

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1940

Architecture/Landscape Architecture

Architect: Copeland Lumber

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 Highmiller House was designed and built by Dr. Ralph Highmiller on the bluffs overlooking Capitol Lake on the West Side of Olympia. Dr. Highmiller was a surgeon and later general practitioner in Olympia. The house is a unique design done by Dr. Highmiller and his wife Alice, according to their daughter.

Description of Physical Appearance

The house is of an eclectic design with a French influence. It is an L-shaped, one and one-half story house built of brick masonry (painted) on a poured concrete foundation. It has a hipped roof which is broken by gabled dormers and a central brick chimney as well as another chimney at the peak of the west gable. A recessed entry door is located under the west gable. A hooded roof extension and polygonal bay window are adjacent to the entry. There is a similar hooded bay window on the north and east facades. There are wooden and metal replacement sash on the windows. There is an extensive underground concrete structure on the east side of the house built into the hillside, which was constructed by Dr. Highmiller. This is especially visible from downtown Olympia. The view of Mt. Rainier on a clear day is also spectacular. The house has been extensively renovated. An outstanding feature of the house are the terraced gardens which extended down to Capitol Lake. The current owners have extensively landscaped the property.

Major Bibliographic References

Pioneer Title Company Records. Thurston County Assessor's Records, Interview with Heather Highmiller.

PHOTOS



View of northwest corner

taken 10/8/1985

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

14-13A

Comments: