

# DATA SHEET

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Oregon
COUNTY:	Polk
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAR 15 1976



<b>1. NAME</b>	
COMMON:	Phillips, John, House
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 1, Box 693 <i>NW of Salem on Spring Valley Rd.</i>			
CITY OR TOWN: Salem <i>vic.</i>		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Oregon First Congressional District	
STATE: Oregon	CODE: 41	COUNTY: Polk	CODE: 053

<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments

<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>			
OWNER'S NAME: Samuel J. Barker			
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 1, Box 693			
CITY OR TOWN: Salem	STATE: Oregon	CODE: 41	STATE: Oregon

<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Polk County Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Dallas 97338	STATE: Oregon	CODE: 41	COUNTY: Polk

<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Building Survey			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1934	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local		
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: National Park Service			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: District of Columbia	CODE: 11	ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 15 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Oregon  
COUNTY: Polk  
FOR NPS USE ONLY  
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DATE:



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Oregon
COUNTY	Polk
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 15 1976

(Number all entries)

JOHN PHILLIPS HOUSE (CONTINUED)

2. Location

The John Phillips house is located in the S 1/2 SW 1/4 Sec. 24, T. 6S., R. 4W., of the Willamette Meridian in Marion County, Oregon, on the N 1/2 NW 1/4 of the John Phillips D. L. C. No. 50, which is essentially to the north and east of the present Section 25.

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Also:

Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings, 1970, Parks and Recreation Section, Oregon State Highway Division, Salem, Oregon 97310. Code: 41.



8. Significance

Phillips bought a Donation Land Claim in Spring Valley in 1847 for \$100 from a man named Turner, and moved his family there. In the Spring of 1849 Phillips and a neighbor, Jesse D. Walling, went to the California gold fields and returned later the same year. It is not known how well he did, but according to family tradition, his new house was finished in 1853. Phillips made and sold drapes, sashes, blinds, coffins, and furniture, and several pieces he made for his family are in the house, which is still owned and lived in by descendents of John and Elizabeth Phillips.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Wright, Tom, "Old Home Replete with Craftsmanship," Oregon Statesman, November 12, 1967, Sec. IV, p. 41.

Hurst, Buelah, and Carstairs, Beatrice M., "Early Oregon Cabinet Makers and Furniture Manufacturers 1836-1897," unpublished FERA Oregon History Manuscript, Portland, 1935, p. 8-9.

Hines, H. K., An Illustrated History of the State of Oregon, (Chicago: The Lewis Pub. Co., 1893), 848-849.

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1853

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The John Phillips house is one of the diminishing number of structures dating from Oregon's pioneer and territorial days. It is a typical example of the carpenterly Classical Revival house pioneer families of the 1840s tended to build for themselves in the 1850s after they had established themselves. It is somewhat untypical however in that it tends to be somewhat more spare or severe in line than most of these Classical cottages which sprang up around the Willamette Valley, and these houses as a whole tend to be somewhat more spare than their contemporary counterparts in the East. On the other hand, though proportions are rather timid, detail of the columns and architraves is more meticulous than is usual in these Willamette Valley houses. It is an early example in Oregon of a house with a balloon frame.

Phillips was an immigrant and emigrant born in Wiltshire, England in 1814. His father died when he was eleven and young Phillips was apprenticed to a cabinetmaker for seven years. After the death of his mother in 1834, he decided to immigrate to America. On a ship to New York he met a minister from Florida and decided to go there, where he remained five years working for the government at Chattahoochee during the Seminole wars. He married Elizabeth Hibbard, who was also English, in New Orleans in 1839 and the couple lived in St. Louis before leaving for the Oregon Country in April, 1845 with two children, in a wagon train headed by Joe Meek. It is not known however if the Phillips family was among those Meek persuaded to try an alternative route across the high desert country of eastern Oregon, now known as the "lost" wagon train. This ill-fated party spent much time lost and in search of water, and suffered much hardship and death. Gold was discovered somewhere on their route, and the search for the legendary "Lost Blue Bucket Mine" continues to this day. It is known that the Phillips family was nearly lost while fording the treacherous Snake River when the current swept away their wagon and team. They were saved through the efforts of one Thomas Roberts. The Phillips arrived in Oregon City in October, about the same time the bedraggled members of the lost wagon train finally reached the Willamette Valley.

Phillips and Roberts, who was also a carpenter or cabinetmaker, went to St. Paul in the Spring of 1846 where they did finishing work on the Roman Catholic school building and church, which was the first brick building to be built in Oregon and parts of which are still standing.

(Continued)

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Oregon Statesman, "John Phillips Donation Land Claim Found Place of Interesting History," August 25, 1924.

Lockley, Fred, "Impressions and Observations of a Journal Man," Oregon Journal, February 8, 1937.

Sommer, Josephine, "Valley Home Hold Rich Heritage of Old Oregon Territorial Days," Oregonian, February 1, 1959, p, 31.  
(Continued)

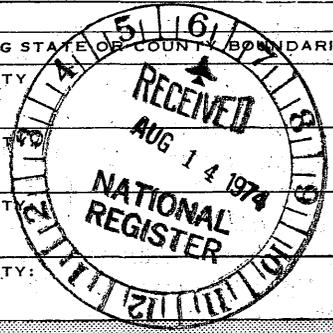
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE					
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	45	01	40	123	07	28
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9.5

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Paul B. Hartwig, Park Historian and D. W. Powers III, Temporary Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Parks and Recreation Section DATE: July 24, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: Oregon State Highway Division

CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon CODE: 97310 41

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: State Parks Superintendent

Date: August 7, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Acting*

[Signature]  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 3/10/76

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
Acting Keeper of The National Register

Date: 3-14-76