

Oregon Historic Site Form

Jerome, Capt George, House
215 Jerome St
Oregon City, Clackamas County

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

address: 215 Jerome St ☐ apprx. addr

historic name: Jerome, Capt George, House

Oregon City ☐ vcnty Clackamas County

current/
other names:

Optional Information

assoc addresses:
(former addresses, intersections, etc.)

location descr:
(remote sites)

block nbr: _____ lot nbr: _____ tax lot nbr: _____

township: 2 S range: 1 E section: 36 1/4: _____

zip: _____

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

resource type: Building height (# stories): 1.5

total # eligible resources: 1 total # ineligible resources: 1

elig. evaluation: eligible/contributing

NR status: Listed in Historic District

primary constr date: 1858 (c.) ☒ secondary date: _____ (c.) ☐
(optional--use for major addns)

NR date listed: _____ (indiv listed only; see
Grouping for hist dist)

primary orig use: Single Dwelling

orig use comments:

secondary orig use:

primary style: Gothic Revival

prim style comments:

secondary style:

sec style comments:

primary siding: Horizontal Board

siding comments:

secondary siding:

plan type: Central Passage

architect:

builder:

comments/notes: 1 NC secondary building, date not known

GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS

survey project name or other grouping name: Canemah Historic District, Listed on 10/11/1978

Listed Historic District

Canemah Historic District RLS Survey Update, 2007

Survey & Inventory Project

Settlement-era Dwellings, Barns & Farm Groups the the Willamette Valley, Orego

Survey & Inventory Project

farmstead/cluster name:

external site #: _____

(ID# used in city/agency database)

SHPO INFO FOR THIS PROPERTY

NR date listed: _____ NHD

ILS survey date: 4/3/2008

RLS survey date: 1/9/2013

Gen File date:

106 Project(s)



West facade, looking east

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ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

(Include expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings, and alterations)

The house is located at the corner of Jerome and 3rd Avenue on a relatively level area, though 3rd begins to rise above the house; The 1 1/2 story Gothic Revival house has been rehabilitated and displays much of its early configuration and details; it has a front to back steeply pitched roof with full width porch supported on five chamfered posts; rear one story shallow shed extension with hipped roof; A detached garage is located to the north of the house and is configured and constructed in a similar manner.

Exterior Materials: Steep front to back gable roof with composition shingles, brick chimney behind ridge; Patterned horizontal wood shiplap siding; corner boards, plain trim except at barge board cut into a vine pattern and scroll porch brackets; Windows: 6/6 wood double hung at main house, 1/1 double hung at garage; historic 4 panel entry door

Alterations: Main house has original footprint with rear shed area, wrap around porch has been enclosed on the north side to match remainder of the building, concrete at front porch slab; Recent garage addition closely matches house

Landscape: open setting with grade access from Jerome, set below 3rd Avenue with stone retaining wall; other low stacked basalt walls at front, flag stone paths; rose arbor leads to garage

HISTORY

(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period [preferably to the present])

George Jerome was born in Stockport, New York in 1823. By age 17 he was sailing out of Atlantic ports in the coasting trade and to the West Indies. He went to California during the Gold Rush of 1849, then to Oregon in 1852. In 1855 he married Nancy Shepherd and they had three children. He began steamboating on the 'Canemah', then on the sidewheeler 'Wallamet' the following year. Wages were \$5-\$6 per day, quite high then due to the gold rush labor shortage. The boat was too large and too expensive to operate for Willamette River traffic. It was taken below the Falls for use on the Portland to Astoria run, and then later taken to San Francisco and Sacramento for use. Jerome captained the boat when it was lined over the Falls. He went on to captain the 'Onward', the 'Surprise' and the 'Elk.' He survived the explosion of the 'Elk' when its boiler blew up, sending Jerome skyward and then into the river. He was employed by the People's Transportation Co. for many years, and spent the final 14 years of his career on the Yamhill River for the Oregon Steam Navigation Co. He died in Portland, November 27, 1886, at the age of 63. The 1870 Census shows Elizabeth Barlow, age 69, living with the Jeromes. She may have been Nancy Shepherd's mother.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

(Check all of the basic sources consulted and cite specific important sources)

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|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Local Library: _____ University Library: _____

Historical Society: Museum of the Oregon Territory: OHS Other Repository: _____

Bibliography: Wright, E.W., Lewis & Dryden's Marine History of the Pacific Northwest, p64; OHS Scrapbook 66 p11; Federal Census, 1870; Argonaut newspaper, 6/23/1855 3:4; Oregon Statesman 6/30/1855, 3:1; Sanborn Maps, 1911, 1925.