

3-023-00121

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

City of Portland Bulletin

Multnomah County Tax
Assessor's Office (Portland)

Historic
Resource
Inventory
CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON



Present owners, as of May 1980: W.G. Edgar
MAILING ADDRESS: 5044 S.E. Stark Street, Portland 97215

3-023-00121

121 N.W. Twenty-third Avenue

Strong's, Block 3, Lot 1, North 20' of Lot 2

QUARTER SECTION MAP #: 3027

Northwest District Association

ORIGINAL NAME: Washington Park Automobile Company
OTHER NAMES: Twenty-third Street Garage, Barde and Cox

ORIGINAL FUNCTION: Garage, Retail

DATE BUILT: ca. 1920

STYLE: Zig-zag Moderne

ARCHITECTURAL PLANS BY: Knighton, William C. (?)

TAX ASSESSOR'S ACCOUNT #: R-80180-0620

ZONING: C3

Rank II

SPECIAL FEATURES AND MATERIALS:

Flat roof with parapet. Cast stone coping and decorative frieze of geometric ornament along parapet. Piers and spandrels have brick diaperwork and cast-stone tiles inset.

SPECIAL F/M - SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION:

Storefront remodeled, 1960.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

1017

2041

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

HIST. NAME: 23rd Street Garage
COMMON NAME:
ADDRESS: 2320-26 Northwest Westover Road
CITY: Portland
OWNER: Treece & Associates
ADDRESS: 2501 SW 1st, #201, Portland, OR
97201

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1910
ORIGINAL USE: Commerce: specialty store
PRESENT USE: Commerce: specialty store
ARCHITECT:
BUILDER:
THEME: Commerce: Commercial
STYLE: 20th Century Commercial

T/R/S: TIN RIE S33
MAP NO.: 3027 TAX LOT: NA
ADDITION: Strong's Addition
BLOCK: 3 LOT: 1
ZONE: CS QUAD.: Portland
ASSESSOR NO.: R801800620

RESOURCE TYPE: Store
CONDITION: Excellent
MOVED (DATE):

Old Address:
RANK:

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: Rectangular
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Concrete w/stucco
ROOF FORM & MATERIALS: Flat w/stepped
parapet
WALL/FRAME: Concrete
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: Fixed-pane storefront, metal sash
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: Brick

NO. OF STORIES: 1
BASEMENT: Yes, raised

DECORATIVE FEATURES: Stepped parapet with slightly arched central bay; concrete coping; geometric shapes above and flanking store front windows in lighter-colored brick; slightly recessed brick around store fronts; diamond-shaped insets on spandrel; on east elevation parapet is decorated with cast-stone balls and Art deco style light hoods; inlay diamond shape brick work.

EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS (DATED): New metal store front windows and doors, date unknown.

NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: Built up to sidewalk with parking lot at south side of parcel.

ASSOCIATED FEATURES: None

SETTING: The building is located on the east side of N.W. Westover and extends to N.W. 23rd Avenue, a busy two-lane street. The parcel is large, front facing, and built up to the sidewalk. The area is mainly residential in character.

RECORDED BY: Donovan and Associates
Prohaska and Associates

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: P-398
DATE: August 1991

6015

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architectural: The garage, constructed in 1910, was designed in the Commercial Style with later Art Deco applications. The garage fronts both Westover and NW 23rd Street. The NW 23rd Street facade displays characteristics of the the Art Deco Style in its cast-stone light hood and geometric shapes and parapet treatment. The Westover facade is more austere in its design and lacks the embellishment of the east facade. The building is interesting in its design, especially the east facade, and an excellent example of its type.

Historical: The property is associated with the following Portland families or organizations: Kate Ward, Frank and Mary Riggs and the Realty Association of Portland.

PROPERTY OWNERSHIP HISTORY

- 1909-1910 Joseph Day deeded lots 1 and the north 20' of lot 2 to Kate Ward in 1909.
Ward sold the property Frank and Mary Riggs on September 12, 1909. Riggs deeded the property to Realty Association of Portland in 1910.
- 1910-1945 Realty Association of Portland deeded the property to W.G. Edgar on September 17, 1945.

OWNERS BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Kate Ward: No biographical information is currently known.

Frank Riggs (1867-1949) was a pioneer in the automobile industry and one of the first dealer executives in the Pacific Northwest. After many years in the automotive field, he transferred his interest to bulb raising and nut growing and became an outstanding figure in those industries. Born at Watseka, Illinois, Mr. Riggs entered the vehicle industry by way of the bicycle business at Syracuse, New York. From bicycles he graduated to the growing rubber tire industry and from 1905-1907 he was vice president of the Fisk Rubber Company at Chicago. He moved to Detroit in 1907 to become vice president in charge of sales for the Packard Motor Company. In 1909 he came to Oregon as distributor for Packard, a connection which he held until approximately 1915, when he became general manager of the Pacific Coast for the Willys-Overland Company.

As a young man he was a bicycle racer and held the record for the run between Chicago and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on the old-style high-wheel bicycle. Later he became an automobile cross-country driver and held the record between Chicago and Detroit. In the middle 1920s, Mr. Riggs left the automobile business to become a pioneer in another field--the growing of bulbs, flowers and nuts. He went to Europe to buy stock and in Holland interested Jan DeGraaf in the future of the Oregon country. DeGraaf later came to Portland to establish his present extensive bulb farm.

On his farm near Corbett, Mr. Riggs became one of the first commercial growers of dafodils in the Pacific Northwest. He engaged in growing walnuts and cherries on his farm near Dundee and was one of the founders of the cooperative that later became the Northwest Nut Growers Association. He served as director of that association and also as manager for the North Pacific Nut Growers.

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One of the early sponsors of the Portland Rose Festival, he served as judge for the Festival's rose shows, was a president of the Portland Rose Society and a director of the American Rose Society.

A good roads enthusiast, he joined with Simon Benson, John Yeon and others in promoting construction of the scenic Columbia River highway. He was a life member of the Oregon State Motor association. He was active in the Rotary club, served as president of the Portland club in 1912 and later as district governor. He was also a Royal Rosarian and a member of the Waverley Country Club and Arlington Club.

Mary Riggs: No biographical information is currently known. She was married to Frank Riggs.

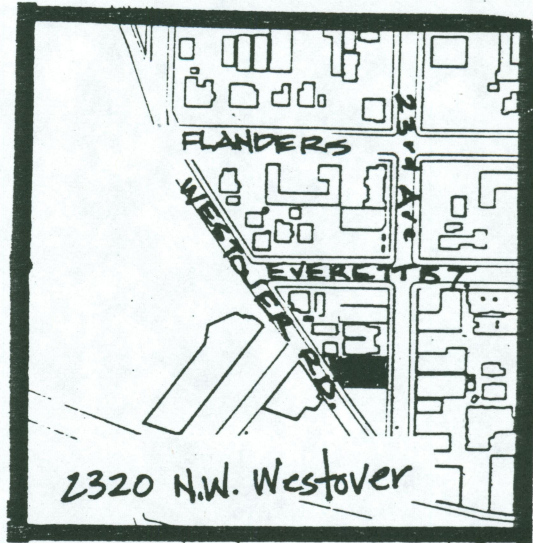
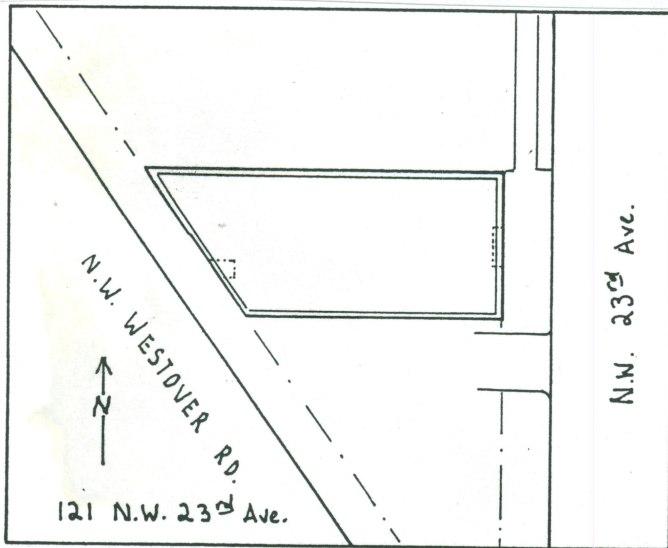
Sources: Ticor Title Company Records
Multnomah County Tax Assessor Records
City of Portland Building Bureau
Portland City Directories
Portland Block Books
Riggs, *Oregonian*, 27 May 1949, p.15

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NEGATIVE NO.: Roll 36 #22

DATE: 6/6/91



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