

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC NAME: George H. Atkinson House DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1876
COMMON NAME: _____ ORIGINAL USE: Residence
ADDRESS: 1301 - 16th Street PRESENT USE: Residence
OWNER: Lorraine Barnett, 1301 - 16th Street ARCH./BLDR.: Unknown (Atkinson?)
STYLE: Vernacular/Queen Anne
T/R/S: 2-2E-29CD TAX LOT: 1600 BLDG. STRUC. DIST. SITE OBJ. (CIRCLE)
ADDITION: Park Addition THEME: Architecture, 19th Century;
LOT: 6 BLOCK: 17 QUAD: Oregon City Religion; Education
PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: Square NO. OF STORIES: 2
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Concrete BASEMENT (Y/N): No
ROOF FORM & MATERIALS: Clipped gable. Composition.
WALL CONSTRUCTION: Wood STRUCTURAL FRAME: Stud
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: One-over-one double-hung.
SURFACING MATERIALS: Drop siding.
DECORATIVE FEATURES: Polygonal bay window w/ tent roof & paneled spandrels. Side porch
OTHER: w/ chamfered posts w/ decorative brackets. Finials on railing and newel post.
CONDITION: EXCELLENT X GOOD _____ FAIR _____ DETERIORATED _____ MOVED _____ (date)
EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS (dated): Balcony and enclosed porch are alterations, n.d.
NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: Concrete retaining wall.
ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES: Garden shed at northeast property corner.
KNOWN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES: None.
GEOGRAPHIC SETTING: A prominent location at the corner of 16th and Van Buren Streets. A mostly residential area, the exception being the old Buena Vista Grocery at 16th and Polk Streets. Other landmarks in vicinity are: 1302 - 17th (Weismandel, 1900), 1319 - 16th (Nefzger, c. 1900), and 1318 - 16th (Mulligan/Versaw, 1919).
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: (Historical and/or architectural importance, dates, events, persons, contexts): George Henry Atkinson was born in Massachusetts in 1819. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1843 and Andover Theological Seminary in 1846. He was appointed to missionary work in South Africa. Instead, he came to Oregon via the Sandwich Islands and Hawaii, crossing the Columbia bar in 1848. He and his wife, Nancy Bates Atkinson, remained in Oregon City for 15 years. Atkinson was pastor of the Congregational Church, the "oldest self-governing religious society in the West." Mostly by his own hand, he erected the church and the Clackamas Female Seminary. Also, Atkinson brought plans for the academy and college at Forest Grove, an institution incorporated during (continued)
SOURCES: See attached.

NEGATIVE NO: Roll I, #30, 31
SLIDE NO: _____

RECORDED BY: Jane Altier
DATE: May 1982

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: _____

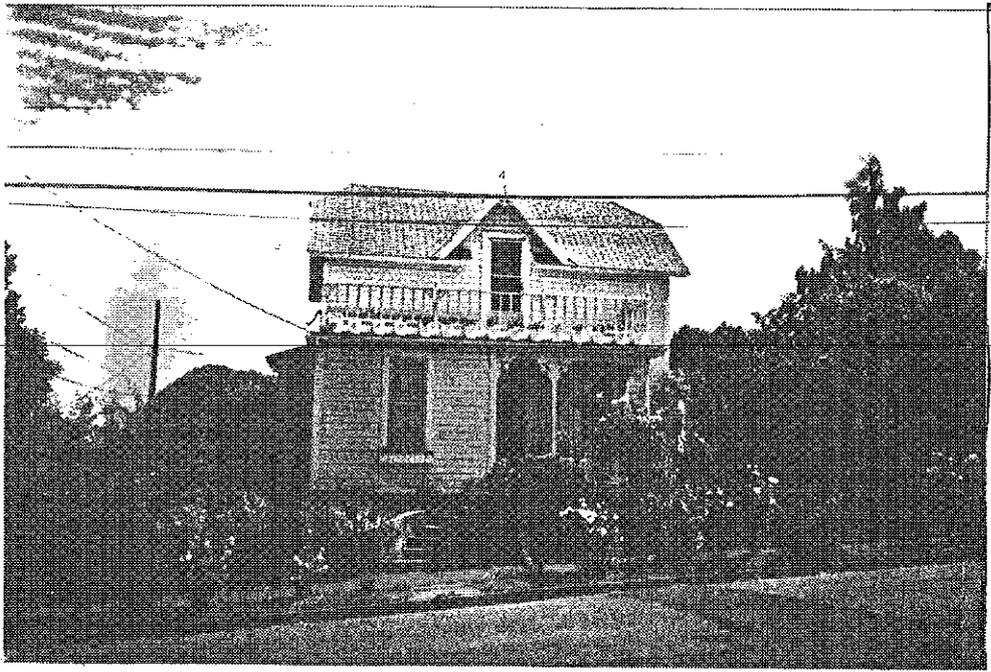
OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM - TWO

NAME: George H. Atkinson House

T/R/S: 2-2E-29CD TAX LOT 1600

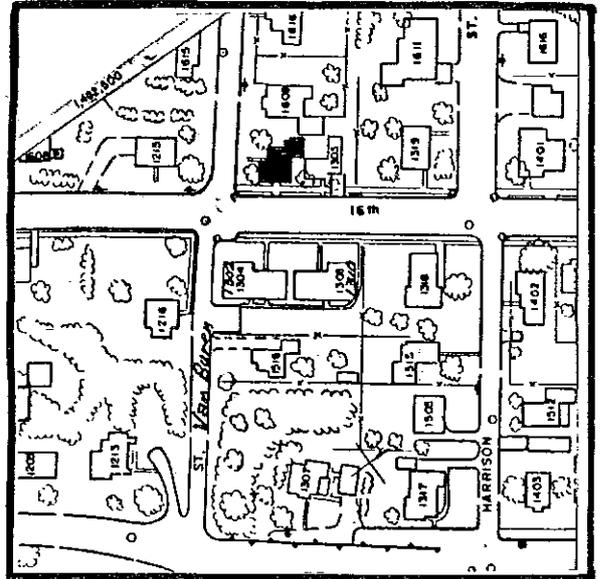
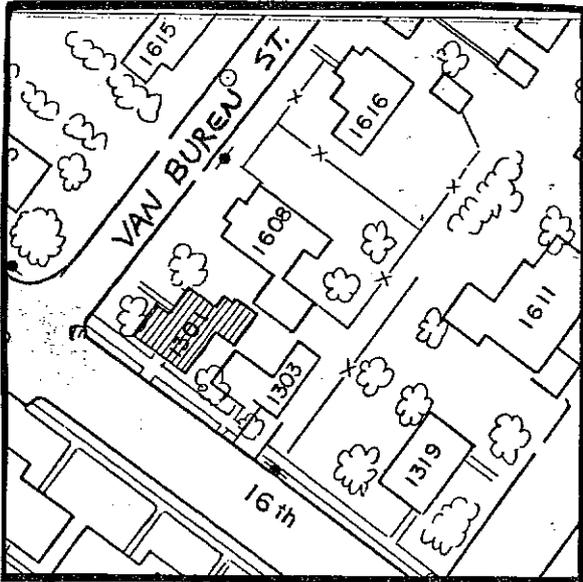
ADDRESS: 1301 - 16th Street

QUADRANGLE: Oregon City



NEGATIVE NO. Roll I, #30, 31

SLIDE NO. _____



GEORGE H. ATKINSON HOUSE
1301 - 16th Street

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

the first Oregon Legislature in 1849. In 1852, he traveled to New York City, where he bought \$2,000 worth of books for the schools. Under Governor Lane, Atkinson established the first school system in 1849. He was the first school superintendent in Clackamas County. He also held the same position in Multnomah County. He moved to Portland in 1863 and was pastor to the First Congregational Church in Portland for 9 years. Atkinson saw the current Atkinson Park as the site of a future college. He designed the basic school system laws and named the region the "Inland Empire." He wrote Early History of the Public School System in Oregon. His experiments proved the Oregon lava soil was suitable for wheat production.

The house is perhaps the most significant in the Buena Vista area because Atkinson was its original owner. Additionally, the alterations have been sympathetic. The house is well-maintained.

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