

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



County Multnomah
 Theme _____
 Name (Common) Martin P. Davis House
 (Historic) Tanner, ^{ALBERT H.} House
 Address 2248 N.W. Johnson Street
Portland, Oregon 97210
 Present Owner Martin P. Davis
 Address Same
 Original Use Residence
 Date of Construction 1893

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

The Tanner House is an unusual variation of the Stick Style of which there are few examples in Portland. It is a two story wood frame structure with brick foundation full basement and unfinished attic. The house has a square front bay with circular attic window above and a peaked gable. On the east facade is another square bay but with a hipped gable roof. All windows are double hung with single light sashes. A partial mansard roof covers the unbayed front corner of the house. There is a cornice around the entire house with scrolled brackets in the frieze panels below. The most distinctive feature of the house is the hip roofed porch completely across the front facade and curving around one corner with intricately turned and inset double posts, fretwork side brackets and scrolled front brackets. There is a small porch at the rear outside the back hallway door.

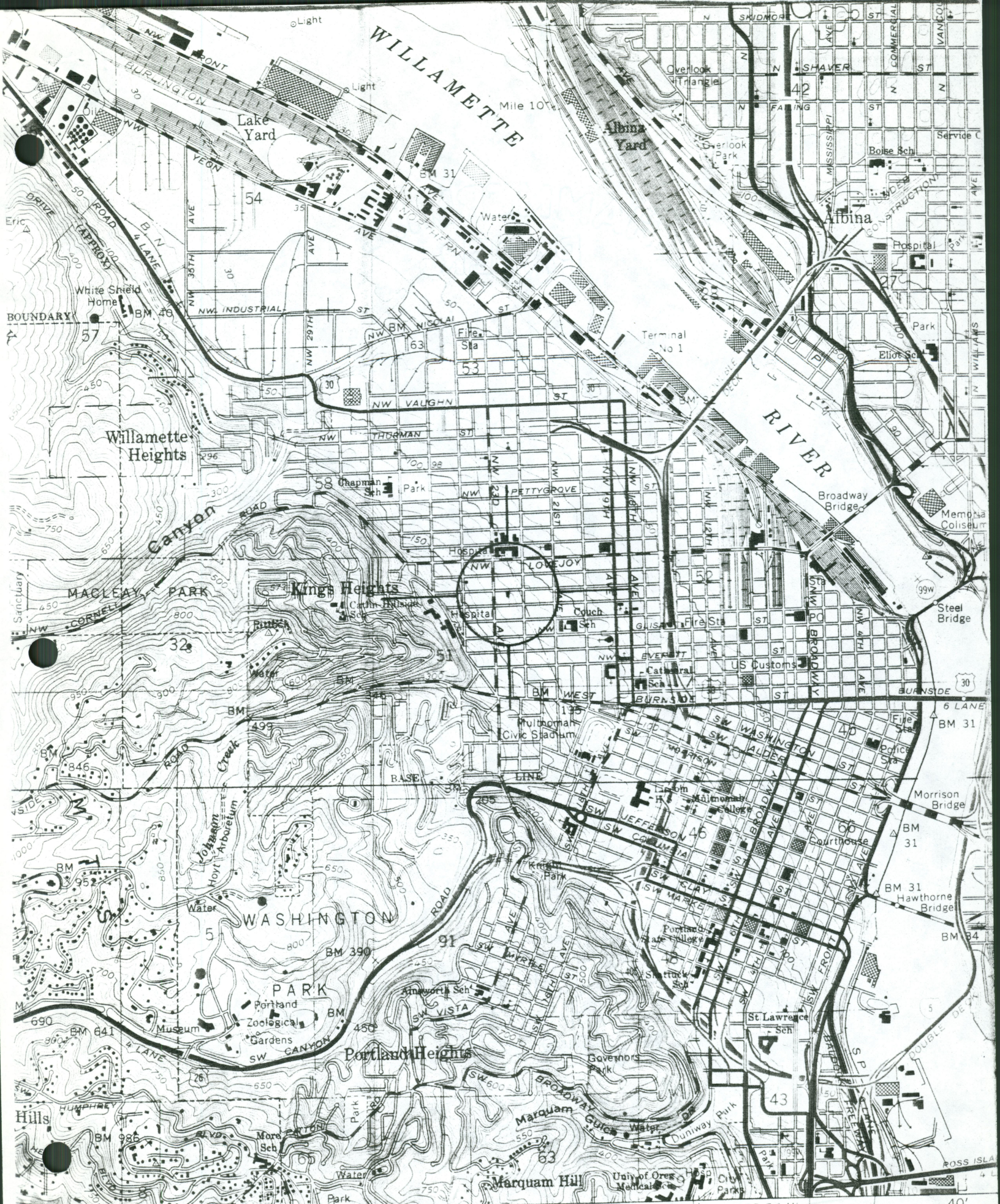
The house was built in 1893 by Albert Hawes Tanner, a prominent Portland lawyer. He represented Multnomah County in the State Legislature from 1882 to 1884 when he was appointed Portland City Attorney. He served in this capacity until 1887 and later in 1889 was appointed Police or Municipal Judge. He left this post in 1891 to return to his private law practice. His father, Benjamin Franklin Tanner, came west along the Oregon Trail from Kentucky in 1852. He was a carpenter and bridge builder by trade and spent the last few years of his life in the house where he died in 1901. The funeral was held in the house.

OVER continue on back if necessary

Recorded by Martin P. Davis Date July 1982

Sources consulted (continue on back if necessary):
 Portland City Directories, Library and scap books, Oregon Historical Society.
 Sanborn Map, 1889 corrected to 1898.
 Pioneer Title & Trust Co. Abstract Record for Block 8, Lot 10, King's 2nd Addition.

Please enclose map. Township _____ S _____ W Section _____



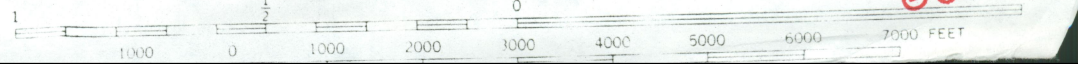
0 FEET (OREG.)

MULTNOMAH 2.7 MI 42°30' 523

SCALE 1:24 000

60

1 MILE



Historic
Resource
Inventory
CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON

2-456-02248

2248 N.W. Johnson Street

King's Second, Block 8, Lot 10
QUARTER SECTION MAP #: 2927
Northwest District Association

ORIGINAL FUNCTION: Residence

DATE BUILT: 1883

STYLE: Queen Anne

ORIGINAL OWNER: Tanner, Albert Hawes

ZONING: RH

DESIGNATION: Landmark

SPECIAL FEATURES AND MATERIALS:

Hipped, jerkinhead and gable roof. Gable decoration. Cornice brackets.
Encircling porch with paired turned posts and curvilinear brackets decorated
with interlacement bands. Drop siding. One-over-one, double-hung windows.
Round window in gable. Corner boards with rondels.

SPECIAL F/M - SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION:

New entrance steps.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture



2-456-02248

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Davis, Martin P., Portland Historical Landmarks Commission Inventory Form.

OLD ADDRESS: 738 Johnson Street

Present owners, as of May 1980: Martin P. Davis

MAILING ADDRESS: 2248 N.W. Johnson Street, Portland 97210

No Preservation Funding

Negative: 125-19

398

2623

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: MULTNOMAH COUNTY

HIST. NAME: Albert H. Tanner House
COMMON NAME:
ADDRESS: 2248 Northwest Johnson Street
CITY: Portland
OWNER: Davis, Martin P.
ADDRESS: 2248 NW Johnson, Portland, OR
97210

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1883
ORIGINAL USE: Domestic: single dwelling
PRESENT USE: Domestic: multiple dwelling
ARCHITECT:
BUILDER:
THEME: Culture: 19th Century Architecture
STYLE: Queen Anne

T/R/S: TIN R1E S33
MAP NO.: 2927 TAX LOT: NA
ADDITION: King's 2nd Addition
BLOCK: 8 LOT: 10
ZONE: RH QUAD.: Portland
ASSESSOR NO.: R452301380

RESOURCE TYPE: Residence: single dwelling
CONDITION: Excellent
MOVED (DATE):

Old Address: 738 Johnson
RANK: Portland Landmark; National Historic
Register

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: Irregular
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Brick
ROOF FORM & MATERIALS: Hip
w/intersecting gables/composition shingles
WALL/FRAME: Wood frame

NO. OF STORIES: 2 1/2
BASEMENT: Yes, raised

PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: 1/1 double-hung wood sash
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: Shiplap, wood; patterned wood shingles

DECORATIVE FEATURES: Decorative brackets under eaves; center pendant on gable truss work; cornerboards with projecting cap; boxed bay flank front door supported with brackets, diamond-shaped pane window on west elevation bay; center circular window in gabled end; gable covered with decorative wood shingles; flared chimneys; semi-circular porch supported by heavy turned porch post; turned balusters; cut-out brackets under porch eave

EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS (DATED): Deck and patio added to rear, 1978.

NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: Foundation plantings, mature deciduous trees, open yard, driveway, fences.

ASSOCIATED FEATURES: None

SETTING: The house is located on the south side of N.W. Johnson Street, a quiet two-lane arterial. The parcel is large, front-facing, and set back from the sidewalk. The area is characterized mainly as mixed use.

RECORDED BY: Donovan and Associates
Prohaska and Associates

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: P-300
DATE: August 1991

7623

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: MULTNOMAH COUNTY

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

"The two and a half-story frame house built for attorney Albert H. Tanner on Northwest Johnson Street in Portland, Oregon, in 1893 is significant as a well-preserved and rare example of the Stick Style remaining in King's Second Addition, a fashionable residential section of Northwest Portland developed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. With its richly decorated front gable, its generous frieze articulated by architrave molding and brackets, its wrap-around porch with pairs of turned posts, and its stylized trim details including bosses and paterae, it embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Stick Style enlivened by Eastlake ornament. It possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling, and is associated with a prominent figure in the professional life of Portland at the turn of the century. It was declared a Portland Historical Landmark in 1980. It occupies a 60 by 100-foot lot between two earlier-listed National Register properties: The Sprague-Marshall-Bowie House and the Mary J.G. Smith House. The Tanner House, in terms of its date and style, is a bridge between the Italianate house on the one hand and the Colonial Revival house on the other."

PROPERTY OWNERSHIP HISTORY

Albert Hawes Tanner (1855-1932), "the son of an overland pioneer of 1852, was 27 years of age when he was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 1882. After a term in the statehouse, he resumed his career in Portland which was punctuated with service as city attorney and municipal judge. Over the years, he practiced law in association with various partners, including the historian, Judge Charles H. Carey. His longest-lived association appears to have been with John H. Mitchell. Tanner and his wife, the former Sara Kelly, daughter of Portland pioneer and collector of customs, John Kelly, occupied the house 14 years. Their occupancy extended from the time construction was completed in 1893 to 1907. In 1905, the westerly portion of the Tanners' double-lot holding was sold to Mary J. G. Smith, for whom the neighboring Colonial Revival house was built the following year. Tanner's reason for quitting his property on Northwest Johnson Street is not known, but it is assumed that his involvement in a real estate investment company accounted for some of the several shifts in Tanner's place of residence in his later career. The house on Johnson Street, however, is the primary property associated with Albert H. Tanner in Portland.

The oldest of three children of Benjamin Franklin Tanner and Sarah Turner, Albert H. Tanner, was born September 9, 1855 near Washougal, in Clark County, Washington. His father, of Welsh descent, was a native of Kentucky and crossed the plains to Oregon Territory in 1852. He was a carpenter and bridge builder. His mother, of Scots stock, was a native of Missouri and crossed the plains in 1851. The young Tanner spent his boyhood on the family farm in Yamhill County, Oregon. He attended Christian College, the denominational school at Monmouth, which later became a State Normal School, from 1871 to 1874, and was graduated at the head of his class. He read law with the firm of Dolph, Bronaugh, Dolph, and Simon, and did some teaching at Christian College. He was admitted to the bar in 1879. A Republican, he was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 1882. At the age of 27, he was the youngest member to have been elected to the legislative body at that time.

ADDRESS: 2248 Northwest Johnson Street
RECORDED BY: Donovan & Associates
Prohaska & Associates

SHPO INVENTORY NO.:
DATE: August 1991

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Following his term in the State Legislature, Tanner resumed his career in Portland. He was appointed city attorney in 1884 and served to 1887, establishing "an enviable reputation as a public prosecutor," according to historian Fred Lockley. In 1889, he was elected municipal judge and served in that capacity to 1891. In his practice of law, Tanner was associated with others. He practiced with Judge Julius C. Moreland from 1879 to 1884 and with Judge Charles H. Carey to 1887. Thereafter, he formed a partnership with John H. Mitchell, and later in his career, he formed a partnership with J. J. Johnson. Tanner was one of the incorporators of the Citizens Real Estate and Investment Company, and he was a director of the West Portland Park Association.

Tanner's property on Northwest Johnson Street originally was numbered 738 NW Johnson. Prior to 1893, he and his wife and children lived at 30 N[W] 19th Avenue, and after selling the house on Johnson Street, he lived at 409 NE 14th Avenue. Neither building occupied by Tanner at these other addresses is standing today. Subsequently, Tanner resided for a time in the rural community of Gaston, in nearby Washington County, and from 1921 to 1924 was a resident of the Seward Hotel in Portland. During the last two years of his life, 1930-1932, he lived in an apartment on NW Everett Street in the neighborhood which had so long been his home in Portland.

Albert Tanner married Sarah Marcella Kelly on November 25, 1880. His wife was the daughter of John Kelly, a pioneer of 1840 and a one-time collector of customs at Portland. The Tanners had three children: Albert H., Jr., Henrietta Elizabeth, and John M. Tanner.

In 1889, the two lots on NW Johnson--Lots 10 and 11 of Block 8--were purchased in the name of Sarah M. Tanner from Amos N. King, the holder of a large land claim on the west side of the city which now includes King's Heights and Washington Park. The sum paid for the adjoining lots was \$4,400. In 1893, the Tanners' house was built on the easterly and larger of the two lots. Lot 11 was used for a carriage house and stable. In 1905, the westerly Lot 11 was sold to Mary J. G. Smith for \$2,650, and the carriage house was removed. During the last few years of his life, Tanner's father, Benjamin Franklin Tanner, lived with his son on NW Johnson, dying at home on October 27, 1901 at the age of 76. Funeral services were held at the house, and the elder Tanner was buried in Riverview Cemetery.

The Albert Tanners lived in the house until 1907, when they sold it to Alvin L. Stevens for \$8,000. Four years later, it was sold again to William Hilton, a carpenter and contractor. William and Ella Hilton lived in the house until 1923. From that time until the property was acquired by the present owner in 1975, there were four intervening ownerships, and the house was variously neglected and poorly maintained. It was operated as a rooming house in the 1930s. The house was restored by the present owner, the work being substantially completed in 1981."

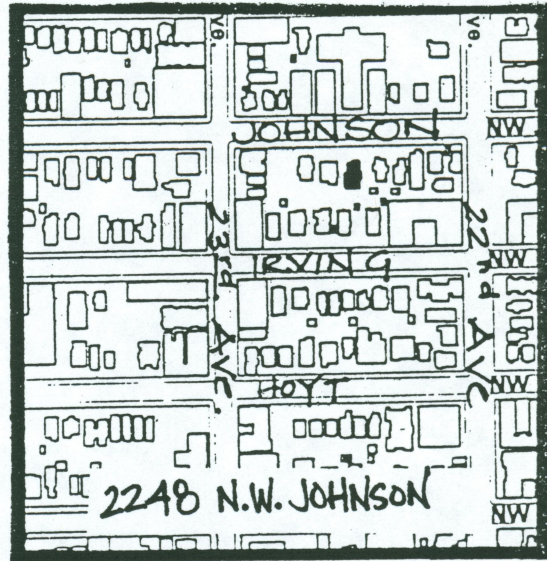
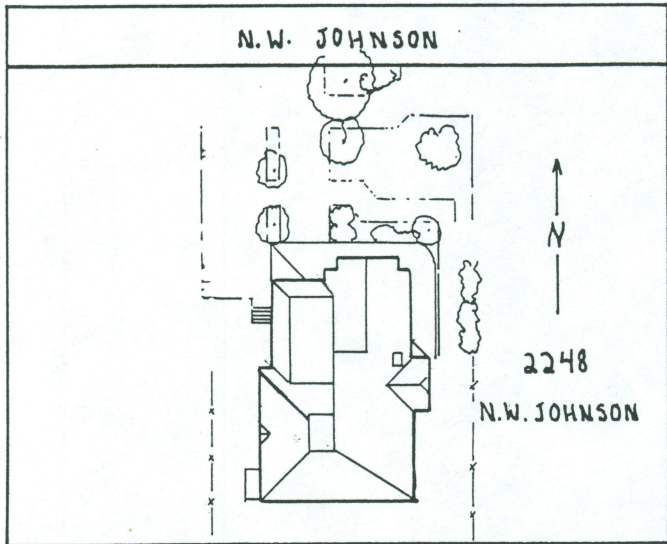
Sources: *National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form*, Martin P. Davis,
July 1982.

ADDRESS: 2248 Northwest Johnson Street
RECORDED BY: Donovan & Associates
Prohaska & Associates

SHPO INVENTORY NO.:
DATE: August 1991

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
COUNTY: MULTNOMAH COUNTY

ADDRESS: 2248 Northwest Johnson Street



NEGATIVE NO.: Roll 5 #2

DATE: 5/12/91



RECORDED BY: Donovan and Associates
Prohaska and Associates

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: