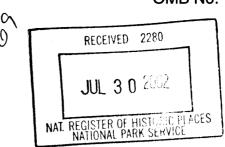
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES - REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property	
historic name <u>West Coast Woods Model Home</u>	
other names/site number	
2. Location	
street & number7211 N Fowler Avenue city or townPortland stateOregon code _OR county _Mu zip code _97217	not for publication vicinity ultnomah code _051
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preshereby certify that this <u>x</u> nomination <u>request</u> for dedocumentation standards for registering properties in the Nameets the procedural and professional requirements set for the property <u>x</u> meets <u>does not meet the National Formation of the Property be considered significant <u>nationally</u> statew continuation sheet for additional comments.)</u>	etermination of eligibility meets the ational Register of Historic Places and the in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, Register Criteria. I recommend that this
Janes Jamich	
Signature of certifying official/Deputy SHPO	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	

In my opinion, the property meets See continuation sheet for additional comm		ister criteria. (
Signature of commenting or other official	Dat	te
State or Federal agency and bureau		
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):	Signature of Keeper	9/14/8 Date of Action
======================================		
Ownership of Property (Check as many box _X_ private public-local public-State public-Federal Category of Property (Check only one box) _X_ building(s) district site structure object	======================================	
Number of Resources within Property		
Contributing Noncontributing buildings sites structures objects Total		

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register <u>N/A</u>

listing.) N/A	ig (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property
6. Function or Use	
Historic Functions (Enter categories from Cat:	
Current Functions (Enter categories from Cat:	om instructions) Sub: Single Dwelling/Work in Progress Sec. Structure/Work in Progress
Architectural Classification (Enter cate Early 20 th Century - English Cott	gories from instructions) age/Arts & Crafts
Materials (Enter categories from instrufoundation Concrete roof Wood walls Wood and Stone other Chimney: Stone and Brick Porch, walk & steps: Store	<u></u>

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Overview:

In the summer of 1927, Seattle lumberman C.W. Stimson (Stimson Lumber Co.) and the West Coast Lumber Bureau sponsored a national home design competition in conjunction with the Washington State Chapter, American Institute of Architects. The primary objective of the competition was to demonstrate the effective use of four west coast woods: Douglas fir, West Coast hemlock, Sitka spruce, and Western red cedar, for both structural and interior finish elements of a small home "principally build of wood."

In September 1927, the Portland <u>Oregonian</u> newspaper selected the first prize home design as one of two model homes it would build in the Mock Crest subdivision of Portland to "encourage greater interest in good homes." Built as a joint project of the <u>Oregonian</u> and the West Coast Lumber Bureau, the "West Coast Woods Model Home" was completed in January 1928. Although the prize-winning design was submitted by a Kansas architect, Otho McCracken, the actual working architectural drawings and construction and finish details were prepared by a prominent Seattle architect, J. Lister Holmes. During the four weeks it was open to the public, over 40,000 people (one of every ten residents in Portland) toured the home. The <u>Oregonian</u> published numerous articles about the home between September 1927 and the close of the tour in late February 1928, detailing all significant aspects of its then "state of the art" construction, unique use of west coast woods, original decorative arts features, "economical" furnishings, and "modern" comfort and conveniences. Articles about the home and its innovative use of northwest woods also appeared in <u>Better Homes and Gardens</u>, <u>The American Architect</u>, and <u>National Real Estate Journal</u> magazines. (See Bibliography)

As specified in the original competition requirements,³ the West Coast Woods Model Home is a single family residence with seven principal rooms: living room, library, dining room, kitchen and breakfast room, and three bedrooms. It includes 2.5 baths and a full, partially finished basement. A two-car garage, included in the home as originally built, sits behind and to the left of the home. The home and garage are centered on a double city lot of 10,000 square feet, consistent with another of the competition's basic requirements.⁴

¹ "An Architectural Competition," The American Architect, 5 September 1927, p. 305.

² "The Two New Model Homes," Oregonian, 31 January 1928, p. 8.

³ "An Architectural Competition," The American Architect, p. 305

⁴ Ibid.

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HISTORIC AND CURRENT CONDITION:

As noted in more detail elsewhere in Sections 7 and 8, the West Coast Woods Model Home was designed and built to demonstrate the innovative use of the four west coast woods for both home construction and exterior and interior finish details. The style of the home was described in contemporary publications as "English Country Cottage." This style was carried through both the exterior design and interior details. At the same time, several of the significant decorative arts elements are of a distinctive "Northwest" character that goes beyond the simple use of the four featured woods.

Exterior:

The home is a two-story design with a steeply pitched roof divided by a central entrance gable extending almost to the upper roofline. True to the purpose of the home project, it features northwest woods in the exterior finish. The south, west, north and northeast walls are sided with Sitka spruce. Western red cedar is applied board and batten style to the center south of the east wall and also was used as the mud sill. Douglas fir is used for window cornices. The original roof of two layers of red cedar shakes was replaced with new cedar shakes, similar to the original in appearance, in the mid-1980's.

An unusual feature of the front elevation of the home is a half-wall of local stone on the southeast wall. This stone extends from the house front to the south, forming a wall on either side of the driveway to the garage. The same stone was used in the chimney (with random brick elements), the front walk and threshold porch and a large porch off the living room and dining room at the rear of the house and a low wall off this porch. Two special feature windows detail the exterior: a round window in the front stone wall and a small, hand-made rectangular window set into the chimney stonework.

Restoration of the exterior will include removal of flat roofs added over the front and rear porches (reproducing the original cornice over the front door), replacement of missing casement windows in the library, kitchen and master bedroom, and repainting the exterior a color compatible with the original finish (if this can be determined) or consistent with the period. Safety grids and railings will be added over window wells and a rear basement entry stairwell. These also will be period appropriate. The original exterior of the home otherwise is intact. Other than paint color and the door, the garage appears to be original to the site. No information is available about the original door(s), so the current door will be retained and the garage will be repainted to match the house.

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Interior - Entrance Hall and Stairway:5

A large entry hall features hemlock beams and paneling on the stairway wall and hemlock panels on the inside of the front door. The stair balustrade is carved and sand-etched with a scalloped wave pattern that is repeated in the fir beams of the living room ceiling and echoed in trim tile in the upstairs hall bath. Even more unique are four carved heads on the stairway posts and beams: two of Native Americans and two of early monks. (Originally there was a third Native American head.) All of these wood features, originally stained a warm green/brown, have been painted. They will be stripped and restained to match the original finish that can still be seen on sliding multi-paned doors to the living room (smooth hemlock on the hall side and rough finished fir on the living room side) and a door from the hall to the kitchen area that also features a small decorative lead glass window.

Interior - Living Room:

Douglas fir paneling and beams and a wide cottage fireplace faced with local stone dominate the living room. As noted above, the beams are sand-etched with "waves" and originally were finished with a two-toned "weathered gray" stain to enhance the pattern. The fireplace on the north wall is completely surrounded with wide, random-width Douglas fir panels perfectly matched to the same width paneling used in the ceiling. The paneling was sand-etched to produce a rough grain and originally was stained a brown/gray color. A built-in bookcase with scalloped top edge completes this wall. The remaining walls were finished with interior stucco in a rough-trowelled finish, with four "pre-cast" ornaments embedded at random spots in the stucco walls. Two pairs of french doors originally allowed light into the living room and gave access to the stone porch.

The living room needs significant restoration. The beams and panels were painted years ago. An unfortunate restoration attempt by the prior owner's son included removing the paint by sand-blasting it. This removed not only the paint, but also the original stain and some of the original wood surface. It also obliterated a sand-etched carving of a "Venetian" ship over the fireplace. The french doors were removed and replaced by plate glass windows. The pre-cast wall ornaments were removed and filled in and the walls covered with wallpaper and paint.

The current owners will restore the living room as much as possible to reflect the original. The wood features will be restained after careful completion of the paint removal. The plate glass windows will be replaced with french doors in the style of the original french doors.

⁵ An interior floor plan is included in the attachments.

⁶ All color references are based on articles in the Oregonian.

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Interior - Living Room cont'd:

The walls will be repaired and repainted consistent with the original design. Details of the pre-cast ornaments are not available and the ship etching cannot be replicated.

<u>Interior – Library</u>:

Glass-paned sliding doors lead from the living room into a small library that is paneled ceiling height with Douglas fir. Rotary cut rough grain paneling is framed with smoother vertical grain fir with a carved design in the ceiling molding. On each of four wall panels is a sand-etched carving of a different Northwest scene depicting a period in Oregon's history: one of Native Americans, one of pioneers, one of a lumberjack (of course!) and one of "modern Portland." Each carving includes a mountain feature

The original window seat in the bay window area was removed in the past, but will be replaced by the current owners. The library otherwise is in original condition and requires only minor preservation measures.

<u>Interior – Dining Room:</u>

The dining room originally had six-foot high Douglas fir paneling (smooth finish with a blue-gray stain) topped by interior stucco walls and ceiling. Although the stucco walls and ceiling remain and are in good shape, the paneling was removed years ago.

The current owners plan to repanel the room in the paneling style of the library (which appears consistent with the "negative" pattern visible on the rough wood subsurface wall in the dining room), but using recyled materials. The plan is to make new paneling and molding from reclaimed vertical grain Douglas fir (gymnasium bleacher seats that can be split and book-matched into panels), reinterpreting the original woodwork in the same type of wood without attempting to recreate the original.

⁷ As a general rule, where original features are missing, the owners will use replacements from the same period, recycled materials, or sustainable resource and environmentally responsible resources.

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Interior - Kitchen and Breakfast Room:

These rooms had all original features, except for a few windows and the original linoleum, replaced with harvest gold "Spanish" paneling and cabinetry in the 1960's. The linoleum cannot be restored. Both rooms will be renovated. The breakfast room will be re-wallpapered in a design similar to the original. The kitchen will have new cabinetry (made of sustainable wood and other environmentally friendly materials) and tile counters consistent with the materials and design used in the 1920's. (One piece of original trim tile, found when the "remuddle" was removed, will be replicated. Colors will be cream, black and red – a variation on the original cream, black and gold color scheme. A recycled porcelain-over-cast iron sink with double drainboards will help keep the new kitchen compatible with the style of the house. The only structural change in the home will be in the kitchen with a widening of the doorway from the rear entry area to incorporate this area more into the kitchen.

<u>Interior – First Floor Flooring:</u>

Except for the kitchen and breakfast room, the original flooring remains intact and needs only restoration and preservation measures. The entry hall, living room and dining room all have random-width, v-gooved vertical grain Douglas fir planks. The library floor is hemlock. A first floor powder room retains its original small basket weave white and black mosaic tile. The main stairway originally was carpet over structural (not finish) wood. New carpeting (wool or other natural fiber) will replace the current synthetic covering.

Interior - Second Floor:

The second floor contains three bedrooms and two baths. All bedrooms have hemlock floors that need only moderate restoration. The master bedroom has painted hemlock molding and trim while trim in the other bedrooms and elsewhere on this floor is painted fir. The trim appears to have been painted at the time of construction.

The hallway bath retains its original tile (walls and floor) in a "corn" yellow with aqua accent tiles and corn/aqua trim tile with a wave pattern echoing the sand-etched wood trim of the stairway and living room. Restoration will include repair of damaged tiles and the original arched medicine cabinet.

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Interior - Second Floor cont'd:

The master bath was gutted and remodeled in the 1960's or 1970's. These "improvements" have been removed and the bathroom will be renovated in a style consistent with the late 1920's or early 1930's, with a vintage sink and toilet, tile floor and walls, and a shower based on a 1920's design used by both Crane and Standard plumbing companies.

The second floor also features a chute to the basement laundry room, a "linen" cupboard in the hall and a 7' x 7' closet completely lined in Port Orford white cedar. (Originally finished with only linseed oil, the wood was later painted. The paint will be removed and the wood finish restored.)

The master bedroom includes a bay window; its original multi-paned casement window was replaced by plate glass. A new casement window will be added. The bedroom also is missing its original built-in wardrobe closet (removed and sheetrocked over in the past). The current owners will replace the wardrobe with a new closet in the same style, based on detail in a newspaper photograph from the original house tour and the style of similar closets in a Seattle home designed by J. Lister Holmes for a relative of Holmes and one of the current owners of the West Coast Woods Model Home, Bruce Holmes Drake.

Interior – Lighting Fixture:

Only a few original light fixtures remain in the home. These will be retained and supplemented with the current owners collection of comparable restored 1920's fixtures. In a few instances, reproduction fixtures will be used (most matched with vintage shades collected by the owners).

Interior - Basement:

The home has a full, partially finished basement. This will be repaired and restored in a manner consistent with the original condition.

8. Statemer	======================================
	======================================
X_ A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
<u>_x</u> _c	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.
Criteria Cor	siderations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)
A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B	removed from its original location.
c	a birthplace or a grave.
D	a cemetery.
E	a reconstructed building, object,or structure.
F	a commemorative property.
G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.
Areas of Sig	gnificance (Enter categories from instructions) Commerce Architecture Engineering Art
Period of Si	gnificance <u>1927-1928</u>
Significant I	Dates <u>1927-1928</u>

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
Cultural AffiliationN/A
Architect/Builder _ <u>J. Lister Holmes</u> Otho McCracken
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
ender 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 #
Primary Location of Additional Data State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government UniversityX_ Other Name of repository:Oregon Historical Society
Acreage of Property <u>Less than one acre</u>
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The West Coast Woods Model Home is unique in both its origin and its design and construction. It resulted from the fortunate confluence of lumber industry marketing efforts, a national trend toward suburban subdivisions and model homes to encourage home ownership, and a major newspaper's desire to promote the "ideal" modern home of modest size. This resulted in a very livable home that blends construction techniques so advanced they meet today's standards with early 20th century architectural style and one-of-a-kind decorative arts in Northwest themes. The home meets both criteria A and criteria C, with significance in the areas of commerce, architecture, engineering and decorative arts.

Commerce Significance:

In the late 1920's, prominent Northwest lumberman C.W. Stimson (Stimson Lumber Co.) organized (and funded the first and second prizes) a competition through the West Coast Lumber Bureau to promote the use of Northwest woods in homebuilding. Stimson was concerned about the future of the regions lumber industry that in 1927 lost more than \$80 million in business and faced significant competition from "inferior" substitute products. To boost marketing of west coast woods, Stimson and the Bureau developed a national contest to "stimulate better character in house design:"

"The special purpose and intent of this Competition is to develop and bring forth the uses, applications, and methods of construction and finishing of the woods of the Pacific Northwest, Douglas Fir, West Coast Hemlock, Sitka Spruce and Western Red Cedar. It is the thought of the Bureau that the methods and use and the beauty in treatment of these woods has as yet been merely touched upon and that applied ingenuity will bring forth new and effective developments, both in using and beautifying these products."

At the same time, the <u>Oregonian</u> newspaper completed its first model home and tour project. Pleased with the public response, the <u>Oregonian</u> announced it would sponsor two new model homes in 1928 to stimulate home ownership in Portland. Both homes were to be of moderate size with advanced construction techniques, creative decorative details and modern furnishings that would appeal to, and could be replicated by, homeowners of more modest means. ¹⁰ The West Coast Woods Model Home

⁸ "Realty Board Told West Coast Woods Plan," Oregonian, 21 January 1928, sec.1, p.8; "Merger in Lumber Hailed as Big Step," Oregonian, 20 February, 1928, p. 10.

⁹ "An Architectural Competition," The American Architect, p. 305.

^{10 &}quot;The Two New Model Homes," Oregonian, p. 8

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Commerce Significance cont'd:

design was chosen to meet these objectives and "with the object in view of demonstrating how woods grown on this coast may be used to best advantage * * *."¹¹ The convergence of these similar commercial objectives resulted in the relatively unusual circumstances of a "concept" house actually being built and presented to the public. ¹²

West Coast Lumber Bureau:

The West Coast lumber Bureau (also referred to as the "West Coast Lumber Trade Extension Bureau) was created in 1925 to "merchandise" west coast woods throughout the world through advertising, field efforts, publicity and educational literature. Its budget of over \$375,000 in 1927 came from its 121 member businesses, representing "the leading lumber manufactures, millwork plants, wood pipe factories and loggers of Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. Stimson Lumber Company was one of these members. Partnering with the <u>Oregonian</u> on the West Coast Woods Model home was one of the Bureau's more ambitious marketing efforts.

In 1928, the Bureau merged with the West Coast Lumbermen's Association, an organization founded in 1910 as a trade association for Douglas fir¹⁴. The new organization retained the name of the Lumbermen's Association. Col. William B. Greeley, chief forester of the U.S. Forest Service, was chosen manager of the merged Association. Other directors included R.H. Burnside of Portland and W.W. Clark of Portland. The Association continued to represent significant Northwest businesses until it was dissolved in 1969.

Mock Crest Addition:

Between 1922 and 1929, the building of single-family detached homes in the United States reached a then all-time high, with an average number of housing starts of 833,000 per year. Many of these new homes were in suburban subdivision developments. Despite the increased availability of new homes, home ownership (as opposed to renting) remained below 50% on average. To support this phenomenal housing expansion and promote more actual home ownership, government agencies and businesses across the country joined together to sponsor social and economic planning efforts. These collaboration brought together realtors, building materials manufacturers, contractors, architects, engineers, trade unions, financiers and banks, planners, housing reformers and others into

¹¹ "Realty Board Told West Coast Woods Plan," Oregonian, p. 8.

¹² "A Competition House That Has Been Built," The American Architect, 20 July 1928, p. 131.

¹³ "Merger in Lumber Hailed as Big Step," <u>Oregonian</u>, 20 February 1928, sec. 2, p.16.

¹⁴ "Lumber Leaders of Coast Unite," Oregonian, 18 February 1928, pp. 1-2.

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Commerce Significance cont'd:

associations, federations and networks focused on development of subdivisions and expanded home ownership opportunities – particularly for middle class Americans.

In this effort, the suburban subdivision emerged as the most popular approach to large-scale housing developments. The home ownership federations and networks valued the ability to create a sense of neighborhood and community in locations where the architectural design, physical layout of streets, and location of neighborhood "centers" (schools, churches, recreational facilities) could be coordinated around a uniform, consistent theme. ¹⁵

At the same time, the goal of increasing home ownership prompted a new approach to home design and incorporation of "new technologies." Smaller, more standardized new homes featured the latest technology in plumbing and electrical systems, along with improved bathroom and kitchen amenities. By the late 1920's, the "ideal" middle class subdivision home was one consisting of seven rooms (increased from six to provide a guest room or offer spouses separate bedrooms) and two baths. By 1928, these houses included two car garages in response to increased car ownership. 17

One popular means of promoting subdivisions was the building of Model Homes. In 1927, for example, the Home Owners' Institute coordinated a national demonstration Model Homes campaign in conjunction with associations, manufacturers and newspapers across the country. Seventy-four Model homes were built in 28 cities across the U.S. More than 1.5 million people toured these homes and by April 1928 all but four of these homes were sold.¹⁸

Both Portland's Mock Crest Addition and the two Oregonian Model homes (West Coast Woods Model Home and Master Model Home) are perfect examples of the single-family detached home and suburban subdivision trends of their time. As previously described, the West Coast Woods Model Home is the prototypical seven room, two-bath, two-car garage "middle class" home featuring the latest technology and amenities along with its unique west coast woods features. The Master Model home, also with the same number of rooms, was actually one of the seventy-four model homes in the Home Owner's Institute 1927-28 project. (Built to feature nationally advertised materials, rather than western woods, the Master Model Home is a brick and half-timber stucco English style design.)²⁰

¹⁵ Carolyn S. Loeb, Entrepreneurial Vernacular, Developers' Subdivisions in the 1920's, pp. 144-179.

¹⁶ <u>Id</u>., pp.200-203.

[&]quot;What the Public Wants," American Builder, April 1928, pp. 126-27.

¹⁸ <u>Id</u>, p. 126.

^{&#}x27;^{*} <u>ld</u>, p. 127.

²⁰ "Two Model Homes to Be Constructed," Oregonian, 4 September 1927, sec. 2, p.1.

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Commerce Significance cont'd:

Consistent with the national emphasis, both homes were built by the <u>Oregonian</u> not just to feature certain building projects, but also to promote home ownership among middle class Portland residents.²¹

That the Mock Crest Addition, in which these two homes are located, was part of the national trend in subdivision development, was evident in the following contemporary descriptions:

"Two factors were instrumental in the choice of Mock Crest as the site for [the] two national model homes — on one hand the high standard of construction prevailing there, and on the other, its scenic and strategic boulevard location.

Mock Crest is a 72-acre residential development under the direction of Henderson-Bankus Co. Inc., Realtor-builders and subdivision specialists. When completed, this development will embrace 400 homes with a price range of \$6,500 to \$25,000, including the grounds, and will represent an outlay, including improvements, of \$4,000,000.

Structural framing used in all homes in this district runs from 20 to 30 per cent above city building regulations. Every home has been individually designed with an eye to harmonious variety for the whole district and its artistic unity. Except for a few homes built when the tract was opened, all homes in Mock Crest are designed and built to order.

The visitor in Mock Crest is impressed by its trimness and sense of openness. This is partly explained by the open view and liberal spacing of the layout, but the most distinguishing feature of the district is the entire absence of unsightly telephone poles and overhead wiring in front of homes. All electric light wires are carried to homes in underground conduits leading to the rear of all lots. Telephone cables run between lots in back of homes. In place of old-fashioned street arc lights, ornamental lighting standards have been set in the wide parkings." ²²

²² "Prize Winning Design to be Model Home," National Real Estate Journal, 28 November 1927.

²¹ "Model Homes Built by the Oregonian, " <u>Oregonian,</u> 1 January 1928 sec. 2, p.4; "The Two New Model Homes," <u>Oregonian,</u> p. 8.

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Commerce Significance cont'd:

The owner of the Mock Crest development was John B. Yeon, a prominent Portland resident. Yeon, who was married to John B. Mock's daughter, Elizabeth, also acquired the West Coast Woods Model Home from John Mock in 1927. As quoted in a contemporary magazine article, Yeon's description of his Mock Crest Addition project reflects a local commitment to the national home ownership ideals:

"It is one of the greatest satisfactions of my varied experience to be privileged to sponsor the detailed and proper development of this tract which has been one of my major ambitions. As the present owner, it is my intention to create here a district that will reflect credit on and worthily perpetuate the name of the sturdy pioneer of 1852 for whom it was named. As a resident of Mock Crest it is my dream to build here a neighborhood and environment that will express ideals of my own, be representative of the best home life in Portland, and be an encouragement to home-owning citizens."

Architectural Significance:

The basic architectural design was described in contemporary publications as the "English Country Cottage Style." The use of wood and stone on the exterior walls and the stone and brick chimney and multi-panes wood windows all contribute to an "old English" feel. This style carries through into the living room with its random-width panels, dominant wood beams, and, especially, the wide stone-faced fireplace. The random-width Douglas fir floors in the hall, living room, and dining room is patterned after floors found one hundred years before, with wood pegs and butterfly joints carrying through the cottage theme. At the same time, the home also incorporates distinctive Northwest arts and crafts decorative elements and themes in a manner that blends smoothly into the cottage style. (See "Arts Significance," below)

See, also, "Architects," below.

²³ ld.

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Engineering Significance:

A very detailed article in the <u>Oregonian</u> describes the overall structural design and special features of the home. This includes a sketch of the main features of the framing system. The design started with cement footers for posts designed for specific loads, 8" concrete walls, and a special mix of concrete. The next elements centered on the durability, strength and insulating properties of wood. A 3x6-inch cedar mudsill capped the concrete foundation walls and was bolted into the foundation. An innovative use of laminated girders constructed out of five kiln dried 2x12's glued and spiked together with 2x4 siderails provide the main foundational beams for the first floor. This was combined with deep 2x10 joists cross-braced every eight feet for torsional strength. Fire stops were used throughout the joist placement and an innovative joist design created substantially increased headroom in the basement.

Construction Techniques:

The framing has Douglas fir 2x6's for all exterior members and all interior load-bearing frames; 2x4's form the non-load-bearing frames. All first and second floor walls have cross-braced fire stops for safety and added torsional support. Roof framing is 2x6 on 16" centers instead of the 2x4 on 21" centers common at that time. (The roof framing thus meets current codes 75 years later.)

The project sponsors touted the insulating properties of wood itself, augmented by what they referred to as a "box within a box" design. In this approach, building felt was nailed over studs and laps made airtight with hot tar. Regular 1x8 Douglas fir shiplap was nailed over this paper covering. Another layer of building felt was then nailed to the shiplap and overlapped to be airtight. Sitka spruce siding and Western red cedar weatherboards nailed firmly over this provided a water resistant cover all around the exterior. Extra wide "Bungalow" siding was used (tapered 1x10 instead of the narrower bevel style siding). Analogies were drawn to similar wall designs used for insulation purposes in cold storage plants, ice storage facilities, and similar siding designs used for strength and rigidity in Oregon coast life saving boats.²⁵

All sides of flooring, doors and trim, and siding materials received a coat of linseed oil to ensure that it would not absorb moisture during the wet Portland winter construction months.

The roof was finished with a double course of royal grade Western red cedar shakes with a manufactured Fitite cedar ridge cap. This provided a roof practically one inch thick throughout. Designed to last 40 years, it did not need replacement until 1985 when a similar double layer shake

²⁴ "West Coast Woods Model Home Erected," Oregonian, sec. 7, p. 3.

²⁵ "Odd-Shaped Window Put In Model Home," Oregonian, 1 January 1928, sec. 7.

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Section 8 Page 7

Engineering Significance cont'd:

roof was installed.

Additional uses of wood support decorative elements in the design of the library and dining room. Douglas fir shiplap fully sheaths all four interior walls in both rooms as a foundation for the special fir paneling used in these rooms. This extends floor to ceiling in the library and six feet high in the dining room. This feature gives a very stable backing for decorative panels and allows nails to be placed anywhere in the panel or trim.

Functional elements also are well designed. For example, the furnace chimney, heat ducts to the dining room and two upper rooms, laundry chute and copper venting pipe from the stove to the roof all run in a common chase between the basement and upper floors. The house has its original GE Wiring system with conduits rather than knob and tube wiring.

The kitchen originally had a new electric dishwasher built into the sink. The original heating system was forced air from a dual fuel furnace (hardwood and briquettes) and included a "drop by drop" humidifier. All plumbing utilized brass piping and the gutter linings were copper (still in excellent shape today).

Matching Wood Applications and Wood Qualities:

While some properties of the four western woods were relatively well known and led to conventional uses, other properties were highlighted in the design of the house. Use of cedar for roof shakes was common, but using two types of wood on the exterior of a home (cedar and spruce) and the bolted cedar mudsill were unusual. The large closet fully lined with Port Orford cedar also was unique to the West Coast Woods Model Home and the second <u>Oregonian</u> model home built at the same time.

Douglas fir was used for its strength in framing, for its weather resistance in window framing, double hung and casement windows, and exterior doors. It was well suited for staining in several applications since the slower absorption rate of fir creates a more uniform coating. Fir was particularly well-suited to the innovative sand-etching process since its alternating hard and soft grains gave excellent detail to designs. Similarly, fir allowed deeper etching of designs in the ceiling beams and sandblasting to create a weathered appearance in beams and paneling.

Spruce was used both for weather resistance and resistance to warping in exterior siding. Because it took paint well and was odorless and pitchless, it also was used throughout the kitchen and breakfast room and in one bathroom.

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Engineering Significance cont'd:

Hemlock was used to provide darker flooring in the library and bedrooms. It was chosen for trim in two bedrooms and one bath because it could withstand temperature extremes.

Educational Efforts

The virtues of the four woods was extolled in several educational ads featuring the West Coast Woods Model Home or other winning designs from the same competition placed by the Lumber and Woodworking Industries of the Portland Territory in the <u>Oregonian</u> and by the West Coast Lumber Bureau and the West Coast Lumber Trade Extension Bureau in <u>Better Homes and Gardens</u>, <u>House and Gardens</u>, and <u>Architectural Record</u> magazines in 1928. The West Coast Woods Model Home also was used to showcase and explain fine homebuilding techniques to the public. The Bureau also published and distributed a booklet, "*Prize Homes of the Northwest*," all of the prize-winning designs. Almost weekly from the beginning of the project, the public was encouraged to inspect the on-going construction process and educational displays continued through the month-long home tour. Newspaper and magazine articles contained detailed information about construction techniques as well as the design elements. High school and college classes were given special tours of the home.

Art Significance:

The home still retains most of the distinctive decorative arts features. These are mainly in the public areas of the first floor and include:

- Sand-etched carvings in four library wall panels depicting scenes of Native Americans, pioneers, lumbermen, and "modern" Portland
- ❖ A carved border at the top of the library walls
- Sand-etched beams in the living room mimicking the similar sand-etched wave patter on the stairway balustrade
- Four remaining carved heads of monks and Native Americans on the stairway posts and beam
- ❖ A basket weave tile floor in the powder room
- * Hammered iron arts and crafts door hardware
- Two-sided doors with vertical hemlock panels on one side and sand-etched Douglas fir on the other side to match the wood used in the rooms on either side of the door
- Two handcrafted windows tucked into stone; one in the front wall, one in the chimney.

The sand-etched carvings were done using an exclusive process of the "Grainart Dept." of the Long-

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Art Significance cont'd:

Bell Lumber Co. in Longview, WA., a member company of the West Coast Lumber Bureau. The stairway heads were carved by one of the principals of the Henderson-Bankus Co., Inc., builder of the home and developer of the Mock Crest subdivision in which it is located.

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Significant Persons – Prior Residents:

Olgillille	ant Persons - Prior Residents:	
	Resident	Owner
1927	Under construction.	
	Sold by John B. Mock and Vietta Mock to J.B. Yeon. 11/16/1927	
1927-	Resident unknown. J. B. Yeon married Mock's daughter and their	J.B. Yeon
1930	residence was down the street from Mock's on Lombard avenue.	
1931-	Daniel O. Webster ²⁶ , Amy Webster	J.B. Yeon
1937	Daniel Webster was an early north Portland physician with an office and	
l E	prior residence nearby on Lombard. Some rental arrangement may	
	have occurred with the Yeons since the Websters are listed as residents	
	in 1931 but not as owners until 1937.	
	Sold by Elizabeth M. Yeon to Amy K. Webster 2/24/1937.	
1939-	Amy K. Webster	Amy K. Webster
1941	Sold by Amy K. Webster to Rae E. Smith and Ruth Allen Smith	-
	4/30/1943.	
1943 -	Rae E. Smith ²⁷ , Ruth A. Smith	Rae E. Smith
1949	Rae Smith was a dentist.	Ruth A. Smith
1950	Ruth A. Smith	Ruth A. Smith
1952	Ruth A. Smith, Allen Esther	Ruth A. Smith
1957	Ruth A. Smith	Ruth A. Smith
1958-	Ruth A. Shane, Richard Shane	Ruth A. Shane
1959	Sold by Ruth A. Shane and Richard Shane to William and Luella Bodle	
	1/29/1959	
1959-	Wm. S. Bodle Jr., Luella Bodle	William Bodle
1967	Wm. was a painter with Johnson & Company, later with school district.	Margaret Bodle
	Sold by William and Luella Bodle to Burdette and Margaret Launtz	
	6/29/1967	
1967-	Burdette Launtz, Margaret Launtz	Burdette Launtz
2001	Burdette was a manager at Crown Zellerbach.	Margaret Launtz
	Sold by Burdette Launtz to Bruce and Eileen Drake 7/27/01	
2001	Bruce H. Drake, Eileen Drake	Bruce H. Drake
	Bruce is a Professor at the University of Portland	Eileen Drake
	Eileen is VP Human Resources at PCC Structurals	

²⁶ Obituary Daniel O. Webster b.1876 in New Hampshire. d. 11/30/1936 (*Oregonian* 11/30/1936, p.9). Additional information: Fred Lockley <u>History of Columbia River Valley</u>, Vol. 3, p. 889. R.L. Polk <u>Portland City Directory</u>.

²⁷ Obituary Rae E. Smith - *Oregonian* 3/22/1949, p.19.

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Architects:

J. Lister Holmes

J. Lister Holmes was a prominent Northwest architect in the early part of the 20th century. A resident of Seattle, Washington, he designed many commercial buildings, homes and schools on the west coast. In 1939, he designed the Washington State Building for the New York World's fair. Holmes was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania school of architecture and served as President of the Seattle Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1932 and 1933. His home and commercial designs spanned architectural styles from the Beaux-Arts to the International Style. He was elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1955. Holmes was born in Seattle in 1891 and died there in 1986 at age 95. Records of his work are archived in the University of Wasington Libraries and at the University of Pennsylvania school of architecture.²⁸

Holmes was Vice Chairman of the Committee on Competition for the "Architectural Competition for the Uses of West Coast Woods in Home Construction" in 1927 for which the design for the West Coast Woods Model Home took first prize. He also served as the "Professional Advisor" to the Competition Jury of Award, defining the scope of the Competition, reviewing submissions for compliance with Competition requirements, and reporting on the outcome of the Competition in an article in The American Architect magazine published in September 1927.

When the Oregonian chose the first prize home design as the basis for the West Coast Woods Model Home, Holmes converted the initial design into working architectural drawings, including construction specifications and finish details. In comparing the original floor plan and design to the finished home, it is apparent that Holmes modified the interior floor plan in several respects and provided a number of finishing details not present in the initial design. For example, a built-in wardrobe closet was substituted for the two closets in the master bedroom. The floor plans of both bathrooms and the cedar-lined closet on the second floor were modified. The rear entry area door and closets were rearranged. Multiple windows on the north wall of the library were modified into one window. Walls and windows in the master bedroom and the middle bedroom were modified to accommodate structural elements. It also appears that he modified details of the exterior siding, changing it from the original specification of "sand-blasted" fir to a smoother finish fir. A one-car detached garage was redesigned as a two-car garage.

Of personal historical significance to the current owners of the nominated home is the fact that owner

²⁸ Ochsner, Jeffrey Karl, <u>Shaping Seattle Architecture: A Historical Guide to the Architects</u>, pp. 204-09, 238.

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Architects cont'd:

Bruce Holmes Drake is the great grandson of one of J. Lister Holmes' uncles. J. Lister Holmes also designed the home of another member of the family in Seattle in 1929. A Holmes family member occupied this home from the time it was built until her death in 2001. Since it was maintained virtually unchanged in all that time, it has been useful in providing clues to missing features in the West Coast Woods Model Home such as the missing wardrobe closet in the master bedroom and the likely appearance of the original kitchen.

Otho McCracken

Otho McCracken was the architect who submitted the first prize design in the West Coast Woods Competition. He was considered a talented local architect in his hometown of Hutchinson, Kansas, where he designed several homes in the historic upper class subdivision, Hyde Park Second Addition. McCracken also designed at least one church in Hutchinson. As noted above, McCracken did the initial design of the West Coast Woods Model Home, as shown in the <u>American Architect</u>, the booklet ""Prize Homes of West Coast Woods, and other publications. The final details and working drawings were completed by J. Lister Holmes.

Others

A Portland architect, Ormond R. Bean, served as the on-site architect during the construction. At the time, Bean was the President of the Oregon Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. A fourth architect, Chester J. Hogue, of the West Coast Lumber Bureau, provided research and consultation on the use of the four west coast woods used in the home.²⁹

²⁹ "Designer Inspects New Model Home," Oregonian, 30 October 1927, sec. 2; p. 3 "Four Architects Share Model Home Design," Oregonian, 15 January 1928, sec. 2, p. 2

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

"An Architectural Competition for the Uses of West Coast Woods in Home Construction," American Architect, 5 September 1927, pp. 305-25.

"A Competition House That Has Been Built," American Architect, 20 July 1928, pp. 131-32.

"A Friendly House of Wood," Better Homes and Gardens, July 1928, pp. 18-19, 72.

Architectural Record, December 1927, p. 2; March 1928, p. 129.

Loeb, Carolyn S., Entrepreneurial Vernacular, The John Hopkins University Press, 2001.

Ochsner, Jeffrey Karl, ed., <u>Shaping Seattle Architecture: A Historical Guide to the Architects</u>, University of Washington Press, 1994.

Oregonian, Portland, Oregon, 14 August 1927, p. 8; 4 September 1927, sec. 2, p. 1; 11 September 1927, sec. 2, p. 3; 25 September 1927, sec. 2, p. 4; 2 October 1927, sec. 2, p. 3; 9 October 1927, sec. 2, p. 3; 16 October 1927, sec. 2, p. 3; 23 October 1927, sec. 2, p. 3; 30 October 1927, sec. 2, p. 3; 6 November 1927, sec. 2, p. 3; 13 November 1927, sec. 2, p. 4; 20 November 1927, sec. 2, p. 4; 27 November 1927, sec. 2, p. 4; 4 December 1927, sec. 2, p. 3; 11 December 1927, sec. 2, p. 2; 18 December 1927, sec. 2, p. 3; 25 December 1927, sec. 2, p. 2; 1 January 1928, sec. 2; 8 January 1928, sec. 2, p. 3; 15 January 1928, sec. 2, p. 2; 21 January 1928, p. 8; 22 January 1928, sec. 2, p. 4; 24 January 1928, p. 12; 26 January 1928, p. 11; 29 January 1928, sec. 7, pp. 1-10; 31 January 1928, p. 8; 5 February 1928, sec. 2 pp. 4-5; 12 February 1928, sec. 2, p. 3; 13 February 1928, p. 12; 17 February 1928, p. 6; 18 February 1928, pp. 1-2; 19 February 1928, sec. 2, p. 2; 20 February 1928, sec. 2, p. 16; 24 February 1928, p. 15; 26 February 1928, p. 16; 27 February 1928, p. 5; 4 March 1928, p. 16.

"Prize-Winning Design to be Model Home," National Real Estate Journal, 28 November 1927.

Prize Homes of West Coast Woods, West Coast Lumber Bureau, 1927.

Seattle Times, Seattle, Washington, 5 February 1928, sec. 2, p. 25.

"What the Public Wants," American Builder, April 1928, pp. 126-28, 230.

"West Coast Woods Prize Home is Completed," American Builder, April 1928, pp. 129-31.

Subject: USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form (West Coast Woods Model Home)

(Multnomah County, Oregon) (Page 27)

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EXHIBITS:

- 1 Contest Guidelines and Results: Selected pages from "An Architectural Competition for the Uses of West Coast Woods in Home Construction," American Architect, 5 September 1927, pp. 305-25.
- 2. Article on winning design to be built.

 <u>Architectural Record</u>, December 1927, p. 2; March 1928, p. 129.
- 3. Article on winning design to be built. Includes picture of houses directly across the street on N. Fowler and information on Mock Crest development. "Prize-Winning Design to be Model Home," National Real Estate Journal, 28 November 1927.
- 4. Article and pictures of completed home. "A Competition House That Has Been Built," American Architect, 20 July 1928, pp. 131-32.
- 5. Better Homes and Gardens article on completed home. "A Friendly House of Wood," Better Homes and Gardens, July 1928, pp. 18-19, 72.
- 6. Advertisement by West Coast Lumber Bureau featuring the house. Architectural Record, December 1927, p. 2.
- 7. Advertisement by West Coast Lumber Bureau featuring the house. Architectural Record, March 1928, p. 129.
- 8. Booklet provided by West Coast Lumber Bureau on designs of contest homes. Selected pages. *Prize Homes of West Coast Woods, West Coast Lumber Bureau, 1927.*
- 9. Listing of Original furnishings during 1928 Open House. Lippman & Company. Original in Multnomah County library.
- 10. List of companies contributing to the home construction. Table from <u>Oregonian</u>, Portland, Oregon, 29 January 1928, sec.7, p.9.
- 11. Articles on the <u>Oregonian's</u> Master Model Home and West Coast Woods Model Home, <u>American Builder</u>, April 1928, pp. 126-131, 230.

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Section 10 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nominated buildings are located on Lots 12 and 13, Block 96, Mock Crest, in Multnomah County, Oregon.

Verbal Boundar	y Description (Describe the bou	ndaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	
Boundary Justif	cation (Explain why the bounda	ries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	
11. Form Prepa	red By		
name/title Drake	Bruce Holmes Drake and Eileer	 <u>1</u> 	
organization	(Home Owners)	date_ <u>February 23, 2002</u>	
street & number	7211 N. Fowler Ave.	telephone_ <u>503-978-9233</u>	
city or town_Po	city or town_Portland state_OR_ zip code _97217		
Additional Docu	mentation		
Submit the follo	wing items with the completed fo	orm:	
Continuation Sh	eets		
· ·	o (7.5 or 15 minute series) indica o for historic districts and proper	ating the property's location. ties having large acreage or numerous resources.	
Photographs Representati	ve black and white photographs	of the property.	
Additional items	(Check with the SHPO or FPO	for any additional items)	
Property Owner			
•	tem at the request of the SHPO uce Holmes Drake and Eileen D	•	
street & number	7211 N. Fowler Ave.	telephone_ <u>503-978-9233</u>	
city or town Po	ortland	_state <u>OR</u> zip code <u>97217</u>	

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION Photographs page 1

PHOTOGRAPHS:

West Coast Woods Model Home Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

Location of Negatives

Bruce H. Drake,

(#8-23)

7211 N. Fowler Ave, Portland Oregon, 97217

Photo #1.

Cars lined up to visit Oregonian Model Home

Photographer:

Oregonian newspaper January 29, 1928

Date: Location of Negative

Oregon Historical Society Library

1200 SW Park Portland, OR

Photo #2 (1928)

Front (east) elevation

Photographer

Oregonian newspaper (copied from original newsprint)

Date:

January 29, 1928 (section 7, p. 1)

Location of newsprint

Multnomah County Library, 801 SW 10th

Portland, OR

Photo #3 (1928)

Entry and stairway detail

Photographer

The American Architect (copied from magazine)

Date:

July 20, 1928 (p.132)

Location of Magazine

Multnomah County Library, 801 SW 10th

Portland, OR

Photo #4 (1928)

Living room detail

Photographer

The American Architect (copied from magazine)

Date:

July 20, 1928 (p.131)

Location of Magazine

Multnomah County Library, 801 SW 10th

Portland, OR

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ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION Photographs page 2

Photo #5 (1928)

Library

Photographer

Oregonian newspaper (copied from original newsprint)

Date:

February 5, 1928 (section 2, p. 4)

Location of newsprint

Multnomah County Library, 801 SW 10th

Portland, OR

Photo #6 (1928)

Master bedroom

Photographer

Oregonian newspaper (copied from original newsprint)

Date:

February 12, 1928 (section 2, p. 3)

Location of newsprint

Multnomah County Library, 801 SW 10th

Portland, OR

Photo #7 (1928)

Middle bedroom

Photographer

Oregonian newspaper (copied from original newsprint)

Date:

January 29, 1928 (section 7, page 2)

Location of newsprint

Multnomah County Library, 801 SW 10th

Portland, OR

Photo #8

Front - (east) elevation

Photographer

Bruce H. Drake

Date:

February 2002

Photo #9

Side entry – (south) elevation

Photographer

Bruce H. Drake

Date:

February 2002

Photo #10

Back - (west) elevation

Photographer

Bruce H. Drake

Date:

February 2002

Photo #11

Chimney side - (north) elevation

Photographer

Bruce H. Drake

Date:

February 2002

Photo #12

Detail - Front stone wall - (east) elevation

Photographer

Bruce H. Drake

Date:

February 2002

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ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION Photographs page 3

Photo #13

Photographer

Date:

Detail - Stone wall and garage - (east) elevation Bruce H. Drake

February 2002

Photo #14

Photographer

Date:

Garage - (north and east) elevation

Bruce H. Drake February 2002

Photo #15 Photographer

Date:

Entry and stairway Bruce H. Drake February 2002

Photo #16 Photographer

Date:

Detail - Entry and stairwell Bruce H. Drake

February 2002

Photo #17 Photographer

Date:

Living room Bruce H. Drake February 2002

Photo #18

Photographer Date:

Library

Bruce H. Drake February 2002

Photo #19

Photo #20

Library sand-etched panel "lumberjack"

Photographer

Bruce H. Drake February 2002

Date:

Library sand-etched panel "commerce"

Photographer Date:

Bruce H. Drake February 2002

Photo #21

Dining room – stripped to wall fir boards

Photographer

Bruce H. Drake February 2002

Date:

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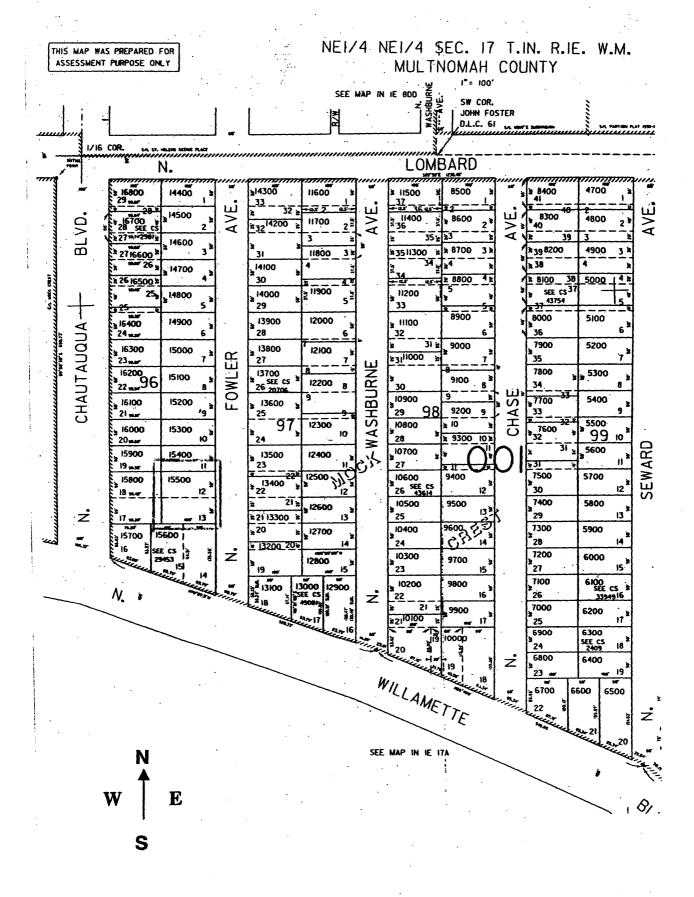
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION Photographs page 4

Photo #22 Kitchen and breakfast room

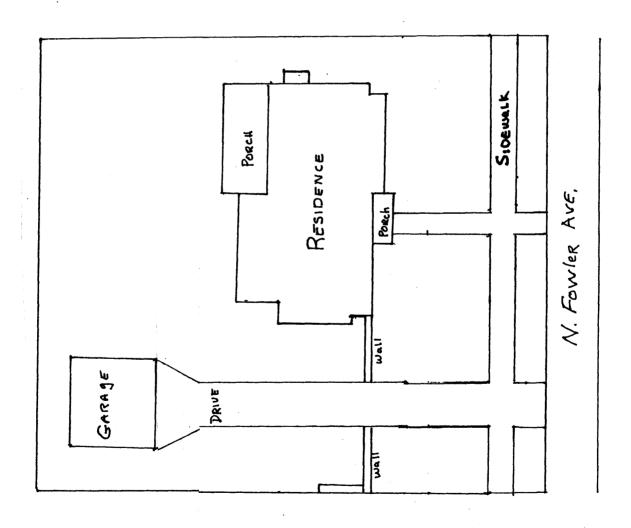
Photographer Bruce H. Drake Date: February 2002

Photo #23 Hall bathroom
Photographer Bruce H. Drake
Date: February 2002

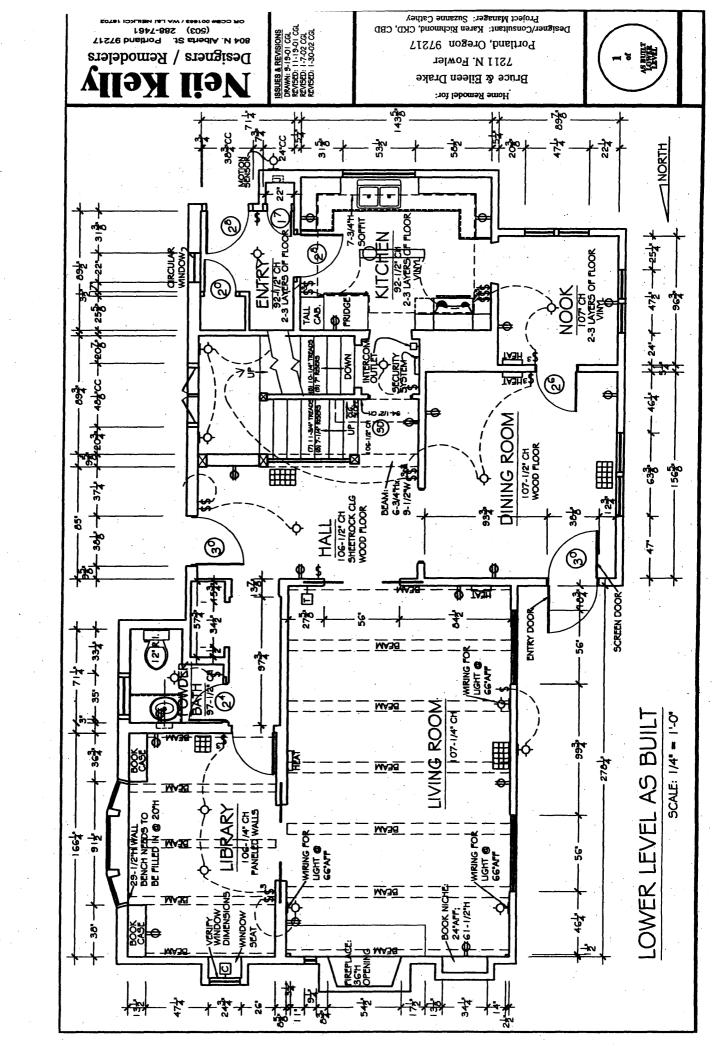


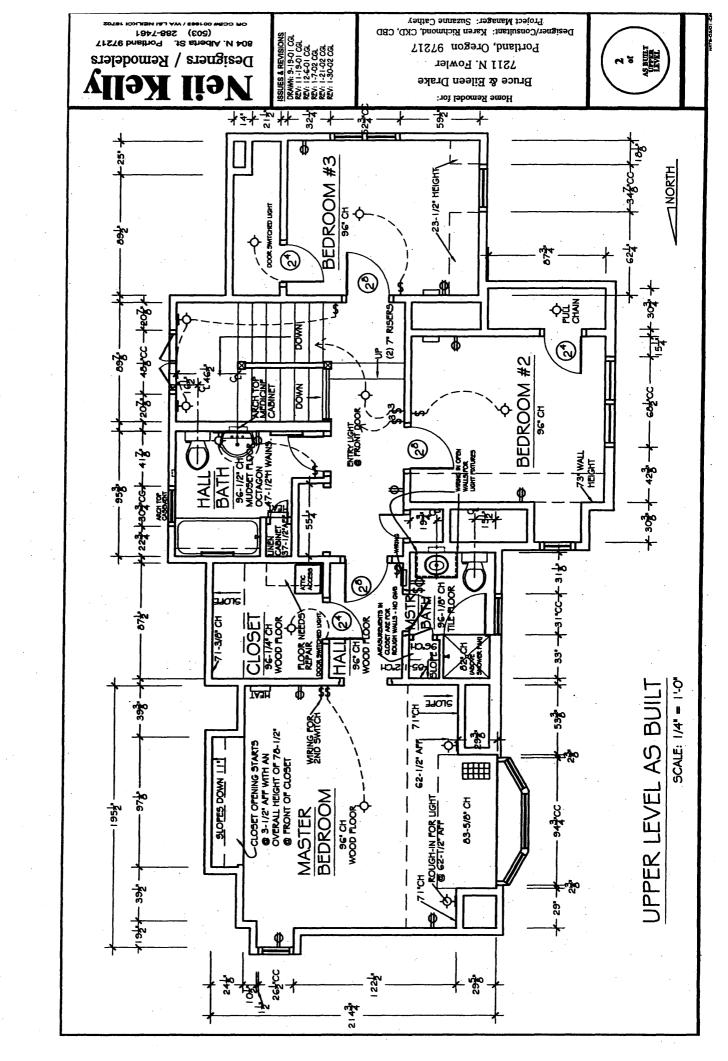
WEST COAST WOODS MODEL HOME Multnomah County, Oregon

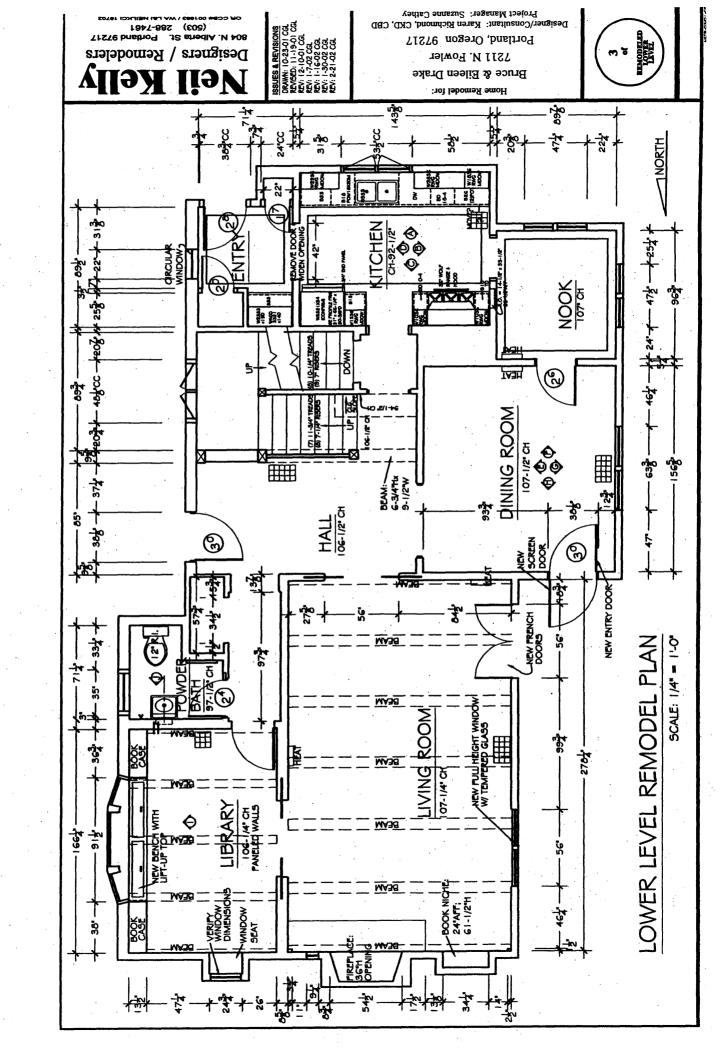


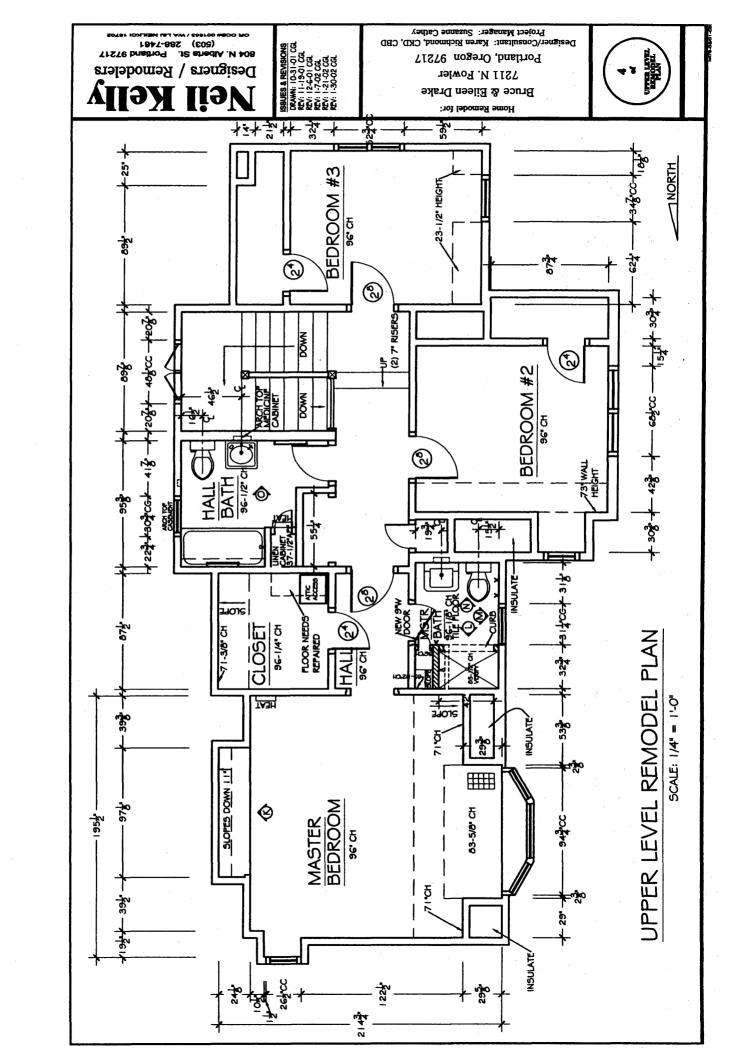


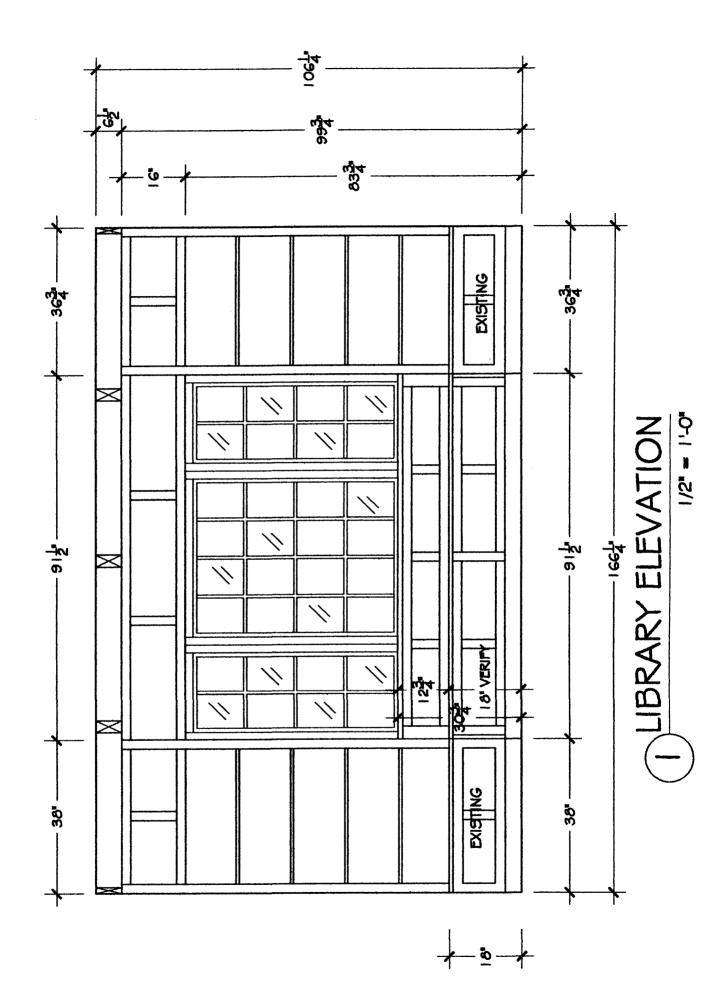
Site Plan

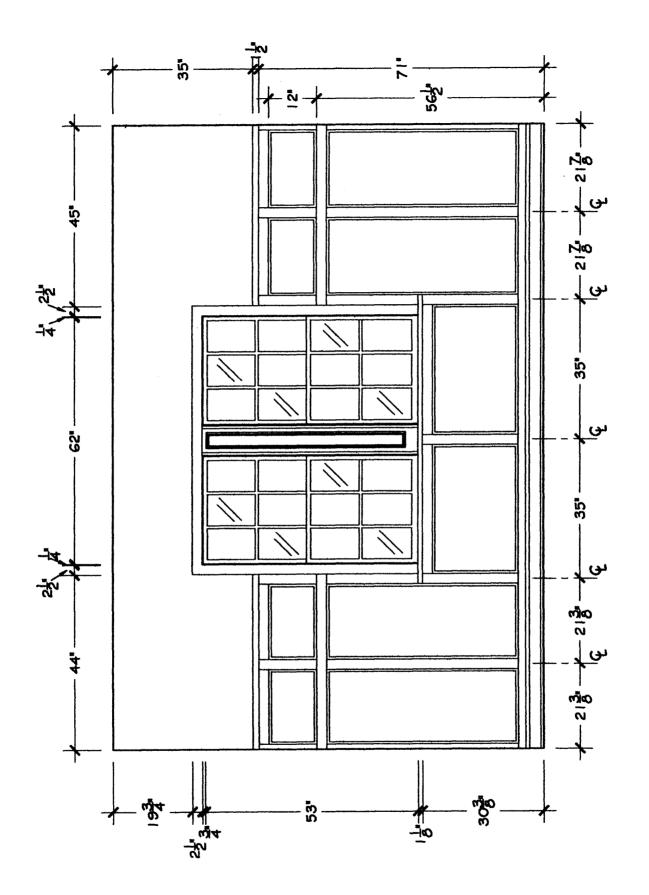












GDINING ROOM - WEST WALL

