

PH0663361

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 16 1978
DATE ENTERED APR 14 1978

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 Moeck (George F.) House
 AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 713 B Street West
CITY, TOWN Rainier VICINITY OF _____
STATE Oregon CODE 41 COUNTY Columbia CODE 009 ✓
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1st

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input 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 type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" 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 Dick Rockstad and Jim Rouse
STREET & NUMBER 14112 NE 28th Street
CITY, TOWN Vancouver VICINITY OF _____ STATE Washington 98662

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Columbia County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER _____
CITY, TOWN St. Helens STATE Oregon 97051

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE _____
DATE _____
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS _____
CITY, TOWN _____ STATE _____
_FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

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 substantial, two-story frame house with clapboard siding built in 1888 for dairy farmer George F. Moeck has been a highly visible landmark since the Columbia River Highway was opened to traffic in 1915, and long before that the house could be seen from steamboats plying the Columbia.

Irregular in plan, the gable-roofed house is oriented northeasterly to southwesterly, with its main entrance offset to one side of the fore wing end. The latter faces the Columbia River to the northeast. Closely paralleling the south bank of the river, the Spokane-Portland and Seattle Railroad tracks and U.S. Highway 30 are gathered into a narrow corridor between the house and the river. Finished simply with details (such as corner boards and frieze boards) derived from the Classical Revival, the one-time farmhouse and boarding house is situated above road grade on the toe of a wooded hillside. Portions of the latter, rising to the southeast, have been subdivided for residential development in recent years.

The building's fenestration is regular for the most part. Original window openings are fitted with double hung sash having two lights over two. Shutters appear on windows of the front elevation and those in the end of the southeast wing. A brick stove chimney with corbelled cap straddles the roof ridge of each of the three wings of the house. The seven-foot-high stone masonry basement with beamed ceiling is believed to have been added 1909-1911. A porch deck with railing extends across the front elevation. In the right angle formed by the southeasterly and southwesterly wings is a sheltered side porch with stairs and railing. The outer face of the southwesterly wing was altered by the addition of two formally-placed dormers during the 1930s when the house was subdivided as a four-plex.

Current owners acquired the property in 1977 and have removed partitions of the 1930s, reopened stairways and rehabilitated most of the fourteen rooms as part of a plan to reclaim the house for low-key commercial purposes. Together, the first and second stories provide some 2500 square feet of floor space. A wine and cheese shop is slated for installation in the basement. The main floor is being developed as a restaurant, and the second story is to be used as a ladies' boutique and art gallery. A fifty-car parking area has been prepared on the southeasterly side of the house.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input 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 checked="" 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 1888 BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The large framehouse of George F. Moeck in Rainier commands a view of the Columbia River and Mount Rainier in Washington State beyond to the northeast. It is significant as the externally intact house of a prominent local figure, the proprietor of Moeck's Addition to Rainier. It is the only remaining element of a once thriving enterprise which Moeck operated at the place. In addition to his farm and house--a boarding place for travelers--Moeck maintained a dock and general store on the river front.

The town of Rainier was founded by Charles Fox as early as 1851. It was one of several communities established as shipping points along the south bank of the Columbia River at an early date. A comparative newcomer, George F. Moeck arrived on the scene in 1871 or 1872. Born in Wurtemberg in 1837, he emigrated to America in 1854 and settled in Summit County, Ohio. From Ohio, young Moeck moved West to Missouri and thence to the gold fields of Colorado and Montana. In 1871 he gave up mining and came to Oregon. Upon his arrival in Rainier he worked in one of the many sawmills of the district. He married Margaret Gilbreath in 1873 and amassed a homestead of some 450 acres adjoining the Rainier townsite. Moeck developed a dairy farm on his holdings and, in 1892, laid out upon a portion thereof Moeck's Addition.

The subject house, built in 1888, accommodated Moeck's sizable family of six children and, it is understood, steamboat passengers and sailors in need of lodgings. Taking advantage of his river frontage, Moeck had early developed a boat dock and a general store. He is reported to have brought cord wood from the wooded levels of his acreage down to the dock by flume. The wood, of course, was sold to replenish fuel supplies of the steam vessels. A long-time and respected member of his community, Moeck twice served as Mayor of Rainier.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Portrait and Biographical Record of Portland and Vicinity (1903), 719.
 Interview, August 20, 1977: Mabel Weyeant, daughter of George Moeck, 5785 Portland Avenue, West Linn, Oregon,
 Rainier World (March 10, 1929).
 Spiro, Richard, "Old Rainier House to Become Shopping Center," Chronicle (Sept. 8, 1977), pg. 1

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3/4 acre

UTM REFERENCES

3 3 0					
A	1,0	5,0,4	3,2,7	5,1,0,4	0,5,5
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
D					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Sec. 16, T.7N., R.2W., W.M., Columbia County, Oregon. More particularly described as follows: Beginning at the point where the West line of the Fox Donation Land Claim intersects the extension of South line of A Street; thence South along the West line of said Fox Donation Land Claim to the North line of the Old Columbia River Highway; thence East along said North line of Columbia River Highway to the West line of the street or lane extending Northerly from the Columbia River Highway, said point being 223.85 feet East of the West line of said Fox Donation Land Claim; thence Northerly along the street; thence West-erly along the South line of A Street extended to the point of beginning.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Richard C. Rockstad

ORGANIZATION

DATE

December 1977

STREET & NUMBER

14112 NE 28th Street

TELEPHONE

(206) 694-7640

CITY OR TOWN

Vancouver

STATE

Washington 98662

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

James R. Rockstad

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE February 10, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Walter C. Cole*

DATE

4/14/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

4-12-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER