

Historic Property Ward House
Inventory Report for 137 Northwest Sherman Street Olympia, Thurston, 98502

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Ward House Field Site No.: 699
Common Name: (#34-615) OAHP No.:
Property Address: 137 Northwest Sherman Street Olympia, Thurston, 98502
Comments: OLYMPIA/OLYWOMEN

County Township/Range/EW Section 1/4 Sec 1/4 1/4 Sec Quadrangle
T18R02W 15 SE TUMWATER

UTM Reference
Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com
Sequence: 0 Easting: 506600 Northing: 5209970

Tax No./Parcel No. Plat/Block/Lot
85004601800 Woodruff L18 Blk 46

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

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson Date Recorded: 10/4/1985 Survey Name: OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: James R. Fox Owner Address: 137 Sherman Street NW City/State/Zip: Olympia, WA 98502

Classification: Building Resource Status Comments

Within a District? Yes Survey/Inventory

Contributing? Local Register

National Register Nomination: 0
Local District:
National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name: 690

DESCRIPTION SECTION

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

Plan: L-Shape No. of Stories: 2 1/2

Structural System: Balloon Frame

Changes to plan: Extensive Changes to interior: Unknown
Changes to original cladding: Intact Changes to other:
Changes to windows: Intact Other (specify):

Cladding Wood - Drop Siding Foundation Concrete - Poured
Shingle

Style Queen Anne Form/Type
Roof Material Wood - Shingle Roof Type Gable
Unknown

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit	Other	Date Of Construction: <u>1889</u>
<u>Architecture/Landscape Architecture</u>	<u>Women's History</u>	Architect: <u>Mary Page</u>
		Builder:
		Engineer:

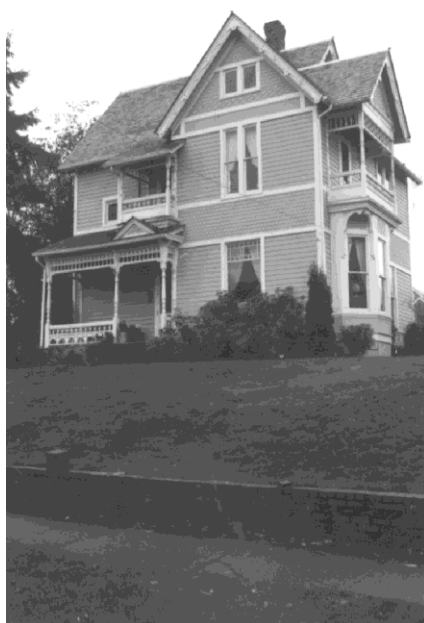
Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No
Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local): No
Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance Built in 1889 in an ornate Queen Anne style for Samuel Ward, the house is one of the best examples of the period in Olympia. Reputedly, it was designed by Mary Page. Ms. Page graduated from the University of Illinois in Architecture in 1878. Ward, a Tumwater mill owner was from Illinois and arrived in Washington Territory in April, 1853. The house was owned between 1954 and 1964 by former Washington Secretary of State Victor A. Meyers. Listed on the Olympia Heritage Register.

Description of Physical Appearance The Ward House is an ornately-detailed, L-shaped wood frame structure of two-and-one-half stories, built in the Queen Anne style. The tall, wood-shingled gable roof has close eaves and carved gable-end fascia boards; it is crowned by a central chimney. Walls are clad with drop siding and cornerboards, with a band of fishscale shingles between stories set off by horizontal banding, and the gables have decorative shingling and stickwork. Offset on the front (east) facade is a hip-roofed porch with turned posts and a spindlework balustrade and cornice panel. The porch shelters the main entry door with its multi-paned window and transom. Above the door, the roof has a small pedimented gable, which is topped by a second-story balcony with turned posts, a spindlework railing and cornice panel and a shed roof; a door opens onto the balcony. Below a small gable on the north wall is a two-story bay; the polygonal first story has ornate brackets supporting the squared second story, which holds another balcony with similar spindlework. Fenestration includes a wide plate glass window with multi-paned transom adjacent to the front porch, single and paired double-hung sash with one-over-one lights, and smaller windows with both stained and clear glass panes. Extending from the rear wall is a two-story addition of later vintage, with a shingled mansard roof and tall, multi-paned windows; a flat-roofed carport extends from its south wall. The house is maintained in excellent condition.

Major Bibliographic References Information from Terry Cooper.
Obituary for Samuel Ward.

PHOTOS



View of northeast corner
taken 10/4/1985
Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):
29-3
Comments: