

Oregon Historic Site Record

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME							
address:	4420 SE 64th Ave Portland, Multnomah County			historic name:	Arleta Branch Library		
assoc addresses:				current/other names:	Wikman Building		
location descr:				block/lot/tax lot:			
				twshp/rng/sect/qtr sect:	1S 2E 8		
PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS							
resource type:	Building	height (stories):	1.0	total elig resources:	1	total inelig resources:	0
elig evaluation:	eligible/significant			NR Status:	Individually Listed		
prim constr date:	1918	second date:	1973	date indiv listed:	03/15/2016		
primary orig use:	Library			orig use comments:			
second orig use:	Professional			prim style comments:			
primary style:	Late 19th/20th Period Revivals: Other			sec style comments:			
secondary style:	Colonial Revival			siding comments:			
primary siding:	Brick:Other/Undefined			architect:	Folger Johnson		
secondary siding:	Wood:Other/Undefined			builder:	McHolland Brothers		
plan type:							
comments/notes:							
Building now houses a division of the Portland police. Vacant since July 2011, the county has declared the building surplus December 2011 and plans to sell it. There is interest from a local group who is trying to raise the money to buy the building to serve as a community center of some kind. 1/14 Building listed for sale to general public. 10/14: Building bought by private developer who is looking to list on NR and do tax incentives. JES							
GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS							
Survey/Grouping Included In:		Type of Grouping		Date Listed		Date Compiled	
Women's History Sites		Thematic Grouping				2012	
SHPO INFORMATION FOR THIS PROPERTY							
NR date listed:	03/15/2016	106 Project(s)		Federal Tax Program			Special Assess
ILS survey date:		SHPO Case	Date	Agency Effect Eval	Status	Start	Compl
RLS survey date:			07/09/2001	No Adverse Effect	Dormant		
							None
ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION							
<i>(Includes expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings and alterations)</i>							
Building is associated with Lea Wikman, a local community activist and volunteer, died in the 1980s. Constructed in 1918 using Carnegie Corporation grant funds, the Colonial Revival-style Arleta Branch Library, more recently known as the Wikman Building, was designed by well-known Portland architect Folger Johnson. The one-story, irregularly-shaped building is located at 4420 S.E. 64th Avenue in southeast Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. Situated on a flat urban lot on the northeast corner of SE 64th Avenue and S.E. Holgate Boulevard, the 5,665-square-foot building occupies nearly all of its .18-acre, 80' x 100' lot, with the main facade fronting west onto S.E. 64th Avenue and the secondary facade facing south to Holgate Boulevard. The wood frame structural walls are faced in red brick, and the shallow-pitch hip roof has simple eave details and is crowned with a glazed cupola. The symmetrical fenestration pattern, centrally-placed public entrances on the west and south elevations, and hierarchy of classically-influenced ornament are all illustrative of the Colonial Revival style. The site has minimal landscaping that is composed primarily of two sycamore trees foundation plantings. The building retains a high degree of historical integrity, with exterior alterations limited to removal of the original wood railing along the roofline, the addition of an accessibility ramp and some interior alterations made after the building's tenure as a library. Because it is no longer used as a library, the Arleta Branch Library building may have lost some integrity of association and feeling. However, it is located on its original lot, and the building's historic integrity in the areas of setting, design, materials and workmanship are all clearly evident, allowing it to effectively convey its overall historic design, appearance, and function.							
HISTORY							
<i>(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period - preferably to the present)</i>							
The 1918 Arleta Branch Library is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Education and Social History for its association with and illustration of the public library ideals and systems that were in force during the early twentieth century. Utilizing grant funds from the Carnegie Corporation, this is one of thirty-one Carnegie libraries built in Oregon, and one of seven built in the Portland area during the 1910s and early 1920s. Its Colonial Revival style is typical of this period of architecture in general, as well as being reflective of the guidelines set forth by the Carnegie Corporation with regard to library design specifically. Designed by Portland architect Folger Johnson and built by local contractors the McHolland Brothers in 1918, the Arleta Branch Library was the sixth Carnegie library to be constructed as part of the Library Association of Portland's (now Multnomah County's) branch library system. The surrounding neighborhood enjoyed the Arleta Branch both as a source of educational enrichment and as a community meeting place until 1971, when the Arleta and Lents libraries were merged and housed in the newly-constructed Holgate Library. The Library Association of Portland sold the building in 1973 to Multnomah County, who converted the building to a new commercial/office use. The years during which the building served as a library form the period of significance, 1918 to 1971. During this period the library apparently underwent few, if any, alterations to the interior or the exterior; the changes evident today were made after the building was sold and converted from library to office use. Mid- to late twentieth-century alterations to the exterior and the interior of the building do not detract from its associative significance under Criterion A, and it continues to clearly reflect its original design and function.							
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 Respository:					
Bibliography:							

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