

Historic
Resource
Inventory
CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON.



7-022-00424

424 N.E. Twenty-second Avenue

Darch, Block 2, Tax Lot 2 of Lots 1-6
QUARTER SECTION MAP #: 3032
Kerns

ORIGINAL NAME: Albertina Kerr Nursery

ORIGINAL FUNCTION: Residential Care Facility, Nursery
OTHER FUNCTIONS: Community Center

DATE BUILT: 1921

STYLE: Twentieth Century Georgian

ARCHITECTURAL PLANS BY: Johnson, Parker and Wallwork

ORIGINAL OWNER: Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society

TAX ASSESSOR'S ACCOUNT #: R-19740-0021

ZONING: C2

DESIGNATION: Landmark, National Register

SPECIAL FEATURES AND MATERIALS:

Gable roof with dormers. Decorative roof cornice has dentil course. Entrance portico. Swan's neck pediment at main entrance. Six-over-six, double-hung windows. Lower windows set in round-arched stuccoed recesses with rondels in typanums. Red brick exterior. Two-story sunporch at south end.

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SPECIAL F/M - SIGNIFICANT ALTERATION:

New entrance door and new wagon wheel window, 1953. Addition to south wing, 1956. One-story sunporch on north, 1957. Interior alterations, 1981.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Social, Industry in association with Alexander H. Kerr

Social, Industry in association with Alexander H. Kerr: Kerr was born in Philadelphia in 1862 and moved to Portland in the late 1880's where he entered into partnership with several wholesale grocery firms. With a German inventor he developed a new type of cap and jar which became the highly successful "Kerr Economy Canning Jar." Kerr, deeply religious, tithed ten percent of his income each year and became active in several Portland civic and charitable groups. He also organized and served as the first President of the Portland Hunt Club.

Upon the death of his second wife, Albertina, in 1912, Kerr gave his home to the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society to be used as a home for abandoned children and foundlings under three years of age. Kerr left Portland in 1912 and moved his company to Chicago, but continued to support the nursery and bought land for a new building in the 1920's.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

City of Portland Buildings Bureau microform and card files.

Multnomah County Tax Assessor records, microform, automated data files, and card files (Portland, 1980).

Munro, Sarah, National Register of Historic Places, nomination form, 1979.

ORIGINAL BUILDING PERMIT #: 83570

MAJOR ALTERATIONS: 1980/Allen, McMath and Hawkins

Present owner as of May 1981: Albertina Kerr Center for Children

MAILING ADDRESS: 2307 N.E. Flanders, Portland 97232

No Preservation Funding

Negative: 540-16A, 540-17A, 113-15, 113-16

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