

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 01000155

Date Listed: 10/25/2002

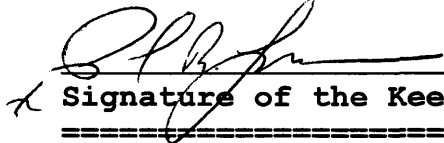
Simon Benson House
Property Name

Multnomah
County

OR
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

10/25/02

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Significance:

Criteria Consideration B: Moved Properties needs to be checked and justified.
[The property meets Criteria Consideration B as a moved property significant primarily for its architectural value. The building's new location--in the same historically upscale West End residential neighborhood--is compatible with the house's original setting and lot orientation, and the building retains strong integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.]

These revisions were confirmed with the OR SHPO office.

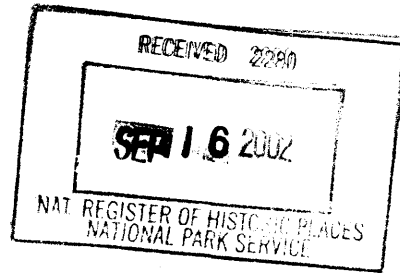
DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

(Oct. 1990)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**



1. NAME OF PROPERTY

HISTORIC NAME: Simon Benson House

OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER:

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 1803 SW Park Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A

CITY OR TOWN: Portland

VICINITY: N/A

STATE: Oregon **CODE:** OR **COUNTY:** Multnomah **CODE:** 51

ZIP CODE: 97201

3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this Nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James H. Henthorn

September 10, 2002

Deputy SHPO

Signature of certifying official, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

entered in the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of the Keeper

10/25/02

___ determined eligible for the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain):

5. CLASSIFICATION

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY: Public
CATEGORY OF PROPERTY: Building

NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:

CONTRIBUTING:	NONCONTRIBUTING:	
1	0	BUILDINGS
0	0	SITES
0	0	STRUCTURES
0	0	OBJECTS
1	0	TOTAL

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER: 1

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING: N/A

6. FUNCTION OR USE

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS: Domestic – Single dwelling
CURRENT FUNCTIONS: Education – Education-related

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: Late 19th Victorian – Queen Anne Style
MATERIALS: **FOUNDATION:** Concrete
WALLS: Wood
ROOF: Asphalt
OTHER:

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION: See Continuation Sheets

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA:

- A** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH EVENTS THAT HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE BROAD PATTERNS OF OUR HISTORY.
- B** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIVES OF PERSONS SIGNIFICANT IN OUR PAST.
- C** PROPERTY EMBODIES THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION OR REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER, OR POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUE, OR REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE ENTITY WHOSE COMPONENTS LACK INDIVIDUAL DISTINCTION.
- D** PROPERTY HAS YIELDED, OR IS LIKELY TO YIELD, INFORMATION IMPORTANT IN PREHISTORY OR HISTORY.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS: N/A

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: c. 1900

SIGNIFICANT DATES: c. 1900

SIGNIFICANT PERSON:

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: unknown

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: See Continuation Sheets

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY: See Continuation Sheet

PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

PRIMARY LOCATION OF ADDITIONAL DATA:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government: *City of Portland Building Records*
- University
- Other: *Oregon Historical Society*

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: 0.23 acre (10,000 SF)

UTM REFERENCES	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	10	524670	5039690	3		
2				4		

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The Simon Benson House is located on Lots 1 and 2, Block 229 of the Portland Addition to the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION: The boundary is the legally recorded boundary lines for the building for which National Register status is being requested.

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE: John M. Tess, President

ORGANIZATION: Heritage Investment Corporation

DATE: August 26, 2002

STREET & NUMBER: 123 NW Second Avenue, Suite 200 **TELEPHONE:** (503) 228-0272

CITY OR TOWN: Portland

STATE: OR

ZIP CODE: 97209

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

CONTINUATION SHEETS:

MAPS: See Enclosed

PHOTOGRAPHS: See Continuation Sheet

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

PROPERTY OWNER

NAME: Portland State University

STREET & NUMBER: PO Box 751

TELEPHONE: (503) 725-5073

CITY OR TOWN: Portland

STATE: OR

ZIP CODE: 97207-0751

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section number 7 Page 1

Overview

The Simon Benson House, constructed c. 1900, is located at 1803 SW Park Avenue in the West End district of Portland on the campus of Portland State University. Specifically, it is located on Lots 1 and 2, Block 229 of the Portland Addition to the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. Originally built at the southeast corner of Eleventh Avenue and Clay Street, in 2000, the house was moved 3 blocks south to its present location.

The building may be categorized as LATE VICTORIAN – Queen Anne Style of architecture. The building was listed on the National Register for Historic Places on August 11, 1983. Although moved in 2000, the building remains eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion “C” as a rare extant example of building once prevalent in Portland’s West End by the South Park Blocks. It is also noteworthy for its association with Simon Benson, a leading businessman who played a defining role the development of Portland in the 19th century.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section number 7 Page 2

Setting

The Benson House is located on a double lot at the southwest corner of Montgomery Street and Park Avenue in Portland's West End district. Once a neighborhood of similar upscale Victorian houses, the area surrounding the Benson House evokes the organic heritage of the district. In the 1920s, low-rise apartment buildings began to replace the houses. High-rise apartments appeared in the early post-World War II years. In 1952, Portland State University relocated its campus from North Portland into Lincoln High School at Broadway and Market Street; over the years, PSU expanded to the surrounding blocks, as often absorbing existing buildings to institutional use as building new edifices to education.

The Benson House occupies the northeast corner of Block 229, a traditional 200 by 200 foot Portland block. Also on block 229, immediately south of the Benson House is the 6-story, quarter block 1930 Blackstone Apartments, designed by Elmer Feig. On the block to the west is the quarter block 1917 Martha Washington Club, designed by A. E. Doyle and since transformed into student housing as the Montgomery Apartments.

Across the street to the north is the full-block Ione Plaza, a high-rise residential building designed by Victor Jones in 1951 for the Federal Housing Authority. To the east is the South Park Blocks.

This setting mirrors organic development surrounding the Benson House's original site, at the northwest corner of Block 243 of the Portland Addition to the City of Portland. Like its current setting, the house occupied a corner lot on a traditional 200 by 200 foot block. Also on Block 243 were the Hochapfel House, since demolished, a multi-story, half-block research library/administrative office for the Church of Latter Day Saints, a multi-story apartment building and a two-story commercial structure. Catercorner was Clay Towers, a high-rise affordable residential structure. Across the street to the west was a five story 1908 apartment building and across the street to the east was the Calvary Presbyterian Church, presently adapted for use as a community center/performance hall.

Exterior

As built, the house was set on an oversized corner lot, slightly set back from the lot line (approximately 5-7 feet). Rectangular in form, the house measured approximately 27 feet across (extending to 33 feet with matching bay windows) and 56 feet in length.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section number 7 Page 3

The house was oriented lengthwise. Access from the street was from the corner with concrete steps faced with ashlar leading to a large front porch. This porch, 5 to 7 feet deep, defined the primary street façade and led to the primary entrance at the center of that façade. Accentuating the corner, however, the porch also wraps slightly around the secondary street façade. The porch features square posts paired and fluted in imitation of classical columns. Balcony and porch railings are devised of wooden grillwork with miniature Moorish, or horseshoe-shaped arches framing the rectangular openings. This definition is repeated in lesser scale at the second floor with a sleeping balcony. It is further repeated on a rear porch at the back of the secondary street façade.

The house itself is balloon wood frame construction, 2 ½ stories in height. It rests on a basement and foundation of concrete. The base course is faced with random-range ashlar. Exterior walls are clad in lapped weatherboard. The roof is asphalt shingled and varied in form, including hipped and gabled roofs with jerkin-head gables distinguished by bracketed hoods. In addition to the two porches at the front, the house also has a rear porch with entry. Windows typically are double-hung, wood-sash, one-over-one. Wide, rectangular plate glass windows with sidelights and leaded glass top lights are typical on the street elevations.

Stylized repeating ornamentation and a belt course of repeating rectangles are suggestive of the Eastlake tradition.

Interior

As built, the floor plan featured an entry hall off the front door. This hall led to stairs to the second floor. To the right along the primary street façade was a 9-foot by 12 foot receiving room. Moving to the interior were a parlor and dining room of equal size. The rear of half of the house was dedicated to service areas, including the kitchen.

The second floor featured an irregular central hall leading to three primary bedrooms at the front of the house (all of approximately equal size), then to a fourth smaller yet still primary bedroom and then a series of smaller service rooms at the rear. At the center, this hall also included a stair leading from the second to a third floor bedroom and attic spaces.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section number 7 Page 4

2000 Move/Renovation/Restoration

In the 1930s, the Simon Benson House was turned into a boarding house, and then later divided into apartments. Over the years, it suffered from deferred maintenance and neglect. In 1991, the City condemned the property as a dangerous building. By the mid-point of the decade, the house was no longer weather-tight and routinely occupied by vagrants.

In 2000, to preserve this important landmark, in an unprecedented Oregon public-private historic preservation effort, the house was acquired, moved to its new location, rehabilitated and adapted for use as Portland State University's Alumni Office.

In the course of relocating and rehabilitating, the building's orientation and character-defining elements were preserved or in some cases restored. All work was completed in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Orientation

The house retains its fundamental orientation and primary points of access. It is located on a corner lot of comparable size to its original. Primary access continues from the corner to the wrap-around porch and front entry. A secondary ADA-accessible doorway was installed off a garden by enlarging a window opening.

Exterior Rehabilitation

A new concrete foundation and concrete entry stair were installed. The original Ashlar was inventoried, numbered and reinstalled at the new stairs, foundation and retaining wall. All exterior walls were retained. Exterior wood skirt and lattice were inspected, repaired and where necessary replaced in kind. Exterior lapsiding was inspected, repaired and where necessary replaced in kind. Existing porch balustrades and railings were reused where possible; replaced in kind where not. Windows were inspected, repaired and where necessary replaced in-kind. Decorative trim, moulding, and similar elements were inspected, repaired and where necessary replaced in kind. New roof flashing and gutters were installed, maintaining location and profile. Inappropriate modifications were removed (e.g., fire escape). The exterior chimney was documented and reinstalled to the degree possible, with infill bricks of matching color and texture. The roof ridge and finial were reinstalled per historic photographs.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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As a result of the rehabilitation efforts, leaded windows stolen from the house in 1999 were located, returned, rehabilitated and reinstalled.

At the rear of the property along its length, a gated decorative brick patio has been installed. This patio provides an appropriate access way that meets ADA standards, through the new door mentioned above. The garden is sympathetic in design but modern in materials and clearly distinct from the architecture of the house.

Interior Rehabilitation

The primary interior spaces were retained while strengthening the building's seismic performances, installing modern mechanical equipment, installing modern fire and life safety systems and adapting the service areas for conference and office use. In the front primary rooms, interior finishes (walls, flooring, ceiling) were kept intact and rehabilitated, except along the primary stairwell where the wall was replaced to provide seismic strengthening. Similarly, on the second floor, finishes in the four primary bedrooms were retained, except for the replacement of select walls in the original location necessary for seismic strengthening.

In the service areas at the rear, walls were demolished. The existing first floor fireplace and surround was rehabilitated. A new stair was installed to the second floor for second egress. Walls defined a conference room, office and storage area. Finishes compatible, though distinctive from the original.

The attic area was reserved for use with mechanical systems. Again, a wall was added to improve seismic performance.

New wiring, plumbing and mechanicals were installed along with fire and life safety systems.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section number 8 Page 1

Overview

The Simon Benson House, constructed c. 1900, is located at 1803 SW Park Avenue in the West End district of Portland on the campus of Portland State University. Specifically, it is located on Lots 1 and 2, Block 229 of the Portland Addition to the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. Originally built at the southeast corner of Eleventh Avenue and Clay Street, in 2000, the house was moved 3 blocks south to its present location.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section number 8 Page 2

Setting

The Benson House is located in Downtown Portland's West End. With only 600 feet separating the old and new sites, the heritage of both sites is essentially the same.

When Simon Benson built his home at 11th and Clay Street, the area was nearly entirely comprised of single-family residences. The residential flavor was only disrupted by an occasional church and a public school at the east. This development occurred relatively quickly, beginning in the early 1880s when the City's population grew by 70% and ending with the population explosion following the Lewis & Clark Exposition.

In the 1890s, the traditional 200 by 200 foot blocks were generally divided into quarter block parcels with a single home, though there were a few full block and half-block parcels. Much of the land to the south and west was still vacant. The neighborhood was for the well heeled; one observer considered West Park Avenue a boulevard of formal Italianate mansions.

By Benson's arrival ten years later, the area was still nearly exclusively residential, though a bit denser with the full block mansions giving way to 8 smaller dwellings and an occasional duplex. Although zoning would not exist for nearly three decades, this portion of the West End had no commercial or industrial enterprises.

That said, beginning with the Lewis & Clark Exposition, the area began to substantially change. The city's population doubled in both the 1910s and 1920s. Downtown expanded with an explosion of office buildings. It also exploded with civic buildings such as the Central Library, County Courthouse and Lincoln High School. The well-heeled residents along the Park Blocks moved further west and capitalized on the value of their land. Mansions gave way not to smaller single-family homes, but to apartment buildings, boarding houses, commercial and civic enterprises. Changes in transportation, the rise of the streetcar and automobile, also pushed transition with more outlying areas more accessible while automobile showrooms dominated development along 10th Avenue.

By the late 1920s and early 1930s, houses became flats or gave way to apartment buildings. These typically were 4-7 stories and often dominated by studio apartments. Buildings included the Blackstone, Parkway, Jeanne, and Wheeldon Annex. By the end of the 1930s, the depression and pre-World War II years slowed development.

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Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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Following the war, however, the boom years continued, accelerating the transformation of the West End. Portland State College moved from North Portland in 1952 into the old Lincoln High School and became a four-year, degree-granting institution. The new Lincoln High School was built five blocks away on 14th Avenue. The same year, the Federal Housing Authority built high-rise apartments such as Park Plaza and Ione Plaza. At the end of the decade, urban renewal led to the creation of the Portland Development Commission that targeted the 44-block South Auditorium area; displacement fueled more transition in the West End. In the 1960s, PSU launched a major development campaign, building full-block buildings such as Cramer Hall, Neuberger Hall, West Library, Smith Center and two Science Buildings.

History of the Building

At the turn of the century, while the West End remained home to the founding families of Portland, Simon Benson opted to have this home built for his family, occupying a temporary residence at Southeast Belmont and 16th Avenue until its completion. Benson and his family remained until 1912 when the Benson Hotel was completed and he moved there. The house, like others of the era, was transformed into a boarding house. In 1940, the Boys and Girls Aid Society purchased the house for an office and remained there until sold in 1950. The house was then turned into apartments.

Through the years, the building faced an increasing load of deferred maintenance. In an effort to encourage better upkeep, the City nominated the Simon Benson House to the National Register of Historic Places; it was listed in August of 1983. Despite the listing, deferred maintenance and neglect continued to grow until 1991 when the City condemned the house as a dangerous building. The property owner shuttered the building and left it to rot. By the end of the decade, it was a frequent home to vagrants, the roof had failed and the building was no longer weather-tight.

Facing a sure case of demolition by neglect, City Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury organized a coalition involving the State Historic Preservation Office, the Portland Development Commission, City agencies, public charities, private donors and individual volunteers to seek a solution. Portland State University agreed to donate the land for the building and the Portland Development Commission assisted in funding the move. For nearly two years, the move and subsequent rehabilitation was planned to ensure the integrity of the resource.

Today, the Simon Benson House serves as a University meeting space and houses the Office of Alumni Relations.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section number 8 Page 4

Single Family Residences in Downtown's West End

The Benson House is an exceptional artifact of residential development once prevalent in the neighborhood. The quality of the rehabilitation and public ownership allow for it to remain as such well into the future. Although moved, it remains within the immediate neighborhood and holds its architectural significance.

Perhaps not surprising, given proximity to downtown and Portland's 20th century growth, few examples of the once common single-family residence remain. Of those that continue to exist, all have been adapted into apartments or commercial use. None have received the quality of rehabilitation of the Benson House.

Excepting the Benson House, the National Register lists no single-family residences in the downtown or West End district. Portland's Historic Resources Inventory lists only 17 buildings built in the extended downtown area as single-family residences. Ten are located at the south, mostly of a lesser scale and fundamentally represent a different social dynamic. Typically, these are built on a single 5,000 s.f. lot, two story in height and vernacular in design:

1962 SW Fifth Avenue (c. 1879)
1986 SW Fifth Avenue (1894 - duplex)
2005 SW Fifth Avenue (1876)
2013-15 SW Sixth Avenue (1889)
2021-27 SW Sixth Avenue (1880)
1984 SW Broadway (1890)
420 SW College Street (1880)
518 SW Jackson Street (c. 1900)
520 SW Jackson Street (1902)
525 SW Jackson Street (1894)

Of the remaining seven, while geographically closer and part of the same development dynamic as the Benson House, they are typically smaller, on a 5,000 s.f. lot or in the case of 921 SW Clay, built as a church manse.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
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1633 SW Eleventh Avenue (c. 1895)
1134 SW Twelfth Avenue (1909)
1318 SW Twelfth Avenue (1890)
1326 SW Twelfth Avenue (1890)
1632 SW Twelfth Avenue (1893)
1126 SW Thirteenth Avenue (1890)
921 SW Clay Street (1905)

The Benson House is the best extant example of the single family development in downtown Portland's West End.

Simon Benson (1852-1942)

Simon Benson was born in Gulbarns-dalen, in south-central Norway on October 7, 1852. He is one of seven children, including four sons, of Berger Iversen and Karen Stenersdatter. He had little formal education, going to work at the age of 9. His oldest brother, John, left the family farm in 1863 and emigrated to Wisconsin, where he worked in the pine woods until he was able to send for his family. In emigrating, the family shortened their name to Benson and settled in Wisconsin in 1868. Simon Benson began his career in America, working as a farm hand and in logging camps in Wisconsin. At age 23, he married and opened a store in Lynxville, which was destroyed by fire four years later. He moved with his wife and child to the Pacific Northwest, arriving in Portland in 1879.

Upon his arrival in Oregon, Benson found work in the logging camp of John Beavis on Tide Creek in Columbia County. He operated as an independent logger from 1880 to 1883, whereupon he sold his timber, logging outfit and oxen and moved his ailing wife to Colfax, Washington for a year. Following the death of his first wife, Benson returned to logging on the Columbia, working at Cathlamet and Goble on the Washington side of the river, and Oak Point and Clatskanie on the Oregon side. His innovative approach to logging and assiduousness in expanding his timber holdings led to transactions involving millions of dollars. Benson then used his wealth from logging to partially invest in real estate enterprises such as the Benson Hotel (1912) and the Columbia Gorge Hotel (1921).

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section number 8 Page 6

As a civic leader, Benson was primarily involved as a leader of the Good Roads movement. In 1915, he toured Oregon to advocate paving of roads and highways. He helped plan and supervise construction of the Columbia River Highway, personally supplying funds reportedly totaling as much as \$90,000. Benson also donated to the City of Portland several hundreds of acres of land along the Columbia River in Multnomah County for scenic preservation. Today, most of the donated land is under state ownership, including an 84-acre tract maintained as Benson State Park. Other results of Benson's largesse and personal interests were the endowment of Benson Polytechnic School in Portland and the installation of 20 bronze public drinking fountains in downtown Portland.

Simon Benson is credited with having been the first to introduce donkey engine railroad logging to the Pacific Northwest, converting from ox and horse logging steam power. He is most celebrated for having built up an export market for logs of special lengths and sizes and for devising an ingeniously economical method of floating them to San Diego in huge, cigar-shaped rafts – sometimes containing as many as 5 million board feet. When he retired from the lumber business, Benson sold his mill in San Diego and his 25,000 acres of Oregon timberland for \$5.5 million to investors in Duluth, Minnesota.

The State of Oregon honored the Norwegian immigrant lumberman with designation as Oregon's "First Citizen" on August 17, 1915 for his work in creating the state highway system. Governor James Withycombe named Benson to represent the state as "First Citizen" at the Panama Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco and two years later, appointed Benson to the first State Highway Commission composed of private citizens. He served with distinction as chairman throughout his three-year term. Benson lobbied for legislative action providing for the first state road bond issue of \$6,000,000. Under Benson's leadership, several trunk line roads, including the Columbia River Highway, the Pacific Coast Highway, and the Dalles-California Highway were adopted as the official highway system of the state.

Benson spent the later years of his life in Southern California and died in Los Angeles on August 5, 1942. He had three children by his first wife, Esther Searle Benson, whom he married in Wisconsin in 1875. They were Amos, Alice Benson Allen and Caroline Benson Unander. Following the death of his first wife in 1883-4, Benson married Pamela Loomis in Chehalis, Washington. Benson's children by his second marriage were Gilbert and Chester. Benson was married a third and final time to Harriet King of Hood River, Oregon in 1920.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section number 9 Page 1

REFERENCES

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Snyder, Eugene E. We Claimed This Land. (Portland: Binford & Mort, 1989).

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section number 9 Page 2

OTHER SOURCES

Association for Portland Progress West End documentation files.

Benson Hotel Scrapbook

City of Portland Office of Planning & Development Review microform and card files.

Heritage Consulting Group historic Portland research files.

Multnomah County Tax Assessor Records

The Oregon Journal

The Oregonian

Photograph Collection, Oregon Historical Society

Richard Ritz, Architects (Portland, OR: unpublished)

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Portland, Oregon.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Section Photos Page 1

General Information

Information for items 1-5 is the same for all photographs

1. Simon Benson House; 1803 SW Park Avenue
2. Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon
3. Photographer: Robert Mawson
4. Date of Photo: August, 2002
5. Negatives: John Tess, Heritage Consulting Group
123 NW Second Avenue, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97209

Photo 1 6. Exterior, looking Southwest at North and East façade
7. 1 of 17

Photo 2 6. Exterior, looking South at North façade
7. 2 of 17

Photo 3 6. Exterior, looking Southeast at West façade
7. 3 of 17

Photo 4 6. Exterior, looking West at East façade
7. 4 of 17

Photo 5 6. Exterior, looking Northwest at Southeast corner
7. 5 of 17

Photo 6 6. Exterior, detail, Porch on East façade
7. 6 of 17

Photo 7 6. Exterior, detail, Bay window on East façade
7. 7 of 17

Photo 8 6. Exterior, detail, Porch at Northeast corner
7. 8 of 17

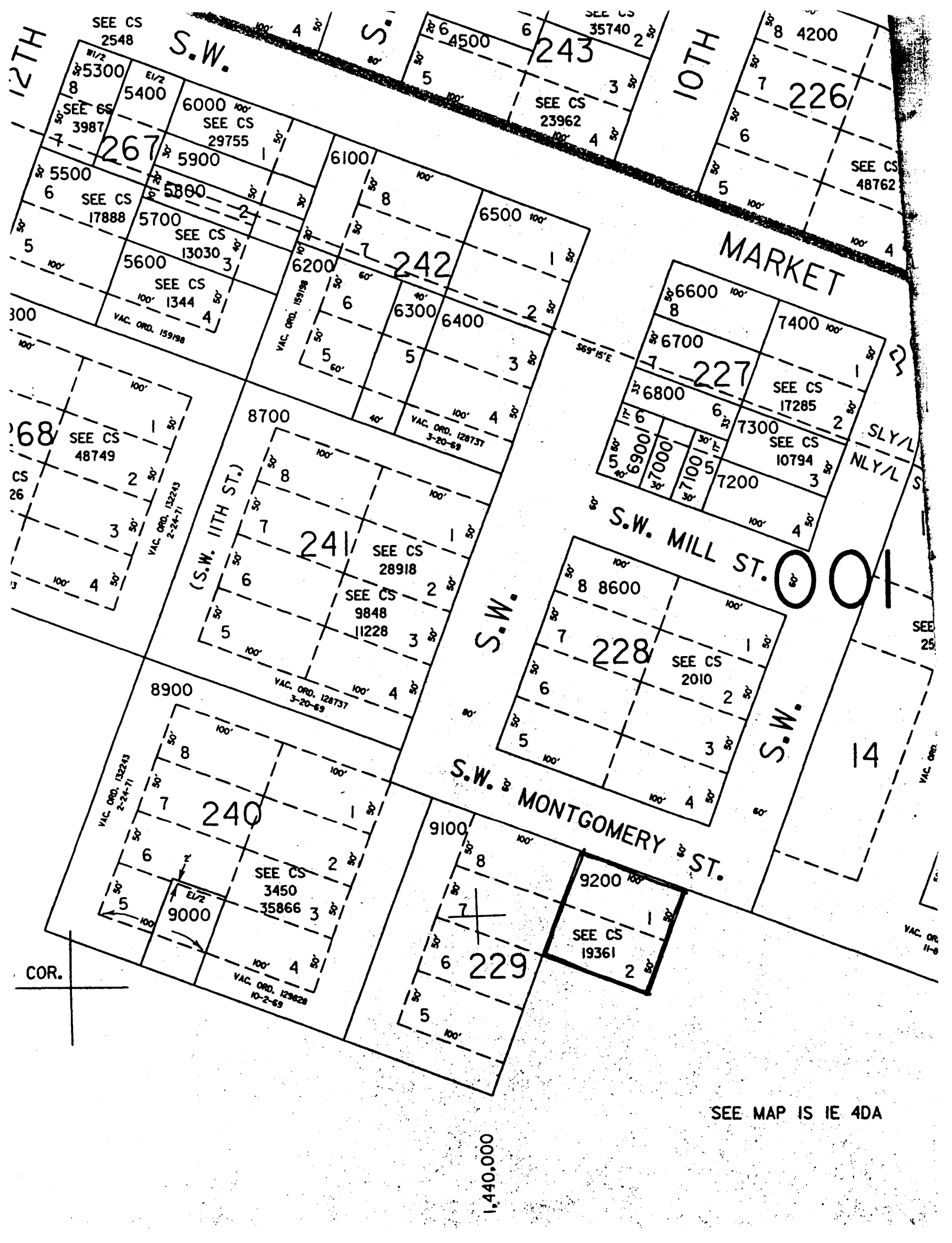
United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Simon Benson House
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Section Photos Page 2

- Photo 9 6. Interior view, Entry Hall
7. 9 of 17
- Photo 10 6. Interior view, Stairwell
7. 10 of 17
- Photo 11 6. Interior, detail, Leaded Glass Window at Stairwell
7. 11 of 17
- Photo 12 6. Interior view, Front Parlor
7. 12 of 17
- Photo 13 6. Interior view, Dining Room
7. 13 of 17
- Photo 14 6. Interior view, Back Parlor
7. 14 of 17
- Photo 15 6. Interior, detail, Pocket Doors
7. 15 of 17
- Photo 16 6. Interior, detail, Stairwell
7. 16 of 17
- Photo 17 6. Interior, detail, Ceiling Molding
7. 17 of 17



SEE CS 2548

S.W.

S.

SEE CS 35740

10TH

8 4200

6 4500

243

226

SEE CS 23962

SEE CS 48762

W/2 5300

8 5400

6000 SEE CS 29755

267

5900

6100

6500

5500

SEE CS 17888

5700

SEE CS 13030

6200

242

6300

6400

MARKET

6600

7400

6700

227

SEE CS 17285

6800

7300

SEE CS 10794

6900

7200

SLY/L NLY/L

S.W. MILL ST.

8 8600

228

SEE CS 2010

7 7000

7100

S.W.

S.W.

S.W. MONTGOMERY ST.

9100

9200

SEE CS 19361

229

SEE CS 3450

35866

9000

VAC. ORD. 123628 10-2-69

VAC. ORD. 132243 2-24-71

VAC. ORD. 128737 3-20-69

VAC. ORD. 128737 3-20-69

VAC. ORD. 132243 2-24-71

(S.W. 11TH ST.)

8700

241

SEE CS 28918

SEE CS 9848

11228

VAC. ORD. 128737 3-20-69

VAC. ORD. 132243 2-24-71

COR.

SEE MAP IS IE 4DA

1:440,000