NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

National Park Service

OMB No. 1024-0018

JN 29 2001

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

United States Department of the Interior

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and sub-categories 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.

| historic name _  | _Nelson, Otto W   | /. and Ida L., House _   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| other names/site   | e number _N/A   |  |  |  |
| 2. Location  |   |  |  |  |
| street & number  | r_203 SE 15 <sup>th</sup> Av  | /enue  |  | not for publication  |
| city or town P   | ortland   | _ code _OR_ county   | vicinity   | _N/A   |
| state _Oregon_   | ····  | _ code _OR_ county   | _Multnomah   | code _051  |
| zip code 97214   |   |  |  |  |
|  | 4   |  |  |  |
| 3. State/Federal As the designate certify that this standards for reprofessional requot meet the Na  | ed authority under  X nomination gistering propertiquirements set fortational Register C  | tion  r the National Historic  request for dete es in the National Reg th in 36 CFR Part 60.   | Preservation Act of rmination of eligibility ister of Historic Place In my opinion, the puhat this property be defined the second of the property be described.  | 1986, as amended, I here y meets the documentatio es and meets the procedur roperty X meets considered significant |
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| In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.) |
|--|
| Signature of commenting or other official Date   |
| State or Federal agency and bureau   |
| 4. National Park Service Certification   |
| I, hereby certify that this property is:   |
| 5. Classification  |
| Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)  _X_ private public-local public-State public-Federal                         |
| Category of Property (Check only one box)  _X_ building(s)  district site structure object   |

| Number of Resour         | ces within Property           |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Contributing             | Noncontributing               |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
| _1_ buildings            |                               |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
|                          | sites                         |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
| structures objects Total |                               |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
|                          |                               |  |  |  |  | Number of contrib<br>Register _N/A   | uting resources previousl<br>- | y listed in the National |
|                          |                               |  |  |  |  | Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  _Portland, Oregon's Eastside Historic and Architectural Resources N/A |                                |                          |
| 6. Function or Use       | ·                             |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
| Historic Functions       | (Enter categories from in     | astructions)   |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
| Cat:_Domestic            |                               | Sub: _Single dwelling  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
|                          |                               |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
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|                          | (Enter categories from in     |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
| Cat: _Domestic           |                               | Sub: _Single dwelling  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
|                          |                               | account to the second to the s |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
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|                          |                               |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
|                          |                               |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
| 7. Description           |                               |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
| Architectural Class      | sification (Enter categorie   | se from instructions)  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
| Queen Ar                 |                               | 55 HOIII HISTIACHOIIS)   |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
| Queen Ai                 | ш                             |  |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |
|                          |                               | To apply the state of the state |  |  |  |  |                                |                          |

| Materials (Ente                                     | er categories from instructions)   |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   | Brick with concrete veneer   |  |  |
|   | Composition shingles   |  |  |
|   | Shingles, weatherboard   |  |  |
| other   | Wood   |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |
| 7. Narrative Description (See continuation sheets.) |  |  |  |
|   | 8. Statement of Significance (See continuation sheets)   |  |  |
| Applicable Nat for National R                       | tional Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property egister listing)  |  |  |
|   | perty is associated with events that have made a significant   |  |  |
| COI   | ntribution to the broad patterns of our history.   |  |  |
| B Prope   | erty is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.  |  |  |
|   | erty embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a |  |  |
|   | nificant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.  |  |  |
| D Pro   | operty has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.  |  |  |
| Criteria Consid                                     | derations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)  |  |  |
| A o   | wned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.  |  |  |
| B re  | emoved from its original location.   |  |  |
| C a   | birthplace or a grave.   |  |  |
| D a   | cemetery.  |  |  |
| E a   | reconstructed building, object, or structure.  |  |  |
| F a   | commemorative property.  |  |  |
| G le  | ess than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.  |  |  |
| Com   | ificance (Enter categories from instructions) munity Planning and Development tecture  |  |  |

| USD1/NPSNRHP Registration Form Nelson, Otto W. and Ida L, House Multnomah County, Oregon  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Period of Significance 1896-1920  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Significant Datesca.1896  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cultural Affiliation  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Architect/BuilderUnknown  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. Major Bibliographical References   |  |  |  |  |  |
| (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Previous documentation on file (NPS)  preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.  previously listed in the National Register  previously determined eligible by the National Register  designated a National Historic Landmark  recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #  recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # |  |  |  |  |  |
| Primary Location of Additional Data State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University X_ Other   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Name of repository: Multnomah County Public Library, Multnomah County Assessment and Taxation Office, Oregon History Center   |  |  |  |  |  |

| 10. Geographical Data  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Acreage of Property _less than one acre_   |  |  |  |  |
| UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)   |  |  |  |  |
| Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing  1 10 527375 50407203  2 4  See continuation sheet.  |  |  |  |  |
| Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)   |  |  |  |  |
| Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)   |  |  |  |  |
| 11. Form Prepared By   |  |  |  |  |
| name/title _ Ann Fulton, President   |  |  |  |  |
| organization_Cultural Resources Managementdate7/29/00  |  |  |  |  |
| street & number_1540 SW Davenport Sttelephone_503-274-2106   |  |  |  |  |
| city or town_Portlandstate_OR_zip code _97201-2230   |  |  |  |  |
| Additional Documentation   |  |  |  |  |
| Submit the following items with the completed form:  |  |  |  |  |
| Continuation Sheets  |  |  |  |  |
| Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. |  |  |  |  |
| Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.  |  |  |  |  |
| Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)   |  |  |  |  |

| Property Owner   |                          |  |  |
|--|--------------------------|--|--|
| (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.) name _ Barry and Gunilla Myers |                          |  |  |
| street & number _203 SE 15 <sup>th</sup> Avenue telephone_503-23                       | 2-1159                   |  |  |
| city or town_Portland  | state_OR zip code_ 97214 |  |  |

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1 Nelson, Otto W. and Ida L, House Multnomah County, Oregon

## ☐ Narrative Description

The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house, built in ca. 1896, is a one and one-half story wood-frame Queen Anne Style residence located in the Buckman neighborhood of southeast Portland. Many Queen Anne and Craftsman and some Stick, Shingle, and Arts and Crafts Style houses fill this urban neighborhood. Together they reflect the development of Portland's Eastside streetcar suburbs between the 1890s and 1920s. The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house, facing east, occupies a 50' x 100' lot. The designer and the builder of the house are unknown.

The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house, of balloon-frame construction, rises as a hipped roof volume with lower cross gables that include a dominant front-facing gable and a side-facing gable. The house also has a raised basement; the fixed windows have vinyl sash. A partial wrap-around porch with a shed roof accentuates the house's asymmetry. Exterior siding is weatherboard on the first story and imbricated shingles on the half-story; composition shingles cover the roof. The house has a brick foundation with concrete parging and a ground plan of 50' x 28'.

The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house displays the characteristics of the Queen Anne Style, including a steeply pitched roof of irregular shape, a dominant front-facing gable, cutaway bay windows, many different exterior surface finishes, and an asymmetrical facade with a porch extending along a side wall. The house also has the spindlework and stick decorative detailing often associated with that style (McAlester 1998: 263-4; Walker 1981: 152). Special features include a porch that covers the entry and partially wraps around the north elevation; a beaded spindlework frieze and turned posts with cutout brackets, all made of wood, add ornamentation. The primary window type is one-over-one double-hung sash; sash on the first and second stories is wood. Cutaway bay windows are located on the first story of the north and east elevations; paired double-hung windows are located on the second story of the gables. The paneled main entry door has a transom, a single pane of glass, and incised decorative detailing; the paneled back door has nine lights. Door and window surrounds have a simple trim. Additional decorative elements include the appliqued bargeboards on the gables and a boxed cornice.

The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house has an open, asymmetrical first floor plan. The main entrance hall, located at the northeast corner of the house, opens into the living room. The living room extends along the north side of the house. The back hall is on the northwest corner and the kitchen is on the southwest corner; a bathroom lies between them. Stairs leading to the second floor are in the middle of the south end of the house and a home office is on the east side of them. The parlor is on the east end. The master suite is located at the east end on the second floor; it includes a walk-in closet and bathroom. A bedroom with a large closet is located on the north side of the house. Two bedrooms are on the northwest and southwest corners; a bathroom on the west end separates them.

The entry hall flooring is slate; the rest of the flooring on the first floor is oak, laid in 1998. The second floor has original fir flooring. The first floor has plain floor trim, plain window trim with lintels, and crown molding.

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Section 7 Page 2 Nelson, Otto W. and Ida L, House Multnomah County, Oregon

The second floor has molded floor and window trim. The walls and ceiling are plastered and painted on both floors. The ceiling height on the first floor is 9' 11"; the height on the second floor is 8' 10".

Facing SE 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the house sits neatly in the middle of a corner lot elevated three feet above grade. Low shrubs near the foundation and ash trees in the curb strip add beauty. The trees contribute to a setting that emulates a more rural environment. A concrete sidewalk leads to the porch steps. A wood fence made of vertical boards encloses the backyard, where an old apple tree grows in the southwest corner.

The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house is located in a section of the urban Buckman neighborhood with tree-lined streets; the many Queen Anne and Craftsman Style houses reflect the neighborhood's past as a streetcar suburb. Portland's City Council designated the neighborhood a potential conservation district in 1991 (BP 1991). Alfred Staehli describes the neighborhood with enthusiasm for its potential as an historic district in *Preservation Options for Portland's Neighborhoods:* 

The area now called Buckman has many blocks and sections of streets virtually complete with 1880's, '90's, and 1900's homes of excellent variety and completeness...The inner blocks from 12<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> Avenues along SE Pine and Oak Streets have good examples of simpler Queen Anne and Stick Style homes (Staehli 1975: 47).

The house is located within the boundaries of the National Register Multiple Property Listing for Portland Oregon's Eastside Historic and Architectural Resources and meets the listing's additional registration requirements. It was built between 1862 and 1938, retains sufficient integrity to evoke the character of its architectural style, and is one of the most characteristic examples of its style (USDI 1988: Sec. F, 10). The house probably was not inventoried because of alterations that existed when researchers completed the fieldwork.

In comparison to other Queen Anne Style residences in the Buckman neighborhood, the Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house is a good example of that style. Its hip-roof core with lower cross gables, cutaway bay window, partial wrap-around porch with spindlework frieze, and stick decorative detailing are all features commonly found in Queen Anne architecture. The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house has as many or more of these representative features than other Queen Anne Style houses in the neighborhood. Although retaining less historic integrity than the James S. Polemus house (located at 135 SE 16<sup>th</sup>), the Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house retains as much integrity as many other houses in the neighborhood (such as houses located at 234 and 228 SE 15<sup>th</sup>).

Although some of the original decorative detailing remained, including the beaded spindlework frieze and the turned porch posts, cedar shake siding added ca. 1945 hid the house's historic character. A broken radiator caused extensive interior damage during the winter of 1992. The owners replaced the wiring and plumbing, preserved the original first floor plan, and altered the second floor plan by adding a bathroom to create a master suite. Barry and Gunilla Myers, the present owners, discovered more of its historic architectural features when they removed some cedar shakes in October 1999. Under the direction of Erik Lindstrom, a master builder from Sweden, the Myers began restoration in July 2000.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 3 Nelson, Otto W. and Ida L, House Multnomah County, Oregon

Like many streetcar suburb houses, the Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house probably was a pattern book design constructed by local builders. Preparers of the *National Register Multiple Property Listing for Portland Oregon's Eastside Historic and Architectural Resources* wrote that the McKeen Brothers, a design and construction firm, built many houses in the neighborhood in the 1890s (USDI 1988: Sec. E, 18.) The Nelsons sold the house to W. J. and Zilpha Funk in 1902. It changed hands several times before Barry and Gunilla Myers purchased it in 1998. The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house is comparable to the other Queen Anne houses in the neighborhood that retain their historic integrity. The integrity of its exterior is particularly high and the plan of the first floor retains the characteristics of Queen Anne houses plans.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1 Nelson, Otto W. and Ida L, House Multnomah County, Oregon

☐ Narrative Statement of Significance

# National Register Criteria and the Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house

The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house is historically significant because it meets National Register Criteria A and C. The house qualifies under Criterion A under the Community Planning and Development Category. It is associated with and retains enough historic integrity to be a good representative of houses built in late nineteenth and early twentieth century streetcar suburbs; construction of these suburbs was an important era in community development. The house also meets the registration requirements for buildings under the National Register Multiple Property Listing for Portland Oregon's Eastside Historic and Architectural Resources. The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house meets Criterion C in Architecture because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Queen Anne Style. It reflects both the type and period of construction common to Portland's streetcar suburbs.

### The Growth of Portland's Street Railways and Streetcar Suburbs

Construction of Portland's streetcar suburbs contributed to the suburbanization of Portland. Suburbanization created its own specialized architecture and it encouraged new social patterns of separating family life and work (Warner 1978: 64). Developers' construction on land between one and a half and six miles east of the Willamette River began in 1890; the end of this boom came in 1920 (Abbott 1983: 27). This key event in local history also had national significance because it was so often repeated in other American cities (Warner 1978: 3).

Sreet railways changed the shape of Portland. They transformed Portland from a walking city to an industrial and suburban city. The Willamette Iron Bridge Company built the Morrison Bridge in 1887 with the goal of operating streetcars over it to the East Side; the first line to cross the river ran in 1888 (Labbe 1980: 20). Streetcars stimulated interest in consolidating Portland, East Portland, and Albina. The consolidation of these cities in 1891 launched an era of growth largely fueled by streetcar line construction. Owners of the railways often were real estate developers too (MacColl 1976: 93, 111). Portland's 161 miles of railway carried sixteen million passengers by 1906 who traveled from their home in neighborhoods such as Buckman to work (Abbott 1997: 82).

### The Buckman Neighborhood's Development as a Streetcar Suburb

The arrival of streetcars changed Buckman into a streetcar suburb. Streetcars increased its population and added many single and multi-family dwellings built for commuters. Preparers of the National Register Multiple Property Listing for Portland Oregon's Eastside Historic and Architectural Resources wrote that "the opening of the bridges and the growth of the streetcar lines were the two primary factors in the explosive growth of the east side in the 90s" (USDI 1988: Sec. E, 12). George Aiken platted Aiken's Addition, in which the Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house was built, in 1869. Until streetcars arrived, Buckman had few homes. Staehli noted that "the rapid expansion of Portland's suburban communities along and in between the streetcar lines in the 1890's and scores of years following 1900 transformed the southeast area from rural farmlands and woodlots to homesites and industrial developments" (Staehli 1975: 54).

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# The Historical Significance of the Nelson House

The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house is historically significant because it retains the integrity of its association with the building of Portland's streetcar suburbs. The house also meets the registration requirements for buildings within the boundaries of the National Register Multiple Property Listing for Portland Oregon's Eastside Historic and Architectural Resources.

W. W. McBride, a dairy farm owner, bought property in Aiken's Addition in 1887. McBride knew that he could make a good profit by purchasing real estate near streetcar lines. The Buckman neighborhood was first served by the Sunnyside line that ran down Morrison and Belmont streets six blocks south of McBride's property and the Mount Tabor line that traveled down Belmont Street to Mount Tabor Park by 1889 (Labbe 1980: 38). Eager to prosper from the demand for more service, the City & Suburban Railway Company opened another line in the Buckman neighborhood when it built a track on East Ankeny Street one block east of McBride's property in 1892 (Labbe 1980: 89). Several lines now bordered the Buckman neighborhood. These lines increased the value of real estate. Small developers knew the added value the streetcars gave neighborhoods and started a wave of building in the 1890s that turned Buckman into a streetcar suburb. Carl Abbott observed in *Portland: Gateway to the Northwest* that "speculators rushed to take advantage of improved transportation by laying out new middle-class subdivisions on higher land back from the rowdy east-side waterfront" (Abbott 1997: 55). By 1904 another line crossed the Burnside Bridge, traveled down East Burnside Street, and continued east on East Pine Street (Labbe 1980: 88 {map}). W. W. McBride participated in the streetcar-inspired boom by building a house. McBride sold the new house in 1896 to Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson. The house retains the integrity of its location in a streetcar suburb.

The house also retains the integrity of its exterior design, which reflects the architecture common to single-family dwellings in streetcar suburbs. Sam Bass Warner, Jr. wrote in Streetcar Suburbs: The Process of Growth in Boston, 1879-1900 that builders created a new form of suburban architecture there. They rejected the Georgian architecture of the past in favor of styles with romantic roots. The Queen Anne, Stick, Shingle, and Craftsman were the preferred styles (Warner 1978: 141-5). Preparers of the National Register Multiple Property Listing for Portland Oregon's Eastside Historic and Architectural Resources noted that "the two predominant styles are the Queen Anne and Craftsman—both of which were widely adapted to mass vernacular housing and both of which were popular during the area's major period of development" (USDI 1988: Sec. F, 1).

The builders copied the architectural tastes of the rich but minimized costs by scaling down house and lot size. Like the more expensive residences they emulated, streetcar suburb houses were designed with their most important side facing the street to show off the homeowner's prosperity (Warner 1978: 153). The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house, with its dominant front-facing and extensively ornamented gable, reflects this emphasis on the conspicuous display of prosperity.

The interior plan of these suburban homes revealed the value late 19<sup>th</sup> century middle-class Americans placed on private family life. Houses had a flexible interior plan that easily adapted to family needs. The first floor

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Section 8 Page 3 Nelson, Otto W. and Ida L, House Multnomah County, Oregon

plan was an open one. Pocket doors allowed rooms to open into each other to create larger spaces (Walker 1981: 153). The interior plan of the Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house continues to emphasize the importance of a flexible, open arrangement of living space for families.

The house retains the integrity of its setting. The characteristics of a streetcar suburb are visible in the Buckman neighborhood. These include many single and multi-family dwellings built during the streetcar era in repetitive styles within a grid street and frontage lot system. Warner observed that "this popular system of land division and architecture produced new residential streets that looked orderly, prosperous, and citified" (Warner 1978: 135). Like all streetcar suburbs, the Buckman neighborhood buried the natural contour of the land under similar streets and similar houses.

Throughout America and in Portland, Oregon, the setting of streetcar suburbs reflected the rural ideal that the builders and homeowners valued. The characteristics of that rural ideal included an appreciation of nature, an emphasis on the pleasures of private family life, and the importance of living within the security of a small community of similar families (Warner 1978: 14). Streetcar suburb residents expressed their appreciation of nature by quickly planting trees and growing gardens in their new city settings. An historic photograph documents the Nelson family planting trees in the curb strips and yard soon after the house was built. The architecture of the houses revealed the importance of private family life by limiting the visibility of inside activities. The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house, with its colored glass panes, hooded windows, and gables with overhanging eaves, all reflect the importance of private family life.

Streetcar suburbs also illustrated the homeowner's desire to settle within a community of similar families. People wanted to live with others who appreciated a rural ideal and who were members of the same economic class and race. Street railways helped to create a physical separation between those who could afford the new houses and those who could not. The houses also revealed the economic class of their owners in ways other than style. Their size and the maintenance they required demanded the attention of a full-time mistress of the house. Only families in which wives did not have to work outside the home lived in these houses. They also were families in which the husbands had stable, middle-income jobs that required the dependable transportation that streetcars provided. The Otto Nelson family fit this pattern. Nelson owned a tavern in Portland. As a small business owner of the California Beer Hall, he needed reliable transportation so that he could open and close his tavern on schedule.

While suburbanization produced income and racial segregation, it also created ethnic integration. Social observers in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century called the new suburbs "zones of emergence." Prosperous first and second-generation immigrant families emerged from ethnic neighborhoods within the inner city to blend with the rest of the growing American middle class (Warner 1978: 19, 65-6). Otto and Ida Nelson, Swedish immigrants who became naturalized citizens in the 1880s, followed this trend by moving into the Buckman neighborhood.

The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house also reflects the feeling of and its association with single-family dwellings in streetcar suburbs. Carl Abbott in *Portland: Planning, Politics, and Growth in a Twentieth-Century City* identified Buckman as one of "Portland's everyday neighborhoods that evolved gradually from

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its streetcar suburbs" (Abbott 1983: 27). He observed that these neighborhoods retained something of their community life and continued to offer stability, convenience, and comfort—precisely the qualities that characterized streetcar suburbs when they were built.

The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house also is historically significant because it meets National Register Criteria C. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Queen Anne Style and it reflects both the type and period of construction common to Portland's streetcar suburbs. This single-family dwelling illustrates the asymmetrical massing and decorative features of its style; it also has the complex roof form with hip-roof core commonly found in Queen Anne houses. With its dominant front-facing and extensively ornamented gable, it is a good representative of the most frequently build Queen Anne residences (McAlester 1998: 263-4). Its partial wrap-around porch with spindlework frieze, cutaway bay windows, and Stick detailing add a high level of ornamentation. The Otto W. and Ida L. Nelson house reflects both the type and period of construction common to Portland's streetcar suburbs. Preparers of the National Register Multiple Property Listing for Portland Oregon's Eastside Historic and Architectural Resources noted that the Queen Anne and Craftsman styles were the most dominant styles built on the Eastside during the streetcar era.

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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NPS Form 10-900-a United States Department of the Interior National Park Service OMB No. 1024-0018 (8-86)

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Multnomah County, Oregon

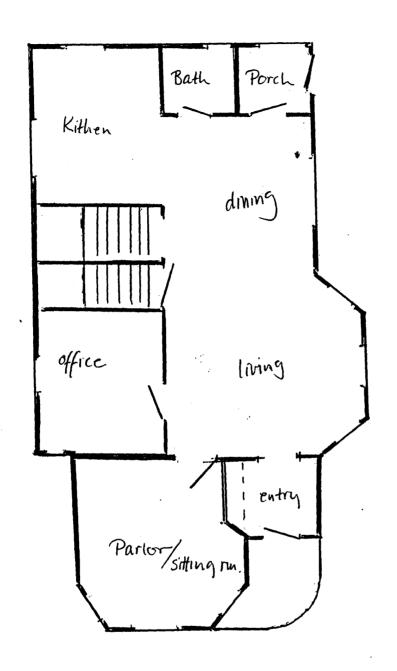
# 10. Geographical Data

# Verbal Boundary Description

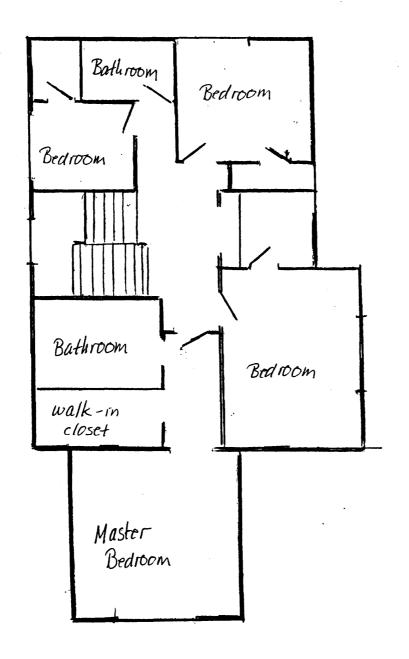
The nominated area is located in Section 35, Township 1 North, Range 1 East of the Willamette Meridian, in Multnomah County, Oregon; it is otherwise identified as Tax Lot #8 located in Block 304 of Aiken's Addition.

# **Boundary Justification**

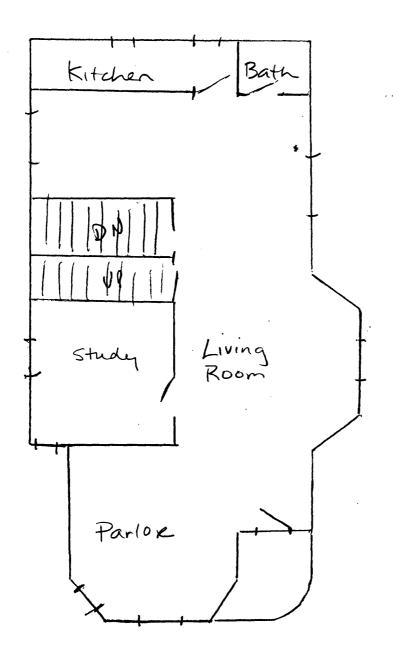
The nominated area encompasses the entire urban tax lot (50' x 100') occupied by the Otto Nelson, Otto W. and Ida L., House from 1896 onward.



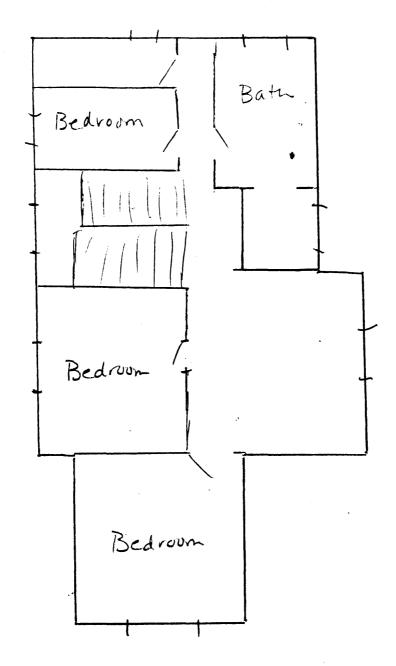
First floor 2000



Second floor 2000



FIRST FLOOR CA 1975



Second Floor ca 1975

