

Historic Property Porak/Lee House
Inventory Report for 2508 Washington St SE, Olympia, WA 98501

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: Porak/Lee House **Field Site No.:** 3438
Common Name: **OAHP No.:**
Property Address: 2508 Washington St SE, Olympia, WA 98501
Comments: OLYMPIA

County **Township/Range/EW** **Section** **1/4 Sec** **1/4 1/4 Sec** **Quadrangle**
[REDACTED] T18R02W 23 TUMWATER

UTM Reference

Zone: 10 **Spatial Type:** Point **Acquisition Code:** TopoZone.com
Sequence: 0 **Easting:** 507770 **Northing:** 52078884

Tax No./Parcel No. **Plat/Block/Lot**
43303200300 Crosby L3 & 4 Block 32

Supplemental Map(s) **Acreage**
[REDACTED] .33

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: ss **Date Recorded:** 5/19/2003 **Survey Name:** OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: **Owner Address:** **City/State/Zip:**
Leanne Forster/Blake 2508 Washington Street SE Olympia, WA 98501
Melancon

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

Within a District? Yes Local Register

Contributing? Yes Survey/Inventory

National Register Nomination:

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name: SOUTH CAPITOL NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORIC DISTRICT

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Domestic - Single Family House

Current Use: Domestic - Single Family House

Plan: Rectangle **No. of Stories:** 1.5

Structural System: Balloon Frame

Changes to plan: Intact

Changes to interior: Unknown

Changes to original cladding: Intact

Changes to other:

Changes to windows: Intact

Other (specify):

Cladding Wood - Clapboard

Foundation Concrete - Poured

Style Colonial - Colonial Revival

Form/Type Single Family

Roof Material Asphalt / Composition

Roof Type Gable - Clipped Gable/Jerkinhead

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1927

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):

Yes - National

Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

**Statement of
Significance**

Located in the South Capitol Neighborhood, the house is typical of the 1920s development in the area. It is quite similar to Tumwater Lumber Mills designs however the exact design could not be located. The Ossian Anderson House is adjacent to this property from the same period. Anderson was part of the family who owned TLM.

The property was purchased by Henry George and Eileen M. (Chambers) Porak in 1926 and they took out a mortgage for the home on April 1, 1926 and it is listed on the property tax information as being built in 1927. Porak was an engineer for the Washington State Department of Highways for many years and later served as City Engineer of Olympia from 1947 to 1951. His wife was a volunteer for Army Filter Center during World War II and served an administrative assistant to the director of Thurston County Civil Defense from 1953 to 1958.

The house was owned by Robert Milton and Ella Lee from 1939 to 1989. Lee was an accountant and vice-president of Olympia State Bank and Trust Co.

**Description of
Physical
Appearance**

One and one-half story side gable house with jerkin head roofline set on a poured concrete foundation. The house has return gables. Shingle cladding. The front of the house has a projecting front porch with a jerkin head gable and returns similar to the main house. There is a rectangular vent in the front of the porch. It is supported by plain round pillars. The front entry is centered on the front façade. It is flanked by sets of tripartite windows which have six-over-one sash. The front steps are flanked by distinctive "rolling" brick side elements. A large tapered brick chimney rises on the south side of the house. The south side of the house has two large windows on the first floor with ten-over-one sash and a double window with six-over-one sash. The second floor has a palladian window with similarly detailed lower sash elements. The rear of the house has a low shed-roofed dormer with small windows. There are similarly detailed windows to the rest of the house with six-over-one sash. There is a replacement kitchen window with partial glass block glazing. A back door is on the northeast corner of this façade.

There is a garage door into the basement of the house on the rear façade. The north side of the house has a palladian window similarly detailed to the window on the south façade on the second floor and a variety of windows on the first floor with six-over-one and multi-pane sash. Non-historic additions:
Kitchen window on east (rear) façade.

**Major
Bibliographic
References**

: Information from Thurston County Assessor's Records and Tax Rolls. Polk City Directories, and newspaper obituaries.

PHOTOS

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View of Front Façade
taken 10/6/2003
Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments: