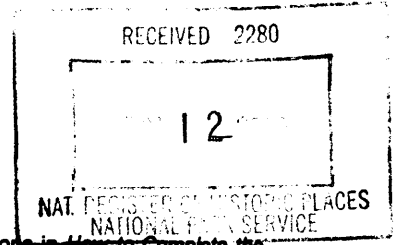


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions 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 classification, 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 EDEN VALLEY ORCHARD
other names/site number Burrell Orchard; Gordon Voorhies House

2. Location

street & number 2488 Voorhies Road N/A not for publication
city or town Medford vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Jackson code 029 zip code 97501

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Jane Hamble June 9, 2000
Signature of certifying official/Title /Deputy SHPO Date
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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 7/14/00

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 3 Page 1

EDEN VALLEY ORCHARD (1885)
2488 Voorhies Road
Medford Vicinity, Jackson County, Oregon

The Eden Valley Orchard ensemble, with six buildings and historic landscape and horticultural features is located south of Medford. The property is located within the Bear Creek Valley, approximately 2 miles south of the center of Medford in Jackson County. The 26.9-acre nominated parcel is situated one-half mile south of the intersection of South Stage Road and Voorhies Road.

Eden Valley Orchard originally established between 1885 and 1898 by early fruit grower Joseph H. Stewart and expanded between 1899 and 1932 by Gordon Voorhies, the property has strong associations with the development of the fruit industry in southern Oregon. Serving as the Voorhies family residence until Mrs. Voorhies death in 1949, the property remained in family ownership until 1986. Eden Valley Orchard retains a high degree of integrity in setting, location, design, materials, and workmanship. The complex of buildings and distinctive landscape features accurately and effectively convey the associations for which this property is significant.

The Gordon and Helen Voorhies House is a large two and a half-story wood frame residence constructed in the Colonial Revival style. Irregular in plan, and built in several sections, dating to 1890, 1906 and a 1920 remodel, the house has a combination of hipped and gable roofs with dormers. The residence has a two-story portico with four boxed columns on the east elevation, and primary façade. This house also has a solarium that opens onto a terrace on the south elevation. The dwelling is approximately 92 feet by sixty feet. The Voorhies House contains two main volumes. The older central volume of the house is the 1890 J.H. Stewart house. Appended to the east elevation in 1906 is a large second volume. In 1920 the house was remodeled and two wings were added to the dwelling.

The house sits on a brick foundation that is sheathed with stucco on the primary façade and exposed or covered with vertical board skirting on the remaining elevations. The hipped and gable roof is covered with composition shingles. The exterior of the residence is covered with wood shingles on the east, north, and south elevations. The west elevation is covered with cove siding. Windows throughout the house are a variety of multi-light double hung, sash, casement, fixed, and bay windows and French doors.

In addition to the Voorhies House, there are 5 other buildings that are contributing resources proposed under this nomination. Those buildings include a one-story wood frame garage with corrugated metal gable roof. Also the Francis and Martha Ball House built c.1880, a one and a half story, wood-frame Gothic Revival residence that was original occupied for a time by Joseph Stewart. The third building, a barn constructed c.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 3 Page 2

1915, is a one-story wood frame building that sits on a partial concrete foundation. The gable roof is covered with corrugated metal sheeting and the exterior of the building is sheathed with horizontal cove siding. The fourth building, one of two sheds constructed c.1925, is a one-story frame building with corrugated metal roof, cove siding, and sits on a partial concrete foundation. The second shed is a one-story frame building with corrugated metal roof, board and batten siding, and sits on a partial concrete foundation.

In addition to contributing structures, there are two sites that are considered contributing resources to this nomination. The first is the designed landscape associated with the Voorhies house and added to the site c.1920 as part of the remodeling of the house. Features include a maple-lined curved drive, and a concrete brick wall enclosure to the south and east of the house. The masonry wall encloses a swimming pool, terrace, and formal gardens. The second contributing site is two dozen of original pear trees planted c.1885 by Joseph Stewart, which are located northwest of the Voorhies House. These pear trees are the oldest known remnants of the first commercial orchards planted in the Rogue River Valley.

The earliest settlers discovered that southern Oregon was a region hospitable in which to raise fruit. By 1860 several small orchards were scattered through he area. For the first few decades fruit production and consumption was primarily limited to valley residents. However, the arrival of the Oregon-California railroad in 1887 made it possible to ship produce outside of the immediate area. In 1885 Joseph Stewart planted a large orchard in the Rogue River Valley. With Stewart's success and other orchards were quickly planted. With the flourishing fruit industry and rail transportation, Medford experienced rapid growth. By the early 20th century intense promotional efforts were underway to persuade settlers to the Medford area with dreams of making a fortune in raising fruit.

Joseph Stewart, one of the earliest orchard growers, purchased 160 acres in the Rogue River Valley near Medford in 1885 from donation land claimants Francis and Martha Ball. A successful nurseryman and fruit dealer in the Chicago area, Stewart decided to try his hand with orchards. Stewart's family likely occupied the Ball house while awaiting the construction of their new house just to the north. Stewart planted apples, pears, prunes, and almonds. In 1890, the first successful crop was shipped to market. By 1896, Stewart's Eden Valley Orchard was producing 95 railcars of pears and apples for market. In 1899, Stewart at the age of 65 sold the property. At that time, he was widely recognized as the "father of the fruit industry" in Southern Oregon.

Gordon Voorhies purchased Eden Valley orchard and he and his family commuted between the Orchard residence and Portland. Voorhies in partnership with his brother-in-law created the Burrell Investment Company and renamed the property the Burrell Orchard. By 1906, receiving record-breaking money for sales, Voorhies began remodeling the house and purchasing hundreds of neighboring acres for the Burrell Investment Company. Increased production and record prices for the produce increased the wealth of the Investment

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Continuation Sheet

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Company, and in 1913 much of the land surrounding the Burrell Orchard was subdivided and sold. In 1920 Voorhies moved his family permanently to the orchard. That same year, after great damage due to frozen pipes, the Voorhies undertook another remodel of the house. Their youngest son, Charles Voorhies, was an architecture student at Harvard and designed the exterior and interior changes to the house, as well as designing the gardens. The Voorhies continue to live in the house, operate the orchard and contribute greatly to local politics and business until his death in 1940 and her death in 1949.

Eden Valley Orchard, with buildings constructed between c.1880 and 1932, includes the former Francis and Martha Ball house, the Gordon and Helen Voorhies House, a barn, a garage/shed, two orchard sheds, and approximately two-dozen fruit tress planted by Joseph Stewart in 1885. Located just south of Medford, Eden Valley Orchard is the place where Joseph Stewart initiated the commercial fruit industry in southern Oregon, and where prominent Rogue River Valley orchardist Gordon Voorhies expanded Stewart's efforts. This property is highly significant for its role in the development of the fruit industry in southern Oregon.

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

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

Table with columns: Contributing, Noncontributing, buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling, AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTANCE: agricultural outbuilding, AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTANCE: agricultural field

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling, AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural outbuilding, AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural field

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival, 19TH CENTURY: Gothic Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick, walls Wood; Weatherboard: cove siding, roof Asphalt, other

Narrative Description

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

Please see attached continuation sheets

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Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

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The Eden Valley Orchard ensemble, with six buildings and historic landscape and horticultural features, is located a short distance south of the city of Medford, Oregon. Established between 1885 and 1898 by early fruit grower Joseph H. Stewart and expanded between 1899 and 1932 by Gordon Voorhies, the property has strong associations with the development of the fruit industry in southern Oregon. Serving as the Voorhies family residence until Mrs. Voorhies' death in 1949, the property remained in family ownership until 1986. Eden Valley Orchard retains a high degree of integrity in setting, location, design, materials, and workmanship. The complex of buildings and distinctive landscape features accurately and effectively conveys the associations for which it is significant.

LOCATION AND SETTING

The Eden Valley Orchard Ensemble is located within the broad plain of the Bear Creek valley approximately two miles south of the center of Medford Oregon, in Jackson County, Oregon. The entire 26.90-acre nominated parcel, situated one-half mile south of the intersection of South Stage Road and Voorhies Road, is designated as 2488 Voorhies Road, Medford, Oregon. The property is shown on Jackson County Assessors Plat 381W05, Tax Lot #6300.

Medford, the county seat of Jackson County, is the closest population center to the nominated property and lies approximately two miles to the north. State Highway 99 and the Southern Pacific Railroad line lie less than one-half mile to the east. The city of Phoenix, Oregon is located approximately two miles to the southeast of Eden Valley Orchard. Carpenter Hill Road runs in an east-west direction approximately one-half mile south of the property. The west foothills of the Siskiyou Mountains enclose the Bear Creek Valley west of the nominated property. The relatively flat terrain surrounding Eden Valley Orchard, long devoted to fruit and farm production, remains largely in agricultural use. Large parcels adjacent to the nominated parcel on the west side of Voorhies Road remain planted to pears, apples and other fruits. Agricultural land lies to the east across Voorhies Road and to the north. Residences along Voorhies Road in the vicinity of the nominated property include nineteenth and early twentieth century farm and orchard dwellings.

Surrounded on four sides by pear trees, the two-and-one-half story Stewart-Voorhies House, standing approximately 350 feet west of Voorhies Road, is the principal building on the orchard property. The former Francis and Martha Justus Ball House

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Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

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(c.1880) is also prominently situated on the parcel, lying along Voorhies Road approximately 500 feet southwest of the Stewart-Voorhies House. Occupied first by the Ball family and later by the Stewart family, this dwelling has housed orchard foremen and workers through the years.

The Stewart-Voorhies House can be reached from two entryways. One gate leads to the residence along a curving drive from the Voorhies Road on the northeast corner of the property; the other entry is from an unpaved access road from Voorhies Road just north of the Ball House on the southerly area of the property. The four other buildings contained within the Eden Valley Orchard ensemble support the orchard complex. One, the Shed/Garage, lies immediately west of the Stewart-Voorhies House. The other three buildings, the Barn, Shed No. 1 and Shed No. 2 are located in a cleared area of the property along the north-south orchard access road. Gore Creek crosses the nominated property in an east-west direction approximately 800 feet west of Voorhies Road. Gore Creek originates in the Siskiyou Mountains southwest of the property and meanders in a northerly direction toward Bear Creek.

The landscape immediately surrounding the main residence is defined by a mortared concrete tile wall that encloses a courtyard on the east, south and in part, on the west of the dwelling. The area between the wall and Voorhies Road east of the Stewart-Voorhies House is planted with pear trees. Mature trees, expansive lawn and formal hedges remain as part of evidence of the formal gardens designed and installed on the property about 1920. A large swimming pool that was constructed as part of the landscape development in the early 1920s lies within a hedge-enclosed area a short distance south of the main residence.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Stewart-Voorhies House

Exterior

The Stewart-Voorhies House is a large two and one-half story wood frame residence in the Period Colonial Revival Style. Irregular in plan, and built in several sections, (c. 1890, 1906 and remodeled in 1920), the house has a combination of hipped and gable roofs with dormers. The residence has a two-story portico with four boxed columns on the east elevation (and façade) and a solarium that opens onto a terrace on the

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Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

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south elevation. The dwelling measures approximately ninety-two feet in depth and about sixty feet in width in its main volume. At its widest point between the utility wing on the north and the east wall of the south wing, the residence measures approximately ninety-eight feet.

The Stewart-Voorhies House, containing two main volumes, sits upon a perimeter brick foundation. The foundation is sheathed with stucco on the front volume, and in the rear portion of the building is exposed, or covered with a vertical board skirting. The older, central volume of the house contains the former J.H. Stewart dwelling. Appended to the east elevation is a large second volume, originally constructed for the Voorhies family in 1906, and remodeled in 1920. Two wings extend from the dwelling. The north wing contains utility and storage rooms and the garage. The garage is connected to the dwelling by a porte cochere. A bedroom wing was extended to the south in 1920 when a separate office building was joined to the main house. The solarium is located on the south elevation of the dwelling. A utility/wood storage shed and porch are appended to the rear and west elevation.

While the dwelling's original roof was most likely covered with wood shingles, the present roof of the house is gray composition shingles. Closed eaves have bed molding trim. The house has three exterior painted brick chimneys with simple metal caps, two on the south elevation and one on the north. One interior brick chimney is centrally located in the dwelling.

The exterior of the dwelling on the east, north and south elevations is clad with wood shingles. Rear portions of the dwelling are sheathed in 6" or 8"-wide cove siding. Windows throughout the house include multi-light double hung sash, casement, fixed, French doors and bay windows. The numbers of window lights varies with combinations of six-over-twelve, twelve-over-twelve, and twenty and fifty-light windows. Windows have narrow muntins, simple side trim and decorative cornice moldings at the tops and bottoms.

The facade and east-facing elevation of the house is distinguished by a projecting roof dormer as well as a two-story portico with four boxed 13" x 13" columns that rise from the brick porch floor to support the porch roof. Twelve-over-twelve double hung windows with cornice molding flank the central doorway that features a six-panel wood door with multi-light sidelights and an elliptically arched transom fan light. Louvered

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shutters protect the opening doorway in the winter. Lantern-shaped porchlights flank the central door.

An exterior brick chimney is centrally located on the south elevation of the main volume. The south wing, with projecting dormers extends from the house's main volume and the solarium is situated in the ell between the south wing and the original volume of the J.H. Stewart House. Windows on the south elevation are multi-light double hung sash and vary between nine-over-nine lights and twelve-over-twenty lights.

On the west and rear elevation a screened-in porch extends on the lower elevation with a one-story wood storage shed projecting to the west. A shed-roofed dormer extends from the second story roof of the west elevation. Typical exterior doors on the west elevation are paneled and contain windows, or are solid five-panel doors. Windows are multi-light casement windows and multi-light double hung sash.

On the north elevation a hipped-roof dormer projects from the roof and an exterior brick chimney rises from the central volume. A projecting bay with multi-light windows and a railing extends just east of the chimney. Multi-light windows range between six-over-six and fifteen-over-fifteen light, double hung sash. A utility wing extends to the garage that is joined to the house by a porte cochere. The east elevation of the eaveless garage (which rests on a concrete slab foundation) has elliptically arched entry door openings and paneled wood doors.

Interior: First Floor

Centered on the brick porch, the wide front door leads to the large living room that comprises the entire width of the front volume of the Stewart-Voorhies House. Walls and the ten-foot ceiling are plastered; a simple ceiling cornice joins the two. Maple floors extend through out the room. Plain window and door trim encloses the openings. The fireplace has a Colonial style mantel and surround. Double-light sconces provide light; the radiators are encased in cabinets. The stairwell that leads to the second floor is located off the southwest corner of the living room. The two-flight stair with a landing has oak flooring, a simple baluster, a square newel post and a molded handrail. Multi-light windows from the stairwell overlook the swimming pool to the south.

The dining room walls are also lath and plaster and the floor is maple. Windows are eighteen-over-eighteen lights and double-leaf doors with twenty-four lights per door and six-light transoms lead from the dining room to the solarium. A fireplace with a Colonial

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Eden Valley Orchard

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style mantel and surround is located in the north wall of the dining room. The solarium, located off the dining room to the south, has a brick floor and a tongue-in-groove ceiling. Exterior cove siding of the original Stewart House is visible on the west and north walls of the solarium. The south bedroom wing is composed of a hallway, two bedrooms and two baths. These bedrooms have wood floors, lath and plaster walls and plain window and door trim. The southerly-most bedroom contains a fireplace with plain surround. The bathrooms retain original fixtures.

The library, with entry access from both the dining room and the living room, has dark stained-fir paneled walls and a brick fireplace with a fir mantel and surround with slender pilastered columns and dentil trim. Built-in bookcases line the library walls. The floors are maple.

The pantry, located immediately off the dining room, has ten-foot ceilings, floor-to-ceiling built-in wood cabinets with glass doors, wood counters and a copper sink. The kitchen, also containing ten-foot ceilings, has been remodeled. A utility room to the north of the kitchen has a tongue-in-groove, wood ceiling, multi-light casement windows and old linoleum. The screened back utility porch at the west end of the house has vertical and horizontal board siding, tongue-in-groove-clad cupboards and a large, five-panel wood door. Windows in the porch are mixed casement and multi-light. Stairs from the utility lead to the brick-lined cellar that extends under the main volume of the house and contains storage cupboards and an intact brick-clad boiler that was made in Kewanee, Illinois.

Interior: Second Floor

The second floor of the Stewart-Voorhies House contains seven bedrooms and four full baths. The stairwell on the second level opens into a landing area with oak flooring. Two bedrooms lie east of the stair. A central hallway that runs east to west extends the length of the house from the central hall landing to the small rear bedroom and utility stair leading to the rear porch on the lower floor. Three bedrooms have fireplaces -- both stained wood and painted wood mantels and surrounds. Walls are plastered; ceilings are eight feet in height, with ceiling and baseboard cornice molding. Typical doors are wood with five panels. Floors in the four large bedrooms on the second floor are finished with oak. Floors in the rear portions of the dwelling on the second floor are fir. The four bathrooms on the second floor contain original fixtures, plumbing and hardware. Built-in wood cabinets with original hardware line the central hall as well as some of the

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bedroom walls. Original light fixtures and push-button brass plate switches extend throughout on the second floor.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS

The majority of alterations to the Stewart-Voorhies House took place within the historic period. The central volume of the house, comprising the space now occupied by the library, dining room, kitchen, pantry and utility on the ground floor and the second floor south of the stairwell (excluding the south wing) was constructed about 1890. The large east volume containing the living room on the ground floor and front bedrooms on the second floor was constructed in 1906. The front portico, multi-light windows, south wing, solarium, utility wing, garage and shingled exterior wall sheathing were incorporated in a remodel of the older structure in 1920. There is little indication of any substantive changes or alterations to the exterior or interior of the Stewart-Voorhies House outside of the historic period. The only room that has received any alteration is the kitchen; with changes directed only to replacement of appliances, floor covering and light fixtures. Kitchen remodeling, occurring in the late 1960's, has resulted in the room's status as a non-contributing component of the dwelling. Original plumbing and electrical systems remain in place throughout the house.

RELATED BUILDINGS AND OTHER FEATURES

The buildings and other features that comprise the Eden Valley Orchard Ensemble extend throughout the historic period from 1885 to 1932. The nominated property contains five structures in addition to the Stewart-Voorhies House as well as landscape and horticultural features of note. These are the Grounds, the Francis and Martha Ball House, the Barn, the Garage/Shed, Shed No. 1, Shed No. 2, and the J.H. Stewart Pear Trees.

1. Grounds, Stewart-Voorhies House, 1920:

Distinctive landscape features associated with the Stewart-Voorhies House include a maple-lined, curved, unpaved drive, marked by mortared, concrete-brick entry posts, that leads from Voorhies Road at the northeast corner of the property to the garage and parking area north of the house. Pear trees have been planted

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between the residence and Voorhies Road. A concrete-brick wall encloses the remaining components of a courtyard, formal garden and swimming pool. This mortared masonry wall, varying in height between six and eight feet, is composed of 3½"x 6"x12" concrete tiles laid in an alternating pattern, encloses the gardens on the east, south and in part, on the west. At the south end of the swimming pool, just in front of the wall; stand brick pillars that form a trellis. The concrete-lined swimming pool measures approximately 25' x 45' in size and features curved steps at the south end. Single cypress trees flank the pool on either side. The courtyard, garden and swimming pool enclosure contain extensive areas of lawn, segmented by formal privet hedges. Plantings include evergreens, maples, birch, cypress, figs, pyracantha, and a monkey-puzzle tree (*Araucaria auracana*). Designed and executed as part of the refurbishing of the Stewart-Voorhies House in 1920, the grounds in the immediate vicinity of the dwelling are counted as a contributing historic site in Section 5.

2. Shed/Garage, c. 1925: This wood frame, one story building that rests on a concrete slab foundation, stands approximately twenty-four feet west of the west elevation of the Stewart-Voorhies House. Rectangular in shape and measuring approximately 18'x 30' in size, the building is open on its east elevation and is used for vehicle storage. Although originally covered with wood shingles, the eaveless pitched roof is now sheathed with corrugated metal. Horizontal six-inch cove siding covers the walls. This utilitarian structure has no corner boards or decorative trim. Constructed within the historic period, the Shed/Garage is counted as a contributing historic building in Section 5.

3. The Francis and Martha Ball House c. 1880: The Francis and Martha Ball House is a wood frame, one-and one-half story Gothic Revival Style residence on the west side of Voorhies Road about 500 feet south of the Voorhies House, on the south side of an access drive leading to the internal portions of the orchard property. A two-story addition or a relocated gabled-roofed house was attached to the rear of the original cottage before 1900.

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Irregular in shape, the dwelling measures approximately 30 x 50 feet in size. Gothic Revival cottage details include board-and-batten siding and pointed arch molding; "fish scale" imbricated shingle work in the gable ends and wood, and consoled hoods over the windows. The dwelling has four-over-four, double-hung sash windows and two brick interior chimneys. The two-story rear section has one-over-one, double-hung sash windows and cove siding. Farmworker families have occupied the dwelling for years and the interior is in fair condition. Plaster wall surfaces have been patched with sheet-rock and other wallboard materials. Wood flooring and simple window and door trim remain in place throughout most of the house. Present on the property at the beginning of the period of significance and later occupied by Joseph Stewart, the dwelling retains substantial architectural integrity. The Ball House is counted as a contributing historic building in Section 5.

4. Barn, ca. 1925. The wood frame, sawn lumber Barn, oriented in a north-south position, is located approximately 190 feet south of the main orchard road. Rectangular in shape and measuring approximately 42' x 66' in size, the Barn rests on a partial concrete perimeter foundation. The building contains a central enclosed section flanked by a shed on each side. The eaveless structure has a corrugated metal roof with a hay-hood located on the south elevation. Sheathed in horizontal cove siding with corner boards, the Barn has two loading doors in the north gable end, as well as one sliding track door and one walk-in door. Six-light fixed windows provide light on the east and west elevations. On the north elevation the Barn has two loading doors at the top the gable, one sliding track door, and one walk-in door; there are two opening on the south elevation. Constructed within the historic period, the Barn is counted as a contributing historic building.

5. Shed No. 1 c. 1925 This one-story, sawn-lumber frame rectangular equipment and tool shed is located west of the Stewart-Voorhies residence, immediately south of the central orchard road and immediately east of the creek/irrigation canal that crosses the

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Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

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nominated property. The building has a partial concrete foundation, with a part-concrete and part-dirt floor. Oriented with its primary entry toward north, Shed No. 1 measures about 22' x 65' in size and is sheathed in cove siding with its primary openings toward the north. The Shed has a pitched roof with open eaves and exposed rafter ends and is covered with corrugated metal. The building has two track-doors on the north elevation and multi-light window openings on the east and south elevations. As an integral part of orchard operations during the historic period, Shed No. 1 housed orchard supplies and equipment. It is counted as a contributing historic building.

6. Shed No. 2, c. 1910: This one-story, wood-frame building is located immediately south of the central orchard road approximately 140 feet west of Shed No. 1. The building is open on its north elevation along the central orchard road, is rectangular in shape and measures approximately 30' x 60' in size. It is supported by vertical interior posts, has a dirt floor, and is currently used for storage. Shed No. 2 is sheathed in board-and-batten siding, and has a gable roof with a shed roof extension on the north elevation. The roof is covered with corrugated metal. Constructed in the historic period and an integral part of the orchard operation, this building housed orchard equipment. It is counted as a contributing historic building in Section 5.

7. J.H. Stewart Pear Trees 1885: These grafted trees, located in the northwest quadrant of the property, and numbering approximately two-dozen, remain of the original blocks planted by J.H. Stewart, as part of Eden Valley Orchard (Cordy 1977:1,2) These trees are the oldest known remnants of the first commercial orchards planted in the Bear Creek Valley. Planted at the very beginning of the period of significance, the J.H. Stewart Pear Trees are counted as a contributing historic site within the nominated property.

Two temporary mobile homes on the nominated property are slated for removal and are not included in the tally of contributing/noncontributing resources.

Eden Valley Orchard
Name of Property

Jackson Oregon
County and State

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.)

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

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE

SETTLEMENT: Regional Settlement

Period of Significance

1885-1932

Significant Dates

1885

1906

1920

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Voorhies, Charles Howard (1920)

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Southern Oregon Historical Society

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Eden Valley Orchard, situated south of Medford, Oregon on a former donation land claim, containing buildings, landscape and horticultural features represents the initial development and expansion of the fruit industry in southern Oregon between 1885 and 1932. During these years, the orchard was established by pioneer fruit-grower Joseph H. Stewart and later expanded by Colonel Gordon Voorhies. The ensemble includes the c.1880 residence associated with Francis and Martha Ball, as well as the Stewart-Voorhies House, the ensemble's primary residence. The dwelling, its' central core comprising the Joseph H. Stewart House (c. 1890), was substantially enlarged in 1906 and then designed in its present configuration in 1920 by the Voorhies' son, Charles Voorhies. The Stewart-Voorhies House and associated orchard buildings embody the distinct characteristics of a complex that supported a successful orchard operation between 1885 and 1932. This period encompasses the planting of the first Rogue River Valley commercial orchard on this land, the expansion of the orchard industry, and the industry's decline with the onset of the Great Depression. Highly significant for its long associations with the early history of the fruit industry in southern Oregon, as well as for its architectural importance, Eden Valley Orchard Ensemble is nominated under Criteria "A" and "C" for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

CONTEXT

Fruit Industry Development: "Saint and Sinner"

By 1860 several small orchards existed in southern Oregon and apples, pears and peaches were produced in quantity. For many years, the production of fruit was limited primarily to valley residents. In 1887, however, completion of the north-south, Oregon-California railroad made it possible to ship produce out of the area.

In February 1885, Joseph H. Stewart, an experienced nurseryman from the mid-west, settled in the Rogue River Valley and planted a large orchard of apples, pears, prunes and almonds a few miles south of Medford. Naming his orchard, Eden Valley Orchard, Stewart sold the area's first commercial pears in 1890 by shipping railroad cars full of fruit to outside markets. His trees eventually provided budwood for many large orchards throughout the valley (Cordy 1977:2).

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Eden Valley Orchard

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Soon, other growers installed orchard blocks. With a flourishing fruit industry and railroad transportation available, Medford experienced the rapid growth of a town booming with economic purpose. Twenty additions were platted for Medford in the eight years from 1887 to 1895. By the mid- 1890s, the economy worsened with the results of a national financial depression. After 1898 conditions began to improve and by 1900 the beginnings of a boom were underway. Intense promotional efforts early in the decade resulted in a large influx of hopeful people to the Medford area, many with a dream of making a fortune on raising fruit. Almost everyone had some link to the orchards. One observer wrote, "Everybody, young and old, rich and poor, saint and sinner, is engaged in picking, drying, packing or shipping fruit" (Farnham, 44).

By 1905, thousands of acres of Bartlett, Bosc, Comice, D'Anjou and Winter Nelis pears had been planted. Scientists from Oregon State College spent four months in Jackson County in 1907 examining orchards and orchard practices. They reported 473 orchards with the average size of commercial orchards at 25.3 acres, and 9,675 acres planted to fruit trees Lewis 1908: 30). In an issue printed June 22, 1906, the *Medford Mail* emphasized the changing landscaping by headlining an article, "Valley One Great Orchard" (*Medford Mail* June 22, 1906 1:3).

Nation-wide publicity about the beauty and economic possibilities of the Rogue River Valley brought many more orchardists to the valley. The railroad cooperated with the Medford Commercial Club in a publicity campaign to advertise the virtues of the place. By 1910 Medford's population had reached 8,849 residents, up from 1791 people in 1900. The local newspaper announced that "New residents are arriving in such numbers there are not enough accommodations. A tent city of fifty tents is put up for housing" (*Medford Mail Tribune*, January 2, 1910). One million trees were contracted for planting during the winter of 1910. Sixty-five percent were pears thirty percent apples, and five-percent peaches (Atwood 1980:42). *Sunset* magazine featured Medford area orchards in an article during 1910, writing, "Newcomers alight from the trains at Medford averaging one for each hour of the day to take up permanent residence there... Nearly all buy orchards" (*Sunset*: v.25: 1910: 585). The article continued:

About seventy per cent of the entire number of trees planted consists of apples and thirty per cent pears... Of the apples, nearly ninety percent are the yellow Newtowns and the rest Spitzenburg. All the Newtowns go to London and the Spitzenburgs to New York, while the pears go to Chicago and the larger cities East.

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Indeed, some of the pears go to Europe, and the growers do not know of any case on record where the condition on arrival at destination was not perfect...

... Growers smile at the idea of overproduction. The constantly increasing demand for high-class fruit will never be fully taken care of by the limited acreage that is capable of producing it... The production of these orchards is astonishing. Think of a carload of pears selling in New York City for over \$4,600 in 1907, the year of the last panic! This is the world's record for an entire car of fresh fruit... Medford people take great pride in their fruit records (*Sunset*: v.25: 1910: 587).

Despite these successes, the lack of dependable irrigation caused the fruit trees to grow slowly. Although local farmers had dry-land farmed crops that could be brought to harvest with available rainfall, the deep-rooted trees had different needs. Crop production was erratic between 1910 and 1918 due to the lack of a regular water supply. Orchardists realized that fruit couldn't size properly without irrigation. Although effort were made to bring water from impoundments in the Cascade Range east of the valley, political feuding and faltering finances interfered and by 1912 thousands of acres of orchard land still had no irrigation. Some orchardists stayed and supported irrigation district plans; others gave up, moved into other work, or left the area.

The establishment of irrigation districts in 1917 brought the promise of sufficient dependable amounts of water to the orchards through a wide system of canals. The Medford Irrigation District was organized in September 1917, but did not formally begin operation until 1919. Between 1919 and 1925, ditch and canal construction began and soon thousands of acres of land gained irrigation. The accessibility of water encouraged new, large-scale fruit production and the availability of land at good prices brought a new influx of people into the area. Orchards thrived during the 1920s and the autumn of 1929 produced the finest fruit crop produced to date. Fruitgrowers reeled at the shock of the stock market crash in October 1929. Many growers lost their orchards during the Depression years and the number of independent operators steadily declined as tracts were purchased or incorporated into large packing and cold storage businesses. Other orchards were simply abandoned.

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Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

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Eden Valley Orchard 1885-1898

The land comprising the nominated property is part of the original 160-acre Donation Land Claim No. 46, secured by Charles Addison Ball in September 1853 (Jackson County Deeds: 9/608). Ball, born in Canada in 1819, came to the Rogue River Valley with his parents David and Abigail Ball, and with his younger brother Francis Ball and the family lived together on the land claim. Within three years Addison Ball's land was worth \$2300 and his improvements assessed at \$700 (Jackson County Assessment Records, 1856). The General Land Office surveyor described the location of the Ball residence in the area where the present dwelling now stands (General Land Office Donation Land Claim Survey, Claim No. 46).

On February 17, 1860, Addison Ball married seventeen-year-old Martha Justus [also written as Justice] at her parents' home in the nearby Phoenix, Oregon (Jackson County Marriage Records). Ball died four years later on December 16, 1864 at his farm residence leaving his widow and two small children (*Oregon Sentinel*, December 24, 1864). Three months later, Martha Ball married Francis Ball, her husband's brother (Jackson County Marriage Records, March 14, 1865.) In 1880, Francis and Martha Ball continued to live on the donation land claim sharing the house with their six children; Addison Ball's children, David and Abigail Ball, (named for his parents), were living nearby (U.S. Federal Census, Jackson County, 1880).

At some time during Francis and Martha Justus Ball's residence on the Ball donation land claim, the couple constructed the dwelling that still stands on the property. This Gothic Revival cottage, with board-and-batten siding, fish-scale shingles and decorative eave trim, apparently dates from about 1880. A two-story house, or large addition was appended to the rear of the cottage a short time later (Clay/Atwood 1979/1991).

In May 1882, David Ball, twenty-one year old son of Addison and Martha Ball, and inheritor of ownership of his father's property, sold the 160-acre donation land claim to Henry C. and Ellen Howard for \$3000.00 (Jackson County Deeds: 9/636).

Less than three years later, in March 1885, Howard sold the entire property to Joseph H. Stewart for \$5400.00 (Jackson County Deeds: 12/70). Two Jackson County newspapers noted the sale. The Ashland *Tidings* wrote, "Mr. Stewart recently from Illinois, has bought the Ball place ... near Phoenix and intends to put nearly the whole of it in pears" (Ashland *Tidings*, March 20, 1885: 3:2). In Jacksonville, the *Democratic*

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Times noted, "Mr. Henry C. Howard of Eden precinct has sold his fine farm to Hon. J.H. Stewart for \$5,400 (March 20, 1885: 3:5). Following the sale, Stewart returned to Illinois briefly before returning in September 1885 to set out fruit trees (*Ashland Tidings*, March 27, 1885: 3:3). That month the newspaper noted:

J.H. Stewart of Illinois, who was in this valley last year and bought a farm on the west side of the valley, north of Phoenix, arrived this week with his family and is preparing to go into fruit culture on a large scale. He brought with him a carload of implements, etc. and has en route 8000 peach trees of choice varieties which he will set out this fall. Mr. Stewart has been a prominent fruit dealer in the Chicago markets (*Ashland Tidings* September 17, 1885, 3:4).

The Stewart family probably moved into the former Ball residence on the property. At some point before 1898 they built the larger home that is now encompassed within the Voorhies residence. Stewart immediately set to work planting trees and eventually planted a large commercial orchard of apples, pears, prunes and almonds. In 1890, with his young trees bearing, Stewart successfully shipped his first carload of fruit by rail to outside markets. By 1896 the output from the acreage he named Eden Valley Orchard, was ninety-five carloads of pears and apples. Widely recognized as "the father of the fruit industry" in southern Oregon, Joseph Stewart had an extremely successful business. A prominent contemporary of Stewart's remarked, "Every fruit tree in Rogue River Valley will be a monument to his memory" (Chapman Publishing Co. 1904:479; *Medford Mail Tribune*, July 13, 1906, 1:4).

In 1899, at the age of sixty-five years, Joseph Stewart decided to sell his orchard and invest the money in a new Medford bank. When Gordon Voorhies, an enterprising young man from Portland, visited Eden Valley Orchard in the spring of 1899, Stewart sold him the property. In April 1899, the sale, for \$18,500, was officially recorded (Jackson County Deeds: 36/241).

Reporting the sale of the Stewart property, the local newspaper noted that the "Hon. Jos. H. Stewart has sold his fine fruit orchard to Gordon Voorhies of Portland. There are 160 acres of land in the farm (*Medford Mail* April 12, 1899 7:4). After six years of successful partnership with others in the Medford bank, Joseph Stewart died on July 7, 1906 (*Medford Mail*, July 13, 1906, 1:4).

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Eden Valley Orchard 1899-1932

Gordon Voorhies, his wife, Helen Burrell Voorhies, and their three young children settled in to the former Stewart home where they lived with several household employees (U.S. Federal Census, 1900, Jackson County). When interviewed in 1977, Marian Voorhies Pringle recalled her father telling of his enchantment with the orchard property when he first saw it in 1899, during the early, "false spring" that often envelops southern Oregon in February (Pringle 1977).

Gordon Voorhies was born November 1868, in Lexington Kentucky, a son of Charles Howard and Nancy Griffith Voorhies. Appointed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he graduated in June 1891, and served in the U.S. Infantry until 1892 and then in the Fourth Cavalry until November 30, 1897 when he was discharged. Voorhies volunteered for service in the Spanish American War and was discharged from service on March 1, 1899. The following month, Voorhies and his wife, whom he had married in 1893, moved to the Rogue River Valley. Helen Burrell Voorhies, born September 22, 1871, was the daughter of Martin Strong Burrell, prominent Portland merchant, and Rosetta Frazar Burrell, pioneer citizens of Portland. Her grandfather, Thomas Frazar arrived in Portland from Massachusetts in 1852 (*Portland Oregonian* March 16, 1949, I, 19:4).

Between 1899 and 1903 the Voorhies family spent much of their time at their orchard property although they traveled back and forth to Portland during those years. After 1903, as their children entered school, the family based themselves more permanently in Portland, but Gordon Voorhies continued to make regular trips to Eden Valley Orchard. Marian Voorhies Pringle noted that her father was very interested in his orchard and studied hard to familiarize himself with all aspects of the business. He knew his land well enough, she remembered, to be able to "look at a tree's size, count the number of pears on its, and by doing this all through the orchard estimate quite accurately how large his crop would be" (Pringle 1977).

By 1906 the orchard industry was beginning to boom in Southern Oregon. Local fruit set world records for quality and price received. Gordon Voorhies joined in partnership with his brother-in-law, Walter Frazar Burrell, head of the Burrell Investment Company, to acquire additional lands and take advantage of real estate opportunities. Walter F. Burrell, who, after his father's death in 1885 had inherited Knapp, Burrell and Company, the largest agricultural implement business on the Pacific Coast, had developed large

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tracts of land in both Oregon and Washington (Chapman Publishing Co., 1904: 520; Gaston 1912: IV, 38).

While on a tour of the continent in the early summer of 1906, Gordon Voorhies finalized the sale of hundreds of acres of land to the Burrell Investment Company (Jackson County Deeds 63/189; 63/192). The Burrell Orchard Tract was officially platted in July 1906 (Wagner 1913, n.p.). The Burrell Investment Company, of which Voorhies served as secretary and director from 1903 to 1912, took official title to Eden Valley Orchard and for the next several years, the orchard was referred to as the Burrell Orchards (Capitol Publishing Co. 1938: 539). Gordon Voorhies took charge of planting and other local operations (Pringle 1980). In 1906, with trees flourishing and a packing house that employed people throughout the area, the orchard served as an example for the local newspaper:

Of the many orchards which grace this little valley, the largest is the Eden Valley Orchard, owned by the Burrell Investment Company... [It] furnishes to the smaller growers examples of the best methods... The conservative ones who doubted Mr. Sewart's wisdom when he started Eden Valley Orchard, now look at the splendid success it has achieved and glancing at their own acres devoid of trees whisper disconsolately, "It might have been" (Medford Mail, March 9, 1906: 10).

By September 1906, Eden Valley Orchard was breaking records for money received for sales. The newspaper reported:

The Burrell Investment Co. which owns the Eden Valley Orchard, has again broken the record on Bartlett pears. Manager Brooke received a telegram apprising him that a car shipped by him to New York had sold for \$3.50 a box on average (Ashland Tidings, September 27, 1906, 2:2).

In 1906 the Voorhies' hired builders to extensively remodel the former Joseph Stewart house. Workers removed a veranda and constructed an extensive addition to the east elevation of the dwelling. The main block of the older portion of the dwelling was refitted and refurbished. The commodious Voorhies dwelling was photographed, and featured along with other distinguished Rogue River Valley orchard homes, in illustrated

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promotional publications of 1909 and 1911. Becoming increasingly involved in southern Oregon activities, Gordon Voorhies joined the socially prominent Rogue Valley University Club in 1910. The nearby rail stop on the Southern Oregon Pacific Railroad line took the name Voorhies Crossing (Clay/Atwood 1979/1991).

Apple and pear sales figures continued to rise between 1906 and 1910. With the influx of capital from the Burrell Investment Company, the orchard operation annually increased production and shipped hundreds of carloads east and to Canada and Europe. In 1910, with land sales at a premium, the Burrell Investment Company began selling of portions of its holdings. Families from the east and from the Portland area purchased land. Several of the buyers built elaborate country homes on their newly acquired land. On writer noted:

In 1913, the Burrell Orchard Tract consisted of four old donation land claims south of Medford, occupying almost all of sections 5, 6, 7, and 8 in Township 38 South, Range 1 West. In 1906, this body of land supported and was owned by only five or six large families... all in good sized tracts. Part of it was set out in orchard and the rest of it was in alfalfa and grain land. [The Burrell Investment Company] bought this with idea of dividing it up and selling it off in small tracts... At the present time there are at least thirty families living on the Burrell Orchard Tract (Wagner 1913).

Between 1910 and 1912, the Burrell Investment Company sold hundreds of acres of land in parcels ranging between 30 and 80 acres to families with the names Kenly, Hamill, Speck, Brown, Griffeth, Holloway, Carpenter and Bingham (Jackson County Deeds, 80/217; 81/57; 325; 447; 449; 90/586; 93/467).

By late 1915, with fruit production slowed by inadequate irrigation, the fruit boom began to fade and, having succeeded with extensive sales during the boom period, the Burrell Investment Company ceased active operation in land sales. A foreman and other workers continued to oversee operations at Eden Valley Orchards between Gordon Voorhies' visits to the property.

In 1917, at the age of forty-eight, Gordon Voorhies volunteered for active service in World War I. He was commissioned as Major of field artillery, and led troops in France

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at Argonne and Chateaux Thierry. Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, he received his commission in Nov. 1918 and remained on active duty until May 10, 1919, when he again retired from the army. He was awarded the Belgian Croix de Guerre with palm, "For particularly distinguished and courageous service during the victorious offensive in Flanders" (*Medford Mail Tribune* September 13, 1940, 1 3-4). In early 1920, with his military service complete and his children grown, Colonel Gordon Voorhies (as he was now known), and his family moved permanently from Portland to Eden Valley Orchard.

In the winter of 1920, when thawing pipes caused considerable damage to their residence, the Voorhies' decided to remodel their home once again. Their youngest son Charles Voorhies, who had studied at Harvard, and was a devoted architecture student, took over the project at the age of twenty. Young Voorhies redesigned the façade in the Period Colonial Revival Style, added a wing to the south elevation by joining the main house to a separate office building nearby, appended a wing on the north elevation, and re-covered the exterior with shingles (Pringle 1980). Records in the Ellis Lawrence Building Inventory indicate that although Lawrence (who had designed a garage for the Voorhies' Portland home) billed Gordon Voorhies for "traveling expenses and architectural services in connection with the Medford residence," his involvement was limited to consultation (University of Oregon, 1988).

Colonel Voorhies settled in to manage his orchard and cooperate in joint fruit industry efforts in southern Oregon. He was appointed as the Southern Oregon representative on the State Production Credit Association Board, "his wise counsel and fearless leadership in innumerable directions, both state and local, being highly prized by all his associates" (*Medford Mail Tribune*, September 13, 1940, 1:3-4). In 1926, Voorhies, Leonard and Alfred Carpenter, Chandler Egan, and Corning Kenly, established Southern Oregon Sales, a fruit cooperative in Medford. While early growers had handled their own packing, shipping and marketing, costs made it increasingly necessary to join with others to solve disease, shipping and marketing problems. Southern Oregon Sales helped members with processing, packing, storing and selling fruit. Leonard Carpenter recalled:

We got about six men and asked them if they'd ship with us if we had a new association. They said they would. S.O.S. was a cooperative. The government was giving their first help to agriculture. They helped on the irrigation districts and then they went into cooperatives. We took care of everything from the time pears were brought into our warehouse until they were paid for.

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Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

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We were handed their crops, marketing and everything. I think it was a necessity (Atwood 1980: 211).

Southern Oregon Sales has continued in successful operation to the present day. As company manager Verne Turpin commented, "The integrity of the people who ran SOS and the stability of the organization meant they were always able to procure necessary capital (Atwood 1980: 214).

In 1928, the Voorhies family grieved upon the death of their oldest son, Gordon Voorhies Jr. The thirty-year old West Point graduate died in Salem, Oregon after a long illness (Portland *Oregonian* June 16, 1915:18; September 29, 1928, 10:4). During the 1930s, Helen Burrell served the state in two important capacities. She was appointed to the 1933 Oregon Knox Commission that drafted the resolution for repeal of the eighteenth amendment to the constitution. In 1935 she was appointed a member of the state capitol construction commission. In appointing her, Governor Martin described Mrs. Voorhies as a "woman of culture and an extensive traveler" (Portland *Oregonian*, December 1, 1935, 8:4; March 16, 1949, I, 19:4). During these years the old road that had long passed in front of the property became known as Voorhies Road.

In 1932, with the Depression deepening and his health failing, Colonel Voorhies transferred title to the twenty-seven acre parcel containing the family residence and other orchard buildings to his wife (Jackson County Deeds, 192/228). On September 13, 1940, the Medford *Mail Tribune* announced Gordon Voorhies death at home. The newspaper described him as a "West Point graduate, World and Spanish-American war veteran, pioneer valley orchardist, and one of the most distinguished residents of the state" (Medford *Mail Tribune* September 13, 1940, 1:3-4; Portland *Oregonian* September 14, 1940, 8:5).

Helen Burrell Voorhies continued to live in the family home until her death on February 28, 1949. Following private family services at the residence, memorial services were held in the First Unitarian Church in Portland (Medford *Mail Tribune*, March 1, 1949, 1:2; Portland *Oregonian* March 16, 1949, I, 19:4). Eden Valley Orchard was inherited by the Voorhies children and remained in family hands until 1986 when it was sold to Medford orchardist Edward Earnest (Jackson County Deeds, 248/313; 86-26605; 89-06998; 86-06644).

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Continuation SheetEden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon
Section number 8 Page 11**Charles Voorhies**

Born in Portland, Oregon on September 22, 1901, Charles Howard Voorhies was educated at Harvard University. Young Voorhies subsequently studied architecture from 1923-1924 at the University of Pennsylvania. Following a year of travel in 1925 to France, Italy and England, he again studied architecture from 1926 to 1928 at the University of California, Berkeley. Although talented in the field, Charles Voorhies had turned his attention to painting by the late 1920s. In the fall of 1929, a newspaper writer reviewed a one-man show by Voorhies at the Arts and Crafts Gallery at Broadway and Columbia Streets (*Portland Oregonian*, October 19, 1929, 5). Increasing in his abilities, Voorhies studied with Maurice Stern in New York and Diego Rivera in San Francisco (*Portland Art Association*, 1972).

In 1934 the artist married Doris Danenhowser and the two eventually became parents of six children. Charles Voorhies' paintings were exhibited at many galleries during his career including in one-man shows at the Santa Fe Museum, Portland Art Museum, Reed College and several galleries. A respected teacher, Voorhies taught drawing and painting at the Portland Art Museum from 1938 to 1953. He died March 30, 1970 (*Portland Oregonian*, March 31, 1970, 6:3). In April 1972, a major retrospective exhibit of 175 paintings by Charles Voorhies over a forty years period, opened at the Portland Art Museum. Describing Charles Voorhies as a "distinguished artist and educator," a writer for the *Portland Oregonian* stated that paintings had been loaned by private collectors, museum collections and the artist's family (*Portland Oregonian*, April 7, 1972, 20: 1-7).

Summary

Eden Valley Orchard, with buildings constructed between c. 1880 and 1932, includes the former Francis and Martha Ball House, (c. 1880); the Stewart-Voorhies House (1890; 1906;1920), a barn (c. 1925), a garage/shed (1925), two orchard sheds (c.1925 and 1910), and approximately two-dozen centenarian fruit trees. Located south of Medford, Oregon, Eden Valley Orchard is the place where Joseph Stewart initiated the commercial fruit industry in southern Oregon, and where prominent Rogue River Valley orchardist Gordon Voorhies expanded on Stewart's effort. This property is highly significant for its role in the development of the fruit industry in southern Oregon. Retaining a high degree of integrity and accurately conveying the historic associations for which it is significant, Eden Valley Orchard is proposed for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria "A" and "C."

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Section number 9 Page 1

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Eden Valley Orchard
Name of Property

Jackson Oregon
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 26.90

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

10	512440	4681760
Zone	Easting	Northing

2

10	512840	4681760
Zone	Easting	Northing

3

10	512840	4681480
Zone	Easting	Northing

4

10	512440	4681480
Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

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 Katherine C. Atwood

organization Local Historian date November 24, 1999

street & number 365 Holly Street telephone 541-482-8714

city or town Ashland state Oregon zip code 97520

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

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Betty F. Root (Trustee) and Timothy F. Root (Anne Root, Agent)

street & number 789 Leonard Street telephone 541-944-9001

city or town Ashland state Oregon zip code 97520

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. 470 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, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

Section number 10 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated parcel includes all of tax lot 6300 as shown on Jackson County Assessors Plat #381W05. This parcel encompasses a total area of 26.90 acres, as located at 2488 Voorhies Road in the vicinity of Medford, Oregon.

The property may be further described as "Beginning at a point on the east line of Donation Land Claim 46 in Township 38 south, Range 1 West of the Willamette Meridian in Jackson County, Oregon, 1117.6 feet south of the northeast corner of said Claim; thence North 89 (deg) 54' West 1364.2 feet to a gas pipe monument; thence South 0 (deg) 08' West 875.00 feet, more or less, to the south line of Section 8 in said Township and Range; thence East along south line to the east line of said Donation Land Claim No. 46; thence North 0 (deg) 12' East to the point of beginning."

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated parcel includes 26.90 acres of the original 160 acres purchased by Joseph Stewart in 1885 and again by Gordon Voorhies in 1899 and set aside by Gordon Voorhies in 1932 from the larger orchard acreage. The nominated parcel and its building represents the property historically associated with the Stewart and Voorhies families and the development of the southern Oregon fruit industry throughout the period of significance.

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Continuation Sheet**

Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

Section number _____ Photographs _____ Page 1

Photograph No. 1

- 1) Eden Valley Orchard
- 2) 2488 Voorhies Road, Medford, Jackson County, Oregon
- 3) Photographer: Kay Atwood
- 4) Date of Photograph: November 1999
- 5) Negative holder: Kay Atwood
365 Holly Street
Ashland, Oregon 97520
- 6) View of Eden Valley Orchard looking toward the northwest
- 7) Photograph number 1 of 17

Note: The information contained in items 1 through 5 is the same for each photograph.

Photograph No. 2

- 6) View of south and east elevations of Gordon and Helen Voorhies House, (Map Site No. Voorhies House) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 2 of 17

Photograph No. 3

- 6) View of south elevation, Gordon and Helen Voorhies House, (Map Site No. Voorhies House) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 3 of 17

Photograph No. 4

- 6) View of south elevation of Gordon and Helen Voorhies House (Map Site No. Voorhies House) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 4 of 17

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

Section number Photograph **Page** 2

Photograph No. 5

- 6) View of north elevation of Gordon and Helen Voorhies House (Map Site No. Voorhies House) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 5 of 17

Photograph No. 6

- 6) View of north elevation, Gordon and Helen Voorhies House (Map Site No. Voorhies House) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 6 of 17

Photograph No. 7

- 6) View of east elevation of north wing, Gordon and Helen Voorhies House (Map Site No. Voorhies House) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 7 of 17

Photograph No. 8

- 6) View of living room, Gordon and Helen Voorhies House (Map Site No. Voorhies House) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 8 of 17

Photograph No. 9

- 6) View of stairs, Gordon and Helen Voorhies House (Map Site No. Voorhies House) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 9 of 17

Photograph No. 10

- 6) View of library fireplace, Gordon and Helen Voorhies House (Map Site No. voorhies House) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 10 of 17

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

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Eden Valley Orchard Jackson Oregon

Section number Photograph Page 3

Photograph No. 11

- 6) View of swimming pool and adjacent landscape looking south, (Map Site No. 1)
Gordon and Helen Voorhies House, Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 11 of 17

Photograph No. 12

- 6) View of east elevation Shed/Garage, (Map Site No. 2) Gordon and Helen Voorhies
House
- 7) Photograph number 12 of 17

Photograph No. 13

- 6) View of south and east elevations Francis and Martha Ball House, (Map Site No. 3)
Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 13 of 17

Photograph No. 14

- 6) View of north and west elevations Barn, (Map Site No. 4) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 14 of 17

Photograph No. 15

- 6) View of east and north elevations Shed No. 1, (Map Site No.5) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 15 of 17

Photograph No. 16

- 6) View of south and west elevations Shed No. 2, (Map Site No. 6) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 16 of 17

Photograph No. 17

- 6) View of J.H. Stewart Pear Trees (Map Site No. 7) Eden Valley Orchard
- 7) Photograph number 17 of 18

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

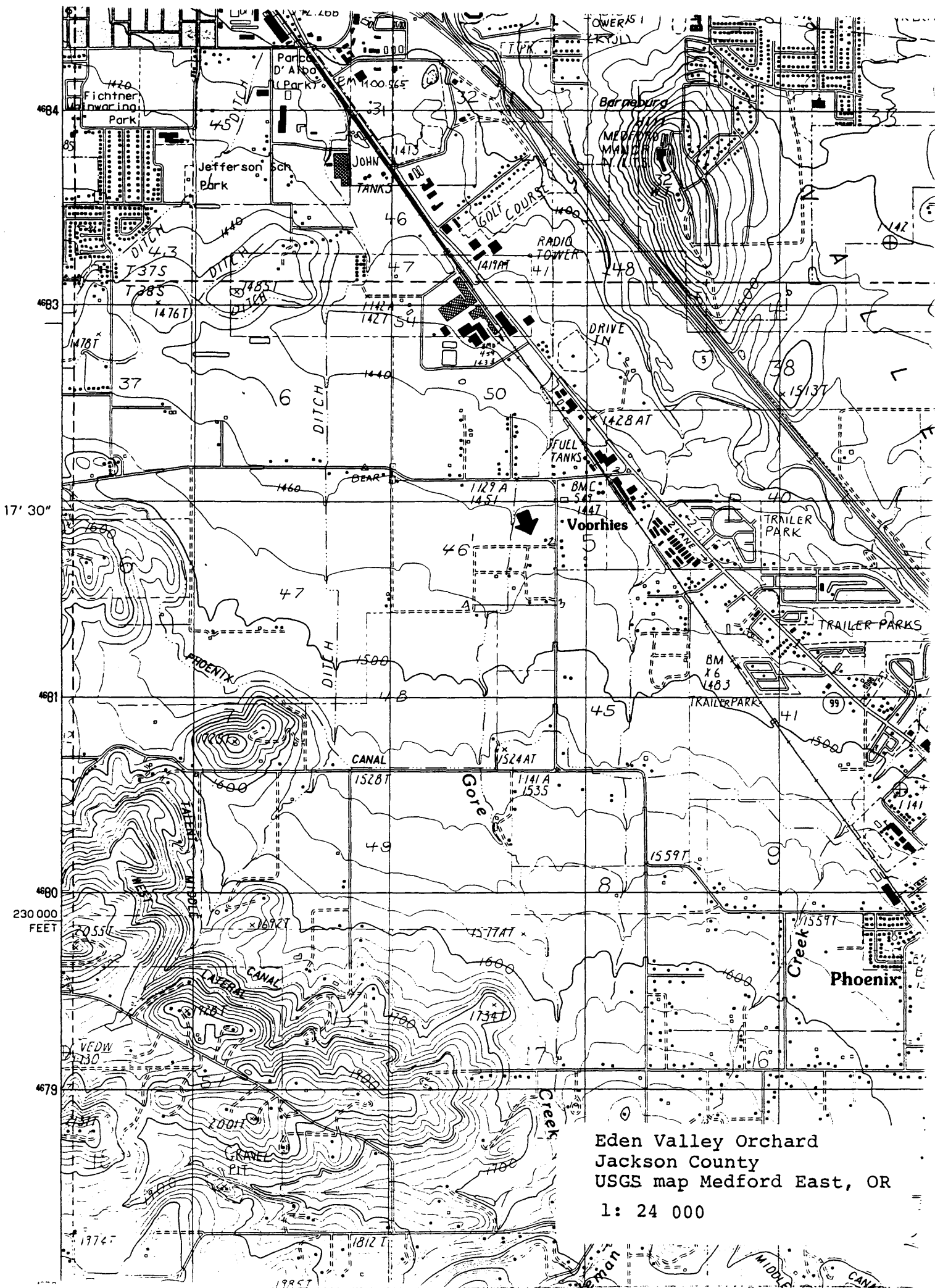
Section Number: PHOTOGRAPHS Page: Addendum Eden Valley Orchard, Jackson County, OR

[These photographs supplement the original 17 images]

- Addendum 1. Current Interior: Ball-Stewart House Bedroom 1
Looking: NE, toward living room
Photographer: George Kramer
Date of Photograph: March 2000
Negative: Collection of the photographer

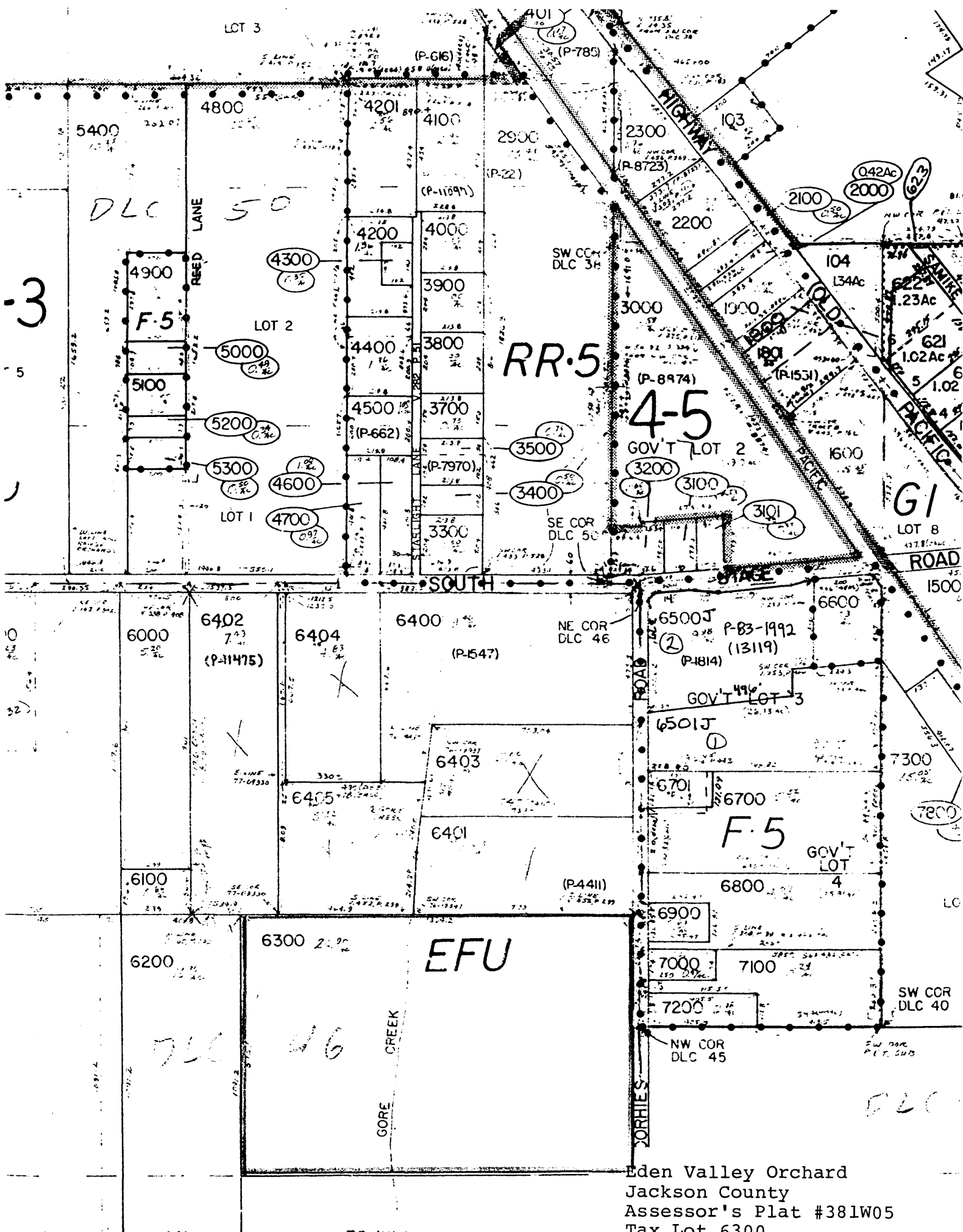
- Addendum 2. Current Interior: Ball-Stewart House, Bathroom
Looking: SW, from Bedroom 1
Photographer: George Kramer
Date of Photograph: March 2000
Negative: Collection of the photographer

- Addendum 3. Current Interior: Ball-Stewart House, General View
Looking: East, from rear volume, through bathroom, to Bedroom 1
Photographer: George Kramer
Date of Photograph: March 2000
Negative: Collection of the photographer



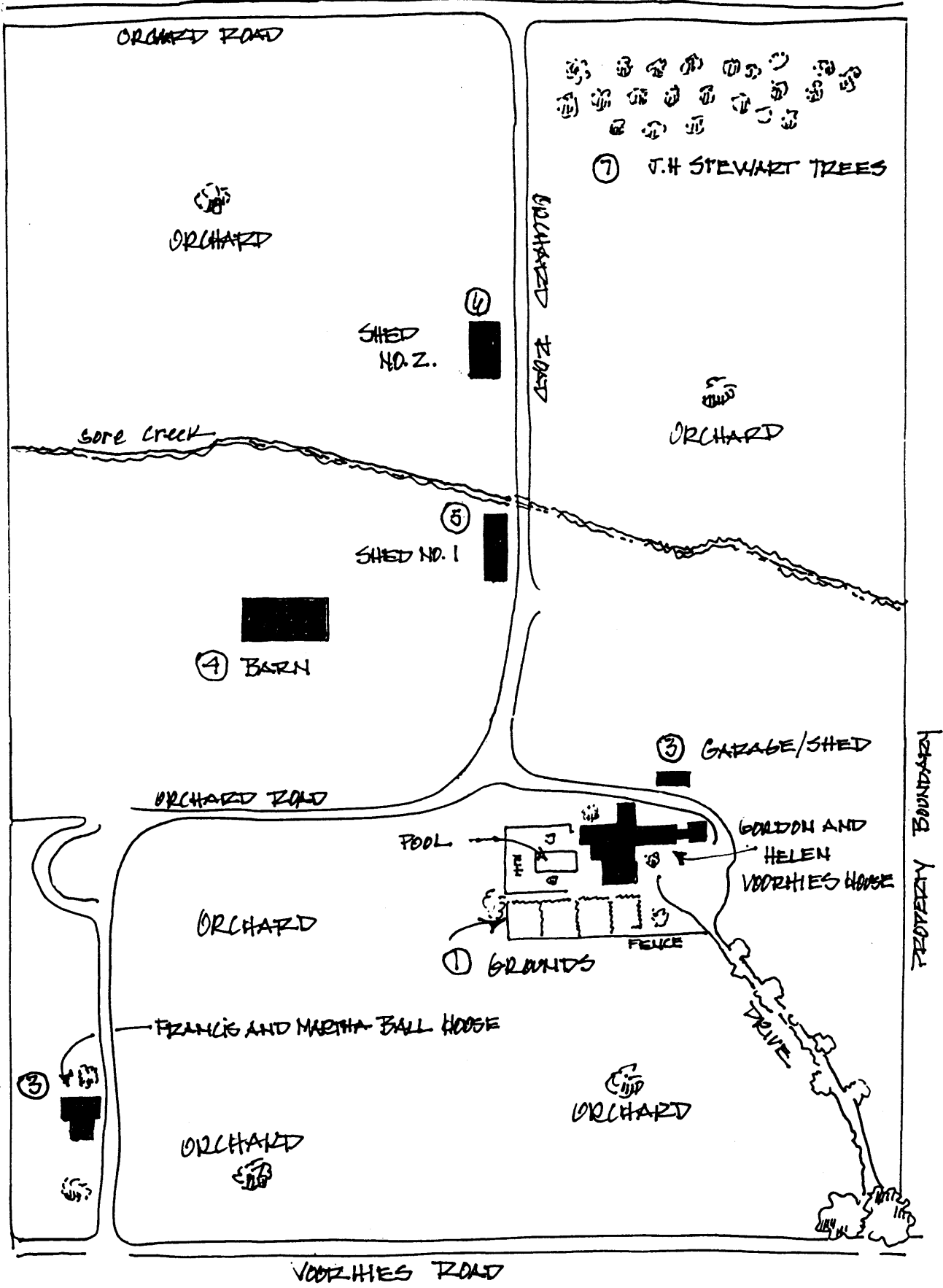
Eden Valley Orchard
 Jackson County
 USGS map Medford East, OR
 1: 24 000

LOT 3



Eden Valley Orchard
 Jackson County
 Assessor's Plat #381W05
 Tax Lot 6300

38 1W 8

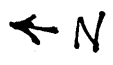
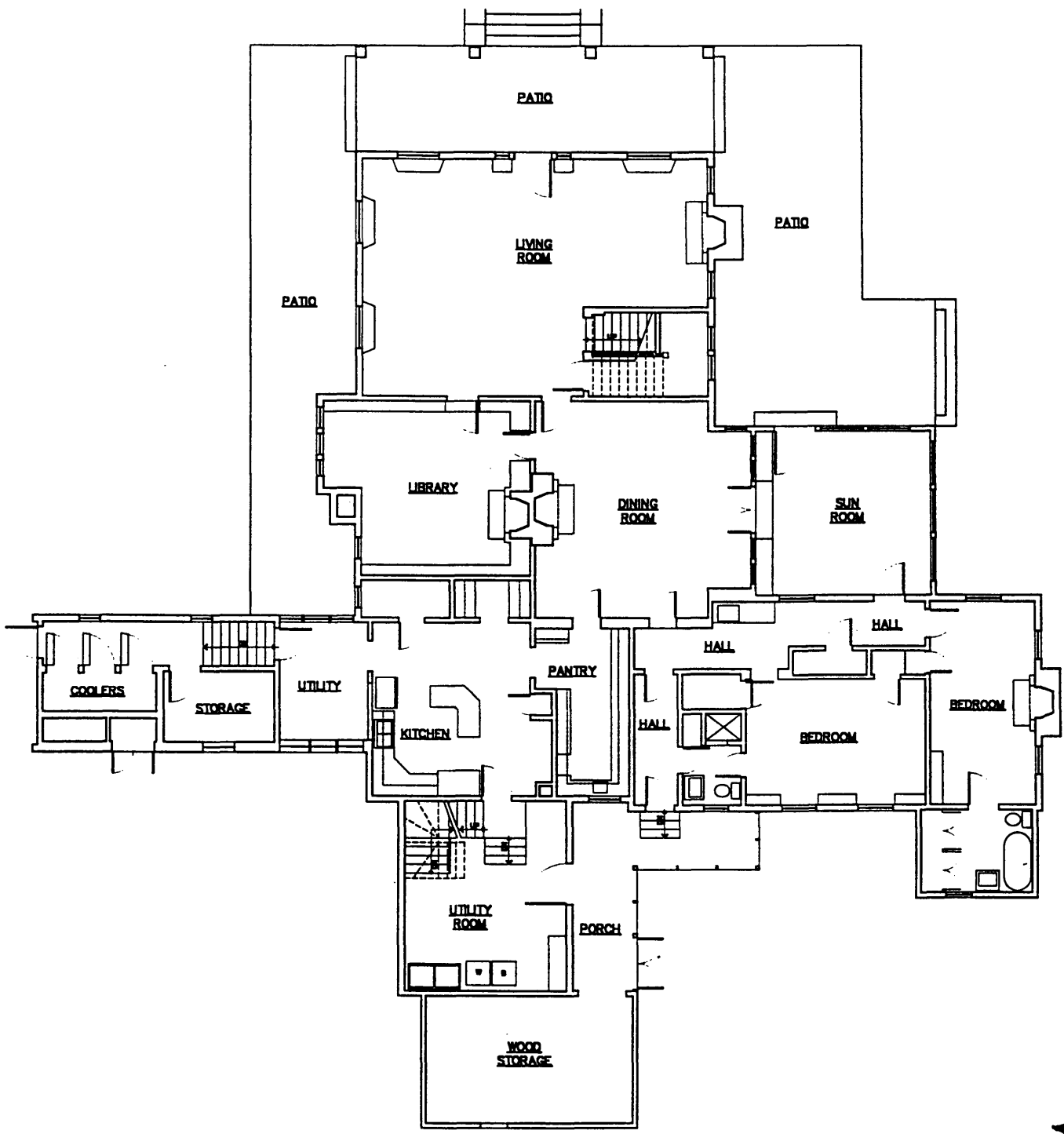


VOORHIES ROAD

EDEN VALLEY ORCHARD
 WEAVER, JACKSON COUNTY, OR.
 APPROX. SCALE 1" = 175'

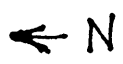
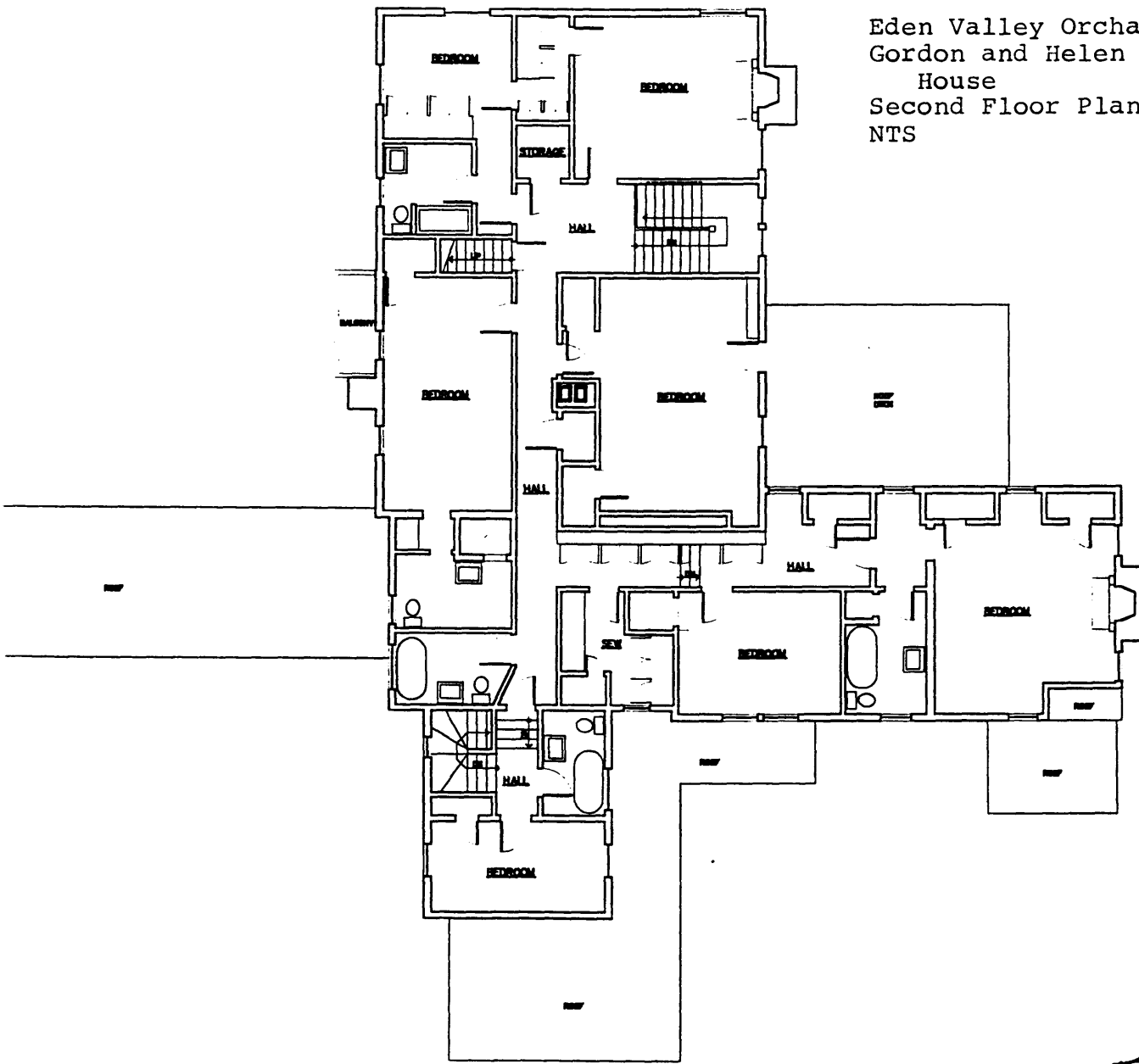


