Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

JAN 2 9 1979

DATE ENTERED

MAR 2 1979

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1 NAME			₹.	
HISTORIC Ashley (Mark A. M.)	House		٠.	
AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER			· ·	- James
2847 N. W. Westover	Road		NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	ICT
Portland		VICINITY OF	lst	
STATE		CODE 41	COUNTY Multnomah	CODE 051
CLASSIFICATION	<del></del>		MUTCHOMATI	UJI
CATEGORY OWNERS	SHID	STATUS	DREC	ENT USE
DISTRICTPUBLIC	SHIP	<b>X</b> OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S) XPRIVATE		UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTUREBOTH		XWORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	ZPRIVATE RESIDENC
_SITE PUBLIC	ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECTIN PROCESS	6	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
BEING CON	SIDERED	∠XYES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		_NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER OF PROPEI	RTY			
NAME Thomas J. and Marie	A. Spence	е		•
street & NUMBER 2847 N. W. Westoyer				
city, town Portland		VICINITY OF	Oregon 97210	
LOCATION OF LEG				
COURTHOUSE.	Multnomah (	County Courthou	se	
STREET & NUMBER	1021 S. W.	Fourth Avenue		
city, town Portland			Oregon 97201	
REPRESENTATION	IN EXISTI	NG SURVEYS		
TITLE				
Portland Historical	l Landmark			
DATE				
April 8, 1970		FEDERAL	STATECOUNTY X_LOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	Bureau of 1	Planning, City	of Portland	
CITY, TOWN Portland			Oregon 97204	



#### CONDITION

CHECK ONE

**CHECK ONE** 

\_EXCELLENT

\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_UNALTERED
X\_ALTERED

X\_ORIGINAL SITE
\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ashley residence is an exemplary embodiment of a Georgian-style period house. Built in 1913 by Henry C. Dittrich, architect, for Mark A. M. Ashley, a prominent early Portland banker, its general condition today is exceptionally sound and stable, permitting its continued use as a single family residence.

The house is located in Section 32, Township 1 North, Range 1 East, Willamette Meridian, on property described locally as Lots 4 and 5, Block 4, Westover Terraces, City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. It faces toward the southwest with its longest dimension oriented in a north-west to southeast direction and is situated on the east side of Westover Road in Westover Terraces, one of Portland's earliest and finest exclusively residential developments. Originally designated as 1095 Westover Road, the address was changed in 1934 to 2847.

Measuring approximately 44' x 31' at its Westover Road level, the house is of basically rectangular configuration. Although appearing from the front to be a three-story structure, it actually rises five stories above Summit Avenue, a quiet side street located immediately to the northeast of and 24 feet below Westoyer. The first two stories are of reinforced concrete and the upper three stories are of frame construction terminating in a gable-style roof with a hip-roofed dormer extending axially fore and aft. A red brick chimney situated on the left side of the house extends upwardly from below Westover to above the roof ridge.

The salient features of the house as originally constructed are described in the text and photograph of an article appearing in the January 25, 1914, issue of THE OREGONIAN. As disclosed in the article and enclosed photographs, the front and sides of the house exhibit the classic hallmarks of Georgian design: rigid symmetry, an axial entrance, geometrical proportions, sash windows, and a raised (at least partially) basement. Missing only are the hipped ends of the main roof characteristic of most Georgian designs. A large portico supported at the front by two large Ionic columns and surmounted on three sides by a balustraded widow's walk protects the front entrance and overhanging balcony, the latter being surmounted by its own wrought-iron railing. Located behind each column and at the four corners of the house are equally large Ionic pilasters. Poised above each pair of front windows is an eyebrow window protruding

lwestover Terraces was developed in 1910-1914 by hydraulically sluicing almost 3,000,000 cubic yards of material from high atop Goldsmith Hill located on the then outskirts of Portland, washing the material down over a multitude of sheerboards to create the many terraces forming the development, and then down still further to partially fill in Guilds Lake and form a flat industrial area. Although viewed at first with skepticism and ridicule, the development was hailed at its completion as an engineering marvel and, perhaps with more than a little puffery, as "without exception .. the finest residential section in the United States."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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Ashley (Mark A. M.) House, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

ITEM NUMBER 7

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in dormer-like fashion from the roof plane. A second pair of eyebrow windows appears in the rear roof plane. The entire exterior, including siding, columns, pilasters, and other trim, is of cedar painted white and is in good sound condition. The capitals on the columns and pilasters are of horsehair-impregnated plaster.

The only significant alterations to the front and sides of the house are the removal of the widow's walk balustrade and pedestals and the addition of a wrought-iron portico lamp.

Referring again to the newspaper article of January 25, 1914, the salient features of the rear of the house are seen to include the red brick facade of the garage level, the balustrade, Doric columns, and French windows of the terrace level, the balustrade, Tuscan columns, and partially glass-enclosed observatory porch of the Westover level, and the two enclosed sleeping porches of the first level above Westover. Alterations to the rear include the removal of the balustrades at the terrace and Westover levels, the replacement of the multi-paned windows of the observatory porch with large single-paned view windows, and the removal of the two sleeping porches.

The original internal spatial organization and interior finish are also best described in the article of January 25, 1914. Subsequent alterations to the interior by a previous owner have been substantial and include the evisceration of the maid's quarters, laundry, and fruit closets of the terrace level, the dining room, kitchen, and pantry of the Westover level, and the bathroom of the next level higher. The main staircase from the Westover level to the attic has also been replaced by an enclosed stairway. The remainder of the interior is substantially as described in theOregonian article. Even the elevator remains fully operational, rising the full five stories in its own reinforced concrete shaft. Moreover, the attic, encompassing about 1,200 square feet, has been finished to provide relatively comfortable, yet temporary, living quarters. All of the alterations to the house are thought to have been made between 1961 and 1975.

Work in progress includes the restoration of the missing widow's walk and other balustrades (the balusters and some rail sections were saved), the reconstruction of the two sleeping porches (according to a previous owner, too far deteriorated for salvage although some parapet materials were saved), and the complete restoration of the interior including the reconstruction of the main staircase (some balusters and rail sections were saved). The front of the house was redetailed (new capitals and dentils) and repainted in 1975. The remainder of the restoration is slated for completion over a period of years.

#### 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<b>X</b> ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
<b>_¾</b> 900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DATES

1913

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Henry C. Dittrich, Architect
Hiram F. Wood, Builder

The significance of the Ashley residence is, first, its architectural importance as a quintessential example of a Georgian-Reyiyal style period house and, second, its association with its first owner, Mark A. M. Ashley, a prominent early Portland banker. The architect, Henry C. Dittrich, although presumedly practicing in the Portland area for a number of years, was apparently not well known.

As disclosed by the accompanying photographs, the house is a well-executed embodiment of a Georgian-style period house, displaying a successful marriage of the decorative vocabulary of the Georgian period with the scale, site orientation, and style of the period house. The facade is of classic Georgian design incorporating accurately proportioned and detailed columns, pilasters, capitals, and entablature of the Ionic order. This symmetry and style is carried around to the sides of the house as well. The facade is 44 feet wide by 25 feet high, and the two front columns are over 18 feet high and over 6 feet around at their base. As far as can be determined, the details of the facade follow precisely the proportions of the Ionic order as set down by Vignola.

The rear of the house displays equally well-executed examples of the Doric order in the columns and entablature of the terrace level, and the Tuscan order in the columns and entablature of the Westover level. The exact style of the two missing sleeping porches has not yet been determined (the only known photograph of the rear of the house as originally built is that in the article of sept.13, 14 although they were surrounded by a parapet pierced by triangular openings, a classical design (the parapets were saved and will be reinstalled during restoration). In spite of its treatment at the hands of previous owners, the house is in exceptionally sound condition and serves as a reminder of a style of architecture and craftsmanship not lately practiced.

The person for whom the house was built, Mark Anthony Miller Ashley, was best known as a prominent early Portland banker. Born at Fort Ann, New York, in 1863 of a family that arrived in the United States from England about 1630, Ashley attended high school and college in New York before coming to Portland in 1883 at the age of 20 years. Once in Portland, he became engaged in the streetcar advertising business and later in the real estate and mortgage loan business. In 1907, he founded, with his brotherin-law, C. E. Rumelin, the banking house of Ashley & Rumelin, of Portland. The Ashley & Rumelin Bank became the Ashley State Bank in 1925 and went out of business in 1928; however, Ashley remained active in financial matters, founding the Tenet Mortgage Company which exists to this day.

### 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See continuation Sheet, Item Number 9, Page 2)

A CREAGE OF HOMMATED PROPERTY 0.22 ACTES  LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES  STATE CODE COUNTY CODE  STATE CODE COUNTY CODE  STATE CODE COUNTY CODE  TECHNOLOGY  STREET A NUMBER  STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION  THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:  NATIONAL STATE  As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1956 [Public Law 89-665]. I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in 196 Nary Park Septem  STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION  THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:  NATIONAL STATE  As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer or Inclusion in 196 Nary Park Septem  STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION  THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:  NATIONAL STATE  As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer or DATE  STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURY AND							
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ORGANIZATION  September 12, 1978  TELEPHONE  2847 N. W. Westoyer Road  (503) 222-3971  CITY OR TOWN  PORTLand  Oregon 97210  12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION  THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:  NATIONAL STATE LOCALX  As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665). I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.  STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE V.  TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer  OR NPS USE ONLY  I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER  DATE 3 2 7 9  TITLE 3 2 7 9  THE TITLE 3 2 7 9	NAME / TITLE						
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Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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Mr. Ashley was married in 1889 to Mabel W. Willis, a daughter of Parrish Lovejoy Willis, a prominent Portland attorney. Mr. and Mrs. Ashley moved into the house upon its completion and lived there until their deaths four months apart in 1939. They had two sons, Willis S. and Roscoe G., both of whom remained active in family financial affairs until their deaths in 1963 and 1947, respectively. Roscoe was the last member of the Ashley family known to have lived in the house. Roscoe's son, Robert N., continues the family interest in financial matters as the current president of Tenet Mortgage Company.

During his lifetime, Mr. Ashley was noted for his continuous connections with the interests of Portland and his devotion to the operation of a business that was a prominent feature in the banking circles of the day. He was recognized for his keen perception and honesty of purpose as well as his interest in and support of numerous projects for the general good of the people of Portland.

The house is recognized by the City of Portland as a designated historical landmark both for its architectural significance and for its association with the Ashleys.

The architect for the house, Henry C. Dittrich, was born in Schoenstaett, Germany, and lived in Portland for about 30 years before his death in 1927 at the age of 74 years. Although he is listed in early Portland city directories as a practicing architect, little is known of his other works except for a brick and frame church at the northeast corner of S.W. Tenth and Clay in Portland that he is rumored to have designed. The builder of the house is thought to have been Hiram E. Wood of Portland.

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# FOR NPS USE ONLY RECEIVED JAN 2 9 1979 DATE ENTERED MAR 973

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Ashley (Mark A. M.) House, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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Article regarding closure of Ashley State Bank, Oregon Journal, April 2, 1928.

Article regarding transfer of assets from Ashley & Rumelin Bank to Ashley State Bank, Oregon Journal, September 11, 1925.

"Compliment Paid to Portland Project." Oregonian, September 20, 1914.

Gaston, Joseph. Portland, Oregon: Its History and Builders, Vol. III. Portland, Oregon: S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1911.

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Obituary of Mabel Willis Ashley. Oregon Journal, August 3, 1939.

Obituary of Roscoe G. Ashley. Oregonian, November 11, 1947.

Obituary of Willis S. Ashley. Oregon Journal, February 5, 1963.

Obituary of Henry C. Dittrich. Oregonian, July 31, 1927.

"\$1,000,000 Option Taken on Westever Terraces." Oregon Journal, October 22, 1916.

Overstreet, R. M. "Westover Terrace Project in Portland, Oregon." Engineering Record, Vol. 70, No. 11 (September 12, 1914), pp. 288-292.

"Pretty Westover Terraces is Finished." Oregonian, September 13, 1914.

"Westover Terrace Dwelling is Striking and Unique in Design." <u>Oregonian</u>, January 25, 1914.

"Westover Terrace Work is Unusual." Oregonian, March 8, 1914.