

Oregon School Garden History:

Montavilla School Garden



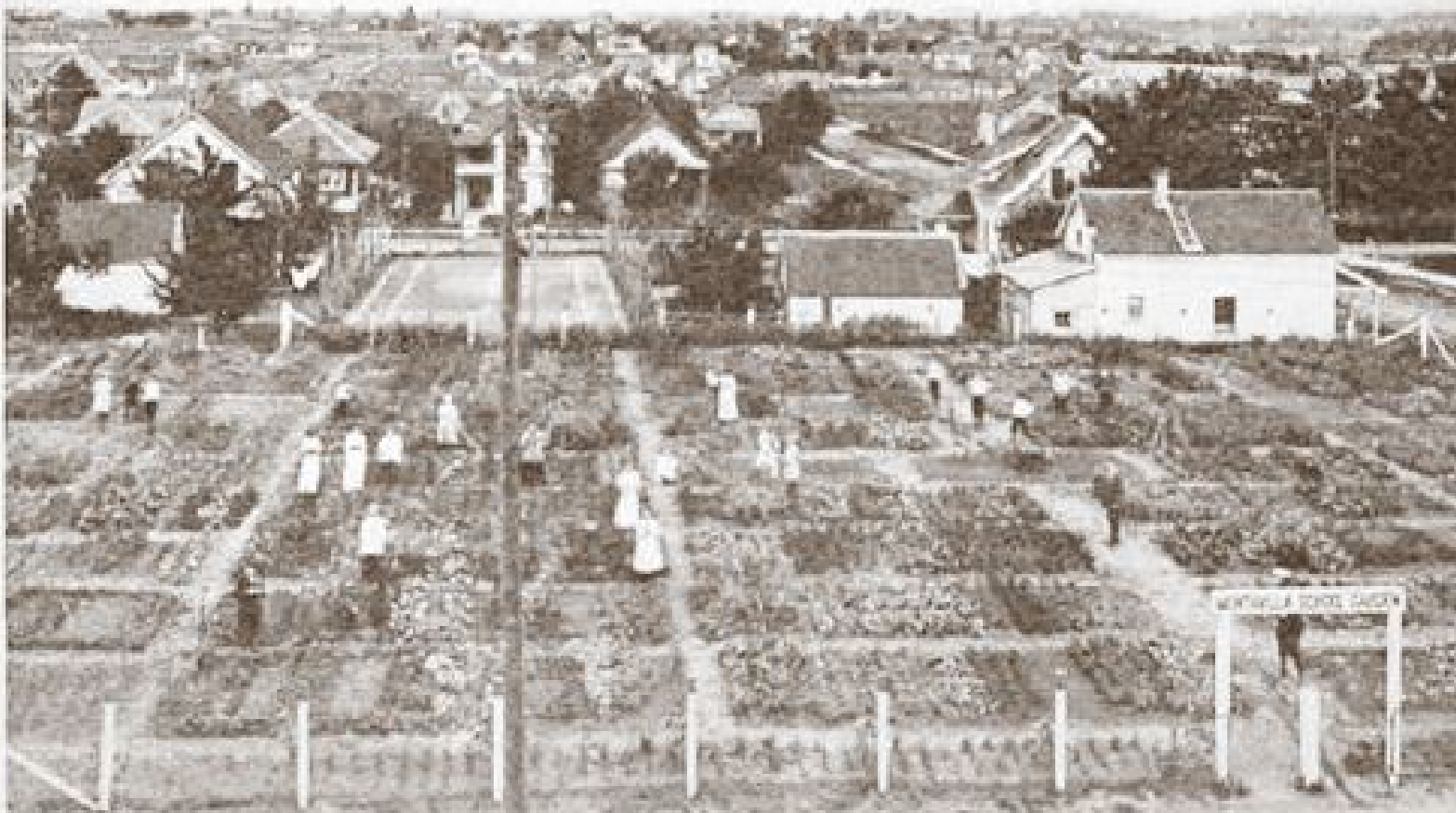
Rick Sherman

Farm to School Analyst



OREGON
FARM TO CHILD
NUTRITION PROGRAMS

I've used this picture in countless presentations.
Always wondered where the shot was taken, could
never find information about Montavilla school.



Montavilla School Garden, Portland, OR (1919)

I stumbled on this at the OR historical society. So, I figured that shot must have been at Vestal school..?



John L. Vestal

John L. Vestal was born in 1852, in Decatur, Illinois and moved to Portland in 1880.

He became a drug clerk in the Skidmore Drug Store owned by Mr. Sitton, a member of the Portland School Board.

At this time, John Vestal became acquainted with William F. Woodward, who later became the head of Woodward Clarke Drug Co.

John Vestal married a Portland teacher late in his life. When he died in March 1925, at the age of 73, his will indicated that the bulk of his property would be donated to the District No. 1 Portland Schools to be used for the best educational interest of the Portland school children. This generous donation was most likely the influence of Mr. Sitton and Mr. Woodward as well as his wife, who was a teacher. He loved children and no child could come into his store without receiving a smile and candy or gum. The Portland School Board were amazed at the gift and named the new Montavilla School after him.

Here's vestal, with their huge community garden. I was thinking one of the old buildings at the top of the parking lot looked correct, but then I found this from the Oregon Historical Society on the next slide:



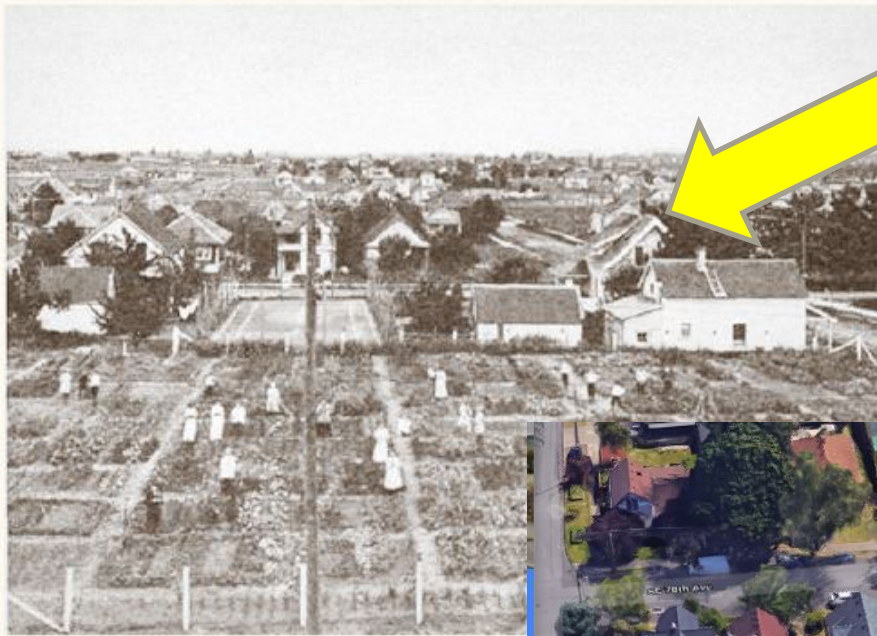


Title: MISS KREGLOW'S 6TH GRADE CLASS OF OLD MONTAVILLA GRADE SCHOOL ON THE SW CORNER OF NE 76TH & ASH. (SEE NEG JCKT)
so, the location of the old school was a few blocks away.. Is that a picture of the school in the top right corner? It's massive..

so look at this shot again, and this building



Montavilla School Garden, Portland, OR (1919)



Montavilla School Garden

I think we have a match at 76th & Ash!

Some of the buildings on 78th look correct too. Would need to do a drive-by



Close ups of that building
from google maps. Looks
correct!



Found out after emailing the pastor at the church at that property, that this is the footprint of the old montavilla school, which is across the street from the church.





It WAS massive! It appears the picture of the old garden was taken from a third story window on the old school.

