United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic	Taylor, Peter	House and Haeh	len, Got	lieb, House	
and/or common	Same				
2. Loca	ation				
street & number	2806 and 2816 S	W First Ave nue	•	Α	₩ not for publication
city, town	Portland	_ <mark>N∕</mark> Avicir	nity of	First Congression	nal District
state	Oregon o	ode 41	county	Multnomah	code 051
3. Clas	sification				
Category district Xbuilding(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition N/A_ in process M/A being considered	Status unoccup work in p Accessible yes: rest yes: unrest no	ied progress ricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park _X private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prop	erty	; 		
name	Gaulda Hahn		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
street & number	5545 SW Wind	sor Court			
city, town	Portland	N/A_ vicir	nity of	state	Oregon 97221
5. Loca	ntion of Le	gal Desc	riptic	on	
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc.	Multnomah	County C	ourthouse	
street & number		1021 SW Fo	urth Ave	nue	
city, town		Portland		state	Oregon 97204
6. Repr	esentatio	n in Exis	ting \$	Surveys	
title	City of Port Historic Res	land ource Inventorÿ	as this proj	perty been determined el	igible? yes _Xno
date	1981-83				te county _X local
depository for su	rvey records	Portland Bur	eau of P	lanning	
city, town		Portland		state	Oregon 97204

7. Description

Condition excellent deteriorated good ruins fair unexposed	Check one unaltered X altered	Check one X original site moved date	N/A	
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on this site are two residential structures, an Italianate style building, located on the NW corner of the property, and a Queen Anne/Eastlake style building to the south. The Italianate building was constructed in 1882 by Peter Taylor and will be referred to as the Taylor House. The Queen Anne building was constructed by John and Gotlieb Haehlen in 1888 and will be referred to as the Haehlen House. The two buildings occupy a single tax lot. They have been owned by a single individual or family since the Haehlens purchased the Taylor House and adjacent vacant lot from Peter Taylor in 1887. For these reasons the nomination for the National Register for these buildings has been prepared as a single unit.

The residences were constructed during a period of tremendous growth within the city of Portland. The population of the city rose from 17,578 in 1881 to 85,000 by 1889. Much of the resulting demand for housing was met by construction within the South Portland area, one to two miles south of the commercial center and now known as Lair Hill. The neighborhood still retains a mixture of these Victorian buildings, some that are only simple pioneer style dwellings, and a few that represent more elaborate architectural styles. These residences are two of the most distinctive that remain. It is significant that the exterior facades of both buildings are nearly original. In general, the buildings are presently in good condition and are structurally sound. They remain in residential (rental) use today.

Peter Taylor House - 1882 - Italianate style

The two story house of wood frame construction is 26 x 46 feet. There is a 26-foot frontage on SW First Avenue, and a 46-foot frontage on SW Meade Street. The building rests on its original brick foundation, which is sound although unimproved. All of the exterior is wood drop siding with cornerboards. The roof is a hip type with a wide cornice. There are large polygonal bay windows on the north and west facades with double-hung, round-headed windows. The bay windows on the first and second levels are decorated with carved wood panels, cornice brackets, and a paneled frieze which continues around the roof line. Other upper level windows are double-hung, round-headed, and have a peaked decorative cornice. The veranda like the main entrance porch on the west and south facade has a flat roof, a bracketed box cornice and chamfered square posts that are decorated with brackets.

The interior of the building has been significantly modified since the time of its construction in 1882. The original single-family plan was rearranged about the turn of the century to allow conversion to a duplex. It appears unlikely, however, that the original interior finishes were particularly noteworthy in terms of the type of materials that were used. What original elements did survive to this time are rather simple in design. This type of construction is fairly typical in the

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Lair Hill area, where moderately elaborate Victorian exteriors contrast with simple interiors. This may have been the result of the fact that Lair Hill was, in general, a working class neighborhood, where it is more likely that building designs were developed by local contractors from available reference material, rather than by architects who designed original plans. In this particular case, it could also have been the result of the very possible spartan tastes and frugal nature of the original owner, Peter Taylor, an early Portland pioneer who had first arrived in the city in 1852.

Today the building functions as a duplex with each unit occupying separate levels. In the lower unit there is a living room and dining room in the front, and two bedrooms, a kitchen and bath in the rear. In the upper unit there is a single bedroom, living room, kitchen and bath. The ceiling in the lower unit was lowered at some time in the past, and in both units there are unoriginal plaster arches that partially divide some of the rooms. The units share a common entry hall where an oak handrail borders the stairs leading to the upper unit. There are no other hardwood trims, or wood paneling. The existing softwood trims have been painted many times and are simple in design. The floor is tongue and groove fir. In general, the interior is in fair condition. Most of the changes to interior were done many years ago, and for the last 30 to 40 years there has been no major alterations or remodeling.

John and Gotlieb Haehlen House - 1888 - Queen Anne/Eastlake style

The Haehlen House is to the south of, and immediately adjacent to, the Taylor House. It is one and one half stories high, of wood frame construction, and measures 29 x 47 feet. There is a 29-foot frontage on SW First Avenue. The building rests on the original brick foundation which is still sound. There is a half basement with an earth floor that is entered through non-original double doors with windows on the west facade. Most of the exterior is wood drop siding with cornerboards. The windows are double-hung with plain trim, with the upper sashes segmented into various patterns. The roof is a hip type with projecting gables. The gable facing First Avenue is decorated with a filigreed bargeboard, a return with consoles and a wood carved panel in the peak. The double-hung gable window is flanked by stained glass sidelights, brackets and fishscale shingle panels. The polygonal bay window on the first story level facing the street is decorated with a sunburst pattern and wood carved panels. On the west facade there is a tetrahedral roof tent over a polygonal roof dormer with a wood carved panel and a stained glass fixed window. The hip roof entrance porch on the west facade has spindlework, sunbrust panels, corner brackets with pendants and turned wood posts. The projecting gable and polygonal bay window on the north facade is decorated in a similar fashion to the ones described on the west facade facing the street.

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Like in the previously described Taylor House, there is a marked contrast in the Haehlen House between the decorations of the exterior and the simplicity of the interior. There are no hardwoods or decorative wainscoting. The window and door casings are plain flat trim which have been painted multiple times. The floors are tongue and groove fir, except for two rooms where linoleum has been installed. The floor plan appears to follow the original, however, certain changes such as an installation of an arched plaster room divider have occurred. The kitchen in the rear was remodeled in the 1930s. There are two bedrooms, a living and dining room and a bath on the ground level. The attic level is unfinished except for two partially finished bedrooms in the two gables. In general, the interior is in fair or good condition. Again, there has been little or no alterations for 30 to 40 years.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	 community planning conservation economics education engineering x exploration/settlement 	Iandscape architectur Iaw Iiterature military music philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
		invention		other (specify)

Specific dates 1882, 1888

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Taylor and Goetlieb Houses are locally significant to the City of Portland for their association with persons important in the city's early industrial and commercial business growth and as distinctive examples of their representative architectura styles within the Lair Hill area of South Portland. We feel they are eligible under criteria "b" and "c."

