Date of Action

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Name of Property historic name Druhot, Alice, House other names/site number "Cable House" 2. Location not for publication street & number 1903 SW Cable Street vicinity city, town Portland | zip code 97201 state code OR county Multnomah Oregon 3. Classification Ownership of Property Category of Property Number of Resources within Property | x | private building(s) Contributing **Noncontributing** district public-local buildings public-State site sites public-Federal structure structures object objects **Total** Name of related multiple property listing: Number of contributing resources previously N/A listed in the National Register __N/A State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this momination 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 X pricets does not reget the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. <u>January 5. 1988</u> Signature of certifying official / Deputy 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. Date Signature of commenting or other official State or Federal agency and bureau **National Park Service Certification** I, hereby, certify that this property is: Ventered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register. | See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines

6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)				
Domestic: single dwelling	Domestic: single dwelling				
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)				
	foundationconcrete				
<u>Italian Villa (castellated)</u>	walls wood: weatherboard (shiplap)				
	roof <u>metal: tin</u>				
	other <u>windows: glass</u>				

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The well-preserved Italianate residence now called the "Cable House" was built in 1891 at the base of Portland Heights. It sits on a small parcel of land, situated on a steep, brushy hillside of a small canyon in the Goose Hollow neighborhood of southwest Portland. It is one of three known castle-like houses in Portland, and the only one that is woodframed. The Cable House possesses unique visual character, and shows remarkable adaptation to the hillside on which it sits. The house is located just below Montgomery Drive and is oriented to the east with a spectacular view of downtown Portland.

Site:

The site is at the southernmost end of Southwest Cable Street, a narrow alley south of Mill: Street Terrace at 18th Street. The house is the last one on the dead end street, and is bounded by a heavy wooded hillside to the south and west.

The three-story, flat-roofed house is small and square. Three square turrets located at the northwest, northeast, and southeast corners, give the illusion of a larger structure; without the turrets, however, each floor of the house measures only 30 feet 9 inches long by 23 feet 9 and one-quarter inches wide. Two simple porches are attached to the front and rear of the house body, the rear (west) one being two-story. The front porch is reached by a steep concrete stairway up from Cable Street at the southeast corner of the lot.

The only existing outbuilding is a concrete garage (c. 1921) at the northeast corner of the lot. It is submerged in the steep, ivy-covered slope, and quite unnoticeable. The foundation for an old outhouse remains intact on the south side of the house and is now a pond. A 10-foot high concrete retaining wall, poured in 1921, closely surrounds the southwest corner of the first floor.

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Alterations:

Alice Druhot had the house built for her sometime in 1891. (The original architect is unknown, though it is possible that Druhot's son, an architect for the firm of Thomas J. Jones, may have designed the structure). Originally built 18' east of its current location, the house was moved back from the street and elevated in 1910 and a basement was created. A door and two round-top windows were added to allow access and light into the tall basement. About this time the first floor walls were modified and the original interior doors and casings on this level replaced with the plain casements now found. Four casement windows replaced original round-top windows in the parlor, dining room, and kitchen, and the lower portion of the interior stair was modified.

The top floor retains its original partitions and moldings; a water closet and sink with exterior plumbing were added on this level in 1909. In 1964 a casement window on the north wall of the parlor was replaced with an aluminum siding window, and the exterior of the house was carefully encased in aluminum siding.

Exterior:

The original horizontal shiplap siding has been well-preserved since 1964. The distinctive round-top, double-hung sash is symmetrically placed and in excellent condition; 18 of the original 22 windows remain. Each window is surrounded with rich, decorative molding and a keystone. A heavy belt course wraps at the second floor line, and a wide frieze with dentils delineates the roof cornice. Existing porch trim is in good condition and needs only minor decorative brackets to restore original appearance.

Landmark features of the house were the wooden brackets and crenelated parapets that capped the boxy form and were removed in the 1940s. The battlements on the turrets were larger in scale than those between the towers. A modest pediment once crowned the parapet on the east facade.

The front porch, facing east, is raised high above ground level with a long flight of wooden stairs and a carved front door to the first floor. An entrance to the basement is directly underneath. The back porch has a door from a second floor bedroom. It shelters another entrance door into the house at the first floor dining room. Both porches have narrow, simple posts and banisters, and shallow shed roofs. The base of the northwest turret has a door on the north side providing access to a small tool storage closet.

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Interior:

The first floor comprises parlor, dining room, and kitchen, with a small den and stairhall. The second floor has three bedrooms and the bath, which contains the original 1909 cast-iron bath tub. The turrets have limited floor area and are suitable only for standing. First and second floor ceilings are 10 feet high; the basement ceiling is 8 feet high.

The first floor stairhall was substantially altered, probably in 1910. Markings on flooring and walls, and measurements of the staircase, indicate the original 2-landing staircase was crudely charged to the steep, single-landing stair now extant. Steep steps to the basement are located under the main stair, and a toilet and small sink were installed in the 1950s at the basement stair landing. Measurements and photographs of the original, symmetrical windows show that the wall between the parlor and dining room has been moved 3 feet west.

Most original materials are intact. The walls are lath and plaster and in good condition. Second floor casements are original and picture rails adorn every room except the bath and basement. Interior details are modest and functional compared to the exterior, reflecting the later completion of interior finish work. Original casements have beaded flutes and turned corner blocks.

Restoration:

The house is currently being restored. Each of the 4 casement windows is being replaced with a round-top one to match original. The main staircase will be restored to 3 flights with 2 landings and period railings. The wall between the dining room will be restored to its original location. The small kitchen will be remodeled with period trim and finishes, and incorporate appliances in a historically sensitive manner.

The substandard toilet and sink at the top of the basement stairs will be rehabilitated into a period character powder room. The modern fixtures in the second floor bathroom will be replaced with period types. Moldings and trim will be installed to match the originals on the second floor. Wood floors will be restored and plaster ceiling rosettes installed in the parlor, dining room and kitchen.

Exterior restoration includes the complete removal of aluminum siding. Belt courses, window trim, and the parapet battlements will be restored accurately. The front and rear porches will be repaired and trim restored, and the house will receive an authentic polychrome paint scheme.

8. Statement of Significance		
Certifying official has considered the significance of this properties and an animal nationally	erty in relation to other properties: statewide X locally	
Applicable National Register Criteria A B XC	D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	□D □E □F □G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) Architecture	Period of Significance1891-1897	Significant Dates
	Cultural Affiliation N/A	
Significant Person N/A	Architect/Builder Unknown (possibly Arno	ld Druhot)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. The castellated Italian Villa at 1903 Cable Street at the base of Portland Heights in southwest Portland was built in 1891-1892. From the steeply sloping site, its occupants gained a fine prospect to the east which included the Portland Cable Railway, which was under construction at about the same time. Most of the photographs taken of the trolley line while it was under construction at this location, in fact, show the distinctive, two-story house with its corner towers in the background. So closely is the house identified with the heyday of the Portland Cable Railway through these views, the house has come to be known popularly as the "Cable House." It was declared a City of Portland Landmark under this title in 1975.

The house is locally significant chiefly under Criterion C as an extremely rare example of residential architecture in the castellated style. It is one of only two Portland "castles" related to the Romantic picturesque movement of the 19th Century. Of frame construction, it is contemporaneous with the Charles Piggott House, which was constructed of brick and is commonly called "Piggott's Castle." Another castle in southwest Portland is a stone edifice erected on the brink of the Depression by builder-contractor Jeter O. Frye. Both of the other castellated residences have been listed in the National Register.

While the subject house had been modified by certain non-historic window openings, and in recent years had been clad with aluminum siding, the house is being restored by its present owner, and work in progress has revealed the original novelty siding and demonstrates that most of the trim details are intact. Missing elements are being replaced in-kind in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Projects.

The nominated parcel was acquired by Alice Druhot, a widow, in 1891, and it was for Mrs. Druhot and her sons the house was constructed. The plans may have been supplied by Arnold Druhot, one of the sons, who was an architect with the firm of Thomas J. Jones, the firm which produced the elaborate Queen Anne house of Captain John A. Brown, earlier listed in the National Register and subsequently destroyed. The Druhots' occupation of the castellated villa was relatively short-lived. Alice Druhot relinquished the property through foreclosure in 1897.

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Previous document	ation on tile (NPS): ermination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)	Primary location of a	dditional data:
has been reque	•	State historic pres	
	I in the National Register	Other State agend	
previously deter	mined eligible by the National Register	Federal agency	
= -	ational Historic Landmark	Local government	:
•	toric American Buildings	University	
Survey #	toric American Engineering	Other Specify repository:	
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10. Geographica	l Data		
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¢ L		D	
		See continuation	sheet
Verbal Boundary De	escription		
	area is comprised of Lots 4 and	1 5, Block 44, Carter	's Addition to the
Cityof Portlar	nd in Multnomah County, Oregon.	It is more particula	arly described as
follows:			
•			
		X See continuation	sheet
Boundary Justificati	ion		
	area comprises the entire parce		
	corically acquired, improved and	d occupied by Alice Di	ruhot between 1890 and
1897.			
		See continuation	sheet
44 P			
11. Form Prepar		non	
name/title	Lee S. Weinstein (property own N/A		August, 1987
organizationstreet & number	1903 SW Cable Street	date telephone	(503) 243-2766
city or town	Portland	state	Oregon zip code 97201

9. Major Bibliographical References

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The "Cable House," so-named by the Portland City Council because of its close proximity to the city's first cable car line, is significant because it is one of only three castle-like houses in Portland and the only one which is wood-framed with wooden crenellated parapets. The precise date of construction of the house is not known. In 1890, Portland's first cable car line began operation a block in front of the house. There stood a spectacular, 1,040-foot long trestle (with a 20% grade), built by local investors to provide transportation to Portland Heights and open the area up for real estate development.

The Cable House was one of many new residences built as a result of the new cable car line, and one of the most picturesque and visible to daily commuters as they rode up and down the steep trestle, known as Cable Road. The house is still seen daily by commuters -- those driving on Sunset Highway, four blocks away, where the cable car powerhouse once stood. The residence is visible from southwest, northwest, north and northeast Portland.

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According to John Labbe, in his book Fares, Please! Those Portland Trolley Years, construction of the Cable Road trestle began on October 7, 1887. The powerhouse was built in April 1889, and on February 22, 1890 the line was opened. Classified advertisements in The Oregonian indicate that lots near the elevated line were selling for at Teast \$600 at the time. Those with houses sold for between \$1,750 to \$5,000.

An Oregon Historical Society photo (negative #68659) of the west elevation of the trestle, showing a cable car in operation at the base of the structure, indicates that the Cable House had not been built at the time of the trestle's opening (see photo). Two months later, on April 11, 1890, J.C. and Annie Shofner, sold the lot where the house stands for \$600 to Mrs. Alice Druhot, widow of Felix Druhot, then living on Baker Street with her sons. An alley 20 feet wide was dedicated for public use. (According to a December, 1971 Oregon Journal article, it was named "Cable Street" because it was "the route used by the haul back cable to the powerhouse").

In 1891, Druhot, then living on Sherman Street, received a mortgage from Lombard Investment Company for \$800 and construction began. By 1892, city directories show her address as "18th, alley," the name of the alley now known as Cable Street. An Oregon Historical Society photo dated 1892 shows the completed house.

Alice Druhot lived in the house with her sons, Edward (nickname "Eddie"), Carl (nickname: "Collie"), Felix, Arnold, and Harvey. Arthur Spencer, an Oregon Historical Society librarian, learned in a 1971 interview with Terwilliger Plaza resident, Mrs. McGowan, that when Druhot moved into the Cable House, she lowered her "large and elegant" furniture down to the back of the house from what is now Montgomery Drive.

Her son, Collie, was one of Portland's first major league baseball players (3 others born in Oregon played before Druhot -- William and Thomas Parrott and Charles Babb). A later <u>Oregonian</u> article recalled that "In Vaughn street's earlier days the leading semi-pro pitcher in Portland was a little left-hander named 'Collie' Druhot, and professionally he did so well -- for Seattle, we believe, but don't swear to this -- that he went to the majors, and we kids used to gaze up at him open-mouthed."

According to The Baseball Encyclopedia, Druhot pitched for Cincinnati in 1906, and for two years with the St. Louis Cardinals (1907-09). He was born on September 1, 1882 in Ohio, he was a left-handed hitter and pitcher. A .231 batter, he had a lifetime Earned Run Average of 3.08. Druhot was a deckhand for the OR and N Co. He died in Portland on February 11, 1918 in a shipyard explosion.

Arnold Druhot, an architect with the firm of Thomas J. Jones, may have designed the Cable House. Thomas J. Jones was a former member of the city council. His firm designed the Captain J. Brown House in Portland and many city schools, including Washington High School.

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Eddie and Harvey Druhot began their careers as cigarmakers at B. Gildner. Eddie employed laters as a plumber, fireman, and tar roofer with J.C. Bayer. Harvey became a stripper with W.J. Ramsey. Felix Druhot was a city route agent for Northrop and Sturgis, a driver for Parks Fish Company, and later a deputy constable.

In 1895 and 1896, possibly as a result of the mid-decade financial crisis, Alice Druhot failed to pay the principal of \$800 or maturing interest coupons, and was delinquent in her tax payments. Her mortgage was foreclosed on January 23, 1897. The Multnomah County Circuit Court noted that "there is owing \$963 all of which is secured by said mortgage" and that she only paid in the aggregate the sum of \$170.15. Druhot moved from the house that year. She died at age 72 on August 17, 1917, survived by a sister, Hanna Dirwachter, and brother, Gottlieb Eggiman who lived in Lents.

At an April 28, 1897 auction, Sheriff William Frazier sold the property for \$800 to S. Henry Norris, of Philadelphia, trustee of the estate of O.A. Norris. There is no record of Norris ever having lived in Portland. It is assumed that the house was vacant or rented between 1897 and 1903.

On April 11, 1903, the house was sold for \$1,200 to Frank and Barbara Klekar. Frank Klekar was a blacksmith for most of his career with Machine Pacific Iron Works (he was a grocer for four years). The Klekars lived in the house for three years with their son, Frank Jr., a carriage painter for 0.H. Anderson and later Gratton & Sauvain.

On January 21, 1906, the house was sold to Edmund C. Goddard and his wife, Minnie. Goddard's brother, H.W., installed a water closet and sink in the house in September, 1906. City directories do not indicate that either Goddard lived in the house. It is probable that E.C. Goddard, who lived with his wife on nearby Mill Street for over 20 years, rented the house for three years. Goddard opened one of Portland's earliest shoe and boot manufacturing companies in 1891 at 227 1st Street, between Salmon and Main. The following year, he moved his company, called E.C. Goddard & Co., to 313 Washington Street. In 1893, he opened an additional outlet at 108 Union Avenue.

By 1897, Goddard's business was flourishing, he was advertising daily on the front page of The Oregonian, and the downtown store was moved to The Oregonian Building at 129 6th. Nine years later, J.F. Kelly joined the company as vice

president, and the business was renamed Goddard-Kelly Shoe Co. Goddard owned many lots in the Cable Street area, including all of the land at the end of the small street.

On March 22, 1909, Goddard sold the Cable House to Charles T. McDougall for "the sum of \$2100.00 in gold coin.... \$500.00 to be paid in sums of not less than \$25.00 per month."

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McDougall, was a bartender with Fritz and Russell in 1910. The following year, he tended bar at Buck and Emig. In 1915, his occupation was listed as a plumber. He later became the manager of the Union Cafe.

The Cable House remained in the McDougall family's possession for 50 years. Charles T. and Bertha L. (Beatty) McDougall raised a son and two daughters in the house (Charles B., who was born in the house on August 26, 1910; Esther Caldwell; and Ardis Peterson). McDougall, "a short Scotsman," according to his grandson, Worth Caldwell, Jr., installed an exterior stairway (now gone) from Montgomery Street down to the rear of the house. Caldwell recounted that his grandfather would walk down the hill from Cable Street to work and shop in downtown Portland and return by taking the streetcar up Vista Avenue and walking down the rear stairs. "That way," he recalled, "he never had to walk uphill."

Daughter Esther McDougall married Worth Caldwell Sr. who founded Caldwell's Colonial Mortuary in northeast Portland. Worth Caldwell Sr. was a prominent civic activist, prime minister of the Royal Rosarians, and the charter president of the East Rotary. Their son, Worth W. Caldwell Jr., now owns the mortuary and was Portland's Junior First Citizen in 1966.

Ardis McDougall married Glenn Peterson during the Second World War, and they were married 29 years. The Petersons, who lived at the house for a short time, owned Associated Welling & Machine Works, a machine shop on 9th and Everett in northwest Portland.

In an interview in 1974 with son Charles B. McDougall, it was learned that when the McDougalls bought the house it was located 18 feet east of where it is now, and was pulled back to dig a basement (which explains the unusually high basement ceilings and foundation additions). Glenn Peterson recalled that Charles T. McDougall, who he described as "an ambitious guy," dug the Cable House basement by hand.

A garage and retaining wall were built in 1921. Charles B. said that the roof crenelations were removed during the 1940s because they were rotting. A small toilet and sink were installed in June, 1952, for his elderly mother when she was unable to walk upstairs (an electric "inclinator" was put in to help her get up the cement stairs outside the house.)

Charles B. McDougall began his working career as a messenger with U.S. National Bank. During the Great Depression he was a clerk with the Multnomah County Relief Commission (1935) and, later, he worked as an assistant supervisor of the State Public Welfare Commission. He joined the army during World War II, and returned to become a broker for J.T. Steeb & Co., where he worked for for 31 years. A member of the Merchant Exchange, he lived in the house until 1959.

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Charles T. McDougall died on July 7, 1951, survived by his sister Edith McDougall, and brother James M. After his mother died (May 8th, 1958), Charles B. sold the house to Clifford and Clara Austin and moved a block above the house to 1682 SW Montgomery Street. He died on September 27, 1982 and never married. His sister, Esther, died the following year.

Clifford and Clara Austin maintained the house virtually intact, from 1959 to 1973. He was a building demolisher; she a winder at Chase Bag. Both retired in the mid-1960s.

In 1973 they sold the house to Maryellen Weinstein, now Maryellen ("Mel") Lee, wife of Portland dentist, and former City Club president, Herbert Goodman. Lee, a personnel consultant and business owner, owned the Cable House until May 29, 1987, when she transferred ownership to her son, Lee Weinstein.

Often-published Portland General Electric photos of the house, showing the Cable Road trestle and the house in the background, hung in Neil Goldschmidt's mayoral conference room throughout his terms as mayor. Goldschmidt, elected governor of Oregon in 1986, visited the house for a social function in 1975.

The uniquely-styled house overlooking Portland has been a landmark to so many Portlanders over the years. The Portland City Council recognized it as an historic city landmark and dubbed it the "Cable House" on March 1, 1975.

Land Ownership Prior to 1890

A title abstract and inventory has provides a complete record of ownership of the property. Under an act of Congress approved September 27, 1850, a claim was filed by pioneer settlers Thomas and Minerva Carter for donation of the land. It was then deeded to Thomas J. Carter and his wife, Emma. On November 4, 1871, the land was sold to Joseph S. Smith and his wife Julia (Carter), "two well known and honored pioneers of Oregon," according to the 1903 book, Portrait and Biography of Portland. Joseph Smith died on September 28, 1884 and willed the land to his sons Walter V. and Preston C. Smith.

Preston Smith was a prime investor in, and the president of, Portland Cable Railway Co., which built the Cable Road trestle. His brother, Walter, headed up the family business, Smith Brothers & Co, and was the father of Leland L. Smith, who was a U.S. consul in Prague, Czechoslovakia, and later in Tunis.

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On Oct	oher	16	1889	a quit	claim	deed	was	filed.	and	for	\$1	ownershi	n of	th	ie

On October 16, 1889, a quit claim deed was filed, and for \$1 ownership of the property was transferred by the Smith brothers, and wives Edith and Susie (respectively), to J.C. Shofner and his wife Annie Grace (Jackson) Shofner.

In the 1870s, Shofner was a lieutenant with the 21st Infantry. He and Annie were married on May 20, 1879. They had a daughter, May, and two sons, Webb C. and Henry B. Shofner. Annie Shofner was the daughter of Wesley Jackson who was "one of the best known business men in the west" (Gaston). Wesley Jackson founded a wholesale crockery and glassware dealer and built a business, "that was not only the largest in the city of Portland, but one of the most important in the Pacific Northwest." He later established North Pacific Manufacturing Company, which constructed buggies, carriages and wagons.

In 1887 J.C. Shofner was a county clerk. The following year, he was an adjutant general in the Oregon National Guard. In 1890, Shofner became chief clerk in the U.S. Engineering Office and sold the lot to Alice Druhot. His

father-in-law, Wesley Jackson, died in 1891 and Shofner became administrator of the estate.

A turn of the century inventory of city blocks showed that Shofner owned several parcels of land in the vicinity of Cable Street. Eventually he opened a grocery store, Shofner & Wright, at 3rd and Yamhill downtown. City directories show the lived at the NE corner of 14th (now 16th) and College for more than 20 years.

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Interview, Oregon Historical Society Librarian Arthur Spencer with Mrs. McGowan, 1971.

Interview with Richard Topp, Chair of the Society for American Baseball Research Committee, Chicago IL, with Lee Weinstein, 1987.

Multnomah County Courthouse, Records, County Assessor's Office.

City of Portland, Bureau of Permits, inspection card files.

Interview, Lee Weinstein with Charles B. McDougall, 1974.

Interview, Lee Weinstein with Worth Caldwell, Jr., 1987.

Oregon Journal	December, 28, 1971
The Oregonian	February 23, 1890 February 24, 1890
	February 13, 1897
	December 18, 1921

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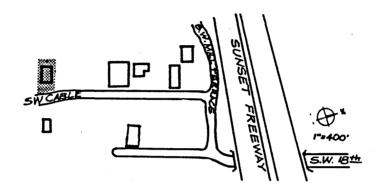
LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Cable House 1903 SW Cable

Beginning at the Southeast corner of Lot 9, Block 4, MARKET STREET ADDITION, in the City of Portland, thence Southerly tracing the Westerly line of an alley or street (S.W. Cable Avenue) to the point of intersection of said alley line with a line drawn parallel to and 80 feet South from the South line of said Block 4, MARKET STREET ADDITION, thence West Parallel with the South line of said Block 4, Market Street Addition, to a point on the Easterly line of SW Montgomery Drive, thence Northwesterly along said street line 43.43 feet more or less to a point on said street line which is intersected by a line 40 feet Southerly from and parallel with the Southerly boundary line of block 4, Market Street Addition, and extension of said line Westerly, thence Easterly and parallel with the South line of said Block 4, Market Street Addition, 28.97 feet to the Southerly extension of the East line of S.W. 19th Avenue, thence Northerly along said extension of the East line of S.W. 19th Avenue to the Southwest corner of Lot 9, Block 4, Market Street Addition, thence Easterly along South line of said lot 92.6 feet to the point of beginning.

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LOCATION MAP

Cable House 1903 SW Cable

