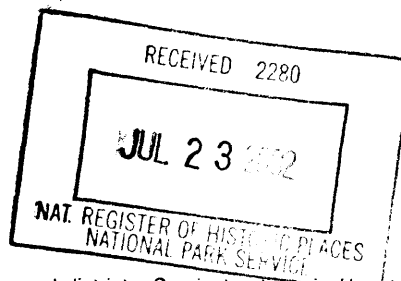


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



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 an 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 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 BROWN, CHARLES AND MARTHA, HOUSE

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 425 NORTH FIRST AVENUE not for publication

city or town STAYTON vicinity

state OREGON code OR county MARION code 047 zip code 97383

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James Hamrick July 22, 2002
Signature of certifying official/Title /Deputy SHPO Date

State of Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- 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:) _____

Edson R. Beall 9/6/02
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Charles and Martha Brown House
Name of Property

Marion, Oregon
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes 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>	<u>1</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic, single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social, Civic

(work in progress)

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls wood

roof shingle

other _____

Narrative Description

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

continuation sheets 1 - 5

Charles and Martha Brown House
Name of Property

Marion, Oregon
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.)

- 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.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- 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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Engineering

Architecture

Period of Significance

1902 - 1925

Significant Dates

1902

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Charles E. Brown

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Charles E. Brown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Charles and Martha Brown House
Name of Property

Marion, Oregon
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .5 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	11 0	5 1 16	3 4 5	4 9 6 10	3 5 10
	Zone	Easting		Northing	
2					

3					
	Zone	Easting		Northing	
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

Gregg Olson, BA Architecture (U of O), Diploma, Conservation Studies (U of York)
name/title Ernst Lau, Historian, Santiam Heritage Foundation

organization Santiam Heritage Foundation date 1-31-2002

street & number P. O. Box 161 telephone 503-769-3303

city or town Stayton state Oregon zip code 97383

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Santiam Heritage Foundation

street & number P. O. Box 161 telephone 503-769-3303

city or town Stayton state Oregon zip code 97383

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 1

SITE

The Charles Brown house property is bounded on the north by the 1857 Salem ditch diversion of water from the nearby Santiam River, on the east by North First Avenue of Stayton, Oregon, on the south by North High Street, and on the west by N. W. Alder Avenue. An un-vacated alley bisects the property north to south. The house occupies two full lots at the east of the property. The house is approximately 50 feet from 1st Ave. and 40 feet from N. High St. The two and a half lots to the west of the house were originally the sites of a barn, chicken house, garden, and orchard. None of these features survive. A small dwelling occupies the former barn site and a small, shingled garage in poor condition is at the north end of the alley (see site plan).

Exterior

The Charles Brown house is a two story wooden structure built in 1902-03 on a major street in the town of Stayton, Oregon. The asymmetrical structure dominates a corner lot with a wrap-around porch and intentionally different ornamental gabled dormers with bell shaped walls and patterned shingles decorating the roof. Built in the Queen Anne Style(1), it hints at the 20th Century, of which it is a part, when the horizontal began to be more important.(2) The design is set up for a corner tower, but it is abandoned at the roof; the bracketed and dentiled cornices on both levels are unbroken and unrelenting. The intersecting hip roofs of wooden shingles with standing gutters are intact but covered with asphalt shingles. A thick six inch drop siding covers most of the house but the foundation walls not covered by porches (less than half) are shingled with laced corners. Unsympathetic and aggressive additions made in 1930 and 1934 during a short period when the building was used as a hospital(3) cover the original intent of the back (west elevation) of the house which was originally "almost as attractive...as the front".(4) A large room (16 x 18) with ribbon windows (5), supported on stilts and now sagging, dominates the north elevation.

The front porch is possibly the most interesting feature of the house. This porch goes across the front and follows around the corner bay window and becomes a side porch. It connects the front rooms with the long hall and the south bedroom. It has a hidden gutter behind a proper cyma recta molding, a dentiled cornice, spandrel brackets supporting a wooden screen under the lintel, hand turned posts, a hand turned balustrade, and a screened in foundation made of 1½ inch square stock set on a 45 degree angle on 2 ¾ inch centers between well-proportioned skirting. The foundation screens exactly repeat the screen treatment below the porch lintels. The original wooden stairs are replaced in concrete. There is no sign of any stair railings. The woodwork is competent but the plan, which forces perspective, is remarkable. The section to the right of the front stairs is at a thirty-four degree angle; the one on the left is forty-five. The intended view is not from the front but from the corner

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 2

where all the elements are balanced. The framing of the porch is a riot of angles caused by the asymmetrical front rooms and the unusual plan. This shows up dramatically in the porch ceiling. This is softened considerably by the vestibule and small porch above, which absorbs the asymmetry and makes the design presentable to a public which is used to symmetry. The porch is in better condition on the north end and will need to be completely rebuilt on the south.

Interior

The Charles Brown house first floor plan is organized around a long hall running north and south with exit doors at each end. On the front side of the hall are the asymmetrical parlor and living rooms with a delicate stick and ball type spindled ornamental screen over the top of the arch between the rooms. The two rooms are similar in detailing, with polychrome gesso gilt and green moldings atop the door head and picture rail. These rooms were claimed by the family to include work done by Italian craftsmen from Portland.(6) These moldings were surely manufactured outside of Stayton, and there was an Italian firm which made fancy plaster interior architectural pieces in Portland during this period.(6a) The double hung windows are, in the most important places, larger sash on the bottom and etched glass in the sash on top. The most artistic glass is reserved for the doors that open onto porches. A fishing scene in a front door is probably the most amazing. This glass was undoubtedly worked and shipped in from the outside world. The remaining woodwork, which is extensive, is most likely from the Brown sawmill. The ceiling molding is especially elaborate, made with an aggregate of moldings with a particularly large hollow in one cut in the middle. The ceiling moldings and the baseboards avoid mitering or coping by having the runs terminate at the corners in decorative blocks. This is a common trait in the baseboards of several Stayton houses of the period which may all have ties to the Brown sawmill. The ceiling cove molding in the Brown house is an expansion of the concept in that the blocks become brackets. The window and door casings throughout the house are an asymmetrical stepped pattern with an ogee in the middle, singular in Stayton to our present knowledge. It is a good match for the bolection molding over the baseboards, another larger ogee, styled more as a Twentieth Century molding rather than a late Nineteenth Century one. This is the first house in Stayton to be wired for electricity when constructed. In place of plaster ceiling rosettes in the two parlors, there are turned wooden bases on the ceilings stained to match the other millwork and are designed to accept the original hanging chandeliers which are, unfortunately, missing. The ceilings and walls, are sheathed with 1" x 3" tongue and groove fir covered with felt and (originally) plain wallpaper which was kalsomined in light colors and some stenciled border patterns applied. The floors in the main rooms were covered with wall to wall wool carpeting; hallways and utility rooms were linoleum.(7)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

The north room is wider than the south and, although both have doors to the vestibule on the front porch, the north door is on a low slant. A bay window lights the room from the north. The south room has a corner bay window and a square, single light window with beveled glass at head height in the south wall. This room had a massive opening in the floor, now filled in, which may have been part of an elaborate radiant heating system. The original system involved existing two and a half inch hot water pipes, at some time screened with hardware cloth but now covered, which follow the baseboards around each room on both floors. This system failed and was replaced by a series of more conventional systems.

On the backside of the long hallway are a bedroom on the south and the dining room on the north. In between these two rooms is a shorter hallway running east and west. On the north side of this hall is a stair running to the second floor. The newel is grand and the balusters hand turned, two to a step. To the south of the secondary hall is a small space involved with the main chimney but open to the hall used as a closet.(8) West of this is a small room containing a toilet. Following this is the bathroom with a doors leading both to the hallway and to the south (master) bedroom. A door at the end of the short hallway opens into the kitchen.

The master bedroom has a total of four doors: an outside door connecting to the front porch; another to the north-south hallway; a third to a large closet and a fourth to the bathroom. This room is especially daring, structurally. Half the space is made from under the two-story body of the house while the other half is really a continuation of the front porch but enclosed. The daring part is that there is no allowance below the ceiling for the bearing wall of the two-story part of the house, a fourteen-foot span. Besides the usual baseboard cutout for the initial heating system, this room is remarkable for a built-in ornamented base to support a wash basin.

The dining room, already mentioned, is the first room of the kitchen wing. It has an extension or large rectangular bay on the north wall which originally contained two standard windows. These as well as the space between them have been replaced with a modern "picture window." The kitchen follows the dining room with a large arch between replacing the original wall and standard door. A vented cooling cabinet was originally built into the wall separating the kitchen and dining room. The kitchen has been remodeled at least once. A second chimney serving the kitchen stove has been removed; two windows in the west wall have apparently been filled and made shorter. South of the kitchen was the original laundry room followed by an ell shaped, lattice covered back porch. A quality photo taken in 1904 from the Brown sawmill water tower three blocks away shows this porch, a delicate structure built below the dentiled cornice which wrapped around the one story wing. In 1934 an additional room was added which fills the space of this "curved" back porch. The water pump for the house was at the south end of this porch.(9)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 4

The house has a dirt-floored basement accommodating the furnace, wood storage, and a well crafted root cellar. A deteriorated retaining wall near the footing includes a timber which appears to have been "recycled" from a machine structure from the family sawmill. The foundation wall is of wood and is extensively repaired in kind. The footings are mortared basalt shale. This rock was obtained from a local quarry and was a common foundation material beneath Stayton buildings until about 1908.(10)

The second floor has similar circulation to the first floor except the north-south hall is much shorter, and an additional hall runs between the front bedrooms to reach the second floor porch. The staircase was originally lighted by at least two windows: one at the top which has been eliminated by the additions made to the west end of the house, and another on the north wall of the staircase which was blocked around 1926 when Martha Brown had a small sleeping porch built over the dining room.(11) The second floor stair railing was replaced with a wall to isolate the two floors during the period when the house was being used as two apartments. The wall has since been removed but the original railing is missing. There are three original rooms upstairs. The "study" is the south east room with a corner bay window. The north room does not have a bay. The original west bedroom is smaller than the other two. All have large closets.

Beyond the south east bedroom and over the space of the original back porch is the hospital surgery remarkable for its concrete floor. A doorway made near the stair to access the sleeping porch addition now leads to a hallway to access the stilt supported north addition. The former sleeping porch is a nondescript place. At the head of the staircase an opening leads to an apartment added over the kitchen. In a closet against the outside of the original building the slope of the original single story roof can be clearly detected. These additions make for situations on the roof that are particularly difficult to maintain which has led to years of damage to the additions, whereas the original building is in fair condition.

Descriptions of Other Resources

Two other buildings occupy the Charles Brown house tax lot: a 12' x 18' shingled garage (ca. 1915), and a 14' x 28' gable roof building with a 10' x 14' shed roof addition. The garage can be deemed a contributing resource in that it was built and used during the period of significance. It is, however, in very poor condition and the possibility of restoration is questionable. The gable roof portion of the other structure was originally a utility building probably built in the mid-1930's but enlarged and remodeled into a small dwelling in the 1960's. At that time the original drop edge siding was covered with combed sidewall shakes. The building is in fair condition. Because it does not relate to the period of significance and, in its present form, is less than 50 years old it should be considered a non-contributing resource.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

Footnotes to Architectural Description

- (1) Architecture Oregon Style, p. 85
- (2) A Field Guide to American Houses, p. 439
- (3) The Stayton Mail, frequent citations 1929-36, esp. 3-21-1929, 3-27-1930, 9-20-1934
- (4) Ruth Brown Klein, telephone interview 1-27-02 by E. Lau
- (5) A Field Guide, p.58
- (6) Lee Brown, personal interview ca. 1960 by E. Lau; verified by Ruth Brown Klein, telephone interview 1-20-02 by E. Lau
- (6a) Bill Hawkins, Portland, Oregon, telephone interview, 2-13-02 by Gregg Olson
- (7) Ruth Brown Klein, telephone interview, 1-27-02 by E. Lau
- (8) Ruth Brown Klein, annotated floor plan, 2-2-02
- (9) Ibid.
- (10) The Waterways of Stayton, pp 47-49
- (11) Op. Cit. (8)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

The residence designed and built by Charles E. Brown in 1902 in Marion County, Oregon, town of Stayton is proposed for nomination under Criterion (b) and Criterion (c). It is the largest and most completely representative Queen Anne style building surviving in Stayton.

The Charles Brown house occupies its original site on North First Avenue in Stayton. It is a two story asymmetrical structure with a hip roof, two shingled dormers, and window bays. A one story wrap-around porch on the east and south is enclosed at the west end by a one story extension of the main house. The exterior is elaborately decorated with bracketed, dentiled cornices and wooden screen work above and below the porches.

The Charles Brown house is in neglected condition but for the most part is intact with original siding, windows, doors, and trim. Later additions have re-configured the west end (rear) of the house but enough information has been found to enable the eventual restoration of this part to its original appearance. The house is presently owned by The Santiam Heritage Foundation, a 501(c)(3) corporation, whose intent is to restore the building and make it available to the public as a social and historic interpretive center.

Charles Brown (1867-1925) built and lived in this house from the time of its completion in 1903 until his death in 1925. For 40 years he was significant as a contract builder and in the design and operation of water powered industries in the Santiam Valley. The lumber and trim for this house were produced in the Brown sawmill which was located three blocks south of the house. The house is at once a demonstration of the finest products of that mill, of Brown's personal interpretation of the conventions of the Queen Anne Style, and of the inclusion in the house of all the then available amenities for domestic comfort.

Currently, the City of Stayton Parks and Recreation Board is sponsoring a plan to develop nature and urban trails along the City's several unique waterways. The National Park Service has provided a Technical Assistance Grant, The Trust for Public Lands has negotiated the purchase of undeveloped riverfront property, and a number of other agencies and groups, including The Santiam Heritage Foundation, are supporting the plan.

The trails plan recognizes the immediate proximity of the Charles and Martha Brown House to the 1857 Salem Ditch, an industrial water power diversion of the nearby North Santiam River, the Brown family's long involvement with properties associated with the 1866 Stayton Ditch, a similar diversion three blocks south of the house, as well as the close proximity of the house and its extensive grounds to a major City park and civic center.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

The Charles and Martha Brown house, built in 1902 in the Queen Anne Style, is significant under Criterion (b) for its association with Charles E. Brown, an important figure in the late 19th and early 20th centuries development of water-powered industries in Stayton, Oregon. Brown built and lived in this residence from 1903 until his death in 1925.(1) Between 1884 and 1914, Charles Brown with his brother, George, and their father, Leander, owned and operated the large water-powered sawmill in Stayton.(2) Charles was a skilled millwright and active as a local contract builder as well as helping run the mill. After selling his share of the mill in 1914, he operated a machine shop and designed and built a new hydroelectric plant for the local power company.(3) In the early 1920's he converted his machine shop into a water-powered wool carding mill, manufacturing wool batts and mattresses.(4, 5) After his death, his widow and two sons continued in the successful operation of this factory for another twenty years.(6)

Stayton, Oregon

Stayton's origin and early history is directly related to the mid-19th century diversion of water from the North Santiam River for industrial power purposes. By the early 1850's the operators of water mills powered by Mill Creek in Salem, Oregon noted that the channel of the small and highly seasonal Mill Creek nearly approached the larger and glacier-fed Santiam River at a point which would become the site of Stayton, Oregon. In 1857, the organizers of Salem's first large water-powered industry, the Willamette Woolen Manufacturing Company, received permission from the Oregon Territorial Legislature to divert water from the Santiam into Mill Creek by means of a three mile ditch connecting the two water courses. At the time, the ditch was hailed as an engineering marvel and was probably the first such project in the Territory.(7)

Drury Smith Stayton, whose Donation Land Claim was about two miles north of the Salem ditch project, observed its success and in 1866 purchased land between the route of the Salem ditch and the Santiam River. He and his sons dug a channel from the place on the river where the Salem diversion had been made to a point where a twelve to fourteen foot head of water could be obtained before returning the water to the river.(8) By 1868 the Staytons had a small water-powered wool carding plant in operation followed in 1870 by a small sawmill.(9) The sawmill was soon expanded and by 1875 a large flour mill building had been built but not yet equipped.(10) In that year both Drury Stayton and his son, Gabriel who had been the presiding genius of the mill building projects, died. The remaining members of the family either lacked the interest or ability to continue the enterprises.

In 1878, two immigrants from Canada, John Shaw and Thomas Sims who were both experienced in lumbering and building, purchased the sawmill from the Stayton family.(11) They improved the plant and ran it with considerable success until 1884 when another experienced mill operator, Leander Brown, moved to Stayton from Kansas and took over the ownership and operation of the mill.(12)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3

The Brown Family in Stayton

Leander Brown came to Stayton with a large family (a brother and three sons participated in the early operation of the sawmill), enough capital to realize his goals, and apparent qualities of leadership. He became the town's first mayor and was generally credited with leading the effort to have the first bridge (1888) built across the Santiam River at Stayton.(13) Around 1888 he, along with Shaw and Sims, the former owners of the Stayton mill built the first sawmill at Mill City, Oregon.(14)

Upon purchase of the Stayton mill in 1884, Brown immediately improved the plant with new machinery and enclosed the building for the first time.(15) He was aided in these projects by his son, Charles, who was becoming a skilled and innovative millwright and builder.

The Brown mill burned in 1895 and was promptly rebuilt.(16) Charles and his brother, George, ran the Stayton mill while their father turned much of his attention to the Mill City operation. Around 1900, the Browns added a monumental 106 foot octagonal water tower at the mill for fire protection and to provide running water to nearby residences. (The town would not have a municipal supply until 1907).(17, 18) The mill also had the first electric dynamo in town.(19) The Browns owned a share of the ditch system that supplied their mill with power. When the ditch was enlarged in 1905, Charles Brown designed and built a successful automatic gate arrangement at the mill to regulate the level of water in the ditch.(20)

Charles and his brother, George, were also active contract builders. In 1893 they erected a large livery stable for the local stage company and over a period of twenty years participated in the construction of a dozen or more houses in a variety of styles, several of which survive.(21, 22)

The 1902 Charles Brown house is, and was meant to be, the crowning achievement of his career in innovation and craftsmanship. He and his wife, Martha, moved into their new house in December of 1903. The Stayton Mail called it "one of the finest residences in the county equipped with all modern conveniences."(23) Among the conveniences, unprecedented at that time in Stayton, were running water (supplied by the recently constructed water tower at the family sawmill), indoor flush toilets, electrical wiring in each room installed during construction, and a remarkable radiant hot water central heating system of Brown's own design. Water from a wood-fired boiler in the basement was circulated through a network of perimeter piping in each room. Use of this system was rather short-lived and was replaced with circulating hot air and stoves, but evidence of the original system remains.

The Brown's three children, Giles (1904), Lee (1905), and Ruth (1915) were born and raised in the house. Around 1926, Martha Brown had a second-story sleeping porch added to the north side of the house.(24) In 1929, with only one child remaining at home, she moved two blocks south to a smaller house.(25)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 4

Subsequent Ownership

In 1929, Mrs. Alice Kendrick, a Registered Nurse, rented the Charles and Martha Brown house and established a private hospital and nursing home.(26) This use of the building lasted less than nine years but a series of modifications and additions were made during this time. In 1930, a surgery was added to the west end of the house probably replacing the original lattice enclosed back porch.(27,28) In 1934, the Kendricks purchased the building and added several second floor rooms over the original one-story back porch, laundry, and kitchen areas to provide a new surgery and an apartment for the Kendrick family.(29) A second story extension, supported on stilts, of the 1926 sleeping porch was added in 1936 as a living room for the second floor apartment.(30) The hospital closed abruptly in 1938 but the Kendrick family continued to live there until 1946.(31)

Although its career as a hospital was rather brief, local interest has been expressed by those who were born there or their descendants. The Heritage Foundation has been compiling a list of children born in the building and as the room that was purportedly used as the nursery is part of the original house (32), the Foundation plans to use this room as a place to display a documentation of the hospital era.

The Kendricks sold the house to John and Leola Nightingale in 1946 (33) who sold to Kathryn Weddle in 1949.(34) Members of the Weddle family occupied the house until about 1970. Some interior changes were made, and an outdoor staircase was built on the east front of the house to enable the upper floor to be rented as a separate apartment.(35)

In 1987, Larry and Denise Huntley purchased the building.(36) They removed the external stairway and began some renovation but the house remained vacant and largely unattended for about ten years. In 2000, the building was purchased by the Stayton Telephone Company.(37) Plans to demolish the building were being made when a local preservation group, The Santiam Heritage Foundation, was organized to save the building. Transfer of ownership was accomplished in December of 2001.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 5

The following item appeared in The Portland Oregonian 8-25-1894:

A Stayton Man's Patent

C. E. Brown, of Stayton, has patented a steam motor, or pump, which is highly spoken of by the Scientific American, which describes it as "a motor designed to be worked advantageously by either steam or water, and which may readily be converted into a powerful pump." The description given shows an economic arrangement of shaft, cylinder, ring, pulleys and valves for the accumulation of the forces necessary to perform the intended functions. Mr. Brown is likely to realize handsomely upon this result of his genius and industry.

Obituary of Charles Brown as it appeared in The Stayton Mail, 9-24-1925:

Charles Enoch Brown was born in Knightstown, Indiana September 15, 1867. He died in Salem, Oregon September 15, 1925 aged 58 years.

The year following his birth the family moved to Chetops, Kansas. He came to Stayton in 1884, arriving with his parents, sister and brothers in Stayton February 22 where he resided until his death. He married Martha K. Staiger June 30, 1902. To this union three children were born, Giles, Lee, and Ruth, who with his widow survive him. He leaves one sister, Mrs. D. A. Hardin of Pleasant Hill Ore., and two brothers, J. E. of Portland and G. L. of Klamath Falls.

Mr. Brown was well known in the community, having been in the sawmill business for years. After selling his interest in the mill he operated a machine shop and garage. At the time of his death he was the proprietor of a wool batt and mattress factory. Mr. Brown was a mechanic by profession, having been particularly interested in and adapted for work of this nature from boyhood.

He was a kind husband and father.

The funeral service was held in the Stayton Baptist Church Thursday, Sept. 17, conducted by Rev. E. H. Shanks, pastor of the Salem Baptist Church.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6



CHARLES ENOCH BROWN

Coming to Stayton when a young man of twenty-seven, Charles Enoch Brown * influenced its progress along industrial lines and also left the impress of his individuality upon the cultural life of the community. He was an accomplished musician as well as an enterprising, farsighted business man, and his worth as a citizen was uniformly conceded. He was born September 15, 1857, in Knightstown, Indiana, and was a son of Leander and Martha Ann (Lowry) Brown, the latter a native of Charlotteville, North Carolina.

Leander Brown was born in the Hoosier state and for several years was associated with his brothers-in-law in the management of a tannery at Knightstown. In 1858 he took his family to Kansas and became one of the early manufacturers of Chetopa, making hardwood furniture from black oak. In 1884 he migrated to Oregon, purchasing a sawmill in Stayton, and in the same year admitted his sons, Charles E. and George L., as partners. The business was continued on that basis until 1914, when a stock company was formed. The old plant was destroyed by fire in 1896 and a modern one was erected without delay. The firm of Lee Brown & Sons owned one of the largest sawmills in Marion county and also supplied Linn and Polk counties with lumber. The father was Stayton's first mayor and one of its most progressive citizens. He advocated good roads and schools and was a leading spirit in every project for the development of the community, in which he was esteemed and honored. Mr. Brown was identified with the operation of the sawmill until his death on December 27, 1909. His wife passed away October 12, 1914. To their union were born seven children: Dora A., who is the wife of John J. Harden, of Pleasant Hill, Oregon; J. E., who lives in Portland, this state; Lulu, Virgil and Charles Enoch, all of whom are deceased; George L., of Klamath Falls, Oregon; and Rosalie, who has also passed away.

*Two errors should be noted in this paragraph: Charles Brown was born in 1867 and was 17 years of age when he moved to Stayton.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 7

Charles E. Brown received his education in the public schools of Chetopa, Kansas, and was thoroughly trained in the lumber industry. He assisted his father and brother in the task of building up the business in Stayton and was connected with the firm until 1914, when he erected a machine shop and garage in the town. He successfully conducted the shop until 1923, when he sold the machinery and turned his attention to wool carding, Stayton's first industry, which was started in the '70s. Mr. Brown installed a machine for scouring the wool and also made mattresses and batts for comforters. He prospered in the undertaking, displaying marked executive ability and keen sagacity in the direction of his affairs. He conducted the business until his death on September 15, 1925, and it has since been operated by his widow and their son, Giles M., who are constantly expanding the scope of the industry. The firm makes shipments to all of the Pacific coast cities and does custom work, wool scouring and carding for most of the western states.

Mr. Brown was married June 30, 1902, to Miss Martha K. Staiger, a native of Germany and a daughter of Jacob and Martha (Kirchener) Staiger, both of whom were born in Stuttgart. They made the voyage to the United States in 1881, locating in Seattle, Washington, and for nine years Mr. Staiger worked in the sawmills of that locality. On the expiration of that period he came to Marion county, Oregon, and purchased a fine ranch of one hundred and sixty acres near Sublimity. He remodeled the house, erected a substantial barn and made other improvements to the farm, on which he still resides. He has a large herd of dairy cattle and grain is his principal crop. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Staiger were eight children: Martha K.; Jacob; Annie; Charles, a bachelor; Lena, whose husband is Emile Jorgensen, of Astoria, Oregon; Rose, who is the wife of Albert E. Evans, of Great Falls, Montana; Frank, at home; and Lucy, who died September 17, 1926. Mr. and Mrs. Brown became the parents of three children, all of whom are natives of Stayton. Giles M., the eldest, was born January 2, 1904, and in 1923 was graduated from the local high school. He has charge of the factory at Stayton and is part owner of the business. He enjoys good music and is a skilled violinist. The younger children are: Lee M., who was born April 16, 1905, and is a senior at the University of Oregon; and Ruth M., born March 5, 1915.

Mr. Brown's family were members of the Baptist church. He was a man of domestic tastes, finding his greatest happiness in the society of his wife and children, and in 1902 built an attractive home containing nine rooms and all modern improvements. Endowed with vocal and instrumental talent, he developed it to the fullest extent, and for many years played the cornet in the Stayton band also mastering the violin. His was a nature to which all that is uplifting made strong appeal, and his admirable qualities of mind and heart won for him the high and enduring regard of all with whom he was associated.

...from Biographies of the Willamette Valley, Oregon, 1927
edition, pp. 101, 102
Photo of Charles Brown, circa 1900-1905

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Town of Stayton.

Stayton is the metropolis of the Santiam country. It has a population of nearly one thousand and is growing steadily. It has an excellent water-power and upon this are located many manufacturing industries.

For a town of this size it has excellent walks and good streets. It has good stores in all departments, the principal general merchandise store being that of Theo Gehlen.

Stayton has good schools and good church accommodations, and in the near future will have a Catholic church added to its list of churches. There are also many lodges here, and a stranger can usually find many of his fraters, thus making friends after the first day in the city.

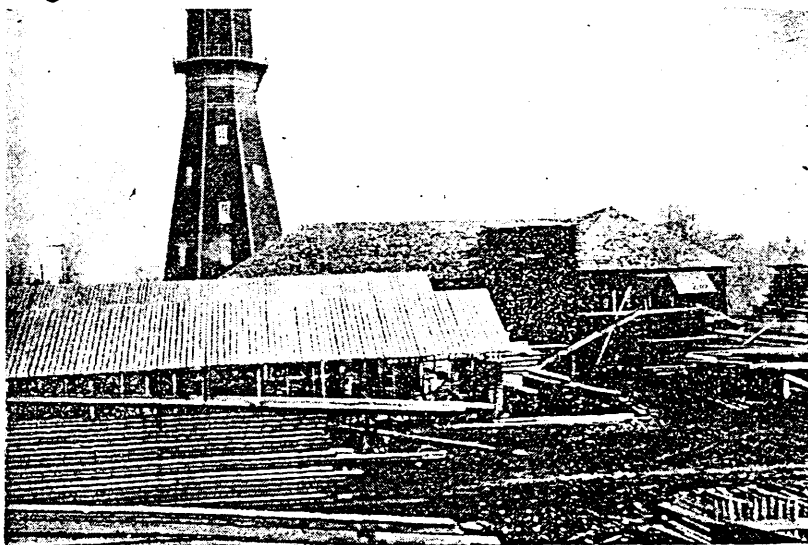
Lee Brown & Sons.

Stayton boasts of one large saw milling plant, that of Lee Brown & Sons, that is a credit not only to it but would be a credit to any town. The output of this mill the past year was nearly 2,000,000 feet of sawed lumber, and the greater portion was used in the surrounding country, thus giving a little insight to the rapid development of the country adjacent to Stayton. They use exclusively water power and have plenty of power at all times. They have recently completed a water tower

tain water. There are also many private families that are using this water supply in their homes.

The tower is 106 feet high, and a flag pole surmounts this, reaching 28 feet further into the sky. Besides all classes of rough and finished lumber they turn out mouldings and casings. A box factory has been added, and they have an annual business of about 16,000 boxes.

The firm is under the management of Geo. L. Brown, while C. E. Brown attends to the logging and the machinery department.



MILL AND LUMBER YARD OF LEE BROWN & SONS, OF STAYTON.

and tank, with a capacity of 26,000 gallons, which is used as a fire protection and a water supply to the mill and residences. The water for this tank is brought from the Santiam about four miles distant and is clear, pure, moun-

...from a feature story on Stayton printed in a 1902 edition of the Salem, Oregon Statesman.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 9

- (1) Willamette Valley Biographies 1927 edition, pp.101, 102
- (2) Ibid.
- (3) The Stayton Mail 4-23-1959 "History of Stayton Electrical Service" by Harry Rowe; also Rowe's manuscript notes in the possession of The Santiam Heritage Foundation.
- (4) Op. cit. (1)
- (5) The Stayton Mail, 6-30-1921, 9-8-1921, 8-17-1922, 6-19,1924
- (6) The Stayton Mail, 1965, Martha Brown Interview
- (7) Pioneer Woolen Mills in Oregon, Lomax, pp.103-105; also General History of Oregon, Carey, p.661
- (8) Waterways of Stayton, Lau, pp. 8, 9 Marion County Historical Society
- (9) History of Stayton, Jones, Marion County Historical Society
- (10) Statesman, 1-5-1875; also Willamette Farmer, 5-24-1875
- (11) Statesman, 9-24-1878
- (12) Stayton Mail, 1-1-1909; also Op. Cit. (1)
- (13) Stayton Mail, 4-23-1959, Lee Brown memoir
- (14) Willamette Valley Oregon Biographical Record, 1903 edition, pp. 217, 1006, 1141-2
- (15) Statesman, 5-7-1884, 6-?-1884
- (16) Op. Cit. (1)
- (17) Statesman, Stayton feature story ca. 1902
- (18) Op. Cit. (8) p. 41
- (19) Stayton Mail, 4-23-1959, Nelson Brown letter
- (20) Op. Cit. (8) pp. 13, 14, & 64
- (21) Stayton Times, 7-21-1893

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 10

- (22) Charles Brown was known to have participated (often with his brother, George) in the construction of the following surviving houses in Stayton:
- ca. 1885 265 N. 1st. Ave. "Leander Brown house"
 - 1891 835 N. 5th. Ave.
 - 1901 418 Jefferson St. "Burson house"
 - 1905 unidentified house
 - 1906 112 East Ida St. "Lloyd Brown house"
 - 1908 two unidentified cottages in W. High/W. Ida St. area
 - 1910 411 West High St. "Gehlen house" (apparently the first California style bungalow to be built in Stayton)
- (23) The Stayton Mail, 12-19-1903
- (24) Telephone interview with Ruth Brown Klein, 1-6-2002
- (25) The Stayton Mail, 3-21-1929
- (26) Ibid. 3-28-1929
- (27) Ibid. 3-27-1930
- (28) Letter, Ruth Brown Klein, 2-2-2002
- (29) Op. Cit. (27) 8-23-1934
- (30) Ibid. 7-14-1936
- (31) Ibid. 7-7-1938
- (32) On-site interviews with Bob Weddle, January, 2002
- (33) Marion County, Oregon, Office of Deeds & Records
- (34) Ibid.
- (35) Op. Cit. (32)
- (36) Op. Cit. (33)
- (37) Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

9 Major Bibliographical References

- Brown, Lee. Memoir published in The Stayton Mail. 4-23-1959
- Brown, Nelson. Letter published in The Stayton Mail. 4-23-1959
- Carey, Charles. General History of Oregon. Binford & Mort, Portland, Oregon. 1971.
- Clark, Rosiland. Architecture Oregon Style. Professional Book Center, Inc., Portland, Oregon, 1983.
- Drawson, Allan. Engineering Technician, Public Works Dept., City of Stayton, Oregon.
- Jones, M. S. History of Stayton. Marion County Historical Society, Salem, Oregon, 1955.
- Klein, Ruth Brown. Telephone interviews, 1-6-2002 & 1-27-2002 by E. Lau.
- Lau, Ernst. Santiam River Crossings. Santiam Heritage Foundation, Stayton, Oregon, 2001.
- Lau, Ernst. The Waterways of Stayton. Marion County (Oregon) Historical Society, Salem, Oregon, 2001.
- Lomax, Alfred. Pioneer Woolen Mills of Oregon. Binford & Mort, Portland, Oregon, 1941.
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. Alfred A. Knopf Inc., New York, 2000.
- The Oregonian. Portland, Oregon. 8-25-1894.
- Oregon State Gazetter and Business Directories, R. L. Polk & Co. for Stayton, Oregon. 1893, 1896, 1901-02, 1903-04, 1905, 1907-08, 1909-10, 1913, 1919-20, 1921-22, 1923-24.
- Rowe, Harry. History of Electric Service in Stayton. The Stayton Mail, 4-23-1959
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Stayton. 1913

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 2

Santiam Heritage Foundation preliminary survey of pre-1940 buildings in Stayton, Oregon.

The Statesman. Salem, Oregon. 1-5-1875, 9-24-1878, 5-7-1884, 6-?-1884, ?-?-1902.

The Stayton Mail. Stayton, Oregon. 12-19-1903, 1-1-1909, 6-30-1921, 9-8-1921, 8-17-1922, 6-19-1924, 3-21-1929, 3-27-1930, 8-23-1934, 4-23-1959, ?-?-1965.

The Stayton Times. Stayton, Oregon. 7-21-1893.

Weddle, Bob. On-site interview, 1-14-2002 by Bob Pendleton.

The Willamette Farmer, Salem, Oregon. 5-24-1875.

Willamette Valley Biographies. pp. 101, 102, 1927.

Willamette Valley Oregon Biographical Record. Chapman Publishing Co., Chicago, 1903.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is located in SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of S $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10, Township 9S, Range 1W Willamette Meridian. It is described as Lots 1 thru 5 of Block 1 of the Luttich Addition to Stayton, Oregon. Marion County Assessor's reference number 91W10CD00100 R103963.

Verbal Boundary Justification

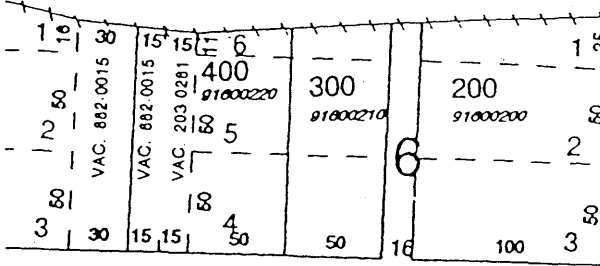
The nominated area is comprised of the full tax lot associated with the historic house built by Charles Brown in 1902. The nominated property is one-half acre encompassing the 1902 house and its associated garden, barnyard, and orchard plot. Two small structures, one of them non-contributing, now occupy part of this area.

Property Tax Lot Map
 Charles and Martha Brown House, 425 N. First Ave.
 Luttich Addition, Stayton, Oregon
 Lots 1 - 5 Block 1 Annexation No. 85-06
 Property ID: 103963 091W10CD00100

W 10CA

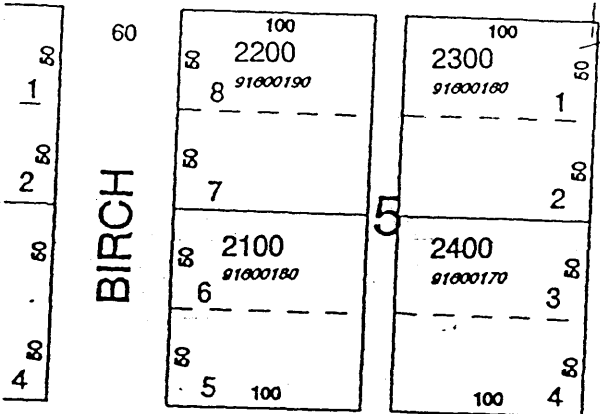


Salem Ditch



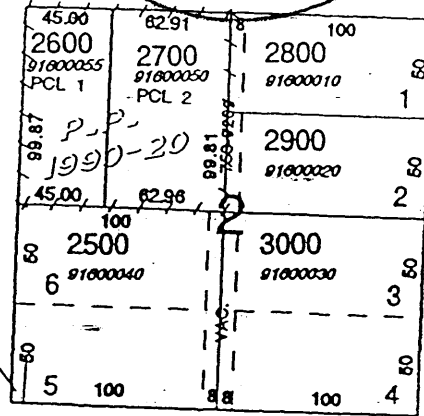
AVE

HIGH STREET



BIRCH

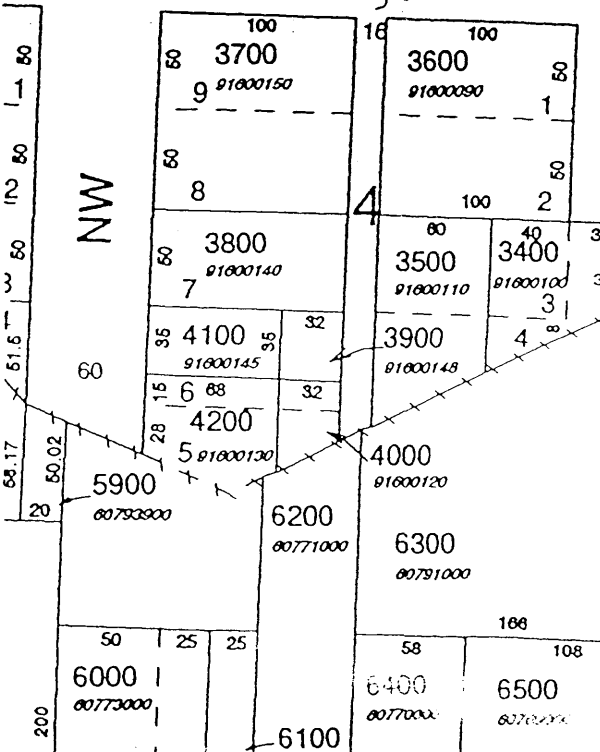
ALDER



AVENUE

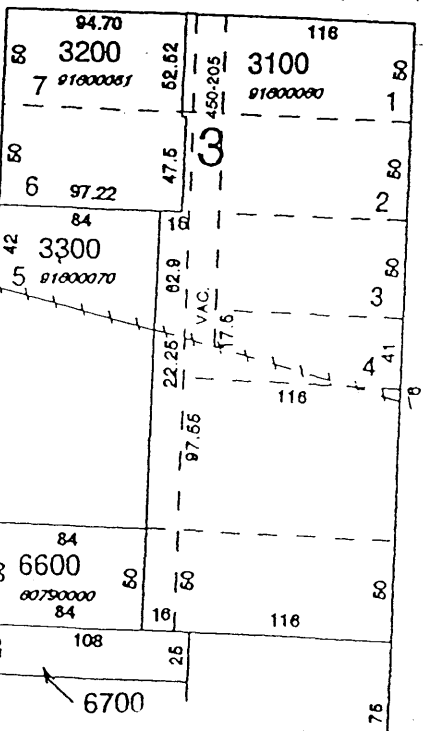
ADDITION

STREET



NW

NW

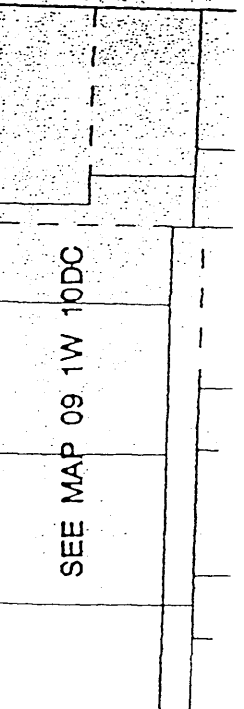
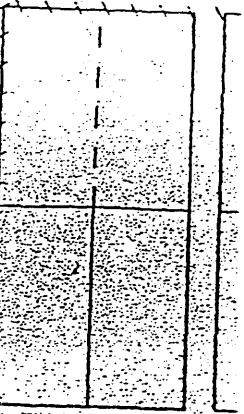
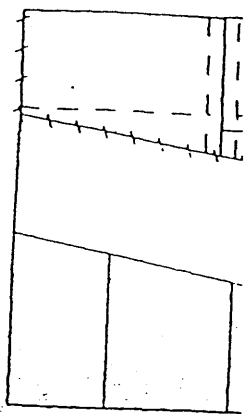


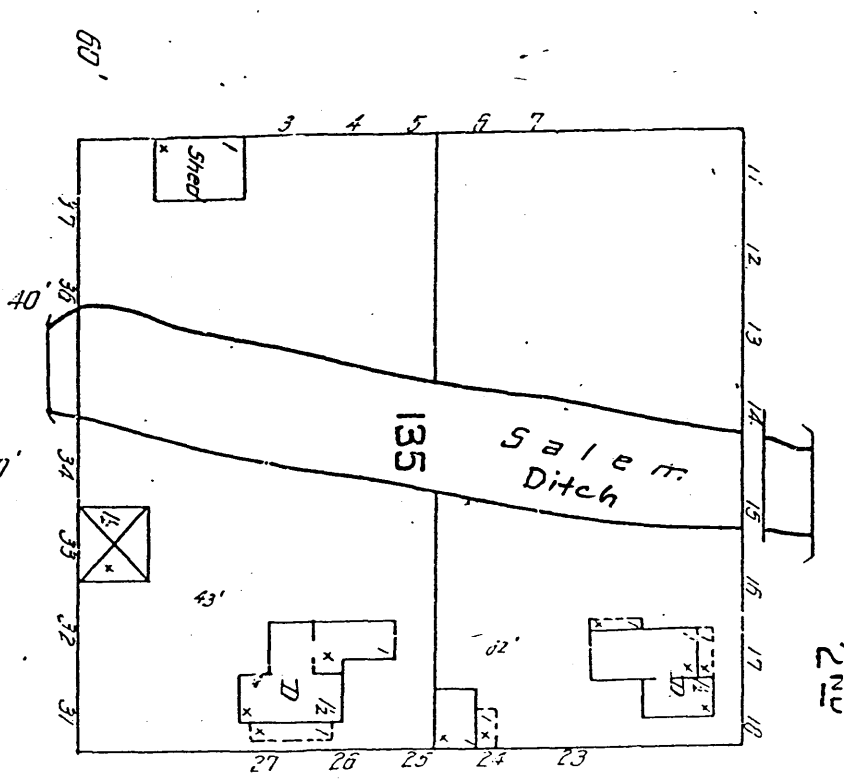
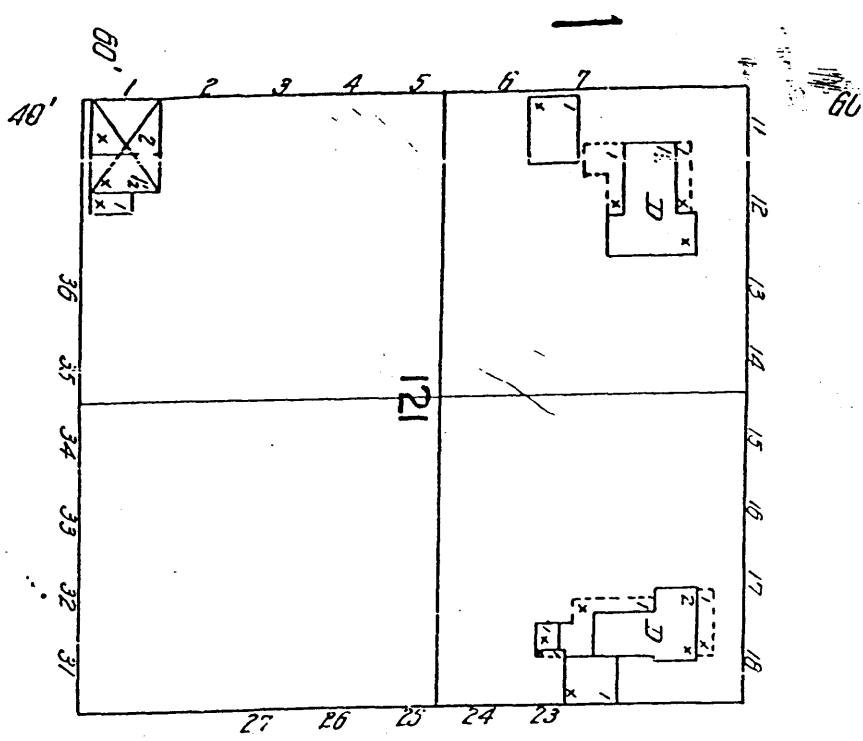
ST

SEE MAP 09 1W 10DC

IDA

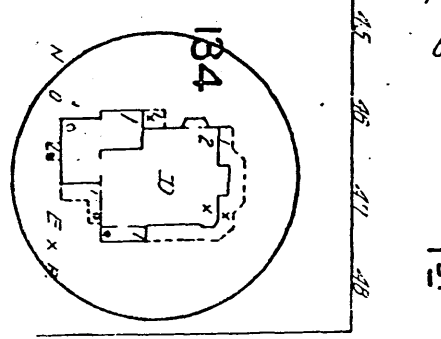
HIG





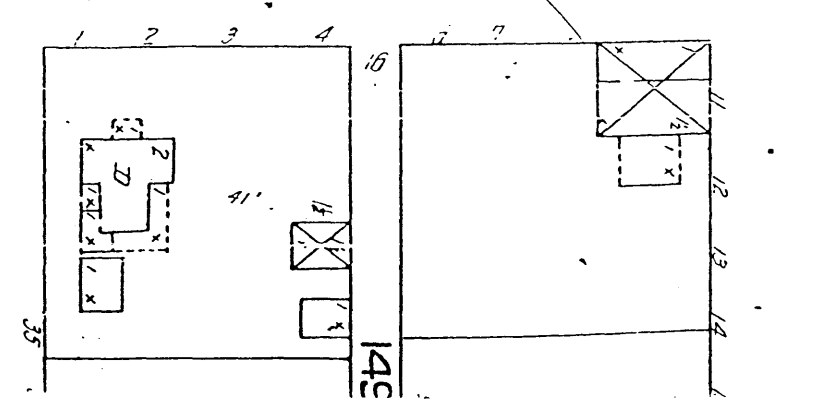
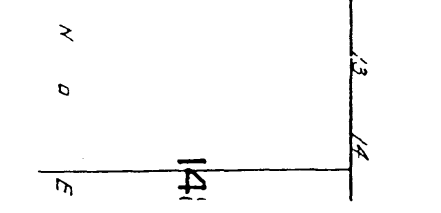
120
 Sanborn
 1913
 Copyright © 1913
 This map is a reproduction of the original map as shown on the original map. The original map is deposited in the Library of Congress.

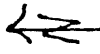
North



Charles and Martha Brown House
 Stayton, Marion County, Oregon

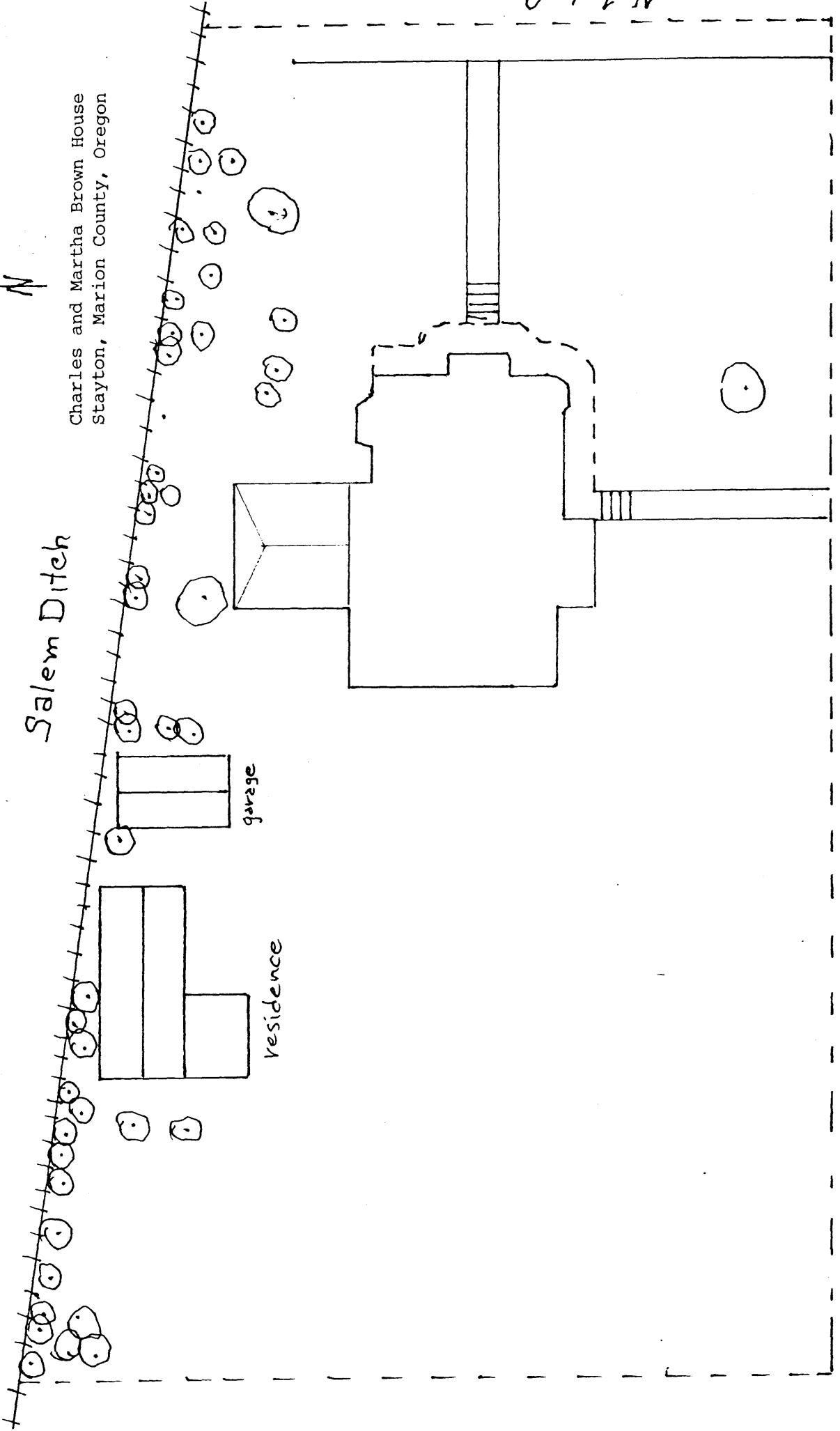
Sanborn Fire Insurance
 Map, 1913





Charles and Martha Brown House
Stayton, Marion County, Oregon

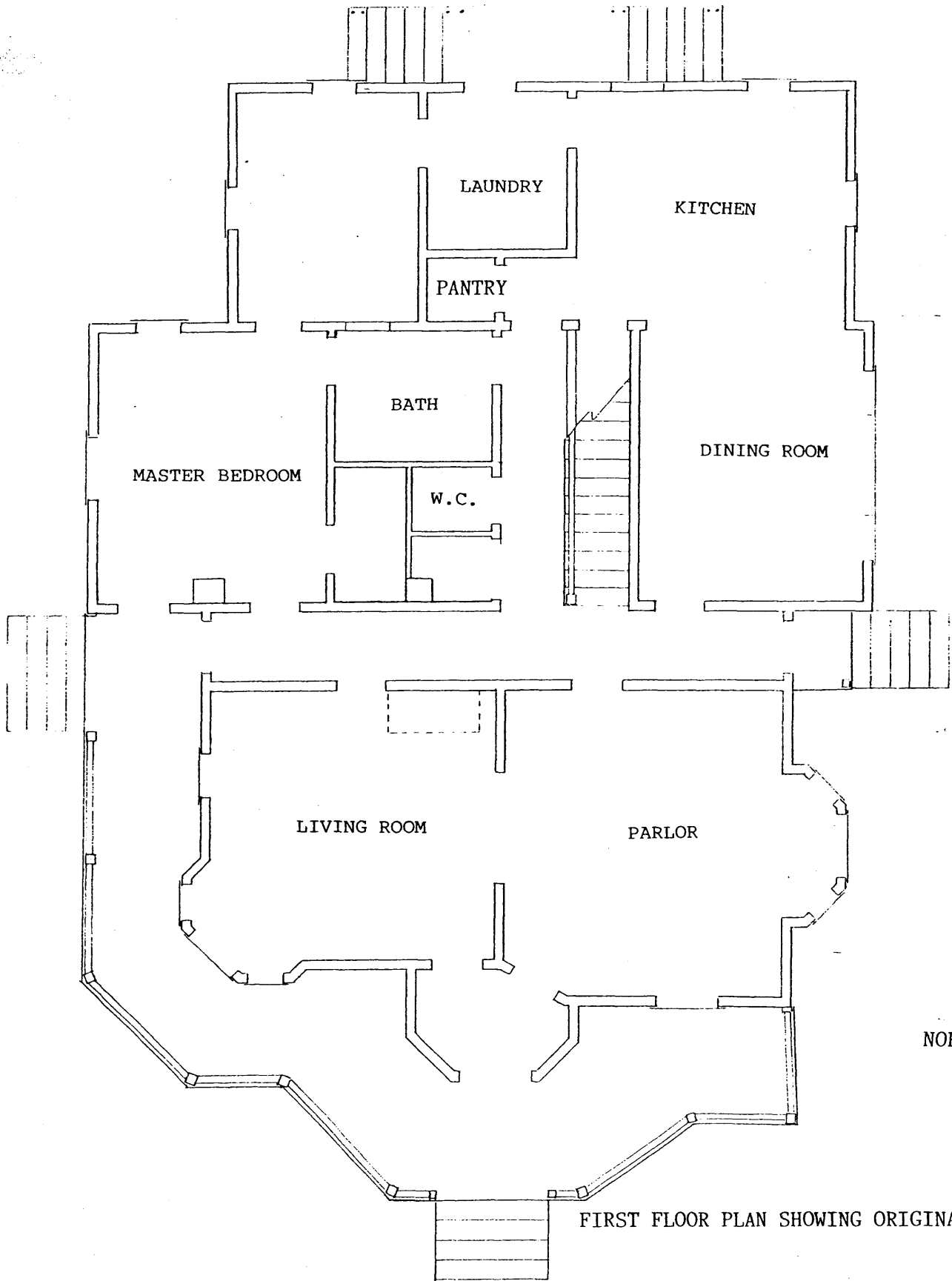
Salem Ditch




Approximate Scaled Locations

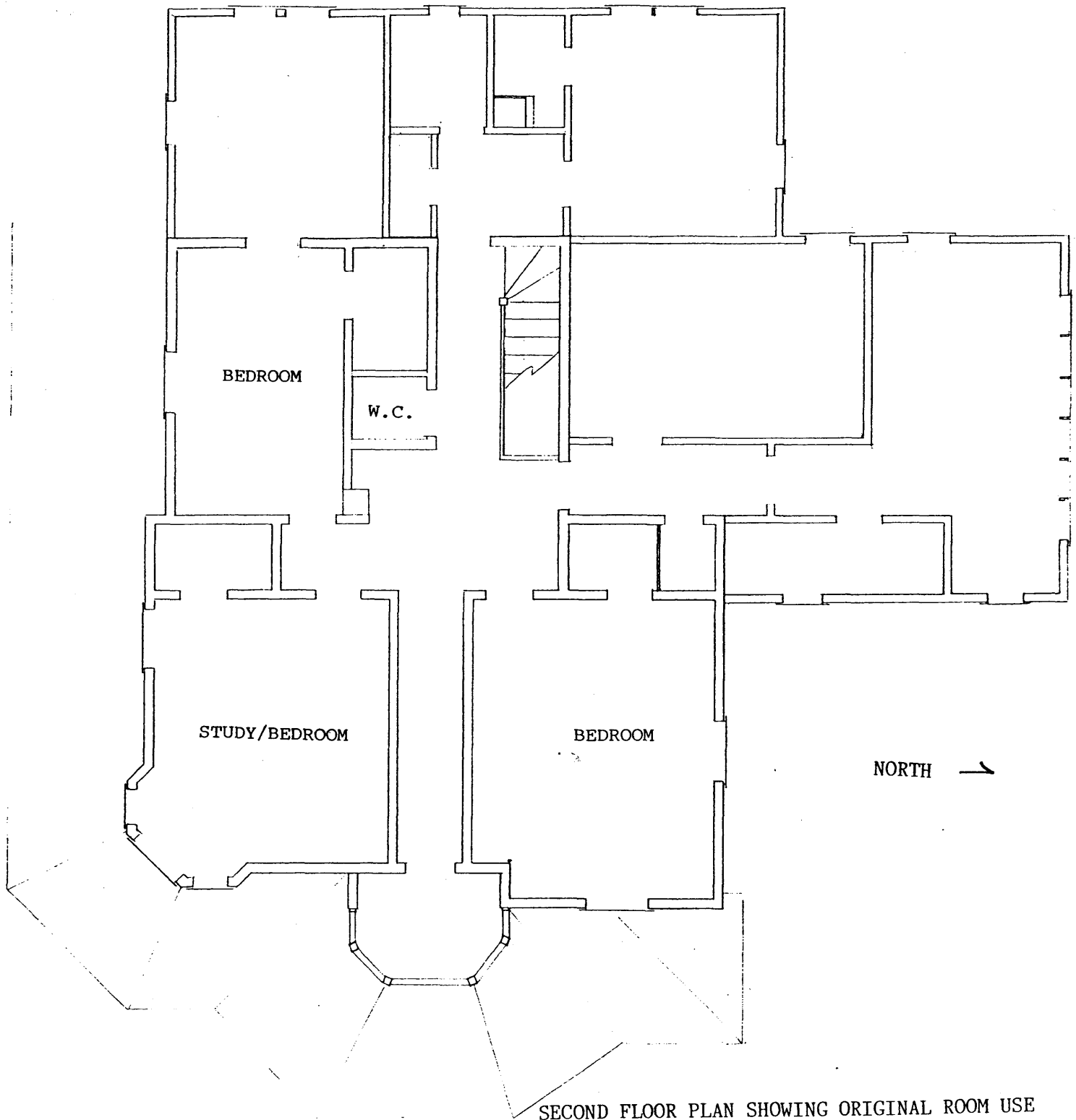
High Street

Site Plan



NORTH 

FIRST FLOOR PLAN SHOWING ORIGINAL ROOM USE



SECOND FLOOR PLAN SHOWING ORIGINAL ROOM USE

CHARLES BROWN HOUSE STAYTON OREGON	DRAWN BY GREGG OLSON 1/21/02
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Photo Identification Sheet

Charles and Martha Brown House Stayton, Marion County, Oregon

- #1 of 13 View from south-east. Photo circa 1929. Photographer unknown. Negative location: Oregon Historical Society, OH 74991#999.
- #2 of 13 East elevation. January 2002. Photographer, Ernst Lau. Santiam Heritage Foundation negative, Stayton, Oregon.
- #3 of 13 South elevation. Photo information as above.
- #4 of 13 North elevation. As above.
- #5 of 13 West elevation. As above.
- #6 of 13 Opening between living room and parlor showing north (parlor) window bay. As above.
- #7 of 13 Detail of spindled screen, ceiling molding, and gesso picture rail and door head moldings. As above.
- #8 of 13 Turned wooden chandelier rosette used in both parlor and living rooms. As above.
- #9 of 13 Stair newel and balusters. As above.
- #10 of 13 NE corner of master (1st floor) bedroom illustrating baseboard and door casing treatment. As above.
- #11 of 13 SE bay window in second floor bedroom/study. As above.
- #12 of 13 Portion of "flat rock" (basalt shale) foundation footing. As above.
- #13 of 13 Outbuildings located north-west of the main house (see site plan). Garage (right) and residence described on Section 7 continuation sheet, page 4. As above.