

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

PH0681121

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	AUG 3 1978
DATE ENTERED	OCT 19 1978

DATA SHEET

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Heusner (George F.) House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

333 N.W. 20th Avenue

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Portland

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Oregon

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 type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Tom Paul ✓

STREET & NUMBER

333 N.W. 20th Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Portland

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Oregon 97209

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Multnomah County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

1021 S.W. Fourth Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Portland

STATE

Oregon 97204

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Portland Historical Landmark

DATE

1970

\_\_\_ FEDERAL    \_\_\_ STATE    \_\_\_ COUNTY     LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Portland Historical Landmarks Commission

CITY, TOWN

Portland Bureau of Planning, 424 SW Main Street  
Portland

STATE

Oregon 97204

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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 type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE_
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

The George F. Heusner Residence, designed by Edgar M. Lazarus in the Queen Anne shingle style, built in 1894, occupies a 100' x 100' site (TL 1, Blk 35) of King's 2nd Addition, in Northwest Portland.

Located in a section of Portland known as Nob Hill, this area has seen substantial change with the residential atmosphere of the area feeling the encroachments of apartments, offices and commercial structures. Fortunately, sited as it is at the end of a block next to the Isom White Residence (Whidden & Lewis, c.1905) the Heusner Residence has remained in a residential context. A high-rise apartment did, however, take the place of the landmark Captain John Brown Residence around the corner and next to the White Residence.

Though known as the Heusner Residence, the original occupants did not own the home long. Up until the 1920's the home served as a single-family unit when its use changed to that of a boarding house. In its early days as a boarding house, the Heusner Residence along with the White Residence was a home for young ladies. Meals were taken at the White Residence while the Heusner Residence was given over to rooms for the well bred and well supervised young women. The Honorable Maurine Neuberger, former United States Senator from Oregon was among the residents.

In the 1940's like many other houses in this area, the Heusner Residence was converted into a rooming house - a far cry from that which had preceeded it.

Today the house is still divided and continued to be used as a rooming house. The present owner, however, in the future hopes to make use of the house as an antique shop and dwelling for himself.

### STYLE

The Heusner House is a two-and-one-half story stronghold of the Queen Anne Shingle Style in Portland. The variety to the exterior form, roof, gable and dormer arrangements, window treatments, "piazza" or verandah, and heavy stonework indicate the general stylistic description - Queen Anne. The horizontality of some window groups, the skin-like quality of the shingles over the slightly tapering corner turret and the absent decorative exuberance of some of the Queen Anne, place the home squarely in the Shingle Style.

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From the exterior the home appears composed in the following manner: the basically hip-gabled bulk of the house is punctuated by third-floor dormers to the west, north and east with an additional attic "eye-brow" dormer to the east; a cross-gable projects to and opens on the east, a subsidiary gabled portion projects to and opens on the south and a conically roofed, semi-circular two-story turret rises at the northeast corner all of which is united by the horizontal sweep of the verandah from the turret, to the southeast projecting pavillion and around to the south facing gable. On the west, there is a lattice-enclosed service porch, and on the south, off the southeast second floor bedroom, another covered porch is set into the roof of the verandah.

STRUCTURE

The house rests on a foundation of brick and concrete with stone on the exterior above the ground level. This gray rough-faced masonry also supports the floor, partially encloses and rises in solid, large blocks to support the roof over the verandah. The first story is covered with clapboard except for the turret where the stone foundation rises to the window-sill-porch-rail height with shingles above through the second floor. Between the top of the first floor windows and the bottom of the second floor windows the turret tapers slightly inward. Around the remainder of the home, the clapboards cover the exterior to just above the first floor windows where the shingles of the second floor begin in a plane slightly outside that of the first floor clapboards. The shingles rise uninterrupted into the third floor gables and also cover the dormers. Originally, the shingles and exterior woodwork were stained or painted the same as the original shingles of the roof.

EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR

From a photograph (dated prior to 1930), in the collection of the Oregon Historical Society, it appears that the present composition shingles disguise some of the original character of the roof. The profile of the roof does retain the change to a much less steep pitch at the outer wall: The eaves supported on all sides of the house by flat pseudo-rafters, and with a slight undulation to roof atop the turret. Originally, however, it appears from the photograph that the eaves were demarcated from the rest of the roof by a definite break in the downward flow of the roof. Over the front steps the eaves apparently dipped down and swelled outward.

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Another feature which was, of course, lost with the application of the composition shingles was the pattern of the shingles around the turret.

The windows are wood sash except for the leaded panes of the two small windows to one side of the front door and the large window at the stair hall landing. The remainder of the windows are of various proportions, but all do have one clear light in the lower sash with multiple lights in the upper: These lights are square in the first and third floor windows, diamond-shaped in the second floor. Three sets of windows are specially detailed: the east windows of the two principal bedrooms on the second floor and the first floor bath. The groups of three and four bedroom windows are united with a strong horizontal emphasis at the bottom and top sills and again particularly where the sashes meet. The south bedroom windows are set in a projecting panelled bay. This emphasis on the horizontal is echoed in the sills of the third floor south bedroom's east window. Like the second floor window groups the first floor bathroom window has a strong emphasis where the sashes meet, but here the windows are set in a panelled projecting bay which culminates in a shingled, second floor false balcony.

Following the lies of this bay and the false balcony up through the dormer, two stone chimneys rise above the dormer roof. A third chimney rises from the south gable. Together, these chimneys vent six interior fireplaces and the furnace, and may also have serviced the original kitchen stove. Fireplaces are found on the first floor in the living room, to the north, and the library and dining room to the south of the oak wainscotted hall. The library and dining room likewise have dark oak wainscotting, bookcases and doors. Inside of the heavily panelled mantle, the fireplaces in the library and dining room have brown tile with a black detail. The living room walls are plastered, and the fireplace mantle is supported by pairs of engaged columns and further detailed with motifs like those Lazarus used in the Agriculture Pavilion for the Lewis & Clark Fair some ten years later. Inside this mantle the tile is white with a black detail. Also on this floor is the servants' bath, the kitchen, pantry and access to the servants' stairs.

The grand stairs lead past plaster walls with a raised fleur-de-lys pattern to a large hall from which open the two east bedrooms, two bathrooms, a smaller south bedroom - which does have a fireplace,

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and a smaller room on the north - which does not. Each fireplace on this floor also has a unique mantle - though progressively simpler than that in the living room - with a different color tile for each room. The third floor has two servant bedrooms, both without fireplaces, as well as access to attic spaces.

Other than as noted above, the only major changes to the house has been the removal of the original kitchen which was divided into a smaller kitchen and a bath. Much of the original hardware remains intact; although most of the new "kitchen" and bathroom on the first floor and the north bath off the hall on the second floor have replacement fixtures, the south bath on the second floor and the north bath on the first appear to have their original complement. The pantry has been refitted to function as an independent kitchen.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1894

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Edgar Marx Lazarus

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The George F. Heusner Residence represents an excellent example of the Queen Anne shingle style, a style which became in vogue at the turn of the century, played an important part in American architectural history and is a style rare to Portland.

George F. Heusner was a developer of middle-class neighborhoods in north and northeast Portland. During a visit in 1911, Theodore Roosevelt was a guest at the house. It was during this visit that Roosevelt assisted at the laying of the cornerstone for the third Multnomah Athletic Club, the successor to the fire-destroyed club of 1904, the second of two clubhouses designed by Edgar Lazarus, the architect of the Heusner Residence.

Edgar Marx Lazarus was born June 6, 1868 in Baltimore, Maryland and studied at the Maryland Institute of Arts. He moved to Portland in 1894 after working with William Ellicott in Baltimore since 1889. After moving to Portland, he was a member of the firm of Lazarus, Whitehouse & Fouilhoux.

Among the more notable houses he designed are the Solomon Hirsch Residence which once stood at SW St. Clair Avenue and W. Burnside; a house at 725 NW 23rd built for Sigmund Sichel; the house built for I. Leeser Cohen at 2343 NW Irving and the house at 2255 NW Flanders which is similar to the Heusner Residence.

More notable public and commercial buildings done by Lazarus, located in Portland, include the Agricultural Palace at the Lewis & Clark Centennial Exposition, was the supervising architect for the U.S. Customs House and the Portland Art School (Museum). He also was the architect for another National Register Property, the Vista House, on Crown Point (1917-18).

Edgar M. Lazarus lived in Portland for 45 years before dying in 1939. Unfortunately, he is one of the least known among major architects to have practiced in Oregon.

