

Historic Property Merryman House
Inventory Report for 3516 Southeast Boulevard Road Olympia, Thurston, 98501

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Merryman House Field Site No.: 561
Common Name: (#34-395) OAHP No.:
Property Address: 3516 Southeast Boulevard Road Olympia, Thurston, 98501
Comments: OLYMPIA

County Township/Range/EW Section 1/4 Sec 1/4 1/4 Sec Quadrangle
TUMWATER T18R01W 30 SW TUMWATER

UTM Reference

Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com
Sequence: 0 Easting: 510390 Northing: 5206840

Tax No./Parcel No. Plat/Block/Lot
11830320200 30-18-1W 1 acre homesite

Supplemental Map(s) Acreage
City of Olympia Planning Department 1

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson/Tom C Date Recorded: 9/13/1985 Survey Name: OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: La Maison Co Owner Address: 9201 Otis Beach Road City/State/Zip: Olympia, WA 98516

Classification: Building Resource Status Comments

Within a District? No Survey/Inventory
Contributing? Determined Eligible - SHPO

National Register Nomination: 0
Local District:
National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Domestic - Single Family House
Current Use: Domestic - Single Family House

Plan: T-Shape No. of Stories: 2

Structural System: Balloon Frame

Changes to plan: Intact Changes to interior: Slight

Changes to original cladding: Intact Changes to other:

Changes to windows: Intact Other (specify):

Cladding Wood - Drop Siding Foundation
Style Vernacular Form/Type Single Family - Gable Front and Wing
Roof Material Asphalt / Composition Roof Type Gable

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1893

Other

Architect:

Builder:

Engineer:

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places:

No

Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local):

No

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance

The Merryman house was in the same family throughout its long history and is one of the few original farmsteads located within the Olympia city limits. Alexander and Cora Ellen Merryman came to the area in 1890 from California. They homesteaded 160 acres under rights signed by President Benjamin Harrison. The house sits on 12 acres of the original homestead. They first built a cabin near what is now Little Baseball Association Park where the Merrymans logged the area. Merryman also had a blacksmith shop near the present home. He blazed the trails now known as Merryman and Morse-Merryman roads. Merryman cut the wood from his property which was milled at a mill then operating at Ward's Lake to build the all cedar house in 1893. A large barn was once a part of the property and the Merrymans operated the "Whitehouse Dairy" at this location.

Description of Physical Appearance

Located on a gentle rise above the road and approached by a long driveway, the Merryman House is a T-shaped, two-story wood frame structure built in the Pioneer style, resting on a post-and-pier foundation. It has a gable-roofed wing on an east/west axis with an intersecting hip-roofed wing projecting to the north. The roofs are covered with composition shingles, and have narrow eaves with a simple molded cornice; walls are clad with drop siding, with cornerboards and frieze boards at the eaves. A hip-roofed porch with simple open-work columns spans the projecting portion of the front façade; it shelters the paneled main entry door, which has an upper glass pane with surrounding small stained glass panes. Another porch with similar posts spans the front of the north wing and leads to another entry door, while a porch on the rear wall leads to a recessed entry. Fenestration includes tall, narrow double-hung sash with one-over-one lights and plain surrounds, and small square second story windows under the eaves. The house is essentially unaltered from the original and is maintained in good condition. Some replacement windows have been installed.

Major Bibliographic References

Interview with Mrs. Hilda Merryman.
Stewart, Jan, "Home Sweet Home," Daily Olympian, October 22, 1980, Bl.

PHOTOS



View of west facade

taken 9/13/1985

Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):

17-12

Comments: