

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instruction in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classifications, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Taylor, Dr. W.R. and Eunice, House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 2212 "A" Street  not for publication

city or town Forest Grove  vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Washington code 067 zip code 97116

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide X locally.

James Hamrick June 21, 2005  
Signature of certifying official/Title Deputy SHPO Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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): \_\_\_\_\_

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 6/10/05

Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Name of Property

Washington, Oregon  
County and State

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property  
(check as many as apply)

Category of Property  
(check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

- private
- public - local
- public - state
- public - Federal

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing  
(enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Wall Construction MPS

0

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions  
(enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19<sup>th</sup> & Early 20<sup>th</sup> C. Revivals/Colonial  
Revival (Dutch)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

foundation: concrete  
walls: concrete; wood dormers  
roof: composition, wood shingles  
other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description  
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

See continuation sheets.

Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Name of Property

Washington, Oregon  
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**8. Statement of Significance**

Applicable National Register Criteria  
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing).

Areas of Significance  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

Architecture/Engineering  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

Period of Significance  
1921  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Significant Dates  
1921  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Criteria Considerations  
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

Significant Person  
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B removed from its original location
- C a birthplace or grave
- D a cemetery
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F a commemorative property
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance Within the past 50 years

Cultural Affiliation  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder  
John Taylor, Contractor/Builder  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance  
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Bibliography (Cite books, articles, and other sources used in preparing the form on one or more continuation sheets) See continuation sheets

- Previous documentation on file (NPS):
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36CFR67) 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
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
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## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one acre

### UMT References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 10 491165 5040846  
Zone Easting Northing

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michelle L. Dennis, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date August 2004

street & number 2690 Jackson Street telephone 541-343-6652

city or town Eugene state OR zip code 97405

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation sheets

Maps: A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs: Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

## Property Owner

name Clay and Margie Actor

street & number 2212 "A" Street telephone 503-357-2770

city or town Forest Grove state OR zip code 97116

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Dr. W. R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Name of Property

Washington, Oregon  
County, State

### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

#### SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Dr. W.R. and Eunice Taylor House is an excellent and well-preserved example of Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Wall construction in Forest Grove, Oregon. The Dutch Colonial Revival house was built by John Taylor in 1921. It is being nominated in association with the *Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Construction in Forest Grove, Oregon* Multiple Property Submission to the National Register.

#### SETTING

The Dr. W.R. and Eunice Taylor House is located at 2212 "A" Street in Forest Grove, Washington County, Oregon. It is located in a historic neighborhood northwest of downtown. Facing east, the house sits on the west side of the street on a slight rise above street level.

Forest Grove is located in western Washington County, approximately 25 miles west of Portland and 42 miles east of the Pacific Ocean. The city has a population of about 19,000 and is the home to Pacific University. The campus is located just a few blocks east of the Taylor House.

#### GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES

The Taylor House, basically rectangular in shape, is a 1½-story Dutch Colonial Revival style dwelling. There are shed dormers, which are nearly the full-width of the roof, located on both the front (east) and back (west) facades. A single-story sunroom is located on the south end of the house. A full-width, one-story porch spans the front and is distinguished by a central rounded arch roof flanked by a Craftsman-style pergola.

The house sits on a poured concrete foundation and full basement. The exterior walls of the house are concrete, constructed using John Taylor's patented process for hollow core walls. The interior walls are wood framed, as are the floor joists and roof structure. An exterior brick chimney is located on the north end of the house.

#### EXTERIOR FEATURES

The exterior walls of the house are finished with stucco on the first floor and gambrel ends. Painted wood shingles, laid in a straight coursing, cover the dormer walls. The walls beneath the sunroom windows are also stuccoed concrete. There is little ornamentation on the exterior walls, limited only to a simple frieze and cornice molding beneath the eaves.

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The gambrel roof is covered with wood shingles on the lower slopes and composition asphalt shingles on the upper slopes and dormer roofs. The pents that extend across the north and south walls at the eave line are covered with wood shingles. The roof of the sunroom is covered with the original welded tin sheeting, which has been coated with a contemporary water barrier finish. The roof of the porch is covered with several layers of built-up rolled roofing, which covered the original tin sheeting.

The front dormer is a shed dormer that extends nearly the full length of the house. The rear dormer, which is also a shed dormer, matches the front dormer in length, but has a slightly different configuration in that the center portion is actually deeper and extends out over the rear portion of the house that extends westward; smaller portions of the dormer flank the center section and are recessed behind the central portion by a number of feet. The soffited eaves extend slightly over the first floor walls; contemporary rain gutters are installed along the eaves on all sides of the house. The chimney on the north end of the house pierces the pent roof between the first and upper floor and at the top of the gambrel roof at the ridge line. A second, smaller chimney pierces the roof on the west side of the house near the ridge line slightly south of the center point of the roof.

The windows are original casement (sunroom) and double-hung wood sash (the rest of the house) with multiple vertical lights in the upper sash and a single pane in the lower sash. They include various widths and heights, some are grouped in pairs or triplets. The triplet set of windows on the south side of the back door was originally only a pair, but a kitchen remodel in the early 1980s resulted in the installation of the third window. The windows on the first floor and gambrel ends include frames set into the concrete walls and simple concrete sills. There is no decorative trim around these windows. Those in the dormers are framed into the wood structure and have simple wood trim surrounds. The windows in the sunroom include a bank of five windows framed together on both the east and west facades and a bank of four windows on the south. Many of the windows currently have exterior metal storm windows. Small louvered attic vents pierce the gambrel end walls, directly below the top ridge on the south end and offset to the east side of the chimney on the north end.

The centered front door is flanked by narrow sidelights set into wood framing with recessed panels below. The back door, which is not original, has a window in the upper portion and recessed panels in the lower portion. There is also an outside entrance to the basement, accessed by an exterior set of steps located at the northwest corner of the house.

Perhaps the most distinguishing characteristic of the house is the front porch. The foundation and decking of the full-width porch is concrete, as are the eight steps, which are centered on the porch. The supports consist of four large concrete piers topped by boxed wooden posts, which are tapered slightly and have simple molding at the top and bottom. Two of the supports are located at the north and south ends of the porch. The other two are centered on the porch, spaced with approximately ten feet between them. Two beams with decoratively cut ends sit atop the supports (one located on the south end, one located on the north end). These provide the structure for the cross beams, also adorned with decoratively cut ends, of the pergolas that extend south and north from the center portion of the porch. A barrel-vaulted roof, which also sits on the beams supported by the

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two center posts, covers the front entrance. The underside of the vault is soffited. A simple edge trim is located at the front of the outer edge of the vault roof. In front (to the east) of the center piers is a lower concrete wall which forms the side walls for the steps. Simple metal handrails have been installed on each side of the steps for safety. There is no railing on the porch itself.

The second most distinguishing characteristic of the Taylor House is the sunroom. Located on the south end of the house, the sunroom sits on a poured concrete foundation and is topped by a flat roof adorned with a railing, which gives the appearance of a balcony (because the only access to the sunroom roof is through a bedroom window on the second floor, it is not used as a balcony). The lower portions of the walls are hollow concrete; the upper portions are banks of windows.

### INTERIOR FEATURES

Located on the first floor of the house are the living room, the dining room, the kitchen, the entry/stair hall, the sunroom, and a half-bath. Three bedrooms, a sewing room, and a full bath are located on the second floor. The basement houses a laundry room, a furnace room, and a family room. The flooring on the first floor is oak (covered with carpeting in the living room); the second floor has fir flooring. The walls throughout the house are plaster and lath; some are painted and some are papered. The ceilings are also plaster. The original wood trim and cove moldings are intact throughout most of the house.

The living room spans the full-width of the house on the north end and is accessed from the entry/stair hall near the front entrance. The space is lit by three windows on the east (front) side of the house, one on the west side, and two (one on each side of the fireplace) on the north side. The fireplace, centered on the north wall, is the focal point in the room. The original brick hearth has been painted over and the original brick surrounds have been covered with a colored, opaque glass (perhaps Vitrolite or Carrera glass). The mantel piece is painted wood, with a simple shelf beneath which are pilasters adorned with parallel strips of molding. The entire fireplace/chimney unit extends from the wall surface into the room approximately one foot.

The dining room is located across the entry/stair hall from the living room through a pair of French doors. The room is lit by three windows on the east wall. This room was remodeled (c.1995) to include paneled wainscoting and a "pass-through" opening to the kitchen.

The sunroom is accessed through a door at the south end of the dining room. The dominant characteristic to this space is the banks of windows on three of four sides of the room. The original wood casement windows, complete with the original hardware, are intact. On the one solid wall, it appears that there may have been a window between the dining room and sunroom at some time, although this has not been confirmed.

The kitchen was remodeled in 1982 and a wall that created the hallway to the back of the house, as well as a small utility room, was removed to make the room larger and open up the space by creating a breakfast nook.

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The remodel included new cabinetry and the installation of an additional window in the west wall, creating a bank of three windows there rather than two. A further remodel in the 1990s added wainscot and the "pass-through" between the kitchen and dining room.

A small half-bath, also remodeled in the 1990s, is located at the back of the house near the back door. Access to the basement is located directly across from the back door.

The entry/stair hall, centered between the living room and dining room, is a bright open space, lit by the front door and its sidelights. In addition to access to the living room and dining room, the doorway to the kitchen and the stairs to the upper floor are located here. The lower three steps of the staircase are wide and rounded on the end that opens to the space, providing a nice finishing touch to the structure. Wainscot paneling has been added to the walls in this hall and along the stairs.

The stairs open to a landing and central hall on the second floor. The open staircase has a simple square post railing anchored by square, boxed newel posts. One of the posts is oversized and has a hinged top; this was the original laundry chute, later used as part of the ductwork for a heating system. This hall is lit on the west end by a single window. The paneled wainscoting is a recent addition.

The master bedroom is located in the northeast corner of the second floor. A pair of windows in the dormer and a second pair in the gambrel end light the room from two sides. A small closet is located in the northeast corner beneath the slope of the roof; a larger walk-in closet is located in the northwest corner and is lit by a window in the west dormer. In addition to a door to the center hall, there is a doorway that leads directly into the full bath, which is located in the dormer on the west side of the house.

The bathroom, which has been completely remodeled (c.1990s), is lit by a single window in the west dormer and has been sensitively appointed with beadboard wainscoting and a claw foot tub.

The second bedroom is located in the southeast corner of the second floor. Like the master bedroom, it is lit by a pair of windows in the east dormer; a single window is located on the south wall overlooking the roof of the sunroom. A small closet is tucked in the southeast corner beneath the slope of the roof.

The third bedroom is located in the southwest corner of the second floor. It is slightly smaller than the second bedroom and is lit by a single window in the south wall (which also overlooks the sunroom) and a pair of windows in the smaller portion of the dormer on the west side. A sizable closet is tucked beneath the dormer at the point that it extends out from the house on the west side.

A small sewing room is located between the two bedrooms in the dormer on the east side of the house. The room is defined by the three windows that span its entire length, making it a very bright room. It is currently used as a home office.

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The basement houses the laundry room and a family room. Because the house sits on a relatively high foundation, the basement is lit by sizable windows. The basement can be accessed from the backyard via an exterior set of stairs and doorway located at the northwest corner of the family room.

### OUTBUILDINGS AND LANDSCAPING

A wide concrete driveway on the north side of the house accesses the garage and carport. It is not known if the two-car garage was original to the house, although it appears to have been built relatively early. It has, however, been substantially altered by the construction of a gabled roof to replace the original flat roof and the installation of new siding, windows, and doors. A large carport is attached to the front of the garage. It is a more recent addition and abuts the house at the northwest corner adjacent to the covering over the patio in the backyard. The garage/carport is considered a non-contributing resource.

The front yard is open lawn with shrubs and flowers planted around the foundation. A small fountain and rose beds are located to the south. A concrete sidewalk runs parallel to the street in front of the house and a smaller concrete sidewalk runs from the street to the front steps of the porch. Pressed into the sidewalk leading to the porch is "W.R. Taylor, MD." The backyard is relatively small and recently landscaped with a concrete wall as fencing on the west side and a raised garden east of the wall. A concrete patio, with a shed roof covering, occupies much of the space in this yard. There is little space on the south side of the house, as the sunroom extends nearly to the lot line.

North of the house is a narrow, deep lot developed as the side yard with trees, a gazebo and small shed. A picket fence marks this lot on the north and east. The lot serves as the side yard for the Taylor House, but it is actually a separate tax lot outside of the nominated area.

### ALTERATIONS

The house is largely intact as it was built. Only the kitchen and bathrooms have undergone any substantial alterations, mostly out of need to modernize and update fixtures and appliances. The first remodel, which resulted in the reconfiguration of the back hallway and the kitchen occurred in 1982. It was also at this time that the fireplace surrounds were changed.

In c.1995, the current owners remodeled the bathrooms, restored the sunroom (the windows had been boxed in with plywood), and added wainscoting to many of the rooms and hallways. The family room in the basement was also a recent addition (to a previously unfinished space). The owners also repaired and replaced (in-kind) some of the pergola members, which had become deteriorated and had dry rot. Since then the only alterations have been cosmetic.

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Dr. W. R. & Eunice Taylor House  
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Also in the 1990s, the owners "repaired" the garage, replacing the original flat roof with a gabled roof and replacing the siding and windows with vinyl. The garage doors have also been replaced and a carport added to the front of the garage.

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Dr. W. R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Name of Property

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### NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

#### INTRODUCTION

The Dr. W.R. and Eunice Taylor House is a well-preserved, distinctive example of the Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Wall construction method developed and patented by Forest Grove contractor John Taylor. As one of less than a dozen buildings in Forest Grove that is known to have been built using Taylor's process, it is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion C for local significance. It is being nominated in association with the *Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Construction in Forest Grove, Oregon* Multiple Property Submission, which provides further contextual information about concrete construction.

#### TAYLOR PROCESS HOLLOW CONCRETE WALL CONSTRUCTION IN FOREST GROVE

By the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the use of concrete for building construction was becoming popular and technology was advancing quickly. Methods for reinforcing poured concrete had greatly added to its strength as a building material and the ability to mass-produce various sizes and shapes of concrete block furthered the use of the material throughout the United States, including Oregon. The use of hollow concrete wall construction, based on the notion of the cavity wall that was often used with stone or brick masonry walls, was used less often, in part due to the need for specialized molds or forms.

The hollow concrete wall, however, was seen as an ideal way to build durable buildings by Forest Grove contractor, John Taylor. After developing a process for constructing hollow concrete walls and using this method to build a small number of houses, Taylor filed an application for a patent for a "mold for constructing concrete building walls" on March 28, 1922. That application was registered with the United States Patent Office on May 12, 1922 and the patent was granted on March 11, 1924. The patent number was 1,486,499 (serial number 560,494).<sup>1</sup> The patented molds provided for a construction method that became known as the Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Wall.

The Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Wall system consisted of molds (or forms) for poured concrete buildings having double walls and a continuous air space between them, extending around all sides of the building. The walls were set on a concrete foundation (which sometimes included a full basement) and were built up in sections so that reinforcing ties could be added between the wall sections as the walls grew higher. This method of building the walls continued until they reached the desired height after which they were closed by means of a suitable cap. The exterior of the walls could be finished with a layer of any adaptable finish; documented examples of this work would indicate that stucco was the preferred finish. The system of molds included

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Patent records for March 1924.

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specifications for window and door framing. The roofs on the buildings used traditional wood framing systems. Details of the specifications as described in the U.S. patent can be found the attachments.

Although the thickness of the wall components was not detailed in the specifications for the molds, the thickness of each of the concrete walls and air space between them apparently was variable, depending on desired construction, controlled by the construction of the forms. The Zula Linklater House in Hillsboro (listed on the National Register in 1984) described the walls as “three and one-half inches thick with a two and one-half inch air cavity between them.”<sup>2</sup> An Oregon Inventory of Historic Properties survey form for the Dr. W.R. Taylor House in Forest Grove (1998) describes the walls as “two three-inch thick walls of concrete, separated by a 1½-inch air spaced connected with metal ties.”<sup>3</sup>

The system was adaptable to various architectural styles. Examples in Forest Grove include Craftsman bungalows, Colonial Revival, and modest Minimal Traditional houses. The Linklater House in nearby Hillsboro is an example of Mediterranean architecture. The construction method, when used for commercial buildings, also lent itself to simple, vernacular adaptations.

In January 1923, the Thormost Building Corporation was established for the purposes of promoting the Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Wall construction method. The company was incorporated with Charles W. Mertz, a long-time Forest Grove business owner, as president. John Taylor was listed as Vice-President. Taylor’s sons were also involved in the business, Herbert as the Secretary of the company and William as the Treasurer. According to Mrs. Zumwalt (William’s daughter), brother Walter was also involved in the company, but apparently not as an officer. The company was capitalized at \$20,000 with Mertz owning half of the interest and the Taylors owning the other half. According to a newspaper article announcing the formation of the company:

“the buildings that have been erected in Forest Grove have proven quite satisfactory to the owners who have had them built and the cost over solid concrete and brick is much less. In fact it is claimed that the concrete walls may be built by this method in competition with wood, and it has the advantage of being fireproof and everlasting. These gentlemen feel that with proper advertising and pushing they have a good thing in this patent wall.”<sup>4</sup>

The company’s brochure claims that the hollow concrete wall method is suitable for “residences, factories, garages, warehouses, churches, barns, silos, root cellars, etc.” It also lists several advantages to using this system of construction including “(1) comfort: warmer in winter; cooler in summer; absolutely dry – no

<sup>2</sup>Linklater, Zula, House National Register nomination form (1984).

<sup>3</sup>David Pinyerd, Oregon Inventory of Historic Properties Historic Resource Survey Form (2 January 1998).

<sup>4</sup>News-Times, 16 January 1923.

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dampness; (2) economy: costs less to build; no upkeep cost to maintain; saves one-third of fuel; secures lower insurance rates; and dispenses with lath and furring on the walls; (3) beauty: adaptable to any type or design of building; any finish desired – smooth, rough, stucco, pebble dash, brushed, painted, etc.; no cracks; (4) strength: practically monolithic; no deterioration – no settling or scaling off; and (5) safety: fire proof; and vermin proof – no rats or mice.”<sup>5</sup>

The earliest references to Taylor’s hollow concrete wall construction in Forest Grove appear in 1920 with the construction of the J.S. Buxton House. During the following four or five years, there seems to have been two or three buildings constructed each year by Taylor and his sons. After 1925, there is little information about the number, type or location of Taylor’s hollow concrete wall buildings. John Taylor died on November 4, 1931 in Seattle. What became of the Thormost company after his death is unclear. Mertz apparently lost his property to the bank during the Depression. Taylor sons William and Walter continued in the construction trade in Forest Grove, although they chose to build wood-framed buildings rather than concrete. The final reference to hollow concrete construction in Forest Grove seems to have been in 1935 when the new Forest Grove Memorial Chapel was built. Construction of the hollow concrete wall building was credited to the Kansas Company, rather than the Thormost company, and it is not known if this building used Taylor’s process.

To date, a total of thirteen buildings using this method have been confirmed in Oregon. All but three are located in Forest Grove. At least one other in Forest Grove is known to be hollow concrete wall construction, but it is not clear if it was built using Taylor’s process for building these walls. The buildings in Forest Grove known to be built using this method of construction include:

- the J. S. Buxton House, 1924 Pacific Avenue (1920)
- the John Parsons House, 1825 Mountain View Lane (c.1920)
- the Dr. W. R. Taylor House, 2212 “A” Street (1921)
- the Fred D. Gardner House, 1545 Main Street (1921)
- the C. L. Wagner House, 1318 Birch Street (1922)
- the Otto Osborn House, 3837 Pacific Avenue (1922)
- the Alpha Zeta House, 1806 Elm Street (1923)
- Mertz Rental House #1, 1929 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue (1925-26)
- Mertz Rental House #2, 1933 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue (1925-26)
- Mertz Rental House #3, 1604 Main Street (1925-26)

The other building that is known to be hollow concrete wall construction, but has not been confirmed to have used Taylor’s method of construction, is the Forest Grove Memorial Chapel on Pacific Avenue.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

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The three buildings outside of Forest Grove that are confirmed Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Wall buildings are the Krahmer Garage in Gaston, the Chester E. Johnson House in Aloha, and the Zula Linklater House in Hillsboro (listed on the National Register in 1984).

Additional information about the Taylor process and the history of concrete construction can be found in the *Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Wall Construction in Forest Grove, Oregon* Multiple Property Documentation Form.

### THE DR. W.R. AND EUNICE TAYLOR HOUSE

Dr. W.R. Taylor (no relation to John Taylor), a native Oregonian, graduated from Northwestern in Chicago and had practiced medicine in Milwaukie, Oregon for seven years before joining the army where he was a Captain. After his discharge, he and his family relocated to Forest Grove in April 1919, where he opened a medical practice as a physician and surgeon. His office was located in the Nixon Building in downtown Forest Grove and the family's first temporary residence was at the home of Joseph Marsh on First Avenue North (now 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue). In October 1919, the family rented Raleigh Walker's house at Second North (now 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue) and "A" Streets. His wife, Eunice, was from The Dalles, where she and their son, Billy, visited often.

On March 18, 1921, the local newspaper reported that Dr. Taylor had purchased a lot on "A" Street (from G.H. Baldwin) and was planning to have a residence built there in the near future. The lot, located between Second North and Third North (now 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>), measured 75 x 100 feet.<sup>6</sup> Dr. Taylor's practice must have been lucrative, for not only could he afford to have a new home built, but the following month the newspaper reported that he was "driving around these days in a nice new Dodge touring car."<sup>7</sup>

Construction on the house began in August 1921. The newspaper reported that a "handsome new home on North "A" Street between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> will be Colonial style" and that it was to be of concrete construction built by contractor John Taylor. The same newspaper noted that the construction on the new Fred D. Gardner House, also being built by Taylor, was approaching completion (that project was completed in September), indicating that the Taylor was building the two houses simultaneously.<sup>8</sup> The Taylor House was completed in December and Dr. and Mrs. Taylor moved into the house the end of that month.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>6</sup> News-Times, 18 March 1921.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., 28 April 1921.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., 4 August 1921.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid., 5 January 1922.

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Dr. Taylor continued his practice in Forest Grove until the spring of 1926, at which time he relocated to the Hood River area. In May 1926, it was announced that Dr. Roswell Waltz would take over Dr. Taylor's Forest Grove practice, opening his office in Taylor's old office in the Nixon Building on July 1.<sup>10</sup> Not only did Dr. Waltz take over Taylor's medical practice, but the Waltz family rented Taylor's house on "A" Street, where they lived for a couple years before moving to another rental on Gales Creek Road.

The house was sold in 1929 to George and Cynthia Bennett. They retained ownership until 1947 when Homer and Ann Waltz (no relation to Dr. Waltz) bought the house. The house has remained in the Waltz family since that time and is currently owned by the Waltz's granddaughter and her husband, Margie and Clay Actor.

### SUMMARY

The Dr. W.R. and Eunice Taylor House, locally significant under Criterion C, meets the Registration Requirements of the Multiple Property Submission as an excellent and well-preserved example of the Taylor Process Hollow Concrete Wall Construction method. It was built by John Taylor in 1921 and possesses sufficient integrity to convey its significance, including integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Although not required for association with the MPS, the house does retain its original function as a single-family home. The garage/carport is a non-contributing feature.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid., 27 May 1926.

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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area is located in Section 31 of Township 1 North, Range 3 West of the Willamette Meridian, in Washington County, Oregon, and is legally identified as Tax Lot 1N3 31CC-5201 at this location.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated area, less than one acre in size, includes the original lot associated with the Dr. W.R and Eunice Taylor House in 1921. The resources located on this lot include the house (contributing) and the garage/carport (non-contributing). The adjacent lot, which serves as the side yard for this house, is located on a separate tax lot and is not included in the nominated area.

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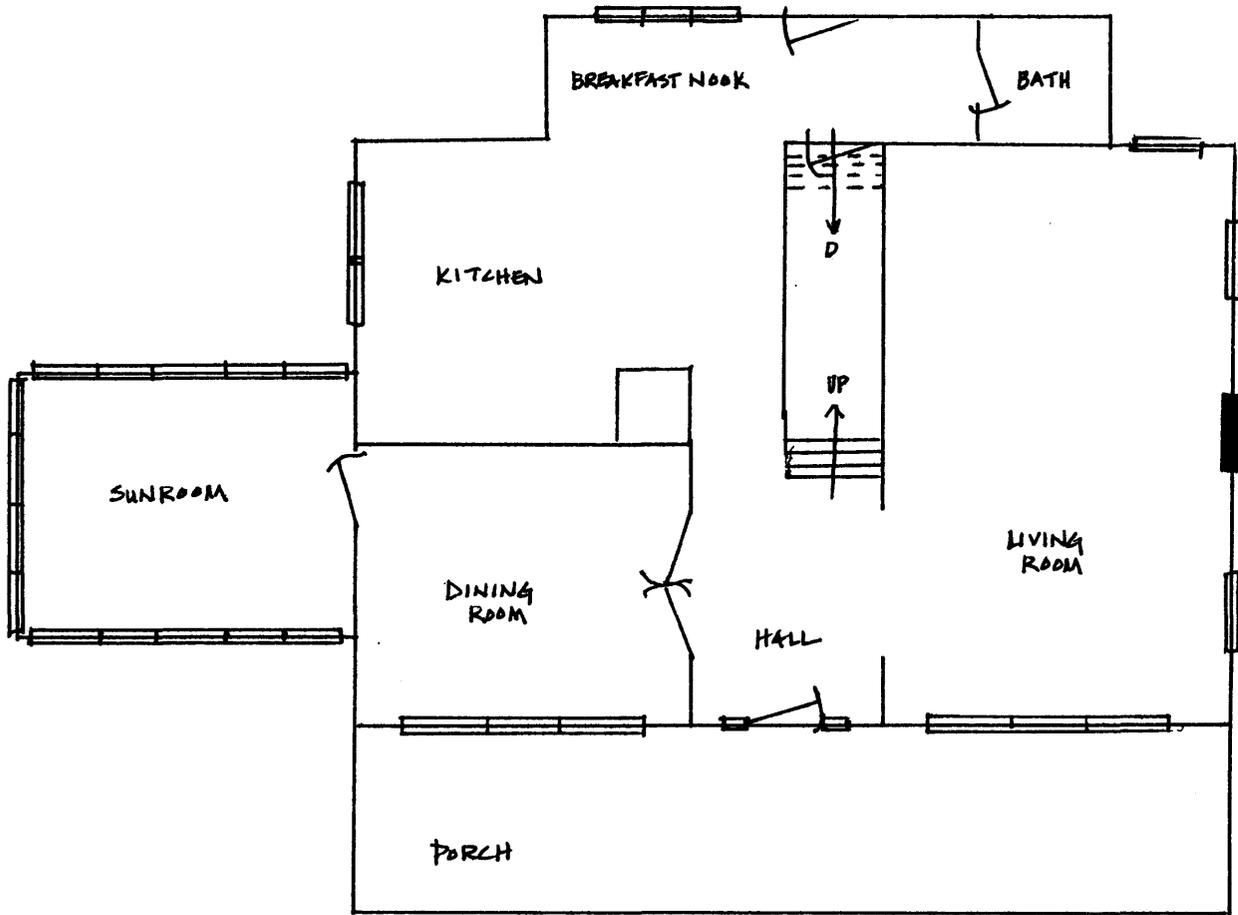
Washington, Oregon  
County, State

