

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

JUL 3 1979

**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

Pittock House (Lakeside)

AND/OR COMMON

Leadbetter House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

N of Camas at  
114 N.E. Leadbetter Road

CITY, TOWN

Camas

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th-Mike McCormack

STATE

Washington

VICINITY OF

CODE  
53

COUNTY  
Clark

CODE  
011

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

**ACCESSIBLE**

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY  OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Henry L. Pittock Leadbetter, c/o Katherine Mills (Mrs. John)

STREET & NUMBER

4699 Leasure Drive

CITY, TOWN

Mt. Hood

VICINITY OF

Oregon

STATE

97041

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clark County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

1200 Franklin St.

CITY, TOWN

Vancouver

STATE

Washington 98660

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Clark County Cultural Resource Inventory

DATE

1977-78

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Regional Planning Council of Clark County

CITY, TOWN

Vancouver

STATE

Washington 09660

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pittock-Leadbetter House is situated about three miles from the town of Camas on the wooded northeast shore of La Camas Lake with only the large front yard and narrow Leadbetter Road separating it from the water's edge. Second-growth timber extends up the hillside behind the house, while cleared garden, lawn, and driveway areas surround it on three sides providing water views from most of the rooms. The major orientation is to the southwest, encompassing a vista across the long, narrow lake to the opposite shore, which was formerly heavily wooded but is now being cleared for development. The few neighboring houses on the north shore are distant and totally obscured by forest, so that the isolated and peaceful immediate surroundings of the house today appear much the same as they were when it was constructed soon after the turn of the century.

Built as a farmhouse, the Pittock-Leadbetter residence nonetheless reflects in its style and scale the wealth, social standing and civic prominence of the families who built and lived in it. The Queen Anne style residence exhibits bold forms and grand dimensions (approximately 3700 sq. ft.) laced with elegant beveled glass and whimsical details. The basic unit is a 36' x 63' rectangle of two and one-half stories covered by a gambrel roof. A substantial three-story circular bay capped with a conical roof projects from the southeast corner providing the dominant exterior feature of the house. A portico of Roman character marks the main entrance on the south facade, and a wide veranda extends from it beyond the corner of the house to form a pedimented and columned viewing porch to the west. Hooded and hip-roofed dormers occur on the south and north sides, while a large oriel window marks the staircase landing on the west elevation. A rectangular one-story wing (18' x 26') was added to the rear of the east elevation in the 1940's, replacing a semi-circular solarium. The veranda on the south facade originally extended around the large corner bay, but this portion was removed at the time the east wing was added.

The frame house rests on a foundation of uncoursed rubble stone enclosing a full basement. Above grade masonry consists of concrete blocks imitating stone which form the low veranda wall and the large square piers supporting column clusters. The ground floor is sheathed in narrow bull-nose wood siding, which has been duplicated in the later addition. The upper stories are shingled and the lower courses flare out forming a drip along the bottom edge. Multiple mouldings and a frieze beneath this drip form a horizontal band around the house coinciding with the multi-faced architrave of the veranda and pedimented porticos. Corner boards, a moulded boxed cornice and wide frieze, wide moulded window and door surrounds, and a dentil band under the eaves of the corner bay are additional elements which define exterior surfaces. The original wood shingle roof has been replaced with composition shingles.

(continued)

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JUL 3 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Double hung windows are the predominant fenestration except for a few single fixed sashes. Much of the original glazing is intact and constitutes one of the distinctive features of the house. The upper sashes of all original windows consist of beveled, leaded glass, those on the second floor having additionally sections of rippled and textured glass. Patterns are quite diverse and, except for two bedrooms, a different pattern occurs in each room. The lower sashes are for the most part single lights of clear glass, those of the corner bay being curved. Where these have been broken, they have been replaced with straight panes and additional muntins. The windows of the added east wing and two kitchen windows are modern plate glass in fixed single sashes.

The interior of the house has undergone only minor alterations over the years, most notably a remodeling of the kitchen, the addition of a bath in a small third-floor room, and door and window modifications to accommodate the appended east wing. A small entrance vestibule opens directly into the parlor which occupies the southeast corner and is noteworthy for the three large double hung windows of the bay containing bowed and beveled glass. Two fixed single sash beveled windows originally flanked the fireplace, but one was removed when a doorway to the new living room was cut through the wall. The brick fireplace has a carved wood and mirrored overmantel enhanced by acanthus and bead-and-reel mouldings. The dining room, with plate rail, picture moulding, and its own distinctive group of beveled glass windows, connects to the kitchen via a butlers pantry. A small study in the southwest corner is enlarged by a bay which projects into the veranda space and contains three double hung windows with beveled glass of yet another pattern. A servants stairway off the kitchen parallels the main staircase and connects to it by means of a door at the landing.

The second floor contains four corner rooms, a spacious central hall, and an original bathroom. The room in the southeast corner bay, originally the nursery, contains a fireplace with a carved wood and mirrored overmantel above a green tiled hearth. Applied to the face of the lintel are five painted tiles each illustrating a hand printed nursery rhyme: Little Miss Muffet, Little Bo Peep, Jack Sprat, Polly

(continued)

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 17 1979
DATE ENTERED	3 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

put the kettle on, and Little Jack Horner. The master bedroom, boasting double closets, is located in the northeast corner. This and the other bedrooms as well as the nursery have beveled and textured leaded glass in curvilinear floral motifs in the upper sashes of their double hung windows. The bathroom retains its original white wall tile including a decorative frieze of embossed floral swags with bows picked out in gold and edged in blue.

The third floor also has a large central hall giving access to attic storage space, an additional bathroom, a governess' bedroom, and the school room in the corner bay. The latter has a coved circular ceiling and geometric beveled glass patterns in its four bay windows. The interior retains much of its original woodwork, now mostly painted, brass doorknobs and plates, and wall-mounted light fixtures, originally gas but now converted to electricity. The fir floors are covered with various modern floor coverings, and the lath and plaster walls and ceilings have been recently repaired.

A large imposing barn stands about 125 feet northwest of the house and is reached by a wide path through the woods. This two-story frame structure, 36' x 50', is sheathed in shiplap siding at the first floor level and shingled above. Two large hip-roofed dormers intersect the gabled roof, and a central square lantern provides additional light to the upper story. It originally functioned as the horse barn and is contemporary with the house. Additional barns and other farm out-buildings were located above the lake property, on land which has since been sold, and were reached by a road which no longer exists. Adjacent to the house on the northwest side is an octagonal gazebo constructed in the mid 1960's.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1902

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pittock-Leadbetter House, a particularly fine example of the Queen Anne style in a rural setting, is associated with two interrelated families prominent in regional Oregon-Washington history. They were part of the development of commerce and industry in the Columbia and Willamette river valleys and some of the important local businesses of today -- The Oregonian, Crown-Zellerbach, the Oregon Bank -- are an outgrowth of these early endeavors.

Henry L. Pittock, patriarch of the family, had the house on La Camas Lake built for his son and daughter-in-law, Frederick and Bertha Leadbetter Pittock, at the time of their marriage in 1902. By this time Pittock enterprises were well established on both sides of the Columbia River and the elder Pittock could be generous in providing land and a residence for his only son, who at the age of forty had decided that he wished to become a farmer. The sumptuous farmhouse, always known as "Lakeside", was commissioned by Henry, who chose to ignore his daughter-in-law's preference for a house in the Colonial style.

The Pittock family's roots are in England, in the county of Kent, though Henry was born in London in 1836. Three years later the family immigrated to the United States and settled in Pittsburgh, where the children were educated. Henry and his brother John learned the printing trade from their father, and when Henry left for the Oregon country, John remained behind and later founded the Pittsburg Leader.

Henry was a young man of seventeen when he set off for the West, crossing the plains by wagon and ox team. In November of 1853 he found employment as a typesetter at the Weekly Oregonian in Portland, a struggling tabloid begun three years earlier by Thomas J. Dryer. Late in 1860 he acquired control of the paper for unpaid wages and within three months he published the first daily edition. Under his direction the paper flourished, its readership being eager for news of the Civil War, which Pittock managed to acquire via pony express from the telegraph terminus in San Francisco. For nearly sixty years he presided over The Oregonian, expanding its coverage and circulation, installing modern presses, and hiring impressive editors and journalists.

(continued)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Camas-Washougal Post-Record. Cenaqua-Bicentennial Issue. 1976.

Mills, Katherine Leadbetter (granddaughter of Frederick and Caroline Pittock Leadbetter). Personal interview and letters, September 5, 1978 and subsequent.

(continued on attached page)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3

QUADRANGLE NAME Camas, Oreg.-Wash.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 10 5445610 505210610  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies Lot 38 of Section 27, T.2N., R.3E., W.M., in unincorporated Clark County. It encompasses three acres, with 484.2 ft. of shoreline along LaCamas Lake.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Shirley Courtois

ORGANIZATION

The Conservation Company

DATE

September, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

1955 - 6th Avenue West

TELEPHONE

(206) 284-8556

CITY OR TOWN

Seattle

STATE

Washington 98119

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

STATE   

LOCAL   

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Jeanne M. Welch*

TITLE

DATE 5-11-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Charles A. ...*  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 7-5-79

ATTEST: *W. Ray ...*  
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE July 3, 1979

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

His publishing venture led him into other enterprises as the new state of Oregon entered a period of rapid growth. In 1866 he built the first paper mill in the Pacific Northwest at Oregon City and later another on the Clackamas River. He organized the Portland Trust Company, and later served as president of the board of its successor, the Northwestern National Bank, now the Oregon Bank. He was involved in the development of railroad lines and had interests in a transportation company operating steamers on the Columbia and Willamette rivers. With his wife, Georgianna M. Burton, the daughter of a pioneer family whom he married in 1860, he was active in Portland civic affairs and keenly interested in the development of Oregon.

Henry Pittock did not confine his activities to Oregon however, for in 1883 he organized the La Camas Colony Co. and served as its president. The company was formed to study the feasibility of building a paper mill and creating a town on the Washington side of the Columbia River near the La Camas lakes and creek. An early history relates that in May members of the company inspected the area and immediately directed the manager, D.H. Stearns, to enter into negotiations for the purchase of land sufficient to command the whole water supply. Without delay, 2600 acres of land were bought on either side of the three lakes and both banks of La Camas Creek to its mouth at the Washougal River, thus giving the company riparian rights over a lake several square miles in extent and a stream more than a mile in length, with a fall in that distance of 175 feet. A series of dams was constructed to raise the water level and a saw mill started at one of these to supply lumber for the paper mill which was being erected on the banks of the Columbia. A crew of Chinese laborers was brought in to dig a mill ditch 7000 feet long to bring the water from the lakes to the mill.

On September 10, 1883 the original townsite of La Camas (later shortened to Camas) was platted, and the following year the La Camas Colony Co. filed articles of incorporation for the Columbia River Paper Co. By the spring of 1885 the mill was producing good quality paper from wood pulp, and the town was flourishing. An addition to the original townsite had already been platted, many businesses had opened, a school district and several churches were organized. After the mill suffered a disastrous fire late in 1886 it was rebuilt of

(continued)

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED	JUL 3 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

brick and stone on a larger scale and continued to expand over the years. When the Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railroad was completed along the north bank in 1908 Camas was linked to Vancouver and Portland by rail. The population of the town increased to about 1200 and The Coast magazine reported that 300 were employed at the mill. In the early years of the twentieth century the Columbia River Paper Co. was merged with Pitttock's Oregon paper mills to form the Crown Columbia Paper Co. and later the Crown Willamette Paper Co. A decade after Henry Pitttock's death in 1919 a final merger formed the Crown Zellerbach Corp. which today operates thirteen mills in the United States and Canada, the specialty paper mill at Camas being the largest.

In the first decade of this century, while the mill and town were growing together, the Pitttocks took more than a business interest in the area. The sylvan shores of La Camas Lake became a family gathering place. Fred and Bertha Pitttock came to live and farm at "Lakeside" and to raise five children there. Bertha's parents, Charles and Anne Leadbetter, were located at the next property to the southeast on the road to Camas in an older remodeled house which may have been the one built by the La Camas Colony's general manager, D.H. Stearns, in the early days of the mill's development. The property was known as "Pomaria" when the Leadbetters owned it, but the house is now gone. On the opposite shore of the lake Bertha's brother, Frederick Leadbetter, who had married Henry Pitttock's daughter Caroline, built a large impressive log house known as "Fern Lodge" in 1905. This structure, too, is now demolished. Frederick Leadbetter was associated with the Columbia River Paper Co. and also operated the Pitttock & Leadbetter Lumber Co. in Vancouver. His wife was a prominent member of Portland society, and the Caroline Pitttock Leadbetter wing of the Portland Art Museum honors her support of the arts in that city.

Fred and Bertha Pitttock remained at "Lakeside" for more than a decade, operating their dairy farm, raising their own hay, and providing for their growing family with the products of their vegetable garden, chicken coop, pigsty, and orchard, which included the ubiquitous Clark County prune trees. In 1919, in order to provide their children with proper schooling, they moved permanently to Portland where Frederick took a position at his father's Northwestern National Bank. In that

(continued)



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RECEIVED MAY 17 1979

DATE ENTERED

3 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 4

same year Henry and Georgianna Pittock, now in their 70's, moved into their magnificent French Renaissance mansion on Imperial Heights above Portland, which had taken five years to complete. It is now listed on the National Register. His former residence in downtown Portland was demolished to make way for the city's first full block office building, the eight-story Pittock Block.

Although the younger Pittocks resided in Portland, they returned each summer to "Lakeside" to enjoy its pastoral beauty and to visit with the extended family members who also passed the summers on the shores of La Camas Lake. Eventually the property passed to the Leadbetters and it has remained to this day in the possession of descendents of the family.

As its history shows, the property known as "Lakeside" was really more than just a family farm. It was an outpost of that extensive urban family which had participated in virtually every aspect of growth and development in the Willamette and lower Columbia river valleys. It served as a retreat, as did "Pomaria" and "Fern Lodge," from the active involvement in business, civic and social affairs. Yet it was not so far removed from Pittock enterprises since the growing town of Camas and its continually expanding paper mill only a few miles away were constant reminders of the impact the family had in southwestern Washington as well as northern Oregon.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 17 1979

DATE ENTERED JUL 3 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

The Oregonian. "Notable life of Mr. Pittock ends" and other related articles. Vol. LVIII, No. 18,155. January 30, 1919. pp. 1, 10-12.

Thorsen, Virginia Pittock (daughter of Frederick and Bertha Leadbetter Pittock). Personal interview September 5, 1978.

Van Arsdol, Ted. "Camas Early Days," Clark County History, Fort Vancouver Historical Society, Vancouver, Washington. Vol. VIII, 1967. pp. 205-216.

Unpublished notes and letters in Pittock and Leadbetter biography files at Oregon Historical Society, Portland.