

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1902

Politics/Government/Law

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

Recently refurbished as apartments, the house was used by Governor Mead who served from 1905-1909 as the Governor's Mansion. Governor Albert Mead said the mansion on the Capitol Campus completed in 1907 was too expensive to heat and his wife said the large brick building was too cold so they rented this house as their home. Behind the house was a barn in which they kept a milk cow. The Meads later lived in the Percival Mansion in West Olympia for the larger part of his term. The house suffered a fire in the 1980's and has been repaired.

Description of Physical Appearance

The Mead House is a rectangular, two-story wood frame structure of restrained Queen Anne style on a poured concrete foundation. Its cross-gabled roof is covered with composition shingles and has decorative gable-end fascia boards; walls are clad with wide asbestos shingles, with wood shingles in the gables set off by horizontal banding. A small hip-roofed porch with turned posts and a simple balustrade shelters the entry door on the front (west) facade. At the southwest front corner is a polygonal bay, with decorative brackets and a pendant below the overhanging corner of the second story. Below the south gable is a projecting polygonal bay with hip roof. Fenestration consists of tall double-hung sash with one-over-one lights. A one-story, gable-roofed extension projects to the rear. The house is now divided into apartments

Major Bibliographic References

Interview with Mrs. Albert Mead, Jr.
Hanify, Mary Lou, *The Light in the Mansion*, Seattle, 1971.
Ingham, Dr. Reed, "The 17th Street Story Continues," *Olympia News*, August 25, 1982.

PHOTOS



View of southwest corner
taken 9/25/1985

Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):
20-8A

Comments: