

Historic Property Allen House
Inventory Report for 726 Southwest Percival Street Olympia, Thurston, 98502

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Allen House **Field Site No.:** 703
Common Name: Beals House (Westhillsyde)(#34-624) **OAHP No.:**
Property Address: 726 Southwest Percival Street Olympia, Thurston, 98502
Comments: OLYMPIA

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:** 506430 **Northing:** 5209490

Tax No./Parcel No. **Plat/Block/Lot**
09740014001 Ptn Percival Donation Claim

Supplemental Map(s) **Acreage**
City of Olympia Planning Department .99

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson **Date Recorded:** 10/8/1985 **Survey Name:** OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: Janeen Harbert **Owner Address:** 726 Percival Street SW **City/State/Zip:** Olympia, WA 98502

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

Within a District? No **Survey/Inventory**

Contributing? Local Register

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: Rectangle **No. of Stories:** 2

Structural System: Balloon Frame

Changes to plan: Moderate

Changes to original cladding: Intact

Changes to windows: Intact

Changes to interior: Slight

Changes to other:

Other (specify):

Cladding Shingle

Style French - French Eclectic

Roof Material Wood - Shingle

Foundation Concrete - Poured

Form/Type

Roof Type Hip

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1923

Ethnic Heritage

Architect: Elizabeth Ayer and Edwin Ivey

Architecture/Landscape Architecture

Builder:

Politics/Government/Law

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

One of the finest homes in Olympia, the house was built in 1923 in a design by Elizabeth Ayer and Edwin Ivey for Byron Allen. The house was later owned by Walter B. Beals, Supreme Court Justice of Washington from 1928 to 1945. Beals was born in Minnesota and came to Puget Sound in 1895 and served as Superior Court Judge in King County before being appointed to the state bench. He also served as Presiding judge at the Military Tribunal in Nuremberg, Germany after World War II. Beals was a member of the first law class at the University of Washington in 1899. He was a corporate counsel and served as Army judge advocate during World War I. An organizer of the American Legion, he was active in a number of local organizations. Judge Beals' wife, Othila Carroll Beals, also had a notable career. The daughter of Federal Judge Patrick P. Carroll, Mrs. Beals was born in New Orleans in 1875. She came with her family to Olympia in 1880 and then to Seattle in 1886. The daughter of Federal Judge Patrick P. Carroll, Mrs. Beals was born in New Orleans in 1875. She came with her family to Olympia in 1880 and then to Seattle in 1886. She was the first woman to be graduated from the University of Washington School of Law, graduating with her husband in the first class. During World War I, Mrs. Beals took over her brother's place as justice of the peace in Seattle--the first woman to hold that position--and later was elected to the post. She was involved in many American Legion activities and in 1927, she accompanied General John Pershing on a goodwill tour of Europe. She was a member of a number of Seattle and Olympia philanthropic groups. Elizabeth Ayer, a native Olympian, was the first woman graduate of the University of Washington School of Architecture in 1918 and practiced with Edwin Ivey in Seattle for a number of years. Listed on the Olympia Heritage Register

Description of Physical Appearance

The house is fronted by a tall concrete wall overgrown with ivy. An ornate wooden gate flanked by lanterns opens to a path leading to the front door. A spacious two-story wood frame structure, basically rectangular in plan, the house is built in the French Eclectic style on a poured concrete foundation. Its steeply-pitched hip roof is covered with wood shingles and has close eaves with exposed rafters; it is broken by shed-roofed and flat-roofed dormers, and forms hoods over several second story windows. Walls are clad with wood shingles, and a tall brick chimney rises on the south wall. Offset on the front (west) facade, the main entry door is recessed in an archway topped by a decorative plaque with garlands in relief. To the right of the doorway, a projecting portion of the facade has a window topped by a similar plaque. The rear facade has a wide enclosed porch with a glass roof and doors leading to the rear terrace and the landscaped yard. To the right of the porch is a two-story gabled projection, with a multi-paned tripartite window on the first story, and multi-paned french doors above topped by a bracketed hood, leading to a second story balcony. Fenestration includes multi-paned double-hung sash and casements. To the north is a hip-roofed double garage of similar design. Although it has been altered, the house retains most of its original features and is maintained in excellent condition.

Major Bibliographic References

Obituary for Walter Beals, Seattle Times, September 19, 1960.

Obituary for Othila Carroll Beals, Daily Olympian, May 26, 1970, P.10.

PHOTOS

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View of w. facade, e. facade (both shown)
taken 10/8/1985
Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):
 24-11A, 12A
Comments: