

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 28 1979

DATE ENTERED

FEB 5 1980

**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 Sprague/Marshall/Bowie House

AND/OR COMMON G. T. Gray House

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 2234 N. W. Johnson St.

CITY, TOWN Portland, --- NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First

STATE Oregon VICINITY OF CODE 41 COUNTY Multnomah CODE 051

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Gray

STREET & NUMBER 2234 N. W. Johnson Street

CITY, TOWN Portland VICINITY OF STATE Oregon

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Multnomah County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 1021 SW 4th Avenue

CITY, TOWN Portland, Oregon 97204 STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Portland Historical Landmark

DATE 1979 --- FEDERAL --- STATE --- COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Portland Historical Landmarks Commission, 424 SW Main Street

CITY, TOWN Portland STATE Oregon 97204

7 DESCRIPTION

<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>1904</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Sprague/Marshall/Bowie (S/M/B) House, built in 1882, originally occupied a site at the southeast corner of N. W. 17th and Everett Street. In 1904 the Italianate style house was moved a few blocks to its present 50' x 100' lot in King's 2nd Addition, a fashionable residential area during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. While change has occurred in Northwest Portland through the years, the area still retains the city's largest and finest collection of late Victorian and turn-of-the-century Period Revival residential architecture. During the past 10 years many of the old homes have been restored and rehabilitated, including the S/M/B House.

Adjacent to the west, and in the immediate vicinity, are several local landmark houses, and a half block to the east is the Nathan Loeb House, a National Register property that has been recently restored. Old trees and other landscaping on the property and in the general area enhance the historic setting. It is perhaps fortunate that the house was moved, as the present context is much more appropriate to the house than the original site which presently borders an industrial area and is one block from a six lane freeway.

STRUCTURE AND PLAN

The original S/M/B House structure was typical of the period: brick foundation walls; 2 x 4 wood stud walls in a balloon frame; and wood floor joists and roof rafters. Framing lumber throughout is Douglas Fir. The only major structural change is the concrete basement wall built at the present site for the 1904 move. The first floor is supported by 2 x 10 transverse joists, 18" on center, and a central longitudinal 6 x 6 beam supported at the quarter points by 6 x 6 posts on brick footings. The bottom of first floor joists measures 6'-10" to the basement floor slab. Floor to ceiling heights are 12'-0" at the first floor and 11'-0" at the second.

Also typical of the Italianate style is the floor plan. At the first floor the front corner (northeast) entry hall leads to the dining room at the south, and to the front parlor at the northwest corner. The parlor, with a central slant bay at the front, leads through a pair of sliding doors in the south wall to the sitting room which features a central fireplace at the south wall and a typical slant bay in the exterior north wall. Adjacent to the east, through a framed opening, is the dining room, also with a fireplace on the south wall. (The framed opening between the sitting room and the dining room was installed sometime after the 1904 move and replaced a single door at the north end of the same wall that originally led to the entry hall.)

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At the rear of the house is the kitchen, and a bathroom which was originally a pantry. Off the kitchen is the basement stairway and a servants' stairway leading to the second floor.

The main stairway, which runs along the east wall of the entry hall, makes a curving turn with winders at the top, and terminates at the off-center north/south hall. Above the parlor at the northwest corner is the master bedroom with the slant bay at the front continued from below. To the south on either side of the hall are two bedrooms, each with a typical slant bay, and at the rear over the kitchen, a small servants' bedroom and a bathroom.

INTERIOR FINISH

Walls and ceilings throughout the first and second floors are wood lath and plaster. A varnished picture mold and a classical plaster cornice adorns most first floor walls. On the second floor, only the master bedroom has a picture mold. Except for the kitchen, bathrooms and the servants' bedroom, all rooms feature central ornamental plaster ceiling medallions that originally served as decorative elements for gas light fixtures. Slant bay openings are framed with shouldered arches of plaster with ornamental cast plaster impost blocks. Typical flooring on the first and second floors is the original 1 x 4 tongue and groove fir.

Typical doors are four panel, two tall panels over two short panels, and have Eastlake casings with turned corner blocks. Doors are eight feet high on the first floor and seven feet on the second. Most doors retain original hardware: white porcelain knobs and cast bronze hinges with a scroll design. Window framing is of the same design as door trim and also includes paneling below the sills. The 11-1/2" baseboard has a top and shoe mold. Doors, trim, and other mill work is cedar with a natural finish, except in two second floor bedrooms where woodwork is painted.

The main stairway in the entrance hall features fir treads and risers, and an oak balustrade with a shaped rail, turned balusters, and an octagonal newel post with a turned finial. The handrail, carriage trim, and baseboard curve 90 degrees to the second floor landing. The high window located in front of the stairway on the east wall was added c. 1905, as was the similar "piano window" in the west wall of the front parlor.

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Sliding doors between the parlor and sitting room are 6'-8" wide x 8'-6" high with each door having six panels, three over three. On axis with the doors is the projecting cast-iron fireplace in the sitting room which features a simple mantle, and a frieze and pilasters with cast scroll work in geometric patterns and simulated marble panels. The original ceramic tile hearth consists of alternating 3" x 3" squares of maroon and ocher tiles set in a diamond pattern with black, ocher and maroon tile borders.

The framed opening to the dining room has typical Eastlake casings plus a pair of inset columns in a modified Tuscan design. In the dining room is another cast-iron fireplace, flush to the south wall and simpler in design than the sitting room fireplace. The hearth is finished in black slate.

The adjacent kitchen has been extensively remodeled, but in a manner harmonious with the historical character of the house. Original wainscoting, 1 x 4 fir with beaded joint and cap molding, has been retained.

Except as previously noted, second floor finish work and details are basically the same as the first floor. Original wainscoting, similar to the kitchen, has been retained in the bathroom.

There is no remaining evidence of the original gas lighting except the ornamental plaster ceiling medallions. Electric lighting was introduced when the house was moved. One original electric fixture remains in the dining room. The house was heated by stoves and fireplaces until the 1950s when a warm air furnace was installed.

EXTERIOR

The primary street facade of the S/M/B House displays the characteristic elements of the single slant bay Italianate style, typical of the 1880s in Portland and elsewhere in the west. A wood stairway approaches the covered entry porch on line with the paired corner entry doors. The porch wraps around the east side terminating at the dining room projection. A door to the dining room has a central clear glass panel, paired solid panels above and below, and a clear glass transom. Main entry doors have a large upper clear glass panel, and paired solid panels below with bolection moldings. A clear glass transom spans the full width of the door opening. Exterior doors have a varnish finish.

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Square porch posts, with a center milled bead molding, set on bases and paneled pedestals. Posts have capitals with scrollwork decoration, side brackets that support a simple architrave, and front brackets which extend to the projecting cornice and flat porch roof. Frontal brackets frame deep but simple frieze panels. The porch balustrade features simple top and bottom rails and turned balusters. The base of the porch is infilled with diagonal latticework.

At the first floor line is a water table, continuous around the house except where interrupted by porches. Skirting below is typical lap siding.

Flanking the main entry is the characteristic slant bay extending from the ground to the roof line. The bay has a continuous sill at each floor, and three identical panels featuring double-hung windows, one light over one, with segmental arch heads, and casings, brackets, frieze panels and other trim similar to the porch. The classical cornice at the second floor level is slightly deeper than the porch roof cornice. Detailing of the second floor bay to the architrave is identical to the first floor. Above, the brackets are similar in design though larger to support the wider projecting roof cornice. The deep frieze panels, continuous around the building, have an unusual applied "Moorish" arcade pattern. Roof brackets are aligned with window casings and corner boards. Bays on the east and west walls are identical. Typical windows on flat walls are the same as those in the slant bays. Crowning the entire structure is a shallow hipped roof, presently covered with asphalt shingles.

A back porch similar in detail to the front porch is located at the southwest corner, and connects to the kitchen. The kitchen door has a pair of upper glass panels and two pairs of solid lower panels with bolection moldings.

Exterior walls are covered with horizontal lap siding. Plain corner boards extend to capitals aligned with, and similar in profile to, the second floor window sills. Above, corner boards have the center bead molding and other trim elements as seen in the typical window casings and porch posts.

At the rear of the house, not visible from the street, is a recently constructed wood deck and a new opening from the kitchen which features a pair of glass panel doors, a stained glass transom, and exterior trim similar to the original.

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 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 1882 BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Sprague/Marshall/Bowie House achieves significance as an excellent and early Portland example of residential architecture in the Italianate style. It is also one of a few of its type remaining in the City. Most were built close to the downtown core and were subsequently razed as a result of commercial and industrial expansion. Another excellent Italianate design is the Morris Marks House, a National Register property, also built in 1882, and also moved from its original site. These two houses are the earliest known Portland examples of the style still standing.

The S/M/B House also contributes to the historic character of the neighborhood, and it has been carefully restored and rehabilitated by the present owners.

In 1880 the west half of Block 151, Couch's Addition was purchased by John Marshall from Mary H. Couch, youngest daughter of Captain John H. Couch, pioneer sea captain and city developer. The property was part of the 640 acre Donation Land Claim filed in 1846 by Captain Couch and his brother-in-law, George H. Flanders. Cost of the 4 lot, 100' x 200', parcel was "\$3,000 in gold coin". Marshall was a marine engineer who worked for the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company, and served on several steamers including: The Wide West, Willamette Chief, Wellington Chief, and the Harvest Queen.

Two years later, Captain Clark Woods Sprague, believed to be the father of John Marshall's wife, Sarah, acquired two of the lots where he built two houses. Sprague, a ship captain for the O. R. & N. Co., lived in the corner house at 17th and Everett Streets with the Marshalls until 1886. The previous year Sprague deeded the house to his daughter (presumed) Sarah Marshall.

The Marshall family lived in the house until 1902 when it was sold to Henry A. Moore, Secretary-Treasurer of Moore Investment Company. Two years later the house was moved to its present site and sold to Charles W. Bowie who was listed in the City Directory as a "Capitalist". The new site had been owned by Henry Moore's brother, Walter H., President of Moore Investment Co., and the Oregon Trust and Savings Bank. Subsequently, the Moore brothers built a new house at the 17th and Everett site which stands today.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Portland, Oregon-Washington Quadrangle
Scale: 1:24000

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.115

UTM REFERENCES

UTM NOT VERIFIED **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

A 10 523730 5041485
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 7, Block 8, King's 2nd Addition

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George A. McMath A. I. A.

ORGANIZATION

Allen-McMath-Hawkins Architects

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

213 S. W. Ash Street, #210

TELEPHONE

(503)228-5154

CITY OR TOWN

Portland, Oregon 97204

STATE

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

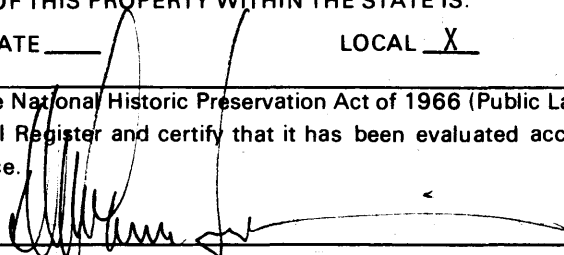
NATIONAL

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer's Designee

DATE December 7, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Sally J. Decker

DATE 2/5/80

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Kristin O'Connell*

DATE 2/1/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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The Bowie family, which at the time of the move included two young daughters and Mrs. Bowie's parents, occupied the house until the mid 1950s when it was sold to the Richardson family. The Bowies were responsible for the slight alterations previously noted, and for the garage on the east side of the house built in c. 1912 when Charles Bowie bought his first car. Prior to that time, family transportation was by horse and buggy which were housed a block to the east at the Portland Riding Academy. Daughter Addie was married in the house in 1918 and her sister in 1925.

The present owners acquired the house in 1977.

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-Portland City Directories, Oregon Historical Society Library.

-Sanborn Maps, 1889 corrected to 1898, and 1901 corrected to 1908,
Oregon Historical Society Library.

-Deed Records, Multnomah County Courthouse. (Jan. 29, 1880 - April 11, 1882
September 28, 1885 - November 15, 1902 - April 3, 1905)

-Letter to previous owners dated January 6, 1966 from Addie Bowie Carlson,
daughter of Charles W. Bowie.