

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Chappell-Swedenburg House Jackson County, OREGON

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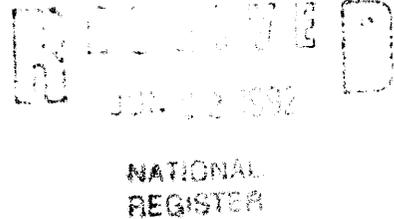
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVAL  
(Spelling of name to Chappell-Swedenburg House)

(82001503)

*Melana Byrne* 7/16/92

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet



Section number 1 Page 1

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CHAPPELL-SWEDENBURG HOUSE  
990 Siskiyou Boulevard  
Ashland  
Jackson County  
OREGON

NRIS NO. 82001503

Listing Date: 11-30-82

The purpose of this continuation sheet is to correct the spelling of the first surname in the title of the above-named property in the National Register of Historic Places. The above-named house is the outstanding example of residential architecture in the Colonial Revival style in Ashland, Oregon and was built in 1904-1905 for Charles C. Chappell from a design by the local architect Frank Chamberlain Clark.

Through the offices of the Southern Oregon Historical Society, we have been informed by Charles Chappell, a descendant of the building's original owner, that the spelling of the family name in the National Register documentation of 1982 is in error. The Chappell family name is correctly spelled with two "ls," instead of one.

Charles C. Chappell's career in Ashland opened in 1901 and was cut short by his untimely death in the newly-completed house in 1905. Chappell, a native of Illinois, had relocated to southern Oregon from New York in order to pursue business interests. He was elected to the Ashland City Council in 1904.

James M. Hamrick, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE: June 16, 1992

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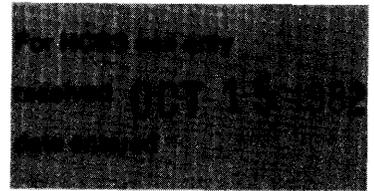
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Chappel-Swedenburg House      Jackson County, Oregon

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVAL  
(Correct spelling of name)

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



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

**1. Name**

historic Chappel-Swedenburg House

and/or common Swedenburg House

**2. Location**

street & number 990 Siskiyou <sup>Bvd.</sup> Boulevard N/A not for publication

city, town Ashland N/A vicinity of congressional district Second

state Oregon code 41 county Jackson code 029

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name State Higher Board of Education

street & number PO Box 3175

city, town Eugene N/A vicinity of state Oregon 97403

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jackson County Courthouse

street & number Eighth and Oakdale Streets

city, town Medford state Oregon 97501

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Statewide Inventory of Historic Properties has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1971  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Salem state Oregon 97310

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>      N/A      </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

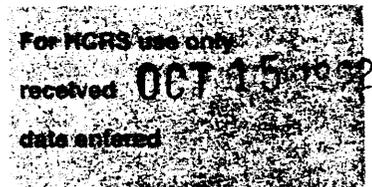
The Chappel-Swedenburg House, constructed in 1904-1905 for retired New York stockbroker Charles Chappel, is the outstanding example of Colonial Revival architecture in southern Oregon. It was designed by Frank Chamberlain Clark. The two and a half story frame house, with its hipped roof with deck and railing, pedimented facade section, and veranda columns and pilasters of the Greek Ionic order, embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Colonial Revival Style. The Chappel-Swedenburg House is intact and unaltered, having suffered only negligible loss of exterior decorative detail through deferred maintenance in recent years. The house is generously set back from Siskiyou Boulevard, a broad tree-lined avenue running northwesterly to southeasterly through Ashland, and is located in the Montview Addition. Much of the original landscaping of front and side yards, remains to provide a setting for the house within the context of Southern Oregon State College, which grew to encompass the property. In 1926 the main building of the Southern Oregon Normal School was constructed on a tract to the southeast. Through subsequent expansion, the campus eventually incorporated the house in 1966. The house stands at the northwest corner of the campus, at the intersection of Mountain Avenue and Siskiyou Boulevard.

Located in Section 9, T. 39S., R. 1E., W. M., the house and grounds occupy Lots 21, 22 and 23 of the Montview Addition to Ashland. The turn of the century marked a period of rapid growth for Ashland. In 1900 several additions were brought into the corporate limits, most of them large tracts of land bought up by wealthy Easterners. These included the Boulevard Park and Montview Additions. The Chappel-Swedenburg House faces north onto Siskiyou Boulevard. Mountain Avenue is the westerly boundary of the property. The generous foreyard and yards on east and west sides of the house are shaded by a variety of exotic deciduous and evergreen trees including Deodar cedar, Cedar of Lebanon, Colorado spruce, Sequoia, Incense cedar, Spanish chestnut and Butternut. Ground surface, except for a cement walkway leading to the front entrance, is in lawn. Other plantings include several varieties of camelias, daphne, foundation shrubbery, and bulbs. Mrs. Swedenburg, wife of the second owner, was an enthusiastic and talented gardener and maintained the grounds in fine condition. A rose garden at the rear of the house was removed by the College, and the roses transplanted to other places on the campus. A short asphalt driveway from Mountain Avenue provides access to the property at the rear of the building. Behind the house, the long strip of property which originally extended south to Ashland Street was for many years planted to orchard. When the College expanded, classroom buildings and parking areas replaced the natural growth and old fruit trees. The carriage house/barn which stood behind the house was torn down in 1972 prior to construction of the new Educational Psychology Building. A green space and play area separate the rear of the house from the classroom building. The intact immediate landscaped areas provide appropriate context for the house. House and grounds together form a discrete and distinctive unit at a corner of the campus which is highly visible to the public.

The two and a half story frame house rests on a cut stone foundation. Rectangular in plan, it measures approximately 43 x 55 feet, and its longer axis runs east to west. The facades faces north. The hipped roof is crowned by a deck with balustrade including square balusters and turned posts with urn finials. Existing roof cover is composition shingles. A pedimented dormer is centered in each facet of the hipped roof on east, west and south sides. On the north face, the roofline is broken by

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a central, gable-roofed section with classical cornice and cornice returns. It is this pedimented central section which, along with the colonnaded veranda, dominates the facade. Eaves generously overhang the exterior walls and are finished as part of a reduced classical entablature including corona, modillions, dentil band and unadorned frieze. These elements are raked to create a pediment of the central gable end. East of the central pediment is a large flare-topped brick chimney articulated in imitation of a clustered stack.

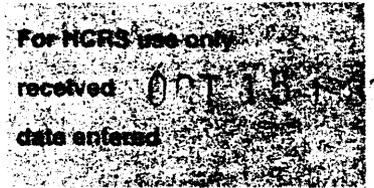
The essential symmetry of the facade is modified not only by the single offset interior chimney but by a two-story polygonal window bay at the northeast corner of the house. Exterior walls are clad with six-inch channel siding. Corners of the upper story are trimmed with pilasters of the Greek Ionic order having inset panels and angled volutes. At the corners of the central, pedimented section of the facade, the pilasters are paired and support a pulvinated frieze beneath the cornice returns. The ground story is sheltered by a veranda with second story deck and railing which wraps around north (front) and west faces and part of the south, or rear face. Porch floor and front steps are constructed of wood and are without railing. The upper porch deck is finished as an unadorned classical entablature and is supported by a colonnade. A central section of the porch on the principal facade projects to form a portico for the main entrance. Either outer corner of the portico is supported by three columns of the Greek Ionic order with characteristic fluted shafts, neckings of honeysuckle ornament and capitals with large volutes. Elsewhere, the veranda is supported by columns of the Tuscan order. The existing deck railing may be in part or wholly a replacement. Its square balusters are faithful to the original design, but posts, like those of the roof balustrade, originally were turned and had urn finials.

Typical window openings of the principal facade and east face are rectangular with simple molded framements and are fitted with double hung sash with one light over one. However, windows in the east and rear faces and in the dormers are multi-paned and frequently grouped in pairs or in banks to light an upper level sun room/sleeping area and ground story kitchen/dining areas. Upper story windows at the southwest corner of the house lighting the sunroom have double hung sash with as many as sixteen lights over sixteen. The upper story of the central, pedimented section of the principal facade is dominated by a large Palladian window with curvilinear muntins and a console keystone over the semi-circular-top light which is one of the hallmarks of the Colonial Revival Style. The main entrance, below, is a tripartite arrangement with paneled door flanked by full-sized windows atop paneled bulkheads. Each of the three openings is topped by a rectangular top light.

On the rear face, an inset porch or balcony is centered in the upper story and is accessible from the upper stair hall. Offset to the west of it is an outside brick stove chimney with flared top. On the east face, a recessed, colonnaded balcony with railing of turned balusters opens off upper story bedrooms.

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Interior space is organized around a traditional central entry stairhall which is distinguished by pilasters and staircase columns in the Greek Ionic order. Other ground floor spaces include main parlor, sitting room, dining room, informal dining room, kitchen, pantry and utility room. A partial basement is unimproved. On the second floor, four bedrooms, two baths, and a sunroom are arranged around the upper stair hall. With the exception of some modern equipment in the kitchen and some updating of bathroom facilities, the interior remains unaltered. Steam heat radiators remain throughout the house.

The entry hall features a full-height mirror framed with molding and corner blocks opposite the front entrance. Paneling surrounding the mirror provides a base for the staircase, which is partially supported by Ionic columns. The front door has a bevelled glass panel. The formal parlor west of the stairhall is finished with lath and plaster walls and cornice molding. Its "false" fireplace with classical mantelpiece has a mirrored overmantel. Windows in this room, as in the rest of the house have plain trim with molded architraves. Oak flooring is found throughout the ground story except in the kitchen and utility rooms. Ground story ceiling heights are approximately ten feet. Most ground story rooms, including the parlor, have twelve inch baseboards. Five-panel doors are typical.

The sitting room east of the stairhall continues the decorative scheme of the parlor. Its fireplace has a tile hearth and classical mantelpiece with bevelled mirror overmantel. The formal dining room is distinguished by a wide plate rail. The informal dining room, or breakfast room, has a soft wood floor.

The kitchen is distinguished by three walls having floor-to-ceiling cabinets. Glass door pulls and metal hinges remain on all doors. One sink unit with drainboards is original, another is modern. Built-in cabinets and drawers fill one corner space. Beaded wainscoting trims one wall. A segmentally arched opening divides the kitchen into two parts.

The two flight, one-landing main stair has an open well and an elaborate railing with sections of turned balusters between turned posts with urn-shaped finials. A narrow simple dog-leg rear stair provides access from the kitchen to the upper floor. The master bedroom has a fireplace to which some modern brick has been added and bevelled mirrors, a window seat and built-in seat boxes with grillwork which contain the radiators. Other bedrooms contain similar decorative details, but only the master bedroom contains the window and radiator seats. The large bathroom is finished with wall tile to a height of five feet and features a pedestal wash basin with fluted column.

# 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Medicine
<b>Specific dates</b>	1904-1905	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Frank Chamberlain Clark, Architect	

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The commodious, two and a half story frame house at 990 Siskiyou Boulevard in Ashland completed for retired New York stockbroker Charles C. Chappel in 1905 is the outstanding example of Colonial Revival architecture in southern Oregon. It was designed by Frank C. Clark shortly after the architect's arrival in the Rogue River Valley in 1902. The house displays a high quality of craftsmanship and detail throughout, including especially its columns and pilasters of the Greek Ionic order used in the portico, the upper story facade, and in the entry stairhall. Its hipped roof with deck balustrade, classical cornice, and central, pedimented section projecting from the facade were derived from archetypes of the Federal Period. However, with its slight asymmetry of plan, its polygonal window bay, flare-top chimneys, Palladian window, and wrap-around veranda, the house embodies, in addition to the distinguishing characteristics of the Colonial Revival Style, stylistic features shared in common with the Queen Anne Style. In this respect, the house reflects the influence of McKim, Mead and White, foremost proponents of a "free classic" phase of the Queen Anne which evolved as the Colonial Revival. By his own account, Clark spent a brief period of four months in the New York office of McKim, Mead and White while attending Cooper Union Night School of Engineering in 1896. Clark moved to California the following year when his health broke. The Chappel-Swedenburg House was the scene of fashionable social occasions in its early years. Chappel's heirs occupied it until 1919, at which time it was acquired by Dr. Francis Swedenburg, a driving force behind construction of Ashland Hospital. Shortly after the death of Swedenburg's widow in 1965, the property was annexed to the campus of Southern Oregon State College and was subsequently used as an art center and, more recently, an exhibit center for the Oregon Shakespearean Festival. An object of controversy over the past decade as college officials juggled maintenance and development priorities, the house recently had its long-range future secured when the College endorsed a policy of adapting it for use as administrative offices, public meeting rooms and a branch museum exhibit area for the Southern Oregon Historical Society. A fund drive for restoration has been launched by the Southern Oregon College Foundation in cooperation with the Alumni Association. With its generous front lawn shaded by deciduous and evergreen trees, the house is distinctive among the park-like array of landscaped residential properties extending from the business district southeasterly along Siskiyou Boulevard. Intact and unaltered, showing only signs of deferred maintenance, it possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and feeling. The house is significant as an early and important work of leading Rogue Valley architect Frank C. Clark (1872-1957) and also for its association with Charles Chappel and Francis Swedenburg, noteworthy figures in Ashland business, professional and social life in the early years of the 20th century.

Frank Clark's importance to the architectural history of southern Oregon scarcely can be overdrawn, for it was he who introduced style and sophistication to building in the Rogue River Valley. His arrival coincided with the influx of wealthy Easterners who came to invest in the developing orchard industry. In the early

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.79 (Less than one)

Quadrangle name Ashland, Oregon-California

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

**UMT References**

A 

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9	5	0
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4	6	7	0
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5	5	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

C 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** The Chappel-Swedenburg House and grounds occupy Lots 21, 22 and 23 in the Montview Addition to the City of Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon. The property is otherwise described as Tax Lot 5700, Map Reference 391E 10 CC.

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kay Atwood, with assistance in research by Natalie Massey, SOSOC student

organization Southern Oregon State College Alumni Association date March 4, 1982

street & number 102 So. Pioneer Street telephone 503/482-8714

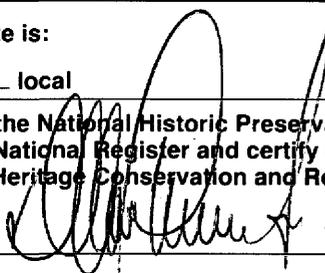
city or town Ashland state Oregon 97520

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date October 8, 1982

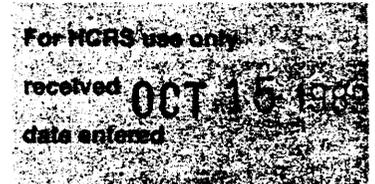
**For HCRS use only**  
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

 **Keper of the National Register** Entered in the National Register date 11/30/82

Attest: **Chief of Registration** date

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years, Clark worked virtually without competition. His clients were plentiful, and his work was prodigious. Despite some lean years during the Great Depression, he maintained a position at the head of his profession in Ashland, Medford and environs until his retirement in 1945. Clark designed numerous houses in the Colonial Revival Style and 20th Century Colonial period styles throughout his forty-year career in the Rogue Valley, but the Chappel-Swedenburg House was his watershed design in this vein. For example, in the portico of his own period style house in Medford, completed in 1930, Clark combined with a segmental-arched pediment and pulvinated frieze the same Greek Ionic columns he had introduced in the Chappel-Swedenburg House 25 years earlier.

Frank Chamberlain Clark was born in Greene, New York December 27, 1872. His training in architecture was gained under the apprenticeship system. In 1888 he entered the office of Frederick Martinez, Jr., in Bayonne, New Jersey. After two years with Martinez, he worked successively in the New York offices of Arthur C. Longyear, Oscar S. Teale, and Robert Gibson, the latter of whom Clark remembered as an exponent of the Romanesque Style. He enrolled in the Cooper Union Night School of Engineering and, for a brief period of four months in 1896 before his health broke, he was associated with the eminent firm of McKim, Mead and White. In 1897 Clark moved to the West Coast and entered the Los Angeles office of Frank Roehrig. He was in the Roehrig office about two years, and while there worked with Joseph Jacobberger, who later was a leading architect in Portland. In 1899 Clark launched his independent practice, undertaking various projects in Arizona at Jerome, Tucson and Prescott. Clark arrived in Ashland, Oregon in the fall of 1902, according to his own account, and opened an office there which he maintained until he moved to Medford in 1909. Clark spent the rest of his career headquartered in Medford, and verified by his own account that he "pioneered the game" in southern Oregon. He worked in virtual isolation for improved building ordinances and "better buildings" in general.<sup>1</sup> In 1935 Clark joined in partnership with Robert Keeney, who was largely responsible for the Modernistic commercial buildings produced by the office. In 1945 Clark retired, although he continued some consulting work thereafter. He died in Medford in May, 1957.<sup>2</sup>

Frank Clark's prolific output encompassed some 250 projects throughout the Rogue Valley, including at least 78 residences ranging in style from the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival to Bungalow, Arts and Crafts and Prairie Style and the gamut of 20th Century period styles, especially Tudor and Colonial. In Ashland, Clark designed the Woman's Civic Club building, the Elks building, the George Traverer house\*, the Enders building, and the Pracht\*, Butler and Carter-Fortmiller\* houses. Grants Pass projects included the Michael Clemens\* and George Calhoun\* houses and several business blocks. His Medford buildings include the Bear Creek Orchards plant, the Medford Hotel, Elks building\*, Methodist Church, Kay building, the Holly and Craterian

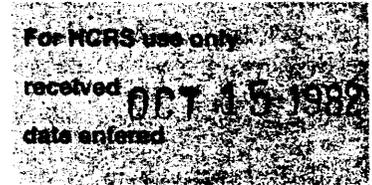
<sup>1</sup> Frank C. Clark to George M. Post, Secretary, Oregon State Board of Architect Examiners, letter written at Medford, Oregon, December 17, 1919.

<sup>2</sup> Medford Mail Tribune, May 31, 1957.

\*These properties are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

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theatres, Medford Senior High School and the Community Hospital building on East Main Street. Medford houses designed by Clark include his own house on East Main Street (1930), and the Delroy Getchell,\* Ralph Bardwell and Victor Bursell\* houses. The Henry Van Hoevenburg\* house is Sams Valley also was designed by Clark.

The Chappel-Swedenburg House is intimately associated with the growth and development of Ashland during the 20th century. First, as the home of a wealthy Easterner eager to build in Ashland's newest addition along the central travel route to the expanding south portion of the city; second, as a neighbor of Southern Oregon Normal School constructed nearby in 1926; and finally, as a part of the growing institution which became Southern Oregon State College.

Above all, the house is a reflection of the taste and values of the wealthy Easterner responsible for its construction. Charles C. Chappel, a native of Illinois, eventually moved to New York City where he became a stock broker. He pursued business interests there for twenty-five years and accumulated considerable wealth. He married Lucy Kline in 1892. With three small daughters, the Chappels arrived in southern Oregon in 1901 and began acquiring property, choosing Ashland for its location and promise.<sup>3</sup> Chappel travelled extensively during 1902 and 1903, spending some time in the Thunder Mountain Mining districts in Idaho and in New York. He returned to Ashland from New York in June, 1903 and purchased lots 10 through 23 in the Montview addition from H.F. Pohland.<sup>4</sup> The August 27, 1903 issue of the local paper reported:

C.C. Chappel, has just completed a modern barn on his Boulevard property. He has also accepted plans and will soon begin the erection of what will be, when completed, one of the most elegant and spacious homes in the city. It will contain all modern sanitary and plumbing fixtures and its cost will be about \$5,000.<sup>5</sup>

The Chappels' new home in the Montview Addition finally cost \$7,500 by the time of its completion. In 1904 Charles Chappel was elected to serve on Ashland's City Council, and had served a short time when increasingly severe heart disease prompted a trip to San Francisco for treatment early in 1905. On July 30, 1905 he died suddenly at his home at the age of fifty-six years. The paper announced:

Ashland loses an ardent admirer and substantial citizen by the death of C.C. Chappel . . . He built for himself the handsomest residence building, without doubt, in Southern Oregon. It has a pretty site at the corner of the Boulevard and Mountain Avenue and was completed and occupied by the family last spring. . . He was in his second year as city councilman and supported all measures of public improvement and hoped to live to see Ashland realize the ambitious pretensions which he claimed she had a right to entertain.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>3</sup>Ashland Tidings, May 16, 1901.

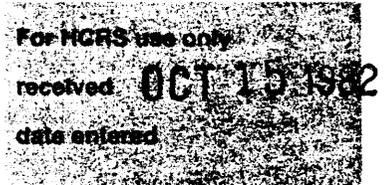
<sup>4</sup>Ibid., June 24, 1903; Jackson County Deed Records 47/503.

<sup>5</sup>Ashland Tidings, August 27, 1903.

<sup>6</sup>Ashland Tidings, August 3, 1905.

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The City Council adjourned its meeting that week and attended Episcopal services held in the family home. Chappel died intestate, and his widow discovered little money available to support her three daughters aged twelve, seven and five years of age. She remarried in the house on April 30, 1908. The family lived in San Francisco and Ashland through the years, retaining ownership of the house in Ashland until 1919.

Helen Chappel Lathrop deeded the property to Francis Swedenburg on September 22, 1919.<sup>7</sup> The Swedenburg family had arrived in Ashland in March, 1907. Dr. Swedenburg was born in Sweden and emigrated to the United States, settling in Wisconsin with his parents in 1872 when he was four years old. As an adult, he received his medical training at Valparaiso University in Indiana and obtained his M.D. degree in 1900 from Rush Medical College of Chicago. He took post-graduate work in Chicago, Philadelphia and New York. Swedenburg returned to Wisconsin and practiced there for six years. He married Olive E. Eggleston in Red Wing, Minnesota, and the two left shortly afterward for Ashland, Oregon. The couple lived first in a residence on Union Street and later on Ashland Street; both houses remain. In 1910 Dr. Swedenburg purchased a sizeable piece of property near the corner of Palm Avenue and Siskiyou Boulevard and hired local architect Frank Chamberlain Clark to design the Granite City [Ashland] Hospital. For the same client, Clark had designed the Swedenburg medical building on Main Street in Ashland in 1908.<sup>8</sup> During his thirty-year career in Ashland, Dr. Swedenburg acquired considerable property, including two pear orchards, an apartment building, his medical offices, an interest in Blair Granite Company and Reeder Reservoir, Ashland's water supply control above Lithia Park. Francis Swedenburg died suddenly on a trip to Sweden in July, 1937. His widow and family continued to occupy the house on Siskiyou Boulevard until 1965.

