

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0695653

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JAN 29 1979
DATE ENTERED	MAR 2 1979

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Ashley (Mark A. M.) House
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
2847 N. W. Westover Road
CITY, TOWN
Portland
STATE
Oregon

VICINITY OF
1st

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
1st

COUNTY
Multnomah

CODE
051

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CLASSIFICATION

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

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Thomas J. and Marie A. Spence
STREET & NUMBER
2847 N. W. Westover Road

CITY, TOWN
Portland
STATE
Oregon 97210

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Multnomah County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
1021 S. W. Fourth Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Portland
STATE
Oregon 97201

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Portland Historical Landmark

DATE
April 8, 1970
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Bureau of Planning, City of Portland

CITY, TOWN
Portland
STATE
Oregon 97204

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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

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

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

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

¹Westover Terraces was developed in 1910-1914 by hydraulically sluicing almost 3,000,000 cubic yards of material from high atop Goldsmith Hill located on the then outskirts of Portland, washing the material down over a multitude of sheerboards to create the many terraces forming the development, and then down still further to partially fill in Guilds Lake and form a flat industrial area. Although viewed at first with skepticism and ridicule, the development was hailed at its completion as an engineering marvel and, perhaps with more than a little puffery, as "without exception .. the finest residential section in the United States."

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

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

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

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

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

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

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.22 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>1</u> <u>0</u>	<u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>8</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>5</u> <u>0</u> <u>4</u> <u>1</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property nominated comprises Lots 4 and 5, Block 4, WESTOVER TERRACES, City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, and is approximately 100' x 96' in size.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Thomas J. Spence/Owner

ORGANIZATION

DATE

September 12, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

2847 N. W. Westover Road

TELEPHONE

(503) 222-3971

CITY OR TOWN

Portland

STATE

Oregon 97210

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

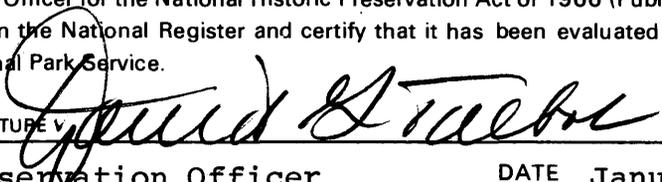
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE January 16, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles A. Adams
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 3-2-79

~~DATE OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER~~

ATTEST: W. Ray Luce
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 2-19-79

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

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

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

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

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 2

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

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

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

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

Obituary of M. A. M. Ashley. Oregon Journal, April 3, 1939.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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