

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

1261

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instruction 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 classifications, 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 Pearson Mortuary

other names/site number Pearson Company, Undertakers and Embalmers; The Pearson Mortuary Church; Pearson & Co., Morticians

## 2. Location

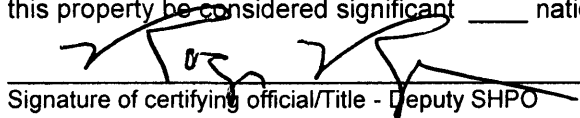
street & number 301 NE Knott St.  not for publication

city or town Portland  vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97212

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets        does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant        nationally        statewide X locally.

  
Signature of certifying official/Title - Deputy SHPO

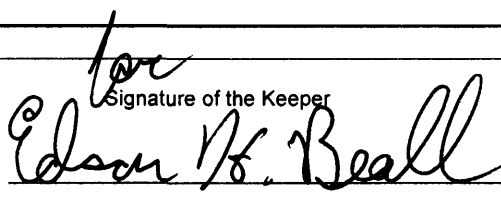
10-25-07  
Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:  
Action

- 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):

  
Signature of the Keeper

12-13-07  
Date of

Pearson Mortuary  
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR  
County and State

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property  
(check as many 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)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>2</u>		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

None

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions  
(enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: Mortuary  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY  
REVIVALS: Neo-Classical Revival  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: CONCRETE  
walls: BRICK  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof: ASPHALT  
Other: N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description

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

See continuation sheets.

Pearson Mortuary  
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR  
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).

Areas of Significance  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- 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.

ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance  
1926  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates  
1926, date of construction  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Criteria Considerations  
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

Significant Person  
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
N/A

- 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

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder  
Vogan, Louis, Architect (1875-1965)  
Attributed  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance  
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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

- Previous documentation on file (NPS):
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36CFR67) 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: Oregon Historical Society

Pearson Mortuary  
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 10 526437 5043045  
Zone Easting Northing

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

### 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 Libby Dawson Farr, Ph.D.,  
Architectural Historian

organization Professor and Independent Consultant date April 2007

street & number 1995 N Pine St. telephone (503) 263-2050

city or town Canby state OR zip code 97013

## 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

name Eric L. Hanson, MD, and Jennifer Hanson

street & number 1511 NE Knott St. telephone (503) 460-2670

city or town Portland state OR zip code 97212

**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.460 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, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## SUMMARY

The Pearson Mortuary is located at 301 NE Knott Street in north Portland in the Eliot Neighborhood. The single-story Neoclassical-style mortuary and accompanying contributing garage are attributed to architect Louis Vogan and built in 1926 for the Pearson family. Bungalowoid in form, the building features a low-pitch gable roof and a symmetrical massed-plan design with an emphasis on the porch. The execution of the building in red brick with white brick quoining, Tuscan porch columns, and turned-balustrade roof railing mark this building as a reserved, but not understated, example of the Neoclassical style.

## SETTING

The Pearson Mortuary is located on a quiet street of mostly older, modest, one-and-two story, single-family houses. Along the street is a 1960s two-story apartment house and the single-story St. Philip the Deacon Episcopal Church. Across from the building is the former Albina Branch of the Multnomah County Library, a single-story building designed in 1912 by Ellis F. Lawrence and listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The subject building is situated on the west half of the south-sloping parcel toward the front of its lot on 0.86 acres of land, (37,500 sq. ft.) with its main facade facing south to Knott Street. The facility's large parking lot is to the east. Landscaping includes mature lawn and ground-cover, foundation plantings, and decorative trees. Accent specimens include Japanese maples, azaleas, palms, rhododendrons, dogwood, and many other varieties of shrubs and trees.

## EXTERIOR

The 8,000-square-foot, wood-frame building is a one-and-one-half-story rectangular structure with a poured concrete foundation, brick exterior cladding laid in a common bond, and a sloping hipped roof with overhanging closed eaves. The roof has four hipped-roof dormers with short walls clad in narrow weatherboard. Fenestration is regular on the primary facade and irregular on the remaining three. Windows are wood, with eight-over-one and one-over-one, double-hung; single-light vertical casement; and fixed-sash styles. Doors are wood sash-and-panel and multi-light French casement. Simple wood trim frames both the door and window openings. Exterior wood and metal surfaces are painted white. A single, internal, brick chimney extends from the rear roof plane. The building's style is communicated through the use of contrasting white brick quoining at the corners of the building and most door and window openings; a bottom course of vertical brick stretchers on the east, south, and west facades; a plain friezeboard at the roof-wall junction and on the porte cochère; pedimented gable; and the careful use of decorative columns and woodwork that suggest the architectural elements of larger, more ornate buildings of this style.

## SOUTH (FRONT) FACADE:

The Pearson Mortuary's front facade has three bays; the center bay is recessed and holds the main entrance. The most prominent feature of the front facade is a one-story porch that runs the full width of the main volume of the building. Four evenly spaced Tuscan columns resting directly on the porch's concrete floor support the flat porch roof. Above a simple board entablature, a short wood railing of turned balusters trims the perimeter of the porch roof. The porch shelters the front door and flanking sidelights, which is accessed by a set of

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centered, poured-concrete steps. A wheel-chair ramp with tubular steel railings provides access off the east end of the porch. A white wrought-iron railing in a Neoclassical garland pattern contains the porch between the columns. The porch ceiling is bead board. Besides the front door, the center bay holds a set of multi-light French doors to the west. To the east, a single window opening holds four vertical, single-light, casement sashes separated by deep classically trimmed mullions. On the west bay there is a fixed-sash picture window. Corners of the bay are trimmed with white-brick quoining. The east bay, also trimmed with corner quoins, has on its west face a window with a pair of vertical, single-light casement sashes separated by a deep mullion. The east bay holds a fixed-sash picture window matching that of the west bay. All window and door openings have white-brick quoining on the sides, and a string of white soldier bricks for lintels and sills. In the center of the front slope of the roof is a hipped-roof dormer with a central fixed-sash window flanked by eight-over-one, double-hung windows. The center window has a string of eight small lights across the top.

Also visible at the front facade is the south side of a one-story, wood-frame, hipped-roof addition that extends from the west end of the building. The addition is clad in narrow wood weatherboard and holds two pairs of one-over-one, wood-sash, double-hung windows. Eaves are closed, and overhang a wood friezeboard.

### **WEST SIDE:**

The south end of the west side of the building is comprised of the weatherboard-clad addition. Moving toward the north, there is a pair of one-over-one, double-hung windows directly adjacent to the addition. The north end of the west facade is partially obscured by a shed-roof utility porch enclosed with chain-link fencing. In the center of the brick facade is a double-diamond shape depicted in contrasting white-brick headers.

Above, there are two hipped-roof dormers, each holding a pair of eight-over-one, double-hung windows.

A centered wood door accessed by a concrete stairway extending north from the addition is placed on the north side of the facade. A metal-sash sliding window is located to the immediate east.

### **NORTH (REAR) FACADE:**

Contrasting with the general symmetrical appearance of the building, the rear facade is irregular in appearance. The west half of the north facade is topped by a prominent pediment with a pent roof comprising the horizontal cornice. The tympanum is clad in narrow weatherboard and the raking cornices have a board soffit under overhanging eaves. A round vent hole marks the gable peak. Below, the building's north wall holds one pedestrian door just west of a projecting bay that marks the east end of the facade. The sash door is surmounted by a multi-light transom and opens onto a concrete loading dock. Stairs to the west provide access to the driveway and a stairwell holding a string of steps that descend below grade to a basement door. The stairwell is wrapped by a steel tube railing. A concrete ramp with steel railing slopes from the loading dock down to ground level at the east side of the building. Sheltering the ramp, pedestrian door and loading dock is a flat-roof porte cochere supported by two Tuscan columns on short red-brick pedestals. The pedestals have white brick quoins. The cornice along the flat roof is decorated by evenly spaced paterae. Above, a steel tube railing contains large pieces of mechanical equipment. Under the canopy of the porte cochere, patched-in support posts on concrete piers are evident between the two columns and outside the pedestrian door next to

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the loading dock.

### **EAST SIDE:**

The east facade retains the most historic integrity. Two large, square window openings, one at the south end of the facade and one in the center, each hold a series of vertical, single-light casements separated from each other by deep mullions. Just adjacent to the center window, to the north, is a multi-light, single-leaf French door that provides access to the caretaker's residence on the second floor. Above the door is a pedimented canopy supported by wood scroll-sawn knee braces. Wrought-iron, garland-style railings contain a concrete stoop and steps in front of the door. Between the south and center windows is a ribbon of three, small, square, fixed-sash windows set high in the wall. Two more in the same style are set at the same height in the wall between the door and the north end of the facade. The glass in these windows is opaque, which, along with their purposeful placement above eye level, serves to prevent observation of the interior spaces here, which originally held the embalming rooms. All window and door openings have white-brick quoining on the sides, and a string of white soldier bricks for lintels and sills.

On the roof there is a wide dormer holding two sets of paired double-hung windows.

### **GARAGE:**

The hipped-roof garage located off the northeast corner of the mortuary is similar to the main building in form, materials, and detailing, including the use of contrasting brick quoining around the openings. The windowless structure has two south-facing, replacement roll-up doors separated by a central brick-clad post. The interior provides space for two vehicles.

### **INTERIOR:**

The 8,000 square-foot interior of the mortuary's main floor is scheduled for demolition for use as a medical clinic. In preparation for this change, most of the interior walls are in a state of deconstruction and many of the fixtures and fittings have been removed. The original plans, signed by Arthur Pearson on April 8, 1925, show that the main floor of the mortuary was carefully planned for the separation of public areas from the private areas, typical of funeral practices in the first decades of the twentieth century. In its condition today, first-floor interior rooms reflect the building's conversion to use as the Multnomah County Medical Examiner's Office in 1967. The building is entered through the main door off the full-width front porch and opens into a vestibule. A reception room with windows placed into the east, south, and west walls occupies the southeast corner of the building, and a stair to the second floor is located through a door in the northeast corner of the room. A double-loaded corridor runs north-south along the east wall. On the east side of the hall, running from south to north from the entry, is a public restroom with a toilet and sink, a staircase to the upper floor, an office, and two autopsy rooms that still contain steel counters and shelves, sinks, scales and autopsy tables. On the west side of the hall were men's and women's rest rooms and a large storage area. Rooms along this wall have roughly centered windows in the east wall. As the hallway passes the autopsy room, it turns to the left and continues along the north facade. The hallway opens to the morgue which contains a separate cooler room in the northwest corner and features a wall of twelve steel freezer drawers with pull-out stretcher trays for cadaver

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storage on the west wall. The morgue takes up most of the northwest corner. A short hallway leaves the space from the southeast corner, opening to an office on both sides and terminating in another office space. From this room, the vestibule is to the east, and the 1967 hipped-roof wing to the west.

The second floor contains a spacious apartment, which was used for housing for the caretaker/janitor/night watchman, who had to be available since the funeral home was a twenty-four-hour operation. The pedestrian entrance on the east facade provides access to the second story. A 90-degree change stair with landing ascends to a north-south hallway that serves as an entry landing for the apartment to the west, and twin attendant rooms with closets to the east. The east-facing roof dormers light the attendant rooms. Across the hall, the apartment retains dormer-lit bedrooms, living room, kitchen, and bath. At the south end of the entry hall, a second set of stairs descends to the reception room in the southeast corner of the first floor.

The basement is a large unfinished storage area, and contains the furnace.

### ALTERATIONS:

During its use by the Pearson family, the mortuary underwent few changes. City of Portland records indicate that a Chapel with Family Alcove was added in 1931.<sup>1</sup> Other permits were issued for plumbing and electrical upgrades, but there were no other significant alterations between the years 1926 and 1965.

When purchased by the Multnomah County Medical Examiner's Office in 1967, Pearson mortuary was remodeled to meet the needs of its new owners. A 1930 photo from the Oregon Historical Society archives shows that when originally built, the porte cochère faced Knott Street to the west of the entrance.<sup>2</sup> When moved to the rear of the building, the columns, polychrome brick bases, and Tuscan porte cochère were reused.

At some point, windows and doors on the primary facade were altered. In the center bay, the French doors to the west of the front door replaced original vertical casement windows that matched those still retained just east of the front door. This facade did originally hold two sets of French doors; they were located where the picture windows are now, on the east and west bays. All window and door replacements stayed within the original openings, leaving the original brick quoining undisturbed.

Other alterations include the addition of the garland-style wrought iron railing on the porch; a shed roof extension and hipped roof addition on the west side of the building; and the reorientation of the building's interior. The County converted the western half of the main-floor interior space, originally the Chapel and Family Alcove, to a large space for the county's morgue and cooler. The central area inside the front doors, which included the Main Hall and Reception, Room and an office became the reception room and waiting

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<sup>1</sup> City of Portland, Bureau of Planning Services, Permit #213575, March 7, 1931, Louis Vogan, contractor.

<sup>2</sup> Oregon Historical Society, Portland, Negative 024142.



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rooms for the County. The rooms along the eastern side were changed from the Embalming room, Casket room, Showroom and Trimming room, to additional autopsy rooms.<sup>3</sup>

## **PLANNED ALTERATIONS, 2007:**

Hennebery Eddy Architects, Inc. is managing the renovation of the former Pearson Mortuary building into a new state-of-the-art medical facility. The 10,045 sq. ft. project includes two floors plus basement space. The second floor of the building will be leased space and the basement will be utilized as a storage area. The 4,460 square-foot space on the first floor will house a medical practice, including a reception space, waiting area, twelve exam rooms, offices, and restrooms. Plans call for a waiting room off the main building entry with a u-shaped hall circulating through the building. Bathrooms, offices, and examination rooms will be placed along both sides of the hall and in the 1967 addition. Modern materials will be utilized throughout the building, including Bamboo flat grain, vinyl, carpet, and porcelain floors, and Bamboo pre-finished vertical grain, vinyl, glass tile, and wood laminate wall coverings. The ceilings will be acoustic ceiling tile. Cabinets will be custom laminate casework in the exam rooms.

The exterior improvements will be limited to parking lot landscaping and bicycle parking and taking care of some deferred maintenance. Mechanical equipment currently located on top of the porte cochère will be removed. The integrity of the exterior of the Pearson Mortuary will be retained and rehabilitated.

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<sup>3</sup> Interview with Jack Allen, eventual partner with Arthur Pearson, and interview with Mrs. Arthur E. Pearson, widow of founder, February 2007.

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The 1926 Pearson Mortuary building located at 301 NE Knott Street in Portland, Oregon is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C as an example of the transition from the store-front mortuary to the neighborhood-based funeral home and as an architecturally restrained example of the funeral-home building type, which reflected the sensibilities of the community it served. The building's period of significance is its date of construction.

In the nineteenth century, most Americans held memorials from their loved ones in their homes. Beginning in 1900 this began to change with the proliferation of store-front mortuaries that held services outside of the home. Soon, however, enterprising businessmen combined the comfort of the family home with the clinical efficiency of the mortuary in the funeral home by constructing buildings located in residential neighborhoods that looked and felt like a home, but offered a full selection of burial services. Designed by Louis Vogan, the Pearson Mortuary was intentionally scaled to blend into its middle-class residential surroundings, yet convey a sense of reverence and respect for the dead while offering the services its patrons required. Mrs. Pearson, the widow of the founder, recalls that Edwin Peterson's son, Arthur called the juxtaposition of the building's Neoclassical Style with a smaller scale and simplified detailing "high end modesty." The design was successful, and the Pearson mortuary easily settled into the landscape of the modest houses of the Irish Catholics, Germans, Russians, Scandinavians, and African Americans the mortuary served until 1966.<sup>1</sup> The treatment was notable as other Portland mortuaries built in the form of houses were much more ornate and opulent high-style European and Mediterranean revival buildings that dominated their surroundings.

## THE RISE OF THE MODERN FUNERAL HOME<sup>2</sup>

The funeral home is a distinct twentieth century specific-use structure that reflects changing attitudes toward death and mourning. Historically, family members died in the home and mourning among friends and family typically occurred at the home. The role of the undertaker was performed by the livery stable keeper, who provided the hearse and funeral carriage, by the carpenter, who made the coffin, or by the sexton, who was charged with bell-tolling and grave digging. The undertaker's responsibility was supplying the coffin, providing chairs for the home, taking charge of pallbearers, supervising removal of the body and finally ensuring the body was lowered into the grave. Most often, undertakers operated out of their own home.

Beginning at the turn of the century, however, the "undertaker" became "funeral director." This change of semantics paralleled the transition of death from an intimate family experience at home to a sanitized celebration off-site as part of an increasingly standardized funerary industry. The new title reflected the rise of the celebration of the recently deceased defined by elaborate ceremony and expensive accoutrement in an appropriate setting. Changes in the medical profession and medical technology led to the rise of the modern hospital and by the 1920s, combined with rising incomes and health insurance, fewer and fewer individuals

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<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Arthur E. Pearson, personal conversation with author, February 2007.

<sup>2</sup> Excerpted from Heritage Consulting Group. "National Register of Historic Places Nomination Submittal: Wilson-Chambers Mortuary" (Salem: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, July 2006).

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died at home. Hospital and medical staff usually handled the details of post-mortem, increasingly to the exclusion of the family beyond deciding the preferences of the deceased.

It also reflects the growing acceptance of embalming in treating the recently deceased. In the United States, the first modern example of embalming dates to 1861 with the use of arsenic mixed with water. By the twentieth century, the process became more involved with the body first treated with a disinfectant, then positioned for viewing (as once embalmed, the body is "set"), then typically formaldehyde injected into the arteries simultaneously with drainage, then body cavities are drained with a trocar.<sup>3</sup> Finally the body is sealed and dressed.

Paralleling the rise of the funeral home were several factors: The rise of apartment buildings and residential hotels altered the concept of a residence for many from a detached house to a unit on a floor within a building. Of single family homes, new construction tended toward smaller homes without large rooms for gatherings as the traditional parlor. And the rise of the streetcar dispersed the city's population into suburbs, a dispersion accelerated dramatically by the automobile.

These trends also combined with changes in the 1920s in the real estate financing that allowed the rise of specific-use buildings. In that era, real estate developments were increasingly financed with leveraged funds provided by loan associations, insurance companies, savings banks and other lending institutions with developers only making low down payments, often as little as 10 percent. This "easy money" acted as an accelerant to real estate development. On the large scale, it produced grand buildings, like the 1930 Chrysler Building or the 1931 Empire State Building. On the smaller scale, it allowed business owners the opportunity to create a building specifically for their enterprise – such as a funeral home.

## THE MODERN FUNERAL HOME<sup>4</sup>

The funeral home of the era was a complex operation. Typically, it required domesticated space to meet the needs of mourners. Such spaces included a reception room, chapel for services and slumber rooms for private viewing, along with adjacent family rooms. In some instances, there were also child's slumber rooms and a second smaller chapel. A number of slumber rooms were critical in allowing services to be staged with efficiency. From a business perspective, a funeral parlor also contained a casket sales room, offices and storage. There was also an operating room for embalming and dressing room for final preparations. As a twenty-four-hour operation, funeral homes also included one or more residential apartments. Finally, the modern funeral home needed to accommodate the automobile, with appropriate settings for arriving and departing bodies, and with appropriate accommodations for staging processions.

In Portland, the first known "funeral home" was the Portland Crematorium, located at 6705 SE 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It was built in 1906 by the Portland Crematorium Association. That structure had a chapel, but also included a

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<sup>3</sup> A sharply pointed shaft, usually with a three-sided point. A trocar may be used within a cannula, a hollow tube, designed to be inserted into a vein, artery, bone marrow or body cavity.

<sup>4</sup> Excerpted from Heritage Consulting Group. "National Register of Historic Places Nomination Submittal: Wilson-Chambers Mortuary."

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columbarium, a vault to receive the ashes of the dead. The rise of the Portland Crematory represented a growing acceptance of cremation. The first cremation in the United States occurred in 1876, the second in 1884. Despite the rising popularity of cremation, by 1913 the country still had only 52 crematoriums nationwide.

More typical, early funeral parlors were located first in storefronts, such as St. John's Undertaking Company at 8717 N. Lombard, Bruning & Driscoll at 315 SW 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, the Edward Holman & Son at 532 SE Grand Avenue or Merrills Mortuary at 1536 SE 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Gradually, the enterprises also found greater successes in adapting older homes, such as Holman & Son which adapted the Burrell Mansion at 2610 SE Hawthorne or McEntee & Eilers at 1609 NW Everett Street.

The 1920s, however, ushered in the new era of modern funeral homes. The earliest was the Miller-Tracey Mortuary at 714 SW 20<sup>th</sup> Place. The second mortuary was the Pearson Mortuary at 301 NE Knott built in 1926. Following shortly after was the Wilhelm McGinner Mortuary at 6637 Milwaukie and the East Side Mortuary at 537 NE Alder Street designed by Thomas & Mercier. In 1932 The Little Chapel of the Chimes opened at 430 N. Killingsworth. All total, the City of Portland, with a population of 300,000, had twenty-one funeral homes at the beginning of the early 1930s, overwhelmingly located on the east side of the river.

### THE PEARSON MORTUARY:

Like many morticians, brothers Edwin and Arthur Pearson began their mortuary business in 1920 as Pearson Company, Undertakers and Embalmers, in a storefront at 367, 369, and 371 Russell, near the corner of Russell & Union Streets in the heart of the Eliot Neighborhood. The location made good business since the mortuary's location along the trolley line was easily reached by Pearson's clientele. An elegant horse drawn hearse provided transportation of caskets to and from the mortuary to the city's various burial places.

The Eliot neighborhood offered unique opportunities for an immigrant family of ambitious entrepreneurs willing to serve the area's diverse population, such as the Pearsons. Originally its own incorporated city, the area was known as Albina and was laid out in 1872. The plat was filed in 1873 by Edwin Russell, George H. Williams and W.W. Page, whose wife and daughter were both named Albina. Settlement in the area began in 1874, and it was formally incorporated in 1887. In July 1891, Portland, Albina and East Portland were consolidated as the "City of Portland," occupying approximately twenty-five square miles, with about 63,000 population<sup>5</sup> Albina was 13.5 square miles, according to the Eliot Neighborhood Multiple Property Listing Document, at the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office.<sup>6</sup> After its incorporation by Portland, much of the original town of Albina became known as the Eliot neighborhood, as did a local school, which were named after Thomas Lamb Eliot, a founder of Reed College and a minister of the First Unitarian Church of Portland.

Since 1880 railroad and streetcar transportation was important to the growth and development of the area. Yet, as railroad yards and industrial districts began to displace residential areas it made the area less attractive to more affluent white middle-class residents. The homes left by these individuals were quickly reoccupied by Irish and German immigrants who began filling semi-skilled jobs offered by the railroads. Other immigrant

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<sup>5</sup> Eugene Snyder, *Portland Names and Neighborhoods: their Historic Origins*. (Portland: Binford & Mort, 1979), 83.

<sup>6</sup> "Eliot Neighborhood Multiple Property Listing Document" (Salem: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, August 1997).

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groups also settled in the area, including Italians, Grecians, Hungarians, Polish, and Russians. Scandinavians were also an important group that occupied the Albina area, and many opened businesses on lower Russell Street. In 1892 H. H. Heide, a Danish engraver and goldsmith, opened the first jewelry store in the area. Hans Hansen was another successful Dane in the community. Hansen ran a landmark furniture store on Russell Street. By the turn of the century, Albina was solidly identified as an ethnic working-class community. The concentration of migrants in the area remained strong, even as Portland's natural-born population grew quickly between 1900 and 1910. In 1900, the neighborhood's ethnic composition again began to shift as Portland's African American population began moving into the area in search of work with the area's railroads. The quickly growing population created a small booming community. Between 1908 and 1923, there was an increase in business development along North Williams, North Russell, and North Vancouver Avenues, and continuing north of Knott Street, near the site of the Pearson brother's business.<sup>7</sup>

By the early 1920s the brothers had become very successful amid general growth in the neighborhood, and the family sought to expand the business by building a modern funeral home to meet changing expectations of death and burial held by their customers. A promising location existed in the residential areas of the Eliot Neighborhood, approximately a block west of the storefront location. In early April, the Pearson family acquired two building permits, one to demolish the former residence of M.J. Gilkison and the other to begin construction on the new building. G.F. Spencer was listed as the contractor for the demolition, and Pearson Co., was listed as Owner and Contractor for the construction.<sup>8</sup> Construction was completed in the 1926 when that year's edition of Polk's *Portland, Oregon City Directory* listed Pearson Company, Undertakers and Embalmers at 351 Knott, its present location. In subsequent years the Pearson's successfully kept up with the needs of their customers. In 1931 the Funeral Room was converted into a large Chapel and Family Alcove. The building also underwent a number of name changes to keep pace with the changing perception of funeral homes. In 1932 the building came to be known as The Pearson Mortuary Church as seen on a sign in front of the building on a period photograph, the business was also known later as the Pearson Mortuary.<sup>9</sup>

After the construction of their new building, the Pearsons continued to be successful because of their ability to meet the needs of the surrounding diverse community and the attractiveness of their facility. Former Medical Examiner Dr. William Brady grew up in the neighborhood, and also worked in the building during the County's ownership. He recalls that the area was the home for first and second generation immigrant families, including Scandinavians, Russian Germans, and Irish Catholics, and African Americans. The purposely understated domestic form of the Pearson Mortuary appealed to the largely immigrant population of the Northeast Portland neighborhood. Mrs. Arthur Pearson related in a recent interview that the mortuary served the neighborhoods very diverse population. In "Germans from Russia in Portland," the web page lists some of the businesses that were patronized by the Russian Germans, stating that Pearson Mortuary performed the burials for many of the German Russian families in Portland. In addition, the article mentions the Pearson Funeral Home as one of the employers for immigrants, including German Russians. African Americans made up much of the Eliot neighborhood's population, and were frequent customers of the Pearson Mortuary.<sup>10</sup> Historian Karla Holloway

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<sup>7</sup> "Eliot Neighborhood Multiple Property Listing Document," Section F, Page 6.

<sup>8</sup> See historic photographs included with this submission.

<sup>9</sup> City of Portland Directory, Polk Directory Company, various years.

<sup>10</sup> Germans from Russia in Portland, "Albina neighborhood," [www.volgggermans.net/portland/Portland\\_neighborhood.htm](http://www.volgggermans.net/portland/Portland_neighborhood.htm).

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remarks that within a white-owned or black-owned funeral home, "understanding the cultural expectation and catering to it, undertakers were significantly invested in matching their own image to the culture's expectations of the business."<sup>11</sup> Holloway discusses how rare it was, in the early part of the twentieth century, for the black community to go to a white-owned funeral home, such as the Pearson Mortuary. Later in the century, more black-owned funeral homes started to open. But in the years Pearson's Mortuary was in operation, it was a measure of respect and confidence in their business practices that continued as it served Portland's large black community. Holloway makes the point that no matter what culture was being served in the funeral business, the mortician entered a once-in-a-lifetime arrangement with its customers, sharing the "privacy and intimacy of the moment, and yet being responsible for orchestrating a public performance often not matched in the entire lifetime of the deceased."<sup>12</sup>

In the course of their day-to-day business, the Pearson family became involved with their community. Much of this activity centered around the family's national identity. The Pearsons were a large family and Edwin and Arthur's parents had come from Sweden where the family name was originally "Pehrson." Edwin and Arthur Pearson and his recently deceased son, Arthur E., were members of Augustana Lutheran Church, located not far from the mortuary. The Pearsons were sponsors of the popular "Scandinavian Half Hour," a radio program begun in 1933, continuing until 1955 on station KWJJ at 10:30 each Sunday morning. It was broadcast from the Temple Baptist Church. In 1945, the Annual Report of the "Scandinavian Half Hour" states that Mr. Arthur Pearson, owner of the Pearson Mortuary, and Mr. George J. Strandberg, owner of the G and G Bakery, sponsored the special Christmas programs.<sup>13</sup> In addition, Arthur Pearson was a charter member of the Albina Pioneers, a member of Nobel Lodge of Vasa, a life member of Royal Rosarians, the Swedish Society of Linnea, the Society of Vikings, honorary life member of Swedish Male Chorus, Lang Syne Society, and past president of Oregon Funeral Directors Association.<sup>14</sup>

In 1966, the Pearson family moved their business to SE 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and sold their building to Multnomah County for \$70,000 for use as the Medical Examiner's Office. After an extensive remodel of the interior and several alterations to the exterior, including the addition of a new wing and moving the building's original port cochère to the west side of the building, the county opened the building in February 1967.<sup>15</sup>

### DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE PEARSON MORTUARY:

In 1925, when the Pearson brothers built their mortuary building, funeral homes began identifying themselves as "funeral chapels." The reference was more than a change in semantics, but instead represented a shift in the ceremonies surrounding death and burial in American society. Attributed architect Louis Vogan, also known as Lars Vogan, designed the Pearson Mortuary as a full-service facility that met the needs and expectations of the Pearson's diverse clientele. Born in 1875, Vogan was a carpenter by trade and arrived in the U.S from his

<sup>11</sup> Karla Holloway, *Passed On. African American Mourning Stories*. Durham, N.C., 2002.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid*, 25.

<sup>13</sup> Temple Baptist Church, "History," [www.temple-baptist.com/history/half\\_hour\\_ex.htm](http://www.temple-baptist.com/history/half_hour_ex.htm).

<sup>14</sup> *The Oregonian*, Obituary for Arthur E. Pearson (Portland), April 13, 1965.

<sup>15</sup> Chief Multnomah County Deputy Medical Examiner, Robert Boggs to Sam Lasko, Multnomah County Facilities and Property Management, March 23, 2004, email; Dr. William Brady, Medical Examiner, Personal Communication with Author December 20, 2005.

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Native Norway in 1899. He became a citizen in 1905, and died in 1965. <sup>16</sup>

The building's adaptation for use as the Medical Examiner's office and on-going renovations resulted in a substantial remodel of the building's interior spaces. Yet, the exterior of the mortuary conveys the building's original purpose in its scale and design. For instance, the broad porch served as a welcoming gathering place for families. From the east side of the building, the unusual placement of three sets of opaque windows above eye level was intended to shield the activities that took place in the Embalming and Trimming rooms from public view. On the same façade, the separate entrance to the apartment upstairs is still present, and conveys the design intent of providing a separate space for a caretaker during the building's operation as a mortuary. Although relocated, the porte-cochère continued to serve as a receiving point for the deceased during the building's use as the County Medical Examiner's Office and still conveys this use.

The contributing garage also illustrates the building's design intent. From the earliest days of the funeral business in this country, funeral homes had to have vehicles. The funeral home usually had a station wagon to transport remains, and a hearse for the funerals. Even before the turn -of-the-century, and up to the 1920s, horse-drawn carriages were a centerpiece of the funeral business. The early photos of the Pearson's first place of business, the store-front on Russell & Union Streets, show the elegance of their white horse-drawn hearse. Other early photos show their motor-driven white hearse, and the black funeral car they used for families going to the cemetery. The Pearson Mortuary garage could house two vehicles, both necessary to the facility's operation.

The Pearson Mortuary is notable as a reserved, but not understated, example of the Neoclassical Style applied to a commercial business. Interest in a revival of the classical styles in the U.S. was an outcome of the popular, well-attended World Columbian Exposition held in Chicago between 1891-1893. It celebrated the four-hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the New World by Columbus. Known as "The White City by the Lake," the many buildings on the large site were designed by a variety of architects under the direction of Daniel Burnham. They were consistent in style, and unified in the utilization of Roman classicism and Renaissance prototypes. Following the Columbian Exposition, classically minded architects utilized the accumulated archeological and historical knowledge of the previous century, designing new commercial and public buildings, which accommodated new functions, incorporating traditional historicist vocabularies. Early Classical Revival, Greek Revival and Georgian, among others evolved into the eclectic Neoclassical style. From the expositions that followed later in the U.S. these traditional designs continued to be displayed, and helped illustrate and perpetuate the persuasive popularity of classical architecture between 1895 and 1950. In a *Field Guide to American Houses*, authors Virginia and Lee McAlester identify four main subtypes of the

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<sup>16</sup> City of Portland, Bureau of Planning, "Portland Historic Resource Inventory - 6-487-00301;" *The Oregonian*, Oregon Death Index (Portland) 1 December 1965, 28; The Pearson Mortuary was attributed to Lois Vogan in the *Portland Historic Resource Inventory - 6-487-0030*. Unfortunately, scant information exists documenting the career of Vogan. Vogan is not listed in *Architects of Oregon: A Biographical Dictionary of Architects Deceased - 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries*, by Richard Ritz (2002). There is no mention of Vogan in the Multnomah County Library or the Oregon Historical Society documents. No architect is noted on the Building Permit (#153863), where Pearson Co., is listed as Owner and Contractor, and Vogan is not listed on the original plans, April 8, 1925. However, Vogan is mentioned as the Contractor in the City of Portland Office of Planning & Development microfilm and card files (Building Permit #213575 dated March 7, 1931) for the alterations of the "funeral room" of the Pearson Mortuary Church, when the interior Chapel was built. No other biographical or professional information on Louis Vogan has been located.

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Neoclassical style, which are principally identified by their porch and roof treatments. While most Neoclassical style residences are two-story buildings, McAlester identifies a "common" one-story sub-type described as usually exhibiting hipped roofs with prominent central dormers, with full or partial-width colonnaded porches either included under the main roof or with a separate shed roof. Details common in all four types are the use of columns, elaborate door surrounds, boxed eaves with a moderate overhang, double-hung, paired or triple, and transom windows. At the same time, many Americans were also interested in the affordable bungalow in the early decades of the century, appealing to the bulk of the population in the middle financial bracket, and able to take on a variety of materials and stylistic details, according to personal preference. Adequate for a small family, usually fitted onto a lot of modest proportions, they exuded the overall effect of hominess.<sup>17</sup>

The Pearson Mortuary reflects many of the character defining features seen in one-story Neoclassical Style buildings, which was so appealing to Americans. Elements present in the Pearson Mortuary building include:

- Hipped roof
- Full-façade shed-roof porch
- Slender, unfluted Tuscan columns
- Turned-wood roof-line balustrade detail which here is a spindlewood frieze above the full-façade porch.
- Rectangular windows, multi-pane and single-pane and side-light
- Centered dormers
- Double-hung, paired or triple, and transom windows
- Boxed eaves with a moderate overhang
- White quoining on window surrounds and at each corner
- The pedimented form above entries, seen in the secondary (east) doorway.

For two brothers of Swedish descent, the choice of the red brick bungalow form within the Neoclassical style for their funeral home was a recognizable, stately American house style.

Yet more than this, the building was intentionally designed to not overwhelm its surroundings or appear ostentatious. Like many funeral homes, the Pearson family selected a residential area for the location of their new business. However, unlike many similar ventures, the brothers specifically selected a building form and style that complemented its immediate area rather than dominating it. The Pearson Mortuary faces, directly opposite on Knott Street, the former Albina Branch Library building, built in 1912 from plans drawn by architect Ellis F. Lawrence. This building is a Colonial Revival building with Spanish and Mediterranean features, and features a prominent row of large, round-arched windows trimmed in green terra-cotta.<sup>18</sup> The building is visually prominent on the block, dwarfing the Pearson mortuary and the other residences in vertical scale. The Victorian-style Lewis and Elizabeth Van Fleet House, at 202 NE Graham, built in 1894 is more reflective of the residential nature of the neighborhood, which contains one- and two-story buildings in a number of styles from

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<sup>17</sup> Leland Roth, *American Architecture: A History* (Boulder: Westview Press, 2001); Virginia & Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 2005).

<sup>18</sup> Lawrence was a very distinguished architect who designed the early Medical School Buildings in Portland, most of the early University of Oregon campus, and many large homes in Portland. The former library is still part of the Multnomah County Library system, and is a National Historic Property.



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the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.<sup>19</sup> Although broader than its neighbors, the Pearson Mortuary does not rise above them and maintains the same setback and centered lot orientation as its residential neighbors to the immediate east and west. In addition, as seen in early photographs, the Pearson family made a conscious attempt to landscape the property with a grass lawn, ornamental trees, and foundation plantings as seen in the rest of the area. While the Pearson Brothers and Louis Vogan chose to blend their new building into the neighborhood, their choice to make use of the Neoclassical Style successfully conveys the sense of dignity, respect, and restrained grandeur that their clientele sought.

## THE PEARSON MORTUARY AS A BUILDING TYPE – COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS:

A common characteristic among funeral homes in Portland was their ornate decoration and large size that often dominated their neighboring buildings. The Pearson Mortuary was the only funeral home purposely designed in an unassuming, neighborhood-appropriate scale in the Neoclassical Revival Style. The distinction makes it unique among its comparable buildings and notable as an example of the noticeably reserved aesthetic of the Pearson family and its diverse clientele. Presently, there are only two Portland buildings associated with funerary practices listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Barbur Block Building (1891), both individually listed and included within the boundaries of the East Portland Grand Avenue Historic District, was home to the mortuary firm Barber and Hill, which occupied the corner of the building until 1919. The second National Register-listed building is the Wilson-Chambers Mortuary, which is the only purpose-built funeral home currently listed. The building was designed by architect Richard Sundleaf and constructed in 1932 as a large and elaborate brick villa in the Mediterranean style on North Killingsworth Street.

In addition to the Pearson Mortuary and the Wilson Chambers Mortuary, several other early funeral homes listed on the Historic Resources Inventory of Portland were built specifically to appear as residential homes. Built in the same style Mediterranean Style as the Wilson-Chambers Mortuary, the 1935 Hennessey, Goetsch & McGee Funeral Home was designed by architects Barrett & Logan. The large two-story building, the grounds, and parking lot occupy an entire city block in a busy commercial area. The Portland Crematorium was constructed 1906 at 6705 SE 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The large Mediterranean Revival Style complex of buildings occupies several blocks on the edge of a residential neighborhood. The facility was remodeled and enlarged in 1933 by Fred Webber. The A.J. Rose Mortuary, 1930, was designed in the grand Art Deco style by Thomas & Mercier at 537 SE Alder Street. The building is an imposing three stories tall, and is clad in crème and rust-colored brick. The building now sits in a busy commercial area. In each case, these funeral homes are much larger, more ornate, and designed to be noticed and admired. While the Pearson Mortuary still conveys a sense of respect and dignity, the relatively small and understated building fit well into its unique fully residential setting among the neighbors the Pearson family served.

## CONCLUSION:

The Pearson Mortuary physically reflects the transition from store-front mortuaries to the funeral home located in residential settings and the accompanying development of these full-service facilities. The details of the

<sup>19</sup> Both the Albina Branch Library and the Lewis and Elizabeth Fleet House are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Pearson Mortuary  
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purposely modest Pearson Mortuary building's brick craftsmanship, the overall low, broad form, the white Tuscan columns supporting the full-façade porch, the symmetry in the entrance façade, the general massing of west and east sides, and the abundant landscaping, contribute to making the building an interesting and stately example of early-twentieth century specialized commercial/mortuary design in the form of a private residence. As designed, the building nestled into the established and growing Eliot neighborhood, yet still conveyed a sense of dignity and respect. It was not out-of-scale or "out of bounds" architecturally, and its purposeful restraint created a comforting environment for grieving and taking care of family business at a difficult time

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Pearson Mortuary  
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR  
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### Interviews/Discussions

Jack Allen, Retired, Former Partner, Pearson Allen Caldwell Mortuary, February 2007.

Robert Boggs, Deputy Multnomah County Medical Examiner, December 14, 2005, June 12, 2006  
(including follow-up telephone calls and E-mail correspondence after both dates).

William Brady, M.D., Former Oregon State Chief Medical Examiner, December 20, 2005, and  
telephone conversation June 12, 2006).

Kathy Wentz-Phelps, Owner with Aaron Phelps, OMEGA Funeral and Cremation Services, February  
2007.

Carolyn Bywater, Section Manager, Bureau of Development Services/ Resource/Records, City of  
Portland

Mrs. Arthur E. Pearson (Daneen), February 2007

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[www.wonderballroom.com](http://www.wonderballroom.com)

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## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary includes the present site of the Pearson Mortuary, located at 301 NE Knott Street, in North Portland, Oregon. Specifically the boundary includes Map Tax Lot 14100, Property ID R102193, Lots 18 - 22 of Block 16, in the Eliot Neighborhood, Albina Plan District.

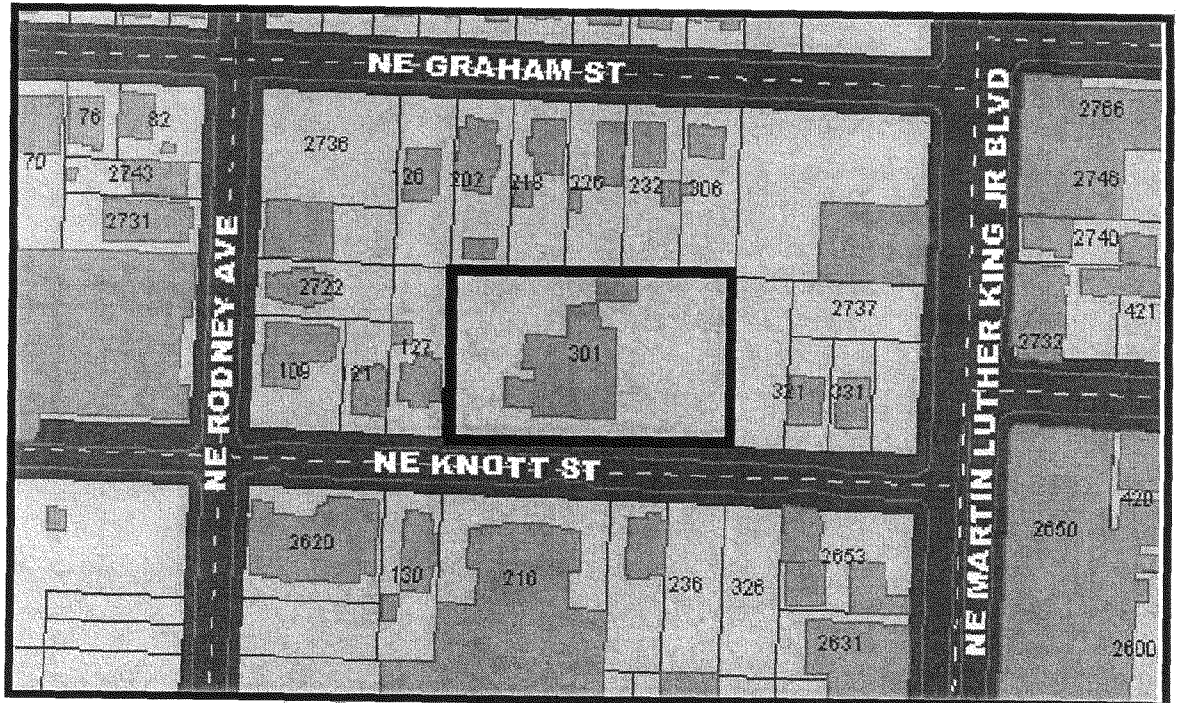
## VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the nominated parcel contain the tax lot historically associated with the Pearson Mortuary and include the subject building and all related structures, objects, and landscaping within the subject property.

**Aerial Photo**



**Location Map**

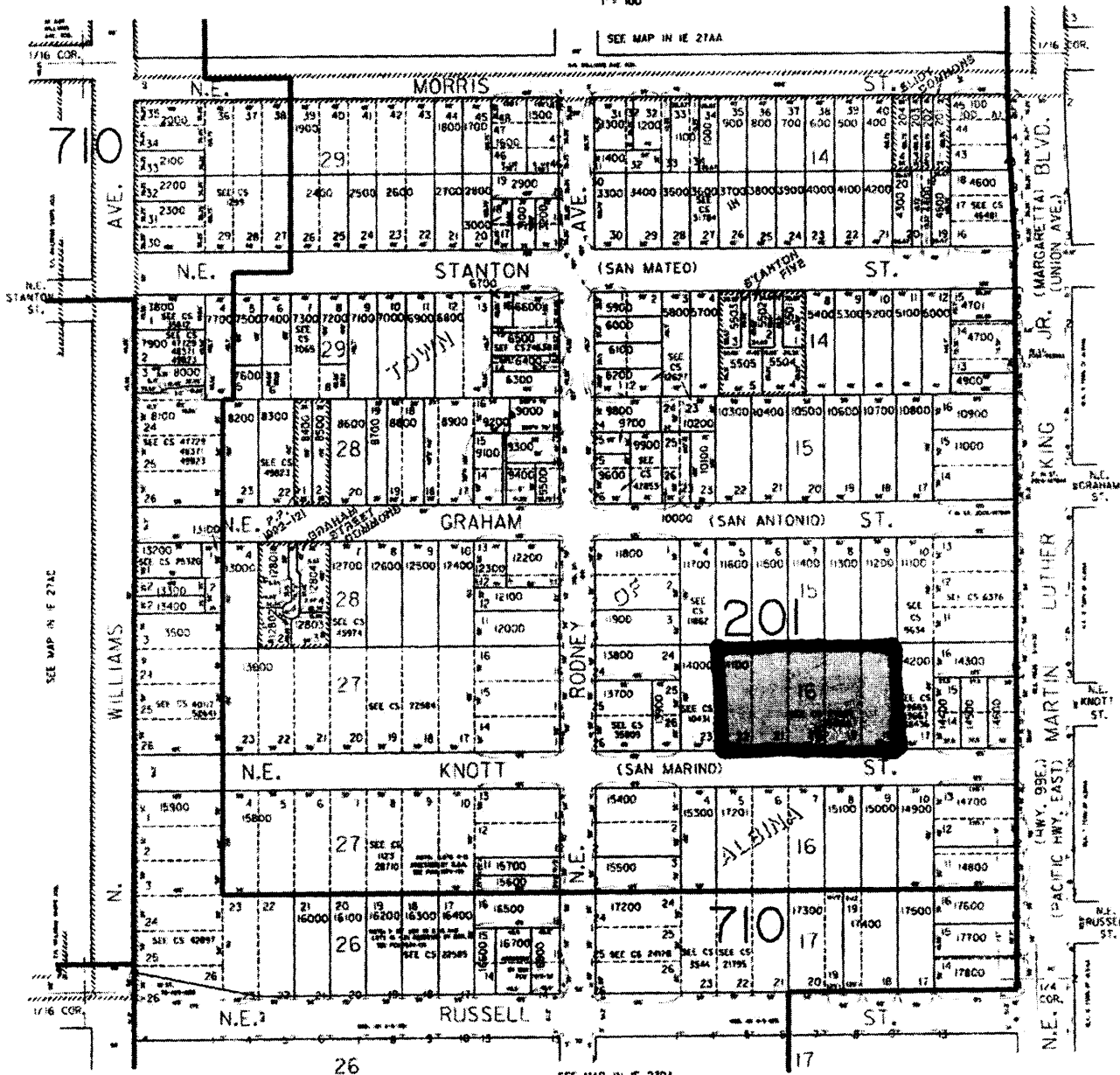


THIS MAP WAS PREPARED FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSE ONLY

SE 1/4 NE 1/4 SEC. 27 T.1N. R.1E. W.M.  
MULTNOMAH COUNTY

1" = 100'

IN 1E 27AD  
PORTLAND

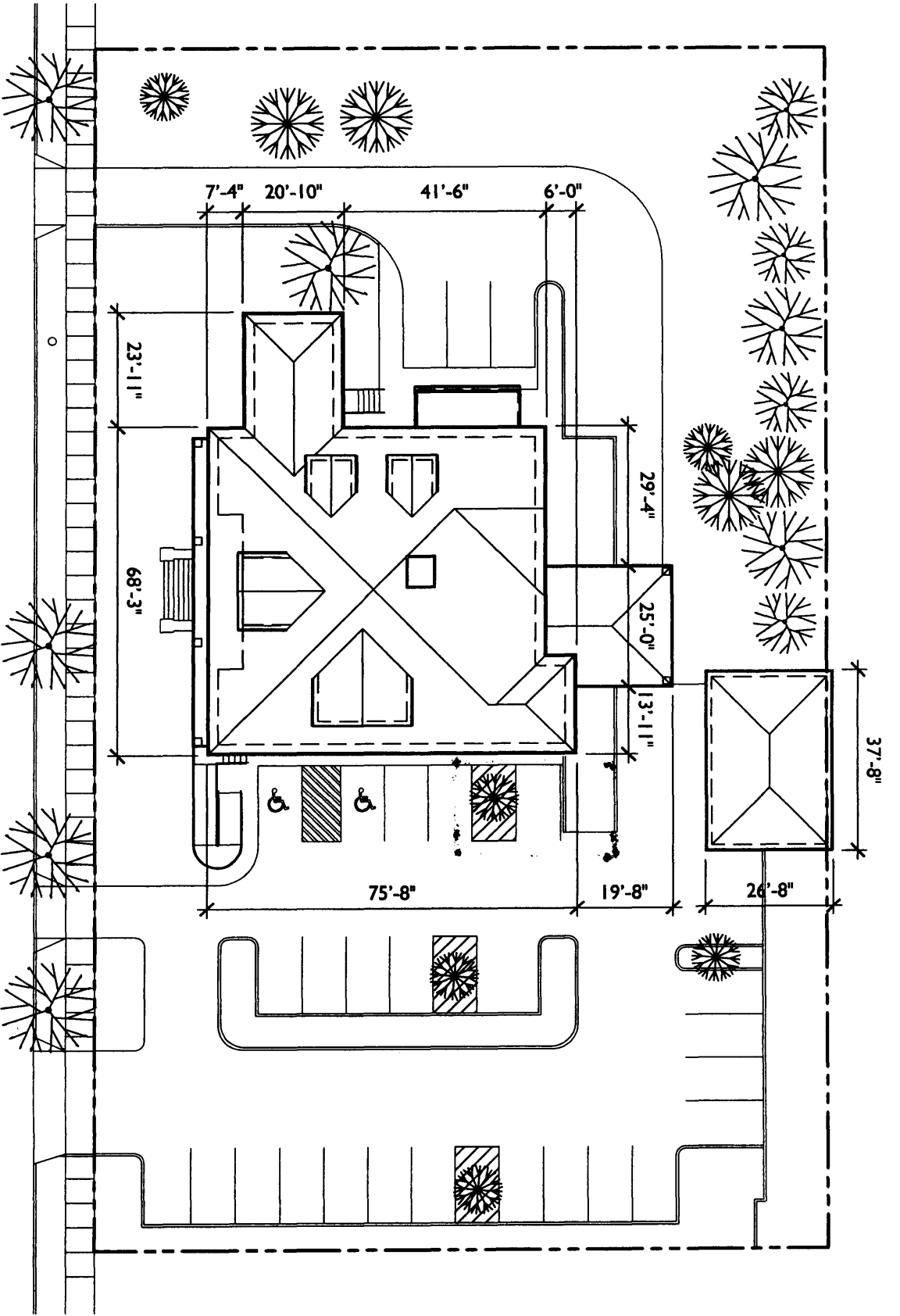


CANCELLED NO.  
 200  
 300  
 4800  
 5800  
 5600  
 12800  
 12900  
 15200  
 16500  
 17000  
 17100

SEE MAP IN IE 268C

IN 1E 27AD  
PORTLAND

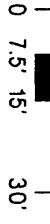




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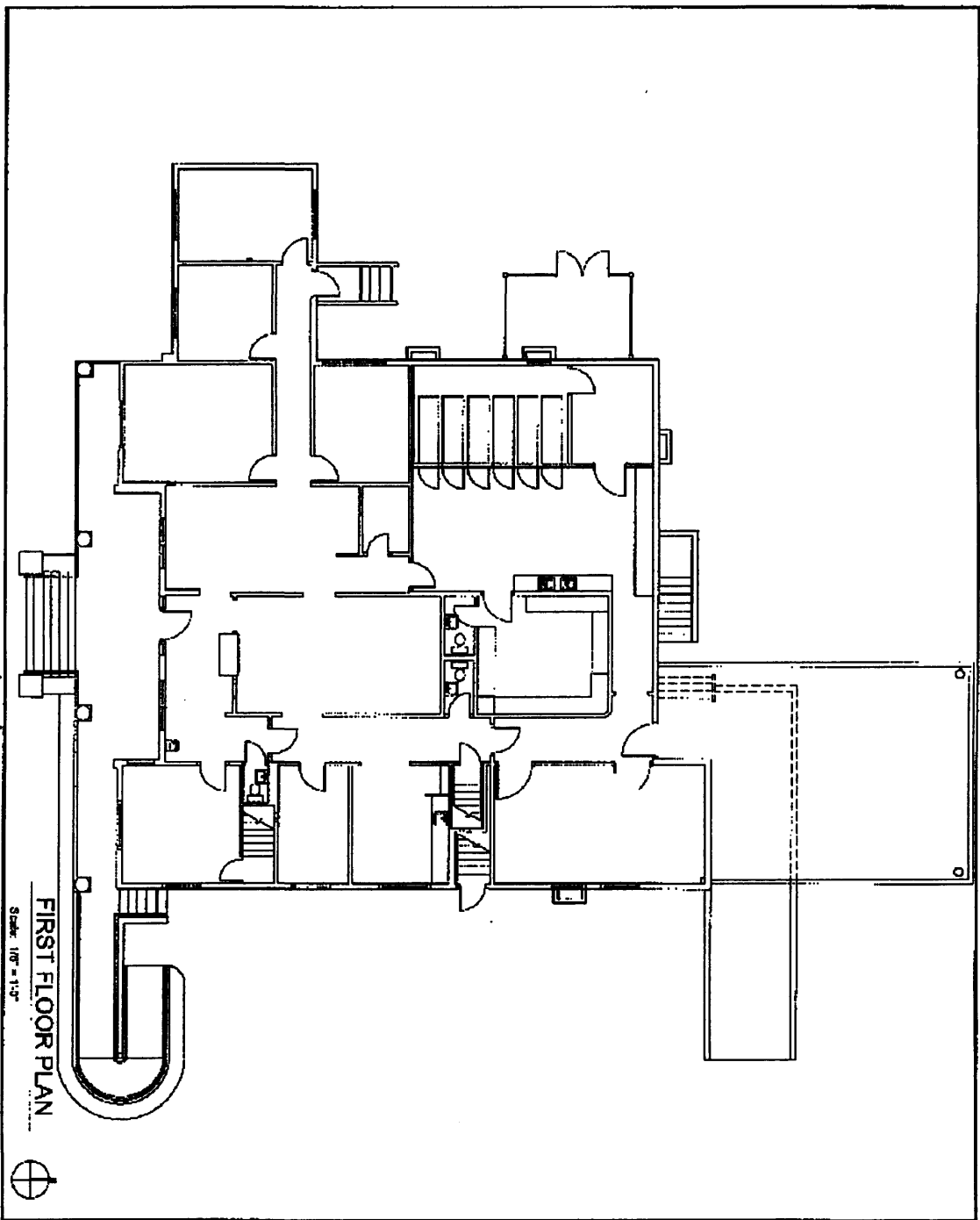
# 301 NE Knott St. Site Plan

SCALE: 1" = 30'-0"



1

Front steps



FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

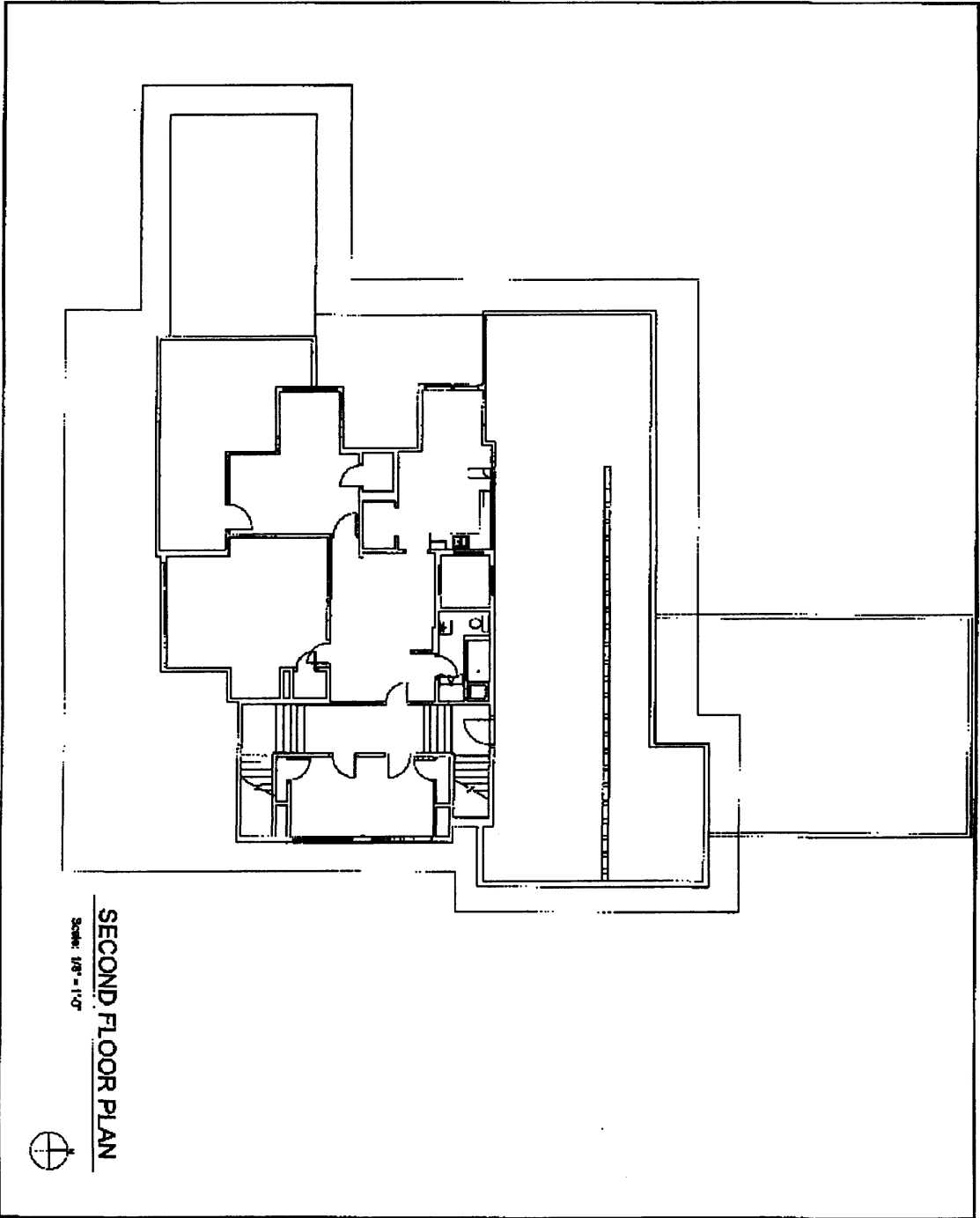


NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	10/1/88	PRELIMINARY
2	10/15/88	REVISED
3	10/20/88	FINAL

301 NE KNOTT STREET  
PORTLAND, OR 97212

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION



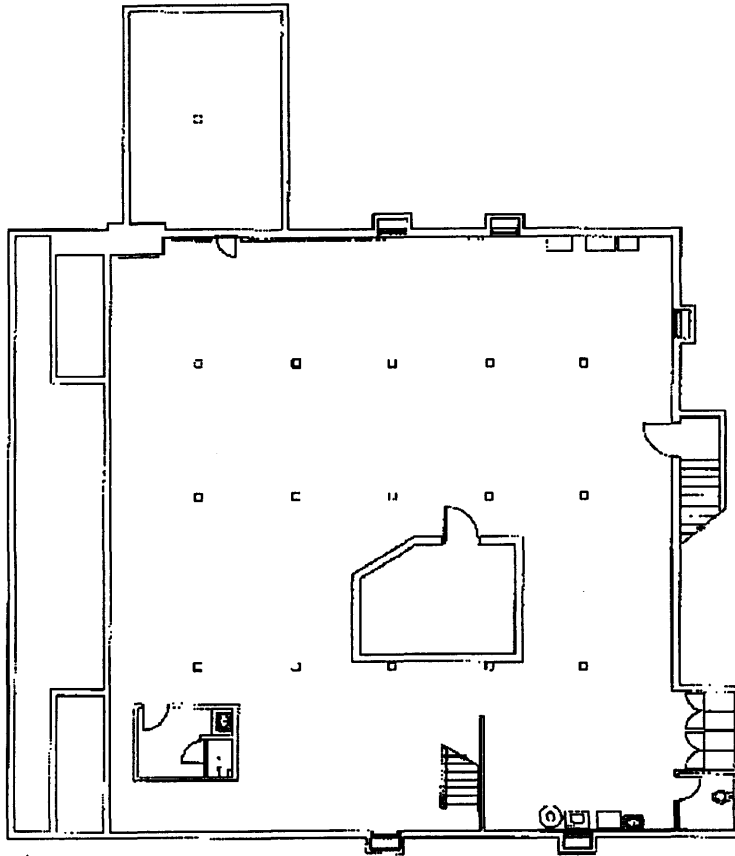


**SECOND FLOOR PLAN**  
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"



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# BUILDING FLOOR PLANS



**BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN**  
Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"



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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photographs Page 1

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### PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Libby Dawson Farr, Ph.D.

Date of Photographs: April 2007

Negatives Location: Libby Dawson Farr, Ph.D., 1995 North Pine St., Canby, OR 97013

These black & white photographs were processed from negatives using Kodak TRI-X Professional film – 400TX; printed on fiber-based Ilford Fine Art matt inkjet paper, using Epson Ultra-Chrome inks and an Epson-9600 machine at Citizens Photo in Portland, between April 23 and April 26, 2007, Greg Potter supervising.

1. South (Entrance) Façade. View to North.
2. South (Entrance) Façade. View to North East.
3. South side – Front Porch. View to West.
4. East Façade and Garage Building. View to North.
5. Garage Building. View to North.
6. East Side of Garage. View to West.
7. Porte-Cochère – Brick Base and Column. View to North.
8. Detail above Front Porch Windows.
9. North Façade. View to South.
10. North Façade – West End. View to South.
11. Porte-Cochère at North Side in the back. View to East.
12. West Façade. View to East.
13. Detail, West Façade. View to East.
14. Basement.
15. Driveway from West Front on Knott St. to North in back. Landscaping.
16. South Façade Front Door and Entrance Hall. View to West.
17. Former Reception Hall, first floor, South side. View to South.
18. Entrance Foyer. View to North.
19. Former Office for Funeral Arrangements, South West End of Building. View to West.
20. First Floor Hallway going South to North. View to North.
21. Section of Former Chapel, Morgue Room w/ Freezer Trays and door to Cooler. View to North.
22. East end of Former Chapel. Cooler room door. View to North from Hallway.
23. South section of former Chapel. Detail of ceiling coves still visible.
24. First floor Central Office, former Chapel, cove in ceiling visible. View to South West.
25. First floor Hallway going North to South. View to South.
26. First floor, Former Embalming room, recently was Autopsy Room, view to South East.
27. First floor, Former Viewing Room along East wall. View to East.
28. Internal Stairs to second floor. View to North.
29. Internal Stairs to second floor descending to outside entrance on East Façade. View to East.
30. Second floor, living room with view into kitchen and 2 bedrooms.
31. Second floor bedroom with Dormer Window, visible above entrance on exterior. View to South.