

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUL 11 1979

DATE ENTERED

AUG 29 1979

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Kendall (Joseph) House

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

3908 SE Taggart Street

___NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Portland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

3rd

STATE

Oregon

CODE

41

COUNTY

Multnomah

CODE

051

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Arthur H. Berg

STREET & NUMBER

3908 SE Taggart St.

CITY, TOWN

Portland

___ VICINITY OF

Oregon

STATE

97202

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder's Office, Multnomah County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

1021 SW Fourth Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Portland

STATE

Oregon 97204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Portland Historical Landmark

DATE

1970

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Portland Bureau of Planning, 424 SW Main

CITY, TOWN

Portland

STATE

Oregon 97204

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kendall House was constructed by Joseph Kendall, builder-architect and cabinet-maker who designed and constructed the building himself with lavish attention to detail over the years 1884-1889. The house has remained a single-family residence to the present day.

Kendall acted as his own architect on this house and on the many other building projects he carried out in southeast Portland. His own home is an eclectic design combining features of the Romanesque Revival and Queen Anne Styles. Features characteristic of the Romanesque Revival include rounded brick columns, the use of random ashlar ground-story facing and bold stone framements for round-arched openings. Features characteristic of the Queen Anne Style are the asymmetrical plan, the many bays, balconies, and projections, and the variegated textural and chromatic effects of surface treatment, including brick and imbricated shingles.

Kendall originally built on the back of the lot a small wooden structure that was utilized as his home while construction was being completed on the principal residence. The earlier structure remains and is presently in excellent shape, in spite of its successive uses as a residence, carriage house, chicken coop, and storage place.

The main residence was built toward the front corner of the 1/3-acre site, where it could be viewed from both Taggart and 39th Streets.

The original landscaping contains a superb collection of plantings. A glorious pink dogwood tree was brought to this country from France by Mrs. Kendall and planted in 1882. This tree is purported to be the oldest and largest pink dogwood tree in Oregon, and was once featured on the cover of Northwest Magazine. Other plantings include a Japanese fir, a magnolia, and a majestic monkey tree. Also, located in the rear yard, is a stone bird-bath/fish pond.

The structure is an imposing three-story rectangular brick structure with substantial use of stone and stone trim. The house measures 35x45'. The front porch and carriage porch are supported by round brick columns. The north view of the house reveals the rounded brick exterior wall which encloses the circular staircase, and a large bay window surrounded by stone trim. The second story has a rounded balcony with Roman-arched colonnade. Dominating the front corner of the house is a square turret, or observation tower, having two round-arched openings.

The exterior facing is of smooth red brick, with narrow joints, and massive stone trim. The foundation is of Belgian stone, and is believed to have been originally used as ballast by ships coming into the ports. The present roofing material is composition shingles.

Stained glass is found in the Roman-arched parlor and diningroom windows. On the outside, above each stained glass window, are carved stone faces--one depicting Mrs. Rebecca Kendall, and the other depicting her son, Harold. The window arches are framed on the outside with carved stone. Similar sculptures are also found at the parlor portier arch.

The interior is essentially unchanged. Two original swinging kerosene lamps remain in the circular entryway. The entrance, surrounded by beveled glass sidelights, leads to a majestic oak stairway.

The five original fireplaces remain--one located in each major room of the house. The fireplace situated in the parlor is faced with Italian ceramic tile and is surrounded by a sculptured brass frame.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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The base moldings, door and window casings in the diningroom have an embossed design made with a hand-press developed by Kendall. The design is based on an antique floral motif of grapes and leaves, which symbolized drink and merriment. The ten-inch baseboard has a French motif, suggesting of the fleur-de-lis design.

The interior doors--excluding two sets of French doors--have ornate carvings in the egg and dart motif of classical antiquity surrounding the panels.

The natural oak and maple floors throughout have all been maintained in excellent condition. Windows throughout the house are covered with dark walnut shutters. Kendall also built all of the cabinet work in his house, including a grand walnut mirrored display case situated in the entry way.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1884-1889

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Joseph Kendall

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Kendall Residence, constructed 1884-1889, is significant to Portland because of its association with the early development of Portland's East Side, and because it is an exceptionally well-preserved example of eclectic domestic architecture in the Romanesque Revival and Queen Anne Styles by a builder-architect whose work is readily recognized elsewhere in the city.

Joseph Kendall was one of the early settlers of the community, having moved to Oregon from Kansas City in 1881. He acquired a large tract of land around the present homestead. Early records show that this land was originally platted in the 1870s on Clinton Kelley's donation land claim, but was not planned or developed until much later, when railroads and streetcars came to the area. Gideon Tibbetts, who was one of the pioneers of East Portland's development, began the development of this area in the late 1880s and early 1890s.

Kendall--who was an architect, builder and cabinet-maker--built several other houses in the same vicinity which still exist. While ^{they are} not as elaborate nor on the same scale as the Kendall residence, his style is evident in them. A large house on Division Street built by Kendall also has sculptural likenesses of Kendall's wife and son, similar to the busts found on the outside of the Kendall residence.

East Portland is primarily flat and was mainly utilized for farmland in the early settlement days. However, the wealthier individuals built their residences and mansions on the various knolls and rises. Most of the homes of this class have disappeared from the City's southeast section. The Kendall Residence is one of the last remaining of the substantial homes of the early period built in Southeast Portland. It owes its excellent state of preservation to the fact that since its completion in 1889 until November of 1978, it remained in the Kendall family. Five generations of the Kendall family have resided in the house.

The Kendall residence is located on the top of a rise of land on Portland's East Side in what was called East Portland Heights. Since the construction in the early 1900s of many smaller, simple frame box houses, the area was renamed in honor of its primary developer--Richmond.

Not only is the Kendall residence one of the oldest houses in Southeast Portland, it also is the most elaborate of the distinctive homes built by Kendall, who was noted for his craftsmanship. No plans or drawings for the house are known to exist. It was finished with embossed pattern moldings and turnings--patterns believed to have been shipped from mills in the Midwest and East.

The building's sound construction, the quality of its finish detail--both exterior and interior--including the handpressed moldings, the local Povey Brothers Studio art glass the impressive carved oak staircase, are especially noteworthy. The variety and age of the plantings surrounding the house also are typical of Victorian landscaping. No other collection of such trees and shrubberies dating back to this era is known to exist in Southeast Portland.

