

Oregon Historic Site Form

Graves, Mary, House
211 5th Ave
Oregon City, Clackamas County

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

address: 211 5th Ave ☐ apprx. addr

historic name: Graves, Mary, House

Oregon City ☐ vcnty Clackamas County

current/
other names: Gill, John, House

Optional Information

assoc addresses:
(former addresses, intersections, etc.)

location descr:
(remote sites)

block nbr: _____ lot nbr: _____ tax lot nbr: _____

township: 3 S range: 2E section: 6 1/4: _____

zip: _____

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

resource type: Building height (# stories): 1.5

total # eligible resources: 1 total # ineligible resources: 1

elig. evaluation: eligible/contributing

NR status: Listed in Historic District

primary constr date: 1889 (c.) ☐ secondary date: _____ (c.) ☐
(optional--use for major addns)

NR date listed: _____
(indiv listed only; see
Grouping for hist dist)

primary orig use: Single Dwelling

orig use comments: _____

secondary orig use: _____

primary style: Victorian Era: Other

prim style comments: _____

secondary style: Vernacular

sec style comments: _____

primary siding: Horizontal Board

siding comments: _____

secondary siding: _____

plan type: _____

architect: _____

builder: _____

comments/notes: Alterations in 1910, and recent rehabilitation in 2000; new garage replaced old garage in 1998

GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS

survey project name or other grouping name: Canemah Historic District, Listed on 10/11/1978

Listed Historic District

Canemah Historic District RLS Survey Update, 2007

Survey & Inventory Project

farmstead/cluster name: _____

external site #: _____
(ID# used in city/agency database)

SHPO INFO FOR THIS PROPERTY

NR date listed: _____ NHD

ILS survey date: 4/3/2008

RLS survey date: 6/1/2007

Gen File date: _____

106 Project(s)



West facade, looking east

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ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

(Include expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings, and alterations)

The house is currently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Edgars; Paul is the grandson of Crystal Linn (lived to 104) who owned the house for a long period and who was the daughter of Mary Graves. The 1 1/2 story rectangular house with basement is located on the edge of the hill north of 5th Avenue at the southeast corner of the district. The house is rotated slightly to the northwest to fit terrain. The front gabled house is well maintained and has had several modifications. There is a large shop-garage and guest house located to the east of the main house.

Exterior Materials: The simply gabled roof is covered with architectural grade composition shingles, overhangs are soffitted; a dropped shallow gable extends from the south (alteration) to cover the south extension at the main level; There is a small east side porch accessing this addition with its own gable roof, flat arched at soffit, and porch; in addition there is a similar roof and grade level entry to the basement on the south, similar details; The front (now rear) porch is full width with hipped roof and supported on four chamfered posts and enclosed with plain railing; siding is channel and shiplap with plain wood trim at roof, corner boards, and casings; Windows: wood double hung 4/4 singles and paired; some historic sash, some restored per original pattern; 4 panel front door with transom and wood screen door; There is an improved basement with concrete walls, original foundation was logs on stone piers.

Alterations: Originally there was a small entry porch on the (prior front) north end. This was removed and a side (west-at north end) 'front' porch added in 1910c when the interior stair was also relocated and turned. During the recent extensive rehabilitation in 2000, that porch was relocated to the basement entry as it now appears. The interior stair was repositioned (but slightly further back from the front door), and other interior modifications performed. During this 2000 rehabilitation a new full width porch was added to the north end where the original porch once stood. The two second level east facing dormers and the new east side porch and entry were also added. The originally was a full width 'back' (south end) porch. In 1950c this was rebuilt with concrete block support to allow a garage below. The prior garage entered the basement level on the west side at the south end. This porch was enclosed and raised to the current configuration during the 2000 work. The detached garage building was constructed in 1998 and replaced a large metal garage at that location.

Landscape: The house being at the edge of the hill on a wide bench area and at the corner of the district feels quite remote from the rest of Canemah. It has a wooded setting, with a stream to the east (need to cross to get to garage), ponds and pasture across 5th, and woods at undeveloped Ganong to the west and north. Plantings are rural with native and ornamentals, depending on area of yard.

HISTORY

(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period [preferably to the present])

The original owner was John Gill, who purchased the property in 1889, when it was built. No biographical data was found on Gill. The second owner, Mary Graves was the former daughter-in-law of Peter Smith, a carpenter who built several Canemah homes; her daughter Crystal Linn later owned the house. She lived in the house until her death in 1995 at the age of 103. Her daughter and son-in-law then became owners/occupants of the house and subsequently did a great deal of work on the building.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

(Check all of the basic sources consulted and cite specific important sources)

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|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Local Library: _____ University Library: _____

Historical Society: _____ Other Repository: _____

Bibliography: Sanborn maps, 1911, 1925; verbal conversation and tour of home with current owners, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Edgar.