mile marker is located in the northeast corner of the 23500 SE Stark, currently an athletic gymnasium. The marker is just south of the sidewalk on the south side of SE Stark. The basalt stone is carved in a square pyramidal form and inscribed with "P13" to indicate its placement thirteen miles down Baseline Road (SE Stark St.) from the east bank of the Willamette River.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

These stone mile markers relate to the Willamette Meridian, and the Willamette Baseline, albeit in an indirect way. All land in Oregon and Washington is based on a grid established by these two lines. In 1851, Surveyor General John Preston set the intersection of the baseline and meridian in Portland's west hills. Surveyor William Ives conducted the survey for the baseline. A road opened along the baseline in 1854, running between the Sandy River and downtown Portland. Baseline Road was later renamed Stark Street.

The origin of the markers remains somewhat mysterious. They do not directly relate to the creation of the road itself, which Clackamas County residents requested in 1854. Multnomah County was carved out of Clackamas and Washington counties the same year. Someone installed the markers later. According to a 1958 article in the *Oregon Journal*, the markers simply note the distance from the Stark Street Bridge on the Sandy River to the east bank of the Willamette River, where travelers could cross the Stark Ferry into Portland.

Each marker is engraved with a "P" for Portland and the number of miles from the east bank of the river. Over the years, many have been stolen or vandalized. The three in Gresham are recognized as landmarks, and several in Portland are also local landmarks there. The stones relate to a time in the past when the area had few roads. In the horse-and-buggy era, these mileposts helped travelers estimate their arrivals. Thus, the markers relate to the formation of one of the earliest roads in the area, Baseline Road. This road, in turn, relates to the larger project of land surveys in the entire region.

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input checked="" 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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- Atwood, Kay, *Chaining Oregon: Surveying the Public Lands of the Pacific Northwest* [Newark, Oh.: McDonald and Woodward, 2008].
- 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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accessed Oct. 7, 2016 from: <https://pdxccentric.wordpress.com/e6-stark-street-milestones/>.

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Lesowski, Lynda, "History Buffs Get Point of Stark Obelisks." *The Oregonian*, March 19, 1987 p. 10.

Mallett, Mary Powell, *Courageous People* [Portland, Ore.: Del Brumble, 1972] 121 – 123.

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

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



13-Mile Marker looking west/northwest at SE Stark.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



13-Mile Marker looking east down SE Stark.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **14-Mile Marker**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **25700 SE Stark Street**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **2**

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

Tax Lot: **100** Addition: **MHCC** Block: **248**

Assessor: **R993020010**



14-Mile Marker looking west to SE Stark and SW 257th.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Geographic marker	Height (stories): N/A	Total # eligible
resources: 1		
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant		NR status: Not Listed
Primary construction date: 1854		City Landmark Status: Listed
Secondary construction date:		
Primary use: Geographic marker		Use comments: good condition
Secondary use: N/A		
Primary style: Obelisk		Style comments:
Secondary style: Pyramidal		
Primary siding: Carved Basalt		Siding comments:
Secondary siding:		
Plan type: Rectangular		
Architect: William Ives		Builder:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The 14-mile marker is located approximately twenty feet south and fifty feet east of the intersection of SE Stark Street and SW 257th Avenue. The marker is just south of the sidewalk on the south side of SE Stark and is situated in front of a linear grove of Douglas fir, which overlooks a parking lot for Mount Hood Community College. The basalt stone is carved in a square pyramidal form and inscribed with "P14" to indicate its placement fourteen miles down

City of Gresham

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Baseline Road (SE Stark St.) from the east bank of the Willamette River.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

These stone mile markers relate to the Willamette Meridian, and the Willamette Baseline, albeit in an indirect way. All land in Oregon and Washington is based on a grid established by these two lines. In 1851, Surveyor General John Preston set the intersection of the baseline and meridian in Portland's west hills. Surveyor William Ives conducted the survey for the baseline. A road opened along the baseline in 1854, running between the Sandy River and downtown Portland. Baseline Road was later renamed Stark Street.

The origin of the markers remains somewhat mysterious. They do not directly relate to the creation of the road itself, which Clackamas County residents requested in 1854. Multnomah County was carved out of Clackamas and Washington counties the same year. Someone installed the markers later. According to a 1958 article in the *Oregon Journal*, the markers simply note the distance from the Stark Street Bridge on the Sandy River to the east bank of the Willamette River, where travelers could cross the Stark Ferry into Portland.

Each marker is engraved with a "P" for Portland and the number of miles from the east bank of the river. Over the years, many have been stolen or vandalized. The three in Gresham are recognized as landmarks, and several in Portland are also local landmarks there. The stones relate to a time in the past when the area had few roads. In the horse-and-buggy era, these mileposts helped travelers estimate their arrivals. Thus, the markers relate to the formation of one of the earliest roads in the area, Baseline Road. This road, in turn, relates to the larger project of land surveys in the entire region.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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| <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**



Looking east down SE Stark. Powell Blvd at 14-Mile Marker.

City of Gresham

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Looking south at 14-Mile Marker with parking lot in background.



Close up of 14-Mile Marker

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Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Pioneer Grave**

Current/ Other names: **Pioneer Child's Grave**

Address: **I-84 & NE 169th**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **30**

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

Tax Lot: **ROW I-84 across from Wilkes School**



Pioneer Grave next to the I84 Bike path and NE 169th.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: **Burial marker** Height (stories): **N/A**

Eligibility: **Eligible/ Significant**

Primary construction date: **1854**

Secondary construction date: **1953/1989**

Primary use: **Geographic marker**

Secondary use: **N/A**

Primary style: **Basalt Boulder**

Secondary style:

Primary siding:

Secondary siding:

Plan type:

Architect:

Total # eligible resources: **1**

NR status: **Not Listed**

City Landmark Status: **Listed**

Use comments:

Style comments:

Siding comments:

Builder:

Notes: **Relocated from 1987 location**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This basalt stone boulder 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.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

According to an affidavit by Margaret Sales stated in 1955, Ms. Sales' parents helped the family of the sick child. When the girl died the next morning, Sales' parents helped build a coffin and dug the grave.

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Children at the Wilkes School would decorate the grave with flowers and installed a white picket fence. In 1953, the Union Pacific Railroad placed a large basalt boulder on the grave to mark it and protect from the construction of I-84. In 1954, the Children of the American Revolution, with help from the railroad, installed a bronze plaque on the rock.

In 1986, the city of Gresham included the marker in the local historic landmarks list. However, the widening of I-84 in 1989 required relocating the marker because of limited access issues. It is unclear if the burial was disturbed, as the narrow right-of-way between the railroad and freeway are in accessible.

The marker represents several generations of concerned children that cared for and decorated this grave. Although the marker has been relocated, its continued proximity to the Wilkes School maintains the spirit of the children's' efforts.

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 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 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

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Looking east down NE Wilkes Road with relocated Pioneer Grave in middle left.



Looking north at relocated Pioneer Grave marker from the NE 169th and I-84 bike path.

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Close up of Pioneer Grave Plaque.



View of Pioneer Grave Marker in its original location, 1986.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Satellite Restaurant Sign**

Current/ Other names:

Address: **Removed/ In Storage**

Formerly at 18706 E. Burnside

Township: **1s** Range: **3E** Section: **32**

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

Tax Lot: **442** Addition: **PP 2015-97** Block: **1**

Assessor: **R649663850**



Location of the former Satellite Restaurant at E. Burnside.

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Roadside sign	Height (stories): N/A	Total # eligible resources: 1
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant		NR status: Not Listed
Primary construction date: 1958		City Landmark Status: Listed
Secondary construction date:		
Primary use: Restaurant Sign		Use comments: Removed and in Storage
Secondary use: N/A		
Primary style: Googie		Style comments:
Secondary style: Populuxe		
Primary siding: Steel		Siding comments:
Secondary siding: Neon Tube		

Notes: **When the building was demolished the sign was removed to storage by Gresham's Urban Renewal Department.**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Satellite Restaurant Sign is a large steel sign with neon tubes and incandescent bulbs. It is designed in the Googie populuxe art style popularized by pulp and pop culture magazines in the 1940s and 1950s. The sign consists of a central earth globe covered with four elliptical circles that orbit the globe. The lettering is red and neon tube. Originally, the sign stood on a large acute angled chevron held up by posts.

City of Gresham

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HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The Satellite Restaurant Sign was a landmark unique to Gresham and the Rockwood area since its construction in 1958. The sign typifies a popular movement in design called Googie, which was peaked in the 1950s and consisted of bold angles, colors, sweeping and active motifs, cantilevered roofs, and pop-culture imagery. It built upon the outer space pulp novelists of the 1930s and 1940s, and has popular cultural connections to the Hanna-Barbera's *The Jetsons*.

The sign itself was a long-term landmark in the area, but after 1997, the area was slated for urban renewal and the café was torn down. Fortunately, the City of Gresham has saved the sign in storage and is considering restoring it. If this is pursued, a full historical and architectural evaluation should be incorporated as part of the restoration.

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 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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Apalategui, Eric, "Rockwood Native Josh Fuhrer Leads Urban Renewal Effort," *Oregonian*, Dec. 2, 2013, accessed Oct. 10, 2016 from: www.oregonlive.com/gresham/index.ssf/2013/12/rockwood_native_josh_fuhrer_le.html.

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Recorder: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2/16/2016**

City of Gresham

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Satellite Restaurant Sign as it appeared in 1997.



Satellite sign in 2005 storage.

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LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

Historic Name: **Congdon Building**

Current/ Other names: **City Park Church**

Address: **101 - 117 N. Main Street**

Gresham, Oregon

Multnomah County

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



Congdon Building looking northwest across N. Main.

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

Tax Lot: **8** Addition: **Metzger's** Block: **2**

Assessor: **R564700470**

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Resource Type: Commercial Building	Height (stories): 2	Total # eligible resources: 2
Eligibility: Eligible/ Significant		NR status: Not Listed
Primary construction date: 1911		City Landmark Status: Listed
Secondary construction date:		Use comments: good condition
Primary use: Hotel		Style comments:
Secondary use: Commercial		Siding comments:
Primary style: Vernacular		Builder:
Secondary style:		
Primary siding: Brick		
Secondary siding:		
Plan type: Rectangular		
Architect:		

Notes: **Exterior: brick, projecting cornice with dentil modillions**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Congdon building is located on the southwest corner of N. Main in Gresham's historic downtown district. The property is bounded to the east by N. Main Street and to the south by NW 1st Avenue. The corner property has a modest five-foot setback with wide sidewalks and

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Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

minimal landscaping with only a few street trees.

The building is a two-story flat-roofed vernacular hotel. Windows are primarily one-over-one which have been replaced with aluminum sashes. On the main floor, large plate glass windows have replaced the original windows. Constructed of yellow brick, many of the building's distinctive features have been covered in coarse rock and concrete finishing. A large wraparound metal awning has also been installed, which was not original. However, the building's projecting cornice dentils and modillions are the only original features.

HISTORIC DESCRIPTION

The Congdon Hotel was a critical building in the growth of Gresham's downtown commercial district and an important place for both visitors and community members. The hotel has a central role in the city's cultural and physical development.

The Congdon hotel was not the first hotel in Gresham. Sarah Metzger owned the old Gresham Hotel and Mrs. A. M. Clark was the hotel proprietor. It housed twenty-eight boarders (long term tenants) and an additional thirty guests. On the evening of May 25, 1903, a fire in a defective terracotta flue got out of control and burned the entire building to the ground. The fire displaced all of the guests and traveling business associates. In 1905, John Thomas built a hotel in the same location, which also caught fire and burned to the ground that same year.

For the next decade, city leaders frequently discussed replacing the hotel and establishing better fire protections in the city. In 1911, William H. Congdon joined other city business leaders in establishing the Gresham Commercial District Club, in part to advocate for better city fire protections. Congdon had come to Gresham in 1897 and after various business interests, had become the proprietor of a new hotel and boarding house that was "modern, up-to-date, sanitary, and first class in every respect." George R. Miller notes that in August of 1911 the Congdon Hotel opened and advertised itself as "absolutely fire-proof." Congdon, who was also busy establishing the city's first Masonic Lodge, used the hotel for early Masonic and Commercial club meetings. After his wife died in 1913, William put all of his energy into the Masons, the Hotel, and promoting Gresham.

The hotel included American and European plans; the latter only covered the room while the former covered a 'continental' breakfast for fifteen cents and a Sunday Chicken dinner for fifty cents. Many of the clients were traveling sales associates; the meal and laundry services were a major selling point. Congdon expanded his clientele by catering to a tourism markets. The growing popularity of the automobile, which one could purchase across the street at Hessel's Willys Overland car dealership, and the numerous country roads and access to Mt. Hood, became an attractive marketing feature. Congdon advertised the hotel as the starting point to a 42.5-mile leisure drive up to Government Camp in the March 1915 issue of *Western Motor Car*. It is significant that the hotel's role in promoting early auto tourism predated the completion of the Columbia River Gorge Highway, which historians often credit as the founding of early auto tourism in the region. However, Gresham promoted itself as the access point to Mt. Hood and the gateway to the Columbia River Highway before the gorge highway was complete.

Meetings, parties, and many civic events continued at the Congdon Hotel. Although there were

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form

still minor fires, the building was drastically safer and it still stands to this day. While it was not the oldest hotel in the city, it remains the oldest standing as of 2016. It also signals the shift from hotels being boarding houses mainly for traveling workers, to centerpieces of a city that invited tourists. Thus, it provided a significant impetus in making Gresham both a business and tourist destination.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

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

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Recorder: **David-Paul B. Hedberg, 2/16/2016**

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William H. Congdon Hotel, looking southwest across N. Main at the east (main) façade.



Looking north at the south façade of the Congdon Hotel, from downtown public parking.

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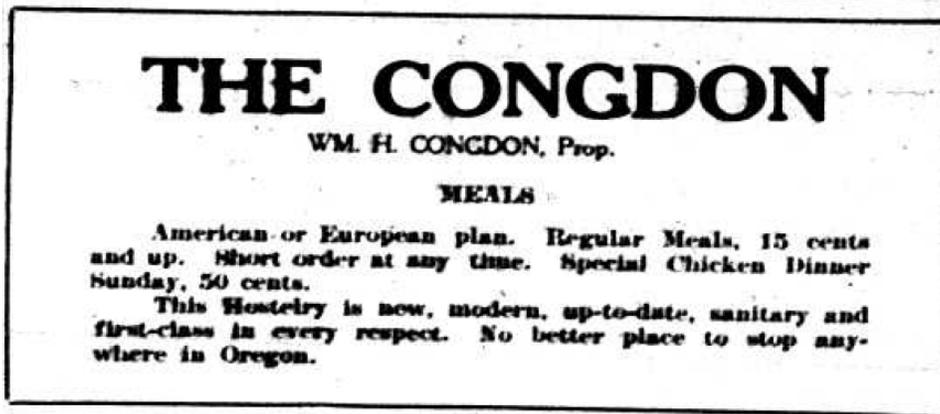
Southeast corner of the Congdon Hotel, at the corner of N Main and NW 1st Street.



Southeast corner of the Congdon Hotel in 1911, image courtesy of Gresham Historical Society.

City of Gresham

Historic and Cultural Landmark Inventory Form



Typical advertisement for the Congdon Hotel from the *Gresham Outlook*.

	Gresham to Mount Hood	u
	42.5 Miles.	00
0.0	Gresham—Leaving the Congdon Hotel, proceed to Town Square, half block, where turn left onto Powell Street. Cross R. R. (1.4).	tr of th in
2.0	Direct road. Powell Valley School on right (2.5).	
3.0	Powell Valley—Turn right at store, then left at church (3.1).	u
5.2	Turn right onto Hope Avenue, crossing R. R. at Pleasant Home Depot (5.5). Keep direct road at	th g li 00
6.0	Pleasant Home—Stretch of poor plank road begins here, extending into Clackamas County.	00 P el
8.2	Right fork.	w
9.7	Keiso—Turn right.	y
9.8	Turn left. (Left to Clackamas). Cross bridge (10.2).	
11.0	Left fork.	ol th
12.6	Sandy—Direct road. (Turn right for Silverton and Salem).	
12.8	Right fork at postoffice.	e
12.9	(14.2) left forks.	ol ti
15.1	Firwood—Take left fork. Down 15 per cent grade (15.5). Cross bridges (16.6, 16.7 and 18.5). Up short 8-20 per cent grade (18.6).	C al y e
19.7	Cherryville—Down 20 per cent grade (20.4), crossing bridge over Wemme Creek (20.6). Bridges (21.8 and 22.8.) 15 per cent pitch (23.5).	re E u
24.8	Direct road.	
26.0	Salmon—Cross bridge (26.1), passing postoffice on left (26.7). Up 15-20 per cent grade (27.0).	ir e ti
30.1	Left fork. Cross ford (31.9). Cross bridges (33.1 and 33.2).	p ti
33.3	Rhododendron Tavern—(Excellent meals and accommodations; also gas and oils.)	fr b o
34.2	Toll Gate—(Toll \$2.50.) Up short 15 per cent grades (37.4 and 38.5). Cross bridges (39.2 and 39.3). Up 25 per cent grades (40.0 and 40.6). Cross ford and up 28 per cent grade (41.7).	tl ir e P o
42.5	Pompeii—Government Camp.	u n

Auto Tour route leaving the Congdon Hotel published in *Western Motor Car*, 1915.