

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Portland Golf Club Clubhouse

other names/site number N/A

Name of Multiple Property Listing N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

street & number 5900 SW Scholls Ferry Road  not for publication

city or town Portland  vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Washington code 067 zip code 97225

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: \_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date \_\_\_\_\_

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	<b>Total</b>

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Clubhouse

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Clubhouse

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN

SHINGLE STYLE

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: BRICK; WOOD: Shingle

roof: ASPHALT: Composition Shingle

other: CHIMNEYS: Brick

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

#### Summary Paragraph

The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse (“the clubhouse”) is located at 5900 SW Scholls Ferry Road in unincorporated Washington County, Oregon. The clubhouse, which was constructed in 1928, is situated within the Portland Golf Club, located approximately six miles southwest of downtown Portland, in the Raleigh Hills neighborhood of the city. The clubhouse features many elements indicative of the Shingle Style including the uniform covering of shingles, use of stone rubblework, the hipped-on-gable roof, and dormers. The one and a half story building is a 38,000 square foot, wood-frame clubhouse situated atop a concrete foundation with applied stone rubblework accents at exposed foundation locations. The Shingle style clubhouse was built on a slight slope, which results in a daylight basement level at the south and east elevations. It features asymmetrical massing and is clad in red brick and painted cedar shingles on all four of its elevations. The hipped-on-gable roof is steeply pitched with wide eaves that extend over verandas and walkways. Gabled dormers extend from the upper half story. A turret with a conical roof is located on the building’s southern side. At the interior, the clubhouse is subdivided to accommodate the various business and guest relations of the surrounding golf course. These include a ballroom, dining rooms, lounges, locker rooms, the golf course pro shop, and offices, among others. Generally, interior finishes include hardwood or carpeted floors, wood baseboards and wainscoting, coffered ceilings and boxed beams.

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### Narrative Description

**Setting:** The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse is located approximately six miles southwest of downtown Portland, Oregon in the city’s Raleigh Hills neighborhood. The clubhouse is situated along SW Scholls Ferry Road, which serves as a commercial hub for the surrounding neighborhood, complete with retail stores and restaurants. The clubhouse is largely surrounded at the east and south by the associated Portland Golf Club golf course, located outside the National Register boundary. To the north of the building is an associated parking lot. Located to the west is a secondary parking lot and residential properties. The setting around the Clubhouse itself is populated by hardscaped and paved areas used for parking, driving, and dining. These hardscapes areas are heavily landscaped with trees, shrubs, and plantings. While this landscaping is included within the National Register boundary, it is modern and non-contributing.

**Site:** The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse is limited to the hardscaping and landscaping directly surrounding the clubhouse building itself. The site slopes from north to south, resulting in the lower level being at grade and the daylight basement at the south and east. The site directly adjacent to the building largely contains hardscaped and paved areas used for parking, driving, and dining. These hardscapes areas are heavily landscaped with trees, shrubs, and plantings.

**Exterior:** The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse is a one-and-one-half-story wood-frame building with asymmetrical massing and a steeply pitched asphalt-shingle hipped-on-gable roof. The building sits atop a concrete foundation with stone rubblework accents at exterior landings and terraces, which can be seen in the rear elevations, making the building appear to be a larger three-story structure. Fenestration throughout the building, including the dormers consists of double casement windows with simulated divided lites, with the exception of the fenestration on the south and east-facing formal cocktail lounge and basement level pro shop which feature large picture windows.

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**North Elevation:** The north elevation is the primary elevation of the building (Photos 1-5). This is the main entry of the building and provides access to the first floor. The lower level is at grade due to the site's slope. This elevation is clad in polychromatic red face bricks on the first story. The five dormers on the second story are clad in painted cedar shingles that match the rear and side elevations with the same asphalt shingle roofing that adorns the rest of the clubhouse. A brick chimney rises out of the center of the roofline on this elevation. This elevation features double casement windows with simulated divided lites. The primary entrance is sheltered beneath the slight overhang of the hipped roof. This entrance is comprised of a wooden double door framed by fifteen-paned glass windows on either side of the doors. The door dates to the 2013 renovation.

**South Elevation:** Due to the site's slope and the full basement that lies beneath the entire building, the south elevation (Photos 6 and 7) appears to be three stories tall. This elevation is clad in painted cedar shingles. A prominent turret is featured on this elevation. On the western side of the turret, a large veranda is recessed into the main level. Gabled dormers, like those on the north elevation, line the top floor of this elevation. Fenestration consists of double casement windows with simulated divided lites in the enclosed eastern veranda. A series of sliding glass doors are located on the east side of the elevation.

**East Elevation:** The slope of the site results in a two-and-one-half-story east elevation. This elevation is clad in painted cedar shingles. It has one dormer, which is larger than those found on the other elevations. On the north side of the elevation, there are large picture windows. The rest of the windows are double casement windows with simulated divided lites. There are two centrally located entrances on this elevation. The first consists of double-leaf glass doors, and the second is a single leaf multi-lite glass door.

**West Elevation:** This elevation (Photo 8) is two stories high and clad in painted cedar shingles. It features a large centrally located dormer with two smaller dormers located to the south. Fenestration on this elevation consists of double casement windows with simulated divided lites.

## **Roof**

The roof of the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse is a complex, steeply pitched, hipped-on-gable form, characteristic of the Shingle Style. It is clad in asphalt shingles. The roof features dormers on every elevation, and they are most numerous on the north and south elevations. The dormers occur at relatively regular intervals, providing a sense of rhythm to the otherwise asymmetrical building. The roof features some jerkinhead details. The wide eaves hang over the entrances and create covered walkways.

## **Interior**

**First Floor:** The first floor features numerous public spaces, including a foyer (Photo 11), ballroom (Photo 12), lounges (Photo 13), bar (Photo 14), dining room (Photo 15), and locker rooms (Photo 16). The front-of-house functions of the clubhouse are largely limited to the main floor. A grand stair landing provides access to the lower lounges and dining areas that sit slightly below the rest of the main floor. The dining rooms, lounges, ballroom, hearth, and locker rooms can be accessed from the foyer and reception area. The building consists of three masses, the largest of which forms the building's main east-west axis. The central corridor connects the western men's locker room to the eastern women's locker room. The lounges, bar, restaurants, and East Room sit on the southern side of the central corridor, which faces the golf course. Administrative offices and back-of-house functions, like the coat check and reception area, are housed on the northern side of the central corridor. Two north-south corridors intersect the main east-west corridor on either side of the central passage. The north-south axis on the eastern side of the building serves as the termination of the main east-west axis. This area is where the East Room and

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ladies' locker room are located. The East Room, accessed through the central ballroom, has views of the front nine and the driving range. The other north-south axis, on the western side of the building, bisects the central corridor and houses the men's locker room and card room.

The clubhouse's spaces include both formal and informal settings to account for the various types of gatherings hosted within the building. The ceilings are coffered and feature boxed beams, the walls feature wainscoting, the flooring is a mix of hardwood and carpeting, and decorative structural supports are found throughout this floor. The ceiling, with its ornate boxed beams, is supported by rectilinear Colonial Revival columns. The walls have white wainscoting on the lower third and terminate at regularly spaced pilasters, providing a sense of rhythm to the space. The bar areas are less formal, with carpeting and wood-paneled walls in comparison with the more formal dining space overlooking the golf course. Although these finishes are largely modern, they were inspired by the original design of the interior.

Upper Floor: The upper floor serves as office space, storage, and a board room (Photo 17). The ceilings are lower here than on the first floor. Finishes on this level consist of hardwood and carpeted floors, gypsum board walls, wood baseboard, wood chair rail, and crown molding. Although these finishes are largely modern, they were inspired by the original design of the interior.

Basement: The clubhouse features a large basement level that extends the entirety of the building's footprint. The basement level contains office space, storage spaces (Photo 9), and the Portland Golf Club's Pro Shop (Photo 10), and it can be accessed through the exterior by two entrances on the east elevation, one on the south elevation, and through the interior stairs and elevator. The Pro Shop is the primary public space of the basement level. It consists of a coffered ceiling, paneled walls, patterned carpeting, and decorative support columns. The office spaces are typical of midcentury renovation and include carpeted flooring, gypsum board walls, and recessed lighting. Storage spaces are primarily utilitarian in design with concrete flooring and exposed ductwork. Directly adjacent to the ninth green at the basement level is an informal dining area.

## **Alterations**

The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse has remained in continuous use as a golf course clubhouse since its completion in 1928. As such, the clubhouse has undergone alterations to meet the needs of its members as those needs have progressed. On the exterior, the largest alteration occurred in 1954. The large verandas that flanked either side of the turret at the south elevation were extended outward and enclosed in glass and converted to interior cocktail lounges. The west patio was extended out beyond the original shingle walls and enclosed. The grand stair at the center of the south elevation was removed as a result of these expansions (Figure 11). Despite these alterations, the upper floors and distinctive roof of the turret remain intact. The Historic photos (Figure 12) indicate the following alterations on the north elevation took place prior to 1966: an extension of the roof and a loss of the gable over the entry, expansion of the west wing toward the parking lot, and the reconfiguration of the entry including a new brick façade and a new entrance and storefront system. The new brick façade resulted in the loss of the fenestration adjacent to the original entrance.

On the interior, the clubhouse has been periodically altered to better reflect contemporary aesthetic preferences. The furnishings, window treatments, and paint are routinely changed and modernized. The original clubhouse's interior was more stylistically aligned with the Gothic and Tudor Revival movements. The upper floor was converted to office space, storage, and a board room. The space is informal and generally not public facing. Despite these alterations, the floor plan has been largely untouched and remains consistent with the original 1927-1928 design by Thomas & Mercier.

Another interior renovation occurred in 2013 in anticipation of the Club's centennial. Interior dining area updates were conducted and sightlines on the south and east-facing elevations were generally opened to

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improve visual access to the golf course as part of this renovation. The Portland Golf Club, like any other country club, has undertaken cosmetic renovations every few years in order to reflect changing tastes, evolving budgets, and the desire to host tournaments and other events.

While each renovation has altered the clubhouse's décor and finishes, the underlying structure is much the same as the spirit of the building designed by Thomas & Mercier in 1927. The property is in exceptional condition and has been carefully maintained throughout its existence.

## **Integrity**

The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse retains integrity to convey its significance as a Shingle Style golf course clubhouse. The building has remained in continuous use as a clubhouse since construction in 1928. During that time, various renovations took place, but minimally impacted the significant Shingle Style design characteristic that define the exterior of the building. Additionally, although the interior finishes have been largely updated, the interior floorplan remains mostly intact. In 1954, the exterior verandas at the south elevation were enlarged and enclosed but remain representative of a sitting area utilized by club members (Photo 14). Despite these changes, both the exterior and interior retain their historic character and materials and express the clubhouses historic and concurrent use.

National Register Bulletin 15 describes integrity as the capability of a resource to convey its significance, and evaluates integrity based on a set of seven aspects detailing a property's physical features and how they relate to its significance.

The clubhouse is eligible for listing under Criterion C in the category of Architecture, with a period of significance of 1928, the date of construction.

Specific to the seven aspects of integrity:

*Location:* The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse is in its original location, and thus retains integrity of location.

*Setting:* Since the building remains in its original use as a clubhouse associated with a functioning golf course, its setting remains largely unchanged. Although the course itself has been redesigned numerous times, the building remains adjacent to the greens and fairways at the south and east. Outside the course grounds, the setting remains largely residential to the west. As such, the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse retains integrity of setting.

*Design:* The original Shingle Style design characteristics of the building including the uniform covering of shingles, use of stone rubblework, the hipped-on-gable roof, turret (Photos 5, 6, 7), and dormers (Photos 1, 2, 3) remain intact. The exterior was modified slightly with the enclosure of the original exterior patio that was incorporated into a new dining area in 1954. Otherwise, the exterior has not been substantially altered. The interior has been renovated and updated; however, these projects were undertaken in the spirit of the original design and the primary interior spaces have been largely only refurnished and refinished; the interior floorplan remains mostly unaltered.

*Materials and Workmanship:* In analyzing historical integrity, materials and workmanship relate to the presence of historic fabric and, for the purposes of this evaluation, are similar. The character-defining material of the clubhouse, including the cedar shingle cladding and rubblework have been minimally altered. Where alterations have occurred, they have been consistent with the original design and are indistinguishable to the casual observer. The materials used to construct the building and the level of craftsmanship of those laborers express the building's integrity as a golf clubhouse building type. The interior renovations have merely accentuated the building's original interior architecture. Much of the

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original woodwork remains and the space has simply been updated to better serve its functionality as an operating clubhouse.

*Feeling & Association:* The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse was designed as a golf club clubhouse to serve as both the start and end point to members' golf outings. In part, because it has remained largely unaltered throughout its existence, and, in part, because it continues to serve as the entrance to the course itself, the Portland Golf Club clubhouse maintains the feeling of a golf club clubhouse. Exterior alterations have been minimal and the interior updates that have been made have not altered the building's ability to convey its historic value. The exterior form of the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse continues to serve as a visual embodiment of the golf clubhouse architecture that developed in Portland and the Pacific Northwest in the early- to mid-twentieth century. As such, it retains its historic association as a golf club clubhouse.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1928  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1928 – Date of Construction  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation** (if applicable)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Thomas & Mercier  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance is 1928, the date of construction.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

N/A



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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse (“the clubhouse”) is locally significant under Criterion C in the category of Architecture as an excellent example of the Shingle style applied to a golf club clubhouse. The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse was constructed in 1928 as the third iteration of the Portland Golf Club’s clubhouse. The clubhouse was completed at a period of time in which the game of golf was increasing in popularity, which resulted in increased membership at the Portland Golf Club, and golf club clubhouses themselves were coming into their own as an individual building type. From the beginning of golf club clubhouse design, the Shingle style was one of the most prominent architectural styles applied to the type. By the 1920s, when golf club clubhouse design had become largely standardized, the Shingle style remained prominently used across the United States. Designed by the Portland-based architectural firm of Thomas & Mercier, the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse features a high-end Shingle style design, highlighted by its prominent steeply pitched hipped-on-gable roof, dormers, south elevation turret, and cedar shingle siding. The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse has remained in constant use as a golf club clubhouse since its construction and retains a high degree of integrity. The building’s period of significance is limited to 1928, its year of construction.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

### Developmental History

In the early-20<sup>th</sup> century, as golf was growing in prominence across the United States, nine Portland-based businessmen sought to capitalize on the burgeoning sport by developing a golf club in the city. After preliminary discussions in the winter of 1913, the nine elected officers and directors in April 1914, and set out to find a suitable piece of property. By the end of that month, the board had decided upon a tract of land at Firlock Station on the Oregon Electric Railroad, which was selected over alternative sites such as the former Ladd Farm in the northeast portion of Portland. On April 20, 1914, the Articles of Incorporation were filed, formally establishing the Portland Golf Club. Then, on May 5, the board announced that the Firlock Station land had been officially leased.<sup>1</sup>

As the home of the Portland Golf Club, the Firlock Station land was chosen for a distinct purpose, its proximity to the train line. At that time, automobiles were not yet household necessities. Accessibility by train, therefore, was paramount to the golf club’s success.<sup>2</sup> Development and design of the course was undertaken by the initial members, who transformed the 115-acre tract into a functioning golf course. For the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Portland Golf Club’s founding in 1989, the organization published an historical overview of the course and clubhouse’s development. In the publication, the development and early play of the course in 1914 was described:

“Members turned laborers and spent many a weary day burning brush, grubbing stumps, leveling fairways and forming greens. The first greens were miserable, as grass did not take to the clay soil. The only watering system was to haul barrels from Fanno Creek. Mowing the fairways and greens was done with ordinary lawn equipment and then raked into bales aligning the fairways.”<sup>3</sup>

For their first clubhouse, the Portland Golf Club members converted a two-story tenant farmhouse. The initial clubhouse contained a dining room, kitchen, bar, locker room, dressing room, and showers. By 1915, expansion of the course continued with both the expansion of dormitory quarters at the clubhouse and the completion of the final nine holes, which were designed by professional golfer George Turnbull.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Portland Golf Club: A Seventy-Five Year History, 1914-1989*, 3-5.

<sup>2</sup> Mayo, “The American Country Club,” 28.

<sup>3</sup> *Portland Golf Club: A Seventy-Five Year History, 1914-1989*, 6.

<sup>4</sup> *Portland Golf Club: A Seventy-Five Year History, 1914-1989*, 9.

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On September 18, 1915, the original barn-turned-clubhouse caught fire and burned. In February 1916, the *Morning Oregonian* announced that Portland-based architect Folger Johnson was commissioned to design a new clubhouse at the course.<sup>5</sup> Johnson designed a two-and-a-half story Tudor Revival building that was purposefully located within the course's boundaries to accommodate a more expansive 18-hole course, at approximately 6,200 yards.<sup>6</sup> Similar to the original clubhouse, the second iteration contained locker rooms, a bar, and dining areas. Unlike the earlier clubhouse, the second clubhouse incorporated a ladies locker room.<sup>7</sup> Although Folger Johnson's 1916 clubhouse significantly increased capacity within, ten years later the clubhouse was deemed too small for the Portland Golf Club, which totaled over 500 members at that time. In March 1927, the board announced the decision to construct a larger third clubhouse.<sup>8</sup> Discussions for the new clubhouse centered around its potential location: at the site of the second clubhouse, or at a new property. Following debate, a new site was purchased along SW Scholl Ferry Road at the northwest portion of the course. For the design of the new clubhouse, another local Portland-based firm, Thomas & Mercier, was retained. Thomas & Mercier's design followed common trends at the time and incorporated a Shingle style design into the, then standard, golf club clubhouse type.<sup>9</sup>

The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse opened on April 28, 1928 with a celebratory dinner dance.<sup>10</sup> Following the opening of the clubhouse, changes at the golf club largely consisted of periodic alterations to the course itself, as well as the occasional renovation campaign at the clubhouse building. At the golf course, the original layout and landscape design, completed by the earliest members and George Turnbull, was altered at various points in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, including in 1950, 1962, and 2013.<sup>11</sup> At the clubhouse itself, the most prominent alteration to the clubhouse occurred in 1954, with the addition of two enclosed restaurant areas in the location of the veranda at the south elevation. Additional renovations in the mid- and late-20<sup>th</sup> century focused on interior spaces.

Portland Golf Club has played host to a variety of important golf events throughout its over 100-year existence. Before the United States Golf Association increased the yardage requirements to host major tournaments, Portland was able to host dozens of major tournaments. Bob Robinson, in his book *Golf in Oregon: Historic Tales from the Fairway*, says the Club "seemed to develop a magic of sorts going back to its early days" and the Club's allure "showed in the large number of big tournaments that were played out on its tree-lined fairways, some with national and international flavor."<sup>12</sup> In 1946 the Club hosted the PGA Championship, one of the four majors and, even more significantly, hosted the 1947 Ryder Cup, the first to be held in the U.S since the outset of World War II. Most recently, the Club hosted the 2015 U.S. Women's Amateur.<sup>13</sup> The vast majority of these events took place at the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse. Even the clubhouse itself has played a major role in the history of golf. In 1946, following the completion of the 1946 PGA Championship, the Golf Writers Association of America was organized inside the clubhouse.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> "Site at Station Selected by Directors of Portland Golf Club." *Morning Oregonian*, March 15, 1916, <https://oregonnews.uoregon.edu/lccn/sn83025138/1916-03-15/ed-1/seq-13/ocr/>.

<sup>6</sup> Historically, courses over 7,000 yards have been quite rare, but the USGA started playing on courses of over 7,500 yards in the late 1990s, eliminating smaller clubs from contention for hosting major tournaments.

<sup>7</sup> *Portland Golf Club: A Seventy-Five Year History, 1914-1989*, 13.

<sup>8</sup> *Portland Golf Club: A Seventy-Five Year History, 1914-1989*, 17.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> Joe Barks, "Going the Distance," *Club and Resort Business*, March 27, 2014, accessed April 6, 2021, <https://clubandresortbusiness.com/going-distance/>.

<sup>12</sup> Robinson, *Golf in Oregon: Historic Tales from the Fairway*, 114.

<sup>13</sup> "Portland Golf Club in Oregon chosen to host 2015 U.S. Women's Amateur," PGA News, published May 9, 2013, <https://www.pga.com/archive/portland-golf-club-in-oregon-chosen-host-2015-us-womens-amateur>.

<sup>14</sup> Anna Marum, "Portland Golf Club Celebrates 100 Years – Here are 18 Holes' Worth of Fun Historical Facts," *The Oregonian*, March 8, 2014, updated Jan. 10, 2019.

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## Social History of the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse

The concept of the country club was modeled after the private social clubs, the so-called “gentlemen’s clubs,” at the center of nineteenth century society. Many types of early clubs emerged during the zenith of the private club: social clubs, politically-oriented social clubs, special purpose clubs (such as yacht clubs), professional clubs (devoted to a single profession or occupation), cultural clubs, athletic clubs (such as racquet clubs), college alumni clubs, and ethnonational clubs.<sup>15</sup> Golf, long popular in England and Scotland, became increasingly popular in the United States in the last decades of the nineteenth century. The rise of country clubs coincided with the “back-to-nature” movement popular with upper- and upper-middle-class Americans at the time who sought “moral and emotional regeneration in the open air.”<sup>16</sup> Golf clubs emerged as exclusive, members-only spaces for wealthy white men, and occasionally women, to gather to eat, drink, exchange ideas, and, of course, play a round on the links. In the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, golf was primarily a game for the wealthy, accessible to only those able to afford memberships. Few public courses existed prior to the 1910s. Joining a country club provided members with access to a clubhouse to serve as a second home, in a sense.

Portland Golf Club is proud to have admitted female members very early in its history. One such member, Alice Benson Allen, a Portland philanthropist, and founder of the Oregon Women’s Golf Association, successfully pressed for and helped finance a women’s locker room in one of the early clubhouses. This led to a substantial women’s locker room being included in the present clubhouse, at a time when inclusion of women’s facilities was merely an afterthought at many clubhouses being built at the time. To this day, the Portland Golf Club has a women’s tournament named after her, “The Alice.” Portland Golf Club retains a feeling of camaraderie and community by actively recruiting members of all races, genders and ages.

## Criterion C: Architecture

The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent example of the Shingle style applied to a golf club clubhouse. In the early-20<sup>th</sup> century, as the popularity of golf increased, golf courses and associated clubhouses were constructed across the country. During that time, the Shingle style of the Late Victorian era in architecture was commonly used in the design of golf course clubhouses.

## The Golf Club Clubhouse as a New Building Type

Golf courses were developed across the United States in the late-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> centuries, as vacations, recreational activities, and summering were introduced in American culture. Author James M. Mayo explains the historical development of the golf course clubhouse, or country club, in his book, *The American Country Club: Its Origins and Development*. The Myopia Club in Boston, Massachusetts, constructed in 1879, is recognized as the first country club in the United States. According to Mayo, the Myopia Club combined elite sport with an associated clubhouse facility.<sup>17</sup> Following the Myopia Club, additional country clubs were constructed in Brookline, Massachusetts, Buffalo and Tuxedo in New York, and Town & Country in St. Paul, Minnesota. By 1901, there were more than one thousand golf club associated clubhouses in each of the 48 states; Hawaii and Alaska were not yet states in 1901.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Clifton Hood, *In Pursuit of Privilege: A History of New York City’s Upper Class and the Making of a Metropolis* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2016), 193.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, 288.

<sup>17</sup> James M. Mayo, *The American Country Club: Its Origins and Development* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1998), p. 63-87.

<sup>18</sup> Oregonian, April 1, 1895, p. 3; July 9, 1893, p. 13; Feb. 25, 1895, p. 8; Feb. 25, 1895, p. 64; Richard Moss, Golf and the American Country Club (Chicago, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2001), p. 43-44.

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The rise of the country club also necessitated the subsequent rise of the clubhouse to function as the club's gathering and social space. The clubhouse served as a means of attracting new members to join the club. By building a clubhouse, country clubs were able to appeal to people who were looking to share more than just an appreciation of golf. In designing a building to serve specifically as a golf clubhouse, architects borrowed forms from the large country estate houses they designed for the affluent. Many early designers of golf clubhouses were, in fact, primarily residential architects, such as John Russell Pope and Harrie T. Lindeberg. Best practices in golf clubhouse design emerged by the end of the 1920s. One commonly held belief, as noted by Richard Diedrich in his book *The 19<sup>th</sup> Hole: Architect of the Golf Clubhouse*, is that the clubhouse should be located close to the 18<sup>th</sup> hole and, generally, overlooking the back nine.<sup>19</sup> This design consideration stems from notion that members would finish at the clubhouse, where they would be able to relax, wash, and enjoy refreshments after playing. Architect George Nimmons, who was known for his design of residential and commercial properties, explained a second ideal in his 1917 article in *The Architectural Review* titled "The Special Requirements and Planning of Golf Club-Houses," noting that it was advantageous to include a wraparound veranda that would provide a commanding view of the first tee, where players begin, and the eighteenth green, where matches end, because that would allow spectators to see what he believed to be the two most interesting stages of the game.<sup>20</sup> Later architects reconsidered this once-accepted feature. By the 1920s, the veranda was no longer considered an "inevitable part of the clubhouse" because the deep-set porches and longer overhanging roofs would cause the main interior dining and lounge areas to become "dark holes."<sup>21</sup>

In designing a golf course clubhouse additional attention was paid to the exact location of the building within the context of the larger course itself. Determination of clubhouse location was often debated by the golf club's board of directors, its building committee, the course architect, and the building architect. Prior to the advent of the automobile, some courses located themselves adjacent rail lines and train stations; this was a specific reason why the Portland Golf Club chose its location in 1913. Following the advent of the automobile industry, the need to situate a course and clubhouse adjacent the road to accommodate automobile travelers. An additional design consideration the growth of the automobile industry impacted was the incorporation, or diminished need for, sleeping quarters. Earlier clubhouses often contained dormitories for members staying overnight. This directly related to the use of rail travel, which was less frequent and time consuming the automobile travel. When the car supplanted trains, day trips to the course were more common.<sup>22</sup>

At the same time, the clubhouse approach was carefully considered by architects so that it might be given an appropriate sense of dignity and privacy. While early clubhouses did not necessarily have to worry about members visiting in winter, since golf is played in agreeable weather, it became an increasing design consideration as clubs sought to expand their programming and utilize the clubhouse year-round.<sup>23</sup> Nimmons outlined many of the important considerations of golf clubhouse design in his 1917 *Architectural Review* article, in which he explained that the essential requirements are few, but attention must be paid to the allocation of front-of-house and back-of-house functions and the careful planning of movement and spaces of engagement in the club. Above all, though, the locker room was, to him, one of the most important features of the clubhouse. He wrote that the early clubhouses were "often dark, crowded, poorly ventilated, and inconveniently located."<sup>24</sup> As *Architectural Review* was a national publication, it is likely that architects, like Thomas & Mercier, consulted this publication, prior to designing clubhouses. At the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, for example, the first floor and basement levels contain important interior spaces, such as the pro shop, lounges, and restaurant that face the course to the building's south and east.

<sup>19</sup> Diedrich, *The 19<sup>th</sup> Hole*, ix.

<sup>20</sup>George C. Nimmons, "The Special Requirements and Planning of Golf Club-Houses," *The Architectural Review* vol. V, no. 2 1917: 50.

<sup>21</sup> Mayo, "The American Country Club," 34.

<sup>22</sup> *Portland Golf Club: A Seventy-Five Year History, 1914-1989*, 11-13.

<sup>23</sup> Clifford Charles Wendehack, *Golf & Country Clubs: A Survey of the Requirement of Planning Construction and Equipment of the Modern Club House* (New York: William Helburn Inc., 1929), vi.

<sup>24</sup> Nimmons, "The Special Requirements and Planning of Golf Club-Houses," 51.

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In Portland, an early-20<sup>th</sup> century example of the golf course clubhouse exists in the Waverley Country-Club Clubhouse, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2013. Waverley's clubhouse displays many of the early design qualities that were later considered out of fashion in clubhouse design, including extensive verandas. Subsequent examples, such as the Portland Golf Club, contained more subtle porches that allowed for more natural light to reach the clubhouse interior.

The overall design and layout of early-20<sup>th</sup> century golf course clubhouses also varied depending upon the status of its associated golf club. Private golf course clubhouses, for instance, featured high-end event spaces, such as ballrooms. Whereas, municipal clubs were limited in space and uses, with the interior largely consisting of the restaurant/bar space. No matter their status, both private and municipal golf clubs were design in similar architectural styles, including the popular Shingle style.

### **The Shingle Style**

The Shingle style was commonly used between 1880 and c. 1910.<sup>25</sup> The style served as a successor to the Queen Anne style of the Late Victorian era. The first example of the Shingle style was recorded by historian Vincent Scully in 1879, as he described a house designed by architect William Ralph Emerson. The style quickly rose in popularity in New England and became a favorite of New England-based architects. Among the many architects that designed in the Shingle style were Henry Hobson Richardson and the firm of McKim, Mead, and White.<sup>26</sup>

The Shingle style is most commonly defined by its use of shingle siding, which is most often contained at the upper floors, while the lower floors are clad in stone, typically coursed or random rubble or fieldstone boulders. Additionally, characteristics of the style include: roofs that are hipped, gabled, or both; sweeping rooflines, round turrets, gabled dormers, and moderate-to-steeply pitched roofs.<sup>27</sup> Although the style was originally applied to residential buildings, by the turn-of-the-century, the Shingle style was commonly used on resort buildings and golf club clubhouses.

### **The Shingle Style Applied to Golf Course Clubhouses**

At the outset of golf club clubhouse design, the buildings often took the form of residential buildings. This led to the building type's ability to be designed in a variety of popular architectural styles, including the Colonial Revival style. One particularly popular design style applied to golf club clubhouses was the Shingle style. In fact, the application of the Shingle style on golf club clubhouses was prominent from the very beginning of the building type's development.

In 1892, the Shinnecock Hills Golf Club in Southampton, Long Island, New York was completed as what is recognized as the first purpose-built golf clubhouse in the United States.<sup>28</sup> Designed by the celebrated firm of McKim, Mead, and White, perhaps the most prominent firm to practice in the Shingle style, the Shinnecock clubhouse was designed as an "expression of a new architectural type as the first clubhouse in the United States specifically built for the sport of golf."<sup>29</sup> At Shinnecock, White developed a design that would incorporate elements of the restrained Shingle Style with refined colonial revival motifs, creating a new property type: "the country house."<sup>30</sup> The "country house" style immediately came to represent the vernacular for New England

<sup>25</sup> Virginia Savage McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York City, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 2017), p. 373.

<sup>26</sup> Marcus Whiffen, *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1992), p. 128.

<sup>27</sup> Whiffen, *American Architecture Since 1780*, p. 127.

<sup>28</sup> Richard Diedrich, *The 19<sup>th</sup> Hole, Architecture of the Golf Clubhouse* (Mulgrave, Victoria, Australia: The Images Publishing Group Pty Ltd, 2008), 10.

<sup>29</sup> "New York SP Shinnecock Hills Golf Club," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2000), Section 8, Page 1.

<sup>30</sup> "New York SP Shinnecock Hills Golf Club," Section 8, Page 4.

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coastal recreation and residential architecture.<sup>31</sup> The Shingle Style also represented something entirely new and distinctly American – the golf clubhouse – with an architecture that shunned detail and ornamentation in favor of the reasserted form.

The Shingle style began to fall out of favor in residential architecture around 1910.<sup>32</sup> Despite this, the style appears to have risen in popularity in golf clubhouse design after that time, particularly in New England and the northeastern United States. The same year the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse was constructed, 1928, for example, John Russell Pope's Tuxedo Club Clubhouse, located in Tuxedo Park, New York, was completed in the Shingle style. Around the time Tuxedo Club Clubhouse and the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse were constructed, a secondary overview on the design of golf club clubhouses was published by Clifford Wendehack, a notable New York-based clubhouse architect who was active in the northeast in the 1920s. In his publication, titled *Golf & Country Clubs: A Survey of the Requirement of Planning Construction and Equipment of the Modern Club House*, Wendehack offers a tutorial in clubhouse design. Although he does not suggest a specific or preferred architectural style, he does explain many preferred design qualities that the Shingle style provides, including large rooms and flowing spaces characteristic that illustrate Wendehack's assertion that form follow the needs of the club's members.

In Portland, Thomas & Mercier's Portland Golf Club Clubhouse illustrates the use of the style on the building type in the early-20<sup>th</sup> century period. Following the clubhouse's construction, subsequent local courses also designed clubhouses in the Shingle style, including the Broadmoor Golf Course Clubhouse and the Rose City Golf Clubhouse, both of which featured similar asymmetrical massing and fenestration, steeply pitched hipped-on-gable roofs, and wood shingle cladding.<sup>33</sup>

The Shingle style remains a prominent architectural style applied to golf club clubhouses. In Bridgehampton, New York, the Atlantic Golf Club constructed a Shingle style clubhouse in 1993. The style was again used in Jupiter, Florida's Dye Preserve Golf Club in 2005, and at the Ocean Course Clubhouse in Kiawah Island, South Carolina in 2007.<sup>34</sup>

#### *The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse as an Example of the Shingle Style Applied to a Golf Club Clubhouse*

As a clubhouse iteration of the Shingle style, there are a number of key stylistic elements expressed in the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse that neatly place the building in this category. Firstly, the hipped-on-gable roof is a prime feature of the Shingle style. Hipped roofs with cross gables are common among Shingle style buildings, and they often have a moderate to steep pitch. Next, the namesake of the style is the wall cladding, which is commonly wood shingles, much like the cedar shingles cladding of the clubhouse. These uniform covering of shingles are present on the upper stories, portions of the lower stories, and porches. A sweeping roofline shelters the rear of the structure adding another key Shingle style design feature to the clubhouse. Another element of the Shingle style evident in the clubhouse is the use of stone rubblework accents at exterior landings and terraces. The clubhouse's consistently placed dormers are set in varying sizes, and the building also features a prominent southern facing turret. Both of these features are characteristic of the Shingle style.

In addition to being an excellent example of the Shingle style, the building also serves as an excellent example of a golf club clubhouse with its various amenity features that serve its members. The clubhouse provides a bar, cocktail lounge, restaurant, dining areas, ballroom, locker rooms, and contains a pro shop. In addition, the clubhouse's proximity to the golf course accentuates its prominence on the site.

<sup>31</sup> Diedrich, *The 19<sup>th</sup> Hole*, 84.

<sup>32</sup> Virginia Savage McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York, NY: Alfred A Knopf, 2017), p. 373.

<sup>33</sup> Morgen Young and Patience Stuart, "Rose City Golf Clubhouse," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2012), 11.

<sup>34</sup> "Projects: Ocean Course Clubhouse," *RAMSA.com*, accessed April 6, 2021, <https://www.ramsa.com/projects/project/ocean-course-clubhouse>.

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## Comparative Analysis

The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse remains an excellent example of the Shingle style applied to a golf club clubhouse. When compared with its contemporaries, particularly those in Portland, Thomas and Mercier's high-quality design stands out amongst them as one of the city's finest examples of the type.

Waverley Country-Club Clubhouse, Clackamas County, OR - The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse has engaged in an architectural dialog with many of its contemporaries. For example, the Waverley Country-Club Clubhouse, located in unincorporated Clackamas County, Oregon, was constructed in 1913, fifteen years prior to the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse. Just as the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse is an excellent institutional example of a Shingle style building, the Waverley Country-Club Clubhouse showcases the hallmarks of the Colonial Revival style. Both buildings are asymmetrically massed and feature roofs characteristic of their respective styles. Waverley is topped with a cross gambrel roof, whereas Portland's steep-pitched hipped-on-gable roof is one of its most definitive exterior features. Waverley and Portland both have walk-out basements, further connecting the building with the surrounding site. While both buildings were constructed with outdoor patio seating, both Waverley and Portland saw some of this patio space enclosed in the mid-twentieth century. Overall, Waverley's clubhouse features more extensive verandas, as opposed to the more subtle porches at the Portland Golf Club that allow for greater natural light to permeate the clubhouse interior.<sup>35</sup>

Furthermore, the interior features of both buildings include coffered ceilings and paneled wood wainscoting on the walls. The two buildings contain similarly purposed rooms, including a ballroom, dining rooms, lounges, and locker rooms. In each case, the interior finishes are appropriate and reflective of the hierarchy of public spaces within the clubs. Waverley ultimately required an expansion to accommodate the changing needs of its members, while the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, on the other hand, has maximized the adaptable nature of its design to maintain its original footprint.<sup>36</sup> The Waverley Country-Club Clubhouse was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2013.

The Oswego Lake Country Club Clubhouse, Lake Oswego, OR – The Oswego Lake Country Club Clubhouse, located about ten miles south of Portland, was designed by the notable architecture firm of Church & Whitehouse and opened in 1925. The cottage-style clubhouse, with its stone siding and many gabled dormers, bears many similarities to the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse. It even shares a similar steep-pitched hipped-on-gable roof. As a local Portland firm working during the same time period, Thomas & Mercier, designers of the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, would likely have been aware of the Oswego Lake project.<sup>37</sup> Despite their similarities in both age and features, the Oswego Lake Country Club Clubhouse was not designed in the Stick style, and, as such, does not display the same level of design consideration and materiality as the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, highlighted in its brick and cedar shingle siding.

Columbia Edgewater Country Club Clubhouse, Portland, OR – The Columbia Edgewater Country Club Clubhouse was established in 1924 as the Columbia Country Club. The original clubhouse was destroyed by fire in 1979 and replaced by a modern clubhouse that opened in 1981. The modern building pays homage to the forms of its predecessors but uses local timber siding throughout the exterior. Most notably, Columbia seems to have been influenced by the low, sprawling form of the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, despite it being a much more modern building. Moreover, the jerkinhead roof of the Columbia clubhouse also seems to have been inspired partly by the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse. Considering that the Portland Golf Club

<sup>35</sup> John M. Tess "Waverley Country-Club Clubhouse," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, Heritage Consulting Group, October 2012.

<sup>36</sup> John M. Tess, "Waverley Country-Club Clubhouse."

<sup>37</sup> "Oswego Lake Country Club: Family Golfing Tradition Since 1924," Oswego Lake Country Club, accessed April 6, 2021, <https://www.oswegolakecountryclub.com/Default.aspx?p=DynamicModule&PageId=407461&ssid=334414&vnf=1>

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Clubhouse was constructed 53 years prior to the second Columbia Edgewater clubhouse, it is proof of the persistent influence the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse has had on similar local buildings.<sup>38</sup>

The form of the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, the way it is situated in its environs, and its structure continue to inform the builders of golf clubs in the Portland area today. Likewise, the clubhouse's success can be ascertained by its ability to modernize without fundamentally altering its form. The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse relates to nearby golf club clubhouses built both earlier and later, and it has provided neighboring clubs with a successful architectural formula for their clubhouses.

### **Thomas & Mercier (Architects)**

Lee Arden Thomas & Albert Mercier were retained to design the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse's third clubhouse building in 1927-1928. The duo formed a partnership in Portland in 1924, and gained notoriety designing theaters and commercial buildings. In Portland, the duo are responsible for the Bagdad Theater, completed in 1927, and the Grand Central Public Market, completed in 1929. Both buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Lee Arden Thomas was born in Nebraska on February 27, 1886. He received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from Cornell University.<sup>39</sup> Albert Mercier began his career around 1917 as an architectural draftsman for George H. Keith, an architect working in Spokane, Washington. After serving in World War I, he returned to Washington to work as a draftsman.<sup>40</sup> Mercier was born in Michigan but lived and worked in Wenatchee, WA. Prior to Portland. Mercier worked not only as an architect and draftsman but also later in life as a contractor and building inspector in Modesto, California.<sup>41</sup>

### **Conclusion**

The Portland Golf Club Clubhouse serves as an excellent representation of the Shingle style applied to a golf club clubhouse. Although the Shingle style had largely fallen out of favor in residential construction. It remained prominently used in the design of golf club clubhouses. The development of the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, therefore, conforms to common trends of the time and retains a high degree of integrity to convey its architectural significance. The clubhouse retains its primary character-defining features, including its highly visible, steeply pitched hipped-on-gable roof, gabled dormers, turret, and cedar shingle siding. As such, the Portland Golf Club Clubhouse is locally significant under Criterion C in the category Architecture. At the Portland Golf Club, the clubhouse remains the symbolic and physical point where the game of golf begins and ends. Thomas & Mercier's Shingle style design remains a prominent landmark within its surrounding.

