

**Historic Resources Survey
City of McMinnville
Yamhill County, Oregon**

Site Information

Site Address

1420 NE 5th St.

Owner at Time of Survey

Larry & Mildred Kohler

Map/Tax Lot

R4421AC00400

Current Zoning

R-2

Special Tax Assessment

No

Downtown Historic District

No

Subdivision Name

Block

Lot

Lot Size

Quadrant

.63 acres

NE

Site Number

26.17

Aerial Number

L-10

Resource Classification

A

Resource Number

1058

Historic Significance

Historic Information

Date of Construction

ca. 1879

Early Additions/ Remodels

Builder/Architect

Unknown

Historic Name

McPhillips

Original Use

Residence

Common Name

Cook House

Present Use

Residence

Condition of Structure

Excellent

Comments (at time of Survey)

Building Type

Residential

Outbuildings

None

Building Style

Classic Revival

Stories

2

Porch

Basement

Roof Style

High Gable

Roof Type

Moved

Demolished

Year/Date

Permit Number(s)

Additions/ Alterations

Resource Information

Recorded By

Beth Westford

Date

11-1983

Sources

"Historic Home Tour" June 7, 1975, Ruth Stoller;

Historic Resource Survey
City of McMinnville
Yamhill County, Oregon

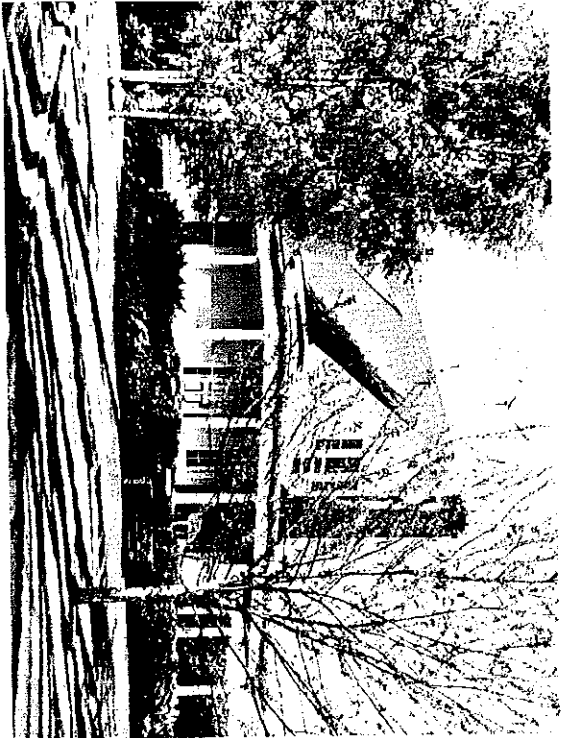
Statement of historical significance and description of property:

A1058

This classic revival style home, commonly known as the Cook house, is situated amidst tall trees and a front lawn that is of plantation proportion. The basic shape is a Greek cross with high gables on each end of the cross that are cornice boxed with returns. The classical wrap around front porch (north) is supported by eight Tuscan columns. The second story north-facing gable has a ten light french door flanked by four-over-one double-hung sash windows. This door opens onto a flat porch (rooftop of wrap around porch). The present owner has a photograph of the original railing that once enclosed this rooftop and has plans for eventual restoration.

A large brick outside end chimney with three clay chimney pots and a decorative relieving arch bisects the front porch roof asymmetrically. The main north entry has a rectangular six pane wood door with five light sidelights as well as fluted flat trim with box cornices. Secondary first floor porch entries consist of four separate ten light french doors with matching trim to the main entry.

On both the east and west are shed dormers; on the west is a hipped dormer. The east side has an exterior brick end chimney with three clay pots. There also is a brick interior chimney with one clay pot. The majority of windows are four-over-one and six-over-one double-hung sash. The siding is weatherboarding. An interesting variety of materials, including stucco over stone, brick and cinder block comprise the solid basement and foundation wall. The porch has a brick foundation.



COOK HOUSE

This house may well be one of McMinnville's most historic homes. Many people remember it as the house on the Cook farm east of town — the home of the man who gave the land for Cook School and for whom the school was named.

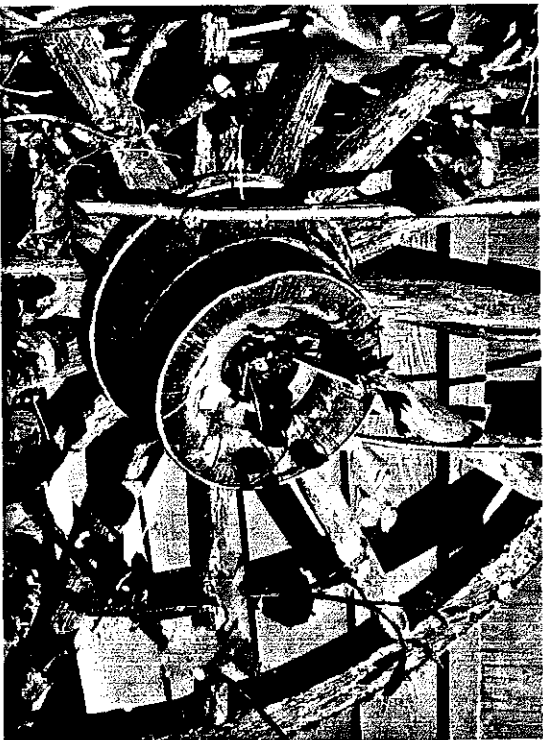
Courthouse records show that John F. Cook bought 111 acres of land from Wm. T. Newby in 1877. Recalling the transaction in later years, Cook said that at the time of purchase, the farm "had a good house, orchard, etc., near town." Mr. Cook died in 1899 and Mrs. Cook continued to live on the farm until after 1910. About 1915 the Mochettaz family rented the house and farm from Mrs. Cook and her children. The Mochettaz's had a dairy there. Mr. D. G. Mochettaz, one of the sons, now lives west of McMinnville, and remembers that the house, even at that time, was a nice one. The house was still owned by one of John Cook's children in 1940.

The first extensive remodeling of the original house was done by the Cooks or their children. Dwight Miller, the builder who did so much of the building on the Linfield Campus, recalled working on two sizable additions to the house. The additions and changes to the house have been carefully done to retain the Classic Revival style of architecture so popular in Oregon in the 1850s and 60s. This can be seen in the matching cornices and under-the-eave trim of the house.

A late owner says that he had been told that the house was one of McMinnville's oldest. The original part of the house would not have been Newby's first house on his claim, nor would it have been his last — since he

did not die until 1884. However, in 1857 he sold a half interest in his gr mill to Elbridge Edson and after that Edson ran the mill. It was probably about this time that Newby moved out of the limits of his town and became an active farmer. The mill was sold in 1860 and Newby never had an interest in it again. He always gave his occupation to the census taker as "farmer."

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Kohler, the present owners, have given the house a good deal of tender loving care and attention. Old houses are fortunate, indeed, when they fall into the hands of such people.



Acknowledgement

U. S. Bank — Use of Building
Coffee
2 Busses — Mid-Valley Workshop
Yamhill Valley Camera Club
Wayne Harris, Bill Blum, Carroll Cannetax
Stories by Ruth Stoller

Historic Resource No. A1058



Photos July 2001



Original 1983 Survey Photo