Eden Valley Orchard
Gordon and Helen Voorhies
House
Ground Level Plan
NTS

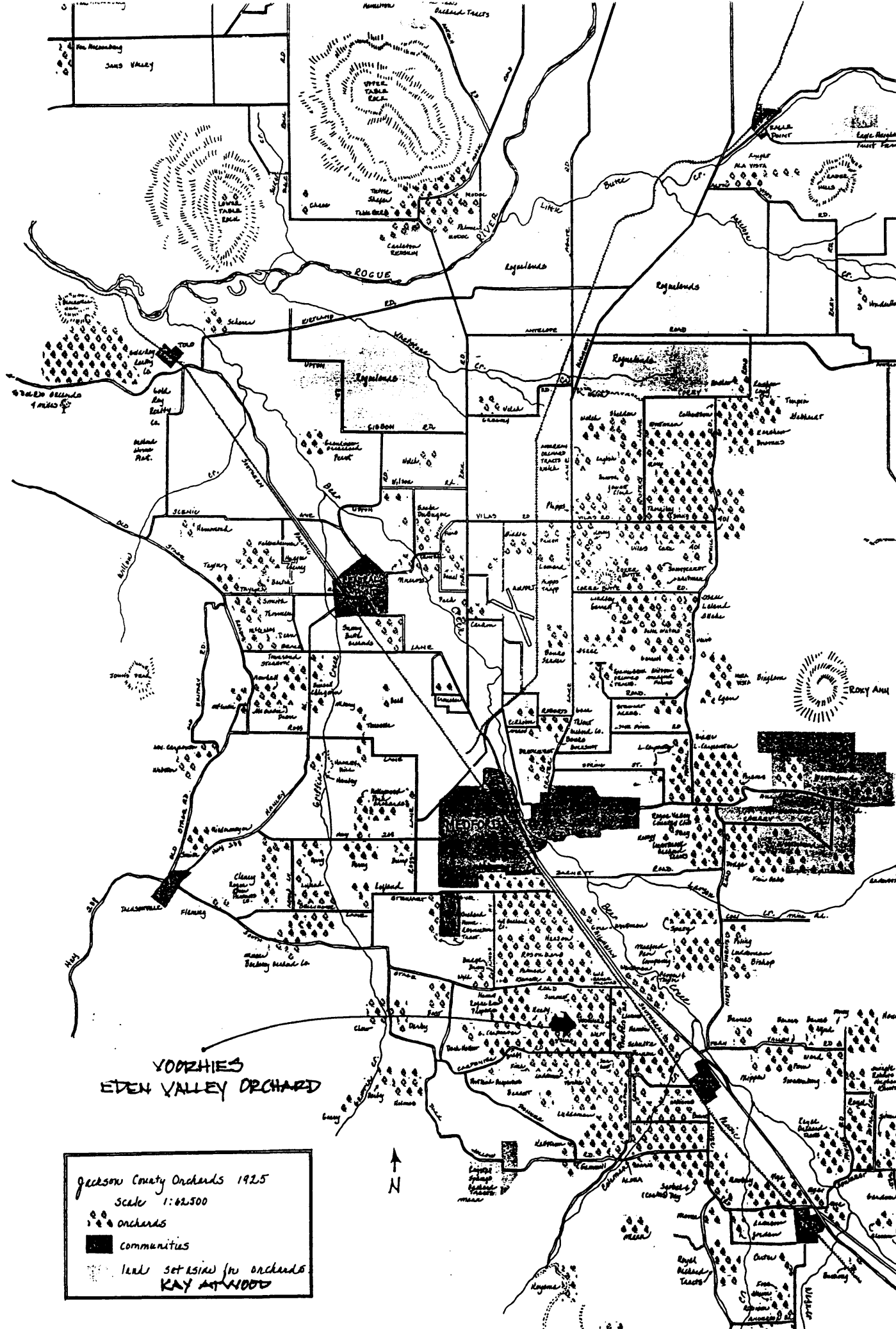


GROUND LEVEL FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 3/32" = 1'-0"

Eden Valley Orchard
Gordon and Helen Voorhies
House
Second Floor Plan
NTS



SECOND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"



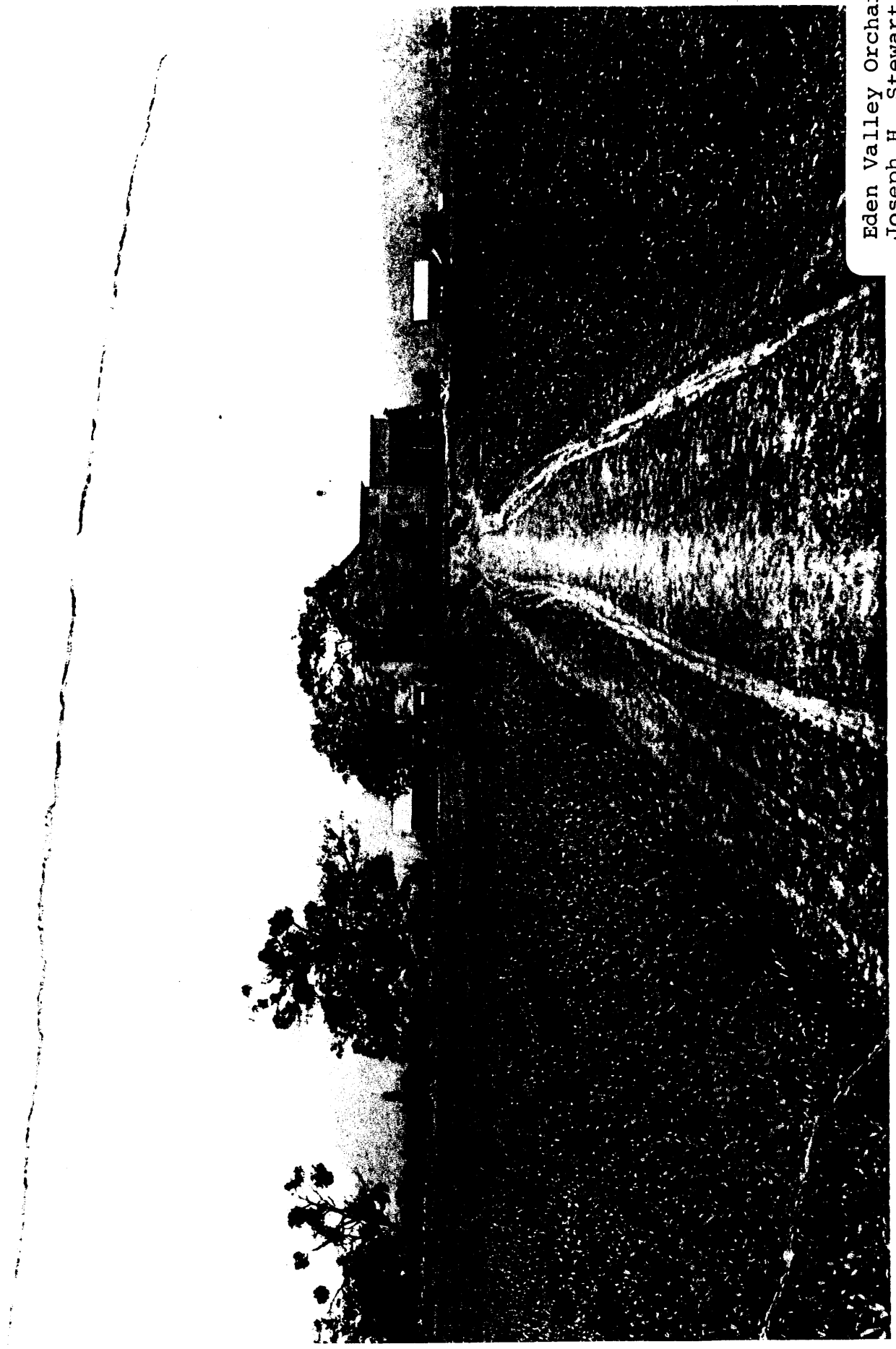
**VOORHIES
EDEN VALLEY ORCHARD**

Jackson County Orchards 1925
 Scale 1:62,500

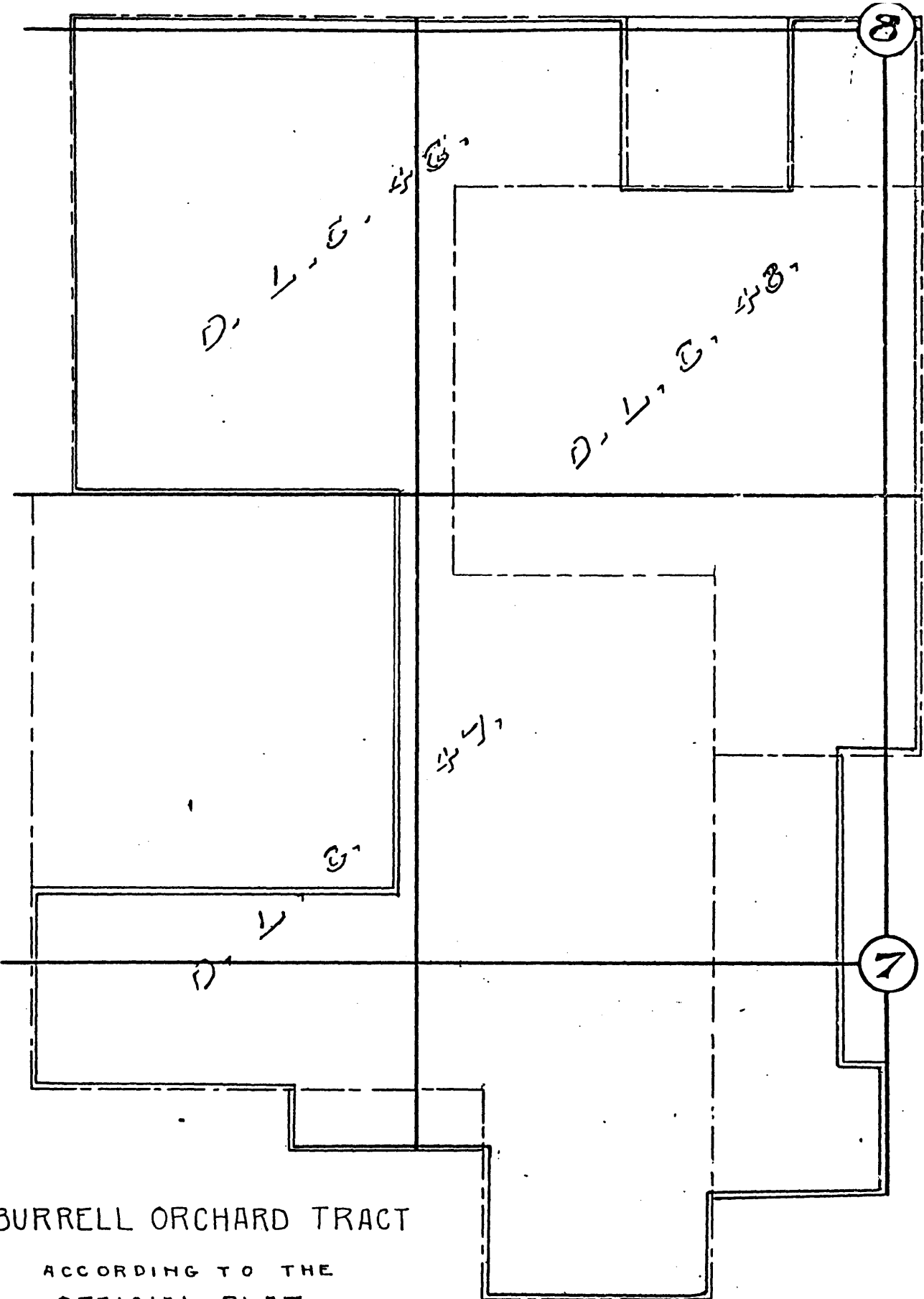
- orchards
- communities
- land set aside for orchards

KAY AT WOOD





Eden Valley Orchard
Joseph H. Stewart House
North elevation
c. 1890



BURRELL ORCHARD TRACT
 ACCORDING TO THE
 OFFICIAL PLAT
 JULY 1906