United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  

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 Dooly, Frank E. House (preferred)  
- and/or common Stewart Holbrook House  

2. Location  

- street & number 2670 NW Lovejoy St.  
- city, town Portland  
- state Oregon  
- county Multnomah  

3. Classification  

- Category X building(s)  
- Ownership X private  
- Status X occupied  
- Present Use X museum  
- Public Acquisition in process  
- Accessible X yes: restricted  
- district  
- code 41  
- county Multnomah  
- code 051  

4. Owner of Property  

- name David C. Blocksom and Donna Spoonhour  
- street & number 2670 NW Lovejoy St.  
- city, town Portland  
- state Oregon  
- code 97210  

5. Location of Legal Description  

- courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Multnomah County Courthouse  
- street & number 1021 SW 4th Avenue  
- city, town Portland  
- state Oregon  
- code 97204  

6. Representation in Existing Surveys  

- title None  
- has this property been determined eligible? X yes  
- date federal state county local  
- depository for survey records  
- city, town state
7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Frank E. Dooly House is 72'6" long, 29'3" deep, and approximately 35' high overall. It has approximately 7,360 square feet total floor area in a cellar, main and second floors, and attic, plus a double garage connected to the basement by an underground passage. The site faces east on the lower slope of the Tualatin Mountains, the area known as Westover Heights. The lot slopes steeply down to the east and the city's center, providing for the garage entrance to be one story below the front entrance of the house; the roof of the garage making a front terrace in the center of the "U" shaped carriage drive off Lovejoy Street on the north side of the property.

The site is heavily landscaped and planted with mature trees and shrubs. An informal flower garden and rockery was on the adjoining Lot 4 to the west, previously sold to others. The area is zoned for single family residential occupancy on 7,000-square-foot lots. There is a medium density apartment zoned area to the east and below the site. The neighborhood is fully built up with substantial homes of the same period.

The Dooly House, a noteworthy example of Colonial Revival architecture, is formal in organization. It is 2½ stories high, gable roofed with pedimented gable dormers in the attic roof. The facades are organized into three bays on the front between corner pilasters and two intermediate pilasters. The ends are one bay between corner pilasters. The south end has an attached pavilion sleeping porch on three levels, now mostly enclosed, and the original kitchen storeroom. The originally open north terrace has been enclosed with triple run sash and a roof with balustrade as a solarium or conservatory; its roof balustrade was in poor condition and removed by later owners, the Holbrooks, in 1950. An adaptation in carpentry of the Tuscan Order is used for the pilasters, cornices, and window casings. The main eaves are supported by plain modillion blocks. Pilasters have a recessed panel and a moulding decoration of quarter-circle segments in the frieze panels. Walls are finished with five-inch lap siding. The roof is shingled and built-in eaves troughs are provided. The exterior is painted white, and in excellent condition.

Windows are generally one over one, double run, except for entrance sidelights, dormer windows, and added sleeping porch and solarium windows. There are leaded glass lights in the three windows on the main stair landing and entrance sidelights.

There are two brick chimneys, living room and study fireplaces on the north end, and a central furnace, laundry and kitchen chimney on the interior.

The front steps and entrance originally had a decorated wrought iron and glass canopy, of which only the side railings remain. The removal of the marquee may have coincided with the modernization about 1944, which included the enclosure of the porches and the addition of decorative shutters on the front. The window box shown in the 1909 elevation drawing is gone, or may never have been installed.

The Dooly House's plan has undergone only minor alterations in its 70 years and succession of owners. The removal of basement partitions, enclosure of north terrace, kitchen remodeling, and the inclusion of the south end sleeping porches and balconies into the respective bedrooms are the principal alterations. A small personal elevator was added in the south end from the basement to the main floor pantry and southwest bedroom for Mr. Lawrence. Bathrooms are substantially original, retaining most of the original tile work and bath and shower fittings, including kidney sprays and other jets.
Except for painted wall and trim colors, the interior appearance was changed very little from the Doolys through the Holbrooks. The interior decoration was altered for the 1977 Exchange Club Home Show including the kitchen and pantry remodeling and the panel mouldings on some walls of the main rooms. The present owner intends to return the interior rooms closer to their original condition as practicable. Most of the original luminaries have been lost or relocated to other places in the house.

The maid's apartment in the attic was built at the north end instead of the south end as the plans show. The "China Boy's" room in the south end of the cellar was removed by the Holbrooks.

The construction of the house conforms very closely to Jacobberger's drawings, being entirely light wood framed on a full concrete cellar. Wall framing is 2x4" studs at 16 inches. Floor framing is 3x10"s at 16 inches. Roof framing is 2x4"s at 16 inches with 1x8" spaced sheathing and wood shingles. Walls and ceilings are all lath and plaster finished. Mahogany finish is noted on Jacobberger's plan for the living room. The breakfast room, now a study, is noted for "stained finish." The kitchen wainscoting was natural-finished. All other is shown as enameled. Original hardware is generally in place.

Josef Jacobberger's original drawings for the Dooly House are among the papers of his son, Francis Jacobberger, in the collections of the University of Oregon Library. Stewart Holbrook's papers are held at the University of Washington Library.
8. Significance

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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Frank E. Dooly House is significant to the City of Portland as a noteworthy and well-preserved example of the work of one of Portland's leading architects of the turn of the century. Josef Jacobberger was responsible for over ten principal homes, commercial, institutional, and religious buildings in the city. The deftly-rendered Colonial Revival house is illustrative of the marked growth of Portland in the early 20th century, and it is part of a neighborhood which remains one of the city's finest residential areas. The Doolys and the succeeding two owners made important contributions to Portland's commercial development. The house's 19 years with the Holbrooks exceeded the Dooly years and nearly equaled the years with the Lawrence family. The house is now remembered primarily for the years it was home to Stewart H. and Sybil W. Holbrook and their children. The late Stewart Holbrook was one of the region's leading journalists and writers of Pacific Northwest lore and history.

In 1909 and 1910, the Frank E. Dooly family bought three lots in Nob Hill Heights, a new residential subdivision in what had been Annie T. King's part of the Amos N. and Melinda King DLC. Lovejoy Street is on the line between the King, south side, and Balch land claim north of Lovejoy Street.

Nob Hill Heights was a beginning of the extension of residential development up into Portland's northwest hills following the Lewis & Clark Centennial Exposition of 1905 in Portland. The two decades following the exposition were years of widespread development of the Portland area with a boom in house building. The city reached its approximately present limits in those years. Nob Hill originally was the upper half of John Couch's Addition, centered on NW 19th and Glisan Streets. It had been the prestigious residential area of the Gilded Age; it gradually became more middle class and vacant parcels were developed for smaller houses and early apartments. The 1905 Fair renewed interest in northwest Portland and was quickly followed by the terracing of King's and Westover Heights for residential buildings in the 1910s. Nob Hill Heights was the initial incursion up onto Westover. The houses neighboring the Dooly House are among the city's largest and finest, comprising a complete neighborhood of early 20th century mansions and houses with gardens which are exemplary of Portland life and culture at that time. The neighbors have included many of Portland's commerce, education, arts and political leaders.

Josef (Joseph) Jacobberger (1856-1930) was born in France and brought to the United States as a child. He grew up in the Midwest, completing his education at Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska. Withey's biography has Joseph practicing architecture in Minneapolis until moving to Portland in 1912. Carey's history places Joseph in Portland in 1890 as a draftsman with the firm of Whidden and Lewis. Between about 1908 and 1912, he practiced alone. Around 1912 he joined in an architectural partnership with Alfred H. Smith. Jacobberger was architect for a long list of major Portland buildings and residences. He is especially associated with St. Mary's Cathedral, Sisters of the Precious Blood Monastery, Montavilla, and many other ecclesiastical buildings for the
9. Major Bibliographical References
Heltzel, Helen Emry. "Writer Holbrook's Widow Remembers Earlier Days," The Oregonian,
September 11, 1977.
Withey, Henry F. & Elsie R. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased),

10. Geographical Data
Acreage of nominated property less than one (.25 acre)
Quadrangle name Portland, Washington-Oregon
Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

Verbal boundary description and justification
Lots 2 and 3, Block 2, Nob Hill Terrace, City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

11. Form Prepared By
name/title Alfred M. Staehli, AIA
organization
date October 30, 1979
street & number 317 SE 62nd Avenue
telephone 503/235-3515
city or town Portland
state Oregon

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration
Roman Catholic Church. His second son, Francis, continued his father's architectural practice in the firms of Jacobberger, Stanton and Zeller; then Jacobberger, Stanton, Franks and Norman, Portland, Oregon. The Frank E. Dooly House represents Josef Jacobberger's earliest works after leaving his apprenticeship with Whidden and Lewis.

The Jacobberger Collection at the University of Oregon contains about 366 Joseph Jacobberger and Jacobberger & Smith projects, predominantly residences. Jacobberger was responsible for many notable projects in Oregon in addition to his near monopoly of work for the Catholic Church. Some of the more interesting projects are:

- City of Portland East Side Water Office, SE 7th and Alder
- Hill Military Academy, Rocky Butte
- Buildings For Knights of Columbus, Ft. Vancouver, WA; and
- Hillsboro and St. Paul, Oregon
- Monastery of Sisters of the Precious Blood, Portland
- Mt. Tabor Sanitarium, Portland
- St. Mary's Cathedral, Parish Hall and School, Portland
- Sisters of Holy Child Academy, Portland
- Union Meat Company Building, Portland
- Ankeny Car Barns, Portland
- Portland Hunt Club, Garden Home
- Gardeners' and Ranchers' Buildings, E. Portland
- Trinity Episcopal Rectory, Portland

Published information on the career of Frank E. Dooly is limited. His name appears from 1909 through 1920 in the city directories and in the 1914-1915 Social Register. His name is mentioned in the 1920 and 1970 obituaries for his father, Richard M. Dooly (1855-1920), and his brother, Maurice R. Dooly (1884-1970). There are no other notices about him in biographical collections, Who's Who, or newspaper indexes, despite the fact that he was a member of one of Portland's most prominent insurance families and was president of the company his father founded--Dooly and Company. He is associated with the Hibernian Bank, Portland; the City Directory and Social Register. The building of his new home in Nob Hill Heights in 1909 coincides with the founding of Dooly and Company in 1909 and appears to represent the culmination of his career. The Doolys sold the Lovejoy House to George W. Lawrence in 1921.

The George W. Lawrences (wife Annie or Anna) lived in the Dooly House from 1921 to 1944, longest of all owners. The George Lawrence Company continues as one of Portland's oldest continuing businesses, specializing in automotive and leather working parts and materials. The Lawrences made some alterations in the house--principally the elevator for Mr. Lawrence in his later years. The Lawrences sold to the William E. Roberts family in 1944.
William Roberts founded one of Portland's early department stores and continued in the retail business until recent years. Mrs. Roberts (Aileen V.) is said by Mrs. Strahl (Sybil Holbrook) to have enjoyed interior decoration and is largely responsible for many of the decorating changes to the exterior and interior of the house. The Robertses sold to Stewart Holbrook in 1947.

Stewart H. Holbrook married Sybil Walker in 1948 after the death of his first wife. The new Mr. and Mrs. Holbrook proceeded to settle into their home and to adapt it for Stewart's writing and Sybil's interest in metal working and weaving. The 1949 Directory informs us that Stewart owned a 1947 Mercury. Stewart used the second floor study for his writing, the northeast corner room with fireplace. Sybil had her metal shop in the former "China Boy's" room in the cellar and her loom at the other end. The house was frequently a center for entertaining other writers, publishers and book dealers for the next 19 years, firmly linking the house to Oregon's literary culture after the Second World War.

It was during this period that the house was shared by Mr. Otis, Holbrook's "brush name" for the creator of the bright and whimsical oil paintings on historical, allegorical and family subjects. A "Mr. Otis" adorns part of the Dooly house's kitchen wall inside a cabinet, based on the theme of Yankee Exodus. The Holbrooks made almost no alterations to the house.

From 1966 to 1979, the Dooly House had a succession of owners for brief periods, often being rented. The Exchange Club and Parry Center acquired the house temporarily in 1977 for remodeling and redecorating as a show home of various interior designers' work to raise funds for community service projects. The kitchen and pantry were fully remodeled. A second floor window was removed and French doors inserted for access to the roof deck of the solarium. Interior finishes were redone in accordance with a variety of styles, now largely restored to their previous condition by the current owners, a marketing specialist and an interior designer.