

LOCATION SECTION

Field Site No.: 3553
OAHP No.: 3553

UTM Reference

Plat/Block/Lot
WOODRUFF ADDITION TO OLYMPIA LT 16 N8E ALL 17 & 18

Supplemental Map(s)	Acreage
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IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Owner's Name: <u>DIVERS, DONALD K & EMBER</u>	Owner Address: <u>2802 N WARNER ST</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>Tacoma, WA 98407</u>
Classification: <u>Not Identified</u>	Resource Status	Comments
Within a District? No	<u>Local Register</u>	<u>Olympia Heritage Register</u>

Contributing?

National Register Nomination:

Local District:

National Register District/Thematic Nomination Name:

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Historic Use: Domestic - Single Family House
Current Use: Domestic - Multiple Family House

Plan: **No. of Stories:** 2

Structural System:

Changes to plan:

Changes to original cladding:

Changes to windows:

Changes to interior: Extensive

Changes to other: Extensive

Other (specify): Converted to triplex

Cladding Style	Other Unknown	Foundation Form/Type	Single Family
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Roof Material	Roof Type
Asphalt Shingles	Gabled
Copper	Hipped
Clay Tiles	Mansard
Slate	Pavilion
Green Roofing	Shed
Single-Ply Membrane	Skateboard
Double-Ply Membrane	Tented
Rubber	Vaulted
Concrete	
Steel	

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit

Other

Date Of Construction:

Architect:

Builder:

Engineer:

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places:

Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local):

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

**Statement of
Significance**

The house was built circa 1900 on the site of an orchard. John J. Adams and his wife owned Lots 17 and 18 for many years. Mr. Adams was a Swedish speaking Finn. Born in Finland around 1862, he immigrated to the United States between 1885 and 1890. In Olympia John Adams worked for the City of Olympia street department. Besides his regular duties, he became an assistant foreman and commissioner of the department. A newspaper article on February 7, 1914 noted that the City Council voted to increase Mr. Adams' daily wage by 25 cents in recognition of his "additional service." Later, according to City Directories, John Adams served as a laborer in the Olympia Veneer Company. Many Scandinavian immigrants worked in the mills of Washington State's Capital City. Mr. Adams also appeared to have been involved in the local Swedish-Finnish community. The name of the wife of John J. Adams varies in the surviving records. It ranges from Elise/Elsie (1910 Federal Census), Katherine (1915-1916 City Directory), Elizabeth (1920 Federal Census), Katrina (1925 City Directory), Catherine (1930 Federal Census), Lizzie (1934 City Directory), and Elise (1943 Chain of Title). It certainly seems to be the same person. Perhaps her real name was a Swedish-Finnish version of Elizabeth Katherine or Katherine Elizabeth. In any case, she was a Swedish speaking Finn like her husband. Born around 1865 in Finland, she immigrated to the United States in 1900.

Mr. and Mrs. Adams had an adopted daughter name Ester or Esther. She was born in Colorado around 1902 or 1903, and was noted in Olympia newspaper accounts for her recitations in Swedish and singing at public programs. Ester/Esther lived with her parents into the 1920s. At that time she was working as a stenographer or recorder for the Washington State Secretary of State Office.

**Description of
Physical
Appearance**

The John and Elise Adams House is largely intact though the house was converted to a triplex in the 1960s, and addition built onto the back. The siding and windows are original. The house has a front porch and divided light windows on the front and one upstairs.

**Major
Bibliographic
References**

Historian Drew Crooks, Thurtson Title Company, Ancestry.com, the Daily Olympian

PHOTOS



View of
taken

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

Comments: