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 Chamberlain, George Earle, House
   other names/site number

2. Location
   street & number 1927 NE Tillamook Street
   city, town Portland
   state Oregon
   code OR
   county Multnomah
   code 051
   zip code 97212

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property Category of Property Number of Resources within Property
   □ private □ building(s)
   □ public-local □ district Contributing
   □ public-State □ site Noncontributing
   □ public-Federal □ structure 1 buildings
   □ object □

   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.
   Signature of certifying official
   Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
   Date April 23, 1991

   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:)

   Signature of the Keeper
   Date of Action

Entered in the National Register
6/14/91
6. Function or Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)</th>
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<td>Domestic: single dwelling</td>
<td>Domestic: single dwelling</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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7. Description

<table>
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<th>Materials (enter categories from instructions)</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Colonial Revival</td>
<td>walls wood, weatherboard</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>roof asphalt, composition shingles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>other</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See continuation sheet
The Colonial-style house was built in 1893 at what is now 1927 N.E. Tillamook Street in Portland, Oregon. The designer and builder are unknown. Its first owner was Frank M. Warren, a prominent Portland businessman with salmon packing interests in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska.

Oregon's eleventh Governor, George E. Chamberlain, bought the house in 1904 and remodeled the first and second floors, inside and out. In the years since it passed out of Chamberlain's hands, the house has been little changed, as will be detailed in this application.

The house has three floors, plus a basement and attic. The original wood frame is balloon construction, using cut nails. Later additions are platform construction with wire nails. Siding is 8-inch beveled cedar with fir corner boards; gable ends are covered with sawn cedar shingles.

The two chimneys are brick, as is the original foundation, which is parged inside and out with cement plaster.

The building is nearly 75 feet long, 44 feet at its widest and some 40 feet high. It faces south and is set back some 60 feet from Tillamook Street. When it was constructed, it occupied six 50-by-100 lots, three deep between Northeast 19th and 20th avenues, but Chamberlain bought only two lots at the corner of 19th and Tillamook.

Landscaping is mature: Four large maple trees and an equally large sycamore are in the west and south parking strips. A 60 to 70 foot tall American beech is in the southeast corner of the yard. Rhododendrons, azaleas, rose of Sharon and a mock orange are also found in the plantings.

A two-story gambrel roof covers the central portion of the building. Roofing is slate-grey asphalt composition three-tab shingles.

Three shed-roof dormers are inset into the south (front) roof at the second floor level with roof pitches matching the upper slope of the main roof. Two smaller shed-roof dormers are at the third floor. They are not inset.

A low-pitched hip roof flanks the central roof at the first floor level of the east end. It is roofed with sheet metal. An extension to the southeast
bedroom is built into this roof.

A sleeping porch balances the house at the west end. Although both ends of the house were altered by Chamberlain, the sleeping porch was not his addition. It shows clearly — although most of it is behind a tree — in the pre-remodeling photo of the house included with this application.

The sleeping porch has changed little from Chamberlain's time: A circa 1906 photo of his daughter, Carrie Lee, on the porch shows detail that remains. Multi-paned windows have been added and the porch was divided during the years when the building was a rooming house. The dividing partition will be removed in the course of renovation, but windows appropriate to the house will be retained.

The low-pitched east roof was outlined by simple gallery rails with decorative turnings on the post tops. When Chamberlain remodeled, he had these railings installed on small infill roofs at the north and south of the sleeping porch. Some rails are extant, but the turnings are gone and general deterioration makes replacement a necessity.

At the north side there is a shed roof over the second floor that extends roughly a third the length of the house over a back bedroom. It is believed this roof was added in the course of Chamberlain's remodeling, but there is no direct evidence of this.

As constructed, the first-floor front had two slant bays, with three double-hung windows in each. The bays flankéd the inset front entry, which is centered on the house. Chamberlain squared off the front, eliminating the bays and rearranging the windows. The foundation bays can still be seen in the basement. The date of this remodeling is not known, but it occurred before his daughter, Fannie, was photographed in the front yard in 1917 and probably much earlier: Carrie Lee Chamberlain Wood recalled in a late-1980s interview with her great-nephew that her father hired a contractor and made many changes while she lived in the house. By 1917, Carrie Lee was 24 years old and had been married to Charles D. Wood for four years.

In Chamberlain's day, a porch extended the full length of the front and wrapped around the west end under the sleeping porch. That open porch is gone. Chamberlain enclosed part of it and encroached on other portions when he took out the bays and enlarged the living room.

When the City of Portland made its historic survey in 1981, the wings in front of the living and dining rooms had vanished; the remaining central portion bore a resemblance to the original. By the mid-80s, even that had been removed and replaced with a clumsy imitation. The original design will be duplicated (except for the west side, which is enclosed in the house)
Chamberlain enclosed the major portion of the west porch to extend the living room, leaving open a six-by-ten vestige off the library. This porch was rendered useless by a poorly designed garage addition that had blocked rain runoff for years, causing irreversible deterioration of the porch and its supporting structure. Consequently, the porch area was entirely rebuilt and enclosed as a home office. The old French doors between the library and porch were preserved as doors for the office.

A deteriorated lattice back porch (date unknown) at the northeast corner of the building also was built in to make a kitchen pantry. Its roof has been retained.

The double garage, half in and half out of the basement on the west side, is not a recent addition. Its date of construction is not known.

Most windows on the first and second floors are six-over-one double hung.

Gutters are built into the soffit at the first floor level on the south, east and west sides of the house and on parts of the north. Some north side gutters — also built in — are at the second floor level. They are not in a soffit, however.

A patio and deck have been added at the east side of the house. The deck covers a basement door and stairs, which remain intact.

A slant oriel bay is at the back of the house at the stairway landing level. This bay, because of deficiencies in construction that left a springy backing for the knee brackets, is partially supported by posts on concrete footings.

The house is structurally sound. Deterioration from weather has been halted and, in most cases, reversed. The house needs painting.

The front door is beveled-edge plate glass in a solid oak frame that is painted. It is flanked by two single-pane lights that replace leaded glass windows that show in early photos.

Inside, the interior is laid out in a simple, classic style on the first and second floors: A central hallway bisects the house, front to back on both floors. Rooms open onto the hall.

On the first floor, the living and dining rooms are across from one another in the front and open onto the hall through matching triple-leaf French doors. The library and kitchen are behind these rooms.
Use of the rooms throughout the house does not appear to have changed much,
if at all, since Chamberlain.

For instance, Chamberlain used the room behind the living room as his library,
which is its present use. Daughter Carrie Lee noted: "We called that the
library; it was full of books and comfortable chairs."

The hallway, living and dining rooms and library have large composite crown
molds of wood. Other woodwork in these rooms matches as well.

On the second floor, however, there is little embellishment. Door and window
trim is not moulded and there is no crown mold.

ceilings on the first and second floors are nine and a half feet off the floor.
On the third floor they are eight feet.

Doors throughout are Victorian four panel fir, all the same pattern. Brass
escutcheons and glass knobs also match, with a couple of exceptions, but some
hinges have been replaced.

The kitchen and baths are modern.

A large staircase rises at the back of the hall, turning back on itself
across the north end at the oriel bay. There is a half bath and a guest
closet under the stairs.

Servants' stairs parallel the main staircase, starting in the kitchen and
carrying upward to the second and third floors, the latter accessible only
by this stairway. Basement stairs are under these stairs.

On the second floor, two bedrooms are at the front of the house and one at
the back on the west side. The sleeping porch has doors from both west
bedrooms. The west front bedroom has a fireplace.

There are two modern baths on the second floor.

The third floor originally contained three rooms and it is known from
Carrie Lee Chamberlain Wood that the family's cook lived in one of them.

One room has been divided to provide a full bath.

Wiring, plumbing and the heating system are generally modern and in sound
condition. A circuit breaker service has been installed.
8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

- [ ] nationally
- [x] statewide
- [ ] locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:  
- [ ] A
- [x] B
- [ ] C
- [ ] D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):  
- [ ] A
- [ ] B
- [ ] C
- [ ] D
- [ ] E
- [ ] F
- [ ] G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
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<th>Period of Significance</th>
<th>Significant Dates</th>
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<td>1904–1909</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>1909–1921</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cultural Affiliation  
- N/A

Significant Person  
- George Earle Chamberlain (1845–1928)

Significant Person  
- Architect/Builder  
- Unknown

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

See continuation sheet
9. Major Bibliographical References

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings
- recorded by Historic American Engineering

10. Geographical Data

- Acreage of property: 0.23 acres
- Location: Portland, Oregon-Washington, 1:24000
- UTM References:
  - A: Zoning
  - B: Zone
  - C: Easting
  - D: Northing

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated area is legally described as Lots 11 and 12, Block 35, Irvington Addition to Portland, Multnomah County.

Boundary Justification:

Boundaries of the property are those of the property when it was owned and occupied by George Earle Chamberlain, 1904-1928.

11. Form Prepared By

- Name/Title: Richard C. Johnston, Owner
- Organization: 
- Street & Number: 1927 NE Tillamook Street
- City or Town: Portland
- Date: November 25, 1991
- Telephone: (503) 287-0025
- State: Oregon
- Zip Code: 97212
The three-story, gambrel-roofed Colonial Revival house that occupies a double lot at the corner of Tillamook and 19th Avenue in the Irvington district of northeast Portland, Oregon was built in 1893 for industrialist Frank M. Warren. The architect and builder are as yet unknown. In 1904 the house was acquired by George Earle Chamberlain, who by that time had served the first year of his six-year term as Governor of Oregon.

Governor Chamberlain undertook a remodeling to enlarge the capacity of the ground story by enclosing porch space of a double-bay front. The essential character of the house nonetheless is well conveyed despite the historic alteration. The house has remained little altered since. It is significant at the statewide level in the context of politics and government under National Register Criterion B. It is the place most importantly associated with the later career of Chamberlain, a Democrat, who proceeded from the Oregon statehouse to the United States Senate, where he compiled a distinguished record and took a leading role in helping the nation meet the emergency of world war. Chamberlain held the house on NE Tillamook throughout his Congressional career to the time of his death in 1928.

In 1980, Governor Chamberlain's Queen Anne/ Stick Style house in Albany was successfully nominated to the National Register as the place most importantly associated with his early career, a period in which he served in the Lower House of the State Legislature, maintained a legal practice, became District Attorney for the Third Judicial District, and was appointed Oregon's first Attorney General in 1891. He was formally elected to the newly-created office in the general election of 1892.

George Earle Chamberlain (1854-1928) was a native of Mississippi and an 1876 graduate of Washington and Lee University in Virginia. Shortly after his graduation, he moved to Albany, Oregon, where he launched his civic and political career in 1877 on becoming Deputy Linn County Clerk. As Governor, from 1903 to 1909, Chamberlain was noted for upholding Oregon's distinctive statutory authority for initiative and referendum, for adding two justices to the State Supreme Court and for implementing major reform in the administration of State school lands that contain valuable timber tracts. The reforms he effected involved establishment of the State Forests, and revenues from timber sales have contributed to the Common School Fund to the present day.

Beginning in 1909, Chamberlain served twelve years in the United States Senate, where he was instrumental in formulating the selective service draft and food control measures during the First
World War. He achieved notoriety as chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee in openly criticizing the administration of President Woodrow Wilson, in particular the War Department, for its lack of preparedness for war. The rift with President Wilson, a fellow Democrat, cost Chamberlain re-election to Congress in 1920. He is justly remembered as principal sponsor of the Chamberlain-Ferris bill that returned vast grant lands of the Oregon and California Railroad in western Oregon to the public domain. The O & C lands thus secured for eventual administration by the Bureau of Land Management opened thousands of acres to timber harvesting and agricultural development.

With a construction date of 1893, the house is among the early examples of Colonial Revival architecture on Portland's East Side. Briefly characterized, it is a tall, three-story rectangular volume measuring roughly 30 x 60 feet, not including a garage addition on the west end. The upper stories are enclosed by a steeply-pitched gambrel roof. The roof ridge follows the long axis of the house and parallels Tillamook Street. Above the eaves, the street facade is distinguished by three inset shed-roofed dormers of varied width that light the second story. Two smaller shed dormers break the uppermost roof slope, and the overall bilateral symmetry of the building front is reinforced by two wide inside chimney stacks rising from the ridge line. The ground story exterior elevations are clad with lapped weatherboards and are trimmed with capped corner boards, water table, and Classical entablature characteristic of the idiom. The gables have close verges and are shingle-clad.

As a result of the front porch infill directed by Governor Chamberlain in the historic period, the central entrance with its tripartite surround is recessed in a wall plane penetrated by three openings for multi-pane, double-hung windows on either side. Originally, the ground story front was sheltered by roof overhang, and the entrance was flanked by formally-placed polygonal window bays. The end and rear elevations are characterized by shallow wings, various bays and projections, and second story sleeping porches. The interior, as altered in 1904, retains the formal arrangement of rooms on either side of a central cross hall that is the essence of the Colonial Revival genre. Standard, well-crafted woodwork of the style and period includes full Classical cornice moldings and a fine open-string staircase with scrolled handrail that was added by the Governor.
Frank M. Warren, a prominent Portland businessman with salmon packing interests in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska was the first recorded owner of the house in 1893. Some 19 years later, he went down with the RMS Titanic.

George Earle Chamberlain had been governor of Oregon for little more than a year when he bought the house at what is now 1927 NE Tillamook Street on April 4, 1904. It remained in his ownership until Feb. 15, 1928, a few months before his death in Washington, D.C., on July 9, 1928.

The house is significant locally, statewide and nationally because of its long association with George Chamberlain, who was governor of Oregon and a nationally prominent United States senator while he owned the house.

He declined to seek the vice presidential nomination in 1920 because of a breach with President Woodrow Wilson and, according to his obituary in The Morning Oregonian, had been talked up as a successor to Wilson by Eastern Democrats.

George Earle Chamberlain came to Oregon in 1876 from his native Natchez, Miss., a 23-year-old graduate of Washington and Lee University. Scion of an eminent Colonial family that had come to own a cotton plantation in Mississippi, Chamberlain settled in Albany and was, successively, a schoolteacher, Linn County deputy clerk, a practicing attorney and state representative. In 1884, he was elected district attorney for the Third Judicial District.

Chamberlain achieved statewide prominence in 1891 when Gov. Sylvester Pennoyer appointed him to become the state's first attorney general. He was elected to the position in a subsequent vote.

In 1900, Chamberlain became district attorney of Multnomah County.

The Democratic Party, by acclamation, nominated him as their candidate for governor and he won in the 1902 general election in a heavily Republican
Chamberlain was re-elected in 1906. A year later, his 15-year-old daughter Carrie Lee, became Portland's first Rose Festival queen -- Queen Flora of the Rose Carnival (the festival name came later).

In a non-binding vote in November of 1908, the electorate indicated it favored Chamberlain to fill a vacant U.S. Senate seat. The Republican Legislature formally endorsed the vote in what a reporter for The Morning Oregonian called "an unprecedented violation of the customs and principles of party politics." Chamberlain took office on March 4, 1909. He was re-elected by popular vote in 1915.

There was a boomlet for Chamberlain to be Woodrow Wilson's running mate in 1916. The Morning Oregonian reported in Chamberlain's obituary: "Had he so desired, Chamberlain could probably have had the nomination for vice-president instead of Tom Marshall of Indiana, when Wilson was first nominated at Baltimore. Democratic leaders with influence over practically enough votes to nominate him, asked Chamberlain if he wanted the vice-presidency, and he declined. Before his open break with Wilson he was frequently considered in the east as a possible successor to Wilson."

The break with Wilson was bitter: Chamberlain was chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee when the United States entered World War I. He promptly lambasted the Wilson Administration's lack of preparedness for the war.

He opened his criticism with a speech in New York City that, in the words of The Morning Oregonian, "accused the War Department of lack of efficiency. He made specific charges." He later substantiated the charges on the floor of the Senate after Wilson challenged him.

His stance earned Chamberlain the presidential disfavor. Wilson wrote a letter to Oregon Democrats opposing the senator's re-election in 1920.

Chamberlain, briefly considered as a compromise candidate to break the McAdoo-Cox deadlock at the 1920 Democratic National Convention, was swept from office that November in a nationwide Republican landslide.

The new president, Warren G. Harding, appointed Chamberlain to the U.S. Shipping Board, from which he later resigned.

Chamberlain died in Washington, D.C., on July 9, 1928, and was buried with military honors in Arlington National Cemetery.

Altogether, Chamberlain held high public office for more than 40 years,
Chamberlain's accomplishments included the Employer's Liability Act, Banks Deposit Guarantee Law, indeterminate sentence law, the 1909 Water Code that led to state supervision of reclamation and irrigation, installation of locks at Willamette Falls in West Linn, adding two justices to the Oregon Supreme Court and improving conditions for the state's mental patients. He worked for uniformity of county tax assessments and taxation.

Chamberlain compelled the Legislature to follow the public will in referendums and initiatives by vetoing legislation designed to frustrate what had been decided at the ballot box.

He led major reform in the handling of the timbered state school lands, which were being looted by dummy entrymen. The remainder of those lands, now state forests, continue to provide revenue for the Oregon Common School Fund. His state land agent and railroad commissioner, Oswald West, became governor a year after Chamberlain went to the Senate.

Chamberlain vetoed a bill permitting farmers and orchardists to kill song birds they regarded as destructive and later, as a senator, sponsored legislation preventing transportation in interstate commerce of the plumage of protected birds.

In U.S. Senate, Chamberlain presided over formulation of the selective service draft laws, food control measures during World War I and was a strong advocate of military preparedness. He opposed United States membership in the League of Nations, but voted to ratify the Versailles Treaty.

He was a principal sponsor of the Chamberlain-Ferris bill that took from the Southern Pacific Railroad its vast grant lands in Western Oregon -- known as the Oregon and California Railroad grants -- and returned them to federal ownership because the railroad had not lived up to its agreement to open the lands to entry. The act made available thousands of acres of timber and agricultural land for settlement and set in motion the creation of what is now the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's O&C forests.

Chamberlain was active in civic affairs in Portland and was a member of the Oregon Historical Society and the Commercial Club of Portland. He belonged to the Elks and was a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason. He received honorary LL.D. degrees from Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon, and from the University of Mississippi and his alma mater, Washington and Lee University in Virginia.
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


Wood, Carrie Lee Chamberlain, 1987 and undated letters to applicants.

Oregon Historical Society, Photo Files


Klooster, Karl, Duly Selected: George E. Chamberlain, "Round the Roses" column, This Week magazine, Portland, 1989.


City of Portland Bureau of Buildings, Historic Resource Inventory, 1981, Listing No. 6-890-01927

Information on the date house was built, first occupant, date Chamberlain purchased, and date Chamberlain sold the house was taken from Multnomah County Tax Assessment Records, obtained by First American Title Company.
SECOND FLOOR
1893

1. NOTE: INSET BAYS
2. NOTE: DESIGN OF ORIGINAL STAIRS UNKNOWN
3. NOTE: EAST END OF BEDROOM APPEARS TO BE AN ADDITION.
6-890-01927

1927 N.E. Tillamook Street

Irvington, Block 35, Lots 11, 12
QUARTER SECTION MAP #: 2832
Irvington

ORIGINAL FUNCTION: Residence

DATE BUILT: 1893

STYLE: Twentieth Century Colonial

ORIGINAL OWNER: Chamberlain, George

TAX ASSESSOR'S ACCOUNT #: R-42040-7530
ZONING: R5

Rank II
HISTORIC DISTRICT: Irvington (potential)

SPECIAL FEATURES AND MATERIALS:

SPECIAL F/M - ORIGINAL REMOVED:
Porch partially enclosed.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Government, Law in association with George Chamberlain
Government, Law in association with George Chamberlain: Chamberlain (1854-1928) was born near Natchez, Mississippi and graduated from Washington and Lee University with a law degree in 1876. He came to Oregon the same year and practiced law in Linn County until appointed attorney general of the state in 1891. In 1900 he was chosen district attorney for Multnomah County. He then was elected Democratic Governor of Oregon, serving two terms, 1902-1909. He was elected U.S. Senator in 1909. He played an important role in the senate, formulating World War I selective service draft and food control measures. He also served as a member of the U.S. Shipping Board, 1920-1928.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

City of Portland Buildings Bureau microform and card files.

Multnomah County Tax Assessor records, microform, automated data files, and card files (Portland, 1980).

Corning, Howard M., DICTIONARY OF OREGON HISTORY (Portland, 1956).

Present owner as of May 1981: Robert C. and Sunnie L. Baumann Jr.

MAILING ADDRESS: 1927 N.E. Tillamook Street, Portland 97212

No Preservation Funding

Negative: 902-6

Score - Design/Construction: 5
Score - Historical: 10
Score - Rarity:
Score - Environment: 10
Score - Integrity: 2
Score - Intrinsic: 5
Score - Contextual: 12
Score - Total: 64.5