

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Gedamke, William, House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1304 East Powell Boulevard N/A ☐ not for publication
city, town Gresham N/A ☐ vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97030

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/ANumber of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency and bureau

September 30, 1989
DateIn my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.
☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade: specialty store

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Queen Anne
(Queen Anne Cottage)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls wood: weatherboard

roof composition shingle

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 1

From Multnomah County deed records, it is known that the William Gedamke residence was built between 1891 and 1901, and most probably about 1900. It is a two-story Queen Anne style dwelling of frame construction with a ground plan measuring roughly 25 x 40 feet. Beginning in 1985, the house was rehabilitated for commercial use as a flower and gift shop. Before that time, the building was continuously maintained as a single family residence.

The house fronts on the south side of East Powell Boulevard (U.S. Highway 26), within the city limits of Gresham, in Multnomah County, Oregon, about one-third mile from the present downtown area and historic nucleus of the city (population 60,000) which lies 14 miles east of the state's metropolitan area. The property is located in Section 10, Township 1S, Range 3E of the Willamette Meridian. The present lot is about 65 x 300 feet after a 2,100 square foot allocation for highway expansion. The house rests on a concrete foundation about 30 feet south of the sidewalk.

The Gedamke House is one of the very few remaining examples of the Queen Anne style in Gresham. Many of the early buildings surrounding the property were summer cottages built in the 1920s for Portlanders who spent leisure hours on the Columbia River or, later, at Timberline Lodge in the Mt. Hood recreational area. Most of the surrounding bungalows have been, or are destined to be removed to make room for commercial buildings.

The house was framed of native fir thought to have been cleared from the land upon which the house stands. Framing consists of rough-cut 2 x 4-inch rafters and studs. Exterior elevations are surfaced with shiplap on the first floor and the rear of the second floor. Patterned shingles of alternating scalloped and straight-butt courses cover the second story on front and side elevations.

The house has an L-shaped plan and a gable roof. A hip-roofed volume is interposed between the intersecting rectangular volumes, and the front porch occupies the angle between the two legs of the ell. In addition to variegated siding marking the division between stories, those exterior features which mark the house as a vernacular version of the Queen Anne style are shaped vergeboards, window frames with architrave moldings and sill aprons, elongated, double-hung window sash with colored border lights, and fancy jigsawn brackets and pendant ornament on jetties overhanging ground story beveled window bays.

Whereas the Gedamke House appears to be a simplified version of pattern-maker George F. Barber's Design No. 21 from The Cottage Souvenir No. 2, it represents a common type which has come to be identified in recent studies of vernacular architecture as the "Tri-gabled Ell." The Gedamke House does not have the elaborate Eastlake-style porch of Barber's design, but it is distinguished by beveled corner window bays and a fine central brick chimney which has a base-

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

shaft-capital composition decoratively articulated with a crowning course of vertically laid stretchers set at an angle. The front bed chamber in the second story is lighted by an octagonal window in the east elevation.

Interior stud walls are constructed of lath and smooth-finished plaster. The floors are of fir while door and window frames, stair banister and other trim, such as baseboards and picture molding, are of cedar. Interior trim is characterized by beaded moldings and decorative corner blocks.

In the recent adaptation from residential to commercial use after 1985, certain modifications were carried out. Additional space was gained on the second story by enclosing a rear porch. Shiplap siding of the original exterior was used to enclose the new space. A second bathroom was added to the ground story by enclosing a rear porch area. A railing was added to the front porch in compliance with safety regulations, and for similar reasons, two-inch blocks were used to raise the height of the interior stair banister. To gain interior circulation space, pocket doors were removed from dining room and parlor entrances and stored on the premises. Certain doorways were widened to meet fire and life safety regulations.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1900

Significant Dates

c. 1900

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Barber, George F., architect
(by mail order)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Multnomah County Recorder's Book 1866, pages 1294-1302.

City of Gresham, Historic Resource Inventory, 1987.

Barber, George F., The Cottage Souvenir No. 2: A Repository of Artistic Cottage Architecture and Miscellaneous Designs, S. B. Newman & Co., Steam Book and Job Printers, Knoxville, Tennessee, 1891. American Life Foundation reprint, Watkins Glen, New York, 1982.

McArthur, Lewis A., Oregon Geographic Names, Portland, Oregon, Oregon Historical Society, 1974.

☐ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository:

City Gresham, 1333 NW Eastman
Parkway, Gresham, OR 97030

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property 0.42 acres Damascus, Oregon 1:24000

UTM References

A 110 5455910 510382010
Zone Easting Northing

C

B
Zone Easting Northing

D

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is located in Section 10, Township 1S, Range 3E, Willamette Meridian, in Gresham, Multnomah County, Oregon. It is legally described as Tax Lot 3 of Lot 3, excepting the West 20 feet thereof, and the West half of Lot 4 of Shoemaker's Addition to Gresham, further excepting therefrom the portion taken at the northernmost edge for highway purposes. The total area is 18,150 square feet, or 0.42 acres. The nominated property is shown on County Recorders Map No. 3354 and described ☐ See continuation sheet in "Contract of Sale" recorded in Book 1866, Page 1294 through 1302 on November 21, 1985.

Boundary Justification

The nominated area encompasses the entire urban tax lot presently associated with the residence which was built for William Gedamke about 1900 and occupies its historic location at 1304 East Powell Boulevard in Gresham.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Christina M. Christensen, President

organization Christina's Country Garden, Inc. date December 15, 1988

street & number 1304 East Powell Boulevard telephone (503) 669-0219

city or town Gresham state Oregon zip code 97030

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1

The historic Queen Anne style residence of William and Lucinda Gedamke located on East Powell Boulevard near the central business district of Gresham, Oregon was built about 1900. It meets National Register Criterion C in the category of architecture as a well-preserved and locally distinctive example of its vernacular type. It is, in fact, one of the few Queen Anne houses remaining in Gresham. The City has rated the building highly among significant cultural resources to be protected under local ordinance in conformance with the statewide land use planning program. It was ranked third in the list of eight Class I local landmarks.

The house was patterned after a builder's plan book design. Specifically, it is thought to have been patterned after Design No. 21 of an 1891 publication, The Cottage Souvenir No. 2: A Repository of Artistic Cottage Architecture and Miscellaneous Designs by George F. Barber of Knoxville, Tennessee. Barber's plan books were widely circulated as mail order catalogs, and a number of houses from his books have been documented in Oregon. Such houses represent the ultimate stage in development of steam power technology for mass production of plans and building parts.

The Gedamke House and many others like it are simplified versions of a vernacular type which has come to be identified in recent studies of vernacular architecture as the "Tri-gabled Ell." The type is two stories in height and is formed of two intersecting rectangles with gable roof. The legs formed by the L-shaped configuration and beveled window bays are thought to have provided the opportunity for extra openings for daylighting and for cross ventilation. The porch, an essential feature in Queen Anne architecture, occupies the angle between the two legs of the ell. In this version, a hip-roofed volume is interposed between the intersecting rectangular volumes. The rest of the exterior treatment is recognizable as Queen Anne vocabulary. It ranges from variegated siding marking the division between stories, shaped vergeboards, window frames with architrave moldings and sill aprons, elongated, double-hung window sash with colored border lights, and fancy jigsawn brackets on jetties overhanging the beveled window bays. As was typical of such adaptations, elaborate crestings and machine-produced repeating ornament called for by the patternmaker were eliminated or simplified by the local builder. The porch railing now in place is a non-historic adaptation to meet present-day code requirements. In the current adaptive use rehabilitation, ground story and second story rear porches were enclosed to expand interior space. Sliding pocket doors at entrances to parlor and dining room were removed but stored on the premises.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 2

A comparison with five other houses of comparable date and style included in the City of Gresham Historic Resource Inventory has shown that the Gedamke House is among the three best examples of vernacular Queen Anne architecture in the community. Of the three, the Gedamke House is the most conspicuous visual reminder of the upbuilding which took place in Gresham upon the arrival of the Portland Traction Company's interurban railroad passenger service from nearby Portland following the Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation Company connection to the trans-continental rail network in 1883. William Gedamke, whose recorded occupation was that of general farmer and stockman, acquired the land on which the house was built as early as 1882. The house, built about 1900, represents the full attainment of Gedamke's career in Gresham.

Gresham Settlement and Early Development

The Gresham area was settled beginning in the late 1840s and initially was known as Camp Ground. In the 1880s local residents petitioned the federal government for establishment of a post office. To influence the postmaster general, who was former Union Army general Walter Quinton Gresham, area residents changed the name of the settlement to Gresham. The post office was duly established in 1884. The townsite was situated on the Donation Land Claim of J. H. Lambert, on a parcel of 157 acres sold to William Coyle in 1845. William Gedamke purchased land at auction from Coyle's estate on September 1, 1882. His land was heavily timbered and was acquired for \$5,000.00. Shortly after his purchase, Gedamke sold slightly over 5 acres to Samuel Metzger for \$50.00. Metzger operated a mercantile in Gresham and was the father of several children that became prominent citizens in the area. Gedamke, whose recorded occupation was general farmer and stockman, cleared all but a few acres of the land, built his home, and sold the property to his wife for \$1.00. After the death of Lucinda, title passed through other members of the family before being sold to Mary Shoemaker, who subdivided the holding in 1921. The subdivision is currently known as Shoemaker Addition.

The Gedamke House was constructed about the time that the Portland Traction Company's interurban railroad reached Gresham from metropolitan Portland. The first passenger service to the "city" was a dingy car and a wheezy construction engine. Passengers were loaded from a box car which served as a depot. They boarded the train by means of a plank. At this time also, the local school district completed its first four-room school house staffed by four teachers. Students attended classes through the tenth grade. The town had two churches, Baptist and Methodist. Methodist services were held in what became the German Evangelical Church, a building that still stands adjacent to the Carnegie Library. Bethel Baptist Church has been listed in the National Register.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3

The only telephone line at the turn of the century had two private users and was operated by Mrs. I. McCall, who also operated the post office and sold a small line of drugs and notions. There were no sidewalks, but Gresham boasted a small wood frame hotel, two general stores run by the Shattock Brothers and Guiss & Son; a saloon, blacksmith shop, confectionery, newspaper (The Outlook), tinshop, meat market, and livery stable. All of these businesses were located on Powell Boulevard or north of it on First, Second or Third streets. The latter streets were primarily residential. The Gedamke House was within walking distance of the historic business district, which remains the traditional commercial core today.

Local Architectural Significance

The City of Gresham Historic Resource Inventory (1987) includes five other Queen Anne style residences, as follows.

1. McGregor Residence - 417 NE Hood Street

A Queen Anne style single-family residence constructed circa 1890. It is built on concrete footings, has a cross gable roof, beveled bays, spindlework, decorative gable ornament, fish scale shingle siding on gable ends. The house is thought to have been moved from Portland in 1903 to make way for the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

2. Davis, H. E., Residence - 637 W. Powell Boulevard

Queen Anne style, constructed circa 1890 as a single-family unit on a concrete foundation. Hip roof and cross gables, fish scale shingles on gable ends. Leaded glass windows.

3. Roberts Residence (Elkhorn Ranch) - 1325 W. Powell Boulevard

Simple, vernacular Queen Anne style cottage, built in 1887. A second story was added in the 1890s.

4. Witter Residence - 938 SE Roberts Street

Built in the Queen Anne style in 1896. Two stories on a brick foundation. Cross gable roof. Clad with sawtooth patterned shingles on second story exterior. Leaded glass windows.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

5. Witter Residence - 1420 SE Roberts Street

Two-story Queen Anne style single-family residence, circa 1900. One of the best examples of the style remaining. Excellent condition. Exterior siding of shiplap and pattern shingles. Decorative features include shaped vergeboards, Eastlake-style porch, window jetties with jigsawn and pendant ornament. Basement contains original root cellar.

Along with the McGregor house and later Witter residence, the Gedamke House represents the best preserved and most characteristic expression of Queen Anne architecture in Gresham. The Gedamke House is the most prominent example by dint of its situation on the main arterial. It is the only house to be classified as Class I resource in the Historic Resource Inventory. It was so ranked because of its comparatively unaltered condition, its accessibility to the public and its documented historical associations.

Plans for the house were selected from a popular 1891 builders planbook, The Cottage Souvenir No. 2: A Repository of Artistic Cottage Architecture and Miscellaneous Designs by George F. Barber of Knoxville, Tennessee. The conventional side hall plan of Design No. 21 was carried out as a mirror image reversal.

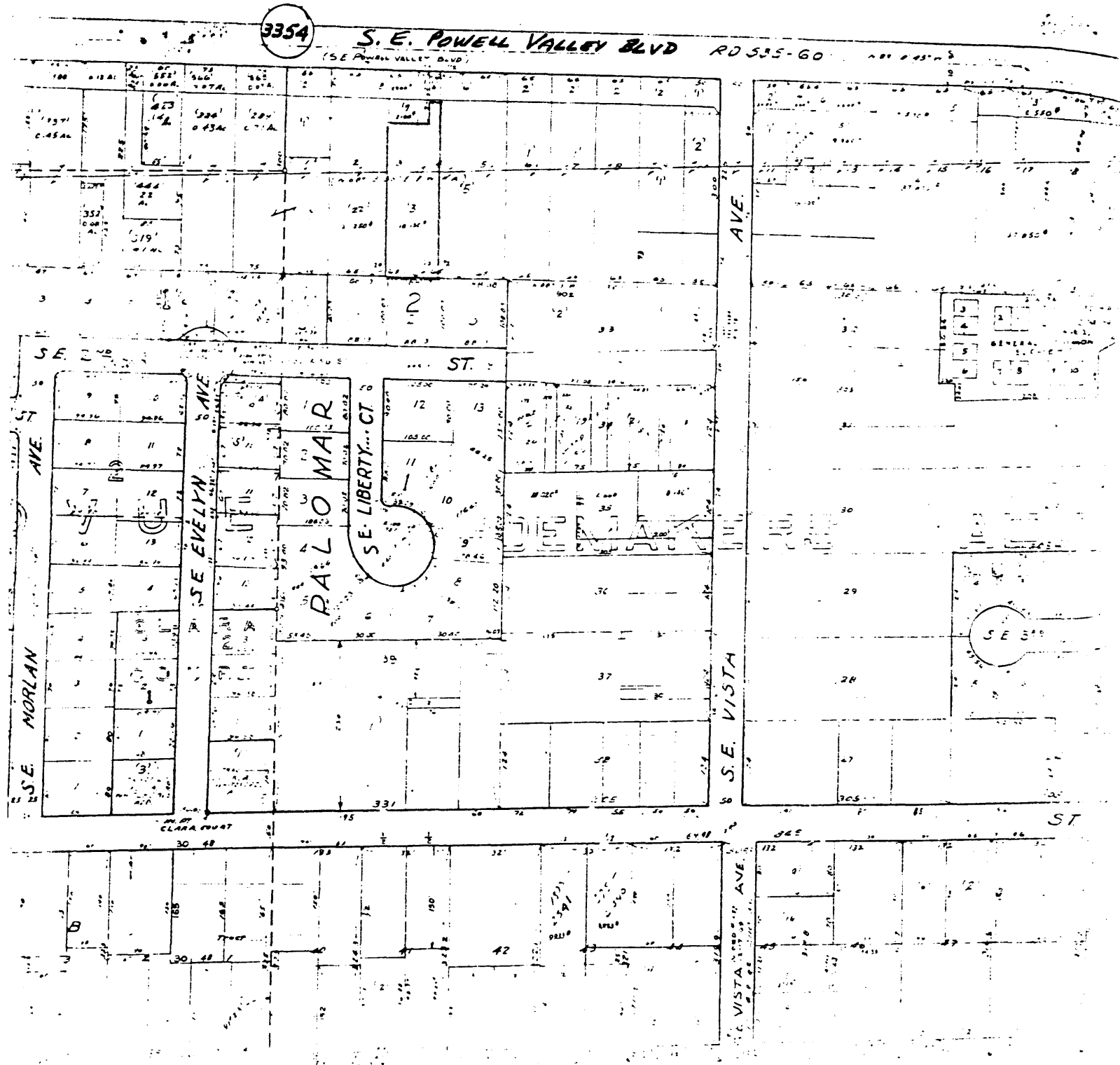
George F. Barber was one of the country's most successful purveyors of domestic architectural plans of the 19th Century. His designs were widely circulated by the mail order method of architectural practice. Barber had learned the building trade and design from books purchased by mail order. His catalog designs were accompanied by price lists and order forms.

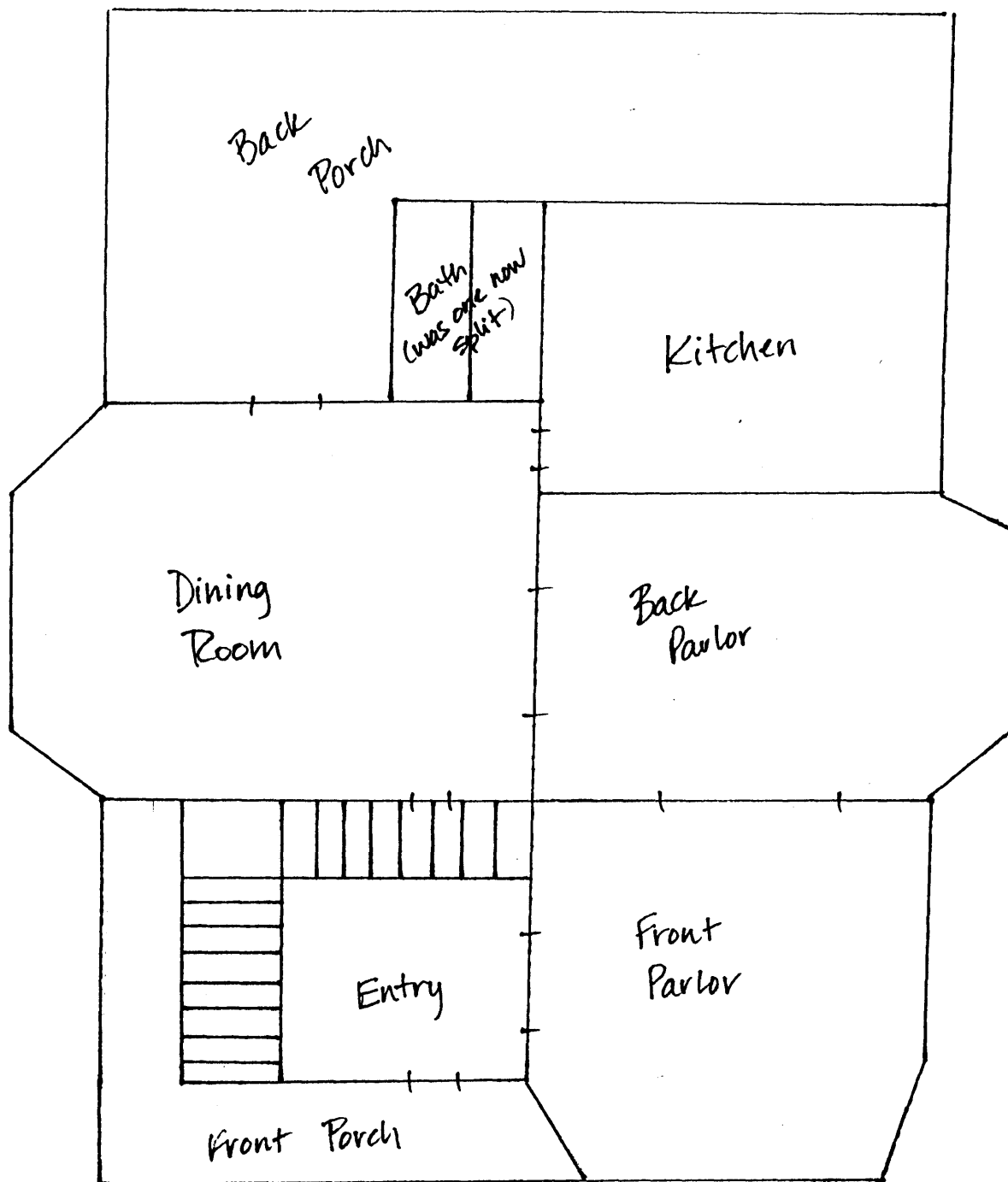
Barber's first catalog, The Cottage Souvenir, contained 18 drawings of houses in wood, brick and stone, ranging in price from \$900 to \$8,000. It was printed in 1887. It was a simple presentation, printed on card stock with a piece of yarn used as the binding. The second catalog (No. 2) was much larger in size and more diverse in content. It contained 50 designs for houses and cottages and other designs for barns, a church, a chapel, two stores, and two summer pavilions. Barber sold as many as 20,000 sets of plans by advertising in popular literary and women's magazines.

This map is a representation of the actual survey of the land and is not to be used for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared. It is no warranty for variations, if any, in dimensions and is not to be relied upon for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared. It is not to be used for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared. It is no warranty for variations, if any, in dimensions and is not to be relied upon for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

TICOR TITLE INSURANCE

1304 E. POWELL BLVD.
GRESHAM, OR. 97030





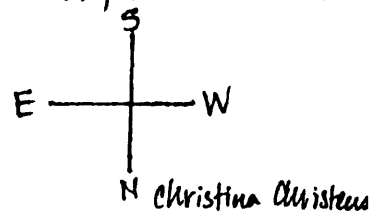
William Gedamke House

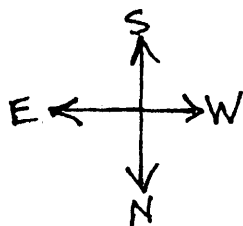
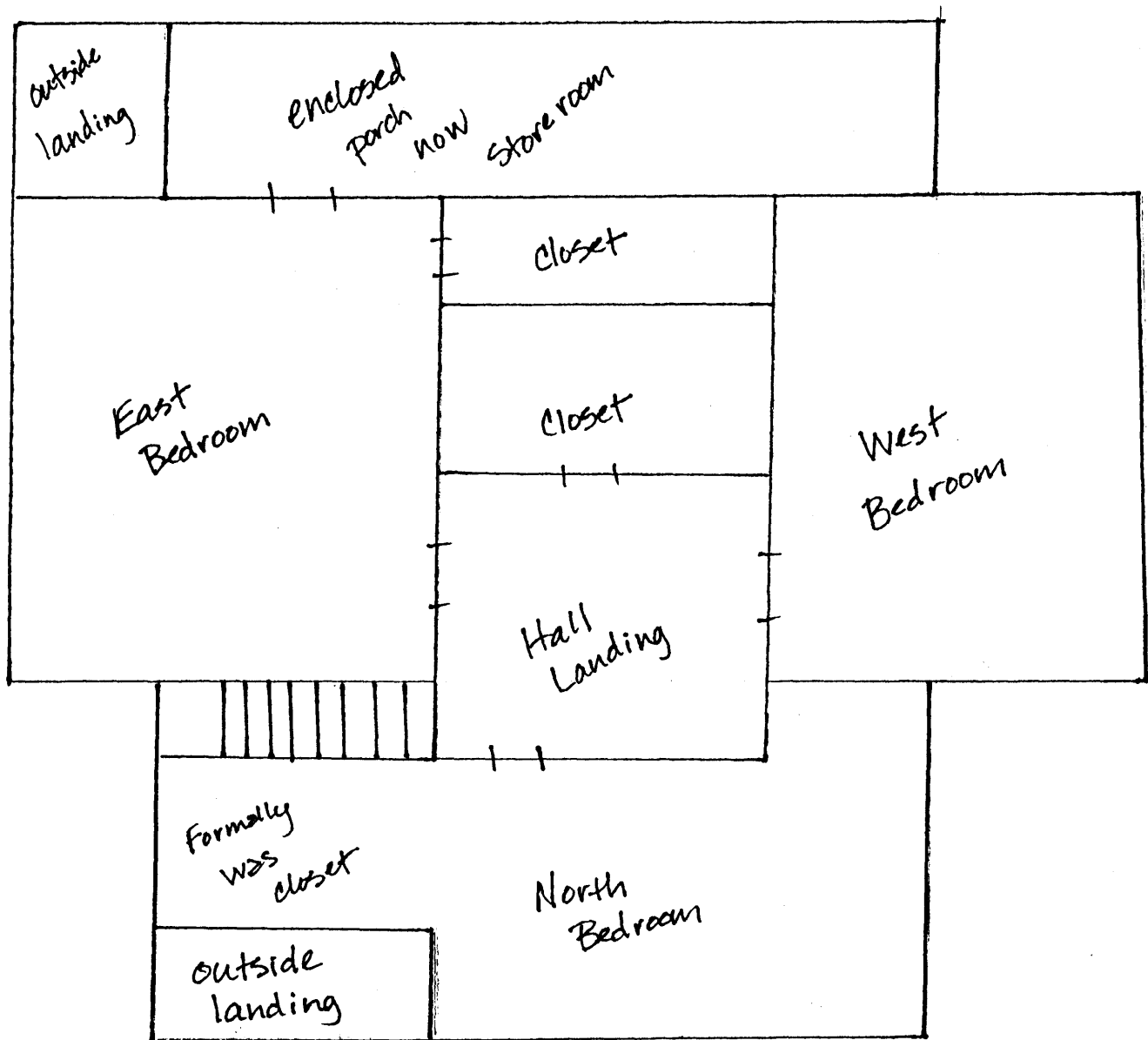
1304 E. Powell

Gresham, Multnomah County

Not to scale

Floor Plan, Ground Level





William Gedanke House

1304 E. Powell

Gresham, Multnomah County

Floor Plan Second Level
Not to scale

Christina Christensen



WILLIAM GEDAMKE RESIDENCE
1304 EAST POWELL BLVD
GRESHAM
MULTNOMAH CTY.
OREGON

By CHRISTINA CHRISTENSEN
1988

NEGATIVE AVAILABLE AT
ABOVE ADDRESS FROM
PHOTOGRAPHER

VIEW IS TO SOUTH



Gedamke House as viewed from the North-west
corner of property.

Gresham, Multnomah Co.

GEDAMKE, WILLIAM, HOUSE

1304 EAST DONALD BLVD.

GRESHAM, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

CHRISTINA CHRISTIAN SAN ILLUSTRATION, 1988

NATIVE. AT ABOVE ADDRESS

SOUTH AND WEST ELEVATIONS

2 OF 11



Gedamke House upper story fishscales &
and decorative window.

Gresham, Multnomah Co.

GEDAMKE, WILLIAM, HOUSE
1304 EAST POWELL BLVD.
GRESHAM, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

CHRISTINA CHRISTANSEN PHOTO, 1988
NEGATIVE AT ABOVE ADDRESS

DANIEL, WEST GARDEN

3 OF 11



Sedamke House Chimney

Gresham, Multnomah Co.

GRANHAM, WILLIAM, HOUSE

1304 EAST POWELL BLVD.

GRANHAM, MULTNOMAH CO., OREGON

CHRISTINA CHRISTIANSEN PHOTO, 1988

NEGATIVE AT ABOVE ADDRESS

CLOSE VIEW OF CHIMNEY

4 OF 11



Gedauke House Graham, Multnomah Co.

detail front jetty

GRANITE, WILLIAM, HOUSE.

1304 EAST POWELL BLVD.

GRAHAM, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

CHRISTINA CHRISTENSEN PHOTO, 1988

NEGATIVE AT ABOVE ADDRESS

DETAIL OF FRONT WINDOW BAY JETTY

5 OF 11



Gedamke Horse Stairway Banister
Lower floor

Gresham, Multnomah Co.

GEDAMKE, WILLIAM, HOUSE.

1304 EAST POWELL BLVD.

GRESHAM, MULTNOMAH CO., OREGON

CHRISTINA CHRISTENSEN PHOTO, 1988

NEGATIVE AT ABOVE ADDRESS

STAIRCASE, ENTRY STAIRWELL

6 OF 11



Gedauke House Upper Floor
Stairway Banister

Gresham, Multnomah Co.

GRESHAM, WILLIAM, HOUSE

1304 EAST POWELL BLVD.

GRESHAM, MULTNOMAH CO., OREGON

CHRISTINA CHRISTENSEN PHOTO, 1988

NEGATIVE AT ABOVE ADDRESS

STAIRCASE LANDING



gedamke House Upper floor window above
stairs.

Gresham, Multnomah Co.

CRONIN, WILLIAM, HOUSE.

1304 MASS. DOWALL BLVD.

GRESHAM, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

CHRISTINA CHRISTENSEN PHOTO, 1988

NEGATIVE AT ABOVE ADDRESS

STAIR LANDING WINDOW

8 OF 11



Gedamke House Front Bedroom (now office) East
Octagonal window

Gresham, Multnomah Co.

GEDAMKE, WILLIAM, HOUSE
1304 EAST POWELL BLVD.

GRESHAM, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

CHRISTINA CHRISTENSEN PHOTO, 1988
NEGATIVE AT ABOVE ADDRESS

FRONT
BED CHAMBER WINDOW



Gedanke House Arch

Gresham, Multnomah Co.

Notice moulding and corner blocks

GEDANKE, WILLIAM, HOUSE

1304 EAST POWELL BLVD.

GRESHAM, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

CHRISTINA CHRISTENSEN PHOTO, 1988

NEGATIVE AT ABOVE ADDRESS

TYPICAL DOORWAY TRIM AND

PICTURE MOLDING—



Gedamke House one of
many original doors.

Gresham, Multnomah Co.

GEDAMKE, WILLIAM, HOUSE
1304 EAST DONALL BLVD.

GRESHAM, MULTNOMAH CO., OREGON

CHRISTINA EHNISTANSEN PHOTO,
1958
NEGATIVE AT ABOVE ADDRESS—

TYPICAL INTERIOR 4-PANEL DOOR