

Oregon Historic Site Record

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME			
address:	1020 SW Cheltenham Ct Portland, Multnomah County	historic name:	Kiernan House
assoc addresses:		current/other names:	Curry, George L., House
location descr:		block/lot/tax lot:	
		twshp/rng/sect/qtr sect:	1S 1E 16
PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS			
resource type:	Building	height (stories):	1.0
elig evaluation:	eligible/significant	total elig resources:	1
prim constr date:	c. 1865	NR Status:	Individually Listed
	second date:	date indiv listed:	03/18/2019
primary orig use:	Single Dwelling	orig use comments:	
second orig use:		prim style comments:	
primary style:	Italianate	sec style comments:	
secondary style:		siding comments:	
primary siding:	Horizontal Board	architect:	N/A
secondary siding:		builder:	N/A
plan type:	Central Passage		
COMMENTS/NOTES:			
Major rear addition dates to 1880. Property moved from original location in 1880 and from downtown Portland to current location in 1964 and basement added. Some Italianate detailing and restoration added after 1980 (per inventory form of c. 1980). Historic link to Governor Curry is alleged.			
GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS			
Survey/Grouping Included In:	Type of Grouping	Date Listed	Date Compiled
Settlement-era Dwellings, Barns & Farm Groups of the Willamette Valley, Oregon	Survey & Inventory Project		2013
Settlement-era Dwellings, Barns and Farm Groups of the Willamette Valley MPD	MPS	02/24/2015	
SHPO INFORMATION FOR THIS PROPERTY			
NR date listed:	03/18/2019	106 Project(s):	None
ILS survey date:		Special Assess Project(s):	None
RLS survey date:	12/19/2012	Federal Tax Project(s):	None
ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION			
<i>(Includes expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings and alterations)</i>			
<p>The circa 1865 Kiernan House is located at 1020 S.W. Cheltenham Court in the Terwilliger Heights neighborhood of southwest Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. The Italian Villa style house was moved to this location from downtown Portland in 1964, and today comprises 2,167 square feet with a 1,365-square-foot finished basement. This one-story, wood-framed building retains many of its original Italian Villa/Italianate features, including flush tongue-and-groove board siding, four-over-four segmental-arched windows, door and window trim, and porch and eave details, and as a result it readily reflects its historic appearance as a rare example of the Italian Villa style. Due to the sloping topography of the lot, the building now has a full-height basement, and was also expanded with a rear addition to the east of the original portion of the dwelling soon after the relocation. Included within the nominated area, which consists of the entirety of the .31-acre tax lot, are three newer non-contributing features (a gazebo, small garden shed, and greenhouse). Although the building has been relocated and shows several alterations, including historic (circa 1885) and non-historic (1964-66 and 2000) additions, and some interior changes, it retains nearly all of the character-defining elements of its circa 1865 to circa 1885 period of significance. Because the Kiernan House was moved in 1964, its integrity of location and setting has been compromised, but the change of venue does not negatively affect the building's ability to convey its architectural period and style, or its historic appearance, and thus its architectural significance remains clearly evident.</p>			
HISTORY			
<i>(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period - preferably to the present)</i>			
<p>The circa 1865 Kiernan House is being nominated to the National Register under Criteria A and C, utilizing the Multiple Property Document "Settlement-era Dwellings, Barns, and Farm Groups of the Willamette Valley, Oregon (1841-circa 1865) (MPD). The period of significance spans the period of its nineteenth century construction, circa 1865-circa 1885. The house is locally significant in Portland, Multnomah County, as well as within the broader context of the nine Willamette Valley counties addressed in the MPD. The house meets National Register Criterion A at the local level of significance in the area of Exploration/Settlement as a rare survivor of Portland's pioneer past. The circa 1865 construction date places the house at the end of the settlement era as outlined in the MPD, and its physical characteristics provide an excellent illustration of the early use of the Italian Villa/Italianate style on residential architecture in Oregon. Houses from this period and style are rare: this building is one of only three Italianate single-family houses built before 1870, and one of nine single-family dwellings of any style built before 1870 that are known to remain in Portland from the early period of development. The property is also locally significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent example of the Italian Villa style in Portland. The diminutive, boxy form is embellished with relatively simple but finely articulated Italianate detailing, including the flush exterior wood siding, segmental arched windows, paneled frieze, paired brackets, and sawn porch details. The house was listed as a Portland City Landmark in 1970, and was included in the City of Portland Historic Resource Inventory of the mid-1980s. Initially constructed circa 1865 with additions circa 1885 and in 1964-1966, this pioneer-era house continues to clearly and effectively convey its historic style and function through the many remaining original materials and architectural elements. Because the house was moved, Criteria Consideration B applies, and in spite of (or perhaps as a result of) the relocation, it retains a high degree of historical integrity in the areas of materials, design, workmanship, feeling, and association. All integrity of location and setting has been lost, but stylistically the house clearly reflects the characteristics of the Italian Villa style, and it is well-suited to its current location, which complements and highlights the spirit of the Italian Villa mode promoted by Andrew Jackson Downing in the mid-nineteenth century. Retaining most of the qualities that characterize its style and period of construction, the Kiernan House stands as a rare, mid-nineteenth century example of the style in Portland, a city that retains very few dwellings from its early years of development.</p>			
RESEARCH INFORMATION			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Title Records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives <input type="checkbox"/> State Library	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs

Local Library:

Historical Society: Oregon Historical Society

University Library:**Other Respository:****Bibliography:**

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