

Oregon Historic Site Record

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME			
address:	1700 Merlin Rd Merlin, Josephine County	historic name:	Reed-Cobb-Bowser House
assoc addresses:		current/other names:	Country Club Orchard Clubhouse, Cobb, Everett, House
location descr:		block/lot/tax lot:	/ 1400
		township/rng/sect/qtr sect:	35S 6W 22
PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS			
resource type:	Building	height (stories):	2.5
elig evaluation:	eligible/significant	total elig resources:	2
prim constr date:	c.1910	NR Status:	Individually Listed
	second date:	date indiv listed:	10/30/2017
primary orig use:	Single Dwelling	orig use comments:	
second orig use:	RECR/CULTURE: General	prim style comments:	
primary style:	Late 19th/20th Period Revivals: Other	sec style comments:	
secondary style:	Craftsman	siding comments:	
primary siding:	Shingle	architect:	Unknown
secondary siding:	Stone:Other/Undefined	builder:	Unknown
plan type:	Bungalow		
comments/notes:			
GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS			
Not associated with any surveys or groupings.			
SHPO INFORMATION FOR THIS PROPERTY			
NR date listed:	10/30/2017	Special Assessment	
ILS survey date:		Status	Term
RLS survey date:		PR Review	End Yr
		1st	2028
		106 Project(s):	None
		Federal Tax Project(s):	None
ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION			
<i>(Includes expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings and alterations)</i>			
<p>The Reed-Cobb-Bowser House and Barn are located east of the unincorporated community of Merlin, in Josephine County, Oregon. The property occupies a generally flat 3.5-acre parcel between Merlin Road on the southwest and Louse Creek on the northeast. The property is identified as Tax Lot 1400, in the NW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 22, Township 35S, Range 6 West. Occupying land at the NW corner of Merlin Road and Orchard Lane, a non-dedicated right-of-way, the two-and one-half story Craftsman-style dwelling, significant under both Criterion A and C, is deeply setback from the roadway. The large gambrel-roof barn with extended wings, built later but considered significant under Criterion C, is located to the east, along Louse Creek. Four small non-historic outbuildings are scattered to the rear and along the SE property line.</p>			
HISTORY			
<i>(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period - preferably to the present)</i>			
<p>The Reed-Cobb House was constructed in 1910-1911 as the headquarters, or "Clubhouse" of a major residential-agricultural development, the Country Club Orchard, that was promoted by a group of wealthy out-of-area investors in Merlin, Oregon. The house served as the office and reception center for that project until 1915, when it was transformed into a family home after Grace Reed Cobb and her husband, Everett, took over management of the orchards. The Reed-Cobb House is locally significant under Criterion A, for its association with the Country Club Orchard and the development of the Merlin area, and under Criterion C, as one of the best-identified examples of Craftsman residential architecture in northern Josephine County and a significant example of barn architecture, being the c1936 Gambrel-roofed horse barn built by second owners, Clementine Lewis and H. E. Bowser. The period of significance is established at 1910-1946 under criterion A and C, marking the construction during the original Reed-Cobb ownership and the subsequent ownership responsible for construction of the Gambrel-roofed horse barn.</p>			
RESEARCH INFORMATION			
Title Records	Census Records	Property Tax Records	Local Histories
✓ Sanborn Maps	Biographical Sources	✓ SHPO Files	Interviews
Obituaries	✓ Newspapers	State Archives	Historic Photographs
City Directories	Building Permits	State Library	
Local Library:		University Library:	
Historical Society:	Oregon Historical Society	Other Repository:	
Bibliography:			
<p>Atwood, Kay. Josephine County Cultural and Historical Survey, Form #229, 1984. Cobb, Everett Eliot, Jr. Memoirs of Everett Eliot Cobb Jr., privately printed manuscript, 1991 Creel, George and John Slavens. Men Who Are Making Kansas City: A Biographical Dictionary, Kansas City, MO: Hudson-Kimberly Comp, 1902. Foster, Gerald. American Houses: A Field Guide to the Architecture of the Home. Boston, MA: Houghton-Mifflin Company, 2004. Jackson, Kenneth T. Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States. New York, NY: The Oxford University Press, 1985. Makinson, Randell L. Greene & Greene: Architecture as Fine Art. Salt Lake City, UT & Santa Barbara, CA: Peregrine Smith, Inc., 1977. McAlester, Virginia Savage. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. McArthur & McArthur. Oregon Geographic Names, 7th Ed. Portland, OR: Oregon Historical Society Press, 2003. Oregonian. Misc. issues as cited by date:page in text (Includes both The Morning Oregonian and The Sunday Oregonian). Pruitt, Claudette Morning. Come Take a Historic Journey Along the Galice Trail. Grants Pass, OR: Morning Creek Enterprises, 2004. Rogue River Courier. Misc. issues as cited by date:page in text (included Weekly Courier). Sanders, Barry. Ed. The Craftsman: An Anthology. Salt Lake City, UT & Santa Barbara, CA: Peregrine Smith, Inc., 1978. Stickley, Gustav. Ed. Craftsman Bungalows: 59 Homes from The Craftsman. Reprint Ed.. Mineola, NY: Dover Publications, Inc., 1988. Walling, A.G. History of Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Coos and Curry Counties, Oregon. Portland, OR: A. G. Walling, 1884. Worley, William S. J.C. Nichols and the Shaping of Kansas City: Innovation in Planned Residential Communities. Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press, 1990.</p>			