

ASHLAND CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY
SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: JACKSON

IDENTIFICATION:

Hist. Name Ahlstrom, Nils House Date of Construction: 1888
Common Name: _____ Original Use: Residence
Address: 248 Fifth Street Present Use: Residence
Ashland, Oregon Architect: _____
Owner: Anderson, Curt/Lorie Builder: Frulan, John
248 Fifth Street Style: Vernacular, Italian Villa
Ashland, Oregon x Bldg. _____ Struc. _____ Dist. _____ Obj. _____
T/R/S: 39S R1E 9 Ranking: Primary
Map No: 9 AB Tax Lot: 4100
Addition: Railroad (1884)
Block: E Lot: 15-17 Quad: Ashland

THEME:

Statewide Inventory of Historic Properties Theme: 6a.
_____ Archaeology _____ Industry _____ Mining
_____ Agriculture _____ Military _____ Social/Education
_____ Commerce _____ Politics/Government x Transportation
_____ Exploration and Settlement _____ Religion _____ Other

DESCRIPTION:

Plan Type/Shape: L-Shaped No. of Stories: Two
Foundation Material: Concrete Basement(Y/N): Crawl space
Roof Form and Material: Hip over main block, hop over all; composition shingle
Wall Construction: Wood frame Structural Frame: _____
Primary Window Type: One-over-one double hung sash; plain trim (see over)
Exterior Surfacing Materials: Horizontal drop; 'v' joint shiplap

Decorative Features: _____

Other: _____

Condition: _____ Excellent x Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____ Moved(Date) _____

Exterior Alterations/Additions (Dated) _____

Noteworthy Landscape Features: _____

Associated Structures: Rental dwelling, rear of lot constructed 1983 compatible design

Known Archaeological Features: _____

Negative No: Roll 33-35 Recorded By: Clay/Atwood
Slide No: _____ Date: 1 May 1984/13 September 1988

SHPO Inventory No: 537

SETTING:

This Nils Ahlstrom House is located on the east side of Fifth Street, on Lots 15, 16, and 17 of block E in the Railroad Addition of Ashland.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Nils Ahlstrom, born in 1829 in Sweden, purchased several lots from George H. Andrews in the spring of 1888. John Frulan, local contractor, was at work on the Ahlstrom House by October 1888. The Ashland Tidings reported that the \$800 structure, "Mr. Ahlstrom's two-story dwelling on Fifth Street was raised this week." Ahlstrom worked for many years as a conductor for the Southern Pacific. The 1900 census lists the seventy-year-old man working as a gardener that year. His wife, Lavinia, was born in 1848 also in Sweden. The Ahlstrom house is one of the oldest houses standing in the Railroad Addition. John Frulan, builder, was a native of Norway. He died in Ashland in May 1902 at the age of 63 years. This house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Primary Window Type: with head molding

SOURCES CONSULTED:

Ashland Tidings, October 12, 1888; May 15, 1902, 3:1 ✓
National Register Nomination, Nils Ahlstrom House, 1979
Polk's Jackson, Josephine and Douglas County Directory, 1910
U.S. Federal Census (Jackson County) 1900

ASHLAND CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY
SURVEY FORM

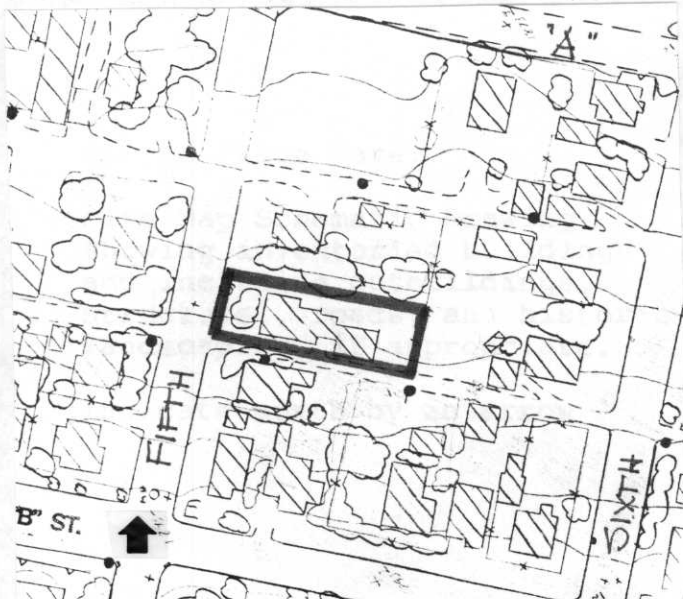
Name: Ahlstrom, Nils House
Address: 248 Fifth Street
Ashland, Oregon

T/R/S: 39S R1E 9
Map No: 9AB Tax Lot: 4100
Quadrangle: Ashland (1953)



Negative No.: Roll 33-35

Slide No.: _____



Graphic and Photo Sources: City of Ashland Topographic Map;
Jackson County Assessor Map

SHPO Inventory No.: 537

is sheet must accompany any nomination to the National Register.

STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
 State Historic Preservation Office
 Oregon State Parks, Salem, OR 97310



County Jackson
 Theme Residence
 Name (Common) Nils Ahlstrom House
 (Historic) Nils Ahlstrom House
 Address 248 5th Street
Ashland, Oregon 97520
 Present Owner Mr. and Mrs. George Lanning
 Address P.O. Box 334, Butte Falls, Or 97522
 Original Use Private Residence
 Date of Construction 1888

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The Nils Ahlstrom House in Ashland, Oregon was constructed in 1888 as a private residence for a railroad worker and his family. The house has a rectangular main block with short wing added at the rear which forms a T shape. The two story structure is finished with eight inch channel siding on the exterior and exhibits simple Classical Revival details. Always used as a private residence, the Ahlstrom House has been a rental for the past several years. It is currently in fair condition.

The house is located in Section 9, of Township 39, in Range 1 East. Occupying Tax Lot 4100 on Block E of the Railroad Addition to Ashland, the property can be found on Assessors plat 39 1E 9AB. The house faces north on 5th Street on a block of other old homes. Immediately to the east is one large house, an empty lot and the Railroad Depot.

The two story house is a frame structure. The roof is hipped and is currently composition shingle. The foundation is of stone and not in good repair. The north and front elevation has an old delapidated porch which is not original and which will be removed. A detailed view of the Ahlstrom House which might indicate the appearance of an early porch has not been found.

continue on back if necessary

Recorded by Kay Atwood Date _____
 For Mr. and Mrs. George Lanning Sources Consulted: Ashland Daily Tidings

1/6/88, 5/4/88, 7/13/88, 10/2/88.
 Farnham, Wallace D. "The Development of An Oregon County, Mines, Farms, And A Railroad." Pacific Historical Review, Volume XXV, No. 1, (Feb. 1956)
 Berkeley.

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There are four windows on the facade; three are one-over-one light with a double hung sash. The fourth originally followed the same pattern but has been altered. The present owners will return the original window which is still on the property. The front door is five-panelled and has one glass light. A transom which was located above the door has been found and will be replaced. The door to the second level of the Ahlstrom House has two panels and six lights. There are two interior chimneys at the center of the hipped roof. They retain their corbelling. Other primary windows in the house follow the same one-over-one light, double hung pattern. Removal of small, unstable shed additions at the rear would allow proper restoration of original windows.

Exterior decorative details are simple. There are cornices above windows and doors. The eave overhang on the house is deep and a wide plain frieze board surrounds the house under the eaves. There are plain corner boards around the building. Each corner board has a small cornice-like trim piece at the top.

The interior of the Ahlstrom House has a simple plan. There is no central hall, the front door opens directly into a space that originally was used as a parlor. There are four rooms downstairs and all need care to restore their original good condition. The T wing houses the kitchen and pantry on the first story, as well as the stairway to the second floor. Upstairs is a long central hall with four bedrooms leading from it. Original eight foot ceilings remain. The T wing contains an extra bedroom, bath and the stairs that go below.

There are several large old trees and shrubs on the deep lot. The yard has been neglected but can be brought back. The primary outbuilding is a large garage-shed which is old but currently being used for storage during the improvement process.

The Ahlstrom House is an excellent example of a railroad worker's family home during the late nineteenth century. It is one of the first to be constructed after the tracks were joined from the north and south in December, 1887. Nils Ahlstrom was a conductor on the railroad and came to Ashland to live, work and raise his family. He purchased his property in October, 1888. Ashland grew quickly with the finishing of the railroad. Business sales doubled in 1884 and improvements were seen all over the city. By the end of 1888 lot sales in Ashland would total \$36,995.00¹. On October 2, 1888 the Ashland Daily Tidings announced that "Mr. Ahlstrom's two story dwelling on 5th Street was raised this week. . . "

The Ahlstrom House is simple, constructed to house a family, and it is larger than many in the area. The original family was a large one until a diptheria epidemic killed five children at one time. The house is unique because it is one of the oldest, is right next to the Depot, and because it stands for many homes and families who existed in Ashland because of the railroad and left when it did.

Ashland Daily Tidings, January 4, 1889

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY SHEET



Historic Name: Ahlstrom, Nils, House

Common Name: _____

Address: 248 Fifth Street
Ashland, Oregon

Owner: Flory, Gene T/ Jacqueline M.
c/o Anderson, Curtis R. and

Samuelson, Lorie
Address: 248 Fifth Street
Ashland, Oregon 97520

Lot 15-17 Block E
Addition Railroad Addition (1884)
Plat T39, R1E, S9AB
Tax Lot 4100

Date of Construction 1888
Present use/function Residence Original use/function: Residence
Area of significance/study theme: _____
Architectural style: Italianate Arch./Bldr., if known _____

Plan type/shape: _____ L-shaped _____ No. of stories: _____ Two _____
Foundation material: _____ Concrete _____ Basement (y/n): _____ Crawlspace _____
Roof form & materials: _____ Hip over main block; hop over ell; composition shingle _____
Wall construction: _____ Wood frame _____ Structural frame: _____
Primary window type: _____ One-over-one double hung sash; plain trim with head molding _____
Primary exterior surfacing materials: _____ Horizontal drop; 'v' joint shiplap _____
Outstanding decorative features: _____

Condition: _____ Excellent Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____ Moved _____ (date)

Associated Structures: _____ Rental dwelling, rear of lot constructed 1983 compatible design _____

Exterior alterations/additions (dated): _____

Known archeological features of site: _____

Noteworthy landscape features: _____

Recorded by: _____ Date: 5-1-1984
Negative No.: _____ Roll 33-35 Slide No.: _____
(5-1-1984)

State Inventory No. ~~665~~ 985 537

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY SHEET-TWO

Describe geographic location & immediate setting This Nils Ahlstrom House is located on the
east side of Fifth Street, on lots 15, 16 and 17 of block E in the Railroad
Addition of Ashland.

Statement of Significance (Historical and/or architectural importance, dates,
events, persons, contexts):

Quadrangle name: Ashland (1953)
Township 39 Range 1E Section 9AB Tax Lot 4100

PLEASE PLACE HERE:

Site map schematic drawing showing inventoried bldg.(s) and including outbuildings, structures, roads, and historic landscaping, if appropriate. Indicate north by an arrow.

PLEASE PLACE HERE:

Town map with cross streets for urban areas or section of USGS map for rural areas.

Sources:

National Register of Historic Places, nomination, Nils Ahlstrom house