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### PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

- #1 Front (east) and north end of house
- #2 Front (east) side of house
- #3 Front (east) and south end of house
- #4 North end of house
- #5 Back (west) side of house
- #6 Living room, east end
- #7 Living room, west end
- #8 Dining room (from sunroom)
- #9 Sunroom
- #10 Kitchen and breakfast nook
- #11 Center stairhall (looking from front door west toward kitchen/breakfast nook)
- #12 Upper stairhall (from west end toward sewing room on east)
- #13 Master bedroom
- #14 Bedroom #2 (southeast corner of house)
- #15 Bedroom #3 (southwest corner of house)
- #16 Sewing room
- #17 Bathroom (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

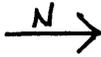
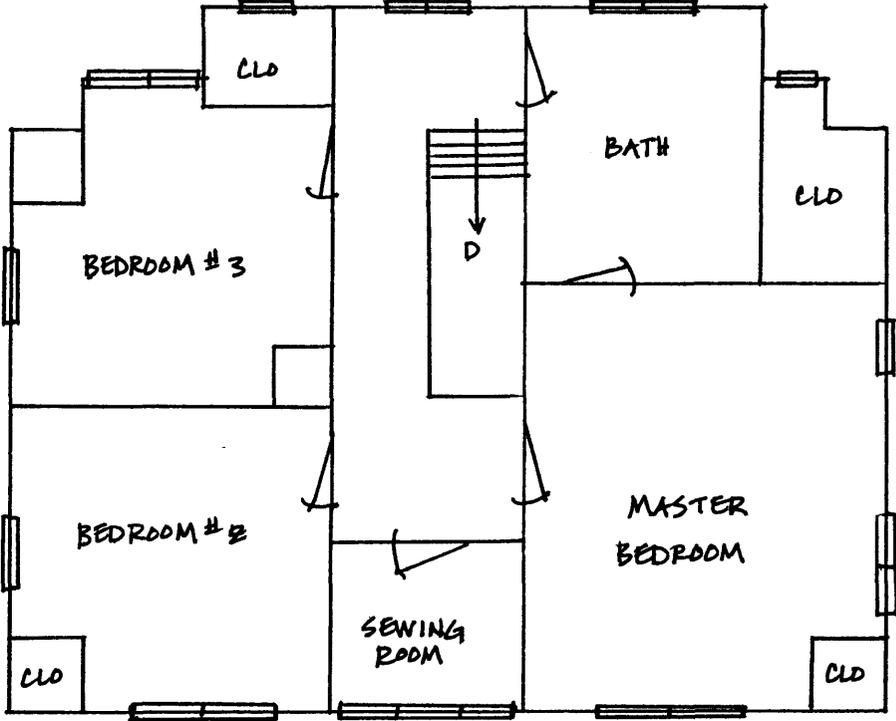
Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co., OR  
Floor Plan (1<sup>st</sup> floor)



(not to scale)



Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co., OR  
Floor Plan (2nd floor)



(not to scale)



Dr. W. R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co., OR

Photo #1



Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR  
Photo # 2



Dr. W. R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR

Photo # 3



Dr. W. R. Taylor House

Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR

Photo # 4



Dr. W.R. : Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co., OR

Photo # 5



Dr. W. R. & Eunice Taylor House

Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR

Photo # 6



Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR

Photo # 7



Dr. W. R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR

Photo # 8



Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR  
Photo # 9



Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR

Photo # 10



Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR

Photo # 11



Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR  
Photo # 12



Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR  
Photo <sup>A</sup> 13



Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House

Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR

Photo # 14



Dr. W.R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR

Photo #15



Dr. W. R. & Eunice Taylor House  
Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR  
Photo #16



Dr. W. K. & Eunice Taylor House

Forest Grove, Washington Co, OR

Photo # 17