The property's long period of occupation by the Swedenburg family included two generations of physicians. Swedenburg's medical practice was taken over by his daughter, Genevieve Swedenburg, who was active through the 1950s. The family's interest in lavish entertaining drew much of the community into the house at one time or another and helped create a community feeling about the building.

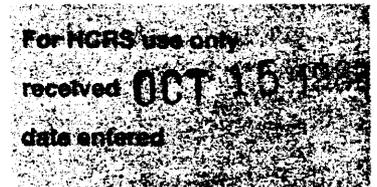
In 1926, during Francis Swedenburg's life time, the new primary building of Southern Oregon State Normal School was constructed on the tract southeast of the house. Designed by Portland architect John V. Bennes, the central building, later to be named Churchill Hall was soon joined by others. After the Second World War the campus expanded dramatically. It spread out to surround the Chappel-Swedenburg House on the south and east. In 1966 the College acquired the house from the Swedenburg estate and incorporated the property into the campus plan. The intention at the time of acquisition was to raze the house and its carriage house/barn and use the land for expansion. While planning was underway, the house was used as an art gallery, and some furniture was purchased from the estate by the College Foundation and displayed in the gallery.

<sup>7</sup>Jackson County Deed Records, 122/296.

<sup>8</sup>Ashland Tidings, August 6, 1908.

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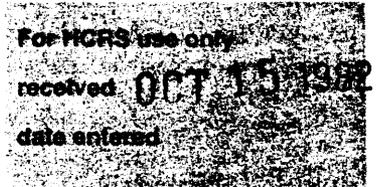
Because of its quality and contribution to the neighborhood setting and its suitability for adaptive use, the house was rated as having "top priority for preservation" by an ad hoc citizens advisory committee formed in 1970 to survey buildings on campuses under jurisdiction of the State Board of Higher Education. The committee's job was to recommend those buildings of special architectural and/or historical merit which ought to be retained. But, in 1971, the State Board of Higher Education building committee concluded that the Chappel-Swedenburg House should be razed within the year if a use could not be found for it that involved no State funds.

Thereupon, a group of local citizens formed the "Committee to Preserve the Swedenburg House and Grounds" and won a postponement of the planned destruction of the building.<sup>9</sup> Following subsequent negotiation, the College agreed to set the planned location of new Educational Psychology classroom building back from the Boulevard to allow the Swedenburg House and its front and side yards to remain an intact unit. After several attempts to find an alternative location for the old carriage house/barn behind the house failed, the College razed the outbuilding in 1972 and commenced construction. Offices for the College news bureau were housed in the Chappel-Swedenburg House until 1975. From 1975 to 1980 the house served as a center for exhibits concerning the history and development of the Oregon Shakespearean Festival. In 1980 the Festival moved its exhibit center to a location nearer its theatres in the downtown. In 1981 the Southern Oregon State College Alumni Association announced plans to undertake fund raising efforts and to find appropriate new uses for the building. The College endorsed the proposed privately-funded restoration of the house for use as a branch exhibit space for the Southern Oregon Historical Society, public meeting space, and office space for the Alumni Office and College Development Office. After 16 years, to the benefit of College and community alike, Southern Oregon State College was able at last to secure the future of the Swedenburg House in a manner consistent with its long-range goals.

<sup>9</sup>Medford Mail Tribune, June 10, 1971.

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Ashland Tidings, May 16, 1903; June 24, 1903; August 27, 1903; August 3, 1905;  
August 26, 1908.

Gohs, Carl, "A Classical Mansion on the Campus at Ashland," Northwest Magazine,  
Portland Oregonian, December 21, 1969.

Keeney, Robert, Interview, December, 1980. Mr. Keeney was the partner of  
Frank C. Clark from 1935 to 1945.

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Statewide Inventory of Historic Properties, data sheet, Chapel-Swedenburg House, 1971.