The original occupant of the Italinate style residence, and owner of the entire site, Peter Taylor, was an early Portland pioneer who played an important role in the development of the iron industry in the city of Portland. Mr. Taylor was a pattern-maker with the first iron foundry, the Portland Foundry, when the business was established in the city in 1853. In 1865, Mr. Taylor, with three other businessmen, organized the highly successful Willamette Iron Works, a major corporation that produced much of Portland's cast-iron building fronts between 1865 and 1889. Early Portland's collection of cast-iron fronted architecture was surpassed only by San Francisco on the west coast, and today is one of the principal remaining collections in the nation. The site is also part of a locally designated Historic Conservation District - Lair Hill. This district comprises most of what remains of Old South Portland, an area important for its historical role in the settlement and emigration of large numbers of immigrants into the social and economic mainstream of American life. Mr. Taylor sold the property to the Haehlen brothers who constructed the second Queen Anne style residence. The experience of the Haehlen brothers, John and Gotlieb, coming to Portland in 1885 from Lenk, Switzerland, was especially typical of the times. They arrived with, "ten dollars and a smashed trunk. . . full of hope and courage." In a short time they established a successful restaurant business, and found a home in South Portland. Both the Taylor and Haehlen Homes are modest yet distinctive examples of the residential Victorian architecture of early Portland. The Haehlen House is particularly interesting and unique in the greater Portland area.

Peter Taylor was born in Perth, Scotland, in 1823. He was apprenticed to a cabinet maker at an early age, but when his master's business failed he was thrown out on his own resources. He traveled to London, worked at his trade from 1845 to 1847, and there became interested in accounts of better opportunity in the United States. In 1847, he immigrated to New York, and was married there to Sara Heppell, another recent immigrant from England. The couple moved to Ohio, and then to Iowa, where he worked as a house carpenter. Afterwards, in May 1852, he temporarily left his wife and three children and joined a team of 15 wagons that were headed overland for Oregon. Many members of this small band died of cholera, and Peter Taylor's own wagon broke down 100 miles east of Ft. Boise. He continued alone and on foot finally. When he contracted "mountain fever" and passed into a stupor in the Blue Mountains of Oregon, he lay down to die. A party of Indians chanced upon him, loaded him across a pony, and carried him back to their settlement on the Umatilla River. There he was able to regain his health. When he recovered, being without money, he gave them his checkered shirt and recalled that they seemed well satisfied. The Indians showed him the trail to The Dalles, and from there he came by boat to Portland in October, 1852.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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<u>Oregoni</u> Portlar	ian, 1882-188 nd Directory	8, Annual Review, 1882-1910	January 1st	Issue	
History	/ of Portland	, Hines, 1893. H	istorical Ske	tch of the Pine	St. Coffee House &
	_	Krause, 11/29/83 ^F	amily History	, Gotlieb Haehl	en, 1915 & 1946.
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Verbal bou	ndary descripti	on and justification	The nominated	properties occ	upy west $63\frac{1}{4}$ feet of
Lots 7 and County, Or	8, OF BIOCK	54, of Caruther's	s Addition to	the City of Po	rtland, Multnomah
List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries					
state	None	code	county		code
state	None	code	county		code
11. F	orm Pre	pared By			
name/title	Г. d				
		G. Newville, Deve	loper/lonsulta	int	
organization	Newville	e & Newville	,	date Decembe	er 10, 1983
street & num	ber 2740 SW	Second Avenue		telephone (503) 2	226-2202
city or town	Portland	d		state Oregon	97201
12. S	tate His	storic Pres	ervation	Officer C	ertification
The evaluated	d significance of	this property within the	state is:		
	næional	state	\underline{X} local \underline{A}	(· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
665), I hereby	nominate this pr	ric Preservation Officer f operty for inclusion in t rocedures set forth by t	he Nationa/ Fleg/s		ct of 1966 (Public Law 89– nas been evaluated
State Historic	Preservation Of	licer signature		Allu Mu -	
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title	Deputy Sta	ate Historic Prese	ervation Offic	er date	May 10, 1984
For NPS	use only	property is included in t	utered in the	97 97	May 10, 1984
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The population of Portland was at that time about 450 persons. The city had elected its first mayor just one year earlier. At first, Peter Taylor did whatever work he could get. One of his first jobs was putting together the machinery for the first horse-power that was used in the river ferryboats. He was working at the time for A. B. Hallock, the city's first architect, and apparently formed an association with him that would last many years. The next year, he found a permanent position as a pattern-maker for the first iron foundry in the city, the Portland Foundry, established in 1853. He remained there for 9 years. Also in 1853, he helped organize one of the first volunteer fire companies in the city the Hook and Ladder Company - and was the second citizen to be put on the list of volunteers.

In 1862, Peter Taylor, ever the ambitious pioneer, left Portland in the company of 43 men for the John Day gold mines. They encountered snow at The Dalles. and in the mountains 200 miles beyond, became separated during a severe winter storm. Fewer than one half of the original party survived and were able to make their way back to Portland. After this second misadventure in the mountains of eastern Oregon, Peter Taylor took to pattern-making for good. He was taken on after his return by the second iron works then starting up in the city. The Oregon Iron Works, and put in charge of the pattern-making department.

In 1865, A. B. Hallock, John Nation, John Thomas and Peter Taylor started the highly successful Willamette Iron Works, Portland's third foundry. Mr. Taylor was initially in charge of pattern-making, but in the years to follow would serve as Vice President and President of the corporation. During the time of his active involvement with the firm, the Willamette Iron Works produced the iron work for a great number of Portland's buildings, including the Ladd and Tilton Bank (1868), the Odd Fellows Temple (1869), the Cosmopolitan Block (1878) and the Merchants Hotel (1880). The last building mentioned and the reconstructed Ladd and Bush Bank in Salem, are standing landmarks to the firm's work. In 1882 the Willamette Iron Works reported having 80 employees and an annual work valued at \$200,000, which was second in volume only to the timber industry among manufacturers operating in the city. The company eventually passed into the hands of H. W. Corbett and was re-incorporated as the Willamette Iron and Steel Works, as it is known today.

Peter Taylor retired from active business in 1881 and traveled with his wife back to their old homes in Scotland and England. After his return to Portland, he gave the family home near SW First and Caruthers Street to his son Douglas, and had constructed for himself, at a cost of \$5,000, a new home on the corner of SW First Avenue and Meade Street. This residence has survived until this day. The earlier family homes were destroyed by the South Portland Urban Renewal Project in the 1960s, or, like the first home that Peter Taylor built himself in 1853 on the corner of SW Fifth and Salmon, were torn down to make way for the growth of the city center.

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Mr. Taylor sold the Italianate style residence to the Haehlen brothers in 1887 and went to live with the families of his children. He died on November 11, 1909, at the age of 86 years. The Haehlens, who had arrived in Portland two years earlier from Lenk, Switzerland, had prospered after opening the Knickerbocker Coffee and Oyster House on Washington Street. They had the second home built on the adjacent vacant lot for a cost of \$3,000, and collected rental income from the property until the brothers both married in 1890. John Haehlen then lived with his family in the Taylor House, and Gotlieb Haehlen, with his family, occupied the more recently built home to the south.

The Knickerbocker eventually closed, but Gotlieb purchased the Pine Street Coffee House in 1897 and ran this popular no-frills restaurant on Pine Street between First and Second Avenue, in the heart of the old commercial district, for over 40 years. Gotlieb's employees were all relatives that had mostly been born in Switzerland. The tiny place, where "the floors run at a 10 or 12 percent grade in one or two places, was famous for its German pancakes and good "eats." On March 23rd, 1913, the <u>Oregon Sunday Journal</u> had a descriptive article relative to "Portland's millionaire club," in which it referred to the little restaurant on Pine Street as "the businessmen's Mecca for years."

The Haehlen's eventually sold both houses, and by 1910 John had died and Gotlieb had moved his family elsewhere in the city. Like many of the immigrants who had come to Portland during this period, and who had made their home in South Portland, they had, by then, become established members of the community.

The Portland City Council, in 1977, in recognition of the historical and architectural significance of the largest remaining section of South Portland, Lair Hill, designated that neighborhood as an Historic Conservation District. This places some restrictions on the design of future developments, and on the demolition of existing structures. The architectural detailing of the Haehlen House is the most distinctive to be found among the Victorian buildings within this district, and is quite unique in the city as a whole.

