

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93000457 Date Listed: 6/3/93

Rev. William S. Gilbert House Clatsop OR
Property Name: County: State:

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews

Signature of the Keeper

6/9/93

Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Technical oversight was clarified through a phone call with the Oregon SHPO. Because the Rev. William S. Gilbert House has religious significance, Criteria Consideration A must be checked. The nomination is officially amended to include this information.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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 Gilbert, Rev. William S., Residence

other names/site number Old First Presbyterian Church Manse

2. Location

street & number 725 Eleventh Street N/A not for publication

city or town Astoria N/A vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Clatsop code 007 zip code 97103

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 April 15, 1993
Signature of certifying official/Title DEPUTY SHPO Date
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Patrick Andrews Date of Action 6/3/93

Gilbert, Rev. William S., Residence
Name of Property

Clatsop, 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	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls wood: clapboard

roof asphalt: composition shingles

other

Narrative Description

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

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Religion _____
 Social History _____
 Military _____

Period of Significance

1914-1937 _____

Significant Dates

1914 _____
 1924 _____
 1937 _____

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

The Rev. William S. Gilbert _____
 The Rev. David James Ferguson _____
Cultural Affiliation
 N/A _____

Architect/Builder

Architect: A. D. Gendron _____
 Builder: William Miller _____

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Gilbert, Rev. William S., Residence
Name of Property

Clatsop, Oregon
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.11 acres Astoria, Oregon 1:24000

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	10	435880	5114870
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

name/title John E. Goodenberger & Bonnie Oathes

organization North Coast Landmarks Consultants date November 5, 1992

street & number 1320 Franklin Avenue, Suite F telephone (503) 324-0209

city or town Astoria state Oregon zip code 97103

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 Arlo & Sally Goodwin

street & number 316 Berwick Road telephone (503) 684-3788

city or town Lake Oswego state Oregon zip code 97034

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.

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SECTION 7: DESCRIPTION

Constructed in 1914, the Rev. Gilbert-Ferguson Manse is a two-story wood framed structure on the SW corner of Eleventh Street and Grand Avenue in Astoria, Oregon. Its rectangular plan runs in a north-south direction on a raised plot with a concrete retaining wall on the street elevations. The Colonial Revival structure has had few alterations and remains one of the most attractive homes of its style in the city.

CONTEXT

The manse is one of the more recent structures in this eclectic neighborhood. Most of the structures date from the Victorian or Late Victorian period and remain in good condition. The manse property touches that of the Herman Wise Residence, built ca. 1880, and designated a local historic landmark in 1984. The D. K. Warren Rental Housing Group stands diagonally across Eleventh Street and Grand Avenue. These homes were built in 1895, and listed on the National Register in 1986. The First Presbyterian Church is due east across Eleventh Street. This Carpenter Gothic structure was constructed in 1903. In 1936, the Rev. Ferguson commissioned John Wicks, Astoria's most prominent architect, to design a Sunday School building south of the sanctuary. The Illahee Apartments are directly north of the manse, across Grand Avenue. The apartments were designed by Ebba Wicks Brown, daughter of John Wicks, in 1969. Ebba Wicks was one of the first women in Oregon to become a licensed architect.

Local architect A. D. Gendron was selected to design the manse, while local contractor William Miller was selected to build the house. A contract was signed with the First Presbyterian Church on May 6, 1914, for the agreed sum of \$4953. On November 14, 1914, William Miller submitted a letter to R.M. Gaston, head of the Building Committee for the manse. Miller was demanding an additional \$1235.25 for work that was not in the original contract. That extra work included the construction of built-in dressers, cupboards and sliding doors in addition to extra site work. He also requested an itemized statement for additional costs for the mantel, its hardware and surrounding electrical fixtures. The original estimates were as follows: \$100 for the mantel, \$100 for its hardware, \$125 for the electrical fixtures. On November 24, 1914, the Building Committee received a letter from Central Door & Lumber Company of Portland. Miller had returned unused material, which was special ordered, and therefore "practically worthless" to the company. Miller was not held liable for the material. The committee reimbursed the company \$90. By the time work was completed on the manse, the church had spent \$8860.25 on the project.

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William Miller had been a contractor in the area for some time before construction of the manse. The illiterate carpenter had been awarded the contract to construct cable stations and signs at Forts Columbia and Stevens in August of 1904. That same month he also landed a contract for the construction of a home for Frank Spittle, local attorney. Later that year he constructed an addition and bell tower for an engine house.

Little is known about architect A. D. Gendron before he designed the manse. In December of 1915, he was awarded a contract to design Union High School in Knappa, a logging community fifteen miles east of Astoria. The school is still used, but as Hilda Lahti Elementary. On December 8, 1918, the Morning Astorian hailed him as a war hero. It noted that Gendron had qualified early for the Engineer Corps and was commissioned 1st Lieutenant. Gendron was later offered a transfer to the Ordinance Dept. as Captain, but he declined. He wanted to see action rather than take a desk job. In spite of an earlier removal from the army for poor eyes, his superior mathematical skills landed him a position in a heavy artillery division. The war ended before he saw action.

EXTERIOR

The clapboard sided house is symmetrical about a shallow entry porch. Eight-over-one double hung windows are paired on each side of that porch. Two four-over-one casement windows flank a single six-over-one double hung window directly above the single story porch. All windows have plain, one-by-four frames separated by inset panels.

The porch itself sits on a concrete base two steps above ground level and has four, slender doric columns. Entry is through the center. No pilasters are used. The wooden shafts have a small astragal, a pronounced torus and sit on large plinths. The architrave has a wide fillet, while the frieze is plain. The cornice begins with a small cyma reversa, with a wide ovolo above. The corona is prominent and has a small cyma reversa followed by a substantial cyma recta. The moulding is repeated on a second cornice which springs from the first, bowing to a gently curved roofline. A decorative keystone is found on the elliptic arch below. The porch is wrapped by a simple rail and balustrade. The rectangular top rail has quarter round moulding below with a rectangular nailer. The spindles are two-by-two square and stand four and-a-half inches on center. The bottom rail is without moulding and remains rectangular. A wooden step rises to an entry which is recessed eighteen inches from the main exterior wall. The recessed wall has a stucco finish. Capped by Colonial moulding, the entry has a single panel door graced by sidelights which have ten lights divided by narrow mullion and a kickplate with a single inset panel.

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The entire opening is crowned by a false fanlight with tracery on the exterior wall cavity.

The side gable roof has three arched top dormers on the front, east, side. Each dormer contains a single round arch sash window. Two of the dormer windows retain their original tracery in the upper one third of the opening. Tracery in the center window has been removed. All windows remain framed by small pilasters supporting the arched roof. The entire roof area is covered by asphalt shingles. A frieze board runs beneath the eaves on the front and back, stopping beneath the eave returns on the sides, then starting again on the gable ends. All corners have trim and all sides have a water table.

The north elevation is nearly symmetrical about a large, central, red brick chimney. Openings on both sides are centered over one another. The first floor has a single fifteen-light french door on the NE corner while a single six-over-one double hung window is on the NW corner. The second floor has a double ten-light french door on the NE corner and a fifteen-light french door on the NW corner. The double french door is contemporary. An original full-length balcony supported by four posts was removed approximately 20 years ago. The concrete pad on which it stood remains.

The west elevation is almost completely obscured by vegetation. A sloping retaining wall rises three and a half feet from the edge of the house. A steep hill climbs immediately from that wall into two unbuilt, wooded lots. A porch with shed roof stretches half-way across the south end of the first floor. The porch is terminated by an appendage converted to a shower accessed only from the back porch. The shower has one six-light casement window on its west elevation and a narrow five-panel door on its south. The back entry has four lights with three panels. To the left of the door is a square six-light casement window for a half-bath; to the right of the door are paired single-light fixed windows of the same size for the kitchen. The NW corner of the first floor has a paired eight-over-one double hung window, while the second story has a single eight-over-one double hung window on both the NW and SW corners. Two paired, two-over-one single hung windows with inset panels can be found between the two larger windows. They are spaced evenly beneath a center gable. That gable is broken by a frieze and contains a low, six-light fixed window.

The south elevation is asymmetrical about the first floor. A built-in side board, located in the dining room, projects from the SE corner of the first floor. The projection is without windows, sports a water table, has corner trim, a frieze board and a hip roof. The SE corner is recessed with an entry to the kitchen. The kitchen door, like the back entry, has four lights and three panels. Two square

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openings are still visible where the cooler was once located on the inside. A shed roof, hipped on one end, projects from the main body of the house, increasing the size of the recessed porch. Wrapping around the west elevation and covering a narrow passageway to the second back entry, the roof is supported by four four-by-four posts on a raised concrete pad. Its ceiling is one inch bead board. The elevation's only first floor window is located off center where the pass-through pantry once stood. The window is a two-over-one, single hung window. An exterior basement entrance, found just below this window, is covered by a lid wrapped in sheet metal and was most likely used as access when supplying the original furnace with coal. The second floor has two six-over-one double hung windows, each one one-third in from the corner. The attic level has centered a set of paired eight-over-two double hung windows.

Light wells to the basement are found on the east elevation directly below the two-paired double hung windows; on the north elevation directly below the bay projection from the dining room; on the west elevation directly below the paired double hung windows in the living room. All light wells have paired awning windows. Those on the east and west are eight-light, those on the south are six-light.

INTERIOR

Front entry is through a centrally located foyer on the east side. To its north is the living room, to the south the dining room. Straight ahead, to the west, is a utilitarian hallway on one side while an elegant, Colonial, open string staircase with a half-circle end tread and turned full-height spindles rises to the other. The house seems particularly suited to church receptions and small weddings. The square foyer is airy and can easily be used for receiving guests of large numbers. Both the living and dining room open into the space through wide doorways which do not obstruct the flow of traffic from one room to the next. The floor is polished fir, base blocks, base mouldings, plain door frames and picture mouldings are unpainted cedar, the ceiling cornice is painted white. Cap mouldings on doors and windows have coves in the Craftsman tradition. The foyer and second floor hall are striking in their use of wallpaper. The wall paper is nearly, if not completely, original to the house. As in most rooms, the original light fixture has been removed from the foyer. A compatible chandelier with electrified candlesticks hangs in its place.

The living room is entered from its southeast corner. Its plan was a popular one found in many Colonial Revival homes. The open, rectangular room has paired eight-over-one double hung windows which bi-sect the east and west walls. A large fireplace is centered on the north wall with a six-over-one double hung to the left

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and a fifteen-light french door to the right, both midway from the fireplace. The french door once opened out to a covered porch supported by four columns. The fireplace uses an unusual grey brick seldom used in the Astoria area; its mortar is colored pink. The hearth has been raised and is non-historic and is currently without tile. Raised, decorative brick in a floral pattern surrounds the opening. A cornice with decorative brick supports a non-historic, simple wood mantel piece. The decorative brick has a cyma recta with an equal sized fillet supporting an ovolo in an egg and dart pattern. A simple, low wood box with base moulding sits to the left of the fireplace, beneath the double hung window. Next to the wood box, in the corner, is an L-shaped cabinet with three glass doors. Accoustical tile covers the room's ceiling. The living room is the only room where such tile is used. The ceiling cornice was extended slightly to overlap this tile. The picture moulding remains intact. Original light fixtures have been removed, however, the existing light fixtures match that hanging in the foyer.

The dining room may be entered from the foyer through a pair of fifteen-light pocket doors centered on its north wall. A single door entering the former kitchen pass-through pantry is found on the southwest corner of the room. Paired eight-over-one double hung windows are centered on the east wall. The picture moulding has been removed from the upper wall. The built-in side board is the room's most dominant feature. Flush with the south interior wall, the sideboard boasts three drawers and cabinets below a recessed buffet. The cabinet doors are of a single inset panel design. Two cabinets with paired glass doors hang above the counter supported by brackets which form a flat, pointed arch. A mirror with beveled edges spans the mid-section against the back wall. The Rev. Ferguson used this room as his office.

The pass-through pantry is now used as a breakfast nook. All shelving and cabinetry have been removed. The space is lit by a single two-over-one single hung window. A doorway entering the kitchen has been doubled in size, thus making the space a larger part of the kitchen.

The kitchen underwent a major remodelling in the 1940's. Virtually all original cabinetry, including the aforementioned cooler, was removed. All cabinetry is plain, the doors are painted plywood. The cap moulding above doors and windows is Colonial rather than Craftsman. All wood work around doors and windows has been painted. A black and white checked marble tile floor was recently added, covering a sheet linoleum floor. The ceiling was restuccoed with a rough finish and has a 1940's light fixture mounted to it. A wall-mounted light fixture from the same era projects from the west wall above the sink and paired single light fixed windows. Only one original cupboard remains in the kitchen. It is found recessed in the north wall, however, both its original doors are missing. The cupboards are paired

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with a broom closet which has a five-panel door. The entire pantry cupboard is framed by the same plain moulding found on the kitchen doors and windows.

The kitchen may be exited by its southwest corner to the recessed side porch or by its northwest corner to a back hallway. From this hallway one may do any of the following: exit to the back porch and shower, descend the basement stairs, ascend a minor staircase which joins the main staircase at its landing, or turn a corner to the front foyer. A half-bath for guests, with an original bell-shaped wall mounted light fixture, is also located off this hallway. The entire back portion of the house may be closed off from the front. A single panel door separates the back hallway from the foyer. A five-panel pocket door separates the minor staircase from the main staircase at the landing. The doors would muffle sound so that church meetings and gatherings could occur in the living room while food being was prepared in the kitchen. Pocket doors in the dining room were useful for the same reason. Receptions could be set up there while not disturbing the wedding being held in the living room.

The second floor has four corner bedrooms accessed through an unusual U-shaped hallway. The corridors extend in a north-south direction. The staircase rises from the first floor, parallel to, and on the inside of, the base of the "U". A rail with full-height, square one-by-one spindles spaced two and three-quarters inches on center, extends the length of the stair run. Starting newels are simple, boxed posts, typical of Craftsman era. Stairs to the attic are enclosed and turn back on the main staircase. The remaining space in this central area is occupied by three closets built over or under space left by the stairs. A built-in hall dresser is found in an alcove just off center on the east side of the house. The varnished dresser has paired upper and lower cabinets with doors of a single-inset panel design. The space is lit by a single four-over-one casement window. Three ceiling-mounted light fixtures, with gold stenciled garlands light the hall. The globe-shaped milk glass fixtures may date from the 1930's. All wood trim and floors are unpainted. Colonial cap trim is used here, as on all openings throughout the second floor. No picture rail moulding exists in the hallway.

The master bed room is on the NE corner of the house. All wood trim has been painted and picture moulding removed. The ceiling and walls have a rough stucco finish. A contemporary ceiling mounted light fixture is used. The fir floor, as in all bedrooms, has remained unpainted. It has paired eight-over-one double hung windows on the east side and two-newly installed ten-light french doors on the north. The west wall has five-panel double doors opening into a closet. A former dressing room may be entered from the southeast corner of the room. The dressing room was converted to a full-bath and was recently remodelled to include new marble tiles on the floor, ceramic tile wainscot with decorative floral border, a

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period pedestal sink, a reproduction late victorian toilet, reproduction wall-mounted light fixtures and an enclosed shower with tile. The room is lit by a four-over-one casement window and a six-over-one double hung window placed side by side.

The bedroom on the SE corner is entered from its NW corner. It has paired eight-over-one double hung windows on the east side and a six-over-one double hung on the south. A small, narrow closet with five-panel door may be found in the southeast corner of the room. All woodwork remains unpainted and the picture moulding is intact. The ceiling mounted light fixture is contemporary. The south wall has intact wall paper, while the paper on other walls has long been painted over. The bedroom on the SW corner is in much the same condition and nearly mirrors its plan. The northwest corner of the room, however, is taken by a half-bath, originally a dressing room. An original bell-shaped wall mounted light fixture remains. The toilet and sink are capped. The space is lit by one-half of a paired two-over-one single hung window. The other window half lights the half-bath next door. That bath has a wall mounted light fixture from the 1940's.

The bed room on the NW corner has an eight-over-one double hung on the west wall and a single fifteen-light french door on the north. All woodwork has been painted. The picture moulding remains.

The main bathroom has recently undergone complete remodelling, much like the master bath. The original sheet linoleum floor and incised plaster wainscot have been replaced. The floor is marble tile, the wainscot is ceramic. Solid colored tiles form a band around the top. The room has a broad pedestal sink in one corner and a stout claw foot tub in another; both are period pieces. The toilet is a contemporary pattern. The room is lit by a paired two-over-one single hung window.

The attic is partially finished. It has a wooden floor throughout and has capped plumbing on the center west wall. The southern third has a finished room lit by a single dormer window to the east and paired eight-over-two double hungs to the south. The dormer window is striking: bead board arched about a round sash window with tracery. The room, which has suffered water damage, was finished with a bead board ceiling and paneled walls.

The basement is finished. It is lit by light wells on the south, east and west elevations. The windows are paired eight and six-light awning windows.

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SHPO SUMMARY

The clergyman's residence, or manse standing at the corner of Eleventh Street and Grand Avenue in Astoria, Oregon was built in 1914 and first occupied by the Reverend William S. Gilbert, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church--a late Gothic Revival church of 1903 distinguished by its parapet gables and belfry pinnacles which looms across Eleventh Street to the east. The architect of the manse was A. D. Gendron, who practiced locally for a time, and the contractor was William Miller.

The two-story Colonial Revival-style house is of frame construction resting on a basement and occupies a standard 50 x 100-foot lot. It is a rectangular, side-gabled volume measuring approximately 24 x 48 feet in plan, its long axis running north to south, parallel with Eleventh Street. The east front, facing the church and its neighboring Sunday school building of 1936, is formally organized in the convention of classically-inspired architecture. It has three wide bays consisting of paired double-hung windows having eight divided lights in upper sash. Ground story windows flank the central entrance bay, which is distinguished by a broad, single-story portico having a full classical entablature and segmental-arched pediment. A straight-topped Palladian window is aligned above the portico on the second story. The entrance is surrounded by sidelights and a semi-elliptical false fanlight.

The three part composition of the facade is accentuated by semi-circular dormers breaking the front slope of the roof. Curvilinear tracery divides the upper sections of the dormer windows. The house is clad with narrow lapped weatherboards, which are a hallmark of the style, and is trimmed with plain corner and rake boards and waterskirt. The roof has boxed eaves with modest cornice returns at gable ends.

The building is centered on its lot, which is raised above the north-sloping street and is contained on both street frontages by a concrete retaining wall. Window openings on the south end are double-hung sash with six over one lights. Openings on the downslope elevation are a mixture of French doors and multipaned fixed and double-hung sash flanking a central outside end chimney of brick. A columned porch originally stood at this end of the house.

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Interior spaces, as is so plainly foretold by the bilateral symmetry of the exterior, are organized on either side of the central hallway. They are finished with good quality standard millwork of the day, including fir floors, bases with crown molding, an open-string dog leg staircase with a bannister of turned balusters coiled at the foot as a newel post. Unpainted cedar architrave door and window frames, elaborately molded ceiling cornices, a built-in diningroom sideboard, and a massive livingroom chimneypiece of grey brick with classical mantel shelf complete the noteworthy features.

The property meets National Register Criterion B chiefly for its association with the Reverend William S. Gilbert, who occupied the manse until 1924. The historic period of significance is extended to 1937, however, to include the residency of the Reverend David Ferguson, Gilbert's successor in the pastorate.

Significance under Criterion B is based on the active part taken by local clergy in shaping public opinion during the early 20th century when Astoria was a bustling port of entry and center of the packing industry on the lower Columbia River.

Men such as Gilbert and Ferguson inveighed against community vices and social injustice; they joined the tide of boosterism, and they supported civic causes.

The Reverend William S. Gilbert (1863-1930), a native of Ohio and graduate of Union Theological Seminary in New York, arrived in Astoria in 1905, having served with distinction as chaplain with the Oregon National Guard in the Spanish American War. He continued his involvement in the military in the Mexican border campaign, and in 1917 he went overseas with U. S. expeditionary forces in the First World War. His humanitarian actions on and near the battlefield that aided fighting men and civilians alike were honored by France in conferring of the Croix de Guerre. At the Armistice, in 1918, Gilbert had achieved the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and was made senior chaplain of the First Army Corps, or United States Army Reserve. His celebrated status as a war hero and his skills as a speaker made him a likely candidate for a seat in the U. S. Senate in the eyes of the Republican party, but Gilbert declined to run. However, his experience in responding to large scale emergencies made him the logical choice to head the Committee of Ten, which supervised relief and reconstruction efforts in Astoria following the conflagration that destroyed most of the business district in 1922. Reverend Gilbert guided the work

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of the committee to its conclusion two years later, all the while directing his efforts from the Presbyterian manse on Eleventh Street. In 1924, his career in Astoria ended when he removed to Portland to serve as secretary of the Presbyterian executive office.

Gilbert's successor in the Astoria pastorate was the Reverend David James Ferguson, a native of England and graduate of the University of Edinburgh. Ferguson was a devotee of physical culture, gifted orator and a figure in the Boy Scout movement. He became a naturalized citizen in 1927. He, too, entered the military through the chaplain corps. He was active in the Columbia Defense League, which had been founded in 1917, and he was a pivotal advocate for establishment of a U. S. submarine base to bolster protection of Astoria's harbor facilities. In 1937, the Reverend Ferguson was called to service of the Presbyterian Church in Albany, Oregon. The bill which created Tongue Point Naval Base was signed into law in 1939, and the base was operating by the time the country entered the Second World War.

The manse was held by the Presbyterian Church until 1954. By the time of its release to private ownership, it had been home to three additional pastors of Astoria's First Presbyterian Church. It was acquired by present owners in 1992.

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SECTION 8: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Reverends William S. Gilbert and David J. Ferguson were well known throughout the state of Oregon for their involvement in the Oregon National Guard. Both served as chaplains. The Reverend Gilbert was a decorated Lieutenant Colonel. The Reverend Ferguson was a First Lieutenant. The Rev. Gilbert was the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Astoria, Oregon, for 18 years, while the Rev. Ferguson served for 12. During their pastorate in Astoria, both were outspoken community leaders whose opinions and talents were actively sought throughout the state and city. The period of significance for the Rev. Gilbert-Ferguson manse reflects the time they occupied the home, from 1914 through 1937. It is the association with these two pastors and their importance to the Presbyterian Church, Astoria and the military which makes this house historically significant.

The Astoria community was shaped by a collective voice of ministers whose opinions were solicited and heeded by the public. The Ministerial Association, which was comprised of the majority of pastors in Astoria, vigorously pursued opportunities to effect public policies and behavior. Letters were written, speeches were read, decisions on a community level were made. They made a concerted effort to keep the Sabbath as a day of rest, criticising the Morning Astorian in 1891, for forcing its staff to work on Sunday in order to meet Monday morning deadlines. They asked for a ban on Sunday prize fights as well. Upon arriving in Astoria in 1905, the Rev. Gilbert wasted no time in hurling himself into the public eye, voicing his opinion where no layman dared, standing against gambling, saloons and women of ill-repute. The Rev. Gilbert would write in 1906, "Other cities are compelling vice to remain under cover and our city ought not for a day longer to be the one city of the state where a few pitiable, painted creatures and white washed men in the ratio of five to one hold open carnival on our streets." Not only did the Rev. Gilbert and other pastors speak out on the obvious immoral conditions of the city, they involved themselves in purely civic endeavors such as boosterism, the Boy Scout movement and various activities held under the auspices of the YMCA.

The First Presbyterian Church of Astoria began as an outgrowth of the Clatsop Plains Pioneer Presbyterian Church of Warrenton, Oregon. The Clatsop Plains Church was organized September 19, 1846, by the Rev. Lewis Thompson at the home of William H. Gray, who came to Oregon with the Whitman-Spalding party in 1836. Twelve members of the Clatsop Plains Church who were residents of Astoria and eight other Astorians petitioned for the organization of a Presbyterian church in Astoria. On May 5th, 1877, the new church held its first service in Astoria's

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Uppertown schoolhouse. Dr. Lindsley, chairman of the Church Extension Committee, preached a sermon entitled "The Church: The Pillar and Ground of Truth." The service ended with the singing of "How Firm a Foundation." Services in the first years were held in Van Dusen's Hall, the Congregational Church and the Baptist Church. Their first permanent church building was dedicated on January 14, 1883, and located on the edge of Astoria's business district. By the turn of the century that building had grown inadequate. In 1893, Captain George Flavel willed \$4000 to be used in the construction of a new church building. His wife, Mary Christina, donated plots on the SE corner of Eleventh Street and Grand Avenue where the church was completed in December of 1903, at a cost of \$19,075.

THE REV. WILLIAM S. GILBERT

The Reverend William S. Gilbert was born in Dayton, Ohio, December 7, 1863. He graduated from high school there and later attended Otterbein College in Westerville, Ohio, where he received his B. A. degree in 1886. Two years later he graduated from the Union Biblical Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, then furthered his education at the Union Theological Seminary in New York, New York, graduating the following year.

He came to Philomath, Oregon in 1889, to accept the presidency of Philomath College, a position which he held for three years before starting his pastorate at Central Presbyterian Church, Eugene, Oregon. On June 5, 1895, he joined the Oregon National Guard serving as Chaplain of the 4th Oregon Infantry. In 1898, he marched with the Oregon Volunteers during the Philippine (Spanish-American War) campaign. When accepting the Oregon regiment, the U.S. government renumbered their infantry to the 2nd Oregon. The 1st Oregon Infantry served in the Civil War. At Malabon, the Philippines, he became a hero to his comrades when, unarmed, he accompanied them on their charge and carried a wounded Portlander back across a bullet-swept field for surgical aid. His acts of devotion and heroism earned him enduring fame and respect. Upon completing his military duties, he returned to his church in Eugene and in 1899 was called to the Calvary Presbyterian Church in Portland.

The Rev. Gilbert came to Astoria in 1905, and continued to be involved in the military. He saw active duty with the 3rd Oregon Infantry on the Mexican border. Then in 1917, he joined the 162nd United States Infantry (a re-classification of the old 3rd Oregon) and went overseas as a major. His services as a chaplain during World War I in the expeditionary forces won him wide recognition. He was more than just an officer; he gave aid to the sick and injured, spreading encouragement while bringing light to the darkness. Marshal Petain of France

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awarded him the coveted Croix de Guerre "for upholding the morale of the troops and for organizing 72 schools." He reached the grade of Lieutenant Colonel while in France and was made senior Chaplain of the 41st (Sunset) division. Following the declaration of Armistice, he was made Senior Chaplain of the 1st Army Corps, headquarters in Tounere, France. The Rev. Gilbert was called "Oregon's best-loved soldier." To the men who knew him in three campaigns, he was "Chappie," their generous and understanding friend. He was "Chappie" in the Philippines, "Chappie" on the Mexican border and "Chappie" in France- a tireless, courageous spiritual leader. The Rev. Gilbert returned to Astoria and resumed his pastorate in the spring of 1919.

One year later, a movement began in Portland to place the Rev. William S. Gilbert on the ballot of the Republican primary for the position of United States Senator. The reverend's distinguished military involvement was widely known. In addition, he was reputed to be one of the most forceful speakers in the state and was noted for his straightforward patriotism. The Reverend Gilbert declined the opportunity to oppose the Democratic incumbent, George Chamberlin; he did not want to use his war service as a means to an office.

On December 8, 1922, the Astoria business district was devastated by a great fire. Mayor James Bremner formed a committee the following day, giving them the power to accept and administer the relief and reconstruction gifts. The Rev. Gilbert was appointed chairman of the Committee of Ten. They supervised the work of relief, provided supplementary forces to aid in the policing of the city, maintained liason with the military and naval forces, negotiated for state and federal relief and dispensed the reconstruction funds in the manner which it felt to be most equitable in lightening the burdens of those who lost by fire. Many people remember the sign the Rev. Gilbert erected in the ashen cityscape: "Smile, have faith, rebuild."

Other members of the committee included: C.R. Higgins, president of the Astoria National bank; Frank Patton, cashier of the Astoria Savings Bank; W.F. McGregor, president of the First National Bank; G.C. Fulton, attorney; John Tait, president of the Troy Laundry Company; James Bremner, then mayor of Astoria; O.B. Setters, the following mayor of Astoria; F.I. Dunbar, former secretary of state and of the Astoria Abstract Company; F.L. Parker of the Bank of Commerce; W.A. Tyler of the Astoria National Bank, who succeeded C.R. Higgins on the committee; G.W. Sandborn of George W. Sandborn & Sons Company.

The Committee of Ten finished its work and closed its books on April 29, 1924. Its adjournment coincided with the departure of the Rev. W.S. Gilbert from Astoria to Portland where he became secretary of the Presbytery Executive office.

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He later served as scout commissioner of the city of Portland, was commander of the department of Oregon, American Legion in 1923-24, and became the regent of the University of Oregon under appointment by Governor Olcott.

On December 8, 1927, the Rev. Gilbert retired as chaplain from the Oregon National Guard, one day after his 64th birthday. While he was young in physique and an active, outstanding soldier, the retirement was mandatory under the regulations of the United States Army. He attributed his many awards to luck and good fortune. He was grateful to be part of an organization officered by broadminded men. And about those whom he served he said:

"Making allowances for all the roughness one finds in the army, I have learned in 30 years of intimate contact with soldiers that there is generally a distinct religious element among them. They do not openly profess religion of any sort, but down deep they almost universally have a religious feeling. A chaplain's contact with soldiers must be a man-to-man relationship, without doctrine or cant."

Shortly thereafter, Brigadier General George A. White reinstated the reverend as honorary chaplain and in this capacity he attended the last encampment at Camp Clatsop.

The Rev. Gilbert died without warning May 11, 1930, in his Oak Grove, Oregon, home. He was survived by his widow, Mrs. Florence Davisson Gilbert, to whom he was married in Philomath, Oregon, December 21, 1892. Also surviving was son John DeWitt Gilbert and daughter Margery Gilbert.

John DeWitt Gilbert was born in Eugene, Oregon, in 1896. He attended University of Oregon, University of Grenoble, France, and Columbia University. He served in the first world war as a private stationed in France in the 65th Artillery Regiment. Upon returning to Astoria, he married Olive Risley in November of 1920. J. DeWitt Gilbert was editor of the Astoria Budget from 1919 to 1928. In June of 1922, he commissioned a new residence, on the NE corner of Eleventh Street and Jerome Avenue, by local architect Charles Templeton Diamond. C.T. Diamond would later design the B.P.O.E. Lodge No. 180, listed on the National Register in 1990. J. DeWitt later moved to Seattle Washington, where he joined the editorial staff of Pacific Fisherman, a trade magazine. From 1955 through 1966, he was the adviser to the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission. President Eisenhower appointed him to the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission in 1957, a position which he held until 1974. In 1962 he was nominated Fisheries Man of the Year for the Northwest Fisheries Association. John DeWitt Gilbert died in November of 1981.

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Miss Margery Gilbert was born in Portland in 1902. She graduated from Wellesly College in 1925 and later taught at Grant High School in Portland.

THE REV. DAVID JAMES FERGUSON

The Reverend David James Ferguson was a native of Wigan, England, schooled in Scotland and graduate of the University of Edinburgh. He represented Great Britain in the 1912 Olympic games at Stockholm, Sweden, winning the 135-pound wrestling division. He also won the Sandow medal for physical perfection and trained with Tom Inch, who was prominent in British athletic circles. After serving with the British army in France, the Rev. Ferguson came to the United States in 1913, to become director of athletics at the Great Lakes Naval Station, Illinois. In Alliance, Nebraska, he was one of the state leaders of the Boy Scout movement and was a grand lecturer for the Masonic order of that state. He held a pastorate at Muskatine, Iowa, before his installation in Astoria on October 22, 1924. On September 9, 1927, he took an oath of American citizenship.

The Rev. Ferguson was noted to be an unusually brilliant and animated orator. He is perhaps best remembered by the community for his athletic prowess. Only a few short months after his arrival he gave a demonstration of his strength at a smoker sponsored by the Presbyterian Men's Club. The feats of Ogre Ostrom vs. Apeman Agren, Roaring Raymond vs. Paralyser Palo, and Bonebuster Bennett vs. Nervewracking Nikala, were paled by the muscular dominee. The Rev. Ferguson showed his disapproval of card playing when he twisted a full deck of cards in two, then later tore it into quarters. He then bent several three-sixteenth inch spikes into hairpin shapes and repeated the performance with five-inch spikes. His demonstration ended with a talk on physical culture and its value in keeping the man of sedentary occupation fit.

He was actively involved with the local YMCA In 1929, the Englishman lead their annual membership round-up dressed entirely in cowboy duds. "Scratch 'em, cowboy," was his cry as he, playing Calamity Jim, tossed a lasso around the Big Boss, played by mayor J.C. Ten Brook. It is noted that while the mayor was "tied and ready to brand," his hands were left free to sign an application blank. Also assisting in the membership round-up was a group of lady buckaroos who called themselves the "Barbe Q."

A few months later the reverend was featured at the annual YMCA spring gymnastics exhibition where he demonstrated feats of strength, weight lifting and calisthenics.

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The Rev. Ferguson's community involvement was not limited to those of a physical nature. In 1928, he became scout master of the new Boy Scout troop, No. 249, with a membership of 12. Later that year he was installed as Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., of Oregon. His installation marked a singular honor for Clatsop County Masonry, since the county then had three officers in the Grand lodge. In 1931, he was elected president of the newly-organized Astoria Community Concert Association. The association was a part of a national organization meant to draw artists from all over the country to communities which might not otherwise be exposed to them.

Like the Rev. Gilbert, the Rev. Ferguson was also involved in the military. On August 24, 1933, he was appointed chaplain of the local Civilian Conservation Corp camps by the senior chaplain, Major Burt. In the summer of 1935, Ferguson was appointed to the U.S. Army Reserve Corps as 1st Lieutenant in the chaplain corps. While he was beyond regulation age, his former experience in CCC camp work, as well as his fine physical condition, were enough to override any objectional regulations.

One year later, Governor Charles H. Martin commissioned him as one of three personal aides. The Rev. Ferguson was commissioned with Lieutenant Colonel George Dutton and Lieutenant Commander Nelson W. Hibbs.

Ferguson was also a member of the Columbia Defense League which was vitally concerned with west coast harbor defenses. He campaigned locally as well as state-wide for a naval base at Tongue Point just east of Astoria. The naval base was built in 1939 and while no longer a naval base, the facilities continue to play a vital role in Astoria's economy.

On November 16, 1937, The Rev. David J. Ferguson announced that he had accepted the call from the Albany Presbyterian Church and that he would become their pastor by the first of the year. He later served as pastor in Mill City, Oregon. The Rev. Ferguson died on May 1, 1959, in Pratum, Oregon. He was survived by his second wife, Anne, and daughter, Mrs. William Chase.

Mrs. Gertrude A. Ferguson, the first wife of the Rev. Ferguson, was born in Philomath, Oregon, in 1883. She was the daughter of Professor and Mrs. Henry Sheak of Philomath College and the granddaughter of Bishop N. Castle, an Oregon pioneer who was involved with the founding of the United Brethren Church. Mrs. Ferguson earned degrees of a Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts. She was a graduate of Willamette University, the Denver School of Music and the Chicago Conservatory of Music. She was an instructor in voice and piano at Philomath College, Oregon State College and the Nebraska State Normal School. Mrs.

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Ferguson was an accredited teacher in Oregon, Washington, Illinois and Nebraska. She was married twice. During her first marriage, she had a daughter named Bernice who was born in 1904. She married the Rev. Ferguson in 1920. Gertrude Ferguson was extremely active in the church affairs, belonging to several clubs and hosting meetings at their home. She died in March of 1935, after two years of ill health.

Bernice Ferguson married William Chase of Portland on June 5, 1926. The wedding was held in the manse.

The Rev. Gilbert-Ferguson Manse was owned by the church until 1954. Since the Rev. Ferguson's departure, it was the home to the Rev. Harrison F. Truscott from 1937-1946, the Rev. Philip B. Lewis from 1946-1951 and the Rev. Paul C. McFarlin from 1952-1954. The building was then sold to Ernest E. McClain, a maintenance man at St. Mary's Hospital and a new manse was purchased at 1120 Irving Avenue. Mr. McClain and his wife Joyce owned the house until 1961, when they sold it to Robert C. Uhrbrand, a carpenter, and his wife Cloydene who owned it until 1990. Doria Johnson, a retired cabinetmaker, and his wife Mari owned the house for approximately one year. The former manse was purchased by Arlo and Sally Goodwin in 1992.

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SECTION 9:
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Letter to R.M. Gaston from William Miller; November 14, 1914

Letter to William Miller from R.M. Gaston; November 17, 1914

Letter to G.C. Fulton from Central Doors & Lumber Company;
November 24, 1914

One Hundred Years, 1877-1977, The First Presbyterian Church; First
Presbyterian Church; 1977

Astoria Daily Budget, December 22, 1906; May 1, 1914; December 6,
1920; October 28, 1920; April 30, 1924; July 16, 1924; March 17,
1925; June 1, 1926; December 8, 1927; May 13, 1930; March 4,
1935; August 3, 1935

Daily Astorian, May 1, 1959; February 25, 1982

Morning Astorian, January 1, 1891; December 8, 1918; August 24, 1919; June
3, 1922; January 8, 1929; May 13, 1930

SECTION 10:
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated area is located in section 8, township 8N, range 9W, section 8CC,
McClure's addition, Astoria, Oregon. It occupies lot 4, block 90.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated area encompasses the tax lot surrounding the Rev. Gilbert-Ferguson
Manse.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

The Rev. Gilbert-Ferguson Manse*

Astoria, Clatsop County

September, 1992

Photographer: John E. Goodenberger

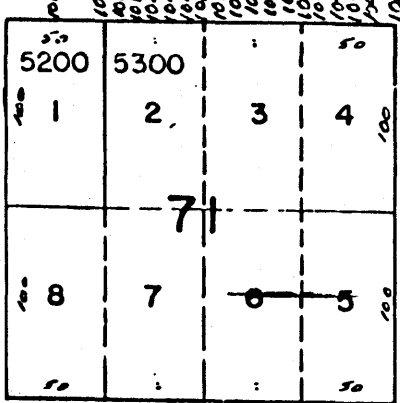
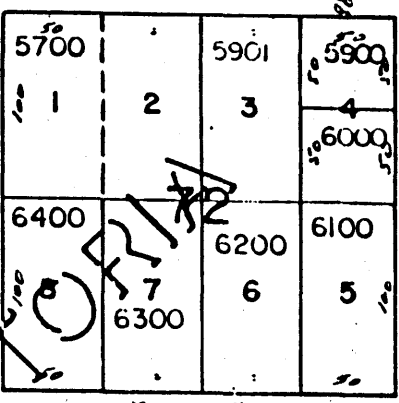
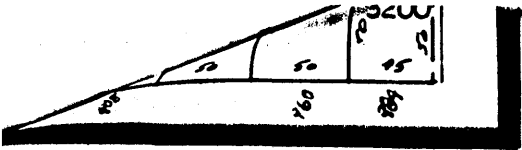
Location of negative: Arlo and Sally Goodwin

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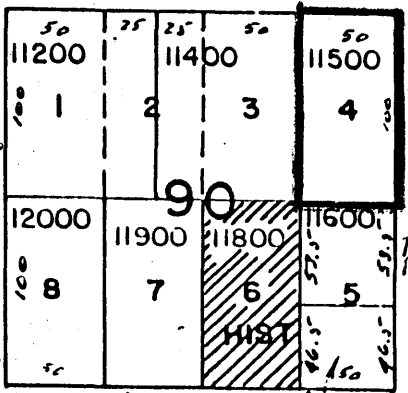
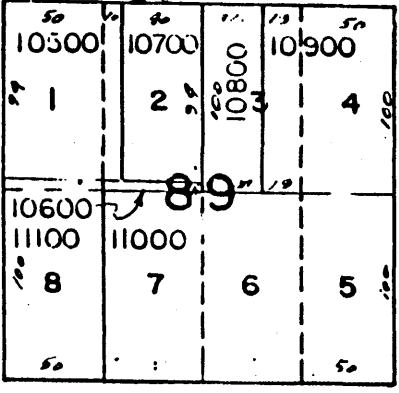
Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034

*Unless otherwise noted, this information is the same for all photographs.

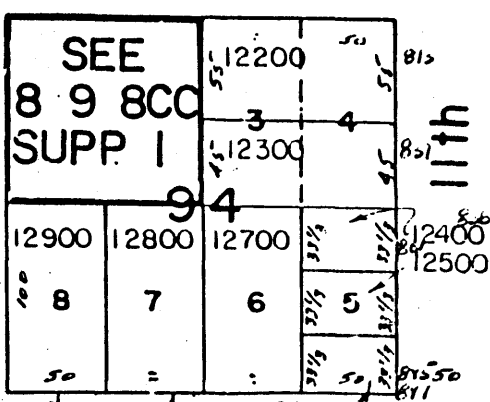
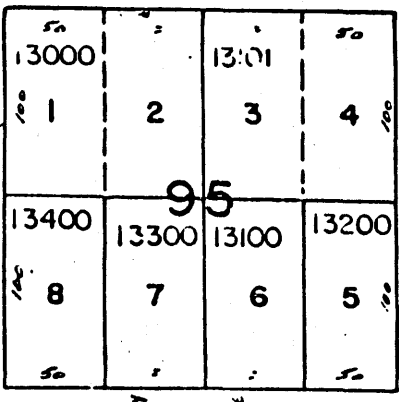
- 1 of 17 East elevation, looking N.W.
- 2 of 17 South and East elevations, looking N.W.
- 3 of 17 East elevation, looking west
- 4 of 17 North and East elevations, looking S.W.
- 5 of 17 North elevation, looking south
- 6 of 17 West elevation, looking N.E.
- 7 of 17 South elevation, S.W. corner, looking north
- 8 of 17 South elevation, S.E. corner, looking N.E.
- 9 of 17 East elevation, front porch, looking N.W.
- 10 of 17 Interior, foyer, looking west
- 11 of 17 Interior, living room, looking N.E.
- 12 of 17 Interior, living room, fire place detail
- 13 of 17 Interior, dining room, looking S.W.
- 14 of 17 Interior, dining room, built-in side board
- 15 of 17 Interior, kitchen, looking N.W.
- 16 of 17 Interior, master bed room, looking N.E.
- 17 of 17 Interior, attic, S.E. dormer



GRAND AVE.



AVE.



AVE.

See Map 8 9 8CD

(MAIN ST.)

(CASS ST.)

(GENEVIVE ST.)

5th

10th

11th

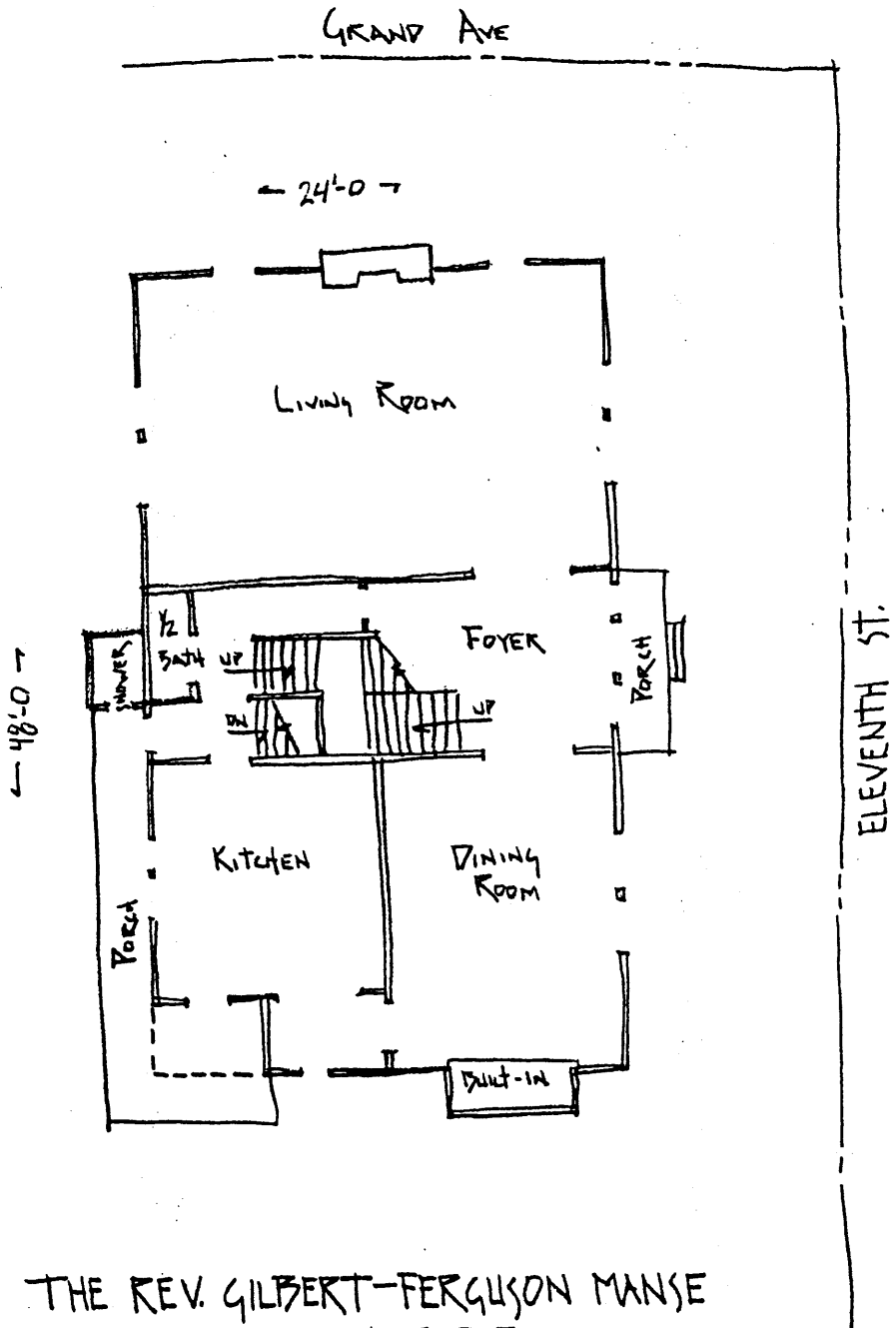
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ASTORIA

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MAR 10 1993

STATE PARKS AND
RECREATION DEPARTMENT



THE REV. GILBERT-FERGUSON MANSE
FIRST FLOOR
(NO SCALE)

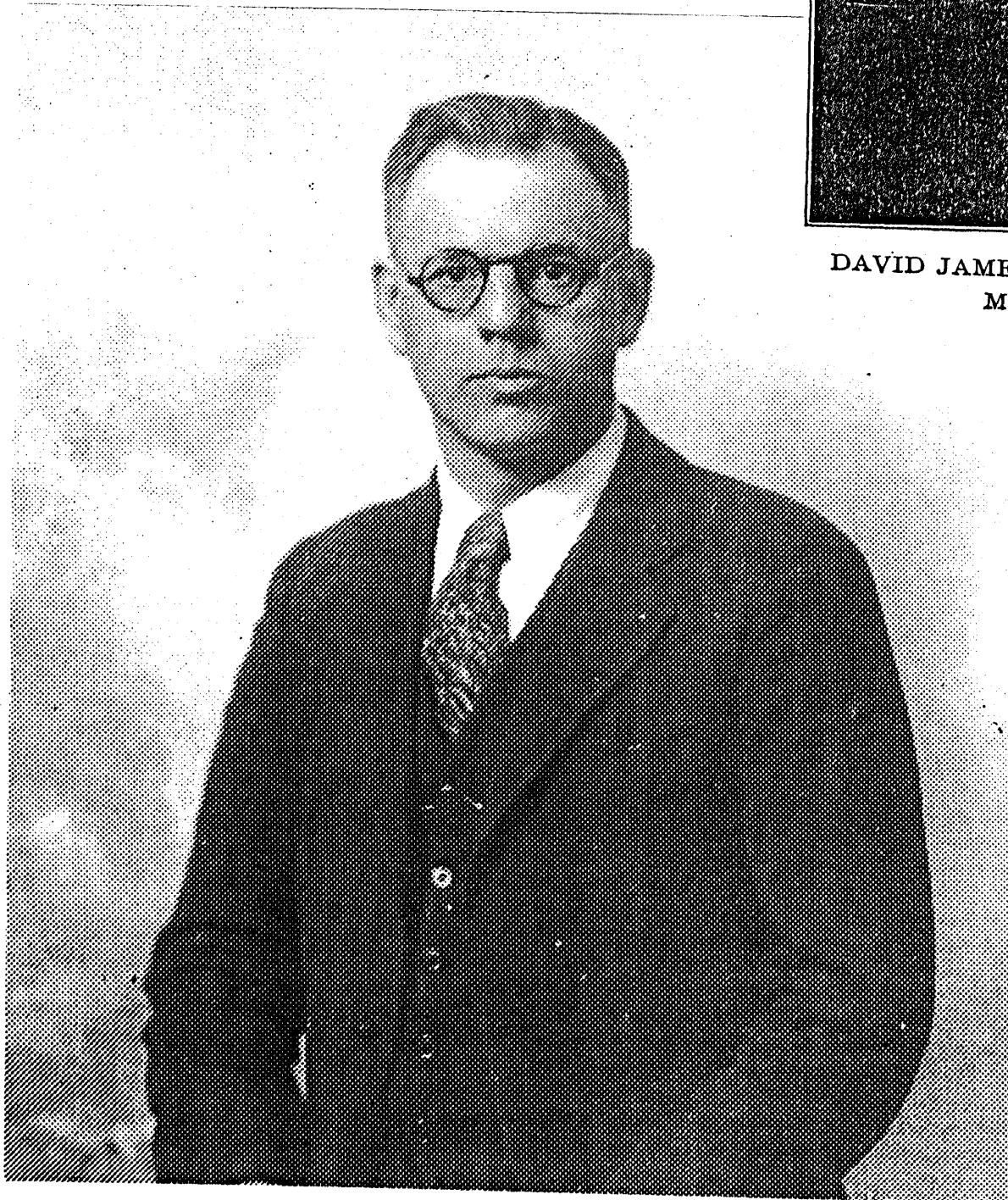
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The Rev. William S. "Chappie" Gilbert



DAVID JAMES FERGUSON, D. D.
MINISTER

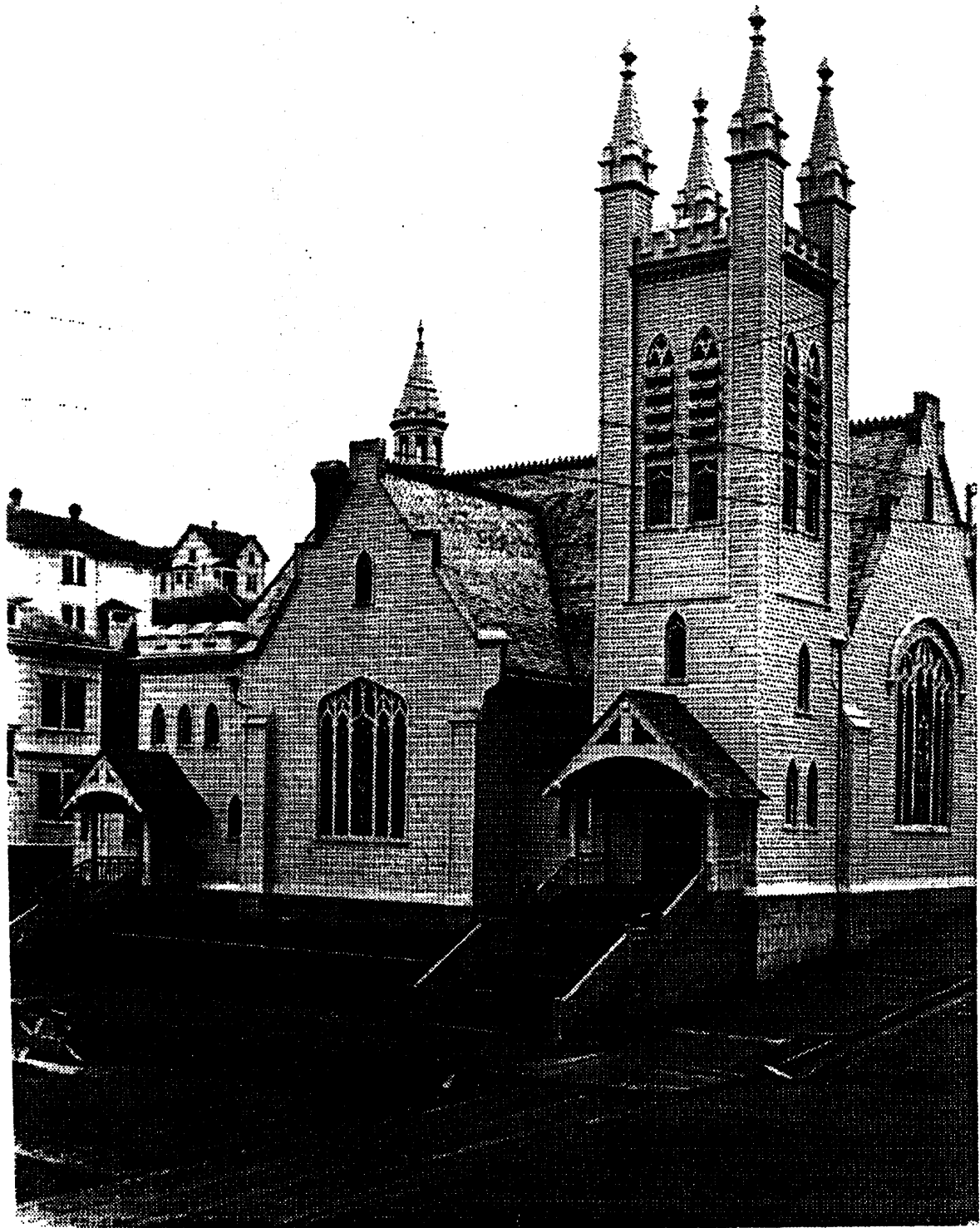


Y·M·C·A

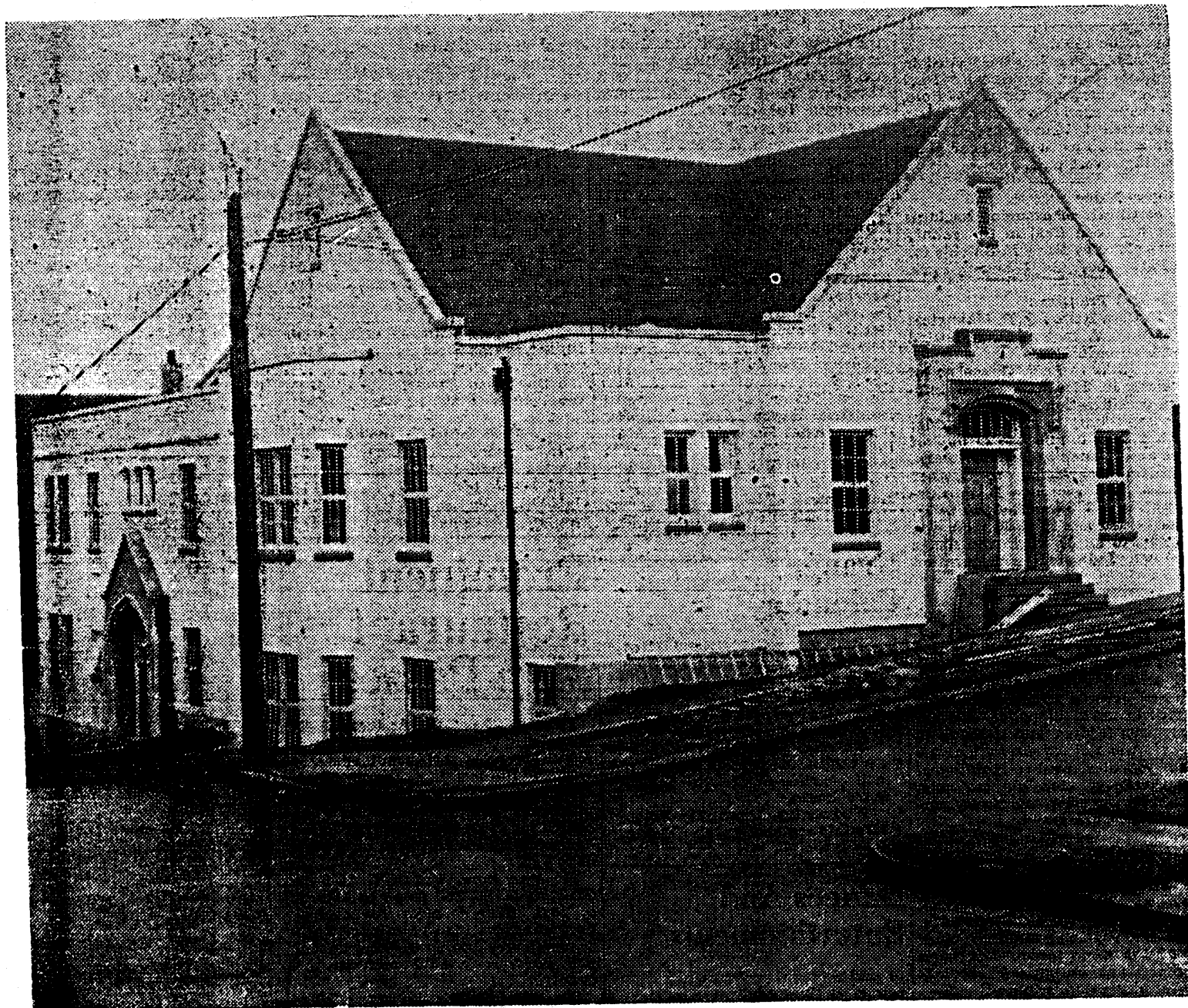
ASTORIA'S CHARACTER BUILDING PLANT



Mayor J. C. Ten Brook, caught in a "wicked loop" tossed by "Calamity Jim" (Rev. D. J. Ferguson, "Big Boss" of the Y. M. C. A. membership round-up. While Ferguson has the mayor "tied and ready to brand" he at least has left the mayor's hands free so that he can sign an application blank.



The First Presbyterian Church
Constructed in 1903



Fellowship Hall
Sunday School Building
Constructed in 1936