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S	4.	OWNER OF PROPERTY		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
Z		OWNER'S NAME:						T	S I
			Samuel J. Bar	ker				D'	ATE
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	6.	REPRESENTATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS						
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CONDITION	Excellent	🙀 Good	🗌 Fair	🗌 Dete	eriorated	🔲 Ruins	Unexposed
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The John Phillips House is sited at the foot of a hill in Spring Valley near Zena, seven miles northwest of Salem, It was finished in 1853 and is detailed in the Classical Revival style. The east-facing house is rectangular in plan measuring about 24×32 feet. One and a half storeys in height, the interior arrangement is the standard central hall plan of the period, with one roombon leither side on both floors. A straight run of stairs connects the upper and lower floors,

A gable roof of medium pitch extends with a lesser slope over a colonnaded verandah with a plain frieze and shallow cornice. The end bays of the verandah have been filled in to create extra bedrooms. This was done some time after the house was built, though the "sabblebag" plan is not unknown in early Oregon. The gable ends are close verged, and brick chimneys straddle the ridge at each end. Fenestration is formal. Window architraves have a slightly pedimented cornice. Double hung sashes on the front side now contain a single pane of glass. Those on the south end contain four lights over four on both floors, though the upper windows are somewhat lesser in height than those on the ground floor. Windows on the ground floor at the north end contain six lights over six, and are larger in all dimensions than those on the second floor. There are two windows symmetrically placed on either side of the door on the front and four formally placed windows on the gable ends, one on either side of the fireplace on both floors. The front door has sidelights and a transom window also set in a simply yet beautifully detailed architrave with a pedimented cornice. A gabled kitchen wing has been added to the north end of the west side, and the roof of the house continues with unbroken pitch over an ell which has been added to the south end of the west side. The exact date of these additions is not known though the appearance of the house today is the same as in a photograph taken about 1890, and the house has not been significantly zaltered since Phillips' death in 1892. It is known that Phillips kept enlarging the house to accommodate his growing family of sixteen children, eleven of whom lived to maturity, and that the last of these was born in the 1860s.

The Phillips house has a balloon frame with hewn sill beams resting on stone piers and lapped weatherboards. The interior walls are planked and wallpapered. The parlor has plain board wainscotting. Phillips made the panelled doors throughout the house and a cupboard between the dining room and kitchen. The house has two-inch oak floors, and is in good condition today.



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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

JOHN PHILLIPS HOUSE (CONTINUED)

STATE

COUNTY

Oregon

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ATE

Po1k

ENTRY NUMBER

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1 4 1974

NATIONAL REGISTE

2. Location

The John Phillips house is located in the S 1/2 SW 1/4 Sec. 24, T. 6S., R. 4W., of the Willamette Meridian in Marion County, Oregon, for the N 1/2 NW 1/4 of the John Phillips D. L. C. No. 50, which is essentially to the north and east of the present Section 25.

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Also:

Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings, 1970, Parks and Recreation Section, Oregon State Highway Division, Salem, Oregon 97310. Code: 41.

8. Significance

Phillips bought a Donation Land Claim in Spring Valley in 1847 for \$100 from a man named Turner, and moved his family there. In the Spring of 1849 Phillips and a neighbor, Jesse D. Walling, went to the California gold fields and returned later the same year. It is not known how well he did, but according to family tradition, his new house was finished in 1853. Phillips made and sold drapes, sashes, blinds, coffins, and furniture, and several pieces he made for his family are in the house, which is still owned and lived in by descendents of John and Elizabeth Phillips.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Wright, Tom, "Old Home Replete with Craftsmanship," Oregon Statesman, November 12, 1967, Sec. IV, p. 41.

Hurst, Buelah, and Carstairs, Beatrice M., "Early Oregon Cabinet Makers and Furniture Manufacturers 1836-1897," unpublished FERA Oregon History Manuscript, Portland, 1935, p. 8-9.

Hines, H. K., <u>An Illustrated History of the State of Oregon</u>, (Chicago: The Lewis Pub. Co., 1893), 848-849.

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	🕱 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known) 1853		
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	📋 Urban Planning
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Conservation	Music	Transportation	

The John Phillips house is one of the diminishing number of structures dating from Oregon's pioneer and territorial days. It is a typical example of the carpenterly Classical Revival house pioneer families of the 1840s tended to build for themselves in the 1850s after they had established themselves. It is somewhat untypical however in that it tends to be somewhat more spare or severe in line than most of these Classical cottages which sprang up around the Willamette Valley, and these houses as a whole tend to be somewhat more spare than their contemporary counterparts in the East. On the other hand, though proportions are rather timid, detail of the columns and architraves is more meticulous than is usual in these Willamette Valley houses. It is an early example in Oregon of a house with a balloon frame.

Phillips was an immigrant and emigrant born in Wiltshire, England in 1814. His father died when he was eleven and young Phillips was apprenticed to a cabinetmaker for seven years. After the death of his mother in 1834, he decided to immigrate to America. On a ship to New York he met a minister from Florida and decided to go there, where he remained five years working for the government at Chattahoochee during the Seminole wars. He married Elizabeth Hibbard, who was also English, in New Orleans in 1839 and the couple lived in St. Louis before leaving for the Oregon Country in April, 1845 with two children, in a wagon train headed by Joe Meek. It is not known however if the Phillips family was among those Meek persuaded to try an alternative route across the high desert country of eastern Oregon, now known as the "lost" wagon train. This ill-fated party spent much time lost and in search of water, and suffered much hardship and death. Gold was discovered somewhere on their route, and the search for the legendary "Lost Blue Bucket Mine" continues to this day. It is known that the Phillips family was nearly lost while fording the trecherous Snake River when the current swept away their wagon and team. They were saved through the efforts of one Thomas Roberts. The Phillips arrived in Oregon City in October, about the same time the bedraggled members of the lost wagon train finally reached the Willamette Valley.

Phillips and Roberts, who was also a carpenter or cabinetmaker, went to St. Paul in the Spring of 1846 where they did finishing work on the Roman Catholic school building and church, which was the first brick building to be built in Oregon and parts of which are still standing. (Continued)

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL R	EFERENCES			
	Oreg	on Statesman, ". esting History	John Phillip ," August 25	s Don , 192	at 4,	ion Land Claim Found Place of Inter-
	Lock	ley, Fred, "Imp; Journal, Febru			ŗу	ations of a Journal Man," <u>Oregon</u>
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