

Historic Property Judge Wright House
Inventory Report for 504 Southeast 17th Avenue Olympia, Thurston, 98501

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Judge Wright House **Field Site No.:** 743
Common Name: (#34-758) **OAHP No.:**
Property Address: 504 Southeast 17th Avenue Olympia, Thurston, 98501
Comments: OLYMPIA

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

UTM Reference
Zone: 10 **Spatial Type:** Point **Acquisition Code:** TopoZone.com
Sequence: 0 **Easting:** 508030 **Northing:** 5208650

Tax No./Parcel No. **Plat/Block/Lot**
09690017000 Part of Offut Sec.

Supplemental Map(s) **Acreage**
City of Olympia Planning Department .36

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

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

Owner's Name: Jan Vleck **Owner Address:** 504 17th Avenue SE **City/State/Zip:** Olympia, WA 98501

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:** 1 1/2

Structural System: Balloon Frame

Changes to plan: Intact **Changes to interior:** Intact

Changes to original cladding: Intact **Changes to other:**

Changes to windows: Intact **Other (specify):**

Cladding Shingle **Foundation** Concrete - Poured

Style Colonial - Colonial Revival **Form/Type**

Roof Material Asphalt / Composition **Roof Type** Gable

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit	Other	Date Of Construction: <u>1923</u>
<u>Architecture/Landscape Architecture</u>		Architect: <u>Joseph Wohleb</u>
<u>Politics/Government/Law</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 1923 for Judge D. F. Wright of the Thurston County Superior Court, the house is a Joseph Wohleb design but is not typical of his other work in Olympia. This English Revival home is set in a corner lot surrounded by a high hedge and striking entry view. Judge Wright served for many years on the Superior Court Bench and was very involved in some major decisions affecting the State of Washington heard in his court. Judge Wright made the original decision outlawing state income tax as being unconstitutional in 1933. Another judicial figure, Supreme Court Justice Schwellenbach owned the house for a number of years. Schwellenbach, a native of South Dakota served in the 1940's and 1950's and had practiced in Grant County and served in the Superior Court there prior to coming to Olympia. Listed on the Olympia Heritage Register.

Description of Physical Appearance The Wright House is a rectangular, one-and-one-half-story wood frame structure built in the Colonial Revival style on a poured concrete foundation. Its gable roof is clad with composition shingles, and close eaves and gable returns; it is broken by a wide shed-roofed dormer across the rear. The front (west) gable has a narrow pent roof across its base. At the southwest corner is a porte cochere with tapered round columns and carved beam ends; it leads to a small porch sheltering the main entry door. The front facade has a tripartite window with a multi-paned double-hung sash and bands of multi-paned casements, and Palladian windows in the north and south gables.

Major Bibliographic References Fagan, Mary, "Background and selection patterns of Justices of the Washington State Supreme Court: 1889-1974", unpublished research paper, Pullman, 1974.

Newell, Gordon, Rogues, Buffoons and Statesmen, Seattle: Superior Publishing, 1975.

Ingham, Dr. Reed, "17th Street Story," October 19, 1982, Olympia News 52.

PHOTOS



View of SW corner
taken 10/17/1985
Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):
 28-7
Comments: