



**NARRATIVE SECTION**

Study Unit **Other** Date Of Construction: 1918  
Architect: E. Meeker  
Builder: E. Meeker  
Engineer: unknown

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

**Statement of Significance** Located on the west side of Olympia in what was once known as Capital View Estates, the Craftsman style house was built by in 1918 by Ernest Meeker, a pioneer builder and contractor. Meeker was born in New York in 1877 and died in Olympia in December, 1954. He was a member of the Ancient Order of Workmen and built a number of houses in the area. In 1927 Earl Bean, a prominent local businessman and owner of Olympia Supply Company, purchased the property for his family of eight. The Bean family converted the top floor ballroom into two bedrooms. Sometime in the 1950s the house was significantly altered with new windows and siding.

In the late 1970s the house was damaged by fire and the occupants vacated the house, which remained empty until an extensive renovation was undertaken in 2003 to restore the house to its original craftsman design. The exterior design and window replacements were reviewed by the Olympia Heritage Commission staff at the time, Shanna Stevenson. The original windows on the front of the house were kept for their historic significance. The front door is original and its glass panels were replaced by custom-designed architectural glass from Mansion Glass of Olympia. Although the original attached garage was converted to a laundry/utility room, the original doors are in the place and functional. Architectural features on the interior were restored, including cove ceilings and the oak and fir floors.

**Description of Physical Appearance** The house is situated over a ravine with multiple levels looking out over Capitol Lake. It is constructed in a split-level configuration with seven levels, apparent only from the back of the house, a very early example of this modern design. The siding and upper floor windows were replaced sometime in the 1950s. The house underwent a major renovation in 2003 to replicate the original divided light windows and the siding was restored.

**Major Bibliographic References** Washington State Archives, Olympia Heritage Commission

**PHOTOS**



View of taken  
Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):

Comments: