ASHLAND CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY
SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: JACKSON

IDENTIFICATION:

Hist. Name: Taverner, George House
Common Name: (over)
Address: 912 Siskiyou Blvd.
Ashland, Oregon
Owner: Romano, Ethel May
912 Siskiyou Blvd.
Ashland, Oregon
T/R/S: 39S RIE 9
Map No: 9DA Tax Lot: 6600
Addition:
Block: ___ Lot: ___ Quad: Ashland

Date of Construction: 1904
Original Use: Residence
Present Use: Residence
Architect: Clark, Frank C.
Builder:
Style: Eclectic; Queen Anne
x Bldg. ___ Struc. ___ Dist. ___ Obj.
Ranking: Primary

THEME:

Statewide Inventory of Historic Properties Theme: 6d; 8d

___ Archaeology ___ Industry ___ Mining
___ Agriculture ___ Military ___ Social/Education
x Commerce ___ Politics/Government ___ Transportation
___ Exploration and Settlement ___ Religion x Other

DESCRIPTION:

Plan Type/Shape: L-Shaped No. of Stories: Two
Foundation Material: Stone Basement(Y/N): Crawl space
Roof Form and Material: Gable; gambrel, intersecting ridge; conial over tower
Wall Construction: Frame Structural Frame:
Primary Window Type: One-over-one double hung sash; casement
Exterior Surfacing Materials: Horizontal doubledrop; wood shingle imbricated upper wall
Decorative Features: Complex roof form; tower, imbricated shinglework
Other:

Condition: x Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair ___ Poor ___ Moved(Date)
Exterior Alterations/Additions (Dated)

Noteworthy Landscape Features:
Associated Structures:

Known Archaeological Features:

Negative No: Roll 25-23 Recorded By: Clay/Atwood
Slide No: Date: 1984/15 November 1989

SHPO Inventory No: 2072

SETTING:

The George Taverner House is located on the southwest side of Siskiyou Boulevard between Beach Street and Mountain Avenue.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Frank Clark designed this structure in 1904 and had it built as his first permanent home in Ashland. The Ashland Tidings, announced the house's construction: "Architect F.C. Clark has the stone foundation nearly laid for a handsome new residence on the Boulevard . . . Mr. Clark's new home will be architecturally known as a country house and will be a little different from the general style of houses going up in Ashland. The cost will be about $1800." Clark came to Ashland in 1903 to design and oversee construction of buildings for the Southern Oregon Normal School. His distinguished career in the Rogue Valley extended over a fifty year period in which he was responsible for a large number of major buildings and fine residences throughout the area. (Please see the Frank Clark Inventory, Atwood and Evans, 1982, for more information about Clark's life and career.)

George Taverner bought the house in 1907 when the Clarks moved to San Francisco for a year. Taverner, a native of England, was a prominent Ashland citizen who parcipated fully in the planning of Lithia Park. He served as president of the park board during years of collaboration with John McClaren and helped evolve the park plan. The house remains in family ownership today and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Common name: Clark-Taverner House

SOURCES CONSULTED:

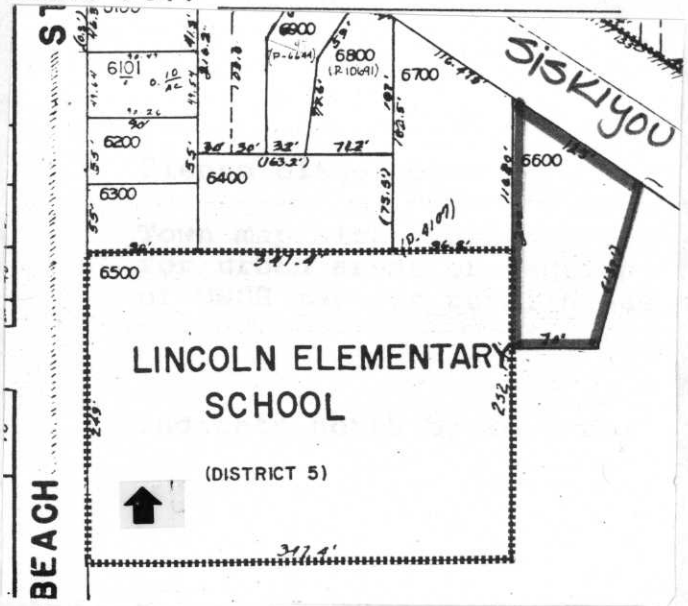
Ashland Tidings, August 29, 1904, December 29, 1904, 3:3;;2:3; August 19, 1907, 2:3.
Frank Clark Inventory (Atwood and Evans, 1982) Site 44.
U.S. Federal Census (Jackson County) 1910.

Address: 912 Siskiyou Blvd.
Ashland, Oregon

Map No: 9DA Tax Lot: 6600
Quadrangle: Ashland (1953)

Negative No.: Roll 25-23

Slide No.:



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

SHPO Inventory No.: 2072

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY SHEET

Historic Name: Clark, Frank C., House

Common Name: Taverner, George, House

Address: 912 Siskiyou Blvd. Ashland, Oregon

Owner: Romano, Frank J./ Ethel May

Address: 912 Siskiyou Blvd. Ashland, Oregon

Lot Ø Block Ø

Addition Unknown

Plat T39, R1E, S9DA

Tax Lot 6600

Date of Construction 1904

Present use/function Residence Original use/function: Residence

Area of significance/study theme: Architecture

Architectural style: Queen Anne Arch./Bldr.,if known

Plan type/shape: L-shaped No. of stories: Two

Foundation material: Stone Basement (y/n): Crawl space

Roof form & materials: Gable; gambrel, intersecting ridge; conical over tower

Wall construction: Frame Structural frame:

Primary window type: One over one double hung sash; casement

Primary exterior surfacing materials: Horizontal drop; wood shingle, imbricated upper wall

Outstanding decorative features: Complex roof form; tower; imbricated shingle work

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

Associated Structures:

Exterior alterations/additions (dated):

Known archeological features of site:

Noteworthy landscape features:

Recorded by: Date:

Negative No.: Roll 25-23 Slide No.:

(4-26-1984

repeat SHPO

State Inventory No. 551

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY SHEET-TWO

Describe geographic location & immediate setting The Clark-Taverner house (1904) is a two story, wood frame dwelling designed in the late Queen Anne style. This dwelling is situated on the southwest side of Siskiyou Boulevard, between Beach Street and Mountain Avenue.

Statement of Significance (Historical and/or architectural importance, dates, events, persons, contexts): This dwelling was designed by and constructed for Frank C. Clark, one of the areas first professionally trained architects. Clark came to Ashland in 1903 to design and oversee the construction of buildings for the Southern Oregon Normal School. By 1904 he had decided to make his home in Ashland and the Tidings of August 29, 1904 reported on the construction of this house; "Architect F.C. Clark has the stone foundation nearly laid for a handsome new residence on the Boulevard, east of the T.W. Steven's home. Mr. Clark's new home will be known architecturally as a 'County house' and will be a little different from the general styles of houses going up in Ashland. The cost will be about $1800."

In 1908 the dwelling was sold to George Traverner and remains in family ownership today, being the home of Traverner's granddaughter and her family.

Quadrangle name: Ashland (1953)

Township 39 Range 1E Section 9DA Tax Lot 06600

For further information see the nomination application for this dwelling to the National Register of Historic Places.

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:

Ashland Tidings, August 29, 1904, page 2:3
Ashland Tidings, December 29, 1904, page 3:3

PC

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

County Jackson

Theme 10b

Name
(Common) George Taverner House

(Historic) George Taverner House

Place Photo Here

Address 912 Siskiyou Boulevard
Ashland, Oregon

Present Owner Ethel M. Romano

Address 912 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland, Ore.

Original Use home

Date of Construction 1904

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The Taverner House is located on Siskiyou Boulevard, Ashland, Oregon. This Victorian house was built in 1904 by Frank Chamberlain Clark, architect and designer. The basic design of the Taverner House begins with a highly functional residential plan: this is observed by the ease of occupant flow through the house and the location of the food center. The house was planned with the site in constant view of the architect. As he did this, Clark incorporated into the plan pictorial views of the landscape from various windows throughout the house, as well as vistas through the house itself, while giving full consideration to the slope of the surrounding land.

With a frontage of one hundred twenty five feet and a depth of two hundred feet, the plat is bounded by a privot hedge. It is landscaped with fir, cedar, holly, hawthorne, camellias, rhodendrons, Italian cypress, English laurel, weeping willow, and rose bushes.

A particularly unique feature of the exterior of the house is a round turret in the front upper structure. This circular part of the house commands the view of outside observers as they approach from the north, east or west. A brief appraisal of the rest of the house reveals a rectangular, two-story structure. A closer look reveals that the main section of the house (ground floor), which includes the front hall, parlor, dining room, pantry, kitchen, and den, is almost square shape, or approximately 36' X 40'. The basic shape of

continue on back if necessary

Recorded by Ethel M. Romano Date Feb. 10, 1978

For Sources Consulted: (see back)

see 1984 Ashland Survey vol. 6 after SHPO # 1745

Please enclose map. Township 39S (N/S) 1E (E/W) Section 9 Case File Available

551
~~565~~

152

Listed in National Register
11-7-78

the second story is also rectangular except for the north west corner which is turret (circular) shaped with a diameter of approximately seven feet. The foundation is constructed of large, parallelepiped-shaped stone. Horizontal wood siding covers the lower story. The second story is covered by wood shingles. The roof, protected by composition shingles, is Dutch Gambrel which provides a more favorable ceiling height, and a more spacious second floor area. Three single-stack chimneys project from the roof (a fourth chimney was removed many years ago, date unknown). Sets of ornamental corbels add support to the overhang in the front of the house and the west side. The set of two corbels on the west side while appearing to support the eaves of the roof accentuates the beauty of the large diffused glass window.

Classical fluting, incised in the wood, adorns the area above a small oriel window on the west side of the house, similar fluting is also located above the outside door and windows of the turret room, as well as below the front bedroom windows, and above the small, east, upper story porch. There is a baluster-type spindle railing around an outdoor balcony entered via a door in the turret bedroom. The balcony is a utilization of roof space above the front entrance. The overhead peripheral beams of the front entrance porch utilizes horizontal and vertical planes in their design; an architrave encompasses the front door. To the left of the front porch is a cornice built over a large bay window.

George Taverner, the original owner, was one of the leading citizens of Ashland in the early 1900's. Mr. Taverner was a member of the planning committee for Lithia Park when it was formed in 1909. He was president of the park board during the years when John M. McLaren, father of the Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, first came to Ashland to examine the park site (1914). He was president of the board also when McLaren came back to Ashland to assist in the physical layout of the park (1915), and during the year of the mammoth celebration of completion of Lithia Park (1916).

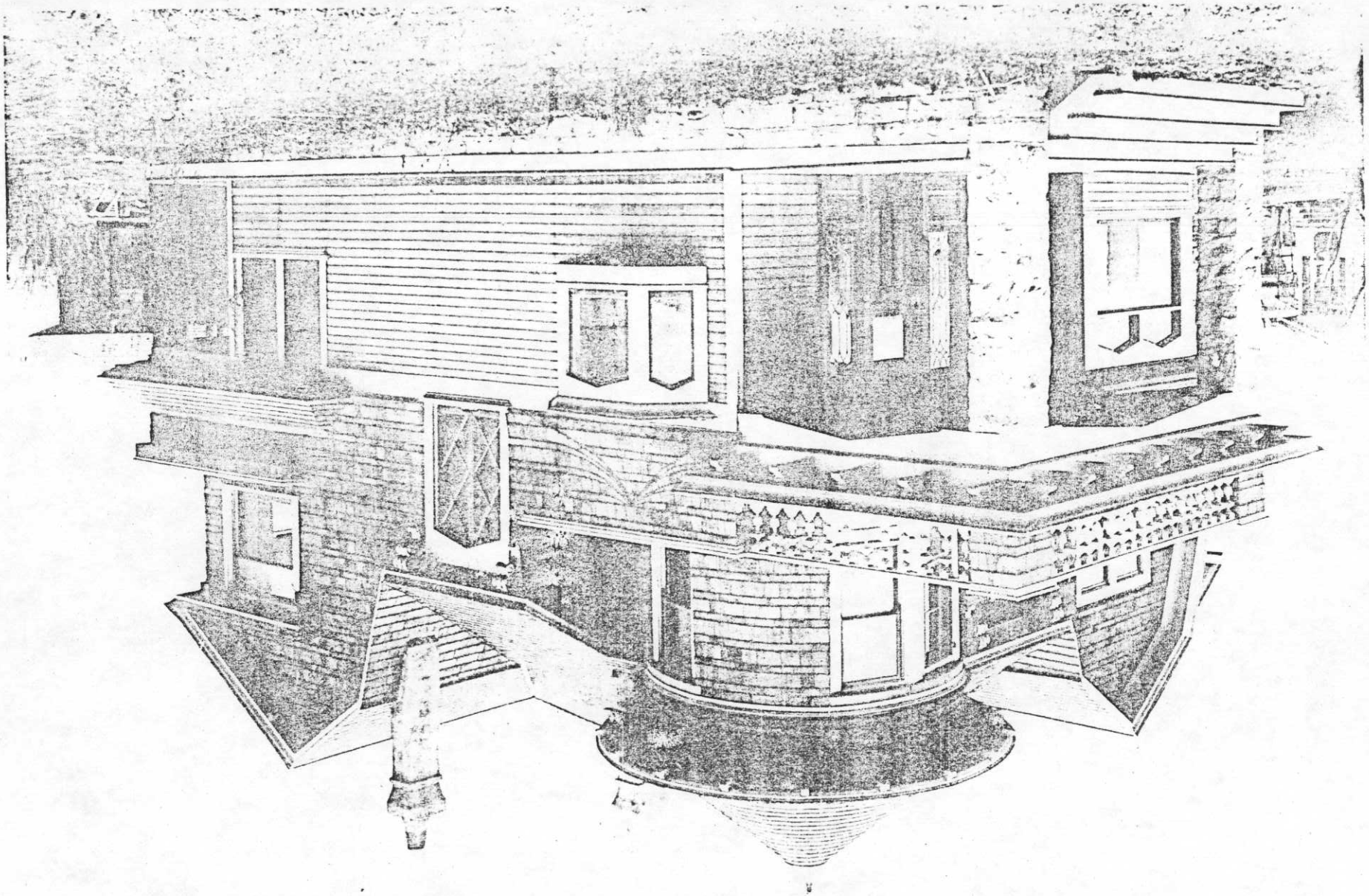
"Frank Chamberlain Clark was a genius in working out a problem in design with classical detail" according to Robert J. Keeney, Medford architect and planner who worked with Mr. Clark (1932-1941). Clark was a student of Dayone in New Jersey from whom he learned the mastery of designing colonial architecture with classical detail. Frank Clark worked with the Greene Brothers in Los Angeles designing large residences. Later he went to San Francisco where he worked for the McDougal Brothers, state architects. He came to Ashland to supervise a project for the McDougal Brothers in 1902. He became very impressed by the beauty of the area and the great potential for its development, consequently deciding to settle in the Rogue River Valley.

Notable examples of Mr. Clark's work in the Rogue Valley are the following; Elk's buildings in Ashland (1909) and Medford (1914), Medford Municipal Airport Terminal Building (1929), cold storage addition (1940-41) and south building (1946) for Harry and David (Bear Creek Orchards), Granite City Hospital in Ashland (1910), Administration Building of the Southern Oregon State Normal School (1903), the Community House in Lithia Park (1915), reconstruction of the Masonic Temple and Natatorium (1909) in Ashland, Medford Hotel, Holly Theatre in Medford, Medford High School, and small schools in outlying districts such as, Prospect School District #59, and Sam's Valley elementary school.

Sources Consulted:

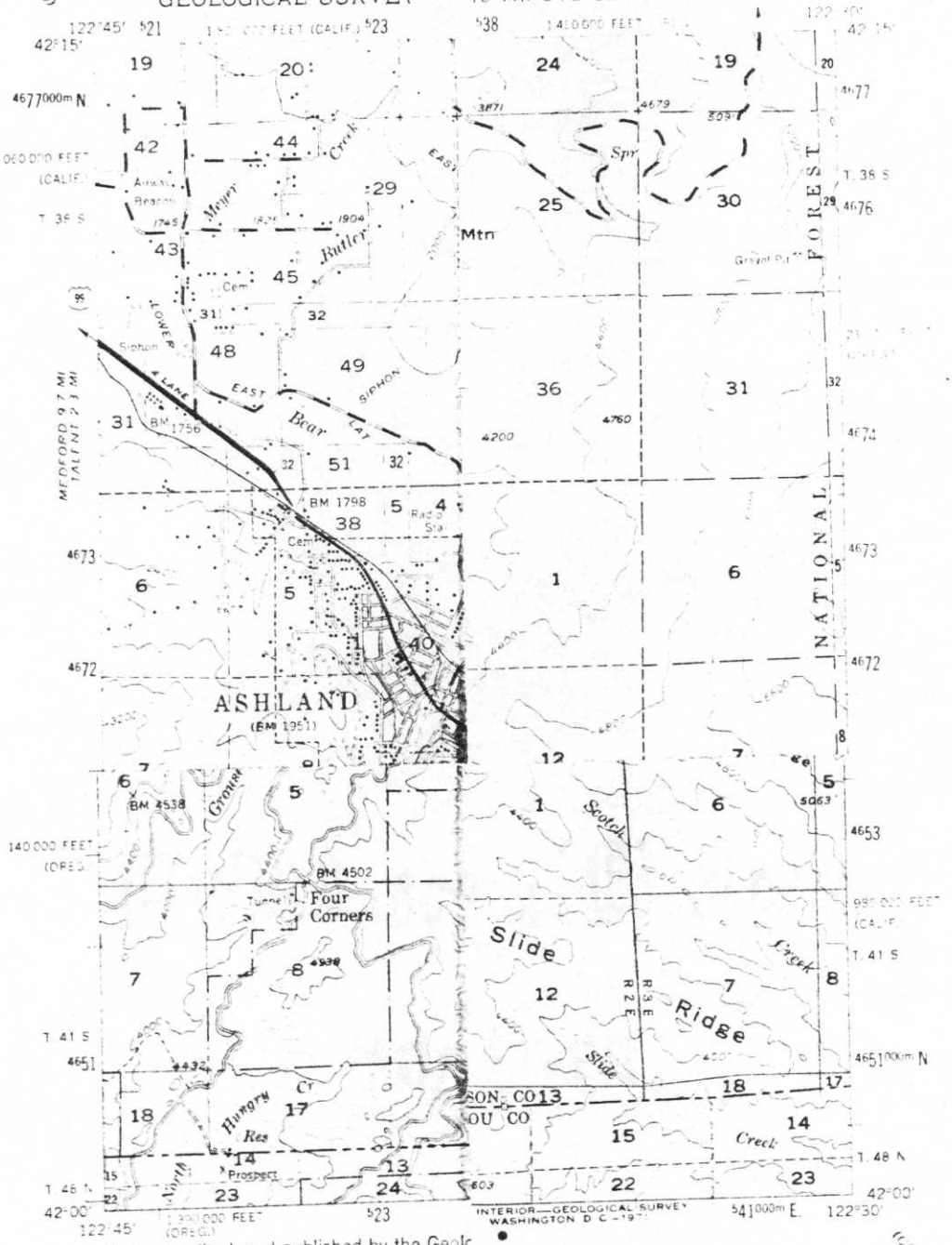
Skippy and Davis, Old Ashland, (Klamath Falls: Craft Printers, 1972)

Interviews with Louise Patterson, daughter of Architect Frank C. Clark



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERI
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ASHLAND QUADRANGLE
OREGON—CALIFORNIA
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geolc

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex metl
Aerial photographs taken 1951. Field check 1954

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Oregon coordinate system, and California coordinate system, zone 1
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks zone 10, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buil

Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Light-duty
Unimproved dirt
U S Route
State Route

ASHLAND, OREG.—CALIF.
N4200—W12230/15

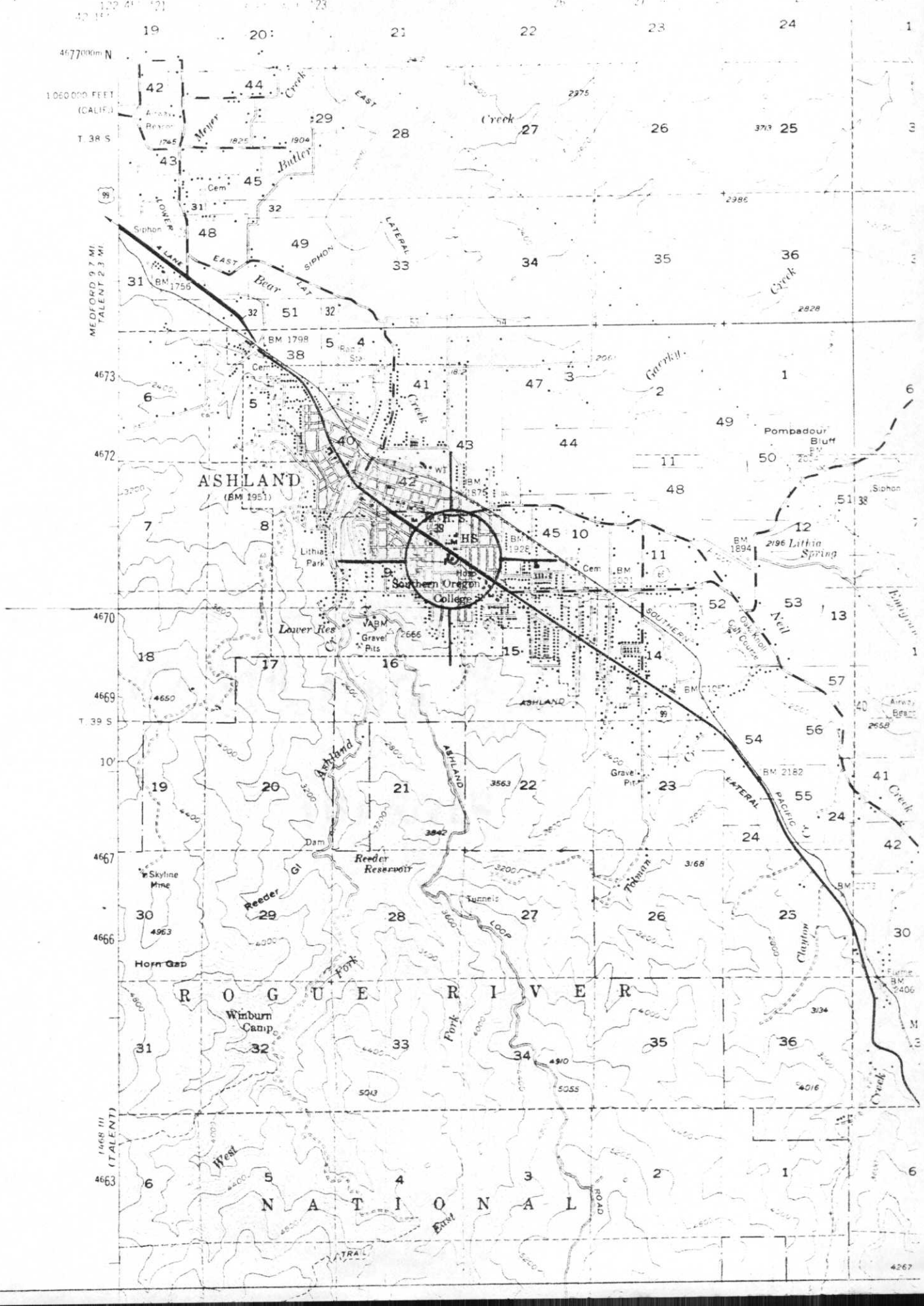
1954

AMS 1468 II SERIES V792

TAVERNER (GEORGE) HOUSE

10/524820/4670580

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



FRANK CLARK INVENTORY-1982

SITE NO. 44

- ○ Jackson County
- ○ Other towns
- ○ Grants Pass
- ○ Central Pt.
- ○ Medford
- ● Ashland

IDENTIFICATION

1. Historic name: George Taverner House
2. Common name:
3. Street address: 912 Siskiyou Boulevard

   City: Ashland Zip 97520 County Jackson
4. Legal Descrip: T____, R____, Section____, APN____
5. Present owner:

   Address: City Zip
6. Present use: Original use: Residence
7. Nat. Reg. Yes Other

DESCRIPTION

8a. Architectural style: Queen Anne

8b. Briefly describe the present physical description and any major alterations.

Two stories; squarish in plan; round bay with conical roof and overhanging eaves on n.w. corner; rock-faced ashlar masonry foundation; clapboard ground-story walls; second story covered with shingles; main entry has porch with square ashlar columns and deck with bracketed eaves and turned baluster railing. Front door inclues sidelights with Art Nouveau leaded panes. Second story sleeping porch, a back porch on the rear elevation have been altered. The sleeping porch was apparently added after the house was constructed, and an interior addition was provided by enclosing the back porch.

9. Const. date: 1904

   Estimated ____ Factual x
10. Architect: Frank C. Clark
11. Builder:
12. Prop. size:

    or acreage

Date of photo: May, 1982

Location of neg: S.O.H.S

Roll 2:11

Slide no.

Location of slide:

STATE INVENTORY: NOTEBK. 6 551

DESCRIPTION (CONT.) Ranking: Primary.

15. Condition: Excelent x Good ____ Fair ____ Deteriorated ____ Gone ____

16. Alterations: As noted in description.

17. Is the structure: Onits original site? x Moved? ____ Unknown? ____

18. Surroundings: Open land ____ Scattered bldgs. ____ Densely built-up x
Residential x Industrial ____ Commercial ____ Other ____

19. Threats to site: None known ____ Private dev. ____ Zoning ____ Vand. ____
Other ____

20. Related features: Property is lined with privet hedge and landscaped with fir, cedar, holly, hawthorne, English laurel, and Italian cypress.

SIGNIFICANCE

21. Historical and/or architectural importance (dates, events, and persons).

Frank Clark designed this structure in 1904 and had it built as his first permanent home in Ashland. He and his first wife, Lena Bartlett, shared the house together. The Ashland Tidings announced the house's construction: "Architect F. C. Clark has the stone foundation nearly laid for a handsome new residence on the Boulevard...Mr. Clark's new home will be architecturally known as a country house and will be a little different from the general style of houses going up in Ashland. The cost will be about 1800.00." (Ashland Tidings 4/29/04) George Taverner bought the house, ca. 1907, when the Clarks moved to San Francisco for a year. Taverner was a participant in the planning of Lithia Park. He served as president of the park board during years of collaboration with John McClaren and helped evolve the park plan.

22. Main theme of historic resource
Architecture ____ Arts & Leisure ____
Economic/Industrial ____ Exploration/Settlement ____
Government ____ Military ____
Religion ____ Social/Education ____

23. Sources (books, documents, interviews, surveys and their dates).
Ashland Tidings 4/29/04; 1/ /05

24. Date form prepared 5/30/82

Name Kay Atwood

Address 102 South Pioneer

City Ashland Zip 97520

Phone 482-8714

Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):

NORTH

UTM ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | SIGN | SCALE 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER | QUAD NAME