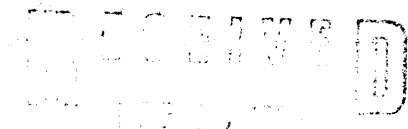


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**



NATIONAL REGISTER

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 Latourette, DeWitt Clinton, House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 914 Madison Street not for publication
city, town Oregon City vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Clackamas code 005 zip code 97045

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number 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.
Janis Harvick January 10, 1992
Signature of certifying official Date
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In 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. 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:) _____

Aelous Byers 3/5/92

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)

Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)Late Victorian: Queen Anne

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls wood: weatherboards

roof asphalt: composition shingles

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

The DeWitt Clinton Latourette House is a two-story, wood frame dwelling constructed in 1891 in the Queen Anne Vernacular style. It is located in the McLoughlin neighborhood (Latourette Canyon) of Oregon City, (Tax Lot 7500, Map 2-2E-31AA) in Clackamas County, Oregon. The builder was DeWitt C. Latourette. The house is in excellent condition, retaining integrity of design, materials, setting and workmanship. It retains its original use as a single family residence. Latourette also built a large barn on the property which was located adjacent to the north of the house. It was demolished some time during the historic period.

SETTING

The subject building is prominently sited on the southeast corner (as the platting is placed on the diagonal from true coordinates, the quadrant could be considered to be the southern quadrant of the intersection) of the intersection of 10th and Madison streets. Oriented toward Madison street the house is sited above grade on a large lot, which slopes downward to the north and east. The west property line is delineated by a concrete retaining wall several feet in height. The wall is interrupted by a stairway consisting of five risers which ascend to a walkway leading to the main entrance of the house.

The house is located in the McLoughlin neighborhood, a portion of which has been designated as a Conservation District because of a wealth of historic vernacular architecture. Many of the homes in the neighborhood, such as the subject house, were constructed for Oregon City's most prominent citizens.

The neighborhood consists of approximately 153 city blocks, in a 455 acre area, of which 121 are from the original plat of Oregon City. Within the neighborhood, 33 per cent of the buildings were constructed prior to 1910, and there is a distinct character and continuity of historic resources; however, there have also been a number of intrusive uses making historic district designation problematic. The area in the immediate vicinity of the subject house contains a number of late 19th and early 20th century residences that maintain a high degree of physical integrity.

EXTERIOR

The two-story Latourette House is essentially ell-shaped with a hip-roofed volume at the intersection of the primary volumes. The house rests on a brick foundation (faced with stucco on the exterior) and has a full daylight basement. The steeply pitched gable roof is sheathed in composition shingles and gabled dormers pierce the north and east slopes of the roof. Each dormer has a four-light window and decorative stickwork in the upper gable end. A tall chimney stack sheathed in stucco pierces the roof on the north slope.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

Exterior walls are sheathed in shiplap siding at the first floor with shingles above. A decorative shingle course delineates the first floor from the second.

A hip roofed porch extends across the primary facade of the house and wraps around the southwest corner. The porch roof is supported by rectangular posts and there is a simple balustrade with rectangular balusters. The original turned posts were covered over in the 1920s with the existing rectangular supports and the original balusters were replaced. The current owner plans to uncover the turned posts and recreate the original balusters based on historic photographs.

Three secondary entrances are located at the rear of the building: two provide access the rear porch and a third provides access to the basement.

Windows are predominantly narrow, one-over-one double-hung sash, some of which are in pairs, and some of which have decorative wood trim at the sills and heads. Small, fixed pane four-light windows illuminate the basement. A polygonal bay window projects from the north elevation of the hipped-roof volume.

The only major alterations to the exterior of the house are the above-noted changes to the porch, covering over of the original brick chimney with stucco, and the addition of composition roof material.

INTERIOR

The spatial arrangement of the Latourette House remains intact as built. The first floor consists of five main rooms: living room, dining room, bedroom, kitchen, and bath. There are three bedrooms and one bath on the second floor. The basement consists of a large unfinished space.

Window and door surrounds throughout much of the house are molded with bulls-eye decorative motifs in the corners. Mop boards consist of plain seven inch boards with a simple cap. Doors are primarily the five-panel type common to the period. Walls are lathe and plaster and either painted or papered. Floors throughout most of the first and second floors of the house have been carpeted, with the exception of the kitchen and bathrooms which have been replaced with linoleum.

Notable features on the first floor of the house include the ornate fireplace in the dining room, handsome paneled pocket doors between the living room and dining room, and lovely stained glass window which illuminates the foyer. Also of note is the stairway with its handsome paneled newel post.

The owners recently received approval from the Oregon City Historic Review Board for the following work: screen rear porch; restore original chimney; restore shutters to facade windows; restore porch posts and balustrade; addition of doors to the basement on the north elevation; addition of a retaining wall; and construction of a three-car dug-in garage on 10th Street. Conditions attached to the approval include review of specifics of

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 3

garage door design and finish material which must either match siding on house or the stucco on basement walls. Approval is pending subject to staff review.

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
Commerce

Period of Significance

1891
1891-1926

Significant Dates

1891-1906
1891-1906

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Latourette, DeWitt Clinton (1856-1937)

Architect/Builder

Latourette, DeWitt Clinton

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

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Latourette, D.C., n.d. Unpublished Latourette Family History.

Oregon City Developmental Services Department, Oregon City Historic Resource Inventory, 1982.

Polk, R.L. and Company, Oregon City Directory, 1924.

Sanborn Insurance Company, Fire Maps of Oregon City, Oregon, 1926.

Ticor Title Company, deeds and other miscellaneous records, 1991.

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository:

Oregon City Planning Department

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 0.30 acres Oregon City, Oregon 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	0
---	---

5	3	1	4	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

5	0	2	2	5	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

D

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is located in NE¹/₄ NE¹/₄ Section 31, Township 2S, Range 2E, Willamette Meridian, in Oregon City, Clackamas County, Oregon and is legally described as Lots 7 and 8, Block 127, Plat of Oregon City. It is otherwise identified as Tax Lot 7500 at said location. Clackamas County Assessor's Map Ref. No. 2 2E 31AA.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The bounds of the nominated area correspond to those of the urban tax lot presently associated with the house built by D. C. Latourette in 1891.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Julie Koler
organization Koler/Morrison Planning Consultants date August 15, 1991
street & number 2420 E. Lee Street telephone (206) 324-4381
city or town Seattle state Washington zip code 98112

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Queen Anne-style house at the southeast corner of Madison and Tenth streets in the McLoughlin neighborhood of Oregon City was constructed for farmer-lawyer-banker Dewitt Clinton Latourette in 1891. It is a generally well preserved example of a common vernacular type which is L-shaped in plan and has a gable end entry with wrap-around veranda. The gable-roofed building occupies a double lot in the Latourette Canyon section, which was named for the building owner whose holdings in the area were extensive.

Facing west onto Madison Street, the house rises on a high basement and displays a full array of characteristic features of the popular Queen Anne/Eastlake style in its variegated siding, both shiplap and shingles, "half timbering," or stick work in gable peaks, flared shingles above the second story string course, a beveled and hooded corner window bay, and decorative window sill aprons. Windows, typically, are double-hung and fitted with one-over-one lights. The exterior conveys its original appearance with two exceptions. A massive brick chimney stack rising from the cross-gabled section at the rear is stuccoed and lacks its flared top, and the original Eastlake-style veranda posts and balustrade were replaced by square posts and a Craftsman-style railing. Both of these aspects are to be restored by the current owner, who will be using sound documentary evidence of an early historic photograph for control. Louvered window shutters also will be returned to the facade. In the historic period, the horizontal variegation of exterior elevations was heightened by a contrasting, two or three-color paint scheme.

The interior of the house is intact, complete with its Eastlake-style parlor chimneypiece with mirrored and pedimented overmantle and ceramic tile firebox surround. Other features that were standard millwork of the type and period are paneled sliding pocket doors and beaded door and window trim elaborated with bull's-eye corner blocks.

A comparative analysis of the D. C. Latourette House and three kindred Queen Anne residences in the McLoughlin neighborhood shows the Latourette House to be the best representative of the vernacular type, as opposed to high style, because of the completeness and variety of its decorative details. The Queen Anne style was based on the ideal of surface elaboration and asymmetry.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

The Latourette House, therefore, meets National Register Criterion C for local significance.

The house also is locally significant for its association with DeWitt Clinton Latourette (1856-1937), the son of Oregon City pioneers. Its original occupant was the cousin of Charles Latourette, whose high style Queen Anne residence on High Street was listed in the National Register in 1980. The two were leading figures in the business and professional life of Oregon City over many years and for a time maintained a joint legal practice.

Outstanding contributions of D. C. Latourette's career included his long service as treasurer and trustee for the McMinnville College, the forerunner of Linfield College, from 1886 to 1906, and his crucially supportive role in area commerce as co-founder, with his cousin Charles, of the Commercial Bank of Oregon City. From 1889 onward, D. C. Latourette headed this, the second oldest and one of the most influential banking enterprises in the Clackamas County seat, as president. McMinnville College, founded early in the settlement period in neighboring Yamhill County, and chartered by the Territorial Legislature, was the state's important Baptist denominational school. Latourette was in charge of the school's finances at the vital point of its growth as an institution of higher education. The 25-acre tract that was to be the campus core had been donated, and the first permanent school building was newly completed when D. C. Latourette stepped to the fore. His acumen aided materially the spurt of enrollment and development that marked the school's progress at the turn of the century.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 3

The Latourette House, constructed in 1891, is locally significant under criterion "c" as a well-preserved example of a Queen Anne Vernacular style residence located in the Latourette Canyon section of Oregon City's McLoughlin neighborhood. The dwelling is secondarily significant under criterion "b" for its association with prominent Oregon City resident DeWitt Clinton Latourette, who made a substantial contribution to the area banking industry. The date of construction is based on tax assessor records and confirmed by a family history of D.C.Latourette.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Oregon City's unique topography played a critical role in the community's development. The city is built on three massive basalt terraces. The first terrace is the site of the original city plat and business district. The city's earliest dwellings were constructed in this area and in Canemah, located just to the south of Oregon City and now a part of it. The next terrace, 100 feet above the first, is the current residential district called the McLoughlin neighborhood. It is connected to the first level by steep streets, a municipal elevator, and several flights of steep stone steps. The McLoughlin neighborhood is bounded by bluffs on the northwest; Waterboard Park on the southwest; and Division Street on the southwest.

The earliest dwellings in the McLoughlin neighborhood were constructed in approximately 1850, and by 1891, the year that DeWitt Latourette built the subject house, there were numerous residences in the area. By the turn-of-the-century the neighborhood had over 300 houses constructed in a variety of popular styles of the day.

The Latourette House is located in a portion of the McLoughlin neighborhood called Latourette Canyon named for DeWitt Latourette, who in addition to his family residence, owned a number of city blocks in the area. This part of the McLoughlin neighborhood is divided by a large canyon and several smaller ravines cut by creeks whose courses are redirected under the streets to reach the Willamette River. There are several dozen well-preserved late 19th and early 20th century dwellings in this area of which ten were designed in the Queen Anne style. In addition to the subject dwelling, these include the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 4

Walker Residence (c. 1890); Eva Emery Dye Residence (c. 1893); White Residence (c. 1895); Erickson Residence (c. 1910); Kuerton Residence (c. 1895); Howell Residence (c. 1885); Babcock Residence (c. 1894); Goettling Residence (c. 1903); and the Huntley Residence (1896). Of these dwellings six may be considered "high style" examples of the Queen Anne style incorporating complex plans, several with towers, and a variety of decorative features such as fancy shingles, turned posts and balustrades, and many "Eastlake-inspired" decorative features.

The remaining four, including the Latourette House, fall into a subcategory of the Queen Anne called the Queen Anne Vernacular or Vernacular Queen Anne. These include the White, Erickson, and Goettling houses which are characterized by relatively simple plans, either a T or L-shape, to which a modicum of decorative detail has been applied. Of the four dwellings, the Erickson House was not considered for comparative purposes because it appears to have been built later than the other three (perhaps as late as 1910) and because its overall form and massing is somewhat more Bungalowoid than the others.

The remaining three share a number of common features including decorative shingles, turned posts and so forth, and all three have had some minor alterations: the Goettling House has had a one-story wing with porch added (n.d.), and the White House has had some minor changes in the fenestration.

The Latourette house is a simple L-plan dwelling featuring curved wooden batts in the gable ends, wood medallions in some of the window moldings, and a handsome stained glass window on the south (side) elevation. Also of note are the fishscale shingles between the first and second floors, and decorative porch brackets. The only change of any significance to the exterior of the Latourette House is the enclosure of the original slender, turned porch posts within the existing rectangular porch posts, and removal of the original balustrade. A photograph of the house taken during the 1890s shows clearly the configuration of the original porch posts and balustrade and the current owner plans to restore the porch to its original form.

