

Oregon Historic Site Form

Freepons, Richard and Eileen, House
850 Cedar St
Lake Oswego, Clackamas County

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

address: <u>850 Cedar St</u> <input type="checkbox"/> apprx. addr	historic name: <u>Freepons, Richard and Eileen, House</u>
<u>Lake Oswego</u> <input type="checkbox"/> vcnt <u>Clackamas County</u>	current/ other names: _____
Optional Information assoc addresses: (former addresses, intersections, etc.) location descr: (remote sites)	block nbr: _____ lot nbr: _____ tax lot nbr: <u>5200</u> township: <u>2 S</u> range: <u>1E</u> section: <u>10</u> 1/4: <u>DC</u> zip: <u>97034</u>

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

resource type: <u>Building</u> height (# stories): <u>2</u>	total # eligible resources: <u>1</u> total # ineligible resources: <u>0</u>
elig. evaluation: <u>eligible/significant</u>	NR status: _____ (indiv listed only; see Grouping for hist dist)
primary constr date: <u>1954</u> (c.) <input type="checkbox"/> secondary date: _____ (c.) <input type="checkbox"/> (optional--use for major addns)	NR date listed: _____
primary orig use: <u>Single Dwelling</u>	orig use comments: _____
secondary orig use: _____	prim style comments: <u>with garage</u>
primary style: <u>Ranch (Type)</u>	sec style comments: _____
secondary style: <u>Split Level (Type)</u>	siding comments: <u>primary material: lapped siding; secondary: board and batten; Decorative: Brick</u>
primary siding: <u>Horizontal Board</u>	architect: <u>Dimitri Alexis</u>
secondary siding: <u>Vertical Board</u>	builder: _____
plan type: <u>Split Level</u>	
comments/notes: <u>Roof Type/Material: side gable/wood shingle Window Type/Material: multi pane, casement/wood; multi pane, fixed/wood</u>	
<u>Exterior Alterations or Additions, Approximate Date: None on record</u>	

GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS

survey project name or other grouping name	<u>Historic Survey and Inventory 2009-2010 2010</u>	<u>Survey & Inventory Project</u>
farmstead/cluster name:	external site #: _____ (ID# used in city/agency database)	

SHPO INFO FOR THIS PROPERTY

NR date listed: _____
ILS survey date: 3/30/2010
RLS survey date: 1/24/2010
Gen File date: _____
106 Project(s)



looking northwest at south façade

ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

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

The Richard and Eileen Freepons house, located at 850 Cedar Street, is an excellent example of an architect designed Split-Level Ranch House. Constructed in 1954, this house displays many of the defining characteristics of the style in its horizontal, low-to-the-ground profile, low-pitched gable roof, wide-boxed eaves, ridgeline chimney, and the two-car attached garage. The house has many defining elements including a breezeway between the house and the garage topped with a cupola, large, fixed, multi-paned windows, and a wide, cedar shingled, roof.

Located at the end of Cedar Street, on a large, irregularly shaped lot consisting of approximately one-and-a-half acres, this split-level ranch residence is located in a residential neighborhood. A driveway runs along the edge of the lot, surrounding the house, and Lake Oswego's Freepons Park abuts the property to the south. A rock wall, of varying height, runs along much of the inner circle of the driveway. A hedge grows along the northern half of the property, screening the house from the street. The lot is well landscaped, with a variety of hedges, ornamental grasses, shrubs, and trees. The front of the house faces south towards the field in Freepons Park. In the enclosed driveway area, to the west of the house, there appears to be a vegetable garden and to the west and southwest an area landscaped with ornamental trees and shrubs. To the north of the house is a back patio surrounded by lush landscaping.

The western two-thirds the house has a side gabled roof and the eastern one-third is front gabled. The entire roof is covered with cedar shingles and there is a wide, brick, ridgeline chimney centered on the main massing of the house. The side gabled section of the house has wide eave overhangs, while the front gabled portions have smaller eave overhangs.

A paved driveway enters from the circular driveway at the west end of the south (front) façade of the house. The house's formal entryway is located under the side gable roof on in a recessed front porch area. There is another entryway under the breezeway that leads from the garage to the house. In the recessed front porch area there are three, large, multi-paned windows that nearly fill the recessed wall. The main massing of the house (on the south, front façade) has horizontal wood board siding on the top portion of the house and brick, laid in a common bond, capped with a rowlock, cladding the lower portion of the house.

The north (back) façade of the house has two stories. The upper level is clad in horizontal boards and the lower level in brick. There is a porch that runs along the upper level, side gable portion of the house. There are a number of window types along the porch area, including wood, multi-paned casement windows and large, fixed, multi-pane windows. There is a set of French doors centered between two large windows leading out to the raised deck. There are stairs leading to the yard and patio on the east end of the deck. Simple square posts support the deck. The lower portion of the house has a doorway leading out to the patio and a bank of tall, slender casement windows to the west of the door.

The two-car garage is connected to the western façade of the house by a side-gabled breezeway. The two-car garage has a gable-on-hip roof, small overhanging boxed eaves, horizontal board siding, and two, single-car, garage doors.

HISTORY

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

The Richard and Eileen Freepons House is significant to Lake Oswego history because it is associated with the Freepons, who were longtime residents, and because it embodies the distinguishing characteristics of the popular Ranch Style. A Portland architect, Dmitri Alexis designed the house, as well as a number of other homes in the Lake Oswego area.

Richard Nyman Freepons was born on December 16, 1916 in Spokane, Washington. He attended high school in Walla Walla and graduated from Linfield College in McMinnville. In 1941, he married Opal "Eileen" Ramseyer, who was born in Filer, Idaho and came to Oregon in 1937 to attend Linfield College. Richard Freepons worked for Ames, Harris, and Neville (a company that manufactured tents, sporting goods, and other textiles) for thirty-five years before buying the Oregon Bag Company in Canby, which he operated until about 1980.

Opal "Eileen" Freepons was a very active Lake Oswego community member. She was a member of the Lake Oswego Garden Club and the Investment Club. She was very active with the Lake Oswego Methodist Church and served at "the conference level as past president of the United Methodist Women and was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Conference of the United Methodist Church."

The Freepons moved to Lake Oswego in 1943. They purchased the property in stages, adding parcels in 1946 and 1947. The Freepons used the large field south of their house first as a "pasture, then turned to strawberries, and finally planted it in blackcaps," but in the mid 1950s they planted grass. Children have been using the field as a playground ever since. Much of the property was eventually turned into a nearly six acre urban park, which helped to retain the open play area for local children.

The Freepons lived in the old Hallinan homestead house that was located on the site until 1953, when they moved the house and constructed their new house. Mrs. Freepons remembered the move in a 1973 article in the Lake Oswego Review, stating "we tied it to trees to get the proper leverage. It started to rain when it was half way across the lot and we wondered if we would get the job done!"

Eileen Freepons lived in the house until her death in 1987. Richard Freepons lived in the house until approximately 1990, when he moved to Sellwood. Richard Freepons died in June of 1992. Debbie Craig, the Freepons' daughter, and her husband David Craig, own and live in the house today.

The Richard and Eileen Freepons House retains a high degree of integrity, and is a good example a post-World War II, Ranch House in Lake Oswego. The building is certainly eligible for the Lake Oswego Landmarks list and could be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Oregon Historic Site Form

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RESEARCH INFORMATION

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

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

Local Library: Lake Oswego Public Library University Library: _____

Historical Society: _____ Other Repository: _____

Bibliography: Craig, Debbie, Unrecorded interview. April 8, 2010.

Lake Oswego Review. Obituary for Opal 'Eileen' Freepons, June 30, 1987, p. A2.

Lake Oswego Review, "Freepons park named; Timber from playground Set" March 22, 1973.

Oregonian, Births, July 29, 1943, p. 12.

Oregonian, "GOP Women Book Tea at Lake Oswego Home" April 26, 1966, p. 26.

Oregonian, "Linfield Alumni to hold Diner" January 8m 1953, p. 12.

Oregonian, "Palisades Park Bought," October 20, 1971, p. 21.

Oregonian, "Paper Cloth Plant Moves," Oregonian April 16, 1963, p. 34.

Oregonian, photo caption, July 11, 1070, p.21.

Oregonian, Obituary for Richard Nyman Freepons, June 28, 1992, p. C6.



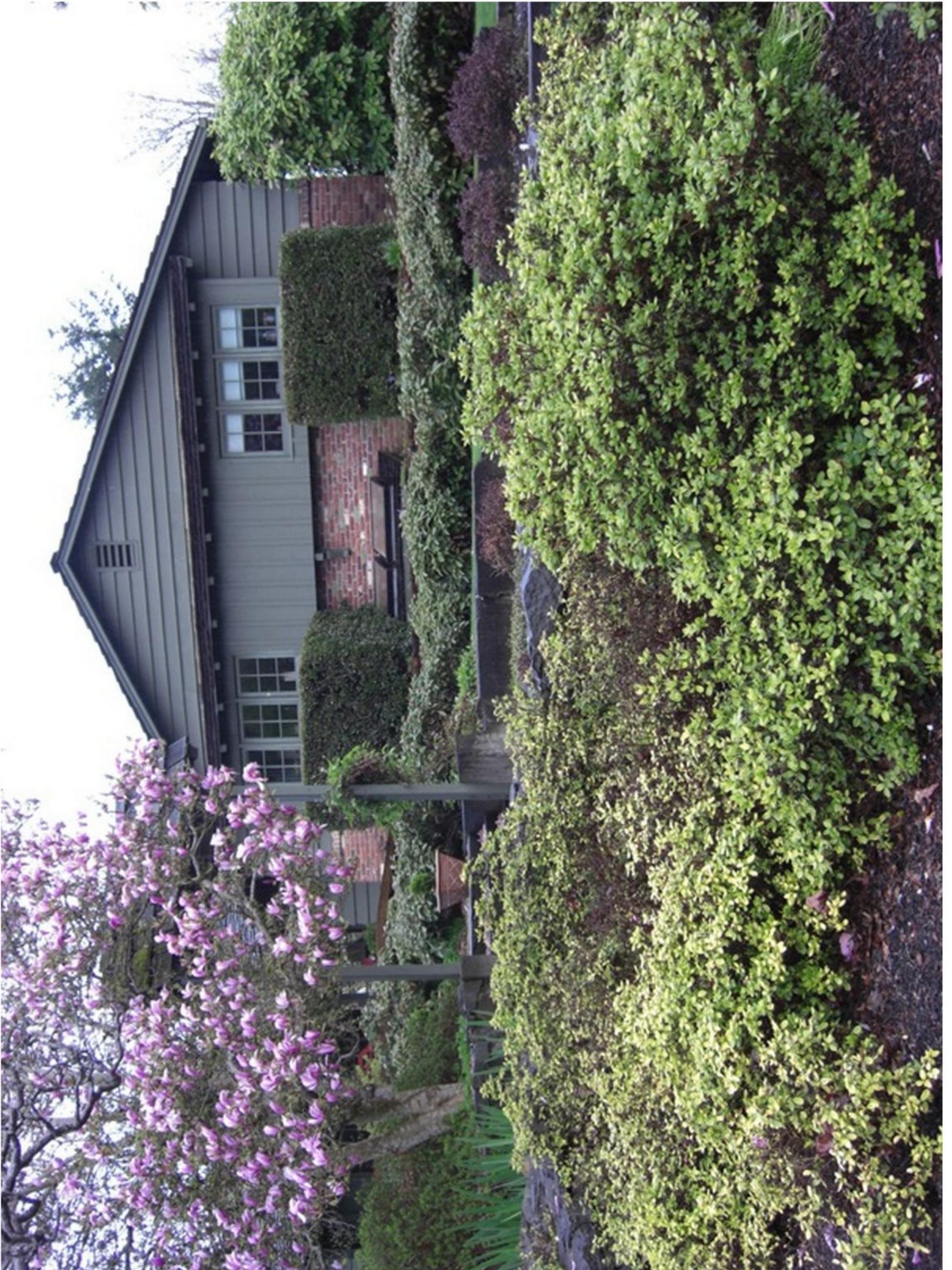
Cedar_Street_850_Freepons House_1



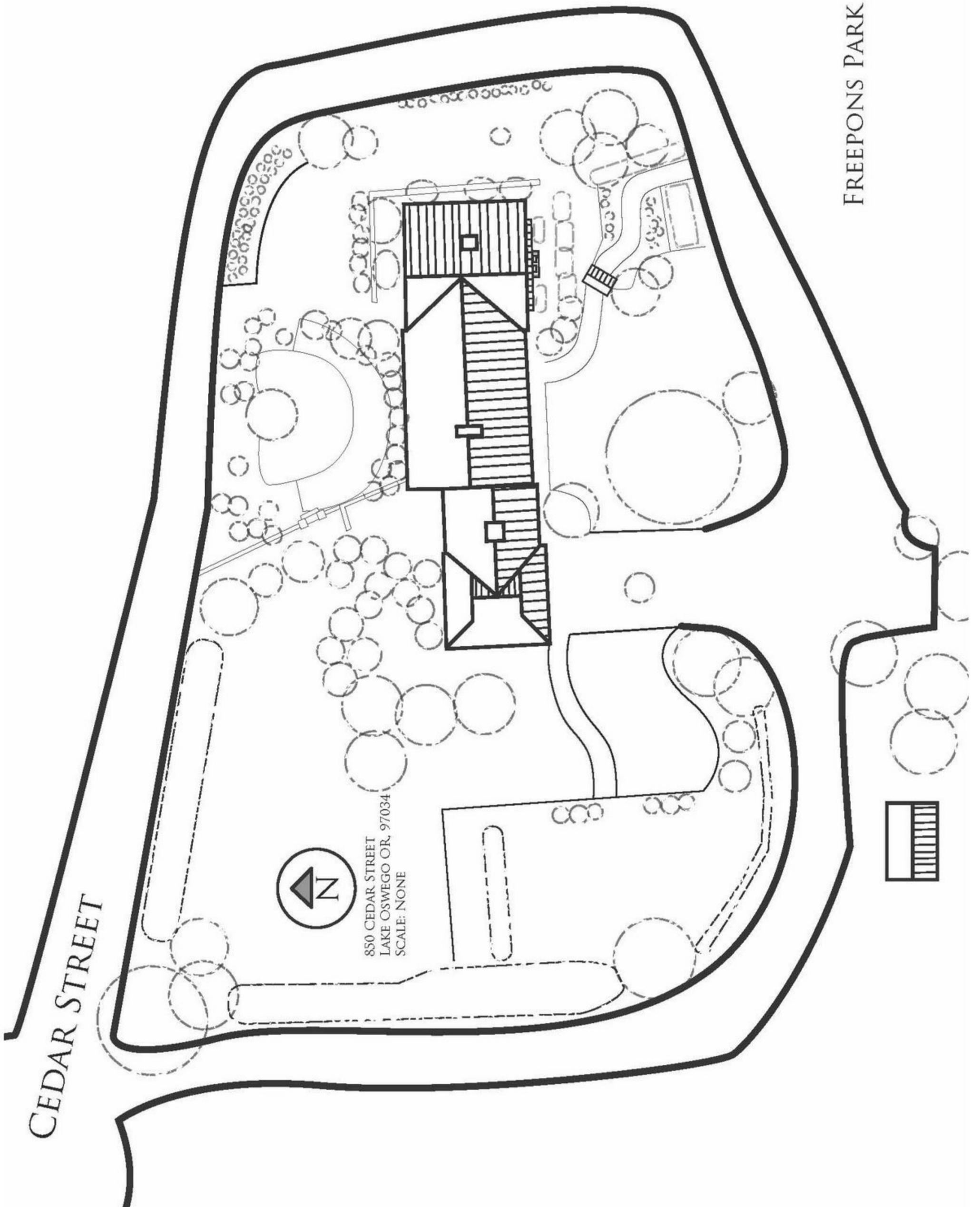
Cedar_Street_850_Freepons House_2



Cedar_Street_850_Frepons House_3



Cedar_Street_850_Freepons House_4



CEDAR STREET

FREEPONS PARK



850 CEDAR STREET
LAKE OSWEGO OR, 97034
SCALE: NONE

