

**Historic Property** Jesse Mills House/Emmett Parker  
**Inventory Report for** 1617 Southwest Columbia Street Olympia, Thurston, 98501

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**LOCATION SECTION**

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**Historic Name:** Jesse Mills House/Emmett Parker **Field Site No.:** 628  
**Common Name:** (#34-502) **OAHP No.:**  
**Property Address:** 1617 Southwest Columbia Street Olympia, Thurston, 98501  
**Comments:** OLYMPIA

**County** **Township/Range/EW** **Section** **1/4 Sec** **1/4 1/4 Sec** **Quadrangle**  
                     T18R02W 23 NW TUMWATER

**UTM Reference**  
**Zone:** 10 **Spatial Type:** Point **Acquisition Code:** TopoZone.com  
**Sequence:** 0 **Easting:** 507540 **Northing:** 5208660

**Tax No./Parcel No.** **Plat/Block/Lot**  
31300400900 Allen L10 and 5 1/2 L9 Blk 4

**Supplemental Map(s)** **Acreage**  
City of Olympia Planning Department < one

**IDENTIFICATION SECTION**

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**Field Recorder:** Shanna Stevenson/Tom C **Date Recorded:** 9/26/1985 **Survey Name:** OLYMPIA

**Owner's Name:** Robert W. Clifford **Owner Address:** 1617 Columbia Street SW **City/State/Zip:** Olympia, WA 98501

**Classification:** Building **Resource Status** **Comments**

**Within a District?** Yes Survey/Inventory

**Contributing?** Yes Local Register

**National Register Nomination:** 0

**Local District:**

**National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:** SOUTH CAPITOL NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORIC DISTRICT

**DESCRIPTION SECTION**

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

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

**Plan:** Rectangle **No. of Stories:** 1 1/2

**Structural System:** Balloon Frame

**Changes to plan:** Moderate

**Changes to interior:** Unknown

**Changes to original cladding:** Intact

**Changes to other:**

**Changes to windows:** Slight

**Other (specify):**

**Cladding** Wood - Clapboard

**Foundation** Concrete - Poured

Shingle

**Style** Arts & Crafts - Craftsman

**Form/Type**

**Roof Material** Asphalt / Composition

**Roof Type** Gable

**NARRATIVE SECTION**

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<b>Study Unit</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Date Of Construction:</b> <u>1904</u>
<u>Architecture/Landscape Architecture</u>		<b>Architect:</b>
<u>Politics/Government/Law</u>		<b>Builder:</b>
		<b>Engineer:</b>

**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** Built ca. 1904 by Justice Emmett Parker, Supreme Court Justice from 1909 to 1933, the house was owned for many years by Jesse Mills, owner of Mills & Mills Funeral Home. The son of George Mills, an early Olympia resident, Jesse Mills was educated at the Olympia Collegiate Institute, Sheriff of Thurston County, a member of the State Board of Control and Deputy State Treasurer. The house was also owned by Carl Reder who was associated with the Olympia Brewery for many years. Listed on the Olympia Heritage Register.

**Description of Physical Appearance** Surrounded by groomed shrubbery, the Mills House is a rectangular, one-and-one-half-story wood frame structure built in the Craftsman style on a poured concrete foundation. The roof, with its broad, overhanging side gables, is covered with composition shingles and has close eaves; it is broken by a wide hip-roofed dormer on the front (east) facade and a shed-roofed dormer on the rear. Walls are clad with clapboards on the first story and shingles on the gables and dormers. A recessed porch offset on the front facade has square columns; it shelters the main entry door. To its left is a polygonal bay window. The tripartite window in the dormer above is fronted by a simple balustrade supported by brackets. The south facade has another polygonal bay. Fenestration is double-hung sash with multi-paned upper lights. An enclosed porch at the rear appears to be a newer addition. The back yard is enclosed by a concrete block fence. The house is maintained in good condition.

**Major Bibliographic References** Allen, Arthur, Who's Who in Washington, 1927.

**PHOTOS**

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**View of** southeast corner  
**taken** 10/25/1985  
**Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):**  
29-8  
**Comments:**