# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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For NPS us	se only		
received		8	1984
date ente	red <sub>NOV</sub>	1 5	5 1984

state Oregon

97132

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

# 1. Name

historic Smith, John T., House and/or common Same Location 2 street & number 414 North College Str N/Anot for publication N/A vicinity of city, town Newberg Oregon code 41 state county Yamhill code 071 -Classification 3. Status **Ownership Present Use** Category \_\_X\_ occupied \_ agriculture \_ district \_ public \_ museum \_\_\_\_\_ building(s) --<u>X</u> private \_\_\_\_ unoccupied commercial park X private residence \_ structure both work in progress educational site **Public Acquisition** Accessible entertainment .... reliaious \_ object **№/A** in process \_X\_ yes: restricted government scientific yes: unrestricted N/A being considered industrial transportation \_ no military other: **Owner of Property** 4. name Donald R. & Norma J. Bauer street & number 414 North College N/A vicinity of state Oregon 97132 city, town Newberg Location of Legal Description 5.

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Yamhill County Courthouse

street & number

5th and Evans

city, town McMinnville

# 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title	Landmark, City	of Newberg	has this property be	een determ	ined eligib	le? ye	s _Xno
date	April 2, 1984			_ federal _	state	county	_X_ local
depository for	survey records	-	ewberg Planning rst Street	Departm	ent		
city, town		Newberg			state Ore	gon 97132	

# 7. Description

Condition excellent X_ good	deteriorated	Check one unaltered X_ altered	Check one X original s moved	site date	N/A	
fair	unexposed					

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

The John T. Smith House is located at 414 N. College in the City of Newberg, Yamhill County, Oregon. Its style is typical of the Queen Anne Cottage built toward the end of the Victorian era (1850-1905). The one and one-half story frame house was built in 1904 as the third and final residence of John T. Smith and his second wife, Rebecca. The house is structurally in good shape, and with two main exceptions, retains the same external appearance as when built. It is located in an area of Newberg that included many fine homes built in the early 1900s, most of which are still present. It lies on an east-west axis, fronting on College Street which is now State Highway 219, leading north to Scholls and Hillsboro. The house was in possession of J. T. Smith and his heirs until 1947; a Algernon Paddon, veterinarian, and his heirs until 1971; and four other owners until purchased by the present owners in 1980. Nothing is known of an architect or even the builder, although it could have been Allen Smith, no relation, who built his own home across College Street a few months earlier.

Oriented to the west, the dwelling was built on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Block 5, Deskins Second Addition to the City of Newberg, Yamhill County, Oregon, which John T. Smith had purchased 10 years earlier. The only other structure on the block was one built by his daughter and son-in-law in 1898 on the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ . A privy is evident in a 1905 Sanborn Map, Exhibit 1, as well as a 1912 Sanborn Map.

As originally constructed, there was a U-shaped porch on the front and a rectangular porch at the back entrance on the north side. The outline of the porches is shown in the 1905 Sanborn Map. An unusual feature of the porches is that they are included within the basic rectangular foundation of the structure. The back porch and north exposure of the front porch have one story 1:2 pitch roofs that tie in with the 1:1 pitch of the main house roof. The west exposure of the front porch has an independent roof which tied in at right angles to the north section, while the south exposure of the front porch had no distinct roof structure of its own, but was actually a part of the main house body. The porch ceilings are of  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " x 3/4" tongue and groove fir with beveled edges creating a groove along each joint. Porch posts are turned out of 4 x 4 inch fir (?) and railings are of two 2 x 4 inches nailed in a "T". The house had a partial basement with an outside entry facing east on the southeast corner. The foundation and basement walls are made of a hollow clay tile faced on the outside with a trowel coat of sand-concrete mix. There were two or three brick or tile factories in Newberg at the turn of the century. One. the Enterprise Tile Factory was located only three blocks from the house. Another, the Newberg Pressed Brick and Terra Cotta Company, was owned by John Smith's friend and church associate Jesse Edwards. Under the porch areas was a berm confined by a 3'-4' wall of the same tile. Porch flooring consists of 3 3/4" x 3/4" tongue and groove fir with no subflooring, hence the need for a berm area in the event the ponch would leak. These are depicted by the dotted liens in the basement plan drawing, Exhibit 2. The exterior wall surrounding these areas are of 4"W x 8"H x  $11\frac{1}{2}$ "L tile. The nature of the footing is uncertain. Where the wall formed the interior of the full height basement, there was first a footing 24 inches wide formed of three courses of 6"W x 6"H x 12"L clay tile and covered with a  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " - 2" layer of concrete. The balance of the foundation wall was built on the outside edge of this footing, leaving a 17" - 18" wide bench. There were then four courses of the 6 x 6 x 12 inch tile, followed by four courses of 4"W x 18"H x  $11\frac{1}{2}$ "L tile and topped by one course of 4"W x  $3\frac{1}{2}$ "H x  $12\frac{1}{2}$ "L tile. The foundation is topped with 6 x 6 inch sill with other 6 x 6 inch beams following the inside outline of the porches and a center support beam running east-west. This central beam consists of one 25'4" length and one 12'4". Supplemental 4 x 4 inch beams run in an

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east-west axis in line with the inside porch outline. There are 6 x 6 inch posts supporting the center beam and corners of the porch perimeter. The floor is of poured concrete with a  $3\frac{1}{2}$ "W x 1"D drainage trough around the perimeter by the bench. The floor slopes from west to east with a drain by the outside entry. It is not known where it drains. There is a cistern or dry well adjacent to the east side of the house and may have been the original drain system before sewers came into being in 1923. The present day sewer line runs south to north at about the same position as the drain. It is not certain that the concrete floor is original or was added later.

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The floor joists, which run north-south are on 24" centers, are 2" x  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " semi-rough cut, and run the full width of the house, approximately 28 feet. None are spliced. Wall construction is conventional 2 x 4 inch, 16 inch on centers. Exterior siding is 3/4" x  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " clapboard with  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " channel exposed. Roof rafters are 2 x 4 inch, 16 inch on centers and basic roof exposure facing north and south. There are two gables centrally located, one each on the north and south exposures, and one gable on the east situated such that its south exposure is common with the main roof. Roof sheeting is of random widths, 6" - 10", and spaced for shingle application. Original shingles were 3/8" butt x 16" long cedar shingles. An incomplete logo found on one old shingle was:

> •••• EAZLE SHINGLE CO. UNEXCELLED PERFECTS 5/2 PORTLAND, ORE

The basement contains eight 34"W x 27"H, swing up, 3 pane windows; three on each side and one on each end. Main floor windows are generally one-over-one, double-hung sash type except for one in the parlor, one in the front hall, one where the back porch was, and two in the bathroom which are single hung sash type. Windows in the attic (upstairs) are all double-hung sash type, and most are paired.

The interior construction on the main floor is lath and plaster on walls and ceilings. Walls are 9 foot high. Flooring consists of 11" x 3/4" fir subflooring and  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3/4" tongue and groove fir flooring. Interior doors are 5 horizontal panels with black porcelain knobs and embossed face plates. The doors are believed to be of cedar. Door and window casings are of  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3/4" fir with a 1 3/4" molding nailed on the perimeter. Base boards are  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3/4" fir with 1 3/4" molding on top of that. It appears that the original finish was a varnish stain. The exterior doors, front and back, have plain rectangular windows, the front being larger, and with small square and rectangular panels. Original hardware had been replaced.

The attic remained unfinished for years with only the 11" x 3/4" subflooring. Ceiling joists (for the main floor) are 2 x 4 inch, 16 inch on centers, on a north-south axis with a second set of 2 x 4 inch, 24 inch on centers on top of these running in an east-west axis. There is some evidence that the stairway to the attic was not original as it appears to have been cut out of the attic floor at a later date. The cut ends of the east-west joists were not square or even in the exact position of the ones on either side of it. The opening in the floor thus made was never finished, only covered with a wide board. The stairs were placed in what was a closet between the two bedrooms. The closet to this day has never had any finish; it is still bare plaster.

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Wall finish was originally wallpaper. We have scraps of the original paper from one of the bedrooms.

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The house contained two chimneys of brick. One led from the basement up through the kitchen and present upstairs bathroom. A hole is still present in the kitchen where a wood range would be attached. The other chimney was framed in at the intersection of the dining room, parlor and bedroom, and although turned at 45° to the room directions, it apparently was rotated 45° before coming through the roof.

Other interesting features of the house include a "pass through" between the pantry and dining room. The dining room side of this is still present. Helen Robertson, granddaughter of J. T. Smith, remembers it being used to pass food and dishes to the dining room. It is an 18"W x 25"H opening with a door and latch. When Paddon's owned the house there was a "pie safe" in the pantry against the east wall which had screened vents on the top and bottom to the outside. This probably was original. The original bathroom had access from both the kitchen and east bedroom and it is believed to have originally contained a washbasin and tub. City water records begin with September, 1904 for this house. An old roof vent, removed during reroofing in 1983 carries a patent date of 1910 so some of the plumbing had to be installed after that. The presence of a privy in the Sanborn maps also suggests no indoor water closet in the beginning.

A variety of structural changes have been made over the years and there are two which have changed the house from its original appearance as mentioned in the introduction. The first was the removal of the south portion of the front porch. We were unable to determine when this was done but do know that it was prior to 1929 since a photo taken then shows the porch as it is today. We believe it was an early remodeling job, done between 1910 and 1929. The original 2" x  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " floor joists extended only between the two inside porch perimeters. Joists for the porch flooring are of 2 x 6 inch or 1 5/8" x  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " running the length of the porch direction and flooring nailed perpendicular to this. Where the porch was removed, the floor joists were extended to the southewall with 1 5/8" x  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " instead of the 2 x  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ". However, 11 inch subflooring was used, although it looks a bit smoother than the original (the basement is unfinished). The south wall of the parlor was moved out to parallel the rest of the house. All joints in the siding are covered by a batten board at this point. Also joints in the soffits and facia boards are visible. The front windows would have been completely revised or simply moved as a group to the south. There are four together, the two outer ones being 24 inches wide, the two inner ones, 30 inches wide. They are 57 inches in height whereas other windows are 65 inches. Casing and sill are complete, not spliced. The windows extend south beyond where the corner would have been. There is an obvious splice and texture difference in the ceiling and wall of the parlor where the extension was made. The plasterer did not have the skill of the original one. We believe that the gable over the front steps was added at that time. The 1983 roofers reported seeing old roofing under it and in one early photo of Newberg where the house is partially visible, this gable was not there, nor was the clipped gable above the west upper window.

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The other exterior change to the house was done in 1978 when the owners, Layne and Cheryl Witherall, added a heatilator fireplace on the south wall of the parlor. The metal chimney was enclosed in a wood framed box using the ever popular T-111 plywood siding. One of the basement windows had to be removed to accommodate this addition. We have since covered it with matching clapboard so it doesn't look out of character.

We cannot be certain that the back porch was originally rectangular. The floor joists extend to the outside wall here instead of stopping at the inside. We do know there was a berm under this area. So it is possible the area under the single story roof as it exists today was both porch and pantry. It seems probable that basement stairs were added from the pantry at a later time, especially because their location would have made the use of the pass-trhough difficult. One of the floor joists had to be cut out for this. According to John Paddon, son of Algernon Paddon, the stairs descended to the west, next to the north wall, for 2 or 3 steps to a landing, then to the south. They were very narrow.

The addition of the stairs to the attic would have been a later addition, but the date is unknown.

The addition of a water closet in the bathroom probably occurred after 1910 as previously mentioned. The fact that John T. Smith's widow married a contractor (Allen Smith) in 1923 might suggest that he could have done some of these undated changes.

At some point in time, the house was serviced by Portland Gas and Coke Company. When we had gas installed in 1980, the Northwest Natural Gas crews found the old service line to the house as well as the old cover to the turn off valve (we have the cover). John Paddon says there was no gas when they moved in in 1947.

A one car garage was built after 1929. Frank Cole who lived in the house in 1929, and who provided the picture, said there was no garage. John Paddon remembers it was old when they moved in. It was torn down in 1977 by Duan Spilde but can be seen in the 1974 assessor's photo.

A Portland Iron Works wood furnace was in the house when Paddons moved in. They replaced it with an oil furnace in 1948 or 1949.

Dr. Paddon bought the house because of the outside entry to the basement which he wished to use for his veterinary practice. He needed more room; however, so gained space by removing the berms under the porches and the walls around them. John Paddon remembers digging the dirt and carrying it all out by wheelbarrow. He was a high school student then. So in those three areas, new floor, drainage trough, and bench were poured of concrete. They used a 2 x 4 inch on edge to form the drainage trough. They formed a ramp leading up from the basement door. All this was done in 1948. Dr. Paddon also had the house reroofed with composition shingles in 1948. This meant the original cedar shingles were 44 years old. When we reroofed the house with cedar shingles in 1983, we removed and saved some of the original shingles.

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John said the kitchen was an abomination and his mother always wanted to have a new one but it was never done. It had a hang-on-the-wall type of sink by the back door, a work table under the windows, electric stove, refrigerator and very little cupboard space.

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Gary and Shirley Powers bought the house from the Paddon heirs in 1971 and lived here for three years but did very little other than paint the exterior. They sold the house in 1974 to Clifford and Iris Brown. He did a number of revisions to the house. One was to remodel the kitchen which included: closing off the door to the bathroom, moving the sink to the south wall, closing off the basement stairs, removing the pantry partition and pie safe, new ceiling light fixtures, new linoleum on the floor and birch veneer cabinets. Most, if not all, the lath and plaster walls in the kitchen were replaced with, or covered by gypsum board. The ceiling is still lath and plaster. The chimney was also covered with dry wall. He closed the doorway to the closet from the west bedroom and opened it into the east bedroom. Then he cut through the floor and made a stairway to the basement. He made a 2 x 5 foot closet in the west bedroom. Brown also rewired the house, replacing the knob and tube wiring, and adding a 200 amp circuit breaker box. He began a project to finish the attic into suitable living quarters, but only framed in the Master (west) bedroom. He also installed wall to wall carpeting in the parlor, dining room, the two bedrooms and the stairway upstairs. An oak parquet overlay was placed in the front hall.

Brown's sold the house in 1977 to Duan Spilde who had possession of it for only nine months. He remodeled the bathroom on the main floor by removing all fixtures, put in new underlayment and linoleum, new tub, new water closet and new wash basin with cabinets. The old, claw foot tub was left outside.

Spilde sold the house in December, 1977 to Layne and Cheryl Witherall. Their contribution to the house was to complete the framing and finishing of the attic. This included a 3 inch fiberglass batting insulation between rafters, 2 x 3 inch and 2 x 4 inch stud framing, drywall covering, mahogany veneer hollow core doors, laminated door jambs, casings and base moldings, and wall to wall carpeting. Walls were painted. A bathroom was installed which included the old claw foot tub, a new water closet and a small vanity and washbasin. Around the stair opening instead of installing a balustrade, they built a 2 x 4 inch framed and dry wall covered 4 foot high parition. They also added the fireplace as discussed one day by spray painting everything dark gray, and with no surface preparation whatever. Basement windows were all painted over, glass included. Window and door trim were then painted white.

Witherall's sold the house to the present owners and applicants of this nomination, Donald and Norma Bauer, in June, 1980. It was always our dream to own an old house so we determined to upgrade and renovate as much as possible while retaining and restoring its Victorian character. The amount of work has required many hours of our own work as well as that of contractors. The conditions we found and the corrections made, with dates are as follows:

July, 1980: The kitchen was not to our liking with the sink against the inside wall and ineffective corner cabinets. Improvements included: relocation of sink to north window, replaced it with stainless sink,

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added dishwasher, new electric range, range hood and fan, custom built new oak cabinets, associated plumbing and wiring changes, and Z brick wainscoating.

August and September, 1980: The State Department of Veterans Affairs, who carry the mortgage, required additional attic insulation and weather-stripping. This was done. They also loaned money for additional weatherization so storm windows were installed all around. These windows are very discrete and do not affect the visual appearance or character of the building.

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October, 1980: The 30+ year old oil furnace was replaced with a gas furnace.

October, 1980: Smoke detectors were installed on each floor.

November, 1980: Leaking plumbing in the basement and an old sink and cabinet needed to be replaced. The hot and cold water pipes were replaced with copper to the kitchen, bathroom and laundry facilities (in the basement). The sink and cabinet unit from the kitchen replaced the basement unit. We added lines to provide new hose bibs to south and west sides.

January, 1981: The basement flooded from excessive rains and plugged drain during Christmas. A sump pump was installed adjacent to the east door. To collect downspout water, a 3 inch PVC pipe line was run around the house and out to the street.

January, 1981: The electric water heater sprang a leak. It was replaced with a gas water heater.

April, May, June, 1981: Landscaping was non-existent. Most plants and shrubs, if any, were in the wrong place. Our son, Jonathan Bauer, a landscape designer, drafted a plan and we began the work. This involved removing a cypress tree which was too close to front porch, removing the sidewalk on the north side that was too close to the house, adding a gravel walk on east, north and west side, relocating shrubs, removing grass on south side, planting blueberries, potentilla, magnolia and rhododendrons. A flower bed was added to the east side of house.

May, 1981: Excess heat upstairs made sleeping uncomfortable. We installed soffit vents on north, south and west side.

August, 1981: The front and back steps were deteriorating, and there was dry rot on the porches and some sill sections. We replaced the rotted sills, porch boards, supports, etc., and built new steps front and back with pressure treated lumber.

November, 1981: Iron railings were added to the front and back steps.

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April, 1982: The closet in the master bedroom upstairs was too narrow. We took it out, built a walk-in closet, and made some wiring changes.

April, 1982: Four roof vents were added to help alleviate the heat upstairs.

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July, 1980 through 1981: The main floor rooms (except kitchen and bathroom) had 3-4 layers of wallpaper and were painted over several times more. All interior woodwork has been painted many times. Presently, the woodwork is white in color. We wallpapered the parlor, dining room, bedroom and den downstairs, plus a sewing room upstairs in the first year and a half that we lived in the house.

June, 1982: We found that the water pressure was too low. We also found the neighbor's water meter in our yard and the water line passed under the proposed carport location. The city disconnected service from the 1 inch line on College, re-connected the service to a 6 inch line on Franklin, and rerouted the neighbor's line on to their own property.

July, 1982: After applying for and receiving a variance from the City; a carport was built. It was designed by Jonathan Bauer, our son. The design of the carport matches the design and architecture of the house.

August, 1982: The mortar in the bricks at the top of the chimney was crumbling. The chimney was taken down to the roof line and rebuilt to match the old one.

November, 1982-April, 1983: We wallpapered the master bedroom, the north bedroom, and hallway upstairs; repainted the upstairs bathroom; replaced the hollow core doors with 5 panel doors including black porcelain knob hardware; and replaced narrow woodwork with period style materials. The woodwork has yet to be finished and will be stained and varnished to match the period of the house. The sink and cabinet in the bathroom was removed and a pedstal sink was installed.

August, 1983: The exterior paint job was peeling badly. Microscopic examination of paint chips revealed eight layers on the siding and seven layers on the trim. The house was cleaned, scraped and painted by a contractor, using Wedgewood blue with white trim. A brick red accent color will be added.

September, 1983: The 35 year old composition shingles were badly deteriorating, brittle and leaking. Together with the original 44 year old cedar shingles they would be a poor base for another layer of shingles. The old shingles were stripped from the roof and replaced with old growth red cedar, 5/8" butt by 18" singles, 7 inches to the weather. Copper wire was tacked to both sides of all ridges as moss deterrent. New painted aluminium was used for flashing and valleys.

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Winter, 1983:	Wen	replaced	the 2	x 4 i	inch f	raming	and	drvwall	around	the
						<u> </u>		•		
upstairs sta	rway (	opening w	nth Ne	well	posts	, ballu	ister	s and ha	andraıl.	

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Further renovation projects include: stripping all doors and main floor woodwork and going back to a stain and varnish finish; and repointing foundation brick as the mortar is deteriorataing badly and allows ground water leakage into the basement during periods of excessive rains.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Ge	eograph	ical Data			_
Acreage of non	ninated property	less than one			
Quadrangle na	me Newberg,	Oregon	· · · · ·	Quadran	gle scale <u>1:24000</u>
UT M Reference					
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of the we	est one-half	of Lot 3, and t	he north 80 fe	et of Lots 4 a	pies the north 80 fee nd 5, all in Block 5, mhill County, Oregon.
List all states	s and counties	for properties over	lapping state or o	county boundaries	5
state	None	code	county	·	code
state	None	code	county		code
11. Fo	rm Prep	ared By			
		Norma Bauer, w	ith assistance	of	
name/title		orhead, Plannin			· · · ·
organization	Planning D	ept./City of Ne	wberg	date March 1	4, 1984
street & numbe	r 414 E. Fir	st Street		telephone (503)	538-9421
city or town	Newberg			state Oregon	97132
12. Sta	ate Hist	oric Pres	ervation	Officer C	ertification
The evaluated s	significance of thi	s property within the	state is:	$\backslash$	
- 	national	state			
665), I hereby n	ominate this prop	Preservation Officer perty for inclusion in t cedures set forth by t	the National Registe	er and certify that it h	ct of 1966 (Public Law 89– nas been evaluated
State Historic P	Preservation Offic	er signature	V WWW	W/11-	
itle	Deputy	State Historic	Preservation	Officer date	September 25, 1984
For NPS use			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	•	operty is included in t	the National Registe	r	
In Al	eloresto	L ) E	ntered in the ational Regist		11-15-54
Keeper of th	ne National Regis				
Attest:				date	
Chief of Rec	aistration				

# 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications	community planning     conservation     economics     education     engineering     exploration/settlement	Iandscape architectur Iaw Iiterature Military music philosophy X politics/government	<pre> science  sculpture  social/ humanitarian  theater  transportation</pre>
Specific dates	1904		nown	other (specify)

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The John T. Smith House, located at 414 North College Street in Newberg, Yamhill County, Oregon, was constructed in 1904 as a modest T-shaped vernacular style farmhouse. Subsequent early alterations lent elements of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles to the front elevation. The simplicity of the design reflects the conservative Quaker background of its original owner John T. Smith. His associations as a prominent Quaker and Newberg businessman are embodied in the house, which served as his retirement residence until his death in 1915. The property thus meets Criterion "b."

#### Historical Background

John T. Smith was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on January 3, 1843. He was orphaned when young, and taken to Iowa where he grew to manhood. On September 20, 1866, he was united in marriage to Sarah E. Vernon who was born in Chesterfield, Ohio, December 15, 1843, of parents Jesse and Pachance Vernon. She was a member of the Friends Church by birth. John received his membership by request at Honey Creek, Harden County, Iowa. (Three methods of belonging to the Friends Church are by birth, by request and by transfer.) John, Sarah and their adopted daughter Lillie, came to Oregon, arriving December 1, 1876. They came by way of San Francisco according to an item in the November November 12, 1912 Newberg Graphic, which contained a report of the Friends Quarterly Event celebration. The article stated, "J. T. Smith, who came here from Iowa in 1876, told of their experiences on the ocean trip up from San Francisco, and how they tried every remedy named for the prevention of sea sickness, without avail."

On January 18, 1877, J. T. & S. E. Smith purchased 45 acres from J. J. and Sarah A. Haynes for 500 gold dollars. This land was situated east of present day Villa Road and north of Highway 99W. It was adjacent to the eastern border of the Daniel D. Deskins Donation Land Claim. It apparently had an existing house on it in which they lived until a new house was built and occupied in the autumn of 1878. It was the old house which John provided as a meeting place for the Friends. Copied from the minutes of the Honey Creek Quarterly Meeting of Friends held in Harden County, Iowa (John's home) on the 6th of the 4th month, (sic) 1878 -- "Having outgrown the homes of members, the Friends began to meet in a building owned by J. T. Smith, described as 'a shack about 15 x 20 feet in dimensions, so low that a tall man could not stand upright in it, with a rock built fireplace and chimney of sticks and mud."

Shortly thereafter, subscriptions were taken to finance a permanent building. Some difficulty was experienced in raising the money at first, but in the summer of 1880, a house 32 x 48 feet was enclosed, the first Friends meeting house in Oregon country. Another item broadens this to be the first Friends Revival meeting ever held West of the Rockies. John and Sarah were two of the 29 Charter members of Newberg Friends Church. 1.11

On June 25, 1878, John purchased 3.11 acres from David and Irene Everest for \$39. It is not known what he intended to do with it but it is the second of ten properties that he purchased, the property of this nomination being the last. The property was of

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commercial value since it was located adjacent to Dayton Road, First Street and Blaine Street in the heart of present day downtown Newberg. He sold it in 1910, together with a Mr. Hobson and Mr. Woodward to Alfred O. Mills for \$200. The <u>Graphic</u>, which was edited by Mr. Woodward, reported the sale as by the "Friends Church to Alfred Mills," so John may have donated the property to the church. Perhaps they had considered building there.

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There is a discrepancy in the whereabouts of the Smiths in 1880. The "Quarter Century Event: in the 1912 Graphic contained the following: "Mrs. N. L. Wiley, daughter of Dr. Jessup, came in August 1880 with the family, and all lived in the house with the J. T. Smith's for some time. 'We were a little crowded but never enjoyed life more.'" The same article indicates John was a member of the building committee that had charge of the erection of the first church building; however, the 1880 census lists him with wife Sarah E. and daughter Lilly C. as family member 17 in Dayton Village. His occupation was listed as "Farmer." The year 1880 would be the year the Friends Cemetery was laid out by J. T. Smith and others.

Whatever John did in the early years may never be known but one of his first known ventures was a general store. On January 12, 1883, J. T. Smith and Sindley M. Haworth purchased Lot 1, Block 3, Town of Newberg from Jesse and Mary E. K. Edwards for \$75. (Jesse Edwards is considered the founder of Newberg). On December 31, 1883, John bought out Haworth's interest in the property for \$300. From the price increase, it is assumed that a building was erected on the property. This property is on the SW corner of Center and First Streets. The store is mentioned by C. J. Edwards in the <u>Newberg Graphic 50th Anniversary Edition</u> (April, 1939); "J. J. Smith;s (sic) general store was located in the west side of Center Street facing the Portland road, or First Street." This store was one of his longest ventures. He advertised in the first issue of the <u>Newberg Graphic</u>: December 1, 1888.

Not only was J. T. Smith a merchant but his wife Sarah had a millinery business according to their granddaughter. The January 26, 1889 Graphic reported remodeling the J. T. Smith's store to make a room to be used as a millinery and dressmaking shop, by Mrs. S. E. Smith and Mrs. S. J. Hoskins. Their first ad appeared in the March 23, 1889 Graphic. Mrs. Hoskins also sold green house plants from her house or from the store. (Graphic, May 18, 1889). Both women won awards for plants in the Newberg Fair, September, 1890. The November 21, 1890 Graphic reported; "Mrs. Sade Smith don't propose to have her plants nipped by the frost this winter. She is having a nice greenhouse built." This building is shown on the 1892 Sanborn Map. Mrs. Hoskins apparently dropped out of the partnership as an October 10, 1890 ad mentions only Mrs. S. E. Smith. In July, 1890, J. T. announced that he had sold  $\frac{1}{2}$  interest in his stock of merchandise and wished people to settle their accounts. He appeared to have made a deal with Morris, Miles and Co. for them to handle the dry goods, boots and shoes, while he would handle groceries, Queensware, glassware, etc. This arrangement didn't last long as in February, 1891 both firms were back to handling generalemerchandise. Smithebegan to refer to his store as the "Old Reliable". "S ade," as Sarah was called, continued her ads and promotions. A new ad appeared on June 5, 1891. The Graphic carried plugs for various businesses in the "Local News" columns. On May 8, 1891, is a typical example; "Mrs. Sade smith says she is having an exceptionally good trade in millinery goods this spring. She informs our readers this week that she is still in business and ready to wait on her old customers who are in need of millinery goods."

Continuation sheet

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JOHN T. SMITH HOUSE

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



In July of 1891, J. T. Smith bought a 34 foot frontage in the corner of First and Meridian Streets where he and A. M. Hoskins erected a two story brick building. The building was to be owned by Mr. Hoskins and J. T. would occupy the lower floor, according to the July 17, 1891 <u>Graphic</u>. However, deed records show that J. T. sold one-half his interest in the property and building to Hoskins in November, 1891. Its location is shown in the 1892 Sanborn Map. This building is still in use today. The October 23, 1891 <u>Graphic</u> reported "J. T. Smith moved to his new quarters in the Hoskins brick yesterday. If you want to get the most for your money and get it from one of the finest appointed rooms in Yamhill, call on J. T." John's wife Sarah moved her millinery business into the building as well. In March of 1892, she took in a Miss Lillian Haworth as partner and called their shop "The Unique." The store building on First and Center Streets was sold to Lillian M. Haworth in June, 1892. The <u>Graphic</u> had indicated on March 25, 1892: "J. T. Smith has sold ½ his interest in his general store to Spencer Haworth. They will open next week with a new stock of goods. Don't fail to see them." The connections appear somewhat fuzzy between the Haworth's and Smith's. Haworths may have been brother and sister since she's referred to as "Miss." In October, 1892, the <u>Graphic</u> reported that J. T. and Mrs. Smith had been to the city to stock up on winter goods.

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It appears that Sarah became ill and could no longer handle the business. In the "Local Events" column of the December 16, 1892 <u>Graphic</u> was this request: "All who are indebted to the Unique are requested to call and settle before January 1." In another spot of the same issue was "Call the Unique for bargains in millinery good." On January 27, 1893, it said "Great reduction of millinery goods at the Unique." By February 3, the Unique ads were gone. Sarah Smith died on March 20, 1893. Her obituary, reflects on the kind of people Smiths were. For the balance of 1893, the local events column of the <u>Graphic</u> carried this item: "Sea-moss and Oregon Coast bouquets made by Delphina Ellis, the invalid, for sale at J. T. Smith store."

John seemed to have left the store business in early 1894 as the following ad appeared in the January 12, 19 and 26 <u>Graphic</u>: "Notice -- all those knowing themselves indebted to me will please call and settle, as I wish to close up my books. J. T. Smith." The death of Sarah obviously influenced this decision.

Going back a few years, we find John making his third property purchase, again from Jesse and Mary Edwards, for \$300. This was the entire Block 16 and Lot 2, Block 3 of Edwards Addition, on January 8,1887. Lot 2, Block 3 was adjacent (south) to the lot the store was on, but picked up four years later. Block 16 is the property bounded by Center, River, Third and Fourth Streets. Helen Robertson says he lived in a house on the corner of Third and River, which is now Zion Lutheran Church property. There is an old barn type building still on the property adjacent to the church. This would have been his. The 1892 Sanborn Map shows the house and barn. His Villa Road property was sold to George W. Mitchell in June, 1888 for \$2900, a goodly sum in those days. The December 8, 1888 Graphic reported that J. T. had bought 3 lots in Edwards Addition and would move a residence attached to his store (on First and Center) to the lots and fix it up to rent. The <u>Graphic</u> also reported that he sold this property to a Joseph Wilson in August, 1889. We were unable to locate these transactions in the deed records. One wonders if they lived there for a time. It has not been established if there was a house on the River

started publication (Dec. 1888).

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheetJOHN T. SMITH HOUSEItem number8Page4Street property when he bought it, or if he had one built. Since the Graphic always<br/>managed to report such important things, the house must have been there before they

John T. Smith's activities in the community were widespread. Obituaries of both Sarah and J. T. commented on the shelter and encouragement given to orphan's. Being an orphan himself obviously influenced his interest in these children. He was the Notary Public in documents dating from July 11, 1885 through July 5, 1889 in the historical records of Publishers Paper Co., formerly Spaulding Logging Co. His early display ads in the Graphic also indicated this role.

John was Treasurer of "The Chehalem Valley Board of Immigration," which advertised in the first and subsequent issues of the <u>Graphic</u>. This incorporated body seemed to perform as a Chamber of Commerce. He became Newberg's first City Recorder on April 8, 1889, and as such, administered the oath of office to the other original city officials. He held this position until January 14, 1890. From 1893 to 1898, he was on the Board of Managers of Pacific College, the Friends College which was formed in September, 1891. Other civic activities included City Council -- Election Board Standing Committee in February, 1895, and second ward clerk in December, 1895.

When John left the store business, he returned to farming. In February, 1893, he purchased 2 large lots in Rural Home No. 2 subdivision for \$1200 from E. H. and Amanda Woodward (<u>Graphic</u> Editor and friend). The <u>Graphic</u> reported that "J. T. Smith is now the owner of 10 (later corrected to 5) acres of the Woodward land northwest of town. He is preparing to set it in fruit and has decided on cherries and apples." The <u>Graphic</u> also reported him working on this in May, 1895. Nothing further was found regarding this venture and we did not yet find in the deed records when he sold the property.

About this time, a young Quaker lady entered into John's life. She was Rebecca Webb Hinchman, a professor of History, German and English at Pacific College from 1891-1896. She was born on May 28, 1863 in Sugar Creek, Iowa, daughter of Dr. Barclay and Louisa Cox Hinchman. Rebbie, as she was called, was mentioned occasionally in the newspaper such as being a delegate to the State YWCA convention in Forest Grove in April, 1893. However, on June 18, 1896, John and Rebbie surprised many friends at a "reception" for Pacific College Faculty at his home by informing the guests that they were really there to attend a marriage ceremony. Whereupon President Thomas Newlin united John and Rebbie in holy matrimony.

The ensuing years saw a variety of changes in their activities. Rebbie stopped teaching at Pacific College following their marriage. She did some substitute teaching there and in the fall of 1898, began teaching in the public school. In August, 1897, John went to work as bookkeeper for C. K. Spaulding Logging Co. He appeared on a jury list for 1898. By October of 1898, he was assisting in the store of Morris Mercantile (his former competitor). Evidently storekeeping was in his blood as in the April 14, 1899 <u>Graphic</u> we find the following: "J. T. Smith is opening up a stock of ladies and children's goods in the room adjoining Hoskins bicycle shop. Mr. Smith is an old hand at handling goodsand the <u>Graphic</u> hopes to see him build up a profitable trade." Rebbie was rehired to teach in the public school for 1899-1900. (Each teacher got \$5 a month raise).

Continuation sheet JOHN T. SMITH HOUSE

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Also in April, 1899, J. T.'s name appeared as clerk of School District No. 29 in advertisements for bid of wood and other things. The new store venture must not have panned out as John was once again at work for Charles K. Spaulding Logging Co. in June, 1899, this time "up the river." Later, in August, this was revealed to be at Berry, on the headwaters of the Santiam River where he was looking after getting supplies for Spaulding's logging crews. Mrs. Smith spent one month with him during the summer vacation. He continued this job through the school year and Rebbie spent the summer of 1900 with him again at the logging camp. Perhaps he tired of this work, or, more realistically, Rebbie didn't like living alone, but in September, 1900, he started working as a clerk in the Post Office. He stayed in this job until January, 1902. The couple continued their normal small town life, taking people in, visiting friends, going to Portland once in awhile, club activities, etc. It was during this time, in March, 1902, that a young McMinnville reporter observed that Newberg should have a place at the World's Fair as being noted for its handsome men and fat women. Since the town was dry, the women didn't have to worry about their men straying to the local tavern.  $\neg$ 

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In January, 1903, John once again accepted a position with Charles K. Spaulding Logging Company, this time as pay and quartermaster at a logging camp near Peedee on the Luckiamute River. Rebbie accompanied him in this venture. In September, 1903, they rented their house to Rev. Thomas Armstrong who had assumed duties as Pastor of the Newberg Friends Church. The Graphic usually reported their visits when either or both of them came to town. In March, 1904, John advertised - "Milch cow for sale. Apply to J. T. Smith--corner Third and River." This lends support to the idea that the building on the lot at Fourth and River would have been his barn. In July, 1904, John gave up his work as quartermaster of the logging camp and he and Mrs. Smith returned to town. In August of 1904, he sold his home property (lots 1, 2, 3, Block 16, Newberg) to a J. W. Coffin of Dayton and prepared to build a new home, which finally brings us to the object of this nomination.

A little property background will help at this point. Much of Newberg is located in the Donation Land Claims of Joseph B. Rogers and Daniel D. Deskins. First Street was the dividing line between each. On April 28, 1890, Sarah A. Deskins, widow of D. D. Deskins, recorded a plat known as Deskins 2nd Addition. The plat consisted of 15 blocks bounded by Meridian, First, School and North Streets. In July, 1891, Sarah Smith and Lillie (her daughter) purchased block 8 for \$427. (Frequently in those days, the wife was the party indicated in deed records.)

Remember that Sarah died March 10, 1893. On May 3, 1893 Lillie married Warren Robertson. In June, 1894, Sarah Deskins sold Block 5 to a Moses and Anna Votaw for \$427. (Same price as Sarah and Lillie paid three years earlier for Block 8). A few days later, Votaw's sold Block 5 to J. T. Smith and L. C. Robertson (Lillie) for \$1200. In September, 1894, J. T. Smith and the Robertson's sold Block 8 for \$1200. So he quickly recovered his outlay for Block 5. Four years later, in 1898, Warren and Lillie built a house on the SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the block. There was no further activity until 1904.

To gain a feel for this area of town, we quote the following items from the Newberg Graphic:

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December 25, 1903 -- "Allen Smith is beginning the erection of a residence on his lots north east of the public school building. This part of town is becoming a popular residence section." (415 N. College)

March 4, 1904 -- "Allen Smith's are now comfortably housed in their new home north of the Baptist Church. This, with the equally fine residence of C. A. Hodson (Hodson-403 N. College), both of which have been erected within the last five months, adds much to the appearance of that section of town, which is most beautifully situated, and with the building of a few more such homes, this will become the Nob Hill of Newberg."

April 29, 1904 -- "W. L. Robertson expects to have an addition built to his house soon (403 N. Edwards) and will make a neat cottage out of it." July 7, 1904 -- "Sunday, July 3, J. Harlan Smith and Melinda Newby were married. They will make their home in Newberg, he having purchased lots just north of W. L. Robertsons on Edwards upon which he will build." Harlan was son of Allen Smith, no relations to J. T. Smith. They purchased the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of Block 5 from Warren and Lillie for \$350.

August 18, 1904 -- "The Newberg Smith's appear to be getting clannish. A cottage is going up for J. T. Smith (J. T. Smith-414 N. College) just east of the new residence of Allen Smith and J. Harlan Smith is expected to follow suit shortly on adjoining lots. They are colonizing a good part of town." September 22, 1904 -- "Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Smith moved into their new cottage in the Smith Addition the latter part of last week." (Probably 15-17 Thursday-Saturday). "J. Harlan Smith has the frame up for his new house on North Edwards Street (415 N. Edwards)."

The activities of John and Rebbie for the next two or three years were not well documented. With the <u>Graphic</u> as our prime source, we learned that Rebbie was very ill in February, 1905, John broke his arm in August, 1905 and he helped in the Post Office during the Christmas rush of 1905. Also in March of 1905, he sold Lot 6, Block 16, of Newberg to a Nelson J. Sykes for \$225. This was the lot west of his home on River Street. There was no report of what John did in 1906 but in January, 1907, he sold Lots 4 and 5, Block 16 to the German M. E. Ebenezer Church for \$475. An item in the March 14, 1907 <u>Graphic</u> said, "J. T. Smith, who has been in the Post Office as a clerk for the past few weeks, has gone back to the handle factory." The word "back" probably tells us that he worked there in 1906. On May 9, 1907, the <u>Graphic</u> said "Mrs. J. T. Smith continues to assist in the Post Office."

In the fall of 1907, John and Rebbie made a three month visit to Iowa to visit friends and relatives including Rebbie's aged mother. The humor of the <u>Graphic</u> is revealed by this comment -- "J. T. has been away so long he will probably have to visit the church yards to find most of his old friends." They returned by way of Colorado and California.

Well, John couldn't stay out of the store business. It was to occupy the rest of his working life. The May 14, 1908 <u>Graphic</u> reported: "J. T. Smith is preparing to open a Racket store on the north side of First Street in one of Oliver's buildings." A

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Racket store may have been a chain or franchise as it was seen in a November 9, 1905 Graphic ad:

"The Racket Store M. J. Nash & Co. 304 First Street."

In October, 1908 John advertised in three issues of the <u>Graphic</u> and once in December, but not as regularly as he did in his early store. In April, 1909 he moved to a room in the <u>Graphic</u> building at  $600\frac{1}{2}$  First. This is the site of present day Stevens Jewelry. At some point, Rebbie joined John in the business by carrying a line of linens, and other merchandise of interest to women. In a 1912-13 Yamhill County Directory, they were listed under "Dry Goods" and "Notions." This store is remembered by Helen Robertson, John's granddaughter who was born in 1901. It was she who first told us that he had a store. In the same directory in the County Tax List section, John and Rebbie's assessed valuation was \$3,425. The assessed valuation would have been for the house and the NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> plus N20 ft. SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Block 5. The year before they had sold the SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> less N20 ft. of Block 5 to E.C.W. Jones for \$675. Helen Robertson told us that Eva Jones built a house here that was patterned after the Franklin T. Griffith house in Portland. (He was president of Portland Electric Power Co. and Helen worked for them for 10 years in the 1920s).

By early 1914, John, who was now 71, had contracted stomach cancer. He had surgery at St. Vincent Hospital in Portland in March but it was only a temporary reprieve. He died of the disease on June 12, 1915, after nearly forty years of service to the community.

The death of J. T. Smith does not end the significance of this nomination. Just as he was the City's first recorder, so his widow, Rebecca W. H. Smith, was appointed City Recorder on September 17, 1917, to fill out the unexpired term of Miss Ida M. Woods, who retired. She was to fulfill this office until March 1, 1924. Her name appeared in the <u>Graphic</u> occasionally in regard to this capacity. One item of interest appeared May 17, 1923: "City Recorder Rebecca W. H. Smith fined three local boys on charges of smoking cigarettes and each was fined \$3.00."

On July 22, 1923, Rebbie married Allen Smith, the man across the street, whose wife had died two years earlier. Allen was a builder and contractor who started the "Smithville" housing as mentioned earlier. The <u>Graphic</u> commented that "the wedding was a surprise to their friends," which was about like her wedding to J. T. Smith.

When Rebbie resigned as City Recorder the following March, there was a bit of controversy in City Council as to who should replace her. They came to a tie in the matter and the Mayor had to cast a deciding ballot. This led to a suit to "test character on the Mayor's vote" according to the March 6, 1924 <u>Graphic</u>. The Mayor's decision was evidently declared legal as his tie breaking vote for F. A. Morris held.

Continuation sheet

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JOHN T. SMITH HOUSE

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In March of 1925, Allen and Rebbie sold the N2O ft.  $SW_4^1$  and S4O ft.  $NW_4^1$ , Block 5 to Ettie E. and Edger H. Burns. These people built the house that now stands there as well as one across the street next to Allen Smith.

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The balance of Rebbie's life is probably not significant to this nomination as much as it would be to a possible nomination of Allen Smith's house. She lived the balance of her life at 415 N. College while retaining ownership of 414 N. College. She died on November 13, 1944 at the age of 81, even outliving Allen who died July 21, 1935.

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John T. Smith Obituary.

Sarah E. Smith Obituary.

Interviews:

a. Helen Roberston
b. John Paddon
c. Frank & Genevieve Cole
d. Duan Spilde
e. Gary and Shirley Powers
f. Glen Brown
g. Charels Beals