With restoration of the above-noted elements the Latourette House will be the least altered of the three houses and the best representative of the Queen Anne Vernacular idiom in the neighborhood.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

DeWitt Clinton Latourette was born November 14, 1856, in a cabin on his parents' farm some three miles southeast of Oregon City. His father, L.D.C. Latourette, had come West by wagon train in 1848 after graduating from college in the East and teaching for a time in Michigan and Kentucky. The elder Latourette spent his first year in Oregon teaching in Forest Grove, then went on to the California gold fields in 1849 where he prospered, returning to Oregon with about \$7000. He established a successful store in Oregon City, and in 1851 married Lucy Jane Grey Fisher, daughter of early Baptist missionary Ezra Fisher. Soon afterward he purchased the rights to the donation land claim bearing his name. In 1856 he sold his Oregon City store to devote his time to his highly productive farm, to civic and church affairs, and to his flourishing financial loan business. In

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 5

ensuing years he served as city councilman in Oregon City, county road supervisor, and school director of Maple Lane, where his farm was located, named for the numerous maple trees L.D.C. Latourette planted.

Lucy, first wife of L.D.C., died of scarlet fever in 1864, leaving three children--Willard, Lucy Adelaide and Dewitt Clinton. Five months later L.D.C. married Ann Eliza, younger sister of his dead wife, and had by her five children--Nina, Lyman, Nellie, Edward and Lucy Alfreda. L.D.C. died in 1886 of blood poisoning after being injured by a runaway horse.

DeWitt Clinton, the second son of L.D.C. and Lucy Latourette completed Maple Lane School, Tualatin Academy and Pacific University in Forest Grove, graduating in 1878. His future wife, was also a member of the graduating class. He taught in South Yamhill School in 1878, and for the next two years taught at McMinnville College, at that time only a small frame building with two teachers. In 1880, DeWitt studied law in the Oregon City offices of McCown & Johnson, and was admitted to the bar in 1882.

In 1882, he married Rhoda Ellen Scott, who had earned both a B.A. and M.A. at Pacific University. Rhoda, a teacher from a well-known pioneer family in education, had distinguished herself as a classical scholar. The couple first rented a house on the northeast corner of John Adams and Eleventh Streets in Oregon City, where their first three children were born. In 1891 DeWitt built the subject dwelling and a large barn adjacent to the north of the house. The family moved into the house on Christmas 1891. There two more children were born.

DeWitt was a successful farmer, extending Latourette family holdings as well as his own including part of the donation land claim of his mother's father, Ezra Fisher. This claim lay on Abernethy Creek adjoining L.D.C.'s donation land claim. DeWitt also acquired the two-block area which was to become known as the family "home place" in Oregon City--on which the nominated house was built and now stands. In his personal account records of the old home, DeWitt noted the cost of the "home place" at \$5,572.78, including the land, the barn and house, as well as the cost of clearing the land, and landscaping.

DeWitt Clinton Latourette and his cousin Charles Latourette set up a successful law partnership in which DeWitt managed the banking and mortgage branch of the firm, becoming a prominent financial figure in the state. When his father died in 1886 DeWitt took charge of the L.D.C. Latourette estate and lands, ensuring through investments and further acquisitions the continued prosperity of the widow, and the education of the remaining younger children of his father. Among other positions, he was treasurer and a trustee for McMinnville College (now Linfield College) for many years, until 1906, lending its endowment on mortgages.

Latourette's most significant contribution, however, was his extensive involvement in local banking enterprises. In 1889, he became president of the Commercial Bank of Oregon City, the second oldest bank in Clackamas County, which he had organized with his cousin Charles. The bank operated for many years as one of the city's most important financial institutions before it was absorbed by First National Bank. DeWitt was also the legal and

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 6

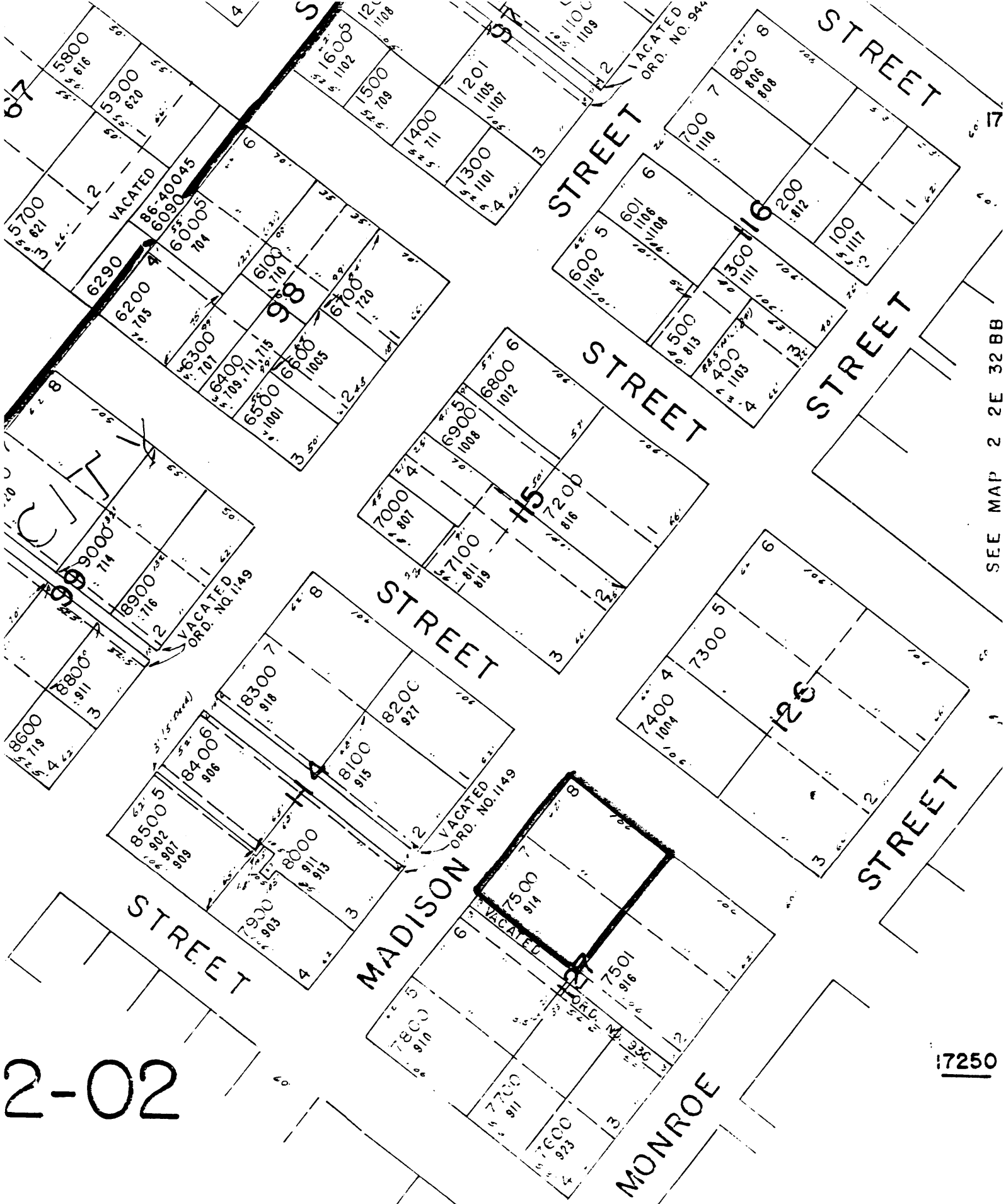
financial advisor for the Baptist Church, in which he had always been a major activist and leader. In addition, he was part owner of Clackamas Abstract and Trust Company, and held financial interest in many other business entities. He and his cousin Charles distinguished themselves as pioneer legal and banking leaders.

DeWitt and Rhoda Latourette had five children: Kenneth Scott, born August 9, 1884; Carol, born August 4, 1888, died March 14, 1889; Lucy Ruth, born March 27, 1890; Perrin, who drowned August 12, 1903; and Dorothy, born July 30, 1896.

After disposing of his banking interests in the early years of the 20th century, DeWitt continued the practice of law and management of his widespread financial and land enterprises. He and Charles dissolved their law partnership in 1926. At about the same time he survived a heart attack but was restricted in his usually very active life. DeWitt died in 1937 and his wife Rhoda survived him by six years.

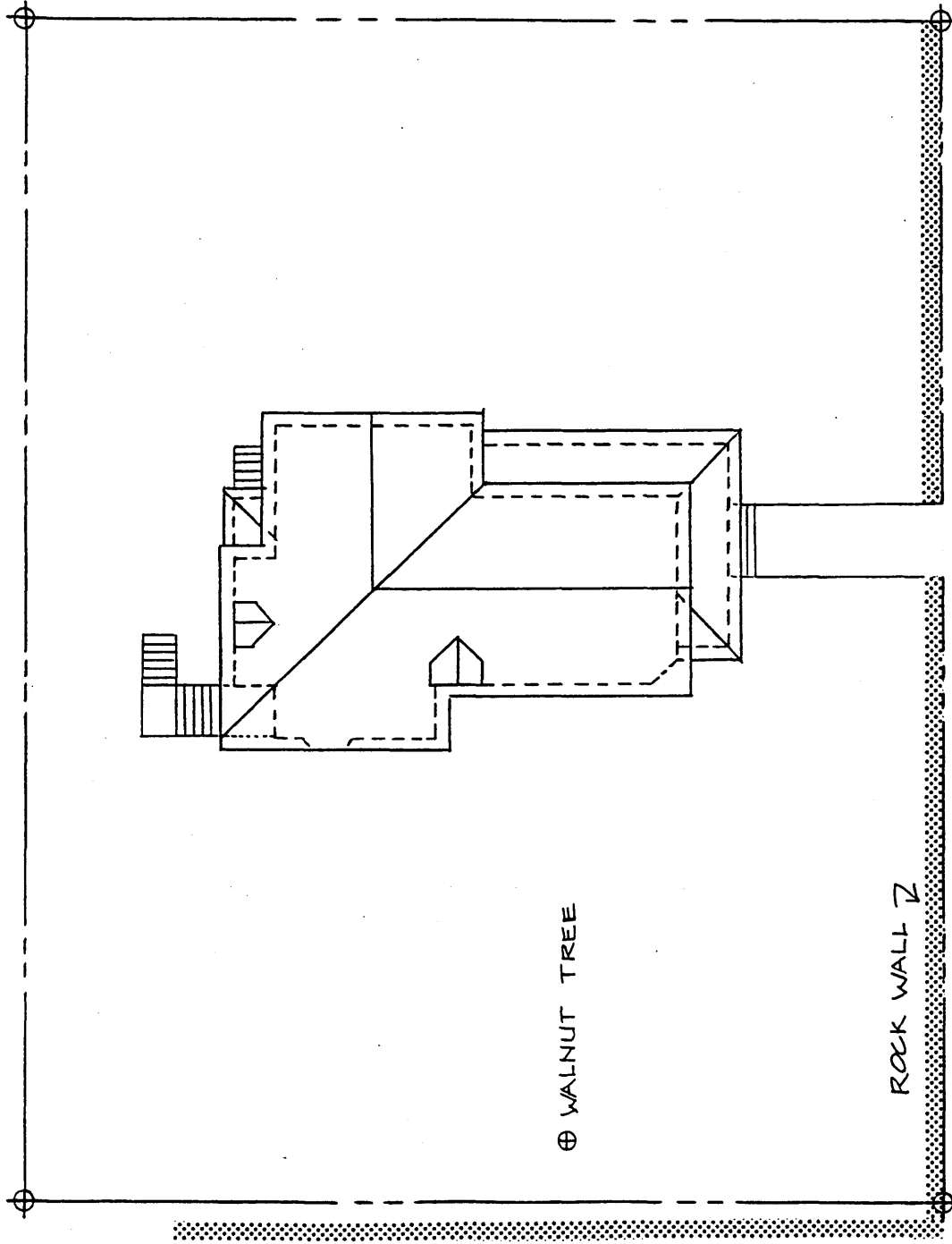
The Latourette House is significant to the community for its association with the life of one of Oregon's City most prominent early businessmen, who played an important role in the civic life of the community. The bank which he co-founded was for many years one of the city's most important financial institutions. The subject property is also of significance because it is a well-preserved and excellent example of the Queen Anne Vernacular style in its immediate neighborhood.

2-02



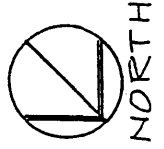
SEE MAP 2 2E 32BB

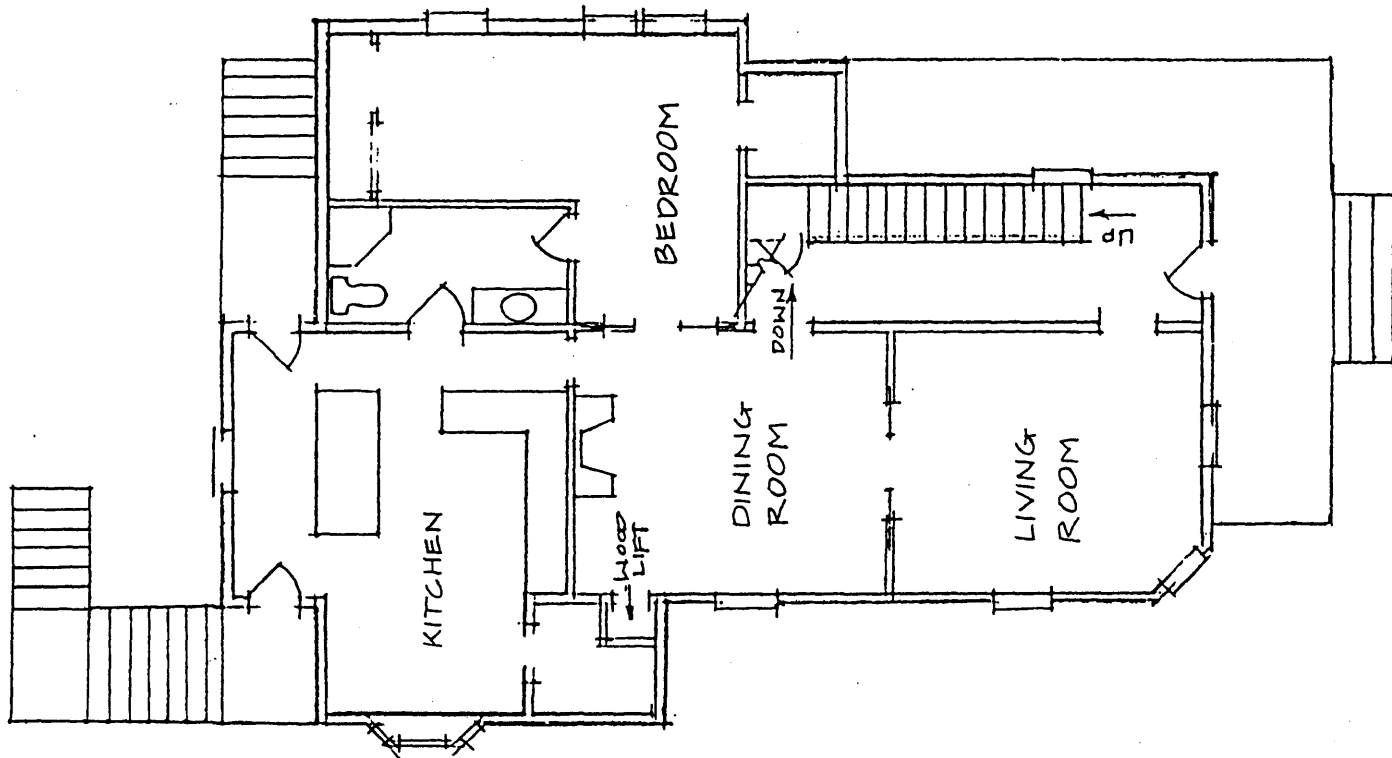
17250



D.C. LATOURETTE HOUSE
OREGON CITY, OREGON
SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 20' - 0"

