National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

(1 01111 10-300a). Type all entires.						
1. Name of Property						•
historic name	Domes Wa	lter J., Hous	:e			
other names/site number	-	Hill Stock Fa				
2. Location	·				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
street & number		<u>fic Highway W</u>	<u>Vest</u>		4 / 4 4	for publication
city, town	Rickreall				x vic	
state Oregon	code OR	county	Polk	code	053	zip code 97
3. Classification						
Ownership of Property	Cate	egory of Property		Number of F	esources v	within Property
x private		ouilding(s)		Contributing		contributing
public-local		district				4 buildings
public-local public-State	===	site				sites
public-State public-Federal	=======================================	structure				sites structures
public-rederal	===	object		4		3_ objects
		object		5		<u> </u>
Name of valated models to more						
Name of related multiple prop N/A	erty listing:					resources previously
N/A		· .		listed in the	National He	egister <u>N/A</u>
4. State/Federal Agency	Certification					
Signature of certifying official State or Federal agency and t		ate Historic	Preservat	ion Office		nuary 29, 1990 ate
In my opinion, the property	meets 🗀 o	does not meet the	National Reg	ister criteria.	See continua	ation sheet.
Signature of commenting or or	ther official		:		Da	ate
State or Federal agency and b	oureau					
5. National Park Service	Certification					
, hereby, certify that this prop	erty is:					
ntered in the National Re	gister.			Entered in the	_	
See continuation sheet.	•	Mars J. Ba	her 1	National Reg	ister	9 March 1990
determined eligible for the	National					
Register. See continuation						
determined not eligible for				-		
National Register.						
removed from the National	l Register.					
other, (explain:)						
			n			
			Signature of th	ne Keeper		Date of Action

6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)			
Domestic: single family dwelling	Domestic: single family dwelling			
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)			
	foundation brick and concrete			
Late 19th and Early 20th Century	walls asbestos shingle over wood			
American Movements/Craftsman	weatherboards			
	roof asphalt: composition shingle			
	other wood - all trim elements			
	cement and glass mosaic -			
	porch pediments			

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The Walter J. Domes Residence, constructed in 1919 in the Craftsman style, is located in a rural area an equal distance from the towns of Bethel and McCoy, in the vicinity of Rickreall. The residence is significant under criterion "c" for its architectural importance to Polk County. The house is sited adjacent to a Filbert orchard, amidst fruit trees and mature plantings. The wood frame residence is a large, two and one half story with basement house. It is horizontally composed and includes Craftsman details on the exterior and the interior. The Domes residence is square in plan with simple proportions and has a truncated hipped roof. Dormer windows located on all four elevations have a similar roof line. A large, rounded wrap-around porch with balustrade is located along the north and west facades. Attached to the porch on the north facade is an elegant porte cochere; an unusual feature in this rural area which provides a grand entrance to this country house. The rounded porch features elephantine columns set upon brick bases, a balustrade and half-round pediments over the main entrance, porte cochere and at the northwest and southwest corners. The house is painted white with a blue and burgundy trim. Its original color treatment was gray with white trim.

SETTING

The Walter J. Domes residence is located in the northeast corner of Polk County, on 2.8 acres of land directly adjacent to the east side of State Highway 99W. This parcel of land is located in Section 17, Township 6 south, Range 4 West. This land lies just north of the two small towns of McCoy and Bethel. The largest town in the vicinity is Rickreall which is located several miles south of the Domes residence on State Highway 99W. The Southern Pacific Railway track is to the west of the highway.

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The main entrance of the house faces west and the highway. The house, which is sited at the edge of the highway, is surrounded by mature shrubs and trees including a ginko, monkey puzzle and weeping willow. Several original rose bushes align the porch adjacent the porte cochere which extends from the center of the north elevation. The surrounding acreage is devoted to growing grass seed and a Filbert orchard is located to the north and east of the house. Planted fields directly across the highway to the west of the Domes residence were historically part of the Domes family land. Several large old oak trees line both sides of the highway.

PLAN

The Domes residence is essentially square in plan with slight projections on several elevations. A central hall provides circulation throughout the building. Rooms on the first floor are positioned in a circular manner around the hall. On the second floor, the hall divides the square plan and rooms are located on either side of it.

The primary entrance to the house is located in the center of the west facade. The public spaces form an "L" shape along the north and west elevations while the more private spaces, including bedrooms and bathroom, are located on the south portion of the house. A rectangular shaped living room of long and narrow proportions is accessed from the main entrance on the west elevation. To the south of the living room is a parlor and beyond that a sunroom which projects slightly from the south elevation. The living room is a pivotal circulation area for the public spaces of the house. The parlor, sunroom, dining room, as well as the main stairway to the upper floors, are accessible from this room. The dining room is entered through a broad screen wall off the east side of the living room. The second major entrance to the house is located in the generously proportioned dining room which faces north. The porte cochere is directly outside this entrance. A doorway on the east wall of the dining room provides access to a large kitchen which has recently been remodeled. The kitchen and adjoining porch area project slightly along the north and east

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facades. The central hallway, aligned along an east and west axis, may be accessed through the living room, dining room and kitchen. The private bedroom areas of the first floor are off the hall on the south side of the building. A bedroom with a bay window is located at the southeast corner of the house. An additional bedroom is situated to the east of the parlor and a large bathroom with access to both bedrooms is located between them.

The second floor is accessed by the main stairway located in the central entrance hall as well as the servant's stairs at the rear of the hall. A series of steps lead from the living room to a landing where the central hall can be closed off from the other rooms. The second floor is square and simple in plan. The central hallway, aligned in an east-west axis, forms a spine between the two halves of the floor plan. There are six bedrooms located on the second floor; three on either side of the central hall. A small sewing room with a view toward the west is located at the end of the hall between two bedrooms. The bedrooms have spacious closet facilities and a large bathroom is located on the south half between two bedrooms. A second stairway is located at the east end of the central hall. This stairway leads to the finished attic story (in original condition) as well as to the kitchen below.

The basement has a poured concrete floor and concrete foundation walls. A partial section of the foundation wall below the porch is brick. The basement contains the original furnace and a large fruit cellar.

EXTERIOR

The exterior of the Domes residence is characterized by broad, horizontal massing. The truncated hipped roof and wide, flared over-hanging eaves and dormer windows further accentuate the horizontal massing of the house. These elements reveal the influence of high style Craftsman homes of the day. The large wrap-around porch is a feature of the Queen Anne style which is combined with Craftsman inspired details such as the

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elephantine columns and half-round pediments. Certainly the elegant porte cochere alludes to the grandeur of a country manor house. All these "high style" elements are combined with a vernacular Craftsman house type and result in what really is an elegant "country house" on the rolling, rural landscape. The curious colored glass and cement infill in the half-round pediments of the porch is a further use of vernacular ornamentation. The exterior of the residence is clad with fire retardant siding which covers the original horizontal board siding. The corner boards and a wide frieze atop the second floor windows and dormers in the attic story are still visible.

West Elevation

A gateway consisting of two massive brick piers at the edge of the highway mark the entrance to the Domes residence on the west elevation. A walkway leads from the gateway to the main entrance to the house. A driveway to the left leads to the porte cochere. A series of concrete steps lead from the walkway to the front porch. The steps are flanked by two elephantine columns atop bases of brick, which support the porch roof and a half-round pediment. This pediment marks the location of the front door. The gable end of the pediment is filled with a cement mixture in which pieces of colored glass are imbedded. Curvilinear patterns formed of wood strips are inlaid into the mixture. The rise of the pediment is decorated with a carved wood ball ornament. From this point the porch with carved balustrade wraps around the facade to the south and the east. The balusters are of squat proportions which echo the broad proportions of the . house. The multi-paned front door is flanked by side lites. Window groupings of three double-hung wood sash windows are located on either side of the doorway. Fenestration on the second floor includes three paired double-hung wood sash windows. The attic story is illuminated on all elevations by dormer windows. Each dormer has a hip roof, which reflects the form of the main roof. Each dormer has a window grouping of three adjoined double-hung wood sash windows.

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South Elevation

The rounded wrap-around porch extends to the southwest corner of the house where it abuts an enclosed sun porch which projects slightly from the plane of the south elevation. The porch has a low hipped roof which terminates at the end of the sunroom which was originally lit by multipaned casement windows. An flatter version of the half-round pediment bisects the porch roof directly at the southwest corner of the house and is supported by two elephantine columns. From a point slightly to the right of center, the eastern half of the south elevation projects slightly. A semihexagonal bay window extends from the facade. West of this bay window, a single double-hung wood sash window has replaced two smaller windows. Paired double-hung wood sash windows are located between the projecting bay and the sunroom. A single double-hung wood sash window is located above the sunroom on the second floor. Original paired doublehung wood sash windows to the east have been replaced by new windows. A single double-hung wood sash window is located directly above the projecting bay window of the first floor.

East Elevation

A one story enclosed porch extension off the kitchen is located on the east elevation of the Domes residence and also projects from the north half of the facade. The porch has a low hipped roof and a central doorway that consists of multi-paned French doors which open onto a wood deck with engaged wood benches situated along the perimeter. Groupings of three, multi-paned windows with six lites each flank the entrance. Paired windows of similar form are located on the south wall of the porch. Two single pane, double-hung wood sash windows are located to the left of the porch. Three single pane double-hung wood sash windows illuminate the second floor of the east elevation.

North Elevation

The north elevation of the Domes Residence includes the second major

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entrance to the house and the elegant porte cochere which extends from a point slightly off-center on this facade. Two elephantine columns atop brick bases support the half-round roof of the porte cochere which extends from its junction with the porch roof. Wide overhanging eaves project from the porte cochere extension and concrete steps lead to the porch from beneath. Window groupings of three single pane, double-hung wood sash windows are located across from the steps. A single doorway which leads to the dining room is located to the west of these windows and a single double-hung wood sash window to the right of that. To the east of the porte cochere is the extension off the kitchen which has a continuous band of multi-paned windows. A paired group of single pane, double-hung wood sash windows is located directly in the center of the north elevation on the second floor. This grouping is flanked by single pane double hung wood sash windows.

INTERIOR

The interior of the Domes residence is characterized by the use of hand-crafted wood details inspired by the Craftsman style. Dark wood finishes and tile work found in the bathrooms reveal a desire to achieve the aesthetic standards promoted by Craftsman literature of the day. The hand crafted qualities of these elements reflect the vernacular qualities of the exterior of the house. There are original hard wood floors throughout and many of the original light fixtures remain. The public space of the first floor is characterized by a free flowing plan with rooms that are open to each other, separated only by elegant screen walls with wood truncated columns. Characteristically, floors are oak and trim and paneling is fir.

First Floor

The living room is entered from the main entrance on the west elevation. This room is a major circulation area, with access to the parlor and sun room to the south and the dining room to the east. The circulation core of the house, a stairhall, is also accessed off the living room directly across

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from the main entrance. Three rounded wood stair steps lead from the living room to a small landing. A boxed newel post of carved wood is at the end of a short rail along the edge of this landing. The rail is composed of wood slats; alternating wider slats with a cut out geometric pattern are next to paired narrow slats. Immediately across from the steps of the landing is a doorway which leads to the more private bedroom area of the first floor, as well as the servants stairs to the upper floors. To the left of this doorway is the main stairwell which ascends to the upper floors.

The parlor is situated to the south of the living room and beyond that an enclosed sun room is located on the south elevation of the house. The parlor is separated from the living room by a screen wall. The screen consists of engaged truncated columns at either end of the opening and freestanding truncated columns which engage the wall. These columns support a portion of wall which drops below the ceiling at this point. Multipaned French doors separate the parlor and the enclosed sun room. There is a wood baseboard and hard wood floors throughout.

The dining room is located off the east end of the living room. A screen wall composed of finely crafted wood cabinets with geometrically shaped beveled leaded glass doors face the living room. Truncated columns identical to those in the parlor rest upon the cabinets. A brick fireplace is located in the center of the south wall of the dining room. A modern wood stove has been installed in the fireplace. Flanking the fireplace are wood and beveled leaded glass cabinets built flush against the fireplace. A simple wood shelf which extends along the top of the fireplace and cabinets serves as the mantelpiece. A built-in buffet with drawers and beveled leaded glass cabinets is built-in on the east wall of the dining room.

Second Floor

Six bedrooms and a sewing room are located on the second floor of the Domes residence. The wood floors are painted grey throughout except in the sewing room where new linoleum has been installed. The bedrooms

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retain their original dark finishes on wood window and door frames and original light fixtures have been retained. The servant's stair with boxed newel post, also retains its original dark finish. The bathroom on the second floor is of generous proportions. It retains original materials including a yellow tile floor and walls and cabinet surfaced with yellow tile with black trim.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS

The fire retardant siding which clads the exterior of the Domes residence was likely installed within the last 20 years. A few windows have been altered, predominantly on the south elevation, including the windows of the enclosed sun porch. The interior has not been altered except for the 1985 remodeling of the kitchen. The present owners are formulating a plan to remove the asbestos shingle siding to reveal the narrow lapped weatherboards which are intact underneath, and trim elements missing from openings in the south (rear) elevation will be replaced.

8. Statement of Significance		
Certifying official has considered the significance of this pro	perty in relation to other properties: statewide X locally	
Applicable National Register Criteria A B X C	□D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	□D □E □F □G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) Architecture	Period of Significance 1919	Significant Dates
	Cultural Affiliation N/A	
Significant Person N/A	Architect/Builder	_
N/A	Walter J. Domes, build	der

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

		X See continuati	on sheet
Previous documentati	on on file (NPS):		
preliminary determ	nination of individual listing (36 CFR 6	7) Primary location of	of additional data:
has been requeste	ed	State historic	preservation office
	n the National Register	Other State ag	jency
	ined eligible by the National Register	Federal agenc	; y
designated a Nation	onal Historic Landmark	Local governm	nent
recorded by Histo	ric American Buildings	University	
Survey #		Other	
recorded by Histo	ric American Engineering	Specify repository	
Record #			
10. Geographical	Data		
Acreage of property _	2.83 acres	Amity, Oregon	1:24000
UTM References A 1 0 4 8 3 Zone Easting C 1	8:3:0	B Zone Easting D See continuati	Northing ion sheet
Verbal Boundary Des	cription		
The nominated a	rea is located in NE MW NW N	Section 17. Township 6	S Range 4W of the
Willamette Meri location. It i East right-of-w the West line o	dian in Polk County, Oregons more particularly descrively line of State Highway 9 of the Horace Burnett Donatuce North along (continued)	n and is a portion of bed as follows: Begin 9W, 30 feet East of th	Tax Lot 100 at said uning at a point on the
Boundary Justification	n		
The bounds of t	he nominated area of 2.83 Walter J. Domes in 1919 an		
yard and garden	, a portion of the adjoini	ng filbert orchard, mi	scellaneous historic fruit
	historic "hitching" posts		
		ng features_are a meta	al shed, a quonset building
a pumphouse of	the 1930s, a small fuel ho		ion sheet oil house, and
three metal gra	in bins.		
11. Form Prepare	d By		
name/title	Kimberly Demuth, with Kim	berly Lakin and Patty	Sacket
organization	Demuth & Associates	date	<u>August 12, 1989</u>
street & number	50 SW Second Avenue, Suit	e 420 telephone _	(503) 224-0043
city or town	Portland	state	Oregon zip code _97204

9. Major Bibliographical References

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SUMMARY

The historic country seat of Walter J. Domes, proprietor of the Crescent Hill Stock Farm, was built in 1919. It stands on the east side of the West Pacific Highway (U.S. 99W) in northern Polk County, Oregon, about a mile northeast of McCoy, a station on the Southern Pacific branch line. The nearest Polk County community of some size is Rickreall, about 8 miles to the south.

The historic developer of the farm, Walter Domes, was a cattle breeder. He occupied the property prior to the time he commenced construction of the house, as the place was under his family's ownership in the previous generation. Domes operated the farm to the time of his death in 1925. His widow sold the place in 1929. In the context of rural Polk County architecture, the house represents the optimism which attended the peak years of stock raising in the Willamette Valley.

The nominated area of 2.8 acres is drawn to include the farmhouse, its immediate landscaped yard and garden, a portion of the adjacent filbert orchard, miscellaneous historic fruit trees and four historic "hitching" posts marking the farm's entrance and exit at the highway right-of-way. The several supporting buildings and structures on the grounds are neither historic nor counted as separately contributing features. These are a metal shed, a quonset building, pumphouse of the 1930s, a small fuel shed, or oil house, and three metal grain bins.

The property meets National Register Criterion C as a locally distinctive example of vernacular Craftsman architecture elaborated by a dignified, high style porte cochere and rounded, wrap-around veranda. The house is a farmhouse with country estate pretensions situated in a rolling agricultural landscape, and it is understood to have been constructed by Walter Domes himself. It was purposely sited close to the newly-completed highway to attract the notice of passing motorists to the owner's stock breeding farm.

The house is a commodious two-and-a-half-story squarish volume on concrete basement. It has a hipped roof with bellcast, broadly overhanging eaves. Each elevation is symmetrically organized and is crowned by a wide hip-roofed dormer having three equal openings for window sash. The exterior is detailed with frieze boards, corner boards and plain window framements, and the walls were clad with narrow lapped weatherboards, originally. In the 1960s, it is estimated, the siding was overlaid with asbestos shingles. The original siding is intact and about to be exposed once again as the present owner plans removal of the shingles. Except for portions of the south and east elevations, all trim elements are intact, although they have been painted dark in contrast to a lighter body color. This produces the reverse effect of the color treatment documented in historic views. Windows are fitted with double-hung sash with one-

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over-one lights. Typically, they are grouped in banks of two or three to increase natural lighting to the interior, especially in the formal rooms of the ground story which are sheltered by the encircling veranda.

The veranda is the very essence of weighty, late Craftsman design, remarkable in its extent and solidity. It shelters three sides of the house and extends a porte cochere on axis with the center of the north facade. Its foundation and column piers are of patterned brick. Above the piers and heavy balustrade are elephantine Doric columns supporting a full entablature and roof structure with a series of pediments, both half-round and segmental-arched, the tympanae of which are filled with cement and glass mosaic and trimmed with dentil molding. The interior is conservatively finished in the vernacular Craftsman vein with natural finished and dark-stained door and window trim, paneling, built-in dining room cabinetry, and a stairhall screen wall employing truncated, tapering square columns.

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The Walter J. Domes Residence is locally significant under criterion "c" as an outstanding example of the Craftsman style house as it is represented in its rural setting in Polk County, Oregon. Located on Pacific Highway 99 West, the house is a prominent landmark in an area otherwise lacking in stylish structures. Historically, a small but thriving farming community named McCoy was located just south of the Domes residence; today McCoy is considered a ghost town with only a handful of people still living there. The Domes family resided on this land for one generation prior to the building of this house. Walter Domes established Crescent Hill Stock Farms, an Ayrshire cattle breeding business and built this house in 1919. An obituary for Walter Domes describes the house as "probably the finest in the county and one of the attractive spots that no passerby ever fails to notice." (Polk County Observer. 7/9/1925. p.4)

### Setting

The Domes Residence is situated on a parcel of land lying in Sec. 17, T 6S, R 4W of the Willamette Meridain in Polk County, close to 99W facing west. It is surrounded by rich agricultural land which characterizes the Polk County landscape. Immediately adjacent to the house is land currently used for growing grass seed and filberts. In the distance to the east are rolling hills and to the west lies the Coast Range. No other residential structures are visible in the nearby setting. The nearest existing towns are; Amity located approximately four miles to the north and Rickreall, about nine miles to the south. McCoy is to the southwest and the small farming community of Bethel is four miles to the southeast.

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#### **McCoy**

McCoy, the closest town to the Domes residence, was platted in 1879 by Isaac McCoy. Villard's West Side narrow gauge railroad line ran along the eastern edge of the town. In 1880, the town boasted two general stores, blacksmith, hotel, doctor and a wheat merchant. Later a grade and high school were added and by 1915 a population of 130 were listed in McCoy. In 1959, McCoy had a population of only 35. ("A Century of Polk County History 1859-1959". Booklet. Oregon Historical Society.) When trucking became the preferred method of transportation of agricultural goods over the railroad and the farming industry became more concentrated and commercialized, small towns such as McCoy began to disappear. At the time the Domes house was built the area would have been a small thriving farming community. The Domes house stands as one of few remaining structures associated with this rural community.

### Walter Domes and Agriculture

The Domes residence was constructed in 1919 by Walter Domes. He suffered from tuberculosis at the time, and lived in a tent on the property during construction. The construction date is based on information from Don Domes, son of Walter Domes, and the chain of title. The Domes had three sons, Wilford, Alton and Don. In 1925, Walter died and his widow continued to run the farm until 1929. The property was sold to the Leppin family in 1932. The Leppins owned it until 1966 when it was sold to the Satalich family and the current owners Don and Laura Christensen purchased the property in 1981. (Correspondence from Don Domes and Don Christensen.)

Walter Domes named his farm the Crescent Hill Farms and raised and bred Ayrshire cattle. He was also a cattle showman who traveled and showed his cattle and won many awards. (Correspondence from Don Domes.) The breeding of pure-bred cattle began in Oregon in the 1870s when S.G. Reed and W.S. Ladd introduced Shorthorn, Ayrshire and Jersey cattle to their stock farm in Washington County. (Leslie, Scott. "Soil Repair in the

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Willamette Valley". Oregon Historical Quarterly. Vol. 18. Mar. - Dec. 1917.) Stock raising in Oregon reached its peak the year the house was built, with the industry slowing declining after this period. (Lou Ann Speulda. "Oregon's Agricultural Development: A Historical Context 1811-1940". 1989.)

Polk County is located in the center of the Willamette Valley in prime agricultural land. The Willamette River runs north south along the eastern edge of the county. The Cascade Range borders the western edge of the county and provides the second major industry to the county, wood The northern portion of the county, where the Domes residence is located, was originally used primarily for wheat growing. portion of the county where the larger towns of Independence and Monmouth lie, was used for the growing of hops until prohibition eliminated the industry. Current crops in the county vary from filbert orchards to grass seed to vineyards. ("City of Independence Historic Resource Inventory 1984-1985".) Highway 99West runs north south through the county on the eastern edge and was historically the major automobile route from Portland to southern Oregon, on the western side of the Willamette River. The Domes residence being located close to the highway allowed for good free advertising for Walter Domes' stock breeding farm.

#### Architecture

Only three houses in Polk County are currently listed on the National Register one of which dates from this time period. No historic resource inventory of the county has been completed, however the 1976 State wide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings identifies seven house in Polk County, one of which dates from 1903. The other six date prior to 1900.

The Craftsman style house or American Four Square as it sometimes referred to, became popular in the early 1900s as a reaction to the elaborate Queen Anne style of the preceding century. The style is

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characterized by its two or two and one half story box shape, hipped roof and dormers, and large porches. The interiors are generally open in plan with large openings between rooms. Interior finishes are varnished or painted woodwork and plastered walls. Squared columns and newel posts and built-in cabinetry are often featured in Craftsman style houses. The Domes residence has many of these features and is an excellent intact example of its type. The massive porch columns, oversized curved porch, and porte cochere are quite distinctive and give the house a formality which is unusual in a rural farmhouse from this period.

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Scott, Leslie M. "Soil Repair in the Willamette Valley". Oregon Historical Quarterly. Vol. 18. Mar. - Dec. 1917.

Speulda, Lou Ann. "Oregon's Agricultural Development: A Historical Context 1811-1940". 1989.

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#### Interviews

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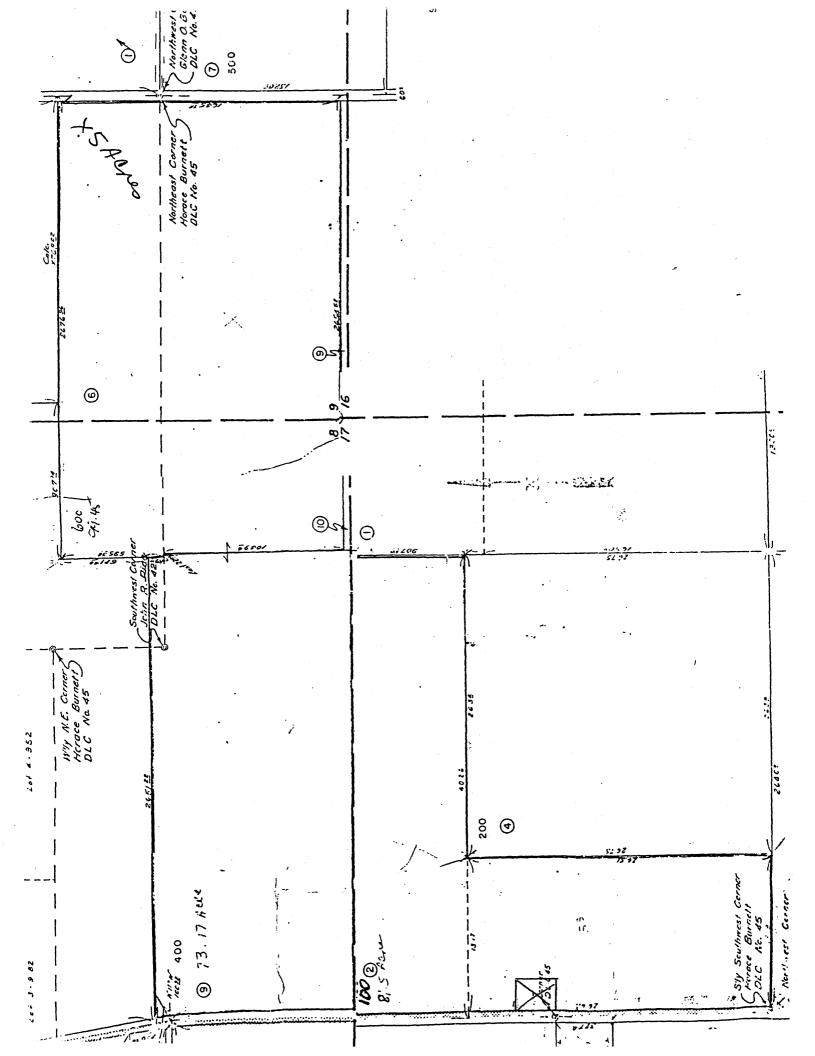
#### Correspondence

Christensen, Don. July 1989. Domes, Don. July 1989.

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said East right-of-way line 477 feet; thence East at right angles to the right-of-way line 258 feet; thence South parallel to the East right-of-way line of said State Highway 477 feet; thence West 258 feet to the point of beginning, containing in all 2.83 acres, more or less.



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