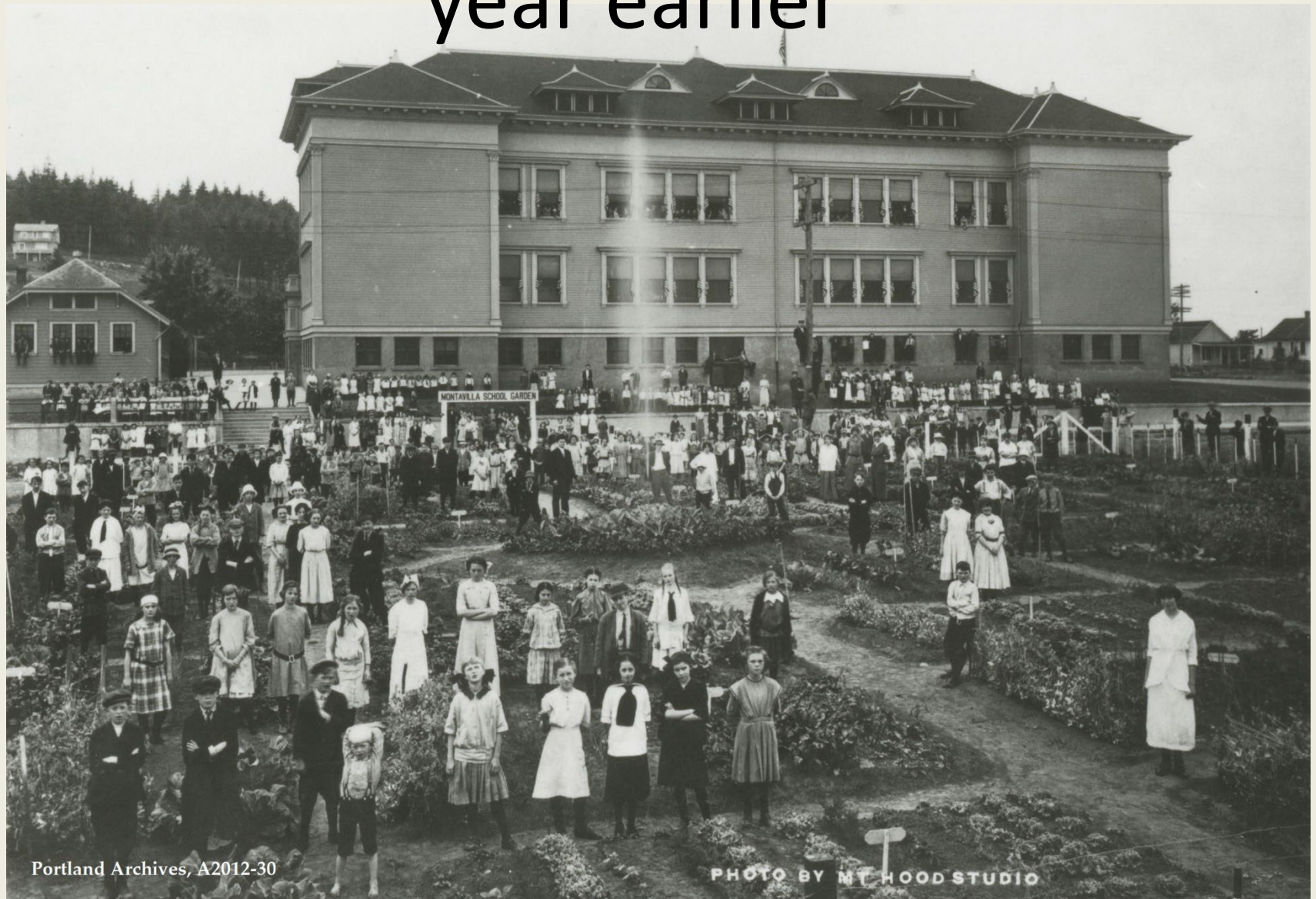


Montavilla School Garden, Portland, OR (1919)

Confirming everything,
the pastor sent me a
picture of the old
church on the property.
Buildings are identical!



Update! I found this one taken a
year earlier



Now, for these Portland Schools...

Arletta

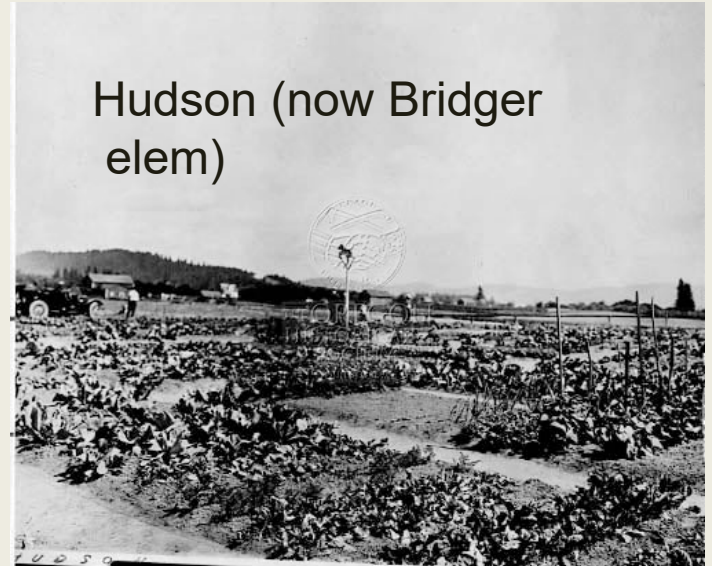


Brooklyn
(now on PSU
campus)



Jane Addams
Girl's High School

Hudson (now Bridger
elem)



Now, for these Portland Schools...

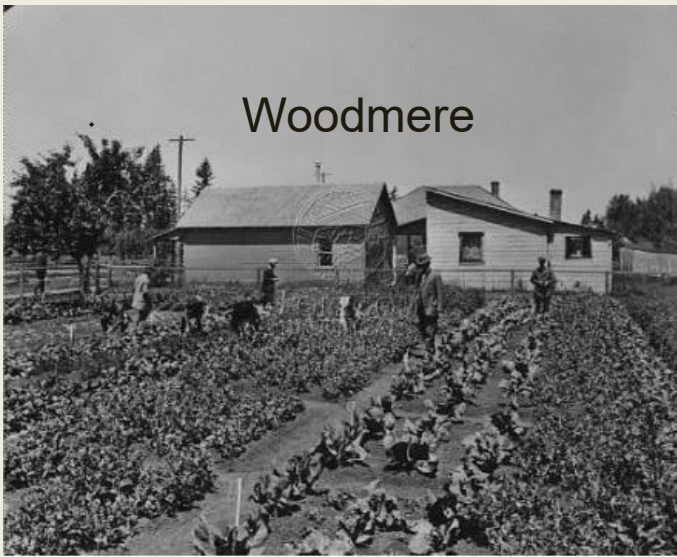
Ockley Green



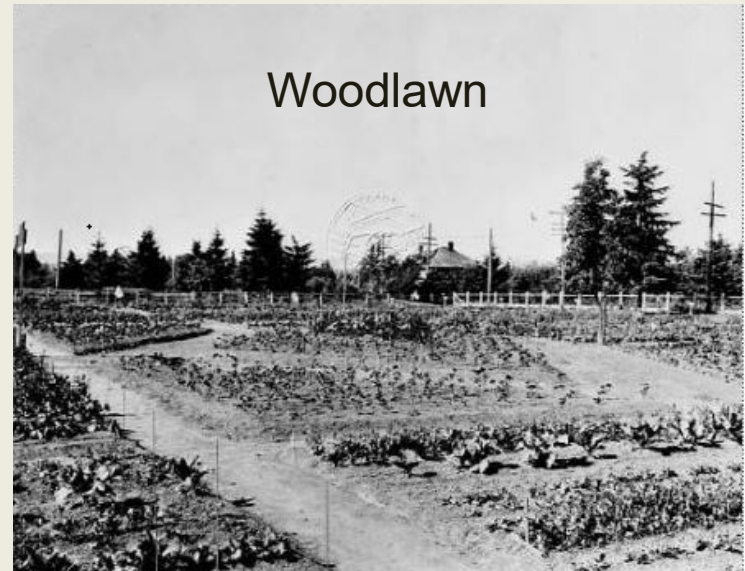
Unknown PDX school



Woodmere



Woodlawn



The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer