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<sup>38</sup> "History of CECC," Columbia Edgewater Country Club, accessed April 6, 2021, <https://www.cecc.com/Home/History-of-CECC>.

<sup>39</sup> Rob Mawson, "Grand Central Public Market," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2006), Section 8, Page 3.

<sup>40</sup> Alan Michelson, "Albert Theodore Mercier (Engineer)," *Pacific Coast Architecture Database (PCAD)*, last updated 2020, <http://pcad.lib.washington.edu/person/5514/>.

<sup>41</sup> "Albert T. Mercier," *The Modesto Bee*, March 29, 1984



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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: Portland Golf Club

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 1.65  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**  
Datum if other than WGS84: N/A  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>45.477540°</u> Latitude	<u>122.762366°</u> Longitude	3	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude
2	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude	4	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property boundary is the footprint of the clubhouse and the landscaping and hardscaping directly adjacent to the clubhouse. The boundary starts roughly 20' out from the northeast corner of the building and then turns west continuing roughly 110' to the circular landscaped island in the parking lot. The boundary continues around the north end of this feature moving westward roughly 150' to SW Scholls Ferry Road, offset from the northwest end of the building's façade about 20'. The boundary then moves south down SW Scholls Ferry Road roughly 215' to the edge of the treeline and cuts east along the trees and just north of the pool and associated hardscaping. Continuing east, the boundary follows the curved pathways and hardscaping roughly 230' to the southeast corner of the hardscaping and then turns north continuing roughly 200' to meet the northeast starting point. The property is located within the southwestern portion of tax lot 1S113CC04250 near the intersection of SW Scholls Ferry Road and SW Old Scholls Ferry Road.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary was selected as it includes all historic features of the clubhouse. The historic features of the clubhouse are limited only to the building itself. Any hardscape or landscaping within the boundary has evolved over time and are not contributing features to the property. The larger surrounding landscape, and the course itself, has also been continuously modified and, for the same reason, is not included in the nominated boundary. The first redesign and reconstruction of the course occurred prior to the construction of the existing clubhouse. The course was modified by professional Donald Junor in the early 1920s. In 1953, the swimming pool and its supporting structures were constructed on grounds near the clubhouse. A large flood in 1956 prompted the installation of an underground sprinkler system throughout the course. Another large storm, in October 1962, felled more than 500 trees and prompted the creation of a master plan for the restoration of the course and clubhouse. In 1983, Robert Muir Graves was retained by the Club to solve drainage issues that had plagued certain areas of the course. A new masterplan for the course and clubhouse was created in 1986 in anticipation of the Club's seventy-fifth anniversary, which was celebrated in 1989. The course is constantly evolving and has changed in layout, landscape, grading, and difficulty throughout its existence.

The Portland Golf Club consists of four adjacent, separate tax lots: 1S113CC04250 (22.25 acres), 1S1240001700 (divided into two smaller parcels of 7.69 and 89.42 acres), 1S1240001800 (.63 acres), and 1S114DD03700 (.83 acres). The latter two tax lots, 1S1240001800 and 1S114DD03700, are situated across SW Scholls Ferry Road from the clubhouse and golf course and contain parking lots, the Patton Cemetery, and the Club's tennis courts. The Portland Golf Club first leased the parcel in 1954 from the owners of the

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cemetery, agreeing to maintain it and, in turn, they were permitted to construct a larger parking lot to better serve members. The tennis courts were added in 1974. These two parcels, while part of the larger club, are geographically separated from the two parcels that comprise the course and were acquired by the Club separately from, and later than, the other two parcels. The earlier two lots, 1S113CC04250 and 1S1240001700, form a 119.36-acre parcel located on the eastern side of Scholls Ferry Road and contain the golf course, and, within the boundaries of the course, the clubhouse, primary parking lot, and ancillary buildings. This area was originally leased by the founding members of the Club in 1914. The Club then purchased the land upon which the course had been built in 1916. The area where the present clubhouse sits was purchased in 1920 to be the site of the second clubhouse. The clubhouse today sits on the same site as its predecessor. As the course has been updated continuously throughout its existence, its historical integrity is not connected to that of the clubhouse building and therefore has been excluded from the property boundary.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title John M. Tess, President date 12/7/2021  
organization Heritage Consulting Group telephone (503) 228-0272  
street & number 1120 NW Northrup Street email jmtess@heritage-consulting.com  
city or town Portland state OR zip code 97209

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Regional Location Map**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Tax Lot Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

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Name of Property

Washington Co., OR  
County and State

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

**Photo Log**

**Name of Property:** Portland Golf Club  
**City or Vicinity:** Portland  
**County:** Washington **State:** OR  
**Photographer:** Rob Mawson  
**Date Photographed:** July 2020

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- Photo 1 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0001  
North Elevation, view looking south
- Photo 2 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0002  
North Elevation, view looking south
- Photo 3 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0003  
North Elevation, view looking south
- Photo 4 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0004  
North Elevation, view looking southwest
- Photo 5 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0005  
North Elevation, view looking east
- Photo 6 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0006  
South Elevation, view looking northeast
- Photo 7 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0007  
North Elevation, view looking south
- Photo 8 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0008  
North Elevation, view looking southeast
- Photo 9 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0009  
West Elevation, view looking southeast
- Photo 10 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0010  
South Elevation, view looking east
- Photo 11 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0011  
Site, view looking northwest
- Photo 12 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0012  
South Elevation, view looking northeast
- Photo 13 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0013

Portland Golf Club Clubhouse  
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South Elevation, view looking north

**Photo 14 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0014  
Interior View, Basement, Bag Storage, view looking south

**Photo 15 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0015  
Basement, Pro Shop, view looking north

**Photo 16 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0016  
First Floor, Foyer, view looking south

**Photo 17 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0017  
First Floor, Ballroom, view looking southeast

**Photo 18 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0018  
First Floor, Lounges, view looking northwest

**Photo 19 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0019  
First Floor, Bar, view looking west

**Photo 20 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0020  
Floor, Dining Room, view looking north

**Photo 21 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0021  
First Floor, Locker Room, view looking south

**Photo 22 of 22:** OR\_WashingtonCounty\_PortlandGolfClubClubhouse\_0022  
Second Floor, Board Room, view looking east

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Portland Golf Club Clubhouse  
Name of Property

Washington Co., OR  
County and State

**Photo Keys**



**Project Name: Portland Golf Club Clubhouse: Pre-Nomination Photographs**  
5900 SW Scholls Ferry Road  
Portland, OR  
July 2020



**Exterior**

**Photos 1 – 13**

*Yellow arrow indicates starting point*



Portland Golf Club Clubhouse  
Name of Property

Washington Co., OR  
County and State

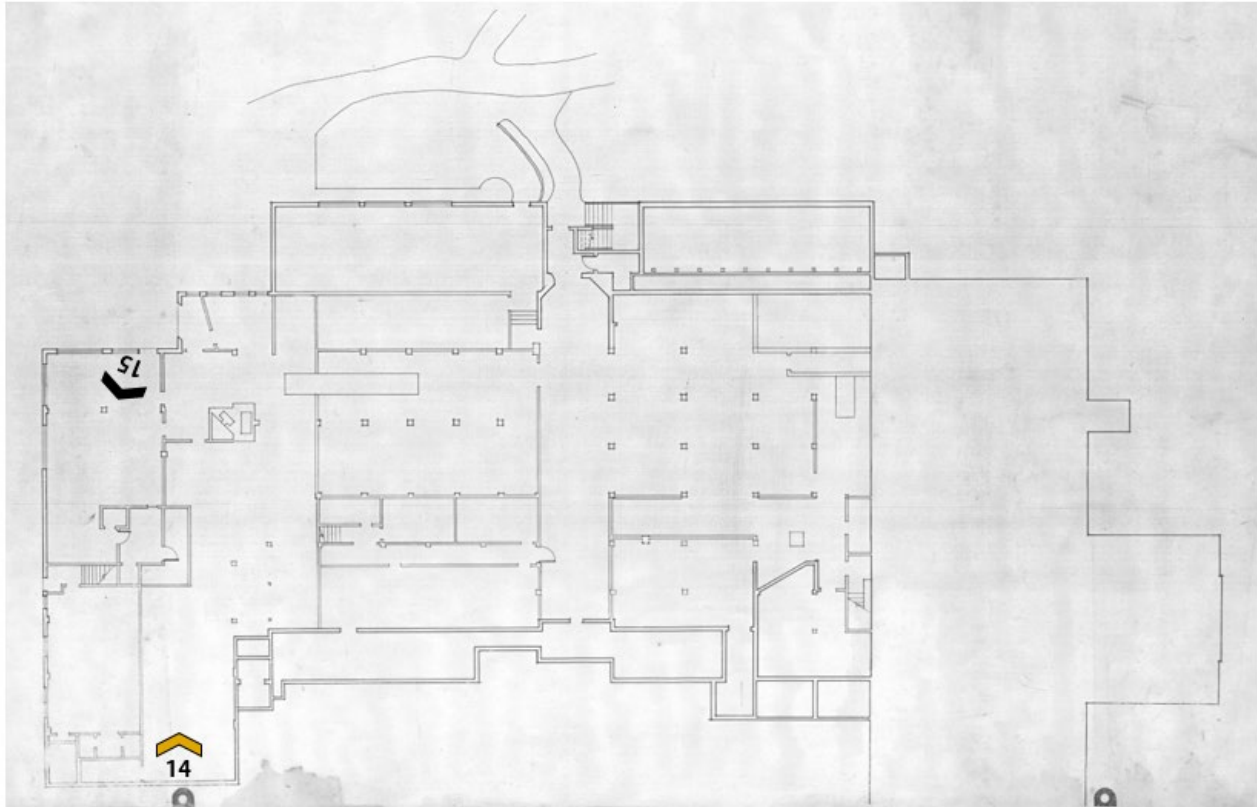


**Project Name: Portland Golf Club Clubhouse: Pre-Nomination Photographs**  
5900 SW Scholls Ferry Road  
Portland, OR  
July 2020



**Interior, Basement**  
**Photos 14 and 15**

*Yellow arrow indicates starting point*





Portland Golf Club Clubhouse  
Name of Property

Washington Co., OR  
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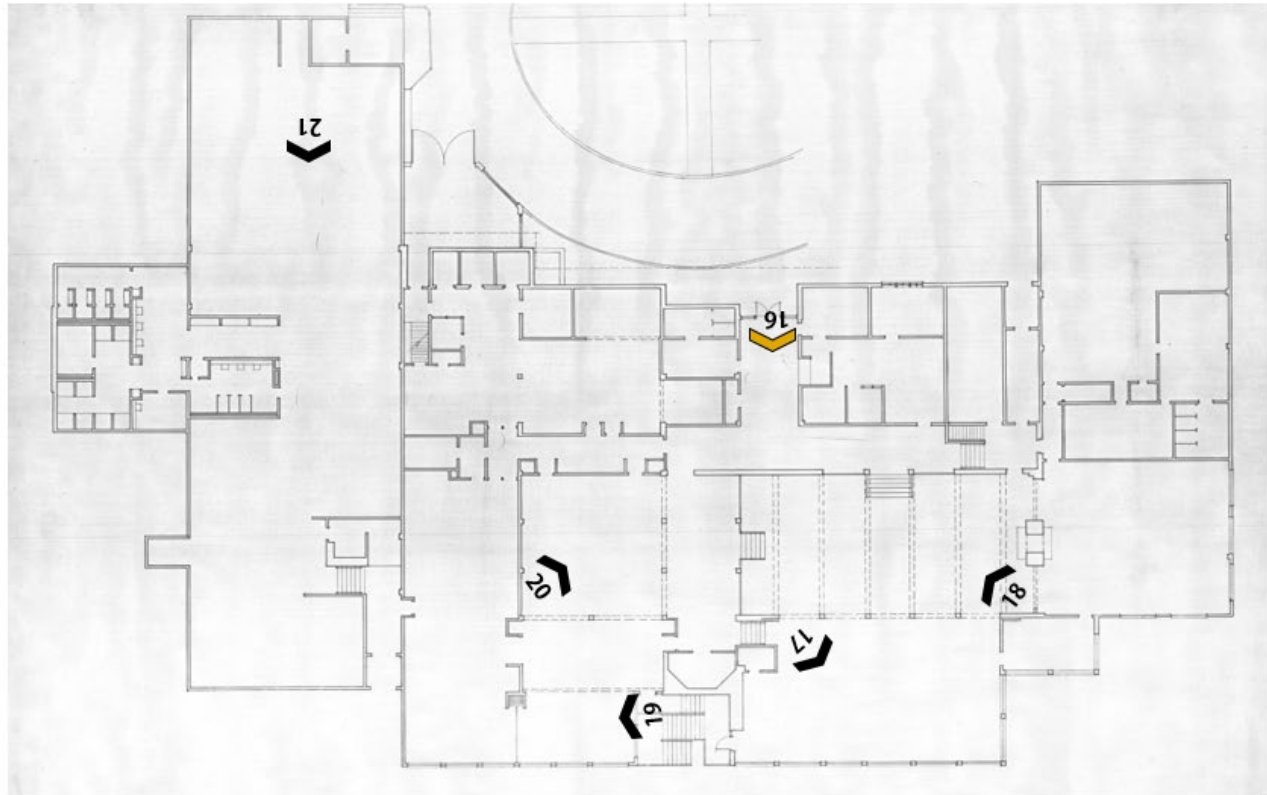
**Project Name: Portland Golf Club Clubhouse: Pre-Nomination Photographs**  
5900 SW Scholls Ferry Road  
Portland, OR  
July 2020



**Interior, First Floor**

**Photos 16 – 21**

*Yellow arrow indicates starting point*



Portland Golf Club Clubhouse  
Name of Property

Washington Co., OR  
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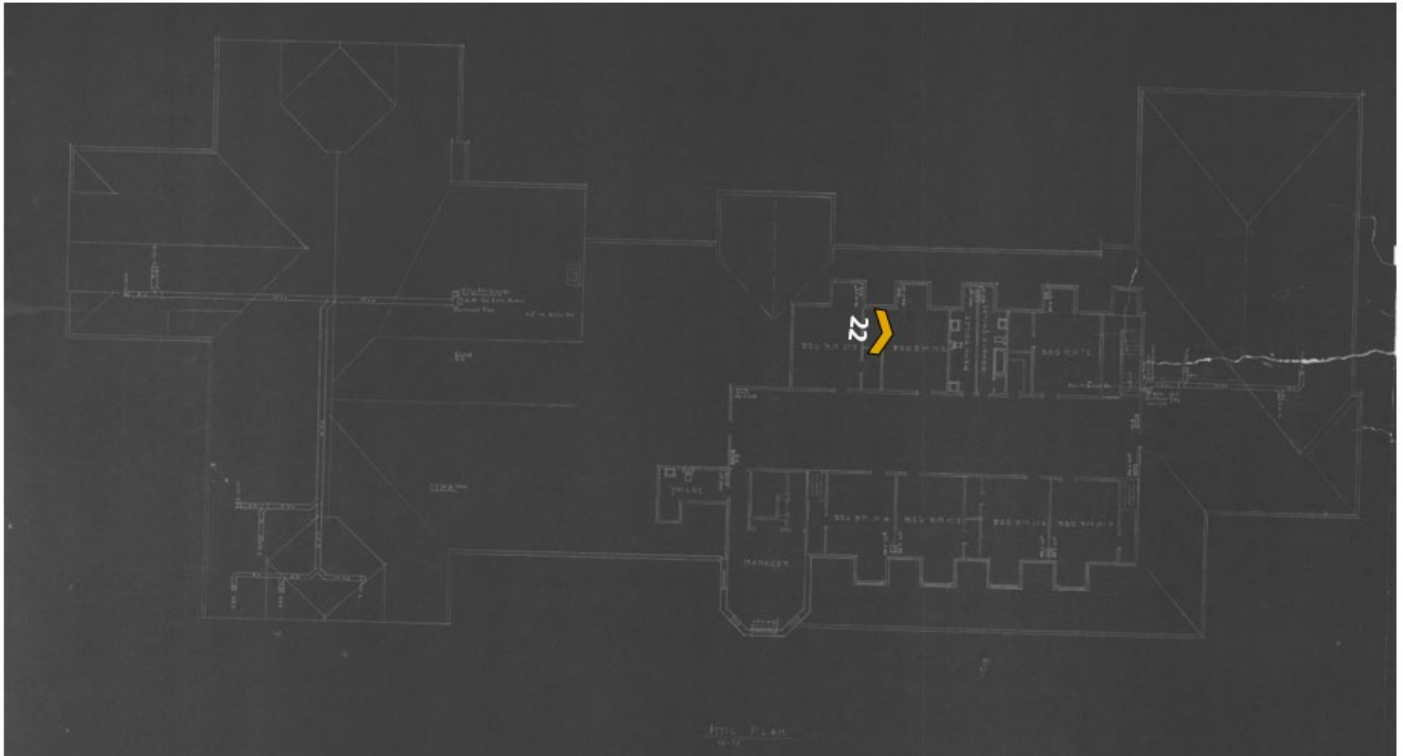


**Project Name: Portland Golf Club Clubhouse: Pre-Nomination Photographs**  
5900 SW Scholls Ferry Road  
Portland, OR  
July 2020



**Interior, Second Floor**  
**Photo 22**

*Yellow arrow indicates starting point*



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property

\_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 27

### List of Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.

- Figure 1:** General Location Map, Location of Nominated Property within the Neighborhood
- Figure 2:** General Location Map, Location of Nominated Property's Location in the Golf Course
- Figure 3:** Tax Lot and Boundary Map
- Figure 4:** Tax Lot and Building
- Figure 5:** 1927 Thomas & Mercier Exterior North and South Elevations
- Figure 6:** 1927 Thomas & Mercier Interior First Floor Plan
- Figure 7:** 1927 Thomas & Mercier Interior Second Floor Plan
- Figure 8:** Photograph of the Clubhouse Shortly After Construction Looking Southwest at the North Elevation
- Figure 9:** Photograph of Clubhouse Shortly After Construction Looking Toward the West Elevation
- Figure 10:** 1935 Photograph of Three Golfers and a Caddy with the Clubhouse in the Background
- Figure 11:** 1966 Aerial Photograph of the Clubhouse from the Southwest
- Figure 12:** 1966 Aerial Photograph of the Clubhouse from the Northeast
- Figure 13:** The Original Clubhouse, a Converted Farmhouse
- Figure 14:** The Second Clubhouse, Designed by Folger Johnson

United States Department of the Interior  
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

