

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAR 24 1976  
DATE ENTERED JUN 23 1976

**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 *Yamhill*  
Smith (Andrew) House

AND/OR COMMON

SAME

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
306 5th Street

CITY, TOWN

Dayton

--- VICINITY OF

Oregon First District

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Oregon

CODE

41

COUNTY

Yamhill

CODE

071

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Mr. and Mrs. Ora Ashley

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 221

(864-2198)

CITY, TOWN

Dayton

--- VICINITY OF

Oregon 97114

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Yamhill County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

McMinnville

STATE

Oregon 97128

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

DATE

July, 1974

--- FEDERAL  STATE --- COUNTY --- LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Oregon State Parks and Recreation Branch, State Highway Building

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE

Oregon 97310

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Andrew Smith House in Dayton, built about 1859, is a rare example of a story-and-a-half house with a central hall plan in Oregon. It is also an unusually richly detailed example of the Classical Revival and is noteworthy for its superlative craftsmanship.

The house consists of a story-and-a-half gabled volume fronting to the northeast with a single story gabled kitchen ell at the west end of the southwest side. Fenestration of the northeast front is regular - a centered entry door with sidelights and transom with two double-hung sash windows originally containing six lights over six on either side. The northwest end contains three symmetrically placed windows and a single window in the gable end, the same size as the lower windows. The southeast end is identical except that the center opening on the ground floor contains a door with a small transom window above. All openings are set in simple architraves with a boldly articulated boxed cornice projecting above butting against the frieze. There are no eave returns at the gable ends, however, a broad, well-proportioned plain frieze with molded trim surrounds the house beneath the projected boxed eave cornice. The capitals of the engaged columns which articulate the corners of the house match the window cornices in detail. Similarly detailed square columns or piers carry the kitchen porch roof which extends from the axis of the central hall.

Within, the house contains a single room on either side of the central hall, which contains a straight-run stair to the second floor, as well as the kitchen on the ground floor. There are two rooms on the second floor. It is thought that the house originally had three fireplaces -- one in each of the large first-floor rooms plus one in the kitchen, though this has not been substantiated. There are at present two stove chimneys, one at either end of the main house inside the wall. That at the northwest end straddles the ridge, and that at the southeast end is to the west of the ridge. The proportions and detailing of these chimneys suggest that they are later modifications. The kitchen interior has been somewhat altered, the stairway is missing its railing, some windows have been replaced, and the woodshed to the west of the kitchen ell has been removed. Otherwise, the house is remarkably intact. The post-and-beam structural system of hewn cedar has held together even though the foundation at the east corner has collapsed, causing the house to rack as a unit. The house would probably come back into true with the re-establishment of support beneath this corner. It is believed that the original papers and finishes exist on the interior board walls beneath subsequent layers. There are also on the grounds some very early fruit trees. These have not been identified, but there are many early species which are now exceedingly rare.

D.W.P.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

ca, 1859

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Andrew Smith House is one of the more excellent examples of Classical Revival architecture in Oregon, with all of the exterior detail intact. Andrew Smith, the owner, was an important figure in early Oregon history. He came across the Oregon Trail in one of the first migrations in 1842, and he was one of the co-founders of the City of Dayton.

Andrew Smith settled in Yamhill County, Oregon, in 1844. His first enterprize was operating a ferry (at the mouth of Palmer Creek) across the Yamhill River. In 1848 he married the daughter of another early pioneer, Joel Palmer. Two years later, Smith and Palmer platted the City of Dayton -- half on Palmer's land and half on Smith's land. The city was named for Smith's hometown, Dayton, Ohio.

There are very few references to Andrew Smith after 1850. He is referred to by Joel Palmer in 1854 and 1860. In 1854 he helped Palmer with some of the Indian relations (Palmer was Indian Superintendent 1853-57), and in 1860 Smith went to British Columbia with Palmer in search of gold. Smith died in 1891.

Very little documentation is available concerning the house. There is a letter from Mrs. Smith to her husband in late winter 1860 referring to the new house and a possible purchaser for the old house. From this it appears that the house was completed in 1859. Another interesting hypothesis may explain the ornate detail work on the house. In the Census of 1860, a Mr. Chaplin, a fashion door and sash maker, was listed as having a shop in Dayton. His shop was established in 1858 and was destroyed by a flood in 1860. After the flood he left the Willamette Valley and moved to Eastern Oregon. This may explain why the Smith House has the ornate detail and why it is the only house like it in the area.

The Smith House is unique as an example of Classical Revival architecture in Oregon. The detail is much more pronounced than most houses of this style in the state, and it is one of about six known houses of this style with one and one half stories. The frame is of high quality hewn cedar, and the interior appears to maintain the original floor plan. Although the appearance of the house has deteriorated, its mere survival is attributable to its fine quality construction.

R.K.S.



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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

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Corning, H. M., Dictionary of Oregon History, Binfords and Mort, Portland, Oregon

# DAYTON HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY

NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTY

ASSESSOR MAP NUMBER: 4-3-17 DB TAX LOT NUMBER: 6900

PLAT NAME: NA LOT: NA BLOCK: NA

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 306 Fifth Street

CURRENT OWNER: Ora L. & Nelda Ashley  
306 Fifth Street, P.O. Box 221, Dayton, OR

ORIGINAL OWNER: Andrew Smith Contributing: 1 Residence

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown Noncontributing: 2 Out-Building

STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE: Classical Revival YEAR BUILT: c. 1859

HISTORIC NAME: Smith-Jones House HISTORIC USE: Residence

CURRENT NAME: Ashley House CURRENT USE: Storage

CONDITION: Poor ALTERATIONS: Minor

PHOTOGRAPH ROLL-FRAME: 1-15 and 16 INTERVIEWEE: \_\_\_\_\_

RESOURCE NUMBER: 33 RECORDER: Rees DATE: 10-28-84

SITE DESCRIPTION: THEME: Architecture and Exploration/Settlement

The Smith-Jones House faces northeast on Fifth Street in an older residential area at the southeastern edge of the plat of the Town of Dayton. The house is surrounded with rough cut grass, native maples, and old fruit trees, and at the rear of the property a grove of filberts. A cyclone fence surrounds the property.

1.41 acres.

10/493910/5007220

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The Smith-Jones House is one story with an attic and rectangular in plan with a one story kitchen wing at the rear of the west end. The symmetrical facade is five bays wide with two windows on each side of the central front door. The side facades are three bays wide with three openings at the first story and one in the gable end; in the southeast end, all of the openings are windows except for the first story opening which is a door with a single light transom above. The foundation is of post and pier construction with a board skirt. The building is sided with horizontal clapboards and has a medium pitch gable roof with the eave end oriented toward the street. The eaves are boxed and detailed with an elaborate cornice and frieze moldings. The frieze board is very wide and trimmed with a half round molding about three fourths of the way down. The windows are six over six double hung wood sash; four windows have lost their original muntins. All of the window and door openings and corner boards are detailed with a simple architrave capped with a bold box cornice. The front door is further detailed with pilasters, four light side lights and five light top light. The eight light front door appears to be a later addition; the four panel side door appears to be original. There are no porchs or steps visible at either of the entrances. The two interior chimneys are located near the gable ends; the northern chimney is centered on the roofridge, the southern one is just behind the ridge. The rear kitchen woodshed addition has been covered with plywood and enlarged for vehicle storage. There are two non-contributing structures on the property, a shed at the south corner and a mobile home to the northwest of the house.

## HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION:

The Smith-Jones House, built in 1859, was the second Smith residence; the first residence, (Resource #26) is located a short distance away to the north on Main Street and inside the plat of the Town of Dayton. In June of 1848, Smith married Joel Palmer's daughter, Sarah. It appears the second residence, which is just outside of the plat of the town, may have been constructed to more comfortably house his increasing family; four children are listed in the 1860 census and a fifth was born in 1862, the year Sarah died. It also is speculated that a town founder might want a more prestigious and visually prominent home. Facing the town Smith named after Dayton Ohio, his former hometown, this residence is located at the end of Main Street, adjacent to the dividing line between Smith's and Palmer's claims.

The ornamental detailing on the building is quite pronounced and is conjectured to be the handiwork of Daniel Chaplin, who is listed as a sash and door maker in the 1860 census. He established his shop in Dayton in 1858; after the flood of 1860 in which his shop was destroyed, he moved to eastern Oregon.

Little is known about Smith who doesn't appear to have been prominent in early town affairs. In 1854, according to Palmer, Smith assisted him with some of the Indian relations. It also appears from personal correspondence that he was involved in 1855 and 1860 as he traveled to The Dalles and Walla Walla in those years. In 1867, Smith sold 76 lots in the Town of Dayton to Joel Palmer. In 1872, Smith was involved in a law suit for non-payment of a promissory note to Daniel Barnum. The result of the suit was that all of the remaining 46 lots owned by Smith in the town of Dayton were sold at a Sheriff's auction.

## SOURCES:

- .Cemetery Survey, I.O.O. F., Dayton, Oregon.
- .Dayton Centennial 1880-1890, Edit. June Bienz, 1980.
- ."Historic Background of Some Dayton Structures", Ruth Stoller.
- .National Register of Historic Places Nomination: "Andrew Smith House", David Powers and Robert Sutton, 1975.
- .United States Census, Yamhill County, Dayton, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910.
- .Yamhill County Deed and Records, Yamhill County Courthouse, McMinnville, Oregon.
- .Oregon, Washington and Idaho Gazeteer and Business Directory, R.L. Polk, 1889-90, 1891-2.
- .City of Dayton, annotated map, Bingham Gabriel, 1905.
- .Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Dayton, Oregon, 1893, sheets #2 and 3.
- .Andrew Smith Letters, Oregon Historical Society Manuscript Collection, Portland, Oregon.

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: (continued)

The two interior chimneys are located near the gable ends; the northern chimney is centered on the roof ridge, the southern one is just behind the ridge. The rear kitchen woodshed addition has been covered with plywood and enlarged for vehicle storage. There are two non-contributing structures on the property, a shed at the south corner and a mobile home to the northwest of the house.

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## HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION: (continued)

Although Smith is listed in the 1870 census, it appears that he is no longer residing in the house but on his father's claim, southwest of Dayton, and that he had sold the house to John Jones. Jones, who was listed as a farmer in the 1870 census, owned a general store at the southern corner of Third and Ferry from the 1880's until the 1906 fire. His oldest daughter, Ella, who married R.L. Harris, inherited the store property in 1907. In about 1913, she and her husband built the Bank of Dayton and the Harris Building (Resource #14) on it and the adjacent property. In 1910, the HARRISES are listed as living in the Smith-Jones House with her mother, Jane, and two siblings. It appears that the house remained in the Jones Family ownership for approximately 60 years.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places. See nomination form for statement of significance. Criterion b,c.



