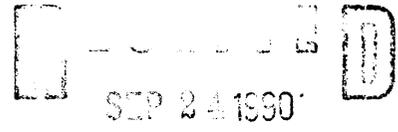


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



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 Fetzner, Joseph, House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 314 NE Fetzner Street N/A not for publication  
city, town Grants Pass N/A vicinity  
state Oregon code OR county Josephine code 033 zip code 97526

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>2</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> objects
			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.  
James M. Hamrick September 15, 1990  
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:) \_\_\_\_\_  
for Signature of the Keeper 10/25/90 Date of Action

Entered in the  
National Register

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Queen Anne-Eastlake

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---

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brickwalls weatherboard

---

roof wood: shakesother windows: glasschimney: brick

---

porch stairs: concrete

---

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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Continuation Sheet

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The house of Joseph Fetzner is a one and one-half story Late Victorian Queen Anne-Eastlake cottage based on vernacular types. Built in 1894 for Joseph Fetzner at 314 NE Fetzner Street, Grants Pass, Oregon in the northeast section known as Jonathan Bourne Jr.'s First Addition to the Original Townsite.

It stands on a rise at southwest corner of the once 2.22/60-acre farm overlooking 8th and Fetzner Street, a private road in 1894, one-half mile from the Oregon and California Railroad Depot, the hub of town and reason for settlement in 1883. Fetzner Street is bound west and east by 8th and 9th streets two blocks north of Grants Pass High School, (1910).

The rectangular 67'X28' house rests on post and pier foundation enclosed by a brick perimeter wall two to three and one-half feet above grade. Framed using the balloon method, it is clad with milled 1"X6" V-groove shiplap, having five inch exposure and butted to cornerboards. Horizontal drop siding terminates in a simple drip cap.

A prominent feature of the modest cottage is the bay window treatment on the west elevation consisting of two 4'X6' windows and a diagonally placed door. A distinctive type of pent roof and return form a hood, heavily bracketed with pendill over the single diagonal window. The front facing window of the bay is symmetrically framed by a bracket corresponding in shape, fret, design and relative location. It further marks the beginning of the covered wrap-around veranda which rests on brick columns joined by an open woodwork pattern and approached by two concrete staircases with three and four steps. Beveled posts and pilasters are linked by decorative balustrade and handrails. The architrave supports a spindle course and scroll brackets. The handrails and spindle course were made by present owners prior to discovery of historical photos and based on scallop eave trim. Owners have since reproduced and duplicated the original pattern. A simple 4'X8' porch at the north end of the east elevation is under cover of the gabled main roof.

The cottage main volume is dominated by a multi-level hip roof clad in shakes, from which three hip roof dormers and two corble-capped interior chimneys rise. It terminates in a Swedish gambrel dropping to a single story composition-shingle gable roof covering the northern end of the house. A non-historic 12'X20' carport has been added to the north elevation. The roof replacement in shakes, rather than shingles, was a recent improvement that will be reversed in due course.

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Fenestration is more or less regular. Half-story windows are generally casement, including a 20 light window beneath a colored fanlight. At ground level, all but the service porch windows are rectangular, plain and fitted with one-over-one double hung sash. A majority have vintage lights. Vertical casings and mullions are topped with simple convex pyramid blocks. There are three exterior doors, two with single lights above raised and molded horizontal panels. A fourth exterior door with eleven lights over vertical panels, and staircase were removed after a fire of undetermined age. The once removed door is presently installed between kitchen and service porch.

Originally the central-hall, two room plan measured 44'X28'. To the left of the central-hall/common room, separate doors opened to a large kitchen with woodburning stove and a bedchamber. To the right double pocket doors opened to the parlor with interior diagonal fireplace and a south entrance vestibule as well as a bedchamber which could be entered from either the central-hall or parlor. A bedchamber and sitting room with wood stove are above the kitchen and central-hall area. Exterior stairs to the upper level were removed per the aforementioned fire and are undergoing construction in closet space off the kitchen. Beneath the kitchen an excavated concrete unfinished basement with coal shoot measures 12'X28'.

Interior wood trim and horizontal raised panel doors throughout the formal living areas are varnished fir, never painted. Window and door casings are fluted with like corner blocks. Lath and plaster walls are ten feet, having hand picked, birds-eye fir, raised panel wainscot, from floor to sills, stucco mold picture rails and nine and one-half inch baseboards capped with heavy chair molding. Each room has floor and/or baseboard grillwork registers. Ornate brass hardware and mother-of-pearl and brass button switches are original installations as well as matched hanging cast and glass bowl electric fixtures in central hall, parlor and vestibule. The main bathroom has a watercloset and clawfoot tub dated 1931. Current renovation of the bathroom uncovered reading materials of 1935 used as insulation in the 1930s plumbing update and wall repair.

Some years after 1894, construction began on a two story 22'X28' addition at the north elevation. Little is known about the addition, but that it is seen in historic pictures taken by the Fetzner family pre 1925. Present owners speculate the addition was a rental unit based on construction, material and design. The exterior being equal to the main house material, type and quality, but with interior walls of finish board, simple painted wood trim and eight foot ceilings. Presently a small bedroom, bath, sitting room, half kitchen/hallway and mutual service porch make up the floor space of the addition, used as a guest house and joined to the main body by a pocket door between the addition and kitchen.

The house was erected at the southwest corner of the small farm with the greatest expanse and ornate facade facing 8th street. A 35 foot wrap-around veranda played a

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significant roll in the Fetzner, Joseph, House history, when in the mid-1950s lot splits reduced the property to .47 acre and the 8th Street frontage sold. The house was 57 years old in 1951 when the number "755" at the 8th Street door was removed and the number "314" placed at the southern elevation entrance on Fetzner Street. For the past 38 years the house has born the present address: 314 NE Fetzner Street.

In 1955 the historic carriagehouse to the northeast of the house was razed at the request of owners of the time, Elmer & Bernice Storm. The foundation can still be seen, from out the the east elevation dormer, on property currently owned by V. Welo. The present owner, Richard Peterson, has built a 30'X40' carriage house stylized to match the residence in design and material and in line with the original carriagehouse but within the boundries of the nominated property.

The double tax lot (.47 acre) provides a natural environ for the Fetzner, Joseph, House today as it did nearly a century ago. In c. 1900 photos, a mid-size cedar and maple grew on the west elevation beyond the bay windows. They have grown to provide a canopy for the Fetzner, Joseph, House and two adjacent yards. The cedar now stands 125 feet tall and the maple measures 12 feet in circumference. A branch of the maple tree has enveloped a bird house perch, nailed to it many years ago, and forever will hold it captive. Four giant black oaks at the north and east elevations were likely instrumental in the choice of building sites, as was a noble white oak at the gravel drive entrance, which rose high above the roofline 90 years ago, and which stands perilously close to Fetzner Street today and probable right-of-way, should sidewalks be mandated.

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Addendum to FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894) Application for Nomination To Preservation of Historic Places .

With regards the Fetzner, Joseph, House (1894) application and per the request of the State Advisory Committee at the February 16, 1990 meeting, the following changes and restorations have been made to the wrap around porch and continuous cornice of the South elevation:

- A. CHANGES
1. Removal of porch handrails, decorative balustrade, scroll brackets and spindell course put in place in 1987 by current owners.
  2. Removal of shakes on pent roof of wrap around porch, put in place in 1983 by past owner Forrest Gardner, as part of a "main-body" reroofing.
- B. RESTORATION
1. Duplication and placement of cornice scalloping between hip and pent roof lines forming a continuous crest on the pent roof.
  2. Return of number-one cedar shingles to the pent roof and replacement of rotting portions of under structure.
  3. Reproduction and placement of porch brackets per historic photos.
  4. Duplication and return of molded pine handrails measuring three and one-half inches wide and three inches deep.
  5. Duplication and restorariion of the historic balustade of Chinese influence, made of hand milled one and three-quarter by one and three-quarter inch verticle posts and offset horizontal bars.

It was noted by the committee that the shake roof installed in 1983 by a previous owner should be returned to shingles when replacement is needed. We will be happy to abide by that requirement. Further, we have begun the paperwork preparatory to the roofline cresting, corner finials and corner hip board construction and installation. Attached is a pattern of what we envision as an accurate duplication of the arch and fluer de leis cresting pattern. We are more than happy to recieve suggestions from the learned committee and appreciate your comments. We are still researching the finial pattern.

**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

1894  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1894  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

See continuation sheet

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
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Josephine County Historical Society,  
Grants Pass OR 97526

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property 0.47 acres Grants Pass, Oregon 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	0
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4	7	3	8	6	0
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4	6	9	9	2	4	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone Easting Northing

D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is located in NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 17, Township 36S, Range 5W, Willamette Meridian, in Josephine County, Oregon. It is legally described as Tax Lot 700, Block J, Bourne's First Addition to the Original Plat of Grants Pass.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property encompasses the entire tax lot presently associated with the suburban house built for Joseph Fetzner in 1894.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Joan A. Peterson  
organization Property owner date November 24, 1989; revised  
street & number 314 NE Fetzner Street telephone (503) 479-4461 May 11, 1990  
city or town Grants Pass state Oregon zip code 97526

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The one and one-half-story hip-roofed farmhouse of frame construction of Joseph Fetzner in northeast Grants Pass is a vernacular variant of architecture in the Queen Anne/Eastlake style. It was built in 1894. It is an example, rare locally, of a commonplace cottage type made distinctive by the high style of certain of its decorative features. As such, it meets National Register Criterion C for local significance. The house occupies an oak-studded parcel fronting on Fetzner Street, near the intersection of North Eighth, where it overlooks acreage that Fetzner deeded to the city for public right of way purposes. In addition to the house, the half-acre parcel is improved with a non-historic carriage house/garage and an 8 x 10-foot shed which are non-contributing features of the property. The house was the central developed feature of Joseph Fetzner's suburban farm of slightly more than two acres. The original carriage house no longer stands, although its foundation is evident on a separately-held adjoining lot.

Originally, the shiplap-clad house was configured as a narrow, 28-foot wide rectangular volume resting on a post and pier foundation enclosed by a brick perimeter wall. To the main volume a two-story ell was later attached at the north end by means of an enclosed breezeway connection. The front, or cottage volume has a longitudinal gambrel roof and a hip-roofed front entrance pavilion and projecting polygonal parlor bay on the west side elevation. Hip-roofed dormers break the roofline on either side elevation, and the roof originally was crested with fancy cut-out work. The roofing shingles recently were replaced with shakes. The distinguishing feature of the cottage front is a veranda having bracketed and chamfered posts and pent roof and boxed cornice which wraps around the southwest corner. The original solid fascia board and Chinoiserie fretwork railing of the veranda were replicated recently by the current owners. The central brick chimney with corbelled necking is intact. The gable-roofed rear addition, believed to have been a boarding house wing, was reduced to a single story volume following a fire which destroyed the upper story in the 1950s. A car port canopy was added at the north end of the ell in recent years.

Jetties over beveled corners of the parlor window bay are decorated with fancy console brackets and conventional corner drop ornaments, or pendills. Typically, window openings are generously proportioned and fitted with double-hung sash with one-over-one lights.

The interior, organized on a modified central entry hall plan, retains its original layout, door and window trim and baseboards with crown moldings. Windows and doors are distinctive for their architraves in which vertical and

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horizontal beading is made continuous through corner blocks with curved sections. Spandrel panels below parlor windows are hand-figured in imitation of fancy grained wood.

Joseph Fetzner (1855-1925) brought his young family to Grants Pass from Minnesota in 1893. The builder of his farmhouse is undocumented, but it is thought possible Fetzner, the son of German immigrants, acted as his own builder. In any case, the house meets National Register Criterion C for its significance as the singular example of its vernacular type in Grants Pass.

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The one and one-half-story vernacular Queen Anne cottage built for Joseph Fetzner in 1894 is an outstanding example of a harmonious blend of Late Victorian elegance and conservative traditions preserved by German speaking immigrants for over 100 years, not otherwise demonstrated in this area. The rural farmhouse feeling remains in tact on the .47 acre site under cover of the same giant oaks, cedar and maple tree that have graced it for a near century. The Fetzner, Joseph, House is significant under criterion C. The Mayors Advisory Committee on Historical Preservation made on-site tours and 544 evaluations in October 1981 using Portland, Oregon rating system devised for completion of the Old Town historical survey. The Fetzner, Joseph, House recieved maximum points in all four categories of physical condition, importance to the neighborhood, architectural and historical interest for an "exceptional" rating of 60 points.

The house perhaps is vaguely illustrative of the broad theme of cultural immigration at the end of the 19th Century and the perpetuation of folk traditions in architecture.

The architect is unknown. However, a search of the community for comparable examples shows the house to be remarkably unlike others of the period and area with a single exception and the scarcity suggests the possibility that Joseph Fetzner (1855-1925) was both architect and carpenter of the single family home.

A feature that is traditional, or "Old World," is the central chimney with an open fireplace and apertures connecting stoves to the upper level, and until recently the adjacent room. Perhaps the most common feature of German influence is the pent roof of distinctive German variety with a definite overlapping break between the upper and lower slopes. But for those distinct differences a comparable in size and integrity could be made to the historically designated Frank J. Miller House in Albany, Or., c. 1898. Locally a striking number of similarities of material and carpentry exist between the nominated house and a younger, larger, and well maintained two story Victorian at 773 NW 2nd Street, Grants Pass. A third comparable with a lesser number of similarities is located at the southwest corner of 7th and A Streets, Grants Pass, a very large two story Victorian undergoing restoration as a health care-halfway house. Of the two comparables, the Mayors Committee

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of October 1981 gave the 2nd Street property a "excellent" 40 point rating. The 7th and "A" Street Victorian was unrated. I submit that the pioneer spirit of immigrants and early settlers and a city in infancy are best exemplified by the smaller Fetzner, Joseph, House, nearly perfect in original integrity in an area of Grants Pass as yet unrecognized historically.

Born February 1, 1855 in Findlay, Ohio, Joseph Fetzner was the last and only American-born child of the John Fetzners, German emigres, who came from Baden Germany and the Rhine Valley c. 1852. One can surmise from the 1860 Hancock County, Ohio census that John Fetzner, farmer and father of five was widowed after the birth of Joseph, for Susan Dileman, (80), also of Baden Germany was the only adult female resident of the household. At some point Joseph Fetzner migrated to Minnesota and in 1891 married Bertha Lulu, (1867-1935), also of German parents. After the birth of their daughter Cora Theresa, January 1893, they moved west and settled in the Rogue Valley as so many German/American pioneers did, in search of fertile soil.

On June 1, 1893 they purchased two lots at the southwest corner of D & 6th Streets in Grants Pass, currently the heart of town, and so began a lifelong commitment. On May 15, 1894, for \$475.00 W.H. Fayle sold Joseph Fetzner 2.22/60 acres of unimproved farmland in Lot 3, Blk. J of Jonathan Bourne Jrs. First Addition to the Original Townsite, on which to build a home. The house was complete by year-end and Joseph Fetzner paid property taxes March 27, 1895 for land and improvements. Heretofore, the property was listed as unimproved but from the time of Mr. Fetzners first assessment and until 1902 the property (land) continued to appreciate while the improvements depreciated at a rate equal to 2% a year, pointing rather conclusively to a construction date of 1894.

The home of Joseph Fetzner was witness to the birth of his daughter, Lulu Ruth, May 23, 1897, and the marriage of daughter Cora on June 24, 1919 to Perrie Gunning, son of a pioneering family. During the war, 1917-1918 the Girls Honor Guard met in the parlor to make American flags, a show of patriotism. Senior citizens of today were youngsters in the early 1900s and recall the milk wagon and mail carrier calling on the Fetzners by way of the private dirt road, long since designated as Fetzner Street. They remember a quiet, frugal German/American who kept-the-books of local tradesmen, preferred dealing in cash to public banking, hunted and fished with men friends and waited patiently while the wife tended neighbor ladies during childbirth. It will always be known that Joseph Fetzner and a small group of prominate men organized the Grants Pass Commandery of Knights Templar, Melita # 8, a Masonic order still active today and who were given credit "for sharing a responsible part in the early development of Grants Pass". As an officer for five years and a member for 22, he was accorded a Masonic funeral service following his death at midnight, Christmas morning, 1925.

Following the deaths of Joseph and later Bertha Fetzner, their daughters and only heirs sold the Fetzner holdings of 43 years. The chronology of owners and alterations to the nominated property are:

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Dates of Ownership	Owner Names	Alterations/Additions/Deletions
10/ 6/1937 3/31/1944	Roy & Mary Hackett	Sold one acre of property north of the house. Replumbed and remodeled bath concealing exterior pipes and adding a molded cast iron bathtub. Religious periodicals and a Liberty magazine dated 1935 were used as insulation in the repair of the exterior walls.
3/31/1944 7/28/1945	Dave & Dorothy Franklin & Clark & Frances Franklin	
7/28/1945 6/11/1956	Claud & Nellie Houghton (& later) Claud & Pearle Houghton	Built a duplex on the southwest corner of the property, (corner of 8th & Fetzner Streets), moved in, and sold the Fetzner, Joseph, House and the property east of the house as a separate parcel.
6/11/1956 8/11/1957	Elmer & Bernice Storm	Razed carriagehouse and sold property surrounding it (east of the Fetzner, Joseph, House), reducing the nominated property to the present size.
8/11/1957 7/10/1960	Vesta Dillinger	A non-descript building permit was issued at this time for \$1800.00 and it may be that the upper level fire took place during this ownership and roofline and exterior stairs to the north elevation "addition" changed and removed, 4/7/1959.
7/10/1960 7/ 7/1971	Chester & Lorreta Sappington	
7/ 7/1971 6/ 9/1984	Forrest Gardner	Installed forced-air heating system in basement. Framed a 24 inch doorway between the kitchen and bedroom and a second between kitchen and guest quarters, both without doors. Built 10'X8' plywood storage shed with windows and tin roof.
6/ 9/1984 5/ 6/1986	Mary Drake	
5/ 6/1986 8/ 8/1986	Larry Drake, Michael Drake & Donald Drake	
8/ 8/1986 to present	Richard & Joan Peterson	Built 30'X40' carriagehouse with 2 sets batten carriage doors and single covered entry door. Made of 5inch exposure T&G groove siding and shake roof.

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Present owners have upgraded electrical wiring where necessary and retained the post and spool where feasible. The chimneys have been regROUTED and a stainless steel lining inserted in one. Exterior porch railings and spindell course were added prior to discovery of historical photos. Owners are willing to duplicate originals as well as add trim to rooftop. Stairs that were removed after the upper level fire are being constructed within closet space off the kitchen area. Likewise, closet space from the southeast bedroom has been added to the main bath and a watercloset installed. Bathroom ceilings lowered during the Hackett ownership have been raised to original height. Original cabinets have been moved to service porch serving as pantry space and oak cabinetry with glass, tin & victorian oak fronts have been installed in the kitchen.

Present owners plan a new water service installation and the exterior wood is being prepared for painting in keeping with original colors (white, black trim, natural doors) and a light tan of their choosing.

The framed passageways (installed during the Gardner ownership) have had a pocket door installed between guest quarters and kitchen and also widened the 24 inch opening between kitchen and bedroom to a width of five feet and height of eight feet with sunburst spandrel. The bedroom serves as a "morning room" complimentary to the kitchen.

Present owners do not have strong feelings about the change in roof line on the north elevation "addition". They would be willing to reconstruct the roofline if economically feasible and deemed necessary by the committee (SHPO).

Floors in the guest quarters and kitchen area previously covered in linoleum have been leveled and covered in vinyl. The upper level bedroom floor has been carpeted and the floor burned out in the adjoining sitting room rebuilt and covered in vinyl.

General renovation includes painting or repapering of walls previously wall-papered and painted over.

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- Telephone Conversation, George Holmbeck, Fire Marshall City of Grants Pass, Oct.24, 1989, Grants Pass, Or.
- On site interview, George Aiken, Owner George's Tree Service, Nov.2, 1989, Grants Pass, Or.
- Thomas Tileston Waterman, The Dwellings of Colonial America, (North River Press, N.Y., 1950,) pg. 31 & 150
- Henry Lionel Williams & Ottalie K. Williams, A Guide to Old American Houses 1700-1900, (South Brunswick, N.Y., 1962,) Pg. 48 & 49
- Rosalind Clark, Architecture Oregon Style, (Portland, Or., 1983,) pg 90
- 1860 Cencus Vanburen Township in the County of Hancock, State of Ohio, Microfilm #0803982, pg 70, Family Research Library, LDS Church, Grants Pass, Or.
- 12th 1900 Cencus of Grants Pass Precinct North Supervisors Dist., Josephine County, Or., Microfilm Sheet #6, Josephine County Library, Grants Pass, Or.
- Josephine County Deed Records, June 2, 1893 Vol. 11, pg. 611 (Johnson-Fetzner), and May 15, 1894, Vol. 13, pg. 33 & 34 (Fayle -Fetzner) Josephine County Court House, Grants Pass, Oregon
- Rogue River Courier, microfilm, May 27, 1897 & Jan. 8, 1926, Josephine County Historical So. Grants Pass, Oregon
- Rogue River Courier, clippings, June 24, 1919 and Dec. 26, 1925, Josephine County Historical Society, Grants Pass, Or.
- In person interview, Pauline (Mead) Shier, (D.O.B. Mar. 28, 1903,) Nov. 1986, Grants Pass, Or.
- In person Interview, Verne Welo, Oct. 1986, Grants Pass, Or.
- Telephone conversation, Albert Donley Barnes, Past sheriff & Co. clerk, (D.O.B. Mar.1, 1906,) Nov. 1986 and Oct. 1989, Grants Pass, Or.
- Telephone Conversation, Doris Webber, (D.O.B. 1910,) October and November 1989, Grants Pass, Or
- Grants Pass Courier, Golden Anniversary Edition, April 3, 1935, article, Fifth Section, Civic, pg. 5, Josephine County Historical Society, Grants Pass, Or.
- Correspondence. Headquarters Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, June 15, 1903, Masonic Temple, Grants Pass, Or.

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Percy T. Booth, Grants Pass, The Golden Years 1884-1984 Centennial Souvenir Album, (1984 Grants Pass Centennial Commission), Grants Pass, Or.

Key Title & Escrow Company, Abstract of Title for 314 NE Fetzner St., Grants Pass, Or. Probate #84-135-P and 85-P-181, Grants Pass, Or.

Josephine County Deed Records, Vol 13 pg 33-34; Vol 61 pg 214; vol 103 pg 636; Vol 113 pg 136; Vol 136 pg 938-39; Vol 168 pg 137; Vol 186 pg 150; Vol 190 pg 353-54; Vol 209 pg 24-25; Vol 276 pg 166; Vol 76 pg 283; Josephine County Court House, Grants Pass, Or.

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Commencing at an iron pipe where the North line of Fetzner Street intersects with the East line of North 8th Street in the City of Grants Pass, Oregon; thence East along the North line of Fetzner Street 111.3 feet to the truepoint of beginning; thence East along the North line of Fetzner Street 135 feet to the southwest corner of a parcel of land described in Volume 194, Page 343 Josephine County, Oregon, Deed Records; thence North 170 feet, more or less, to the Northwest corner of said parcel described in Volume 194, Page 343, Josephine County, Oregon, Deed Records; thence West 115 feet to the Northeast corner of a parcel of land described in Volume 195, Page 285, Josephine County, Oregon, Deed Records; thence South  $3^{\circ}$  West 84.4 feet; thence North  $69^{\circ}45'$  West 10 feet, more or less, to a point that lies North  $3^{\circ}$  East from the point of beginning; thence South  $3^{\circ}$  West to the point of beginning, being located in Lot 3 of Block J of BOURNE'S FIRST ADDITION to the city of Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon. LESS AND EXCEPT: Commencing at an iron pipe where the North line of Fetzner Street intersects with the East line of North Eighth Street, City of Grants Pass, thence North  $23^{\circ}15'$  East along the Easterly line of said North Eighth Street 117.7 Feet; thence South  $69^{\circ}45'$  East 84.4 feet to the true point of beginning; thence North  $3^{\circ}$  East 84.4 feet; thence East 12 feet; thence South to the true point of beginning. The above described parcel of land being located in Lot 3, Block J of BOURNE'S FIRST ADDITION in the city of Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number          Photos          Page     1    

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FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894)

HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPH AND PHOTO REPRINTS (2)

Originals and negatives on file at Josephine County Historical Society, 508 SW 5th Street, Grants Pass, Or. 97526.

- 1 Fetzner, Joseph, House (1894)  
314 NE Fetzner Street  
Grants Pass, Josephine Co., Oregon  
Photographer: Unknown  
Date: c. 1903-1905  
Description: South elevation entrance facing Fetzner Street. Mrs. Joseph (Bertha) Fetzner and daughters Cora and Lulu Ruth are in the photograph.
  
- 2 Fetzner, Joseph, House (1894)  
314 NE Fetzner Street  
Grants Pass, Josephine Co., Oregon  
Photographer: Unknown  
Date: C.1900-1910  
Description: West elevation as seen from 8th street.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page 2

FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894)

All Photographs numbered three (3) thru twenty-six (26) are of the FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894), located at 314 NE Fetzner Street, Grants Pass, Josephine Co., Oregon. All photographs were taken by Karen Katsinis on November 22, 1989 and all negatives are in the possession of the R.C. Petersons at 314 NE Fetzner Street, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526.

Photo#

- 3 Panoramic view of Fetzner, Joseph, House and property from Fetzner Street to the south.
- 4 South elevation
- 5 South elevation veranda
- 6 West elevation
- 7 Northwest elevation
- 8 North elevation
- 9 Northeast elevation
- 10 East elevation
- 11 Southeast elevation
- 12 Southeast entrance from wrap-around veranda to vestibule.
- 13 West entrance from wrap-around veranda to main hall.
- 14 Exterior view of west elevation bay window at west side of main hall.
- 15 West elevation diagonal bay window under pent roof and hood.
- 16 Detail view of bay window hood; pyramid corner blocks on window casings; trim between boxed eaves of hip and pent roofs.
- 17 Bay window area of main hall looking west toward 8th Street.
- 18 Raised panel wainscot beneath windows of main hall and parlor of hand-picked birds-eye fir.
- 19 Main hall pocket doors to parlor and door to west elevation veranda.
- 20 Interior diagonal fireplace in parlor located between pocket doors to parlor and door to bedchamber.
- 21 Aperture for upstairs wood stove, (rising from parlor fireplace below).
- 22 Ceiling cast-and-bowl electrical fixture in parlor. (Matching single and triple bowl fixtures are in main hall and vestibule).
- 23 Privacy hall to bathroom, taken from south bedchamber doorway.
- 24 Kitchen with "Estate stove", taken from morning room to the east.
- 25 Morning room and entry to half-story staircase.
- 26 Bathroom off privacy hall.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

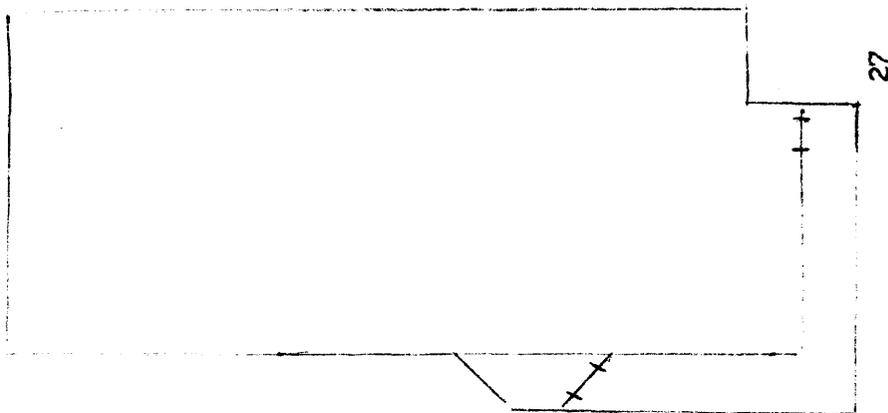
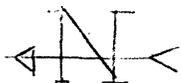
Section number Photos Page 3

FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894)

Photographs numbered twenty seven (27) thru twenty nine (29) are of the Southern elevation of the FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894), located at 314 NE Fetzner Street, Grants Pass, Josephine Co., Oregon. They were taken March 28, 1990 by Richard G. Peterson to indicate completion of reproduction and placement of historic elements to porch. Negatives are in the possession of the R.G. Petersons at 314 NE Fetzner Street, Grants Pass, Oregon, 97526.

- 27. Southeast entrance of wrap around porch
- 28. South elevation
- 29. Southwest elevation of wrap around porch

Numbers indicate position of photographer keyed to photograph unnumber



28

29

NW 1/4 SEC 17 T36S R5W W.M.  
 JOSEPHINE COUNTY

1"=100'

SEE MAP 36 5 8CD

EVELYN (LEE ST.) AVE.

ST.

BOUNDARY

SEE J.R. WHITE SURVEY - 9-16-47

SEE SURVEY BY T.C. PEARCE OF 1951

LINE

FETZNER ST.

ST.

PHILIP'S

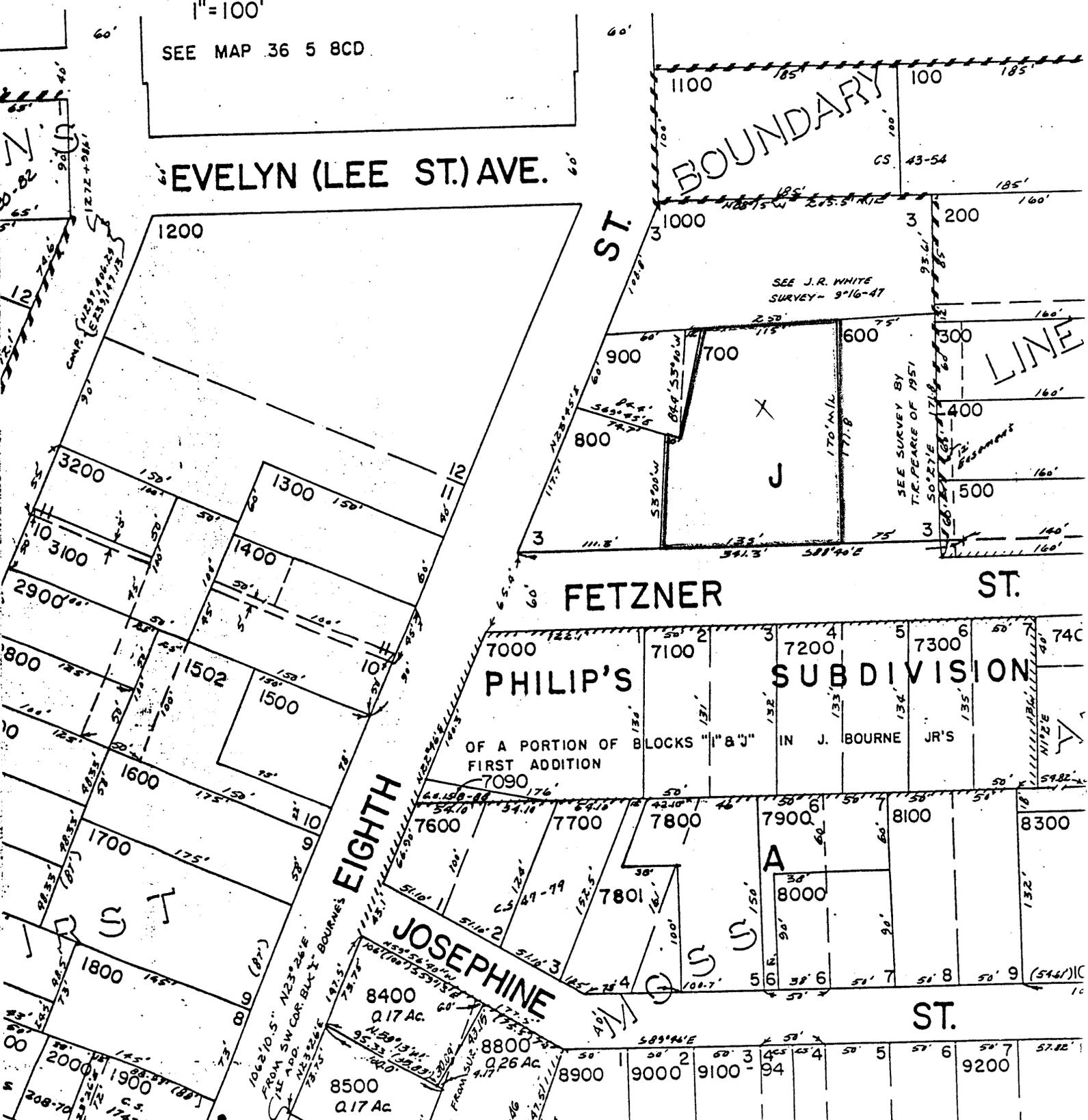
SUBDIVISION

OF A PORTION OF BLOCKS "1" & "J" IN J. BOURNE JR'S FIRST ADDITION 7090

EIGHTH ST.

JOSEPHINE

ST.

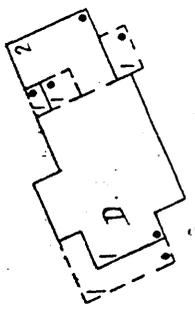
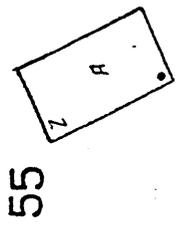


JOSEPH FETZNER PROPERTY  
SEPT. 30, 1930

837  
CITY COMPASS

8" W.P. (PROP)  
09

777



8TH STREET

FETZNER

755  
FETZNER

D.H.  
4" W.P.  
9" W.P. (PROP)  
751  
60

750

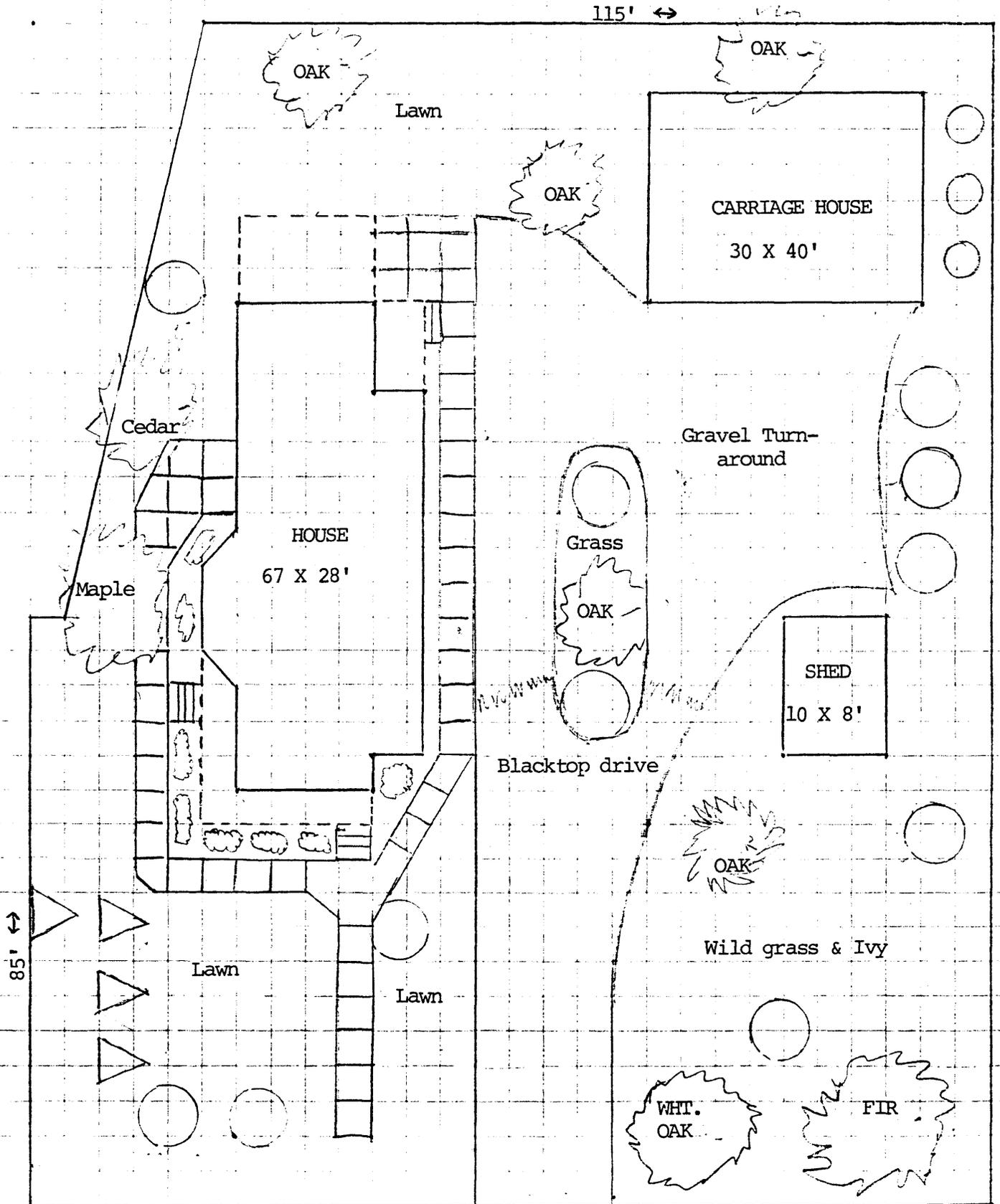
76





FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE

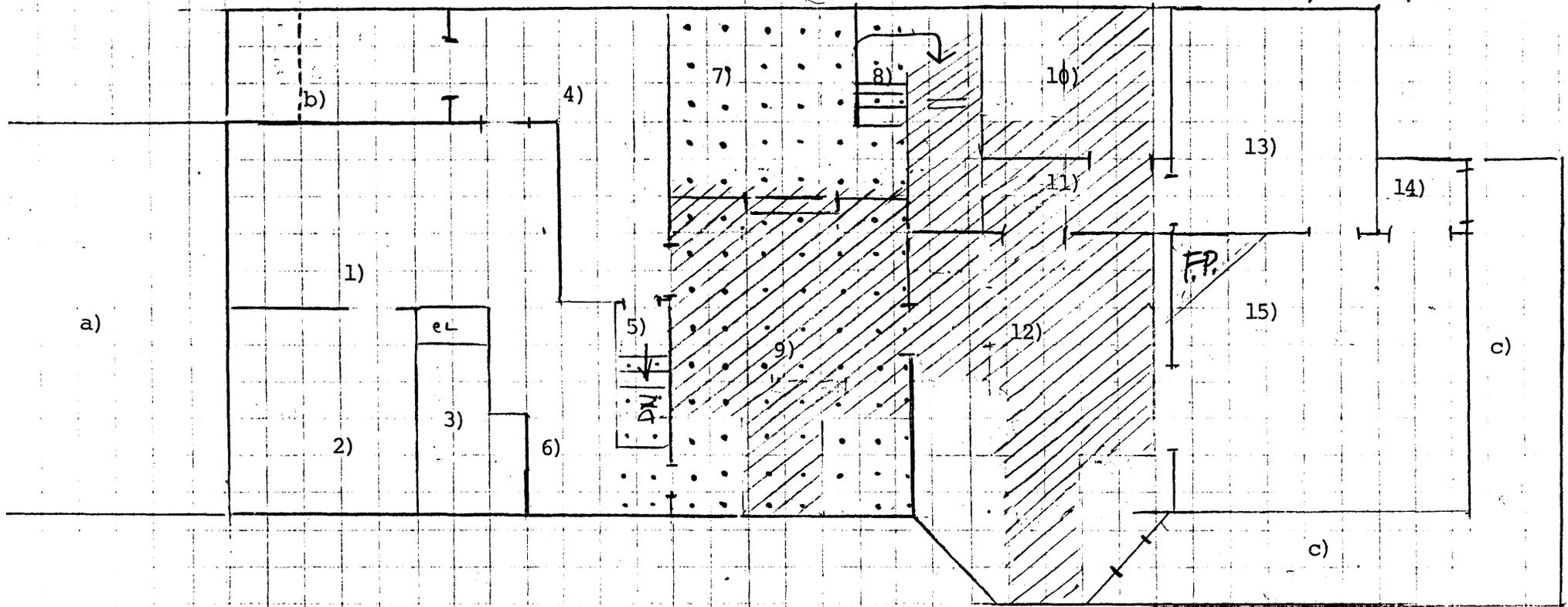
.47 Acre Lot Layout of Structures & Landscape



← 135' →

314 FETZNER STREET

-  Century Trees
-  Mature Trees
-  Young Trees

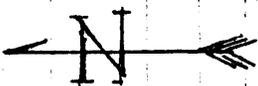


- 1) Carport 20 X 12'
- 2) Bedroom 11 X 10'
- 3) Bathroom 9 X 6"
- 4) Service porch 22 X 6'
- 5) Basement stairs-dn. 10 X 3'
- 6) ½ Kitchen/hall 11 X 7'
- 7) Morning Rm. 12 X 13'
- 8) Stairs-up 6 X 3'
- 9) Kitchen 17 X 13'
- 10) Bathroom 8 X 10'
- 11) Privacy Hall 4 X 14'
- 12) Main Hall 20 X 14'
- 13) Bedchamber 12 X 11'
- 14) Vestibule 4 X 5'
- 15) Parlor 15 X 16'
- c) Veranda



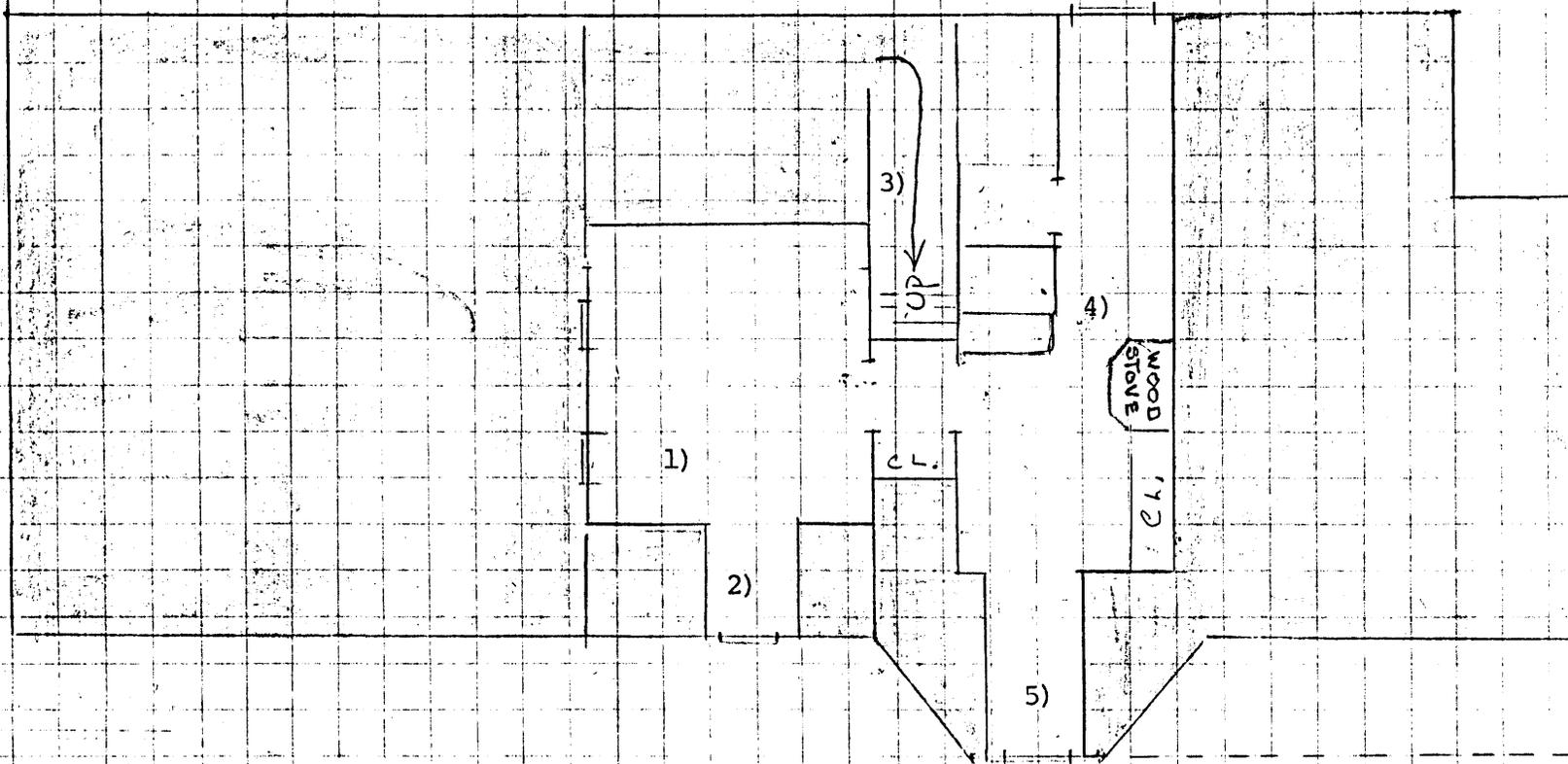
FIRST FLOOR

\* Shaded area represents 2nd level (Half-story)  
 \*\* Dotted area represents Basement Area



2ND LEVEL (HALF-STORY)

\* Shaded are represents First floor

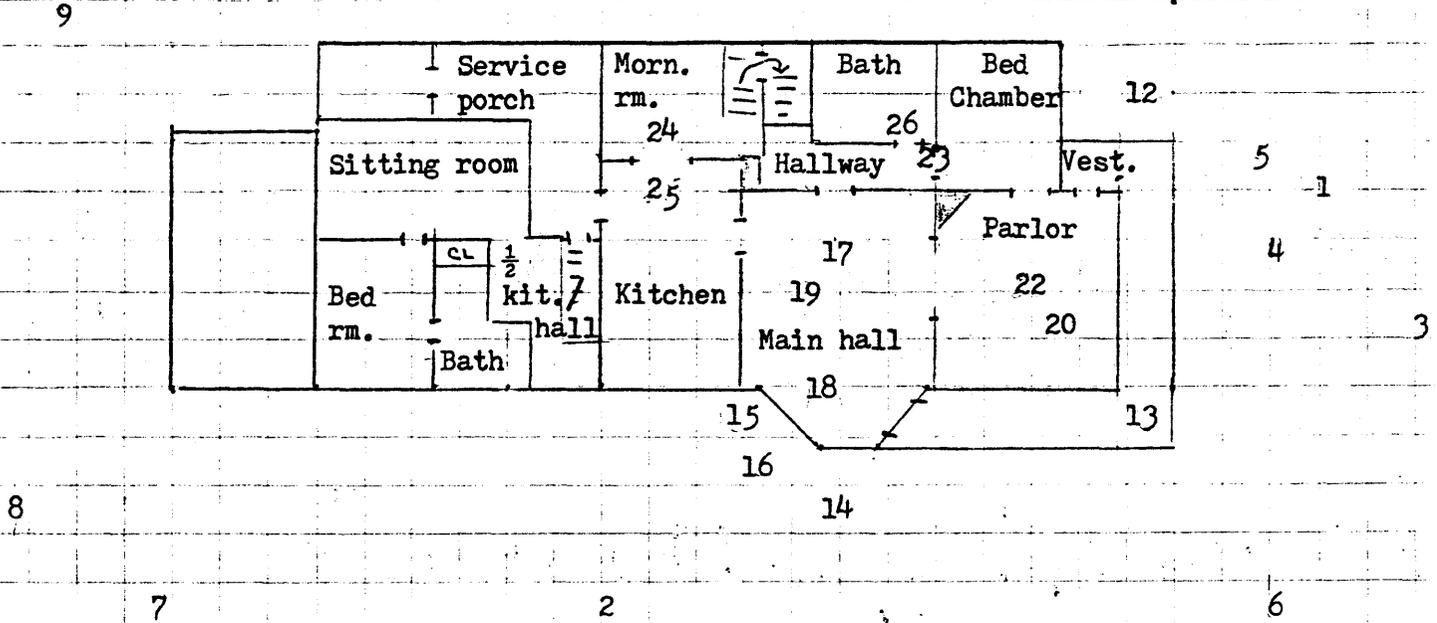


- |               |          |                 |         |                       |         |
|---------------|----------|-----------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| 1) Bedchamber | 11 X 12' | 3) Staircase-up | 14 X 4' | 4) Bath/dressing room | 26 X 9' |
| 2) Dormer     | 4 X 5'   |                 |         | 5) Light well         | 8 X 4'  |

10-2-21

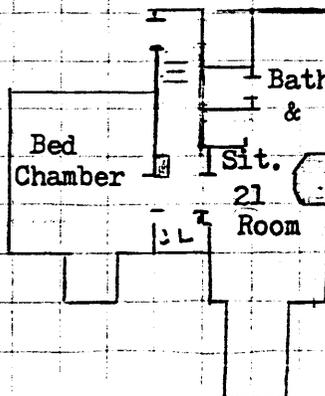


GROUND LEVEL

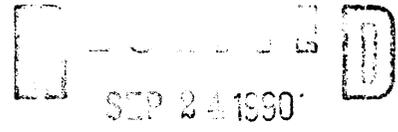


NUMBERS INDICATE POSITION OF PHOTOGRAPHER KEYED TO PHOTO NUMBER

2ND LEVEL (HALF-STORY)



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 Fetzner, Joseph, House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 314 NE Fetzner Street N/A not for publication  
city, town Grants Pass N/A vicinity  
state Oregon code OR county Josephine code 033 zip code 97526

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>2</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> objects
			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.  
James M. Hamrick September 15, 1990  
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:) \_\_\_\_\_  
for Signature of the Keeper 10/25/90 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 Victorian: Queen Anne-Eastlake

---

---

---

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brickwalls weatherboard

---

roof wood: shakesother windows: glasschimney: brick

---

porch stairs: concrete

---

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

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The house of Joseph Fetzner is a one and one-half story Late Victorian Queen Anne-Eastlake cottage based on vernacular types. Built in 1894 for Joseph Fetzner at 314 NE Fetzner Street, Grants Pass, Oregon in the northeast section known as Jonathan Bourne Jr.'s First Addition to the Original Townsite.

It stands on a rise at southwest corner of the once 2.22/60-acre farm overlooking 8th and Fetzner Street, a private road in 1894, one-half mile from the Oregon and California Railroad Depot, the hub of town and reason for settlement in 1883. Fetzner Street is bound west and east by 8th and 9th streets two blocks north of Grants Pass High School, (1910).

The rectangular 67'X28' house rests on post and pier foundation enclosed by a brick perimeter wall two to three and one-half feet above grade. Framed using the balloon method, it is clad with milled 1"X6" V-groove shiplap, having five inch exposure and butted to cornerboards. Horizontal drop siding terminates in a simple drip cap.

A prominent feature of the modest cottage is the bay window treatment on the west elevation consisting of two 4'X6' windows and a diagonally placed door. A distinctive type of pent roof and return form a hood, heavily bracketed with pendill over the single diagonal window. The front facing window of the bay is symmetrically framed by a bracket corresponding in shape, fret, design and relative location. It further marks the beginning of the covered wrap-around veranda which rests on brick columns joined by an open woodwork pattern and approached by two concrete staircases with three and four steps. Beveled posts and pilasters are linked by decorative balustrade and handrails. The architrave supports a spindle course and scroll brackets. The handrails and spindle course were made by present owners prior to discovery of historical photos and based on scallop eave trim. Owners have since reproduced and duplicated the original pattern. A simple 4'X8' porch at the north end of the east elevation is under cover of the gabled main roof.

The cottage main volume is dominated by a multi-level hip roof clad in shakes, from which three hip roof dormers and two corble-capped interior chimneys rise. It terminates in a Swedish gambrel dropping to a single story composition-shingle gable roof covering the northern end of the house. A non-historic 12'X20' carport has been added to the north elevation. The roof replacement in shakes, rather than shingles, was a recent improvement that will be reversed in due course.

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

Fenestration is more or less regular. Half-story windows are generally casement, including a 20 light window beneath a colored fanlight. At ground level, all but the service porch windows are rectangular, plain and fitted with one-over-one double hung sash. A majority have vintage lights. Vertical casings and mullions are topped with simple convex pyramid blocks. There are three exterior doors, two with single lights above raised and molded horizontal panels. A fourth exterior door with eleven lights over vertical panels, and staircase were removed after a fire of undetermined age. The once removed door is presently installed between kitchen and service porch.

Originally the central-hall, two room plan measured 44'X28'. To the left of the central-hall/common room, separate doors opened to a large kitchen with woodburning stove and a bedchamber. To the right double pocket doors opened to the parlor with interior diagonal fireplace and a south entrance vestibule as well as a bedchamber which could be entered from either the central-hall or parlor. A bedchamber and sitting room with wood stove are above the kitchen and central-hall area. Exterior stairs to the upper level were removed per the aforementioned fire and are undergoing construction in closet space off the kitchen. Beneath the kitchen an excavated concrete unfinished basement with coal shoot measures 12'X28'.

Interior wood trim and horizontal raised panel doors throughout the formal living areas are varnished fir, never painted. Window and door casings are fluted with like corner blocks. Lath and plaster walls are ten feet, having hand picked, birds-eye fir, raised panel wainscot, from floor to sills, stucco mold picture rails and nine and one-half inch baseboards capped with heavy chair molding. Each room has floor and/or baseboard grillwork registers. Ornate brass hardware and mother-of-pearl and brass button switches are original installations as well as matched hanging cast and glass bowl electric fixtures in central hall, parlor and vestibule. The main bathroom has a watercloset and clawfoot tub dated 1931. Current renovation of the bathroom uncovered reading materials of 1935 used as insulation in the 1930s plumbing update and wall repair.

Some years after 1894, construction began on a two story 22'X28' addition at the north elevation. Little is known about the addition, but that it is seen in historic pictures taken by the Fetzner family pre 1925. Present owners speculate the addition was a rental unit based on construction, material and design. The exterior being equal to the main house material, type and quality, but with interior walls of finish board, simple painted wood trim and eight foot ceilings. Presently a small bedroom, bath, sitting room, half kitchen/hallway and mutual service porch make up the floor space of the addition, used as a guest house and joined to the main body by a pocket door between the addition and kitchen.

The house was erected at the southwest corner of the small farm with the greatest expanse and ornate facade facing 8th street. A 35 foot wrap-around veranda played a

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3

significant roll in the Fetzner, Joseph, House history, when in the mid-1950s lot splits reduced the property to .47 acre and the 8th Street frontage sold. The house was 57 years old in 1951 when the number "755" at the 8th Street door was removed and the number "314" placed at the southern elevation entrance on Fetzner Street. For the past 38 years the house has born the present address: 314 NE Fetzner Street.

In 1955 the historic carriagehouse to the northeast of the house was razed at the request of owners of the time, Elmer & Bernice Storm. The foundation can still be seen, from out the the east elevation dormer, on property currently owned by V. Welo. The present owner, Richard Peterson, has built a 30'X40' carriage house stylized to match the residence in design and material and in line with the original carriagehouse but within the boundries of the nominated property.

The double tax lot (.47 acre) provides a natural environ for the Fetzner, Joseph, House today as it did nearly a century ago. In c. 1900 photos, a mid-size cedar and maple grew on the west elevation beyond the bay windows. They have grown to provide a canopy for the Fetzner, Joseph, House and two adjacent yards. The cedar now stands 125 feet tall and the maple measures 12 feet in circumference. A branch of the maple tree has enveloped a bird house perch, nailed to it many years ago, and forever will hold it captive. Four giant black oaks at the north and east elevations were likely instrumental in the choice of building sites, as was a noble white oak at the gravel drive entrance, which rose high above the roofline 90 years ago, and which stands perilously close to Fetzner Street today and probable right-of-way, should sidewalks be mandated.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Addendum to FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894) Application for Nomination To Preservation of Historic Places .

With regards the Fetzner, Joseph, House (1894) application and per the request of the State Advisory Committee at the February 16, 1990 meeting, the following changes and restorations have been made to the wrap around porch and continuous cornice of the South elevation:

- A. CHANGES
1. Removal of porch handrails, decorative balustrade, scroll brackets and spindell course put in place in 1987 by current owners.
  2. Removal of shakes on pent roof of wrap around porch, put in place in 1983 by past owner Forrest Gardner, as part of a "main-body" reroofing.
- B. RESTORATION
1. Duplication and placement of cornice scalloping between hip and pent roof lines forming a continuous crest on the pent roof.
  2. Return of number-one cedar shingles to the pent roof and replacement of rotting portions of under structure.
  3. Reproduction and placement of porch brackets per historic photos.
  4. Duplication and return of molded pine handrails measuring three and one-half inches wide and three inches deep.
  5. Duplication and restoration of the historic balustade of Chinese influence, made of hand milled one and three-quarter by one and three-quarter inch verticle posts and offset horizontal bars.

It was noted by the committee that the shake roof installed in 1983 by a previous owner should be returned to shingles when replacement is needed. We will be happy to abide by that requirement. Further, we have begun the paperwork preparatory to the roofline cresting, corner finials and corner hip board construction and installation. Attached is a pattern of what we envision as an accurate duplication of the arch and fluer de leis cresting pattern. We are more than happy to recieve suggestions from the learned committee and appreciate your comments. We are still researching the finial pattern.

**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

1894  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1894  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

See continuation sheet

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
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Josephine County Historical Society,  
Grants Pass OR 97526

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property 0.47 acres Grants Pass, Oregon 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	0
---	---

4	7	3	8	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	6	9	9	2	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

C 

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

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

B 

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

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

  
Zone Easting Northing

D 

--	--

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

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

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is located in NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 17, Township 36S, Range 5W, Willamette Meridian, in Josephine County, Oregon. It is legally described as Tax Lot 700, Block J, Bourne's First Addition to the Original Plat of Grants Pass.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property encompasses the entire tax lot presently associated with the suburban house built for Joseph Fetzner in 1894.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Joan A. Peterson  
organization Property owner date November 24, 1989; revised  
street & number 314 NE Fetzner Street telephone (503) 479-4461 May 11, 1990  
city or town Grants Pass state Oregon zip code 97526

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1A

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The one and one-half-story hip-roofed farmhouse of frame construction of Joseph Fetzner in northeast Grants Pass is a vernacular variant of architecture in the Queen Anne/Eastlake style. It was built in 1894. It is an example, rare locally, of a commonplace cottage type made distinctive by the high style of certain of its decorative features. As such, it meets National Register Criterion C for local significance. The house occupies an oak-studded parcel fronting on Fetzner Street, near the intersection of North Eighth, where it overlooks acreage that Fetzner deeded to the city for public right of way purposes. In addition to the house, the half-acre parcel is improved with a non-historic carriage house/garage and an 8 x 10-foot shed which are non-contributing features of the property. The house was the central developed feature of Joseph Fetzner's suburban farm of slightly more than two acres. The original carriage house no longer stands, although its foundation is evident on a separately-held adjoining lot.

Originally, the shiplap-clad house was configured as a narrow, 28-foot wide rectangular volume resting on a post and pier foundation enclosed by a brick perimeter wall. To the main volume a two-story ell was later attached at the north end by means of an enclosed breezeway connection. The front, or cottage volume has a longitudinal gambrel roof and a hip-roofed front entrance pavilion and projecting polygonal parlor bay on the west side elevation. Hip-roofed dormers break the roofline on either side elevation, and the roof originally was crested with fancy cut-out work. The roofing shingles recently were replaced with shakes. The distinguishing feature of the cottage front is a veranda having bracketed and chamfered posts and pent roof and boxed cornice which wraps around the southwest corner. The original solid fascia board and Chinoiserie fretwork railing of the veranda were replicated recently by the current owners. The central brick chimney with corbelled necking is intact. The gable-roofed rear addition, believed to have been a boarding house wing, was reduced to a single story volume following a fire which destroyed the upper story in the 1950s. A car port canopy was added at the north end of the ell in recent years.

Jetties over beveled corners of the parlor window bay are decorated with fancy console brackets and conventional corner drop ornaments, or pendills. Typically, window openings are generously proportioned and fitted with double-hung sash with one-over-one lights.

The interior, organized on a modified central entry hall plan, retains its original layout, door and window trim and baseboards with crown moldings. Windows and doors are distinctive for their architraves in which vertical and

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1B

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horizontal beading is made continuous through corner blocks with curved sections. Spandrel panels below parlor windows are hand-figured in imitation of fancy grained wood.

Joseph Fetzner (1855-1925) brought his young family to Grants Pass from Minnesota in 1893. The builder of his farmhouse is undocumented, but it is thought possible Fetzner, the son of German immigrants, acted as his own builder. In any case, the house meets National Register Criterion C for its significance as the singular example of its vernacular type in Grants Pass.

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The one and one-half-story vernacular Queen Anne cottage built for Joseph Fetzner in 1894 is an outstanding example of a harmonious blend of Late Victorian elegance and conservative traditions preserved by German speaking immigrants for over 100 years, not otherwise demonstrated in this area. The rural farmhouse feeling remains in tact on the .47 acre site under cover of the same giant oaks, cedar and maple tree that have graced it for a near century. The Fetzner, Joseph, House is significant under criterion C. The Mayors Advisory Committee on Historical Preservation made on-site tours and 544 evaluations in October 1981 using Portland, Oregon rating system devised for completion of the Old Town historical survey. The Fetzner, Joseph, House recieved maximum points in all four categories of physical condition, importance to the neighborhood, architectural and historical interest for an "exceptional" rating of 60 points.

The house perhaps is vaguely illustrative of the broad theme of cultural immigration at the end of the 19th Century and the perpetuation of folk traditions in architecture.

The architect is unknown. However, a search of the community for comparable examples shows the house to be remarkably unlike others of the period and area with a single exception and the scarcity suggests the possibility that Joseph Fetzner (1855-1925) was both architect and carpenter of the single family home.

A feature that is traditional, or "Old World," is the central chimney with an open fireplace and apertures connecting stoves to the upper level, and until recently the adjacent room. Perhaps the most common feature of German influence is the pent roof of distinctive German variety with a definite overlapping break between the upper and lower slopes. But for those distinct differences a comparable in size and integrity could be made to the historically designated Frank J. Miller House in Albany, Or., c. 1898. Locally a striking number of similarities of material and carpentry exist between the nominated house and a younger, larger, and well maintained two story Victorian at 773 NW 2nd Street, Grants Pass. A third comparable with a lesser number of similarities is located at the southwest corner of 7th and A Streets, Grants Pass, a very large two story Victorian undergoing restoration as a health care-halfway house. Of the two comparables, the Mayors Committee

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of October 1981 gave the 2nd Street property a "excellent" 40 point rating. The 7th and "A" Street Victorian was unrated. I submit that the pioneer spirit of immigrants and early settlers and a city in infancy are best exemplified by the smaller Fetzner, Joseph, House, nearly perfect in original integrity in an area of Grants Pass as yet unrecognized historically.

Born February 1, 1855 in Findlay, Ohio, Joseph Fetzner was the last and only American-born child of the John Fetzners, German emigres, who came from Baden Germany and the Rhine Valley c. 1852. One can surmise from the 1860 Hancock County, Ohio census that John Fetzner, farmer and father of five was widowed after the birth of Joseph, for Susan Dileman, (80), also of Baden Germany was the only adult female resident of the household. At some point Joseph Fetzner migrated to Minnesota and in 1891 married Bertha Lulu, (1867-1935), also of German parents. After the birth of their daughter Cora Theresa, January 1893, they moved west and settled in the Rogue Valley as so many German/American pioneers did, in search of fertile soil.

On June 1, 1893 they purchased two lots at the southwest corner of D & 6th Streets in Grants Pass, currently the heart of town, and so began a lifelong commitment. On May 15, 1894, for \$475.00 W.H. Fayle sold Joseph Fetzner 2.22/60 acres of unimproved farmland in Lot 3, Blk. J of Jonathan Bourne Jrs. First Addition to the Original Townsite, on which to build a home. The house was complete by year-end and Joseph Fetzner paid property taxes March 27, 1895 for land and improvements. Heretofore, the property was listed as unimproved but from the time of Mr. Fetzners first assessment and until 1902 the property (land) continued to appreciate while the improvements depreciated at a rate equal to 2% a year, pointing rather conclusively to a construction date of 1894.

The home of Joseph Fetzner was witness to the birth of his daughter, Lulu Ruth, May 23, 1897, and the marriage of daughter Cora on June 24, 1919 to Perrie Gunning, son of a pioneering family. During the war, 1917-1918 the Girls Honor Guard met in the parlor to make American flags, a show of patriotism. Senior citizens of today were youngsters in the early 1900s and recall the milk wagon and mail carrier calling on the Fetzners by way of the private dirt road, long since designated as Fetzner Street. They remember a quiet, frugal German/American who kept-the-books of local tradesmen, preferred dealing in cash to public banking, hunted and fished with men friends and waited patiently while the wife tended neighbor ladies during childbirth. It will always be known that Joseph Fetzner and a small group of prominate men organized the Grants Pass Commandery of Knights Templar, Melita # 8, a Masonic order still active today and who were given credit "for sharing a responsible part in the early development of Grants Pass". As an officer for five years and a member for 22, he was accorded a Masonic funeral service following his death at midnight, Christmas morning, 1925.

Following the deaths of Joseph and later Bertha Fetzner, their daughters and only heirs sold the Fetzner holdings of 43 years. The chronology of owners and alterations to the nominated property are:

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Dates of Ownership	Owner Names	Alterations/Additions/Deletions
10/ 6/1937 3/31/1944	Roy & Mary Hackett	Sold one acre of property north of the house. Replumbed and remodeled bath concealing exterior pipes and adding a molded cast iron bathtub. Religious periodicals and a Liberty magazine dated 1935 were used as insulation in the repair of the exterior walls.
3/31/1944 7/28/1945	Dave & Dorothy Franklin & Clark & Frances Franklin	
7/28/1945 6/11/1956	Claud & Nellie Houghton (& later) Claud & Pearle Houghton	Built a duplex on the southwest corner of the property, (corner of 8th & Fetzner Streets), moved in, and sold the Fetzner, Joseph, House and the property east of the house as a separate parcel.
6/11/1956 8/11/1957	Elmer & Bernice Storm	Razed carriagehouse and sold property surrounding it (east of the Fetzner, Joseph, House), reducing the nominated property to the present size.
8/11/1957 7/10/1960	Vesta Dillinger	A non-descript building permit was issued at this time for \$1800.00 and it may be that the upper level fire took place during this ownership and roofline and exterior stairs to the north elevation"addition"changed and removed, 4/7/1959.
7/10/1960 7/ 7/1971	Chester & Lorreta Sappington	
7/ 7/1971 6/ 9/1984	Forrest Gardner	Installed forced-air heating system in basement. Framed a 24 inch doorway between the kitchen and bedroom and a second between kitchen and guest quarters, both without doors. Built 10'X8' plywood storage shed with windows and tin roof.
6/ 9/1984 5/ 6/1986	Mary Drake	
5/ 6/1986 8/ 8/1986	Larry Drake, Michael Drake & Donald Drake	
8/ 8/1986 to present	Richard & Joan Peterson	Built 30'X40' carriagehouse with 2 sets batten carriage doors and single covered entry door. Made of 5inch exposure T&G groove siding and shake roof.

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Present owners have upgraded electrical wiring where necessary and retained the post and spool where feasible. The chimneys have been regouted and a stainless steel lining inserted in one. Exterior porch railings and spindell course were added prior to discovery of historical photos. Owners are willing to duplicate originals as well as add trim to rooftop. Stairs that were removed after the upper level fire are being constructed within closet space off the kitchen area. Likewise, closet space from the southeast bedroom has been added to the main bath and a watercloset installed. Bathroom ceilings lowered during the Hackett ownership have been raised to original height. Original cabinets have been moved to service porch serving as pantry space and oak cabinetry with glass, tin & victorian oak fronts have been installed in the kitchen.

Present owners plan a new water service installation and the exterior wood is being prepared for painting in keeping with original colors (white, black trim, natural doors) and a light tan of their choosing.

The framed passageways (installed during the Gardner ownership) have had a pocket door installed between guest quarters and kitchen and also widened the 24 inch opening between kitchen and bedroom to a width of five feet and height of eight feet with sunburst spandrel. The bedroom serves as a "morning room" complimentary to the kitchen.

Present owners do not have strong feelings about the change in roof line on the north elevation "addition". They would be willing to reconstruct the roofline if economically feasible and deemed necessary by the committee (SHPO).

Floors in the guest quarters and kitchen area previously covered in linoleum have been leveled and covered in vinyl. The upper level bedroom floor has been carpeted and the floor burned out in the adjoining sitting room rebuilt and covered in vinyl.

General renovation includes painting or repapering of walls previously wall-papered and painted over.

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- Telephone Conversation, George Holmbeck, Fire Marshall City of Grants Pass, Oct.24, 1989, Grants Pass, Or.
- On site interview, George Aiken, Owner George's Tree Service, Nov.2, 1989, Grants Pass, Or.
- Thomas Tileston Waterman, The Dwellings of Colonial America, (North River Press, N.Y., 1950,) pg. 31 & 150
- Henry Lionel Williams & Ottalie K. Williams, A Guide to Old American Houses 1700-1900, (South Brunswick, N.Y., 1962,) Pg. 48 & 49
- Rosalind Clark, Architecture Oregon Style, (Portland, Or., 1983,) pg 90
- 1860 Cencus Vanburen Township in the County of Hancock, State of Ohio, Microfilm #0803982, pg 70, Family Research Library, LDS Church, Grants Pass, Or.
- 12th 1900 Cencus of Grants Pass Precinct North Supervisors Dist., Josephine County, Or., Microfilm Sheet #6, Josephine County Library, Grants Pass, Or.
- Josephine County Deed Records, June 2, 1893 Vol. 11, pg. 611 (Johnson-Fetzner), and May 15, 1894, Vol. 13, pg. 33 & 34 (Fayle -Fetzner) Josephine County Court House, Grants Pass, Oregon
- Rogue River Courier, microfilm, May 27, 1897 & Jan. 8, 1926, Josephine County Historical So. Grants Pass, Oregon
- Rogue River Courier, clippings, June 24, 1919 and Dec. 26, 1925, Josephine County Historical Society, Grants Pass, Or.
- In person interview, Pauline (Mead) Shier, (D.O.B. Mar. 28, 1903,) Nov. 1986, Grants Pass, Or.
- In person Interview, Verne Welo, Oct. 1986, Grants Pass, Or.
- Telephone conversation, Albert Donley Barnes, Past sheriff & Co. clerk, (D.O.B. Mar.1, 1906,) Nov. 1986 and Oct. 1989, Grants Pass, Or.
- Telephone Conversation, Doris Webber, (D.O.B. 1910,) October and November 1989, Grants Pass, Or
- Grants Pass Courier, Golden Anniversary Edition, April 3, 1935, article, Fifth Section, Civic, pg. 5, Josephine County Historical Society, Grants Pass, Or.
- Correspondence. Headquarters Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, June 15, 1903, Masonic Temple, Grants Pass, Or.

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Percy T. Booth, Grants Pass, The Golden Years 1884-1984 Centennial Souvenir Album, (1984 Grants Pass Centennial Commission), Grants Pass, Or.

Key Title & Escrow Company, Abstract of Title for 314 NE Fetzner St., Grants Pass, Or. Probate #84-135-P and 85-P-181, Grants Pass, Or.

Josephine County Deed Records, Vol 13 pg 33-34; Vol 61 pg 214; vol 103 pg 636; Vol 113 pg 136; Vol 136 pg 938-39; Vol 168 pg 137; Vol 186 pg 150; Vol 190 pg 353-54; Vol 209 pg 24-25; Vol 276 pg 166; Vol 76 pg 283; Josephine County Court House, Grants Pass, Or.

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Commencing at an iron pipe where the North line of Fetzner Street intersects with the East line of North 8th Street in the City of Grants Pass, Oregon; thence East along the North line of Fetzner Street 111.3 feet to the truepoint of beginning; thence East along the North line of Fetzner Street 135 feet to the southwest corner of a parcel of land described in Volume 194, Page 343 Josephine County, Oregon, Deed Records; thence North 170 feet, more or less, to the Northwest corner of said parcel described in Volume 194, Page 343, Josephine County, Oregon, Deed Records; thence West 115 feet to the Northeast corner of a parcel of land described in Volume 195, Page 285, Josephine County, Oregon, Deed Records; thence South  $3^{\circ}$  West 84.4 feet; thence North  $69^{\circ}45'$  West 10 feet, more or less, to a point that lies North  $3^{\circ}$  East from the point of beginning; thence South  $3^{\circ}$  West to the point of beginning, being located in Lot 3 of Block J of BOURNE'S FIRST ADDITION to the city of Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon. LESS AND EXCEPT: Commencing at an iron pipe where the North line of Fetzner Street intersects with the East line of North Eighth Street, City of Grants Pass, thence North  $23^{\circ}15'$  East along the Easterly line of said North Eighth Street 117.7 Feet; thence South  $69^{\circ}45'$  East 84.4 feet to the true point of beginning; thence North  $3^{\circ}$  East 84.4 feet; thence East 12 feet; thence South to the true point of beginning. The above described parcel of land being located in Lot 3, Block J of BOURNE'S FIRST ADDITION in the city of Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon.

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FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894)

HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPH AND PHOTO REPRINTS (2)

Originals and negatives on file at Josephine County Historical Society, 508 SW 5th Street, Grants Pass, Or. 97526.

- 1 Fetzner, Joseph, House (1894)  
314 NE Fetzner Street  
Grants Pass, Josephine Co., Oregon  
Photographer: Unknown  
Date: c. 1903-1905  
Description: South elevation entrance facing Fetzner Street. Mrs. Joseph (Bertha) Fetzner and daughters Cora and Lulu Ruth are in the photograph.
  
- 2 Fetzner, Joseph, House (1894)  
314 NE Fetzner Street  
Grants Pass, Josephine Co., Oregon  
Photographer: Unknown  
Date: C.1900-1910  
Description: West elevation as seen from 8th street.

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## FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894)

All Photographs numbered three (3) thru twenty-six (26) are of the FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894), located at 314 NE Fetzner Street, Grants Pass, Josephine Co., Oregon. All photographs were taken by Karen Katsinis on November 22, 1989 and all negatives are in the possession of the R.C. Petersons at 314 NE Fetzner Street, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526.

## Photo#

- 3 Panoramic view of Fetzner, Joseph, House and property from Fetzner Street to the south.
- 4 South elevation
- 5 South elevation veranda
- 6 West elevation
- 7 Northwest elevation
- 8 North elevation
- 9 Northeast elevation
- 10 East elevation
- 11 Southeast elevation
- 12 Southeast entrance from wrap-around veranda to vestibule.
- 13 West entrance from wrap-around veranda to main hall.
- 14 Exterior view of west elevation bay window at west side of main hall.
- 15 West elevation diagonal bay window under pent roof and hood.
- 16 Detail view of bay window hood; pyramid corner blocks on window casings; trim between boxed eaves of hip and pent roofs.
- 17 Bay window area of main hall looking west toward 8th Street.
- 18 Raised panel wainscot beneath windows of main hall and parlor of hand-picked birds-eye fir.
- 19 Main hall pocket doors to parlor and door to west elevation veranda.
- 20 Interior diagonal fireplace in parlor located between pocket doors to parlor and door to bedchamber.
- 21 Aperture for upstairs wood stove, (rising from parlor fireplace below).
- 22 Ceiling cast-and-bowl electrical fixture in parlor. (Matching single and triple bowl fixtures are in main hall and vestibule).
- 23 Privacy hall to bathroom, taken from south bedchamber doorway.
- 24 Kitchen with "Estate stove", taken from morning room to the east.
- 25 Morning room and entry to half-story staircase.
- 26 Bathroom off privacy hall.

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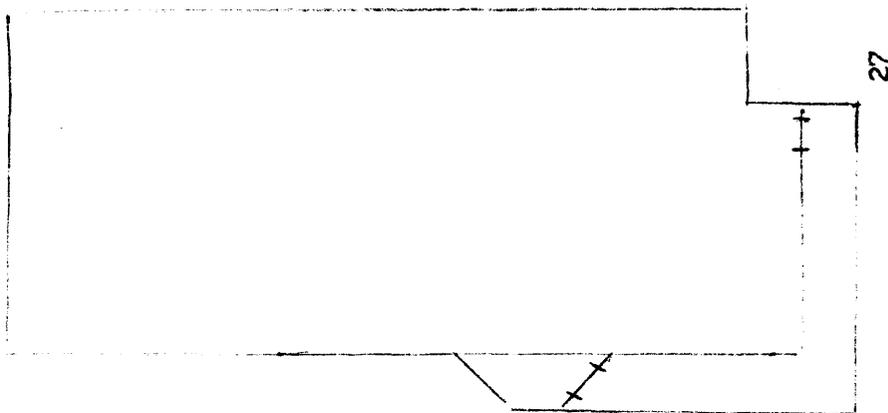
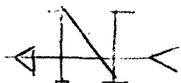
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FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894)

Photographs numbered twenty seven (27) thru twenty nine (29) are of the Southern elevation of the FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE (1894), located at 314 NE Fetzner Street, Grants Pass, Josephine Co., Oregon. They were taken March 28, 1990 by Richard G. Peterson to indicate completion of reproduction and placement of historic elements to porch. Negatives are in the possession of the R.G. Petersons at 314 NE Fetzner Street, Grants Pass, Oregon, 97526.

- 27. Southeast entrance of wrap around porch
- 28. South elevation
- 29. Southwest elevation of wrap around porch

Numbers indicate position of photographer keyed to photograph unnumber



28

29

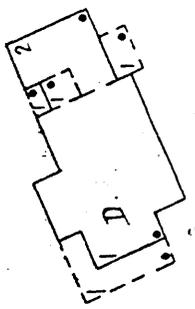
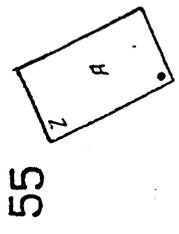


JOSEPH FETZNER PROPERTY  
SEPT. 30, 1930

837  
CITY COMPASS

8" W.P. (PROP)  
09

777



8TH STREET

FETZNER

755  
FETZNER

D.H.  
4" W.P.  
9" W.P. (PROP)  
60

751

750

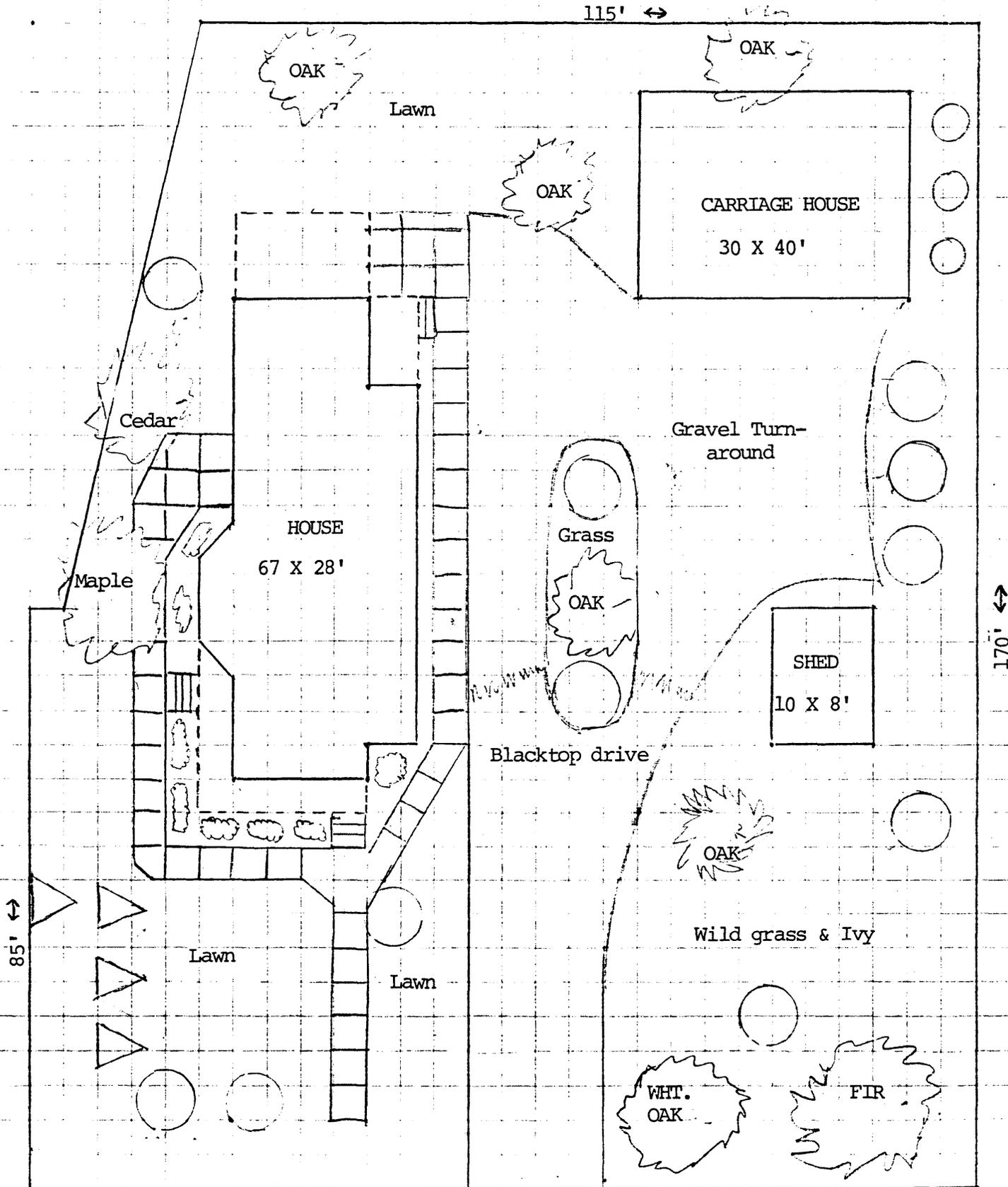
76





FETZNER, JOSEPH, HOUSE

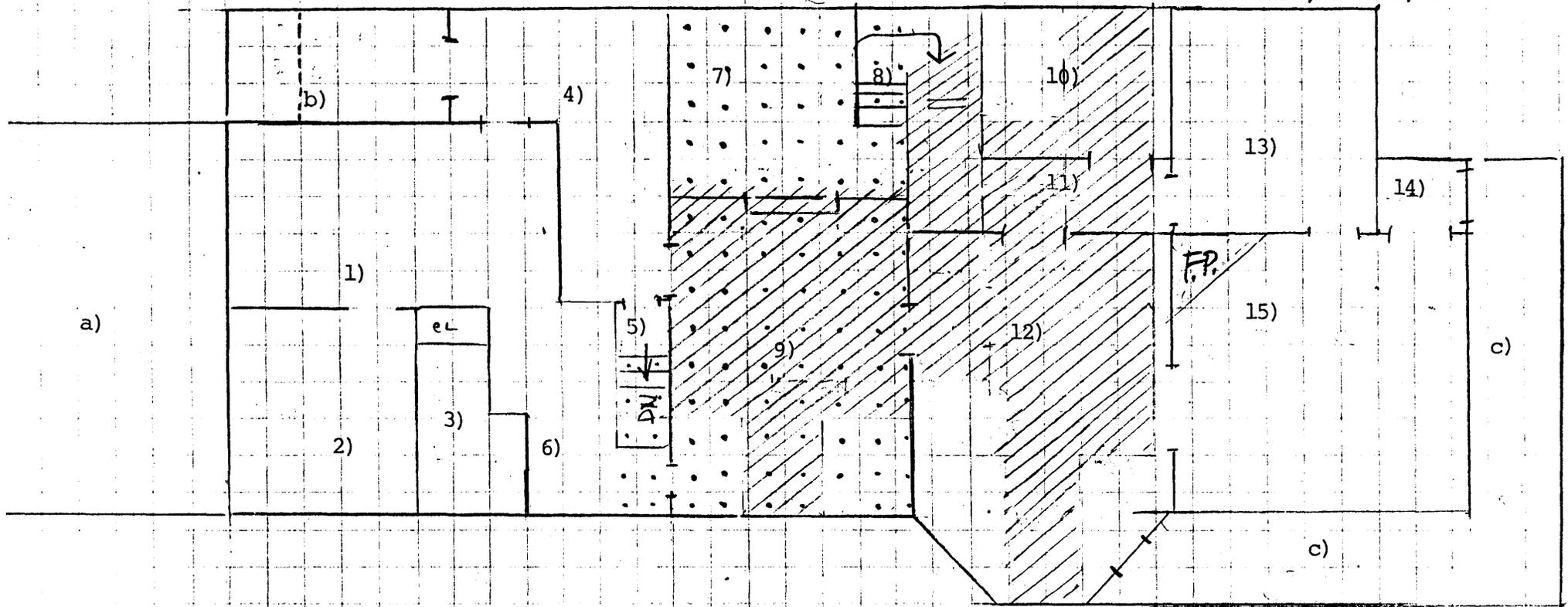
.47 Acre Lot Layout of Structures & Landscape



← 135' →

314 FETZNER STREET

-  Century Trees
-  Mature Trees
-  Young Trees



- 1) Carport 20 X 12'
- 2) Bedroom 11 X 10'
- 3) Bathroom 9 X 6"
- 4) Service porch 22 X 6'
- 5) Basement stairs-dn. 10 X 3'
- 6) ½ Kitchen/hall 11 X 7'
- 7) Morning Rm. 12 X 13'
- 8) Stairs-up 6 X 3'
- 9) Kitchen 17 X 13'
- 10) Bathroom 8 X 10'
- 11) Privacy Hall 4 X 14'
- 12) Main Hall 20 X 14'
- 13) Bedchamber 12 X 11'
- 14) Vestibule 4 X 5'
- 15) Parlor 15 X 16'
- c) Veranda

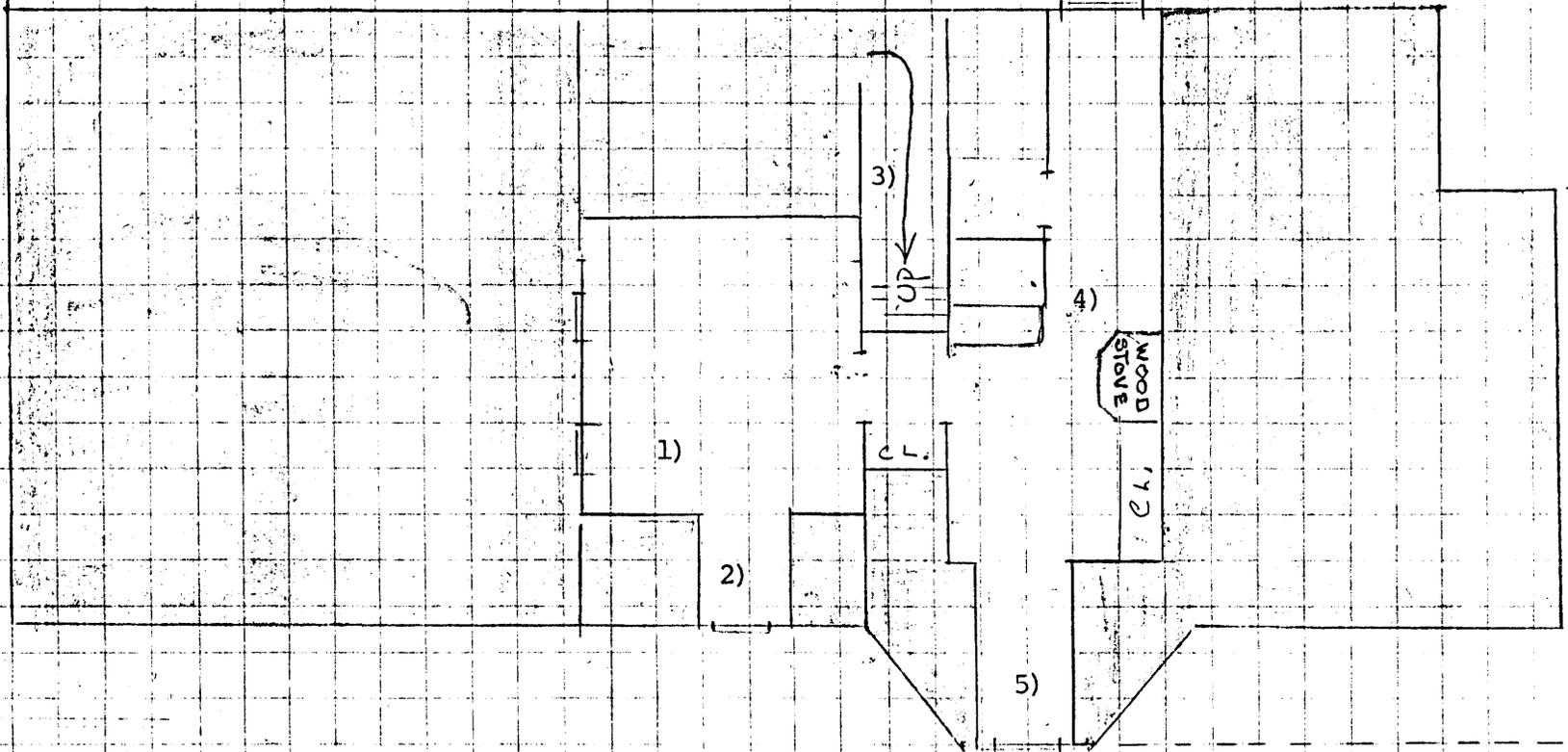
FIRST FLOOR

\* Shaded area represents 2nd level (Half-story)  
 \*\* Dotted area represents Basement Area



2ND LEVEL (HALF-STORY)

\* Shaded are represents First floor



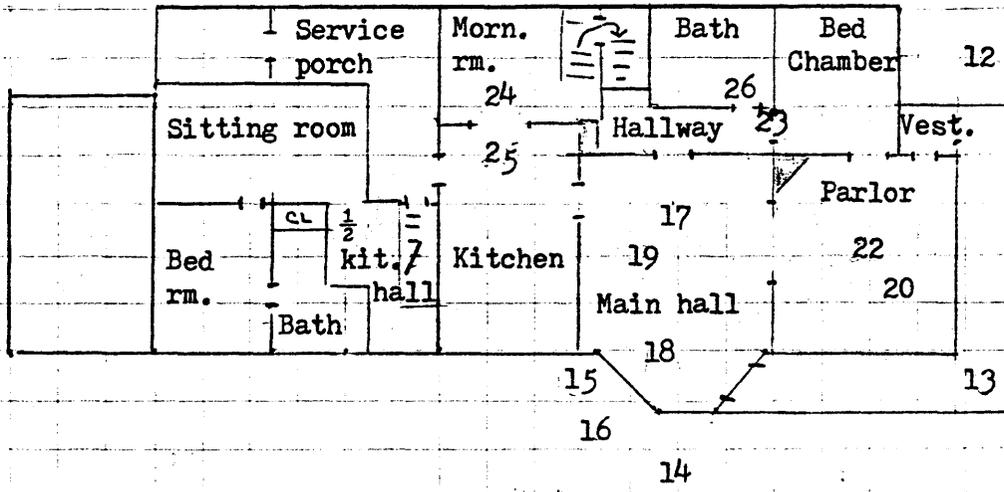
- |               |          |                 |         |                       |         |
|---------------|----------|-----------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| 1) Bedchamber | 11 X 12' | 3) Staircase-up | 14 X 4' | 4) Bath/dressing room | 26 X 9' |
| 2) Dormer     | 4 X 5'   |                 |         | 5) Light well         | 8 X 4'  |

10-2-21



GROUND LEVEL

9



8

7

2

6

NUMBERS INDICATE POSITION OF PHOTOGRAPHER KEYED TO PHOTO NUMBER

2ND LEVEL (HALF-STORY)