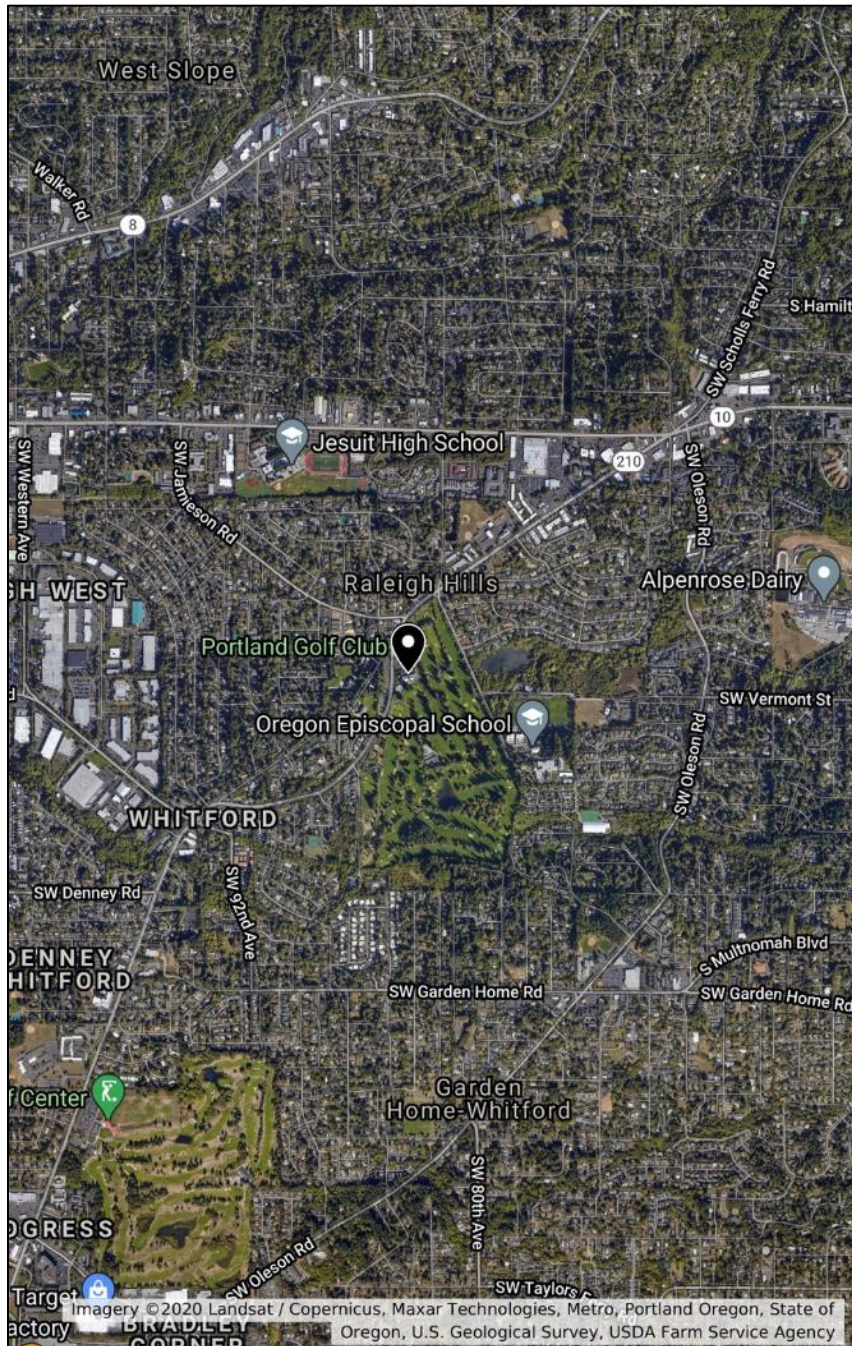
Portland Golf Club Clubhouse

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Figure 1: General Location Map, Location of Nominated Property within the Neighborhood. Not to scale.



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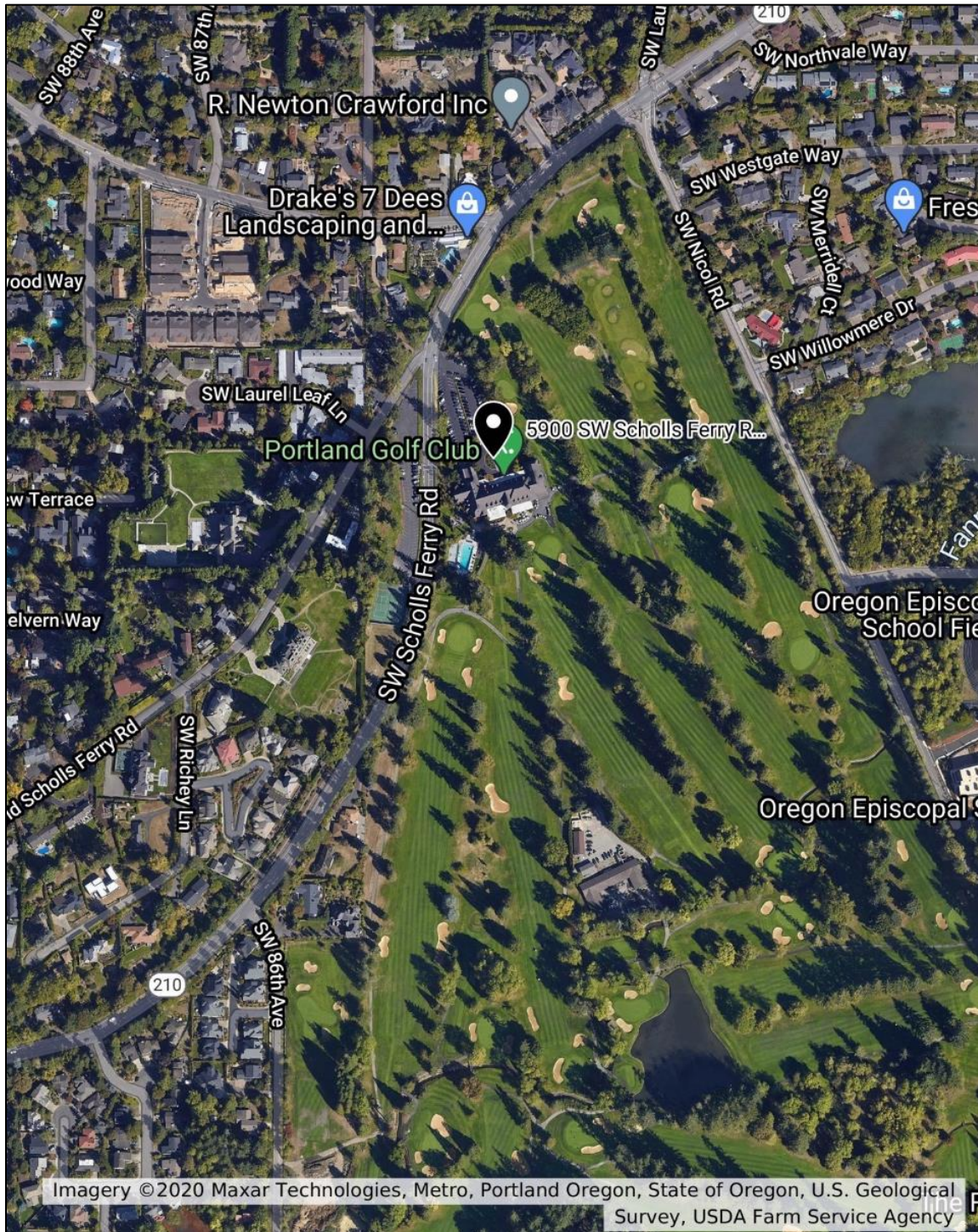
Portland Golf Club Clubhouse

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Figure 2: General Location Map, Location of Nominated Property's Location in the Golf Course, Indicated with a Black Icon. Not to scale.



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Figure 3: Boundary Map. Not to scale.



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Figure 4: Tax Lot and Building



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Figure 5: 1927 Thomas & Mercier Exterior North and South Elevations





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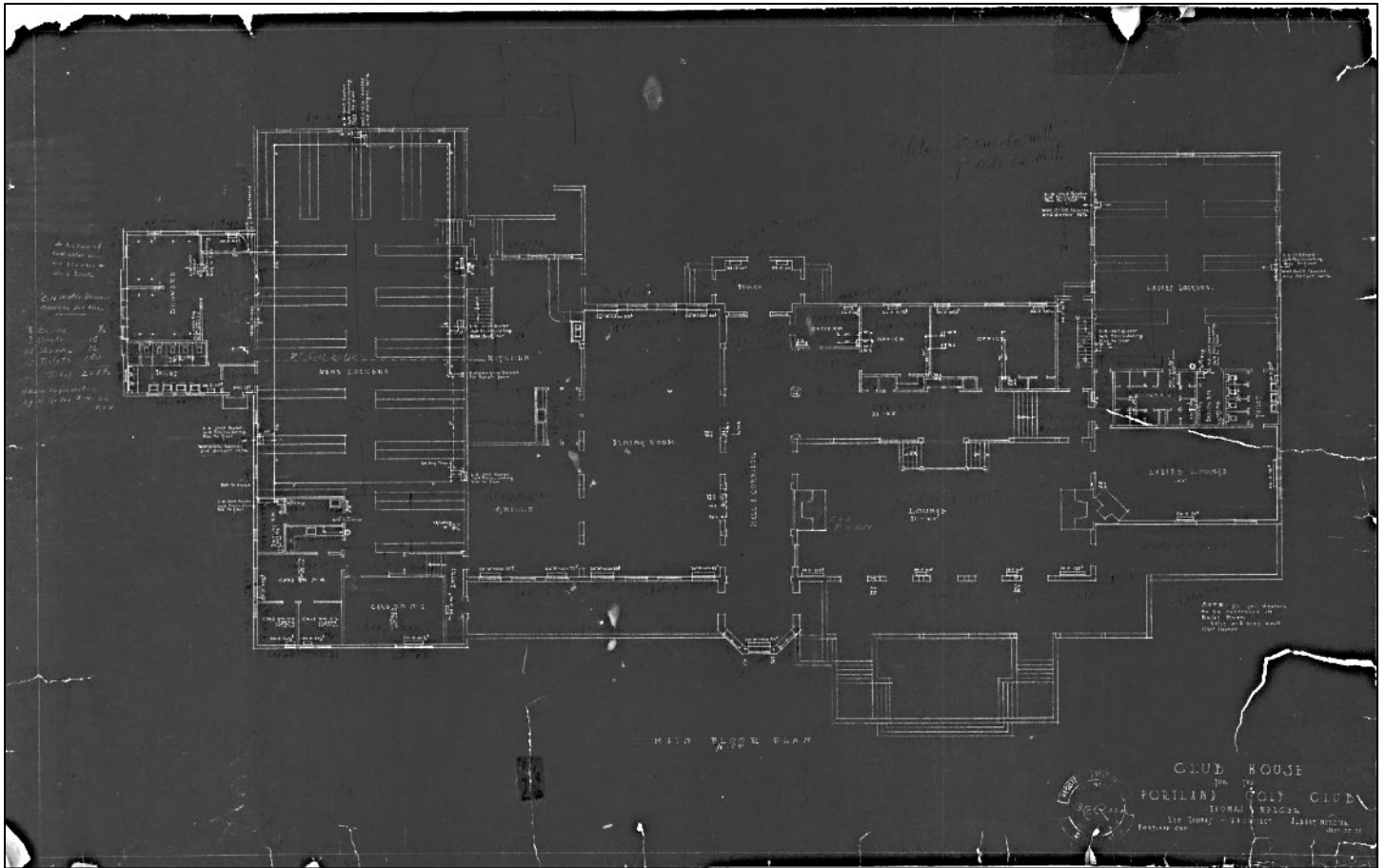
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Figure 6: 1927 Thomas & Mercier Interior First Floor Plan (not to scale)



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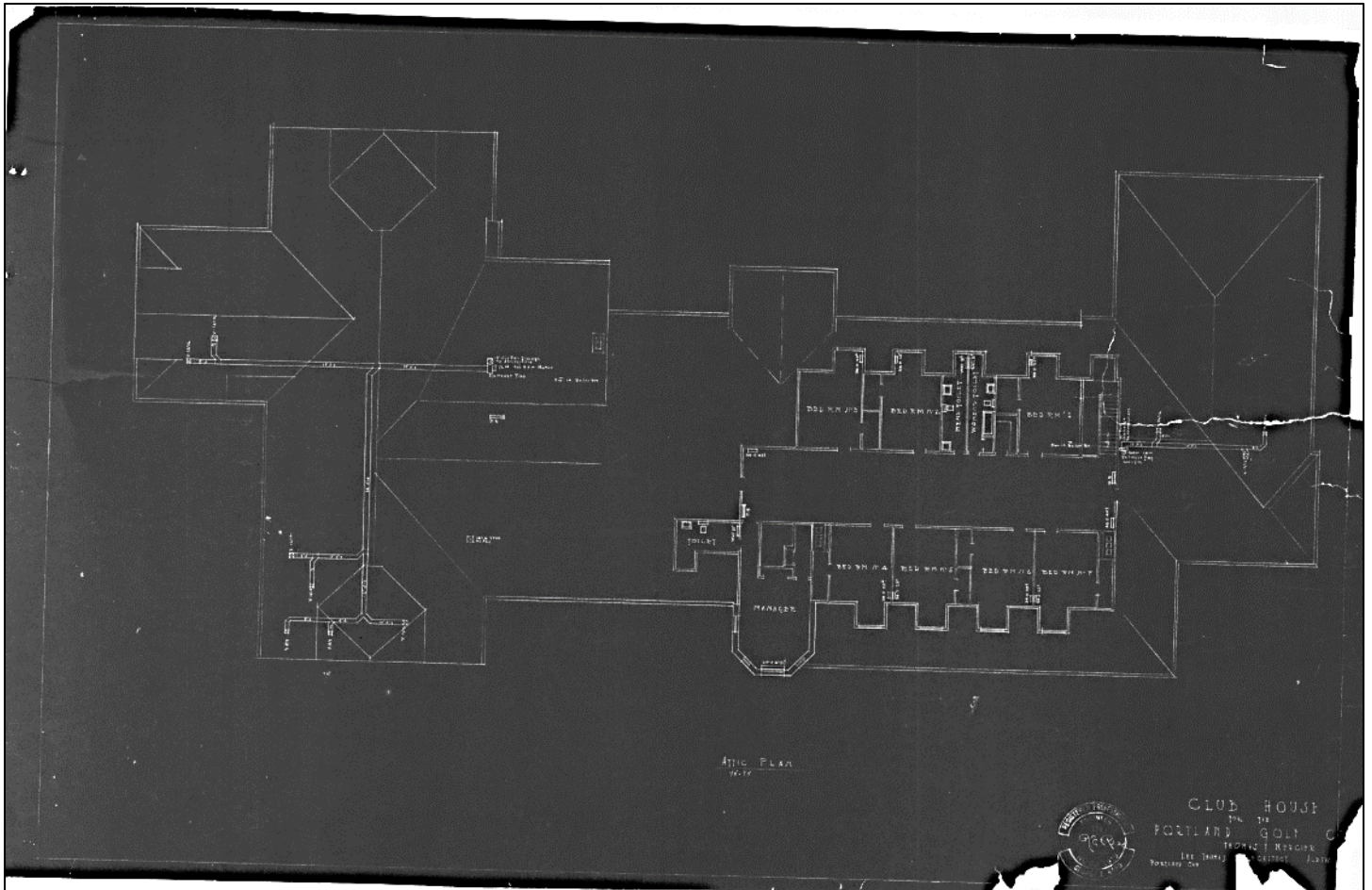
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Figure 7: 1927 Thomas & Mercier Interior Second Floor Plan



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Figure 8: Photograph of the Clubhouse Shortly After Construction Looking Southwest at the North Elevation



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Figure 9: Photograph of Clubhouse Shortly After Construction Looking Toward the West Elevation



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Figure 10: 1935 Photograph of Three Golfers and a Caddy with the Clubhouse in the Background



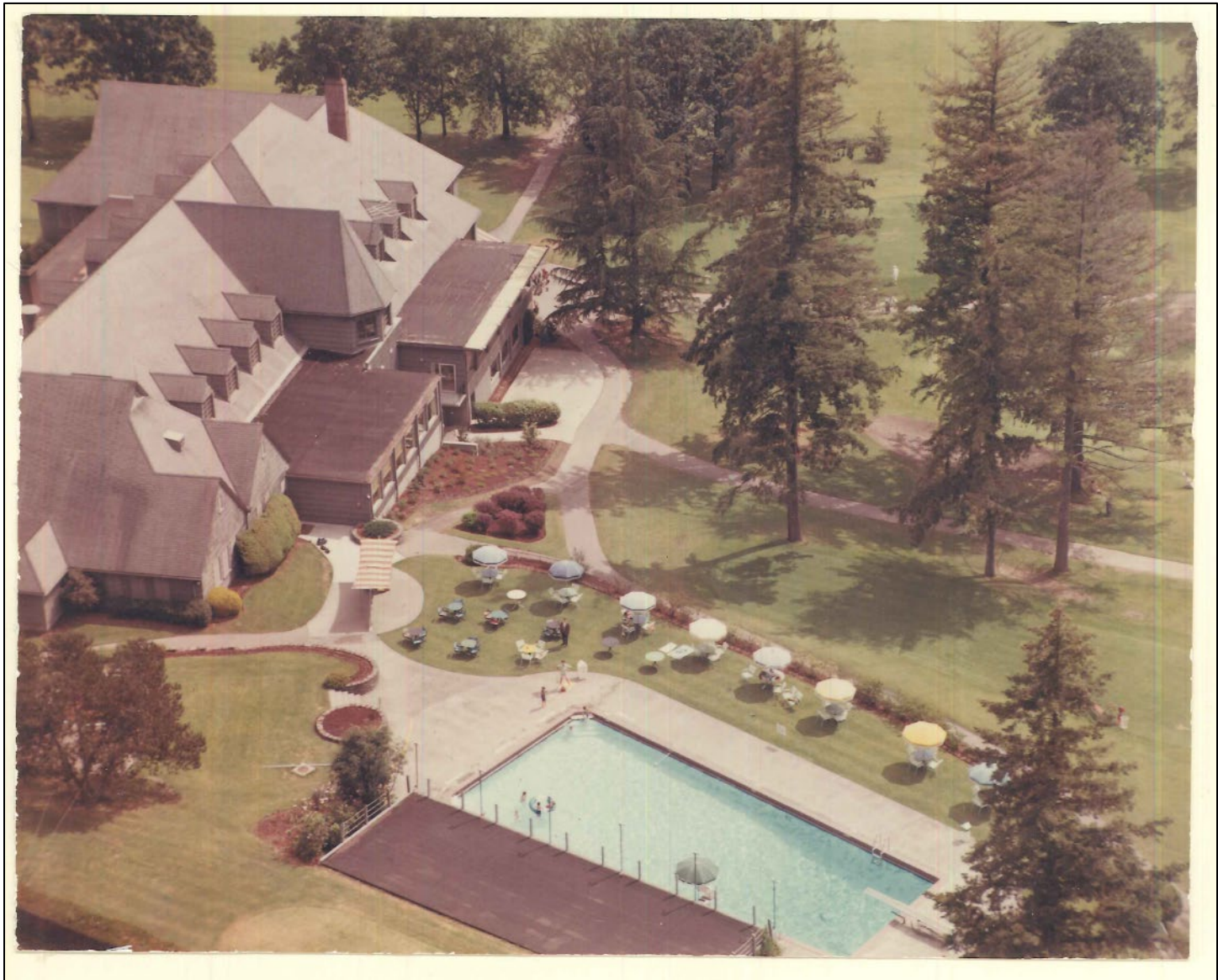
United States Department of the Interior  
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Figure 11: 1966 Aerial Photograph of the Clubhouse from the Southwest



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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Figure 12: 1966 Aerial Photograph of the Clubhouse from the Northeast



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Figure 13: The Original Clubhouse, a Converted Farmhouse





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Figure 14: The Second Clubhouse, Designed by Folger Johnson



**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse**  
**Washington County: OR**



Photo 1. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, North Elevation, view looking south.



Photo 2. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, North Elevation, view looking south.

**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse**  
**Washington County: OR**



Photo 3. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, North Elevation, view looking south.



Photo 4. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, North Elevation, view looking northeast.

**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse**  
**Washington County: OR**



Photo 5. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, North Elevation, view looking northeast.



Photo 6. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, South Elevation, view looking northeast.

**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse**  
**Washington County: OR**



Photo 7. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, North Elevation, view looking south.



Photo 8. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, West Elevation, view looking east.

**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse**  
**Washington County: OR**



Photo 9. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, West Elevation, view looking southeast.



Photo 10. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, South Elevation, view looking east.

**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse**  
**Washington County: OR**



Photo 11. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, Site, view looking northwest.



Photo 12. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, South Elevation, view looking northeast.

**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse**  
**Washington County: OR**



Photo 13. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, South Elevation, view looking north.



Photo 14. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, Basement, Bag Storage, view looking south.



**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse  
Washington County: OR**



Photo 15. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, Basement, Pro Shop, view looking north.



Photo 16. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, First Floor, Foyer, view looking south.

**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse**  
**Washington County: OR**



Photo 17. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, First Floor, Ballroom, view looking southeast.



Photo 18. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, First Floor, Lounges, view looking northwest.

**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse**  
**Washington County: OR**



Photo 19. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, First Floor, Bar, view looking west.



Photo 20. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, First Floor, Dining Room, view looking north.

**Portland Golf Club Clubhouse**  
**Washington County: OR**



Photo 21. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, First Floor, Locker Room, view looking south.



Photo 22. Portland Golf Club Clubhouse, Second Floor, Board Room, view looking east.