Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# ATA SHEET

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#### RECEIVED NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES OCT 2 9 1975 **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM DATE ENTERED** SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS 1 NAME HISTORIC Minthorn (Dr. Henry John) House ulu AND/OR COMMON Herbert Hoover House LOCATION STREET & NUMBER 115 South River Street NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CITY, TOWN Newberg VICINITY OF First - Rep. Wendall Wyatt STATE CODE Yamhill 071 **Oregon** 41 CLASSIFICATION **CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS PRESENT USE** \_\_DISTRICT X\_BUILDING(S) \_PUBLIC \_OCCUPIED -XMUSEUM \_AGRICULTURE **X**PRIVATE XUNOCCUPIED \_\_COMMERCIAL \_PARK \_\_STRUCTURE \_WORK IN PROGRESS \_\_ВОТН \_\_EDUCATIONAL \_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE \_\_SITE **PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE** ENTERTAINMENT \_\_RELIGIOUS \_\_OBJECT \_\_IN PROCESS XYES: RESTRICTED \_\_GOVERNMENT \_\_SCIENTIFIC \_\_BEING CONSIDERED \_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED \_\_INDUSTRIAL \_TRANSPORTATION \_NO \_\_MILITARY \_\_OTHER: OWNER OF PROPERTY NAME Herbert Hoover Foundation of Oregon STREET & NUMBER c/o Mr. George Layman, Secretary Treasurer, P. O. Box 68 CITY, TOWN Newberg 97132 Oregon LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Yamhill County Courthouse

#### CITY, TOWN STATE **McMinnville Oregon**

### REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

STREET & NUMBER

TITLE

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Statewide Inventory	of Historic Sites and Buildings
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DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	Oregon State Office	of Historic Preservation
CITY, TOWN	Salem	state Oregon 97310

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

**ITEM NUMBER** 

PAGE ]

#### HERBERT HOOVER HOUSE

### 2. Location (cont.)

The Minthorn House is located in the NW 1/4 Sec. 20, T. 3 S., R. 2 W, of the Willamette Meridian, Yamhill County, Oregon, in the original plot of Newberg, Block 4, Lot 3.



#### CONDITION

X\_EXCELLENT
\_\_GOOD

\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_\_RUINS
\_\_UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE** 

\_\_UNALTERED X\_ALTERED

**CHECK ONE** 

\_\_\_ORIGINAL SITE

\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Minthorn house, also referred to as the Herbert Hoover house, is a straightforward owner-built farm house dating from 1881. It is L-shaped in plan, two stories high, and is covered with a low-pitched hip roof. A brick chimney with a corbel-flared cap straddles the ridge of each of the two legs of the "L" near the point where they meet. Fenestration is regular; the upper sash windows have four lights over four, whereas the bottom ones, slightly broader, have six lights over six. The eaves have a pronounced overhang and are supported by eave or cornice brackets near the corners. Other ornamentation consists of a frieze-like band of flat boards which surrounds the house at upper-window cornice level, and simple window architraves with a slightly projecting board cornice on the lower windows. A large ungainly shed has been added to the southwest corner of the house with the upper half of the sloping end of the shed roof butted against the house. A ground floor porch is attached to the house inside the ell. An attempt to identify the house by style would be a vernacular interpretation of the nineteenth century Italian Villa style.

The house was restored in 1955 to the original plans "in general". The kitchen and stairway had been relocated, and the plan was changed back as remembered by Mr. Hoover and others, including Miss Lillian Nicholson, whose father bought the house from Dr. Minthorn. Furnishings in the house are associated with the Minthorn Family or are of the period. The house is operated as a historic house museum.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1881, 1884-1889	BUILDER/ARCH	IITECT	

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Minthorn house is locally significant as the oldest house in Newberg, and nationally significant as the boyhood home of Herbert Hoover. The house was built in 1881 by Jesse Edwards on his newly purchased farm. The plan and style are common for the time in Oregon. It was sold in 1884 to Dr. Henry John Minthorn who had come from West Branch, Iowa in 1882 to superintend the Chemawa Indian School in Forest Grove, and who was to be superintendent of the newly established Friends Pacific Academy in Newberg.

Herbert C. Hoover was born in West Branch, Iowa in 1874. His parents' families on both sides were Quakers for many generations. His father died of typhoid fever in West Branch in 1880 and his mother, who was Dr. Minthorn's sister, died in 1883 of pneumonia. Young Hoover was passed from relative to relative for two years, and then was asked to come West and live with the Minthorns. Dr. Henry and Laura Minthorn had known Herbert in West Branch, where Dr. Minthorn is said to have saved him from a very severe attack of the croup when others thought the case to be hopeless. The Minthorns had lost a son about Herbert's age in 1883, and young orphaned Hoover was a natural replacement.

Hoover spent the years 1884-85 in a small country school and entered Pacific Academy, where Laura Minthorn taught, when it opened its doors in September 1885. Dr. Minthorn resigned as superintendent in 1889 and moved to Salem, Oregon, but Hoover's name does not appear in school records after 1888. The Quaker heritage of Mr. Hoover's parents and step-parents, as well as the Quaker education he received in Newberg, is credited with encouraging his humanitarian interests, such as his Belgian Relief Program, for which he was internationally known and respected.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Minthorn House, Boyhood Home of Herbert Hoover, pamphlet prepared by the Herbert Hoover Foundation of Oregon.

Research and personal interviews with Mr. Hoover by Mr. John Sprause, 1745 SW Highland Road, Portland, Oregon 97221.

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DR. HENRT MINTHORN HOUSE NEWBORG ORIZON YAMHUL CO. 1975 SOUTHWEST

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DR. HENRY JOHN MINTHERN HOUSE ("HERBERT HOOVER HOUSE")

NEWBERG, YAMHUL CO, OREGON

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