

Historic Property Bettman-Oppenheimer House
Inventory Report for 216 Southeast 9th Avenue Olympia, Thurston, 98501

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Bettman-Oppenheimer House **Field Site No.:** 734
Common Name: Uptown Apartments (#34-740) **OAHP No.:**
Property Address: 216 Southeast 9th Avenue Olympia, Thurston, 98501
Comments: OLYMPIA

County **Township/Range/EW** **Section** **1/4 Sec** **1/4 1/4 Sec** **Quadrangle**
 T18R02W 14 SW TUMWATER

UTM Reference
Zone: 10 **Spatial Type:** Point **Acquisition Code:** TopoZone.com
Sequence: 0 **Easting:** 507880 **Northing:** 5209520

Tax No./Parcel No. **Plat/Block/Lot**
78502800600 Sylvester L6 Blk 28

Supplemental Map(s) **Acreage**
City of Olympia Planning Department .17

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson **Date Recorded:** 10/17/1985 **Survey Name:** OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: EFB Inc **Owner Address:** 1302 205th Avenue E **City/State/Zip:** Sumner, WA 98390

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 - Multiple Family House

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

Structural System: Balloon Frame

Changes to plan: Moderate

Changes to interior: Extensive

Changes to original cladding: Moderate

Changes to other:

Changes to windows: Moderate

Other (specify):

Cladding Wood - Drop Siding

Foundation Concrete - Poured

Shingle

Style Queen Anne

Form/Type

Roof Material Asphalt / Composition

Roof Type Gable

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit	Other	Date Of Construction: <u>1890</u>
Architecture/Landscape Architecture		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 One of the only houses remaining in downtown Olympia from the Victorian period, the Bettman House was built in 1890. One of the earliest merchants in the area, Louis Bettman came to Olympia in 1853 from Bavaria and with his brothers Mose and Sig Bettman opened a general merchandise store in Olympia. The store was at the corner of Main (now Capitol Way) and Second Street. After a fire in 1882, the Bettmans relocated farther uptown on the 400 block of Capitol Way in a brick front building which still stands. The Bettman name was carried on until the 1970's as clothing business. Louis Bettman built this house for his daughter, Belle Oppenheimer. The Bettmans had a house which has been razed just to the east of this structure. Listed on the Olympia Heritage Register

Description of Physical Appearance This is a rectangular, two-and-one-half-story wood frame structure built in ornate Queen Anne style set on a brick foundation. Its tall hip roof is covered with composition shingles, and has close eaves with a molded cornice; it is broken by gabled dormers and by small center gables on the east and west facades. At the southwest front corner is a flat-roofed, two-story extension. Walls are clad with drop siding and cornerboards on the first story, and shingles on the second, with a band of fishscale shingles between stories set off by horizontal banding. Wrapping around the front (south) and east facades is a one-story, hip-roofed porch, which has been enclosed. It has a small gable above the recessed entry centered on the front facade. Above the porch at the southeast corner is a round turret with a conical roof, capped by a finial. Beneath the east gable is a two-story bay with a rounded first story and ornamental brackets beneath the squared second story. Fenestration is large single-hung sash with one-over-one lights, topped by panels of fishscale shingles. At the northwest corner is a small one-story, hip-roofed addition. The building was extensively renovated in 1988-89

Major Bibliographic References Blankenship, Mrs. George E., Early History of Thurston County, Washington, Olympia, 1914.
Stevenson, Shanna, "Old Capitol Walking Tour," 1979.

PHOTOS



View of SE corner
taken 10/17/1985
Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):
27-21A
Comments: