

Historic Property White House
Inventory Report for 1431 - 11th Avenue SE Olympia, Thurston, 98501

LOCATION SECTION

Historic Name: White House Field Site No.: 900
 Common Name: (#34-853) OAHF No.:
 Property Address: 1431 - 11th Avenue SE Olympia, Thurston, 98501
 Comments: OLYMPIA

County Township/Range/EW Section 1/4 Sec 1/4 1/4 Sec Quadrangle
 Thurston T18R02W TUMWATER

UTM Reference

Zone: 10 Spatial Type: Point Acquisition Code: TopoZone.com
 Sequence: 0 Easting: 509020 Northing: 5209300

Tax No./Parcel No. Plat/Block/Lot
327006000005 Ayers B6 portion

Supplemental Map(s) Acreage
City of Olympia Planning Department < one

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Recorder: Shanna Stevenson Date Recorded: 7/1/1997 Survey Name: OLYMPIA

Owner's Name: Owner Address: City/State/Zip:
Edward/Lillian Peeples 1431 - 11th Avenue Olympia, WA 98501

Classification: Building Resource Status Comments

Within a District? No Survey/Inventory

Contributing? State Register
 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 - Hotel

Plan: Irregular No. of Stories: 2 1/2

Structural System: Balloon Frame

Changes to plan: Intact

Changes to original cladding: Moderate

Changes to windows: Intact

Changes to interior: Slight

Changes to other:

Other (specify):

Cladding Shingle - Concrete/Asbestos

Style Queen Anne

Roof Material Asphalt / Composition

Foundation Brick

Form/Type

Roof Type Gable
Hip

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NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction: 1893

Architect:

Builder:

Engineer:

Architecture/Landscape Architecture

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**

The William G. and Amanda White house stands in an area of Olympia once known as "Swantown" where White was a carpenter and lumberman. Although no one owner stands out as an historical or prominent figure, several accounts about the house mirror Olympia's history. It is said that the house was built partly with money loaned by governor Elisha P. Ferry in 1893. A former resident of the house claims it was one of the town's most handsome homes around the turn of the century when it was owned by Theodore L. Brown.

**Description of
Physical
Appearance**

The three story home at 1431 Eleventh Avenue East in Olympia is an eclectic blend of Queen Anne and Eastlake architectural styles. Built in 1893 by William White, the 17 room house originally overlook Swantown Slough, an inlet of Puget Sound. The large frame resident is basically rectangular in plan with a hipped roof although gabled roof lines intersecting the main form tend to confuse the appearance of the roof. The most dominant feature is the square tower, scaled a full three stories and emerging from the northeast corner of the building; it is capped by a steep pyramidal roof with finial. The house is most notable for its ornate decoration. Turned spindles, cross pieces, balusters and posts adorn the porches and gables. Angled and vertical boarding enhance gable ends and tower. In addition to scrolled brackets supporting each horizontal eave, the barge boards themselves are adorned by very delicate carved designs. Decorative dentils underpin all of the eaves as well as the Italianate square bay windows on either side of the house on the main floor. The house has a rather ordinary fenestration, but the decorative surrounds on the first story extend below the window opening and into a stylized water table, delineated by vertical boarding and small cornice, continuous around the base of the house. The house remains largely as built. The major modification is the application of an asbestos material over the original wood siding. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles and each crest line carries what appears to be a metal railing of the type used on concrete porches; this last is probably the most obtrusive alteration. A vent or flue of recent construction rises from the rear of the house. The present owners have made several changes on the grounds: a prominent gazebo at the northeast corner of the lot and a three-bay carport adjacent to the main building. Later additions include a pair of lions flanking the entry walk. The interior of the house has been refurbished by its present owners and although several appointments in the kitchen-pantry area have been altered, the main floor is still intact. During the tenure of the one of its many owners, the house was divided into apartments. Several of the walls put in place then have been removed in accordance with the original construction. The flooring and appointments of the ballroom have been removed and a small building to the rear of the house was built with this timber. Among the original fixtures is the main floor bathroom which still has an 1890's vintage water closed, tub and sink. In addition to the front and back parlors, on the main floor there is a bedroom or burning room adjacent to the bathroom and kitchen which is a customary feature of 19th century houses. The pantry and kitchen have been altered but the dining room exhibits some lovely spindle work, a favorite embellishment of the day. The side porch opens onto the dining room. All of the interior doorways have transoms to allow light into the rooms. The interior woodwork is cedar and follows the medallion design of the exterior molding. Historic Features for White House1. Large frame residence with a basically rectangular plan. 2. Hipped roof. 3. Square tower on the northeast corner of the building capped by a steep pyramidal roof with a finial. 4. Ornate decoration including turned spindles, cross pieces, balusters and posts on the porches and gables. 5. Angled and vertical boarding on gables ends and tower. 6. Scrolled brackets supporting each horizontal eave. 7. Decorated barge boards. 8. Square bays on the east and west sides of the main floor. 9. Decorated dentils underpinning the eaves and bay windows. 10. Decorative surrounds on the first story which extend below the window opening and into a stylized water table, delineated by vertical boarding and small cornice, which is continuous around the base of the house. 11. Interior doorway transoms. 12. Interior doorway transoms.

**Major
Bibliographic
References**

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PHOTOS



View of North Facade

taken 9/1/1997

Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):

43-18

Comments: