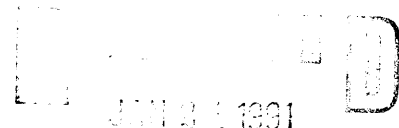


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



NATIONAL REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Edwards, J.G., House
other names/site number "Pen-y-Brin"

2. Location

street & number 2645 SW Alta Vista Place not for publication
city, town Portland vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97201

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.
Jana M. Hamrick January 3, 1991
Signature of certifying official Date
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered 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): _____
Melvin Byers 2/22/91
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Entered in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th Century and Early 20th CenturyRevivals: Norman Farmhouse

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concretewalls stucco over hollow clay tile

roof slate and built-up roofingother

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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The Edwards Residence, a finely crafted building in the Norman Farmhouse Style, was designed by the prominent Portland architect A.E. Doyle for Welshman, John G. Edwards, in 1925-26. The angled L-shaped building exhibits many characteristics of the Norman Farmhouse Style in its asymmetrical massing, multi-pane casement windows, arched doorways, intersecting gables, rectangular bays with half timbering trim and prominent brick chimneys. The stucco elevations, distressed to simulate aged medieval walls, are an unusual treatment. Some of the building materials and interior elements were brought from Wales and employed in the design. The roofing slates were shipped from Wales prior to construction as well as sod used for the rose gardens. The elaborately carved fireplace mantels in the living room and main hall were also brought from Edwards' homeland. The Edwards residence is in excellent condition with few modifications.

SITE

The Edwards Residence is located on top of a prominent knoll in the southwest hills of Portland, Oregon on lots 3, part of lot 4, and 5 thru 8 of the S.W. Alta Vista Subdivision of Smith Addition to the city. Originally, the property encompassed lots 2 thru 8; the majority of lot 4 was sold in the late 1950s. The entrance drive, S.W. Alta Vista Place, extends to the north from S.W. Vista Avenue. S.W. Buena Vista Drive, lower on the knoll, defines the property on the east, west and north. Brick columns with corbelled caps flank the entrance drive on the southern edge of the property. Lantern light fixtures decorate the tops the columns. The columns, constructed in 1981, were designed to match the corbelling on the chimneys. A lower brick wall with corbelled coping adjoins the east column and extends along the eastern side of the driveway turnaround. A brick wall joins the west entrance column and extends to a chain link fence which defines the western edge of the S.W. Alta Vista Place. Iron gates span the entrance columns.

The front facade of the residence is oriented towards the south and opens onto a paved turnaround. A brick hexagonal planter box with a central flagpole is located in the middle of the turnaround. This brick planter box replaced the original planter box which was constructed of wood. Two flights of wooden stairs descend on the east side of the residence and one on the west side. The stairs terminate at S.W. Buena Vista Street which is lined with a rock retaining wall. A dirt path midway between the residence and S.W. Buena Vista Drive extends around the residence.

An array of mature shrubs and trees cover the property. Grape vines and a photinia hedge shields a chain link fence which lines the western edge of the entrance drive, S.W. Alta Vista Place. A mature cherry tree and rhododendron grace the southwest corner of the residence adjacent to the west entrance column. Japanese maples, firs, ferns and lilacs line the eastern perimeter of the driveway turnaround. The front of the residence is planted with rhododendrons and azaleas. A large cedar tree is at the southeast corner of the residence.

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The east yard is densely covered with a variety of shrubs and trees. A gravel path, adjacent to the house, extends from the driveway turnaround to the back (north) yard along the east side of the residence. The path is lined with small shrubs, ferns, Indian ash trees and a hawthorn tree. Other plantings in the east yard include golden chain trees, a mimosa, ivy, and firs. A lower path extends around the residence on the hillside.

The back (north) yard consists of an open flat lawn which slopes down dramatically to a densely covered hillside on the north and west. The lawn gently slopes down further towards the northwest to a narrow grassy knoll surrounded by dense vegetation. A narrow path lined with brick extends around the perimeter of the lawn separating it from the northern hillside. The hillside is covered with mature firs, laurels, ivy, ferns, dogwoods and a wygelia.

Mature rhododendrons, hollies and lilacs line the perimeter of the residence on the west elevation. The narrow east side yard slopes gently down to what was originally the laundry yard. A gravel path connects the back and laundry yards. The laundry yard is enclosed with a stucco covered concrete wall. An arborvitae hedge lines the west side of the wall. The slope of the west yard is covered with ferns, ivy, holly trees, Oregon grape, firs, cherry trees, maple trees, a magnolia tree and a tulip tree. Wooden stairs at the southwest corner of the residence descend to a lower gravel path and then to S.W. Buena Vista Drive. Stairs also ascend along the south elevation of the house to the driveway turnaround.

The southwest portion of the property is abundantly planted with a variety of shrubs, ground covers, and flowers including rhododendrons, ferns, daisies, lilacs, iris, ivy, and Oregon grape. A narrow path cuts through the plantings of the southwest yard. Rock terraces line the stairs and the pathway.

EXTERIOR

The angled L-shaped, Norman Farmhouse Style residence is two and one half stories and has a daylight basement. The overall dimensions of the main body of the residence is approximately 47'-5" (north-south) x 64'-6" (east-west) and the north-south service wing measures approximately 21'-10" (east-west) x 54'-3" (north-south). The roof is composed of two main hips forming an angled L-shape intersected by gables on all elevations. The hip, covering the main portion of the residence, culminates at a lower pitched hip covered with built-up asbestos roofing. Two skylights punctuate the roof deck. Gables intersect the main hip roofs on the east, west and north elevations. Twin front facing gables are at opposite ends of the residence on the rear (north) elevation. Beautiful slate, imported from Wales, covers the slopes of the roof.

Prominent brick chimneys grace all elevations of the residence. A double shafted brick chimney with corbelled caps is situated at the juncture of the service wing and main body of the house. The chimneys are set at a diagonal and projects from a stucco clad base. The exterior chimney on the east elevation is sheathed with stucco and capped with three corbelled brick chimneys set at a diagonal. A similar triple flue brick chimney with corbelled caps projects from the center of the

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west half of the roof. A tall brick chimney is located on the east facing slope of the service wing above the garage.

The shallow eaves project slightly over the stucco clad exterior elevations. The hollow clay tile walls are covered with stucco distressed in a pattern simulating aged medieval walls. Although some of this finish has been re-stuccoed or obscured by ivy, which covers a large portion of the exterior elevations, the original medieval type texturing can be seen on the main and service entrances, the rear (north) elevation and the east elevation. The residence is supported on a concrete foundation.

All the windows are a combination of either multi-pane casement or multi-pane fixed windows. The windows are recessed slightly from the wall surface and void of sills or trim. Shed dormers are on the front (south) and rear (north) elevations. Bands of multi-pane windows, irregular in fenestration, punctuate the first and second stories. A rectangular two story bay projects from the east side of the rear (north) elevation. The fixed pane and casement windows of the bay are separated by wood simulating half timbering. The first story windows at the opposite ends of the rear (north) elevation are elegant tall windows capped with smaller multi-pane windows.

The front entrance on the south elevation is accentuated by an sculptural metal canopy. The arched entrance doorway is trimmed in brick finished with bull nose corners. The recessed double entrance doors are constructed of quarter sawed oak. A tiled porch with brick border introduces the entrance door. The threshold is brick. The canopy is a beautiful semi-circular hood which shelters the main entrance doors. Three wrought iron chains support the canopy which is constructed of copper over a steel frame. Fringe-like skirting suspended from the top of the canopy is in-filled with glass. Ball capped finials decorate the top of the canopy. An original light fixture illuminates the entrance from the underside of the canopy. The lantern type light fixtures flanking the entrance are not original to the residence.

The service door, located on the east elevation adjacent to the garage is recessed in an arched opening. The screen door is comprised of two rectangular panels below and a four light window above. Tiles trimmed with a brick boarder cover the service entrance porch. An original light fixture lights the entrance.

The back porch is in the center of the rear (north) elevation and flanked by two rear facing gables at opposite ends. Recessed under the second story, the porch is supported by four large wood posts which are flared at the top creating a bracket-like effect. A horizontal wood beam spans the porch opening. French doors on the south wall of the porch lead into the main hall. Tall multi-pane casement windows flank the doors. The porch floor is comprised of tiles finished with a brick border. Elaborate lantern light fixtures are on either side of the porch. There are two doors on the west elevation which lead to the basement from the laundry yard. Concrete steps access the basement doors.

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INTERIOR

The interior of the Edwards residence is arranged around a main hall. The library and living room are located on the east side of the hall and the dining room, butler's pantry and back staircase are on the west side. The service wing which includes the kitchen, servant's hall and garage extends to the southwest. The second floor rooms revolves around the central hall; the three bedrooms and sitting room radiate around the hall and the original servants quarters wing projects southwest of the hall. The central portion of the third floor is finished and was originally used as an art studio.

ENTRANCE VESTIBULE, COAT ROOM, AND GUEST BATHROOM

The entrance vestibule is a small room (5'-0" x 6'-10") introducing the main hall on the north, the study on the east and the coat room and bathroom on the west. Panelled double oak entrance doors are on the south side of the vestibule. The intimate space of the room is accentuated by the low ceiling, embellished with narrow wood beams running east-west, and oak panelled walls. The floors are also oak. An oak door on the west elevation of the vestibule leads to the coat room.

The coat room (7'-0" x 9'-0") is rectangular in plan and has a closet on the north wall and casement windows along the south wall. The floors in the coat rooms are oak. An oak door on the west end of the room leads to a small half bath. The commode and sink are new in the bathroom however the original hexagonal white floor tiles are intact. A casement window above the sink on the south wall lights the bathroom.

STUDY

An oak door on the east side of the vestibule leads to the study (13'-0 x 24'-11"). The high ceiling of the large open room is defined by the original picture rail. High oak baseboards extend around the perimeter of the room, finishing the oak floors. Built-in oak bookcases extend the length of the north elevation. The study is illuminated by a band of casement windows along the south wall.

MAIN HALL AND STAIRCASE

French doors on the north side of the entrance vestibule leads into the main hall (20'-0" x 30'-0"). Oak floors finished with high baseboards covers the hall. The elegance of the spacious room is enhanced by a grand staircase and fireplace. Located on the west wall, the fireplace is the focal point of the hall. The beautiful high backed stained oak mantel piece extends nearly the height of the room and is capped with a wood cornice. The central panel above the mantel shelf was bought from Wales by the original owner and incorporated into the design of the fireplace. The top three antique panels are elaborately carved and are separated from the lower panels by a slightly projecting shelf. Travertine marble surrounds the firebox and sheaths the hearth.

The impressive oak staircase ascends to the second floor from the south end of the hall. The large turned balusters are capped with an oak railing and terminate at massive square newel posts. The newel posts are capped with a large urn-like wood finials. The treads, risers and stringers are also constructed of oak. The central staircase ascends from the first floor to the a landing and then splits off into two staircases which lead to the second floor hall. The landing is lit by pairs of casement windows recessed in the south elevation.

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An oak door on the south side of the fireplace leads to the back hall stairs and butler's pantry. French doors north of the fireplace lead to the dining room. French doors on the north wall lead to the back terrace. The french doors are flanked by tall multi-paned fixed sash which extends the height of the hall. The living room is entered through French doors on the east elevation of the hall.

LIVING ROOM

The living room (21'-0" x 32'-0") is a commodious room lit by windows on the east and north elevations. The high ceiling is accentuated by a picture rail which extends around the perimeter of the room. A band of fixed and casement windows are recessed in a rectangular bay on the north elevation of the room. The windows are capped with a smaller band of multi-pane windows. The fireplace on the east wall is flanked by large fixed and casement windows. The elaborately carved high backed fireplace mantle was brought by the original owners from Wales. Primitive carved figures above the mantle shelf, flank two central arched panels. The interior of the panels are carved with a floral pattern. Figure heads decorate the frieze of the mantelpiece cornice. Full figures on either side of the firebox support the mantle shelf. Travertine marble clads the hearth and firebox surrounds. The floors and high baseboards of the living room are oak.

DINING ROOM

French doors on the west wall of the main hall lead into the dining room (17'-0" x 24'-0"). Three tall multi-pane windows capped with smaller multi-pane windows line the north wall. Two pairs of multi-pane casement windows illuminates the room from the west. An elaborately carved fireplace is on the south wall. The carved figures flanking the firebox supports the mantle shelf. A lion's head in the center of the mantel is the focal point of the fireplace. Travertine marble surrounds the firebox and hearth. This fireplace mantel is not original to the residence: the original was sold in an auction in circa 1957. A door to the butler's pantry is adjacent to the fireplace on the south elevation.

BUTLER'S PANTRY / BACK HALL

Glass front cabinets with cupboards and drawers below line the walls of the butler's pantry (12'-0" x 16'-7"). A door on the east end of the west elevation opens to a small storage room, originally serving as a silver vault. The sink with a pair of casement windows above is on the west elevation. The floors of the pantry are covered with linoleum. A door on the south elevation leads to the back hall. The back hall contains a staircase leading to the servant's quarters, the second floor and the basement. A wood lift is located on the north wall and a door to the main hall is on the west wall. Originally the floors were covered with linoleum; the current owners have installed oak floors to match the main hall floor. The staircase is constructed of a combination of fir and oak.

KITCHEN

A door on the south side of the butler's pantry leads into the kitchen (15'-0" x 16'-4"). A small alcove (6'-0" x 9'-10") is in the northwest corner of the room, originally the servant's eating

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quarters. Cabinets with cupboards above line the west wall of the room. A pair of casement windows are located above the sink on the west elevation. The range, with a prominent built-in vent hood, is in the northeast corner of the room. Casement windows and a closet are on the east elevation. The floor is covered with linoleum finished with a tile baseboard. A door on the south wall leads to the back service door and hall and a bathroom. The bathroom was originally a pantry. The den or servant's hall is south of the back service hall.

DEN (SERVANT'S HALL)

The den (12'-0" x 14'-0") was originally used as a sitting room or hall for the servants. A fireplace with a beautiful oak mantle piece is on the south elevation of the room. The firebox and hearth are covered with brick. Wood panelling covers the south wall and the floor is covered with linoleum finished with oak baseboards. The door to the garage is on the south wall and multi-pane casement windows are on the west wall.

SECOND FLOOR

The second floor consists of a central hall, two bedrooms, a sitting room, a guest bedroom, and two bathrooms. The original servant's quarters are located in a separate wing which extends to the southwest.

SECOND FLOOR HALL

Two flights of stairs ascend to the second floor hall from the mid-level landing. The second floor rooms are arranged around the central hall. The hall (20'-0" x 26'-0") is a large open room with windows at the north and south ends. Two closets are located at the east end of the hall. The sitting room, a bedroom, bathroom and work room are on the west side of the hall and a bedroom, a guest room, bathroom and back hall are on the east side.

SITTING ROOM

The sitting room (19'-6" x 22'-10"), located in the southeast corner of the second floor, is a large room which commands views of Portland and mountains to the north. A rectangular bay window lined with multi-pane casement and fixed sash projects from the north elevation. The picture rail extends around the perimeter of the room as does the oak baseboard. A small fireplace is located in the southeast corner of the room and has a simple high backed mantel. The firebox and hearth are covered with red clay tiles. A door on the west elevation leads to the hall and a door on the south elevation leads to a bathroom.

BATHROOM, SOUTHEAST BEDROOM AND WORK ROOM

The oblong bathroom (8'-6" x 14'-0") is situated between the sitting room and the southeast bedroom. Small white hexagonal tiles finished with a tile baseboard covers the floor. The sink, commode and bathtub are all original. A casement window illuminates the room on the east elevation. A door on the south side leads to the southeast bedroom.

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The southeast bedroom (14'-0" x 20'-0") was originally occupied by Elizabeth Edwards as specified on the architectural plans. The picture rail extends around the perimeter of the room as does the fir baseboards. Casement windows are on the east and south elevation of the room. A large closet is located in the northwest corner of the room. The hall is accessed by a door on the north end of the room. Opposite the closet on the south wall is another door leading to a smaller room, originally functioning as a nurse's room; currently a work room. The room (10'-7" x 13'-1") has windows along the south elevation. The fir baseboards and picture rail are intact.

NORTHWEST BEDROOM, BATHROOM AND GUEST BEDROOM

Casement windows line the north and west walls of the northwest bedroom. This room was originally specified as John Edwards bedroom. Doors on the south wall lead to the back hall and a bathroom. The bathroom (10'-5" x 11'-5") is located between the northwest bedroom and the guest bedroom. Small hexagonal white tiles cover the floor of the bathroom which has all the original fixtures intact. A door on the east elevation leads to the back hall and a door on the south wall leads to the guest bedroom. The guest bedroom (14'-10" x 16'-8") is simple in plan finished with fir baseboard and picture rail. Closets are on the north and south walls and a door to the back hall is on the east wall.

BACK HALL

The back hall accesses the second floor hall, the back stair hall, the northwest bedroom and the west bathroom. A broom closet is located on the east wall at the end of the narrow hall. Stairs, located at the west end of the hall, ascend to the original servant's quarters and the third floor.

SERVANT'S QUARTERS

The second story service wing extends southwest from the main body of the house. The back hall stairs divides to the west and leads to the original servant's bedrooms and bathroom. A long narrow hall (north-south) extends along the east side of the hall, illuminated by casement windows. A built-in linen closet is on the east side of the hall. The two bedrooms (10'-3" x 11'-8" and 10'-3" x 12'-6 1/2") on the west side of the hall are separated by a bathroom. The bathroom fixtures have been replaced however the original tile floors have been retained. The hall terminates at the south end at a larger third bedroom (12'-3 1/2" x 20'-0-2"). Casement windows are on the west and south elevations of the room and a closet in on the north wall. The baseboards and doors in the wing are constructed of fir.

THIRD FLOOR

The fir staircase leading to the third floor ascending from the back service stairs, terminates at a small room lit by a skylight. A door on the west side leads to a large unfinished attic space and a door on the east leads to a finished room, originally an art studio. The studio is a large room finished in dark fir panelling. Beams running east-west along the ceiling extend down the angled corner of the room and continue down the walls. An alcove on the north wall is lined with casement windows. A ledge with cabinets below, is underneath the band of windows. A high

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domer window is on the west wall. A door on the east wall leads to an unfinished attic space used for storage.

BASEMENT

The daylight basement encompasses the area directly under the service wing and the first floor butler's pantry; the rest of the area under the residence is unexcavated. The basement is divided into several smaller room. The stairs terminate at the boiler room. A door at the base of the stairs on the east wall leads to what was specified as the original fuel room, now used for storage. The room is enclosed with a vault door. The large boiler room houses the furnace and water heater. A hallway with a door to a small storage room along the west wall, leads to the laundry room. Doors in the laundry room lead to the side yard (the laundry yard) and a back storage room. The basement is illuminated by multi-pane casement windows and is finished with a concrete floor.

LIGHT FIXTURES

All the lighting fixtures in the residence were originally designed by Fred Baker of the well known firm of Baker and Barkon. A majority of the original fixtures are intact. Bowl shaped fixtures, trimmed in brass, illuminate the first and second story halls, the dining and living room and the bedrooms. The brass pendant chandelier in the library originally hung from the second floor ceiling in the main stair hall; a newer fixture now hangs in its place. The original library single chain alabaster pendant light fixture is currently located in the first floor back hall. Original globe type fixtures, suspended from a single chain, are located in the kitchen. Brass wall scones with shades embellish the walls in the servants quarter's bedrooms.

ALTERATIONS

The Edwards Residence is intact on the exterior as well as the interior. The only modification on the exterior is the installation of a new garage door and re-application of stucco on portions of the exterior walls. There are few modification on the interior of the residence. The original wood counter tops in the butler's pantry have been replaced and the original pantry in the back entrance hall was converted into a bathroom in 1966. The counter under the sink in the bathroom was originally part of the pantry. Oak floors in the den (originally the servant's hall) are covered with linoleum. The mantel piece in the dining room and the den, although antiques, are not original to the house. The mantel were auctioned from the residence in the late 1950s after Mrs. Edwards was moved from the residence.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1925-1926

Significant Dates
1926

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

A. E. Doyle, architect

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 1.06 acres Portland, Oregon-Washington 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	0
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5	2	3	1	5	0
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5	0	3	9	3	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property encompasses Lots 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 and a part of Lot 4 in the Altavista section of Smith's Addition to Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, and is more precisely identified as Tax Lot 5 of said subdivision.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated area of approximately 1.06 acres (46,322 square feet) includes all but the majority of Lot 4 of the original parcel of land which originally surrounded the J. G. Edwards estate.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sally Donovan and George McMath, FAIA; Joint Venture
organization Donovan & Assocs.; George McMath date August 9, 1990
street & number 1615 Taylor telephone (503) 386-6461
city or town Hood River state Oregon zip code 97031

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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SUMMARY

"Pen-y-Brin," the substantial, rough cast-clad Norman Farmhouse situated on a ridgetop on SW Alta Vista Place in the Portland Heights neighborhood of southwest Portland, Oregon, was designed in 1925 and completed in 1926 for noted central Oregon sheep rancher John G. Edwards. It is a late masterwork of historic period residential architecture from the hand of A. E. Doyle, and, accordingly, it is significant under National Register Criterion C. It is the only extant Norman Farmhouse within the body of fifty-one residential works produced by Doyle's firm before 1928, and it is thought to bear very distinctly the hallmarks of Doyle's sense of proportion and the fitting in design. It is noted that the young Pietro Belluschi, who entered the office in the month the plans were completed, took part in several of the detail drawings.

The Edwards House, crowning the one-acre hilltop site it occupies, is asymmetrically composed as a two-and-a-half-story, hip-roofed volume measuring 47 x 64 feet that extends a 21 x 54-foot, two-story ell at an angle from the southwest corner. The design embodies the distinctive characteristics of high style period architecture. The formally-composed north elevation, with its steeply-pitched intersecting gables with close verges that frame a central entrance section with timber-framed loggia, its shed dormers and expansive casement window banks, is reminiscent of the scheme Doyle used for the English Cottage for Bert Ball on SW Laurel Street two or three years earlier. Unmistakably historic details include prominent clustered and articulated brick chimneys and the handsome two-story rectangular bay, but the overall feeling of the exterior is one of noble simplicity that is forward-looking in its reduction of surface ornament. One surface treatment, in addition to the roofing slates imported by the client from his native Wales, is worthy of note. The exterior stucco was subtly distressed to simulate an antique appearance. The house is unaltered throughout.

The house is noteworthy also for its association with the client, J. G. Edwards (1855-1945), but it was occupied by Edwards from 1926 to his death in 1945, a period in which the Welshman had been for some years retired from his long-time involvement in the sheep industry. He had been a highly successful stock breeder and wool grower as proprietor of the legendary Hay Creek Ranch in the Madras vicinity. Nevertheless, in retirement at "Pen-y-Brin," Edwards

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pursued his business interests and charitable and artistic activities. He provided a substantial trust bequest which, when distribution commenced after his widow's death in 1959, aided innumerable humanitarian, educational and artistic causes in the metropolitan area. It is only because the impact of the bequest was felt less than 50 years ago that the property is not nominated in Edwards's name under Criterion B. Buildings remaining from Edwards's period of ownership of the extensive Hay Creek Ranch are largely a collection of service buildings. The small ranchhouse he and his wife initially occupied still stands, but is in deteriorated condition. The newer ranchhouse that represented the peak years of accomplishment at the ranch burned in 1970.

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The Edwards Residence, a finely crafted Norman Farmhouse Style building, is noteworthy for its association with John G. Edwards, a prominent figure in the development of the early sheep industry in Oregon. In 1898, Edwards purchased the famed Hay Creek Ranch near Madras, Oregon and increased the holdings of the ranch as well as introducing a type of pure bred Rambouillet sheep to the United States. He bred a special stock of sheep which was known as the "Baldwin Sheep", a hearty breed producing quality mutton as well as wool. Under Edwards ownership, the Hay Creek Ranch reached national attention for its size and high quality of sheep. The Portland residence was built as a retirement home for Edwards and his wife, Elizabeth, in 1925-26.

The legacy of John G. Edwards, the "Sheep King of the West", survives through his trust fund bequeathed by Edwards after his death. The J.G. Edwards Charitable Trust is currently one of the state's largest discretionary funds aiding many organizations throughout the state from drug abuse institutes and hospital to fine arts and neighborhood organizations. The trust is currently under the administration of the Oregon Community Foundation.

The Edwards Residence is significant under Criterion "c" as an excellent intact example of a late masterwork of the prominent Portland architect, A. E. Doyle. Constructed in 1925-26, the residence is the only one of A. E. Doyle's fifty-one extant residential buildings designed in the Norman Farmhouse Style. Doyle designed many of Portland's most prominent early 20th century commercial buildings including the Meier and Frank Annex Building (1907), the Oregon Hotel (1911), the Central Public Library (1913) and the Pittock Block (1914), as well as many private residences throughout Portland. The distinctive Edwards Residence, perched on a prominent knoll in the southwest hills of Portland, exemplifies characteristic of the Norman Farmhouse Style in its asymmetrical massing, multi-pane casement windows, arched doorways, intersecting gables, rectangular bays with half-timbering trim and prominent brick chimneys. The stucco elevations, distressed to simulate aged medieval walls, are an unusual feature. Some of the building materials and interior elements were brought from Edwards' homeland, Wales, and employed in the design. The roofing slates were shipped from Wales prior to construction as well as sod used for the rose gardens. The elaborately carved fireplace mantels in the living room and main hall were also brought from Wales.

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2JOHN G. EDWARDS

John Griffith Edwards was born in Aberdovey, Merionethshire, Wales on July 13, 1855 to Ellen Griffith and R.E. Edwards. His father was a merchant and also owned a fleet of vessels sailing for trade world over. John Edwards graduated from high school in Liverpool, England after attending public schools in Aberdovey and Shropshire.¹ Edwards' older brother, Griffith, first ventured to the United States in 1869 and after three years, John joined him in Evanston, Wyoming. Edwards secured a job in the Union Pacific store in Carbon, Wyoming; his first job in the United States. Subsequently, Edwards moved to Salt Lake City and worked as manager of a coal yard.² In 1875 he was called back to Wales after his father's death to settle his estate. Edwards soon returned to Wyoming and took up the cattle business with his brother at the Circle-O Ranch.

In 1879, he settled on a donation land claim on the Green River in Wyoming which was known as the "Great Sea Basin".³ Due to Ute Indian uprisings and a severe winter, Edwards lost his entire stock of cattle the first year. Despite his misfortunes, he continued in the cattle business, grazing his cattle in southwestern Wyoming, northern Utah, and northwestern Colorado. He also purchased a band of mares from an estate of a nearby rancher and started selling horses. Edwards was one of the early pioneers in Wyoming dealing in horses. In his last years in Wyoming, he turned his attention to the sheep raising business and within a few years was maintaining approximately 100,000 head of sheep which made him the largest sheep owner in the United States at the time.⁴ He became known as the "Sheep King" of the west.⁵ The late 1890s were plagued by range wars over grazing rights and after much trouble around his ranch, Edward moved to eastern Oregon and bought a portion of the well known Hay Creek Ranch and Sheep Company.

Edwards purchased his half interest in the Hay Creek Ranch and Sheep Company, near Madras, from C.A. and J.P. Van Houston and H. Longcoy in 1898. His partner at the time was C.M. Cartwright. In a short period of time, Edwards became manager of the ranch, substantially adding to the ranches land holdings and stock. He began buying the finest rams from stock throughout the United States and was one of the first to import Rambouillet sheep into the United States. Hay Creek Ranch became known throughout the country for its high quality of sheep. Edwards was responsible for creating the breed known as the "Baldwin Sheep" which was a mixture of Merino, Delaine and Rambouillet sheep.⁶ The highest prices ever paid on the country's sheep market were paid for the sheep from the Hay Creek Ranch. In 1905, Edwards bought his partners share of the ranch and became a sole proprietor of the largest sheep ranch in Oregon. He continued in the business until the U.S. government curtailed grazing privileges on his land in the Blue Mountain forest thus cutting down the number of sheep the ranch could maintain.⁷ In 1910, Edwards sold the ranch due to these cuts in grazing land. After selling the ranch, Edward, along with his wife Elizabeth, moved to Portland to retire.

Even though Edwards retired from the ranching business, he remained active in business and was listed in the 1928 Portland Directory as a "Capitalist" with his office at 221 Postal Building in Portland. He also remained active in central Oregon, investing in the Silver King Mine near Madras. Edwards was involved in many community affairs and was very active in the British

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Benevolent Society. He was a member of the Arlington Club and served as President of the club in 1929. During WWI, he enlisted in the Red Cross where he served in Dijon, Paris until the war ended in 1918. Edwards was a personal friend of Sam Hill, the person instrumental promoting the in building of the Columbia River Scenic Highway. In 1929, he was the chair on the committee that erected the Columbia River Memorial to commemorate Sam Hill.

Edwards is remembered by Oregon historian Fred Lockley, as a colorful character and relates an incident which happened when he met Edwards for the first time at the Hay Creek Ranch. "The first time I ever saw him was when I was making a trip through eastern Oregon on a line-back buckskin saddle horse. The setting sun found me not far from the home ranch of the Hay Creek Land & Sheep company in Crook County. In those days ranches in the Inland Empire were far apart and a traveler planned to stop overnight at some far-flung ranch house. When I reached the house I was 'hello'ed' and was invited in. Jack Edwards made me welcome. When I was summoned to supper I found my host clad in spotless linen and a dinner suite." Lockley apologized for his non-formal attire and Edwards responded by saying "A man on horseback in this country isn't suppose to dress for dinner. With me it is different. I am at home and have what I need handy. Visitors sometimes wonder why I dress for dinner. I do it because I don't want to forego the usages of society because I happen to be in back of the beyond country. I didn't want to get out of the habits of civilization and good breeding." ⁸ Edwards liked to entertain socially at his ranch for prominent business people from all over the United States. He was known for his charm which at one time saved him from a lynching mob.

John Edwards was an accomplished artist, painting and sculpting scenes and objects of the American west. During an interview with Fred Lockley, Edwards was quoted as saying, "I have tried to put in form and color something of beauty of old-time Wyoming. I am a Welshman. Most Welshmen sing or paint or express themselves in some such manner."⁹ He later became a member of the National Academy of Design in New York.

John Edwards married Elizabeth Justice Bell Smith of Grand Court, Yorkshire, England in 1903. Elizabeth was born in England on January 12, 1882 and educated in Belguim.¹⁰ John reportedly fell in love with Elizabeth upon a visit to England and years later, after she was old enough to marry, asked for her hand in marriage.¹¹ John brought Elizabeth from England to Hay Creek Ranch. Elizabeth was not happy at the ranch due to its isolation so in 1910, after John sold the ranch, the couple moved to Portland. The Edwards loved to entertain and travel. They entertained in the high social circles in Portland entertaining people like the Ainsworths, Corbetts, Failings, governors and prominent artists. In 1919, on one of their travels to Italy, Elizabeth contacted a form of sleeping sickness. She never recovered and lived the rest of her life under the care of nurses.

In 1925-26, John Edwards built his residence on Alta Vista Place and dedicated it "Pen-y-Brin" which in Welch means 'crest of the hill'.¹² John and Elizabeth continued to live in his cherished residence until his death at the age of 90 in October 1945. As stipulated in Edwards' will, the major part of his estate was left in a charitable trust fund in care of the First National Bank of

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Portland. At that time, 1946, the trust was one of the largest trust bequests ever donated locally.¹³ The trust was to be dispersed only after the his wife's death. Elizabeth Edwards remained in the family home in the care of nurses and servants until 1956 when she was moved to a nursing home. Elizabeth Justice died in November 1959.

After the death of Elizabeth Edwards, the bank began distribution of the trust. The Edwards Charitable Trust was distributed throughout the years to many charitable causes under the care of the First National Bank. A portion of Edwards estate was used to finance the Oregon Historical Society building which was constructed in 1966 and subsequently a room in the new building was named in honor of John G. Edwards. The trust was turned over to the Oregon Community Foundation in August 1974. Stipulated as a discretionary trust, the foundation was in charge of distributing the trust to charitable causes throughout Oregon. Some of the recipients of the trust have included the Boy Scouts of America, the Burnside Project, OMSI, Goodwill, YMCA, the Oregon Symphony, Medical Research Foundation, Jr. Achievement, Salvation Army, Linfield College, the Jewish Historical Society of Oregon, Reed College, Portland Civic Theater, Friends of Timberline, Teen Parent Project and the North Portland Citizen's Committee. In 1989, the Oregon Community Foundation gave over \$66,500 in grants from the Edwards trust. The trust fund is currently valued at 1.3 million dollars.

HAY CREEK RANCH

The Hay Creek Ranch, located 13 miles east of Madras, Oregon, was founded in 1873 by Dr. David W. Baldwin and was originally called the Baldwin Sheep and Land Company.¹⁴ Baldwin was born in Vermont to a family that specialized in breeding a type of Spanish Merino sheep. He learned much about the sheep breeding business from his father. Despite his interest in the family business, Baldwin pursued the field of medicine. After receiving his degree, he practiced medicine in Vermont and later in Oakland, California. Baldwin later moved to Oregon after a serious illness and started the Baldwin Sheep and Land Company on 160 acres of land. He specialized in raising and breeding pure bred Delaine and Spanish Merino sheep. Baldwin sold the company in 1881 to C.A. and J.P. Van Houten, and H. Longcoy. In 1887, the company was reorganized as the Hay Creek Ranch and subsequently substantially increased their land holdings. At that time they began purchasing prize rams from all over the country. C.W. Cartwright became part owner and President of the company. John Edwards became interested in Hay Creek Ranch from its excellent reputation as a sheep ranch and in 1898 moved to Oregon and purchased half interest in the company.

In 1905, Edwards became sole owner of the Hay Creek Ranch. He is credited with importing the only full-blooded French Rambouillet sheep into the United States. At that time, there were only two known pure bred flocks of Rambouillet remaining in France.¹⁵ Edwards began breeding what was known as "Baldwin" type sheep; a combination of three Merino families.¹⁶ The Baldwin sheep were known as the "highest type of all-round mutton and wool sheep." By breeding the three types of sheep, Edwards produced a breed that was hardier and had heavier fleece, adapting better to the climate of the northwest. Physically, the sheep were known for their long heavy

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crinkly wool which covered their entire body like other Merinos but were bred without wrinkles or excess fat.¹⁷ The sheep were sold extensively in California, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, Washington and Nevada.¹⁸ The company also sold rams to South America and South Africa. Some of the Baldwin rams sold for thousands of dollars on the United States market, the largest ever price ever paid for rams at that time. During the first decade of the 20th century, Hay Creek Ranch maintained a flock of about 800 Rambouillet sheep making it the largest flock of its kind in the world.¹⁹ The ranch is also credited with having the first power operated sheep-shearing plant in Oregon. Hay Creek Ranch was known all over the world for its excellence in the sheep breeding business

Under Edwards' ownership, the ranch encompassed approximately 27,000 acres. At one time, Edwards was grazing 70,000 head of sheep and employed over one hundred people.²⁰ Aside from the sheep business, the ranch also ran 1500 to 2000 head of cattle. The ranch was totally self sufficient, producing enough hay annually to feed the livestock.²¹ A gardener grew enough vegetable to supply the main ranch and the sheep camps with vegetables throughout the year.

In 1906, the government began cutting down on the number of acres the ranch could used for grazing. The first cut the Forestry Department issued eliminated 40% of the ranch's grazing land, reducing the herd to 26,000 sheep.²² In 1908 another 25% was cut which further reduced the flock to 18,000 sheep.²³ Due to these reductions, Edwards announced that he was selling his entire stock at Hay Creek Ranch in 1909. In 1910, Edwards liquidated his livestock and then sold the ranch to two prominent Portlanders; Henry Pittock and L.B. Menefee.

Subsequent owners of the ranch after Pittock and Menefee were W.U. Sanderson, Fred Wichman, Curtis Martin, J.W. Chase, the Hay Creek Range and Cattle Company and the Marybrooke Corporation.²⁴ The current owner is William Waddle, who purchased the ranch in 1986. Over the years, the Hay Creek Ranch remained an active sheep ranch and also ran cattle. Portions of the acreage was also used for grazing and raising crops. A more recent use besides its capacity as a functioning ranch was its use as a sportsman club.²⁵ Hay Creek Ranch is still a functioning ranch, grazing cattle and sheep on approximately 55,000 acres and also leases approximately 60,000 acres from the Forest Service.

There are approximately 7 buildings extant on the ranch which were part of the property during Edwards' ownership. A small house, occupied by Edwards during the construction of his "new" ranch house, is still intact however it is in a deteriorated state. Edwards' "new" ranch house burned in the 1970s. A round barn, sheep sheds, a silo, two model T-Ford garages, a generator / boiler room building and a commissary (the original stage stop) are still intact. A pioneer cemetery with approximately 100 people interred is also a part of the acreage.

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PEN-Y-BRIN

Pen-y-Brin meaning "Crest of the Hill" was designed for John G. and Elizabeth Edwards in 1925 by Albert E. Doyle on a prominent site overlooking the city of Portland. The residence was completed in 1926 and is the only one of Doyle's residences that was designed in the Norman Farmhouse Style. The Edwards house was one of the first residences Pietro Belluschi, the well known Northwest architect, worked on after entering the office of A.E. Doyle.²⁶ Belluschi began working in Doyle's office in April 1925, the same month the working drawings were completed for the Edwards house. His name appear on several of the detail drawings for the residence which were completed later including the door, cornice, stairs, studio, and mantel details and the main entrance canopy detail.²⁷

After Edwards sold his eastern Oregon ranch in 1910 he moved to Portland to retire. According to the records of A.E. Doyle, an earlier residence (job #211) was designed by Doyle in 1914 for Edwards but evidently was never built.²⁸ Edwards is not listed in the Portland Directory until 1915 when he is listed at 751 NW Flanders Street. He only resided at the Flanders house until ca. 1919. Edwards is later listed as residing at the Arlington Club. These sporadic address changes prior to planning "Pen-y-Brin" in 1925 might have been a reflection on the state of his wife's health. When Elizabeth Edwards contacted a form of sleeping sickness in 1919, John took her all over the world to a variety of medical specialist.

Edwards purchased a lot in the prestigious west hills of Portland in the S.W. Alta Vista Subdivision of Smith Addition to the city. There were 24 lots platted in the division and Edwards purchased lots 2 thru 8 for the site of the new home. The lots were in the center of the plat, situated on a prominent knoll bounded by S.W. Buena Vista Drive. The original address of the estate was 600 Buena Vista Drive and the entrance stairs ascended from the east side of the residence to S.W. Buena Vista Drive.

All the drawings for the residence were completed by Doyle's office in July 1925. Some of the sub-contractors employed by the general contractor to work on the Edwards residence were Portland Heights Plumbing, Muirhead and Muirhard (heating) and Jagger Stroufe (wiring). The construction was completed in 1926. The finely crafted residence embodies many characteristic of the Norman Farmhouse Style in its asymmetrical massing, multi-pane casement windows, arched doorways, intersecting gables, half timbering on the rear elevation and prominent brick chimneys. The exterior of the residence is covered with stucco, distressed to simulate aged medieval walls. This original stucco pattern can be seen on on the rear elevation and around the entrance and porch doors. Some of the building materials and interior components were brought from Wales and used in the design of the residence . The roof was covered with Welsh slates that were shipped from Wales prior to construction. Sod from Wales was shipped to Portland for use in the rose gardens. Originally a circular planter in the center of the driveway contained a variety of shrubs planted in Welsh soil. Edwards was very fond of gardening and often helped the gardener plan the landscaping details.²⁹

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The interior of the residence, arranged around a large central hall with a grand staircase, was finished with beautiful oak floors and trim. The living room, library, dining room and butler's pantry revolve around the main hall. The interior of the residence was filled with relics and furnishings from Edwards' travels and homeland. Much of furnishings were old family heirlooms brought from Northern Wales to decorate Pen-y-Brin. Persian and Chinese rugs originally covered the oak floors of the library and massive carved mahogany tables and chairs, over two hundred years old, decorated the library walls.³⁰ Edwards had great volumes of vellum covered books lining the oak bookcases in the library. English prints and paintings adorned the walls of his mansion along with original prints by the well known western artist Frederick Remington.³¹ Edwards own watercolor paintings and drawings were also dispersed throughout the house as were his sculptures. He maintained an artist studio on the third floor of the residence where he preformed his art work. Beautiful carved mantel piece surrounds in the main hall, living room and dining room were brought from Wales and incorporated into the design of the fireplaces. The original living room and hall fireplace mantel and surrounds are still intact. A coyote skin rug was placed in front of the fireplace as a remembrance of Edwards' cowboy beginnings.³²

After Elizabeth Edwards was moved from the residence to a nursing home in 1956, most of the furnishings in the house were auctioned off.³⁶ Some of the furniture was given to the Oregon Historical Society and for many years a few of the beautifully carved pieces were used in the director's office. An article in the early 1960s shows a picture of a painting of Mrs. Elizabeth Edwards, as a beautiful young women. The only remaining pieces of the original furniture in the residence currently are a pair of carved panels now used as stereo speaker covers in the living room.

All the light fixtures for the residence were designed by Fred Baker of the well known Portland lighting firm of Baker and Barkon. The majority of the original hand crafted fixtures remain in the residence. Baker outfitted the residence from ornate chained pendant fixtures to the simple globe fixtures found in the kitchen. Fred C. Baker was a well known lighting specialist and designer in Portland who practiced from 1913 until his death in October 1981.³³ His first major commission was the Pittock Mansion in Portland which started his life long career in the lighting business. Baker also did work in Idaho, Washington and as far away as Alaska and Hawaii. An excellent designer as well as a superb draftsman and artist, Baker designed lighting fixtures for many of Oregon's most prominent buildings including: Timberline Lodge, Waverly Country Club, Meier and Frank's Georgian Room, Neighbors of Woodcraft Hall, the Meier's Estate, the Paramount Theater, the Federal Courthouse, the Multnomah County Library, the Masonic Temple and the State Capitol.³⁴ Baker died at the age of 94 in 1981.³⁵

SUBSEQUENT OWNERS

There has been only three owners of Pen-y-Brin since it was built in 1925-26. After Edwards died in 1948, the estate was left in a trust managed by the First National Bank of Portland only to be distributed after the death of Elizabeth Edwards. Elizabeth was moved from the residence in 1956 when land slides in isolated areas of Portland Heights damaged the Edwards property threatening the stability of the house. The bank subsequently sold four parcels of property and then sold the

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estate to Stamm Johnson on April 1, 1958.³⁷ The Johnsons only occupied the residence until it was sold to the current owners, Carol and Albert Gentner Jr. on October 3, 1960.³⁸

ALBERT E. DOYLE

Albert E. Doyle, a prominent architect in the Pacific Northwest, designed many of Portland's most notable buildings from 1907 through the 1920s. Doyle was born in Santa Cruz, California July 27, 1877 to James Edward and Mary Oakey Doyle.³⁹ The family moved to Portland in 1880 where James Doyle pursued his career as a building contractor. James Doyle became a leading building contractor in Portland and was known in the community for his excellent building and management practices.⁴⁰ Albert Doyle, the youngest of four children, spent a great deal of time working with his father which provided the necessary building background for his later architectural career. After completing his early education in the Portland school system in 1891, Doyle worked for twelve years as an apprentice to the well known firm of Whidden and Lewis.⁴¹ The firm was known for its classical style buildings and were responsible for the proliferation of the Colonial Revival Style in Portland. While working in the office of Whidden and Lewis, Doyle assisted in the design of the Forestry Building (1903) for Portland's 1905 Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition.⁴² Shortly after completion of his work in 1903 for the Exposition, Doyle moved to New York City and studied design at Columbia University and also worked in the office of Henry Bacon. In June 1906, Doyle went to Europe on a travelling scholarship. He returned to Portland in December of the same year and started his own office with his partner, construction supervisor William B. Patterson, in January 1907.⁴³

Doyle's early commissions in 1907-08 included residences, remodels for many prominent Portland families, beach cottages, and office buildings.⁴⁴ Doyle's reputation as a excellent designer led to his first substantial commercial building design, the Meier and Frank Building Annex (1907) in downtown Portland. After the success of the Meier and Frank building, Doyle's office received many more commissions for commercial and public buildings in Portland. These included the Selling Building (1910), Lipman, Wolfe and Company Store (1910), the Oregon Hotel, now the Benson Hotel, (1911), the Central Public Library (1913), the Pittock Block (1914), the U.S. Bank (1916), the Terminal Sales Building (1926) and the Public Service Building (1928).⁴⁵ Doyle's client list included many leading Portland families who had previously employed Whidden and Lewis.⁴⁶ As more large commercial contracts came into the office, Doyle became known more for his commercial work than his residential buildings. However, he designed a substantial number of residential properties in a variety of styles during his career. Approximately fifty-one of his residential buildings are extant. As his office grew, much of the responsibility of his residential works were placed on his drafting staff while he devoted his time to the commercial and institutional projects.⁴⁷ Doyle continued his successful practice until his untimely death in 1928. After his death, Pietro Belluschi, along with other senior staff members, continued the firm until Belluschi took over the business in the mid 1930. Belluschi reorganized the office in 1943 under his own name. ⁴⁸ The Edwards estate is among the last of Doyle's residential designs executed before his death.

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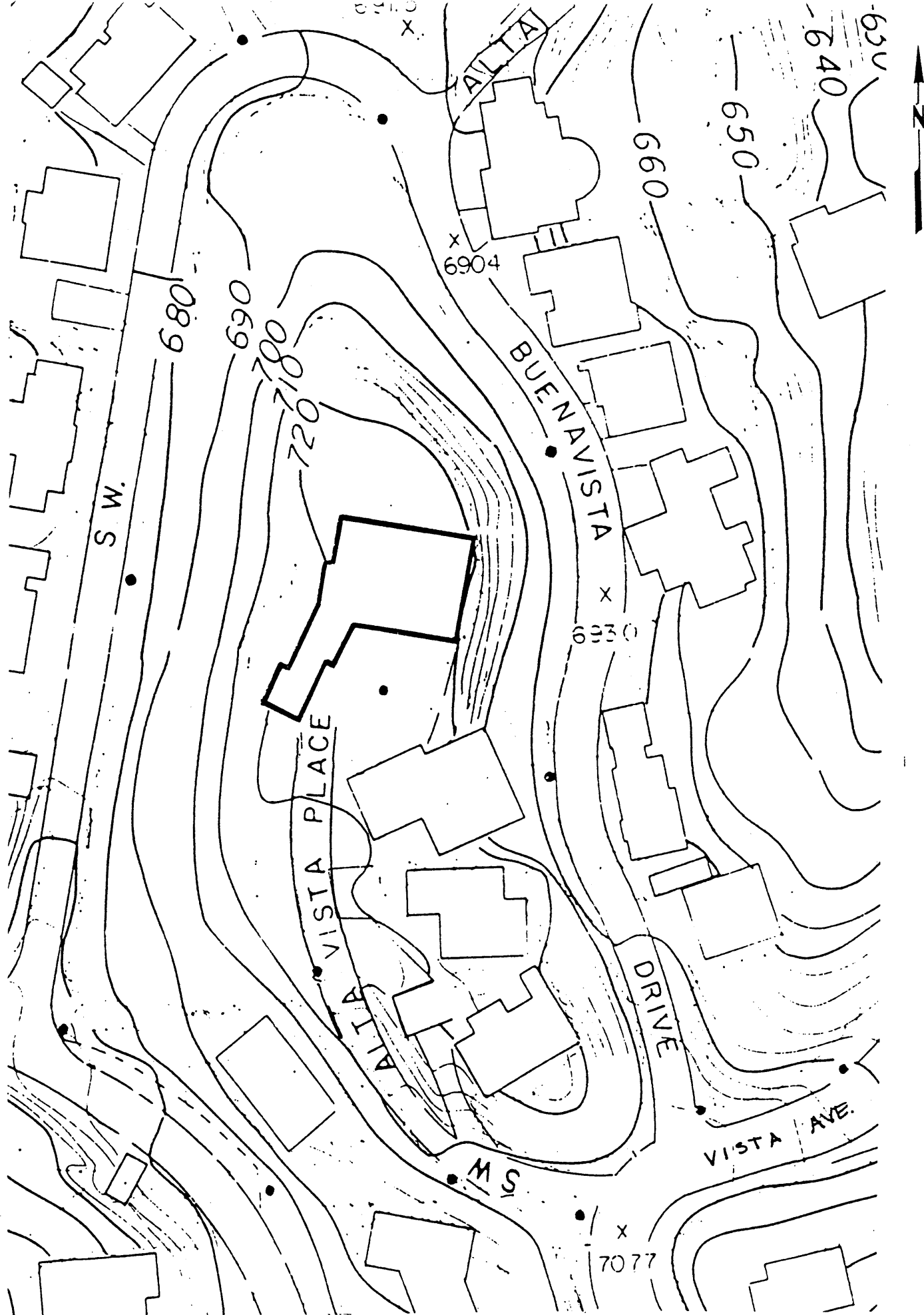
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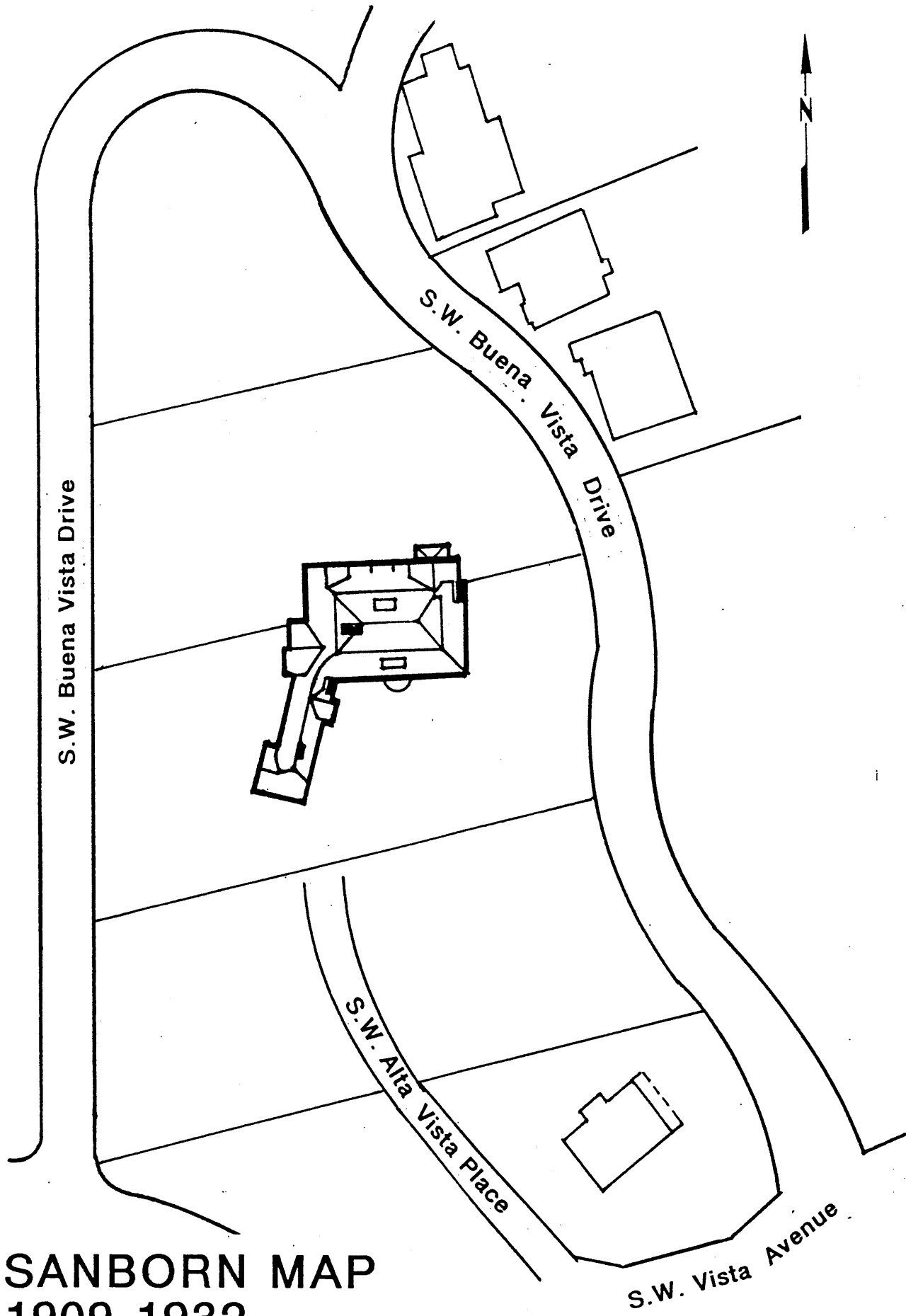
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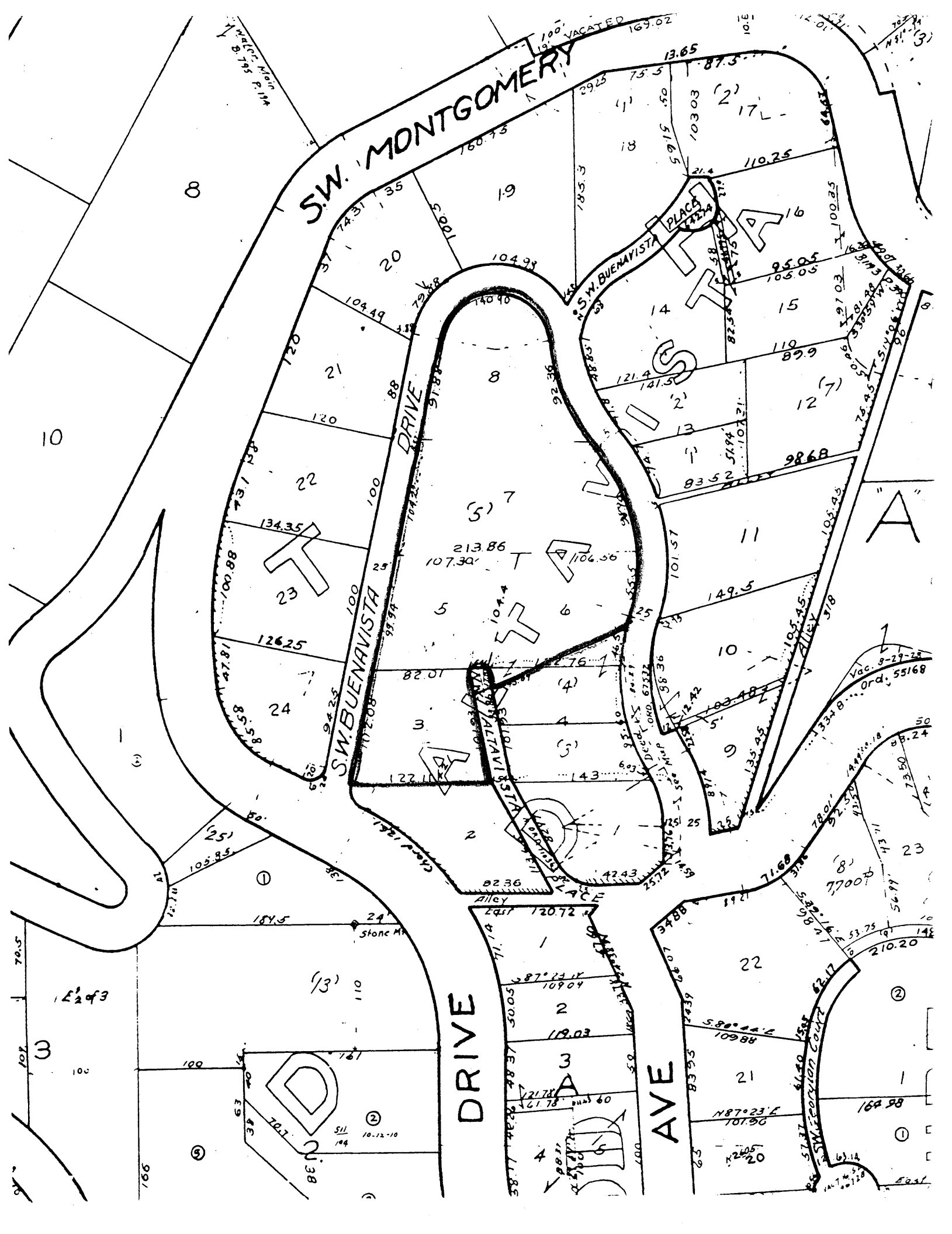
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Aerial and topographic map.



**SANBORN MAP
1909-1932**



S.W. MONTGOMERY

BUENVISTA PLACE

S.W. BUENVISTA

DRIVE

DRIVE

AVE

10

08

(1/3)

(5) 7

10

22

21

"A"

23

(2)

(1)

Vac. 8-29-25
Ord. 55168

WALTER MAIN
8-15-25 P. 114

1 E 2 of 3

511
1/4
10-12-10

STATIONARY CORNER
187°23'E
101.96

Historic
Resource
Inventory
CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON



0-014-02645

2645 S.W. Alta Vista Place

Alta Vista, Tax Lot 5 of Lots 4-9
QUARTER SECTION MAP #: 3226
SWHRL

ORIGINAL FUNCTION: Residence

DATE BUILT: 1925

STYLE: Arts and Crafts

ARCHITECTURAL PLANS BY: Doyle, A.E.

ORIGINAL OWNER: Edwards, Jack

TAX ASSESSOR'S ACCOUNT #: R-01990-0090
ZONING: R10

Rank II

SPECIAL FEATURES AND MATERIALS:

Two-and-a-half stories high. Gable roof. Brick exterior. Shed-roofed dormer. Massive, unusual corbelled chimney. Marquee over round-arched main entry.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Development

0-014-02045

Agriculture, in association with Jack Edwards: Built by Jack Edwards, former owner and operator of Hay Creek Ranch, largest in the state of Oregon. House was given the Welsh name "Pen-y-Bryn" meaning "Crest of the Hill."

Architecture: Slate for the roof was imported from Wales. Huge fireplace in reception hall paneled in wood taken from Edward's ancestral home in Wales. There is a specially constructed studio where Edwards painted and sculpted after he retired.

Development: This subdivision was originally part of Block A of Smith's Addition (1864) which in turn was a part of Thomas Carter's original donation land claim. Smith's Addition was divided into lots 3-6 and platted with 24 building sites.

In 1886 Walter and Preston Smith, sons of Joseph Smith, dedicated this Addition to the City of Portland. In 1887 the Smiths deeded land to the Portland Cable Railway Company which was deeded back in 1888. In 1907 Smith vacated plots 3-6 with the intention to change lines and replat the area to make it convenient for utilities and sale. In 1908 Alta Vista was platted with 24 lots.

Vista Avenue at this spot was called Terrace Road (1908 plat). Montgomery Drive was a country road. An alley ran from Terrace Road to Montgomery Drive behind lots 9-12 (1908 plat). Another alley ran between Terrace Road and Montgomery bordering lots 1 and 2. The last two alleys are still in use. Alta Vista is labelled an alley in the 1908 plat.

Mrs. Harold Gill (Amy Robinson) whose parents built the first house on Buena Vista Drive and which borders Vista Avenue said that Terrace Road (Vista) was a trestle from Buena Vista down a few blocks. She said Buena Vista Drive was a small dirt road until widened and paved about 1915, with a new material, bituminous.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

City of Portland Buildings Bureau microform and card files.

Multnomah County Tax Assessor records, microform, automated data files, and card files (Portland, 1980).

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1969.

Portland City Directory (Portland, Oregon).

Southwest Hills Residential League, inventory, 1981.

City of Portland Water Bureau Map Collection.

2645 S.W. Alta Vista Place, photograph, OHS Collection.

0-014-02645

Present owner as of May 1981: Albert H. and Carol J. Gentner
MAILING ADDRESS: 2645 S.W. Alta Vista Place, Portland 97201

No Preservation Funding

Negative: 657-14

Score - Design/Construction: 11

Score - Historical:

Score - Rarity:

Score - Environment: 10

Score - Integrity: 10

Score - Intrinsic: 11

Score - Contextual: 20

Score - Total: 58.5