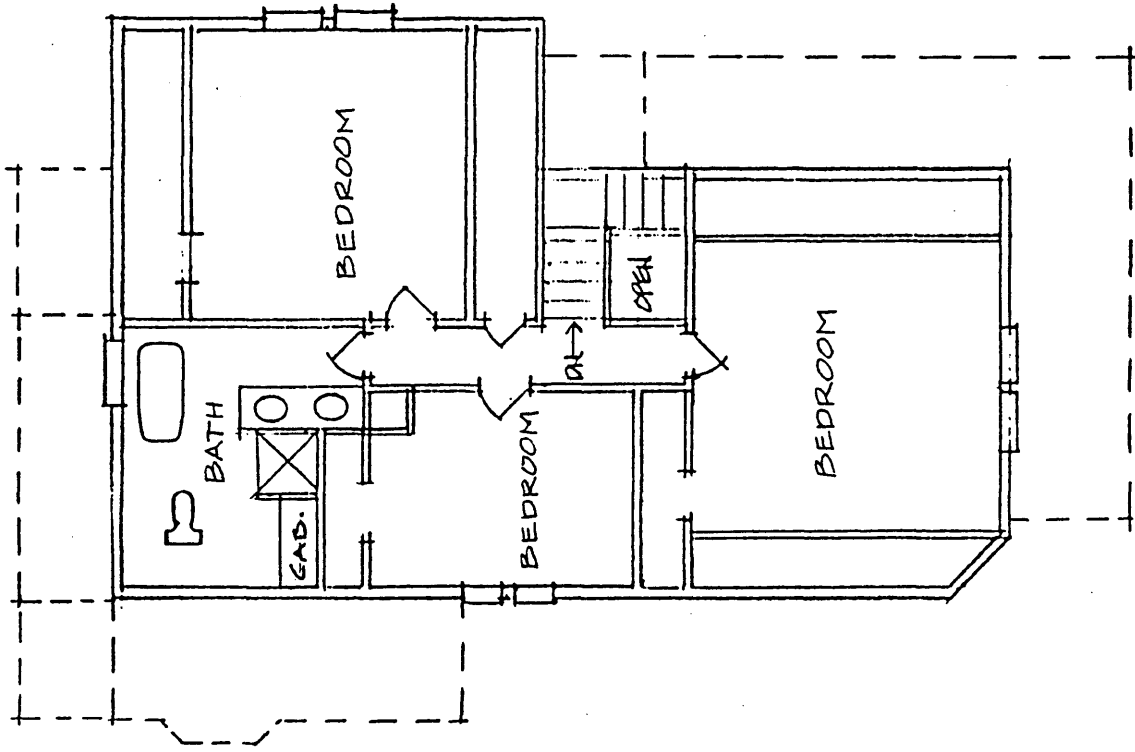
8-15-91





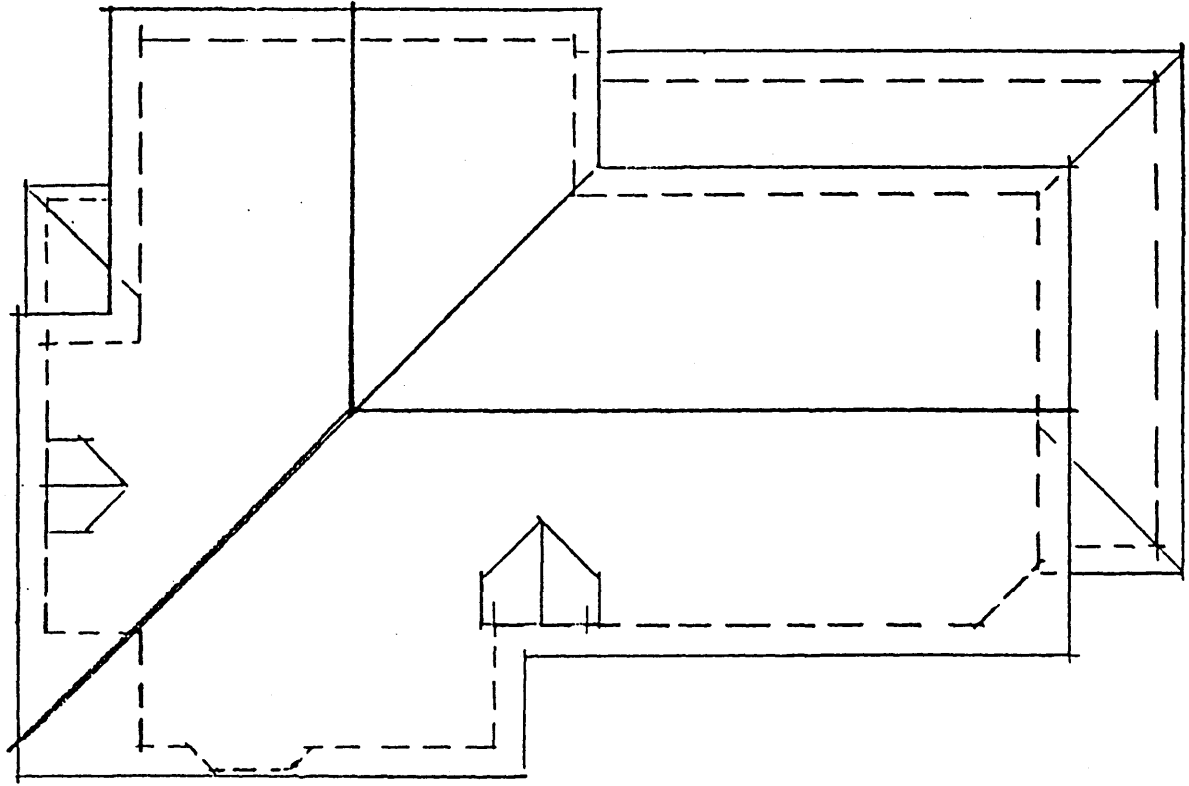
P.C. LATOURETTE HOUSE
OREGON CITY, OREGON
MAIN FLOOR
SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"

8-15-91



D.C. LATOURETTE HOUSE
OREGON CITY, OREGON
SECOND FLOOR
SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"

8-15-91



D.C. LATOURETTE HOUSE
OREGON CITY,
ROOF PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"

8-15-91

HISTORIC VIEW
LAILOURETTE, DEWITT CLINTON, HOUSE
OREGON CITY
CLACKAMAS COUNTY, OREGON

