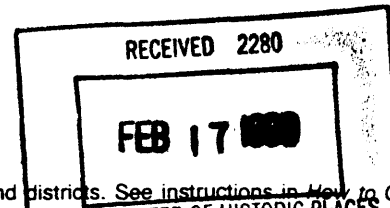


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each section of the form in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Alexander D. McDougall Residence

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 3814 Northwest Thurman Street  not for publication

city or town Portland  vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97210

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally. (x See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jane M. Hamrick Deputy SHPO February 10, 1999  
Signature of certifying official/Title 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 for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Alexander McDougall Residence  
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
1		structures
		objects
3		Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Ellis L. Lawrence

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

n/a

**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)

Arts & Crafts

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stucco, Brick, Wood

roof Composition Shingles

other \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1911

Significant Dates

1911

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Arch: Ellis L. Lawrence

Bldg: Franchell & Parlin

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository:

Alexander D. McDougall Residence  
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property .39 acre

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A	<u>1/0</u>	<u>5/2/1/8/8/0</u>	<u>5/0/4/2/7/58/0</u>	B	<u>/ /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>/ /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>	D	<u>/ /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

#### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

#### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kimberly Lakin & Sally Donovan

organization Lakin/Donovan Joint Venture date June 15, 1998

street & number 1925 SE 56th Street telephone 503-235-1373

city or town Portland state OR zip code 541-386-6461 97215

#### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

#### Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

#### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name James Claypool & Nancy Craven

street & number 3814 NW Thurman Street telephone 503-226-7829

city or town Portland state OR zip code 97210

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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McDougall, Alexander D., House, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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### COMMENTS OF THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE:

The Alexander D. McDougall House (1911) is located in the Willamette Heights neighborhood of Northwest Portland. This two-and-one-half-story house sits high above NW Thurman Street in the center of a large sloped lot. A contributing random rubble basalt wall extends along the front of the property at the sidewalk level, and varies in height from 15' on the eastern end to 3' on the western end. The wall has a low, ivy covered wood and wire fence on top. A contributing garage faced with basalt which has arched hinged double garage doors with iron strapping is built into the hillside on the northeast corner of the lot. The site is fully landscaped with a variety of trees, shrubs, garden areas, stairways and rock walls.

This English Tudor and Arts and Crafts style house is significant as an excellent example of the residential property type within the early work of architect Ellis Lawrence. It was identified as a primary resource in the Ellis Lawrence Historic Inventory and the Northwest Portland Historic Resource Inventory. This house has a more formal front with regular fenestration pattern, where as the regularity is sacrificed on the rear in favor of interior function, a trademark of Ellis Lawrence designs. Lawrence began his career in Massachusetts, stopping in Portland on his way to San Francisco to open an office after the earthquake and fire of 1906. He joined the firm of McNaughton and Raymond, worked on his own during 1910-13, after which he joined with his friend and former classmate William Holford. Lawrence became a prolific designer, civic activist, and a visionary in city planning and education. His teaching and design work influenced the development of architecture within the state of Oregon. He founded the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts in Eugene, in 1914. He organized the school around teaching methods that rejected the traditional philosophy of the Beaux Arts school and he believed in the integration of all the arts and an informal, non-competitive teaching environment. He was acquainted with many nationally known figures in architecture, landscape architecture, and planning. He died in 1946 at the age of 67.

The house is rectangular in plan. The main portion of the house has a hip roof with an intersecting gable to the north that creates an asymmetrical facade. The basement level, fully exposed on the front, and the first level, are clad with red brick, and the second and third floors are covered with roughcast stucco and half-timbering in the gable end and lap siding in the main body of the house. A small bracketed bellcast hood covers the front porch stoop at the entrance. The east elevation contains a veranda and second floor dormer. A sun porch, originally open with small porch post supports, wraps around the southeast corner and is supported by three tapered stucco clad columns. Paired multi-pane floor-to-ceiling windows are between the columns. There is a second floor screened sleeping porch on the northwest corner. Multi-light casement and double hung wood windows are used throughout.

The arched, paneled, oak front door and beveled glass in the top half opens into a vestibule with a marble

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 3 Page 2

McDougall, Alexander D., House, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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floor and wainscotting. The expansive living room has windows along the north wall overlooking the veranda with original French doors and screens leading outside. A Classically-styled fireplace is on the south side flanked by two tall arched niches, a characteristic feature of an Ellis Lawrence design. Stairs to the second floor are through the kitchen or from the southern end of the foyer. There are four bedrooms and two baths on the second floor. Hallway floors are oak, and the original crown molding, baseboard, and door and window trim, all painted, remain. Off the master bedroom is the sleeping porch which has been enclosed. On the north and west elevations the sleeping porch has the original screened openings, lap sided walls, and a tongue and groove ceiling. On the third level there is an open area, storage space, a bedroom, and a bathroom. The basement level once contained a billiards room that is now used as a general recreation room. There is a large fireplace on the south wall, and built-in benches in several places throughout the room.

This house was apparently constructed for \$16,000, and the builders were Franchell and Parlin. It was completed for the Alexander McDougall family in 1911 and they lived here until 1936 when Alexander died. Their son, Natt, resided in the house next door until 1926. Alexander was a prominent businessperson who began his career in the construction business in 1867, at the age of 18, in Wisconsin. He remained there for 28 years working and supervising various construction projects. In 1895 he organized the firm and worked on large railroad projects in Oregon, Washington, and Montana. A project working on a stretch of track in Washington bought him to Portland. He was active in many organizations in Portland. No information can be found about his wife and it is thought that perhaps they were divorced. Alexander died in 1936. After his death, his daughter, Mary McDougall Campbell Butler deeded the property to Lamar and Marie Tooze in 1937. The property changed hands several times before the current owners purchased it in 1997.

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### SETTING

The Alexander D. McDougall Residence is located in the Willamette Heights neighborhood of Northwest Portland on Lot 25 in Blythwood Addition. Situated high above NW Thurman Street, the house is sited in the center of a large sloped lot facing northerly. A random rubble basalt wall extends along the front of the property at sidewalk level (contributing feature). The wall varies in height from approximately fifteen feet on the eastern end to three feet on the western end. A low, ivy covered wood and wire fence is on top of the retaining wall. A garage is built into the hillside in the northeast corner of the tax lot along NW Thurman Street (see garage description). Residences, barely visible because of landscaping, borders the house on the east and west. NW Aspen Street is located south of the McDougall Residence.

The residence has a variety of landscape features including various types of trees and shrubs, rock walls, garden areas, and stairways. The lot is well tended and has a combination of open lawn, terraces, and treed areas.

A gate at the sidewalk level on NW Thurman Street opens to the main concrete stairway and path. The curved path leads to the base of the house where a flight of stairs leads up to the front door. The path also extends around the west side of the house and connects with a steep stairway which accesses the back yard. Another flight of stairs lead further south to NW Aspen Street. Open lawn extends across most of the front yard. A few maple trees are clustered near the gate. Perimeter plantings along the north elevation include camellias, a Japanese maple, a scotch pine, ferns, and bluebells.

Flowering shrubs, maples, and ferns line the east elevation. A small area of lawn is between the house and fence in the east side yard. A row of arborvitae and a wood fence define most of the eastern property line.

The western side yard is composed of a variety of plantings including maples, flowering shrubs, rhododendrons, ferns, and bluebells. At the western perimeter of the house is a steep staircase leading to the back yard. This stair is lined with a concrete and basalt retaining wall. Low shrubs, roses, iris, bluebells, and vinca are planted in the southwestern corner of the yard.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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The back yard is terraced to accommodate the steep slope leading to NW Aspen Street. Low shrubs form a border along a concrete path which extends east-west along the house perimeter. Shrubs are planted adjacent to the house. An ivy covered, basalt retaining wall rises from the path to the south, forming the first of two terraces. Atop the first terrace is lawn and a basalt path. A low basalt retaining wall defines the second terrace which is edged with boxwood. Fruit trees are planted in this second terrace. A basalt retaining wall topped with a wood fence and hedge lines the southern boundary of the property. The concrete staircase which extends from the house along the western elevation, ends at a wood gate at NW Aspen Street.

In the southeast corner of the lot is a small garden with basalt retaining walls on the north and south sides. Below this garden is a flat area which includes a dog pen.

### EXTERIOR

The overall shape of the Alexander McDougall Residence is rectangular in plan and measures approximately 34.5 ft. (north-south) by 68 ft. (east-west). The main body of the house has a hip roof, with a double intersecting gable on the north (front) facade. The second floor of the gabled wing projects slightly over the first floor. Another double gable intersects the rear (south) elevation. A hip roofed dormer is on the east elevation.

### NORTH ELEVATION (FRONT)

Though the entrance to the house is in the center of the north facade, the bulk of the intersecting gable is off-center to the west, creating an asymmetrical front. The basement level is fully exposed on this elevation and has a series of multi-pane casement windows. The basement and first floor elevations are clad with red brick, and the second floor is covered with roughcast stucco and half-timbering in the intersecting gable and lap siding in the main body of the house. The third floor is only visible in the intersecting gable and is sheathed with stucco half-timbering. Modillions accent the course between the first and second floors.

Stairs to the main entrance ascends from the west and are built against the house wall; a brick wall conceals the concrete stairs from view. An arched roof supported by brackets covers the front



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door. The arched screen door and front door are both original. The verandah, on the east end of the facade, is composed of an iron railing (not original), brick newel posts, and a concrete floor.

Three double-hung, multi-pane (dining room) windows are west of the front door in the projecting gabled wing. Beyond these windows at the far west end are two multi-paned casements flanked by fixed sidelights and topped with a fixed, multi-paned transom (breakfast porch). An engaged column accents the corner of the house. East of the front door are a series of four casement windows (living room) with an original flower box below.

The second floor windows in the gabled wing are a group of four multi-pane casements set in an arched opening. Directly above the front entrance is a group of four multi-pane casements and a single casement that faces east. In the lap sided east end of the second floor are two multi-pane, one over one, double-hung windows. At the west end are four screened openings denoting the sleeping porch. The only third floor windows on this elevation are a pair of small casements in the gabled wing. Modillions accent the roof line.

### EAST ELEVATION (SIDE)

The east elevation is composed of a partially exposed basement level, first floor verandah, sun porch, and second floor dormer. The brick basement level has a multi-pane basement door, in the northeast corner. Set into the slope, the basement level graduates to below grade at the southeast corner.

The walls of the first floor are covered with roughcast stucco. Because of the steeply sloped hip roof, the second floor consists of a jerkinhead dormer (clad with lap siding and some stucco) and three windows (two casements flanking a central fixed window).

The verandah extends around to the east elevation with the second floor extending over the first floor creating a covered verandah. This extension is supported by tapered stucco clad columns. The northeast corner of the verandah is enclosed with a low brick wall with small arched weepholes at the base. A wood railing with square balusters and brick newel posts lines the east side of the verandah. The ceiling of the covered verandah is made up of flush boards.

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French doors open onto the verandah from the living room on the east end. Another pair of wide multi-pane French doors open off the sun porch on the south end. A tapered concrete column accents the southeast corner.

### SOUTH ELEVATION (REAR)

The south elevation is composed of three floors covered with a central intersecting double gable. The entire elevation is covered with lap siding. Fenestration is irregular according to the internal functions. The sun porch wraps around the southeast corner and projects slightly from the main body of the house. The hip roof is supported by three tapered stucco clad columns. Paired multi-pane floor to ceiling glass windows are between the columns. The sun porch floor is raised off the ground about one foot; the porch floor and columns rest on a concrete base with red brick edging. Wood brackets decorate the eave of the sun porch.

An oriel window, covered by a small hip roof, is west of the sun porch. The tripartite casement windows light the interior stairwell. Further west is a back door covered with an arched portico similar to that over the front door. Low six pane windows flank the door; the windows light a half bath and the basement stairway. An eight over one, double-hung, multi-pane kitchen window is next to the enclosed back porch. A six pane window, east of the kitchen window, lights the stairway that ascends from the kitchen. This porch is covered with a hip roof and has a stucco wall at the southwest corner. Lattice encloses the east wall and half of the south wall. Inside this small porch are storage shelves and a door leading into the kitchen.

Above the porch at the second floor are a pair of eight over one, double-hung windows. A pair of multi-pane casement windows are above the back door and a small three over one window is above the oriel window. Above the sun porch is a flat roofed sleeping porch with three one over one, double-hung windows. At the third floor level, in the double intersecting gable, are a pair of multi-pane casements in the larger of the gables. A single multi-pane casement window is in the smaller of the two gables (to the east). Two stucco chimneys with brick caps penetrate the roof on this elevation.

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### WEST ELEVATION (SIDE)

The west elevation is composed of a partially exposed basement level, and the first and second floors. The first floor walls are covered with roughcast stucco and the second floor walls are sheathed with lap siding. A multi-pane basement door is at the north corner. Just south of the basement door are two hinged multi-pane windows. Concrete stairs, leading to the back yard, line this side wall of the basement. The basement is fully underground at the southwest corner.

The brick basement wall supports a stucco column on the northwest corner at the first floor level. A door with a four light transom is directly above the basement door; a porch and/or stairway has been removed and the door secured shut with two horizontal boards. South of this door is a double-hung, eight over one window (pantry). Further south is a pair of eight over one windows (kitchen). At the southwest corner of the first floor is the stucco and lattice enclosed porch (described above).

The northwest corner of the second floor contains the screened sleeping porch. To the south are a pair of multi-pane casement windows and an eight over one, double-hung window at the south end. A jerkinshead dormer, on the third floor, is covered with lap siding and has a pair of multi-pane casement windows.

### INTERIOR

The first floor is composed of a living room and sun porch on the eastern half and a dining room, kitchen, breakfast room, and service area on the western half. A large foyer which extends north (front) to south (rear) divides the two halves. The second floor is a series of rooms arranged in a U-shape with stairs descending from the center of the hall. This plan allows all of the lower story formal rooms and the upstairs bedrooms to look over the spectacular northern views. The house has been partially rewired and has a hot water heating system.

### FIRST FLOOR

#### *Entrance Vestibule, Foyer, and Sunporch*

The arched oak front door has beveled glass in the top half and recessed panels in the lower portion. The door opens onto a small vestibule. The west wall of the vestibule has painted wainscoting with a mirrored wall above. A closet is on the east wall. The

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marble floor in the vestibule is a more recent addition. Two steps on the south end of the vestibule ascend to a larger foyer area which separates the living room from the dining room.

The foyer extends across the depth of the house to the south wall. The room is finished with two feet high wainscoting and coffered ceilings. All the woodwork in the foyer has been painted. The floors are oak. Two steps, at the southern end of the foyer past the living and dining room doors, lead up to a landing. The landing is embellished with a built-in arched window seat. An oriel window, above the seat, has a deep sill.

The sun porch is accessed from the landing; two steps down to the east. The sun porch is finished with a red tile floor, a mirrored ceiling (added later), and two built-in cupboards with arched doors on the north wall. The east and south walls are composed of full-length, multi-pane glass windows and French doors.

### *Living and Dining Rooms*

The expansive living room, on the east side of the foyer, has windows along the north wall overlooking the verandah and north yard. The hot water heat register is located under these windows. On the east wall of the living room are French doors that lead to the east side verandah. The doors have the original wooden screen doors. The fireplace is on the south wall and has a classically styled wood mantel with scrolled brackets and pilasters. The original hearth and face tiles of the fireplace has been replaced with marble. On either side of the fireplace are two tall arched niches, a characteristic feature of an Ellis Lawrence design. The crown molding, low wainscoting, and door and window trim are painted, and the floor in the living room is oak.

West of the living room, two wide French doors open into the dining room. The walls are composed of full-length oak panels extending from the floor to within twelve inches of the ceiling. The area above the paneling has been covered with beveled mirrors (not original). The coffered ceiling is painted. Three double-hung windows are on the north elevation and two heat registers flank the windows. A paneled swinging door on the west wall opens into the pantry and a glass door leads to the breakfast room.

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### *Breakfast Room, Kitchen, and Service Areas*

The breakfast room is a small area, big enough for a table for two. A row of windows on the north wall of the room looks over the grounds and distant views. The west wall of this room has a boarded up exterior door and an opening in the south wall leads to the pantry. Wood boards cover the ceiling and the floors are made of wood (a type of parquet pattern). The pantry, a narrow room extending east-west, has a window on the west wall. The room is lined with original cabinetry on the north and south walls, and the floor is covered with brick. A door to the kitchen is on the south wall.

The kitchen occupies the southwest corner of the house and has been remodeled. Some of the upper cabinets may be original. Windows are on the west and south walls, and the back door is on the south wall. A work island is in the middle of the room. Two openings on the east wall of the kitchen leads to the second floor stairs and the back hall/service area.

The service hall includes a half bath located along the south wall, a space for a desk, and steps to the back door and the basement. The half bath has an original toilet and wall sink. A desk sits underneath an art glass (bird and rose motif) window. This interior window helps light the desk area. Behind this room is the back stairwell. Steps down lead to the back door in the south wall. Stairs to the basement are east of the back door.

The stairs to the second floor are accessed through the kitchen or from the southern end of the foyer. A pair of casement windows on the south wall lights the stair hall at the first landing. These windows are also what provides light through the art glass window into the service hall.

### SECOND FLOOR

#### *Hall*

The landing at the second floor is defined by square varnished newel posts and balusters which frame a built-in bench. The second floor hall extends east-west with bedrooms at each end and along the north elevation. There are four bedrooms and two baths on this floor. The hallway floors are oak. The crown molds, base trim, and door and window trim in the bedrooms are painted. Near the center of the hall on the south side is a built-in linen

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cabinet. The doors in the hallway are unpainted mahogany on the hall side and painted on the interior room side.

### *Master Bedroom and Bathroom*

The largest (master) bedroom is located at the east end of the hall. Two double-hung windows, on the north elevation, light the bedroom. The east wall of the room has a separate dressing alcove (jerkinshead roofed dormer) with built-in shelving, and closets on the north and south walls and a window on the east wall. The west wall of the bedroom is lined with built-in cabinets and closets, and has the door to the hall. The south wall has a door that accesses the sleeping porch. Originally open, the sleeping porch is now enclosed with windows on the south and east walls. A small window on the west wall of the sleeping porch lights the south bathroom.

The large bathroom is along the south wall next to the stairs and has original detailing and fixtures which include white hexagonal tile floor, tiled wainscoting, tub, and oval pedestal sink. A large built-in mirror is on the south wall and a built-in cabinet is on the north wall. A small window is on the south wall.

### *Other Bedrooms*

Two bedrooms are located along the north elevation. The eastern-most bedroom has four windows on the north elevation that overlook the front yard and one window on the east elevation. An original wall-hung sink is west of these windows. Built-in closets and drawers line the south wall. The bedroom to the west of this room has a large arched window opening on the north wall with a built-in bench below. Along the opposite wall is a built-in dressing table with a mirror, flanked by closets and drawers. There are two doors on the west wall; one leads to a bathroom and the other opens onto a sleeping porch.

The sleeping porch is in original condition with screened openings on the north and west elevations, lap sided walls, a tongue and groove ceiling, and a painted leather floor. The bathroom is in original condition with white hexagonal floor tiles, tiled wainscoting, a built-in cabinet, a tub, and corner wall sink. The bathroom window is on the west elevation.

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The smallest bedroom is in the southwest corner of the house. This bedroom has windows on the south and west walls. The bathroom is accessed through a door on the north wall and the east wall has built-in closets, drawers, and door to the hall. The flooring in this room is fir.

### THIRD FLOOR

A pair of small casement windows light the stairwell to the third floor. The newel posts and railing that line the stairs are painted. The third floor is composed of an open area, storage space, a bedroom, and bathroom. Closets are on either side of the stairwell. A storage area is along the south wall. A large finished open area, with no windows, occupies the east end of the attic. A bedroom in the front (north) gabled wing has windows along the north wall. The bathroom is at the west end and retains its original clawfoot tub, sink, toilet, built-in cabinet, and original wall sconces. The window in the west wall of the bathroom is in the jerkinshead roofed dormer.

### BASEMENT

The basement stairs have a landing at the mid-way point with a built-in bench on the south wall. The bench has a beaded board back. The stairs turn at this landing and head north to another landing where a door on the west wall opens into the laundry/boiler room (northwest section of the house). Further north, the stairs lead to a room which was once used as a billiards room. This room occupies the north/northeast portion of the house.

The billiards room is now used as a recreation room. A large fireplace on the south wall has a red brick face with a plain wood mantel. A built-in bench, identical to the bench at the stair landing, is next to the fireplace. Other built-in benches are located in the northwest corner of the room (the two are placed at 90 degrees to each other). A multi-pane door to the side yard is located on the east wall. Windows along the north wall provide ample light to the room.

The boiler/laundry room is a large, open space with a room more recently enclosed in the north portion of the area. An exterior door and windows are on the west wall and windows are along the

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north wall. At the south end of this space is a wood room and a half bath. The tiny half bath has a high window on the south wall at the ground level.

### ALTERATIONS

Major variations or alterations from the original elevation drawings: The current door (that is boarded closed) on the west elevation of the breakfast room was shown on the original elevations as a multi-pane casement window. The door was most likely built later and, according to local sources, once lead to a bridge adjoining the French doors on the house to the west which was reportedly owned by Alexander McDougall's sister.

The sunporch in the southeast corner of the house was originally open in plan with some smaller porch post supports. The sunporch is now enclosed with full length multi-pane windows and French doors. The sleeping porch on the second floor above the sunroom has also been enclosed with half walls and one over one double-hung wood sash windows. Original drawings also show an arched solid wall with full length mirrors on the east wall of the landing at the south end of the first floor vestibule. This is now a wide opening that leads to the enclosed sunporch that is in the southeast corner of house.

Other minor alterations include the installation of a marble floor in the entrance vestibule, removal or covering of the original fireplace tiles, and the addition of mirrors in the dining room and sunporch.

### GARAGE

The garage is in the northeast corner of the property and fronts NW Thurman Street. It is in fair condition. Built into the hillside, the single car garage is faced with the basalt which composes the rock retaining wall. The arched hinged double garage doors are composed of vertical boards secured by iron strapping. The upper portion of the doors have a series of narrow vertical windows. The interior is finished with poured concrete and the ceiling is wood. An identical garage, immediately to the east, is associated with the neighboring Natt McDougall Residence. The garage is considered a Contributing element as it was constructed at the same time as the house.



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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Arts and Crafts style Alexander McDougall Residence, constructed in 1911, is architecturally significant under criterion "C" as an example of the residential property type within the early work of architect Ellis Lawrence. It is an excellent intact example of the Arts and Crafts style in which Lawrence worked in the early part of his career. The Alexander McDougall Residence was ranked as a Primary resource in both the Ellis Lawrence Historic Inventory and the Northwest Portland Historic Resource Inventory (1993). Notable exterior features include: the landscaping, rock walls, decorative half-timbering, brick work, and the verandah. Notable interior features include; oak paneling, niches, built-in benches, and art glass window. The floor plan is notable for its comfort and efficiency in spite of the large size of the house. Also notable is the siting of the house which takes full advantage of the spectacular views.

The Natt McDougall residence, also nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, is located at 3728 NW Thurman Street, directly east of the Alexander McDougall Residence. The two McDougall residences are excellent examples of houses that represent the early works of Ellis Lawrence.

The period of significance date is 1911. The beginning date corresponds to the building's construction date. The Alexander McDougall Residence represents the theme of Architecture.

### REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Based on the Registration Requirements as outlined in Section G of the "Ellis Lawrence Multiple Property Submittal", the Alexander McDougall Residence was awarded 77 points making it a primary property, eligible for the National Register (see the included Inventory Form and Evaluation sheet). The property ranks high in integrity of the interior, exterior, site, and setting and ranks above average in distinctive details and craftsmanship. It also gains points for being in the immediate vicinity of another Lawrence design. The building was also awarded points for clearly being the design of Ellis Lawrence (rather than other firm members). Though no points for its historic associations was given, the architectural points bring it to a Primary ranking.

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### **HISTORIC CONTEXT: WILLAMETTE HEIGHTS**

The Alexander McDougall Residence is located in the historic Willamette Heights neighborhood of Northwest Portland. The first Euro-American to claim land in what would later become known as Willamette Heights was Danford Balch. Balch settled on a donation land claim of 346 acres in October 1850. Nine years after he claimed his land, Balch was publicly hung for the murder of his unwanted son-in-law. Balch and his land, however, played another important role in the early development of Portland. In 1863-64, pipes were laid from the Balch Creek (the creek crosses NW Thurman Street at about NW 28th Street) to the center of Portland; the pipe system became one of Portland's first water systems.

From 1849 to 1865 the initial definition of land ownership in Northwest Portland was established; the next 20 years brought in new businesses and residences as the city expanded to the northwest. Willamette Heights, however, was still largely undeveloped during this period. The mid-1880s to the 1890s brought a wave of development to Willamette Heights.

In 1889, portions of the Balch's donation land claim, owned by Henry and John Green, and Herman Leonard of the Portland Water Company sold 146 acres to land developer John Hale. In 1890, Hale platted Willamette Heights. The Scottish American Investment Trust Company of Edinburgh purchased the Willamette Heights plat in 1892 from Hale and began marketing the lots. Interest in the area increased after the Portland Railway Company extended the trolley system up NW Thurman. In September 1891, the Thurman Street line was extended across Balch Creek into Willamette Heights. Houses appeared gradually in the plat but develop was slow until some other amenities were brought to the Heights. In 1900, a new city water system was installed in the area, and in 1903, access was improved when a new steel bridge replaced the wooden bridge across Balch Creek. The Heights was also connected to the city sewer system in 1907.

The 1905 Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition was instrumental in the development of Portland and the Northwest section of the city. A 400-acre Guild's Lake site was chosen in 1902. The fair grounds were designed by the prominent east coast landscape architect, John Olmsted. In June 1905, the fair opened and ran through the middle of October. Thousands of people from all over the country came to the exposition (the main entrance gate to the fair was at

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NW 26th and NW Upshur streets). Property owners in Willamette Heights could look over the fair grounds from their lots high on the Heights. Excursion trolleys brought visitors into the Heights to see the new residences cropping up on the hillside.

The Exposition spurred a real estate boom in Portland. After the Exposition, many new houses were constructed in Willamette Heights. By 1909, most of the lots in Willamette Heights were sold so another addition was platted by Percy Blyth. The new addition was called Blythswood and extended the original plat further west on NW Thurman Street (encompassing the McDougall houses).

The popularization of the automobile marks the next building boom in Willamette Heights. The automobile, along with paved streets, made it possible to build housing in areas that had previously been difficult to build on. Side streets branched off of NW Thurman as houses were built on lots previously inaccessible. Willamette Heights continued to develop through the 1920s and 1930s. World War II brought a lull in building and some of the larger houses in the Heights were broken up into apartments because of the housing shortage. Building again resumed in the 1950s through the 1970s. The residences in Willamette Heights today represent many architectural styles from Portland's different development periods. The Alexander McDougall Residence was designed in the Arts and Crafts style.

### **ALEXANDER MCDUGALL RESIDENCE**

The Alexander McDougall Residence was constructed in 1911 on NW Thurman Street on a sloping lot with a commanding view. In the June 17, 1911 issue of the *Pacific Builder and Engineer*, the Alexander McDougall houses is mentioned. The article states that Ellis L. Lawrence was constructing a 2 1/2 story frame house on NW Thurman and NW Aspen streets for A.D. McDougall, at a cost of \$13,000. The builders were Franchell and Parlin. The article continues, stating that Lawrence will also design a \$12,500, 2 1/2 story frame house at the same location (the Natt McDougall House next door). A one-story reinforced concrete garage was also built between the two houses for a cost of \$750 (used by both families).

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A June 12, 1911, *Portland Daily Abstract* has an article on the Alexander and Natt McDougall houses that were to be constructed. The article states that:

*A.D. McDougall's residence will be a two-story eight-room building 36x72 feet in size and will cost about \$16,000. The site chosen for the home is an irregular-shaped lot on one of the finest view points in Blythswood and the house itself will be a sightly structure of English half-timbered type, the first story being of brick and the upper part of rough cast plaster on metal lath with the timbers breaking the uniformity of the plaster effect. The basement will extend under the entire building and in addition to containing the hot water heating plant, laundry, and fuel rooms will contain a large billiard room. The floors will be of hardwood. The living room and hall will be finished in mahogany, the dining room oak and the remainder of the building in white enamel and selected grain Oregon fir. A large Moravian tile fireplace will ornament the living room and a plainer one will be put in the billiard room. There will be two sleeping porches and the attic room will contain the servants' quarters and servant's bathrooms. There will be a large exterior stone chimney and a high stone retaining wall will be built along the street front. In addition to the general contract the following other contracts were awarded: The plumbing to Thomas E. Hulme, the stone work to Burgoyne, the painting to Parker and the heating to Fulmer & Walker.*

The residence was completed by the fall of 1911 and the Alexander McDougall family moved into the residence. The McDougall family lived there until 1936 when Alexander McDougall died. The McDougall's son, Natt, resided in the house next door until about 1926.

### **THE ALEXANDER AND NATT MCDUGALL RESIDENCES**

Next door to the Alexander McDougall Residence is the Natt McDougall (son of Alexander) Residence, also nominated for the National Register. Taken as a pair, the two highly intact houses are a significant representation of the early work of Ellis Lawrence. These two houses represent some of Ellis Lawrence's best residential work. They are each strong designs, similar but

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distinct, possibly reflecting some specific tastes of the original owners. The off-set entrance of the Natt McDougall Residence reflects a more introspective character; the central front entrance of the Alexander McDougall Residence reflects a more social character. The stone facing of the Natt McDougall Residence has handmade craftsman-like quality whereas the smooth red brick facing of the Alexander McDougall Residence has a more formal quality.

In both houses space is saved by keeping the staircase informal and tucked along the back of the house. Although the facades have regular fenestration, the regularity is sacrificed on the rear in favor of interior function, a trademark of Ellis Lawrence designs. The houses were done early in Lawrence's career and it is evident he lavished attention on them both. These two fine houses most likely contributed to his numerous future residential commissions. In examining the two, both versions of the Arts and Crafts style, Lawrence's sheer love of designing a beautiful house is evident.

### **ALEXANDER D. MCDUGALL**

Alexander D. McDougall was a prominent businessperson in Portland. McDougall was born on a farm in Cornwell, Ontario on August 15, 1849. McDougall began his career in the construction business in 1867 when, at the age of 18, he began working near Trempeleau, Wisconsin. He remained in that region for 28 years, working as a foreman and supervisor on construction projects in Eastern Canada and the Mid-West. At this time he worked with the construction firm of Harrison and Green of Milwaukee and D.D. Streeter and Co. of Chicago.

In 1895, McDougall organized the firm of McDougall & Duffy and in 1902 the firm was reorganized into McDougall & Son. From the time the first company was organized until about 1911, the company worked on large railroad projects in Oregon, Washington, and Montana. The company worked with the Minneapolis firm of Winston Bros. from 1909 to 1911 on a 72 mile stretch of track between Tenino and Kalama, Washington. It was this project that brought McDougall to Portland. In 1911, he built his new home on NW Thurman Street. McDougall again re-organized his firm in 1911 and formed the Guthrie-McDougall Company of St. Paul, Minnesota. The company worked on a variety of general construction projects.

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Alexander McDougall was active in many organizations in Portland including being on the Board of Directors of the Catholic Charities in Portland, and a member of the Knight of Columbus, the Waverly Country Club, the Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club, the St. Paul Curling Club, the Milwaulkie Curling Club and the Butte, Montana Curling Club.

McDougall died on July 23, 1936 at his home on NW Thurman Street. he was 87 at the time of his death and was survived by a son, Natt McDougall, a daughter, Mrs. C.A. Campbell, a brother Aneas McDougall, and one great-grandchild. McDougall was buried in Mount Calvary Cemetery in Portland.

### **PROPERTY OWNERSHIP**

Alexander McDougall lived at 3814 NW Thurman Street from the time the house was constructed in 1911 until his death in 1936. After his death, McDougall's daughter Mary McDougall Campbell Bulter deeded the property to Lamar and Marie S. Tooze in 1937. The Tooze's deeded the property to Richard and Marguerite Hunt in 1974. The property changes hands three other times between 1976 and 1997. The current owners purchased the parcel in 1997.

### **ELLIS F. LAWRENCE (1879-1946)**

Ellis F. Lawrence was born in Malden Massachusetts in 1879. He received both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in architecture from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After graduating in 1902, Lawrence worked for architects John Calvin Stevens and Steven Codman. He also studied in Europe for six months, where he met and married Alice Louise Millett of Portland, Maine. In 1906 Lawrence left for the Pacific Coast where he intended to open an office in San Francisco. He stopped in Portland, Oregon along the way to visit his friend E. B. McNaughton, a Portland architect. After his visit, and the disastrous earthquake and fire in San Francisco of the same year, Lawrence decided to remain in Portland, Oregon. He joined the firm of McNaughton and Raymond in November 1906. In February of 1910 Lawrence left the firm and worked independently until 1913 when his friend and former M.I.T. classmate William G. Holford joined him in partnership (Ellis Lawrence Building Survey).

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Ellis F. Lawrence was to become a prolific designer, civic activist and a visionary in city planning and education. Both his teaching and design work influenced the development of architecture within the state of Oregon. In 1914 Lawrence founded the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts in Eugene, Oregon. He organized the school around teaching methods which rejected the traditional philosophy of the Beaux Arts school. He believed in the integration of all the arts and an informal, non-competitive teaching environment; ideas which were regarded as progressive for the era. This teaching philosophy as developed by Lawrence remains the basis for education at the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts.

Lawrence eventually became acquainted with many of Portland's most influential businessmen. He also knew many nationally known figures such as Frank Lloyd Wright, Bernard Maybeck and the Olmsted brothers. He even collaborated with the noted landscape architects and city planners, John and Frederick Olmsted, on the Peter Kerr residence in Portland. Lawrence was selected as the first vice president of the American Institute of Architects and served on juries for numerous national design competitions, such as the Victory Memorial in Honolulu, the Stick Exchange Building and Bank of Italy in San Francisco. He was president of the Collegiate Schools of Architecture Association from 1932-34.

Ellis Lawrence was also active at the city and state level in Oregon. He served as state advisory architect for the Home Owners Loan Corporation, and during 1933-34 served on the Northwest District Committee for the Public Works of Art project of the U. S. Treasury Department. He was also president of the local chapter of the A.I.A., an organization he helped to form. Lawrence was involved in the organization of the Portland Architectural Club, the Architectural League of the Pacific Coast and the Oregon Association of Building Construction. He served on the Portland City Planning Commission and belonged to the Portland Art Association, the Irvington Club and City Club. Ellis Lawrence, his wife and three sons, Henry Abbott, Denison Howells, and Amos Millett, resided in the Irvington neighborhood. Lawrence worked three days a week in his Portland office and spent two days a week teaching and serving as dean of the School of Architecture and Allied Arts in Eugene. He died in Eugene in 1946 at the age of 67 (Ellis Lawrence Building Survey).

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### **VERBAL DESCRIPTION**

The Alexander D. McDougall Residence is located on Lot 25 of Blythswood Addition in Williamette Heights, Northwest Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, Section 29, T1N, R1E, Willamette Meridian. The nominated area covers approximately 0.39 acres.

### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The nominated area encompasses the tax lot which was originally owned by the Natt McDougall family. The boundary corresponds to the historic boundary of the property. The nominated area includes the residence, grounds, and a garage.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. PHOTOS Page 1

McDougall, Alexander D., House, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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### Common Label Information:

1. McDougall, Alexander D., House
2. Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon
3. Photographer: Sally Donovan
4. Date: May 1998
5. Negative on file at Donovan & Assoc. Photo, Hood River

### Photo No. 1:

6. West elevation of building. Camera facing east.

### Photo No. 2:

6. West elevation of building. Camera facing east.

### Photo No. 3:

6. North elevation of building. Camera facing southeast.

### Photo No. 4:

6. East elevation of building. Camera facing northwest.

### Photo No. 5:

6. South Elevation of building. Camera facing northwest.

### Photo No. 6:

6. West elevation of building. Camera facing northeast.

### Photo No. 7:

6. West elevation, window detail. Camera facing southeast.

### Photo No. 8:

6. Northeast corner of sunporch. Camer facing southwest.

### Photo No. 9:

6. Living room. Corridor. Camera facing northeast.

### Photo No. 10:

6. Dining room. Camera facing southeast.

### Photo No.11:

6. Breakfast room. Camera facing northeast.

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Section No. PHOTOS Page 2

McDougall, Alexander D., House, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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**Photo No. 12:**

6. Window seat, first floor. Camera facing east.

**Photo No. 13:**

6. Upstairs bedroom detail. Camera facing northeast.

**Photo No. 14:**

6. Third floor bathroom. Detail of sink and bathroom.

**Photo No. 15:**

6. Front door, west elevation. Camera facing east.

**Photo No.16:**

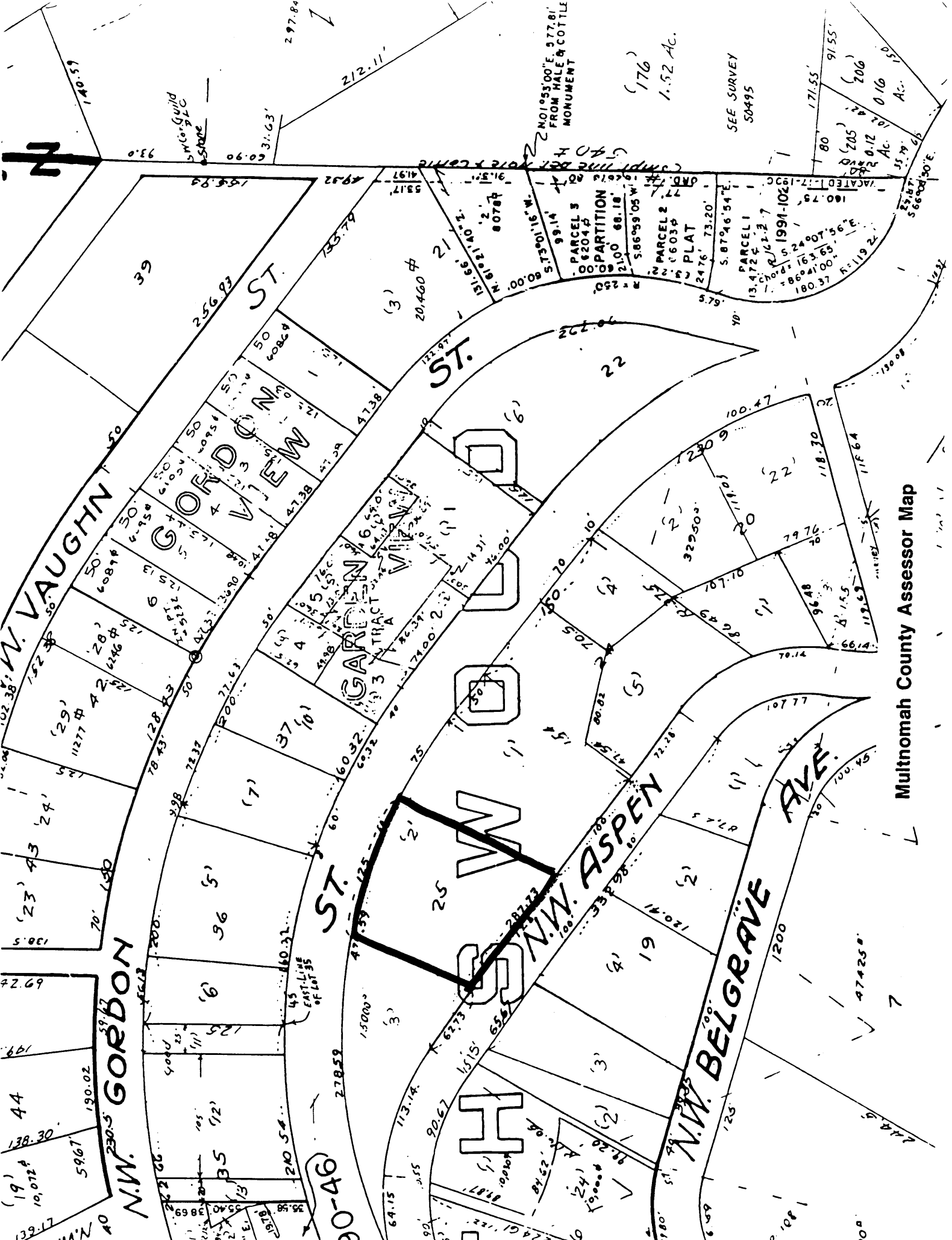
6. Stained glass window on west wall of main staircase to upper floors.

**Photo No. 17:**

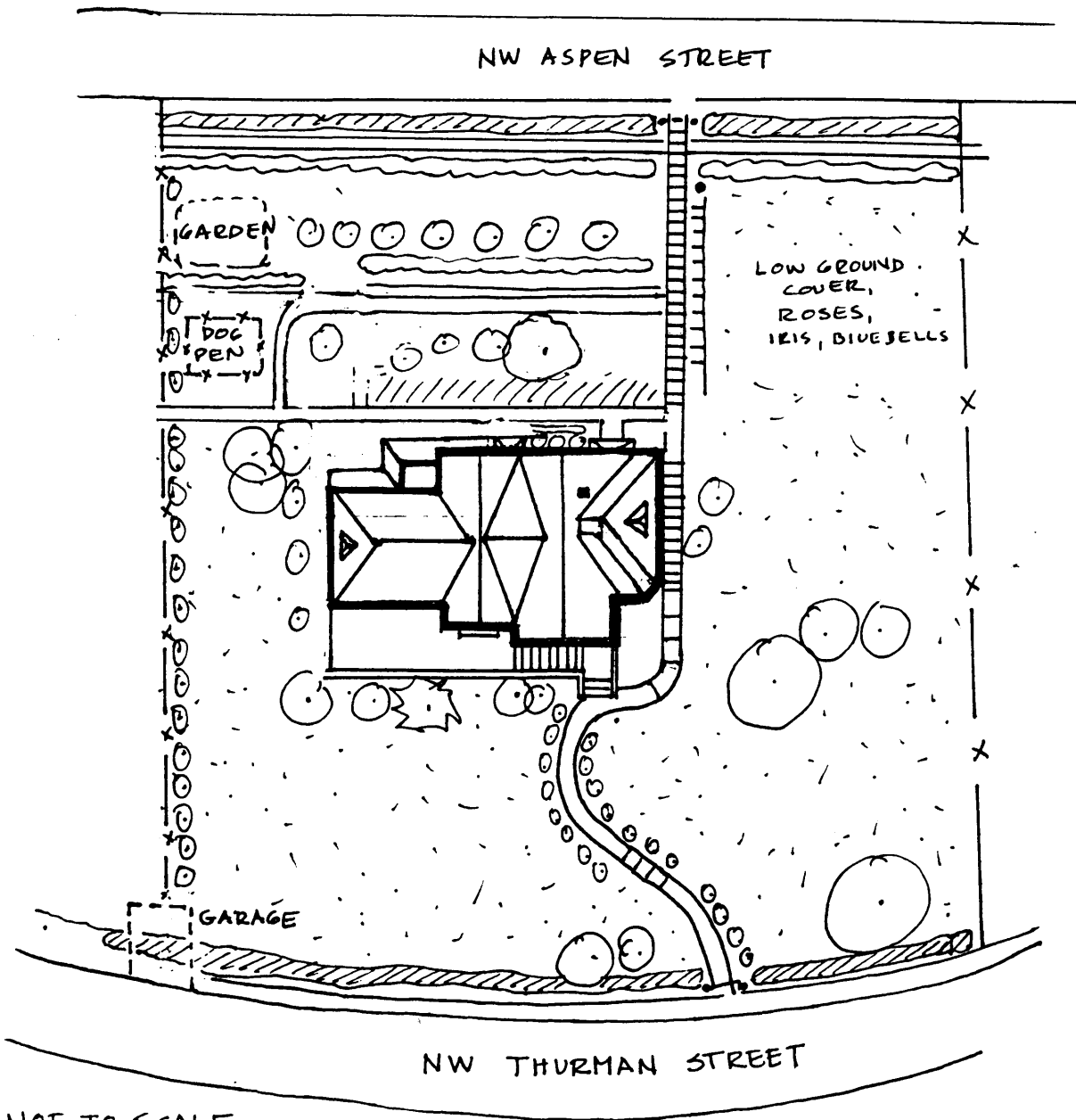
6. Landscape, back stairs in southeast part of lot.

**Photo No. 18:**

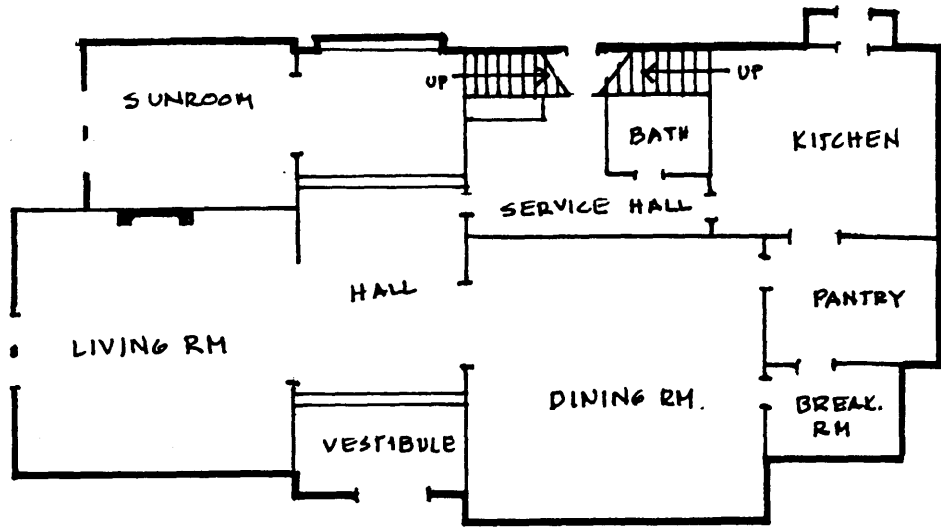
6. Garage, west elevation. Camera facing east.



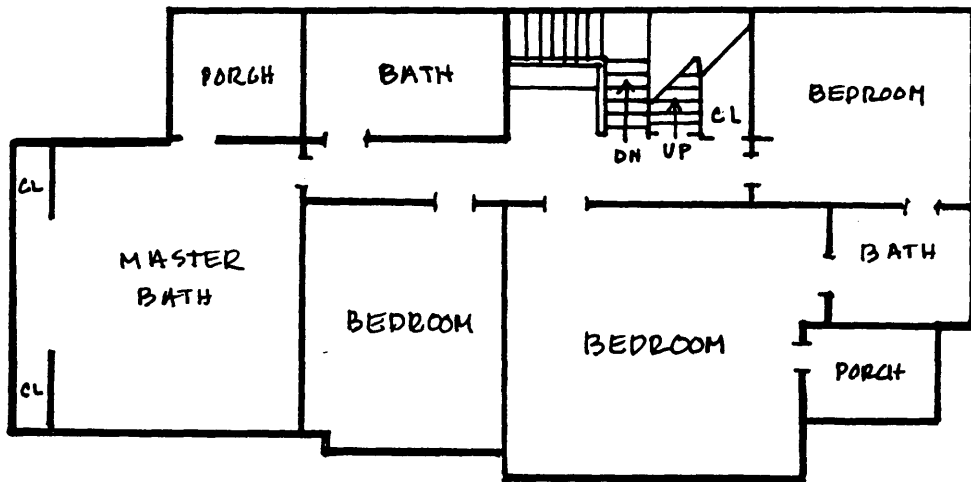
Multnomah County Assessor Map



**ALEXANDER D. MCDUGALL HOUSE  
3814 NW THURMAN ST  
PORTLAND, MULTNOMAH COUNTY**



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

**ALEXANDER D. MCDUGALL HOUSE  
3814 NW THURMAN ST  
PORTLAND, MULTNOMAH COUNTY**