

P140369827

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DEC 29 1977

DATE ENTERED

FEB 17 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1** NAME

HISTORIC

Hobson (John) House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

469 Bond Street

-- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Astoria

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
1st

STATE

Oregon

VICINITY OF
CODE
41COUNTY
ClatsopCODE
007

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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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

Marjorie Halderman

STREET & NUMBER

469 Bond Street

CITY, TOWN

Astoria

VICINITY OF

STATE
Oregon 97103

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clatsop County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Astoria

STATE
Oregon 97103**6** REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Inventory for Historic Sites and Buildings

DATE

1970

-- FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historic Preservation Office

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE
Oregon 97310

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The home built for banker and customs collector John Hobson near the waterfront in Astoria in 1863 is a choice, intact example of Stick Style architecture. Since its construction, it has been occupied without interruption by descendants of the original owner (Miss Halderman is the great-granddaughter of John Hobson). Moreover, it is among the three oldest residences standing in the community. It is contemporary with the Conrad Boelling House at 765 Exchange Street. Only the Captain Charles Brown House, 1337 Franklin, is earlier in date. The latter is understood to have been built in 1854.

The Hobson House is somewhat removed from the greater concentration of Astoria's best known historic building stock. It is located on the extreme northwest corner of the downtown core, at the intersection of 5th and Bond Streets.

The two-story frame house, the oldest portion of which dates from 1863, has a modified T-shaped plan. Having gabled roofs and clapboard siding, its basic outlines are plain. Its salient features consist of a veranda encompassing three sides of the original wing (stem of the "T"), superimposed projecting bays on the end of the north wing, and chequered and Stick Style decoration in the gable. Tall window openings are fitted with double-hung sash with one-over-one lights.

The house has sustained some alterations and additions. The original wing, on the east, now has a fireplace occupying the position of a former window. In addition, throughout the house five outer doors on the ground floor have been replaced by walls or French windows, and the kitchen porch on the west side was removed.

The addition of the west section of the house was made within ten years after construction of the east wing perpendicular to it, and was originally of one story. Some years later, the second floor of the west wing was added, and about this time also the original kitchen at the south end of the west addition was converted to a dining room, and a new kitchen was added behind it. The kitchen-dining area was remodeled again about twenty years ago. The early softwood floors were all replaced by hardwood floors in the 1920s.

The exterior of the house retains its original siding and decoration. When repairs must be made, both the original design and type of wood are duplicated. It should be noted that the house originally sat at grade level but was raised upon a basement in 1890. Despite regrading of streets in the waterfront section of town (where the Hobson House is located) many years ago, some of the period plant material yet remains in the surrounding yard.

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 checked="" 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 1863 BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Hobson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house which is the subject of this nomination dates from 1863 and, though altered through the years, is important for its continuity, its fine condition and its association with its builder, John Hobson (1824-1896), European immigrant, farmer, entrepreneur and public servant.

The Hobson House is of both architectural and historical significance. Architecturally, the house is important as an example of a plain house updated in the Stick Style. It typifies the organic process of adaptation many homes have been subjected to as they accommodate each new generation. Importantly, in the case of the Hobson House, the alterations have been made with a consistent commitment to quality and harmony. The building is equally important as an ancestral home. Astoria is a long-settled and closely-knit community in which there are many families who can trace their roots back into the early days of the city.

The house was built in 1863 by John Hobson and was his second home in the area (the site of the first, no longer standing, is south of Astoria). Hobson was an individual of considerable significance in his community and one whose life exemplifies the European immigrant element of American cultural history. Born in England in 1824, Hobson immigrated to America with his family in 1843. He disembarked at New Orleans, ascended the Mississippi and crossed the Plains with a party from St. Louis, arriving at Fort Vancouver in late November of 1843. Several men, of whom Hobson was one, left their families at the Hudson's Bay Company fort and continued down to the mouth of the Columbia to the Clatsop Plains where they selected claims, to which they brought their families late in December of 1843. Once established at Clatsop Plains, Hobson raised cattle, farmed his land and dealt in real estate. He participated in the California gold rush, proving moderately successful as a miner.

During his early days at Clatsop Plains, Hobson married Diana Owens, another immigrant of 1843. Four children were born of this union, a union which also made Hobson the brother-in-law of Oregon's pioneering woman doctor, Dr. Bethenia Owens-Adair.

John Hobson and his family moved into the Astoria home which is the subject of this nomination on December 25, 1863. It was during this period that Hobson was engaged in the whole sale and retail butcher and grocery business with another well-known Clatsop Plains pioneer Mr. D.K. Warren. In later years, Hobson was involved in several important events: he was a principal in a group which developed one of the first salmon canneries on the lower Columbia (he also built a salmon cannery at Hobsonville in neighboring Tillamook County); he was an organizer and vice-president of Astoria National Bank; and was appointed Collector of Customs for the Port of Astoria in 1885 by President Cleveland.

In the 1880s, John Hobson visited family and friends in England and, while there, convinced twenty families to immigrate to the Clatsop Plains, thus continuing his efforts to develop Astoria and environs.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Owens-Adair, Dr. Bethenia. Some of Her Life Experiences, Portland: Mann & Beach, nd, pp. 25-55.

Halderman, Bertha Emily Hobson. The Hobson Family, Oregon Pioneers of 1843, 1937 (MS); also an up-date by M. Halderman, 1969.

Letters of Reba Hobson Twelves, 1965.

(see continuation sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/4 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	0	4	3	5	4	5	2	5	1	1	5	2	7	9
ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

B

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

C

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

D

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 3, 4, 5, and 6 of Block 20, McClure's recorded plat of the Town of Astoria.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marjorie Halderman

ORGANIZATION

DATE

May 13, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

469 Bond Street

TELEPHONE

325-0559

CITY OR TOWN

Astoria

STATE

Oregon 97103

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

Janice G. Falbot

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE December 22, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Robert B. Rettig

DATE 2/17/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles J. ...

DATE 2-9-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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FEB 17 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Newspaper clippings and documents in the family scrapbook.

Oregon Historical Quarterly.

The family Bible.

Hines, H.K. An Illustrated History of the State of Oregon. Lewis Publishing Co. 1893

History of the Pacific Northwest: Oregon and Washington. 2 volumes. (Portland:
North Pacific History Company, 1889).