

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

1. Name

historic Bunn (John Marion) House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 285 SW 3rd Street not for publication

city, town Yamhill vicinity of congressional district First

state Oregon code 41 county Yamhill code 071

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name David and Bonnie Richardson

street & number P.O. Box 172

city, town Yamhill vicinity of state Oregon 97148

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Yamhill County Courthouse

street & number 5th and Evans

city, town McMinnville state Oregon 97128

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Inventory of Historic Properties has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Salem state Oregon 97310

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The John Marion Bunn House in Yamhill, Oregon was built in the Second Empire Baroque Style. It is a wood frame construction with a second story within a Mansard roof lighted by dormer windows. Built as a farmhouse, but located on the perimeter of the small town, the house occupies a site which originally had been part of the John B. Rowland donation land claim. The property was acquired in 1857 by William Smith, who sold it to William Ball in 1859. Various accounts suggest that the house may have been constructed as early as 1860, or as late as 1888, possibly by William Ball and/or carpenter William Brown. On the basis of style, it seems reasonable to assume that the house was standing by 1877. William Ball sold the house and property to John Bunn in 1888, and Bunn made some additions, matching new work to the existing details. After forty years of occupying the property, the Bunn family sold its interest to the Nelsons in 1929. Perry Smith acquired the property in 1948 and sold it the following year to the Dumdi family. The present owners acquired the house in 1975 for continued residential use. The house is in good condition, and the roof was recently replaced in kind.

The house is located on a 1.45-acre parcel in Sec. 44, T.3S., R.4W., Willamette Meridian, and is oriented to the northeast. Original plantings included a horse chestnut tree in the back yard, privet hedges lining either side of the boardwalk that led to the front entry in the east elevation. The lilacs by the side porch remain from the early plantings, as does part of an old filbert orchard to the south of the house. The windmill, matching the finish details of the house, supplied water on the site. It stood off the southwest corner of the house, and the well was under the back porch. Other outbuildings in addition to the windmill which have been lost over the years are the woodshed and an ice house which stood at the rear of the house.

The town of Yamhill gained board sidewalks in 1891, its first water system in 1902, and electrical service in 1903. In 1912, Yamhill had a flour mill, sawmill, a clay works, and a tile factory. The character of the Bunn House site and its relationship to the town appear to have changed very little. The second story of the house affords fine views of the Coast Range to the west, and open agricultural and to the south and east. Although Main Street is within two blocks to the north of the house, the immediate setting is open enough to remain rural/agricultural.

The original two-story construction of ca. 1877 was L-shaped in plan and contained five rooms, two of which were upstairs sleeping rooms. The house today, following an enlargement of 1888, is basically rectangular and has no basement. The front of the house (facing east) contains a bedroom and a parlor. On the back, or west side, is the dining room and sitting room. The kitchen is on the south side of the house. The upstairs, except for the unfinished attic on the southeast side, is given to bedrooms. After the addition of 1888, the house had four outside doors on the main floor and two doors upstairs which opened onto porch decks with railings. The exterior door in the sitting room has been converted to a window. The chimneys had no fireplaces, as they were stove flues. The kitchen contained one wood stove and a kerosene stove that was added later. The dining room had a wood burning stove also. Originally there were no closets nor toilets in the house. However, there was a room that contained a bathtub, apparently filled by hand, which is reported to be the second oldest tub in Yamhill County.

The foundation is of stone and wooden piers, and it was initially covered with weather skirting. (Exterior walls are clad with shiplap siding.) Internally, the stud walls were finished with horizontal boarding and wainscoting. Ten years ago, sheet rock was applied

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NCRS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	AUG 20 1979
DATE ENTERED	OCT 16 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

to interior walls. The crown of the roof is tin-clad, while the steep face of the Mansard roof is shingled in a diaper pattern and painted red. The shingling was redone recently to match the original treatment.

Exterior siding is horizontal shiplap, painted white. Of the three porches (front, side and back), only the front porch has been removed--probably in the 1940s when other more recent modifications were made. The side porch originally had deck railings, as access to the deck was gained through a polygonal bay, or turret, with conical roof surmounted by bulb finial. Seen against the red roof, the dormers appear to be free standing. Each has a round arch head with surround of molding capped by a keystone. Each window originally had interior blinds and exterior shutters painted green. Except for those modifications just enumerated, the exterior is basically intact.

The house, excluding the back porch and detached garage, has floor space of about 2400 square feet. Originally, all the rooms had wainscoting to a height of two to three feet, and there was wallpaper above. The colors of the wainscoting and wallpaper tended toward tan, green, pink, cream, and blue. The carpet, with some black accents, was of strips one yard wide sewn together. The bedroom floors were left bare. The floors are softwood. The pattern of the wainscoting is of vertical boards with a chair rail, and there may also have been a paneled type. The ceilings have been lowered as a result of the improvements of the 1940s. Presently, they are eight feet in height, having been lowered from at least 9'2". An interior stair has been added, and the original front entry stair has been altered. All the wainscoting has been covered with sheet rock. The winding stair banister is possibly of walnut. The finish is still nicely preserved. The handrail is a half-round, and the newel post is turned with a mushroom cap. Window and door trim is now painted, but it is assumed that it was not originally. Moldings are very plain and are of two distinct types, suggesting two different building periods.

Window ledges are 6 inches deep. Typical downstairs windows have segmental arch heads under hooded lintels and are of the double-hung wood sash type with one light without muntins over one. Attic dormer windows have two lights over two. The baseboard is six to eight inches in height, and is finished with a molding. Most of the floor surfaces are covered at present, except in the dining room, where the floor boards are three to four inches wide. The interior attic walls are 6-inch tongue and groove planks running horizontally. The floor boards are 6 inches wide. The finished attic walls have four-inch horizontal planking, which was the original wall surface used throughout the house. Some of the original furniture no longer on the premises included a walnut wardrobe, armchair, maple washstand, and some kitchen chairs which were originally painted barn red. An iron bedstead from the historic period is still in use in the house.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates ca. 1877 (additions 1888) **Builder/Architect** (attributed to William Ball and/or carpenter William Brown)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The fashionable home built in the Second Empire Baroque Style for William Ball about 1877 is significant as one of the oldest homes in the community of Yamhill and as the home of John Bunn, an early town mayor who acquired and enlarged the house in 1888. Essentially intact, it is the only example of the Second Empire Baroque Style remaining in Yamhill County and it is among the rare examples of residential architecture in this style still standing in the Willamette Valley today.

John Marion Bunn was the son of Frederick Bunn, who came to Oregon from Tennessee in 1851 and took up a donation land claim four miles west of Yamhill in the Yamhill River Valley in the foothills of the Coast Range. The house of Bunn the elder, dating from 1861, still stands about a mile west of the nominated property. Frederick Bunn spent his declining days in the home of his son, John, and died in 1906.

John Bunn, born in Oregon on February 28, 1852, was prominent in Yamhill County affairs. He was a member of the International Order of Odd Fellows, a Mason, president of the Yamhill City Council, and Mayor. On September 30, 1872, he married Mary E. Hawn, a native of Yamhill County. Mary's father, Jacob E. Hawn, was a carpenter and millwright, a native of New York State, who had emigrated to Oregon via the overland trail as early as 1843. He was promptly engaged by the Hudson's Bay Company to build a grist mill upon his arrival.

John and Mary Bunn ultimately had 600 acres of land, 400 of which were under cultivation. Of their ten children, Cleveland E. Bunn was the last to own and occupy the house. Cleveland Bunn's daughter, Beverly Bunn Cleary, author of children's books, presently lives in California. She spent several of her childhood years in the house which is the subject of the nomination. She used the house as the setting for one of her titles: Emily's Runaway Imagination. She reports that the family slept in the room above the kitchen because the chimney for the kitchen stove rose through the room and kept it warm. The family lounged in the sitting room which adjoined the dining room. The attic rooms were used as sleeping rooms for workers or boarders on occasion.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Dole, Philip, "Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley," Space, Style and Structure: Building in Northwest America (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974).

Gaston, Joseph, The Centennial History of Oregon: 1811-1912 (Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1912), Vol. 2, pages 1036-1041. Biographical note on John Marion Bunn and his relations, also portraits of Bunn and wife, Mary Hawn Bunn. (continued)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.45 acres

Quadrangle name Carlton, Oregon

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 1 0 4 8 5 2 6 0 5 0 2 0 4 3 0
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification The property nominated is Tax Lot 3404BD-4600, a rough rectangle parallel to the grid layout of the city of Yamhill and situated near the westerly city limits. The house sits in the NW corner of the parcel, ca. 10 feet from the west and north boundaries. Third Street forms the north boundary.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carol Koch

organization Architecture student, University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts date May 1978

street & number 1515 Hilyard Street, No. 23

telephone 503/345-7594

city or town Eugene

state Oregon 97403

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature]

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date August 7, 1979

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

[Signature]
 Keeper of the National Register

date 10-16-79

Attest: W. Ray Luce
 Chief of Registration

date Oct 16, 1979

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 20 1978
DATE ENTERED OCT 16 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Clark, R., History of the Willamette Valley, Oregon (Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1927).

Stoller, Ruth, Yamhill County: The Early History of its Towns and Cities (Yamhill County Historical Society, 1976).

Interview: David and Bonnie Richardson, owners and occupants, May 11, 1978.