

**CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO
CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY
FIELD FORM 1988-1989**

HIST. NAME: Rogers, George and Lottie,
House

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1929

COMMON NAME:

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

ADDRESS: 59 Wilbur Street

OWNER: Rogers, George M. & Lottie Ann

PRESENT USE: Residence

ARCH./BLDR.: Van Evera Bailey

T/R/S: 2S 1E 10AD

TAX LOT: 4700

STYLE: Mediterranean

RESOURCE TYPE:

Building

THEME: Architecture,
commerce

ADDITION: Oswego

BLOCK: 3

LOT: 1,2,3

QUAD: Lake Oswego

LOT SIZE:

ZONE: DD

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: T-plan

NO. OF STORIES: Two

FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Concrete

BASEMENT: Yes

ROOF FORM & MATERIALS: Intersecting gable; red clay tile

WALL CONSTRUCTION: Masonry

STRUCTURAL FRAME: Stud

PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: Casements, in pairs and threes; picture glass, e. elevation

EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: Uncoursed brick and rock

DECORATIVE FEATURES: Pointed arch window, s. elevation; stone voissiors

OTHER: Gabled hood entrance w/stone stoop; stained glass; sunroom; breezeway

CONDITION: Good

EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: Small paned windows replaced w/ solid glass

NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: Wrought iron gate; stone fireplace driveway of uncoursed stone, brick and tile, stone garden wall; ornamental trees

ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES: Gabled garage of stone, brick and tile located w. of the house.

SETTING: Located on the north side of Wilbur Street; at southern periphery of Old Town neighborhood; area characterized by early 20th century residences; 1.0 block from State Street – Highway 43, a heavily trafficked thoroughfare

NOTES:

RECORDER(S): Koler/Morrison

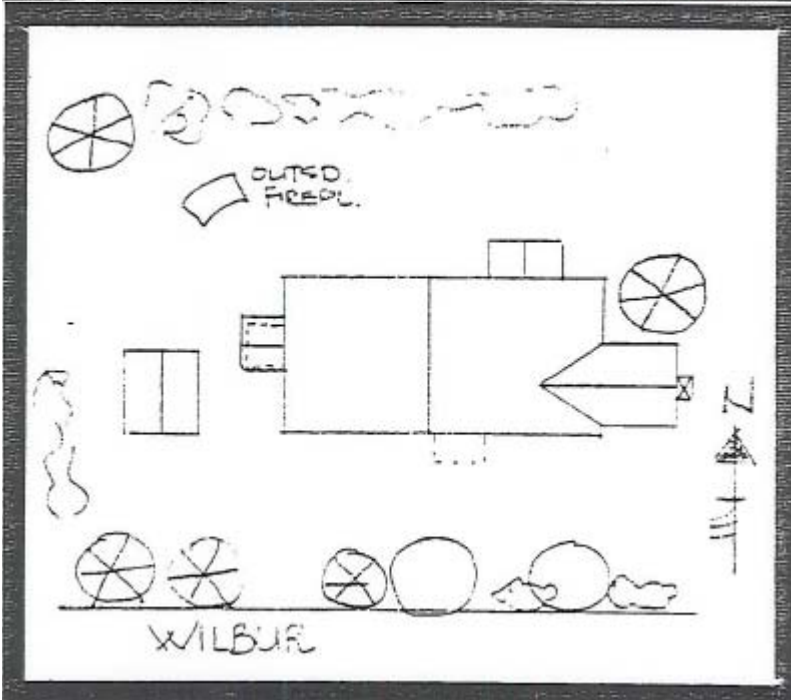
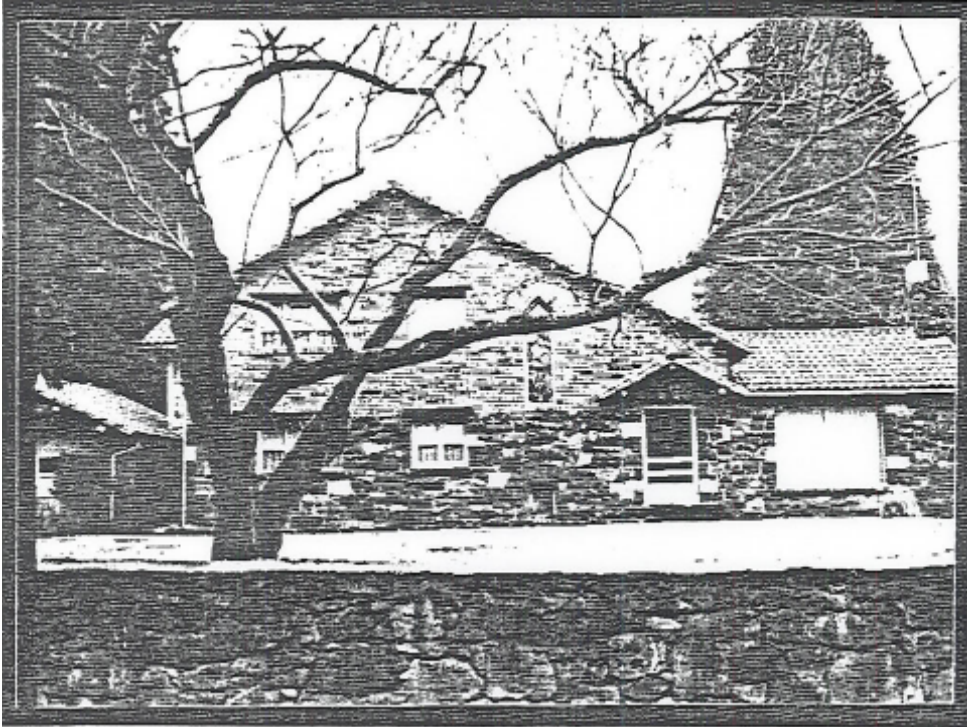
SHPO #: 371

DATE: January 1989

FIELD#:

CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

ADDRESS 59 WILBUR STREET
TAX MAP/LOT 2S 1E 10AD/4700
SHPO# _____ ROLL/FRAME# _____



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Address: 59 Wilbur Street

Historic Name: Rogers, George, House

George and Lottie Rogers purchased a small house on this property in 1918. Eleven years later they built the subject dwelling--a large Mediterranean style home for \$9000. Set in the heart of Old Town--one of Oswego's earliest neighborhoods created primarily for workers of the Oregon Iron and Steel Company--the house was conveniently located in terms of its proximity to Roger's grocery business on State Street. Wilbur Street was named for G. D. Wilbur, construction manager for the iron plant for the Oregon Iron Company which was-organized in 1865.

George Rogers (1880-1961) was born on Madeira Island, Portugal and immigrated to the United States in the early 1900s. Rogers (Rodrigues) He came west in 1911 and settled in the Oswego area. He worked briefly for Fred Morey (owner of a large estate now part of the Glenmorrie area) where he met Lottie Smoke whom he married in 1914. In 1923, he opened a grocery store on State Street with his brother August, which many local residents considered to be one of the finest places in Oswego. The business was quite successful. Rogers was also in the business of selling rocks around Lake Oswego according to his wife. "The bottom part of our house is stone and the upper story is brick from the Old Furnace by the Cement Plant before it was torn down..." Rogers retired in 1945 and went on to serve on the City Council for many years. In 1961 the City Council named Lake Oswego's largest City park (27 acres)--Roger's Park--after him for his untiring devotion in the City's development.

The Rogers House, Mediterranean in form and massing as well as materials, is unique for its exterior wall treatment and fine craftsmanship. The Mediterranean architectural vocabulary includes elements such as asymmetrical massing, masonry exterior walls, and low-pitched roofs covered with red tile. The garage, which sits just west of the house, includes some of the same elements. Landscape features, including the uncoursed-rock, perimeter garden walls also contribute to the historic character of the property.

The Rogers House was designed by noted local architect Van Evera Bailey. It is one of first three houses designed by Bailey in the period between 1928 and 1929 when Bailey left the country to --- travel abroad. That year Bailey also designed Roger's grocery/bakery at 456 North State Street. Bailey returned to the United States in the 1930s and worked extensively with William Gray Purcell, his mentor. Bailey returned to Oregon in mid-30s when he supervised the construction of several houses including his sister's home on Ridgecrest Drive. Bailey later designed many buildings in the Oswego area.

Bibliography:

Clackamas County Cultural Resource Inventory, Department of Transportation and Development, 1984.

McFall, Jeff, Unrecorded Interview by A. Christopher, 10/30/88.

Oregon's Iron Dream, by Mary Goodall.

Rogers, Lottie Smoke, Recorded Interview for "In Their Own Words, " oral history project for Lake Oswego Library.

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